



Hundon Parish Plan

# THE RESULTS

December 2010

## Foreword

### **The Hundon Parish Plan serves two purposes:**

It is an expression of the views, attitudes and wishes of the people living in the parish in 2010.

It gives a clear idea of the way Hundon folk would like to see their community develop over the next 5-10 years.

The Parish Plan is the culmination of an 18 month process of community consultation, guided by volunteers from within the community. It is intended that the Plan will be the basis for future actions by local government and organisations.

It is also hoped that individuals or community groups will use it as a source of inspiration to improve our parish. A number of community actions, including the provision of broadband to the village hall, the setting up of an allotment association, a community fuel oil buying group and the beginnings of a youth club, have been inspired from the development of the plan.

To ensure the Parish Plan does not lose impetus, Hundon Parish Council will consider how the recommendations should be taken forward early in 2011. We envisage that the driving force for the plan will come from our Council with the help and support of village organisations and residents.

We would like to thank all our sponsors including Awards for All, St Edmundsbury Council, Hundon Parish Council and Printwise for their financial help and to Suffolk ACRE for their moral support and excellent training and support facilities.

### **Jamie Letts (Chairman)**

*Hundon Parish Plan Steering Group*

## A Big Thank you!

To all the members who served in the Hundon Parish Plan Steering Group : Stewart Alderman; Jumbo Barker; William Barthorpe; Chris Callow; Catherine Clark; Lewis Clark; David Coxhall; Tony Eaton; Steve Gilbert; Mike Humphreys; Phil Impey; Michael Levitt; Brian Low; Antony Lucas; Jamie Murray; Tom McLardy; Jane Tabram; David Rowlinson; Amy Smith; Sharron White.

To the additional skills of Hilary Levitt , Jan McLardy and Chris Beaumont.

To the talents of Matt Lovejoy (Everything Orange!) for his help in the production of the questionnaires and final report.

To Printwise who have been extremely generous with both their support and costs of printing.

To our sponsors, Awards for All, St Edmundsbury Council and Hundon Parish Council.

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## Summary

This report is a distillation of opinions obtained from public sources and village organisations. It also considered the views from parishioners of all ages at several public meetings and through a parish household questionnaire.

There was considerable interest in the development of the parish plan with 84% of households (649 people) completing the questionnaire and expressing opinions.

The majority of the community is retired, although at least one third of households have children attending local schools.

### What we value

We enjoy living in the beautiful Suffolk countryside and particularly value the community and organisations that make up the parish. We appreciate the open space and especially the green expanses that we have within the village.

We value the stability of our relatively small community and the services that volunteers, schools and businesses provide. Most in the parish visit the shop every week for supplies and post office services and the village hall at least once a year.

The Hundon Herald is very popular, with most liking it just as it is, although there is demand for more news and articles both in and outside the village. Half the village have visited the village website and thought it adequate for our needs.

We have good basic services like gas and electricity although mobile telephone reception was not always so good on some network providers.

Most businesses operate from domestic premises and employers do not find a shortage of skilled labour, but think a register of skills and a business directory on the web site would be useful.

## What we want

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To be a thriving community. Some population growth will be appropriate, but housing should be tailored to affordable housing for both the young and older generations. Whilst village infill may be more acceptable to local authorities, there is strong opinion to locate future housing in green field sites on the outskirts of the village.

Hundon already has a strong force of volunteers that help in our community. However, a new "Good Neighbour" scheme and a register of local skills would benefit many who depend on others for help, skill and knowledge for those everyday problems. There was strong support for a 'Welcome Pack' for new residents so they quickly find out what the parish and the village has to offer.

Whilst employment in the parish is high, there is an appetite for more employment opportunities and small businesses said there is a shortage of small business premises and workshops.

There is strong demand for new clubs and activities. Keep fit classes, including yoga and badminton and a strong demand for adult education classes and entertainment such as films – 'flicks in the sticks.' There is strong support for larger events such as a village fete & 'superstars' - a village sports competition.

## What we are unsure about

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Most households own a car, whilst only 5% of people are reliant on the bus for essential needs. More people might use the bus if the operator provided a better service to places like Clare and Bury St Edmunds. Demand for an improved service was strong in the youth survey, with about half supporting a new service to Clare.

Whilst most think we have good recycling facilities, many think we could do better. Mobile telephone coverage is good for some, but we would like better coverage of all the major networks.

Some think street cleaning is good and others poor, although gully and ditch cleaning could be improved.

There is little consensus on our public services. Over 50% of people have no view on whether the police, Parish, Borough or County Council provide a good or poor

service. The Parish Council does interact well with the community, but there was mixed opinion on whether they resolve contentious issues well.

Parishioners were unable to express an opinion on the Rogeron Trust (a trust set up to benefit the Parish), although 40% think communications could improve. Most of the parish do not know about relief to those in need or grants to the church, although many think the provision of educational grants good or excellent.

Most residents are not interested in acquiring an allotment, although many indicated that if mains water and machinery sharing was on site they might reconsider. There is a mix of views on how the space not used by allotments should be managed, but a combination of trees and shrubs were popular.

Speeding and dog fouling concern the majority and many think there is a need for more speed warning signs and enforcement of limits. Traffic problems are made worse by poor maintenance of roadside verges and ditches. Dangerous driving, inconsiderate parking and litter are also of concern.

In the youth survey, there is strong support for a youth club with activities such as pool, table tennis and basket ball. Others would also like cinema, BMX and a skateboard park. Young people are keen to be heard and there is strong support for a youth council.

There is demand for signposted circular walks and bike rides close to the village and many would like to improve our understanding of local wildlife. Many thought that planting wildflowers and bulbs on roadside verges and setting up community woodland would make our surroundings even better.

There is interest in schemes to help reduce our carbon footprint, with a lot of interest in solar power and tree planting. Even the idea of a community wind turbine / heat pump proved popular.

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## Context

The need for a Hundon Parish Plan was first identified in November 2008 when St Edmundsbury Borough Council published a consultation on future housing needs to 2030 in their "Core Development Plan". Hundon was identified as a "Key Service Centre" and could be considered for future housing development. A number of local landowners had asked for their land to be considered. More recently, as part of the new government's 'Big Society', communities may be able to bypass planning consent for new homes, if a clear majority is reached through a referendum.

There was uncertainty about future village development and whether development is a good or bad proposal. Whether our utilities could cope with extra houses and if new housing would contribute to more flooding. There are many questions, not many answers and uncertainty on the true consensus of opinion. As a consequence of this, the Parish Plan concept was conceived.

## Parish Endorsement

In December 2008, on the recommendation of the Parish Council, a small steering group was formed and organised a Parish meeting to find out, firstly, if the community wanted a Parish Plan and, secondly, what the community liked about the Parish and what were its main needs or concerns. About 140 people (about 13% of the parish) attended and gave the steering group over 600 comments and recommended that a parish plan should be established.

### Things we like most about the Parish

- The countryside and general warmth and ambience of the village
- The good community spirit and feeling of safety
- The facilities such as pubs, societies and clubs
- The village shop, school and village hall
- The wide range of sports activities and play areas

The steering group consulted the village organisations, arranged a drop-in centre to discuss issues and a suggestion box was available in the village shop.

The steering group sorted all the comments into 14 different areas spanning the social, economic and environmental needs of the parish. Each issue was carefully researched looking at the perceived need or concern, finding out key facts to support the need, examining possible solutions and, finally, looking at the knowledge gaps where the parish should be further consulted in a questionnaire.

### Issues that cause particular concern

- Future housing development
- Flooding of Chiltern brook in the village
- Speeding and the state of local roads
- Lack of public transport
- Dog fouling

The issues that cause most concern are perhaps common with many other communities in Suffolk. However, Hundon is unique in where it has set its priorities for future needs within our community.

### Our 'Wish' list

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- ✓ Better provision of buses at the right time to the right place
- ✓ Controlled housing expansion with more affordable housing
- ✓ Local health care
- ✓ Planned traffic control in the village
- ✓ Managed green space for recreation and wildlife
- ✓ Facilities for teenagers
- ✓ Community centre
- ✓ Improved water management of brook and roadside ditches

The steering group divided these issues into groups that could be further researched. Each issue looked at what was the main need or concern, key facts that were already understood and potential solutions through action.

A questionnaire was developed by the steering group to gather key evidence from the community. It was distributed to each household, with provision for each person within the household to contribute to the Parish Plan.

Subsequent analysis of the completed questionnaires, together with the facts known about each issue, is collated within this report, with recommendations for actions suggested by the steering group.

### Parish Plan Issues and Needs

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1. The allotments and green space
2. Community care
3. Community services – health care
4. Information & communication - parish magazine, welcome packs, internet cafe
5. Roads and traffic
6. Transport
7. Utilities
8. Youth club
9. Housing development
10. Business
11. Flooding
12. Our environment
13. Greening our village
14. Improving our public services

## A Short Parish History

There is evidence from a number of local archeological finds that humans travelled in and around this parish 4000 years ago. There are remains of Roman villas and it seems likely that Boudicca and the Iceni tribe were active in these parts driving the Romans from these lands. After the Norman Conquest, the manor of Hundon was affiliated to Clare and was known to have three deer hunting parks. The woodland was exploited and gradually cleared over the centuries. All Saints Church was built in the 14th century and in 1480, Thomas Rogeron formed a charity that left one sixth of his land income to be distributed to the poor.

In 1600, the parish was known to have 400 adults and was primarily mixed farming with both dairy cattle, pigs, horses and arable crops. By 1836, the population had tripled to 1121 adults as part of 215 families that lived in 208 houses. The school was built in 1875 and provided free education to 150 children resident in the parish.

In 1914 the woodwork to the church and most of the parish records were destroyed by fire. In 1938 RAF Stradishall was home to two bomber squadrons and was operational until 1970. Six years later HMP Highpoint opened on the old RAF site.

The village hall was built in 1957 with the aid of Swedish Quaker students. In the last decade the village shop, playground and Astro sports pitch were built through village fund raising and lottery grants and are run almost exclusively by volunteers. These now form the centre of our community facilities and show how the enthusiasm of a few small groups or individuals can provide so much pleasure for us all.

## Facts and Figures from local census 1991

- 1061 people lived in the parish of Hundon (527 male and 534 were female)
- There are 455 dwellings in the parish
- The parish was about 1830 hectares (4520 acres)
- 9% of the parish had no car (2007)
- In 2001 there were 757 vehicles owned in the parish
- About ¼ of the population were over 60
- 85% of residents owned their own homes
- 8.5% of residents lived in council or housing association homes
- Manufacturing was the largest male employment in the area (17.54%)
- Health and social work was the largest female employment (15.01%)
- 52.73% of people over the age of 16 were then currently married in the ward
- 20% of the population were over 65
- In 2001, 85% of Hundon residents described themselves as Christian
- 12% were self-employed (2001)
- 38% of adults had no qualifications (2001 census)
- 66% of adults 16-74 had the ability to be in employment
- 40% of employable people were full-time, 11% part-time and 11% self-employed





Being a village and the countryside is the most important aspect of living in Hundon.

## Overview of the Parish Survey

We have one of the largest parishes in Suffolk, but, with a little over 1000 people in 455 houses, we are very fortunate to have such a thriving community that is able to live away from main roads and enjoy the tranquillity of our countryside.

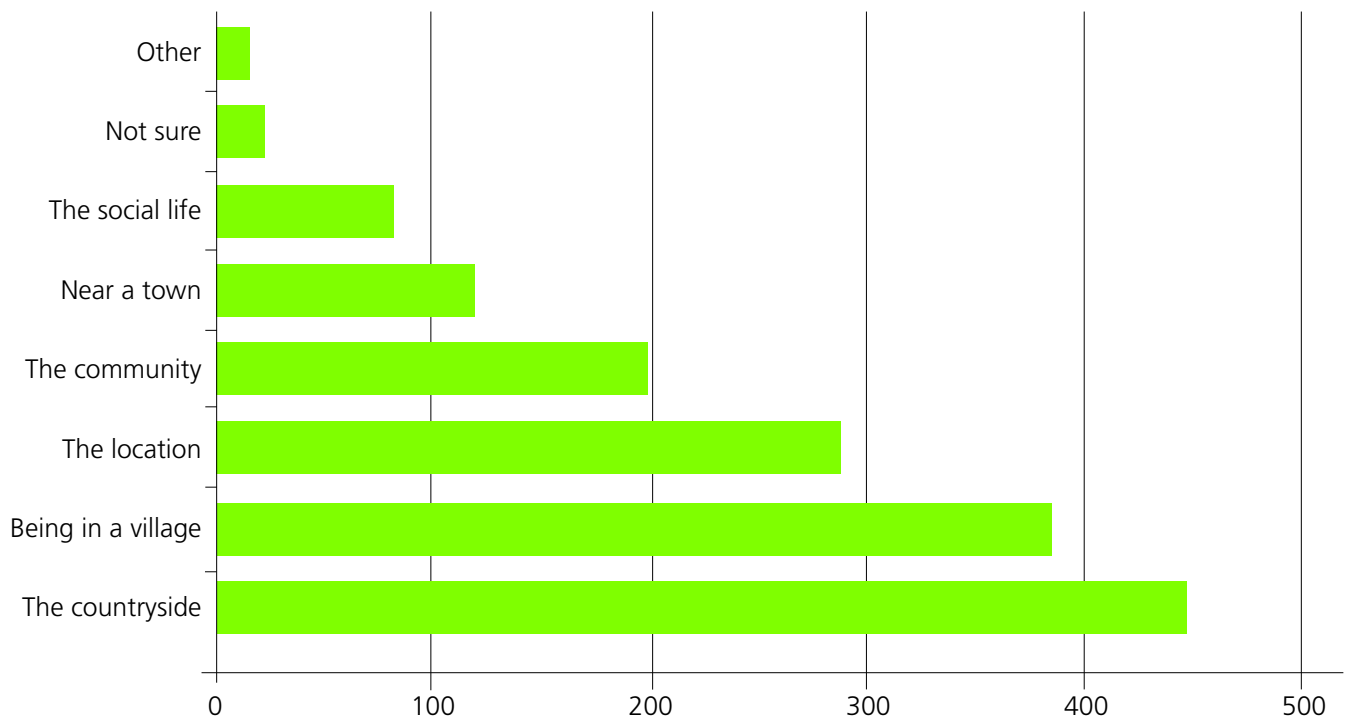
- 366 (80%) household, 20 business and 35 youth surveys were returned for analysis
- 649 different people contributed to the main household survey, representing 61% of the total population (1061 in 2001 census)

### From the survey we deduce that –

- 25% of the population attend school
- A large proportion of children attend primary school
- 65% of households did not have children attending school
- 25% of the population is retired
- Hundon has a balanced male/female ratio, but with slightly higher populations of females in their 20's and over 85's

<b>Where children attend school</b>		
Response - 434      Skipped - 215		
Question not relevant - 496		
Answers	%	People
Primary school	23	60
Middle school	14	37
University	14	36
Nursery school	13	35
High or Upper school	13	34
Mother and toddler	8	22
Child minder	7	19
College	6	16
Boarding school	2	4
Home education	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>264</b>

## The most important aspects of living in Hundon



631 people answered this question. 18 people skipped this question.

# Overview of the Parish Survey

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

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### What we want

The Parish Plan is a living document that co-ordinates activity to provide a better way of life for the people of our parish.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming a committee made up of Hundon residents, representatives of village organisations and representatives of the Parish Council in 2011 to initiate and oversee the Hundon Parish Plan.
- ✓ Consulting the village every 5 years and updating the village plan. Holding fund raising events and co-ordinating our efforts to ensure that the parish can fully benefit from external grants, as well as supporting new projects and existing organisations.



- Being a village and living in the countryside is the most important aspect of living in Hundon.
- The social life is relatively unimportant.

## Housing and Development

Very few new houses have been built in Hundon since the 1970s when the Farmerie and Galley Road developments significantly increased the size of Hundon Village. The recent St Edmundsbury Core Development Plan has identified a site to the north of the village where new housing may be considered. Other sites on Lower Road and Valley Wash were also considered, but were discarded because they were on the flood plain or were not next to existing village housing.

### The Parish Council conducted a housing needs survey in 2007

- There were 455 dwellings in the parish
- 85% houses were owner-occupied
- Hundon had only half the amount of houses for rent compared to Suffolk as a whole
- Almost a quarter of households were occupied by single people
- The population grew by 0.6% between 2001 and 2004
- There was a need for at least 10 low cost houses (Housing needs survey 2007)
- Hundon School could have taken another 15 pupils across the five year groups above anticipated need in September 2010.
- The village needed a population of 3500 people to attract a commercially viable store.
- 29% of households were pensioners, half of which were single occupied (OCSI)
- 50% of households had married or co-habiting occupants (OCSI)

### Would an increase in housing in Hundon be welcomed?

At the village meeting in 2008, there were considerable concerns that any major expansion of the village could change its character and put undue pressure on existing facilities such as schools, sewerage, roads and green space. However, there was definitely a need for more affordable housing for both young people and older residents of the parish.

### What we already know

- Hundon has already built 12 affordable homes
- The Hundon Housing survey 2007 identified the need for 10 additional affordable homes
- St Edmundsbury Council classifies Hundon as a "Service Centre" because it has a shop, a community hall, buses and a school

**We need housing with a warden for older people**



# Housing and Development

## What did the survey say?

- 86% of households have 2 or more people, whilst 14% are single occupancy
- 90% of houses are owner-occupied and only 4% are in rented housing association
- Most people live in owner-occupied accommodation
- Less than 10% of accommodation is rented

Type of accommodation lived in		
Response - 626		Skipped - 23
Answers	%	People
Owner-occupied	91	569
Tied accommodation	0	2
Rented housing association	4	4
Rented privately	5	26
Shared equity housing	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>626</b>

Should the village expand?		
Response - 607		Skipped - 42
Answers	%	People
Up to 100	37	225
100 - 200	18	107
200 - 500	4	27
More than 500	1	6
No expansion	40	242
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>607</b>

## Type of alternative accommodation needed over the next 10 years

103 people thought they would need alternative accommodation in Hundon within the next 10 years. Most will buy, but 26% said they would want to rent.

- 54 people (23%\*) would be looking for a family home
- 43 people (18%\*) would like affordable housing for young people
- 44 people (18%\*) would like affordable housing for older people
- 22 people (9%\*) would be looking for sheltered housing
- When asked if new buildings should reflect the style and character of the village, 592 people (96%\*) said yes

\* of those that answered the question - 409 people skipped this question.

## Expansion of the village population

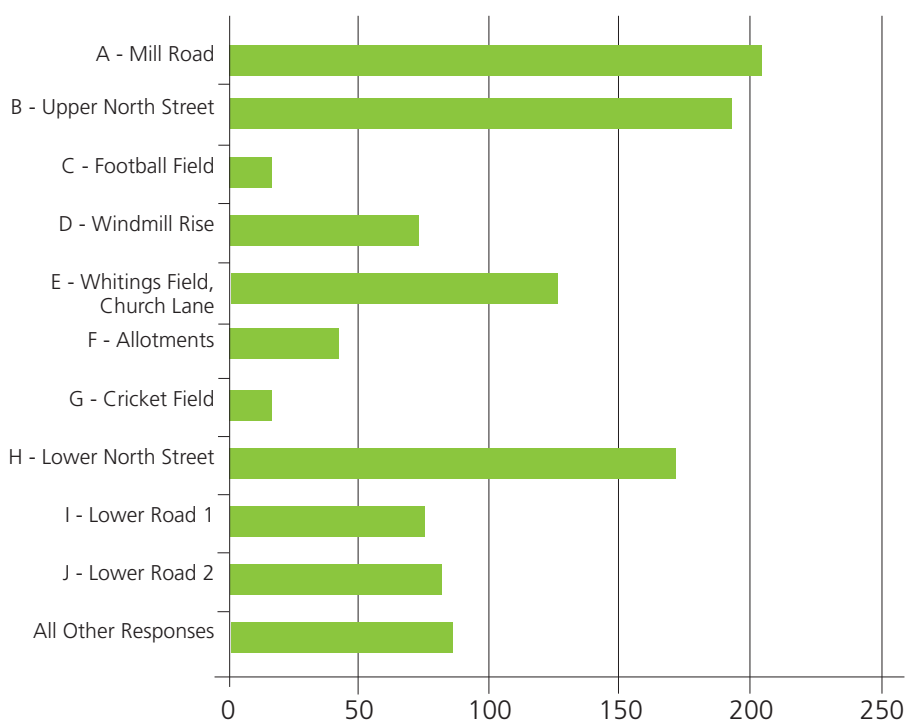
- 40% wanted no expansion
- 37% thought the village should expand by up to 100 people
- 23% would except expansion beyond 100 people

**Our infrastructure, such as drainage, sewers, etc, needs to support new housing**

**New housing should incorporate green spaces**

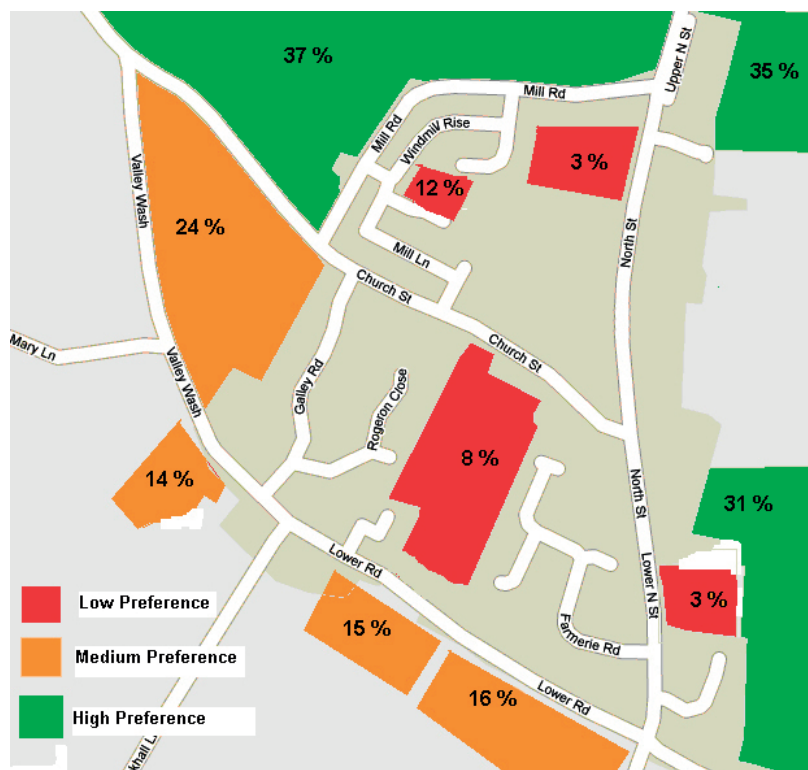
# Housing and Development

If new housing were to be built in Hundon where do you think the best place would be?



- This graph illustrates preferred options for new housing to be at Mill road, Upper North Street and Lower North Street sites.
- Windmill Rise, the football ground, the cricket ground and allotments are the least preferred sites.

## Map of housing development survey



**553 people responded**  
**96 people skipped this question.**

This map shows where people favoured any future development. This demonstrates a preference to village outward expansion rather than in-fill of green space.



# Housing and Development

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To limit growth, retain our green spaces and ensure any future development is in keeping with the existing character of the village.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Informing our councils, who should recognise our housing development preferences including the retention of existing green space. Hundon Parish Council will provide a local housing need and development plan for the next 10 years following open consultation with the parish.
- ✓ Pursuing and monitoring bi-annually affordable housing for both young and old, as part of the housing development plan to meet the future needs of the parish. It will include sheltered (wardened) housing in Hundon or in the wider locality.



## Community Care



Community care was the issue most commented on at the 2008 village meeting, with over 69 separate comments. Many described the need for more activities for the elderly. These can take many different forms from good neighbour schemes to protection against crime.

The people in Hundon have a wide range of skills and if asked, most would be happy to help someone in need. All that is required is some voluntary time and some co-ordination. It can be just as rewarding for those who give their time as for those who need it most.

### What did the survey say?

- 52% (338 people) in the survey thought a good neighbour scheme was needed in the Parish
- The three community events most wanted are a village fete, a fireworks display and flicks in the sticks. A revival of Hundon Super stars and children's entertainment were also popular
- 40% of respondents (257 people) were interested in adult education evening classes and a further 14% were interested in skills for life (literacy and numeracy)

### What we already know

- Hundon has a wide range of activities from food and music events at the local pubs and village hall, to the well supported societies such as history and gardening
- Good neighbourhood schemes are already running in 21 Suffolk villages and can be paid or voluntary
- 38% of Hundon residents over 18 have no qualifications. (1991 census)

### Examples

- Taking a child to school or walking the dog if mum is ill
- Helping with those small things like watering plants or changing a light bulb
- Giving a lift to the shops or surgery. (A taxi to Clare costs at least £5.)
- Sitting with someone who is lonely or not well
- Assisting with social outings
- Fetching a book from the library
- Baby sitting
- Fitting a washer to a tap





### Establishment of community events in Hundon

Response - 552

Skipped - 97

Answers	%	People
Village fete	83	458
Bonfire and fireworks	59	325
Children's entertainment	34	191
Super stars sports competition	31	173
Village picnic	24	130
Treasure hunt	21	119
Maypole dancing	18	103

Other clubs and activities that attracted more than 50 responses included:

- Art
- Books
- Gardening
- Rambling
- History

Clubs with more than 30 responses included:

- CAMEO meetings
- Choir
- Music
- Whist & Bridge
- WI

Multiple answers given.

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To organise new community events and give voluntary support, entertainment and skills to all.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Organising a number of new events such as a village fete, superstars or bonfire night, 'flicks-in-the-sticks'. A new organisation (possibly made up of representatives from existing clubs, societies and committees) should be set up to oversee such events for fundraising and enjoyment.
- ✓ Setting up a working group to explore and pilot a 'good neighbour scheme' with an associated register of volunteers and support networks.
- ✓ Exploring wider activities of the youth club, such as children's entertainment or 'flicks-in-the-sticks' for teenagers.
- ✓ Creating opportunities for adult education to increase skills, knowledge and employment.

“These have all been tried before, but where do the volunteers come from?”

“I would like to know where I can get training to use the internet?”

## Our Church and Amenities

All Saints Church was once the focal point of our community. It is largely hidden from the village by trees and houses. Despite the great fire in the early 20th century, it still holds a strong historical record of our community. For example, Roman roof tiles that makes up some of the northern wall and the fortified roof that was built to protect the wealth of the parish.



Hundon Church members conducted their own survey of the parish in 2009 to look at options for the future use of the church. Approximately 50% of those surveyed wanted the church to remain as a place of worship exclusively, whilst the remaining 50% would like the church to open its doors for wider community activities.

### Our Parish Church

- Two bells survived the church fire
- There are 6 members of the Church Parochial Council
- There is now one service a month
- The average congregation is 6-12 people
- There is sufficient burial space in the Northern church yard for the foreseeable future
- The organ was originally in a private residence and is one of only two of a kind
- The parish precept to the diocese is about £30,000

### The Village Hall and sports complex

The village hall, shop and the astro sports complex are key strengths to our community. All these were the result of the work of a small number of individuals who were determined to improve the amenities of our parish. All are run and operated by volunteers to provide provisions, recreation, entertainment and training to Hundon and surrounding villages.

### The complex supports

- A shop and community café
- Tiddlywinks and mother and toddler groups
- Special interest groups. e.g. WI, Bowls and Garden club
- Social activities with dances and a separate social club
- Youth training for tennis, football and cricket
- Adult football and tennis

### What the survey said.....

- 55% of our parish do not attend a religious service. For the 40% that do, most will only attend once or twice a year
- A large proportion (64%) of people prefers to attend a religious service outside Hundon

### Did you know ...

- More than 47 volunteers run the shop
- The shop has nearly 1000 products
- The astro was used for more than 500 hours in 2009
- The astro is used by ten clubs but is available for use by anyone in the parish
- The social club costs £5 a year to join and has over 120 members

## Our Church and Amenities

### Frequency of attending a religious service

Response - 612

Skipped - 36 (6%)

Answers	%	People
Weekly	6	38
Monthly	3	20
Once or twice a year	30	194
Never	55	360
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>612</b>

### Frequency of attending a religious service in Hundon or another parish

Response - 254

Answers	%	People
In Hundon	36	91
Outside of Hundon	64	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>254</b>

**Make the church service less 'high' and more family orientated**

### Use of the Church ...

Although 60% would not like to see the church used for any other activity there was no shortage of suggestions on complementary uses of the church:

- Social and coffee mornings
- Exhibitions
- Concerts and exhibitions
- Debating society
- Concerts and other music events
- Craft, art and photography exhibits
- Badminton and table tennis
- Open the tower more often
- CAMEO music
- Drama
- Dance
- Talks
- Children's activities
- Social gatherings
- Classical music
- Sunday school

### Amenities within the Parish

- The village shop is used by 60% of respondents on a weekly basis
- 60% use one of the pubs at least every month. 19% every week. A further 19% never use a pub
- 77% will use the village hall at least once every year. About 40% or 200 people use it every month
- 92% never use the astro-turf

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To sustain the church as a place of worship.

### How we can achieve this

- ✓ Encouraging and welcoming more people to our church.
- ✓ The Parochial Council to consider means by which our church can play an active role in the community.

## Public Transport



Hundon has no easy access to trains. Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds are the nearest stations accessible by bus. Buses to both Haverhill and Bury St Edmunds are infrequent and no buses are able to get workers to the major centres of employment by 9:00am. This limits employment opportunities and encourages more traffic on our country lanes.

There is no public bus service to Clare, which is our local key service centre with a wider range of shops and health services. Residents with no transport are reliant on taxis, friends and family.

School buses are 'double-deckers' and are considered to be too big for our narrow roads and potentially dangerous especially in winter conditions.

### Did you know ...

- A taxi to Haverhill costs about £8
- A taxi to Clare about £5 if a local firm or £11.60 if a Haverhill firm
- There are as few as 2 buses per day to Haverhill during weekdays
- There are no buses to Clare or Sudbury from Hundon
- There is no bus service on Sunday
- 9% of the parish have no car (2001)
- There are about 760 vehicles owned in the parish

### What we asked the Parish

- Is there a need for more frequent buses
- Would more frequent buses increase use
- Is there a need for a community bus to provide transport to the key service centres
- Would you use the bus to get to work
- Are school double-decker buses safe on our country roads
- Are school buses adequately supervised

### What did the survey find?

- At least 32 people (5% of the parish) are reliant on public transport for health care
- 95% use a car as the major means of transport. 5% use the bus, 2% use a motor bike and 14% prefer to walk
- 75% (450 people) thought that double-decker buses are not safe on our local roads



## Public Transport

### Increase use of public transport if given a better bus service

Response - 589

Skipped - 60

Answers	%	People
Newmarket	9	76
Sudbury	12	97
Haverhill	17	145
Cambridge	19	161
Clare	21	175
Bury St Edmunds	22	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>607</b>

### Improved bus services

- About 30% would use a bus if there was a better service
- Bury St Edmunds, Clare and Cambridge were popular bus route choices

### Youth travel

- Most young people are reliant on adults and car transport to get to places outside of Hundon
- 40% would use a bus to Clare, if such a service was available. 46% wouldn't use a bus

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To improve access by public transport to the facilities provided by local towns.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Seeking a full review and impact assessment on public transport for children and adults in the rural areas of the Borough.
- ✓ Encouraging the local authority to review the need for a more frequent transport service between Hundon, Clare, Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill.
- ✓ Influencing the Local Authority to review and publish recommendations on the use and safety of double-decker buses in rural areas for school transport.

# Community Health and Healthy Living

Hundon is well serviced by health care in our local towns. There are surgeries in Clare, Wickhambrook and Haverhill, all with good reputations and district nurses and GP's who will make home visits.

However, out of hours service in rural communities is still very limited. The current public transport service does not provide adequate means to access these facilities. A significant proportion of Hundon (25%) is over 60 and is reliant on facilities outside Hundon for health care.

At the inception meeting in Hundon Village Hall, residents highlighted the need for a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' and it was suggested that a register of volunteers be drawn up. Services to be covered by this register would include simple tasks such as assistance with changing light bulbs, help with shopping, pets and mowing lawns, among others. The Questionnaire confirmed the need for such a scheme in the village.

## Key Facts

- Nearest Doctor and pharmacist are 3.8 miles away in Clare
- Nearest Dentist and out of hours Doctor are 5.4 miles away in Haverhill
- Nearest Hospital and Ambulance Service are 14 miles away in Bury St Edmunds
- An Ambulance has a target of 19 minutes for emergencies
- There are already 21 Good Neighbour Schemes in Suffolk

## What the survey said

- Over 80 people feel that health problems or disability restrict their day-to-day living
- 87% do not find it difficult to access relevant health care services

The remaining 13% who have problems are mainly drawn from older residents who have difficulty in visiting the following services:

- The doctor - 45 people
- The dentist - 34 people
- The hospital - 27 people
- The chemist - 23 people

Of the 13% who have difficulties with health care access, about 5% are reliant on public transport

- About 50% of the survey respondents are interested in a good neighbour scheme. This is similar to neighbourhood watch
- A further 44% think there is a need for a prescription collection and delivery service
- 28% of the survey feel there is a need for a 'well man' or 'well woman' clinic in the village

# Community Health and Healthy Living

## Sporting activity

### Interest in different sporting activities.

There are multiple responses

Response - 298      Skipped - 102

Not interested - 249

Answers	%	People
Keep fit	19	112
Yoga	17	98
Pilates	13	76
Badminton	11	64
Indoor bowls	10	60
Billiards / snooker	9	53
Table tennis	6	34
Cricket	6	34
Football	6	33
Volleyball	3	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>581</b>

Given that Hundon has a large retired population there is keen interest in a wide variety of sporting activities.

- There is demand for keep fit classes, including Yoga and Pilates
- Badminton, indoor bowls and snooker also proved popular

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To improve access by public transport to the facilities provided by local towns.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Instigating a prescription collection and delivery service to the village shop.
- ✓ Supporting champions to set up appropriate facilities for healthy recreation. For example: keep fit; table tennis and badminton.
- ✓ Exploring the potential and cost for community transport for access to health care.

## Information and Communication



The Hundon Herald is welcomed and appreciated for the information it provides. It is compiled, edited and distributed by volunteers and is central to parish life. Close on the heels of our parish magazine is the village web site which has a wealth of information, history, statistics and up and coming events. So with this background, could information transfer be any better? Some parishes join forces and have combined parish news; others have additional glossy magazine-style publications such as the Clare Focus.

### Did you know?

- The Herald is self funded through advertising. It is delivered free to over 500 houses in the parish
- Our Parish website, [www.hundon-village.co.uk](http://www.hundon-village.co.uk), has over 500 visits (hits) per month.
- It has contact details for nearly every club and society in the village
- The most popular pages are Hundon historical pictures
- The first Herald issue was produced in January 1986 by Mrs. Beatrice Wright of Galley Road - one sheet of paper
- 70% of UK households had access to the internet in 2009
- 83% of people in the UK had purchased goods from the internet in the last 3 months

New residents to Hundon had reported that it was difficult to locate information on the services available within the village and its environs. It had been suggested that a Village Welcome Pack listing names and locations of schools, doctors, clubs /societies, neighbourhood watch co-ordinators, churches and local tradesmen, etc. should be developed to make it easier for newcomers to integrate into the parish.

The recent, successful introduction of a Hundon internet café has enabled local people to meet on a weekly basis in the Village Hall. It provides the opportunity for residents to meet and have a cup of coffee and learn about the benefits of computer technology. The village hall now has Wi-Fi facility as part of Suffolk Borough's "getting the villages connected" scheme.

### What the survey said

#### The internet

- 73% use the internet
- 12% said they would use the internet, but they do not know how to or do not own a computer
- 15% have no interest or don't see the point of it

**70% of respondents thought a 'welcome pack' (who, what, where) for new residents entering the parish was required.**

## Information and Communication

### What respondents liked about the Hundon Herald.

There are multiple responses

Response - 614 Skipped - 35

Multiple answers given.

Answers	%	People
News	87	531
Adverts for goods and services	77	478
Future events	67	472
Articles on life around the Parish	69	424
Parish Council	67	409
Clubs and society updates	61	374
<b>Total</b>		<b>2688</b>

- Most people (49%) like the Hundon Herald just as it is
- Over 30% would like more news and articles about life within the parish
- Some would like to see news from other local villages and towns, especially from Clare (60%) and Kedington (34%)

There were over 30 suggestions for more contributions, for example:

- Puzzles and quizzes, especially for children
- More information from the Parish Council and the Rogeron Trust
- A feedback column
- More photo's and historical articles on history
- Interviews with village people or personalities

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To receive interesting and factual information on the news, activities, services and recreation within the parish and adjacent communities.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming an editorial support group as part of the Hundon Herald to strengthen support from readers to help source articles from within the parish and neighbouring communities.
- ✓ Forming an editorial group to work with the Hundon Herald and the Village Website to develop an annual fact sheet for existing residents and a 'Welcome Pack' for new residents.
- ✓ Providing Internet training to parishioners to provide and allow improved purchasing and access to communication and information.

## Roads, Traffic and Anti-Social Behaviour

Hundon may be a small village in the Suffolk countryside, yet it has a high volume of commuter traffic at peak times. Flooding and potholes are a hazard all the year round. In addition, overgrown hedges, trees and verges hamper visibility on narrow lanes.

Hundon has more street lights than many villages as it was, allegedly, part of the conditions for a prison being located in close proximity. However, some question the adequacy for today's requirements and others believe all night lighting is a waste of money and adds to our carbon footprint.

### Dog fouling



Dog poo is not only a nuisance, but worms in the faeces can be transferred to humans. Dog owners must, by law, pick up any mess made by their dogs. If owners fail to do so and evidence

is available that they have not complied with the law, then they can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. Currently, the fine attached to a Fixed Penalty Notice is £50. Owners who do not pay the Fixed Penalty Notice are likely to be prosecuted and can be fined up to £1,000, if found guilty in court.

### What the survey said

- Dog fouling is regarded as the largest concern by 67% of people. It is a significant problem in North St and Lower North St.
- Speeding is also a large concern for 67% of people. It is especially significant in North St and Mill road, Mill Lane and Valley wash
- Litter and inconsiderate parking is also high on the list, especially in North St
- Bird scarers are less of a problem, unless you live along the Lower road / Mary Lane localities, where noise was considered anti-social.

### Speeding



Speeding is a constant problem within the village; it is dangerous for cars and pedestrians alike. Speeding restrictions are frequently ignored and will contribute to accidents. Speeding and potholes are probably the number one issue of most Suffolk parish plans, but will our plan make a difference?

#### Main traffic problems are thought to be caused by:

- 60% think speeding and poor road drainage
- 38% think poor maintenance of hedges, verges and ditches are contributory factors
- 33% consider dangerous driving
- 38% (236 people) think inconsiderate parking

#### In response ...

- Many want speed warning signs and rigorous enforcement of existing speed limits.
- There is little interest in zebra crossings or a lollipop lady

“20mph limit for the whole village”



## Roads, Traffic and Anti-Social Behaviour

### Best traffic calming measures.

There are multiple responses

Response - 586      Skipped - 63

Answers	%	People
Children's crossing attendant	5	35
Zebra crossings	6	37
Picket style fencing at village entrance	20	129
None of the above	21	137
Priority signage - single file roads	27	173
More rigorous speed enforcement	36	231
Speed warning signs (solar)	47	303
<b>Total</b>		<b>1045</b>

### Driving to local schools

We asked if parents drove their children to school. 53% said they do not. Of those that do, most either said that it depended on the weather or it is too far to walk.

### Street lighting

- 67% of the parish do not think we need more street lamps
- 33% said the need for new lighting is significant and there were many suggestions as to where it is needed
- There is a demand for street lighting in some areas, for example Steeplechase (5 people) Church Street (6 people) North St (6 people) Lower Road (9 people)
- A number of comments were made about reducing light pollution

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To be proactive in reducing anti-social behaviour and take on collective responsibility to reduce crime and improve safety in our parish.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Reviewing current 'neighbourhood watch' schemes to investigate if any new areas need to be set up in the parish. Making information on active schemes easily accessible for residents to see.
- ✓ Forming a residents group to work in conjunction with the dog warden and community police and initiate a proactive and hard-hitting campaign to drastically reduce incidents of dog fouling and litter in the village.
- ✓ Informing organisers of events and facilities around the village hall and playing fields that they will be responsible for any litter created from their activities. The Parish Council will locate new litter bins in strategic locations around the village and green spaces.
- ✓ Promoting the 'Adopt a Street' scheme where local residents regularly pick litter in their vicinity. More litter bins need placing in areas where litter is a habitual problem. The council should review the need for a paid litter picker in key areas if all else fails.
- ✓ Forming a residents group, under the direction of Clare community police to monitor and provide evidence of traffic speed and proactively make motorists aware of speeding. Repeat offenders or locations may require police intervention. The local council should review the need for speed warning signs in key locations within the village and surrounding communities.
- ✓ Seeking a sustainable solution to both safety and parking in the school vicinity through the parish council school and highways department.
- ✓ Approaching farmers using 'banging' bird scarers near residential areas to encourage the use of alternative approaches.
- ✓ The Parish Council to review the state of our highways and roadside ditches in the Autumn and Spring and action is reported to the community.

## Utilities

Hundon water is pumped from underground chalk aquifers and has the highest rating of water hardness in the UK. It costs a fortune in water softeners and kettle descaler, but we enjoy good water pressure and have never been subject to hose pipe bans.

The sewer system struggles to cope during storms, causing frequent overflows and spillage in North Street and Lower North Street. Problems from tree roots and private sewer systems in Mill Lane have been the cause of much controversy for the last five years and the question remains as to how much extra capacity our existing sewer system can cope with. Communities outside the main village do not have mains sewerage and bear the cost themselves. An independent survey of our existing sewerage facilities has already been commissioned by the Parish Council.

Electricity and telephone cables are still predominantly above ground. For some there is intermittent electricity in high winds and, for others, telephone cables and trees are a bad combination.



### What the survey said ...

- Electricity is the most popular fuel for cooking (71%)
- Gas and oil are near equal as the main source of energy for heating and hot water
- Some people have solar panels
- About half of responders were interested in joining a 'buying group', Electricity and domestic heating fuel had the most interest

### Provision of services and facilities

- Broadband is thought to be good, but 28% thought it could improve
- About 50% think that mains drainage was poor or could be improved. 30% didn't know
- Gas and water is generally thought to be good although 12% think mains gas is poor and could improve
- 54% think recycling facilities are good to excellent, while 34% think it could improve
- 40% think mobile reception is good or excellent and 56% think it is poor or could be improved, presumably depending on the mobile provider
- 72% would like more utility cables, currently overhead, routed underground

**72% would like more utility cables, currently overhead, routed underground**

## The standard of services

- 47% (305 people) think that the sewer system needs to be reviewed
- Grass cutting is thought good or excellent by 70% (399 people)
- Refuse collection is good or excellent according to 90% (527 people)
- Street cleaning has a mixed response with 47% saying good or excellent and 44% thought it 'could improve' or is 'poor'
- Gulley and ditch cleaning 'could improve' according to 42% (242 people) and a further 30% (180 people) think it 'poor'



“Refuse collection is good or excellent according to 90%”

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

### What we want

To ensure that our services and utilities provide good value and are kept in good working condition.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming a group that will consider bulk purchasing gas, electricity and telephone following on from the success of the oil buying group.
- ✓ Reviewing the mains drainage and sewer systems in the village and communicate the findings to the parish
- ✓ Taking action to promote collective roadside responsibility so that problems are reported quickly and that road safety is maintained. A policy and clear action on gulley and ditch cleaning both inside and outside the village should be documented and revisited on an annual basis.
- ✓ Reviewing both the location and the amount of time that street lighting is in operation.

## Younger People

It is not always easy growing up in a Suffolk village. Many teenagers are reliant on parents to transport them for school, recreation, leisure, shopping or just to have fun. After all, a common complaint is that “not much happens for us in Hundon”

The youth survey canvassed the views of 7 – 18 year old children on how Hundon could improve their lifestyles.

Hundon community primary school was instrumental in canvassing the views of years 5 - 9 and especially on what they liked best and what could be improved about Hundon. Hundon School is expanding from 60 to potentially 90 pupils to cater for greater demand, as a result of the new two-tier education system. However, the school grounds are restricted by lack of space and playground facilities outside the school are urgently needed.

A youth club is just one possible initiative that could be started and, during the formation of the plan, a youth club has just started. Other suggestions included graffiti boards, cycle paths, nature trails and a covered meeting point near the village hall.

### What we already know ...

- There are youth activities in other local communities
- In Clare there is a youth club, Scouts, Brownies and Karate
- In Kedington, there is a youth club, Scouts and Cubs
- Hundon Astro is not used for much of the day time
- Hundon has active sporting facilities for the young including football, cricket and tennis
- There are no arts and craft activities in the village

### What the youth survey revealed ...

- There were 56 responses to the youth survey and the vast majority of respondents came from Windmill rise / Mill lane locations
- 73% (41) were male and 27% (15) were female.
- There is overwhelming support for a youth club with 87% in favour and most would be prepared to pay a small charge. The village hall is the preferred location, but many are also in favour of the pub
- The most popular activities already used include swimming (43%) and the cinema (43%), followed by sports facilities and out-of-school clubs

The most popular activities that respondents would like to use include skate boards and zip wires, but the youth club is top of the wish list. The arts such as dance, music and theatre were the least popular, but this may be a reflection of the predominantly male response to the questionnaire.

Some of the wishes list could be hard to achieve, but others like a youth shelter may provide good value for money and would get considerable support.

“  
**66% thought that Hundon should have a youth council**  
”

## Younger People

The playing fields and playground are important areas for young people to congregate even though most (75 – 90%) do not take part in sporting activities.

Given a choice of new activities, basket ball and a village cinema came top followed by skate boarding, BMX tracks, and wildlife and conservation.

Other pieces of equipment younger people would like to see in a futuristic playground are listed below. A see-saw and a big roundabout were popular choices.

- Merry-go-round
- Bigger climbing frame
- Roundabout
- Assault course
- See-saw
- Climbing wall
- Zip wire
- BMX / Skate Park



### General Actions for the Parish Plan

#### What we want

Younger people need a 'voice' in the parish and "more things to do".

#### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Setting up a forum or youth council for younger people to express their views and concerns and report to the Parish Council every six months. The forum should make a sound business case for any proposed new ideas. For example, a skateboard park or zip wire.
- ✓ Ensure there is adequate financial support for the youth club and sufficient volunteers are recruited to ensure it continues as a successful entity. Members of the youth club should be represented on the youth council
- ✓ Funding the purchase of a projector and screen to support 'flicks-in-the-sticks'
- ✓ Making the astro pitch more accessible at no-cost or low-cost to younger people for games activities including netball and basketball.
- ✓ Considering the feasibility of a new 'older' children's playground for use by the school and the parish, with structures such as a roundabout or see-saw, zip wires, bigger slides and outdoor table tennis.



# Elected Representatives, Trusts and Emergency Services ...

We have three tiers of local government and the parish is represented by elected councillors on both the County Council and Borough Council. The Parish Council meets monthly at the village hall and the meetings can be attended by any parishioner. A note of the Parish Meeting can be read in the Hundon Herald or on the village website [www.hundon-village.co.uk](http://www.hundon-village.co.uk)

## What are Parish Councils responsible for?

- Most recreational areas; burial grounds; bus shelters, charity accounts, crime prevention, community centres; drainage ; traffic calming and bye laws.
- The parish precept is about £24 per household
- The Parish Council comprises 7 people. Each councillor holds office for a term of 4 years.

## Police

The local police station is in Clare, which is part of the Bury Rural South team. Most information about crime in this area can be found at [www.onesuffolk.co.uk](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk). There is no formal police presence in Hundon, but a mobile police station comes to the village hall car park each month.

- Clare police station comprises 1 Sergeant, 2 Police Constables, 3 PCSO's
- Speeding is the most common complaint but there are no records of speeding as a crime in the village
- There were about 26 recorded crimes in Hundon during 2009 including 11 thefts, 6 burglaries, 2 criminal damages and 7 other.
- A Fire tender would get to Hundon within 20 minutes if available locally
- An ambulance has a response target of 8 to 19 minutes.

## The Rogeron Trust

The Rogeron Trust is an influential charity for the Parish and through the education foundation has helped many young people in the parish meet the costs of higher education and increasing their skills. They are also landlords of Hundon allotments and have courted controversy with plans to sell part of this land for affordable housing. Less well known is the Trust's funding to the church and for relief-in-need. The trustees do not publish their meetings, although there is limited information published on the charity commission website.

### The Rogeron Trust – Key facts

- There are 7 parish trustees
- Investments in 2004 were about £220,000
- Disposable income of about £11,000
- Income is split 50% to the educational foundation, 33% to the ecclesiastical charity and 17% to Hundon relief-in-need
- The trust also has a remit for conservation and the environment

“  
**We want to see a police man  
or police woman patrolling and  
interacting with our community.**  
”



# Elected representatives, Trusts and Emergency Services ...

## What the survey revealed

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### Emergency services

- Most people have an opinion on whether the emergency services were good or poor. 60 – 70% have no opinion on our police force
- However, about 40% think the ambulance service good or excellent
- 16% think police emergency service is good. 10% think it is poor
- 22% think community policing is good or excellent. 14% think it is poor

### Parish & Bourough Council

- Over 50% have no opinion on the Parish Council
- About 35% of those surveyed think the Parish Council interacts well with the community and is aware of local concerns and feelings.
- 45% think it publicises its activities well
- There is some doubt on whether it resolves contentious issues well, with only 12% agreeing and most didn't know.

The parish was asked if our MP, Borough and County Councillor were sufficiently aware of local concerns and feelings.

- About 65% do not know
- Of those who expressed opinion, most think them unaware

### The Rogeron Trust

- The majority of the parish was unable to express an opinion on how the Rogeron Trust meets its responsibilities in providing benefit to the parish. This suggests that little is known about this organisation and 39% think that communications are poor or could improve and a further 50% are not able to offer an opinion
- Apart from the provision of educational grants, the Rogeron Trust did not achieve a positive endorsement for any of its responsibilities.
- 4.5% said it is transparent in its decisions. Most do not think this is so
- 30% think the provision of care to the allotments could improve or is poor
- 29% think the provision of educational grants is good and many feel it is excellent
- 90% of respondents don't know or do not have an opinion on grants to the church or to relief in need

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

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### What we want

Our elected representatives, public bodies and emergency services demonstrate that Hundon is valued through improved communications.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Raising the profile of our emergency services through effective communication in the Hundon Herald and village website. An increased visible presence of community policing would ensure that there is an ethos of security and safety within the parish
- ✓ The Parish Council being more open on contentious issues and dialogue and debate should be initiated when possible contention is recognised. It should consider ways to increase effective dialogue with the parish. For example: Having an annual working plan or councillors having specialist areas of responsibility.
- ✓ Our member of parliament and local councillors reporting back to our Parish Council and Hundon Herald / village website on their activities for the year and their aspirations for the following year.
- ✓ The Rogeron Trust publishing a comprehensive review of its activities at least once a year. Encouraging new people onto the Trust to ensure that it adequately represents the community. It must clearly demonstrate democracy, transparency and leadership for a community asset. It should actively promote the uptake of grants to fulfil all the trusts objectives.

# Caring for our Environment



For many, our countryside and our quiet rural way of life in this unspoilt village close to Clare and the River Stour is the reason we enjoy living in this parish. Predominantly an arable farming landscape with rolling hills to Sudbury, it is ideal for countryside pursuits such as walking, cycling or riding and is home to many wild flowers and birds. Chiltern Brook is fed by springs from the old airfield, which is now home to many wild flowers and birds.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust will help schools and youth clubs undertake wildlife surveys in churchyards and areas of green space.

## Flooding

Flooding on the road adjacent to Chiltern Brook now happens several times a year. It is a nuisance for motorists and in cold weather surface water freezes causing even greater hazards. For some people, flooding is also a risk to their homes, gardens and property.

- During the winter of 1987-88, flooding occurred 11 times
- More recently flooding occurred in 2006, 2007 and 2009

The problem is caused by more extreme rainfall, poor maintenance of ditches by landowners and culverts and drains by the Highways Authority. We may need to slow the flow of water from fields converging near properties in the village.

## Did you know?



Stradishall airfield forms 103 hectares (254 acres) of our parish but is relatively unexplored. It is classed as unimproved grassland, but has scrub, species rich hedgerows and deciduous woodland. It is dominated by tall fescue grass but is home to several species of orchid. It is home to a number of bird species including barn owls, kestrels, buzzards, gold finches and linnets.

The Ministry of Defence is selling the land and its future as a wildlife habitat is uncertain.

# Caring for our Environment

## What the survey revealed

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### Enjoyment of the countryside

- About 40% did not express a view
- 63% think the parish requires circular walks and nature walks
- 70% (419 people) would like to see circular walks signposted
- 50% think footpath signage could improve or was poor, but 37% think it is good or excellent
- 44% are in favour of bird and natural environment surveys
- 33% (130 people) are in favour of cross-country bike rides

### Flooding

- 11% of responders (70 people) think their property is at risk of flooding and a further 7% aren't sure
- 3% (26 people) have had property damaged
- Road flooding and road damage had affected about 58% of respondents

### Greening the village

- Although 82% are not interested in a car sharing scheme, over 60 people did express an interest
- 87% think the village should be involved in carbon emission reduction
- The most popular carbon emission reduction schemes are:
  - 40% solar or photo-voltaic power on community buildings
  - 33% carbon offsetting by planting trees
  - 32% insulating homes
  - 25% community wind turbine or heat pump
  - 18% community woodchip burner

### Community projects

- 49% are interested in a community woodland
- 40% are interested in a community orchard
- 27% are interested in a composting scheme
- 33% are not interested or skipped the question

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

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### What we want

We enjoy our countryside and want to protect our environment for future generations.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ The Parish Council, the parish plan working group and landowners should explore how more interesting circular walks and bicycle routes could be signposted.
- ✓ A working group is required to create a partnership with wildlife groups and explore how a survey of the parish could enhance our knowledge of our local countryside.
- ✓ Funding to facilitate bulb and wild flower planting in an 'adopt-a-street' campaign to make our parish even more attractive.
- ✓ Facilitating an action group to look at opportunities to increase the utilisation of renewable energy, increase household insulation, reduce household bills and reduce the carbon footprint of the parish.
- ✓ Creating a working group under the direction of the Parish Council to review and report on flood risks in the village and form an action plan to mitigate against future flooding on both roads and to protect property.

# The Allotments



The green space separating Farmerie Road and Galley Road is commonly known as 'The Allotments'. It is owned and managed by the Rogeron Trust, primarily for the provision of allotments. However, allotments barely cover 30% of the space and the remainder is grassland that is cut once or twice a year. There have been attempts to use some of this land for affordable housing, which attracted a number of diverse views for its future use. This, perhaps, highlights the need for a longer term plan.

There are a number of potential ways that the allotment area could be developed for our community. These include encouraging more allotment users, a junior allotment section, a community nature park and affordable housing.

## Key Facts

- There are 30 people with allotments. 8 new people applied in 2009
- The land could accommodate over 100 plots
- The rent is £5 per annum for 100 square yards
- There is no water or electricity on the site
- Topping grass at the wrong time of year can damage valuable habitat for a number of species

## What the survey revealed

### Allotments

- About 77% (502 people) are not interested in an allotment
- Whilst 8% (54 people) already had an allotment, a further 12% (80 people) would be interested
- 250 respondents say they would be more interested if there was water or a machinery sharing group

The best use of allotment land that is not in use.		
Response - 589	Skipped - 60	
Answers	%	People
Rough grass	20	131
Village pond	23	152
Neatly mown	28	184
Community orchard	35	224
Shrubs and trees	27	295
<b>Total</b>		<b>986</b>

Multiple answers given.



# The Allotments

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

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### What we want

We enjoy our countryside and want to protect our environment for future generations.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Opening consultation, facilitated by the Rogeron Trust with the parish, on both the provision of land for the allotments (including the supply of water) and the management and use of land surplus to immediate requirement.
- ✓ Creating an allotment association to facilitate the day-to-day running of the allotments and discuss promoting of new allotment holders and provision of a machinery sharing group



## Business and Employment ...

Very little is known about how businesses operate in the Parish and a first assumption that there are very few actual businesses. However, we wanted to explore what opportunities exist for existing businesses and possibly, future local employment in the Parish.

We needed to know if the infrastructure such as roads, broadband and business facilities were conducive to encouraging local employment. For example, could a register of skills help to employ local people for local jobs?

### Key Facts

Within the village there are :

- Two pubs
- Three farm businesses
- One garage repair centre
- Community shop
- A school
- Stables, livery and horse breeding
- Self-employed based in Hundon
- A prison (although technically outside the parish)



“The local community can make better use of local trades”

# Business and Employment ...

## What the survey revealed

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### There were 20 replies to the business survey

- 75% are situated in domestic premises. About 1/3 of businesses are agricultural and a further 1/3 are in construction and building
- The remaining 1/3 are engaged in food and drink, health and beauty, transport and garden services.
- Whilst most employers don't think that potential employees have problems finding accommodation, about 40% think it an issue, at least on occasions.
- The majority of businesses (78%) do not find there is a shortage of skilled employees
- 60% (335 people) would like to see more employment opportunities within the village
- Looking at how the parish could further support businesses, there are several key elements, such as:
  - a compilation of village skills register
  - Local job vacancy board
  - Broadband access in the village hall
  - Information on small business support systems
  - Meeting room in the village hall (in exceptional circumstances)
- Road access and signage are satisfactory. However, many businesses think that road maintenance and winter weather services are unsatisfactory
- About half of businesses that replied think there is a shortage of suitable business premises and especially small workshops and storage
- Utilities such as refuse collection, electricity, water, telephone and postal services were all mainly satisfactory, although the internet (25%) and mobile telephone services (35%) were unsatisfactory
- No respondents had heard of a council economic development officer and only one knew of any grant aid that might be available, suggesting a lack of communication between local public services and rural businesses
- The majority of businesses (75%) would like to advertise in a free directory on the village website
- 60% would like to see more employment opportunities within the village, 40% are against
- Neither lack of child care or public transport are preventing people taking up employment, training or studying

## Employment

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- 42% respondents are retired
- 45% are in employment

## General Actions for the Parish Plan

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### What we want

Businesses and local employment are supported by recognising local skills.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Facilitating and collecting a register of skills or 'Village Directory' that could be updated and published annually to help businesses and residents find local skilled people for employment.
- ✓ Creating a job vacancy board in the village shop and village website.



## Summary of Recommendations

This is a summary of the main recommendations and outcomes that the people of Hundon would like to see in the next five years. With appropriate supporting evidence for a need, the plan can have other actions added and will be overseen by the Parish Council and the proposed Action Plan Group.

### General Actions ...

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#### What we want

The Parish Plan is a living document that co-ordinates activity to provide a better way of life for the people of our parish.

#### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming a committee made up of Hundon residents, representatives of village organisations and representatives of the Parish Council in 2011 to initiate and oversee the Hundon Parish Plan.
- ✓ Consulting the village every 5 years and updating the village plan. Holding fund raising events and co-ordinating our efforts to ensure that the parish can fully benefit from external grants, as well as supporting new projects and existing organisations.

### Housing and Development

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#### What we want

To limit growth, retain our green spaces and ensure any future development is in keeping with the existing character of the village. In addition, although the majority (78%) said they would not be looking for new housing or skipped the question, the importance of affordable and sheltered housing to the 17% that do need it is such that it could not be ignored.

#### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Informing our councils, who should recognise our housing development preferences including the retention of existing green space. Hundon Parish Council will provide a local housing need and development plan for the next 10 years following open consultation with the parish.
- ✓ Pursuing and monitoring bi-annually affordable housing for both young and old, as part of the housing development plan to meet the future needs of the parish. It will include sheltered (wardened) housing in Hundon or in the wider locality.

# Summary of Recommendations

## Community Care

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### What we want

To organise new community events and give voluntary support, entertainment and skills to all.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Organising a number of new events such as a village fete, superstars or bonfire night, 'flicks-in-the-sticks'. A new organisation (possibly made up of representatives from existing clubs, societies and committees) should be set up to oversee such events for fundraising and enjoyment.
- ✓ Setting up a working group to explore and pilot a 'good neighbour scheme' with an associated register of volunteers and support networks.
- ✓ Exploring wider activities of the youth club, such as children's entertainment or 'flicks-in-the-sticks' for teenagers.
- ✓ Creating opportunities for adult education to increase skills, knowledge and employment.

## Our Church and Amenities

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### What we want

To sustain the church as a place of worship.

### How we can achieve this

- ✓ Encouraging and welcoming more people to our church.
- ✓ The Parochial Council to consider means by which our church can play an active role in the community.

## Public Transport

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### What we want

To improve access by public transport to the facilities provided by local towns.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Seeking a full review and impact assessment on public transport for children and adults in the rural areas of the Borough.
- ✓ Encouraging the local authority to review the need for a more frequent transport service between Hundon, Clare, Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill.
- ✓ Influencing the Local Authority to review and publish recommendations on the use and safety of double-decker buses in rural areas for school transport.

# Summary of Recommendations

## Community Health and Healthy Living

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### What we want

To improve access by public transport to the facilities provided by local towns.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Instigating a prescription collection and delivery service to the village shop.
- ✓ Supporting champions to set up appropriate facilities for healthy recreation. For example: keep fit; table tennis and badminton.
- ✓ Exploring the potential and cost for community transport for access to health care.

## Information and Communication

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### What we want

To receive interesting and factual information on the news, activities, services and recreation within the parish and adjacent communities.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming an editorial support group as part of the Hundon Herald to strengthen support from readers to help source articles from within the parish and neighbouring communities.
- ✓ Forming an editorial group to work with the Hundon Herald and the Village Website to develop an annual fact sheet for existing residents and a 'Welcome Pack' for new residents.
- ✓ Providing Internet training to parishioners to provide and allow improved purchasing and access to communication and information.

# Summary of Recommendations

## Roads, Traffic and Anti-Social Behaviour

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### What we want

To be proactive in reducing anti-social behaviour and take on collective responsibility to reduce crime and improve safety in our parish.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Reviewing current 'neighbourhood watch' schemes to investigate if any new areas need to be set up in the parish. Making information on active schemes easily accessible for residents to see.
- ✓ Forming a residents group to work in conjunction with the dog warden and community police and initiate a proactive and hard-hitting campaign to drastically reduce incidents of dog fouling and litter in the village.
- ✓ Informing organisers of events and facilities around the village hall and playing fields that they will be responsible for any litter created from their activities. The Parish Council will locate new litter bins in strategic locations around the village and green spaces.
- ✓ Promoting the 'Adopt a Street' scheme where local residents regularly pick litter in their vicinity. More litter bins need placing in areas where litter is a habitual problem. The council should review the need for a paid litter picker in key areas if all else fails.
- ✓ Forming a residents group, under the direction of Clare community police to monitor and provide evidence of traffic speed and proactively make motorists aware of speeding. Repeat offenders or locations may require police intervention. The local council should review the need for speed warning signs in key locations within the village and surrounding communities.
- ✓ Seeking a sustainable solution to both safety and parking in the school vicinity through the parish council, school and highways department.
- ✓ Approaching farmers using 'banging' bird scarers near residential areas to encourage the use of alternative approaches.
- ✓ The Parish Council to review the state of our highways and roadside ditches in the Autumn and Spring and action is reported to the community.

## Utilities

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### What we want

To ensure that our services and utilities provide good value and are kept in good working condition.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Forming a group that will consider bulk purchasing gas, electricity and telephone following on from the success of the oil buying group.
- ✓ Reviewing the mains drainage and sewer systems in the village and communicate the findings to the parish
- ✓ Taking action to promote collective roadside responsibility so that problems are reported quickly and that road safety is maintained. A policy and clear action on gully and ditch cleaning both inside and outside the village should be documented and revisited on an annual basis.
- ✓ Reviewing both the location and the amount of time that street lighting is in operation.

# Summary of Recommendations

## Younger People

### What we want

Younger people need a 'voice' in the parish and "more things to do".

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Setting up a forum or youth council for younger people to express their views and concerns and report to the Parish Council every six months. The forum should make a sound business case for any proposed new ideas. For example, a skateboard park or zip wire.
- ✓ Ensure there is adequate financial support for the youth club and sufficient volunteers are recruited to ensure it continues as a successful entity. Members of the youth club should be represented on the youth council
- ✓ Funding the purchase of a projector and screen to support 'flicks-in-the-sticks'
- ✓ Making the astro pitch more accessible at no-cost or low-cost to younger people for games activities including netball and basketball.
- ✓ Considering the feasibility of a new 'older' children's playground for use by the school and the parish, with structures such as a roundabout or see-saw, zip wires, bigger slides and outdoor table tennis.

## Elected Representatives, Trusts and Emergency Services

### What we want

Our elected representatives, public bodies and emergency services demonstrate that Hundon is valued through improved communications.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Raising the profile of our emergency services through effective communication in the Hundon Herald and village website. An increased visible presence of community policing would ensure that there is an ethos of security and safety within the parish
- ✓ The Parish Council being more open on contentious issues and dialogue and debate should be initiated when possible contention is recognised. It should consider ways to increase effective dialogue with the parish. For example: Having an annual working plan or councillors having specialist areas of responsibility.
- ✓ Our member of parliament and local councillors reporting back to our Parish Council and Hundon Herald / village website on their activities for the year and their aspirations for the following year.
- ✓ The Rogeron Trust publishing a comprehensive review of its activities at least once a year. Encouraging new people onto the Trust to ensure that it adequately represents the community. It must clearly demonstrate democracy, transparency and leadership for a community asset. It should actively promote the uptake of grants to fulfil all the trusts objectives.



# Summary of Recommendations

## Caring for our Environment

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### What we want

We enjoy our countryside and want to protect our environment for future generations.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ The Parish Council, the parish plan working group and landowners should explore how more interesting circular walks and bicycle routes could be signposted.
- ✓ A working group is required to create a partnership with wildlife groups and explore how a survey of the parish could enhance our knowledge of our local countryside.
- ✓ Funding to facilitate bulb and wild flower planting in an 'adopt-a-street' campaign to make our parish even more attractive.
- ✓ Facilitating an action group to look at opportunities to increase the utilisation of renewable energy, increase household insulation, reduce household bills and reduce the carbon footprint of the parish.
- ✓ Creating a working group under the direction of the Parish Council to review and report on flood risks in the village and form an action plan to mitigate against future flooding on both roads and to protect property.

## The Allotments

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### What we want

We enjoy our countryside and want to protect our environment for future generations.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Opening consultation, facilitated by the Rogeron Trust with the parish, on both the provision of land for the allotments (including the supply of water) and the management and use of land surplus to immediate requirement.
- ✓ Creating an allotment association to facilitate the day-to-day running of the allotments and discuss promoting of new allotment holders and provision of a machinery sharing group

## Business and Employment in Hundon

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### What we want

Businesses and local employment are supported by recognising local skills.

### We can achieve this by

- ✓ Facilitating and collecting a register of skills or 'Village Directory' that could be updated and published annually to help businesses and residents find local skilled people for employment.
- ✓ Creating a job vacancy board in the village shop and village website.

## CONCLUSION

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This is the first study of its kind in Hundon. It seems strange that we know so much about the history of Hundon and so little of what we want in the future. Even though there are few surprises, the survey is important as it is a clear indication of the wishes of the people of Hundon.

We place the greatest value on our lifestyle, epitomised by our love of village life, its sense of community and being part of the countryside. The changes people most want are to enhance this, e.g. community orchards and woodlands; safer, cleaner roads and paths; more community events; good neighbour schemes and the like.

There is little appetite for Hundon to grow significantly. The majority want no growth or development limited to 100 houses. The largest proportion of any issue said that new buildings should reflect the style and character of the village.

To summarise, we want few changes to village infrastructure and the overriding requirement is to enhance our existing way of life by making it cleaner and safer, as opposed to further development. There is a substantial demand for more community cooperation and activities, but the overwhelming message is that we place the highest importance on our existing way of life and any proposed changes must be considered in the light of the impact they may have on this.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

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This is not simply a report. It is, as the name suggests, a plan for the future of Hundon and it must be put into effect. To achieve this, the Parish Council will be overseeing its implementation and an independent group will be set up to monitor and provide regular reports on progress. Given this, we should be able to look forward to seeing Hundon as a better and more fulfilling place to live.