

Foreword

The Haxey Parish Council express grateful thanks to the Parish Plan Steering Group for all their hard work in the planning and preparation of the Haxey Parish Plan 2010.

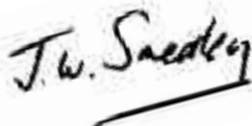
The key personnel (acknowledged at the end of the report) along with lots of positive support from local residents has laid the foundation for the community aspirations set out in the report.

The Parish Council have endorsed the findings, recommendations and Action Plan Proposals outlined hereafter. The local community seeks the endorsement of this report by North Lincolnshire Council together with other agencies and interested parties as key steps towards securing the aims and objectives of the Plan.

The Parish Council acknowledges the need for effective management of the implementation of the Plan proposals and supports the principle of a Parish Plan Action Group comprising Councillors and local residents with key interests in specific topics. As well as co-ordinating and monitoring implementation of the early actions, the Group will have prime responsibility for reviewing achievements and updating the Plan proposals to take account of emerging policies, funding and programmes of implementing authorities.

The key contact for matters arising from the Plan is the Clerk to Haxey Parish Council.

Thanks to everyone for their support in the past and in the future.



John Smedley,
Chairman Haxey Parish Council

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Haxey Parish Map



1. Westwoodside Playing Field
2. Westwoodside Village Hall
3. Water Tower
4. Parish Church
5. Haxey Memorial Hall

6. Haxey Playing Field
7. Parish Allotments
8. Stephen Jones Community Hall & Chapel
9. Burnham Community Hall
10. Westwoodside Chapel

- Haxey Parish is one of the largest parishes in the country by area
- Haxey Hood is thought to have originated in the 13th century
- The village stocks used to be located on Greenhill
- A free school was founded in Haxey in 1650
- Haxey Church is over 900 years old
- The Parish is one of the few places in the country where strip farming still exists

- The great fire of 1744 destroyed 62 houses in Haxey in one night
- Traditionally Haxey Feast Day was 5th and 6th July each year.
- The highest point in the Parish is at 41m above sea level
- The lowest ground levels in the Parish are about 2m above sea level.
- There are more than 40 miles of footpaths and bridleways in Haxey Parish

Report summary

The Parish Plan sets out the views of people living in Haxey Parish and how they would like their local area to develop in the future. The Plan has been prepared and published by a Steering Group comprising members of the local community, including representatives of the Parish Council, following 18 months of information gathering and community consultation. As a result of this Parish Plan, it is hoped that future changes in the Parish will be reflected in the views and opinions of the people who live here.

In general, residents of Haxey Parish are very content with the local area and the quality of life it creates. They value the rural environment and the sense of community in the Parish. The local facilities, and local groups and clubs are also considered to be very good. However a number of key themes arose from the consultation exercises and they are dealt with in detail in each of the chapters in this report.

Roads, traffic and public transport are seen as very important issues. Residents' particular concerns are the state of the roads and pavements and that there should be an ongoing programme of maintenance. Speeding is also a major issue, particularly on the main routes through the Parish. The lack of public transport at certain times and to certain locations was also identified by many residents, particularly young people.

As regards future development of the Parish, the issues relate to the amount of new development that should be allowed and the type and size of new dwellings. Generally residents do not want the Parish to expand to any large extent and new development should

be small scale and in keeping with the local environment. Affordable housing is also seen as important to ensure that local people can afford to buy or rent a home in their Parish.

Under the heading of Environment, flooding still remains a major concern and the Plan addresses the issues in some detail.

Improvements to the environment generally are considered and in particular the issues of litter, fly tipping and dog fouling.

Whilst local facilities are generally considered to be good, there are proposals to improve access to Council services for residents. Also the Plan addresses issues regarding communication within the Parish and puts forward in the Action Plan suggestions which will ensure that information about the Parish, whether it be details of local groups, facilities or businesses is publicised and circulated widely.

The main suggestion from young people is to provide a youth club or similar facility in the Parish and the Action Plan suggests a way of moving this forward.

Whilst levels of crime and anti-social behaviour are very low in the Parish, better communication between the Police and the local community is proposed and the formation of more Neighbourhood Watch Groups

The Action Plan at the end of this report needs to be realised and more volunteers are needed to form a Parish Plan Action Group to work with Partners to take forward the points it raises. It is hoped that regular monitoring and review of the Action Plan will take place over the next 5 years.

Haxey from the air



Welcome to the Haxey Parish Community Led Plan



Haxey Parish Church

Many of you may be wondering what prompted the Parish Council to decide to develop a Parish Plan. The main reason was to obtain the views of people in the Parish so that together we can address concerns and highlight how residents would like to see their local area developing over the next 5 to 10 years.

The Parish Council has regular dialogue with North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) and other agencies whose work affects our lives, but directly consulting residents and getting a majority view on issues close to the heart of the community, gives additional weight in influencing the wider planning process for the future.

Following widespread advertising by the Parish Council, a public meeting was held in September 2008 and there were sufficient residents present to form a Steering Group. A Chairperson, joint Secretaries and Treasurer were duly elected, a Constitution adopted and timetable for the development of the Plan was laid down.

A small grant was awarded by the Parish Council to initiate the process and this was followed by a successful application to Awards for All Lottery Funding.

This report is set out in a number of sections each with its own set of action points. These sections encompass all the information collected through the Parish Plan process. The action points from each of these areas have been compiled into an Action Plan at the end of the report.

The Plan is intended to last for at least 5 years and the Action Plan is designed to be carried forward as individual projects which will be overseen by a Parish Plan Action Group working in partnership with the Parish Council, NLC, other agencies and the local community.

About Haxey Parish

Location and Size

Haxey Parish is a large geographical area comprising the villages of Haxey, Westwoodside, Low Burnham, East Lound, and Graizelound, together with small hamlets at High Burnham, Langholme, Haxey Carr and Pelfintax. It is situated in the South West corner of North Lincolnshire some 14 miles from Scunthorpe, 12 miles from Doncaster in South Yorkshire and 12 miles from Gainsborough in Lincolnshire.

The 2001 census gives a total population of 4359 with 1783 households.

History

The name is derived from Haxa, the old German term for a Druidess. Haxey is the site of an ancient settlement, mentioned in the Domesday Book, being the southern most village on what used to be an island surrounded by water marshes. It stands on a low hill surrounded on three sides, west south and east, by flat farmland. Three miles to the north is the town of Epworth which is the main local shopping centre.

There are signs of the foundations of a Roman villa near High Burnham and the church of St Nicholas dates back to the 12th Century. The surrounding wetlands meant that it was somewhat isolated and old traditions such as the Haxey Hood and strip farming still exist today. In 1626 to 1629, Vermuyden drained the marshes and realigned the main drains and rivers.

At the time the local population were not in favour and rioting allegedly took place. The drainage did however result in improved communication with the outside world and fertile land on which agriculture thrived. A

hundred years ago it was a self contained Parish with far more shops than exist today.

There was some degree of prosperity and the present Memorial Hall and Community Hall were built in Haxey using local funding.

Improved roads and car ownership led to new housing developments and people commuting to work in the local towns including the coal mining industry around Doncaster and the steelworks at Scunthorpe.

Much of the development was at Westwoodside and from being a collection of small hamlets Upperthorpe, Nethergate, Brethergate and Park, it has now become a village that is similar in size to Haxey. The other main hamlets are at Low Burnham, East Lound and Graizelound, all three of which are mentioned in the Domesday Book.

Historically the Parish was in Lincolnshire and many of the old Parish records are in Lincoln Archives. Local government reorganisation then moved it into the Boothferry district of Humberside and then in 1996 it became part of North Lincolnshire Council (NLC).

There is little industry in the Parish apart from agriculture. Many of the traditional farms are now operated by contractors and there are few employees compared to the past. The Parish is in effect a dormitory village for many who work elsewhere. Locally based craftsmen provide skilled services in the general building trades and there are a significant number of home workers.

Although the local shops provide for convenience shopping, many households do their main shopping in Doncaster, Scunthorpe, Gainsborough or further afield.





Water Tower

Facilities

The Parish has excellent facilities, many of which are managed and maintained by local voluntary groups.

There are good modern Church of England Primary schools in Haxey and Westwoodside (the local secondary school is located at Epworth). There is a library operated by NLC in the Haxey Memorial Hall which is open on four days each week, together with the mobile library service which visits Westwoodside and East Lound.

The South Axholme General Practice has a doctor's surgery with its own dispensary at Haxey and there is a well established dental surgery at Westwoodside. Shops include three general grocery stores, two Post Offices and three hairdressers and there are four public houses, two of which have accommodation and restaurants.

Indoor venues are provided at Haxey Memorial Hall, Westwoodside Village Hall, the Church Hall, the Stephen Jones Community Hall and Burnham Community Hall. These together host a wide range of meetings, societies and social events. Currently, the Westwoodside Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council are looking to replace or refurbish their respective halls.

There are two excellent Playing Fields at Westwoodside and Haxey, both having play equipment for children. At Westwoodside there is regular football and a new floodlit multi-sports all-weather pitch, whilst at Haxey there are good facilities for cricket, football, bowls, and tennis.

There are four commercial garages offering services and repairs. Bus services run to Doncaster, Scunthorpe and Gainsborough. There are almost 70 different groups and societies established in the Parish catering for all ages and a wide range of interests.



The Consultation Process

Gauging opinion

The first main task for the Steering Group was to plan a series of consultation events to obtain the views of residents on the main issues affecting the Parish.

As Haxey Parish covers a wide geographical area, and comprises two villages and three smaller settlements, it was decided to hold three drop-in events. These were held in Westwoodside Village Hall on Saturday 28 February 2009 and in Low Burnham Community Hall and Haxey Memorial Hall on Saturday 7 March. Invitations to these events were hand delivered to every household in the Parish. Posters were displayed in various locations and articles appeared in the local press and the free Arrow publication delivered to every household.

At these events, large scale plans of the areas were displayed together with flip charts covering a variety of topics selected by the Steering Group. Participants used self adhesive notes to express their views on the topic areas, on the plans or suggested other issues to be addressed. They were also asked what they most liked and disliked about the Parish. In total 137 residents (78 females and 59 males) attended these events. The majority of those attending however were over 60 years old and the Steering Group decided to carry out further consultation with young parents, teenagers and school children. A series of questionnaires were developed and distributed for completion with some being used in face to face interviews outside the school gates and with mother and toddler groups.

The conclusions of the consultation events and the analysis of the questionnaires revealed that the majority of residents were mostly content with the environment and their lives within the Parish. Many thought it a friendly place to live with a real sense of community and they liked the quiet rural setting. Reference was also made to the excellent local facilities, including the schools, doctors surgeries and playing fields.

The main issues arising from this consultation were;

- Policing
- Roads, traffic and transport
- Flooding
- Rural environment
- Litter
- Local facilities
- Recreation and leisure
- Housing

As stated above, Haxey Parish is large with approximately 2,000 households. It was therefore decided that to prepare, deliver, collect and analyse a questionnaire based on the key issues identified would be impractical due to resource and time limitations. Therefore the Steering Group agreed to hold two focus groups in October.

One in ten people on the Electoral Register were sent a personal letter inviting them to one of the focus groups sessions with a reply slip and stamped addressed envelope. In total 24 residents attended one of the sessions where participants were put in small groups, facilitated by members of the Steering Group.

A number of questions were asked on the five topic areas of housing and development, environment, local facilities, the community, and roads, traffic and transport. The comments from each of the groups were then analysed and formed the basis of the Action Plan.

Unfortunately young people were under represented at the two focus groups so two sessions were arranged in conjunction with Epworth Youth Centre where the views of young people of Haxey Parish who attend the centre, were obtained. These were also incorporated into the Action Plan. A Haxey Parish Plan Twitter site was also established for young people to express their views and was advertised by distributing flyers at school bus stops. Unfortunately only one response was received.

Roads, Traffic and Transport

Speeding concerns

Consultation with residents has highlighted that speeding traffic is a major concern throughout Haxey Parish, however, whilst vehicles exceeding the speed limit is a general issue, the problem appears to be focussed in particular on Akeferry Road, Doncaster Road, Cove Road and the A161 at Haxey Lane and Epworth Road. Speeding on Church Street and High Street in Haxey was also mentioned and the red tarmac which has not been replaced at Low Burnham since the road was newly re-surfaced.

These road safety issues have been the subject of numerous communications with North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) Safer Roads Team and Humberside Police, through organisations such as the Parish Council and local Neighbourhood Watch. However, whilst there has been some success in reducing speeding traffic following surveys, traffic monitoring and speed camera enforcement, reductions in speed are generally temporary and residents still put this topic at the top of their priorities for action.

Recent data gathered by NLC confirms that the speeding problem persists on Akeferry Road with 58% (1235) of the over 2000 (2112) vehicles per day using the road exceeding 35 miles per hour, and over 30 cars per day travelling at over 55 miles per hour in this 30mph zone. Figures for Doncaster Road showed an average 500 vehicles per day exceeding 45 miles per hour with 20 cars per day travelling over 60 miles per hour in this



40mph zone. As a result of the feedback from residents, the Parish Council has recently hired and fitted flashing speed activated monitors on both Akeferry Road and Doncaster Road and NLC Safer Roads Team has installed the flashing monitors on the A 161 on

Haxey Lane and Epworth Road. The flashing speed signs not only indicate the actual speeds of vehicles, they also contain monitoring equipment which records numbers of vehicles and speeds. An analysis of the results can be carried out by the NLC Safer Roads Team and is provided to the Parish Council to see if the monitors have resulted in a reduction in speeds.

Other measures put forward are the reduction of speed limits near to schools (see next section) and the use of traffic calming measures on stretches of road posing a particular speeding problem.

Action Points

- Installation of flashing speed signs
- Work with Humberside Police and North Lincolnshire Council Safer Road Team – ongoing monitoring and enforcement
- Campaign for reduction of speed limits and/or traffic calming measures in priority areas

For a full action point summary see the inside back page



Roads, Traffic and Transport

School Safety

There are 'No Waiting Restrictions' outside schools but the Police will only prosecute if an obstruction is being caused. However under the new parking regime, with North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) taking over parking control, a blanket ban is being considered outside all schools.

A 20 miles per hour speed limit was thought to be appropriate at peak times near schools on The Nooking in Haxey and Nethergate in Westwoodside.

These 20 miles per hour limits are already being applied near some schools at Epworth and Crowle at specific periods when school "drop-offs" and "pick-ups" take place although they are not enforceable by the police.

A School Safety Zone with traffic calming measures was discussed with parents at Westwoodside Primary School and residents in 2005 but was rejected by them in favour of additional parking. This was not forthcoming as NLC policy is to reduce the number of car journeys to school and encourage pupils to walk or cycle, although this is problematical in that 30% of pupils at the local schools travel from outside the catchment area.

Action Points

- Lobby North Lincolnshire Council and parents to accept a School Safety Zone outside Parish primary schools
- Further pressure on North Lincolnshire Council to adopt 20mph speed restriction near Parish primary schools
- Encourage more pupils to walk or cycle to school

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Parking

As well as the problems outside the two primary schools, there are also problems outside Greenhill Stores and in Church Street, Haxey and on Commonside in Westwoodside.

North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) have proposed parking restrictions at these locations in the past but because of local objections it was decided that they would not be implemented. The situation at Commonside has improved with a change in how the car repair business is being operated, and the shop owner at Greenhill stores is constantly advising customers to park away from the corner. The Police have also issued warning notices to motorists who have parked inconsiderately.

The problem in Church Street is caused by staff and patients visiting the South Axholme Practice surgery, and is occasionally made worse by funeral services at the church

Action Points

- Present methods of advising / educating motorists to be continued
- Liaise with North Lincolnshire Council Parking Enforcement Officers
- Seek car parking facilities adjacent to Church Street

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Roads, Traffic and Transport

State of Roads and Footpaths

All the consultation exercises highlighted the fact that many roads, pavements and footpaths are in urgent need of repair and the problem has been exacerbated by the severe winter conditions in 2009/10.

Akeferry Road was considered to be of high priority for major work. Main Street Graizelound was specifically mentioned as being badly neglected as well as parts of Doncaster Road, and the red tarmac on Burnham Hill (A161) has not been replaced since the road was resurfaced.

The carriageway on Graizelound Fields Road is narrow and informal passing places have developed. Having no hard-core base these areas have developed huge potholes, potentially damaging to vehicles. The fact that the stretch of road across Graizelound Fields attracts the national speed limit means it is often necessary to take evasive action quickly to avoid oncoming vehicles travelling at speed.

There were complaints that because of the condition of some pavements, pedestrians walk on the road, thus causing problems for motorists and cyclists.

Young mothers complained of narrow overgrown pavements and paths, in particular on the footpath from the A161 to Blackmoor Road. This makes walking with prams/pushchairs and



Akeferry Road - poorly maintained road surface

toddlers very difficult and in some cases impossible. The stretches of pavement from Crackle Hill to The Post Office in Westwoodside came in for particular mention in this respect. Overhanging hedges, trees and bushes also cause problems by narrowing some footpaths.

An audit of identified problem areas was carried out between members of the Parish Plan Steering Group and North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) in March 2010, prior to the publication of the Plan.

Action Points

- Major work required to Akeferry Road (North Lincolnshire Council committed to undertake this in 2010/11)
- Extra funding allocated to North Lincolnshire Council for dealing with potholes to be used in Haxey Parish
- North Lincolnshire Council to investigate problem of narrow pavements
- Passing places on Graizelound Fields Road (and reduction of speed limit) to be investigated
- Continue to work with North Lincolnshire Council and the Parish Council to systematically improve identified problem areas and in the longer term, aim for regular maintenance of roads, pavements and footpaths.

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Roads, Traffic and Transport

Public and Community Transport

Buses in North Lincolnshire are run by private bus companies on a commercial basis but North Lincolnshire Council(NLC) can subsidise routes in certain circumstances if a need is proven.

Currently there are six daily services from Haxey to Scunthorpe and Doncaster (Monday to Saturday) and a once a week service to Gainsborough on Tuesdays. In addition there are free bus services to Tesco and Asda supermarkets once each week.

Comments from the consultations highlighted

- The need for evening services to Doncaster particularly on a Friday and Saturday evening
- A more frequent service to Gainsborough

Comments were also received about the location of bus stops which are not clearly signed and the lack of bus timetables, particularly at the bus stops. If improvements are made it is hoped there would be greater usage of bus services. Both are the responsibility of NLC and improvements may be considered although would be subject to available resources.

The North Lincolnshire Voluntary Car Service is based in Barton and provides transport for elderly and disabled people in the rural areas and a mini bus brokerage service which also includes an assisted shopper service. It is important that wider publicity is given to the scheme to raise awareness to those who have difficulties in accessing suitable transport. In addition more volunteer drivers are required to maintain the service and again wider publicity should be given to driver recruitment and training.



Action Points

- To carry out consultation with the public in liaison with the bus companies to establish the need for additional bus services, the location and signposting of bus stops and the availability of timetable information
- To encourage the use of the Voluntary Car Service and mini bus hire by providing publicity information in the Parish.

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Cycling

There is concern about the safety of cyclists on the roads of the Parish. Poor road surfaces and inconsiderate/impatient drivers contribute to the danger. The safety of child cyclists is of particular concern.

Suggestions were made from residents to use the old railway line from Haxey to Epworth with a view to creating a cycle path along that route away from traffic and this has been discussed with North Lincolnshire Council who have agreed to assess the route although any improvements would be subject to resources being available.

To improve the safety of cycling it is proposed to work with the two local primary schools. The aim is to encourage drivers to be more considerate to cyclists, particularly children.

Action Points

- Support local schools to implement a programme aimed at improved safety for cyclists
- Make the old railway line from Haxey to Epworth a safe cycle route

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Housing and Development

Overview

The development of existing and future housing in the Parish continues to be an important issue for residents, particularly the availability of private and affordable homes. The Parish has experienced a lot of new development over the past 30 years with large estates been built at Westwoodside and on the eastern side of Haxey.

North Lincolnshire Council's (NLC) emerging Local Development Framework (Core Strategy and Housing and Employment Allocations DPD), proposes a limited amount of new housing in the Parish with a scale appropriate to the settlement and which is necessary for local needs or to maintain the viability of existing services. Currently no new housing allocations are proposed and the existing development limit is to be slightly extended. There is a need for consultation and feedback to continue between NLC, the Parish Council and the local community so local opinion is taken into account when these documents are prepared.

With a population of around 4,500 in 2005, a growth of about 5% since 2001, Haxey Parish's housing inventory is some 88% owned outright or owned with a mortgage; the remainder is rented with around 7.5% of this accommodation being provided by the Local Authority (6.9%) or Housing Association (0.4%).

Affordable Housing

The Parish already has made provision for Affordable Housing* with the completion of the Lindley Close bungalows in Westwoodside, which are administered by South Yorkshire Housing Association on a fully rented basis for households with a local connection to Haxey Parish. In 2009 NLC commissioned a needs survey into Rural Affordable Housing which led to the Fordham Report being published in September that year. The resulting need figures revealed a gross requirement for 10 family properties for social rent but taking into account an annual supply of seven houses, through turnover of other social housing in the area, a net requirement of three households per year is recommended for the Parish.

*Affordable housing is defined as rented or low cost home ownership properties which are below market prices and rents and therefore subsidised.

Main issues

Feedback from the Focus Groups, as expected, reflected wide ranging views on housing and further development and provided a lively debate. Observations expressed included -:

- A general consensus from residents that they liked the Parish as it was and did not want to see any major changes
- Recent housing development has comprised a number of large executive type homes with prices out of reach for many Parish residents
- There needs to be a requirement for new housing development to comprise a mix of different sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of the local population
- Support for affordable housing (particularly properties to buy) in the Parish for both young and old to ensure that there is sufficient accommodation for people with a local connection
- Some limited new housing development but no large scale building on greenfield sites
- Some infilling development is acceptable if developed properly and sympathetically (reference to over-large houses)

Action Points

- Restrict new housing development in certain locations eg on greenfield sites and in gardens
- Ensure that new housing comprises a mix of types, size and tenure
- A detailed local Affordable Housing Needs Survey be carried out in partnership North Lincolnshire Council and Humber and Wolds Rural Community Council
- Possible sites for affordable housing be identified within the Parish

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Environment

Environmental improvements

The Parish has been very successful over recent years in the CPRE Annual County Best Kept Village Competition. However there are still a number of areas where improvements can be made. The local community can assist in improving the general environment of the Parish by tree and hedge planting in private gardens, picking up and disposing of litter and keeping areas of open space clean and tidy. The Parish Council provides hanging baskets and flower troughs each summer at prominent locations around the Parish and businesses, voluntary organisations and householders in the Parish are encouraged to do the same at their properties.

Occasional clear-up campaigns with teams of volunteers are being considered and people are encouraged to join in to keep their community tidy. It is also proposed that action is taken to plant flowers and trees on verges and spare ground and that road entrances to the Parish are made more welcoming.

The Parish Council is considering employing a part-time Parish Handyman who would be able to carry out planting schemes, litter picking, general improvements in public spaces, and possibly maintenance of playing fields and village halls.

The Parish already has a number of natural conservation areas, which are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) maintained by the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England. These need to be preserved and protected for future generations.

There are several buildings within the Parish which are listed as being of special historic or architectural interest and these together with other locally important buildings and open spaces should be retained to preserve the character of the area. It is proposed that a Village Design Statement is prepared for each of the settlements in the Parish which would be used in making decisions on plans for future development.

There is a very active Heritage Society and the Parish Council is planning to develop a Heritage Trail through the Parish later in 2010.

Action Points

- Continue to enter CPRE Best Kept Village Competition and encourage residents to keep the Parish neat and tidy
- Organise regular volunteer clean up campaigns
- The Parish Council to continue to provide hanging baskets and flower troughs
- Make road entrances to Parish more welcoming
- Plant trees and flowers in verges and spare ground.
- The Parish Council to employ a part-time Handyman
- Preserve and protect the character of the natural and built environment
- Produce a Village Design Statement (VDS) for each settlement and ensure document is used in planning decisions
- Develop Parish Heritage Trail

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Flooding

Flooding is a considerable problem for Haxey Parish due to its geography, that of reclaimed marsh land near to one of the major rivers of the UK, the Trent. Much of the low lying land is reliant on a network of drains, dykes and pumping stations to control water levels.

Extreme weather events in June 2007 and January 2008 caused flooding in the Parish, the most serious to properties in Haxey Lane and Low Burnham when the existing infrastructure was unable to cope with the surface run off of rainwater and the A161 had to be closed when Burnham Beck overflowed. As a result, North

Environment

Lincolnshire Council (NLC) formed a Flood Forum to assess potential flooding risks across its area. The Forum which comprises NLC, Severn Trent Water Authority, The Environment Agency (EA), The Isle of Axholme Internal Drainage Board (IoAIDB) and the Fire and Rescue Service had meetings with representatives from Parish Councils including Haxey Parish Council who identified a catalogue of drainage problems in the area.

NLC budgeted £3m in 2008/9 for remedial works which in Haxey Parish has included a new road surface and surface water drainage system installed in Haxey Lane and drain and gully clearing projects which have been carried out throughout the Parish with others to commence when funding permits. The IoAIDB and NLC have prepared a flood relief scheme for Low Burnham and a drainage scheme for Haxey Village.

Corporate Flooding Plan

As a result of the flooding in 2007/8 NLC has produced a Corporate Flooding Plan. One of the proposed actions in the Parish Plan is to produce a Community Emergency Plan to identify local resources in the community that may be called on in times of emergency such as flooding to provide support.

Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan

A second and potentially more serious threat to the Parish was contained in the EA Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan produced in 2007. This indicated Policy 2 for our area which proposed reducing the existing flood management in the area, thereby accepting that

flood risk will increase over time. The IoAIDB and Haxey Parish Council objected strongly to the EA's initial proposal. As a result of the objections, the EA is currently carrying out a re-assessment of its strategy for flood management in the Isle of Axholme and has set up an Advisory Group which has produced the Isle of Axholme Flood Risk Management Strategy with a more detailed analysis of the potential loss of valuable assets in the area.

Haxey Parish Council and others have made it clear that the minimum level of protection considered appropriate is contained in Policy 4, which requires further action to sustain the current level of flood risk in the future to counter the risks posed by urban development, land use change and climate change.

Action Points

- Parish Council to be actively involved with the North Lincolnshire Council Flood Forum
- Parish Council to be consulted by Isle of Axholme IDB on local major drainage schemes (Haxey Village and Low Burnham)
- Continue to press North Lincolnshire Council to have a regular maintenance schedule for road gully emptying and drain cleaning
- Continue to press the Environment Agency for at least Policy 4 in the Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan

For a full action point summary see the inside back page



Flooding on East Lound Road - Burrell's Corner

Environment

Litter and Dog Fouling

Many residents believe that there is a problem with general litter in the Parish. Although the provision of more litter bins could help reduce this, there is general support for a programme of education to encourage people to act responsibly.

North Lincolnshire Council(NLC) currently has an education programme aimed at primary schools and uniformed groups but which could also be extended to adults. Village 'tidy up days' are currently being organised by the Parish Council. The employment of a Parish Handyman would also assist in removal of litter.

There is also great concern about the amount of dog fouling on the streets and rural paths. The old railway line, the footpath from the A161 to Blackmoor Road and pavements in Westwoodside were specifically mentioned during the consultation exercise. This is not an easy problem to overcome but educating dog owners and making them aware of their responsibilities is one way of reducing the problem.

A charitable organisation, the Dogs Trust has an Education Officer to educate people on responsible dog ownership. NLC have devised a scheme whereby residents can report offenders who regularly allow dogs to foul without clearing up. If the problem continues,

NLC will then commit resources to tackle the problem. An advisory leaflet has been published by NLC and this need to be distributed widely.

Action Points

- Organise regular clean up campaigns with schools and village groups
- Distribute education packs to primary schools
- Use services of North Lincolnshire Council Streetwise teams to clear up litter/fly tipping
- Instigate a programme of education to encourage dog owners to act responsibly
- Publicise North Lincolnshire Council enforcement procedures
- Provision of more litter and dog bins

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Westwoodside (Park) Pond



Local Facilities

Access to Council services

Generally residents believe there should be easier access to North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) services through the provision of a 'Local Link' in the Parish. Currently the nearest facility is in Epworth on a part-time basis. There are currently no plans by NLC to develop more Local Links, although they are looking at improving ways of supporting people to access the Council through the telephone and website.

However, before NLC can commit any resources to investigating this further, it is important for them to know what the exact needs of local people are in terms of access to Council services. A community needs analysis would help to inform the process.

Parish information

Some residents commented that they had difficulty in obtaining reliable information about the parish and its facilities eg bus timetables, local clubs, events etc. Currently there is an NLC library facility in Haxey Memorial Hall (Mon 3 to 6pm, Tues 10am to 12 noon, Weds 2.30 to 5pm, Fri 4.30 to 7pm) and a mobile library which visits the Parish (Westwoodside - every other Saturday 9.40am to 12 noon, East Lound - every other Thursday 2.10 to 2.25 pm) The library would be a good focal point for people to obtain such information so it is proposed to work closely with NLC to ensure that current parish information is provided at the libraries. This also needs to be

publicised to residents, community groups and other organisations so that relevant information can be provided to the library and that residents able to access it.

Young people

The views of young people, both children and teenagers, were obtained from primary school questionnaires and two focus groups held at Epworth Youth Centre.

The general response was that the Parish is a good place to live with a friendly, peaceful community where they feel safe. They particularly liked the playing fields in Haxey and Westwoodside and the schools. Many teenagers seemed to see themselves living and working in the area and felt the need to learn to drive.

The main dislikes about the Parish were litter and dog fouling, speeding cars, the lack of cycle paths. Young children were concerned about the number of teenagers hanging around the playing fields. Teenagers commented on the lack of things to do for their age group and in particular the lack of an informal meeting place. The bus times make it difficult for them to access social facilities in Doncaster and Scunthorpe, particularly in the evening and weekends

The improvements many would like to see would be somewhere to meet with friends, more frequent buses and bus stops and better advertising of village facilities, functions and events and information on job vacancies and support services.

Action Points

- Carry out a community needs survey in conjunction with North Lincolnshire Council to assess residents needs in relation to Council services
- Promote use of North Lincolnshire Council website for reporting enquiries, comments, compliments and complaints
- To work with North Lincolnshire Council library services to provide Parish information at Haxey and mobile library

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Action Points

- Parish Plan Action Group to work with North Lincolnshire Council Youth Services and Parish Council to recruit and train volunteers to run an outreach youth facility in the Parish and investigate suitable venue
- Bus services, speeding, cycling (see Roads, Traffic and Transport Section)
- Access to information (see The Community Section)

For a full action point summary see the inside back page



Christmas lights, Westwoodside

Local Facilities

Community Emergency Plan

In major emergencies, including flooding, where rescue services are severely stretched, community resilience has an important part to play, both before, during and after the event. With this in mind, the Parish Council together with the help of the Parish Plan Group is proposing to prepare a Community Emergency Plan. For the Plan to be effective the following need to be identified:-

- People with specialist skills who are willing to help others in an emergency
- A list of useful equipment.
- The most vulnerable people in the community
- Temporary shelters for use in emergency.

By taking the time to prepare a Community Emergency Plan now, it is hoped that residents will be ready to act using local resources if an emergency affects Haxey Parish in the future.

Action Point

- Questionnaires and Plan to be produced

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

The Community

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

According to the Police, crime levels in the Parish are low and there have been no recent increases in anti-social behaviour. The local Community Police Constable and Police Community Support Officer pay regular attention in problem areas and this seems to be effective. There are however significant concerns from residents about burglary and it is felt that there is insufficient police visibility.

The Police confirm that fear of crime is prevalent but there is a need to encourage vigilance and reporting of problems, concerns and incidents. The Community Officers are planning to visit pubs and groups meeting in the Parish in an attempt to reassure people about any fears and encourage them to talk about their concerns. Further work needs to be done to identify suitable groups and meetings for the Police to attend and publicity for the meetings needs to be widened.

There are currently five Neighbourhood Watch Groups in Haxey and Westwoodside but there is a need to increase this number to include all areas of the Parish.

Action Points

- Encourage vigilance and reporting of problems to the Police
- Improve communication between the Police and local community
- Extend coverage of Neighbourhood Watch Groups in the Parish

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Christmas lights

At the consultation events it was generally agreed that the Christmas lights around Westwoodside pond were an asset to the village and the 'switching on' of the lights in early December is a popular event attended by many local residents and also people from outside the Parish. East Lound also has Christmas lights with a similar but

smaller celebration. It was considered that Christmas lights should be extended to other parts of the Parish. This would require a group of local residents to take this forward to secure funding and deal with health and safety and insurance issues.

Action Point

- To form a voluntary group to investigate feasibility of installing Christmas lights in different locations within the Parish

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

Parish information

Although Parish information is available through the Arrow magazine delivered to every household, the Parish Council notice boards and website and the Church magazine, consultations revealed that some residents are unaware of where to obtain local information. A Haxey Parish Directory was produced in 2007 but has not been updated. Ways of improving communication within the Parish were discussed at the Focus Groups and the following ideas were suggested which will be taken forward in the Action Plan. A Welcome Pack for new residents was considered to be a good idea with information about the Parish. A Business Directory was also considered to be helpful, both for residents to access local services and a means of advertising local businesses in the Parish. Although the Parish Council has a website many are unaware of its existence and better publicity is required to encourage residents to use the site. The website itself could be improved and updated and it is suggested that this could in turn become a project developed by young people in the Parish.

Action Points

- Update Parish Directory and supply information packs to all residents
- Produce a Business Directory
- Publicise interactive use of the Parish website and improve the design possibly as a young persons project

For a full action point summary see the inside back page

What happens next?

Despite taking over 18 months to prepare, this Parish Plan represents what is really only the first step in helping shape the Parish for the future. The next stage is implementing the Action Plan set out on the following pages.

This Action Plan is a working document which will be regularly reviewed and updated. Priorities and timescales have been set for the individual actions and the likely partners who would need to be involved with each of the proposed activities have been identified.

Whilst members of the Parish Plan Steering Group and Haxey Parish Council are dedicated to ensure that the Action Plan is implemented, many of the issues still need the active support of the local community if they are to happen. So more volunteers are needed to come forward and work with like-minded people to bring about the changes you would like to see in the Parish and to help make an important difference for the future.

Acknowledgements

- Awards for All Lottery Funding for the grant of £2691 towards the project
- Peter Hirschfeld from Humber and Wolds Rural Community Council for support to the Steering Group
- Haxey Parish Council for the start up grant and support for the Parish Plan
- Nicholas House Haxey for a generous donation
- Low Street Stores and Greenhill Stores Haxey for donating refreshments for consultation events

Steering Group members

The members of the Steering Group represent the majority of the parish area and its villages and hamlets.

Alyson Linnegar (Chair), Helen and Terry Condliff (Joint Secretaries), Alan Linnegar (Treasurer), Lilian Johnson, Dave Hayes, Peter Croker, John Smedley*, Ron Allcock*, David Knowles* (*Parish Council representatives)

Shirley Davies, Ken Airs and Brian Addie also gave valuable support but have since left the Steering Group.

Haxey Parish Council contact details

The Parish Clerk, Haxey Memorial Hall
High Street, Haxey DN9 2HH
Tel: 07800569589 E-mail: haxeypc@live.co.uk
Website: www.haxeyparish.org.uk

View northwards towards Haxey Carr



Action Plan Summary

Issue	The Action	How it will be tackled	Priority	Time scale	Responsibility (Lead and Partners)	Resource Implications
Roads, Traffic and Transport	Reduce speeding	Installation of flashing speed signs	High	2010 to 2015 ongoing	NLC on A161. PC to hire from NLC in 2010 on other roads	NLC PC
		Work with Humberside Police and NLC Safer Road Team - ongoing monitoring and enforcement	High	2010 - 2015	Humberside Police NLC Safer Road Team PC Neighbourhood Watch	Police NLC
		Campaign for reduction in speed limits, and/or traffic calming measures in priority areas	High	2011	PC	NLC
	School Safety	Lobby NLC and parents to set up School Safety Zones outside Haxey and Westwoodside Primary Schools	Medium	2011	PC Local Primary schools NLC	NLC
		Further pressure on NLC to adopt 20mph speed restriction near primary schools	Medium	2011	PC Local primary schools	NLC
		To encourage more pupils to walk or cycle to school	High	2010	Primary Care Trust PC NLC, Local schools	NLC Linked to NI55
	Inappropriate parking in Greenhill and Church St	Present methods of advising / educating motorists to be continued	High	2010	PC Greenhill Stores shop keeper	PC Greenhill Stores shop keeper
		Liaise with NLC Parking Enforcement officers	Medium	2012	PC NLC	NLC
		Seek car parking facilities adjacent Church St	Low	2014	PPAG Businesses in Church St PC	To be negotiated
	State of Roads and Pavements Especially Akeferry road	Major roadworks required to Akeferry Road (NLC committed to undertake this in 2010/2011)	High	2010	NLC Parish Council	NLC Linked to NI169
		Extra funding allocated to NLC for dealing with potholes to be used in Haxey Parish	High	2010	NLC	NLC Linked to NI169
		NLC to investigate problem of narrow pavements	Medium	2012	NLC	NLC
		Passing places on Graizelound Fields Road (and reduction in speed limit) to be investigated	Low	2014	NLC	NLC
		Continue to work with NLC and the PC to systematically improve identified problem areas and in longer term, aim for regular maintenance of roads, pavements and footpaths	Medium	2011-2015	PPAG NLC PC	NLC Linked to NI169
	Improve Public and Community Transport	To carry out consultation with the public in liaison with the bus companies to establish the need for additional bus services, the location and signposting of bus stops and the availability of timetable information	Medium	2013	PC, PPAG NLC Private bus companies	NLC PC Private bus Companies
		To encourage the use of the Voluntary Car Service and mini-bus hire by providing publicity information in the parish	High	2010 in progress	PC HWRCC Residents	NLC HWRCC
	Encourage safer cycling	Support local schools to implement a programme aimed at improved safety for cyclists	Medium	2012	Primary Schools PPAG Friends of Schools	NLC Friends of Schools
		Make old railway line from Haxey to Epworth a safe cycle route	Low	2014	NLC PPAG PC	NLC PC

Key

NLC	North Lincolnshire Council
PPAG	Parish Plan Action Group
PC	Parish Council
HWRCC	Humber & Wolds Rural Community Council
IoAIDB	Isle of Axholme Internal Drainage Board
HANWAG	Humberside Association of Neighbourhood Watch Groups

Issue	The Action	How it will be tackled	Priority	Time scale	Responsibility (Lead and Partners)	Resource Implications
Housing and Development	Restrict new housing development in certain locations eg, greenfield sites and in gardens	Use as evidence in commenting on LDF Documents and planning applications	High	2010 and ongoing	NLC PC PPAG	NLC PC
	Ensure that new housing comprises a mix of types, size and tenure	Use as evidence base in commenting on LDF Documents and planning applications	High	2010 and ongoing	NLC PC PPAG	NLC PC
	A detailed local Affordable Housing Needs Survey be carried out in partnership with NLC and HWRCC	Survey to be carried out	Medium	2012	NLC PC HWRCC	NLC PC HWRCC
	Possible sites for affordable housing be identified within the Parish	Possible sites to be identified	Medium	2013	PC PPAG NLC	NLC PC Linked to NI155
Environment	Environmental Improvements	Continue to enter CPRE Best Kept Village Competition and encourage residents to keep the parish neat and tidy	High	2010-2015 ongoing	PC Residents	PC
		Organise regular volunteer clean up campaigns	High	2010 – 2015 ongoing	PC PPAG	PC
		The PC to continue to provide hanging baskets and troughs	High	2010 -2015 ongoing	PC	PC
		Make road entrances to parish more welcoming	Medium	2012	PC	PC
		Plant trees and flowers in verges and spare ground	Medium	2012	PC Residents Townsmen	PC Residents Townsmen
		Preserve and protect the character of the Natural and the Built Environment	High	2010 – 2015 ongoing	NLC, PC Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Residents PPAG	NLC PC Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
		Produce a Village Design Statement for each of the settlements and ensure they are used in planning decisions	High	2010	PPAG, NLC PC HWRCC	PPAG, NLC PC HWRCC
		The PC to employ a part-time Handyman	High	2010	PC	PC
		Develop a Parish Heritage Trail	High	2010	PC, Haxey and Westwoodside Heritage Society	PC
	Reduce risk of Flooding	PC to be actively involved with the NLCFlood Form	High	2010 ongoing	PC, NLC Flood Forum	NLC IoAIDB Severn Trent
		PC to be consulted by IoAIDB on local major drainage schemes (Haxey Village and Low Burnham)	High	2010- 2011	IoAIDB PC	IoAIDB, NLC Linked to NI 189
		Continue to press NLC to have regular maintenance schedule for road gully emptying and drain cleaning	High	2010 -2015 ongoing	NLC PC	NLC
		Continue to press the Environment Agency for at least Policy 4 in the Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan	High	2010 -2015 ongoing	NLC PC IoAIDB	NLC, PC, IoAIDB Environment Agency

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Issue	The Action	How it will be tackled	Priority	Time scale	Responsibility (Lead and Partners)	Resource Implications
	To reduce amount of Litter and Dog Fouling	Organise regular clean up campaigns with schools and village groups	High	2010 ongoing	PC, Residents PPAG, Schools, Dog Owners	NLC PC
		Distribute education packs to primary schools	Medium	2012	PC, NLC	NLC
		Use services of NLC Streetwise teams to clear up litter / fly tipping	High	2010 ongoing	PC Residents	NLC PC
		Instigate a programme of education to encourage dog owners to act responsibly	High	2010 ongoing	NLC, PC, PPAG Residents, Dog owners Dog Trust	NLC PC Dog Trust
		Publicise NLC enforcement procedures	High	2011	NLC, PPAG	NLC
		Provision of more litter bins and dog bins	High	2010 onwards	NLC, PC	NLC PC
Local Facilities	Access to Council services	Carry out a community needs survey in conjunction with NLC to assess residents needs in relation to Council services	Medium	2011	PC NLC PPAG	NLC PC
		Promote use of NLC website for reporting enquiries, comments, compliments and complaints	Medium	2011	PC NLC PPAG	NLC PC
	Parish Information	To work with NLC library services to provide parish information at Haxey and mobile library	High	2010	NLC PC PPAG	NLC PC
	Young people	PPAG to work with NLC Youth Services and PC to recruit and train volunteers to run an outreach youth facility in the parish and investigate suitable venue	Medium	2011	PPAG NLC Residents (including young people) HPFA	NLC PC
		Bus Services, speeding, cycling (see Traffic and Transport Section)				
	Access to information (See The Community Section)					
	Produce Community Emergency Plan	Questionnaires and Plan to be produced	Medium	2011	PC NLC Residents	PC
The Community	Reduce Crime and anti-social behaviour	Encourage vigilance and reporting of problems to the Police by using existing meetings, personal contacts and publicity	Medium	2011	Police Neighbourhood Watch	Police
		Improve communication between the Police and local community by using existing meetings, personal contacts and publicity	Medium	2011	Police Neighbourhood Watch Safer Neighbourhoods PC	PC Police
		Extend coverage of Neighbourhood Watch Groups in the Parish by publicising advantages and seek advice from existing groups	Medium	2011	PC HANWAG PPAG Neighbourhood Watch	PC HANWAG
	Christmas lights	Ask for interested volunteers to form a group to investigate feasibility of installing Christmas lights in different locations within the Parish	Low	2014	PPAG PC	Funding to be investigated
	Improve Parish information including making better use of the Parish website	Update Parish Directory and supply to all residents, including new residents	Medium	2012	PC PPAG	PC
		Gather information on businesses in the Parish and produce a Business Directory	Medium	2012	PC PPAG	PC
		Improve website design, possibly as young persons project, and publicise inter-active use of Parish website	Medium	2011 ongoing	PC PPAG Parish residents (including young people)	PC

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