



**ASHINGTON PARISH PLAN
2006**



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3
A Brief History	3
The Community of Ashington	4
Previous Village Surveys.....	4
Village Survey 2006	5
Facilities and Services for Young People	7
Transport.....	9
Community Safety	11
Local Housing	12
Good Health.....	13
Leisure & Cultural Activities.....	14
Facilities and Services for (and by) Older People	16
Helping Business to Succeed	16
Protecting our World	17
Lifelong Learning	18
What Next?	18
How can you help?.....	18



Introduction

Ashington – “A village with an innate ability to draw people together. Ashington encourages, nurtures and enables people to work together for the benefit of the whole community, forming a good solid foundation from which this community can develop and meet any future challenges.”

A Brief History



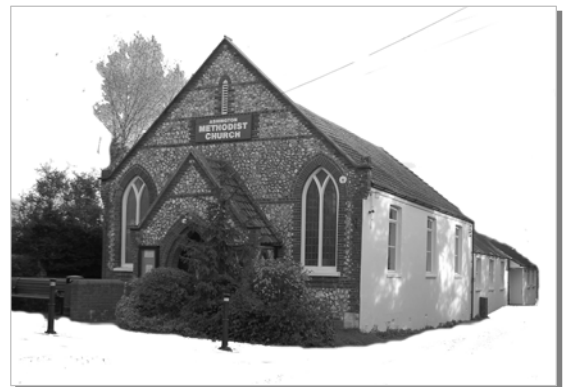
Recent archaeological evidence has proved that there was activity in Ashington about 900 BC Late Bronze Age. To the south of the village runs the “Green Sand Way” which is a roman road. A kilometre to the north is a roman villa site. Ashington is mentioned in Domesday under the name Essingetune where it proudly boasts two house-holders and six labourers. Most of Ashington’s history revolves around agriculture.

In 1801 the population was 173 with 28 houses. Some twenty years later, this had grown to 41 houses. In 1802 a toll road was put across the common and a regular stagecoach service from London to Worthing and back, stopped at Ashington. This finally faded out in about 1848 when the Southern railway opened and it was easier to get to and from London and Worthing by train. The main enclosure act in 1816 meant houses could be built up to the roads edge, which had formerly been part of the common. By 1939 an Ashington bypass was spoken of but it was not until 1995 that the bypass was completed. A new school (opened in 2002), community centre (opened in 2003) and approximately 400 new houses have recently been built in the village.



Ashington has two churches, St. Peter and St. Paul and the Ashington Methodist Church. The former is of flint and stone construction possibly dating from the 15th century. It was greatly enlarged in 1871 when the Episcopal parish was extended to cover the eastern side of the village, which, up to that time had been known as North Washington. The church has two bells one of which is considered to be one of the oldest bells in Sussex dating from the

13th century. The first Ashington Methodist Church of iron construction was built in 1888. The second church was built around it in 1894.



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

The Community of Ashington

The rural village of Ashington is the 14th largest parish in Horsham District and is situated off the A24 between Worthing and Horsham.

Demographic details are as follows:

- 2374 residents of which 50% are female and 50% male
- 926 households in total
- 21.5 % of residents are aged 0-14 years
- 9.2% of residents are aged 15-24years
- 10% of residents are over 65 years

Previous Village Surveys

Back in 1999, a Village Appraisal was completed. It was, at the time, the largest carried out and the first to be computerised. There was a smaller subsequent appraisal in 2000 taking into account the views of new residents who had joined the village. The Parish Action Plan that followed, achieved every one of the aspirations requested by residents, with one exception – the local Primary Health Care Trust insisted that a pharmacy was only viable if there were double the number of inhabitants.

A rolling plan was developed which brought together all the actions identified in previous surveys and every action identified by residents has now been completed. Communication and consultation is already well developed in the village. The following communication opportunities exist and are used to ensure that the Parish Council keeps up to date with the needs and wishes of its residents.

- Village website
- A vibrant Residents Association
- Residents are advised of news and forthcoming events through a bi-monthly Village Newsletter – delivered to every household
- Regular emails are sent to residents and organisations in the village
- Six notice boards in the village display various posters and flyers
- A monthly events list is published for residents and posted on the village website
- Through articles published weekly in ‘Community News’, ‘Parish Pump’ and Town and County columns in the West Sussex County Times, Worthing Herald and the West Sussex Gazette
- Through an electronic information board in the village shop
- New residents are provided with a ‘Welcome Pack’, which gives vital information about clubs and organisations in the village and informs them of how to contact the Parish Council and Residents Association



Ashington has been recognised nationally, winning West Sussex Village of the Year in 2001, 2003 and 2005. Also winner of the categories “Community Life“ and “Business“ for Southern and South East England in 2001 and National “Calor Village of the Year” in 2003.

In 2005 Ashington was the first winner in West Sussex of the Calor / Defra sponsored “Building Community Life Competition”. Recently, Ashington was invited to enter the Calor Village of the Year 10th Anniversary Award Competition celebrating ten years of the Village of the Year competition along with other winners over the period 1997 to 2006 and were judged as the South of England Village of the Year – Best of Best.



4



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

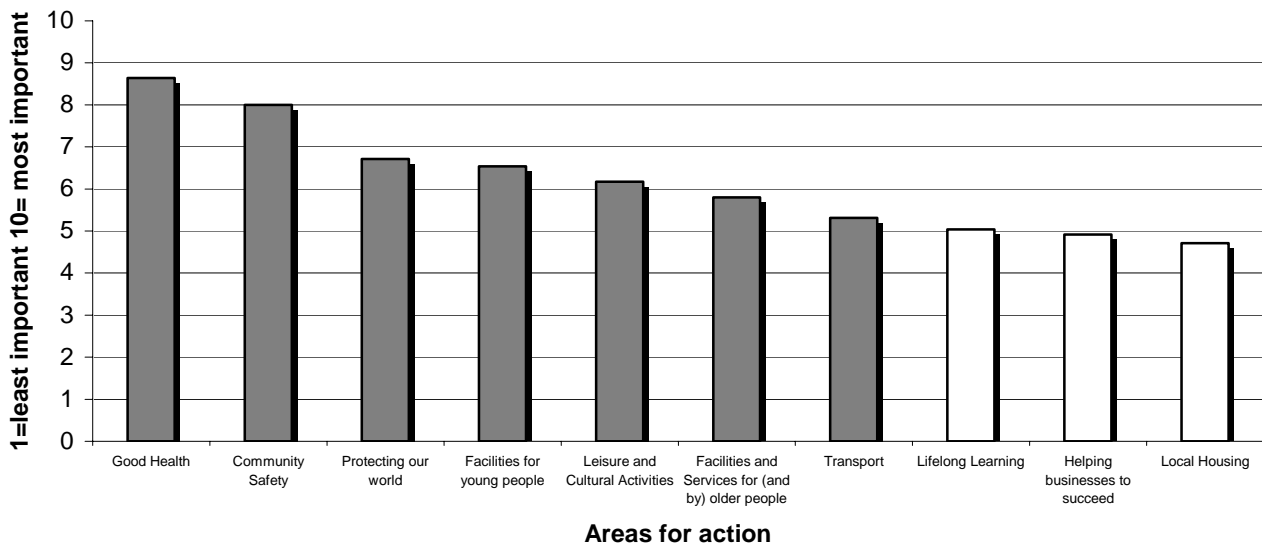
Village Survey 2006

In April 2006, a new Village Survey was completed to build on previous consultations with residents and identify new issues that required action. 127 households responded. Many of these responses were via an on line form through the village website. We received pages of positive comments from residents about living in Ashington. Some of the most frequent comments included:

- Friendly village community with great community spirit
- Location, close to town, sea, countryside and airport links
- Always something to join in – great community facilities
- Great carnival
- Clean and safe village
- Plus many positive comments about the support received from Churches, Neighbourhood Wardens, Residents Association, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and the Parish Council.

Residents were asked to prioritise areas for action. The following graph shows seven key areas for action (Dark Grey), which included Good Health and Community Safety.

Area for Action in Ashington



5



Residents were asked to provide comments in all of the 10 areas highlighted above and prioritise actions required in each area. All residents were sent a summary of the results in July 2006.



Following the survey various additional consultation events were organised to give all residents the chance to influence the Village Plan. These included:

- Presentation of results to the Ashington Residents Meeting on 12th July 2006 and Calor Judging event on 15th July 2006
- Public Consultation evening on 25th July 2006
- Consultation display at the Ashington Village Festival on 19th August 2006
- Public Consultation Day on 9th September 2006
- Final Plan approval meeting on 4th October 2006.



The results of the Village Survey 2006 and the discussions at the various public meetings have been used to compile the Ashington Parish Plan 2006.

The Parish Plan has been separated into the themes of the Horsham District Community Strategy, which seeks to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local area and to contribute to achieving sustainable development.



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

Facilities and Services for Young People



Whilst, Ashington does have a successful Youth Club running in the old village hall on Church Lane the building urgently needs repairs to enable it to be used to it's full potential.

Various other facilities and clubs are available for the young people including: Skate Park (recently extended to include a half pipe), Snooker Club on a Monday evening at the Social Club, thriving



Scout Group, Youth Football on the multi-sports court organised by the Neighbourhood Wardens, a Junior Neighbourhood Warden scheme, summer holiday play schemes, youth forum and an active junior football club with teams entered into local leagues.



In addition, a new school was opened in Ashington in 2002 to the west side of Foster Lane. The head teacher advertises school events including pre and after school clubs for young people in the Village Newsletter.

The 2006 survey and consultation with residents identified several key areas for action, which are:

What	How	Who	When
<p>Complete repairs to the old village hall including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of heating ➤ Provision of a kitchen area ➤ New internal doors for security ➤ New windows and grilles ➤ Roof repairs ➤ Install a new computer room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Undertake a detailed cost analysis of the work required to make good the hall. ➤ Obtain external funds to pay for the required works. 	<p>Youth Club Management Committee, Community Centre Trust, Parish Council and Young People</p>	<p>Initial report outlining work required, with costings to be completed by March 2007.</p>



<p>Access to a variety of after school clubs for young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working closely with the local school, review the requirements of parents/carers in association with the DFES Extended Services agenda (providing “wrap around care” for young people from 8am-6pm). ➤ Complete an audit of available local provision. 	<p>School, WSCC Children and Young People’s Service, WS Children’s Information Service.</p>	<p>Initial report to be provided by April 2007.</p>
<p>Improve quality of accommodation for the Scout Hall.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Undertake a review of minor works required including replacing toilets, including toilets for the disabled & windows. 	<p>1st Ashington Scouts and Ashington Parish Council</p>	<p>Seek 106 or other funding.</p>
<p>Enhance opportunities for young people to influence and support the development of the local community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish a Youth Council, to run in association with the Parish Council – to enable young people to have a say in their local community. Investigate links to existing WSCC Youth Cabinet, HDC HYPER, Ashington Youth Forum and Ashington School Council. ➤ Establish links between older and younger people – mentoring/support scheme. ➤ Raise profile and involvement of Scouts within the village. 	<p>Parish Council, Youth Centre, Scout Group, Neighbourhood Wardens and School</p>	<p>Establish Youth Council by September 2007.</p>
<p>Maintenance of play-areas in the village.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish a regular monitoring and associated programme of repairs to each of the 3 play areas in the village (Posthorses, Foster Lane and Warminghurst Close). 	<p>Parish Council and Community Centre Trust.</p>	<p>Already in place.</p>
<p>Enhance opportunities for young people to participate in sporting activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investigate the opportunity to use the multi sport facilities in the Community Centre on a regular basis for young people. ➤ Investigate support from HDC Leisure Services to establish sporting opportunities for young people within the village. 	<p>Youth Centre, Neighbourhood Wardens, Community Centre Trust and Horsham District Council</p>	<p>Initial options report to be provided by March 2007. N.B. Basketball and Red Cross Mini Bus already offered.</p>



Transport

The 2006 survey and consultation with residents highlighted the following key concerns.

The increase in traffic on the new A24 and the old road surface means that, the village suffers from the continual background noise of traffic. Further traffic calming methods are required in London Road, Billingshurst Road and school “drive safely” signs were requested. The Parish Council has joined others in the Horsham District to purchase a Speed Indication Device (SID). Residents also expressed their frustration at indiscriminate parking in bus stops and on pavements in the village, and the high volume of traffic during school drop off and pick up times. The new Local Authority Parking Enforcement Arrangements, which are now in force, may help alleviate these issues.

A Metro Bus service (Compass on Sundays) already provides a service through Crawley-Horsham and Worthing via Ashington and a Compass bus travels into Storrington and back 3 times a day Mon-Sat. In addition, the HDC Leisure Connect, Storrington Help Scheme, Steyning Dial and Ride and BUS4U all serve villagers of Ashington. The Tesco bus operates to and from Broadbridge Heath on Thursdays



Access to the village shops on foot from the north of the village is difficult. The shopping centre’s land management agent has created a footpath from London Road to the north- west corner of the car park but it is rough, undulating, muddy and unsafe. Additional parking for the London Road shops has also been requested by residents.

Arrangements are required to ease the congestion at Merios Way/Rectory Lane and Church Close/Church Lane with added consideration for the implications of possible future proposals for development.

What	How	Who	When
Ease the parking in the London Road shopping area and prevent parking in Turnpike Way, which causes problems for residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create a lay-by on the east side of London Road, which will include reduction in the length of the traffic island. ➤ Provide adequate parking for residents in 1 and 2 Rose Cottages , The White Cottage and Leaf Cottage London Road 	Parish Council & WSCC	By May 2007
Ease the passage of pedestrians from London Road across the shopping area garden to the car park – currently a muddy, uneven and unsafe track.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of a tarmac footpath in place of the muddy track. 	Parish Council & WSCC	By May 2007
Speeding on village roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Borrow Speed Indicating Device on a regular basis and provide reports to Residents Meeting, Village Newsletter and Parish Council. 	Parish Council and trained volunteer group	Already started.



<p>Reduce vehicle noise level from the A24.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase number of trained volunteers by advertising in village media. <p>Undertake a review with residents to consider starting an A24 “Noise Campaign” to gain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A quieter surface on the A24 passing Ashington ➤ Noise barriers at the flyover southern end of the village and western A24 boundary. 	<p>Residents Association and Parish Council</p>	<p>Initial discussion with Residents Association members in October 2006 and Parish Council</p>
<p>Reduce traffic associated with the ‘school run’</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investigate introduction of a ‘walking bus’ 	<p>WSSC, School and Neighbourhood Wardens</p>	<p>By April 2007</p>
<p>To allow access of ultra low floor public transport vehicles to the village and allow fuller use of BUS4U</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Replacement of the current speed humps in London Road with alternative traffic calming measures 	<p>WSSC & Parish Council</p>	<p>Initial discussions with WSSC to commence within 6 months.</p>
<p>To allow passengers to safely board and alight from public transport at the junction of London Road / Rectory Lane</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of enforceable No Parking Zone except for buses and coaches at the junction outside Village Flair 	<p>WSSC & Parish Council</p>	<p>Achieved October 2006</p>
<p>Investigate further development of the Ashington Community Transport Club.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investigate demand for additional transport facilities, which could be provided by a Community Mini Bus. Discuss with HDC and residents. 	<p>Parish Council & HDC</p>	<p>Initial discussions already commenced.</p>
<p>Investigate ways to ease parking hot spots including Parish Church/Church Lane and Meiros Way/Rectory Lane.</p> <p>Especially required in view of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Historical problems with the planning of the current junctions at Meiros Way/Rectory Lane and Church Close/Church Lane ➤ Parish Church congestion ➤ Sale of Church Farm and possible future proposals for development ➤ Other possibilities after the current Local Development Framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review options for easing parking and congestion in hot spot areas and develop an action plan to address causes. 	<p>Parish Council & HDC</p>	<p>On going</p>



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

Community Safety

For years there was much low level crime, anti social behaviour and criminal damage in the village. HDC put the case to the Home Office for Neighbourhood Wardens for Ashington. Our Wardens have been in place since 2001 and have been highly successful in reducing low-level crime. The Village Survey 2006 highlighted this as a key area of focus for residents.



Even with the Neighbourhood Wardens a very small element of low-level crime still continues. New CCTV facilities have already been installed in the areas impacted.

Both the church and the Scout Hall have small, open porches where youths congregate. Seating for youths is provided at the Skate Park however, it is open air and in full view of the Community Centre's CCTV cameras and youths have been reluctant to use it.

Sussex Police have established a satellite office together with the Neighbourhood Wardens in the new Community Centre from where they can liaise with the Wardens and with Police Officers at Police Stations across the district. This can save valuable travelling time when dealing with incidents and improve communications between the Police and Wardens. In addition, a Junior Warden scheme has been established for young people aged 9-13 years.

What	How	Who	When
To reduce low level crime (vandalism) in the area of the Church and Scout Hall	Provision of CCTV on the Church tower	Parish Council, Horsham District Crime Reduction Partnership, Parish Council, Scouts and Church	Already achieved
To prevent youths congregating in the porch of the scout hall – graffiti & vandalism	Review impact of new CCTV and consider moving the front door outward to remove the external porch and create internal hallway.	Scouts	By April 2007
Actively promote the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and Nominated Neighbour Scheme.	Include details of the scheme in New Resident Packs. Organise regular communications to the street co-ordinators including an annual workshop.	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Parish Council and Residents Association	Being re established
Maintain the village Neighbourhood Warden Scheme.	Ensure residents are kept informed about the benefits to the scheme and the support the Wardens can provide including development of Nominated Neighbour Scheme using existing village communication channels.	Neighbourhood Wardens and Parish Council.	On going



Local Housing

Ashington underwent large-scale development between 1998 and 2000 with the building of about 400+ new homes on eleven different sites. Only 30 of these were low cost / part rent - part buy / affordable homes. Ashington has a number of larger Saxon Weald properties occupied by elderly residents living on their own. The Parish Council had requested the planned new development at Meiros Farm (35 units) to be ‘sheltered accommodation’ allowing elderly residents to move to smaller properties with other elderly residents with warden control. However, it is felt that Meiros Farm is too far from village amenities. Instead, this facility could be provided by land north of Foster Lane owned by Ashington Community Centre Trust. An alternative would be an extension of Viney Close as “low cost affordable housing”. Residents should be given first call on subsequent low-cost/sheltered housing developments.

The Ashington Community Centre Trust owns the land north of Foster Lane. This land was given to the Trust as designated open space as part of the S106 planning obligation for the development of the housing in this area, and it remains a legally binding provision. The land is, however, an encumbrance to the Trust in terms of maintenance costs. The Trust would like to explore the sale of the land:

- To raise capital and provide more facilities for the Community Centre;
- Put them on an excellent financial footing for a considerable period of time;
- To be able to re-pay the Public Works Loan and therefore have a beneficial effect on the Parish Precept.

However there is a presumption in planning policy guidance against such development of open space. Any alternative use of the land other than open space would require a formal variation of the S106 requirement, agreed by both parties to the original agreement. Therefore any exploration of the sale of this land should ensure:

- That any subsequent development on this land is to meet an identified local need;
- That provision of alternative designated open space is made elsewhere in the parish to meet the needs of the community of Ashington.

Apart from the issues outlined above, those responding to the survey and consultation events were adamant that Ashington has had its share of development and does not have the infrastructure for any future large-scale development.

What	How	Who	When
To create opportunities for older people to remain in the village.	Work with the future developers of Meiros Farm to establish sheltered accommodation on the site or low cost affordable housing.	HDC, Parish Council, local Housing Associations and developers	From 2009
To allow young people to remain in the village.	Work with developers of future smaller village sites, including Hoots House, Applegarth and Oaktree Cottage to establish provision of low cost affordable homes.	Parties to original s106 agreement Local Housing Associations	On going
Explore opportunities to meet an identified local housing need at land north of Foster Lane and re-designation of open space elsewhere in the parish to meet the needs of the community of Ashington.			



Good Health

Good health was the key issue residents identified on the April 2006 Village Survey. Whilst there is currently no doctors' surgery or chemist in the village, residents do have access to the Compass bus, Bus4U, Storrington Area Help Scheme, Steyning Dial-a-Ride or the local taxi service to transport them to Doctors and chemists in Storrington. Both Chemists in Storrington provide a prescription delivery service.

Health Visitors from the PCT have an office in Ashington from where they can visit new mothers in the local area. The Health Visitors hold weekly baby clinics.

Recently, a planning application for a chemist/pharmacy on London Road was presented. The Parish Council supported the application, Horsham PCT agreed the change of use for the premises and NHS agreed the license for Ashington. However, HDC Planning Policy rejected the application.

Ashington does, however, have a busy 1st Responder team who are able to provide emergency first aid to patients before the ambulance arrives but the team needs more volunteers to provide a greater level of service. A Public Access Defibrillator, with 8 additional volunteers is being provided at the Red Lion.



What	How	Who	When
To improve access to medicines and pharmacy services.	Investigate the provision of a chemist / pharmacy in Ashington. Promote scheme already available to residents such as prescription delivery service, transport to surgeries, NHS Direct and local health professionals practising in the village.	Parish Council & Residents Association	On-going
To increase the number of volunteers on the 1 st Response team.	Promote the 1 st Responders to new and existing residents. Promote the recruitment of volunteers.	1 st Responders Team, Residents Association Newsletter	On-going



Leisure & Cultural Activities

Improving the Community Centre facilities, footpaths and bridleways were key issues in the Village Survey 2006. A new Community Centre, Multi Purpose Sports Court and Skate Park were opened in 2003. They are well used for a wide range of activities both daytime and evening and new activities are planned including developing film show opportunities. The occupancy level of the new centre is around 70%. However, the centre would benefit from an automated access system which would help to reduce ongoing costs, improve the security of the buildings and reduce the need for caretakers to visit the centre numerous times each day.



Residents identified it would assist the development of young people and adults (including the elderly) IT skills if there was public access to an Internet / fax facility which could then double up as a community café. Residents were also keen to have an annual Bonfire Event, which would complement the excellent annual Ashington Festival and Carnival.

Residents praised the amount of activities available in the village and suggested the development of a shared calendar of events so residents could make best use of all the clubs, societies and social events taking place.

The Parish Council has already upgraded a number of previously muddy footpaths in and around the village. The area surrounding the balancing pond, adjacent to Willard Way, is surrounded by a rough, muddy footpath. The path is well used by dog walkers and is often overgrown. Residents would like to upgrade this to a proper footpath so that more people could access this facility.



Horse riders would ideally like to have bridleway access to Malthouse Lane and Muttons Copse - perhaps via Dukes Farm / Church Farm or an alternative route.



What	How	Who	When
To allow safer walking around the Persimmon pond area	Investigate the provision of a hard surface footpath around the pond to replace the hogging surface	Parish Council, WSCC and use of Environment Grant	By December 2007
To improve communications and enhance IT skills of residents.	Research the opportunity to establish a public internet / fax point and community café in the village.	Parish Council, Community Centre Trust, Churches and other organisations	By December 2007
Enable access on horseback to Malthouse Lane / Muttons Copse	Identify possible access ways through Dukes farm / Church Farm. (With the land now sold agreed access may only provide a temporary solution)	Parish Council, HDC and British Horse Society	By September 2007
To reduce the need for staff and resources for Ashington Community Centre to control entry in to the Multi-Sports Court and Community buildings	Ashington Community Centre has already ordered an automated access system.	Community Centre Trust	By June 2007
To establish a community events calendar.	Investigate ways to collate and share information on community actives and events to residents – including enhancing the Village Website to provide electronic and paper versions.	Parish Council, Community Centre Trust, Village clubs and organisations.	By September 2007
Encourage increased use of all facilities in the village including Community Centre, old Village Hall, church halls and scout hall	Investigate ways to encourage wider use of available facilities by groups and individuals including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Potential day time access to youth club facilities for older residents ➤ Hire rates/facilities available and contact details clearly listed on Village Website 	Parish Council, Churches, Community Centre Trust, Youth Club Management Committee and scouts	By December 2007
Improve use of WSCC Mobile Library facility.	Investigate with WSCC ways to enhance the current usage of the mobile library, which visits Ashington.	Parish Council and WSCC Library Service	By end April 2007
Establish an Annual Bonfire event for Ashington Residents.	Investigate which village organisations/clubs could establish and run such an event.	Parish Council and local organisations/clubs.	Achieved - Ashington First School organising for Nov 2006.
Retain the annual village Carnival and Festival Day.	Support the Carnival and Festival Committees to ensure the sustainability of the event for future years.	All organisations	Initial public meeting planned for October 2006.



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

Facilities and Services for (and by) Older People

Services for the elderly within Ashington include the Community Support Scheme operated by the two village churches and the Monthly Lunch Club, which attracts many older residents – free transport to the venue is also provided. The Neighbourhood Wardens work together with the elderly and vulnerable residents of the village offering such services as the fitting of smoke alarms, nominated neighbour scheme and the ‘away from home scheme’.

The Village Survey 2006 asked for more specific activities for the over 50s including access to the youth club facilities and an internet point with community café (see leisure and culture).

What	How	Who	When
To provide more leisure and cultural activities for the over 50s.	Conduct a specific survey for older residents to understand what additional leisure and cultural activities they wish to access.	Parish Council and Residents Associations.	By Sept. 2007
Continue support for smoke alarms and away from home scheme.	Neighbourhood Wardens to promote to older residents.	Neighbourhood Wardens	On going

Helping Business to Succeed



There is very little local employment within the village, most residents travel to London, Horsham, Crawley, Gatwick, Brighton or Worthing to work. Wiston Business Park, one mile south of the village, provides a small number of local jobs. Residents praised the recent monthly Farmers Markets but wished they ran at the weekends to enable more people to attend.

However, several ideas for promoting and supporting those residents who run businesses from Ashington, were suggested in the April 2006 Village Survey. These are as follows:



What	How	Who	When
Establish opportunities for local businesses to network together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support local businesses to establish the Ashington Business Consortium. ➤ A fortnightly breakfast meeting now established. 	Local Businesses and Parish Council	Inaugural meeting of Consortium held in September 2006.
Create opportunities for local businesses to advertise to residents.	Investigate ways to help local businesses to promote their services to residents including:	Local Businesses, Parish Council and Residents Association.	On going



Encourage sustainable use of the Monthly Farmers Market by local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Business directory on village website ➤ Free adverts in Village Newsletter and Notice Boards Review the opportunities to develop the monthly Farmers Market in Ashington including changing the opening time to a Saturday.	HDC, Parish Council, Ashington Community Centre Trust and a Taste of Sussex.	By end March 2007.
---	--	--	--------------------

Protecting our World

Ashington Parish Council already supports the recycling initiatives from WSCC and HDC and Ashington Community Centre Trust provides space for two bottle banks in the village. In the recent Village Survey many respondents praised the recycling initiatives from WSCC & HDC although many didn't know what services were available. A small number of residents asked for a clothing bank in the village. The main concerns from residents were related to dog fouling, litter, fly posting and fly tipping.

What	How	Who	When
Establish a clothing bank for recycling clothes/shoes	Obtain a clothing / shoe bank for residents to use.	Parish Council, HDC and Salvation Army	Achieved
Promote existing recycling facilities both within the village and in nearby towns to residents.	Create ways to inform residents of recycling facilities available including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Village Newsletter ➤ Village Website ➤ Email news updated ➤ New Resident Packs 	Parish Council and HDC	On-going
Reduce dog fouling, litter, fly posting, fly tipping and graffiti.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use of the new Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005. ➤ Implementation of HDC Clean Neighbourhood Strategy ➤ Educate and warn residents through Village Newsletter ➤ Work with HDC on enforcement options. 	Parish Council and HDC	On-going
Retain and promote the spring and autumn village clean up days.	Promote the days to all residents through existing communication media.	Parish Council and HDC	On-going
Ensure the regular emptying of Litter and Dog bins in the village.	Parish Council to work with the support of Horsham District Council in maintaining a regular collection service.	Parish Council and HDC	On-going



Lifelong Learning

Ashington Community Centre Trust has provided facilities for Adult Education classes and is keen to attract other similar bookings. Both Rydon Community College and Steyning Grammar School have an extensive programme of Adult Education classes. Older residents were keen to see better use of Mobile Library facility and a community internet access point (see leisure and culture).

What Next?

This Parish Plan was formally endorsed by Ashington Parish Council at their meeting held on 2nd November 2006. Much of the information in this plan is already work in progress however some of the activities still need development. As such the plan will be a living document and subject to on-going review. Behind all the actions outlined in this plan, detailed project plans will be developed and overseen by the Parish Council and its partners to ensure that things happen. A six monthly review will be conducted by way of an open meeting which will be advertised to all. The first review meeting will be held in May 2007.

How can you help?

A group of people to oversee taking this plan forwards, access available funds and review progress is required and volunteers are needed.

If you are interested in helping us take forward the ideas in this plan and/or wish to join the Steering Group please contact the Parish Clerk on 893740 or the Chairman of Ashington Parish Council and Ashington Residents Association on 892327.

Ashington Parish Council and Ashington Residents Association would like to thank all the individuals and associations who contributed to our Village Plan.

Copies of this document were sent to every household in the village during late November/early December 2006. Copies are also available to read in the Co-op, Post Office, Ashington Community Centre, Ashington Youth Club, Parish Church, Methodist Church, The Red Lion and Ashington Social Club. A copy is also available on the Ashington Parish Council website www.ashingtonpc.org.uk.



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse

Designed For Ashington Parish Council
By

Galeo Designs



www.galeodesigns.co.uk
gareth@galeodesigns.co.uk
Tel: 0870 8636100



The Red Lion



Ashington C of E School



The Swan Inn & Post Horses



Church Farm Farmhouse