

## Ap 6.3 Free text responses

### The Environment: What needs to be protected/enhanced?

- Water level at Springs is very low
- Background noise - quietness is precious.
- Adjoining green spaces. At present we are a village but are unlikely to remain one due to overbuilding.
- Air, water, living space, peace and quiet.
- All of it
- All of it!
- Arbury Banks, Springs basin, woods, Rec, archaeology, Donkey Meadow, Quarry.
- All the green land, trees, that's what makes Ashwell so beautiful
- All the green public spaces particular park and playing field
- Arbury banks, springs, woods, fields
- As much as possible.
- As much of the 'green' landscape as possible.
- Ashwell has a very special identity - it nestles, by allowing buildings to be erected on its perimeters this will be lost resulting in a sprawl.
- Ashwell is a village environment, sited in green belt. Not a town with ever expanding suburbs.
- Ashwell must remain as a distinct village within its current boundaries.
- Ashwell springs, all outdoor leisure areas.
- Ashwell Street, Fields off Ashwell Street, Station Road
- Banks and verges tree preservation and new planting - to replace the loss of Ash trees due to Ash dieback.
- Better care of verges, hedgerows and ancillary areas.
- BOATS should be maintained for walkers in addition to vehicles. Car park required in village to cope with number of cars.
- Building houses in the village has reached it limit
- Character of the village
- Character, green space.
- Clean bridleways.
- Clearing roadside rubbish
- Cottage garden, open fields in village
- Development should not harm the environment, it should enhance it.
- Enhanced sports facilities, protected natural spaces
- Environment should be left as it is
- Everything from the grass verges to the springs
- everything.
- Existing hedgerows, crop field boundaries, the cherry plum/bullace diversity, willows in north fields, remaining old pastures (+ Springs + quarry) (and Loves Farm Moat meadow)
- Farm land, green space and trees.
- Feel it is of vital importance to the village surrounding area. Stop ? of Hitchin/Letchworth/Baldock.
- Fields, water ways, old style of housing, footpaths.
- Footpaths
- footpaths and walkways
- Footpaths should be better maintained and link up better.
- Footpaths should be improved (the ground surface)
- Footpaths, removal of litter. Green belt - no building on it. Forbid people from growing huge conifer hedges.
- Footpaths and rights of way
- General litter

- Dog pool!
- Green areas
- Green areas
- green areas through and round the village. Farm animals in the fields.
- green areas within village boundary.
- Green belt
- Green Belt
- Green belt fields no more buildings
- Green belt surrounding parish boundary.
- Green belt to be adhered to
- Green belt. Woods + trees. Wild hedges animals (what's left) Turn Ashwell into a national heritage site to protect and preserve what is left of a "village". Public footpaths. Bridleways.
- Green fields and open spaces. Land at an elevation
- GREEN FIELDS ARCUM
- Green fields for dog walking
- green fields surrounding village
- Green places to play and reflect, dog walks horse ride cycle off roads.
- Green space around the village protected from housing developments
- green space needs to be protected - no housing developments
- Green space/Springs.
- Green spaces around the village need to be protected and maintained.
- Green spaces before the NHDC allows them to be covered in housing
- Green spaces in the centre of the village.
- More cycling routes, bridle ways, footpaths
- Green spaces in the middle of the village
- Green spaces in village need retaining. In DANGER OF BECOMING A VILLAGE WITH NO OPEN LAND.
- Green spaces within the village e.g. Church mead(?), donkey meadow
- Green spaces within village
- Green spaces, hedgerows, nature reserves etc need protecting & farmland should remain and not be used for house building
- Green spaces, public access, trees where possible
- Green spaces. Not to build so many new houses.
- Green spaces and springs
- Greenbelt
- Greenbelt land
- Hedge maintenance, Ivy removal, street cleaning
- Hedgerows, trees.
- Hedges and existing green spaces
- Historic architecture needs to be protected, the springs, village garden, rec
- Historic buildings, inc. private buildings. also landscape areas of beauty, e.g. springs
- I would like to see some leaf clearing in path leading from Gardiners Lane to the netball court. The hedge is cut no sweeping for over a year.
- Keep green fields. Improve litter collection (outside village centre)
- Keep our village boundary
- Protect green corridors
- Land outside the village boundary should not be developed
- Less agricultural land and more natural areas.
- Less building in village area
- Limit parking of vehicles in the village and on green verges which are near the station.
- Litter removal/ hedgerow care/ verges
- Local area needs to be protected from development and preserved to uphold history/ character of Ashwell

- Maintain access to walking paths, fields and green belt within and around the village.
  - Maintain open spaces. Leisure facilities. "Donkey Meadow" to be protected.
  - More footpaths - better access to Ashwell Quarry Nature Reserve
  - more trees
  - MUSEUM, CHURCHES, SPRINGS
  - REC, CEMETRY
  - Native hedges/trees/wild flora as Ashwell is in a very heavily managed area (farming)
  - no large building developments value wildlife. Protect the footpaths
  - No large developments of new houses, protect the open spaces e.g. the Rec and the rural aspect of the village.
  - No more new builds
  - No more properties/cars
  - Introduce yellow lines
  - Nothing beyond what is already done.
  - Old buildings protected, they are beautiful. Open green space (Lucas Lane field)
  - Open fields surrounding the village to be treasured
  - Open spaces
  - Open spaces e.g. donkey meadow/rec/springs
  - Open spaces in the village should be protected.
  - Open spaces within the village, e.g. donkey meadow/springs
  - Open spaces, footpaths
  - Open spaces, trees, paths, wild birds and animals etc.
  - Pathways Bridleways Hedgerows
  - population needs to be limited as access roads are not sufficient for greater numbers.
  - Protect open areas around village - build only on fill in sites.
  - Protect the animals! the trees, plants and green space is essential, especially fields. Adds so much value
  - PUBLIC GREEN SPACES, FOOT PATHS, WOODED AREAS
  - Rights of way
  - Rural aspect
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- Reduced traffic - exposure to increased traffic-population
  - Rural nature of the village. Natural verges and nature strips.
  - Shops (All)
  - Shops and services
  - Ashwell springs
  - Stop new house building until parking can be provided in High Street
  - Specific sites, e.g. the springs.
  - Verges and hedgerows.
  - Place tree protection orders
  - Springs (SSSI) Arbury banks.
  - Springs, quarry
  - Springs, public footpath, quarry/nature reserve
  - Springs + all surrounding land
  - Springs is in danger of erosion from too many visitors
  - Springs trees footpath
  - Springs, bridleways + footpaths to access countryside
  - Springs, cottage gardens, rec, surrounding areas.
  - Springs, footpaths
  - Springs, footpaths, verges
  - Springs, green spaces in the village, footpaths, bridleways, quarries.
  - Springs, Nature Reserve, Footpaths
  - Quaker Burial Ground

- Land outside village boundary
- Springs, quarry
- Springs, views, green sites
- Springs. Arbury Banks. Green Ways. Quarry. Trees and Hedgerows.
- springs/REC/Small gains/ tennis
- Springs/tidy streets/lighting
- Springs: hedgerows: trees
- Surrounding green field and brown field sites, Ashwell Springs, allotments
- The "village" in its entirety
- the ability of local people to be able to afford to live/continue to live in Ashwell
- The Ashwell springs needs to be protected and the countryside needs to be looked after
- The character and surrounding country side
- The community mix i.e. income, social class, house mix, cost, size, social/private.
- The countryside
- The countryside
- The defined envelope of the village
- The environment outside the village boundary. Inside:- Tree, footpaths and peacefulness
- The fields of woods
- The gardens at Hodwell should be cleared of encroaching non-native vegetation which is choking a source.
- The green belt boundary
- The green spaces. Ashwell is far too busy with traffic, more development & consequently more traffic will destroy our village.
- The hedgerows, footpaths, trees, woodlands, open spaces and verges should all be maintained, improved and cherished.
- The historical 'open view' landscape of the area.
- Hedgerows to protect our diverse wildlife.
- The lanes, traffic calming in the High street could be better.
- The natural appearance of the springs, with no suburbanisation of the area.
- Donkey meadow protection.
- Claybush hill protection
- the open countryside the views the surrounding fields
- The open fields, hedgerows and trees that our wildlife need.
- The public areas but also the surrounding woodland should be protected, including the well.
- The quality of the village and being in a village, footpaths for walking and the Springs
- The sewer needs to be made bigger as it does not cope
- The size and type of new housing added. The trouble is it is perfect as it is and easy to spoil with bad additions. It would be nice to have more homes buildings for use by younger people who would still like to (work) here or older folk who want to change down.
- The space . No building
- The Springs
- the springs
- The Springs and green spaces around the village.
- The springs and surrounding green land
- The Springs footpaths/bridleways
- The springs need care
- The Springs, surrounding countryside should be protected from further development
- The Springs.
- The Springs.
- The Springs. The Green boundary.
- The springs.

- Space left not built on.
- The undeveloped areas, green belt and existing landscape
- The village - traffic, walkways too much traffic at present
- The village boundaries need to be protected from development.
- the village boundary.
- The 'village' feel of Ashwell needs to be a priority.
- The whole environment
- Traffic already excessive, need to protect homes and pedestrians -> bypass essential.
- Trees
- Trees and hedges
- Trees should be planted to enhance the environment
- Trees, open countryside.
- Trees/stop developers from chopping them down.
- Verges from lorry damage; pavements from dog fouling
- Village envelope as it stands
- Village life needs protecting
- Village status and community; green spaces (no more building)
- village status so no development on field and countryside. preserve wildlife habitat is extremely important
- walking path need to be protected and enhanced
- Wildlife in Springs area and on verges with valuable plant life and animal life.