

A **Rural Strategy** for the Borough of **Hinckley and Bosworth** **2020 to 2023**

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

Introduction - This strategy sets out the key high level priorities for rural areas of the borough, underpinned by key actions, with the impact and outcomes presented at the annual Rural Conference.

Purpose of our Rural Strategy

- To enable Parish Councils to have a voice in informing rural priorities for the borough
- To ensure issues of importance for rural communities are given equal opportunity for promotion, support and action
- To ensure further growth and development strengthens the wellbeing and prosperity of the borough's rural communities
- To maximise opportunities to enable access to services and facilities



The **Vision** for our Rural Borough

To secure distinct, diverse and prosperous rural communities in Hinckley & Bosworth

Our **Strategic Aims**

- Inclusive, sustainable rural communities, where everyone has the opportunity to participate, and can access the services and facilities they need
- An environmentally and economically sound rural borough where the needs of farming, conservation and development are appropriately balanced
- Residents feel supported to take ownership and drive improvements in their own communities
- Ensure our rural communities can be safe and welcoming for residents, visitors and businesses



Our Priority Themes and Focus:

1 Access to services and facilities

- To ensure the ongoing development, delivery and access to services and facilities at a local level
- Focus HBBC grant funding to support priority parish and community initiatives, based on evidence of need
- Enable parishes to support/promote and deliver activities for children and young people, including the rural Snap Dragon festival and rural play sessions
- Work with rural schools in relation to democracy related activities
- Provision of help and advice on usage of green space provision and healthy activities for adults
- Continue to ensure new development makes provision for local facilities and infrastructure to enable communities to continue to be sustainable through the planning process
- Manage development in rural communities through the Local Plan process



2 Facilitation of transport solutions

- To enable parishes to have a voice in relation to any transport reviews undertaken
- To enable parishes to work with Leicestershire County Council in the identification and implementation of local community transport solutions
- To work with the voluntary and community sector to map and promote community transport opportunities

3 Promoting Neighbourhood Planning

- In partnership with the Rural Communities Council support parishes with the Neighbourhood Development Planning process, or the development of a Community led Parish Plan
- Engaging parishes in the development of the local plan



4 Rural housing delivery

- Housing development that encourages community engagement/community led housing schemes
- Housing development that is supported by appropriate infrastructure improvements
- Continue to deliver a rural housing enabler service, to include an evidence based approach to inform housing needs, site identification and engagement with parishes and communities.
- Affordable housing need to be informed by local Housing Needs Surveys, and to include: open market starter homes and retirement bungalows in rural hamlets where there is an evidence of need

Our Priority Themes and Focus:

5 Protection and enhancement of the rural environment



- Continue to work with parishes in identifying and adopting Public Space Protection Order sites
- To support parishes and their communities to deliver on climate change initiatives and improvements, including enabling access to appropriate grant funding
- Continue to manage and deliver a comprehensive environmental health, protection and inspections programme including: premises food hygiene rating, food hygiene inspections, infectious disease investigation, pest control and licensing



6 Economy, Farming, Enterprise and Tourism



- Explore and promote opportunities arising from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to support rural enterprise
- To direct rural businesses to appropriate business advice and services
- Support the delivery of the Tourism Growth Plan 2020–2025, to enable tourism growth across all parishes in the borough, and continue to support the Hinckley & Bosworth Tourism Partnership
- To ensure the effective engagement of the farming community in the development of planning and development policies in respect of, countryside development, including green energy production, diversification and food production



7 Community Safety and Rural Crime



- To continue to support and enable parishes to take enforcement actions in relation to environmental nuisance issues e.g. planning breaches, noise nuisance and dog fouling
- Work with volunteers and parishes to help tackle and reduce speeding and parking related issues
- Continue to promote 'neighbourhood' link in rural communities and other timely reporting mechanisms for crime and disorder
- Raise awareness through parishes of the funding opportunities available to volunteers to support community activities

8 Community empowerment and action through partnership working

- The overall aims and outcomes of this Strategy will be achieved through joint working with all our key partners – statutory, business, and voluntary & community sector, with delivery plans aligning to relevant national, countywide and local plans

A Rural Strategy for the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Rural Strategy encompasses 51 settlements divided into 24 parished areas

- Atterton
- Bagworth
- Barlestone
- Barton in the Beans
- Barwell
- Bilstone
- Botcheston
- Burbage
- Cadeby
- Carlton
- Congerstone
- Cross Hands
- Dadlington
- Desford
- Earl Shilton
- Far Coton
- Fenny Drayton
- Field Head
- Groby
- Higham on the Hill
- Kirkby Mallory
- Merry Lees
- Lindley
- Market Bosworth
- Markfield
- Nailstone
- Newbold Heath
- Newbold Verdon
- Newtown Unthank
- Norton Juxta Twycross
- Odstone
- Orton on the Hill
- Osbaston
- Peckleton
- Pinwall
- Ratby
- Ratcliffe Culey
- Sibson
- Shackerstone
- Sheepy Magna
- Sheepy Parva
- Shenton
- Stanton-under-Bardon
- Stapleton
- Stoke Golding
- Sutton Cheney
- Thornton
- Twycross
- Wellsborough
- Witherley
- Upton

Further information

For more information please contact:

Edwina Grant, Strategic & Community Planning Manager tel 01455 255950
email edwina.grant@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Tracy O'Grady, Community Planning Officer tel 01455 255818
email tracy.ogrady@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk



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