

## The Ashtead Neighbourhood Forum – Newsletter

The Newsletter was delivered to every home in Ashtead by volunteers from the Forum, ACV and residents. The one featured below was the Winter 2015/16 document which heralded the public consultation exercise in January/February 2016.

The newsletter was produced eight times from February 2013 to the run up to the consultation period. Also, the newsletter promoted the website and ACV's social media links in order to broaden the opportunities for individuals to tap into ACV's communication channels.

Copies of every newsletter can be found on the ACV website at:

<http://ashteadcommunityvision.org.uk/useful-documents-information/newsletters/>



ASHTHEAD  
COMMUNITY  
VISION  
Local planning for the future

Newsletter—Winter 2015/16

### Ashtead Neighbourhood Forum

Ashtead Community Vision – working towards a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)  
Web: [www.ashteadcommunityvision.org.uk](http://www.ashteadcommunityvision.org.uk) Email: [ashteadcommunityvision@gmail.com](mailto:ashteadcommunityvision@gmail.com)



ASHTHEAD  
Please drive carefully

## ASHTHEAD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) PUBLIC CONSULTATION

**A**shtead Neighbourhood Development Forum has published its Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) covering 16 policies which aim to guide development of the village over the next few years. The plan follows over two years of work by Ashtead Community Vision (ACV) on behalf of the Forum. Now the Draft NDP goes out to the public for a consultation exercise which begins in mid January 2016 with the publication of the full report on the website (see address below). This newsletter forms one of the main communication tools for the Consultation which will run through to the end of February. On 6th February residents are invited to attend an open morning at the Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall where they can ask questions about the Forum's proposals. Once all the feedback has been processed by ACV on behalf of the



*Rural idyll - Ashtead's Green Belt - Overlooking the 'Pony Field', the Rye Brook and Ashtead Common, on a winter's day*

Forum then the Draft NDP is forwarded to MVDC who in turn instigate a further formal consultation. Once that feedback has been collated then the NDP is sent to an independent examiner for approval. If all goes well then it is likely that by the end of 2016 the Examiner will tell MVDC that it is free to organise a Referendum in Ashtead. Then there will be another burst of activity in advance of the Referendum which should be held by May 2017. The NDP is adopted if the Referendum approves it.

### Housing policies seek 'balanced mix' for new housing

**D**emand for housing in Ashtead is greatest for two and three bedroomed accommodation. The percentage of people looking to move into such accommodation is significantly greater than the proportion of current properties available in Ashtead. Demand for smaller homes is likely to be further increased by an expected reduction in the average size of households and ongoing demand from those on the Council's Housing Register. The first draft policy therefore looks at "balancing" the housing mix. The draft NDP suggests that new housing developments of five or more dwellings should conform to the following mix of dwelling types (or as near to them as possible): 10% should be one bedroomed properties; 35% two bedrooms; 35% three bedrooms; and 20% four or more bedrooms. The policy suggests that proposals that increase the proportion of one and two-bedroom properties and reduces the number of four or more bedroomed properties, will be encouraged.

**Smaller sites:**  
As far as sites where less than five new dwellings are proposed - such as infill sites - the policy looks for two and three bedroom dwellings on previously developed sites. Four plus bedroom houses should only be built if they existed on the site immediately prior to development. On previously undeveloped sites, the NDP policy looks for provision of two and three bedroom dwellings with just one four or more bedroom dwelling permitted. The draft NDP defines an 'Ashtead

Central Area' which covers the central part of the village. Housing developments on sites in this 'Central Area' of Ashtead should be designed to be accessible and adaptable dwellings that are attractive to, and suitable for, those seeking to downsize.

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### What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

A Neighbourhood Development Plan can set out the community's overall vision for the area and should include overall aims for its future development. These can relate to a wide range of planning and regeneration matters, social, economic and environmental. The vision and aims of the plan can then be translated into details, policies, guidance and proposals."

Read the full Ashtead Neighbourhood Development Plan and comment: [www.ashteadcommunityvision.org.uk](http://www.ashteadcommunityvision.org.uk)

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