

UPWARE

[Photo to be inserted]
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1. Settlement characteristics

Upware is a small village in the parish of Wicken, and is close to the boundary of South Cambridgeshire. The village is situated in a very rural position surrounded by open countryside, with three Sites of Special Scientific Interest and a County Wildlife Site. The River Cam passes through the village and provides a range of boating and leisure opportunities for locals and visitors. The main features of the village are shown on Map xxx.

Facilities in the village are limited but include a riverside public house, marina, and public telephone. Public transport services are limited in the village with one bus service to Ely every Thursday.

2. Key statistics

<i>Upware</i>	
<i>Population¹</i>	100
<i>Dwellings² (est)</i>	38
<i>New dwellings built 2001-2011 (net)</i>	0
<i>Estimated new dwellings 2012-2031</i>	
<i>Employment³</i>	
<i>Existing public transport services</i>	One bus route to Ely that runs every Thursday morning.

3. Housing

Although Upware has not experienced any housing growth over the past 10 years, new housing may come forward on suitable 'infill' sites within the village. No new housing allocation sites are proposed on the edge of Upware. A 'development envelope' has been drawn around Upware 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 very few businesses following the closure of the Cambridgeshire Environment Education Service (CEES) field centre, and little employment land and premises (e.g. industrial or offices) in the village. The District Council is keen to retain employment land and premises in

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

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

³

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

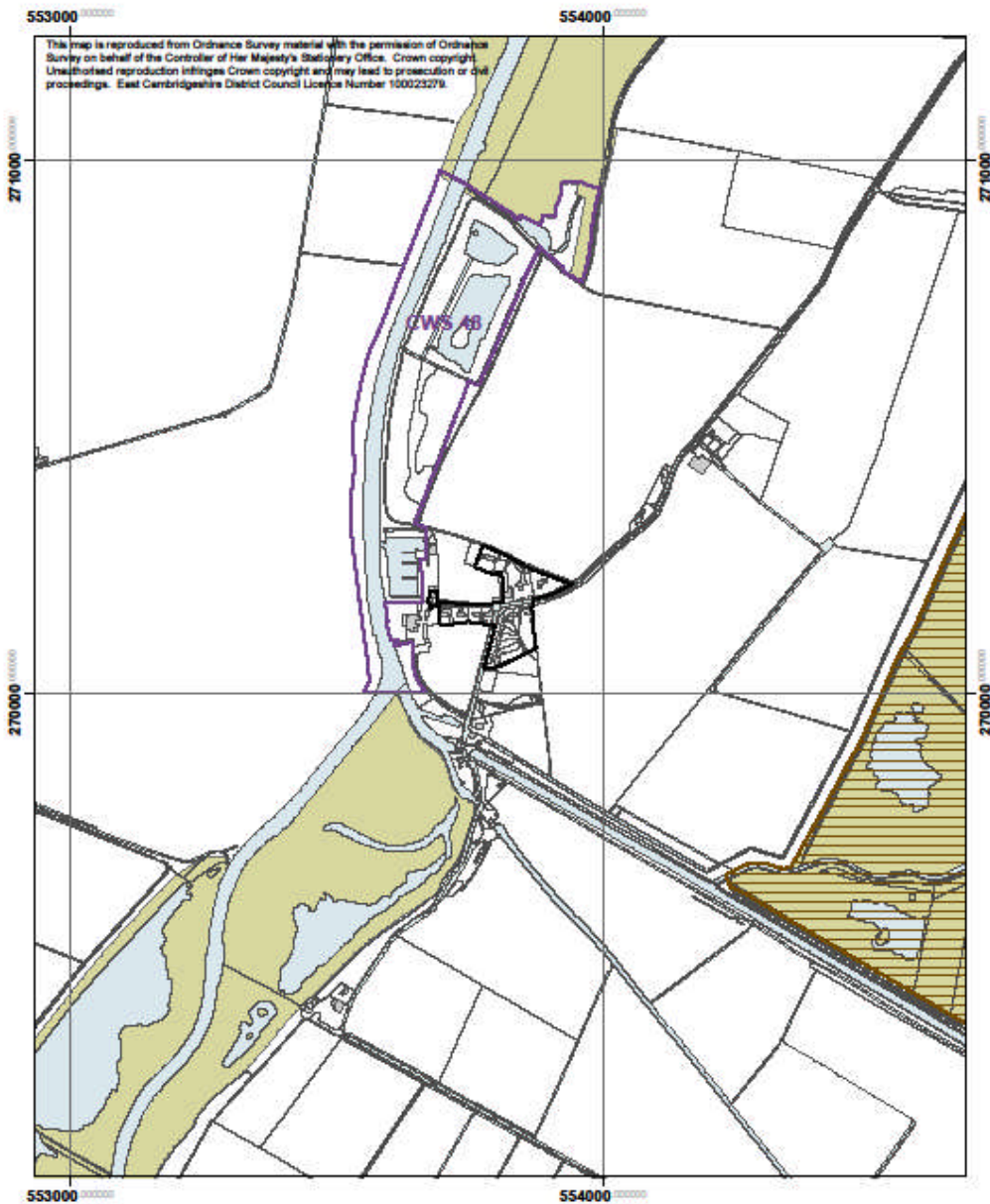
	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>
1	Improvements to broadband	The Council is part of a county wide scheme for broadband improvements
2	Improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes	Cycle routes to Wicken and Waterbeach, including a cycle/footbridge over the river next to the public house
3	Provision of allotment land	Obtain some land by purchase or rental for use as allotments.
4	Provision of a children's play area.	Obtain land for use as a small children's play area.
5	Provision of more school places	More school places at both Soham primary and secondary schools to be secured. Liaison with County Council

The top priority for Upware is to improve broadband services in the village. The council is working with the County Council on a countywide project to improve broadband connections in rural areas where there is no planned private sector investment. The second priority is to improve the pedestrian and cycle routes in the village. Residents expressed a need for a cycle route to Wicken, as well as a footbridge over the river next to the public house to give cycle access to Waterbeach.

Other priorities identified by residents are for the provision of allotments in the village. Land near the old school has been suggested as a possible location. Also, provision of a new small children's play area is desired. The District Council will work with the County Council and Parish Council to explore options and secure funding for improvements to community facilities and transport infrastructure within Upware.

The current community facilities in Upware are very limited and residents are very reliant on nearby villages such as Wicken. Proposals for new community development that benefits the village will be supported in principle, subject to Policies xx and xx. The loss of community facilities will also be resisted under Policy xx.

6. Spatial strategy for Upware (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
Upware
N
1:10,000