

## SIMPLIFIED PARISH PLAN 2009 – 2019

### Revised Update and Action Plan to November 2013

#### Approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013

This plan simplifies the full plan by removing those actions that have already been achieved and combining similar actions in different priorities or where priorities are co-dependent and therefore need to be developed in parallel. This plan also groups actions into the lead agent responsible for developing them.

It should be noted that all the priorities in this plan will need to refer back to the fuller plan for more details and what conditions (e.g. decision making on the issue lies with someone else) have been attached which may affect the outcome of the action or how it can be progressed.

#### Key to Roles of Parish Council (PC)

- A = Active - action needed
- L = Lobbying - resources or decision-making is at County level or elsewhere, and we would need to promote the priority to appropriate bodies
- M = Monitoring - no action needed or possible, but would watch closely new developments or changes that could affect the progress of the priority and respond accordingly
- S = Supportive – action being taken by another organisation, but will require financial or personal support from PC

**Actions in bold are the high priority issues (identified as a key action by the majority of residents through consultation events and doorstep inquiry)**

05/02/13

## PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP / ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Action	Role of PC	Update arising from review of Parish Plan carried out at Parish Council meeting of 5 November 2012	Action proposed Jan 2013
Explore via NE43 News if there is the expertise in the village to draw up a policy on wind farms	A	It was agreed in 2010 that the emphasis for this action should be less on policy and more on developing an understanding of the issues and the ability to put forward a balanced view on topics such as wind farms. No further action has been taken	Following the elections in May 2013, the Environment Advisory Group to consider this and make a recommendation to the Parish Council on the development of a Sustainable Stocksfield initiative, with particular reference to wind farms, future housing development in the Parish, future business development in the Parish, and the reduction of carbon emissions  Actively encourage participation in energy sharing projects, with a view to reducing the cost of energy to the individual, and carbon emissions in general
Widen policy to create a Local Sustainability Strategy	A	See above	See above
Look to strengthen enforcement of legislation by developing a rapport with relevant officers regarding environmental issues, quiet lanes and footpaths	L/M	Done; good relationships built with key agencies (eg Environment Agency)	Following the May 2013 elections, appoint a Parish Councillor who will take a key role in environmental issues, develop and maintain relationships with key agencies, and be closely involved with the Rights of Way and Environment Group. See also information provided under Rights of Way and Environment Group
Actively pursue the development of the former Merryshields Quarry as a locally managed Nature Reserve	A/S	An extension of the current planning permission for mineral extraction was granted to SITA in August 2012. As no work has been carried out on the site for many years, it has by default become a haven for wildlife, including rare species	The Parish Council, the Environment Advisory Group and SCATA to liaise with SITA, with a view to developing part of the Quarry as a nature reserve. SITA have already indicated a willingness to be involved in such a project. <b>Progress Report to be presented to the Parish Council by October 2013</b>
Energy Saving Project	A/S		The Parish Council, in partnership with SCA and SCATA, to consider the viability of an Energy Saving Project for the Parish – <b>report back by September 2013.</b>

**RIGHTS OF WAY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP** – this Group is a sub-group of the Environment Advisory Group, and its membership is made up of individuals from the wider community.

Action	Role of PC	Update arising from review of Parish Plan carried out at Parish Council meeting of 5 November 2012	Action proposed Jan 2013
Continue work on River Tyne footpath along the south bank from Bywell Bridge by working with relevant authorities	A/L	Some positive progress, but money needed for bridging one of the Tyne tributaries. A public enquiry is to be held in February 2013 into the public right of way on part of the footpath	Further to the outcome of the public enquiry, the Rights of Way and Environment Group to resume work on the creation of the River Tyne footpath, in conjunction with the Environment Advisory Group, with a view to confirming the principle of developing the path, and establishing a project group to take the work forward, raise funds, and liaise with the appropriate authorities, including the Parish Council  Target Date for approval of the principle of creating the footpath – <b>December 2013</b>  <b>Target Date for completion of the path – December 2014</b>
Investigate developing and enhancing the existing footpaths in the Parish	A	As traffic levels increase ,look into the possibility of providing additional public rights of way to encourage walking and keep pedestrians away from heavy traffic	Rights of Way and Environment Group to consider and report to the Parish Council with recommendations by January 2014
Development of Quiet Lanes	A		Rights of Way and Environment Group to pursue the provision of Quiet Lanes within the Parish in conjunction with the Highways & Transport Advisory Group. <b>Report to the Parish Council with recommendations by December 2013</b>

<p>Look to strengthen enforcement of legislation by developing rapport with relevant officers regarding environmental issues, quiet lanes and footpaths</p>	<p>L/M</p>	<p>Good relationships built with key agencies prior to September 2011. By February 2013, however, the relationship of the Parish Council with the key agencies (County Council, Environment Agency, Tyne Rivers Trust etc.) was less secure. This was largely due to the fact the councillor who had developed these relationships had resigned. Although he has continued to have good relationships with the agencies through his role with the Rights of Way and Environment Group, the Parish Council itself has less contact with the said agencies</p>	<p>Following the May 2013 elections, appoint a Parish Councillor who will take a key role in environmental issues, develop and maintain relationships with key agencies, and be closely involved with the Rights of Way and Environment Group. See also information provided under Environment Advisory Group</p>
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**PARISH COUNCIL / STOCKSFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (SCA) BOARD**

Action	Role of PC	Update arising from review of Parish Plan carried out at Parish Council meeting of 5 November 2012	Action proposed Jan 2013
<p>Working Group of service providers and interested parties to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• look at drop in facilities and other activities to reduce isolation</li> <li>• map existing provision and gaps</li> <li>• identify opportunities to widen range of services and avoid duplication</li> <li>• encourage existing village facilities to open up to more casual use</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• produce a Learning Plan for the village, coordinating IT provision at SICA and the First School, providing more local classes and transport to other venues</li> </ul>	<p>A/S</p>	<p>New Social Centre has been operating from SCA for around 12 months and is proving very successful. In addition to this, meals continue to be delivered to those who are unable to travel to SCA WRVS were keen to extend the Getabout Northumberland scheme into the village with volunteer drivers. This scheme is now well promoted by the WRVS</p> <p>The Parish Council is now represented on the Patients Forum. GP Commissioning is in the process of being established across England</p> <p>The production of a Learning Plan is no longer as relevant as it was when the Plan was drawn up in 2009. Most residents have access to IT in one form or another. A successful Computer Club and a digital camera club meet regularly at SCA</p> <p>Local schools are well-provided with IT facilities and it is no longer considered necessary to pursue this action point</p>	<p>Recommence discussions with SCA and Churches Together regarding the development a register of existing services , with a view to identifying gaps in the provision of facilities for the elderly, young people, and other vulnerable groups and individuals Continue support for current initiatives – Tuesday Club (Social Centre) Continue to publicise this and other similar schemes as and when required</p> <p>Continue to be represented on the Patients Forum and ensure that councillors are kept up to date with all relevant changes to the service offered to residents</p> <p>No action</p> <p>No action</p>

## STOCKSFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TRADING ARM (SCATA)

*A Development Trust was formed, and in May 2012 it was legally established as the trading arm of Stocksfield Community Association, of which it is a wholly owned subsidiary. Its first project is working with Isos Housing on the development of affordable housing on a site near the Scout Hut at Guessburn. As part of the same project, SCATA is looking to develop the former Toilet site at Branch End as a bungalow.*

Action	Role of PC	Update arising from review of Parish Plan carried out at Parish Council meeting of 5 November 2012	Action proposed Jan 2013
SCATA	S	SCATA provided the residents of Stocksfield with an opportunity to view detailed proposals for seven new affordable homes for rent by local people, to be built on two small sites within the village. Six of the homes are planned for a site in Guessburn and one on the site of the former public toilets at Branch End	<p>The Parish Council to continue to ensure that it is represented on the SCATA Board and that a productive working relationship with SCATA is fostered and developed</p> <p>The Parish Council to continue to work closely with SCATA with regard to the development of the sites at Guessburn and Branch End.</p>
Look at potential of Branch End site and possible appropriate development at Merryshields, including possible provision of a indoor sports hall in any long-term plans for a new school or new facilities	S	<p>The whole Branch End site is unlikely to be redeveloped for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Planning permission for continued sand and gravel extraction at Merryshields Quarry has now been extended</p> <p>No plans now for a new First school</p>	<p>SCATA and the Parish Council to continue to monitor the situation.</p> <p>Merryshields Quarry site – see Environment Advisory Group comments above</p>
Provision of public toilets	A/S		The Parish Council and SCATA to consider the provision of public toilets in the Branch End Area.