

LAPFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2025

Notes of the Meeting

The Lapford Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Victory Hall, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6PZ on Tuesday 10 May 2025 at 10.00am.

Attendees: Cllrs. Jill Down (LPC Chairman), Sue Briant-Evans, Bill Graham, Steven Fletcher, Roy Andrews, Steve Keable (District & County Cllr), Luke Groves-Davies (Devon Communities Together), Rob Martin (Parish Clerk) & 12 Members of the public.

1. Lapford Neighbourhood Plan (LNP) – DCT Presentation

Luke Groves-Davies from Devon Communities Together (DCT) presented a 22 screen PowerPoint presentation outlining the analysis of the results of the Lapford Community Survey which was undertaken to guide the NLP Steering Group with its work. The presentation slides are shown at Appendix A of these minutes, below.

This presentation was made to encourage discussion, and the final formal report would be published in the following week.

2. Acceptance of notes of meeting held on 14 May 2024

The minutes of the meeting on 30 May 2023 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed as such.

3. Chairman's Annual Report 2023/24

This year has been challenging in many ways, both on a national level with a change of Government, ongoing discussions with regards to the future of both County and District council structures, and changes/resignations within the Parish Council.

Looking to the future, there is some uncertainty, but one thing that is virtually guaranteed is that more work will be undertaken by us, your Parish Council. We do have 3 vacancies at the moment, so if you are interested in getting involved, please speak to us, or contact our clerk. The Parish Council plays a pivotal role within the village of Lapford, much of its work goes unnoticed, that is until it doesn't get done!

Below is just a 'taster' of the work undertaken.

Approx 12 planning applications have been received for the village, and reviewed, some straightforward, some requiring more thought and consideration.

Our year started in June 2024, with D-Day celebrations, a Proclamation on the Church Green early in the morning, a flypast, an evening event and beacon lighting, all arranged by the Celebrations Committee.

In July, following much lobbying by the parish council, Lapford's biggest and most talked about issue was finally resolved, Mill Hill was resurfaced, much to the delight of everyone in the area. An excellent job was done by the contractors, who kept the road open as much as possible.

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Numerous tidy up days have taken place, including litter picks, weeding, and general maintenance of village assets, and there are quite a few! Thank you to everyone who helps whether it's at the organised events or not, it's much appreciated.

The first of the Neighbourhood plan consultations took part in October, with over 100 villagers taking part. This formed the basis for the survey and report, already covered today by DCT.

The council is in a good financial position, which has enabled some significant improvements to be made in the village.

A new bus shelter was erected at the top of Highfield, which is very well used by all both the school pupils and service bus users.

A contribution was made toward the new sound equipment in the hall.

New equipment is being installed on the toddler area at the moment, which is being funded partly by the parish council and partly from s106 monies. The area will be managed by us moving forward.

The last event for this Parish Council year was on Thursday evening, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. There was a proclamation, a flypast, a concert in the church and lighting of the Beacon. The observant amongst you will notice that our year started and ended in a very similar way.

Councillors are all volunteers, who have the village and its residents at the heart of every decision taken, sometimes it's difficult, but on the whole rewarding.

Thank you to every one of you, councillors, volunteers, and those who do things 'on the quiet' so to speak, you are all appreciated.

4. Reports from Outside Bodies

Lapford Youth and Playing Field Trust (LYPFT)

The Lapford playing field committee are continuing to improve and upkeep the facilities at the playing field – hopefully our s106 grant application will be successful and enable us to add some new equipment to what is already there, to be used by the older youths and adults.

Last year's fundraising events were hampered a lot with poor weather, however, we still managed to raise £621 by holding indoor carboot sales and running a couple of village markets.

We have "spruced up" the goal posts for the budding footballers, we will be adding more picnic benches for families to use, and hopefully we will be making a wildlife area at the very bottom of the field.

We had a ROSPA safety inspection in March and everything passed.

There is always ongoing maintenance taking place with grass cutting, strimming and tidying overgrown shrubs etc to keep it safe and looking nice – all of this maintenance is done voluntarily.

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We have a busy year of events planned (weather dependent!) – we have 2 car boot sales, a vintage rally and 2 village markets booked, so we are still making a huge effort to raise our own funds for future improvements and maintenance.

We would like to thank the parish council for their continued support.

Lapford Project 2000



Lapford Project 2000 continues to thrive as a well run and cohesive group. Our current areas of work can be summarised as follows:

1. The Lapford Lookout. Our village magazine continues to be published every month and is very well received. We are now in our 29th year of publication and continue to welcome contributions on a wide variety of topics to maintain variety and interest. Our readers also appreciate feedback from events that have taken place in the village. Many volunteer hours go into producing and delivering the Lapford Lookout each month which is very much appreciated.
2. The Village Archive. There is a continuing flow of donations coming in and we are still in the Orchard Centre every Tuesday morning documenting and photographing. We have recently re-established the link to the school with Kirsty and boxes from the school have taken up much of our space. Audrey's visit to the Cathedral Archivist, Ellie Jones, has given her the confidence that we are doing the 'right' work, also learning from the experts. Audrey invites you to please come and visit the Village Archive if you are free.
3. We provide ideas, help, support and materials for the regular displays in The ARK.
4. LP2K also organises Lapford's poppy displays and our "Silent Soldier" on the Church Green for Remembrance each year. This year we have also updated the wording on the Orders of Service.
5. We take the lead on providing and maintaining the village notice boards outside the Victory Hall. Both have recently been renovated and are now in tip-top condition.
6. We organise village improvements and events on an ad hoc basis, as and when a need or opportunity arises, and will continue to do what we can to improve village facilities for the benefit of all. Should you have any suggestions for consideration please get in touch.

Lapford Voluntary Car Aid (LCVA)

Lapford voluntary car aid continues to be very busy, providing subsidized transport to medical appointments for the residents (clients) of Lapford.

During 2023/24 the LVCA completed 222 journeys, covering 3282 miles, proving that we are still a very valuable service to Lapford.

Lloyds bank have now started to charge us £4.25 per month just to hold an account with them (as they have registered us as a business, which we clearly are not) – this will be a drain on our resources, so we are going to ask the charity commission if we can register with them, hoping it will make us exempt from these charges. We do not generate an income – our funds come from donations/fundraising and legacies.

This service has been running since 1998, so soon to be 30 years - what an achievement!

We currently have 11 drivers, but we are still on the hunt for more to keep the service running smoothly and efficiently.

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We would like to thank the parish council for their ongoing support.

Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser

I have been Lapford Poppy Appeal Organiser for seven years now, helping the long standing tradition of local support for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal to continue and grow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes in any way to the annual Poppy Appeal, including the amazing house-to-house collectors, everyone who kindly hosts collecting tins, counts all the cash, and John and June at the Post Office. The totals raised are a wonderful testimony to your collective efforts.

My contact details are listed in the back of the Lapford Lookout each month should anyone wish to get in touch.

Trustees of Lapford Church Green

The trustees have met regularly over the last twelve months:

- **The Chestnut tree** by the Melissa Lake Shelter has died. Conservation area permission is in place to fell it for public safety reasons. The work will be carried out following a hopefully favourable survey to confirm that no bats are using the tree for roosting. The felled timber will be gifted to the school and placed in the conservation area there.
- **The Melissa Lake Shelter** has been repaired, including the installation of a replacement carving, courtesy of Melissa's family. They have been thanked for this.
- **The EVJ bench** has been restored by a volunteer. Thank you.
- **Maintenance of the fencing and gates** is ongoing.
- **Trustees have worked to keep the Churchyard wall** and the bank between the Green and Lower Town Place tidy.
- **Original Church Green documents**, including conveyances, have come to light and been deposited in the Village Archive for safe keeping.
- **A new power box** has been installed to enable easy connection for outside events e.g. the lighting of the village Christmas Tree.
- **Public events** on the Green have included The Revel, The Annual Remembrance Service, the D-Day commemoration, a display of Mysterious Lapford to coincide with the Mid Devon Walking Festival event and the siting of the Christmas Tree. The next event will be the village's VE Day commemoration.
- **The ARK café** makes very good use of the tables & benches on the Green in the summer months.
- **New banking arrangements** are in place.
- **Thankyou to our grass cutting contractor** for keeping the Green so well and to the volunteers who keep other areas tidy and the fencing and seats in good condition.



Lapford Revel Committee

Following the AGM in September sixteen people agreed to serve on the committee for the current year. An average of ten people turn up for the monthly meetings.

The huge amount of planning for the July Revel begins early with the booking of bands, bouncy castle and entertainers, all in place by Christmas.

Subsequent meetings are concerned with arrangements for road closures, food & bar provision, timings of events, liaising with other organisations e.g. the school for the procession and choosing

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of the Revel Royal Party, and churches for the Revel service; approving the event management plan, insurance & security, volunteers, the draw, publicity and more.

This year's Revel theme will be 'Industrial Lapford', so watch out for displays on this theme.

Also this year the Revel Church Bellringing competition will be revived after a gap of around sixteen years.

The Revel rarely makes a profit, last year it just about broke even. In March the committee held a successful quiz in the Victory Hall raising just over £400 towards this year's costs.

Thank you to all those people who come together to create such a wonderful annual event for the village.

The Committee is always looking for new ideas and for additional people to join it to plan for the next twelve months.

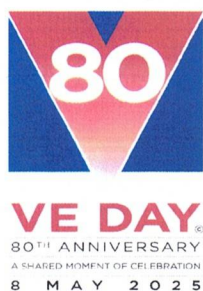
Lapford Emergency Action Plan (LEAP)

LEAP is a working party of the Parish Council with its own terms of reference.

During the last twelve months it has been concerned with:

- Pressurising Highways to improve the condition of local roads culminating in the resurfacing of the road over the river bridges and up Mill Hill.
- Joining the DCC Road Warden Scheme, with two local people half-way through their training and road mending equipment bought by the Parish Council.
- The purchase and installation of a new grit bin for Highfield.
- The maintenance of winter grit stocks for the parish.
- The acquisition and siting of a second defibrillator for the village.
- A meeting with Steve Tucker, District Highways Officer and County Councillor Margaret Squires to discuss local road safety issues, particularly potholes and flooding issues, responsibility for the safe removal of dead and dying trees and the lack of safety fencing by the river bridge.
- Regular highlighting of local road issues and communication with Devon Highways about them, with little or no response.
- Attendance at the Devon Resilience Forum meetings.

This committee would really welcome additional members and volunteers from members of the public.



Lapford Celebrations Committee

The Committee was formed in order to organise local celebrations of National events e.g. the Coronation.

Last May it co-ordinated the village's D-Day commemoration event and has just completed planning for this year's commemoration of Victory in Europe Day. To help finance this a really enjoyable quiz evening was held last January raising £500.

The Committee is a working group of the Parish Council. It has its own Terms of Reference and presently comprises four Parish Councillors and one member of the public.

Lapford Twinning Association

Lapford Twinning with Granville Langannerie started in 1975.

We then visited them and they had a return visit the same year. At one time the schools exchanged, pupils staying with families here. We now visit them once a year and they have a return visit the following year.

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22 people visited us last May, we visited a couple of breweries and Drogo Castle amongst other places. 17 of us are now going to Granville Langannerie on 27th May 2025: cruising from Portsmouth to Calne. We have 3 days with our hosts, being entertained by visiting places of interest and joining in family life, returning on 1st June 2025.

We are now joined by friends from North Tawton, Hatherleigh and Sampford Courtney, under the heading of Friends of Langannerie.

If anyone is interested in joining the Twinning Association, our secretary is Marion Pratt, her contact details are in the Lapford Lookout or speak directly to one of us.

The Parish Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury

It has been something of an intensive year for St Thomas'.

We continue to work with both the Congregational Church and the Community Church and have established regular shared services. On the first Sunday of the New Year with the Community Church, for Mothering Sunday at the Parish Church, and for Harvest Festival at the Congregational Church. We also work jointly for 'event-related' services such as the Crib Service, Remembrance Sunday and the Revel.

It cannot escape notice that the church has gained its first extension since the end of the 19th century. This project was made possible by a very large bequest from the late Phyllis Partridge MBE. It is a matter of some 'inconvenience' that there is no public toilet within easy reach of the church. This is particularly felt at weddings and funerals where people have travelled some distance, for any service involving small children, and when we have disabled visitors. It is also hoped to use the church for recitals and concerts in the future when the need for such facilities is even more necessary.

The vestry and many corners of the Grade 1 listed building contain considerable quantities of non-sacred equipment that enables the decoration of the church for particular occasions. There are also administrative files, even more of which are stored in the homes of PCC members and should be held centrally. The vestry fire exit is also blocked by storage so unable to be used.

The new extension therefore has three spaces – a fully accessible toilet with baby change table, a document store with filing cabinets and a large area for the storage of all the sundry equipment.

Unfortunately, the establishment of the necessary easements for the drains to cross neighbouring properties has become embroiled in legal processes. We hope these will be able to be resolved within the next few months but in the meantime our considerable investment stands idle.

It should be recorded with the most heartfelt thanks that the whole external appearance of the extension is the work of Derek Pleace, and he completed it the evening before he sadly passed away. Derek loved the church and worked tirelessly on it in his spare time, whenever he was needed. Everyone who has seen it comments about how well it fits in with the ancient architecture and it is, in many ways, his memorial.

Lapford Community Church

Thank you for the invitation to report the work of our church at the AGM. Unfortunately, this is a busy week for us and so we are unable to be with you in person, but would like to submit the report below:

One might be tempted to think that the church is in decline. Certainly, anecdotal evidence might show that, but there are places both in the UK and around the world, where the church is thriving, especially amongst the young adult generation. Purely on numbers our church is doing well and our passion to serve the community is very much part of our journey.

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We are delighted to be able to use the village hall regularly on Sunday mornings and, as you will be aware, with consultation with other hall users, we have recently undertaken a new refit of the audio/visual system. The new system is working very well and a noticeable improvement on the old one. We are very grateful to the Parish Council for their considerable help with the funding for this and wish to point out that, with guidance, it is available for all users of the hall.

The ARK continues to be a focal space in the village, as well as the Foodbank, and we are currently undertaking a review of how best to use it to further serve the community of Lapford. Later this year it will have been ten years since its opening and, to mark this, we are planning a weekend of celebrations in the second weekend of September; more details available nearer the time.

We remain committed to working through Churches Together (with the other churches in Lapford) to provide support, regular Christian worship and witness both in the village and the surrounding area.

Lapford Youth Club

It takes a village to raise a child and that is why having a thriving youth club is so important, especially now after Covid lock-down and where so many teenagers are either studying hard or lost in their own private world of IT, social media and smart screens. Spaces are needed for social events, to meet with others, to talk, to play, to explore. This is the value of a thriving youth club. But to do this does require adult help and to be safe and sound a lot of adults are needed to help.

We have lots of energetic kids who want to do things but sadly we simply do not have enough adult helpers anymore to run the youth club programme of activities. Immediately after Covid we had a pool of 25 people running the Hi Five Thursday junior session and the Friday Drop-in for the older teenagers. Now with just four regular adult helpers the Hi Five Thursday nights has not run since last September. Thanks to Sue Hemsworth, Steve Fletcher, Jake Lloyd and to Darren Crump for being on call as we need a minimum of 3 each Friday Club night.

Financially the Youth Club 'washes its face' and we are a working voluntary management committee. We have purchased new equipment and we have a plan to renovate and refurbish the small meeting room at the Victory Hall. We are totally dependent upon our own funds to do this. There are the regular costs of insurance and rent that must be paid out. These are met from a £1 subs fee for each Club session. The open space of Lower Town Place is a wonderful asset. However, using a door other than a fire door is urgently needed.

5. Financial Report 2023/24

The Clerk summarised the financial position as it stood at 31st March 2025.

The **Receipts** for the year of £38,027 (£28,532 in 23/24) included £26,000 of precept and £10,424 of grants, (of which £5,510 was for the DCT Neighbourhood Plan work, £2,214 towards the bus shelter and £1,800 for P3 PROW Grant) and £1,122 in reclaimed VAT.

Payments during the year increased over last year from £27,442 to £39,636 with the main additional items being the bus shelter (£4,429), new defibrillator (£1,511), replacement signpost fingers (£1,048), DCT Consultant Work (£2,755), Additional VAT (£2,074)

The overall level of **Reserves** fell between the years by £1,609, but more of this total has been reserved for the outstanding commitments at the end of the year, those being the final payment for the DCT work (£2,755) and the amount found from reserves towards the Toddler Play equipment (£6,851). The result is that the **General Reserve** left to provide a back-stop to the precept has reduced from £25,937 to £15,795, which is still at a sufficient level, the guidance for which is between 50 and 100% of the precept.

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6. 'Have Your Say'

There were no further comments made.

7. Closure of Meeting

The meeting closed at 11.55am

Devon Communities Together (DCT) report presentation: Lapford Neighbourhood Development Plan (LNDP)

Saturday 10th May 2025

DCT to present an overview of final report



1

Presentation Overview

- ▶ Project background - NDP & timeline
- ▶ Household survey findings by theme
- ▶ DCT feedback



2

Project Background: NDP

- ▶ DCT commissioned by Lapford Parish Council (LPC) to deliver community consultation to inform LNDP
- ▶ NDP: community-led framework that shapes future development within locality (i.e. Lapford parish)
- ▶ Focuses on range of different aspects e.g. housing



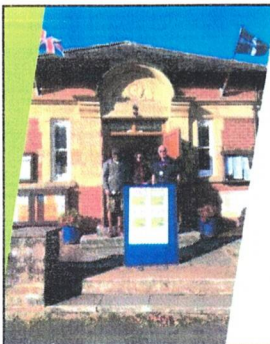
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Project Background: timeline

- ▶ August 2024: DCT meet LPC to discuss contract
- ▶ September 2024: DCT commence work on contract
- ▶ October 2024: 2x community engagement events
- ▶ November-December 2024: insights collated & analyzed
- ▶ January-February 2025: household survey designed
- ▶ February-March 2025: household survey live
- ▶ April 2025: survey results collated, analyzed for final report
- ▶ May 2025: final report produced for LPC



4



DCT & LPC in
attendance at
community
engagement
event on
Saturday 5th
October

5



Example of
insights shared on
'Infrastructure' at
community
engagement
event

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Community engagement event summary

Theme	# Insights	Proportion
Housing - need, location, design, affordable	48	11.76%
Youth facilities - need, personnel, funding, premises, design	44	10.70%
Community facilities & open spaces	86	21.08%
Events - leisure activities, facilities	19	4.66%
Business - employment, transport	33	8.09%
Infrastructure - transport links	131	32.11%
Anything else? e.g. public services, environment	44	10.78%



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Household survey summary #1

Question #	# respondents	# respondents that shared additional comments
1. What should Lapford consider for new housing developments in Lapford?	127 (100%)	18 (14.1%)
2. What do we need for youth facilities in Lapford?	115 (91%)	21 (16.5%)
3. How might Lapford's existing spaces and amenities be better utilised for the community?	120 (94%)	15 (12%)
4. If funding can be found, which new community facilities in Lapford should be part of the Neighbourhood Plan?	109 (85%)	16 (14.1%)
5. How could Lapford better support local businesses, community services, and working opportunities in Lapford?	119 (94%)	9 (7.1%)
6. What better facilities are needed for public and private transportation in Lapford?	126 (99%)	20 (16%)
7. Which other community initiatives would you like to see prioritised in Lapford?	121 (95.2%)	15 (12%)



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Household survey summary #2

Question #	# respondents	# respondents that shared additional comments
A. What is your age bracket?	117 (92%)	None
B. What is your gender?	117 (92%)	None
C. Do you own a business that is based in Lapford?	113 (89%)	None
D. What is your employment status?	114 (90%)	4 (3%)
E. How do you travel to work or college?	73 (57%)	None
F. What additional activities would you like to have available in Lapford?	106 (83%)	9 (7.1%)
G. Please write any further suggestions you may have in the box below.	21 (17%)	21 (17%)



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Consultation - Housing

Q1 What should Lapford consider for new housing developments in Lapford?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	Protect green spaces by not building on them, and prioritise brownfield or poor land	104	81.89%
#2=	Affordable housing for local people	79	62.20%
#2=	Protect historic environment	79	62.20%
#3=	Improve infrastructure before increasing amount of housing to reduce impact on existing environment	77	60.63%
#3=	Balance housing development with maintaining village character	77	60.63%
#4	New housing to be owner-occupier or tenanted only, not second homes	76	59.84%
#5	Greater support for eco-friendly housing	44	34.65%
#6	Set up co-housing or shared housing opportunities	18	14.17%



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Consultation - Youth Facilities

Q2 What do we need for youth facilities in Lapford?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	Improved playground equipment for children and toddlers	74	64.35%
#2	Basketball court or sports area in the park	54	46.96%
#3	Youth football team and sports facilities (e.g. football pitch all-weather area)	53	46.09%
#4	More youth clubs and activity groups (e.g. nature groups, book clubs)	50	43.48%
#5	A new youth-friendly village hall or upgraded facility	49	42.61%
#6	Toddler group and early years activities	38	33.04%
#7	Sheltered area with seating for youth to hang out in	37	32.17%
#8	Skate park for older youth	35	30.43%
#9	Bump bike track for older children	32	27.83%
#10	Seasonal paddling pool	19	16.52%



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Consultation - Community Facilities #1

Q3 How might Lapford's existing spaces and amenities be better utilised for the community?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	Improved cleanliness and maintenance of public spaces (e.g. fixing lighting, clearing weeds)	69	57.50%
#2	Improved access to healthcare	52	43.33%
#3=	Creating a secure dog park (like Pooch Paddock)	49	40.83%
#3=	More seating areas & picnic spots around the village	49	40.83%
#4	Improved public toilets	47	39.17%
#5	Better lighting in the park for safety at night	40	33.33%
#6	Create storage space for community equipment outside the hall	24	20%



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Consultation - Events

Q4: What additional activities would you like to have available in Lapford?

Activity	% of Respondents	# People
More events in the village hall (e.g. movie nights, yoga)	70.75%	75
Music events	49.06%	52
Supporting socials and village events	41.51%	44
Dance classes for all ages	31.13%	33
Intergenerational community activities	32.08%	34
Activities for people with disabilities	22.64%	24
Sports clubs	29.25%	31
Activities for over-60s	25.47%	27
Farming/gardening clubs	18.87%	20
Willing to help run/volunteer	8.49%	9

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Consultation - Infrastructure

Q6: What better facilities are needed for public and private transportation in Lapford?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	More frequent train stops	93	73.81%
#2	Increased bus services (incl. evenings/weekends)	83	65.87%
#3	Improved, safe footpaths throughout the village	76	60.32%
#4	Cycle paths connecting Lapford to nearby areas	70	55.56%
#5	Traffic lights/safe pedestrian crossings (e.g. A377 railway bridge)	64	50.79%
#6	Traffic management (e.g. 20mph limit, speed bumps)	58	46.03%
#7	Better lighting for walking paths at night	54	42.86%
#8	Cycle path along railway line	50	39.68%
#9	More off-road parking	41	32.54%
#10	Dedicated parking for large vehicles (e.g. lorries)	22	17.46%

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Consultation - Infrastructure

Q4: How do you travel to work or college?

Mode of Transport	% of Respondents	# of People
Car or van	67.12%	49
Work from home	26.03%	19
Train	10.96%	8
Bus	8.22%	6
Cycle or walk	5.48%	4

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Consultation - Business #1

Q5: How could Lapford better support local businesses, community services, and working opportunities in Lapford?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	Reliable superfast broadband for all areas	61	51.26%
#1	Better connections between farms, local produce & careers	61	51.26%
#2	Community shop with local produce	60	50.42%
#3	Employment opportunities for 16-24-year-olds	56	47.06%
#4	Expanded hours for the post office	47	39.50%
#5	Promote Lapford for cycle tourism	33	27.73%
#6	Support for freelancers & self-employed	30	25.21%
#7	Affordable workspaces for small/local businesses	23	19.33%

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Consultation - Business #2

Question #	# respondents	# respondents that shared comments under additional thoughts
C: Do you own a business that is based in Lapford?	113 (89%)	None

- 24.16% (35 respondents) said Yes
- 64.84% (97 respondents) said No

Q4: Employment Status	% of Respondents	# of People
Retired	37.72%	43
Self-employed or contractor	17.54%	20
Full-time employed	16.67%	19
Part-time employed	13.16%	15
Unemployed	4.39%	5
Student	3.51%	4
Carer	2.63%	3
Other (please specify)	4.39%	5

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Consultation - Anything else/other #1

Q7: Which other community initiatives would you like to see prioritised in Lapford?

Rank	Answer choice	# responses	% total
#1	Expansion of green spaces & riverside walk	91	75.21%
#2	Protecting biodiversity with wildlife-friendly practices	75	61.98%
#3	Village recycling and sustainability initiatives	56	46.28%
#3	Policies to reduce herbicide/pesticide use	56	46.28%
#4	Community clean-up events	54	44.63%
#5	More visible litter bins	51	42.15%
#6	Better engagement via social media & village platforms	45	37.19%

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Consultation – Anything else/other #2

QA Answer choice	# responses	% total
Under 18	4	3.42%
18–29	9	7.69%
30–39	8	6.84%
40–49	12	10.26%
50–59	23	19.66%
60–69	25	21.37%
70–79	25	21.37%
80+	11	9.40%

QB Gender	% of Respondents	# of People
Female	61.54%	72
Male	38.46%	45
Non Binary / Prefer to self describe	0%	0

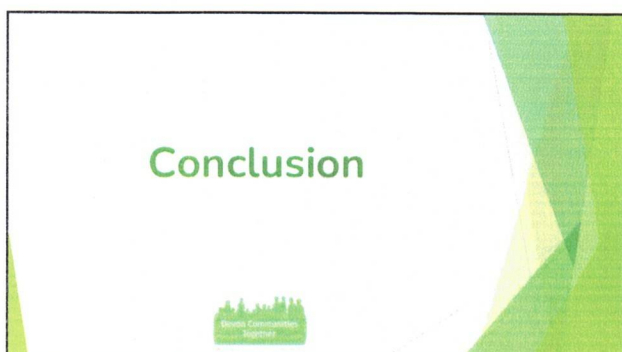


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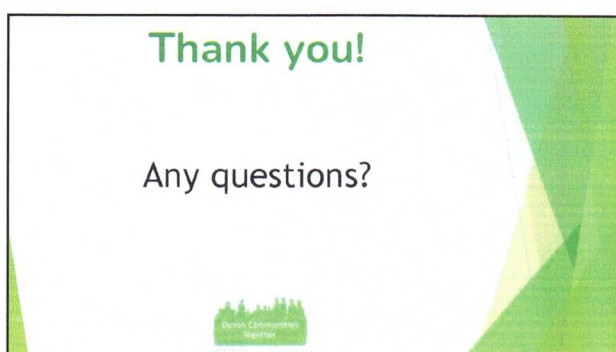
QG Please write any further suggestions in the box below:

Theme	Summary	Example Comments
Traffic & parking	2 concerns about road safety, signage, and access.	"Double yellow lines from the hall to the park" "Sort the parking out in Prospect Way!"
Design & new builds	A request for housing in keeping with the village's character, with sustainable features.	"New builds should fit Lapford's look... with solar panels and heat pumps." "Net-zero housing, rainwater toilets, EV charging" "Identify areas for building around the stations"
Heritage protection	A request to list the Victory Hall as a protected site.	"It was built in memory of a WWI soldier. Let's protect it."
Youth facilities & safety	2 calls for better play spaces, and safer walking routes to school.	"Wooden stepping logs for under-8s" "Farlington Lane needs a path—children are at risk."
Health, culture & wellbeing	Desire for holistic and multicultural community offerings.	"Dance from around the world. Education about personal health responsibility."
Dog fouling	Strong frustration with dog waste and requests for enforcement.	"Worst place I've lived for dog poo—fine people!"
Burial space	A long-term concern raised for future planning.	"The village will soon run out of burial space"
Community events	2 comments to bring back previous events.	"Lapdock" "Bring back the Chestnut Club"
Lifelong learning	A comment suggesting a repair café.	"Repair café for clothing and electricals"
Consultation process feedback	Some concerns about representation in the survey process.	"Everyone over 16 should've received their own copy"
Boosting Lapford's identity	A call to maintain the rural charm while raising the village's profile.	"Lapford has a lot to offer... showcase its history and community spirit."

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