Taking Control of Foxton’s Future

A Foxton residents’ survey conducted by the Neighbourhood Planning Group in March 2017
There were 162 completed questionnaires and most roads in Foxton were represented.

43% of these questionnaires were completed by male residents, 48% were completed by female residents and the remaining 9% preferred not to state their gender.

19% were aged 17-44, 32% were aged 45-64 and 43% were aged 65 plus. 5% preferred not to state their age.

This sample is not a truly representative sample because it is a self-completion exercise and the responses are dominated by older age groups. Where appropriate, feedback has been analysed by both age and gender.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents’ spontaneous positive feelings about living in Foxton village.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friendly village</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community spirit in the village</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village is surrounded by Green Belt / has a rural feel</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of / Connectivity by train (bus)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity to Cambridge and other locations (Royston/London/Stansted/M11)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local amenities (unspecified)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO/Shop</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peaceful / Quiet</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good leisure / social activities</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Ground</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Very friendly and rural.
- The friendly residents and community spirit. Having a shop. The easy access to Cambridge & Royston.
- Friendly, supporting, good leisure & social activities. Very good community spirit.
- Quiet, pleasant and generally friendly village.
- Good sense of community. Proximity to Cambridge and good travel links. Excellent school.
- Community spirit. Easy access by train to London & Cambridge.
- The village hall, school and recreation areas. Accessibility via generally satisfactory public transport to Royston, Cambridge and London.
- Still retains it’s rural, friendly atmosphere.
Residents’ description of Foxton Village in Spring 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friendly</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attractive</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosperous</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibrant</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: Total sample = 162
The desired future of Foxton

We need to maintain the village’s friendly image, accessibility and rural character.

At the same time we need to improve the village’s safety, attractiveness, activities, affordability, prosperity and vibrancy.
### Residents’ spontaneous negative feelings about living in Foxton village.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Railway crossing and the delays/congestion it causes</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor state of the pavements around the village</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor state of the roads / the potholes</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic speeding through the village</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars parked inconsiderately/ cars parked on the pavements/(by shop, by church, by allotments, by railway)/lack of suitable parking(by shop, by church, by allotments, by railway)/lack of suitable parking</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor bus service</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much (big) development</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*State of the pavements – looks seedy!*

*Pavements need repair, make the bus service more frequent and address the A10 traffic at the crossing.*


*Too much development in this area. Traffic too heavy and cars speeding thru village.*

*Too much development in this area.*

*Pot holes in the roads.*

*I wish the bus would stop on Sundays.*

*Speed of cars going through the village. The state of the roads and pavements is poor.*

*Only single lane traffic on the High Street because of all the parked cars.*
What do residents think needs to improve in Foxton?

Could be better
- Level crossing (88%)
- Roads (83%)
- Pavements and footpaths (83%)
- Bus services (76%)
- Mobile phone coverage (73%)
- Broadband/cable communications (57%)
- Car parking (56%)
- Sewerage / drainage (40%)
- Train services (39%)
- Street lights (34%)

OK as they are
- Village hall (81%)
- Nature areas (e.g. Foxton Wood, Dovecot Meadow) (60%)
- Allotments (53%)
- Cycle paths (50%)
- Cricket pitch (50%)
- Football pitch and changing rooms (45%)
- Primary school (43%)
- Children's playground (43%)
- Gas supply (41%)
- Floodlit sports facilities (38%)
- Early years / pre-school facilities (24%)
“To retain and enhance the unique rural character and community spirit of Foxton.”

97% approve of this vision statement
The perceived importance of various village aspects in 10-15 years’ time

- **Preserving the character of our village & conservation area**
  - % Quite important: 13%
  - % Very important: 85%

- **The local countryside environment**
  - % Quite important: 16%
  - % Very important: 82%

- **Ensuring noise and pollution levels do not increase**
  - % Quite important: 19%
  - % Very important: 78%

- **Movement into, out of and around the village**
  - % Quite important: 34%
  - % Very important: 58%

- **Facilities for older and less able residents**
  - % Quite important: 46%
  - % Very important: 42%

- **Leisure and recreation facilities**
  - % Quite important: 59%
  - % Very important: 26%

- **Availability of affordable homes (purchase or rent)**
  - % Quite important: 36%
  - % Very important: 30%

- **Availability of primary school places**
  - % Quite important: 39%
  - % Very important: 25%

- **Availability of pre-school places**
  - % Quite important: 40%
  - % Very important: 15%

- **Local employment**
  - % Quite important: 35%
  - % Very important: 16%

**Paramount**

**Valuable**

**Nice to have**

Bases: Total samples ranging from 134 to 158
Which potential developments are perceived as beneficial to Foxton?

**Beneficial**
- Safe-guarding the future of the post office / shop (73%)
- Better pavements and paths (59%) O
- Improved public transport (52%) F

**Possibly Beneficial**
- Better facilities for older people (41%)
- Variety of new housing (36%)
- Better facilities for young people (33%)

**Less Beneficial**
- Improved care facilities for less mobile people (30%) F O
- Better balance of ages (28%) F
- More shops and services (24%) F
- Improved parking (22%)
- More leisure facilities (22%) F
- More cycle routes (17%)
- Improved sense of community (17%)
- More school places (15%)
- More jobs and businesses (14%)
- More rental properties (13%)
- More pre-school places (9%)

F = more so for female residents
O = more so for older residents
What worries residents about future development in Foxton?

Universal Worries
- More traffic (82%)
- Loss of village identity and community (69%)
- Impact on the environment (65%)
- Provision of public transport (56%) F

Worries for some
- Higher noise levels (49%)
- Provision of shops and services (46%) F
- Provision of parking (44%) F
- Provision of school places (40%) F
- Provision of facilities for older people (40%) O
- Higher crime levels (37%)
- Feeling of being less safe (33%) F

Worries for a few
- Provision of facilities for young people (31%) F
- Provision of pre-school places (27%)
- Lack of variety of new housing (17%)
- Provision of leisure facilities (12%)
- Fewer rental properties (11%)
- Reduction in house prices (8%)
- Fewer jobs and businesses (6%)

F = more so for female residents
O = more so for older residents
What are Foxton’s future housing needs according to residents?

- **Small homes (1-2 bedrooms)**: 60% agree, 24% strongly agree
- **Care home places**: 51% agree, 23% strongly agree
- **Bungalows**: 47% agree, 20% strongly agree
- **Subsidised housing**: 46% agree, 18% strongly agree
- **Family housing (3-4 bedrooms)**: 48% agree, 15% strongly agree
- **Large homes (5 or more bedrooms)**: 8% agree, 2% strongly agree
- **Sheltered housing**: 8% agree, 2% strongly agree

* = driven by older residents

Bases: Total samples ranging from 108 to 130
Small developments (which bring in less money for facilities in Foxton)

Single plots (which bring in no additional money for facilities in Foxton)

Large developments (which bring in more money for facilities in Foxton)

Small development of just affordable homes to be built on the outskirts of the village

Medium sized, mixed development of affordable and other homes.

Bases: Total samples ranging from 129 to 153
How should village improvements be paid for? By ....

- **Donations and grants**
  - % agree: 65
  - % strongly agree: 29
  - Yes

- **Sponsorship**
  - % agree: 72
  - % strongly agree: 12
  - Yes

- **Funding from housing developments**
  - % agree: 29
  - % strongly agree: 38
  - Possibly

- **Higher local taxes (the parish council tax)**
  - % agree: 44
  - % strongly agree: 7
  - Possibly

Bases: Total samples ranging from 121 to 141
Should the Neighbourhood Plan identify land and/or money for ......?

- **Day centre for older residents**: 57% agree, 30% strongly agree
  - Definitely
- **Additional green space**: 49% agree, 23% strongly agree
  - Probably
- **Multi-use games area**: 52% agree, 10% strongly agree
  - Possibly
- **Additional Recreation Ground Space**: 35% agree, 15% strongly agree
- **Business centre with low cost space for local business start-ups**: 42% agree, 10% strongly agree

Bases: Total samples ranging from 120 to 138
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q15</th>
<th>How often do you personally use the bus services to/from Cambridge? Tick one only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Four or more times a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Roughly once a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>At least once a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>Less often than once a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2–3 times a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Never or hardly ever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q16</th>
<th>Which one of these improvements would encourage you to use the bus service more frequently? Tick one only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Shorter journey times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59%</td>
<td>More frequent buses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Cheaper fares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>More reliable service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q17</td>
<td>How often do you personally use the train services to/from Cambridge/London? Tick one only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Four or more times a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Roughly once a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>At least once a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Less often than once a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2–3 times a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>Never or hardly ever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q18</th>
<th>Which one of these improvements would encourage you to use the train service more frequently? Tick one only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Shorter journey times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31%</td>
<td>More frequent trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>Cheaper fares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>More reliable service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Residents’ spontaneous single most important improvement they would like to see happen in Foxton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improvement</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resolving the Foxton rail crossing issue (underpass/flyover/bridge/traffic lights)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving the pavements and road surfaces</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introducing traffic calming measures</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building more housing (type unspecified)/building more smaller houses</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Improvements at the level crossing

Resolving the railway crossing problem.

A flyover to bypass the railway crossing.

Level crossing long term plan. Bridge or divert A10. More frequent trains are proposed and the Oxford to Cambridge link will further increase rail traffic.

Affordable housing for younger residents

Development planning for the benefit of residents.

Pavements made good, look shoddy at the moment!

New, even footpaths – (currently have to use the road)

20 mph speed limit and possibly restrictive gates/fencing at entrance to village, just to remind people that it’s actually a village.

Closure of the level crossing without loss of any homes in the village.

The building of some 2/3 bedroom homes.

Speed bumps /cushions on the entrance to the village from Fowlmere to slow traffic down as they enter the village.
75% of residents would like to see HGV traffic prohibited.

66% would like to see 20mph zones introduced.

44% would like to see speed bumps/cushions introduced.

39% think introducing 20mph zones is the MOST important introduction the village could make in relation to traffic and an equal number, 39%, feel prohibiting HGV traffic would be the MOST important introduction that could be made.