


EAST ILSLEY COMMUNICATOR

EST. 2003

WELCOME to the March Edition
of the EIC- **Issue 99**

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East Ilsley Parish Council - Tales from your Parish Clerk – Issue 99

Welcome to this first edition of the EIC for 2020! Christmas and New Year seem so long ago now and we have had to contend with everything the weather has thrown at us in the past couple of months. From weather bombs, to two storms in a row, we really have been batted about this year already. After watching the news reports on the devastation that some towns and villages across the country have endured from the recent Storms, we are thankful that our village has not been faced with those challenges and our recent yet mild clean-up efforts have withstood the heavy rainfall.

However, this is not a time to rest on our laurels, but it is a time for action! We continue to monitor the water levels in the pond and are working with WBC and other external companies to help us improve the way the pond works for us in extreme weather. If anyone has wandered past the allotments recently you may have noticed a new addition in the form of a small shipping container. This will house our emergency flood defence equipment which is being ordered in April 2020 and it is thanks to WBC and Cllr. Culver who are part funding this for us. Should we find ourselves as we did in 2014, we will at least be able to respond with immediate support to our community until the larger services can take over.

But it isn't just the Parish Council that have a responsibility to keep the village free from flooding, those of you with Riparian Responsibilities in the village play an important part in this as well. To remind you, under common law you as the property owner are the Riparian Owner of any watercourse within or adjacent to your property. Where a watercourse is sited between two or more properties, each owner will be equally responsible. Landowners have a responsibility to accept the natural flow of water across their land and they are responsible for carrying out at their own expense any necessary maintenance of the watercourse to the satisfaction of the local Land Drainage Authority. They are also required to undertake maintenance of the banks and beds of the watercourse or of the piped sections to avoid any obstruction to the flow of water. If you are unsure whether you have Riparian Responsibilities please contact the Parish Council and we can advise. The more we look after the free flowing water, the better chance we have of not creating a situation where flooding can occur.

In other news, 19th January saw our Community Orchard officially planted. It was a beautiful, yet chilly and frosty morning, and a team of Councillors and Villagers turned up with spades and forks and set to work. You can read our story on this later in this issue. Thank you to all of you who came along and helped and we hope the village will enjoy the 'fruits' of the labour for many years to come and that it creates a new habitat for bees, insects and birds.

The Parish Council met in January to agree the budget for the 2020 / 2021 Financial Year and to raise the precept demand on WBC. Due to the extensive work we need to do on the pond we have raised the precept by 5.4% this year to help finance it and keep our village safe from flood water in the coming years.

The Playground working party is making excellent head way with grant applications and coming up with new ideas for innovative equipment, there will be an update on this at our next Parish Council meeting but we are on track for unveiling something new in early summer this year.

Finally, our last Parish Council Meeting of the financial year will take place on Tuesday 10th March, 7.30pm in the Primary School Hall. You are all very welcome to pop along and if you are new to the village, welcome, and we would love to meet you. The agenda will be available to view from 3rd March on our website, Facebook page and of course the Parish Noticeboard. We will also be planning the future dates for our meetings and will share that all with you after the meeting. Don't forget Sunday 29th March is daylight savings and the clocks will go forward one hour and we can look forward to lighter evenings again and maybe a sense of 'spring is in the air' might arrive!

Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs Fenella Woods - Tel: 07912 565665

East Ilsley Parish Council

Keep in touch and up to date with all that is going on in the Parish Council in the following ways:



www.eastilsley-pc.gov.uk

East Ilsley Parish Council



@eastilsleypari1

clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk



Future meeting dates: 10th March 2020. At 7:30pm in The Ilsleys Primary School.



East Ilsley Parish Council Press Release - Community Orchard comes to Fruition!



L to R: Cllr. Clive Hooker, Cllr. Dominic Boeck, Cllr. Stephen Meadows, Cllr. Andrew Sharp and Cllr. Carolyne Culver at the end of the planting.

On Sunday 19th January 2020 the village of East Ilsley transformed a plot of derelict land into a community orchard, a space for all to share and enjoy for many years to come.

With support from East Ilsley Parish Council, West Berkshire Council, East Ilsley Trust Fund and private donations the villagers were able to prepare the land for planting, purchase 20 apple and pear trees and plant them on the new site during a community event organised by the Parish Council.

The idea to have a community orchard in East Ilsley came from a local event held in the nearby village of Hampstead Norreys in September 2019 called 'GreenFest'.

This was a one day event held in various locations around Hampstead Norreys with speakers, forums, stalls and activities designed to inform and advise on all issues relating to becoming greener, both in our homes, businesses and lifestyle choices. Cllr. Carolyne Culver, District Councillor for Ridgeway Ward and Green Party Member in West Berkshire was a key player in the GreenFest event and lucky for East Ilsley, was also one of our Parish Councillor. With Cllr. Culver's expert guidance the Parish Council was able to submit a bid to West Berkshire Council to request funding to help us set up the community orchard. We were thrilled to hear that they agreed to help us with the costs and we were finally able to begin the preparations.

Preparations began in earnest in early December and the land was dug over and prepared ready for planting:

With advice from the WBC Tree Inspector we were able to select our fruit trees and these were delivered to us in January. We chose a selection of Apple and Pear trees that would grow well in our environment and help to increase our biodiversity in the village and provide a new and stable habitat for new and existing species.

Species chosen for our orchard were:

- ▣ Ashmeads Kernal, Blenheim Orange, Charles Ross, Christmas Pippin, Discovery, Egremont Russet, Ellison's Orange, Hereforshire Russet, Katy, Kidds Orange Red, Laxtons Superb, Newton Wonder, Scrumptious, Spartan and Sunset.
- ▣ Beth, Concorde, Conference, Louise Bonne of Jersey & Beurre Hard.

The Parish Council planned for the planting event to take place on Sunday 19th January and set about promoting it around the village, on their website and across their social media platforms.

The morning of the planting arrived and although bright and sunny there was a frost and it was thought the ground would be too hard to dig the holes for each tree! However, a merry bunch of villagers and councillors turned up wrapped in hats, scarves and gloves armed with spades and forks at 11am ready to spring into action.

We were thrilled that some of West Berkshire Councillors joined us in the big dig, Cllr. Clive Hooker, Cllr. Dominic Boeck and of course, our very own Cllr. Carolyne Culver and of course our own Parish Councillors Cllr. Andrew Sharp and Cllr. Stephen Meadows got stuck in along with the Clerk to the Council, Fenella Woods.

Although it was hard work to begin with, they soon got into the swing of things and within an hour our orchard was created! Cllr. Culver commented “Thank you to everyone who helped plant East Ilsley's new community orchard. Thanks to initial donations from East Ilsley Parish Council and East Ilsley Trust Fund I was able to secure match funding from West Berkshire Council. As well as providing fruit in the future the orchard replaces an unsightly piece of waste ground and will help to sequester carbon from the air. We look forward to watching the orchard mature over the coming years”.



The land before planting

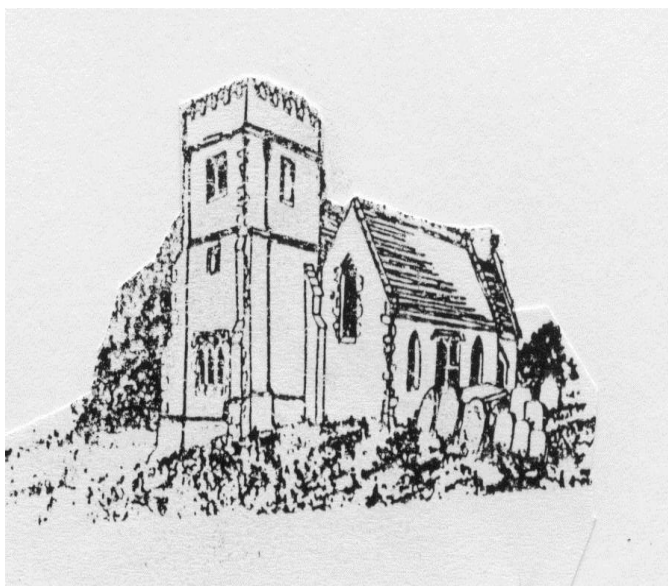


Cllr. Carolyn Culver
making the first dig



Villagers, volunteers, local and parish Councillors all getting involved!

St Mary's in the Community/East Ilsley Community Project – Issue 99



St Mary's Church enjoyed a full program of Christmas services throughout December.

The exterior of the Church was floodlit every evening to be a beacon of light around the village, whilst the interior was lit up by dozens of candles.

No project news in the last EIC edition, as we were focused on insuring all the Epiphany services ran smoothly – much helped by the placid weather conditions.

However, nature took its toll in the form of Storm Ciara, when during a Holy Communion service, a window in the Chancel was blown in,

with shattered glass, landing on the spot where ten minutes earlier, Communicants had been standing. Thankfully, no injuries, but it did focus our minds on the urgent repairs needed to all the building's windows. Consequently, as a priority, we have decided to begin the renovation works using some of our Grants and Donations monies.

The door to the clock and bell tower also needs reinforcing repairs, so whilst we had hoped to be further down the fund raising route to address the major renovations needed for the Nave roof, we intend to tackle issues as and when Grants and Funds are available. Our match funding grants and gifts through the good exchange will cease at the end of March 2020, but we have applied to several organisations for financial support.

We recently received a customer's gift from John Lewis in Newbury for £835 – most generous and very welcome. We have started to look in detail at the internal plans to the Church building, beginning with improved disabled access from the steps leading up to the porch entrance and converting the current Vestry into the toilets and small kitchen.

We intend in the early summer months to tackle the condition of the building's exterior and have a good tidy up of the grave yard, details of which will be published in the next EIC edition when your help will be called upon!

Parochial Church Council

You can make a donation on the Good Exchange Website on the link below!

<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/12130/st-marys-church-east-ilsley/st-marys-in-the-community>

Your cash will be matched £1 for £1 by the GREENHAM TRUST. If you are a tax payer, you can further increase the value of your donation by gift aiding it.



From the Editor

Welcome to the March Edition of the EIC

What miserable weather we are having! I hope it is not getting you all down. On the bright side, the winter is almost over, and it won't be long till the spring and the warmer weather arrives.

How flooding has not been worse, is miraculous. That is not to say it still could not happen, water levels are very high in all the surrounding areas. Some of you who use the footpaths may have noticed the giant puddles, ok let's call them new ponds that have formed in the fields.

The weather has pretty much ruined most of the runs I go on. I always seem to have a couple of pairs of trainers drying out somewhere in the house.



Corona Virus:- I guess I don't need to tell you all, that if you have not already gone out and stocked up with supplies for the next couple of months (just in case) I would go do it soon.

It may pass without much disruption, or it may cause chaos and panic. I am not going to add any more possible misinformation or fear on the matter, (the main stream media does a fine job of that) as no one can really be sure how this will affect the world in the future.



Dog Fouling:- The paths recently have been remarkably clear of poop which is fantastic. I know a lot of you who walk your dog's flick any you see off the paths out the way so no one else treads on it. So really well done to everyone for keeping the village paths nice this winter to walk and run on.

I suppose I should mention I only give these updates because Dog fouling is generally the most complained about nuisance still.

I am also informed some village cats are causing havoc. I don't know how much help it is for anyone suffering from neighbouring cats using their garden as personal toilets, but there are Ultrasonic sound devices that do help stop cats coming in your garden. (link below)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/KOEPUO-Repellent-Ultrasonic-Waterproof-Deterrent/dp/B083JSK5QB/ref=sr_1_15?keywords=Cat+Deterrent&qid=1583038117&sr=8-15



Village Website:- Please add the village website to your favourites or bookmarks, and keep up to date on key village information.

www.eastilsley-pc.gov.uk



Front Cover:- This Editions front cover is looking down a track north east of the village on the East Ilsley Downs, last year when it snowed.

Facebook Discussion:- The EIC publication will be posted, in colour, on the East Ilsley Freedom of Speech Facebook page.



Like before, if anyone would like to start a discussion or post pictures about the relevant events gone by this last few months, I would love to hear from you, or see any media you have accumulated.

Make a Note:- The Next Edition of the East Ilsley Communicator will be out Monday the 27th April 2020 – So I will need all entries for that edition in by 11pm Friday 24th April 2020.



Future Publication Dates 2020:-

Issue 100	Monday April 27th 2020 – (Special Edition 100)
Issue 101	Monday June 29th 2020
Issue 102	Monday August 31st 2020 – (may change to Tuesday)
Issue 103	Monday October 26th 2020
Issue 104	Monday December 21st 2020



Hi all, after much deliberation, we have decided to have a year off from putting on the Sheep Fair.

We are planning on being back in 2021 and would love more help & support in the run up and on the day itself, if you're interested get in touch via the EISF 2019 FB page or the EI FB page and one of us will get back to you. We will start planning Sep/ Oct time.

We would like to thank Alan Harris who has stepped down as Chair for all his hard work & knowledge in helping to run the SF over the years.

We hope to see you in 2021. - **Hayley, Paula & Ali**

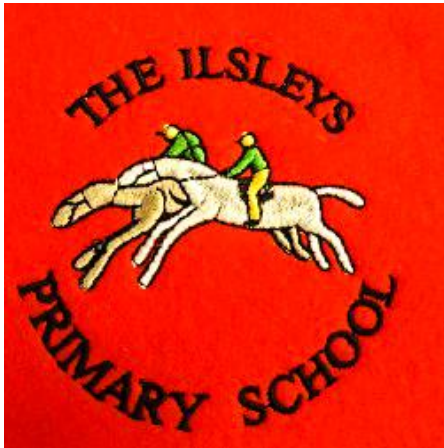


(Article missed from last edition)

Thank you to everyone who turned up to the kids Vs adults football match in aid of Guide Dogs. The kids beat the adults well and truly!

Beth organised this activity, along with a few other fundraising ideas, and with your help, a fantastic total of **£304.27** was raised.

Beth thoroughly enjoyed herself and I hope everybody who took part did too!



Hello from everyone here at The Ilsleys!

We have had another busy month, including school trips to Reading Museum and Milestones, a Brightsparks Science workshop, a visit from a police officer, Year 6 Challenge Mornings at The Downs, a Dance Day at Downe House for Year 5s and the Maths Challenge at St Gabriel's. Now, after a restful week off, we are raring to go again with lots more exciting learning opportunities!

We have a range of fantastic school trips booked again this term, including a visit to Winchester Science Centre for children in Pacific Class. We are also looking forward to welcoming several visitors in school for World Book Day, including a special dance workshop for each class and a story-telling session, organised by the Corn Exchange, for pupils in Key Stage One.

Children in Arctic Class have very much enjoyed learning about a range of toys and games this term. They watched Toy Story and created exciting descriptions about some of the famous characters. They have also enjoyed playing with old and new toys, and comparing how they are similar and different.

In Pacific Class, children have really enjoyed learning about Superheroes. They created their own spooky settings, like Gotham City, and wrote their own stories to go with it! They also enjoyed creating their own superheroes and were lucky to get a visit from a police officer who could answer questions about being an everyday hero.

Children in Atlantic Class have been focusing on Internet Safety in class and enjoyed taking on the Interland game online! They all received certificates for their fantastic understanding of how to tackle online bullying, how to set up safe passwords and how to keep our own information private.

Sport has continued to be a big focus at The Ilsleys with us having more Arsenal coaching sessions to look forward to as well as our weekly games lessons with our coach Danny. We are also looking forward to taking part in some different local tournaments this term, including cross county for Key Stage Two pupils. Our new Yoga and Mindfulness club has been a huge success so far and the pupils have commented on how enjoyable it has been.



THE DOWNS SCHOOL

East Ilsley Communicator – March

As we return from the half term break and enter the second half of the academic year, I want to reflect back on the end of last term, which was incredibly busy with a number of events taking place in school involving students from across all year groups.

One of the highlights for our Year 7 students is the annual visit from Xtreme Falconry, the Dorset based bird of prey team who bring in a variety of birds for the students to experience close up. This year marked the eighth year they have visited us and Xtreme Falconry founder Martin Ballam brought along birds including a kestrel, barn owl, and Chilean blue eagle, which captivated the students' attention. The experience also covers topics including food chains, habitat destruction and poisoning via pollution and conservation, and Martin said he was impressed by the thought provoking questions he received.

For the first time we hosted members of the National Youth Theatre at school, giving students from Years 9-13 the opportunity to audition for a potential place at the world leading youth arts organisation. Alumni include the prestigious acting talents Dame Helen Mirren, Daniel Craig, Sir Daniel Day-Lewis and Colin Firth.

Students had applied to take part in the event which included morning workshops, giving them the chance to explore ensemble theatre and how to work with their fellow performers. In the afternoon students performed individual audition pieces in front of the National Youth Theatre Associates.

Students will find out whether they have been successful on 6 May. It is incredibly tough to get a place, with 5,000 students across schools, colleges and theatres applying for just 500 places. If successful, students will be invited to join one of the NYT's 2020 Summer courses. Following the course, students will become a NYT Company Member, opening the door to a huge range of opportunities to get involved in NYT productions. We look forward to hearing if any of our students are successful.

Following an intensive two-days of interviews, presentations and meetings with the senior leadership team, governors, staff and students, we were delighted to announce that we have recruited a new Deputy Headteacher, who will be joining us in April. Currently based in Lancashire, Ms Allen will be relocating to the area, bringing a significant amount of experience to our school. She has been a Deputy Head since 2015 and prior that was an Assistant Headteacher.

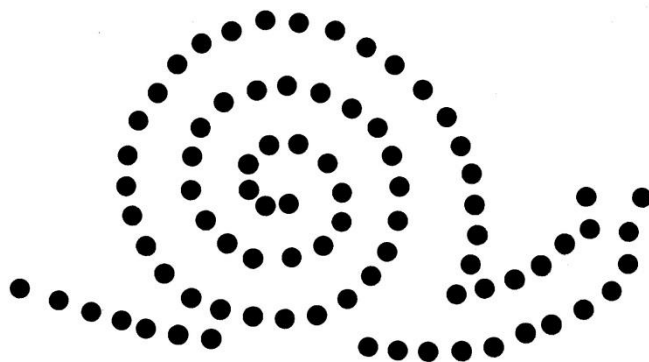
Finally, congratulations go to our Federation school, Compton Primary after they received a letter from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, the Minister of State for School Standards congratulating them on their very high standards in the Key Stage 2 mathematics assessments last year. Compton is in the top 2% of primary schools in the country, with 100 percent of its pupils having reached or exceeded the expected standard in mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2. Congratulations to the leadership team and teaching staff at Compton on this fantastic achievement, which is testament to the hard work that happens on a daily basis in the classroom.

Mr Chris Prosser – Headteacher - The Downs School

Where are they now?

If you have visited the **Millennium Green** and wandered from the path, you may have noticed a group of circular ‘stones’ set into the turf. If you look closely they appear to be in the form of a spiral. Many of them are partly hidden by grass and moss.

What are they there for?



Early in 2000, it was decided to create a stepping stone feature for the Green. 82 children from East Ilsley each took off a shoe and a sock and impressed a bare footprint into soft cement and their names were impressed at the same time.

The youngest of these children was a baby at the time, the eldest about twelve or thirteen years old. They would now be between 19 and 32 years of age.

It would be nice if we could reunite as many as possible in May 2020 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Green.

Some of those children will now be married, many will have moved away from East Ilsley. Some may even be on the other side of the world. Wherever they are, we would like to hear from them. Unfortunately, although we have all their names and birth dates, it is not legally possible to publish this information in full, but below is a list of all the surnames. If you know how to contact any of those children named on the list, or need more details, please get in touch with me at School House.

ALLEN-JONES, BARTHOLOMEW(2), BEAKE(3), BIRD(2), BLOWFIELD, BROPHY-CLEWES, BROWN(2), BUCKLAND, CRISCUOLO, CROSS, DAVIES(3), DRAPER(3), EDWARDS(3), EVANS, FEWTRELL-SMITH, FLETCHER, FRASER-JONES, GREENFIELD, GREENWOOD, HARDY, HUNTER(2), JONES(2), KIDD, LAMBERT, LAMOND, MAXTED, MILLAM, MURRAY, NASH, OSBORNE(3), PARKINSON, PHILPOTTS(2), PALMER, POCOCK, PRENTICE, RANKIN(3), RICHARDSON(20), ROBERTSON(2), ROSTRON.

The method used to make the ‘stepping stones’ was as follows.

Firstly, a number of plastic buckets were filled with concrete to within 2 or 3 inches of the top. Then a layer of finer cement was laid on top while the concrete was still ‘green’ to make sure it was bonded.

Before the cement set, the imprints were made, in batches, and the whole left to set. These bucket shaped lumps of concrete were then arranged in the form of a snail and sunk into the ground so that the top of each was level with the surface.

Over the years some have sunk further, due to mole activity and some have been damaged by machinery used to cut the grass. Grass and moss has encroached over the surfaces and recently we made an effort to clear the debris as we hope to restore the feature to some semblance of the original, in time for the celebration.

On Saturday, May 9th, the Trustees will be organising a Free Fun Day and Picnic on the Green for all the family. There will be races and other activities including a novelty dog show. Please come along, between 12 noon and 3 pm, and bring your own picnic.



East Ilsley 100 years ago (extracts from Newbury Weekly News)

15th April 1920

A SWALLOW, the first to be seen in the district was observed flitting across Compton-road allotments on Wednesday evening April 7th.

ILSLEY PETTY SESSIONS were held at the Courthouse, East Ilsley, on Friday April 9th. The following magistrates were present; Lieut-Colonel Bowles (chairman), Messers. E. E. Martin Atkins and E. J. S. Wasey. Raymond Ryman of Didcot was summoned for unlawfully obstructing the free passage of the highway in High Street, East Ilsley, by leaving a motor car thereon for an unreasonable time on the 18th March. He pleaded not guilty – Evidence was given by Sergeant Giles that the car was left two yards from the side of the road for thirty five minutes, and that other vehicles had to go to the road in order to pass it. – The defendant called Mr A. G. Simpson, who stated that Ryman called on him on the day in question to transact some business; he did not think the car was left there so long – A fine of 10s. was imposed. – To a further charge of failing to produce his motor driver's licence defendant pleaded guilty, and a fine of 5s. was imposed.

April 22nd 1920

CHURCHBELLS. – The parishioners of East Ilsley decided some months ago at a public meeting that part of their War Memorial should be a sixth bell to complete the present ancient peal of five. The money required for this, about £70, has already been subscribed within the parish. But both firms who were asked for a report and an estimate have pronounced the existing bells unsafe. Before that can be rung again and certainly before a new bell can be added, the whole peal must be re-hung in a new metal frame. It would be waste of money to attempt to patch the old material. The estimate for this is £330. The War Memorial Committee feel that this work ought to be undertaken. The bells carry one back through several centuries of national history. The treble was cast in 1***, the year after the defeat of the great Armada, and bears the appropriate inscription "Prayse ye the Lord." Another bears apparently the date 1612, while the great Tenor, weighing nine cwt., was cast in the year 1625(the Accession year of Charles I) and was the gift of the Rector of the Parish, the famous Dr. Richard Wightwick, the co-founder of Pembroke College, Oxford. An appeal is being issued by the Rector (Rev. Canon Whitham, and the Memorial Committee. Out of a population of 476, East Ilsley contributed 122 men for service in the Navy and Army, of whom 22 were killed.

April 29th 1920

ILSLEY TRAINER'S SALE HUNT CUP UNDER THE HAMMER

Considerable interest was aroused in the auction sale which took place at Churchill House, East Ilsley, on Tuesday, by the instructions of the administrators of the estate of the late Mr James East, the trainer. The sale was conducted by Messers A. W. Neale and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. David White, and a unique feature was the sale of the Royal Hunt Cup, which was won by Mr. East's "Lie-a-bed" in 1914. This is doubtless the first time that a Hunt Cup has come under the auction hammer, and it was purchased by Mr. Gibson, of Newbury, for 120 gns. It was the irony of fate that "Lie-a-bed", the winner of the Cup, when put up for auction in the same sale only fetched 5 guineas. The prices paid for the other thoroughbred horses were as follows: A three-year-old unbroken colt by "Too Late", 30gns; "Makehaste", a brown mare, in foal to "Lie-a-Bed" 50 gns; "Brandaby", 52 gns. The trainers were well represented, and there was good competition for the saddlery and horseclothing. A 21lb trial saddle fetched 25s. Other saddles, £3 14s. 6d: £5 15s; and £7 5s.; the horses clothing fetched from 6½ to 9½ gns.

ERIC SAXTON



Autumn Group incorporating the Hobbies Club



Autumn Club News

Past Events

Recently, the Members listened to a most interesting talk from a representative from the **Children's Air Ambulance Service**, which solely transports seriously ill children with their medical support team to specialist paediatric hospitals. As a result, the group collected a huge number of bags of resalable goods for their shop in Abingdon.

Future Programme

- March 3rd.** World Book Day – bring a book to share.
4th “Cafe Six”, at the Downs’ School. 11.30am.
10th Flower Arranging . Sharon. Cost £2
17th St. Patrick’s Day. Wear GREEN !
20th Trip to Fairclose Centre, Newbury, for lunch and Bingo. Handybus pick-up at Compton (bus stop), at 11am, pickup also at E. Ilsley. Handybus £3, lunch £5.
25th A Talk by Will, a Physiotherapist.
31st Meal (probably chicken and mash!). Bring a trifle and get your meal free – otherwise £5!

Other Information:- The Handybus can be booked for transport to the Wilkins’ Centre on Tuesdays to arrive at 1.30pm Cost £3. Please ‘phone Pat to book on 07786856440.

Advance Notice. Wed. June 10th. Canal Barge Trip. Only 12 places available so please book with Pat to secure a space.



Aldworth Art Group - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (termtime) 9.30 to 12.00 in Aldworth village hall (RG8 9SE) - £2.50 a session



Do join us – everyone welcome! We are a very friendly and supportive group who enjoy a diverse range of art activities. You “can do your own thing” or “follow a leader”.

We have occasional Tutors who lead special Workshops. For these we may need to charge a bit more. We may also have a sociable pub lunch together after a workshop.

Sometimes groups of us visit art exhibitions. We are open to all sorts of ideas and activities!

Dates for Spring 2020:

3rd and *17th March
7th and 21st April

***Tuesday 17th March 9.30 to 12.30**

“Mixed Media” workshop with tutor Tanya Patey - (*Art Materials will be provided as needed*)

If you would like to attend a **workshop**, please can you book your place a.s.a.p.

For more information ,or if you are interested in coming along, please contact **Pauline Sheppard (01635 578177)**.

N.B.Aldworth CRAFT Group meets on 2nd and 4th Mondays. Clare (07879 565020) or Gill (01635 578624) for details.

East Ilsley Communicator – Issue 99



The Handy bus



Hopefully you are all aware of the Downland Volunteer Group, the DVG, which has been in existence since the early eighties. It was set up to help residents in the Downland villages who had problems attending appointments at the hospitals in our area, the surgeries and dentists. We have a team of some 40 volunteer drivers using their own cars to drive the patients to their appointments.

In recent years we have also managed the day to day running of the Handy bus service by recruiting volunteer drivers for this vehicle and scheduling trips mainly to the Newbury shops but also to Wantage. The Handy bus was owned and maintained by the West Berks Council. As part of their re-structuring and cost saving plans they have requested that the local charities, like the DVG, take over full control of the Handy bus service. From the beginning of April the DVG will be fully responsible for the servicing, maintenance, safety checks plus tax and insurance of the vehicle. It will become our property and we are expected to fulfil our obligations to the Community Transport Services.

This twelve seater Mercedes bus makes schedule trips on certain days from the main villages in the area. Whilst it is ideal for older residents, anyone can travel on the Handy bus, although it is not equipped to carry children. It is particularly useful for anyone temporarily incapacitated and unable to drive or carry shopping. For just £3.00 return the passengers are driven to Newbury, either Sainsbury's or Tesco's, the driver will load up their shopping and will even carry it to their front door. The difference between the Handy bus and a normal bus service is that you would need to book yourself on to it in advance- a bit like a taxi service! Bus passes cannot be used on the Handy bus.

We believe many more people could benefit from the Handy bus service. We need to increase passenger numbers and we will not raise the £3.00 fare this year and hope that with grants and sponsorship the Handy bus service will be a non-profit but self-financing operation in the near future. To book yourself a trip simply phone the Handy bus coordinator on 07437 543 098 to find out when we are in your village, at what time you will be collected and what time you can expect to be home.



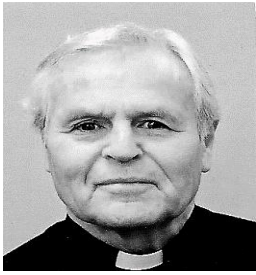
St Patrick's Catholic Church East Ilsley

Looking Forward to Easter

'LENT' comes from 'lengthening', the lighter days of 'Spring'. In the Catholic Parish, there will be two or three Lent groups for people to join and there will be our normal round of masses and other services, including nowadays a mass on Sunday evenings at 6pm, particularly suitable for teenagers and others who prefer to play sport or have a lie-in on Sunday mornings. All of this is in East Hendred, the Catholic Parish which St Patrick's, East Ilsley, belongs to.

On Palm Sunday (5th April) in East Hendred there is a Procession at Champs Chapel at 10am (weather permitting) preceding the service in St Mary's. St Patrick's again offers a later start. On Maundy Thursday (9th April) there will be Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8pm and Watch of the Passion in East Hendred and on Good Friday (10th April) people from Catholic and Anglican communities will be holding a Good Friday Workshop for children at 10.30am in Snells Hall. At 12 noon there will be Ecumenical Stations of the Cross starting at Champs Chapel (weather permitting), and St Mary's will have the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3pm. The Easter Vigil at 8pm on Easter Eve (11th April) and the Solemn Mass on Easter Day bring us to the outburst of alleluias

So, all this in the wider Catholic parish but St Patrick's continues, week by week, to have a Sunday Mass at 11.15am, worshipping the Easter reality, the Risen Lord, the Lamb that was slain, and yet lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.



Musing from the Team Vicar's Desk – March 2020

As a Welshman I cannot let St. David's Day pass by without wishing you a very happy Feast Day which this year happens to fall on a Sunday - particularly appropriate as we have just passed into the period of Lent, and Sundays don't count!!

What does Lent really mean, however, for we all cheerfully say that we are going to give up something for Lent - usually chocolate or alcohol - but why? I too fall into this trap, but apart from depriving ourselves of something we enjoy, is there really any point in it? My answer would be that there are times in our lives when we need to take stock of our way of life, when we need to consider the needs of others rather than just ourselves, and as I live on my own now, I know what a temptation there is to think of my own needs alone. So perhaps by depriving ourselves of things we would normally enjoy, we can contribute to the various appeals that are constantly brought to our attention - the hungry, the need for clean drinking water, the homeless and deprived in various parts of the world - sadly the list is endless.

Jesus teaches us that 'you are the light of the world' - he constantly reminds us that if we are his followers then we must always think of others first. Indeed we must do it not for our own glory (and often there is a temptation for this) but to bring the light of Jesus into a world that seems to have forgotten that God loves us. Sadly we Christians are often no better than those who do not profess Christ but Lent does give us time to re-evaluate our witness and our faith.

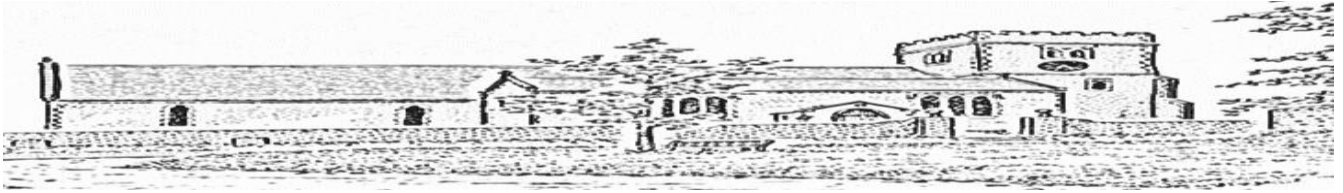
St. David, who was a great preacher and teacher and would always tell his followers that 'they had to be strong and keep the faith' no matter what problems they were to face in life. There are countless examples of this throughout history, when men, women and children kept their faith despite being burnt at the stake, beheaded, tortured, and so many other ways of killing that mankind devised. We call them martyrs, and remember them in our calendars each year.

Interestingly enough, by 'giving up' we can also 'take on' because Lent gives us a negative and a positive attitude. In adopting a positive view, there are opportunities of helping others, of ensuring that our elderly neighbour is well, or sit with someone bed-ridden or housebound, or even share our faith with someone, when asked. One of the joys of living in a village community is that we get to know so many people, and their needs, and are often in the position to help. However we must beware that we do not do this to show how good we are! St. Teresa of Avila warns us that we can be focused on manifesting 'the appearance of virtue' because we want our goodness to be noticed! rather than giving glory to God.

I pray that we all will have a good, profitable and useful Lent so that at the end of it we may feel that we have been strong and have kept the faith, have grown closer to our Lord and have shown what 'love.' really means to a follower of Jesus Christ.

May God bless us all. - **Reverend Clive Jones**

Date	Compton	East Ilsley
Sunday 1 st March Lent 1	Compton Church Closed 11.00am – Family Service held at Compton Village Hall	9.30am – Parish Communion (CW)
Sunday 8 th March Lent 2	Compton Church Closed	9.30am – Parish Communion (CW)
Sunday 15 th March Lent 3	Compton Church Closed 6.00pm – Time with God please call Cathy on 578480 for location	11.00am – Parish Communion (CW)
Sunday 22 nd March Mothering Sunday	Compton Church Closed 10.00am – Special Service for Mothering Sunday held at Compton Village Hall	No Service here today
Sunday 29 th March	10.00am – Team Service (5 th Sunday of the Month) The grand unveiling of the redecoration of Compton Church – all are very welcome to come and see what the church looks like now! Held at Compton Church	
Sunday 5 th April Palm Sunday	9.00am – Procession from the Foinavon Pub to the Church 9.30am – Parish Communion (CW)	9.30am – Parish Communion
Monday 6 th April Holy Week	7.30pm – Said Communion at Cold Ash Church	
Tuesday 7 th April Holy Week	7.30pm – Said Communion at Compton Church	
Wednesday 8 th April	7.30pm – Communion with Hymns at Yattendon Church	
Thursday 9 th April	7.30pm – Tenebrae Service at Hampstead Norreys Church	
Friday 10 th April Good Friday	9.30am – Reflective Service at Compton Church 11.00am – The Good Friday Journey of the Cross (Children’s Activities in the Woods at Hampstead Norreys) – meet at the Church and bring wellies if wet! 11.15am – Various Easter Activities in Compton Village 2.00pm – An Hour Before the Cross Service at Frilsham Church 2.00pm – An Hour Before the Cross Taize Service at Hermitage Church	
Sunday 12 th April Easter Sunday	5.40am – Sunrise Service (Churn Road, Compton) – contact Cathy on 578480 for more information 9.30am – Parish Communion (CW)	11.00am – Easter Day Communion (CW)
Sunday 19 th April Easter 2	9.30am – Parish Communion (CW) 6.00pm – Time with God	No Service here today
Sunday 26 th April Easter 3	9.30am – Parish Communion (CW)	No Service here today



Hildesley Court Home Communion – Information

The monthly home communion at 11am at Hildesley Court will take place on the 2nd Monday of the month. Next service, Monday 9th March and Monday 20th April 2020 (changed to 3rd Monday due to Bank Holiday on 13th April).

Lent Lunches

This year it is Frilsham's turn to host the Lent Lunches at the following locations (from 12pm):

4th March: Sue Bertie (Frilsham Manor) Tel: 201291

11th March: Janet Barber (Lilac Cottage) Tel: 202899

18th March: Georgie Woods (The Old Rectory) Tel: 201249

25th March: Judith Neal (Thorncutts) Tel: 201560

1st April: Ann Goodenough (The Bungalow, Parsonage Farm) Tel: 200370

All are welcome to join them for soup, bread, cheese & chat. Please call ahead to let them know you are coming.

Save the Date:

Would you like a spiritual top up? Come to The Filling Station. We get together once a month for a relaxed, informal time of Christian fellowship with a worship band, guest speakers & time to receive prayer for healing or whatever burden you are carrying. All are welcome, whether you have a relationship with God or have never felt His love & presence. Come and be refreshed and refuelled.

Thursday 19th March 2020

Downland Filling Station – 7.30pm – Hampstead Norreys Village Hall

Katherine Gantlett - 'Sabbath-Still Relevant?'

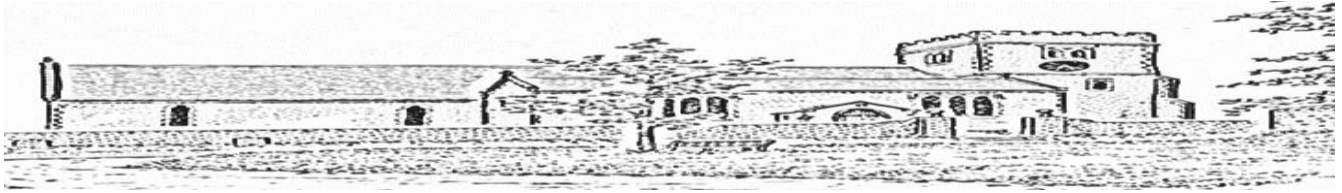
Author of 'Walking Through Winter', wife of a farmer & mother of Charlie, Katherine studied at Westminster Theological Centre where she went on to work for 5 years. Now she is a coach helping people grow in their understanding of themselves and others through psychometric profiling. Her hope is to see people released into their true God-given identities & walk in Jesus' rhythms of grace.

Thursday 16th April 2020

Downland Filling Station – 7.30pm – Hampstead Norreys Village Hall

Richard Gamble - The Wall of Unanswered Prayer

The Filling Station is an informal gathering of Christians, from every denomination. We have a band, a prayer team and guest speakers. Former chaplain of Leicester City Football Club and CEO of Sports Chaplaincy UK, Richard joins us to talk about The Wall of Answered Prayer – an audacious project to build a monument about Jesus. Since its launch the story has attracted national media interest. Here is your chance to hear from the founder himself.



Deaf Church

Sunday 15th March and Sunday 19th April – 3pm – St, Nicholas Church in Newbury.
The Easter Day service will take place on Sunday 12th April at 3pm at the Oxford Deaf Centre.

Friday 6th March - 10am - Hampstead Norreys Church

Friday 3rd April - 10am - Hampstead Norreys Church

Bible story, songs, playtime & refreshments, Under 5s and parents/carers all very welcome.

**More information from Wendy Willoughby-Paul: 201705
(Licensed Lay Minister)**

www.hermitage-team.org.uk

The Hermitage Team of Churches website covers all services and events from Compton and East Ilsley Church, along with Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon, Frilsham, Hermitage and Cold Ash. It is regularly updated so please visit and have a look at what is going on. If you would like to get married in one of our beautiful churches, or to be Baptised please visit the site and click on 'Life Events' and select the correct application forms. The Team Administrator will be in touch with you.

@hermteamministry

The Hermitage Team of Churches are now on Facebook! Like our page to receive all services and events from East Ilsley Church, along with Compton, Hampstead Norreys, Yattendon, Frilsham, Hermitage and Cold Ash. If you would like anything posting to the Team page please get in touch with the Team Administrator.

East Ilsley Allotments



Born and raised in the garden of England (a true Man of Kent), I took for granted the fact that the fields were full of apple and pear trees, hops, and every imaginable variety of soft fruit. My father was an avid allotment holder, producing a wide variety of crops and as you can imagine, I served a long apprenticeship through my childhood years before heading off to the bright lights of London.

When my wife, Gayle and I arrived in East Ilsley, the thought of reigniting my passion for growing vegetables on a village allotment was tempting but a considerable way down the list of priorities, of which my principle focus was 'build a house' first! Last year, I was finally persuaded to take up the challenge and since then I have been growing on a relatively small plot by Sundown stables, close to the East Ilsley Orchard.

Many people would advocate growing your own food for economic reasons, but for me, it is the enjoyment of preparing the land, sowing the seed, nurturing and finally, harvesting the crop which is so appealing - and did I mention the extraordinary flavour of home grown, organic vegetables? Even the humble potato becomes packed with a flavour you are hard pushed to find in any shop.

There is no great skill required in growing, just time and patience, two commodities which are often in short supply with the busy lives we all live. Joy and despair are often experienced, beans which produce faster than a family can eat, cabbages which attract every aphid passing through West Berkshire. If you stick to 'robust' crops which require little protection from wildlife (rabbits, deer, slugs etc.) I would boldly say you can't go wrong. If advice is required, fellow gardeners are always keen to offer advice, guidance and assistance when required.

The good news for all you avid potential growers, there are currently plots available in our village! The winter months are a wonderful time to plan for the year ahead and clear the land in preparation for the spring.





Ilsley Under Fives

Make New Friends

We are a small and friendly toddlers group run completely by parents in East and West Ilsely and surrounding villages.

Fun Activity

Wednesday during term time
from 9:45am to 11:45 at
West Ilsley village Hall

We run different activities each week from crafts and games to exciting trips out and would love to welcome some new parents/carers and little ones to join us.

Please email Jillian.hobbs@outlook.com for more information
or find us on Facebook at "Ilsley Under fives"

The flyer features a cartoon girl with brown hair, a red shirt, and blue skirt, holding a torch and waving. There are four photos: a group of children sitting on a purple mat, children playing in a snowy field, a child painting a red cone, and a child sitting on the grass. A guitar is also visible in the bottom right corner.



WI report January 2020

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS W.I.

We started the year with an Open Meeting when friends and families were invited. About seventy people, including about twenty men, enjoyed a talk from James, the estate manager, and Ed, the farm manager, of Beeswax Dawson Farms.

We heard about the overall farming philosophy of Sir James Dyson and his hundred-year plan. He is a businessman and this enterprise has to be sustainable. But, the most important thing for him is the future of farming that will affect his grandchildren and great grandchildren. The farming methods and technology used were quite incredible. The importance of the environment was paramount. You only have to look at Compton and Churn to see the difference that has been made in a very short space of time. Fences, hedges and tracks are now maintained to a high specification. Buildings are being updated and put to good use both as farm buildings and some commercial use. There are self-storage units, holiday lets and plans to ensure that buildings that are currently an eyesore and in a dangerous condition are made safe and well presented. Look out for a wealth of wildflowers in the following seasons. Owls and bees are catered for and there are sites for stone curlews too.

We left the meeting feeling very grateful that such a sensitive and innovative landowner has come to Compton!

WI report for February 2020

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS WI

At the February meeting Bernard Novell told us about the restoration of a square piano. This type of piano looks like a sideboard and was the type of instrument that was popular after the harpsichord and before the cottage upright piano. Most of us had never heard of such a thing, but one lady remembered one in her grandmother's house and had played it.

Bernard found a dilapidated square piano on Freecycle and decided to undertake its' restoration. With a little help from acquaintances he restored it to full working condition. It was made in 1837 by John Broadwood and Sons. It was in a very sorry state but was restored with loving care and gave Bernard a great deal of satisfaction and set him on a path to discover more about such items. It is very similar to one used by Elgar to compose his famous works. What stories could it tell? Some of the previous owners are known and it is now in Rome having been bought in 2019 by a private collector.

LIFE SAVING HELICOPTERS GO GREEN IN OXFORD



The Oxford based Children's Air Ambulance is the UK's only life-saving service of its kind. The charity has chosen to locate one of its two brand new, specially equipped, bright green Agusta Westland 169 helicopters in the heart of Oxfordshire, at Kidlington airport, with the other in Doncaster.

This charity is dedicated to providing a specialist emergency medical transfer service which is currently changing the face of paediatric care across the country

through the high-speed transfers of critically ill neonates, babies and children from local general hospitals to specialist paediatric hospitals when they next extra specialist life-saving treatment further from home. . When a child is too sick to fly, the Children's Air Ambulance fly a specialist team of clinicians to them and with flight times commonly over four times faster than transfer by road, time saved is a life saved.

The Children's Air Ambulance receives no NHS or government funding. Its life-saving work is reliant upon donations and fundraising from supporters and individuals.. These include support small companies to large corporates, Charity of the Year nominations, community organisations, groups, clubs and associations. There are 21 Children's Air Ambulance charity shops across the UK including shops in Abingdon, Headington and Banbury.

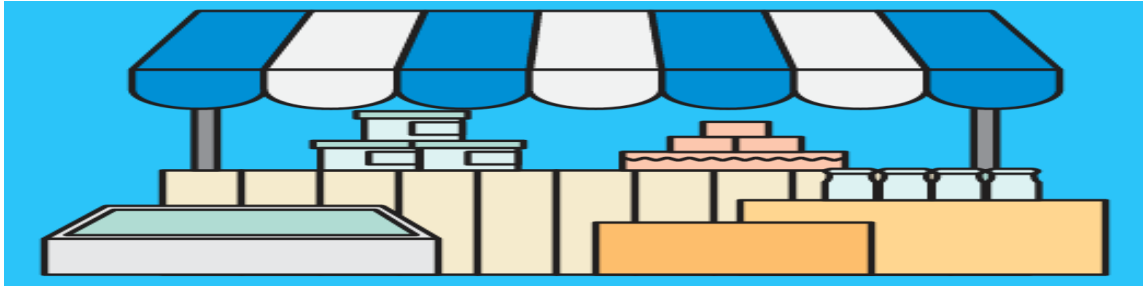
The charity has also launched its very own Green Agenda to ensure it is as sustainable as possible. Achievements include its Re Use programme, diverting over 600 tonnes from landfill, closed-loop plastic recycling and its Data Wiping and Asset Recovery which won Best Use of Innovation and Technology 2019 Charity Retail Awards.

SOME OF THE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Donate : | Either online or by donating unwanted clothes and goods to its shops |
| 2. Charity of The Year: | Nominate The Children's Air Ambulance as your Charity of the Year |
| 3. Volunteer: | Help to raise both funds and awareness of the charity in your community |
| 4. Events: | Organising and taking part in fundraising events, challenges and activities |
| 5. Shop: | Shop and donate through The Children's Air Ambulance charity shops |

For more information or to arrange a talk or visit from a member of the team please contact:

Tel: 0300 3045 999
Email: fundraising@theairambulanceservice.org.uk
Web: childrensairambulance.org.uk



Aldworth Saturday Market

**COME TO CHAT AND ENJOY
REFRESHMENT WITH FRIENDS. TABLE
TENNIS AND CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND
FREELY AVAILABLE.**

**ASM welcomes you EVERY Saturday from
9.30 to 12 noon
*Market details: 01635 578090***

Aldworth's Bazaar Thanks

THANK YOU to all who supported Aldworth Saturday Market's Christmas Bazaar. Over £1,000 was taken for the four charities supported – an amazingly generous amount!

Aldworth's community-run Saturday Market opens weekly from 9.30 to 12.00 in Aldworth village hall. It may be a small market, but it has a big heart and welcomes you to have a shop, cuppa and chat and perhaps make some new friends too.

Details:- 01635 578090 or check out the Facebook page.

Thank you and Happy 2020 to all at the magazine!

Best wishes,

Pauline
[Pauline Sheppard 01635 578177](mailto:Pauline.Sheppard@01635578177)





ILSLEY EVERGREENS

NEWSLETTER MARCH ~ 2020

The Evergreens held their Annual General Meeting on **the 26th of February 2020 at 2pm** in the Wilkins Centre Compton. 26 members attended and after the Chairman's report and the Treasurers report a new committee was elected.

After discussions the members voted to keep the subscriptions at £10 per year and the Coach Trip at £10 for members and £12.50 for Guests.

The outings for 2020 will be on a **Wednesday** to the following destinations,

April 22nd ~ Mystery Trip.

May 20th ~ Windsor with boat trip.

June 17th ~ Compton Acres.

July 29th ~ Southsea. August 26th ~ Bournemouth.

September 23rd ~ Bourton on the Water / Stow on the Wold.

October 21st ~ Gloucester. Christmas Market trip to be finalised.

Please come and join us on any of our outings.

Theatre Trips

Seats have been reserved for the following shows in 2020.

Wednesday ~ 8th April at 2:30pm. - Priscilla Queen of the Desert.

This iconic musical stars Strictly Come Dancing Winner Joe McFadden in the hilarious adventure of three friends who hop on a battered bus for a heart-warming journey of self-discovery, featuring glittering costumes, fabulous feathers and a non-stop parade of dance floor classics. Tickets at £31.50 plus £10 transport.

Book your tickets with me on 281997 or 07780 994297

We are hosting an Afternoon Tea at the Wilkins Centre Compton on **Saturday 14th March between 2pm and 4pm.** Please join us for Homemade Cakes and Scones with Tea/Coffee for only £1. Raffle tickets are available for some very nice prizes. A Prize Bingo Night will be held in Compton Village Hall on **Friday 27th March** starting at **7:30pm.** Come and win some Easter Goodies!! Great Raffles Prizes too!!

The Harrow Quiz Night on **Wednesday 25th March at 8pm** will be raising money for the Evergreens in memory of our great friend and valued member John Verney.

Please come and join us.

Thank you for supporting the Ilsley Evergreens.

Tony Elliott ~ Secretary



Emma Robinson M.Ost

call
07767 710360

email
emma@echo-osteopathy.com

book online
swanatstreatley.com



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Streatley-on-Thames



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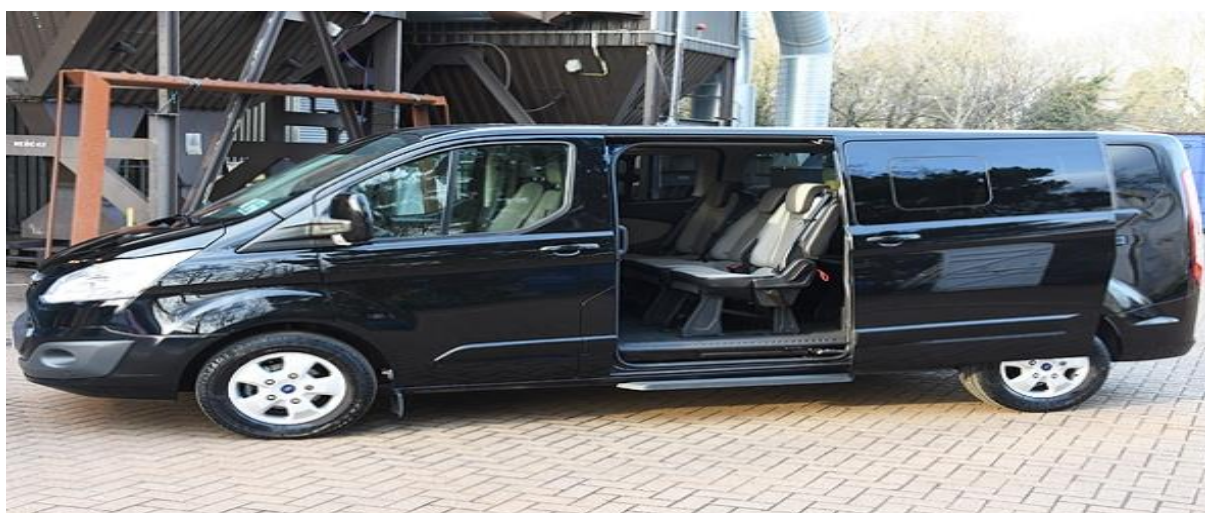
Extension cable 110 and 240 Volt, 16 Amp, 20 and 25 metre lengths.

All donations received for the equipment hiring will go too either Sheep Fair and/or Bonfire committee funds.

Contact Keith Pentecost Tel: 07985-797333 & 01635-281389 (East Ilsley)

www.klp-electrical.co.uk <http://www.electricalsafetyregister.com/>

Electrical Safety Council Product recall online link : www.esc.org.uk/real



Passenger Transport Services

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Email: info@gardenfella.co.uk



Hildesley Court
East Ilsley

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A LOCAL PART TIME JOB?
Do you live within 10 minutes of East Ilsley?

*We require an additional Relief Manager at Hildesley Court Estate in East Ilsley.
The main duties of the Relief Managers are to cover the Estate Managers' days off
which include some weekends.*

*This is a varied role, involving monitoring and responding to emergency call alarm system, dealing with
matters raised by residents, some minor administration and ensuring that the site is clean and tidy.*

*The posts will suite a person who is reliable, trustworthy and practical. No medical care or nursing is
involved, but a practical and flexible attitude together with a good sense of humour, is essential.
Training will be given.*

For more information please call the Estate Managers on:
01635 281302 or 07384 112891

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.



WELFORD PARK STRIDING TOWARDS A CURE.

Sunday 26 April 2020 - 10am

Join us on our 2.5 or 6.5 mile Walk for Parkinson's and enjoy the beautiful grounds and woodland of Welford Park

parkinsons.org.uk/walkwelford
fundraising@parkinsons.org.uk or call 0800 138 6593

Parkinson's UK is the operating name of the Parkinson's Disease Society of the United Kingdom.
A charity registered in England and Wales (258197) and in Scotland (SC037554). © Parkinson's UK

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Join us! Clare will be celebrating with a short informal reading and a few anecdotes enhanced by a glass of wine.

HOLD THE FRONT PAGE!

The Wit and Wisdom of Anne Scott-James

By Clare Hastings

Published by Pimpernel Press Anne Scott-James started her career working for Vogue, she went on to become the first woman's editor on Picture Post, before leaving to set up her own page on the Daily Express in 1954. Anne divided her time between a cottage in Aldworth and London. Anne was also the mother of the author Clare Hastings. This is a candid behind the scenes look at the first woman of Fleet Street.



on Wednesday 6th May from 7.15–8.30pm at Aldworth Village Hall RG8
9SE **RSVP by email: clare@indytute.com**

WEST BERKSHIRE
Solar Streets

A discount solar panel scheme from your local climate action group.

DID YOU KNOW.....
a 4kW solar PV system can cut your household CO2 emissions by about 10%?

That's why WBCAN came up with a scheme to make solar panels more affordable for homes in West Berks.

Next information evening:
Tues 24 Mar @ 7.30PM
Hampstead Norreys Village Hall
RG18 0TR

More than 800,000 British households use solar panels to reduce both their carbon footprint and their energy bills, but the cost of installation can be off-putting.

A community group is now offering West Berkshire residents solar panels at a reduced cost through bulk discounts and combined installation logistics. West Berkshire Climate Action Network successfully introduced its Solar Streets scheme to Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding villages last autumn. Working with its chosen renewable energy installer, IDDEA, who have completed over 800 installations since 2007, the scheme will now be rolled out to the rest of West Berkshire this spring and summer.

Details of the scheme are presented in information evenings for homeowners – the next are in the Hungerford Hub at 7pm on Thursday 19 March and Hampstead Norreys Village Hall at 7:30pm on Tuesday 24 March. Steve Ardagh-Walter, Executive Member for Environment at West Berkshire Council is supportive of the scheme: “It’s fantastic to hear about the positive reaction the Solar Streets scheme has had so far. I’m really pleased to hear that it will be expanded and that more residents will have the opportunity to save money and help protect our environment.”



Prepare your home for winter – energy efficiency grants and collective switching news from West Berkshire Council

Heat the Home Counties Energy efficiency grants

A consortium of councils (Bracknell Forest, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Runnymede, Spelthorne and West Berkshire), in partnership with the HEAT Project and Happy Energy Solutions Ltd are working together to make homes healthier, warmer, and more energy efficient. Grants are available towards measures such as boiler upgrades, central heating systems, insulation, and renewable energy systems.

Central heating grants funded by the consortium's successful bid to the National Grid's Warm Homes Fund; are also available. These are for households who currently have no heating, such as open fires or plug in electric heaters, or those who wish to switch from electric storage heaters to a full radiator heating system. Grant funding can also be provided towards the cost of a new mains gas connection, or, in rural areas, the new heating system can be fuelled from LPG, and in some cases, by a ground source heat pump.

You may be eligible for a grant if your household income after tax, Council Tax and energy costs is less than £35,000 per year, or if someone in your household receives benefits. Residents looking to take advantage of any of these grants can call Heat the Home Counties on 01344 888930, or go to www.heatthehomecounties.org.uk. All works are subject to survey, eligibility criteria and limited funding.

West Berkshire Energy Switch - See if you can pay less for your energy bills

The West Berkshire Energy Switch is a free to join scheme which gives residents the chance to see if they can make savings on their fuel bills.

Since 2016, over 660 households have switched supplier through the scheme, saving over £144,000 between them. The recent October auction saw switchers saving an average of £108 on their annual bill.

A one day reverse auction will be held in February; with suppliers competing with their best offers, and the winning supplier/s then sending registrants their personalised offer for consideration. Auctions are held each year in February, May and October.

There is no obligation to switch. Sign up and see if you can save; to register or find out more, visit www.westberks.gov.uk/communityswitch

You will need to have your latest energy bill to hand, as you'll need the details during the registration process.

Registration and acceptance is open until **24th March**, and offers will begin to go out from 24th February.

West Berkshire residents without internet access should contact West Berkshire Council on **01635 503267** by **13th March** to register. Remember to have your energy bill or annual statement to hand when you call.

NEWBURY THE WHARF - SHAW - HERMITAGE - HAMPSTEAD NORREYS - COMPTON - THE ILSLEYS

Connect
SERVICE

6

6a

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS

SERVICE No.	6a	6a	6	6	6	6	6
NEWBURY Station [T] ➡	.....	0842	1022	1222	1422	.....	1807
Newbury The Wharf [D]	0650	0850	1030	1230	1430	1615	1815
Newbury - Park Way [P]	0652	0852	1032	1232	1432	1617	1817
Donnington, The Castle Inn	0657	0857	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shaw Cemetery	.....	.....	1040	1240	1440	1625	1825
Chieveley, East Lane	0707	0907	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Beedon, Coach PH	0711	0911	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hermitage Post Office	.....	.....	1050	1250	1450	1635	1835
Hampstead Norreys, Water Street	.....	.....	1057	1257	1457	1642	1842
Compton, High St, opp The Swan	.....	.....	1105	1305	1505	1650	1850
East Ilsley, Broad Street	.....	.....	1109	1309	1509	1654	1854
WEST ILSLEY, The Harrow PH	0721	0925	1115	1315	1515	1700	.....

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS

SERVICE No.	6	6	6	6	6	6a	6a
WEST ILSLEY, The Harrow PH	0722	0930	1117	1317	1517	1702	.....
East Ilsley, Broad Street	0728	0936	1123	1323	1523	1708	1854
Compton, The Swan	0732	0941	1128	1328	1528	.....	.....
Hampstead Norrey, Water Street	0741	0950	1137	1337	1537	.....	.....
Hermitage Post Office	0748	0958	1145	1345	1545	.....	.....
Beedon, Coach & Horses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1721	1901
Chieveley, East Lane	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1725	1905
Donnington, The Castle Inn	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1729	1914
Shaw Cemetery	0756	1006	1153	1353	1553	.....	.....
Newbury, Park Way [Q]	0805	1012	1159	1359	1559	1733	1918
Newbury The Wharf [H]	0806	1013	1200	1400	1600	1735	1919
Newbury Station ➡	.....	1018	1205	1405	.....	.....	1922R
The Oaks	0816	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NEWBURY College	0818	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tesco The Triangle	0818	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Park House School, Monk's Lane	0821	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wash Common, Glendale Avenue	0825	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

No service on Sundays or Public Holidays. For additional journeys between Chieveley and Newbury, see Service 5c. Tickets are inter-available.

Notes:

— Served when the College is in session

— Served when the College is not in session

➡ — Rail station nearby

R — Continues to the Rail Station if requested by passengers



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*These services are
operated under
contract to West
Berkshire Council*



Service operated by



Contacts:

District Councillor

Carolyn Culver Tel: 07976374146 email:-Carolyn.culver1@westberks.gov.uk
District councillor for Ridgeway ward - West Berkshire Council

East Ilsley Parish Council

Cllr. Andrew Sharp	Vice Chairman	Tel: 07778 800 024	email:- Andrew@geckocomms.co.uk
Cllr. Brendan McGrath		Tel: 07875091410	email:- bmg81@me.com
Cllr. Stephen Meadows			email:- stephen.meadows88@gmail.com
Cllr. Tracey Murray			email:- muzzagang@aol.com
Cllr. Francesca Wilkins			email:- c_sidoli@hotmail.com
Mrs Fenella Woods	Parish Clerk	Tel: 07467611194	email:- clerk@eastilsley-pc.gov.uk

Hospital & GP Surgeries

West Berkshire Community Hospital	01635 273300
Royal Berkshire Hospital	0118 3225111
Radcliffe Infirmary	01865 311188
John Radcliffe	01865 741166
Downland Practice Chieveley	01635 248251

Police

Thames Valley Police	01865 841148
Non Emergency	101
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111

Schools

The Ilsleys Primary School	01635 281225
Ilsley Under Fives	01635 281327
The Downs Comprehensive School	01635 27000

Utilities

British Telecommunications	Faults 151	General 0118 957 5877
Southern Water	Emergency 0845 7708090	
Thames Water	Emergency 0845 9200800	
Southern Electricity	Emergency 08000727282 or 105	

Village Agent Service - direct line 01635 581001

West Berkshire Citizens Advice Bureau

CAB helpline 0300 222 5941

To access the National Citizens Advice website for initial information, visit www.adviceguide.org.uk.

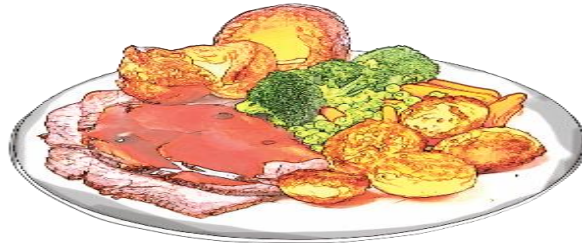
Downlands Area Handy Bus

Handybus Coordinator - Call: 07437 543 098 or 01635 578149

Email - dvg.handybus@gmail.com

Articles that did not make the final printed Edition for various reasons

The Downland Lunch Club



Delicious Food, Great Service
and Very Friendly!!

2 Courses and a Raffle for £3
Last Friday of each month in
Compton Village Hall at 12.30pm

Transport can be arranged from
East Ilsley

Call: 01635 578394

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: 2 February 2020

From: West Berkshire Climate Action Network (WBCAN)



We hear so much on the news at the moment about climate change and many of us want to be able to make a significant difference but it can be difficult to see how to do that in the most cost-effective ways. Switching to a renewable energy supplier such as Good Energy, Octopus or Bulb is a quick and easy way to reduce your household's carbon footprint but with 39% of the grid's electricity coming from renewable energy, we still have some way to go for the UK's overall electricity supply to be carbon zero. Installing solar panels on your roof can have multiple benefits – it can reduce your household's energy bills and carbon footprint of the order of 1.5 tonnes per year depending on exact configuration and usage, and it can also increase the capacity of renewable energy by selling unused energy back to the grid through the Smart Export Guarantee where electricity suppliers are required to offer a price per kWh for electricity exported to the grid*.

West Berkshire Climate Action Network are a community group who are working to help local residents to reduce their carbon footprint. They have started a scheme to offer residents of West Berkshire solar panels at a reduced cost through bulk discounts and combined installation logistics. This was successfully rolled out to Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding villages last autumn and is continuing this spring and summer across all of West Berkshire starting with Hungerford and the Ridgeway in March, followed by Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding villages in April and then Pangbourne in the summer. The community group have partnered with a renewable energy installer, IDDEA, to deliver the scheme. IDDEA were chosen as they were able to provide the discounts through the reduced combined installation costs and because they pride themselves on

the quality of their work. They have been trading since 2007 and have completed over 800 installations.

Details of the scheme are presented in information evenings where IDDEA present the options available and answer questions from homeowners. The next information evenings are Thursday 19th March 7-9pm at The Hungerford Hub, 2 Church Street, Hungerford RG17 0JG and Tuesday 24th March 7.30-9.30pm at Hampstead Norreys Village Hall, RG18 0TR with dates to be announced later in the year for Pangbourne. There will also be a second wave of installations in Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding villages throughout March and April. To be included in the second wave, email info@iddea.co.uk for your free survey.

Similar events last year have resulted in Solar Streets installations on homes in Thatcham and Newbury, all taking advantage of the discounts offered through the scheme for multiple installations in a community. The free information evenings explain the process of installing solar panels, detail the costs and benefits and review the latest technologies.

David Lister, leader of Thatcham Town Council and Martin Colston, leader of Newbury Town Council are both supporting the scheme. Martin Colston said: “The use of solar power is growing quickly. As it does the prices are coming down, but it can still be expensive. That’s why the West Berkshire Solar Streets scheme is so good: by grouping together, residents can have solar panels installed on their homes really cost-effectively. And the installer also makes a contribution to local environmental projects. The installers give straightforward advice, answer questions clearly, and all without any hard-sell. We are all facing the climate emergency, and all need to do what we can to reduce our own carbon footprint. The Solar Streets scheme is a great way to make a significant step”

Miriam Lee, founder of West Berkshire Climate Action Network, said “Last year's solar installations have gone well in Newbury and Thatcham with excellent reports from homeowners on the installation process and energy bill savings. Installations of solar panels have reduced energy bills and contributed to action on the climate emergency.”

One satisfied participant in the community project, Jo Leicester of Newbury said, “We are delighted with our solar panels installed by IDDEA through the WBCAN Newbury Solar Streets scheme. The installation was done efficiently within one day and the cost was less than other suppliers. We are

pleased to be reducing our carbon footprint, having lower bills and getting payment via the Smart Export Guarantee.”

Ian Dunstone, owner of IDDEA renewable energy systems said: “We are right to be concerned for the future of our environment but with recent technological advances, individuals can make a significant difference! My aim is to make the information as accessible as possible and let residents in West Berks understand the options available under the Solar Streets scheme.”

Schools and businesses can benefit from a power purchase agreement (PPA). Under this arrangement IDDEA's finance partner installs and owns the panels and then sells the electricity to the business or school at a reduced rate.

*Further information on the SEG is available at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-for-small-scale-low-carbon-generation

ENDS

Notes for editors (not for publication):

Contact: **Miriam Lee**, Founder, West Berkshire Climate Action Network

WestBerksCAN@gmail.com

Contact: **Martin Colston**, Leader, Newbury Town Council **Phone:** 01635 36591 **Email:**

martin.colston@newbury.gov.uk

Contact: **Jo Leicester** joanne.leicester@gmail.com

Contact: **Ian Dunstone**, IDDEA, 01380 726999

Solar Streets: www.iddea.co.uk/what-is-solar-streets/

Case studies: www.iddea.co.uk/case-study/

Smart Export Guarantee: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/smart-export-guarantee-seg/about-smart-export-guarantee-seg>

Frome Town Council: www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/your-community/resilience/solar-streets/

Wikipedia Solar Photovoltaic system: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photovoltaic_system



Victims First launches video to help young people spot the signs of relationship abuse

Victims First, which supports victims of crime and abuse across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, has today (5/11) launched a video to raise awareness of coercive control and emotional abuse in relationships.

Following on from Victims First's 'Know It Isn't Love' campaign launched in February this year, the video, 'Don't Disappear' highlights the red flags to look out for in a relationship which can be the warning signs of controlling behaviour and abuse.

Coercive control became a criminal offence in 2015 and involves an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse by a perpetrator that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.

Although many people associate domestic abuse with physical violence, coercive control recognises the damaging impact of other forms of abuse in relationships as well.

'Don't Disappear' follows the story of Jamie and Emma, from the seemingly loving early stages of their relationship, to the development of abusive behaviour.

Although anyone can be a victim of coercive control, 'Don't Disappear' is particularly aimed at younger people who may have less experience of relationships or people who are at the beginning of a relationship, to raise awareness of the red flags which at the time, may be missed or misinterpreted as acceptable behaviour.

The video covers a range of controlling behaviours exhibited from Jamie to Emma including:

- Jealousy and possessiveness including accusations of flirting and cheating
- Isolating her from her family and friends
- Controlling the use of her phone and social media
- Constantly checking on her whereabouts
- Sudden outbursts of anger and mood changes, and
- Love bombing - showering her with excessive affection and attention in order to retain control

Although in this example Emma is the victim, both men and women can be victims or perpetrators of coercive control which can take place in heterosexual and same sex relationships.

Other examples of coercive control include, depriving someone of basic needs, monitoring their time and activities, taking control over aspects of their everyday life such as where they can go or who they can see, humiliating, degrading or dehumanising someone, controlling their finances and making threats or intimidating behaviour.

Matthew Barber, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner said "The impact of coercive and controlling relationships on victims can be damaging and long term; affecting their health, wellbeing and future relationships.

"Responses from our previous survey of victims in the Thames Valley showed that over half the abusive relationships began when the victim was under the age of 25. A primary aim of 'Don't

Disappear' therefore is to help young people, some of who may not have much relationship experience, identify and recognise abusive behaviours.

“Controlling, manipulative and bullying behaviours are not present in healthy relationships. These behaviours can escalate so it’s important that we continue to raise awareness of these red flags to help people recognise them and where necessary seek support.

“If anyone does feel that the behaviour they are facing in their relationship is abusive I would encourage them to contact Victims First on 0300 1234 148.”

Nazia Ahmed, Victims First Officer said “Since our ‘Know This Isn’t Love’ campaign, we’ve supported many people who have contacted us about abuse in their relationship. We’ve listened to their needs and provided emotional and practical support to help them to move forward with their lives.

“Coercive and controlling behaviours can develop gradually and because of this some people can find it difficult to recognise their relationship as abusive. If you’re not sure if what you’re experiencing is abuse, or if something just doesn’t feel right, you can contact us. We know it can be hard to describe what you have been experiencing but we will listen to you and we will work with you to get you some support.”

Don’t Disappear can be viewed on the Victims First website www.victims-first.org.uk, on You Tube at <https://youtu.be/d6rt8w5HBWw> or on the Victims First Facebook page @VictimsFirstTV

Quotes from victims of coercive control

Female victims of coercive control, aged 25 – 34 when relationship started. Victim experienced emotional abuse, control, (including financial control) intimidation and physical abuse.

“I feel like I was often made to feel bad about myself, guilty for having me time, seeing friends and family and not spending quality time together. I was made to feel bad about what I wore to work, he used to say why are you wearing that? I’d ask why not and he would say fine if that’s the sort of attention you want. I felt like he completely took advantage of me and I was doing everything to keep him happy and not thinking about myself anymore. I felt trapped and isolated in the relationship.

“Listen to people around you and go with your gut feeling. I didn’t recognise it was abuse for a while although I felt he was unfair I always gave the benefit of the doubt. I wasn’t honest with my friends and family about everything he was doing and saying as I wanted them to like him in case he changed or things got better.

“The past year for me has been incredibly difficult and has caused me to have panic attacks along with the debts I now have to repay for several years. I never felt my case was that bad but the damage I feel it has caused is much more than I realised initially and I think it will take a long time to recover from.”

Female victim of coercive control aged under 16 at the start of the relationship

“He called me a s**g and told me I flirted with people if I spoke to them. He would stop me seeing friends and did not want me to socialise without him at all. He would verbally abuse me to have sex with him if I didn’t want to. He hit me, spat at me and intimidated me. He stalked me when the relationship ended and threatened to kill himself if the relationship did not resume.

“I didn’t feel abused at the time. I just thought he had some ‘anger issues’ and eventually I just did not have any love left for him.

“Abusive wouldn't have been the first word I used to describe our relationship for many years, as it was so many other things at the same time.

“I would say that just because they might not always be abusive or controlling. Just because they have some good qualities or some redeeming ways of being that it does not mean you aren't being abused or the relationship isn't abusive”.

Female victim of coercive control aged 25 – 34 when relationship started

“He made me feel guilty for speaking to male colleagues. Accused me of flirting if I wore a short skirt (just above the knee, in winter with thick tights) to work (where my legs would always be under a desk). He timed my journeys home from work and persistently questioned me on why it had taken so long to get home. He questioned me to try and catch me out if when I had gone out with friends - especially with male friends (who I had been friends with since childhood). He told me my friends/family were not worth my time and when we socialised, sat sullen, or in another room or make excuses not to go.

“I felt manipulated although at the time I did not recognise it as abuse. It was over 2 years later that I made the links. At the time I felt sad and as though the relationship was very hard work - but typically the control and negativity was interspersed with nice times, and doing nice things - in hindsight these times were when he had my undivided attention and we were away from areas where we were likely to see anyone who knew me or us. Retrospectively I feel as though I was manipulated, tricked, hoodwinked, played. I had to work hard to reconnect with my friends as I had alienated them.

“I was a young woman.... I absolutely did not recognise what was happening to me. I did not recognise I was being controlled.”

Editors notes

Interview requests should be sent to victimsfirstcomms@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

- Victims First is managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley. It provides free emotional and practical support to all victims and witnesses of crime or abuse, as well as family members of victims. It is available across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire and can provide help regardless of whether or not the crime has been reported to the police.
- To speak to a member of the Victims First team and to receive support please call **0300 1234 148**.
- You can also find more information or make a referral for support online at www.victims-first.org.uk

Survey findings

In 2019 Victims First surveyed victims of coercive control across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire and had 670 people respond who described 811 relationships. Some key findings included:

- A third of people who responded to our survey have been in more than one abusive relationship

-
-
-
- Half of the abusive relationships began when the victim was under the age of 25
 - 45% of people who responded to our survey were in the abusive relationship for more than 10 years

The most common types of behaviour that victims faced was verbal abuse, isolation from friends and family and emotional abuse, including gaslighting (manipulating someone into doubting their sanity).

- 79% had experience verbal abuse, shouting and name calling
- 74% had experienced gaslighting or emotional abuse
- 71% had been isolated from their friends or family
- 62% had been victims of extreme jealousy or obsessive behaviour
- 53% had been manipulated into doing things they were uncomfortable with
- 51% had experienced their finances being controlled
- 48% had been threatened with violence to keep them controlled



Protecting yourself online.

As the world moves more towards being online, it's important that we don't forget to protect ourselves from cyber crime. It can be daunting having to learn new processes like online banking and keeping in touch with our friends and families on social media, but did you know that £1.7million was lost to cyber criminals by residents in the Thames Valley between April 2018 and March 2019?

Here are some of the simple actions that you can take to protect yourself online:

Use a strong, separate password for your email. By creating a separate password for your email account, you're securing yourself should your password be stolen from an

account elsewhere. Choose three random words and substitute letters for numbers to make the password harder for someone else to guess.

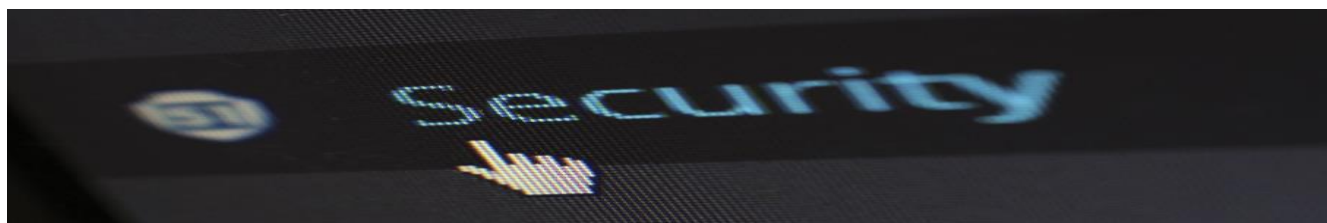
Watch out for fake emails and texts asking for your information. These are called phishing messages, and they can sometimes look like they're from genuine sources. Look out for tell-tale signs such as poor spelling and grammar, incorrect email addresses and requests for information or payment out of the blue. Never give out your personal information unless you are sure it's from a trusted source.

Install the latest software and app updates. You wouldn't put an old set of tyres on your car. Why would you trust old software to protect your personal data? Software and apps are regularly updated to secure against the newest viruses and online threats. Check the settings on your phone and computer to make sure you have the latest updates installed. Call your manufacturer or go on their website if you're not sure how to do this.

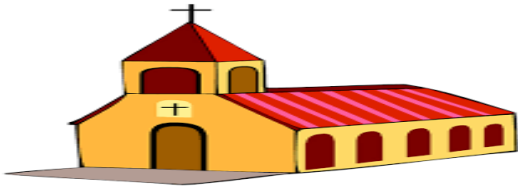
Secure your social media. Social media is a great way for us to keep in touch with loved ones and share our lives with them, but would you want a stranger to see this? Check the settings of your social media accounts to make sure you have adequate privacy filters enabled.

More details on how to protect yourself from cyber crime can be found on the [Thames Valley Police website](#).

If you think you have been a victim of an online scam, you should report this to Action Fraud on their website or by calling 0300 123 2040.



(This was article missed out the Christmas Edition)



St Patrick's Catholic Church East Ilsley

Christmas 2019

It's been a difficult year for all of us. Amidst political turmoil, there have been anxieties about a return to the problems of a hundred years ago - economic instability, political extremism, and pessimism about what the future holds. Meanwhile the Cross of Christ stands firm: during the dark nights of Advent and Christmas, the Church proclaims the Gospel of Light and Love. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. Jesus Christ is the embodiment of the Love of God for humankind.

The community at St Patrick's, East Ilsley, is quite small-scale – a couple of dozen people on the average Sunday – but it is a place of deep community and warmth. Newcomers are always welcome. We hope to see very many of you over Christmas: at St Mary's, East Hendred, there is a crib service for small children at 4pm on Christmas Eve. Masses at St Mary's are at 8pm on Christmas Eve and at 9.30am on Christmas Day. There will also be an 11.15am Mass at St Patrick's, East Ilsley, on Christmas Day.

A happy and blessed Christmas to you and your families and prayers and best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Fr Andrew

Results of the East Ilsley Village Survey 2019

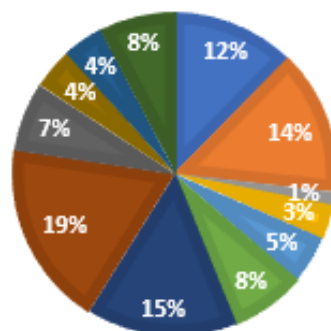
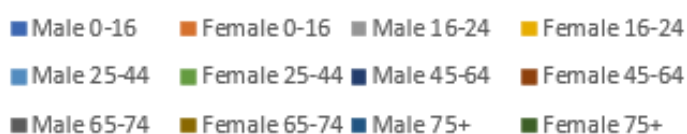
As of 2019 the Electoral Register stated that 461 people were of voting age in East Ilsley. This survey was sent to all households in the Village. A total number of 146 surveys were returned which equates to a 32% response rate. This was 60 households in total, made up on 146 individuals within those households.

Section 1: You and your household

Age Range of Residents

Person	No of persons
Male 0-16	18
Female 0-16	21
Male 16-24	2
Female 16-24	5
Male 25-44	7
Female 25-44	11
Male 45-64	22
Female 45-64	27
Male 65-74	10
Female 65-74	6
Male 75+	6
Female 75+	11

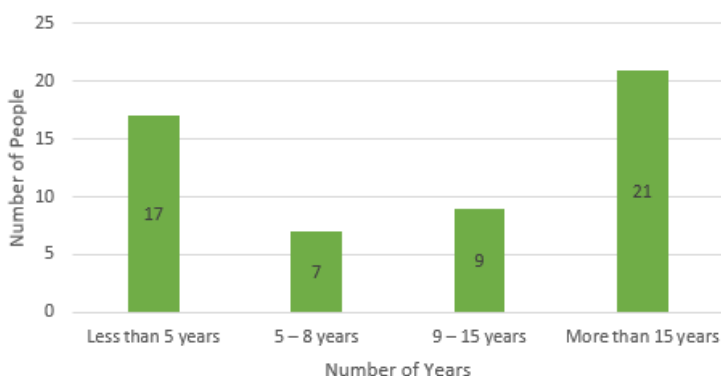
AGE OF RESIDENTS



How long have you lived in East Ilsley?

Less than 5 years	17
5 – 8 years	7
9 – 15 years	9
More than 15 years	21

Length of time in Village



Section 2: Housing Needs

Is this your main residence?

Yes = 59

No = 1

About the Dwelling

Home Category

No of
Bedrooms

Bungalow

Flat

Dwelling Type

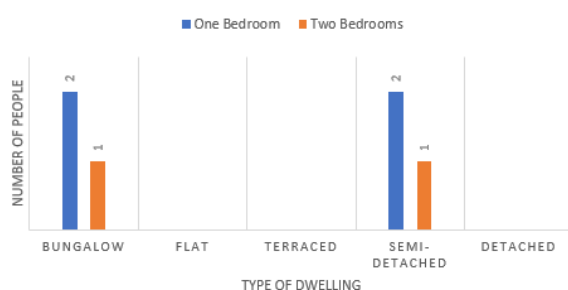
Terraced

Semi-
Detached

Detached

Housing Association	1	2			2		
	2	1			1		
Private Rental	2			1			1
	3				1		
	4	1					
Owner Occupied	1			1			
	2			3	4	4	
	3				2	5	4
	4				1	5	9
	5						4
	6						3
Provided as part of employment (e.g. tied house)	2			2			

CATEGORY: HOUSING ASSOCIATION



CATEGORY: PRIVATE RENTAL

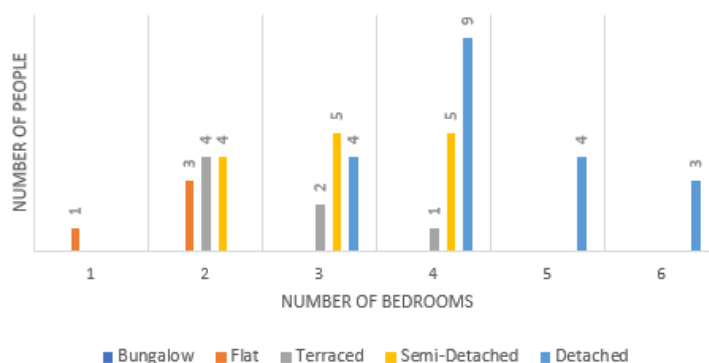


Is any individual, or your whole household, in need of alternative accommodation in the parish at this moment in time (or within the next 12 months)? One answer per household.

Yes = 1

No = 59

CATEGORY: OWNER OCCUPIER



Future Needs

Your plans, and those of any members of your household, to form a new and separate home within East Ilsley in the future (i.e. future = 12 months+).

Home Category	No of bedrooms	Home type (Please tick one only)				
		Bungalow	Flat	Terraced	Semi-detached	Detached
Housing Association	2			1		
Private rental	2		1			1
Owner occupied	3					
	3					2
	4	2				2
	5					

This table is self-explanatory, no graphical representation needed

Future new East Ilsley residents

We would like to know of anyone you know who currently lives outside East Ilsley but who would like to live in or return to East Ilsley in the future.)

Number of new separate homes you think might be required = **35**

For each separate home you have identified, can you tell us about the category of home needed, number of bedrooms, and the preferred home type.

Home Category	No of bedrooms	Home type (Please tick one only)				
		Bungalow	Flat	Terraced	Semi-detached	Detached
Affordable rented	3			1		
	3+	5			5	1
Private rental	2	1				
Housing association / Shared Ownership	2			1		
Supported	3				1	
Owner occupied	2	2			2	
	3				1	1
	4	1				2
Other						

This table is self-explanatory, no graphical representation needed

Local Connection

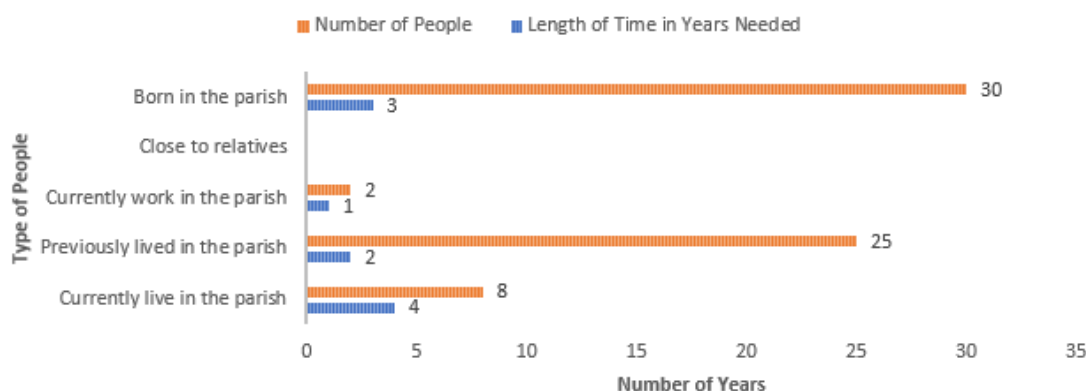
Do any of the people identified in your household, or potential new residents, need a housing association rented or shared ownership home?

**If so, for how long?
(i.e. number of years)**

Currently live in the parish	4	8
Previously lived in the parish	2	25
Currently work in the parish	1	2
Close to relatives		
Born in the parish	3	30
Are they registered on the district council's housing waiting list?	No	2

See graph on next page

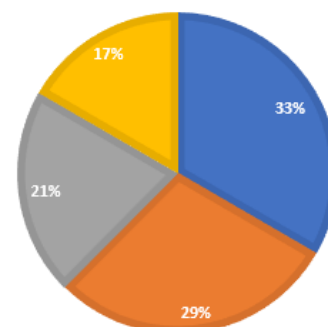
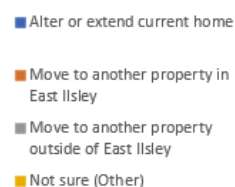
NEED FOR HA / SHARED OWNERSHIP HOUSING & LENGTH OF TIME



HOUSING NEED

What would best meet your housing needs?

Alter or extend current home	8
Move to another property in East Ilsley	7
Move to another property outside of East Ilsley	5
Not sure (Other)	4



Does anything affect the type of home you need?

All responses ticked NO.

If you wish to move to a new house, but cannot, what are the reasons preventing you?

Unable to afford to buy new home	4
Lack of affordable private rental properties	1
Lack of social or shared ownership properties	0
Lack of suitable housing to meet my needs	6
Location of employment	3
Unable to afford moving costs	1
Family reasons	3
Other (Please give your reason below.)	0

WHY PEOPLE ARE NOT MOVING HOME

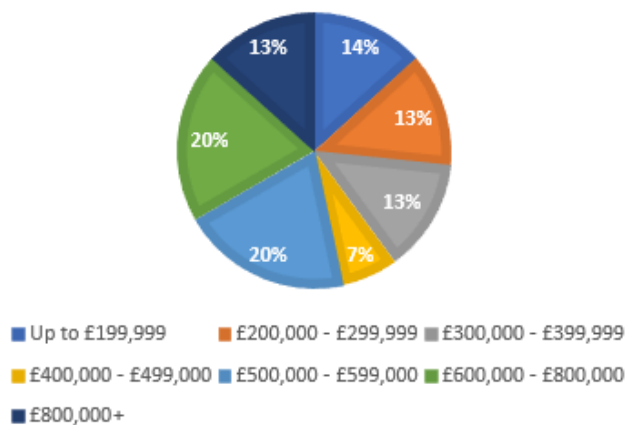


How many members of your home have been forced to move out of East Ilsley due to lack of suitable housing? We will assume that each one would have formed a separate home.
Answer = 6

If owner occupier accommodation is required, at what price range are you looking to purchase?

Up to	2
£199,999	
£200,000 -	2
£299,999	
£300,000 -	2
£399,999	
£400,000 -	1
£499,000	
£500,000 -	3
£599,000	
£600,000 -	3
£800,000	
£800,000+	2

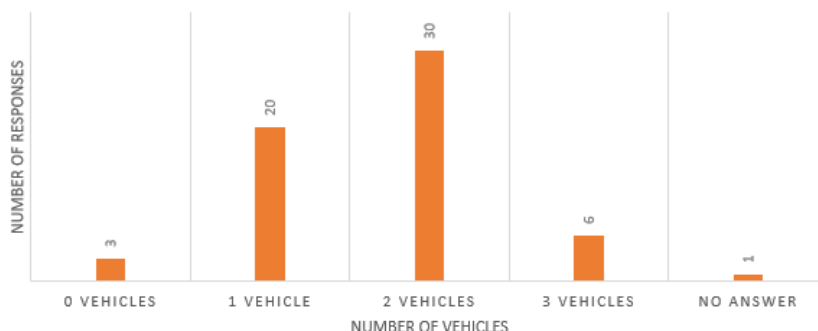
VALUE RANGE FOR NEXT HOME PURCHASE



How many vehicles (excluding motorcycles / scooters) does your household have for private use (do not include commercial/work vehicles)?

Number of Vehicles	Number of Responses
0 Vehicles	3
1 Vehicle	20
2 Vehicles	30
3 Vehicles	6
No Answer	1

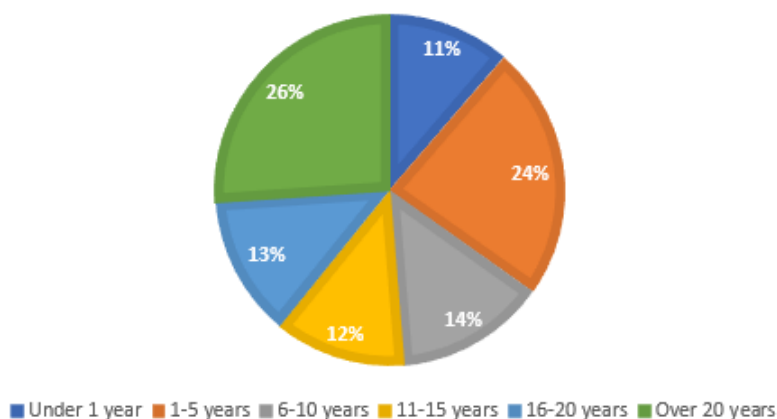
NUMBER OF VEHICLES PER HOUSEHOLD



How long have you lived in the village?

Under 1 year	13
1-5 years	27
6-10 years	16
11-15 years	14
16-20 years	15
Over 20 years	30

LENGTH OF TIME LIVED IN THE VILLAGE



Are you at present:

An employee

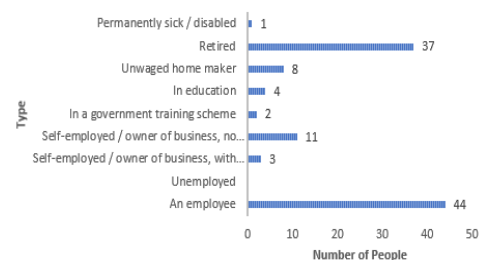
Unemployed

Self-employed / owner of business, with employees 3

Self-employed / owner of business, no 11

employees	
In a government training scheme	2
In education	4
Unwaged home maker	8
Retired	37
Permanently sick / disabled	1

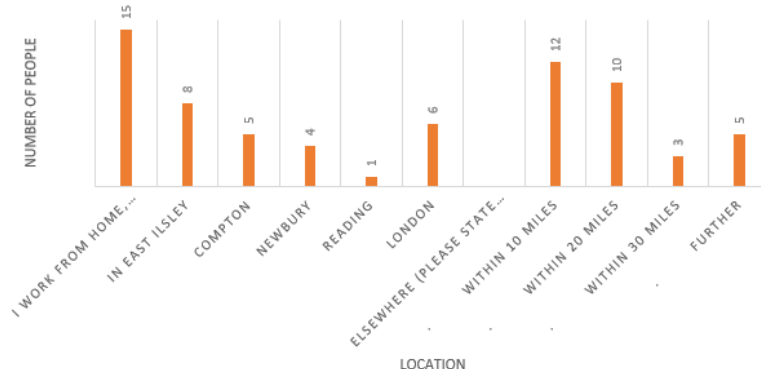
PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES



Where is your main place of work, education or training?

I work from home, all/most of the time	15
In East Ilsley	8
Compton	5
Newbury	4
Reading	1
London	6
Elsewhere (please state below)	
• Within 10 miles	12
• Within 20 miles	10
• Within 30 miles	3
• Further	5

LOCATIONS FOR WORK / SCHOOL / TRAINING

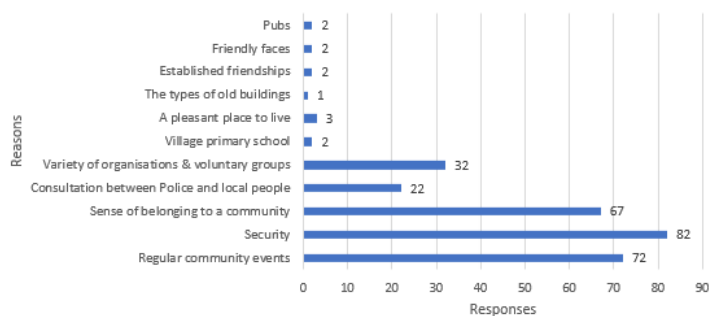


Section 3: Community Development (Needs for the Future)

Which of these do you consider contributes most to the strength of the village community, and helps to maintain the character and distinctiveness of East Ilsley?

Regular community events	72
Feeling of security, for example, it is safe to walk at night	82
Sense of belonging to one caring community	67
Active consultation between Police and local people	22
A good variety of organisations and voluntary groups	32
Other (Please give your reason below.)	
Village primary school	2
A pleasant place to live	3
The types of old buildings – maintains character.	1
Established friendships	

Attributes of the Village



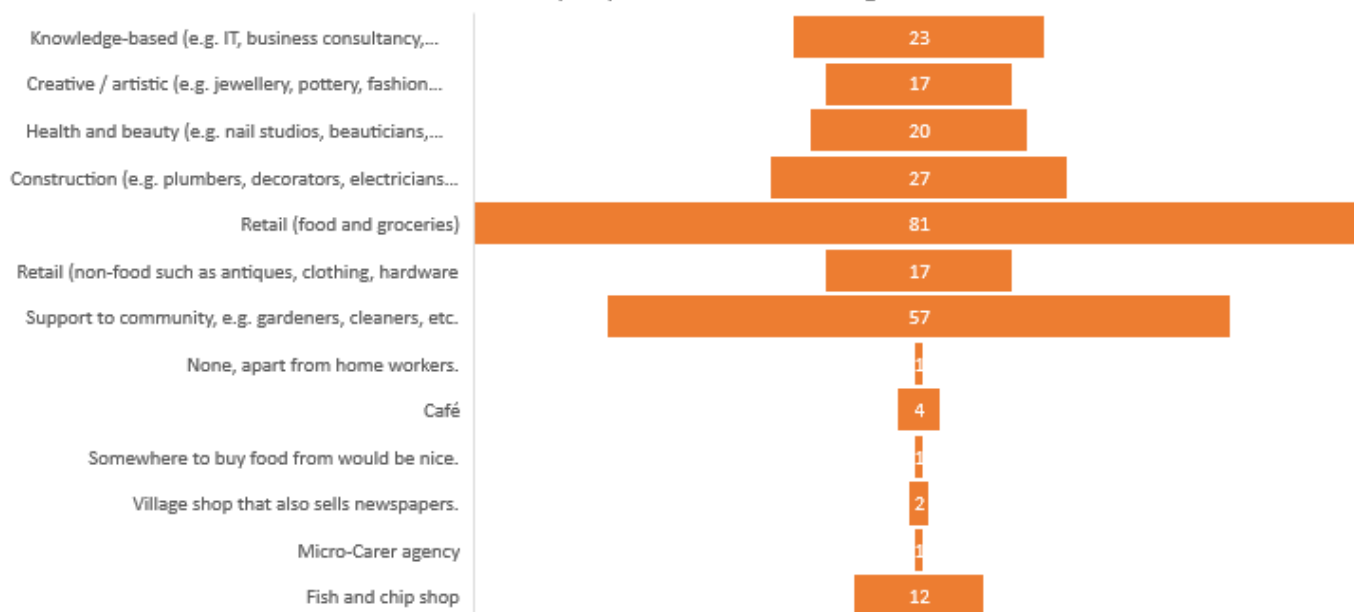
Friendly faces all the time	2
Pubs	2
	2

Note: we asked for 3 boxes only to be ticked, some responses ticked more than 3

What types of additional business should we most encourage to start up in or around East Ilsley if the opportunity arose?

Knowledge-based (e.g. IT, business consultancy, accountancy etc.)	23
Creative / artistic (e.g. jewellery, pottery, fashion design etc.)	17
Health and beauty (e.g. nail studios, beauticians, hairdressers etc.)	20
Construction (e.g. plumbers, decorators, electricians etc.)	27
Retail (food and groceries)	81
Retail (non-food such as antiques, clothing, hardware	17
Support to community, e.g. gardeners, cleaners, etc.	57
Other (please give your reason below).	
None, apart from home workers.	1
Café	4
Somewhere to buy food from would be nice.	1
Village shop that also sells newspapers.	2
Micro-Carer agency	1
Fish and chip shop	12

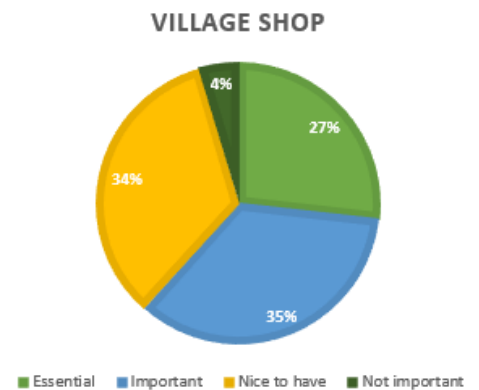
What people want in the Village



In the future, do you think that the Village Development Settlement Boundary should be:

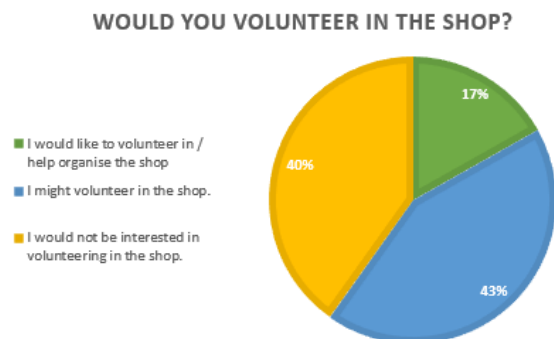
Retained as it is now.	48
Extended to permit limited residential development.	38

Extended to permit substantial residential development.	4
Extended for limited residential and commercial development.	21
Extended for substantial residential and commercial development.	4



Village Shop – do you believe having a community shop is:

Essential	30
Important	39
Nice to have	38
Not important	5



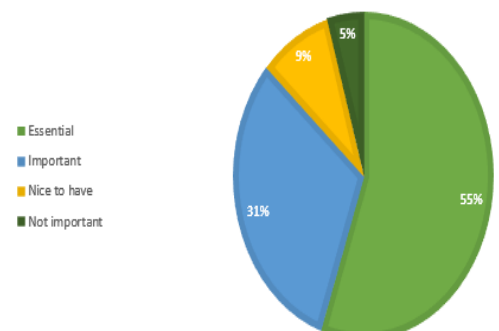
Volunteering to help run and work in a village shop facility:

I would like to volunteer in / help organise the shop	18
I might volunteer in the shop.	46
I would not be interested in volunteering in the shop.	43

How important are the pubs to the East Ilsley community?

Essential	62
Important	35
Nice to have	10
Not important	5

HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE TWO PUBS IN THE VILLAGE



Please indicate how often you or family members use the pubs?

Most days	2
2 or 3 times a week	8

About once a week	24
Between weekly and once a month	40
Less than once a month	32
Have never used the pubs (In the last five years – 2)	5

Can you suggest any improvements to make the pubs more attractive for you to use more frequently?

Below is a list of options and the number of responses given to that option. No graphical representation available.

Do not like pub culture. We do not drink, therefore as above, not important to us but most decisions on the village are made in the pub, it seems, therefore more ought to be done to ensure it is not just the pub goers that always influence village life!	1
Serve food earlier, especially at weekends – from 5.00 pm for example, for families	4
More community-based events / local offers i.e. pop in for tea and cake after school run or discounts, as it becomes pricey to eat there regularly.	1
Permanent landlord at the Crown and Horns (to build relationship with the community)	4
Serve consistently decent, good food	5
Create a friendly atmosphere.	2
Live music	1
Good restaurant	2
Better food	6
Cleaner feel	2
Good, welcoming bar staff	3
No dogs	1
Culinary nights	5
Offers for locals	2
High ambiance standards	2
Pre-ordered takeaways	7
Serve as a shop and for newspapers	2
Events to bring the village together	1
Currently put off by some of the noisy crowd that use the Swan pub. I feel I don't know people when I go in. It is difficult to visit on my own as a single woman without others.	1
Not interested in the pubs	1
Not interested in the pubs	1
Both businesses are hamstrung by financial / tenancy constraints, so it's easy to criticise. They do a good job.	2
The Swan pub is very welcoming. No improvements needed.	2
Decent chef and better food.	2
One pub serving good food and one serving gastro-type food	2
A 'coffee shop' in the mornings	2
Gastro pub/ better management	1
Selection of food	1
A regular pub quiz	2
Quiz nights / race nights	4
Looking after the beer	1

Nicer wine	3
Cost of food, wine and beer is expensive.	3
Continue developing food offered	1
Happy hour	1
Ladies' Night	2
Cheaper beer	2
Better value meals	2
Music nights	2
Selling newspapers, stamps, groceries, cash machine, a notice board	1
Not sure if they do this already, but coffee at mid-morning!	1
Discounts / offers for EI residents	1
More community events	1
Be freehold, and not managed for a brewery	1
Family friendly activities	3
Lower the prices	2
Hold more frequent events, e.g. bingo, quizzes	2
Remove the unruly element from the Swan, then perhaps residents might use it more.	2
Better food in the Crown	1
More atmospheric lighting in the Swan	1
The language in the Swan sometimes.	1
Sensible prices in the Crown and Horns	2
Extended light bites menu throughout the day and evening.	
Decorate and maintain externally for greater kerb appeal.	
Better maintained.	

The Village Churches

Is St Mary's Church important to you?	
For church services	24
For baptisms	9
For weddings	5
For funerals	6
For its graveyard ground	9
As a focal point for the community	33
As an historic building	45
Not important	6
Don't use the church	26

Do you believe that it would be a good idea for St Mary's Church to improve the heating, toilet and catering facilities of the church building so that it can be used more for community events?

Yes	73
No	11
Don't know	25

Are there any other purposes you believe the community could use the church building for more often?

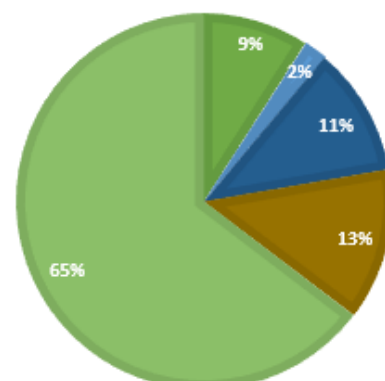
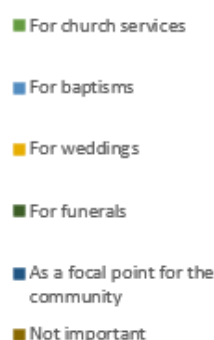
Below is a list of options and the number of responses given to that option. No graphical representation available.

Social events	3
Coffee mornings	4
We use Compton Church (St Mary's) as we are regular church goers but there is not the same sense of community or welcome at East Ilsley historically at least).	
School concerts	3
Community meetings	16
Network events	1
Toddler group	4
Youth groups	4
Club and organisations	4
Entertainment / shows	2
Heritage / history / museum	2
Dinners / dances	3
Community markets	1
Community events	5
Base for occasional shop for food/groceries	1
Village hall	1
Fitness classes	2
Shop	2
A meeting place for community events, playgroups, hobbies' clubs – singing, book club, exercise groups, talks, dog training, family parties etc.	1
I would not like this – it's a church. A place for worship. NO yoga or drinking as other churches sometimes do.	1
Social gatherings, kids' club, fund raising events e.g. jumble sale, coffee mornings.	

Is St Patrick's Church important to you?

For church services	9
For baptisms	2
For weddings	
For funerals	
As a focal point for the community	11
Not important	13
Don't use the church	64

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH USES



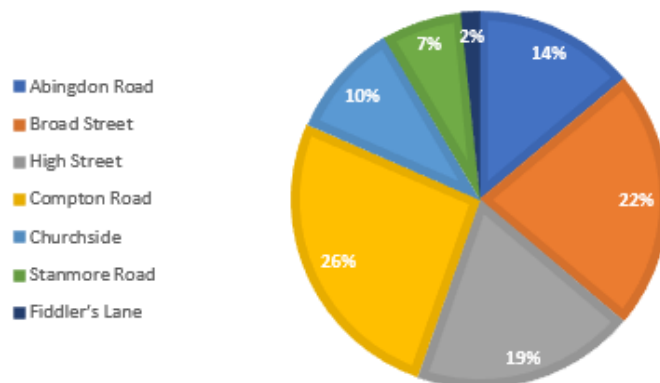
Are there any other purposes you believe the community could use St Patrick's church building for more often?

Coffee morning	1
Clear space for housing and parking.	1
As a village hall.	1
Parish council meetings	2
As I have no information about Saint Patrick's church I cannot comment.	3
Base for occasional food/grocery shop	1
None due to lack of parking facilities on a narrow road.	1
Small group meetings if they were happy about it.	1
Community events and meetings	13

Would your concerns about road safety be addressed by the introduction of more traffic-calming measures (speed limit / speed bumps) in:

Abingdon Road	18
Broad Street	29
High Street	25
Compton Road	34
Churchside	13
Stanmore Road	9
Fiddler's Lane	2

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES LOCATIONS



Is parking in East Ilsley is an increasing problem?

	Yes	No
Do you think we should make provision for a car park somewhere in the village?	39	29

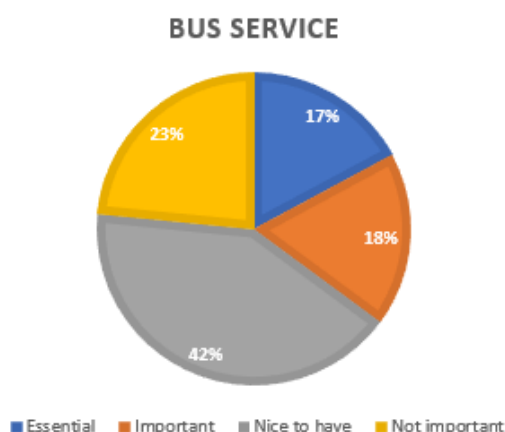
Do you think there is a need to improve or provide more pavements in the parish? (one answer per household).

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

No	43
Yes (Please state where.)	
Cow Lane	7
Broad Street	3
Junction of Broad Street and High Street	7
By the school	2
Cars should not be allowed to park on pavements	1
Parking bays should be provided	1
Compton Road	18
No pavement between Stanmore Rd and the High Street.	4
No continuous pavement along Broad Street	1
Speedbumps on Abingdon Rd just after 30 mph	1
Speedbumps between Crown and Horns and Poplar Cottage	1
School Lane and Compton Road	2
Tricky but road bend where road goes to Compton – too narrow.	1
Left hand side of road going to the Millennium Green	2
Abingdon Road	2
Church Side	2
Compton Road / Cow Lane	2
Widen the pavement on the slip road	1

How important is the Newbury & District local bus service to you?

Essential	19
Important	20
Nice to have	46
Not important	26



How often do you use the local bus service?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

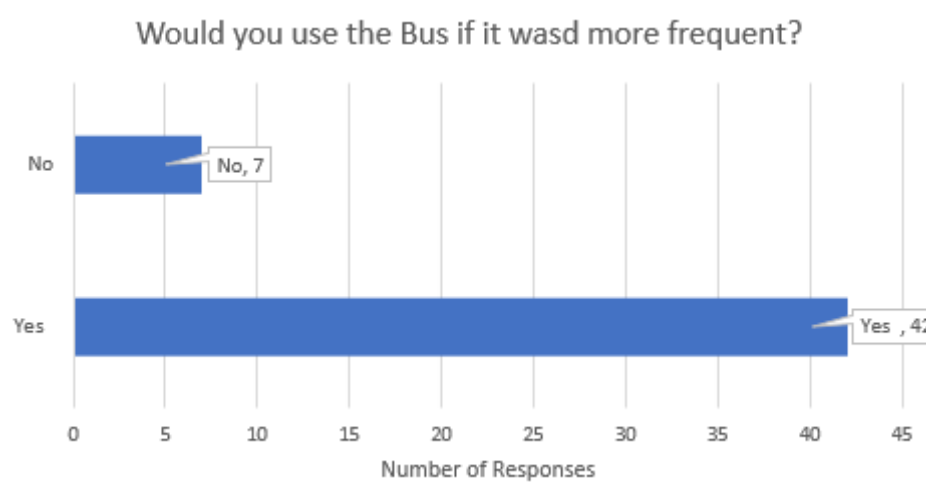
Daily	1
Weekly	4
Fortnightly	4
Monthly	21
Never (Please give your reason below.)	29
Own a car.	24
Not frequent enough. Would be useful if it went to Didcot Station	1

Occasionally	
Never due to lack of frequency. Public transport routes in EI are poor; no way of getting to Oxford.	2
Not at times needed and takes too long to get anywhere	2
Fortunately, I still drive but soon will probably need the bus and will be glad of it.	
I drive but given my age I am sure I will need the service in the future.	3
Too infrequent.	1
Have no choice but to put up with the current service. If I had to use the bus it would need to be more frequent.	1
We own a car, but its essential for student and older residents.	3
Can still drive, but is essential going forward.	1
Takes too long to get anywhere	2
While I can drive, not absolutely necessary	4
Buses are too infrequent, and the last service is too early.	2
Poor mobility – need to use a wheelchair that fits in the car.	2
I have limited mobility and rely on my daughter to take me in her car.	2
We would if it was cheaper than £8 / person to go into Newbury.	2

Would you use the local bus service is it was more frequent?

Yes 42

No 7



What, if any, changes or additions to village facilities or amenities would you find most useful, which have not been mentioned in this questionnaire?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

Improvements to play area	3
A hall or meeting place or cafe	5
Improvements to the tennis court	1
A regular monthly event for villagers	1
Improved bus routes / frequency of service	5
Diversion of A34 traffic.	1
Satellite surgery / Pharmacy	2
Visitors' centre	2

Tearoom/café - part of community shop	4
Post Office – part of community shop	3
Newspaper shop	5
Hairdressers	1
Village shop	11
Taxi service in village	1
Compton shop stopped the delivery of newspapers to East/West Ilsley – new distributor / supplier needed.	3
Sports facility – similar to Chieveley and for school use	4
A small petrol station in the village somewhere	1
Somewhere for OAPs to meet for coffee and interactions.	2
Village hall (but not a church)	3
A tool-sharing club – for lawnmowers etc. Items we don't all use constantly and which we could save money on. The kind of stuff that is in garages and doesn't get used a lot by one person, but would be used a lot if it was shared.	1
Review parking in Abingdon Road, especially close to the crossroads as its becoming increasingly difficult to see/drive against the traffic coming into the village.	2
Post office (even if unlikely)	1
More information about the Trust Fund	1
Land for private homes	2
Pathway to Compton from end of Haydon Lane	3
The playground seems little used. It is often wet and muddy with long grass – difficult for pushchairs, and no shelter or accessible toilets	1
Children's area	2
Greater village usage of Millennium Green	2
More facilities in the play area, more swings, and a shelter – nowhere to go if it rains. Toddler frame not very safe for toddlers.	
Change gates at the recreation field to auto-close to stop dogs getting in and pooing all over the kids' play area. Currently a big problem!	
Village shop or some facility in the pubs to provide basics.	
Install a tennis court.	1
Village hall would be good but we could adapt the churches maybe.	2

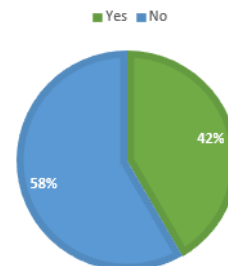
Section 4: Education

This section is about your views on schools and education in our Village.

Pre-school

Do your eligible children attend pre-school?	Yes 5
	No 7
If Yes, which one do you use?	Compton 1
	Chieveley 3
If No, what is your reason?	N/A 5
Would you use a toddler group if there	Yes 4

PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN ATTEND PRE-SCHOOL



was one in the village? No 6

Other suggestions or ideas (please state).

Primary School

Do your eligible children use the existing village primary school? Yes 11

No 7

If No, please give your reason below.

Not applicable

3

They did when young; now grown up.

1

1

If my children were of age, I would look at Compton school first.

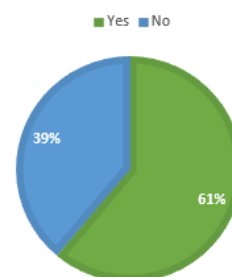
1

No afterschool provision or local childminders at the time we applied for schools.

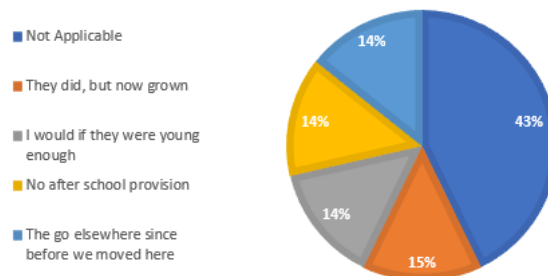
They go to a primary school in another village which they were attending before we moved to East Ilsley.

1

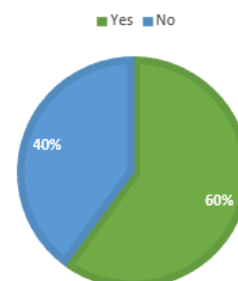
PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN WHO USE THE PRIMARY SCHOOL



REASONS WHY THEY DON'T USE THE PRIMARY SCHOOL



PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN WHO ATTEND THE DOWNS SECONDARY SCHOOL



Secondary School

Do your eligible children attend the Downs Secondary School? Yes 9 No 6

If No, please give your reason below.

Not applicable

4

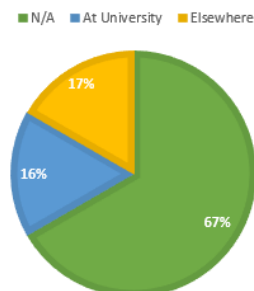
Did, but now at university

1

Attend St Gabriel's, Newbury

1

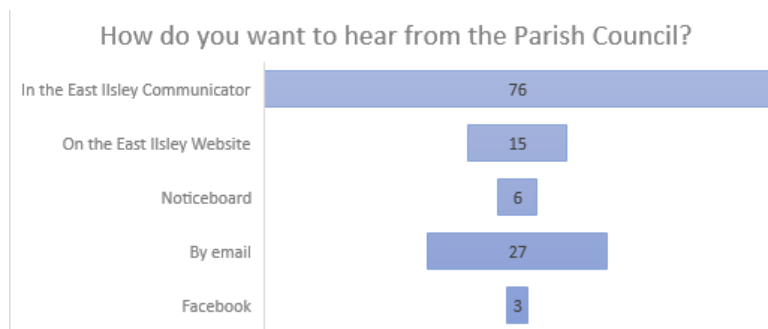
WHY THE DOWNS SCHOOL IS NOT USED



The Parish Council

How would you most like to receive communications from the Parish Council?

In the East Ilsley Communicator	76
On the East Ilsley website	15
On the notice board in Broad Street	6
By email	27
Facebook	3

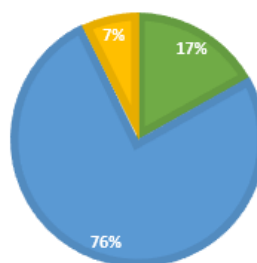


How often would you most like to receive communications from the Parish Council?

Monthly	14
Every two months	63
Twice a year	6
Once a year	

HOW OFTEN WOULD YOU WANT TO HEAR FROM THE COUNCIL?

Monthly Every two months Twice a year Once a year



What would encourage you to attend Parish Council meetings?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

Later evening start times, as those who commute aren't back until 8pm+.	1
More decisions made during the meeting,	1
Access to charitable funds (for signposting)	1
Notification of when the meetings are being held.	7
Move to Saturday mornings	2
Shorter agendas	2
Relevant information	2

More actions, less debate	2
Have involvement in decorating village for occasions	1
Any controversial matters for discussion	1
Confidence that actual action is taken	2
Keep the meetings short and make decisions	2
More comfortable seats	3
If there was an issue I felt passionate about.	2
I do attend sometimes.	1
Knowing the meetings were well run and well chaired.	2
Discussing relevance to my household	1
More communication	2
More representation amongst villagers	2
Better awareness of where and when as well as agenda	10
Not held on a Monday	1
If I could hear what they are saying	1
Nothing	4
Nothing where and when they were held. Talk on a subject of local interest. Feeling that the councilors were accessible to all villagers and their opinions, and not a closed group because no-one else could be bothered to put in the time and work.	1
A clear invitation	3
Attend on behalf of the EI Trust Fund	1
I only attend Parish Council meetings when I have a question to ask.	1
I had not realised the meetings were open to all I - probably because I haven't tried to find more information, and I am not aware of what happens at these meetings. Is the information about dates and items easy to find? The web site is under development at present?	1
Unable to get there.	1
More focused, concise, make decisions	2
We would attend if we had more free time on our hands.	2
That items discussed were actually actioned and not forwarded from meeting to meeting.	1
Worker-friendly hours	2
A more dynamic parish council	
A more relevant agenda	
What kind of additional information would you like to receive from the Parish Council?	
<i>*See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic*</i>	
Future plans and direction	1
As long as there are decisions to be made, a clear understanding of topics to be discussed and that agenda and minutes are published according to the law, then the current information in the Communicator is fine, i.e. future developments from West Berks etc.	
Updates of housing needs	1
EIC gives excellent coverage.	2
Compilations – very good area coverage	2
Minutes of ALL past meetings	1
Planning applications via the East Ilsley Communicator	1
Road works notifications	6
Notification of street cleaning days	2
None – they are doing a good job.	2
Updates on all traffic information including what they are doing about potholes.	2

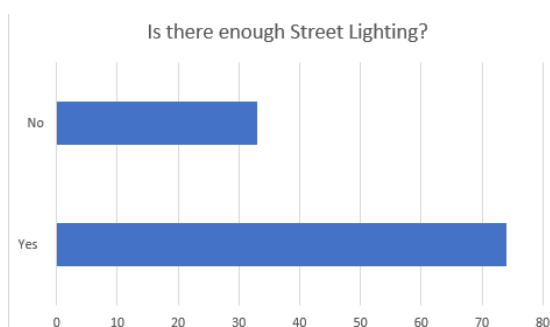
New buildings (including residential)	2
Fine with what we have	2
Every topic	1
Nothing	2
The results of the parish survey.	1
A magazine type report of issues raised in meetings – needs to be independent)	1
Weather alerts	2
Parish Council activities and plans	1
What they plan to spend money on!	1
Communicate well. Already in Communicator	1
Outline of short term and long-term goals / targets	1
Local development information.	2
More environmental information.	2
Better traffic management	2

Section 5: Our Village Environment

Street Lighting: Is there enough?

Yes 74

No 33



Do you believe that streetlights should be turned off earlier to save energy and reduce light pollution?

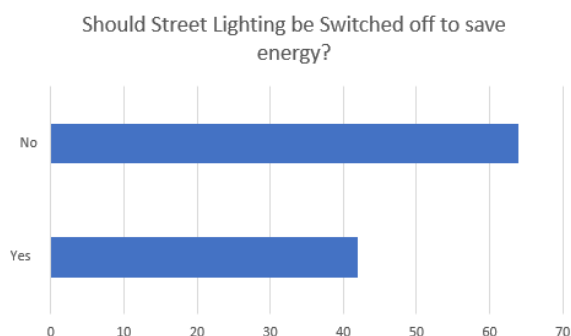
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What do you most like about living in the parish?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

Sense of community / events	24
Living in a picturesque village with a strong, friendly community	5
Good walks	4
Natural beauty of area	3
Reducing speed limit to 20 mph	1
Good walks in lovely countryside	4
Cleanliness and well looked after	2
Environment	5
Location	2
Away from the hustle and bustle	1
Strong connection with West Ilsley	2
Safety	3
The size and community	2
Transport links	2
Look and feel of the village	3
Village spirit	3
Being in a rural community	2
Friendly and kind neighbours	4
Makes me happy to live here	6
Peace and quiet	7
My house and garden	2
Comfortable place to reside	1
Being in a small area	2
Access to the A34	6
Small and well-kept	2
Pubs	5

What do you think this village is good at?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

Community	12
Events – Decorations at Christmas, Halloween etc.	29
Recreation ground and Millennium field	2
Bonfire night / fireworks display	1
Sheep Fair, joining in	1
Schools	2
Pubs	3
Facebook pages	3
Friendly and inclusive	2
Misusing social media	1
Open spaces	4
Fostering the great community spirit.	1
Being in a community	1
Making it friendly	2
Volunteer groups	1
Coming together to celebrate events and holidays	2
Travel options for work	1

Walks	1
Is it good at anything?	1
Promotes wildlife	2
Downland Volunteers and Handibus	1
Peaceful and friendly	1
Friendliness of residents / comfy feel	1
Looking after each other	3
The village is clean and tidy, and has some small businesses and farm land.	1
Communication, e.g. EI Communicator, Facebook page	2
Nature and heritage	2
Safety	1
Friends live here	1
In danger of losing its character and individuality. Needs small-scale careful planning.	1
Caring nature / friendly	1
What do you like least about living East Ilsley?	
<i>*See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic*</i>	
Noise of the A34	20
Proximity to the A34 and no shop.	1
Rubbish from the A34	1
Remoteness and lack of shop, post office etc.	17
Lack of transport links	1
A34 is dangerous to travel on	1
Too many school buses and heavy traffic.	1
Dog fouling on footpaths, byways and bridleways	2
Traffic mirror on Broad St and High St junction	1
Speed of traffic	5
Volume of heavy traffic on Cow Lane / Compton Road	1
Too much heavy traffic	2
Access on to A34	5
Traffic through the village	4
None	3
Increasing volumes of traffic	1
Tacky pond decorations at Halloween and Christmas	1
Don't feel safe going out at night due to small lights	1
Speed of traffic on Cow Lane	1
A34	5
Unreliable supplies of electricity and water	4
Too many cliques of people.	1
Everyone thinks they know all about your business; usually incorrect.	1
Having to live near a dangerous road.	1
Having to walk the dog near dangerous roads.	1
Church Hill	2
Being so far away from pals	2
Landscape is barren – need more hedgerows and wildlife	1
Light restriction due to trees. Why can some be removed / cut right back whilst others can't?	2
Living on the Compton Road the speed limit of 30 mph should be reduced to 20 mph.	2

Too far from the shops	2
That it might become more benighted	2
School parking	3
Litter along Churchside walk-through	1
Parking on pavements	1
No village hall	1
Lack of life, population too small	1
A34 noise / accidents frequent	6
Flooding	1
Lack of community spirit	1
Nothing for the youth to do	1
You can feel very isolated	1
Access to A34 is dangerous and there are few alternative routes. The A34 will become busier and noisier.	2
Overdevelopment	1
Traffic throughput in the future as other local villages e.g. Compton expand.	1
We love everything about living in the village.	1
Confusion on Broad Street (one-way)	2
Us and them attitude	2
Traffic	2
Maxted farms	1

What concerns you about the village?

See below for large list of comments and the number of responses. Too much data to prepare a graphic

West Berks and Parish Council turning it into 'sign' city.	1
Increased traffic from housing development in Compton.	2
The school closing.	3
How lonely some people must be.	1
Traffic speed	5
Flood risk	1
Isolation of the elderly	1
Affordability of housing	2
West Berks Traffic not concerned about rules in conservation areas.	1
Lack of community focus	2
Lack of community infrastructure	2
Constant talk of development	2
It might expand	3
Increasing volumes of traffic	1
Dog fouling	1
No shop	2
Road noise from A34.	1
HGV parking overnight	4
No desire to see A34 converted to a motorway	5
Not enough integration between ages.	1
People want the community events but aren't willing to help.	1
There is no bar or something to hold on to by the pond so if a child (young) falls in, it would be dangerous.	1
	2

No meeting point for OAPs.	1
An aging population	5
Pot holes and bad state of the roads	2
Parking in certain areas.	2
Trucks on the one way system	2
Limited public transport	1
Speeding and parking	1
It is slowly dying	1
Too small to thrive	1
Bigotry / in past, not so much now	1
Need more salt boxes	1
That it may become largely a commute village with no community sense.	1
Lack of whole village involvement	1
No village hall or small shop	1
Poor transport links	3
Speed and volume of traffic passing through village.	3
I think the village needs a focal point e.g. village hall and must retain its school to avoid having mainly an older population in future.	2
Any future housing developments – we hope there'll be none!	1
High price of housing for next generation.	1
Lack of community spirit – same people for everything.	1
No clear village plan	1
Fast traffic	1

How does the quality of life in East Ilsley compare with that of 10 years ago?

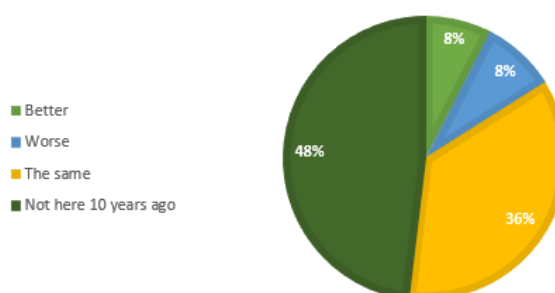
Better 8

Worse (please say why on the sheet at the end of this questionnaire) 9

The same 38

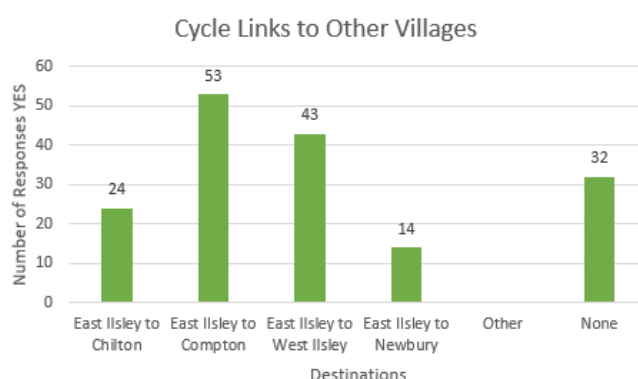
Not here 10 years ago 51

QUALITY OF LIFE NOW COMPARED TO 10 YEARS AGO



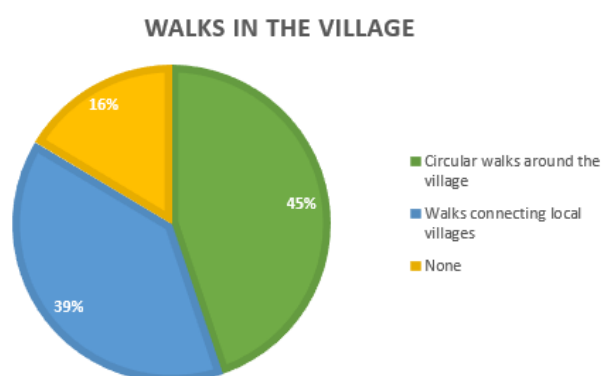
Would you like to see cycleways to join the following villages?

East Ilsley to Chilton	24
East Ilsley to Compton	53
East Ilsley to West Ilsley	43
East Ilsley to Newbury	14
Other	
None	32



Would you like to see more of the following types of connecting walks around the village?

Circular walks around the village	52
Walks connecting local villages	45
None	19



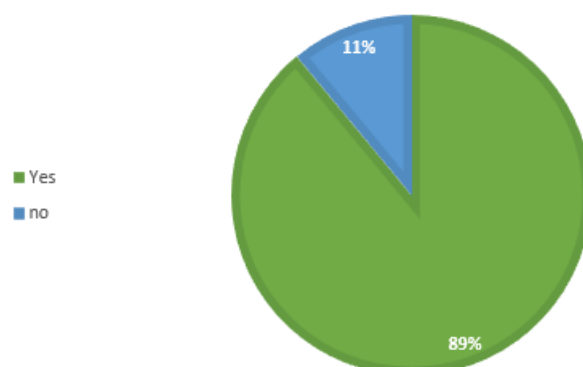
Are there any areas in East Ilsley in which you feel unsafe?

No 97

Yes (Please give your reason below.)

Top of High Street (even on pavement due to traffic / speeding HGVs etc.)	2
Near the pond at nighttime – it is badly lit. In the dark it is hard to see where the pavement by the pond is.	3
The alleyway to Churchside	2
Care is needed on impaired narrow roads.	1
Insufficient street lighting	2
S bend junction to Compton after	1

DO YOU FEEL SAFE IN THE VILLAGE?

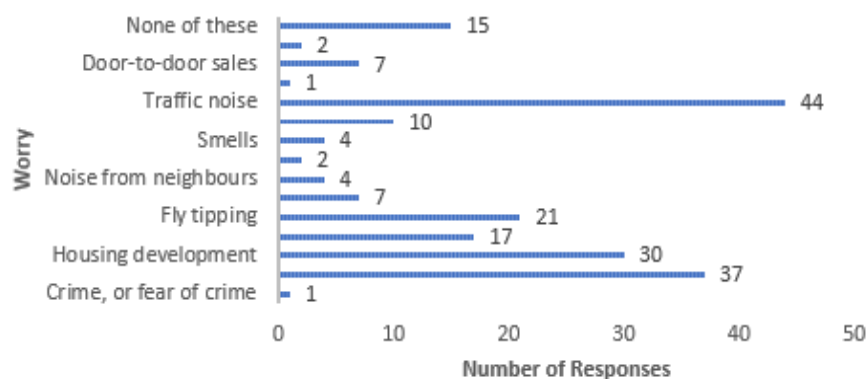


the pond.
Near Pete Goddard's house 1

Are you adversely affected by, or are you concerned about, any of the following in East Ilsley?

Crime, or fear of crime	1
Dog fouling	3
	7
Housing development	3
	0
Flooding	1
	7
Fly tipping	2
	1
Graffiti	7
Noise from neighbours	4
Noise from social functions	2
Smells	4
Light pollution	1
	0
Traffic noise	4
	4
Theft	1
Door-to-door sales	7
Vandalism	2
None of these	1
	5

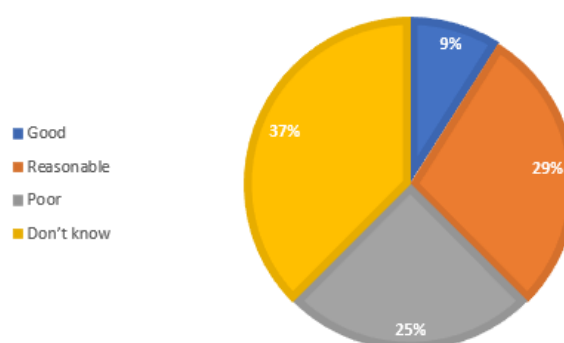
WHAT ARE YOU MOST WORRIED ABOUT IN THE VILLAGE?



Do you regard the police coverage for East Ilsley to be:

Good	10
Reasonable	32
Poor	28
Don't know	42

POLICE PRESENCE IN THE VILLAGE

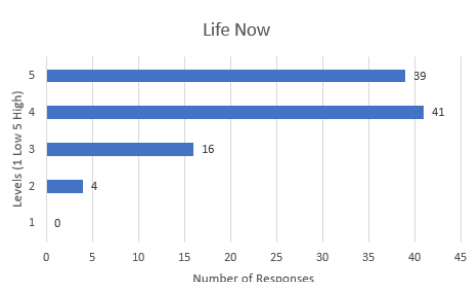


Section 6: Health & Welfare

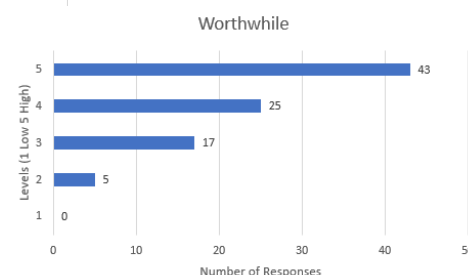
We would like to compare East Ilsley to the Official National measures of wellbeing. Please write in a score between 1 (for not at all) and 5 (for completely agree) for each person in your household.

Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?

1 –
2 –
4
3 –
16

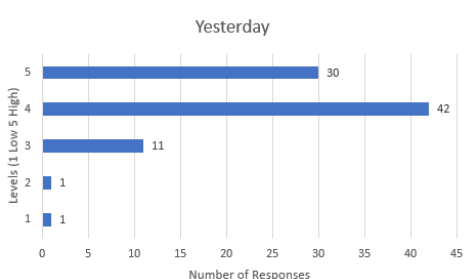


4 –
41
5 –
39

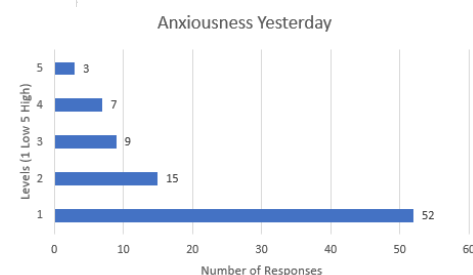


Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?

1 –
2 –
5
3 –
17
4 –
25
5 –
43



Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?

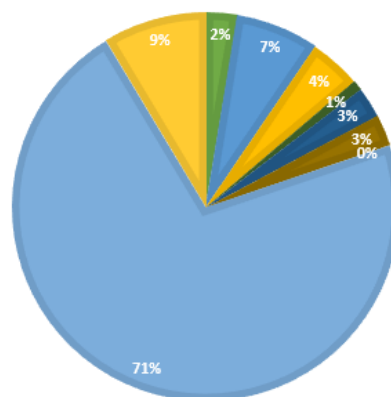


Do you have difficulty in getting to the following:

Hospital	3
Doctor	8
Chemist	5
Chiropodist	1
Optician	3
Dentist	3
Other medical facility	0
No special difficulties	83
Other	10

DIFFICULTIES GETTING TO APPOINTMENTS

■ Hospital
 ■ Doctor
 ■ Chemist
 ■ Chiropodist
 ■ Optician
 ■ Dentist
 ■ Other medical facility
 ■ No special difficulties
 ■ Other

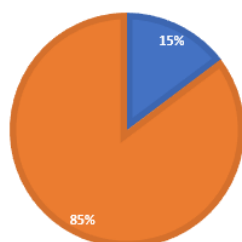


Do you have a health problem / disability that affects your day-to-day living?

Yes	15
No	87

HEALTH PROBLEM OR DISABILITY

■ Yes ■ No

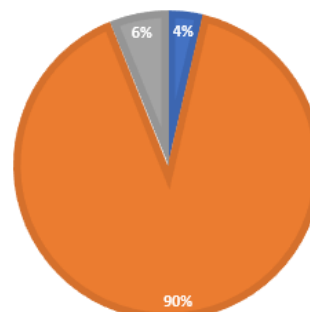


Do you now require, or do you expect to require within 5 years, the following specialist accommodation?

Residential care	3
No specialist accommodation	74
Sheltered housing with supporting services	5

CARE IN THE FUTURE

■ Residential care
 ■ No specialist accommodation
 ■ Sheltered housing with supporting services



Section 7: Our Heritage and Culture

This section is about your views on preserving our village heritage and character.

How much do you value these village characteristics?

(Please rate each question from 1 (value very much) to 5 (do not particularly value.)

The mix of
buildings of
different ages

1

—

32

2

—

6

3

—

9

4

—

4

5

—

8

The setting in
a rural
landscape

1

—

40

2

—

5

3

—

3

4

—

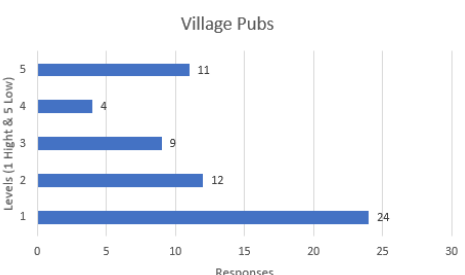
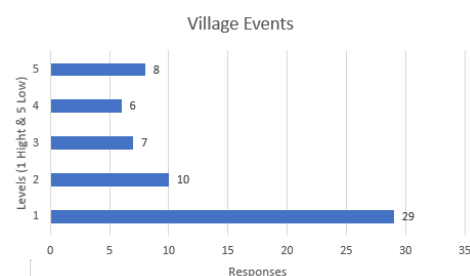
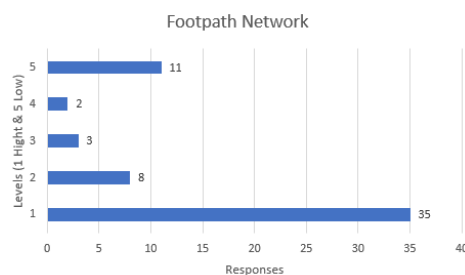
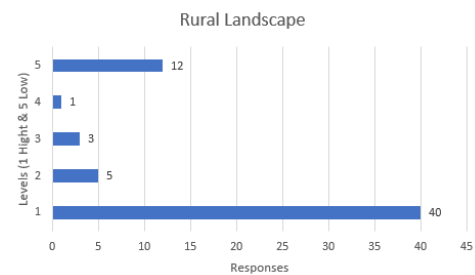
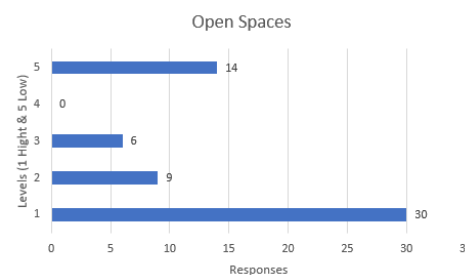
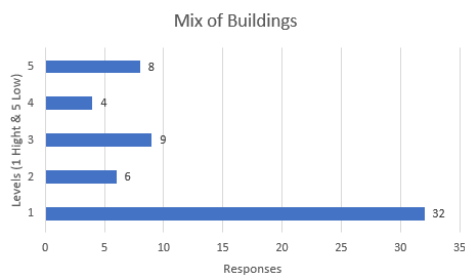
1

5

—

12

Open spaces
within the
village



Section 8: Additional Feedback

Thank you to all of you who a) took the time to complete the survey and b) who wrote additional comments for consideration. We have published them all below.

- Much more traffic than 10 years ago.
- Getting fed up of commercial lorries parking over weekends at the allotments when it was built for temporary parking for horseboxes.
- Traffic calming There have been ideas in place for years but there has been an insistence of a 20-mph limit (not helped?). Speed bumps have not been allowed because of emergency vehicles (and farm vehicles). The junction at the Abingdon Road / Fidlers Lane needs to be changed to take a proper left turn (John Clarke has details) and the little triangle needs removing so there is a clear left turn to Compton, The long curves through the village allows for easy acceleration.
- The main objective should be to remove traffic and to fight for the new road and junction on to the A34 as suggested by the government's housing report (don't know name). The Downs School keeps getting bigger without any care for increased traffic.
- Village Shop: Who will fund it? Will it turn into a café like the village shop in Hampstead Norreys? Parking? Refer to all previous plans – shop in Crown and Horns, Tesco deliveries, nothing happened because demand wasn't there.

I would be enthusiastic about using the church if there were any parking nearby.

The track on the map seems to begin and exit and should be opened. (Identified on the map as the one at the back of the Wilson's barns.)

We have concerns that increasing property prices within the village mean that young families may not be able to live here. Peadar O'Donohue

This is a beautiful part of the country to live in and be a part of.

However, I would like to point out that the dog fouling is DISGUSTING. Not only is it dangerous to children wanting to ride their bicycles, but it is a DANGER to wildlife and sheep. Dog foul has been proven to make children blind and kill livestock, despite grossly antisocial.

Lack of village shop and unfriendliness of newcomers.

Parking along Stanmore Road on pavements makes it difficult to see other directions when coming out of drives. Also, it is difficult for emergency services – they would have to slow down. There should be no parking allowed in the turning circle at the end of the road.

Parking on the junction of High Street and Broad Street, travelling southbound up the hill. There is an accident waiting to happen here. There are lines, but these are being abused

and they need to extend further, as cars/lorries turning from Broad St have to drive too far over when turning, thus travelling into oncoming vehicles coming down the hill. Parking in Stanmore Road restricts access to some properties and may restrict emergency vehicles.

I am very concerned about traffic speed in the village. Extend the 20-mph zone down Compton Road please! Build a sports facility on the field.

We do not need a village Hall. We need some small-scale housing development - affordable but not necessarily social. A34 changes need to have minimal effect but the maximum benefit for the village; e.g. no motorway extended slip roads, restricted HGV parking/ access; no pre planned diversions through the village.

My quality of life is worse than it was 10 years ago – now the children have left school I rarely see anyone in the village other than near neighbours.

No OAP groups.

It would be good to have a village hall and a shop – even if the latter was small and had short opening hours.

Can we encourage hedge planting between fields? I rarely walk to the Ridgeway now because it's boring, and hardly any wildlife.

Potholes are a nightmare, but I realized they aren't your {Parish Council} responsibility. I'm afraid to use my bike in case I hit a pothole.

Compared to many other villages, our playground is very disappointing.

Are all the buses that come through the village to Compton school really necessary? Could some be replaced by single-decker buses and minibuses etc?

Where we live the speed limit is 30 mph, whereas in other parts of the village it is 20 mph. Traffic leaving the motorway travels at speeds greater than 30 mph. Therefore, the restrictions should apply to the Compton Road, which is a very narrow road.

Parking badly at school, by the Recreation field gate and on the green. Also, bad parking in Churchside by Downside Corner, also on Church Hill and Star Hill.

The school hall is also the Parish Room, but it seems to have gone by the wayside. The Parish Council paid to have it refurbished in order for this a few years ago
Without gross East Ilsley will continue to stagnate yet with forethought it could grow pleasantly and sustainably.

The parish council should be prepared to purchase sufficient new land surrounding the village to eventually double its housing stock. This land to be subdivided into residential plots serviced wood road Siri and articulated water and then sold on to individual buyers. They will have to agree to start building within year of purchase and complete the building within 3 years. To ensure any new buildings fit into the village character only stock building plans purchased from the council will be allowed.

To encourage self-sufficiency individuals will be permitted to build their own homes with close inspection by a qualified building inspector. Basic building skills to be learned from good local colleges with the help of a simple building manual. If the parish council begins to think “out of the box” it could take matters into its own hands to build East Ilsley into a self-sustaining local village not out of character with the present look and feel of the village. I fear that if it does not, matters will be taken out of its hands by district a national government allowing developers to build lots of little boxes in our village as has happened to many other villages in the surrounding districts.

Newspaper delivery service from Compton shop has ceased. New source for delivery is difficult to find. This adds to the future benefit of a village / community shop.

Extra parking – where? What do people come to in numbers except school, sometimes churches, and pubs – which have their own.

Improved pavements - Compton Road, Abingdon Road, A34 slip road, alongside the Millennium Green. Fortunately, road from school to slip road is usually quieter. This has relevance for dog walkers.

More frequent bus service – a two-hourly service is no help to the Compton shop and then returning in less than 2 hrs.

Communication from the Parish Council – 3-monthly (say through the EIC) giving report on issues raised. An annual summary report?

It is useful having a Flood Warden to keep informed on this and report regularly via the EIC. Are any councillors able to do the same for traffic accidents on local slip roads for the A34 and on A34 safety locally and projected developments?

I would happily pay for a village map (with ages of buildings and roads marked. Also, for a local footpath map, and wider footpath map out to Ridgeway / Compton / West Ilsley. It could be sold by the pubs.

The ‘History of the Church’ booklet is interesting – a ‘village history’ would be interesting also, with early photographs.

I really appreciate the Downland Volunteer service and Handibus. Also, local activities and the kindness of friendly people who take to them – several of whom I was able to meet through the church.

I feel that EIC is very important in informing us about the village and events. It is the major way of conveying a sense of community.

Concern on A34.

Enforcement of 20 mph limit.

The A34 has not been mentioned in this survey and it has a huge impact on the village, especially if there has been an accident on it and cars are diverting through the village.

Whilst highlighting the problems on the A34 could improve its safety, I am concerned its negative publicity might have a negative effect on the value of the houses in East Ilsley.

Fewer residents willing to be involved in community events e.g. the Sheep Fair.
Traffic calming measures – Fiddlers Lane – route to and from A34 and West Ilsley

Layby in High Street could be converted to angled parking which would give additional parking.

I am happy to be living at Hildersley Court and have made some good friends here.
(Parking) Depends if village gets e.g. a shop or other commercial enterprise.

Signage at start of one-way system near the Crown and Horns is unclear and could be improved e.g. with road markings for drivers unfamiliar with the village, particularly when there are problems on the A34.

Parish Council should never have allowed the village shop to be developed into dwellings. This robbed the village of several services that a lot of people need (post office, prescriptions, newspapers, social point etc).

Less bus services available – affects all age groups.

The Star pub should not have been allowed to be changed into dwellings – a dangerous place on the road with a hill and junction and no off-street parking.

Elderly people living at Hildersley Court who relied upon local facilities (i.e. the shop, bus service) had everything taken away from them. They are the most vulnerable ones in our community.

The (three village pubs) used to be the heart of the village community, all three providing for a different clientele. The Crown and Horns in particular doesn't have a dedicated landlord, a decent chef or serve decent wines.

There are too many signs around the village. Need a bypass around the village to take large vehicles away from homes.

Street lighting is needed along the road stretching from the school to the High Street, and down to the gallops.

We are a little village bullied by traffic.

Abingdon Road run-in from A34 is an unpoliced racetrack.

Corners by the pond are too fast for kids to cross the road unguarded.

Compton Road S-bend is unsafe for pedestrians and traffic.

Fixing the above is an achievable target for a parish council.

I think it would be beneficial to introduce a one-way system around Churchside / up the hill towards the church. The road is narrow, and visibility is poor around the bend by the church.

Parking at school times – perhaps zig-zag yellow lines directly outside the school and opposite would be a good idea.

Thanks for organising the survey – a good idea!