

Medstead Parish Plan



July 2008

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1 Introduction

1.1 Foreword

The Parish Plan builds upon the Medstead Village Appraisal (Summer, 2000) which provided a demographic analysis of life in the parish and the Medstead Village Design Statement (January, 2003) which was an attempt to ensure that future development is well managed and that change enhances the rural community. Both reports provided an opportunity for the community to express their hopes for the future and also their concerns.

In 2006 a White Paper on Local Government expressed an aim of “giving local people and local communities more influence and power to improve lives”. To further that aim our Parish Council called for volunteers to prepare a Parish Plan “to provide a comprehensive view from those who live in the Parish of how they wish to see it develop over the next ten years”.

This document is the result. It identifies those things we would like to see changed or retained in the Parish and, at its heart, provides an Action Plan to help achieve those desired outcomes. Medstead Parish Council adopted the Parish Plan on 20th May, 2008.

However, a plan by itself produces no consequences. Implementation of the plan requires individuals to put effort into making things happen.

Some of the actions are for the Parish Council. Some are for other Agencies and the Parish Council will take the lead in planning, reminding and encouraging in those areas. Actions which are not within the remit of the Local Authorities will only happen if we can find volunteers to lead, organise and work together to make them happen.

The plan recommends the creation of three implementation groups:

- A **Medstead Parish Plan Implementation Committee**: to monitor delivery of the Action Plan and provide support to the Parish Council.
- A **Communications Group**: to support improvements in dissemination of information throughout the Parish.
- An **Environmental Group** to deliver desired environmental initiatives.

Which one will you contribute your time and talents to?

1.2 Summary

Preparation of the Parish Plan followed guidelines and advice from both national and local sources. A preliminary survey was used to sample residents' opinion on the most significant issues and to prepare a questionnaire which was distributed to every adult resident of the Parish. A separate questionnaire was distributed to young people, aged 11-17 years old.

A 70% response rate was achieved from adult residents and 81 responses were received from young people. The Parish Plan is formulated from the responses to these questionnaires.

So what will the Medstead of ten years hence look like, if we have our way?

Essentially, not much different from the Medstead of today. The overwhelming majority of us like living here. We like the village atmosphere and the style of life, we treasure the tranquillity and the open space, we like the many activities that take place in the Parish, we value the community spirit and we would like to preserve those qualities for future generations. The plan includes a number of actions to help foster this sense of community.

Principal amongst our concerns are the state of our roads and the volume and speed of traffic passing through the Parish. Recognising this, the plan includes a number of actions to be pursued by Hampshire County Council Highways Department, via our Parish Council, with the aim of creating safer and better roads over the coming years.

We clearly appreciate the value of our existing Parish amenities and we wish to see them nurtured and developed. The Village Hall is often at the centre of village activities and the plans for its future development feature in the Action Plan.

Improvements to facilities for families and young people are also included within the Action Plan, including the development of an all weather surface and expansion of the existing play area.

We are also concerned about our environment: from a general desire to reduce the Parish's carbon footprint to specific support for the restoration of a village pond. Reflecting these desires, the plan contains a number of actions to maintain and improve our environment.

Development is at the forefront our thoughts. Whilst we consider ourselves open to change, we want to discourage the further spread of new housing and back garden developments. However, we also recognise there is a lack of affordable housing for younger people. In support of this, the plan includes actions to conduct a housing needs survey and to provide us with better information on planning.

Finally, we strongly support an increase in the Parish Precept to provide our Parish Council with the additional resources it deems necessary to help implement these actions.

1.3 Medstead Parish



Medstead Civil (Blue) and Ecclesiastical (Red) Parish Boundaries, courtesy of Google.

The Parish of Medstead is located on a plateau on the Hampshire Downs and is one of the highest villages in Hampshire. Its origins can be traced back to Saxon times. With a growing population of around 2,000, Medstead is now principally a residential community though retaining the ambience of a rural village. There is also a significant equestrian presence in the Parish.

The village centre is defined by the primary school, village green, sports pavilion and village hall together with a pub and two shops including a post office. At either end of the High Street are the Parish Church of St Andrew and the Convent of St Lucy. In the south towards Four Marks is found the United Reform Church, doctors' surgery and a cluster of shops, retail services and commercial activities. There is a wide range of social and sporting activities available in the village, for those who wish to be involved.

There is no doubt most people love living in Medstead. Its quiet rural environment, open spaces and network of footpaths for walking, the friendly village atmosphere and community spirit are particularly valued by residents. The lack of street lighting and consequent absence of light pollution enhances

the rural ambience and enables, on clear evenings, spectacular views of the night sky.

However, the question we have to ask ourselves is whether this lifestyle can be maintained, given the pressures placed on communities like Medstead to change and develop. Whilst many would like to see Medstead stay the same as it has been for years, we face continuing pressure for more homes and further development. Are we better to try to control the scale and location of development rather than try to prevent it?

Medstead is not a compact settlement, the 10 mile (16.3 km) Civil Parish boundary (marked in blue on the map, with the Ecclesiastical Parish variation marked in red) encompasses an area of about 4.4 miles² (7.2 km²). The Parish stretches along narrow, hedge and verge bounded, rural roads radiating from the centre. With increasing development the state of repair of the roads, the volume, speed and type of traffic coming through the Parish and the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and riders have become significant issues.

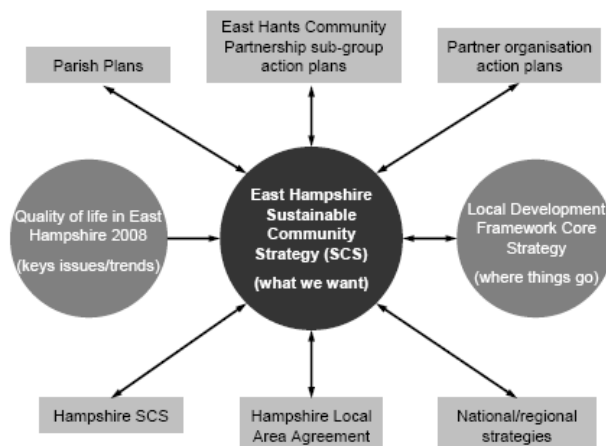
1.4 Parish Plans

The Local Government White Paper *Strong and Prosperous Communities* (26 October 2006) had the aim of giving “local people and local communities more influence and power to improve lives. It is about creating strong prosperous communities and delivering better public services through a rebalancing of the relationship between central government, local government and local people”.

Communities everywhere are constantly changing. The government wants local communities to take more control of their lives, to say what they want doing in their own neighbourhoods and to engage with other organisations to take appropriate actions. We cannot prevent change but we can try to influence it.

East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) has already recognised the importance of Parish Plans in the development of its future policies.

These include the Community Strategy 2008-2026 which guides joint work by councils, police, health services and voluntary agencies, and the Local Development Framework (LDF), the key planning document for the district, setting out how land should be used to meet community needs between now and 2026.



The consultations involved in developing our Parish Plan provided an opportunity for everyone in Medstead Parish to make their views heard and help shape a resulting Action Plan.

The benefits of producing an Action Plan within the Parish Plan include:

- The ability to influence and inform those officials preparing the Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework.
- Providing clear evidence of community needs and priorities for Parish, District and County Councils.
- Developing increased local voluntary action.
- Reinvigorating local democracy by stimulating interest in community affairs.
- Highlighting those projects which need involvement from other agencies.

2 Consultation Methodology

In November 2006 Medstead Parish Council called for volunteers from the community to form a steering committee with the aim of producing a Parish Plan. The committee was formally constituted in February 2007.

Throughout the process the Committee has been guided by the 'Parish And Community Toolkit' published by Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) the national umbrella organisation of the Rural Communities Councils (RCC).

Additionally, advice has been received from Community Action Hampshire (the RCC for Hampshire), EHDC Community Officers and the Hampshire Youth Service.

It was decided that the views of the residents would be sought through the medium of a questionnaire which would be delivered to every adult in the Parish and a separate questionnaire for each young person, aged between 11 and 17 years old.

In order to formulate the questionnaires a survey was conducted to ascertain the issues of greatest importance to residents. Survey forms were made available through local shops, the village pub, clubs, societies and churches; they were also distributed at the school and the village fête. A special event for young people was also organised at the village fête to encourage them to participate. Almost 200 survey forms were returned.

The adult questionnaire consisted of 37 individual questions covering 6 major issues identified by the survey and also provided an opportunity to add additional comments on those, or other, issues. A separate questionnaire was also developed aimed specifically at young people.

In the autumn of 2007 more than 40 volunteers delivered 1618 questionnaires to every household in the Parish. 1156 completed questionnaires were returned, a response rate of over 70%.

Finally, our web site <http://www.medstead.hampshire.org.uk/> provided a means of communicating information on our Parish Plan, and the facility to add comments and views.

3 Key Issues

3.1 Rural Ambience



From Chalky Hill.

Of the Medstead Parish residents who responded to the questionnaire, strong majorities considered the Parish to be **friendly and welcoming** (89.1%), **peaceful and tranquil** (88.7%) and to have a **community spirit** (81.8%) and that these attributes should be nurtured or improved.

3.1.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.1.

3.2 Roads

The overwhelming majority (94.0%) considered the **roads** in the Parish should to be in a better state of repair.

Poor road drainage and flooding were seen as significant issues, as were the state of road verges, the need to improve sight lines, better maintenance of existing signs and improvement of signage at specific locations.

A strong majority (72.5%) disagreed with the need to install **street lighting** in the Parish.

A majority (57.5%) agreed there should be more **pavements**, whilst a stronger majority (79.9%) agreed **a pavement on Roe Downs Road** was required to increase safety for children.



Hussell Lane after rain

The need for pavements at other specific locations and for pavements to be in keeping with the rural environment were also emphasised.

3.2.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.2.

3.3 Traffic



The High Street

Respondents were almost equally divided on whether **parking in the high street** should be restricted, with 51.1% against and 45.4% in favour.

Similarly, there was division on whether too many **horseboxes** pass through the Parish: 47.1% agreed and 44.6% disagreed. The volume of HGV's passing through the Parish was seen as a significant issue.

A very strong majority (88.8%) considered **vehicles are driven too fast** through the Parish, whilst 73.7% believe there is too much **through traffic**.

A strong majority (85.9%) considered the solution to speeding traffic was **enforcement of speed limits**. Other solutions, such as **traffic calming measures** did not gain significant support, with 48.6% in favour and 46.5% against, overall. However, traffic calming measures drew more support from those areas most directly affected by through traffic: the South East of the Parish (54.2%) and the Village Centre (53.5%).

There was also strong support (72.7%) for **regularising speed limits** and for a **speed limit reduction in the Village Centre** to 20mph (62.2%).

Issues raised by respondents included: safety around Medstead School at busy drop-off and pick-up times; damage caused by off road vehicles making byways such as Jenny Green Lane impassable to walkers; and cycling, which is currently discouraged by potholes and broken road edges.

3.3.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.3.

3.4 Amenities



Cricket on the Village Green

Strong majorities of adults were satisfied with **existing activities, societies and clubs** (79.3%) and believed there should be more **clubs and activities for 11-19 year olds** (70.3%). A strong majority (82.3%) agreed there are sufficient **amenities** (shops, Post Office, meeting places, pubs) although anxieties were raised about the continuation of Medstead Post Office.

A strong majority (72.7%) considered there were sufficient **schools** serving the Parish. The strongest agreement (80.5%) came from the Village Centre, the lowest (63.3%) from the South East, part of which is out of Medstead School's current catchment area.

Overall 48.7% agreed the **play facilities** should be improved or enlarged, whilst 30.4% disagreed. The high proportion of no replies to this question (20.8%) may indicate these respondents did not have young children, so did not feel able to provide an opinion. Of those who felt qualified to comment, 61.6% agreed the facilities should be improved or enlarged.

The **bus service** was judged adequate by only 31.0% of respondents. This question had the highest proportion of no replies (21.9%), perhaps indicating respondents did not use the bus service, so felt unable to comment. 51.5% of **young people** use the bus service to travel to school, college or work, 76.5% would use it if it was more frequent but only 48.1% if it ran later in the evening.

In response to what they would like to see **changed in the Parish** in ten years time, **young people** highlighted the need for better amenities, facilities, public transport and pavements. The most popular **facilities** young people would use if they were provided were an all weather surface (58.0%), social functions (56.8%), a basketball court/rings (54.3%) and a youth club (49.4%). There was little demand for a skateboard area, BMX track, or meeting places.

The most **popular activities for young people** were: shopping, in Basingstoke, Alton and Winchester (78.4%); meeting friends, in Alton, Medstead, Basingstoke and Winchester (79.0%); leisure activities, in Basingstoke and Alton (81.3%); sport in Medstead and Alton (69.7%); clubs in Alton, Medstead and Alresford (76.6%) and horse riding in Medstead (73.7%).

3.4.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.4.

3.5 Environment



Medstead footpath in Spring

Overwhelming majorities agreed the **village green** (98.4%) and the **rural environment** (97.2%) were major assets to the Parish which should be protected and maintained, whilst 70.6% were in favour of reinstating and maintaining a **village pond**, as a focal point for the village centre.

Medstead is well served by **footpaths** and this was recognised by 87.4% of respondents.

90.7% agreed **verges, hedges, footpaths and stiles** and 98.5% agreed **drains and ditches** should be better maintained.

Young people would like to see the environment, current levels of development, existing amenities and facilities, the Village Green, the Parish's rural ambience and footpaths **unchanged in ten years time**.

There was also strong support (77.9%) for the Parish to encourage local initiatives to reduce its **carbon footprint**.

3.5.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.5.

3.6 Development

A majority of residents disagreed they show too much **resistance to change** (53.5%).

Strong majorities felt **new housing** (62.8%) and **back garden developments** (74.6%) should be discouraged.

However, 80.0% of respondents felt there was a **lack of affordable housing** for younger people.



Redevelopment in Boyneswood Road

After roads and traffic, development had the most comments, particularly on affordable housing, the concentration of development in the South East of the Parish, planning, the style and type of new developments, the threat to the rural environment and the inability of local infrastructure to cope.

3.6.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Section 4.6.

3.7 Implementing The Action Plan

A strong majority of respondents (67.7%) supported an increase in the Parish Precept, if necessary, to implement relevant proposals in the Parish Plan's Action Plan, whilst only 23.9% were in disagreement.

3.7.1 Actions

Recommended actions are in the Action Plan, Sections 4.7 and 4.8.

Consideration needs to be given to the most appropriate mechanisms to achieve the best results. Early discussions with Community Action Hampshire have indicated the creation of a Community/Residents Association with charitable status may greatly assist the access to funding.

It is recommended the Parish Council call for volunteers to assist in the implementation of the recommendations contained within the Parish Plan. It is suggested three volunteer groups are required to begin the process:

- A **Medstead Parish Plan Implementation Committee** to monitor the process and provide additional resources to support the Parish Council.
- A volunteer based **Communications Group**, working closely with the Medstead Times Management Committee, to support and encourage the dissemination of information throughout the Parish and beyond
- An **Environmental Group** to deliver improvements to the Village Green, reinstate a Village Pond, run a 'Greening Medstead' campaign and support any other appropriate Parish environmental initiatives.

This is our Parish, how it develops and changes will be determined, to a significant extent, by how we respond to the challenges. If many of us participate change can be shaped to meet our wishes.

If you would like to volunteer your time and your talents to help implement the Action Plan and help shape the future of our Parish, please contact:

Errol O'Farrell, Parish Clerk, Medstead Parish Council.

Email: errol.fmpc@tiscali.co.uk

Telephone: 01420 564231

Address: Paxfield,
Paice Lane,
Medstead,
Alton,
Hampshire,
GU34 5PR.

4 Action Plan

4.1 Rural Ambience

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
1.1 <i>The Parish is friendly and welcoming</i>	1.1 Note. 89.1% of respondents agree						
1.2 <i>We should strive to improve the friendly and welcoming atmosphere</i>	1.2 Develop Welcome Packs for distribution to all new residents. All Parish organisations to contribute content	Medium	1.1.2009	Volunteer Communications Group	Funding: approach EHDC Community Forum and local businesses, e.g. Estate Agents	Parish Plan Implementation Committee (PPIC)	2
1.3 <i>Life in the Parish is peaceful and tranquil</i>	1.3 Note. 88.7% of respondents agree						
1.4 <i>We should endeavour to improve the peace and tranquillity of the Parish</i>	1.4 See actions in following sections						
1.5 <i>There is a Parish / community spirit.</i>	1.5 Note. 81.8% of respondents agree						

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Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
1.6 <i>We should nurture the community spirit.</i>	1.6.1 Nurture a community spirit by developing and implementing a strategy to improve communications across the Parish.	Medium	1.4.2009	Parish Council with Village Hall Committee		PPIC	3
	1.6.2 Erect Parish notice boards on Boyneswood Road/Red Hill, Paice Lane and Lymington Bottom Road	Medium	1.4.2009	Parish Council HCC Rural Villages Initiative	Funding: Parish Council with HCC Rural Villages Initiative	PPIC	
	1.6.3 Increase the circulation of the <i>Medstead Times</i>	Medium	1.4.2009	Volunteer Communications Group in consultation with the <i>Medstead Times</i> Management Team	Funding	PPIC	
	1.6.4 Regular, relevant, informative articles from County, District and Parish Councils, for example in the <i>Medstead Times</i>	Medium	1.4.2009	Elected Councillors	None	PPIC	
	1.6.5 Hold more community-wide activities and events.	Medium	1.4.2009	Village Hall Committee with Parish Council		PPIC	

4.2 Roads

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
2.1 Roads need to be in a better state of repair	2.1.1 Prepare, publicise and execute a Parish road maintenance priority plan	High	1.10.2009	Parish Council, HCC Highways Department	HCC	PPIC	
	2.1.2 Review, plan and carry out remedial action to alleviate flooding of the following roads: Hussell Lane Greenstile/High Street Roedowns Road Paice Lane HCC to prioritise within their future plans	High	1.9.2009	Parish Council HCC Highways Department HCC contractors	HCC to provide finance and resources from within budget	Parish Council	
2.2 The Parish needs more pavements	2.2.1 Prepare, publicise and execute a Parish footway plan	High	1.9.2009	Parish Council HCC Highways Department	Parish Council	PPIC	
	2.2.2 Construct footways on: Hussell Lane Lymington Bottom Road Boyneswood Road HCC to prioritise within their future plans	High	1.9.2009 1.4.2010 1.4.2011	HCC Highways Department	HCC to provide finance and resource from within budget	Parish Council	

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Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
2.3 <i>There should be a pavement on Roe Downs Road between the High Street and the School.</i>	2.3.1 Construct footway on Roedowns Road (North)	High	1.9.2009	Parish Council	Parish Council	PPIC	
	2.3.2 Road safety improvements to drop-off and pick-up arrangements at Medstead School. Support Medstead School's Travel Action Plan	High	1.9.2009	Medstead School, Parish Council and HCC Highways Department	Finance from various sources	Parish Council	
2.4 <i>There should be street lighting in the Parish</i>	2.4 Street lighting <u>not</u> to be installed, all agencies to note 72.5% of respondents disagreed there should be street lighting in the Parish						

4.3 Traffic

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
3.1 <i>Vehicles are driven too fast through the Parish</i>	3.1 All agencies to note 88.8% of respondents agree with this statement						
3.2 <i>There is too much through traffic in the Parish</i>	3.2.1 All agencies to note 73.7% of respondents agree with this statement 3.2.2 Conduct a Traffic Census and Volume Survey to provide data 3.2.3 Restriction of HGV movements through the Parish to be introduced Parish roads to be subject to weight limits	High High	1.4.2009 1.4.2009	HCC EHDC HCC	None Statutory notice required New signage	Parish Council Parish Council	
3.3 <i>Parking in the High Street should be restricted</i>	3.3 Agencies to note no action is required						
3.4 <i>There are too many horse boxes passing through the Parish</i>	3.4 Reduce the volume of Horse Boxes passing through Parish. Parish Council to meet with major equestrian establishments to find a workable solution and improve public relations and communications.	Low	1.4.2009	Parish Council		PPIC	

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
3.5 <i>Traffic calming is required to slow down the speed of traffic</i>	3.5.1 Prepare, publicise and execute a Parish traffic calming plan	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council HCC Highways Department	Parish Council	PPIC	
	3.5.2 Establish traffic calming to: Lymington Bottom Road Boyneswood Road HCC Highways Team, to recommend scheme for consideration by Parish residents before implementation EHDC to advise on soft issues.	Medium	1.9.2010 1.9.2011	HCC Highways Team EHDC Parish Council	HCC to provide finance and resource from within budget	Parish Council	
3.6 <i>Speed limits should be enforced</i>	3.6 Speed limits to be enforced	High	1.9.2008	Hampshire Police to carry out speed checks		Parish Council	
3.7 <i>Speed limits should be regularised across the Parish</i>	3.7 All Parish roads to be designated to 30mph	High	1.9.2009	HCC to raise statutory instrument	Statutory notice New signage	Parish Council	
3.8 <i>A speed limit of 20mph should be introduced in the village centre</i>	3.8 Village centre roads including Roe Downs Road by Medstead School - to be designated 20mph	Medium	1.9.2010	HCC to raise statutory instrument	Statutory notice New signage	Parish Council	

4.4 Amenities

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
4.1 <i>There are adequate activities, societies and clubs within the Parish</i>	4.1.1 Support Village Hall Improvements Plan	High	1.1.2009	Volunteers Medstead Village Hall Committee Village Organisations	EHDC Community Forum Big Lottery Fund Other	Parish Council	4
	4.1.2 Hold more community wide activities for families	Medium	1.1.2009	Volunteers Medstead Village Hall Committee Village Organisations Parish Council	Volunteers	PPIC	5
4.2 <i>There should be more clubs and activities for 11-19 year olds</i>	4.2.1 Provide an all weather playing surface	Low	1.5.2010	Parish Council Hampshire Youth Service	EHDC Developers Contribution	PPIC	
	4.2.2 Hold more community wide activities for young people	Medium	1.5.2009	Volunteers Hampshire Youth Service Village Organisations Parish Council	Volunteers	PPIC	
4.3 <i>There are sufficient amenities in the Parish: shops, PO, meeting places, pubs</i>	4.3 To note: generally held to be sufficient but need to be protected			Residents: use local amenities or lose them.			

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Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
4.4 <i>There are sufficient schools serving the Parish</i>	4.4 School catchment area to include all of the Parish	Medium	1.9.2009	HCC Education Service, Medstead School		Parish Council	
4.5 <i>The bus service is adequate</i>	4.5.1 Bus service considered to be inadequate by 47.2% of respondents. Specific improvements to bus timetabling required to meet needs of residents.	Medium	1.9.2009	Stagecoach EHDC/HCC Transport Advisors		Parish Council	
	4.5.2 Consider other forms of community transport	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council with EHDC/HCC Travel Advisors		Parish Council	
4.6 <i>The play facilities should be improved /enlarged</i>	4.6 Enlarged play facilities to be created to meet needs of 8 to 11 year olds	Medium	1.5.2010	Parish Council	Funding. Parish Council, HCC, Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme, EHDC Developers Contribution	PPIC	6

4.5 Environment

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
5.1 <i>The open spaces and rural environment are an asset to the Parish and should be safeguarded</i>	5.1 Member of Parish Council to be assigned responsibility for environmental issues	High	1.9.2008	Parish Council	None	PPIC	
5.2 <i>There is an adequate network of footpaths and walks within the Parish</i>	5.2.1 Parish Council to identify a "footpath warden" to take responsibility for footpaths, bridleways etc.	Medium	1.9.2008	Parish Council	None	PPIC	
	5.2.2 Re-designate Parish Byways Open To All Traffic, (BOAT), to prevent access to off-road vehicles using them for leisure activities (e.g. 4WD, motorcycles)	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council / Neighbouring Parish Councils / HCC Countryside Team to implement necessary statutory procedures	None	PPIC	
5.3 <i>The Village Green is a major asset and must be protected and well maintained</i>	5.3 Ensure Village Green is well maintained, in addition to better grass cutting, scrub to be cleared and trees pruned regularly	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council/ Environment Working Group	Funding: Volunteers	PPIC	7

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Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
5.4 <i>Verges, hedges, stiles and footpaths should be better maintained</i>	5.4 Parish Council with HCC Countryside team to create a planned programme of work. Replace stiles with kissing gates	Medium	1.4.2009	Parish Council HCC Contractors	To be considered with the plan	PPIC	8
5.5 <i>Drains and ditches must be properly maintained</i>	5.5.1 Publicise responsibilities and create a plan for the regular clearing and maintenance of drains and ditches.	High	1.4.2009	Parish Council HCC Highways Department	Parish Council	PPIC	
	5.5.2 Clear drains and ditches regularly.	High	1.4.2009	HCC Contractors Parish Council	To be considered with the plan	Parish Council	
5.6 <i>The Village Pond should be reinstated</i>	5.6 Reinstate a Village Pond, create a Parish "Environment Working Group", call for volunteers.	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council/ Environment Working Group/ Hampshire Wildlife Trust HCC Other Agencies	To be considered by Environment Working Group with HCC Rural Villages Initiative and others	PPIC	9
5.7 <i>The Parish should encourage local initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint</i>	5.7 Plan to reduce the carbon footprint of the Parish through the creation of a "Greening Medstead Campaign."	Medium	1.9.2009	Parish Council/ Environment Working Group Greening Medstead Campaign	To be considered by Parish Council and Environment Working Group	PPIC	

4.6 Development

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
6.1 <i>Residents show too much resistance to change</i>	6.1 Majority consider they are open to change, all Agencies to note						
6.2 <i>There is a lack of affordable housing for younger people</i>	6.2 Quantify the demand for affordable housing, by conducting a housing needs survey into the demand for affordable housing for local people	Medium	1.4.2010	Parish Council Community Action Hampshire (CAH) Rural Housing Enabler	CAH, Rural Housing Enabler to advise	PPIC	
6.3 <i>New housing developments within the Parish should be discouraged</i>	6.3 Advise residents of the settlement policy, planning criteria and planning objections, explanatory literature and articles to be produced	High	1.9.2009	Parish Council EHDC	None	Parish Council	
6.4 <i>Back garden developments should be discouraged</i>	6.4 Advise residents of the settlement policy and planning criteria and planning objections, explanatory literature and articles to be produced	High	1.9.2009	Parish Council EHDC	None	Parish Council	

4.7 Financial Implications

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
7.1 <i>I would support an increase in the Parish Precept</i>	7.1.1 Note 67.7% of respondents agree with an increase in the Parish Precept in order to implement the agreed proposals			Parish Council			

4.8 Delivery

Question	Action	Priority	By When	Responsibility	Resources	Monitor	Note
<i>Not Applicable</i>	8.1.1 Create a Parish Plan Implementation Committee to oversee and take necessary practical actions for delivery of the Parish Plan.	High	1.1.2009	Parish Council	Volunteers	Medstead Parish Plan Committee	
	8.1.2 Create a Volunteer Communications Group to deliver improvements in communications within the Parish.	High	1.1.2009	Parish Council	Volunteers	PPIC	
	8.1.3 Create a Volunteer Environmental Working Group to deliver improvements to the Village Green environment, reinstate a Village Pond and initiate a Greening Medstead Campaign.	High	1.1.2009	Parish Council	Volunteers	PPIC	

4.9 Notes To The Action Plan

1. In order to raise the necessary funding for the implementation of many of the recommended actions, the creation of a Parish Residents Association with charitable status may be advisable. Further investigation is required.
2. Funding for the production of a Welcome Pack could be through commercial sponsorship in return for advertising space. Additionally, if necessary grant funding could be applied for through the East Hampshire District Council's Community Forum.
3. The Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Villages Initiative provides advice and 50% funding support to a current maximum of £1000 to Parish Councils to support improvements to village signage, village entrances, Parish maps/notice boards and rights of way, amongst other things.
4. Funding support for Village Hall improvements may be available from: Awards for All, Big Lottery – Community Buildings Programme, Low Carbon Buildings Programme, B&Q You Can Do It Awards, Hampshire County Council – Community Buildings Partnership.
5. Funding support may be available for family based activities through the Big Lottery: Family Learning Programme.
6. Funding support may be available from the Big Lottery: Playful Ideas and The Tesco Charity Trust Community Award Scheme.
7. Improvements to the Village Green may attract financial support from the Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Villages Initiative. Additionally, the Veolia Environmental Trust and the It's Your Community Conservation Foundation and O2 who support community based environmental projects
8. The Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Villages Initiative supports improvements to rights of way.
9. See 7 above. Hampshire Wildlife Trust may be able to provide technical support.

5 Acknowledgements & References

5.1 Acknowledgements

In preparing the plan we are indebted to a great number of people and to various organisations. So, thank you to:

- The Medstead organisations, clubs and associations who provided an opportunity for us to address their members regarding the Parish Plan.
- Those who came to the displays at the Village Fête and to the consultation meetings.
- The 40+ volunteers who distributed the questionnaires.
- Our Funding Partners:
 - Medstead Parish Council,
 - East Hampshire District Council,
 - Community Action Hampshire,
 - The Local Network Fund.
- The 1075 residents who completed the questionnaires and the 81 young people who gave their views.
- The Medstead Parish Plan Committee:
 - Chairman: John Jordan.
 - Treasurer & Secretary: Peter Fenwick.
 - Parish Council Representatives Jean Penny, David Rae and Anita Simpson.
 - Members: Andrew Jackson, Michael Paton, Roy Pullen and Linda Milne.

5.2 References

- Medstead Village Appraisal, Summer 2000.
- Medstead Village Design Statement, January 2003.

These documents are available from our web site:

<http://www.medstead.hampshire.org.uk/>

The web site also includes documentation used in the preparation of the Medstead Parish Plan:

- Love It / Hate It Survey, June 2007.
- Summary Survey Results, August 2007.
- Main Questionnaire, October 2007.
- 11-17 Year Olds' Questionnaire, October 2007.
- Summary Questionnaire Results, December 2007.
- Presentation to the Medstead Annual Village Meeting, April 2008.
- Detailed background to the Parish Plan, comprehensive links and an interactive map of Medstead Parish, courtesy of Google.

6 Appendix: Questionnaire Results Summary

Q #	Question	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total Agrees	Total Disagrees	%
Q1.1	The Parish is friendly and welcoming.	33	110	286	562	74	6	4	1075	3.1%	10.2%	26.6%	52.3%	6.9%	0.6%	0.4%	89.1%	7.8%	100.0%
Q1.2	We should strive to improve the friendly and welcoming atmosphere	57	136	311	529	41	1	0	1075	5.3%	12.7%	28.9%	49.2%	3.8%	0.1%	0.0%	90.8%	3.9%	100.0%
Q1.3	Life in the Parish is peaceful and tranquil.	21	133	307	513	91	4	6	1075	2.0%	12.4%	28.6%	47.7%	8.5%	0.4%	0.6%	88.7%	9.4%	100.0%
Q1.4	We should endeavour to improve the peace and tranquillity of the Parish.	61	214	302	442	50	4	2	1075	5.7%	19.9%	28.1%	41.1%	4.7%	0.4%	0.2%	89.1%	5.2%	100.0%
Q1.5	There is a Parish/community spirit.	61	90	233	556	120	10	5	1075	5.7%	8.4%	21.7%	51.7%	11.2%	0.9%	0.5%	81.8%	12.6%	100.0%
Q1.6	We should nurture the community spirit.	54	196	335	481	9	0	0	1075	5.0%	18.2%	31.2%	44.7%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	94.1%	0.8%	100.0%
Q2.1	Roads need to be in a better state of repair	14	582	223	206	38	10	2	1075	1.3%	54.1%	20.7%	19.2%	3.5%	0.9%	0.2%	94.0%	4.7%	100.0%
Q2.2	The Parish needs more pavements	47	230	116	272	302	53	55	1075	4.4%	21.4%	10.8%	25.3%	28.1%	4.9%	5.1%	57.5%	38.1%	100.0%
Q2.3	There should be a pavement on Roe Downs Road between the High Street and the school	55	357	176	326	122	23	16	1075	5.1%	33.2%	16.4%	30.3%	11.3%	2.1%	1.5%	79.9%	15.0%	100.0%
Q2.4	There should be street lighting in the Parish	35	91	40	130	338	117	324	1075	3.3%	8.5%	3.7%	12.1%	31.4%	10.9%	30.1%	24.3%	72.5%	100.0%
Q3.1	Vehicles are driven too fast through the Parish	16	390	310	255	95	7	2	1075	1.5%	36.3%	28.8%	23.7%	8.8%	0.7%	0.2%	88.8%	9.7%	100.0%

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Q #	Question	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total Agrees	Total Disagrees	%
Q3.2	There is too much through traffic in the Parish.	55	303	212	277	219	8	1	1075	5.1%	28.2%	19.7%	25.8%	20.4%	0.7%	0.1%	73.7%	21.2%	100.0%
Q3.3	Parking in the High Street needs to be restricted.	38	141	100	247	418	68	63	1075	3.5%	13.1%	9.3%	23.0%	38.9%	6.3%	5.9%	45.4%	51.1%	100.0%
Q3.4	There are too many horse boxes passing through the Parish	90	213	111	182	380	53	46	1075	8.4%	19.8%	10.3%	16.9%	35.3%	4.9%	4.3%	47.1%	44.6%	100.0%
Q3.5	Traffic calming is required to slow down the speed of traffic	53	180	108	234	314	80	106	1075	4.9%	16.7%	10.0%	21.8%	29.2%	7.4%	9.9%	48.6%	46.5%	100.0%
Q3.6	Speed limits should be enforced	39	329	184	410	84	14	15	1075	3.6%	30.6%	17.1%	38.1%	7.8%	1.3%	1.4%	85.9%	10.5%	100.0%
Q3.7	Speed limits should be regularised across the Parish	64	239	156	387	185	19	25	1075	6.0%	22.2%	14.5%	36.0%	17.2%	1.8%	2.3%	72.7%	21.3%	100.0%
Q3.8	A speed limit of 20mph should be introduced in the Village centre.	37	237	132	300	256	45	68	1075	3.4%	22.0%	12.3%	27.9%	23.8%	4.2%	6.3%	62.2%	34.3%	100.0%
Q4.1	There are adequate activities, societies & clubs, within the Parish.	82	60	166	627	120	16	4	1075	7.6%	5.6%	15.4%	58.3%	11.2%	1.5%	0.4%	79.3%	13.0%	100.0%
Q4.2	There should be more clubs & activities for the 11-19 year olds	227	108	195	453	87	1	4	1075	21.1%	10.0%	18.1%	42.1%	8.1%	0.1%	0.4%	70.3%	8.6%	100.0%
Q4.3	There are sufficient amenities in the Parish e.g. shops, PO, meeting places, pubs.	38	58	186	641	127	16	9	1075	3.5%	5.4%	17.3%	59.6%	11.8%	1.5%	0.8%	82.3%	14.1%	100.0%

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Q #	Question	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total Agrees	Total Disagrees	%
Q4.4	There are sufficient schools servicing the Parish.	202	72	129	580	73	9	10	1075	18.8%	6.7%	12.0%	54.0%	6.8%	0.8%	0.9%	72.7%	8.6%	100.0%
Q4.5	The bus service is adequate	235	24	22	287	309	103	95	1075	21.9%	2.2%	2.0%	26.7%	28.7%	9.6%	8.8%	31.0%	47.2%	100.0%
Q4.6	The play facilities should be improved/enlarged	224	62	101	361	293	19	15	1075	20.8%	5.8%	9.4%	33.6%	27.3%	1.8%	1.4%	48.7%	30.4%	100.0%
Q5.1	The open spaces & rural environment are an asset to the Parish and should be safeguarded	15	624	243	178	10	2	3	1075	1.4%	58.0%	22.6%	16.6%	0.9%	0.2%	0.3%	97.2%	1.4%	100.0%
Q5.2	There is an adequate network of footpaths and walks within the Parish.	38	212	278	450	76	10	11	1075	3.5%	19.7%	25.9%	41.9%	7.1%	0.9%	1.0%	87.4%	9.0%	100.0%
Q5.3	The Village Green is a major asset and must be protected and well maintained	13	573	289	196	1	1	2	1075	1.2%	53.3%	26.9%	18.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	98.4%	0.4%	100.0%
Q5.4	Verges, hedges, stiles & footpaths should be better maintained.	39	318	304	353	57	2	2	1075	3.6%	29.6%	28.3%	32.8%	5.3%	0.2%	0.2%	90.7%	5.7%	100.0%
Q5.5	Drains and ditches must be properly maintained	15	451	332	276	1	0	0	1075	1.4%	42.0%	30.9%	25.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	98.5%	0.1%	100.0%
Q5.6	The Village Pond should be reinstated and maintained.	86	250	185	324	164	16	50	1075	8.0%	23.3%	17.2%	30.1%	15.3%	1.5%	4.7%	70.6%	21.4%	100.0%

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Q #	Question	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total	No Answer	Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree	Total Agrees	Total Disagrees	%
Q5.7	The Parish should encourage local initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint.	96	202	194	441	107	14	21	1075	8.9%	18.8%	18.0%	41.0%	10.0%	1.3%	2.0%	77.9%	13.2%	100.0%
Q6.1	Residents show too much resistance to change	116	54	74	256	421	78	76	1075	10.8%	5.0%	6.9%	23.8%	39.2%	7.3%	7.1%	35.7%	53.5%	100.0%
Q6.2	There is a lack of affordable housing for younger people	98	228	159	473	88	11	18	1075	9.1%	21.2%	14.8%	44.0%	8.2%	1.0%	1.7%	80.0%	10.9%	100.0%
Q6.3	New housing developments within the Parish should be discouraged	58	261	156	258	257	34	51	1075	5.4%	24.3%	14.5%	24.0%	23.9%	3.2%	4.7%	62.8%	31.8%	100.0%
Q6.4	Back garden development should be discouraged.	32	433	173	196	167	24	50	1075	3.0%	40.3%	16.1%	18.2%	15.5%	2.2%	4.7%	74.6%	22.4%	100.0%
Q7.1	I would support an increase in the Parish Precept	90	74	137	517	177	27	53	1075	8.4%	6.9%	12.7%	48.1%	16.5%	2.5%	4.9%	67.7%	23.9%	100.0%

