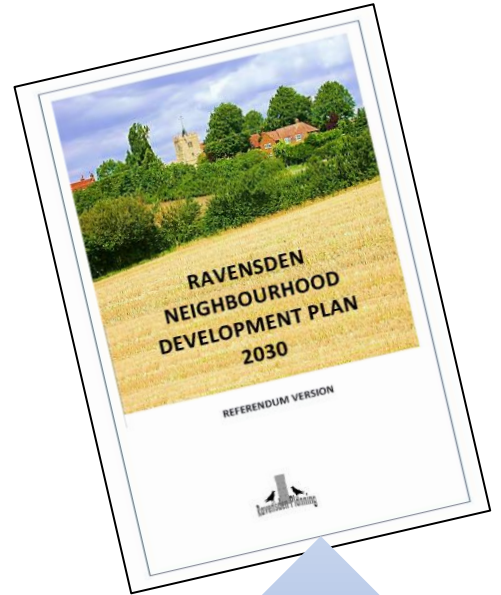


RAVENS DEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
February 2023

Have Your Say  
in the  
Referendum

on

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February  
at Ravensden Village Hall  
7am – 10pm



**2023**  
Residents  
Referendum

**2022**  
Gain Local  
Authority &  
Independent  
Examiner's  
Approval

**2021**  
Consult on  
Development  
Sites, Green  
Infrastructure  
& Design  
Codes

**2020**  
Launch Events,  
Resident &  
Business  
Surveys

**2019**  
NP Steering  
Group setup



After 3-years of community effort and widespread consultation, which received very positive feedback, the Neighbourhood Plan now needs the support of a majority of residents voting in a local Referendum before it can be formally adopted by Bedford Borough Council.

**In the Referendum you will be asked the following:**

*“Do you want Bedford Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Ravensden to help it decide planning applications for the neighbourhood area?”*

**Please ensure you vote**

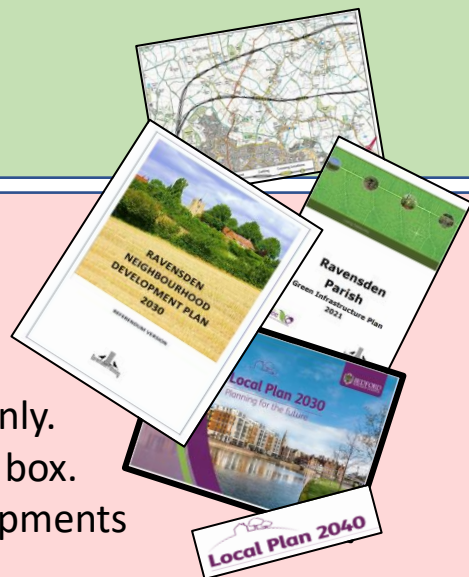
More details overpage → → →

**It is now for you to decide if it should come into force.  
Whether you are for or against please ensure you vote.**

## **If a majority Vote *YES***

The Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the statutory development plan. Its policies would be considered alongside Bedford Borough's Local Plan in making planning decisions, and help bring about :-

- 2 small housing sites to meet local needs.
- Design policies for all new developments.
- New Local Green Space allocations.
- Designation of Cleat Hill as an *Area of Special Character*.
- Further Guidelines for Ravensden Park development.
- No change to overall size or status of any of our settlements.
- Protection of essential community assets.
- A larger share (25%) of future developer contributions to parish infrastructure.



## **If a majority Vote *NO***

The Plan's policies would not apply, so :-

- Planning applications would be determined against the Local Plan and national policy only.
- We miss out on all the positives in the 'YES' box.
- Greater chance of getting unwanted developments through planning appeals.
- Weakened voice when it comes to mitigating East West Rail.
- Reduced opportunities to receive grant aid.



*Poll cards have been delivered to everyone on the electoral roll in Ravensden. You can vote in person at the Village Hall. If you can't make it on the day, please consider applying for a postal vote (application details on the poll card) so your voice is heard.*

**Referendum version of the Plan available at:** <https://ravensdenplan.info>

**Or via** | <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/ravensden-neighbourhood> |

**To borrow a printed copy please contact *Bernadette Russell* 01234 772230**