

2009 Village Plan – Action Plan Progress – as of June 2018

Objectives in 2009 Village Plan	Specifics	Priority	Progress	Progress since 2009	Proposed additions for 2018 Village Plan
1. Restructure Parish Council to implement the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic, roads & pavements • Village Hall • Environment • Community Activities 	High	Complete	WG's set up for Village Hall, Built Environment, and Village Green.	Further changes may be required to implement 2018 Plan.
2. Engage support of local societies for the Plan		High	Complete	Many village groups have been involved in supporting implementation of the Village Plan. WOTHabs, MOWS, cricket club, football club, web-site team.	Survey to ask residents where further community activities are required and where they would be willing to volunteer.
3. Develop village website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of visits contribute news items • Publicise forthcoming events 	High	Complete	Objectives met. Web site is very successful.	Survey to ask where further enhancements may be required, e.g. Facebook.
4. Pursue negotiations with Whitchurch Primary School for use of facilities by the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evening activities, e.g. fitness classes, IT classes • Holiday play scheme • Selected teenage activities 	High	Not achieved	Discussed with school head (2009), but not pursued much as it is a small school with no caretaker. Financially it wasn't viable to staff the school to be opened and closed outside of school hours. The school has run some holiday clubs in the past, but this only works when there are members of school staff in the building at the same time.	Not recommending that we pursue this any further as other facilities are now available.

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5. Press OCC for 20mph/speed indicator devices in High Street (and possibly elsewhere)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High St, Hardwick Rd, Eastfield Lane • Better signs/markings • Speed bumps/ramps 	High	Not achieved	Despite efforts, this was rejected by OCC, except for Pangbourne 20mph limit to be extended to Whitchurch Bridge.	Traffic and Parking Group is raising this again with OCC as part of Village Plan update.
6 Examine parking in High Street and Hardwick Road to effect speed reduction, without losing parking facilities		High	Partial	White lines re-drawn on High Street with OCC consultation, but parking, congestion, and speeding problems remain.	Village Plan to make recommendations in this area, e.g. parking restriction certain times of the day to prevent people parking all day
7. Press SODC for improved pavement surfaces, defined crossings with ramps and regular maintenance of virtual pavements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High St upper and lower narrows • Hardwick Rd west end • Eastfield Lane west end • Toll Booth • Kerbed pavements 	High	Partial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge Company implemented recommendation for raised crossing at tollbooth. • The Cut at Swanston Fields was resurfaced. • On-going potholes addressed from OCC via “fix my street”. • Kerb raised by Bus stop on High Street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Space WG to make recommendations for pavements. • Traffic and Parking Group will look at crossing on the High Street
8. Implement immediate cosmetic upgrade of existing Village Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redecoration • New vinyl flooring • New curtains/blinds 	High	Partial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial cosmetic improvements completed within budget, including new furniture and water heaters in toilets. • Since end of 2013 little has been done. • 2017/18 plans being formulated and progressed, which includes the exterior of the building as well as the interior. 	Village Hall Committee to make recommendations in this area.

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<p>9. Conduct feasibility study of building new village hall</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • est. £500,000 + cost of land • Example of Little Milton 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>Feasibility of selling Village Hall and offering affordable housing on Manor Road and relocating it was completed. Not feasible in short term. Even though the PC owns the Village Hall, SODC has right of first refusal until 2029, which they are likely to exercise.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>10. Pursue negotiations with owners of cricket ground and SODC to secure for village use</p>		<p>Medium</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation complete; cricket ground secured for village use. • Football facilities introduced. • New pavilion plans being progressed. 	<p>Village plan update to make recommendation for future use of VG.</p>
<p>11. Arrange professional inspection of drains to establish capacity to cope with flash flooding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower end of High St • Eastfield Lane 	<p>High</p>	<p>Partial</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some remedial actions taken on culvert after flood in 2011. • Drains maintained by OCC only sporadically when chased. • Need to develop emergency plan in case of further flooding. 	<p>Village Plan update to make recommendations in this area.</p>
<p>12. Initiate discussion with SODC Planning Department about planning criteria for applications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation area • Preserving rural character 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Partial</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plan investigations looked at Planning Policies and could be continued in the future.</p>	

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<p>13. Undertake coordinated improvement of street furniture/signage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be improved and standardised to quality appropriate for conservation area village in AONB • Signs and boards • Street lights • Bollards and barriers • Seats and bins • Village maintenance. 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Partial</p>	<p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New village signs at main traffic approaches (north, east and south); • New Village information and history board on High St. • New notice boards for PC on High Street and Village Green Schedule in VG. • Improved standardised bins; refurbishment of seats; • Painting of barriers at ends of the cut between Eastfield Lane and Swanston Field; • Upgrading of 3 street lights (near Geoff Weir’s house, near Old Stable, and opposite Eastfield) • MOWS established planting areas at church entrance. • Seats were replaced/refurbished but require annual maintenance (re-varnish, etc.) <p>Outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardisation of street signs • Replacement of lights near bus stop and art gallery • Replacement of bollards and posts at lower narrows • Regular maintenance of grass and wild flowers along Muddy Ln and Hardwick Rd. 	<p>Village Plan update to prioritise further areas where improvements are needed.</p>
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<p>14. Programme enhancement of open spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule of areas • Trees, shrubs, wild flowers • Guerrilla gardening • Access to river 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Partial</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was completed for new Village Green and Maze as part of the VG WG, including the adoption of biodiversity standards from WOTHabs. • Areas covered by the village maintenance contract now include Village Green, church, playground, and triangle at Hardwick Road intersection. • MOWS established to address improvements to High Street open spaces. 	<p>The Village Plan update will make recommendations in this area, assessing and prioritising previous schedule of 23 open spaces.</p>
<p>15. Create a new footpath along Hardwick Road to the Hardwick estate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Jubilee path to West Lodge • Damage from cars parking on verges • Growth of informal passing places 	<p>High</p>	<p>Partial</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for 2 laybys received from OCC and implemented at east entrance to village. • Verge improved at Hardwick Road entrance. • WOTHabs leading effort to complete verge enhancement and footpaths with PC support. 	<p>Already in progress.</p>
<p>16. Post additional notices and Bulletin article about dog fouling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog bins • Discrete notices • Well-publicised appeals • Bulletin and website 	<p>High</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>PC has purchased and posted more signs around village, but problem will never completely go away.</p>	<p>VP update may propose some new ideas.</p>

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17. Examine case for extra lighting in lower High Street and The Cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Favoured by one in three residents 	Medium	Complete	This was investigated, but cost was excessive due to need for extra power lines and recurring utility costs.	
18. Encourage local clubs and societies to widen their membership		Medium	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of community groups in Whitchurch is still high – the web site lists 15 active groups. • PAWS, MOWS, WOTSing, WOT Jam, and the Saturday morning Art Café are a few of the groups added in recent years. 	Survey requesting residents to identify areas where new or expanded groups may be required.
19. Set up comprehensive Neighbourhood Watch coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details on village website 	Medium	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW schemes covering Swanston Field, Hardwick Road and Eastfield Lane established. Further extensions may be possible. • Smartwater scheme established for village. • Continuing intermittent incidents of theft and vandalism, including recent graffiti. 	
20. Provide extra facilities suggested in playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball net • Picnic table • Football net • Play house • VG youth facilities 	Medium	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On going playground maintenance done annually. • New rustic picnic tables installed on the Maze. • Football field and nets in place on VG. • A skate park on the VG was rejected in a VG survey. 	Additional facilities for VG for teenagers or all ages to be considered as part of the VP Survey.

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21. Invite young people's participation on website/Bulletin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaire • Website 	High	Complete	Complete, but limited success.	Still need new suggestions in this area.
22. Actively campaign for volunteers to help with Plan Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired • Young people 	High	Partial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VG work parties include football team, cricket club, and school help. • Maze Working Parties are on going. • WOTHabs work on the Hardwick Road improvements. • Village Web site team run by volunteers. • Keith Brooks has had help from Pete Woolhouse and others in the village for many built environment improvements and repairs. 	Survey to request volunteers to identify skills they can offer and areas they would like to get involved. Village Plan actions to identify where volunteers are needed.

	2009 Plan	More Work required for 2018 plan
Complete	11	Some of these will be revisited depending on survey feedback.
Partial	9	Good progress but still more work to do in most areas.
Not achieved	2	1 of these are still important to do (20 mph speed limit)
Total	22	