

Update to the
Great Cheverell Parish Plan
with the **Village Design Statement**



Cheverell Magna Parish Council

October 2011





THE UPDATE TO THE PARISH PLAN

The original Parish Plan was prepared by: David Nichols, Lynda Wearn, Pauline Jenkinson, Rosalind Ambler, Louise George, Stella Wilson, Debbie Deimert and Anna Spear

The proposed new planning legislation makes it imperative that we produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan to ensure that any planning fits in with what villagers want.

This update brings us up to date so we know where we are now and what still needs to be done.

An 18th century map of Great Cheverell →



Contents

- Great Cheverell Village Design Statement4
- Welcome to the Great Cheverell Parish Plan5
- How the Plan was Researched6
- The Past7
- The Present7
- The Future8
- Leisure Recreation and Culture9
- Community Facilities 10
- Transport, Traffic, Roads and Footpaths 11
- Retail Services 12
- Environment 13
- Employment 14
- Crime and Security 15
- Health 16
- Planning 17
- Younger Residents 18



GREAT CHEVERELL VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Proposals by Cheverell Magna Parish Council

There are major changes in the planning process being introduced by the government, which could have a significant impact on the village. Cheverell Magna Parish Council is concerned, and has received representation by a number of parishioners.

As part of the Wiltshire Core Strategy (published in consultation in June 2011), Great Cheverell has been identified as a Larger Village (which the Parish Council has contested) with potential for development. This is set at a maximum of 20 houses as part of the Devizes Community area share.

The Parish Council, as part of ongoing consultation, will continue to campaign on behalf of residents to ensure that building is appropriate to the character of the village.

It is intended that, once revised guidance has been published by the Government, this Statement will be revised and restructured into a formal Neighbourhood Development Plan.

What residents think

As part of the development of the Parish Plan in 2006, consultation with parishioners found that retaining the character of the village was very important to most residents, and there was concern about existing and potential new developments spoiling this. The other major problem is providing enough affordable housing for young people.

In addition to concerns about housing, feedback from villagers through the Village Appraisal and Witchcombe Lane and Weavers Mead consultation processes indicate a concern about insufficient consideration for new jobs for local people in the village.

There is strong resistance to expansion of the village by allowing big developments. Extensions to existing buildings, and any new housing within the village boundaries, should complement neighbouring buildings.

Since the development of the Parish Plan the Parish Council has consulted on major development i.e. Witchcombe Close and represented views of residents on all planning applications making substantial contribution to the management of development in the village.

What the Parish Council will do

In order to preserve our village the Parish Council will continue to campaign for sympathetic and appropriate development based on:

- ➔ The scope for limited building, ideally infill;
- ➔ The need for affordable housing, so we don't lose young people;
- ➔ The need for enhanced transport links, so that people can live here but work elsewhere;
- ➔ The need to preserve the historical nature of the village, recognising the existing road structure and limited infrastructure (power, drainage / sewerage, broadband).
- ➔ A reasonable density of housing (maximum 20 as identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy), built in a sympathetic style, with an emphasis on affordable housing, targeted at young local residents.
- ➔ The preservation of existing views, quality of light, clean air, sensible traffic flows, and other important aspects that maintain the high Quality of Life in the village

**Cheverell Magna Parish Council,
October 2011**



WELCOME TO THE GREAT CHEVERELL PARISH PLAN

This document reflects the views of the whole community on how they want their village to go forward.

- The purpose of a Parish Plan is to:
- Reflect the views of all sections of the community;
- Identify which features and local characteristics people value;
- Identify local problems and opportunities;
- State how residents want the community to develop in the future;
- Produce a plan of action to achieve this vision.

The Parish Plan scheme was set up by the Countryside Agency, which provided a grant that, together with locally raised funds, has paid for the research. This scheme has now been wound up, and Great Cheverell was among the last villages to obtain this funding. The application for funding had to be made rapidly, following an initial village meeting to explain

the purpose of preparing such a Plan at which a number of volunteers came forward to sit on the Parish Plan Steering Group.

The Group is proud to state that none of these initial volunteers has fallen by the wayside since that initial meeting in May 2004.

UPDATE 2011

As part of the new Localism Bill, the proposed new planning legislation invites communities to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) in conjunction with local planning authorities.

This doesn't mean we have total control over building in the village but it gives us the tools to decide how we wish the village to expand, in what directions and the type of development we think suitable.



A classic summer scene – the church fete at the Old Rectory



HOW THE PLAN WAS RESEARCHED

At the original village meeting, a representative from Community First (who give support to small communities including the preparation of Parish Plans) invited those present to say what they did and didn't like about Great Cheverell, and what their main concerns were.

This naturally only flushed out the opinions of those present, so a questionnaire was prepared and distributed, inviting every resident old enough to understand the questions to submit their views.

205 questionnaires were completed, which represents a response of approximately 40% of the villagers.



QUESTIONNAIRE

The findings and recommendations within this Plan are largely, but not entirely, based on the questionnaire. As all the steering committee live in the village, opinions were also gathered throughout the research period through day to day encounters, and the planning aspect was looked into when preparing the village appraisal in 1995 and during consultation for new developments in the village.

Holy Trinity School also participated, with a project that asked local children what they liked, or disliked, about the village. It was heartening to learn that our younger residents love where they live.

Great Cheverell is the best village in the world
Holy Trinity Pupil, Summer 2005





THE PAST

Great Cheverell has been in existence since Saxon times, although there may have been an earlier Roman settlement. In the 15th century the Cheverell manors formed an endowment for Heytesbury Almshouses, and after that a string of landowners owned most of the village until the last major landowner, Simon Watson-Taylor, sold off his estate and houses came into private ownership. Today, the village has a population of 588.

Great Cheverell's main street is within a conservation area, providing picture postcard prettiness. The downside to this is poor access to most of the public buildings and facilities - the village hall, the post office stores and the public house are all entered via steps, making disabled access difficult, but alterations to the structures are strictly controlled by the conservation rules



The Bell, when cartwheels were practical not decorative

THE PRESENT

There is a nursery school, primary school, small group of business/industrial units, a garage, a post office stores and a church. It is felt that the village is somewhat lacking in community spirit, with long term residents harking back to days when there were more village activities and associations, and newcomers commenting on the lack of community events. This may be due in part to losing the community hall that used to stand on the playing fields at the top of the village.



UPDATE 2011

There are now a lot of clubs and activities within the village for all age groups.

They are held in the Village Hall and the New Pavillion.

The latter replaced the Community Hall and is a valuable asset for the village. It is wheelchair accessible, with a large hall, catering kitchen, changing rooms, showers storage facilities and parking. A children's playground has been built in the adjacent playing fields.

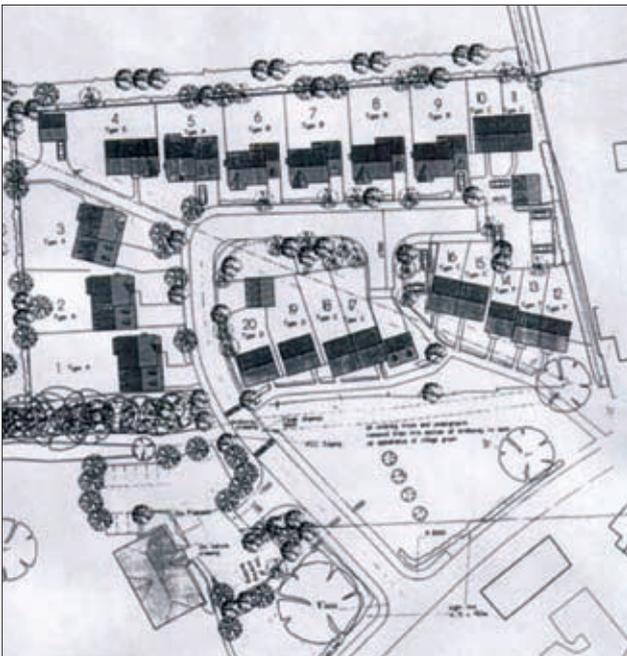




THE FUTURE

There has been an ongoing proposal for a new housing development at the top of the village, that would include a new community hall provided by the developers, and an improved playground. This has been under consideration since the 1980s and has suffered a large number of setbacks. At the time of preparing this Plan, building is expected to start in 2006.

Beyond this, no further expansion of the village is likely to occur, although infill building is still feasible.



UPDATE 2011

The community has seen the New Pavilion has been built, as has the playground and the development of new houses has been completed.

The additional residents, both at Wychcombe Close and Weavers Mead has meant there are more children for the school, more customers for the shop, pub and activities around Great Cheverell.

Therefore, living, provided it is on a small scale and in keeping with the village has a positive effect on our surroundings and the facilities we can all enjoy.

The playground sits on the playing fields adjacent to the New Pavilion. These have been improved and are used by the local football club.

Many of the summer activities are also held here and together with the New Pavilion, provide a flexible and high quality facility for the village.





LEISURE, RECREATION & CULTURE

The majority of villagers learn about events through **News & Views**, the parish magazine. It is hoped that the new website will also play a role.

Key Objectives

- ➔ Gather like-minded people together to set up societies and interest groups.
- ➔ Overcome reluctance to get involved with organisation of activities - it is no good waiting for 'them' to do it for you. If you want it, make it happen.



How do people know what is happening in Great Cheverell?

Most residents (61% of those questioned) felt well informed about what was going on locally, mainly via word of mouth, local press and notice boards

Demand for daytime activities was modest, with just over 10% of people asking for keep fit, computer studies and gardening activities.

Demand is also there for a youth club, and keep fit. Brownies and scouts, dance, gardening and badminton all had moderate support.

The idea of evening activities was more popular. 40% would like arts events such as drama, music, and 30% specifically asked for concerts in the church.

Skittles and darts at the pub scored the highest, with good awareness of junior football, bingo, whist, aiki, fellowship group and support from the church. Cricket at Erlestoke, the Friendship club, theatre group, yoga and book club scored below 30%.

UPDATE 2011

News & Views is still delivered to all homes in the village and is vital in letting everyone know what is going on in this village and the Lavingtons.

The new website has been built and is up and running. As well as giving information on local clubs, activities, schools and facilities, it holds all the Parish Council's Agendas, Minutes and Policies. This is now updated at least twice a month.

A skittle alley is now available at The George & Dragon at Erlstoke and is well used.

Brownies and various keep fit activities are held in the New Pavilion and local bands are able to practice there. A pantomime is held each Christmas.

The Village Hall is the meeting place for numerous clubs including a village book club and a whist evening.

The Parish Council support the local youth club in West Lavington and are investigating whether to set up an outreach youth club in Great Cheverell.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There are four public meeting places in the village. The Bell public house has a large upstairs function room that doubles as the skittle alley and there is a village hall on the High Street. Both these are reached by steps, making them difficult for or unusable by those with mobility problems. The school has a large hall that can be hired, and St Peter's Church is also available for hire for concerts.

When the Community Centre is built the children's play park alongside the football pitch will be refurbished, and a car park created.

Key Objectives

- The Parish Council to produce a Newcomers' Village Welcome Pack, including details of the community facilities, and establish a network of volunteers to monitor the arrival of newcomers, and deliver these packs.

Are residents aware of village facilities?

Awareness of the village hall and pub function room was very high, and both these venues are well used by residents.

The availability of the school hall, however, was not something people knew about, and only 14% of those questioned had actually used this facility. There was low awareness of the fact that St Peter's could be hired.

Details of how to hire all these venues need publicising, via the notice boards and website, together with contact names, hire rates, and any restrictions that apply.

Other channels that could be used include posters and flyers, information taken home by pupils at Holy Trinity School, the church notice board and the Friendship Group.

UPDATE 2011

The Bell  replaced the skittle alley and function room with B&B accommodation, but the Village Hall, New Pavilion, St Peter's and the Holy Trinity C of E Aided Primary School Academy all have halls for hire. Contacts are shown on the website.

The children's playpark has been completed with additional facilities for teens. There is a car park for the New Pavillion, which is also proving very useful for the school at drop-off and pick-up times. This has improved safety no en  with a marked crossing on the road for the school.

Welcome Packs have been produced but are expensive and the website:

www.greatcheverell.org

provides up to date information.





TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

A bus service from Devizes to Trowbridge via Westbury operates through the village, also one to Bath. A service to Salisbury can be caught at the junction with the A361. The local timetable is displayed outside the Post Office, and other timetables are available from the Post Office. Two thirds of respondents do not use the bus which is largely used by people under 24.

The Parish Council needs to identify which roads are causing concern and where appropriate take the matter up with the Highways Agency. There is a need for an action group to support the Parish Council in tackling traffic and speeding problems and prepare a plan and/or conduct lobbying at other levels.

Key Objectives

- Utilise the voluntary services that have been offered to maintain footpaths.
- Form a Traffic Action Group.
- Publicise methods that should be used by individuals to report road maintenance problems.

Are the roads and footpaths well maintained and safe?

44% of those questioned were not happy with the condition of the roads and/or footpaths. 34% of people indicated that they would be willing to help maintain footpaths. A number of people attending the first village meeting put themselves forward for footpath maintenance and these names have been passed to the Parish Council.

Do people feel in danger as pedestrians, cyclists or riders on the roads?

46% of respondents did feel the village roads presented some danger. Speed of traffic was the major concern, together with HGVs. There is alarm at the prospect of HGVs coming through the village to the new development. Haphazard and unsafe parking in the High Street was also a concern, although this can aid in reducing the speed of through traffic.

UPDATE 2011

The Parish Council has formed a Traffic Action Group  and a huge amount of work has gone into writing to and lobbying councillors, collecting evidence including photographs. Our County Councillor Richard Gamble, has been very supportive and we can report some success. We are the first village in Wiltshire to trial a 20mph speed limit within the village. Signage and roundals have been placed by and on the roads at appropriate intervals. A marked crossing place has been installed between the New Pavilion car park and the school.

Green Lane, a route used by school children has been resurfaced and the bank has been dug away from the footpath opposite the school to the T-junction with the B3098, leaving a wider and safer footpath. A new street lamp has been installed to improve visibility between that junction and the school. Footpaths generally have been cut back by the Parish Steward and the Parish Council are producing an Annual Maintenance Plan. HGVs are still an issue but following intense lobbying, WCC are considering using an alternative route for HGV bridge diversions.



RETAIL SERVICES

Great Cheverell has a Post Office stores that also offers a dry cleaning and other services, public house, and garage, all of which enjoy a high level of local support. 90% of respondents used the Post Office, 87% the shop, 82% the pub and 61% the garage. Both the shop and the pub present access problems, being reached by steps. A milkman, Michael Bulling, delivers milk and some other groceries including bread, potatoes, cheese, orange juice. These deliveries take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

A grocery van, D & D Coxhead, makes daily deliveries including milk from Littleton Pannell. Deliveries are made by I & L Smith of Cheverell Stores to those who are unable to get to the shop. There is potential to increase this service

Interested parties without internet access need to be identified. The Countryside Agency is currently reviewing an initiative to establish rural internet facilities. The status of this review should be investigated for the village.

Key Objectives

- Support the Link Scheme helping those with transport difficulties.
- Investigate public internet services, in conjunction with the Countryside Agency.
- Liaise with village retail outlets to see how their businesses can be further supported and developed.

Do residents have problems using retail services outside the village, due to transport problems?

A small percentage said yes to this question. If these people can be identified they may wish to participate in the Devizes Link Scheme that provides transport for those who need it.

Would residents be interested in having groceries delivered via a shopping group? 9% of respondents found this an attractive idea.

Establish whether Cheverell Stores would be willing to support such a scheme, and if so confirm interest from potential participants.

Do people use online supermarket shopping with delivery services?

22% of respondents did use these services, mainly younger people. This may indicate that there is potential for a village internet facility, to enable people currently unable to use this facility and help those unfamiliar with internet use.

UPDATE 2011

The Parish Council supports the Link Scheme. An additional bus service No 2, calls into the village on a Tuesday in term times for Salisbury Market. There is also a service Connect2, to take patients to Bath United Hospital, running Monday to Friday. Unfortunately, The Saturday X88 service to Bath is under threat but the Parish Council is resisting this cut robustly.

A hairdresser has opened in Ridout's Yard and an Indian Takeaway, Zeera has opened in Market Lavington. The Post Office has been bought by Stevie and Gary Stamp who also offer coffee and a book swap service. B&B accommodation is available at the Bell.



ENVIRONMENT

Recycling and environmental issues produced the strongest message received from residents via the questionnaire, with 94% considering these matters very important, or important. Currently Holy Trinity School has a newspaper collection bin. Appropriate authorities should be consulted, and if possible attend an information session in the village.

Key Objectives

- A village composting facility
- Encouragement of greater responsibility by dog owners to reduce fouling, and greater enforcement of bylaws.
- Dissemination of energy efficiency information
- An annual village clean up in May

UPDATE 2011

The provision of a village composting facility was examined but events overtook us. Erlestoke Prison created a recycling area, including composting. When Kennet Council started providing green waste bins and these are now to be provided free by WCC. Cardboard and plastic will now also be collected by the council.

Dog fouling is still an issue and notices have been placed around the playing field, playground and village. Regular reminders are also placed in News & Views.

We have an annual litter pick in the village and provide skips at specified times.

After events at the New Pavilion, any litter is cleared from the playing fields, playground and hall.

Some residents pick up litter whilst walking their dogs and this is appreciated/.

Who would use a community compost facility?

Half the people questioned would use a community composting facility if available.

The village needs either a community composting facility to which people could take their green waste, or pick-up points for green waste to be collected on a regular basis.

There has been an initial discussion about the possibility of developing a composting scheme in conjunction with Erlestoke Prison, and the Prison is also looking to develop its own recycling. Green Waste wheelie bins are shortly to be supplied to Great Cheverell residents who have applied for them.

Is dog fouling a problem in the village?

43% of villagers think dog fouling is a problem, with the highest level of concern being from residents of Church Lane, Hill Corner, Garston and Townsend.

Dog owners must be encouraged to use poop scoops. Disposal bags are available free of charge from the shop or the Parish Clerk.

What environmental activities do people most want?

From a list of 6 options, the most popular was to continue having village skips for household rubbish (67%) followed by 47% wanting garden waste skips.

38% of people would support a litter pick up day, and 33% a village spring clean. bank holiday weekends in May. 32% would be interested in a plant exchange day for gardeners.



EMPLOYMENT

While unemployment is not a large problem the closure of Compass in December 2005 has reduced the numbers employed in the village, and this also affects the number of transactions through the Post Office and other knock-on effects. Sole traders living and working from home in the village are somewhat invisible, and might appreciate networking opportunities.

for the Plan to help, childcare, training and the provision of community office equipment were what was wanted.

The District Council, Pre-school at Holy Trinity School and The Old School Nursery could be asked about the feasibility of organising a local crèche.

Key Objectives

- Identify potential workspaces
- Bring training to the village
- Promote available childcare services

UPDATE 2011

Businesses require reliable, fast connectivity and the Parish Council is working with WCC to apply for a grant to improve broadband speeds in the village. The speeds range from slow to very slow and cannot support many of the new services on offer. A new initiative Digital Inclusion from WCC has set aside funding to speed up internet services in rural areas.

Local childcare facilities are advertised on the village website with links and contact numbers.

New equine-related businesses have started in the village, but most small businesses, unless retail, remain largely hidden.



Should the Parish Plan encourage employment within the village?

Half the respondents felt that if possible IT should help to encourage more employment within Great Cheverell. Possible workspaces should be identified and existing employers should be encouraged to advertise vacancies locally on the village website.

Did people want to set up their own businesses, and how could the Parish Plan help?

7% of respondents, which equals around 15 individuals, were interested in setting up businesses. They wanted help with training and finding suitable workspaces. People also felt that there was a need to raise awareness of existing companies and to support local producers and services.

Assistance should be sought from the Wiltshire Education Authority, Wiltshire College and the Learning Skills Council for activities such as the visiting computer training that was run in the village in 2002.

The Great Cheverell website and News and Views can be used to raise awareness of local enterprises.



CRIME & SECURITY

Crime is not a great problem in Great Cheverell. The village has a local police officer who liaises with the Parish Council, has established links with the village and gives support in reducing antisocial behaviour.

The major concern amongst villagers is vandalism.

Support is required from Wiltshire County Council to provide youth activities in the village to occupy the bored and prevent disenchanted youngsters from causing trouble. An attempt to set this up in 2005 failed due to lack of available staff.

Key Objectives

- Attract more volunteers to help with Neighbourhood Watch
- Encourage the provision of youth activities
- Set up free home risk assessments
- Invite BVT to raise awareness of security etc to whole village

UPDATE 2011

Policing has been reorganised in Wiltshire and our village is supported by the Devizes South Rural Beat.

Police officers regularly attend Parish Council meetings and target problem areas.

Vandalism can be a sporadic problem but there is more for youngsters to do locally.

A Youth Club operates in West Lavington and this is supported by the Parish Council. Events are held in the New Pavilion for young people featuring local bands and they have been allowed to practice in the hall.

The play park includes facilities for teens including a teen shelter and zip wire.

**YOUR NEW POLICE
NON-EMERGENCY
NUMBER
DIAL 101**

Do you feel unsafe at home or in the community?

82% of the respondents did feel safe, with 17% feeling unsafe, these largely being from the under 24 age group.

Do you want to work from home, and could the Parish Plan help?

29% of respondents would like to work from home, but the majority did not think the Parish Plan could be instrumental in bringing this about.

Are you aware of a neighbourhood watch scheme in Great Cheverell, and would you be prepared to help?

69% of the population were aware of the scheme, and 35% indicated they were willing to help out with the scheme.

Did residents want free home risk assessments?

There was considerable demand for Home Security, Fire and Home insulation assessments, to be arranged through Wiltshire Police, Bobby Van Trust (BVT), Wiltshire Fire Brigade and Kennet District Council.



HEALTH

Great Cheverell has neither a doctor's surgery nor a pharmacy, although prescriptions can be dispensed from Market Lavington pharmacy and delivered to Cheverell Stores.

On the strength of the responses, Cheverell certainly could muster sufficient volunteer drivers to take the 7% who have real problems getting to appointments, and development of the Link scheme should be a viable prospect, with the service offered to as many villagers as possible. The potential drivers need to be identified and approached with a Link Co ordinator appointed.

Set up a Community Care Information Point (CCIP) in the village, or via GPs' surgeries used by residents

Key Objectives

- Recruit local volunteer drivers, in consultation with Devizes or other Link schemes.
- Set up a CCIP.

UPDATE 2011

The Parish Council has approached the Courtyard Surgery to see if it is feasible to set up a satellite surgery in the village one day a week. Dr Osborne visited the New Pavilion but felt it was unsuitable. Privacy would be a problem and there was no internet or phone connection. However, the PC are pursuing this and might be prepared to offer some funding to in order to start such a surgery.

Residents do use the West Lavington Link service but with the price of fuel, the cost of journeys is rising.

Lifts are offered on a personal basis but Link has not been set up in the village.

Do residents have problems getting to health and social care appointments?

A small percentage (7%) of respondents did find it difficult to get to doctors, dentists etc, these being people of retirement age, many living alone.

Would people like a service whereby local residents would drive them to appointments.

A massive 79% would like such a service, far outstripping the 7% who actually find it difficult to get to appointments.

Would they be prepared to volunteer to do the driving?

16% of respondents also would be prepared to drive people to appointments.

Are there people in the village who care for someone unable to manage on a day to day basis without help?

9% of respondents were carers. There is a need both to support these individuals, and to inform those who may need support or care in the future, what resources are available, and how to access them.

Are carers aware of support available?

Most carers were aware of support available, although additional information could be supplied at a Community Care Information Point (CCIP), from GP surgeries, Social Services, Age Concern and Kennet Carers based in Pewsey.



PLANNING

Retaining the character of the village is very important to most residents and there is some concern about enlarging the village too much. However, it is only by building new houses that the other major problem (providing enough housing for young people) can be addressed.

In addition to concerns about housing, feedback from villagers through the Village Appraisal and Witchcombe Lane and Weavers Mead consultation processes indicate a concern about insufficient planning for new jobs for local people in the village.

Kennet District Council are responsible for planning, and they consult the Parish Council when applications are made, and are obliged to have regard for Parish Council comments.

Sympathetic new buildings in keeping with local architecture are well received

There is strong resistance to expansion of the village, and big developments. Extensions to existing buildings and any new housing within the village boundaries should complement neighbouring buildings.

Key Objectives

- The Parish Council to consult on major planning issues where possible.
- The Parish Council to develop a Village Design Statement to be used as supplementary planning guidance.

UPDATE 2011

The two new developments, Weavers Mead and Witchcombe Lane are very much part of the village and have brought new families to Great Cheverell.

This has helped sustain local businesses and keep the numbers up at local schools.

The Parish Council have managed to prevent unsuitable infilling and over-development but the proposed new planning legislation is causing concern.

The WCC Strategic Plan has set a target of 20 new residential dwellings for Great Cheverell in the next 5 years and it is crucial that they are :

- Sited where villagers want them.
- Fit into the village architecture.
- Affordable housing for young families.

The Parish Council always consults on planning issues ; Agendas are posted on the notice board ahead of council meetings.

It is essential that a Neighbourhood Development Plan is now produced.





YOUNGER RESIDENTS

A project was run in conjunction with Holy Trinity School, inviting pupils to say what they did and didn't like about the village, to ascertain the views of pupils by means of their intranet chat room.

- It's not too big and everyone is friendly.
- They shouldn't make it too big.
- It needs a park where children can play.
Great Cheverell is the best village in the world.

TEENAGERS

After trying to arrange a young person's event with Wiltshire Youth Service, the Steering Group approached young people to organise something that appealed to them.

An outstanding live music evening was held in Holy Trinity School attended by 100 young people (32 from Great Cheverell from a population of approximately 100, 11 to 18 year olds). Two excellent local bands provided the entertainment, Metal Militia and Adrenaline. The musicians were between the ages of 14 and 17 years, and worked extremely hard playing as well as making, selling and distributing tickets.

The lack of activities geared towards young people was reported by everyone. There was a general move away from traditional organisations such as a youth club, scouts and guides. Everyone wanted somewhere they could meet up with friends. This included events similar to the party arranged by the Steering Group and access to a community centre or a place to meet that provided flexibility for a range of activities. They agreed with the younger children that a park with suitable equipment and activities would be welcomed.

Key Objective

- Endeavour to form a Young People's Group, involving young people with adult support.

What do 11-18 year olds have to say?

Attendees from Great Cheverell completed a questionnaire, which indicated that they came from all areas of the village with most living in Victoria Park and Weavers Mead. The majority (68%) enjoyed living here. However, only 30% thought they would be able to live here as adults, even though half would like to. Barriers such as expensive housing, lack of facilities, few jobs and lack of transport were seen as the reasons they would be more likely to move away. This reflects views found elsewhere in the plan voiced by adults.

UPDATE 2011

The playground caters primarily for younger children but facilities have been provided for teens.

There have been several musical events for young people which have been really well attended, both by youngsters in the village and those from neighbouring villages.

The Parish Council are supporting the New Pavilion Trust in providing good sound equipment, staging and lighting for the venue which will improve the experience for the young bands that perform and practice there.

The Parish Council are examining the possibility of setting up an outreach youth club in the village and are awaiting details from West Lavington.

