

Waldringfield Action Plan

The Steering Group has compiled a list of proposed actions and is now inviting comments before distilling these proposals into the Parish Plan.

If you wish to comment on any of the items listed in the Action Plan, and/or if you would like to register your interest in taking part in any of the proposed actions, please do so by writing to Janet Elliot, Mill Cottage Mill Road or by email to janet@buttermans.com

The closing date of this Consultation is Wednesday 8th April 2015

This plan is based on the Parish Plan Survey results, both the quantitative data and the comments, together with the outcomes from the Village Meeting held on January 29th. It summarises the issues that have emerged and identifies possible actions. The plan also suggests which group or organisation might wish to take the suggestions forward.

The Action Plan can be seen as a Community wish list and its implementation will rely almost entirely on the support and initiative of volunteers with a particular interest in any of the topics.

The Consultation will be the final step in formulating the Parish Plan.

Taking account of the views expressed through the Survey, the Village Meeting and this Consultation, the Parish Plan Steering Group can then compile a Parish Plan that truly reflects the wishes of the residents of Waldringfield.

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
5,30,36, 37,42,49	Services & Facilities	
5 Utilities	Survey results show that the majority, 70% or more, of households rate the services listed as good and 9% or more, as reasonable. However, 3 of the services were rated less well or were not used. These were the Bottle Bank, litter bins & dog litter bins. Comments suggested that more, strategically placed, dog litter bins are needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Bottle bank – Action: publicise via list of services [PC] sub group to publish a list of all services/amenities to all households plus new residents as part of a “welcome pack”. ii) Dog poo bins – see also <u>Q23</u> where dog fouling was identified as a significant concern - Action: improve facilities, [PC] sub group, working with dog owners to recommend improvements, location, number of bins etc iii) Litter bins – Action: Improve beach rubbish bin facility [PC], already underway.
30 Visitor facilities	46.9% rated the facilities as reasonable, 24.8% as good. Comments raised issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) lack of public toilets, ii) limited public car parking, iii) lack of bicycle parking, iv) lack of shop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Public Toilet provision - Action: examine again the feasibility of installing new public toilet and liaise with Maybush re public using its facilities as pub open all day & welcomes children [PC] ii) Car parking – issue acknowledged but no immediate solution – Action: Recommend that PC visitor policy should not actively encourage additional, car-borne visitors whilst maintaining current level of visitor facilities - linked to <u>Q51</u> iii) Action: Investigate provision and location of bicycle parking rack [PC] iv) Shop – Action: include boatyard shop and local mobile provision in list as <u>Q5i</u> above [PC]
36 Delivery/ mobile services	Responses indicated that many people are not aware of/how to access these mobile/delivery services. Comments indicated that more people would use the bus if service was either more frequent or timetables better publicised, easier to understand.	Action: Add the details of the mobile/delivery services to the list as <u>Q5i</u> above. Encourage commercial operators to advertise their services via the Parish Newsletter. Investigate alternatives to the current bus service, e.g. the Link Bus service. For all the above - [PC]
37 PO van	186 residents indicated that they used the mobile PO but the breakdown and comments indicated that there was limited awareness of the range of products & services	Action: Liaise with PO operator to publicise services at Village Hall [Village Hall Committee] Action: Add to list of services as <u>Q5i</u> above [PC]

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
42 Emergency services etc	The results indicated that few residents had used the services listed in the last 2 years, and where used, most rated them as good or reasonable. 1 exception to this was Police (visible presence), 118 residents gave a rating of which 60 rated the service as poor.	Action: Publicise the PC/police liaison and the very low level of reported crime in Waldringfield and raise awareness of Neighbourhood Watch. Relay the feedback to the Police [PC] plus neighbourhood watch co-ordinator.
49 GP & chiropodist in village hall	95% of respondents to this question said they never used the GP service and the same percentage never used the chiropodist. However the service is important to those who do use it. Comments indicated that it was difficult to get an appointment at the village hall for the GP.	Action: Clarify the contractual arrangements with the services and what, if any, amendments can be made [Village Hall Committee] Then Action: add to list of services as Q5i) above [PC]
28,29, 31, 32, 34, 35	Outside Space	
28 Children's playing field	61% of respondents to this question rated the facilities as good or reasonable and 9% rated them as poor. 19 comments included suggestions for improvements.	Action: Set up a working group to include parents and children who might use the playing field to examine possible amendments/improvements/redesign etc and secure appropriate funding. [PC] as the responsible body, to lead working group.
29 Church Field	Results show that Church Field is well used by residents for a variety of purposes.	Action: Thank the Trustees and volunteers for their hard work and their continued management of this much appreciated asset. [PC] & residents
31 Activities on & in the river	79 out of the 293 respondents said that they took part in activities on the river of which 28 said that they swam regularly plus a further 21 people ticked without indicating how often.	Action: Swimmers are to be accommodated, as well as other users, when looking at river related policies/activities [PC, Fairways Committee, WSC]
32 Activities beside the river	250 out of the 293 respondents said they use the riverside, particularly for walking, 216, relaxing & spectating, 174. 92 people walk with dogs	Action: The highly valued and much used riverside footpaths and beach to be maintained for the benefit of all users when looking at river related policies/activities. [PC, Fairways Committee, WSC]
34 Use of footpaths & bridleways	265 out of the 293 respondents said they use the local footpaths & bridleways, including 90 for cycling. Comments referred to footpaths being overgrown .	Question didn't differentiate between bridleways and footpaths. Number of cyclists may indicate that signage is needed on footpaths Action: [PC] Action: Improve maintenance of footpaths/more regular cuts [PC]
35 ROW/ footpaths to W/bridge & F/stowe	82% or respondents said they wanted the footpaths rerouted around the breaks in the river wall in order to reinstate the unbroken ROW/footpath towards Woodbridge and Felixstowe, 7% were against.	Action: Liaise with appropriate bodies, e.g. SCDC, DEP, Ramblers Association, local land owners etc to investigate all options in order to facilitate the provision of unbroken ROW & footpaths. [PC] plus volunteer group

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
11,16,18 27, 38, 52	Transport & Assets	
11 Attending extra-curricular activities	Of the 25 people who said that they were in full time education/training, 6 said they had problems taking part in extracurricular activities because of lack of transport home.	See <u>Q36</u> above re Bus Link Action: [PC] plus parents
16 Lift - share	Some residents said that they would take part in a lift share scheme, with various provisos.	Action: Invite via the PC newsletter interested parties to contact the PC who would then put residents in touch with one another. [PC] to set up invitation & introductions only.
18 Means of transport	8 people commented that they would use the bus more often if service was better/more frequent.	See <u>Q36</u> & <u>Q11</u> above re Bus Link Action: [PC]
27 Use of amenities & facilities	Useful snapshot of how the various assets are used – 67 people said they frequently used the Village Hall, 71 Church Field, 74 use a dinghy on the beach and 75 use a River Mooring	Action: Where take up is relatively low, encourage commercial operators to raise awareness and advertise their services via the Parish Newsletter and add to list of services as <u>Q5i</u> above: [PC]
38 Use of post boxes	Useful indication of how the post boxes were used, albeit prior to the recent changes in collection times.	Information can be used should any of the post boxes come under threat of closure. No action needed at present
52 The Parish Church	182 out of 293 respondents said that the Parish Church is important to them/the village	Action: Thank the PCC and volunteers for their hard work and management of this much appreciated asset. [PC] & residents
19, 20,21	Road Safety/Highways	
19 & 20 Number of incidents and locations of RTAs and near misses on local roads	6 people said that they had been involved in a road traffic accident on Ipswich Rd, 3 on Newbourne Rd and 2 on Woodbridge Rd. 72 people said they had been involved in a “near miss” on Ipswich Rd, 17 on Newbourne Rd and 15 on both Woodbridge Rd and School Rd. Comments suggest a variety of reasons – the following are the most frequently expressed: i) Overhanging hedges & trees forcing larger vehicles into centre of road ii) Vehicles travelling much faster than appropriate for the conditions of the road – i.e. restricted	Action: <u>Ipswich Rd, Newbourne Rd, Woodbridge Rd, Mill Rd, School Rd, Cliff Rd</u> Liaise with appropriate authorities: County Council/Highways/Police to ensure that land owners, including the Council in some cases, keep the hedges and tree line clear of the boundaries of the road (up to height of container sized lorries) Liaise with appropriate authorities regarding how to increase pedestrian safety on roads with no pavements or refuge. Consider a change of road surface, colour or texture, when entering the 30 mph limit. <u>Ipswich Rd only</u> Liaise with the appropriate authorities to recommend that a speed restriction should be introduced between cross roads and village entrance to reflect the road conditions. Liaise with golf club regarding reducing the number of balls being hit into the road –

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
	<p>vision and width on derestricted roads such as Ipswich Rd & Woodbridge Rd.</p> <p>iii) Unclear signage on Newbourne Rd at cross roads with Ipswich Rd.</p> <p>iv) Lack of pavement or pedestrian refuge on most of the roads in the Parish including junction of Fishpond & School Rd.</p> <p>This question links to Q22 where 77 people identified speeding as a problem.</p>	<p>possibly repositioning some of the tees etc. <i>Newbourne Rd only</i></p> <p>Approaching the cross roads, liaise with LAs as above to move de-restriction sign from just before the cross roads to just after the cross roads. <i>All Roads currently with speed restrictions</i></p> <p>Liaise with police regarding running speed checks/cameras on all roads with 30 & 20 mph limits. (see Q22)</p> <p>For all of the above - [PC] plus volunteers</p>
<p>21 Parked vehicles in the village</p>	<p>Parking in the road and on verges, associated mainly with i) the school and ii) the Maybush, were the most frequent causes of problems.</p> <p>iii) Parking in Village Way can block access</p> <p>iv) Lorries relying on satnav & using Woodbridge Rd, Fishpond etc and arriving at the Quay to find they can't turn around.</p>	<p>i) Action: Investigate creating raised beds on most effected verges eg retained by sleepers or similar - to discourage vehicles from mounting/parking on the verges [PC & WWG] Alternative drop off points, walking buses etc already being trialled by School and supported by police and parents</p> <p>ii) & iv) Action: Liaise with appropriate authorities as Q19 & Q20 above re appropriate signage, new sign recently in place on Cliff Rd at junction with Mill Rd [PC]</p> <p>iv) Solution agreed, alterations to be phased, funding via SCC Councillor's Fund.</p>
<p>22, 23, 33</p>	<p>Crime/Anti social behaviour</p>	
<p>22 Incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour</p>	<p>Waldringfield has a very low level of crime and anti-social behaviour. The issues suffered by most respondents were speeding, 77 people, and fly tipping, 24 people.</p>	<p>See Q19 & Q20 re action on speeding</p> <p>Fly tipping – Action: Relay this information back to the Police, publicise the PC/police liaison and raise awareness of Neighbourhood watch [PC] plus n/hood watch co-ordinator</p>

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
23 Other forms of disturbance or possible issues	Mud on the road was identified as a problem for the greatest number of people, 153 said frequently or occasionally, and 117 people identified dog fouling. A motor cyclist commented that field irrigation sprayers can hit passing cyclists/motorcyclists.	Dog fouling is dealt with, in part, in Q5ii). Additional Action: provide ongoing publicity on the effects of this problem [PC] plus volunteer sub group Mud on the road is part of living in a rural community - some is caused by farm vehicle movements, some is run-off from the banks and damaged verges. Action: Liaise with farmers re mud and positioning of irrigation sprayers [PC] Action: Individuals can contact County Council Highways re damaged/collapsing verges [Residents as appropriate]
33 Possible issues on the river and riverside	50 people indicated that they had experienced speeding on the river, 1 of whom said it wasn't a problem. 63 said rubbish/hazardous items left on beach, particularly crabbing equipment, including hooks	Action: Liaise with harbour master, fairway committee, WSC re all river & beach issues [PC] Signage re removing crabbing equipment is underway Increasing rubbish bin provision on beach is underway (see Q5iii))
24, 25, 26	Social, sporting, keep fit events	
24 Attendance of events, classes & groups	The results showed that the Village Hall is well used for a wide variety of events/activities.	Action: Continue to support & promote ongoing and new activities in the Village Hall [V Hall Committee] Action: Thank the V Hall committee and volunteers for managing the V Hall and initiating such a wide range of events. [PC] and residents
25 Assessing interest in possible new events or groups	103 people said they would attend films at the village hall, 60 the University of 3 rd Age, 39 would attend a computer club/course and 36 a book club. It was pointed out that there is a Youth Club held at the Baptist Church.	Action: i) Investigate how to organise and facilitate film shows at the village hall ii) Investigate providing broadband in village hall, in particular to facilitate computer club/courses iii) Investigate provision of U3A iv) Investigate provision of book club for all of the above [V Hall Committee] plus relevant volunteers
26 Assessing demand for new activities	Various individual suggestions were made for new sporting activities, the most popular being variations on keep fit/dancing/zumba classes.	Action: Investigate if trainers and possible start up funding available [Village Hall Committee] plus volunteers

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
39, 40, 41	Broadband & Telecommunications	
39 Adequacy of broadband speed	The number of residents rating broadband speed as good for any of the actions is very low, even for email only 49 out of 256 people did so.	A fibre optics box has been installed opposite the BT exchange. It is not yet connected for residents to use. The speed will still be affected by the distance of the device from the box but it will be starting off at a much faster level. Action: press BT to make fully available to residents as a matter of urgency. [PC] with knowledgeable volunteer to advise.
40 TV, radio & landline phones	Quality of TV & radio reception varied depending to a large extent on the location of individual properties and the type of equipment installed.	Action: Seek expert advice and ensure that “boosters” etc are fitted where needed. individual residents
41 Mobile phone reception	Mobile phone reception is a major problem throughout the village. The “highest scoring” provider was Vodafone but only 8 people rated them as good!	This is a serious issue for the village. Action: Investigate provision of a “joint” transmitter that will give cover for all users. [PC] with knowledgeable volunteer to advise. Action: Use these results as evidence of lack of mobile coverage should village telephone boxes again come under threat of removal [PC]
43, 56, 57	Waldringfield Parish Council	
43 Emergency Plan	At the time of printing the Parish Plan Survey a new Emergency Plan was in the process of being formulated but the date of publication had not been finalised.	The Waldringfield Resilience Plan has now been published and is available on the village website, http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/ or on request from the Parish Clerk. A brief “Aide Memoire”/Emergency Directory has been delivered to every household and this is also available on the Waldringfield website. Action: Changes to contact details etc should be notified to the Emergency Co-ordinator or to the Parish Clerk. [person whose details have changed]
56 Attendance of PC meetings	The number of people attending any type of PC meeting is low, for example 56, or 19% of respondents said they had attend a PC meeting in the last 2 years.	Action: Encourage greater engagement with residents. Agendas are currently posted on the PC notice boards and the Waldringfield website. In future, post a link on the Waldringfielders email group so that residents can more readily see what topics are being discussed and encourage attendance. [PC]

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
<p>57 Effectiveness of PC</p>	<p>It is difficult to draw meaningful conclusions from the raw data. The highest “scores” were in the “good” column but the numbers in the “no opinion” column were for most categories, greater. Various suggestions were made in the comments and are responded to in the Action section.</p>	<p>Agendas, minutes (including a financial report) are published each month for every meeting. They are posted on the Waldringfield website. Action: As above - a link could also be posted on the Waldringfielders email group for easier access to this information and encourage greater engagement. Action: Establish “special interest” groups to include residents who use/have a particular interest in a topic/facility The Local elections are in May this year. Action: actively encourage younger residents to stand for election to the Parish council. All of the above - [PC] plus input from residents</p>
<p>12-15, 17, 44, 45</p>	<p>Community & Environment</p>	
<p>12,13, 14, 15 Assessing care needs in the village & viability of a volunteer scheme to offer help</p>	<p>The number of people indicating that they needed help with the tasks listed is quite low, although the level of individual need may be significant. 11 people indicated they need help doing small jobs in the home and 12 need help with computing/using the internet. 25 people said they would make use of a village scheme if one were available. 100 people said they would offer help regularly or occasionally.</p>	<p>A village help scheme was set up some years ago. It was a formal scheme and providers of help had to undertake CRB checks etc. The scheme did not get off the ground and was abandoned. Action: Rather than try to establish another structured scheme, encourage an informal good neighbour approach, possibly nominate a “get to know your neighbour day”. Computing needs might well be served via the proposed computer group/classes in <u>Q25</u> above. Some volunteers have come forward already to offer other forms of help, details of voluntary and commercial assistance could be made available. [PC initially] then voluntary group</p>
<p>17 Assessing interest in shared car ownership</p>	<p>6 households said they would consider sharing with another household the ownership & running of a car.</p>	<p>Action: Invite, via the PC newsletter, interested parties to contact the PC, who would then put the households in touch with one another. [PC] to set up invitation/introduction only.</p>
<p>44 Assessing future use of gardening & wildlife related amenities</p>	<p>104 people of the 293 taking part said they would use one or more of the amenities listed.</p>	<p>A community composting site and a community orchard would require suitable land to become available, and in the case of the composting site, a significant number of volunteers would be needed to run it. Action is deferred at present Allotments: if there is a demand for allotments the PC has a duty to seek to facilitate this. Action: Residents who wish to rent an allotment can write to the PC to register their requirement. Residents who have suitable land that they would consider renting to the PC for use as allotments can write to the PC accordingly. [Residents/WALGA] Equipment share Action: invite interested parties to form an equipment share group [WALGA/residents]</p>

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
<p>45 Assessing support for addressing local environmental issues</p>	<p>186 of the 293 people taking part said that they wished to have one or more of the environmental issues addressed within the village. Protection of the saltmarsh, controlling puddling & run off and wildlife friendly measures received the highest levels of support.</p>	<p>Protection of saltmarsh - Action: [PC Policy] plus WFDG, WWG, DEP Puddling/run off: residents can contact Suffolk County Highways to report this. Action: [PC] to publicise this via newsletter Wildlife/bird/insect friendly measures - Action: [PC policy] plus WWG Local energy saving/generation - Action: [PC Policy] then Volunteer group to propose actions</p>
<p>46, 47, 48</p>	<p>Village Communication</p>	
<p>46 Sources of information on local events</p>	<p>The most used source of information on events is the Focus Newsletter, 217 of respondents, followed by PC newsletter, delivered leaflets and word of mouth, each used by 180+ of respondents. Posters are used by 160 respondents, notice boards 117, and Waldringfielders 114.</p>	<p>Useful information for those wishing to promote an event. Action: Investigate provision of larger, more accessible, notice board with protection from weather outside V Hall. [V Hall committee]</p>
<p>47 Online & group email communication.</p>	<p>254 people responded to this question, of whom only 10 frequently used the Waldringfield website, 33 the N/hood Watch email Group and 50 frequently used Waldringfielders. These numbers are all surprisingly low. Comments included concerns that Waldringfielders had moved away from its original remit, for which it had been highly valued, plus suggestions for a different “management”.</p>	<p>Action: Publicise N/hood Watch via PC newsletter and add to list re <u>Q5i</u> [N/hood Watch co-ordinator] Action: Publicise Waldringfield website and add to list re <u>Q5i</u> [PC] Action: Liaise with current owner of Waldringfielders to discuss options re alternative management structure, then actively promote the email group to attract new subscribers and increase coverage. [Parish Plan Steering Group] to take forward the initial discussions</p>
<p>48 Assessing future use of social media</p>	<p>Of the 254 respondents, 13 said they would frequently use a Village Facebook page and 5 a Village Twitter feed</p>	<p>Although these numbers are very low they may be a reflection of the balance of age profiles of the respondents. There is a genuine wish to engage with younger residents, therefore Action: investigate viability of setting up and trialling Village Facebook page [PC]</p>

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
53, 54, 55	Housing & Development	
<p>53 & 54 An indication of housing need in the village</p>	<p>In <u>Q54</u>, of the 18 individuals indicating a need for alternative accommodation now or in the next five years, 13 said they would like to stay in Waldringfield. Some of the 13 individuals then selected more than one alternative for the type of accommodation needed and so the numbers per type of accommodation needed are slightly skewed.</p>	<p>The <i>Suffolk Housing Survey</i> was conducted in 2014 by all seven district and borough local authorities within Suffolk and Suffolk County Council. This was a very detailed, 12 page housing needs survey which included our area. <u>Q53</u> & <u>Q54</u> were included in the Parish Plan Survey to provide some very basic information at a local level. Our survey asked individuals rather than households, the results therefore do not provide an accurate figure when assessing the number of additional houses needed in the next five years. The results do however show that where there is a need, it is for 1 or 2 bed homes to rent and/or buy. This is confirmed by the comments.</p> <p>Recent new developments in the Parish have included only 4 and 5 bedroom houses. The situation is further exacerbated when the existing smaller homes are sold and new owners substantially increase the size of the property. Where possible this imbalance should be addressed.</p> <p>Action: Promote, where appropriate, planning applications for 1 & 2 bed properties and encourage retention of current 1 & 2 bed properties. [PC Policy] NB: SCDC Planning Department has been informed of these issues.</p>
<p>55 Scale and location of any future development</p>	<p><u>Q55</u> was seeking views on the size and placing of any development, rather than the type or size of property. As there was/is uncertainty regarding the BT Adastral Park development the question had 2 parts (a) if the development goes ahead and (b) if it doesn't. In general, residents would like to see more limited development in the Parish if the BT Adastral Park development goes ahead. In that scenario 116 wished to retain the existing village envelope, 18 were in favour of expanding the envelope. 84 people wanted no houses, 120 said single homes in infill, 68 said small groups of 3 or 4 houses, 13 said larger groups of 5+, 114 said conversion of redundant buildings.</p>	<p>The majority of people, in both of the scenarios, wished to retain the village envelope. This has recently been the subject of a SCDC consultation where it has proposed some very small amendments. Details are available on Waldringfield website. The Parish Council's response was to agree with SCDC's proposed amendments.</p> <p>Action: Take into account the views expressed in the survey and adopt. [PC Policy]</p>

Questions	Issues	Proposed Actions & Suggested [Lead Group]
50, 51, 58	Positives, Challenges plus other comments	
50 Positive & negative aspects of living in Waldringfield	i) The aspects most appreciated by residents include being next to the Deben, being in a village, having access to the surrounding countryside and being part of an active & sociable community. ii) Concerns included lack of shop and increasing levels of traffic in the village.	i) Action : Take into account the views expressed in the survey and adopt. [PC Policy] ii) Shop – Action: See <u>Q5</u> ii) Traffic Action: see <u>Qs19, 20 & 30</u> above
51 Challenges facing Waldringfield	Of the 106 comments, 55 specified the BT Adastral Park development as the main challenge facing Waldringfield and many more referred to the negative impact that increased numbers of visitors and traffic will have. Other concerns are already included in previous questions.	In the recent consultation documents SCDC has removed any reference to what is known as the <i>Martlesham, Waldringfield & Newbourne Area Action Plan (AAP)</i> . This appears to ignore what is stated in the Core Strategy which says that this AAP will play a crucial part in the progressing of the Adastral Park development in terms of ensuring a “high exemplar development” and determining whether the proposed scale of the development will have an adverse effect on the Deben SPA. Action: take all possible steps to ensure that Waldringfield, as part of the AAP, retains its role in ensuring no adverse effect on the Deben SPA. [PC]
58 Any other comments	Comments relating to other questions in the survey have been included in the appropriate sections above. The only ones remaining refer to the Parish Plan Survey itself. 5 people were critical of the survey of which 3 people said that they would have liked the survey online. 7 people made positive comments.	Action: All comments as well as the lessons learned whilst formulating the survey and, ultimately, completing the Parish Plan will continue to be taken into account and recorded to inform any similar activity in the future. [Parish Plan Steering Group]