

Lt Bealings Village Review



15th April 2013
At Bealings Village Hall

(Version 1 9th May 2013)

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Lt Bealings (a brief background)

Population (approx): 460 (2010)

Population split by gender: Male 47.7%, Female 52.3% (2010)

Village assets: village hall, Angela Cobbold Hall, church, primary school, Business Centre

Natural Assets: Landscape of the Fynn Valley

Date held: Monday 15th April 2013

Venue: Bealings Village Hall

Time: 7.45 – 9.45pm

Weather: cold but fine

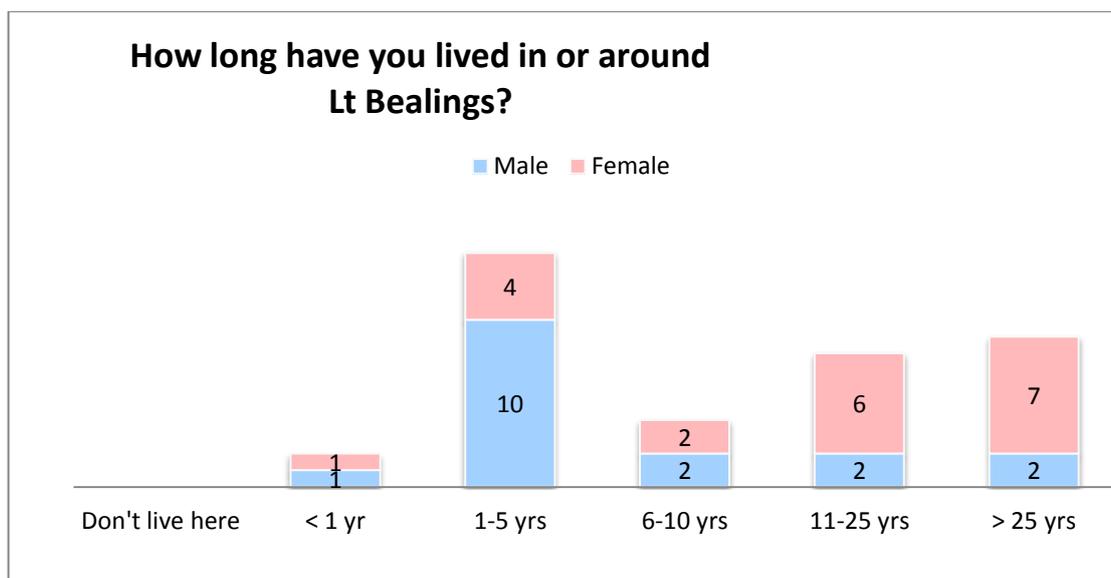
No of people attending: 38 (18 males, 20 females)

Percentage of population attending: 8.3%

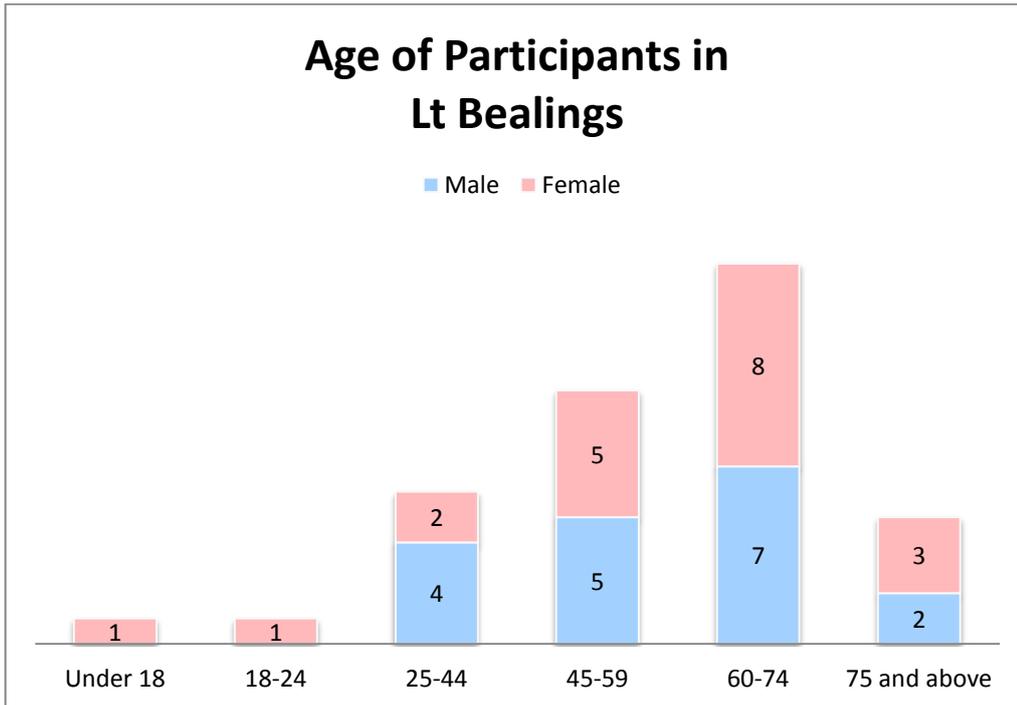
On arrival people were asked for a few basic details about themselves to give general statistics about the participants in the Consultation. This helps with identifying whether groups of people or areas were less well represented and whether other methods of consultation might be needed as a follow up to this event.

We asked for the following details:

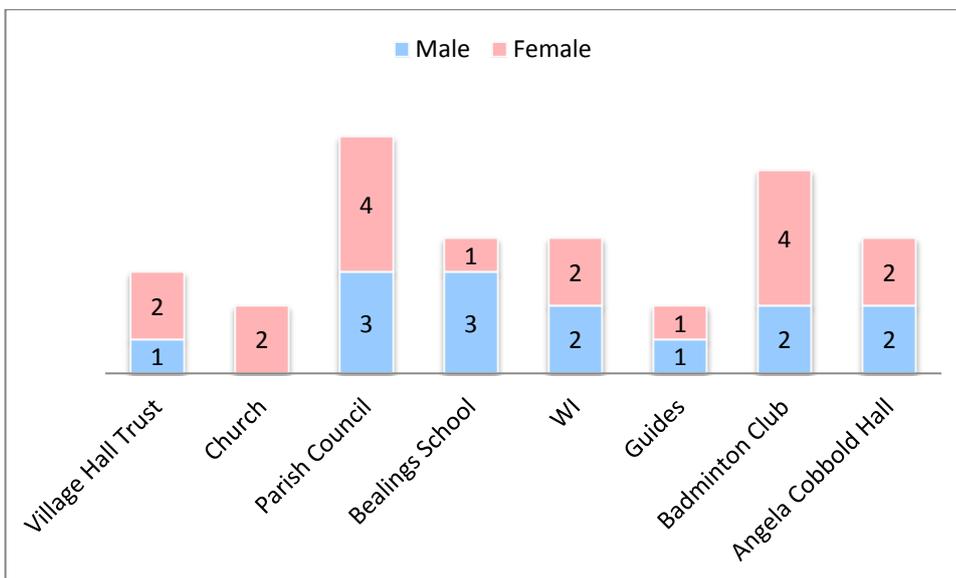
How long have you lived in and around Lt Bealings?



Age of Participants



Community Involvement of those who attended.



Looking at this graph it a good number of participants are active members of the community.

Map showing the geographical location of participants.



Looking at the spread of red and blue dots there was a good spread of people from most parts of the parish.

At the beginning of the evening people were asked about what sorts of things might be an issue in 10 years, 25 years and to suggest possible solutions.

What do you think might be an issue in 10 years time?	Any steps you could take?	What do you think might be an issue in 25 years time?
Without development the village population will be ageing and local organisations and facilities will not be sustainable (1)		
Further tunnelling for the wind turbines		
Very concerned by development of wind turbines (very inefficient)		

Further relaxation of approvals		
We might be affected (blighted) by a northern bypass		
We might be affected by urban encroachment	Form associations to fight any unwanted (undesirable) development	<p>(sent via email) Ipswich has city status in its sight. It has aspirations to be an urban conurbation swallowing up the villages on the outskirts and extending north east taking in Felixstowe and Woodbridge thus destroying the pleasant ambience of the villages and of the rural beauty of the area.</p> <p>We will fight a battle we won't win – witness the northern fringe, although of course we will fight. The encroachment of the town will destroy good agricultural land, thus making us more dependent on commodities from overseas and putting up our food bills. So much for buying local.</p>
		<p>(sent via email) I see the government abandoning its policy for wind farms when at last it's hammered home the inefficiency in producing power and the shattering effect these structures have on the environment</p>

*Numbers in brackets are the number of people who agreed with the statement

Concerns and thoughts about issues.

We then conducted a “needs analysis” using 5 large topic sheets on which everyone was encouraged to leave comments about subjects that concerned them and which people felt needed some sort of action. If there was a comment on there already that they agreed with they didn’t need to write it again they could put a tick against it. The sheets also had a section for people to record good points.

When people had finished writing their comments they were given 3 red dots and asked to put a dot against the issues they felt were the most important to them i.e. to vote for them.

The issues identified as being important and any issues related to them were then discussed by groups on the night and an Action Plan produced to take forward the actions each group agreed on. Several people volunteered on the night to take forward some of the actions.

Comments on the 5 Topic Sheets

1. Parish/Town Council effectiveness & Utilities

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good Points		
Good effective Parish Council		
Excellent run and efficient		
Issues		
I do not feel that the PC sufficiently seeks the views of the residents	2	4
Engaging & communications with parishioners		
Canvassing opinions from parishioners	1	
Would be an advantage to have an account of the subjects discussed at annual meeting		
Surface water on the street before bridge an issue		1
How about mains gas for Little Bealings?	1	6
Mains sewerage is needed for several houses in the village		5
Mains drainage for the village	2	2
Mains drainage for village (sewerage & surface)		2
Allotments		
Water pressure could be improved		

2. Community services, social interaction, communication & village hall

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good Points		
Village Hall run by a dedicated team	1	1
Issues		
Feel we need the pub to reopen	5	12
Shop, pub, post office	29	11
Shop, pub post office – retail to support local employment		
Not enough social interaction	2	
School need to interact with the village		

3. Traffic, Transport and Highways

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Issues		
Open the railway station giving access to Ipswich & Woodbridge – tickets purchased on train	10	15
Excessive speed on Playford Road and too much traffic. This is a minor road!	3	5
Road surface bad at Bowls Club. Bridge cottage hedge badly needs cutting back		4
Drains and kerbs in The Street need radical attention. Includes the street throughout. Needs resurfacing, white lines		3
There used to be no pull – in points in Holly Lane. Now there are 17 caused by cars trying to pass each other		2
Erosion (roadside) Martlesham Road		1
Excessive speed in the street. Hedge over hanging on the bend before the bridge RHS	2	1
Condition of The Street road surface. Speeding including cars taking pupils to school. Re open the station		1
Parents of the school parking on verges on street	2	1
Transport – need a more frequent bus service	8	
The bend before the bridge on the street needs looking at	2	
L/H side of bend before bridge. Road not wider than kerb. Speeding. Re-open rail station	2	

4. Health, Education, Childcare, Young and Old People

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good points		
Church well looked after	2	3
We are fortunate to have a school in the village	1	1
Enthusiastic garden community		
Issues		
More frequent bus service – especially for elderly non - drivers	4	3
More should be provided for young and old		2
More frequent bus service		

5. Environment – Housing, Business Development and Natural Environment

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good Points		
Great footpaths	5	
Pleasant ambience, delightfully rural even when close to town	2	
<u>No street lights, great recycling facilities</u>	2	
Yes (enjoy?) very much!!		
Issues		
Lack of space for pedestrians walking in the village	1	6
Developments/sale at Sinks Pit need monitoring for possible impact on local community – noise, smell, lights.....?	2	2
Allotments		1
Coastal erosion must be a major concern not only in the developed areas but the whole coastline		
Dumping of waste on verges in lanes	2	
Rubbish dumped out of cars	3	
Dog fouling on footpaths	3	
Condition of public footpaths	1	
Recycling facilities especially glass	1	
This is a predominantly <u>residential village</u>		

Top issues on the night

- Railway Station
- Pub, P.O. shop
- Mains gas & sewerage
- Highways & speeding

Resources for your next steps

General help:

County Councillor:

Peter Bellfield – 01473 735259 peter.bellfield@suffolk.gov.uk

District Councillor:

Tony Fryatt – 07887 988271 tony.fryatt@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Our Place Officer:

Jo Cowley – 01473 265202 jo.cowley@suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk County Council liaison:

Alison Wheatland – 01473 264403 alison.wheatland@suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk Coastal Resource Network (SCRN)

www.scrn.co.uk

Have an idea, want to form a group?

Change Makers – 01473 345327 gillian@change-maker.org.uk

Community Action Suffolk:

Gillian Benjamin (Community Led Planning Officer – 01473 345327
gillian.benjamin@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Sunila Osborne (Rural Housing Enabler) – 01473 345344
sunila.osborne@scommunityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Robert Horn (Village Halls Advisor) – 01473 345359
robert.horn@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Elizabeth Storer (Funding Advisor) – 01473 345311
elizabeth.storer@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Nat Bocking (Good Neighbour Schemes) – 01473 345358
nat.bocking@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Barry Henson (Enterprise Support) – 01473 345332
barry.henson@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

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What is the issue?	Action to be taken	Priority	Lead organisation & Partners	Resources required	Update/progress report due by when?
Community Services					
Admirals Head Pub has been closed since July Issues with drainage (septic tank/mains drainage possible cost £75,000 to sort out, pub did apply for mains drainage via school) and not enough local business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a group • Look into what makes village pubs successful • Business plan and sustainability • Community Action Suffolk have info about community pubs/shops on other areas/business plans etc 	High	Community group, Community Action Suffolk	Time to start with for research & to develop business plan	
Local shop (maybe in the pub) to provide a meeting place to foster community spirit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group looking at the pub could look at this as well 	High	Community Group, Community Action Suffolk	Time to start with.	
Communication					
Poor communication, between residents and the Parish Council; for instance residents didn't know about the problems at the pub despite this being discussed at the PC	Look into communication with residents and see if this can be improved.	High	Parish Council	Time	

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What is the issue?	Action to be taken	Priority	Lead organisation & Partners	Resources required	Update/progress report due by when?
Highways & Transport					
Would like to re-open the railway station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative to car use • Already a commuter line • Easy to get to London 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been looked at before, there were issues around the ownership of the land and platform • PC to have a look at previous discussions • Look at car parking, pedestrian access • Is there a need for further consultation with the whole village before talking to railway companies to get evidence of need and level of usage? 	Med	Parish Council, railway companies, community working group?	Time, funding for possible survey	
Bridge over the R Fynn is too narrow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no room to pass • there is a kerb sticking up • muddy area is the only passing place • road often floods at the bridge 	Parish Council to look at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muddy area, better surfacing, turn it into a proper passing place • Passing place sign to stop school parking? • The kerb now proud of the verge • Overgrown hedge (this is being addressed) • Flooding on that stretch of road 	High	Parish Council, SCC Highways, Environment Agency		

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What is the issue?	Action to be taken	Priority	Lead organisation & Partners	Resources required	Update/progress report due by when?
Speeding occurs throughout the parish. Police do try to enforce limits and target particular areas known to be problematic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speedwatch – look into setting up a group with other villages. • Encourage villagers to keep to the speed limit, they would then slow other traffic • Try strategic parking 	Med	Parish Council, SNT, community working group	Time, possible need for funding for Speedwatch	
Is there a chance of extending the speed limit in Holly Lane to include the houses outside it	Parish council to look into this with SCC Highways	Med	Parish Council, SCC Highways	Possible need for money to fund this	
Development					
Woodlands & controlled development – the Parish has been offered an area of Woodland if a small development can take place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council to further investigate the offer • Look at possible benefits to community 	Med	Parish Council	Time to research and find out villagers views on it	
Utilities					
Extension of mains sewerage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify need via a survey • Find out costs • Determine capacity of existing infrastructure 	High	Parish Council, Anglian Water		
Lack of mains gas in the village. (gas hub at Gt Bealings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify need via a survey • Look into the costs 	High	Parish Council, National Grid		