

Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report – PC Meeting 11 October 2016

Main Focus of Effort: The main focus of work during September has been on completing the analysis of the socio-economic data for the *resident population* of the Parish. This information has been extracted from government data sources, including the Census surveys for information on key statistics such as population, employment and mobility and the Valuation Office database for information on housing.

We have looked at the data in three different ways:

1. The information has been tabulated for the most recent period – which was 2011
2. We have looked at change over the 10 years between the last two Census surveys in order to identify any patterns or trends
3. We have compared the results to similar information for the Borough and the Region – in order to get a better understanding of how the Parish compares

The findings are particularly important because they are based on independent data sources – not just Parish Opinion like the questionnaire survey. The results have been incorporated into a draft technical report which will form an essential part of the evidence base that will be used to guide the development of policies.

The work highlights a number of important features of the Neighbourhood Area and evolving trends between 2001 and 2011. Of particular note:

- A decline in resident population (-26%) and households (-28%) over the 10 year period
- A reduction in the 25-44 year olds age group (-12%) and an increase in the 60+ group (+7%)
- Against the population decline - an increase in the housing stock (+9%) which is greater than the national average
- 55% of the fixed housing stock (55%) in use as a second or holiday home (or empty) and a disproportionately large element of mobile accommodation
- An imbalance in the housing supply reinforced by recent growth in the higher Council Tax Bands
- A relatively high level of economic activity (56%), despite a significant retired population (38%) and unusually high proportion of home working (14%) and self-employment (18%)
- High levels of car ownership + overwhelming dependence on car for the journey to work.

Next Steps – Report has been reviewed by three members of the team and a copy has been passed to our Planning Consultant for comment. Next steps involve combining with survey results.