Bottisham Consultation SWOT - Analysis Draft 1;

Strengths

Strong Village Identity

- Village community with good services whilst in proximity to Cambridge and Newmarket with associated employment/amenity/cultural benefits
- 50 new affordable homes Bell Road (60% shared ownership / 40% rent)
- Green Belt designation serves as a physical barrier between the village and Cambridge and other villages

Character and Heritage

- Mix of old and new buildings with Heritage Assets including Conservation Area, 25 Listed Buildings and 2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Green Spaces and Valued biodiversity habitats including County Wildlife Sites, Deciduous Woodland Habitats, Traditional Orchards and Priority Wildlife Species
- Attractive varied countryside with some historic parklands with Fen and Chalklands landscapes
- Valued Views and landmark Church Tower

Economy

- Population with limited deprivation indicators, highly qualified, good economic activity rates, in professional jobs within 10km
- Job offer in village for Health, Social Work and Education with local employment on two small industrial estates

Getting Around

• Commuting via cycling, bus, and walking

Infrastructure and Services

- Highly valued range of community services and facilities including Medical Facilities, Bottisham Village College, Social Club, shops, PO, library Swimming pool and pub
- Plans to extend primary school, new allotments and new playground
- Proposed renewable energy scheme

Weaknesses

Rapid Population Change

- Significant housing growth in last 20 years
- High share of people over 75+ with 1 in 13 living in a communal residence
- · Higher rates of disability

Getting Around

- Too much traffic in and through village
- Poor frequency of current bus service
- Congestion from on street parking near schools and shops; parking on pavements
- Safety concerns (The Triangle & Bell Road)
- 8% population do not have access to a car
- Limited formalised access to the countryside

Settlement Character and Landscape

- Lack of definition and protection of important green spaces, valued landscapes, settlement gateways, views and vistas
- Lack of Conservation Area Appraisal, no definition of what is important to Bottisham's historic character
- Need to identify key biodiversity habitats and corridors

Housing

- Very high average house prices and shortage of private rented accommodation
- Sustained shortage of type and size of affordable housing to meet local needs (354 on the housing register – 54% for 1 bed homes)
- High share of large, detached homes
- Lower share of semi-detached terraced, small homes
- Some new housing not meeting National Space Standards.

Infrastructure and services

- Lack of local facilities for young people
- No 'early years' provision, lack of community activities for young people
- Lack of Park or Play Space and existing spaces are not safeguarded
- Limited employment opportunities
- Water– limited recycling capacity at the Bottisham Water Recycling Centre and River water quality breaches
- A14 / A1303 noise impacts some concern noise at Air Museum and Millworks
- Poor mobile network, no petrol station

Opportunities

Climate change & sustainable construction

- Define Plan Area specific climate change mitigation and adaptation policy and bring ECDC SPD into policy
- Promote water conservation and efficiencies and improve water quality
- Advantages of permitted Solar Farm

Landscape Character Assessment

- Identify those locations which are sensitive to development pressures and develop Views / Landmarks / visually important open land; Landscape mitigation; Wildlife Habitats Corridors policy;
- Trees and Countryside access policy

Infrastructure

- Identify new open space provision and protect existing green spaces.
- Active Travel Options –proximity to national cycle route and new Cambridge Greenways
- Provision of Cemetery and allotments
- Seek increased capacity at the Bottisham Water Recycling Centre

Heritage Conservation

- Identify non designated heritage assets
- Complete Conservation Area Appraisal and identify its key attributes

Design:

- Define what is good design to ensure new development in keeping with scale, location and appearance of buildings, use traditional local materials.
- Complete a Design Guide and Codes
- Secure National Space Standards and Accessible housing M4(2) and M4(3)

Housing Mix

- Sensible infill development supported
- Clarify current open market and affordable housing needs and influence any further housing to appropriately meet needs

Economy

- Consider small R&D and service provision
- Café/ Bakery / Restaurant
- Development opportunities reuse of underused, brownfield or redundant sites

Threats

Housing Growth

- Proximity to Cambridge
- More housing / specialist housing for older people in Green Belt
- Impact of housing to meet the wider needs of an ageing population
- Increased house price acceleration
- Housing that does not meet needs of those for smaller homes or those with a local connection
- Ill defined 'Limited development' policy supports inappropriate development

Services and Infrastructure

- Meeting the demands of an ageing population – 1/3rd population over 65 by 2041
- Forecast loss of young people and young adults and impact on schools
- Potential loss of valued village facilities and services for a growing community

Village Character and Landscape

 Deterioration of natural and built environment through inappropriate development – development which is out of character, or harmfully impacts sensitive sites

Getting Around

- Loss of or reduced bus service to Cambridge, Newmarket and Ely.
- On street parking increased at The Triangle and schools with impact on safety
- High percentage do not have access to a car, population have disability or poor health

Natural environment

- River water quality diminishes and water consumption exceeds current capacity
- Loss of valued green spaces, access to countryside and habitats