

BINFIELD HEATH PARISH PLAN



November 2013

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Introduction

Around 50 people came to the Annual Parish Meeting on 31 March 2008 and enjoyed a presentation from Anton Nath from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) describing the benefits of having a Parish Plan and the process for generating it. The purpose of a Parish Plan is to improve village life by highlighting areas for action that can be taken by community members. It can be used to influence councils and service providers and act as a justification when applying for funding for future projects. For example the Parish Council may take into account the views expressed in the Parish Plan when considering planning applications or deciding whether to support applications for funding.

History of Binfield Heath

(This description has been developed courtesy of Shiplake Parish Council from its millennium publication *Life in our Villages, past and present*)

This scattered village grew out of groups of houses, a few subsistence farms and tiny hamlets roughly arranged around a central heath.

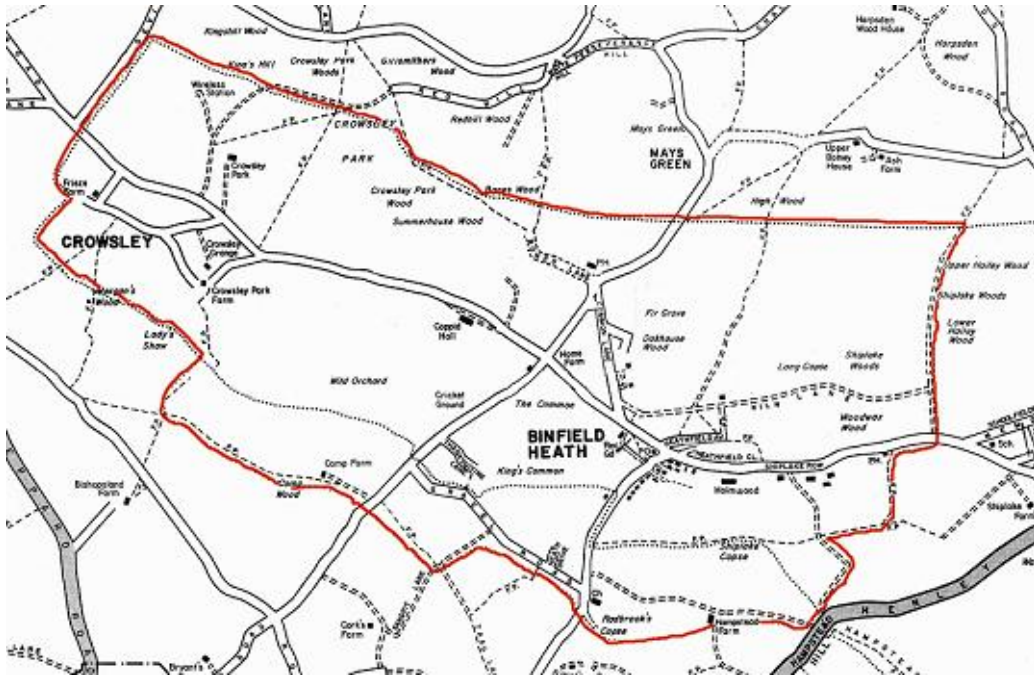
Binfield Heath takes its name from the Saxon hundred of Binfield to which it belonged, along with much of the locality. The name Binfield itself derives from Benifield, noted in 1176 with later variant spellings, and may come from an original Beonan field, 'a field belonging to Beona'.

Because of the poor quality of land in this area it was left as heath, roughly in the centre of what is now the village. The heath was originally common land, lying between what is now Dunsden Way, Gravel Road, Emmer Green Road and Common Lane. The heath had four gates leading onto it, one each at the Bottle & Glass, the New Inn, The Coach and Horses and Coppid Cross Roads. Local inhabitants had the right to pasture their animals on it. Shiplake Row, leading down from Binfield Heath towards Shiplake Cross, was among the earliest roads to be populated.

The New Inn, now New Inn Cottage, was at one of the gates into the Heath and Shiplake Row stretched down towards Shiplake church as far as the White Hart pub, now Orwells. In Shiplake Row there are a large number of old properties within a small area: Holmwood and Farmhouse, The Old House, Tea Pot Cottage (formerly Dormons), Well Cottage, Shiplake Rise Farm, The White Hart and Walnut Cottage, all of which may have 17th century origins. In addition there was Keeps Farm, towards the top of Keeps Lane, which was pulled down in the 1800s.



The focus shifted from Shiplake Row once the Great Western Railway was constructed and land was sold by the Lashbrook and Bolney estates for house building in Shiplake at the turn of the century. Shiplake Row gradually became part of Binfield Heath, its identity recently preserved by the parish council in the road name. Many of the oldest cottages in Binfield Heath village may survive from the 16th and 17th centuries and still stand picturesque in their timber and thatch, although it is thought that many older cottages may have disappeared long ago.



The enclosure of the common land or heath was initiated principally by the Baskerville family of Crowsley in 1867. In return for the loss of the common land, two areas of land by Coppid Cross Roads, one area for allotments for the 'working poor' and another area of land for recreation, were donated and various fencing and ditching done and a new road (now Common Lane) from the Bottle and Glass pub to Arch Hill was constructed.

Subsequently the whole heath which was poor gorse covered agricultural land and some surrounding farmland passed to the Phillimore family of Coppid Hall. The centre of the old heath carried the main routes from Peppard to Shiplake and from Reading to Henley. The village became a useful through-route and has always boasted plenty of welcoming watering holes. As recently as 1955 there were still five pubs open one at each corner of the village, for travellers, visitors and locals.



Through the centuries various parts of the heath developed in an uneven fashion, much of it hidden to the casual passer-by. Building has continued to be sporadic

and although much of the village is not classically pretty it nevertheless retains an open, scattered, rural aspect. Binfield Heath today is a mixture of a few very old timbered and thatched cottages and houses and a number of red brick Victorian and Edwardian villas, many with large gardens, all interspersed with individual twentieth century houses.

The majority of early housing in Binfield Heath was predominantly for agricultural labourers. Some of the oldest cottages were thatched, and probably date from the 16th or 17th centuries. Between 1869 and 1935, the kilns in the village resulted in an expansion of housing. Just before the turn of the century the construction of houses began in Binfield Heath, along Heathfield Avenue, Gravel Road and a few other isolated sites. The late Victorian/early Edwardian development period produced a range of 'villas', semi-detached and detached houses in characteristic purple and red bricks from the brick works in Kiln Lane.

Between the world wars there was more development with infilling between existing houses. There followed a lull in building activity until post-war council houses and bungalows were built as part of a strategy of expansion. These estates, generally constructed of new bricks and concrete slabs, were in New Road, off Kiln Lane and Heath Drive, off Gravel Road.

A restriction on development was defined in the Parish Plan of 1970 which contained 'a presumption against development unless...' of a limited and strict infilling character'. This same plan projected for the population 'a nil expansion' of the Binfield Heath, Shiplake Row and outlying areas between 1968 and 1981.

The recent housing in Binfield Heath was an estate built in 1964, opposite the former village pond. This land became available when owners of Holmwood had to sell it to offset death duties. Since then, development has been restricted to in-fill, redevelopment or extensions of existing properties. A smaller group of low-cost houses was built around 2001 reflecting earlier cottage styles.

One shop now serves the village as a shop and Post Office and is a vital hub of the community, the other closed a decade ago. There was once an estate laundry in Laundry Cottage that served the Phillimore Estate, a baker and a newsagents/confectioner. There were also a couple of small shops at Chapel Cottage, Dunsden Way and Spring Terrace, Gravel Road.

The village enjoys a friendly stable community in which families tend to stay for many years. Over time it has developed a number of events enjoyed by its inhabitants the biggest of which is the annual Flower Show that recently celebrated 60 years. It is followed in the evening by a barn dance in the Flower Show tent



originally held to fund the playground. Binfield Heath was once famous for its wheelbarrow race in which pairs of contestants pushed each other from the Bottle and Glass to the New Inn and on to the White Hart stopping to drink ale en route!

A cricket club for local people has existed at Coppid Hall for over a hundred years and villagers also watch polo matches on the polo field in Gravel Road.

The recreation ground, given by the Phillimore family in 1952, is enjoyed by children from a wide area around and is kept tidy by a group of volunteers. An informal Village Day takes place there in the summer. A table tennis table has been installed and the recreation ground now serves as an excellent play area for children and allows parents to use the facilities of the shop.

In 2003 Binfield Heath became a parish in its own right incorporating Crowsley village. Before then it was split between the parishes of Shiplake and Eye and Dunsden.

The population size of Binfield Heath has been directly influenced by the two factors: of employment and the availability of housing. In these times of increased mobility, it is the latter constraint which has served to retain the rural nature of the village.

Gathering Information

A small steering committee of volunteers from the parish has been working towards producing a Parish Plan since the first meeting. The results from that meeting and subsequent consultations have led to two themes emerging: preserving what we parishioners like in the village and making improvements once these are agreed upon. We have carried out some further consultations, for example an event at the village shop on 6 September 2008.



The questionnaire circulated in Summer 2012 to every home and business in the Parish was the most comprehensive gathering of information since 1999 and informs this **Parish Plan**.

Questionnaire Results

Overview

There were 124 responses from 295 questionnaires circulated (42%), with 60% female and 40% male. 52% of our respondents were aged between 31-60, 44% over the age of 60, and only 2% under 30.

Those that responded seem to involve themselves in village activities. Respondents are active in Parish leisure activities with about a quarter being involved in the Village Society and the Flower Show, and many are involved with the Monday Club. Nine out of ten Respondents attend the Flower Show, and over half attend the Open Gardens and Village Day, with over half the Respondents volunteering to help with these events. Two thirds of the Respondents take goods to a recycling centre, and over 90% to charity shops. About a third of Respondents attend a place of worship, the majority to Shiplake Parish Church. About a third were actively involved in charity work. About a third use the playground, a quarter offered to help maintain it, and nearly half volunteered to help empty the rubbish bins.

Respondents were evenly split on whether there should be a greater police presence in the Parish. About 90% were concerned about speeding, litter dumping, and burglaries (16% had been burgled at some point in the past). 8% of the respondents did not want to be involved in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, but 30% would like to know more.

Concerning the local economy, about a quarter of respondents would describe Binfield Heath as their regular place of work. Everyone who responded uses the village shop, about two thirds use it a maximum of 2-3 times/week. Nearly everyone uses the Post Office.

Two thirds of the respondents said that the Parish should be included in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). About 80% use the local footpaths/bridleways, and nearly all find them pleasant and easy to use.

In respect to communications, nearly everyone read the Newsletter, the majority read the other notices posted around the Village, but only 25% access the website. About three quarters use the Internet, and the biggest complaint was the slow broadband speed (non-existent in some places).

Concerning development in the Village, about half the respondents said that the amount of road/speed signs should remain the same. About half said that there should be no more housing built, but 40% said that there should be affordable housing for local people. A large majority said that the layout of the village should remain the same without housing infill.

In the Village, about 90% use or own a car, and 40% never use the bus service. The majority find the bus service a good experience, but want an earlier/later service. Two thirds of the respondents are not happy with the state of the roads, potholes being the biggest issue.

Personal/Lifestyle

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Peoples preferences
- Lifestyle
- Recycling

Most of the respondents (80%) had lived in Binfield Heath for over 5 years and nearly 60% over 15 years. They had a strong interest in buying locally grown fruit and vegetables.

Community & Leisure

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Parish Council
- Clubs & societies
- Sporting & leisure facilities
- Health facilities
- Religious institutions

The Binfield Heath Parish Council (BHPC) responsibilities are:

Planning Applications: Recommendations to SODC for final decision;

Recreation Ground: Monthly inspections, ROSPA inspections and arranging grass mowing;

Bus Shelters: Arrange insurance, maintain when necessary;

Village: Cutting verges and hedges;

Allotments: Management of, arranging inspections and advertising vacancies;

Footpaths: Keeping clear;

Overseeing: Transport matters, highway maintenance,

Village Website: Regular updates and uploading BHPC Meeting Minutes;

Communication: Keeping in regular contact with OCC, SODC and Thames Valley Police

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC): all matters to do with highways (potholes, signage, traffic calming) are referred to OCC.

South Oxfordshire District Council: All planning recommendations are referred to SODC.

Binfield Heath offers a wide number and variety of clubs and associations which run regular and occasional events including:

- Flower Show
- Village Society, which also runs the Village Day and Summer Dance
- Monday Club
- Book Club
- Playground Committee
- Bridge Club
- Walking Group
- Open Gardens
- Quiz nights
- WI

Many respondents were concerned about speeding through the village.

A number of people volunteered to give up some of their time to support others in the community and some volunteered to help run a Neighbourhood watch scheme and recently a Neighbourhood Watch Group has been established.

Economy

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Shop
- Pubs
- Garages
- Farming
- Land care
- Other businesses



About a about a quarter of respondents would describe Binfield Heath as their regular place of work. A few said that they would be keen to meet-up.

Everyone who responded say they use the village shop, with about two thirds use it a maximum of 2-3 times/week. Nearly everyone uses the Post Office. The general feeling is that the shop is open for enough hours each week.

When the Parish Plan Steering Group was set up a shop action leader was appointed to help support the shop thrive by seeking to increase use and act as a channel for feedback. The shop can be contacted on 0118 947 8842.



Nearly two thirds of the respondents frequent the *Bottle & Glass*, but most less frequently than 1-3 times/month. (Please note that the survey was taken at a time when the *Bottle & Glass* was closed for business).

When the Parish Plan initiative was established Orwells was a pub (the White Hart) but at the time of the Questionnaire it was a restaurant. It has now become an award winning restaurant (3AA Rosettes in 2013) and to accommodate the local population it has launched monthly local only nights on Thursdays which have proved very popular and at the same time have addressed some of the issues raised by the responses to the Questionnaire. The *Bottle & Glass* therefore remains the only pub in Binfield Heath and as such the Parish Council has decided to nominate it as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

The contact details are:

Bottle and Glass - 01491 575755 www.bottleandglass-binfieldheath.co.uk/
Orwells – 01189 403673 www.orwellsatshiplake.co.uk

A large number of suggestions relating to the shop and pubs were received and this has been passed to the establishments concerned and is included in the detailed feedback.

Environment

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- natural environment,
- footpaths, bridleways, byways,
- green belt
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

A large majority regularly walk and use the footpaths, bridleways and byways. There was strong support for including Binfield Heath in an AONB.

Nearly a third of the respondents were concerned about commercial aircraft noise and just under half were concerned about light aircraft noise.

Communications

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Village website and newsletter
- Internet
- Village notice boards

Ninety eight percent of the respondents read the Newsletter run by Beth Timms. The majority also use the Noticeboards by the shop and in the bus shelters. About a quarter use the village website.

In parallel with the questionnaire and Parish Plan preparation, Binfield Heath Parish Council established an action group to seek to increase the speed of the Internet to Binfield Heath. The Broadband initiative was initiated in March 2012 following a meeting between Paul Rollason BHPC and Keith Pruden. Keith Pruden had developed promising contacts with BT, which following a BT survey of the village resulted in a proposal for an upgrade. Meanwhile Paul Rollason followed up the Government rural broadband option (BBUK) run by OxOnLine. At a well attended open meeting of residents in November 2012, presentations were made by OxOnLine and BT and residents voted overwhelmingly of the BT option. The Action Group was successful in raising over £50,000 and as a result Fibre Optic services are planned to be run into Binfield Heath terminating at cabinets near Gravel Road and Heathfield Close. This is currently being implemented and should be completed by December 2013.

Housing & Development

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Future housing needs in the Village, including affordable and social housing
- Listed buildings
- Character of the buildings

The respondents all agreed with the following description of the Parish.



Binfield Heath is characterised by loosely knit groups of housing interspersed with fields and hedging. Buildings originally grew up around the central heath as tiny hamlets, farms and groups of houses. The population of 550 is gathered mainly in Kiln Lane, Gravel Road and the village centre - Heathfield Avenue and Heathfield Close. Shiplake Row, Dunsden Way and Common Lane have more scattered housing. There has been very little infill development over the years and the central playground, the occasional paddock or field and a number of older houses with large gardens, together with the surrounding farmland and woods give the village a rural aspect and sense of space. The hamlet of Crowsley, also in the parish, lies one mile north-west of Binfield Heath.

Over 85% agreed that the separation between the existing built up areas and individual houses should be retained. Over 90% wished to retain the mix of woodlands and fields, and verges backed by hedges incorporating occasional trees mainly oak and ash. A variety of suggestions for characteristics to be retained are included in Appendix A.

There was some support for various types of housing but also strong opposition. A housing needs survey was supported by a narrow majority.

Transport & Highways

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Village roads and lanes
- Public Transport
- Speeding
- Links to Reading and Henley

Over 90% of respondents regularly use a car for many activities including work and shopping. About 4% used the bus daily and about 40% occasionally. The 800 bus service was seen as convenient by most and received positive feedback for reliability, comfort and value for money.

The majority were unhappy about the state of the roads in the parish.

Youth & Education

Within this section we asked questions covering:

- Schooling
- Playground
- Recreation ground

The playground is well equipped and is a credit to the Playground Committee and especially George Englefield for his long term support and leadership. Over 1/3 of the respondents use the playground and many volunteer to help inspect it and pick up litter. More volunteers are always welcome.

Action Planning

Following analysis of the Questionnaire the results pointed to the potential wish of respondents to take a number of initiatives forward. Where possible leaders were appointed for each initiative and it is for them to pursue the matter together with the others who expressed an interest.

One of the challenges faced during production of the plan is that members of the Parish lead busy lives and it is difficult to identify volunteers to take the initiatives forward. We are grateful to those that have volunteered and there is always room for anyone else who has some time and energy to spare to engage in taking the actions in this Parish Plan forward.

The responses to the Questionnaire provide detailed feedback of what is important to our community. Some of the comments are related to 'local' issues that affect a minority group but do not affect the community at large. Issue 1 of this Plan included both actions supported by the majority of respondents and also actions supported by small minorities where there was no adverse impact on the majority. An example of a successful action taken forward by a minority group recently is the resurfacing of Kiln Lane and New Road. The Parish Plan is really aimed at the community as a whole (see Introduction) and could be used to determine where we want the Parish to be in 5 years time.

It is evident that many of the actions necessary to take the Parish Plan forward will need the support of the Parish Council and/or South Oxfordshire District Council and/or Oxfordshire County Council. The Action List below therefore identifies the Actions (which affect the Parish as a whole), the Action Leader and where appropriate the relevant person on the Parish Council who takes ownership of the Action in support of the Action Leader. The following Actions address the responses to the Questionnaire and other matters being progressed by the Parish Council.

Action No	Description	Leader	Parish Council Focal Point
Action 1	Introduce a Neighbourhood Watch scheme	Roger Roberts 0118 948 4255 rk.roberts@sky.com	Roger Roberts
Action 2	Support our shop & Post Office	Beth Timms 0118 946 1987	Mandy Sermon
Action 3	Support our Pub & Restaurant	Matthew Thomas 07782 324 663 Firtree.cottage @btinternet.com	Mandy Sermon
Action 4	Introduce Fast Broadband	Richard Ormerod Binfieldheath Superfast broadband @hotmail.co.uk	Paul Rollason
Action 5	Engage with SODC/ODC to ensure that the locally agreed interpretation of planning policies reflect the wishes of the people living in the Parish. [Letter from SODC refers]	TBA	Mandy Sermon
Action 6	Seek to include the Parish within an AONB registration	TBA	Mandy Sermon
Action 7	Maintain the Playground as a high class facility	George Englefield 0118 947 6830	George Englefield
Action 8	Improve Transport & Highways including speeding & potholes	TBA	Mandy Sermon

In addition, volunteers are required for a further range of issues:

No	Activity	Contact
1	Litter picks - currently the Parish Council organises an annual litter pick for the whole village. Volunteers required to run and organise more regular litter picks in different parts of the Parish. <i>Hi Vis jackets and grabbers provided</i>	Parish Council Clerk Mandy Sermon msermon@btinternet.com
2	Village in Bloom - Small groups of volunteers required to maintain small beds/planters around the Parish.	Parish Council Clerk Mandy Sermon msermon@btinternet.com
3	Village Society - Volunteers required to join and help organise Village Day, Summer Dance, Carols by the tree and other events.	Susan Summerland 0118 948 2814 susan.summerland@sky.com
4	Village Walks - Volunteers required to chart local walks and to produce maps of the village walks, circular walks and walks to school.	Parish Council Clerk Mandy Sermon msermon@btinternet.com
5	Bus Shelters - Volunteers required to clear unwanted notices.	Parish Council Clerk Mandy Sermon msermon@btinternet.com
6	Village Website - Volunteers required to help update the Website (some technical knowledge required). A monthly update involving Parish Council minutes, adding births, deaths, social events, pub events, Orwells events, local trades, school events etc	Lis Ransom 0118 947 8411 lis@henleycomms.co.uk

Conclusion

The preparation of the Parish Plan, including the responses to the questionnaire and other activities within the Parish during the same period have led to a number of matters progressing. The setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch Group is one of the recent achievements as the Parish Council had been trying, without much success, to find someone to do it for several years. Another was the number of volunteers that came forward to help maintain the playground, both in checking the equipment and also the many who were prepared to empty the rubbish bins.

The Parish Plan shows strong support for an improvement to the Broadband service to the village. The Broadband initiative was initiated in March 2012 following a meeting between Paul Rollason BHPC and Keith Pruden. At a well attended open meeting of residents in November 2012, presentations were made by OxOnline and BT and residents voted overwhelmingly of the BT option. This is currently being implemented and should be completed by December 2013.

Another by-product is that those that read the questionnaire and Parish Plan may have a better idea of the activities and groups within the parish and hopefully will value the reputation that Binfield Heath has for being an active and vibrant community.

This Parish Plan and in particular the Actions defined has provided the opportunity for the Parishioners to determine what is important to them. All of the actions outlined will need to have defined timescales and it is proposed that the Parish Council take ownership of the plan and review it annually for progress against planned timescales and also for its currency.

Thanks

My thanks go to the following members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee and BHPC whose work resulted in Issues 1 and 2 of the Parish Plan:

Parish Plan Steering Committee: Gavin Coates, Finella Woolsey, Teresa de Villiers, Dominic Barton,

BHPC Members: Beth Timms, Roger Roberts

Robert Davis
Chairman Parish Plan Steering Committee

Appendix A - Detailed Questionnaire Results

Total Number of Responses = 124 from 295 Delivered (42%)

Personal/lifestyle

Q1 Please specify your age group.

2 (2%)	18-30
23 (19%)	31-45
42 (35%)	46-60
40 (33%)	61-80
14 (12%)	81+

Q2 Are you

45 (40%)	Male
69 (61%)	Female

Q3 How many years have you lived in Binfield Heath?

19 (16%)	Less than 5
17 (14%)	6-10
13 (11%)	11-15
18 (15%)	16-20
53 (44%)	21+

Q4 Do you have an allotment in Binfield Heath?

10 (8%)	Yes
112 (92%)	No

Q5 Would you be interested in buying locally grown fruit and vegetables?

96 (80%)	Yes
24 (20%)	No

Q6 Would you be interested in sharing a small part of your garden with someone else who wants to grow vegetables and fruit but does not have enough space at home?

4 (3%)	Yes
117 (97%)	No

Q7 Do you use a compost bin in your garden?

76 (63%)	Yes
45 (37%)	No

Q8 Do you use a water butt?

90 (74%)	Yes
31 (26%)	No

Q9 Do you take items to

63 (60%)	Oakley Wood recycling centre
61 (58%)	Reading recycling centre

Q10 Would you use a household battery or light bulb recycling point in the parish?

94 (80%)	Yes
24 (20%)	No

- Q11 Do you donate to charity shops?**
 112 (93%) Yes
 8 (7%) No
- Q12 If no, would you donate if items were collected from your home?**
 8 (62%) Yes
 5 (38%) No
- Q13 Would you be interested in joining together to form a Community Action Group to organise further ways to recycle locally?**
 15 (14%) Yes
 89 (86%) No
- Q14 Digital TV Switchover**
- TV is going digital in our village very soon. If you are worried about receiving digital TV and would like some help then please let us know.**
 0 (0%) Yes
 109 (100%) No

Community and Leisure

- Q15 Binfield Heath hosts a number of activities in the parish. Please indicate which clubs or associations in the parish you are a member of.**
 7 (22%) *Village Society*
 8 (25%) *Flower Show Committee*
 15 (47%) *Monday Club*
 1 (3%) *Book Club*
 3 (9%) *Playground Committee*
 2 (6%) *Bridge Club*
 11 (34%) *Walking Group*
- Q16 Are there any other activities in which you would be interested?**
 5 comments as per Appendix 1
- Q17 Do you attend any of the events in the parish? If so, please indicate.**
 98 (90%) *Flower Show*
 68 (62%) *Open Gardens*
 61 (56%) *Village day*
 25 (23%) *Summer Dance*
 18 (17%) *Quiz nights*
 12 (11%) *Other*
- Q18 If you answered 'Other' in Q17, please tell us what these event(s) are.**
 12 comments as per Appendix 2
- Q19 Do you volunteer to help at any of these events?**
 52 (45%) Yes
 64 (55%) No
- Q20 Do you attend a place of worship?**
 43 (36%) Yes
 75 (64%) No

Q21 If you answered 'Yes' to Q20, please specify which.

6 (13%) *Binfield Heath Congregational*
11 (24%) *Dunsden Church*
26 (58%) *Shiplake Parish Church*
15 (33%) *Other*

Q22 If you answered 'Other' in Q21, please specify where.

14 comments as per Appendix 3

Q23 Do you attend

15 (31%) *Regularly*
24 (50%) *Occasionally*
11 (23%) *Only for big events*

Community and Healthcare

Q24 Please specify where your doctor is located

61 (51%) *Henley*
51 (43%) *Sonning Common*
2 (2%) *Reading*
4 (3%) *Caversham*
2 (2%) *Other*

Q25 If you answered 'Other' in Q24, please specify where.

3 comments as per Appendix 4

Q26 Please specify where your dentist is located

67 (59%) *Henley*
5 (4%) *Sonning Common*
17 (15%) *Reading*
10 (9%) *Caversham*
18 (16%) *Other*

Q27 If you answered 'Other' to Q26, please specify where.

18 comments as per Appendix 5

Q28 Are you a carer?

10 (8%) *Yes*
109 (92%) *No*

Q29 If Yes, is that

7 (78%) *In your own home*
0 (0%) *Somewhere else in the parish*
2 (22%) *In a neighbouring parish*

Q30 If there was a voluntary carer support network in the area would you:

	Yes	No
Use it	11 (17%)	52 (83%)
Participate in it	16 (25%)	47 (75%)

Q31 How often would you consider volunteering some of your time to support the following activities?

	<i>On a limited basis</i>	<i>Occasionally</i>	<i>Regularly</i>	<i>Not at all</i>
Transport the elderly/infirm/non-drivers to hospital and doctor's appointments	12 (16%)	10 (13%)	2 (3%)	52 (68%)
Provide caring support	7 (10%)	11 (16%)	2 (3%)	50 (71%)
Help in some other way	20 (25%)	18 (23%)	3 (4%)	39 (49%)

Q32 If you answered 'Other' in Q31, please specify what this would be.
11 comments as per Appendix 6

Q33 Do you use the services of any agency or charity e.g. Age Concern, Citizens Advice Bureau?

13 (12%) *Yes*
95 (88%) *No*

Q34 Do you support any local charities financially or by volunteering your time?

38 (37%) *Yes*
65 (63%) *No*

Q35 If you answered 'Yes' to Q34, please specify which charities
36 comments, as per Appendix 7

Neighbourhood Policing

Q36 Should there be a greater police presence?

46 (46%) *Yes*
55 (54%) *No*

Q37 If you answered 'Yes' to Q36, please specify where and at what times. Please tell us your reasons.

36 comments as per Appendix 8

Q38 Do you attend any of the Police surgeries held at the shop?

12 (11%) *Yes*
99 (89%) *No*

Q39 Are you concerned about any of the following?

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
Speeding	87 (89%)	11 (11%)
Litter dumping	97 (89%)	12 (11%)
Burglaries	83 (82%)	18 (18%)
Other crimes	31 (51%)	30 (49%)

Q40 If you answered 'Other' in Q39, please specify what these other crimes are?
17 comments as per Appendix 9

Q41 Have you been the victim of a burglary or other crime in the parish in the last five years?

19 (16%) *Yes*
99 (84%) *No*

Q42 Would you be prepared to be active in the village Neighbourhood Watch scheme?

16 (15%) Yes
61 (58%) No
30 (29%) *Would like to find out more*

Economy

Q43 Is Binfield Heath your usual place of work?

23 (24%) Yes
73 (76%) No

Q44 Would some form of service directory of local trades be a good idea?

84 (86%) Yes
14 (14%) No

As the shop was such a prominent topic at the Annual Parish Meeting on 31 March 2008, the Parish Plan Steering Committee is including some detailed questions relating to the Binfield Heath stores, as we need to support it to ensure it remains viable. Since settling in as new owners, Sharon and Gavin have remarked on the welcome they have received and have introduced a wider range of stock. They would welcome feedback and have included some of the questions below.

Q45 Do you use the shop?

123 (100%) Yes
0 (0%) No

Q46 Typically, how often do you use the shop?

18 (15%) *Daily*
17 (14%) *4-5 times a week*
44 (36%) *2-3 times a week*
43 (35%) *Once or less a week*

Q47 Do you use banking facilities at the shop/post office?

39 (32%) Yes
82 (68%) No

Q48 Do you use the post office?

120 (98%) Yes
2 (2%) No

Q49 Do you make use of the prescription service at the shop?

17 (14%) Yes
104 (86%) No

Q50 Are there any lines or items of stock that you would like to see on the shelves? Please specify below

23 comments as per Appendix 10

Q51 Is the shop open for long enough each day?

119 (98%) Yes
2 (2%) No

- Q52** If you answered 'No' to Q51, which of the following would you like to see?
 0 (0%) *Earlier opening*
 2 (100%) *Late night opening, for example on Fridays and Saturdays*
- Q53** Would you like a suggestion box for comments, feedback or complaints as we would like any feedback you may have to help improve the shop.
 49 (51%) *Yes*
 47 (49%) *No*
- Q54** Do you use the mobile library service?
 9 (7%) *Yes*
 112 (93%) *No*
- Q55** If you do, is there anything that could improve the service?
 1 (33%) *Frequency*
 1 (33%) *Book stock*
 1 (33%) *Other*
- Q56** If you answered 'Other' in Q55, please specify
 2 comments as per Appendix 11
- Q57** Do you frequent the Bottle and Glass public house?
 70 (60%) *Yes*
 47 (40%) *No*
- Q58** If you answered 'Yes' to Q57, typically how often?
 5 (7%) *Regularly each week*
 28 (38%) *Occasionally - e.g. 1-3 times a month*
 40 (55%) *Less frequently*
- Q59** Do you frequent Orwells?
 36 (30%) *Yes*
 84 (70%) *No*
- Q60** If you answered 'Yes' to Q59, typically how often
 0 (0%) *Regularly each week*
 4 (11%) *Occasionally - e.g. 1-3 times a month*
 33 (89%) *Less frequently*
- Q61** Please specify what would make you use the Bottle and Glass or Orwells more.
 Bottle and Glass 51 comments as per Appendix 12
 Orwells 34 comments as per Appendix 13
- Q62** Would you be interested in making use of light-commercial or office premises if they could be located within the village?
 11 (10%) *Yes*
 103 (90%) *No*
- Q63** Would you be in favour of having the public telephone box removed?
 14 (13%) *Yes*
 90 (87%) *No*

Environment

Q64 Do you keep:

- 1 (9%) *Livestock*
- 3 (27%) *Horses*
- 0 (0%) *Bees*
- 9 (82%) *Chickens*

Q65 Should we seek to be included in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty? (An AONB is defined as 'a precious landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so outstanding that it is in the nation's interest to safeguard them.' See <http://www.aonb.org.uk>)

- 70 (65%) *Yes*
- 12 (11%) *No*
- 26 (24%) *Don't know*

Q66 Do you regularly use the footways and bridleways?

- 101 (84%) *Yes*
- 19 (16%) *No*

Q67 If you answered 'Yes' to Q66 do you find them pleasant and easy to use?

- 88 (89%) *Yes*
- 12 (12%) *No*

Q68 If you answered 'No' to Q67, what is wrong with them?

21 comments as per Appendix 14

Q69 Do you use a cycle or horse on bridleways?

- 22 (19%) *Yes*
- 94 (81%) *No*

Q70 If you answered 'Yes' to Q69, do you need a better linked network of bridle paths for your cycling or horse riding?

- 13 (57%) *Yes*
- 10 (43%) *No*

Q71 Which is the most important bridle path 'missing link' that you would need?

5 comments as per Appendix 15

Q72 Are you concerned about aircraft noise?

	Yes	No
Light aircraft	52 (44%)	65 (56%)
Commercial Aircraft	33 (32%)	71 (68%)

Communications

- Q73 Do you read:**
- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----------|----------|
| The newsletter | 118 (98%) | 2 (2%) |
| The notice board outside the shop | 89 (76%) | 28 (24%) |
| The Notices in the bus shelters | 60 (55%) | 49 (45%) |
| The village website http://www.binfieldheath.org.uk/ | 25 (26%) | 70 (74%) |
- Q74 Do you have any suggestions for improving the newsletter, notice board, notices in bus shelters and village website?**
21 comments as per Appendix 16
- Q75 Do you use the internet?**
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 95 (78%) | Yes |
| 27 (22%) | No |
- Q76 Please specify what you use the internet for?**
- | | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 89 (96%) | Personal/social use |
| 48 (52%) | Business use |
- Q77 If so, what speed does it typically work at?**
- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 30 (33%) | 0.5mb |
| 21 (23%) | 1mb |
| 4 (4%) | 2mb |
| 1 (1%) | Over 2mb |
| 35 (39%) | Don't know |
- Q78 Are you satisfied with your broadband service?**
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 12 (12%) | Yes |
| 85 (88%) | No |
- Q79 If you answered 'No' to Q78, why not?**
- | | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 35 (42%) | Connection problems |
| 76 (90%) | Too slow |
| 7 (8%) | Other |
- Q80 If you answered 'Other' in Q79, please specify**
10 comments as per Appendix 17
- Q81 If you work from home would you be interested in meeting up with other homeworkers in Binfield Heath?**
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 9 (16%) | Yes |
| 48 (84%) | No |
- Q82 Do you understand the relationship between the Parish Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council?**
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 69 (61%) | Yes |
| 44 (39%) | No |
- Q83 Do you know which one to contact when you have a query?**
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 77 (69%) | Yes |
| 34 (31%) | No |

- Q84 Should the Parish Council have more powers?**
 29 (35%) *Yes*
 54 (65%) *No*
- Q85 If you answered 'Yes' to Q84, what powers do you think the Parish Council should have?**
 20 comments as per Appendix 18
- Q86 Does the Parish Council meet your current needs?**
 74 (89%) *Yes*
 9 (11%) *No*
- Q87 If you answered 'No' to Q86, why not?**
 9 comments as per Appendix 19

Housing and Development

Binfield Heath is characterised by loosely knit groups of housing interspersed with fields and hedging. Buildings originally grew up around the central heath as tiny hamlets, farms and groups of houses. The population of 550 is gathered mainly in Kiln Lane, Gravel Road and the village centre - Heathfield Avenue and Heathfield Close. Shiplake Row, Dunsden Way and Common Lane have more scattered housing. There has been very little infill development over the years and the central playground, the occasional paddock or field and a number of older houses with large gardens, together with the surrounding farmland and woods give the village a rural aspect and sense of space. The Hamlet of Crowsley, also in the parish, lies one mile north-west of Binfield Heath.

- Q88 Do you agree that the above describes our village?**
 115 (100%) *Yes*
 0 (0%) *No*
- Q89 Which of the following characteristics do you think should be retained**
- | | <i>Yes</i> | <i>No</i> | <i>No Opinion</i> |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Separation between the existing built up areas and some houses | 94 (86%) | 5 (5%) | 10 (9%) |
| Mix of fields and woodland | 105 (95%) | 0 (0%) | 5 (5%) |
| Verges that are largely hedge with occasional trees | 102 (93%) | 1 (1%) | 7 (6%) |
- Q90 Please add any other features or characteristics of the village you believe we should preserve or protect?**
 29 comments as per Appendix 20
- Q91 If you did not wish to retain characteristics listed in Q89, what changes would you like to see instead?**
 3 comments as per Appendix 21
- Q92 Would you support a change in the number of road signs/speed signs in Binfield Heath?**
 30 (27%) *More signs*
 18 (16%) *Fewer signs*
 62 (56%) *Remain the same*
- Q93 Do you think we should have more housing in Binfield Heath?**
 10 (10%) *Yes, but only for older people*

40 (40%) *Yes, but only a small development of affordable housing for local people*
 19 (19%) *Yes, but only small starter homes*
 1 (1%) *Yes, but only larger family homes*
 47 (47%) *No*

Q94 Should we infill between the several housing groupings that make up Binfield Heath?

12 (12%) *Yes*
 86 (88%) *No*

Q95 Would you support a more detailed independent housing needs survey being carried out in the parish (at no charge)?

56 (58%) *Yes*
 41 (42%) *No*

Q96 Do you own or rent your house?

95 (81%) *Own*
 23 (19%) *Rent*

Q97 Please specify if you have any of the following forms of house insulation.

87 (74%) *Insulation for a hot water tank*
 105 (90%) *Double glazing*
 106 (91%) *Loft insulation*
 51 (44%) *Cavity wall insulation*
 7 (6%) *Solid wall house insulation*

Q98 If you have double glazing, is this

27 (25%) *Partial*
 82 (75%) *Throughout*

Q99 If you have loft insulation, have you had it fitted or topped up in the last five years?

57 (52%) *Yes*
 53 (48%) *No*

Q100 Do you use low energy light bulbs?

38 (31%) *Yes, all*
 79 (65%) *Yes, some*
 4 (3%) *No*

Q101 Do you use energy efficient appliances (i.e. A rated)

16 (14%) *Yes, all*
 92 (81%) *Yes, some*
 6 (5%) *No*

Q102 Do you have a modern efficient gas boiler (i.e. less than 3 years old?)

46 (40%) *Yes*
 69 (60%) *No*

Q103 Do you have solar panels

6 (5%) *Yes*
 112 (95%) *No*

Q104 Which of the following do you have?

40 (33%) *An Open fire*
 32 (27%) *A log burning stove*
 48 (40%) *Neither*

Q105 Would you be interested in joining a community effort to reduce energy consumption and your energy costs in Binfield Heath?

32 (32%) *Yes*
 67 (68%) *No*

Q106 Would you be interested in joining a bulk heating oil buying scheme for Binfield Heath?

7 (6%) *Yes*
 101 (94%) *No*

Transport and Highways

This section is concerned with how you travel from your home, and use of local transport.

Q107 Please indicate the type of vehicle you own or use regularly.

108 (91%) *Car*
 5 (4%) *Van*
 1 (1%) *Motorbike/scooter*
 20 (17%) *Bicycle*
 3 (3%) *Other*
 7 (6%) *None*

Q108 If you answered 'Other' in Q107, please specify

3 comments as per Appendix 22

Q109 Please specify what these vehicles are used for.

	<i>Car</i>	<i>Van</i>	<i>Motorbike/ scooter</i>	<i>Other vehicle</i>
Work/place of study	62 (98%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Shopping	108 (97%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)
Leisure	97 (95%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	3 (3%)
Taking children to school	25 (93%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)
Doctor/dentist/hospital	102 (98%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)

Q110 Do you rely on your vehicle to shop?

107 (93%) *Yes*
 8 (7%) *No*

Q111 Would / does a lack of vehicle curtail your leisure pursuits?

89 (82%) *Yes*
 19 (18%) *No*

Q112 Do you car share?

16 (15%) *Yes*
 93 (85%) *No*

Q113 Do you get a regular lift from family / relative / neighbour / friend?

23 (20%) Yes
91 (80%) No

Q114 How often do you use the local bus to Reading or Henley?

5 (4%) Daily
20 (17%) Weekly
47 (39%) Occasionally
49 (40%) Never

Q115 Please specify your purpose(s) for using the bus service

5 (7%) Work/place of study
51 (70%) Shopping
37 (51%) Leisure
16 (22%) Doctor/dentist/hospital
34 (47%) Reading station/onward travel connections

Q116 What is your experience of using the 800 bus service?

	Yes	No
Comfortable	40 (74%)	14 (26%)
Reliable	42 (74%)	15 (26%)
Value for money	35 (67%)	17 (33%)
Convenient	63 (91%)	6 (9%)

Q117 What would make you use the public bus service more?

	Yes	No
If it ran more frequently	40 (61%)	26 (39%)
If the timings were different	19 (40%)	28 (60%)
If it were more reliable	21 (45%)	26 (55%)
If it cost less	25 (49%)	26 (51%)
If it were easier to board e.g. like the low-loading Reading buses	7 (17%)	35 (83%)
If your ticket could be used for onward travel on Reading Buses	12 (29%)	29 (71%)
Other reason	5 (23%)	17 (77%)

Q118 If you answered 'Yes' to 'Other reason' in Q117, please specify.

9 comments as per Appendix 23

Q119 Please indicate at what times you would be likely to use an increased / more frequent service to Henley and/or Reading

	Early morning	Early afternoon	Early evening	Late night
To Henley.	8 (24%)	4 (12%)	11 (33%)	23 (70%)
To Reading	14 (37%)	8 (21%)	12 (32%)	21 (55%)

Q120 Are you generally happy with the state of the public roads in the parish?

34 (30%) Yes
78 (70%) No

Q121 If you answered 'No' to Q120, what changes or improvements do you want to see in the village in terms of condition, layout, status?

68 comments as per Appendix 24

Q122 For those living in Heathfield Avenue / Kiln Lane / New Road:

	Yes	No
Are you happy with the state of your road?	15 (44%)	19 (56%)
Would you like to take a more active role in managing the upkeep of your road?	12 (48%)	13 (52%)
Would you be prepared to pay towards the cost of improving and maintaining your road?	13 (46%)	15 (54%)

Youth and Education

Q123 Does your family use the playground?

31 (34%) Yes
59 (66%) No

Q124 Please specify which items of the playground equipment your family values most (*Please tick up to 3 boxes only*)

7 (29%) Climbing frame
10 (42%) Sandpit
16 (67%) Swings
7 (29%) Mini assault course
14 (58%) Climbing frame/large slide
2 (8%) small slide
1 (4%) Climbing arch
3 (13%) Balance beams
1 (4%) Seesaw
1 (4%) Static rocking horse
1 (4%) Spring rocking horse
0 (0%) Hopscotch area
3 (13%) Mini goal posts
7 (29%) Football pitch

Q125 Do you help keep the playground tidy?

27 (32%) Yes
58 (68%) No

Volunteers are required to check playground equipment and empty rubbish bins. Note that any activity of this sort is covered by the Parish Council insurance.

Q126 Would you be prepared to volunteer 4 mornings per year to help check and maintain the playground?

18 (23%) Yes
62 (78%) No

Q127 Would you be prepared to collect rubbish and empty the bins approximately twice a year?

39 (44%) Yes
49 (56%) No

Q128 Which nurseries / schools / colleges does your family use?

	Previously	Currently	Are planning to
Shiplake Nursery	14 (64%)	4 (18%)	4 (18%)
Kingfisher Kindergarten	6 (75%)	2 (25%)	0 (0%)

Shiplake primary	16 (52%)	7 (23%)	8 (26%)
Gillotts	14 (54%)	6 (23%)	6 (23%)
Henley College	16 (73%)	3 (14%)	3 (14%)
Shiplake College	1 (33%)	1 (33%)	1 (33%)
Other schools in the area	12 (86%)	2 (14%)	0 (0%)

Q129 If you use, have used, or plan to use other schools in the area, please specify.

13 comments as per Appendix 25

Q130 Have you had difficulty in meeting your family's schooling needs?

2 (4%) Yes

53 (96%) No

Q131 If you answered 'Yes' to Q130, please describe.

2 comments as per Appendix 26

Q132 Are you aware of children's centre services in the area (Sonning Common and Henley Children's Centres, which are both run by Nomad for children aged 0-5 and their families)?

16 (27%) Yes

44 (73%) No

Q133 Do you intend to use these services in the future?

10 (17%) Yes

50 (83%) No

Q134 If you have any other comments or suggestions, please write them below

21 comments as per Appendix 27

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Question 16: Other activities which respondents would be interested in. 5 comments.

- Interested to meet others who play musical instruments could be looking for people to play with
- Running club, film club
- A bread making circle
- Gardening club
- Cricket

Appendix 2: Question 18: Other events. 12 comments.

- Regular events organised by Binfield Heath Church
- Carol singing outside the shop
- Any big functions e.g. carol singing, jubilee launch, everything!
- 'Aunt Sally' evening in garden of Bottle and Glass; Safari supper evening, would attend quiz nights
- Safari Supper
- Big Band night
- Safari supper, have not been able to attend quiz nights due to other engagements
- Monthly walks, footpath checking
- Safari supper
- Bonfire night
- Events held at Binfield health centre
- Moved to village in Dec 11, will visit all, we hope

Appendix 3: Question 22: Other places of worship. 14 comments.

- Sonning Parish Church
- Maidenhead
- St Michaels Sonning Common
- Rotherfield Greys
- Henley Sacred Heart Church
- Harpsden
- Harpsden
- St Michaels RC Church Sonning common
- Sacred Heart, Henley
- Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. Swiss farm, Henley
- Harpsden
- Henley
- St Margaret Harpsden
- Harpsden

Appendix 4: Question 25: Other locations for respondents' doctors. 3 comments.

- Emmer Green
- Emmer Green

- Bell surgery

**Appendix 5: Question 27: Other locations for respondents' dentists.
18 comments.**

- Maidenhead
- Wallingford
- Hartley Wintney, Hampshire
- Roehampton, London
- Maidenhead
- Maidenhead
- Oxford
- Woodley
- Beaconsfield
- Beaconsfield
- London
- Poland!
- Wokingham
- Birmingham
- Oxford
- Blandy house although looking to change
- Earley
- Twyford

Appendix 6: Question 32: Other ways respondents would consider volunteering to help.

11 comments.

- Gardening
- Becoming a first responder
- I'm a governor at Shiplake Primary School
- Lifting/Carrying/Lugging - Physical moving objects (I'm reasonably fit)
- Gardening
- Housebound
- Reading aloud to someone with problems of sight
- As required
- Doing an occasional shop?
- Light household duties
- Help with reading and writing

**Appendix 7: Question 35: Local charities which respondents support.
36 comments.**

- Most of our charitable donations are given through Binfield Heath Church.
- Oxfam
- TVAA - regular donation
- Shiplake
- Donate to air ambulance
- Did work for the cancer shop in Henley for 2 or 3 years
- RDA, Cancer
- Shiplake school, Shiplake nursery / Finance

- Chiltern centre for disabled children, Henley
- Shiplake village nursery
- 1st Shiplake Scouts
- Riding for the disabled
- Primary school
- Royal British Legion / Air ambulance / Rotary / Shiplake Memorial Hall
- Red cross
- Bucks and Chiltern search dogs
- Thames Valley Air ambulance and animal welfare
- Berkshire autistic society, Air ambulance, Sick/poor fund
- Sue Ryder
- BBOWT, Cancer Research
- Not relevant
- Wyfold riding for disabled. Riverside counselling (Henley)
- Air ambulance, Chiltern centre
- School
- Sue Ryder
- Sue Ryder, Helicopter service
- Helen house hospice shop, Henley
- Henley youth festival
- Cancer charities, NSPCC, Christmas card sales
- Dunsden hall
- Air ambulance
- Cancer research, feed the children
- Fish volunteer centre
- Oxfam shop, Dunsden village hall trust
- Sue Ryder
- Henley festival trust

Appendix 8: Question 37: Where and at what times there should be a greater police presence.

36 comments.

- More frequent presence
- Police presence in village at irregular times
- Speeding through village
- Evenings, repeated burglaries. Four on my property in 14 years
- On foot/bicycle at anytime
- I haven't seen any police in the village at any time of day since I can't remember when!
- Occasional patrols of the area would keep petty theft down
- Crime increase
- Fly tipping
- Should be more prominent
- More regular patrols
- A regular round made by the police. Just to let people know they are there and keeping an eye out
- 11pm-1am vandalism weekends
- Rarely see a police presence in the village ever
- Summer dusk time when youths at playground
- A way to speak to a familiar officer, known and in a regular place
- To monitor speeding particularly Shiplake row

- Constant door knocking by local travellers/rag & bone/metal collecting men. Very worrying
- School time rush hours (speeding traffic)
- Car speeding, at all times
- Evenings/Feel more secure
- Village centre
- At local events and meetings. Speeding and use of mobile phones through village
- It would be reassuring to see a police car parked in the village on irregular occasions
- More police visibility
- More police cars patrolling through the village as this shows a visible presence and could deter burglars
- Around the village regarding speeding
- Regular patrols
- Afternoon and night
- A regular drive through of the village might deter would be burglars
- Speeding and reducing that is our main issue. Also the scrap metal people helping themselves
- Re-assurance. No longer evidence of police presence in the area
- Dangerous parking of cars and vans. Speeding vehicles. Fly tipping lack of speeding checks
- Patrols across village and regularly. Why we pay for policing I have yet to see a single PC or car in 6 months
- Knowing there was a police presence would make you feel safer
- I never actually see the police in this area

**Appendix 9: Question 40: Other crimes which respondents are concerned about.
17 comments.**

- Vandalism
- Internet fraud
- Fly tipping
- Identity fraud
- Exceeding the speed limit
- Vandalism
- Vandalism
- All crime
- Door to door callers
- Vandalism (eg playground)
- Vandalism
- Vandalism
- Theft from allotments
- Dog attacks
- Fly tipping
- Vandalism
- Vandalism

Appendix 10: Question 50: Lines or items of stock that respondents would like to see on the shelves.

23 comments.

- Freshly baked bread, ready to cook meals. Locally handmade cakes, other local produce

- Local produce i.e. cheese, bread, cakes
- More fresh veg - home made cakes?
- More veg
- None, They do the best they can. Savills should lower their rent, so they can stock more
- Organic sausages
- Cucumber, Lemons, frozen sweetcorn, tinned sweetcorn
- More good quality biscuit or choice of small gifts
- Better quality bread
- Peanut cookies
- Fresh fruit - good selection at competitive prices
- Better quality groceries, not happy shopper! Dried fruit etc but not cash and carry quality!
- Fresh foods, deli (cheeses, good ham etc) homemade cakes, pies
- Less 'happy shopper' - some more quality. Good bread, cakes, pastries etc
- Quality bread and vegetables
- Fresh salad and veg
- Local bakery - fruit and veg
- More tv times magazines. Green tea
- Would definitely buy local fruit, veg, jams and breads etc
- Like to see local produce and homemade cakes. Why not introduce a coffee area for people to meet up?
- Stock in general would be good. Nice deli stuff etc. It's quite dirty and budget
- Local producing fruit and veg, home made chutneys/pies etc Meats e.g. local venison from gamekeepers
- If the shop had more general stock or fresh produce, I would use shop more

Appendix 11: Question 56: Other things which could improve the mobile library service.

2 comments.

- We used it when it came every Monday but unable to keep up with which week it is, so we go to Henley
- More advertising of service!

Appendix 12: Question 61a: What would make respondents use the Bottle and Glass more.

51 comments.

- Range of home cooked food including vegetarian options. Use of garden
- If it was still open!
- Friendly hosts, decent but inexperienced food, quizzes, warm welcome
- If it was open
- Social events e.g. Aunt Sally quiz nights, variety of light and full meals
- Welcome children more
- Being open would be a start, friendly welcoming landlord, pub food at pub prices
- More child friendly
- If it was open and if the food was good
- Knowing when it's open
- If it were open. More friendly more activities and life in the pub
- Better service
- Live music evenings

- Beer other than Brakspear
- Good quality affordable pub food
- When it's open
- Being open!
- Cheaper beer!
- Open doors, free beer
- Wouldn't change current usage
- Put off as historically the service was bad food, took ages to arrive not very friendly/welcoming
- Good pub food
- It being open
- Open would be good! and to have a drink or simple meal not a 'gastro' not wanted!
- A warm welcome. Good home cooked meals, reasonable prices
- Consistent management
- Open more regularly, been closed for months!
- If it were open
- Landlord or lady to make you welcome when you go in
- Bigger menu
- To be open
- Being open
- Regular opening and consistent food
- Good quality food at a reasonable price
- Reliable opening hours and a reasonable price
- More lunchtime snacks available for walkers
- Good pub food at reasonable price
- More welcoming, better quality food
- It needs to be open!
- Welcoming staff, have not been since new management started
- Will try with the new owner
- Good pub food and prices and happy tenants!
- Better more valued menu
- Opportunity
- Pleasant welcoming atmosphere, good value for money pub food
- Obviously it being open. New 'friendly' landlady. Sensibly priced food and beer
- It if was open
- Lower food prices
- Local advertising
- Friendlier landlord/landlady
- Being open

**Appendix 13: Question 61b: What would make respondents use Orwells more.
34 comments.**

- Same quality but lower price!
- Quite expensive so we only go for special occasions, but food is excellent
- Use as a treat occasionally but this is not a village pub
- Being able to have a babysitter more regularly
- More reasonably priced menu
- Cheaper food
- If I wasn't working
- Less expensive
- Better prices

- Range of food prices
- Live music evenings
- Far too expensive!
- A better 'pub' menu
- Lower prices
- Wouldn't change current usage
- Less expensive/more food/improving atmosphere
- Good pub food, relaxed dress code eg walking boots
- Nothing at all
- We love Orwells for special occasions
- Parking a problem
- If I had more money
- More deals
- Lower prices
- Sold pub bar food
- More reasonable pricing
- Week day price often (e.g. inclusive lunch charges)
- Cheaper deals
- Cheaper menus
- A husband!
- It seems to be ra ra! very pricey so cheaper!
- Special offer meal
- If it were part of the community
- Lower food prices
- Local advertising

Appendix 14: Question 68: What respondents found wrong with the footways and bridleways they regularly use.

21 comments.

- Horses should be kept off footpaths
- Perhaps more circular walking routes
- Nothing my age prevents me from using them
- Would like more kissing gates to replace stiles
- Disabled
- Dog excrement is not removed from pathways, We have children and its near impossible to enjoy a walk
- Some are difficult with young children or pushchairs. Dogs foul many of those close to us
- Nothing - I get exercise in a different way
- Nothing, just lack of our mobility
- Not looked after
- Not enough circular routes around the village
- Footpaths across fields get ploughed up once a year
- Phillimore estate does not keep paths open properly
- Dog fouling, Water logged crossing in Heathfield avenue
- Too much dog poo on paths and litter
- Some are too narrow - hedges overgrown
- The footpath from Harpsden road to common lane is often full of weeds and low branches. Which I clean
- Horse tracks on footpaths, sometimes overgrown and often very muddy
- Some made more muddy and rutted by horses and tractors

- Some could be better signposted

Appendix 15: Question 71: Most important bridle path “missing links” that respondents need.

5 comments.

- A footway safely down Dunsden way to Playhatch
- From the well to the river, Kiln lane to upper Bolney road
- Across the A4155 towards Sonning
- Sorry but gravel road to the bottle i.e. around polo pitch would be ideal!
- We need a safe cycleway to Henley and between local villages

Appendix 16: Question 74: Suggestions for improving the newsletter, notice board, notices in bus shelters and village website.

21 comments.

- Newsletter is about right in content and length. Not sure there is any useful information on the website
- Would be good if village website was updated more often. Newsletter is excellent
- Website needs to be updated, with current news and pictures and reports of village events
- Newsletter to entire village - births, deaths, marriages, children’s achievements. If necessary finance by advertising
- It would be good to have the newsletter at least once a month
- No - It’s a very good newsletter and I think placing too much pressure on the author is ill advised
- PC minutes are too long, dull and indigestible. Learn to write proper concise action minutes and post them
- Newsletter - More on village less on Dunsden! Bring website up to date and interactive
- A recorded one for blind people
- Could have advertisers of local businesses etc to help them or the cost of newsletter article size of events around the village
- Ban commercial use
- Website should be more up to date
- Village website can only be accessed with a reliable broadband and needs to be managed/ up to date
- Website should be regularly updated, used more for publicising local events
- Would be useful to collect email addresses for mailouts if people want them
- Village website could be better monitored and maintained
- Keep website up to date
- List events earlier rather than that particular month
- Revamp the notice board - make it an integral part of the shop. The newsletter - if produced on double side A5 would use half the paper
- There could be one in the park for people to network
- A link to the Church website

Appendix 17: Question 80: Other reasons why certain respondents were not satisfied with their broadband service.

10 comments.

- We don’t have broadband after 8 years of trying and find it hard to understand why something cant be done

- Lobby to bring F77S to Binfield Heath.
- Where is BT Infinity?
- Can only use a mobile broadband connection
- Cannot get broadband other than on mobile connection
- Way too slow even though we are so close to Caversham
- Have to use a Dongle
- It cannot legally be classed 'broadband', yet we pay for it. It is beyond awful
- Cannot get a broadband connection
- We can't get broadband at all

Appendix 18: Question 85: Powers which respondents think the Parish Council should have. 20 comments.

- More say in local decisions in traffic calming
- Should have more influence on planning matters
- More influence with local authority - planning
- More influence over planning issues
- A bigger say in planning and road maintenance
- Get the roads sorted, potholes
- They should have more powers in local planning and upkeep of highways
- Political and unnecessary
- Ability to order the cutting back of tall trees
- Planning permission, speed limits
- Similar to SODC + OCC
- To make important decisions relating to the village
- Potholes
- They should have the final word on planning applications
- Planning decisions
- Traffic calming
- Sometimes the DC is over-ruled over planning applications perhaps villagers could be consulted
- Traffic calming, clearing fly tipping
- Planning but only with responsible council behaviour
- Ability/resource to maintain and enhance all sensible aspects of day to day life

Appendix 19: Question 87: Reasons why the Parish Council does not meet the current needs of certain respondents. 9 comments.

- Except on planning matters
- Because the parish does not support local trades
- Appear powerless to enforce standards of allotment upkeep
- No idea of what their purpose really is!
- Turned down my reasonable planning application
- Don't really have opinion
- Issue over traffic speeding through the village constantly. The parish council does not address this
- Don't know what they do
- No representative at SODC planning meeting

Appendix 20: Question 90: Other features or characteristics of the village certain respondents believe should be preserved or protected.

29 comments.

- Playground, pond, footpaths
- Public rights of way
- Preserve the villages freedom from light-pollution (i.e. preserve the absence of street-lights)
- Central Heath and Playground
- Should have replacement trees in centre of the village near garage as these have died. Centre of village no longer so attractive
- Separation from reading. Retain village's unique character and good social mix. Keep traffic and signage to a minimum. Protect footpaths
- Post office, brilliant playground
- Playing field and allotments
- Quiet lanes, no street lights
- The rural feel of the village
- Low density housing
- Country lanes
- Replace the near dead chestnut tree on the island opposite the village shop
- Don't allow any more signs and urban clutter
- Pub, shop. Preserve only rural identity and remain in South Oxfordshire not greater Reading
- Rural nature - no infill and over development
- Mix of housing size and type
- Playground, flower show, Shop
- Existing footpath access
- Restrict wooden fences to preserve the country/village atmosphere
- The allotments
- Preserve post office and playground
- Verges could be flattened to be used as footpaths wherever possible, due to traffic speed and volume and narrow roads
- Shop and local businesses, no street lighting
- Local pubs
- Keep the village dark, no more street lights
- The area outside the shop which is the meeting place of the village and the playground
- Ditches - to enable rainwater runoff
- The Chapel

Appendix 21: Question 91: Changes, which those Respondents who did not wish to retain the characteristics listed in Question 89, would like to see instead.

3 comments.

- Perhaps some verges could have pavement areas as it feels dangerous to push a pram on the roads due to speeding cars
- Some new housing in character with village
- More bungalows for pensioners, especially with ageing population some infill may be essential

**Appendix 22: Question 108: Other types of vehicle respondents own or use regularly.
3 comments.**

- Bus
- Bus services
- Bus pass

**Appendix 23: Question 118: Other reasons which would make certain respondents use the bus more.
9 comments.**

- Just need to change my own mindset!
- Later service from Reading
- Use my car
- Earlier in the morning
- Ran later in evenings
- A service from Henley that would allow visit-return from cinema/theatre after 8:20pm
- If it ran later into the evening
- Later on a Friday evening
- Would use bus to work, instead of using my own car

**Appendix 24: Question 121: Changes or improvements respondents want to see in the village in terms of condition, layout and status.
68 comments.**

- Road surface in Kiln road
- Better and quicker filling of pot holes
- Road surface is poor. Pot holes
- Too many pot holes, too much litter
- Less destruction of verges by agricultural vehicles. Hedge grubbing has no sympathy for local verges or wildlife. Destruction of verges
- Filling of holes
- Too many potholes!
- Maintenance of roads needs improvement
- Far fewer potholes
- Pot holes need repairing
- Fill all potholes
- Current crater next to the school is dangerous and unchanged in months
- Road maintenance is a disgrace. it is the simple most important issue the PC should be involved in
- Several roads need patching or preferably resurfacing
- Very difficult to walk through with small children, poor/little pavements and speeding traffic
- Less potholes
- Improve maintenance and fill in potholes and road edges to a high standard so that they last
- Not a village problem - Oxfordshire county council
- Very bad pot holes filled
- Pot Holes
- Too many large pot holes
- Too many pot holes
- Pot hole improvements

- State of roads is dreadful - 3rd world country levels. Pot holes everywhere, poorly repaired
- Reinstatement of verges
- Pot holes and snow clearance during severe winter conditions of lanes
- There are some huge pot holes that still need repair after over a year
- Pot hole repairs!
- Roads - improved surfacing in some areas re-enforced edging
- Pot holes repairing
- Condition - pot holes
- Potholes
- Condition
- All village roads are in very poor condition
- Pot holes repaired promptly
- Fill pot holes
- Common lane pot holes properly filled in. Kiln lane surface maintained by council
- Condition - pot holes not properly repaired causing significant damage to vehicle
- Fill in the pot holes!!!
- Pot holes particularly in Memorial Ave. Would like double yellow lines on roads around the shop, makes it hard to pull out when cars are parked at the junction
- Poor state of repair
- fill in the pot holes!!
- Pot holes roads in bad condition
- Filling of the pot holes
- More complete resurfacing of roads
- Condition : improvement to complete sections of roads
- Binfield Heath seems to be ok at present - it's a different picture in Shiplake!
- Too many pot holes
- Total relaying! Especially Dunsden way! Junction at centre of village altering to move island one way
- Pot holes
- That major holes in the road be more effectively repaired
- Very bad condition
- Road surfaces are poor, bumpy and frequently pot holed
- Pot hole repairs do not seem to last
- Memorial avenue is fairly uneven
- Too many significant pot holes which take considerable time to repair. Unacceptable
- Road redressing is needed with centre lines at corners. Calming measures in village especially near shop junction, better repair of pot holes
- Holes filled in, smoothed out a little as very bumpy in places. Drains in road need sorting out bottom at Dunsden way
- Potholes filled. General better maintained roads
- Filled holes
- Too many pot holes
- Pot holes, overhanging hedges and branches. Dangerous blind corners with no warning, no escape as pedestrians if traffic busy
- Better repair, iron out the worst bumps
- Verges and pot holes
- Condition to be improved
- Some roads are pot holed and uneven, dangerous. Also 30mph should include all roads outside village boundaries too
- Quite a few pot holes, lots of litter ruins the beauty of the area. Feel this is a council concern and too big for local volunteers

- Pot holes

Appendix 25: Question 129: Other schools which certain respondents use, have used, or plan to use in the area.

13 comments.

- St Josephs, Crosfields
- Reading Bluecoat
- Crosfields Bluecoat
- Broadfield College
- Primary school
- Bishopswood
- QAS
- The Abbey Junior school, Reading
- Due to lack of school sixth form we are considering schools out of the area for sixth form
- Schools in Henley and other parts of Oxfordshire
- Valley road (Bishopswood) nursery
- Dolphin school Hurst, Kendrick School Reading
- Chiltern Edge school

Appendix 26: Question 131: Reasons why certain respondents have had difficulty in meeting their family's schooling needs.

2 comments.

- Looking for a school for my son
- No Place at Shiplake primary for our son. The school is less than 400m from our home so we could have walked. Now drive to Caversham

Appendix 27: Question 134: Other comments and suggestions from respondents plus addresses from questions requiring an address to be left.

21 comments.

- No, a very comprehensive survey!
- Reinstatement of central white line road markings
- Would like to see analysis of all this - should be published and delivered to all houses
- I have a longstanding connection with a Cornish village. They produce a monthly magazine including items such as the village school, local clubs, parish council minutes, birth and deaths. This is paid for by advertising. Would anyone in the village be willing to take on such a task?
- You should use local trades for work, or at least get an estimate from them? Too many middle class people, trying to control the village. Forgetting the working class, who have been in village all their life. The local estate (Phillimore) should employ local people. Brakspear should lower the rent on the bottle and glass. Enabling tenants more freedom. It is not supported by the people on the Parish any way
- The scope of this sort of document worries me - PCs are modest organisations and should remain so. I would prefer to see the PC being more effective at keeping SODC/OCC up to par than developing delusions of grandeur about housing development etc. Binfield Heath PC exists as a result of Shiplake PC developing similar divisive ideas above its competence
- Dog Poo - how do we make people clean up after their dog??? Concern about recent cases of animals being poisoned either with rat poison not left out in a safe way or with possible anti freeze poisoning

- As the parish councillor in charge of the playground, I would very much welcome volunteers as in Q126 & Q127. Anyone interested may contact me on [telephone]. I cannot answer Q86. [contact details given]
- Speed humps along the main roads in the village are needed - I see cars tearing along them at 50mph+. Also the junction from to Arch hill needs looking at, people do not stop at the road junction as they look behind up the road - very dangerous
- Would volunteer but leaving the area in the summer
- More diverse people encouraged to join flower show committee. Better use of email and website to communicate community activities. [contact details given]
- Re the post office and shop - If the garden backing on to the playground was opened up and made into an open air coffee shop, it would definitely bring in a lot of trade, especially to mums with children. They could have a coffee while there children play. The field kitchen in Nettlebed is a great example of a space which has been transformed completely. Could change the shop into more of a 'farm shop'. Parking is a real issue in Henley and to open something here where people could park without too much of an issue would be a real draw
- Litter pick is very valuable service. No speed bumps, street lights. Better clearing of ditches needed
- My only one from the limited time here would be to reduce speeding. The main Dunsden way road needs a camera or other measure. The blind corner of gravel road by the polo club needs serious measures: speed bumps and a 20 zone would be a start. It is an accident waiting to happen
- It would be useful to have some playground equipment or a separate playground for older people, to help us keep fit in our old age
- We love living in Binfield Heath - we moved here from Shiplake and there is a community/friendly atmosphere here which I did not really feel in Shiplake. My only negative point is the rubbish scattered around local roads. Would love a local services directory.