

GREENHAM'S FUTURE

A COMMON PURPOSE



MAKING IT 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

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Newbury Racecourse for the use of their facilities

Greenham Parish Council

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



ABBREVIATIONS

CBAS	Community Buildings Advice Service
CW	Community Worker
GCT	Greenham Common Trust
GGP	Greater Greenham Project
GPC	Greenham Parish Council
NW	Neighbourhood Wardens
SG	Steering Group
WBC	West Berkshire Council
WBVC	West Berkshire Volunteer Centre



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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 is encouraged to be involved so that we have a common purpose and make things happen together.

Anyone interested in helping to achieve the objectives of the Plan please contact:

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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.

FOREWORD

The steering group hopes that you will find this plan of interest. We have spoken to you and asked you questions. 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. This includes 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 or completed; 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 on the back cover of this 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**



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 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 |

TIMELINE





July	<p>Consultation with Open Vine (adult group based at St Mary's Church centre)</p> <p>Steering Group formed, appointment of officers and committee members.</p>
August	Youth consultations
September	<p>Tour of Parish for Steering Group</p> <p>Open meeting to invite further volunteers to become members of working groups</p>
October	<p>Planning of questionnaire.</p> <p>Meetings with Magnet Youth Club, Community Project, and other groups</p>
November	<p>Decision to have 3 questionnaires: general household, youth (7 to 17 years) and business</p> <p>Interactive display at Newbury library</p>
December	Completion of questionnaire design
2009	
January	<p>Distribution plan for questionnaires finalised</p> <p>Questionnaires distributed</p>
February	Questionnaires collected and passed to Greenham Common 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.

May	Youth volunteer meeting
June	Stall at Church Fun Day
July	Data available.
July to October	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
November 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 (2,000 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 Pickfords Removals. Today the house is used by 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 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.



IMAGES COURTESY OF WEST
BERKSHIRE HERITAGE SERVICE



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 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

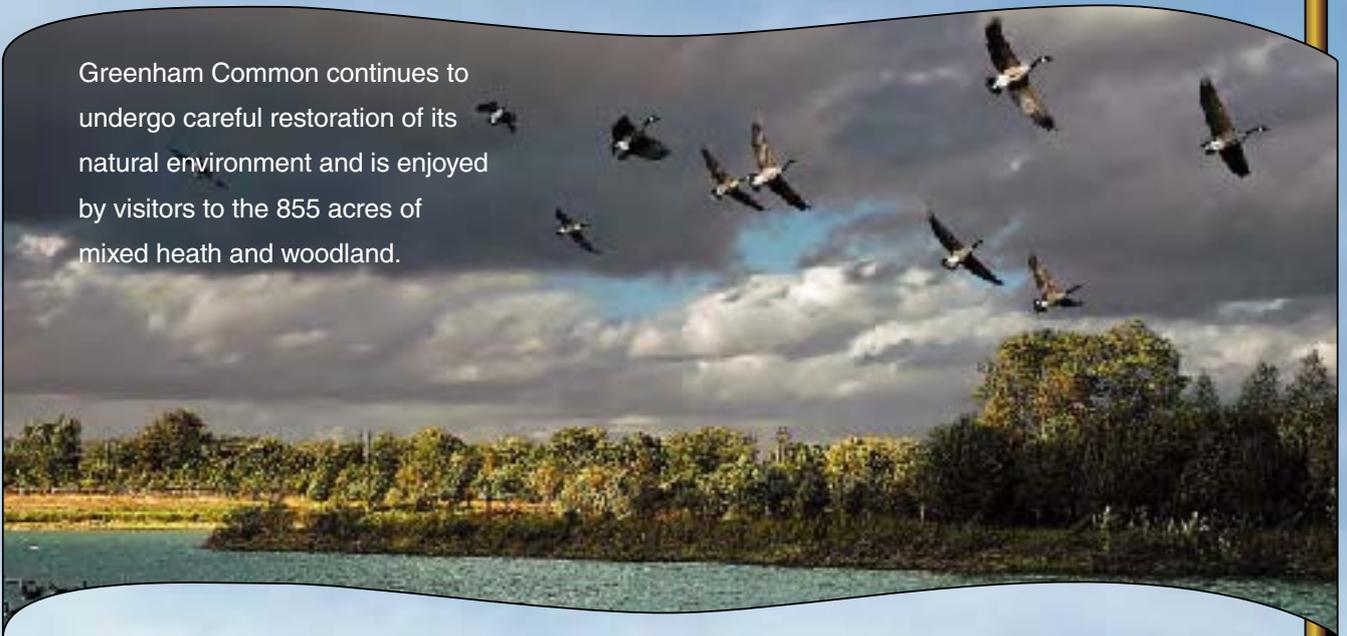
sufficient to make the Government change their plans and move them to Fairford, Gloucestershire.

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 M.O.D. 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. They 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 Greenham Business 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 1960s 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 1,000 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 1,450 homes. A site at Sandleford Park has been included in the submission version of the West Berkshire Core Strategy for up to 2,000 homes, with 1,000 to be developed before 2026 and the additional 1,000 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 Rd.



Greenham Business Park is our largest business area with approximately 120 enterprises on site employing some 1,500 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, the work skills project Link Up 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.

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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 Greenacres) and the Apex Fitness Gym on New Greenham Park, but no public facilities. Public transport has improved since the questionnaire results were analysed and a new bus timetable has been introduced. However there are no buses in the evenings or on a Sunday, making 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 Greenham Business Park has not taken place and the funding has been used over the whole of West Berkshire.

PLAY AREAS & 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 where the surface is generally unsuitable, or not permitted for ball games such as on Sandleford 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).



LEISURE FACILITIES

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

We have no pub. There are 2 restaurants, one in the Hilton Hotel and the other is the New Greenham Tandoori at the Arts Centre on Greenham Business Park. Tesco has a café and there is another on Greenham Business Park. The Liberty Ballroom is another facility on Greenham Business 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.



LEISURE FACILITIES CONTINUED



attached to St Mary's. The Greenham Community Centre is nearby in the Nightingales, which is 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 Greenham Business Park and is the home of the renowned "Country Wife Tapestry" made for the 1951 Festival of Britain.

Also on Greenham Business Park is the New Greenham Arts Centre which is an offshoot of the Newbury Corn Exchange. Here there are regular art displays and 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 other social events.

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) has 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 people and visitors to the area. There are several marked routes on the Common. These are used for walking and running and some 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 its 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 a derelict lined gullies and an area of heathland linking with the Common.

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

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



RETAIL



RELIGION



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Basingstoke link bus route runs along the A339 from Newbury and serves the southernmost residents of Greenham. Routes 8 and 8A are new circular routes from Newbury to Greenham and each run on a half-hourly timetable. All services from Newbury end at 7pm. There are free shuttle busses to and from Greenham Business Park to Newbury. These may also be used by fare paying passengers.

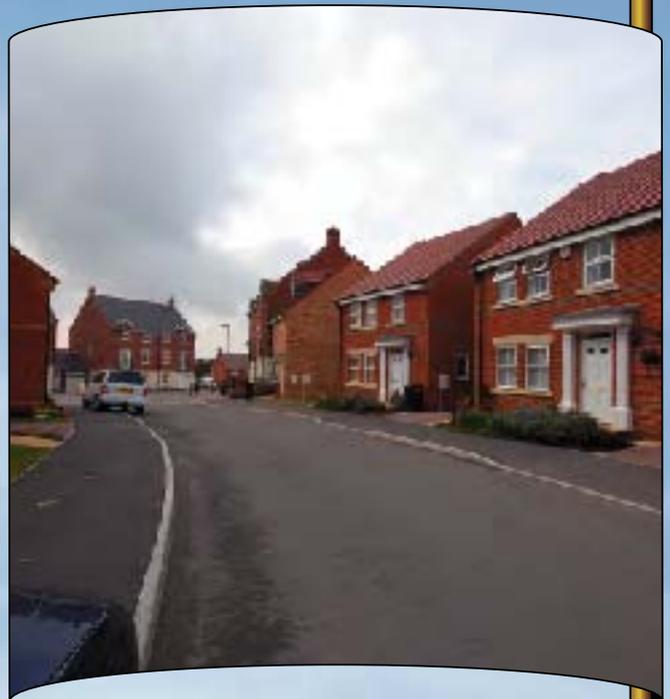
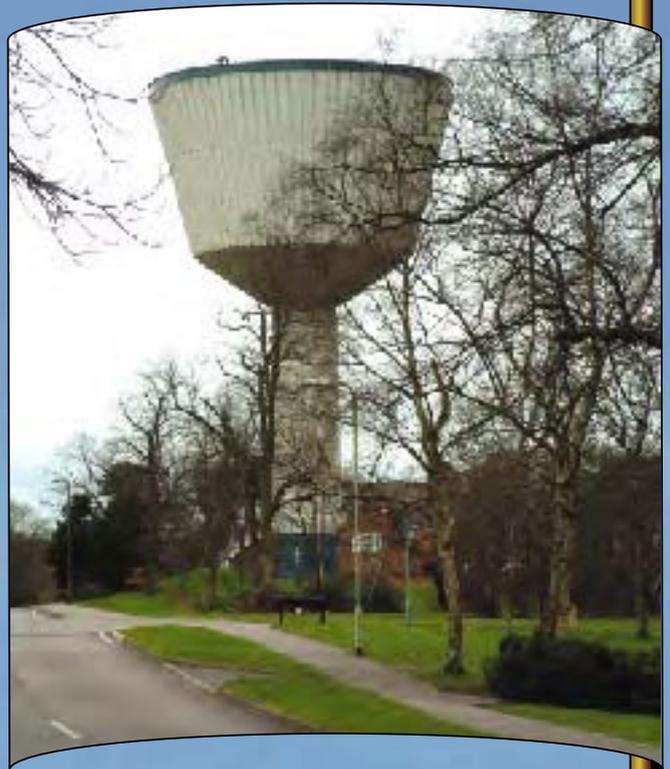
Greenham has a station: Newbury Racecourse is served by local, stopping services. However there is no public parking provided as both the northern and southern approaches are over privately owned land without a permitted right of way for pedestrian and cycle access. The southern approach is unlit from Stroud Green. The station is not accessible for wheelchairs or pushchairs. 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 a 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 the 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.



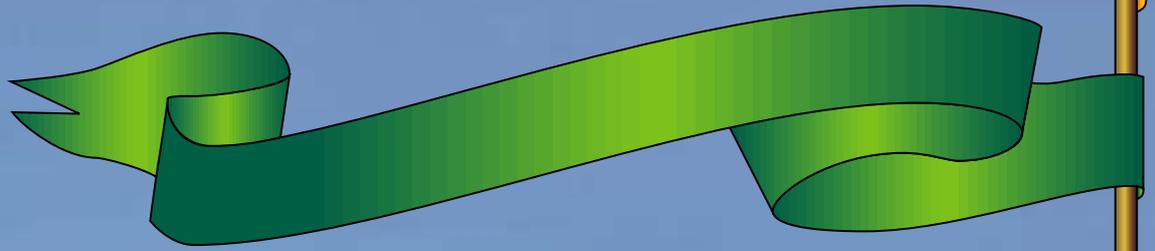


Facilities such as a local shop and café are included in the Racecourse development but will depend on commercial success for their survival. However, unless these are sited near Stroud Green, it is unlikely that existing Greenham residents will benefit from them as there is no public right of way through 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 road, 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 also includes permission for a 120 room hotel and a considerably extended conferencing centre.





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:

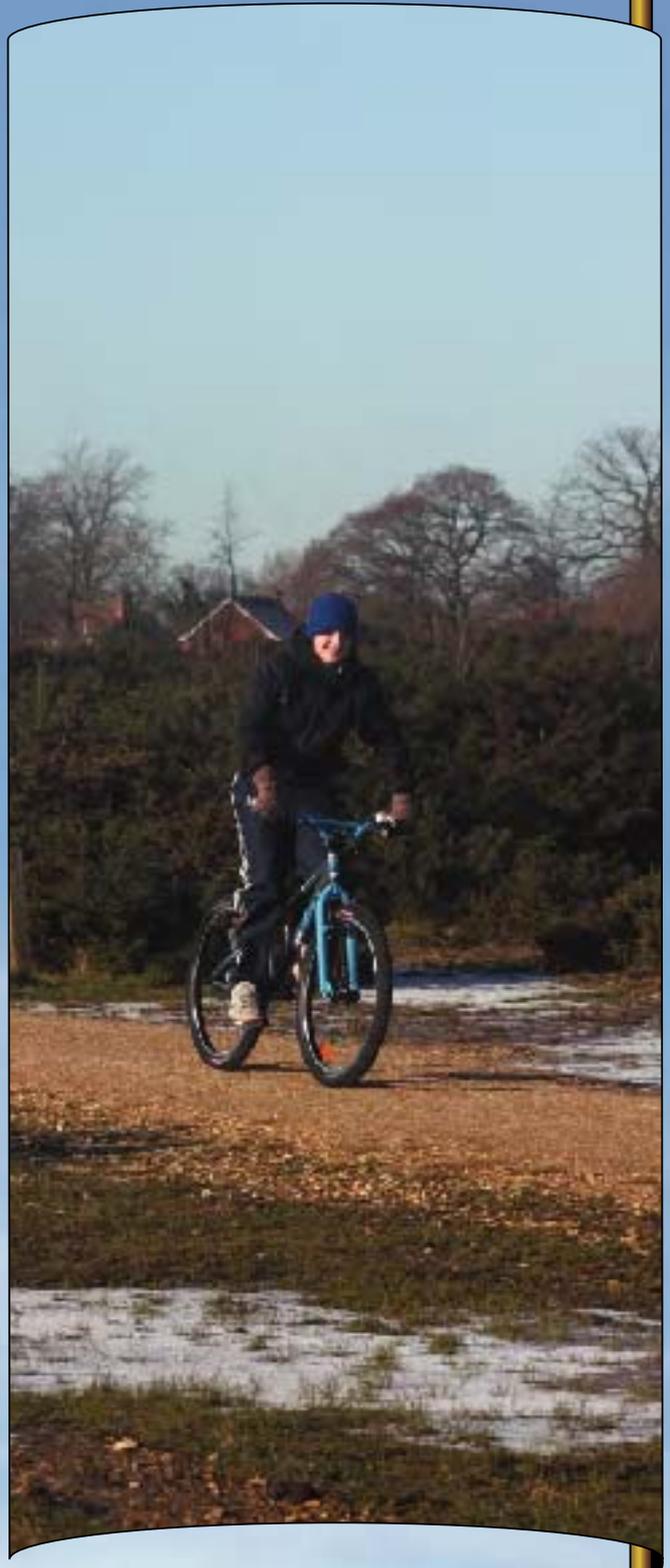
A STRONGER COMMUNITY - Actions in this category should seek to include everyone, fostering a sense of belonging and participation in community life, providing similar life opportunities and accessible services for all.

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

A SAFER COMMUNITY - Examples of this include reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing speeding on roads and 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 contacted 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 Council in response to some of the points you raised and the following projects are being investigated, or have been completed already.

West Berks Council has looked into this problem, has changed the phasing and are considering updating the controllers.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS, PINCHINGTON LANE

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.

SAFER CROSSING TO THE COMMON



A safer crossing place has been completed to make it easier for pedestrians to cross the road to the Common. This crossing, which has dropped kerbs and central island, is to the east of New Road and allows safer access to a new gate in the fence.

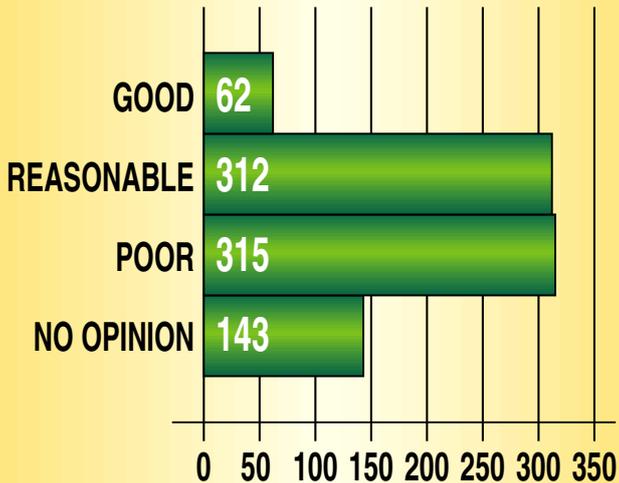
BURYS BANK ROAD

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.



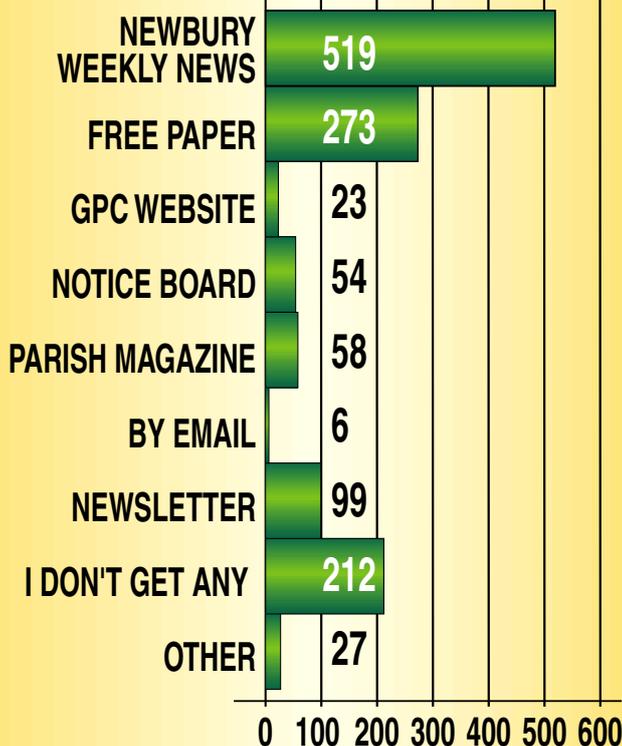
A STRONGER COMMUNITY



VIEWS ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT GREENHAM

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.

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.



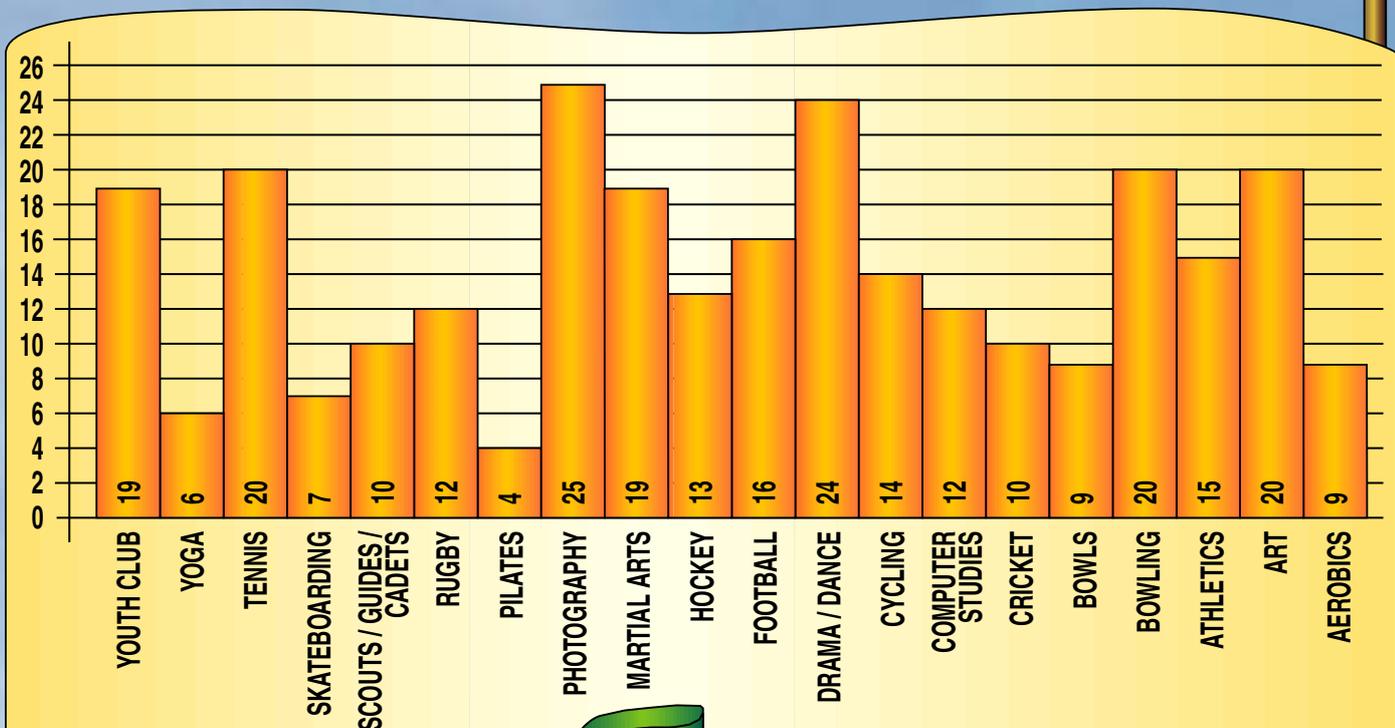
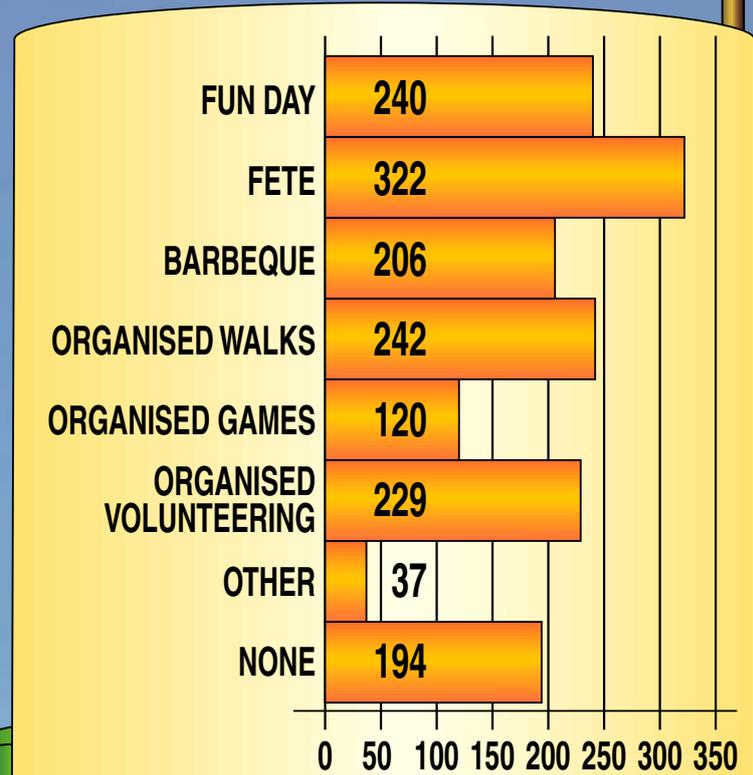
WHERE INFORMATION ABOUT GREENHAM IS GAINED

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

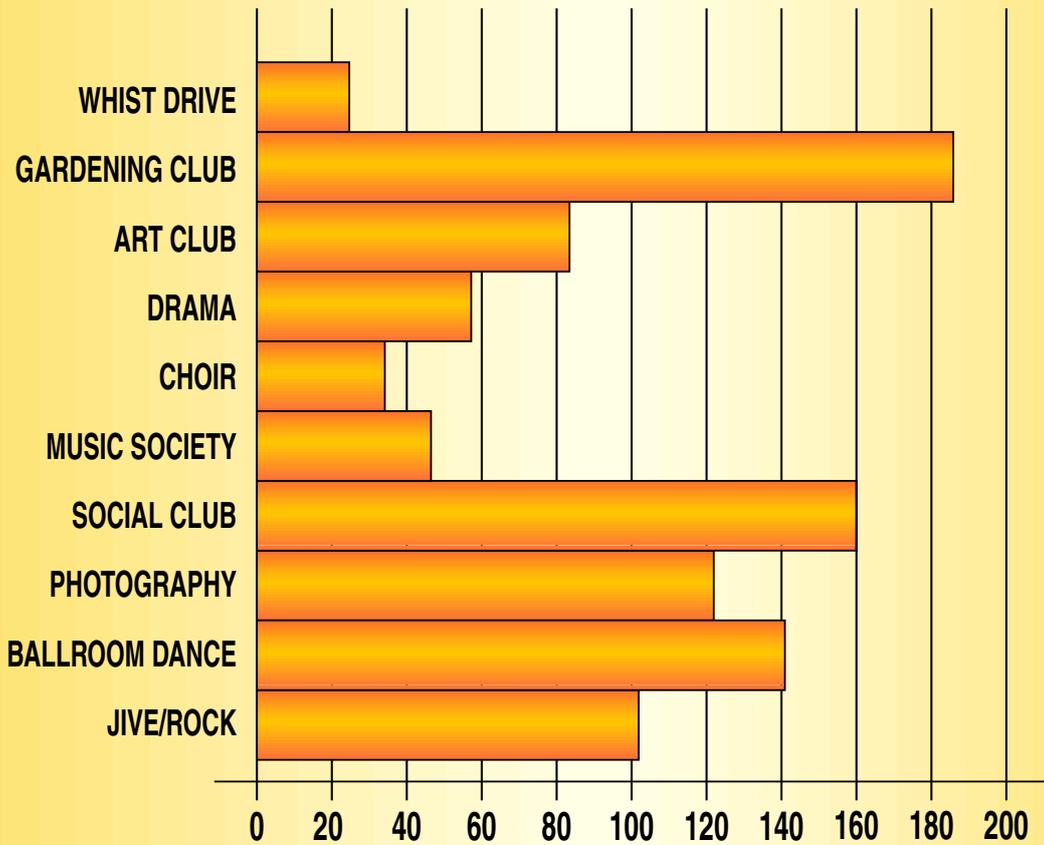
A variety of methods of communication are planned to improve access to information about the activities in the Parish. These include enhancing the Parish Plan section of the Greenham Parish Council web site, producing a 'Welcome to Greenham' leaflet which will be available at various places such as St Mary's Church Centre, schools, businesses and other relevant sites, 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.

This graph shows the kinds of activities that respondents felt they would like within the community. As a result a Fun Day was organised in 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.

This graph shows that 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 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 YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE IN GREENHAM



ACTIVITIES YOU WOULD LIKE IF AVAILABLE

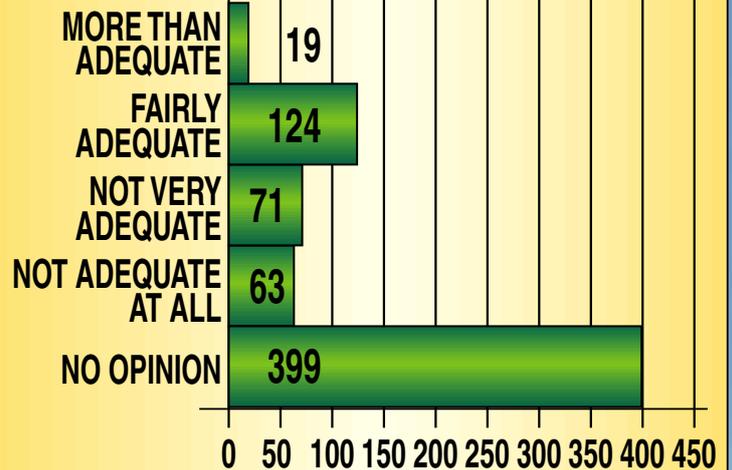
This graph shows that people would like to take part in a variety of activities. A gardening club is the most popular followed by a social club, ballroom dancing and photography. There is an interesting overlap with the youth requirements here.

There has been some discussion with the youth in the community and, with the appointment of a Community Worker and also 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

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.

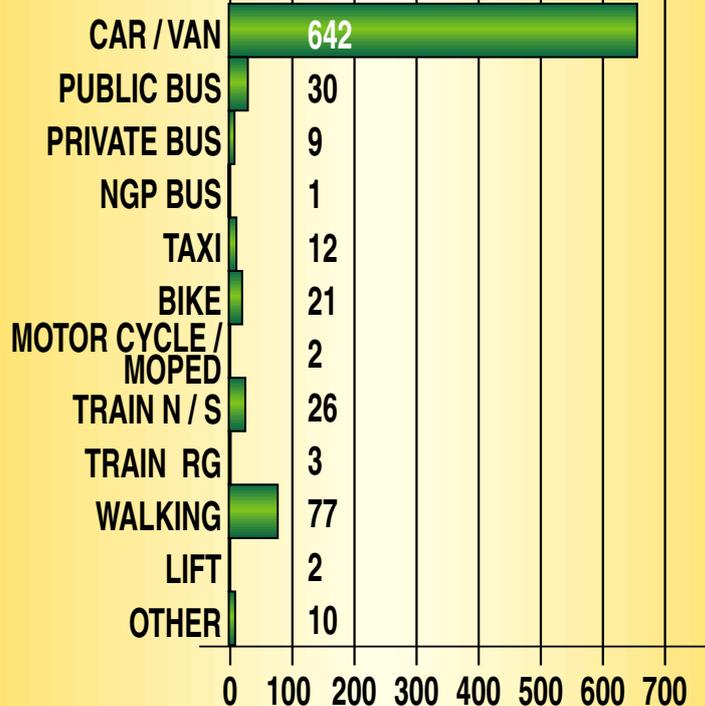


ADEQUACY OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

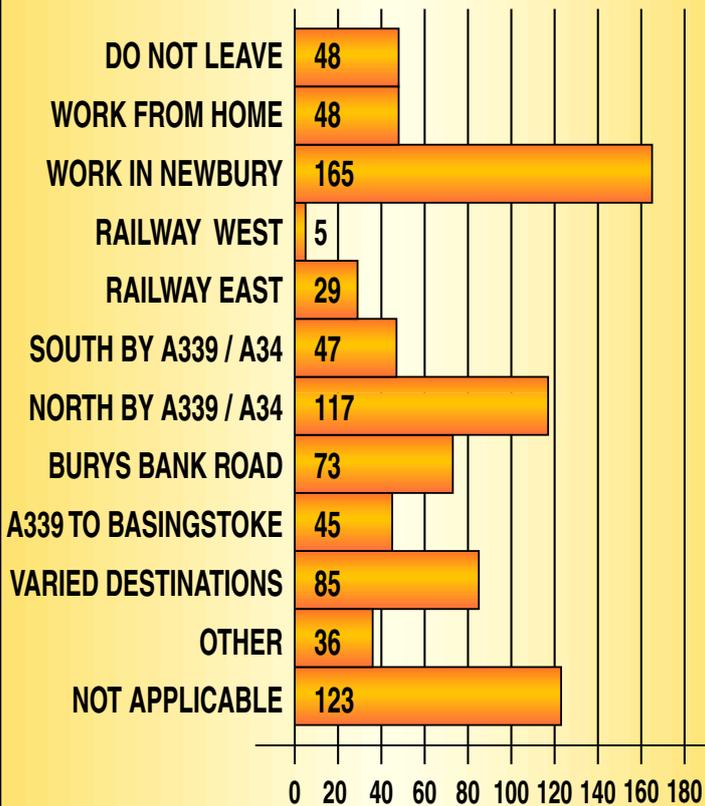
The questionnaire shows that the overwhelming majority of respondents use a car or van to get to work or training.

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.

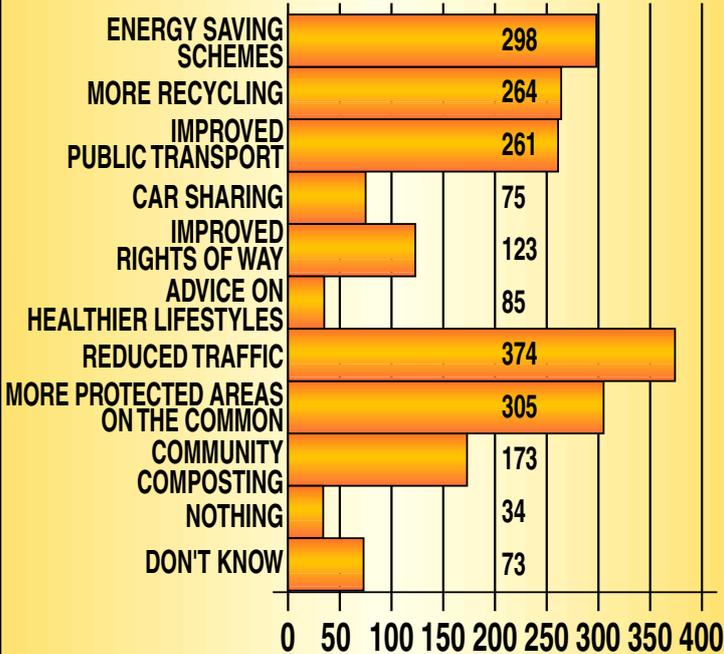
Comments were frequently made about the build up of traffic along Pinchington Lane especially with the "new" traffic lights in place which have led to congestion and delay crossing and getting onto the A339. The main concern however is the traffic lights on the A339 immediately to the south of the roundabout as they are difficult to see clearly and cause a great deal of congestion and pollution.



MAIN MEANS OF TRANSPORT TO WORK ETC



DIRECTION LEAVING GREENHAM



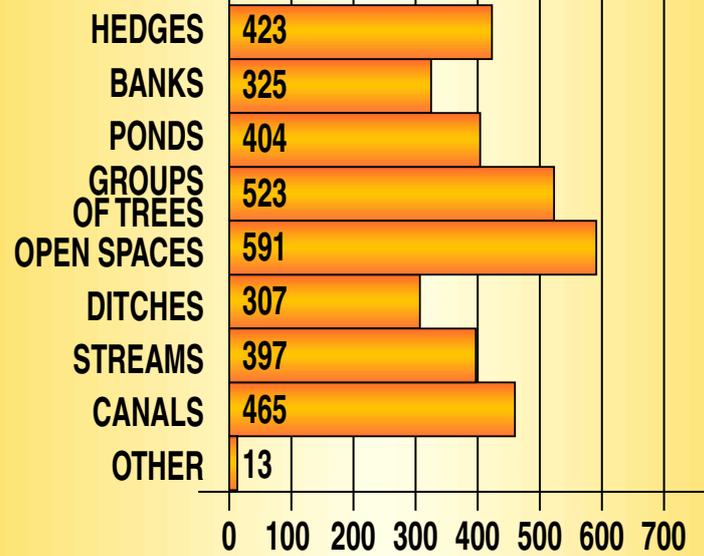
PROTECTION FOR THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

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, as so very few use public transport.

In some questions there were multi choice answers which covered many aspects of the local environment. Throughout the questionnaire and resultant comments 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.

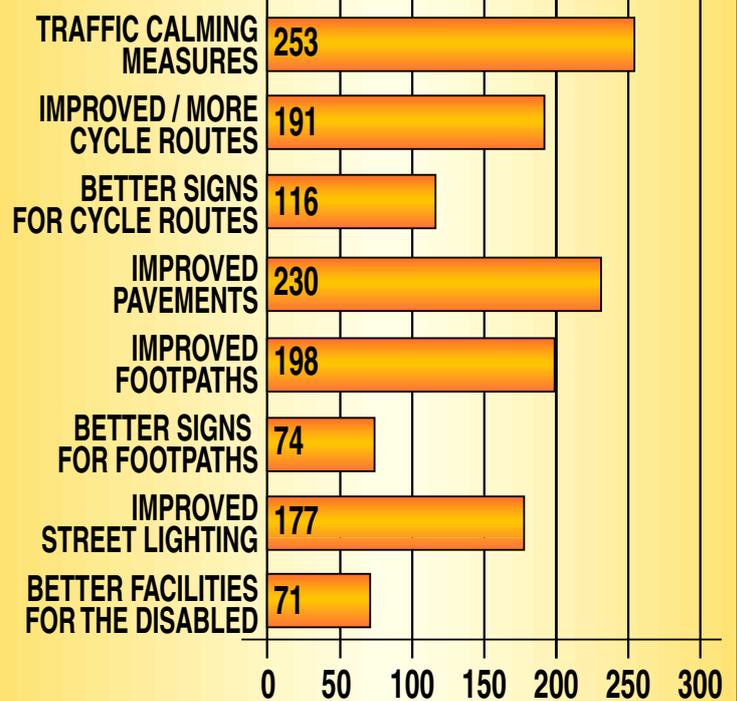
Protecting areas on the Common, energy saving schemes, more recycling including community composting and improved public transport are priorities.

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

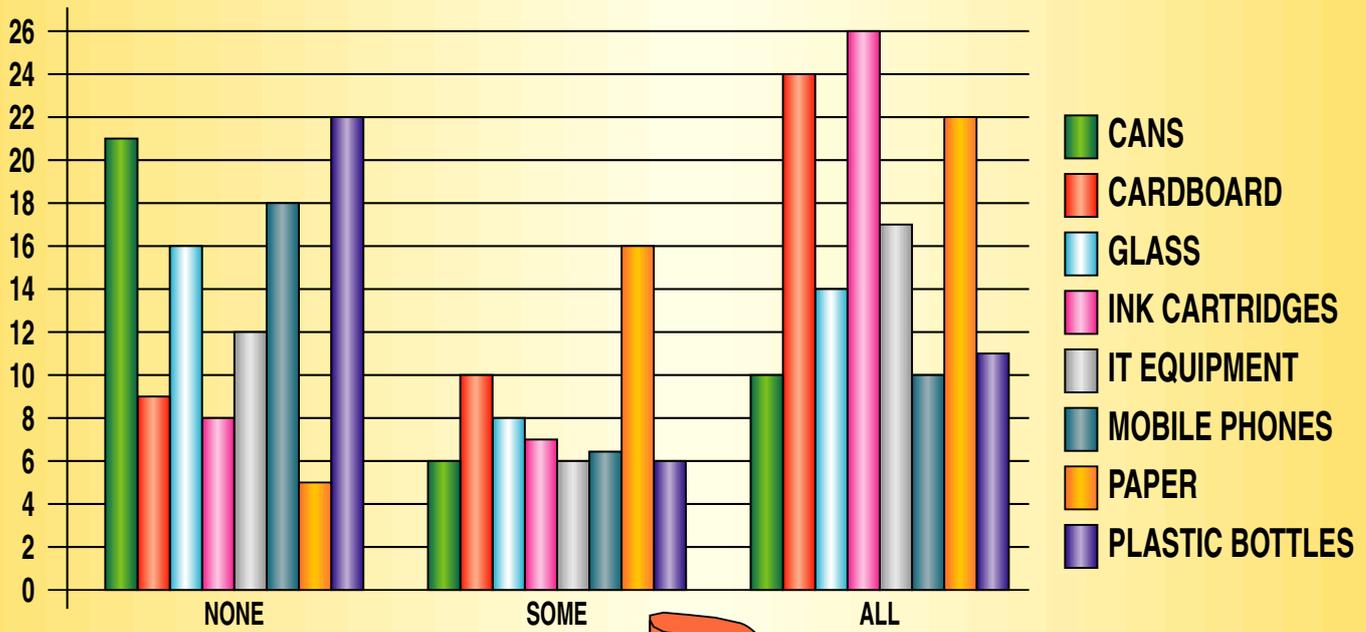


PROTECTION OF LANDSCAPE FEATURES

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.



IMPROVEMENT TO AREAS

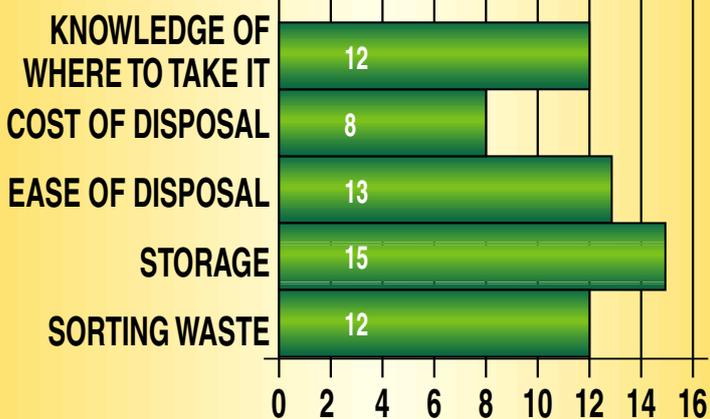


DOES YOUR BUSINESS RECYCLE?

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.

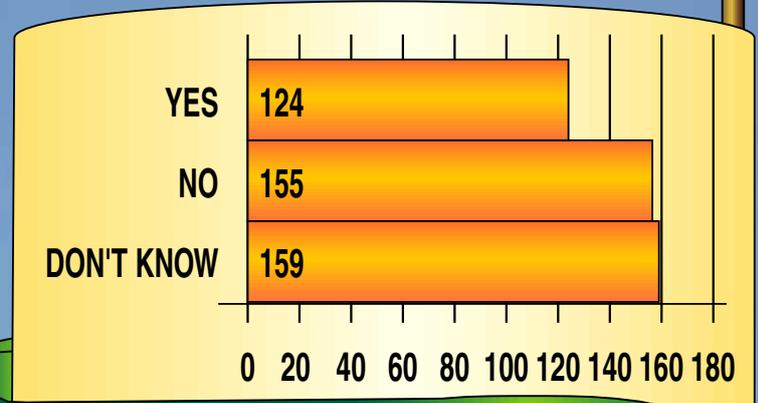


RECYCLING OBSTACLES

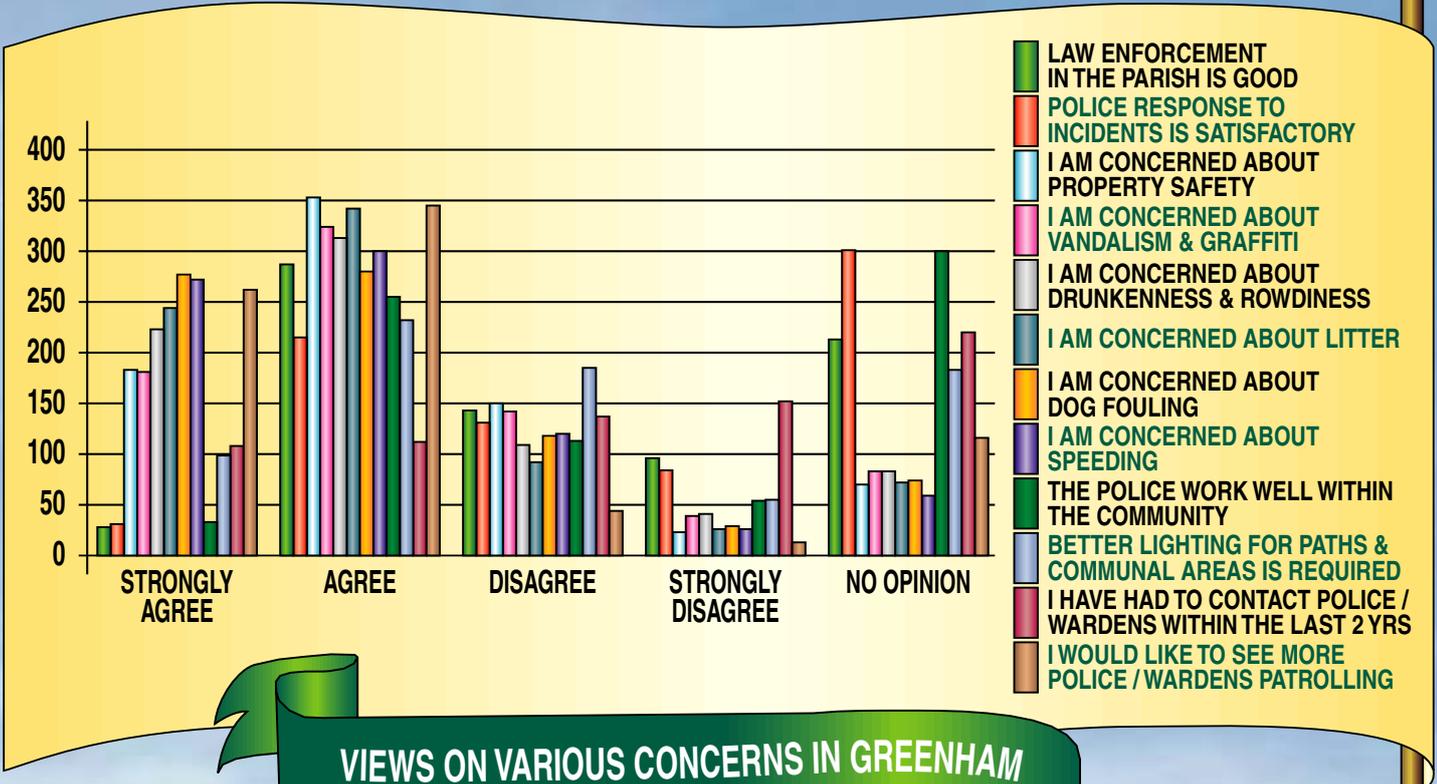
A SAFER COMMUNITY

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.

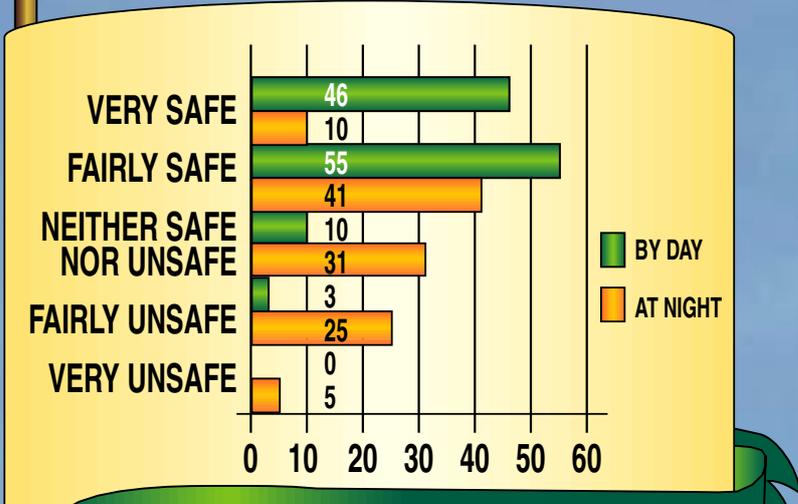
Of those who strongly agree or agree, the major issues are more patrols wanted, litter, dog fouling, speeding, property safety, drunkenness / rowdiness and vandalism / graffiti, and the development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes will help. Working with groups in the community, businesses, and Neighbourhood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



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEMBERSHIP

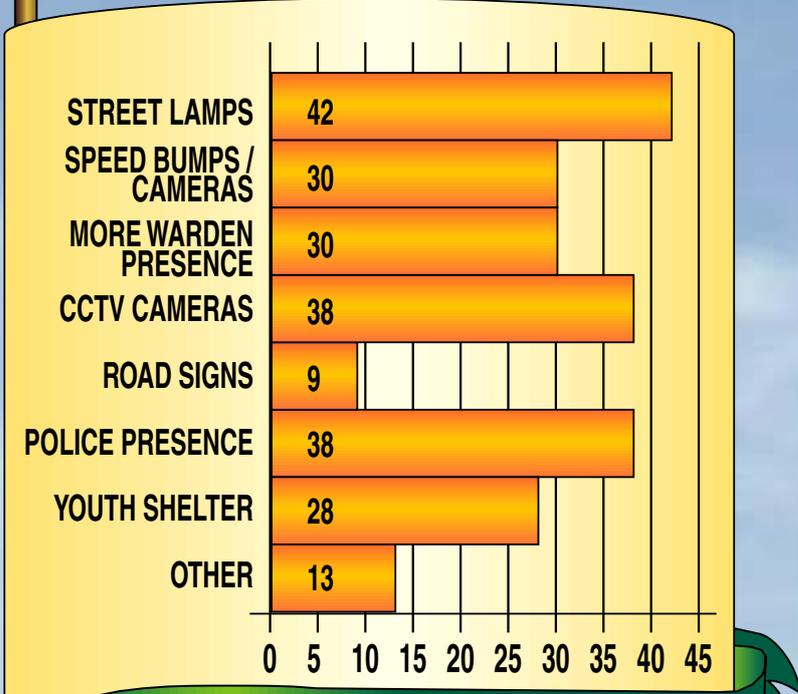


VIEWS ON VARIOUS CONCERNS IN GREENHAM



This information came from the Youth questionnaire.

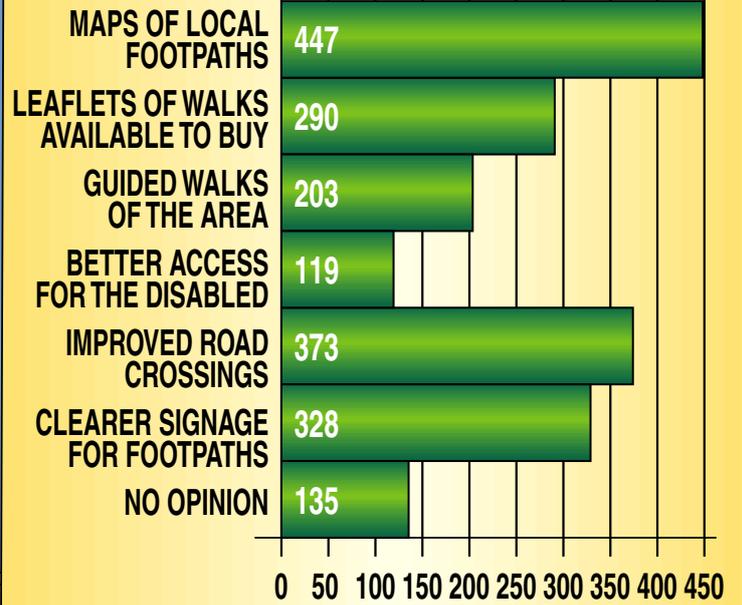
From this it can be see that most young people feel very or fairly safe during the day time, but have concerns about night time.



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

WHAT WOULD IMPROVE SAFETY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

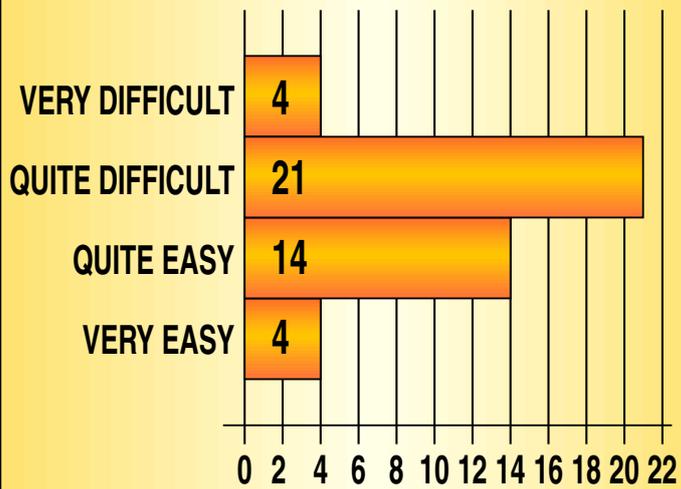
The main requirements are for maps and leaflets and improved road crossings to the Common, which was specifically mentioned in a number of comments, with particular difficulties highlighted for those with disabilities, dogs and children.



REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOTPATHS/BRIDLEWAYS



A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY



HOW EASY IS IT TO RECRUIT FROM GREENHAM/NEWBURY?

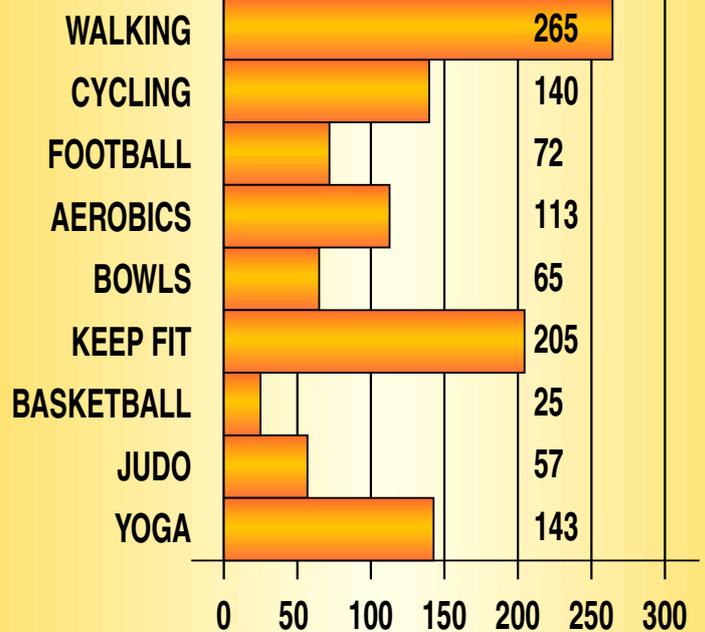
This graph from the business survey shows that it is quite difficult to recruit staff for businesses.

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 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 community spirit, 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 young people 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.



WHICH NEW ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN?

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.

The plan was officially adopted by West Berkshire Council in October 2010.



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OBJECTIVE

ACTIONS

PRIORITY

START DATE

A STRONGER COMMUNITY

To build a sense of community

1. To develop an improved method of communicating with the wider community of Greenham to inform them of local activities and amenities by:
 - a) enhancing the PC web site Parish Plan page with relevant information & links to other services.
 - b) considering the erection of additional notice boards in strategic places.
 - c) displaying information in Schools, Church, Children's Centre, Businesses, Shops etc.
 - d) producing a welcome to Greenham booklet with the information to put in relevant places, as above, and updating this on a regular basis, asking all those involved in the Community to provide data for dissemination.
 - e) producing a news letter on a regular basis.

2. To develop community activities.

Organise a Fun Day/Fete/BBQ to bring everyone together in order to create a sense of community.

Develop an effective publicity and promotion strategy.

Develop a group of Volunteers to take forward other community activities. This would be planned in conjunction with various groups in the area.

Organise a regular annual event.

3. To organise regular events for the Community such as family disco, social event, quiz night.

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.

High

September 2010

High

January 2010

Medium

April 2011

High

April 2010

END DATE

PROJECT MANAGER

PARTNERS

JUSTIFICATION

Ongoing	Steering Group	GPC, GGP, WBC	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.
01/06/2010 First Event	Steering Group	GGP, Extended Schools, WBC, Community Worker, Church, Volunteers, NW, WBVC	A Fun Day/Fete/Barbecue were the three top choices for community activities.
Ongoing	Steering group/ Volunteers	As above	A variety of events to bring the community together were requested.
Ongoing	Community Worker	GGP, GPC , Extended Schools, WBC, NW, Church, Volunteers, Youth Forum	Initial discussions with young people need development plus activities for them.

OBJECTIVE

Monitor the future level of housing developments and the infrastructure needed.

ACTIONS

With proposals for over 4000 additional homes in Greenham parish, it will be essential to create a monitoring group to ensure that there are:

- 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) a community centre, incorporating sports facility and meeting space.
- d) dental and doctors' surgeries.
- e) ways to reduce school traffic.
- 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.

Establish a method for ensuring these recommendations are implemented.

PRIORITY

START DATE

High

2010

A GREENER COMMUNITY

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 extend to evening and Sunday service.

Low

2010

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 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.

Low

2010

Improved cycle routes: new / better paths improved signage

Discuss with West Berkshire SPOKES.

Medium

2011

END DATE

PROJECT MANAGER

PARTNERS

JUSTIFICATION

Ongoing

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.

Ongoing

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

Ongoing

Parish Council

WBC Sustainability
Officer, BALC,
Living Landscape
Project, BBOWT

Business Questionnaire response
Questionnaire demonstrates support for further protection of the Common

Ongoing

Steering group

West Berkshire
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.

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OBJECTIVE

ACTIONS

PRIORITY

START DATE

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 Greenham Business Park.
Discuss with Veolia the provision of communal facilities at GBP, Hambridge Road, Hambridge Lane. (Triangle could already use Tesco facilities)

Medium

2012

A SAFER COMMUNITY

Development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes

Investigate the development of further Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

Medium

January 2011

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.

High

September 2009

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.

Medium

January 2010

END DATE

PROJECT MANAGER

PARTNERS

JUSTIFICATION

Ongoing	Steering group	WBC Recycling, Veolia, GCT	Improve Greenham's carbon footprint
Continuous due to increase in population	Thames Valley Police, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Residents groups	Graphs show lack of awareness but concern for property safety.
Completed 2010	Parish Council	WBC Countryside & 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.
Ongoing	Parish Council	WBC Highways, Victoria Ward Councillors	42% of respondents requested improved road crossings Also requested by Victoria Ward residents

OBJECTIVE

ACTIONS

PRIORITY

START DATE

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.

Medium

October 2009

Reduce excessive speeding

Explore the 'Community Speed Watch Scheme'. Request police checks of A339, Bury's Bank Road, New Road and Racecourse Road.

Medium

October 2009

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.

Medium

2010

Improved street lighting

Investigate which areas have a problem & discuss with West Berkshire Council Highways Team
Requires investigation with WBC Highways & Transport Services to ensure possible within budget and existing regulations

Low

2012

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.

High

2010

Reduce trolley dumping

Meet Tesco and Neighbourhood Wardens and develop strategy to reduce the problem.

High

2010

Ensure footpaths and bridleways kept accessible

Develop a means of reporting overgrown footpaths and other footpaths problems to West Berks Council.

Medium

2010

END DATE

PROJECT MANAGER

PARTNERS

JUSTIFICATION

Ongoing	Parish Council	WBC Highways, West Berkshire SPOKES	Graphs and consultations show concern about safety. Also impact of pedestrian movements on traffic flow.
Requires regular monitoring	Parish Council	WBC Community Safety Team, GGP, Neighbourhood Wardens, Police	64% of people were concerned about speeding in Greenham.
Ongoing	Steering Group	WBC Planning, Neighbourhood Wardens, Housing Associations	Parking problems on newer developments.
Whenever possible	Steering Group	Neighbourhood Wardens, WBC Highways, Youth Councils	Graphs show that poor lighting is a particular concern for youth.
Ongoing	Parish Council	Schools and youth clubs, Living Landscape Project	77% concerned about litter in Greenham. 63% of adult respondents felt that dog fouling was an issue. 34% requested more protected areas on the Common.
Requires regular monitoring	Parish Council	Tesco, WBC, Neighbourhood Wardens	Ongoing problem, commented on by many residents
Requires regular monitoring	WBC	West Berks Ramblers, Neighbourhood Wardens, Volunteers	Comments show this is a cause for concern, particularly on the New Rd bridleway.

OBJECTIVE

ACTIONS

PRIORITY

START DATE

A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Investigate needs through survey/focus groups.
Facilitate relevant delivery within the community.

Encourage ongoing skills
development & learning

Medium

2011

A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

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.

To encourage adult and
community learning
activities.

Increase volunteering.

Medium

2011

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.

High

2011

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.

High

2010

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.

Low

2010

END DATE

PROJECT MANAGER

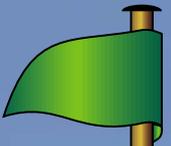
PARTNERS

JUSTIFICATION

Ongoing	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 was difficult or quite difficult.
Ongoing	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.
Long term	Steering Group	WBC, GPC, GGP, Sovereign Housing, Youth Councils, Community Worker	Comments and discussions with young people in the parish and ward.
Ongoing	Community Worker	Youth & Community Worker, BACYP, Neighbourhood Wardens, Steering Group, Youth Councils.	59% of people thought the community worker should focus on youth.
Long term	Steering Group	GPC, Greater Greenham Project, CBAS	From graphs and discussions there is a clear need for appropriate facilities for requested activities. Also need for somewhere to act as a focus for building a sense of community.

PARISH MAP





REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP WITH THE PERMISSION
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GREENHAM PARISH PLAN

SUPPORTED BY

Greenham
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West
Berkshire
COUNCIL



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