



PLUMPTON VILLAGE ACTION PLAN

www.plumptonvap.co.uk

Achievements and Plans as at March 2009

Our key word is ***action***:

- ***...action*** to develop and deliver the most practical solutions for the improvements the community wants;
- ***...action*** by a large group of volunteers in the village who have organised into teams working on environmental, road safety, transport, local business, communication, facilities, housing and social issues;
- ***...action*** based on a clear understanding of the things the people of Plumpton care about most. 82% of Plumpton households said what they wanted in a survey in 2007;
- ***...action*** through and with our Parish, District and County Council elected members to influence important decisions affecting the village

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BUSINESS	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Save the Post Office campaign”• “Shoptalk” page in Magazine started – ‘Use it or lose it’ - a new initiative each month• Local producers having stands at the Green Fair on 7/3/09 <p>For the Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help for small businesses in the community with marketing• Consideration of a possible Plumpton Farmers’ Market if feedback from the Green Fair, from both producers and buyers is positive• Production of a web-based business directory• Possibly a Christmas hamper containing local produce
COMMUNICATIONS	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launch of new VAP website www.plumptonvap.co.uk• Improved VAP publicity through the 4 pages in the monthly Parish Magazine <p>For the Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Looking into the appropriateness of new community notice-boards• Finding out if there is enough interest to help prepare an Information Booklet for each household – before making firm proposals• Looking at the village web-sites to identify ways of making them even more useful and appealing to residents

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ENVIRONMENT	
A) RECYCLING AND VILLAGE TIDINESS	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of clear details about kerbside collections – do’s and don’ts • Collection of Christmas cards for recycling • Application made to Tetra-Pak© for a new collection facility in the village – working with LDC <p>For the Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have negotiated with LDC a weekly collection facility for cardboard - currently researching the best site to house the facility before making firm proposals.
B) FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked closely with PC representative and ESCC surveyors when they walked all the rights of way in Plumpton as part of a project to establish a new digitised footpath and bridleway map across East Sussex. Plumpton was the ONLY parish to volunteer to assist with this work. <p>For the Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing whether there is enough interest in establishing a stile maintenance team in Plumpton, before making firm proposals. • Launching a photographic competition as the basis for a VAP Footpath Team calendar for 2010. • Writing a new ‘Walks’ book, building on the excellent ‘Walks Around Plumpton’, which is now out of print. • Working with the VAP Road Safety Team to establish whether or not a viable scheme can be found to make a new footpath or bridleway from the village to the Plough. • Discussing with ESCC whether new or improved footpaths can be prepared to improve access for the disabled.
C) PLUMPTON GOES GREEN	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of ‘Plumpton Goes Green’ Eco-bags through Village shop • Development of full project plan for Historic Landscape Characterisation. An HLC uses maps, photos, historical documents, etc to produce a character map of the parish. • Distribution of low-energy light bulbs to residents – working with LDC • Development of an Information Resource to help Plumpton residents understand the options and make decisions about reducing their carbon footprint – will be paper and web-based • Organised Green Fair 7th March 2009 <p>For the Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the owners and users of the Village facilities to identify potential ways in which energy bills could be reduced and grant funding made available, prior to agreeing formal proposals. • Identifying if there is appetite for a Garden Share Scheme
D) WILDLIFE	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of new Society called ‘Plumpton Wildlife and Habitat Group’. • Contact Group on: wildlifeandhabitatgroup@hotmail.com • Completion of Habitat Survey map

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<p>FACILITIES</p>	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Societies, organising a Societies and Clubs Fair on Sunday 19/4/09 • The establishment of a Sunday School facility which now is a regular twice monthly event • The setting-up of a Team, which will be working closely with the users of the sporting facilities, to look at the feasibility of upgrading the existing facilities, with particular emphasis on the sports' pavilion, as requested by the Playing Field Committee <p>For the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the upgrading of sporting facilities appears to be financially viable, working with the users of the facilities to make firm proposals for their upgrade • Assessing the viability of improvements to the childrens' playpark
<p>HOUSING DATA ANALYSIS</p>	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further analysis of the data produced by Plumpton residents in the VAP Questionnaire
<p>POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</p>	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals being finalised for the provision of community bus services and potentially a Voluntary Driver Scheme to provide better transport arrangements to doctors and hospitals • Greater publicity of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme by presence at various village events eg Green Fair on 7/3/09 • Closer working with the local Police Community Safety Officers (PCSOs) eg by inviting them to listen to residents' concerns at the Green Fair on 7/3/09 <p>For the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the need and viability of a defibrillator in the village • Assessing the need for First Aid training in the village • Assessing the need and viability for lifebelts in the village
<p>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</p>	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of VAP Questionnaire embedded in the train franchise considerations • VAP working with District Councillor and Parish Council to voice concerns about recent changes to train timetables • Bus passes eligibility moved forward from 9.30am to 9.00am improving access • Local bus timetables printed and distributed <p>For the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to put pressure on transport providers to further improve train and bus services to/from Plumpton. This will be particularly important once the new train franchisee is announced

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<p>ROAD SAFETY</p>	<p>Actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged training for volunteers in the use of the Speed Indicator Device in November 2008 • SID used regularly in the village - this will continue through 2009 • Working with Police Community Safety Officers (PCSOs) to raise awareness of the dangers to the community of speeding • Raised awareness of the Operation Crackdown system for the reporting of excessive speeding • Working with Southern Rail and the Parish Council to formulate improved parking arrangements around the station <p>For the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the community, and very closely with ESCC and a number of Parish Councillors, to find long-term solutions for traffic calming and road safety issues throughout the whole length of the parish, looking holistically at the parish as a whole
<p>CHILDREN</p>	<p>Children asked for better parking around the station – the Road Safety Team are on the case. (see above)</p> <p>Children asked for reduced speeding through the village – this will be the main focus going forward for the Road Safety Team (see above). School will be involved in getting the message out to parents about the need for reduced speeding.</p> <p>Children wanted improved recycling measures – the Recycling and Village Tidiness Team have already published details of the dos and don't's for kerbside collections. The Team is also working on plans for Tetra-Pak © and cardboard collection. School is also making further improvements to recycling.</p> <p>Children wanted reduced litter especially in the skate park and playing fields. Again the Recycling and Village Tidiness Team will be raising the awareness of this through the Summer of 2009.</p> <p>Children wanted improved equipment in the Play Park – the Facilities Team are about to set up a sub-Team to work specifically on this proposal.</p> <p>Children said they wanted more sports' clubs and societies – again the Facilities Team are arranging a day for the village raising awareness of the various Societies and Clubs and asking residents and children if they would like further clubs to be set up.</p>
<p>YOUTH</p>	<p>Young people wanted expansion of public transport routes. The Public Transport Team have made sure these requirements have been included in the tendering papers for the new train franchise.</p> <p>Young people asked for improved punctuality of the Chailey school bus. Arrangements are being made to conduct a new survey of children to assess if the service has improved – complaints seem to be less.</p> <p>Young people requested that a Youth Council/Forum be established. Meetings have been held with ESCC's Youth Development Service, and a Youth Worker. It is anticipated that a Youth Champion will be appointed in the village shortly, and the Youth Forum launched at the Societies and Clubs Day on 19/4/09.</p> <p>Young people felt that societies and clubs should encourage younger people to join them. A Societies and Clubs Day is being held on 19/4/09 to encourage this</p>



PLUMPTON VILLAGE ACTION PLAN

Purpose of the Plumpton Village Action Plan

The Plumpton Village Action Plan is designed to help our community establish the key priorities and actions it wants for the future of the village. It brings together groups of volunteers to drive implementation of the plan themselves in close partnership with elected parish and local councillors. The shared goal is to achieve real sustainable improvements for the entire community of Plumpton. We want a safer, more sustainable, caring and prosperous village. The Village Action Plan is a practical route to achieving that.

V is for Village: origins of the Plumpton Village Action Plan

A group of volunteers from a cross-section of the community and the Parish Council began work on the Plumpton Village Action Plan in May 2006. They first consulted government and local bodies, village organisations and the wider community and then secured start up funding. An extensive survey of the views of the 575 households in the village was then carried out in July 2007. A staggering 82% of households responded. This provided confidence in what the wider Plumpton community wanted for the future of the village and that the detailed results of the survey were the right basis for further action. Children at the local Primary School and Youth living in the village were also consulted. The results from their surveys were also incorporated into the Plan.

A is for Action: Adoption of the Action Plan

The results of the survey were presented in April 2008, with priorities and timescales established for each of the various actions, which form the plan. The Plan was formally adopted by the Parish Council in May 2008 before being distributed to all households in July 2008. A steering committee was established in September 2008 to co-ordinate the implementation of the Plan. Its constitution requires it to examine the work of each team and proposed actions in detail and to submit substantive proposals to the Parish Council. Three of the Steering Committee are elected District or Parish Councillors. Working consistently together Plumpton will be better able to influence local government and service providers for the benefit of the whole village.

P is for Plan to succeed: Action Plan implementation:

The Plan sets out clearly the main actions needed to turn into reality the wishes and aspirations of the community which they expressed in the survey.

Several Action Plan teams of committed and enthusiastic volunteers are now working on each point in the Plan. So far we have well over 70 volunteers who bring both deep knowledge of the village as well as a wide range of specialist knowledge, skills and experience.



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The actions in the Plan have been grouped around key themes and the teams have been set up accordingly. The themes are:-

- Business
- Communications
- Environment - comprising linked teams as follows Recycling & Village Tidiness, Plumpton Goes Green, Footpaths, and Wildlife.
- Facilities
- Housing and Development Data Analysis
- Policing and Community Safety
- Public Transport
- Road Safety

Each team is producing proposals to deliver their part of the action Plan. Teams are consulting the community and other relevant bodies and looking at possible sources of funding for initiatives as they go along. The Steering Committee works with the teams at monthly meetings to ensure consistency across different activities as well the viability of individual proposals. Proposals are refined as necessary and then submitted to the Parish Council for approval or information.

The Steering Committee is also working on establishing a youth forum to address the many points which came through the survey of views of young people in the village carried out alongside the wider survey of households.

Making a difference

The Plumpton Village Action Plan is led by the village community for the village community. It provides a powerful means of bringing together all those who care about their village, residents and their elected representatives, to work in organised way to make a difference. Please get involved.

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Do you want to find out more about how to get involved?

Please contact, in the first instance:

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and District Councillor
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...and have a look at our website www.plumptonvap.co.uk

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