

Ardingly Village Plan

Summary, May 2010



Why have a Village Plan?

The Village Plan is a way to help our community take stock of its needs, decide on actions required and make sure that local people have a voice in their future.

The Village Plan WORKS

Look what we've achieved since the original Plan in 2003: Hapstead Hall has been updated, a new footpath to Wakehurst created, and both the Village Club and Village Voice started. However, there are still many issues which need more work, and so a new Plan has been prepared to highlight actions that can be taken by our community, be used to influence other organisations, and act as a justification of need when applying for funding.

What has happened so far?

In the past year much work has been carried out including:

- Questionnaires were sent to all households;
- Local businesses, clubs and societies were consulted;
- Analysis of responses and identification of actions was undertaken;
- Displays were held at the Christmas Fair and Annual Parish Meeting.



What matters to you ...

1. 'Traffic and Road Safety' was overwhelmingly the issue of greatest concern. This was also identified as the most important topic for residents in the original 2003 Plan.
2. The second topic which attracted considerable comment was that of 'Anti-Social Behaviour / Policing / Youth Engagement'. Various actions are proposed to address these linked issues.
3. 'Support for Local Shops' came out as the third issue that really matters to local residents.

These three issues are given a high priority in the Plan. Many other issues were also identified in the consultations, and these are reflected in the actions and projects in the new Plan.

Here's a taster of the main projects that are proposed:

Action Plan...main projects

1. Public Transport

Request clear timetables, encourage car share and investigate Community Bus service.

2. Personal Safety

Support PCSO, implement Neighbourhood Watch and install extra lighting.

3. Traffic / Road Safety / Parking

Set up a Working Group to look at ways to reduce traffic speed. Review condition of pavements and reduce obstructions.

4. Local Shops and Businesses

Encourage use of Post Office, local shops and businesses.

5. Environment

Publish a Village Design Statement, encourage events that strengthen village character and promote 'green issues'. Continue search for allotments and promote alternatives. Improve footpath in recreation ground.

6. Community Services

Coordinate youth activities with local clubs, Churches, Councils and residents. Publicise local events, Volunteer Service for residents needing help. Consider drainage of the sports pitches, resurface the tennis courts and investigate refurbishment of the pavillion.

7. Communication

Develop a Parish Website, support the Village Voice and arrange regular meetings with key partners.

What happens next?

We have looked at all the actions and will start on those with the highest priority, based on your responses in the survey. We will also report back to the community on a regular basis to let you know about progress.

Ardingly needs YOU!

All of these projects represent the views and voices of our community, but they are not going to happen by themselves – so get involved!

“A website is a great idea”

“I’d like to see more interaction between generations. Old and young don’t get much chance to mix.”

“I would like to see the village becoming more sustainable and self sufficient with a strong community spirit.”

“We have lived in Ardingly for 40 years and have only one problem which is the speed of traffic on College Road.”

PLEASE get in touch to find out more, or to see a full version of the Plan:

Parish Clerk: annerumble@msn.com
tel. 01444 459713,
or drop a note in to Hapstead Hall.

THANK YOU, from the Village Plan Steering Group.