

Contents

Topic	Page Number
Introduction, background and objectives of the plan	2
Location, History and description of the Parish	3
The Parish Council	4
Production of information for the plan – the questionnaire	4
The Parish Plan	
i) Household information	4
ii) Village amenities	5
iii) Commerce	8
iv) The environment and energy resources	9
v) Housing and conservation	10
vi) Jobs and employment	10
vii) Roads and rights of way	11
viii) Security	12
ix) Services	12
x) Tourism	12
xi) Transport	12
Summary	13
Acknowledgements	13
Action Plan	14-16
Appendix	
Data from Questionnaire	17

Introduction, background and objectives of the plan

This Plan is an opportunity for the people of the community to have a say in how their local area can be developed in the future and how its resources and services will be managed. People living and working in Hawkchurch will have the best appreciation and understanding of their community and this Plan is based on their views provided through a questionnaire. The document was compiled and produced after analyzing the questionnaire which highlighted what residents think about a range of issues. It describes what residents would like to happen to their community in the near future, identifies a timescale and who should lead and be involved in the process. The Parish Council and those involved in developing the Plan believe that it offers a real opportunity for residents to be actively involved in the future of the Parish and to influence the way in which decisions are taken.

Location, history and description of Parish

Hawkchurch is in East Devon, 3 miles NE of Axminster on the borders of West Dorset and South Somerset. The village sits high up (up to 550 ft) on the eastern side of the Axe valley with outstanding views over the surrounding countryside. It is 5 miles north of Lyme Regis. Early settlements in the area include the Neolithic hill fort at Lambert's Castle and isolated early buildings within the parish include the farm at Wadbrook (originally a Saxon long hall), Pound Farm which was a 14th century yeoman's house and the old dwelling at Buddlewall. When the first church was built, the settlement clustered around it leaving these buildings on the edges of the parish. The parish church of St. John the Baptist dates from



Saxon times, although the current building dates from the 15th century. The tower stands 490ft above sea level and is a landmark for many miles around. The church is built of local stone rubble dressed with Ham stone. In 1856 novelist Thomas Hardy was an apprentice to John Hicks, the architect undertaking work on the church at the time. Hardy probably worked on the church/rectory at some time as there are sketches of the new Rectory in his notebook. In 1878 the Rev. John Going became rector to the parish and planted rose trees on the walls of every cottage, giving Hawkchurch its title "The Village of Roses". The church and

surroundings were mentioned by Mazo de la Roche, in her book 'Beside a Norman Tower' written whilst she lived in the Rectory. Originally there were 4-5 pubs in the parish but now there is one remaining, "The Old Inn", which is a traditional coaching house - the hostelry has been on the site since the 16th century.

Wylde Court, a manor house, was in the ownership of Cerne Abbas and there is evidence of a large building back to the 12th century. Henry 8th took it away from the church and gifted it to one of his supporters. Robert Moore acquired the house in the late 1500's and refurbished and extended



it, installing oak panelling and fireplaces. It is thought that Charles 2nd stayed there. In retaliation one of the wings of the house was demolished by order of Oliver Cromwell. The house then became part of Lord Bridport's Estate.

The site of the Village Hall was given to the village in 1922. Formally a barn, a lean-to construction was erected to act as a kitchen. The hall has been used in the past as a social club, a boys' club, for meetings, dances, weddings, parties and teas for the cricket club. In the early 1970's a group of village people, known as 'The Hawkchurch Roses' raised money to have the hall enlarged. With help from East Devon District Council, an interest free loan was obtained. In 1976/77 a new kitchen, bar and toilets were added. Grants were obtained from rural aid for new windows, fire doors, stalls, trestles for the Fete, more chairs and tables, new flooring for the kitchen area and the installation of disabled toilets. The

children's play area was first established in 1971 and has been refurbished several times over the years. Throughout all this time of change the hall has survived and is part of the essential fabric of village life.

More historical information relating to the parish is contained in the 'Appraisal Report and Historical Review' published in October 1982 and in the book entitled 'Where Dorset Meets Devon, Hawkchurch' by Jack Banfield and Harry Austin

The Parish Council

The Local Government Act was passed by Parliament in 1894 and Hawkchurch was one of the first villages to establish a Parish Council in that year. The Council comprises 9 members who are elected every 4 years, the next election being due in 2011. The council employs a professional Clerk and open meetings are held in the village hall on the third Tuesday of every month, except August. Members of the public are welcome to attend, ask questions and voice their concerns during the democratic period of these meetings. Intermediate Planning Committee meetings take place when they are required. The Parish Council has recently set up a website "www.hawkchurchcouncil.org" where minutes of meetings are published as well as details of councillors with contact numbers, accounts, precept details and a provision for clubs, societies and individuals to post and advertise. The Council also contributes current issues to the monthly, widely subscribed Parish Magazine.

Production of information for the plan – the questionnaire

A questionnaire was produced and distributed across the parish. 74 households and 160 people filled in and returned the questionnaire - just under half the population of the parish. Part 1 of the questionnaire related to household information to be provided by one person in each household. Part 2 (the larger part) related to personal views of parish resources and services and all members of the family over 11 could have a say. Part 2 was subdivided into 18 topics and parishioners were asked to indicate the importance of items outlined for each topic. There was also an opportunity to comment on additional items.

The Parish Plan

From the questionnaire, data have been distilled and the major contents used to develop this plan. The titles used below are taken from the questionnaire. Additional specific background information has been added for some topics/titles. Items later listed in the Action Plan are highlighted.

i) Household information

The questionnaire provided an insight into the age distribution and the size of households within the parish. The number of people in each of the 74 households responding is shown in figure 1 in the appendix. The data show that the majority of households contain 1-2 people and this, plus the data in figure 2, indicate that parishioners over 40 years of age were the dominant group. This is probably typical

of a small rural community anywhere in Britain. Figure 3 shows that most of the residents have lived in the village between 1 and 25 years indicating that there is still a steady flow of 'new' people coming into the village albeit mostly to retire. It is encouraging that the vast majority of households have Hawkchurch as their first home and only a small number have left the village in the last 5 years. As would be expected in a village with a large elderly population there are a small number of residents who need home-care. Some local private care for the elderly is available. There is a registered child-minder in the village. Communication of parish matters to parishioners was considered to be acceptable with the most common methods of 'finding out what's going on' being word-of-mouth and the parish magazine. A small number of responders indicated that notice boards, newsletters and email were also helpful in this respect. There was considerable support for using the **new Parish Website** as a method of communication and the provision of **an Internet café** in the village hall was also given some support.

ii) Village Amenities

An ideal village should have within its boundaries a church, a pub, a village hall and a shop all of which can serve as centres where parishioners can meet and discuss a wide range of topics. Such meetings/discussions help to bind the community together so that the parish is not just a collection of individual, disconnected families. In addition the presence of a village school must be seen as essential to the future wellbeing of a village providing a source of primary education for the children of the village and surrounding community and attracting young families into the parish.

St John the Baptist Church is a key element in the community helping to bind people together and providing both spiritual and physical comfort. The church is in the Salisbury Diocese and as well as being the centre for worship, weddings, christenings and funerals/memorial services, it hosts carol singing, an annual Xmas tree competition and a variety of musical evenings. Many people thought the church was an asset to the village by attracting visitors and as a landmark. There is an active bell-ringing group which meets every Wednesday. Recently a new heating system was installed to make the premises more comfortable for the parishioners. As one would expect **there is a continual need to raise funds to maintain the fabric of the building.**



Hawkchurch Church of England Primary School has just celebrated its 50th anniversary – something



to be cherished in this era of financial pressures. The school was originally founded in 1834 to serve the local community. It became part of the maintained system of education as Hawkchurch Church of England Voluntary Controlled School in 1957. The school has strong links with the local Church which appoints a Foundation Governor(s). The new Parish Priest is the incumbent Ex-Officio governor. The school is committed to offering all pupils a first-class, child-centred

education. The Christian traditions of the school make an important contribution to this. Christian values,

principles and beliefs influence the curriculum and relationships in the school. Current attendance at the school is 31 (Feb 2011) with a capacity for 56. The school is well thought of in the village, has good links with the community and was rated 'good' by the latest Ofsted visit (end of 2010). Children regularly attend the church for services and village members are welcome to attend these services. In terms of moving forward with the school **several action points** have emerged as a result of the village questionnaire, through informal conversations with parents and villagers and also formally via the Governing body.

The Old Inn is the last surviving public house in the Parish and is an important venue for social intercourse. It provides a place to meet, eat and drink and provides activities such as skittles, darts, quiz nights and other special events. Respondents thought the pub was essential for the wellbeing of the community and that there should be long-term protection for this type of amenity. The current owner has improved the pub substantially and the village has responded to this by increased patronage.



The Fairwater Head Hotel is 3* AA registered and is perched at the top of the village with superb views over the Axe Valley and surrounding countryside. The Hotel has 16 rooms, a restaurant providing lunches and evening meals for both residents and non-residents. The hotel has its own wedding licence, has hosted fund-raising coffee mornings and celebration/memorial functions and is ideally placed for visitors to the village and surrounding resorts.



The Village Hall is the centre of many community activities and was considered to be a major asset by the majority of respondents to the questionnaire. The Hall is a Registered Charity, managed by a committee which has 8 elected members plus others who represent the village clubs. The Annual General Meeting is held in May each year. The hall is affiliated to the Community Council of Devon. Whilst there is regular use in the evening, the hall remains largely empty during the day. A third of respondents stated that they would support **more activities and courses**, with half of those willing to help in their organisation. The full attendance of the computer and digital photography classes held a few years ago indicates strong interest when activities are offered. **The most popular suggestions from parishioners for other activities include** sport (table tennis, table football for example), keep fit classes, bridge/chess club, drama club, educational courses and an Internet cafe. A significant number of respondents felt that the **external fabric and the heating system need upgrading**. In the near future, the possibility of screening off part of the hall will be considered so that it can be used for small meetings/gatherings with reduced heating costs. **The rear kitchen area could be modified to house any future development of a village shop.**



Adjacent to the hall the playground has had a new slide and mats installed recently using a grant from the lottery fund to help with costs.

Village shop - presently there is no shop in the village - the previous one having closed ~15 years ago. This will be addressed below in the commerce section.

Sports facilities – the village has a large playing field which is managed by a village committee. The field



is rented from the Diocese, so there are concerns over its long-term security. At present the rent is paid by the Parish Council. The field contains a pavilion with changing rooms and toilets and is used for much of the year by the Hawkchurch Football and Tennis Clubs. The annual village fete is held there on August Bank Holiday

Monday and, during the week prior to this, several events take place including an early-evening game of rounders with BBQ at the pub, and a dog show. In addition there is an excellent tennis court, adjacent to the playing field, which can be used in most weathers.



Hawkchurch Country Park – is a substantial Caravan Park situated at the east end of the parish providing holiday accommodation for visitors to the area. The park has a small shop that sells milk and a few other commodities.

The **Mobile Library** from Honiton visits the village twice monthly stopping near the village Memorial Cross.

There are **village clubs** most of which have their meetings in the village hall.

The Gardening Club has meetings at which speakers are invited to talk about a range of topics. It also organizes the Annual Flower and Vegetable Show in the village hall plus other social events. Some years an Open Garden day in the village has been held.

The History Society also invites speakers and organizes an annual trip to a local stately home of interest.



The Ladies' Club entertains speakers as well as organizing events at members' houses. An annual meal is held at a local venue and there is an annual outing, for example, in 2010 to Agatha Christie's house Greenway. Spouses are welcome to attend these events.

The men's Glee Club (non-singing) has monthly meetings usually at the Old Inn – the conversation is wide ranging.

The Bowls Club meets from September to springtime in the village hall for short-mat bowling.

A Parent and Toddlers Club meets once a week in the village school.

In the winter, films are shown in hall once a month in the village school provided by Movieola.



The Tennis Club has a club night on Thursday in the summer and holds 1-2 BBQs alongside a mini-tournament as well as an AGM after play on a Sunday in September. The club is affiliated to the British Lawn Tennis Association thus providing access to Wimbledon tickets. The court is usually playable all year.

The Football Club use the playing field and is in the Perry Street League

– in 2010 the team won promotion to division 2.

Generally it was felt that the facilities were kept in good order.



Ideas for additional functions/amenities included a holiday play scheme and playgroup, an increase in the number of registered child minders, a youth club and the development of more adult education classes.

iii) Commerce

At the turn of the 19th century the village had a smithy, bakery, cobbler, provision merchant, butcher, post office and three pubs. All except one pub have disappeared. The last shop/post office closed in 1995. Loss of local commerce has turned some villages into 'rural ghost towns', something Hawkchurch must fight hard to prevent. A village shop, run by the community, was very strongly supported by 90% of respondents with suggestions of what it should stock - a substantial number of people (~50) indicated that they would be prepared to help run it. There has been a recent upsurge in interest in community shops as witnessed by new ventures in Winsham and Thornecombe. The premises for these shops already existed and they have been able to retain post offices that helps generate extra income. Such a venture in Hawkchurch will have to generate extra income by, for example, offering an EBay service to help local people who have things to sell but lack the technical ability. The addition of a bookable Internet Café and Book Exchange may also help. There are a large number of small delivery vans coming to the village and we might be able to negotiate with the carriers to drop-off in bulk to the shop before it opens. Identification of a site for the shop is of prime importance.

Arguments against a village shop always cite the ease of access to Axminster and other local shops, for example, but this means more car travel. The same argument could be raised against all the local amenities described above and the development of a community shop is given priority in this plan.

As an introduction to local provisioning, the Ladies' Club organized a local produce/pannier_market at the Village Hall in 2010 – the first one proved to be very successful but a second market was poorly attended. The questionnaire revealed strong support for a regular local market of this type with the main aim to support local producers and suppliers and to create a market where villagers could bring their garden produce or homemade goods. This could eventually lead on to provisioning the village shop. A method of organizing this needs to be discussed and developed through an action group.

It is, of course, possible to arrange for **deliveries of goods** from local supermarkets using internet access to order their food etc. This would not provide the community centre that a village shop would nor enhance the production and sale of local produce.

iv) The environment and energy resources

Like most rural communities, farming has always been a major contributor to the prosperity and character of Hawkchurch, and hopefully will continue to be so. The Parish covers some 4200 acres of land, most of which has been farmed by the same families for many generations. Our farmers are the reason why we



live in such a beautiful area, producing some of the most welfare-friendly food in the world, whilst at the same time retaining the countryside as we would wish to see it. There has been a recent reduction in farming activity in the Parish, most noticeably in the dairying sector. At the start of the 1970's there were no less than 16 milk producers in the parish whereas at the start of 2011 there will be just 4. One of the biggest threats to farming in this country is the lack of willingness of sons and

daughters to carry on the family business due to ever-falling incomes and increased bureaucracy. The average age of a farmer is approaching 60. Agricultural subsidies have been around in some shape or form since 1925. They are however an "evil necessity". Subsidies were initially introduced to encourage food supply and once that supply exceeded demand in the mid 1980's, subsidies were switched from food production to paying farmers to be 'park keepers'. The country is now less than 60% self-sufficient and is having to increase its carbon footprint with increased imports. A balance in subsidies is needed to feed our local community, preserve and enhance our countryside, whilst at the same time keeping our family farms viable. The solution to this problem is surely one for both central and regional government and lobbying the local MP who is himself a farmer would be an important first step.

Whilst the countryside in the parish appears to be well stocked with trees it was felt that more could be planted. This may be particularly important with the substantial increase in demand for wood as the number of wood-burning fires/stoves increases. Most of the ancient oaks and beeches have reached the end of their natural lives and have either blown over in storms or been felled because they were dangerous. A few have been felled for dubious reasons. Very few of our native hardwoods have been replanted and landowners need to be encouraged and educated to do so. The English elm is the greatest loss to the landscape. It was probably one of the tallest and most beautiful trees to grace our countryside until the 1970's when "Dutch Elm Disease" destroyed almost every mature tree in Britain. Efforts should be made to develop and replant a genetically resistant English Elm. If local trees are not replaced our superb landscape and habitat will change quite drastically. As with many other parts of the UK the invasion of foreign plant species is becoming a problem and needs to be attacked in an organised way.

Parishioners felt that a proper management of the local environment, including hedgerows, Devon banks, the development of nature reserves and accessible open spaces, would enhance appreciation of the natural environment and would also enhance the insect and bird life in the parish against a background of country-wide reduction in many species.

Energy provision in the parish is mainly electric and oil-based plus a small amount of bottled gas, there being no natural gas supply in the area - this is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future. It has been suggested that the community purchase of oil could be investigated to reduce the price paid and make savings for parishioners. There was interest in renewable energy provision in the parish. A very small number of parishioners have installed solar hot water systems which seem to be generally cost effective. Wind-based generation is likely to be unrealistic on a small scale but the installation of solar electricity generation has become viable locally if the government supports such a scheme in the future. There is an opportunity to educate ourselves on the possibilities and to get up-to-date on technological advances so that the parish can take advantage of any energy-generating scheme.

v) Housing and conservation

The centre of the village is full of listed buildings and might benefit from becoming a conservation area to



prevent changes to what is a beautiful and important historical cluster of houses/pub/church. Outside this there is some opportunity to expand the village in a small and controlled way. Over half of respondents to the questionnaire indicated that they would be happy to see a small number of new properties built in the parish, at least half of which should



be affordable for young families.

For the future of the community in general and the school in particular it is important to grow the next generation of parishioners rather than allowing the parish to become a 'retirement home'. A development and building design guide would be an important addition to the future of the parish. This will depend upon the views of the national government about such developments and what restrictions might be imposed.

vi) Jobs and employment

There are a small number of local businesses in the parish including builders, electricians, plumbers, gardeners, the hotel, the pub and B&B providers. It was generally felt that there was insufficient support for businesses, including premises for new ventures although there are privately-owned light industrial units in the parish which appear to be underused. Improved support for local businesses could enhance the number of local jobs. It should be possible to create more employment in the parish by setting up some small workshops for crafts etc. and possibly a plant nursery.

vii) Roads and rights of way

The bad condition of our parish roads is painfully obvious to all who live here. Although this is likely to be



no different from any other rural area, these roads are essential for the continued existence of these rural communities. They are vital for access for the residents as well as delivery and emergency vehicles and the lack of appreciation of their importance is serious. Potholes are only fixed temporarily- the repair process is so poor that most reappear within weeks. Additionally, due to the lack of gritting, the roads are often extremely dangerous due to snow and ice. A major problem is

lack of maintenance of the verges, gutters and drains that means water continually washes down the roads in large quantities, undermining the surface of the roads. **The re-appointment of a Lengthsman** employed by the Parish would be a great help in providing a first-line service to mend holes and verges before they became a big problem, as well as drain clearing. The hedging of our roads also needs better management. The speed limits on the roads need assessing especially near housing and the school. A **substantial number of responders felt that the B3165 was dangerous to pull out** onto from parish roads due to excessive speeds and it was suggested that the speed limit should be reassessed. **The rest of the parish roads really ought to be 30mph** (not 60mph as many are at present) except in the village centre where it should remain 20mph especially near the school and church/pub. There was **some disquiet at the safety of roads for walkers and riders** especially as there are a substantial **number of large vehicles driving at excessive speeds** (farm vehicles, delivery and milk lorries, school coaches etc.). **Some thought needs to be put into how best to ensure that vehicles adhere to the speed limits.** By contrast the footpaths and tracks in the parish are well maintained - this has much to do with the input from the Parish Council representative. There are a number of Rights of Way which are "unsurfaced" County Roads, sometimes called Green Lanes, that may be used by vehicles as well as riders & walkers. There are 33 public footpaths and 6 bridleways in the parish covering 25.5 km. These are maintained by the landowners, Devon County Council (DCC) & the Parish Council. Most are in good condition although, due to the nature of our countryside, some are rather difficult to walk on after wet weather. All footpaths & bridleways are inspected each year by a team of volunteer surveyors and from time to time by Wardens from the Public Rights of Way Department at DCC. These inspections identify where maintenance or improvements are needed; work that is carried out by contractors to DCC, the parish council or volunteers. The parish supports DCC's policy of improved access wherever possible; removing gates that are no longer necessary, replacing stiles with gates, providing clear signage etc. Most landowners are considerate & do not object to walkers / riders crossing their land as long as their dogs are controlled. **Others however sometimes need to be reminded of their responsibilities to ensure free access to these Rights of Way.**

A large number of respondents thought that the provision of maps/leaflets describing walks in the parish would substantially enhance the area for visitors.

viii) Security

Spates of robberies occur each year which result in a temporary enhanced police presence, which is not maintained in the long run. Many parishioners expressed moderate disquiet at the potential level of crime. The main concerns were burglary, speeding traffic and the general lack of a police presence in the village. How to manage the security within rural areas is clearly a problem to be discussed with the local police and District Council. Also a review of community Neighbourhood Watch schemes would seem to be in order.

ix) Services

Generally respondents were satisfied with the provision of supplies of water, electricity and oil although poor drainage provision was cited as a problem by a number of parishioners. The disruption to road access caused by the providers of services is often a problem as roads are often closed without warning and often entail long diversions for villagers. Waste disposal was generally thought to be good, as was recycling except for the lack of cardboard collection which needs to be overcome. A substantial number of people felt that litter and/or fly tipping was a problem in the Parish. Health care provision is centered in Axminster and appears to be generally good. Police, fire and ambulance services are also centered in Axminster whereas the library provision was via a twice-monthly mobile van. It was felt that the public telephone in the village would benefit from some improvement.

x) Tourism

There are a number of households who provide B&B in the village as well as the hotel and the pub. There is also a caravan and camping site in the parish. There was a fairly even split amongst respondents about whether more tourists should be attracted to the parish. Clearly tourists bring funds to the village making the community more prosperous but they also bring more congestion and litter. Overall it was felt that increasing the number of visitors would be of benefit and suggestions included advertising more visitor attractions and providing more B&B/self-catering facilities.

xi) Transport

Whatever development takes place in rural communities there will be an ageing population who will become unable/unwilling to drive, and will need more help beyond the simple provisions presently available. There is a Volunteer Group, members of which are available to provide 'emergency' transport for healthcare reasons, for example. A few people said that they could not get to activities due to lack of transport. The major problem is the lack of a decent bus service into Axminster in particular. Taxis are expensive and dial-a-ride seems to be used to a very limited extent. There is a mini-van service (fare(F11)car), presently subsidized by DCC, which must be booked 24h in advance. At present this runs to Axminster



and Chard, every day except on Sundays and Public Holidays and is ideal for trips to/from school, work, doctor's surgery, shops, the hospital, the train station and the library, for example. **The service needs to be advertised in the Parish Magazine.**

Clearly there is a balance to be had between the provision of services in the village and access to these in town and getting this balance right will need some thought and planning. However continued reliance on the car should be thought about very carefully given the limitations predicted for fuel costs and supplies.

In Summary this plan covers the main points extracted from the questionnaire. There are, of course, threats to the parish in the form of stagnation as well as the lack or wrong kind of growth. The continued dependency of rural communities on the private car is of great concern with the future supply and cost of fuel being uncertain. Like many small rural communities the population has shrunk and got older slowly as young people move to urban areas. This is difficult to stop and concerted action is needed to prevent the community becoming 'a cluster of houses' as has happened elsewhere. This requires a controlled growth of affordable housing, provision of more local jobs and increasing access to village amenities, such as a village shop. The provision of a fast broadband connection would be a huge asset to the parish. The main threat is, therefore, preservation of 'status quo' without thought to the future. It is also important to allow more local decision-making with increased funds in the areas of planning, with guidance rather than control from EDDC. Parishioners want a greater say in their future rather than have it dictated to them by central government. The production of this plan should provide an impetus for changes to be made, to allow the parish to have more control over their own future.

Acknowledgements

The following have contributed to the production and evaluation of the questionnaire and the development of the Parish Plan:

Chris Baigent, Sharon Bailey, John Bailey, Pat Darch, Peter Darch, Alan Elmes, Maggie Flower, Tim Greenshields, Molly Hemens, Chris Hurt, Clare MacKenney, Gill Matthews, Peter Melville, Bob Ott and members of the Parish Council not named above.

Actions required for implementation of the plan

Action timescales are 6-12 months for priority H (high) and 1-3 years for priority M (medium).

The Church	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Maintenance of fabric	Fund-raising plans	Church wardens/ parishioners	H
Improve as a visitor attraction	History pamphlets and information	Church wardens	M

School	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Enforcement of speed restrictions near school	Improved road markings/ speed calming measures	School governors to negotiate with Highways	H
Improve involvement of community in school	Volunteers for reading assistance, after-school clubs	Governors/teachers/parents to advertise in the parish	M
Ad Hoc school visits	From people with expertise/interests in natural history, places of interest, jobs, music	Teachers at the school to liaise with Governors as to future topics so that local expertise can be sought	M
Ensure communication of school events	Through parish magazine or a news sheet	Governors to ensure that all events of potential interest to the village are communicated through Parish Magazine, notices, flyers, internet	M
School to make more use of the village hall	Especially for winter or after school events	Governors and teachers to consider appropriate events/liase with village hall committee	M
Encourage increased school roll	Communication of school facilities and teaching successes	Governors will continue to ensure that all notable successes are reported in the local press to keep the reputation high. Collaborations with local school(s) will improve opportunities for the pupils and may increase the popularity of the school	H

Village Hall	Actions required	Who leads//partners	Priority
Increase the use of the village hall	Advertise more widely; graded fee structure for regular use	Village Hall Committee	H
	Run adult education courses	Village Hall Committee	M
	Set up an internet cafe in the hall, lobby for improved broadband in the village	Village Hall Committee	M
	Run a coffee morning with book/CD/DVD exchange	Village Hall Committee	M
	Introduce more sports facilities such as table tennis, short tennis	Village Hall Committee	M
Village shop site	Consider planning for village shop	Village Hall Committee and PC	H

Shop/produce market	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Develop a village shop	Produce a feasibility study, location and how to run it	A new steering committee/PC	H
Continue to develop the local produce market	To plan future events	PC/village hall committee/ ladies club as partners	M
Investigate delivery of goods to village	Contact delivery firms such as Tesco, Sainsbury, Ocado	PC/distributors	M

Roads/rights of way	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Improve maintenance of roads, gutters, verges, drains	Contact Highways Department, discuss with lengthsman	PC/Highways/DCC	H
Rationalise hedge trimming	Produce a plan for regular hedge trimming	PC/ farmers and Highways	M
Modify /enforce speed limits making for safer walking/riding/cycling	Negotiate with Highways	PC/Highways/Police	H
Enhance the use of footpaths in the parish	Develop leaflet for local footpaths	PC with volunteers, DCC	M

Housing/conservation	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Establish a design statement to involve future building development	PC to discuss/develop plans with land owners	PC/landowners/EDDC/CCD	H
Consider if a conservation area in the village centre would be advantageous	PC to consider needs, advantages/disadvantages	PC/appropriate authority	M

Environment/energy conservation	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Replenish the rural environment	Tree planting, improve hedges/Devon banks	PC/local land owners/EDDC, FWAG, DCC	M
Development of wildlife areas	Identify with farmers and landowners possible areas	As above	M
Develop plans for supply of renewable energy and conservation	Provide information on renewable energy supplies	Volunteers	H
Investigate if there is interest amongst residents for a consumer purchase group	Assess supply of heating oil to the village	Volunteers	H

Tourism	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Enhance visitor experience	New notice board and leaflets	PC/church and others	M
As above	Advertise B&B provision	PC/ providers	M

Security	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Provide education on security matters	Discuss with police how to do this	PC/local police/parishioners	M
Build on liaison with local police	As above	As above	M
Enhance police visibility in the parish	As above	As above	H
Review Neighborhood Watch schemes	As above	As above with current neighborhood watch organisers	H

Transport	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Investigate need for enhanced transport service to/from village	Discuss with parishioners/ transport providers what might be possible	PC/transport providers/volunteers	M
Improve use of mini-van and dial-a-ride facilities	Discuss with provider and advertise on village website	PC/providers	M
Introduce car share schemes	Advertise on village website	Volunteers	M

Services	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Reduce inconvenience of road blockages	Improve the signage and warning given about planned maintenance	PC/service providers	H
Investigate the disposal or use of cardboard	Discuss with EDDC and other providers of recycling facilities	EDDC/volunteers	M
Evaluate fly-tipping and litter in the parish	Identify people to report this to the PC for given parish areas	Parishioners to report to PC/EDDC/Environment Agency	M
Retention and upkeep of phone box	Discuss with telephone company	PC/telephone company	M
Enhance Broadband facilities in the parish	Discuss with other villages/ users on the exchange	PC to liaise with BT and other PCs in the area such as Marshwood and Thornecombe	H

Jobs/employment	Actions required	Who leads/partners	Priority
Increase the number of local jobs	Development of craft facilities	Owners of units and landowners, EDDC, PC, CCD	M
Assess the use of existing industrial units	Evaluate usage and advertise vacancies	Discussion with owners	M

Appendix

Figures taken from the summary of the parish questionnaire

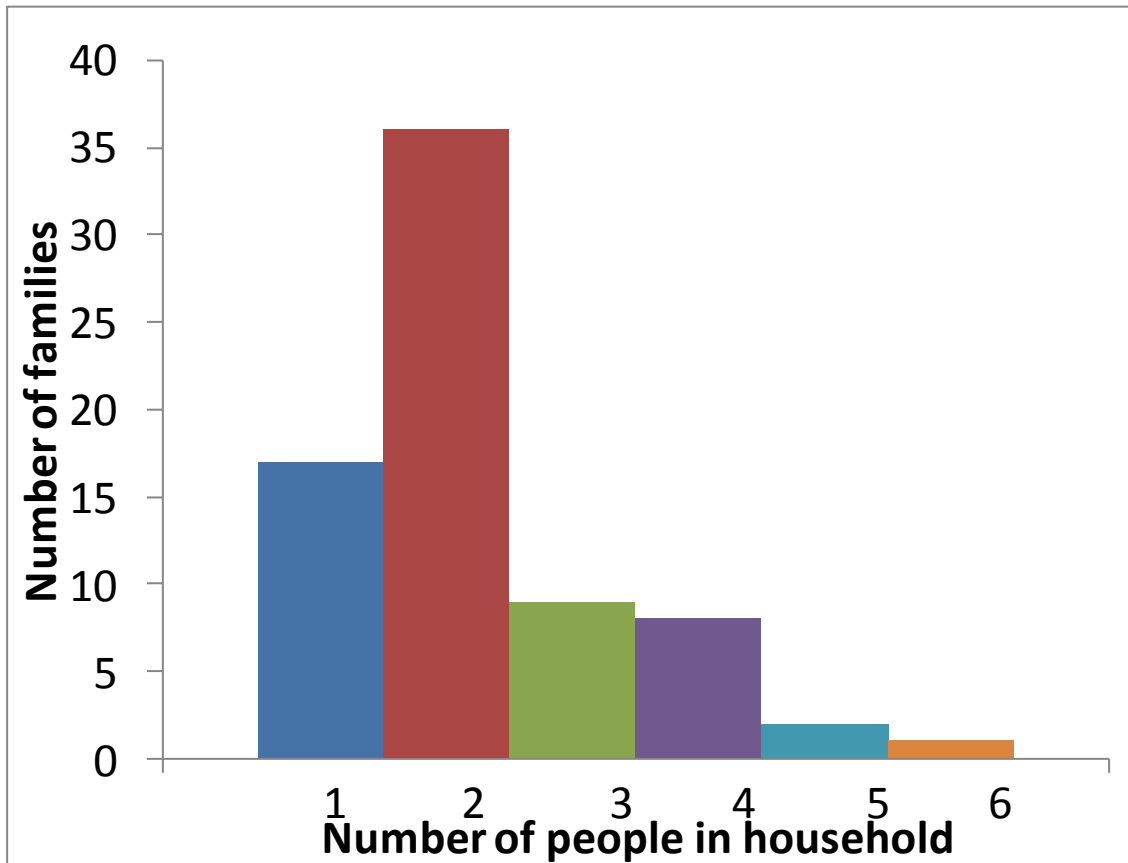


Figure 1. Household sizes in Hawkchurch

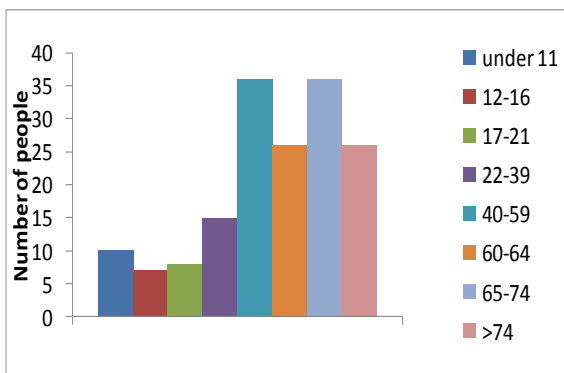


Figure 2. Age distribution of people in the parish

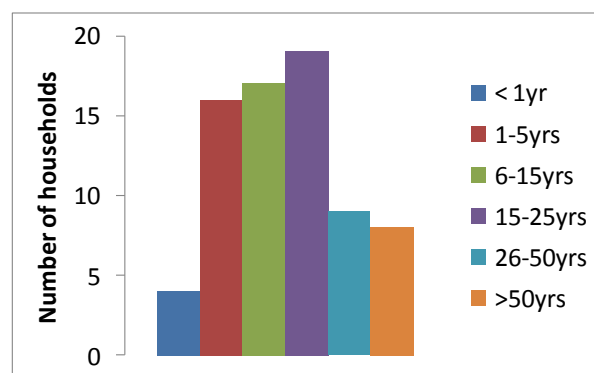


Figure 3. Time that households have lived in parish