

Gislingham Parish Plan 2011

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL
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30 SEP 2011

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DATE

PASS TO

The Road Ahead

This report is the culmination of a consultation process lasting 20 months which has collected and analysed the views of Gislingham residents on a wide range of issues. The main body of this report shows the results of this consultation with recommendations for action. Appendix A is the consolidated action plan which will be updated over time to reflect progress. A condensed version of this report has been distributed to every household in the village.

The survey has identified issues that are important to Gislingham residents. We recommend that the next important step is to set up a Parish Plan Guardianship Team to oversee the advancement of the planned projects to completion.

Consultation at an early stage of the project with the children at the Village Primary School gave us some forthright views on their hopes for the future of the village. The winning entry from a competition for the school children has been adopted as the Parish Plan logo.



The project was funded mainly by the National Lottery with contributions from Gislingham Parish Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council.

The Steering Committee members:

- Debbie McEwen-Davies - Chair
- Glyn Simpson - Secretary
- Stuart Wells - Treasurer
- Peter Adams
- Eric Sheehan
- Sara Graybow

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Further copies of this report can be obtained from the Gislingham Parish Clerk and be viewed on line at <http://gislingham.onesuffolk.net/Parish-Plan/>



INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Gislingham is an historic village situated in the north of the Mid Suffolk area. Despite several listed buildings it is not a tourist attraction, but a living, vibrant, working village ideally placed between Stowmarket, Diss and Bury St Edmunds with easy road links via the A140 and A143. Whilst there are some families who have lived here for generations there has been an influx of newcomers drawn by the benefits of living in a quiet rural area. The village has grown quite rapidly having doubled in size over the last thirty years.

Following a public meeting in October 2009 a group of volunteers formed a Steering Committee to prepare a Parish Plan with the following objectives :

- To provide an evidence-based statement of what the people of Gislingham want to sustain, protect and change about their village.
- To set out an achievable vision for the future and establish priorities for action within the community.
- To stimulate discussion among residents on what can be done, both now and in the future, to improve community spirit.
- To inform Parish, District and County Councils and other bodies providing important services to the community of the opinions of residents on the issues they believe are important.

In March 2010 a series of open consultation meetings, including a very well attended one for the



young people, were held to form the basis of a questionnaire. All the village organisations and businesses were asked for their views to add to the questionnaire. In January 2011 the questionnaire was delivered by a team of volunteers to every house in the village. Young people aged 8 - 16 were asked to fill in their own questionnaire. The response was very good with returns from 81% of households representing 822 people, including children. The Youth questionnaire was returned by 79% of the young people. The data was entered onto a computer database and analysed using Suffolk ACRE online software to identify key findings and recommendations for action. Two data presentation events were held to help confirm the priorities for action.

This report aims to summarise the views and opinions of residents gained from the returned questionnaires. These results have been used to form the proposed recommendations for action, which can be carried forward by a range of identified organisations including Gislingham Parish Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council. They can be used by these, and other bodies, as a basis for their short, medium and long term decision making. The plan has a projected 10 year life with probable updates after 5 years.

The survey has identified a number of issues that will need to be addressed, some by statutory bodies, others by volunteers. These are your comments, suggestions and ideas and only with your help will the full value of the report be realised.

We are confident the results represent an accurate picture of what everyone feels about the village and what they believe should happen in the future. We hope that the identified actions within this document will ensure that Gislingham becomes an even more attractive and vibrant community in the future.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE and some basics

A snapshot of Gislingham – January 2011

Questionnaires were delivered to 420 homes with 340 households (81%) completing them. The village was split into four geographical areas to ascertain whether there were particular problems, e.g. Infrastructure, in any area. In general both the percentage returns and issues were common across all areas. 134 Youth questionnaires were issued with 106 returned. 32 of these young people attended Gislingham Primary School, 61 attended Hartismere High School and 13 were at other schools.

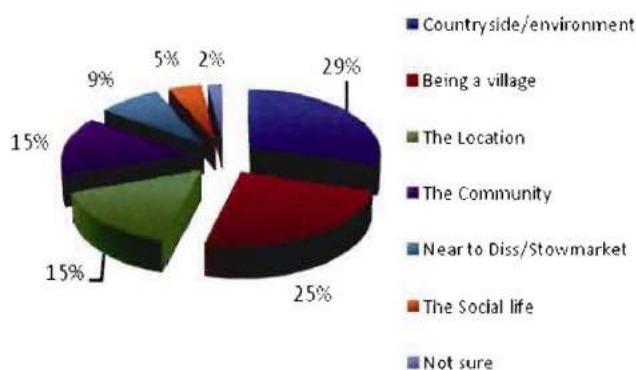
The data in this report is based on those returns which we believe gives a fair representation of the resident's views. All replies were anonymous.

Extract of Household Responses

What type of housing is occupied?

Property Type	Percentage
Owner Occupied	90%
Housing Association / Council rented	4.1%
Rented Privately	5.6%
Shared Equity	0.3%

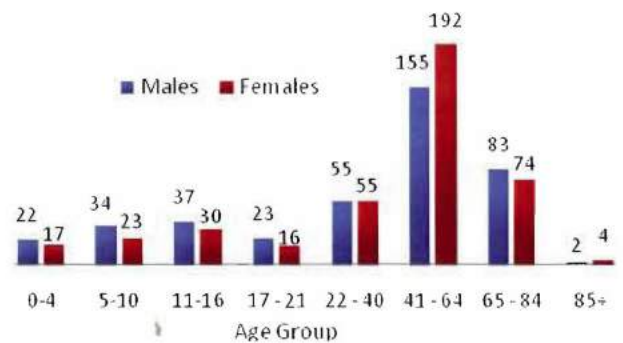
What is most important about Gislingham? (610 respondents)



Gislingham - A good mix of ages

In those households which responded to the questionnaire there were 163 children within the under 17 age range. The provision of good quality education and training, play, leisure and sports facilities is therefore crucial to cater for the present and future needs of our youngsters. A majority of residents are of normal working age: 496 are aged from 17 - 64, although some of these are already retired. The residents of the village are fairly healthy, with only 13 households with people needing further support.

Age and gender profile of responding households



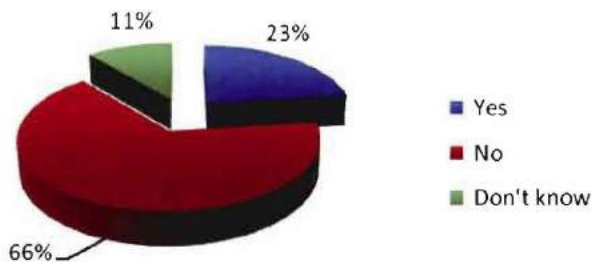
"Don't let Gislingham grow too much and thereby spoil it's rural feel and community spirit"



HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

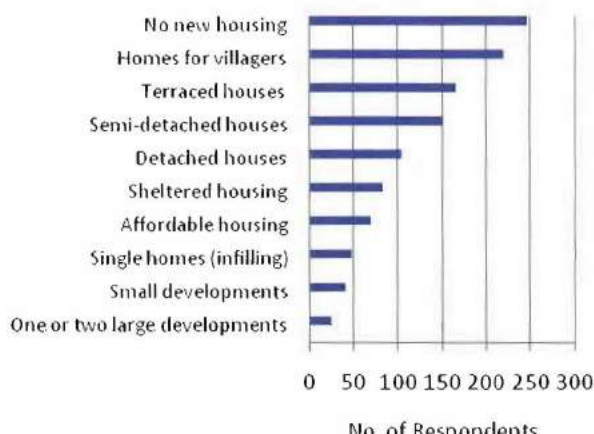
The housing stock in Gislingham has doubled in size over the last 30 years and further development within the village settlement area is already sanctioned. This was one of the major issues raised during the consultation process with 66% of the respondents firmly against any further housing development. The community, environment and character of the village are important to many and there is a strong feeling that the village character and rural setting must be protected.

Do you think Gislingham needs more housing? (614 respondents)



If more development takes place, residents believe it should be on a small scale with an affordable housing provision, and should be aimed at people currently living or working within the village.

If new homes were built in Gislingham what forms should these developments take? (609 respondents)



With regard to affordable housing, only 5 people indicated a future need. There appears to be a greater need for sheltered housing, with 8 people indicating that they would need it in the future. The residents feel strongly that before any further housing development occurs the village will need improved infrastructure.

If there is further housing development in Gislingham, what additional infrastructure is required to support the development? (593 respondents)

Infrastructure	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Improved mains and surface water drainage	139	194	29	170
New village hall and leisure / sport facilities	115	207	13	118
Improved broadband and mobile phone reception	191	255	43	209

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Establish actual requirement for affordable housing with needs survey in conjunction with MSDC.
- Work to prevent the expansion of the settlement boundary.
- Proactively manage future housing numbers and village status with relevant Local Authority.
- Develop village design statement and neighbourhood plan.



BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

Quite surprisingly there are at least 74 businesses in the village. These range from agriculture and horticulture to finance and professional services. The majority of these businesses provide low levels of employment and most people leave the village to work. 65% of respondents would like to see a village directory published with details of available trades and services.

If you run a business in Gislingham, into which category does it fall? (538 respondents)



When asked whether further businesses should be encouraged into the village; a third of residents thought that priority should be given to small manufacturing / rural craft workshops and home-based business development. Tourism was not thought of as important by respondents despite it being a large employer in Suffolk. Probably the single biggest obstacle to further business development in the village is the quality of



broadband provision. If high speed broadband was available, 489 people (81% of respondents) indicated that they would subscribe. Subsequent to the questionnaire a further survey has validated this support. The lack of premises for small workshops is another major restriction to future business activity.

“We are far behind the rest of the County in broadband speed”

Because of our rural situation large numbers of people travel from the village to work, mainly by car. 222 respondents travel up to 25 miles away and 87 travel more than 25 miles, with 39 of those going more than 45 miles. However 40% said the question was not applicable to them, perhaps reflecting the percentage of retired or non-working people in the local population, or those working from home.

74 respondents were actively looking for employment, training or study opportunities. Of these, 42 people faced barriers relating mainly to lack of local affordable childcare and lack of transport.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

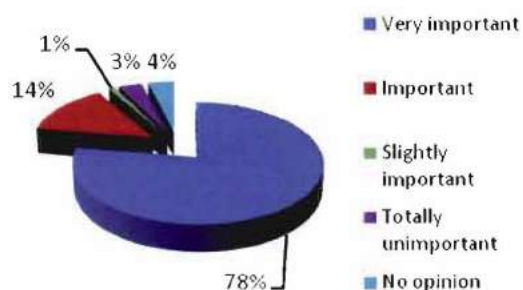
- Develop, maintain and publish a Local Business Directory.
- Investigate the possibility of forming a local Business Development Group and identify potential sites for development.
- Investigate provision of high speed / fibre optic broadband with supplier.
- Examine childcare provision (see Education section).
- Seek to improve public transport (see Transport section).

EDUCATION MATTERS

The Primary school is highly valued by respondents and seen as a vital resource in the village which could be better utilised in non-school hours.

How important is Gislingham's Primary School to the local community?

(619 respondents)



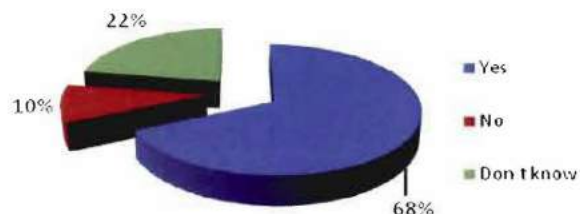
68% of respondents thought there was a need to use the school facilities out of hours. This also links with the expressed need for sports facilities and meeting rooms in the village. 214 people expressed a wish for community use of computers and 303 people would like to attend evening classes. Up to 30% of respondents see a need for further facilities for younger children.

These facilities included:

- Breakfast club
- Lunch club
- Holiday play scheme
- After school club
- Day-care



Do you think there is a need to use the facilities of Gislingham Primary School outside school hours? (608 respondents)



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- The Primary School to be encouraged to develop further uses during out of hours.
- Look for volunteers with necessary skills to run evening classes in either the school or the village hall.
- Inform appropriate bodies i.e. School / Playgroup / Village Hall about potential need for children's clubs.
- Inform both Primary and Hartismere Schools and the LEA about Youth findings.

Of the 106 respondents to the Youth questionnaire a worrying response was that 41% said they had been affected by bullying at school or on the school bus. 47% did not know, or were unsure about, whether they would attend further education after school, but this included ages down to 8 who probably would not have considered this too deeply.

"It's a lovely school but with any more expansion of the village will need extra classrooms"

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

As befits a rural village the majority of residents are happy with the environment. There are, however, areas of concern about litter, and in particular, dog waste. 352 (57%) people want more litter bins and 346 (56%) people believe that more dog bins (with bags) should be provided. The Youth respondents also strongly emphasised these results. There was limited support for paying a litter warden, but 50% of residents would support 'Spring Clean Days'.

When asked about a range of environmental issues over 50% of residents had no problems. The items most mentioned as a nuisance were traffic noise (13%), unpleasant smells (12.5%), off road motorcycling (10.3%) and low flying aircraft (9.5%).

There is high level of interest in maintaining existing trees and hedges shown by 431 people (71%) and 285 people (47%) wanted to plant more. A third of respondents would also like to develop nature reserves within the village. These issues also strongly featured in the Youth responses.

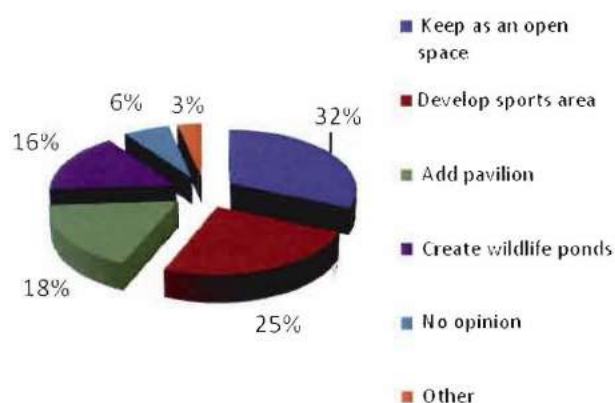
“create green corridors to link existing areas of wildlife habitat”



Residents were also asked to consider whether further uses could be made of the Charities Meadows as this had been raised as an issue in earlier consultation meetings

“Ensure footpaths do not become dog fouling paths”

What uses could be made of the Charities Meadows? (608 respondents)



The responses indicated that over 50% of people wanted there to be no change to the Charities Meadows. However over 40% saw a need to develop the sports area; and further uses for the playing fields area were raised in the sports and leisure section and will be discussed later in the report.

“Some people seem to think that throwing rubbish out of the car is preferable to taking it home”

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

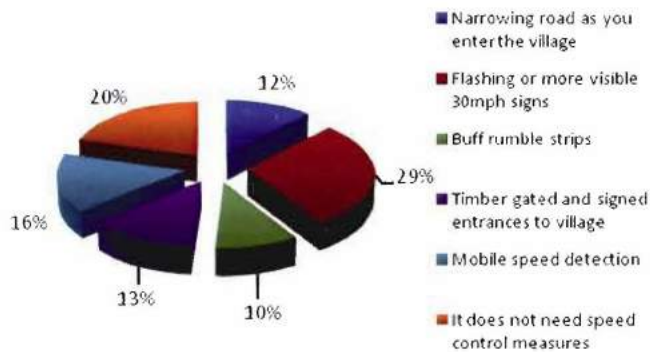
- Consider installing more litter and dog waste bins.
- Litter pick to be done twice a year.
- Consider the planting of more trees and hedges whilst liaising with landowners to maintain existing greenery.
- Review potential leisure uses on Playing Fields (See Leisure and Sports section).

TRAFFIC, TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

Over two thirds of the residents, in all areas of the village, identified speeding traffic as a major problem. The highest concerns were reported on Mill Street, Thornham Road and High Street.

“Please stop vehicles speeding through our lovely village”

Does Gislingham need any of the following speed control measures? (594 respondents)



The majority of residents (61%) experienced no problems with parking, but there were significant issues identified at the church and at the school during drop-off and pick-up times. 109 (18%) people had issues with cars parked on grass areas in Area 2.

95% of residents rely on the car as their major means of transport. Only 19 people of the 597 who responded to the question have difficulty travelling from Gislingham on a regular basis. These results may show why the bus service is underutilised, with only 58 people saying they use the bus as a regular means of transport. 24 residents say they would use the bus service daily if a better service were available with greater frequency and a link in to train times. 18% of respondents would be interested in some form of car sharing

Various issues concerned with access either for business or leisure were raised. Of the 607 residents who answered this part of the questionnaire, 31% would like more pavements and 14% want cycle paths. Better maintenance and signage of footpaths is a requirement for one third of residents, and nearly 20% of respondents would like a larger network of footpaths.

Street lighting is an issue with 255 (42%) people wanting the lights turned off during the small hours. 151 (25%) want more lighting and 72 (12%) fewer lights.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Consider joining other parish councils to purchase a mobile speed gun.
- Investigate other methods to slow speeding traffic.
- Investigate solutions to parking issues, particularly at the School.
- Advertise the existing transport options from Eye Volunteer Service.
- Contact local bus providers to see if improvements to services are possible.
- Examine car sharing opportunities.
- Examine different solutions for footpath maintenance.
- Investigate the feasibility of turning off street lights for periods of the night.



LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND INFORMATION

One of the surprising findings from this survey was how few residents have any interaction with the Parish Council. Two thirds of the 593 people who answered this question had not been to a Parish Council meeting in the last three years, and only 13% of residents had attended when it was not about a specific issue. More than 50% had no idea how the Parish Council works or knew how to contact the Parish Clerk. However, overall less than 20% of respondents thought that the Parish Council does a poor job.

Please indicate how much you agree / disagree with the following statements concerning Gislingham Parish Council (576 respondents)

Task	Overall rating	% age
Publicises its activities / decisions well	Don't Know	45%
Is open and accessible	Don't Know	51%
Liaises well with District / County Council well	Don't Know	76%
Overall it does a good job	Don't Know	52%
Spends the precept wisely	Don't Know	70%
Publicises planning applications well	Don't Know	51%
Publicises Parish Council meetings well	Don't Know	51%

Of the 106 young people who answered the Youth questionnaire 44% think Gislingham should have a Youth Council. In the other areas of local democracy



less than 50% of residents knew how to contact either of their Local Councillors or their MP.

It is pleasing to hear that only 5% of residents 'don't know what goes on in the village'. The majority (86%) got their information from the GNUS newsletter. Less than 50% of residents found information from notice boards and only 16% from the Gislingham website. The other major source of information (55%) was 'word of mouth' and this was also true for the young people of the village.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Parish Council to consider what is necessary to increase participation, and to better publicise actions and successes.
- Parish Council to form a Youth Council.
- Inform Local Councillors and MP of findings for them to action.
- Produce a village welcome pack.
- Produce a Business Directory (see business section).
- Investigate upgrading the village website.
- Review the placement and management of the existing notice boards.
- Publish a village map.

A Village Directory with Trades and Services was requested by 65% of respondents and 34% see a need for a Welcome Pack. A village map was requested by 38% of respondents.

“The Parish Council tries to do a good job and should be better supported by residents attending meetings”

SERVICES AND UTILITIES

Most utilities and services achieved an adequate to excellent rating of greater than 75%. Both litter and dog waste bin provision were rated as very poor to adequate. Road clearing in bad weather was rated by 60% of residents as poor; this was also raised by respondents to the Youth questionnaire who do not like losing school days due to bad weather.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Consider installing more litter and dog waste bins. (See environment section).
- Consider provisions for winter road clearing.
- Investigate provision of high speed broadband.(See business section).
- Send survey results to Mobile Phone providers and ask for positive feedback on how service can be improved.
- Set up Parish Buying Group.
- Pass survey findings to Shop and Pub owners.

Both mobile phone and broadband reception were rated by over 60% of residents as poor. 64% of residents would support the erection of a mobile phone mast (subject to position).

Over 60% of households would be interested in participating in a Buying Group for the bulk

purchase of energy and other services (particularly heating oil).

Residents were asked how often they used the available local services. 79% regularly use the village shop, which was highly praised.

“The staff in the village shop are excellent”

The Six Bells Public House is rated as important to the community by 70% of residents (since the survey the pub has re-opened). The mobile post office is used regularly by 28% of residents but the Library van by only 6%. Direct food deliveries (via the internet) are used regularly by 28% of residents.

FAITH



No particular issues were raised in this part of the survey. Around 70% of the respondents had no opinion on any of the questions about the work of the Church. The majority (65%) of villagers value the Church as an historic building with potential community uses. The Church is still seen as important (46% of respondents) for religious ceremonies (baptism, weddings and funerals).

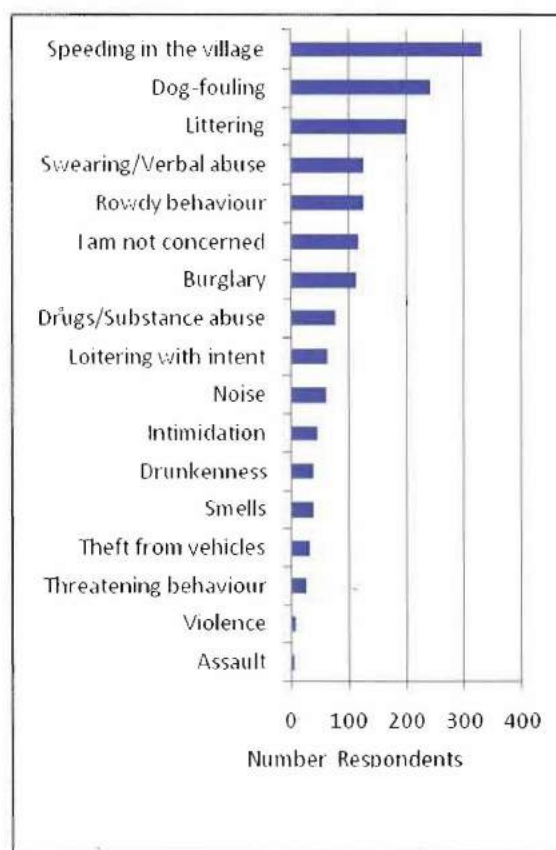
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Pass survey findings to P.C.C.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

From the survey results it seems that in Gislingham both anti-social behaviour and crime, whilst not a great problem, have a significant effect for some residents. Of the 566 respondents to the question 442 (78%) people have not suffered from crime or anti-social behaviour in the last 3 years.

Which, if any, of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Gislingham? (610 respondents)



Only 19% of the residents had no concerns about either crime or anti-social behaviour. The major items reported were speeding (54%), dog fouling (40%) and littering (33%). These items were also strongly reflected in the Youth survey. Around 20% of villagers were concerned about burglary, verbal abuse and rowdy behaviour. Residents would like to see a greater Police presence (40% of respondents) and 30% would like to see road safety training to be provided for young people. An issue raised during

the survey was whether we have an Emergency Plan for the village.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Review methods to provide a greater visible Police presence.
- Examine measures to curb speeding (see traffic section).
- Establish, publish and test Emergency Plan.
- Consider installing more litter and dog waste bins. (See environment section).
- Consider road safety training for young people.

HEALTHY LIVING

The Survey found 32(5%) respondents have health problems which restrict their daily living, and up to 10% of residents have difficulties with travel to Doctors, Dentists, Hospitals and with prescription collections.



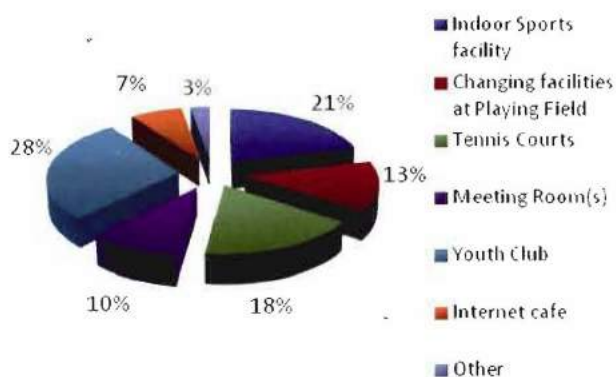
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Publicise existing volunteer transport.
- Consider setting up a prescription collection scheme.
- Further investigate needs in care / support areas.

LEISURE AND SPORT

The village hall is used occasionally or never by 75% of residents and only 34% consider it is not adequate for the needs of Gislingham. However, 36% felt that a new village hall is needed if there is further housing development. The question on the quality of the village hall facilities was answered by 578 people, and the rating was generally poor to adequate. 288 people said they would be prepared to help the village hall with either fund raising or maintenance work. There is a strong wish for some sort of improved leisure building with 244 people wanting an indoor sports facility.

Does Gislingham need any of the following facilities? (435 respondents)



Further building uses are for a Youth club, wanted by 327 adults, (also see Youth section) and 116 people seeing a need for meeting rooms. A small number requested a new Silver Band Hut. Tennis courts were requested by 205 people, with 157 seeing a need for changing facilities at the Playing Field. 143 adults and 30 young people would like a facility for badminton. Interest was expressed by around 120 adults in attending Yoga and Pilates classes. 39 adults and 19 young people expressed an interest in Martial Arts classes.

109 adults and 20 young people expressed an interest in having an allotment in Gislingham.

Around 50% of people have attended the larger village events with 73% having attended a Summer Fair.

“The Charities meadow would provide an excellent venue for a new village hall”

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Carry out an in-depth feasibility study to determine need, support, costs, location and potential funding for Indoor sports facility, tennis courts and sports pavilion.
- Organise an evening event to find volunteers for various leisure and community activities.
- Village Hall committee to consider usage of hall for some of the requested activities.
- Consider venues for badminton.
- Consider needs for Youth Club (see Youth section).
- Parish Council to consider allotment requirements.

“It would be great to have a sports and leisure facility”



YOUTH

One of the keys to the future success of Gislingham is the recognition of the role of its youth. Strong support was shown by the younger members of our village both at the initial consultation meeting and in the high level (79%) of questionnaire returns. This indicates that the Youth of Gislingham have opinions, and they want to get involved. The biggest areas of feedback and interest came from education, observations of peers and lack of activities currently available for the youth.

Almost half of respondents (46%) were unsure or needed guidance on their options when it came to Higher Education. This was not really surprising when considering that most of the 'unsure' responses came from the younger age-groups.



There was a mostly even split (55% yes / 45% no) in demand for a youth club, with the 'yes' vote equating to 57 youths. The Village Hall was seen as the preferred venue by over half of those responding, with 60% also in favour of paying to use any facilities that are provided. Overwhelmingly there was strong demand for a skate park in the village with this activity attracting over 63% of the vote. In actual terms, 65 youths want the skate park and 67 youths want to help fund-raise for it!

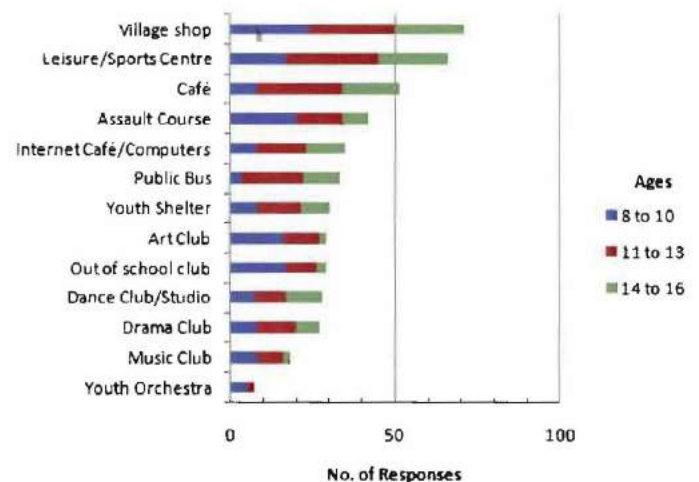
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Inform Schools of the results for higher education guidance.
- Establish a youth club.
- Establish a Youth Council.
- Examine the feasibility of providing a skate park.
- Investigate adding a sports facility and/or more adventure playground items.

When it came to other activities there was significant feedback that not enough activities were available in the village. Some of the most popular suggestions were to have a sports facility or an internet café. The general theme was a central meeting spot needed for the youth of the village.

From the list below which do you use, or would like to use, if they were available?

(Respondents 103)

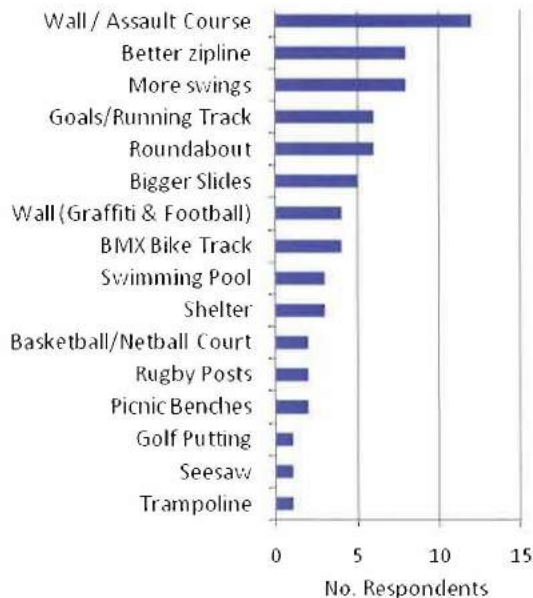


Physical activity is important to many in our village, especially our youth. There was reasonable interest in establishing a climbing wall and an assault course, perhaps on the existing Charities Meadows area. While 45 youths responded positively, the number actually interested suggests this may be a longer-term priority.

YOUTH continued

Are there other pieces of equipment you would like available at the play area?

(98 respondents)

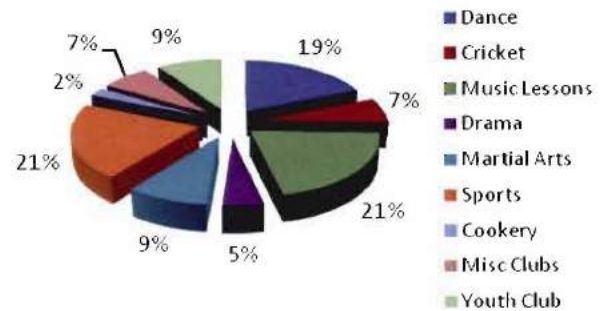


Research revealed a very strong interest in 'Village Cinema', Tennis, 5-a-side football, rounders and music/disco events. This is encouraging to those setting up such activities as it indicates very clear support. When asked about their perceptions of the village, only 10 individuals felt their opinion counted but 77 thought Gislingham a friendly place to live.

Overwhelmingly 96% of youths said they felt safe in Gislingham. 4% felt that issues such as 'hoodies' roaming about was a problem. When asked about instances of crime or anti-social behaviour, 95 incidents were recorded with 'litter-dropping' and 'bullying at school' being the most notable. On a more positive note, 44% of youths said they wanted a Youth Council which is a hugely positive step towards addressing highlighted issues and championing the interests of the younger members of our village. Overall responses pointed to a need for action in supporting our youths.

There were a significant number of additional activities that the youth wanted to see take place in the village.

Additional Activities (Respondents 80)



In addition, a small number of youths provide care for someone in their household, some by themselves and others with assistance. While the number providing support is small, the importance of providing additional support cannot be overstated.

Finally, take-away food factored quite high in importance for over 80% of the youth. They would like more fast-food facilities available within the village.

"We need a proper community centre with much better facilities than the village hall offers and please build a skatepark so we have something to do"

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Address top five identified activity needs in the village i.e. Village Cinema, Tennis, 5-a-side football, Rounders, Music events.
- Work to prevent anti-social behaviour.
- Engage volunteers in the community to help coordinate youth activities.
- Work with local Charities to link youth volunteers with events that are planned.
- Engage more support for youths that provide adult support at home.
- Investigate options for take-away services.

APPENDIX A Consolidated Action Plan

Category	Issue	Priority
Voluntary and community Activity	Set up a Parish Plan Guardianship Team (the action group) to advance the planned projects to completion	High
	Need for volunteers for various activities in leisure and community activities	High
Housing and Development	Only five people expressed an interest in shared equity housing	High
	66% of residents are against further housing development	High
Business and Employment	Most residents are unaware that there are 74 businesses in Gislingham	Medium
	One third of people favoured Small home-based business development and small manufacturing/ rural craft workshops	Medium
	Broadband poor (63%)	High
	Lack of sites for small workshops etc.	Low
Education Matters	68% thought there was a need to use the school facilities out of hours	High
	214 people expressed a wish for community use of computers and training	High
	Need for breakfast club (90 people) /after school club/day-care/lunch club etc	Medium
	Higher education after school 47% don't know / need advice	Medium
	50% are looking for evening classes	High
	Bullying at school and on school bus raised by 41% of young people	High
Local Environment	There's an interest in maintaining and improving the environment	Medium
	Dog fouling Litter	High
Traffic, Transport and Highways	There is a some need for help getting to other places outside Gislingham	Medium

	Action	Lead organisation	Partners	Status
	Request for volunteers from the village with an initial aim of appointing at least two residential members and two parish Councillors to the team. The team is to meet at least every six months with responsibility to conduct or delegate feasibility Studies and initiate projects	Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC)	Parish Council	
	Organise Volunteer Evening	PPSC	Parish Council	
	Establish actual requirement for affordable housing with needs survey in conjunction with Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC)	Parish Council	MSDC	
	Work to prevent the expansion of the settlement boundary Proactively manage future housing numbers and village status with relevant local authority Develop village design statement and neighbourhood plan	Parish Council	MSDC	
	Develop and maintain a business directory	Parish Council	Volunteer	
	Needs better broadband service Share information with partners	Parish Council	Business Development Suffolk County Council (SCC)	
	Needs better broadband service	Parish Council	Community Interest Company, SCC	Started
	Investigate forming a local Business Development Group and seek potential sites for development	Parish Council	MSDC SCC	
	1) Inform the School Governors 2) Link into need for sports facilities/meeting rooms/evening classes	School Governors	MSDC Youth Council LEA	
	Inform school/village hall that there is a demand for computer use/ education	School Governors Village Hall Committee		
	Inform appropriate bodies e.g. School/ Playgroup/Village Hall	PPGC	Village Hall School and Playgroup	
	Inform primary school Inform High School	PPGC		
	Raise at volunteer evening to establish how the classes should be delivered	PPGC	Village Hall School	
	Inform Primary and Hartismere schools and Education Dept.	PPGC	LEA School Heads	Complete
	Consider planting more trees/hedges Plant wild flowers on millennium field etc	Parish Council	United Charities	
	Litter pick to be conducted twice a year Consider more litter bins and dog bins Review the action that other councils have used successfully e.g. commercial sponsorship of bins. Consider having a litter warden	Parish Council		
	Consider setting up our own scheme Advertise the existing services i.e. Eye Volunteer centre	Parish Council	Volunteer, Eye Volunteer Service, Messenger, Church	

APPENDIX A Consolidated Action Plan cont.

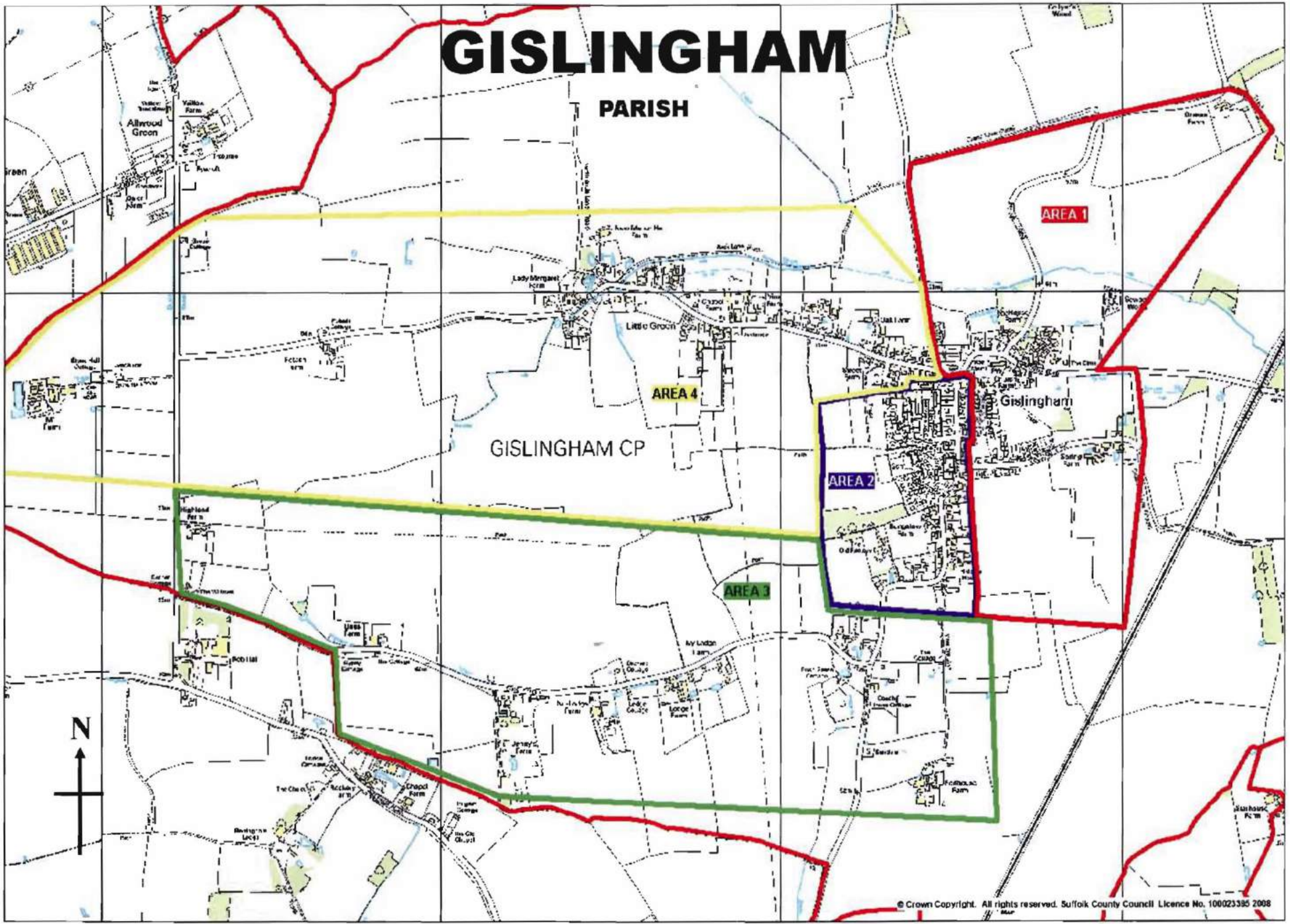
Category	Issue	Priority
Traffic, Transport and Highways cont.	A small minority would like to see (and use) a better bus service	Low
	Car sharing: 82% not interested	Low
	Ratings for the quality of the School bus were poor	Low
	Two thirds of respondents reported the need for some form of traffic control measure	High
	Parking Issues reported around school and church	Medium
	Street Lighting : 42% want lights off at night, 25% want more and 12% fewer lights	Medium
	Footpaths - better maintenance and signage	Medium
Local Democracy and Information	More than half the people do not know how the Parish Council works	High
	Poor public attendance at Parish Council meetings	High
	44% of young people would like a Youth Council	High
	Local Councillors and MP known to less than 50%	
	Produce a village welcome pack including a good days out and travel guides	High
	Village website poorly utilised (16% use)	Medium
	Use of Notice boards poor	High
	Village map	High
Services and Utilities	Poor road clearing in winter (60%)	High
	Broadband poor (63%)	
	Mobile phone reception poor (75%)	High
	60% of Households were interested in participating in Buyers Groups	High
	Importance of Six Bells (70%)	
	Importance of Village Shop	
	Options for 'take-away' food	Low

	Action	Lead organisation	Partners	Status
	Contact local providers asking if any improvements can be made	Parish Council	SCC	
	Inform Parish Council that there is a small but significant number of people interested Ask Messenger to commission an article on car sharing options	Parish Council	Volunteers	
	Inform Education Authority	PPGC		
	Investigate other options Consider joining with other councils to buy a mobile speed gun	Parish Council	Local (Eye) & County Police	
	School has been informed	Parish Council	United Charities School Governors Local residents	Started
	Break down figures by areas. Council to investigate cost savings if lights were switched off during the night	Parish Council	SCC	
	Feedback to Parish Council	Parish Council	SCC	
	Pass the findings onto the Parish Council for action to address the issues	Parish Council		
	Need to be proactive with publicising actions / successes	Parish Council		
	Parish Council to address	Parish Council	Youth worker or other youth councils	
	Write to them with results	PPSC		Complete
	Ask for relevant information to be sent to a central point and for a volunteer to collate information. Agree how distribution and updates are to be done	Parish Council Womens Institute	Gislingham and District Messenger	
	Investigate different mode for website. Coordinate and collaborate with other village and county level organisations and websites Explore current website content Consider Facebook / Consider SMS notification	Parish Council		Started
	Review siting / number/ ownership/ management	Parish Council	Village Hall Committee	
	Include in issues of village Magazine (Quarterly) Include on website	Parish Council		
	Consider provisions for winter road clearing	Parish Council	SCC	
	<i>(See business section)</i>			
	Send information to providers and ask for positive feedback on service improvements Investigate partnership with broadband company	PPGC		
	Consider setting up Parish Buying Groups for oil etc	PPGC	Volunteers	Started
	Pass findings to Owners	PPSC		Complete
	Pass findings to Owners	PPSC		Complete
	Pass findings to Owners of shop and pub	PPSC		

APPENDIX A Consolidated Action Plan cont.

Category	Issue	Priority
Faith	No issues identified from Faith questions	
Community Safety	Greater visible Police presence (40%)	Medium
	Traffic control measure	
	Road safety training for young people	Medium
	Anti-social behaviour	Medium
	Lack of emergency plan	Medium
Healthy Living	Up to 10% of residents need help in various areas; particularly with travel to either health services or collection of prescriptions	Medium
	Young people acting as carers	Medium
Leisure and Sport	Indoor sports venue required (54%) Tennis Courts (45%) Sports Pavilion (35%)	High
	Need for volunteers for various activities in leisure areas	
	Charities Meadow: 52% preferred to keep the space open. 41% would like to develop recreational facilities. This suggests that there's a need for both	High
	Suitability of Village Hall: 34% thought it not adequate	Medium
	75% have never or only occasionally used the Village Hall	Medium
	Interest expressed by over 20% adults in Pilates and Yoga 39 adults and 19 youth interested in Martial Arts	Medium
	Interest expressed by 26% in Badminton	Medium
	Around 50% of people have attended the larger village events	Medium
	Allotments - over 100 adults and 20 young people expressed interest	Low
Facilities for young people	A large number wanted a Youth Club (72%)	High
	There is a need for more activities for young people (68%)	High
	65 young people would like a skate park and most would help with fundraising	High
	Lack of equipment for older children on adventure playground	High
	Coordination of Youth activities	High

	Action	Lead organisation	Partners	Status
	Information gathered was passed to PCC	PPSC		Complete
	Liaise with Police	Parish Council	Neighbourhood watch PCSO	
	<i>See traffic section</i>			
	Action with Police or appropriate body	Schools	Neighbourhood watch PCSO	
	Action with Police	Parish Council	Neighbourhood watch PCSO	
	Establish, publish and test	Parish Council		
	Further investigation in care areas needed Investigate setting-up prescription collection scheme Publicise existing Eye Volunteer resource Article in Messenger on voluntary / community services	Parish Council PPGC	Volunteers Eye Volunteer Service Messenger Church	
	Engage more support for youths that provide adult care at home	Parish Council PPGC	SCC	
	In-depth feasibility study needed to determine need, support, costs and potential funding	Parish Council PPGC	United Charities School Youth Council and PPGC	
	<i>See voluntary section</i>			
	Provide information to Parish Council and United Charities for changes to be implemented	Parish Council	United Charities Youth Council	
	Consider whether needs updating / extending/ replacing	Village Hall Committee		
	Publicise cost, availability and facilities	Village Hall Committee		
	Extra uses for village hall committee to consider	Village Hall Committee		
	Consider venues. Raise at volunteer event	PPGC		
	Produce yearly calendar of events and publish in Village magazine	Parish Council	Messenger All event organisers	
	Pass results to Parish Council for consideration	Parish Council	Allotments Assoc.	
	Secure funding for Youth club Find volunteers	PPGC Youth Council	V.H. Committee. Parish Council and SCC Youth worker	
	Consider setting up a Youth Council to address this issue <i>(see local democracy)</i>	Parish Council		
	Examine feasibility / potential funding Investigate potential location	Parish Council Youth Council	United Charities MSDC	
	Look into possibility of adding new equipment / sports facility	Youth Council Parish Council	United Charities MSDC	
	Engage volunteers / link to local charities / organisations	Youth Council Parish Council	Volunteer, Youth Worker, MSDC	



Forward Together



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Thank You

The Parish Plan Steering Committee

