

Easton on the Hill Parish Council

Up-date on the Village Plan Working Party, March 2022

Topic	Recommendations from the Village Plan 2017	What's already been done or in place that would link to VP	Up-date 2022
History & Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the unique history and heritage of our rural village community by safeguarding the legacy we have been bequeathed Share and communicate with visitors and residents the history and heritage of our community 	<p>Church Guide (joint venture between the Friends of the Church and the History Group)</p> <p>Village Trail (the History Group)</p> <p>Priest's House Opening /temporary exhibitions (Priest's House trustees and the History Group, and others)</p> <p>Village Archive</p> <p>Church as an "alternative venue" (Friends of the Church)</p> <p>Web-site</p> <p>Books on Easton (there are at least 3 publications)</p>	<p>The initial ideas from the VPWP was to produce a series of leaflets, with a common format, to cover some of these topics. However, it is acknowledged that these will be difficult to keep up-to-date.</p>
The Natural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a documented, mapped wildlife walk around the village linking our rural paths and walks Plant trees and shrubs in sensible places and maintain them 	<p>AC had an old map of a walk around the village</p>	<p>It is understood that Simon Woodman has made some progress on walks!</p> <p>I doubt now whether the Horti Soc will take on any more projects:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve our local school and enterprises to sponsor environmental improvements and projects 	<p>Planting around the village – the Horti Soc have already been involved in bulb planting, the centenary tubs, The Priest’s House, the development at CIPS and the Labyrinth</p> <p>School and enterprise involvement – whilst still open the school was starting to develop the grounds, and Little Lane Nursery are keeping Buddleia Grove clear to be used as a Forest School room. Some of our local firms have sponsored activities</p>	<p>however, the Parish Council could ask for volunteers if it was felt that specific areas should be planted up? Maybe ask Ken Rawson for ideas?</p> <p>Again, I now doubt if there’s much else we can do?</p>
The Built Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any future housing development should be sensitive and proportionate to the character of the village and aligned with East Northants Council Local Plan, Conservation Area The Parish Council should ensure that the village maintains its unique and widely appreciated character and protect the Conservation Area 	<p>The recommendations in the Village Plan for this topic are primarily the responsibility of the Parish Council</p>	<p>Ensure that any communications are fed through as many different media as possible?</p>
Recreation and Leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a plan to relocate the Sports Fields and Playground closer to the village and upgrade the facilities to the highest possible standards. This should include a new pavilion, with changing rooms and provide a modern community owned space for meetings and gatherings. Or, if relocation proves unattainable, to redevelop and upgrade the existing site 	<p>This element is being dealt with by the Playing Fields Working Party</p>	

Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide clear and up to date information above existing public transport services which serve the village and wider area 	Call Connect is still operational	The details could be posted on the web-site and kept up to date?
Traffic/Roads and Paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade traffic street furniture and village lighting • Develop and deliver a sustainable solution to the parking problems in the vicinity of the Post Office which presently creates excessive wear to the immediate environs • Ensure appropriate speed awareness and enforcement throughout the village. In the longer term reduce the speed limit, within the village centre, from 30 mph to 20 mph 	<p>There is a Traffic Working Party already in place, which should include communications on speed awareness</p> <p>The up-grade to the lighting has been completed</p> <p>Regarding parking issues outside the Post Office there continues to be an issue on, for example, rainy days</p>	Our recommendation was to request the Parish Council to go back to the District Council about removing the grass verges to create more parking bays. The argument is that there has been further housing development and as a consequence more traffic
Education		No recommendations made in the Village Plan	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a village guide for all residents listing important information and contact details for businesses, local groups and other opportunities to contribute to village life • Take account of our local business community in its decision making, to ensure that local goods and service providers are not disadvantaged by Council policy or practice 	<p>We believe that Debra Asher started a directory of village businesses</p> <p>Also, the History Group used to publish similar information at the back of their calendars</p>	<p>Initially, we thought that a new leaflet (in the style mentioned above) could be produced: Welcome to the Village. This could include useful information such as refuse collections, Church Services, Post Office opening times, as well as services such as builders, gardeners, Little Lane Nursery. Could local business sponsor this??</p> <p>However, the feeling now is that most of this could be on the website, and again, Simon W has started in on collating some information.</p>

Health & Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a village guide for all residents to help raise awareness of the facilities and public and private services already in place which could meet the needs expressed • The Parish Council to work with others to explore how better use may be made of existing buildings, such as the Church, the school, the Village Hall and local land • The PC will work with volunteer groups to explore how best to meet the identified social needs of the community that fall outside its capability and capacity 	<p>Some crossover with Recreation and Leisure..... Some of the existing guides (e.g. the Village Trail) feed into this topic</p>	<p>The Village Guide idea could still work? Even if it is on the website</p> <p>Point 2 is basically already in action!</p> <p>Not really sure how we can best address point 3: should this be a “multi-agency” approach?</p>
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a village guide for new residents listing important information and contact details for local businesses • The Village Survey highlighted that the shop and post office was the place where most residents regularly visited within the village. A larger noticeboard is recommended at this location 	<p>The first recommendation was for a village guide – we have incorporated this into the Employment section</p>	<p><i>We feel quite strongly that communications are hugely important: we already have a number of information sources (website, What’s on the Hill, News & Views...) and yet people still say they don’t know about events. We feel in particular that the website should be the first port of call for information.</i></p> <p>This was the comment made at the first meeting of the VPWP.... And basically it is probably still relevant!</p>

