

Staunton

nr Coleford

Parish Plan 2007 - 2010



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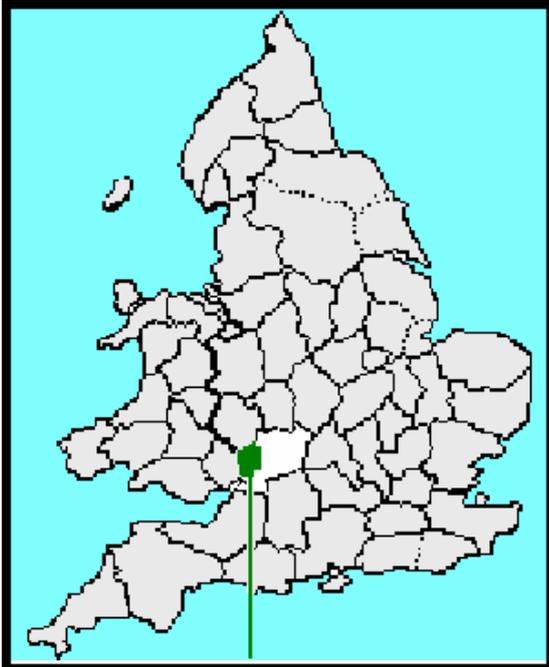
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Staunton Parish Plan

Introduction



Staunton and the Forest of Dean

This Parish Plan will help you understand more about Staunton Parish and the vision its residents have for their future, whether you are a parishioner or another interested party.

It includes a short history of the village and local area and looks at the changes that have taken place and how it needs to plan for its future.

It explains the Parish plan process and community involvement.

The Parish plan addresses issues at several levels. Some issues can be resolved at local level i.e. by the village community itself. They will be designed to improve local events and activities.

Other issues can be dealt with by outside organisations such as housing, transport, social services and roads. These include the District Council, County Council and Government strategic plans.

The wishes of the community of Staunton will be used to influence these latter organisations especially at District Council level and targets will be set and monitored and evaluated.

An action plan will be developed that will seek to support a number of project plans.

Each of these plans will include a summary of action to be taken, how much it will cost, timescale, who will be involved and how progress will be monitored.

To learn more about this plan or any other local issue please contact Staunton Parish Council via the clerk Richard Crighton email - staunton.pc@virgin.net or visit the Parish Council website www.idbuilder.co.uk/staunton

The Background to the Parish Plan process

An initial meeting was held in the Village Hall to gauge interest of residents in developing a plan in May 2006.

We did a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) to get views of residents on all community aspects.

There followed a submission of a grant application to The Forest of Dean District Council and we were awarded £820 - we have received £500 and the balance is due once the plan is produced.

A compilation of questionnaire taking into account issues raised at the public meeting was developed.

The questionnaire was then delivered by local volunteers to every household in the Parish

Collection of questionnaires - residents were asked to leave their questionnaires in the box in the village hall or contact a councillor or volunteer who would collect them.

Preparation of Parish Plan included setting up dialogue with other villages within the Forest of Dean, with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, Forest of Dean District Council, Coleford Area Partnership, with leaders of local clubs, organisations and AONB officers.

Gloucestershire Rural Community representative - Kate Baugh talked to parishioners in December 2006. Following this meeting Parishioners gave the Steering Group details of any places that they valued in the Parish.

Steering group formed December 2006

Action Plans - February & March 2007

Draft plan drawn up for consideration by Parish Council April and May 2007

Preaching Cross



The Parish of Staunton – its history and traditions



Situation

The Parish of Staunton lies high above the river Wye – at the north-west edge of the Royal Forest of Dean and is located within the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is set within an extensive area of woodland known as Highmeadow Wood, which forms part of the Dean Forest Park. Most of Staunton is designated a Conservation Area and the village itself is one of the oldest villages in the Forest.

Staunton – the place of Stones

The name Staunton comes from the Saxon words Stan-Tun meaning Stony Farmstead.

Stan also refers to other Stones that lie within the Parish – a rocky outcrop, called

the Frog or Toad's Mouth at the west end of the village. There is the Long stone, which is thought to date from before 1700 BC - which is a pillar of rock on the Coleford road which you can see as you drive along the road. The Broad Stone, which is the largest of several rocks in the fields of Broadstone farm.

The best known Stone and a local landmark is the Buckstone. When Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton visited Monmouth and district, it was painted white in their honour. Up to the middle of the 19C.

It used to rock on its base - however in June 1885 a party of five travelling actors from the London Star Company and the landlord at Agincourt Inn in Monmouth, having enjoyed an evening of sampling

fine wines managed to dislodge the stone and send it crashing down the slope.

It split into several pieces, but was hauled back up the hill at great cost and to prevent further vandalism was cemented together in place and no longer rocks.

History until the Norman Conquest

There is little documented history of the Parish of Staunton before 1100. Plenty of evidence of Neolithic man has been unearthed over the years in the form of flint cores from weapons and tool chipping. It is known that the Romans moved iron ore from local mines down to Monmouth, probably on the ancient route lying below and to the right of the present road as you leave Staunton for Monmouth.

After the Romans left Staunton remained as one or two farmsteads.

Norman Staunton

Edward the Confessor was the first King to designate the area between the River Severn and the River Wye, as the "King's Forest"

It is probable that the first Norman Lord of the manor arrived approx 1100 when Staunton was just one or two farmsteads and a fortified manor house was built above Castle Ditch. The church was also built at that time.

Workers in the Village

In 1608 there were 50 houses in the village of Staunton. A muster role for the parish includes one labourer, two miners, three farmers, one lime burner, one husbandryman, two blacksmiths, one carpenter and a tyler, with others making a total of 35 - this is for fighting men (when

called) with weapons in the parish. This would mean that there were approx 150 residents altogether.

Deposits of iron ore in the parish were being dug in 1608 and various small mines provided work during the 18C. In 1871 Robinhood's mine in the Marian's Inclosure, was opened and was worked mainly for red oxide. It produced iron ore for several years before it closed in 1932. The Ministry of Supply gave it a short lease of life when they opened it up during the Second World War.

In 1664 there was a limekiln on waste land near the church, and in 1792 one at a quarry at Tillys, which grew to 3 in the 19C. From the 1950s the quarry on the ridge of the plantations north of Highmeadow above Cherry Orchard Farm was worked for road stone. By 1994, it was operated and enlarged by Tarmac Ltd. and a new access road, made through the woods to the Coleford - Monmouth road.

Inns

In 1799 the village had one inn - The Ostrich, which became the Royal Oak in 1832.

In 1813 competition arrived as the White Horse opened in the west part of the village street, which later became the main road – the last Inn in England! The White Horse, which was rebuilt in the latter part of the 19th century, is now the only public house as the Ostrich closed in the 1890's.

Below the White Horse was a Nursery with large greenhouses on the area stretching from the pub car park to the high House open until the 1970's – this site is now built on.

20th century Staunton

At the beginning of the 19th century a parish day school was held in Staunton

church for approx 20 children. In 1828 a small single-room school was built near the east end of the main village street.

This school was closed in 1911 and the building used as a reading room. Subsequently it has been used as the Village Hall.

The old Post office – no longer standing - was on the main road on the corner of what is now Well Meadow. It relocated to the opposite side of the road and was combined with a village shop where today there is an Architectural Antique Shop.

The Post office relocated itself again next to High House but closed in the early 1990's.

Staunton used to have a petrol station where there is now a vehicle repair business.

In the 1960's the Elms nursing home was a working dairy farm. It became the nursing home in the 1990's.

The Whippington Brook Road is the old road to Christchurch and in this area there

has been infill housing amongst the now mostly privately owned former council houses. The Old Rectory has been converted into flats and some of the outbuildings also converted into living accommodation.

Village activities

There was a thriving Horticultural Show held each year, this was followed by the Staunton Country Fayre which ran very successfully for many years - the last one being in 2005.

The Village Hall today is the meeting place for the Art Group, the Book Group, Whist Drives, Harvest Suppers, Sewing classes, the Garden Club, the Table Tennis Club, Keep Fit and Parish Council meetings. It holds many exciting and varied events throughout the year.

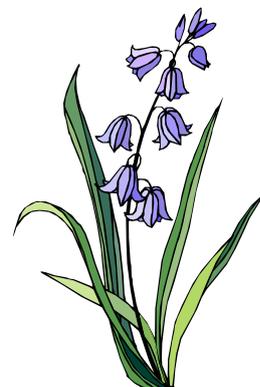
A Spring Celebration Evening 2006



Biodiversity Report for Staunton

This is a small selection from the Biodiversity report from the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records for the Parish of Staunton - the full record is held on their database.

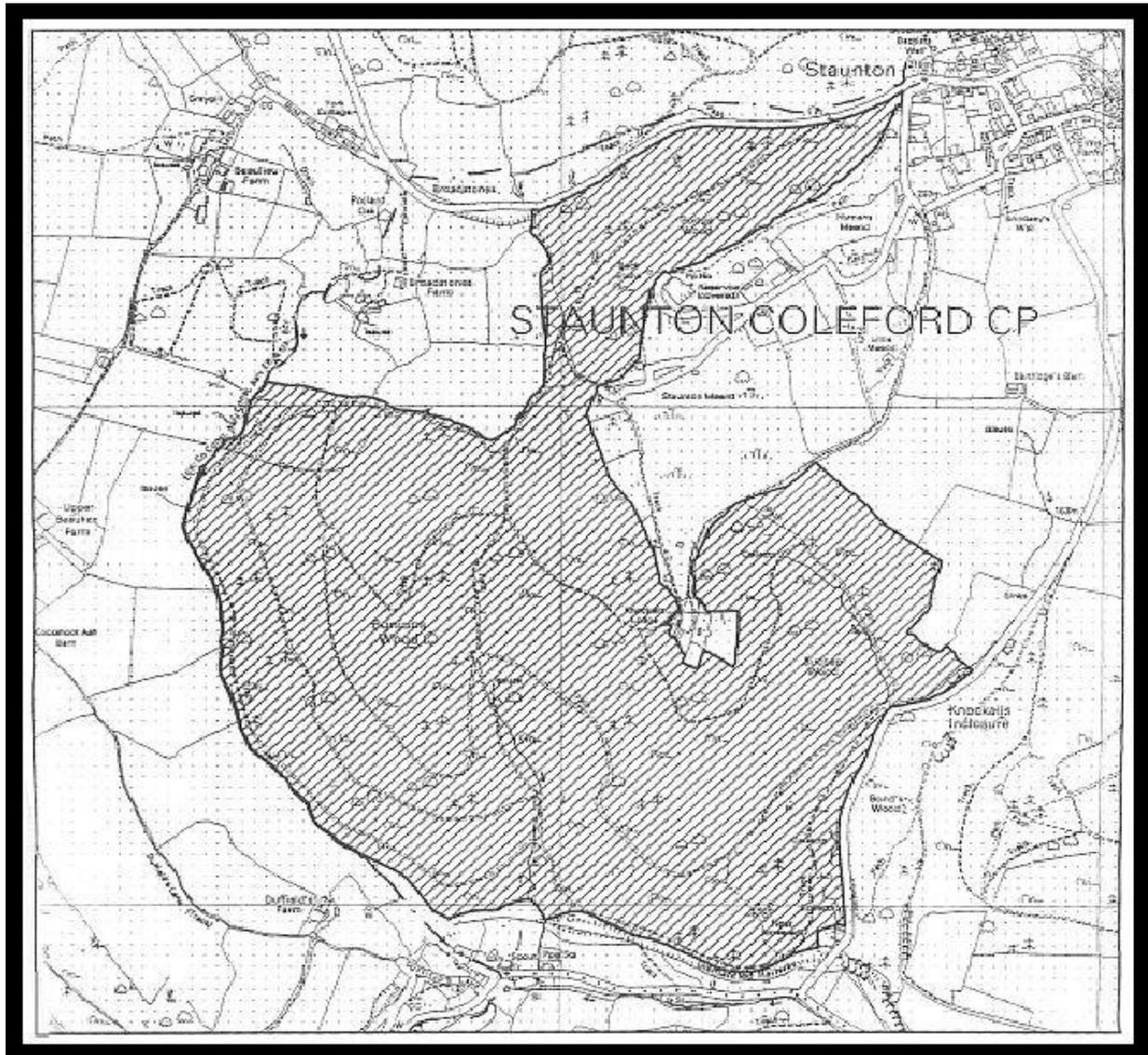
Common Name	Year last recorded
Bird's-nest Orchid	2003
Greater Butterfly Orchid	2003
Common Spotted Orchid	2000
Common Blue Damselfly	2003
Common Darter	2000
22 spot ladybird	2003
Green woodpecker	2003
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1993
Bullfinch	1993
Great Tit	1993
Blue Tit	2000
Marsh Tit	1993
Chiffchaff	1995
Wood warbler	1993
Blackcap	1995
Common Dormouse	2003
Common Frog	2003
Palmate Newt	1989
Lobster Moth	2000
Elephant Hawk Moth	2000
Brimstone Moth	2000
Longhorn Moth	2003
Orange Tip Butterfly	2002
Small Copper Butterfly	2000
Speckled Wood Butterfly	2002



There are also a number of Veteran Trees in the Parish - a full record of these can be obtained from the AONB office in Monmouth. It is worth noting that there is a veteran Yew Tree in the Churchyard.

Maps of two areas recognised by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust as Key Wildlife sites

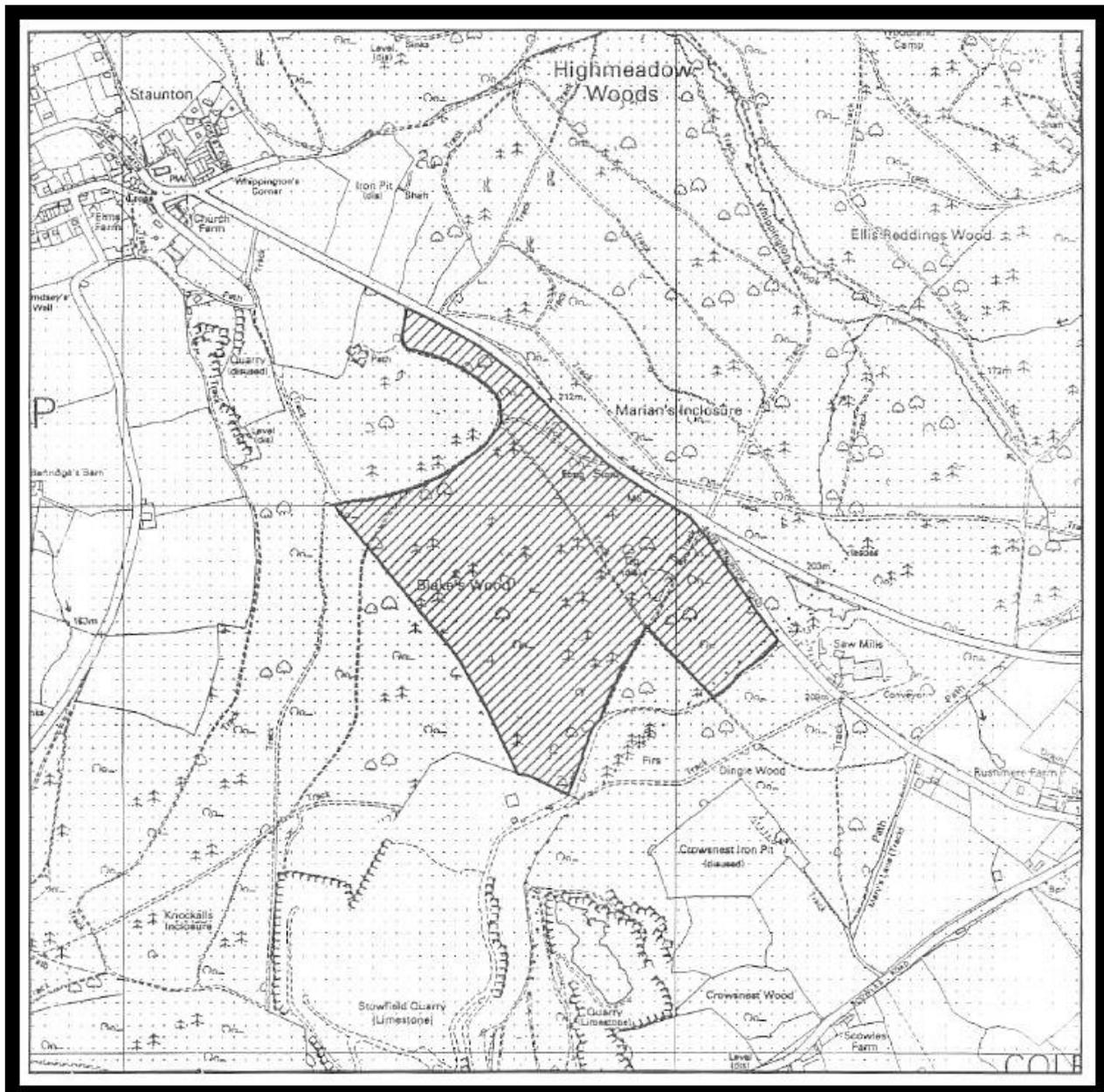
Staunton Woods – ancient semi-natural broad leaved woodland



Comment: "Conservation Area should not be enlarged. Settlement area should remain unchanged and statutorily enforced."

Blakes Wood

Ancient semi-natural broad leaved woodland



Comment "We moved here because we like Staunton as it is and the beautiful surrounding countryside – we don't want it to become urban"

Areas that the people of Staunton value

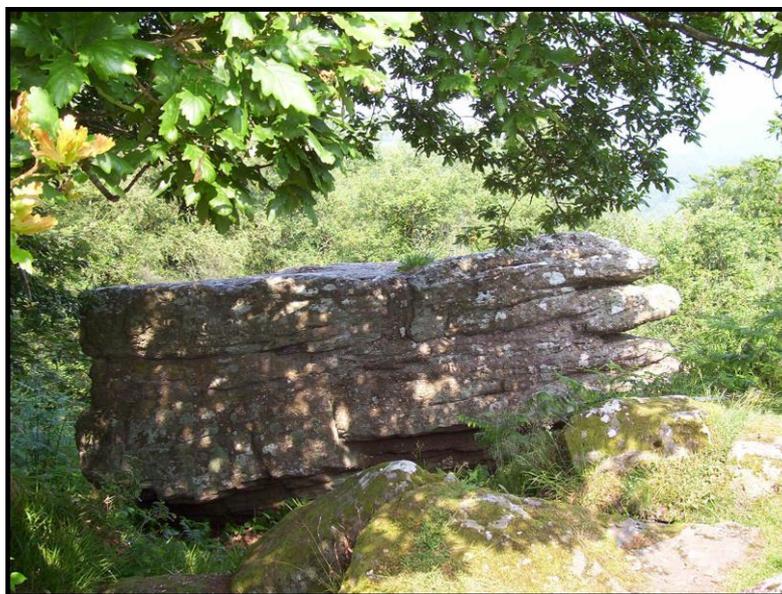
The Stones
Buckstone,

Suckstone, Toad's Mouth.

Long Stone and Harkening Rocks.

Roman road – Pike House to Duke
of York

The Buckstone



Windmill Drive – Tillis Area and Windmill field

A windmill recorded on the manorial demesne from 1342 stood on the ridge near the Staunton — Highmeadow road and gave its name to Windmill field. It was in ruins in 1579.

The Old Preaching Cross
The Bluebell Woods

Search Light site – Staunton Meend

The Fire Tower that stood over the Ordnance Survey Trig Point at the Buckstone



The Village Hall

St Johns Well - supplied water to houses in the village.
Brindsey Well was also a water supply for the village

The Church



Springs on the Meend
The Meend
Old Quarry – Orchids and Dry Arch

The Village Pound – hexagonal



Plus the Structure of Village life – family and the feeling of community.

Get involved – help to make the future for Staunton Parish a good one!

Staunton Statistics

Staunton comes under the Forest of Dean District Council .

	Number of Households in Category	Percentage of Households in Category		
	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Forest of Dean District	County
Lone Person Households (2001)	10	9.7	11.0	14.5
Lone Pensioner Households (2001)	14	13.6	14.6	14.9
Lone Parent Households (2001)	5	4.9	4.6	5.1
Lone Parent Households with Dependent Children (2001)	5	4.9	4.7	5.1
Households with No Adult in Employment and Dependent Children (2001)	3	2.9	3.4	3.1
Households Rented from a Social Landlord (2001)	9	8.7	14.3	13.7
Number of Households Without Central Heating (2001)	4	3.9	6.1	7.3
Number of Households with Shared Bathroom/ Toilet (2001)	0	0.0	0.2	0.3
Households with No Car (2001)	8	7.8	16.2	18.7

Mid 2001
population
estimate, Office
for National
Statistics

	Number of People in Age Band	Percentage of Population in Age Band		
	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Forest of Dean District	County
0-4	12	4.5	5.7	5.7
5-9	9	3.4	6.2	6.2
10-14	21	8.0	6.5	6.6
15-19	11	4.2	6.1	5.9
20-24	3	1.1	4.6	5.2
25-29	3	1.1	5.0	5.7
30-44	42	15.9	21.1	22.2
45-59	54	20.5	21.8	20.1
60-64	28	10.6	5.7	5.1
65-74	32	12.1	9.1	8.8
75-84	29	11.0	6.2	6.3
85 and Over	20	7.6	2.0	2.2
Total	264	0.0	14.2	100.0

2001, Office for
National Statistics

	Number of People in Ethnic Group	Percentage of Population in Ethnic Group		
	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Staunton Coleford County Parish	Forest of Dean District	County
White	255	96.6	99.1	97.1
Non-White	9	3.4	0.9	2.9
Mixed	3	1.1	0.5	0.9
Black	3	1.1	0.1	0.6
Asian	6	2.3	0.3	1.2
Chinese or Other	0	0.0	0.2	0.4

Our vision for the Parish of Staunton

is that Staunton will be: a confident, safe, healthy, prosperous community, caring for the well being of all its residents, its heritage and its environment.



Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

Strengths are the things which we are good at or are unique to our parish, such as an active community willing to help itself.

We use our Strengths to overcome Weaknesses.

Opportunities are the things which either present themselves or are instigated by us to improve parish life. Threats are things which we may face now or those that a changing society presents such as burglaries or vandalism.

The following table was developed at our public meeting from parishioners and is recorded in order to capture those hopes and fears expressed there. It will serve as a guide to help us exploit our strengths and opportunities and better equip us to deal with weaknesses and threats.

Strengths	Threats
<p>The forest Wild animals The scenery- beautiful landscape and good location Quiet village life The village hall The Meend Active Parish Council for small Parish Local footpaths Small population Play area for children Local community groups and clubs Parish History Community spirit Village Pub Active social groups Pleasant place to live History</p>	<p>Speed of traffic on A4136 Amount of heavy traffic on A4136 No crossing to link village across A4136 Stowfield Quarry – the size- its expansion, the noise and pollution – worries about the explosions – worries regarding village houses Crime and vandalism Rubbish Overgrown footpaths Ageing population Increasing house prices Wild boar Apathy Knotweed Dilapidated road surfaces Closure of Church Sewerage Tourism(also an opportunity)</p>
Opportunities	Weaknesses
<p>More clubs/activities Restore the Meend and stone walls Tourism (also a threat) Development of B&B's Walking, cycling. Horse riding Locally produced goods – Village Market Plant more flowers Better signage Maps available for disabled and able bodied Pelican crossing Construction of Village Hall Car park</p>	<p>Division of village by road Lack of public transport Poor police street/Meend cover Limited facilities for young/elderly Lack of local employment Traffic speed and noise Inadequate car parking facilities Poor communication especially for those new to village New householders not participating in village community life</p>

Comment

“Important to leave Parish Council as it is to deal with threats from quarry, speeding traffic, motor cycles on footpaths, grant opportunities”

Staunton Parish Action Plan

Abbreviations used –

PC = Parish Council, VAG = Voluntary Action group, CAP = Coleford Area partnership, GRCC = Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, FODDC = Forest of Dean District Council, LSP = Local Strategic Partnership, GCC = Gloucestershire County Council, GMTF = Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum, VHMC – Village Hall Management Committee, PPWG = Parish Plan Working Group

Community Facilities C								
Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead Responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource /cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
C1	Develop Village Hall Activities	Seek out new opportunities and volunteers	VHMC	PC Volunteers VAG CAP GRCC	Voluntary Time Money None	3yrs	Audience and volunteer numbers	Links to Village Web Page
C2	Upgrade Village hall	Windows and chairs to be upgraded Roof mended Prepare grant submissions Arrange fundraising events	VHMC	GRCC Awards for All Community Agencies PC	Voluntary Time apply for grants	Start July 2007	Level of community interest and support Successful bids	
C3	Consolidate Play Area	Monitor play area	PC	FODDC GRCC Staunton Country Fayre	Staunton Country Fayre	On-going	Numbers of children using area	
C4	Wheel chair for community use	Purchase wheel chair (completed)	MHZ	Staunton Country Fayre	Staunton Country Fayre		usage	Web page
C5	Public Seating by Play Area	Secure resident agreement to proposed site	PC	VHMC FODDC		On-going	usage	

Environment, Conservation and Heritage ECH

Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource /Cost	Time	Performance measure	Other info
ECH 1	Strict enforcement of planning conditions Stowfield Quarry	Monitoring by PC	FODDC	PC LSP GCC		Start April 2007 on going	Community satisfaction survey on key measures	

ECH 2	Provision of Litter bin by Village Pound	Source and price bin	PC FODDC	CAP GRCC	funded by PC Bin £100	Ongoing	Reduction of Litter by Pound	
ECH 3	Plant Spring Bulbs around Pound Area	Select suitable bulbs Source funding sponsors Undertake planting	VHMC PC	Garden Club Committee	Voluntary time Project Co-ordinator Money £50.00	Start Autumn 2007	Community satisfaction survey	
ECH 4	Identify local heritage projects and secure funding	Communicate local projects and organizers Secure authority to do work Undertake work	PC	Heritage Committee GRCC	Voluntary Time Project Coordinator Working parties	Start August 2007 Ongoing	Community satisfaction survey	
ECH 5	Provide consistency in planning applications	Review the existing planning process & raise issues of inconsistency	FODDC	PC LSP GCC	Voluntary & Core Time: LSP Money: None	Now	Community satisfaction survey	
ECH 6	Raise awareness of the problem of Knotweed in village	Communicate Plan campaign of eradication	PPWG	VHMC PC FODDC AONB	Voluntary Time	Now	Eradication of Knotweed from Village	

“The Government has issued detailed guidelines on the treatment of Knotweed.
Knotweed has been known to grow through tarmac, the floors of houses and foundations.
There are at least 3 sites in the Parish where Knotweed has become established – there may be more”

Housing H

Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead Responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource /cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
H1	Champion needs of local community	Pass housing findings to FODDC housing Strategy team Nominate sites for single	FODDC	PC LSP GRCC GCC		Now	Community satisfaction survey	

		dwelling Resist all other development plans						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Health and Leisure HL								
Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead Responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource /cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
HL1	Village Walks	Develop Maps and health and safety issues Source grants	PPWG	VHMC PC GRCC	Voluntary Time	Start April 2007	usage	

10 people would volunteer to help elderly, infirm or disabled people within the village with simple day-to-day tasks

46% of respondents are prepared to volunteer to assist in keeping public open spaces tidy and free of litter.

Crime, Disorder and Community Safety CDC								
Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead Responsibility	Supporting partners	Resources/Cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
CDC1	Speeding signs	Feasibility study of Light up signs	GCC Highways	PC FODDC GCC	Highways Agency core budget	Ongoing	Community satisfaction	
CDC2	Drug problem at Buckstone	Better police presence	GCC Police authority	PC FODDC		Ongoing	Community satisfaction	

CDC3	Clear footpaths		FODDC	PC GCC		Ongoing	usage	
CDC4	Street Lighting	Assess need for more or less lighting	FODDC GCC Highways	PC		Ongoing	Community satisfaction	
CDC5	Speed calming	Feasibility study of speed calming measures	PC GCC Highways	PC FODDC GRCC	Core budget		Community satisfaction	

Business and Economy BE

Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource /cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
BE1	Develop Village Hall Market	Advertise Bring in new traders	Market Committee	VHMC	Volunteers	April 2007	Community satisfaction	

“The items respondents would find most useful on a website are Parish Council meeting details, Local groups ,Planning applications, Quarry information, Local events, Refuse collection dates and Local news. “

www.idbuilder.co.uk/staunton

Tourism T

Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource/cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
T1	Signage and info boards	Study of available signs and info boards	PPWG	PC FODDC CAP	Voluntary time Cost to be determined	July 2007	Community satisfaction	
T2	Maps and walks	Research grants and advertising Consult with Ordnance Survey on use of maps and obtain licence	PPWG	VHMC PC GRCC Forestry Commission	Voluntary time Cost to be determined	July 2007	Usage Community satisfaction	

“

Comment “Perhaps some limited Bed and Breakfast facilities and printed leaflets with helpful notes and maps. Staunton has a rich history”

Transport and Access to Services TA

Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting Partners	Resource/cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
TA1	Provide demand responsive transport services	Look at options Link local needs to county plan	GCC	PC GRCC LSP FODDC	Voluntary time Project co coordinator	July 2007	Community satisfaction	
TA2	Improve communication about local transport services	Update Existing info Provide info in community newsletter	PPWG Bus Companies	GCC FODDC	Voluntary Time GCC core budget	July 2007	Community satisfaction	

Education and Lifelong Learning ELL								
Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting Partners	Resource/cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
ELL 1	Keep courses in village hall	Advertise local courses	Royal Forest of Dean College Learning and Skills Council GRCC FODDC	VHMC	Voluntary	Ongoing	Community usage and satisfaction	
ELL2	Encourage courses run by residents	Source Course leaders	VHMC	PC FODDC	Voluntary time	July 2007 ongoing	Community usage and satisfaction	

Arts A								
Ref	Objective	Action to be taken	Lead responsibility	Supporting partners	Resource/cost	Time scale	Performance measures	Other info
A1	Air in G concerts	Book concerts	VHMC	Air in G	Voluntary time	April 2007 ongoing	Community satisfaction	
A2	Theatre Trips	Explore possibilities and local venues	VHMC		Voluntary time Self financing	April 2007 ongoing	Community satisfaction and usage	
A3	Art Exhibitions	Encourage local clubs to exhibit in village hall	VHMC PPWG	PC	Voluntary time	April 2007 ongoing	Community satisfaction and usage	

This action plan has been endorsed by the Parish Council

83% of respondents think that it is important to have a village hall.

81% think it is important to have a church in the village.

The Next Steps

Implementing the Plan

The Parish Plan Working Group needs to review its role and structure and seek new members

Encourage individuals living within the parish to volunteer – community members have a wide variety of skills and strengths that can contribute to improving quality of life in Staunton Parish in many different ways.

Communication with publicity will be important.

Working groups of parishioners can be established taking a particular subject area that interests them.

There needs to be identification of priority areas and the agencies or authorities responsible.

Monitoring and reviewing the Plan will be an ongoing process with appropriate community consultation.

It is vital that the whole community of Staunton works together and that individuals support each other so the vision of Staunton can be realized.

We are looking for volunteers to help implement the plan – this could be a few hours of your time each fortnight or month or the delivery of leaflets on a one off basis or leading a sewing or gardening group.

If you need more info then please contact a member of the Parish Council or one of the Parish Plan Steering Group members (see page 24)

We really need your help and look forward to seeing you....

Acknowledgements

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved in helping to create this Parish Plan.

To the Staunton Parish Council for initiating the process of developing a Parish Plan

To the Forest of Dean District Council for providing the financial backing to enable the plan to be developed.

Gloucestershire Rural Community Council has also helped by providing in kind support and advice; special thanks to Kate Baugh whose expertise has been invaluable and to Rebecca Hughes.

To the Steering group who have put a great deal of their time, expertise, effort and good humour into this plan. Jenny Harris, Charles Smart, John Richards, Helen Theophilus.

To the people who delivered the Parish Plan Questionnaire to every household in the parish.

To the Community who turned out to the initial meeting and gave us their views and to everyone who took the time to complete their questionnaire and return it

Also many thanks go to J A Cockburn for his permission to use his book "Staunton - On the Forest Edge" by, published by The Friends of All Saints, Staunton in 1996 as a source for the history.

To the Clerk - Richard Crighton for his patience and support

Helen Theophilus
Staunton Parish Plan Steering Committee
10 July 2007

Contact details

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INTRODUCTION

As part of the Parish Plan process, residents of Staunton Coleford were asked to complete a questionnaire to give their views on the parish.

A questionnaire was delivered to each of the 144 households in Staunton Coleford, which residents were invited to complete on an individual basis:

“Up to 2 people may complete this questionnaire – if more than one please use a distinctive colour ink for the replies of each person.”

The questionnaires were collected by parish councillors in March 2006; residents also had the option of returning their forms via a drop-off box or by postal or hand delivery to a local address.

46 individuals from 30 different households completed a questionnaire. With 144 households in the parish this gives a household response rate of 26%; in other words, around 1 in 4 households took part in the survey. In addition, 2 young people under 18 completed the youth section.

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This report provides a summary of the results.

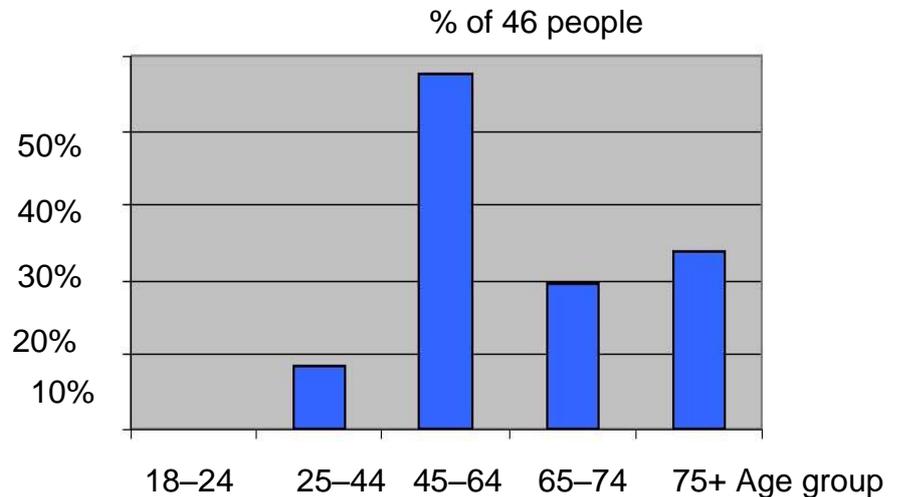
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DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

Q1: “Please tick the age and gender of each person completing the questionnaire”

46 people completed a questionnaire. There were similar numbers of male and female respondents, and almost half were aged 45-64.

Age group	No. of people	% of 46 people
18 – 24	0	0%
25 – 44	4	9%
45 – 64	22	48%
65 – 74	9	20%
75+	11	24%
TOTAL	46	100%



Q2: “What kind of household do you live in? Please tick one box below”

The 46 respondents above come from 30 different households. 54% of these households are composed of pensioners.	No. of households	% of 30 households
One family: all pensioners	11	37%
One family: couple with no children	6	20%
One person household: pensioner	5	17%
One family: all children aged 18 or over	4	13%
One family: couple with child(ren) under 18	2	7%
One person household: other	1	3%
One family: lone parent with child(ren) under 18	0	0%
Other	1	3%
TOTAL	30	100%

NOTES ON THE REMAINING QUESTIONS

Most of the remaining questions took the form of statements, to which respondents were asked to select from one of the following four responses:

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly

For simplicity, the first two and last two categories have been combined in this report, reducing the four categories to just two:

- 1 Agree (incorporating 'Agree strongly' and 'Agree')
- 2 Disagree (incorporating 'Disagree strongly' and 'Disagree').

However not all of the 46 residents who provided their age group in Q1 answered all the remaining questions. The maximum (and also the most common) number of respondents to any of these questions was 39. The minimum was 8 and the average 33.

All percentages have been calculated using the total respondent base of 46.

Worked example:

Statement:

I would find it useful if there were a Parish Council website.

Answers:

12 people ticked 'Agree strongly' or 'Agree'. 25 people ticked 'Disagree strongly' or 'Disagree'. 9 people did not reply.

Results:

This will be presented in the report as "26% would find it useful if there were a Parish Council website" (because 12 is 26% of 46).

To view the Staunton Village Website go to www.idbuilder.co.uk/staunton

For reference:

Percentage of 46 respondents	Equivalent no. people (approx)	Percentage of 46 respondents	Equivalent no. people (approx)
100%	46	50%	23
90%	41	40%	18
80%	37	30%	14
70%	32	20%	9
60%	28	10%	5

COMMUNITY

83% think it is important to have a village hall.
47% think it is important to have a children's play area.

- o *Two respondents added comments in response to this question: 1. "Can expenditure be justified?" 2. "Consider maintenance and supervision."*

26% would find it useful if there were a Parish Council website. The items respondents would find most useful on a website are: Parish Council meeting details (6 people) Local groups (1) Planning applications (5) Quarry information (1) Local events (5) Refuse collection dates (1) Local news (4)

38% think it is important to have a general store/PO/bank in the village.

- o *Comments: 1. "For young & old – very helpful if there is somewhere to buy papers, milk etc." 2. "Poorly patronized in the past; none would ever 'pay'."*

If a general store/PO/bank were not available, 13% said they would use mobile facilities. In a separate question, 48% agreed that mobile facilities would be useful.

81% think it is important to have a pub in the village.

38% think it would be desirable to have a public toilet in the village.

81% think it is important to have a church in the village.

35% are not confident in the response time by the emergency services, including cross border responses.

21% are not satisfied with the public transport in the village. Those who are not satisfied would like to see links to following destinations: More frequent service to existing destinations (5 people) Monmouth (3) Coleford (2) S. Wales (2) Ross, Lydney, Hereford, Bristol, London (1 person each)

ENVIRONMENT

Stowfield quarry

85% think there must be strict enforcement of planning conditions.

78% think that before any expansion of activities is permitted, proper consideration must be given to the road infrastructure and the effects on the village and the parish.

82% think there must be a far more open relationship between the quarry operator and their neighbours.

81% think the quarry operator has a social responsibility to the parish.

- o *Comment: "Must keep close eye on Tarmac's activities. Suggest sub committee (not all Councillors) – Scowles Action Group."*

Litter

55% do not think there are sufficient litter bins in the parish.

26% do not think the bins are efficiently and regularly emptied.

46% are prepared to volunteer to assist in keeping public open spaces tidy and free of litter.

- o *Comment: "Existing litter bins are very scruffy and could be replaced by some more in keeping with the ambience of the village."*

Conservation areas

- 44% think the existing village Conservation Areas should be expanded. 27% disagree and 28% did not express an opinion.
- o *Comment: "Conservation Area should not be enlarged. Settlement area should remain unchanged and statutorily enforced."*

Forestry Commission

- 64% think the Forestry Commission should be more open and approachable.

Roaming animals

23% think more needs to be done to control deer.

42% think more needs to be done to control wild boar.

75% think more needs to be done to control sheep.

- o *Comments: 1. "Future management of wild boar requires prior scientific analysis of their impact." 2. "Sheep becoming nuisance through lack of adequate fencing".*

Recycling

- 20% do not think recycling facilities in the area are adequate.
- o *Comment: "Recycling inadequate, Council doesn't take drink cans or plastic bottles which other Councils do."*

Dog fouling/dog bins

55% do not think there are sufficient facilities for the disposal of dog waste.

48% think there should be more affordable housing in the parish, 35% disagree and 17% did not reply.

22% think there is a greater need for bungalows than for houses, 59% disagree and 20% did not reply.

HOUSING

- o *Comment: "Are there any sites for more houses? Possibility of some bungalows in The Elms?"*

- 83% believe that any new development or conversion should be in scale and character with its surroundings, none disagree and 17% did not reply.

- o *Comment: "No in-filling"*

76% think developers should be required to make a contribution to facilities in the neighbourhood, 7% disagree and 17% did not reply.

76% think traffic speed on the A4136 through the village is excessive.

ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

- o *Comments: 1. "Speed bumps?" 2. "Introduce camera/traffic activated sign/police marksman to shoot violators' tyres!"*
- 28% are frequently troubled by inappropriate use of motor vehicles or horses on Roads Used as a Public Path (RUPPs), Byways Open to all Traffic (BOATs), footpaths or green highways.

"If so, state what and where":

Respondents' comments are summarised below.

Tillis Wood (2 people) Common (1)

Highmeadow Path (2) Burial Path (1)

Horses damaging footpaths (2) North of village (1)

Horses and parking on pavements (1)

- 46% do not think the hard surfaces of roads and tracks are adequately maintained.
- o *Comment: "Footpath along A4136 from Highfield to the pub slopes towards the road. It is difficult to walk on and dangerous because of the speed of passing traffic."*
- 40% think appropriate street lighting would be beneficial to the village, 34% disagree and 26% did not reply.

"If so, state where":

Respondents' comments are summarised below.

From village to A4136 (6 people) N side of A4136 at W end of church (2)

Tillis View (3) A4136 opposite church (1)

A4136 by pub (3) "Too much already" (2)

A4136 by The Elms (2)

- o *Other comments: 1. "Urgent that village hall car park is available to ease on road parking." 2. "Village hall car park: those with no off-road parking to be made to use it."*

CRIME AND SAFETY

The statement in the questionnaire read: *"I have had reason to call the emergency services in the last 12 months and was satisfied that they responded quickly enough."* 6 people agreed with the statement, 2 disagreed and the remainder did not answer.

The statement in the questionnaire read: *"I have had reason to call the emergency services on a non-urgent matter (i.e. NOT a 999 call), and was satisfied with the system."*

4 people agreed with the statement, 4 disagreed and the remainder did not answer.

The statement in the questionnaire read: *"I have been a victim of crime or if I were to be a victim of crime (however minor), I would you report it."* 57% agreed with the statement, none disagreed and 43% did not answer.

44% are satisfied that a Neighbourhood Watch scheme brings real benefits, 23% disagreed and 33% did not answer.

22% (10 people) would be prepared to be involved in organising and running a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

56% would attend talks by appropriate organisations on crime & safety.

PARISH COUNCIL

63% agree that the Parish Council is an effective body, 16% disagree and 22% did not answer.

"If not, why?":

Respondents' comments are listed below and relate to one person each.

Has not effectively opposed Stowfield expansion

Not effective in holding Local Government officers to account

Planning applications not properly considered

Its views are irrelevant

Should stick to agenda

Little continuity in members

Too negative

There were also some comments which were not negative:

Is as efficient as bureaucracy allows.

Needs more village support.

Useful to regulate planning.

Has control over local issues

- One respondent is prepared to seek election as a Parish Councillor in 2007.

"If not, why?":

Respondents' comments are summarised below.

Time (10 people) Frustration (1)

Too old (3) Unsuitable temperament (1)

Already served as Councillor or Clerk (3) Am more effective as independent

Too confrontational (1) member of the public (1)

o *Other comments:*

- *Important to leave Parish Council as it is to deal with threats from quarry, speeding traffic, motor cycles on footpaths, grant opportunities. Reducing Clerk's workload would result in minimal savings and increase Councillors' workload.*

- Common is a mess; no original aims yet achieved; lack of information – newsletters?
- Money wasted on common; comments from visitors and experts all negative.
- Must control costs.
- Concerns relate to District Council – disapprove of in-filling; LPA takes no notice of local comments.
- Lack of facilities for future villagers is obvious – village needs to make itself more attractive for younger generation to become involved. No traditional village attitudes other than with those who have lived here for 30 years+.

60+ AGE GROUP

The figures on page 2 show that there are 9 respondents aged 65-74 and 11 respondents aged 75+. Assuming an even distribution of ages in the 45-64 age group, there are also an estimated 6 respondents aged 60-64. This gives an estimated total of 26 respondents aged 60 or over.

- Question: *“Which services would you use if they were available in the Village Hall? Please list below.”*

The answers are listed below and relate to one person each.

- o Yoga/exercise classes
- o Line dancing or similar
- o Computing classes
- o Photographic classes
- o Cookery classes
- o Village fete
- o Library
- o Social services

- 9 people would join a village luncheon club that met weekly or monthly for a light meal and get-together

- *Comment: “Takes some organizing – not too many volunteers available.”*

19 people would go on organised outings to the theatre, sporting events or Christmas shopping.

3 people would be interested in a car share scheme.

10 people would volunteer to help elderly, infirm or disabled people within the village with simple day-to-day tasks.

“Give examples”:

The answers are listed below:

- o Shopping (3 people)
- o Transport (2)
- o Ironing (1)

- *“What do you think the village lacks in provision for the 60+ age group?”*

The answers are listed below and relate to one person each:

Lunch club Walking groups Theatre trips

Visiting scheme for housebound Talks/lectures Community shop

Public transport with disabled access Social evenings Post Office

YOUNG PEOPLE

“We would ask that each member of the household who is under 18 and capable of filling in the form without too much help complete this section by ticking the relevant boxes.”

Two young people completed this section. Respondent A is a girl under 12 years old who attends junior school. Respondent B is a boy aged 12-17 who is in the sixth form.

If provided within the parish, Respondent A would be interested in getting involved in arts/craft, drama and a youth club. Respondent B would be interested in getting involved in martial arts, rugby and table tennis

When asked what does or would prevent them from taking part in local activities/clubs, Respondent A said the activities are not suitable, they take place at the wrong time and they are too expensive. Respondent B said lack of time.

When asked what facilities they would most like to have in the parish (they were able to tick up to 3 each), Respondent A said she would like more play equipment in playing fields. Respondent B said he would like live music events. Neither ticked any of the other items, namely internet café, further learning centre, meeting place for young people, a place to have their say where people will listen, better public transport links.

We need volunteers to help implement the plan – this could be a few hours of your time each fortnight or month or the delivery of leaflets on a one off basis or leading a sewing or gardening group.

Please contact

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