

PARISH PLANS IN LEICESTERSHIRE

GROBY AND FIELD HEAD

LEICESTER FOREST EAST

MEASHAM

MOUNTSORREL

REARSBY

SWINFORD

TWYCROSS

WANLIP

WOODHOUSE

WYMESWOLD

A SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES 2005-2006

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INTRODUCTION

This report has been produced on behalf of the Community Engagement Task Group of the Leicestershire Rural Partnership (LRP) for the 2006 Community Consultation Seminar. The purpose of the report is to summarise the issues covered by the ten parish plan reports produced and considered through the LRP Protocol over the past twelve months:

The report initially provides a quick comparative summary of the issues covered by each parish plan, divided into the areas of work covered by the five LRP programme teams:

- Services and Communities
- Lifelong Learning
- Rural Transport
- Information and Electronic Services
- Rural Business Development

Some of the key issues are then covered in greater depth (under the same headings) in the summary of each individual report. This report will be made available to all members of the LRP and, in particular, to the five programme teams. It should prove invaluable in ensuring that local community issues are taken into account in the future planning and prioritisation of the work of the Leicestershire Rural Partnership and the partner organisations.

If you would like further information about any of the parish plans covered in this report, please contact Diana Cook at the Rural Community Council (www.ruralcc.org.uk) on 0116 268 9706 or dcook@ruralcc.org.uk. For information about the work of the LRP and / or the programme teams, please contact the Rural Officer at Leicestershire County Council on 0116 265 7973 or access the Leicestershire Rural Partnership website at www.oakleaves.org.uk.

March 2006

**SUMMARY OF ISSUES COVERED WITHIN PARISH PLAN REPORTS
PUBLISHED IN LEICESTERSHIRE 2005/06**

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Groby and Field Head	Leicester Forest East	Measham	Mount- sorrel	Rearsby
Population (2001)	7355	6309	4763	7582	1005
Response Rate	46%	Adult 18% Youth 9%	Adult 25% Youth 15%	15%	65%
Age Ranges		✓	✓	✓	✓
Gender Split	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Length of Time In Village	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Likes and Dislikes		✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment		✓	✓	✓	
LOCAL GOVERNMENT					
Parish Council		✓		✓	✓
District Council				✓	
County Council				✓	
SERVICES AND COMMUNITIES					
Shops	✓			✓	✓
Post Office	✓		✓		✓
Pub	✓		✓		
Mobile Shops/Deliveries			✓		✓
Missing Services	✓			✓	✓
Facilities Needed	✓		✓	✓	✓
Council Services			✓	✓	
Library/Mobile		✓		✓	✓
Gas Connection	✓		✓		
Postal Service		✓			✓
Cash Machine					
Farmers Markets					
YOUNG PEOPLE					
Needs Mentioned	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Separate Questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth Shelter					
Youth Club	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth Council		✓			✓
Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE					
Access		✓		✓	✓
Mobility		✓	✓	✓	
Support Needs	✓			✓	✓
Health Awareness				✓	
Healthy Living					
Assistance/Home Help	✓			✓	✓
Doctors	✓	✓		✓	✓
Dentist	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hospitals					
Transport to Hospital					
Drugs/Alcohol Awareness	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Prescription Collection					
Other Services		✓		✓	

**SUMMARY OF ISSUES COVERED WITHIN PARISH PLAN REPORTS
PUBLISHED IN LEICESTERSHIRE 2005/06**

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Swinford	Twycross	Wanlip	Wood- house	Wymes- wold
Population (2001)	502	792	155	2098	1109
Response Rate	70%	Adult 47% Youth 30%	85%	65%	71%
Age Ranges	✓		✓	✓	✓
Gender Split			✓	✓	✓
Length of Time In Village			✓	✓	✓
Likes and Dislikes				✓	✓
Employment			✓	✓	✓
LOCAL GOVERNMENT					
Parish Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	
District Council	✓			✓	
County Council	✓			✓	
SERVICES AND COMMUNITIES					
Shops	✓	✓		✓	✓
Post Office	✓				✓
Pub	✓			✓	✓
Mobile Shops/Deliveries		✓	✓	✓	
Missing Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Facilities Needed		✓	✓	✓	✓
Council Services		✓		✓	
Library/Mobile		✓	✓		✓
Gas Connection	✓				
Postal Service					
Cash Machine					
Farmers Markets					
YOUNG PEOPLE					
Needs Mentioned	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Separate Questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Youth Shelter		✓			
Youth Club	✓	✓		✓	
Youth Council				✓	
Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	
HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE					
Access	✓		✓	✓	
Mobility	✓			✓	
Support Needs	✓				
Health Awareness					
Healthy Living					
Assistance/Home Help					
Doctors	✓	✓		✓	
Dentist	✓			✓	
Hospitals					
Transport To Hospital	✓		✓	✓	
Drugs/Alcohol Awareness					
Prescription Collection	✓				
Other Services				✓	

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Groby and Field Head	Leicester Forest East	Measham	Mount- sorrel	Rearsby
COMMUNITY SAFETY					
Lighting		✓	✓	✓	
Police	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Neighbourhood Watch	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Home Security	✓				
Crime Prevention	✓		✓		✓
Farm Watch	✓				
Emergency Services			✓		
Unsafe Areas	✓		✓	✓	
Experience of Crime		✓	✓	✓	✓
CCTV	✓		✓	✓	
LEISURE AND RECREATION					
Use of facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Future of facilities	✓		✓	✓	✓
Village Hall	✓			✓	✓
Park	✓		✓	✓	✓
Play Area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playing field	✓				✓
Sports Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clubs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Luncheon Club				✓	
Reading Club					
Toilets	✓			✓	
Skills		✓			✓
RELIGION					
Role of Church					
Attendance				✓	
Other Activities				✓	
Involvement w. community		✓		✓	
Burial	✓			✓	
Ethnicity					
Use of religious buildings				✓	
LIFELONG LEARNING					
Information Centre				✓	
School	✓				✓
Play Scheme			✓	✓	✓
Play Group			✓	✓	
Adult Education	✓			✓	✓
After School Provision	✓		✓	✓	✓
Training				✓	✓
FE Classes	✓			✓	
Childcare			✓	✓	✓
RURAL TRANSPORT					
Transport Problems	✓	✓		✓	✓
Car Access	✓	✓			
Journeys			✓		
Bus Shelters	✓				✓
Cycle Routes	✓		✓		✓
Footpath	✓		✓	✓	✓
Use of Bus Service	✓		✓	✓	✓
Bus Service Improvements	✓		✓	✓	✓
Bus Destinations	✓		✓	✓	✓
School Buses	✓	✓		✓	
Use of Trains			✓		✓
Community Bus					✓

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Swinford	Twycross	Wanlip	Wood- house	Wymes- wold
COMMUNITY SAFETY					
Lighting		✓	✓	✓	
Police		✓	✓	✓	✓
Neighbourhood Watch	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Home Security	✓	✓	✓		
Crime Prevention			✓	✓	✓
Farm Watch				✓	
Emergency Services					
Unsafe Areas		✓		✓	
Experience of Crime			✓	✓	✓
CCTV				✓	✓
LEISURE/RECREATION					
Use of facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Future of facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Village Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Park	✓	✓			
Play Area		✓		✓	
Playing field	✓	✓		✓	
Sports Facilities	✓	✓		✓	
Clubs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Luncheon Club	✓				
Reading Club				✓	✓
Toilets				✓	✓
Skills		✓			
RELIGION					
Role of Church	✓		✓		✓
Attendance		✓	✓	✓	✓
Other Activities	✓	✓	✓		✓
Involvement w. community	✓	✓			✓
Burial	✓				
Ethnicity	✓				
Use of religious buildings	✓	✓	✓		✓
LIFELONG LEARNING					
Information Centre					
School	✓		✓	✓	✓
Play Scheme					✓
Play Group	✓		✓		✓
Adult Education	✓	✓		✓	✓
After School Provision	✓				✓
Training	✓	✓	✓		✓
FE Classes			✓	✓	✓
Childcare	✓		✓		✓
RURAL TRANSPORT					
Transport Problems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Car Access		✓	✓	✓	
Journeys	✓		✓	✓	✓
Bus Shelters					
Cycle Routes			✓	✓	
Footpath		✓	✓	✓	
Use of Bus Service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bus Service Improvements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bus Destinations	✓	✓	✓		✓
School Buses		✓			✓
Use of Trains					
Community Bus	✓				

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Groby and Field Head	Leicester Forest East	Measham	Mount- sorrel	Rearsby
Volunteer Drivers					
Car Sharing					
Supermarket Bus					
TRAFFIC					
Number of Cars	✓	✓			
Parking	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Speeding Traffic	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Danger Spots	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Traffic Calming	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Speed Limits	✓	✓	✓		✓
Signs					✓
Pavements	✓		✓	✓	✓
Refuges					
Speed Cameras					
HGV Restrictions				✓	
Road Safety	✓			✓	✓
Road Humps					✓
Crossings	✓		✓		
Bypass					
RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT					
EMPLOYMENT					
Training Offered					✓
Environmental Impact					
Training Needs				✓	✓
Community Involvement					
Services to Community				✓	✓
Self Employment					
Business Advice					
Business Development				✓	✓
Marketing & Promotion					
Business Directory				✓	✓
Skills Directory					
Grants Offered					
Village Shops	✓			✓	✓
Public Houses					
Building Conversions					
INFORMATION AND ELECTRONIC SERVICES					
Communication Links	✓		✓	✓	
General Information	✓	✓			✓
Notice Boards	✓			✓	✓
Newsletter	✓	✓	✓		✓
Internet	✓				
ICT Access	✓				✓
Web Site	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diary of Events	✓				
Village Directory	✓			✓	✓
Welcome Pack	✓		✓		✓
Village History	✓	✓			
Newspapers Read	✓				
Information Centre				✓	✓
OTHER ISSUES					
PLANNING AND DESIGN					
Village/Parish Character				✓	✓
Housing Development	✓	✓	✓		✓
Housing Needs	✓	✓			✓
Planning App/Processes					✓
Structure Plan					✓

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Swinford	Twycross	Wanlip	Wood- house	Wymes- wold
Volunteer Drivers				✓	
Car Sharing			✓	✓	✓
Supermarket Bus					✓
TRAFFIC					
Number of Cars		✓	✓	✓	✓
Parking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Speeding Traffic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Danger Spots		✓	✓	✓	✓
Traffic Calming		✓	✓	✓	✓
Speed Limits	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Signs	✓		✓		✓
Pavements			✓	✓	✓
Refuges				✓	
Speed Cameras	✓			✓	✓
HGV Restrictions			✓	✓	✓
Road Safety	✓		✓	✓	✓
Road Humps	✓		✓	✓	
Crossings		✓			✓
Bypass					✓
RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT					
EMPLOYMENT					
Training Offered					
Environmental Impact	✓	✓			
Training Needs		✓			
Community Involvement			✓		✓
Services to Community		✓		✓	
Self Employment		✓			
Business Advice					
Business Development		✓		✓	
Marketing & Promotion					
Business Directory	✓	✓		✓	
Skills Directory			✓		✓
Grants Offered					
Village Shops		✓		✓	
Public Houses				✓	
Building Conversions		✓			
INFORMATION & ELECTRONIC SERVICES					
Communication Links			✓	✓	✓
General Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Notice Boards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Internet	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ICT Access					✓
Web Site		✓	✓	✓	✓
Diary of Events	✓			✓	
Village Directory		✓		✓	
Welcome Pack		✓	✓	✓	✓
Village History	✓	✓		✓	
Newspapers Read					
Information Centre					
OTHER ISSUES					
PLANNING AND DESIGN					
Village/Parish Character	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Housing Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Housing Needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Planning App/Processes	✓	✓		✓	
Structure Plan		✓			

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Groby and Field Head	Leicester Forest East	Measham	Mount- sorrel	Rearsby
Current Home					
Open/Green Spaces				✓	✓
General Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Benefit from Development					
ENVIRONMENT					
General Improvements	✓	✓		✓	✓
Volunteers				✓	✓
Footpaths – Route	✓		✓		✓
Footpaths – Condition	✓		✓	✓	✓
Footpaths – Protection					✓
Sites for Protection				✓	✓
More Attractive		✓	✓	✓	✓
Pollution	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dog Fouling	✓	✓	✓		✓
Litter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fly Tipping					
Graffiti					
Signage	✓		✓		✓
Recycling – use of	✓	✓	✓		
Recycling – additional	✓	✓	✓		
War Memorial	✓			✓	
Village Green				✓	✓
Verges	✓		✓		✓
Seats/Benches				✓	✓
Allotments					✓
Canal					
Noise	✓		✓	✓	
Pollution	✓		✓	✓	
Energy					
Flooding					
ADVICE SERVICES					
CAB					
Benefits Advice					
Debt Management					
Job Centre/Advice					
Volunteers	✓			✓	
LETS					✓

VILLAGE/ ISSUES COVERED	Swinford	Twycross	Wanlip	Wood- house	Wymes- wold
Current Home	✓				
Open/Green Spaces		✓		✓	✓
General Development		✓	✓	✓	✓
Benefit from Development		✓			✓
ENVIRONMENT					
General Improvements		✓	✓	✓	✓
Volunteers		✓	✓	✓	
Footpaths – Route	✓	✓			
Footpaths – Condition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Footpaths – Protection	✓	✓			
Sites for Protection		✓	✓		✓
More Attractive		✓	✓		✓
Pollution	✓		✓	✓	✓
Dog Fouling	✓			✓	✓
Litter	✓			✓	✓
Fly Tipping				✓	✓
Graffiti	✓			✓	
Signage	✓	✓			
Recycling – use of		✓		✓	✓
Recycling – additional	✓	✓		✓	✓
War Memorial					
Village Green					
Verges			✓		✓
Seats/Benches				✓	
Allotments				✓	✓
Canal					✓
Noise	✓		✓	✓	✓
Pollution	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Energy				✓	
Flooding		✓	✓		
ADVICE SERVICES					
CAB					
Benefits Advice					
Debt Management					
Job Centre/Advice					
Volunteers					
LETS					

GROBY AND FIELD HEAD	
Services and Communities	41% of respondents wanted more doctors. 58% thought they needed a health centre and 78% wanted an NHS dentist. 85% of residents stated they would support a scheme to help elderly and disabled people in the village. The most used facilities were the shops, post offices, swimming pool and library. Residents stated that extra facilities they would like included a café, indoor sports facilities, more pubs and a leisure centre. The library is used monthly by 36% of residents although 27% never use it. It is not often used by young people, who suggested that they would use it more if the library's image was improved and also if there was a greater selection of books. 5% of respondents have been affected by theft or damage to their homes, 8% to their motor vehicles and 10% affected by personal, verbal or physical crime. 98% of respondents felt happy to walk alone in the village during the day. This fell to 50% when respondents considered walking at night. 74% of Groby residents expressed concern regarding anti-social behaviour, compared to 5% in Field Head. Both adults and young people in the parish felt that there was a lack of community spirit at times, although residents thought that both settlements were pleasant places to live.
Lifelong Learning	Residents in Groby have access to adult educational courses at a number of different sites. 14% of respondents have taken part in adult education classes in the village. Adults who have taken classes outside of Groby would do so within the village if they were available. Comments were made about the cost of courses at Groby Community College and also the cancellation of courses due to lack of support.
Rural Transport	92% of respondents had access to a car. 49% stated that they experienced difficulty parking either at home or in the village centre. 6% used the bus service daily in Groby and 0.4% used it daily in Field Head. 78% of parishioners felt safe as a pedestrian, compared to 15% of cyclists. A third of respondents thought that speeding was a problem through Groby and residents suggested that the speed limit outside the school should be reduced to 20mph. To improve road safety 43% recommended the installation of pelican crossings and 32% asked for more traffic calming measures. 67% of school children walked to school and 16% were driven.
Rural Business Development	Young people said that their future employment after education would not be in the parish. 95% of all respondents stated that they did not want any more industry and 57% did not want any more shops. Respondents stated that whilst local businesses provided employment opportunities and helped to support local shops this led to increased traffic congestion and parking problems.
Information and Electronic Services	62% of respondents have internet access at home and 3% use the local websites on a weekly basis. 87% of young people have internet access at home. 64% of all respondents felt that they would have benefited from a welcome pack containing local information and contact details when they first moved to the parish. 64% said that they were sufficiently aware of local news and events. The main source of information is the village magazine, Spotlight, which was developed following the initial public meeting of the Parish Plan group. Other sources of information include the Parish Council notice board and word of mouth between residents.
Other issues	96% of respondents said that the parish does not need any more housing, although 69% also said that they would want more affordable housing. A particular traffic issue raised was noise from the A46, A50 and M1. 93% had been inconvenienced by regular electricity cuts.

LEICESTER FOREST EAST
Services and Communities
31% used the library regularly and 57% said that a better stock of books, CDs and DVDs, and a larger library would encourage them to visit the library more often. 9% of respondents with mobility problems felt they needed help to access surgeries and shops. Response on the dial-a-ride scheme was evenly split.
Lifelong Learning
No relevant issues were covered in the Plan.
Rural Transport
73% of respondents were satisfied with the public transport services available, however, of those who travel into Leicester, 62% use their own car and 60% would use a bus service linking Fosse Park/Beaumont Leys/Glenfield Hospital if this was provided. Parking near schools was a problem for 33% of respondents, and 91% supported a suggestion to implement a 20mph limit near the schools. 84% of respondents were against proposals to widen the M1 through the parish. 29% indicated traffic problems on the A47 and 34% felt that the speed limit should be reduced to 30mph.
Rural Business Development
No relevant issues were covered in the Plan.
Information and Electronic Services
62% of respondents have access to the internet. Of those who knew about the parish websites, 70% said they would use them to obtain information on local matters.
Other issues
80% of respondents felt that the street lighting of the area was adequate. 87% would support a campaign for a postcode change. About 90% of young people said that they would like a youth centre for social activities. 74% of youth respondents would like a centre run by themselves with assistance from responsible adults.

MEASHAM	
Services and Communities	56% of respondents requested that leisure facilities be improved. 49% wanted more shops. 15% thought that additional housing was required in the parish. 17% of respondents had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months, with the largest number of residents experiencing verbal abuse or physical violence. 86% stated that anti-social behaviour was their highest concern. 5% commented that racial abuse was a worry. 98% of respondents were happy to walk alone in the village during the day. This fell to 46% at night. 75% are registered with a dentist, however, of those who are not, 80% stated they would register if a dentist was available in Measham. 43% of respondents take part in leisure or recreational activities. 40% stated that a lack of local options discouraged them from taking part. 50% of residents said that there is a community spirit some of the time. 81% thought the village would benefit from an annual carnival or fete. 40% of respondents listed friendliness and community spirit in the top five things they like about Measham. Of those who had to use the emergency services in the village, most were unhappy with the service they received. Of those who have used the ambulance service 83 residents were not happy and 69 were satisfied. Of those who have used the police service, 75 thought that the service could be improved and 47 were satisfied. Finally of those who used the fire service 69 felt that there were was room for improvement and 11 were satisfied.
Lifelong Learning	41% of respondents stated that they were interested in undertaking computer studies courses. Over one hundred respondents commented upon the need for more further education provision, including courses in the creative arts.
Rural Transport	68% of respondents use a car as the main source of transport, with 3% cycling and 2% using public transport. 70% of residents never use public transport and 1% used bus services a daily basis. 47% of residents stated that even if improvements were made to the timetable they would still not use public transport. 82% stated that they do not experience any parking problems. 22% of respondents were concerned about speeding and 61% thought that it was an occasional issue. 42% of respondents thought that traffic calming would not lead to any improvements, whereas 34% thought that they would. 46% of residents would welcome an increase in the numbers of footpaths and pavements. Residents also stated that improving street lighting would be welcomed.
Rural Business Development	No relevant issues were covered in the Plan.
Information and Electronic Services	72% of respondents felt they were sufficiently aware of news and events concerning the village, with 86% reading the Measham Messenger.
Other issues	90% of respondents wanted better enforcement on dog fouling and 64% wanted dog free areas. 75% thought that there was a litter problem around public open spaces. Over 90% of residents wanted improved countryside protection and no further development. 70% of the older residents felt that they did not feel part of the community because of their age. Young people stated that they wanted more education on certain health issues. Of those who responded 66% wanted more information on personal health issues, 50% on drugs and 45% on the affects of alcohol. An environmental improvement which was suggested was for greater planting of flowers.

MOUNTSORREL

Services and Communities

Community facilities

48% of respondents felt that more community facilities were needed. 23% felt this was true especially for younger people and 14% for older people. 14% felt that no further facilities were needed. At the time of the questionnaire survey there were no indoor meeting facilities available for young people. A video was made requesting further facilities several years ago and young people can now meet in the Memorial Hall one night a week. The Hall is, however, in serious need of refurbishment and there are key concerns regarding future funding. Both the Memorial Hall and the Working Men's Club are well used and residents made suggestions for other community activities they would like to encourage. It was recommended that a community centre worker could be appointed to support the establishment of activity groups. Specific activities identified by young people included chat groups, social groups and events. Older residents within the parish would like organised swimming activities and tea dances.

Leisure and recreation

Concern was expressed regarding the poor standard of equipment and lack of maintenance of the playing fields at 1) Halstead Road (48% of respondents), 2) Memorial Hall playing fields (59%) and 3) land behind 100 -174 Loughborough Road (54%). Suggestions for Halstead Road were to improve the car parking provision, install floodlights and improve security measures, provide a pathway suitable for prams, relocate the play area nearer to the road, additional landscaping, removal of the dangerous skateboard ramp, provide more benches, plan a new all-weather fitness trail and provide more litter and dog bins which are regularly emptied. Respondents also recommended the introduction of a watch scheme which would tackle youth crime, vandalism and drug use. Other suggestions were for more allotments, improved fencing surrounding all parks, a map of the park, a guide to woodland, plant and flower species and improved signposting along public footpaths. Mention was made of the need to brighten up the Peace Garden with more flowers and to provide more seats. Finally, it was recommended that the car park near the Parish Rooms should be available for use by local residents using the park. For the Memorial Hall Playing Field many respondents commented upon the need to reinstate the children's play area. Regarding the Loughborough Road play area, it was reported that it needed to be repaired and renovated. A safety surface could also be installed and it was recommended that there are regular litter checks.

Community safety

21% of respondents have been the victims of vandalism and criminal damage in the previous 12 months. These were mainly domestic violence, theft, burglary, bullying, drunkenness, car crime and drug related. 63% of respondents who have contacted the Police in the last 12 months said they were satisfied with their response time. 61% of all respondents were positive regarding the service in general. A number of measures were suggested to encourage a reduction in crime. These included 1) more visible police presence (97% of respondents), 2) CCTV at black spots (91%) and, 3) better street lighting (76%). Since the publication of the Parish Plan, four new Neighbourhood Watch groups have been set up and there is a regular meeting of police and residents living near Rothley Lane. Sixty-two respondents thought crime could be reduced if there were improved activities for young people. A curfew for the under-16 age group and measures to reduce alcohol drinking on streets were also suggested.

Religion

A high percentage of respondents would be sorry to see any of the churches close. 219 respondents said they had attended services at least once. A number of comments were made regarding religious services including events to encourage children.

Traffic

There was common agreement that speeding vehicles and illegal and irresponsible parking were major problems. Greatest attention was given to the main roads to Leicester and Loughborough. Particular speeding and parking concerns focused upon The Green and the adjacent shopping area. Many respondents commented about commercial vehicles using the available parking places which meant that they could not be used by local residents. There were many requests for a new free car park in the village centre and for the Memorial Hall car park to be better signed.

Health and social services

There were very positive responses about the Alpine House doctors surgery, although some residents were unable to register. Several respondents commented upon the need for more medical provision. Services offered by the pharmacy were generally thought to be very good although there was comment that it was closed on Saturdays. Those respondents who were registered with the dentist held positive opinions. However, there were complaints that the practice was not accepting new registrations. A Parents Drug Education group is being established since the publication of the Parish Plan.

<p><u>Youth questionnaire</u></p> <p>There were a total of 66 responses to the youth questionnaire. Many useful and thoughtful comments were made, showing the concern shared by young people for the future of the parish. A principal comment was that there were few activities or organisations available to young people. Since the questionnaire the scouts have been re-established and the new leisure centre has opened. The County Council's Outreach Youth Group has assisted to find an indoor meeting place for young people. There is still a need for more after school activities. Suggestions included a youth club with coffee bar, snooker table, table tennis and organised activities. Other requests were for internet access after school, a girl's football team, art club, boxing and kick boxing groups, a BMX club, a Christian Youth Club, (roller-) discos in the sports hall, pool and snooker, ice skating, roller skating, tag rugby and outdoor pursuits. Similar comments were made regarding the parks and play areas in Mountsorrel as detailed within Leisure and Recreation.</p>
<p>Lifelong Learning</p>
<p><u>Adult education</u></p> <p>The Parish Plan highlighted the lack of any adult education provision in the village. Facilities requested were for adult education classes (214 responses), a holiday play scheme (171), after school clubs (144), family learning opportunities (59), more nursery schools (50), more playgroups (49) and more registered childminders (40). Suggested education and training courses included leisure activities (199 respondents), information and computer technology training (174), courses leading to a further or higher education qualification (139), health and well-being courses (121) and training for work (49). The church rooms on the village green are in the process of being adapted to include a library and learning centre.</p> <p><u>Library services</u></p> <p>82% of respondents recommended longer opening hours. 20% wanted more available computers and 21% wanted ICT training. Other requests were for extra facilities for children (e.g. story telling, and a toy library). 12% of respondents were aware that there was a mobile library service in the village. Suggestions for improving this service included, 1) changing the times when it visited, perhaps to include evening visits or vary the time each week, 2) to cover other parts of the village, and 3) to provide better publicity of visiting times and services offered.</p>
<p>Rural Transport</p>
<p>The electronic bus time service received very high praise, although it was sometimes unreliable. Many requests were made for more bus shelters and there were comments that not enough buses were timetabled at peak times in the morning. A particular concern was that changes to the bus route have meant an increased walk for some residents, including elderly people. Since the publication of the Parish Plan, the Group has joined the Bus Quality partnership, and more number 127 buses are available during peak times in the morning and the number 99 service has been re-launched.</p>
<p>Rural Business Development</p>
<p>Local businesses which are frequently used by residents include the Post Office and the supermarkets. Some residents also use the shops in neighbouring settlements. 60% of respondents recommended that a directory of local businesses and services should be published and a number of people volunteered to compile this.</p>
<p>Information and Electronic Services</p>
<p>The village website, hosted by the County Council, has now been improved with the help of volunteers. ICT classes were requested in order to further advance the use of the website (see Lifelong Learning).</p>
<p>Other issues</p>
<p>Since the Parish Plan was published a new café has opened on Cromwell Road, some of the street lighting has been improved and the refuse collection operation has been reorganised. New seats have been installed and the signs on the roads leading to the village have been replaced.</p> <p><u>Environment and quality of life</u></p> <p>Respondents remarked upon what they most valued within Mountsorrel. These included the sense of community, access to good primary and secondary school education, proximity to social and leisure facilities, local shops, easy access to employment, friendly neighbours and proximity to attractive countryside. Respondents were asked which aspects of the local environment could be improved. Suggestions included the need to reduce noise pollution, protect riverbanks from erosion, provide better open spaces and ensure access to local footpaths. It was generally regarded that the village was untidy and dirty and specific concerns included dog fouling of the footpaths and litter in grass verges. A recommendation was made for more litter-bins. There was a suggestion that penalty notices should be made and enforced. A Heritage Watch Group has been set up as a result of the Parish Plan and they will be considering these issues.</p>

Local government

A third of respondents were aware of who their County Councillor or Borough Councillor was. Slightly more were aware of their Parish Councillors. Only 5% of respondents rated the amount of local government information as good, 40% rated it as reasonable and a third regarded provision as poor. Locations for extra notice boards were proposed. Borough Councillors have now set up surgeries as a result of the Parish Plan. Other suggested ways of improving communication were, 1) publication of minutes of Parish Council meetings in the Mountsorrel Post (a quarterly free publication delivered to households), and 2) putting names of local councillors on the notice boards, together with surgery dates and division location details. Other information which could be put on notice boards included planning applications and decisions. Since the publication of the Plan all applications are now available on the Charnwood Borough Council website.

REARSBY	
Services and Communities	73% of respondents commented on the need for a local shop. The Post Office is well used with 77% of people satisfied with the range of services on offer. Extra services which people would like to see included car tax applications, newspapers, banking, photocopying and Saturday opening. 56% of respondents were unaware of the mobile library and butchers which visit Reasby. Suggested new uses for the village hall included a youth club, senior citizens group, doctor's surgery, education and training provision, Parish Council information and a gardening club. 40% supported the initiation of a LETS bartering scheme. 46% were not happy with policing in the village. Particular concerns included a lack of visibility, anti-social behaviour, vandalism, motoring behaviour and dog fouling. Young people were unanimous in highlighting the lack of facilities for them within the village, but in general most were very happy to live within the area due to its rural location and the easy commute to local towns.
Lifelong Learning	A variety of education and other training services were suggested. 6 respondents were interested in re-training opportunities, 27 in learning for interest and pleasure, and 20 in ICT training. After school facilities were also highlighted as a need.
Rural Transport	63% of respondents commented that they did not use local public transport. 13% said that an improved services and better information on bus times would provide greater encouragement. Other improvements that were suggested were for more bus shelters, services along Station Road, and improved routes to Loughborough and Leicester. 74% requested better provision for cyclists and pedestrians and many commented upon the need for traffic calming measures.
Rural Business Development	57% of respondents favoured the development of small businesses within the village and 52% supported development around Rearsby Business Park. The provision of a general store and the retention of post office facilities received popular support.
Information and Electronic Services	91% were happy regarding the levels of local information they receive within the village. Information sources include the Rearsby Scene, notice boards, post office, village directory and village website.
Other issues	82% of respondents stated that they were against further housing development between the village and the bypass. 61% were in favour of small scale affordable housing developments only. 85% favoured environmental projects that would enhance the appearance of the village, with 57 respondents wishing to take part in heritage and conservation initiatives. Suggestions for such projects include litter picking and dog fouling initiatives.

SWINFORD
Services and Communities
<p><u>Services</u> The services rated most highly were water supply, sewage disposal and telephone services. 50% of respondents commented upon poor television reception. In addition many residents regarded the postal service as poor. Some respondents did not know where or when the mobile library facility was available. 125 respondents desired free mains gas connection. Local shops were well supported with 85% of respondents using the butchers at South Kilworth and farm shop at Catthorpe. 95% of the respondents said they would support a Post Office and village shop. 78% of respondents used local medical and health services in the last year. It was commented that bus provision was poor and that greater promotion of the Village Link bus service is needed</p> <p><u>Community</u> 65% of respondents supported the church fete.</p>
Lifelong Learning
<p>Respondents highlighted the need for adult education and training courses. 91 respondents wished for greater leisure training, 72 for computer courses, and 40 for training for a further education qualification or for work.</p>
Rural Transport
<p>169 residents complained about noise and air pollution from the M1, and 179 commented upon congestion during peak times. There were also concerns regarding the speed of traffic entering the village. 147 residents supported signs which emphasised the need to reduce speed. Over 90% of respondents do not use public transport.</p>
Rural Business Development
<p>40 people use their homes as a base for business. 17 people were keen to start their own business. An action was indicated to identify planning restrictions on business start-ups.</p>
Information and Electronic Services
<p>70% of respondents have a computer system at home.</p>
Other issues
<p><u>Employment</u> 171 supported the idea of producing a list of local business.</p> <p><u>Housing</u> 116 respondents felt that there should be greater housing accommodation, especially for first time buyers. There was significant support for Housing Association, privately rented and sheltered accommodation properties. 84% of villagers were opposed to the replacement of single dwellings with high density housing.</p>

TWYXCROSS

Services and Communities

66% of respondents commented upon the poor choice of shops. Regarding mobile service 33% used the butcher and 3% used the grocery. 81% of respondents commented that local services directory should be developed. The majority of respondents thought that local health and education provision was adequate. Over 50% stated that health care services were good. 63% commented that they were satisfied with police provision, although fear of crime and burglaries were recorded as key issues. Many respondents felt that better use could be made of parish amenities. Suggestions included the need to introduce new services within the church facilities. Many people felt that local clubs and organisations significantly contributed to community life. Special reference was given to the 77 Club, Rotary Club, bingo group, Mothers' Union, Norton Village Hall Committee, and the Young Farmers. 64% of young people would like to see the creation of a youth club which provided art/dance classes, discos and a homework club.

Lifelong Learning

41 respondents would welcome ICT training, although more traditional rural skills such as coppicing were mentioned.

Rural Transport

94% of respondents stated that they did not use public transport and 70% felt that the current service was inadequate. Most respondents travel to work by car. 34% of people said that they would use a "ring-and-ride" service if one was available. 78% of young people did not regard transport as a problem because parents were willing to drive them.

Rural Business Development

A key concern for many respondents was that action should be taken to preserve and to create local jobs. Approximately half would support the development of small businesses, provided these employ no more than 5 people. Two thirds of those who responded would oppose any larger scale industrial developments, new roads or increased traffic. More shops were regarded as a way of injecting new blood and investment into the community.

Information and Electronic Services

78% of respondents would welcome information boards at sites of local interest and most people would welcome regular reports on Parish Council meetings. 75% of respondents requested information on the local plan and local development framework. 82% recommended a welcome pack to be issued by the Parish Council for new residents. A village website would be used by 50% of respondents and 19% said that an internet access point should be installed. 83% of respondents regularly read the parish newsletter and 68% read the Sheepy Parish Church Gazette.

Other issues

87% of respondent were opposed to the erection of mobile phone masts in the area, even if they were placed away from dwellings and were not prominent in the landscape. 77% often used the network of public footpaths and bridleways. Problems which were reported included crops blocking paths and flooding and damage due to off-road vehicles and motorcycles. 82% of respondents would like to see more designated wildlife areas in the parish. Suggestions included ponds, nature reserves, trees and meadows. 74% of young people would like to assist in the maintenance of such areas.

WANLIP
Services and Communities
The was general agreement that there a good community spirit existed within Wanlip. The only community facility is the church hall which was valued by residents, although many felt it was under used. The Steering Group and Parochial Church Council are exploring ways of helping the church update and redecorate the hall. 9 residents indicated that they use the mobile library service with 74% responding that they did not want or require other types of mobile services. A separate young people's questionnaire was distributed. The village has very few young people and not many facilities for them. Most young people travel outside the village to take part in activities.
Lifelong Learning
86% of respondents were aware of the education and training courses that are available at Longslade College. The Steering Group intend provide greater promotion of courses to local residents.
Rural Transport
94% of respondents said that their principal means of transport was by car. A number of respondents said they would use buses if they were more reliable and other residents would consider car sharing. Almost 90% of residents were concerned about increased traffic and especially safety issues at Manor Farm bend. Two thirds expressed concern about the speed of traffic and heavy goods vehicles passing through the village. 50% of residents would like a weight restriction and there was also support for a 20mph speed limit.
Rural Business Development
35% of the respondents were retired, 34% in full-time employment and 21% were self employed. The remainder were employed in either part-time or voluntary work. 77% said they would not like to work in Wanlip if the opportunity arose. 31% of respondents said they would be keen to share a skill as part of a Skill Sharing Directory.
Information and Electronic Services
Most local information was found through newsletters and village notice boards. 28% suggested the use of village and parish websites to improve communication. A welcome pack for people moving into the village was also recommended.
Other issues
78% of respondents have never contacting the Police, although 91% felt that police visibility in the village was important. 97% of residents supported the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme although only 66% knew the name of their co-ordinator. Residents expressed an interest in free security checks if they were available. There was wide use of Watermead Country Park and 84% of respondents recommended the further protection of wildlife and plant species through an action plan. The Working Group is to investigate environmental issues including, 1) the possibility of retaining or improving all natural areas and to increase planting and hanging baskets, 2) the possibility of obtaining additional sound and visual screening next to the A46, and 3) the possibility of obtaining new village signs. The Parish Plan Group is to consider drafting a village design statement and to reissue the Parish Plan by Spring 2006. Following the Parish Plan, four new working have been established on community, planning and environment, the village design statement, traffic and transport and wildlife and ecology. There are now three parish meetings per year with a recorded increase in attendance.

WOODHOUSE

Services and Communities

92% of respondents use the local shops and other businesses. The local public houses, restaurants and shops meet the social and leisure needs of some of the residents whilst attracting visitors from outside the parish. 4% of respondents use the parish allotments. 49 commented that they might use one in the future and a 8 respondents would like to know how to get one. There was widespread support for the proposed community room in Woodhouse, which has now received planning permission. Respondents were concerned about the poor state of decoration and the condition of the seats, tables and kitchen at Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall. Furthermore, the scout hut was described as in very poor condition by 9 respondents. Since the Parish Plan, the local Friends of the Village Hall Association has been formed to help upgrade the facilities at Woodhouse Eaves.

Local government

Local Parish, Borough and County Councillor surgeries have been set up. It was also recommended that a standing item should be on the Parish Council's agenda to take account of the Action Plan. Respondents would encourage better communication between residents and the Parish Council. Reports of meetings are now regularly posted on notice boards. A youth council has also been established in the parish.

Crime and safety

1. It was recommended that the visibility of the police should be improved. Consideration was given to sharing the cost of a Community Support Officer.
2. It was recommended that interested residents should arrange a meeting with the Police to re-establish Neighbourhood Watch and expand this to include existing Countryside Watch provision, which currently covers local businesses including farms, pubs, shops and stables. 38 new schemes have been established with, between 6 to 62 houses in each neighbourhood scheme. Local residents have been appointed as co-ordinators.
3. Parking restrictions should be enforced for inconsiderate and dangerous parking, particularly adjacent to Le Fevre's store.

Speeding

A Traffic Watch Group has been established with the co-operation of the Police in an attempt to demonstrate concerns regarding both the speed of traffic within the parish and safety of horseriders. Recommendations are for the reduction of speed limits and the provision of more off-road routes for riders. Traffic count data and video evidence has been offered to support demands for traffic calming measures in locations prioritised by residents. The Group is also applying for a grant to enable the purchase of specialist monitoring equipment. A petition with 880 signatures from 71% of parish households was submitted to the County Council on the 28 February 2006. The initiative has been featured on BBC and ITV regional news and the Group has consulted with other Leicestershire villages.

Health and well-being

The health and well being of parish residents was generally regarded as good. 88% felt that they knew their work colleagues fairly well, 72% felt that they knew their neighbours fairly well, 58% joined in with community activities and 49% of respondents were involved in clubs and societies. 73 respondents said that their household included someone with a disability, whilst 39 households commented on things that made life difficult for them when getting around, including pavements (33 respondents), shops (20), and roads (11). Another action was to explore with GPs a range of possibilities to improve the publicity of existing services, including the Loughborough 'Walk-In' Centre and other health services. Other recommendations to discuss would include 1) e-mail booking and enquiry services for those at work, 2) webcams and videophones to improve contact with the surgery for those unable to visit, especially elderly residents, and 3) the expansion of local services to include a dental practice. It was also recommended that there should be improved transport provision for residents requiring medical and health services outside the parish. Specific suggestions included park and ride, minibuses, dial-a-ride and greater promotion of the various transport options.

Housing development

There was wide support for the Borough Council's survey into affordable housing.

Lifelong Learning

No significant concerns were raised by residents.

Rural Transport

15% of respondents requested improved frequency at peak times, and greater reliability. It was regarded that travel to and from work or education was a challenge for anyone without personal transport. Respondents would like to see improved publicity of public transport and greater encouragement to use services. Similarly, there should be greater encouragement of car sharing to work and education. Walking was very popular with 67% of respondents walking anything from once a week to several times a day.

Rural Business Development

A Business Forum has been set up to encourage local business development. Unemployment was

not regarded as a significant issue within the parish. It was recommended that there should be improved parking facilities for shoppers and shop owners, and especially for disabled residents.

Information and Electronic Services

The Parish Plan has been published on the Parish Council Website and can be inspected at; www.woodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk. The young people's survey found a high use of ICT at home.

Other issues

Dog fouling

This was raised as a concern. It was recommended that an educational leaflet should be distributed, more bins should be provided and free disposal bags be offered in local shops.

Landscape features

It was popularly suggested that the historic environment should be protected. 94% of respondents recommended that a limit be placed upon development to within existing settlement boundaries and 95% wanted new housing to be in keeping with the existing built environment. It was further suggested that a landscape architect could be commissioned to redesign an open space within the village.

Energy resources

Respondents would like to investigate local renewable energy strategies and encourage take up. It was recommended that a steering group should be established to collate data and recommend strategies should.

Young people

An annual parish meeting for young people has been established in conjunction with the Youth Club and Young Farmers' Club. A working party has been established to meet with the Charnwood Youth Service to explore issues and options, including transport and the extension of bus pass hours for young people. Other recommendations included the provision of additional activities, especially during the school holidays, improvements to local premises to suit the needs of young people, increased publicity for existing activities, the hire of a mobile cinema and improved information via community noticeboards, websites, emails and videobox.

WYMESWOLD

Services and Communities

Respondents demonstrated a desire for a strong physical and social environment. Specific concerns included air and noise pollution and the overall appearance of the village. Vehicle noise creates the most environmental nuisance to residents. Litter, path maintenance and fly tipping were identified as problems. Accordingly, heritage and restoration projects were strongly encouraged. The steering group hopes that this will lead to an increased membership of the local heritage group. Residents benefit from a range of local community venues although some have restrictions on their use. Respondents were very satisfied with facilities at all the venues.

Health services

Most respondents make good use of the local pharmacy services. 40 respondents have a problem accessing medical and health related services and a number of improvements were recommended. There was considerable demand for a local doctors' surgery.

Lifelong Learning

A significant number of residents felt they did not have enough information about courses available, although 38% of respondents have attended further education courses in Charnwood. If more courses were available, 76% would be interested in sport, fitness or health activities, 74% in leisure activities, 38% in gaining a qualification, and 34% in vocational training. Interest was mainly from residents in the 16-54 age group.

Rural Transport

The local bus service was seen as a valuable asset but many respondents felt it would benefit from additional routes and services. 37% of respondents indicated that they use the bus service, principally for shopping. The young people especially expressed a desire for a more frequent bus service. Many were unaware of the bus timetable. 8% of primary school pupils use the bus to go to school compared with 89% of secondary school pupils. Traffic and road safety was highlighted as a key issue in the village. 91% of respondents were concerned about heavy vehicles on the A6006 which runs through the village. Other issues included the volume, speed and noise of traffic and pedestrian safety. Some respondents desired a bypass on the A6006 but others held doubts regarding the overall benefit of this. Speed warning signs, rather than speed cameras, were also suggested. Traffic lights were not viewed as a popular alternative. It was concluded that there is not a clear desire for a bypass around Wymeswold but the re-routing of trunk traffic to trunk roads would be of great benefit.

Rural Business Development

Almost a quarter of residents are retired and there is a very low rate of unemployment. 11% of respondents work from home and 9% run a business. 34% work full time and 16% are employed part time. There was an interest in the production of a skills directory which could include the promotion of local businesses.

Information and Electronic Services

ICT training was seen as a need for a majority of residents in the 16-54 age group. It was agreed that there is scope for developing further education opportunities in the parish.

Other issues

There was a significant level of concern about crime in Wymeswold. Older residents were more concerned about crime than younger people. 27 crimes were reported by respondents in the 12 month period up to July 2004. There was strong support for electronic surveillance such as CCTV cameras. The greatest strength of response was for a special constable or more police presence within the parish. A new Community Support Officer has since been appointed for Barrow upon Soar and the Wolds villages and a major public meeting was held in the village. A footpaths leaflet is currently being produced with the help of the County Council. Specific concerns regarding the condition of footpaths have been reported and these have been acted upon.

Youth appraisal

The majority of 11-16 year olds felt there was a lack of activities for them in the parish. A number of people expressed interest in joining existing clubs. Some also expressed a willingness to start and run a new club. A new youth club is in process of being established. Altogether there were 61 recommendations made within the Action Plan.