

WARDY HILL



1. Settlement characteristics

Wardy Hill is a small hamlet, 1 mile west of Coveney and approximately 7 miles from Ely. Located on the edge of a low ridge, the hamlet is surrounded by rural countryside and is also the site of a former Iron Age Hillfort. The main features of the Wardy Hill are shown on Map xxx.

There are few facilities in Wardy Hill, they include a Social Club and a play area. Wardy Hill has one bus service a week on a Thursday to Ely.

2. Key statistics

Wardy Hill	
Population ¹	130
Dwellings ² (Est)	52
New dwellings built 2001-2011 (net)	6
Estimated new dwellings 2012-2031	
Employment ³	15.8% work from home, 48% travel up to 20km to work, 29% travel over 20km to work
Existing public transport services	Service to Ely (Thursday only) (as at June 2012)

3. Housing

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

A 'development envelope' has been drawn around Wardy Hill to define the built-up part of the settlement 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.

¹ Population for Wardy Hill settlement (mid-2010), Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

² Based on 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

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 a few businesses in Wardy Hill. 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 Wardy Hill. However, suitable new employment proposals within or on the edge of Wardy Hill will be supported in principle, subject to Policies xx, xx and xx.

5. Infrastructure and community facilities

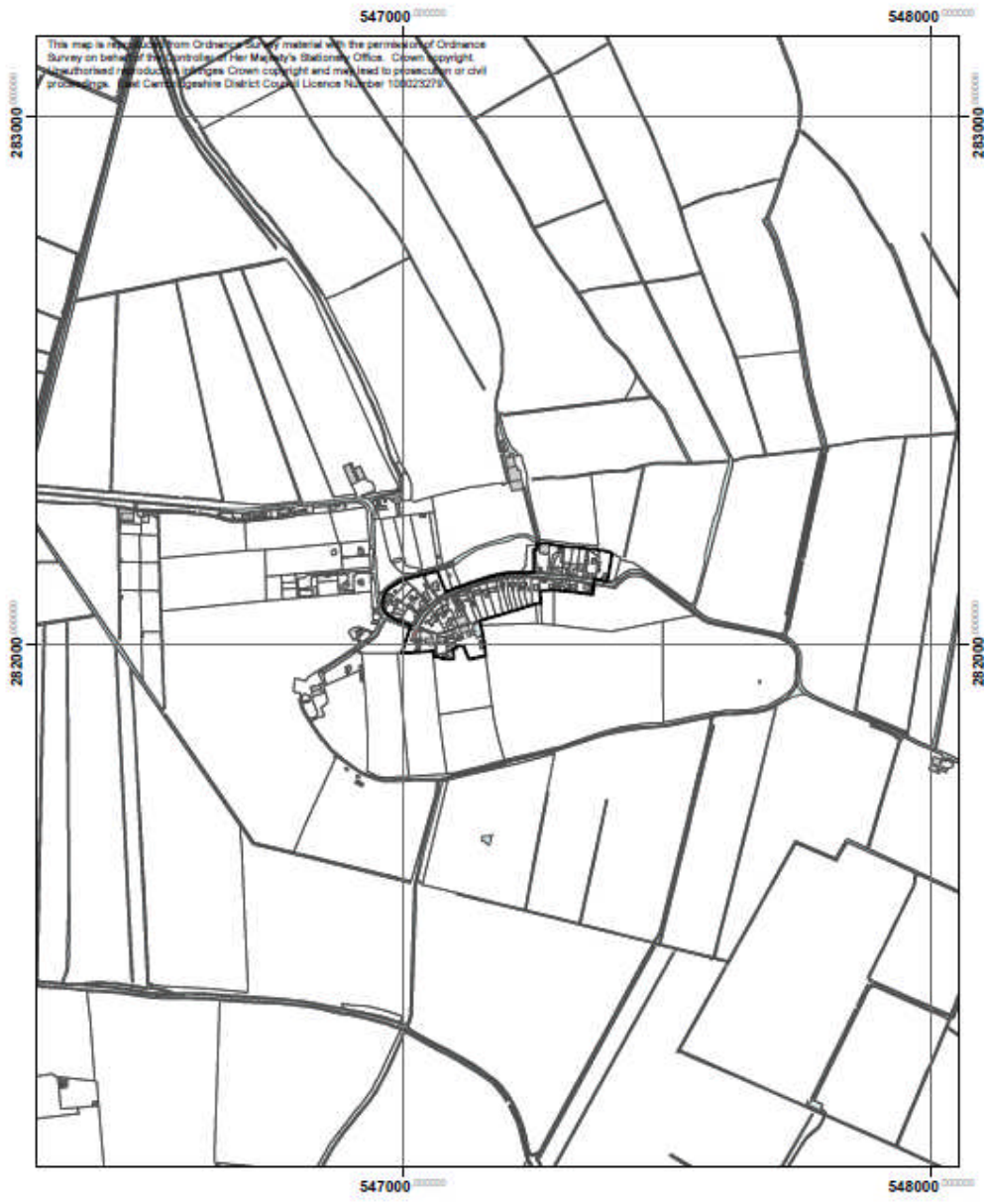
Residents have indicated a desire for improvements to infrastructure and facilities in Wardy Hill. A list of priorities is set out in the table below.

	<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	A community/village hall	District Council and Parish Council to work in partnership to explore options for provision of a village hall
3	Improvements to play areas	Provision of a slide

The top priority is for a community/village Hall in Wardy Hill. The second and third priorities involve improvements to play areas and open space. The District Council will work with the Parish Council and County Council to explore options and secure funding for community facilities in Wardy Hill and is already working with the County Council to bring improvements to the Broadband service across the district.

The current community facilities in Wardy Hill (including the Social Club 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 Wardy Hill (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
Wardy Hill

N

1:10,000