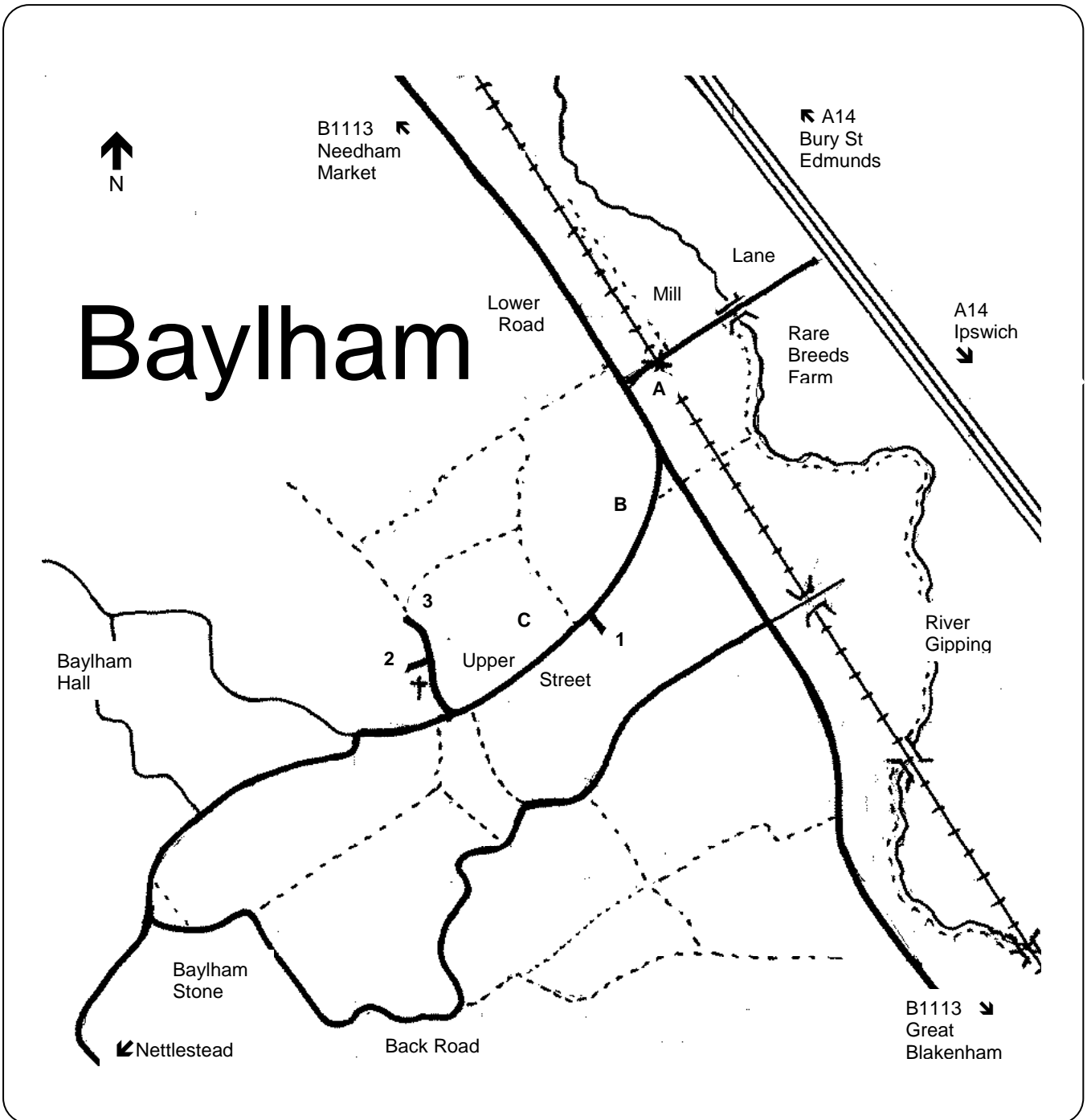


Baylham Village Plan






May 2012

Map of Baylham



Map Key

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|
|  Public Roads | 1 - Homechurch | A - Baylham Business Park |
|  Private Roads | 2 - Glebe Close | B - Baylham Care Home |
|  Public Footpaths | 3 - Church Lane | C - Village Hall |

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1. Introduction to Baylham

1.1. Population

Baylham is a small rural Suffolk village with a population of approximately 255 of which 220 are adults and about 35 are young persons under 18 years of age. Of the adults about 30 are aged 65 or over.

1.2. Administration

Baylham does not have a Parish Council. A Parish Meeting is held annually and at other times if necessary.

The village forms part of the Barking & Somersham Ward within the Mid Suffolk District.

1.3. Situation



Baylham is situated in the Gipping Valley approximately seven miles north-west of the county town of Ipswich, five miles south east of Stowmarket and between the much larger village of Great Blakenham (2 miles) and the small town of Needham Market (2 miles).

1.4. Access

The main road access to the village is via B1113 road which runs along the River Gipping valley and was formerly the A45 trunk road until a new dual carriageway road was built on the other side of the valley. It is a good quality single carriageway road.

1.5. Village Road Network

Leading off the B1113 are three minor roads:

- Mill Lane, to the east, now a cul-de-sac having been dissected by the A45 (now A14) dual carriageway.



Mil Lane

- Upper Street, to the west, a narrow lane which, beyond the village, becomes single track and twists its way towards Nettlestead and Somersham.

- Back Road, also to the west, a single track circuitous lane which eventually joins the continuation of Upper Street in the direction of Nettlestead.

1.6. Built Environment

Settlements within the parish are in three main areas: -

Lower Road - the main B1113 road, comprises ribbon development, mainly on the western side of the road, including housing, farms and small business premises.



Lower Road

Upper Street – including Church lane and Glebe Close, forms the main centre of population approximately ¾ mile from Lower Road and on higher ground overlooking the valley. The Church, Village Hall and a number of former farms are situated in this area.



Glebe Close

The Stone – a cluster of some 10 dwellings at the junction of Back Road with the continuation of Upper Street towards Nettlestead.

Other more isolated dwellings and farms are located along Mill Lane and Back Road as well as in the area of Baylham Hall.



There are 102 dwellings in the village. The housing stock represents various styles and many changes in design practice over the years - from listed buildings, reflecting the local traditional materials (thatched with timber frame or of brick and flint construction) to relatively modern bungalows with no particular local character.



Upper Street

Recent residential development has been generally infill or the replacement of redundant farm buildings.

Recent commercial development has centred on the redevelopment over the years of a pair of former police houses on the Lower Road, initially into offices and then, with adjoining ground, into a small business park. Most recently a new 56 bed care home has been built near the eastern end of Upper Street.

1.7. Business Activities

With the exception of farming activity all business premises are located along the Lower Road or at the end of Upper Street near its junction with Lower Road.

Businesses include a garage, car sales, small haulage yard, joinery workshop, builder/developer, classic car restorer, nursing home and a rare breeds farm. The proprietors in several cases also live in the village. There are also a number of home based businesses.

There is no shop, post office or public house in the village.



Baylham Village Plan 5

1.8. Employment

Each of the businesses in Baylham employ only small numbers of staff and many of those travel in from outside of the village. The majority of those of working age living in the village travel to other locations to work and make the journey by car.

1.9. Public Transport

Although the main railway line from London to Norwich runs along the valley there is no station in the village. The nearest station is at Needham Market for local trains or Stowmarket for main line services.

An Ipswich to Stowmarket bus service runs along the B1113 at half hourly intervals during the day. There is a sparse service during the evening and on Sunday.

1.10. Natural Landscape

The landscape is undulating forming two smaller valleys rising westwards from the river valley and narrowing towards higher ground which becomes flatter and more open. The area is mainly arable farmland with one or two pockets of pasture and a number of small wooded areas. The area has been designated a Special Landscape Area by the local planning authority.



Immediately beyond the southern parish boundary lays a large disused quarry, formerly a source of material for the now demolished cement factory at Great Blakenham. The quarry forms part of the area that, after a public enquiry, received planning consent for

the 'Snoasis' ski slope and leisure complex. After some 4 years construction work is yet to begin.

1.11. Social & Leisure

The Village Hall Committee normally organises about six relatively informal functions per year in addition to a Coffee Morning on the first Saturday of the month. The Coffee Morning offers a 'bring and buy' opportunity to residents, a second hand book stall, other side events and an opportunity to view official documentation received - planning applications, council reports and similar publications.

The Friends of Baylham Church and the Parochial Church Council also arrange a number of events throughout the year to raise funds for the upkeep of the church.



Village Hall

The state of repair and location of the Village Hall have been the subject of much discussion in recent years as has the possibility of some alterations to the Church to provide kitchen and toilet facilities.

A mobile library visits the village once a fortnight on a Monday morning, parking in Upper Street for approximately 20 minutes.

A yoga session takes place weekly in the Village Hall.

2. Why have a Village Plan?

2.1. As mentioned, Baylham is a small village with no parish council and until the publishing of this Plan, only found a collective voice once a year at its annual parish meetings - unless any major issues cropped up in the interim which prompted the calling of an extraordinary parish meeting (a rare occurrence).

2.2. Any correspondence that would otherwise have been directed to a parish council is received by the Chairman of the Parish Meeting who deals with matters to the best of his ability and, if necessary, through informal consultation with other residents - often at the monthly village coffee mornings.

2.3. The Chairman acknowledges the imperfections of this method particularly when any correspondence requires a village view on an issue which does not justify the calling of an extraordinary meeting. The reply is a 'best assessment' rather than an evidenced reflection of all villagers' opinions.

2.4. A move in local and national government towards recognising the benefits of local decision making, and the involvement of communities in determining matters that affect them, made many residents realise that with no voice there is little opportunity to influence what happens.

2.5. A key example of this trend was the Rural White Paper published in 2000 in which the Government stated that it wanted :-

"...a vibrant countryside that can shape its own future, with its voice heard by government at all levels"

"... people living in rural areas being fully involved in developing their community, safeguarding its valued features, and shaping the decisions that affect them"

"...to give rural communities the chance to set out what their town or village should look like and to guide its future development.

and that :-

"...providing the [Village] Plan is consistent with the local Development Plan, and the relevant national planning guidance, the design and land use aspects can be endorsed by the planning authority as Supplementary Planning Guidance.."

"...the plan is an opportunity to develop community agreement on local priorities and options for addressing them and is an important input to the wider community planning by districts and counties."



Upper Street from Back Road

2.6. Significant disquiet over the outcome of several planning matters in the recent past has prompted many residents to aspire to have a greater input and a real local voice in the determination of such matters.

2.7. Put simply a Village Plan is a means of:

- Identifying villagers' views
- Informing local authorities of the village view
- Influencing decision making
- Prompting actions to improve village life
- Assisting in attracting funding

3. Formation of the Baylham Plans Group

- 3.1. The Rural White Paper prompted local authorities to encourage communities to produce a village or parish plan. It was this prompt, and the concerns outlined in paragraphs 2.3 & 2.6 above, that led to the idea being informally floated in the village and receiving some interest.
- 3.2. The issue was formally raised at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2010 and volunteers sought to form a steering group to develop a Village Plan (and an Emergency Plan which the District and County Councils were also encouraging communities to consider).
- 3.3. Eleven people initially volunteered and formed themselves into the Baylham Plans Group, representing a reasonable geographic spread and a range of interests. (See Appendix 'A' for membership) The only area not represented was The Stone despite repeated attempts to engender interest.
- 3.4. The Group held its first meeting in September 2010 and met on regular basis thereafter.
- 3.5. The remit of the group was to draft a Village Plan and submit it to the village for approval.
- 3.6. The Group recognised from the start, that if it was to succeed in producing a credible plan, it must secure the maximum level of support from the community and that the Group should be seen to be entirely impartial, transparent and democratic, doing no more than acting as conduit whereby the views of the villagers could be ascertained, documented and presented.
- 3.7. Residents and others have been kept informed of the Group's progress through letters and other documents delivered at intervals to all premises.

The minutes of all of the Group's meetings have been published on the Baylham Village website and a progress report was given to the Annual Parish Meeting. This has been augmented by the personal contact achieved when delivering and collecting survey forms (see 4.3 below).

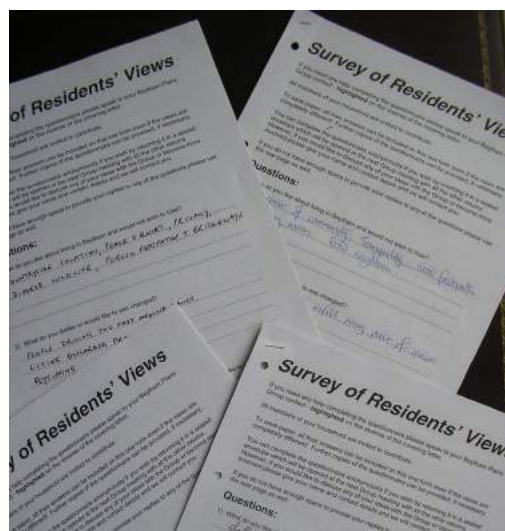
4. Developing the Village Plan - The Process

4.1. Identifying the Issues

The Group realised that, although it was reasonably representative of the village, it would not be able to identify all the issues that might be of interest or concern to villagers. Therefore it was decided to circulate a survey form to each household and business premises.

4.2. Survey Form

The survey form comprised a series of subject areas and very open questions (these solely to give some structure to the exercise). This was to avoid influencing or restricting the range of replies which may have been the case had numerous specific or detailed questions been asked. In this way it was hoped that the responses would reflect the issues and concerns of most importance to villagers.



Subject areas were:

- What do you like about living in Baylham and would not wish to lose?
- What do you dislike or would like to see changed?
- Building & Development / Growth
- Facilities/amenities in the village
- Village Hall
- Church
- Access to Public Services
- Access to Commercial Services
- Roads and Traffic
- Footpaths & Countryside Access
- Environmental Issues
- Leisure, Sport and Social Activities
- Children and Young People
- Elderly and/or Disabled Persons

Comments were invited on any other issues.

A covering letter explained that the survey was not a voting mechanism but an information gathering exercise and that alternative views could be expressed on the form if members of the household held different opinions.

4.3. Method of Circulation

The distribution of the survey forms was preceded by a letter to all premises to raise awareness of the exercise.

During January 2011, Group members personally delivered a copy of the survey form and letter to all premises (residential and commercial) and made contact with the occupier (unless this was not possible after making two visits) to explain the purpose of the survey, promote interest and encourage the maximum response.

Similarly, the returns were personally collected. For those who wished to

remain anonymous returns were by means of a sealed envelope.

4.4. Analysis of Results

67 of the 104 forms circulated were returned (64%).

Two results sheets were compiled. One containing the 'raw data' (merely listing the actual replies to each question) and a second in which the replies had been collated and classified in order to produce a manageable working document.

The survey results revealed certain recurring issues or concerns in most subject areas. In other areas only limited or individual interest was shown in any particular issue.

Where the same matters had been raised by a significant number of respondents the Group formulated statements to reflect the views expressed and what it felt was likely to be the 'village view' on the subject. Questions were framed around all the other ideas and suggestions, even if only mentioned by one person, to ensure that every respondent's ideas were considered.

4.5. Identifying the Village View - Ballot of Residents and Businesses

A Ballot Sheet was drawn up using the same subject headings as in the Survey. Under each heading a brief interpretation of the survey results was provided to support each of the statements the Group had formulated.

Listed beneath the statements were questions reflecting all the other issues that had been raised. Recipients were asked to indicate whether they agreed with the statements or not and to respond to the other questions.

During the second week of November 2011, the ballot sheets were delivered personally by Group members to all premises in the village. One form and covering letter for each adult at residential premises and a single copy

for businesses. 225 forms were distributed.

Respondents had the choice of returning the completed forms by either placing them in the Ballot Box at the Village Plan Exhibition or waiting for them to be collected by a Group member. The closing date for returns was 3 December 2011.



Voting at the Exhibition

4.6. Village Plan Exhibition

An Exhibition was staged in the Village Hall over two days during the period of the ballot. The purpose was to: -

- encourage maximum participation in the ballot
- provide detailed feedback on the results of the initial survey
- provide further information to villagers on any issue, if needed, before voting
- to answer any other queries about the ballot

53 villagers attended the exhibition.

4.7. Result of Ballot

106 ballot forms were completed and returned equating to a 47% response rate. Full details of all the statements, questions and voting results can be found in Appendix 'C'

The ballot served two purposes –

Firstly, to accurately identify the 'village view' on matters that should properly be decided by the will of the majority (e.g. planning issues). These and

other issues attracting the support of a clear majority of respondents form the Village Plan (as set out in Section 5 below and where appropriate in the Action Plan - Appendix 'D').



Ballot count

Secondly, to identify the level of interest in other ideas or activities which do not require majority support to be pursued. A list of these appear as a supplement to the Action Plan (Appendix 'D').

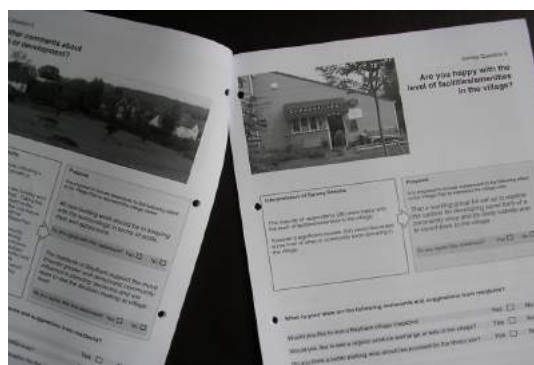
Full details and the level of support for each idea can be found in the Ballot Results Sheet (Appendix 'C'). Whilst not formally included in the Village Plan there is no reason why these interests should not be pursued if people are prepared to do so.

4.8. Formal Adoption of the Plan

A draft of the Village Plan was produced and circulated to all residents and businesses during early April 2012. It was formally adopted at the Annual Parish Meeting on 16th May 2012.

4.9. Documentation

Copies of all the documents referred to are available for inspection if required.



Ballot form

5. Consultation Outcomes – The Village View

(In this section the figures quoted brackets refer to number of votes cast in support of the statements expressed as a percentage of the total number of votes cast on the issue).

5.1. Village Environment Generally

The residents of Baylham greatly cherish, and would not want to lose, the peace and tranquillity of the village; its small, rural, unspoilt nature and outlook; and the sense of community and neighbourliness that exists within the village. (100%)

Residents feel safe in the village due to the low level of crime and disorder (99%) and when moving into the village found it easy to integrate (89%).

They feel that there is good access to main roads and nearby towns (99%).

5.2. Appearance of the Village

Reinforcing the sentiments expressed above, there is a dislike of what might be described as 'creeping urbanisation' for example unnecessary signs, concrete kerb stones, fences rather than hedges etc. (78%).

All new building work should be in keeping with the surroundings in terms of scale, style and appearance (91%). It is felt that a 'design statement' would be a useful means of providing guidance to ensure the sympathetic appearance of buildings, other structures and works (86%).

The village wishes to see the local planning authority strictly enforce violations of planning decisions (86%).

Overhead telephone and electric cables should be placed underground (60%). Not only for aesthetic reasons but for the practical benefits as well. When producing the risk assessment for the Baylham Emergency Plan, damage to overhead cables and the loss of power and communications due to severe weather was identified as the

most likely cause of significant disruption to the village.



Upper Street

5.3. Growth of the Village & Development

The residents of Baylham want the village to remain as it is in size and character with no further development for the foreseeable future. They wish the local planning authority to note this feeling when considering any application for development within the village (98%)

They support moves towards greater and democratic community influence in planning decisions and are keen to see the decision making at village level (94%).

Given the opportunity to have greater influence on planning matters, the community would be prepared to look at any case on its merits - in certain circumstances some specific small scale proposals might be viewed favourably. For example, the re-development of derelict houses or land (75%) or perhaps providing a few smaller houses for older residents (62%).

Whilst it is recognised that there are very limited amenities in Baylham, residents feel that the benefit of retaining the rural atmosphere outweighs the loss of extensive communal facilities. It is felt that most facilities are reasonably accessible in nearby towns and villages or through the internet and hence no commercial development is necessary in the village (90%).

No industrial development is supported in the village (84%), including any further such development on the Lower Road (73%) as it is felt that the Gipping Valley is already well served with industrial estates at Stowmarket, Needham Market & Great Blakenham (88%).

The proposed Snoasis development is not supported (74%) and the feeling is that the former quarry should become a wildlife area (90%). The quarry lies in the parish of Great Blakenham but is immediately adjacent to the village boundary.

5.4. Facilities and Amenities in the Village

The idea of some form of community shop is attractive to many residents and the establishment of a working group to explore options for, and the likely viability of, such a venture is supported (67%).

A regular produce exchange or sale is also a popular suggestion (77%).

In relation to the future of the Village Hall, the consensus is that the Village Hall Committee should consider options for either the refurbishment of the building on its present site or for a new Hall to be sited elsewhere and report back to the village (78%).

In guiding the Committee, the preference seems to be for the existing building to be renovated (73%) as opposed to demolishing and rebuilding it on the same site or relocating. Using the church building (suitably modified) in its place was not supported (70%).

The notice board outside the Village Hall should be made more accessible to read (65%) and for use by residents (78%).

5.5. The Church

Villagers recognise that the church building and churchyard are important, historic and valuable assets to the village and should be preserved (100%).



Baylham Church

Some works should be carried out to provide toilet facilities (69%) and to restore the tower to enable the bells to be rung (81%).

5.6. Public Services

Residents are generally happy with the level and delivery of public services in the village and wish to see them maintained (96%).

There is a high level of satisfaction with the refuse collection service and, in particular, the wheelie bin concept (95%). There is no wish to return to a weekly rubbish collection (82%) neither is there any wish to see a further reduction in frequency of the alternate rubbish / recycling collections (96%).

The level of police patrols in the village is felt to be adequate (60%).

There is some demand for the mobile library van to be more accessible by spending a proportion of its time in Glebe Close (61%).



5.7. Commercial Services

Residents are generally happy with the level and delivery of commercial services in the village and wish to see them maintained (98%) but with some notable exceptions as follows:

Internet Broadband – the village suffers very slow line speeds (in the region of 700 kb) and would like to see a significant improvement (90%).

Mobile phone reception is poor and similarly improvements are sought (75%).

The group buying of heating oil is a popular idea (62%), as is a regular visit from a mobile fish & chip van (67%) and the production of list of local village tradesmen and services (71%).

5.8. Roads and Traffic

Vehicle drivers exceeding the speed limit is a recurring complaint but opinions vary as to what measures should be taken to address the problem. A working group should be formed to research the actual extent and location(s) of the problems, to consider the various enforcement and/or traffic calming options and to report back to the village (73%).



The use of Back Lane as a diversionary route is not considered satisfactory when Upper Street is subject to road works (65%) nor suitable as an emergency exit route for the Snoasis development should it go ahead (91%).

Passing places between Upper Street

and B1113 should be improved (60%). The junction of Upper Street and Church Lane is considered to be dangerous (63%).

The general level of road maintenance is felt to be satisfactory (82%) as is cleanliness (87%) and the cutting of roadside verges & hedges (77%). Action should be taken to stop the erosion of roadside banks and verges (63%).



Upper Street

Street lighting is not considered necessary in the village (95%).

5.9. Footpaths and the Countryside

The good network of public footpaths and access to open space is greatly appreciated (100%). Footpaths are felt to be satisfactorily maintained (89%) and adequately signed (85%).

Footpaths should remain informal and un-surfaced (96%).

A map of footpaths in the village should be produced and displayed locally (78%).

Existing trees and hedgerows should be protected (89%).

5.10. Environment

Residents suggested a range of community environmental activities in which they would be prepared to actively participate. The level of interest is shown in brackets:

- litter picking (54)
- renewable energy (37)

- tree planting (53)
- churchyard maintenance (58)
- verge cutting (32)
- ditch maintenance (16)
- footpath maintenance (33)



5.11. Leisure, Sport and Social Activities

Residents are generally happy with the level of leisure, sporting and social activities available in the village (94%).

The idea of a village fete is popular (85%) as are film evenings (61%).

Other activities attracted lesser support but sufficient, in most cases, for the idea to be pursued if those interested are so motivated. See Appendix 'D' (Supplement to Village Action Plan).

5.12. Issues Relating to Children and Young Persons

Facilities generally in the village are limited but for youngsters are non-existent.

To provide some facilities, particularly for youngsters, a working group should be set up to look at establishing an informal multi-use village recreational area, consider the options and report back to the village (62%).

5.13. Issues Relating to Elderly and Disabled Persons

There is a considerable level of 'good neighbour' activity within the village. However a number of respondents to the original survey expressed the wish to help others in the village but clearly did not know who might be in need of assistance or the nature of their needs.

With no intention to replace existing good neighbourliness, but to extend it, there is support to set up a working group to identify the level and nature of assistance that residents are prepared to offer, how this can be matched to the needs of the elderly and disabled, to consider the options and report back to the village (77%).



6. Action Plan

- 6.1. All the appropriate outcomes from Section 5 above have been formulated into a Village Action Plan which appears in tabulated form at Appendix 'D'.

7. The Next Steps

7.1. Role of the Baylham Plans Group

As mentioned previously, the role of the Baylham Plans Group was to be the means whereby the village view could be ascertained and published.

Having produced the Village Plan and set the foundations for further action, the work of the Group is all but finished. It only remains for the Group to ensure the proper circulation of the Plan (to residents, businesses and local authorities - see Appendix 'B') and to seek to have it adopted by the local planning authority as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Having also virtually completed its other task, the production of the Village Emergency Plan, the Baylham Plans Group will be dissolved. However, most members, with some additional volunteers, will go on to form the Baylham Emergency Group.

7.2. Responsibility for Further Action

Beyond this, having no parish council, there is no single body in the village to adopt and carry the Plan forward.

Responsibility will therefore rest with the Parish Meeting. This in reality means that progression and implementation of any of the ideas is dependant on interested villagers being prepared to take on the tasks.

The exceptions being, of course, those issues relating to the Church or the Village Hall which will be for the Parochial Church Council and Village Hall Committee to consider and pursue.

7.3. Seeking Volunteers

With a view to ensuring the continued momentum of the Village Plan process a 'Volunteering Form' was included with the Ballot Papers. This sought villagers' views as to which of the

many issues raised they would most like to see materialise and, more importantly, with which they might be prepared to assist.

Twenty forms were returned with interest spread over 27 activities. Those volunteering have been put in touch with like minded volunteers and, if appropriate, with any existing group (e.g. Village Hall Committee).

It is hoped that the publication of the Plan, and the interest already shown, will prompt others to participate.

7.4. Moving Ideas Forward - Setting up Groups

As indicated, any progress will be dependent on persons being willing to move any of the issues forward either individually or as a group

It would be appropriate that those having the intention to pursue a matter announce the fact so that all villagers are aware. The purpose of so doing is clearly to attract support and other volunteers to share the workload and avoid duplicate groups pursuing the same projects.

Annual parish meetings are by definition infrequent, and whilst it is certainly appropriate to make an announcement at such a meeting, there is no need to delay any start in order to do so.

The village web-site could be considered and more effectively a 'flyer' to each premises. A courtesy mention to the Chairman of the Village Meeting would also be appropriate.

8. Reviewing & Amending the Village Plan

- 8.1. The Plan has been democratically produced and every resident of voting age and business within the village was given notice of, and had the opportunity to vote on, all the issues it contains. In order to preserve its integrity, any moves to amend it should follow a similar process.
- 8.2. To ensure that the Plan remains current and relevant it should feature as an agenda item at Annual Parish Meetings. This will also serve as an opportunity for progress reports on any issues being actioned.
- 8.3. The Plan may be amended at an Annual Parish Meeting or an Extraordinary Parish Meeting. However it should not be amended unless due notice has been given before the meeting that an amendment is being proposed and the nature of that amendment.
- 8.4. Due notice means the delivery, to each household and business premises, at least four weeks in advance of the meeting, of a written notice, setting out the proposed amendment and the date, time and place of the meeting.
- 8.5. It is the responsibility of the person or persons seeking an amendment to produce the necessary notice in sufficient numbers and in a timely manner to allow distribution with the normal notice of the Annual Parish Meeting. In the case of an extraordinary meeting being necessary it is also their responsibility to ensure delivery of the notice to every household and business premises and demonstrate that it has been done. Failure to do so will invalidate the process.
- 8.6. The notice should also include a detachable voting slip that persons, unable to attend the meeting, can

complete and on which they are able indicate their agreement or otherwise to the proposal. Those unable to attend the meeting should deliver their voting slip to the Chairman of the Parish Meeting before the meeting.

- 8.7. The issue will be decided by a combination of those voting at the meeting and the returned voting slips on the basis of a simple majority for or against the proposal.



Baylham Mill



Old School House

9. Acknowledgements

Baylham acknowledges the grant aid received from Mid Suffolk District Council which assisted in financing the production of the Plan.



Notes

Baylham Plans Group Members

Pat Ducker

Brian Dyes

Jan Dyes, Village Hall Committee

John Field, Chairman of Parish Meeting

Robin Richards, Farmer

Hilary Ritchie, Parochial Church Council

Eve Rush

Alan Seager, Neighbourhood Watch

Chantal White

Jim White (Chairman)

Contact Point

As mentioned at paragraph 7.1 above, the Baylham Plans Group will cease to exist shortly after the publication of this document. Therefore any enquiries in relation to the Plan or its contents should be directed to the Chairman of the Parish Meeting, John Field at 'Ebony' Upper Street, Baylham. E-mail: john.field@suffolk.gov.uk

Village Plan - Circulation

All residents and businesses

Mid Suffolk District Council - Planning Dept

Mid Suffolk District Council – Policy

Mid Suffolk District Councillor - Barking & Somersham Ward

County Councillor - Bosmere Division

Suffolk County Council

Suffolk Constabulary – Force HQ

Suffolk Constabulary – Mid Suffolk South Safer Neighbourhood Team

Suffolk ACRE

Baylham Website

Baylham Village Plan Ballot Results	Yes	No	Persons not voting
<p>Question 1 – What do you like about living in Baylham and would not wish to lose</p> <p>Statement: <i>“The residents of Baylham greatly cherish, and would not want to lose, the peace and tranquillity of the village; its small, rural, unspoilt nature and outlook; and the sense of community and neighbourliness that exists within the village.”</i></p> <p>Do you agree with this statement?</p>	100	0	6
Do you feel safe in the village? (ie very low level of crime and disorder)	101	1	4
Do you feel there is good access to main roads and nearby towns?	102	1	3
<p>Question 2 – What do you dislike or would like to see changed?</p> <p>It is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view (unless the voting results show significant support for any of the comments and suggestions listed below):</p> <p><i>“Whilst various issues and concerns were raised by individuals or very small numbers of residents there were no dislikes or demands for change that attracted any level of support (relating to matters not covered by later questions)”.</i></p> <p>Do you agree with this statement?</p>	84	3	19
Do you think that the new Care Home is obtrusive and action needs to be taken to minimise its impact?	49	53	4
Do you think that stables and hard standings should be removed from Baylham Common and the natural landscape of the valley restored?	52	47	7
Do you object to further changes of use of fields to horse paddocks with stables and other structures?	55	46	5
Are you annoyed by bird scarers in local fields?	37	65	4
When you moved to Baylham did you find it easy to integrate?	85	10	11
Do any untidy gardens in the village cause you a problem?	5	96	5
Do you think duplicate hoardings on B1113 should be removed?	48	38	20
Do you dislike ‘creeping urbanisation’ (eg unnecessary signs, concrete kerb stones, fences rather than hedges etc)?	83	15	8
Should there be better interaction between businesses and residents?	45	51	10
<p>Question 3 - Growth of Village – in terms of building development</p> <p>Unless the responses to the issues listed under Questions 4(a)-(d) (on the following pages) indicate otherwise, it is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view:</p> <p><i>“The residents of Baylham want the village to remain as it is in size and character with no further development for the foreseeable future. They wish the local planning authority to note this feeling when considering any application for development within the village.”</i></p> <p>Do you agree with this statement?</p>	97	8	1
<p>Question 4 - What if any growth or development would you like to see?</p> <p>a) Residential</p> <p>Unless the responses to the comments and suggestions listed below indicate otherwise, it is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view: <i>“The residents of Baylham do not wish to see any further residential development in the village.”</i></p> <p>Do you agree with this statement?</p>	69	28	9
Would you support new development if did not spoil views/countryside?	41	52	13

Would you support a few more houses being built?	45	49	12
Would you support re-development of derelict housing or land?	71	24	11
Would you support new development if it was in-fill only?	46	46	14
Would you support the building of 'affordable' homes?	25	66	15
Would you support the building of affordable homes for locals only?	53	43	10
Would you support the building of smaller houses for older residents?	60	37	9
Question 4 - What if any growth or development would you like to see?			
b) Commercial (Shops/Services)			
Statement: <i>"Whilst it is recognised that there are very limited amenities in Baylham, residents feel that the benefit of retaining the rural atmosphere outweighs the loss of extensive communal facilities. It is felt that most facilities are reasonably accessible in nearby towns and villages or through the internet and hence no commercial development is necessary in the village."</i> Do you agree with this statement?	89	10	7
Would you like to have a pub in the village?	29	72	5
Would you like a Post Office in the village?	43	59	4
Would you agree to commercial development on the Lower Road?	41	61	4
Would you support development for small rural businesses?	56	45	5
Question 4 - What if any growth or development would you like to see?			
c) Light industrial?			
Unless the responses to the comments and suggestions listed below indicate otherwise, it is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view: <i>"The residents of Baylham do not wish to see any industrial development in the village."</i> Do you agree with this statement?	85	16	5
Would you agree to industrial development on the Lower Road?	26	72	8
Would you support development for small rural businesses?	49	52	5
Do you think the Gipping Valley already has enough industrial units?	87	12	7
Would you support small units on disused farmyards?	52	51	3
Question 5 - Any other comments about growth or development?			
Statement: <i>"All new building work should be in keeping with the surroundings in terms of scale, style and appearance."</i> Do you agree with this statement?	96	2	8
Statement: <i>"The residents of Baylham support the move towards greater and democratic community influence in planning decisions and are keen to see the decision making at village level."</i> Do you agree with this statement?	94	6	6
Do you support the Snoasis development?	27	76	3
Do you think the former quarry would be an ideal wildlife area?	90	10	6
Do you think the former quarry would be suitable location for the development of high tech businesses?	38	59	9
Do you think that there should be strict enforcement of planning law?	91	9	6
Do you think that a 'design statement' would be useful (guidance to ensure sympathetic appearance of buildings, other structures and works)?	87	14	5
Question 6 – Are you happy with the level of facilities / amenities in the village?			
Statement: <i>"That a working group be set up to explore the options for developing some form of a community shop and it's likely viability and to report back to the village."</i> Do you agree with this statement?	70	34	2

Would you like to see a Baylham village magazine	46	55	5
Would you like to see a regular produce exchange or sale in the village?	75	23	8
Do you think a better parking area should be provided for the library van?	53	39	14
Question 7 – Any comments about the village hall? Statement: <i>“That the Village Hall Committee considers options for either the refurbishment of the building on its present site or for a new Hall to be sited elsewhere in the village and reports back to the village.”</i> Do you agree with this statement?	75	21	10
Village Hall is out of keeping with character of main street	27	73	6
Hall is not nice, if the church was modified, use that for all village needs	28	66	12
If Village Hall was changed it would lose its personality (keep it how it is)	51	44	11
Existing building should be renovated / improved	71	26	9
Building needs to be replaced but on same site	18	74	14
New building needed on a better site (with car parking)	38	53	15
A precept should be raised on the council tax to pay for improvements	24	67	15
Village Hall should be made a pub once a month (or a club with bar)	45	50	11
Notice board should be more easily accessible	61	33	12
Notice board should include a map of the village with house names	42	55	9
Notice board should be accessible for use by residents	75	21	10
Question 8 – Any comments about the church? Statement: <i>“The village recognises that the church building and churchyard are important, historic and valuable assets to the village and should be preserved.”</i> Do you agree with this statement?	104	0	2
The tower should be repaired to enable the bells to be used again	78	18	10
Toilet accommodation should be provided	68	31	7
A kitchen facility should be provided	44	46	16
With interior improvements should be available for community use	55	34	17
Should the church yard be kept tidier	40	49	17
A better path to access to graves on right parallel to road	51	32	23
Question 9 - Are you happy with the level of public services available? Statement: <i>“Residents are generally happy with the level and delivery of public services in the village and wish to see them maintained.”</i> Do you agree with this statement?	97	4	5
Do you think it is necessary to revert to a weekly rubbish bin collection?	19	83	4
The frequency of rubbish/recycling collections should be reduced?	4	97	5
Are you happy with wheelie bins?	95	5	6
Is it reasonable to charge for the brown garden waste bin collection?	52	46	8
Do you use the mobile library service?	22	79	5
Should the mobile library park 50% of its time at Glebe Close	53	24	29
Should there be a Council street litter collection	27	71	8

Do you think that the level of police patrols in the village is adequate?	58	38	10
Question 10 - Are you happy with the level of commercial services available?			
Unless the responses to the comments and suggestions listed below indicate otherwise, it is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view: <i>“Residents are generally happy with the level and delivery of commercial services in the village and wish to see them maintained.”</i>			
Do you agree with this statement?	93	2	11
Would you use bus service between Upper Street and main road (B1113)	25	76	5
Would a more frequent bus service on Route 88 (to Ipswich, Needham & Stowmarket) (already half hourly) make you use it more often?	25	77	4
Would you like lighting installed at bus stop on B1113 (Ipswich bound)	45	51	10
Would you like to have increased internet broadband speed?	89	10	7
Would you like to see mobile phone reception improved?	78	21	7
Would you like to participate in group ordering of heating oil?	61	37	8
Would you be interested in the group buying of services (e.g: window clean / chimney sweep / boiler service etc)?	52	46	8
Would you support a mobile fish & chip van calling in the village?	66	33	7
Do you think a telephone kiosk on the B1113 is necessary?	21	79	6
Would you like to have a list of local (village) tradesmen and services?	71	29	6
Question 11- Are there any issues relating to roads and traffic that you think need to be addressed?			
Statement: <i>“That a working group be set up to look at the issue of speeding and enforcement, to research the extent and locations of the problems, to consider the various options for enforcement and/or traffic calming and to report back to the village.”</i>			
Do you agree with this statement?	66	25	16
Are diversion arrangements via Back Rd satisfactory when Upper St is temporarily closed?	33	60	13
Is Back Road suitable as an emergency exit route for Snoasis (if built)?	12	84	10
Should the passing places between Upper St and B1113 be improved?	56	38	12
Are more passing places necessary?	25	66	15
If YES, where?			
Back Rd if still to be diversion route	Regular intervals		
Back Rd (2)	On the road to the Stone		
Circular road	Common sense on location		
In between other places	Good question		
Baylham to Nettlestead Rd	Plum Pudding Care Home		
First bend before Nettlestead (Hall Lane)	Garage to care home		
Should action be taken to stop the erosion of roadside banks & verges?	57	34	15
Do you think the junction of Church Lane and Upper St is dangerous?	62	37	7
Is the general level of road surface maintenance satisfactory?	80	18	8
If NO, state problem and location:			
Many pot holes all over	Back Rd (3)		
Circular road	General problems to be attended to		
Pot holes(2)	Too much to list		

Pot holes & drainage outside church	Just general poor maintenance			
Pot holes and drains	Common road			
Pot holes, water running into road and freezing				
Outside Village Hall dip in road collects water & freezes in winter				
Weeds growing in road centre, water collecting on surface				
Potholes, not cleaned & careless bin men making road muddy etc				
Is the state of cleanliness of the roads generally adequate?		86	13	7
Is the cutting of roadside verges/hedges adequate?		77	23	6
Is the maintenance of roadside ditches and drains adequate		65	31	10
If NO, where is there a problem?				
Flooding on lane from Stone to Bluebell Wood	Back Rd (2)			
Various places	Common road			
Baylham to Nettlestead Road (4)	Flooding problems			
From Church to Glebe Close (2)	Church Lane (2)			
Filling up with rubbish causing large puddles	Look round easy to see			
Bottom of Cats Hill near cart track (3)	Flooding along Lower Rd			
Circular road - look when raining	Lower part of Upper St			
West side of Baylham Common	Upper St / Lower St corner			
On hill opposing Baylham Stone	Far end of common			
Serious flooding after heavy rain before Hill Farm				
Do you think that the level of traffic is excessive along:				
Upper Street?		21	72	13
Back Lane?		10	79	17
B1113?		16	79	11
Are vehicles turning round causing problems?		17	68	21
If YES, where?				
No place to do so - using people's drive	Church Lane			
By care home	Turning in our drive (2)			
Upper St	No we keep our gates closed			
Glebe Close, Care Home	Outside Baylham Autos			
Everywhere- lost delivery drivers and no maps!	Mill Lane /B1113 junction (2)			
Lay-by and Mill Lane tyre scrub lifting tarmac	Entrance to Lilac Cottage (2)			
Yew Tree Fm drive frequent bank hedge & fence damage (2)				
In driveways damaging fencing & road surface, driving off after causing damage				
Are heavy/large vehicles causing problems?		35	59	12
If YES, in what way?				
Dirt on path rubble falling off	Damaging banks & verges (3)			
Too fast on B1113	Glebe Close. Care Home			
Damaging surface and edge of roads	By care home			
Damaging kerbs and hard passing them	Sugar beet lorries travelling in pairs			
Vibration (buildings)	Impossible to pass, damage to my drive			
Church Lane	Vibration			
Destroying verges and road surface (3)	Too many turning into Mill Lane			
Road not wide enough for large HGVs	Noise, ex speed			
Eroding verges damaging hedges and trees	Farm vehicles erode banks			
When they use Back Lane	Number of heavy vehicles into Mill lane			

Is the condition of the pavement between Baylham & Needham adequate?	57	35	14
Are improvements necessary to the traffic island and signage at the end of Upper Street at its junction with the B1113?	32	64	10
Is the access/exit to/from the care home adequate?	58	32	16
If NO, not what is the problem? The splay is not big enough for lorries Cars pull out too fast with limited space Cars pull out without looking both ways (4) They removed our hedge and haven't replaced it Too narrow visibility poor from Upper St Need wider road from home to B1113 There is not wide enough access into or out of the care home It's in wrong location blind bend hill etc very .dangerous Large vehicles find it difficult to turn into narrow entrance Needs signs before you get to Plum Pudding entrance from the village Give way sign from Care Home, lines on entrance It is too narrow and the kerb comes out too far into main road Dangerous poor visibility no passing places cars pulling out and not checking			
Is dog fouling of the road or pavements a problem in the village?	14	83	9
Is horse fouling of the road or pavements a problem in the village?	19	77	10
Do horse-riders cause a road nuisance in the village?	24	74	8
Question 12 - Are there any issues relating to footpaths and countryside that you think need to be addressed? <i>The residents of Baylham appreciate the good network of public footpaths and the access to open space.</i> Do you agree with this statement?	102	0	4
Is the general level of footpath maintenance satisfactory?	85	11	10
Is dog fouling of the footpaths a problem?	34	65	7
Are public footpaths adequately signed?	82	14	10
Is there a problem with litter / fly tipping?	32	60	14
If YES, where? Fast food wrappers B1113 & Upper St Near Quarry entrance off Back Lane (6) End of roads leading to Baylham Hall Occasionally a problem (3) Varies lay-bys B1113, field entrances Back Road in fields and bridleway entrances Crisp bag / sweet paper Church Meadow Occasionally in field entrance at bottom Back Lane	Lower Rd Near Darmsden pig farm On the bridleway off the Back Rd On Back Rd from time to time (3) Adjacent to B1113 (2) Top Rd (2) Near Blue Leighs park		
Is there a problem with horse riders on footpaths?	21	75	10
Should existing trees and hedgerows be protected?	87	11	8
Should a public footpath map of area be produced / displayed?	76	21	9
Should footpath users be asked to maintain the footpaths?	36	60	10
Should footpaths be kept un-surfaced / informal?	96	4	6

Should landowners be encouraged to allow more access to walkers / riders?	53	44	9
Should a circular path be created suitable for wheelchair users?	44	47	15
Should there be more bridleways and access to off road riding?	44	49	13
Question 13 - No proposal. Would you like to see (and participate) in village (as opposed to individual) level activities to address environmental issues?			
Would you be prepared to assist with regular litter picking if a group was established for this purpose?	54	43	9
Would you participate in a footpath/ bridleway maintenance group?	33	63	10
Are you interested in developing community renewable energy schemes?	37	58	11
Would you be prepared to help maintain the ditches?	16	77	13
Would you be prepared to help cut back roadside vegetation	32	64	10
Would you be interested in a village tree planting scheme?	53	41	12
Would you be prepared to help maintain the churchyard?	58	38	10
Question 14 - No proposal Are there any other environmental or green issues you would like to comment on?			
Do you think that recycling facilities should be available in the village?	43	56	7
Would you like to see a local exchange facility for unwanted items?	51	46	9
Would you like to see overhead phone & electric cables placed underground?	58	38	10
Are you concerned by the proposal to build a waste incinerator at Gt Blakenham	58	41	7
Does the noise from the A14 cause a nuisance to you?	13	87	6
Does the noise from the railway cause a nuisance to you?	5	96	5
Should dog waste bins be installed in and around the village?	44	54	8
Would you participate in a car sharing scheme (to shops, work etc)?	22	78	6
Do you think noisy activities should be banned on Sundays?	27	70	9
Is light pollution from care home excessive?	34	60	12
Question 15 - Are there any leisure, sport and/or social activities that you would like to see organised locally? Unless the responses to the comments and suggestions listed below indicate otherwise, it is proposed to include a statement to the following effect in the Village Plan to represent the village view <i>Residents are generally happy with the level of leisure, sporting and social activities available in the village.</i>			
Do you agree with this statement?	87	6	13
Would you attend a dancing session?	26	71	9
Would you attend an exercise session?	36	66	4
Should a village green or informal open space be established?	43	54	9
Should there be a football pitch?	18	79	9
Should there be a tennis / badminton court?	19	76	11
Should there be a bowling green?	21	75	10

Should there be a cricket pitch?	21	75	10
Would you be interested in carpet bowls?	17	83	6
Would you participate in a cycling group?	15	83	8
Would you participate in a gardening club?	41	60	5
Should there be a village fete?	85	15	6
Would you participate in whist drives?	22	78	6
Would you attend film evenings if arranged in the village?	59	38	9
Would you participate in occasional cricket or rounders afternoons?	33	67	6
Question 16 - Are there any issues you would like to raise relating to children and young people?			
<i>That a working group be set up to look at establishing an informal multi-use village recreational area, to consider the options and to report back to the village</i>			
Do you agree with this statement?	62	38	6
Locals should receive a discount at Baylham Rare Breeds Farm?	32	70	4
Do you suffer from the noise of motor bike scrambling?	24	77	5
Question 17 - Are there any issues you would like to raise relating to the elderly and/or disabled?			
<i>That a working group be set up to identify the level and nature of assistance that residents are prepared to offer, how this can be matched to the needs of the elderly and disabled, to consider the options and to report back to the village.</i>			
Do you agree with this statement?	72	22	12
I would like to help older/disabled residents	47	46	13
I could provide transport for those without cars	35	57	14
I could help collect prescriptions etc	52	43	11
If you are elderly or disabled and the facility existed, would you use the village website to request help?	21	47	38

Bayham Village Action Plan

Issue	Para Ref.	Action	Lead Org.	Partners	Resources	Notes
Planning & Development						
1) Planning & Development Matters	5.1 5.2 5.3	Provide local planning authority with copy of Village Plan to inform of the plan and for use as Supplementary Planning Guidance	Bayham Plans Group	Mid Suffolk District Council (Planning Dept)		
2) Design Statement	5.2	Consider setting up a group to develop a draft Design Statement for the village	Parish Meeting	Mid Suffolk District Council (Planning Dept)	Volunteers required	
Facilities and Amenities						
3) Community Shop	5.4	Set up group to investigate viability and options for a community shop	Parish Meeting		Volunteers required	
4) Produce Sale or Exchange	5.4	Identify demand, frequency and venue for produce sale or exchange	Parish Meeting or Village Hall Committee		Volunteers required	
5) Village Hall Refurbishment or Rebuilding	5.4	Consider options for refurbishment or rebuilding on present or alternative site	Village Hall Committee		Funding for Survey	
6) Accessibility of Notice Board	5.4	Review location of Notice Board to make it more accessible and available for use by residents	Village Hall Committee			
7) Church building	5.5	Consider restoration of bell tower and provision of toilet accommodation.	Parochial Church Council			
Public Services						
8) Mobile Library	5.6	Explore possibility of library additionally serving Glebe Close.	Parish Meeting	Suffolk County Council (Libraries)	Volunteer(s) required	

Issue	Para Ref.	Action	Lead Org.	Partners	Resources	Notes
Commercial Services						
9) Internet Broadband	5.7	Consider setting up a group to look at options for improving broadband speed in the village	Parish Meeting		Volunteers required	
10) Mobile Telephone Reception	5.7	Consider setting up a group to lobby for better reception	Parish Meeting		Volunteers required	
11) Group Buying of Heating Oil	5.7	Consider setting up small group to pursue the idea	Parish Meeting		Volunteer(s) required	
12) Visit of Mobile Fish & Chip van	5.7	Identify demand, frequency, venue and supplier	Parish Meeting		Volunteer(s) required	
Roads & Traffic						
13) Speeding Vehicles	5.8	Consider setting up a group to look at options re speed limit enforcement and traffic calming	Parish Meeting	Police SCC Highways	Volunteers required	
14) Temporary Road Closures and Diversions	5.8	Consider options for minimising disruption caused by road works	Parish Meeting	SCC Highways	Volunteer(s) required	
15) Improved Passing Places, Protection of Banks & Verges	5.8	Consider options for improving passing places and preventing the erosion of roadside bank and verges	Parish Meeting	SCC Highways	Volunteers required	
Countryside & Environment						
16) Production of Footpath Map	5.9	Prepare print and display a parish public footpath map	Parish Meeting		Volunteer(s) required	
17) Litter Picking	5.10	Identify volunteer to co-ordinate litter picking activity	Parish Meeting	Mid Suffolk DC	Volunteer(s) required Litter Spikes	
18) Churchyard Maintenance	5.10	PCC to be made aware of level of interest and pursue	Parochial Church Council			

Issue	Para Ref.	Action	Lead Org.	Partners	Resources	Notes
19) Tree Planting Scheme	5.10	Tree Warden to be made aware of level of interest & to pursue?	Village Tree Warden	Mid Suffolk DC	Volunteers Grant funding	
20) Overhead Cables	5.2	Consider setting up a group to investigate placing overhead telephone and electricity cables underground.	Parish Meeting	Baylham Emergency Group Mid Suffolk District Council (Planning Dept)	Volunteers required	
Leisure, Sport & Social Activities						
21) Village Fete	5.11	Consider setting up group (or sub group) to organise a village fete	Village Hall Committee? Friends of Baylham Church?		Volunteers required	
22) Film Evenings	5.11	Consider arranging film evenings	Village Hall Committee? Friends of Baylham Church?			
Children & Young Persons						
23) Establish Informal Multi-use Village Recreational Area	5.12	Consider setting up group to explore options	Parish Meeting		Volunteers required	
Elderly & Disabled Persons						
24) Establish a Village Support Scheme	5.15	Consider setting up a group to explore the best means of putting volunteers in touch with those who would benefit from assistance	Parish Meeting		Volunteers required	
Review & Monitoring of Village Plan						
25) Ensuring Plan Remains Current and Relevant	8.2	Village Plan should feature as an agenda item at Annual Parish Meetings	Parish Meeting			

Supplement to Village Action Plan

Ideas or activities not attracting majority support and hence not formally included in the Village Plan, but for which there appears to be sufficient support to make them viable and which could be pursued if people are interested in doing so.

Activity	Ballot Ref	Interest shown	Notes
Regular 'Pub' / Social Evening	Q7	45	
Group Buying of Services (window clean, chimney sweep, boiler service or any others)	Q10	52	
Footpath Maintenance	Q13	33	Village Footpath Warden made aware
Renewable Energy Schemes	Q13	37	
Cutting Roadside Vegetation	Q13	32	
Ditch Maintenance	Q13	16	
Local Exchange Facility (for unwanted items)	Q14	51	
Car Sharing Scheme	Q14	22	
Dancing Session	Q15	26	
Exercise Session	Q15	36	
Carpet Bowls	Q15	17	
Cycling Group	Q15	15	
Gardening Club	Q15	41	
Whist Drives	Q15	22	
Rounders or cricket afternoons	Q15	33	

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