

## Leavenheath Neighbourhood Plan

Our Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led document. Once completed, it will sit alongside Babergh's plan and enable us to **have a say in planning applications** within Leavenheath over the next 15 years.

Following last Autumn's Community Questionnaire, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have been exploring the planning issues further by undertaking desk research and talking to a range of local groups. We hope to hold a consultation event on policy ideas this coming Autumn.

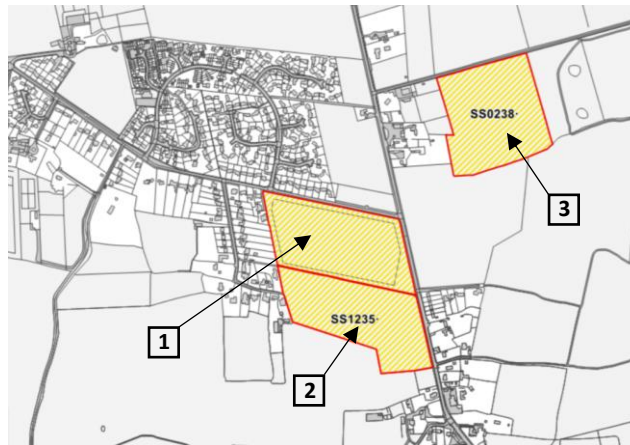
Leavenheath has been allocated 44 new homes for the life of the plan. Babergh view this as the **minimum number** - this is why it is important to have a Neighbourhood plan to ensure we have a say.

Neighbourhood Plans can choose to identify and allocate sites for new development. **You** decide whether to allocate land or not.

All planning applications are judged on their individual merits but, in planning law, there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development i.e. if a planning application complies with national and local policy then it is more likely to be granted permission. This is why the Neighbourhood Plan is so important as **in law they must take it into account**. Once adopted, it becomes part of the decision-making framework used by the District Council and it gives us, the residents of Leavenheath, **a say in that process**.

Babergh's draft Joint Local Plan includes "The Orchard" (High Road) as a site for development. The Parish Council have challenged Babergh on the inclusion of this site given that the Neighbourhood Plan is still in progress.

Given that the "Orchard Site" LA098 is in the emerging Joint Local Plan, if a suitable planning application is received by Babergh then it is likely to be granted in some form. Note: Babergh propose 40 dwellings on the site.



**Site 1 (LA098):-** included within Babergh's draft Joint Local Plan as a site for development.

**Site 2 (SS1235):-** has been submitted to Babergh as part of their latest 'Call for Sites' and is being assessed by Babergh to determine whether it should be included as a site for development.

**Site 3 (SS0238):-** the Lady Anne Windsor Trust are actively considering how to pursue development of this site.

Other landowners have indicated land is potentially available.

Our Neighbourhood Plan **could** include the allocation of further sites for development. The first stage would be to initiate a 'Call for Sites' – an invitation for landowners to put forward additional pieces of land for consideration. If these are assessed as technically viable by external consultants, they would have to be included within the Neighbourhood Plan as suitable for future development.

If we do not allocate other sites for housing, our Neighbourhood Plan will still contain policies around type, tenure and design of housing (as well as policies on other issues such as historic environment, natural environment etc.) which will be used by the decision makers.



**Leavenheath**  
Neighbourhood Plan

[www.leavenheathnp.co.uk](http://www.leavenheathnp.co.uk)

**Important Question for All Residents:** Do you want the Leavenheath Neighbourhood Plan to undertake a 'Call for Sites' with the potential for allocating additional sites for development within the parish?

**ONE TICK IN A BOX PER HOUSE RESIDENT PLEASE**


**Yes**, we should do a 'Call for Sites' to see what additional land might be available for potential future development.


**No**, the Neighbourhood Plan should not undertake a 'Call for Sites'. We do not want to allocate more land than is currently identified within the emerging Joint Local Plan.

Steering Group members will be at the Hare & Hounds Pub and the Village Hall on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020 from 12pm-3pm to answer any questions and collect in your votes.

Alternatively please email your response to [LeavenheathCAG@gmail.com](mailto:LeavenheathCAG@gmail.com) confirming number of votes for **Yes** and number of votes for **No** for your household.

Steering Group members are residents of Leavenheath and are giving their free time to assist with the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan. It is an open group, and any residents of Leavenheath are welcome to join.

Progress updates and meeting minutes can be found at [www.leavenheathnp.co.uk](http://www.leavenheathnp.co.uk). Meetings are currently held on-line or in small groups due to current Covid-19 guidelines.

If you would like to get involved, please contact us at [LeavenheathCAG@gmail.com](mailto:LeavenheathCAG@gmail.com)



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Important information inside on the Neighbourhood Plan, and **your response** is needed on a critical part of its creation

