

Individual Decision

The attached report(s) will be taken as
Individual Portfolio Member Decision(s) on:

Tuesday, 28th September, 2010

Ref:	Title	Portfolio Member(s)	Page No.
ID2063	Greenham Parish Plan	Councillor Pamela Bale	1 - 48



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Individual Member Decision

Title of Report:	Greenham Parish Plan		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Pamela Bale	on:	28th September 2010
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2063		

Purpose of Report: To seek adoption of the Greenham Parish Plan by the Council

Recommended Action: The Plan be formally adopted by the Council as an important document

Reason for decision to be taken: Formal adoption of the Parish Plan.

List of other options considered: None

Key background documentation: Greenham Parish Plan

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Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 Since December 2008 Community Led Plans (or Parish Plans) have been formally endorsed by West Berkshire Council, via the Individual Decision process.
- 1.2 The endorsement of a Parish Plan means that the Council commits to working positively with the community to realise the vision set out in the plan. This means that the Council will give approval or sanction, where it can, actions that have the support of the community and have been included in the Parish Plan Action Plan. This is subject to the draft Action Plan having been circulated to the Council and its Partners by prior agreement and the actions discussed in consultation with the Principal Policy Officer for Community Planning.

Community Planning In West Berkshire

- 1.3 West Berkshire Council, working alongside other key partners from the Local Strategic Partnership such as the Community Council for Berkshire and the local community, has promoted the development of Community Planning across the District.
- 1.4 The Council's success in pushing forward this work has been recognised nationally; firstly through the award of Beacon Status for the local authority in 2006 as part of the "Empowering Communities Improving Rural Services" theme and more recently through the successful joint local authorities bid to the national Beacon Peer mentoring fund, which the Council led, to further develop work in Community Planning.
- 1.5 Parish Plans are key documents that set out a vision for how a community wishes to develop in the future. They contain an action plan that will help to realise that vision.
- 1.6 Parish Plans are developed through a wide ranging consultation process with the local community. This helps ensure that the resulting plan reflects the needs and aspirations of local people. The Plans are therefore an important source of intelligence about the views and concerns of the community as well as highlighting specific actions that communities wish to see taken in their areas. This information plays an important part in shaping both service planning and delivery across the Council but is increasingly being used to inform Council strategy and policy development.
- 1.7 The process by which Parish Plans are developed involves extensive liaison and engagement with service providers and statutory organisations, most especially the Council. This close involvement and dialogue helps ensure that officers are aware of the direction and aspirations of the community and can help develop meaningful and realistic actions.

- 1.8 This close engagement between the Council and the community at a very practical level helps to provide an excellent platform for improving relationships and communications between the local authority and the communities it serves.
- 1.9 A further benefit emerging from Community Planning is that it has helped bring communities and organisations together to focus on developing solutions to local problems, for example; joint working on environmental issues, such as noise from the M4; allotment provision; growing food locally and development of local business groups.
- 1.10 This report brings to Members' attention the contents of the Parish Plan for Greenham along with the above accompanying contextual information about the basis and progress on Community Planning in West Berkshire.
- 1.11 The action plan is built around the 5 themes of the sustainable community strategy. This provides an ideal focus for the plan and helps develop clear links between local activities and the overall strategic vision for the district.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is RECOMMENDED that the Plan be formally adopted by the Council as an important document.

Appendices

Appendix: Greenham Parish Plan and Action Plan

Implications

Policy:	Parish Plans are an integral part of the Council's Vibrant Villages theme within the Council Plan
Financial:	There are no specific financial implications arising from this report at this stage. Any of the actions in the Parish Plan that have financial implications for services will need to be addressed as and when those actions are moved forward. If actions require additional resources these will be brought to Members for consideration in due course.
Personnel:	There are no personnel implications at this stage
Legal:	There are no direct legal implications at this stage
Environmental:	Parish Plans often raise many local environmental issues and as such can play a very useful role in conserving and enhancing the environment at a very local level.
Equalities:	The consultation carried out in support of the Parish Plan helps ensure that all people have an opportunity to have their views and concerns heard.

- Partnering:** Parish Plans are an excellent example of partnering between the local community and the Council.
- Property:** No specific property implications. Any property related matters within the action plan will be addressed by the relevant service as and when the action is moved forward by the community in conjunction with the Council.
- Risk Management:** There are no direct risk management issues arising from the plan. As and when actions are moved forward any risk issues will be addressed by the relevant service area.
- Community Safety:** There are no specific or direct Community Safety implications.

Consultation**Members:**

Leader of Council: Councillor Graham Jones

Overview & Scrutiny Commission Chairman: Councillor Brian Bedwell

Select Committee Chairmen: Councillor Emma Webster (Greener)
Councillor Carole Jackson-Doerge (Healthier)
Councillor Irene Neill (Stronger)
Councillor Quentin Webb (Safer)

Ward Members: Councillors Julian Swift-Hook and Billy Drummond.

Opposition Spokesperson: Councillor Jeff Brooks

Local Stakeholders: WBC, GCT, Safer Communities Partnership, Voluntary Sector.

Officers Consulted: All Senior Management within WBC.

Trade Union: N/A

Is this item subject to call-in.	Yes: X	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:		
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval		<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council		<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position		<input type="checkbox"/>
Considered or reviewed by OSC or associated Task Groups within preceding 6 months		<input type="checkbox"/>
Item is Urgent Key Decision		<input type="checkbox"/>

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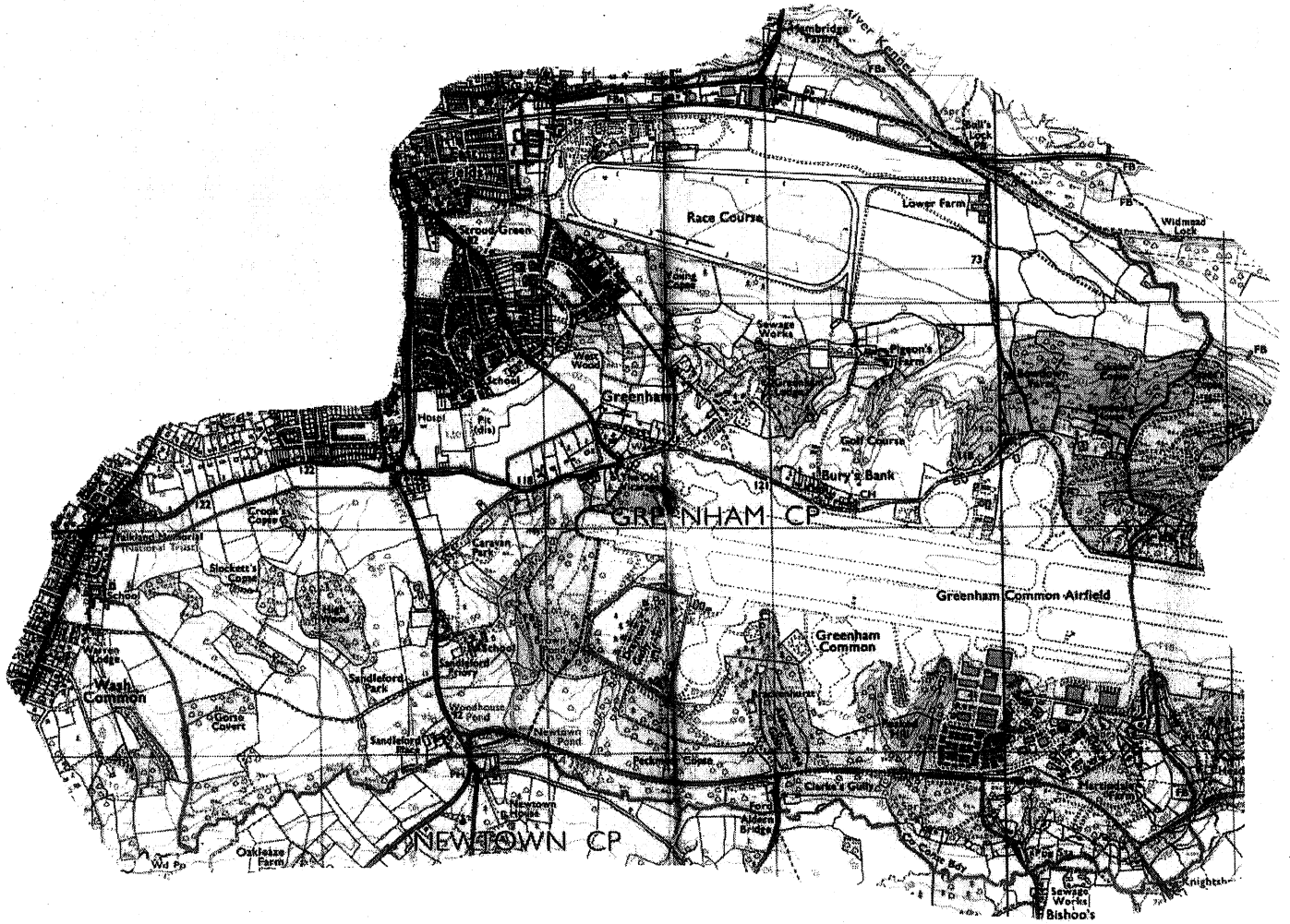
Greenham's Future

A common purpose

Making it happen together

Aerial view of Greenham

Greenham Parish Map



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The Action Plan 30

The Action Plan template shows the details of the main areas that are proposed to be developed. Everyone with a connection to Greenham whether resident or working within the community will be encouraged to be involved so that we have a common purpose and make things happen together..... 30

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Foreword

The steering group hopes that you will find this plan of interest. We have spoken to you and asked you questions and this plan reflects your views and concerns about our parish. As the plan progresses we will continue to seek your input and change priorities as necessary.

In this plan you will find a short history of Greenham and information about how the parish plan was started and developed. There is a summary of the main results from the questionnaire and our discussions with various groups. The action plan has been agreed with West Berkshire Council and will influence how improvements will be made in the parish. You will see that some of the objectives have already been started and with your help we will progress through the plan over the next five years.

Our thanks to everyone who has helped by coming to meetings, filling in questionnaires and volunteering. Anyone who has an interest in helping to achieve the objectives and would like to get involved please get in touch with us. Our contact details can be found at the back of the plan.

We hope that you will want to help in improving the quality of life in our community, especially as we expect a rapid and inevitable expansion over the coming years. Making it happen together is the best way forward.

Greenham Parish Plan Steering Group

Pictures

Background

Parish plans are a way for communities to influence the decisions of local government (West Berkshire Council) which the government encourages. The aims are to find out what people need and value and try to improve our community. It is also a way for people to get involved in their community and can form the basis for bidding for grants.

The timeline

The production of the Parish Plan has taken quite a long time and a lot of effort. Although a start was made a few years ago, it made slow progress until May 2008. Then a new group was formed and a questionnaire developed for distribution and collection from householders. Another delay followed due to software problems used for analysing the questionnaires.

Members of the steering group have attended numerous meetings to understand the process, the methods and to consult, in addition to the group's own regular meetings. Interested parties, such as the Neighbourhood Wardens, have also attended these meetings

2008	
May	Engagement meeting with local businesses and organisations including West Berks Council and the Community Council for Berkshire.
June	Community meeting advertised at The Willows School fete, in the Newbury Weekly News, Kick FM, through the parish council website and flyers to every household. Open meeting at St Mary's Church centre. Volunteers invited to join a steering group
July	Consultation with Open Vine (adult group based at St Mary's Church centre) Steering Group formed, appointment of officers and committee members.
August	Youth consultations

- September Tour of Parish for Steering Group
- Open meeting to invite further volunteers to become members of working groups
- October Planning of questionnaire.
- Meetings with Magnet Youth Club, Community Project, and other groups
- November Decision to have 3 questionnaires: general household, youth (7 to 17years) and business
- Interactive display at Newbury library
- December Completion of questionnaire design
- 2009
- January Distribution plan for questionnaires finalised
- Questionnaires distributed
- February Questionnaires collected and passed to New Greenham Trust for input and analysis
- April Software problem prevented analysis of household questionnaires
- May Open meeting - feedback of youth and business questionnaires. This meeting had been planned and advertised before the software problem with the main questionnaires was known.
- Youth volunteer meeting
- June Stall at Church fun day
- July Data available.
- July to Oct Analysis of results to determine actions for the Parish Plan
- Liaison with Parish Council regarding proposed actions
- November Early sight of proposed actions to West Berks Council, to provide information for budget and S106 (developer contribution) plans

Nov onwards Parish Plan drafting

2010

January Open meeting to discuss the action plan and volunteering to implement the plan

April Meeting with Greenham Community Youth Council

May Completion of Draft Parish Plan
Parish Plan adopted by Greenham Parish Council

June Parish Fun Day St Mary's Church Centre

September Parish Plan approved by West Berks Council

Early 2011 Parish Plan published

Greenham Past

The earliest evidence of human activity in Greenham is an axe head from the Stone Age (Paleolithic period) about 50,000 BC.

Flint tools from the Mesolithic period (10,000 – 4,000 BC) were found between the Common and the River Kennet.

A number of polished Neolithic period axe heads, confirmed as being from 4,000 BC, are displayed in Newbury Museum.

Earthworks, from the Bronze Age (2000 B.C.), which survived until the construction of the airfield in 1941, showed that there were people living on the Common.

Several pieces of pottery from the Romano-British period (43BC – 409AD) were found in Pyle Hill gravel pit. Another Romano-British earthwork, known as Bury's Bank, also destroyed when the airfield was laid out, remains as a modern road name.

Christianity arrived in the 7th Century and the Anglo-Saxon people gave Greenham its name.

In the Domesday survey of England in 1086, a chapel dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin existed in Greenham, then only a village. Greenham was assessed at 10 hides, about 1,200 acres, mainly of 'waste' and common land.

The first Greenham Manor was held by Henry de Ferrers in 1086. In 1199, King John granted it to the Knights Hospitallers, a military order with a monastic life-style, who built a preceptory there.

Sandleford Priory was founded in the late 12th Century by Augustinian Canons. The religious community did not thrive and remained small until it was abandoned by the monks in 1478. After the Reformation (1540) the Priory buildings slowly decayed until, in 1730, Sandleford was leased to Edward Montagu. The building was modernised, the gardens (now divided by the A339, which replaced the road across the Common) were landscaped by Lancelot (Capability) Brown, together with a lake, named after him. In 1947, the house and thirty acres of land were bought by another Augustinian religious community. Now, as St. Gabriel's School, it remains as one of Greenham's most attractive buildings.

In 1643, during the Civil War, the Earl of Essex ordered his army to march across Greenham Common to Reading after the Battle of Newbury.

King George II's Redcoats marched from Greenham to fight the Jacobites at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

An early map by John Rocque (1761) reveals a sparse population in Greenham; two large farms, Pigeons and Lower, the former being near Greenham Chapel. A dozen cottages are shown on the northern edge of Stroud Green, of which two still remain. A number of dwellings existed along the streams that drain the southern side of the common.

Over the centuries Greenham manor has passed through many hands. The first Greenham Lodge was not built until 1798, by the Croft family, after the old Greenham manor house by the chapel, was demolished. In 1873, the manor was bought for £63,000 by Lloyd Baxendale, chairman of the Pickfords removals firm. Today the house is used by the Mary Hare Primary School for the Deaf.

The wealth of the Baxendale family contributed to building the present St. Mary's Church in 1875 and their new house, designed by Norman Shaw, was completed in 1881. In 1904, part of the estate was sold for the development of the Newbury Racecourse.

Another part of the estate was leased, in 1923, to form Newbury Golf Club. After World War II, the club was amalgamated with Crookham Golf Club (now under the airbase) to become, in 1952, Newbury and Crookham Golf Course; the third oldest golf club in England.

Stroud Green was a land parcel of 24 acres, purchased from the estate of Harry Baxendale, on his death in 1938, by the then Borough of Newbury.

Pound Cottages, on the south west side of the Green, were built in the early 19th century. Many examples of fine houses of this period can be seen along the northern edge of Stroud Green.

St. Mary's School, at the junction of Greenham Road with Bury's Bank Road, was built in 1846. There were 50 pupils on the school roll in 1854. Closing in 1959, the school was sold in 1977 and converted to a dwelling house.

Soldiers often camped under canvas on Greenham Common, prior to manoeuvres on Salisbury Plain; 16,000 in 1862 and 20,000 troops commanded by the Duke of Connaught, ten years later. During World War I, the Common was regularly used for infantry training.

After Newbury Corporation purchased the Greenham and Crookham Estates and the Lordship of the Manor in 1939, the Government requisitioned the Common as part of their preparations for war. It eventually became an airfield in 1941 and was used throughout the war. Eisenhower addressed American troops on the Common the night before they took part in the parachute drops on D-Day. Meanwhile in 1940 Bowdown house became the residence of King Haakon VII of Norway for two years.

When World War II ended, it was expected the Common would revert to its original status. However, strained relations between the Soviet Bloc and the West in 1951 resulted in the USAF having to base heavy bombers on the airfield and the closure of the road across the Common. In 1977, the level of protest by the people of Greenham and Newbury towards KC 135 tanker aircraft being stationed at Greenham was sufficient to make the Government change their plans and move them to Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Within two years, nuclear-armed missiles arrived which provoked a huge protest including the setting up of women's peace camps, which remained until 1992, when the missiles were removed and the USAF handed the airfield back to the RAF. The MOD then announced the Common was surplus to requirements.

Many uses were proposed for the Common and the large number of buildings. On 24 March 1997, the purchase of the airbase for £7 million by the newly formed Greenham Common Trust was completed. The Trust was a partnership of local authority and business representatives, and borrowed the money to purchase the site from the M. o. D. on commercial terms. The way was now open for the development of a business zone, named New Greenham Park, of which 30% of the 150 acre business zone was to be used for museum, sport and leisure facilities. At

the same time the Trust sold all of the remainder of the open land to the West Berkshire Council to be returned to common land.

Greenham Common continues to undergo careful restoration of its natural environment and is enjoyed by visitors to the 855 acres of mixed heath and woodland.

Greenham Present

Over the past 50 years the border between Newbury and Greenham has become less distinct. During the 1960's, the houses at the top of Westwood Road, Dalby Crescent and Porter End, were built on land previously owned by Hill House, after its demolition. The Westwood Farm estate was completed in the 1970s. Further developments took place adjacent to the racecourse in the 1980s. In the new millennium, the Racecourse engaged a developer to build on some of its land off New Road; this was called The Chase. Many other developments have taken place more recently, especially around Pinchington Lane, and are continuing throughout the Parish. On the other side of the Common is Greenham South with scattered dwellings mainly set on the edge of the Common and some distance from the rest of the Parish. On the North side is Bury's Bank Road again with houses spread along the edge of the Common and at the East end of the Racecourse is Lower Farm a small complex of housing.

At the last census, in 2001, Greenham had just over 1000 homes, but since then almost 500 more dwellings have been built. However Greenham today remains a largely green and semi-rural community with the open spaces of Greenham Common and Stroud Green whilst being close to Newbury's facilities. It is a widespread community with no distinct heart. There is constant pressure from further developments, including the Racecourse which now has planning permission for 1450 homes. A site at Sandford Park has been included in the submission version West Berkshire Core Strategy for up to 2000 homes, with 1000 to be developed before 2026 and the additional 1000 after that date. Other developers are constantly putting forward ideas for further developments on Greenham's remaining larger green spaces and also smaller developments of new properties.

National and international companies, such as Stryker, have also recognised the strategic value of Greenham's position on Newbury's southern boundary, with relatively good access to the A34 and motorways. In addition to the businesses on the complex off Pinchington Lane (including Tesco, the Hilton Hotel and showrooms/workshops of

leading car manufacturers), Greenham includes the gravel works near the Kennet, the businesses on Hambridge Lane and also those on the south side of Hambridge Road.

New Greenham Park is our largest business area with approximately 120 enterprises on the site employing some 1500 people. The firms range from the main production and marketing centre of the English Provender Company with a workforce of about 280, living in the area bounded by Reading, Swindon, Oxford and Southampton ; Norma UK Limited, engineering and manufacture; AWM Cemcraft, electronics, 3T RPD, Rapid Prototyping; to an inland container hub and small businesses such as Kitsch Kanines (dog grooming). The Slater Centre houses different organisations such as a charity supporting families in crisis, Link Up which is a work skills project and the Furniture Project recycling area.

There are probably as many people currently working in Greenham as living here, with consequent pressure on our infrastructure.

Education

Within the parish, we have no state nursery school (but 2 private ones), no primary school (other than the primary school for deaf children), no state secondary school (but an independent one). We do however have Newbury College for post 16 and adult education. Primary and secondary schools are adjacent to our borders, but inevitably getting to school for many means a car journey. Using buses depends upon suitable timetables and cost. There is no longer a dedicated school bus service.

Health facilities

Greenham has a doctor's surgery (on its border) but no dental surgery. Geographically these facilities are poorly placed to serve our residents and are a car drive away for most people.

Sports facilities

Newbury Rugby Club is in Greenham, as are two golf courses (Newbury and Newbury & Crookham). There is no football field or other sports facilities. There are 2 private health clubs (Nuffield and Greenacre) and the Apex Fitness Gym on New Greenham Park, but no public facilities. Very limited daytime public transport, with none in the evening, makes it difficult for anyone without a car to access Newbury's facilities, which have partly been funded by contributions from Greenham's developments. The intended development of extensive facilities at New Greenham Park has not taken place and the funding has been used over the whole of West Berkshire.

Play areas and young people's facilities

A number of play areas within Pigeons Farm area have been built or refurbished in recent years and provide facilities for younger children. However facilities provided on newer developments are very limited, especially on The Chase.

There is a play facility for mixed ages on Stroud Green plus a small teenage shelter, but this area is unlit, subject to vandalism and inappropriate use.

Green leisure spaces exist but many are difficult to use (such as Stroud Green – the surface is generally unsuitable) or not permitted for ball games such as on Sandlesford Lane.

A recent development for youth is the Diamond portable cabin, which provides a meeting place for them and other group's activities. It is next to a field (the Diamond) with only very limited facilities including a skate board ramp and goal posts (but no nets).

The Chase open space has recently become available for use, but this is not suitable for ball games because of the gradient.

Leisure facilities

We have no pub. There are 2 restaurants, one in the Hilton Hotel and the other New Greenham Tandoori at the Arts Centre on New Greenham Park. Tesco has a café and there is another on New Greenham Park. The Liberty Ballroom is another facility on New Greenham Park with an attached indoor facility for activities like 5-a-side football. We have no community centre within the Parish although there is a Church Centre attached to St Mary's. The Greenham Community Centre is nearby in the Nightingales (not within the Parish), but few adult parish residents choose to use it. Some parish youths do however use this, since its refurbishment under the leadership of the community worker.

The National Needlework Archive is based on New Greenham Park and is the home of the renowned "Country Wife Tapestry" made for the 1951 Festival of Britain.

Also on New Greenham Park is the New Greenham Arts Centre which is an offshoot of the Newbury Corn Exchange. Here there are some regular art displays and some performances in the small theatre.

Newbury Racecourse is a multi-purpose venue which as well as being a world class equestrian racing facility has high class facilities for

conferences and other events such as arts and crafts and antique fairs. It also hosts car-boot sales, parties, opera and so on.

Green Open Spaces

Greenham Parish includes large areas of nationally and locally important wildlife habitats. It includes a mixture of scarce lowland heathland, ancient woodland and wetlands with reed beds bordering the parish. Due to the diversity, quality and potential erosion of these wildlife habitats the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) have established the West Berkshire Living Landscape Initiative to protect, expand and enhance these areas for the enjoyment of all.

Greenham Common was officially returned to local people in the year 2000. It has been granted public access in perpetuity and is a facility enjoyed by many both local and visitors to the area. There are several marked routes on the common. These are used for walking and for running some of which are suitable for cycling, wheel chairs and pushchairs. The Common is a gravel plateau with mainly lowland heathland. It is nationally important for the sheer range and numbers of wildlife species it supports. There are several reminders of the recent use by the military such as the bunkers, the control tower where there is a car park and the "cross over" point where the taxiway met the main runway.

Bowdown Woods is on the north side of the common and this has a variety of woodland, much of it ancient, plus Alder lined gullies and an area of heathland linking with the common.

Retail

We have one shop (superstore)– Tesco. There are a number of specialist retailers on Hambridge Road, within the parish.

Religion

We have two religious centres: St Mary's CE Church and the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Public transport

The Basingstoke route runs along the A339 from Newbury and serves the southernmost residents of Greenham. Routes 7 and 8 are new circular routes from Newbury to Greenham, but these each run on a 2 hourly timetable. The routes are different and in opposite directions. All buses end before 7pm. There are free shuttle busses to and from New Greenham Park to Newbury. These may also be used by fare paying passengers.

Greenham hosts a station: Newbury Racecourse is served by local, stopping services. However there is no public parking provided as both the northern and southern approaches are over privately owned land with not even a permitted right of way for pedestrian and cycle access. The southern approach is unlit from Stroud Green. The station is not accessible for wheelchairs or pushchairs. However, the granting of permission for development at the Racecourse includes a commitment to spend £150,000 on station improvements.

The Challenge

As Greenham has expanded rapidly, its facilities and infrastructure have not kept pace. Without any clear centre, there is no sense of a community or of a parish identity, indeed perception is that we are a dormitory suburb of Newbury. This confused identity is made worse by the southern (older) half of the Parish having a Thatcham address. Many people do not even include Greenham in their address. There is further confusion because Greenham Ward covers not just Greenham Parish, but also the area between Pyle Hill and the A339 (including the Nightingales estate). The people of this area are as likely to describe themselves as residents of Greenham as those in the Parish.

We have consulted with our existing parish residents to create a Parish Plan for the next five years. By 2016 though, our population could have doubled through housing schemes already given permission. We therefore have to also consider the needs of our future residents and in particular how these developments will integrate with the existing community. Plans for the Sandleford development should also consider how this will integrate with and enhance the existing parish and community.

A new 2 form entry primary school is required by West Berkshire Council for the Sandleford development, within the site, but no school was considered necessary for the Racecourse where some children will be more than 3 miles from their currently proposed catchment area school. There are no proposals to build surgeries. There are plans to provide a funded bus service for a limited time and other measures to discourage car ownership and usage in these new developments. Parking is limited in these developments in support of this aim. We will need to watch carefully to see how well these measures work.

Facilities such as a local shop and café are included in the Racecourse development but will depend on commercial success for their survival. However, unless these are sited near Stroud Green, it is unlikely that existing Greenham residents will benefit from them as there is no public

right of way through the racecourse and access by car would be via the Hambridge Road roundabout using the new bridge over the railway.

The existence of a major national route, the A339, passing through Greenham makes it difficult to predict or control traffic volumes. The railway, canal and river make the provision of alternative routes very limited. This brings added pressure to the general road infrastructure of Greenham and neighbouring areas, which many already perceive as over-stretched. Hambridge Road will also experience increased traffic as a result of the Racecourse development which further includes permission for a 120 room hotel and considerably extended conferencing facilities.

Outline for Parish Plans

Building on good ideas from many communities, West Berkshire has developed a template that it requires communities to use in describing their Parish Plans. This asks communities to consider their needs under the five headings of:

A Stronger Community - Actions in this category should seek to include everyone, fostering a sense of belonging and participation in community life, providing similar life opportunities and accessible services for all.

A Greener Community - This can include reducing carbon footprint in the community, reducing waste and increasing recycling, encouraging consumption of local produce, increasing the range of local wildlife.

A Safer Community - Examples of this include reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing speed on roads, emergency planning.

A Prosperous Community - Communities may, for example, seek to support the local economy, encourage Tourism, or support employment in the area.

A Healthy Community - Communities are asked to think widely about health, including such things as fostering a sense of place and belonging, improving health and well-being of local people and young people, promoting independence of vulnerable people.

Summary of Results

The following pages give a summary of what the people of Greenham said through the questionnaire and various public consultations.

In January 2009 questionnaires were delivered to every household in the parish by committee members and a group of volunteers. Of the 1397 delivered 441 were returned, a response of 32% (25% - 35% is average for urban areas). 886 adults responded. A separate questionnaire was sent out for the youth aged between 7 and 17 with 116 responses. Approximately 240 businesses within the Parish were circulated and 44 questionnaires were returned.

Thank you for all your responses and comments. We also took note of the many comments made at various meetings, including a family fun day in June 2009, an Open Vine meeting, other open events and several consultations with the youth of the parish and ward.

We have reflected the views of those who responded but for the plan to develop we need **your** help and involvement.

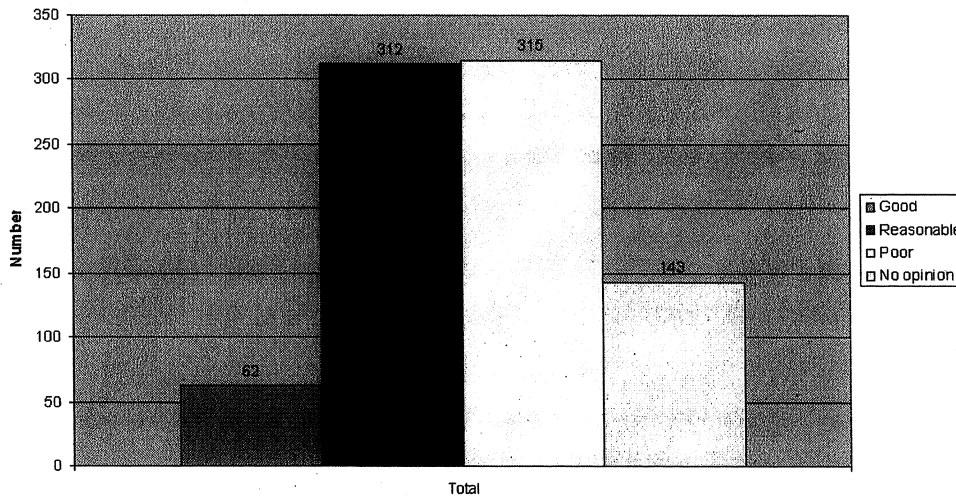
Greenham Parish Council has made representations to West Berkshire in response to some of your points raised and the following are being investigated.

- Traffic Lights, Pinchington Lane – West Berks Council have looked into this problem, changed the phasing and are considering updating the controllers.
- Safer crossing to the Common – Funding has been obtained for the crossing from the Common, east of the Control Tower to the Hide and east end of the Racecourse. Work to be undertaken includes new signage etc. No date has yet been given for this work to commence.
- Burys Bank Road – A safer crossing place is being considered to make it easier for pedestrians to cross the road to the Common. A plan has been drawn up which shows a crossing with dropped kerbs and a new island to the east of New Road which will allow access to a gate in the fence.
- Speeding Speed restrictions on Greenham Road have already been implemented. The Safer Community team carried out speed checks in October 2009 at various locations, highlighted by the questionnaire responses, and issued 29 fixed penalty notices for excess speed and various other penalties – primarily to Greenham residents! The community policing team will be conducting further speed checks on a regular basis.

A Stronger Community

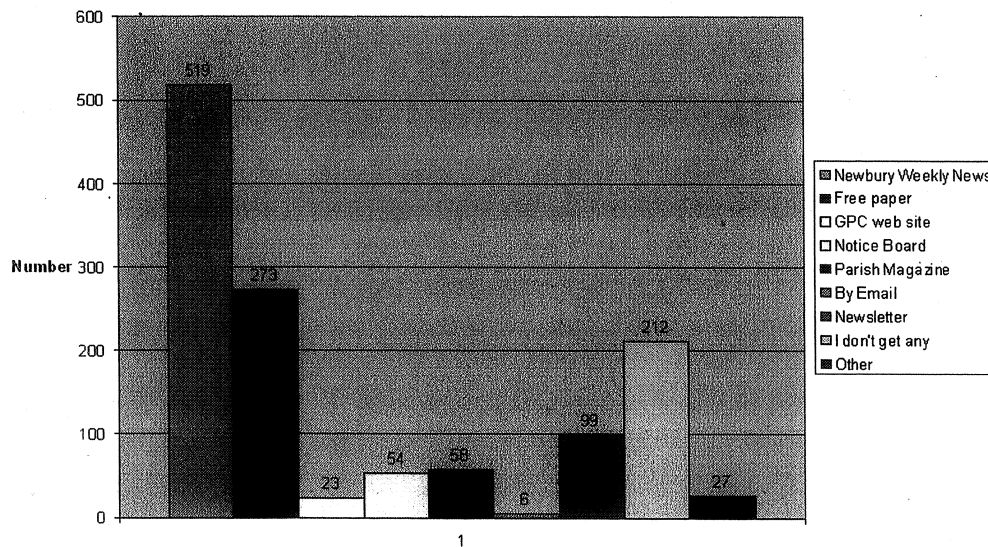
Greenham is widespread and diverse. From the questionnaire results and various discussions it is clear that there is a need to build a sense of community and ensure that everyone knows what activities are available and about events happening in Greenham.

Views on Information available about Greenham



Of the 832 people who responded to this question 37.9% thought the information available about the Parish was poor while 37.5% thought it was reasonable and only 7.4% thought it good.

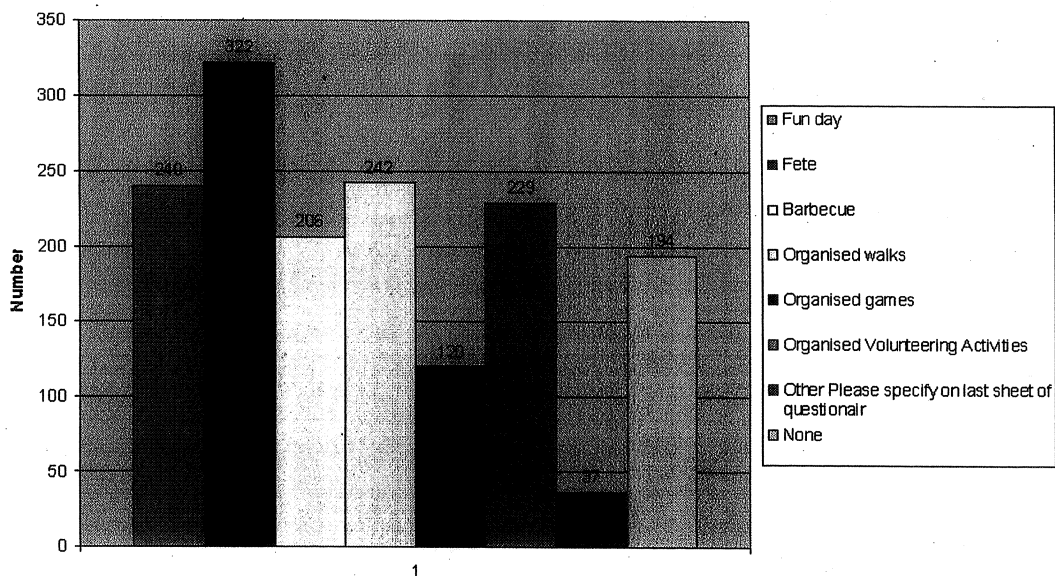
Where information about Greenham is gained



40% use the Newbury Weekly News for information about Greenham. Many people made comments that they would like information about activities in Greenham to be produced regularly.

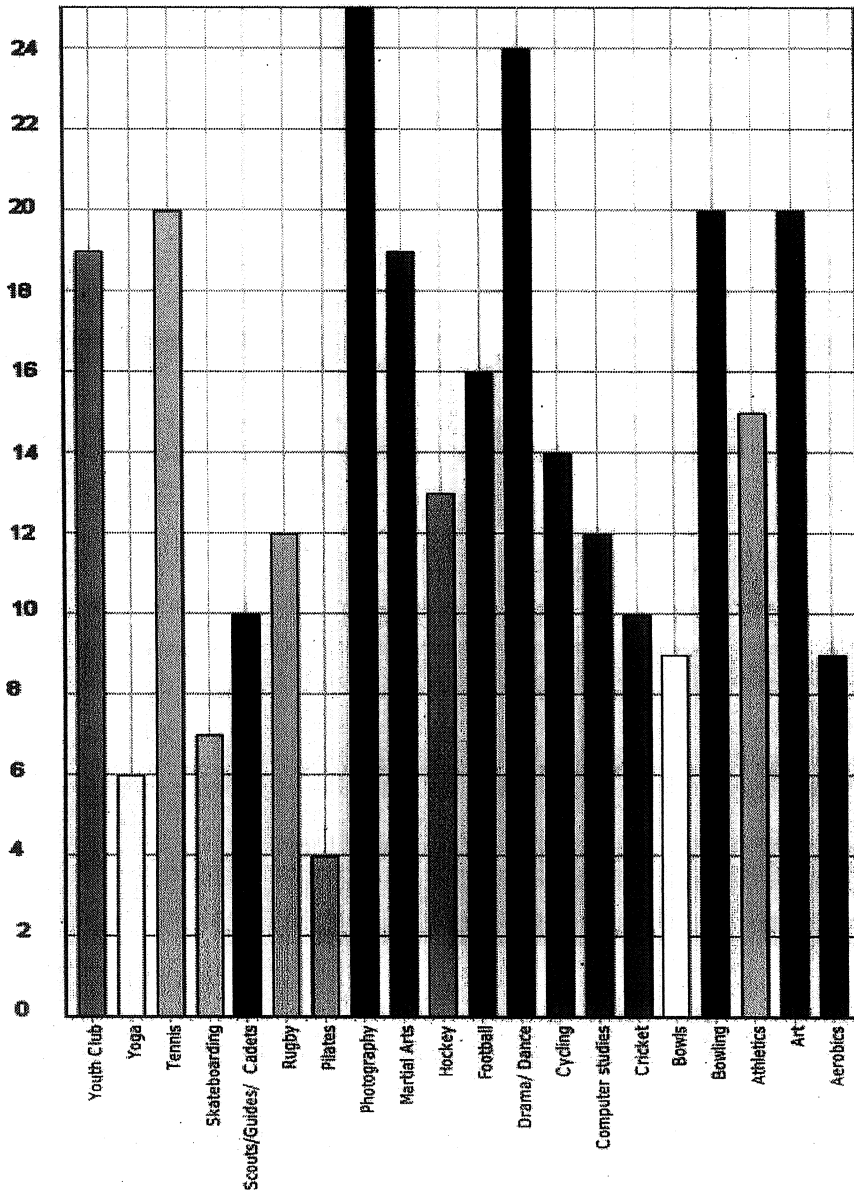
A variety of methods of communication are planned to improve access to information about the activities in the parish including enhancing the Parish Plan section of the Greenham Parish Council web site, producing a 'Welcome to Greenham' leaflet which will be available at various places such as St Mary's Church Centre, schools, businesses and so on, as well as setting up additional notice boards in strategic places. A newsletter is planned which will be published on a regular basis. Activities within Greenham will be advertised in the Newbury Weekly News in the What's on section.

Community Activities for Greenham



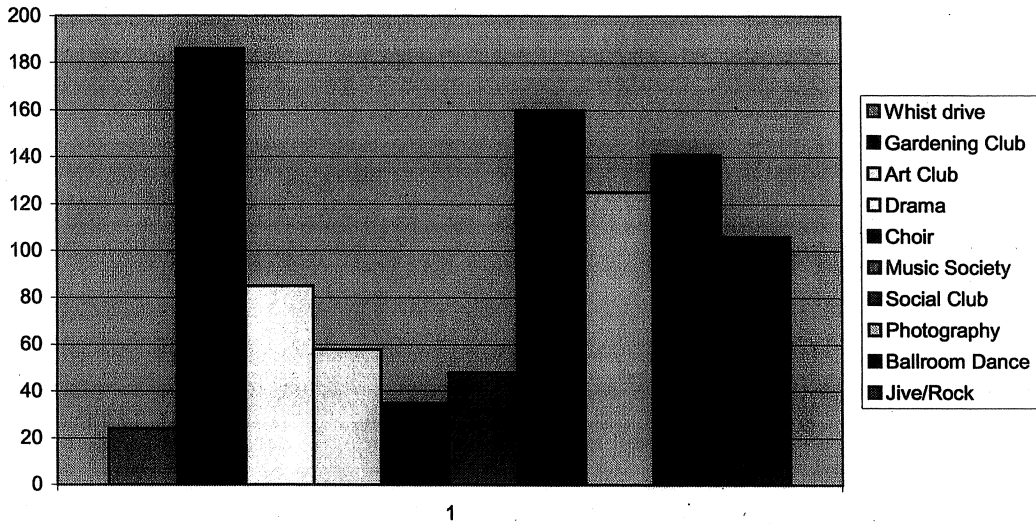
This shows the kinds of activities that respondents felt they would like. As a result an event has been organised for early June 2010 and further activities are planned with the help of volunteers from within the community. It is hoped to have regular community events such as Family Discos, Social events, Quiz nights and so on.

Activities the Young People would like to see in Greenham



The graph shows that the young people would like a variety of activities, some of which might be shared with adult interest groups e.g. photography. During consultations the key issues raised were cost and lack of accessible local facilities for sports and other leisure activities. It is felt that better provision at the Diamond for the young people and the community will be of great benefit for all concerned. Although the Greenham Community Centre is not in Greenham parish, further use of this should be considered.

Activities you would like if available

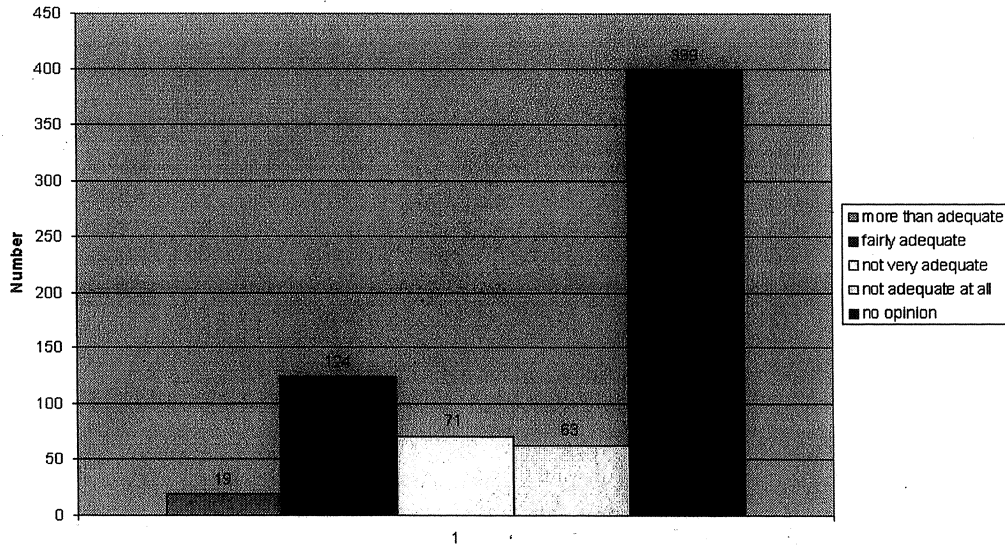


This shows that people would like to take part in a variety of activities. A gardening club is the most popular followed by a social club, ballroom dancing and photography. There is an interesting overlap with the youth requirements here.

There has been some discussion with the youth in the community but with the appointment of a Community Worker and working with the Greater Greenham Project it is planned to develop far more consultation. When the Youth Council for the Pigeons Farm area has been formed they will be consulted and involved more in decision making.

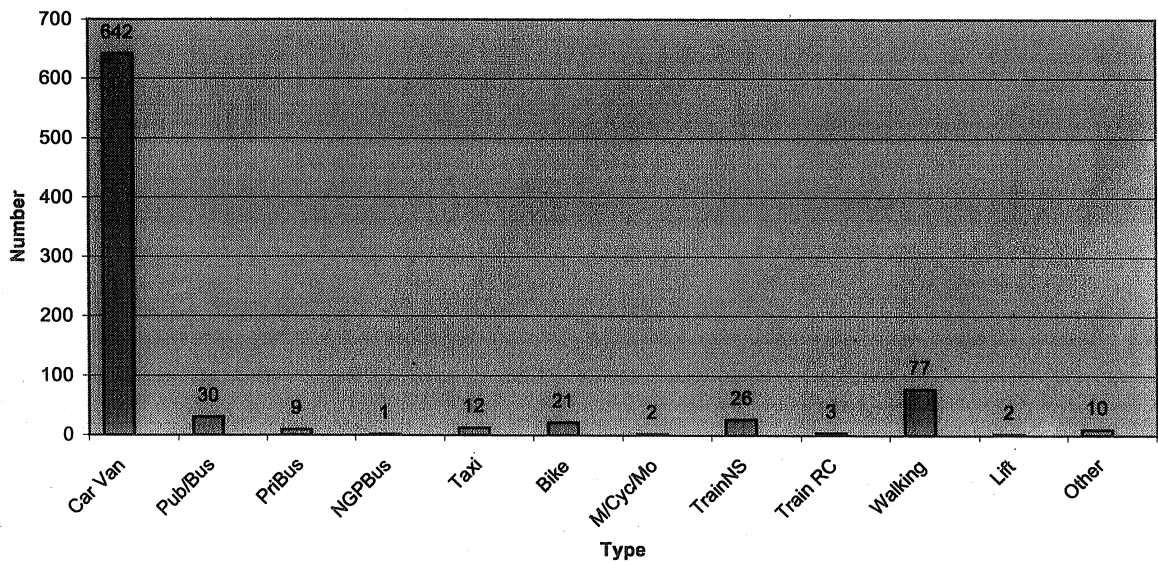
A Greener Community

Adequacy of Public Transport

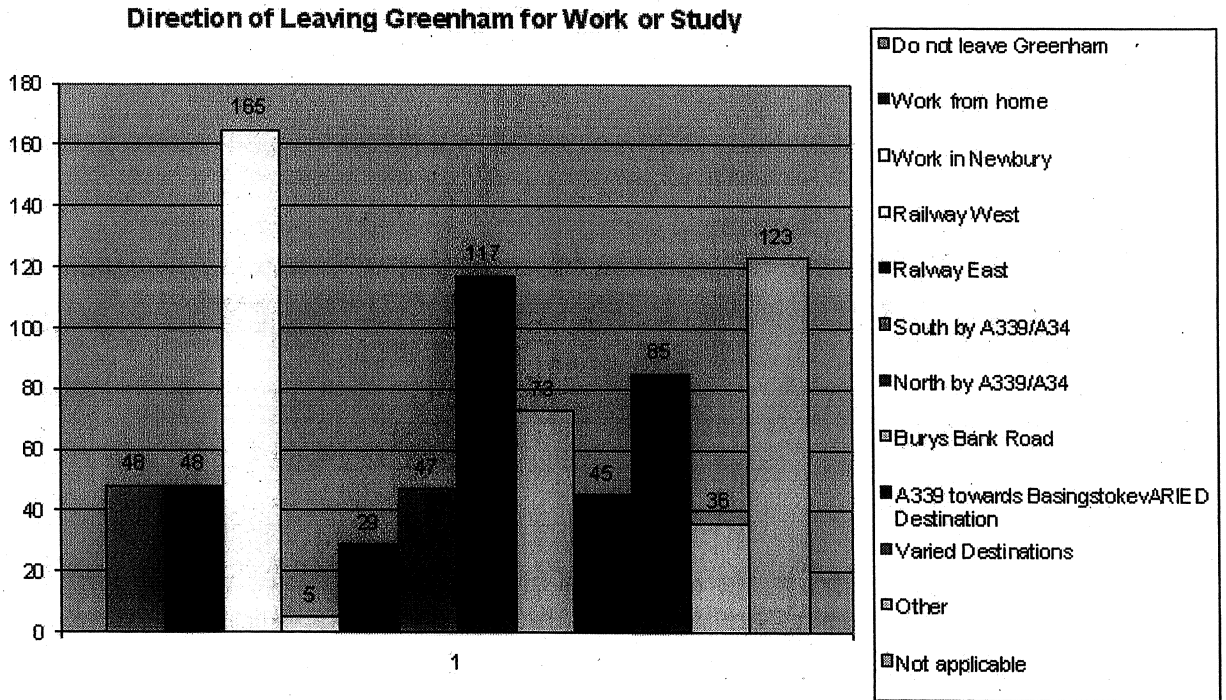


59% of respondents had no opinion on public transport and of the remainder 21% said it was fairly or more than adequate. Unfortunately, this does not show us how many people currently use public transport. The bus routes were changed shortly after the questionnaire was published.

Main means of transport used to get to Work, Training etc



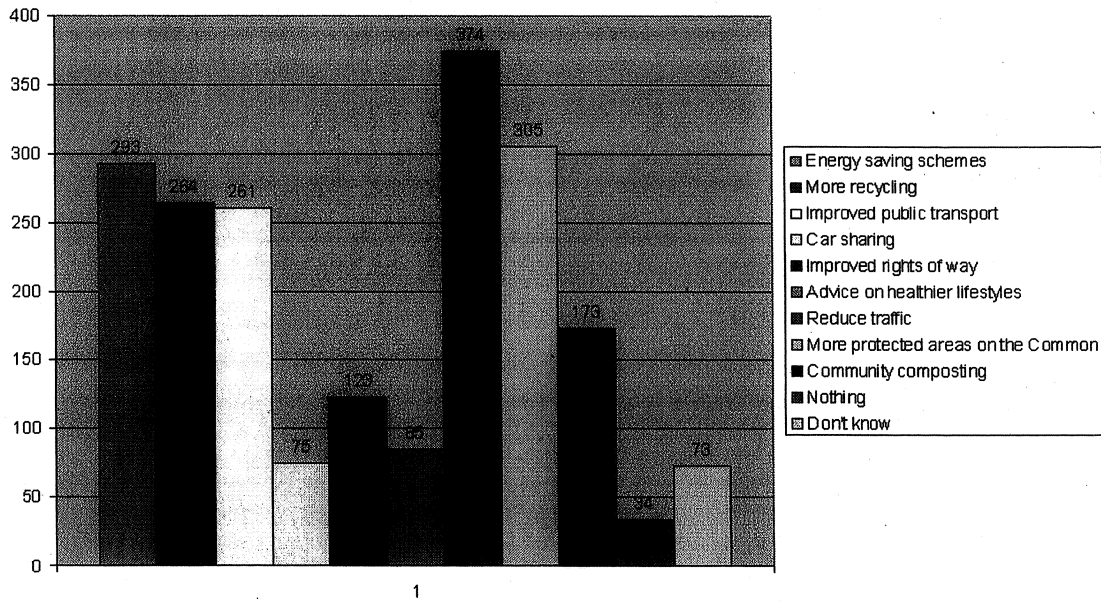
The questionnaire shows that the overwhelming majority of respondents use a car or van to get to work or training.



The majority of journeys for work or study were into Newbury. The main problem area for traffic flow for Greenham residents was the A339/Pinchington Lane area. Comments were frequently made about the build up of traffic along Pinchington Lane especially with the "new" traffic lights in place which have led to congestion and delay crossing and getting onto the A339. The main concern however is the traffic lights on the A339 immediately to the south of the roundabout as they are difficult to see clearly and cause a great deal of congestion and pollution.

From the business questionnaire one of the main attractions is the ease of access to the road and rail network. The vast majority of staff get to work by car (88%) which adds to the problems above as so very few use public transport.

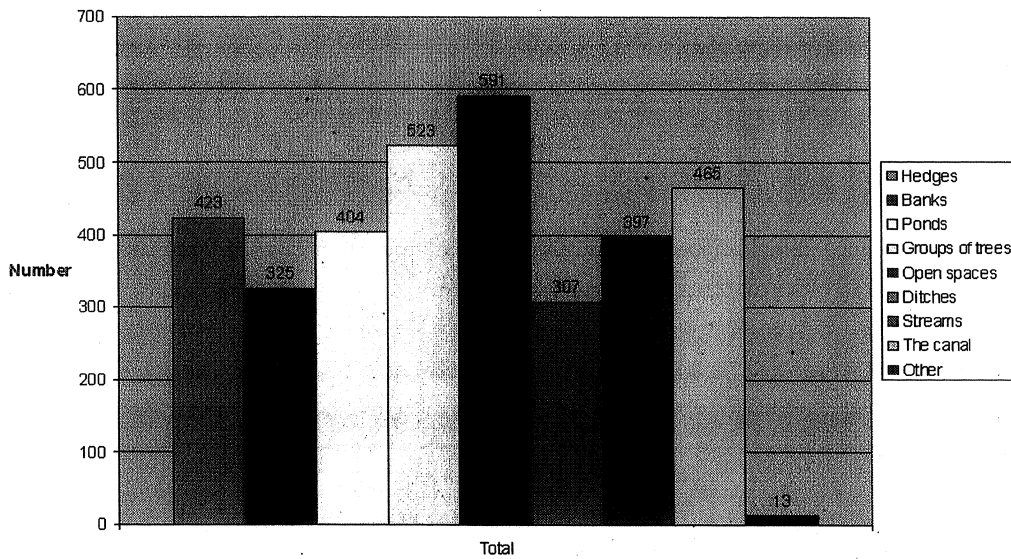
Protection for the local environment



In many questions there were multi choice answers which cover many aspects of the local environment. Throughout the questionnaire and comments made there appears a real concern about the level of traffic in residential and business areas and resultant noise pollution in Greenham. Ways of reducing this by use of public transport may help but the recent approval of more housing is feared to have a severe impact on the area and will need close monitoring, as will further business development.

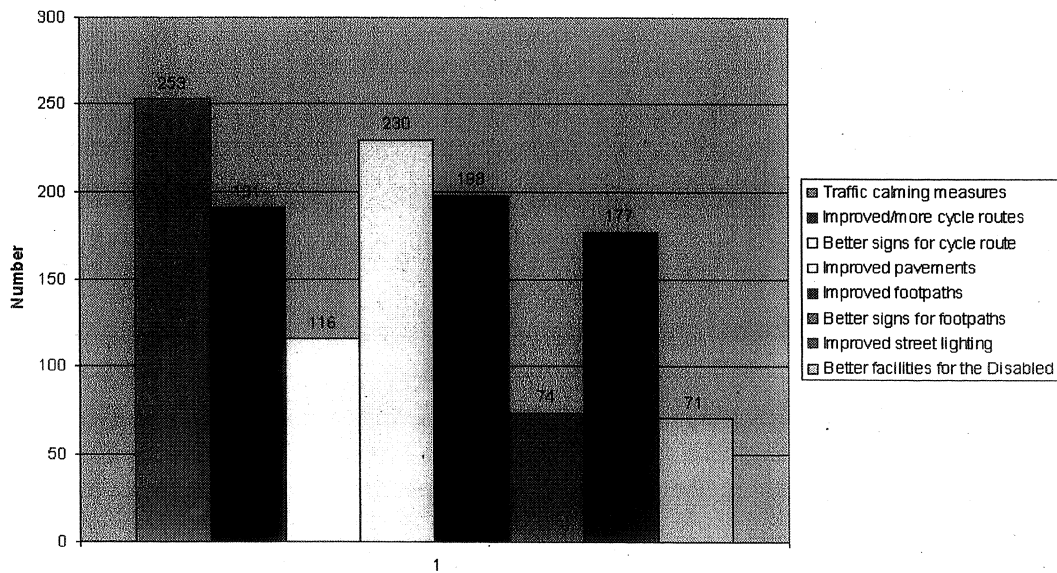
Protecting areas on the Common, energy saving schemes, more recycling including community composting and improved public transport are priorities.

Protection of Landscape Features in Greenham

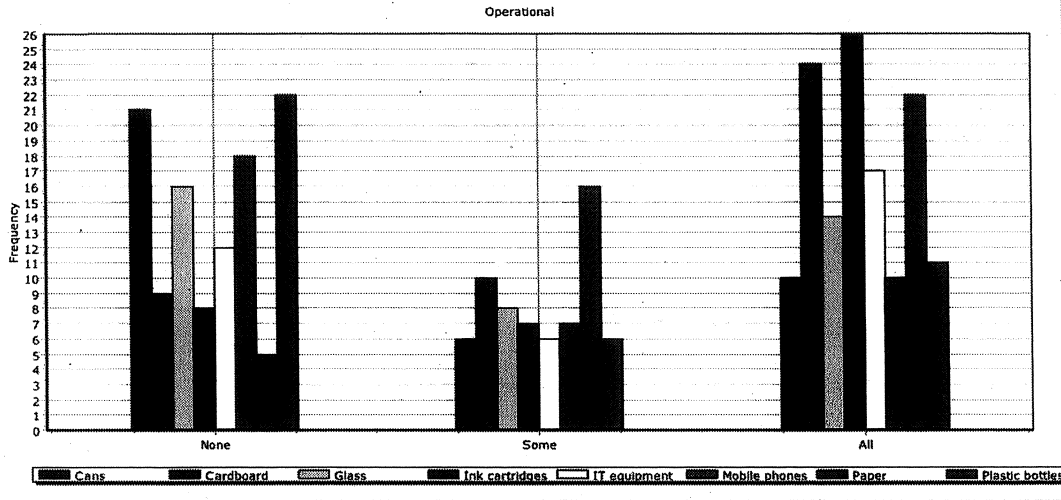


The main priorities for protection of the landscape are keeping open spaces, groups of trees, hedges and so on. Comments made show that maintaining open areas is a high priority.

Improvements to Areas

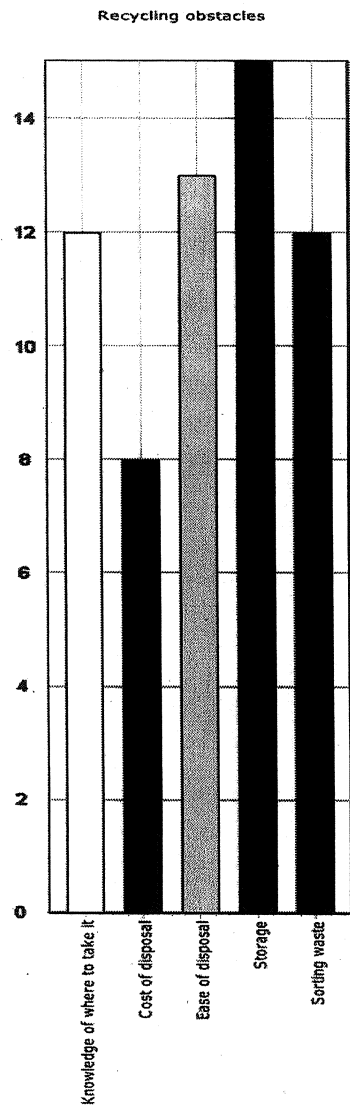


The priorities are traffic calming, improved pavements, footpaths and cycle routes together with better signage and lighting. We have already started working on issues of speeding and looking at improving cycling and walking facilities.



Graph 9. Does your business recycle?

The above graph is taken from the Business responses indicating the amount of recycling undertaken for various types of waste.

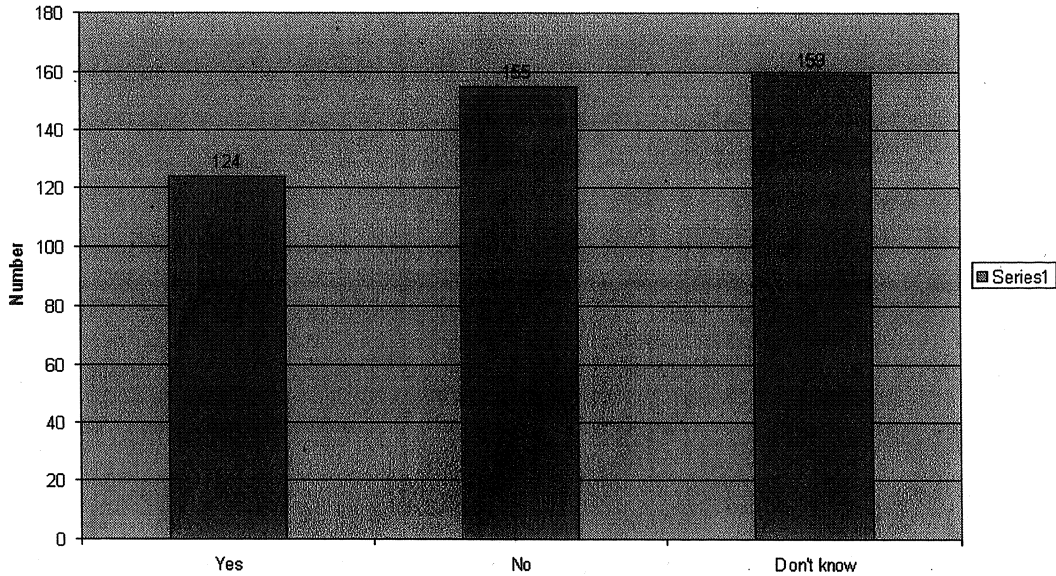


This graph shows the difficulties encountered by businesses when trying to recycle.

Ways of improving recycling is an area for discussion. There are no Government targets for recycling of business waste, but a low cost scheme would be a benefit to the environment.

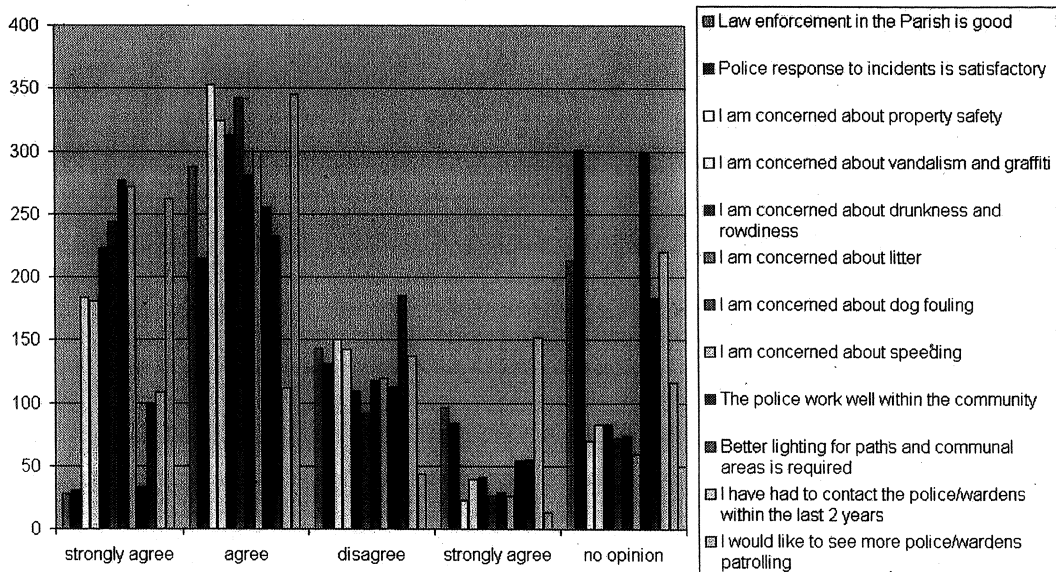
A Safer Community

Neighbourhood Watch Membership



From the responses, the majority are not aware of existing schemes or are not members. This is an area of concern and ways to help develop such schemes within neighbourhoods will be planned to foster a feeling of greater safety and community spirit.

Views on various concerns in Greenham



Of those who strongly agree or agree, the major issues are more patrols wanted, litter, dog fouling, speeding, property safety, drunkenness / rowdiness and vandalism / graffiti, and the development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes above will help. Working with groups in the community, businesses, and Neighbourhood Wardens to reduce trolley dumping and litter will help improve areas. This could include community action days.

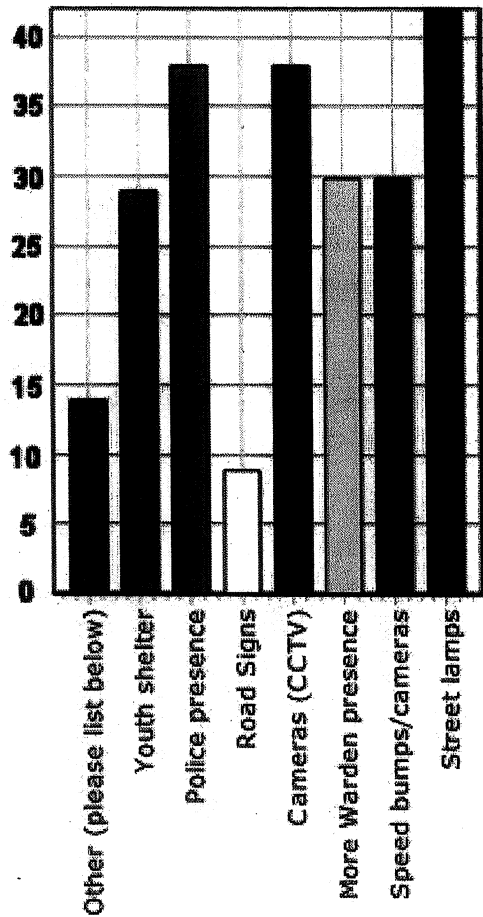
The following information came from the Youth questionnaire:-

How safe do you feel outside in the area where you live?

	Very Safe	Fairly Safe	Neither Safe or Unsafe	Fairly Unsafe	Very Unsafe
During the Day	(46)	(55)	(10)	(3)	(0)
At night	(10)	(41)	(31)	(25)	(5)

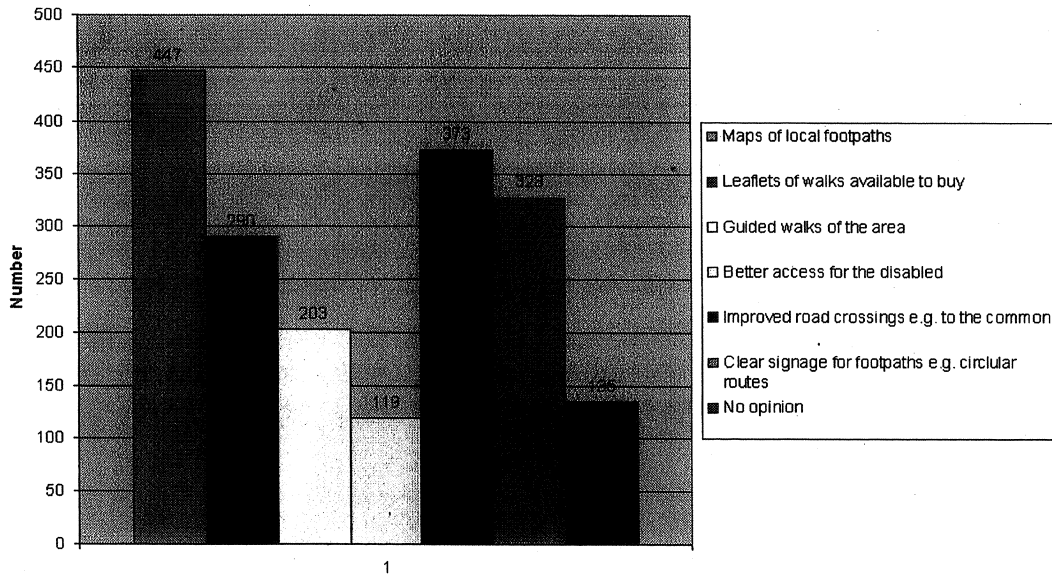
From this it can be see that most young people feel very or fairly safe during the day time, but have concerns about night time.

Which of the following would help to improve safety for young people in the area where you live?



This graph shows the type of improvements to safety that the youth would like to see.

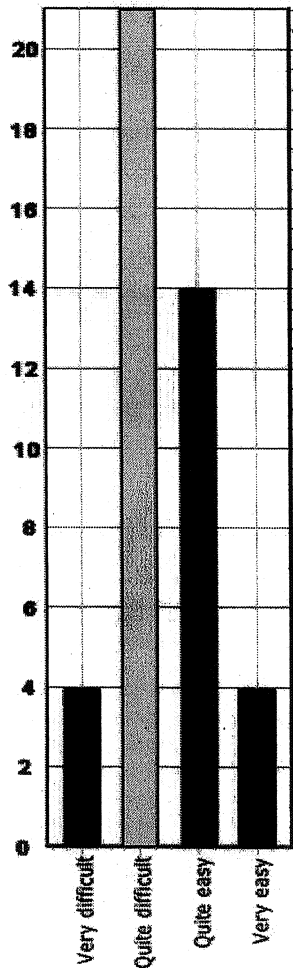
Requirements relating to Footpaths/Bridle ways



The main requirements are for maps and leaflets and improved road crossings to the Common, which was specifically mentioned in a number of comments, with particular difficulties highlighted for those with disabilities, dogs and children.

A Prosperous Community

How easy is it to recruit from within the Greenham/Newbury area

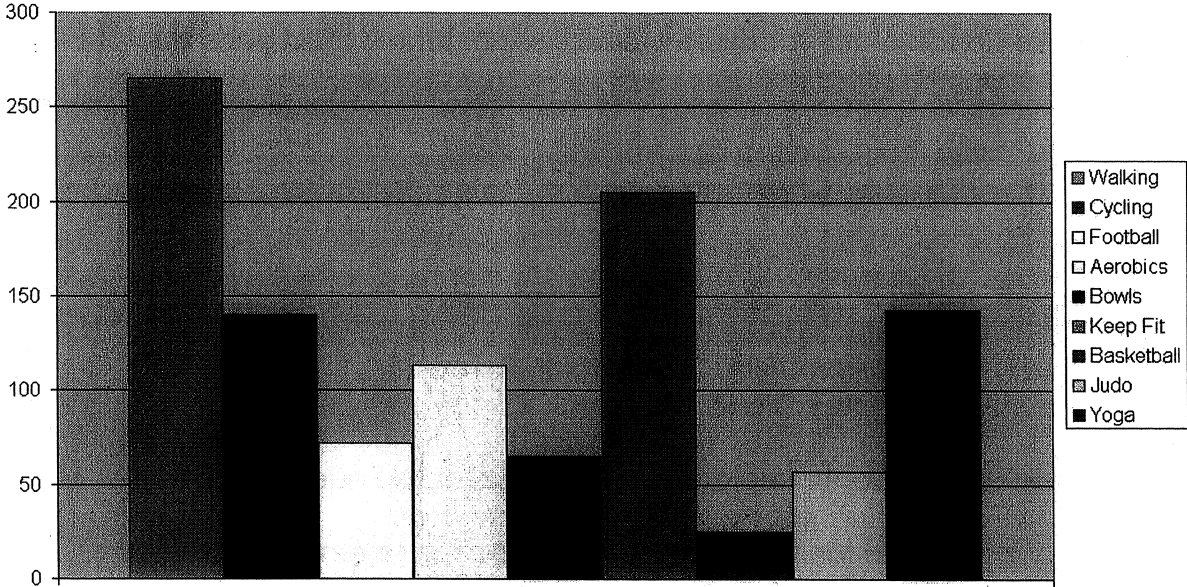


This graph from the business survey shows that it is quite difficult to recruit staff for businesses.

During various consultations there have been concerns raised about the lack of skills to match the needs of the local businesses who then tend to recruit from further afield.

A Healthy Community

The use of New Sports facilities and activities for Greenham



The provision of a variety of sports facilities in Greenham would help develop a healthy community as well as providing more opportunities for the development of a feeling of community where everyone can participate and have a sense of belonging. This also ties in with the graph in the section A Stronger Community showing the activities that youth would like. From a variety of consultations the community would like to have more sports facilities as well as a proper community centre in Greenham parish.

The Action Plan

The Action Plan template shows the details of the main areas that are proposed to be developed. Everyone with a connection to Greenham whether resident or working within the community will be encouraged to be involved so that we have a common purpose and make things happen together.

Acknowledgements

The Parish Plan has been developed with the help of many individuals and agencies in a variety of different ways and to mention everyone would take up too much room. However special thanks must go to the following people and organisations.

The Parish Plan Steering Group:-

Shirley Huxtable. Chairman ; Christine Boston, Secretary ; Teresa King, Treasurer ; Audrey Appleby ; John Bramhall; Richard Herbert ; Lauren Planterose and Diane Smith.

Rob Purr and Mike Cooper former members of the Steering Group

Sarah Ward Community Council for Berkshire
Newbury Neighbourhood Wardens

The local residents who delivered and collected questionnaires

Tony Forward for helping with collating answers

Frank Huxtable for collating answers, creating graphs and general secretarial work

Rob Appleby for photography

Greenham Common Community Trust; particularly Melissa Elliot for helping draft the questionnaire, printing it and entering all the data and Teresa

Newson for designing posters and layout of the final document.

Newbury Racecourse for the use of their facilities

Greenham Parish Council

West Berkshire Council Officers who have helped with advice and information.

Any one interested in helping in achieving the objectives of the Plan please contact any of the following:

Shirley Huxtable Tel 01635268450 or at shirleyghux@aol.com

For further information on the Parish Plan please go to the Greenham Parish Council web site www.greenham.gov.uk and follow the link to the Parish Plan page.

Abbreviations:

WBC West Berkshire Council

GPC Greenham Parish Council

SG Steering Group

NW Neighbourhood Wardens

CW Community Worker

GGP Greater Greenham Project

WBVC West Berkshire Volunteer Centre

CBAS Community Buildings Advice Service

PARISH ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

Name of Parish GREENHAM

Date Plan Adopted

Objective	Actions	Start Date	Planned Finish Date	Project Manager/Lead Partner	Other Partners	Justification/comments (refer to community support from consultation)	Completed (Give Date)	Sustainable Communities Strategy Theme (in this column put Safer, Prosperous, Healthy, Greener or Accessible)

<p>Stronger (e.g. including everyone, fostering a sense of belonging and participation in community life, similar life opportunities - including accessible services for all).</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Sep-10</p>	<p>on going</p>	<p>Steering Group</p>	<p>GPC GGP WBC</p>	<p>All the information gathered from meetings and questionnaires shows that people in the Community are not aware of activities taking place. 71% of people felt that we could improve communication.</p>		
<p>To build a sense of community</p> <p>1. To develop an improved method of communicating with the wider community of Greenham to inform them of local activities and amenities by</p> <p>a) enhancing the PC web site Parish Plan page with relevant information and links to other services;</p> <p>b) consider erection of additional notice boards in strategic places;</p> <p>c) displaying information in Schools, Church, Children's Centre, Businesses, Shops etc.</p> <p>d) produce a welcome to Greenham booklet with the information and put in relevant places, as above</p> <p>Update this on a regular basis asking all those involved in the Community to provide data for dissemination.</p> <p>e) produce a news letter on a regular basis</p> <p>2. To develop community activities .</p> <p>Organise a Fun day/Fete/BBQ to bring everyone together in order to create a sense of community.</p> <p>Develop an effective publicity and promotion strategy.</p> <p>Develop a group of Volunteers to take forward other community activities. This would be planned in conjunction with various groups in the area.</p> <p>Organise a regular annual event</p> <p>3. To organise regular events for the Community such as family disco, social event, quiz night.</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Jan-10</p>	<p>01/06/2010 First Event</p>	<p>Steering Group</p>	<p>GGP Extended Schools WBC Community Worker Church Volunteers NW CW WBVC</p>	<p>A fun Day/Fete/Barbecue were the three top choices for community activities</p>		
	<p>M</p>			<p>Steering group/ Volunteers</p>	<p>As above</p>			

	4. To work with others in the Community to develop activities for young people and to develop ways to involve young people in local decision making.	H	Apr-10	on going	Community Worker	GGP PC Extended Schools WBC Community Worker Church Volunteers NW Youth Forum	Initial discussions with young people need development plus activities for them		
Monitor the future level of housing developments and the infrastructure needed	<p>With proposals for over 4000 additional homes in Greenham parish, it will be essential to create a monitoring group to ensure that there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) improved roads, in and near the parish, which are already a significant cause of concern b) well planned activity areas for all age groups c) community centre, incorporating sports facility and meeting space d) dental and doctors surgeries e) primary and secondary schools, to reduce car journeys f) realistic and well planned parking provision g) good public transport and green alternatives to reduce car usage h) improved lighting and footpath surface from New Road to the Racecourse station i) low energy /energy efficient housing <p>Establish a method for ensuring these recommendations are implemented.</p>	H			Parish Council	WBC Planning Steering Group	421 out of 882 respondents (47%) felt that no additional housing is required in Greenham. 148 (16%) felt that some affordable housing is required and 135 (15%) starter homes. Many adverse comments were received about the Racecourse proposals, about which no specific questions were asked. 591 people (67%) want our open spaces to be protected. 42% feel that we should try to reduce traffic 33% feel that we should encourage energy saving schemes		

Greener (e.g. reducing carbon footprint in the community, reducing waste and increasing recycling, encourage consumption of local produce, increasing diversity of local wildlife).												
Maintain adequate bus service	Monitor and liaise with bus operators to see how well new service is being used and is regarded. Pursue possible improvements eg stop closer to Lamtarra Way, hourly rather than 2 hourly, evening service.	L		Steering group	Newbury buses	17% of those who use the bus were unhappy about timetables and 16% about routes. However the vast majority commented that they do not use the service because it is so poor						
Encourage greater awareness of green issues	Initiate fact finding meeting to establish the scope of setting up a green interest group to drive forward a range of green initiatives. Work with the Living Landscape Project and BBOWT Investigate possibility of providing communal composting facilities. Explore the possibilities of allotment space or alternative gardening opportunities. Encourage freecycling through use of website.	L		Parish Council	WBC Sustainability Officer, BAL C, Living Landscape Project, BBOWT	Business Questionnaire response Questionnaire demonstrates support for further protection of the Common						
Improved cycle routes: new/better paths Improved signage	Discuss with SPOKES.	M		Steering group	SPOKES WBC	51% of adult respondents own a bicycle. 21% of respondents requested improved cycle routes, 13% requested better signage. 15% requested a cycling club						
Improve recycling by businesses of glass, paper and cans	Set up meeting with Greenham Common Trust, GPP and Veolia to discuss how to promote concept of recycling champions to all businesses on New Greenham Park. Discuss with Veolia the provision of communal facilities at NGP, Hambridge Road, Hambridge Lane. (Triangle could already use Tesco facilities)	M		Steering group	WBC Recycling, Veolia and GCT							
Safer (e.g. Reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing speed on roads, emergency planning)												
Development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes	Investigate the development of further Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.	M	Jan-11	Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Watch coordinator	Residents groups	Graphs show lack of awareness but concern for property safety						

Increased pedestrian safety.	1. Request for improved access especially for pushchairs, wheelchairs and cycles near main entrance to Common already in progress. Site visit made with Greenham Common Warden, who has met with WBC Highways to discuss possibilities. Liaise with Spokes 2. Follow up improvement to crossing in Bowdown Farm/Lower Farm area 3. Request warning signs on road surface for other crossings on Bury's Bank Road Requires investigation with WBC Highways & Transport Services to ensure possible within budget and existing regulations	H	Sep-09		Parish Council	Countryside WBC Highways	This was an issue raised at a number of public meetings and in comments attached to the questionnaires. 42% requested improved road crossings, including this one specifically 13% requested better disabled access		
Pedestrian Safety	Meet and discuss with WBC Highways a safe pedestrian crossing at Greenham Road/Racecourse Road. Requires investigation with WBC Highways & Transport Services to ensure possible within budget and existing regulations	M	Jan-10		Parish Council	WBC Highways Victoria ward councillors	42% of respondents requested improved road crossings Also requested by Victoria ward residents		
Pedestrian Safety	Discuss with WBC Highways and Spokes and explore bridge pedestrian/cycle crossing of A339 to college/ surgery/ Park House and traffic light sequences to improve traffic flow Initial exploration was negative. Continue to explore demand and possibilities.	M	Oct-09		Parish Council	WBC Highways SPOKES	Graphs and consultations show concern about safety. Also impact of pedestrian movements on traffic flow		
Reduce excessive speeding	Explore the 'Community Speed Watch Scheme' Request police checks A339, Bury's Bank Road, New Road, Racecourse Road	M	Oct-09		Parish Council	WBC Community Safety Team Neighbourhood Wardens GGP Police	64% of people were concerned about speeding in Greenham		
Review on street parking in residential areas to make it safer for children to play	Identify main problem areas Discuss with WBC planners and review parking policy in new developments.	M			Steering Group	WBC Planning Neighbourhood Wardens Housing Associations	Parking problems on newer developments		
Improved street lighting	Investigate which areas have a problem and discuss with West Berkshire Council Highways Team Requires investigation with WBC Highways & Transport Services to ensure possible within budget and existing regulations	L			Steering Group	Neighbourhood Wardens, WBC Highways Youth Councils	Graphs show that poor lighting is a particular concern for youth		

Reduce litter and dog fouling; loose dogs	Review placement of bins. Improve signage Education through schools and youth clubs. Discuss possibility of more protected areas on the Common	H		Parish Council	Schools and youth clubs, Living Landscape Project	77% were concerned about litter in Greenham 63% of adult respondents felt that dog fouling was in issue 34% requested more protected areas on the Common		
Reduce trolley dumping	Meet Tesco and Neighbourhood Wardens and develop strategy to reduce the problem.	H		Parish Council	Tesco Neighbourhood Wardens WBC	Ongoing problem, commented on by many residents		
Ensure footpaths and bridleways kept accessible	Develop a means of reporting overgrown footpaths and other footpaths problems to West Berks Council.	M		WBC	West Berks Ramblers Neighbourhood Wardens Volunteers	Comments show this is a cause for concern, particularly on the New Rd bridleway		
Encourage ongoing learning and skills development	Prosperous (e.g. Supporting economy of villages, Tourism, Supporting employment in rural areas) Investigate needs through survey/focus groups Facilitate relevant delivery within the community			WBC Adult and Community Learning Team	Steering Group Community Worker Newbury College Greater Greenham Project	Government statistics show this is the most deprived ward in West Berks 59% of Business Survey respondents said recruitment difficult or quite difficult		
	Healthy (e.g. fostering a sense of place and belonging, improving health and well-being of local people and young people, promoting independence of vulnerable people)							

To encourage adult and community learning activities. Increase volunteering.	Set up a steering group of local residents with support from WBC ACL Team. Develop a programme of learning commencing with those activities requested e.g. Gardening, Photography and Art. Develop a list of potential volunteers working alongside West Berkshire Volunteer Centre. Develop a series of regular community walks and ensure that maps and other useful literature is provided.	M			WBC Adult and community learning Team	Steering group GGP BBOWT West Berkshire Volunteer Centre	50% of adult respondents would like maps of local footpaths. 37% would like clear signage of footpaths and especially of circular routes around Greenham 23% requested guided walks Within the youth questionnaire Photography and Art were popular and so this could be all age.		
Improve play facilities	1. Review existing facilities and determine need for improvements eg for disabled 2. Investigate new facilities eg adventure play for teens, green gym 3. Involve youth councils	H			Steering group	WBC GPC GGP Sovereign Housing Youth Councils Community Worker	Comments and discussions with young people in the parish and ward		
Engage youth in community activities	Assess needs and views working alongside existing youth forum. Enable youth forum to meet agencies that can offer support to development of projects. Support the development of a youth forum for Pigeons Farm. Promote links with others working in the community, to reduce anti-social behaviour by disaffected and bored youth	H			Community Worker	Youth and community worker BACYP Neighbourhood Wardens Steering group Youth councils	59% of people thought the community worker should focus on youth		
To consider a possible community building so that a sense of community can develop with opportunities for clubs, sports, etc	Assess needs and carry out a feasibility study Liaise with Racecourse developers re proposed resources Develop an action plan	L			Steering group	PC Greater Greenham Project CBAS	From graphs and discussions there is a clear need for appropriate facilities for requested activities. Also need somewhere to act as a focus for building a sense of community		

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