

**Witchford**

## A Vision for Witchford

### Have your say on the future of Witchford

- **What do you want to change or improve?**
- **What do you want to protect?**
- **What facilities would you like to see?**

**What do you think?** We want your views on how Witchford should change in the future. What sort of place would you like Witchford to be? What are your priorities for the village and the wider Parish? Your views will help us to form a long-term vision for Witchford which sets out how it should develop over the next 20 years.

**What will the Vision do?** The Vision will be used to guide decisions on future development and planning applications. It will also help ensure that key infrastructure and facilities are provided and improved. The Vision will be included in the statutory development plan for East Cambridgeshire - known as the 'Core Strategy'.

**How do I comment?** Comments should be made by 18th July 2011 and respondents are encouraged to fill in the questionnaire online at [www.eastcambs.gov.uk/local-development-framework/core-strategy-review](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/local-development-framework/core-strategy-review). Paper copies of the questionnaire should be returned to the Forward Planning Team, East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB7 4EE.

There will be a further opportunity to make comments on the draft Vision, which we hope to publish in early 2012. If you have any questions please call the Forward Planning team on 01353 665555.

Any information that you will provide will be used for the purpose of the Core Strategy, and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

#### 1. Please provide your details:

<b>Name:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Company:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Email address:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Address 1:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Address 2:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Town/City:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>County:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Postcode:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Phone Number:</b>	<input type="text"/>

#### 2. Please select whether you would like your details to be added to the Core Strategy consultation database, in order to be notified of key stages of production:

- Yes  No

#### 3. Please indicate the main reason for your interest in the development of Witchford:

- Local resident of Witchford  Developer or local landowner  
 Local business owner  Potential investor  
 Employee, working in Witchford  Professional interest  
 Other (please specify)



## Development envelope

**8. The development envelope (see map at back) marks the built up area of the village where development is normally allowed to take place. The area outside the development envelope is protected as open countryside.**

**Which of the following approaches would you prefer?**

- Keep the development envelope
- Replace development envelopes with a policy that assesses each application on its merits

## Local infrastructure and facilities

**9. The District Council can secure funds from developers to spend on improving local infrastructure and facilities. If new development comes forward in the village, what benefits would you like to see? Please select your top 3 priorities from the list:**

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Improvements to play areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New play areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improvements to sports grounds/open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New sports ground/open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More school places	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improvements to the community/village hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you selected other, please provide details

**10. For the priorities that you have selected in Question 9 above, can you provide more detail on what these improvements should be, and where they should be located?**

**11. Please use this space to make any other comments:**

## Monitoring Information (Optional)

It would be useful if you could please provide the following information about yourself:

### 12. Sex

- Male  Female

### 13. Status

- Employee  Unemployed  Student  
 Self-employed  Homeworker  Retired

### 14. Age

- 0-16 years  40-49  75-84  
 17-24  50-59  85+  
 25-39  60-74

### 15. Ethnic origin

- White British  Chinese  Caribbean  
 White Irish  Indian  Other black background  
 Other white background  Pakistani  Other ethnic group  
 Gypsy / Traveller  Other Asian background  
 Mixed ethnicity  African

### 16. Disability

**Under the Disability Discrimination Act a person has a disability if he/she 'has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.' Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

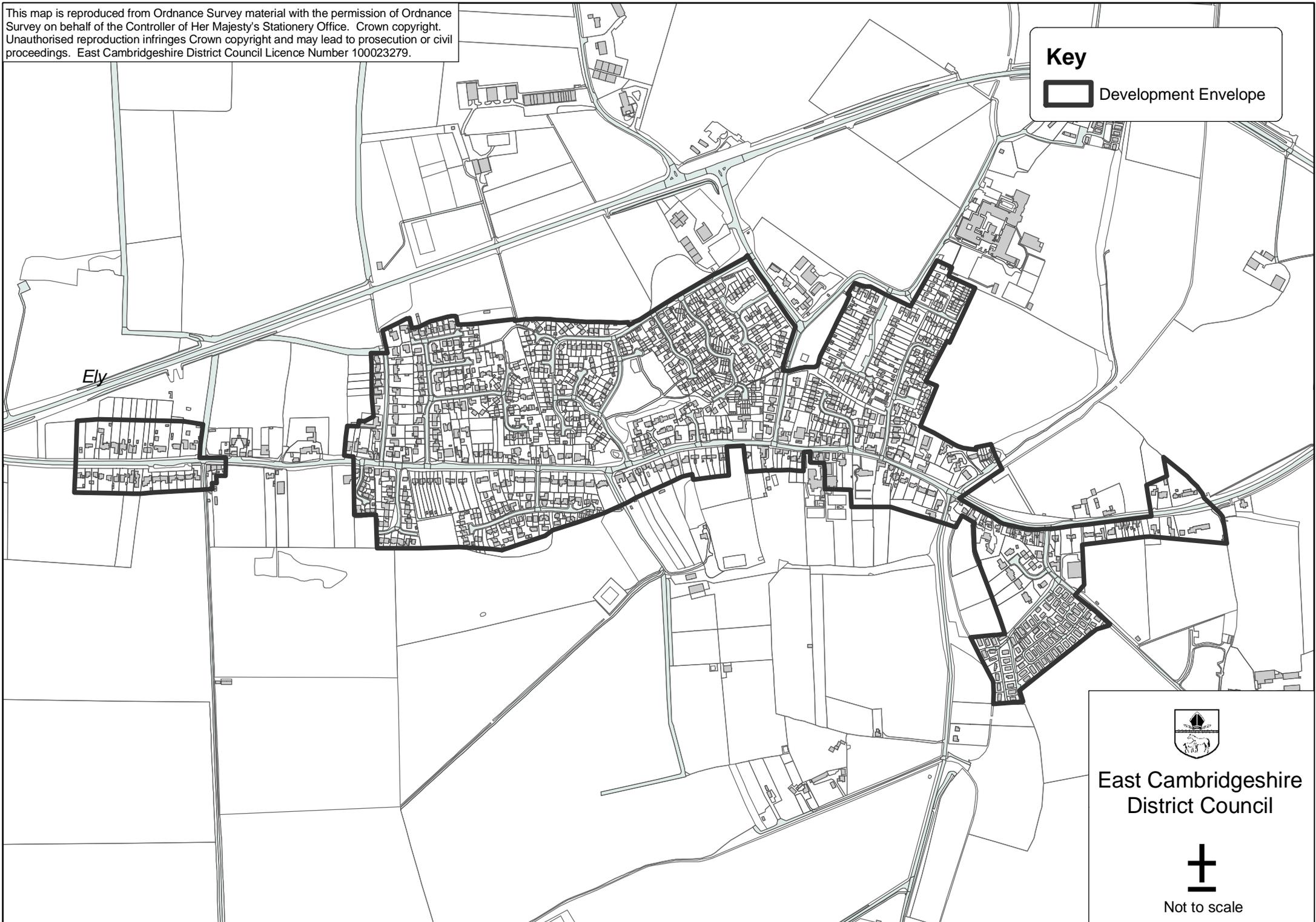
- Yes  No

Thank you for your help.

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**Key**

 Development Envelope



East Cambridgeshire  
District Council



Not to scale

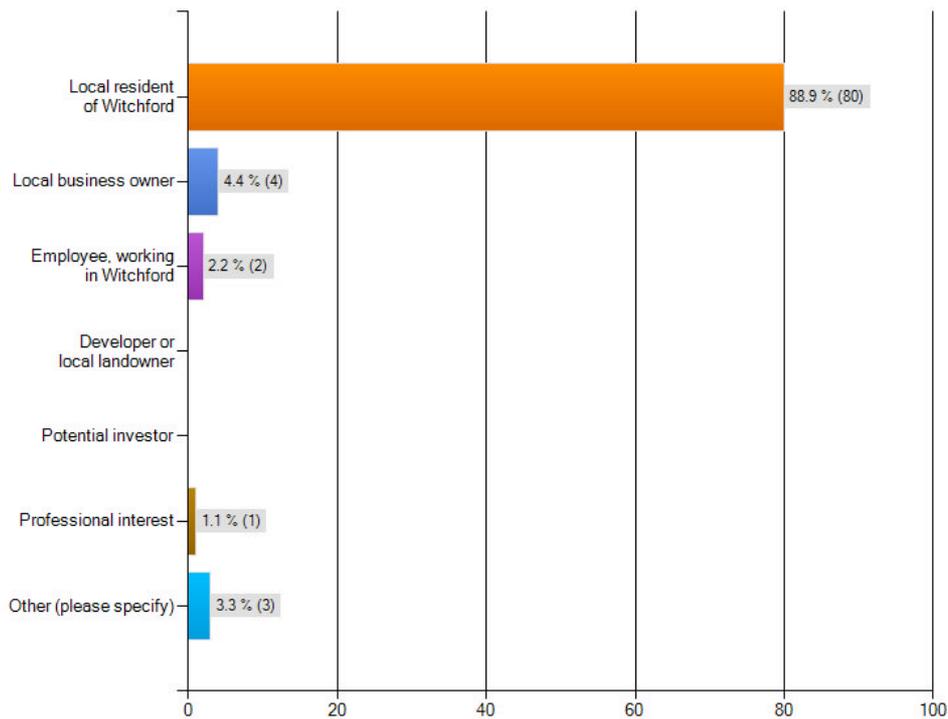
# Witchford Village Vision Questionnaire Results

## Key facts:

Consultation period:	27 <sup>th</sup> June – 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
Total responses:	90
Number of dwellings in the village:	990
Response rate:	9%

## Summary of Results

### Q3. Please indicate the main reason for your interest in the development of Witchford:



A total of 90 people responded to this question with 88.9% of respondents stating that their main interest in the development of Witchford was as a local resident. Four responses (4.4%) were received from local business owners, two (2.2%) from employees working in Witchford and one (1.1%) from a person with a professional interest. Three 'other' respondents listed their main reason for interest as:

- Resident and developer or local landowner
- Resident and local developer
- Witchford Parish Council

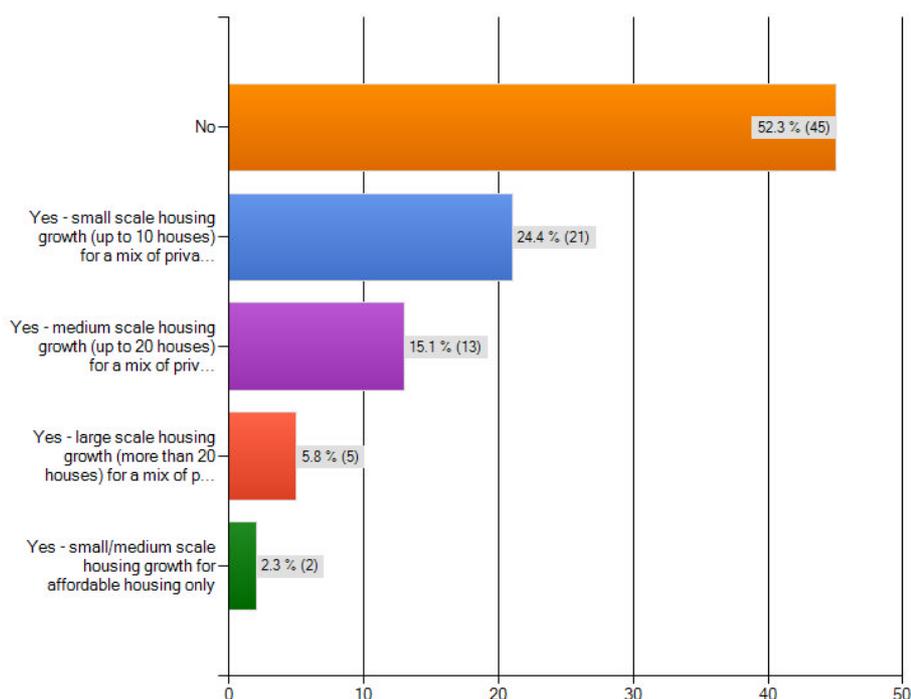
### Q4. How would you like to see the village/parish change or improve in the future? Please list your top 3 priorities below:

A total of 76 people responded to this question. Key priorities identified by the respondents included:

- More and improved variety of shops (31 people)
- A more regular/improved bus service (19 People)
- Provision of a doctor's surgery/pharmacy (15 people)
- No more house building/expansion of the village (19 people)
- Speed restrictions/traffic calming (11 people)

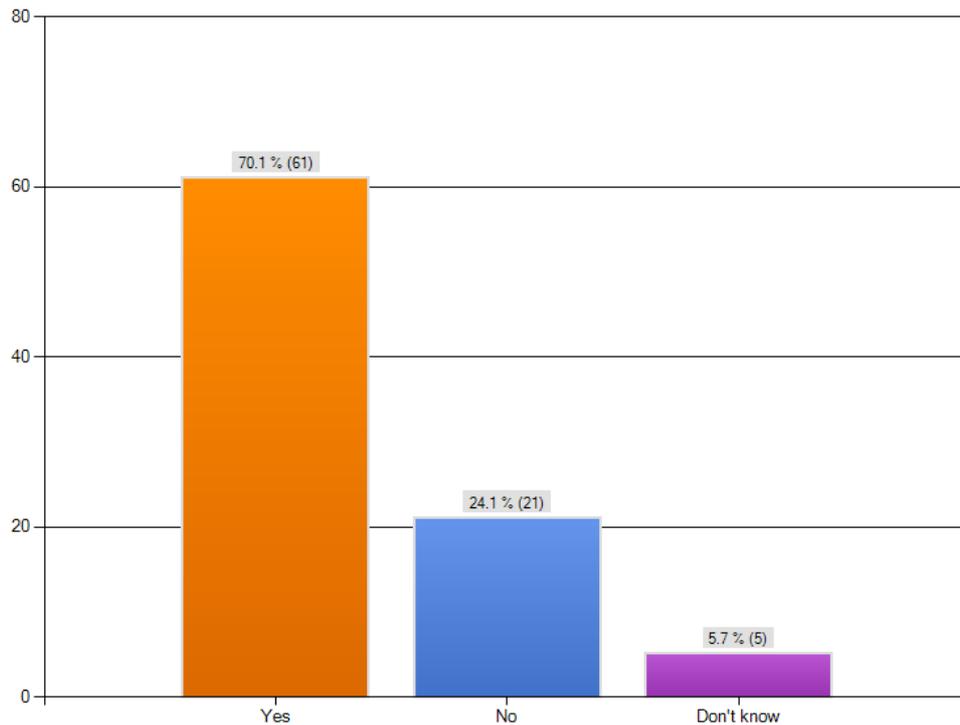
- Improved play/sports facilities (22 people)
- Improved amenities/village hall (3 people)
- The village to have more control over its affairs
- Control of excessive building especially industrial units
- More use of green energy
- Investment in schools (3 people)
- Dog fouling signs
- Improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes (5 people)
- Parks improved and better maintained, Victoria Green in particular (2 people)
- Better broadband connection (5 people)
- No large lorries
- Stop car parking on grass areas
- Cheaper houses
- Expand the pre-school
- Provide more protection to older buildings that are part of the character of the village
- Re-instate parking at Post Office/Victoria Green
- Protection/enforcement of no-through zone for lorries
- Conservation of wild areas
- More control over parking at Rackham School
- Improved waste management and recycling (2 people)
- Restaurants/local entertainment (2 people)
- Provide rural corridors between existing and future development
- Police station, better police presence (5 people)
- Protection of allotments
- Wheelie bins
- Support for church improvements
- Litter collection, graffiti removal and general tidying
- Change in design away from typical new build
- Improved opening hours at pub
- Encourage small/medium businesses to the area

**Q5. Do you think there should be housing growth on the edge of Witchford?  
Please choose one of the following options:**



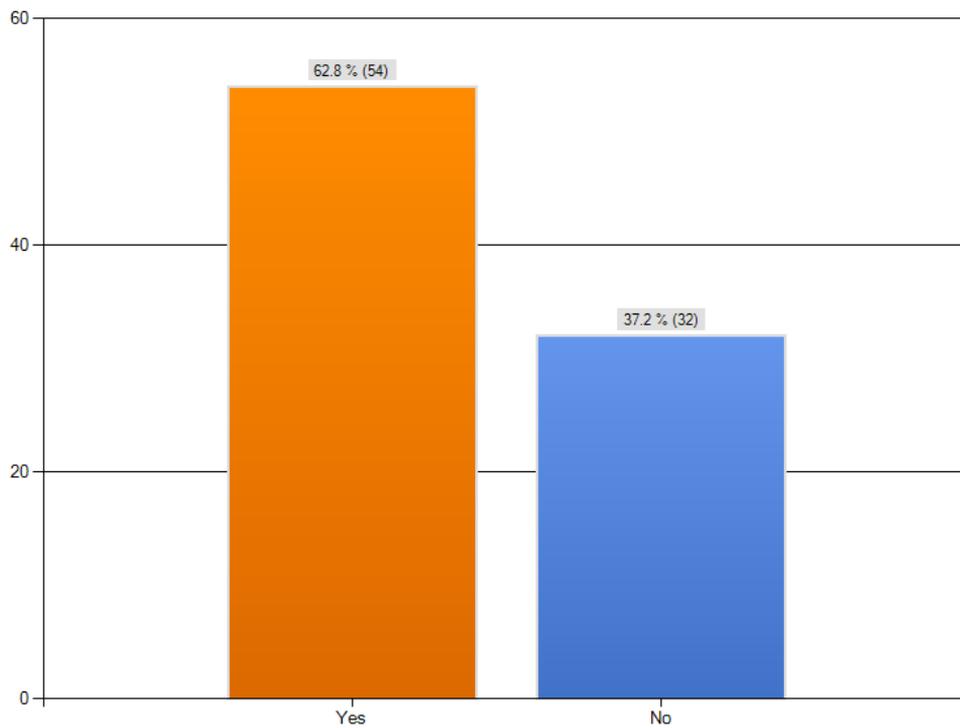
A total of 86 people responded to this question. Responses were fairly evenly split, with a slight majority of respondents (52.3%) indicating they would not support housing growth outside the development envelope on the edge of Witchford. Of the people that supported growth (47.6%), highest support was given to small scale housing growth (24.4%), followed by medium scale growth (15.1%) and large scale housing growth (5.8%). Limited support (2.3%) was also shown for small/medium scale housing growth for affordable growth only.

**Q6. Housing development will continue to come forward on small sites within the village. However, schemes are currently limited to a maximum of 9 dwellings. Do you think this approach should continue?**



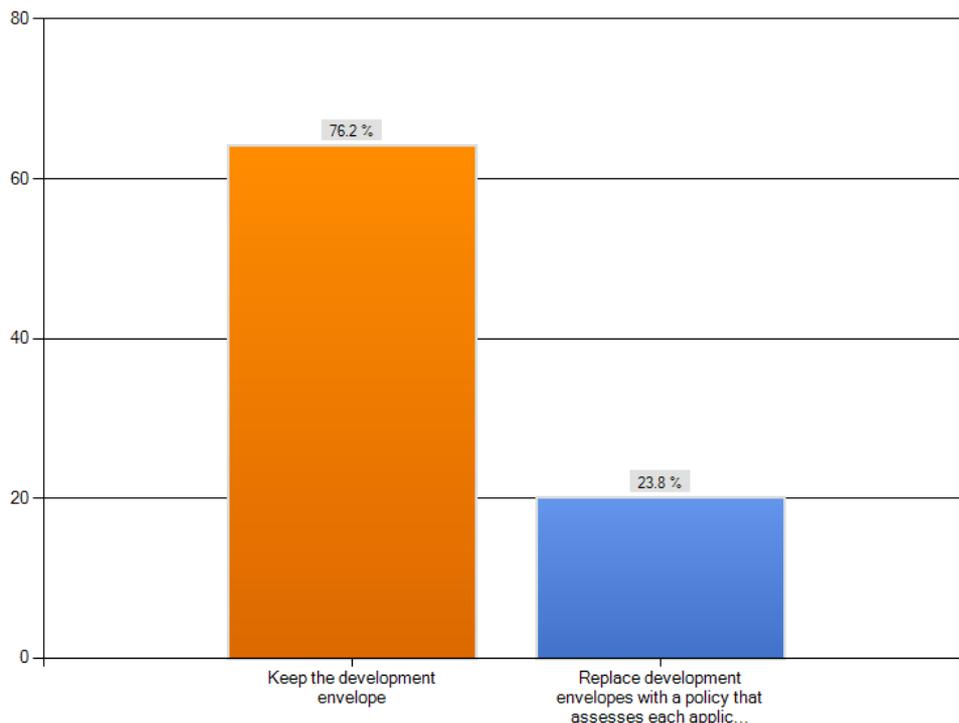
A total of 87 people responded to this question, with 3 people choosing not to provide an answer. The majority of respondents (70.1%) agreed that the current approach of restricting in-fill development to 9 dwellings should continue. From the respondents who disagreed (24.1%), it was suggested that services and facilities should be improved before growth, that the village should be expanded to sustain facilities and reduce commuting, that there should be no more housing and more help for small businesses, that there is sufficient housing in the village for the current infrastructure, that new developments should be restricted to brown field sites for one building, that the maximum of 9 dwellings should be reduced to 5, that each proposal should be judged on its merits, that there is not enough affordable housing, that the problem with 9 dwellings is that it often necessitates a new road and that an increase in population would support local shops, services and businesses

**Q7. Would you like to see more opportunities for small businesses in the village/parish? (e.g. offices, industrial units, workshops).**



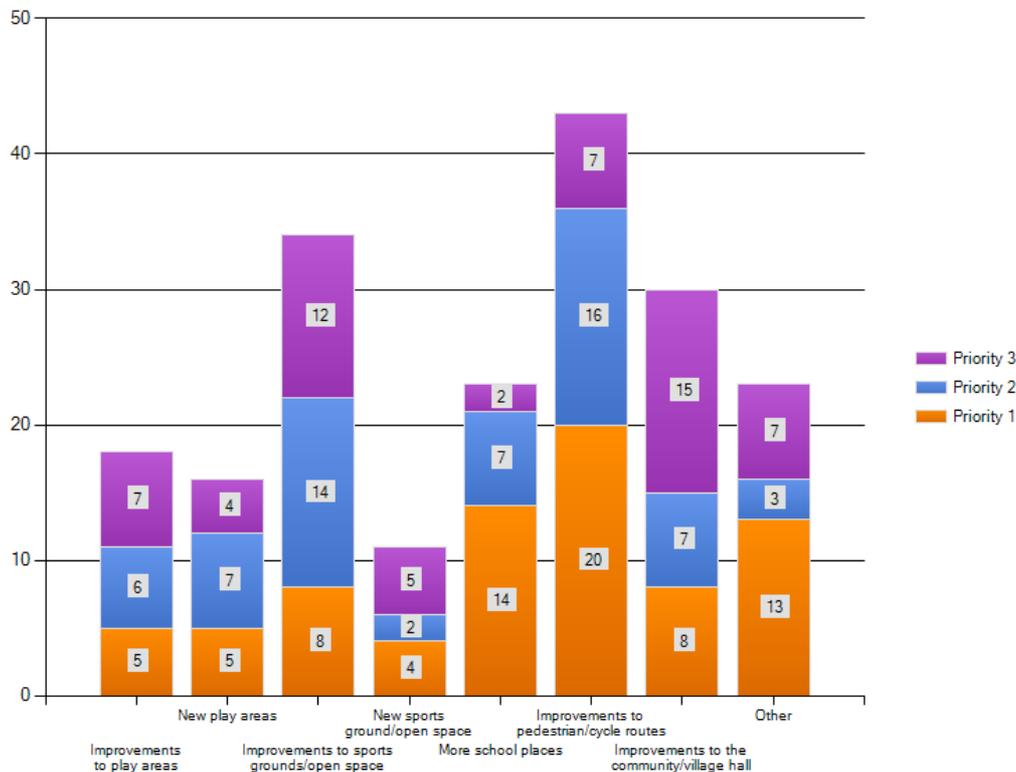
A total of 86 people provided a response to this question with 62.8% of respondents stating that they would like to see more opportunities for small businesses in the village/parish.

**Q8. The development envelope marks the built up area of the village where development is normally allowed to take place. The area outside the development envelope is protected as open countryside. Which of the following approaches would you prefer?**



A total of 84 people responded to this question with the majority (76.2%) in favour of keeping the development envelope, with 23.8% of people against.

**Q9. The District Council can secure funds from developers to spend on improving local infrastructure and facilities. If new development comes forward in the village, what benefits would you like to see? Please select your top 3 priorities from the list:**



A total of 78 people responded to this question, with 17 people choosing not to answer. Overall, the need for improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes, improvements to sports ground/open space and improvements to the community/village hall scored most highly.

When analysed in terms of priorities, improvements to pedestrian cycle routes ranked most highly as priority 1 (20 people) and as priority 2 (16 people) with improvements to the community/village hall scoring most highly for priority 3 (15 People). Of the respondents who selected 'other' the following improvements were suggested: more shops, a doctors surgery, to be able to build on my land, support existing volunteer groups, improved broadband, more/expanded wildlife conservation areas, facilities for older children, public transport improvements, improved rubbish collection, traffic calming, more services for elderly disabled people, new community café open in daytime for families, improve car parks at junction particularly near schools and support for existing volunteer groups.

**Q10. For the priorities you have selected in Question 9 above, can you provide more detail on what these improvements should be and where they should be located?**

A total of 27 people responded to this question, which raised infrastructure issues at the following locations:

- A foot/cycle bridge to cross A10 from BP Garage into Ely

- Provide financial support for a pedestrian path on Grunty Fen Road from Main Street
- New netball courts at Bedwell Hey Lane
- More street lighting from Lancaster Way to Budgens roundabout
- Improvements/refurbishment of the village hall
- Increase width of footpath/cyclepaths along Ely Road/Main Street and Sutton Road
- More school places at Rackham school
- Victoria Green park needs refurbishment/improvements
- Improvements to the play area on Common Road

Other non site specific comments made reference to: restoring financial support for the Parish Paths Partnership on ProWs and open spaces, improve the nature and character of the village, improved cycle/pedestrian routes, more youth facilities for 11-16 age group, provision of a doctors surgery, pharmacy and police station, more street lights, better maintenance of hedges, shade to be provided for play areas, more shops, an improved bus service, sports ground to provide area for racket sports, more flowers and hanging baskets around the village, improved litter picking and more benches to be provided around the village.

**Q11. Please use this space to make any other comments:**

A number of site-specific comments were made in reference to:

- Small businesses should be located on Lancaster Way
- Traffic around Rackham is a problem in the mornings
- The access to and exit from the new recycling centre should be from the Lancaster Way roundabout and not from Witchford Road
- Any housing should only be considered on the north side of Main Street
- Roads should be swept more often, especially in Granary End
- Cars and vans should be kept off the grass and pavement at Manor Close
- Present recreation field is too far from most homes for children
- Extend 30 mph limit through the village from the junction with the A142 with Sutton Road at the western end of Witchford and the Lancaster Way roundabout at the Eastern End.
- Public transport links between Witchford and the surrounding villages and Ely should be improved

Other non site-specific comments noted the need for: separate play areas for young and older children, more frequent hedge cutting along pavements, need for a doctors clinic, poor broadband speeds, the village shop should be expanded, greater focus on renewable power generation, more facilities/activities for teenagers, more signs and bins for dog fouling, impose speed limit flashing signs/cameras, make bus stops more visible, maintain Witchford's village feel, traffic calming, all developments should be small scale and top priority should be given to proper drainage systems, meeting room should be provided at the church, greater police presence, increase in population would support shops and services and a need for more buses and improved recycling facilities.