

Strategic Parish Plan 2025-2029



Introduction

Welcome to Upton Parish Council's "Strategic Parish Plan" for 2025–2029. This document outlines the vision, values, strategy and actions for the Council's term. It gives residents and other stakeholders a clear view of the Council's goals - whether these will be achieved by Upton Parish Council alone or in collaboration with other partners, such as West Northamptonshire Council. The plan is reviewed regularly and serves to guide our vision, set priorities, inform budgeting, define projects, track progress, and ensure accountability.

Contents

Contents

Introduction	1
Contents	2
Strategic Parish Plan	2
Our Vision	2
Our Values	3
Our Strategy	3
Our Action Plan	4
Accountability	9
How to contact us	9

Strategic Parish Plan

We formulated our Strategic Parish Plan by looking at where we are now: our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

We deepened and enhanced our knowledge of Upton by reaching out to the people of Upton via a **Community Survey**. This helped us to refine our ideas about where we should be in four years' time and led us to agree our **vision statement**:

“Helping to grow a community we are proud of”

Our Vision

“Helping to grow a community we are proud of”

Our vision breaks down as follows:

Helping	We want to empower others to be part of this vision, we want to be an enabler, a facilitator and a helper, working to together with everyone in Upton to get the best outcomes for Upton. We will advocate for Upton. We are on your side, but we can't do this alone - we need you involved!
To Grow	We want to move forward, growing our offering and building continuous improvements to enable Upton parish to thrive.

A Community We want to provide places and services for people to connect with each other and the area. We want to build a strong network with something for everyone - this is for all ages and stages!

We are Proud of We want everyone to be proud of living in Upton, to care about what it looks like and the people within it.

Our Values

We want to serve the community, strengthen funding levels and grow our offering. We want our values and our mindset to be:

- ✓ Community-led
- ✓ People-focused and inclusive
- ✓ Consultative and collaborative
- ✓ Well-resourced and well-organised
- ✓ Value-for-money
- ✓ Focused on securing the best outcomes for Upton
- ✓ Ambitious but realistic
- ✓ Proportionate to our size
- ✓ Open to opportunities
- ✓ Competent and professional
- ✓ Kind and understanding

Our Strategy

How are we planning deliver our vision of:

“Helping to grow a community we are proud of”

Helping

Improve communication

Champion the issues that matter to our residents

Provide grant funding

Increase access to Council and councillors

Listen to feedback from residents and other stakeholders.

To Grow

Strengthen parish resources

Leverage developer contributions

Secure benefits for Upton

Add value via appropriate staffing levels

Pursue asset transfers, where it makes sense to do so

A Community

Build a stronger network

Organise more events

Improve community centres for local use

Foster collaborative relationships with community groups

To be proud of

Build a stronger identity for Upton

Deliver improvements to local amenities

Reduce litter and graffiti

Honour the history and heritage of Upton

Respect nature and the environment

Our Action Plan

We have developed an action plan of tasks and projects to support our strategy. These have been grouped under the four separate pillars of our vision.

“Helping to grow a community we are proud of”

“Helping to grow a community we are proud of”

Ref no.	 Helping	Term	Funding
H1	Develop and implement a Communications Strategy to improve information sharing	Short	Precept
H2	Hold surgeries, Q&A sessions and meet-and-greet events with Councillors	Short	N/a
H3	Promote grant funding opportunities and encourage more applications from local organisations	Short	Precept
H4	Advocate for residents affected by match day/event parking and inconsiderate parking near schools	Short	S106
H5	Engage with landowners to improve parking arrangements at Upton Country Park and The Elgar Centre	Short	TBC
H6	Review and supplement VAS / SID to help tackle speeding in Upton	Short	CIL
H7	Support initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in Upton	Short	TBC
H8	Work with CSN to maximise use of St Crispin Community Centre	Short	TBC
H9	Work with The Lewis Foundation to maximise use of The Elgar Centre	Short	TBC
H10	Promote initiatives for a safer environment and support reporting of crime to Northamptonshire Police	Short	TBC
H11	Fight for cleaner streets by relentlessly reporting issues to the appropriate responsible entity	Short	N/a
H12	Supplement WNC street cleansing and volunteer litter pickers by funding a dedicated resource	Short	Precept
H13	Support initiatives to enable safer pedestrian routes to school	Medium	TBC
H14	Engage with developer to secure future of St Crispin Tower	Medium	N/a
H15	Partner with WNC Highways to implement traffic calming on Upton High Street	Long	TBC

“Helping to **grow** a community we are proud of”

Ref no.	to Grow	Term	Funding
G1	Set a financial strategy to strengthen reserves	Short	Precept
G2	Maximise use of S106 for eligible projects in St Crispin (former hospital site area)	Short	S106
G3	Gain visibility of S106 contributions from Upton Park development to ensure benefits for Upton are captured	Short	N/a
G4	Develop a Human Resources plan to support growth strategy	Short	N/a
G5	Play an active role in major housing developments to ensure the best outcomes for Upton	Short	N/a
G6	Advocate for local centre and community infrastructure on Upton Park development	Short	N/a
G7	Plan a strategy for UPC ownership of the community facility on Upton Lodge development	Medium	S106
G8	Appoint an Events Manager/Communications role	Medium	Precept
G9	Appoint a Caretaker/Grounds man role	Medium	Precept
G10	Take on freehold of St Crispin Community Centre via asset transfer from WNC, subject to conditions	Long	S106
G11	Take on freehold of The Elgar Centre via asset transfer from WNC, subject to conditions	Long	S106
G12	Explore future plans for Upton Country Plan in collaboration with WNC	Long	S106

“Helping to grow a **community** we are proud of”

Ref no.	a Community 	Term	Funding
C1	Organise a summer social event in collaboration with community groups	Short	Precept
C2	Organise a Christmas event in collaboration with community groups	Short	Precept
C3	Connect with UMRA, local schools, community groups and key stakeholders to build a strong local network	Short	N/a
C4	Consult with teenagers and young people to gather their feedback on local needs	Short	N/a
C5	Engage with Youth Clubs and provide support	Short	TBC
C6	Organise a youth event (e.g., Youth Bus, roller disco, fright night) in collaboration with Youth Club	Short	Precept
C7	Organise a litter picking event, with incentives to encourage volunteers	Short	Precept
C8	Build an annual events programme	Medium	N/a
C9	Develop additional offering for young people and older teens, (holiday clubs, activity days and study groups)	Medium	TBC
C10	Enhance sport and fitness offering at Upton Country Park	Medium	S106

“Helping to grow a community we are **proud** of”

Ref no.	 to be Proud of	Term	Funding
P1	Install "Welcome to Upton signs" at parish entrances	Short	CIL
P2	Refurbish bandstand and improve fencing at Cricket Club	Short	S106
P3	Improve Bowls Club car parking area with signage, fencing and security	Short	S106
P4	Install new litter bins in Upton Lane, Berrywood woods, St Neophytos Greek Orthodox Church and Cricket Club	Short	CIL
P5	Build trim trail and improved play equipment at St Crispin Park	Medium	S106
P6	Refurbish UPC Memorial Car park to increase usable parking spaces and improve amenity	Medium	S106
P7	Work with WNC to agree future plan for Berry Wood management and maintenance	Medium	TBC
P8	Install permanent memorial, information boards and improvements to paths links at St Crispin Cemetery	Medium	S106
P9	Install planters, flowers and greenery to make areas where hard landscaping dominates more welcoming	Medium	CIL
P10	Extend the wayfinding from the initial sites (Wooden Finger Posts)	Medium	S106/CIL
P11	Install heritage boards to mark the historic importance of sites in Upton	Medium	S106/CIL
P12	Assume maintenance responsibility for amenity areas transferred from Taylor Wimpey	Medium	Other
P13	Work in partnership with the Greek Orthodox Church of St Neophytos to seek funding for a suitable public realm in front of the church.	Medium	TBC
P14	Work in partnership with The Land Trust to reinstate the fountains or agree a suitable alternative for Upton Square	Medium	TBC

Accountability

Our Action Plan is a “live” document. We will regularly review it and monitor our progress against it. We will report on key milestones and communicate our progress with you.

Our action plan will be supplemented with detailed financials, SMART targets and other project management and tracking tools as appropriate to the size and complexity of the initiative.

Actions may be added, completed or deleted over the course of the four-year term in response to changes in externalities such as the political, environmental, social and technical.

How to contact us

We welcome your feedback, ideas, suggestions, issues or concerns. Please contact us at:



Clerk@upton-pc.gov.uk



TBC



<https://upton-pc.gov.uk/>



Upton Parish Council
St Crispin Community Center
St Crispin Drive
Upton



Helping to Grow a Community we are Proud of