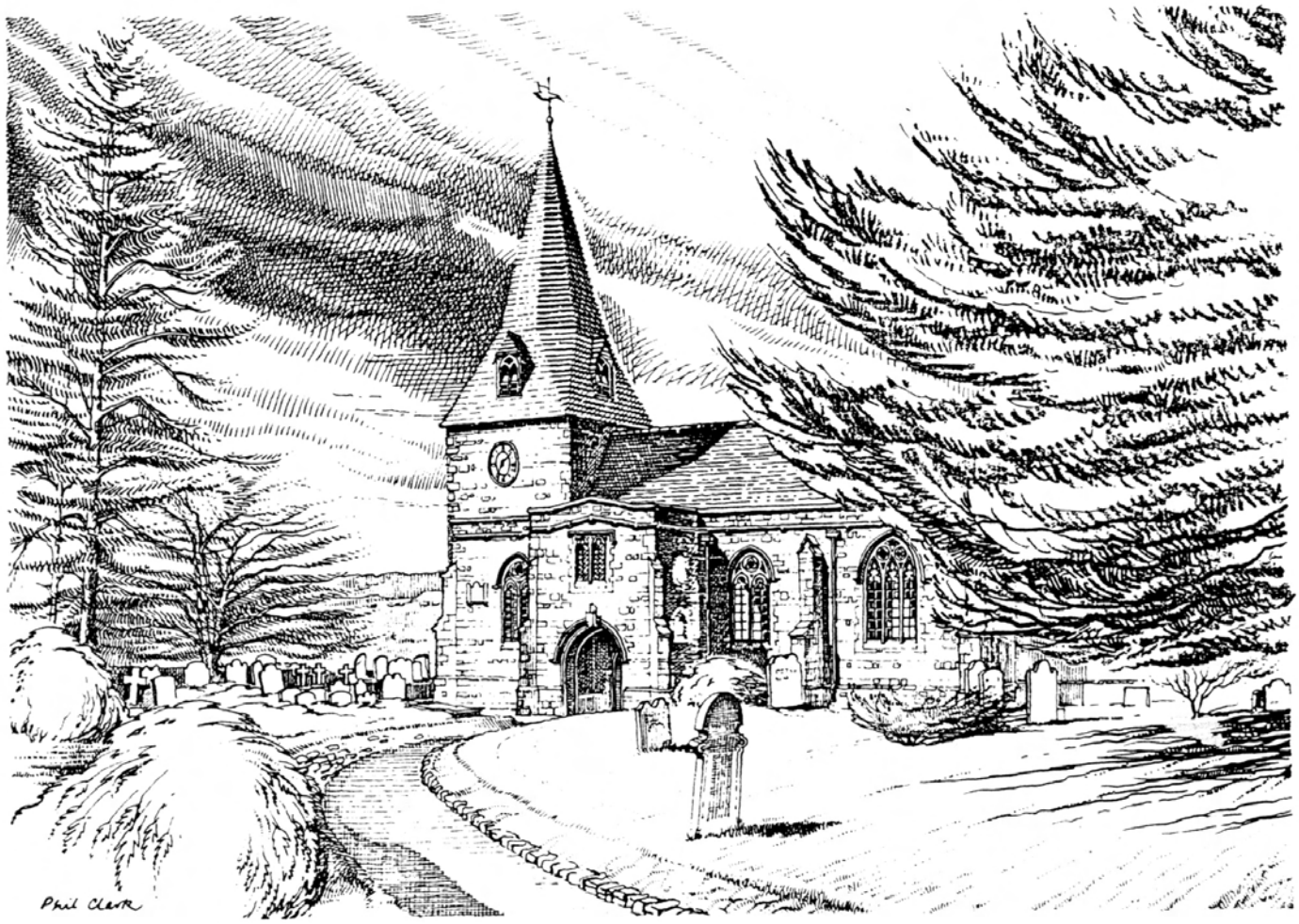
East Farleigh Village Plan 2009



The Ancient Parish Church of East Farleigh

Alms House, Workhouse Lane

East Farleigh Village Plan

Adopted by the Parish Council at a meeting on 12 May 2009

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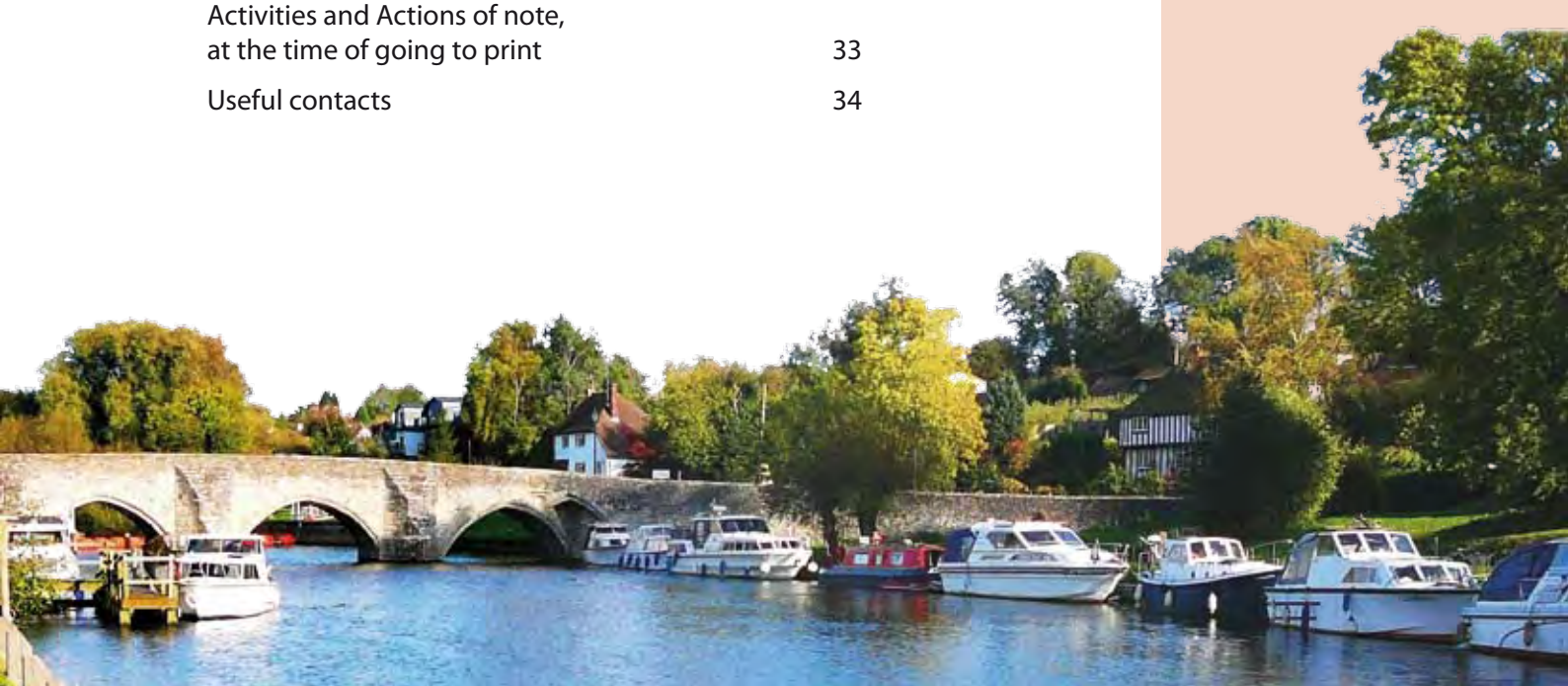

‘Whilst the village has expanded somewhat during the last fifty years, it remains a pleasantly rural environment in which to live’

Introduction

1

What is a Village/Parish Plan?

A Village or Parish Plan is a vision of how the local community wishes to see itself developing over the next few years; it is a document which is based on a consultation exercise with all sections of the community.

- It reflects the views of all sections of the local community
- It identifies which features and characteristics local people value
- It identifies local problems and opportunities
- It spells out how residents want the community to develop in the future
- It prepares a plan of action to achieve this vision

The concept of the Parish Plans grew out of the Government's Rural White Paper "Our Countryside – the Future" in November 2000. This led to the introduction of the Rural Strategy 2004, encompassing a vision of sustainable communities which balance economic, social and environmental interests

The next stage of the process is for an Action Plan to be written and agreed which achieves the vision set out in this Village Plan.

How the Consultation happened

In February 2008 the first Village Plan meeting was held in The Bull and the entire village was invited. Attendance was encouraging and a draft questionnaire was discussed.

After several changes it was circulated to all homes and businesses in the community. Response was good with 60% of the questionnaires completed and returned.

Once the questionnaires had been analysed, volunteers were again called for to discuss the results. Several meetings took place which then led to an exhibition of results and ideas late in January 2009. The comments on these ideas from the exhibition were collated and added to the questionnaire results.

Collectively they then formed the consultation basis for the Action Plan in this document. The plan was collated and further meetings took place to ensure the planned publication was a true reflection of the information collected.

This document is the result; a vision that, as a village, we can be proud of and which will establish guidelines as to how the community would like to see East Farleigh develop.

What happens next

An action group will be formed to work with various authorities to action where possible the ideas for action on page 13. If you would like to be involved in this group please contact Glyn Charlton on 727117 or email glyn.charlton@btinternet.com

"...A Village or Parish Plan is a vision of how the local community wishes to see itself..."

The view from Forge Lane

Workers at a Farleigh hop farm

Some notable dates

1899 - The first gas lamps appear in the village; on the bridge and Farleigh Hill, Tovil.

1844 - The Medway Valley railway line opens.

1903 - Mains water is first supplied but only to the lower part of the village.

1920 - Mrs Maconochie donates land in Vicarage Lane for use as a recreation ground.

1925 - Maidstone Corporation investigates the possibility of supplying electricity to the village.

1938 - Refuse collection begins.

1963 - East Farleigh parish council loses Coxheath which forms its own parish council.

1980 - The village is connected to mains drainage.

1991 - 'The end of an era' Hop farming finished in East Farleigh an association that dates back to at least 17th century

1992 - The first speed limit in the village was introduced in Lower Road, following a hard fought campaign by the Residents Association in liaison with our M.P. the Police and KCC

The Village Plan Group

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Peter Beasley	Ian Bruce
Glyn Charlton	Elaine Colman
Andy Dagger	Barbara Dagger
Eric Percival	Jamie Shelford
Penny Spearman	Pat Sowerby
Bruce Sturdy	Julie Tidey
Terence Quinn	Alan White
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And others

With grateful thanks for their time and contribution

Further acknowledgements

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East Farleigh Parish Council and Action with Communities in Rural Kent for Funding

Maidstone Borough Council for maps

Delivery Team for questionnaire and leaflet delivery

Lee Tidey, Peter Beasley, Barbara Dagger & Glyn Charlton for village photographs

Alex Grundy for FLAG Fete Photographs

Parents for photograph on page 9

Brian Hegarty and the History Society for the History

Phil Clark for the sketches of East Farleigh

Compiled by Glyn Charlton and written by Elaine Colman

Introduction to East Farleigh

The village of East Farleigh lies on the south side of the River Medway, about two and a half miles south west of Maidstone.

It is comprised mainly of clusters of homes and farms spread across the valley, from the highest point down to the river. Many of the older buildings are constructed using the local Kentish rag stone that lies beneath the soil.

The river itself meanders slowly through the village and during the warmer months is used for leisure purposes by boats and anglers. In the winter its mood can change and the water can be seen roaring across the weir and churning its way to the sea.

Historically East Farleigh is linked with the brewing of fine English ales. The fields in the area were used to grow hops and many Londoners spent the late summer here, hop-picking. Some of the hop-pickers' huts can still be found close to the river off Station Hill. Nowadays the fields are mostly used for fruit growing.

Today, East Farleigh has a successful, non denominational, primary school which Ofsted describes as 'a good school with a number of outstanding features'. The village has a 12th century church, which is situated in the centre of the village and conservation area. East Farleigh also has a selection of public houses, a railway station offering service from Strood to Paddock Wood via Maidstone and a bus service to Maidstone and Yalding.

Whilst the village has expanded somewhat during the last fifty years, it remains a pleasantly rural environment in which to live, offering as it does a look and feel of the England of old, yet thriving in the modern world.

A Brief History of East Farleigh

The Medway Valley has been occupied from ancient times and many Palaeolithic tools have been found in Coxheath. Quarry Wood camp (once part of East Farleigh), in Loose, was a late Iron Age oppidum, or proto-town constructed around 40BC which would have served the typically dispersed villages and farmsteads of these times although no Iron Age roundhouses have been discovered in the parish, to date.

In Roman times, villas and temples were spread along the banks of the Medway and archaeological investigation is currently underway on what appears to be a dwelling and several farm buildings just off Lower Road. In Roman times, the quarry off Dean Street produced rag stone for London's buildings and walls as well as the shore forts

of Reculver and Richborough and it has been suggested that the Roman farm in East Farleigh provided food for the workers in the quarry. Roman pottery and coins have been discovered in several sites throughout the village and two cremation urns have been found in Gallants Lane.

In 961, East Farleigh manor was given by Queen Ediva, the mother of King Edmund, to Christ Church Canterbury. Following the conquest, the manor is listed in the Domesday Book and was held by Bishop Odo of Bayeaux (also Archbishop of Canterbury), William's half-brother. Mention is made of 110 villagers and slaves, (but probably only counts the men of the parish), 4 mills, 6 fisheries producing 1200 eels pa, woodland for 145 pigs and a church. In the Domesday Book the village is called Ferlaga; usually translated from Saxon as "the way of the passage" (over the river) or from Gaelic as a "clearing in the woods (or grass, or alder)". By 1300 it is referred to as Fearnlega in the Book of the Church of Rochester and on a map of 1575 as East Farly.

In about 1120, The Normans rebuilt the Saxon church; all that remains of the original is a little tufa stonework on the outside of the north-west corner. The tower was added in the 12th century and the aisles in 1835.

The medieval bridge is said to be the finest in Southern England. Although it is unsure exactly when it was built, the earliest known mention of the bridge dates from 1324. General Fairfax crossed Farleigh Bridge on 1st June 1648 to outflank the Earl of Norwich whose Royalist troops were camped on Penenden Heath. Significant numbers of cannon balls have been recovered from the area surrounding the bridge together with a handgun (now lost). Trenches dug on the Barming side of the bridge produced many bones of men and horses as well as a canon which was kept outside the Victory pub for many years. It is clear that there was Royalist opposition at the bridge but Fairfax reported the crossing was relatively easy. The subsequent Battle of Maidstone was one of the fiercest fought of the civil war starting at 7pm and finishing at midnight in St Faith's churchyard with the Royalist surrender.

The old Post Office

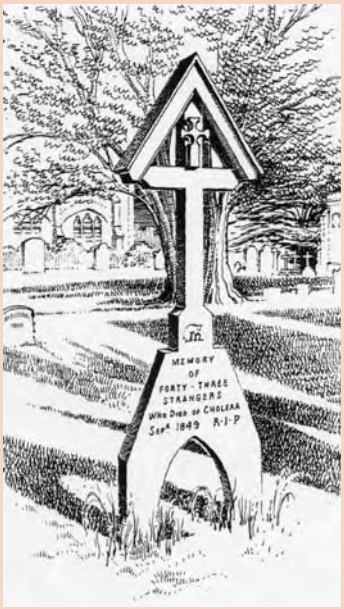
Farleigh Bridge

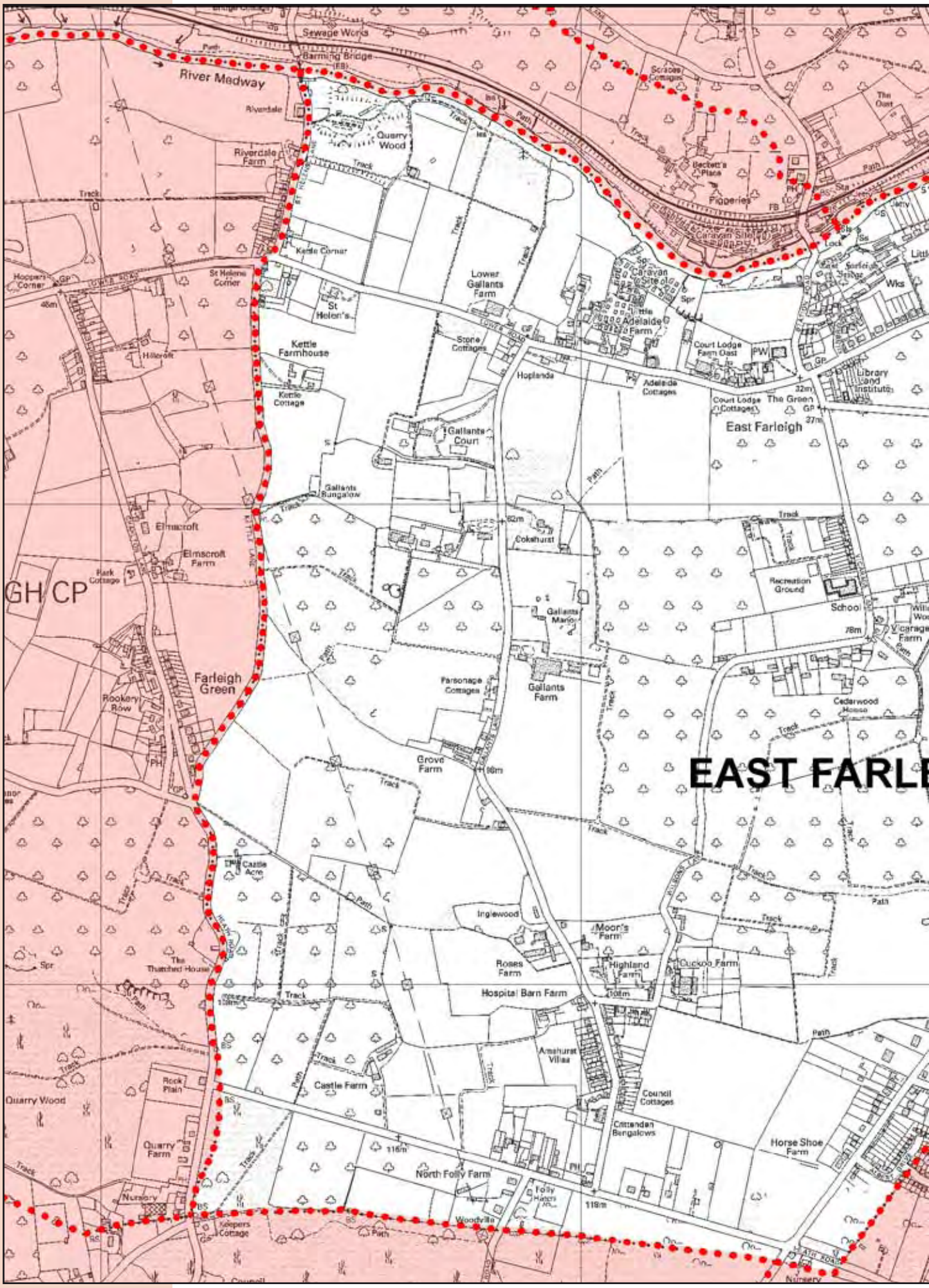
In 1801, the population of the village was 642. Over the next 30 years it more than doubled to 1,461 and on to a peak of 1,668 in 1881. This increase in population matches the increase in hop production which the tythe map of 1841 shows covered 25% of all land in the parish (40 years before peak production). The last village oast house ceased working in 1977 and today no hops are grown in the parish. In 1849, an outbreak of cholera among the hoppers resulted in 45 deaths, 43 of whom are buried in a communal grave under a wooden memorial in the churchyard. Edith Cavell was one of the nurses who treated the victims and received an award for doing so. Two sons of William Wilberforce, both of whom were vicars of East Farleigh, are buried in the churchyard. William Wilberforce himself spent some time at The Old Rectory shortly before he died.

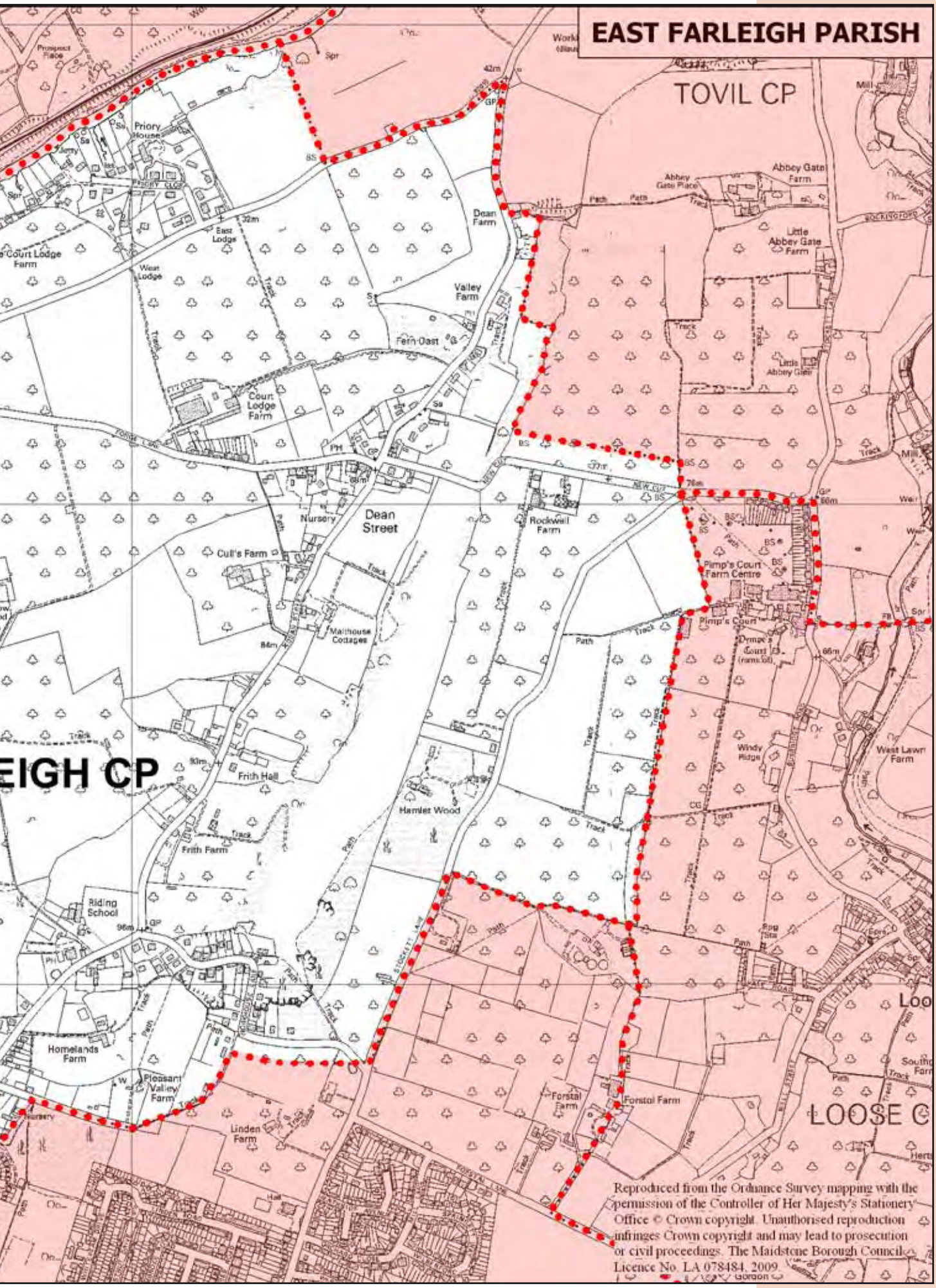
The village's first "school" was in the church porch. Around 1820, a National School was established next to the Old Vicarage where it remained until 1846. As a result of a public subscription raised by Rev. Henry Wilberforce, a new school was built next to the church (now the church hall). The school was re-sited in 1930 to its present location but burnt to the ground in 1953. As a temporary measure the school moved back to the Victorian school house until the new brick-built school was finished in 1956.

"...In 1849, an outbreak of cholera among the hoppers resulted in 45 deaths, 43 of whom are buried in a communal grave under a wooden memorial in the churchyard. Edith Cavell was one of the nurses who treated the victims and received an award for doing so..."

The Hoppers Memorial in the churchyard




River Medway
Sewage Works
Barming Bridge (FB)
Riverdale
Riverdale Farm
Quarry Wood
Track
Path
Kettle Corner
St Helens Corner
St Helen's
Hoopers Corner
Hillcrest
Kettle Farmhouse
Kettle Cottage
Lower Gallants Farm
Stone Cottages
Hoplands
Adelaide Cottages
Little Adelaide Farm
Court Lodge Farm Oast
Court Lodge Cottages
The Green
East Farleigh
Library and Institute
Gallants Court
Gallants Bungalow
Elmscroft
Elmscroft Farm
Park Cottage
GH CP
Farleigh Green
Rookery Row
PH
Cokehurst
Recreation Ground
School
Gallants Manor
Parsonage Cottages
Gallants Farm
Cedarwood House
Grove Farm
EAST FARLE
Castle Acre
Inglewood
Moor's Farm
Roses Farm
Highland Farm
Cuckoo Farm
Hospital Barn Farm
The Thatched House
Amshurst Villas
Council Cottages
Cattenden Bungalows
Horse Shoe Farm
Castle Farm
Rock Plain
Quarry Wood
Quarry Farm
Nursery
North Folly Farm
Folly Hamers
Woodville
Keepers Cottage
Spr
Pond
Caravan Site
Becketts Place
Papperies
Scrapes Cottages
The Quest
Wks
Surface Water Sewage Works
Vicarage Farm


EAST FARLEIGH PARISH
TOVIL CP
EIGH CP
Priory House
Priory Close
East Lodge
West Lodge
Court Lodge Farm
Dean Farm
Valley Farm
Fern Oast
Court Lodge Farm
Nursery
Dean Street
Rockwall Farm
Cull's Farm
Malthouse Cottages
Frith Hall
Frith Farm
Hamlet Wood
Riding School
Homelands Farm
Pleasant Valley Farm
Linden Farm
Abbey Gate Farm
Little Abbey Gate Farm
Pimp's Court Farm Centre
Pimp's Court
Windy Ridge
West Lawn Farm
Forstal Farm
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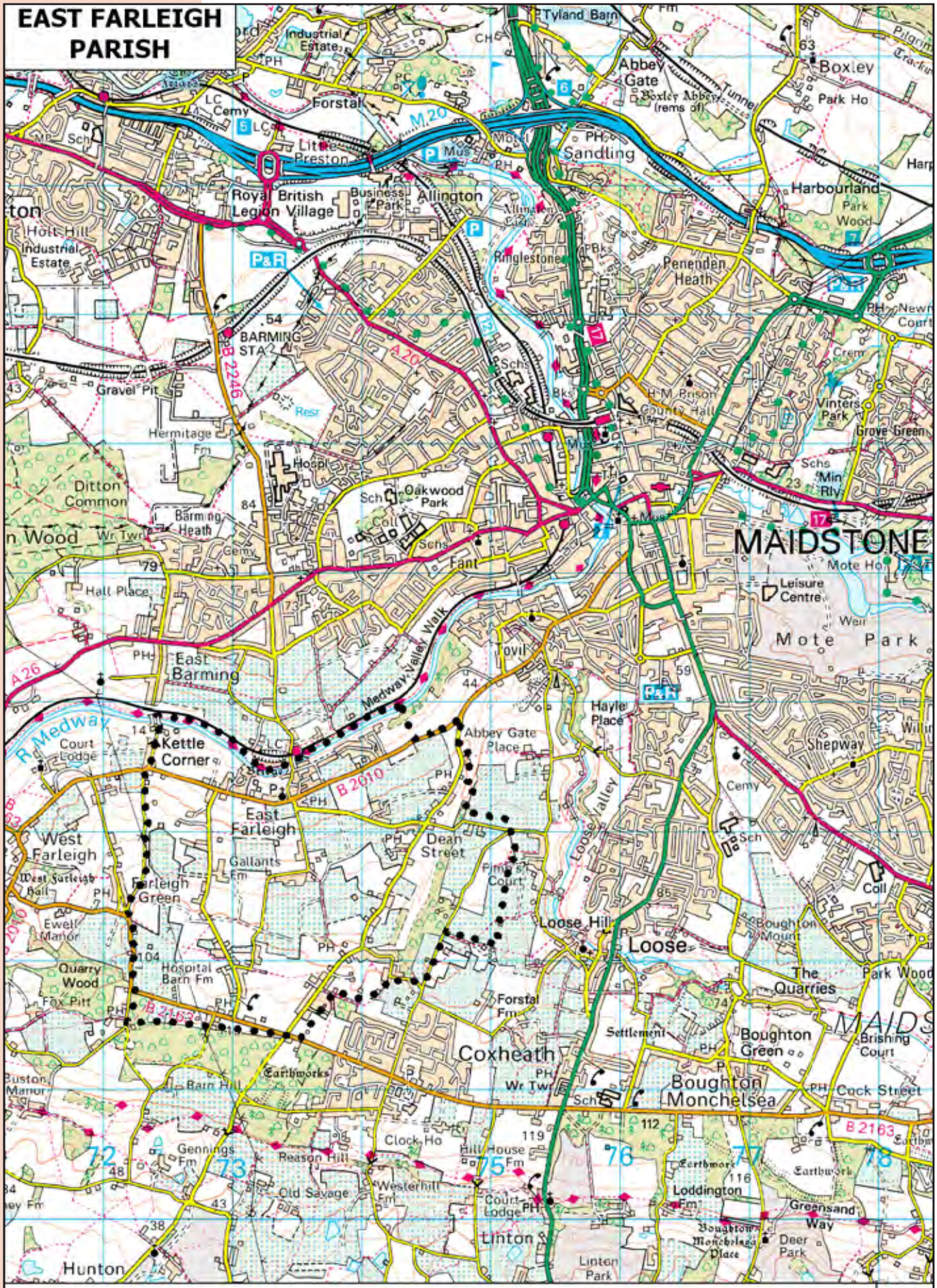

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The Plan

2

Overview

The results of the village consultation exercises show that generally people appreciate the benefits of living in East Farleigh but do find the village is both physically and functionally disjointed, and hence lacking in community spirit.

There is a strong desire to improve the community spirit, but equally as strong is the view that the historical and natural surroundings should be preserved at all cost. The general mood is not to resist change totally but to do it in such a way that it encompasses and preserves everything that is special about East Farleigh.

Speed, size and amount of traffic (and parking around the school) are huge problems and need addressing urgently.

Traffic issues are not only annoyances, posing danger to residents, but are also seen to impact on the community spirit within the village.

Related to the issues of traffic and to the residents' desire to preserve their heritage is a passion to protect the historic bridge and action needs to be taken on this point.

Residents feel public transport and local amenities should be enhanced if possible.

A high level of interest is shown in taking part in interest groups and activities. This suggests more opportunities for all ages to get together in a variety of interest groups should be encouraged and facilitated.

East Farleigh's Village Plan addresses these priorities, and in addition some other issues which arose, with ideas which range from simple, short-term actions through to longer-term plans, potentially with greater impact.

These ideas are not decisions; they will be taken forward by an Action Group to further investigate their suitability and feasibility and, with further public consultation, potentially leading to implementation.

Summary of Consultation Results

Introduction

This section is an overview of the main findings from the surveys (and the subsequent comments from the exhibition) under six main topic headings.

1. Community Spirit
2. A Village Centre
3. Traffic
4. Public Transport
5. Environment
6. Communications

Also in these sections (and in the following full Action Plan grid) are the resulting ideas and actions discussed, of relevance to these topics.

The full results of the surveys and comments made at the exhibition can be found in the appendix.

1. Community Spirit

From the survey results and subsequent discussion it clearly emerges that it would be wonderful to see community spirit enhanced. There is thought to be good community spirit in the hamlets of the village, but that this needs harnessing to bring the whole village together.

Community events are seen by villagers as a main contributor to community spirit and it is noted that the reintroduction of the village fete by FLAG (the Forge Lane Action Group) in 2008 is a major step forward. All efforts should be made to see the fete enhanced and continued.

Community activities are another contributor to community spirit and many residents are keen to get involved in village groups. Although the questionnaire shows a demand for sporting activities and further education facilities (especially language courses), in the interests of prioritisation, the organising group feels many existing facilities are available in a 3 to 4 mile radius which are sufficient to supply some of these needs. However, it is felt that the village should try to restart events such as the Christmas bazaar and encourage more local

'...Community events are seen by villagers as a main contributor to community spirit...'

The re-introduction of the Village Fete was seen as a major step forward

The Old School Hall

village activities such as keep fit, dancing for all ages, wine tasting, etc.

It is also felt that the local public houses and East Farleigh Social Club need to be involved in discussion regarding community spirit, so we can benefit from their experience and expertise. In addition to the village pubs, this should also include The Victory and The White House even though they are just outside the village boundary.

Retail facilities help aid community spirit and the feasibility of some form of retail outlet (shop, cafe etc) is also suggested for investigation; this has led to discussions over the use of East Farleigh Station building. It appears it could be available for village use as a venue, if not for a retail outlet, perhaps for a seasonal café near the river, maybe for exhibitions. The new car park at the station makes it very much more accessible.

The last key area felt by villagers to contribute to community spirit is transport and these issues are addressed in the dedicated transport section.

A final note from the organising group to the village with regards to community spirit is that whilst every effort can be made to get groups and activities started, providing venues and facilities, to make them successful, the wider community still needs to volunteer to get involved and to attend the activities to really see the village come together!

Refer to CS items in the action plan.

2. Village Centre

In order to house events and facilitate community spirit ideas, suitable venues are of course required. So, as part of the community spirit discussions (and touching on other topics too, e.g. solving school parking issues), the creation of a Village Centre is suggested as an idea.

Ideas to illustrate how a Village Centre might look, perhaps involving a village green opposite the Bull Public House and the Church, were shown at the exhibition. There was very strong support at the Exhibition for further investigations and plans to be made if the land could be acquired.

Such a Village Centre could potentially incorporate the Old School Hall (currently under threat of sale, with the possibility of removal from community use). Again, strong positive views were expressed at the Exhibition that options for saving the Old School Hall for community use should be investigated.

Refer to V items in the action plan.

3. Traffic

All aspects of traffic attract comment and often heated debate. The sheer scale of private and business vehicles travelling through the village is of major concern to villagers, for safety, environmental and practical reasons. Implementing measures to restrict and control traffic and traffic speeds are consistently rated as the most important aspects to address in this plan.

Overall, the resulting discussions on traffic were so wide and varied, and the subject matter is considered so important, that the hiring of a Highways Engineer is thought to be vital to deal with the present issues and the future solutions.

Speed Watch results show traffic speed through the village is generally too fast; indeed at the entrance to Dean Street from Coxheath it is excessive. Speed Watch is seen as very important and increased frequency and awareness might be beneficial. Speed Watch signage, to make drivers aware of the activity, is being investigated at time of print (although there is a view that too much signage can be detrimental and can spoil the countryside).

To address speeding traffic, measures such as cameras, more flashing signs, chicanes etc

‘...strong positive views were expressed at the Exhibition that options for saving the Old School Hall for community use should be investigated....’

have been largely rejected for East Farleigh as a rural village. However, it is felt that speed limits on different roads should be reviewed; whilst as noted above, there are also views that drivers ignore such limits, particularly when there is too much signage. A balance is therefore sought. A possibility of using a French system for speed limits (that is, within village boundaries a single limit applies throughout) was put forward.

Closely related to the topic of traffic; parking in Vicarage Lane causes major problems for access, as the road is so narrow. This is a major concern for local residents, and the problems are exacerbated by parking for the school in the morning and afternoon.

The congestion caused by school parking arises as one of the key issues for the village to resolve, with strong views on this matter held not just by parents but local residents and the wider village too.

All comments from this consultation exercise (questionnaire and exhibition) are referenced with the other results in the appendix and will be taken into account as a solution is sought. As well as further local consultation, other professional opinions have been and/or will be sought, including all emergency services. These will also be fed into the relevant group who will be seeking an urgent solution to this very important issue, which this consultation process has shown absolutely must be solved.

Still related to safety due to traffic levels and speeds is pathway maintenance. There is a clear need to have an ongoing policy to keep hedges trimmed and so pathways clear and safe so avoiding walking in the roads. In addition, a general lack of footpaths for safe walking at all is noted.

The criteria by which footways can be created on roads will be investigated with Kent Highways. Local land owners will be asked if headlands of fields can be established as informal footpaths especially along Lower Road between the Priory and the junction of Dean Street.

Still related to traffic, East Farleigh Bridge was discussed at length. Concerns are for safety, the amount of traffic drawn through the village and over such a narrow pass and the ever increasing risk of damage to the historic Bridge.

It is also felt that as other means of traffic calming are introduced in areas around East Farleigh, the easier remaining route over the Bridge will attract yet greater usage.

Four ideas are proposed for further investigation:-

1. Traffic Lights controlling traffic in both directions. This attracted both supporters and detractors in the questionnaire; with i) concerns over phasing with the trains and ii) a more straightforward Bridge crossing potentially risking yet more vehicles being attracted through the village.

2. A one way system over each of East Farleigh and Teston Bridges.

3. A physical means of enforcing the current width restrictions on each side of the bridge stopping larger vehicles gaining access to the bridge in good time for them to take another route.

4. A new road from the Loose Valley and over the river to the Tonbridge Road to divert traffic flows from the Bridge.

Refer to T in the action plan

Congestion caused by school parking

‘...The congestion caused by school parking arises as one of the key issues for the village to resolve...’

4. Public Transport

Whilst public transport is used by many at least occasionally, many villagers are critical of the lack of public transport in the evenings and on Sundays and of the routes available.

Hence, a regular supermarket bus would be appreciated and a north/south ‘hopper bus’ would enhance travel through East Farleigh, bridging the gap between Coxheath, Barming and Maidstone Hospital. This would negate the need to travel in to Maidstone to travel out again to these destinations.

A key use of buses appears to be to reach appointments, e.g. with doctors. Comments have been made about the lack of matching appointment times to bus arrival times.

It is also noted that there is limited awareness among young people about the £50 unlimited travel bus pass (although

Damage to the bridge caused by large vehicles

those who are aware of it are eager to use it); increased communication of it should be encouraged

Refer to PT in the action plan

5. Environment

The questionnaire shows the majority of the village enjoy East Farleigh's natural and rural environment, for many this is a key reason to live here.

New housing within such an environment is broadly resisted, unless well targeted, well positioned and well built.

Issues arising under this topic primarily concern the need for keeping East Farleigh tidy and clean, often in the face of large amounts of traffic and the dirt and litter this brings.

It is thought more effort should be made to keep verges free of litter and regularly mown/cut back during the summer months. Examples of the West Country, Sussex and France were used to aspire to by the organising group.

Comments written in the questionnaires with regards to the Environment included a call by some for more managed use of the village's orchards (many perceived to be left un-used), perhaps enabling a Community Orchard/Nature Reserve to flourish.

Finally, there are more than enough interested parties to keep the allotments in good use and this should be facilitated.

Refer to E in the action plan.

6. Communication

Finally, to facilitate many of the above areas – particularly Community Spirit –communication throughout the Village needs enhancement.

Better communication is requested by villagers and the group suggests a quarterly or bi-monthly page in the Downs Mail; in addition a Grapevine with wider appeal would go a long way to helping people know what is happening in the village.

The village website is now up and running and was on view at the Exhibition – it is there as a facility to be used by everyone and it is hoped it will be supported by all villagers.

www.eastfarleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

'...the majority of the village enjoy East Farleigh's natural and rural environment, for many this is a key reason to live here...'

Farleigh Lock

Ideas to Action

In the same structure as pages 9 to 12, these are the action points to be taken forward by the East Farleigh Village Plan Action Group.

A glossary of the abbreviations used can be found at the bottom of page 15.

Community Spirit and Facilities

	Proposal	How to do it	When	Who	Who Pays
CS 1	Village summer fete	Continue FLAG Example	Annually from summer 09	FLAG/EFPC	Community
CS 2	Christmas fair	Seek volunteers and arrange	Annually from December 2009	AG/ Community	Community
CS 3	Wine tasting	Arrange hall and experts	2009	Interested Parties	Attendees
CS 4	Art expo	Local Artist via local groups	2009	WI	Self funding
CS 5 (see also V6)	Facility shop for milk stamps and papers	Find venue	2009 /10	AG to discuss with Pubs	Self funding
CS 6	Use of Station Building as café or village facility	Talk to rail authorities	2009/10	AG Community EFPC Rail Board	Self funding EFPC M BC
CS 7	Improve recreation ground (based on comments from general survey **and youth survey)**	Better signage Greater range of equipment (older age appeal) Address dog faeces Multi-purpose play area	2009	AG/EFPC	EFPC / links with Village Centre funding? Specific funder?
CS 8	Make recreation ground available for the school	New fencing to enhance children's safety	2009/10	AG/EFPC	EFPC and KCC
CS 9	Afternoon clubs	Discuss with EF club	2009	AG	Self funding
CS 10	Encourage voluntary car scheme	Advertise in Grapevine and website for an organiser	2009	AG/Volunteers	Free service
CS 11	Supermarket bus	Extend pick up points and put on website	2009	AG/Sainsbury and other super markets	Supermarket
CS 12	Youth oriented activities (days out, music, dance etc)	Find interested parties (use website etc)	Ongoing	AG	individuals
CS 13	Sports facilities (youth and other)	Potential link with Village centre	Ongoing	AG/EFPC	Funder
CS 14	Youth meeting place	Potential link with Village centre	2010	AG/EFPC	Funder
CS 15	Youth languages club	Find interested parties (use website etc)	Ongoing	AG talk to Cornwallis Academy	individuals

Village Centre

	Proposal	How to do it	When	Who	Who Pays
V1	Create centre with village green	Talk to Land owner Talk to Parish Council Feasibility study	ASAP	AG/EFPC/KCC	EFPC MBC Concurrent functions to fund feasibility study
V2	Retain and preserve Old School Hall as facility for the village	Feasibility study Find funding	ASAP	AG/PCC	Grant providers
V6	Facility for milk, stamps and snacks	Find venue	2009/10	AG to discuss with Pubs	Self funding

Traffic

T1	Review road signage	Investigate benefit	2009	AG/Kent Highways via EFPC	KCC
T2	More footpaths to make walking around village safer	Talk to landowners	2009	AG/Kent Highways via EFPC	KCC
T3	More Speed Watch	Discuss with Parish Council	Ongoing	EFPC/Volunteers	Voluntary
T4	Bridge traffic lights or physical width restriction	Engage engineer	2010	AG/Kent Highways via EFPC	KCC or Community
T5	Mend potholes and resurfacing.	Highways	2009	AG/Kent Highways via EFPC	EFPC KCC Highways
T6	New river crossing and south bypass	Encourage	Long Term	AG	KCC Highways
T7	Solve issue of school parking to satisfaction of residents and parents	Review all suggestions. Link with possible village centre	ASAP URGENT	AG/EFPC	KCC or community
T8	Traffic speed	Investigate traffic survey and French ideas	Ongoing	AG/ KALC and TRAMP	KCC Highways
T9	Resolve and prevent flooding of highways.	Talk to Highways	2009	AG/EFPC	KCC Highways
T10	Involving expertise to investigate speed limits and safety of junctions and traffic calming.	KCC Highways or independent engineer	2009	AG/KCC Highways or private engineer via EFPC	EFPC
T11	Gateway entrances to the village	Lobby KCC Highways	2009	AG/EFPC	Highways or EFPC
T12	Maidstone south bypass	Pressure local MP/Government	2009/10	AG/EFPC	KCC

Public Transport

	Proposal	How to do it	When	Who	Who Pays
PT1	More buses evenings and weekends	Discuss with Bus Operator and KCC	2010	AG/Bus Operatora /EFPC	KCC
PT2	Inform families about £50 young person bus pass	Via Schools	2009	AG/EFPC	No Fees
PT3	North South bus Route	Discuss with Bus Operator and KCC	2010	AG/Bus Operator/EFPC	KCC
PT4	Bus Shelters	Discuss with Bus Operator and EFPC	2010	AG/Bus Operator/EFPC	KCC
PT5	Seek to increase public transport funding	Talk to Bus Operator and KCC	2010	AG/KCC via EFPC	KCC
PT6	Link doctors surgeries and bus times	Talk to surgeries	2009	AG/EFPC	Doctors/ Bus Operator

Environment

E 1	Litter	Keep litter free	Ongoing	EFPC	EFPC precept & MBC
E 2	Hedgerows and verges	Improve and keep tidy all year	Ongoing	EFPC	EFPC precept & MBC
E 3	Enhance allotments	Encourage Allotment Association	2009	AG/Allotment users	Self funding
E 4	Community orchard	Get volunteers together	2009/10	AG/Community	Community and funder
E 5	Monitor housing	Watch EFPC agendas for development notification	Ongoing	EFPC/ Community	

Communication

C01	Communication	Downs Mail page Enhance Grapevine Welcome group	Ongoing	EFPC Editors	EFPC
C02	Website	Encourage	Ongoing	Jamie Shelford	EFPC
C03	Noticeboards	Review locations	2009	EFPC	EFPC

Glossary/Abbreviations

EFPC	East Farleigh Parish Council	FLAG	Forge Lane Action Group
MBC	Maidstone Borough Council	KCC	Kent County Council
PIPKIN	KCC measure of priority	KALC	Kent Association of Local Councils
TRAMP	Traffic Management Partnership	AG	Action Group

3 APPENDIX

Introduction

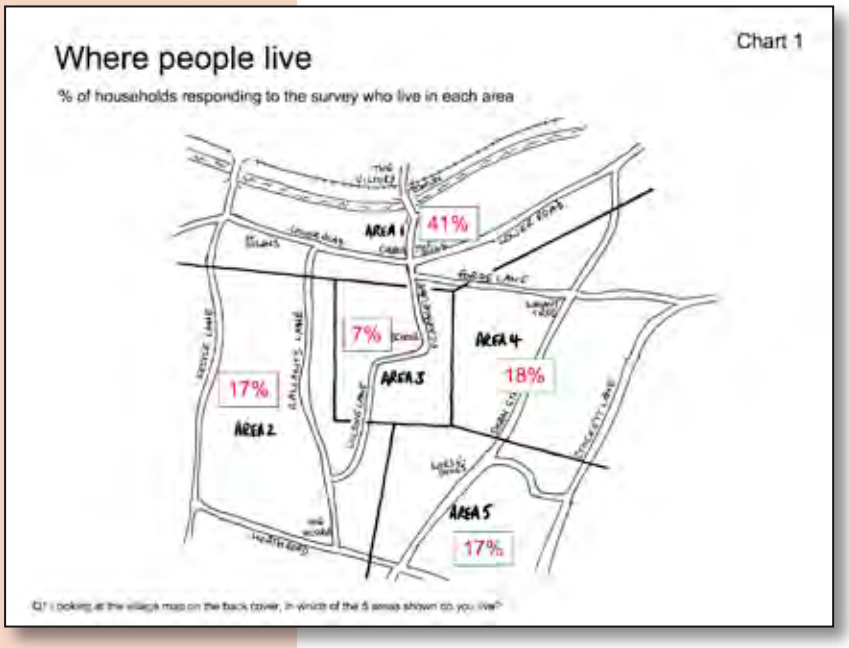
The appendix addresses the detailed commentary and results of the consultation exercises covering the six main topics, plus other issues as appropriate. There are 4 different consultation exercises and these are covered individually:-

A Main Questionnaire

B Youth Questionnaire

C Business Questionnaire

D Exhibition comments



(A) Main Questionnaire

Introduction

All households in East Farleigh were delivered, by hand, one main questionnaire booklet. Details of all household members were recorded (who they were, whether they worked, how they travelled to work or school etc) and then views were sought, on a wide range of issues, from the household as a whole. Some questions required pre-determined answers to be selected, others invited an open response.

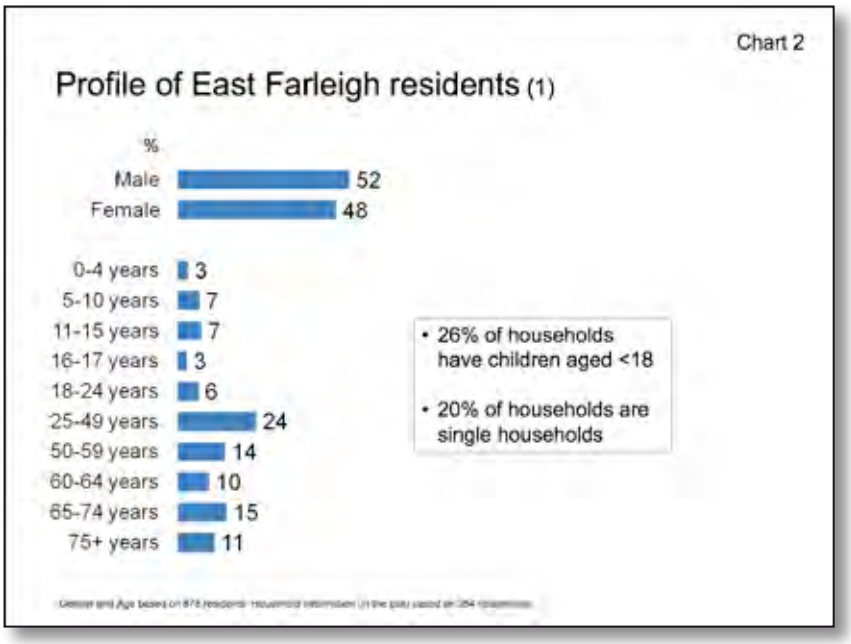
This section covers the detailed results from this questionnaire. Results are given in percentages rounded to the nearest whole number unless otherwise stated.

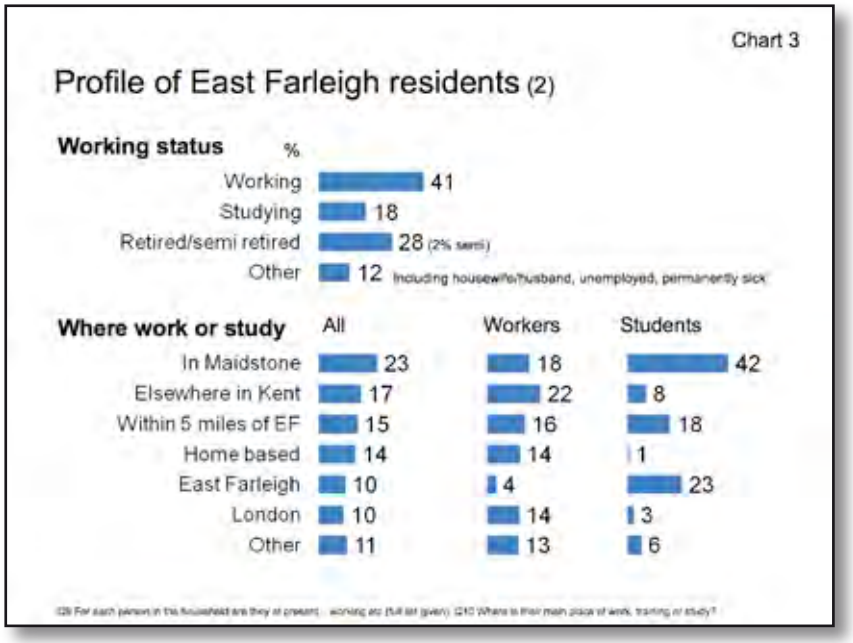
Who lives in East Farleigh?

There are c.600 households in East Farleigh and with our survey showing an average of c.2.5 people per household, we can estimate that there are c.1500 people living in the village (about 300 of these are Children aged 0-17).

354 households returned their questionnaire (representing 878 people); a good response rate of c.60%.

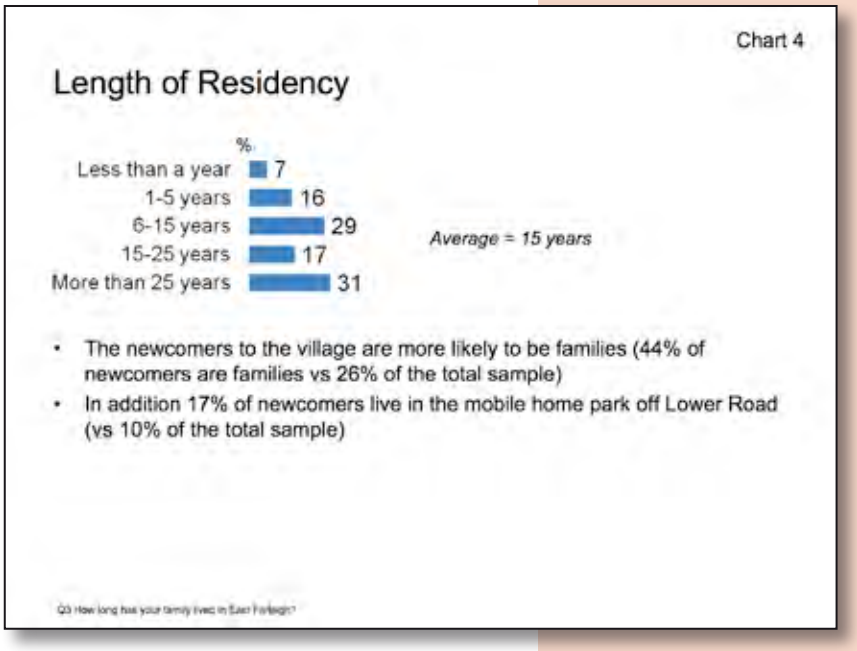
The Lower Road area is the most populated of the 5 defined areas of the village and just over a fifth (41%) of those households returning the questionnaire lived in this area – see **Chart 1** for the percentage living in the 5 areas of the village.





Charts 2 & 3 shows details about East Farleigh residents. The average age of East Farleigh residents is older than the national average with 50% aged 50 years or more, compared to the national average of 34%. Chart 4 shows the average length of residency is at least c.15 years (but many have lived here much longer).

Charts 5 – 8 give more details on the residents, their children and the schools they are at, where residents work, how they travel and what communication services they have access to.



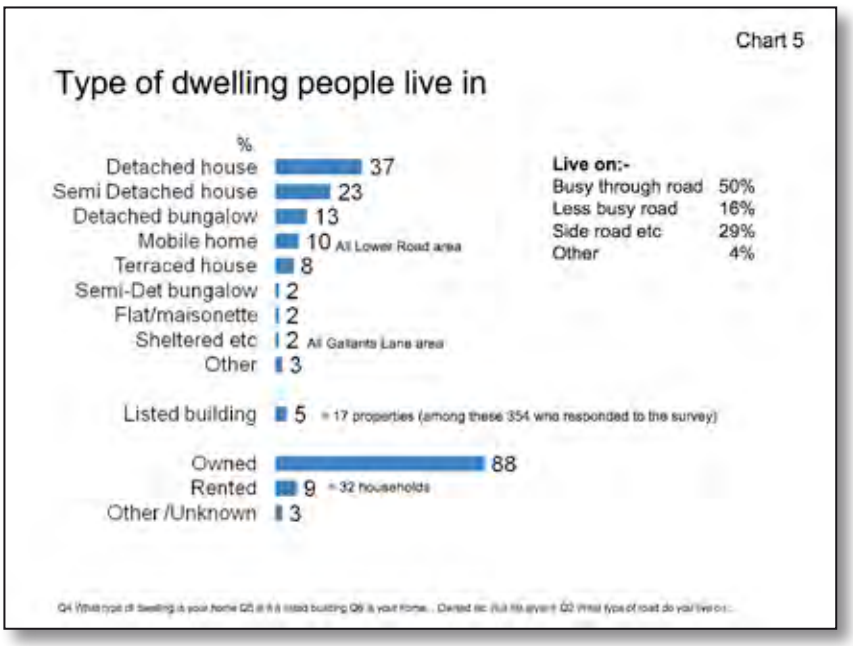
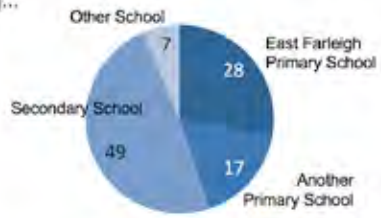


Chart 6

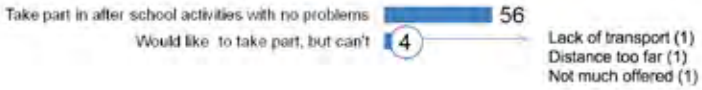
Schools

We have information on 134 children of school age...

% of children attending...



% who...

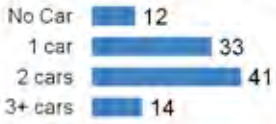


Q29 Do you currently have Children at... [schools as above] Q31 Which of these are true for you with regard to after school activities available for your children?

Chart 7

Cars and Travel

Number of cars in household %



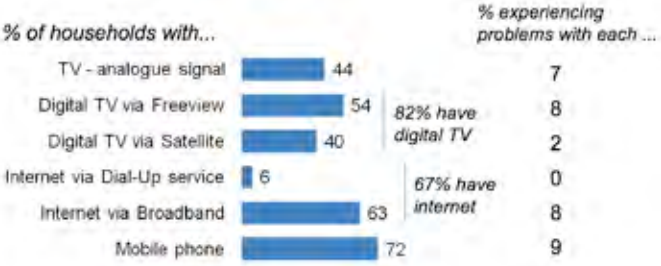
Main means of travel to work/study %

		Workers	Students
By Car	83	88	75
By Bus	7	1	20
By Train	4	7	1
Walk	3	2	1

Q24 How many cars does your household own? Q15 For each person in the household, what is their main means of transport to work, training or study?

Chart 8

Communication Facilities

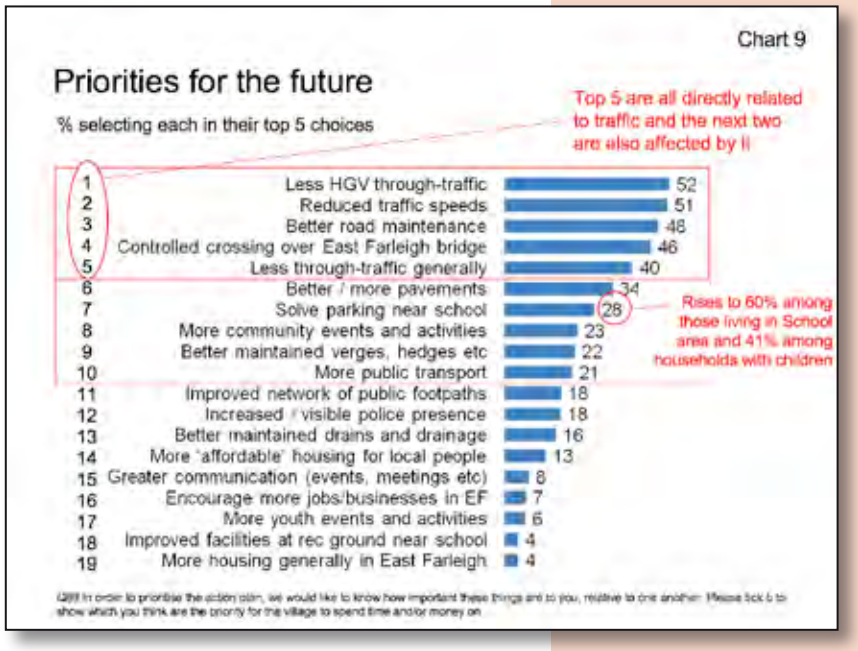


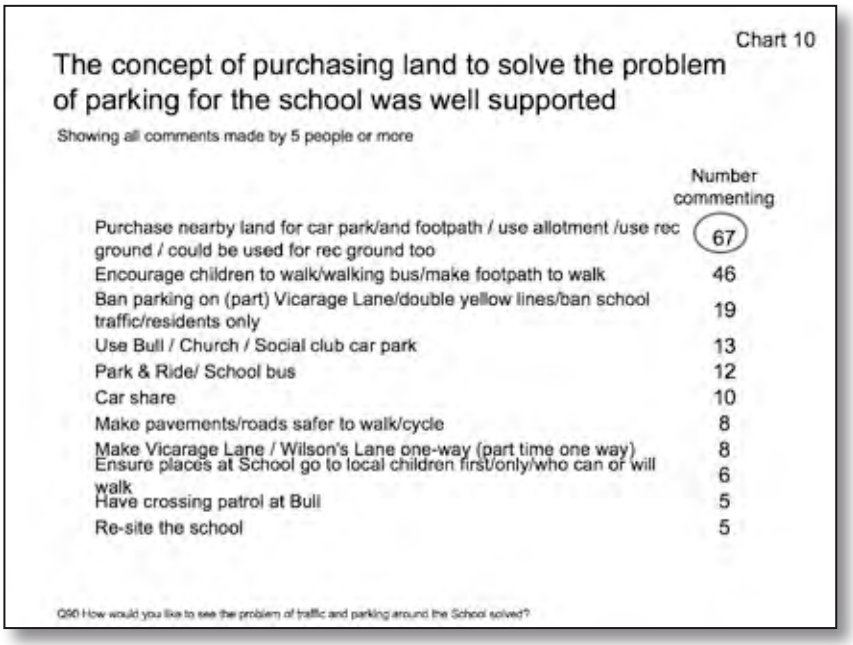
- These access levels for internet and digital are in line with the national average

Q64 Which of these communication services do you have? Do you have frequent problems with them?

What is most important to residents?

Chart 9 shows the proportion of households feeling each topic shown is one of the top 5 issues to address in the village plan. The top 5 are all traffic related and even no 6 and 7 are impacted by traffic levels. This ranking helped the Plan Group determine which topics should be addressed and prioritised in the plan. **Chart 10** outlines the types of comments received with regard to how to solve the issue of parking near the school. This is the number 1 issue for those living in the 'School area' The detailed verbatim comments on this topic are also preserved for use by the Action Plan group for when a solution is being sought.

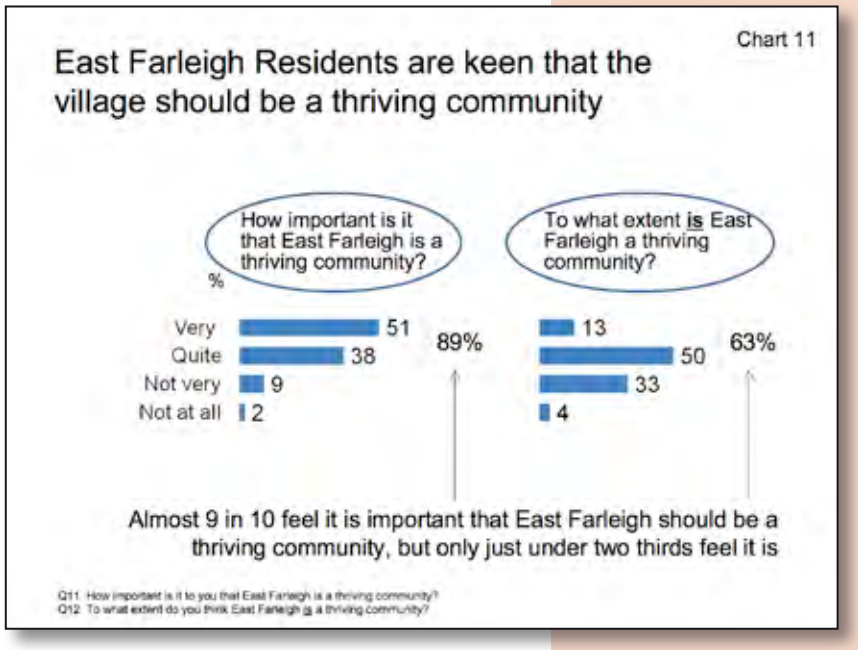


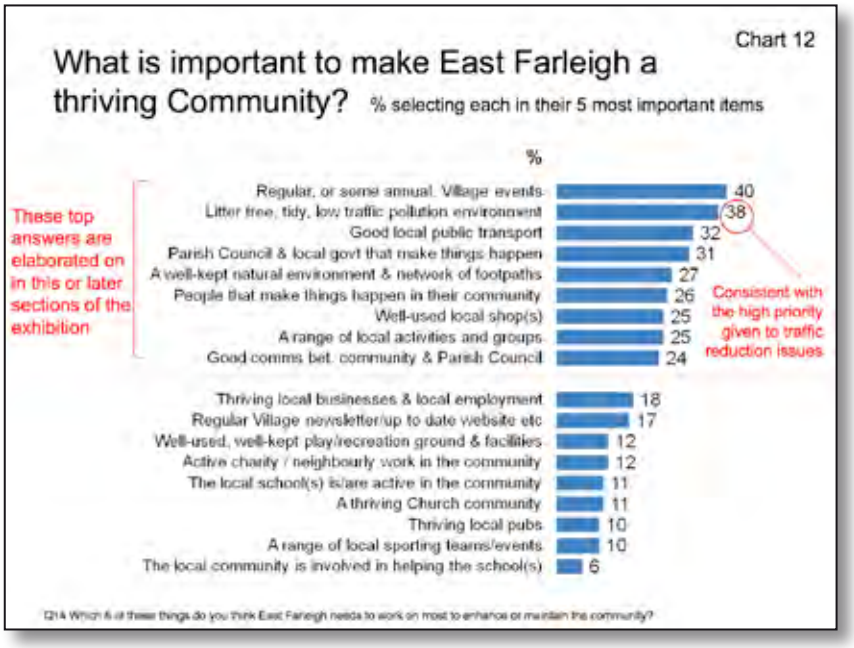


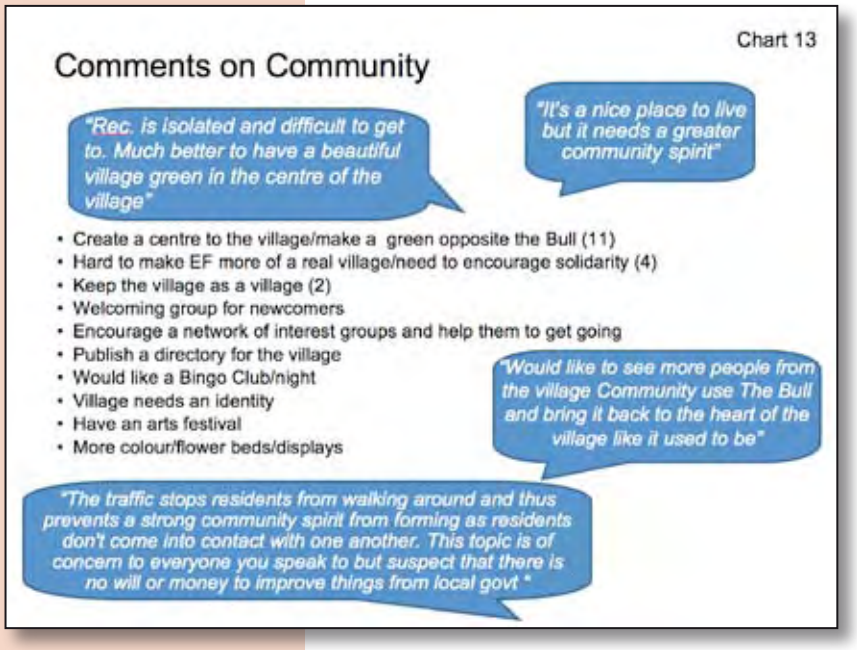
Community Spirit

Chart 11 highlights how important residents felt it was that East Farleigh tried harder to become an active, thriving community, in the face of being a spread out village, with no real centre. In **Chart 12** 'events' were strongly endorsed vs other aspects as a good mechanism to help this to happen. The aspects rated strongly here are discussed in this and later sections of this document.

Although not posed as a specific question, some of the written answers at the end of the questionnaire addressed ways of facilitating greater community spirit including reference to a potential village centre, which was subsequently addressed at the Exhibition **(Chart 13)**.







Charts 14 - 18 look at the results from the questions relating to other aspects impacting on community spirit; namely leisure and social activities and their associated facilities, the Church and importantly how to best communicate events and activities.

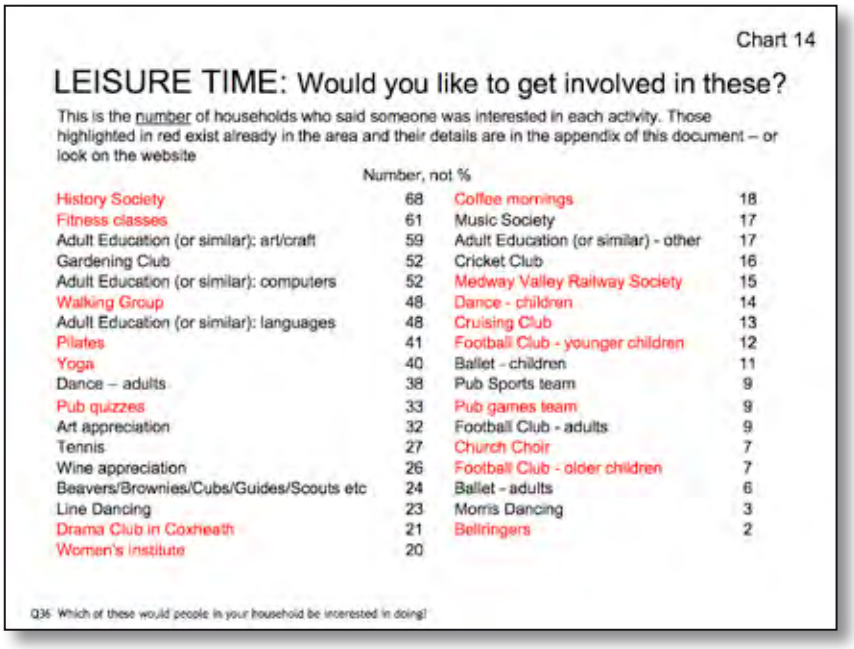


Chart 15

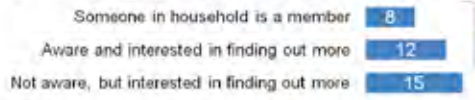
Pubs and Social Club

%

Frequency of visiting each pub

37% of households visit at least one of the pubs in the village every 1-2 months or more often

Interest in the East Farleigh Social Club (%)



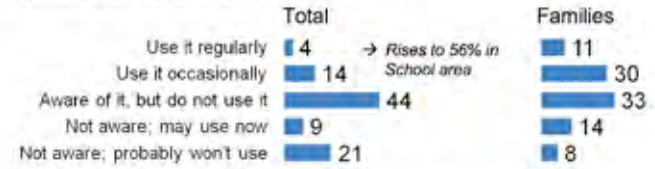
= 27% interested in knowing more.
If you are interested in finding out more – give them a call (see contact details)

Q32 How often do members of your family visit each of the Pubs in the village?
Q33 Thinking about how far the pubs are from you and the route you would take, can you walk safely to each of these pubs in the village?
Q34 Which of these apply with regard to the East Farleigh Social Club?

Chart 16

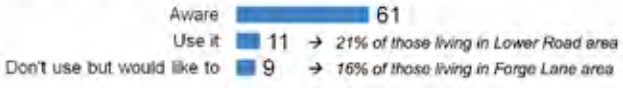
Other leisure facilities

Interaction with the recreation field



17% made some additional comment on usage of the playing field; the biggest of which was:- Hold village fetes and events there 13%

Interaction with the Mobile Library



For most who would like to use it but don't; it either stops in the wrong places or Wednesday afternoons are not convenient

Q38 Which of these apply to you with regard to the recreation field in Vicarage Lane (next to the school)?
Q40-42 Are you aware of the mobile library in East Farleigh? Do you use it? Would you like to?

Chart 17

Church Attendance

Frequency of attending

47% of households attend a church at least once a year

What might increase attendance/encourage attendance (%)

Different time of service(s)	2
Church or Services better suited for children	3
Better access to the church	1
Better information about services	3
Other	5

Q48 How often do you use the following places of worship?

Chart 18

Communication Sources

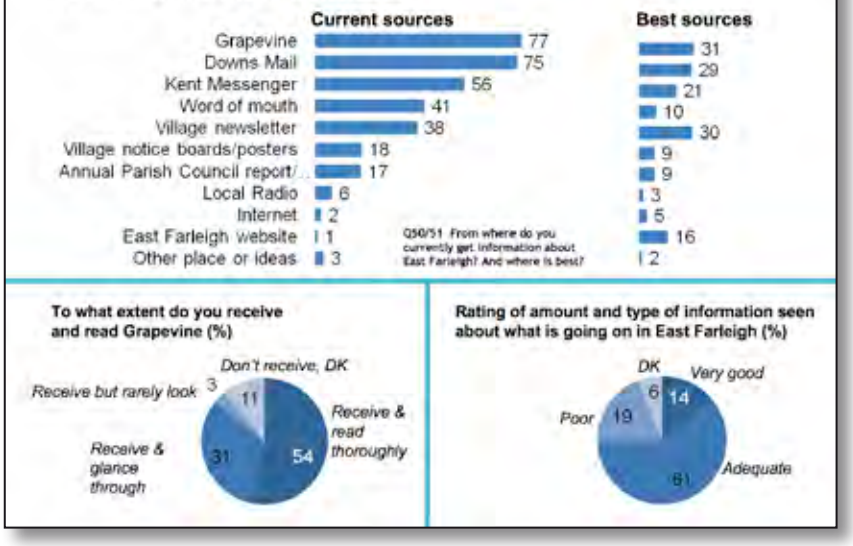
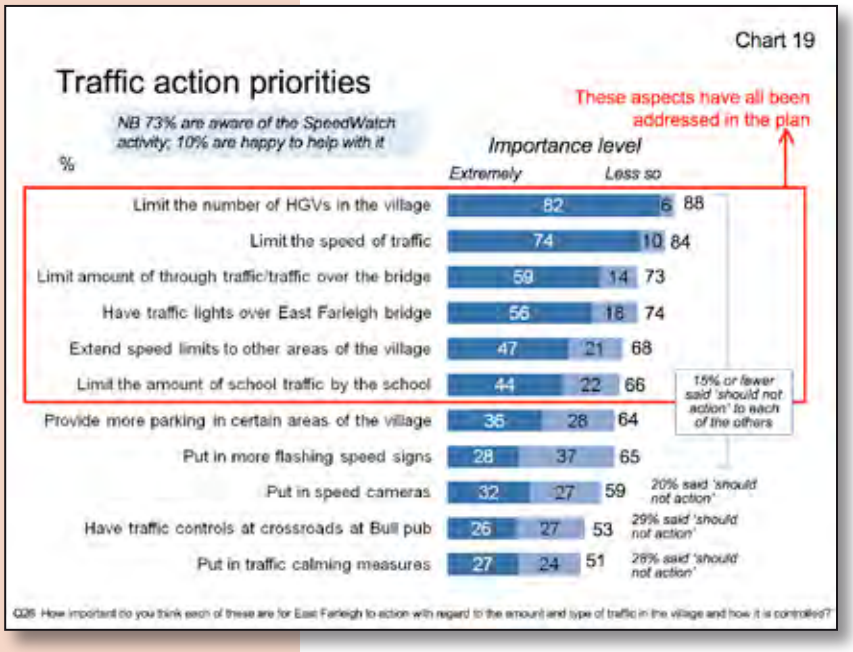


Chart 19

Traffic action priorities



Traffic Issues and Public Transport

Chart 19 shows the relative importance of various aspects/actions with regard to traffic in and around the village. Limiting HGVs is almost universally endorsed, as is a call to reduce the speed of traffic through the village. Preservation of the bridge also attracts much endorsement. Solutions to some of these issues are more polarising with many in favour of ideas such as traffic lights and speed cameras, but with similar levels against. **Chart 20** expands on some of these ideas.

Charts 21-23 look at usage and interaction with different forms of transport; cars, buses and trains.

Chart 20

Collated comments on traffic issues

All comments with 5 or more mentions; 'don't do' comments in red

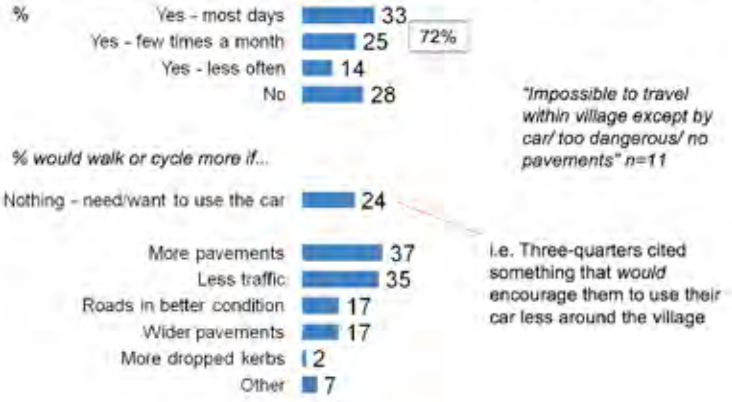
	Number commenting
Limit traffic (esp HGVs) coming over bridge/through village/ using as cut through	26
Traffic Calming needed at top of Gallants Lane/down Dean St/ Forge Lane/Lower road/workhouse lane	23
Too many HGVs/ too big/block lanes/ too fast/must be restricted/ban HGV's	22
Speed limit of 30/20mph in Gallants Lane/Lower Rd to West Farleigh/ Dean St/Workhouse Lane/Heath Rd	16
Lights / traffic control at bridge/Bull not needed at all/ might make traffic worse	15
Don't want chicanes/not like Coxheath	13
Improve dangerous junction of Forge Lane and Dean St/ Lower Road and Dean St (mini roundabout?)	11
Lights over bridge /even just at busy times/if don't affect Bull	9
Traffic too fast /wide on small lanes (eg Wilsons,Workhouse) /need width restrictions/make one way	6
Gallants Lane / others need complete resurfacing	5

Please write in more details, if relevant, on precisely what and where some of these actions would be helpful, please also include details of any other actions you can think of

Chart 21

Can car usage be restricted?

Do people in your household travel by car from home to destinations within the village



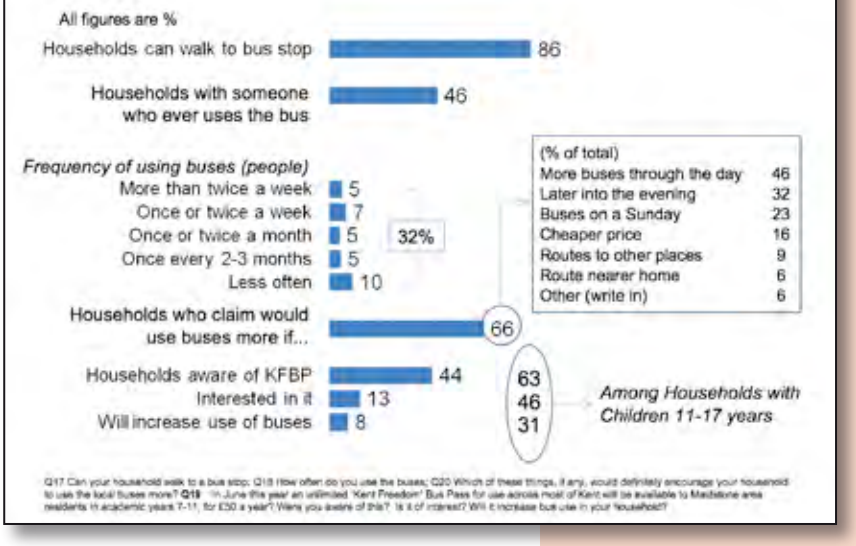
"Impossible to travel within village except by car/ too dangerous/ no pavements" n=11

% would walk or cycle more if...

i.e. Three-quarters cited something that *would* encourage them to use their car less around the village

Chart 22

Buses

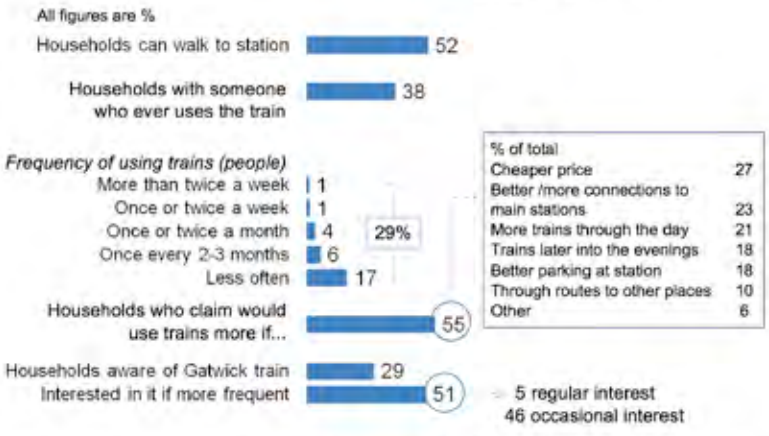


Q17 Can your household walk to a bus stop; Q18 How often do you use the buses; Q20 Which of these things, if any, would definitely encourage your household to use the local buses more? Q19 In June this year an unlimited 'Kent Freedom' Bus Pass for use across most of Kent will be available to Maidstone area residents in academic years 7-11, for £50 a year? Were you aware of this? Is it of interest? Will it increase bus use in your household?

Chart 23

Trains

"Commuting to London very difficult" n=6

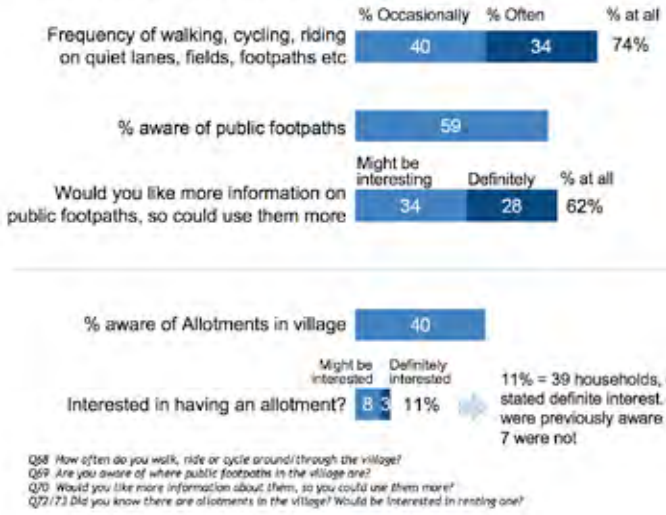


5 regular interest
46 occasional interest

Q17 Can your household walk to the train station; Q18 How often do you use the trains; Q20 Which of these things, if any, would definitely encourage your household to use the local trains more? Q22 Did you know there is a direct train to Gatwick on Sundays? Would you be interested in it if it were more frequent?

Chart 24

Interaction with the Local Environment

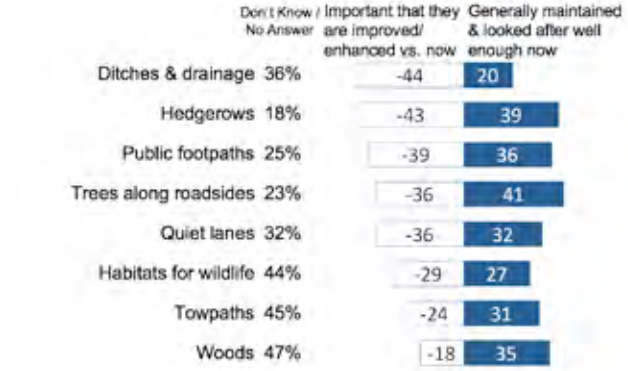


Q68 How often do you walk, ride or cycle around/through the village?
Q69 Are you aware of where public footpaths in the village are?
Q70 Would you like more information about them, so you could use them more?
Q72/73 Did you know there are allotments in the village? Would be interested in renting one?

Chart 25

The Local Environment

'Improvement needed' rating is shown as a negative bar



Q71 Would you say each of these elements of the environment are...?

The Environment

Charts 24-26 show a majority of residents interact with the local environment in many ways and have some keen concerns that various aspects of the environment should be improved vs their current level (e.g. Ditches and Hedgerows).

Chart 27 looks at local services, many of which have an impact on the environment. Street cleaning and Litter Clearance from lanes are the two aspects discussed which would benefit from improvements.

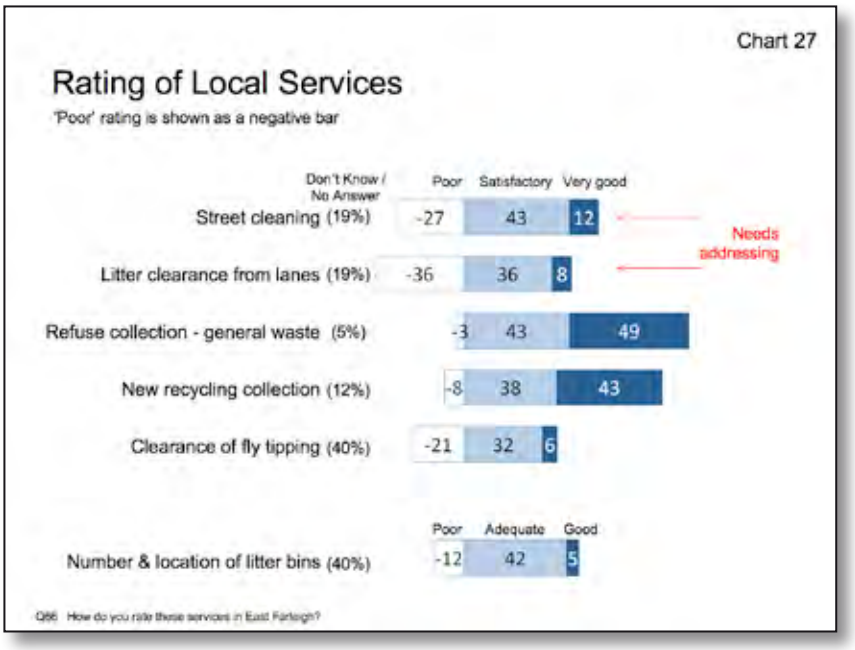
Chart 26

Collated comments on the Local Environment

Residents consider the Environment to cover everything from footpaths and roads to litter and hedges...

	No. of mentions
Litter from cars on roads/after refuse collection/on way to tip /ends up in gardens/ Heath Road /Lower Road/ Other places/lots of litter rarely collected	28
Need more footpaths generally/footpaths kept clear and safer, easier to use	22
Fly tipping clearance takes too long	14
Don't have doorstep recycling/Kettle Lane /Priory not included/don't have access	14
Hedges/trees go over paths/roads - hard to walk	14
Fix potholes and resurface / Road conditions very poor	13
Pavements inadequate	11
Flooding - in Dean St by Horseshoes pub/junction lower road	10
Litter bins rarely emptied/esp at Bus Stops/ at Dean St notice board	8
Need better glass and plastic recycling/ too restrictive	8
More drop kerbs	7
Lanes never swept	6

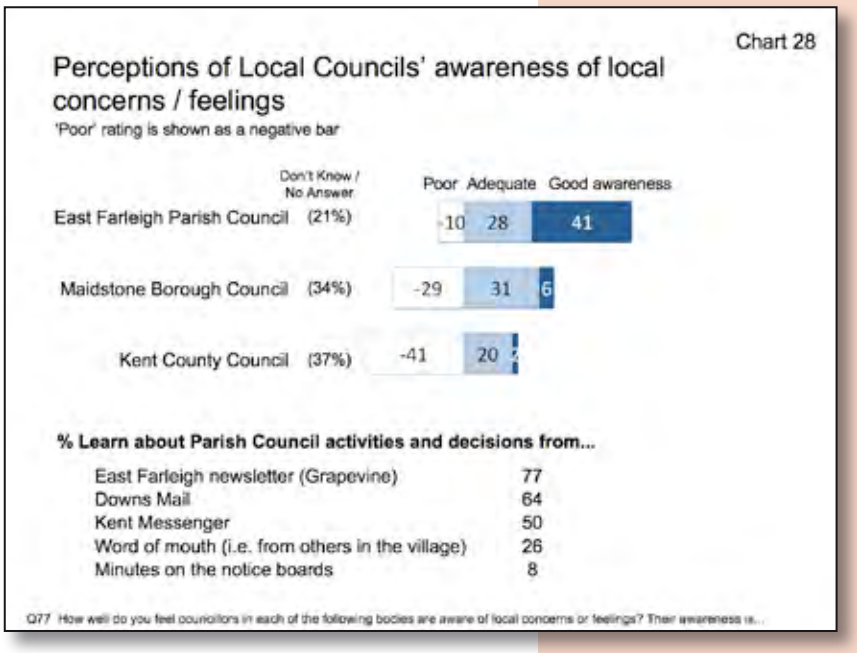
Please write in any other views or concerns you have about any aspect of the local environment and any ideas you may have on these aspects

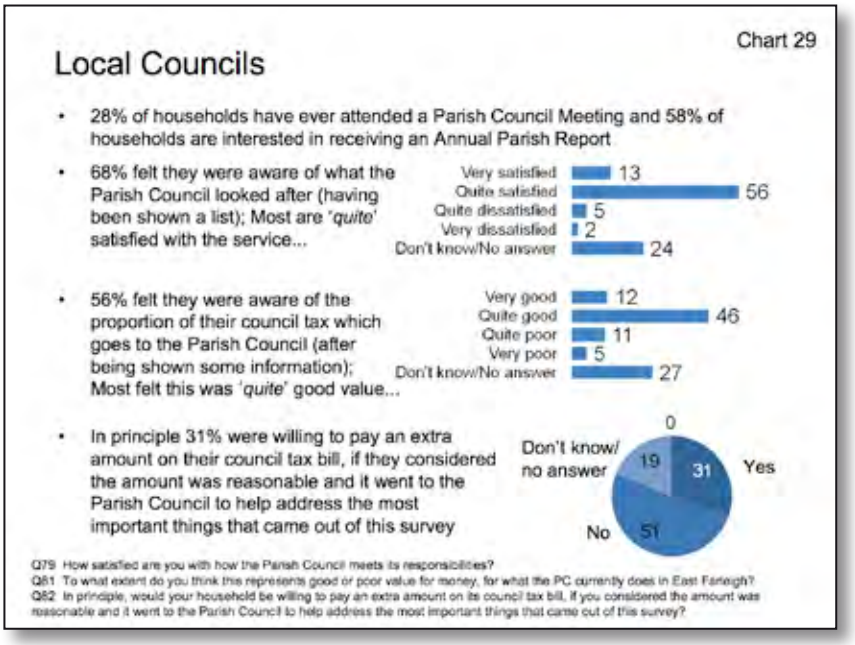


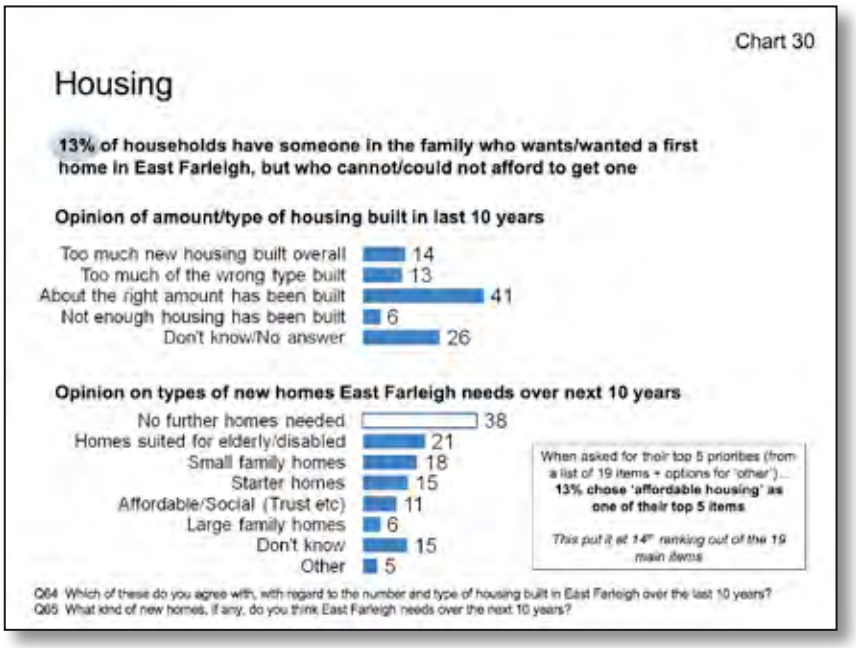
Local Councils

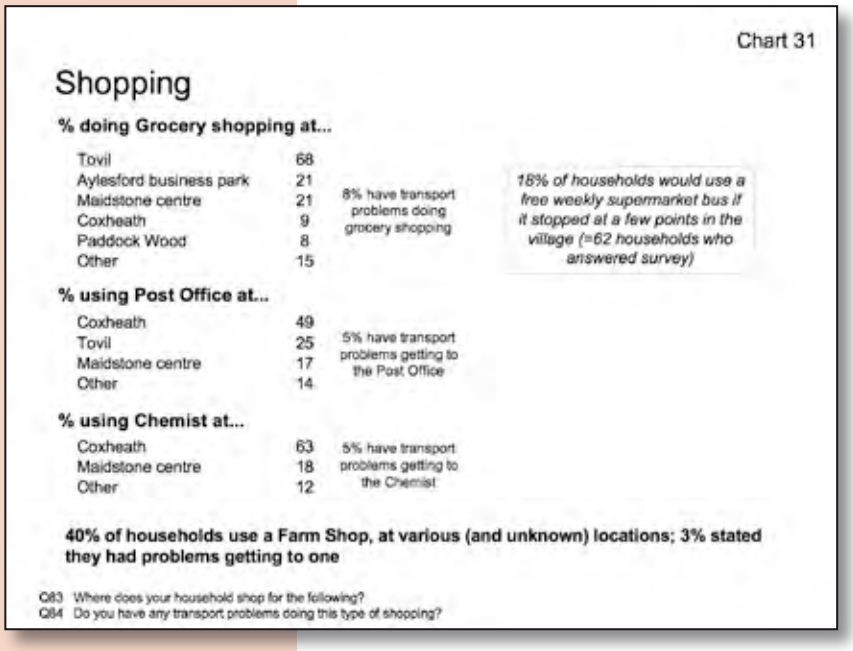
Charts 28 and 29 show that many take an interest in local council activities and that at least the Parish Council understands local concerns and generally gives good value for money, for the Council Tax apportioned to them.

Just under a third claimed they would be prepared to pay an extra amount on their council tax if it was reasonable and addressed issues raised in this plan – half would not be prepared to do so, with the remainder unsure.









Other

Charts 30-38 address other topics in the questionnaire, including housing, business & shopping; crime & emergency services and health.

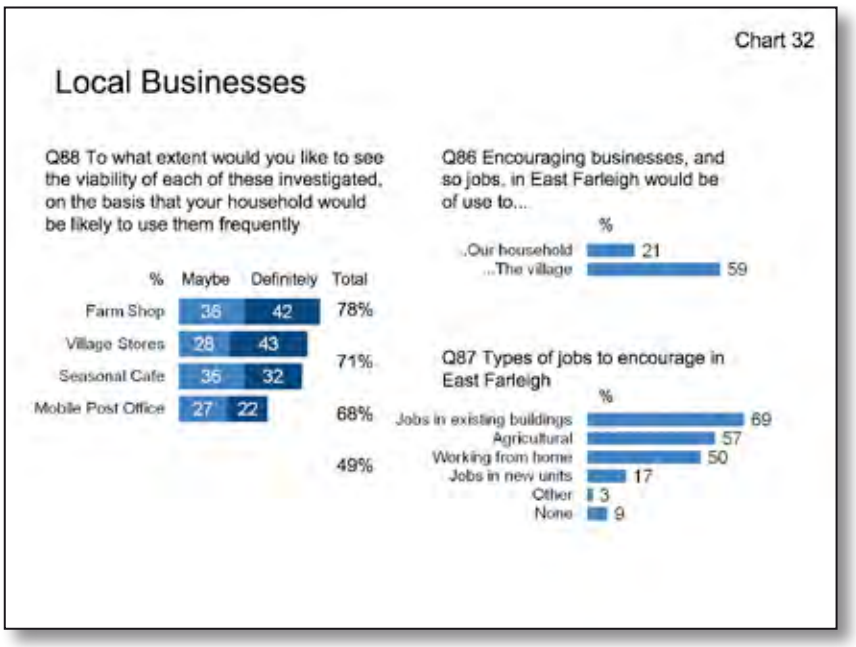


Chart 33

GP registration and any problems

Surgery registered at %

Problems experienced

%	Total	Stockett Lane	The Orchard	Blackthorn Medical Centre	College Road
No frequent problems	**67**	**63**	**78**	**73**	**59**
Inconvenient times to fit with work	8	9	6	12	13
Want to book in advance, but can't	20	30	16	4	15
Hard to get emergency appointments	6	7	4	4	15
Hard to travel there	7	7	5	12	7

Q43 With which doctor's surgery are people in your household registered?
Q44 Do you frequently have any of these problems with regards to your GP surgery?

Chart 34

Disabilities

% of households with disabled person (and nature of disability)

	N =
More footpaths generally/footpaths kept clear and safer, easier to use	13
More drop kerbs	6
Lower Road impossible for wheelchair/ scooter/pram - camber and kerbs	4
Drop kerb at church	2
Restarting of the local car service	2

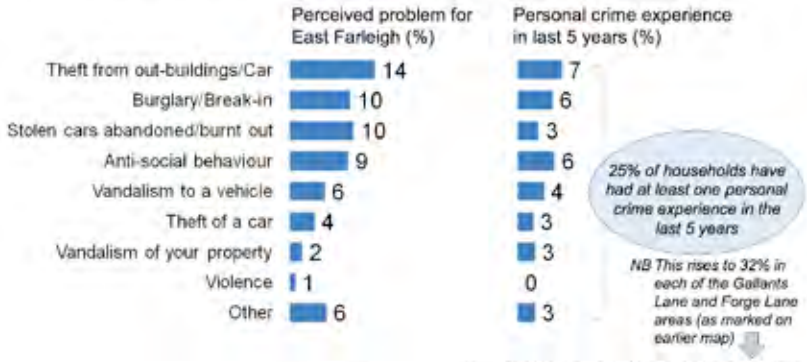
	% *agreeing*
Would a Good Neighbour Scheme be useful for someone in household?	23
Would someone in your household volunteer to help on a Good Neighbour scheme?	12
Do you do something like a Good Neighbour scheme informally already?	25

It is older residents who are more likely to both need help and offer it;
41% of households with a disabled member would find such a scheme useful

Q45 How many people in your household have these, or other, health problems or disabilities, which affect day to day living?
Q46 Does the village require any specific changes to help residents and visitors who have disabilities? What?
Q47 Some villages operate a Good Neighbour Scheme which co-ordinates a group of volunteers to help vulnerable and elderly residents with their transport, shopping or other needs. Would this be... Useful; something you would do; something you do already?

Chart 35

Crime Experience and Perceptions



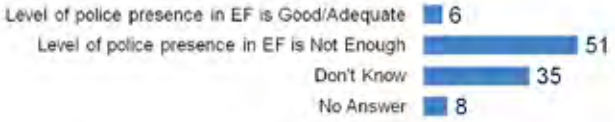
74% of these households reported the incident
58% of those reporting crimes were informed of the outcome
44% of those reporting crimes felt the response time was good/adequate

Q55 Which of these, if any, do you feel are real problems for East Farleigh?
Q56 Have you been the victim of any of these In East Farleigh in the last 5 years?

Chart 36

Policing levels

Perception of Police Presence (%)



When asked for their top 5 priorities (from a list of 19 items + options for 'other')...
18% chose 'Increased / visible police presence' as one of their top 5 items

*This put it at joint 11th ranking out of the 19 main items **

23% of those who have been victims of crime over the last 5 years selected it as one of their top 5 priorities

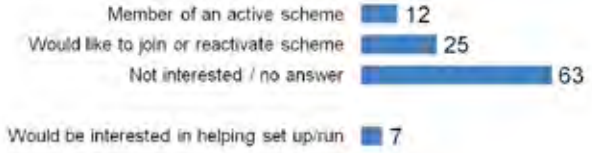
** Full data for this question on Chart 9*

Q59 What do you think about the level of Police presence in East Farleigh?

Chart 37

Neighbourhood Watch

Current involvement/interest in Neighbourhood Watch %



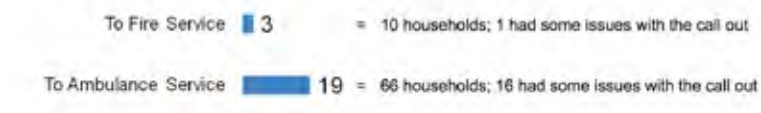
- Membership of an active scheme rises to 20% in the Lower Road area
- About a third of each of the School and Forge Lane areas would like to join or reactivate a scheme
- If you would like to help set up a scheme for your area please let us know

Q60 Are you a member of an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme, or would you like to be?

Chart 38

Fire / Ambulance

Call outs over the last 5 years (% of households)



% anticipating problems for services to reach the home: 19

The proportion anticipating problems in reaching the home, in the event of a call out, rises to 64% of households in the School area

N =	
Congestion in Vicarage Lane	14
House just not easy to find/not on the road/down a side lane	12
Houses unclear (duplicate numbers, cottages names)	6
No access for large vehicles	5
Mobile home nos. hard to follow//numbers need to be displayed on plan	4
Congestion over bridge causing delays	4
Confusion between Priory & Priory Close (& comments on locked gate: Priory Close)	3
Another house with same name /number	2

Q60 Have you had occasion to call out the Fire or Ambulance service to you in the last 5 years?
IF YES: Did you have any issues with how the call was dealt with, e.g. appropriateness of response, response time etc?
Q61 If you were to have to call out one of the emergency services in the future, would any of them have any problems in getting to you?

(B) Youth questionnaire

Introduction

A large number of youth questionnaires were delivered. They were delivered to houses known to have children and also on request. Every family attending East Farleigh School was given a copy. Response was disappointing; however, 10 were received back from households involving a total of 20 children.

The cross section was almost 50/50 girls and boys but came mainly from children under 15 with the greatest number of children under 11. Generally the comments reflected issues also gathered in the main questionnaire.

Traffic

It was noted that there is a difficulty in getting around the village safely due to lack of public transport and safe pavements. It is felt there are too many speeding vehicles and that road surfaces are not safe for bicycles, indeed, places to ride bikes safely were requested. Most of these (mainly younger) children were delivered to school via the family car.

Aside from traffic, most of the children felt safe around the village without adults, although only half of those surveyed actually went out without adults. Some are afraid of groups of bullies and this is felt to be very important although the instances are fairly isolated.

Activities and Facilities

Most of the children could carry out after-school activities and are able to visit friends locally. Different activities would be appreciated, but - as with the adult activities - many are available within a 3 mile radius.

The most popular requested activities are; a place to meet, equipped play area, organised visits to other places, various sports facilities, horse riding, music group, modern dance and language club.

The preferred time for these activities is mainly after school, in school holidays and Saturday afternoons. This may perhaps reflect parent's availability for transportation.

There are a number of people who may be interested in getting these groups together and this should be facilitated.

The recreation/playing field is used on an occasional basis. There are hindrances to more regular use

- A lack of up-to-date play equipment (particularly for older children)
- Some find the field too far from them
- Some adults feel it is in a too concealed position from child safety point of view
- A comment about dog faeces is also made

Village Centre

Some children request a local shop.

A village green in the centre of the village where activities could take place is suggested.

"...An adult perception of the (playing) field is that it is in a too concealed position from child safety point of view..."

Above & below: The recreation/playing field

Business units at Lower Gallants Farm

(C) Business/Local Organisation Questionnaire

Most local businesses and organisations were invited to take part in the survey with a hand-delivered questionnaire. 22 were received back, from the 38 delivered. The biggest employers are the local pubs/ restaurants and the farming community.

Most of their comments were consistent with the findings of the main questionnaire.

In general, most businesses and organisations are happy with what is provided in the area and pleasingly very little crime and vandalism is reported.

Some specific comments and requests are made (in no particular order):-

- A request is made for a retail facility, for buying items such as milk, stamps and snacks
- A restriction on vehicles parking at T junctions is suggested
- Speed limits are favoured as the best way of reducing the impact of traffic in the village
- Cheaper local advertising would be useful for some of the businesses
- The Church asked for local funding
- The Social Club asked for more local support (which was forthcoming in the main questionnaire)
- Almost all businesses claimed not to own large vehicles or to have them making deliveries, which would suggest that all large vehicles are passing through the village, not stopping

"...It was encouraging to see so many taking the time to absorb all that was on show and offer their own comments..."

(D) Outcomes from the Exhibition

31 January/1st February 2009

Over the two days 346 adults signed in. Many children accompanied them and so it is estimated that around 400 of East Farleigh's population came in total. It was encouraging to see so many taking the time to absorb all that was on show and offer their own comments.

The exhibition showed a combination of the questionnaire results (from section A above) and the accompanying debate and suggested actions, as now covered in the main body of this document. The content appeared to be well received.

The exhibition was well supported by the community

The main comments made are summarised below where there was a consensus of opinion. The actual comments are being retained for those who will implement the action plan.

Community Spirit Comments

The few comments in this section endorsed findings from the main questionnaire.

- In common with the main questionnaire there are several requests for later buses especially Friday and Saturday evenings, and in addition a bus service from Coxheath via the village over the bridge to the hospital.
- It has been established that a Sainsbury bus runs from Gallants Lane on a Thursday Morning and could possibly be extended to other areas; there was interest in the main questionnaire for a supermarket bus.
- The village fete is thought to be an excellent idea.
- The recreation/playing field should be better signposted and should encompass facilities such as tennis courts and hard play areas for older children and be safely fenced for the use of the school.

Village Centre Comments

Voting forms were on offer to pass opinion about issues such as the Old School Hall and Village Centre.

Village Centre

The creation of a Village Centre was not an explicit part of the original questionnaire; it was raised as an idea by some in that forum and it was suggested as a potential solution to other issues which arose, in subsequent group meetings. Again, the exhibition was an opportunity to show ideas and canvas opinion on this specific issue.

The question over the Village Centre or Green attracted a lot of interest and comment; Do you think further investigations should be made into the feasibility of different ways of creating a Village Centre for East Farleigh? If feasible, these ideas would be shared with the Village again for feedback.

There were 103 votes for and 11 against.

There was also an opportunity to write additional comments. These will be retained for future reference and comments were recorded as 34 in favour and 9 against. Most people felt that if a village centre was created it should be near The Bull and the Church.

The main reservation about the Village Centre was to do with potential associated housing if development was required to fund it. There was concern about what sort of housing it would be and whether it would open the floodgates for even more development.

Old School Hall

The future of the Old School Hall was not an active issue at the time the questionnaire was sent to all households in Spring 2008, therefore the exhibition was an opportunity to canvas opinion. Attendees were asked "Should the community investigate via the Parish Council or other group to retain the School Hall for community use. If feasible any plans would be shared with the Village again for feedback". There were 96 votes for and 3 against.

Traffic Comments

This continues to be an emotive subject attracting many types of comment:-

- Many commented on the need for improvements to signage for HGV's, reduced speed limits and general traffic calming. These comments have been linked together in the Plan as requiring further investigation
- Opinion was evenly split as to whether mini-roundabouts would be a good or bad idea (at the junctions of Dean Street / Lower Road and Dean Street / Forge Lane) and further investigation is required
- Again there was split opinion (albeit slightly more in favour) about the creation of a new river crossing, although most realised it to be very ambitious
- As seen in the main questionnaire, there was the suggestion of a one way system over Teston and East Farleigh bridges
- A request has been made for a mirror to give clear vision over the bridge as motorists pull out from the Old Priory
- Preservation of East Farleigh bridge was a key concern for many in the main questionnaire. At the exhibition where ideas were explored, there was split opinion (slightly more in favour) as to the benefits of traffic lights on the bridge. Some of those against the idea (indeed some of those in favour too) would rather see width/height restrictions and barriers with clearer signage. The detailed comments received are being kept for further investigation and the matter is being taken forward with experts.

New houses under construction in Dean Street

'...there is quite a lot of support for selective housing if it helped fund the green...'

There were several requests for buses later in the evening

The Walnut Tree is one of several pubs serving the village

'...Generally most people felt that if a village centre was created it should be near The Bull and the Church...'

The idea of creating a community nature reserve/ organic orchard was supported

- There were lots of complaints about parking in Vicarage Lane, in line with the nature of the comments already recorded from the main questionnaire. Many recognised that the investigation and potential creation of a village centre and green near The Bull could provide an opportunity to also solve the school parking issues. It is still felt that a professional feasibility study is required to look at the options available to the village.
- More generally, there was a request to restrict parking on the pavement at the Forge Lane and New Cut Junction as it impairs visibility when exiting from New Cut.

Environment and Housing Comments

There were seven topics of main comment on environment issues:-

1. The lack of, and desire for, usable footpaths in and around the village
2. A request to mend potholes
3. A need to solve flooding at Workhouse Lane
4. A request to keep hedges and verges tidy
5. A need to improve litter clearance
6. The idea to create and preserve an community nature reserve/organic orchard
7. A desire to see glass recycled as part of the doorstep scheme

A majority of those who commented on housing felt that there should be no more housing encouraged in the village (as seen in the main questionnaire).

However, there is a sizeable minority who would welcome controlled, potentially affordable, housing if monitored carefully. These views were more prevalent when considered in conjunction with the development of a potential village centre.

There is certainly a consensus that green open-spaces should be kept between villages, so preserving village identity

Communication

The new village website was on show at the exhibition and was warmly received, with recognition that it needs to be fully supported on an ongoing basis.

There was support to continue expanding the content of the Grapevine for the wider community and to try and ensure it is delivered to all houses.

Website address.
www.eastfarleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Associated initiatives and progress at the time of going to print in April 2009

Above and below: views from East Farleigh across the Medway Valley towards Barming

This list (which is not necessarily exhaustive) is a collection of initiatives previously considered, or currently under consideration, which have some bearing on the issues covered in this plan. Some have been underway for some time, others are new; they are collected here for reference and as a record of activities at this point in time.

Community Events

The next FLAG (Forge Lane Action Group) Village Fete is to take place on 4th July 2009.

School Traffic

In order to facilitate the walking bus, there are now designated crossings in place from the Bull public house, via the 'Church corner', over to the corner of Lower Road and Vicarage Lane.

A plan to have traffic lights on the corner of Lower Road and Vicarage Lane, with an associated pedestrian crossing has been turned down by KCC highways in the past due to the sight lines at the junction.

At the public meeting to discuss the School Parking issue (held in January 2009) several points were raised which have not been covered in this plan, as the whole topic will be progressed separately. However, for the record, two aspects of note were the requirement to build in the views on the matter (now available) of MBC and the Fire Service and to look at the School's transport policy, as part of the discussions and decision making process.

Other Traffic Related Issues

A Traffic Light Scheme for East Farleigh Bridge is drawn up and costed but is currently fairly low down in KCC list of priorities (the PIPKIN process).

East Farleigh Parish Council (EFPC) are actively pursuing an interactive sign for the Heath Road end of Dean Street

Several plans to change the speed limits on different roads around the village have been investigated in the past by EFPC and these previous plans will be taken into account going forward.

Some comments were made in the questionnaire with regards to encouraging MBC to build the southern by-pass for Maidstone. This has not been taken on by the Village Plan as it is a Central Government Remit.

Housing

Planning permission for 5 'affordable houses' in Gallants Lane has been granted and work is due to begin in 2009.

Farleigh Club

Contact List for Village Institutions and Activities

Bell Ringers
Tuesday Evening in the Church

Brownies
Mrs Beth Shelford
East Farleigh Brownies
8 Fairhurst Drive
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0DF 01622 741305

Dancing
Melody Dunn 01622 726155

East Farleigh Church
Reverend Peter Walker
The Rectory
144 Heath Road
Coxheath
Maidstone ME17 4PL 01622 747570

Farleigh Club
The Chairman/Secretary
Farleigh Club
Lower Road
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0JW 01622 728048
or 01732 842290

Farleighs History Society
Mrs Tricia Coveney
Farleighs History Society
The Old Vicarage
Lower Road
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0JW 01622 726312

Farleighs W I
Mrs Helen Swan
President
Appledore
Charlton Lane
West Farleigh
Maidstone 01622814445

Forge Lane Action Group (FLAG)
Louise Francis - Secretary
12 New Villas
Forge Lane
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0HH 01622 721779

Friends of East Farleigh School
Mr Nick Aldrich - Chairman – Friends of East Farleigh School
Regent House
Dean Street
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0PU 01622 743094

Gardening Club
Sue Morris 01622 726164

Hip Hop
Jo Golding 07828 741763

Horse Riding
Horseshoes Riding School
01622746161

John Bunyan Leaver Charity (Allotments)
Mrs Marjorie Carrington
John Bunyan Leaver Charity
Redwood
Priory Close
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0EY 01622 727607

Keep Fit
Jo Golding 07828 741763

Montessori School
Ms J Dening-Smitherman
St Helens Montessori School
St Helens
Lower Road
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0JT 01622 721731

Old School/Church Hall
Mrs Marjorie Carrington
Redwood
Priory Close
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0EY 01622 727607

Volunteers helping to keep the village tidy

A quiet winter's day on the River Medway

Parochial Church Council
Mrs Barbara Bartlett - Churchwarden
Gallants Manor
Gallants Lane
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0LF 01622 726444

Preschool
Mrs Tracey Shea - Pre School Administrator
East Farleigh Preschool
18 Abbots Field
Maidstone ME16 8QQ 07749 717830
or 07951 847956

Primary School
Mrs Valerie Ellis - Headteacher
East Farleigh Primary School
Vicarage Lane
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0LY 01622 726364

Priory Close Residents Association
Mr Dennis Fowle
Priory Close Residents Association
Dalbury
Lower Road
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0EX 01622 727717

Sir John Franklyn Almshouses
Mrs Joyce Swait - Hon Secretary to the Trustees
Sir John Franklyn Almshouses
Rosebank
Workhouse Lane
East Farleigh
Maidstone ME15 0PZ 01622 745852

Village Website
www.eastfarleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Walking Group
Brenda Wilson 01622 720989

WI Hall Secretary
For Bookings contact 01622 743382

Youth Football Cub
Contact West Farleigh Sports Club
01622 720810

Agriculture still plays an important part in the life of East Farleigh

East Farleigh Parish Council

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Tel: 01622 842508
Farthing Green Barn, Farthing
Green, New Barn Road,
Hawkenbury, Kent TN12 0EE
E-mail: paulina.stockell@kent.gov.uk

Terry Ketley – Clerk
Tel: 01622 745332
60 Stockett Lane, Coxheath,
Maidstone, Kent ME17 4PY
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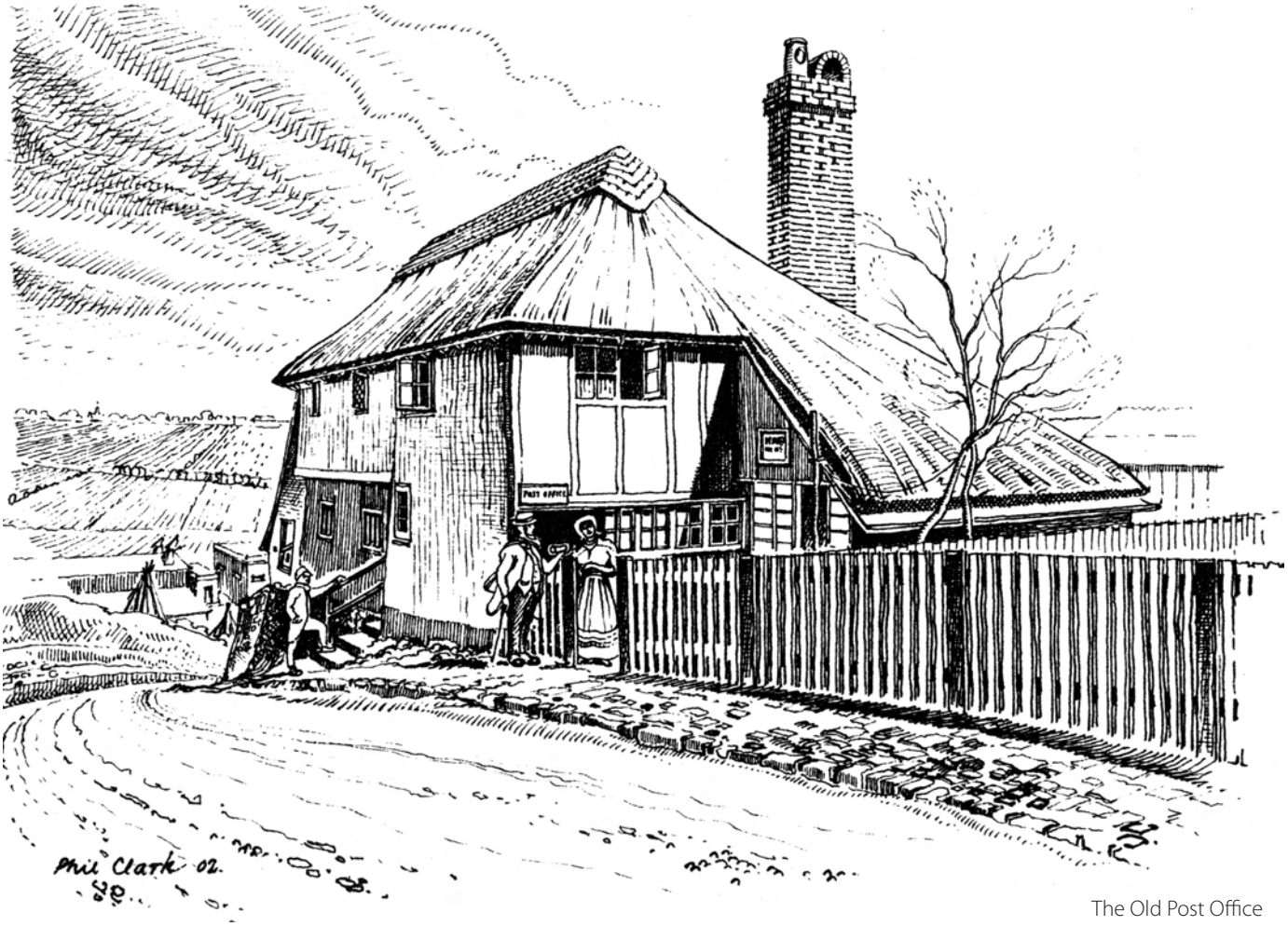

The Old Post Office

The Bull

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