

**Committee:** Development Control

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 23 September 2009

**5**

**Title:** Arkesden Parish Plan 2009 - 2014

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Item for  
decision

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### Summary

Arkesden Parish Council adopted its Parish Plan in July 2009. The Parish Council have submitted it to the District Council and ask that it become supplementary planning guidance and used as a reference in the consideration of all future development proposals affecting the parish.

### Recommendations

That the Council adopt the Arkesden Parish Plan as Council Approved Guidance in determining planning applications in the Parish and as background evidence in the preparation of the Local Development Framework.

### Background Papers

Arkesden Parish Plan

### Impact

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Communication/Consultation | <b>The plan has undergone significant community involvement in its preparation.</b> |
| Community Safety           | <b>None</b>   |
| Equalities                 | <b>The plan deals with equality</b>   |
| Finance                    | <b>None</b>   |
| Human Rights               | <b>None</b>   |
| Legal implications         | <b>None</b>   |
| Sustainability             | <b>The plan deals with sustainability</b>   |
| Ward-specific impacts      | <b>Littlebury</b>   |
| Workforce/Workplace        | <b>None</b>   |

### Situation

- 1 The community of Arkesden has produced a Parish Plan concentrating on community planning, covering social, environmental and economic issues. The Parish Council hopes there will be sufficient interest to prepare a Village Design Statement to consider housing and development in more detail.
- 2 The plan was produced using the results of a questionnaire and an Open Day to present the findings of the questionnaire and invite further comment. 68% of the households in the village responded to the questionnaire.
- 3 The Parish Plan identifies a number of issues with regard to traffic and transport and has set out an action plan to discuss these with Essex County Council Highways.
- 4 The Parish Plan recognises the need to balance environmental protection of the village and allowing it to develop and grow to maintain a viable and vital community. The questionnaire results found that 70% were keen to see some future housing with the preference being for infill and small groups of houses of between 3-10 dwellings, rather than larger developments. Most people wanted to see family homes with some support for homes for single people and retirement housing. Greatest support was for affordable housing aimed at local people and key workers.
- 5 An affordable housing needs survey has been completed and the Parish Council is now looking to identify a suitable site. They are also hoping to identify possible sites and developers for retirement housing.

**Risk Analysis**

| Risk   | Likelihood   | Impact   | Mitigating actions  |
|--|--|--|---|
| That the Parish Plan is not taken into account as a material consideration | Low. Officers will be aware of the plan and will include reference to it in any relevant reports | Medium. The views of the community of Arkesden are not taken into account, devaluing community-led planning. | That Parish Plan is included in check list of items to consider when determining applications within Arkesden Parish. |