

# Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan

# Questionnaire

Prepared by the The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group © 2020





**Our Parish • Our Future • Our Say** 

# Welcome to the

# Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

# Dear Ickleford Residents

Please help shape the future of Ickleford by completing this guestionnaire. The findings will be used for the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan, a unique opportunity to influence development in our parish.

COVID 19 may have temporarily paused some aspects of development, but it has not changed the underlying drive for growth. The emerging North Hertfordshire Local Plan identifies Ickleford as an area for development, proposing housing increases of at least 40%, with further building also likely.

At the same time, COVID 19 has given many of us a greater appreciation of our countryside, green spaces and community. People are more aware than ever of how precious these are and the need to protect them.

A neighbourhood plan is our best opportunity to make new development as positive as possible. An agreed neighbourhood plan has legal weight. While it cannot contradict the North Herts Local Plan, it can influence planning decisions, including how community funds are spent.

The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan will aim to protect what is special about Ickleford. It will also say how we think the parish can be improved to support residents' changing needs, as lifestyles and working habits evolve. The plan can spell out our preferences, e.g. for facilities and ways to support the local economy.

We need to know what matters to you. The more people who give their views, the better our plan will be and the more weight it will carry.

# Thank you

Ruth Bryer, James Tizzard, Louise Peace, Mike Willoughby, Pauline Gardiner, Bruce Parker, Mike Jones, Sam Zalin-Miller and Robert Overett (The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group)

This survey is also available online at icklefordnp.com/survey or via the QR code: Please complete it online if you can.



Please return completed paper copies to one of our drop boxes, or use the contact details below to arrange collection.

The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is a group of local residents, supported by the Parish Council.

# If you have any questions or would like more details please visit:

our website - icklefordnp.com

our Facebook page – Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan

email us at ideas@icklefordnp.com or leave a message by calling 07398 622 151

## What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a planning document that allows people to influence the development of their local area. Neighbourhood plans arose out of the Localism Act 2011.

## How is it different from the Local Plan?

While the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan relates to the parish of Ickleford, the emerging Local Plan outlines planning policy across North Hertfordshire. This includes where North Herts District Council has allocated land for the many new houses central Government demands of it.

## What can our Neighbourhood Plan do?

The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan cannot contradict the Local Plan. However it can provide much more detail, giving us



Lower Green Ickleford

New

Ramerwick

Pestol Fm

Design and photography www.mikejonesdesign.co.uk

more say in any development that comes. It can also go beyond housing allocations to look at other aspects of village life. These might include housing design, business provision, transport and access, community facilities, and the protection and creation of open spaces.

A Neighbourhood Plan must demonstrate that it is genuinely based on a community's views and wishes. If adopted, it becomes part of the statutory development plan for the area and is used when determining planning applications.

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# The Parish of Ickleford

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## What do I need to do?

Please fill in one questionnaire for your household. Your household includes everyone who usually lives at your address. If more than one person lives in your household, please try to include everyone's experience and views. For each question there are instructions to let you know whether to put one or several ticks.

The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan will cover the whole of the parish of Ickleford. Although some topics clearly relate more to the village, we are interested in your views of the whole parish. The term Ickleford is used for both the village and the wider parish. It is your opinions that we are interested in and there are no right or wrong answers. If there is anything important to you that you do not think has been covered, please use the space at the end of the survey to add your comments.

Given the constraints of COVID 19, we encourage online completion of this survey where possible. If you are able to, please visit icklefordnp.com/survey or use the QR code to access the online version.

Please return completed paper copies to one of our drop boxes in the village. If this is difficult for you, please get in touch using the contact details below and we will arrange collection for you.

## What happens next?

Data from paper copies will be transferred to our online questionnaire in Survey Monkey for collation and analysis. The findings will provide evidence and help guide the development of the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan. A summary of the results will be made available to residents.

### Is what I say confidential?

The content of any completed questionnaires will remain confidential. Data will be viewed and analysed by members of the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Multiple choice questions will be analysed statistically. Open questions will be used to identify themes and issues. Some phrases from these may be used to illustrate topics in the report. Individuals will not be identified, but it may be possible to guess someone's identity from what they write.

### A note on the topics covered in the questionnaire

This questionnaire draws on earlier consultation with residents. It includes topics that were both identified as important by our community, and that can be included in a neighbourhood plan. Not all the issues raised in the early consultation fall within the remit of neighbourhood planning and some of the issues covered here may not end up in the final neighbourhood plan.

The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group abides by the Ickleford Parish Council Privacy Policy. www.icklefordpc.com/IPC\_Privacy\_Policy\_June\_2018.pdf

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# What Ickleford means to you, your family and household

L1. Thinking of all aspects of living in Ickleford, how sati are you and your household with living in the parish? Pl

Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied

L2. What do you like about living in Ickleford? Please tick all that apply

### Attractive village

Open/green spaces in the village

Set within attractive countryside, including rare chalk str

Paths and access to countryside

### Small village feel

Local amenities and facilities (e.g. church, school, village village store, pubs, playground, Sports and Recreation Clu

Strong village centre with amenities and facilities close to

Sense of community

Friendly people

A safe place to live

Close to Hitchin

Close to Hitchin, but separate from it

Access to major routes

Access to London

Access to employment

L3. Do you have any other comments about living in the including other things you like or things you particularly

Please write your answer below

isfied or dissa lease tick one	
	$\bigcirc$
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parish, y dislike?	

The Neighbourhood Plan will highlight which amenities and facilities are important to residents. The feedback you give here may well influence how any community money from development is spent.

A1. How important to you are the presence of the following facilities in the parish *Please tick all that apply* 

	Very important	Quite important	Not important	Not sure / don't know
Ickleford Primary School	0	0	0	0
Village hall	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0
Church	0	0	Ο	0
Village store	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
Hairdressers	0	0	0	0
Pubs (The Old George, The Plume of Feathers, The Cricketers)	0	0	0	0
Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club building	0	0	0	0
Ickleford recreation ground	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
Ickleford children's play area	0	Scotlands	0	$\bigcirc$
St Katherine's Close (Little Park) allotments	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
St Katherine's Close (Little Park) green space	0	0	0	0
Equestrian centre	0	0	0	0
Fish and chip van	0	0	0	0
Lavender farm	0	0	0	0
Bus shelters	0	0	0	0
Seats around the village	0	0	0	0
Burial ground	0	0	0	0

Five Oaks

A2. The centre of the village has many amenities and facilities close together. Do you have any suggestions as to how the village centre could be improved?

Please write your answer below

A3 If money was available to invest in the village as a result of new development, what would your priorities for investment be? Please tick all that apply

Pre-school/nursery	0	
Primary school	0	
Church	0	
Shop/post office	0	
Village hall	0	
Sport facilities	$\bigcirc$	
Playground/play equipment	0	
Allotments	0	
Footpaths	$\bigcirc$	
Parking	0	
Maintaining and improving roads	0	
Community centre	0	
Other (Please write your suggestions below)	0	

Please write other suggestions here

Leisure facilities	0
Pubs and dining	0
Facilities for young people	0
Facilities for older people	0
Bus services	0
Bus shelters	0
Speed control/traffic calming	0
Cycle paths Scotlands	0
Bridleways	0
Maintaining and improving hedgerows and green spaces	0
Maintaining and supporting the rare chalk rivers	0
Health facilities	0
Business opportunities	0

# **Ickleford Primary School**

Our earlier consultation work has shown that the village school has an important role in village life. As the population of Ickleford and the surrounding towns and villages grows, there may be a need for more primary school places. The emerging Local Plan reserves land for a possible new school for use in the future if needed east of the Bedford Road.

S1. How important to the character of the village do you think it is that the school remains in the existing location? Please tick one answer

Very important	0
Fairly important	0
Not important	0
Not sure/don't know	0

S2. The current school faces a number of significant infrastructure issues. If additional adjacent land could be provided and it was technically feasible, would you support development of the current school site to either expand capacity or improve facilities? Please tick one answer

Yes	$\bigcirc$	
No	$\bigcirc$	
Don't know	$\bigcirc$	

S3. If new school places were needed, would you prefer to see the development of a new two-form entry school at the site east of the Bedford Road? Please tick one answer

Yes	0	
No	0	
Don't know	0	

S4. If the school were to move, what would you like to see happen to the current site (including playing fields)?

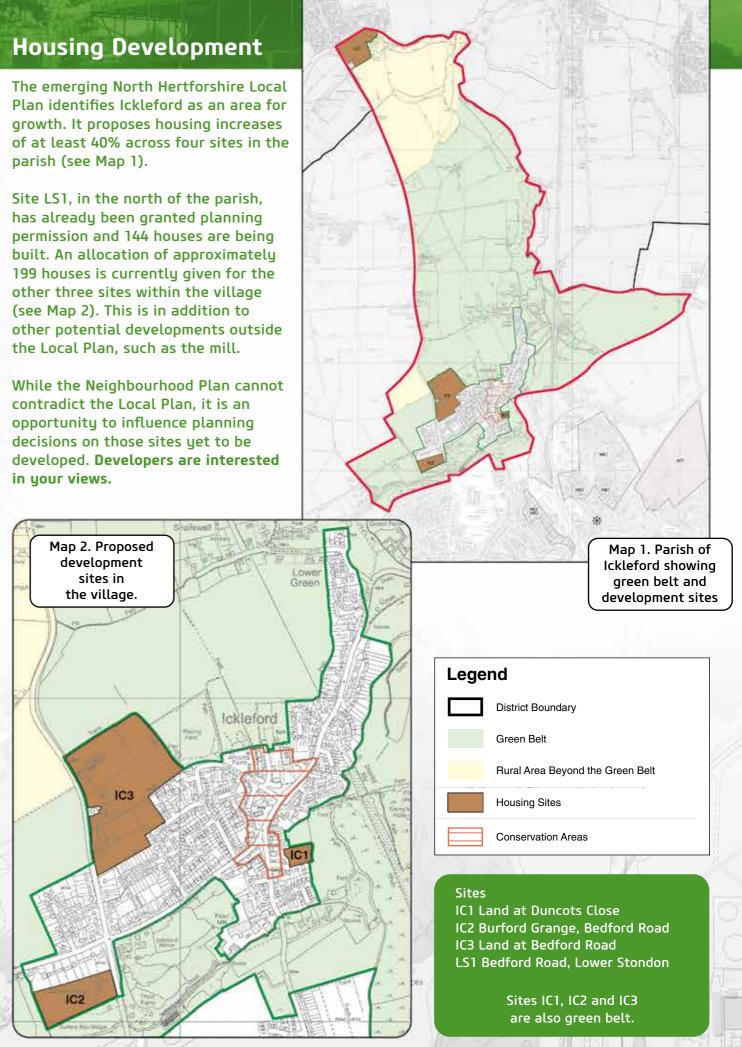
Please write your comments below

S5. Do you have any further comments regarding development of school facilities at either site? (e.g. access and parking)

Please write your comments below

has already been granted planning permission and 144 houses are being built. An allocation of approximately 199 houses is currently given for the other three sites within the village (see Map 2). This is in addition to other potential developments outside the Local Plan, such as the mill.

While the Neighbourhood Plan cannot contradict the Local Plan, it is an opportunity to influence planning decisions on those sites yet to be developed. Developers are interested in your views.



Excerpt from North Hertfordshire District Council Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Proposed Submission Proposals Maps © Crown copyright and database rights 2014 Ordnance Survey 100018622.

# Housing Development (continued)

H1. What are your views on possible housing development beyond that allocated in the emerging Local Plan? Please tick all that apply

We should seek to limit any development beyond that outlined in the eme	rging Local Plan	0
Small infill developments may be appropriate (up to 10 houses)	Track	0
Brownfield sites (previously developed land) should be considered for dev	elopment	0
We should encourage more large housing developments (greater than 10 h	iouses)	0

Other (Please comment below)

H2. Are there any specific areas, both inside and outside of the village, where you think the development of new housing should be encouraged?

Please write your comments below

Thinking now about your own household housing needs over the next 10 years, please answer the questions below.

H3. How likely is it that someone from your household will still be living in the village in 10 years' time? Please tick one answer

Very likely	0
Fairly likely	0
Fairly unlikely	0
Very unlikely	0
Not sure/don't know	0

H4. If appropriate housing were available, would your household consider moving within the parish in the next 10 years? Please tick one answer or use the comment box below

Yes, to a smaller house	$\bigcirc$
Yes, to a larger house	$\bigcirc$
No	$\bigcirc$

Other (Please comment below)

Round House

Printe

H5. What type of accommodation do you think will be needed in the parish in next 10 years? Please tick all that apply

One bedroom houses	$\bigcirc$
Two bedroom houses	O Track
Three bedroom houses	0
Larger houses (more than 3 bedrooms)	0
Bungalows	0
Social/affordable rented housing (managed by Housing Association)	0
Shared ownership (provided through Housing Association)	0
Private rented housing	0
Retirement/sheltered homes	0
Environmentally-friendly housing	0

Off street parking (driveways, parking bays, garages)

The presence of ample visitor parking

Other (Please comment below)

H6. How important do you think it is that new developments are sympathetic to the following? Please tick all that apply Very important Fairly important Not important

	very important	Fairly important	Not important
The scale of the surrounding buildings	0	0	0
The character and position of surrounding buildings	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
The design of surrounding buildings	0	0	$\bigcirc$
The materials of surrounding buildings	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
The open spaces within the village	0	0	0

H9. Do you have any other comments about new housing developments in the parish, e.g. in relation to style, layout, green technologies or integration with the rest of the village?

Please write your comments below

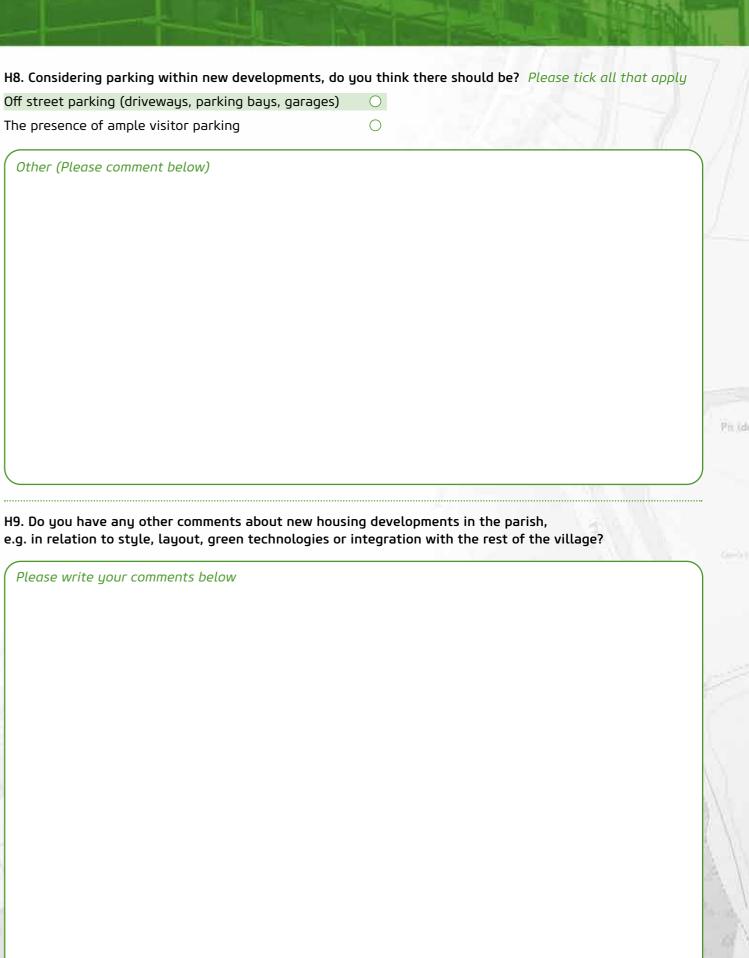
The Bungalow

H7. Do you think future development in the vi	llage should have gardens? P	lease tick one answer
They should all have gardens	0	
Some should have gardens	0	
They should have communal gardens	0	
Not sure/don't know	C Read	A

Tudar House

Icknield House

Round House



# Environment and Heritage

We are lucky to live in a lovely village with attractive buildings, green spaces and beautiful countryside. The Coronavirus lockdown has increased many people's appreciation of this. The Neighbourhood Plan can help protect our local environment and work to improve accessibility.

E1. How important is it to you to that Ickleford village maintains a separate identity from neighbouring villages and towns? *Please tick one answer* 

Very important	0
Fairly important	0
Not important	0
Not sure/don't know	$\bigcirc$

E2. How important is it to you to minimise the impact of development on historic buildings and the conservation area (shown in Map 2 on page 9)? *Please tick one answer* 

Very important	Pav O	
Fairly important	0	
Not important	0	
Not sure/don't know	0	

E3. How important is it to you to minimise the impact of development on trees, hedges, verges, footpaths, bridleways, rivers, ponds and wildlife? *Please tick one answer* 

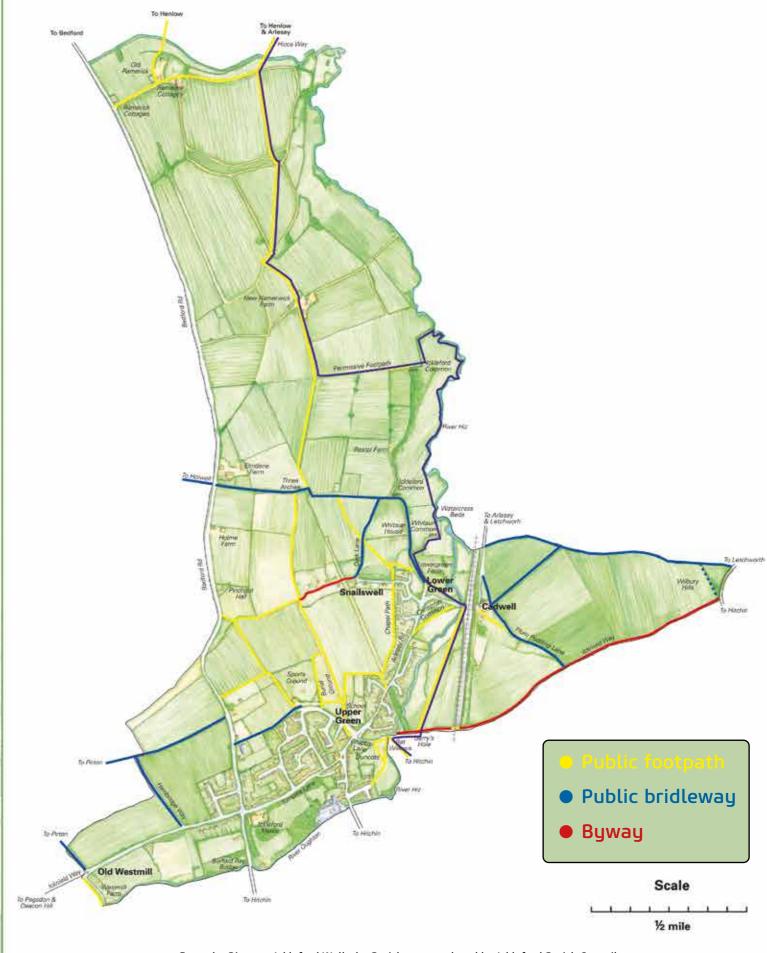
Very important	0	
Fairly important	0	
Not sure/don't know	0	
Not important	$\bigcirc$	

E.4 Please look at the parish map on the page opposite and tell us which places are important to you. These may be, for example, green spaces, footpaths or views. This will allow us to build a picture of those places and help protect them for the future. You can use the names given on the map or your own descriptions.

Tudor House

Please write your comments below

# **The Parish of Ickleford**



From the Discover Ickleford Walk the Parish map produced by Ickleford Parish Council. Based on Ordinance Survey Material © Crown copyright. Hertfordshire County Council LA 1000 19606 2005

## E.4 (Continued)

Please write your comments below

E5. If you have any suggestions as to how we could improve access to the countryside or support its recreational use, please give them here, along with any other comments you may have on this topic.

Tudor House

Please write your comments below

# Economy

Neighbourhood Planning is a chance for the community to influence the local economy. It can develop policies to support local business, through encouraging certain types of development or through making the local area more attractive to visitors, businesses or home working.

B1. Should any of the following activities be encouraged in the parish of Ickleford?

	Yes	No	Not sure/ don't know
Agriculture/horticulture	0	0	0
Tourism (including walking and/or cycling)	0	0	0
Light industry/workshops	0	0	0
Heavy industry	0	0	0
Retail (specialist shops)	0	0	0
Coffee shop/tearoom/restaurant	0	0	0
Food/art & craft market	0	0	0
Farmer's market	0	0	0
Flexible working space	0	0	Pik (db)
Environment projects	0	0	0
Educational workshops for adults and children	0	0	0
Community projects	0	0	0
Sporting projects for adults and children	0	0	0
Working from home	0	0	O

(e.g. through types of workspace, transport, skills, infrastructure, business support)

Please write your comments below

Means

# B2. Do you have any other comments or suggestions as to how the economy in Ickleford could be supported?

# Transport

Transport, parking and road safety are issues that affect everyone in Ickleford. Outside of its role in new development, the power of the Neighbourhood Plan to directly affect these issues is limited. However, it can still highlight residents' concerns and make recommendations. The information collected here may also be valuable to others working to improve these aspects of life in Ickleford.

T1. How many motor vehicles does your household have? Please tick one answer

None	0
One	0
Two	0
Three	0
More than three	0

T2 What forms of transport does your household mainly use Please indicate which modes of transport you use and how often.

	Daily	Once a week	Once a month	Occasionally	Rarely/never
		or more	or more		
Car/van	0	0	0	0	0
Train	0	0	0	0	0
Bus	0	0	0	0	0
Bicycle	0	0	0	0	0
Motorcycle	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Walk	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0

## T3. Are you concerned about any of the following? *Please tick all that apply*

	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem
Traffic speed	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0
Traffic volume	0	0	0
Pedestrian safety	$\bigcirc$	0	0
Cyclist safety	0	0	0
Pedestrian use of Cadwell Bridge	0	0	O lekietore
Turnpike Lane/Bedford Road roundabo	out O	0	0

Tudor House

Other (Please give details including location)

T4. Do you think public transport in the village could be improved? If so, what routes would you like to see?

(Please give your answer below)

village and parish could be encouraged? Are there any particular routes you would like to see developed?

(Please give your answer below)

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# T5. If you have not already commented on this, do you think there are ways walking and cycling around the

# About your household

Please fill in the following details about your household so that we can see how representative of the parish our survey respondents are. All information will be confidential and used only for the purpose of compiling the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan.

1. Please give your postcode

2. How many people live in your household? Please circle one number

6

2 3 4

1

7 8

10+

9

## 3. Please tick which age band each person falls into.

Please tick one answer for each person (one tick per column) If there are more than 6 people please use the margin

5

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
0-9	0	0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
10-14	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0
15-17	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
18-24	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0
25-34	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
35-44	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-54	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
55-64	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0
65-74	0	0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
75-84	0	0	0	0	0	0
85+	0	0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$

### 4. Please tick each person's gender.

Please tick one answer for each person (one tick per column)

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
Female	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0
Male	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0
Other	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Prefer not to say	0	0	0	0	0	0

## 5. Please indicate each person's employment status

Please tick one answer for each person (one tick per column)

Person

Part-time employment

## Self-employed

Student (including school, college and university)

### Retired

Not working (including looking for work, carer, unable to work and homemaker)

6. If any household members are currently employed, please indicate their place (or places) of work at this time. We are aware that COVID 19 is having ongoing effects on working patterns and seek only a snapshot of current working patterns. Please select all that apply.

							Pit (dis)
Person	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Work from home	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0	0	-
Work from home and elsewhere	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	
Work outside of home in Ickleford	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Work in Hitchin, Letchworth or Stevenage	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0	0	Gerry) Plate
Work elsewhere in Hertfordshire	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0	0	
Work in Bedfordshire or Cambridgeshire	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	0	0	
Work in London	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Work somewhere else	0	0	0	0	0	0	



1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0



7. Please give your household's residential status Please tick one answer

A homeowner	0
A tenant in private rented accommodation	ר 0
Shared ownership	0
Social housing	$\bigcirc$
Other (please write below)	0
Prefer not to say	$\bigcirc$
by by	

8. How long has someone from your household lived in the parish? Please tick one answer

Less than a year	$\bigcirc$
1-5 years	0
6-10 years	$\bigcirc$
11-25 years	0
More than 25 years	$\bigcirc$



questionnaire. Your contribution is important. It is only with the full involvement of all the residents that we can get a clear vision of what the parish wants and reflect this in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please write any other thoughts you would like to share with us below

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Once you have completed filling in this questionnaire, please return it to one of our drop boxes in the village. If this is difficult for you, please get in touch and we will arrange collection.

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our website icklefordnp.com our Facebook page Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan or email us at ideas@icklefordnp.com or leave a message by calling 07398 622 151





Please complete this questionnaire and help shape the future of where you live. The Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan is a unique opportunity to influence the development expected in our parish.





Humps for 480 yards