

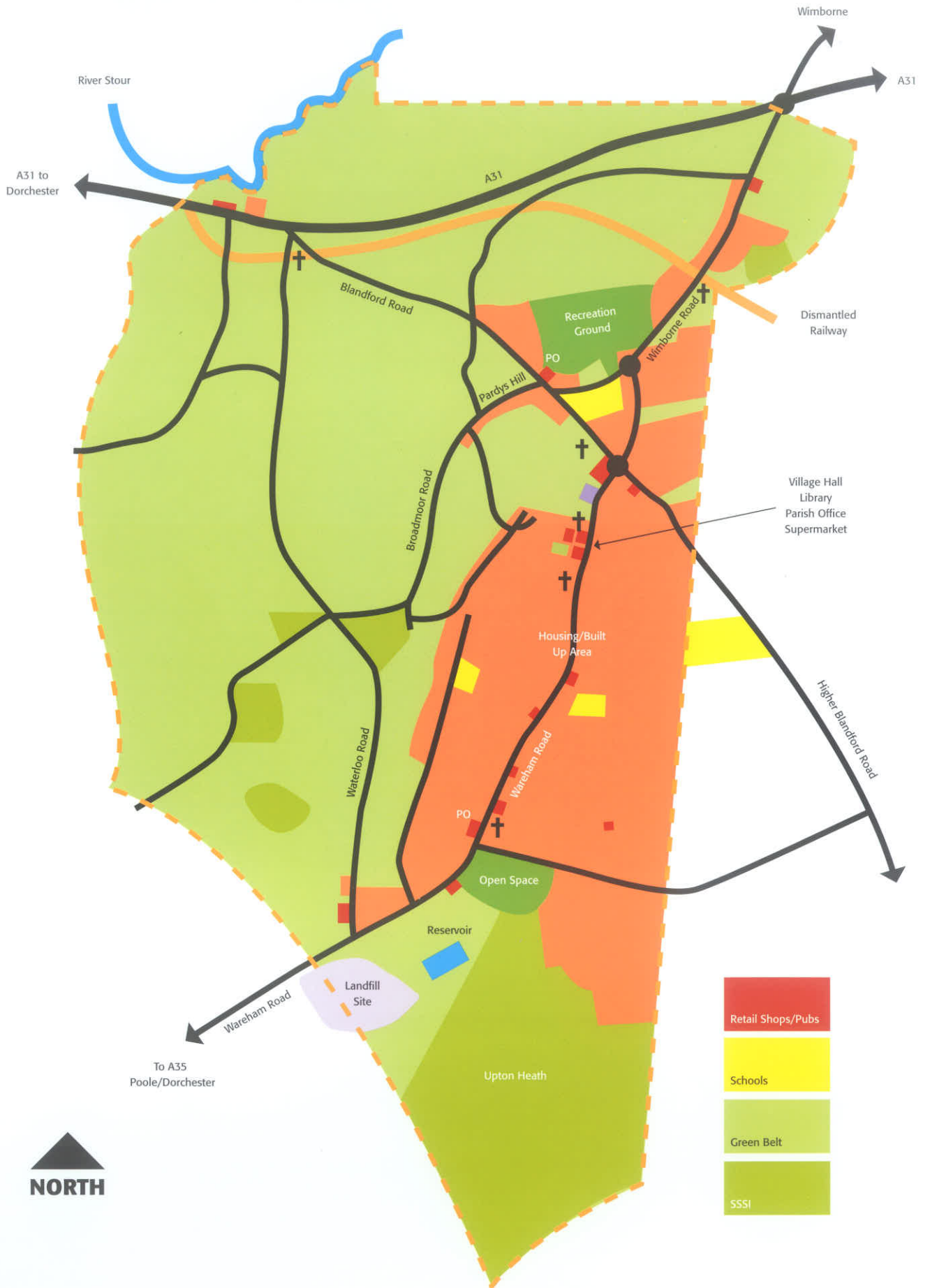


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**Corfe Mullen  
Parish Plan 2006**



# OUTLINE MAP OF CORFE MULLEN



# The Corfe Mullen Parish Plan 2006



It is my pleasure to introduce the Corfe Mullen Parish Plan and to commend it to you. I hope that you will read this plan and then use it regularly.

We, as residents of Corfe Mullen, now have a formal expression of our views and priorities. Over 40%, a very high return rate, sent in questionnaires. I hope that we will use the plan to encourage and challenge local councils and statutory bodies to support those expressed wishes. This is also a document for the Parish Council, to provide a firm factual basis for future plans for Corfe Mullen. I hope that you, the Council, will find this useful for your work and in representing Corfe Mullen to the wider governmental and statutory bodies. I trust that you will formally adopt it.

The Plan is also available for all local government agencies, East Dorset District Council (EDDC), Dorset County Council (DCC) and the South West Regional Assembly (SWRA).

While recognising that the Plan does not have a legally binding status, it does express the views of this local community and has taken considerable time and voluntary goodwill to produce. I hope that you will respect this document, consult it to understand the views of those who live in Corfe Mullen and work collaboratively with residents and the Parish Council to keep the heart in Corfe Mullen.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to the Plan for their interest and commitment. Particular thanks go to the Parish Council, to East Dorset District Council, to the Steering Group, whose voluntary effort has been tremendous; to the Street Champions for delivering questionnaires; other volunteers who have helped with specific tasks; to local groups for the issues they have raised; to all the Young People who completed their own questionnaires and to the residents who have contributed through the Open Days, the Questionnaire and through general comments. I hope we will all continue to take a lively interest in Corfe Mullen, and do our best to keep Corfe Mullen a good place to live. Again, many thanks to you all, and let us all as a community be the heart of Corfe Mullen.

**Pamela Walker**  
**Chair of the Corfe Mullen Parish Plan Steering Group**

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# Welcome to Corfe Mullen

Corfe Mullen is situated in Dorset, between Poole and Wimborne. It is one of the largest and longest villages in England, but definitely a village, surrounded by beautiful countryside.



People have lived in and around Corfe Mullen since prehistoric times, leaving signs of their life in the burial mounds and arrowheads. When the Romans arrived in Britain they set up their Dorset headquarters at Lake Farm. Part of the 40-acre fortress now lies under Lake Gates roundabout on the A31. The Roman road from Badbury Rings to Hamworthy marks the parish boundary on the East.

Corf was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as being in the ownership of two Saxons with farmland, meadow, woods and a mill. Corf is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning a gap or pass in the hills and Mullen comes from the Norman French for a mill. By the end of the 19th Century Corfe Mullen was a series of small hamlets with a population of around 700 people.



Corfe Mullen expanded rapidly in the 1970s and now has two distinct parts. The old village, consisting of church, pub, manor house and a few houses, lies in the north of the parish in the Stour valley. The separate southern part of the settlement, which forms modern Corfe Mullen, extends along either side of the Wareham Road on a high sandy

plateau. To the north, this plateau slopes steeply down into the flood plains of the Stour Valley and in the south down to Upton Heath, part of Thomas Hardy's Egdon Heath. To the west the plateau falls sharply to the countryside of the Waterloo Valley. To the east is heath and the built-up area of Broadstone. Upton Heath to the south, Corfe and Barrow Hills to the east and Corfe Mullen Meadows to the west are all protected as Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Today Corfe Mullen has a population of over 10,000 people, 24% of whom are under 17. There are two first schools and one middle school in the village; the main upper school is just over the parish border in Broadstone. There are many local community groups, a large recreation ground, assorted local shops and two Post Offices, several churches and a village hall. There is some employment in the village, mostly self-employed. Most people commute to Poole (5miles) or Bournemouth (12 miles) or further afield.

The people of Corfe Mullen value the countryside around them with the areas down the Stour Valley, Upton Heath and down Pardy's Hill to the Waterloo Valley being especially important. It is the surrounding countryside, almost all of which is green belt, which defines the village today and keeps it as a village, not an urban suburb.









# So, what is the Plan?

Corfe Mullen Parish Plan is a statement about our community, the major issues facing it at the present time and its needs and priorities over the next 10 years.

This document covers how we are now, our views as expressed through public consultations, and then gives an action plan for the future.

In April 2005, Corfe Mullen Parish Council held a well-attended public meeting in the Village Hall to discuss whether as a community we wanted to develop a Parish Plan. Serious concerns about further large-scale developments being proposed for the village by the South West Regional Assembly and by East Dorset District Council were the dominant issues. It was agreed to look into producing a Parish Plan.

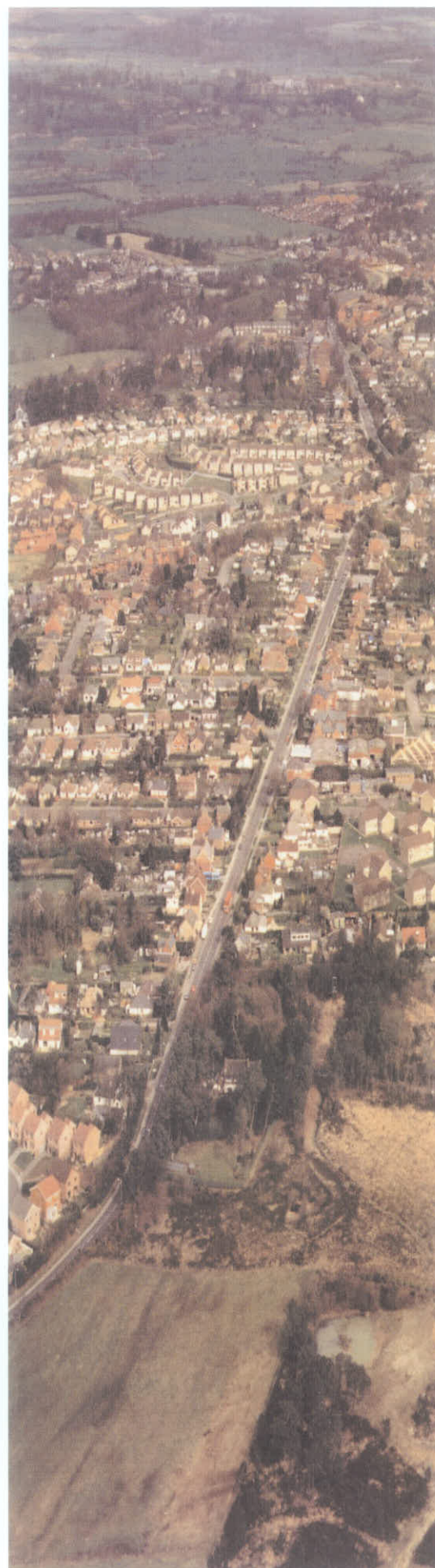
At a subsequent public meeting in early May, the task of producing the Plan was entrusted to a Steering Group of 19 local residents, of whom two were representatives of the Parish Council. Just under 80% of the funding for the costs of developing the Parish Plan came from the Dorset Strategic Partnership, a government sponsored umbrella body bringing together public, private, business, voluntary and community sectors of an area to facilitate a voice for the local community.

The Parish Council provided about 20% of the funding with the remainder being smaller donations and contributions in kind. The Steering Group members have given nearly 2000 hours of time in a voluntary capacity. The funds themselves have been used to cover the costs of printing the questionnaires and the Plan and the small costs of running the Open Days.

In our work we have taken into account the South West Regional Assembly's documents, East Dorset District Council's plans for the area, the consultation process regarding the Corfe Hills Pyramid of schools and comments from groups such as Dorset Countryside Alliance, the Campaign to Protect Rural England, local groups and neighbouring areas.

The Steering Group used the 2005 Corfe Mullen Carnival to launch the idea of the Parish Plan. This was largely a publicity opportunity and helped to make many residents aware of the process.

The Plan has been drawn up in the context of the South West Regional Assembly Spatial Strategy 2006-2026 and it is hoped that it will contribute to the formal public consultation on this in the summer of 2006.





# How we did the Plan

1

## Carnival Day, June 2005

Raised public awareness of The Parish Plan. Leaflets distributed asking people about their likes, dislikes, and what they would do if they had a magic wand.



2

## Open Day, September 2005

An display featuring thought provoking images and exhibits seeking public reaction to key issues.

People's comments and concerns formed the basis of the 'Big Questions' questionnaire.

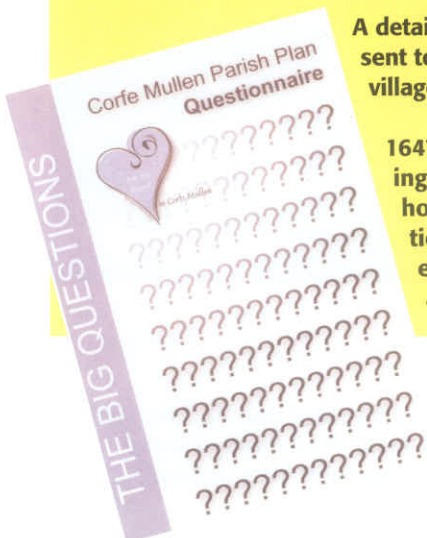


3

## The Big Questions, December 2005

A detailed questionnaire is sent to every household in the village.

1647 responded, representing a significant 40% of households. Youth questionnaires were completed by all local school-age children.



4

## Open Day 2, March 2006

Answers to the 'Big Questions' were reported back.

A draft action plan was tested to see if local opinion had been interpreted correctly, or to identify any ideas that might have been missed out.

5

## The Parish Plan, July 2006

The Parish Plan is published and distributed to each household, public bodies, and key stakeholders.





# Corfe Mullen's views for today and the future...



The 'mires' have a particularly diverse wildlife with 19 species of dragonflies recorded. It is already a huge management task to limit the erosion from bikes and horse riding because of the proximity to the built-up area. Any further development will increase the pressure on these finite natural resources and building down the Waterloo Valley will only exacerbate the problem.

There are also five small SSSIs (the Corfe Mullen Meadows) scattered through the Waterloo Valley, but these fragmented and scattered sites need to be connected by countryside to maintain their animal and plant communities. So we propose developing a campaign to preserve this area involving the local community and wildlife groups.

As part of the expressed wish to enjoy more of the countryside we would like to support the development of the Corfe Mullen section of the North Dorset Trailway. This would provide a connection with the long-distance bridleway/foot-path running mainly on old railway lines from Bath to Poole. The other issues raised were more recycling, less dog fouling and the removal of three well-known eyesores in the village.

## The Environment

The main environmental issue we identified was the overwhelming view that the countryside around Corfe Mullen, almost all of which is in the green belt, should be preserved. The area from Pardy's Hill down to the Waterloo Valley, which has been identified as a possible site of major development, is particularly valued for its views and landscape. It is also a place to enjoy being in the countryside - walking, cycling or riding were all popular.

Corfe Mullen is also an area of wildlife value. There are two heathland Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Upton Heath and Corfe and Barrow Hills, on the borders of the parish. All six species of British reptile can be found here, together with breeding Dartford warblers and silver studded blue butterflies.



## The Environment Key points...

**90% of residents want to preserve ALL of the countryside.**

**Facilities needed to recycle garden waste.**

**Dog-fouling laws should be better enforced.**



## Housing

The preparation of the Parish Plan has coincided with the development of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) by the South West Regional Assembly.

The Questionnaire and the responses by residents were created during the period after the first drafts of the RSS became public knowledge and before the final document was submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

The RSS contains the outline proposal to build up to 700 dwellings over the next 20 years to the





North/West of Corfe Mullen. In some documents, Pardy's Hill is specifically mentioned as the location. These dwellings would be in addition to the current rate of building.

As implied in the RSS, this area would be an urban extension of Poole. The green belt boundaries would be altered to suit the scale of the development. The residents' responses to fourteen questions on housing and associated issues are summarised as follows:

**55% think that more housing is needed, up to 200 houses over 20 years - around the current infill rate, but 91% are against the scale of development envisaged in the RSS.**

**Over 62% of responses state that no green belt land should be used for development. However, 28% believe that up to 50 acres of the 2000 acres surrounding Corfe Mullen could be used and 10% believe up to 100 acres could be used.**

**The Pardy's Hill/Waterloo Valley area should be preserved and the preferred site for any development is along Wareham Road between Naked Cross and The Holme Bush - although under current UK and international policies it is extremely unlikely because of its proximity to Upton Heath.**

The priorities for any new housing are seen as:

**44% Small housing for first time buyers**  
**33% Market priced housing**  
**26% Warden assisted accommodation**  
**25% Affordable – rented and shared ownership**

There is no support for large development in any one location

There is clear concern about the adequacy of current amenities and services. Urgent improvement would be needed to shops, parking, public transport, schools and medical facilities before any more development. Therefore there is no long-term sustainability without major investment.

More residents feel that any housing should be market priced rather than subsidised. However, around a quarter of all residents believe in the need for affordable housing. This is an issue as there are just over 500 applicants on the Housing Register seeking affordable accommodation in Corfe Mullen although less than half live here at present. Nearly all need 1 or 2 bedroomed homes. 47 of these applicants are in urgent housing need.

A high percentage of the RSS proposed development could be larger private properties and many believe these could not be purchased by local people but would be bought by purchasers from outside the area.

With little local employment in Corfe Mullen at present, commuter traffic would increase with any further development.

Overwhelmingly, residents throughout the village think that the green belt must be protected and with it the village itself. Residents want Corfe Mullen to remain a village with a special rural feel for generations to come and feel that a way must be found to move with the times without harming the village, its appearance and views.

A Housing Action Group has been formed to challenge and campaign against the housing proposals currently outlined in the RSS and the Parish Plan supports this.



## Housing Key points...

**Oppose the SWRA's proposal to build 700 extra homes.**

**Don't use any green belt land for housing**

**Existing amenities and services inadequate to cope with any expansion of housing.**



## Infrastructure and Economy

### Key points...

**Concern at volume of traffic.**

**Dislike for traffic calming measures.**

**20mph speed limit around schools and 30mph limit on all roads in parish.**

## Health and leisure

### Key points...

**More NHS dentists.**

**More footpaths, cycle paths and play areas.**

**Maintain the open spaces in and around the built up areas of the parish.**



## Infrastructure and Economy

The infrastructure of a community can be considered its backbone, with transport systems, energy supplies, water and sewage, telecommunications and public buildings.

The main issues in this area for the residents of Corfe Mullen are traffic volume and the speed of vehicles passing through the village, public transport and parking problems. 86% are concerned at the volume of traffic passing through Corfe Mullen and, although 60% think speed limits are adequate, 32% feel they are not tight enough.

There is an strong dislike of traffic calming measures in particular, speed bumps, speed

cameras, road narrowing measures, one-way streets and roundabouts. Generally it is felt that there are no problems with parking for amenities, although 41% feel there are problems with pavement or verge obstruction.

The village may lose its library service and its bus service. Both these factors affect quality of life and traffic volumes. Although only 6% regularly use the current bus service, 28% do use it occasionally, and many regular users are dependant upon the buses for transport to work and family.

Residents are more concerned with the provision of shops than with employment, with 50% wanting more shops. 25% would be happy with more small businesses but in the main Corfe Mullen is seen as place to live rather than a place to work.



## Health and Leisure

While 57% of respondents stated that the health and medical facilities in Corfe Mullen are sufficient to meet the needs of the village, 73% believed that Corfe Mullen needed another NHS dental surgery.

Corfe Mullen is blessed with areas of natural beauty and it was clear from the many comments that residents appreciate these assets and do not want to lose them. 74% of respondents stated that they had used the open spaces over the last year.

We asked residents if they would like more open spaces designated as conservation areas or places of tranquillity. It was clear that many respondents would like more areas protected for use by the village. In fact, 44% stated that they would like to have more areas of conservation.

We also asked if residents would like a focal point for the village. 32% acknowledged that a focal point would be nice, but where? The village hall area, Windgreen and the recreation ground were all





acknowledged as possible sites. The recreation ground provides areas for sporting activities, dog walking, picnicking as well as a fenced playground with abundant play equipment. The recreation ground also provides a focal point for village activities such as Corfe Mullen Carnival. It is an informal meeting place for young people as it has a skate park and basketball hoops.

We also asked if there should be more sporting and leisure facilities in Corfe Mullen. Some respondents (44%) said that a swimming pool would be of benefit but 22% disagreed. A significant number wished to have more footpaths and cycle paths in the village.

The fact that 48% of respondents stated that they had used the library over the past year proves how important this service is to Corfe Mullen. The proposed closure has prompted a letter writing campaign to Dorset County Council, the circulation of a petition and a planned demonstration at County Hall.



## Crime and Safety

Corfe Mullen is considered to be one of the safest places to live in England. With the active co-operation of the police, volunteers have managed to form a remarkable number of Homewatch groups, particularly between 1990 and 2000, and this has helped to give our community the safe reputation that continues today.

However, we must not be complacent. There are areas in the village which should be covered by Homewatch groups but are not. Crime does not disappear it moves elsewhere where detection is less likely. Police can only allocate their personnel based on reported crime or reports of people acting suspiciously. Even if the police do not take immediate action, reports are logged and a picture is built up of the problem and its extent.

75% of residents wish to see a greater police presence in the village in order to curb antisocial behaviour and vandalism, which they see as a growing trend. 82% think underage drinking, alcohol misuse and drug use are problems in Corfe Mullen.

Concern was also expressed on traffic issues. Speeding on the main routes through the village and down the country lanes is considered a major problem. Parking on the pavement and on verges is felt to be a major problem; in some areas the pavements are completely obstructed forcing pedestrians to walk on the road. There was also concern about parking on double yellow lines, especially outside the shopping areas causing hazards to drivers entering or exiting Wareham Road from side streets.

## Crime and Safety Key points...

**Under age drinking and alcohol misuse a problem**

**Need more police on the beat.**

**Speeding vehicles in village a problem.**



The young people of Corfe Mullen had their own questionnaires. Thanks to them for their tremendous response. Here's what they had to say...



## Voice of Youth

### First Schools

272 girls and boys from Henbury View First School and from Rushcombe First School replied to the First School Questionnaire.



**Parks and the Rec**

**School and church**

**Local shops**



**Traffic**

**Graffiti and vandalism**

**Dog mess and litter**

**Teenage gangs**

They think the village is the right size now.

They don't want more houses.

They want more play space and green fields, and another skateboard park.

### First School Action Points:

**Ask at school for a meeting with the Council to talk about teenage gangs.**

**Have a meeting at school with teenagers from the Upper School and tell them how you feel.**

**Design some adverts for the Parish Newsheet about dog mess, graffiti and litter.**

**Try and learn about the wildlife in Corfe Mullen - perhaps your school could invite someone to tell pupils about it.**







**Middle School**

317 sent in replies to their questionnaires.



**The countryside and the rec**

**Clubs**

**Your school for giving you a good education**



**Litter, dirt and vandalism**

**Bad behaviour at night.**

**Not enough to do.**

93% thought that we don't need any more houses. Wanted - woods, play spaces, sports centre, your own sports

**Middle School Action Points:**

**Organise a discussion or assembly on the bad behaviour that you do not like.**

**Have a meeting with Upper School students to talk about it.**

**Find out more about the wildlife in Corfe Mullen - and produce an article for the Parish newsletter.**

**Upper School**

Upper School students under the age of 17 sent in 100 replies.

They like - the countryside and the facilities in Corfe Mullen

They dislike - the lack of places for teenagers to meet, vandalism, and 'Grumpy old people'.

**90% say NO MORE HOUSING  
81% want MORE OPEN SPACES**

Wanted - a leisure centre, and more full-time jobs.

**Upper School Action Points:**

**Ask Business Studies Department to assess the business potential in Corfe Mullen.**







## Youth and Education

Education within the local schools is a significant issue. The Corfe Hills pyramid (Corfe Hills and all its feeder schools) is covered by two education authorities, the Corfe Mullen schools, Lockyer's Middle School, Rushcombe and Henbury View First Schools, come under Dorset County Council whereas Corfe Hills and the remainder of the pyramid are administered by Poole.

Poole is currently reorganising its schools, with the exception of the Corfe Hills pyramid, into a two-tier system. It has deferred its decision on Corfe Hills until 2017 and it is understood that DCC will not review education in the village until then. This may leave our local schools a low priority for capital funding and investment until 2017. This is particularly a problem for Lockyer's, celebrating its 300 year anniversary this year, as it needs new buildings now, a view put strongly at the recent

school consultation process and supported by 55% of those responding to the questionnaire. The majority of people (55%) responding to the Parish questionnaire also expressed a preference for a 3-tier system.

We suggest a review of all of the existing Corfe Mullen schools to clarify what the capacity is within each school to meet future forecasts, where improvements could be made and how this could be funded. The review should also assess whether surplus land exists and, if so, whether it might be used for local needs or first time buyer housing without recourse to using green belt land.

Turning to wider education issues, pre-school provision in Corfe Mullen is felt to be good, but 65% of respondents want more life-long learning opportunities including more adult education, IT and skills training, and U3A. For young people it was felt there should be more facilities and clubs specifically for youth and affordable sports facilities.

### Youth and education Key points...

**Lockyer's School urgently needs new buildings.**

**More life-long learning facilities in Corfe Mullen.**

**Need for affordable sports facilities.**

## What next?

This is not the end, or even the beginning of the end: it is the end of the beginning. If we the residents want to keep the heart in Corfe Mullen, we will need enthusiasm and commitment, the will to go on volunteering and the determination to join in.

We now need to ask the Parish Council to adopt the Plan and see if the local authority will adopt its findings for plans for the area, eventually leading to it becoming part of Supplementary Planning guidance. The first step is to respond to the South West Regional Assembly's housing proposal.

The Steering Group has now fulfilled its mandate

and has delivered the Plan for the people of Corfe Mullen and for the Parish Council. It now disbands, with many thanks to all the members for much hard work.

The Plan now needs monitoring and the Parish Council will be forming a new group to take this forward, especially with regard to the issue of housing. It is now down to all local residents who wish to take up the responsibility for Keeping the Heart in Corfe Mullen.

Thank you everyone for their support. May Corfe Mullen continue to be a good place to call home in the years to come.



# The Plan – action points

## Housing

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Opposition to SWRA proposals for up to 700 dwellings in Green belt	Support Action Group to coordinate objection process	DCC/EDDC councillors + CMPC + residents + experts + local 'pressure groups'	Ongoing
	Produce valid reasons for opposition eg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– level of housing not required</li> <li>– loss of green belt</li> <li>– impact on services, facilities,</li> <li>– employment</li> <li>– transport</li> <li>– ecology</li> <li>– hydrology</li> <li>– visual impact</li> </ul>	CMPC + Action Group	Immediate + ongoing
	Contact and involve all interested bodies for support and assistance	CMPC + Action Group, CPRE, Wildlife Trust, etc	Immediate
	Establish PR campaign	CMPC + Action Group	Immediate
	Ensure Corfe Mullen represented at public consultations etc	DCC + EDDC + CMPC + Action Group	Ongoing
	Research possible alternatives to satisfy affordable housing needs within built up area of village	EDDC + CMPC + Action Group	6 Months

## Health and leisure

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Post Offices	Preserve this service	Community	Ongoing
Swimming-pool	Seek funding and strategy	CMPC + EDDC	Long
Social and sports clubs	Better publicity and entries in proposed local trade directory	Local clubs	Ongoing
Areas for outdoor leisure	Publicise present facilities	CMPC + interest groups	Ongoing
Nature + Greenbelt	Create more areas for conservation e.g. beside Hillside Road	CMPC + conservation groups	Ongoing
NHS Dentist	Encourage provision	South West SHA/Poole Primary Care Trust	Immediate + ongoing
Footpaths, cycle paths, play areas	Promote Survey need and possible location	CMPC + Action Group	Long
Library	Support ongoing local initiatives to preserve this	CMPC + pressure group	Immediate



## Environment

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Preserve green belt, especially down the Waterloo Valley/Pardy's Hill	Carry out environmental surveys, e.g. hedgerow survey. Green belt habitat corridor plan. Identify coordinator.	CMPC + Dorset Wildlife Trust + East Dorset Countryside Management Service + Campaign for Preservation of Rural England + Herpetological Conservation Trust + volunteers.	Immediate
Trailways/Bridleways/ New Dorset Trailway (Corfe Mullen stretch)	Research routes and land required and consult with landowners	CMPC + Action Group + DCC + EDDC + British Horse Society + English Nature + DWT + Urban Heath LIFE project + landowners	Immediate/ Ongoing
More facilities for cyclists along Wareham Road and by Lockyer's School	Research possibility of cycle lanes Introduce cycle stands at shops Publicise best routes	CMPC + DCC + local sponsors for stands + volunteers for mapping and publicity leaflet	Medium
Dog fouling law enforcement	Monitoring Education by cartoons in Corfe Mullen news Possible volunteer warden trial at Recreation Ground	CMPC + EDDC	Short
Safer access on country lanes	Survey to identify lanes truly rural in character Discuss possibility of walkable verges with DCC 'Adopt a footpath'	CMPC and Action Group CMPC + DCC CMPC + volunteers	Short Medium Short
Recycling garden waste	Seek kerbside collection	EDDC	Short/medium
Recycling Site at Old Wareham Road	Support this initiative	CMPC + DCC + EDDC + SITA	Short
Eyesores – Blandford Rd opposite Corfe Mullen PO; Scrap yard on Old Wareham Road; Landfill Tip	Negotiate improvement of these areas as 'neglected greenbelt'	East Dorset Community Partnership + EDDC + CMPC + landowners	Short

## Youth and education

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
2-tier/3-tier debate	Lobby for early consultation on education in Corfe Mullen	CMPC + DCC + EDDC + Poole Borough Council + local schools	Immediate
If 2-tier, can one school site provide housing and money be invested in other schools in Corfe Mullen	Research use of a school site for affordable housing.	CMPC + DCC + Planning Adviser	Medium
Funding for Lockyer's building	Lobby for immediate action	CMPC + DCC	Immediate
Life-long learning	Self-help in community and encourage greater use of library facilities	Volunteers + local interested parties	Medium
Use of schools and churches for more sport	Set up consultation	Volunteers + schools reps and church reps	Medium
Youth café/meeting-place	Set up consultation with young people	Open to all working with young people + young people	Medium/long
Safe routes to school	Mapping work... Discuss with schools	Parish Council + schools	Short-term



## Infrastructure

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Traffic volumes	Survey on traffic movements entering and leaving village; Develop plans to handle volume without detriment to village environment	CMPC + DCC + Highways Agency	Medium/long
Traffic speeds	Develop further the idea of blanket 30mph speed limit throughout village + 20mph outside school (possibly for school in/out times only)	CMPC + DCC Dorset Police + Highways Agency	Short
Traffic calming	Advise acceptable methods of calming to appropriate authorities	CMPC + DCC	Short
Parking	Request parking warden to focus on verge and pavement parking and outside schools	CMPC + DCC	Long
Public Transport	Parishioners' views on service to be made known to the bus company.	CMPC	Immediate
	Collect information on residents needs in light of possible loss of buses	CMPC	Immediate
	Seek long-term commitment to public transport to and around village.	DCC + CMPC + Wilts and Dorset	Long
Economy	Research long-term viability of employment in village and whether needed.	CMPC + EDDC + Economic Development Officer + Business Link + Federation of Small Businesses	Long
	Produce a trade directory/register of local businesses (approx 270) for local circulation to boost local economy	CMPC + Federation of Small Businesses	Medium
	Banking – all new local businesses to get information on banking at Post Office.	CMPC + Post Offices	Immediate/ongoing

## Crime

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Police	Lobby for restoration of full time community police constable and a community support officer	CMPC + Dorset Police	Medium
Under-age drinking + alcohol/drug abuse	Agencies to work together and with parents	CMPC + EDDC + local groups + schools + youth club + parents	Ongoing
Homewatch	Lobby to increase number of groups	CMPC + Homewatch + Dorset Police	Ongoing
Speeding	Seek police enforcement in black spots and more use of SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices)	CMPC + Dorset Police	Ongoing

## Parish Plan

Issues	Action	Partners	Timescale
Monitoring of Parish Plan	Set up monitoring group to ensure implementation of Parish Plan	PC + monitoring group	Immediate



# You were saying...

The following pages contain just a few of the 5,000 free text comments sent to us from residents of Corfe Mullen

## About the countryside around Corfe Mullen...

### Star gaze

"I stand & stare,  
I breathe it in,  
makes life worthwhile.  
Couldn't do that  
with a new  
housing estate.  
Use to do things in  
the countryside but  
now unable...it's  
the age you know."

## About health and leisure...

"I'm very grateful for the library."

"Don't aim to construct man-made area of tranquility – just allow nature to continue to do it naturally."

"Facilities for relaxation are already very good."

"It would be nice to have a formal park around the village hall."

"A focal point would help bring the village together – difficult to achieve."

"We are lucky to have such a delightful area to walk our dog."

"The area behind the Library could be better used."

"It would be nice to have a village focal point as Corfe Mullen has no centre or heart."

"Almost impossible to get an NHS dentist."

"I go outside the area for both GP and dentist."

"We would need a second doctor's surgery if we are to have more housing."

"We need NHS dentists!"

## About the local Council...

"Scrap the Parish Council!"

"I do applaud the Parish Council for being pro-active, in undertaking a Parish Plan."





## About youth facilities...

"Need a cyber café and social centre – open in the evenings."

"Finance and staffing for church youth clubs."

"Clubs that organise specific activities – not just sports."

"More support from Parish for parents that support local kid's activities."

## About other things...

"I would like to see a Christmas Tree at each end of the village."

"CM has no heart – road signs tell when you arrive and when you leave."

"The way white lines are painted on the road is really dangerous."

"More public houses."

"I used to walk all around the heath to Upton, but now I just go around the waterworks."

"Please more estate agents so we can sell up and leave."

"Ban all cars – make people walk."

"Ban annoying wind chimes."

## About police, crime and speeding...

"Need six armed vigilante groups with stun guns, nerve gas, flamethrowers so police can concentrate on motorists, etc."

"More police officers – one community beat officer is not enough."

"Never seen a police officer in five years – some as opposed to more would be welcome."

"Poundbury style traffic calming– no markings."

"How about speed cameras that actually work."

"What speed limits? Nobody bothers."

"Who stole our Bank?"

"Stop the vandals – bring back the cat."





## About the SWRA's plans for up to 700 more dwellings...

**"It is inevitable that Corfe Mullen will have new houses built but hopefully not on green belt. Consideration should be given to first time buyers as long as they are affordable and to OAPs who wish to downsize. Executive houses are far beyond the reach of most Corfe Mullen residents."**

**"The ageing population of Corfe Mullen residents means that properties will naturally become available during the next 20 years. Building on green belt land is irreversible & unnecessary. Corfe Mullen certainly does not need 700 new homes and any decision taken should be made by this sort of questionnaire – ie, not by alarmist media headlines and/or greedy landowners."**

**"The concept of building 700 dwellings is wrong. There is no employment in Corfe Mullen of any significant size so traffic problems will be much worse than now. Housing demand will set the price – not cheaper building or government grants and incentives. Very strongly against building in this rewarding area of outstanding natural beauty (ie, Waterloo Rd/Pardys Hill). Build in this beautiful area and CM will become an overcrowded urban, clogged drive through village...Seek EC support to stop bad planning...We expect CM Parish Council to fight to protect this beautiful area with all their strength and will."**

**"Unless industrial estates are contemplated, cannot see the need for 700 homes. Their appearance in the plan seems to be for the benefit of EDDC rather than Corfe Mullen residents."**

**"Housing specifically designed for single people is not catered for in Corfe Mullen."**

**"All future development should be preceded by improved transport...rush hour means lengthy delays...and adequate**





educational and medical services. We have very limited employment and future inhabitants will have to work elsewhere suggesting Corfe Mullen is not a good site for further housing development.”

“Corfe Mullen is already a very large village yet it still retains a village atmosphere. Please do not let Corfe Mullen become an urban sprawl with no sense of community. Our green belt areas are unique and should be protected & respected.”

“My views are influenced by what I judge to have happened with the development of Corfe Mullen over the last 40 years. Mainly there has been housing development but minimal development of amenities. I would suggest that before any expansion of housing, all services and amenities need to be developed so they are appropriate for Corfe Mullen as it is now.”

“We feel that Corfe Mullen is a lovely semi-rural location. We enjoy the bridleways, country lanes, open spaces, wildlife etc. If building works were to take place on green belt land we would be setting a precedent and little by little it would be eroded. No going back then.”

“Corfe Mullen is still a lovely village. It retains a happy village life. Great care must be taken not to lose this quality, whilst addressing the needs of today. Some degree of affordable housing for young people must be a priority. If not, they will leave and the continuity of village life will be lost. As a young person (just left uni) I want to live in the village. I cannot find properties that I can afford. Being born in Corfe Mullen, I do not want to leave it. Please build more first time flats/houses but not huge numbers as CM will not be the lovely place it is today”

“I hope that Corfe Mullen’s village atmosphere and traditional appearance – including meadows and wildlife – will be preserved. We are a village, we can move with the times without destroying the appearance and views that many people enjoy.”



# Appendix

## Demographics of the responses to the Questionnaire

The main information gathering came from the Corfe Mullen Questionnaire, which was checked by an independent examiner who is a member of the British Market Research Association. There was an excellent response from 1647 households or 2838 individuals aged 17+. This is just under 40% of the total adult population of Corfe Mullen – a high response to questionnaires.

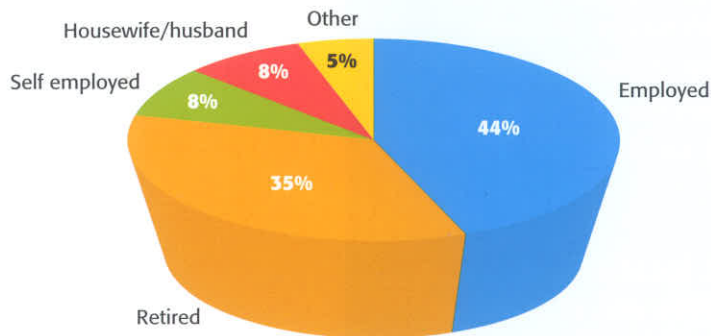
### The geographic spread across Corfe Mullen in wards was as follows:

North	27%	437
Central	49%	811
South	24%	399

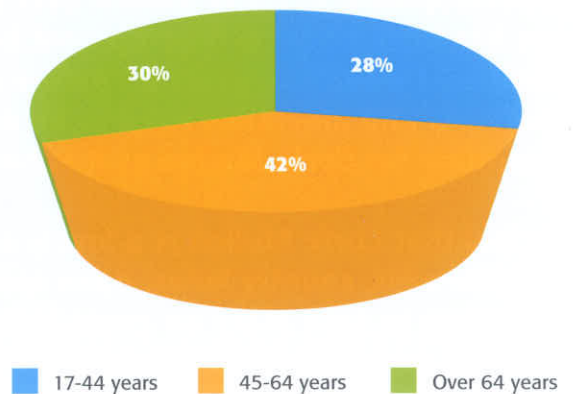
### Gender and age were proportionally represented:

54% female      46% male

**Employment status**



**Analysis of respondents by age**



# Glossary

CMPC  
DCC  
SWSHA  
EDDC  
RSS

SITA  
SWRA

Corfe Mullen Parish Council  
Dorset County Council  
South West Strategic Health Authority  
East Dorset District Council  
Regional Spatial Strategy of the SWRA– the strategic plan for development up to 2026  
Waste management and recycling company  
South West Regional Assembly





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SITA, the Co-op and Tesco for their financial support

Lyrical Communications Limited for the design and layout of the Parish Plan document

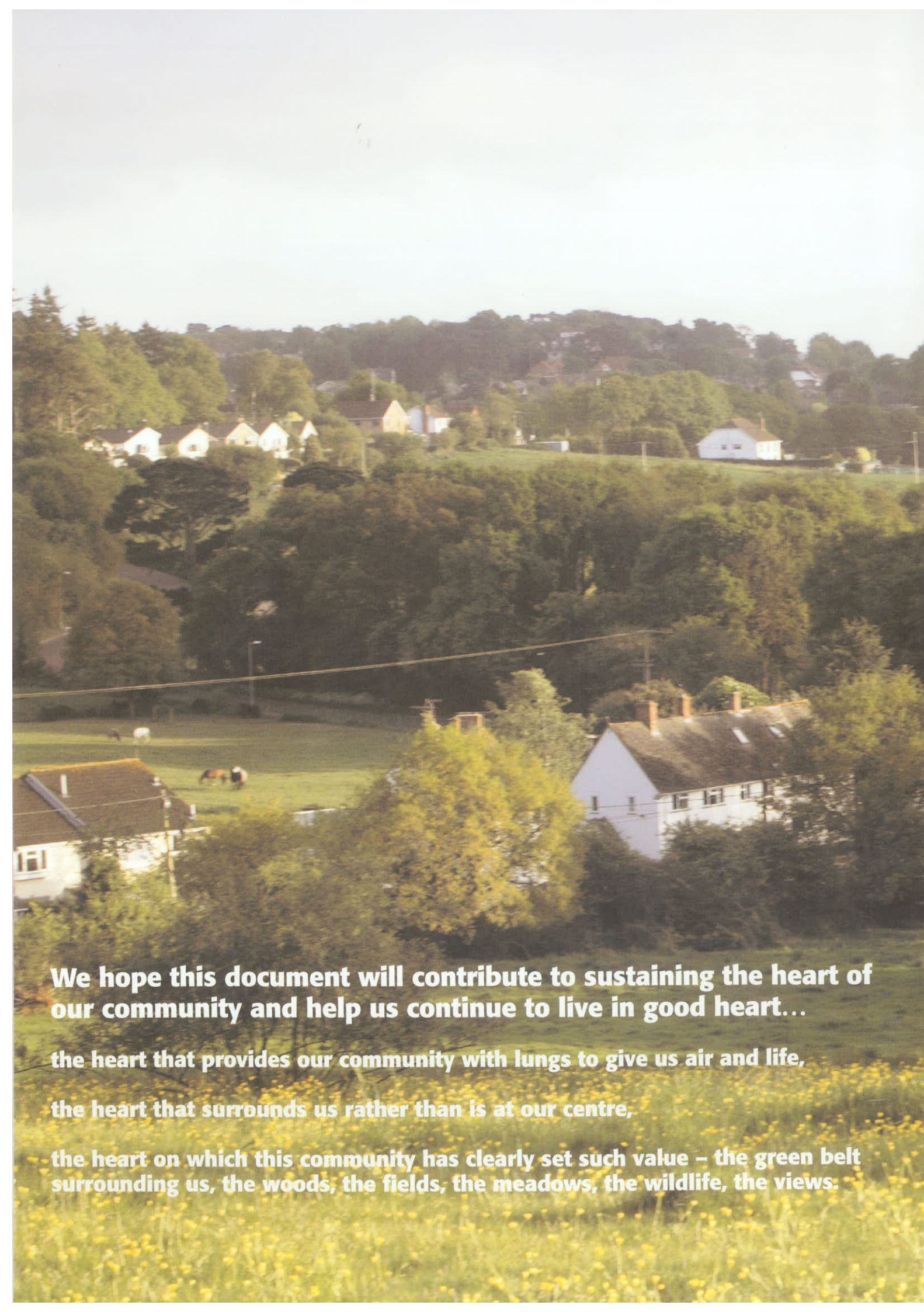
Richards Estate Agents

St Nicholas Church for giving us rooms to meet in and refreshments to keep going

All the residents of Corfe Mullen who came to the Open Days, filled in and returned questionnaires, for their enthusiasm and ideas.

And finally the members of the Steering Group for the thousands of hours they have put into producing this document





**We hope this document will contribute to sustaining the heart of our community and help us continue to live in good heart...**

**the heart that provides our community with lungs to give us air and life,**

**the heart that surrounds us rather than is at our centre,**

**the heart on which this community has clearly set such value – the green belt surrounding us, the woods, the fields, the meadows, the wildlife, the views.**