Action Plan Update 2010

The Action Plan is now 4 years old. Some of the projects are continuing with minimal change, some are complete and a few are yet to make any progress. The successes this year are the establishing of the new website, the setting up of a Youth Club and work done with the Rural Access to Services Project (RASP).

Transport

Action:	**Why:**	**Update May 2010**
Explore the possibility of Green Lanes (ie 20mph & priority for walkers/cyclists/riders) Present findings to the Action group to discuss feasibility	Our lanes are becoming increasingly busy; the safety of other road users is at risk. 54% of survey respondents (392 people) supported the idea of Green Lanes around Westfield	The recognised name for these lanes is Quiet Lanes. There are several examples around the country where areas have introduced them. East Sussex County Council has shown some interest but this is a long term action which will need more commitment by the County Council. There has been no further progress on this Action this year.
Gather information about Public Transport and the long term strategy for the Parish Present findings to the Action Group to consider if further work is needed	24% of respondents (172 people) experienced problems with using public transport	Most of our transport actions require work across county. We now have a volunteer who attends the Rother Transport Action Group who reports back on wider issues and ensures Westfield's ideas are heard.
Find a solution to the village parking problems	53% (389 people) identified car parking as a problem in the village. The most commonly identified sites were The Surgery, village halls and the roads around the school, especially at school drop-off and pick-up times	No Long term solution has been found to the village parking problems.

Make pathways more accessible to allow people to walk into the village 	Comments were received about overgrown hedges and obstructed footways causing difficulties to pedestrians	The footpath volunteer group continue to monitor the paths in the parish and ESCC has helped with some path improvements.

Transport (continued)

Consider routes for cyclists:- a)Beggars Corner to The Plough- through Fish Ponds lane to Cricket ground, down drive to A28 (possible new roundabout), Mill Lane to Cottage Lane and along to Sedlescombe b) Link with Marsh Cycle routes via Doleham Halt (good train service). Make Doleham Lane, and Lower Lidham Hill Green Lanes	322 respondents declared that dangerous roads or lack of cycle paths prevent them cycling more	These actions need a committed volunteer to make progress. The Action Plan group are considering looking for Grant funding for someone to do some research into the feasibility of this action.
Revisit a "Wheelies" type car service as BACT looks set to close down	To match identified travel needs of residents with those willing to help provide transport	Work is currently underway to explore the transport needs in the Parish via the Rural Access to Services Project (RASP).

Housing

Action:	**Why:**	**Update May 2010**
Ensure all new housing in the parish has a certain percentage available for Westfield families, such as the Westfield Down proposal – see under Recreation	Most comments received were about already over-stretched infra structures and not wanting any further housing. If houses must be built, consideration should be given to current	Last year a housing survey was completed by Action in Rural Sussex. A need for specific housing was identified and the Parish Council considered a small development for Westfield residents which will always be kept for Westfield families. Plans for this exception site are nearing completion and details will be available soon.

	residents' needs.	

Community Safety

Action:	Why:	Update May 2010
Establish wider coverage of Neighbourhood Watch	51% of respondents already belong to a neighbourhood watch scheme. Of those who do not, many expressed an interest in knowing more	The email address for neighbourhood watch was circulated widely and continues to be in the Community Newsletter on a regular basis.

Environment

This is a really important issue for most people. There is a need to keep our environment clean and pleasant and this will be an area where the parishioners can work together.

Action:	Why:	Update May 2010
Organise a "Spring Clean" once or twice a year Set up a system whereby people regularly do their own "patch"	There was a high level of support for all suggested remedies for tidying Westfield. 264 people favoured an annual or bi-annual community clean-up	This continues to be a well supported project with a Spring Clean and Autumn Tidy up each year. A large number of volunteers also continue to clear up their patch on a regular basis.
Tackle the Litter problem in the parish 	The litter problem was the most frequently indicated local environment issue	As Above
Spring Into Westfield	To improve the roadside display in the Spring	Volunteers added more bulbs to the village and Baldslow down areas in October. This project will continue again this year.
Investigate more frequent bottle bank emptying or permanent bank		This action is now considered complete as the bottle bank is well used and emptied regularly. The Kerbside collection of plastic bottles has been very successful.

Explore changes needed to the way we deal with Dog Fouling 	60% of respondents expressed concern about dog fouling and 49% would like more dog waste bins	The Parish Council has recently changed its contract for emptying dog waste bins. Generally this is less of a problem but some inconsiderate people continue to fail to pick up after their dogs.
Tackle the vandalism and Graffiti problems in the Parish	61% of respondents to the adult survey expressed concern about vandalism. 53% of primary school children identified this as the problem most in need of solutions	The Graffiti kit has not been needed much this year. If parishioners identify any new areas of concern please let Barbara Balkham know - 751531

Young People and Children

Action:	**Why:**	**Update May 2010**
Develop the play facilities in the Parish	63% of respondents (460 people) want improved play facilities. 76 of our primary school children put this as their highest priority	The new equipment at the recreation ground has been a huge success and continues to be well used and appreciated by the children and young people.
Develop a Youth Club	75% of adult respondents (550 people) support the development of a youth club. 18% of the young people, in the 11 to 16 age group, wanted a youth club	A new Youth Group has now been established in the Parish. This has a good number of volunteers and is well supported by the young people. The RASP funding has been beneficial in supporting this project.

Communication

Action:	Why:	Update May 2010
Set up a Parish Website to compliment the Parish newsletter	62% of respondents have access to the internet and 52% supported the idea of setting up a Parish website	The new website is a great asset to the Parish. Many thanks to those who maintain it. The RASP project has supported this project with some funding. The address is below if you haven't found it yet. www.westfieldvillage.co.uk
Establish some new notice boards in the Parish.		This is a new project which has been supported by RASP funding. One new board will be erected at New Moorsite for local residents and one for the Young people at Geary Place (where the school bus stops).

Recreation

The Westfield Down proposal is a major initiative in our parish. It combines the requirement for us to have more housing, the need for the football club to have a new pitch and pavilion so that they can remain in the second division (and possibly move up), a new pavilion for the cricket club, a new base for scouts, cubs and beavers, and an area for developing a children's playground.

Action:	Why:	Update May 2010
Support the development of the Westfield Down proposal Form a partnership with the Steering group	80% (586 people) Support the development of new sports facilities at Westfield down	Progress has been disappointingly slow on this project but we are hoping for more developments this year.
Explore the possibility of a Drop In Centre	56% (408 people) Would like to see a Drop-in centre for the community	The HUB has been a great success so far – thanks to all those involved. It continues to meet every Friday morning at the PUB. The Rural Access to Services Project (RASP) has provided funding and ideas to help develop the HUB as a centre for information.

General Issues

Action:	Why:	Update May 2010
Maintain a database for all volunteers from the survey and future volunteers	To promote a self-help community and make best use of volunteered manpower.	A data base has been set up New volunteers are always welcome please contact Sue France – 751029 if you would like more information about any aspects of the Action Plan or if you would like to be involved.