

Carlby Parish

Neighbourhood Development Plan

2018 to 2036

Carlby Parish Council 2018

web site <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Carlby/>

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Introduction

This is the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Carlby produced by Carlby Parish Council, the qualifying authority for the Plan. The Parish of Carlby is the designated area. The timespan of the Plan, 2018 to 2036, matches that of the Local Plan which is currently being revised.

The village has experienced rapid growth in recent years, subsequently the Parish Council has taken a close and active interest in 'planning' matters. In 2008 work began on a Carlby Village Design Statement. This was completed two years later and adopted by South Kesteven District Council in 2013, as a 'material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications'. The Design Statement was itself the product of local consultation and was based on the community's articulation of the things about Carlby that they valued.

The Design Statement set out planning principles and development considerations. The Carlby Neighbourhood Development Plan builds upon much of what is in the Design Statement. The Plan's basis and principles do not differ greatly from the VDS. But it takes a more prescriptive approach to possible development than was appropriate in the VDS. In doing so the Plan accords with the government-led drive for localism delivered through neighbourhood planning.

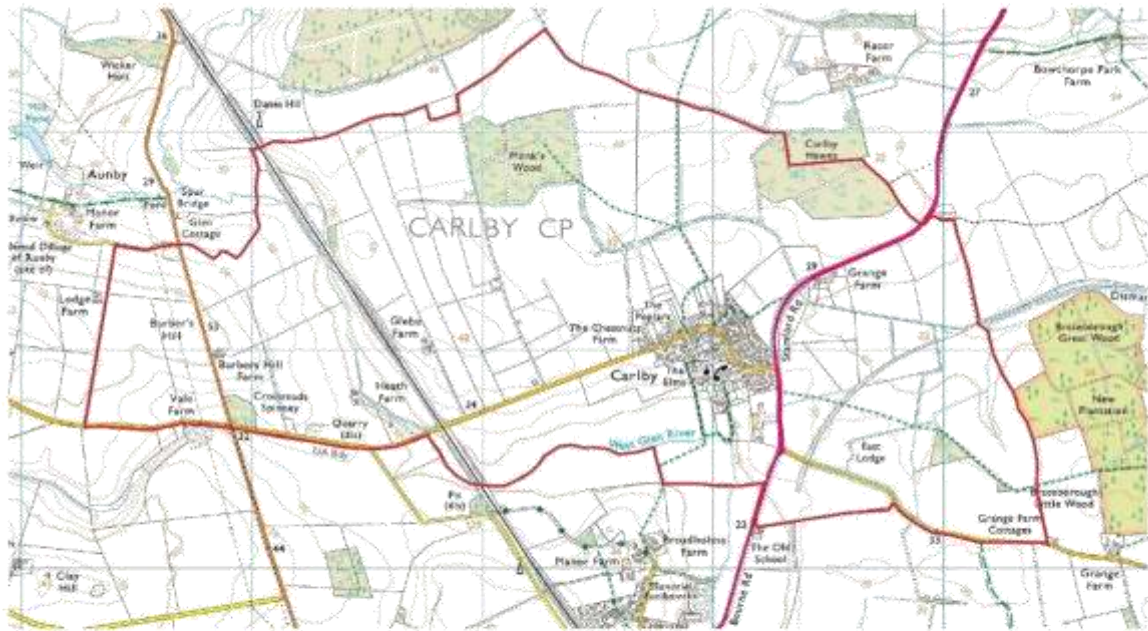
This approach has been thoroughly authenticated by extensive local consultation, as fully set out in the accompanying consultation document. The Plan derives from -

- * what villagers value most about Carlby
- * their view on if, how and where the village should develop over the next twenty years.

This Plan, through its key policies, intends to safeguard these values. It provides a robust test whereby future development will need to show how it is in keeping with them.

Encouraged by the National Planning Policy Framework and by localism, Carlby residents are 'shaping their surroundings'. They accept that the village will evolve and grow. But they want this to be done through suitable development which makes a positive contribution to the village, so that Carlby will continue into the future to be as villagers see it now - 'a nice place to live'. Carlby is still a village, with a village's appearance and atmosphere; and the Parish is rural with pleasant views both into and outside the village from east and west. The consultation responses during the Plan's preparation have shown beyond question that villagers want Carlby to retain this look and feel.

We like what we have; equally, we know from experience that change brings new energy to a place. In their response to consultation, a large majority of villagers acknowledged the need for development – suitable, acceptable and properly managed development.



The Parish of Carlby Designated Area Map 1 reproduced under licence from Allen Pyke Associates Ltd. OS licence number AL100026972

The Plan sets out a positive vision for the next twenty years or so which sees Carlby retaining its village character whilst supporting acceptable development. This will be done through policies which guide and shape development in or around the village, in complement to the strategic elements of the Local Plan

Conformity and compliance

Carlby Neighbourhood Development Plan seeks to meet the “**basic conditions**” in particular:

- having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the order (or neighbourhood plan).
- the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
- the making of the order (or the neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).
- the making of the order (or the neighbourhood plan) does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.
- Prescribed conditions are met in relation to the order (or plan) and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order (or the neighbourhood plan).

The Plan has close regard to: -

- South Kesteven District Council's Local Plan 2005 Core Strategy and Site Allocations and policies DPD.
- The National Planning Policy Framework 2012
- SKDC's Statement of Community Involvement Adopted November 2014 is to establish a two-way process between the community and the Council. It will provide the community with opportunities to help shape their local areas and create a transparent, fair and open planning process. whilst ensuring that national planning requirements are met.
- SKDC Sites and Settlements Consultation July 2016
- Site Allocations and Policies DPD
- South Kesteven District Council's emerging new Local Plan "*Helping Shape the District*", the consultative draft 2017.

"The Village Community":

Carlby village community is defined as the people who live within the Parish, and who are characterised by a common appreciation of and liking for the physical and social aspects of engaging in village life within Carlby i.e. the look and feel of the village and the mutual support provided by the village's social structures which they themselves have created and maintain.

In support of the NPPF and Local Plan, Carlby residents are "*shaping their surroundings*", *with a succinct neighbourhood plan setting out a positive vision, will critically, plan positively to support acceptable development, shaping and directing development in their area that is outside the strategic elements of the Local Plan.*

Providing a framework within which local people can produce their own distinctive neighbourhood plans. Within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a high degree of predictability and efficiency; whilst retaining the intrinsic character of the village.

The Government's Planning Practice Guidance states that "*A policy in a neighbourhood plan should be clear and unambiguous, be distinct to reflect and respond to the unique characteristics and planning context of the specific neighbourhood area for which it has been prepared.*"

Thereby, Applicants will be expected to work closely with those directly affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the village community

Vision

To give clear, precise guidance and direction so that Carlby Parish will retain its character and identity as consisting of a largely residential village, set in an agricultural landscape. Only limited small scale development will take place, and only when it contributes to, and does not detract from the look, character and needs of the parish.

Main Aim: The Plan reflects what villagers feel is important.

The main aim of this Neighbourhood Development Plan therefore is to retain this look and feel, through acceptable development. The Plan supports the objectives of the draft new Local Plan, in particular:

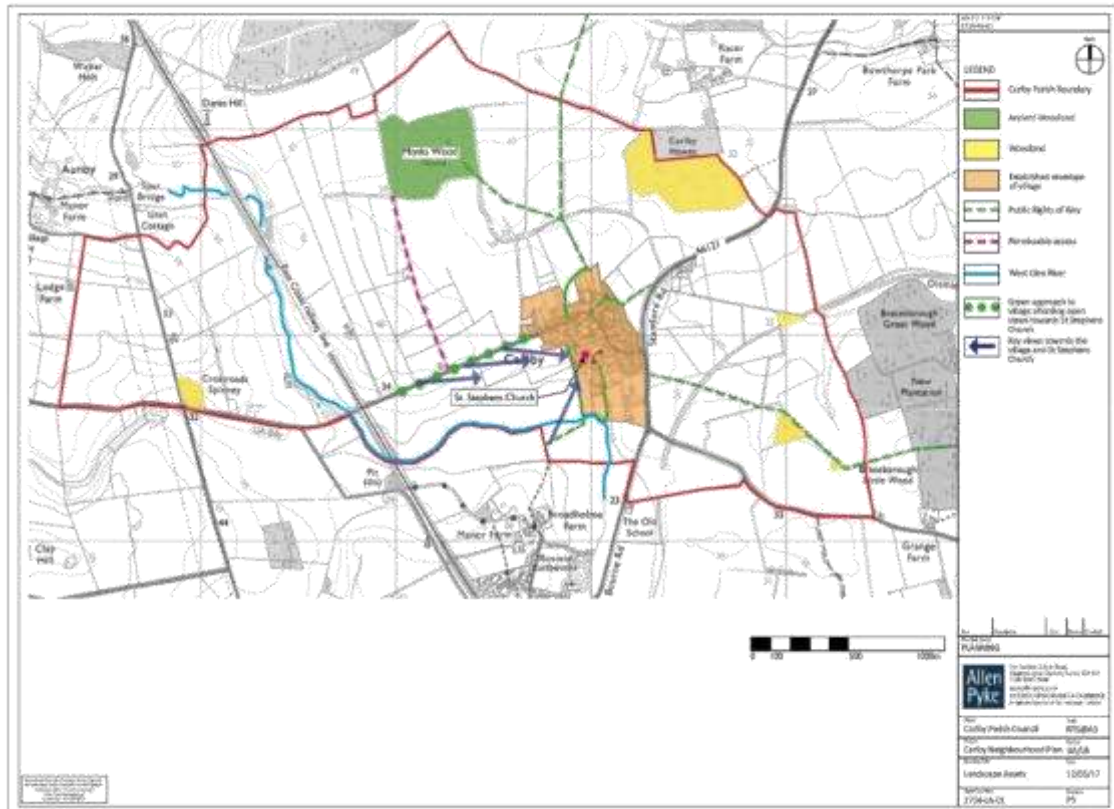
- i. To meet the housing needs for the local community.
- ii. To conserve and enhance the natural environment.
- iii. To respect the built environment.
- iv. To retain and improve local services and community facilities for all villagers.
- v. To support the growth and diversification of the rural economy i.e. local employment
- vi. To promote safe and suitable access for all, through good traffic management.

The village having experienced rapid growth in recent years, it is also important to consider relevant, recent planning history for the village, as this can illuminate the relevant policy considerations to support the deliverability of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Professional validation/support

A landscape character assessment was carried out by Allen Pyke Associates. The findings of and recommendations from this landscape assessment aligned with the values emerging from the questionnaire. This evidence base justifies the way towards the visual policies which will be considered to manage development within the parish.

Planning Consultants PLAN-IT were also appointed to provide professional advice on the key policies, vetting them for relevance and practicability in terms of regional and national planning policy.



Indicating the need to maintain all round views of St Stephens church **Map 2** as referred to in the Landscape Assessment within the consultation document Item 22, page 33-35

The What – emerging values

The questionnaire exercise saw 114 returned from 424 delivered to 201 dwellings, or 26.9% of the electorate and was valuable in terms of the insight it gave to the views and feelings of Carlby residents. Three significant objectives emerged from the questionnaire returns.

Objectives

1 Conserving the rural character. Development should take the form of limited, small scale and mixed developments which, equally, are not detrimental to the valued rural features of the village (large gardens, open spaces, stone walls etc.)

2 Traffic. Development should seek to, at least, not make traffic problems worse and preferably do something to make them better

3 Development. The majority of Carlby residents involved in expressing their views, accept the need for development which will be limited to within the established confines of the village, conserving the unified village character without impinging on the highly valued rural nature of the parish (see map 4 of the settlement shaded area, page 13).

Overall, the three objectives indicate policy lines to guide the direction of the Plan.

The Where – areas for suitable and acceptable development

At the Community Day on 10 June 2017 villagers were asked to indicate on a map where suitable and acceptable development could take place. This Plan does not seek to determine or reject development proposals – that is a matter which will be progressed through the planning system, (a MADE plan becomes part of that consideration). The Plan indicates the type of development that is acceptable and suitable in size, design and location.

The How – key policies indicated by villagers’ responses to manage Carlby’s development

The information gained about villagers’ views, through the questionnaire and the community day, the landscape character assessment, the focus by the Parish Council on key themes emerging, and the regulation 14 feedback, have all pointed to how development should be guided – where and how it should take place and where and how it should not. These policies are the driver of the plan and will be used to manage suitable and acceptable development in the parish over the coming years. Villagers raised other issues as well as development. These are considered in the consultation document.

1. Conserving the rural character

The rural character and peace and quiet of the parish and the village were highly valued (90% of responses supported this) The large gardens, open spaces, stone walls, equine facilities, footpaths and views across the village were also highly valued (all over 77%). The plan must as a main priority seek to conserve the broad visual character of the parish and what makes the village, in the views of respondents, a good place to live.

National and local policies require that *proposed developments must be considered in terms of their potential impact, through noise, air and light pollution. This is to ensure that new developments are not harmful to other land uses, human health, tranquillity or the natural and built environment.* Such a key policy is appropriate to the Plan, to safeguard local residential amenity.

Noise and light pollution emanating from new community and industrial facilities such as Commercial buildings, Village hall activities, playing fields, and other places of worship should be within the limits set out by the Noise Act of 1996.

Pollution

Intent: **to maintain the village character and atmosphere.**

P.O. Pollution Control

P.1 Subject to the provisions of other development plan policies, development that would conserve the rural character and tranquillity of the neighbourhood area will be supported where they have no unacceptable impact on residential amenity, air and light quality, and traffic movements or where the impacts can be satisfactorily mitigated

Equine

Intent: **To support viable equine facilities within the village.**

As depicted on the village sign, the working horse was a common sight, Carlby being the hub of many working farms within the surrounding Parish. As society moves forward it is the horse in an equine leisure role that is important to people, linking also to the village's agricultural past.

This policy relates to the value that villagers place on equine facilities

E.0. Equine facilities

- E.1 Proposals for the change of use and/or the redevelopment of existing equine facilities will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that the use is no longer commercially viable and that the existing facility has been marketed for at least six months at a realistic market price without attracting any proceedable interest.
- E.2 Proposals for new and extended equine facilities within the existing village envelope will be supported subject to the provisions of Policy P1 of this Plan.

Rural character and appearance

Intent: **To maintain the visual aspect and conserve the heritage of the village.**

The Rag stone is unique to Carlby's dry stone walls as it was locally quarried from sedimentary rock within the parish and is no longer available as local material. It is the building material of the 14-century church, whose spire can be seen on the approaches to the village and the surrounding footpaths. This policy relates to the value placed on views, green spaces and dry-stone walls.

V.0. Village rural character and appearance,

V.1. All proposed development, including conversions, extensions and new development, should ensure that the scale of buildings does not unacceptably impact on the character or appearance of the village.

V.2. Development which would have a negative impact, which impedes or changes the views and green spaces on the entrance to the west of the village will not be supported.

V.3. Developments which would affect 'Carlby Rag' dry stone and dressed wall features will be supported where they retain, repair and/or reinstate these vernacular materials as appropriate to the particular proposal.

V.4. Developments should safeguard and where appropriate incorporate traditional hedgerows and trees both in general, and on the approaches into the village in particular. Development that results in the loss of such features will not be supported, and

V.5. The plan will support small residential installations up to a maximum of 4500 kWh per year that are sensitively located. Commercial P.V. panel and wind generator farms which impact on natural views from and to the village will not be supported.



The green spaces, large gardens and associated paddocks/pastures within the village envelope **Map 3**. Validation illustration conveyed in the consultation doc Item 34, page 48-56 reproduced under licence from Allen Pyke Associates Ltd. OS licence number AL100026972

Conserving rural character

Areas circled in green Map 3 contribute greatly to the rural character of the village and must be protected to maintain this valued aspect, the atmosphere and character of the envelope.

Formerly the VDS 2013 and its review in 2015 have stated:

Where development (within the Spatial Strategy) is not acceptable

- The green spaces in the village and paddocks on its fringe should be protected from development.
- Large gardens should be protected from back land development and from 'garden grabbing' (thus supporting PPS3)

This is consistent with what the NPPF conveys about green spaces:

The Local Green Spaces, large gardens, paddocks and pastures are within the community they serve and are special to the local community, being visual amenity, tranquillity or richness of its wildlife, flora, recreation and equine use. Making and sustaining the local atmosphere and character of the village envelope.

2. Traffic

Considerable concern (over 50%) was shown about traffic speeds both through the village and on the main road. This supported the firm view that the future development of Carlby should be done in such a way that these problems are not made worse; preferably, that such future development should attempt to reduce the problems.

With the intent to minimise any increase in traffic loading onto High street and the A6121 in terms of safety and traffic calming, being a major concern of resident's feedback.

"Traffic management in relation to new development is for planning policy" Quoting Locality.gov.uk documents. 'Writing Planning Policies' and the 'Power of the plan',

Other sections of this Plan address the relationship between new development and their means of traffic access. Policy D.2 addresses the need for infill development to have and use existing access to High Street. Policy D3 addresses the need for brownfield and adjacent development to have access to the A6121, and the need for new development to contribute towards highways improvements where necessary.

3. Development

Significantly, only 3.8% of people on the electoral roll, in returning the questionnaire, said there should be no or minimal development in Carlby. This suggested that residents recognised the reality that under present government policy, villages will have to take their fair share of meeting the nation's housing needs. The preference shown in the questionnaire returns (60%) was for small scale development with 46% preferring bungalows.

The following definitions are provided to clarify the objective meaning of infill and previously developed land within the envelope of Carlby village.

Definition of *Infill for Carlby structured from the NPPF

Infill is a small, restricted gap in the continuity of existing frontage buildings or on other sites within the built-up area of the village where the site is closely surrounded by buildings.

Development will not involve the outward extension of the envelope of the village.

Development is not considered to be back land or unneighbourly development, that requires unsuitable access, reduces the privacy of adjoining properties or is inconsistent with the character of the locality.

Definition of **previously developed land "Brownfield" for Carlby

From the Gov.org Planning Policy Guidance, Document 3 Housing 2000, *There are five identifiers used to define brownfield land:*

- *Previously developed land which is now vacant.*
- *Vacant buildings.*
- *Derelict land and buildings.*
- *Other previously developed land or buildings, currently in use, allocated for development in the adopted plan or having planning permission for housing.*
- *Other previously developed land or buildings where it is known there is potential for redevelopment.*

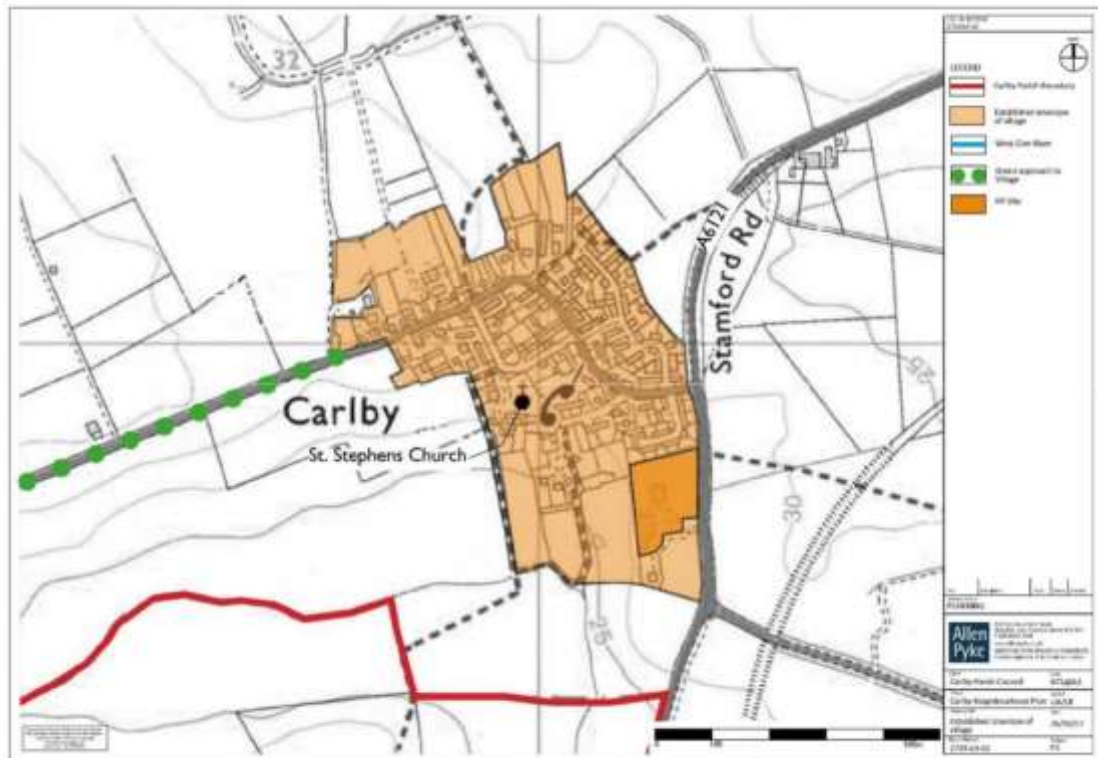
Buildings and surrounding land that are currently in use for agricultural or forestry purposes are excluded from the definition set out above. Land in built-up areas that has not been developed previously e.g. parks, recreation grounds, and allotments are also not classed as brownfield. Previously developed land with the remains of any structure, for example an old barn, that has now blended into the landscape to the extent that it can be considered as part of the natural surroundings may also be excluded. A brownfield site may, in addition to this classification, be vacant, derelict or contaminated land.

Common brownfield land might include redundant industrial sites and railways.

Common beneficial uses of reclaimed brownfield land include - the creation of open spaces for public use, woodlands and residential housing development.

The definition covers the curtilage of the development.

There is no presumption that land that is previously developed is necessarily suitable for housing development nor that the whole of the curtilage should be developed.



The envelope of the village capturing its built form and rural character **Map No 4** indicating the brownfield site curtilage of EFI. Validation in the consultation doc Item 34, page 48-56
The local interpretation with the aid of Neighbourhood Plans are to determine: -

Defined settlement boundaries (a softer line drawn around all external boundaries)

Village envelope (locally interpreted form and features of the village)

Neighbourhood Plans specifically protect Green and Open spaces that are part of the atmosphere and indigenous character of the settlement whilst directing development to acceptable locations. Safeguarding land that is only accessible via the core of the village and forms part of the domestic dwellings and working properties within the envelope. Map 3

To include large gardens and adjacent enclosed land

To include wild flower meadows and SSI

To include working Equine paddocks and pastures adjacent to their operating buildings.

To exclude and protect from development all surrounding agricultural arable and grazed land being open countryside

Generic Development

Intent: To ensure new development, especially that intended for family occupation, includes ample garden areas, to serve the future residents and to reflect the current character by preserving the village atmosphere of the area, by encouraging creative or innovative, individual site-specific design

Policy D.0 sets out key principles for new development in the neighbourhood area. They both promote infill development and good quality design.

This means responding to and integrating with local surroundings and landscape as well as the existing built environment. It should provide sufficient external amenity space, for refuse, recycling storage and car and bicycle parking to ensure a high quality and well managed streetscape.

A key principle for new development will be its compliance with the Carlby Village Design Statement. It includes a comprehensive series of design principles (its page 14) and an equally comprehensive series of photographic good examples (its pages 15 & 16)'.

D.0. Generic Development “where suitable & acceptable”

D.0.1. All new development should demonstrate good quality design that respects the scale and character of existing and surrounding buildings. Development proposals that would result in poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving local character and quality of an area and the way it functions will not be supported.

D.0.2. Applications for small residential developments on *infill and **redevelopment sites within Carlby will be supported subject to proposals meeting all relevant requirements set out in other policies in this plan, and

D.0.3. Development proposals will be supported where they conform to the design principle in the Carlby Village Design Statement.

Garden green space retention

The NPPF item 53. *Local planning authorities should consider the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would cause harm to the local area.*

As the district's Local Plan has no consideration of a policy, the Carlby Plan reflects the requirement of villagers to support these vistas of open spaces created by historic large gardens and the surrounding green spaces. Map 3.

The curtilages of the perimeter properties define the established envelope of village. This provides the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building; Map 4.

Policy D1 addresses this important and distinctive matter in the neighbourhood area. Policy D.1.0 in particular sets out to ensure that the relationship of new development to its plot size has regard to the character and appearance of the village envelope. Plainly the District Council will consider each proposal on its merits and on a case-by-case basis. Nevertheless, a guide of a 35% ratio between built development and plot size should be used by developers.

Intent: To maintain the ability of future generations to acquire properties with a large garden and to resist any encroachment into the countryside.

D.1. Development: - Garden/green space size retention

D.1.0. Proposals for new residential development and extensions to existing properties will be supported where the relationship between the built development and the plot size respects the open and spacious character of properties within the village envelope.

D.1.1. New individual developments within garden and back land areas will not be supported.

D.1.2. Proposals that would involve existing dwellings being demolished to secure access for additional residential development or to accommodate a new highway access to proposed new residential development will not be supported.

D.1.3 Proposals for the extension of domestic curtilages beyond the village envelope into the surrounding countryside will not be supported.

Infill development

Intent: **to allow small infill developments without undue cramming/over development between existing developments and loss of privacy and amenity of adjacent dwellings**

The design must reflect the character of adjacent properties and materials used. (unless the design and materials are of significant architectural merit). Within the village there is only one infill site suitable that if developed must be limited to a maximum of 6 dwellings utilising the existing foot print of the current buildings.

D.2. Development: - *Infill

D.2.1 Proposals for the replacement of an existing building will be supported, provided the new building is not materially larger than the one it replaces;

D.2.2. Proposals for infill residential development will be supported where they provide access and servicing from the existing access into the proposed site concerned, and

D.2.3 Proposals for infill development up to six dwellings will be supported subject to meeting the requirements of other development plan policies.

Potential Volumes of Residential development

Intent: **to encourage small and local building companies, to provide variety, not as one repetitive estate**, thus ensuring the natural growth of a rural village. Reflecting the Department for Communities and Local Government document, 'Fixing our broken housing market'.

Giving incentive to encourage young people to stay in or move into the village.

Supporting the NPPF in

- *Development within the village should prefer land of lesser environmental value,*
- *Land that has been previously developed (brownfield land)*
- *By the promotion of mixed use developments, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land*

Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends
Identify the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations, reflecting local demand

Applicants will be expected to work closely with those directly affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views and requirements of the community.

Evolved acceptable development will play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities, and the sustainability of the village.

A statement from SKDC:

“All settlements and their local communities will be encouraged to consider the scope for additional development within their settlement through the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans”.

“The proposal for the Local Plan is to have a Spatial Strategy which allows for infill and brownfield development, where suitable, in these smaller settlements, so they can support their existing community through the provision of new homes, which in turn could lead to investment in services, facilities and infrastructure.”

(SKDC Sites and Settlements Consultation July 2016)

Phased and smaller scale development

Phasing of smaller scale development by a variety of small developers and building companies is promoted within the Department for Communities and Local Government publication ‘Fixing our broken housing market’, February 2017. This can be achieved, as the government document suggests, by sensible phasing which will allow the village to evolve at a pace in keeping with the community’s ability to absorb change.

The present village housing stock is 193 dwellings within the envelope of developed land highlighted in the map 4. It is reasonable to set limits above which new development should be phased so that this gradual evolution is achieved. With limits of 30 dwellings per hectare and with higher consideration for low cost housing.

This key policy sets such a limit at seven dwellings i.e. any more than that will be considered as a sizeable increase which will have to be phased.

Definition, ***One and half story domestic building. *That the second story outer walls be a maximum half of the first story height. This is measured by the internal height of the ground floor from finished floor level to internal ceiling height. Half of this dimension will be the maximum the wall plate supporting the roof can be from its internal floor level.*

This is to clarify and is relative to policy D.3.4 a requirement of residents affected by possible development. The appraisals of two surveys engaged with the relevant residents and results from concern expressed by residents (as surveyed) about intrusive development.

D.3. **Brownfield site relative potential to Carlby housing stock

D.3.1. Sites with 7 and above dwellings should be developed as a series of separate but related proposals and have a mix of properties.

D.3.2 Development proposals should have and utilise an existing direct access to the A6121. Where necessary development proposals should provide appropriate traffic calming or capacity measures at the point at which the site connects with the A6121.

D.3.3 Where the combined size of a site would be yield seven or more dwellings the separate developments required by Policy D.3.1 should be associated with a master plan for the development of the wider site. The master plan should be submitted and approved with the first application associated with the development of the site.

D.3.4. All dwellings should be placed in a way that would safeguard the amenities of existing dwellings in the immediate vicinity of the site.

D.3.5. All new dwellings should reflect the scale, character and mass of dwellings in the immediate vicinity of the site.

D.3.6. Residential development type should be within a 20% variance for each of the following ratios: -

25% of Bungalows to reflect current village types

25% of 2-3 bed semi to reflect current village types

25% of 3-4 bed detached to reflect current village types

25% of low-cost starter houses for first time buyers

This should be a block of three or four 2 bed dwellings; and should take preference over any other type of development in supporting sustainability of our community, and

D.3.7. Residential development should accommodate provision for 2 standard vehicle sizes for every 2/3-bedroom property and 3 parking spaces for 4 bedrooms upwards.

The plan delivers the aspirations of the villagers that support suitable and acceptable development as depicted within this Neighbourhood Development Plan. Carlby PC 2018