

# East Donyland Parish Council: Action Plan for Rowhedge

In 2014-15 the Village Plan Group developed and carried out a survey of residents within Rowhedge, to identify which issues are important to our local community, and how residents would like to see the village develop in the future. The survey results were analysed in 2016 by independent research specialists, QaResearch, and summary findings presented at the Annual Parish Assembly. The parish council resolved in January 2017 to use the survey analysis to develop an action plan for Rowhedge, identifying areas where progress has already been made, and those which are still outstanding.

This action plan identifies all questions in the village plan survey where an opinion on an action or issue was sought, where a majority view was expressed indicating action may be appropriate (i.e. over 50% in support of starting an activity, or concerned about an issue). For each item, any actions already taken or in progress are identified, as well as any further potential action required and who will be the lead agency in taking action forward.

## New facilities and activities

Facility/activity	Level of support	Actions taken / in progress	Further potential actions	Lead
Small industrial/crafters area	69%	Development adjacent to Jam Jar in progress, to include artist studio.		Private enterprise
Museum	64%	Pump House considered but not financially viable.	EDPC has stated it is open to applications for future use of the heritage hut site by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties.	Community organisations to apply if interested
Community Café	85%	Jam Jar café has opened, and RCRC have taken over operation of the heritage hut refreshments.	EDPC has stated it is open to applications for future use of the heritage hut site by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties.	Community organisations / private enterprise
Community Shop	62%	Monthly FSL village market ongoing		Community organisations
Other sport activities	52% (netball 42% support)	S106 funding agreed for development of sports and recreation facilities incl. climbing rocks, canoe racks, development of Rec ground. EDPC funded Health & Wellbeing classes for over 60s for 6 months		EDPC - development of facilities when S106 funding is released.  Individuals – start up groups as wanted, e.g. walking football.
Community skills swap shop	70% support	My Rowhedge scheme initiated by resident		

Lion Quay heritage land	Open space 62% support Small single storey heritage building 60% support	RCRC took over temporary operation of the hut in 2016 on a 2yr basis	EDPC has stated it is open to applications for future use of the heritage hut site by 3rd parties.	
Free public toilets within an existing building	55%	£120,000 S106 funding agreed for development of Social Club facilities. Toilet adjacent to Jam Jar café available for anyone using that area.	If the heritage hut were developed further, a toilet facility could be included.	
The village hall should be developed to provide better facilities for the preschool	51%	S106 funding agreed for this purpose, planning permission obtained.		EDCA – development of facility once funds are released.

### Transport, roads, paths etc

Issue	Level of support	Actions taken / in progress	Further potential actions	Lead
Weight limit for vehicles parking overnight in the village	62%	-	None – cannot be legally implemented	
20mph speed limit throughout village	86%	Application submitted to LHP, petition circulated to evidence support Speedwatch initiative being started		20mph - ECC/CBC Cllrs Scordis & Bentley  Speedwatch - CBC Cllrs Lilley & Scordis
Footpath at the top end of Rectory Rd going to the allotments	75%		Part of the S106 funding agreed for purchase & development of the allotment site could be used for this	EDPC – when S106 funds are released
Roundabout at the junction of Rectory Rd and Fingringhoe Rd	67%	Issue reported numerous times to ECC, requesting further assessment of the site as a hazard		ECC – Cllr Bentley
Improvements to current links to Fingringhoe	51%	S106 funds agreed for improvements to footpaths P3 group set up Remedial works carried out by ECC to stepped section through woods		ECC – once S106 funds released

Improvements to current links to Colchester	52%	LHP application for cycle path and footpath widening currently at feasibility study stage S106 funds agreed for improvements to footpaths		ECC – LHP application and use of S106 funds once released
Footbridge link to Wivenhoe	60%	LHP application for feasibility study being re-submitted.	Dependent on outcome of application / study	ECC

### Environment, green spaces etc

Issue	Level of support	Actions taken / in progress	Further potential actions	Lead
Additional green space at the Hard	57%	Proposal to council withdrawn following public feedback.		
Extension of the allotments	66%	S106 funds agreed for purchase and development of land, awaiting response from landowner		EDPC – progress once landowner responds and funds are released
Good woods project e.g. Sylva Foundation, caring for woodland along sustainable principles	73%	St Lawrence Forest School initiative started	None - all existing woodland on privately owned land, any initiative would need to come from the owner	Landowner

### Safety, crime etc incl dog fouling/control

Issue	Level of support	Actions taken / in progress	Further potential actions	Lead
There is sufficient police presence in Rowhedge	64% disagree		None – Essex Police issue	Essex Police
A bobby on the beat	70% support		Essex Police issue, but parish could pay for a PCSO through increasing the precept?	Essex Police
Part time community warden to report parking, speeding, anti-social behaviour and dog fouling issues to the police	79% support		EDPC could pay for a PCSO through increasing the precept	

Dog warden	53% support	CBC have introduced dog fouling PSPO, EDPC have requested max level of enforcement activity		CBC
Extra lighting on the recreation ground that would react to movement	64% support	S106 funding agreed to develop facilities at the rec which could include lighting	Need to consider light pollution issues that would affect neighbouring residents	EDPC – identify rec development plans once funding is released
CCTV on the recreation ground	54% support	RFC have installed CCTV around the pavilion and container. S106 funding agreed to develop facilities at the rec which could include CCTV	Need to consider issues re data protection / monitoring	EDPC – identify rec development plans once funding is released
Fines for irresponsible dog owners	95% support	CBC have introduced dog fouling PSPO, EDPC have requested max level of enforcement activity		CBC
Dog poo bag dispensers	72% support	3 installed Oct 2016 – misused consistently, emptied of stock as soon as filled. Unable to maintain.	Solutions researched but none identified – dispensers likely to be removed as currently not in use.	EDPC

## Future development

Issue	Level of support/agreement	Actions taken / in progress	Further potential actions	Lead
Keeping a green wedge between Rowhedge and Old Heath to protect our green space	96% support	Objections submitted to Local Plan and planning application.	Dependent on appeal by developer.	CBC
Development of small properties for older people to move into	74% support	Inclusion of Rowhedge Business Plan in Local Plan draft, may include appropriate properties Affordable housing survey undertaken, identified small level local need.	RCCE to advise re affordable housing opportunities	RCCE/CBC

Development of small properties for small families to move into	53% support	Inclusion of Rowhedge Business Plan in Local Plan draft, may include appropriate properties. Affordable housing survey undertaken, identified small level local need.	RCCE to advise re affordable housing opportunities	RCCE/CBC
A mixture of modern and traditional designs in new builds	59% support		CBC planning issue – parish council to ensure they comment on applications	CBC
Sufficient parking spaces for new builds (min 2 spaces)	81% support		CBC planning issue – parish council to ensure they comment on applications	CBC
Doctor's surgery will be sufficient to cover the needs of future residents	71% disagree	Inclusion of Rowhedge Business Plan in Local Plan draft, with option to include a medical centre.	CBC/ECC planning issue – parish council to ensure they comment on applications	CBC/ECC
Roads and transportation require further funding	69% agree	EDPC identified this in their response to the Local Plan consultation and Gladman planning application.	Ongoing reporting of issues and responses to planning applications	ECC
The school will be able to cope with a larger population	64% disagree	EDPC identified this in their response to the Local Plan consultation and Gladman planning application.		ECC
The preschool will be able to cope with a larger population	58% disagree	S106 funding agreed for extension to village hall for preschool use, planning permission obtained.		EDCA – development of facility once funds are released.
The borough council should forecast the ability of services to cope before giving planning permission to proposed developments	91% agree		CBC planning issue.	CBC
There is a need for affordable housing in Rowhedge	58% agree	RCCE survey commissioned by EDPC – low response rate, but small local need identified.	RCCE to advise re affordable housing opportunities, take forward with CBC	RCCE