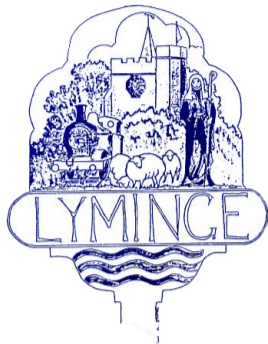


# What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

## Lyminge Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish



### Contact us:

[clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk)

[www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk/](http://www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk/)

## How are planning decisions currently taken?

At the moment, decisions about how land is used in our area and how applications are decided, are guided by the National Planning Policy Framework and the planning policies contained in the Folkestone and Hythe Local Plan documents.

In 2011, the government published the Localism Act, which gives communities an opportunity to get more involved in planning at the very local level.

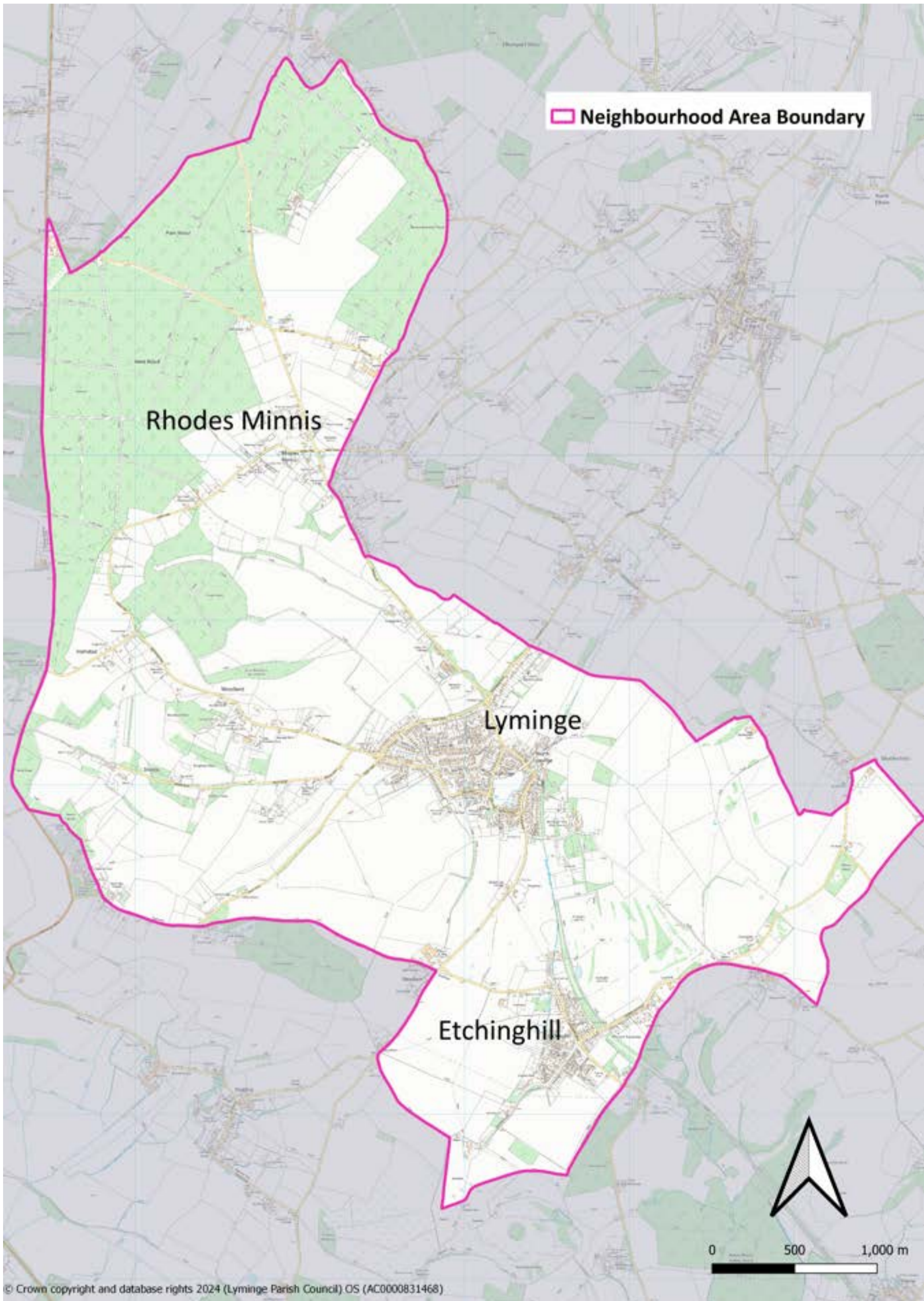
## Your opportunity to shape the future of the area

Our Neighbourhood Plan is being developed by the community and will relate to the whole parish - including Lyminge, Etchinghill, parts of Rhodes Minnis and the rural areas in between. It will:

- establish a vision and objectives for the parish
- set out how land should be used
- provide additional local detail to help determine the outcome of planning applications in our parish

# Lyminge Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan covers the whole parish



# What topics can the Neighbourhood Plan include?

## The Neighbourhood Plan can explore many issues including:

- ✓ Influencing the sort of homes that are built here - their size, their tenure and their location
- ✓ Protecting green spaces and views that are particularly special to the community
- ✓ Promoting biodiversity and enhancing habitats for wildlife
- ✓ Helping to mitigate against climate change
- ✓ Conserving local character and heritage assets
- ✓ Encouraging more walking, cycling and riding locally
- ✓ Enhancing the range of facilities available to local people
- ✓ Supporting local businesses and attracting new ones

## We have less influence over:

- Roads and traffic issues
- Enforcement issues, such as parking fees and speed limits
- Introduction of new buses
- Stopping all development in our area

# What are the steps involved in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan?

The Neighbourhood Plan is an important document and will be used to help determine planning decisions in our parish.

Therefore, the process to develop the Plan is a rigorous one:



On average, it takes about 18 months for local groups to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Much of the work for the community focusses on gathering evidence and local community

Once the Plan has been prepared, there will be two formal rounds of consultation, followed by an independent examination. If this is successful, there will be a local referendum and everyone who is registered to vote will have the opportunity to do so. A simple majority (51%) is required to enable the Plan to be 'made'.

## Who will pay for the Neighbourhood Plan to be prepared?

The Parish Council has applied for government grants to cover most of the activities. There are also some parish monies set aside.

Folkestone and Hythe District Council organises and funds the examination and referendum.

# Looking to the future

At our previous engagement events, you told us what you like about the parish and what you would like to see improved:



**Bad Feedback Word Cloud**



## How you can help:

We want to develop an overarching statement about what Lyminge Parish will be like in 2040.

Please use the post-it notes to write key words or phrases to describe the sort of place we should be aiming for.

# Our emerging objectives

## Objective 1: Protecting and enhancing our rural setting and enhancing opportunities for biodiversity :

- ✓ Protecting, preserving and enhancing existing valued green space and providing new ones too.
- ✓ Supporting initiatives to protect and enhance wildlife, biodiversity and habitat provision.
- ✓ Maintaining and enhancing the connectivity of wildlife corridors.
- ✓ Identifying and safeguarding important local views/viewpoints.
- ✓ Limiting light pollution by protecting our 'dark skies'.

## Objective 2: Celebrating our unique heritage and local character:

- ✓ Identifying and conserving local heritage assets
- ✓ Reinforcing our identity and sense of place and local character including through the preparation of Design Guidance for the parish
- ✓ Celebrating the history of our area – how our settlements evolved and the communities who have settled here.

## Objective 3: Providing homes to meet the needs of the local community:

- ✓ Supporting the provision of affordable homes.
- ✓ Influencing new housing that delivers what local people need, in terms of size and tenure and adaptable to changing needs
- ✓ Considering flooding and drainage relating to new homes

# Our emerging objectives

## Objective 4: Enabling a thriving rural economy:

- ✓ Revitalising our village centres.
- ✓ Supporting sustainable rural tourism.
- ✓ Safeguarding existing employment areas.
- ✓ Providing a supportive environment for those working from home.

## Objective 5: An accessible neighbourhood:

- ✓ Encouraging walking and cycling, particularly for local journeys.
- ✓ Enhancing the network of walking and cycling routes that link key services to housing and ensuring that new developments connect to this.
- ✓ Improving the bridleway network.
- ✓ Supporting initiatives to tackle congestion.

## Objective 6: Celebrating and supporting our communities:

- ✓ Providing a range of facilities, services and recreational activities to meet the needs of different ages and interests across our area.
- ✓ Encouraging a friendly and involved community.

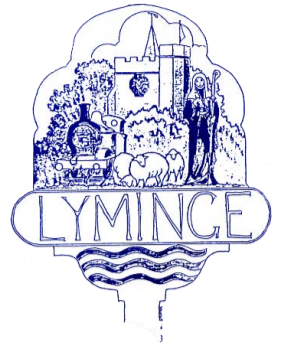
**We have put together these objectives based on the feedback we have gathered so far from the previous engagement activities. They are not set in stone and you can continue to give us your thoughts.**

# How to get in touch with us

## Visit our website:

[www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk/](http://www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk/)

(click on the Neighbourhood Plan link)



## Email us:

[clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk)



## Visit and comment on our Facebook Page:

Search: Lyminge Parish Council



## Complete our online survey:

If you don't have time to comment today

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LymingeNP>



Contact Us



**We would love to hear  
from you!**



# Objective 1: Identifying 'Local Green Spaces' to safeguard against inappropriate development

## What local green spaces are important to you and why?

Are there green spaces within our parish that you think are particularly special? Perhaps they provide a haven for wildlife, or they are used for recreation, or maybe they provide a tranquil spot to sit and relax.

**The Local Plan identifies a number of 'open spaces' but we can raise their level of protection in our Neighbourhood Plan.**

### Examples:

- **Bowling Green, Lyminge**
- **Recreation Ground, Rhodes Minnis**
- **Playing Field, Etchinghill**
- **Space at Teddars Leas Road, Etchinghill**
- **Community space, Ethelburga Drive**

### How you can help:

**Please tell us which green spaces you consider are important locally and why**



# Objective 1: Protecting and enhancing habitats and biodiversity within the Kent Downs National Landscape

## Where could we improve the natural environment and how?

Are there areas where improvements would make it easier for animals to move around?

Are there particular features of the landscape that you would wish to protect?

## Examples include:

- Tayne Field Biodiversity Plan
- Our Wild Acre project
- Making our public rights of way more accessible and green
- Provide more off-road pathways
- Nature trails
- Protecting ancient trees in Ethelburga Grove
- Community garden in Mount Pleasant
- Trees and hedgerows
- Wildflower planting
- Make sure new homes include bird boxes, hedgehog fencing etc.



**How you can help: Please tell us your own suggestions!**

# Objective 1: Safeguarding local views and view points that are particularly special to us

**Are there views in and around the parish that should be protected?**

It might be a view across the countryside taking in the landscape. Or it might be a view of a particular building or street that you think is special.

**Suggestions received so far include:**

- Views towards and from Lyminge village
- Views within the Etchinghill Conservation Area



**How you can help: Tell us about local views that you particularly like and why they are important to you.**

## Objective 2: Designing environmentally friendly homes that contribute to the character of our area

We have received a grant to support us in preparing detailed Design Guidance for the parish. It will be tailored to our parish to influence the look, layout, and feel of future development so that it contributes to local character and is wildlife and environmentally friendly.

We would like your feedback on the following:

- Should housing be designed to encourage more wildlife? If so, what types of features should be included? e.g. hedgehog-friendly fencing, bird and bat boxes, ponds.
- What features of built development are typical of our parish? e.g. type of brick, style of design, architectural features, materials used, colours, height of buildings, use of green space.
- Would you support small-scale renewable energy schemes?

## Objective 2: Celebrating our local heritage

- Would you support the development of a Conservation Area for Lyminge?
- Are there any buildings or structures locally that are not listed, but which you think contribute to local character? What are they and why are they special?



## Objective 3: Homes to meet the needs of local people

**We can include a policy in the Neighbourhood Plan to influence the type of homes that are delivered locally.**

**What you have told us so far:**

- More houses targeted at young people
- Adaptable homes suited to people throughout their lives
- Smaller homes (1-2 bedrooms)
- Affordable homes
- More bungalows?

**What are the likely housing needs for you/ your family over the next 10 years?**



## Objective 3: Flooding and drainage

**Have you experienced problems relating to flooding? Can you tell us what happened, where and when?**

**What could we do to resolve these issues?**

# Objective 4: Our rural economy

## Supporting local jobs?

- How can we support local businesses, including people working from home?
- Should we try and safeguard against the loss of local public houses?

## Lyminge Village Centre

- How can we retain a vibrant village centre?
- What could we do about the former Post Office?
- How could we improve the public realm?

## Sustainable tourism

- Should we be limiting Air B&Bs?
- Do we need new or improved facilities for visitors?
- Can we tell the story and history of our parish in a better way?
- Do we need a heritage centre?



# Objective 5: An accessible place to live

Whilst the Neighbourhood Plan has limited influence over strategic transport issues and enforcement, we can have a say on how to improve accessibility for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

## Suggestions received so far include:

- ◆ More footpaths suitable for prams
- ◆ Making better use of the railway line to walk to Lyminge
- ◆ Better lighting along footpaths
- ◆ Improved footpath signage
- ◆ Safer (and more) cycle paths



## How you can help:

- ◆ Thinking of walking, cycling and riding in the area, are there any routes that you think could be improved, and how?
- ◆ Are there paths that could be better linked up and if so, where?
- ◆ Is car parking a problem? How could we solve it?
- ◆ Where could we install electric vehicle charging points?
- ◆ How could public transport be improved locally?

## Objective 6: Supporting our community

Are there any facilities that you think are lacking in the area?

Which ones?

Could any facilities be expanded or improved—how?

Is there enough provision for children and if not, what could be improved?

Are teenagers well catered for—if not what could be provided?

Suggestions received so far include:

- Exercise equipment in the villages
- Need more activities for teenagers
- More community events
- Upgrading of the playground
- Community spaces

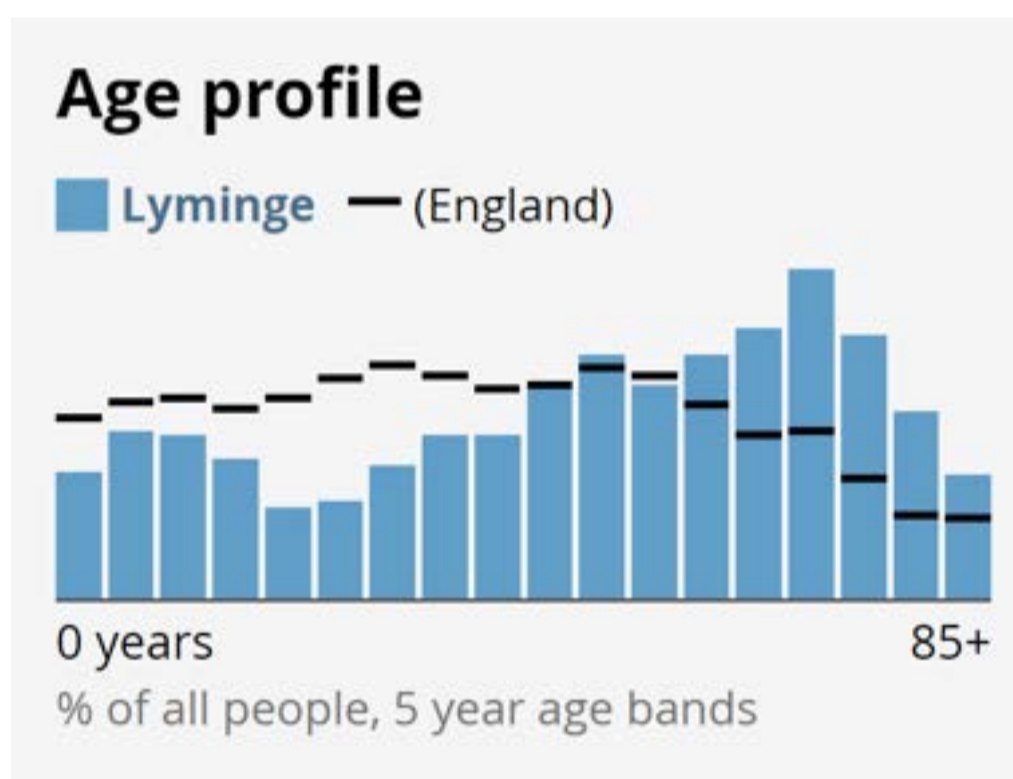




# Facts about our area (2021 census)

## Our residents:

- In 2021, there were 2,700 people living in our area of which:
- The population has remained roughly the same since 2011.
- We have a significant number of older residents
- Just under half of our population are in employment. The majority of the remaining half are retired.
- Approximately 35% of those in employment work from home.
- Roughly 13% of our residents have no access to a car.



## Our homes:

- There are approximately 1,200 homes in our area.
- 6.7% of homes are social rented and 9% privately rented. The rest are owned (with or without a mortgage).
- The median house price in 2021 in Lyminge was: £368,285.
- 48% of our homes are 'under-occupied' by at least two bedrooms.