

Housing for all.

We are concerned that recent new housing developments have been mainly targeted at well-off families; our aim is to maintain the diversity of the village population by ensuring that new housing is provided for young people, lower income families and older people. We will restrict new housing to sites within walking distance of the village centre, and will ensure that its character is sympathetic to the local tradition in terms of materials and scale. We will encourage smaller scale housing developments on infill sites in preference to large-scale estates on green field sites. We will encourage and support improvements in the quality and energy efficiency of older housing.



YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT

- Do you have any observations on this draft vision?
- Do you agree with it? What have we missed?
- Which of the six vision statements should be the priority for action?
- Do you have the time, skills and knowledge to assist us to take the plan forward?

You can contact the Neighbourhood Plan Project Team via the Parish Office.



Published by the East Leake Neighbourhood Plan Project Team, a working group of East Leake Parish Council.



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East Leake Neighbourhood Plan

Draft Vision

INTRODUCTION

East Leake is a rural village in south Nottinghamshire, set in a green hollow surrounded by hills. The built area is divided through the centre by a green wedge, the result of the Kingston Brook and its associated floodplain. Over the last half century, it has grown rapidly from being a linear village at the junction of roads that emanate north, south, south-west, east and west, to being a much larger settlement of nearly 7000 people. It is very well connected to the rest of the East Midlands region and beyond, being close to Loughborough, Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, and having motorway, rail and airport links within a few miles of the village.



East Leake is largely self-contained and acts as a hub for surrounding smaller villages. It has a historic centre at one end of Main Street and a contrasting, more modern shopping centre at the other. There are a wide range of services and a good selection of shops in the village, plus considerable employment, especially at British Gypsum.

WHY DO WE NEED A VISION?

This vision is our aspiration for shaping East Leake over the next 15 to 20 years, by setting goals that are both realistic and achievable. We believe we need a vision to ensure that East Leake develops in the way the community wants, for the benefit of all.

OUR VISION

A viable community.

We wish to maintain the character of East Leake as a place with a strong sense of community and history, supporting a wide range of facilities and services. We aim to enhance local employment opportunities, in particular improving facilities for start-up businesses.



Maintaining the green environment.



We wish to conserve and enhance the rural character of the village, and to preserve the ring of green undeveloped hills surrounding the village. Further, we intend to exploit and enhance the network of informal green spaces within the village, so that they support attractive pedestrian and cycle routes connecting the different parts of the village.

An attractive village centre.

We are concerned that at present the shopping centre is something of a muddle; we will endeavour to improve the quality of the entire public area in the village centre by making it more pedestrian-friendly and safer, resolving parking problems, reducing traffic dominance and radically improving the quality of building design and materials. We will also encourage retention and widening of the range of shops and facilities that serve the needs of the community.



Easier to get around.



We will seek to improve connections between the different parts of the village, and out into the countryside beyond, for both pedestrians and cyclists; in particular we want all new developments to enhance the network of routes within the village. We will press for improvements to public and community transport links with facilities and transport interchanges outside the village.

Better facilities and services.

We believe that the capacity of essential services such as health, education and drainage should be increased in step with any new developments within East Leake and surrounding smaller villages, and will press hard for this. Further, we wish to improve facilities for young people, and in particular provide more activities for teenagers.

