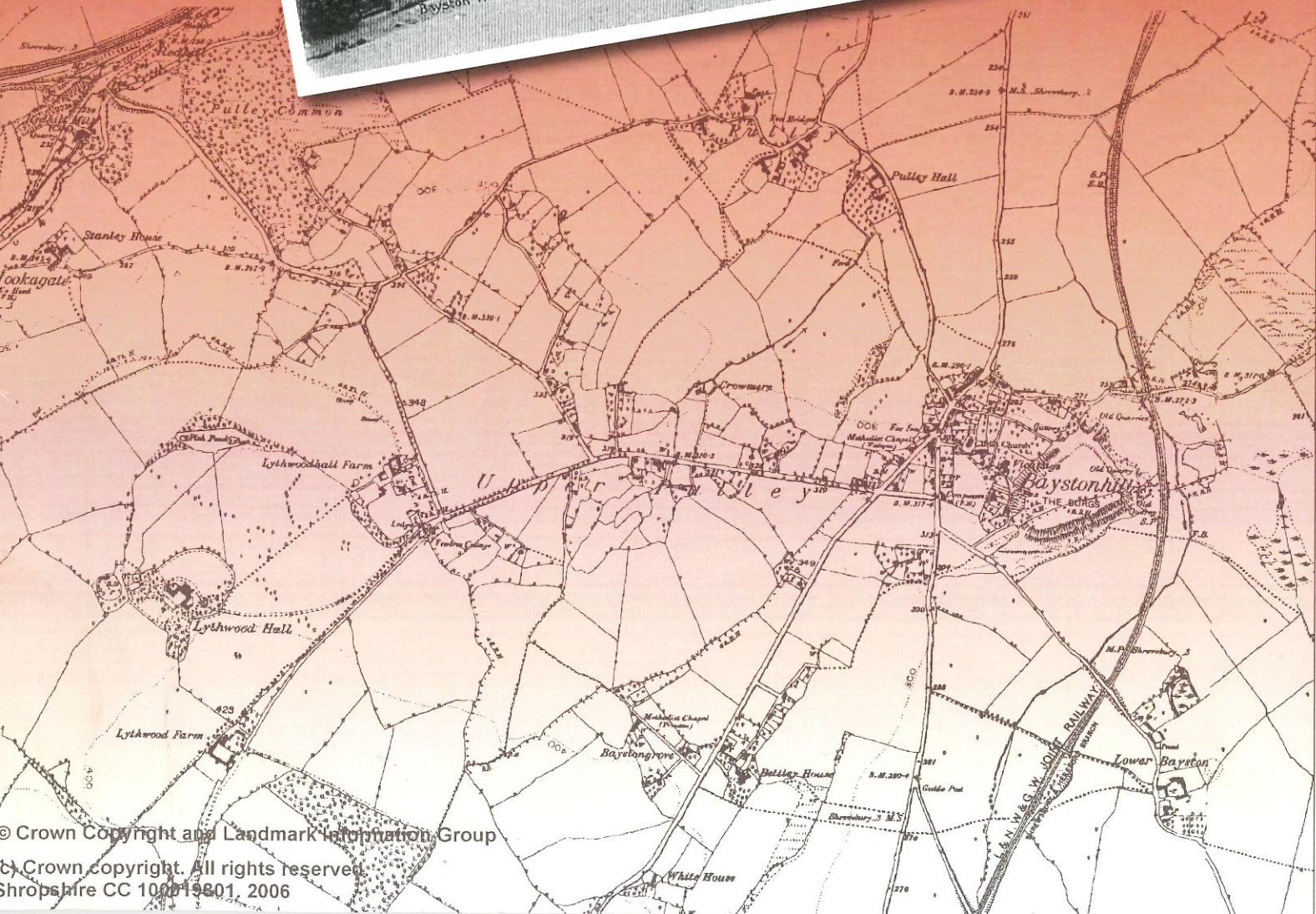


Bayston Hill

Parish Plan Review 2010



Bayston Hill Parish Plan Review

Introduction

In 2006 Bayston Hill Parish Council facilitated the production of a Parish Plan that represented the views and aspirations of this large urban village set in countryside fringe just four miles south of Shrewsbury. The preparation of the Parish Plan proved a worthwhile challenge and in the intervening years many of the tasks outlined in the Action Plan have been achieved.

In late 2009 the Parish Council announced the intention to revisit the Plan in order to review progress. This review was subsequently organised and funded through the Local Joint Committee (LJC) with the assistance of the Shropshire Council Community Regeneration Team. The review aimed to consult the community, produce an updated Action Plan and provide a steer on how the budget managed by the LJC should be allocated. The review process has provided an opportunity to make a strong statement encapsulating the sense of local identity the majority of our parishioners feel and to reflect the ongoing needs and aspirations of our community.

Assisted by the Community Regeneration Officer, the LJC carried out a survey of residents in the early part of 2010. This document summarises the responses to that survey and includes a new Action Plan identifying how the issues raised will be taken forward by both the LJC and the Parish Council.

Our achievements since 2006:

- Walk to school initiative – the newly merged primary school is actively promoting this and a cycling to school initiative. A new zebra crossing has been installed in readiness for the opening of the combined newly refurbished school site in summer 2011.
- Shortage of affordable housing – a development of 7 rented and 7 shared equity homes is due for completion in August 2011.
- A new Sunday bus service is now operational.
- Improvements have been made to two community venues.
- Access improvements to Parrs Pool and an extension to the community woodland has been completed.
- Attendance at Youth Clubs is increasing following work by the County Youth Service and youth workers at Zone (Christ Church).
- Improvements have been made to Long Meadow play area.
- Traffic light installations on the A49 at Baileys Island have addressed north-bound tailbacks and village rat-run problems.
- An Astro turf pitch has been installed on an underused tennis court.
- Improvements in street lighting at the Parade were undertaken by Shropshire Council.

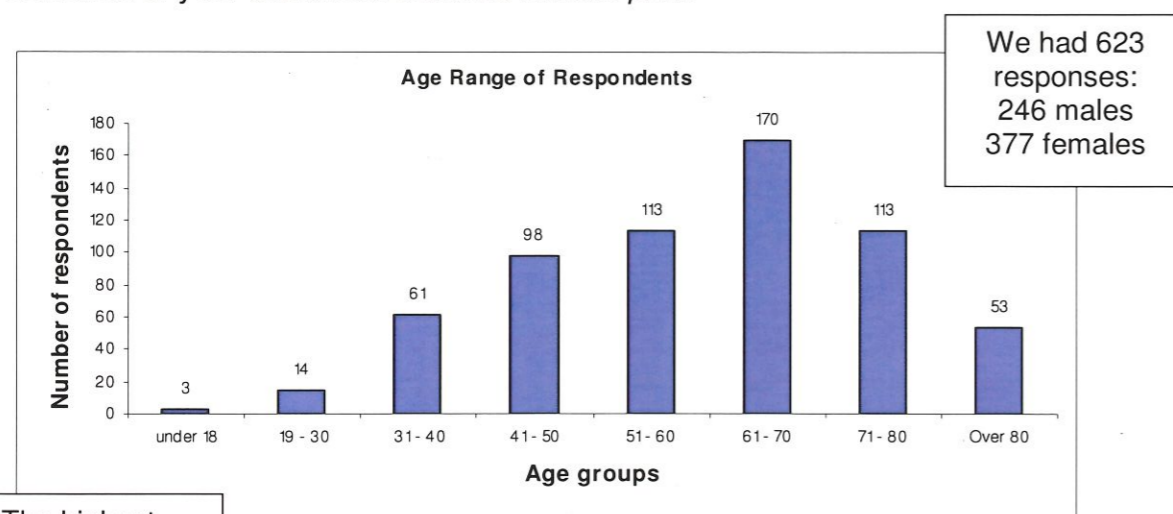
Issues carried over from the 2006 Plan:

- Parking and general improvements at the Parade are ongoing; negotiations with the landlord to demolish derelict garages are showing positive progress.

- Parking on pavements and at road junctions is still problematic.
- Dog fouling is still a big issue.
- One-stop shop plan for the library and Parish office– not completed but will be included in a feasibility study for the Oakland School site
- Negotiations on access to The Burgs are ongoing and positive via English Heritage and Shropshire County Archaeology Service.
- More activities for all ages need to be provided.
- The Parish Council is still lobbying for a pedestrian crossing on the A49 to join the old and new settlements that make up the village.
- It is clear from the 2006 Parish Plan, this review and in responses to proposals contained within in the Local Development Framework that residents are still anxious to avoid further large scale housing development.
- Ongoing resentment about the decision by the Boundary Commission in 2009 to combine the three previously separate Bayston Hill, Column and Sutton electoral wards

2010 Survey results

Some of the concerns highlighted in our latest survey are similar to those identified in the 2006 Parish Plan. The following pages illustrate responses to the questions posed in the 2010 survey with comment boxes adding a selection of your additional remarks in *italic print*.



The highest number of responses came from the 61-70 age group.

Young people were consulted separately: Children aged 7 to 11 years old from Oakmeadow School joined in our survey through Pod Voting, other young people's views were sought at Zone (Christ Church youth social club).

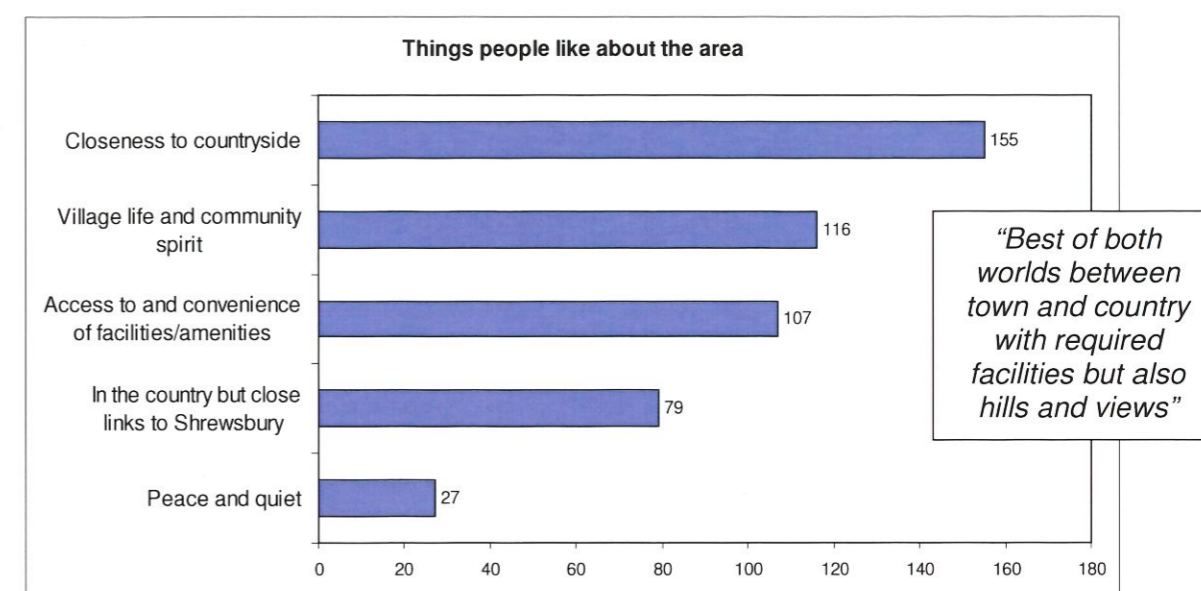
Comments about **future housing development** were made in response to several of the questions and it is clear that the continuation of a restricted development boundary between the village and Shrewsbury is important to many of you:

"...no extended building around perimeter of the village"

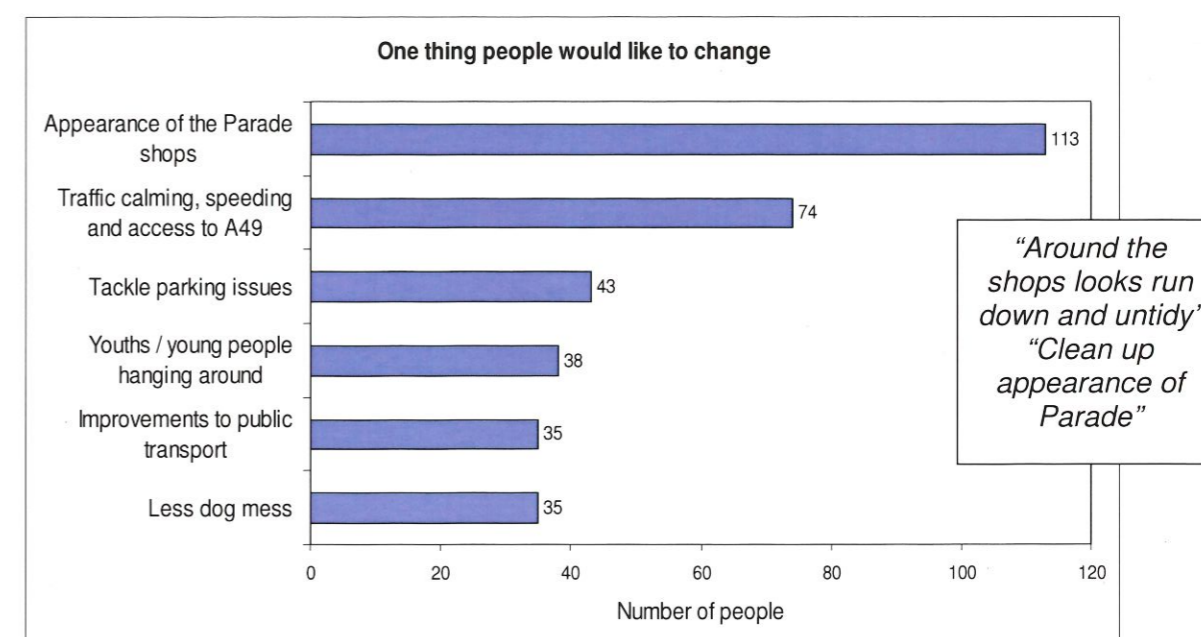
*"...stop the village becoming integrated with Shrewsbury"
"...keep the village as it is – a green belt between Bayston Hill and Shrewsbury"*

"...ensure as far as possible no consideration given to extending (development) boundary"

We asked you to identify one thing you particularly like about the area and one thing you would like to change. The top answers for each were:

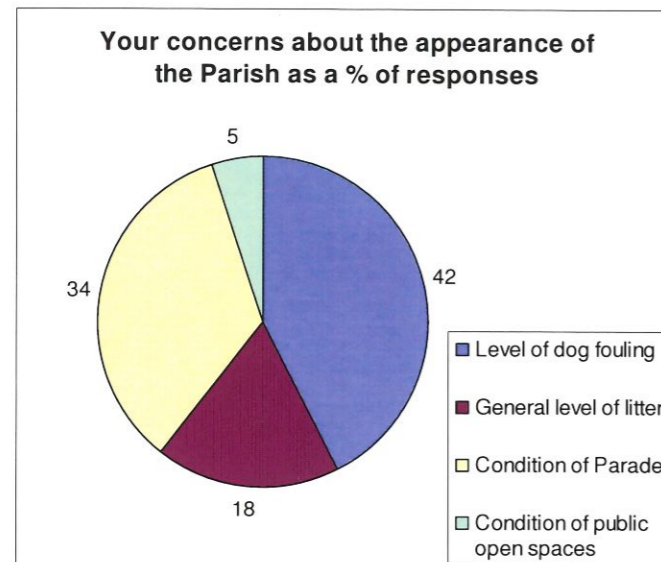


*"An excellent community spirit with good people giving their own time to look after the residents and continue to strive for improvements"
"It has a family friendly cross generational atmosphere"
"The advantage of village life with the convenience of town facilities"
"Green belt between Bayston Hill and Shrewsbury"*



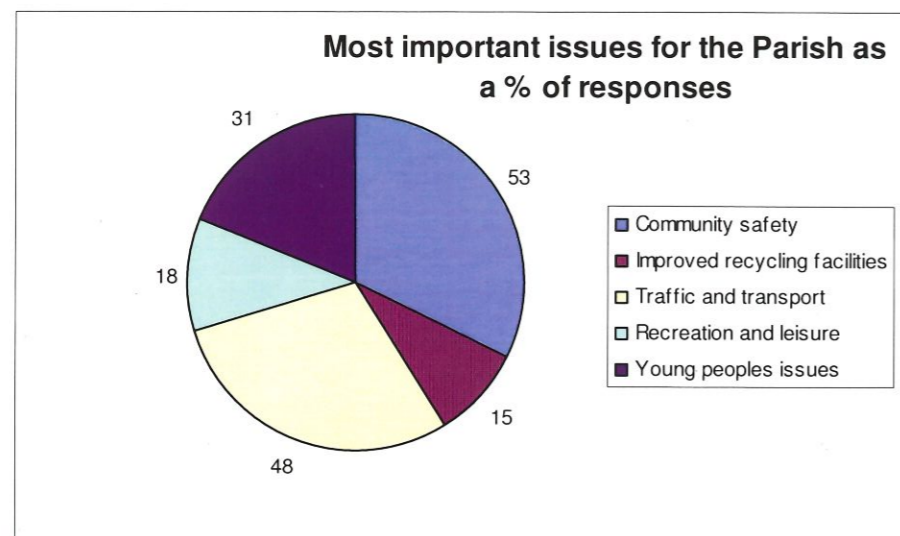
*"Need something for young people to stop them hanging around the shops"
"A better road sweeping service"... "Better maintenance of footpaths"
"Inconsiderate parking at road junctions"... "No parking on pavements"
"Reinstatement of Beeches Road bus stop for getting from the doctors surgery"
"Need easy access to A49 towards Ludlow".....
"more dog waste bins and / or general refuse bins around the village"*

The appearance of the Parish is something we all take great pride in and the responses to both of these questions produced clear ideas about how you think the village could be improved. The issues of concern mirrored those in the 2006 plan with the majority (42%) very concerned about the level of dog fouling, closely followed by 34% who were very concerned about the condition of the shops in the Parade.

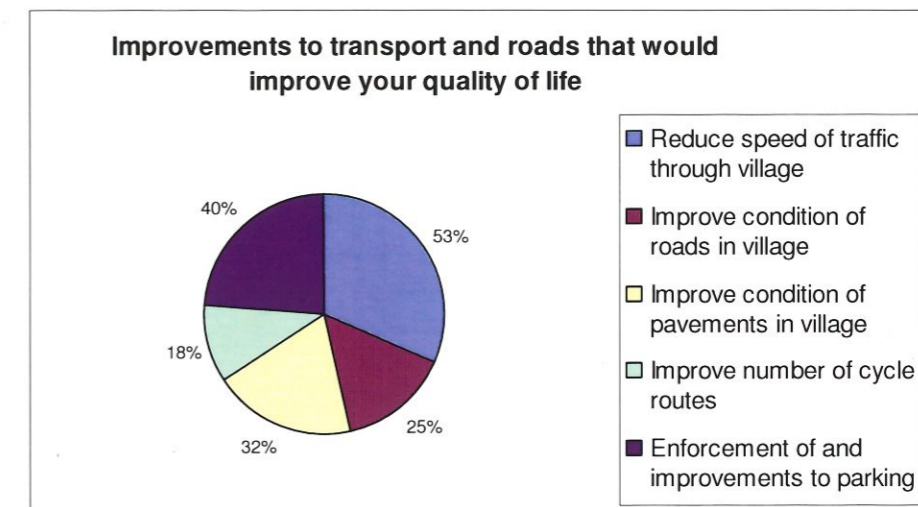


Other concerns that ranked highly were the general level of litter particularly at the Parade and specific issues with dog fouling on the football pitches. Requests for more litter and dog mess bins were made in many of your comments. Our proposed actions can be found in **Sections 1 and 3 of the Action Plan**.

With regard to **community safety**, 53% thought this to be an important issue and a positive 69% were satisfied with their own level of personal safety whilst out and about in the Parish. Only 22% were happy with the level of policing in the Parish and comments around the need for a more visible police presence were made in the answers to this and other questions.

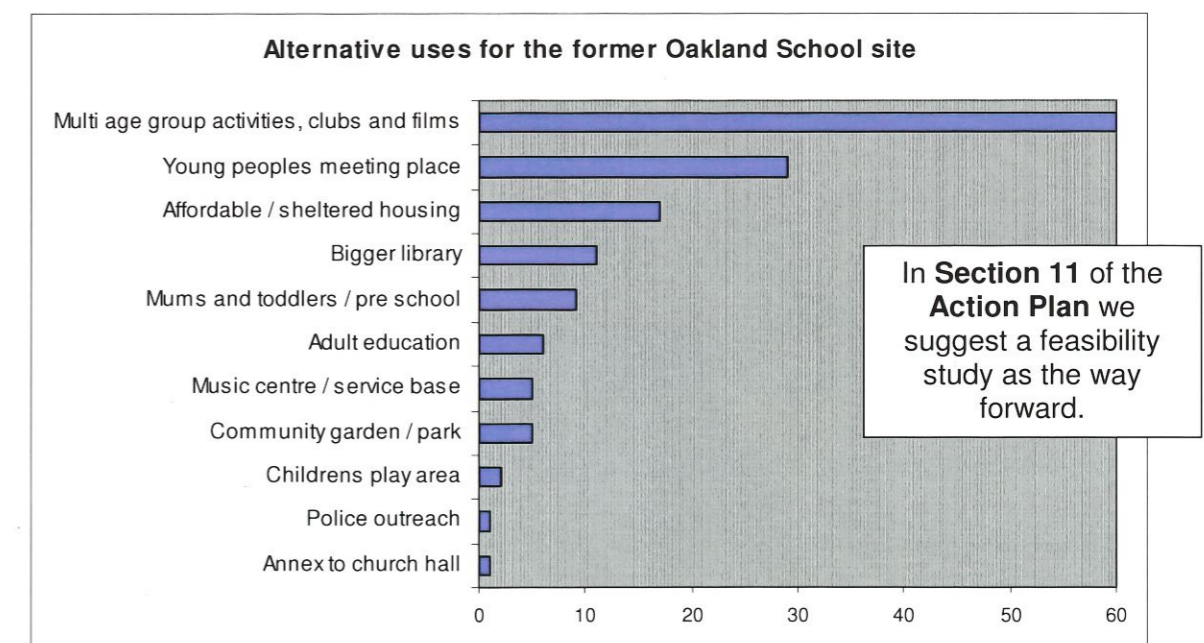


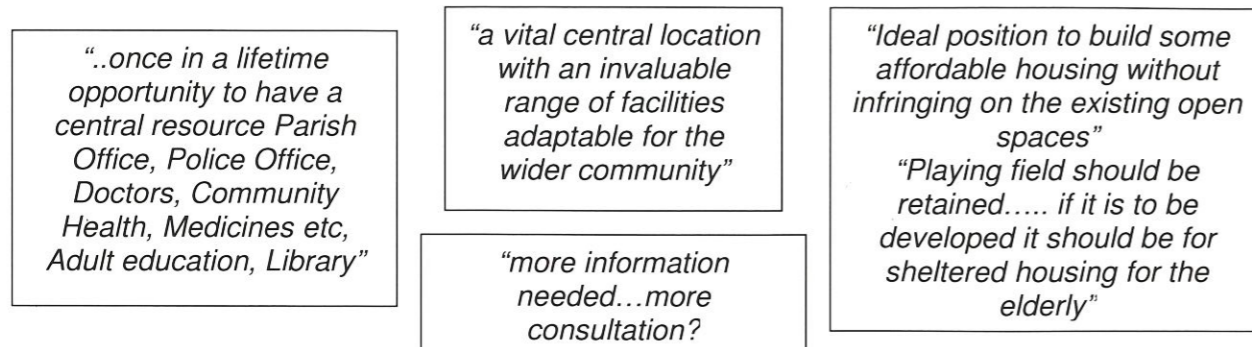
Traffic and transport issues were reflected in your comments throughout the survey. Your concerns cover a range of issues including on street parking, speeding, traffic calming measures that need to be changed or improved, the difficulty of accessing the A49 when travelling south and the need to improve the condition of roads and pavements throughout the Parish.



These concerns are addressed in **Sections 2, 4 and 6 of the Action Plan**. Public transport is also an important concern with the main issues being the recent unilateral alterations to bus routes and the removal of some stops. Our strategy for improving the situation can be found in **Sections 7 and 12 of the Action Plan**.

Since the publication of the 2006 Parish Plan, Oakland and Long Meadow Schools have merged leaving the former Oakland School site with no long term purpose or function. We asked if you thought that the site should be retained for community use; 82% of you agreed and your suggestions were:





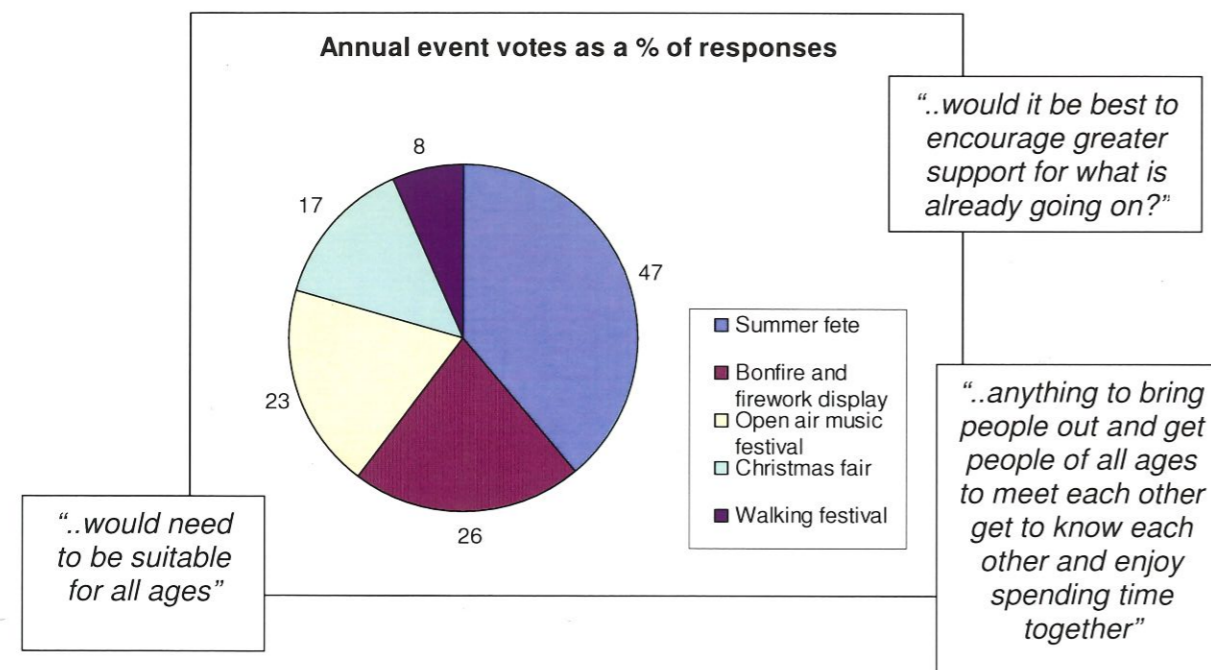
We also asked if you wanted to see more activities, classes or events going on. The top answers to this question were film shows (30%) and organised walking activities (15%). Other suggestions were:

- *Local History talks and Classes*
- *Computer classes*
- *Music*
- *Art Classes*
- *Foreign Languages*
- *Exercise/fitness classes*
- *Dancing classes*
- *Sport

Following the survey and as a result of your comments ‘Flicks in the Sticks’ will be presenting movies for a trial period in the Memorial Hall.

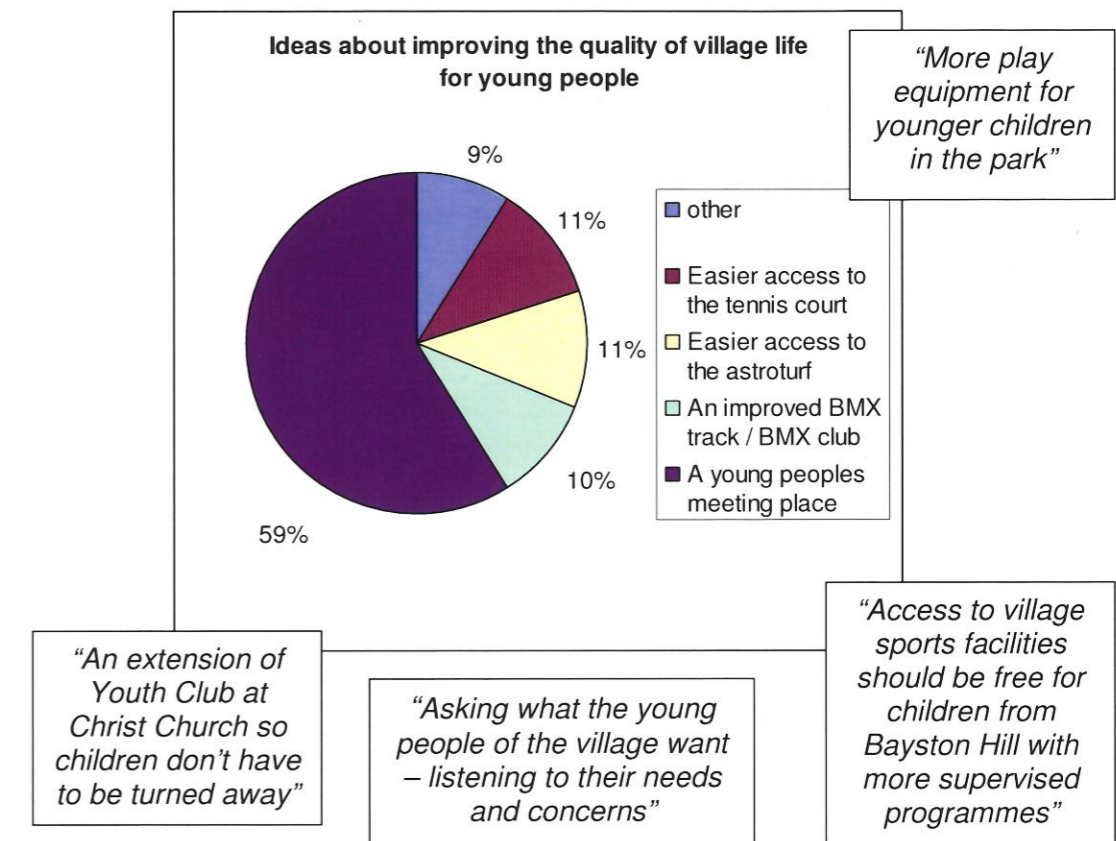
Since the Parish Plan was published in 2006, the Parish Council have been working with several partners to improve the **open spaces**. This survey showed that 47% of you enjoy the opportunity to use the extended local community woodland and 38% noted the easy access to open spaces for leisure and play. However 26% considered there to be more work to be done on improving and expanding the footpaths and rights of way infrastructure.

We asked if you thought it would be a good idea to have an **annual parish event** to help to celebrate village life. A resounding 80% said yes and the suggestions for what this might be were as follows:



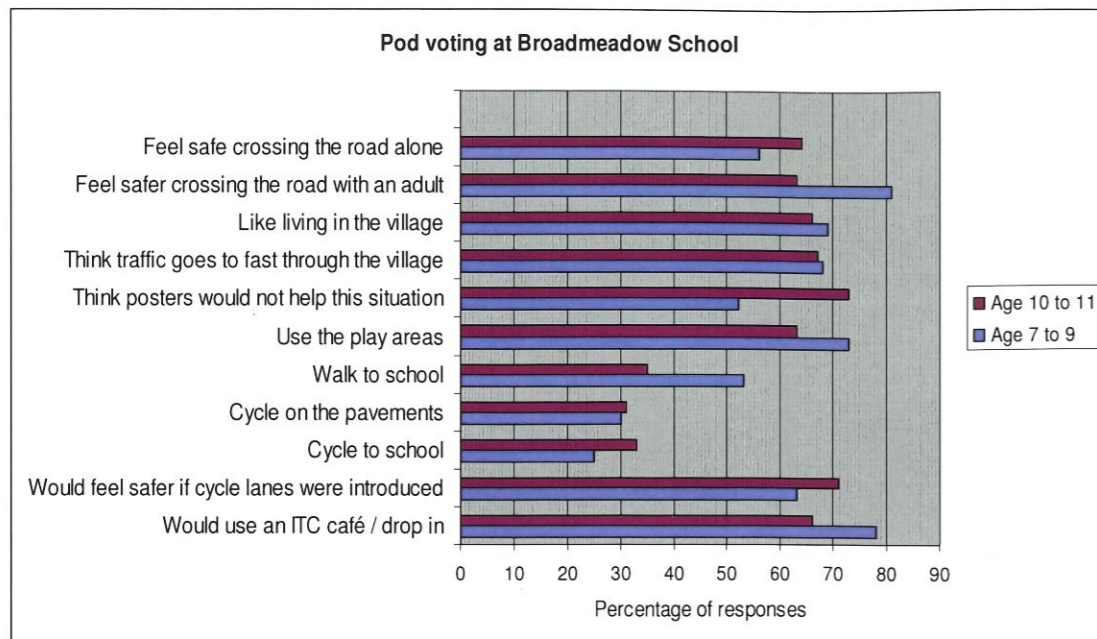
Following the 2006 survey the Parish Council responded positively to **young peoples concerns**. Your responses to the 2010 survey reflected a continued concern that there need to be more activities and opportunities for young people.

We asked you through this survey and the young people themselves through linked but separate consultation exercises how we could further address these needs (see also young peoples section). The majority of you felt that priority should be given to establishing a young peoples meeting place.



Young people’s survey

During a pod voting session at Oakmeadow School children aged 7 – 9 and 10 - 11 were asked about road safety, routes to school and for ideas about how things could be improved. Their responses were:



Additional comments made were:

- Dislikes or issues**
- Cycling to school – some ride on the pavements
 - Speed of traffic travelling through the village too fast
 - 21% travel to school in the car – aim to reduce this

- Improvements or ideas**
- ✓ Would like to see an ICT café in Bayston Hill
 - ✓ Would like skateboard Park / ramps improved
 - ✓ BMX cycle track
 - ✓ Adventure playground designed for older children.

Young people were also consulted at Zone (Christ Church Youth Social Club):

- Dislikes or issues**
- People hanging around the Parade
 - Litter

- Improvements or ideas**
- ✓ Cycle paths / lanes
 - ✓ Cheaper bus tickets
 - ✓ Fishing places
 - ✓ More parks
 - ✓ Council office open later so that booking can be made
 - ✓ Easy free access to Astroturf without booking
 - ✓ More places to go like zone
 - ✓ Outdoor activities
 - ✓ Reintroduce the obstacle course
 - ✓ Improvements to the park on Long Meadow

Bayston Hill Parish Plan Review - Draft Action Plan 2010

Priority	Issues	Action	Responsibility
1. The Parade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition of garages behind shops and parking General Condition of the Shops Young People "Hanging around" Cycling on pavement at Parade Litter around the parade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiate with / grant assist landlords agent to facilitate demolition of garages to provide extra parking Re-mark disabled parking bays To work with SC Economic Development for access to shop frontage improvement grant To encourage multi-generational work with the youth service and elderly groups To compile directory of activities and facilities for young people in Bayston Hill To work with the schools to raise awareness of the risks and consequences of riding bikes on the pavement To look at position of existing cycle rack and install additional cycle racks Landlords obtain bylaw and install more prominent "No Cycling" sign. To encourage shop keepers to monitor their frontages and fund increased cleaning 	<p>Local Joint Committee (LJC) Parish Council (PC) Shropshire Council(SC)</p> <p>Community Regeneration Officer (CRO)</p> <p>Youth Service PC CRO</p> <p>PC</p> <p>Shopkeepers</p>

2. Speeding and Traffic Calming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed of cars through village Review traffic calming measures A49 – access at peak times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work with Shropshire Council to investigate the purchase and installation of flashing VAS warning signs and monitor success of the same. To work with local policing team to run spot-speed checks, raise awareness, monitor the situation and develop local 'Speedwatch Scheme'. To request a review of traffic flow and improve access/egress from both sides of the village onto the A49 at peak times. Continue to lobby for pedestrian crossing on A49 	<p>LJC PC SC / Alice Dilly</p> <p>PC Local policing team</p> <p>PC Highways Agency</p>
3. Dog Fouling and Litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On pavements, routes to school, village facilities and Lyth Hill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To commence a 3 month awareness raising campaign through the Villager and to work with local policing team to continue educational work within schools To review the distribution of dog-mess and litter bins throughout the village especially on favourite dog walking routes. To work with Environmental Services to produce a flyer for each household setting out legal implications & expectations, health & environmental implications, safe disposal etc. To work with the local junior school to design clean-dog signs for erection on the main dog-walking routes To negotiate with Environmental Services the deployment of the dog warden in the village to issue warning notices to offenders and rewards for responsible dog owners. 	<p>LJC SC / Tim Sneddon</p> <p>PC</p> <p>County Environmental Team</p> <p>School LJC</p> <p>County Environmental Team Dog Warden</p>

4. Irresponsible Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking on street and on pavements Parking at Parade Parking near schools Encourage more children to walk or cycle to school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work with Shropshire Parking Service and Police to monitor parking The demolition of the garages to provide extra convenient shoppers parking CSO's to carry out peak-school traffic surveys To work with the Safe Routes to Schools and Transitional Towns Initiative to encourage cycling and walking within the village and to promote a "Safer Bayston Hill" initiative. 	<p>PC Shropshire Parking Service PC / LJC</p> <p>CSO</p> <p>PC SC</p>
5. Limit Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure Bayston Hill remains a distinct and separate settlement with restricted development between the village and Shrewsbury town To maintain the character and community feel of the village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce a Parish Plan review and Action Plan from the recent consultation that includes key recommendations. Maintain the restricted development boundary particularly between the village and Shrewsbury. Bayston Hill Parish Council to adopt the updated Action Plan, Shropshire Council accept and adopt the document, copies issued to the relevant Council Departments for their information. 	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>

6. State of Pavements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lose chippings • Grit pavements in winter • Cyclists on pavements • Hedges overhanging pavements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To request a review of the condition of the pavements in Bayston Hill • To review the placement and maintenance of grit bins • CSO's to work within the schools with parents and children on the etiquette of riding cycles on the pavement • Continue to raise awareness through the Villager • Parish Council to send polite letters to offending householders 	PC SC Highways PC SC CSO PC SC PC
7. Bus Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus routes, shelters and stops • More reliable service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Transport Team to respond to issues raised at the March 2010 meeting – LJC to feed these responses back to public. • Continue to work with Arriva to review internal bus routes, current position of bus stops and health and safety issues 	SC Public Transport Team LJC PC
8. Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular visible police presence e.g. during the evening • Enforcement of parking restrictions and speeding limits • Lighting of public spaces • Young people using the Parade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with the local policing team to ensure visible policing presence in response to reported anti social behaviour. • Shropshire Parking Service and local policing team to address parking offences. • To carry out a review (in darker nights) of the level and suitability of lighting around public spaces and public facilities within the village • To monitor activity in this open public space 	Local Policing Team PC (if review results reflect this need) Youth Service CSO

9. Promote the Parish and 10. Public spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights of Way network improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update and promote the out of print Shropshire Council pocket booklet / pamphlet map of footpaths and walks to include a map of the village showing the facilities and amenities • Produce village promotional leaflet 	PC SC Countryside Access Team PC
11. Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to consult with young people • Promote activities available in the village • More clubs and meeting place for young people • Enhance role of Young Parish Councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRO to work with Youth Service to agree & arrange consultation with teenagers • Support the production & promotion of "diary" of events, clubs and activities • Oakland School site community use feasibility study • Develop properly resourced young councillor strategy 	Youth Service CRO PC Villager Magazine PC CRO PC
12. Retired Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day events • Evening classes • Transport issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate with community centres to trial new courses / activities and secure funding to underpin "tester" sessions • Promote Community Transport schemes 	PC CRO Age Concern
13. Oakland School Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure consultation findings considered • Ensure parish council and LJC included in any further consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward PP Review to relevant department at Shropshire Council • LJC and Parish Council to ensure full involvement in consultation process and use results to lobby for community use feasibility study. 	LJC PC CRO

14 Public Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpath infrastructure Community woodland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage Countryside Access Team to review footpath infrastructure Work with Countryside Rangers to ensure continued expansion of community woodland 	SC LJC PC SC Countryside Access Team
15 Activities and evening classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Film shows Walking Evening Classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with community Centre to facilitate film clubs – Potential for Bayston Hill Memorial Hall to include audio system and hearing loop in current refurbishment project. Trial Walking for Health initiative and publicise updated local walks leaflet Tie walking tours into local history lectures Negotiate Adult Learning taster sessions 	Memorial Hall Management Committee CRO / LJC SC Walking for Health Co-ordinator CRO & Community Centres
16. Village Celebration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestions for type of event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form Bayston Hill Event Working Group to work with local community venues and schools to compliment current activities 	PC CRO Villager Magazine
17. General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish the Parish Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parish Council to create a display for local events to promote current projects, successes and on-going work 	PC

Young Peoples Issues			
Results of 'Pod Voting' with children from Oakmeadow School aged 7 to 11 years old.		Responsibility	
Dislikes or issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling to school – some ride on the pavements Speed of traffic travelling through the village too fast 21% travel to school in the car – aim to reduce this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO's to work within the schools with parents and children on the etiquette of riding cycles on the pavement (Section 6) To work with Shropshire Council to investigate the purchase and installation of flashing VAS warning signs (Section 2) Safe routes to school initiative 	CSO LJC PC SC Oakmeadow School
Improvements or ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT café in Bayston Hill Skateboard Park / ramps Cycle track (BMX) Adventure playground designed for older children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of open access, free broadband enabled computers at library BMX and skateboard projects due to start September 2010 	PC Library Service PC / LJC
Young People's views from Zone, Christ Church Youth Social Club, Bayston Hill.		Responsibility	
Dislikes or issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People hanging around the Parade Litter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To monitor activity in this open public space (Section 8) To review the distribution of dog-mess and litter bins throughout the village especially on favourite dog walking routes (Section 3) 	Youth Service CSO PC
Improvements or ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor activities Council office open later so that booking can be made Easy free access to Astroturf without booking More places to go like the zone Park on Longmeadow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Parish Office opening times Refer to Action Plan (Section 11) Investigate further improvements to Longmeadow play area. 	PC

Acknowledgements

Bayston Hill Parish Council and Local Joint Committee wish to thank the following people for their help in preparing this Parish Plan review:

Anne Cousins, Tim Collard and Ted Clarke for delivering the 2000+ surveys to households throughout the village.

Shropshire County Community Regeneration Team for their assistance in collating the results of the survey.

Maxine Betts from the Community Council of Shropshire for presenting trial survey sessions to the LJC in autumn 2009.

Nicola Fisher, Community Regeneration Officer for her help in guiding us through the process and in working with our community.

Karen Jones of Audiam Consulting for compiling this document.

Closing statement:

This report has been compiled as an annexe to the original 2006 Parish Plan and it is our intention that both documents should continue to form our strategic vision for the Parish. We would like to thank all those residents who took the time to fill in the survey and make additional valuable comments. Your contributions have been a great help and will assist us in identifying and trying to address your local concerns and aspirations.

Ted Clarke, Chairman, Local Joint Committee
Tim Collard, Lead Officer, Local Joint Committee.
Hazel Jones, Chairman, Bayston Hill Parish Council.
October 2010

Contact details:

Ted Clarke, Chairman, Local Joint Committee
☎ 01743 874449
✉ Ted.clarke@shropshire.gov.uk

Hazel Jones, Chairman, Bayston Hill Parish Council
☎ 01743 872011
✉ wtj@supanet.com

Community Regeneration Team
☎ 0345 678 9000
✉ communityworking@shropshire.gov.uk

Audiam Consulting
☎ 07914 757799
✉ audiamconsulting@hotmail.co.uk

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