

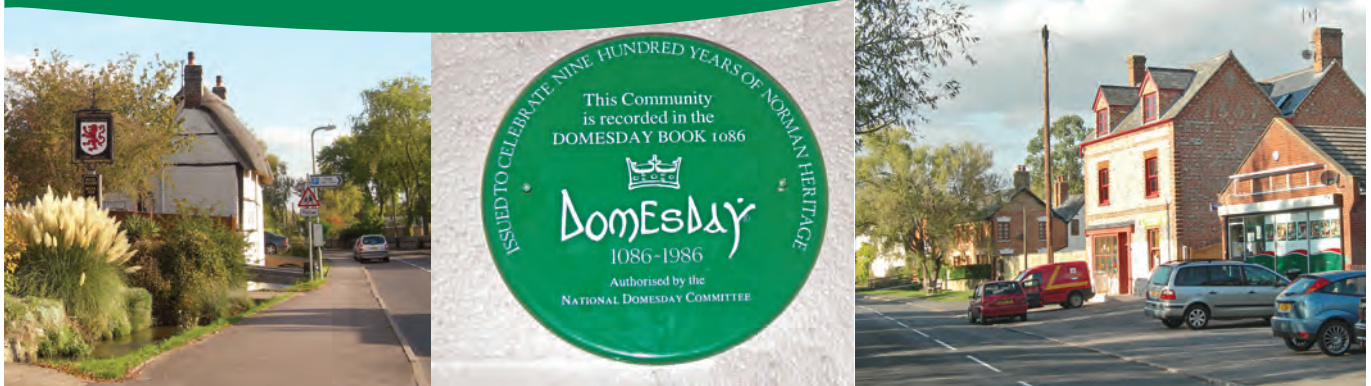


2010 Chalgrove Village Plan

Contents

Today, Yesterday and Tomorrow	3
Creating the Village Plan	4
Analysing the Responses	6
<i>Green CHALGROVE</i>	7
<i>Cleaner CHALGROVE</i>	8
<i>Educating CHALGROVE</i>	8
<i>Developing CHALGROVE</i>	9
<i>CHALGROVE on the move</i>	9
<i>CHALGROVE Communicating</i>	10
<i>Religious CHALGROVE</i>	10
<i>Safer CHALGROVE</i>	11
<i>Historical CHALGROVE</i>	12
<i>CHALGROVE at play</i>	12
<i>Enabling CHALGROVE</i>	13
<i>Servicing CHALGROVE</i>	13
<i>Younger CHALGROVE</i>	14
<i>Other Feedback</i>	14
Making it Happen	15
It Can Work!	15
What can you do next!?	15
Action List	16
Responses from other Organisations	18
Our Sponsors and Helpers	20
Volunteer Form	21
Your Comments	22

Today, Yesterday and Tomorrow



Chalgrove Today

Chalgrove is a rural village community within the South Oxfordshire District. It is situated approximately 10 miles south east of Oxford City and comprises 1,130 homes in about 2,750 acres. The current population is approximately 2,900, many of whom have lived in the village for most of their lives. The main part of the village is residential and has two churches, several shops, three public houses, a primary school, a modern doctors' surgery and many other amenities.

The community is a friendly one, a fact born out by the responses to our Questionnaire. People enjoy living in Chalgrove and the existence of numerous clubs and societies adds weight to this. There are several halls and meeting places and a large recreation ground for the community, both young and old, to enjoy. Two brooks flow through the village and, although there has been some incidence of flooding over recent times, they are the home to the indigenous families of ducks that roam the village, completely oblivious to any road traffic regulations.

The village architecture reflects its history. Although there are many modern buildings, there are also 34 listed buildings within the village, a much higher figure than other villages of the same size.

Chalgrove is linked to Oxford by a regular bus service, and also to Thame and Wallingford on market days. A war-time airfield still exists and is home to the Martin-Baker Company who manufacture ejection seats for pilots in the world's air forces. Adjacent to the airfield are two business parks that contain more than 100 small businesses providing employment for a number of Chalgrove residents. However, the majority of the residents commute to nearby towns and cities for employment.

Much has been written about the history of the village of Chalgrove and we must refer briefly to our proud heritage before moving on to the future.

Chalgrove Yesterday

There is evidence of a settlement here from before Roman times and by the time of the Domesday Book the village is credited with five mills, 10 hides and land for 12 ploughs which suggests a community of some substance. The present parish church dates from the 12th century and contains many artefacts that chronicle Chalgrove through the ages. The church is perhaps best known for its Medieval wall paintings, believed to date from 1320 AD, which are considered to be of national importance.

Two large manor houses dominated the community during the later part of the middle ages. The first, a moated manor house built originally in the mid 13th century and owned by the Barentin family, was situated in what is now Hardings Field. It was demolished in 1485 but was the subject of an extensive archaeological exercise in the 1970s. The other dates from the middle of the 15th century. Known as The Manor, it is now a private home but plays a significant role in the life of the village, hosting several musical and charity events.

Chalgrove was the site in 1643 of a battle in the English Civil War. The Royalist troops of Prince Rupert defeated the Parliamentary troops of the Earl of Essex, during which battle Sir John Hampden, a leading parliamentarian, was mortally wounded.

Chalgrove continued to be an agricultural society even after the advent of the Industrial Revolution but the passing of the Enclosure Acts eventually drew residents away from the land to work in the factories in Cowley and neighbouring towns.

The Second World War saw many changes to Chalgrove with the arrival of evacuees from bomb-torn London and the creation of an airfield that was operated by both British and American airmen, primarily for photo-reconnaissance purposes. In the years following the war, the population of the village began to develop and the community evolved into the shape that we see today.

Chalgrove Tomorrow

A renowned Dutch sportsman and entrepreneur once said:

*"Nobody can predict the future
but it's worth trying to influence its direction"*

This is exactly what the Chalgrove Village Plan is intended to be an attempt to influence the future direction of life in the community. The Village Plan Steering Committee has spent the past thirty months consulting with the community and has developed this plan to help shape the future of the village. The community told us that they were proud to live in Chalgrove and we hope that the Village Plan will help to maintain that pride for all.

One of the recurring themes we encountered during the consultation with the community was the interconnection between many of the organisations and activities. Some people were unhappy that, in the past, this connectivity had not always been apparent and consequently we warmed to the theme of "joined-up" thinking and planning in our deliberations. It is a theme that we shall return to as we develop the Action List for Chalgrove.

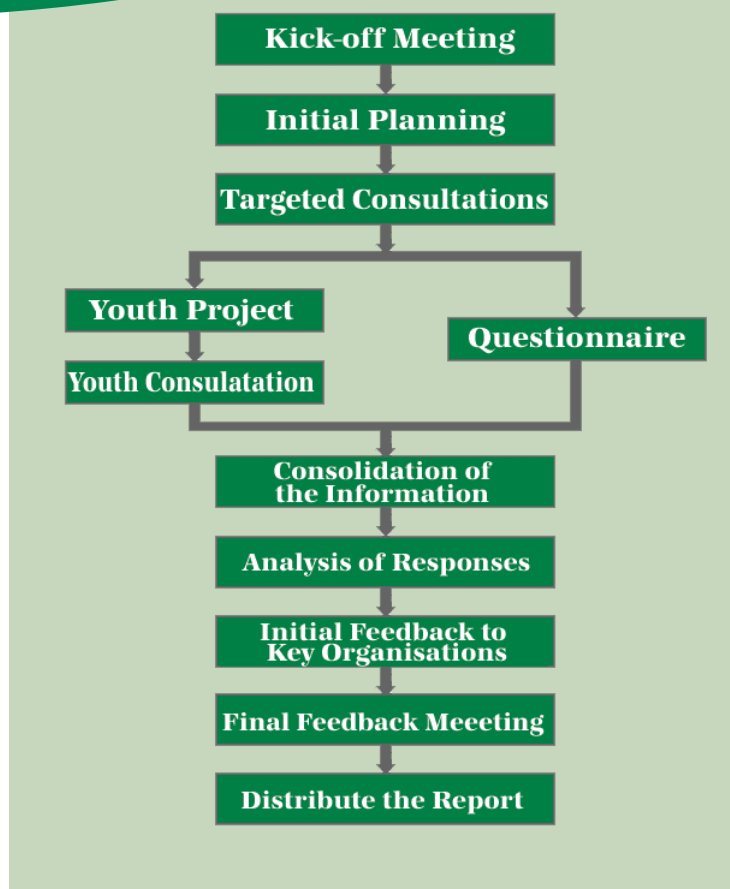
Creating the Village Plan

The Beginning

A paragraph appeared in the LINK magazine early in 2007 asking for volunteers who might be interested in helping to create a Village Plan to speak up. In May 2007, a first meeting was held of what has become the Chalgrove Village Plan Steering Committee.

A launch meeting was planned and held in the Village Hall in June 2007. It was attended by almost 200 residents and there began the process of consultation with the whole community. The Steering Committee had assistance from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) who provided them with valuable templates of the methodologies used by other villages. The launch meeting also gave rise to the first attempts to categorise peoples' interests and concerns into sections relating to different aspects of village life.

It was soon apparent that the Village Plan was going to involve costs and a grant was applied for from ORCC. In the event, a sum of £4,966 was received from the ORCC, including a donation of £500 from the Duke of Marlborough towards youth consultation within the plan, and a further grant of up to £1000 was received from Chalgrove Parish Council.



Consulting with the Community

The consultation process started in earnest in the autumn of 2007 and lasted for six months. It involved a number of 'drop-in' workshops in the John Hampden Hall. At our December morning, seasonal refreshments were exchanged for the thoughts and ideas of many members of the community using numerous post-it notes.

The approach of the consultation process at these workshops was to ask these questions against each category of interest and concern:

What do you like about living in Chalgrove?

What do you not like so much about living in Chalgrove?

What would you like to see happen in the future?

This method was also used with the various clubs and societies within the village at meetings held in halls and other meeting places around the village. A vast amount of information was collected and collated from these consultations and it became the basis of the next step – the development of the Questionnaire.



Creating the Village Plan

Consulting with the Youth of Chalgrove

It became apparent very early on that the consultation meetings were not going to be an effective method of engaging with the young people of the community. It was decided to set up a Youth Consultation project over a three-four month period and assistance was obtained from the DAMASCUS youth charity that already had experience in this area. The project team included volunteers from outside the Steering Committee and also the Police Community Support Officer. A qualified youth worker provided leadership to the Chalgrove project team and took part in street work and other activities.

Workshops were held with the young people to consider the content and process of the consultation and this resulted in the Youth Consultation Fun Day. This took the form of tailored questions and 'a graffiti wall' for two separate age groups; 5-11 years and 12-18 years and was followed by a programme of fun activities on the recreation ground for all those who took part. The output from this day was analysed and merged with the information from the other consultation processes.



The Residents' Questionnaire

It was now the task of the Steering Committee to test and confirm the information that had been collected during the many consultations before any further actions were initiated.

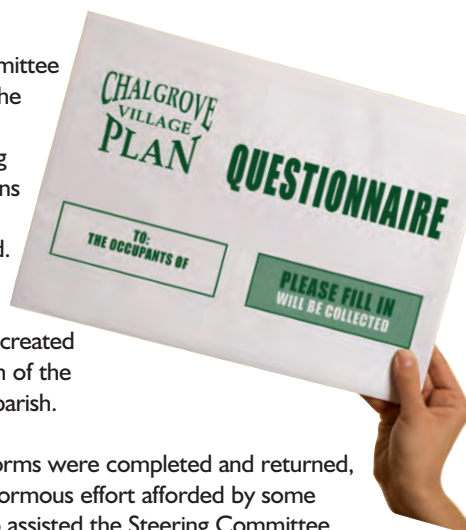
A questionnaire was created and delivered to each of the 1,130 houses in the parish.

730 Questionnaire forms were completed and returned, largely due to the enormous effort afforded by some forty volunteers who assisted the Steering Committee members in this task.

As part of the drive to get the message out that the Questionnaire was an important opportunity for the village to have a voice, beer mats were produced stating "Don't Duck the Issue!". These were circulated to all the public houses in the village.

The questionnaire consisted of 81 questions, many with multiple choices and space for comments. The layout of the questionnaire was designed to be compatible with a software programme used by South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), which was then used to produce the initial statistical tables of the responses.

The work of creating and managing the questionnaire took a total of nine months and involved not only the Steering Committee but also many other people from both within and outside the community to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude.



Feedback to the Community

The final tasks for the Steering Committee have been to inform the Community of its findings and to launch the projects that make up the Chalgrove Village Plan. Together these projects make up the various elements of the Action List, which was then presented to the community at the Public Feedback Meeting in April 2010. From the outset of our planning, we have stressed the fact that we can produce the elements of the plan but it is up to the community to pick up these elements and carry the action forward. This meeting was the moment that delivered the Village Plan to the residents of Chalgrove.

This report details the results of the feedback and presents an Action List. It has been delivered to the homes in Chalgrove and to other interested parties outside the village. The information that was collected will become available, in due course, on the web site together with any other relevant information relating to the Village Plan.



Analysing the Responses

We began analysing the information in January 2009 with the initial tables generated by SODC's SNAP software, this proved to be an enormous task. Great care was taken to ensure the anonymity of the respondents and the only part of the questionnaire that could identify the author, the volunteer page at the end of the form, was removed immediately and then stored separately. The original categories were revised to reflect the responses and for each of these categories, a number of actions and potential projects were identified. Each project was defined to include its objectives, size and resources required.

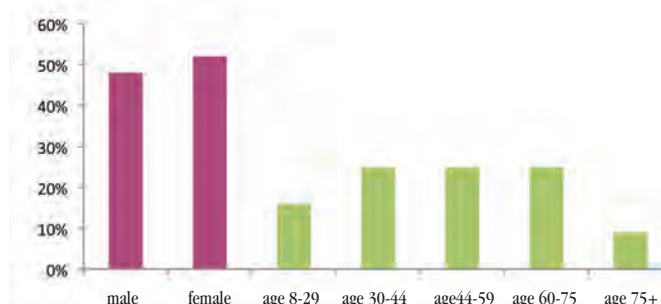
The feedback for each category was discussed with relevant sections of the community, namely The Parish Council, the Churches, the Police, Age Concern, the Primary School and the Local History Group, to verify that the assumptions were reasonable and to check for any current plans that other organisations in the community already had in place.



Analysis of the Responses

We were delighted by the level of response to the Questionnaire. This amounted to a two-thirds return rate, which is an excellent result, and, more importantly, demonstrates that the residents of Chalgrove are interested in the future of our village. However, this presented us with the challenge of a great deal of information to analyse in order to formulate your vision.

Breakdown of the Responses - Gender and Age



15 questions invited comments only and therefore they were extracted into a separate database and analysed.

In addition, we included the results from the Youth Consultation Day that consisted of a five choice graffiti wall and a Youth Questionnaire tailored to both age groups. We involved five representatives of the youth of Chalgrove in analysing and cataloguing the graffiti wall information. We held a full day workshop and they worked hard interpreting a large number of comments that were then presented in a series of spreadsheets.

A team of six volunteers from the Village Plan Steering Committee worked on the Questionnaire and youth analysis phase, and this important task took over ten months to complete. We developed our own process in order to ensure that we incorporated all the information and feedback provided. The analysis process included the creation of an action list, which reviewed all the 12 sections in the Questionnaire e.g. Community Safety, Older People, Youth, and Recreation and Leisure. Based on the results of the analysis of each question, we identified potential future actions.

This analysis identified new projects for the future vision of Chalgrove. These projects fall naturally into groupings that we have formulated into categories as above.

There is a range of interesting and exciting projects all with a common goal of delivering this vision for Chalgrove. Some projects will take longer to implement, but this in itself can make the objective more challenging and satisfying, whilst other projects can be implemented more quickly. Some will be on-going; some could involve annual events. But one key element they all have in common is that they all need the residents of Chalgrove to get involved – no matter how much time, or how little time, everyone's contribution will make a difference!

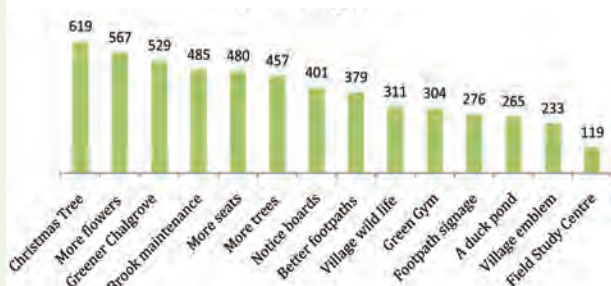
Not all of the results demand a project but will require actions to be taken. We have produced an overall Action List to incorporate these actions and the defined projects. See Pages 16/17 for Action List.

The last phase of our analysis work was to present summaries of the results of the Questionnaire and Youth Consultation Fun Day to interested parties within the village. This has enabled an exchange of information so that we could report in this document any current or future plans that support your vision.

Green CHALGROVE

It is an interesting task to describe what we all mean by a Green Chalgrove. However, the response to this section outweighed any other section, thus demonstrating its importance. GREEN seems to be a word synonymous with the need to take action to redress the balance between man and his greedy exploitation of our natural resources. So – how would this happen in Chalgrove?

Green Chalgrove



The level of response to each question identified the following projects:

Project: Christmas Tree

To establish a Christmas Tree in the heart of the village that can be enjoyed annually, allowing yuletide community events such as creating and providing tree decorations, turning on the lights, carol singing and even a visit from our very own Father Christmas. We piloted this project over the Christmas period of 2009 by erecting a Christmas tree on the High Street. The tree project produced a very strong community response giving rise to generous donations and a large number of positive and joyful comments.

Project: Green Working Group

Nationally there will be increasing demands to react to climate changes and "Go Green". This project would focus on establishing a village working group to research, investigate and address local green methods to counteract issues such as climate changes, our carbon footprint and sustainability. This group would provide a local source of information, advice and guidance to the village on all matters 'green'. The Green Working Group could liaise with local councils to further understand targets and objectives for our village, as well as working with local towns and villages that have similar 'green' movements.

Project: Swap Shop

In today's "disposable" culture what one person may no longer require may be just what is needed by someone else!

In true green style, this project would investigate the establishment of a Chalgrove Swap Shop that could include a Swap Shop Day similar to the 'German swap share' scheme.



Project: Green Gym

A relationship has been established with British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) in Oxford, which owns the rights to the concept of the 'Green Gym'. The BTCV Green Gym® is a scheme which inspires people to improve their own health and their local environment at the same time. We suggest a 'Green Gym' project which would look at making improvements in the following areas:

Flowers, Trees and Seats

This project would help to sustain and improve the 'greener' areas within Chalgrove, creating and enhancing our village environment to help deliver a deeper pride in our community. As an initial event for this project, we contacted everyone who completed the green section of volunteer information page within the Questionnaire to see if they would like to help to plant daffodils around the village during October 2009. This proved to be a very successful initial event with many volunteers getting involved with whole families and all age groups, and the results will be enjoyed by all in the years to come!

Maintenance of the Brooks

Our brooks are an essential historical feature in the village, and enjoyed by the ducks and us! Regular maintenance and improvements by village volunteers can help to ensure the flow and improve the appearance. As the brooks are key elements of the village, they impact upon many interested parties who would also need to be consulted.

Footpaths and Signage

Being a rural village within the beautiful South Oxfordshire countryside we are lucky to have a variety of local footpaths, including the Shakespeare Way, a route that runs through our village. The objective of this project would be not only to improve the quality of the footpaths but also ensure that we were better informed of their existence, so all can enjoy them. Additionally, this project could investigate the provision of new footpaths.

Promotion of Village Wildlife

To ensure that wildlife within the village is cared for, and an environment maintained, in which indigenous wildlife may thrive, the project would allow the monitoring of our local wildlife by the introduction of nature studies. It would also look at possible improvements to our local environment in order to support wildlife, such as the introduction of a village duck pond as indicated in the feedback.

Cleaner CHALGROVE

It was well recognised, from the responses, that the national problems of litter and dog fouling are also very evident within our village. During the Village Plan consultations and at the Youth Consultation Fun Day, litter was raised as an issue by many people, both old and young alike. Litter is unsightly and unhealthy and can be a danger to us, our pets and wild life.

Some of the comments received from the Youth Consultation included:

“Make sure Chalgrove is clean and tidy”

“Pick up rubbish and put it in the bins”

“I don’t like dog poo in the grass”

“Don’t leave dog mess”

“Stop throwing litter”

“Stop smashing bottles”

“Litter pick”

“Keep Chalgrove tidy”



Overall 1,200 of the responses received from the Questionnaire, to both questions on Litter and Dog Fouling, believed this to be a problem. Likewise seventy eight of both age groups of the Youth responded that litter and dog fouling were an issue. This tells us that these issues are very strongly felt across the whole community.

There is a weekly litter pick provided by the Scouts and Guides, who do a fantastic job in collecting litter. However, more focus on education about these issues needs to be done. In other villages litter picks have proved to be productive community events, collecting litter around the whole of the village and inspiring pride in the community.

Project: Cleaner Chalgrove

This project has already been established as an initiative of the Village Plan Steering Group, focusing initially on dog fouling and then litter. The team has already involved the Parish Council, Chalgrove Community Primary School, Icknield Community College, and the local police. Many ideas are being implemented but they need your involvement and support. It is hoped that this project would help to make Chalgrove a cleaner and nicer place to live.

Educating CHALGROVE

We asked questions about some education provision in the community including Library Services, Primary School education and Adult Education. We have a mobile library service that visits the village for a half day once a week. However, 78% of the responses received would like to have a permanent library in the village.

Project: Chalgrove Community Library

This project could investigate the possibility of a permanent library in the village. The library could look to provide a multi media lending facility, and be a central information point for the village



Project: Life Long Learning Programme

This project could investigate re-establishing adult education facilities for the village. The majority of people requested courses of a short duration, without certification, and indicated that the use of local skills, talent and facilities, which exist within the village should be utilised.

All comments on improvements to our village primary school, such as classroom sizes and further play equipment were fed back to the School Governors and their response can be found on page 18

There were several questions in the Questionnaire regarding Adult Education in Chalgrove, as we understand that this was a well attended activity, which no longer exists, within the village. A strong response of 82% to these questions, would welcome the reintroduction of adult education.



Developing CHALGROVE

We asked several questions in the section about the Development of Chalgrove.

We were well aware that this topic was going to be the most controversial of all other aspects of the Village Plan.

For some, it was initially thought that this was what the Village Plan was all about.

One of the clear messages regarding future development within Chalgrove was that significant controls should be in place.

These controls need to encompass the following:

No growth without corresponding attention to amenities

Protection of the village allotments

Strict control of re-sale of affordable housing

No new buildings within existing back gardens

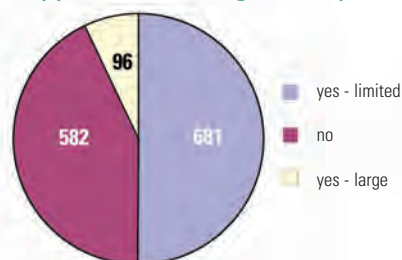
Consideration and attention to infrastructure e.g. sewers and flooding

Type of housing for any future development

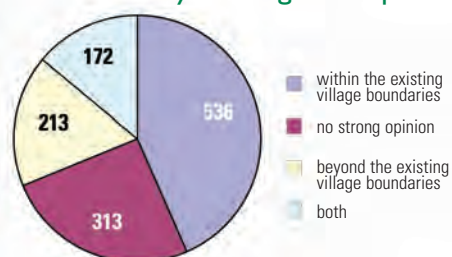


All responses regarding housing development in Chalgrove have been fed back to Local, District and County Councils.

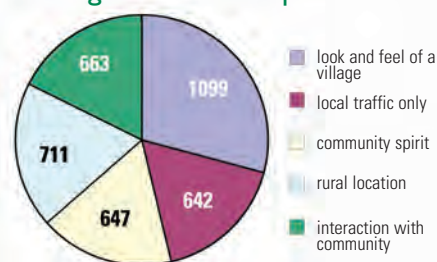
Support for Housing Development



Location of any Housing Development



Aspects of village to be retained if Chalgrove has development



Project: The Development Pressure Group

Unfortunately, the village cannot control planning applications or the process of these applications by local councils. It is suggested that a group of people form a task force to act upon your responses and monitor planning applications

CHALGROVE on the move

This is the category that included mobility and transport requirements both for today and beyond. You may not be surprised to know that 85% responded that a car or van was the main means of transport out of the village and currently only 9% use a bus. In evaluating future transportation needs, improvements are required by providing more flexibility and allowing a greater variety of destinations for our community.

There were a number of improvements suggested, which would influence your use of bus service in the future.

Frequency of service and variety of routes

Better connection to established routes e.g. Oxford Tube

Better evening and weekend services

Improved access for disabled people

More direct route to Oxford

Project: Transportation Pressure Group

The outcome to these requirements could be to form a Transportation Pressure Group to work with County, District and Parish Councils to consider our transportation vision and needs. We understand that Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) are reviewing the subsidised transport needs for this part of Oxfordshire, which will commence with a consultation in September/October 2010 with implementation in June 2011. Feedback regarding your transportation needs and wishes will be fed into this review via the Chalgrove County Councillor.

Chalgrove Hospital Transportation Service (CHATS) is a voluntary organisation within our village that provides transportation to and from hospital appointments. 18% of people within our community had no knowledge of this voluntary organisation and this information has been fed back to CHATS.

CHALGROVE Communicating

Communication is central to the village community. Communication can take many forms but the important issue is to provide everyone with up to date information in a timely manner. The level of response to each question identified the following projects:

Project: Chalgrove Communicating

A Chalgrove Communicating project which would encompass the following improvements to our village 'grapevine':

Welcome Pack

A Welcome Pack to new residents would consist of useful local information such as local services and amenities, contact information, guidelines for usage, opening times, responsibilities and costs where appropriate. This pack would not only supply a much needed source of central information but would truly help to welcome newcomers to our friendly village. A project would collate, establish, deliver, and maintain this pack for Chalgrove's new and existing residents.

Chalgrove on the Web

Currently we have many websites, created by various organisations and services within the village, and each of these does a good job for the individual organisation and service. There is some common information within the current websites; however, there is still a lot of information about Chalgrove that is not available via the Internet. Although 1301 responded to the question regarding existing websites, only 207 use those existing websites. In order to promote the 'joined up thinking' principle and provide a single central entry point for all

Chalgrove's facilities and information, a project to provide a uniform Chalgrove 'umbrella' website which would link to existing websites, is proposed. This would enable organisations and services to retain their individual communication and style and at the same time be part of a bigger Chalgrove communications picture.

Chalgrove Skills Directory

In response to the number of people who thought a local skills register and a local directory of businesses and services would be a useful communication tool, a project has been identified to investigate how this could be produced and managed.

Notice Boards

Communication is central to all villages and the most common approach (even in this age of technology) is to look at notices on village notice boards. This project would investigate the possibility of improving existing notice boards, and perhaps review the need for additional ones.

Village Emblem

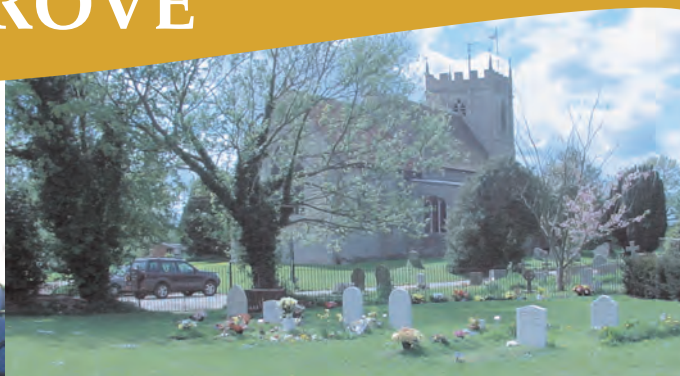
The creation and display of a village emblem, that encompasses all that Chalgrove means, would further demonstrate pride in the village and would better inform visitors. This project could welcome ideas from all members of the community for the creation of the emblem.

Two questions were included about The LINK (Chalgrove, Berrick Salome, Berrick Prior, Roke and Rokemmarsh Parish Magazine). The analysis of your feedback was presented to The Link Editorial Team in October 2009.

Religious CHALGROVE



Methodist Church



St Mary's Church

All the information has been presented to the two Churches within our village, and this also included additional comments concerning the graveyard space and the availability of the keys to St Mary's Church.

Aspects of places of Religious worship - Importance to you



Safer CHALGROVE

In the Questionnaire there were several questions pertaining to the safety aspects of the village and policing of the village. Some highlights to these questions are illustrated below. In addition, there were many comments made of particular safety concerns regarding traffic calming and placement of a school crossing, which illustrates that residents see this as a high priority. 52% considered street parking to be a safety risk throughout the village. One of the questions asked for comments on considered danger spots.

The highlights of the responses are:

Parking near street corners

Parking along the High Street

(especially near Chapel Lane)

Traffic travelling too fast along the 'by-pass'

Traffic calming on Mill Lane

Speeding along Fairfax Road

The Youth feedback reflected all the above points and added speeding along the High Street.

In addition, 67% of the response was for a greater Police presence in the village and better consultation between the Police and local people.

32% responded that greater education about drugs and alcohol abuse was important.

The response to questionnaire showed a lack of awareness (88%) regarding the Police Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG), and its role within the community. The NAG focuses their work on the main priorities that are identified from consultation with the local community.

Members, who are all volunteers, take on responsibility for achieving certain tasks on behalf of their neighbourhood. For further information www.thamesvalley.police.uk/yourmh/yourmh-nag.

The Youth Consultation Fun Day also highlighted concerns about anti-social behaviour. Some of these were; stopping vandalism, fighting, drinking and smoking across the whole of our community. They would like to see improvements and better understanding between the youth and the adult communities.

Comments included:

"Smile!"

"Don't judge us"

"Get to know the kids for who we are not want you think"

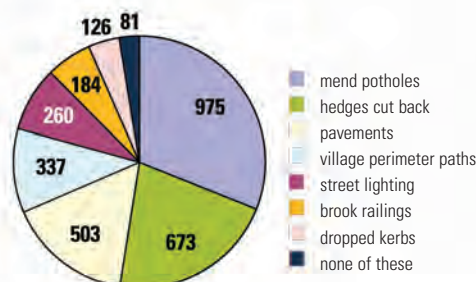
"Respect us"

"Talk to us more"

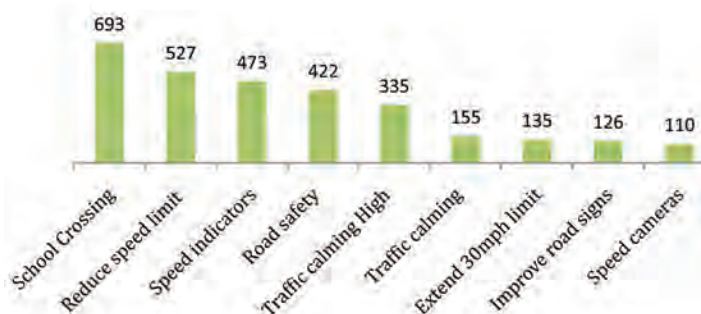
"Remember they were kids once themselves"

The results of the responses regarding safety have been presented to the Parish Council and Thames Valley Police. Further letters have been sent to Thames Valley Police (NAG), SODC and OCC regarding your feedback.

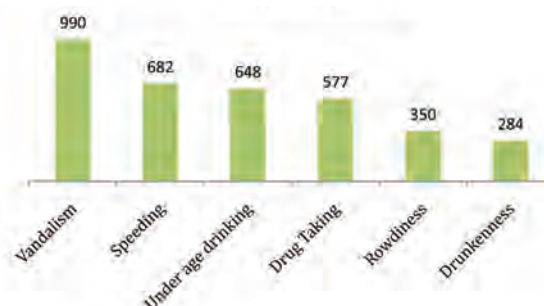
Community safety - Improvements



Actions to Reduce Speeding



Anti Social Behaviour



Historical CHALGROVE

All the information has been fed back to the Chalgrove Local History Group. This organisation works very hard to maintain and protect an historical record of the village heritage.

Support to Retain our Heritage



CHALGROVE at play

The quality and quantity of amenities and activities, including annual events and a large variety of clubs within the village, were identified as a great advantage to the community.

Responses showed that the majority of regular and annual village events were well attended and supported. We have a wealth of events to choose from that include May Day Festival, Chalgrove Midsummer Ball, Music Festivals, and a variety of fetes and quiz nights - all of which seem to be greatly enjoyed and they provide a model that many villages would be proud of.

Our recreation ground adjacent to the Village Hall has a young children's play area, 'all year' hard courts for tennis, netball, football etc. In 2009, the Parish Council added, the facility of outdoor fitness equipment that can be used by all age groups. Your feedback showed 61% would like an all-weather footpath around the recreation ground, giving better access to the current facilities, 40% requested an improved children's play area and 41% would like more benches available around the grounds. During 2009 the Chalgrove Parish Council installed two new benches in the recreation ground alongside the skate park. There were a number of older and younger youth that would like a seated area within the recreation ground where they could meet, sit and chat.

The youth feedback featured heavily on the recreation ground with 71 responses directly mentioning it. comments included:

"It's very big and it's fun!"

"Big with lots of things to do"

"There is a skate park, which is cool!"

"The skate park is a great place to chill out and meet new people"

"It's got a big football pitch"

Improvements to the Recreation Ground



 **Project: Sports & Recreation Working Group**

The feedback for new sports facilities was rated as follows: 717 responses for a swimming pool, 447 responses for a multi-purpose sports centre with changing rooms, and 167 responses for a golf course; the youth feedback incorporated 19 responses wanting a better park, 17 responses for a swimming pool and a splash pool, 16 responses for a larger skate park with more ramps, plus 9 responses for a sports centre/gym with improved changing rooms. There were 869 positive responses to a cinema facility to be held within the village.

We envisage this project would investigate the feasibility of improvements to recreation and sports facilities currently available within the village.

It is worth mentioning that several suggestions were raised during the consultation phase of the possible usage of the airfield adjacent to the B480. This land is the property of the Ministry of Defence and it is our understanding that the lease will out-last the longevity of the objectives of this plan.

All these responses have been fed to Chalgrove Parish Council and relevant organisations.



Enabling CHALGROVE

When asked if any older or people with disabilities required any help with day-to-day activities, the responses were as follows:

- 17 people required help with picking up shopping
- 54 for help with gardening
- 38 people requested raised allotments
- 46 responses for smaller allotments
- 20 people required wheelchair access to allotments
- 17 for help with collecting prescriptions
- 53 people would like help with handyman services
- 15 people would like home delivery from village shops



Project: Enabling People in Chalgrove

We would suggest a project to assist people in Chalgrove who need practical help and would start by looking at the needs of the older and disabled members of our community. This project could work with the Age Concern Trustees and other interested parties to help encourage and maintain health and independence for as long as possible, and ensure that help is available when needed.

The response to the Questionnaire about the awareness of Age Concern in Chalgrove and their activities were very positive and 60% of all residents had heard of Chalgrove Age Concern, which suggests that 40% had not heard of Age Concern and within this group half were over the age of 45. Chalgrove has an active Age Concern organisation that supports both our own older people and those from surrounding villages.

We fed back this response to the Trustees of Age Concern who were very interested in the results and who have since managed, through a marketing campaign, to recruit more members and volunteers.



Servicing CHALGROVE

Our village is well serviced by many facilities such as village shops, post office, public houses, churches, a surgery, and recreation halls. It is to the credit of the residents of Chalgrove that all of these services are well supported and patronised.



We have several halls in Chalgrove for meetings and social gatherings. Although only 26% of residents have booked the village halls, there were strong comments on the methods of bookings, the environment, and the costs. All this feedback has been relayed to the relevant organisation responsible for each of the halls.

Based on the feedback to the question of other facilities and services you would use on a regular basis, the following were most widely requested; bakery, butcher, local produce farmers' market, fish and chips. Some initiatives have already been taken prior to the publication of these results, and more fresh fruit and vegetables, and take-away fish and chips are now available in Chalgrove.

Project: Local Market Working Group

We are suggesting a project called Local Market Working group to investigate the possibility of setting up a regular Farmers' Market specialising in local produce e.g. bakery, butcher, and other fresh produce. We envisage this working group would also work with established local shops and service providers.



Younger CHALGROVE

We had to ensure that we consulted the next generation of Chalgrove and to this end we arranged a tailored consultation programme for our younger residents aged 5- 18.

Events within this programme were well attended and we also built a very good relationship with Chalgrove Community Primary School and Icknield Community College. The younger residents were very forthcoming and produced positive feedback of their vision of Chalgrove for both now and the future. They were equally concerned on topics such as litter, dog fouling, adult and youth anti-social behaviour, and wanted to encourage better relationships between the youth and adult residents of Chalgrove. We have included the youth feedback in the other relevant categories. The Youth responses identified a project and for it to be successful it is key that the project team include Youth members.

Project: Chalgrove Youth Forum

The most exciting element from the analysis of the youth feedback was how much they want to be involved in all aspects of the village and its future and make their voice heard. The objective of this project would be to establish a young people's forum to express views, identify issues and solutions, run events, fundraise, liaise with other village projects and activities, and be a central point for communication for the youth of Chalgrove. Needless to say this project would be made up of youth members of various age groups and with guidance they would establish their own rules, goals and ways of working.

Based on the feedback, key areas for the Youth Forum to look at:

The Village Recreation Ground

The youth feedback has been added to the Chalgrove at Play section. As a major user of the village recreation ground the youth had specific ideas and concerns regarding it, often referred to, by the younger Chalgrove residents as 'the park'.



More Activities for the Youth

Youth feedback included more activities where the whole family can be involved, provide gentle guidance at drop-in sessions to discuss issues and relevant topics and provide a safe environment for them to spend more time with their friends. This part of the project could review current available youth activities and would look to encourage new ideas and improvements.



Other Feedback

This section provides information to general questions asked within the Questionnaire.

RAF Benson

We asked if the noise and pollution from RAF Benson aircraft adversely affected you, to which 82% had no concerns, illustrating that this is not seen as a village wide problem as originally suggested throughout the prior consultation period.

New Rubbish/Recycling Collection Service

We asked if the new rubbish/recycling collection service was going to meet your needs. We understand that this service was difficult to assess, as the new programme had not been put in place.

However, there were a lot of concerned comments that the fortnightly service was not often enough and that you felt it should be a weekly service. There were also concerns on the total number of bins per household, where they would be placed and how their becoming an eyesore around the village be avoided. We have written to Strategic Director of Waste Services in SODC with your feedback.

Pride in the community

We asked if you would participate in local schemes and competitions in order to promote pride in our community. Responses for best-kept garden were 11%, and village of the year competitions was 27%, and 68% to none of the stated options. This illustrates a low response to these suggested initiatives but other responses in the Questionnaire do not reflect a lack of pride in our village and was illustrated by some of the comments received:

"I have enjoyed living in the village. We have been lucky to have enjoyed our time here. There are good amenities for children under 5 to support parents of young children. We have enjoyed the fields and footpaths as we have a dog. It has been good to have the opportunity to comment on some improvements that may make the village excellent."

"Chalgrove is a beautiful and friendly village and I feel privileged to live here."

Making it Happen

We started this journey two and half years ago with an initial meeting in the Village Hall, and now we have reached the final stage to put in place 'Your Vision'.

Each step of this journey was whole heartedly supported by many many residents of Chalgrove for this we thank you, for without this support and enthusiasm we could have not established the Village Plan!

Now it is time to come together again TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

To make your ideas a reality and work for Chalgrove, we all need to support and deliver your vision for the future.

The vision will also need future support from Chalgrove Parish Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

It Can Work!

We believe that this concept of projects can work, and indeed has worked already, as in late 2009 the Village Plan Steering Committee contacted volunteers, who had kindly completed the Volunteer List at the back of the Questionnaire, for two village initiatives.

The first was to find additional support for Club Java and Café Java; the second was to reach those volunteers who wish to help with 'Green' initiatives within the village. This resulted in a huge response and support for helpers to work with Club Java and Café Java. Support was urgently needed to help establish Club Java and keep both clubs available to the youth of Chalgrove. Thus the clubs have been kept alive and this has also helped to create a closer relationship and understanding between Chalgrove youth and the other adult residents.

Additionally, by contacting those volunteers who wished to be involved in 'Green' initiatives, many residents contributed to a daffodil planting campaign by supplying daffodil bulbs by the hundreds and their time, energy and effort to the planting of over 3,000 bulbs around the village. We, and visitors to Chalgrove, will enjoy the results of their efforts for many years to come.

It is evident from the responses that the Village wanted a Christmas tree, so the Village Plan Steering Committee set out to make this happen. We contacted local businesses and village organisations, who were very generous with their donations and contributions. A large tree was erected in the middle of the village during the first week of December and a 'Turning on the Lights' event was held later that week. Over 200 enthusiastic residents attended – both young and old! The village and visitors enjoyed the tree and many comments were received. Later, residents also organised a gathering to sing yuletide songs around the tree.

We believe that this truly demonstrates what can be achieved for the community when we have a vision and work together to make it happen.

What Can You Do Next!?

There are a variety of projects that will require different skills and different amounts of effort and time, so you can get involved and make any level of contribution – no matter how small, it will make a difference to Chalgrove's future.

In April 2010 the Village Plan Steering Committee hosted Final Consultation Feedback Meetings, where we presented highlights of this document and provided a 'marketplace' to illustrate each of the projects requested via your feedback.

As we all have very busy lives nowadays, you may think initially that you have no time to give. However, think about the following –

Contributing only 2 hours a month you could:

- **Review local planning applications**
- **Help with brook maintenance**
- **Contribute to a youth meeting**
- **Attend a litter pick**
- **Help run a village swap shop**
- **Help improve local footpaths**

So, please consider what you can do for your village and get involved!

If you have not already completed the volunteer list at the Final Consultation Feedback Meeting, it is very easy and simple to register. Your details will be held in a confidential central database (which will only be accessed by the members of the Village Plan Steering Committee and the projects with which you would like to get involved). Please contact villageplan@riverbed.demo.co.uk or drop your details into the Village Plan pouch held at Chalgrove Post Office to register your project or projects of choice. We will contact you soon after to let you know when the first meeting of the project or working group will be held.

We are looking forward to sharing the next steps of our journey to realising the Village Plan vision.
























**This is a very exciting time...
so make sure you are a part of it!**

Action List

The chart summarises the Actions proposed by this plan, identifying priorities (based on Questionnaire responses), and the major partners with relevant authority or expertise

KEY    *High*   *Med*  *Low*  *Done*

PC Chalgrove Parish Council, OCC Oxfordshire County Council, SODC South Oxfordshire District Council, EA Environmental Agency, ORCC Oxfordshire Rural Community Council

ACTION			PRIORITY	MAJOR PARTNERS
Green Chalgrove				
Provide a Christmas Tree in the village centre	 			PC
Establish a Green Working Group within the village to provide a local source of information, advice and guidance on all matters green.	 			
Research the feasibility of setting up a Green Gym®, or similar group, within Chalgrove to coordinate a programme of continued improvement to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flowers, trees and seats Maintenance of Brooks Footpaths and signage Village Wildlife 	  			British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, PC, OCC, SODC, EA, ORCC, Trust for the Oxfordshire Environment, Chalgrove Brook Walkers, Thames Water
Research feasibility of establishing a Chalgrove Swap Shop to redistribute unwanted items.				
The questionnaire response on waste collection has been fed back to the SODC				
Cleaner Chalgrove				
Continue the Cleaner Chalgrove project to reduce dog waste and litter in Chalgrove.	  			PC, Chalgrove Primary School SODC, OCC and Neighbourhood Action Group
Educating Chalgrove				
Review the logistics of providing a permanent Chalgrove Community Library within the village.	  			OCC
Further identify resources and demand for re-introducing an annual programme of Lifelong Learning	 			PC, Chalgrove Primary School, OCC
The questionnaire response on Chalgrove Community Primary School has been fed back to the School Governors.				
Developing Chalgrove				
Create a Development Pressure Group to ensure that the opinions of the community are kept in the fore-front of planning activity including housing	  			PC, SODC, OCC
The questionnaire response has been fed back to Local, District and County Councils				
Historical Chalgrove				
The questionnaire response has been fed back to the Chalgrove Local History Group				

Chalgrove on the Move

Create a Transportation Pressure group to protect current and gain new viable transport services.



OCC, Public Transport Users, ORCC, CHATS

The questionnaire response regarding CHATS has been fed back to them



Chalgrove Communicating

Provide the village with relevant up to date information and in a timely manner. To include:

- Welcome Pack
- Central Web site
- Skills Register
- Notice Boards
- Village Emblem



PC, Village Organisations, groups and businesses

The questionnaire response regarding The LINK has been fed back to them



Religious Chalgrove

The questionnaire response has been fed back to the Churches within the village



Safer Chalgrove

The questionnaire response on Community Safety has been fed back to the PC, the Police, NAG, SODC and OCC.



Younger Chalgrove

Establish a Youth Forum to be a central point to express and realise their feedback and wishes.



PC, OCC, OCC Youth Support Services

Chalgrove at Play

Create a Sports and Recreation Working Group to investigate feasibility of improved and new facilities



PC, OCC, SODC

The questionnaire response on the recreation ground has been fed back to the PC and relevant organisations



Enabling Chalgrove

Establish a network to provide practical assistance for the older and disabled members of the community



Age Concern, Brook Surgery, OCC, SODC

The questionnaire response has been fed back to Age Concern



Servicing Chalgrove

Review the feasibility of setting up a Local Farmers Market within the village



Chalgrove shops and businesses, PC

The questionnaire response on Chalgrove halls has been fed back to the relevant organisation responsible for each hall



Responses from Other Organisations

AGE CONCERN



You would think that after 10 years in existence and with lots of publicity and fundraising we would be well-known, not just in Chalgrove, but in the surrounding villages. Imagine our surprise when a representative from The Village Plan Committee informed the Age Concern Trustees that only about half the respondents of the Survey were aware of us and that some of those had no idea of who we were or what we did. Astonishing!

To coincide with our 10th anniversary and in view of the above revelations we did a mail shot to every house in Chalgrove and also to those in the surrounding villages. As a result of this we obtained a number of new members and several volunteers.

It is obvious from the results of the Village Plan Survey that in order to ensure that we are known and available to those whom would like to attract, much more has to be done to promote our name and activities.

We took the opportunity during our analysis phase to feedback some of the initial responses to major organisations that are involved with our village. We also needed to understand and report if some of the items in the action list were already being looked at, planned or taking place by those organisations, thus making our feedback more complete.

We are pleased to include their response to our feedback meetings.

Thames Valley Police – PCSO Report Chalgrove Neighbourhood Report



From September 2009, PCSO Rebecca FREEMAN and PCSO Chris Ratcliff joined the Chalgrove neighbourhood and PCSO Michelle JACQUES went to the Chinnor Neighbourhood.

Speed Indication Device (SID) deployments all over the neighbourhood take place throughout the year.

Operation to combat littering in September 2009 showed that one bin was damaged in Chalgrove village and little litter around the bus stop.

Halloween talks to all the schools around the Chalgrove neighbourhood, and no calls came in during the Halloween period to the police on the Chalgrove neighbourhood.

ANPR operations continuously go on, working together with the Wheatley neighbourhood.

Robbery at Bower End – is a still ongoing investigation.

PCSOs visited the Age Concern coffee morning in Chalgrove on 6th and 13th October and discussed crime reduction issues with the attendees. Still ongoing visits occur.

Dog Fouling: This offence can be dealt with by way of a fine and repeat offenders can be taken to court and prosecuted. As of 1st September 2009 local PCSOs can now issue South Oxfordshire District Council £80 penalty tickets for this and other offences.

Country watch has been well established in the Chalgrove Area.

Pub watch has been established in the Chalgrove Area. It is a joint pub watch between Watlington and Chalgrove and Routine License checks are always conducted regularly in the pubs.

Chalgrove Primary School Response Village Plan 2010



We thank Chalgrove Village Plan Steering Plan committee for feeding back some initial responses to a School Governors Meeting and we welcome the opportunity to respond to some of the comments received from the Village Plan Questionnaire about Chalgrove Primary School.

We have constructed 4 new classrooms over the last 3 years

We have an average classroom size of 27 pupils; our range spans 27 - 30 pupils, which is below national average. We would welcome smaller classroom sizes but are restricted by funding for teachers and teacher assistants. Community funding to assist with this issue by even providing additional teacher assistant would improve the teacher/teacher assistant ratio to pupils.

Communication within the school and within the village community is an area, which we wish to improve on. We have a weekly newsletter for pupils/parents, a regularly updated website, but wish to do more to inform the village on our progress and initiatives. To this end will be appointing a Communications Officer within our board of Governors to enable this improved communications programme.

We take the safety of our pupils and parents very seriously and we share the concerns of the village regarding a zebra crossing in front of the school. We have raised this concern with the County Council in the past. We would give our support to any new initiative.

We currently have a vacancy for a 'lollypop person'. This vacancy requires to work a few hours a day or could be a job share. Please contact Mrs Stone 01865 890385 if you would like any further information.

Claire Hague, Headmistress, Chalgrove Primary School.

CHALGROVE PARISH COUNCIL

response to

CHALGROVE VILLAGE PLAN



The initial steering group was set up many months ago for the purpose of producing a Chalgrove Village Plan. It was the intention to get the views of the villagers and so work to develop the community in a way that community members wanted. To this end I feel that the Village Plan Group have been successful.

After extensive meetings and communications with various facets of the community a questionnaire was produced. It was delivered to every household and with a very satisfactory return of 65%, this resulting plan is a viable record of views on the questions asked.

The Parish Council were interested to note the topics that emerged.

Cleaner Chalgrove

The Parish Council had initiated a poster campaign, drawn up by pupils from Chalgrove School to try and educate dog owners on 'scooping the poop'. Further work to this end is welcomed.

Litter has been recognised as a problem in consultations by the local NAG (Neighbourhood Action Group) working in conjunction with the local police) especially along the High Street and in the Recreation Ground and is a constant nuisance. The Scouts receive a donation from the Parish Council to perform a weekly clean of the High Street. The Guides also receive a donation to litter pick less frequently in the Recreation Ground area.

Greener Chalgrove

We are regularly updated with statistics showing how well Oxfordshire is doing with the new waste recycling service. Our village is doing its bit. Articles and ideas on how we can do better are always welcomed and can be put in the Parish Newsletter.

Younger Chalgrove

The Parish Council has for a number of years financed youth workers and thus enabled the Youth Club to be open on Monday and Thursday evenings. I also lead a team of volunteers who support Club and Cafe Java, which are open on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Over the years amenities in the Recreation Ground have increased – the latest addition being the fitness equipment. There is Miss Janes' bequest of £70,000 that has the condition that it must be spent on a major project for Youth and / or Recreation. A decision to be made once we analyse the information in the Village Plan.

Educating Chalgrove

A new Joint User Agreement has been signed between the Parish Council and Oxfordshire County Council to enable use of the Community Centre attached to Chalgrove School. It is the aim to try and re-institute evening classes once the building work on the new Children's Centre is complete – present prediction September 2010.

Safer Chalgrove

Parking and speeding have been highlighted for attention by the local NAG. Chalgrove now has two PCSOs, who liaise regularly with the Parish Council and hold monthly police

surgeries in Chalgrove. The Parish Council reports all faults/damage to roads, footpaths, lights and drains etc to the relevant authority. The surface water drains in the High Street have been thoroughly examined and need replacing, but there is limited money available for the County Council to do the work at present. We have been working closely with the Environment Agency and others to reduce the risk of flooding. A Chalgrove self-help group is at present being formed.

Historical Chalgrove.

Chalgrove History Group is active and present at most village functions. The Parish Council website includes much of historical interest. We recognise the need to encourage Community Pride. This has been raised again in NAG meetings and the youth workers have been asked to help guide the young in social awareness.

Chalgrove Communicating

Silver Surfers on Monday and Thursday mornings, in the John Hampden Hall, provide access and advice to all those wishing to know more about their computers. Cost is minimal and refreshments are available.

Requests have been received to get the Village Hall on line.

Servicing Chalgrove

For a village, Chalgrove has a good variety of halls, shops etc. We feel that maintaining and supporting the existing amenities is paramount. We would encourage people to support and use the local shops. We value the services available, such as doctors' surgery, pharmacy, post office, local churches as well as supporting three pubs. The Parish Council aims to keep the cost of its facilities to a minimum to enable the community easier access.

Developing Chalgrove.

We recognise the importance of maintaining public transport (heavily subsidised by the County Council)

This plan confirms the need for affordable housing in the village - we have been trying to find sites with the aid of South Oxfordshire District Council - if the land is not forthcoming we cannot go ahead.

You can see how inclusive this Chalgrove Village Plan is. Much hard work has gone into compiling it and I would like to thank all those who helped in any way. It will prove a good reference in the future and a guide when making decisions.

Ann Pritchard

Chairman, Chalgrove Parish Council.

Our Sponsors and Helpers

Chalgrove Village Plan Steering Committee are:

Anthea Dudley	Jacky Nabb
Carol Fowler	Kelly Potter
Peter Game	Andy Stone
Mary Hedderwick	David Turner

Past members are:

Heather Bowden Angela Hopkins Sylvia Holmes Tasker Neil Topping

The Village Plan Steering Committee would like to thank the residents of Chalgrove who have demonstrated such interest and support, all our sponsors both within our village and outside of the village, to Chalgrove Parish Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, and Duke of Marlborough (Youth Sponsorship Award).

We would also like to thank the following for their generosity:

Chalgrove Cavaliers
Age Concern, Chalgrove
All volunteers who delivered and collected the Village Plan Questionnaire and this document
Blue Reef Projects Ltd
Chalgrove Aunt Sally
Chalgrove Convenience Store
Chalgrove First Responders
Chalgrove Local History Group
Chalgrove Men's Keep Fit
Chalgrove Netball Team
Chalgrove Post Office
Chalgrove Community Primary School
Chalgrove School Association
Chill Out Fund/Oxfordshire County Council
Colourplus, Monument Business Park,
D J Matthews, Chalgrove
Damascus Youth Charity, Milton Park, South Oxfordshire
FMA Systems, Monument Business Park,
Icknield Community College, Watlington
Involving Young People/Youth Capital Fund
John Boyd Motor Repair, Chalgrove
Londis, High Street, Chalgrove

Martin-Baker, Chalgrove
Mike Jennings, Monument Business Park
Miss Jill Floyd
Mr Alan Brown
Mr Anton Nath
Mr Chris Nixey
Mr Gary Hibbins
Mr Paul Fowler
Mrs Alison Smith
Mrs Ann Pritchard, Chairman of PC
Ms Jo Donoghue, Clerk to PC
Mrs Sam Richards
Ms Debbie Bryne
Oxfordshire County Council
Posies and Presents, High Street, Chalgrove
SODC Corporate Strategy Team
St Mary's Church
Mrs Sue Dixon
Supreme Sausages, Monument Business Park
Thames Valley Police and our PCSOs
The Lamb Inn, High Street, Chalgrove
The Methodist Church
The Red Lion, High Street, Chalgrove
Youth Charter Charity

Acknowledgements

Photographs used by kind permission of :

Martin Wiggall, Chalgrove Cavaliers, Keith Hodges (Colourplus) and Carol Fowler



Chalgrove Village Plan

I WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN

(PROJECT/S) _____

Name _____

e-mail _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Preferred role – would you like to be an organiser, or occasional helper? _____

Teaching - have you a skill or subject you would be prepared to teach? _____
How much time do you think you could allocate to this project?

2 hours per week

2 hours per month

half a day per week

half a day per month

Please return this form to: Village Plan Pouch in The Post Office
Or e-mail these details to: villageplan@riverbed.demon.co.uk

YOUR DETAILS WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE RELEVANT PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR ONLY. THANK YOU.



Chalgrove Village Plan

I WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN

(PROJECT/S) _____

Name _____

e-mail _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Preferred role – would you like to be an organiser, or occasional helper? _____

Teaching - have you a skill or subject you would be prepared to teach? _____
How much time do you think you could allocate to this project?

2 hours per week

2 hours per month

half a day per week

half a day per month

Please return this form to: Village Plan Pouch in The Post Office
Or e-mail these details to: villageplan@riverbed.demon.co.uk

YOUR DETAILS WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE RELEVANT PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR ONLY. THANK YOU.

Comments from the Questionnaire

Surprised that a village this size does not have a sports centre for everyone

There is no public transport to my work in Wheatley

Sunday buses are necessary in the village

We have a dog and clear up so should other dog owners

Constantly picking up litter

Event Advertising only seen in the High Street and not in the newer parts of the village, it's a bit us and them

Improve young Children's playground facilities

The websites are not updated regularly

So much more could be done to enhance the brook

When the mobile library was on Saturday Mornings I used it. I can not use it week days - so I use others

Short courses leading to certificate

Playground always has litter sometimes glass and other nasties

Need to get to train stations at weekends

Comments from the Graffiti Wall



We Can Make it Happen

To make your ideas a reality and work for Chalgrove we all need to support and deliver your vision for the future. Your feedback has resulted in a variety of projects that will require different skills and different amounts of effort and time. You can get involved and make any level of contribution – no matter how small; it will make a difference to Chalgrove's future.

Projects in 2009 have already produced the planting of over 3,000 daffodil bulbs around the village and the Village Christmas Tree.

We believe that this truly demonstrates what can be achieved for the community when we have a vision and work together to make it happen! So please get involved

it's very easy and simple to register by contacting villageplan@riverbed.demon.co.uk or drop your details into the Village Plan pouch held at Chalgrove Post Office .



**This is a very exciting time ...
so make sure you are a part of it!**