

1.2 Character and Place

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The character of a place is shaped by the combination of the public realm (streets, public spaces) and private realm (people's houses, local businesses, etc.). Every property, public place or piece of infrastructure makes a contribution, whether big or small. Kinsaley has a strong visual identity and landscape quality formed by the Sluice River, running east-west through the village and by the stone walls and mature trees associated with the nearby Abbeville Demesne. The village core is centred on the parish church, a number of cottages and the relatively recently developed lands at St. Olave's local centre and residential development. Respecting character does not mean preventing change. Respect for the character of a neighbourhood means that new development should be designed to respond to its context.

- **How would you describe the character of Kinsaley?**
- **What are the key elements of Kinsaley's character (buildings, landscape, people)?**
- **Has the character of Kinsaley changed over recent years? What do you like about the changes?**
- **How would you like to be able to describe the character of Kinsaley at the end of the term of the LAP (six years from now)?**
- **How can new development be designed to respond to the existing character of the village?**

