Chilton NP Drop-in meeting

SWOT Analysis

Introduction

- Comments were solicited from visitors to the drop in event held on 13 June 2026 at Acton Village Hall.
- Comments have been tabulated and categorized by topic, and whether the comment relates to a Strength, Weakness , Opportunity or Threat
  - A Strength is a feature of the parish that would make people want to settle here
  - A Weakness is a feature of the parish that is lacking in some way and would benefit from improvement
  - An Opportunity represents an aspect that could be developed to make the parish more attractive to current and potential inhabitants
  - A Threat is a feature of the parish that is considered important but at risk from unmanaged development

Responses to questions posed

What do you like about living in Chilton?

- Quiet
- Its separate identity from Sudbury the Green Spaces, tranquility
- Walkable distance to the doctors
- Access to the countryside - lovely walks,
- Good walks to Sudbury and the health centre
- Friendly like-minded people easy to get anywhere,
- Lovely trees
- Its connection to wildlife,
- Health facilities
- Chilton Hall
- Peaceful
- Feels like the countryside but close to the town
- So far its not over run with houses - please keep it that way
- Peaceful - great walks especially Waldingfield direction to Chilton
- Peaceful, close to Sudbury, good doctors
- Tranquility - but close to Sudbury

What does Chilton need the most?

- Community Centre x5
- A sense of Community
- A general meeting place
- Village hall hire space, classes/groups, wellbeing , social events
- Parish hall for community events and use
- More community events bringing people together
- Social groups for all ages young and old
- Protection of heritage assets, created green spaces and community use
- Reliable bus routes
- A bus route down Waldingfield Road
- Maintain walkable green space
- More joined up footpaths, Chilton to Long Melford, Chilton to Newton, Chilton to Little Waldingfield, Chilton to Cornard
- Drainage on Waldingfield Road, safer pavements
- We need a pharmacy at Siam Surgery
- A new school to facilitate the growing population
- Hospital,
- Pharmacy
- Places to go
- Shops
- Make the land next to the Siam Surgery common land for all to enjoy
- Clear and accessible communication and website
- Employment space - local jobs
- Allotments, secure play area, community hub and centre

What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?

- **Active community centre**
- **Village Fete**
- **Walkable open space**
- **Keeping its separate identity from Sudbury**
- **Areas for all ages**
- **Community hub**
- **Convenience store**
- **secure dog play area**
- **For Chilton to have a community feel rather than a suberb of Sudbury**
- **A connected community**
- **To feel integrated, no ”them and us” like there is at Springfields**

Draft vision

- Please stop building
- We need adequate medical centre for young and old
- Infrastructure to match the increase in people, traffic etc
- Like to see hospital, pharmacy to look after the old and young!
- Doctors, dentist, school
- Community Hall meeting for all
- Community centre/hub
- What is the village hall going to be used for?
- More things for young families to do
- Ensure traffic flow is slowed! Considered especially following the closure of Acton Lane
- What is happening about the extra traffic???
- What is happening about the extra traffic!!!
- Safe pedestrian walkways past Chilton Place
- Safe pavements ie chilton place 10 the airfield (overgrown places)

What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Local Green Spaces in Chilton?

- Land behind the Health Centre
- Churchfield Road, south of the health centre
- Designate the land along Church Field Road so that it is not developed
- Airfield
- Cycle paths needed for village access
- Keep green spaces, wild flowers and keep protecting the environment
- The airfield beyond where the community woodland will be
- Football pitches and sports are
- Near the village hall we need a community space
- Area around st Mary's Church
- Padel Courts near to the community centre
- New village hall for Chilton - we need money released from BDC to do it
- Airfield and area around St Mary's Church
- Churchfield Road
- Allotments - How many?

Heritage Assets

- “Protect St Mary’s”
- St Mary’s
- Protect the Church
- Airfield 3 comments
- The heritage listed assets are an important tie with the history of Chilton and need to be preserved instead of threatened by inappropriate development

Analysis of comments received (1)

Topic	Question	Comment	SWOT 1	Quietness	Accessibility	Community	Green space	Local faciliti	Heritage ass	Community	Public trans	Allotments	Sports facili	Infrastructur
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Quiet	Strength	1										
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Its separate identity from Sudbury the Green Spaces, tranquility	Strength		1									
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Walkable distance to the doctors	Strength		1			1						
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Access to the countryside – lovely walks,	Strength		1									
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Good walks to Sudbury and the health centre	Strength		1			1						
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Friendly like-minded people easy to get anywhere,	Strength		1	1								
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Lovely trees	Strength				1							
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Its connection to wildlife,	Strength				1							
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Health facilities	Strength					1						
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Chilton Hall	Strength						1					
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Peaceful	Strength	1										
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Feels like the countryside but close to the town	Strength	1	1									
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	So far its not over run with houses – please keep it that way	Strength	1	1									
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Peaceful – great walks especially Waldingfield direction to Chilton	Strength	1	1			1						
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Peaceful, close to Sudbury, good doctors	Strength	1	1			1						
Strengths	What do you like about living in Chilton?	Tranquility – but close to Sudbury	Strength	1	1									
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Community Centre x5	Opportunity							5				
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	A sense of Community	Opportunity			1								
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	A general meeting place	Opportunity							1				
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Village hall hire space, classes/groups, wellbeing , social events	Opportunity			1				1				
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Parish hall for community events and use	Opportunity			1				1				
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	More community events bringing people together	Opportunity			1								
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Social groups for all ages young and old	Opportunity			1								
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Protection of heritage assets, created green spaces and community use	Threat			1	1		1					
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Reliable bus routes	Opportunity									1		
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	A bus route down Waldingfield Road	Opportunity									1		
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Maintain walkable green space	Threat				1							
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	More joined up footpaths, Chilton to Long Melford, Chilton to Newton, Chilton to Little Waldingfield,	Opportunity		1		1							
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Drainage on Waldingfield Road, safer pavements	??											
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	We need a pharmacy at Siam Surgery	??											
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	A new school to facilitate the growing population	Opportunity					1						
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Hospital,	Opportunity					1						
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Pharmacy	??					1						
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Places to go	??											
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Shops	Opportunity					1						
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Make the land next to the Siam Surgery common land for all to enjoy	Threat		1		1							
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Clear and accessible communication and website	Opportunity			1								
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Employment space – local jobs	Opportunity											1
Needs	What does Chilton need the most?	Allotments, secure play area, community hub and centre	Opportunity										1	
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Active community centre	Opportunity							1				
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Village Fete	Opportunity		1									
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Walkable open space	Opportunity			1								
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Keeping its separate identity from Sudbury	Threat	1		1								
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Areas for all ages	Opportunity			1								
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Community hub	Opportunity							1				
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	Convenience store	Opportunity					1						
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	secure dog play area	Opportunity					1						
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	For Chilton to have a community feel rather than a suberb of Sudbury	Threat			1								
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	A connected community	Opportunity			1								
Future	What do you want your village to be like in 15-20 years time?	To feel integrated, no "them and us" like there is at Springfields	Threat			1								
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Please stop building	Weakness			1								
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	We need adequate medical centre for young and old	Weakness					1						
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Infrastructure to match the increase in people, traffic etc	Weakness											1
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Like to see hospital, pharmacy to look after the old and young!	Weakness					1						
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Doctors, dentist, school	Weakness					1						
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Community Hall meeting for all	Weakness							1				
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Community centre/hub	Weakness							1				
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	What is the village hall going to be used for?	??							1				
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	More things for young families to do	Weakness			1								
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Ensure traffic flow is slowed! Considered especially following the closure of Acton Lane	Weakness											1
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	What is happening about the extra traffic???	Weakness											1
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	What is happening about the extra traffic!!!	Weakness											1
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Safe pedestrian walkways past Chilton Place	Weakness											1
Draft vision	What would you like to add?	Safe pavements ie chilton place 10 the airfield (overgrown places)	Weakness											1
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Land behind the Health Centre	Threat				1							
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Churchfield Road, south of the health centre	Threat				1							
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Designate the land along Church Field Road so that it is not developed	Threat				1							
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Airfield	Threat				1		1					
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Cycle paths needed for village access	Opportunity											1
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Keep green spaces, wild flowers and keep protecting the environment	Threat				1							
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	The airfield beyond where the community woodland will be	Threat				1		1					
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Football pitches and sports are	Opportunity										1	
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Near the village hall we need a community space	Opportunity							1				
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Area around st Mary's Church	Threat						1					
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Padel Courts near to the community centre	Opportunity										1	
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	New village hall for Chilton – we need money released from BDC to do it	Opportunity							1				
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Airfield and area around St Mary's Church	Threat				1		1					
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Churchfield Road	Threat				1							
Local Green Spaces	What areas should the Neighbourhood plan designate as Loca	Allotments – How many?	Opportunity									1		
HERITAGE ASSETS	What should the NP identify as non-designated heritage asset	"Protect St Mary's"	Threat						1					
HERITAGE ASSETS	What should the NP identify as non-designated heritage asset	St Mary's	Threat						1					
HERITAGE ASSETS	What should the NP identify as non-designated heritage asset	Protect the Church	Threat						1					
HERITAGE ASSETS	What should the NP identify as non-designated heritage asset	Airfield 3 comments	Threat						3					
HERITAGE ASSETS	What should the NP identify as non-designated heritage asset	The heritage listed assets are an important tie with the history of Chilton and need to be preserved in	Threat						1					
				8	13	16	14	14	13	15	2	2	2	8

Analysis of comments received (2)

- Returns were categorized by topic as follows:
  - Quietness
  - Accessibioity to Sudbury and local facilities
  - Community cohesion
  - Local facilities, e.g. health, shops etc.
  - Heritage Assets
  - Community centre
  - Public transport
  - Allotments
  - Sports facilities
  - Infrastructure, e.g roads and employment

Analysis of comments received (3)

- Returns were further categorized by whether the response suggested a
  - Strength
  - Weakness
  - Opportunity
  - Threat

SWOT by topic

Strengths

- Quietness
- Accessibility to Sudbury and local facilities
- Community cohesion
- Local facilities
- Heritage assets

Weaknesses

- No Dentist or school
- No community centre
- Lack of local
- Concerns about road capacity

Opportunities

- Improve footpath network
- Build a community network of clubs and societies
- Build a community social media presence

Threats

- Encroachment of Sudbury
- Protect existing green spaces
- Inappropriate development affecting Heritage Assets, e.g
  - Chilton Hall
  - St Mary's
  - Airfield