

COVENEY



1. Settlement characteristics

Coveney is a distinctive small village set along a low ridge overlooking the fens, approximately 4 miles north-west of Ely. The Parish of Coveney also includes the hamlet Wardy Hill (see separate Wardy Hill Vision). The main features of the village are shown on Map xxx.

Facilities in the village include a Village Hall, 2 churches and a play area. The village has one bus service a week on a Thursday to Ely.

2. Key statistics

<i>Coveney</i>	
<i>Population¹</i>	390
<i>Dwellings²</i>	160
<i>New dwellings built 2001-2011 (net)</i>	0
<i>Estimated new dwellings 2012-2031</i>	
<i>Employment³</i>	16% work from home, 48% travel up to 20km to work, 29% travel over 20km to work
<i>Existing public transport services</i>	Service to Ely (Thursday only) (as at June 2012)

3. Housing

Coveney is likely to grow at a slow rate, with new housing being built on suitable 'infill' sites within the village. No new housing allocation sites are proposed on the edge of Coveney.

¹ Population for Coveney parish (mid-2010), Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

² Dwellings in Coveney parish (mid-2010), Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

³ Distance travelled to work, East Cambridgeshire 002A Lower Layer Super Output Area (covering Wardy Hill, Coveney and Little Downham), Census 2001

A ‘development envelope’ has been drawn around Coveney to define the built-up part of the village where infill development may be permitted. The purpose is to prevent sprawl into the open countryside. Development on infill sites will need to be in line with Policy xx.

Outside the development envelope, housing will not normally be permitted – unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as essential dwellings for rural workers, or affordable housing. Housing schemes outside the development envelope will be assessed against Policy xx and other Local Plan policies as appropriate.

4. Employment

There are few businesses in the village. The District Council is keen to retain the stock of business land and premises in order to support local economic growth. Proposals to re-use any employment sites for other purposes will only be permitted in certain circumstances (see Policy xx).

No new employment allocation sites are proposed on the edge of Coveney. However, suitable new employment proposals within or on the edge of the village will be supported in principle, subject to Policies xx, xx and xx.

5. Infrastructure and community facilities

Residents in Coveney have indicated a desire for improvements and infrastructure and community facilities in the village. A list of priorities is set out in the table below.

	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>
1	Improvements to Broadband	District Council is working in partnership with the County Council to seek improvements to the Broadband service across the district.
2	Improvements village hall	New roof needed
3	Improvements to roads and footpaths	Better upkeep of roads in village Improve West Fen Road
4	Improvements to the play areas	Provision of more play equipment

The top priority is improvements to Broadband speeds in the village, an issue that the District Council is already working with County Council to address across the district. Other priorities include improvements to the village hall, roads and footpaths and play areas in the village. The District Council will work with the Parish Council and County Council to explore options and secure funding for improvements to community facilities and transport infrastructure in Coveney.

The current community facilities in Coveney (including the village hall, churches and play area) contribute to the quality of people’s lives. The loss of community facilities will be resisted under Policy xx. Proposals for new community development that benefits the village will be supported in principle, subject to Policies xx and xx.

6. Spatial strategy for Coveney (Map xx)



Key

Development Envelope	Conservation Area
Housing allocation	County Wildlife Site
Employment allocation	Area of International Importance for Wildlife
Scheduled Ancient Monument	Listed Building
Historic Parks & Gardens	Site of Special Scientific Interest

**Map x
Coveney**

N

1:10,000