

Foreword

Ware is a thriving market town where people value the rural feel, the wealth of amenities and being part of a community that is inclusive and diverse. The Neighbourhood Plan is an opportunity for local people to have control over the future of the town, by actively planning for new sympathetic development and protecting those parts of the town that are important to its character and function.

The Neighbourhood Plan represents the vision and aspirations of the community. It has been produced by the Ware Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, supported by Ware Town Council, using the views and ideas of those living and working in the town and other stakeholders with an interest in the community.

The Steering Group carried out extensive and inclusive community engagement to listen and consult on a wide range of issues in order to achieve a plan that details how we see our community developing. Every effort has been made to ensure that the views contained in this document reflect those of the majority of Ware.

Ware presents a unique set of planning challenges. It has taken time and careful consideration to craft a set of local planning policies that will safeguard everything we regard as special, whilst allowing the area to change and develop in response to the needs and demands of modern life.

The Neighbourhood Plan has taken many hours of hard work. I wish to pay tribute to the residents and councillors who have given their time freely. Our sincere thanks to Alison Eardley, who has provided invaluable advice, guidance and produced many drafts and to Terry Philpot, the Town Clerk, who has co-ordinated our meetings.

I hope the investment of time by the community in preparing this Plan will result in a flourishing and sustainable future for Ware.