

Priorities from Wealden Parish Action Plans

9th May 2005

A report to highlight the actions arising from local level Parish Action Plans in relation to the priorities identified in the Wealden Community Strategy

Action in
rural **Sussex**

1. Introduction

This report contains information on the Actions raised from the following Parish Action Plans:

- Chalvington with Ripe
- Herstmonceux
- Maresfield
- Mayfield and Five Ashes
- Willingdon and Jevington

NB. Parish Appraisals have been produced by: Chiddingly, East Hoathly with Halland, Hadlow Down and Westham. It is not possible to include data from these Appraisals in this report, due to the nature of the document produced.

At least another 15 Parishes are currently engaged in the process of producing an Action Plan. Their Actions will be added to those below when they have produced their final Plan.

2. Environment

Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council should press Wealden District Council to extend the CROWN system to the parish, if need be on a trial basis. The costs and problems could then be established. It seems wrong to withhold a service, for which there is a strong demand, from the rural population.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Footpaths Group has recently been re-formed and the Parish Council should give support, encouragement and secure and grants towards the work. It should also support a Clean Up Day at regular intervals to remove accumulated litter. Other agencies cannot be expected to maintain footpaths or collect litter. The Parish Council should give a lead to residents to do the job themselves.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will site two additional dog bins, one near the fire station and one near The Horseshoe Inn; publicity and leaflets about dog owners' responsibilities, warden's powers and how to complain to be circulated.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will contact Wealden District Council Cleansing Department to discuss what future additional services may be available to remove litter, and at what cost.
Maresfield Action Plan	In due course the Parish Council to review its policy through the greater control of provision of local environmental services.
Mayfield Action Plan	Endeavour to maintain the cleanliness and attraction of all areas in the central parts of the villages by education and promotion of a community spirit.
Mayfield Action Plan	Maintain a watching brief on the possibilities for attracting external funding for work on the Argos Hill windmill.
Mayfield Action Plan	Maintain a watching brief on the progress of the Mayfield Furnace and consider appropriate actions if and when

	required.
Mayfield Action Plan	Maintain a close eye on the general state of the signage in our area to prevent those aspect of scruffiness which are apparent in some other rural communities.
Mayfield Action Plan	Increase, if possible, the scope of re-cycling facilities.
Mayfield Action Plan	Improve visual aspects of the approaches to Mayfield with special regard to the round-about
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The leaflet on local walks should be updated and reissued in conjunction with the County Council and the Ramblers' Association.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council campaign against litter has received public endorsement from the survey and should be continued.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	Efforts to press for more recycling and less traffic should also be continued.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The works to plant bulbs around the village now appear to be complete and hopefully the bulbs will continue to appear each spring for many years.

3. Health and Social Care

Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will expand the doctor's surgery to enable a two doctor practice to be established.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will nominate a councillor to take an active role in promoting the interests of children and youngsters.
Maresfield Action Plan	The Parish Council agrees a policy to be positive and pro-active in the provision of affordable housing in the three villages, at a rate to meet the demand from local people and seek further advice from SRCC as to how this could be achieved.
Maresfield Action Plan	Seek more information from those organisations or individuals already involved with carers.
Maresfield Action Plan	Discuss with current providers and through further contacts with mothers with young children, see what additional facilities/services would be supported.
Maresfield Action Plan	Carry out speedy and direct consultation with local medical service providers and explore more carefully the need of the villagers. Seek a creative solution to the provision of better medical services in all three villages.

4. Housing

Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council should continue to oppose the allocation of housing to the Mornings Mill site.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council will state publicly that the provision of affordable housing for rent in the parish is under consideration and invite anyone interested to give their details

	in confidence to the Clerk.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council will, if there are people in housing need in Parish, discuss with Wealden District Council and Downland Housing Association whether 4 units of affordable housing should be built in the parish and where.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	If any significant development is permitted in the Parish, the Parish Council will seek a development contribution from the builders/construction company. Initially this will be to facilitate the objectives in the plan for the benefit of the Parish.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will support a small development of affordable housing, but otherwise oppose greater density, especially any building in AONB.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will oppose any new housing that lacks adequate parking provision.
Mayfield Action Plan	Liaise with Wealden District Council to seek the inclusion of some affordable housing for this general area in its Local Plan.
Mayfield Action Plan	The Parish Council will endeavor to establish a small stock of affordable housing for rental within this Parish using the planning process to bring pressure on developers to provide an element of social awareness/responsibility to their applications.

5. Learning

Mayfield Action Plan	Endeavor to adopt a continuing campaign of educative but direct guidance and vision to the parents of teen-agers.
Mayfield Action Plan	Take note of neighbouring community experiences and consider accordingly the formation of a Young Persons' Forum under the wing of the Parish Council.

6. Leisure

Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council should approach all owners of such land to establish whether they will lease a piece of land at a peppercorn rent or sell for a nominal sum. If successful, Wealden District Council should be asked if they will grant-aid the project and give planning permission. Following which the Parish Council should establish the on-going costs and decide whether it is reasonable to meet these from the precept.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The magazine should continue to be supported financially by the Parish Council and the work of the editors, printers and distributors recognised. Its demise would be a great loss.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	A free 'youth day' will be held in the village hall showcasing all the available activities.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will extend information about its activities

	and website via local papers, the Parish magazine, noticeboards and the Information Centre.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	Volunteers from the Parish Plan Committee will complement the current Parish Directory with a publication including footpaths, walks, local attractions etc.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Plan Committee will pass on information to these groups [those which consultation revealed may be used by residents] as appropriate.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will support the provision of an all-weather pitch.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will support any appropriate development of the Isaac Newton Telescope as an Arts Centre or science/educational facility.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will seek to improve the lighting on the recreation twitten and the scout hut area.
Maresfield Action Plan	Seek volunteers to organise a few simple events (in each village or collectively) along the lines suggested in the young persons questionnaire - events that require organisation but do not need any new capital expenditure or setting up of new 'clubs'.
Maresfield Action Plan	At these events, and subsequently, develop a liaison between appropriate volunteers and youngsters to see if any more 'formal' actions are needed, such as youth clubs, other regular meeting places/events, the provision of transport and so on.
Maresfield Action Plan	Provide a welcome pack for all new residents listing all available shops, services, organisations, clubs and societies; contact names and numbers.
Maresfield Action Plan	Provide more information to all Parishioners on current service provision (public and private) in and around the Parish; on clubs, societies, churches and other organisations; on events. The Parish Council Newsletter could grow to assist in this role alongside the existing Parish magazines.
Mayfield Action Plan	Support the concepts of maintaining suitable village hall amenities in ways which reflect demand.
Mayfield Action Plan	Liaise with the local and national authorities to ensure that the needs of younger people are recognised and acknowledged by actions.
Mayfield Action Plan	Endeavour to maintain the provision of suitable recreational facilities for all members of the community regardless of age and will monitor their uses to ensure optimum use.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council should work with the principle councils and agencies in seeking ways to increase worthwhile social activities for young people. The response in respect of a Health Centre should be made known to the Health Authority and that relating to a Day Centre should be made known to the County Council Social Services Department.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council long running efforts to acquire Hindsland Playing Field together with Polegate Town Council should

	continue as this is a prime site to develop much need sports and other activities for young people especially facilities for the Grasshoppers youngsters football teams. Facilities for youngsters to meet safely are clearly needed. The prime facility requested is a multi purpose hard surface playing area. The young peoples section is seen as particularly important raising many questions rather than answers and a copy of the report should be sent to the headmasters of the two local schools. The information is seen as a good basis of discussion between Councillors, School Governors and school headmasters and staff.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council should foster participation in sport. The Parish Council is able to give grants to sports and leisure organisations seeking to increase their membership and activities. The list of local organisations and contacts prepared as part of the Action Plan should be made available to the public at the Willingdon Library. The Parish newsletter should encourage residents to join local organisations and should draw attention to the list of organisations in the library.

7. Prosperity

Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	It is most important for the Parish Council to do all that it can to safeguard the future of the Village Stores/OO. It should hold regular discussions with the owners on the financial position and outlook and encourage the use of the shop.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	Data from the survey will be lodged with the Parish Clerk and employed by the Parish Council in determining future policy.
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek the attribution of being nominated as a Quality Council as and when the time was ripe.
Mayfield Action Plan	Liaise with the Mayfield Chamber of Commerce to determine that their inputs towards the maintenance of a successful village business community are given due consideration in all future planning.
Mayfield Action Plan	Foster/encourage the exchange and interflow of information between potential customers and the retail outlets.

8. Safety

Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will liaise closely with the Sussex Police Authority and Neighbourhood Watch and will encourage visible police presence where possible.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will include publicity for Neighbourhood Watch in its publications (the Parish Bulletin, Annual Report etc).
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will co-operate with Neighbourhood Watch in investigating the cost and employment of CCTV to deter vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

Herstmonceux Action Plan	The recycling bins will be relocated to create additional parking spaces.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will oppose the introduction of yellow lines in Gardner Street.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will urge ESCC to create a pedestrian refuge on the A271 at Windmill Hill near the junction with Victoria Road.
Maresfield Action Plan	That the Council reports the findings to the Divisional Superintendent and seeks a joint meeting to review current delivery of services and what the Police and the Parish can do to improve the feeling of safety.
Mayfield Action Plan	Endeavor to get a more frequent, probably random and more appropriate visible policing presence at foreseeable trouble spots and times.
Mayfield Action Plan	Explore all the options that could be adopted to have a Village Warden.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The on-going programme of improving the footway lighting in the Parish should be continued.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council should continue to lobby the Police for a greater Police presence in the parish especially in Willingdon. Increasing activities for young people can best be achieved in the short term by consultation with the schools and voluntary organisations. In the long terms this should be kept in mind in the event of obtaining the Hindsland Playing Fields.

9. Transport

Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council will give priority to this matter and take the following action:- if a traffic survey is the essential first step and East Sussex County Council claim not to have the manpower, call for volunteers from the parish to assist-formulate a plan stating where the 'no access for heavy traffic' signs would be placed-press through the County Councillor for money to be allocated and the scheme included in the works programme.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council should establish the area of Chalvington where a speed limit should apply and press, through the County Councillor, for this to be established and signs erected.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council should discuss with East Sussex County Council the cost of basic traffic calming measures. If they cannot find the funding, residents should be consulted on whether the precept should therefore be increased.
Chalvington and Ripe Action Plan	The Parish Council will establish what is on offer, not forgetting the Cuckmere Bus, and then examine whether the demand for community bus is firm.

Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Plan Committee will pass on the concerns of residents to the School Governors for their consideration [re. The impact of the school on traffic through the village at certain times of day].
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will urge ESCC to impose a 30mph speed restriction in Cowbeech, including any associated engineering works.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will make traffic a matter of priority. It will co-operate in the investigation commissioned by ESCC into traffic calming in the village; it will ensure that recommendations arising from the investigation are funded and activated and that any solutions do not merely displace the problems to elsewhere in the parish.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Council will nominate a councillor to take an active role in traffic matters.
Herstmonceux Action Plan	The Parish Plan Committee will inform Stage Coach, Cuckmere Community Bus, Edwards Coaches and Autopoint of the areas in which their services are found wanting by residents, and the Parish Council will lobby them to improve the service.
Maresfield Action Plan	Parish Council to convene a meeting between Councillors and other village spokespeople and the local bus companies to review service provision and seek a better service for all the villages.
Maresfield Action Plan	Council to form working party of local activists to research potential for a village mini-bus(es) to provide regular and ad hoc services through the three villages to local centres and railways services.
Maresfield Action Plan	That the Parish Council immediately sets up a working party with representatives of campaign groups drawn from the three villages to develop effective, positive, village friendly and legal solutions to the traffic calming issues in the three villages - working in close harmony with road traffic and road safety experts in Sussex Police, ESCC and Wealden District Council.
Mayfield Action Plan	Undertake to seek improved parking facilities in Mayfield.
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek the re-siting of the northbound bus stop on Wellbrook Hill to a position adjacent to the round-about which would eradicate the need for children to cross the A267.
Mayfield Action Plan	Progress the implementation of traffic speed reductions on the A267 in Five Ashes as much as possible.
Mayfield Action Plan	Consider a fresh review of vehicle speed restrictions in Mayfield.
Mayfield Action Plan	Consider the employment of a parking warden or a Village Warden (Mayfield) whose duties could embrace the supervision of parking restrictions.
Mayfield Action Plan	Support the improvement of pedestrian paths in Five Ashes.

Mayfield Action Plan	Monitor progress towards the creation of a pedestrian crossing points in Five Ashes.
Mayfield Action Plan	Try to persuade local motorists to stagger their journeys, to car share and to adapt motoring and shopping habits to minimise congestions.
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek active participation in a Quiet Lanes Pilot Study which the ESCC may introduce in our area.
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek improvements to the quality of the road signing on all roads.
Mayfield Action Plan	Consider a resurvey of the villages either by commission or voluntary effort to rid the highways of superfluous, dirty, unkempt and/or inappropriate signs.
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek an outwards extension of the application of speed restrictions further from the centre of current pedestrian and busy traffic zones in Mayfield (e.g. Tunbridge Wells Road 30 mph speed).
Mayfield Action Plan	Seek a continuing improvement of drivers observation of the Highway Laws on the A267 with particular reference to Wellbrook Hill and Five Ashes inviting police enforcement procedures.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council through its links with the County Council in fostering local relationships needs to explore extending the facilities for cyclists on dedicated cycle lanes away from motorized traffic.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council should explore the possibility of setting up vehicle sharing schemes. Advice should be sought from Action in rural Sussex on setting up the schemes and applying for grant aid.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council supports the plans by the County Council to introduce traffic calming in Coppice Avenue. Also the Parish Council needs to keep the pressure on the County Council to introduce safety measures along the main road A2270 and on the Wannock to Jevington Road. Pressure should be directed at the County Council to undertake the promised study of the A2270 following the completion of the Polegate bypass. Also the speed limit and weigh restriction through Wannock requires enforcement action.
Willingdon and Jevington Action Plan	The Parish Council should bring the shortcomings in the bus service to the attention of the bus companies and the County Council. Regular meetings are held with the County Council on improving local relationships and this is an ideal forum to bring the results of the survey to the attention of the County Council. A copy of the report should be supplied to the County Council and the main bus company.