

# Tockenham Community Led Plan – 2015



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# TOCKENHAM – Our Parish

Tockenham is a small parish of less than 120 houses. It sits on either side of the A3102, approximately half-way between Royal Wootton Bassett and Lyneham. Tockenham Wick and the Hillocks lie to the north of the A3102, with the core of the village lying  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the south, being reached along the single-track roads of either the C120 or C130. The parish continues south as far as Preston Lane,  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from Bushton.

Situated just 6 miles from J16 of the M4, Tockenham provides a reasonable commuter distance to Bristol, Newbury, Reading and London for employment. Swindon is 8 miles away, convenient for both employment and retail facilities.

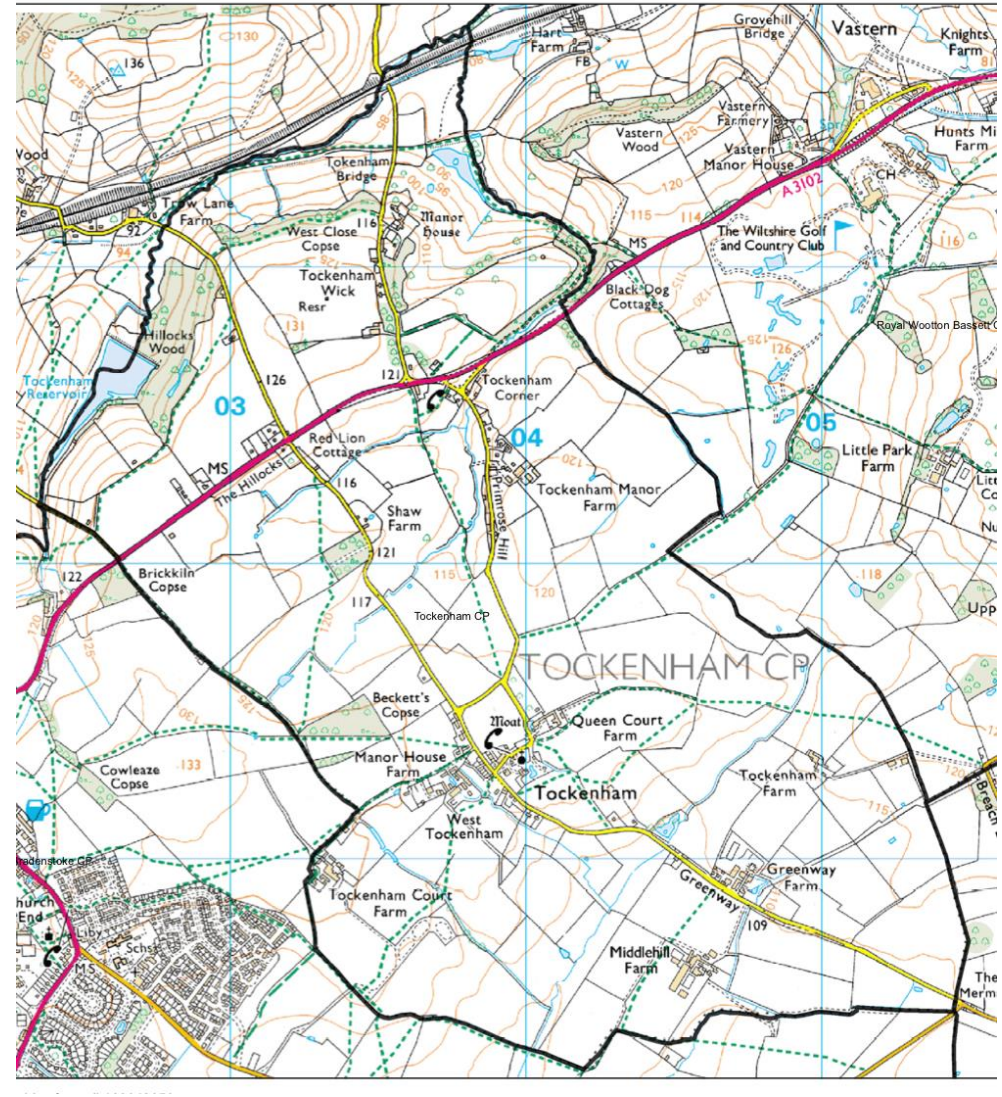
Tockenham is a rural area with agricultural and equestrian linked businesses being dominant. However, 26 other residents within the parish either run businesses or work from home.

The parish is steeped in history (please see Appendix I) and has 17 listed buildings – including St Giles Church, which was built in approximately 1313.

There is no pub, post office or shop, so residents have to travel to one of the neighbouring areas for all shopping.

However, Tockenham has a close-knit community with a strong community spirit, with the village hall, church and play area providing the core for all activities. For the last 75 years a very traditional English fete has been held within the village, attracting hundreds of visitors and providing funding for both the church and the village hall.

For Tockenham residents, being surrounded by countryside and open space is the most important feature of living here – and one they will wish to preserve.



## Community-Led Plans and how we got here

Community-Led Plans have been defined as:-

“A statement of how the community sees itself developing over the next few years. It:

1. reflects the views of all sections of the community;
2. identifies which features and local characteristics people value;
3. identifies local problems and opportunities;
4. spells out how residents want the community to develop in the future;
5. prepares an action plan to achieve this vision
6. volunteers from the community manage the action plans.

The first Plans were produced in the early 2000s and there are now thousands of parishes throughout the country who have carried out this exercise to help develop and improve their communities.

The decision to create a Community-Led Plan for Tockenham was decided at the parish council meeting in January 2013. However, although supported by the Parish Council, the Plan is fundamentally the product of the community, with the Steering Group being made up of 5 residents and 2 parish councillors.

On 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 an initial consultation was held with the community to both confirm their agreement to go ahead with the Plan and to gather some initial evidence on the direction they wanted the Steering Group to take. Other informal consultations took place during the Jubilee Street Party and the Harvest Supper of 2013. However, the main focus of consultation took the form of a questionnaire which was issued in May 2013.

The results of the questionnaires were then analysed and summarised by the Steering Group. A formal results document was produced and made available for viewing, either online or in hard copy, by the end of December 2013.

During the first half of 2014, the Steering Group used this information to identify the actions that would be needed to produce the required improvements and development of the community.

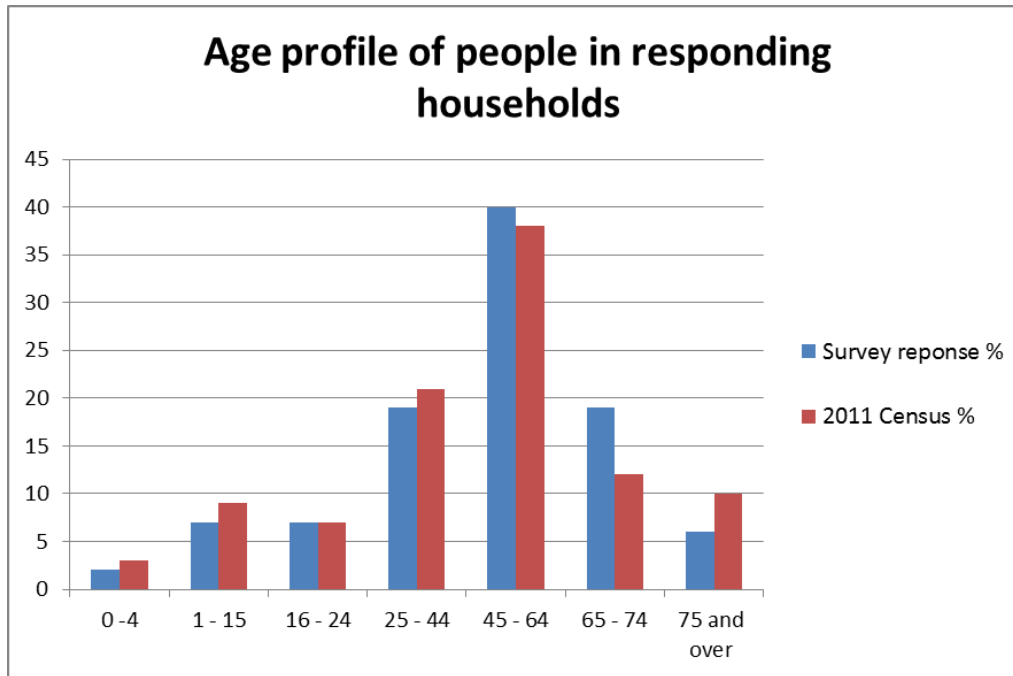
In July 2014 there was another public consultation to a) confirm that the proposed actions were acceptable, b) gain further supporting evidence, c) discover views on action priorities and d) request volunteers from the community to form Action Groups. N.B. In order to now progress the actions further, commitment will be needed from willing volunteers.

Then, during the second half of 2014/first half of 2015, work to produce the actual Plan Document progressed and this will eventually be passed to the Parish Council for adaptation.

## Population and Response Profile

The parish population has remained relatively static over the last decade (Census 2001 and 2011), the only significant increase occurring with the parish boundary change in 2012 to include The Hillocks, north of the A3012. There are now 115 households and a population of c230. All households received a survey questionnaire as part of this planning process. 78 Questionnaires were returned giving a statistically strong response rate of 68%. However, whilst the central village area returned a 40% response, the more thinly populated areas received responses between 8% and 12%, the lowest being Tockenham Wick. 30% of respondents chose not to identify the area in which they lived.

A total of 173 individuals live in the households covered by the 78 returned survey forms. The table below shows the age profile of the responding households compared with the 2011 census profile.



N.B. As there was only one questionnaire per household, it is assumed that the respondent reflected the views of all those living in their household.

The Rural Community Profile (November 2013) for Tockenham indicates the following breakdown of the Tockenham population:-

- 5 lone parent families with children.
- 5 single pensioner households.
- 145 working age adults.
- 65 Full-time, 26 part-time employees and 37 self-employed.
- 15 People living with long-term illness (16-64 years).

The percentage of pensionable age residents in Tockenham continues to rise steadily, but the increase is below that across Wiltshire generally. The majority of migration into and out of the parish is amongst working age families with children.

### Business Survey Response

We received 3 responses from the 10 business premises in the parish. It was reported that 31 men and 6 women are employed at these workplaces. In addition, 26 respondents of the Household Questionnaire reported 'working from home' or running a business from their premises. The results are shown later.

### 'Young People' Survey Response.

In addition to the coverage in the household survey, five young people (11 – 18 years) completed a survey specifically aimed at their needs. The results are shown later.

**PLEASE NOTE, ANY PERCENTAGES QUOTED WITHIN THESE FINDINGS ARE CALCULATED AGAINST THE ANSWERS GIVEN FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL QUESTION, NOT AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE 78 QUESTIONNAIRES RETURNED.**

## Why do people live in the Parish?

Please note, respondents could give multi choices.

### THE TOP 4 REASONS WERE:-

- Rural Community (36%)
- Sense of Community (13%)
- Work (12%)
- Availability of housing to suit needs (9%)

## What if anything would people change?

The following represents some of the main issues raised. Please note, they are addressed in detail under the relevant sections.

- Roads and Traffic – respondents would like to see improvements to the state of roads, passing places and verges as well as a reduction in traffic speed and more parking availability
- Some form of shopping facility/pub
- Bigger or improved village hall and playing field

Other individual responses highlighted the need for:

- More housing/OAP bungalows
- Improved broadband/internet speed
- Outer areas to be encompassed into community spirit of the rest of the village

## SERVICES

The survey asked about shopping habits and the use of local services.

### Shopping

48% of respondents (52) shop weekly in Royal Wootton Bassett, 28% (30) in Lyneham and 11% (12) in Swindon. On-line shopping is becoming more popular with 44 respondents using it, anything from occasionally to weekly.

### Local services available in the village

The survey asked about the usage of the various services available, including the village hall, the church, community transport, the mobile library, newspaper and prescription delivery services. Results as follows –

	Every Day	Every Week	Every Month	Some Times	Never	No Response
Mobile Library		1	1	3	58	15
Community Transport				1	63	14
Village Hall	1	10	10	40	8	9
Church			6	37	19	16
Newspaper Delivery	10	1			51	16
Prescription Delivery	1	2	1	1	59	14

### Issues identified:-

- Concern that lack of usage of community transport may be due to lack of awareness.
- There were 9 suggestions for a community shop.



## Health Services

Respondents were asked where they went for their doctor and dentist.

	Doctor	Dentist
Royal Wootton Bassett	70	36
Calne	1	6
Swindon	0	14
Chippenham	1	1
Others	0	15

Although 38% (30) of respondents have experienced no problems in accessing health services, 10% (8) complained of delays in getting a doctor's appointment.

With regard to other medical facilities being available in the village, the predominant consensus was that this was not necessary. However, it would be desirable to have a local defibrillator in case of emergencies. 37% (29) respondents would be prepared to get involved in either the operation or maintenance of one.

### Issues identified:-

- Long waiting times for doctor's appointments.
- Need for a local defibrillator.

## Communication of services

Residents were asked how they found out about local events, businesses and services. They could select more than one option.

30% get information from the parish magazine, 27% by word of mouth, 23% from the noticeboards, 13% from the village e-mail circulation system and 7% from the village website.

Comments from the survey mentioned the delivery of the parish magazine – "It is always late", "Never received before 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> of the month".

Local websites – 41% of respondents use the [www.tockenham.org.uk](http://www.tockenham.org.uk) website with 45% using the [www.tockenhamvillagefair.co.uk](http://www.tockenhamvillagefair.co.uk) site.

The survey asked if a directory of local people, businesses and community information would be useful:-

Yes	54
	77%

No	10
	14%

Don't know	6
	9%

However, fewer respondents would be prepared to be included in the directory:-

Yes	35
	51%

No	24
	35%

Don't know	10
	14%

### Issues identified:-

- Late delivery of parish magazine
- A directory of local businesses and community information would be useful

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE - SERVICES**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
This is the issue	This is what we propose to do about it	This is who will lead the action and who they need to work with	People, time, money, equipment	By when
<b>Lack of awareness of Community Transport availability e.g. Link6, Connect Service.</b>	<b>Regularly communicate details of each transport service on noticeboards, on website and in the Parish Magazine</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>On a regular basis</b>
<b>Lack of a community shop</b>	<b>Investigate feasibility and sustainability of having a community shop, plus investigate possibility of a mobile shop or local deliveries from other food sources. Also investigate the demand for help with internet shopping.</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Time for research Willing volunteers</b>	<b>By end 2016</b>  <b>Update – trial of weekly delivery of fresh fish in progress</b>
<b>There can be long delays in getting appointments with doctor.</b>	<b>Continued support for any Wiltshire Council (or other) moves to open new surgery in Lyneham.</b>	<b>Parish Council and Action Group with Wilts Council.</b>		<b>As appropriate</b>
<b>In a rural community, we need a local defibrillator in case of emergencies.</b>	<b>Gain further information on local defibrillator schemes. Contact local ambulance service re provision and training.</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Circa £2,000 Time</b>	<b>Instillation is imminent</b>



<b>Late delivery of parish magazine to some residents and not at all to others.</b>	<b>Review delivery process and put in place measures to ensure a consistent delivery process. Get published monthly on village website.</b>	<b>Action Group with PCC Local Wiltshire Councillor</b>		<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>A directory of local businesses including community information would be useful</b>	<b>Produce a “welcome” pamphlet with all useful information – including blank page for personal use. Add to village website.</b>	<b>Action Group with local businesses, Wilts Council and transport companies.</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>

# SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

## Facilities for children

When asked if they felt that local facilities were adequate, residents with children expressed general satisfaction.

	Yes	No	N/A
0 - 4 Years Old	4	1	12
5 - 11 Years Old	6	1	11
12-16 Years Old	7	1	12

Suggestions for other facilities to be available were:-

“Tennis courts/recreation ground for all ages”

“A youth club for the kids”

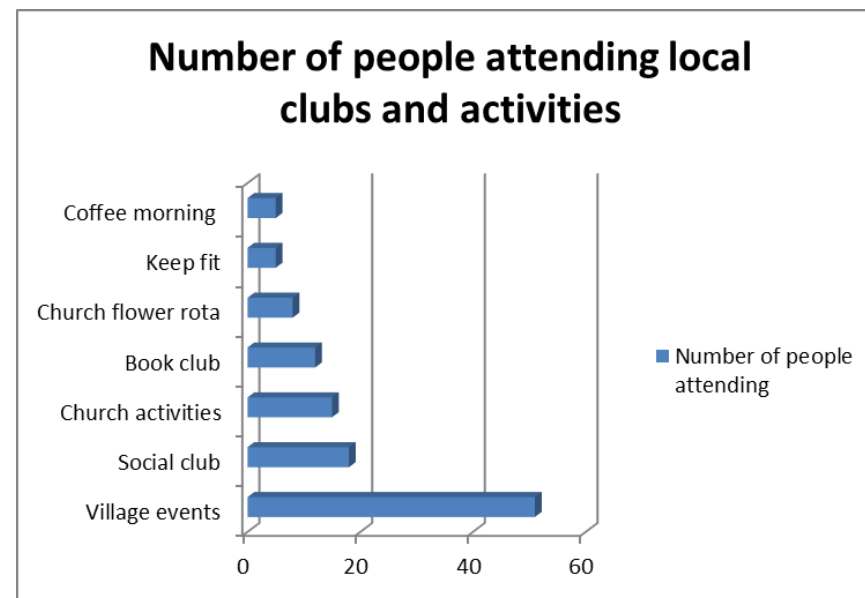
“I feel young children are relatively well accommodated with the play area”

## Local clubs and activities

Residents were asked which of the local clubs or activities they attended:-

Village events – 51, social club – 18, church activities – 15, book club – 12, church flower rota – 8, keep-fit – 5, coffee morning – 5

Attendance for annual events was as follows:-



Suggestions for other events and activities to be held in the village were:-

- Fireworks and bonfire night celebration
- Computer or shared knowledge classes
- Wine tasting club
- Boules
- Cricket team
- Walking group
- Holiday activities for children

The main reason given for not attending local village events was the condition of the village hall (please see next point) – but other suggestions to improve attendance include:-

- Better communication of events
- Better quality events or interesting speakers
- More children friendly events
- Events with a fund-raising purpose

Residents were asked if they felt the village hall met the needs of the community:-

Yes	53
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No	19
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Suggestions for improvement include:-

- A new village hall, larger and more modern with better facilities, including a kitchen (11 comments)
- A revamp of current hall with updated décor and ambience, ideally with a kitchen added and improved heating (12 comments)

“Needs to be welcoming”, “Change it to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, “New heating – it’s cold!”

However, 2 respondents felt that the hall was fine as it is.

### Issues identified:-

- More village activities required
- Communication of events needs to be improved
- Major improvements to village hall needed

### Volunteering

Residents were asked if they knew where to find information about local volunteering opportunities:-

Yes	25
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No	37
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### Issue identified:-

- Information about local volunteering opportunities is not readily available

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Social + Cultural**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>A demand was expressed for more village activities.</b>	<b>Encourage members of community to be responsible for organising different activities/events.</b>	<b>Village Hall Committee</b>	<b>Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Events need to be communicated more effectively and in good time.</b>	<b>Events to feature in parish magazine and on website – 1 month in advance, on notice-boards – 2 weeks in advance + e-mail circulation week before.</b>	<b>Village Hall Committee</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Village hall needs improvement - modernised, better décor, made welcoming.</b>	<b>New heating system already in place. Other renovation needs are being reviewed.</b>	<b>Village Hall Committee</b>	<b>Money Time for applying for grants</b>	<b>By End 2015 Currently on track</b>
<b>Information about local volunteering opportunities is not readily available.</b>	<b>Direct parishioners to parish magazine and website where opportunities will be publicised.</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

# CRIME AND SAFETY

The Rural Neighbourhood Police Team consists of one Police Constable and one Police Community Support Officer who cover 5 villages in the community area, based at Royal Wootton Bassett Police Station. Cover is also provided by the Response Team from Swindon.

## **Do people feel safe in their community?**

85% (60 respondents) do feel safe in their community.

However, reasons for concern include –

- Lack of police presence
- Local break-ins
- Oil thefts
- Speeding vehicles

## **Local Policing**

83% (62 respondents) do not know who their local police officers are.

However, 64% (41 respondents) are satisfied with the current level of policing in the community.

Reasons for dissatisfaction include –

- Lack of visible police presence – 17 comments
- Lack of communication regarding local crime and policing information

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

56% of the 71 respondents are interested in getting involved in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

## **Issues Identified**

- Lack of visible police presence
- Improved communication of police information wanted
- Requirement for local Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

## **What is already being done?**

101 non-emergency telephone number has been introduced to improve communication.

There are quarterly Neighbourhood Police Tasking Group meetings held at Royal Wootton Bassett Police station which Parish Councillors and Neighbourhood Watch representatives can attend. The minutes are then circulated to the public.

The local Police team hold street briefings, details can be found on the Wiltshire Police web site, Police Face book page, the library and local notice boards.

The Parish Council are receiving local police reports at their bi-monthly meetings and will invite the local officers to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. These reports are published as part of the meeting minutes in the parish magazine and on the village website.

Wilts Council have launched a Community Messaging Service to which members of the public can subscribe to receive regular, local updates.

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Crime + Safety**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
This is the issue	This is what we propose to do about it	This is who will lead the action and who they need to work with	People, time, money, equipment	By when
<b>There is some dissatisfaction with current level of policing in community – noticeably lack of visible police presence and need for improved communication</b>	<b>Invite community police officers to Parish Council meetings and other village events. Advertise their details in Parish Magazine. Communicate their bi-monthly report to the community.</b>	<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>In such a rural area, an active Neighbourhood Watch Scheme would be useful.</b>	<b>Identify those people who said they would be interested in getting involved in Scheme. Investigate steps to revive local schemes.</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Considerable research time initially then occasional time for meetings and communication Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Now in place</b>

# HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Tockenham consists of a variety of housing styles. These include 17 listed buildings, terraced cottages that are more than 200 years old and 9 bungalows built in the 1960s. Within the last 15 years there have been 8 new builds, 6 conversions to dwellings and 29 extensions in the parish. Although a mix of building materials have been used across this mix of properties, the predominant one is brick.

With regard to the need for further development in Tockenham, opinion within the survey was divided. There is a strong requirement to balance the need for any new housing with the desire to protect the present character of the village.

When asked what kind of development was needed, the greater preference was for family homes followed by accommodation suitable for older or disabled people. However, 26 respondents felt that there was no need for any development at all.

Responses were as follows: - (Respondents could choose more than one option)

	✓
Adapted accommodation for people with disabilities	6
Accommodation for older people	8
Housing association/shared ownership	13
Large family homes (3 bed +)	12
Small family homes (1/2 beds)	16
Bungalows	8
Apartments	3
Park Homes	0
No further homes are needed	26

Comments here varied between – “Need affordable housing for young families and older people” and “Tockenham is just the right size and the last thing we need is further development”.

With regard to location for any new development, responses were as follows, with infill being the clear preference:

	✓
None	14
One or two houses within existing built up areas (infill)	26
Small groups of less than 5 houses	14
Carefully designed larger groups	4
Redevelopment of existing developed land (brown field site)	12
Expansion on the edge of the existing community (green field site)	8

Other concerns identified within the survey were:-

- There was concern that any additional housing would lead to additional traffic and that our existing roads could not cope with this. It would just add extra strain to lanes and verges that are already being ruined.
- There was also concern that any additional housing would lead to further parking problems.



## **Forthcoming Development Processes**

- Wiltshire Core Strategy – a new development plan for the County – has now been adopted. This views Tockenham as a village in the countryside where only housing to enable workers to live at, or in the immediate vicinity of, their place of work - in the interests of agriculture or forestry or other employment essential to the countryside - is permitted.
- North-East Wiltshire Villages (NEW-V) Neighbourhood Plan – Tockenham is one of 7 parishes to participate in this front-runner scheme for Wiltshire Council. Neighbourhood Plans will have policies covering the concerns of local residents regarding “land use” issues and will carry statutory weight in the planning processes. Data from the Community-Led Plan Questionnaire has been shared with the Neighbourhood Plan team and will be used to shape the Plan.

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Housing + Development**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
This is the issue	This is what we propose to do about it	This is who will lead the action and who they need to work with	People, time, money, equipment	By when
<b>A requirement for a modest amount of new development in Tockenham, in order to meet local needs, was identified.</b>	<b>Pursue through involvement with NEW-V Steering Group.</b>	<b>Parish Council and Community-Led Plan Steering Group through North-East Wiltshire Villages Neighbourhood Plan Wiltshire Council</b>	<b>Possibly time and money for more consultation.</b>	<b>As per North-East Wiltshire Villages Neighbourhood Plan timetable</b>

# UTILITIES

Satisfaction with utilities supply was as follows:-

- Electricity - 93%
- Water - 97%
- Sewerage - 68%

## Issues identified –

These are the issues identified from the questionnaire responses –

- No mains sewer in several parts of the parish
- No mains gas available within the parish
- Low water pressure is experienced in some areas

## Communication

14 households were not satisfied with their telephone line connection.

Mobile phone reception was rated as follows:-

Good	18	Okay	24	Poor	20	N/a
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Problems with slow broadband or dropped connection to internet were rated as below:-

	✓
Often (more than once a week)	29
Occasionally (one or more a month)	23
Rarely (less than once a month)	7
Never	2
I do not have internet access	9

## Issues identified

- Some areas experience poor telephone line connection
- Some areas experience poor mobile phone reception
- Slow broadband speed or dropped internet connection is experienced on a regular basis

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE - Utilities**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
This is the issue	This is what we propose to do about it	This is who will lead the action and who they need to work with	People, time, money, equipment	By when
<b>No connection to mains sewerage</b>	<b>Investigate feasibility of extending current mains sewerage to houses in outlying areas.</b>	<b>Action Group with Thames Water</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>
<b>There is no mains gas supply in parish</b>	<b>Investigate possibility of having mains gas installed.</b>	<b>Action Group with British Gas</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>
<b>Low water pressure experienced in some areas</b>	<b>Identify affected areas and report issue to Thames Water Highlight issue in parish magazine and encourage people to report issues individually</b>	<b>Action Group with Thames Water Parishioners</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>
<b>Poor telephone line connection in some areas</b>	<b>Identify affected areas and report issue to British Telecom. Encourage people to report issues individually</b>	<b>Action Group with British Telecom Parishioners</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>
<b>Poor mobile phone reception experienced in some areas</b>	<b>Investigate reports that there is to be a universal mast installed locally to cover all providers.</b>	<b>Action Group with Wilts Council</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Mid 2016</b>
<b>Slow or dropped</b>	<b>Investigate whether</b>	<b>Action Group with Wilts</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>It has been established</b>

<b>connection to internet is experienced more than once a week</b>	<b>Tockenham will benefit from the superfast broadband recently introduced to Royal Wootton Bassett</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Willing volunteers</b>	<b>that Tockenham will start receiving superfast broadband by 4th quarter of 2015. Once in place, assess outlying areas that have not benefited from roll-out programme.</b>
<b>The effect that any new development could have on local utilities</b>	<b>Ensure that any new development does not have a detrimental effect on local utilities</b>	<b>Steering Group Representatives of North-East Wiltshire Villages Neighbourhood Plan</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>End 2016</b>

# TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

## Bus Services

No bus service passes through the village. However, the 55 route, provided by Stagecoach, runs along the A3102 every 20 minutes between 6am and midnight. It travels to Chippenham via Calne and to Swindon via Royal Wootton Bassett. Unfortunately, most parishioners would need to walk at least ¾ mile to access this service.

Bradies Taxis operate the Connect 2 service which will collect customers from their door and transport them to Royal Wootton Bassett or Great Western Hospital. Bus passes are accepted on this service; as are wheelchairs, but journeys need to be booked at least 24 hours in advance.

The Link 6 and R.W.B. Good Neighbour Scheme will transport the elderly and people in need on essential journeys, for a voluntary donation. These journeys also need to be pre-booked 48 hours in advance

## Use of public transport

Respondents indicated their use of public transport as follows:

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never
Work	0	0	7	5	46
School				2	
Bus	1	0	0		49
College	0	0	0	3	47
Leisure	0	2	1	9	45
Shopping	0	2	2	6	43
Medical	0	0	4	2	44

A significant majority never use the local bus service, with 55 respondents preferring to use their own transport.

18 respondents were dissatisfied with either the timing or the route of the service.

6 respondents were deterred by being unable to park close to the bus stop and 5 objected to the cost of the service.

## Community Transport

Only 2 respondents use either the Connect 2 Service or Link 6 Scheme.

2 respondents commented on the inconvenience of having to book these services in advance.

## Issues identified

The small usage of both public and community transport could possibly be due to lack of information about them.

## Walking and Cycling

59% of respondents feel that there is sufficient provision for pedestrians.

69% feel that there is sufficient provision for cyclists.

## Comments:

27 comments were made regarding the provision for pedestrians and cyclists.

- 8 respondents feel that pavements and cycleways are not feasible here because of the narrow lanes.
- 8 respondents would like to have a footpath/cycleway along the A3102, and 2 from the A3102 to the village.
- 7 respondents feel that there is a need to control the speed and size of the vehicles using the lane

## Existing footpaths

71% of respondents use them.

40% consider them inadequately maintained.

## Issues identified

- As part of the Wiltshire Cycleway, conditions of the road surface in Tockenham should be improved.
- A footpath is needed along the A3102 to form a safe link between the two areas of the parish.
- Our existing footpaths are not adequately maintained.

## Roads

### Passing places

51% of respondents feel that we need more formal passing places.

70% feel that the condition of existing passing places, both formal and informal, needs improving.

### Road signage

82% of respondents feel that road signage within the parish is satisfactory.

### Comments:

- 17 respondents comment on either the need to improve signage to encourage drivers to use the passing places, or the need to keep existing passing places well maintained.
- 5 comments refer to the problem of drivers of 4x4 or other large vehicles driving over the verges instead of using passing places. This can lead to the blockage of ditches.

## State of the roads

Respondents encountered adverse road conditions as follows:

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Poor road surfaces	34	21	4
Pot holes	39	19	3
Mud on road	28	30	3
Standing water	22	41	1
Speed of vehicles	33	27	3
Other: Badly Parked Vehicles			

The following suggestions for improvement were given:

- 12 respondents feel that we need some further speed control for vehicles – speed limits or speed bumps.
- 8 suggested improving the condition of the road e.g. fixing potholes, resurfacing and levelling.
- 8 responders would like to stop flooding with better maintenance of the ditches.
- Other – increase number of hard passing places and improve marking, restrict large vehicles.



## **Parking**

68% responders feel that there is inadequate provision for parking in the village.

## **Comments**

- 5 responders feel that work vans take up too much space and cause bottle-necks.
- There were 3 suggestions for a communal car park – but 2 comments that, even if we had one, people would not use it.
- Other – have access to back of terraced houses, cars parked on side of road through village are a problem– but this was counteracted by - roadside parking slows down traffic.

## **Issues identified**

- More passing places are needed with better signage.
- Vehicles are perceived to drive too quickly within parish to be safe.
- Large vehicles are frequently driving over the verges causing unsightly damage and leading to blocked ditches.
- Journeys are regularly affected by poor road conditions.
- There is inadequate provision for parking in the village.

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Transport and Highways**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
This is the issue	This is what we propose to do about it	This is who will lead the action and who they need to work with	People, time, money, equipment	By when
<b>Public and community transport are used very seldom by Tockenham residents – possibly due to lack of info about them</b>	<b>Put link on village website to Route 55, Thamesdown Transport. Advertise the criteria needed to use Link 6 and a reminder about Connect 2 Service facility in usual places</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Considering we are on Wilts Cycleway, the state of our roads is unsatisfactory for use by cyclists</b>	<b>Continue pursuing Highways Department</b>	<b>Parish Council with Wilts Council Highways Dept.</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing NB Some partial improvements already made. Expecting the whole lengths of C120 and C130 to be resurfaced by March 2016</b>
<b>A footpath is needed along A3102 to form a safe link between 2 areas of parish – between C120 and C130</b>	<b>Pursue possibility via footpath grant scheme – Paths Improvement Grant Scheme, plus through Community Area Transport Group</b>	<b>Parish Council with Wilts Council Highways Department and Community Area Transport Group. Landowner.</b>	<b>Time and money if need to match grant.</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

<b>Our footpaths are not adequately maintained</b>	<b>Organise regular walks to identify trouble areas then report to relevant Wilts Council Department or to farmers responsible for overgrown areas</b>	<b>Parish Council Action Group with Wilts Council Rights of Way Dept. and with local farmers</b>	<b>Time Willing volunteers</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>We need more passing places with better signage. The condition of existing ones is poor.</b>	<b>Pursue via Community Area Transport Group and within North-East Wiltshire Villages Neighbourhood Plan</b>	<b>Parish Council with Community Area Transport Group Representatives of North East Wiltshire -Villages within Neighbourhood Plan</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>New signage should be in place by end 2015. Otherwise ongoing</b>
<b>It is perceived that vehicles, especially large ones, drive too quickly within parish to be safe for pedestrians or oncoming traffic</b>	<b>Request another Metro Count in strategic places to try to make Tockenham a Speed Watch Area</b>	<b>Parish Council with Community Area Transport Group</b>	<b>Time and willing volunteers if become Speed Watch Area</b>	<b>By end 2016</b>
<b>Tractors, HGV's + 4x4's constantly drive over our verges causing unsightly damage to verges and blockages to ditches</b>	<b>Push for more passing places and better signage Investigate possibility of 7.5 ton limit (except for access) Educate people to slow down and use passing places</b>	<b>Parish Council with Community Area Transport Group  Action Group by educational communications</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

<b>Journeys are affected by poor road conditions</b>	<b>Advise community of ways to report issues to Highways directly, using Wiltshire Council's online service or MyWiltshire app. Parish Council also to continue to communicate with Highways Dept.</b>	<b>Action Group Parishioners  Parish Council with Wilts Council Highways Dept.</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing Hopefully there will be visible improvement once roads have been resurfaced</b>
<b>There is inadequate parking in the village</b>	<b>Pursue via Neighbourhood Plan to ensure any future developments provide adequate parking</b>	<b>North East Wiltshire - Villages Steering Group Members</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>By end 2016</b>

# ENVIRONMENT

## General appearance of village

In response to the question - “what detracted from the general appearance of Tockenham” - the following information was obtained:

78 households responded and respondents could tick all options that applied.

	✓		✓
Litter	17	Maintenance of hedgerows	8
New Development	7	Dog Fouling	7
Maintenance of verges	31	Vandalism	2
Maintenance of footpaths	4	Maintenance of ditches	33

Maintenance of ditches, maintenance of verges and litter were felt to be the biggest problems.

## Comments

There were 16 additional comments:

3 comments related to large vehicles driving over the verges and ditches causing flooding, with a suggestion of setting a 7.5 ton limit.

2 comments related to the need for more ditch maintenance to improve drainage, with a suggestion of using community funds to this end.

2 respondents felt the upkeep of the churchyard needed to be more regular.

Other comments related to hedge cuttings left on the road, mud on road, parking of commercial vehicles, state of phone box, maintenance of footpaths and teenagers using the park.

4 respondents complemented the communal flowers enhancing the appearance of the village.

## Issues highlighted

- Poor maintenance of ditches
- Poor maintenance of verges (see Action Point under Transport and Highways)
- Litter

## Issues already being addressed:

- There is currently a project to address the issue of dog fouling by Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board.
- The telephone box by the park will be removed by BT because of lack of use.

## Community open spaces

91% (51) respondents did not feel that there was a need for more community spaces.

There were 2 suggestions for a larger playing field to adjoin the existing one.

Opinion as to whether we need more allotments in Tockenham was as follows:

Yes	19	No	43
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## Issue identified:

There is a demand for more allotments. (To note – the existing six allotments are provided to the community under a private arrangement with the landowner)

## Recycling

Of the 69 respondents, 94% are happy with the local recycling facilities.

With regard to the need for additional recycling facilities:

4 respondents said “no” – as these can be mistreated or be an eyesore. There were 2 suggestions for a local MRF.

Other suggestions – carrier bag recycling, margarine pots etc. recycling, a way for villagers to swap/exchange/give unwanted items, community skip on regular basis.

## ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE - Environment

Issue	Action	Lead/Partners	Resource implications	Timescale
Poor maintenance of ditches detract from general appearance of village	Continue communication with Wilts Council, who have new initiative to control watercourses by liaising directly with landowners	Parish Council with Wilts Council	Time	Ongoing Some improvement achieved – especially at Primrose Hill
Litter detracts from general appearance of village	Organise Community Litter Pick	Parish Council	Time Willing volunteers	By April 2016 then annually
There is a demand for more allotments	Identify who wants one then investigate possibility of acquiring more	Action Group	Time	By end 2016

# GOVERNANCE

## Local government representatives

Householders were asked if they knew who these people were. Results were as follows:

	Yes	No	Not Interested
Who your Parish Councillors are?	57	16	2
Who your Wiltshire Councillor is?	51	17	2
Who your local MP is?	46	12	1

77% (53) respondents were aware that Parish Council meetings were open to the public and knew when and where they took place.

However, only 56% (40) felt sufficiently informed about the work of the Parish Council and the issues with which they dealt.

63% (43) respondents were aware of how to get an issue raised at a Parish Council meeting.

## Comments

“Meeting times and agenda are pretty well advertised, but results/outcomes of meeting are less available.”

## Issues Highlighted

There is insufficient information available about the work of the Parish Council and on how to get an issue raised with them.

## What is already being done?

The minutes of each meeting are now published in the parish magazine, on the website and on noticeboards.

Councillors’ contact details and meeting dates also appear bi-monthly in the magazine and continuously on the website and noticeboards.



**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE - Governance**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<p><b>There is insufficient information about work of Parish Council</b>  <b>There is a lack of knowledge on how to get an issue raised with Parish Council</b></p>	<p><b>Continue to post meeting notices and minutes in usual places, together with Councillors' contact details</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Council</b></p>	<p><b>Time</b>  <b>Cost of printing magazine</b></p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p>

# YOUNG PEOPLE

## **Questionnaire**

This was an individual survey, issued separately to the main questionnaire.

5 young people responded, all aged between 11 and 18 years old.

## **What do young people like about living in Tockenham?**

There were 15 comments, as follows:

2 each – It's peaceful

The people

Not much traffic

Others – the park, the church and views of the church, the Village Fair, Party in the Park, the countryside, plenty of space, the horses.

## **What do young people dislike about living here?**

2 commented that there was nothing that they disliked about living in Tockenham.

Dislikes given were – not much in the village, no shops, litter harming the environment.

## **What activities would young people like to see in Tockenham?**

- Sporting activities, including – football x 2, cricket x 2, rugby x 2, netball
- Skate park
- Film club

## **Use of Play Park –**

3 of the respondents use the park, but the others feel that they are too old.

## **Suggestions for improvements –**

- More equipment and a special corner in the park for older children
- A basketball/netball post
- Bigger slide
- Boat swing
- Wooden den

Other comments - need a "slow down" sign and a better bus service

## **Issues identified**

- There is a lack of things for older children to do in Tockenham
- More equipment is needed in the park for older children

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Young People**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>There is a lack of things for older children to do in Tockenham</b>	<b>Advertise local Youth Clubs in Lyneham and Royal Wootton Bassett in the parish magazine and on website</b>	<b>Action Group</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>By end 2015</b>
<b>More equipment for older children is needed in the park</b>	<b>Investigate possibility of getting netball/basketball post installed in park</b>	<b>Parish Council Action Group</b>	<b>Time Money for equipment</b>	<b>By end 2016</b>

# LOCAL BUSINESS

Within the parish, there are 10 business premises. The majority of these businesses employ staff. These include – 4 farms, an equestrian centre, a saddlery, an abattoir, a fencing business, a butcher’s shop, a cabinet maker and a farm shop. A separate business questionnaire was sent out to these local businesses and 3 of them replied. The responding businesses employ a total of 37 staff – 31 men and 6 women.

A business section was also included in the main questionnaire and we received a total of 26 responses from people who either run a business or work from home.

## Problems affecting local business

When asked what issues affected their business, responses were as follows –

	✓
Poor mobile phone reception	16
Lack of business support	1
Lack of suitable premises	1
Transport Issues	
Lack of meeting space	

	✓
Poor internet speed	20
Inadequate child care	
Poor telephone line	5
Other: Please specify	

## Business space

8 respondents expressed a need for additional business space within next 5 years. These were as follows:

	✓
Retail Space	1
Workshop Unit	
Storage Unit	
Home Office/Workshop Space	2

	✓
Office Space	1
Industrial Unit	2
Other: Please specify	
Serviced office space	1
Farm building	1

## Additional comments:

- Need a better turning access off A3102
- Need a car park in Tockenham
- Will need more staff
- Would like a small business premise in Tockenham and maybe employ somebody local

## Issues identified:

- Internet speed is inadequate\*
- Mobile phone reception can be poor\*
- Telephone line connection can be poor\*
- Additional business space required

\*Please see action points already identified under “Utilities”

**ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE – Local Business**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/Partners</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>Additional business space will be needed within parish</b>	<b>Support any proposed development of local business within Neighbourhood Plan</b>	<b>Parish Council North-East Wiltshire Villages Steering Group</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

## Next Steps

Tockenham Community-Led Plan was completed in May 2015 and the intention is to review the Plan in 5 years time.

It is hoped that this Plan will set out the aspirations of the community and provide information on the issues that concern the people of the Parish. The Community-Led Plan is a living document and, as such, the Action Plans will be updated from time to time as various projects are achieved.

It is hoped that we can set up community groups of volunteers, with a particular interest in the topics highlighted, to support the proposed Action Plans.

We now need you, the Community, to get actively involved.

If you are interested in volunteering or setting up an action group, please contact –

Diana Kirby – [kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk)

Geoff Cowling – [g-bc24@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:g-bc24@hotmail.co.uk)

Stuart Richardson – [stuart\\_richardson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stuart_richardson@yahoo.co.uk)

For more information on the Community-Led Plans and how it was achieved, please contact –

Diana Kirby – 01793 853861 or [kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk)

## Acknowledgements

The Community-Led Plan project has been in progress for two and a half years. During this time, a number of people have contributed to it and, without their assistance, we would not have succeeded.

As Chair of the Steering Group, I would like to thank:

### **The Community-Led Plan Steering Group, past and present:**

Geoff Cowling (Parish Council Representative)      Ellen Gaisford

Stuart Richardson      Emilia Gough

Olive Fairchild      Charlotte Boole

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**Belinda Fowler** - Community Development Officer, Community First

**Stevie Palmer** – Chair of Lyneham and Bradenstoke Community-Led Plan Steering Group

**Mary Walters** – for historic details of Tockenham

**The members of Tockenham Community** – for their time in completing the questionnaire and attending public consultations

Diana Kirby

## APPENDIX I

## Tockenham History

Tochenham (the original spelling) has existed since at least 755AD and was mentioned twice in the Domesday Book, commissioned in 1086 by William the Conqueror. A lot has happened to our village in the years since.

There has been mention of a church since 1276, the first rector being appointed in 1313. For 200 years, Queens Court was part of the dowry of the Queens of England and was last held by Catherine Parr. During the Civil war in 1643-44 Tockenham Court Farm was raided by parliamentary troops and in 1699, for reasons unknown, the church roof was raised by 18 inches.

Coming more up to date, in 1916 cheese was made at Manor House Farm and sent to feed British troops in India. Other trades in the village included a wheelwright, blacksmith and even a horn maker. On the darker side, in 1840 there was a murder.

The original school was housed in what is now the Village Hall. It was opened in 1859 and closed in 1926, the children being transferred to Lyneham. However, it was reopened during the war between 1940 and 1946.

The local public house in the main street closed in 1972 and the local shop closed soon afterwards. Tockenham, once split in two halves, was bought together as one parish in 1968/69. The village was also joined to a main sewage system in 1968. Our most recent claim to fame was a visit from the ITV Time Team when, in 1994, they came to investigate the remains of a Roman Villa in a field adjacent to Primrose Hill.

If you would like more information about the history of Tockenham, copies of "Come with me, a walk round Tockenham", written by Mary Walters, are available for sale in St Giles Church.