

# **The Parish of Pucklechurch Community Plan**

**Summary and  
Action Plan**  
covering  
**Pucklechurch, Shortwood,  
Parkfield and Lyde Green**

**April 2011**

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## Acknowledgements

This Community Plan is the result of a community effort, with all the work having been done by local volunteers. Our community owes a debt of gratitude to all who participated in the various stages of the work.

- The 168 participants who attended the public consultation meetings and identified topics to be addressed by the survey
- The 56 volunteers who distributed questionnaires and followed up to collect as many responses as possible
- The 17 data entry volunteers:
  - Mike Abbott
  - Ros Abbott
  - Jacki Berry
  - Chris Biggs
  - Gail Boyle
  - Val Broom
  - Alan Holder
  - Angela James
  - Phil Look
  - Kate Neal
  - Marjorie Payne
  - Jeanette Pearson
  - Andrea Ryland
  - Martin Smith
  - Lyn Smith
  - Gordon Thorn
  - Michael Trippick
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  - Helen Parker
  - Frank Rogers
  - Andrea Ryland
  - Martin Smith
  - Mike Stanley
- And, last but not least, the 1273 people who filled out and returned survey questionnaires, giving the Steering Group the benefit of their opinions and local knowledge

### The Parish of Pucklechurch Community Plan Summary and Action Plan

Published April 2011

Pucklechurch Parish Council and the Community Plan Steering Group

UK Census data used under the terms of the Click-Use Licence  
Traffic and accident data provided by South Gloucestershire Council

## Introduction

The whole idea of a community plan is to give people a say in how their local area develops over time. This Community Plan is based on what we, the people of Pucklechurch Parish, want for our community.

The concept of a community plan developed under the Labour Government to devolve power from central to local government, and it also fits well with the current Government's "Big Society" and Localism initiatives.

The Community Plan for the Parish of Pucklechurch has been more than five years in the making. From South Gloucestershire Council's call to action in 2005 to the plan's adoption by Pucklechurch Parish Council in July 2010, volunteers gave hundreds of hours of their time to see this through. Malcolm Watson, a member of the Parish Council, called this plan "The single most important document ever presented to the Pucklechurch Parish Council".

The ultimate aim of this Community Plan is to make Pucklechurch Parish a better place to live. The goals and actions set out in this document will help us protect the things that are important to us, such as the Green Belt. It will guide the development of better services and amenities (for example, improved bus services, more facilities for youths, and a cycle route linked to the existing cycle tracks). It should also help to address some of the challenges we face, such as getting younger people involved in village activities and becoming a more sustainable community.



The plan is divided into four topic areas:

- **Environment** covers the parish's natural and man-made environment and its historical features
- **Community spirit** covers residents' identification with and participation in the local community
- **Traffic and transportation** covers driving, cycling, walking, and using public transportation
- **Sustainability** covers "green" issues

Our Community Plan will be used by both the Pucklechurch Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) to help determine the priorities for our area. Because this Community Plan is based on solid data gathered from over 1,200 parish residents, local government is obliged to take our collective opinions into consideration when they make decisions that affect our community.

The Community Plan Steering Group also hope that this plan will encourage and guide local organisations and individuals to help achieve some of our community's goals. We hope it will inspire **you** to make a difference.



## Background

What exactly is a community plan? The Countryside Agency came up with concept of a “parish plan” to help villages take decisions for themselves on issues like transport and community facilities. They wanted Britain’s villages and rural areas to remain not only viable but vital. The Government determined that villages and rural areas should have more say in how they developed over time and published a rural white paper in 2000 *Our Countryside: The Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England*. The current Government also wants to devolve power away from central control and into the hands of local people. Parish plans fit in well with the Government’s “Big Society” vision and its Localism Bill.

This parish plan – or community plan, as we call it in the Parish of Pucklechurch – has a number of purposes, all of which aim to make our community a better place to live:

- To help the Parish Council set policies and priorities and take actions that are in harmony with residents’ views
- To provide data on local residents’ opinions to South Gloucestershire Council to help them determine what facilities and services are important for the area
- To provide guidance to South Gloucestershire Council’s planning department as they consider planning applications that affect the Parish of Pucklechurch
- To bring like-minded people and groups together for the benefit of the local community

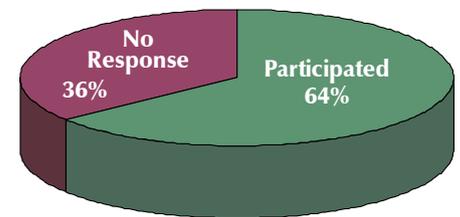
The Pucklechurch community plan initiative started in 2005 when South Gloucestershire encouraged parish councils to use the “community-led planning” process to create a vision and action plan for local development. Several parish councillors were attracted by the idea and called for interested parties to come forward to form a steering group. During 2006 the Community Plan Steering Group came together to begin the process, and sub-committees were formed to tackle four topic areas: Environment, Community Spirit, Traffic and Transportation, and Sustainability.

In their first year of activity, the sub-committees explored these topic areas and came up with questions that could be used to gather information. To help focus in on the areas of most importance, the Steering Group did two things to identify residents’ priorities. First, they distributed a flyer in September 2006 inviting people to submit their ideas in writing. Then public meetings were held in Pucklechurch and Shortwood during February and March 2007 to allow local residents to voice their concerns in person. The children of Pucklechurch Primary School did their own version of the survey and also drew pictures of the things they liked and didn’t like about their community.



Hundreds of potential questions were culled down into two survey questionnaires: a household questionnaire and an individual questionnaire. In June and July 2007, a team of volunteers personally delivered questionnaires to all households in the parish and followed up to encourage residents to fill in and return their questionnaires. Almost two-thirds of households responded (715 out of 1110) and almost half the surveyed population returned their individual questionnaires (1273 out of approximately 2600).

### Household Participation



For the next step, we developed a survey database and recruited a team of data-entry volunteers. Because of the huge volume of information collected, data entry took approximately 340 hours and almost a year to complete. The full survey results, together with geographical analysis where appropriate, can be found on the Pucklechurch Community Website ([www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org)).

Over the next two years, members of the Steering Group and sub-committees analysed the data, identified the findings that could be drawn from it, and developed goals and action plans. This publication represents a summary of that work. The full reports on the four topics can be found on the Pucklechurch Community Website. Sub-committee members brought the findings and action plans for the topic areas before the Parish Council for discussion in June 2010, and the Parish Council formally adopted the Community Plan on 21 July 2010.

## The Parish of Pucklechurch

The Parish of Pucklechurch is located in South Gloucestershire, just beyond the north-eastern fringe of Bristol's suburbs. The parish contains the villages of Pucklechurch and Shortwood, plus the areas of Parkfield and Lyde Green. Its rural environment consists of pastures and arable fields, typically enclosed by traditional hedgerows. The landscape of undulating hills totals approximately 920 hectares (2300 acres). The M4 motorway runs through the north of the parish.

The 2001 census showed a parish population of 3082, including 311 young people at Ashfield Young Offenders' Institute. (These and the 158 children younger than five years old were deducted to arrive at the total surveyed population used in our Community Plan statistics.) The census recorded 1089 residential dwellings within the parish. There are 28 listed buildings and 13 locally listed buildings of importance in the parish. Relics of 19th-century coal mining and brick-making industries provide evidence of the area's industrial past.

The village of Pucklechurch is the largest village in the parish,

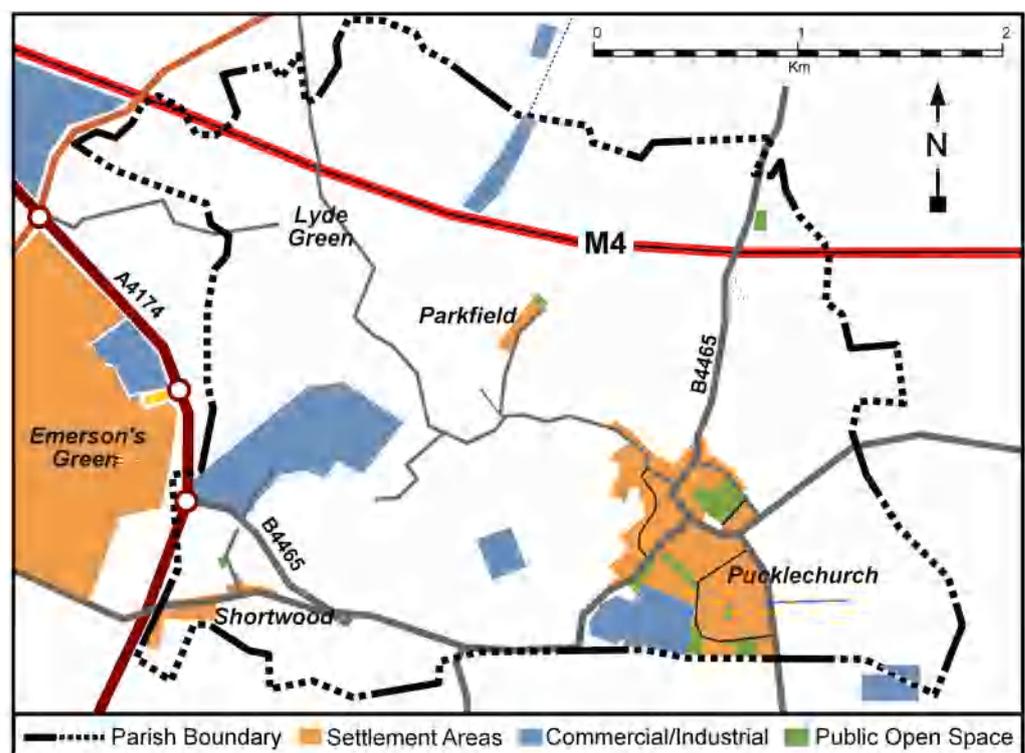
with over 900 dwellings. The historic centre of Pucklechurch has been a designated Conservation Area since 1975, with a number of fine houses dating from the 16th to 19th century, interspersed with small workers' cottages, workshops and shops. The oldest building in Pucklechurch is the 13th-century St Thomas à Becket Church. Modern homes built in the 1960s and '70s, including those in the large estate on ex-RAF land, make up the majority of dwellings in the village. There is a large recreation ground with play area in the centre of the village, adjacent to the church and the community centre, and a number of smaller open spaces and play areas within the modern estate. Significant historical events in Pucklechurch include the murder of King Edmund in 946 AD, a mention in the Domesday Book, coal mining in the 19th century, and the activities of an RAF barrage balloon base during WWII. Pucklechurch also contains an industrial estate and a Young Offenders' Institute (YOI).

Shortwood is a small village of 100 dwellings. Although it is now largely residential, Shortwood was a busy industrial area in the

19th and early 20th centuries, with brickworks, coal mines, clay pits and railways. It also encompasses a number of Regionally Important Geological (RIG)/Geomorphological Sites, including one at Shortwood Clay Pits, as well as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest, such as areas of ancient woodland. Important historical and archaeological sites include Brandy Bottom Colliery and a bronze age round barrow.

The area known as Parkfield is characterised by a row of 50 small cottages known as "The Rank", built to accommodate miners working at Parkfield Colliery, which was opened by Sir Handel Cossham in 1851. The colliery manager's house still stands, as well as a schoolhouse built in 1895 and a Methodist chapel founded in 1857, both of which have since been converted into dwellings.

The Lyde Green area at the north-western end of the parish includes some Registered Common Land and a few listed buildings, including Lyde Green Farm, which was originally built some time in the 1500s.



## Environment

One objective of the Community Plan survey was to gauge public opinion on the manmade and natural surroundings that provide the setting of our community. The questions themselves related to three broad areas:

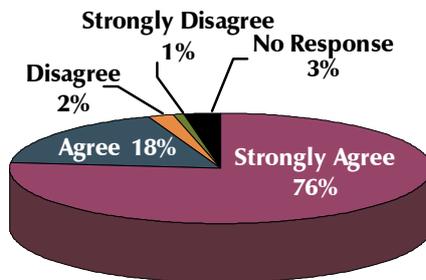
- The natural environment – our local landscape and wildlife
- The built environment – our buildings, roads and other urban features
- The historic environment – our local heritage sites and monuments

The responses to these questions highlighted the aspects of our environment that are most important to us and how we would like to see our environment develop in the future. Some survey questions gathered data on concerns about the care, appearance and upkeep of the parish and how residents are affected by specific issues or problems.



## Key Findings

The Community Plan survey asked residents to respond to a number of statements about our local environment. Collectively almost 90% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed it was important to them to live in a rural environment, and over 90% strongly agreed or agreed that the community should remain separated from neighbouring population centres such as Emerson's Green. The overwhelming majority (94%) believed that the preservation of the Green Belt was important to our community, while only 3% felt that this was not important.



**"The preservation of the Green Belt is important to our local community"**

In another question about the Green Belt, almost 9 out of 10 people who returned a questionnaire said that the Green Belt should be preserved *at all costs*. When questioned further, however, many people regarded some types of development as preferable to others on Green Belt or agricultural land. These might be described as complementing our rural locality, such as nature reserves, country parks or sporting and outdoor facilities. There was little support for the development of either type of land for residential, business or commercial purposes, but more people thought residential development was acceptable for agricultural land (17%) than Green Belt land (6%).

Over half of the people who responded to the questionnaire favoured no further development in the parish. The survey asked specifically about three types of development (housing, commercial/industrial, and shops) on six types of land (derelict/vacant, industrial brown field, agricultural green field, redundant buildings, gardens, and infill). Housing was the most acceptable option, particularly on derelict or brown-field sites and for redundant buildings, with very little support for any type of development on green field sites or gardens. There is, however, overwhelming support for the redevelopment of the derelict chapel site in Pucklechurch village centre as a garden or community facility. The unsightly remains of the chapel on a site choked with weeds occupy one of the most central positions in the village.

**There is overwhelming support for the redevelopment of the derelict chapel site in Pucklechurch village centre as a garden or community facility**



A majority of respondents said that being close to family was an important aspect of where they lived. This finding may have some bearing on whether the local housing supply can continue to support this in the future. Opinion on further development of Pucklechurch Trading Estate is divided, but very few people supported the idea of substantial additional development on the site.

Most people who responded thought that the existing facilities for travellers were adequate and disagreed that more should be done. The idea of a travellers' site at Emerson's Green East was not supported. There are currently five legal developments for travellers in the parish and one that requires a retrospective planning application to remain legal. There is also one illegal development that has been taken to appeal after a court case. The new Government revoked the Regional Spatial Strategy in July 2010. They have said that decisions on housing supply, including travellers' sites, will rest with local planning authorities with no requirement to meet target numbers.

Preservation of the natural environment is important to local residents. Our local countryside is well used by many people on either a daily or weekly basis, though a relatively small number (15%) either do not or cannot use it at all. A majority of survey respondents supported all measures suggested for preservation and enhancement.

The historic environment is also valued by our community – only 5% of those who expressed an opinion felt that it was not important to preserve and enhance it. As to how we could best preserve our heritage, respondents favoured encouraging an active interest through education, providing information about historic sites in the area, and sympathetic repair and restoration. Given the long history of human activity in the area, as well as the number of historic features, there is scope to provide a wide variety of opportunities to interest the local community.

The results of the survey showed that residents view litter as a problem in a wide variety of places, with more problems along public thoroughfares, both inside and outside the built-up areas. Overall, hedges, ditches and verges seem to be the messiest. The recreation ground and play areas seem to have fewest litter problems, which may be due to the combined efforts of a Parish Council-employed litter warden and a few residents who take it upon themselves to clean up these areas. Most people identified pedestrians as the main source of litter, and a significant number of written comments blamed the younger generation. Fly-tipping is prevalent in a number of out-of-the-way places, with the top five fly-tipping sites being Coxgrove Hill, Redford Lane, Shortwood Hill, Cattybrook Road, and West-erleigh Road.



Dog fouling was perceived by many residents as a problem "sometimes" in many places, though 30% did not answer this question and may not think that dog fouling is a problem at all.

Although the vast majority of residents who returned questionnaires felt that our street lighting was adequate, in a few places lighting is a problem, with light levels either too low or too high. Over 150 individuals qualified their responses to this question, and it is clear from some of the comments that lighting can be a question of personal preference, as near neighbours made contradictory statements. More than half of people answering this question thought our street lights should stay on all night, but collectively almost the same number thought they should be switched off at least in some areas. Light pollution is not an issue for the vast majority, but residential security lights cause problems for some and light from YOI Ashfield and Pucklechurch Trading Estate causes the most concern.

Noise is not a problem for most people, but some reported problems relating to roads and other residents, and there is a problem with noise from Pucklechurch Trading Estate. Most people are not affected by vibration from vehicles, except in the centre of Pucklechurch and on Policeman’s Hill.



## Vision for the Future

Three key elements will enable the local community to make a positive contribution to the focus areas in the future. The first is information: A well-informed community will understand issues and be able to act decisively or change their attitudes, as well as appreciate the current situation. The second is engagement: An engaged community will take responsibility because they care about something they are involved or interested in. The last element is empowerment: An empowered community will be able to take positive action because residents, either individually or collectively, can make their voices heard at many levels. Thus, the formula for the future of the local environment is simple:

**To Inform, Engage & Empower =  
To Preserve, Improve, & Enhance**



This principle underpins the vision for our future, and the action plan that follows will improve our ability to protect and shape our own community. The goals are to ensure our local environment contributes to our overall sense of well-being and contentment and to increase our sense of community identity through a shared knowledge of the special characteristics of the local environment. The plan also aims to promote better communication and contact among all parties interested in the local environment. Essentially, we want local residents to feel empowered to make a difference and encouraged to act responsibly towards our local environment.

# Environment Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<b>Key Findings: Planning and Development (General)</b>			
<p>Q6: Living in a rural environment physically separated from other settlements is very important to our community. Q8: There is overwhelming support for the preservation of the Green Belt. Q7: The natural environment (green spaces, hedgerows and trees) is much more important to people than being close to work. Q9: Some types of development of Green Belt or agricultural land are preferable to others but there is little support for using either for housing, commercial or business premises. Q10: A majority of people who responded to the questionnaire favoured no further development; however, for all the circumstances suggested housing was the most acceptable option.</p>			
<b>EN-1.</b> Ensure all agencies related to preservation (or otherwise) of local Green Belt and natural environment are aware of strength of local feeling	Publish results of survey, distribute to local residents, and circulate to targeted key agencies, such as the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and South Gloucestershire Council (SGC)	Year 1 and ongoing  Cost dependent on distribution list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
<b>EN-2.</b> Alert parish residents to potential threats to Green Belt and empower them to make their opinions known	Publish an easy-to-use guide as an insert for <i>Pucklechurch News</i> on searching and commenting on local planning issues and consultations	Year 2  £200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• P. News Team</li> </ul>
	Provide link to SGC planning website from Pucklechurch Community Website	Year 1 and ongoing  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
	Publicise plans for large-scale local development (such as those contained within SGC Core Strategy)	Year 1 and ongoing  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
<b>EN-3.</b> Better inform residents of local planning applications	Relocate Parish notice board to make planning notices more prominent	Year 2  £200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Encourage people to sign up to online planning notification service (SGC Planning Finder)	Year 2 and ongoing  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
<b>Key Findings: Development of Derelict Chapel and Pucklechurch Trading Estate</b>			
<p>Q11: There is overwhelming support for the redevelopment of the derelict chapel and little enthusiasm for leaving it as it is. Q13: Opinion on further development of Pucklechurch Trading Estate is divided but very few people actually supported the idea of substantial additional commercial development.</p>			
<b>EN-4.</b> Ensure that feelings of local residents are taken into account in any future plans relating to redevelopment of these specific areas	Make results from survey widely available to all agencies – including a formal response by Parish Council to current Pucklechurch Conservation Area consultation – and to owners of chapel site	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• CPRE</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
	Alert local residents to planning applications early and, if necessary, organise public consultation meetings, facilitate sharing of information, assist residents to make comments	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• CPRE</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>

## Environment Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
	Encourage formation of a Community Action Group so residents might actively promote redevelopment (e.g., of chapel site) and act as an independent voice within community – advertise for volunteers in <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 2 and ongoing  Start up costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• CPRE</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>

### **Key Finding: Travellers' Sites**

Q14: Collectively most people who responded agreed that adequate provision for travellers' sites already exists and disagreed that more should be done – the idea of a site at Emerson's Green was clearly not supported.

<b>EN-5.</b> Inform residents of progress of South Gloucestershire Council's Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan and the results of West of England Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment	Publicise formal SGC consultation opportunities and provide updates on/summary of SGC plan through <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 1 and ongoing  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Add links to this information on Pucklechurch Community Website	Year 1 and ongoing  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>

### **Key Findings: Preservation of the Countryside**

Q15: Our local countryside is well-used by people on either a daily or weekly basis, whilst only a relatively small number of people either do not or cannot use it at all. Q16: Preservation of the natural environment is clearly important with a high level of support for all the measures suggested.

<b>EN-6.</b> Improve access to and increase usage of local countryside	Formulate and adopt a phased Countryside and Historic Site Access Plan that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote parish as a venue for wildlife activities (such as bird-watching), as well as other interests such as photography and art</li> <li>• Promote parish as a venue for rambles and other walks including installation of way-marking signposts for themed trails and footpaths, including viewpoints and points of interest</li> <li>• Promote use of Bristol-Bath Cycle Path (including provision of easier access to it from Pucklechurch)</li> <li>• Produce and distribute leaflets relating to trails, habitats, landscape usage, and wildlife suitable for all age groups and physical abilities in a wide variety of formats</li> </ul>	Phase 1 Year 1 (website and <i>Pucklechurch News</i> ) £200 for inserts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Sustrans</li> <li>• CPRE</li> <li>• Ramblers' Assoc.</li> <li>• RSPB</li> <li>• Avon Wildlife Trust</li> <li>• Local art/ photography groups (to be identified)</li> </ul>
		Phase 2 Year 2 Substantial cost – potential grant application	

# Environment Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Litter</b>            Q19: Litter appears to be a problem more often than not in a wide variety of places, although the Recreation Ground and play areas are perceived to be less problematical. Q20: Most people identified pedestrians as the source of litter and there is a perception that the younger generation are largely to blame. Q22: Fly-tipping is prevalent in a number of out-of-the-way places.</p>			
<p><b>EN-7.</b> Reduce level of litter</p>	Produce and adopt a community anti-litter strategy that incorporates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of number, position, and placement of bins to make disposal as easy as possible</li> <li>• An awareness campaign aimed at need for prevention</li> <li>• A review of enforcement process to deal with “litter louts”</li> </ul>	Year 1 and ongoing Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• CPRE</li> </ul>
	Publicise mechanisms for local reporting of fly-tipping via <i>Pucklechurch News</i> and website and include this information in Village Directory	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> Team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
	Raise profile of South Gloucestershire Annual Spring Clean	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> Team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> <li>• Community groups</li> </ul>
	Encourage formation of Litter Action Groups to adopt particular areas and promote use of SGC anti-litterbug resources in school	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Community groups</li> <li>• Residents</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Finding: Dog Fouling</b>            Q21: Most people who answered this question perceive dog fouling to be a problem “sometimes” in a wide variety of places, but a relatively large number of people don’t think dog fouling is a problem at all.</p>			
<p><b>EN-8.</b> Reduce amount of dog fouling</p>	Produce and adopt a community anti-dog fouling strategy that incorporates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of number/position/ placement of dog bins to make disposal as easy as possible in consultation with local dog owners</li> <li>• An awareness campaign relating to health and environmental issues</li> <li>• A review of enforcement process with SGC</li> <li>• Promotion of responsible dog ownership through existing local publications and website</li> </ul>	Year 1 and ongoing Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP Steering Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Residents</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• CPRE</li> </ul>

# Environment Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Noise and Light Pollution</b>            Q23: Noise is not a problem for most people, but some report problems relating to roads and for other residents there is a specific issue with noise from Pucklechurch Trading Estate (PTE). Q24: Most people are not affected by vibration from vehicles, but lorries, particularly those dealing with freight at Pucklechurch Trading Estate during the night, cause problems for some. Q17: Our street lighting is considered to be adequate by most people, but there are significant localised issues for some. Q18: Almost as many people think our street lights should be switched off at least in some areas, as those who think our street lights should stay on all night. Q23: Light pollution is not an issue for the vast majority of people, but residential security lights cause problems for some and collectively light from YOI Ashfield and PTE cause the most concern.</p>			
<p><b>EN-9.</b> Reduce number of households affected by light and noise pollution</p>	Undertake comprehensive local study of problem areas identified by respondents	Year 1 Costs to Be Determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	Arrange a meeting with the YOI, SEGRO, and local businesses to discuss issues raised by residents	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SEGRO</li> <li>• Local businesses</li> <li>• YOI Ashfield</li> </ul>
	Encourage residents to consider more “neighbour friendly” use of residential security lights	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Encourage local residents to discuss localised problems with each other and to be more proactive in reporting problems	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Publicise Noise Concern’s stepped programme for action	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Make copies of DEFRA leaflet “Bothered by Noise?” available via Pucklechurch Community Website download (or in hard copy)	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• DEFRA</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Findings: Historic Environment</b>            Q43: There is clear support for the preservation and enhancement of the historic environment, especially through education and the provision of information and by sympathetic repair and restoration.</p>			
<p><b>EN-10.</b> Raise awareness of local historic and natural environment</p>	Make information relating to historic and natural environment readily available by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging formation of a special interest group</li> <li>• Adding material to website (including links to pre-existing sources such as Heritage Gateway and interest groups)</li> <li>• Publishing leaflets as part of Countryside and Historic Access (noted above) and via <i>Pucklechurch News</i> and website</li> <li>• Organising a local history/natural environment recording project</li> </ul>	Phase 1 Year 1 (website and <i>Pucklechurch News</i> ) £200 for inserts  Phase 2 Year 2  Moderate cost – potentially self-financing or through grant application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Special interest groups</li> <li>• Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Community Association (PCA)</li> <li>• SGC Historical Environment Record</li> <li>• Local Museums Group</li> <li>• South Glos. Biodiversity Groups</li> <li>• Schools</li> </ul>

## Community Spirit

“Community spirit” covers the way people feel about the place they live: how much they feel they are part of a community and how much they are engaged in it.

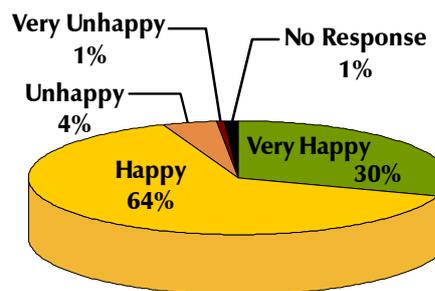
Our community exists within a defined area – the Parish of Pucklechurch, including the villages of Pucklechurch and Shortwood and the areas of Parkfield and Lyde Green. Within our area, there are places that have an impact on community spirit. Much of what was captured in the survey results identifies residents’ views on these places – the buildings and facilities within the community that provide spaces for people to meet other members of the community. For these reasons, our community spirit action plan addresses many issues of place. The adjacent table lists many of the “public places” where people meet within the parish.

There are many opportunities and places for people in our community to meet, and their reasons for meeting are many and various. Some of the places people come together are designed for that purpose, such as the Pucklechurch Community Centre, the Scout Hut, the pubs and social clubs and the churches. Other venues just happen to be places where people meet, such as the doctor’s surgery, bus stops, shops and the Post Office.

Local Venues Where People Meet		
<b>Purpose-built for community use:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Centre</li> <li>• Recreation ground</li> <li>• Play areas</li> </ul> <b>Informal meeting places:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus stops</li> <li>• Post Office</li> <li>• Village Store</li> <li>• Walker's Newsagent</li> <li>• Anstee's Bakery</li> <li>• Hero's Hairdressers</li> </ul>	<b>Meeting places for specific groups:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scout Hut</li> <li>• Royal and Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes' Lodge</li> <li>• Homefield Centre</li> <li>• Dennisworth Centre</li> <li>• St Thomas à Becket Church</li> <li>• Shortwood Chapel</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> </ul>	<b>Pubs, clubs, and eating places:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge Inn</li> <li>• Coach House Café</li> <li>• Fleur de Lis</li> <li>• PCA Social Club</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Village Sports and Social Club</li> <li>• Rose and Crown</li> <li>• Star Inn</li> </ul>

### Key Findings

The vast majority of parish residents are either happy or very happy with the character of the place in which they live. Respondents feel that our parish has a strong community identity (77%) and that people look out for each other here (77%). The majority of respondents feel it is important that they have a strong family life embedded in a well-defined community, with good recreational and social opportunities. Proximity to work was only important for 37% of respondents. Half of the people who responded to the survey were generally happy with the communal areas in Pucklechurch.



**Level of Satisfaction with the Area You Live In**



The Community Plan survey assessed how people felt about facilities provided for different age groups within the parish. By a wide margin, people believed the most under-served age group was young people (secondary school age). One of the improvements that could be made within the parish is providing more for them to do. Over half the respondents felt that there were insufficient facilities for this age group, and among the under-25s responding, two-thirds felt there were not enough facilities for young people.

The survey offered four suggestions for possible facilities:

- An off-road mountain bike area, which over 200 people said they would use
- A kick-about area, which 179 respondents said they would use
- An internet café, which 132 people said they would use
- A youth group, which 126 people said they would use

It is worth noting that a youth group has been meeting at the Community Centre on Thursday evenings since early 2010 and has been well attended.



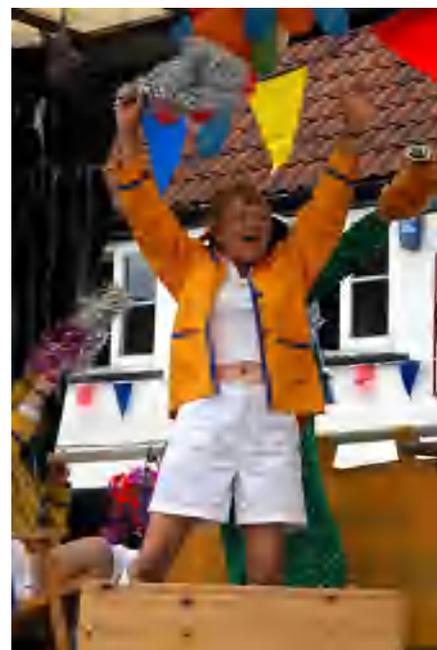
At the other end of the age spectrum, only 15% of respondents felt that the facilities provided within the parish for older people were inadequate. Of respondents aged 60 and over, however, only 42% felt that facilities for older people were adequate.

A quarter of respondents thought that the facilities in the parish for people with disabilities are insufficient. The 2001 census data showed there were 408 people, or 15% of population, with a “limiting long-term illness” in the parish. Our survey showed that 7% of respondents reported difficulties with access to amenities within the parish, mentioning places such as the recreation ground, doctor’s surgery, PCA Social Club, Scout Hut (which has subsequently been fitted with a ramp), and pavements that are too narrow or blocked by parked cars and overhanging vegetation.

There are specific areas in the parish where a higher proportion of people report access difficulties: Shortwood Road, (including the Poplars and Dennisworth), Hawkridge Drive, and Dyrham View. More than a fifth of respondents have difficulties getting to a hospital, dentist, chemist or other services outside the parish, rising to 58% of the elderly respondents at the Poplars.

It is important to note that the Community Plan project has already resulted in the creation of the Good Neighbour Scheme to address some of these identified needs. This group provides support for individuals in the parish who require help with day-to-day life, such as lifts to hospital, collecting prescriptions, and minor household or garden tasks.

Many people within the parish are involved in local activities. Of Pucklechurch respondents, 40% are involved in one or more local clubs or organisations, compared to 22% of Shortwood respondents. Not surprisingly, given that there is no purpose-built community meeting place, there is a significant desire for a village hall in Shortwood among Shortwood respondents, which would likely increase the range of activities available in Shortwood itself. Two perceptions about local activities could be influenced by the action plan: “no suitable group available” and “poor publicity”.

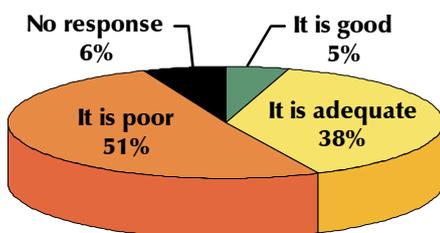


Around a third of those responding said they would like to attend adult education classes in the parish. The most popular time would be evenings (70% of those who responded on times) but there was also some demand for daytime classes on weekdays and at weekends. Of those supporting the idea of classes, the comments suggest that computing and Internet use would be the most popular topic (127 people), with language classes coming second (110 people).



The two main village events of the year are Pucklechurch Revel and Shortwood Village Fete. These are vitally important contributors to community spirit, with 87% of respondents assessing them as important or very important. These events are also well supported by those living in the area.

Although a large majority (87%) of survey respondents believe that the parish is a safe place to live, opinion is divided over the issue of local police services. Half the respondents believe police coverage in the parish is poor, while a third said it was adequate, and only 5% said it was good. Clearly there's a lot of room for improvement in the provision and/or perception of police support for our parish.



**Opinions on Police Coverage**

The Parish Council has some work to do on residents' understanding of what they do, with a third of respondents saying they were not sure what the council's responsibilities are. As a result of this Community Plan finding, the Parish Council has already taken steps to address this problem by creating a brochure that explains its responsibilities and tells residents how they can raise issues with the council. The brochure was distributed to all households in the parish in December 2009.

Community spirit requires communication, and three-quarters of survey respondents said they were either "informed" or "well informed" about what is going on in the community. Most people (88%) reported that they got their local information from *Pucklechurch News*, with word-of-mouth (61%) and shop windows (55%) also rating highly as important sources of information. The Internet and email were used by more than half of respondents to the survey, though many of these had not been using the community website as a source of local information. Again, it is worth noting that the Community Plan findings have already triggered an increase in the frequency of *Pucklechurch News*, which has moved from four to five issues per year.

## Vision for the Future

Achieving the aims set out in the action plan will enable us to develop an even more positive community spirit. Our vision for the future is one in which more people take an active part in community activities and volunteer to help out with community groups and projects.

We would like to see a community that is inclusive and has addressed the perceived disadvantages of minority groups. Local facilities would cater for all, ensuring that the young, the old, and the disabled have access when they want it. A youth group has already been established to attract people of secondary school age and provide a range of activities for them. Our community must provide the support this group needs to continue and flourish.

**Our vision for the future is one in which more people take an active part in community activities**

The Community Centre in Pucklechurch would be a place that residents can be proud of and one that enhances community spirit. A village hall in Shortwood would provide a place for local groups to meet and a venue for community events.

Everyone in the parish would be aware of the activities of local groups, the police, and the Parish Council and know how to join, contact, and raise issues. A more frequent *Pucklechurch News* and the frequently updated Pucklechurch Community Website would make people are aware of all that is happening and enhancing our feeling of community.

## Community Spirit Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Pucklechurch Community Centre</b>                      Q26: Almost half of all respondents feel the Community Centre is adequate. Of those who feel it is not, many comment on it being a “blot on the landscape” and the need for it to be made more accessible to the whole community.</p>			
<p><b>CS-1.</b> Make the Community Centre (Village Hall) in Pucklechurch one that the community can be proud of and which enhances community spirit</p>	Support makeover team working to identify improvements to Community Centre, using survey results to assist in lobbying for funds, if appropriate	Year 1 and ongoing  Costs expected to be high and require grant funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makeover team</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Community Association (PCA) Committee</li> </ul>
	Communicate plans and funding requirements to all Community Centre users	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makeover team</li> <li>• PCA, representing Community Centre users and user groups</li> </ul>
	Encourage PCA and makeover team to consult widely on planned improvements	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makeover team</li> <li>• PCA, representing Community Centre users and user groups</li> </ul>
Engage community in supporting the role of the Community Centre in village life		Year 1  No central cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makeover team</li> <li>• PCA, representing Community Centre users and user groups</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Finding: Shortwood Village Hall</b>                      Q27: There is a significant desire for a village hall in Shortwood among Shortwood respondents.</p>			
<p><b>CS-3.</b> Establish feasibility of providing a community centre in Shortwood</p>	Encourage formation of a project team from interested Shortwood residents	Year 1 and ongoing  Cost expected to be significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Learn from work of PCA and makeover team about Pucklechurch Community Centre	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortwood project team</li> <li>• Makeover team</li> <li>• PCA</li> </ul>
	Consult South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) on viable processes for creating new community centres	Year 1  Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortwood project team</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>

## Community Spirit Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Facilities for Young People</b>            Q28: 57% of respondents from Pucklechurch and 46% from Shortwood feel there are insufficient facilities for young people. This is a higher figure than those for any other category in this question. Of those under the age of 25 responding, 65% feel there are insufficient facilities for young people. In this age group, only 21% feel facilities are sufficient.</p>			
<p><b>CS-4.</b> Establish new facilities for young people – those of secondary school age – either using existing buildings or creating new, purpose-made facilities</p>	Encourage formation of a project team to involve young people in planning process	Year 1 Cost unknown – Grant funding may be available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Mangotsfield School</li> <li>• SGC Children and Young People Service</li> </ul>
	Identify requirements and work with Parish Council and SGC to establish a project plan	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth team</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	Engage a professional Youth Worker to provide a youth club	Started in 2010 Costs split between SGC and Parish Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth team</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	Consult young people in community through Pucklechurch website and <i>Pucklechurch News</i> on above actions	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth team</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	Through consultation, identify gaps and activities that bridge gaps between facilities for young people and those for adults	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth team</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Findings: Facilities for People with Access Difficulties</b>            Q28: 25% feel the facilities for people with disabilities are insufficient. 2001 census data showed there were 408 people, 15% of population, with a “limiting long-term illness” in the parish.</p>			
<p><b>CS-5.</b> Make specific locations more accessible for the disabled and for pushchairs</p>	Seek comments in specific locations to establish what problems are caused for these groups and how they might be addressed; use comment forms and ask community groups to consult members	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Community groups</li> </ul>
	Feasibility/cost study for alterations to specific venues, pavements and footpaths to address issues identified in consultation	Year 2 Cost unknown – Grant funding may be available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Disability Community Action team</li> </ul>
	Involve playgroups, Mums & Minors, and parents in a wind-screen flyer campaign to target vehicles parked on pavements	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Playgroup</li> <li>• Tower Playgroup</li> <li>• Mums &amp; Minors</li> </ul>

## Community Spirit Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<b>CS-6.</b> Facilitate residents in helping each other by matching up volunteers with people who need help and support	Set up a Good Neighbour Scheme to address needs of local residents for help with accessing hospitals, doctors, dentists, etc., taking care of small chores, or just needing company	Established in 2008 Costs covered by grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good Neighbour Scheme</li> </ul>

### Key Finding: Police Coverage

Q32: Opinions are divided over the issue of police coverage, with half the respondents believing it to be poor.

<b>CS-7.</b> Make residents and businesses more aware of activities of local police	Provide regular updates on work of local police, crime statistics for parish, etc., through Pucklechurch Community Website and <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Policing Team</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
	Involve local police in Revel activities	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Policing Team</li> <li>• Revel Committee</li> </ul>
	Involve local police in activities at the school and with young people in the community	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Policing Team</li> <li>• Playgroups</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Youth Club</li> </ul>

### Key Findings: Participation in Local Groups

Q33: Of Pucklechurch respondents, 40% are involved in one or more local groups and 22% of Shortwood respondents, likewise. The two perceptions that could be influenced by the action plan are that there is “no suitable group available” and that there is “poor publicity”.

<b>CS-8.</b> Publicise and celebrate the variety of local events, groups, clubs, and organisations in local area	Publish a listing and membership numbers for all groups within parish in Village Directory and on Pucklechurch Community Website	<b>See ST-12</b> (page 32)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
	Provide more publicity in <i>Pucklechurch News</i> for local groups and advise how to contact them, how to join, where they meet, need for new members, waiting lists, etc.	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> </ul>
	Encourage groups to publicise their activities and need for new members	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> </ul>
	Run an open morning at Revel for all groups to have the opportunity to publicise their activities and need for new members	Year 1 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> <li>• Revel Committee</li> </ul>

## Community Spirit Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<b>Key Finding: Adult Education</b> Q34: A third of those responding to this question (31% of all survey respondents) would like adult education classes.			
<b>CS-9.</b> Offer adult education classes within parish	Identify education providers who would come and provide classes on topics identified in Community Plan survey responses and provide sessions at Community Centre, Brandon Trust, or the school	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Local education providers</li> <li>• Brandon Trust</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• PCA</li> </ul>
	Identify existing classes in parish or nearby and advertise them in <i>Pucklechurch News</i> , on website, and elsewhere, as appropriate	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local education providers</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
<b>Key Finding: Pucklechurch Revel and Shortwood Village Fete</b> Q40: Pucklechurch Revel and Shortwood Village Fete are important to the community spirit of the area and well supported by those living here.			
<b>CS-10.</b> Attract more volunteers to be involved with Pucklechurch Revel	Identify specific roles/tasks and publicise need for volunteers to become involved	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revel Committee</li> <li>• Local schools</li> </ul>
<b>CS-11.</b> Attract more volunteers to be involved with Shortwood Fete	Identify specific roles/tasks and publicise need for volunteers to become involved	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortwood Village Fete Committee</li> <li>• Local schools</li> </ul>
<b>Key Finding: Communications</b> Q37: 74% of respondents say they are either “informed” or “well informed” about what is going on in their community. Q38: The most popular vehicle for sharing information is <i>Pucklechurch News</i> , with word of mouth and shop windows also proving popular.			
<b>CS-12.</b> Reinforce importance of <i>Pucklechurch News</i> as a communication vehicle	Use survey results to reinforce importance of <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
	Increase number of <i>Pucklechurch News</i> editions per year from four to five to make the information more timely	Approved and begun in 2010 £250 per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> </ul>
	Encourage local groups to use <i>Pucklechurch News</i> to publicise local events	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> </ul>
	Promote website's interconnection with paper version of <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
<b>CS-13.</b> Promote parish notice board as an important communication vehicle	Identify a new location or refurbish in existing location to give it more impact; publicise its existence and role it plays	Year 2 £200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
<b>CS-14.</b> Publicise Pucklechurch Community Website	Use <i>Pucklechurch News</i> to draw attention to service offered by Pucklechurch Comm. Website	Year 1 No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>

## Community Spirit Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<b>Key Finding: Role of the Parish Council</b> Q42: There is work to be done informing the Parishioners of what the Parish Council's responsibilities are, particularly for Shortwood.			
<b>CS-15.</b> Publicise role and activities of Parish Council	Produce a leaflet as an insert to <i>Pucklechurch News</i> which explains role and activities of Parish Council, its achievements during past three years and its intentions. Link into website and make regular updates.	Leaflet distributed in 2009 £200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> </ul>
<b>CS-16.</b> Educate primary school children about "community spirit"	Identify opportunities to inform and educate children at local school about what is meant by community and how to engender community spirit. Build on relevant aspects of curriculum to include this topic.	Year 2 £200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	Identify opportunities for community groups to be involved in school activities and tell children about their own activities	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Local groups, clubs and organisations</li> </ul>
<b>CS-17.</b> Support local businesses	Identify promotions that would be appropriate to <i>Pucklechurch News</i>	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local businesses</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> </ul>
	Encourage local businesses to use community website to promote their goods, services and events	Year 2 Costs minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local businesses</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> </ul>



## Traffic and Transportation

During the issues-gathering stage of the Community Plan project, traffic and local transportation was one of the key topics on residents' minds. Traffic and transport were identified as key issues in the leaflet survey. Bus services and traffic speeds were in the top four issues at the Pucklechurch and Shortwood public meetings.

The data collected in the 2007 survey gave the Traffic and Transportation sub-committee insights into attitudes and opinions on traffic speed, volume, heavy goods vehicles, parking, bus use, and other areas detailed in this section. The sub-committee also collected and included data from South Gloucestershire Council on accident statistics and traffic volumes. They were given access to the data recorded by Automatic Traffic Counters (ATC) and from temporary counters and manual surveys courtesy of the Highways and Transportation section of South Gloucestershire Council (SGC). The 2001 Census was used to provide data on vehicle ownership and commuting patterns. This allowed us to calculate a figure for the distance travelled to work for all commuters of the parish. On average, residents of the Parish commute 21,928 miles per day – almost equivalent to a round-the-world journey – or approximately 4.4 million miles a year.

**Residents of the parish commute 21,928 miles per day, almost equivalent to a round-the-world journey**



### Key Findings

Although traffic was an important issue identified early in the Community Plan process, opinion is split on what the problems are and where they are. People living on through routes in Pucklechurch and Shortwood are concerned about traffic on their own roads, but others in the parish were understandably less concerned. The volume of traffic in two areas, however – Pucklechurch village centre and the roads in the school area – concerned respondents over a wider area.

South Gloucestershire's traffic flow data shows that more than 1,000 vehicles per hour pass along Shortwood Road in the rush hour. Although some of this traffic has its origin or destination in the trading estate or YO1 Ashfield, the data indicates that flows in and out of the village are nearly continuous during peak times. Observation of the morning and evening peaks suggests that commuters drive through Pucklechurch in both directions between Bristol and Yate, between Bristol and J18 of the M4, and between north Bristol and Bath via Lansdown.

Speeding traffic concerns residents more than traffic volume, especially on through routes, with 69% of respondents reporting at least one place where speeding was a problem. Two-thirds of respondents were in favour of the Speed Watch programme, which began operating in 2008. The equipment needs to be used more often, however, to have any impact on the behaviour of drivers. Whilst most of the concern over speeding was for the immediate vicinity of the respondent, again Pucklechurch village centre and the school area were seen as particular problems by the population in general. In both these areas, the volume of traffic was seen as more of a problem than speeding, perhaps because the road layout in these areas makes congestion a more common problem than speeding.

There is a difference of opinion about the effectiveness of the traffic calming scheme in Shortwood. The vast majority (70%) of people who live in Shortwood do not believe it is effective, but just over half of others in the parish believe that it is effective. A total of 132 people took the time to write in the survey that they had seen drivers speed up to get round the calming area before an oncoming vehicle.

Opinion was divided on the subject of parking. Half of respondents identified at least one place where they believed parking was a problem. The school area and Pucklechurch village centre were a concern to a quarter of the respondents. The areas around YOI Ashfield, the trading estate, and Parkfield Rank were identified by a relatively high number of residents in those locations. Parking on pavements is not a big problem, but there are some localised areas where residents expressed a high level of concern, particularly in Lansdown Road (where parking obstructs entrances) and Parkfield Rank.



In general, HGVs over 7.5 tonnes are not a problem to the majority of the community. However, HGVs using Castle Road and “roads in the school area” concerned a significant number of people.



Looking at how residents feel about the parish as a place to walk and cycle revealed a few issues. In some places, the lack of pavements presented a problem, with Oaktree Avenue being the most often cited. However, this concern is not widespread within the community. Accident rates are relatively low in the parish. The survey identified a potential problem at the zebra crossing in Pucklechurch, which should be further investigated.

Parish residents indicated both a strong desire to make more use of cycles and very specific actions to make this easier. Over 400 people said that safe, segregated routes within village areas and a route from Pucklechurch to the Bristol–Bath cycle track were highly likely to encourage more cycling.



In a rural area such as ours public transport is always an issue. A large majority of respondents indicated that buses could be made more attractive to them. Going to the right destinations, the frequency of service and the reliability of service were the most important factors for respondents.

**In a rural area such as ours public transport is always an issue**

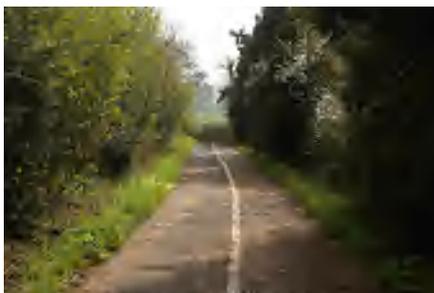
A majority said these would be likely to make them use buses more often. Better information, links to railway stations, the availability of return tickets, and lower fares also scored highly. The most popular destinations were Bristol city centre and Emerson’s Green, followed by Yate, Bath, Fishponds and Longwell Green. Significantly, one of the most popular destinations, Emerson’s Green, currently has no direct connection. Unsurprisingly, the greatest demand on current routes was during existing service times, but clear clusters were identified for later commuting and night-time leisure activities. More frequent and later buses are needed on the Bath service.

## Vision for the Future

The goal of our plan for traffic and transportation is to provide a safe and pleasant environment for all road users – motorised vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, and horse riders. The aims and actions we have defined fall into three major areas: vehicle traffic; pedestrians, walkers, and cyclists; and public transport.

The future envisioned for vehicle traffic in the parish would create an environment that:

- Enhances Pucklechurch village centre and complements the conservation area
- Provides a safe and pleasant environment for pedestrians
- Produces more considerate driver behaviour, with less speeding in particular
- Discourages the use of our villages as shortcuts for through traffic
- Stops heavy goods vehicles (over 7.5 tons) using restricted areas other than for access
- Encourages safe and considerate parking



For pedestrians, walkers, and cyclists, the parish should do the following within the next ten years:

- Provide more safe and attractive routes, both within villages and to and from the network of cycle paths and public rights of way
- Encourage walking and cycling by providing clearly marked and protected routes that give priority to pedestrians and cyclists
- Maintain and enhance existing rights of way, including making access easier (replacing stiles with kissing gates, for example), placing informative route signs on paths and tracks, and providing better information about walking and cycling paths in the area
- Provide an all-weather, segregated (separate from motorised traffic) route from Pucklechurch to the Bristol-Bath cycle track

Improvements to public transport services are required if we are to remain a viable rural community. Our future must include public transport that provides a flexible and attractive alternative to using our cars. The goals are to:

- Reduce the number of journeys we make in private motorised vehicles
- Operate buses that are more frequent, link to other major routes and interchange points, and run late into the evening
- Provide a commuter service that fits the working patterns of the community at times and destinations defined by the plan
- Provide the bus services needed to access recreational and entertainment facilities at the times they are needed, particularly for young people



**The goal of our plan for traffic and transportation is to provide a safe and pleasant environment for all road users – vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, and horse riders**

# Traffic and Transportation Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Traffic in Pucklechurch Village</b>            Q51: Taking the parish as a whole, opinion is split on whether volume of traffic is a concern; however, the majority of people living on through routes in Pucklechurch and Shortwood are concerned about traffic on their own roads. Pucklechurch village centre and roads in the school area were identified as areas of concern by respondents over a wider area. Speeding traffic is a concern to the majority of respondents somewhere in the area and specifically on through routes. Whilst most concern was for the immediate vicinity of the respondent, there was general concern in the community for speeding in “Pucklechurch village centre” and on “roads in the school area”. South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) Traffic Flow Data: Existing traffic flow data indicates that more than 1000 vehicles per hour pass along Shortwood Road at peak times. Although some of this traffic has its origin or destination in the trading estate or YOI Ashfield, the data still shows that flows in and out of the village are at “near continuous” levels during peak times. Q11: There is overwhelming support for redevelopment of the derelict chapel site and little enthusiasm for leaving it as it is.</p>			
<p><b>TT-1.</b> In Pucklechurch village centre, provide a safer and more pleasant environment through carefully planned traffic and pedestrian projects that also enhance and protect conservation area</p>	<p>Consider and cost alternative traffic measures that reduce adverse impact of traffic and parking in line with Draft Supplementary Planning Document for conservation area. Consult on alternatives and seek public support for actions. Seek funding sources.</p>	<p>Years 1-3 Salary costs within SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> <li>• Public transport Operators</li> <li>• Land owners</li> <li>• Residents and businesses</li> </ul>
	<p>Consider and consult on options for a village square (ideally incorporating old chapel site). If possible, acquire chapel site. Establish use, materials and planting appropriate and sensitive for conservation area.</p>	<p>Years 3-8 £250,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> <li>• Public transport operators</li> <li>• Land owners</li> <li>• Residents and businesses</li> </ul>
	<p>Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.</p>	<p>Years 8-10 &gt;£250,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> </ul>
<p><b>TT-2.</b> For roads in school area, provide a safer and more controlled environment through carefully planned pedestrian projects that also regulate parking and reduce through traffic on Castle Road</p>	<p>Consider and cost alternative measures that improve pedestrian safety and reduce adverse impact of parking and traffic. Consult on alternatives and seek public support for actions.</p>	<p>Years 1-3 Salary costs within SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> <li>• Public transport operators</li> </ul>
	<p>Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.</p>	<p>Years 5-10 &gt;£250,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> </ul>

## Traffic and Transportation Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<b>TT-3.</b> On Shortwood Road, Pucklechurch, provide a safer and more controlled environment through carefully planned pedestrian projects that also regulate parking and reduce impact of through traffic	Consider options to make crossing road in vicinity of junction with Homefield Road and existing bus stops safer and reduce vehicle speeds and traffic volume. (This will become more important if surgery is relocated to Oaktree Avenue and should be part of any proposal for that development.) Consult on alternatives and seek public support for actions.	Years 1-2  Costs to Be Determined (TBD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> <li>Utility companies</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
	Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.	Years 3-10  >£20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SGC</li> <li>Utility companies</li> </ul>

### Key Findings: Traffic in Shortwood

Q54: There is a split of opinion between people who live in Shortwood and others as to the effectiveness of the traffic calming scheme. A total of 132 people mentioned that drivers speed up to get round the calming area before an oncoming vehicle.

<b>TT-4.</b> Assess the existing traffic calming scheme in Main Road and Shortwood Hill, Shortwood, and improve it, where possible	Assess effectiveness of existing traffic calming scheme by comparing data on road traffic accidents, traffic flows, and speeds prior to calming being introduced to current situation. Determine scale of problem. Consider whether scheme is still required since the building of link road between Ring Road and Shortwood Road.	Year 1-2  £1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
	Working with local residents, consider amendments and alternatives to improve effectiveness where necessary.	Year 2-5  Costs TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
	Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.	Year 3-10  Costs TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SGC</li> <li>Utility companies</li> </ul>

# Traffic and Transportation Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Pedestrians and Cyclists</b>            Q57: There are some specific local issues with lack of pavements, with Oaktree Avenue being the most often cited. However, this concern is not widespread within the community. Q53: Accident rates are relatively low in the area. The survey identifies a potential problem at the zebra crossing in Pucklechurch, which should be investigated.            Q47, Q49, Q56 and Q57: There is both a strong desire to make more use of cycles and very specific areas of action to enable this to happen. A safe, segregated route from Pucklechurch to the Bristol-Bath cycle track was identified by many as the most important improvement to achieve this. Q15: The local countryside is well-used by many people on either a daily or weekly basis.</p>			
<p><b>TT-5.</b> Provide improved pedestrian and cycle routes in Pucklechurch, both within village and to/from network of cycle paths and public rights of way in order to promote walking and cycling</p>	<p>Prioritise provision of new footways (adjacent to roads) for funding purposes.</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Cycling and pedestrian user groups</li> </ul>
	<p>Build cycle path from Pucklechurch to Bristol-Bath cycle track. This would also satisfy need for a path to Shortwood, Mangotsfield, and Emerson's Green. Include this project in development programme for "Cycling Bristol". Consider and prioritise other routes for inclusion and consider provision of safer highway crossing points.</p>	<p>Years 3-5 Costs TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Sustrans</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
<p><b>TT-6.</b> Provide highway crossings and other facilities for pedestrians and cyclists to promote safety and increased use</p>	<p>Create new crossing points where needed on main roads. Establish need for controlled crossings or uncontrolled road narrowings, road markings and dropped crossings.</p>	<p>Years 3-5 £10,000-£30,000 per crossing, plus running costs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Safer Stronger Group</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Findings: Parking</b>            Q51: Taken as a whole, opinion was divided within the parish on parking. The area around the school and Pucklechurch village centre were identified as the locations that concerned 25% of people from a wide range of locations. The areas around YOI Ashfield/Pucklechurch Trading Estate and Parkfield Rank were identified by a relatively high number of residents in those locations. Q52: Parking on pavements is generally not a concern in the area, but there are some localised areas where a high level of concern was expressed by the residents, particularly in Lansdown Road (where parking obstructs entrances) and Parkfield Rank.</p>			
<p><b>TT-7.</b> Reorganise, reallocate, and control on- and off-street parking in Pucklechurch village centre, near Pucklechurch Primary School, and around the industrial estate (without the need for formal parking control such as double yellow lines)</p>	<p>Establish village centre area parking provision, identifying all available spaces and demand, including loading requirements and cycle parking. Design layout in-line with pedestrian requirements and village square mentioned in TT-1.</p>	<p>Year 1-5 Salary costs within SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Utility companies</li> <li>• Local businesses</li> </ul>

## Traffic and Transportation Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
	Establish parking demand in Castle Road area. Identify all safe parking areas. Reduce road widths to provide safer pedestrian crossing points and parking laybys while reducing opportunity for obstruction and adverse effects of through traffic.	Year 1-5 Salary costs within SGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Utility companies</li> <li>Pucklechurch Primary School</li> <li>Doctor's surgery</li> </ul>
	Establish parking demand in industrial estate area. Identify all safe parking areas. Where possible identify and provide parking bays.	Year 1-5 Salary costs within SGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Utility companies</li> <li>SERCO</li> <li>SEGRO</li> <li>Local businesses</li> </ul>
	Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.	Year 3-10 Centre £100,000 Castle Road £100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SGC</li> <li>Utility companies</li> <li>SERCO</li> <li>SEGRO</li> </ul>

### Key Findings: Speeding

Q51: Speeding traffic is a concern to the majority of respondents somewhere in the area and specifically on through routes. Whilst most concern was for the immediate vicinity of the respondent, there was more general concern in the community for speeding in "Pucklechurch village centre" and on "roads in the school area".

Q55: There is clear support for community speed watch. More use must be made of the equipment to have any impact on the behaviour of drivers.

<b>TT-8.</b> Change driver behaviour to reduce issues associated with inappropriate speed	Introduce effective and permanent speed reporting (to include speed watch and fixed facilities) on all approaches to villages to generate data to support future actions.	Year 1 £10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
	Consider alternatives and establish need and support for formal speed restrictions or introduction of physical measures to affect driver behaviour.	Years 1-5 Salary costs within SGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
	Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction programme.	Years 5-10 £100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SGC</li> </ul>

### Key Findings: HGV Traffic

Q51: HGVs over 7.5T are not of concern to the majority of people within the community. However, Castle Road and "roads in the school area" were identified as locations of concern.

<b>TT-9.</b> Address issues associated with inappropriate heavy goods vehicle routing	Investigate enforcement opportunities and, if not effective, consider removal of existing weight restriction on part of Feltham Road between Rookery Lane and Castle Road.	Years 1-2 £10,000 for Traffic Regulation Order, advertising and works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
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## Traffic and Transportation Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
	Consider alternative measures to discourage through traffic and HGVs in particular. Prioritise routes for treatment.	Years 1-3 Salary costs within SGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Safer Stronger Group</li> </ul>
	Plan works and seek funding sources. Invite public comment. Commence construction	Years 3-10 Costs will depend on outcome of aims TT-1 through TT-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SGC</li> </ul>

### Key Findings: Public Transport

Q44: A large majority of total respondents indicated that buses could be made more attractive to them in one way or another. Destinations, frequency and reliability of service were the most important factors for respondents, with a majority citing this would be likely or highly likely to attract them to use buses more. Better information, links to railway stations, return tickets and lower fares also scored highly. Q45: The most popular destinations were Bristol city centre and Emerson's Green, followed by Yate, Bath, Fishponds and Longwell Green. Significantly, one of the most popular destinations, Emerson's Green, currently has no direct connection. Most demand on current routes was during existing service times but clear clusters were identified for later commuting and night-time leisure activities. More frequent and later buses were issues on the Bath service.

Implement and improve public transport services to provide a flexible and highly attractive alternative to private vehicles through the following measures:

<b>TT-10.</b> Improve level and quality of bus information, routes and services through parish	Install signs identifying bus destinations, routes and connections at each shelter. Improve text service to include destinations and real-time bus information when available. Improve publicity for Community Transport services to Kingswood and Yate.	Years 1-2 £1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
<b>TT-11.</b> Provide a direct bus link to Emerson's Green	Investigate with SGC changing routing of buses through Pucklechurch to include link to Emerson's Green	Years 2-3 Costs to Be Determined (TBD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
<b>TT-12.</b> Improve access to other areas and routes outside parish	Investigate and implement community car scheme or car clubs to reduce need for individual car ownership	Year 3-10 Costs TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> </ul>
	Investigate and implement "Boyd Valley Shuttle" with adjacent parishes	Year 3-10 Costs TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>
	Funding options for revised, new, improved and extended bus services	Year 3-10 Costs TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council</li> <li>SGC</li> <li>Public transport operators</li> </ul>

# Sustainability

The objective of this section is to define an action plan to make the Parish of Pucklechurch a more environmentally sustainable community. This means significantly reducing the carbon footprint of the people, homes, and businesses in the area over the next ten years. A carbon footprint is a measure of the impact our activities have on the environment. It relates to the amount of greenhouse gases (particularly carbon dioxide, or CO2) produced in our day-to-day lives through burning fossil fuels for electricity, heating, transportation, producing what we eat and what we buy, and many more things as well. We have identified four areas in which the Parish of Pucklechurch can take action to reduce its carbon footprint: sustainable energy, sustainable transport, reduce/reuse/ recycle, and buying local.

What does all this mean for the Parish of Pucklechurch? It will influence the choices we have for energy and what type of power generation plants will be built and where. It will shape our transportation networks and determine the relative cost of public and private transport. It will affect waste collection services – what we must recycle and how much we can throw away. It should also encourage us to do our part to save the planet from the ravages of climate change.

**Local households expect to use less of all forms of fossil fuels and more of all forms of renewable energy in five years' time**



## Key Findings

The Community Plan survey asked relatively few questions about sustainability issues. It did, however, ask whether people were interested in forming an environmental group in the parish. More than 100 said yes. As a result, the Pucklechurch Environmental Group was established in 2007. Unfortunately the group disbanded after about 18 months. Such a group will be needed to achieve the aims set out for the Community Plan's sustainability section. The first action is, therefore, to resurrect the group – perhaps taking in a larger area such as Boyd Valley – to carry these plans forward.

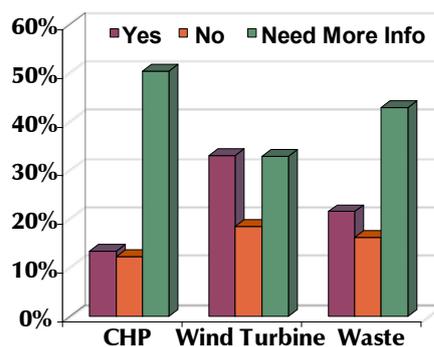
The Community Plan survey asked which forms of energy were being used in the household now and which they intended to use in five years' time. The responses painted a picture of a typical British community in which usage of renewable forms of energy is low. Only 5% of households bought "green" electricity in 2007, but three times as many households expected to be on it in five years' time. Almost half the respondents did not answer the "in 5 years" question, which may indicate a lack of interest or a lack of information about energy alternatives.



The good news is that local households expect to use less of all forms of fossil fuels and more of all forms of renewable energy in five years' time. Without actual data on the energy efficiency of local houses, we will assume that there is a lot that can be done to improve the energy efficiency of homes in our area.

The survey assessed residents' attitudes towards energy production by asking whether they would support the building of a sustainable energy plant in the local area. Three forms of sustainable energy production were proposed: combined heating and power (CHP), wind turbines, and energy from waste.

**Attitudes Toward Sustainable Energy Plant within Parish**



Many people indicated an open mind on having a local sustainable power plant by ticking "would need more information". More people were in favour of having a sustainable energy plant of some type in the local area than were against it. Wind turbines were the best understood of the technologies and had the most support from local residents. The fact that we have a landfill site within the parish means we already have a viable source of renewable energy locally.



Prospects are good for making Pucklechurch more sustainable in terms of transportation. Local people say they are willing to change their travel behaviour if changes are made to make walking, cycling and buses more attractive. Over half of respondents said that safer routes within the village and safer routes connecting to other cycle paths would encourage them to cycle more. Almost half indicated that a less steep route to the Bristol–Bath cycle path would increase their use of bicycles. (This ties into the plans shown in the Traffic and Transportation section of this report.)

Insight into how local people feel about recycling can be gained from their answers about their satisfaction with South Gloucestershire’s current waste management services, including recycling schemes. Residents have embraced the recycling efforts and were keen to have kerbside collection of recyclable plastics, which was implemented by South Gloucestershire at the end of 2010.

The parish is fortunate in that its rural location provides an abundance of locally produced food and drink. Nearby there are a number of farmers’ markets, including Emerson’s Green,

Chipping Sodbury, and Cleve Rugby Club, a WI-run Country Market in Doynton, a local bakery, and a number of farm shops. The majority of people said they would make use of a farmers’ market in the village selling local produce. There is also interest amongst the population in growing their own food, and some local people produce enough that they would like to sell it locally.

### Vision for the Future

What could our community look like in ten years if we became significantly more sustainable? What would “reducing our carbon footprint” really mean? First of all, it would require an awareness of the impact our choices have on the environment. Individuals, families, and businesses would understand that their actions – how they live, where they shop, what they eat, how they get to work or school – have consequences beyond the immediate satisfaction of a need or desire. Some options are more harmful to our environment than others. The key, though, is action: people changing their behaviour in ways that reduce their carbon footprints.

Let’s look at the goals for our four focus areas:

- **Energy:** Reducing the amount of energy consumed in our community. Increasing the percentage of energy that comes from renewable sources. Making individual homes and businesses more energy-efficient. Exceeding the Government’s target of 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2015.
- **Transport:** Creating a place that invites residents, local workers, and visitors to walk or cycle short distances and to take buses or trains for longer journeys, rather than drive. Raising awareness about the benefits of walking, cycling, and public transport. Encouraging people to forgo their cars in favour of more sustainable methods of getting around.
- **Reduce, reuse, recycle:** Becoming a model community for “reduce, reuse, recycle”. Raising awareness and changing people’s behaviour regarding waste, so we don’t buy more than we need, choose products that come with less packaging, repair items rather than discarding and buying new, use home compost bins for garden waste, and trade or donate useable items instead of throwing them away. Exceeding EU targets and developing a community that actively tries to minimise waste and applauds efforts to reuse and recycle.
- **Buy locally:** Having local shops sell locally produced goods and residents naturally think of buying local first. Raising awareness about the benefits of buying local and encouraging people to “think small, think local”. Providing details of local suppliers to help people find local sources for goods and services of all kinds.

# Sustainability Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Finding: Environmental Interest Group</b> H8, Q58, Q59, Q62, Q63, Q65: Local people are concerned about environmental sustainability issues.</p>			
<p><b>ST-1.</b> Have a local group that will lead actions on environmental issues</p>	<p>Re-establish Pucklechurch Environmental Group (PEG) or similar group that covers a larger</p>	<p>Year 1 £100 per annum for meeting room hire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Interested local people</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Findings: Sustainable Energy</b> H8, Q58, Q59, plus South Gloucestershire’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan: Only 5% of households in the parish buy “green” electricity now, but three times as many households expect to be on it in five years’ time. Almost half the respondents did not answer the “in 5 years” question, which may indicate a lack of interest or a lack of information about energy alternatives; however, local households expect to use less of all forms of fossil fuels and more of all forms of renewable energy in five years’ time. Without actual data on the energy efficiency of local households, we will assume that our community is average for the UK and will proceed on the basis that there is a lot that can be done to improve the energy efficiency of homes in our area. More people are in favour of having a sustainable energy plant of some type in the local area than are against it. Wind turbines are the best understood of the technologies and have the most support from local residents. The fact that we have a landfill site within the parish means we already have a viable source of renewable energy locally. Many people indicated an open mind on having a local sustainable power plant by ticking “would need more information”.</p>			
<p><b>ST-2.</b> Make local homes and businesses more energy efficient to improve carbon footprint of our community</p>	<p>Require high standards of energy efficiency for all new development and encourage projects that include site-appropriate renewable energy technologies</p>	<p>Year 1 Cost paid by developers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Gloucestershire Council (SGC)</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote benefits of making more sustainable choices for energy and aware of grants and programmes available to help them become more energy efficient through <i>Pucklechurch News</i>, website, Revel stands, etc.</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Energy Efficiency Advice Centre</li> <li>• Energy providers</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-3.</b> Develop one or more renewable energy plants within parish to meet or exceed Government targets of 20% energy from renewables by 2015</p>	<p>Conduct a feasibility/cost study for wind turbines within parish</p>	<p>Years 2-3 Est. £20,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy providers</li> <li>• SEGRO</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>
	<p>Support development of a methane capture and utilisation system at existing landfill site</p>	<p>Years 1-2 Costs paid by Cory Environmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Cory Environmental</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-4.</b> Reduce amount of energy used for local street lighting</p>	<p>Turn off some of parish's street lights during early morning hours</p>	<p>Year 1 Cost saving</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-5.</b> Create a Community Centre that is a model of energy efficiency</p>	<p>Design new/improved Community Centre as an extremely efficient, low-carbon building</p>	<p>Years 3-5 Costs recouped by lower operating</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCA</li> <li>• Makeover team</li> </ul>

## Sustainability Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Sustainable Transport</b></p> <p>Q44, Q47, Q56: Local residents would be willing to walk more, cycle more, and take the bus more if routes and services were better. Over half of respondents said that safer routes within the village and safer routes connecting to other cycle paths would encourage them to cycle more. Almost half of the respondents indicated that a less steep route to the Bristol-Bath cycle path would increase their use of bicycles.</p>			
<p><b>ST-6.</b> Decrease number of trips that residents make by car within local area</p>	<p>Use a 1-mile pledge campaign to than drive distances less than one mile</p>	<p>Year 2 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote walking to and from Pucklechurch Primary School as the natural thing to do for people living in Pucklechurch</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> </ul>
	<p>Provide bicycle racks in key locations around village (near post office, bakery, newsagent, pubs, Community Centre)</p>	<p>Installed Feb. 2011 Costs paid by SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• Local businesses</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-7.</b> Increase number of people who cycle or use public transport to go places outside of the local area</p>	<p>In conjunction with Countryside and Historic Site Access Plan proposed in Environment section (EN-6), raise awareness of cycle routes and facilities available through signs, maps, posters, brochures, and articles in <i>Pucklechurch News</i></p>	<p>Years 1-3 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote cycling as a healthy and pleasant alternative to driving through <i>Pucklechurch News</i>, Pucklechurch Community Website, Revel stands, etc.</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal for articles and posters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• SGC</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote buses as a viable alternative to cars for getting to school, work, shopping, etc., through <i>Pucklechurch News</i>, Pucklechurch Community Website, Revel stands, etc.</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal for articles and posters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Traffic &amp; Transportation Group</li> <li>• Mangotsfield School</li> <li>• Public transport operators</li> </ul>

## Sustainability Action Plan

Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle</b>            Q63 &amp; EU Landfill Directive: Residents have embraced South Gloucestershire's recycling efforts and are keen to have kerbside collection of recyclable plastics.</p>			
<p><b>ST-8.</b> Reduce amount of rubbish that local homes and businesses put in their black bins and send to the landfill</p>	<p>Raise awareness of benefits to all of wasting less and recycling through <i>Pucklechurch News</i>, Pucklechurch website, Revel stands, school projects, etc.</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• SITA</li> <li>• Pucklechurch Primary School</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote reuse of unwanted goods through Freecycle, Sofa Project, Oxfam, etc., through articles in <i>Pucklechurch News</i>, listings in Village Directory and on website</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Local charities</li> </ul>
	<p>Organise bring-and-take days to sell, give away or trade unwanted goods locally</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Revel Committee</li> <li>• Local charities</li> </ul>
	<p>Provide a recycling facility for plastics within village (bin placed in Community Centre car park in 2008)</p>	<p>Done in 2008 Cost paid by YOI Ashfield</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• YOI Ashfield</li> <li>• SERCO</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-9.</b> Have doorstep collection of all recyclables</p>	<p>Pressure SGC to move toward regular collection of all recyclables, including plastics</p>	<p>Started in 2010 Cost paid by SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• SITA</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-10.</b> Reduce water use – save energy and waste by saving water</p>	<p>Raise awareness of impact of domestic water use and ways to save water through posters and articles in <i>Pucklechurch News</i> and on Pucklechurch website</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Wessex Water</li> </ul>
	<p>Make new/improved Community Centre a low water use building (using grey water recycling; diffusers; dual flush WCs; low-flow showers, etc.)</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs to be recouped by lower operating costs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCA</li> <li>• Makeover team</li> </ul>
	<p>Introduce a water butt scheme – working with Wessex Water to encourage a water butt in every garden by selling them at a discount</p>	<p>Years 2-3 Costs paid by households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Wessex Water</li> </ul>

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Aim	Actions	Estimated Cost & Timescale	Partners
<p><b>Key Findings: Buy Local</b>            Q62, Q63, Q65: The majority of people in the village would make use of a farmers' market selling local produce. In Pucklechurch Parish, there is a strong interest amongst the population in growing their own food, and some local people produce enough that they would like to sell it locally.</p>			
<p><b>ST-11.</b> Create a preference amongst local people for buying local goods and services</p>	<p>Raise awareness of benefits of buying local and availability of local goods and services through posters, brochures, Village Directory, and articles in <i>Pucklechurch News</i></p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• SGC</li> <li>• Local businesses</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> </ul>
	<p>Set up a web page that provides a list of local suppliers that allows businesses to advertise local products and services</p>	<p>Year 1 Costs minimal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-12.</b> Help local producers and home gardeners sell their produce locally</p>	<p>Update Pucklechurch Village Directory regularly to help promote local suppliers</p>	<p>Year 1, then every other year £350 for printing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• <i>P. News</i> team</li> <li>• Webmaster</li> </ul>
	<p>Encourage local producers to promote their wares at Revel</p>	<p>2011 No cost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Revel Committee</li> </ul>
	<p>Explore possibility of starting a “country market” in Pucklechurch (examine how other groups are set up and run)</p>	<p>Years 2-3 Costs covered by revenue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEG</li> <li>• Gardeners' Club</li> <li>• Women's Institute</li> </ul>
	<p>Encourage mentoring of new gardeners by experienced ones</p>	<p>Year 2 No cost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardeners' Club</li> </ul>
<p><b>ST-13.</b> Increase number of people who grow their own food</p>	<p>Organise seed and plant sharing days</p>	<p>Year 2 No cost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardeners' Club</li> </ul>
	<p>Organise a garden sharing scheme to match those who have “spare” garden with those who want more space to grow</p>	<p>Started in 2008 No cost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardeners' Club</li> <li>• Good Neighbour Scheme</li> </ul>
	<p>Increase number of allotments available locally</p>	<p>Year 2 ~£3,500 for land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> </ul>

## Next Steps

Now that this Community Plan has been completed by the Steering Group and adopted by the Pucklechurch Parish Council, it is up to us as a community to carry it forward. The aims and actions outlined here are based on what we have said we want and what's most important to our community. It should be used to guide the way our parish develops in the future but as a living document that can and should be changed as the needs of our community change.

The Community Plan Steering Group will continue to exist, though its role will change from collecting and analysing data, planning, and writing to monitoring progress on the action plan. Some members of the committee may leave now that the planning phase is complete, and new members with different skills will be needed to carry out the plans. The job now is to motivate the groups that will achieve the results. The Steering Group may encourage the four working groups – environment, community spirit, traffic and transportation, and sustainability – to expand and take the lead for implementing the actions. As a plus for the groups, having a Community Plan will make it easier to obtain grants or other funding for local initiatives because it can be used to prove that the projects have the support of the local population.



Copies of this Community Plan, as well as the data and analysis behind it, will be provided to various South Gloucestershire Council departments to help them set priorities for projects and services that affect our parish. SGC have encouraged community-led planning and are committed to integrating community or parish plans into their community strategy called "Our Area, Our Future". Our Community Plan will influence the future direction of that strategy.

**It is up to us  
as a community  
to carry  
this plan  
forward**

The Pucklechurch Parish Council, having adopted the Community Plan, are not wholly responsible for implementing it. The Parish Council are responsible for a number of the actions outlined in the plan and also have some general responsibilities regarding it. For example, there are a number of findings, aims, and actions that should now guide the Parish Council's policies and decisions. The Parish Council should refer to the relevant sections of the plan when they work with South Gloucestershire Council on planning applications, the SGC community strategy, and providing input on projects and services that affect the Parish of Pucklechurch. The Parish Council should also stay in contact with the Community Plan Steering Group and monitor progress on a regular basis.



## For Further Information

If you would like to find out more about the Community Plan for the Parish of Pucklechurch, the best place to look is the Pucklechurch Community Website:

[www.pucklechurch.org/html/plan.html](http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/plan.html)

This website contains all the documents produced by the Community Plan Steering Group, including the leaflets used to promote participation in the plan, the original questionnaires, the data itself, the data analysis, a mapping application that lets you view the data geographically using Google Earth, and the full reports and action plans produced by the four sub-committees.



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