

Have your say on the future of Witcham Help to produce a 'Vision' for your village

East Cambridgeshire District Council is looking for your views on how your village should change or improve in the future. What sort of place would you like Witcham to be? What are your priorities for the village and the wider parish? For example, do you want more school places, better local facilities, new homes or more employment opportunities?

The District Council wants to work in partnership with local people and the Parish Council to draw up a long-term Vision for Witcham. The Vision will set out how Witcham should develop/improve over the next 20 years. It will look at issues such as:

- local housing needs
- employment opportunities
- sites for development
- the quality of the local environment
- infrastructure and facilities – whether to protect and/or improve

The Vision will be used to guide decisions on future development and planning applications. It will also help ensure that key infrastructure and facilities are retained and enhanced. The Vision will be included in the statutory development plan for the East Cambridgeshire - known as the 'Core Strategy'.

A questionnaire will be available for people's comments from **27th June 2011**. The questionnaire can be viewed on the District Council's website at <http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/local-development-framework/consultation-villagetown-visions> or paper copies can be obtained by phoning the Forward Planning team on 01353 665555. The website will also have questionnaires for other settlements in East Cambridgeshire (which you are welcome to fill out), as well as other background documents.

Comments should be returned by **18th July 2011**. The District Council is keen to get your views, and would like as many people to get involved as possible. Your comments will help to shape a draft Vision for Witcham. The draft Vision will be published early next year, when there will be a further opportunity to make comments. The final Vision should be published in late 2012, and should hopefully reflect the needs and priorities of the local community.