

# Partney Village

## Parish Action Plan



# January 2025

Prepared by;

Councillor Pasqualino (Packa) Risi by Chair for the Partney Parish Council

## **Introduction**

In 2000 the Government published a Rural White Paper which set out their plans for the countryside. Within that paper Parish and Neighbourhood Plans were to form the bedrock of local development frameworks which every major Local Authority was being required to produce. In our case, East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) have developed their own local plan – it is called their Core Strategy. Large communities in the district are invited to prepare Neighbourhood Plans (NP), a comprehensive document designed to support local development and land use. Smaller communities, like that of Partney are classed in the lowest local service village category known as level 4. In September 2023, a representative of the Parish Council attended a Neighbourhood Planning Forum, which established that this community did not warrant an NP, however, we were encouraged to consider developing a Parish Plan (PP) (the Parish Plan would need endorsing by our District Councillor, (as sponsor) and District Council) which will obviously hold less weight in the decision making process than an NP, however, this development process will support the District Council's Core Strategy.

The Localism Bill was introduced to the House of Commons in December 2010 and became law in 2011. It set out a series of proposals aiming to shift power away from central government and give local people more say in the future of where they live.

Once formally adopted by ELDC, the PP would become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and other matters important to the community in our parish. It is an important piece of work because it is a statement of how the community sees itself developing over the next few years. It:

- Reflects the views of all sections of the community;
- Identifies which features and local characteristics people value;
- Identifies local problems and opportunities;
- Spells out how residents want the community to develop in the future; • Prepares an action plan to achieve the vision.

In 2024 the Parish Council and community agreed to explore the development of a PP, led by Cllr Risi, and supported by the Parish Council. The first phase of the development of the PP was to prepare a Parish Statement (PS), where locally held information, (parishioners, the school, local charities, community services and the parochial church, this list is by no means comprehensive) from within the Parish would be gathered to create a framework or further discussion and ultimately, to form part of any formal endorsement for the formal development of a PP by the Parish Council.

The PS was presented to the Parish Council in May 2024, whereby, following extensive discussion, the proposal to develop a PP was rejected unanimously, however, a conceptual framework was agreed whereby the key 'values and concerns' highlighted in the PS would be adopted as part of a two year framework of key objectives and deliverables for the periods , 2025/26 and 2026/27. It was further agreed that a questionnaire would be issued to all villagers as part of a validation exercise of the points contained within the "Values and Concerns' developed from intelligence held within the initial PS report, prepared by Cllr Risi and presented to the PC in May 2024.

In October 2024, the responses (69%) were analysed, the majority of the themes coincided with the intelligence gathered to prepare the PS, however, positively, new issues were highlighted and these key themes will be added into the action plan. A separate communication will be issued to villagers setting out their points in an addition of the "Navigator' at the earliest opportunity. The 'Values and Concerns' for Partney Village have been included within this report as a reminder.

## **1. Values and Concerns**

### **1.1. Values**

The Parish Plan Survey will invite residents to think about the things they value about living in Partney. The feedback in this part of the survey is especially important, as there is generally a tendency to focus on concerns rather than values. However, from reviewing other Parish Plans, it is possible to summarise some of the benefits of living in a rural community, here are some of the responses from residents living in East Lindsey;

- The rural character and Landscape of the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside
- Country footpaths, wildlife and meadows
- Personal safety and security
- The role of the Victory Hall Committee in supporting our community
- Accessible and affordable high speed broadband
- Sympathetic Development
- The levels of engagement on planning matters by the Parish Council
- Heritage and History
- Dark Skies

### **1.2. Concerns**

The Survey will invite residents to think about the things that concern them in respect of living in Partney. This will be undertaken in three ways. Within the Parish Plan Survey a list of possible concerns will be presented (based on information the Parish Council holds from previous minutes and issues raised by members of the public at formal Parish Council meetings), these points are summarised as follows;

- Dangerous driving to include speeding and irresponsible parking
- Dog fouling and irresponsible bagging and disposal

- Poor Drainage
- Sewage Capacity
- Housing over development
- Litter and flytipping
- Public Rights of Way (access to countryside)

### **3.3 Data Analysis (Intelligence)**

The top concerns expressed by residents have been collated as part of the can be addressed immediately as part of a Parish Council 2025/26 Action Plan. The various actions will have a lead individual responsible for taking them forward and have a time frame attached in which we will commit to a two year programme of change, with a targeted completion date of March 2027.

The paper includes a summary of the currently established values and concerns held by our villagers.

## Living in the Countryside

Values	Concerns	Action	Lead with timeframe
Retaining rural character and landscape	Litter and fly tipping; increase in dog fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct weekly inspections of the village and surrounding roads and highways</li> <li>• Formally report and monitor all fly-tipping incidents to a satisfactory conclusion</li> <li>• Prepare a targeted action plan of all fly-tipping, dog fouling and littering 'hotspots'</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Pasqualino Risi</p> <p>(On-going reporting and monitoring through this current electoral control period)</p>
Country footpaths and walking routes, trees, hedgerows, meadows, wild flowers and wildlife	Trespassing on land; farmers responses to walkers on public rights of way e.g. ploughing over paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct quarterly inspections of the village and connecting public rights of way, to meet compliance with local authority responsibilities</li> <li>• Formally report all breaches to safe access to local public right of way</li> <li>• Make recommendations to local farmers on improving awareness of public access</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Lovelock</p> <p>(On-going reporting and monitoring through this current electoral control period)</p>

<p>Country views, quality of life and safe access to public highways</p>	<p>Overhanging branches and overgrown hedges which impact the footpaths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct quarterly inspections of the village footprint, to meet compliance with our local authority responsibilities to residents and visitors</li> <li>• Formally report all breaches to public safety, prepare corrective action plans to contain and prevent future failings</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Sergeant  (On-going reporting and monitoring through this current electoral control period)</p>
<p>Charming village countryside feel with adoption of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) guidance relating to darker skies</p>	<p>Darker skies, reducing light pollution, increasing the number of stars visible at night, reducing the effects of electric lighting on the environment, improving the wellbeing, the health of people and wildlife, and cutting down on energy consumption for county, district and local authorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a village assessment of public and other buildings lighting to assess the impact lighting on residents. Engage with the Highways Department to consider wider initiatives for inclusion</li> <li>• Prepare a statement for consultation setting out the public health and environmental benefits of each initiative and timeline for adoption</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Pasqualino Risi  Formal submission of proposal to Parish Council (January 2025)  Stakeholder consultation May 2025  Adoption and implementation of initiatives in September 2025</p>

Values	Concerns	Action	Lead with timeframe
Peaceful and quiet environment	Speeding and dangerous driving, (A158, and A16) increased traffic volume and noise, increasing size of road vehicles and inappropriate parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an assessment of all locally concerns, develop a proposal of initiatives and concerns for wider consultation with District and County Councillors, Highways and police authorities</li> <li>• Set out a list of priorities development and timetable for implementation to include feedback and wider community consultation</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Sergeant</p> <p>Formal submission of proposal to Parish Council (June 2025)</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation September 2025</p> <p>Adoption and implementation of initiatives in March 2026</p>
<p>Parish magazine communication</p> <p>Communications and decisions from the Parish Council are generally satisfactory and well received, this forum should be used to communicate progress</p>	Initiate a programme of sustainable 'good news' reporting progress to local residents on the Parish Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue quarterly update on progress being made to address villager priorities, collating regular updates for each lead, targeting a single topic for each report</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Oliver</p> <p>(On-going reporting on a quarterly basis during electoral control period)</p> <p>Prepare PS for the Annual Parish Council Meeting May 2025</p>



## Facilities and Infrastructure

Values	Concerns	Action	Lead with timeframe
Pavement and footpath maintenance	Unmaintained pavements often causing the public to walk on the main highway. The pavements deteriorate each year to the point they can no longer be deemed safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct quarterly inspections of the village report defects necessary to meet public safety compliance</li> <li>• Agree a timetable for resolution with local highways department</li> <li>• Formally report all defects to FIXMY STREET as part of increased public awareness.</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Andy Ratcliffe</p> <p>(On-going reporting and monitoring through this current electoral control period)</p> <p>Prepare a statement for Chair of the PC for inclusion within the Public Annual Meeting Statement (May 2025)</p>
Drains and Drainage	Unmaintained ditches, drains, dykes and water courses causing poor and restricting capacity flow during sustained inclement weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct quarterly inspections of the village report defects necessary to meet public safety compliance</li> <li>• Agree a timetable for resolution with local highways department</li> <li>• Formally report all defects to FIXMY STREET as part of increased public awareness.</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Andy Ratcliffe</p> <p>(On-going reporting and monitoring through this current electoral control period)</p>

## Community

Values	Concerns	Action	Lead with timeframe
Poor broadband speed connection	The timetable for improving broadband speed infrastructure is unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an assessment of likely costs to install fast broadband into the village</li> <li>develop a proposal of initiatives and concerns for wider consultation with District and County Councillors and Broadband infrastructure providers.</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Valerie Risi</p> <p>Formal submission of proposal to Parish Council (September 2025)</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation September 2025</p>
Lack of green spaces for villagers	The village does not benefit from a 'green space', nor play activities for young or older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an assessment of likely costs of procuring a 'green space' to include facilities to support villagers and children</li> <li>Develop a proposal of initiatives and costs for wider consultation with District and County Councillors and third party funders</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Oliver</p> <p>Formal submission of proposal to Parish Council (November 2025)</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation January 2026</p> <p>Implementation May 2026</p>

## Housing

Values	Concerns	Action	Lead with timeframe
Sufficient range of houses for upsizing and downsizing	<p>Lack of affordable housing for families (Existing housing stock)</p> <p>Insufficient larger family rental homes</p> <p>Over-development, inappropriate development, building on green-field sites</p> <p>Depleted social housing stock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a housing stock audit</li> <li>• Conduct an assessment of local housing needs</li> <li>• Define the likely housing needs to 2030, conduct a 'gap assessment' against local plans and local needs</li> <li>• Meet with District Planners to assess how they can support villagers to meet local needs, in particular what social housing is planned for the future</li> <li>• Support Parish Planning Team to assess any impacts new developments have against local needs.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Jones</p> <p>Formal submission of proposal to Parish Council (November 2025)</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation January 2026</p> <p>Parish Policy Statement finalised March 2026</p>

#### **4. Vision Statement, Strategies and Guiding Principles**

Through this process the Parish Council have developed a vision statement and strategies to support the development of a Parish Action Plan and address the immediate and longer-term needs of the community.

##### **Vision Statement**

In 2027 the Parish of Partney will be an attractive, peaceful parish in an unspoiled rural setting, with a range of good quality homes and community facilities which meet local needs.

##### **Strategies**

This will be achieved by implementing a number of strategies:

Partney Parish is an ancient settlement that has developed over many hundreds of years. The Parish Plan will continue to build on this heritage and ensure that new buildings respond to, and reflect, the existing character of the place. The impact of traffic noise and perceived danger from speeding vehicles along the main road remains a serious concern to parishioners and the parish needs a strategy for improving the streetscape to address pedestrian safety, traffic noise and vibration. Measures also need to be taken to deter speeding vehicles.

The village is set amongst rural, rolling south Lincolnshire Wolds countryside which provides views and access for recreation and leisure, Partney Parish benefits from close proximity to rural pastures and farmland which give a strong impression that the countryside is integral to the village. The farmland and pastures also provide a practical role, giving easy access to: walks in the countryside; views from the village back to the surrounding hills and vales;

and a habitat for wildlife. The Parish Council will emphasise the protection and enhancement of these open spaces, which are intrinsic to the character of the village.

The Parish would like Partney to be a place where new development is sensitively located, limited in scale, well-designed and makes an appropriate contribution to improving local infrastructure. Part of shaping the future of the village will be to ensure that any new development is kept in harmony with the natural arrangements of water courses, drainage and landform. It will also need to take into account the capacity of existing infrastructure such as sewerage, roads and landscape. This will mean that new development will only be supported by the Parish Council if it does not restrict the natural course of water or increase the likelihood of flooding, and preserves the natural skyline and dark skies.

A balanced community: Partney has a strong community spirit coming from its farming heritage. The Parishioners seek to preserve Partney inclusivity and distinctive character by encouraging a slow but steady rate of development, especially meeting the needs of families, so that all age and income groups are able to continue to enjoy living here. There needs to be a provision for affordable housing and smaller homes to meet local needs. The planned rate of growth should allow Partney to be sustainable over the Plan period, and controlled further development will sustain the community into the future.

Retain and enhance the services and facilities available to residents of the village, especially in improving recreational facilities for children and young people. With the advent of more people working from home there is an ongoing requirement for faster broadband speeds (and better mobile phone signals) than those currently achievable.

Many of the village residents look to Skegness, Spilsby, Boston and Lincoln for shopping, employment and leisure due to strong public transport links. However, public transport to Louth, Boston and Spalding is inadequate, and so in practice the car will remain the principal means of transport out of the village. Future development must take account of this.

## **5. Partney Village Guiding Principles 6.**

East Lindsey District Council have published and adopted a document known as its Core Strategy. The Core Strategy sets out the District Council's development strategy and planning policies. These policies include the allocation of strategic employment and housing sites, along with guidance on provision on infrastructure and services. The Core Strategy establishes the overall spatial vision for East Lindsey up to 2031 and establishes the framework that other planning documents will build upon.

There are several important documents produced by the District Council which build on their strategy.

Readers of this plan, including any who are considering building or developing in the village will find it helpful to study the relationship between the District Council documents and our supporting guiding principles as well as the main values and concerns emerging from the information gathered by the Parish Council

## **6. Proposal for Meeting (Tuesday 14th January 2025)**

The paper will be presented by Councillor Risi (Pasqualino). During the discussion, there may be requests to amend the paper for factual accuracies and make changes to accountable leads. However, the main purpose of this meeting will be to approve the actions contained within the Parish Action Plan to enhance the values and concerns contained within the paper and importantly to track and monitor progress against the objective and timescale.