

Pytchley Parish Plan

First Published in 2003

Revised 2012

**A Report and Action Plan
by the people of Pytchley
for the village of Pytchley**



Pytchley Parish Council

APPENDIX 8

Revisions to Pytchley Parish Plan –May 2012

This updates the original Pytchley Parish Plan of 2003 and extends it to 2022

“The original parish plan was adopted at the parish council meeting on 7th July 2003. the plan was subsequently reviewed in 2011/2012 to ensure it remained relevant and to extend the planned period to 2022.

This revision was formally adopted at a parish council meeting May 2012

Revision

This was achieved by setting up a small committee to consider where the plan may no longer be fully appropriate or where opinions may have changed. This led to a questionnaire being delivered to all members of the village. This questionnaire not only asked for comments on the original parish plan but also raised questions perhaps less relevant then or which would help provide further information (See Appendix 9). Findings from this survey were then put to the village at a public meeting allowing full consultation before incorporating these changes into this appendix. Much of the text within the original document are still relevant. This Appendix should be read as a supplement.

Details of survey

Some 240 (one per household) questionnaires were delivered at the beginning of September 2011. Analysis of returned documents commenced at the end of October.

Some 23 documents were returned reflecting 10% of households. Due regard of the small sample should therefore be taken when interpreting these results. They are nevertheless a cross section of village opinion.

There were no controversial issues raised, no suggestions that our interpretation was wrong nor were there any suggestions that we had omitted anything. The comments were only either supportive or made suggestions regarding how the text might be improved.

For copy of the Questionnaire see Appendix 9

For detailed results see Appendix 10

Housing development (2.3.)

Since launch of the parish plan one new detached house has been built (as an infill development on a site once occupied by two small cottage) and planning permission has been granted for 9 dwellings in Butchers Lane on land which is partly a farm yard. This will involve removal of certain buildings and the conversion of others. The remainder of the site once housed greenhouses. There has also been five large extensions to existing properties within the village.

Traffic developments (4.4.1.)

Since 2003 Pytchley joined the speedwatch campaign whereby members of the village were trained in the use of a police laser speed gun and conducted regular surveys advising the police of speeding vehicles. This however ceased temporarily following budget cuts by NCC but now is being reinstated albeit possibly on a temporary basis

An electronic speed activated sign has been purchased with a grant given to Pytchley school and is being deployed in problem areas within the village. Fixed VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) Equipment has been installed either end of the High Street warning motorists of the prevailing speed limit and imposing a 20mph limit during the period there is pupil activity around the school.

Internet (6.1)

As to be expected internet use has increased significantly from approximately 50% in 2003 to 91% in 2011 with an overwhelming view that the system is slow.

Clearly there is significant dissatisfaction with the present internet speeds with the majority of internet user respondents feeling that the speed is slower than normal.

Facility improvements (7.2.3)

Note since launch of the plan the farm shop has ceased trading

Village Hall developments (7.3.3.)

Since launch of the original document the extension work has been completed with further improvements including replacement windows, new seating and curtains and further internal improvements and redecoration. The hall continues to be well used for private functions, clubs and various events and courses.

Recreation ground developments (7.4.3)

In 2010 additional equipment in the form of a "Hurricane Swing" and youth shelter have been provided by KBC with the help of Wicksteed who donated the swing. These improvements help to provide for the older children/youths. Measures are in progress to provide a basketball goal and associated hard surfacing. *(Now completed)*

Changes to clubs and associations (7.5.)

Since launch of the original document the whist club has ceased to exist and the Pytchley Conservative Association have combined with other villages and is not therefore Pytchley specific.

However since the launch of the original document The Heritage Trust has been formed. The purpose of this trust is to raise money to repair, maintain and improve the church and to encourage the community as a whole to use the building for suitable events: music, meetings, exhibitions and so on.

Recycling (8.6.)

Since launch of the original plan in 2003 KBC have introduced a comprehensive recycling scheme.

Environmental issues update (8.7.3.)

An annual spring clean/litter pick now takes place whereby members of the village clear the approach roads to the village of litter. Within the village is kept tidy by the part time litter picker employed by the Parish Council.

Cycle/pedestrian access to Kettering

One respondent reminded us of the strong feelings shown in the original parish plan for a safe pedestrian/cycle access to Kettering. Kettering is the main service provider for the village there being no shops, medical facilities etc. within the village.

Miscellaneous

1 comment of dissatisfaction with progress regarding original parish plan

1 objection to permission given regarding new property in High Street blocking view of church

Ref. APPENDIX 1

Changes to Village Organisations since 2003

Since 2003 the whist club has ceased

Since the launch of the original Plan the Parents & Tots Group now meet in the school not in the Village Hall

The Pytchley Conservative Association have combined with other villages and is not therefore Pytchley specific.

Kettering Film and Video Club has changed its name to Kettering Movie Makers in order to better reflect its activities

Since the launch of the original document The Heritage Trust has been formed. The purpose of this trust is to raise money to repair, maintain and improve the church and to encourage the community as a whole to use the building for suitable events: music, meetings, exhibitions and so on.

Ref. APPENDIX 2

Changes to businesses within the village since launce of the Parish Plan in 2003

The Farm Shop in Butchers Lane and the GTS Group now no longer exist.

New businesses within the village comprise:

Barking Mad

An obedience and agility dog training school operating on a part time basis

Highways Infrastructure Services Ltd

Now occupying the original site of the GTS Group and employing 45 staff (mainly off site and none from the village) in the installation of highway signs throughout the UK.

Ref. APPENDIX 7

This Action plan relates to the original parish plan and has been revised as APPENDIX 12

Action Plan

APPENDIX 12 has been introduced revising and superseding APPENDIX 7

APPENDIX 9

Your Village, Your Voice

In 2003 following a year’s consultation with the village a Parish Plan was issued. This plan is now going through the process of being adopted by Kettering Borough Council as a “Supplementary Planning Guidance” In order to ensure it is still fully relevant, up to date and reflective of village opinion the parish council are reviewing this document.

Some issues which did not have the same relevance then are perhaps more pertinent now and we would value your views on these issues so that the opinions of the village can be fully represented. For that reason we would appreciate it if you could consider the questions below returning this form to any parish councillor. It need not be signed and can be returned anonymously. Where perhaps there are differing views within a household this should be reflected on the form so that all opinions are considered.

Similarly we would value any comments regarding the original parish plan, copies of which are with every parish councillor and in the village hall.

Wind Farms

Do you think they are a good idea..... yes/no/undecided

Would you accept one close to the village..... yes/no/undecided

Additional comments.....

.....

.....

For additional space please use the reverse of this form

Dogs

Does your household own a dog: Y/N Number

Internet

Do you use the internet: Y/N

Are you satisfied with the speed: Y/N

Do you feel the speed is in line with normal internet speeds: faster/about the same/slower

PTO

Pytchley Parish Plan

APPENDIX 10

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

Of some 240 questionnaires delivered during 2011 23 documents were returned reflecting 10% of households. Due regard of the small sample should therefore be taken when interpreting these results. They are nevertheless a cross section of village opinion.

As in some cases not all questions were answered and as rounding has taken place percentages do not always total 100 and responses do not total 23

WIND FARMS

Do you think they are a good Idea

Yes	9 (39%)
No	8 (35%)
Undecided	6 (26%)

There was clearly no overwhelming view as to whether they were a good idea or not. However there was stronger opinion from the responses received that they should not be sited close to the village as the results below show.

Would you accept one close to the village

Yes	5 (22%)
No	14 (61%)
Undecided	4 (17%)

Some 61% of respondents would not like to see a wind farm close to the village whereas only 22% would accept one, almost half of those who felt they were a good idea.

13 additional comments were received

Should be offshore	1
Already have one in the village	1
Money machine scam	1
Huge initial carbon footprint	1
Not a consistent source of power	1
Doubtful effectiveness	2
Eyesore	2
Only of benefit to foreign manufacturers	1
No benefit to local community	1
Only of benefit to landowner	1
Preference for solar panels	1
Single mast close to the village OK but not a farm	1
Accept only if site were appropriate	1

DOG OWNERSHIP

13 respondents claimed to be dog owners 2 with more than one dog. This reflects some 57% of responses and extrapolating would suggest therefore that in the order of 141 households within the village are dog owners. Popular opinion suggests that this is not the case with a general estimate suggesting that the number is more likely to be in the order of 50. Clearly more dog owners have responded to the questionnaire. Perhaps because dog owners are also dog walkers they are more likely to be out in the village and therefore more likely to return the questionnaires through parish councillors letterboxes.

INTERNET

Comments on this subject are also repeated in section 6 COMMUNICATION.

As to be expected internet use has increased significantly from approximately 50% in 2003 to 91% in 2011 with an overwhelming view that the system is slow.

Responses to the questionnaire were as follows.

<i>Use of the internet</i>	21 (90 %)
<i>Satisfied with the speed</i>	2 (9 %)
<i>Not satisfied with the speed</i>	16 (70%)
<i>Speed in line with normal internet speed</i>	
<i>Faster</i>	0
<i>About the same</i>	3 (13 %)
<i>Slower</i>	17 (74 %)

Clearly there is significant dissatisfaction with the present internet speeds with the majority of internet user respondents feeling that the speed is slower than normal.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

There were various additional comments although it is interesting that they all referred to similar comments received for the original parish plan

Dog Mess

One comment related to dog owners not clearing up after their dogs. Since the launch of the parish plan there have been numerous notes in the village magazine reminding dog owners of their responsibility in this regard. The majority of dog owners are responsible but one or perhaps two are still unaware of or disregard their responsibilities.

Traffic speeds

There were 5 respondents who identified traffic speeds through the village as a problem with various suggestions for traffic calming and one doubting the effectiveness of existing measures

Vehicle parking

Two responses related to the parking of vehicles on pavements and grass verges and close to junctions obscuring the view.

Recreation Ground

Two responses requested further play equipment for older children on the recreation ground, one specifically requesting a basketball goal. This has been a frequent request by the village and is referenced in the original parish plan

Cycle/pedestrian access to Kettering

One respondent reminded us of the strong feelings shown in the original parish plan for a safe pedestrian/cycle access to Kettering. Kettering is the main service provider for the village there being no shops, medical facilities etc. within the village.

Miscellaneous

1 comment of dissatisfaction with progress regarding original parish plan

1 objection to permission given regarding property in High Street blocking view of church

APPENDIX 11

Results of public consultation on proposed revision to Pytchley Parish Plan

Date and Venue of consultation: Saturday 24th March 2012 in Pytchley Village Hall.

Attending; In addition to parish councillors some 22 members of the village attended.

Comments:

There were 5 written comments as follows

1. Why has the "Background & Timescale" section been deleted- - Should be left in.
(no author)
Original plan now unameded. Amendments now in the form of appendix
Report amended accordingly
2. Para 6.5 Increasing Internet speed is a commercial decision. BT will not action
UNLESS there is a massive demand from the area (>95%). Government is committed to higher speed internet speed though by 2015.
(no author)
Noted, no change to text
3. Appendix 1 - Parents and Tots meet in the school and Film Club name changed
(no author)
Noted and corrected in Appendix 8
Noted Village Hall to be changed to School Film club name amend
3. "Recent budget cuts" is a common theme throughout the "Comments and Actions" This should not be seen as a reason for KBC not actioning (or considering) the requirements – eg path to Tesco, speed watch etc.,
(no author)
Noted. This is simply a statement of fact prevailing at this time. There is evidence that these needs have been noted by other authorities
4. Very keen on linking Pytchley to Tesco with a footpath
(Gaynor & John Youd)
Noted and a strong desire by the village reflected in the plan and its revision.

APPENDIX 12
ACTION PLAN - post 2012 revision. This replaces the original APPENDIX 7

Ref	Subject	Action	Timescale	Responsible Body	Comments
2.3	HOUSING	Encourage KBC to give priority for social housing within the village to those with village connections	None	PPC KBC	There is no change in this regard as it is inhibited to some degree by national government policy and housing is allocated on a need basis.
3.2	DEVELOPMENT	Ensure the village boundary is maintained at the present build limit Protect the green space between Kettering and Pytchley to ensure Pytchley's separation from Kettering	Ongoing	KBC	We believe this is the present wish of KBC. Pytchley wishes to retain its village atmosphere as an individual entity separate from Kettering.
4.2.1	TRANSPORT	Ensure an adequate service is maintained to allow access to service providers in Kettering	Ongoing	PPC KBC NCC	With recent budget cuts bus services have been revised with detriment to Pytchley. It is essential that some form of public transport service is provided to allow residents to access services within Kettering
4.3.1	PARKING	Reduce pavement parking	Ongoing	Police KBC NCC PPC	On roads with fast moving traffic motorists are inclined to park vehicles partly on the pavement. This forces mothers with prams and wheelchair users to use the road (with its fast traffic) Where there are grass verges these get rutted by parked vehicles and prevent grass cutting.

		Provide additional off road parking in the form of "lay-bys" replacing the grass verges in Church Road	5 years	KBC NCC	It is acknowledged that councils are undergoing strict budget restrictions and early action is not anticipated. However in the longer term we should encourage KBC to consider replacing the grass verges on the northern side of Church Road as they have done on the southern side. The present grass verges have vehicles parked on them preventing any grass cutting and churning them up to an unsightly mess.
4.4	TRAFFIC (Control of speed and volume)	Apply for a mandatory 20 mph limit through the village. Lobby for reinstatement of the "Speedwatch" campaign Lobby Police for regular speed enforcement action	5 years Ongoing Immediate	PPC NCC NCC Police	Attitudes are changing at national government level and it is hoped that this will filter down such that it will be possible to impose a mandatory speed limit of 20 mph within the village or at least in certain parts. Permanent VAS units have been installed in the proximity of the school with 20mph limits applying at critical times. Budget restrictions caused the temporary withdrawal of the "Speedwatch" campaign.
4.5	TRAFFIC Provision of a safe cycle and pedestrian access to Kettering	Introduce a safe cycle path and/or footpath to Kettering	Long term	KBC/NCC	This request, strong in the original plan, was again raised in this revision. Whilst it is accepted that this is a costly project and the current economic climate further compounds this we should not lose sight of an important need.

5.3	CRIME	Improve neighbourhood watch awareness	Immediate	Pytchley Neighbourhood Watch	All new residents in the village get a welcome pack including details of Neighbourhood Watch. All those on e-mail now get information on crime issues. Regular articles appear in the village magazine and there are approximately 6 public meetings in the year including the Annual Parish Meeting. We therefore believe since the original plan we have largely met our needs in this regard
6.2.	COMMUNICATION	Introduce web-site	Completed	Village	The web-site is now up and running and has undergone several updates to improve its functionality and is still subject to regular revisions to ensure it fully meets our needs
6.4.		Village information	Completed	Village	Since the original plan all of the village received an update of a list of facilities. All new residents get a copy of the welcome pack detailing facilities. Increased use is being made of the parish magazine. However it appears that no longer do KBC produce their own journal. Public information notices however are posted on either the village noticeboard and/or within the village hall.
6.5.		Internet speeds		All	We should vigorously lobby to be included in any actions to increase internet speed

7.3.	FACILITIES (Village Hall)	Provision of disabled toilets and upgrading of existing toilets. Provision of additional storage space Additional hall improvements	Village Hall committee	Completed	
			Village Hall committee	Immediate and ongoing	Since launch of the original plan the hall has had new curtains and seating replacement windows guttering and fascias plus replacement of a dangerous entrance canopy. The internal layout has been modified to improve use and the hall redecorated. Improvements are ongoing as funds permit to ensure the hall meets the needs of the village. Present concerns relate to the acoustics within the hall.
	FACILITIES Further clubs and associations	Provision of additional clubs and associations particularly with respect to keep fit activities	Village in General	Ongoing	There is now a monthly tea, social and book swap meeting in the village hall and the Church holds coffee and chat meetings in private houses on a monthly basis
	FACILITIES (recreation ground)	Improve play facilities	Phase 1 May 2013	PPC/KBC	Phase 1 Since 2003 a "Hurricane Swing" and youth shelter have been provided and the installation of a basketball goal is planned. (now nistalled since this review)
			Phase 2 2022		Phase 2 There is still a need to upgrade and improve the play facilities and this is

8.5 & 7.2	VILLAGE CHARACTER		Protection of village character and features. See also 3.2 above The objection to nearby wind farms should be noted	Ongoing	PPC/KBC/NCC	acknowledged by KBC. Present funding difficulties are however holding back any progress in this area.
8.4.	ENVIRONMENT		Provision of flower tubs within the village	Completed	Village	This has not changed since the original plan. The village character including the church, pub, school etc. are seen as important features of the village as does the general rural atmosphere. It is essential that building development is not allowed to impact on the rural nature of the village This has now been completed and has further encouraged members of the village to plant additional flower beds around the village