

STEEPLE ASTON AND MIDDLE ASTON



PARISH PLAN 2010

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2010



INTRODUCTION

In late 2008 Steeple Aston Parish Council called a public meeting to see whether there was interest in producing a Parish Plan. The meeting resulted in the setting up of a Steering Group that included two Parish Councillors and a number of local people. A consultation exercise was undertaken with the Parish Council and District and County Councils. Advice and financial support was received from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council.

The idea of the Parish Plan was to pull together the views of the community on what is important to them. These views can then inform a wide variety of potential local changes, or indicate where no change is needed. Parish Plans have been shown to be an effective way to approach change by allowing the opinions of local people to be heard by service providers. This report ends with an action plan which suggests where change is sought and how it might be achieved

The Steering Group put in a lot of work on the Plan. John Coley, Geoffrey Lane, Martin Lipson, Clare and Mike McKinley, Rose McCready, Margaret and Colin Mead, Caroline Parsons and Julia Whybrew were the main contributors. We are grateful for the help we have had from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, both in terms of advice and grant funding. Finally we would like to thank all of those who gave the time to tell us their thoughts and views about how they would like to see the future in Steeple and Middle Aston.

NEXT STEPS

The Parish Council has seen this report and taken over responsibility for implementing the Plan. It will hold a meeting to consider how best to take it forward. Anyone who would like to contribute should contact the Parish Clerk, Cathy Fleet, on 01869 347000 or parishclerk.steepleaston@fsmail.net.

Parish Plan Steering Group

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REPORT SUMMARY

The Steering Committee believes that this report has accurately recorded the opinions of those who answered the questionnaire. But not everyone replied to the questionnaire and not all of those who did reply answered all the questions. We cannot be certain that this report is fully representative of the views of the whole community, but it is likely that those who mind most about the environment in which they live have given us their comments. We trust that when decisions are made about potential changes in Steeple and Middle Aston the results of this report will be taken into account.

The main findings are:

- **Village development** – both villages have expanded recently with Middle Aston more than doubling in size in the last thirty years. Information from the 2001 census shows that in Steeple Aston the population was healthier, wealthier and better educated (though not necessarily wiser) than in the South East as a whole. There are fewer people on benefit, a higher proportion of married couples, more young and fewer old people than is typical of the surrounding area.
- **No Change desired** – residents are most concerned that the shop, the size of the villages, the school, the pubs and the friendliness and community spirit should be maintained.
- **Housing** – Sixty percent think there should be some new building in the next 10 to 15 years, with the majority favouring a mixture of ‘affordable’ and private development. Twenty-one households expressed an interest in ‘affordable housing’ immediately, and another three households are interested in ‘affordable’ housing for the elderly now.
- **Education and Recreation** – There is considerable demand for adult education classes, with languages, keep fit, local history and a film club being the most popular.
- **The Village Hall Complex** – Eighty-seven percent of respondents use the Village Hall, Sports and Recreation Centre or Robinsons Close. However only a minority of villagers favour development of any of these facilities, though some improvements were proposed. Storage space in the Village Hall and the Sports and Recreation Centre seemed to be an issue. There was also interest in providing an outside lavatory.
- **Transport** – There was a demand for a late evening bus which Oxfordshire County Council considered in 2009 and rejected as too expensive. There was also a request for a bus to go to Middle Aston and for seats at bus stops.
- **Traffic Calming** – Fifty-three percent were against traffic calming. Those who were in favour identified danger spots and suggested speed bumps, chicanes, radar speed warning signs and a reduction in the speed limit to 20 mph.



- **Street lights** – three-quarters of villagers were in favour of turning off the lights in the middle of the night. This information was used by the Parish Council to ask the local authority to switch off the lights at night. The possibility of down lighters to prevent the night sky being lit up was suggested.
- **Litter bins** – There was more interest in getting people to use the existing bins, particularly for dog mess, than in having more bins.
- **Recycling** – There was a demand for more local recycling collection points, particularly for light bulbs and tetra packs. Volunteers have offered to deliver the recycling to Ardley.
- **Car pool and car sharing** – Fifty-eight people were interested in a car pool and fifty-six in car sharing. Although this was only a small proportion of the responses these may be sufficient to get a scheme going.
- **Renewable energy** – There was interest in finding out whether solar panels are permissible in conservation areas. Also three-quarters would like to know more about the village having its own source of green energy.
- **Business development** – Seventy percent were in favour of small business development. Local businesses would particularly like to have better mobile phone reception and faster broadband.
- **The Shop** – Ninety-eight percent of villagers use the shop and/or Post Office. A number of ideas were put forward about additional services the shop might wish to consider and these included more local produce. Also it was suggested that villagers who had spare produce from their gardens could give it to the shop, subject to health regulations permitting.
- **Healthcare** – There were a number of suggestions about how the Deddington Health Centre could be improved; though generally it is well regarded. However a few people had difficulty getting there or to hospital.
- **Parish Council** – There was interest in knowing about any plans of the Parish Council to significantly change its spending
- **Church** – Although there was considerable support for the role of the church in the village there were also calls for the building to be used more widely, for matins and evensong, and for the church to be more involved in local activities
- **Improving the village** – The most commonly suggested ways to improve the village have already been mentioned above. The dominant answers related to car parking and speeding and the lack of local affordable housing. In addition there were a number of interesting ideas, such as flower troughs by the entrances to the village.



Background

The Parish of Steeple Aston is set in the rural North Oxfordshire countryside, halfway between Oxford and Banbury and close to the Cotswolds. Both Steeple Aston and Middle Aston are in the same parish and both are included in this Plan because many people from Middle Aston are involved in activities centred in Steeple Aston.

Both villages have a similar attractive character, and Steeple Aston won the title of Oxfordshire Village of the Year in 2007. The village centres include picturesque old houses built of warm coloured local limestone, which in Steeple Aston's case are in a conservation area. The centres of both villages are surrounded by newer development as both have increased in size significantly over the last forty years or so.



The villages have a wide range of activities with lots of clubs and societies providing sporting and other opportunities. Steeple Aston has a frequently used shop and Village Hall, a primary school and pre-school, a church and two pubs. There are also a Sports and Recreation Centre, a football pitch and a play area.

In 1993 Steeple Aston produced a 'Village Appraisal' which described the village in detail and analysed the responses to a wide range of questions about village life. In late 2008 it was decided that a new version of the 'Appraisal' was needed. There were a number of reasons for this; in particular Councillors wished to be better informed about the opinions of the villagers and potential grant givers needed to be reassured that what they may fund will be well used.

The Steering Group overseeing the Plan contacted all the local societies and organisations to ask about their views on the village and their concerns. This included all the organisations running community activities from sports to the Women's Institute as well the school, church, pubs, other local businesses and the youth club. As a result of these approaches two draft



questionnaires were developed, one for adults and the other for those aged 11 to 18 inclusive. These questionnaires were piloted with 26 households during April 2009 and a revised version was delivered to every household in June with responses coming in until the end of September.

STRUCTURE OF THE VILLAGES

The Villages

Steeple Aston

The population of Steeple Aston, has gradually, though not evenly, increased. In 1801 there were 333 inhabitants, this more than doubled to 749 by 1871 though it fell back to 551 by 1911. Recently the population has steadily increased.

Year	1981	1991	2001	2009
Population	869	874	920	990*

* Estimated

Middle Aston

Middle Aston stayed much the same size for a long time, though it has grown substantially recently. In 1901 it had 58 inhabitants falling back to 46 in 1971. Spillers, who used to own Middle Aston House, built a couple of new houses in about 1957 and there was private development of a few more houses in the 1970s. However there has been considerable recent development. In 2001 there were 39 households and the population was 110 people; more than double what it had been thirty years before. The number of households has now increased to about 49¹

Analysis of census data for Steeple Aston

Data from the 2001 census has been analysed to get information about the characteristics of the people in Steeple Aston². Unfortunately Middle Aston was not large enough for similar treatment, so the detailed description that follows is confined to Steeple Aston. The data is some years out of date because it relates to 2001. But since the population is relatively static it is unlikely that a great deal of what follows will have changed substantially over the last 9 years.

There is no evidence that Steeple Aston has become a retirement village as it has a very healthy age balance with 20% of the population below 16 years old and only 15% over 65. This is proportionately slightly more under 16s and fewer over 65s than in the South East as a whole.

The population structure of the village in 2001 was different in quite a few respects from the average for the South East as it had more married couples and fewer lone parent households than was typical of the South East. Also the village people in work were more likely to be in professional or managerial posts than is typical in the South East.

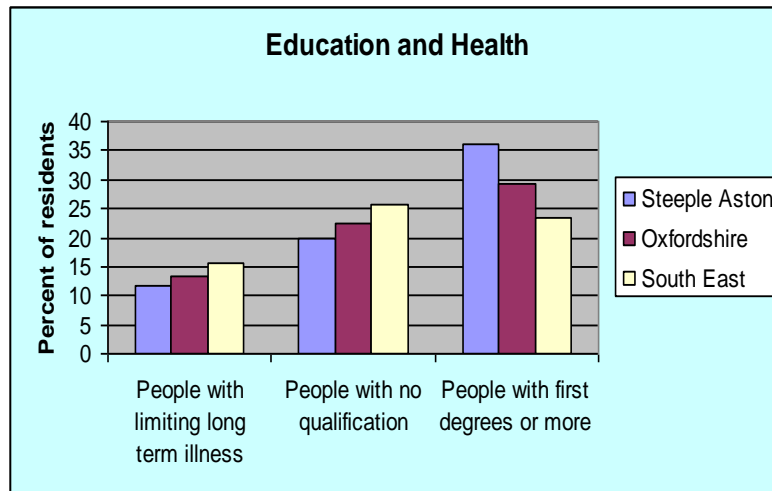


The proportion of working age people receiving benefit in Steeple Aston at 5.6% was exactly half of that in the rest of the South East (11.3%). Also fewer of those living in Steeple Aston were claiming Job Seekers Allowance than average for the South East.

¹ Estimated from number of households receiving the Steeple Aston Life

² Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion report commissioned by the South East Rural Community Council

The residents of Steeple Aston were in better health and had obtained a higher level of education than the Oxfordshire and South East averages.



The proportion of owner-occupiers increased from 79% of households in the 1993 Village Appraisal to 82% in the 2001 census.

Nearly 12% of households in Steeple Aston in 2001 had no car or van. At the time this was considerably lower than the Oxfordshire average of 18% but it may well be that the limited public transport in the village meant that the difficulties this entailed were worse than average for the county.



SURVEY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Respondents

Questionnaires were delivered to every household in Steeple Aston (399 households) and Middle Aston (49 households) and 261 questionnaires were returned completed. This gave a response rate of about 58%, overall, 59% from Steeple Aston and 48% from Middle Aston. This was lower than the nearly 93% achieved by the 1993 Village Appraisal but high by the success rate of some local Parish Plan questionnaires.¹



There were exactly 500 individual replies from 261 households. These households contain a total of 623 people of whom 50 are teenagers and 85 are children under 11 years old. There were 30 replies from people who did not fill in their age but it has been assumed these are all adults.

Based on the 2001 census it looks as if a slightly higher proportion of the older generation filled in the questionnaire than younger adults; probably because of differences in free time.

The length of time the respondents had lived in the two villages shows that both are relatively stable communities. In both communities just over 50% of residents have lived there for more than 15 years.

PROTECT

The questionnaire asked what things about living in the village the residents would not like to see changed. There were 48 different issues raised and many people made several comments.

By far the biggest response was in favour of retaining the village shop.

The next most mentioned were four issues which all had about the same level of concern:

- Keeping the village the same size, or with not too much development
- Keeping the school, including keeping it the same size
- Keeping the pubs
- Maintaining the friendliness, community spirit and consideration for neighbours.

Others were concerned that there should be no change to the range of village activities, the rural character of the villages including their beauty, character, walks and trees, public transport, peace and quiet, the Church and the Village Hall.



¹ Deddington had just under 30% responses, though Lower Heyford and Caulcott achieved about 75%.

Housing

Sixty percent of respondents thought that there should be some new house building in Steeple Aston or Middle Aston in the next 10 to 15 years, 30% thought there should no new housing and 10% did not answer the question. Among those who favoured some new housing development 58% thought it should be in both villages, 33% thought it should be in Steeple Aston only and 1% thought it should be in Middle Aston only.

Fifty-five percent of those in favour of some new housing opted for a mixture of 'affordable' and private development. 36% favoured 'affordable' housing only and 4% favoured private development only. In addition 5% thought any new 'affordable' housing should be for the elderly only.

Interest in 'Affordable' Housing

Respondents were asked if they were interested in rented or shared ownership housing for themselves or their families. It must be noted that an expression of interest is not the same as a bid for a new property; however it is a good indicator of a desire to live locally. Positive responses were received from 73 households.



Excluding those only interested in housing specifically for the elderly (dealt with below):

- 19 would be interested in rented accommodation now
- 2 would be interested in shared ownership of a property now
- 12 would be interested in renting in about 5 years
- 16 would be interested in shared ownership in about 5 years.

Some expressed an interest in more than one type of housing and in more than one time frame (for example rented now and shared ownership in five years).

When asked about the number of bedrooms, 19 households thought they would need up to two bedrooms, 17 thought they would need three bedrooms and 2 thought they would need up to four bedrooms. We have no method of distinguishing need from aspiration in this context.

'Affordable' Housing for the Elderly

The questionnaire asked about the desire for rented or shared ownership housing specifically for the elderly. Forty-five households answered that they would be interested, though some had such a long time frame that they may well change their minds before the end of the period. However among those households looking for affordable housing for the elderly there are 3 interested now and 14 within the next 5 years. There were also 8 interested within the next 10 years and 6 in more than 10 years time

When this group of households were asked where the new housing for the elderly should be located 84% chose Steeple Aston, 16 percent were not bothered and no one specifically mentioned Middle Aston. Twenty five out of the 45 households that expressed an interest in housing for the elderly have lived in one of the villages for at least twenty five years.

Recommendation

The Parish Council should continue to monitor demand and pursue its negotiations with a housing association for the building of up to 12 new 'affordable' housing units for those with local connections.

Education and Recreation

The questionnaire asked what sort of additional activities respondents would like to see in the village. It was obvious from the responses that there is a definite interest in expanding the variety of activities, especially those offered in the Village Hall. Some of the activities mentioned are already available and usually the issue here was that they were offered at times that did not fit in with the individual, with some wanting more daytime classes and others more evening classes. The answers are described below.



Area	Activity	Comments
Further Education	Local History, Writing, Philosophy, Literature, Astronomy, Car maintenance, Pottery, Furniture Restoration and Upholstery, Computing, French, Spanish	29 for Languages 14 ICT 10 Local History
Sport	Keep fit, Yoga, Pilates, Netball, Tennis, Gym, Martial arts, Girls football, Basketball, Rugby, Swimming, Walking, Archery, Running, Fencing, Tai Chi, Table Tennis, Aerobics for Retired, Bowling, Horse riding, Under 11 cricket	23 for Keep Fit 14 Yoga 11 Sport 9 Pilates 6 Bowling
Dance	Ballroom, Salsa, Line, Barn, Tap, Folk, Children's ballet	16 Dance 6 Salsa
Music	Music Club, Rock, Jazz, Singing, Orchestra, Early years music, Opera, Heavy metal, Composing, Classical, 1950's, Children's music, Blues, Reggae	6 Music Club
Creative	Crafts, Cookery, Calligraphy, Woodwork, Gardening, Sewing, Stained Glass, Art, Literature lectures, Alternative therapies, Patchwork, Acting	18 Crafts
Social	Pantos, Bridge, Films, Book Club, Chess, Poker, Canasta, Theatre Outings, Model Railway Club, Scrabble, Women's discussion club, Investment Club	18 for Films 6 Bridge
Other	Talent Show, Natural History, Climbing wall, Magic shows, Bee keeping, Rambling	6 Rambling

The rest of the suggestions were mentioned fewer than 4 times. The results suggest there is a demand for adult education, especially for languages and computing, a film club and perhaps keep-fit, bridge, more dancing and some sport. Those interested in local history can go to the regular annual lectures and exhibitions run by SAVA. Also it is possible some of the potential activities could be organised in conjunction with the school and use their facilities.

Finding out about what's on

Everybody who answered the question on how do you find out about what's on in the villages mentioned Steeple Aston Life (the Life). About two thirds of those who read the Life also said they found out from word of mouth and posters. Half of Life readers looked at the notice boards, a third of them saw advertisements in the shop, a quarter looked on the website and a seventh got information from the school newsletters.



Recommendations

- That those interested in forming a new interest group should advertise in the Life and on the website for others with a similar interest and set up a new society on the selected theme between themselves.
- That since the County Council will not consider an additional venue for adult education classes alternatives providers may need to be found. For example there is an experienced local teacher of adults who has agreed to offer classes in French and/or German. He will advertise the classes in the Life.
- SAVA's Spring talk in April will be on how to understand the history of your house. Their annual exhibition in November will be about the social and architectural development of the village. Both should be of interest to those who expressed an interest in learning about local history.

Communal Activities

A number of suggestions were made for new communal activities with seven suggesting a pig roast/picnic or street party. Nothing else got more than two votes, and most suggestions had just one proposer.

Recommendations

- That the individuals who put forward the proposals should write to the Life and website to see whether others would help get their idea off the ground
- That the Village Hall and Sports and Recreation Centre Committees should be given the full list of suggestions to see whether they wish to follow up any of the ideas.

The Village Hall Complex

The Village Hall, the Sports and Recreation Centre and Robinsons Close are all well used, with eighty-seven percent of those who answered the question using at least one of them. The users of the Village Hall averaged eight visits each and combined made 2,415 visits a year. The Sports and Recreation Centre is only used by half as many people as the Village Hall, though those who use it go there an average of over 7 times a year. The users of Robinsons Close included 192 people who went only once or twice a year, probably to the Horticultural Show and Church Fete. However the other 92 users of Robinsons Close used it frequently and each averaged 18 visits a year.

Village Hall Area

Villagers were asked if they would like to see any development of the Village Hall, Sports and Recreation Centre or Robinsons Close. About 70% of respondents answered this question and among these under half favoured further development of any of the facilities. The description that follows relates to the opinions of those who favoured improvements and/or development.



The Village Hall

The kitchen was the most remarked on aspect of the potential improvements in the Village Hall. Bearing in mind that only a minority of users will have had personal experience of the kitchen, and that those with no such experience are unlikely to have taken a view on the matter, the number who called for improvements to the kitchen (14) is perhaps the most striking result to come out of this part of the survey. Of those, eleven would like a revamp or redesign of the kitchen in general, while another three (again no doubt from personal experience) wanted the sink replaced and/or raised in height.

Ten replies mentioned refurbishment including better lighting and another ten mentioned more storage, four of them specifically for SAVA. It is not clear how this objective could be achieved without building some extension to the existing Hall.

Five would like improved indoor toilet facilities, although only one specifically called for a larger toilet area, and another five were concerned about the existing heating of the Hall. Only one thought this could be achieved by improving the insulation, the rest presumably hoping for a new system.

A further five respondents wanted alterations to the Hall which would allow it to cater better for badminton players by altering the radiators and stage.

The Sports and Recreation Centre

One of the consistent refrains here was a call for more facilities for older children and/or teenagers. However this needs to be considered in the context of the age of the respondents favouring improvements; 35%, were over 65, falling to 5% in the 19-25 age-group, who presumably have more relevant experience. This suggests that the take up of such improvements might be disappointing.

The comments from teenagers themselves were somewhat negative, with more than twenty making no positive suggestions – eleven said no developments were needed, two favoured development without specifying what and nine left the question blank. However there were calls for a teenage room/café which might be worth consideration.

Storage again seems to be a problem here, though only four people mentioned it.

Outside

Fourteen respondents would like to see improved facilities for cricket including a full cricket pitch with a pavilion. However there is not space.

The next highest number of responses relate to tennis courts. Eleven people would like a court, but they may not realise that the school courts are always available outside school hours. The school courts are free, never locked up and there is no booking system. The tennis club, which uses the school courts, will be advertising for new members in the Life and on the website in the spring. A related proposal favoured by two respondents would be for a hard court that could be used for other sports such as netball or basketball as well as tennis.



There was also interest in having outside toilets, accessible when the Village Hall and Sports and Recreation Centre are shut. Clearly, these would require continuing maintenance as well as a capital outlay, and might be subject to vandalism if they were to be left open at all hours. However there is no doubt they would be popular with those on the playground and would be well used.

One teenager noted that the present BMX track is unused and suggested a more challenging track might attract renewed interest, especially if the likely users could negotiate in advance with those concerned with its safety. Younger children might have to be excluded as a consequence of the higher potential risk.

There were a few other suggestions, but from one or two people only, for a bowling green, a running track, a goal post for youngsters to play football on Robinsons Close (as well as in the MUGA), permanent football posts, rugby posts and a trampoline, though the latter is provided in the new play area complex.

Recommendations

- **That the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee should consider altering the height of the sink, and possibly, at a later date**
 - a) **the layout of the kitchen**
 - b) **the heating of the Hall**
- **That the Parish Council should consider the provision of an outside lavatory acknowledging the immediate and long term financial commitment involved**
- **That the tennis club should advertise the tennis courts at the school**
- **That the Parish Council and the Recreational Trust should consider the other suggestions.**

Transport

The answers to the transport questions revealed, unsurprisingly, that most people's primary means of transport to work or school was the car, often in conjunction with bus, train or walking. Next most common were the bus users (11%), then the walkers (9%), train users (6%), car sharers (3%), bikers (2.5%) and motorcyclists. (0.5%)



The main point to emerge was that 20% of the respondents never use a local bus or train and a further 56% use public transport once a month or less. These figures might look poor from an environmental viewpoint; but they are not surprising given the timings and costs of public transport and the realities of the working lives of most people in a village such as Steeple Aston.

Of those who drove their children to school, 17 did so en route to work and 4 because they thought the road was unsafe for children to walk. The part of Southside by the Red Lion was mentioned as especially dangerous for children walking to school

Four percent of respondents said they often had difficulties getting out of the parish to other places. A further 16% had occasional difficulties and the remaining 80% had no difficulties. Perhaps surprisingly it was not the youngest or the oldest who had proportionately the most difficulties, but those aged 41 to 65.

Transport problems for the younger members of the community are recognised as a particular issue for reasons unconnected with transport itself, and so a little more analysis of the replies from the teenagers is revealing. (These issues are touched on again in the youth section of this report.)

The youth questionnaire asked what stopped teenagers using public transport and what improvements to public transport they would like. Eighteen out of the 28 youth respondents said they did not make more use of public transport because of the infrequency of the bus and train services. Seventeen mentioned the lack of an evening bus as a reason for not using the buses more. Thirteen were put off by the cost and nine by the time the journey took. Four would like a regular bus to Chipping Norton or Bicester. Also fourteen would like regular Sunday trains.



Some adults would like evening buses 'so that I could go to the theatre or cinema', though there seemed little demand among adults for additional buses on Sundays. One person put in a special plea for seats at all the bus stops because waits could be 'quite long at times', and another suggested that at least some of the buses might follow the example of the school bus and stop in Middle Aston.

Recommendations

- **That the Parish Council should approach Stagecoach to see if they would consider running some of the existing buses through Middle Aston**
- **That the Parish Council should approach Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) during 2012 to ask for a late night bus from Oxford and Banbury. A late night bus was considered by OCC in 2009 and it was decided that it was too expensive. OCC will reconsider the timing of the 59 route during 2013**
- **That the Parish Council should consider the advantages and disadvantages of providing seats at the bus stops.**

Traffic Calming

The question on traffic calming seems to have generated more emotion than any other subject. The answers were frequently underlined, written in capitals or included exclamation marks and it is clear that this issue creates strong feelings; both for and against.

Seventy people, among the 500 respondents, did not answer the question on traffic calming so everything that follows relates to the 430 who did answer this question. Fifty-three percent were against any traffic calming. The other 47%, who were in favour of traffic calming, disagreed about what they would like to see done.

At the end of the questionnaire respondents were asked what was the most important single thing they had mentioned earlier in the questionnaire and 49 said traffic calming and another nine said no traffic calming. This suggests that although the majority are against traffic calming those who favour it regard it as a more important issue than do those who are hostile to it.

There was almost no difference between Steeple Aston and Middle Aston in the proportion favouring traffic calming. However the elderly were more in favour of traffic calming than younger respondents. Sixty-one percent of those over 65 years old were in favour of traffic calming, which can be compared to the average response of 47% in favour. There was little difference between the replies for other age groups.

Only a minority of those wanting traffic calming gave their reasons; speeding, danger and noise being most frequently mentioned. Some comments referred to particular categories of drivers; school mums, young reckless drivers and people who don't live in the villages.

Danger spots identified

The respondents who were in favour of traffic calming were asked where and what sort of traffic calming they favoured. A considerable number mentioned danger-spots in Steeple and Middle Aston but did not necessarily indicate clearly – or at all – how they thought these should be remedied. No doubt people were most concerned about their own local areas, so there is probably a built-in bias in favour of the most heavily populated areas of Steeple Aston. But several residents voiced particular concerns about Middle Aston, and about the road linking the two communities, which is also the approach to the village school and has no continuous pavement.

Some respondents identified a single trouble-spot, while others mentioned several. In the following list each individual mention has been counted as a “vote”. Southside and Sixtyfoot were the most frequently mentioned danger spots, followed by Heyford Road (including the Beeches and Nizewell Head), then Paines Hill and after that the road between Middle and Steeple Aston. Also Fenway was a cause of concern with the turning to Grange Park and the narrowing to Northside pinpointed.

Some answers focussed more generally on the entrances to Steeple Aston – mostly but not exclusively as likely sites for traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, rumble strips or radar warning lights. There were also individual mentions of the approaches to Middle Aston,



including North Aston Lane, and the lanes within Middle Aston. Speed bumps, ramps or “sleeping policemen” were easily the most popular remedy put forward, with 67 proposers. Some wanted bumps right across the road, others with gaps (e.g. for cyclists). However speed bumps also aroused some opposition, 5 people rejecting them outright, including one who said they „were bad for those with bad backs“, and another saying they were an eyesore, ineffective and damaged cars.

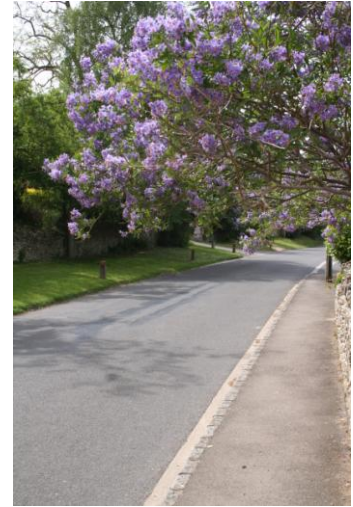
Opinions varied among those supporting speed bumps over where they should be sited, and how many there should be – ranging from those who wanted them only in specific locations – for instance near the Red Lion, or outside the school and pre-school – to those who envisaged a whole series along South Side and Heyford Road.

The most favoured location for speed bumps was Southside which would include the known difficulties at the top of the Dickredge and near the Red Lion. Other suggested locations were the edges of the village including Fir Lane and around the school, Heyford Road, Paines Hill and Northside. Other locations each got a few votes.

The next most frequent suggestions were chicanes, gates, road restrictions, traffic priority systems and one way stretches of road. Once again there were objections too, one commenting that parked cars and the nature of the village roads had a naturally calming effect.

Among those supporting chicanes there was also a wide variation in the locations suggested with Southside, Paines Hill and Sixtyfoot being mentioned most.

Radar warning signs (as at Deddington, Adderbury etc.) were the third most favoured remedy, mentioned with the most popular locations being entries to the village followed by Southside, Paines Hill, and Heyford Road. Very few wanted the police involved; four people called for more police checks and three others advocated speed traps/cameras as a way of enforcing speed limits.



Another suggestion was for a reduction to 20 mph either throughout the village area, or in specific locations, including Paines Hill, Southside, Heyford Road and Fir Lane. One Middle Aston resident proposed a continuous 30 mph restriction between Steeple and Middle Aston.

Rumble strips at the entrances to the village or other locations were favoured by some, while just one suggested “slow” signs painted on the road, e.g. on Paines Hill. Also a ban on lorries was urged by six respondents, including three who proposed a weight limit “except for access”.

Recommendations

- That the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Action Group should note the results described above when discussing traffic calming measures with the police
- That the Parish Council should consider discussing traffic calming with the Oxfordshire County Council’s Highways Department.

Environment

Questions were asked about some environmental aspects of village life, but the wider context of environmental issues was not included in this survey. The areas considered were street lights, litter bins, recycling and sources of green energy.



Street Lights

The questionnaire asked whether there were about the right number of street lights. Most of the people who answered these questions were happy with the amount of lights presently provided. Ninety five percent of respondents did not want more street lights and 83 percent did not want fewer lights. However those who did want some changes in lighting reflected some special needs and concerns. For instance, one comment was "street lighting is important for those who have to walk to work early", and several specifically asked for more lighting between Steeple Aston and Lower Heyford station. On the other hand there were those, particularly from Middle Aston who wanted to get rid of streetlights everywhere. A few replies suggested lights should have down lighters as we "Don't need to light the night sky".

A large majority, some 77%, was in favour of turning off the lights in the middle of the night. There seemed little difference between age groups on this question except that the teenagers were a little less concerned than the older residents at the prospect of the being out in the night..

Litter Bins

The questionnaire asked if there were roughly the right number of litter bins, remembering new ones cost about £60 each.

Eighty percent of those who replied to this question did not want more litter bins. Among the over 65s feelings were even stronger with 90% against more bins. However, from comments, underlinings and exclamation marks it was clear that there were some strong feelings about litter, particularly dog mess.



If bins were provided in all the places mentioned by those who wanted more, the village would be overwhelmed by bins. There were calls for more on South Side and Heyford Road, for instance, while there are bins already at each of the three bus stops, at the top of the Tchure, outside the shop and by the allotments. Many would like people to use the existing bins more or to take their litter home but these commentators did not suggest how this can be achieved. The aspect of litter that was mentioned most often, and with most feeling, was dog mess.

One person asked for the village skip back, "if only monthly".

Recycling

There was a question about the need for additional recycling facilities. Some of the answers suggested that not everyone is aware of the facilities already available in the village, or what can be put into which facility. For instance, some wanted cardboard recycling at the village hall even though cardboard is already picked up by Cherwell from blue bins or boxes. However a small blue box will hold very little and there is an extra cost to getting hold of a big blue bin: so perhaps that is what lies behind that request. Others wanted to be able to recycle clothing and shoes for which there are already collection points to benefit the Salvation Army (at the Village Hall) or breast cancer research (at the Red Lion).

Other recycling facilities suggested were batteries, (though a battery recycling point is now available at the Village Hall), light bulbs, tetra packs and aerosols. Two people, who gave their names, volunteered to pick up any such recyclables from a central village collection point and take them to the recycling depot at Ardley.

Reducing our Carbon Footprint

This topic is too wide to be covered by a questionnaire of this sort and was touched on only lightly. However there were questions on car sharing and a village car pool. There was not substantial interest in either of these. Only 58 people were interested in a car pool and 56 in car sharing for shopping or other trips. However, given the facts about car use in the transport section above, these figures are not surprising: and 58 and 56 might be perfectly viable figures on which to base a scheme.

Seventy five percent of respondents were interested in finding out about the feasibility of the village having its own source of green energy. This suggests that the Parish Council should be able to get people involved with research on this. Also many villagers wanted to know more about planning permission for solar panels and other forms of sustainable energy in conservation areas.

In the final section of the questionnaire about the most important issues; three mentioned renewable energy and one car sharing. One wrote "I would like to see the Village Hall, the recreation centre and the church all powered by renewable energy." Another, raising a separate carbon footprint topic not covered in the appraisal, wrote, "I was pleased allotments are back in fashion", while another suggested a scheme whereby the shop would sell any surplus vegetables from villagers' gardens.



Some questions drew responses from several people who clearly had a lot to tell the rest of us about sustainability issues well beyond those covered in this appraisal. The most comprehensive such comment was, "I know quite a lot about energy and green issues. Generating our own power is not cost effective unless we build a HUGE windmill. I'd vote for that but many people dislike them. Photovoltaic would pay back in 20+ years in the UK due to latitude and cloud cover. What would save money and pay back immediately is energy conservation. Solar water heating is questionable as it requires a pump which uses a lot of energy. Most greens do not consider the life cycle impacts of their favourite solutions. Commercial energy providers have large plants for good reasons."

Recommendations

- **That the Parish Council should continue to press for the street lights to be turned off in the middle of night and consider the viability of down lighters for the streetlights.**
- **That the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee should consider additional recycling facilities at the Village Hall, particularly for light bulbs.**
- **That the Parish Council should consider if they can do anything more to discourage litter dropping and encourage the picking up of dog mess**
- **That the Parish Council should encourage those interested in finding out about potential local sources of green energy**
- **That the Parish Council should find out about and publicise planning rules on solar panels in conservation areas**
- **The website to consider a special notice board for those looking for/offering lifts to shops, stations etc.**

Business

The questionnaire asked whether village residents would like to see business development in the villages. There was a clear majority, some 70%, who were in favour of the development of office based small businesses in and around Steeple and Middle Aston. Rather fewer, 56%, supported small scale industrial development. Some of those who favoured office development did not support small scale industrial businesses because of the transport implications on the narrow local roads. There was a small majority, 51%, who were against tourist development.



Office Space

Fifty nine respondents said they worked from home, of whom over 90 percent had lived in the village for at least five years. This suggests that people who have recently moved to the villages did not do so with the purpose of working from home.

Those who work in local businesses were asked what would help them most. Two suggestions clearly stood out from all the others; better mobile phone reception and faster broadband - one respondent described this as 'crucial' for business. Some stressed the importance to business of keeping the shop, post office and pubs open and one would like a later postal collection. Others mentioned space on the Steeple Aston website for businesses to advertise and set up links, better local transport, better signage on the A4260, a footpath between Steeple and Middle Aston and meeting room facilities in the village, presumably in addition to the meeting rooms in the Village Hall and Sports and Recreation Centre.

At present, there are few, if any, sites within the parish where local business could be established. However eighty-one percent were in favour of a 'change of use', for example of redundant farm buildings, to enable local business development in the villages.



Recommendations

- **That the Parish Council should give consideration to any approach from a mobile phone company to put up a mast**
- **The Village Hall and Sports and Recreation Centre might advertise their meeting rooms**

Shop and Post Office

Ninety eight percent of respondents use the shop or Post Office, with the most common pattern being once a week in the shop and once a month in the Post Office.

In Steeple Aston 75% of respondents use the shop at least once a week compared to 68% of those from Middle Aston. Those of working age use the shop relatively the most, and among those aged 11-18 only a third go there at least once a week.

Half the respondents answered the question on whether they would use the shop more if it had more locally sourced products. Eighty percent of those who answered the question said more local produce would make them use the shop more, though a few of these said only as long as the cost did not increase.

Respondents were asked what they would like to see the shop providing that was not currently available. Much the biggest response was for a wider range of fresh fruit and vegetables, some of which to be organic. As mentioned above there was a suggestion that the shop might sell excess produce from villagers' vegetable patches, One suggestion was that village produce might be given to the shop, with all the profit going to the shop because it is in the interest of all villagers for the shop to remain a going concern. However this would require checks that village produce did not fall foul of official regulations on health and safety.



The most frequently mentioned other products the users would like available in the shop were organic milk, cream or meat, fresh rather than long life produce and more fair trade products. In addition some would like a shopping and newspaper delivery service.

There were a large number of other suggestions from individuals which might be popular, but which were mentioned by only one person. These ideas included more hardware, tourist information, a drop off place for couriers, dvd rental, games for an x-box, an internet suite, a seating area, a microwave for heating up pies bought in the shop, large packets of dry roasted peanuts, locally produced crafts and gifts and more baby products.

Recommendations

- **The full list of suggestions to be given to the shop**
- **That the Parish Council find out if there are any official restrictions preventing excess local produce being given to the shop.**

Healthcare

Only 17% responded to the question about potential improvements in the services offered by the Deddington Health Centre. Perhaps this is because the villagers are so healthy, because some go to Woodstock instead, or because there is a high level of satisfaction with the health services provided at Deddington.

There seems to be a lack of awareness by people in Steeple Aston and Middle Aston about which services are already available through Deddington Health Centre. The following are in fact available: well man/woman screening (by routine appointment), ECG, blood tests for prostate cancer, eye checks, nurse appointments outside school hours, podiatry/chiropractic, acupuncture, counselling and speech and language therapy. Not all of these are available on the NHS. However, the responses from the Parish Plan survey shows there is a need for these services to be publicised more widely.

Excluding the services that are already offered by the Health Centre the following additional categories were mentioned as desirable; dentistry (preferably NHS), physiotherapy, scans and x-rays and more mental health care. Patients would also like an evening and emergency drop in surgeries. Some alternative therapies were suggested including massage, osteopathy and reflexology. Some would like the dispensary to provide three month prescriptions for chronic conditions, hearing aid batteries and a pharmacy as well as the dispensary. There were also suggestions for social and other activities such as a lunch club, keep fit classes for the elderly and a Citizens Advice Bureau.

Villagers were asked if they had difficulty accessing healthcare and four answers related to transport difficulties to the surgery or to Oxford hospitals. One person suggested transport difficulties could be eased by having longer periods between repeat prescriptions.



Recommendations

- **The detailed results of the healthcare survey to be given to the Deddington Health Centre**
- **That the Parish Council should continue to publicise free transport to Deddington for surgery visits and should consider the possibility bringing together a volunteer group to organise a voluntary free 'taxi' service to hospital.**

Parish Council

Steeple Aston residents have a local element in their Community Charge known as the precept. The level of the precept is set by the Parish Council each year. However Middle Aston does not have an equivalent charge, so the following analysis of the Parish Council expenditure does not include any answers from Middle Aston households.

The questionnaire explained that in 2009 the precept was £20,725 which amounted to £49.70 for a Band D household. This means that if the Parish Council commits itself to an ongoing outlay of, say, £4,000 a year it would cost each Band D household about an additional £10 a year thereafter. Bearing this in mind respondents were asked if they wished the Parish Council to inform them before entering into any additional financial commitments. It is rather surprising that a quarter of those who answered this question said they did not wish to be informed. On average, respondents would like to be informed of any proposal considered by the Parish Council that would increase the charge on a Band D household by £21. However there were a significant number of responses from those who wished to be informed about any increase whatsoever in the precept. The Parish Council have a statutory duty to make the precept a public document in any event, but the suggestion here was that the spending should be explicitly described in the Life and on the website.



The questionnaire tried to identify whether there was a demand for a Parish Councillor 'surgery'. Although members of the public are always welcomed at Parish Council meetings these are public occasions and the questionnaire asked whether there was a potential demand for a private session with a Parish Councillor. One hundred and eighty two people answered the question of whom one-third said they would never use a Parish Council surgery. Among those who said they would use a surgery three-quarters said they would use it less often than annually, suggesting there was a demand, but that it was likely to be small.

The Parish Council and the Church have 'Welcome Packs' which they give to new residents of the villages. However not many of the new residents received the welcome packs, or if they did, they no longer remember getting them. The numbers concerned are small and so the responses are not robust, nevertheless they are interesting. There were six households in Steeple Aston that can remember receiving the Parish Council information and three households the equivalent church version. There were none in Middle Aston. One of the six households that remembers getting a Parish Council welcome pack has been in the village for under a year, the others for longer. But there are five other newly arrived households which did not remember getting either version.

Recommendations

- **That the Parish Council should explain in the Life all their decisions which imply a change in the precept**
- **That the Parish Council should arrange a trial quarterly 'surgery' and see if it is used**
- **That the Church and the Parish Council should consider an appropriate distribution system for the 'welcome packs', including putting them on the village website.**

The Church

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) asked for two questions to be included in the Parish Plan. The first was “How could the church more effectively serve its villagers?”

There was confusion about whether “the church” meant the building, or those who worship in the building, and/or the clergy. Therefore the responses have been divided into 6 categories:

- Those who are broadly content with the current role of the church
- Those who responded with “no comment” or a similar answer
- Those who see some ways to improve the church as an institution
- Those who see a role for the building as a venue for other purposes
- Those who appear to be opposed to what the church stands for
- Those who comment on the clergy;
 - a) favourably
 - b) critically (there were no “neutral” answers in this category)



Fourteen percent of the responses were from those who are broadly content with the current role of the church. Their comments were on the lines of „I like it as it is“.

Eleven percent of the responses were from those who took a neutral view or answered with “no comment” or “don’t know”. Among this group were the non-church goers who made comments such as „I don’t go to church but I would not want the church to close“

Twenty-one percent of the responses were from those who see some ways to improve the church as an institution – that is as an organised body with a religious purpose. Two main themes emerged; more and wider choice of services including evensong and more contemporary and/or ecumenical services for villagers. The following are typical:

- *More choice of services, more church social events. Church to be more involved with village events*
- *Seek ways of making its worship more contemporary*
- *More traditional services e.g. matins/evensong*
- *Joint services with other denominations.*

Twenty-four percent of the responses were from those who see the church building as a venue for other purposes, including concerts and other arts events, though some tempered their response with concerns about the lack of toilet and kitchen facilities. Examples of the responses are:

- *By being a performance/exhibition space, remove pews to do this*
- *Help it stay at the centre of village life by using it for more compatible events such as the concerts. Maybe open a café at weekends*
- *A meeting place for groups, rehearsals, art exhibitions, flower shows, etc (low cost).*

Three percent of the responses were from those opposed to what the church stands for and they suggested closing it down or proving the existence of God.

Eleven percent of the responses were comments on the clergy. There were 2 differing views; those who expressed support and those who were critical. There were 3 of the former and 17 of the latter views. Supportive comments included „... Rev McCaw seems like a top man.“

The critical comments were that the clergy are seldom seen around the village, the services tend to be very “high” and that the Rector does not get involved in village activities.

The PCC’s second question was „What purpose do you think the church serves in village life?“

There were 184 responses to this question and again there was some confusion about whether “the church” meant the building or those who worship. The responses have been divided into five categories:

- Those who think that the church as an institution has an important service to offer to village life
- Those who think it is important for major events in life
- Those who think it has very little, or nothing, to offer to village life
- Those who think the village is served by the historical heritage of the building
- Those whose comments cannot easily be ascribed to any of the above.

Forty-seven percent of responses were from those who think the church is currently serving an important role in village life. The comments do, however, vary from the religious to the very secular and included:

- *Central focus of the village, incredibly important and highly valued*
- *Brings people together (only a minority)*
- *The church is also a supportive body for those who want to join in.*

Twenty-three percent of responses were from those who think the church serves the village for major events in life. Here are some examples:

- *As a shield in times of family crisis/personal need*
- *Marriages, christenings, funerals*
- *A place of refuge.*

Twelve percent of the responses were from those who think the church has very little, or nothing, to offer to village life. Some comments were very frank such as it „provides a clock“ or „when did it do anything for the villagers benefit?“

There were eight percent who think the village is served by the historical heritage of the building. Typical comments are:

- *Bell ringers keep traditions alive and good to hear variety*
- *A beautiful and historic building.*

Recommendation

That the Parochial Church Council should consider the comments.



Priority Issues

Respondents were asked which of the issues they had already mentioned did they think were the most important. By far the largest response related to housing, with two-thirds in favour of more 'affordable housing', though a quarter were against any new housing at all.

After housing the next most frequent response related to traffic calming. Of these, one in seven comments was against any measures being taken, while the other six out of seven were in favour of action.

The next largest group of answers were about the continuation of the village shop, post office and pubs. Then came concern about public transport, the character of the village and the church. Other issues mentioned were local business and employment, the environment, village clubs, mobile phone reception, preserving the school, access to physiotherapy and the Life.



One thing to most improve the village

The questionnaire asked about the one thing which would most improve the village. The largest group of answers, some 28%, related to reducing inconsiderate parking and the speed of traffic. Other significant numbers of responses referred to 'affordable' housing for young people and the elderly, improved participation in events, reducing dog mess, vandalism and littering.

There were a number of other interesting comments and these included:

- A volunteer group that could help with small jobs at a friendly rate for those who can't do it themselves, willing to help mainly aged people with small household requirements such as renewing washers, oiling locks etc
- A meeting place for social life (Middle Aston)
- People here are paranoid about crime - I have never lived in a more secure environment.
- Hairdresser/dentist/cinema/laundrette/dance hall - sorry we do have a village hall but loud rock music is not to my taste
- A pond/wild life preserve
- A really fabulous village shop with loads of veg, great gifts and presents, a café or little coffee shop. Maybe that's the solution for the church. Have a great little coffee shop in the churchyard in summer, with displays about SA's past and presentations



Significant Dislikes

Asked about what they did not like about the village three quarters either did not mention anything or said there was nothing they did not like. Half of those with a complaint minded about traffic and parking. The other half of the complainants were mainly concerned about an “us and them” divide in the village, the level of nuisance and vandalism caused by young people in the village, inconsiderate dog owners and the level of dog mess.



Other issues mentioned by a few were litter and rubbish, noise, the hills, public transport, creeping urbanisation, high house prices, no village green and the distance from the sea.

Other Comments

Right at the end villagers were asked for „any other comments“. Many of the same themes appeared as earlier but there were also a few different new answers:

- Would anyone consider a permanent flower trough at the entrance to the village? It would really create a lovely welcome into the village
- I would like to see the village hall, S&R and the church all powered by renewable energy sources and more use of solar panels
- A yearly campaign to remind villagers of the dangers of speeding would be better than traffic calming
- The village website has the potential to be used more effectively for communication and consultation by the Parish Council and other authorities
- One very small thing the village would look better if road signs, signposts etc were kept clean.
- Could we have a Steeple Aston ball held in Middle Aston house to raise money for a local charity? We could adopt a local charity/help a community in another country.
- In the snow this year there was an enormous spontaneous snowball fight between a group of Dr Radcliffe’s pupils and a group of young adults- mostly members of Steeple Aston Football Club. It was fantastic fun and summed up what village life is all about for me - different groups of people enjoying the village in their own way and a great sense of community between those two groups.
- I admire the work of the Parish Councillors and the steady group of people who give of their time to keep Steeple a thriving and desirable place to live.



Recommendation

That the Parish Council should consider the suggestions and take appropriate actions

Youth Results

It is likely that the views of teenagers are under-represented in this Plan. Thirty-four households, which included fifty teenagers, returned the questionnaire. However only twenty-eight of these fifty teenagers filled in their part of the questionnaire so the description that follows is not particularly robust, especially as most of the respondents only answered some of the questions.

New Activities and Facilities

The Youth questionnaire asked what new youth activities and facilities would be appreciated. Two types of answers predominated, those about facilities for older teenagers and those about sport.

The largest category of answers related to more facilities directed towards older youths. One of the main comments was that health and safety issues for younger children make the facilities less attractive for older teenagers, especially in relation to the BMX track. One suggested a gate with a high up latch so that smaller children could not get in to the BMX track. Other suggestions were for a designated camping area, covered seating with lighting, a seat on Southside, a café serving drinks and snacks, somewhere to ‘catch up and hang out’ which one person described as ‘a permanent youth club room with tables, chairs and games’.



Those who wanted more sports facilities did not agree on what they would like. The suggestions included a tennis court, a fencing club, cricket coaching, a gym and rugby posts. Another suggestion, which may be viable, was for children’s football in the village again.

Transport

The transport section above mentioned the demand for buses and trains from teenagers. These results are summarised here for completeness. Eighteen people, out of the twenty-eight youth respondents, said they did not use public transport more because of the infrequency of the bus and train services. Seventeen mentioned the lack of an evening bus and fourteen would like a regular Sunday train. In addition nearly half of the respondents were put off by the cost, especially of the bus. Four would like a regular bus to Chipping Norton or Bicester.

Advantages and disadvantages of village life

The youth questionnaire asked what advantages there are for youths living here. Although in some ways similar to the adult response, the teenagers also included bike rides, sledging and having their friends around. They appreciated the beautiful countryside for walks and fresh air and enjoyed the community spirit. In addition one sixth of the replies praised the facilities and activities for teenagers, including the youth club. Some liked it because it was safe and quiet and away from Oxford and Banbury while others liked it because it was close to these centres.



Remoteness was far the most frequently cited disadvantage of living in the villages. The teenagers were away from friends, cinemas and shops, the local activities were limited and there was ‘nowhere warm to hang out’.

Youth Forum

The questionnaire asked how young people's views could be more fully taken into account. Three people suggested a youth council and offered to take part if there was one, though in one case only at weekends. Others said a questionnaire like this was a way of taking youth views into account, but so few answers were received that this can only be a partial answer.

However the pointers, described here, as one person suggested, could be followed up with a website survey and asking face to face at youth club, scouts and other groups.



Stay in the Village

Finally, the youths were asked if they would like to continue to live in the village in the future. Slightly over half of those who expressed an opinion on this said they would. There were too few replies from Middle Aston to be able to compare the responses in the two villages.

Recommendation

- **That the Parish Council and volunteers should consider the comments**
- **Once a year the Parish Council might invite young people and youth groups to a Parish Council meeting to exchange views.**

Action Plan

Issue	Action	Who?
Housing	To continue to monitor the demand for ‘affordable’ housing and take appropriate action.	PC
Education and Recreation	<p>Advertise in the Life and on the website for others with a similar interest and set up a new society on the selected theme between themselves.</p> <p>See the Life for classes in French and/or German.</p> <p>Local history talks and exhibitions</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>Volunteer</p> <p>SAVA</p>
Developing Village Hall Complex	<p>Alter the height of the Village Hall sink</p> <p>Consider provision of outside lavatory</p> <p>Feasibility of teenage meeting room, a permanent football goal for youngsters and getting BMX track used</p>	<p>PC and VH Cttee</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC and Rec Trust and volunteers</p>
Transport	<p>Approach Stagecoach to see if they would consider running a few of the existing buses through Middle Aston</p> <p>Contact OCC in 2012 before they reconsider 59 bus route into the village</p> <p>Consider the advantages and disadvantages of providing seats at the bus stops</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>
Traffic Calming	Discuss traffic calming measures with the police and Oxfordshire County Council’s Highways Department	PC, NAG and OCC
Street lights, recycling, litter and green energy	<p>Continue to press for the street lights to be turned off in the middle of night</p> <p>Enquire about the viability of down lighters for the streetlights.</p> <p>Ask for additional recycling facilities at the Village Hall, particularly for light bulbs.</p> <p>Discourage litter dropping and encourage dog mess to be picked up</p> <p>Find out about potential local sources of green energy</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC and VH Cttee</p> <p>PC</p> <p>Volunteers</p>

	Clarify and publish planning rules on solar panels in conservation areas Set up car sharing notice board on village website	PC Website Cttee
Business	Continue to press for upgrade in local BT broadband service Sympathetic approach towards ‘Change of use’ planning applications and any mobile phone company request to put up a mast The website Committee to consider how they can support local businesses better Advertising of meeting rooms	PC PC Website Cttee VH and Rec Trust
Shop	The full list of suggestions to be given to the shop	PP SG
Healthcare	The detailed results of the healthcare survey to be given to Deddington Health Centre Consider how free transport to Deddington for surgery visits and to hospital might be provided	PP SG PC
Parish Council	The PC to explain changes to the precept (local element of Community Charge) in the Life and on the website The Parish Council to arrange a trial quarterly ‘surgery’ and see if it is used The PCC and PC to improve the distribution system for the ‘welcome packs’, including putting them on the website	PC PC PCC and PC
Church	To give all comments to PCC	PP SG
Other Comments	To consider the suggestions	PC and volunteers
Youth	The PC and volunteers to consider the youth requests The PC to invite youths to an annual meeting.	PC and volunteers PC

KEY

PC – Parish Council
 Rec Trust – Recreational Trust
 OCC – Oxfordshire County Council
 PCC – Parochial Church Council
 Website Cttee – Website Committee

VH Ctee – Village Hall Committee
 NAG – Neighbourhood Action Group (on policing)
 SAVA – Steeple Aston Village Archive
 PP SG – Parish Plan Steering Group



