

# WILBURTON



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## 1. Settlement characteristics

Wilburton is small village situated 6 miles southwest of Ely, on the ridge between Stretham and Haddenham. The core of the village is designated as a Conservation Area with a particularly attractive area around the church. The main features of the village are shown on Map xx.

Wilburton has a range of facilities including two shops, a public house, a village hall and social club, a primary school and St Peter’s Church. There is also a recreation ground with a cricket pitch, pavilion and local play area and a regular bus service to Cambridge.

## 2. Key statistics

<i>Wilburton</i>	
<i>Population<sup>1</sup></i>	1320
<i>Dwellings<sup>2</sup></i>	550
<i>New dwellings built 2001-2011 (net)</i>	53
<i>Estimated new dwellings 2012-2031</i>	
<i>Employment<sup>3</sup></i>	13% work from home, 67% travel up to 20km to work, 15% travel over 20km to work
<i>Existing public transport services</i>	Regular services to Cambridge, Haddenham, Sutton, Chatteris (Mon-Sat)

## 3. Housing

Wilburton is likely to continue to grow at a modest rate, with new housing being built on suitable ‘infill’ sites within the village. No new housing allocation sites are proposed on the edge of Wilburton.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Distance travelled to work, East Cambridgeshire Stretham ward (Covering Stretham, Little Thetford and Wilburton), Census 2001

A 'development envelope' has been drawn around Wilburton 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. The Parish Council are exploring the delivery of an affordable housing scheme on the edge of the village, via a Community Land Trust mechanism. This and other housing schemes outside the development envelope will be assessed against policies xx, xx and other Local Plan policies as appropriate.

#### **4. Employment**

There are a range of businesses located in the village, including Wilburton Garage, Twentyence Garden Centre and a number of small employers such as building contractors, business and PR consultants and computer software developers. The District Council is keen to retain the stock of business land and premises in order to support local economic growth. Proposals to reuse 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 Wilburton. 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 Wilburton have identified a number of infrastructure and community improvements.

A list of priorities is set out in the table below:

	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>
1	Improvements to sports grounds/open space	New pavilion; better changing facilities; off road parking
2	Improvements to pedestrian/cycle routes	Pedestrian/cycle routes to link village with Stretham, Cottenham, Ely and Cambridge
3	Improvements to play areas	Updated play equipment; new equipment for toddlers
4	Improvements to the community/Village Hall	Parking provision

The current community facilities in Wilburton (including the village hall, social club and recreation ground) contribute to the quality of people's lives. The District Council will work with the County Council and Parish Council to secure funding, including developer contributions, to improve facilities wherever possible. The loss of existing community facilities will also be resisted under Policy xxx. Proposals for new community development that benefit the village will be supported in principle, subject to Policies xxx and xxx.

6. Spatial strategy for Wilburton (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  
**Wilburton**

