

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum

26th, 27th & 28th May 2015



feria
urbanism

Final
Presentation

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum

26th, 27th & 28th May 2015

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NOTE

This is an edited version of the slideshow presented at the end of the Hawkhurst Three Day Design Forum. Supporting text and captions have been added since the presentation was first made to make the slideshow more accessible and easier to understand.

The logo for 'feria urbanism' is displayed on a blue square background. The word 'feria' is in a large, white, lowercase, sans-serif font. Below it, the word 'urbanism' is in a smaller, white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

Final
Presentation

Richard Eastham

Planning & Design

Antonia Morgan

Architecture & Design

Gemma Copp

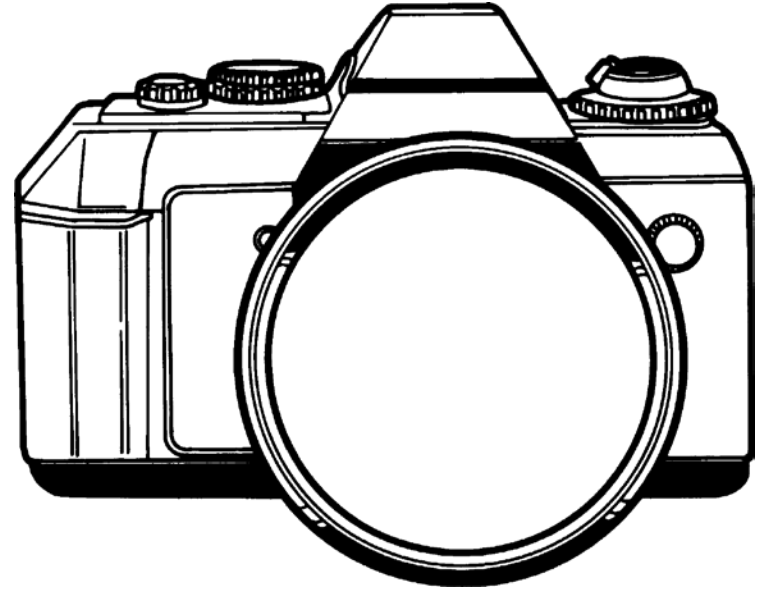
Architecture & Design

Eleana Orr

Landscape & Design (Janine Patterson Studio www.janinepattison.com)

Feria Urbanism is a small design and planning practice based in Bournemouth. www.feria-urbanism.eu

We will be
taking photos
& video ... is
everybody
OK with this?



We were careful to ask if it was alright to take photos and video each day. These images were important to create a record of what happened over the three days and will form an important part of the evidence base for the neighbourhood plan.

Thank-you
for taking
part these
last few days.

HAWKHURST

Hawkhurst Residents

*Do you love our Village?
Do you want to have
a say in our future?*

YES?

*Tell us what YOU want ...
AND what you don't want!*

PLEASE DROP IN WHEN YOU CAN
26th-28th May
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
HIGH STREET, HAWKHURST
9.30am-4.00pm and 6.00pm till late
CHILDREN VERY WELCOME
AND HELP CREATE OUR FUTURE

HAWKHURST PARISH COUNCIL. 01580 752058

A big thank-you was made to everybody that gave up their time to contribute ideas and suggestions over the three days. Without the involvement of local residents, the neighbourhood plan will not have the necessary shared vision as required by national planning policy.

The slideshow began with an explanation about what we had been doing over the last three days. Throughout all three days we used plans and maps to focus the debate and frame the discussion.



Plans and maps

Larger groups



Some of the sessions were larger groups, with the whole room contributing to the discussion...

Small group discussions

A group of people, including several older adults, are gathered around a large table in a meeting room. They are focused on a large map or diagram spread across the table. One person, wearing a blue shirt, is leaning over the table and pointing at a specific area on the map with a red marker. The other participants are looking on attentively, some with their hands clasped or resting on the table. The room has a casual, community-like atmosphere with a bar area visible in the background.

... other sessions were held with smaller group discussions that considered particular issues.



Group feedback

The smaller groups then provided feedback to the FERIA team. These comments were added to the overall body of work being generated.


Group feedback

The group format allowed for the exchange of ideas and opinions.



The group format allowed for the exchange of ideas and opinions.

Group feedback



"Memories,
stories and
ideas..."

The project team were on hand throughout the three days to listen to residents and to then draw up ideas. Here, Eleana from the facilitation team listens to a local resident while Richard draws up some options for change.

Talking, drawing, listening

A person with dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark vest, is leaning over a large white sheet of paper on a table. They are using a pen to draw a diagram or sketch. The room has a light green wall with several posters and documents pinned to it. There are several dark chairs with green patterned seats around the table.

Translating ideas

A key principle of the three day design forum was to draw as much as possible not just to write down ideas. The Feria team helped translate what the local community said into ideas for change on the ground.

Open debates and ideas

Another principle of the three days was to try to generate a consensus over certain issues. Sharing opinions on different matters was a crucial part of this.



Sharing opinions

Another principle of the three days was to try to generate a consensus over certain issues. Sharing opinions on different matters was a crucial part of this, to help narrow down options.

Daytime sessions



Much of the work was undertaken in the daytime between 9.30am and 4.00pm.

Evening sessions

Not everybody could attend in the daytime sessions so the venue was open every evening from 6pm until 8pm to allow the public to see what others had done.



Opportunity to see what others have done

Not everybody could attend in the daytime sessions so the venue was open every evening from 6pm until 8pm to allow the public to see what others had done.

Opportunity to see what others have done



DAY 2 EVENING

• Lack of good public transport

Grannest Schools: - TN1 & GS (Barnet) CUE

No landing on the fields (setback)

Village is "The Hub" - centre for a number of amenities

Playing fields/play park

don't need another village Hall other than in Highgate

on main roads - many many cars

is appalling! (we are members of the traffic watch) about the traffic lights

insufficient infrastructure: schools, drainage, roads

but to Philpot's Green Saxons Green

DAY 2 EVENING

Healthcare in the community is in jeopardy

- 2 practices were GPs who will inevitably retire (Jasmin?)
- problem rationality with recruitment of GPs and intention of them working in GP

Increasing elderly population and therefore healthcare needs

Increasing demand generally

It would seem inevitable

(2 become 1) with location well served to all - and drawing to leaving to

We require premises that

This could be and low cost

We require but

By NPG Village Hall design



Not everybody could attend in the daytime sessions so the venue was open every evening from 6pm until 8pm to allow the public to see what others had done.

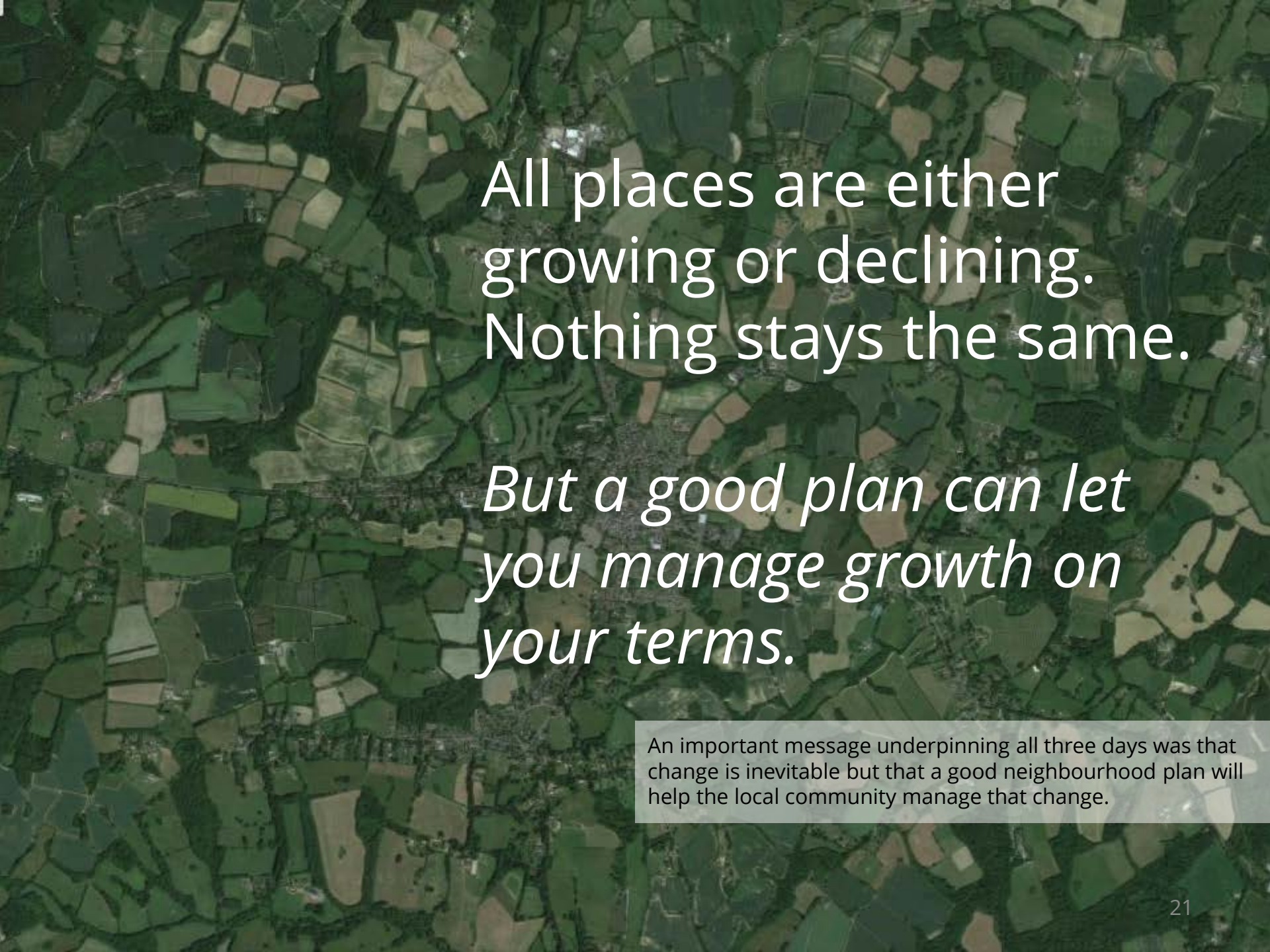
Three-days

HAWKHURST THREE-DAY DESIGN FORUM
draft programme

DAY 01 26.05.15	SESSION 01 0930 — 1130 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN of formal sessions • Review Village Visioning event • Presentation of received position statements • Agree the focal areas of the next few days 	SESSION 02 1130 — 1230 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic mapping exercises: a facilitated group work exercise • Shared feedback: this will inform the scope and detail of the afternoon site visits 	SESSION 03 1330 — 1530 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group site visits • Make sketches, annotate maps and take photographs of the likely areas of change • FERIA Urbanism facilitator to accompany each site visit group 	SESSION 04 1530 — 1600 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared feedback session • Review findings of the site visits • Agree next steps • CLOSE of formal sessions 	SESSION 05 1600 — 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN STUDIO SESSION • Venue open for the public to come and see the first day results • FERIA Urbanism team continue to prepare for the following day 	
	DAY 02 27.05.15	SESSION 06 0930 — 1100 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0900 - FERIA Urbanism team member to make plan copies • OPEN of formal sessions • Review of Day One outputs • Presentation of first concept plan 	SESSION 07 1100 — 1230 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group review of the draft concept plan using a set of "what if?" scenarios (to be agreed) • Shared feedback session 	SESSION 08 1330 — 1530 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task groups formed (to be agreed) to review aspects of the concept plan • Site visits to explore certain details and test specific ideas 	SESSION 09 1530 — 1600 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared feedback • Review findings of the site visits • Agree next steps • CLOSE of formal sessions 	SESSION 10 1600 — 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN STUDIO SESSION • Venue open for the public to come and see the second day results • FERIA Urbanism team continue to prepare for the following day
	DAY 02 28.05.15	SESSION 11 0930 — 1030 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0900 - FERIA Urbanism team member to make plan copies • OPEN of formal sessions • Review of first two day's outputs and drawings • Presentation of second concept plan 	SESSION 12 1030 — 1130 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group reviews • What still needs attention? • Shared feedback session • Final task groups formed (to be agreed) to drill down into areas of detail 	SESSION 13 1130 — 1600 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visits (to be agreed); for final photos and analysis • Desktop research: for final images, facts and figures 	SESSION 14 1200 — 1600 approx. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FERIA Urbanism team busy with the final presentation preparation • CLOSE of formal sessions 	SESSION 15 1930 — late <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE FINAL PRESENTATION • FERIA Urbanism team present final results of to be followed by questions and answers

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The three days were broken down into 15 sessions to make the whole event manageable.



All places are either
growing or declining.
Nothing stays the same.

*But a good plan can let
you manage growth on
your terms.*

An important message underpinning all three days was that change is inevitable but that a good neighbourhood plan will help the local community manage that change.



The local history society kindly provided some interesting historic images which revealed just how much change has happened over the years. These images will appear throughout this slideshow.

Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

Localism & Planning

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

- Plan for Growth
- Localism Act
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The legislative background to neighbourhood planning was explained.

NPPF

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

“Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need”

Paragraph 183, NPPF.

The legislative background to neighbourhood planning was explained.

NPPF

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

A neighbourhood plan can:

- set policies to determine planning applications
- grant planning permissions
- plan positively; the power to promote more development than in Local Plan (if you wish)
- set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area

The legislative background to neighbourhood planning was explained.

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan



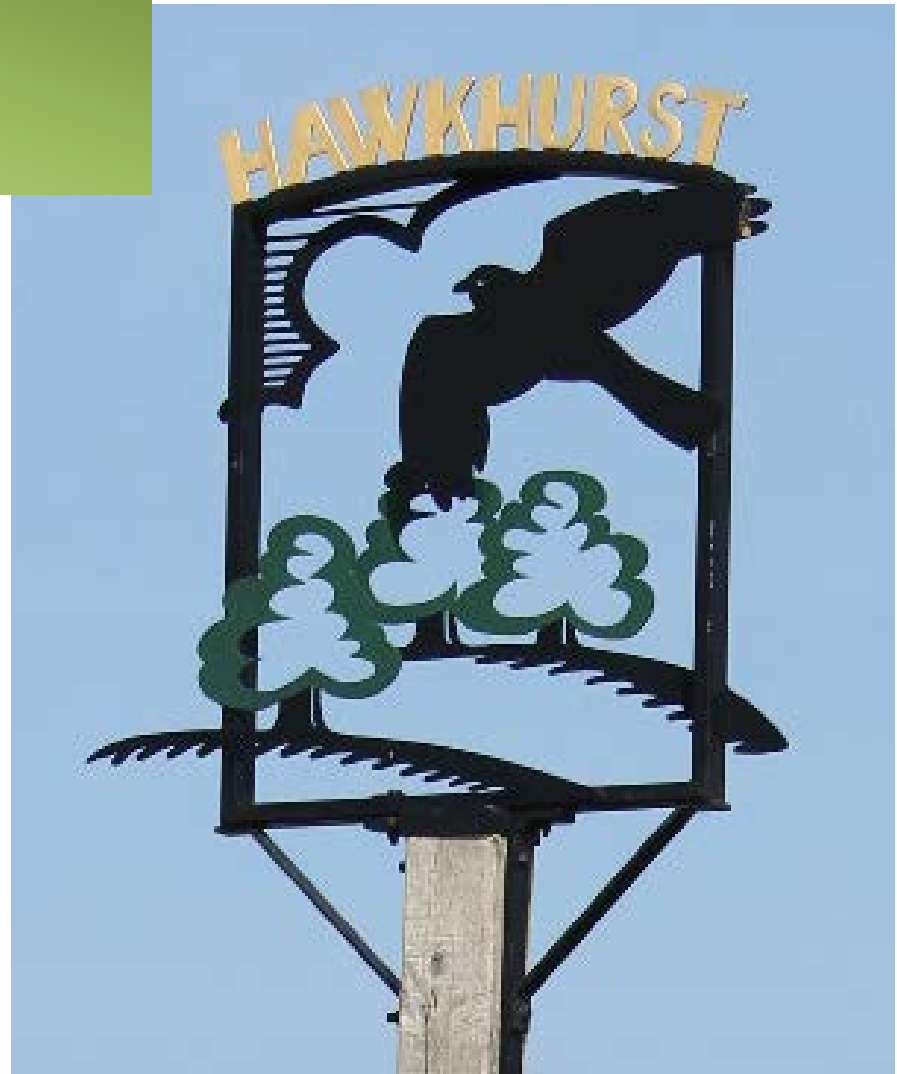
The legislative background to neighbourhood planning was explained.

If there is a parish or town council,
they take the lead, but....

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

... this will be
your plan full of
your ideas about
your place!

It was important to stress that although Hawkhurst Parish Council will officially be responsible for producing the neighbourhood plan (with help from the Feria team) it will ultimately be up to the local community to fill it with their ideas.

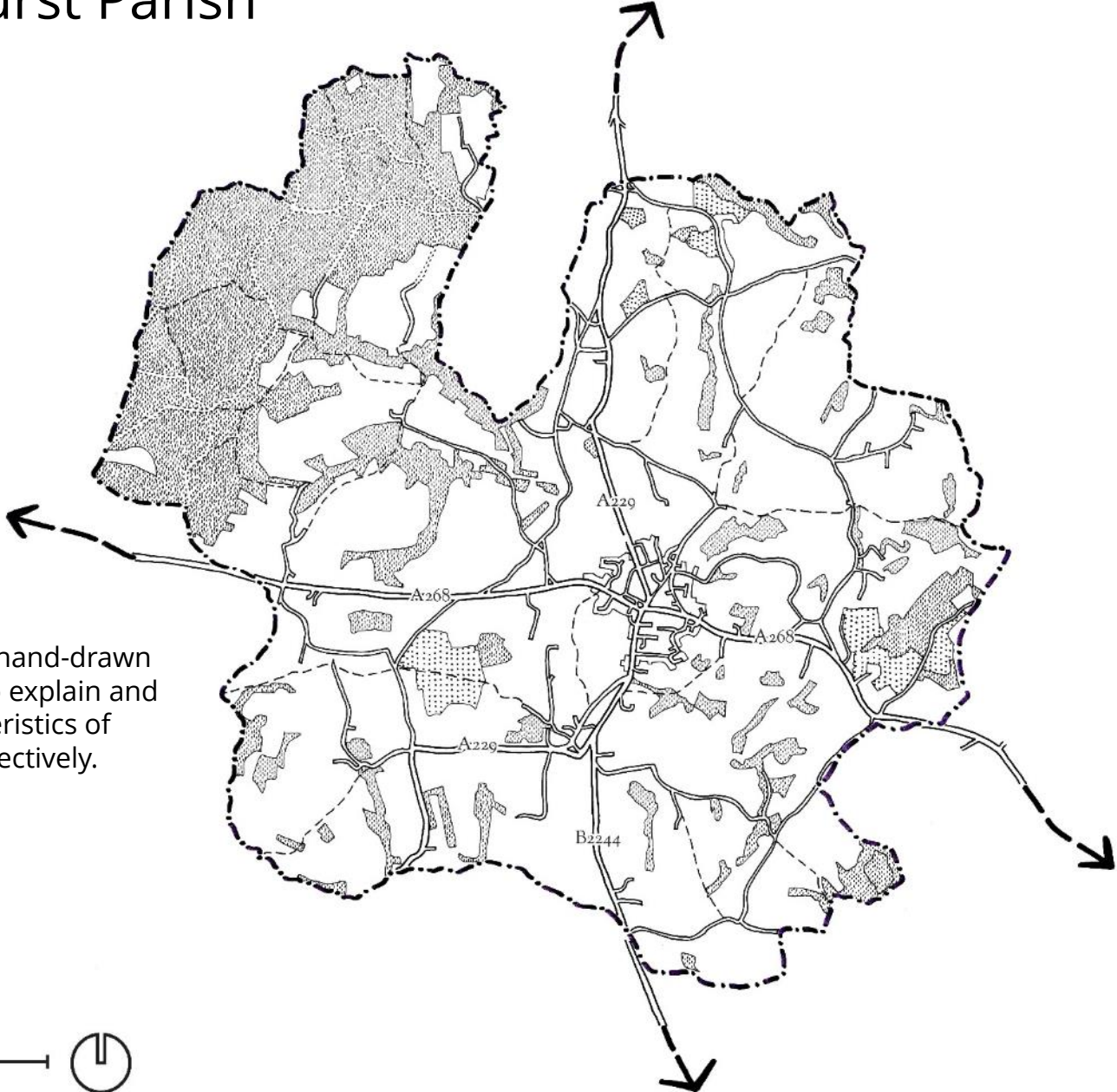


Uses & Activities

Throughout the three days, these four categories were used to structure the discussion. Only when all four categories are given proper consideration can a positive "sense of place" for Hawkhurst truly be established.

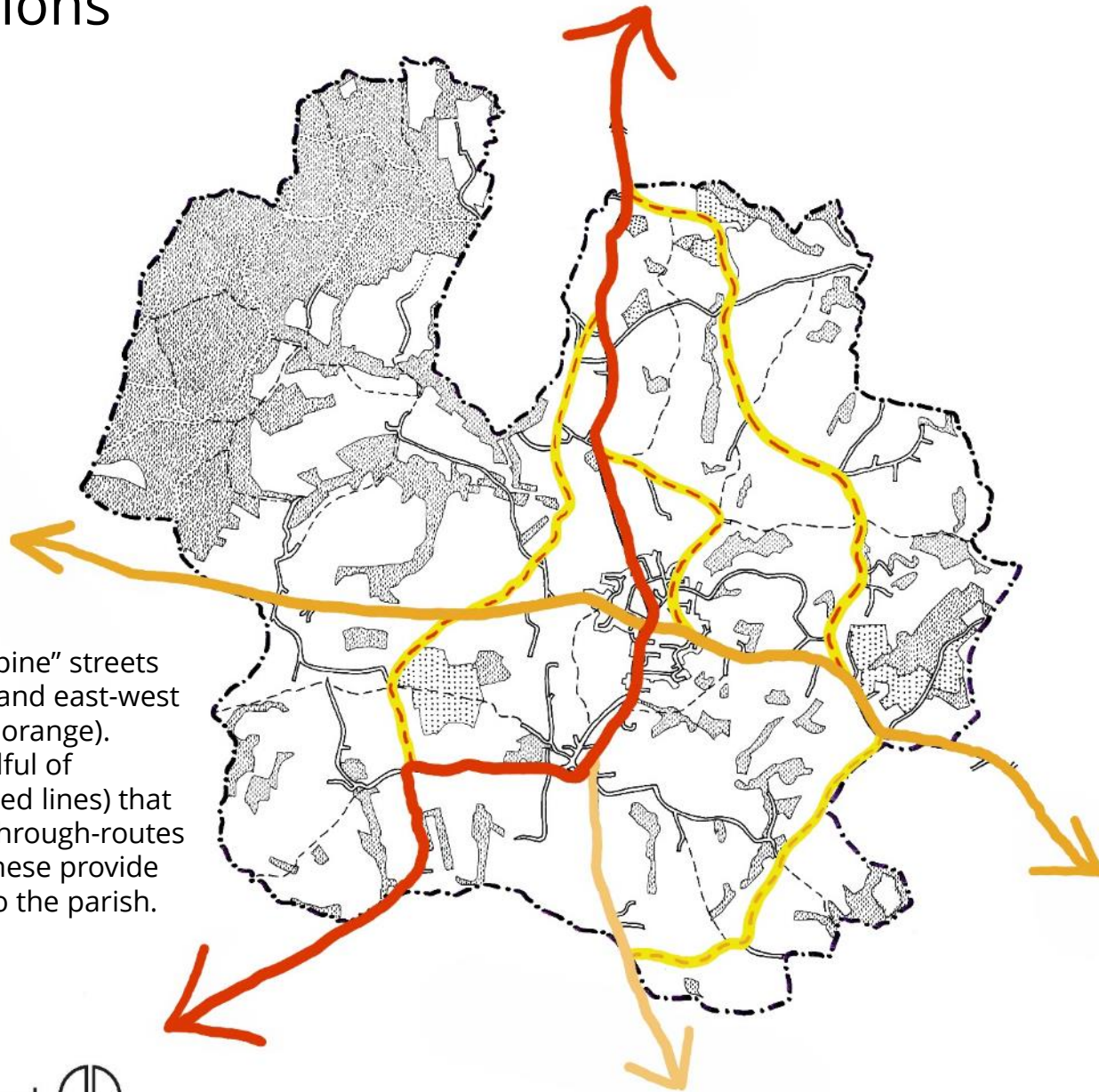


Hawkhurst Parish

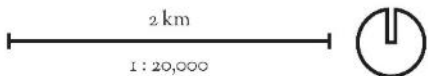


The team created a hand-drawn map of the parish to explain and explore key characteristics of Hawkhurst more effectively.

Connections

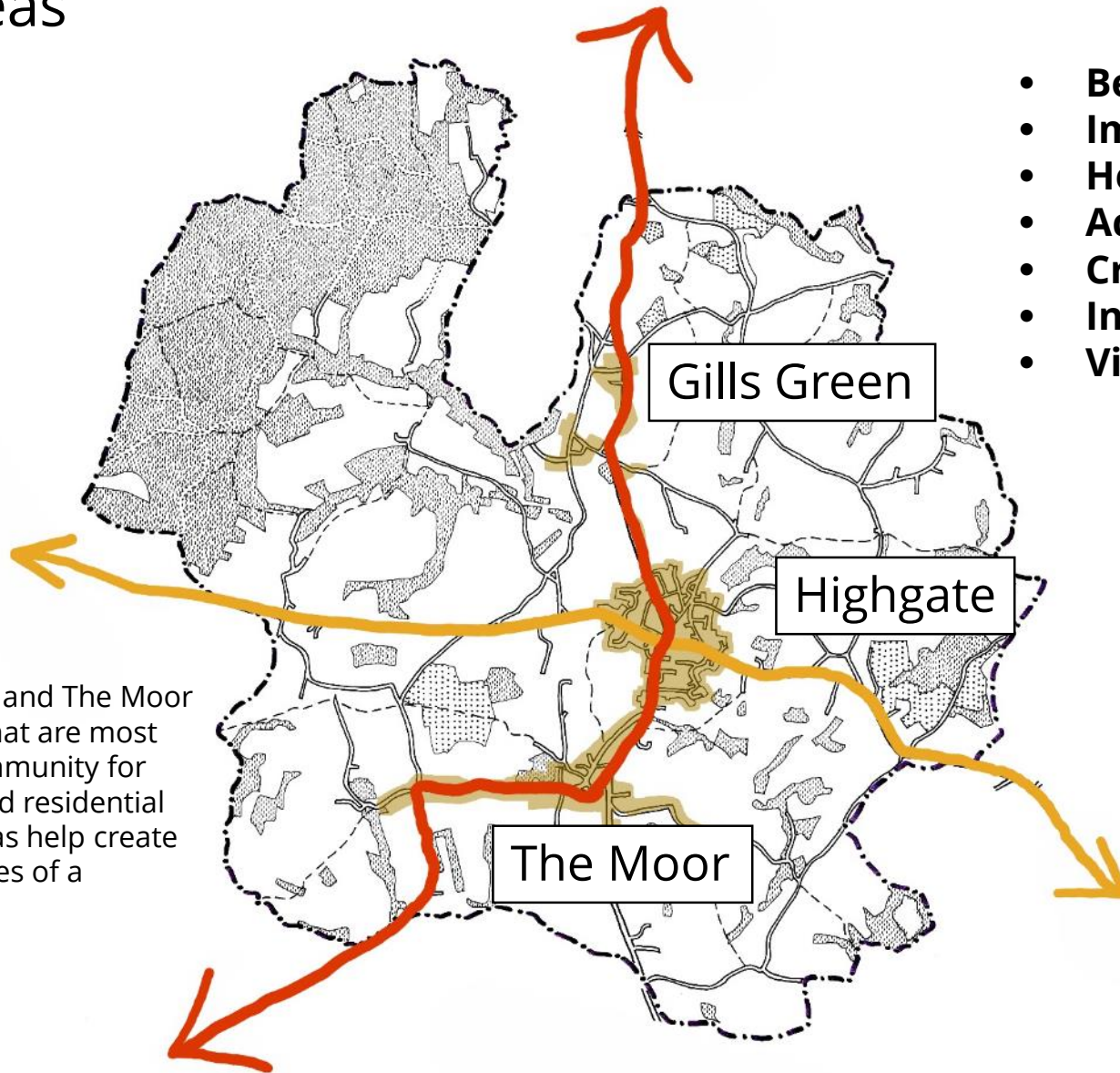


Here the two main "spine" streets running north-south and east-west can be seen (red and orange). There are also a handful of alternate routes (dotted lines) that connect these main through-routes together. Together, these provide an overall structure to the parish.

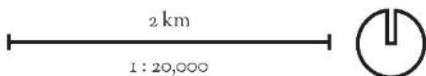


Built Areas

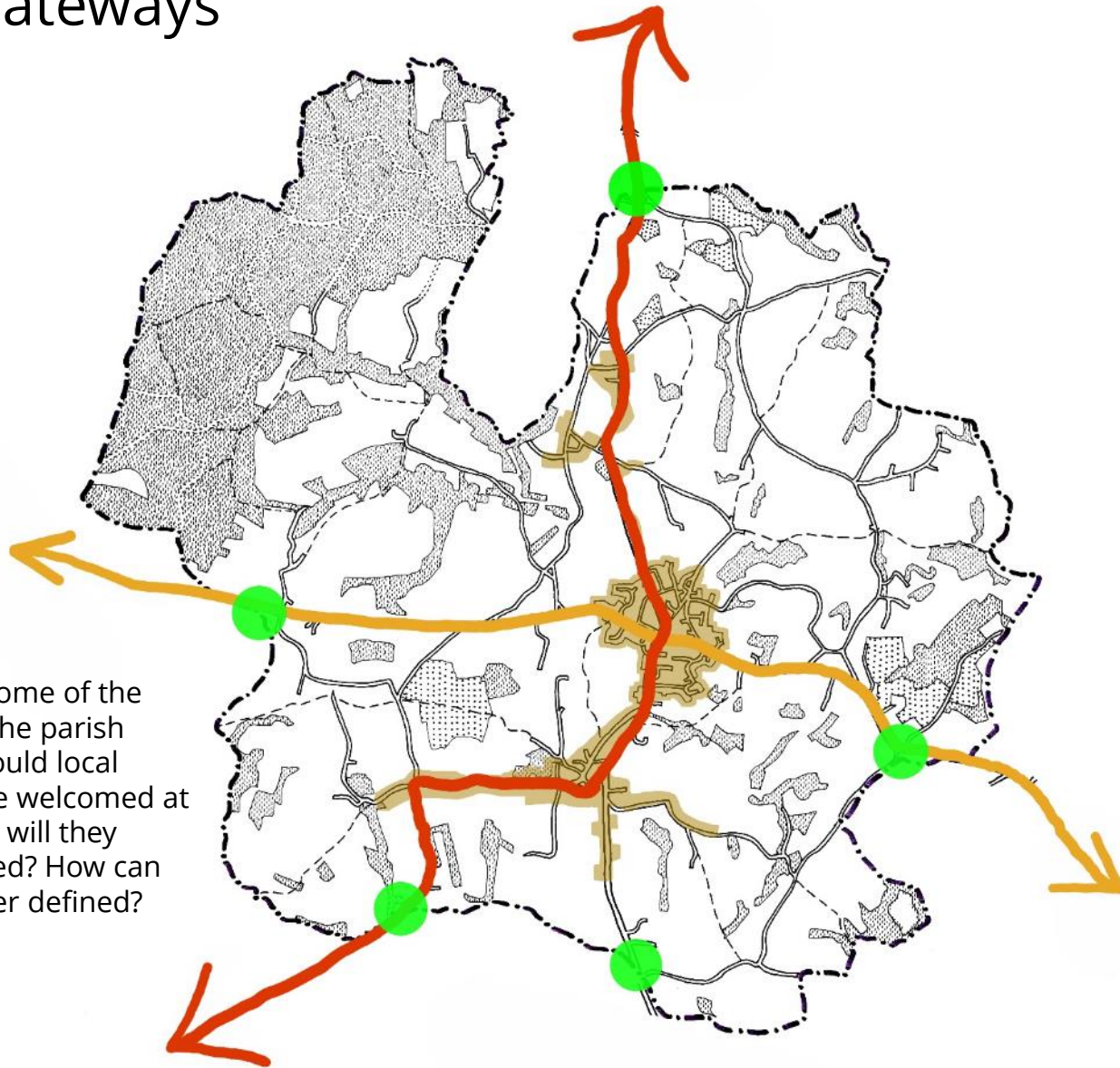
- Beauty
- Image
- Heritage
- Activity
- Critical Mass
- Intensity
- Vitality



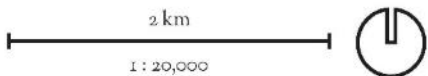
Gills Green, Highgate and The Moor are the three areas that are most used by the local community for recreational, retail and residential uses. These built areas help create the memorable images of a beautiful parish area.



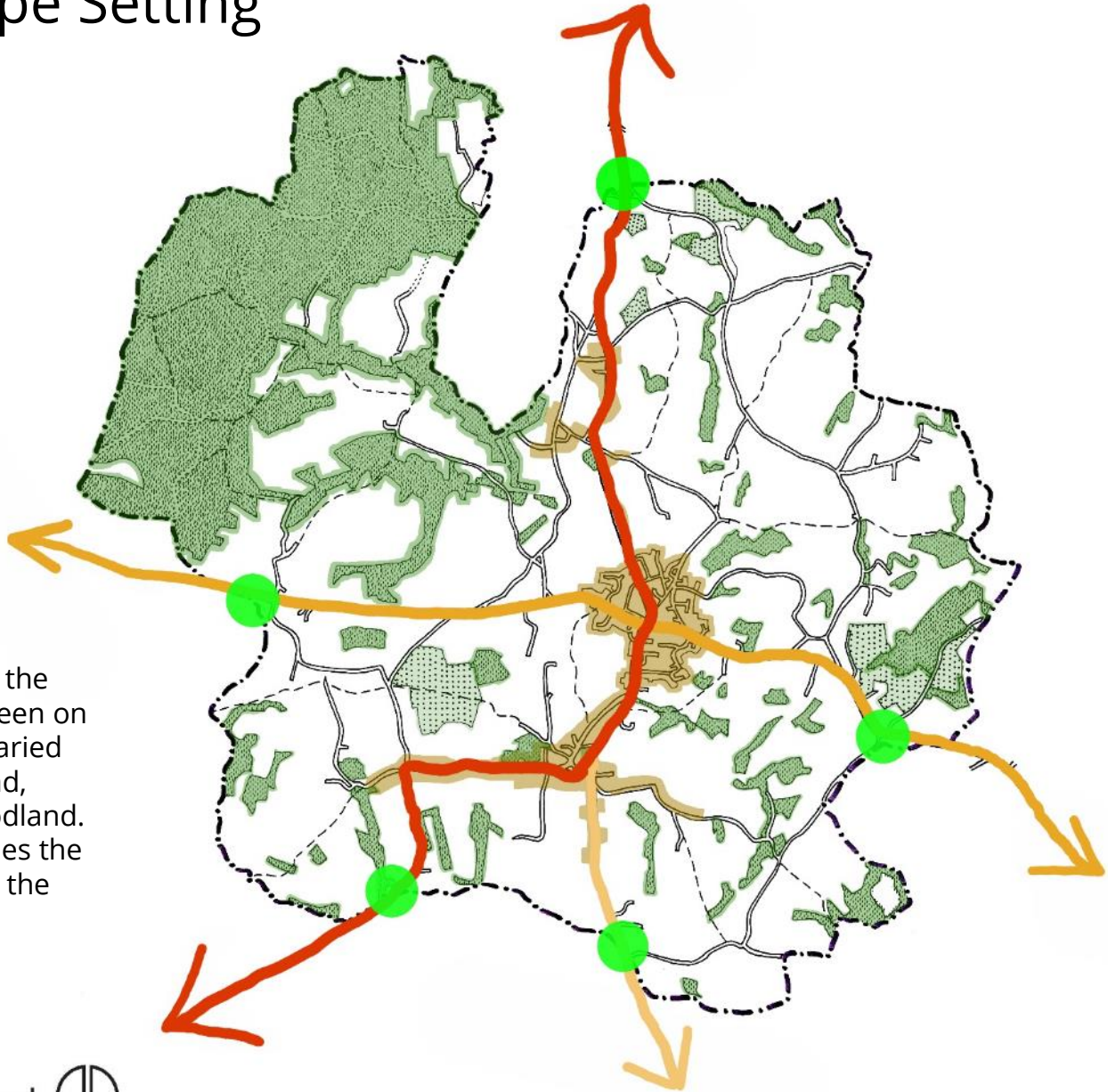
Parish Gateways



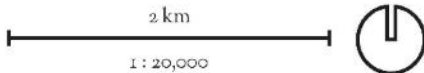
This map highlights some of the main entrances into the parish (green dots). How should local people and visitors be welcomed at these gateways? How will they know they have arrived? How can the gateways be better defined?



Landscape Setting

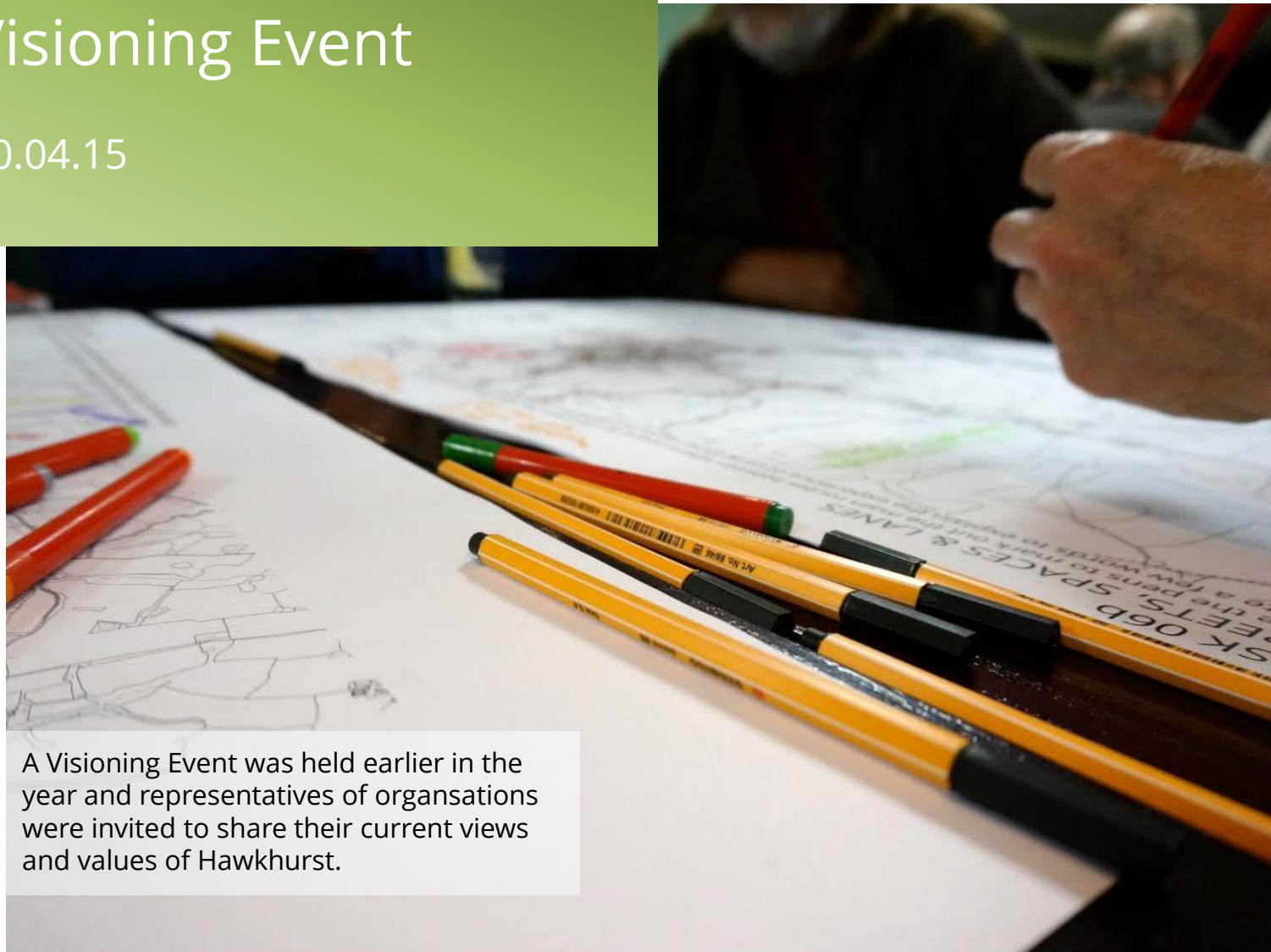


The landscape across the wider parish can be seen on this map. There is a varied mix of agricultural land, open spaces and woodland. This landscape provides the beautiful backdrop to the built areas.



Visioning Event

30.04.15



A Visioning Event was held earlier in the year and representatives of organisations were invited to share their current views and values of Hawkhurst.

Visioning Event 30.04.15

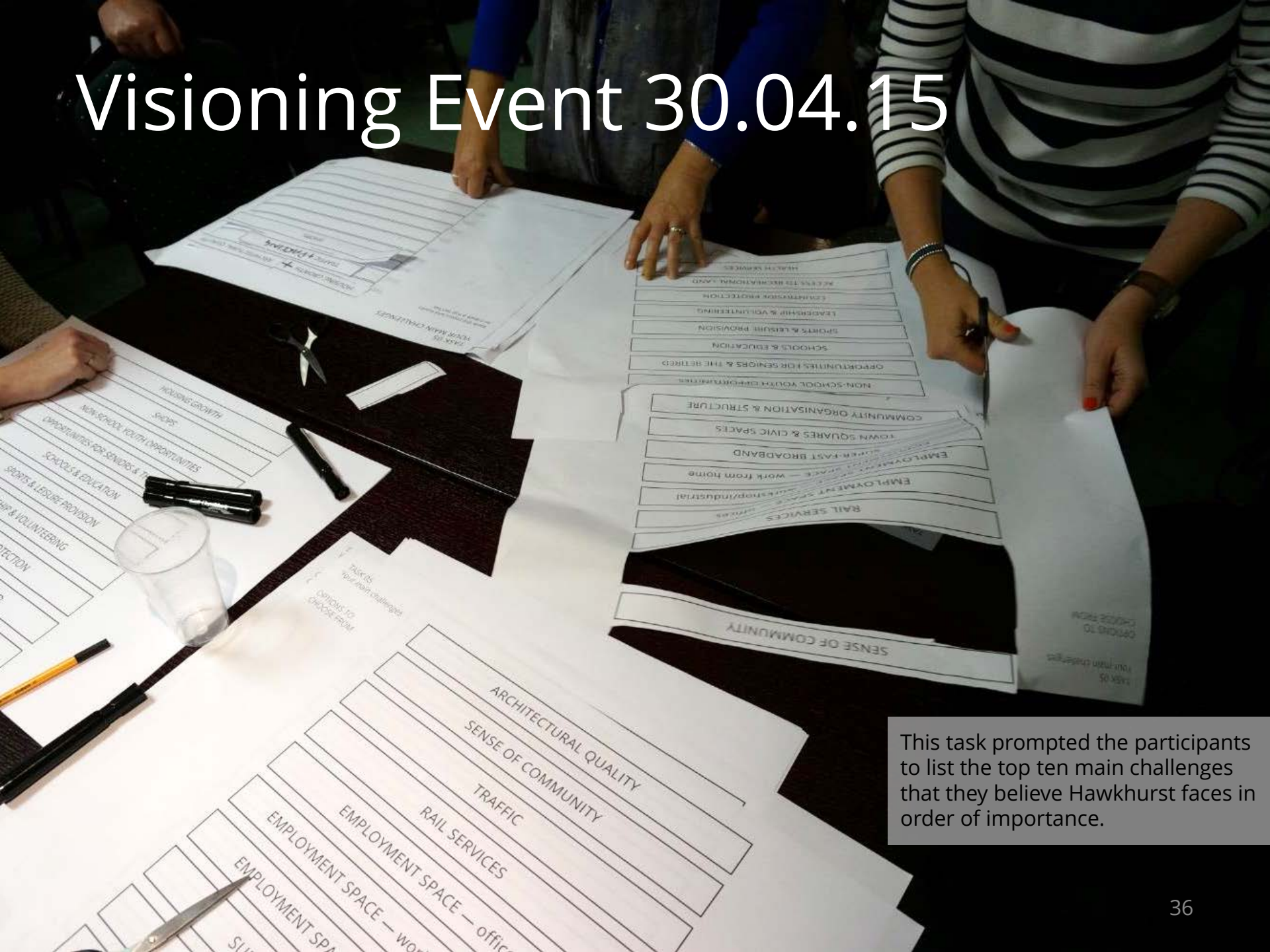


Here, locals mapped out and tested their ideas of where and how potential new development could fit into the village.

How should it relate to the existing built up areas? Explain your thinking.

- Social housing needs to be near amenities + not have to have car
- Small builds up to 10 max rather than huge
- Key that
- 10 per acre

Visioning Event 30.04.15



This task prompted the participants to list the top ten main challenges that they believe Hawkhurst faces in order of importance.

Visioning Event 30.04.15



There was a busy and vibrant atmosphere in the room and lots of ideas and thoughts were shared.

Visioning Event 30.04.15



In this task participants labelled the good (green dots) and the not so good (red dots) throughout Hawkhurst. Dots of both colours were added to buildings, public spaces, footpaths and current land uses.

Visioning Event 30.04.15

TASK 05 YOUR MAIN CHALLENGES

Rank the topics and issues
to create a top ten list.

- | | |
|------|---|
| | TRAFFIC |
| 1st | TOO BIG HOUSING GROWTH |
| 2nd | COUNTRYSIDE PROTECTION |
| 3rd | NON-SCHOOL YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES |
| 4th | ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY |
| 5th | SUPER-FAST BROADBAND |
| 6th | SPORTS & LEISURE PROVISION <i>could be better</i> |
| 7th | |
| 8th | NIBBYS SENSE OF COMMUNITY <i>HIGHGATE
✓
THE MOOR</i> |
| 9th | EMPLOYMENT SPACE — work from home |
| 10th | SCHOOLS & EDUCATION <i>CAPACITY</i> |

TASK 05
Your main challenges

OPTIONS TO
CHOOSE FROM

An example of one group's list of
the top ten challenges.

1st. Visioning Event 30.04.15

2nd.

TRAFFIC
HOUSING GROWTH

3rd.

COUNTRYSIDE PROTECTION

4th.

ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY

5th.

SPORT & LEISURE PROVISION

6th.

TOWN SQUARE & CIVIC SPACES

7th.

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

8th.

NON-SCHOOL YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

9th.

BROADBAND

10th.

HEALTH SERVICES

Another example of the top ten challenges.

Visioning Event 30.04.15

TASK 02 THIS IS A SPECIAL PLACE

Rank the one-word descriptions
for Hawkhurst as it is now to
create a top ten list.

	Attractive
1st.	Green (not env.)
2nd.	Friendly
3rd.	Safe
4th.	Inclusive
5th.	Independent
6th.	Unique
7th.	
8th.	Enterprising
9th.	Clean
10th.	Inspiring

An example of one group's list of the top ten most special qualities for the parish.

Visioning Event 30.04.15

Task 02 – This is a Special Place (Top 10)

1. Attractive
 2. Friendly
 3. Safe
 4. Green
 5. Independent
 6. Enterprising
 7. Clean
 8. Inclusive
 9. Unique
 10. Distinctive
-

Task 05 – Your Main Challenges (Top 10)

1. Traffic
2. Housing Growth
3. Countryside Protection
4. Architectural Quality
5. Sports & Leisure Provision
6. Sense of Community/Community Centre
7. Health Services
8. Broadband
9. Non-School Youth Opportunities
10. Supporting Independent Shops & Businesses

These are the collective results of the groups top ten qualities challenges and in Hawkhurst parish.

You are a welcoming
and friendly place
(... children on leads?!)


A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

Hawkhurst is a
working rural parish

Hawkhurst is an working rural parish

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

Character pubs



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

The A229/A268 Crossroads

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of issues and challenges across the parish.





A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of issues and challenges across the parish.

The changing rural economy




A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of issues and challenges across the parish.

The changing rural economy

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of issues and challenges across the parish.



The changing rural economy



As the village and parish of Hawkhurst continue to change, what are the sustainability and architectural qualities that will make it fit for the future?

What comes next? And how can we future-proof our designs?



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the issues the neighbourhood plan needs to tackle.

Understanding what makes things tick



A series of images were shown to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish, including the popularity and success of the Colonnade.

There is a vibrant atmosphere surrounding local amenities



A series of images were shown to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

How can these facilities be strengthened by the plan?



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

There is a strong sense of openness and of good social spaces



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

Understanding what makes open spaces special

How can these spaces be protected and enhanced by the plan?

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of uses and activities across the parish.

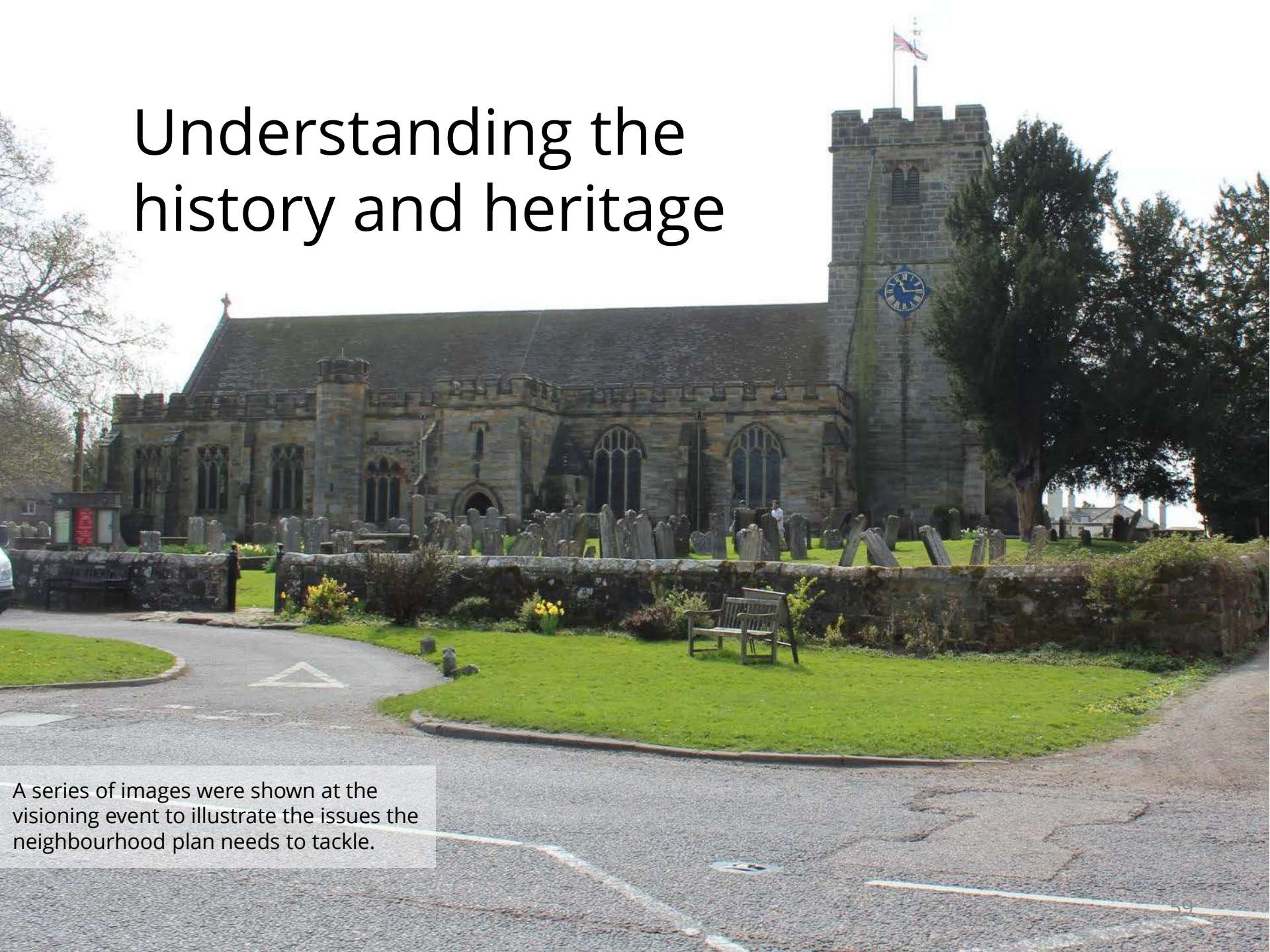




A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

Understanding what makes Hawkhurst special

Understanding the history and heritage




A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the issues the neighbourhood plan needs to tackle.



A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

Understanding the history and heritage

A landscape photograph showing a dirt path leading through a field of green grass and a line of trees under a blue sky. The path is the central focus, leading the eye from the foreground into the distance. The field on the left is a mix of green grass and brown soil, while the field on the right is more lush green. The trees in the background are a mix of green and brown, suggesting a transition between seasons. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy clouds.

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

Understanding what makes the landscape setting special

Understanding what makes the landscape setting special

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.



Croft GlasS
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

GLASS & GLAZING CONTRACTORS
01580 75455



The details matter

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

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A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.





The details matter

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.



The details matter

A series of images were shown at the visioning event to illustrate the variety of design qualities across the parish.

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day One

26.05.15
Morning



On the morning of the first day, a series of position statements were presented to the room. These were short statements of no more than 10 minutes. There follows a selection of these as presented on the morning of day one.

Presentation of position statements

Dickon Kindersley

Local landowner



- Along with Springfield Gardens site, Woodham Hall has been allocated for development
- “Case for Brownfield Sites” sets out how to best utilise land
- Site 31 was accepted but 217 was not due to steep topography
- Ecology and environment impacts would be small and could be mitigated by the provision of a green corridor.
- Development would be well-hidden
- Minimum impact to neighbouring properties
- Hawkhurst only has developments of less than 10 dwellings – therefore not aimed at affordable housing
- Affordable housing is achievable through bigger development

Margret Brimsley

Local farmer



- What is an AONB?
- Explained the EU Basic Payment Scheme
- Current arable land must be reduced and crop diversion implemented (cereal and non-cereal)
- Ecological Focus Areas (e.g. buffer strips, water courses and hedgerows)
- Insect and bird seed mix required; Removal of trees is not generally permitted
- Developers currently have to meet small conditions such as cats wearing collars, bat box provision, awareness of badgers
- Controlled sustainable growth is needed in Hawkhurst
- All residents should be able to benefit from the countryside
- Expand and create new hamlets
- Keep green spaces between developments; spread development evenly around the village
- We need agriculture, green spaces, decent sized gardens and sustainable growth

Simon Ralph

Born in Hawkhurst



- Family has lived in Hawkhurst for generations however the cost of housing has forced me to move out of Hawkhurst
- Village needs to grow in a certain way
- Open up the rail-line for a station near Ockley Lane to allow sustainable population growth within the village
- Housing for local people needs to be developed in the western side of The Moor
- Any new expensive housing should work cohesively to help to provide for the development of affordable housing

Peter Emberson

History Society



- Over 30 various areas of infrastructure that currently do not work
- Bowles Lodge replacement should enhance the local healthcare service
- GPs patient lists are almost full
- Mobile signal needs improving
- Inadequate road system
- Speeding is an issue and needs to be prevented

Pat

Local resident



- “We’re at risk of losing our heritage”
- Why do we want people to visit Hawkhurst when it is so messy and fragmented?
- Cockshot Valley needs to be maintained
- Bollards on the pavement are treacherous on a dark night for pedestrians
- Make room for people to park briefly along Highgate Hill to allow traffic to begin to move smoothly through the village
- All Saint’s Church – the “cancer of the village” (declared redundant in 1989)

LOST IN HAWKHURST

BUS STATION, PUBLIC TOILETS
BABIES CASTLE, HILLSIDE,
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, VICTORIA
HALL, FREE CAR PARK,
HILLEDEN SCHOOL, MOOR
SCHOOL, HIGHGATE SCHOOL
INFANTS SCHOOL (CADET HALL
TOC H HALL) METHODIST CHURCH
MAYNARD HALL, BOWLES LODGE,
CORONATION SEATS, FOUR
THROWS P.O. HIGHGATE P.O.
MOOR P.O. GILLS GREEN P.O.
TUDOR ARMS PUB

PROGRESS? OR DEATH KNEE

Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

Bella Hastie

On behalf of the football club

There are almost 150 junior footballers in Hawkhurst



- 150 juniors on the football team
- Parish offer the football pitches for free
- Great community feel
- Need all-year-round lit pitches
- Need one dedicated site for all of the teams to integrate
- Need changing rooms and a place to socialise
- Like the cinema, playing fields and holiday activities
- Need a place to play with friends
- The narrow pavements along the busy roads are too dangerous for children to freely walk along
- Better bus service to connect to the wider areas

Peter Hoole

On behalf of U3A



- The community hall should seat at least 200
- It should be capable of sub-division
- Suitable lighting and integrated technology
- Need meeting rooms
- Facilities for catering
- Toilets
- Car park with 100 spaces

Peter Hoole

On behalf of League of Friends



- We need a decent central health centre in Hawkhurst or else we are at risk of losing our current GPs
- Succession after a partner retires in a practice is difficult
- Hawkhurst is too expensive to expect a GP to come into the village and buy into a practice

Barbara

Member of the Parish Council



- Copt Hall is 86 years old and beyond repair – a rebuild elsewhere is the only solution
- The land at Copt Hall should be redeveloped and profits should go towards any new community hall
- Car parking is an issue throughout the village
- We need to include all facilities under one roof for the old and young
- A new building can be achieved for less than £2 million
- The future is most important for us, our children and our grandchildren

Darren Caisters

Local business owner



- Lack of longer-stay parking means our clients leave the village before they would have liked to
- 2 hours free parking and a nominal hourly fee after that is fair
- Contributions from Tesco – we need monitoring of the traffic and repainted road markings
- Doctor's surgery needs replacing and the service improving
- All Saint's Church needs redevelopment

Nicki

Local business owner



- Local history does not stop in the past, it continues into tomorrow
- “Use it or lose it”
- The Royal Oak Square with the war memorial is an essential open area for the community
- Can we rediscover the old market square?



Learning from
the past to
inform the
future



Learning from
the past to
inform the
future



Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

John Davis

Local resident



- Keep the open spaces and protect the countryside
- Provide a medical centre
- Provide a central village hall
- We do not want our shops to disappear
- Pavement parking/bus parking/deteriorating footpaths are all obstructions to pedestrians
- Better opening times of banks and local amenities are needed

General Comments



- KCC pay for roads by developing houses
- If the traffic lights were 4 way instead of 3 way, everybody would move.
- There should be more buses
- Many of the cars/HGVs in the village are passing through and not residents of Hawkhurst
- There should be no heavy vehicles passing through Hawkhurst
- “It took 15 minutes to drive from the Children’s centre to the British Legion, it should take 5 minutes”
- When the traffic lights fail, the crossroads work a lot better
- Cranbrook Road is a designated HGV route
- A road allowing connections between the bigger roads outside of the parish would deter HGVs from travelling into Hawkhurst
- All Saint’s is a Grade II listed building designed by the architect George Scott but who has many other buildings throughout England.

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day One

26.05.15
Afternoon

A photograph showing three women gathered outdoors, looking at a large map spread on a surface. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing a white cardigan over a tan top. The woman in the middle has short grey hair, wears glasses, a blue patterned scarf, and a dark jacket. The woman on the right has short grey hair, wears a blue and pink striped sweater, and has a red leather bag. She is using a walking stick and has a bandage on her right hand. The map they are looking at shows a landscape with various features and labels, including 'DURE' in the bottom left corner. The background consists of green bushes and a white car parked in the distance.

Day One Afternoon The Moor Group

In the afternoon, small task groups formed and went out to examine many of the issues that had been talked about earlier that day. One group headed to the Moor area to look at sports provision.

It was felt that the existing sports pavilion needs to be expanded and/or upgraded.



Is there room for expansion?

Can we deliver better sports provision?



It was felt that the existing sports pavilion needs to be expanded and/or upgraded.



Bella, a local resident and active member of the local football club, ties a “calling card” outside of the existing sports pavilion. The group listed potential improvements and expansion to the current facilities.

Providing for all sports and leisure

The Moor group discussed how an extension onto the current sports pavilion would allow increased use by the community and access to a wider range of activities.



HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
ABOUT THIS PLACE


↑ 1 big room
↑ Service (eg kitchen)
← changing facilities
mirror
as shown
as shown

Activities -
- mums + toddlers
- chess facilities
- ping pong

What do you think? Have your say and find out more at


- www.feria-urbanism.eu
- <http://hpc.visitthawkhurst.org.uk/>
- hawkhurstpc@btinternet.com





Refurbishing the existing court facilities would increase and improve the current use of the recreational sports fields.

Refurbishment of existing facilities

A photograph showing two women from behind, walking on a grassy area. The woman on the left is wearing a blue and white striped jacket with pink accents and has her right arm extended, pointing towards a fenced-in sports pitch in the distance. The woman on the right is wearing a white top and a white tote bag with the word 'tertia' and a website address visible. The background features a chain-link fence, a wooden fence, and a dense line of green trees under a clear blue sky.

The sports pitches are currently used seasonally, with winter months proving too wet and dark. Better drainage and lighting will help to make these fields all-year-round recreational grounds.

Refurbishment of existing grounds

HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
ABOUT THIS PLACE

Extend car park to
end of garages +
charging room to big
beech tree.
Mini football
pitch / overflow
parking

What do you think? Have your say and find out more at



- www.feria-urbanism.eu
- <http://hpc.visitthawkhurst.org.uk/>
- hawkhurstpc@btinternet.com

This site visit also revealed the need to improve connections between Highgate and The Moor and encourage parish residents to use the space more frequently by providing better access and parking facilities.



The play area adjacent to the playing fields was also discussed. The group assessed its current location in relation to The Moor and accessibility, alongside the need to maintain and update certain features.

Improve play facilities and car parking

HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
ABOUT THIS PLACE



- extend parking
- move shrubs
- safer route to loos
- rubber under play equipment



What do you think? Have your say and find out more at

- www.feria-urbanism.eu
- <http://hpc.visithawkhurst.org.uk/>
- hawkhurstpc@btinternet.com


Safer and more direct routes to other amenities/playing fields are required. Better parking facilities and upgraded play space/equipment would also help to enhance this area.



This local green space is a popular recreational ground within the Moor and is surrounded by the traditional residential architecture that can be seen throughout much of Hawkhurst.

Well-used recreational ground

Improve links between The Moor and Sports Fields



The Moor and the sports fields are often used in conjunction and improving pedestrian links between the two public spaces is fundamental to this areas future community provisions.

The village of Hawkhurst is situated within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The economic and environmental value of current arable and agricultural land needs to be carefully considered.

Thinking about where to expand...

There are many views in and out of Hawkhurst, both within the built up areas and also far reaching into the boundaries of the parish. These visual qualities are some of the main assets for the village and need to be maintained.

...and where to maintain village vistas

Knowing where and what to preserve



There are managed areas of Hawkhurst that provide a tranquil quality to the village. These should remain undisturbed in their current natural surroundings.



These natural areas should be enjoyed by all village residents, whether as an open space for informal recreation, or as a green view.

Knowing where and what to preserve

Day One Afternoon Highgate Group

Not nice around the back!

In the afternoon, small task groups formed and went out to examine many of the issues that had been talked about earlier that day. One group headed to the Highgate area to look at design and traffic issues.



Northgrove Road has the positive atmosphere of a village lane. The buildings lining the edge of the road continue the traditional Hawkhurst character through timber cladding and brick detailing.



Northgrove Road

The pavement stops but pedestrians feel safe enough to walk freely along the middle of the road.



HAWKHURST ASYLUM

This pillar is
all that remains of the
Hawkhurst Asylum
which was burnt down
in 1890

HAWKHURST HERITAGE

Hawkhurst Heritage plaques are placed throughout the village to commemorate the rich and varied history and the foundations upon which the village has grown.

Wheelie bins are
everywhere!

The attention to detail within the architecture throughout the village is a fabulous attribute that adds quality and provides a link to history.





This is a good example of how a community building can be restored and renovated into a beautiful residential property.

Conversion to residential

There is a great sense of place within many of the older streets and lanes. These should be used as good examples for any future development within the parish.



Positive and friendly atmosphere

There are many additional details and features hidden amongst the architecture throughout the village that add a unique and personal quality to each property.

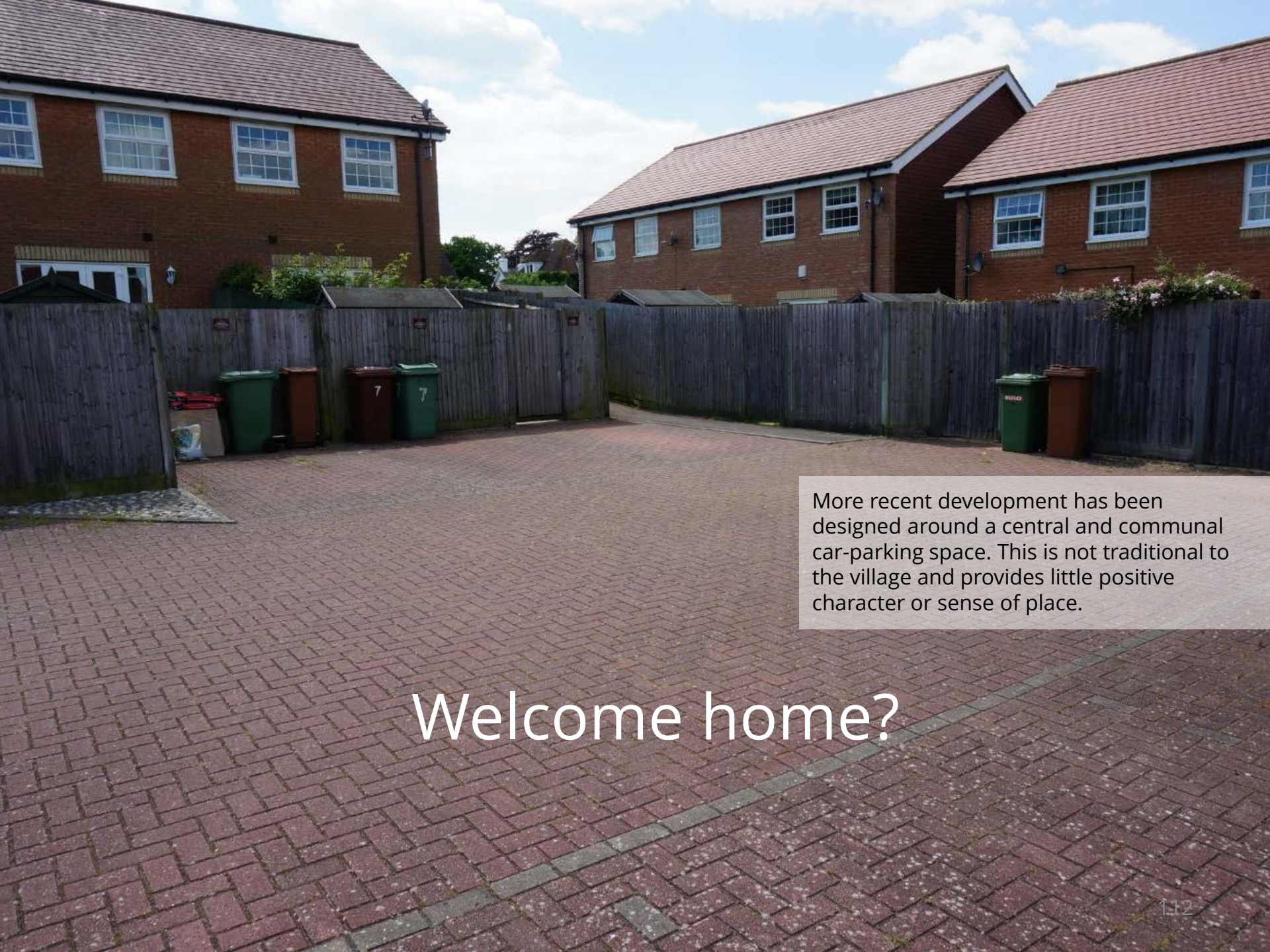


Adding the details

Some of the more recent development within Hawkhurst is not necessarily traditional to the village. Is this a suitable style for Hawkhurst?



More recent development



More recent development has been designed around a central and communal car-parking space. This is not traditional to the village and provides little positive character or sense of place.

Welcome home?



There are barriers, untidy paving and harsh boundary fences.



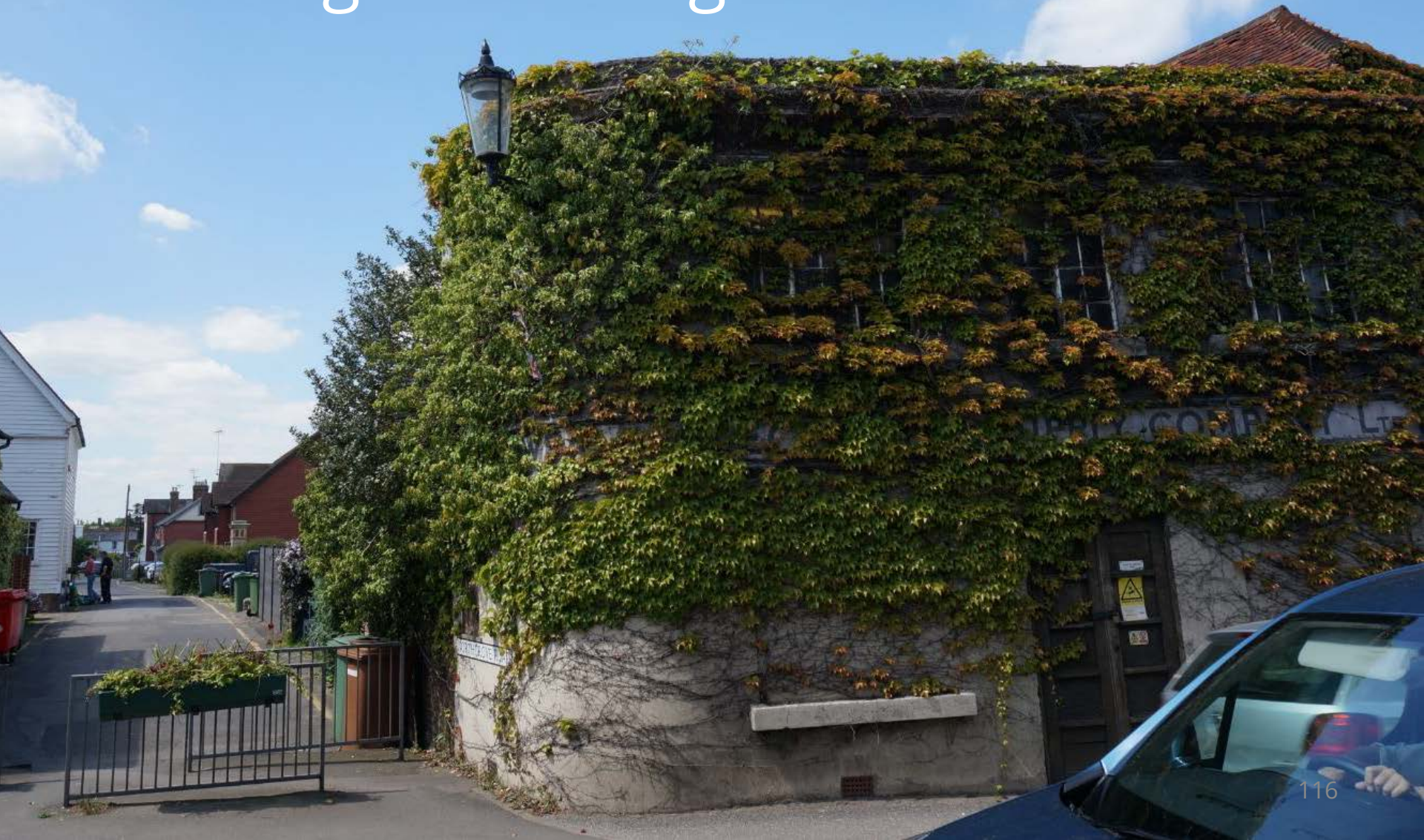
Warning signs and no access – who is this space for!?



This vehicular entrance has been stopped-up and the resultant relative lack of traffic has helped create the positive atmosphere currently experienced on Northgrove Road. Could there be a better way to enforce this? These barriers are visually unappealing and currently an obstruction to pedestrians, especially those using wheelchairs, mobility scooter or pushing prams.

Could this old switch gear building become a more celebrated feature of Hawkhurst? How could it be improved? What could offer for the village?

Building camouflage?





Faded hatching

This junction space needs redefining and enhancing. The faded hatching cause confusion amongst drivers and is often ignored as a space that should be kept clear of traffic to allow for movement from the side roads.



Faded hatchings also begin to cause issues for pedestrians and the flow of traffic. If these double yellow lines are unclear, cars will be parking up along the road, causing traffic congestion and obstacles for crossing pedestrians.



The Highgate group place a calling card to identify these issues along Cranbrook Road.

Another calling card...



"No stopping on the hatch!"

Traffic issues

HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
ABOUT THIS PLACE

No stopping on the hatching

**NO STOPPING
ON THE
HATCH!**



What do you think? Have your say and find out more at

- www.feria-urbanism.eu
- <http://tqpc.visitthawkhurst.org.uk/>
- hawkhurstpc@btinternet.com

"No stopping on the hatch!"





The only empty shop?

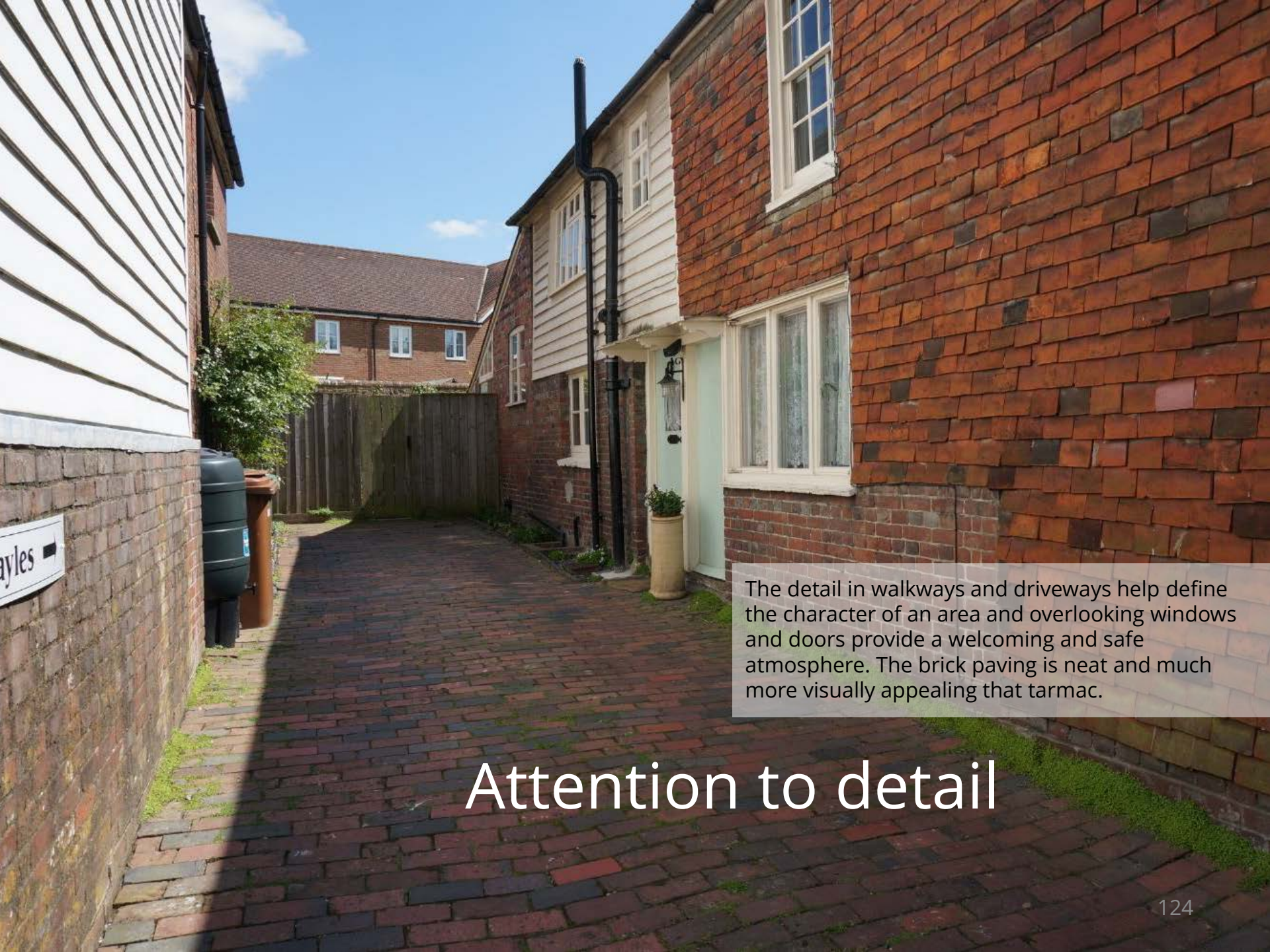
This is the only empty shop that the group found whilst exploring Highgate. This demonstrates a buoyant local economy within Hawkhurst and there should be emphasis in the neighbourhood plan upon maintaining the range and variety of local amenities.

SHOP TO LET

£395 PCM

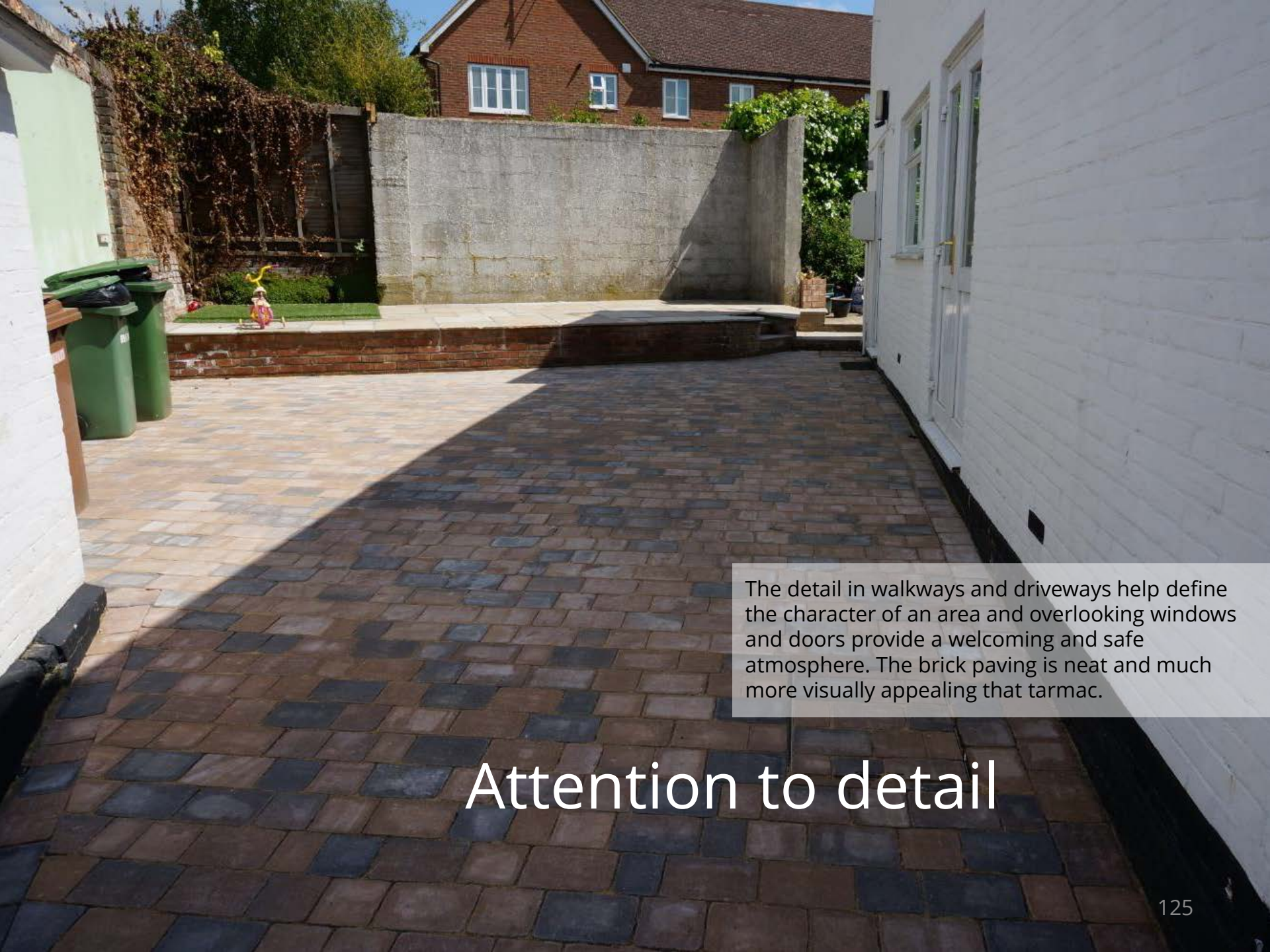
PHONE 01424 814225

Is this a reasonable rental figure? Does it reflect a growing and secure economy or is it too high?



The detail in walkways and driveways help define the character of an area and overlooking windows and doors provide a welcoming and safe atmosphere. The brick paving is neat and much more visually appealing than tarmac.

Attention to detail



The detail in walkways and driveways help define the character of an area and overlooking windows and doors provide a welcoming and safe atmosphere. The brick paving is neat and much more visually appealing than tarmac.

Attention to detail

Knowing how to add modern design successfully



There are a mix of architectural styles within the village and this residential building, as it sites next to the Fire Station, is an example of how new design can compliment old. Not universally liked however!

Views to landmark buildings

The current view lines throughout Hawkhurst should be protected. New development could enhance views by framing landmarks and creating new sight lines, as is the case here in Norris Close.



This pedestrian cut-through provides a safe and welcoming path, with soft green edging and a clear view through. How does it feel at night though or in the winter? Does it still feel safe then?

Pedestrian cut-thru

The crossroads is a busy junction at certain times of the day, with delivery vehicles, shoppers and passers-by all contributing to congestion and feeling that the place is unsafe.



It was a squeeze!

HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

ABOUT THIS PLACE

DO YOU KNOW
THESE ARE THE
PUBLIC TOILETS?

Caught short? Another calling card!



What do you think? Have your say and find out more at

www.felix-urbanism.eu
<http://hpc.via@hawkhurst.org.uk/>
hawkhurstpc@btinternet.com

The Kino cinema contains public toilets but how well known is this? Do public amenities and conveniences need to be better advertised?

The All Saint's Church is a derelict building and has been left to deteriorate. There are opinions from some in the community that it should be completely demolished to make room for a much needed communal building or health centre.



What can be done?

Could there be better use of open spaces within close proximity of the local amenities in Highgate?



Cluster of uses
around a square?



This building is a key architectural feature within Highgate and its history is well-known amongst the community. Could this play a part in delivering a series of small green spaces along Rye Road?

Almshouses



The Highgate group write their thoughts about the Almhouses on a calling card.

Another calling card...

ABOUT THIS PLACE
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL
HISTORIC BUILDING!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

“What a beautiful historic building”



Edge of centre

This is the edge of the centre of Highgate. The car park can be clearly seen and attracts car-borne shoppers into Tesco, promoting ease of access for motorists.




The emphasis on vehicular approach to the supermarket has taken priority over the implementation of quality soft landscaping and safe pedestrian access. What can be done to improve this?

Poor quality landscape

Footpath runs out

Here, the footpath abruptly ends and forces pedestrians to cross the road to continue their journey. This deters villagers from walking and makes footpaths feel unsafe for children and adults alike.



No convenient provision has been made for pedestrians here. Instead, those on foot have trodden their own path to avoid walking through the car park for longer than is necessary.

Access designed only for cars

Local eyesore?



This recycling area is necessary but is it in the best place? And in the best condition?



Woodham Hall is a site that is available for development. What could this opportunity provide for the village?

Development site



The Highgate group also discussed what improvements could be made to the crossroads and how they could be implemented as they headed back into the hall.

Further discussion

The Moor Group shared ideas



Once back in the hall, the group that visited the Moor talked through their ideas for an expansion on the existing sports pavilion and recreation ground improvements.



Highgate Group shared ideas

The Highgate group shared their ideas and concerns about the crossroads and their observations about the range of local services found in the centre.

End of Day One



DAY ONE

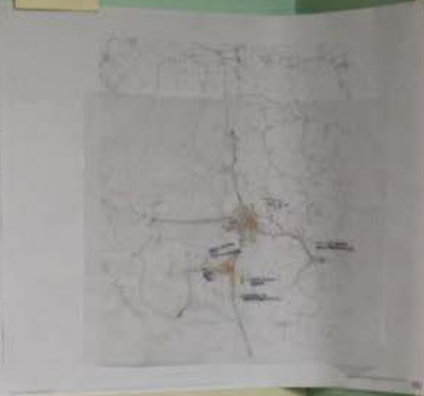
Sports Facility (K99)
Building

Physical

1. new changing rooms
2. strip out existing building
3. re-surface & upgrade existing
4. extend road to access 'new' area play area for
5. extra local CP play area

demolition maintenance

1. Update Name of Club Room
2. Reorganise Club (Chairman)
3. New Bar/Lab
4. Reorganise water (Pump-out)
5. Security gate to
6. 2. Club Entrance
7. "The Warehouse"



The findings, ideas and sketches from day one were all pinned up onto the walls for all participants and villagers to observe and comment on.

Sports Facility (KGV) Building



Phased

1. new changing rooms,
2. strip out existing building
3. re-surface + upgrade netted area
4. extend road to access "new area", move play area fence (1 item equip.)
5. pitch/overflow CP

[play area
drainage] maintenance



Outdoor
seating
area
- site plan/contour
- # LANDSCAPE

The Moor group listed the facilities that an improved sports pavilion should provide.

Highgate

AUDIT
OF
WHAT
MATTERS

The Highgate group conducted an audit of the most important design and community features within the area.

DAY ONE

HIGHGATE



Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day One

26.05.15
Evening



New faces from the village came in to test and add to the ideas and findings that participants had expressed earlier in the day.

Evening session was busy...

Evening session was busy...

New faces from the village came in to test and add to the ideas and findings that participants had expressed earlier in the day.

DO NOT BLOCK
THIS DOOR WAY

As the evening approached, the project team were busy drawing up and documenting the findings of the first day.

The Feria team busy writing up the day's events



Andy, a local farmer and butcher, gathered an audience to listen to his ideas for the future of the crossroads.

Further ideas about the cross-roads



Precedent studies from a French village and a town in Cheshire were discussed and sketched out.

Further ideas about the cross-roads

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day Two

27.05.15
Morning

Day Two

Morning



The plan for the morning was as follows:

- Start to give greater definition and purpose to each of the settlements
- Develop a 'what if' scenario for Highgate Hill

Gills Green

Highgate

The Moor



The project team presented a diagram of the parish settlements.

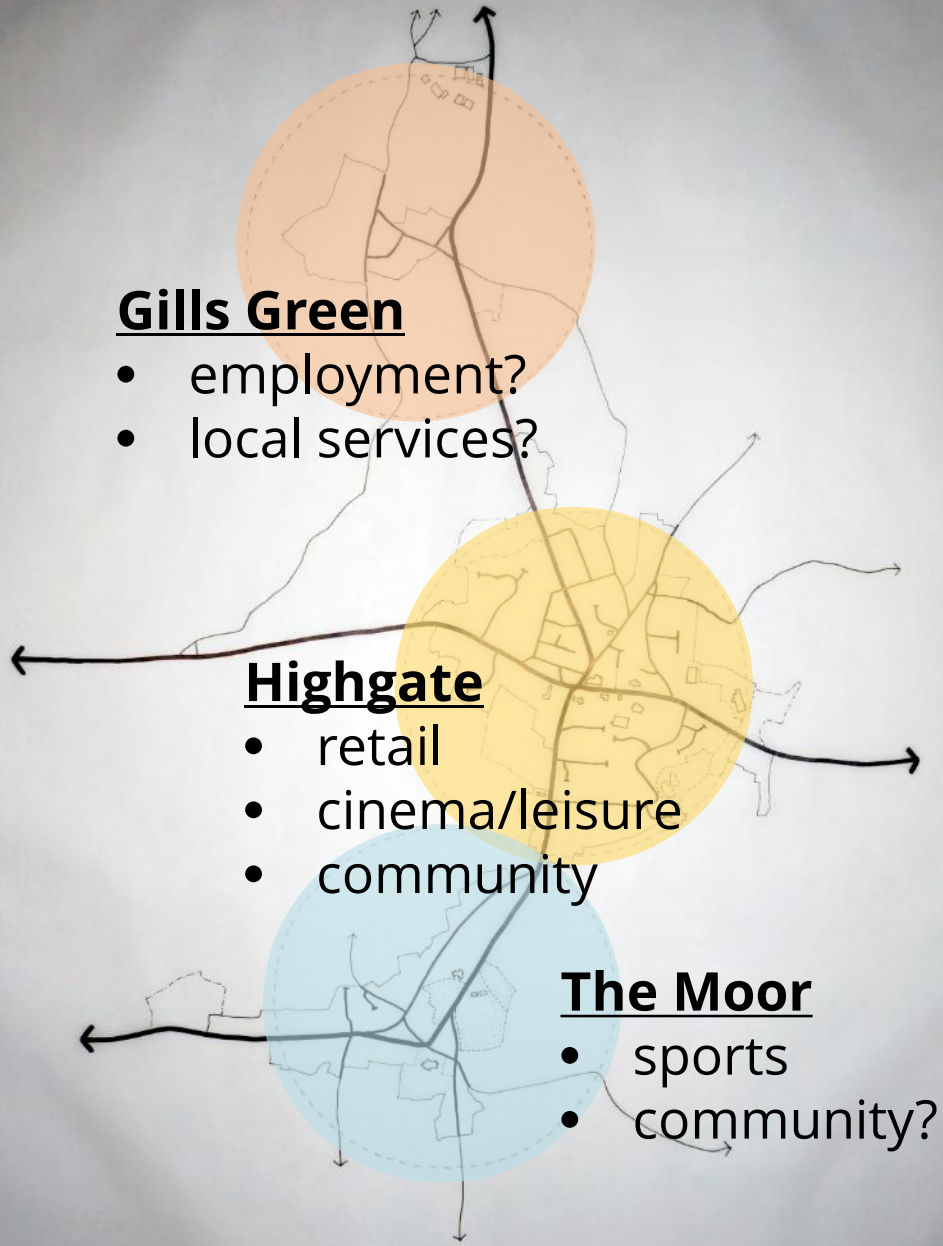
Gills Green

Highgate

The Moor



Each settlement was overlaid with a 1 km circle. This represented a "walkable" catchment for pedestrians to access services and facilities. This is how settlements grew organically in the age before the motor car.



Gills Green

- employment?
- local services?

Highgate

- retail
- cinema/leisure
- community

The Moor

- sports
- community?

What role should each settlement play? How can they compliment each other?

Gills Green

Highgate

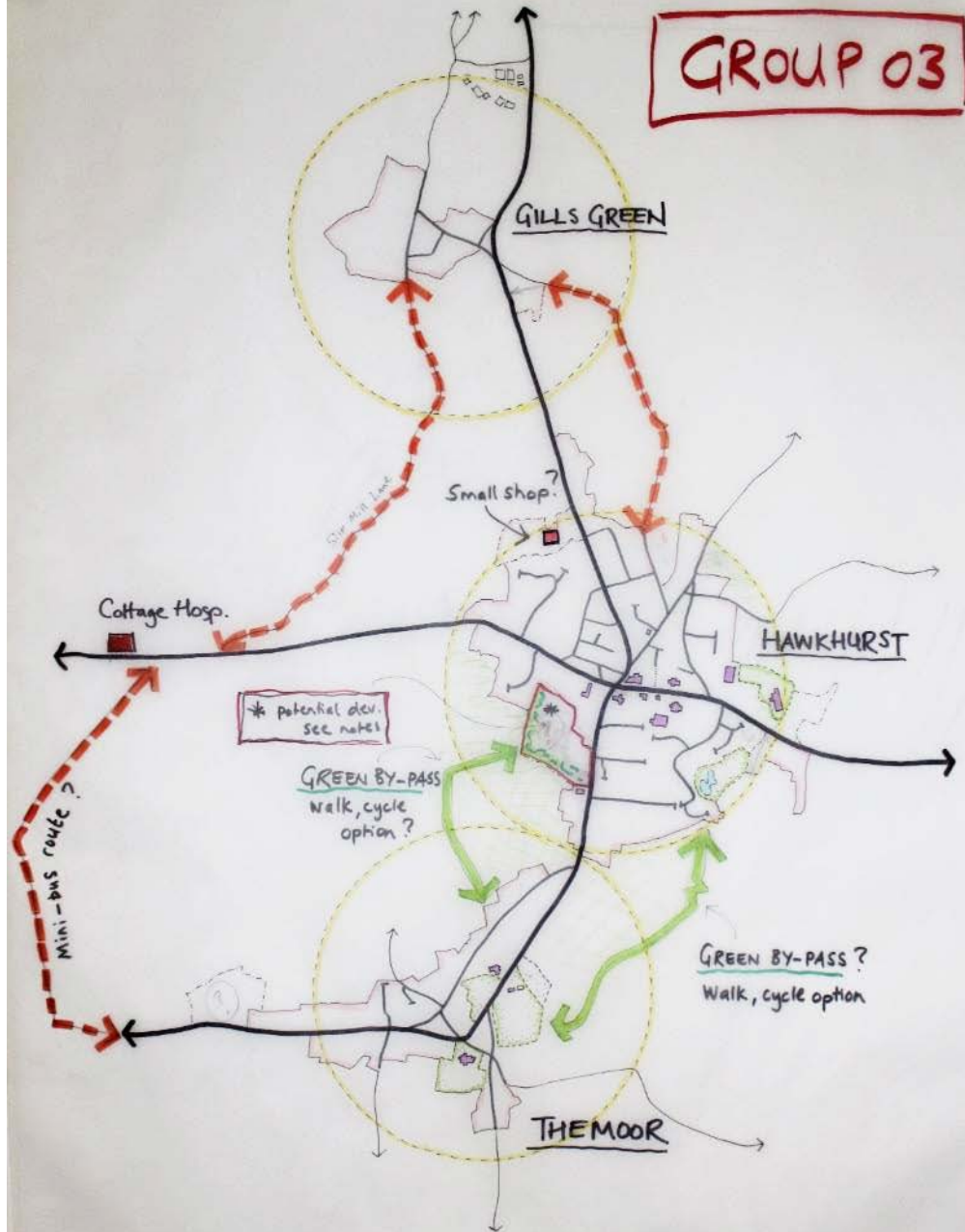
The Moor



Shown in solid orange are areas that have been allocated for new development.

Shown with orange hatching is a site that will be subject to a planning appeal hearing in September 2015. What happens if this is upheld (i.e. planning permission for housing is granted) or if the appeal is dismissed (i.e. planning permission refused)? How does the neighbourhood plan deal with each scenario?

GROUP 03



Groups added their thoughts to the diagram as presented.

Orange dotted lines: Shuttle bus link to take village residents to possible medical service locations.

Solid green lines: Better footpath and cycle way provision to connect the Moor with Highgate.

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day Two

27.05.15
Afternoon

Day Two Afternoon
In the afternoon, three groups
heading out. The first went to
test the area around Gills Green.



Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital

Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital



Could this area accommodate a new medical provision and better GP services?



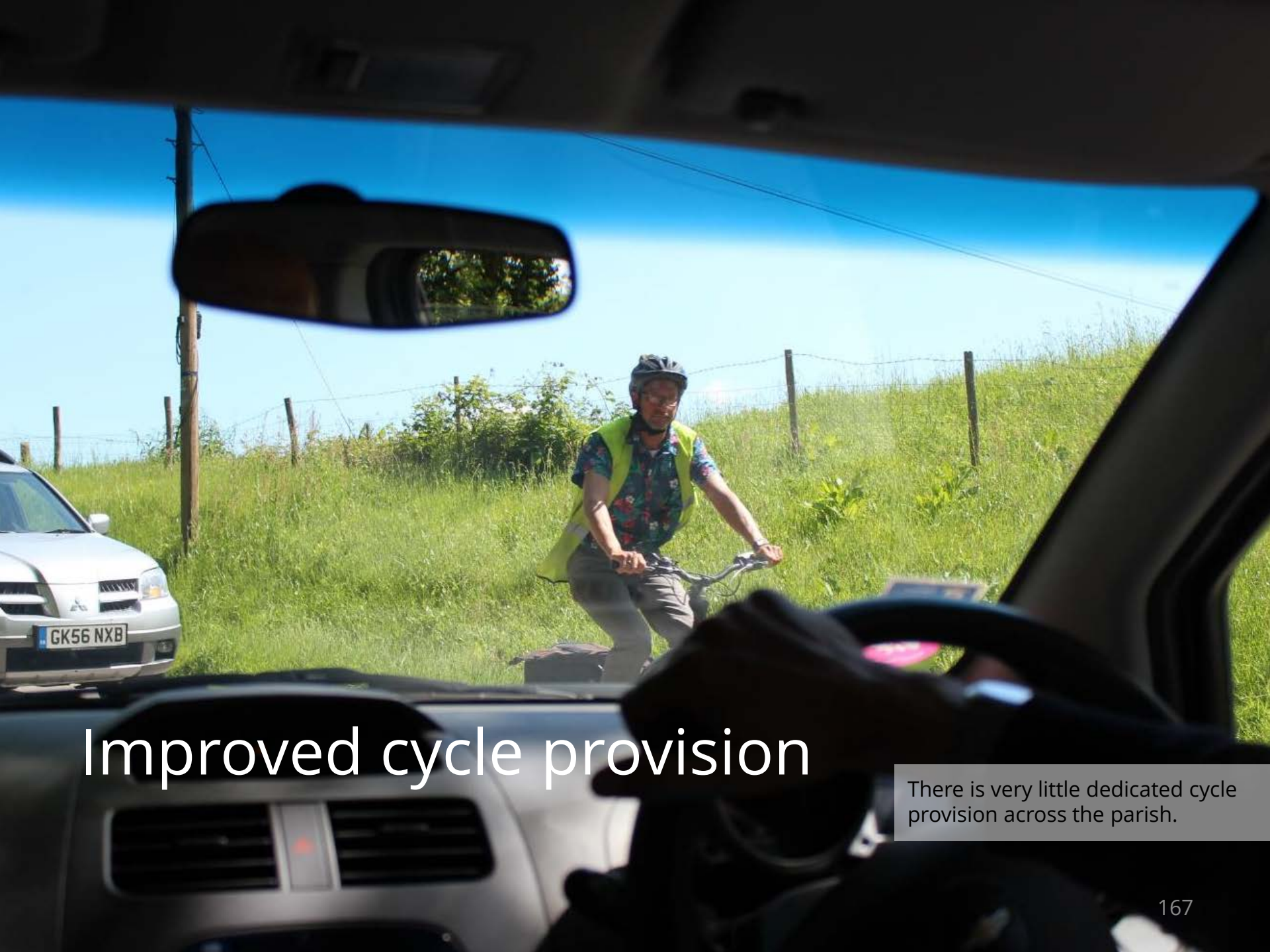
Improved bus infrastructure?

Bus waiting areas differ in quality across the parish



Improved bus
infrastructure?

Is this bright enough?!



Improved cycle provision

There is very little dedicated cycle provision across the parish.

Gills Green

A better range of services?

Residents of Gills Green told the project team that there is no convenience shopping in this part of the parish. Could the existing garden centre be allowed to increase its range of retail offers to help fulfil this need?





The industrial estate is a local part of the economy. Does it provide local jobs or is it just for those travelling into the parish area? Is the form and the scale of the units right? Is this place fit for the future?

Gills Green

What type of industry for the future?

Some strange quirks in the Gils Green area!

Gils Green

Walking over untrodden grassland to use these steps. Who are they for and why?



HAWKHURST RAILWAY STATION

Hawkhurst was the
terminus of a branch line
from Paddock Wood
Opened in 1893 and closed
in 1961 this was the first of
Colonel HF Stephens' railways

HAWKHURST HERITAGE

Local history recognised in Gills Green.



Changing times

As mentioned earlier in the process, nothing stays the same and redevelopment of older uses is happening right now in Gills Green.

“Babies Castle”

As mentioned earlier in the process, nothing stays the same and redevelopment of older uses is happening right now in Gills Green.



A man in a blue and white striped shirt is seen from the side, writing on a sign. The sign has a pink border and contains text about a development plan. In the background, there is a white wall with a logo and a poster. The scene is outdoors with trees and a clear sky.

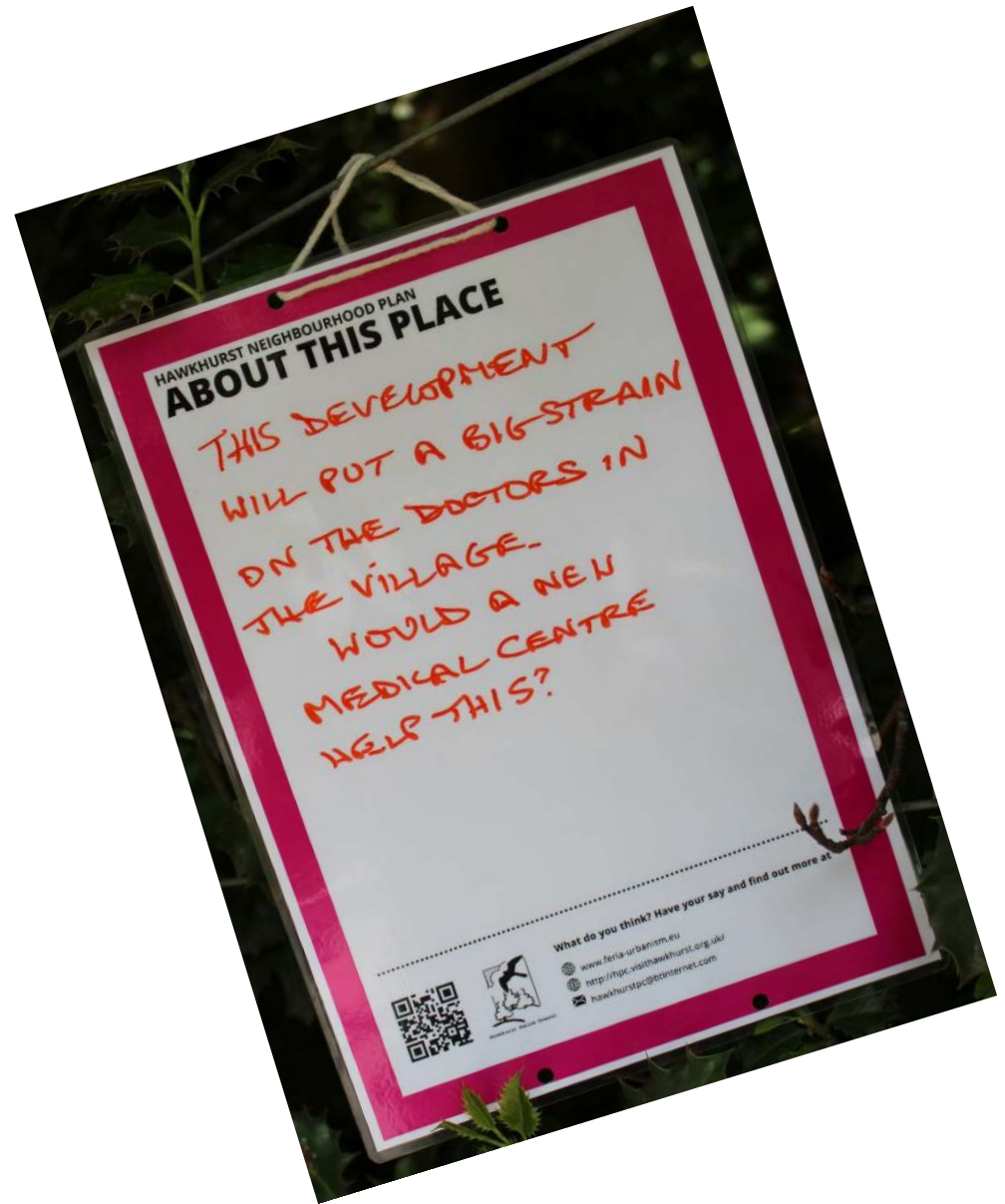
Gills Green

Challenges and opportunities...



ABOUT THE PLACE
THE DEVELOPMENT
WILL PUT A BIG STRAIN
ON THE DOCTORS IN
THE VILLAGE.
WOULD A NEW
MEDICAL CENTRE
HELP THIS?

“This development will put a big strain on the doctors in the village. Would a new medical centre help this?”





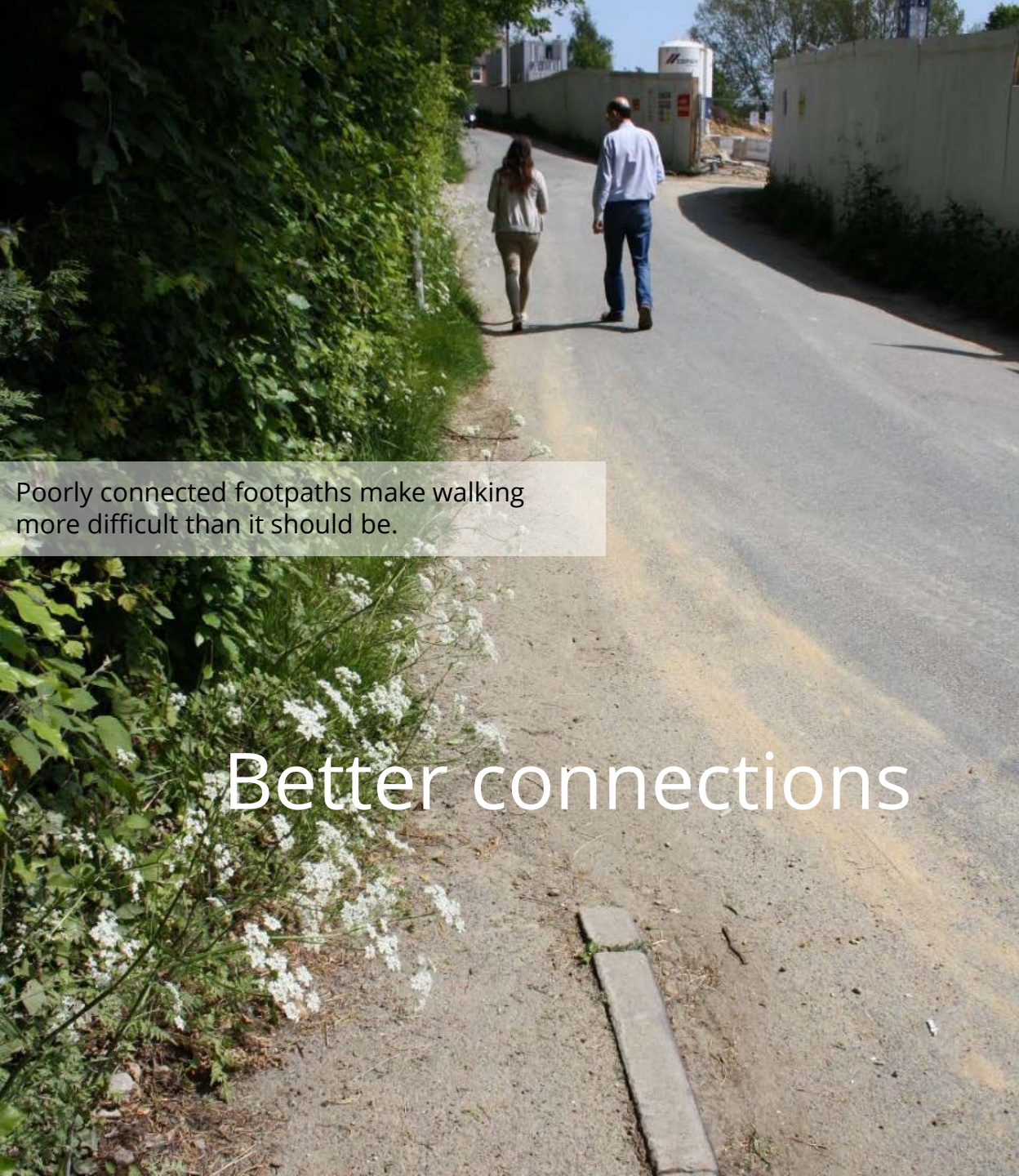
Gills Green Tight? Narrow? Dangerous?

In common with other parts of the parish, narrow pavements and fast traffic makes walking more difficult than it should be.



Gills Green Tight? Narrow? Dangerous?

In common with other parts of the parish, narrow pavements and fast traffic makes walking more difficult than it should be.



Poorly connected footpaths make walking more difficult than it should be.

Better connections



Different modes of transport

Does the movement network successfully accommodate all modes of travel?



The flow of traffic

Does the movement network successfully accommodate all modes of travel?

Write Date
Dog Day Care
And Training

Another one of the allocated development sites was examined by this group. What can this provide for the future of the village?

Springfield site

Views of built development as glimpsed through the woodland is part of the charm of Hawkhurst parish.

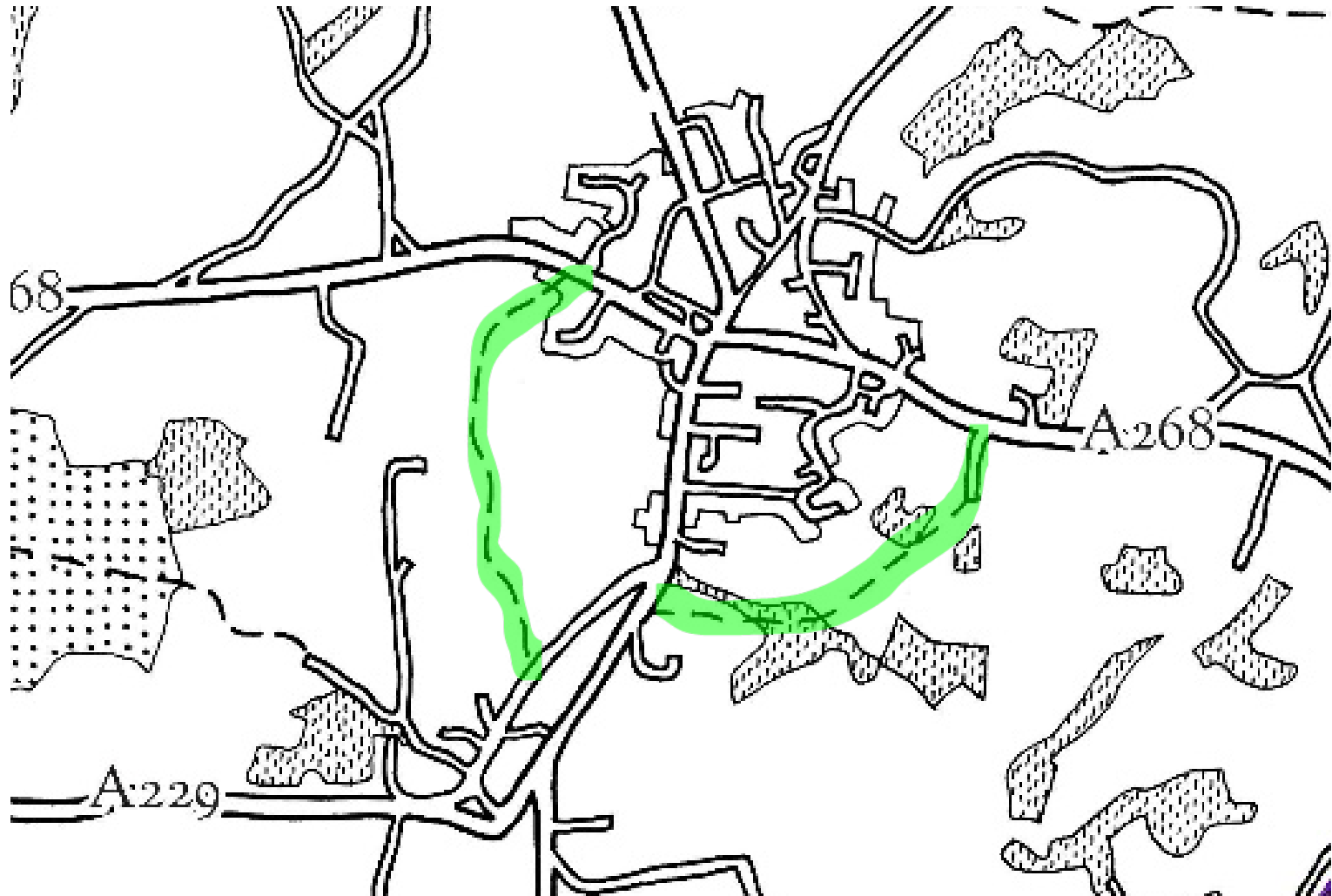
Glimpse views



Green alternatives?

Day Two Afternoon


A second group went to explore in more detail the alternative green links between the Moor and Highgate.



Day Two Afternoon
A second group went to explore in more detail the alternative green links between the Moor and Highgate.

Green alternatives



A photograph of a dirt path leading through a lush green landscape. The path is on the right side, winding through tall grasses and dense foliage. In the background, there are rolling hills covered in trees and bushes under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Several of these footpath
afford longer distance views
across the landscape setting.

Longer distance views



At this time of the year (May) many of the footpaths are quiet hidden and overgrown.



?




A few extra sign posts would be welcomed!

Which way now?!

School


A wide-angle photograph of a school campus. In the center, a long, low-profile building with a dark roof and brick accents is partially obscured by a dense line of green trees. To the right, a tennis court with a green safety net is visible. The foreground is a large, open green lawn. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy clouds. The word "School" is written in large white letters across the middle of the image.

These footpaths are important as they link the school to where people live. Better non-car alternatives could remove traffic from the streets.

A dirt path winds through a dense forest of green trees and bushes. The path leads towards a bright, open field in the distance. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking down the path.

Some of these footpaths have surfaces suitable for cycling. Some surfaces are only suitable for walking in dry weather when the unmade surface is hard-packed.

Suitable surfaces

A photograph of a forest path. The path is dirt and appears to be unlit. In the foreground, there is a large, dark, rectangular hole in the ground, possibly a drainage ditch or a trap. The hole is surrounded by dense green foliage and shadows. The background shows a dense forest with many trees and bushes. The overall scene is dimly lit, with sunlight filtering through the trees.

The paths are unlit and there is no suggestion they should be lit but there are hidden obstacles waiting for unsuspecting walkers!

Obstacles



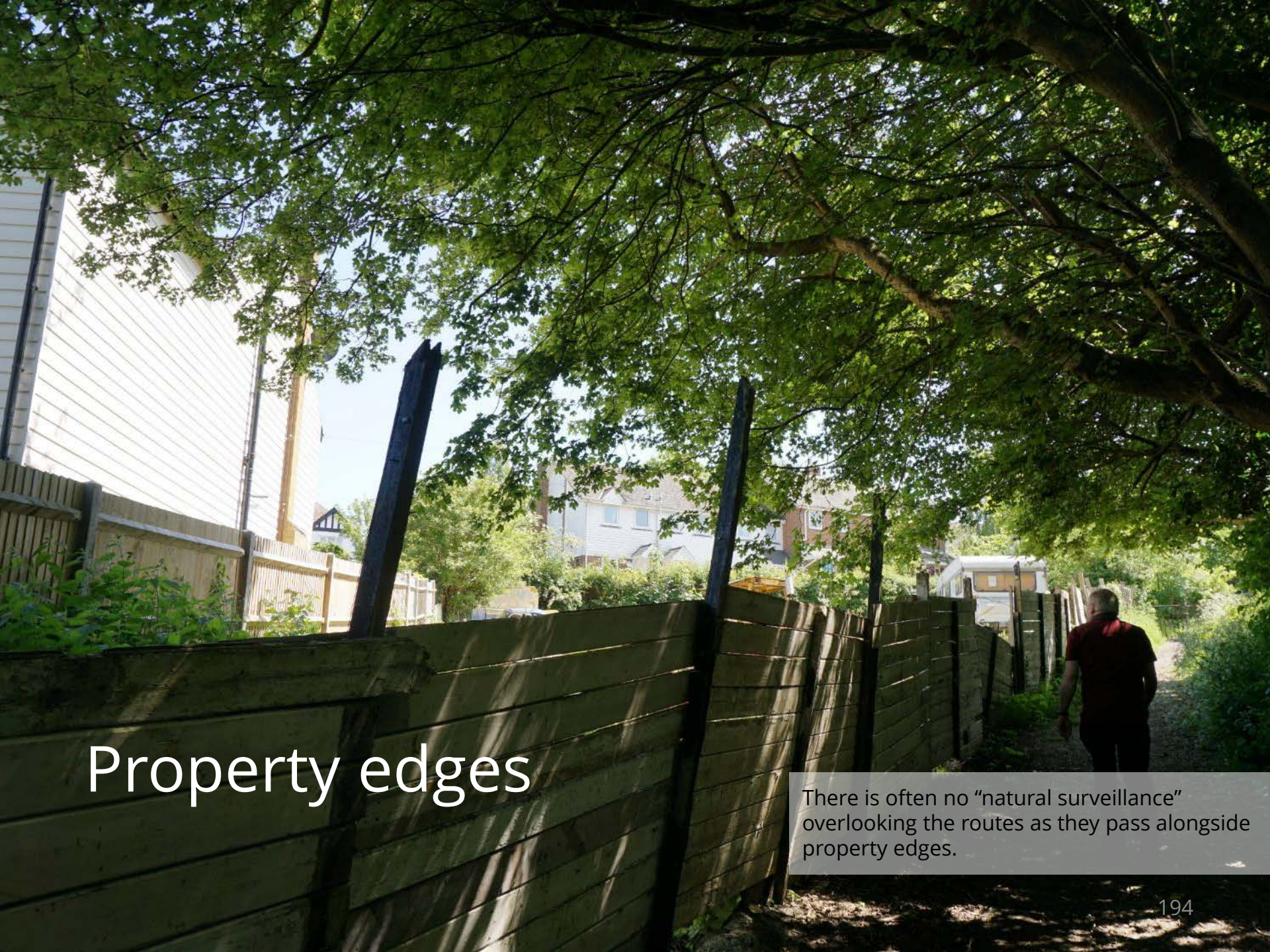
Other obstacles are less hidden but are quite perplexing! What is this fence actually for?

Obstacles



Obstacles

Other obstacles are less hidden but are quite perplexing! What is this fence actually for?



Property edges

There is often no “natural surveillance” overlooking the routes as they pass alongside property edges.

A narrow dirt path winds through a lush, green environment. On the left, there is a dense thicket of trees and bushes, with a large, thick tree trunk leaning over the path. On the right, a wooden fence made of horizontal planks runs along the path. The ground is covered in dirt and dappled with sunlight and shadows from the surrounding vegetation.

There is often no “natural surveillance” overlooking the routes as they pass alongside property edges.

Property edges



Cyclists?

While many love to ride their bikes and children in particular want to cycle to school, there are features along the routes that will prevent this. Moreover, it remains illegal to cycle on a footpath but it is legal on a bridle way. Could some of these routes be re-designated as bridle ways to allow for wider participation.



Cyclists?

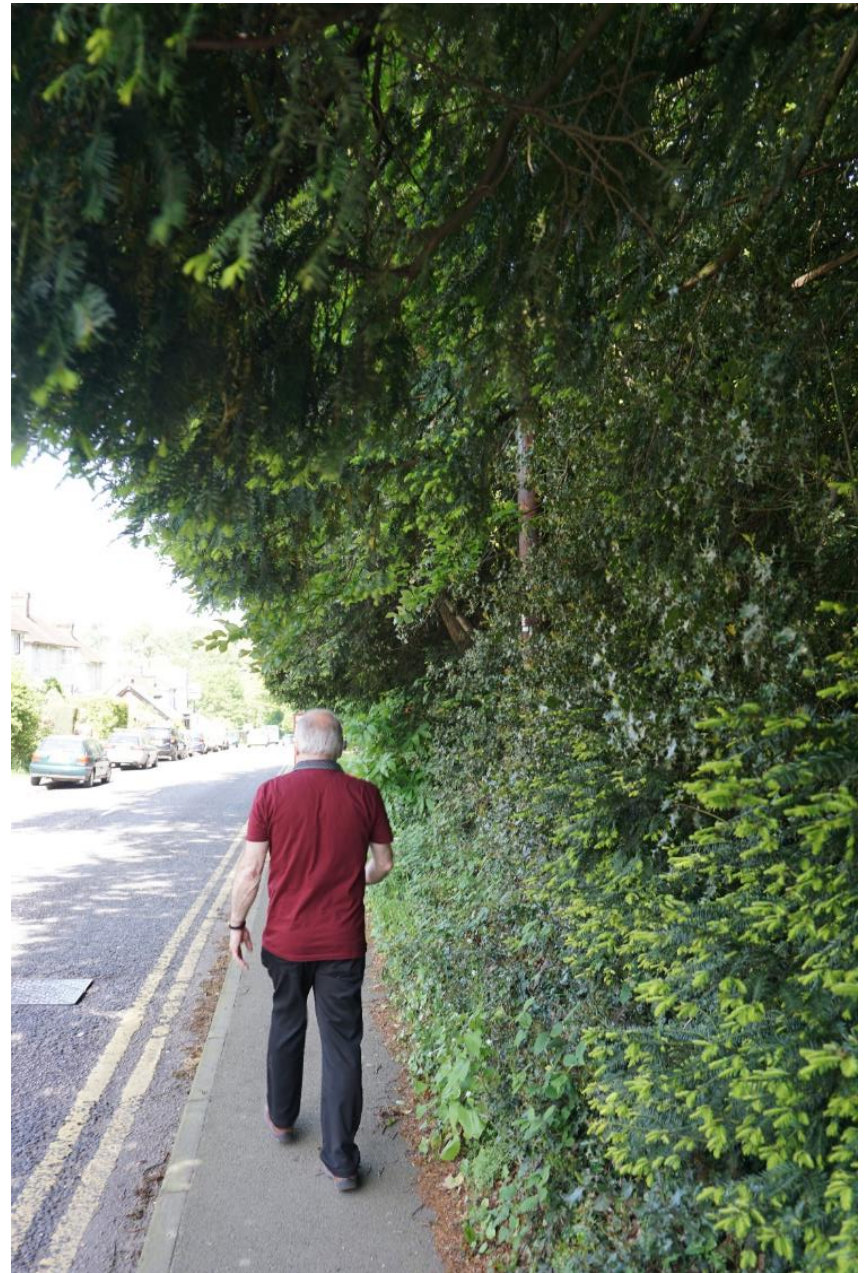


The Moor

The small setback between traffic and footpath is a welcome design detail in the Moor.

Too narrow?

In other areas, footpaths are simply too narrow to be comfortable and convenient for everyday use.



In other areas, footpaths are simply too narrow to be comfortable and convenient for everyday use.

Walking one behind the other





Pavement parking is an issue across the parish. While understandable to a degree (i.e. owners do not want their vehicles to get damaged by passing traffic) this blocks already narrow pavements.

Implicit in the action is that they do not want to block the “important bit” that is the road but are prepared to block the “less important bit” which is the pedestrian network. These priorities need to be reversed if the parish is to become an active and healthy place to live.

Pavement parking

The eastern gateway into Hawkhurst along the A268 is marked by a handsome sign. In the background, is the crane working on the redevelopment of Bewl Lodge.



Welcome to Hawkhurst



Day Two Afternoon

A third group examined the cross-roads in more detail and the area around Highgate. They measured pavement widths and examined how the traffic lights are phased.

Narrow pavements
..... just 58 cm in places



Crossings [3 x cars; 1 x people]

For every one pedestrian green phase, there are three vehicular green phases. This can lead to excessively long waits for people to cross the road. Can this be rebalanced back in favour of pedestrians? Or would this just lead to longer waits for car drivers?



It can get blocked

The group witnessed the traffic temporarily blocking movements and backing onto the crossroads, causing obstruction for traffic in other directions.



It's a squeeze!

It can be tight at certain points but vehicles still move through the crossroads slowly and manoeuvre around each other.... Just!



Over the years the street signage, traffic paraphernalia, other street furniture and general clutter has built up around the memorial. This is understandable as the space has become more neglected due to traffic impacts. What can be done to provide a more people-friendly space here?

Clutter

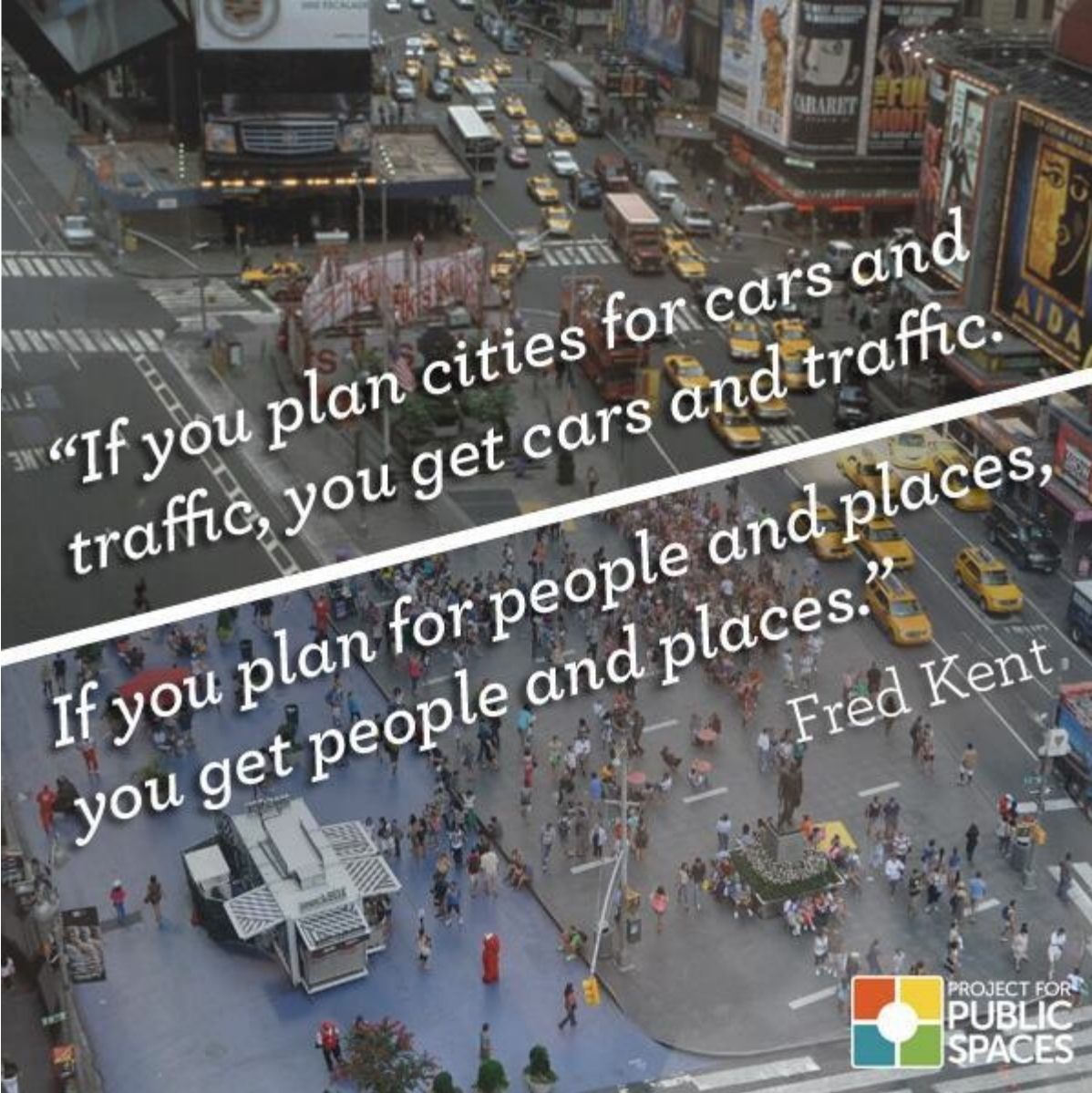


Clutter

Over the years the street signage, traffic paraphernalia, other street furniture and general clutter has built up around the memorial. This is understandable as the space has become more neglected due to traffic impacts. What can be done to provide a more people-friendly space here?

This is an extract from a publication by an American community activist organisation (Project for Public Spaces) and was used to illustrate the importance of using the right type of approach in order to get the right sort of place.

NB Feria was in no way comparing Hawkhurst to New York!



Shared space is an approach that has been used successfully in the UK and elsewhere to achieve a more people-friendly outcome while still accommodating the car.



Cornelius Bechtler
Anja Hänel
Marion Laube
Wolfgang Pohl
Florian Schmidt (Hrsg.)


Beispiele und Argumente für lebendige öffentliche Räume

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG

AKP



This is an example of a shared space in the Netherlands.

A wide-angle, high-angle shot of a busy city street in Austria. The street is divided into lanes by a central concrete median. On the left, a red bus is partially visible. In the center, a pedestrian is walking across the street. On the right, several cars are moving in the same direction. The background features a mix of architectural styles, including a traditional half-timbered house and a modern glass-fronted building. The overall scene depicts a high level of pedestrian and vehicular activity.

A video clip was shown of a street in Austria, where traffic and people mingle freely and safely together. What was of interest is that the cars are always moving (albeit slowly) and are never actually stationary.

Pedestrian priority,
constantly moving traffic



Shared space

This is an example of a working shared space in Poynton, in Cheshire England.

Poynton in Cheshire used to have a complex crossroads junction, similar to the crossroads in Hawkhurst (left) but this was replaced with a simpler double-roundabout system, with much better paving and slower but smoother vehicle flows. Waiting times have been reduced and the shops alongside the road are now more economically successful as people can more easily access them.



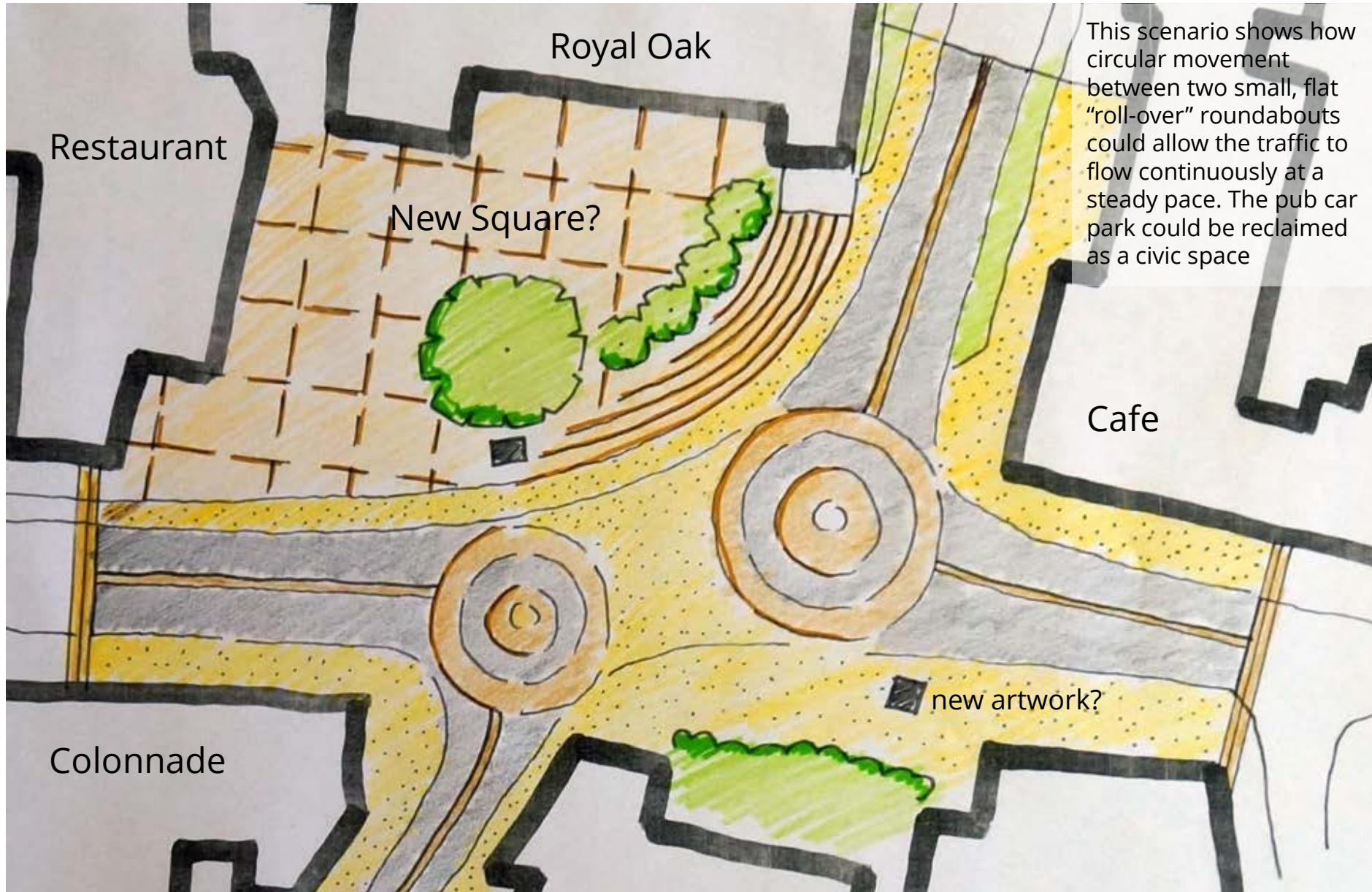
This is a plan view of the scheme used in Poynton in Cheshire. This innovative double roundabout system replaced a complex crossroads junction, similar to the crossroads in Hawkhurst.



Cross Roads scenario 01



The Feria team took inspiration from Cheshire and drew up a series of alternative scenarios for the crossroads in Hawkhurst.



Royal Oak

Restaurant

New Square?

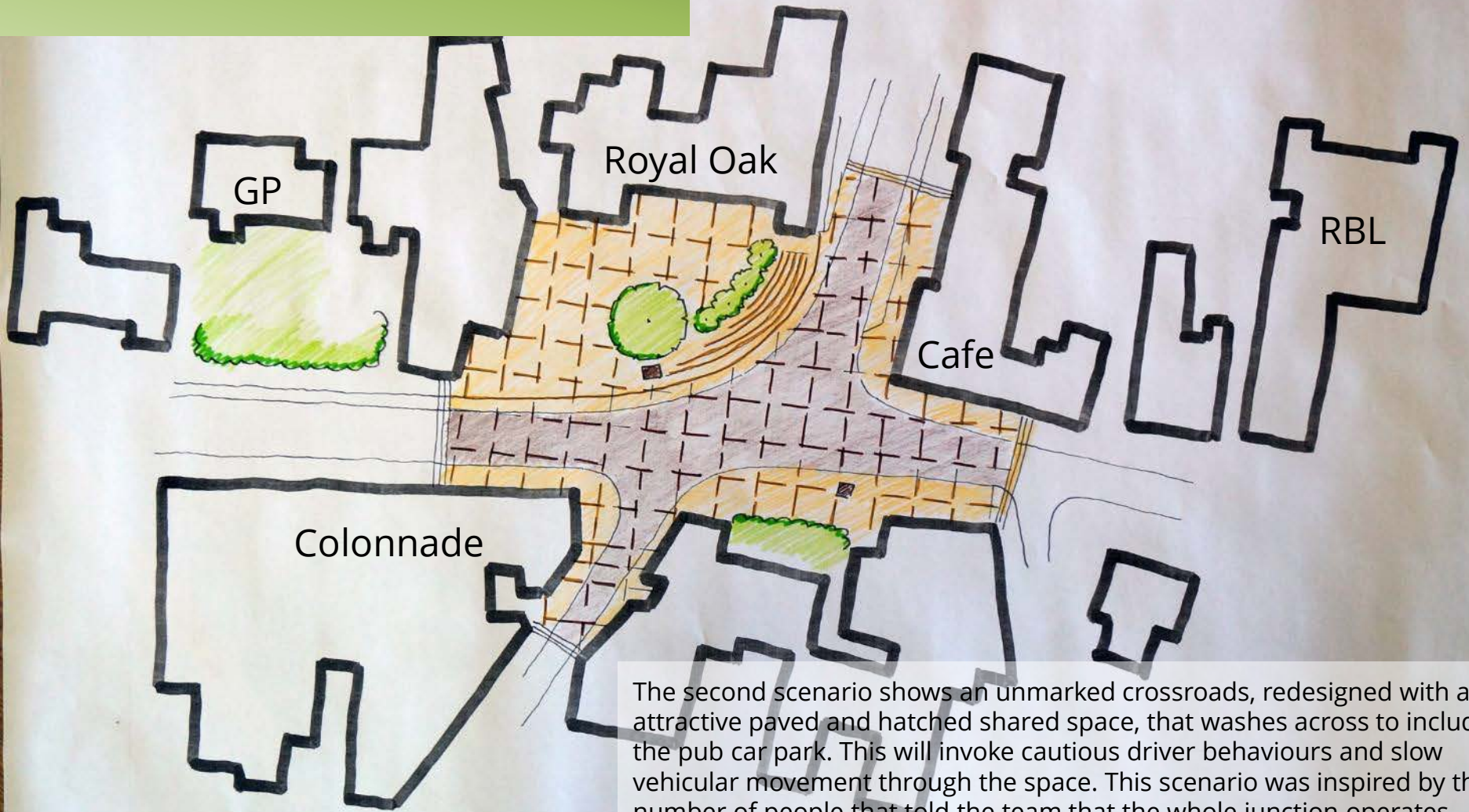
This scenario shows how circular movement between two small, flat "roll-over" roundabouts could allow the traffic to flow continuously at a steady pace. The pub car park could be reclaimed as a civic space

Cafe

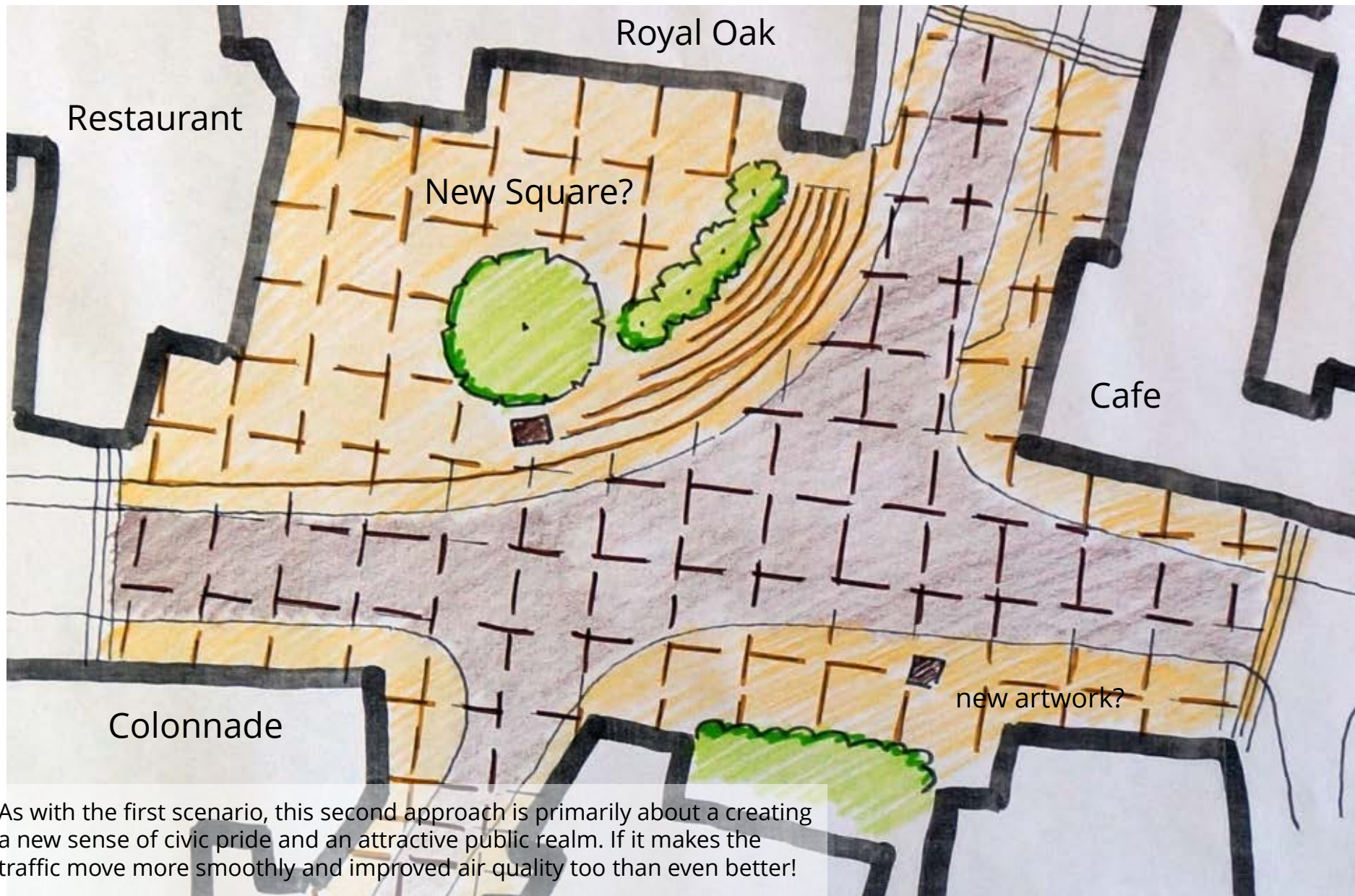
new artwork?

Colonnade

Cross Roads scenario 02

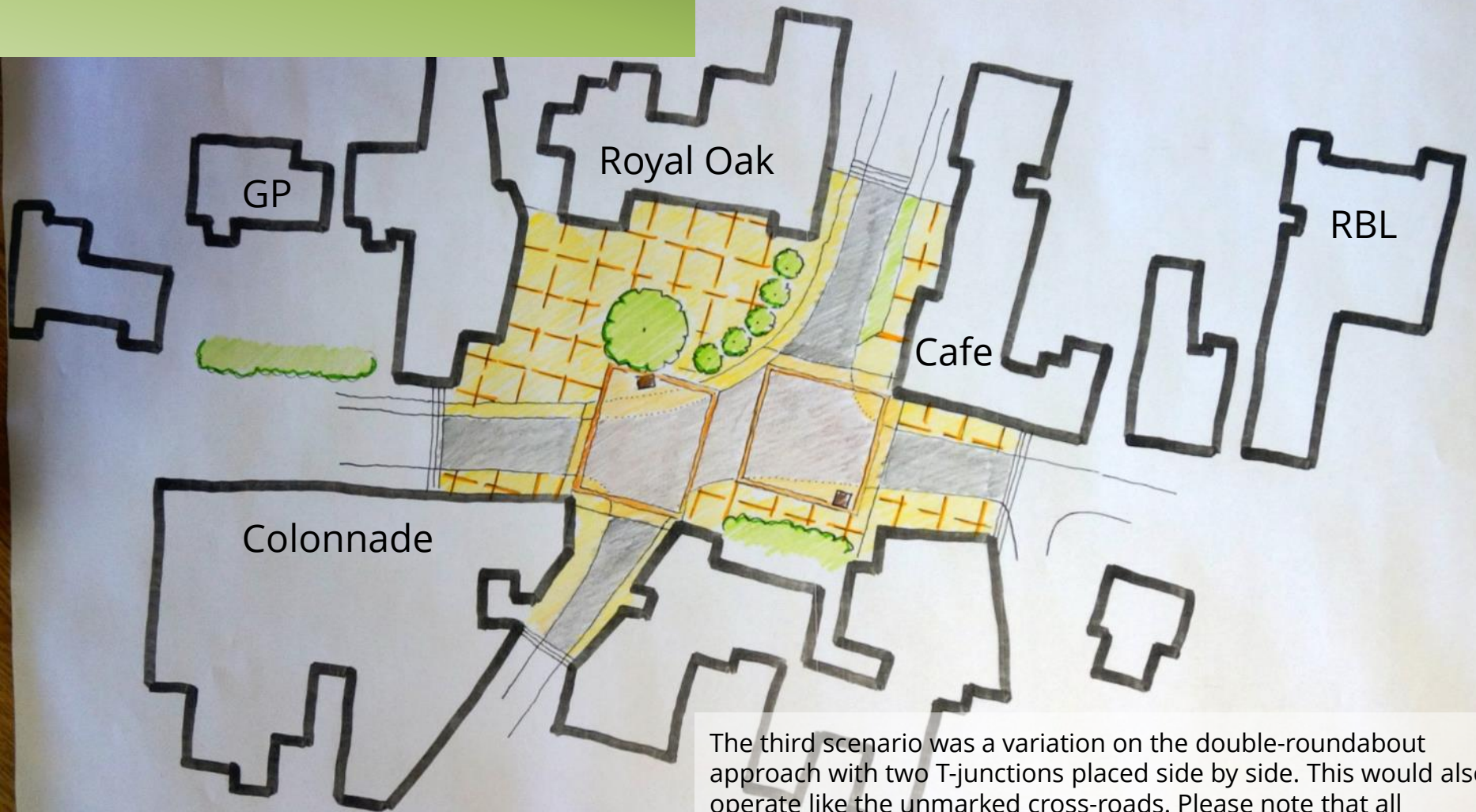


The second scenario shows an unmarked crossroads, redesigned with an attractive paved and hatched shared space, that washes across to include the pub car park. This will invoke cautious driver behaviours and slow vehicular movement through the space. This scenario was inspired by the number of people that told the team that the whole junction operates more efficiently when the current traffic lights are out of action.



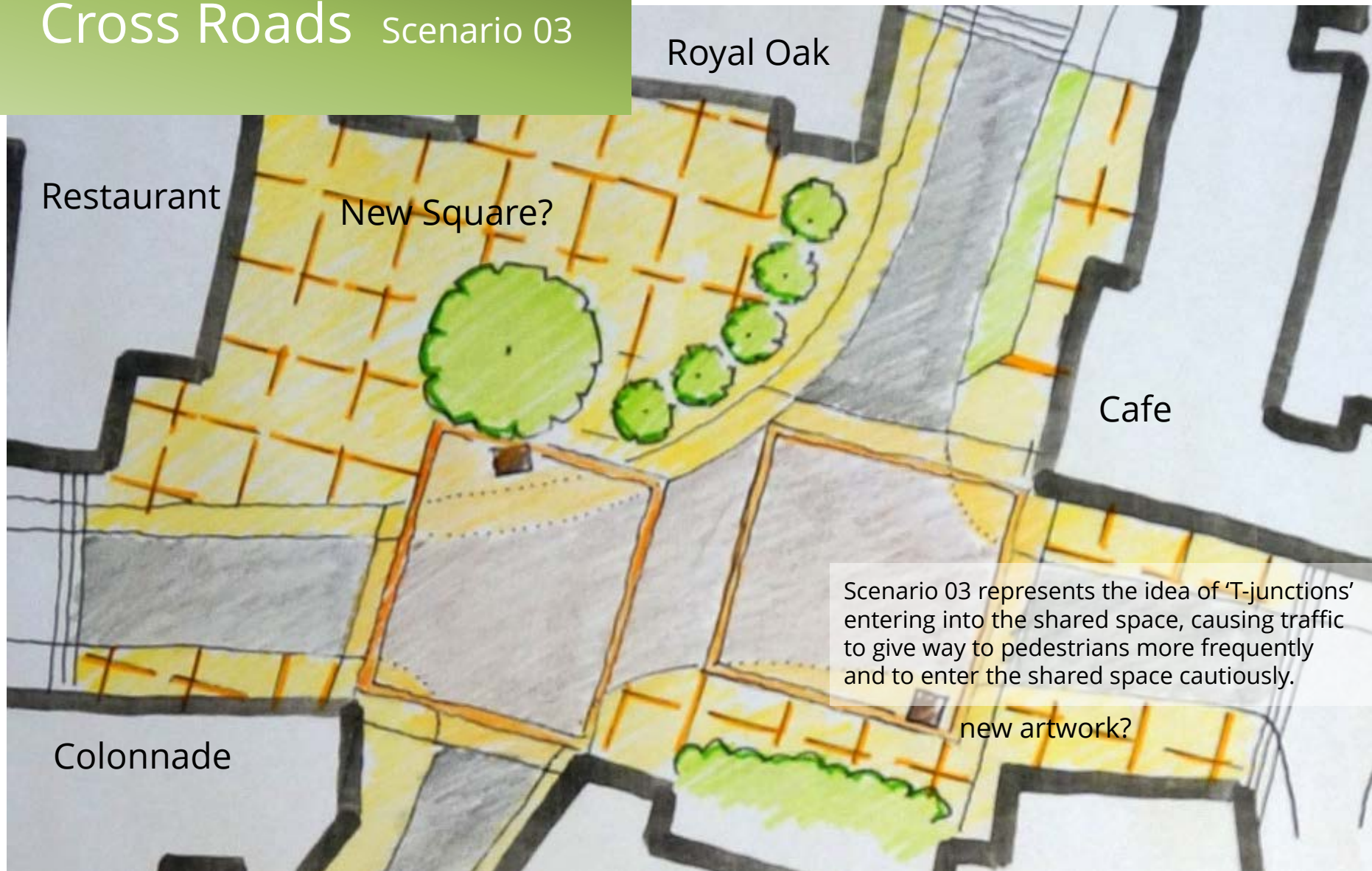
As with the first scenario, this second approach is primarily about a creating a new sense of civic pride and an attractive public realm. If it makes the traffic move more smoothly and improved air quality too than even better!

Cross Roads scenario 03



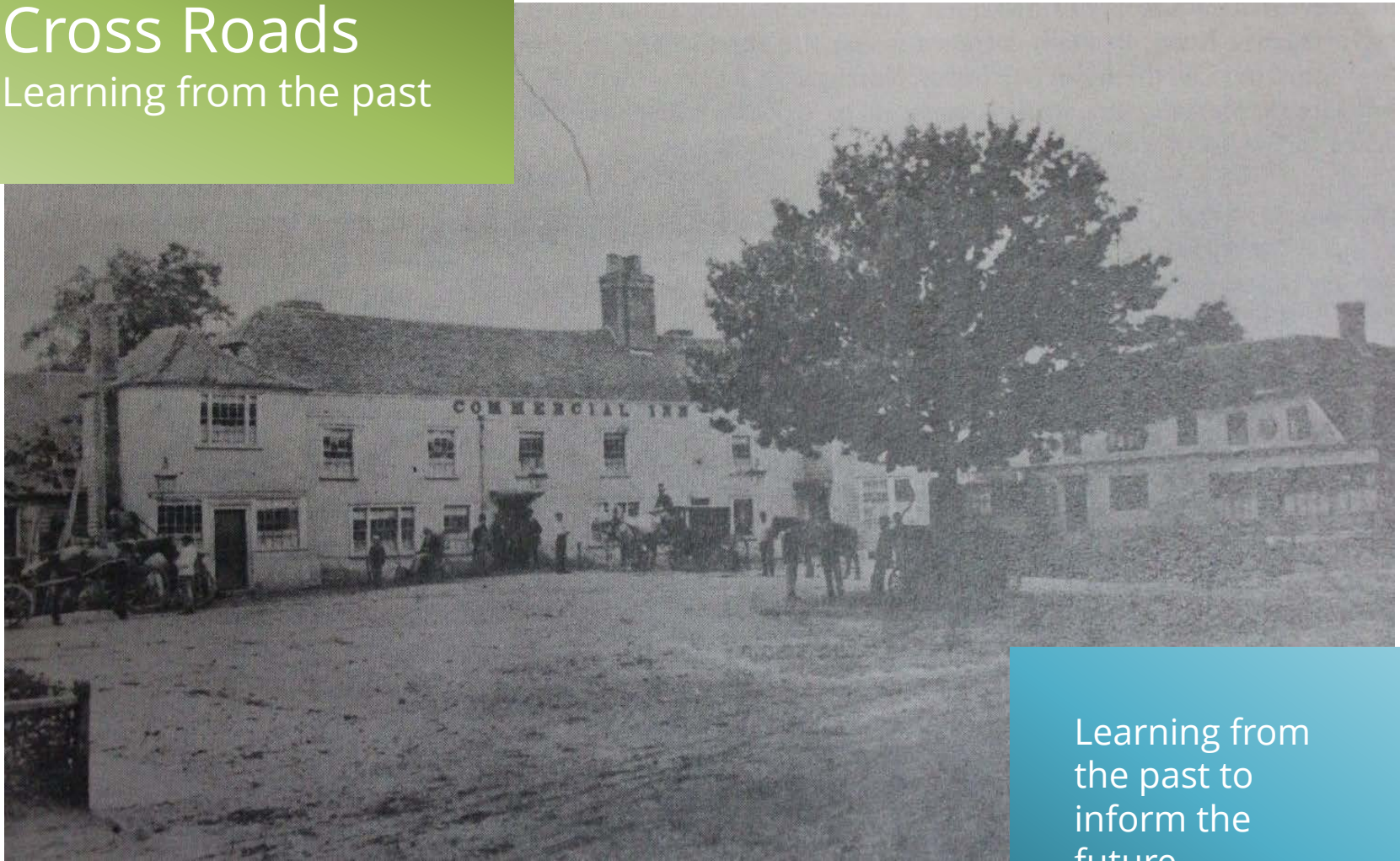
The third scenario was a variation on the double-roundabout approach with two T-junctions placed side by side. This would also operate like the unmarked cross-roads. Please note that all scenarios need to be subject to further refinement and detailed testing and at this stage remain conceptual ideas.

Cross Roads scenario 03



Cross Roads

Learning from the past

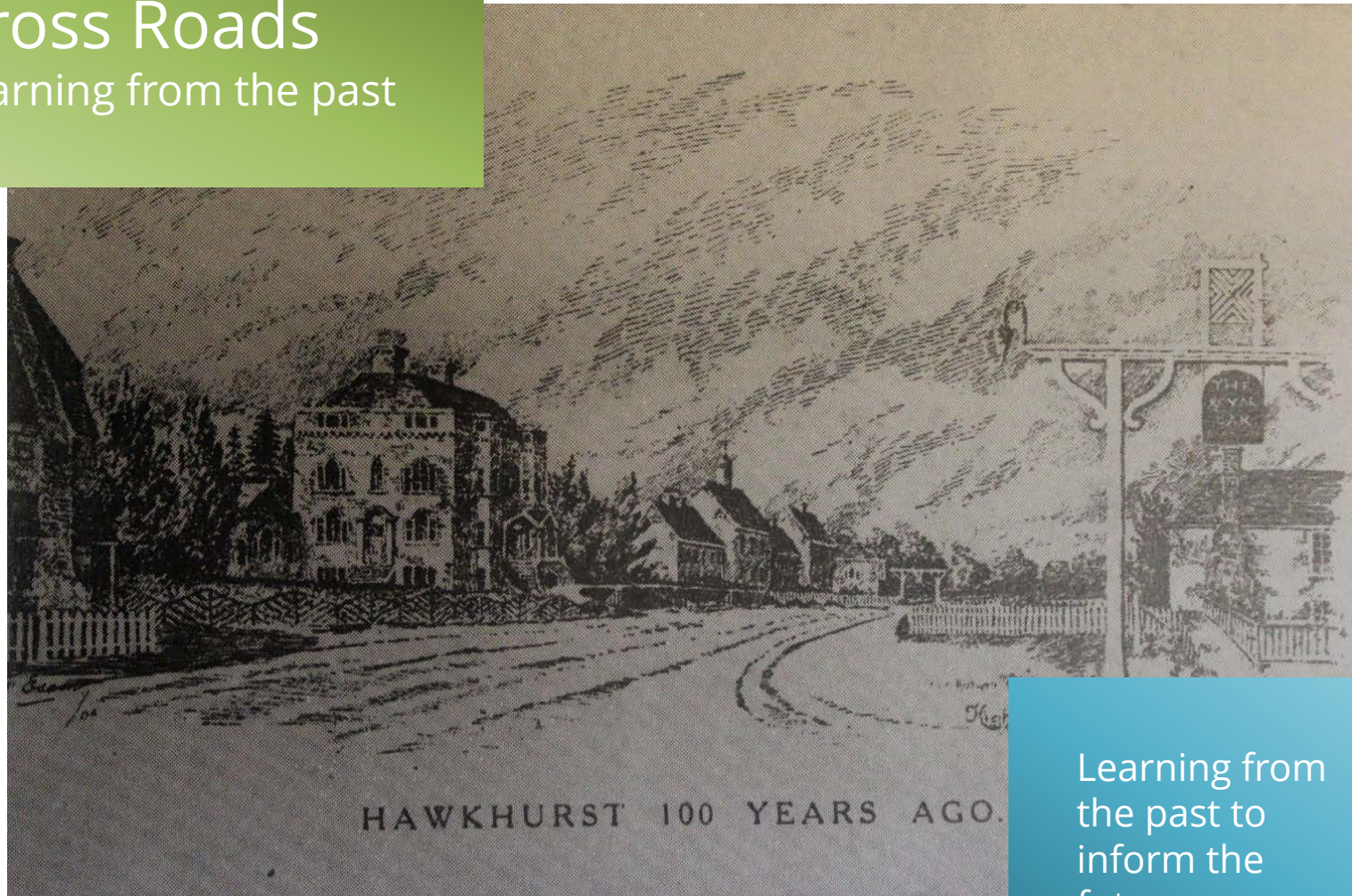


Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

For many years, Highgate had a small square in the centre of the village, marked by a large oak tree. Can this be rediscovered?

Cross Roads

Learning from the past

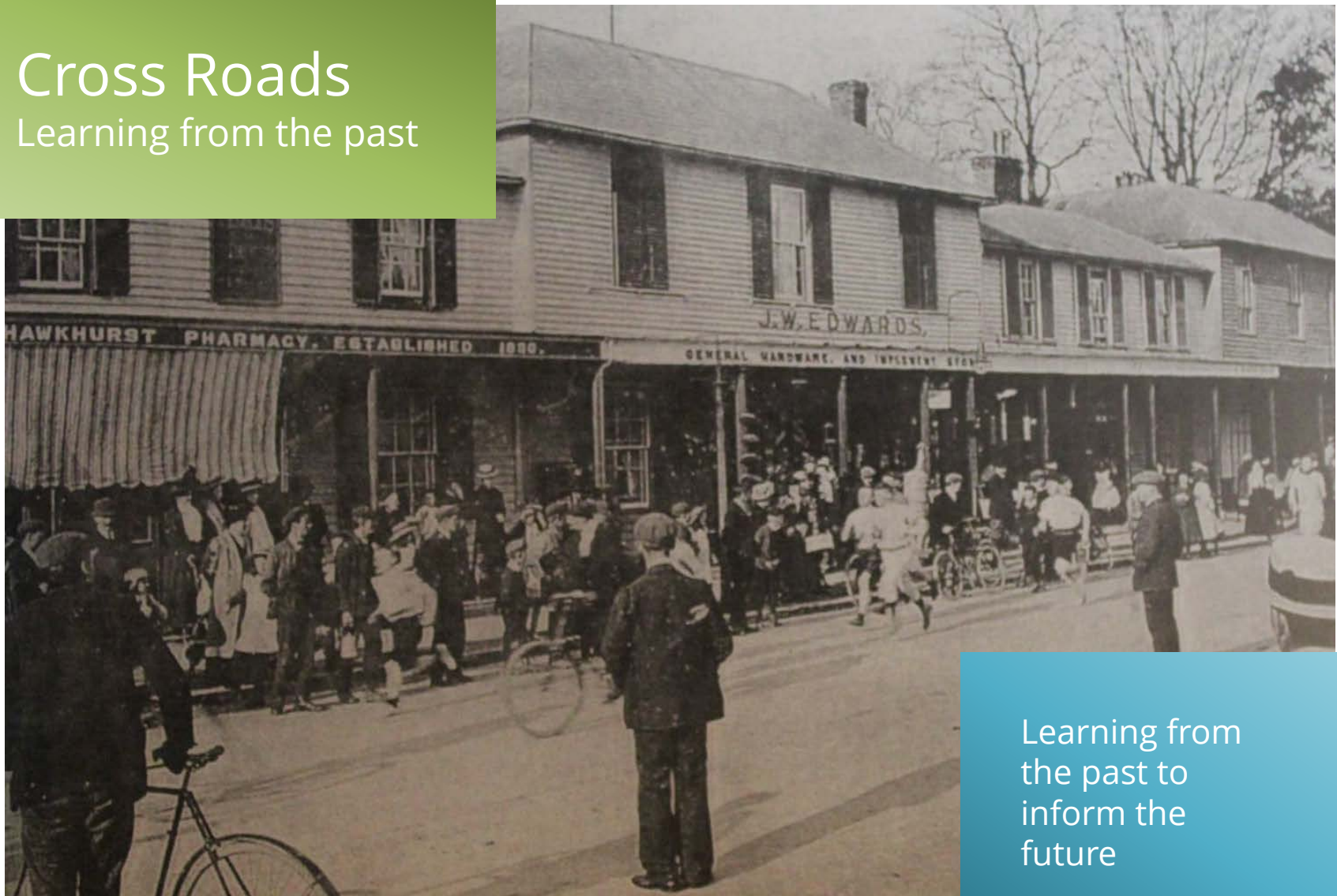


Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

This image shows a time before the colonnade was built.
The Royal Oak pub is on the right.

Cross Roads

Learning from the past



Learning from
the past to
inform the
future

Runners and cyclists in front of the colonnade. Would this be possible today?!

High Street / Rye Road

Record of local shops and services

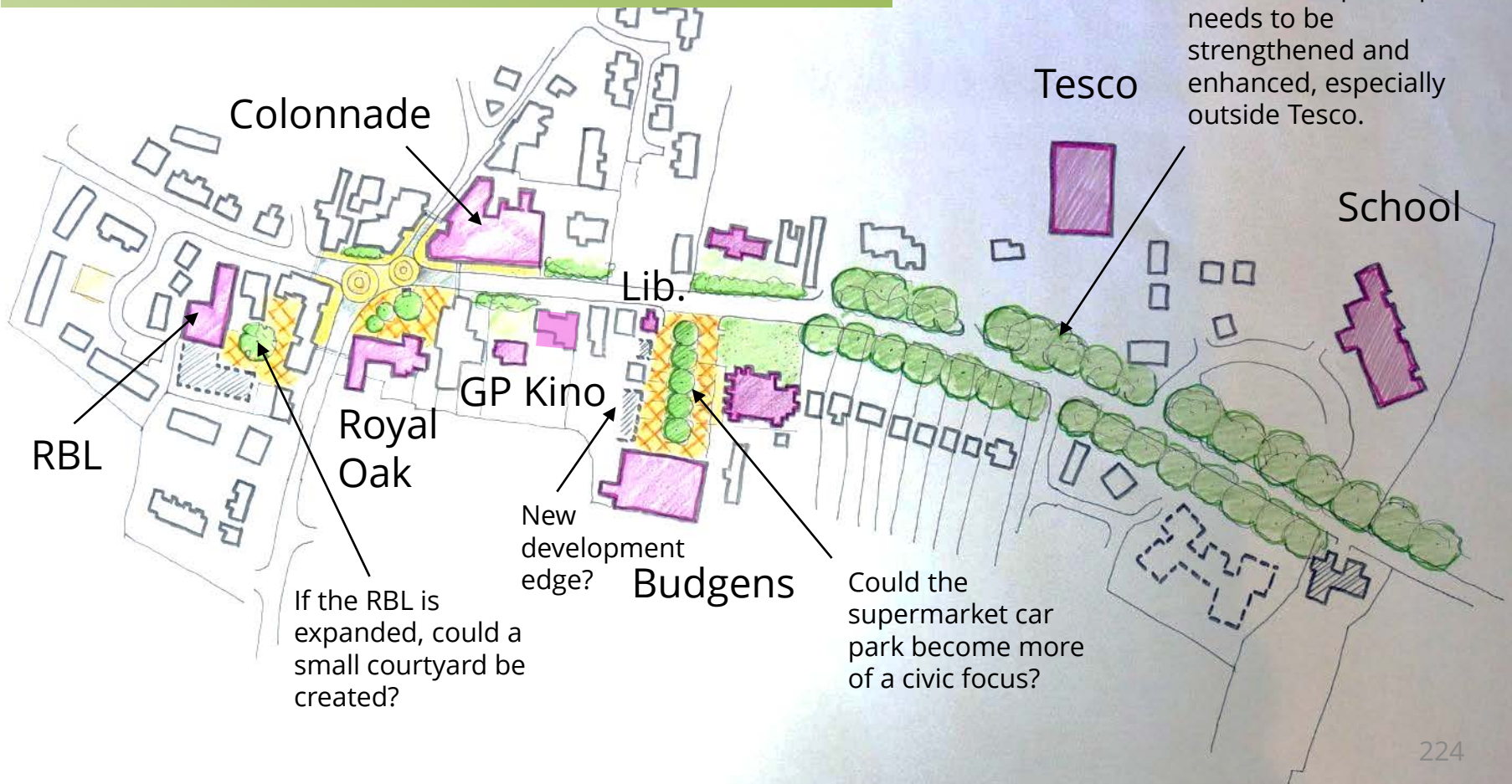
A record of the local shops and services currently found on the Rye Road was documented and further assessed during the three day event. These linear strip photos were pinned on the wall and became a useful reference point for people.

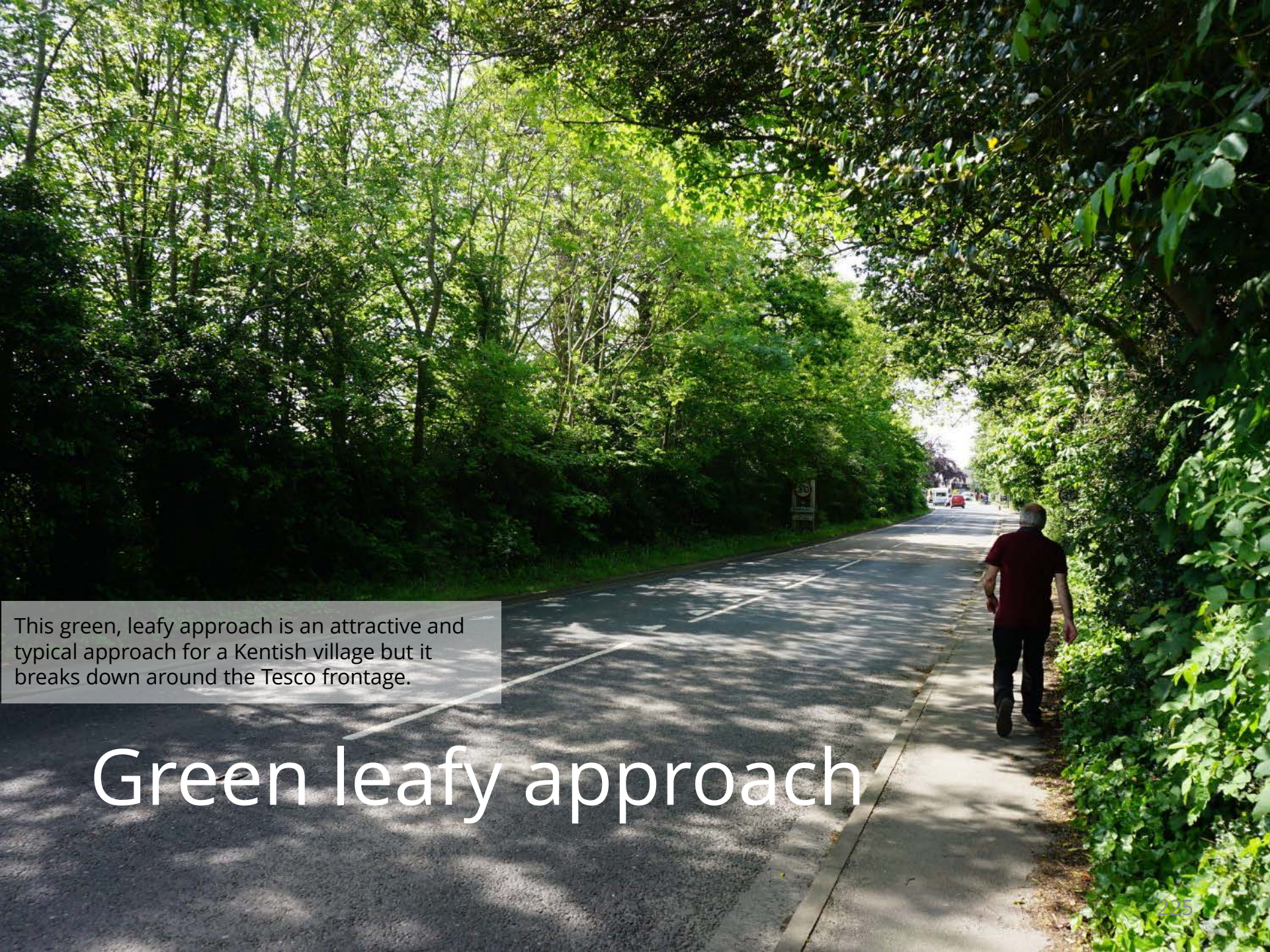


High Street / Rye Road

Anatomy of a village street

This drawing shows (in pink) the key services and facilities and landmark buildings in Highgate. It also shows possible new public spaces (marked in orange). An enhanced green edge outside Tesco along the Rye Road would provide a more attractive welcome from the west.





This green, leafy approach is an attractive and typical approach for a Kentish village but it breaks down around the Tesco frontage.

Green leafy approach



End of Day Two

At the end of the second day, groups shared their ideas.

End of Day Two



At the end of the second day, groups shared their ideas.

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day Two

27.05.15
Evening

Everybody's ideas count

As word began to spread about the three-day forum, a few new faces from the village came in to add their own ideas to the body of work now building up.

Lucinda shared her thoughts and ideas for an area of green space (either Sayers Green or Philpot Green) near where she lives.

Lucinda Hurt, aged 9



Lucinda Hurt, aged 9



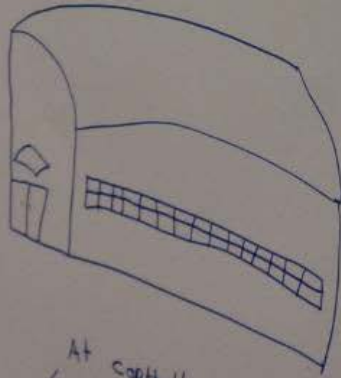
She drew a better social and recreational space for all, including better fencing and more activities. It even includes an Elastoplast and Savlon dispenser for tending to grazed knees! The neighbourhood plan needs more young people to take part and share their views.

Lucinda Hurt, aged 9



By Lucinda hurt
9 years old

NEW Village Hall design



Two floors
 • Bottom floor:
 Big playing/selling
 space,
 Kitchen.
 • Second floor:
 Storage/
 Bathrooms,
 lounge and
 chatting space.

At capthall
 The Hall could
 be as it
 is suggested

• Lack of good public transport
 Grammar Schools: - TW i GS
 - {Bennet}
 - Imicta (i
 (cant have the 11+!!!)
 • No building on the fields (ie Highgate)
 • Village is "The Moor"-centric for a number of years
 eg playing fields + play park
 more needed elsewhere!

• Updating Capthall (we don't need another one
 other than in Highgate)
 • Widen footpaths on main roads -
 too narrow!!!
 • Traffic in the Village is appalling!
 (community speedwatch) divert the traffic
 sort out the timings of the traffic lights
 • No more development - insufficient infrastructure
 schools,
 drainage,
 roads
 • Expand the walking bus to all

Lucinda's green space design went on the wall above her drawing of a new village hall. By now, much of the wall space had been covered with the thoughts and ideas of many participants.

The future of Healthcare in the community is in jeopardy

- 2 practices with Drs who will inevitably retire (soonish?)
- problem nationally with recruitment of GPs and retention of those working in GP

Increasing elderly population and therefore healthcare needs

Increasing demand generally

∴ It would seem rational to combine forces (2 become 1) under the same roof in new location with adequate parking and accessible to all - bringing new facilities and drawing in new recruits (without them having to invest)

We require - a new build, purpose built premises that can serve 10,000 'patients'

This could be combined with new community centre and low cost housing.

We require a free plot of land with a building built by/for the community

A GP'S VIEW

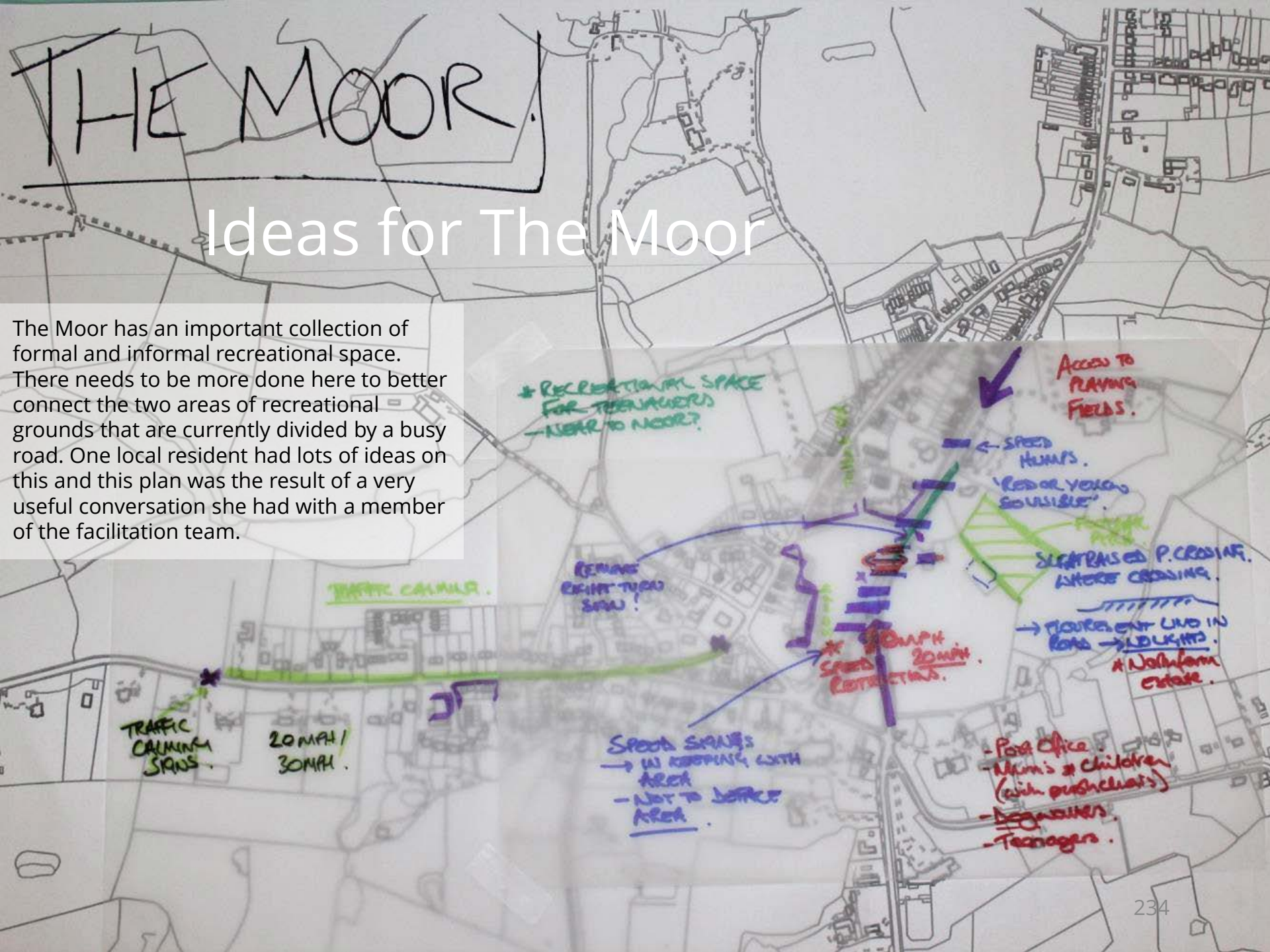
- JFC

The local GP wrote down his concerns for the future health provision in Hawkhurst and how it needs to be supported and enhanced.

THE MOOR

Ideas for The Moor

The Moor has an important collection of formal and informal recreational space. There needs to be more done here to better connect the two areas of recreational grounds that are currently divided by a busy road. One local resident had lots of ideas on this and this plan was the result of a very useful conversation she had with a member of the facilitation team.



Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum



Day Three

28.05.15

Day Three

Task Group: Architecture & Design



On the morning of day three, the participants divided into groups to focus in on the key remaining tasks. One group looked at the current architecture and design detail throughout Hawkhurst and discussed the types of design policies that would be needed to effectively guide any future development.

Day Three

Task Group: Community & Landscape



Other participants assessed the current topography, landscape and community assets within Hawkhurst, and how they can be further enhanced.

Day Three

Task Group: Form & Layout



A third group looked at the different housing densities throughout the parish. They used a 200m x 200m template and moved this around the plan to identify location with interesting and unusual development patterns.



STYLE

How to assimilate contemporary architecture into an established village?

The following sequence of slides was a result of the discussion of the first group and illustrates some of the issues likely to feature in the design guidance section of the neighbourhood plan.



MATERIALS

Locally resourced timber boarding

MATERIALS

Mixture of render, brick and timber is part of the Hawkhurst mix





MATERIALS

Mixture of render, brick and timber is part of the Hawkhurst mix



MATERIALS

Restrained palette of materials

ROOFLINES

Change of roof levels creates porches, dormers and adds character to street scene



ROOFLINES

Combination of tiled and slate roofs adds tone to the skyline



ROOFLINES

Rhythm and variation



ROOFLINES

Variations in roof pitches





ROOFLINES

Rhythm and repetition



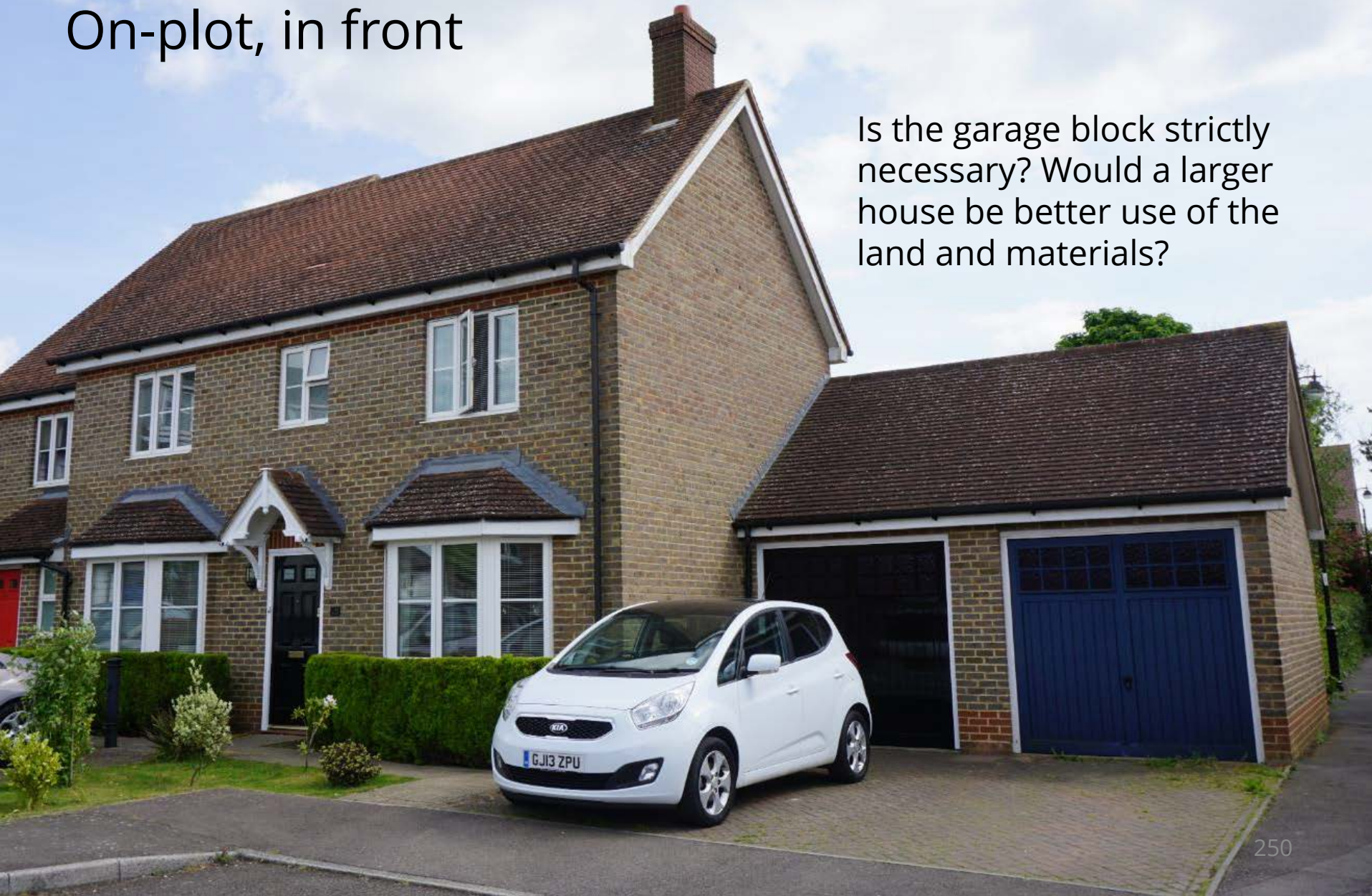
CAR PARKING

On plot, both in front and at the side

CAR PARKING

On-plot, in front

Is the garage block strictly necessary? Would a larger house be better use of the land and materials?





CAR PARKING

On-plot, down the side



CAR PARKING

On-plot, down the side

HOUSE SIZES

Mixed sized houses with adequate interior spaces and storage





LANDMARKS

Preserve the status of landmarks by building quality “background” buildings elsewhere



FRONTAGES

Residential houses set back from street to create deep gardens and green frontages



FRONTAGES

Verdant green edges to public realm

FRONTAGES

Front doors aligned with footpaths and garden gates. Deep front gardens and thickly planted boundary treatments





HEIGHTS

Beautiful bungalows for lifelong living!

HEIGHTS

Three storey buildings





EXTENSIONS

A sympathetic extension to Dunks?

ENERGY

On site generation





DETAILS

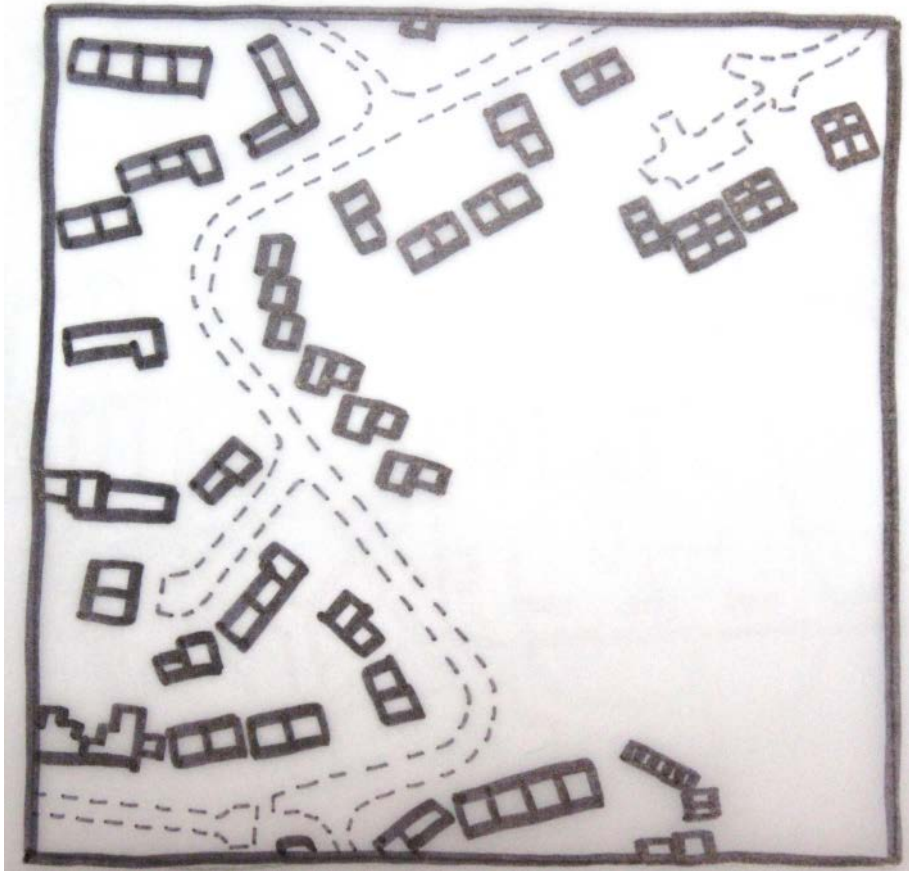
Design details add quality and character

HIGHGATE

Highgate Form & Layout

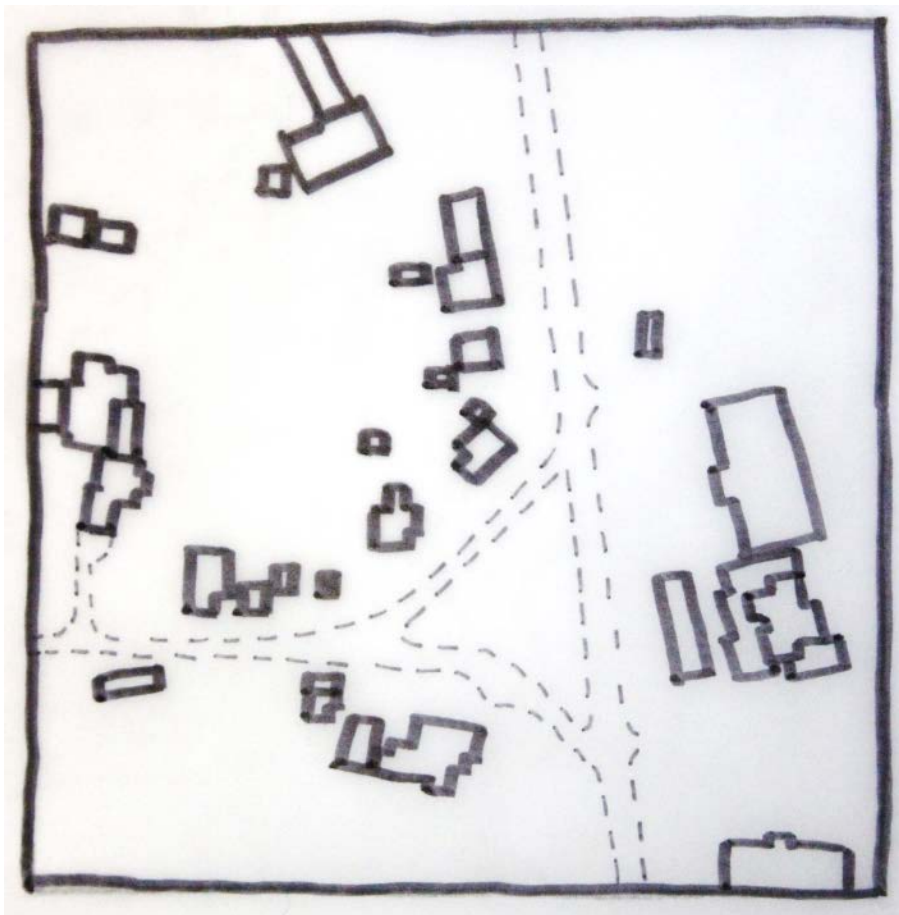


A second group examined the form and layout of development around Highgate. They selected three areas that they felt were interesting and successful and could be used to inform the form and layout of new developments.



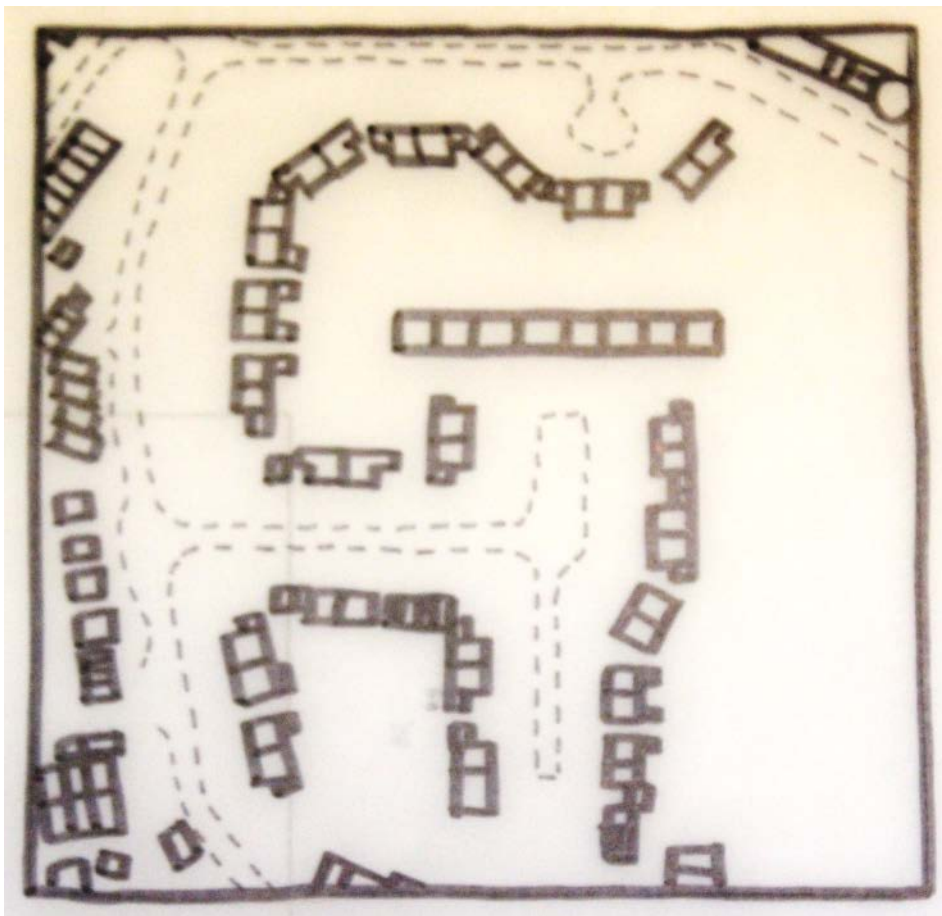
200m x 200m

Medium density housing and
open space (21.3 dph)



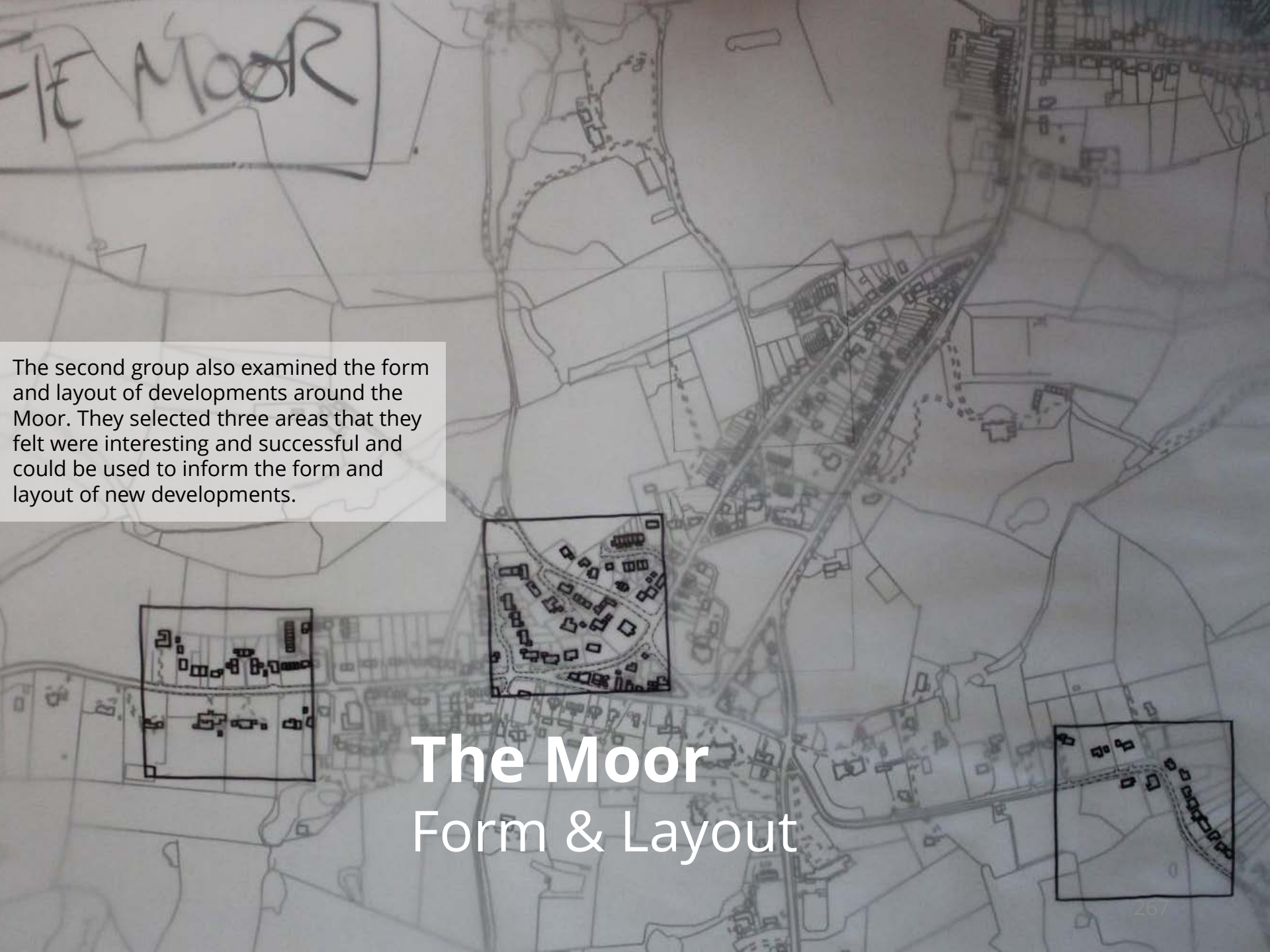
200m x 200m

Housing around a green
space (5.3 dph)



200m x 200m

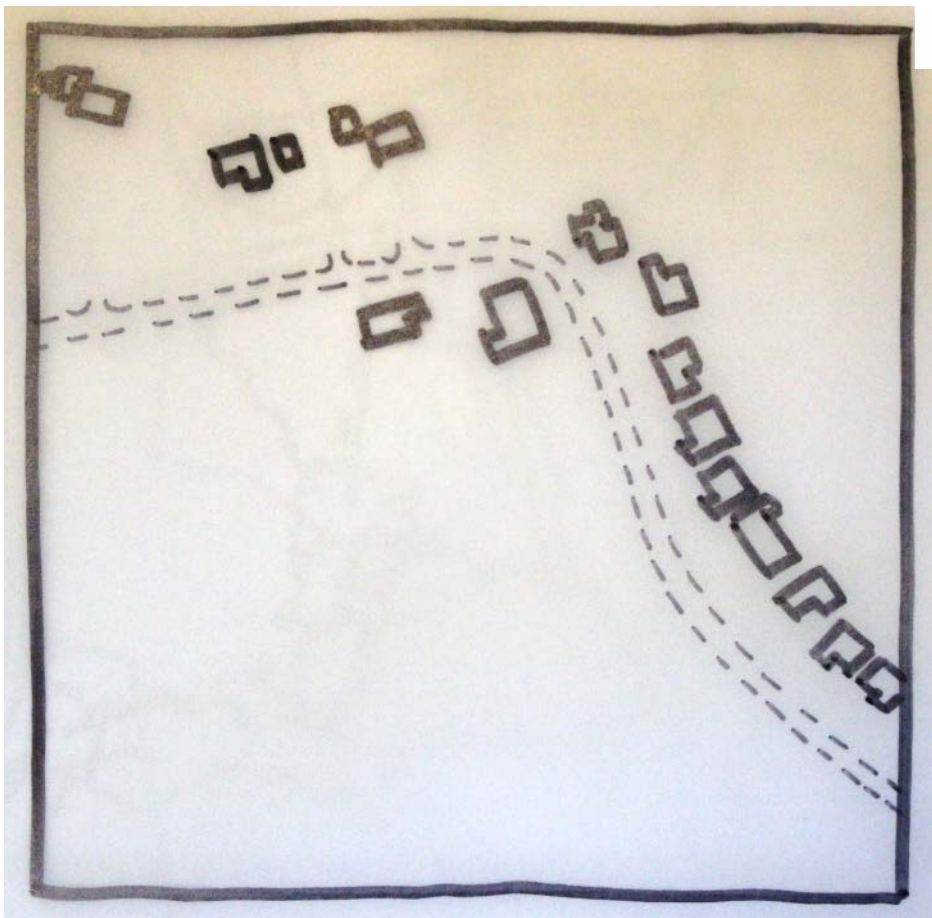
Higher density with pockets of green space (23.8 dph)



The second group also examined the form and layout of developments around the Moor. They selected three areas that they felt were interesting and successful and could be used to inform the form and layout of new developments.

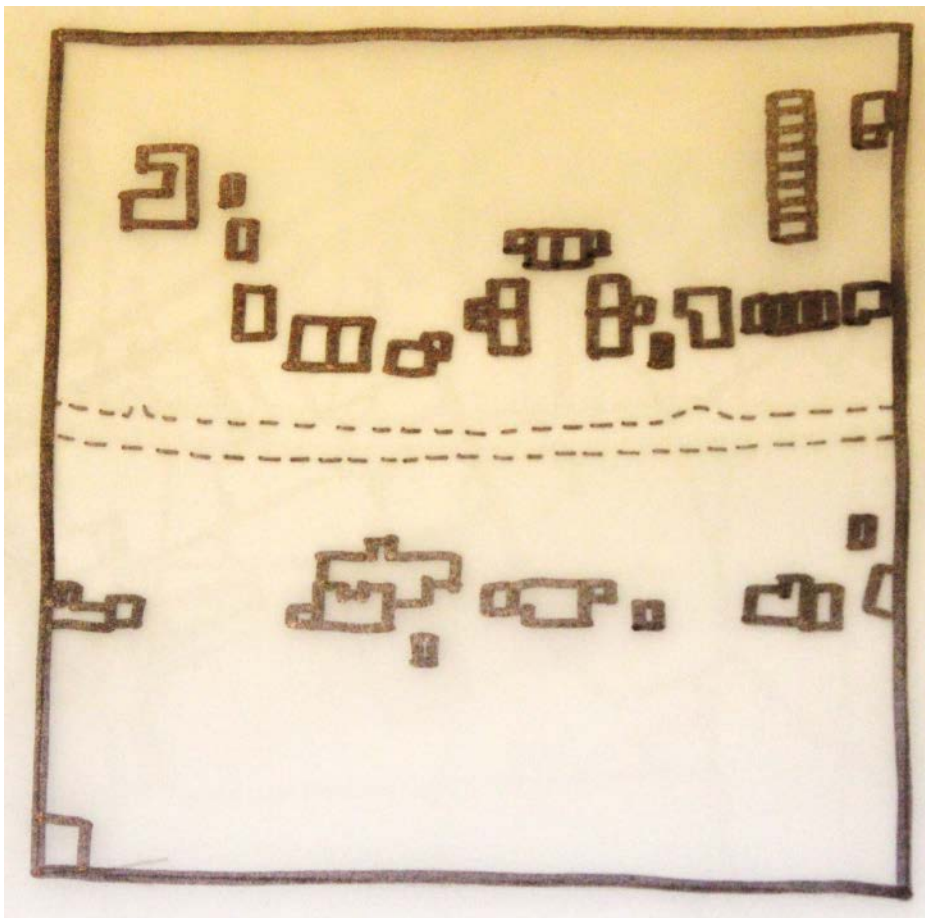
The Moor

Form & Layout



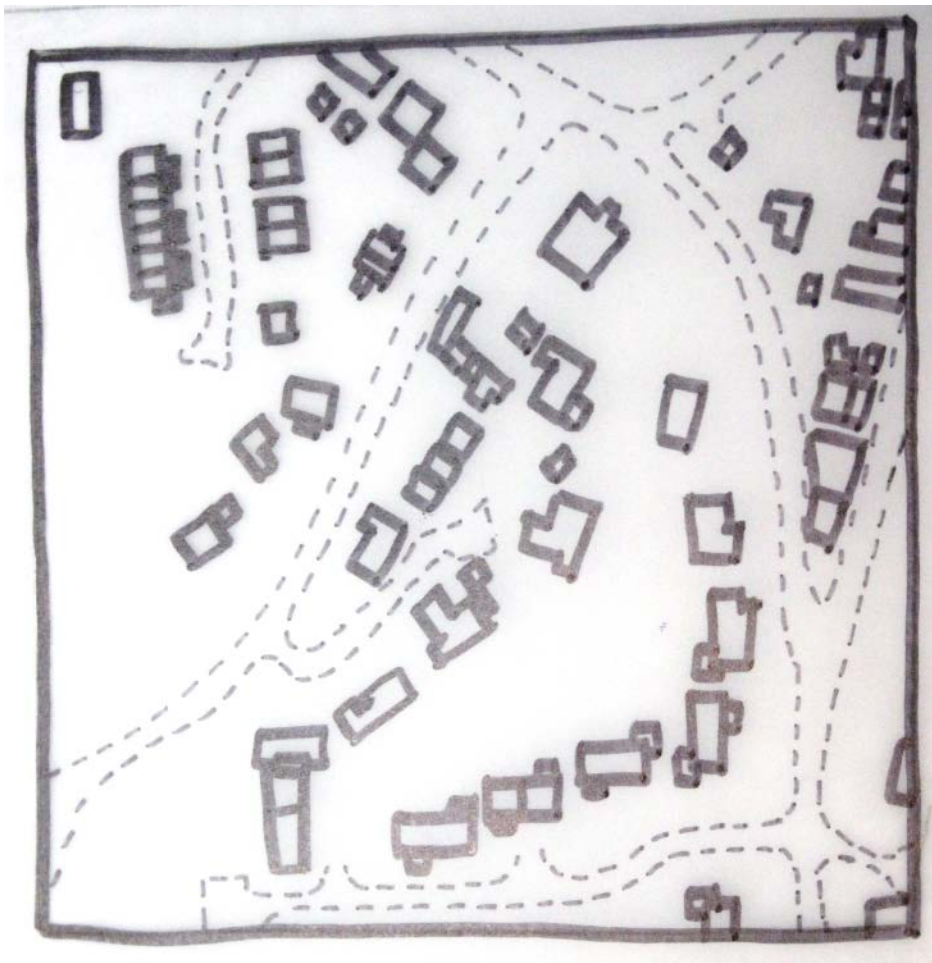
200m x 200m

A mix of housing styles and sizes (3.5 dph)



200m x 200m

Low density housing with a mix of sizes (9.5 dph)



200m x 200m

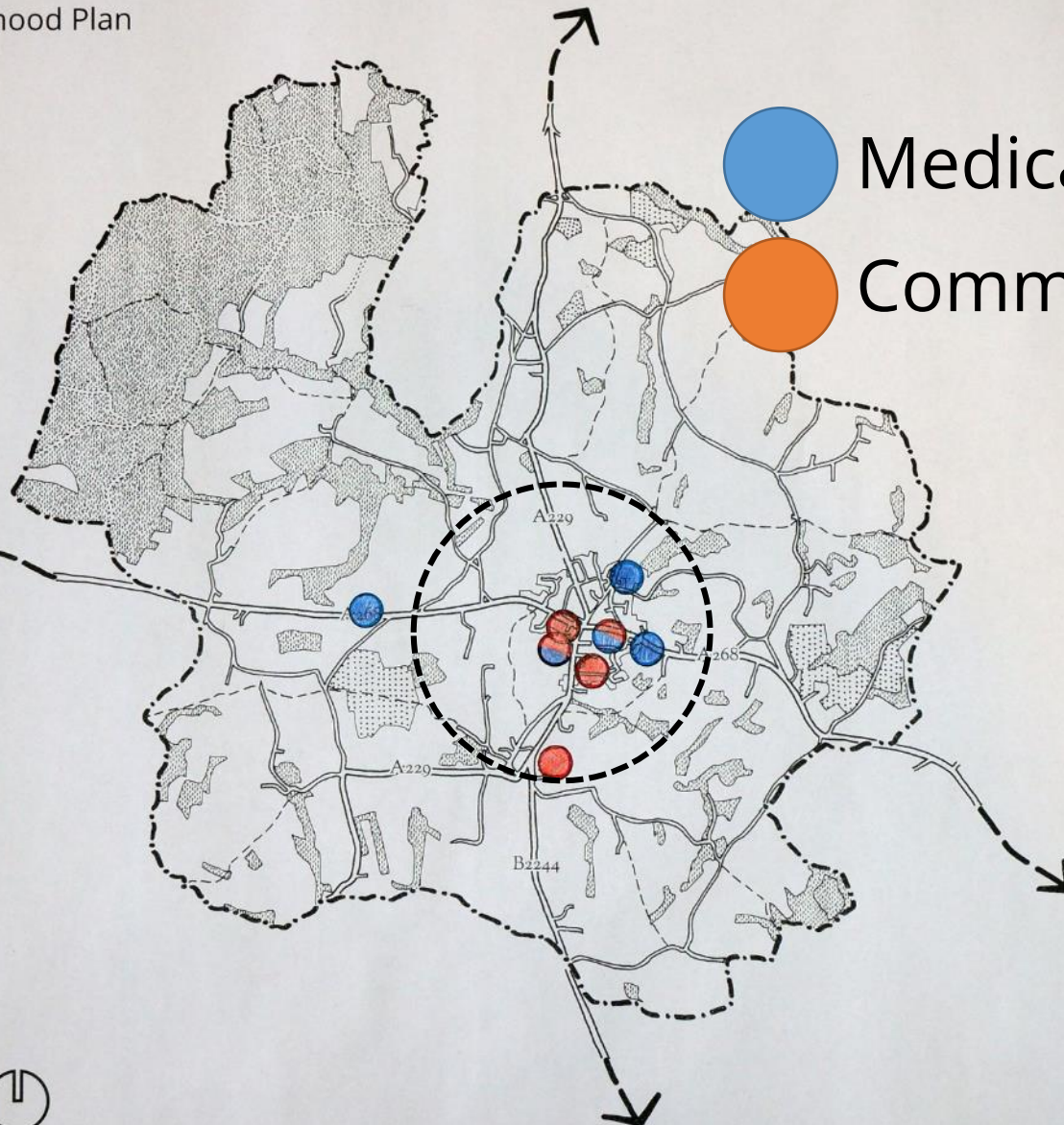
A mix of housing styles and sizes

Locating the new community centre & medical centre

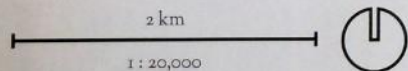
Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

The group plotted onto a map all the sites put forward and started to list advantages and disadvantages for each location. All these, with the exception of the Cottage Hospital site, lie within a 2km circle (dotted black line) centred around the cross-roads.

The Moor is included on the plan as a site suitable for community sports provision. Given it is right on the edge of the 2km are, was considered too far removed to be the right place for the multi-purpose hall.



Medical
Community



Cottage Hospital

- Build medical centre on existing site.
- Pros; space available on site, good access from road, on a bus route, flat, room for parking.
- Cons; 1.5miles from centre and would need a bus transport loop that may not be feasible.

Circus Field

- Preferred site near to road, to avoid AONB impacts
- Pros; Walking distance if not central to village, this use is more important than housing to the community, could add footpaths to improve access to bus routes.
- Cons; Distance from The Moor, on a slope, AONB could limit size of plot near road, site may not be available, previous objection by parish to housing here may undermine support for general development.

Woodham Hall

- Medical Centre as part of new development?
- Pros; Site available for housing – could combine plans, near to school and shops, parking is available and site is accessible.
- Cons; May not be available, may need pedestrian crossing to connect this with school and Tesco to the north.

Heartenoak Road

- Pros; Within central boundary, possibly available.
- Cons; Narrow roads and fast traffic, difficult road access, down a slope.

Royal British Legion

- Pros; Space for parking at back, double size of existing room, space for meeting rooms underneath building, benefit to club through more footfall and catering opportunities, no need to buy new site, build up to two storeys.
- Cons; Not easily available for medical centre too as not enough space?

All Saints Church

- Pros; Large enough for combined faculty, perfect location.
- Cons; Huge costs for purchase and conversion, availability?

King George V Fields

- Pros; Good place for sports facilities, good place for youth facilities.
- Cons; Not popular for community centre, no room for combined sports, community and medical.

Budgens Site

- Pros; Structure already available, lots of space already available, keep Post Office and café to provide income, car parking already available with day-time charge, elderly car-park pass, possible to move war memorial to make a central focus?, make entrance more inviting, room for play areas, youth centres e.g. 5-a-side football, stage for plays, weddings and parties to provide income.
- Cons; Need benefactors and funds to buy site, change of use needed, not guaranteed Budgens will leave.

The Moor

Enhanced sports provision

The Moor already hosts the existing sport pavilion and some simple options were drawn up for how further investment could be realised on site.



The Moor

01 Mirror footprint

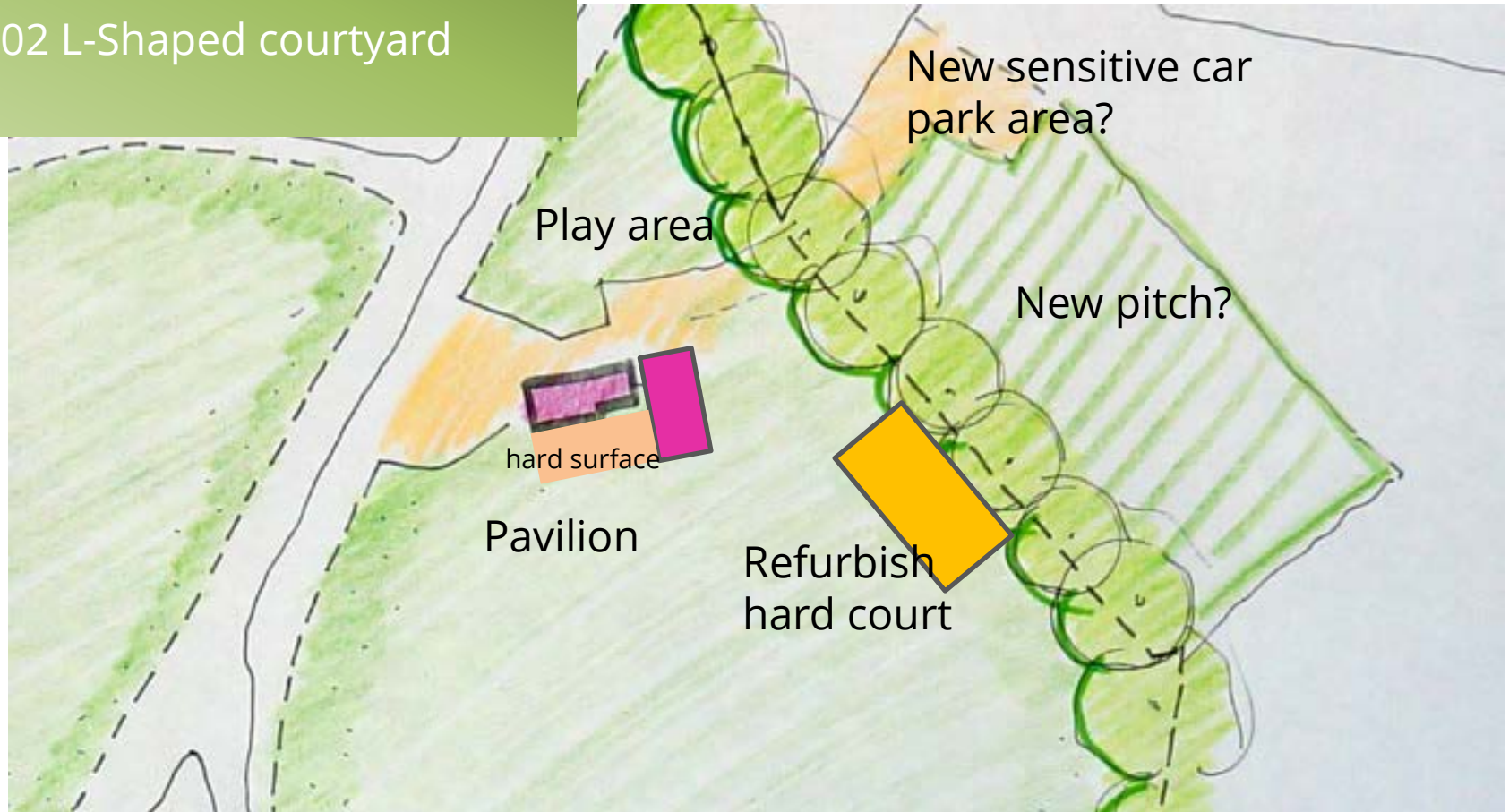
The first option shows a simple duplication of the footprint in a new building next door.



The Moor

02 L-Shaped courtyard

The second option shows a slightly larger footprint configured in an L-shape to create a courtyard development



The Moor

03 More outdoor space

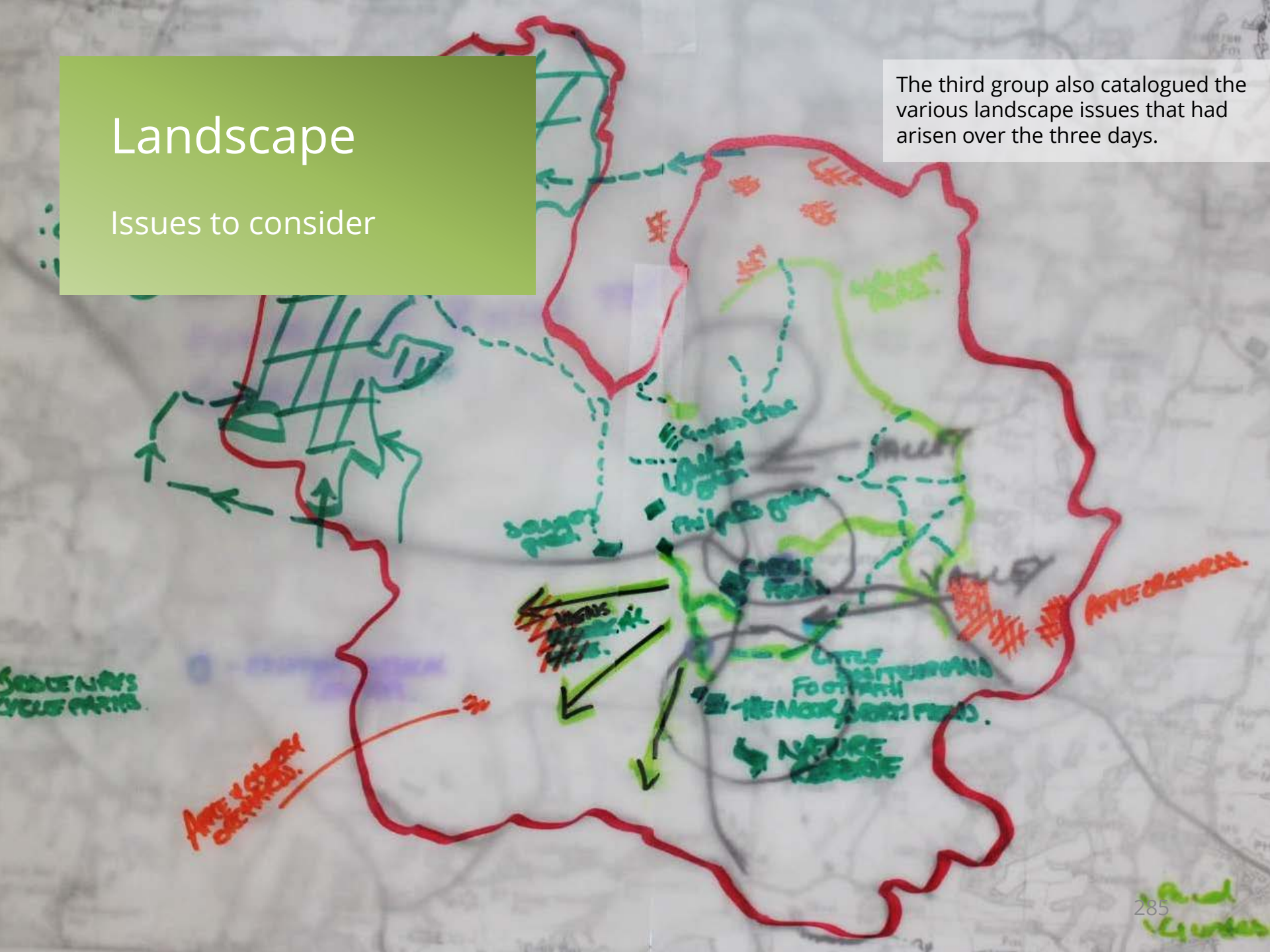
The third option shows a larger footprint, still configured in an L-shape but with a larger outdoor space, suitable for outdoor activities.



Landscape

Issues to consider

The third group also catalogued the various landscape issues that had arisen over the three days.



Landscape

Issues to consider

- Views across the fields and countryside
- Views towards and from Hawkhurst
- Existing pockets of Open Space
- Woodlands, Bredgebury Forest
- Public Footpaths
- Considering bridle-ways
- Pockets of Apple and Cherry Orchards
- Places of natural interest; Nature Reserve, Ponds, The Moor
- Valleys, hills and slopes within Hawkhurst
- Access to public open spaces, footpaths and wooded areas
- Consideration for cyclists, dog walkers, pedestrians

The third group also catalogued the various landscape issues that had arisen over the three days.

Overall Process

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

The slideshow also gave a summary of the process that lies ahead for the Hawkhurst neighbourhood plan beyond the three-day design forum.

- Six week consultation run by Hawkhurst Parish Council (Reg.14)
- Comments received; Revisions made
- Consultation statement prepared; Conditions statement prepared
- Submission to TWBC
- Further six week consultation run by TWBC (Reg. 16)
- Independent Examination
- Referendum

Next Steps

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

The next steps were also explained and an indicative timeframe also set out.

- Bring together the April and May work into a report, ready for June/July
- This report will include main themes, key headings, projects and policies for the plan
- Share this with the parish council
- Further consultation and engagement
- September – December : Drafting the plan proper, formal consultation to follow.

It was made clear that the neighbourhood plan will not comprise one big idea....

The Big Master Plan?

Wait too long? Too expensive?



This is not what neighbourhood planning is about!

.... instead it will provide the bigger picture that a wide variety of small projects will all successfully contribute towards.

Lots of Small Dabs of Paint

Creating a bigger picture?



After these last three days we seem to have a clearer idea what the bigger picture may look like

Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan

Three Day Design Forum

*Engaging, energetic, enthusiastic, exhilarating,
exhausting...*

**“Hawkhurst Parish is a special
place and deserves a good plan
for the future”**

Thank-you.

Hawkhurst

Three Day Design Forum Team



L-R: Eleana Orr (Janine Patterson Studio), Antonia Morgan, Gemma Copp, Richard Eastham.

feria
urbanism