

Individual Decision

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

Wednesday, 24th August, 2011

Ref:	Title	Portfolio Member(s)	Page No.
ID2355	Aldworth Parish Plan	Councillor Pamela Bale	1 - 24



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Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Aldworth Parish Plan
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	24 th August 2011
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2355

Purpose of Report: To seek adoption of the Aldworth 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

Statutory: **Non-Statutory:**
Other:

Other options considered: None

Key background documentation: Aldworth Parish Plan

Portfolio Member Details	
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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/Procurement:	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.
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.
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.

Consultation Responses

Members:	
Leader of Council:	Councillor Graham Jones
Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:	Councillor Brian Bedwell
Ward Members:	Councillor Alan Law
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor Jeff Brooks
Local Stakeholders:	WBC, Safer Communities Partnership, Voluntary Sector
Officers Consulted:	Senior Management within WBC
Trade Union:	N/A

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

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 subsequently 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 The attached Aldworth Parish Plan sets out the Parish aspirations and Action Plan for this community.
- 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.

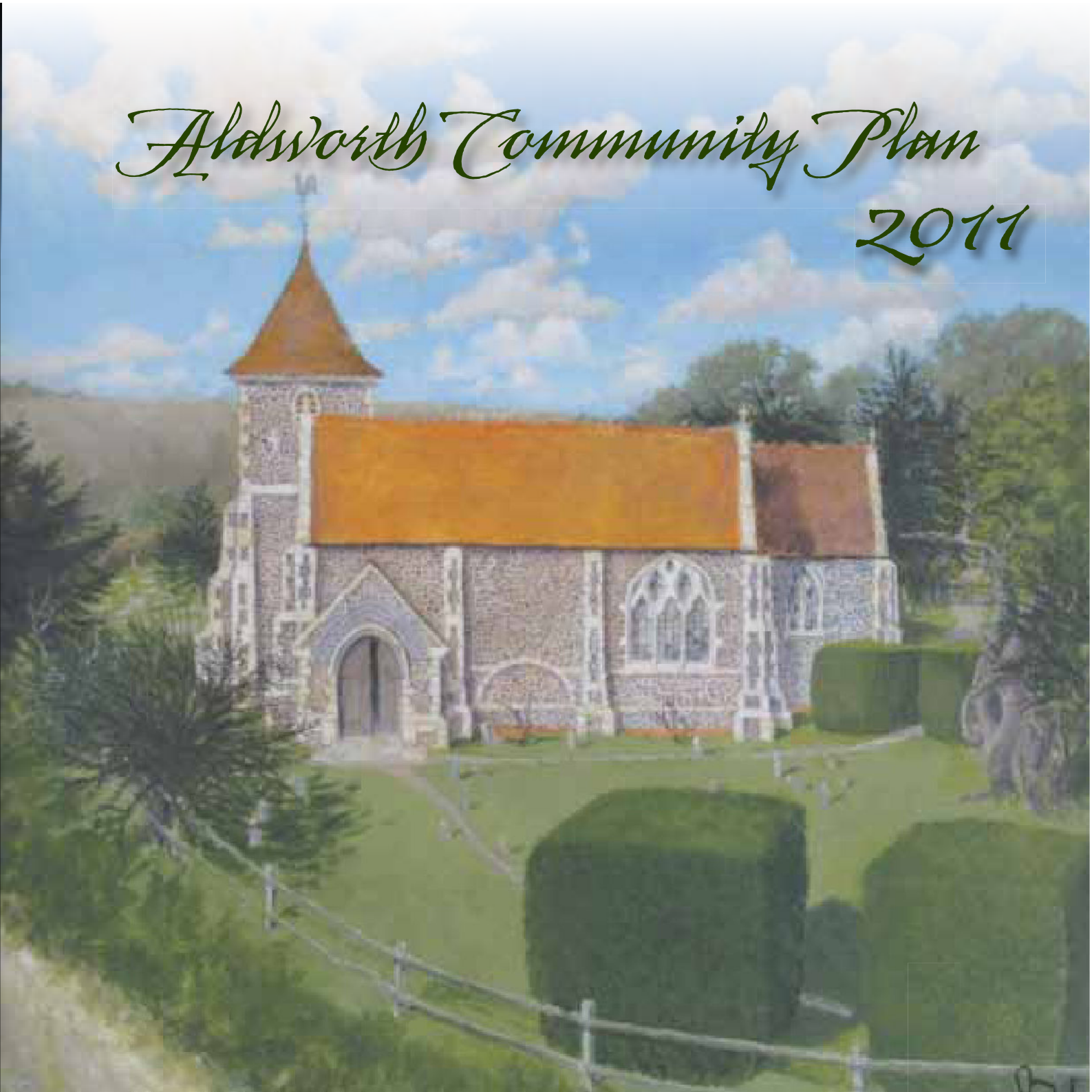
Appendices

Appendix A - Aldworth Plan
Appendix B - Action Plan
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Aldworth Community Plan

2011





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This project is supported through the North Wessex Downs
ACONB Sustainable Development Fund

Introduction

Aldworth Community Plan has been produced by the people of Aldworth with support from Community Council Berkshire and West Berkshire Council. The aim of the Community Plan has been to try to engage the whole community in a consultation process, in order to identify aspirations and potential projects. These ideas have been turned into an action plan which will be implemented by the people of the parish, with expert advice and guidance from external agencies.

The plan has been produced after several public consultations, and incorporates information gathered from a questionnaire which was given to each person on the electoral register.

We had a respectable 50% return from the 215 individual questionnaires delivered and as a result have been able to highlight what we truly value in our community, as well as the issues that are important to us.

We value:

- The peace and quiet of the countryside
- Our two pubs
- The Saturday Market
- Our beautiful parish church
- Our cricket club
- The sense of community
- The good walks
- Our local history
- Our wildlife

The people of the parish have identified areas where they would like to see improvements and the young people have made their own film to share their views. The information gathered has highlighted these priorities:

- Traffic management – parking, speeding and access
 - Village hall improvements
 - A children's play area
 - Improvements to footpaths – access to the village from the Four Points pub
 - High-speed broadband
 - A bus service on a Saturday
 - Provision of grit bins
- Further actions would be:
- The restoration of a village pond
 - Leisure and social events such as an art club, IT classes, cinema club and exercise classes
 - Goal posts for the young people
 - Finding out about alternative fuel sources
 - Producing a wildlife survey
 - Producing a welcome pack
 - A regular litter pick
 - Improved mobile phone reception

Some of these actions lie within the remit of the Parish Council, local organisations and committees, but some will be put to West Berkshire Council for their attention.

Fifty of the sixty-three parishes in West Berkshire are currently developing and implementing their parish plans, with thirteen already undertaking a five-year refresh to review progress.

By producing our Community Plan we will be more able to access funding for the projects we have put forward, and because we now understand the needs of our community we can take the opportunity to work together to ensure the success of the plan. Some of the projects will be taken on by focus groups and expert guidance will be sought to get them up and running.

We have made great progress, and now we can look ahead to putting the plans made by our community into action. Thank you for your support so far.

You can find out more about the questionnaire results on the Aldworth website:

www.aldworthvillage.org



Aldworth – Past and Present

Aldworth is a small village high up on the Berkshire Downs. The slope of the land is from north to south rising from a height of 460 to 600 ft. It lies in the rural area between Reading and Newbury and is close to Stratley, just off the B4009 at grid reference SU564797, within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is a designated Conservation Area.

The parish of Aldworth has an area of about 1,806 acres. The soil is chalk and clay; there are a number of old chalk pits in the district. The Ridgeway path runs through the parish from north-east to south-west.

There are around 250 inhabitants in the parish, which includes the neighbouring hamlet of Westridge Green. Interestingly, John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and



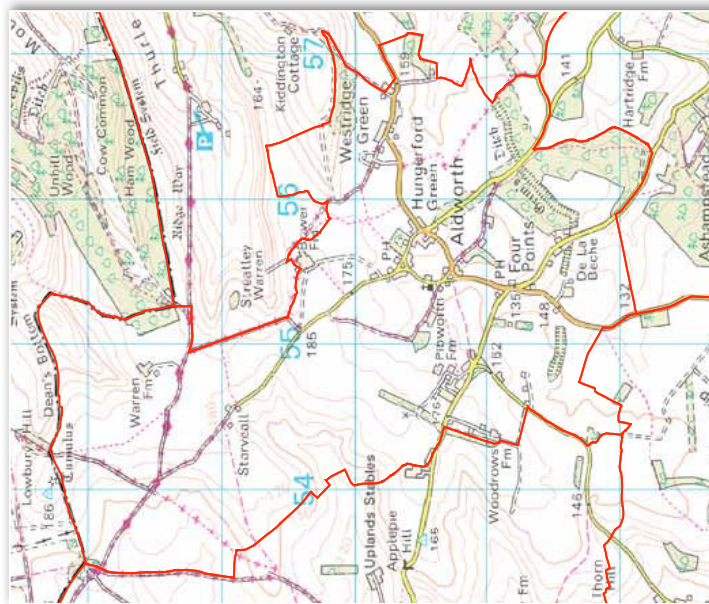
Wales of 1870 records the number of inhabitants at that time to be 275.

The Domesday Book, compiled from 1086 onwards, records Aldworth as Elleorde, an Old English name meaning Old Enclosure or Old Farm, and assessed the land value at one hundred shillings with tillage potential of five ploughs and woodland sufficient for ten swine. The inhabitants seem to have numbered not more than twenty-five souls, all of them simple folk, villeins, serfs and swineherd.

The village was once home to the de la Beche family, who arrived from Flanders shortly after the Norman invasion of 1066. They built a castle near the crossroads at the Four Points, which is the site of the present de la Beche Manor. The church of St Mary's contains nine stone effigies of members of the family, which are unique in the country. Some of the effigies appear to be up to seven feet tall, thus earning the figures the nickname of the 'Aldworth Giants'.



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Aldworth is a civil parish with an elected parish council, the current head of the council is Tim Chapman. It falls within the area of the unitary authority of West Berkshire.

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Changes in the village

Aldworth as a village has evolved slowly, its residents not keen to rush into change for changes sake. Most love the village as it is, a kind of time warp an hour's journey from London, and this is part of its charm. Changes, like the proposed small extension to the church to provide kitchen and toilet facilities, are discussed and planned long before any work begins.

In days gone by the villagers worked in the immediate vicinity. Local occupations listed in

the census of 1851 include Wainwright, Ostler, Butcher, Baker, Straw Bonnet Maker, Blacksmith, Carpenter, Cordwainer, Boot and Shoe maker, Woodman, Shopkeeper, Grocer, Chelsea Pensioner and Pauper.

In the centre of the village stood the school and school house. The school opened in 1871 and closed in 1961, its two classrooms converted into a private house. Children now travel to schools in neighbouring villages.

Opposite the school was the village shop and Post Office, the closure of which in 2002 was quite devastating for the village as this was the true centre of the community.

The shop provided a much needed daily meeting point for those who did not use the pubs and a valuable 'bush telegraph' of who was ill, who needed help or just somewhere to gossip for the lonely or the elderly or the 'just downright fed up'.

In the distant past bread was baked regularly behind the shop and when the bakery ceased to operate the shop had bread deliveries 3 times each week. Milk and papers were delivered daily to the shop and collected by villagers from a central point. It sold locally produced eggs, cakes and vegetables in season, coal in the winter and even paraffin at one time.

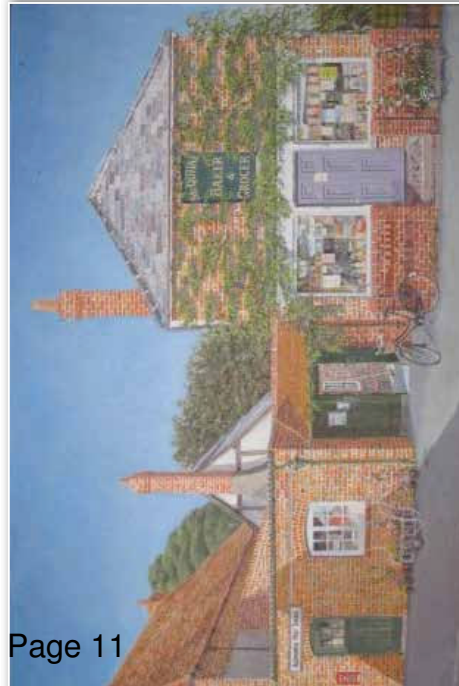
The shop owners delivered groceries regularly to those who could not get to the shop for one reason or another, and they even ran a 'tab' for those who sometimes found it hard to make ends meet.

The Post Office was run from the shop. When the shop closed the villagers had to travel to either Compton or Goring for their stamps and pensions.

Following the closure of the shop the villagers opened a market in the village hall, which runs every Saturday of the year. This cannot fill the gap left by the shop's closure but it is well attended and provides a very valuable service for the village. Bread, newspapers, stamps, plants, groceries and cakes can all be bought at the market and it provides a valuable meeting point for the village. It is entirely run by volunteers from the village.

The village hall dates from the First World War. It was originally a Canadian Army hut, obtained by the village after the war. It was HQ to the Aldworth Home Guard during the Second World War and has been a social venue for the village since the 1920s. It is now in need of some modernising and updating.

Aldworth's well was dug in 1867 for the benefit of the village. It is 372 feet deep. No longer used, the well and its housing are a well known and loved feature of the village.



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Community Plan Consultation

As time moves on other changes have affected life in Aldworth. A fish van from Brixham used to visit weekly, but no longer. A laundry service used to call once a week and take dry cleaning too. Local farmers used to clear the roads with their tractors during periods of heavy snow. This no longer happens. There is no longer a regular bus service and the car is the primary means of transport locally.

The village is not on the mains gas network so most properties rely on oil for heating. Water is supplied from a tank at Bower Farm, pumped up from nearby Compton. There is no mains drainage so the properties rely on a variety of septic tanks and cesspits, many of which were not designed to cope with the demands of modern families.

Broadband is available but the village is unlikely to benefit from the high-speed connections which are being rolled out in cities and towns, unless technology improvements make this

feasible and worthwhile for broadband suppliers or government policy forces them to upgrade rural services.

Mobile phone reception is patchy at best, which many villagers, especially the younger ones, find very frustrating.

Aldworth is a very special place and its residents want to keep it that way, while still being part of the modern world. Changing working patterns mean that a once busy village is now fairly quiet on working days but with better facilities the community would benefit and become stronger. New technologies may allow new businesses to flourish in the village and surrounding areas. The future of Aldworth is as full of potential and possibilities as its past is fascinating and worth preserving.



- **Consultation event**
People drew their houses and added them to the map
Aldworth September Fair 2008
- **Public consultation**
Meeting at the Village Hall
8th October 2008
- **Public consultation**
Meeting to formulate questions for the questionnaire
11th February 2009
- **Film project planning**
Funding applications
Spring 2009
First filming workshop
7th March 2009
- **The Questionnaire**
Distributed and gathered
August/September 2009
- **Public Consultation**
To show the film project and the questionnaire results
September 2009
- **Public Consultation**
Feedback event to discuss findings of the questionnaire
8th February 2010
- **Aldworth Viewfinder**
Film Screening
26th February 2010

Aldworth Viewfinder Film Project

The young people of Aldworth ran a film project as part of the Community Plan consultation. The Community Plan team thought it was important that they had their say and that the community should support their ideas.

The young people aimed to find out more about their community: past, present and future. Through discussion with each other and local interviewees they had the chance to actively voice their

opinions. They were able to highlight aspirations and opportunities for improvement in the future while exploring local stories, history and heritage. By talking to longstanding residents of the parish the young people gained a valuable insight into how changes have affected the community over the years and, by airing their views through the film, we now know what they think.

With the help of 'Real Time Video', a professional community film company who guided them through the process, the young people planned the project and gained an understanding of new technology and digital media by making and editing the film themselves. They worked together to present information clearly to their audience, devising the interview questions and content for the film.

A DVD was produced and their findings were shared with the community at a screening event which took place in February 2010. They told us that:

- They would like a bus on a Saturday to take them to Goring Station or to Reading



- They would like goal posts which they can use on the village recreation ground
- There is a need for better mobile phone reception
- They would like to slow down speeding cars
- They would like a better village hall
- Litter is a problem
- They would like a village pond

The young people involved in the project told us that they are happy to 'do their own thing' and don't feel the need for any organised activities such as a youth club.

There are not many opportunities for the young people of the parish to get to know each other and it is hoped that by bringing them together they formed new connections. With young and old in conversation with each other, new insights and perspectives were gained. The young film makers have learned new skills which they can take into

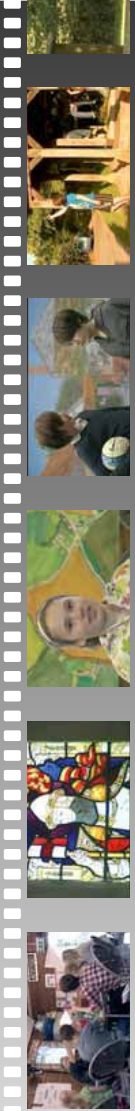
the world. Now we know what they would like for their parish, we can move on from here.

We were grateful to the Youth Opportunity Fund, Youth Capital Fund and the CCB Buzz Challenge for their financial help in making the film. As a direct result of the project, the young people have already been successful in applying for a CCB 'Speak Out' grant of £422.00 to purchase their goal posts.

On receipt of the grant, one of the young applicants thanked the CCB and said "The goal posts will provide a great resource to the youth in the village, and encourage socialising and healthy activity within the community. They will be put to use immediately and be valuable to future generations growing up in the village."



Andrew's Viewfinder Film Project



The Action Plan

The consultation process – which included events, the questionnaire and the young people's film – has identified a number of issues, needs and projects which can now be taken on in order to improve life in the parish and benefit the whole community.

The information gathered and the thoughts of our community have been looked at closely and these important contributions have provided a valuable insight into the opinions of the respondents.

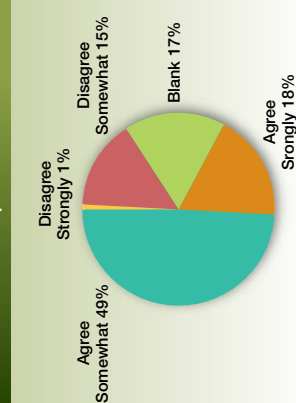
In order to put the identified improvements into practice, the Aldworth Community Plan Steering Committee has put together a plan of action under the headings; **Safer, Prosperous, Healthy, Greener and Stronger**. The Action Plan takes into consideration all the information gathered during the consultation with the community of Aldworth parish.

Safer

Our questions about traffic and footpaths brought to light a number of issues for consideration. Suggestions to improve traffic management and footpaths were:

- Improve parking in the centre of the village to make access easier, especially for emergency vehicles. Use the new village hall parking area for visiting walkers and encourage better use of the Bell Inn car park by making the signs more visible
- Investigate ways of improving safety at dangerous road junctions
- Review speed limits to slow down cars speeding through the parish
- Improve road maintenance

Q14. Paths could be improved

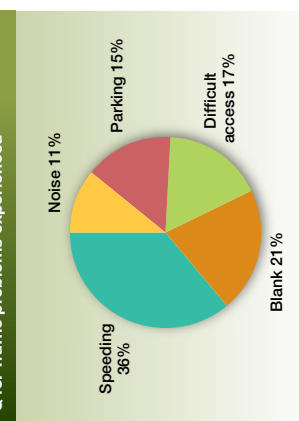


- Provide grit bins for icy conditions

- Create a new footpath between the Four Points pub and the centre of the village and seek permitted access to Lower Points.

- Improve footpath signage

Q13. Traffic problems experienced



- Improve paths

Our vision is to make the parish of Aldworth a safer place by reducing the speed of traffic and making sure that access is clear in the centre of the village for all vehicles. We would like to improve safety at dangerous junctions by installing mirrors and to provide grit bins for icy weather conditions.

We would like to make journeys on foot safe for people who normally have to walk on the busy B4009 to and from the Four Points pub from the

centre of the village, by creating a new footpath.

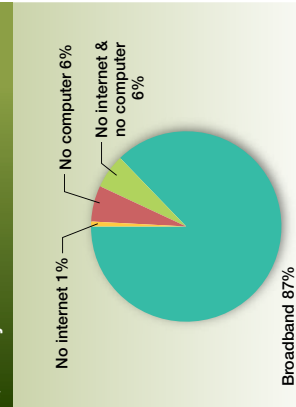
Prosperous

As a rural community we have businesses, home workers, students and many other individuals who would benefit from improved infrastructure. From the information gathered we found that there is a need for:

- High speed broadband for internet users
- Better mobile phone reception

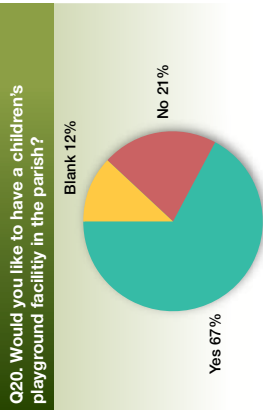
Our vision is to enable our parish to have these facilities in order for rural businesses and individuals to prosper.

Q27. Do you have home access to the Internet?



Healthy

We asked the community about our young people and their needs. 67% of questionnaire respondents said that they would like to have a children's play area on the village recreation ground.



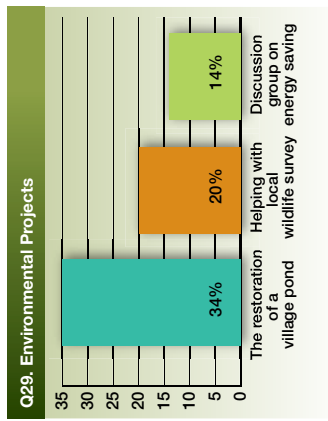
- Families would like the toddler group to run all year round, as it cannot currently function in the winter months due to the poor condition of the village hall.
- We found out through the film project that the young people would like goal posts on the village recreation ground.
- People concerned about pesticide spraying in the fields close to their homes said that it would be helpful to have notification of when the spraying would take place and information on what chemicals the farmers use.

- Many people who filled in their questionnaires would like exercise classes in the village hall. The current state of the village hall floor and the temperature during the winter prevents any such activities being organised.

Our vision is to support our young people by giving them good outdoor facilities and making better use of our recreation ground. We would like to improve the village hall to make sure that the toddler group survives and that the hall can be used for healthy activities for the whole community.

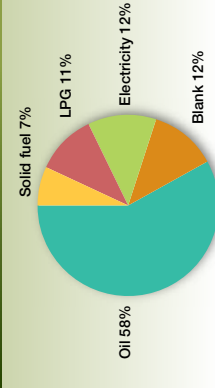
Greener

- A number of questionnaire respondents would like a village pond; there is a potential site in mind for restoration. A focus group is currently being set up and expert guidance will be sought.

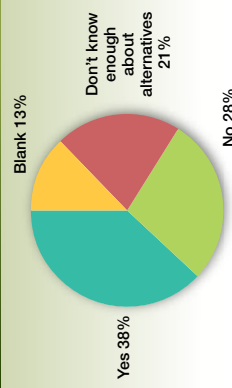


- A number of questionnaire respondents would like to carry out a wildlife survey to record the diverse and plentiful collection of animals, birds and plant life in the parish. A focus group will be formed.
- We have found that the people of our parish are interested in finding out about alternative fuel sources. We will invite experts in this field to come along and talk about the possibilities open to us. 58% of questionnaire respondents said they used oil and 38%

Q3: What is your primary source of heating?

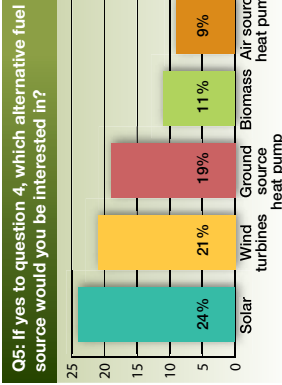


Q4: Would you be interested in any alternative fuel sources?



- would like a cost-effective and greener alternative. People are also interested in finding out about energy saving ideas and we plan to invite an expert along to give us advice.
- On July 18th 2010 the parish embarked on a very successful litter pick. 16 bags of rubbish and other larger items were collected. The people of the parish would like to have a regular litter pick to keep the countryside as it should be. It has also been noted that there is a need to address dog fouling problems in the parish.

- People in our community would like to improve recycling facilities in the parish. Currently there is no provision for recycling plastics other than plastic bottles and there is no food waste recycling facility.

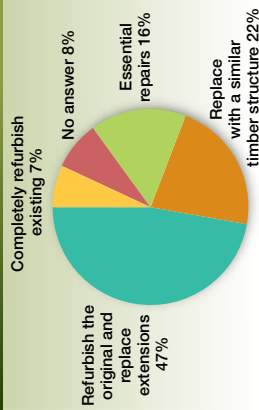


Our vision is to make our parish greener by introducing different sources of fuel and by learning about ways in which we can save energy. We aim to resurrect a village pond, carry out a wildlife survey and endeavour to reduce the amount of litter in the parish. We will explore ways to introduce better recycling facilities for the community.

Stronger

Throughout our consultations it was made clear that improvements to the village hall are necessary. The toddler group cannot function in the winter months without these improvements and exercise classes cannot be held. The hall is an old World War One army hut which is in great need of attention. There is no insulation and repairs are frequent. From the questionnaire we have found that 47% people who gave their views would like to refurbish the original hall and replace the existing extensions with bigger and

Q3: Village Hall options



better facilities. The next step is to get a survey done to see what we are dealing with. We have a village hall committee who are currently looking for funding for the improvements.

Some funding has already been given, which has enabled us to create a new and improved parking area for the hall.

Most people who completed the questionnaire are happy with information and communication in the parish. We have the monthly 'Leaflet',

which we share with Ashampstead. The Leaflet imparts information on events, advertises local businesses and contains articles of interest. The Aldworth Saturday Market is an essential place for parishioners to meet and we now have a new Aldworth website



- www.aldworthvillage.org - which is updated regularly. The only improvements would be to provide more notice boards in the parish, especially at Westridge Green and to make maps of walks in the area available in places other than St Mary's Church, for example on the Aldworth website.

We would like to provide a welcome pack to new residents in the parish which would contain all the local information needed. A resident from Aldworth has volunteered to take on the task of producing the pack.

From the information the young people gave us in their film we now know that they would like a bus service on a Saturday, to and from Reading or Goring station. This service would be of benefit to the whole community. The options are currently being researched.

Our vision for supporting community life is to improve facilities for the people of the parish by making changes to the village hall. This will make our community stronger by enabling us to provide more opportunities for parishioners to get together. We will continue to support our Saturday Market which is held in the village hall and provides a valuable meeting place.

We aim to continue to provide information and to look at ways to improve communication.

We aim to continue to organise activities for the community to enjoy, such as the Aldworth fête, the skittles evenings and the village quiz. When

the improvements to the village hall are made, we aim to run more activities for the residents of the parish.

We aim to look into ways of providing a bus service on a Saturday.

We aim to continue to support St Mary's PCC with their quest for funding to improve facilities and for maintenance costs.

We hope that having found out the views of the community, discovered areas of interest and where there is room for improvement, this action plan will provide a focus for the future.



Acknowledgements



Aldworth Community Plan was produced with the help of a small band of volunteers who gave up their time to find out the views of the community. We would like to thank the Steering Committee:

Mandy Clark – Chair
Josie Williams – Treasurer
Barbara Carmichael – Secretary
Kathy Neville
Pauline Sheppard
Claire Smith
Sally McEwan

We would also like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their essential guidance, support and assistance:

Sarah Ward from the Community Council Berkshire

Jo Naylor from West Berkshire Council - Principal Policy Officer for Community Planning

Aldworth Parish Council
West Berkshire Council
Real-Time Video

Melissa Elliot from the Greenham Common Trust
The Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund

Community Action West Berkshire's 'Big Buzz Challenge'

The Community Council Berkshire's 'Speakout' grant

All participants of the 'Aldworth Viewfinder' film
Councillor Alan Law and Mrs Mavis Law

Robin Tandy – Chair of the Hamstead Marshall Parish Plan

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Booklet Design: Kate Northover www.meerkatdesign.co



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PARISH ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE							Date Plan Adopted		Sustainable Communities Strategy Theme
Name of Parish	Aldworth						Justification/comments (refer to community support from consultation)		
Objective	Actions	Priority H/M/L	Start Date	Planned Finish Date	Project Manager/Lead Partner	Other Partners	Justification/comments (refer to community support from consultation)		
Safer (e.g. Reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing speed on roads, emergency planning)	Improve parking and access in centre of the village (by exploring the possibility of using the Village Hall and Bell Inn parking for walkers)	H	2010		Parish Council	The Bell Inn/ Ramblers Groups/Village Hall Committee	Access is difficult on Bell Lane due to parked cars for emergency services, farm vehicles and horse boxes	safer	
"	Investigate ways of improving safety at dangerous road junctions	H	2011		Parish Council	WBC	The need for improved safety at road junctions was raised during public consultations	safer	
"	Review speed limits	H	2011			WBC and TVP	36% of questionnaire respondents said speeding was a problem	safer	
"	Improve road maintenance	M	2011		Parish Council	WBC	The need for improvements was raised during public consultations	safer	
Improve safety for road users and pedestrians	Provide grit bins	M	2010		Parish Council	WBC	Aldworth was inaccessible for all but 4x4 vehicles during winter snow. (The parish has now been given grit bins, this was organised by the Parish Council)	Safer	
Improve safety for pedestrians	Create new footpaths and ensure existing footpaths are maintained - improve signage	H	2011		Parish Council	WBC Rights of Way Team/Y attendon estates/Local landowners/Local Access Forum/ Paul Henry/WBC Planning and Countryside	Walking on the narrow roads is dangerous for pedestrians. The safety issue was raised during public consultations	Safer/Healthy	
Prosperous (e.g. Supporting economy of villages, Tourism, Supporting employment in rural areas)									
Enable rural businesses and individuals to prosper	Enable high-speed broadband	M	2011			WBC/Telecoms companies	87% from questionnaire said that they have home access to the internet	Prosperous	
"	Provide better mobile phone reception	M	2011			Telecoms companies	People would like better mobile reception. The young people have shown this in their film	Prosperous	
"	Support the Aldworth Saturday Market (ASM)	H	Ongoing			Local community	Provides local services and a meeting place for residents, with less need for car travel	Prosperous/Greener	
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)									
Strengthen sense of community/health	Provide a children's playground	H	2010		Claire Smith/Sally McEwan	Bell/Yattendon Estates/Village Hall Management Committee, The National Grid have expressed an interest and are a potential funding source	67% of questionnaire respondents said they would like to have this facility	Healthy	
"	Provide an all year round Toddler Group	H	2011		Sally McEwan	Village Hall Committee	The toddler group cannot function in the winter months due to the poor condition of the Village Hall	Healthy	
"	Estate's/Village field	L	2011		Community Plan Team/Young People and CCB 'Speakout' grant	The Bell Inn/Yattendon Estates/Village Hall Management Committee	The young people of the parish requested goal posts in their film. They were successful in their application for a CCB 'Speakout' grant and have purchased the equipment	Healthy	
"	Request farmers to notify prior to spraying in fields	M	2011		Parish Council	Farmers whose land adjoins houses	Noted as a problem in questionnaire	Healthy	
"	Develop a number of healthy activities such as exercise classes	M	2011		Parish Council	Village Hall Committee, WBC Adult and Learning Team	Increase use of the Village Hall and promote health and community spirit (depending on Village Hall improvements)	Healthy	

Greener (e.g reducing carbon footprint in the community, reducing waste and increasing recycling, encourage consumption of local produce, increasing diversity of local wildlife).												
Improve opportunity for wildlife and appreciation of environment	Form a focus group to explore the reinstatement of pond	M	2011	Nick Williams	Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust, AONB, FWAG					34 respondents to the questionnaire would like to take part in the restoration of a pond. The young people stated in the film that they would like a pond	Greener	
"	Carry out a Wildlife Survey	L	2011		trust AONB, CCB					20 respondents to the questionnaire said that they would like to carry out a wildlife survey	Greener	
Reduce carbon footprint in the community and promote savings in fuel expenses	Hold an alternative energy information event	M	2011		TV Energy, WBC Energy Reduction Officer. The Greening Campaign					76% of questionnaire respondents use some form of fossil fuel as their primary source of energy. 38% are interested in alternative	Greener	
"	Reduce litter by holding annual village litter pick.	M	2010	Parish Council	WBC					46% of questionnaire respondents said fly tipping is a problem. 49% said litter is a problem. 28% said dog fouling a problem	Greener/healthier	
"	Explore ways to expand community recycling facilities and initiatives	M	2011		WBC/Veolia/ASM					The need for better recycling facilities was raised during public consultations. The Veolia battery recycling initiative will be taken up by the Aldworth Saturday Market	Greener	
Stronger (e.g. including everyone, fostering a sense of belonging and participation in community life, similar life opportunities - including accessible services for all).												
Supporting Community Life	Improve our Village Hall	H	2010	Village Hall Management Committee	Community Buildings Advice Service					The Village Hall is in such a poor state that doing nothing is not an option. 92% of questionnaire respondents said that improvements should be undertaken. The toddler group can now only run in the summer months due to the poor state of the hall. The floor needs replacing and the storage for the play equipment is damp. The hall is too cold to be comfortable and many people would welcome leisure activities, educational and social events if the hall was in a better condition. The young people have shown the need for improvements in the Aldworth Viewfinder film	Stronger/healthier	
"	Make more notice boards available in the parish	M	2011	Parish Council						The residents of Westridge Green have requested a noticeboard	Stronger	
"	Create / update our village website	M	2010	John Clark	Local community					The Aldworth village website was created in the summer of 2010 and is updated regularly to keep villagers and others informed of news and events	Stronger	
"	Create a welcome pack for new residents	M	2011	Josie Williams						To improve communication and information	Stronger	
Improve life for those without their own transport	Investigate the provision of a bus service on a Saturday	M	2010	Parish Council	BACYP funding available for young people to apply for transport					The young people requested the provision of a bus service on a Saturday in the Aldworth Viewfinder film	Stronger	
Supporting Community Life	Supporting community groups, partnerships and initiatives	H	Ongoing	Local Community, Parish Council, Community Plan Team	Aldworth Saturday Market, Baby and Toddler Group, Village Fete, CCB training programme					80% of questionnaire respondents use the Aldworth Saturday Market, 68% use the recreation ground, 79% attend village fetes	Stronger	
"	Provide social events for the community	M	Ongoing		Local Community					The aim is to maintain activities for the community to enjoy and make provision for more. Opportunities for more activities will be made by improvements to the village hall	Stronger/healthier	
"	Support St Mary's Church maintenance and improvements	M	Ongoing	St Mary's Church	Local Community					Keeping an historic building and institution thriving. 65% of questionnaire respondents attend/visit the church	Stronger	

Equality Impact Assessment Template – Stage One

Name of item being assessed:	Aldworth Parish Plan
Version and release date of item (if applicable):	24 th August 2011 (release date same as Individual Decision date).
Owner of item being assessed:	Jo Naylor
Name of assessor:	Jo Naylor
Date of assessment:	15 August 2011

1 What are the main aims of the item?

To endorse the Aldworth Parish Plan

2 Note which groups may be affected by the item, consider how they may be affected and what sources of information have been used to determine this.

(Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender, Race, Religion or Belief and Sexual Orientation.)

Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this.

Further Comments relating to the item:

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.

3 Result (please tick)

	High Relevance This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment.
	Medium Relevance This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
	Low Relevance This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
√	No Relevance This does not need to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment

For items requiring a Stage 2 equality impact assessment, begin the planning of this now, referring to the equality impact assessment guidance and Stage 2 template.

4 Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	
Stage Two not required:	

Signed: Jo Naylor

Date: 15 August 2011