



Wickham Parish *Plan for Action* **2004**



Wickham
Parish Council



Creating a vision for a vibrant community



Photos by
David Roger Jones
and Nicki Oliver

Message from the Appraisal Team...

In the summer of 2002, Wickham Parish Council, supported by local organisations, agreed to undertake a new Parish Appraisal, the last one being conducted in 1982. The aim was to identify local problems and issues of concern to residents and to build an action plan to address the findings.

This newsletter summarises the results of the questionnaire, provides some additional information from the 2001 Census and outlines the plans for action.

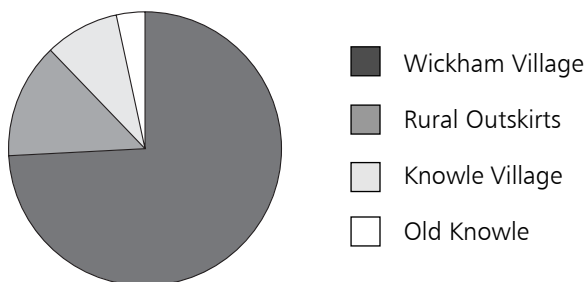
It has been a larger task than expected and the team is very grateful for the help from residents with the process particularly in the delivery and collection of questionnaires.

- George Glover (Chair)
- Vivian Achwal
- Brenda Hatch
- Peter Gwynn
- Nicki Oliver
- Edward Pickering
- Sue Roger-Jones
- David Roger-Jones
- Brian Sharp
- Dick Warwick

Introduction

In April 2003 a questionnaire was delivered to each of the 1220 households in Wickham Parish. For the purpose of the survey the parish was split into four areas: Wickham Village, rural outskirts, Knowle Village and Old Knowle. This report uses results from the questionnaires together with statistics from the 2001 National Census as these are clearly auditable. Other information gathering exercises also took place including focus groups and 'on street' surveys with young people.

A total of 922 questionnaires were returned



Household

The resident population of Wickham in 2001 was 2,621 with an average age of Wickham residents of 43.9 years, this is older than the average for both Winchester District (40.0) and nationally (38.6). Just over a third of our residents are pensioners compared with around a quarter for Winchester District and nationally.

The percentage of owner-occupiers at 69% is comparable with that for Winchester District and national percentages.

17% of households do not have a car, comparable with Winchester District but much lower than the national average of 27%. 43% of households have two or more cars compared with 29% nationally.

50 respondents felt there were members of their household in need of alternative accommodation.

<i>Action for household issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Ensure the needs of the older residents are appropriately catered for	All agencies	On going
Promote the supply of a variety of accommodation when the opportunity arises	WPC	On going. A scheme of low cost housing for local people planned for 2005

Education

The 2001 census records 409 children under the age of 16 and 115 aged 16-19 living in Wickham. The 15.6% of children aged under 16 is lower than that for Winchester (18.6%) and nationally (20.2%).

252 households responded to the question asking how important a primary school is as a focal point in the community. 182 respondents considered it very important, and 56 important.

The questionnaire found 25 households who considered the lack of transport prevented children taking part in after school activities, the distance between home and school was an issue for 19 families, the expense of activities a problem for 13 households.

253 households expressed an interest in attending further education with 196 looking to gain computer skills.

<i>Action for education issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Campaign for improvements in public transport to allow children to attend after school activities	WPC, HCC	2004/5
Support the local provision of computer training opportunities for adults	WPC, WCA	2004/5

Employment

The census results show that the percentage of people in employment, at 62%, is higher than the national average of 60.6% but below the average for Winchester District, 64.7%. The unemployment rate at 1.8% is below the national average of 3.4% but still above the average of 1.6% for Winchester District.

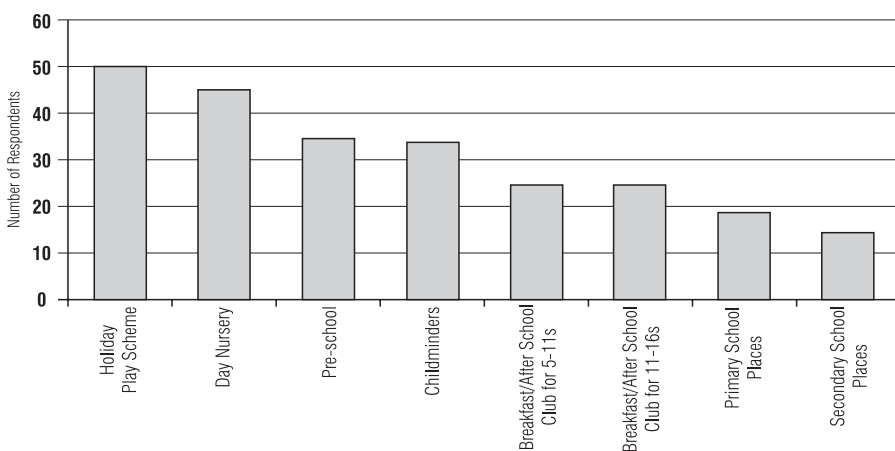
The census also shows that 10.9% of households offer unpaid care providing help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term physical or mental health or disability, or problems relating to old age.

The questionnaire asked how people were employed. 705 responses were received across the range of employment sectors. 20% work in retail and service industries, 20% in the public sector, with less than 10% for each of the remaining sectors.

The appraisal questionnaire highlighted the need for local job advertising with 510 requests for this service.

<i>Action for education issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Improve and extend local job advertising	WPC	2004/5

Community facilities needed for young people - 102 households responded with their requests



Action for community facilities for young people

Responsibility

When?

Support the existing play scheme

WPC, WCA

On going, WPC assists with funding

Support proposals for a day nursery

WPC, WCA, WCC

WCA and WPC supporting a proposal for a family centre building on the Community Centre site completion by 2008

Support the provision of additional pre-school places, particularly at Knowle

WPC, WCC, HCC

Support and raise awareness of the existing after school club at Wickham Primary and the new WASP facility at the Community Centre

Wickham Primary School, WCA

Campaign for the completion of community facilities at Knowle, support Residents Association where possible

WPC, WCA, WCC

On going, anticipated hand over of community building during 2004

Transport and Travelling

Two thirds of residents live less than ten miles from their place of work, with 12% living within walking distance. Resident's own private transport is the main means of getting to work (74%) with a few being able to walk or cycle. Very few residents use public transport to get to work. Twice as many children go to school in transport than walk. Very few residents (12%) would be prepared to take part in a voluntary transport service. Half of the replies showed that they were aware of 'Dial a Ride' but there was little interest in finding out more about it.

Public Transport

Many respondents are unhappy with the routes available and timetables.

There were wide ranging comments regarding the provision of public transport. A considerable number (76) would like more frequent services and for them to continue later into the evening. They would also like more information concerning timetables, and have it more easily available. They would prefer timings changed to avoid two buses arriving together as frequently happens. Few travellers were concerned about getting to Portsmouth, Winchester, Fareham and Gosport but 35 commented that buses directly into Southampton would be a great help. Two residents would like to see trains again and the old railway line re-opened!

<i>Action for transport and travelling issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Ensure bus timetables are easily available and advertise where they can be found	WPC, HCC	2004
Raise awareness of 'Dial a Ride'	WPC, WACA	On going

Parking

Surprisingly there was little comment concerning residential parking, but some replied that parking in The Square was becoming more difficult at some times of the day. (Parking in The Square is currently undergoing a review).

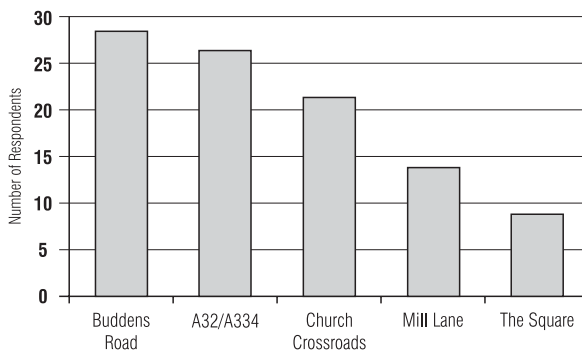
Road Safety

The questionnaire asked which roads are considered to be dangerous, and where speeding traffic is a hazard.

It is no surprise to find that the church cross roads and Winchester Road (particularly at the Buddens Road junction) are considered the most dangerous places in the village. Titchfield Lane is considered the most hazardous road as far as speeding is concerned, with traffic coming into the village down the A32 and School Road

coming a close second. The speed of traffic within the residential areas worries many, with children playing in the street. (Buddens Road was again mentioned here, particularly near the school entrance) An all round reduction of speed limits within the whole village would be welcomed, including The Square. The question asking for dislikes in the community received 15 replies highlighted speeding traffic as the main dislike.

**Dangerous areas for drivers and pedestrians -
133 responded to this question**



Knowle Village and Old Knowle

Travel to Work and School

As might be expected, Knowle residents, on average travel further to work than those living in Wickham itself, with 85% going by car. Similarly most children travel to school by car, some in car sharing arrangements. The responses concerning voluntary transport and Dial a Ride match those of Wickham above.

Knowle Public Transport

Residents feel there is a real need for more public transport to serve Knowle during the day, later into the evening and, if possible, on Sundays. Buses to railway stations would be welcome.

Parking

A dozen or so residents do not consider that there are enough parking spaces in Knowle.

Road Safety

Some Knowle residents commented, as did those from Wickham, on speed in Titchfield Lane and on the A32. However, Mayles Lane is their main concern with speeding, no footpaths and large vehicles causing hazards on this narrow road. It is suggested it has become a 'rat run'. The road into Knowle Village from the A32 roundabout should have a speed restriction. Many consider Knowle roads to be too narrow with some dangerous corners. Mention is also made of icy roads not being treated.

<i>Action for road safety issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Monitor heavy traffic in Mayles Lane	WPC, HCC	2004
Campaign for traffic calming in Winchester Road particularly the Buddens Road junction	WPC, HCC	There are plans for traffic lights at The Square junction and work to improve the safety of the Buddens Road junction
Campaign for traffic calming in Titchfield Lane	WPC, HCC	2004
Campaign for traffic calming in School Road	WPC	2004
Campaign for traffic calming and winter gritting on Knowle Road	WPC, HCC	On going

Health and Well-being

The census asked people to describe their health over the preceding 12 months as good, fairly good or not good. While the results are broadly in line with the national results they are lower than those for Winchester District.

The number of people reporting a limiting long term illness appears high at 518, this is 19.8% of residents which is higher than Winchester District (14.2%) and nationally (18.2%). 217 people with limiting long term illness are of working age.

59 households responded through the questionnaire noting health difficulties, of these 12 suffered from arthritis and 8 asthma.

23 households felt their home needed adapting for health needs.

Resident Population (%)

How do you describe your health?	Wickham	Winchester District	England and Wales
Good	69.2	74.6	68.6
Fairly Good	23.6	19.5	22.2
Not Good	7.2	5.9	9.2

The questionnaire asked whether residents had difficulty reaching health services, 179 households responded. 100 households reported a difficulty reaching a dentist. 40 respondents note the lack of NHS dentist as a specific problem, 36 transport difficulties and 19 problems securing appointments.

The census shows that 285 people in Wickham provide unpaid care, the majority working less than 19 hours but 20 provide between 20-49 hours care per week and 44 people provide over 50 hours unpaid care per week.

The questionnaire asked whether residents had concerns or would like help and advice with health and lifestyle issues; areas receiving more than 10 responses are shown in the table:

Respondents concerned with or wanting help with lifestyle issues	
Diet/Healthy Eating	25
Weight Control	24
Exercise	22
Asthma	16
Loss of Mobility	14
Depression	13

The majority of respondents requested help in the form of information. Daytime clinics or advice sessions were preferred.

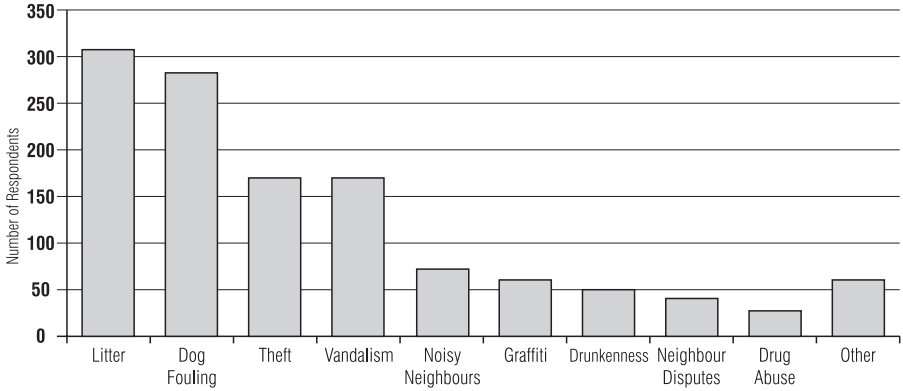
Voluntary Work

165 respondents reported carrying out voluntary work, a further 114 households would like more information on the opportunities available for voluntary work.

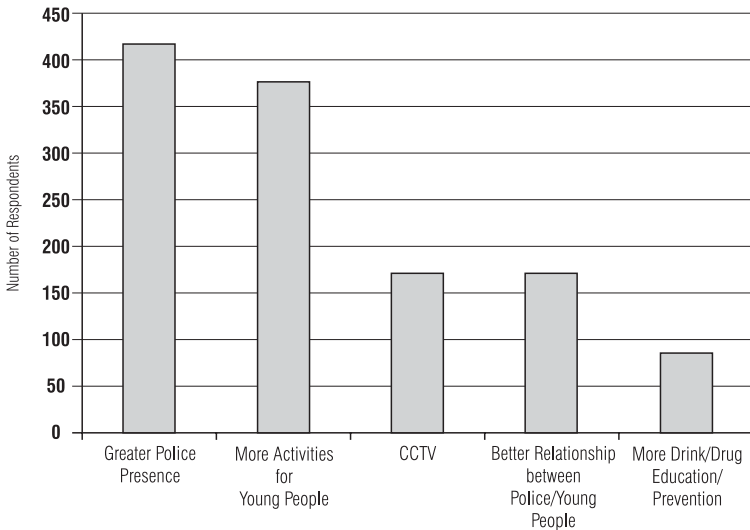
<i>Action for health and well being issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Raise awareness of support available: the existing Community Care Group is under used	Primary Care Trust	On going
Campaign for a local NHS dentist	Primary Care Trust	On going
Ensure appropriate support is available for unpaid carers. Raise awareness of existing support	Primary Care Trust	On going
Ensure support available for help with lifestyle problems. Raise awareness of existing provision	Primary Care Trust	On going
Raise awareness of volunteer opportunities	WPC, WACA	2004/5

Community Safety

Community safety issues - 562 households responded with their concerns



Community safety issues - suggestions for improvements - 644 households responded



<i>Action for community safety issues</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Litter and dog fouling - develop neighbourhood action groups or wardens to monitor and deal with problem areas	WPC	2004/5
Theft and vandalism - monitor and report locally, advise police of problem areas, support expansion of existing neighbourhood watch schemes	WPC	On going
Neighbour problems - raise awareness of Neighbour Mediation to help resolve difficulties	Neighbourhood Mediation	On going
Campaign for a higher police profile in and around the Village	WPC	On going
Support the provision of more activities for young people, raise awareness of existing provision, set up a Youth Council to ensure the views of young people are heard	WPC, WCA, WCC, HCC, HYS	2004/5
CCTV. Planned for the Community Centre in 2004, provision for other areas to be researched	WPC, WCA, WCC	Planned for WCA 2004
Encourage a better relationship between police and young people, campaign for a higher police profile during school holidays	WPC, Police, Wickham Primary, HYS	On going

Sport and Recreation

The questionnaire sought guidance from residents on the issue of whether or not to explore the exchange of recreation space in Fareham Road for a larger site in Mill Lane.

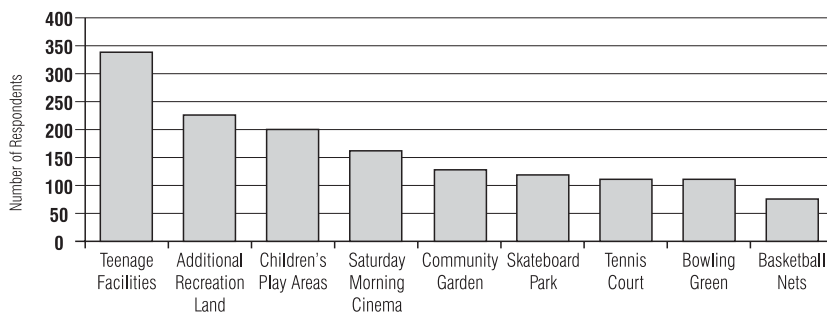
Of the 697 responses, 52% or 360 were in favour of continuing the dialogue and 48% or 337 opposed.

The questionnaire also asked for views on the needs of the community, there were 557 responses of which 219 or 39% called for additional recreation space for the village.

Surprisingly only 3 households expressed a view supporting the possible building of houses on the present recreation ground in Fareham Road and only 8 were adamantly against it.

Sport and Recreation

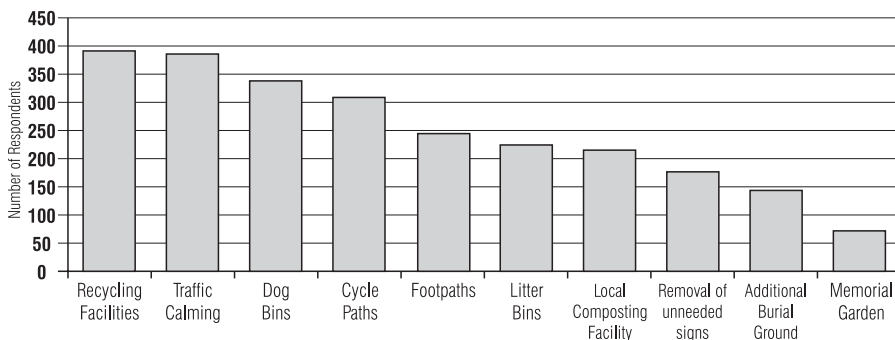
557 households responded with their requests for leisure facilities



<i>Action for sport and recreation</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Fully explore the possibility of exchanging the recreation space in Fareham Road, for a larger site in Mill Lane	WPC	Full consultation with residents planned for early 2005
Maintain and upgrade children's play areas	WPC	Improvements to Community Centre play area planned for 2004. Seating planned for skatepark 2004. New equipment for the Fareham Road site planned for 2005
Saturday morning cinema	WPC, WCA, HCC, HYS	2004/5

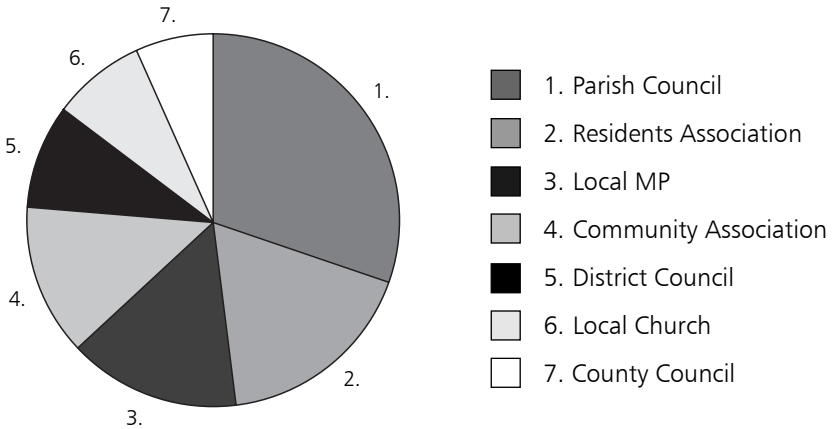
Environmental Improvements

What does your community need? 781 responded to this question



<i>Action for environmental improvements</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Research the options available for local recycling and composting facilities	WPC, WCC	No current project planned
Promote new cycle and footpaths when the opportunity arises	WPC, WCC HCC	On going
Remove unnecessary sign posts, ask residents to report problems to WPC	WPC	On going
New/additional burial ground/memorial garden	WPC, St Nicholas Church	WPC currently exploring all options for a new burial ground

**Who represents your views on community issues?
715 responded to this question**



Community Information

The questionnaire asked how residents found out what was happening in their community. The majority of Wickham residents read the Parish Magazine, with Knowle Village residents relying on the Residents Association Newsletter.

<i>Action for community information</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Support Wickham Parish Magazine, look at possibilities of delivering to every household, expanding the scope of the magazine	Magazine Team WPC	2004/5
Expand and develop the Wickham Website	WPC	On going
Support Knowle Residents Association, as above	Knowle Residents Asc, WPC	2004/5

Likes and Dislikes

235 Wickham households recorded the things they like best about Wickham: the friendly people and semi rural village atmosphere.

65 Knowle Village and 29 Old Knowle households responded to this question, the quiet and semi rural surroundings receiving the most comments.

169 Wickham respondents recorded their dislikes of which 16 had none! The only issue with over 10 comments is traffic, including noise and use of roads by heavy lorries, which received 33 complaints.

43 Knowle Village households recorded their dislikes, the lack of facilities being the main concern. 27 Old Knowle residents recorded their dislikes, the activities of a local landowner causing concern for nine respondents.

Young People

Hampshire Youth Service designed and carried out a survey to look at the needs and aspirations of young people. 55 were surveyed in Wickham and 13 at Knowle.

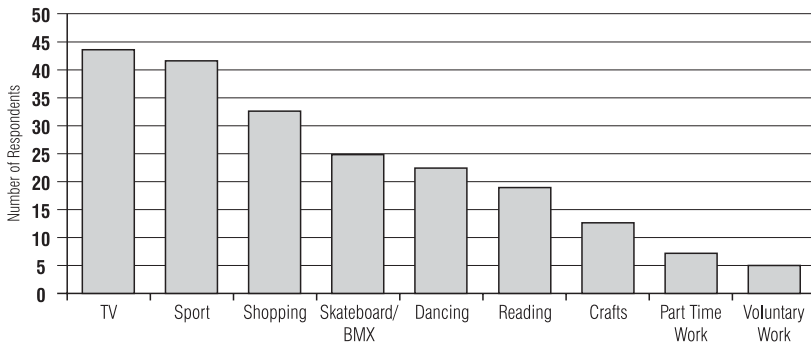
The majority of respondents attended Swanmore College of Technology and were planning to continue their education beyond year 11.

Most of those surveyed considered themselves to be in good or very good health but 6 reported asthma, 6 learning difficulties and 2 physical disabilities to be a problem. 14 admitted to smoking.

The majority reported exercising for more that 20 minutes three times a week with dancing, skateboarding and bmx riding proving popular activities.

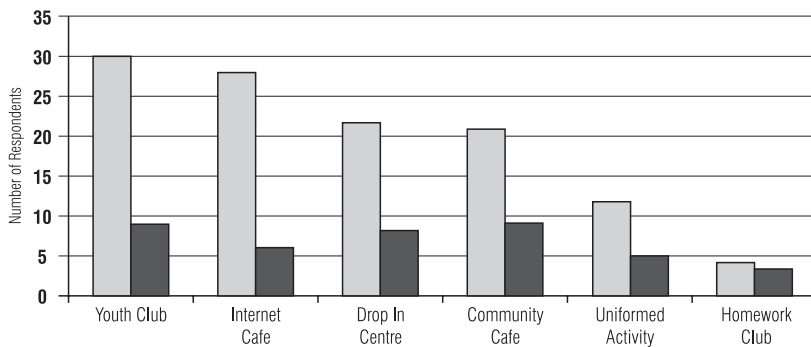
Over half of the respondents were concerned about crime and antisocial behaviour in the parish with theft worrying 19 respondents, vandalism 14 and mugging 12. 9 of those surveyed said they had been a victim of crime with 6 admitting to having committed a criminal offence.

How do you spend your leisure time? 43 young people responded to this question



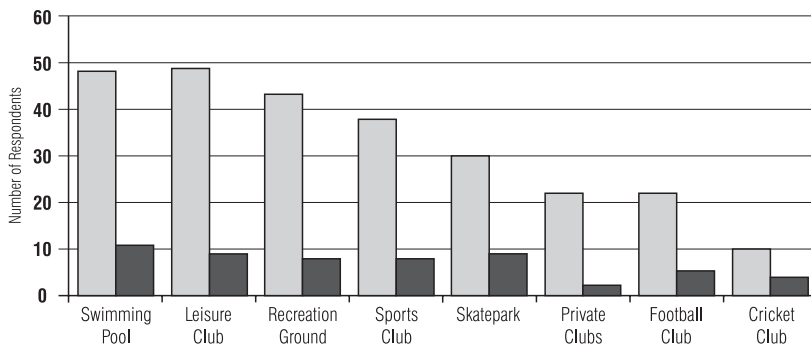
Would you attend any of the following in your area? 39 young people responded to this question

Wickham
Knowle



Would you use any of the following if provided in your area? 58 young people responded to this question

Wickham
Knowle



The young people were asked for their likes and dislikes. Wickham respondents enjoy the friendly rural area and the skatepark. The main drawback is the lack of things to do causing boredom with many requests for youth facilities. Knowle respondents like their quiet village but also say the lack of facilities for young people is a problem.

<i>Action for Young People</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>When?</i>
Set up a Youth Council to ensure the views of Wickham and Knowle young people are heard	WPC, HYS	2004/5
Support the continued development of the new youth clubs	WPC, WCA, HYS	On going
Support the development of local leisure facilities for young people	WPC, WCA, HYS	2004/5
Raise awareness of public transport to leisure facilities outside of the village, and research possibility of providing a community mini-bus	WPC, WCA, HYS	2004/5

This project has been supported by:

- Wickham Parish Council (WPC)
- Wickham Community Association (WCA)
- Winchester City Council (WCC)
- Hampshire County Council (HCC)
- Hampshire Youth Service (HYS)
- Winchester Area Community Action (WACA)
- Mid Hampshire Primary Care Trust
- Countryside Agency



Wickham Parish Action Plan 2004

Appraisal section	Proposed action	Responsibility	When can results be expected?
Household	Ensure the needs of the older residents are appropriately catered for.	All agencies	On going
	Promote the supply of a variety of accommodation when the opportunity arises.	WPC	On going. A scheme of low cost housing for local people planned for 2005.
Education	Campaign for improvements in public transport to allow children to attend after school activities.	WPC, HCC	2004/5
	Support the local provision of computer training opportunities for adults.	WPC, WCA	2004/5
Employment	Improve and extend local job advertising .	WPC	2004/5
Community Facilities	Support the existing play scheme.	WPC, WCA	On going, WPC assists with funding.
	Support proposals for a day nursery (private initiative probably only realistic option).	WPC, WCA, WCC	WCA and WPC supporting a proposal for a family centre building on the Community Centre site completion by 2008.
	Support the provision of additional pre-school places, particularly at Knowle.	WPC, WCC, HCC	On going
	Support and raise awareness of the existing after school club at Wickham Primary and the new WASP facility at the Community Centre.	Wickham Primary School, WCA	On going
Transport and Travelling	Campaign for the completion of community facilities at Knowle, support Residents Association where possible.	WPC, WCA, WCC	On going, anticipated hand over of community building during 2004.
	Ensure bus timetables are easily available and advertise where they can be found.	WPC, HCC	2004
	Raise awareness of 'Dial a Ride'.	WPC, WACA	On going
Road Safety	Monitor heavy traffic in Mayles Lane.	WPC, HCC	2004
	Campaign for traffic calming in Winchester Road particularly the Buddens Road junction.	WPC, HCC	There are plans for traffic lights at The Square junction and work to improve the safety of the Buddens Road junction.
	Campaign for traffic calming in Titchfield Lane.	WPC, HCC	2004
	Campaign for traffic calming in School Road.	WPC	2004
	Campaign for traffic calming and winter gritting on Knowle Rd.	WPC, HCC	On going

Appraisal section	Proposed action	Responsibility	When can results be expected?
Health and Well-being	Raise awareness of support available: the existing Community Care Group is under used.	Primary Care Trust	On going
	Campaign for a local NHS dentist.	Ditto	On going
	Ensure appropriate support is available for unpaid carers. Raise awareness of existing support.	Ditto	On going
	Ensure support available for help with lifestyle problems? Raise awareness of existing provision.	Ditto	On going
	Raise awareness of volunteer opportunities.	WPC, WACA	2004/5
Community Safety	Litter and dog fouling - develop neighbourhood action groups or wardens to monitor and deal with problem areas.	WPC	2004/5
	Theft and vandalism - monitor and report locally, advise police of problem areas, support expansion of existing neighbourhood watch schemes.	WPC	On going
	Neighbour problems - raise awareness of Neighbourhood Mediation to help resolve difficulties.	Neighbourhood Mediation	On going
	Campaign for a higher police profile in and around the Village.	WPC	On going
	Support the provision of more activities for young people, raise awareness of existing provision, set up a Youth Council to ensure the views of young people are heard?	WPC, WCA, WCC, HCC	2004/5
	CCTV. Planned for the Community Centre in 2004, provision for other areas to be researched.	WPC,WCA WCC	Planned for WCA 2004
	Encourage a better relationship between police and young people, campaign for a higher police profile during school holidays.	WPC, Police, Wickham Primary HYS	On going

Appraisal section	Proposed action	Responsibility	When can results be expected?
Sport and Recreation	Fully explore the possibility of exchanging the recreation space in Fareham Road, for a larger site in Mill Lane.	WPC	Full consultation with residents planned for 2004/5.
	Maintain and upgrade children's play areas.	WPC	Improvements to Community Centre play area planned for 2004. Seating planned for skatepark 2004. New equipment for the Fareham Road site planned for 2005.
	Saturday morning cinema.	WPC, WCA, HCC HYS	2004/5
Environmental Improvements	Research the options available for local recycling and composting facilities.	WPC, WCC	WPC currently exploring all options for a new burial ground.
	Promote new cycle and footpaths when the opportunity arises.	WPC, WCC, HCC	
	Remove unnecessary sign posts, ask residents to report problems to WPC.	WPC	
	New/additional burial ground/memorial garden.	WPC, St Nicholas Church	
Community Information	Support Wickham Parish Magazine, look at possibilities of delivering to every household and expanding the scope of the magazine.	Magazine Team WPC	2004/5
	Expand and develop the Wickham Website.	WPC	On going
	Support Knowle Residents Association, as above.	Knowle Residents Asc, WPC	2004/5
Young People	Set up a Youth Council to ensure the views of Wickham and Knowle young people are heard.	WPC, HYS	2004/5
	Support the continued development of the new youth clubs.	WPC, WCA, HYS	On going
	Support the development of local leisure facilities for young people.	WPC, WCA, HYS	2004/5
	Raise awareness of public transport to leisure facilities outside of the village, and research possibility of providing a community mini-bus.	WPC, WCA, HYS	2004/5

Notes:

Thank you for taking time to read the Parish Plan.

If you have any comments on the document or would be interested in becoming involved in any of the action plan projects, the team would be very pleased to hear from you.

Please contact in the first instance:

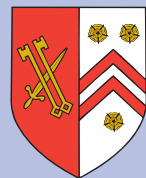
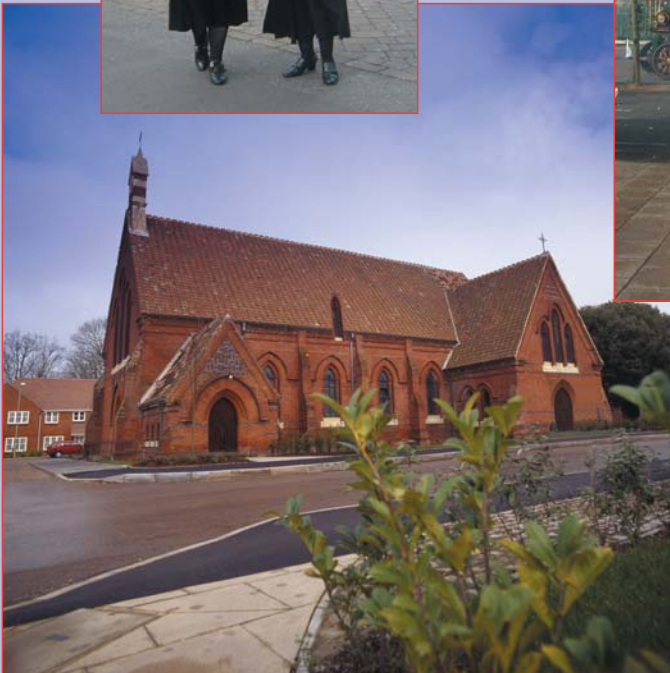
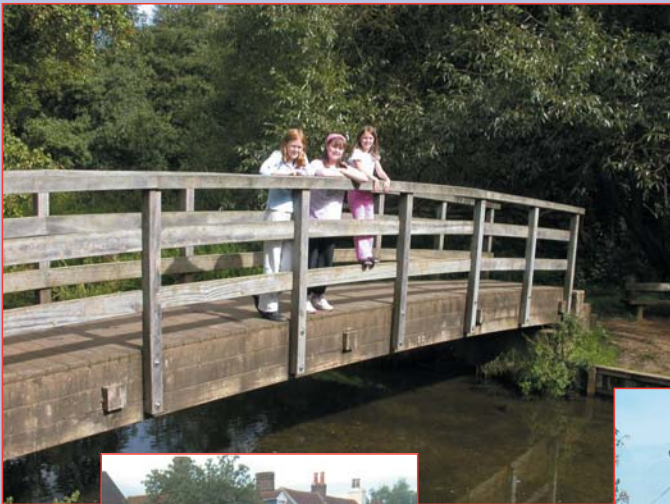
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Photos by
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Wickham
Parish Council