

## **LITTLE THETFORD**

**[Photo to be inserted]**

### **1. Settlement characteristics**

Little Thetford is a small village about 3 miles south of Ely. The 10th-century Old English name, lytel Thiutforda, refers to a ford across the nearby River Great Ouse, which today forms most of the village's eastern boundary. The village has 4 listed buildings including the St George's Church and The Round House, thought to be a 15<sup>th</sup> century dovecote. The main features of the village are shown on Map xxx.

Facilities in the village include a primary school, church, village hall, Sports and Social Club and a sports field. The village has a regular bus service which runs to Ely and Cambridge.

### **2. Key statistics**

<i>Little Thetford</i>	
<i>Population<sup>1</sup></i>	680
<i>Dwellings<sup>2</sup></i>	320
<i>New dwellings built 2001-2011 (net)</i>	5
<i>Estimated new dwellings 2012-2031</i>	
<i>Employment<sup>3</sup></i>	11% work from home, 67% travel up to 20km to work, 17% travel over 20km to work
<i>Existing public transport services</i>	Regular services to Ely and Cambridge (Monday-Saturday) (as at June 2012)

### **3. Housing**

Little Thetford is likely to continue 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 Little Thetford.

A 'development envelope' has been drawn around Little Thetford 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**

<sup>1</sup> Population for Thetford parish (mid-2010), Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

<sup>2</sup> Dwellings in Thetford parish (mid-2010), Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

<sup>3</sup> Distance travelled to work, East Cambridgeshire 005F Lower Layer Super Output Area (covering Stretham and Little Thetford), Census 2001

There are a few businesses in the village, including D TEK cycle shop, and Two Acres caravan site, but little employment land or premises (e.g. offices and industrial). The District Council is keen to retain any employment land and premises in order to support local economic growth. Proposals to re-use 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 Little Thetford. 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**

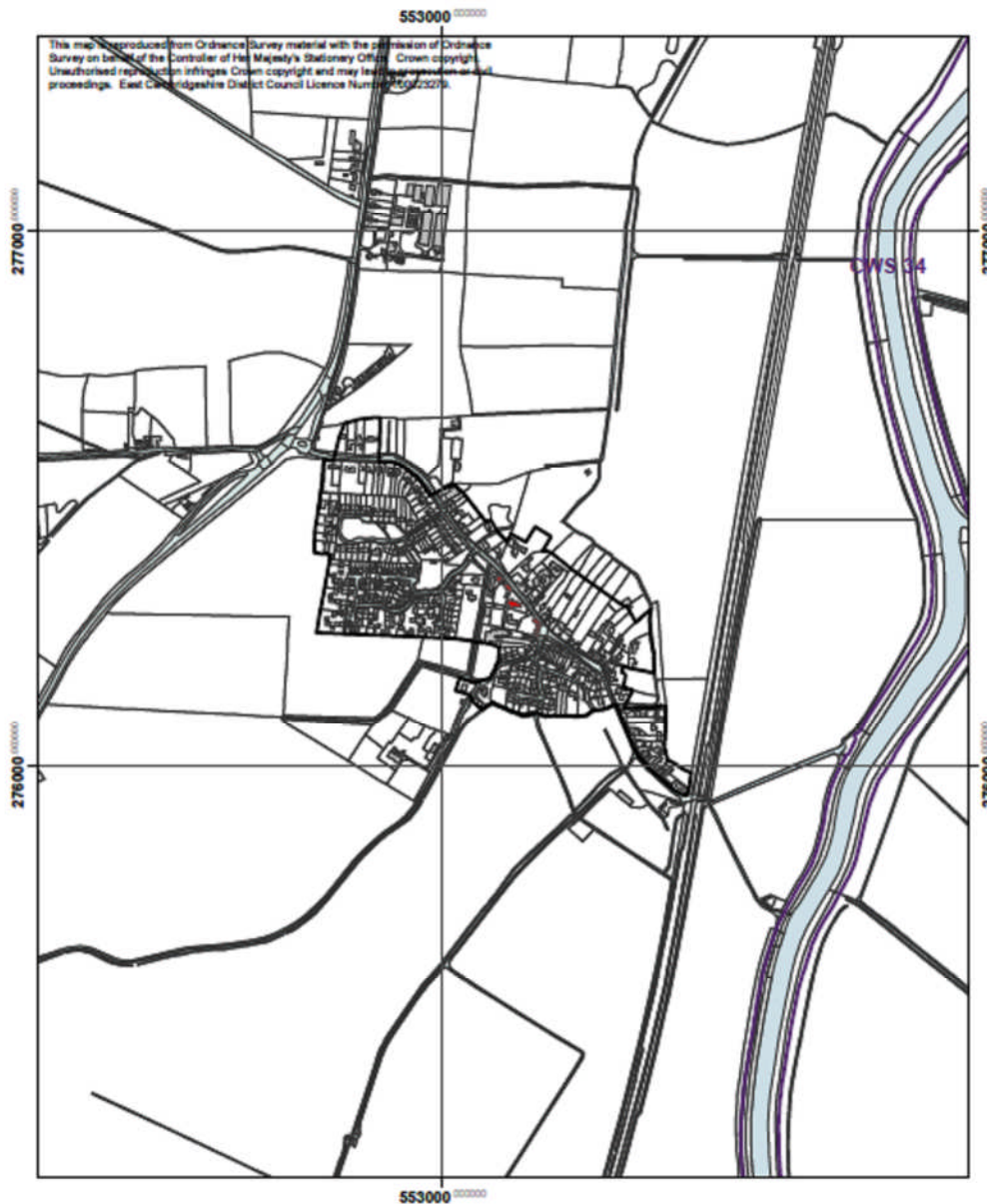
Residents in Little Thetford have indicated a desire for improvements to infrastructure and facilities in the village. A list of priorities is set out in the table below.

	Priority	Suggestions
1	Traffic calming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic calming measures at the junction of the village with the A10</li><li>• Traffic lights, roundabout or traffic islands required at entry to village</li></ul>
2	Improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Foot/cycle path extensions required in the Wyches from the cemetery to A10 and between Little Thetford and Stretham</li><li>• Better cycle route to Ely</li></ul>

The top priority is for traffic calming measures in Little Thetford, particularly at the A10 junction. The second priority is also transport-related – involving improvements to pedestrian/cycle links. The District Council will work with the Parish Council and County Council to explore options and secure funding for these road and transport schemes. The District Council will also work in partnership to try to retain existing public transport levels, and encourage self-sufficient transport services, such as community transport.

The current community facilities in Little Thetford (including the primary school, church, village hall, Sports and Social Club and sports field) contribute to the quality of people's lives. The loss of community facilities will also 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 Little Thetford (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  
**Little Thetford**

N

1:10,000