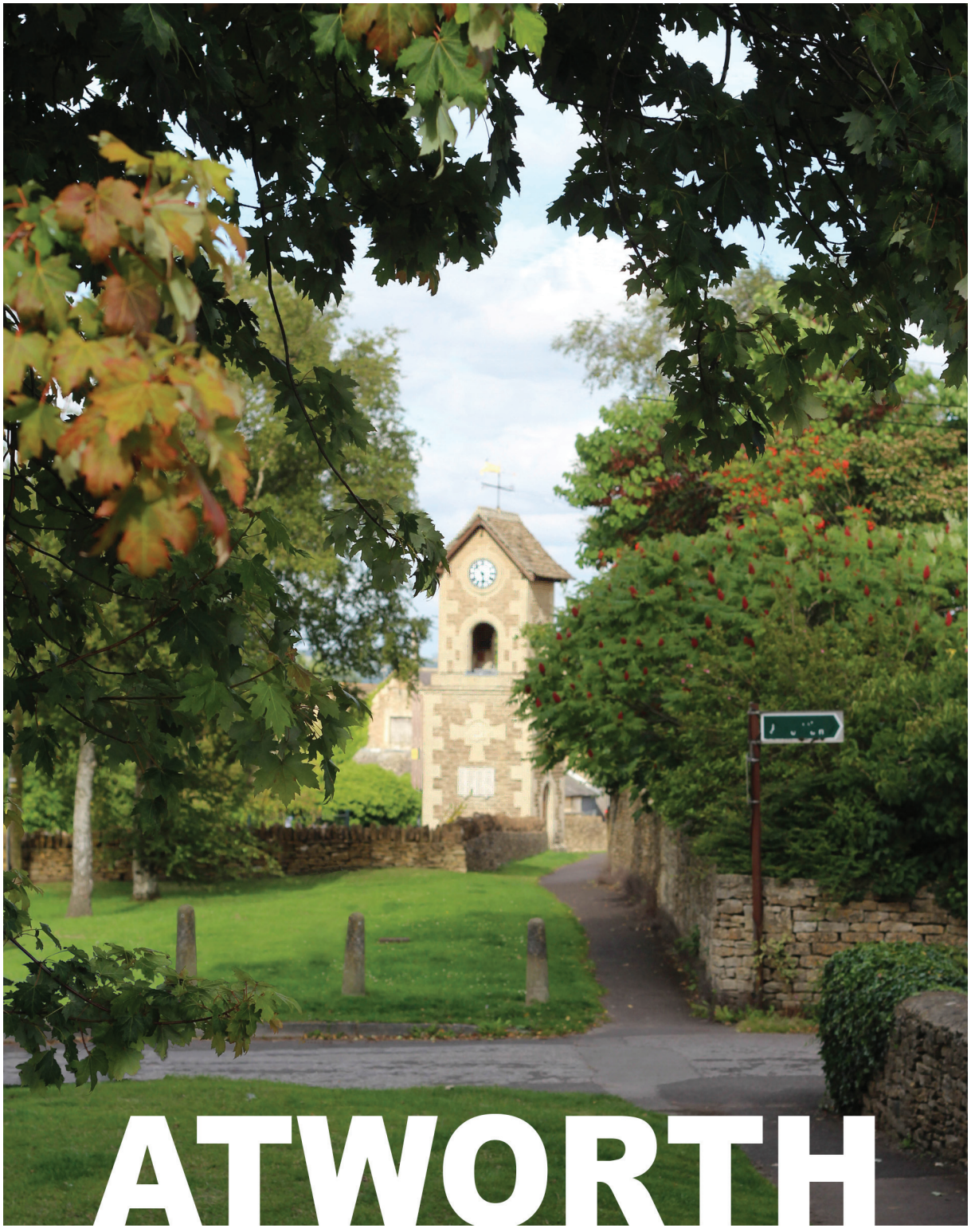
ATWORTH PARISH COUNCIL



ATWORTH

Parish Plan Updated

2015

Atworth
Parish Council

Foreword to Updated Parish Plan

This Parish Plan is a statement of how the whole community sees itself developing over the next few years. Everyone is given a chance to say what they think about the social, economic and environmental issues affecting this community, and how they'd like to see it improved.

Through survey, research, consultation and community participation, a picture emerges of what local features and amenities local people value. It also It ascertains local problems and opportunities. Over a period of time, these inevitably change.

This Plan identifies actions which can be taken forward by the Parish Council, by other individuals and groups within the community or by other service providers and statutory bodies.

Our Parish Plan is a living document. It is the core focus and major consideration of the Parish Council agenda. For that reason it must be continually updated and developed to reflect the achievements, new challenges and changes within our Parish. The Plan shows that we are taking our future seriously.

Effie Gale-Sides

Chairman September 2015

PARISH PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS

Atworth Parish Plan Steering Group (APPSG) started work during the winter of 2013/14 to review the Parish Plan. This comprised an assessment of which items in the Action Plans had been achieved either in full or part. Those items fully achieved have been removed from the Parish Plan Update and are reported below whilst those partially achieved have been retained in the Parish Plan Update. Retention is so the items can be completed or continue to be in view as they might be perpetual items.

As part of the Parish Plan review APPSG held a public consultation at the 2014 Parish Assembly. From the information obtained at that event APPSG has been able to identify more wishes from our community and where believed to be achievable these have been validated and added into the Parish Plan Update. This was completed by September 2014. At that time it was identified that information relating to housing needs and wishes within the Parish were some 8 years out of date. Atworth Parish Council asked Wiltshire Council to conduct a Housing Needs Survey and the publication of the Parish Plan Update was deferred so that the findings of the Wiltshire Council Housing Needs Survey for Atworth could be incorporated. The actual detail of housing needs can be read in the Housing Needs Survey report and the item for the Action Plan within the Parish Plan has been included.

Since publication of the original Parish Plan in 2010 the following Action Items have been achieved:

Homes & Housing

- Updated housing needs report
- Improved flood prevention in village through improved drain management by WC and appointing flood wardens

Environment

- Replace older stiles on footpaths around the village with kissing gates
- Provision of dog sticker labels for public litter bins
- Replacement of village ‘finger’ signposts at Great Chalfield

Leisure Sport & Social Activities

- A wider range of sport and keep fit/exercise activities via third party providers
- An increased number of events/social opportunity at Neston Park Farm Shop and White Hart – with thanks to respective owners
- Atworth Community event – Village Festival of July 2014 and support this becoming an annual or bi-annual event
- Provision of additional seating at Recreation Ground.

Traffic Transport & Highways

- Reduce speeding by installing ‘village gates’ and road markings at either end of village on A365
- Support ‘Speedwatch’
- Installation of zebra crossing
- Provision of new bus shelters at Clock Tower and opposite Shell Court
- Kerb in ‘Market Place’ to protect grassed area opposite school
- Arranged use of Atworth Business Park as overflow car-park for evening and weekend Village Hall events
- Improved flood prevention through improved drainage and culverts at Gt Chalfield, A365 at Bear Garage, Purlpit

Homes & Housing					
	ISSUE	**OBJECTIVE**	**ACTION**	**PARTNERSHIP**	**TIMETABLE**
1	Affordable Housing	To provide sufficient and correct mix of dwellings to meet the needs of those living in or with family ties to Atworth.	Use WC Parish Housing Needs Survey (Nov 2014) to engage providers on effective use of affordable housing stock to meet needs. Review any new-build proposals to meet the Survey requirements.	Atworth Parish Council (APC), WC and potential providers	3 years
2	Elderly and Family Housing	To provide a balance to the Affordable Housing supply.	Ensure that local needs are evidenced and represented in decisions on provision and allocation of affordable housing	APC, WC, Housing Association, private landlords	2 years
3	Flooding	Remove currently identified 'hotspots' to prevent future flooding episodes.	Approach WC Highways to identify and agree causal locations and pursue a remedial plan with WC and adjacent landowners.	APC , WC and landowners	3 years
4	Wiltshire 2026	Ensure our community is aware of WC vision for Wiltshire in 2026 and the effects this vision may have on our Parish.	Provide access and contact details to our community for the WC team working on Wiltshire 2026 and encourage community contribution to APC, Melksham Area Board and WC.	APC, WC, Village Magazine, MyEnvolve Facebook	Immediate and ongoing

What Is Wiltshire 2026?

Wiltshire Council came into being on 1st April 2009 and unites the former Districts of North and West Wiltshire, Kennet and Salisbury with the former Wiltshire County Council. The merger of five planning authorities provides the opportunity to bring together their development plans and to prepare a single local development framework (LDF) for the whole of Wiltshire.

The most important component of the LDF is the core strategy. Wiltshire Council has prepared Wiltshire 2026 for public consultation as an important step towards the development of the Wiltshire Core Strategy. It is intended to take forward the work already undertaken by the former Wiltshire District Councils. The present document is not a core draft *policy*. It is however an important stage in the preparation of the draft core strategy.

Wiltshire 2026 contains a number of elements which will steer the shape of the core strategy and which will allocate development to individual towns and community areas across Wiltshire. It is therefore most important for Wiltshire Council to engage with its communities, (i.e. us), and stakeholders to ensure that its forthcoming policies and proposals are sound.

How does it affect Atworth?

Atworth is the only large village in the Melksham Community Area. It provides a reasonable level of services and is the focus of some employment. A modest level of development will therefore be appropriate. It is anticipated that Atworth will have capacity to accommodate modest levels of development, to respond to housing need and support local services, increasing its self containment.

Environment					
	ISSUE	**OBJECTIVE**	**ACTION**	**PARTNERSHIP**	**TIMETABLE**
1	Recycling facilities	Provide better public information to encourage use of kerbside recycling and locations of local amenity sites for recycling.	Add details to Parish Council website, regular entry into Village Magazine of where information can be found.	APC, WC and recycling agencies	1 year.
2	Improve wheelchair access and all facilities in recreation ground	Create easier access to the recreation ground for wheelchair & buggy users; provide more facilities to encourage greater use by wider cross section of our community.	Provide additional equipment. To provide more trees	Rec. Gnd. committee, APC, WC., relevant grant giving bodies, charities	2 years ongoing
3	Litter including dog waste	To reduce litter and eliminate dog waste on public areas and footpaths.	Provide better information via Parish Council website and Village Magazine on correct usage of litter bins for both litter & dog waste. Add signage to bins. Explore more use of spot fines.	APC, W, WI, residents and Wilts Police	1 years ongoing
4	Clock Tower lighting	Illuminate our well-known village landmark	Investigate and feed back proposals	APC	2 years

Abbreviations

A.P.C.	Atworth Parish Council
A.P.P.S.G.	Atworth Parish Plan Steering Group
A.Y.C.	Atworth Youth Club
W.C.	Wiltshire Council
W.I.	Women's Institute

Leisure, Sport & Social Activities

	ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	PARTNERSHIP	TIMETABLE
1	Continued provision of exercise/sport classes for all within the Parish.	Local provision for such demand and reduce the need to travel for such facilities. Provide contact details for clubs and facilities in the area.	Identify demand and more potential provider organisations. Engage with Village Hall & Recreation Ground Cttee as facility provider. Encourage publicity.	APC as catalyst, external provider organisations, Village Hall & Recreation Ground Cttee	1 year ongoing
2	Continued provision of regular village social events	Meet changing demand for regular events such as quiz evening, bingo, film/music evening, food & drink event, lunch club for elders.	Better publicise existing events and facilities already offered by White Hart, Neston Farm Shop & School. Identify providers for events not yet offered.	Current Event providers, Age Concern, Village Hall & Recreation Ground Cttee APC to identify provider for new events & facilities	1 year ongoing
3	Publicity for events and resources	The Parish Plan Update identified demand for many events, facilities and resources that are currently available but clearly need to be better publicised. This will improve take up for the benefit of providers and participants	Identify 'wishes/wants' and identify providers. Send providers details and encourage greater publicity.	APC website, APPSG The Village Magazine, WC publications Commercial providers	1 year ongoing
4	Modernise Village Hall	To provide a more modern and appealing facility to encourage greater use and thereby sense of community	Assess and address need to include new toilets and kitchen	APC, Village Hall Cttee	2 years and ongoing

Traffic, Transport & Highways

	ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	PARTNERSHIP	TIMETABLE
1	Measures to reduce speeding traffic	To minimise the risk of harm to pedestrians and other road users by reducing the speed of vehicles a) through the village on A365 b) along Bradford Road/Wiltshire Cycleway.	a) Investigate potential for a 40 mph zone on A365 to be extended northwards from the village past farm shop. Also add planted 'havens' to village gates. b) Discuss with Wiltshire Council how best to reduce traffic speeds along this route.	APC, WC, ATAG,police and landowners	2 years
2	Pedestrian safety	To level and resurface pavements and install dropped kerbs where necessary. Improve pavement widths were necessary. Improve safety of pedestrian crossing	Identify areas of need and submit to relevant authorities. Investigate improved visibility of pedestrian crossing for motorists.	APC, WC, Highways, residents and landowners	2 years and ongoing
3	North/South bus routes	To provide a bus service linking Atworth with Bradford-on-Avon, Corsham and Chippenham.	Encourage the bus companies to provide a North/South service	APC, WC, Area Board, MP	1 year and ongoing
4	Bus Shelters	Improve facility	Add a seat to the Bath bound shelter close to Atworth Court	APC	1 year

A copy of this Parish Plan Update may be viewed and down-loaded from the village website
http://atworth.org.uk/

Atworth Parish Plan Update 2015 is produced and published by Atworth Parish Council
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