

Acle Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan

Community and leisure

O1: To improve the ability of the village centre to be used for community events

O2: To support enhanced education facilities for all age groups

O3: To improve access to formal and informal sports and leisure provision.

Policy 1 – support improvements to the area at Acle Bridge

Policy 2 – reduce extent of highway in village centre, increase width of narrow pavements and increase green space

Policy 3 – support upgrade and growth of Acle Academy and the provision of new sports facilities for students and the wider community

Report dated 25th July 2023

Work done and to be done:

Continuing to pay for Premises Licence

Improving attractiveness of The Green

Pressing BDC to refurbish public toilets

Maintained communication channels with schools

Met with governors at Acle Academy

Continuing to fund Fletcher Room for Pre-school

Discussions with Pre-school committee about improving facilities

Applied to BDC for S106 monies to be used for sports facilities

Looking to replace and refurbish play equipment

Adult exercise equipment purchased for Damgate

Supporting Rec Centre with sports facilities

Supporting Community Garden at Methodist Church

Purchased portacabins for Men's Shed

Met with Broads Authority and NCC staff about improving highways safety at bridge - new flashing speed signs were installed and new signage added

No funding available from NCC at present

Met with governors at Acle Academy to discuss proposals for sports facilities

Encouraged the Academy to approach planners about land adjacent to the school

Policy 4 – encourage provision of an enhanced replacement pre-school facility, containing two classrooms, better integrated with the primary school

Drew up plans to relocate Pre-school at former Barclays Bank building. Pre-school decided to remain in Fletcher Room because of close links to Primary School. Acle PC will continue to investigate extending the lease on the Fletcher Room site and the provision of a replacement building

Movement and transport

O4: To improve conditions for walking and cycling from the village centre to the surrounding countryside

Provided a map board on The Green showing village centre and main footpaths

Supporting NCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for the village

NCC have installed additional cycle parking to support people using public transport

O5: To reduce the dominance of the highway in the village centre

No proposals at present

O6: To support enhanced public transport infrastructure.

Currently working with NCC to provide improved bus shelters, seats and electronic information boards at shelters in The Street

Working with Crocus Housing to provide a new bus shelter on A47 sliproad

Policy 5 – encourage new and improved footpaths, footways, cycleways and bridleways connecting Acle with surrounding villages and the countryside, including the improvement of the footway between Norwich Road and Mill Lane/ Acle Academy and improved footpath and cycleway adjacent to A1064 between Acle Bridge and the village

Working with BDC to use Green Infrastructure funds for improved connectivity

Supporting NCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
Contacts Broads Authority when path needs maintenance

Policy 6 – improve access to Wherry Line – encourage improvements to pedestrian and cycle access to the station and facilities at the station. Better

Supporting NCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
Network Rail have replaced lighting along footpaths to station

signage, improved lighting and footpath surfacing, improved parking

Policy 7 – reduce severance effect of A1064. Reduce speed limits and install pedestrian crossing

Business and employment

O7: To protect and enhance provision of small traditional retail in the village centre

Paid for pedestrian refuge on A1064 and changes to road design to reduce speeds

Purchased The Chocolate Box, refurbished building and created office space upstairs

Purchased former Barclays Building and converted to four commercial units

Objected to application to convert retail unit to residential

O8: To ensure that employment sites are developed for an appropriate mix of employment uses

Reviewed the proposed Local Plan for employment sites

O9: To improve the attractiveness of Acle for inward investment

Refurbished The Chocolate Box and the former Barclays building so as to improve the appearance of The Street
Working to increase retail/commercial units in The Street so as to encourage investment in the village

Policy 8 – encourage sensitive development of under-used brownfield sites for small-scale mixed-use activities such as retail, office and residential. Layout and design should enhance appearance of village centre, with adequate parking provision

Reviewed the proposed Local Plan for employment sites
Refurbished The Chocolate Box and the former Barclays building so as to improve the appearance of The Street and to support retail/commercial units

Policy 9 – encourage high quality, flexible employment space

Reviews all planning applications for the village to ensure good use of space and provision of good quality buildings

Housing

O10: To make sure any new housing development has an appropriate mix of affordable units

Reviews all planning applications to ensure the provision of affordable housing is the best it can be

O11: To make sure any new housing development includes an appropriate mix of units of different sizes for both young and old households

O12: To make sure any new housing development is of the highest quality in all and reflects local and traditional architectural styles. This includes a requirement in all new housing developments for a minimum of one off-road parking space for one-bed homes and a minimum of two spaces for two- and three-bed homes

Policy 10 – new housing expected to integrate with existing areas and have regard to character of adjoining areas. Developers should design inclusive and mixed communities and consult and engage with local communities

Policy 11 – in any new development, off road parking spaces shall be provided at a minimum of one space for one-bedroom dwellings and a minimum of two spaces for two-bedroom dwellings

Reviews all planning applications to ensure the provision is suitable for current needs

Reviews all planning applications to ensure car parking is the best it can be for the development
Considers all planning application for appearance of housing and provision of open space and play areas

Reviews all planning applications carefully to consider design of housing, housing mix, play areas, and links to existing homes

Reviews all planning applications to ensure car parking meets these minimum requirements and that parking spaces are not dislocated from homes