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## Introduction

## **Welcome to the Village Plan for Milborne St Andrew**

#### **Background**

The need for a new Village Plan was identified by the Parish Council in the Spring of 2005, the previous Plan having been produced in 1986.

A Steering Group was set up by the Parish Council to carry out the work and produce a new Village Plan.

The Village Plan was presented to the residents of the village at the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28 May 2010. Prior to this the draft had been circulated to the village through The Reporter (the village magazine).

Comment on the draft and the proposed strategy for implementation has been incorporated in the final document.

It will presented for adoption by the Parish Council on 23 March 2011.

The Parish Council has set up a Parish Plan Working Party to consider the Plan in detail and to start to implement some of the main issues.

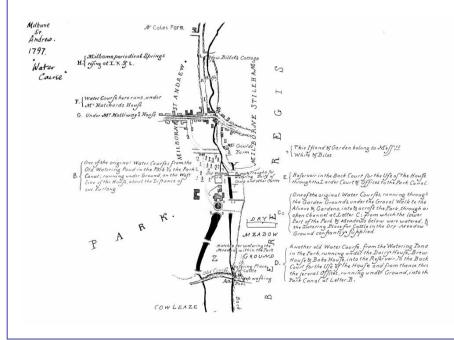
The Village Plan will form a foundation for the Parish, District and County Councils when considering future policy.



## **History**

The earliest written history of the village is from about 901 when King Alfred the Great bequeathed it to his son. Later his Grandson King Athelstan gave it to the Abbey at Milton. There has been a very complicated history of ownership and of the division of the parish. At one time it was made up of a number of manors and hamlets such as Milborne Abbatston, Audrueston, Churcheston, Deverel and Mamford. One or two of them had their own chapels. Again to the south, there is a site of an ancient village, traces of which can be seen today. This village was probably abandoned at the time of the Black Death in the 14th Century. The Vicar at the time, John de Chalk, died of the plague.

The most famous name associated with Milborne is the Morton Family. The most important member of the Morton family was the Cardinal Morton, Henry VIIth Chancellor. They patronized both Milborne and Bere Regis. There are a number of monuments to the family in St Andrews Church and in a sealed vault many of their ancestors were buried.



The most ancient site in the Parish is Wetherby Castle, an iron age fort with multiple defences, enclosing an area of some 17.5 acres.

The stag which can be seen in the centre of the village was a gift to a Mr. Cole by Earl Drax family in gratitude for his support in a election campaign. Milborne was granted a fair by Henry III, this was stopped in 1925.

## **The Village Plan**

#### The Plan

The Village Plan is intended to be a source document for future discussion and development by residents, local groups, the Parish Council and other Government and Non-Government organisations. It is hope that it will be most useful to the Parish Council in determining their future Business Plan and by North Dorset District Council in the process of drawing up the North Dorset Structure Plan.

A copy of the Village Plan is being distributed to all the relevant agencies and levels of government for them to consider in the planning process.

A copy of the Village Plan will be kept on the Milborne St Andrew Website for residents to access at any time. It will be amended as circumstances and legislation changes.

### **Population and Housing**

From 1901 to 1961 the population of the village remained static at around 500 people. In the 1950s, sixty Local Authority houses were built in the village and many of these are now privately owned.

More recently eight private developments have taken place and added another 212 houses to the village.

The population is now around 1,100 in some 570 dwellings.

The population is an ageing one, with 54% of women and 55% of men over the age of 56.



## **The Village Plan**

#### **Employment**

The majority of adults in the village, 51% are employed or self-employed with 44% being retired, 3% are unemployed and 2% are either students or full-time carers.

The 1986 survey indicates that there were more jobs in the village then than now. Farms used more labour and the Dairy, in the village, was in full production.

According to the present survey, only 6% now work in agriculture. Thus modern Milborne St Andrew mirrors the national trends. With fewer jobs in the village, most of those in work commute elsewhere. Only 19% work in the village.

## **Shopping**

A similar pattern applies to shopping. The village still retains a Shop and a Post Office, both of which received an 81% satisfaction rating. Most people head for the supermarkets of Dorchester and Blandford for their weekly shop. Those without transport use the village shop, as do others for last minute items.

#### **Other Amenities**

At the time of the survey the Pub in the village was closed. A local campaign to purchase the freehold for the community raised the profile of the issue and the Pub has re-opened under licence in August 2009. It is currently highly successful due to the dedication of the owners of the licence.

The Post Office is held to be vital to the community but will always require the utmost support by the community. It is hoped for an increase in Post Offices services to secure its future.

## **The Village Plan**

## **Transport Problems**

The village is set in the heart of the beautiful Dorset landscape, but most people need to travel to nearby towns for work or shopping. The means to do this, the A354, dominates and divides Milborne St Andrew and splits the village physically. Heavy 21st Century traffic thundering down a road that was designed for coach and horses makes walking or cycling between the two halves of the village hazardous. The main entrance to The Royal Oak, the village pub, is very perilous, being on a very narrow stretch of pavement.

Each day during term time, primary school children have to cross the 'A' road with no crossing and older children queue for their school bus on a very narrow pavement. Both of which are very dangerous with the volume of traffic travelling through the village.

There is a very limited bus service to Dorchester and Blandford, thus the high usage of private cars compounds the problem.

### **Leisure and Sports Facilities**

The village has a thriving Village Hall complex. Many improvements have been made recently to the original building and it has become a well used facility in the village.

The village also has a large sport field, which is owned by the Parish Council and leased to the Sports Club.

There is a football pitch, junior football facilities and a large clubhouse. It is planned to extend the sporting facilities to provide more pitches.

The Parish Council is currently looking at the possibility of providing allotments on the field adjacent to the sports field.



## **The Village Plan**

#### **Future Planning**

The inhabitants of Milborne St Andrew stated they liked living in the village because it is a friendly, peaceful and beautiful place. There is a strong feeling of community and it is important that the village is not overdeveloped and this sense of community lost.

The Core Structure Plan contains proposals for limited development of the 19 larger villages in North Dorset, of which Milborne St Andrew is one. It is vital to ensure that the wishes of the whole community are met when considering such proposals and steps taken to monitor developments and plan for the long term future.

A number of project have already been carried out by the Village Hall and the Sports Club. These have been possible following successful bids for large amounts of Grant Aid from a wide variety of local and national organisations. Statistics from the Village Plan played a large part in achieving these results.

Some of the proposal put forward may not be deemed apt for implementation immediately. These should not be discarded as future changes in legislation, modes and volumes of transport and residents' concerns may well make them more appropriate in the future.



## **The Ten Major Issues**

- 1. The current community spirit and cohesion should be maintained and enhanced by considerate planning of any limited future housing and business development
- 2. More 'Affordable Housing' and local employment is required
- 3. Shopping/ leisure/ recreational and medical facilities should be supported as they are vital to the life of the village
- 4. Public and sustainable transport services need improvement to reduce the use of private vehicles
- 5. Many aspects of road safety within the village need serious and continuing study and action
- 6. Further recycling facilities are needed
- 7. Enhancement of the visual appearance of the village
- 8. To ensure the youth of the village (the future generation) have a considered voice in the future development of the village
- 9. The wishes of the community, reflected in the Village Plan, be incorporated in the Parish Council's decision making
- 10. A Working Party will be required to ensure that the Village Plan is properly considered and developed as time, needs and legislation change

## **Summary of Data**

## **Summary of Data**

The data used to prepare the Village Plan can be obtained from Milborne St Andrew website.

Here is the link: http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/VillageSurvey/index.htm

The data is also available in paper form from the Parish Clerk (Contact details below)

The Survey was completed in March 2009 and the data was asserted to be correct at that time but cannot be verified by the Parish Council

## **Your Comments**

#### **Have your Say**

If you have any comments to make on the Village Plan or if there is something you would like the Parish Council to consider further, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Contact Details: Miss Joyce Holman, The Old Fire Station, Pidney Hill, Hazelbury Bryan DT10 2EB

Tel (01258) 817898 Email: cannonhill@btinternet.com

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
VILLAGE PLAN GENERAL			
Implementation of Village Plan	Adoption by Parish Council and to then be used when considering future policy.	Parish Council	Immediate
Distribution of Village Plan	Copies to be sent Local Authorities and other Local Bodies to enable the Village Plan to form part of their future policies, including the North Dorset District Council's Local Plan.	Parish Council	Immediate
ISSUE 1	·		2
The current community spirit and cohesion should be maintained	Excellent local magazine 'The Reporter' informs residents of local information and news.	The Reporter	Ongoing
	Encourage parishioners to attend Parish Council meetings and to participate in the work of the Parish Council.	Parish Council	Ongoing
	Village website, which is maintained by a resident and kept up-to-date with information about activities in the village.	Village Community	Ongoing

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
Considerate planning of any future housing and business development	Ensure there is a mixture of future housing developments sites in the village.	Parish Council NDDC Planning Policy	Ongoing
	Monitor any housing or business development within the village carefully, remembering that 66% of respondents do not wish to see any further development of the village.	Parish Council NDDC Planning Policy	Ongoing
	The infrastructure is to be developed in tandem with any new housing	Parish Council NDDC Planning Policy	Ongoing
ISSUE 2			
More 'Affordable Housing' and local employment is required	72 respondents reported being unable to purchase a house in the village. Ensure that all future developments include affordable housing for local residents.	Parish Council NDDC Planning Policy	Ongoing

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
More 'Affordable Housing' and local employment is required	Although the majority if residents do not wish to change the nature of the village some modest development will be in evitable. Ensure that this is 'in keeping' with the village and modest in size.	Parish Council NDDC Planning	Ongoing
	Encourage business development sites to reduce the need for people to travel to work. 50% of the youth wished to work around the village or be self-employed. Encourage links with local employers and businesses.	Parish Council Local Businesses	Medium
	Improve services to the village like poor Broadband speeds to encourage small business and home workers. Support the CPEND Broadband Survey and continue to monitor progress through the DAPTC	Parish Council	Ongoing
ISSUE 3			
Shopping/ leisure/ recreational and medical facilities should be supported as they are vital to the life of the village	Support the current shops in the village to ensure their survival and to reduce the need to travel.	Parish Council Village Community	Ongoing

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
Shopping/ leisure/ recreational and medical facilities should be supported as they are vital to the life of the village	Support Village Hall and Sports Club currently in the village to ensure their financial survival .	Village Community	Ongoing
	Community wish for more activities, particularly in Adult Education. This could be provided by Dorset County Council or be private individuals providing courses at the village venues.	Adult Education, DCC Village Community	Medium
	Improved medical facilities was requested by 77% of respondents. Milton Abbas Practice have already expressed an intention to build a new medical centre in the village. Continued dialogue needed to ensure a possible site is identified and funding established.	Parish Council NDDC Planning Policy Milton Abbas Practice	Ongoing
ISSUE 4			
Public and sustainable transport services need improvement to reduce the use of private vehicles	Private car usage very high. Need to encourage better public transport, particularly to help people to get to and from work. Also publicise car sharing schemes.	Parish Council Dorset Car Share	Ongoing

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
Public and sustainable transport services need improvement to reduce the use of private vehicles	Support the Milton Abbas & District Neighbourcar Scheme supported by Dorset Community Action which enables older people in the village to get to the Milton Abbas Practice.	Parish Council Milton Abbas Practice	Ongoing
	Request an improvement in the current bus service to enable people to travel to and from work.	Parish Council Passenger Transport, DCC	Ongoing
ISSUE 5			
Many aspects of road safety within the village need serious and continuing study and action	The speed of vehicle travelling through Village is a concern. More frequent Police presence needed and DCC Highways to monitor vehicle speeds.	Highways, DCC Dorset Police Parish Council	Ongoing
	Pedestrian safety on A354 needs to be reviewed. Very narrow pavements and very dangerous to cross the A road. Some sort of controlled crossing has been highlighted.	Highways, DCC Parish Council	Ongoing
	School bus stop is positioned on narrow pavement and there is no shelter. Raises serious safety risks. An alternative bus stop site should be considered	Highways, DCC Parish Council	Long

Issue	Action	Organisation	Timescale
Many aspects of road safety within the village need serious and continuing study and action	Street lighting is only in parts of the village. Safety would be improved by installing street lighting safety in The Square.	DCC Parish Council	Long
ISSUE 6			
Further recycling facilities are needed	The majority of the village recycle and more community facilities are required.	NDDC Parish Council DCC	Ongoing
ISSUE 7			
Enhancement of the visual appearance of the village	The majority believe the village to be clean and tidy. Comment were made that The Square and public areas could be made more attractive. The Milton Road corner is currently being improved with a bench and tubs. Additional improvements are under consideration.	Parish Council NDDC	Ongoing
ISSUE 8			
To ensure that the youth of the Village have a considered voice in the future development of the village	The Youth questionnaire has been incorporated into the Village Plan. The Parish Council are to appoint a Youth Advisor to assist them.	Parish Council	Ongoing

Action	Organisation	Timescale
Important to maintain and develop pre-school facilities in the village to feed into Milborne St Andrew First School	Parish Council Milborne St Andrew First School	Ongoing
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The Parish Council will adopt the Village Plan and it will then be considered in their decision making for the future.	Parish Council	Immediate
The Parish Council has already set up a Working Party made up of Councillors and parishioners, who will continue to monitor the Village Plan and develop it for the future.	Parish Council NDDC	Ongoing
	Important to maintain and develop pre-school facilities in the village to feed into Milborne St Andrew First School  The Parish Council will adopt the Village Plan and it will then be considered in their decision making for the future.  The Parish Council has already set up a Working Party made up of Councillors and parishioners, who will continue to monitor the Village Plan and develop it for the	Important to maintain and develop pre-school facilities in the village to feed into Milborne St Andrew First School  The Parish Council will adopt the Village Plan and it will then be considered in their decision making for the future.  Parish Council  NDDC



Produced by: Parish Plan Steering Group & Milborne St Andrew Parish Council