**Melton Village Neighbourhood Plan Household Questionnaire REPORT/STATISTICS**

**448** Melton Household Questionnaires completed

2011 Census No. of Households in Melton is **1,783**

This means we had an approx. **25% response**

**OTHER main reasons given for living in Melton:**

* Affordable / Available housing
* Good transport links
* Sailing / near the river
* Quiet / Not overdeveloped
* Born here / family history

**Other Objectives suggested:**

**14%** wanted **More Affordable Housing**

**14%** wanted to **Prevent Overdevelopment**

**13%** wanted **Better Services/Facilities**

**10%** wanted to **Maintain** the **Rural Character of Melton**

**9%** wanted to **Protect the Environment**

**9%** wanted to **Reduce** traffic **Speed** & have more **Sustainable Transport**

**Perceived Threats to Melton**

**49%** felt there was **Too Much Development** and **Inadequate Infrastructure**

**36%** felt there was too much **Traffic**

**12%** worried about being **Absorbed into Woodbridge** and **Loss of Identity**

**Perceived Opportunities ?**

**23%** thought there was an opportunity for an **Increased Sense of Community**

**13%** thought there was an opportunity for **Business Growth**

**11%** thought we had an opportunity to do some **Positive Planning** of Developments

**10%** felt there was an opportunity for **More Affordable Housing**

**10%** felt there was an opportunity for **More Services** to be provided

**Which Roads have Traffic Problems?**

Strikingly **99%** of all respondents thought that the **A1152 had Serious Problems.**

This included Woods Lane in general, the turning onto Woods Lane from Bredfield Road, The Crossroads and Traffic Lights, The Railway Crossing and Wilford Bridge Road in general.

**13%** felt that **The Street and Yarmouth Road** had problems with speed, narrowness, parked cars and queues at the traffic lights.

**12%** felt that **Melton Hill/Road** was a problem due mainly to speeding and people parking on both sides of the road.

**Where should Traffic Speed be controlled?**

**22%** thought that speeding was **Not a problem**

**21%** thought that speed was a big problem on **Woods Lane**

**13%** thought that speed should be more controlled on **Yarmouth Road**

**12%** thought that speeding was an issue on **The Street**

**How can we prevent future development from making traffic worse?**

18% wanted no overdevelopment / restricted commercial development

12% wanted a restriction on housing

11% said that traffic management systems MUST be implemented with any new development / integrating it / having it in place before new houses were built.

10% suggested an alternative route to avoid Woods Lane

**If Parking IS an issue, where in particular? In Priority order:**

1. The Street
2. Station Road / by Fish and Chip Shop / St Andrews Place
3. Melton Hill (due to parking on both sides)
4. Around Woodbridge Primary School
5. Around Melton Primary School / Dock Lane

**Any suggestions for improvements?**

* Underground parking facility?
* Use the Girdlestones site!
* Can we use Thurlow Nun for parking out of hours?
* Need Cycle lanes!!
* Provide off-street parking for new developments!
* If car parking in Woodbridge itself was free (or cheaper) then people wouldn't park in The Street and on Melton Hill which is causing congestion.
* Provide passing places in Valley Farm Rd.
* Multi-storey car park - reasonable priced 1 hr parking to encourage shopping locally and investors investing in new shops generating revenue.
* Traffic lights at main junction turning into the street are very short in changing time making long queues at certain times.

**Suggested improvements to the bus service, in priority order:**

1. More frequency
2. Buses should run later and at weekends
3. Need a service to and from St Audreys
4. Make the fares cheaper
5. Bring back the Anglia Bus service
6. Better advertising of routes and timetables needed
7. Service needed to and from Park and Ride at Martlesham
8. Buses need to be pushchair friendly
9. More shelters and stops needed

**Issues with Rail service and ways to improve it, in priority order:**

1. More frequency, trains should run earlier and later too
2. The direct train to London should be re-introduced
3. The car park needs to be larger
4. Trains are not reliable and are often late
5. Tickets are too expensive
6. There should be a ticket machine and info boards
7. There is no real shelter or facilities for families
8. Lighting should be better
9. Buses should sync with trains
10. Should be a better sync with London connection
11. Trains should be quicker
12. There should be a link to West Anglia

**Why don’t you feel safe cycling in Melton?**

**Should we have cycle lanes? If so where?**

1. Melton Hill / Road
2. Woods Lane
3. NO to any cycle lanes
4. Not possible as roads are too narrow
5. Wilford Bridge Road
6. The Street
7. Wherever possible
8. Melton to Ipswich
9. Use the footpaths!
10. Along the river
11. Bredfield Rd
12. To Rendlesham
13. Yarmouth Rd
14. Pytches Rd
15. Not possible when cars park on the road

**Other suggestions with regards to Cycling:**

* Everywhere - adopt the European method. Good wide cycle lanes not on the road then there would be less cars and fitter people.
* Bike track down path from Melton Day Nursery to Wilford bridge. (Waterhead lane).
* Over the railway line where even lorries are sometimes over the other side of the road to get round.
* Melton crossroads to Woodbridge. Sign post the route from Melton to Woodbridge bypass / Farlingaye high school via Turnpike Lane, Melton Grange Road and Warwick Ave.
* General feeling that cycling should be encouraged
* Roads are too narrow and too busy but IF they could be widened and not become busier it would be welcomed

**Where should we make Improvements to the School Route?**

**40%** wanted **Improvements to the Pavement and General Safety of Woods Lane**

**21%** wanted a **Cycle Lane to Farlingaye**

**13%** wanted a **Zebra Crossing on Bredfield Road**

**8%** wanted **Improvements to the Pavement on Pytches Road**

**Other Important Traffic Concerns**

**12%** stated again about the dangers of the **Bredfield Rd Junction with Woods Lane**

**10%** said **Woods Lane** in general needed to be sorted out as a matter of urgency

**11%** again said there was generally **Too Much Traffic** for Melton to cope with

**10%** said **Speeding** was the biggest concern

**6%** said **Parking in the Village Centre** was a problem

**Provision for Young People**

Only **5%** of respondents had filled in a **Young Persons Questionnaire**.

**60%** of all respondents did **NOT** think there were enough facilities for young people.

**45%** felt there should be a **Youth Club**/meeting place with **Internet** provision.

**24%** felt there should be more **Sports** activities for young people.

**20%** felt that there should be a **Skate park/BMX** track on the playing field site.

Other suggestions were for:

* A zip wire
* Basketball court
* Dance, gym and martial arts classes for 5-10 year olds.

**Provision for Older People**

**24%** of respondents felt that there should be a **Day Centre** for older people in Melton providing refreshments / social time / activities. Many suggested using the Burness Rooms.

**20%** of respondents felt that the **Bus Service** needed massive improvements including making them higher frequency, more accessible, more reliable and wheelchair friendly.

**10%** wanted a **Coffee shop/Tea room** in the village.

**8%** wanted a **Post Office**.

Other suggestions:

* A volunteer centre/service based in Melton could tackle unmet needs of older people to help them remain in their homes
* Social support offered for the elderly when coming out of hospital
* Linking younger families with old people or neighbour checking
* We need to develop a community scheme to support needs like hospital appointments, doctors appointments, collecting prescriptions, finding the lonely and visiting them
* Shopping for disabled and internet access for non-computer owners

**Other Specific Services that should be provided in the village**

**18%** want a **Post Office**

**9%** want a better **Shop / more Unique shops / Shops to rival Woodbridge**

**7%** want more **Sport/Dance/Fitness classes**

**6%** want a free **ATM/Cash Machine**

**5%** want a **Medical centre / Doctor surgery**

**5%** want **Allotments**

**4%** want better **Recycling**

**4%** want a **Youth Club**

**4%** want to **Develop the Pavilion** and make a **Café** in the park

**Valued Assets in the village**

**17%** value the **Local Shops** we have

**17%** value the **Burness Parish Rooms**

**15%** value the two **Pubs,** especially the **Coach and Horses**

**8%** value the **Playing Field**

Others mentioned were the Woods, the Lindos Centre and the Churches

Those who wanted to extend the conservation area extended suggested the following:

* From Woods Lane, along Yarmouth Road, then along past the church.
* Extending out to Long Springs and to Foxborough Hall.
* Encompassing Melton Old Church
* To include Leeks Hill Woods and the Playing Field
* The fields around the Retreat towards the South East and West of Saddlemakers Lane where many people walk, ride, cycle, run and enjoy the countryside.

**Specific buildings of character to be protected**

**25%** want to protect St Andrews Church

**23%** want to protect Melton Old Church

**9%** want to protect the Burness Parish Rooms

**6%** want to protect the Station

**5%** want to protect the old Houses on The Street

**5%** want to protect The Coach and Horses pub

**4%** want to protect the Chapel at St Audreys

Others mentioned were:

* All old houses of character
* Lindos Centre
* Whitwell House
* Houses on Yarmouth Road in CA brick
* The Council Offices
* Decoy House
* Foxborough House
* Melton Lodge
* Long Springs
* Melton Grange
* Archway House
* Fish and Chip Shop
* Melton Meade
* Primary School
* St Audreys Hospital
* Phyllis Memorial Home
* The Beeches, McColls
* Old School House
* Wilford Bridge Pub
* Turnpike House
* Water Tower at St Audreys
* Cedar House

**65.3%** agreed that ‘something else’ should be done with the green space opposite McColls.

**34.7%** did not think anything else should be done.

**67%** felt that Design Guidance should be attributed to **ALL AREAS** of Melton and for any new development.

The following chart shows the types of guidance people feel should be written into the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Under OTHER:**

* Protection of Open Farmland
* Protection of Endangered species
* Protection of River Bank and riverbank improvement policies i.e. more seating
* Protection of green-field sites. Build on brownfield only.
* Protection of Physical Limits Boundary
* Protection of Beautiful Views
* Preservation / Improvement to the AONB gateway

**How can we improve the Playing Fields / Woods?**

21% wanted to rebuild the Pavilion and make it into another Village Hall / Café with public loos.

19% felt that they were fine as they are

14% wanted the drainage issue to be sorted out

7% wanted more big community events like the fete

6% wanted the footpaths in better condition

6% wanted both these included in the Conservation Area

Other interesting suggestions were:

* Circus, fun fair, cricket pitch, winter ice skating, musical picnics
* Picnic tables relocated next to the children’s play area
* Use half at the Woodbridge end for a modest housing development
* Farmers Markets
* Possibly get rid of smelly pond in woods and continue to safely fence the garden which backs on to the woods.
* Community Garden
* Fence around car park so dogs can't run out into the road and cause an accident and children are safe from the car park.
* The woodland is being thoughtfully maintained. We would support further planting of hazel and oaks to retain the traditional mix of trees. It is important to keep plenty of undergrowth for small mammals and birds so not too much clearance.
* Remove charges for tennis courts as this has become a 'white elephant' and could now be redeveloped into something used by the young.
* Landscape the area near the car park with more trees and shrubs & picnic tables.
* Build an Arts Centre

**OTHER suggestions for development:**

* Apprenticeship training centre
* Cinema
* Allotments
* Small supermarket on Girldestones site
* Arts Centre

**Development that should be RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED**

**25%** did not want any **large Retail or Commercial** builds ESPECIALLY Tesco’s

**17%** didn’t want **Large Dense Estates** with insufficient parking and poor quality housing

**14%** did not want **large Industrial builds**

**7%** did not want any more **Executive Houses with 4** or more bedrooms

**7%** didn’t want **anything Large Scale** at all that **Increased Traffic** and had **No Infrastructural support**

**6%** didn’t want anything **High Rise**

**3%** did not want garden **Infills**

**3%** did not want **Affordable/Social housing**

**2%** didn’t want **Flats**

**2%** didn’t want the **Park and Ride/Lorry Park** anywhere nearby

Other types of development mentioned that were unpopular were:

* Casinos and Betting shops
* Residential next to employment sites
* Shared ownership
* Strip club
* Bungalows
* Nothing north of woods lane
* Flood plain developments
* Fast food outlets
* Avocet house types
* Old Peoples Homes
* Pylons/Wind Turbines/Phone masts
* Rented / Holiday properties
* Factories
* Anything near the river or woods
* Business units (many still empty)
* Anything on Greenbelt
* Bad designs
* Ribbon development on major roads

The above results show that all the major sites around the Train Station and Girdlestones site are most favoured for development.

Other suggested areas for development were:

* Old Chapel site at St Audreys
* Thurlow Nunn
* Melton Allotment Gardens or part of could be developed as infill (suggested by son of landowner)
* Around the duck pond area - a tea/coffee shop to encourage local/national tourism

Other comments about where we should not develop:

* All sites adjacent to Woods Lane
* All existing and proposed conservation areas
* Anywhere causing significant traffic impact
* Anywhere along the river
* Anywhere off Saddlemakers Lane - too narrow and dangerous
* Nothing next to At Audreys
* Conservation areas
* Sports facility areas that provide buffer zones
* Current agricultural land e.g. field adjacent to St. Audrey’s lane where deer, fox, badgers, flocks of geese and many other creatures use as a passage / route
* From the fishing lake (Wilford bridge) footpath to Decoy farm both sides once through wood and over railway line (views across to Bromeswell) lovely area

**Suggestions for New Footpath Routes**

**14%** wanted more access through **Leeks Hill and the Woods**

**12%** wanted **Better/Improved River Routes**

**10%** wanted more circular routes joining those off **Saddlemakers Lane and Foxborough**

**8%** wanted better **Signage** for footpaths and **Info. Boards about local Wildlife**

**8%** wanted better pathways to avoid **Woods Lane**

**6%** wanted more **Circular** routes upstream of **Wilford Bridge**

**6%** wanted a **Footpath connection** between the **River and Melton Old Church**

**6%** wanted **Circular routes Joining** what is already there

**Your Concerns about Footpath Maintenance**

**Other areas, specific pieces of land that should be Protected or used for Public Recreation/Education/Conservation**

**Other Issues to be addressed by the Neighbourhood Plan?**

**Priority 1:**

Infrastructure i.e. Traffic Issues, cycle lanes, parking, street lighting, street sweeping etc.

**Priority 2:**

Designated Green Spaces and Protect the Environment

**Priority 3:**

No Park and Rides

**Priority 4:**

Don’t Overdevelop