

Little Hadham Parish Plan

Building a community in a scattered village





‘The government is prepared to give more power to local communities. If the powers of the parish council are to be widened, a new remit needs to be based on the known wishes and aspirations of people living in the community.

If we ignore this opportunity, we send out a signal that we don’t know what kind of community we want to live in, that we are content to let others decide for us, or that we don’t care. We can’t let that happen.

A parish plan is a road map for the way ahead. It will tell us what we think of our community, what improvements need to be made and what kind of place we would like Little Hadham to be in five to 10 years’ time.

It’s a great opportunity and one that we should grasp.’

- Message from the steering group at the meeting that launched the Parish Plan

Contents

1 SUMMARY: PARISH PLAN – AT A GLANCE	2
A summary of the main action points from our plan over the next five years	
2 LITTLE HADHAM – THE SUM OF THE PARTS	4
Introduction – how a changing village environment brought about the need for a Parish Plan	
3 LITTLE HADHAM TODAY	6
Profile of our community: its location, hamlets, characteristics, where people live, where they work and the impact of change	
4 THE PARISH PLAN – GIVING OUR COMMUNITY A STRONGER VOICE	8
The need; aims; how the parish plan was carried out; progress to date; next steps; parish plan survey results	
5 ACTION PLAN – QUICK RESULTS AND PHASED BUILD-UP	17
A flexible, ‘living’ plan that is achievable in terms of time and resources; early ‘wins’; the programme in detail: short, medium and longer term projects	
6 A BRIEF HISTORY OF LITTLE HADHAM	20
From the Iron Age to the Millennium Wood, via the Domesday Book, a Tower of London execution, and links with violins, coffins and the patron saint of music	
APPENDICES	
A Focus groups summary	22
B Steering group members	23
C Action Plan: implementation in three phases	24

Parish Plan –

1 SUMMARY

The main aims of the Parish Plan are to build community spirit in Little Hadham and to contribute to a strategy to guide the village forward during the next five to 10 years. It will only happen with the support of the whole village, so it is important to produce a plan that meets people's needs and one that is achievable in terms of timescale and resources.

The plan is therefore in three phases, summarised below. The first phase will enable us to show some quick results – to show that 'things are happening'. The medium and longer-term phases are designed to build momentum and create a plan that is sustainable. The plan has to be flexible to meet changing needs and circumstances – a 'living' plan.

The Parish Plan steering group, its advisers and the many members of our community who helped to create the plan believe that by supporting and implementing it we can make Little Hadham an even better place in which to live.



SHORT TERM (6 – 18 MONTHS)

A **Village Centre** linking Little Hadham Village Hall and the adjoining playing field. Installation of new play equipment and sports facilities; better access, seating and shelter, and proper signposting. The Parish Plan is being used to support a bid for nearly £50,000 to fund the new Village Centre.

A revamped **Ridgeway playground** as a recreation area for infants and their families.

A series of **community events**, starting with a summer fete, to establish the new Village Centre as a focal point and venue for regular events.

An improved **community newsletter** to signal the need for increased communication within the community.

A survey of **housing need**, in conjunction with the Parish Council via a community-wide questionnaire.

at a glance

MEDIUM TERM (1 – 3 YEARS)

A **Little Hadham website** to put the village ‘on the map’ and to further improve communication within the community.

An **‘Internet Café’** in the Village Centre to familiarise more people with computer technology and the internet – a chance for younger members of the community to share computer knowledge with their elders.

A printed **Village Guide** to provide information about Little Hadham; **Village Maps** to provide directions for visitors, and a **Welcome Pack** for newcomers.

A **By-pass Now** pressure group to accelerate plans for an acceptable A120 by-pass, with support of local residents and users of the main road through the village.

A **Youth Council** to provide young people in the village with more say, to encourage them to lobby the Parish Council and other authorities and to express their views through the newsletter and website.

A programme of **community events** in and around the Village Centre in which the whole village can take part.

Transport review including a possible **car-sharing scheme** and **bus service improvements**.

LONGER TERM (3 – 5 YEARS)

The first of a series of **Little Hadham Safaris** to ‘introduce’ each of the parish’s hamlets to the whole village – each one reflecting local history and characteristics and the interests of the residents. Novel modes of transport from the Village Centre to each hamlet will add to the fun.

Events to **‘make Little Hadham famous’**: an annual family orientated ‘spectacular’ such as an historical re-enactment or an annual classic car rally.

Looking to the future with a **Little Hadham 2030** exhibition in the Village Centre in which local school children take the lead to show how our community might look in 25 years – and what role the Parish Plan might play.



Ridgeway playground (facing) due for a revamp.
Above: Road safety is an issue, say our youngsters, pictured in a focus group.

2 Little Hadham – the sum of the parts

Why a Parish Plan? The need for a Parish Plan in Little Hadham is driven principally by changes in the lifestyle of our community. These changes have been brought about by both internal and external influences, the geography of the village, and the need to have a greater say in our own affairs at a time of major revisions in local government. More detailed background to the Parish Plan is given in chapter 4.

Once a traditional rural parish, Little Hadham today is typical of many villages on the edge of conurbations: a community that enjoys what is left of the rural idyll but under pressure from creeping urbanisation and the frenzy of modern living.

A changing environment inevitably impacts on community spirit and the feeling of ‘belonging’. Another potential influence is the physical closeness of the homes and places of work that make up a neighbourhood. However, in the case of Little Hadham, some of its hamlets are two or three miles apart, separated by open countryside. There are comparatively few facilities, and the village hall and the one pub provide the only obvious focal points.

Yet the experience of preparing this Parish Plan shows that there is a community spirit in Little Hadham, albeit somewhat dissipated by the scattered nature of ‘the village’ – a description that many take to mean the hamlet or part of the parish in which they live. Friendliness and community spirit are also among the main motivations for living here, according to the Parish Plan survey.



Above: Tudor architecture overlooks the war memorial. Planting out the Millennium Wood, and a familiar site at the A120 traffic lights. Facing: Little Hadham still enjoys rural pursuits.

As with most communities, there are those willing to embrace change, while others are content to leave things as they are. However, the Parish Plan survey and subsequent focus groups indicate that, overall, there is a wish to preserve the essential character of Little Hadham while recognising that we have to move with the times.

The Parish Plan addresses many issues facing us. It defines what kind of community Little Hadham is today; the things we like and those we would rather change; and it tells us something about our hopes and aspirations for the next five to ten years and beyond. As a 'living' plan, it will be under constant scrutiny and review with periodic updates and adaptation to meet changing needs. In that sense it is a 'first edition'; a foundation stone on which subsequent additions to the plan will be based.

Another role is to identify where more information is needed, such as a better understanding of future housing needs. This will be incorporated into the phased action programme (see Appendix C) as the need arises. For example, work to date represents the first steps towards developing, with East Herts Council, supplementary planning guidance that could influence the future shape of Little Hadham.

This first Parish Plan cannot tackle all the issues the community faces – for instance, long-term solutions to abiding problems such as flooding and the need for a by-pass. But it can highlight the problems and put into place the means by which we can begin to address them.

The plan must also be forward-looking and not anchored in the past or in the minutiae of today's problems and irritations. Its greatest challenge is to harness community spirit and to mould it into a stronger force for the benefit of the parish today and, most importantly, for future generations. If we succeed in doing that, there's little the community can't achieve.

The plan's success will depend on the willingness of residents of Little Hadham to volunteer their time and skills to make it a reality. Cheering from the sidelines (important though that is) and hoping that others will do the work will not be enough. Taking part must be rewarding as much for the enjoyment of joining in, as for the sense of achievement for a job well done.

If we succeed in making Little Hadham a better place in which to live – and we are determined that we will – our Parish Plan will prove the truth of the saying that the sum of the parts is indeed greater than the whole.



3 Little Hadham today

Little Hadham covers an area of approximately 12 square miles of East Hertfordshire (map, page 12). It is bounded by Bishop's Stortford to the east; Much Hadham, Widford, and Stanstead Abbots to the south; Standon and Puckeridge to the west; and Braughing and the Pelhams to the north. Its closest neighbour is the village of Albury.

The A120, which links the M11 and the A10, runs east-west through the northern end of Little Hadham. The village is 35 miles from Central London. The main links to the capital are the Cambridge to Liverpool Street railway line and the A10 and M11 trunk roads. Stansted Airport, which principally caters for budget airlines flying to Europe, and freight carriers, is located some seven miles from Little Hadham.

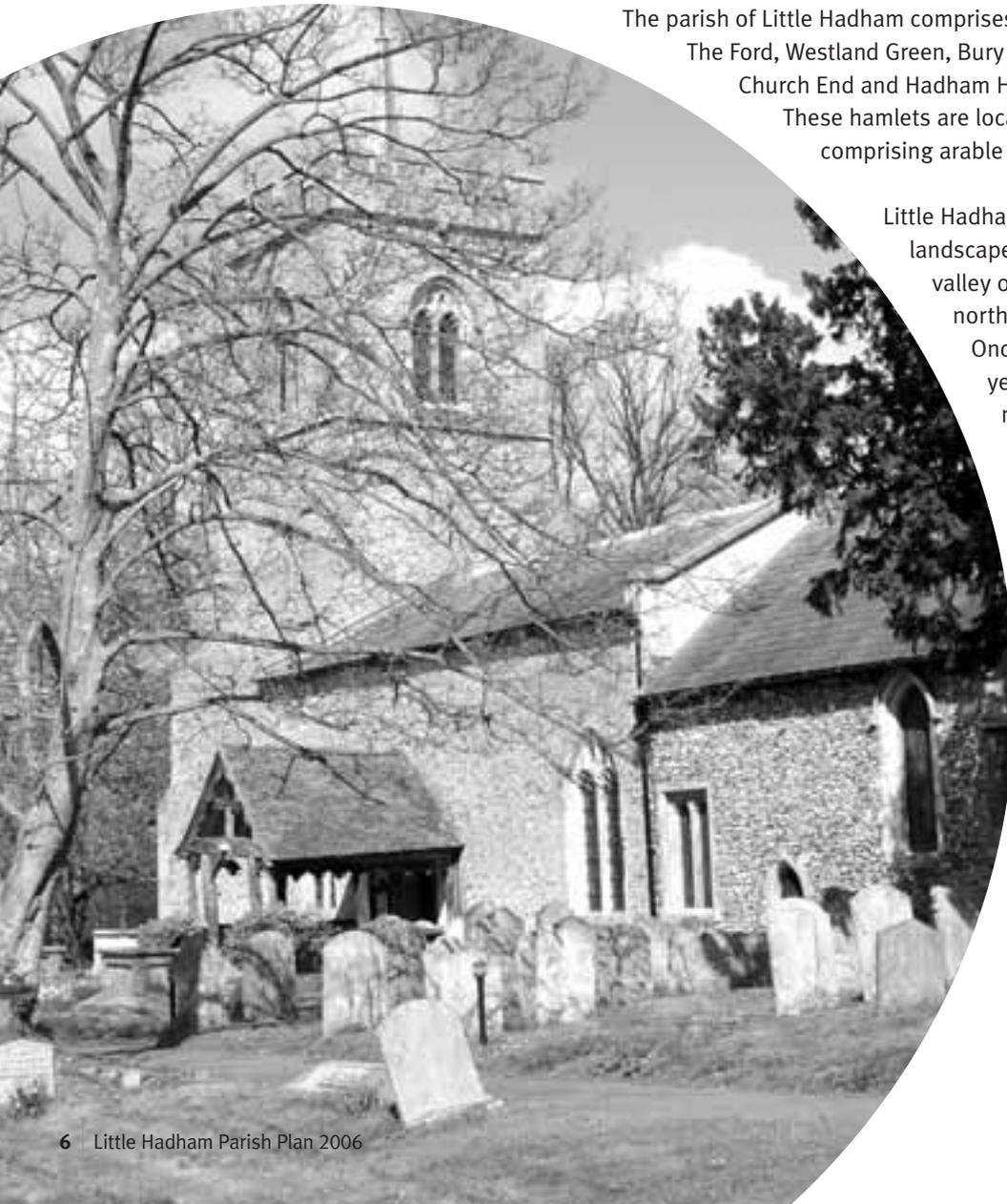
The village comes within the jurisdiction of East Herts Council (the planning authority) and Hertfordshire County Council (the highways authority). The county falls within the remit of the East of England Regional Assembly.

The parish of Little Hadham comprises several hamlets: The Ash, The Ford, Westland Green, Bury Green, Cradle End, Green Street, Church End and Hadham Hall (see map, page 12-13). These hamlets are located in a mainly rural setting comprising arable farmland and woodland.

Little Hadham enjoys a gently undulating landscape. The village lies in the valley of the river Ash that runs north-south through the village. Once a major waterway, in recent years the Ash has become little more than a stream with a tendency to flash flooding at times of peak rainfall during winter, and drying completely in summer.

The population of Little Hadham is approximately 1,100. There are about 450 houses in the village comprising mainly owner-occupied homes. Forty per cent are older houses and of these 30 per cent are listed. Seventeen per cent of homes are rented.

The parish church of St Cecilia (left). Facing: Bury Green (top) and Cradle End, two of several hamlets; Steward's Cottage at Hadham Hall; a busy Farmers' Market at the village hall.





The main industry is farming. Six families have farmed in the parish for two generations. Other businesses include a water bottling plant, two garages, one pub, an estate/land agency, stabling, veterinary practice, a marketing company, warehousing, and a part-time Post Office. The Parish Plan questionnaire shows that a significant number of people run small businesses from home ranging from graphic design, consultancy and catering to building, plumbing and garden maintenance.

Little Hadham Village Hall is a busy venue for meetings and events including an annual pantomime, meetings of local organisations, badminton, bowls, dog training, karate and the monthly Little Hadham Farmers' Market. It also houses a doctor's surgery and the Post Office and is the centre for a meals-on-wheels service, which has been run by volunteers for many years.

However, like many villages in East Hertfordshire, Little Hadham is undergoing considerable change. How that change gave birth to the idea for a Parish Plan is dealt with in the next chapter.





4 The Parish Plan – giving our community a stronger voice

IDENTIFYING THE NEED

Three main factors drive the need for a parish plan in Little Hadham:

- Changing lifestyle in a village community
- The geography of the parish and its scattered hamlets
- The need to have a greater say in our own affairs

CHANGING LIFESTYLE

Little Hadham's rural setting is one of the principal reasons why people choose to live in the village or want to move to it from urban areas. However, Little Hadham has ceased to be a purely rural parish reliant on agriculture and countryside pursuits.

The village itself is afforded protection under the District Plan from large-scale building – unless the planning authority is over-ruled by Government. But like many rural communities, Little Hadham is under threat from many directions:

- The knock-on effect of development in the surrounding area including housing expansion in and around Bishop's Stortford, the likelihood of further housing north of Harlow, road building programmes, and future impacts arising from the East of England Plan
- The consequences of airport expansion. Little Hadham lies directly under the busiest flight path out of Stansted Airport where traffic could grow from 22 million passengers a year to 80 million over the next few years if a second runway were to be given the go-ahead. The skies could become even busier if plans for major expansion of Luton Airport go ahead. The Parish Council has vigorously opposed airport expansion
- The abiding problem of the risk of flooding from the river Ash. Historical photographs show that deluge from our local river is nothing new but it is a problem that successive river authorities have failed to solve
- Growing congestion and speed on some of our roads – particularly the A120. Apart from hold-ups at the traffic lights at The Ash, one consequence is rat-running through the hamlets of Cradle End and Bury Green by traffic avoiding congestion on the main road
- Changes in population within the village itself resulting in shifts in lifestyle and aspirations. Comparatively few people are now engaged in agriculture and rural industries. A significant number work from their homes in Little Hadham, pursuing a wide variety of careers but most travel to work outside the village or commute to London, Cambridge or surrounding towns

In summary, Little Hadham is a village going through a transition from a rural community to a dormitory town in a rural setting.

Hadham Hall, the source of much local history (above). Facing: The rural setting of Westland Green and the Millennium Wood at Bury Green.

With a highly mobile population, busy lifestyles and reliance on business and leisure interests outside the village, it becomes increasingly important to build and sustain community spirit – but all the harder to achieve. Community spirit is what makes the difference between living in a place and merely being there.

GEOGRAPHY

With its scattered hamlets, Little Hadham could be described as a loose federation of several small ‘villages’. Whether in a business or a domestic context, people’s loyalty tends towards their immediate ‘home territory’ – in this instance, the hamlet or settlement where they live.

The opportunity afforded by the Parish Plan is to define the characteristics of Little Hadham’s several parts – the differences as well as the similarities – and provide the cement that binds the whole community more closely together.

GREATER SAY

As part of major governmental changes taking place locally and regionally, the Government says it wants to devolve more power to communities. The Parish Plan has identified people’s views on a wide range of local issues and puts forward suggestions for improving life in the community and preserving those aspects that give Little Hadham its unique identity.

The Parish Plan should therefore provide the Parish Council with a stronger mandate in its dealings with district and county councils as well as regional and central government agencies. There is already evidence from other communities that views expressed through a parish plan can influence policies in key areas such as housing and wider aspects of planning. In at least one case, the parish plan has been adopted by the planning authority as supplementary planning guidance, and that remains an ambition for our own plan.

AIMS

Little Hadham Parish Plan has five principal aims:

- To build a stronger community spirit across the whole parish
- To identify aspects of life in Little Hadham that residents want to preserve and those they would like to change – and provide the means to do so
- To build a contemporary profile of Little Hadham in order to provide a context for the Parish Plan and a benchmark for future comparison
- To contribute to the Parish Council’s strategy for the village for the next five to ten years and thereby strengthen the council’s mandate and its authority with different tiers of government and with other stakeholders
- To create the financial and manpower resources – and the enthusiasm – to carry out the plan on a manageable and realistic timescale

HOW THE PARISH PLAN WAS CARRIED OUT

The notion of a Parish Plan was conceived from discussions in the community led by the Parish Council and through consultation with the Community Development Agency (CDA) for Herts (Hertfordshire’s Rural Community Council), and Aston Parish Plan Group, one of the pioneers of parish plans in the region.



Key events included:

- A **public meeting** attended by more than 200 parishioners in November 2003, which gave an overwhelming vote in favour of creating a Parish Plan. The results were announced at a 'mini poll' conducted as part of publicity to attract people to the meeting. It acted as a curtain-raiser for the full-scale poll to follow. Some 30 residents volunteered to help the Parish Plan process. The meeting was addressed by representatives of the CDA, East Herts Council and Aston Parish Plan Group. The original concept was to produce a joint Parish Plan with neighbouring Albury but subsequently they decided to produce their own separate plan.
- Formation of a **Parish Plan steering group** drawn from different districts in the parish and with varied skills and interests.
- Submission of the **Parish Plan grant application** in March 2004.
- **Feedback** to the community at the annual parish assembly in April 2004. Copies of the application were provided for inspection plus a plan of action for distribution of the Parish Plan questionnaire. Supporting material included maps, details of village organisations, an exhibition of local history and the results of a brainstorm among pupils of the local primary school who portrayed their 'wish list' in the form of pictures.
- Award to Little Hadham of a **grant of £3,160** by the Countryside Agency (subsequently administered by Rural Action East) in July 2004 to prepare the Parish Plan.
- **Parish Plan questionnaire** drafted by the steering group and designed by University of Hertfordshire Business School. A separate version was designed to seek the views of children in two age groups. The questionnaire was piloted before being distributed and collected by teams of street stewards in November 2004. More than 60 per cent of households responded.



- **Results of the Parish Plan questionnaire** provided at the annual parish assembly in April 2005. Volunteers were invited to take part in focus groups.
 - Series of **focus groups**, facilitated by CDA for Herts, took place during the summer of 2005:
 - Community: how to build community spirit
 - Getting around: transport issues in Little Hadham
 - Housing: development and housing need
 - 'Crystal Ball': ideas session
 - Youth group: what the village needs for young adults
 - Children's group: what the village needs for young children and parents

Outcomes from the focus groups are summarised in **Appendix A**.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The need to involve the community both in terms of participation and feedback has been paramount. One challenge was to convert enthusiasm and support at public meetings into volunteering and active involvement on working groups, managing the questionnaire process, and taking part in focus groups. This required considerable personal contact by members of the steering group, which succeeded in getting the necessary support.

It was agreed it would be crucial to chalk up quick ‘wins’ when the plan was implemented as evidence of results.

The community has been engaged in the Parish Plan process through door-to-door leaflets, posters, regular updates in the Parish News and at Parish Council meetings. Personal contact, publicity and the offer of refreshments helped to achieve good attendances at public meetings and focus groups. The steering group worked hard to reach out to the younger generation.

PARTNERSHIPS

Our principal partner has been the CDA for Hertfordshire. We have also had advice from the Environmental Planning Team at East Herts Council and Aston Parish Plan Group and have liaised with the neighbouring parish councils of Albury and Braughing over their respective parish plan and design statement. Letters of support for our grant application were received from six local organisations as well as the Benefice of Little Hadham with Albury, East Herts Council and Hertfordshire Constabulary.

PARISH PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Parish Plan steering group began with 11 members. Its composition has changed as a result of personal commitments although a core of eight members has remained. Others have been recruited and several participants in the focus groups have been identified as future members of the steering group or potential co-opted members because of particular expertise or enthusiasm for the project. Current members of the steering group are listed at **Appendix B**.

PROGRESS TO DATE

In addition to stages successfully completed (How the parish plan was carried out, page 9) and production of this Parish Plan document, the main progress to date has been to launch the concept of a Village Centre (summarised in 5 Action Plan, page 17).

This would be the first quick ‘win’. The Parish Council, via CDA for Herts, has submitted a bid for almost £50,000 to Biffaward for the refurbishment and re-equipping of the playing field adjoining the village hall as a major investment towards creating a new community centre in Little Hadham.

The Parish Plan has been instrumental in the bid by demonstrating that a Village Centre responds to one of the principal needs highlighted by the Parish Plan, and the fact that a fund to kick-start the project has already been established.

The Parish Plan has demonstrated that the process itself is capable of stimulating a steady flow of ideas to benefit the community. For example, the panel of residents asked to review drafts of the plan, which already contained outputs from focus groups, were inspired to come up with additional suggestions. These included sharing experience with neighbouring villages that have already successfully run ‘open house’ type events; setting up buying clubs to bulk-buy fuel oil and other household needs; cost-sharing with another village on purchases such as mobile speed cameras; and a range of suggestions for additional facilities in the Village Centre including a village shop or range of small retail units – all worth exploring further.

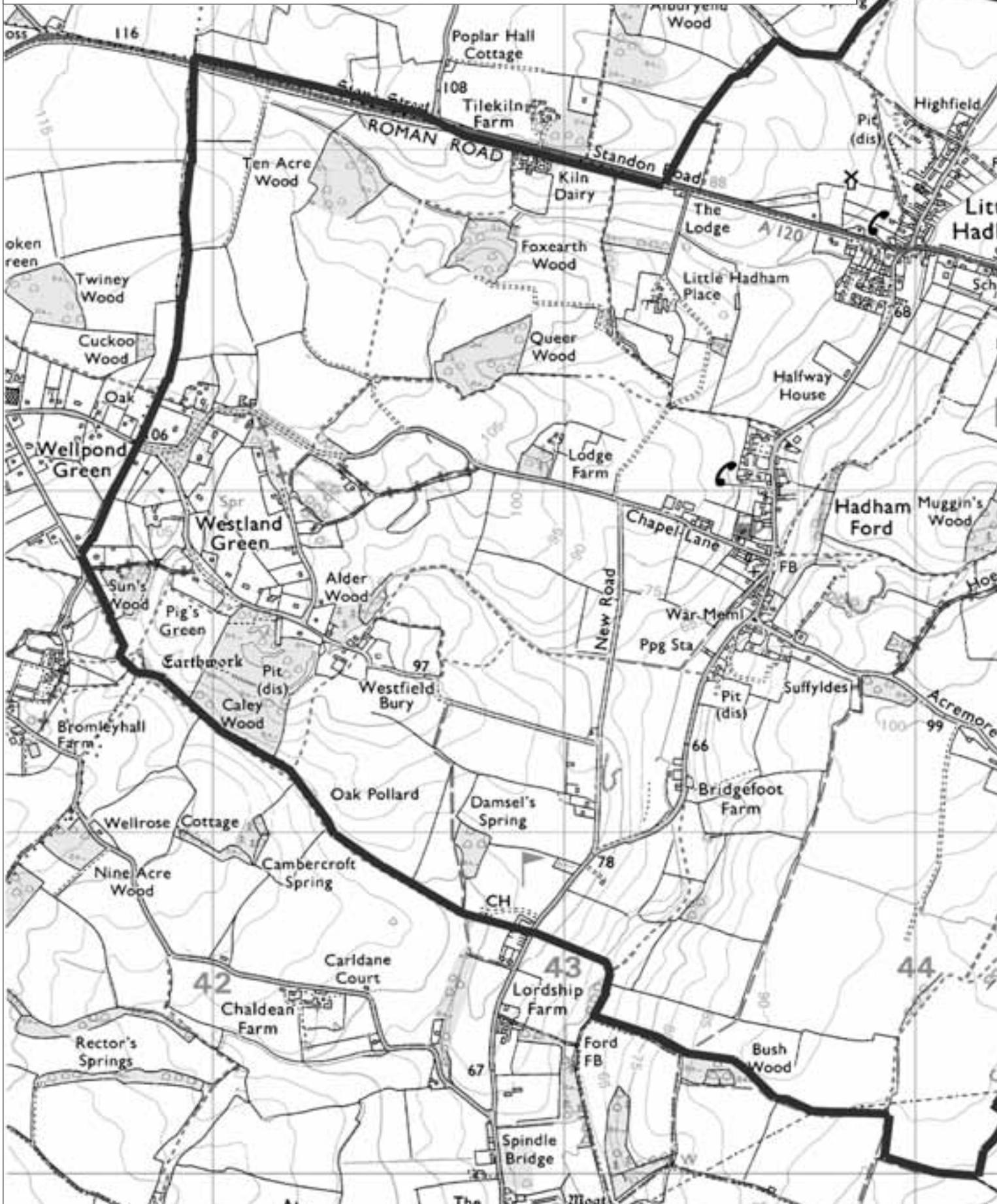
Residents thought that the introduction of more activities and facilities in the village hall – a snooker club was one suggestion – would have the added advantage of increasing the proportion of bookings by the immediate local community.

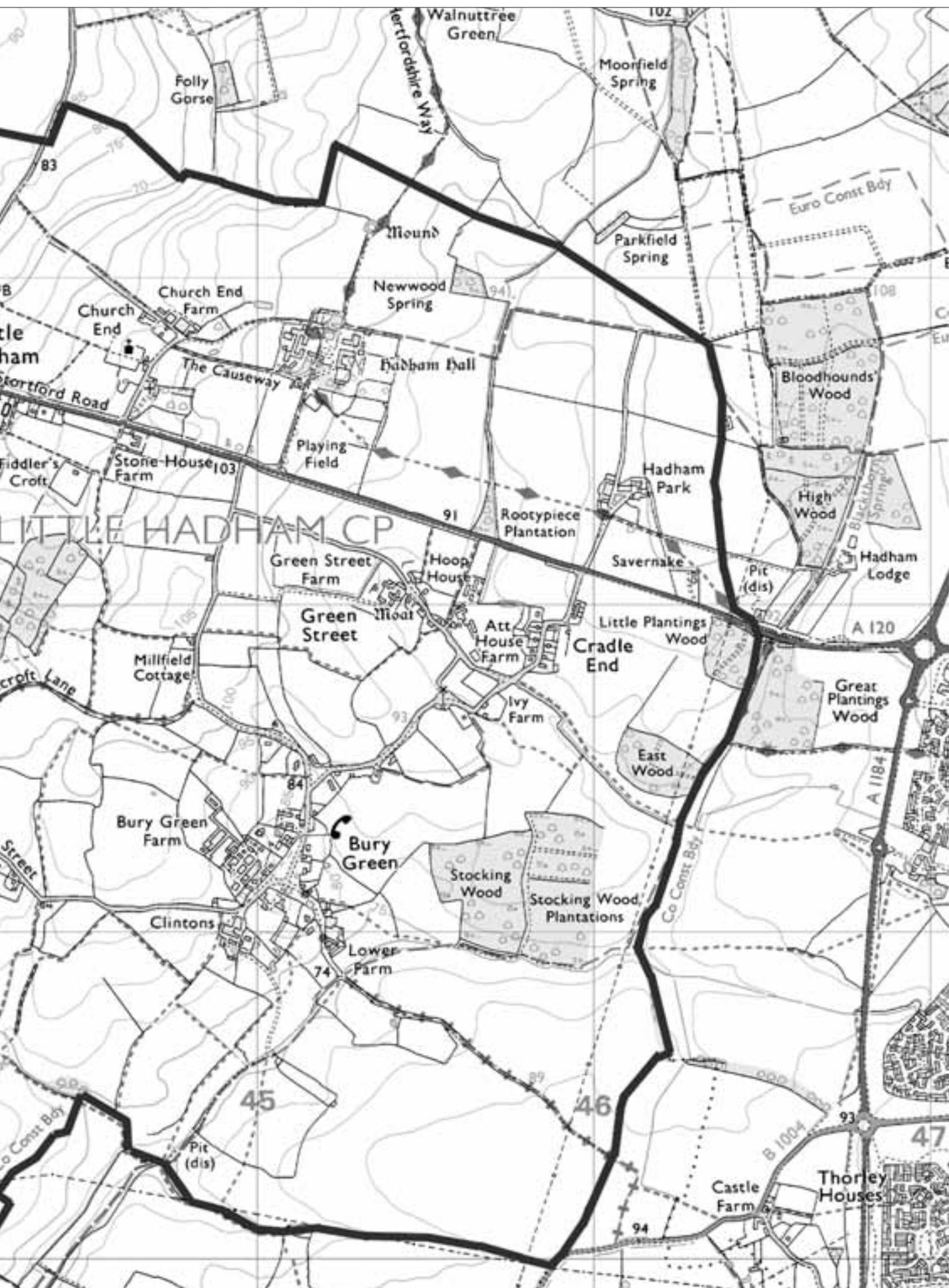


Facing: One of several focus groups to develop ideas from the questionnaire. Above: Farming still dominates much of the landscape. The village enjoys a network of footpaths and bridleways.

We're on the map

The parish of Little Hadham, outlined by the solid black line, showing the several hamlets that make up the village. The considerable distance between them makes it harder to sustain community spirit.





TEAMS TO MAKE THE PLAN HAPPEN

The impetus of the Parish Plan must now shift from the steering group to the community who will carry it out. Each project will require a team of volunteers, with a project leader, to develop each proposal and prepare a scheme to implement it. The steering group will help in this process, including acting as a channel to external sources of advice and assistance.

The Parish Plan survey showed that members of the community have an enormous range of skills, talents and interests. Everyone has time constraints but we hope that the promise held out by the Parish Plan will encourage most residents of Little Hadham to 'sign up'.

Regular progress reports on the implementation of the Parish Plan will be provided through periodic public update meetings, reports at Parish Council meetings, through the Parish News and, ultimately, the village website.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

These are the next steps towards putting the Parish Plan into action:

- **Public meeting** on 22 June 2006 to launch the Parish Plan following its publication
- Distribution of **Parish Plan summary** to each household in Little Hadham and via local organisations, and full report to partners and stakeholder organisations
- Setting up of **project teams** comprising project leaders and volunteer members, from June 2006 onwards
- **Feedback** to the community on progress and any revisions to timetable (see Appendix C), from June 2006
- Commencement of **Village Centre** project: from the summer of 2006



MEASURING SUCCESS

How will we know if the Parish Plan is succeeding? The first successful event in the newly opened Village Centre and the launch of the Little Hadham website would be tangible results and valuable in their own right. However, these are not what the parish plan is principally about. Such events would be a means to a more important: end achieving the five principal aims set out on page 9, in particular the building of community spirit.

To measure achievements against those aims in a meaningful way would be difficult – and certainly expensive if tackled through formal research. Relying on hunch or 'how people feel' is not very satisfactory either.

The Parish Plan steering group believes the simplest and most effective way is to use the outcome of the Parish Plan questionnaire and focus groups as a benchmark and, each year, update the information with a short and simple questionnaire to all households asking them to 'score' progress against the five aims. The combination of this informal research, better communication and greater participation in village activities should provide a reasonably reliable gauge of whether we are 'getting there'.

PARISH PLAN RESULTS

More than 60 per cent of households in Little Hadham completed the Parish Plan questionnaire. It was drafted by the Parish Plan steering group with advice from the University of Hertfordshire Business School who designed the final version. The questionnaire was trialled and refined before distribution. More than 300 completed questionnaires were returned.

A junior version was created for children in two age groups – 5 to 11 and 12 to 16 – and more than 80 completed questionnaires were received.

The main questionnaire was analysed by the University and the junior version by the steering group. These are the principal findings:

MAIN SURVEY

Profile of households

While some residents have lived in Little Hadham for most or all of their lives, the average period of residency is just short of 20 years. A significant percentage of households have moved to Little Hadham in the last ten years. Most have come from neighbouring towns, especially Bishop's Stortford – three times the number from London. It seems people want to move to the country or remain in a rural environment. One-third of residents are 55 and older; the largest age category is 35-54; children to age of 11 account for 16 per cent of the population.

Employment

There appears to be an entrepreneurial spirit in Little Hadham, with around one-third self-employed, and 16 per cent of respondents – with a range of 30 different occupations – running a business from home. Around 60 per cent work locally in Hertfordshire and Essex and 30 per cent in London.

Transport

Little Hadham residents depend on the car: for every one who uses the bus for work or shopping, 10 go by car. People don't walk or cycle much except for leisure. Those who are satisfied and dissatisfied with the local bus service are about equal. There is demand for more buses at weekends and in the evening. People would use buses more if the service improved. Most households have two cars, and 11 per cent of vehicles are parked in the street. The C15 (Hadham Road), which runs through the village, and the A120 towards Bishop's Stortford are the busiest roads. There is considerable concern about rat-running through Bury Green and Cradle End.

Education

A surprisingly large number of schools and colleges in the area – 50 in total – are attended by local children, the most popular being village schools in Little Hadham, Albury and Much Hadham.

Housing

Some 40 per cent of homes in Little Hadham are older houses and of those, almost 30 per cent are listed. Only seven respondents have a house with their job and 17 per cent of homes are rented.



Opening of a new and brighter Key Stage 2 library at the primary school (facing), and spring in bloom in Green Street.



A bustling Farmers' Market brings visitors to the village.

Local Organisations

Membership of local organisations is low – more than 100 respondents do not belong to any organisation. However, the Gardening Club and Neighbourhood Watch get good support and Little Hadham and Albury Social Club has grown in popularity. While commercial services like the Post Office and the Farmers' Market are well patronised, the mobile library and mobile police station are visited by comparatively few residents.

Facilities

The doctors' surgery and other medical care get top rating, as does refuse collection. Our Police service is rated as average or good by less than one-third, but nearly half say they have not used it. Lack of facilities for young people was one of the criticisms mentioned most often, reflecting the junior survey (below).

Local information

The Parish News, delivered free to every household, and the grapevine are the main sources of information. Nearly 70 per cent have internet access but most say they can live without it.

The appeal of Little Hadham

The rural environment is the top reason for people living here, followed by 'friendly place' and 'community spirit'. Proximity to work is more important than proximity to London. Rising property value is not especially important but lack of crime is. Threat of airport expansion and associated traffic are the biggest worries. Urbanisation, local roads (especially the A120 traffic lights), speeding, crime and flooding are high on the worry list.

Housing and development

Nearly half of respondents support the case for low-cost homes, but reserved for local people. There is support for limited infilling and concern about the scale of development at Bury Green. Most oppose industrial development.

JUNIOR SURVEY

Activities

Little Hadham has few formal activities for youngsters. In addition to Brownies, the Young Ones drama group and karate, children take part in the village pantomime and various activities at the primary school, but these are overshadowed by a wide range of interests outside the village, covering music, sport, dance and other pursuits ranging from chess to Spanish lessons. Of the two playgrounds, the Ridgeway is used mostly by younger children living nearby; the playing field adjoining the village hall is used by children of all ages and from a wider catchment area.

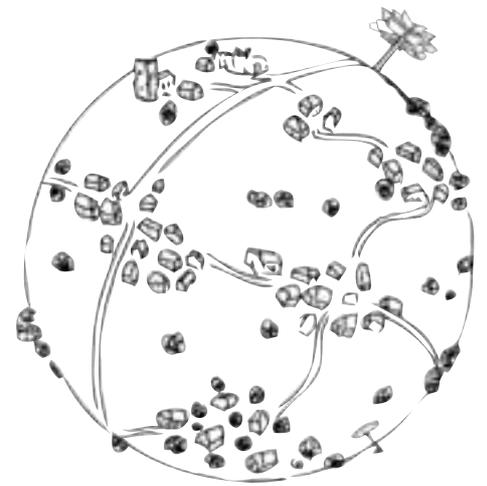
The good and bad things

Views reflect many aspects of the adult survey: children like the peace and quiet of living in the countryside but dislike busy roads and the frustration of the A120 traffic lights. They miss shops and some feel isolated from friends. Older children especially lack things to do. Planes, flooding and 'grumpy people' were among other grouses.

Wish list

Suggestions range from practical improvements to existing facilities, such as tarmac under the basketball net, to better facilities for teenagers. Invited to give rein to their imagination, young respondents favoured a shop, youth club, Beavers and Cubs, a theme park and a 'guided tram tour' of the village.

5 Action Plan – quick results and phased build-up



Our Parish Plan is intended to be less a study of what is right and wrong with the village – although that is an essential starting point – but more an action plan to build on the strengths and rectify the shortcomings.

A prerequisite is a Parish Plan that is achievable both in terms of resources and timescale. We have therefore divided the action plan into three phases in order to demonstrate quick results as well as to build a momentum that is sustainable.

There must also be a good ‘fit’ between the Parish Plan and local planning. Our plan provides the first raft of information that, in time, could be developed into criteria capable of being adopted as supplementary planning guidance by East Herts Council.

Ours is designed to be a ‘living’ Parish Plan – nothing is carved in stone. Like any good plan where people and lives are concerned, it has to be flexible in terms of what happens and when. This means that some projects may be moved between phases once the project team has been appointed. So, while the strategy remains constant, the execution must be capable of adapting to the needs of the people whose lives the plan affects, as well as reflecting the resources – financial and otherwise – available to carry it out.

Our hope is that the plan will raise expectations – even excite – by demonstrating that it can make a positive difference and encourage the people of Little Hadham to take part and make it happen.

The success of one of the earliest and biggest projects – the Village Centre – is dependent on substantial funding. Much hope is pinned on a successful bid for a Biffaward community grant. In the event that we are unsuccessful, the project team would need to apply to other sources of funding – a task made easier by the fact that the planning has already been done – or scale back the size or timing of the project and look for more of a ‘DIY’ solution.

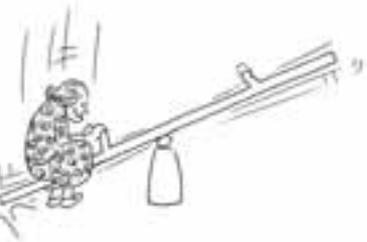
Implementation of the plan is summarised in **Appendix C**.

SHORT TERM (QUICK RESULTS) – SIX TO 18 MONTHS

- The creation of a **Village Centre** based around Little Hadham Village Hall and the adjoining playing field. The idea is to unite in a more co-ordinated way two existing facilities that, between them, have the potential to appeal to more people in a wide age spectrum. The scheme will not require a huge physical change. The village hall and playing field already enjoy a common boundary but a new, shared gateway at the existing entrance will help to give the Village Centre a presence and sense of place. Better signage and notices of forthcoming events will make the total space more user-friendly. The biggest change will be the way in which the centre is promoted and used.



- The **playing field** will be rejuvenated with new play equipment and sports facilities. Seating, pathways and the lowering of perimeter hedging will make it more accessible and safer. This part of the project has already been kick-started by a seeding fund set up by the Parish Council, which enabled a bid to be made for a substantial donation towards community regeneration.
- Re-opening of the **Ridgeway playground** as an extension of the Village Centre. It would become a play zone designed mainly for infants and young children, open to mothers and toddlers from the wider parish. Refurbishment and provision of new equipment would be paid for out of funding from the Village Centre and from fund-raising within the community. A shelter could be provided for parents supervising the children.



Note: The Ridgeway playground was provided as an amenity principally for nearby residents, in the same way that the playing field adjoining the village hall was created following the building of new housing in The Smithy and Lloyd-Taylor Close. In practice, both recreation areas are open to the whole community and one aim of the Parish Plan is to improve and make better use of the two facilities. One question raised by the Parish Plan is whether two playground areas are affordable and sustainable. Remedial work and short-term improvements to both playgrounds will shortly be under way, paid for out of a fund created by the Parish Council. The extent of the final scheme will depend on our success in bidding for funds from external sources and the community's fund-raising abilities. These will be issues for the project team who volunteer to implement the proposals in this document.

- The staging of the first **community event** to bring people together, to launch the Village Centre (above) and to demonstrate its potential as a regular activity venue. The first event will be a summer fete. This should appeal to everyone and enable each local organisation and service provider to have a presence. A programme of regular events is planned for the Village Centre – examples might be a bonfire night, wine tasting or themed banquet.
- An expanded **Parish News** to reflect the activities – and opinions – of all who live and work in Little Hadham. The aim is to develop the newsletter with the help of advertising support. This would be one of the main means of providing feedback to the community on Parish Plan progress.
- A **housing survey**, carried out jointly with the Parish Council and possibly incorporating elements of a design statement, by means of a community-wide questionnaire. The results could eventually inform supplementary planning guidance adopted by East Herts Council.



MEDIUM TERM – ONE TO THREE YEARS

- A Little Hadham **website** to improve and speed up communication within the community and to help put Little Hadham 'on the map'. The need could be met by a stronger presence on The Hadhams website, by creating a page on existing websites that serve rural communities or a dedicated Little Hadham site, building on the fact that a high percentage of the village population has access to the internet and that the computer is a basic tool for the many who run businesses from home.
- To facilitate the setting up of a Little Hadham website, an '**Internet Café**' in the village hall. Initially, this would be run as an occasional series of 'workshops' to introduce people to the village website and to 'break the ice' for those less familiar with computer technology. This would enable younger, computer-literate members of the community to share their knowledge with their elders. We would look to members of the community with computer skills to act as trainers, with technical support – and perhaps sponsorship – from local IT companies.



- Further improvements to communication with publication of a **Village Guide**, the erection of **Village Maps** in key locations and a **Welcome Pack** for newcomers. The Village Guide could include ‘walking history tours’ of varying duration taking in various topographical points of interest, developed in conjunction with CDA for Herts.
- Launch of a **By-pass Now** campaign to pressure the local authorities to support plans for a Little Hadham A120 by-pass and to fully consult with residents about routes. The plan would include formation of an action group to enlist the support of the community as well as car and lorry drivers affected by major hold-ups on the A120 through the village. Specialist advice would be needed to provide guidance on planning and environmental considerations. The campaign reflects concern about the impact that this trunk road is having on the village, and in particular on the village school.
- The setting up of a **Youth Council** to give young people in the village a voice in local affairs. The council would be set up and run by young people with guidance from mentors from local organisations and the Parish Council. The Youth Council would be invited to attend meetings of the Parish Council to lobby members and to contribute to the Parish News.
- A continuing programme of **community events** based around the Village Centre. The fete planned for the summer of this year could become an annual event with different themes or special attractions such as a junior gymkhana, dog show and ‘outdoor activity’ exhibition – some of which might qualify as stand-alone events.
- A review of local transport services including the possibility of a **car-sharing** scheme and exploring improvements to **bus services** in conjunction with CDA for Herts, Herts County Council Passenger Transport Unit and service providers. Publication of a local timetable (also published in the Parish News and Village Guide – see above) would also be examined.



LONGER TERM – THREE TO FIVE YEARS

- The start of a series of **‘Little Hadham Safaris’** in which each of the hamlets that make up the parish hosts an event to ‘introduce’ their particular area to the rest of the village. Each event would reflect the traditions, diversity and activities of the people living there, local history and other points of interest. Residents with swimming pools, tennis courts or a horse manege could offer these facilities to participants with appropriate supervision. A feature of each ‘safari’ – of which there could be one or two a year – would be novel modes of transport from the Village Centre to the area of the village hosting the event.
- As someone remarked during one of our focus groups, “We need to **make Little Hadham famous.**” Once a year, on the same weekend, Little Hadham would stage a major event with wide family appeal, capable of attracting visitors to the village as well as entertaining its own residents. The event could either be repeated each year or a new ‘spectacular’ created each time such as a historical re-enactment, a sporting event or a concert linked to St Cecilia’s Day at the parish church.
- **Little Hadham 2030** – an event staged in the Village Centre in which the community creates an imaginative exhibition portraying Little Hadham in 20 years’ time. From farming, leisure activities and policing to schooling, sport and the environment, it would be an opportunity for local organisations – especially Little Hadham Primary School – to project forward to the year 2030 and identify what contribution the Parish Plan could make. Children could give rein to their imagination – whether or not their ideas were feasible or affordable!



6 A brief history of Little Hadham

The first recorded settlement in what is now Little Hadham dates back to before the Iron Age. The name Hadham is of Anglo-Saxon origin and is derived from Hadda's Ham, a settlement founded by Hadda, an Anglo-Saxon chieftain. The present A120 that runs through the village follows the course of Stane Street, a major Roman road, which linked Londinium (London) to Camalodunum (Colchester) via Braughing.

Little Hadham is mentioned in the Domesday Book, when there were two manors: one held by the Bishop of London and the other by the Abbot of Ely. The medieval village was centred on the area of Church End, around the twelfth century parish church of St Cecilia and Stone House Farm. The settlement in the area of the Ash and the Ford dates from the beginning of the sixteenth century.

Much of the village life revolved around the Hadham Hall estate, which has a long and chequered history. About 2000 years ago the site was settled by the Catuvellauni, one of the Belgic tribes that led the Celtic resistance to Julius Caesar.

In 1066 William Baud accompanied William of Normandy when he invaded and conquered England and is recorded in the Domesday Book as Lord of Hadham in 1086. He built the first Hadham Hall, a wooden structure on a two-acre moated site. In 1440 a brick built hall was begun, which partly occupied the site of the present Hadham Hall. The hall was demolished around 1572 by Henry Capel. In 1578 Queen Elizabeth I was entertained in the new hall.

Arthur Capel, Lord Hadham, was a fervent supporter of Charles I. While the king was commanding Royalist supporters in Colchester, Arthur Capel was captured and held in the Tower of London where, after a failed escape, he was beheaded – one month after the king. In 1666 Charles II awarded to the new Lord Hadham the title Earl of Essex, which is still held by the present head of the family – a retired teacher living in Manchester.

In 1900 Hadham Hall was bought by William Minet, a merchant of Hugenout extraction, who restored it as a country home. In 1949 the hall was sold to Hertfordshire County Council and in 1952 it became the county's first comprehensive school. It closed in 1990 and is now occupied by private residences.



A wedding at the turn of last century in the Congregational Chapel; and Houghton's, the village general store.



Susan Minet, the last owner of Hadham Hall, was a keen supporter of the village primary school, built in 1861 as a church school. Located on the A120, today its outer shell houses a well resourced school with a twenty first century commitment to education while retaining a village school ethos. In Chapel Lane, half a mile to the west, and adjacent to the Congregational Chapel is the room that housed the village's second school run by the British and Foreign School Society. The school closed in the 1870s.

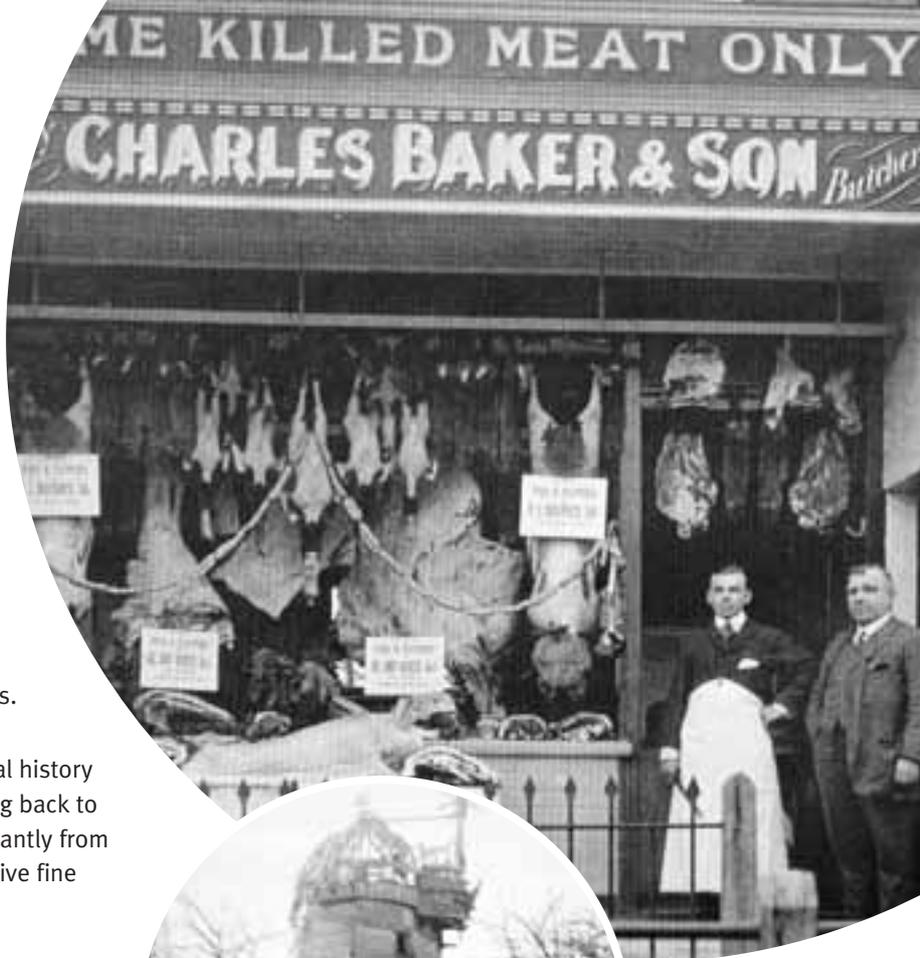
Little Hadham has a fascinating archaeological history including evidence of a pottery industry dating back to Roman times. The industry developed significantly from the third century with production of a distinctive fine grey and orange burnished ware.

The parish church of Little Hadham is dedicated to St Cecilia, the patron saint of music, and dates back to the 12th century. The Capels of Hadham Hall installed its triple-decked pulpit in 1633. A tomb inside St Cecilia's is the resting place of Lord Capel, and in the churchyard is a memorial to Captain William Harvey who accompanied Captain James Cook on his circumnavigations.

Most of the earliest properties in the village date from the sixteenth century – and many have a fascinating history. Mill House in Albury Road was the site of the remaining smock mill in the district. Ford House had its own brew house. Manor Farm House has wall paintings dating from the time of James I. Houghton's was the village general store; Fiddler's Croft was owned by a family of violin makers; Hadham Place, on the Standon Road, was owned by the descendants of Jane Seymour, third wife of Henry VIII; Brook House on the Albury Road was once a maltings; and May Cottage and adjoining Gouldburn were the home of the local coffin maker.

The village saw many changes in the twentieth century. In the early 1950s Little Hadham had four public houses, a Post Office, five shops, a garage, a police house, a library, primary school and secondary school, and a full-time doctor's surgery. Today it has no shop, one public house, a primary school, two garages, a mobile library and a village hall that provides a meeting place, entertainment and a venue for a Farmers' Market, becomes a Post Office twice a week and a doctor's surgery three times a week.

In 2000, Glaxo Wellcome, who at the time owned Bury Green Farm, and the Little Hadham parish created The Grove Millennium Wood off Millfield Lane, Bury Green, a sanctuary for wildlife and the discerning walker.



Little Hadham used to boast five shops such as this butcher's at The Ash; the remains of a windmill at The Ash; the days before tractors; an early scene of flooding; and celebrating the Queen's Jubilee.

Appendix A – Focus groups summary

A total of six discussion (or focus) groups took place during the summer of 2005. The aim of getting between eight and 10 participants in each group was achieved despite the clash with summer holidays. This reflected not just the hard work of the steering group in drumming up interest and support but the willingness of people to take part. Most welcomed the opportunity to 'have their say'.

The groups were facilitated by CDA for Herts, which contributed to greater objectivity.

There was, inevitably, some overlap since many topics touched on aspects of community spirit, and hot issues such as flooding and congestion on the A120 cropped up continuously.

Predictably, most debate centred on current issues; it was more difficult to encourage participants to think about the future. Because it was going to be easier to get participation from those who regularly take part in community activities, special effort was put into recruiting 'new faces' and those new to the parish. Apart from any outcome, participants enjoyed the groups as a social occasion and as an icebreaker.

The biggest single issue to emerge was a declining sense of 'community' in Little Hadham and the difficulty that many people have in finding the time or the enthusiasm to contribute to life in their village. For younger members of the community, the lack of things to do was the prime concern. On the other hand, there was no shortage of suggestions to solve the problems and a clear indication that with the right stimulus people could be persuaded to become involved in the solutions. The Parish Plan was acknowledged as a potential catalyst in this process.

The following is a summary of each group.

COMMUNITY

Four main issues emerged from this group. **Lack of community spirit** in Little Hadham is partly down to insufficient events to foster 'togetherness'. There is a need for a 'welcome pack' for newcomers, activities that bridge the generation divide and an annual event such as a village fete in which everyone can take part.

We need to **overcome apathy**, which stems from lack of time due to work and other commitments, and a lack of neighbourliness. Some newcomers feel they don't 'belong'. The group acknowledged that overcoming apathy would require effort but that solutions were readily available such as better communication and wider use of the village hall.

The village lacks a **hub** or 'heart' in a social as well as a physical context. The pub alone is not a sufficient village 'hub'. The group thought lessons could be learnt from Little Hadham Farmers' Market, which is successful commercially but also makes a valuable social contribution.

Communication could be improved through an enhanced newsletter, building on the success of the existing Parish News but making it more ambitious with advertising support. Better use of notice boards and flyers should be considered and the possibility of a Little Hadham website explored.

CRYSTAL BALL

This 'ideas session' covered similar ground to the Community group and in this way provided helpful confirmation of over-riding issues – for example, focusing on the need for greater use of the **village hall** as a community 'hub', particularly to encourage residents of 'outlying' hamlets to visit more frequently. This might involve improvements to the village hall and expanding its scope, for instance by adding retail units offering local produce and crafts.

The need for greater **community pride** was another issue with a plea for more attention to be paid to the appearance of the village including grass verges and the cutting of grass in the playing fields and at Bury Green. The limited steps to date towards recycling were endorsed with the suggestion of more kerbside recycling.

The group wanted to acknowledge the historical significance of houses in the parish and called for a **design statement** to be either incorporated into a later stage of the Parish Plan or at least to have the need flagged up. Note: A design statement is a record of distinctive features that characterise the village including building styles and architecture. Its aim is to enable residents to influence their environment. A design statement can make an important contribution to supplementary planning guidance, adopted by the local authority.

GETTING AROUND

Problems created by congestion on the A120 through Little Hadham, especially at the traffic lights, was a recurring theme in the focus groups. The Getting Around group proposed the formation of a **by-pass pressure group** to accelerate the building of a by-pass by lobbying local authorities and the Highways Department and gaining support from vehicle user groups including the Road Haulage Association. It was noted that parents have taken their children away from the local school because of congestion on the A120.

An 'access only' solution to **rat-running** in Bury Green or access restricted at peak times should be considered.

Safety was also a concern with suggestions for better signage and flashing signs to cut vehicle speed.

Better **bus services** were proposed with suggestions for demand-responsive transport, a local (Little Hadham) timetable and a feasibility study into the idea of a mini bus to connect the parish's various hamlets.

The state of **footpaths, cycle paths and pavements** – in particular the route to the local primary school – came in for criticism. These should be improved and then promoted with organised walks and excursions.

Car sharing schemes were also floated, acknowledging high car ownership and residents' dependency on cars.

HOUSING

The most controversial discussion centred on **housing need**. The Parish Plan questionnaire showed that while most people were opposed to development, the largest group – 46 per cent – supported the idea of low-cost homes for local people. After an explanation of housing need surveys, there was a lively debate on issues such as the ability of local services to support more housing, eligibility, and design. The view was expressed that if low-cost homes were built, a condition should preclude their sale for profit as had happened in the past. By a majority of eight to five, the group voted against the idea of a housing needs survey in Little Hadham.

The outcome was subsequently discussed at length by the Parish Plan steering group, which felt that the focus group had not sufficiently considered the issue in the long term and from the perspective of the wider community. It is widely accepted that Hertfordshire is under considerable pressure from Government to accommodate more housing. The steering group's view was that without a housing needs survey the parish would be exposed to the risk of having a housing solution imposed upon it.

A housing needs survey would also be an important contribution to a design statement, which was one of the ideas to emerge from the Crystal Ball group – see above. Both of these projects would provide information to feed into supplementary planning guidance that could be adopted by the planning authority. As a result of these further deliberations, the issue of housing need will be referred back to the Parish Council with a recommendation to carry out a survey as part of our Action Plan – Short Term phase.

YOUNG PEOPLE

This focus group demonstrated that our young adults have a highly responsible attitude towards life in the village as well as a fairly clear agenda for making life more enjoyable for their age group. They valued the opportunity for discussion to the extent that one participant expressed surprise that more hadn't attended (nine were present).

At a practical level, they sought **improvements to facilities** in the main playing field such as a tarmac surface under the basketball hoop and more regular grass cutting in the football area.

On a more ambitious note, they would like to see the return of a village shop – possibly by means of extending facilities offered by the part-time Post Office – although they accepted this might be a commercial non-starter.

There was further confirmation of the need for **more things to do**, with support for new playing field attractions such as a skate park, a system for sharing such a facility with other villages or at least identifying where skate parks existed outside the village.

Reflecting adult concerns, the group worried about **dangerous roads** and poorly maintained footpaths, which discouraged cycling.

Questioning revealed a generally **poor level of knowledge** about facilities that already exist, such as the Millennium Wood. The group discussed the idea of youth events in different parts of the parish to spread awareness of existing facilities, trialling the idea of a youth club, and making young people's views known to the Parish Council. There was also support for capitalising on familiar technology such as mobile phones and computers to improve communication within the community.

CHILDREN

Younger children and their parents echoed the views of the youth group with complaints that there was too little to do in Little Hadham and concern about safety on the roads.

On the latter, it emerged that some parents have taken their children away from the local primary school because of the difficulties and frustrations of coping with heavy traffic on the A120. Tyre marks across grass verges indicated the traffic risks to pedestrians. The group wanted speed reduction measures, safety barriers and eventually a by-pass to tackle the problems.

Younger children would appreciate the opportunity to join more **group activities**.

Appendix B – Steering group members

The following are current members of the Parish Plan steering group (at June 2006):

Paul Barnes Resident of Little Hadham for 10 years, signalling and telecommunication engineer for Docklands Light Railway.

Mike Fairchild Chairman, vice-chairman of Little Hadham Parish Council. Committee member of Stop Stansted Expansion, retired public relations consultant and former journalist, lived in Little Hadham 12 years.

Tom Feather Lived in Little Hadham since 1964, taught agriculture and horticulture and was housemaster at Hadham Hall School. Little Hadham Recorder, parish councillor and member of village hall management committee.

Karin Green Resident of Little Hadham for 16 years, committee member of Little Hadham Gardening Club, runs her own garden maintenance business.

Cherry Mardell Lived in Little Hadham for seven years and before that in Much Hadham for 30 years. Wife of local farmer, former journalist and lecturer.

Bruce Martin Resident of Bury Green for 46 years, vice-chairman of Bishop's Stortford Civic Society, engineer, architect, industrial designer, lecturer, and author.

Tony Skidmore Chairman of Little Hadham Parish Council, non-executive director of NHS Trust, resident for nine years in Little Hadham, school governor.

Sue Wilson McMahon Solicitor and managing partner in law practice, lived in Little Hadham for seven years, mother of one. Treasurer of Little Hadham flood forum.

Appendix C – Implementing the action plan

Short term (six to 18 months)

PROJECT	DETAIL	PARTNERS	TIMING	BUDGET	PROJECT MANAGER
VILLAGE CENTRE	Village hall playing field: Restore existing play equipment Install new equipment & sport facilities Seating and shelter Ground improvement & paths New shared gateway with village hall Signage and notice boards Promotion of events	LH Village Hall Mgt Committee LH Parish Council Village hall user groups Parents (all)	Start: Jun 2006 Finish: Dec 2007	c. £50,000 Note: Village Centre project is the subject of bid to Biffaward (decision date: Jun 2006)	Paul Foreman
	Ridgeway playground: Restore existing play equipment Install new equipment Shelter, fencing, seating	Ridgeway parents	Start: Jun 2006 Finish: Dec 2006	(As above) Note: £8,000 committed for first phase improvements to both playgrounds	Tracey Northcote
COMMUNITY EVENT	Village fete: to launch concept of Village Centre	All village organisations Parish Council LH Primary School Local businesses (sponsors) Local media	Sep 2006	Target profit towards Village Centre funds: £1,000	Parish Plan steering group
PARISH NEWS	Expanded and supported with advertising	Village organisations Parish Council Advertisers	June 2006	Self funding through advertising	Jan Finn
HOUSING SURVEY	Community-wide survey in conjunction with Parish Council to include elements of design statement	East Herts Council Parish Council Community groups	October 2006	Contribution to be sought from EHC or other sources	Tony Skidmore

Medium term (one to three years)

PROJECT	DETAIL	PARTNERS	TIMING	BUDGET	PROJECT MANAGER
LITTLE HADHAM WEBSITE	Dedicated LH website (or page on existing website) to improve village communications and other activities	Project managers for other activities Youth Council Parish Council Website designer	2007	TBA	Bev Evans
'INTERNET CAFÉ'	Workshops held at Village Centre to launch website and promote benefits of internet	Project managers, local 'trainers' and partners for website	2007	Sponsorship to be sought from local computer/software firms/service providers	Mike Fairchild
VILLAGE GUIDE & MAPS	A printed guide to the village and permanent village maps in four locations: Village Centre, village pump, Bury Green/Cradle End, Westland Green	Parish Council East Herts Council Local businesses (sponsors)	Summer 2007	Paid for by sponsors	Hilary Davies Karin Green
WELCOME PACK	For newcomers to village: Letter of welcome from Parish Council and local organisations; calendar of events; Village Guide; list of key emergency and other telephone numbers	Editor of Parish News Project manager for Village Guide Parish Council	Sep 2006	£75 pa (25 copies @ £3 each)	Hilary Davies
'BY-PASS NOW' CAMPAIGN	Action group to accelerate A120 by-pass and consult on routing	Parish Council LH Youth Council Road Haulage Assoc LH organisations Residents LH Primary School Media	From summer 2006	Initial starter fund (stationery, postage flyers, posters etc): c. £2,000	Andy Morris

Medium term (one to three years) *continued*

PROJECT	DETAIL	PARTNERS	TIMING	BUDGET	PROJECT MANAGER
YOUTH COUNCIL	Council to provide a 'voice' for young people, set up and run by youngsters, invited to participate in Parish Council/Parish News	Mentored by local youth organisations and Parish Council	Sep 2006	Administrative costs (est. £150) paid for by Parish Council	Kate Pay
COMMUNITY EVENTS	First events to be selected and organised at Village Centre: eg junior gymkhana, dog show, outdoor activity event	Local organisations Parish Council Special interest groups	TBA in 2007	Each event should be designed to be self-liquidating in cost, any profit donated to Village Centre funds	Cherry Mardell
REVIEW OF TRANSPORT	Explore improvements/additions including local bus timetable and car-sharing scheme	CDA for Herts, HCC Passenger Transport Unit and service providers	From Sep 2007	N/A	Paul Barnes

Longer term (three to five years)

PROJECT	DETAIL	PARTNERS	TIMING	BUDGET	PROJECT MANAGER
LITTLE HADHAM 'SAFARIS'	Series of events hosted by hamlets to 'introduce' each area to wider village. One or two such events in 2007/8. Novel modes of transport from Village Centre.	Residents of hamlets Parish Council Village organisations	From Sep 2007	Self-liquidating cost through tickets, sales etc.	David and Celia Nubel
'MAKE LITTLE HADHAM FAMOUS'	Annual family-orientated event to 'put LH on the map' eg: Historical re-enactment Open air concert/pantomime	All project managers plus professional event organisers	2009	TBA	Parish Plan steering group
LITTLE HADHAM 2030	Village Centre event to anticipate LH in 20 years' time	LH Primary School Parish Council All project managers	2010	TBA	Liz Stockley

Acknowledgements

Preparing the Little Hadham Parish Plan has been a community effort with strong support from partner organisations. We would especially like to thank the following:

The Countryside Agency
 Rural Action East
 Community Development Agency (CDA) for Hertfordshire
 East Herts Council
 Aston Parish Plan Group
 University of Hertfordshire Business School
 Nigel Pay (illustrations)
 Chris Fairchild (photography)
 Tom Feather (archive material)
 Hilary Davies & Mark Gentry (production & design)
 The residents of Little Hadham who completed the questionnaire, attended focus groups and contributed time and ideas.



'If we succeed in making Little Hadham a better place in which to live – and we are determined that we will – our parish plan will prove the truth of the saying that the sum of the parts is indeed greater than the whole.'

June 2006

© Little Hadham Parish Plan is produced by the Little Hadham Parish Plan steering group in collaboration with Little Hadham Parish Council. All rights reserved. June 2006.

