

Tarrington Parish Plan 2007



1. School Lane – the original main road



3. The Church of St Philip & St James



2. Badminton – a Community Hall activity



4. Calor Herefordshire Village of the Year 2006



5. Planning for Tarrington event



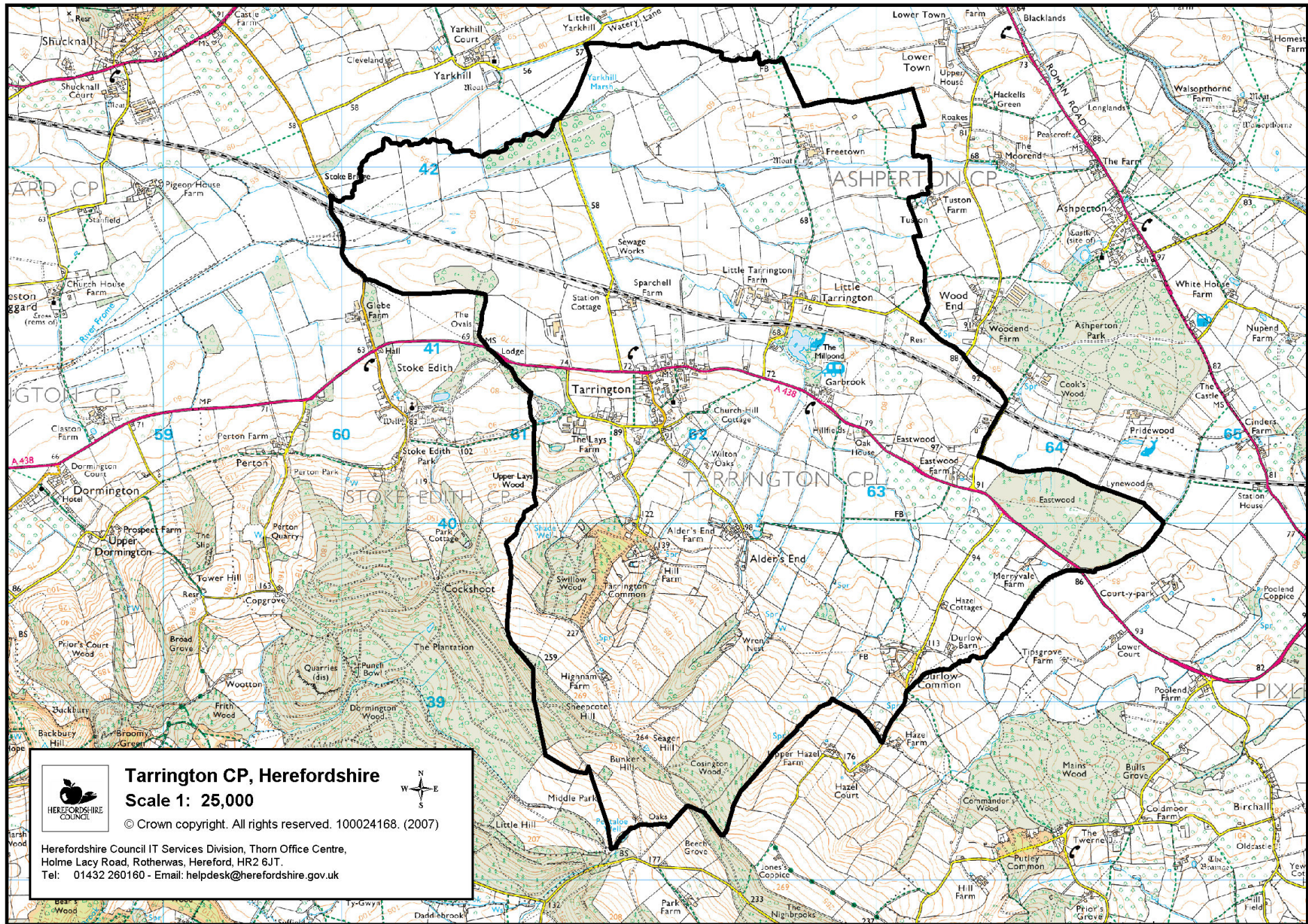
7. The Leys – a sympathetic barn conversion




6. Traffic on the A438



8. Barrs Orchard Street Party




Tarrington CP, Herefordshire
Scale 1: 25,000
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FOREWORD - WHY BOTHER WITH A PARISH PLAN?

When the idea of a Parish Plan for Tarrington was first mooted in early 2005, there were many people (there may still be) who were fairly sceptical whether it was worth the effort – "will anybody take any notice", it was said.

Now that the Steering Committee has been through two years of fairly intensive consultation with the village, with relevant outside Authorities and with the Parish Council, and have looked carefully at what all those people have said, we can say that the Parish Plan will benefit Tarrington in two ways, which we might call the external and internal ways.

The external one is the traditional justification for a Parish Plan – that it will give us strong evidence of the consensus of the village on those vital issues - e.g. housing, traffic, public amenities – where we need outside bodies to do what we want, or at least take our views into account. It will give Tarrington "Vital Village" status and make it easier for the Parish Council, and other bodies within the village, to access grants and get approvals for actions backed by the Plan.

No less important, we feel, is the internal benefit – one may almost call it the hidden benefit – of the Plan. It has given us a unique opportunity to take a long, hard look at this community, see what we are getting right (we think quite a lot) and also what we're doing wrong (a bit of that too). In the process we've found that some of the common assumptions about what people want here are wrong. We've also found that, in some cases, what we thought was happening, and were complacent about, hasn't been. We've found that what we had thought was a fairly inclusive community actually excludes some significant elements. The process has made us realise that a lot that's both good and not so good in the Parish doesn't in fact need much outside help to maintain or put right. The biggest need is for us to recognise it and do it ourselves. We have the knowledge (we think): what we need now is the energy and initiative (which means volunteers!) to complete the job.

We hope you enjoy reading the Parish Plan. Being the work of Man (even worse, of a Committee), it's not perfect. Certainly not everyone's views have been converted into Actions in the Action Plans. Everyone's views have been listened to, however, and whenever there has been a consensus on any point, or even a significant minority view, it has been faithfully reflected in the Plan. It should be stressed that the views set out in the Plan are those of the village and not necessarily of the Steering Committee.

CONTENTS

	Page No.
1. Tarrington Parish	7
2. Consultation Process	9
3. Summary of Proposed Actions	11
4. Action Plans	13
4.1 Traffic & Transportation	13
4.2 Environment	18
4.3 Planning	22
4.4 Community Facilities	25
4.5 Health & Social Services	29
4.6 Young People's Interests	31
4.7 Crime & Safety	35
5. Conclusions	37
6. Acknowledgements	38

1. TARRINGTON PARISH

The Parish of Tarrington is situated on the A438 approx midway between Ledbury and Hereford. It is an example of a village whose centre has “moved” in that prior to the 18th century the main road from Hereford to Ledbury ran along the line of the present School Lane – thus many of the older houses in the village, and the Church, are along the line of this Lane and this area is now a quiet backwater of the main village (see **photo 1**).

The earliest written record of Tarrington is in the Domesday Book of 1086 (see inside back cover) where it is referred to as Tatintune and its ownership and value assessed. The manor of Tarrington then passed through the hands of various Norman lords (including Edmund de la Barre, from whom the name Barrs Court derives) and eventually into those of the Bodenham, then Lingen families. The Lingen's estates were confiscated from them after the Civil War (the Lingen's being fervent Royalists), restored to them at the Restoration but soon purchased by the rising Foley family.

The Foleys subsequently acquired much of Tarrington and became the main employers of village people. It is interesting that in 1851, the population of Tarrington was 534 (slightly more than it is today), including 11 farmers, 2 masons, 2 wheelwrights, a blacksmith, a cooper, 2 shoemakers, a builder, a rate-collector, a plumber and glazier, a butcher, 2 shopkeepers, a publican, a schoolmaster and mistress, a doctor and the vicar. We could do with some of these occupations in the village today!

In the early 20th century, death duties and the depression in farming obliged the Foley family (like many other landed families across the country) to break up much of their estates and the Foleys sold much of their land in Tarrington to individual ownership. Still for many years village people were employed very largely on local farms or in agricultural related activities. This of course has greatly changed since the Second War and now very few villagers are so employed. The village remains however surrounded by farm land and its rural nature (and especially its peaceful rural “heart” round the Church, Church Lane, School Lane, Aldersend Rd and the Common Rd) are much valued by parishioners.

The 2001 census showed that Tarrington Parish contained 506 persons, of which 95(19%) were under 18 and 110 (22%) were 65 or over. 218 persons between the age of 16 and 74 were in full or part-time employment including 55 self-employed persons; unemployment stood at 4%. 7% of employed persons worked in agriculture or horticulture; the employment sectors of the remainder included health, social work, education, business and manufacturing industries (almost entirely outside the Parish). 15% of employed persons worked at or from home whilst 78% travelled by road to work outside the Parish.

The Parish has in excess of 200 properties, concentrated largely on either side of the A438 and between that road and the Parish Church, and with scattered settlements along School Lane, Aldersend Rd and the Common Rd. Outlying hamlets at Little Tarrington, Garbrook, Eastwood and Durlow also form part of the Parish. The majority of the Parish is still farmed land and there remain several working farms within the Parish. There are also a number of small businesses, largely carried on from home. The only housing estate of significant size is Barrs Orchard/Pound Close just north of the Church.

The Village School closed in 1986, and therefore the young people of the Parish travel outside to school. The Doctor's Surgery closed in 2000, the Post Office/Village Store in 2001 and the Parish lost its resident Rector in 2005. These of course are familiar developments in villages country-wide.

On the more positive side, the Parish has retained a well-patronised pub/restaurant, has a new Community Hall (converted from the former Village School with the aid of funds from a variety of sources) which is extremely busy with a variety of activities/clubs (see **photo 2**) and a play group. The Parish also has an active Church (see **photo 3**). It is a fairly close-knit community which a number of volunteers work hard to provide with a range of social, recreational and spiritual activities during the course of the year. Its success as a community has been recognised by twice winning (in 2005 and 2006) a Silver Award in "Britain in Bloom" and being the Herefordshire winner of the Calor Village of the Year Competition in 2006 (see **photo 4**). In the latter competition the judges told us that *"You certainly gave us the impression that people in Tarrington care about their local community and that it is a lively place to live!"*

2. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

In March 2005 the Parish Council organised a public meeting at the Tarrington Arms to propose to the Parish that work should start on a Parish Plan. It was explained what a Parish Plan was and its advantages for the Parish. The meeting was well attended (130 parishioners) and the proposal was greeted with some enthusiasm. In no time at all a Steering Committee ("SC") of 22 members was formed and held its first meeting. Thereafter, SC Meetings were held monthly till the completion of the Plan. The average attendance was approx 12 persons, which maintained the momentum of the project.

The SC decided that the first step in the Plan process was to organise a "Planning for Tarrington" ("PFT") event in the Community Hall, held in July 2005. For this purpose, large scale maps of the Parish were prepared together with flags and pins enabling parishioners to identify what for them were the major issues needing to be addressed in the Parish – whether in terms of traffic/transport, community facilities, housing, the environment, crime and safety, young people's interests or otherwise. Again, there was a very good response to this event – a total of 125 adults and young people attending. Altogether 1444 expressions of view representing 248 separate issues were raised (see **photo 5**). In organising and structuring this event, a great deal of help was received from Angela Downing at Community First and Lynda Wilcox at Hereford Assoc. of Local Councils.

The PFT event not only confirmed that there was a lively interest in the village as to how quality of life here can be improved but also gave the SC the essential raw data regarding the nature of the issues that concern people. This enabled it to proceed to the second phase of consultation – a Questionnaire for every adult in the Parish to complete, with a separate tailor-made one for young people. The 248 issues raised at the PFT event were consolidated into 76 questions divided into 6 topic areas for the Adult Questionnaire and a further 11 questions for the separate Youth Questionnaire. Both Questionnaires were drawn up with the help of the Research Group at Herefordshire Council ("HC") and hand delivered to every house in the Parish in November/December 2005. We were determined to try to achieve the highest possible level of response from the Parish so our brave volunteers agreed not only to deliver to every house but, after giving two weeks or so for people to complete the forms, to collect as well. By virtue of this, we received completed Questionnaires from almost 80% of adults and over 90% of young people – a result we felt pretty pleased with!

By early February 2006, the Questionnaire results had been analysed by the Research Group at HC. The SC then divided into Working Groups ("WGs"). Each WG took one of the topic areas that the PFT event and Questionnaire returns had highlighted and considered literally every comment and answer entered by each person on the Questionnaire. The topic areas were Environment, Community Facilities, Crime & Safety, Traffic & Transport, Young People's Interests, Health and Planning. The WGs had not only to consider all the comments/answers in the Questionnaires but to discuss the issues raised with, and seek appropriate guidance from, those external "service providers" whose co-operation would be crucial to implement Action Plans addressing those issues – e.g. the Police for crime & safety issues and Hereford Council Forward Planning Unit for planning issues.

By the end of September all the WGs had fully considered the issues raised by the Parish and held their consultations with the key outside bodies. They were able therefore to draft individual Action Plans ("APs") seeking to address the issues in a realistic and achievable way. These APs were reviewed and approved by the Parish Council in November 2006. They are obviously the real heart and substance of the Parish Plan and are set out in full below. The Planning AP was separately reviewed by the Forward Planning Unit of HC who advised that it is in principle suitable for adoption by HC as a Further Planning Guidance document, which will give it extra weight.

HC reviewed the final draft of the full Plan in May 2007 and raised several valuable comments and suggestions. These were incorporated into the Plan in June 2007, at which stage the Plan took on its final form.

The final step in this process of consultation and formulation of the Plan was the delivery to every household of a copy of the finished Plan followed shortly thereafter by a further public meeting at the Community Hall for the formal launch of the Plan and the request for volunteers to help implement it.

3. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

The heart of the Parish Plan is the section of Action Plans that follows. The Plans are detailed since they address quite a large number of issues raised by the exceptionally high response rate of the Questionnaires and the PFT event. To avoid becoming too confused by the multiplicity of issues in these Plans, we thought it useful to try to summarise the significant issues – what really matters to the residents of this Parish?

In both the Adult and Youth Questionnaires, we asked people to list three issues most important to them. The top three issues in the Adult Questionnaire were Road Safety/Traffic/Speeding; Environmental Issues and Planning. Other issues in order of importance were footpaths; a village shop/post office; health; lighting; parking and dog fouling. In the Youth Questionnaire the most important issue was lack of a village shop followed by concern for environment and traffic. Boredom was also an issue. Past experience and soundings by the Youth WG disclosed a sense of alienation on the part of some of our youngsters.

Let's then just summarise what the Action Plans propose to do on all these issues:-

Traffic and Transport – detailed recommendations to maintain pressure for lower speed limits and safer junctions, to monitor traffic speeds, to install speed warning lights, to request a Review of Accident Record and Pedestrian Survey, to implement a publicity/education campaign and to ensure that, where appropriate, “low-noise” tarmac is used in future. Lighting safety issues to be considered. Parking changes not generally favoured.

Environment – improve access to and maintenance of footpaths, create circular walks, deal with dog fouling and litter, improve recycling, monitor polytunnels, maintain/enhance appearance of Parish.

Planning – discourage further development, especially executive homes and infills out of character with surrounds. Any further development to be within Settlement Boundary, not estates, and in harmony with rural nature of the Parish. Minority views in favour of low cost housing to be taken into account.

Community Facilities – wider Community use of Church, establish Working Group for Village Shop/PO and alternatives, explore additional outdoor and indoor facilities at Community Hall, try to get more post boxes, improve village website and TV reception.

Health – more volunteers for transport to Surgeries, prescription collection scheme, spread awareness as to how to contact services

Youth – shop issues, environment and traffic are dealt with in other Plans so the focus was youth boredom and alienation from the rest of the community. A very successful “pilot” scheme of summer activities has pointed the way to more long-term arrangements. A permanent kickabout/playing area is a priority for investigation.

Crime & Safety – it is good that this was not highlighted as a priority concern. However, the Action Plan envisages frequent publicised visits by the Community Support Officers, Police Surgeries, better awareness of Police contacts and an overhaul of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

This then is a summary of what the Parish Plan hopes, and expects, to achieve. In all, 61 actions are proposed of which 57 are totally within the control of the Parish, the balance needing some form of external help/authority. If half is done, the Plan will have been worthwhile but there is no reason at all why all, or practically all, cannot be achieved. The only projects that raise major issues of external approval/funding are the shop, potential Community Hall playing field, and possible speed warning lights. The other proposed initiatives are relatively low or no cost ones. The traffic initiatives will however require Highways Authority implementation.

To appreciate fully the job in hand, now read the full details of the Plans.

4. ACTION PLANS

4.1 Traffic and Transport Action Plan

Introduction

Consideration of transportation issues in the Parish is dominated by the main road (A438) running through the Parish between Hereford and Ledbury. It divides the Parish in physical terms and also attracts divided opinions regarding speed limits and the hazards it presents (see **photo 6**).

Many people rely almost entirely on their cars for work, shopping and services such as healthcare. For those who do not have access to a car (particularly the young and elderly), public transport, in the form of buses, provides a limited service during the daytime to Hereford and Ledbury, but this is inadequate for access to other locations (such as the Fownhope Surgery).

Supplementary facilities such as the Ledbury Ring and Ride service and dedicated school bus services compensate to some degree, but leave little scope for flexibility for the individual.

Unfortunately, the other major form of Public Transport – Rail – simply passes through the Parish with no access available to residents. The potential costs of providing a “Halt” in Tarrington are so high that it seems extremely unlikely that the extra revenue generated would justify its expenditure. Consequently no rail-related actions are proposed for the AP.

Likewise, no actions are proposed for cycle lanes on the main road as there is clearly insufficient space for them and mixed support from Questionnaire respondents.

The Issues

Speeding

This was described as a problem by almost three quarters of the survey respondents, with various locations along the A438 being identified by many as needing a lower speed limit. (Specifically Tarrington Village, Garbrook, Hillfield to the Durlow junction).

Opinions regarding the solutions were less clear-cut, with about half supporting improved enforcement of existing limits and a similar number supporting improved warning signs. The more aggressive approach of using traffic calming and/or traffic cameras attracted roughly equal support and opposition.

Discussions with a Hereford Council (“HC”) representative suggest that, currently, introduction of new limits (in addition to the 30 MPH limit in the village centre, which is already implemented) is likely to take a significant time and be subject to strict criteria regarding the number of access points per km (gateways or side roads). However, the WG believes that 2 stretches of road would satisfy these criteria and actions to implement limits are recommended in the AP.

A recent review of speed limits by the Department of Transport (published early in August 2006) may force Hereford Council to review its guidelines and make it possible to impose lower limits. However the review places strong emphasis on influencing driver behaviour rather than simply imposing reduced speed limits, which would suggest that improved hazard warning signs and active speed limit indicators would be favoured before traffic cameras or lower limits.

Introduction of any speed warning devices would have to follow a phased process:-

- a) Monitor speeds and demonstrate a problem,
- b) Utilise temporary warning lights and check whether they were effective,
- c) Install permanent warning lights

Location of the warning lights may be problematic in some places, due to the narrow verges in a number of areas. There is also a cost element to be considered.

Public Transport

A significant minority of respondents (38%) stated that they had no experience of using public transport, though many also anticipated increased dependency in the future. A similar percentage felt that the current service was adequate. An improved bus service and bus stop facilities, particularly near the Tarrington Arms, was requested by a third of respondents.

Car-sharing was not heavily favoured (19%), but it is suggested that the Parish Council should consider the preparation of a contingency plan to organise a co-ordinated scheme in the event of fuel shortages or significant fuel price rises.

Pedestrian Facilities

This falls into the Traffic and Transportation section, in so far as pedestrian safety is significantly affected by traffic and road layouts.

Provision of a pedestrian crossing in the village centre was the one of the most common comments in the free-form section of the Questionnaire responses. Difficulty in crossing the main road was also frequently cited as an issue by respondents to the Youth Questionnaire. Closely related to the issue of speed through the village, it is a concern for many. An integrated approach, which slows traffic into the village, moves / improves the bus stop facilities and provides a pedestrian crossing, preferably light-controlled, would be very popular. An accident, in August 2006, highlighted the issue, when a young man was knocked over, just after he got off the bus from Hereford.

Other issues affecting pedestrians, which have been raised by the Questionnaire, include provision of a footpath between the village and the Community Hall and of lighting at key junctions (entrance to Barrs Orchard, A438 junction by the Tarrington Arms & School Road). However it should be noted that almost half all respondents opposed more lighting and bearing this in mind, it is recommended to explore lighting schemes which minimise light pollution. Installation and running costs would probably fall on the Parish Council. Any proposal would be scrutinised closely by HC to ensure the result was safe for all road users.

Specific Road Safety Concerns

In the section of road between the Durlow junction and Garbrook, there have been a number of major accidents, so far without fatalities. This is the narrowest and most winding section of the A438 between Ledbury and Hereford. Many Parishioners will be aware of these, having been involved in the aftermath of these incidents, and the local residents regularly have to “pick up the pieces” after the events. They are naturally very concerned to see action taken urgently to prevent the accidents continuing. They are strongly in favour of a 40 MPH limit being imposed and all other possible measures taken to improve the road in this area. Likewise, concern was expressed about the dangerous right angle bend in Little Tarrington and action on both of these issues is recommended in the AP. Most junctions of side roads with the A438 were identified as danger spots and action is recommended in the AP.

HC are planning re-surfacing work in this section of the A438, during the summer of 2007, aimed particularly at improving adhesion in wet conditions.

General Road Safety Concerns

Changes to parking provision, or introduction of parking restrictions, were generally not favoured, though difficulties were identified in a couple of specific areas – Barrs Orchard and by the Tarrington Arms junction. Discussions with an HC representative suggested that, without a strong enforcement regime, additional restrictions would be ineffective. In Barrs Orchard, the residents should discuss their needs with Elgar Housing as HC would not intervene.

Introduction of a vehicle weight limit in the village was favoured by 25% but opposed by 37%. The underlying concern, regarding fast, heavy vehicles, would probably be alleviated by introduction / enforcement of lower speed limits. No other action is recommended.

There were a number of comments regarding lack of traffic-awareness by young pedestrians/cyclists, particularly at the entrance to Barrs Orchard and along School Road. The WG does not believe there are physical measures that can be reasonably introduced to restrict either vehicles or the young people. It needs to be dealt with by education/publicity to influence residents of all ages to be more aware of the hazards.

Impact of Traffic Noise

There were a number of comments regarding extension of the use of low-noise tarmac surface to reduce the intrusive noise from traffic. Having discussed this with HC, it is clear that this is unlikely to be adopted generally, because such a surface has lower skid-resistance and worse wear properties. It is normally applied only to speed-limited roads. Its use can also have the effect of increasing speeds – due to drivers judging their speed by the noise level.

Issue	Traffic & Transportation Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Speeding on A438: Village centre	Request monitoring of traffic speeds following introduction of new speed limit.	Immediate	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	To be investigated
	Request utilisation of temporary speed warning lights to support new limit, if monitoring demonstrates need.	1 year	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	Approx. £400 per location pad, at least £3500 per temporary warning unit
Speeding on A438: Durlow to Garbrook	Request formal Review of Accident Record and road design along this section of road, with particular emphasis on the Durlow / Wood End junction to Hillfields section.	Immediate	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	None
	Use Review and public opinion to support request for reduced speed limit, and/or other safety measures such as warning signs, along this section of road. Access count could justify limit.	Immediate	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	None
	Implement "near miss" reporting scheme.	6 months	PC	"Tatler" editor / HC / West Mercia Police	None
Speeding: Little Tarrington	Request review of speed limit in settlement area and of improved warning signs for the right angle bend. Access count from Millpond (Stocks Cottage) to Glenshee could justify speed limit.	Immediate	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	None
Speeding: Village side-roads	Implement publicity / education campaign to persuade "locals" to slow down	6-12 months	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	None

Issue	Traffic & Transportation Action Plan (continued)	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Dangerous exits – School Lane (west), Station Road, Village Road, Little Tarrington – all with A438	Request review of options to improve safety at all these junctions.	Immediate	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	None
Young cyclists and pedestrians showing poor road-sense	Implement publicity / education campaign to raise awareness levels at all ages	6 months – but on-going	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	Resources offered by HC Road Safety Group
Difficult for pedestrians to cross A438, in village, due to traffic speed and density	Request Pedestrian Survey, with a view to having pedestrian crossing installed, near Tarrington Arms.	Immediate	PC	HC	None
Street lighting poor at several junctions and non-existent in the majority of the village, leading to safety concerns for pedestrians	Parish Council to consider for areas where there are specific safety issues (particularly for pedestrians) whether additional low-level lighting is feasible as a compromise; improving safety, whilst satisfying those strongly opposed to street-lighting on the grounds of light pollution and loss of “village character”.	Medium-term	PC	HC / West Mercia Police	Additional lighting installation and running costs may fall on PC
Improve maintenance of footways.	Ensure School Road and A438 from Village to Little Tarrington footways are maintained regularly.	Immediate and continuing	PC Footpath Officer	HC	None
Review location and design of bus-stop at Tarrington Arms	Approach HC to request that the bus-stop be moved away from the Village road junction and for a lay-by to be provided. (To be done in conjunction with pedestrian crossing ?)	12 months	PC	HC	None
Improve number of footways	Ensure that any road improvement schemes include provision for footways	Medium-term	PC	HC	None
Road noise	Ensure that any road schemes utilise “low-noise” tarmac surface, where appropriate and practical.	Long-term	PC	HC	None

4.2 Environment Action Plan

The majority of the Parish is farmed land that includes arable crops, livestock and apple orchards. Hop growing, once a major crop in the Parish, is now almost non-existent. There is very little industry in the Parish.

The Parish has changed in recent years with farms consolidating into larger units, fewer workers being employed in agriculture and related industries, farm buildings and related properties being converted for residential use, new housing developments and an influx of residents who show a strong interest in retaining the rural nature of the Parish. Successful participation in the "Britain in Bloom" campaign has enhanced the appearance of the Parish. There is a diversity of wildlife habitats including ponds, meadows, hedgerows and woodland.

Several factors will likely combine to change the face of farming around Tarrington in the coming years. A significant reduction in farm subsidies resulting from reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, Government incentives to grow crops for fuel and power generation and global warming may all induce farmers to consider different crops from those of today.

The issues

Footpaths

The majority of residents know the location of the footpaths in the Parish and consider them well signposted. However a significant number raised concerns about ease of access – mainly overgrown stiles and footpaths. Other issues raised were difficulty with access to footpaths over stiles and requests for circular walks. As regards the first point, we have investigated the legal position and it appears that the Parish can install, at its cost, more user friendly access to footpaths (e.g. kissing gates) but only with the permission of the landowner.

Cycle Tracks

A minority of residents requested recreational cycle tracks for children. No action is proposed on this issue partly due to the inability to identify any off-road tracks (e.g. bridleways suitable for this purpose) and partly due to 50% of the residents opposing cycle tracks. However there is a Herefordshire Council initiative to explore the feasibility of a cycle track from Hereford through Tarrington to Ledbury and we have expressed our interest in participating in this project.

Dogs

There were very many comments concerning dog fouling in specific areas of the Parish. Other issues were lack of places to exercise dogs and problems with dogs not being kept under control. No action is proposed in respect of exercising dogs because the Parish has very many lanes and footpaths suitable for this purpose.

Plants and Trees

Opinions were divided over whether the Parish is in need of more flower boxes, plants and trees and whether tidying up of particular properties, trees and hedges is necessary.

Recycling

Many residents were unaware of the current recycling facilities located behind the Community Hall. There were numerous requests for additional recycling facilities for cardboard and clothes. Following discussions with HC, we understand that textile recycling is easy to arrange but cardboard is more difficult to implement because a large skip will not fit through the gates of the Community Hall. We also looked at the possibility of making a large skip available twice per year for general recycling but this could be difficult due to legal obligations, health & safety and location issues. HC have suggested the Parish Freighter Scheme as an alternative. HC have also volunteered to provide recycling information for publication in the Tatler.

Litter/Fly Tipping

Fly tipping did not register as a significant problem in the Parish. Casual litter was felt by many to be a problem and there were suggestions for litter bins and regular litter patrols

Important Features

Woodlands, orchards, ponds, meadows and listed buildings were all felt to be important features of the environment.

Polytunnels

42% of the respondents opposed the siting of polytunnels in the Parish, 21% supported their use and 29% expressed no opinion. HC have noted these views and have informed us that polytunnels now require planning permission.

Other Issues

Some of the issues raised in the Environment section of the Questionnaire were transferred to the Traffic and Transport WG since they involved contact with the Highways Department – road noise, road signs, street lighting and cycle lanes on the A438. These are addressed in the Traffic & Transport AP.

Issue	Environment Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Poor maintenance/ difficult access to several footpaths	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Erect "Right to Roam" signpost to the footpaths accessing Tarrington Common. 2. Communicate via Tatler and notice boards "Right to Roam" land and the responsibilities of ramblers 3. Organise a team of volunteers to maintain clear access to stiles on public footpaths. 4. Check that all footpaths are signposted and remedy as necessary. 5. Organise walks twice per year 	Short term	PC PC PC Volunteer	None Parish Paths Partnership Parish Paths Partnership None	Cost will be have to be borne by PC None None No cost – already implemented
Stiles make it difficult to access some footpaths	Investigate the possibility of making access to footpaths more user friendly (e.g. kissing gates).	Short term	PC	Landowner	To be determined
Circular footpaths	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify circular walks based on current footpaths and roads 2. Organise a team of volunteers to walk and record each of the routes. 3. Permanently place the walking routes on the Parish notice boards. 	Short term Short term Short term	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer	None None None	None No cost – already in progress None
Dog Fouling	Identify locations in Tarrington village and other places susceptible to dog fouling and install both disposal bag dispensers and bins.	Immediate	PC	HC	No cost to Tarrington PC. HC have offered support.
Dogs not kept under control	Publish regular reminders in the Tatler concerning the responsibilities of dog owners.	Immediate	PC	None	No cost – already implemented.
Maintain the appearance of the Parish.	Parish Council to ensure that any proposals for new developments include trees/verges etc in keeping with the appearance of the Parish.	Ongoing	PC	HC	None

Issue	Environment Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Improved recycling facilities	1. Communicate the existing facilities to all residents – repeat articles in the Tatler and Parish notice boards.	Short term	Volunteer	HC	None
	2. Make a case for the collection of recyclable waste from homes along with the black bin bags.	Short term	PC	HC	This is currently being assessed by HC
	3. Determine if it is possible to add recycling of textiles and cardboard to the current facilities.	Short term	PC	HC	None
	4. Determine the feasibility of making a large skip available twice per year.	Short term	PC	HC	None
Litter	1. Organise regular patrols (or" adopt a road") to collect litter dropped from cars.	Short term	PC	HC	HC can provide litter picking kits for volunteers
	2. Install a litter bin at the entrance to Barr's Orchard	Short term	PC	HC	HC
Polytunnels	Parish Council to make Herefordshire Council aware of the views of the parishioners concerning polytunnels	Immediate and ongoing	PC	HC	None
Make environmental information on a range of issues readily available to parishioners.	<p>Information is required for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The route of footpaths and circular walks • The location of Right to Roam land • The location of recycling facilities <p>Make known the procedures for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests for footpath maintenance • Reporting of unsightly properties • Reporting overgrown verges and hedges. 	Short term	PC	None	None

4.3 Planning Action Plan

Introduction

Tarrington is considered a “main village” under the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan (“the UDP”) and for our Planning AP to be effective it must be “adopted” by the Herefordshire Council (“HC”) Planning Authorities. For this to happen the AP must be consistent with the policies of the UDP. Accordingly the Planning WG has met with the concerned officials at the HC and we believe that our AP is fully consistent with the UDP policies, whilst at the same time reflecting the wishes of the village community as expressed in the Pft event, the Questionnaire and the various representations made to the WG in its meetings open to the public.

The Issues

Parish Planning is as much about identifying what’s right in the village, and should be preserved, as what’s wrong and should be changed. This was certainly brought out in our Planning consultations.

1. A clear majority of the Parish (55% representing 180 persons) believe there should be no further housing development and that the present mix of homes is right (64%, 209 persons). Most (20%, 66 persons) of the 27% of the respondents who were in favour of further development wanted some form of low cost housing (homes for couples/small families, retired people, people with disabilities, flats/small houses, sheltered housing, affordable houses to buy or rent). There was very little support (3%) for building executive homes.
2. One third (106) of the respondents registered views either approving and/or disapproving of previous housing developments. The remaining two-thirds did not register a view. Most of the approvals related to barn/farm conversions (11) (see **photo 7**), the Millpond fishing/caravan site (3) and the use of materials in keeping with the surroundings. The majority of disapprovals related to executive homes (37), infilling on sites of insufficient size (38) and the use of materials not in keeping with the surroundings.

3. It is accepted that, as a "main village" under the UDP, development will in principle be permitted within the existing Settlement Boundary but the view of the village is that any further development should :-
 - i. only be within the present Settlement Boundary
 - ii. be single dwellings or small groups and not estates
 - iii. be sensitive to the real concern over the loss of the rural/peaceful character of the village. The Parish agrees with the UDP that priority in any development should be "brownfield"/conversion of existing buildings and not on "greenfield" land
 - iv. be in harmony with its surrounds, whether in terms of style, use of local materials, good design etc. Thus developments not in keeping with the surroundings (eg red-brick suburban style homes) are out but sensitive barn conversions retaining rural character are in. This reflects UDP policy.
4. There is, finally, general support for the encouragement of small businesses (provided they meet the above criteria and benefit the village/village people) but the majority were against small industrial workshops. Opinions were evenly balanced for and against encouraging tourism, possibly influenced by the desire to maintain the rural character of the Parish.

Issue	Planning Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Housing/ Development	1 Discourage new buildings, especially executive homes, buildings on sites of insufficient size/out of character with surrounding buildings and the use of materials not in keeping with the rural nature of the Parish.	Ongoing	PC	HC Planning	None
Housing/ Development	2 It is accepted that despite the clear majority of the parishioners being opposed to further development, as a "main village" Tarrington is liable to further development. If this occurs, the same should:- i be within the present Settlement Boundary, ii be single dwellings or small groups, preferably "brownfield"/conversion of existing buildings iii utilise materials in keeping with the rural nature of the Parish iv take into account the 20% minority (66 persons) who expressed an interest in some form of low cost housing.	Ongoing	PC	HC Planning	None
Business Development	3 Encourage small businesses provided that they meet the above criteria and be in proportion to the village and its economic requirements, whether in the form of local employment or services	Ongoing	PC	HC Planning	None
Adoption of the above issues	4 Ensure that the Parish's wishes as set out above are "adopted" by Herefordshire Council and then implemented by it and the Parish Council.	Short term and Ongoing	PC	HC Planning	None

4.4 Community Facilities Action Plan

Introduction

Tarrington's present main Community Facilities consist of the Parish Church and the Lady Emily Community Hall (an important further facility is the Tarrington Arms pub but that did not feature in the Parish Plan consultation process). There was a small village shop in the Parish until 5 years ago but it was closed on grounds of commercial viability. The issue of health care facilities is considered in the Health and Social Services section of the Plan.

Both the Community Hall and (to a lesser degree) the Church are well used by the Parish, and by many visitors from outside, and the main focus of the Community Facilities consultation process was to try to see how these two facilities can be enhanced – and what additional facilities can be bolted on to them or separately added.

Both the Church and the Community Hall are accessible to wheelchairs and therefore no further action needs to be taken concerning wheelchair access.

The Issues

The Church - Regarding the Church there was strong support for the re-instatement of a resident vicar, for the installation of a toilet and a kitchen. All these issues are dealt with in the Plan, together with the broader question of trying to make the Church more available to the community at large. More comfortable/movable seating was also an issue but there was not a sufficiently clear opinion one way or the other to justify any action.

Village Shop/Post Office – This was undoubtedly the most difficult issue we had to address. There was strong support for the opening of a village shop/Post Office but the questions of how that can best be done and its long-term viability are complex. Some of the relevant issues are:

- Is the demand for a shop sufficient for it to be a viable concern?
- How have other Parishes fared with similar projects?
- Where should a shop be located (on the main road to catch passing traffic?)
- Is a post office viable or would a post shop be more appropriate?
- How would it be owned, managed and run?
- Should additional facilities such as conference/training room be included?
- What are the funding implications?

A certain amount of preliminary feasibility study was done but it became clear that a great deal more must be done before any informed decision whether or not to attempt such a project can be made. The AP accordingly suggests the formation of a Working Group to take this further forward. Some alternatives to the full village shop/PO project to provide a limited range of services are also considered.

Community Hall – There was quite a bit of support for more indoor and outdoor activities at the Hall and the AP provides for the Hall Committee to take these ideas further. The issue of walking groups is included in the Environment AP. Many suggestions in this context are dependent on the availability of suitable land and will require the cooperation of local landowners.

Communications – Generally speaking, people thought that communications with and inside the Parish were very good. There was a high level of awareness of the contents of the Parish Notice Boards and the village magazine (the “Tarrington Tatler”), with the latter coming in for particular praise. However, we have identified certain respects in which Parish communication could be further improved and the AP contains a number of ideas here.

Issue	Community Facilities Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Increase community use of Church Facilities	<p>The Parochial Church Council (PCC) to initiate a meeting with the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee (LECH) and the wider community with the objective of forming a Development Group to determine the feasibility of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the installation of toilets • a kitchen • a café • Internet access • holding concerts • a meeting place for singing groups. 	ASAP	PCC	LECH, PC, Wider Community	None initially
Re-instate a resident vicar in the Parish	Discuss with the Diocese whether the Rectory could be a House for Duty (with a Vicar). (The PCC has already agreed in principle).	ASAP	Chairman of the PCC	Diocese	Potential cost for PCC
Village Shop/Post Office	Establish a WG of interested parties to investigate the viability of establishing a village shop/post office/post shop	ASAP	PC	Royal Mail	TBD
Explore alternatives to a Village Shop	Investigate the provision of some of the facilities requested in the Parish Plan - Newspaper collection, milk, bread in an alternative location.	To be run in parallel with the village shop project	PC	Unknown	Unknown
Day Nursery	Review the actual demand for a day nursery serving the village and determine the appropriate course of action	ASAP	Current leader of the playgroup or alternate	HC	None
Additional Outdoor facilities associated with the Community Hall	<p>Conduct a feasibility study to determine the realistic demand for the following facilities:</p> <p>Tennis Court Cricket Pitch Playing Field Bowling Green Gardening Club</p> <p>If positive, investigate the availability of land in the Parish (possible link with Village Shop).</p>	ASAP.	<p>Study: LECH To implement: LECH or new Sports Group</p>	<p>Study: PC To implement: Lottery funding etc</p>	<p>For the study, minimal cost, but several people's time. In excess of £50K to implement</p>

Issue	Community Facilities Action Plan (cont.)	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Additional Indoor facilities at the Community Hall	<p>Investigate the feasibility of introducing the following activities and an assessment of the likely real demand:-</p> <p>Youth Club (already implemented)</p> <p>Access to Copier/printer</p> <p>Café</p> <p>Ballet Classes</p> <p>Internet Access</p> <p>Discos/Village Hops</p> <p>(The request for Ballroom Dancing has been actioned).</p> <p>Note that some of these activities may require liaison with other Groups e.g. Youth and some may be more appropriate in venues other than the Community Hall.</p>	ASAP	LECH	PCC, PC, Hereford Youth organisations Private teachers (ballet)	<p>For study, minimal cost, but several people's time.</p> <p>To implement: Internet/copier etc ~£5k</p> <p>Café cost depends on final location.</p> <p>Youth club – initial (set-up) cost ~£2K. Annual running cost ~£1-2K</p>
Additional post boxes	Discuss with Royal Mail the provision of two extra post boxes in Village (outside Barrs Orchard and Garbrook).	ASAP	PC	Royal Mail	Nil
Poor TV Reception	Provide residents with information on how to access better reception.	ASAP	PC	OFCOM / J Tallis	Test equipment up to £5k
Parish Website	Ensure that the Parish website is improved and kept up to date and awareness built. (The website was completed in June 2006 and the need now is to build awareness)	Ongoing	PC	LECH, PCC, Tarrington Arms, Other organisations in village	Annual running cost of £500
Parish notice boards	Replace existing open notice boards at Durlow and Little Tarrington with enclosed glass fronted notice boards resistant to the weather to allow the posting of permanent notices.	ASAP	PC	None	£200-500 each, depending on size / quality

4.5 Health and Social Services Action Plan

Introduction

The Health and Social Services WG had a series of meetings, and where appropriate contacted the agencies/organisations involved. These were (a) Community Transport Herefordshire/Community Voluntary Action; (b) Primary Care Trust surgeries at Fownhope and Ledbury as well as the associated chemists (Briggs and Boots); (c) the Project Managers for Children and Adults from the Social Services.

The Issues

- ◆ The main issue raised was the **transport** difficulty of some residents to and from the doctors' surgeries. This problem arose because there is no longer a doctor in Tarrington, and those people registered with the Tarrington surgery were mainly transferred to the Fownhope surgery about 6 miles away (as Ledbury surgeries were fully subscribed) with no public transport to that village. Of the adult residents who filled in the Questionnaire, there are approximately 208 residents registered at the Fownhope surgery, 77 with Ledbury surgeries, and 23 at Hereford, plus a few with other surgeries. 17 residents found it 'often' difficult and 53 'occasionally' difficult to travel to a doctor's surgery. There is public transport to both Ledbury and Hereford.
- ◆ Related to the main issue was **prescription collection** – again difficulty with transport, especially to Fownhope. In the Adult Questionnaire, 42 people found it difficult to collect medicine on prescription, 37 of whom were registered at the Fownhope surgery, 3 at Ledbury surgeries and 2 from other surgeries. Fownhope surgery is hoping to establish a prescription delivery service but at present space constraints make this difficult.
- ◆ With regard to **doctors' surgeries**, in the Questionnaire 55 people classed themselves as 'having a disability, long-term illness or infirmity'. Some people had difficulties with the surgery hours and booking appointments. All the local surgeries have a system of block bookings for same-day, as well as advance bookings. When these appointments have been filled, sometimes patients will have to have an appointment the following day. Home visits by doctors were also mentioned – however this is always at the discretion of the doctor's assessment of the need of the patient. The possibility of a doctor or nurse doing a surgery at the Community Hall in the village was raised. It was felt that, with a steep staircase, and no suitable private rooms downstairs the Community Hall would not be appropriate, except for general flu jabs etc.
- ◆ Several people mentioned the problem of registering with an **NHS dentist** within a reasonable distance.
- ◆ Other points raised were:
 - (a) The long waiting time at the **A&E Hereford** (which we understand to be a maximum time of 4 hours, which is standard);
 - (b) **Counsellors** for young people and this has been forwarded to the Youth WG;
 - (c) Comments about difficulties of **wheelchair access** around the village, and this has been passed on to the Community Facilities WG.

Issue	Health & Social Services Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Transport to and from Drs' Surgeries, and for all other requirements to and from village, including outings for shopping etc.	Ring-&-Ride, Community Voluntary Action covers Tarrington. More volunteer drivers required. Advertise in Tarrington Tatler	ASAP	Tarrington people in conjunction with Reg Taylor of Ring-&-Ride	N/A	No cost to PC
Prescription Collection from (a) Fownhope (b) Ledbury	Maurice Smith (plus A N Other for MS to arrange when he is away) in conjunction with Fownhope surgery. As there is public transport to and from Ledbury, it was felt unnecessary to organise a prescription collection scheme from Ledbury.	Immediate	Fownhope Surgery in conjunction with Maurice Smith and other Tarrington residents.	NHS	No cost to PC
Visit to village by doctor or nurse	There is a national scheme in the pipeline by the Department of Health to manage long-term illnesses by 'community' matrons in order to avoid hospital treatment. This would entail home visits to those suffering from chronic illness.	Two Community Matron posts have been set up in Hereford City. We are not aware of the timescale for further posts, but understand that they are envisaged nationwide.	Primary Care Trust	NHS	No cost to PC
NHS Dentist – difficult to find General lack of how to contact services GP registration	NHS Dental Access Centres are in Hereford, Ross, and Ledbury. Dental Helpline 01432 363 971 NHS Direct – 0845 4647 Ring-&-Ride (Community Transport) – 01531 635503 GP surgery info – 01432 363972	These exist now. Future Tarrington Tatlers could have permanent feature of these 4 tel. Nos. to help new people to the area.	NHS Primary Care Trust Editor of Tarrington Tatler	NHS N/A	No cost to PC No cost to PC

4.6 Young People's Interests

Introduction

Currently few specific facilities are provided in the Parish for young people. There is Sunday football, the children's playground behind the Community Hall and the Nature Club. There is also the opportunity to join in all-age activities such as cricket (over the summer), badminton and bowls.

A Youth Survey (supplemental to the Adult Questionnaire) was given to all children in the village aged 4 – 18 years. 78 forms were returned; more than 90% of the total! The split between male and female was 46% to 54%. Under 14s accounted for 80% of the total.

The Issues

The young people who responded to the Questionnaire spend much of their time watching TV, visiting friends and riding bicycles. About a third play computer games and football. Small numbers enjoy Brownies, skateboarding, Nature Club, horse riding, swimming and rugby.

On further questioning, it becomes clear that many children have any number of planned activities (often school related) on most weekday evenings. The gaps relate to informal things to do locally and to holiday times. It is these gaps that our AP is designed to fill.

Most rely on family members to travel to Hereford or Ledbury. A third use the bus sometimes.

Nearly all feel that Tarrington is a quiet, safe village with friendly people and pleasant countryside. However, they are critical of the lack of sporting and youth facilities and concerned about bad behaviour.

Key concerns identified in the Questionnaire were:

- Speeding traffic/main road crossing/signage/footpaths/cycle paths
- Boredom
- Environment (dog mess and litter)
- Bullying and anti-social behaviour
- Lack of village shop

A detailed analysis of the responses to the question "What would make Tarrington a better place" identified the following issues as the most important and well ahead of all others;

1st priority: a shop/PO

2nd priority: a pedestrian crossing on the A438

3rd priority: (all equal) cycle lanes, youth club/disco, and kickabout/play area

Road and Traffic related issues, Environment issues and Shop/PO fall more directly under the scope of other WGs (Traffic & Transport, Environment and Community Facilities respectively) and are addressed in their APs.

Accordingly we placed our focus on the remaining issues of Kickabout/Play area (and related activities) and youth club/disco.

We also decided to address another issue that was raised on a number of occasions during our discussions: "Bringing together areas of the village and age-groups that haven't traditionally mixed".

The issue of counselling for young people was referred to us by the Health and Social Services WG but we did not feel that this was either appropriate or needed at this time.

Young People Action Plan

Summer "Pilot" Schemes

We have approached the central issue of youth activities in two phases. We felt that it was important for us to launch a number of "pilot" projects over the summer of 2006 both to find out in more depth what were the needs and interests of the young people in Tarrington and secondly to gauge how much support and experience we had in the village to operate such schemes successfully.

The "pilot" schemes we operated over the summer were football, cricket, tennis, badminton, cooking, gardening, fishing, first-aid, drama, cycling and skate-boarding. Football, cricket, tennis, badminton and cooking proved great successes. First-aid and gardening were reasonably well supported but cycling, fishing and skate-boarding were not so well attended. However, it is too early to dismiss any of these projects for the future and our present intention is to run them all again next summer. It is hoped in fact that we may be able to run them, or some of them, over other holidays as well (e.g. Christmas). We don't of course rule out adding more project areas if we feel there is an interest there.

It's to be noted that one welcome spin-off of these projects has been that several youngsters have now joined on a regular basis some of the permanent sports groups in the village (e.g. the Badminton Club at the Community Hall).

Barbecue and Fun Day in Barrs Orchard

On 27 August 2006 we organised a barbecue and street party with various activities in Barrs Orchard. This was very well attended and we think a great success – especially in bringing out and together areas of the village and age-groups that haven't traditionally mixed (see **photo 8**). Our intention is to repeat this exercise again next year. Consideration will also be given, in conjunction with the PC, to whether it's feasible to run similar events for other areas of the parish (e.g. Garbrook, Durlow, Eastwood) that perhaps are a little isolated from main village activities.

Youth Club

It has always been acknowledged that there is a need for a Youth Club in Tarrington. Following the successful pilot schemes, a feasibility study was commissioned consulting young people from Tarrington, as well as the neighbouring parishes of Stoke Edith and Dormington. This study supported the immediate establishment of a Youth Club to serve these three parishes. A Committee was established to do this, and on 16 February 2007 the Youth Club was launched with a disco. The Youth Club has been given a grant from the Hereford Youth Opportunities Fund and so it is now able to invest in equipment to use in its weekly sessions on Thursday evenings. The Youth Club Committee will continue to work with the youngsters in developing the Club as a social attraction and as a place where youth can thrive.

Kickabout/Play Area for Youngsters

We certainly believe that the young people of the village need and deserve their own dedicated places to gather and play.

There are currently three available play areas for children – but only one is in use:

- The area behind the Community Hall (currently in use). This area is also used as a football pitch and for cricket nets.
- The green areas within Barr's Orchard (the play equipment has been removed by Elgar Housing)
- The public green space in front of Church View owned by the PC (not currently in use)

Further analysis is required to determine the best use and suitability of these facilities.

Both the Planning for Tarrington event and the Adult Questionnaire showed a high level of interest in additional outdoor activities such as Tennis Court, Cricket Pitch, Playing Field and these activities form part of the Community Facilities Action Plan. These facilities would also be available to the young people of the Parish and the LECH will bear this in mind as they conduct a feasibility study (ref Community Facilities Action Plan p. 27).

Timescale

The timescales for our above initiatives are implicit in what we've said. However, in essence:-

Summer schemes

Summer 2007 and hopefully future summers.

Barrs Orchard Event

August 2007

Youth Club

Already up and running.

Kickabout/Play Area

Feasibility studies to start immediately

Responsibility

We have already formed a Youth Steering Committee which will formally take over responsibility for driving forward Youth Activities from the present Youth WG of the Parish Plan Steering Committee once the latter is dissolved on completion of the Parish Plan. The Youth Club will be run by a separate Committee which will work with the main Youth Steering Committee. The Lady Emily Community Hall Committee will take responsibility for both these Committees.

4.7 Crime & Safety Action Plan

Introduction

The Crime & Safety WG had a series of meetings and reviewed the data on this issue collected by the Planning for Tarrington (PFT) and the Questionnaire. Representatives of the village Neighbourhood Watch scheme ("the NW") and the local Community Support Officer ("the CSO") were involved in all discussions and West Mercia Police were also consulted on the issues and the proposed AP. The AP is approved by the CSO and West Mercia Police and has their full support.

The Issues

Thankfully, crime is clearly not a major issue in Tarrington. In the PFT event, only two flags relating to crime issues were placed and in the Questionnaire only 5% of respondents said they felt unsafe in the Parish because of crime.

Having said this, it is clear from the answers to the other crime & safety questions in the Questionnaire that a significant number of people felt that safety from crime in the village could be improved in a number of ways. Several people voiced the wish to have a Police person based in the Parish or one here on an almost daily basis. This was discussed with the Police but it has to be accepted that setting Tarrington's extremely low crime rate against the resources available to the Police to combat much higher rates of crime elsewhere, this is just not appropriate. However, the Police did accept that there is real concern in the Parish with (a) a lack of Police visibility (especially in some outlying areas) (b) uncertainly how to contact the Police or the CSO when needed. We have tried to address these issues, with the support of the Police and the CSO, in the AP. An extra CSO is to be made available to implement the Plan.

It was also clear from the Questionnaire that although most people felt that the Parish's NW scheme worked quite well, quite a lot could be done to improve it – in terms of increasing its membership, geographical cover, knowledge of who to contact, having more regular meetings etc. Again, the AP addresses these points, with the enthusiastic support of the NW scheme.

A third issue raised by several people was anti-social behaviour, largely amongst some young people in the community. This topic was clearly one of central importance to the Youth WG so the views raised by people on this topic were relayed to that Group and have been taken into account in forming the Youth AP.

One final point. Although, as has been said, the concerns of the Parish regarding safety due to crime are fairly limited, there were many more comments made, both at the PFT event and in the Questionnaire, about safety due to traffic and poor lighting. These issues were dealt with by the WG dealing with Traffic & Transport and are addressed in their AP.

Issue	Crime & Safety Action Plan	Timescale	Responsibility	Partners	Cost/ Resources
Lack of police visibility	More frequent and better publicized visits by CSO to Parish	Immediate	CSO	West Mercia Constabulary	None
	Quarterly Police Surgery events in Parish	Immediate	CSO/Local Police Officer	West Mercia Constabulary	None
Lack of awareness how to contact police	Police awareness contact campaign e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish notice boards • Tatler • Parish web site 	Immediate	CSO/Local Police Officer/NW	West Mercia Constabulary	None
Overhaul Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	Increase membership Ensure full coverage of Parish Ensure that each NW co-ordinator is known by all in his/her zone Ensure full availability of Newsbeats Hold regular meetings with Police open to all village and regular NW co-ordinators' meetings	Immediate	NW coordinators	West Mercia Constabulary	None

5. CONCLUSIONS

At the end of the Adult Questionnaire we asked people whether they thought that the Parish had become a better or worse place to live over the past two years. 40% said that they saw no change. However, 27% thought it had become better as against 9% worse. For those who thought it was better, the main improvements seem to be the range of activities/facilities offered, the Pub, the tidying-up of the village, the influx of new people/ideas, better intra-village communication and generally increased community spirit. For those who thought the Parish had become a worse place to live, the loss of the shop/PO and Doctor's Surgery was the main complaint, followed by increased traffic and noise, inappropriate new housing, litter and bored youth.

Another question at the end of the Questionnaire asked for general comments or suggestions concerning the Parish. Many of these duplicated the answers to the previous questions. However, some gave pause for thought. On the positive side, there is strong feeling that Tarrington is a wonderful place to live, because of both the natural and human environment. Less positively, some outlying areas of the Parish feel left-out of Parish activities and some newcomers find it difficult to join in. There is also a feeling that Tarrington is "run" by a relatively small body of people.

The aim of the Plan is to build on and take further what people think is already good about the Parish and to try to address and correct those areas where things are clearly less than perfect. As we have said previously (p 12), not all these areas are within our control but a surprising number are (over 90% according to our analysis), or can be made to become so.

We should also recognise that the Plan is a living document. As some of its proposed actions are completed, the need for other actions, as yet unforeseen, may emerge. Some actions may even be rendered unnecessary by events. Consequently this document needs to be constantly reviewed and updated and we suggest that the Parish Council carries out a review and update every 6 months.

Ultimately, of course, a happy, integrated and successful community does not depend on plans, theories or bits of paper at all. It depends on the energy and good-will of all of us here. As will have been seen, a very large number of the initiatives set out in the Plan fall to the Parish Council to implement. They will therefore need quite a number of enthusiastic volunteers and continuing support from the Parishioners. These will also be needed for the various special Working Groups suggested in the APs. However, separate from that, all of us can set ourselves targets, from what we have learned in the Plan, to improve the lives of everyone.

The future really is in all our hands.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The preparation of the Parish Plan has involved quite a large number of people in the Parish (which is as it should be). Some of those have given up a fairly sizeable amount of spare time. In no particular order of merit, thanks (and congratulations!) must go to:-

The Steering Committee (* = PC member)	Public Bodies
<p>Mike Axe Helly Barber Anne, Anthony* & Richard Bush Dr John Dalziel Mary Fieth Graeme Forrester (Minute Secretary) Jeanette Forrester Mary Fox Steve Frazer* Stuart Fryer* (Vice Chairmen) Sue Hallett Peter Hammersley Robert* & Veronica Hodges Vivien Kouzeleas James & Sandra Langford Margaret Lockwood Margaret McLeod Richard Price (Chairman) Maurice Smith* Angela Stock* John Tallis* Edwin & Sharon Turnbull Sally Willmott</p>	<p>Linda Wilcox – HALC Angela Downing – Community First Siobhan O’Dwyer – Hereford Council Forward Planning Unit Steve Bell – Hereford Council IT Group Tony Cramp – Hereford Council Research Group Alison Dore & Russ Winfield – West Mercia Police Dave Tristram – Hereford Council Small Grants Group Shane Smith – Community Regeneration Support Officer Rosie Davidson – Herefordshire Voluntary Action (HVA)</p> <p>And not forgetting:</p> <p>Phil & Sian of the Tarrington Arms who provided a room for the Steering Committee meetings and much appreciated refreshments.</p> <p>Herefordshire Council who provided a grant of £1,000 from the Small Grant Fund for the Questionnaire project. This included the purchase of a colour laser printer that was used to print both the Questionnaire and this document, saving us several thousand pounds.</p>

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Tarrington (Tatintune) in the Domesday Book - 1086