

LITTLEPORT



Issue 3
June 2010

Our Town, Our Future

Options revealed – what do you think?

At the Littleport Masterplan Working Party Meeting held on 27th April 2010, the initial ideas for the future of the town were presented.

These included:

- Developing a green spaces framework in and around the town to provide an improved setting within the rural landscape
- Connecting up different areas of the town by providing better roads, walking and cycling routes
- Creating some community neighbourhoods, locating any potential new community facilities, housing and employment areas within easy reach for all residents, and enabling each neighbourhood to have a distinctive character and identity

These ideas have been developed by Studio REAL, the consultants working on this stage of the project. These have been put together following extensive work collecting the views of local people about the future development of Littleport, including desk research, stakeholder meetings, feedback from a public exhibition held last January, and a community stakeholders workshop held in March (see page 3 for more information on the workshop).



These ideas will be worked up into strategic options and be available for everyone to view and comment on at the next public exhibition being held at Littleport Village Hall.

- **Sunday 27th June** from 11am – 4pm
- **Monday 28th June** from 10am-7pm

Feedback from Public Exhibition – Stage 2



On Saturday 30th January and Tuesday 2nd February a public exhibition was held to obtain residents views on what issues the masterplan needs to consider. These are some of the results.

The feedback showed very strong support for more jobs and new businesses in Littleport. 94% of respondents agree that the Masterplan should seek to encourage new businesses to Littleport and 91% agree more jobs are needed in Littleport.

66% of people said more should be done to attract tourists to Littleport and suggested; holding more events to attract tourists to the area (77% in support), improving the pubs and restaurants in Littleport (66%), and 49% improving existing heritage features and walks around the town.

There is also strong support for development of the riverside – 79% were in favour of enhancing this area.

89% of people visit markets in neighbouring towns, supporting calls for a regular market in Littleport.

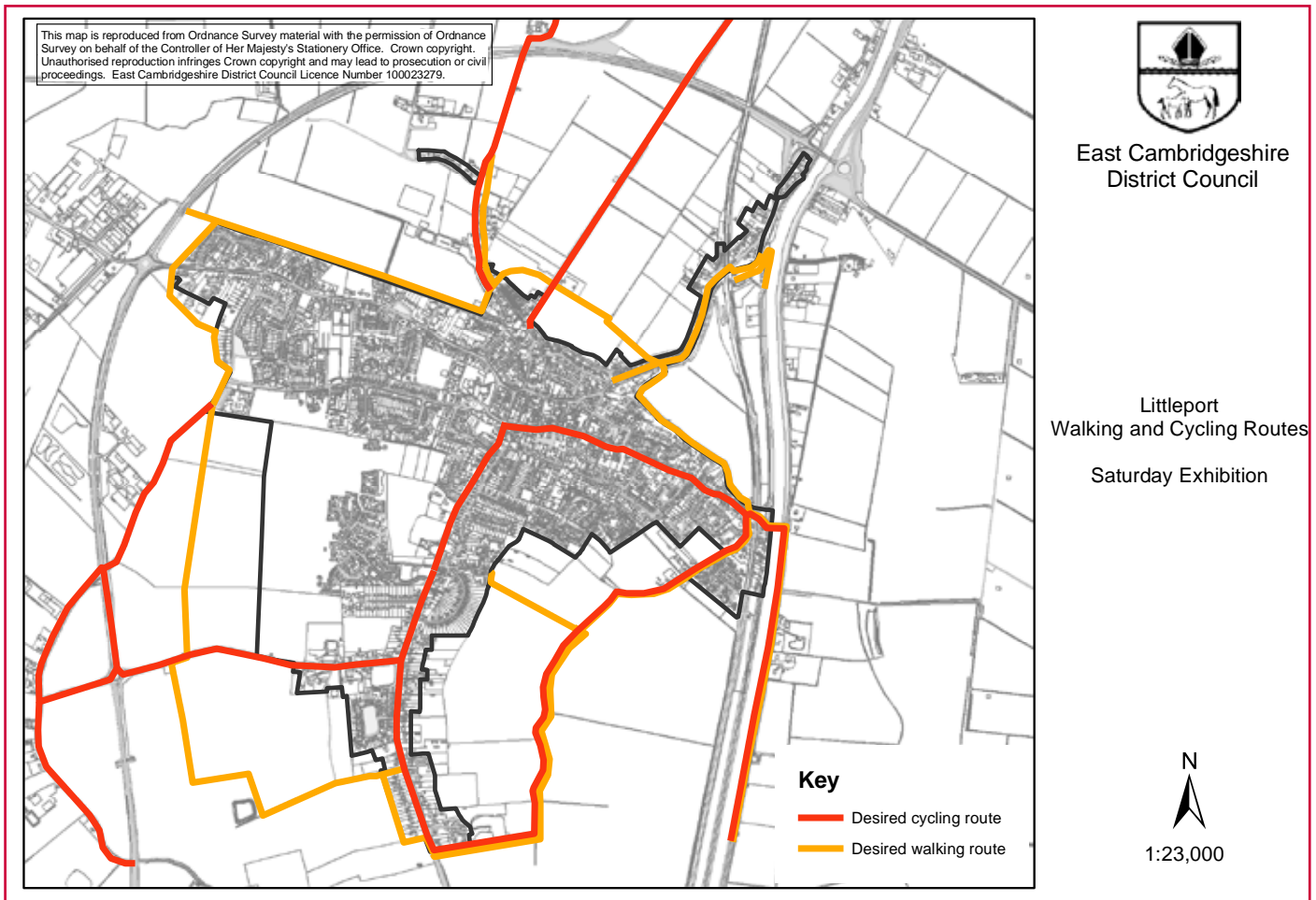
88% responded yes there should be more things to do in Littleport in the evenings; the most popular activity suggested was training courses/evening classes.

Other community facilities that it was felt Littleport needs are a secondary school and some type of youth provision.

Better walking and cycling routes are needed, both around the town and beyond, particularly to Ely

The town centre was identified as the area most in need of enhancement, environmentally and in terms of the shops and services it offers.

In addition to the questionnaire there were blank panels for people to write their individual comments on, maps on the wall for people to draw their ideas directly onto, and maps for people to mark in coloured pens where they currently walk and cycle to around Littleport. Below is the map from the Saturday exhibition showing the walking and cycling routes around Littleport which respondents said that they would like to see developed.



Community Stakeholder Workshop

21 people representing local organisations attended the workshop held on Saturday 13th March 2010 at the Littleport Leisure Centre. The purpose of the workshop was to confirm the accuracy of the issues identified during the initial consultation work on the plan, establish objectives for the Masterplan and to start putting ideas on paper.

Participants looked at the strengths and weaknesses of Littleport, and developed a list of the objectives that they felt that the Masterplan must deliver. These included: -

- Encouraging more businesses and jobs to the town
- Improving cycling and walking routes
- Additional housing growth
- Provision of a secondary school
- Provision of a market
- Improving connections to the railway station

These priorities closely reflected the results of the public exhibition and have also helped to inform the development of the options.



How to get involved

Ask to be added to the Littleport Masterplan contact database via masterplan@eastcambs.gov.uk or by telephoning **(01353) 665555** to receive copies of the Littleport Masterplan newsletter.

Attend the Littleport Masterplan Exhibition being held on **Sunday 27th June** from **11am – 4pm** and **Monday 28th June** from **10am-7pm** at **Littleport Village Hall**.

Send your thoughts and ideas via email to masterplan@eastcambs.gov.uk or write to Littleport Masterplan, East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambs CB7 4EE.

Littleport Masterplan Working Party

The Working Party was set up by the Strategic Development Committee at East Cambridgeshire District Council to ensure that the masterplan progresses in a structured and open manner. Their role is to ensure a coordinated approach to the long-term development of Littleport, and to ensure effective and meaningful dialogue and consultation during the development of the Masterplan. They meet regularly in Littleport to help guide the Masterplan project and all meetings are open to the public.

Working Party Members are:

Councillor Peter Moakes (Chairman) Tel: 01353 659910

Councillor Christine Ambrose-Smith Tel: 01353 861010

Councillor Sue Austen Tel: 01353 663928

Councillor Malcolm Pyrah (Littleport Parish Council) is a co-opted member

Councillor David Brown (Cambridgeshire County Council) is a co-opted member

