

Meeting of Community groups in Alphington 9th May 2013

Purpose of the meeting

- To provide an update on the Council/community discussions about the proposed development
- To consider the challenges and opportunities facing statutory and community services as Alphington grows
- To consider local priorities to inform Council decision making and priorities for the community infrastructure levy (CIL)

Voluntary and statutory services are working in Alphington: Overview of role of those groups attending:

Alphington Photographic group – about 15 members

Alphington Community Association: runs Village Hall, owned by association, currently under redevelopment and Community Centre, leased from Council. Halls home to 40+ groups and priority is to improve facilities.

Alphington Historic Society – about 15 members

Alphington Primary school – 408 Children of which 170 not from Alphington – a school with a community feel.

Alphington Village Forum – acting as community facilitators/advocates to engage with Council on proposed housing development.

Chattertotts – run by St Michaels' Children and Families worker – 12 babies/ 15 toddlers/carers

Exeter City Council/Councillors - planning for the building of 12,000 homes

Ide Lade Friends - works with doctors Surgery and some 7,700 patients offering transport and befriending.

Royal British Legion – an independent group which runs community space for local groups and companies and a social club.

Scouts – work with young people 40+ cubs, beavers and scouts

St Michael's C of E Church 130 Members. Pastoral responsibly of parish including births, deaths and marriages, Chatterbox café (100-110 people per week), Lunch monthly for 45.

It was noted that a number of other groups were unable to attend including: Devon Youth Services, WestExe Community College, Methodist Church and the Pre-School.

The group considered and worked to build a consensus on the following question: From their experiences with their organisations: **“What particular challenges do you see facing the Community as Alphington grows?”**

[text in brackets mine to clarify]

Capacity of facilities/ resources	Traffic	Engagement and identity	Other	What's needed [gaps]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities: school, pre-school, other groups, surgery and burial grounds • Facilities and quality of existing community buildings • Community facilities: football club funds and premises for expansion £?, Better facilities if numbers increase • School: increased numbers. Accessibility/ parking. Teignbridge school viable. • Primary Care provision: staff and consulting rooms. • Impact on... schools, surgery, shops, can we cope? • Capacity issues for the school. • Preserving village ethos. • Use CIL to help improve already proposed work in village hall/church and other club/halls (RBL Assoc) • Capacity: space for groups to grow, where will groups meet? • Facilities and quality of existing community buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road safety and pollution, during and after construction period • Public transport needs to be addressed • No more traffic through village as not safe and causing pollution • Traffic parking issues around the school • Traffic: increased volume, current capacity, alternative routes/signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to encourage 'joining in' local groups • New School in Teignbridge: Exodus of Alphington [children?] • Community identity: Will way will they [new residents] relate • Groups with wider remit. • Communication: Publicity. Not a separate enclave. Community inclusion. • Delivering a sense of community • Retain our village feeling and quality of life (no over crowding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of buildings must be suitable for living – big enough ad right location • Houses for local children in future • Where is the necessary infrastructure development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth: • Staffing, growing numbers of teenagers, premises

A conversation was begun about possible 'solutions'/opportunities:

1. Pre-school facilities: role of the school? [opportunity] to work with pre-school.
2. Enhance Scout hut for wider youth work too? Multiuse.
3. Prioritise completion of projects rather than [support new]
4. opportunity for strategic approach to community buildings and fundraising
5. coordinated 'offer' to people/children by organisations.
6. Develop the case for local investment
7. concrete proposals that need a reaction.

Due to lack of time it was agreed that further discussion is required including an initial response from the Council.