

Fulford Parish Plan – Review

Background

The Parish Plan was instigated in the spring of 2006 and was eventually published in December 2007 following the full involvement of residents in Fulford Parish. 2500 questionnaires were sent out and 900 were returned, a 36% response ranging from a 56% response rate in Fulford to 19% in Rough Close.

From the responses to the questionnaires, six specific areas were identified as key issues for the Parish. These are identified below along with action that has been taken by the Parish Council over the last 3 years to address the issues. It is recognised that in some areas further work can be done to try and ensure that all the priorities are acted upon and these are also shown below.

Topic	Issue	Action taken to date	Further Action Proposed	Comments
Council Matters	49% don't know their local councillor	Details of all councillors on website and in Newsletter	Provide pen picture of councillors in Newsletter	
	35% know how parish council money is spent	Annual accounts published on website Accounts available for viewing in Parish Office	Include additional information in the Newsletter Make use of local press	
	31% happy with way money is spent		More publicity for annual Parish meeting to encourage more people to attend	
Public Transport	Current service inadequate – poor routes & timetable		Promote Community Link	

	Reliance on cars for day to day activities			
Traffic	Need for traffic regulation – speed reduction	Mobile SIDs on Grindley Lane & Hilderstone Road	Continue to press County Council for traffic calming measures near schools	Speedwatch scheme unable to get off the ground because of lack of volunteers
Environmental issues	Too much litter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Litter picker employed by the Parish Council (6 hours a week) 2.Clean up days arranged in Fulford & Rough Close 3.Additional litter bins have been provided when requested 4.School children have been involved in litter poster competitions 5. Stafford & Rural Homes undertake occasional estate walkabouts in Blythe Bridge 	<p>Arrange further campaigns with the local schools.</p> <p>Consider increasing litter pickers hours</p>	
	Poorly maintained roadside verges	Parish Council have taken over responsibility for cutting grass verges across parts of the parish and are now providing 50% more cuts of verges	Try and persuade residents to help keep grass verges tidy	
	Dog fouling	1.No. of dog litter bins have been increased	Work with local schools to help with a new	

		<p>2. Consistent messages in newsletter</p> <p>3. Free dog waste bags available from newsagent & convenience store in Meir Heath</p>	<p>campaign</p> <p>Encourage prosecution when appropriate</p> <p>Look to see if outlets for bags can be found in other locations</p> <p>Explore the possibility of providing bag dispensers in suitable locations</p>	
	Poor signage on footpaths	<p>Considerable work undertaken in conjunction with CC to improve footpaths including new kissing gates</p>	<p>Ensure opportunities are taken to bid for resources from the County Council to improve paths</p> <p>Work with local walking/rambling clubs to ensure paths are kept in good order</p> <p>Provide links on website</p>	
	Lack of recycling facilities	<p>1. Waste lorry available 3 times a year at 3 separate locations in the Parish</p> <p>2. additional bins are now available to residents</p> <p>3. Recycling centres at Cheadle & Stone</p>		
Local facilities	More activities in village halls	Fulford village hall provides a wide range of		

		activities, including a youth group		
	Lack of sports facilities	New play area planned for Grindley Park (summer 2011) Kick about areas available in Fulford and Meir Heath	Make use of any Section 106 money that is available	
Public Services	Promotion of village website	Most parish council events/information available on the website	Provide links to other useful websites Consider producing a directory of local groups and activities.	
	Lack of higher education		Provide links to activities such as University of the 3 rd Age	

Next Steps

We want to hear what you think. The Parish Plan was completed 4 years ago and things change therefore we would like to know:

1. Are the above priorities still appropriate to Fulford Parish?
2. Are there any new issues that you feel the Parish council should be addressing?
3. Considering the priorities identified above do you think there are any other actions the Parish Council could take to help delivery?
4. What do you consider to be the main areas on which the Parish Council's resources should be used?

Please send your comments to the Parish Clerk 10 Hillside Close, Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9RU or email fulfordparishplan@btconnect.com