

# IWERNE MINSTER



PARISH PLAN  
2006

# CONTENTS

	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>St Mary's Church</b> (From Hob Goblin)	Front Cover
<b>FOREWORD</b> (The Chairman of the Parish Council)	3
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	4
<b>HISTORIC IWERNE MINSTER</b> (A brief description of the origin and development of the village)	5
<b>DESIGN STATEMENT</b>	7
<b>THE PLAN</b>	8
<b>Map of the Parish Boundary</b>	Inside back Cover

## Appendices

- (1) Survey summary & key findings.
- (2) The survey questionnaire which was sent to every household.
- (3) Village Directory - Useful information.
- (4) St. Marys Church – A history.
- (5) Results of a survey of children at Fontmell School .
- (6) Children's likes & dislikes (graphs)
- (7) Action Plan Summary
- (8) The Steering Group – Contact details.

## NOTE

The conclusions, recommendations and proposed courses of action are set out within the Plan ( See page 8 ) under each of their respective headings for immediate ease of reference but a Summary can be found in Appendix 7

## **FOREWORD**

(by the Chairman of the Parish Council)

Our village has always benefited from the strong community involvement of residents in the many social and civic activities that take place here.

The annual village meeting has always been remarkably well attended and the monthly meetings of the Parish Council no less so, giving a strong indication of the extensive interest held by residents in the affairs of the village.

Because of this, it was no surprise that when the suggestion was made at a Parish Council meeting to develop a Parish Plan, a great deal of support was quickly offered for its preparation.

A committee of volunteers was formed to guide the project on its way and a detailed questionnaire was issued in October 2004 asking for resident's opinions on a wide range of subjects.

A very satisfying 60% reply helped the committee to identify major, as well as lesser, issues and a later presentation and display in the village hall over a three day period gave additional, valuable feedback which has resulted in the completed plan now presented.

The plan itself describes what steps are intended in order to pursue the ideas and requests that have been made. Indeed, some are already in hand with a few already completed.

However, I am sure that it will be readily understood by everyone that certain matters such as transport, roads and planning are decided by District and County Councils and are, consequently, not within the control of the Parish Council.

Nevertheless, I believe that the ideals expressed in the survey replies and at the later presentations, make clear the collective wishes and aspirations of the people living in the village and which, therefore, ought to be taken into account when those authorities are considering such decisions.

Our plan therefore includes guidelines to that end, set out in the Design Statement, and I accordingly commend this plan and report to those authorities with that in mind.

Finally, the Parish Council undertakes to arrange for updates on progress to be issued from time to time, both on individual issues as they arise and for occasional reviews of the plan as necessary.

The plan is not intended to be a static statement and is expected to reflect the changing needs of residents as they happen so the continued involvement and participation of all residents is most sincerely requested and greatly appreciated.

Dianne Benfield,  
Chairman, Parish Council.  
April 2006

# IWERNE MINSTER PARISH PLAN 2006

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Government launched the concept of Parish & Town Plans in 2000 because it wanted to encourage local communities to become more involved with, and have more control over, their own affairs and lives.

This approach was intended, similarly, to encourage the co-operation of District Councils (and others) with local communities in seeking to achieve the aspirations and objectives identified by those communities.

Iwerne Minster remains a tightly knit community, as it has always been, with much social interaction between its residents and with a high degree of civic interest.

In 2004, the Parish Council's proposal to implement the preparation of Iwerne Minster's village plan was well received and a small group of interested villagers took on the challenge.

This Parish Plan is based on the responses to a village survey carried out in October 2004 and delivered by hand to each household in Iwerne Minster.

A separate, supplemental questionnaire was provided for young people (under the age of 18) seeking their specific views and concerns and younger children at St Andrews school in Fontmell Magna were also asked for their opinions.

An illustration of their comments is provided in Appendix (6)

The response from 300 residents (115 households plus 38 individuals) represents a return rate of around 60% and demonstrates a high level of local support and interest from the community.

The survey sought to offer residents the widest opportunity possible to comment freely on any matter of concern to an individual as well as asking for opinions on well known local issues.

Having identified from those responses, the main issues of concern to residents, a presentation was arranged in the village hall to report the identification of those issues, to seek clarification where needed, and to ask for practical support if available.

The presentation was held over a period of three days, supported and managed throughout by members of the steering committee.



*The presentation of the plan in the Abingdon Memorial Hall*

92 villagers visited the hall during the presentation, offering help and comment, which underlines the interest and commitment to the process from the community.

As a consequence, the plan has developed to provide a firm statement of villagers' aspirations and needs, not only in dealing with some specific areas of concern, but also with the quality of life enjoyed.

A villager's comment that "*Iwerne Minster is great the way it is*" is an indication of the general mood which is widely supported by residents.





The village is situated on the A350 midway between Shaftesbury and Blandford Forum and on the springs which rise as the River Iwerne.

On the Eastern side, the village adjoins Cranborne Chase, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and to the West is the Blackmore Vale.

With evidence of habitation in the late Bronze Age as much as 3000 years ago, the first church buildings are thought to be Roman and Celt about 312 AD on sites that now form the village centre. King Alfred made his daughter Ethelgwa Abbess of Shaftesbury in AD888 and gave her authority over some of his lands including the Euwenmynstre area. A charter of AD956 by King Eadwig gave the then Abbess of Shaftesbury jurisdiction over Iwerne Minster and its 5 churches.

Construction of the existing St. Marys Church started in 1100AD shortly after the Norman Conquest and the Domesday Book records Shaftesbury Abbey as holding the Manor of Euwenmynstre when the population was around 200.



*The Parish Church of St. Mary has one of only three medieval spires in Dorset and a more recent anecdote from the nineteenth century is that it was rebuilt at that time at only half its original height. According to tradition, and which is supported by the shape of the spire still to be seen today, “the rest went to repair the roads”.*

There is, therefore, clear evidence of a long standing – even ancient – history of this community but accurate records are more recent.

There are many fine Architectural features to be found in the village, notably Clayesmore School and the 12<sup>th</sup> Century Church of St. Mary’s.

The present Clayesmore School for example was once the Estate Manor house built by Lord Wolverton in 1878 (designed by Alfred Waterhouse, an eminent Architect of his time) and the estate passed to James Ismay in 1908.

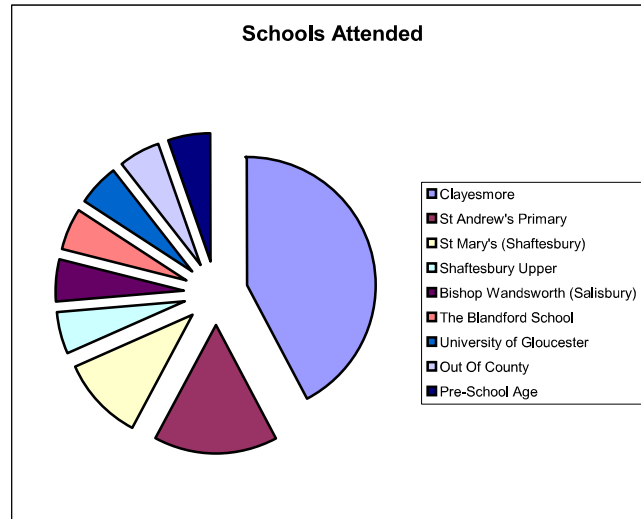
Ismay was a great benefactor to the village and during the first World War he organised food production and also distributed news of the conflict. He later built a fine structure of brick and stone for the display of news sheets, still known as the War Office and still used for display of public notices today.

The estate was sold following Ismay’s death in 1930 and the Manor House became Clayesmore School providing extensive facilities for boarding and day pupils and forming an integral part of the village.

The well fitted sports hall facilities and swimming pool are available for the use of local people.

Most of the village is within a Conservation Area containing eight separate sites of Archaeological Importance, seven Important Open Wooded Areas (IOWA'S) and 57 listed properties. There are further small settlements forming part of the parish to the East, along Tower Hill as far as the C13 road, to the South as far as, and including Oyle's Mill and Park Farm and to the North West as far as Pegg's Farm and Goodman's Farm.

The village has around 500 electors and the resident population including children is around 600. However, Clayesmore School additionally accommodates nearly 300 boarding pupils (including about 220 Seniors aged between 13 and 18) together with 150 day pupils.



*As can be seen from the chart, a very high proportion of children living in the village attend Clayesmore School.*

The Village is fortunate in having a number of small businesses serving the community and, although some have had to close in recent years, we still enjoy the picturesque Post Office & Stores, Simon Harvell's high quality Butchers, the Talbot Public House, our Village Garage, the Trout Farm and the Leopard Dairy cheese packing factory at Home Farm. Collectively, they form a core to the village which is highly valued.



***The Village Post Office and Stores***

*There are also several other small businesses operating within the village including a number of Bed & Breakfast facilities.*

*Details will be found in the Village Directory, a copy of which can be seen as appendix 3*



***The Butcher's Shop***

Despite the comparatively small number of residents, the village supports many clubs and associations which between them, generate a lively social calendar and which enhance, rather than detract from, the quiet charm and rural nature which is the quintessence of Iwerne Minster and which its residents have expressed themselves keen to enhance and preserve. Residents can find details of these organisations in the Village Directory, attached as Appendix (3)

### 3 Design Statement

The development of the village has a long and varied history as has already been partly described but, in 1904, Sir Frederick Treves describes “ a village of some size, beautifully situated, and possessed of many charming old cottages”.

The village is still beautifully situated, enjoying the splendour of Blackmore Vale to the West and Cranborne Chase, a designated “AONB” (area of outstanding natural beauty) to the East. There are also still many thatched cottages remaining, together with houses built by Lord Wolverton which might once have been considered “bold” or “gaudy” but which, now mellowed, are considered to be some of the most picturesque buildings in the village and it is hardly surprising to find that nearly a fifth of properties in the village are listed.



Indeed, the village is characterised by narrow streets between walled gardens, fronted by stone and half timbered buildings of traditional modest scale.

The overall result is one of quiet rural charm and an appreciation of historic value. This is augmented by the topography and surrounding countryside with which the village merges, both physically and visually through the maintenance of vistas to the outlying hills and countryside. Any infill development should necessarily involve the careful selection of sites to ensure that this important visual aspect of the character of the village is not destroyed or impaired. New development outside of the existing development boundary is universally opposed by residents and the existing boundary should be strengthened and protected.

A marked appreciation by its inhabitants of the very special nature of the village becomes apparent, when studying their survey responses in which they ask that any additional development should reflect sympathetically in the choice of materials and construction & design principles. There is a clearly associated requirement to protect the existing treescape and hedges, both within and surrounding the village.

***This design statement is intended to be used as specific guidance to the District and County Councils for planning and building control purposes.***



## 4. THE PLAN

The aspirations and requests expressed by the villagers have been separated into the following main sections:

- A) Social and Community Issues
- B) Environment
- C) Economy

Each heading contains a number of topics, each separately addressed, and which sets out the problem or issue together with the course of action it is proposed to pursue for its resolution. A likely timescale is indicated where appropriate .

### A) Social and Community Issues.

The areas which are included under social and community are :-

Community activities  
Housing  
Security  
Health facilities  
Sports and recreation  
Youth  
Travel

#### A1.Community Activities

Iwerne Minster is a very busy village with a host of diverse community activities. These encompass a wide range of interests and include a very active church community, a village club, a horticultural society, film club, cricket club and field, sports facilities available at Clayesmore school and many others. There are also two locations which can host meetings; the Village Club (situated on the recreation field on the eastern side of the village) and the Abingdon Memorial Hall in the village centre at the Chalk..

Community events are generally quite well supported but there is always room for improvement.



*A Summer Show by the Horticultural Society on the recreation field. Also shown (right) is the Village Club building.*



There is support for better car parking at the village club.  
There is support for considering a larger village hall.

#### Action

Liaise with village club committee and Parish Council regarding parking.  
Examine the viability of a larger village hall .

#### A2.Housing

The majority of residents believe that the existing quality and quantity of housing is adequate. However there is a significant minority who feel that attention needs to be given to affordable housing both for young families and older residents.

We support the view that subject to proven need, affordable housing should be developed within the current village boundaries.

We oppose the development of housing outside the village boundary unless there is a clearly proven need for it.

We believe that any future development should reflect the unique and historic character of the village and should include particular emphasis on materials, construction and design specifications.

We support the retaining of the current development boundary

#### **Action**

Pursue Housing needs survey with NDDC and engage with low cost housing providers, such as the Rural Housing Trust and Signpost, when and if need is proven.

Prepare an informed submission to the NDDC plan.

### **A3.Security**

The general view of residents is that Iwerne Minster is a safe and secure village to live in. However, there have been a number of break-ins and thefts over the last few years. Until fairly recently there was an active neighbourhood watch system operating and the village has a designated community police officer based in Shaftesbury as well as regular visits by the county police liaison van.

We support the reactivation of the Neighbourhood watch scheme and a group of volunteer networkers is already emerging amongst the community.

#### **Action**

Promote and develop the Neighbourhood watch scheme.

Contact Dorset Police to encourage more local patrols of the village and its environs and encourage the community to report suspicious activity to the Police.

### **A4.Health Facilities and Child care facilities.**

The majority of residents are happy with the current arrangements with the Health Centre at Child Okeford.

There still remain a considerable number of residents who have no means of transport to the centre or are very frail and elderly and essentially housebound.

The recent survey suggested the possibility of a once or twice weekly clinic in the village including the presence of a dental surgeon if at all possible.

Also requested is a voluntary car service and the possible delivery of prescriptions into a regulated central point in the village.

With regard to child care facilities there are a number of young families who would welcome a toddler group in the village.(This is currently being trialled at the village club.)

We support the provision of a voluntary car service for villagers to go to the Child Okeford Clinic.

We will explore the possibilities of prescription delivery.

We support the formation of a local voluntary toddler group.

#### **Action.**

A register of volunteer car drivers is being prepared to work in conjunction with the volunteer group already based in Child Okeford.

Discussions will be held with the practice manager at Child Okeford health centre to explore the possibilities of prescription delivery.(There is already an informal arrangement with some of the staff who work at the centre and live in the village to deliver in an emergency).

A member of the steering group is examining the possibility of toddler group being formed in the village.



## **A5.Sports and recreation.**

Iwerne Minster is fortunate to have a very active cricket club and there are gymnasium and swimming pool facilities at Clayesmore School available for use by the public.

Unfortunately the village football club is not presently active but the recreation field, owned by the Parish and situated at the junction of Dunns Lane and Watery Lane, is available to residents for exclusive daily hire and also hosts the annual horticultural show. Residents often use this facility in connection with private functions or when substantial car parking is needed.

Informal use by village children is welcomed and encouraged.

The recreation field and the children's playground, the latter to be found between Watery Lane and the cricket field, are both much appreciated and well used.

However, the survey highlighted requests for other facilities to be available within the village such as ball courts, a basket ball hoop and possibly a skateboard facility to be sited in the village field.



*The Cricket Club Pavilion*



*The Children's Playground*

We support the continuing relationship between the village and school regarding sports facilities.

We support the activities of the village cricket club and would encourage residents to go and watch the team when playing at home.

### **Action.**

We will explore with the Parish council and village club the feasibility of the suggestions above.

## **A6.Youth.**

17% of the residents of Iwerne Minster are under the age of 30 and the survey highlighted that there is a lack of facilities for the young of the village.

The junior survey showed that 40% of respondents wanted a youth club/social centre .

There were also requests for the formation of clubs such as Guides and Brownies and that the village club be made more child friendly.

We support the formation of a youth club/centre.

### **Action**

The villagers who have volunteered to help form and run a youth club to be contacted and encouraged to prepare an outline plan for consideration by the PC and residents.

This group should include some of the youngsters from its start.

## **A7.Travel.**

The majority of residents felt that transport and accessibility is not an issue.

However, there are a significant number of villagers who feel that if bus services could be more frequent, run earlier and later with improved connections beyond Blandford and Shaftesbury then they would consider using them.

The children's survey reinforced this view.

There is also considered to be an opportunity for a taxi or minibus/post bus service in the village.

There are also requests for more cycle paths and better signs.

We support the need for a more flexible frequent bus service to reach the centres of Shaftesbury, Blandford, Salisbury and beyond.

### **Action**

Inform the NDDC of the need for such a service.

Encourage and promote the use of the current bus service.

## **B )Environment**

Areas that are included under Environment are :-

Planning and village size

Traffic and road safety

Litter, refuse and tidiness

### **B1.Planning and village size.**

There are real concerns amongst a very high number of villagers that their concerns and views on planning are not currently being heeded by the authorities at NDDC.

This has been highlighted by the lack of consultation and executing agreed requirements for the development at Spire View now known as Home Farm and other cases recently.

The residents of Iwerne Minster are concerned that the village retains its unique character, that building standards are kept high and that all development should be sympathetic to the architectural vernacular of the village.

It is also felt that proper time should be given for consultation and that when plans have been agreed that they must be adhered to .

The village recognises the need for progress and to ensure that any specific and proven affordable housing needs should be met.

The preferred process should be evolutionary and consultative and not enforcement.

There is also a clear message that all planning development should be within the current village boundaries in order to protect the amenity of the AONB within which Iwerne Minster is situated.

Villagers have made it clear that they are concerned over the difficulty of parking in some parts of the village and a minimum of two parking spaces per unit for any new development is essential.

We support sensible, sensitive planning development.

All planning development should take place within the village boundaries.

Subject to proven need affordable housing should be welcomed provided it is for residents and their immediate families.

Closer liaison is needed between the NDDC planning authorities and the PC.

### **Action.**

Develop a set of guidelines for future development and to use as planning guidance for the future.

This should be undertaken in conjunction with NDDC and within the DC's planning system.

The guidelines should include landscape assessment, historic and economic needs and highways and lanes as well as architectural constraints/considerations.

Encourage the planning authorities to give longer notice regarding planning applications.

## **B2. Traffic and Road Safety.**

Residents are very concerned about a number of issues related to this area.

The density and size of vehicles permitted to use the A350 which is a main route to Poole and Bournemouth gives great cause for concern in both safety and environmental terms.

Traffic speeds in and around the village are worrying and reinforce the need for traffic calming and adherence to speed limits.

The positioning of Clayesmore school on the A350 suggests needs for clearly designated pedestrian crossing points as does the Oakwood Drive development.

Thoughtless and careless parking within the village environs is a cause for concern.

The use of Tower Hill as a “rat run “ is also considered to be potentially very dangerous.

There are some poorly maintained pavements and road areas in the village.

We support the need for better, more effective, traffic calming within the village and on the A350.

We support the development of a new trunk road between Shaftesbury and Blandford to relieve the inadequate A350.

We support the need for recognised road crossings.

We support the idea of a 20 mph limit within the confines of the village.

### **Action.**

Parish Council to agree a traffic calming safety plan for the village with District Council and police.

## **B3. Litter, Refuse / Tidiness and Access**

In general the roads, pavements, hedgerows and footpaths are in relatively good order but there are concerns with some poor pavement/road maintenance which is a real concern for the older resident.

The replacement of some more stiles with gates has been requested.

There have been requests for more dog bins and seating in and around the village.

The majority of the village are happy with the refuse collection services but would like to have a more frequent recycling service that also included cardboard.

There is clear opposition to the use of wheelie bins.

Some hedgerows and footpaths are in need of cutting back and clearing on a more regular basis.

There have been requests for a “You are here” map to be displayed.

Residents have asked that the existing village directory (helpful for the guidance of newcomers) should be updated and support to this request was given at the presentation.

We support the provision of more seating around the village (a new seat by the art centre on Tower Hill has already been installed) together with the replacement of more stiles with gates.

After enquiries regarding dog bins it is clear that the NDDC will not extend this service as there are major issues regarding staffing and contractors prepared to undertake this sort of work.

We support the requests for a more frequent recycling service to include cardboard.

We support the provision of location maps and the re-issue of the village directory.

### **Action.**

PC to examine possible sites for more seating in and around the village.

NDDC to be requested to increase frequency of recycling service.

All villagers to be encouraged to pick up litter and maintain own hedgerows and paths wherever possible.

To seek local sponsorship for the provision of location maps

To seek local support and assistance for the issue of an updated Directory

## **C) Economy**

The areas which are included under economy are :-

Employment  
Current businesses  
New businesses

### **C1.Employment.**

Due to the relatively high proportion of retired and semi retired people in Iwerne Minster the need for employment provision is relatively low.

When vacancies arise in the local shops public house and school they are generally filled either by local residents or more frequently by workers from outside the village.

This does raise the question of Iwerne Minster's viability as a working village in the future given the current demographics of the village and low numbers of people seeking work in the village.

We support wherever appropriate and practical the employment of local people.

### **C2.Current businesses.**

There are a number of extremely vibrant businesses in the village including a very high quality butchers, post office/shop (which carries a very wide range of day to day requirements), a well supported public house, and a cheese packing plant on Tower Hill, as well as Clayesmore School, a Garage and a number of excellent B & B's.

We support the development and investment in all of these provided it is undertaken in a responsible manner.

#### **Action.**

Encourage all villagers to make maximum practical use of the local facilities to ensure their long term business well-being.

### **C3.New Businesses.**

Because of the demographic situation within Iwerne Minster and the relatively small amount of available business space it is not easy to encourage small and medium size enterprises to consider locating here.

However villagers suggested that thought be given to trying to encourage some form of arts and craft centre and possibly a tea room to help encourage tourism.

We would support these forms of entrepreneurship if they can be made self sufficient and viable.

#### **Progress achieved.**

Since beginning work on producing the plan, a number of successes can be identified at the time of going to press:-

The Village Directory has been updated, as can be seen from the copy provided as Appendix 4, and the Parish Council will make this available as a separate publication in the very near future.

Prescription collection can be made from the Post Office Stores by prior arrangement.

The Home Watch has been renewed – although more participation from residents is needed to make this fully effective.

Deriving initially from the Home Watch concept, a village web site has been proposed and is being investigated by volunteers in conjunction with the Parish Council

## Appendix (1)

### SURVEY SUMMARY AND KEY FINDINGS

“The peaceful air and quiet rural charm of a country village which has a strong community feel”. (a residents quote)

#### 1. Return rate.

From approximately 330 households and some 500 electors, 153 questionnaires were returned (115 from households and 38 from individual residents - or 300 people) representing a return of almost 60% from the electorate.

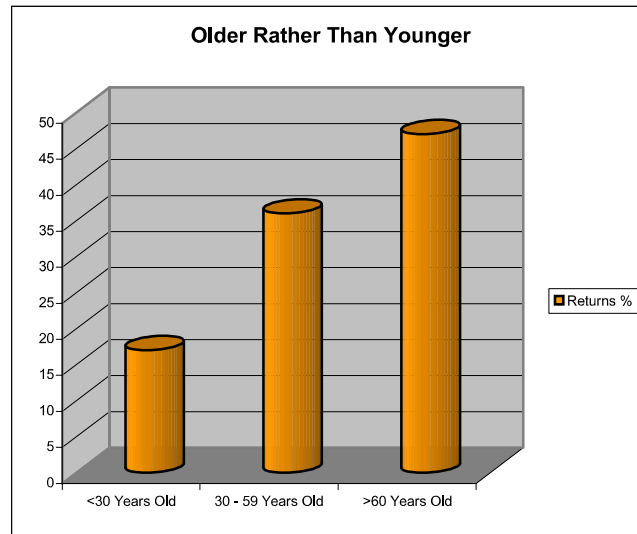
#### 2. Older rather than younger.

17% of the respondents/household members are under the age of 30.

36% are between the ages of 30 and 59.

47% are over 60.

( But 20% of the households have people under the age of 30.)



#### 3. New arrivals.

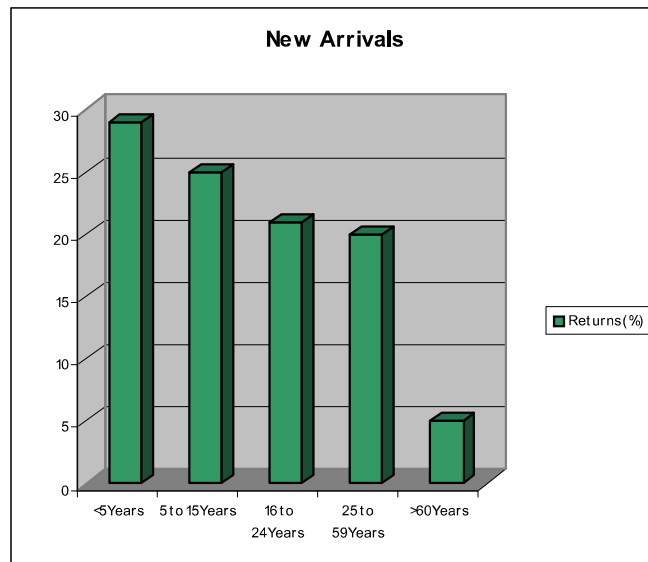
29% of the respondents/households have lived in IM for less than 5 years.

25% have lived in the village for between 5 and 15 years.

21% between 16 and 24 years.

20% between 25 and 59 years.

5% 60 years and over.





## Appendix (1) (Continued)

### 4. Local Economy - New businesses.

The number of respondents not in employment is relatively high (82), mostly in retirement. At the same time there are clear indications of high levels of employment in the remaining households (69) which suggest relatively good levels of economic activity. 63% feel that the current level of businesses are sufficient but a significant 31% feel that there are opportunities for light industry, arts and crafts or possibly a café/tearoom.

### 5. The local environment.

There are a number of issues of concern which keep recurring throughout the questionnaires:-

#### 5.1 Planning.

There is real concern that local views are not heeded by the District Council. The concerns are to ensure that the village retains its character, that building standards are kept high and sympathetic to the architectural styles in the village and that proper observance and time is given to the planning process.

Possible need for some affordable housing within the village envelope.

#### 5.2 Traffic and Road Safety and general security.

Villagers are very concerned about a number of issues related to this area.

The density of traffic and size of vehicles permitted on the A350 and at times on Tower Hill.

Traffic speeds in and around the village, the need for either some form of traffic calming or speed limit enforcement.

Poorly maintained and in some cases possibly dangerous uneven road and pavement surfaces.

The need for safety crossings on the A350 opposite Clayesmore School and possibly near the Talbot public house.

Thoughtless on-street parking in some parts of the village .

A desire to see a greater police presence.

#### 5.3 Litter, refuse, tidiness.

Generally speaking the roads, pavements, hedgerows, footpaths were perceived to be in a good to fair state of repair but there were significant concerns regarding poor road/pavement maintenance, overgrown footpaths and hedgerows.

More dog bins were requested along with more public seating, particularly for the Chalk, the War Office area, Churchyard/Church area, Tower Hill and perimeter of the cricket field.

The majority of respondents were happy with the collection of refuse services but some would like a more frequent recycling service (weekly) and for cardboard to be included.

66% are not in favour of the introduction of wheelie bins.

## 6 The Village.

Iwerne Minster is clearly much loved by its residents and the scores for its key attributes are high.

At the top of the list villagers placed Iwerne Minster's very good community spirit and friendliness and villagers like its calmness, peace, tranquillity and general ambience.

### Things people like about the Village

*IM's particular character and architectural mix are highly valued.*

*IM's proximity to some of Dorset's most attractive countryside is important to many of the residents.*

*The Sports centre at Clayesmore, the cricket field, the play area and the village field .*

*Its very active social life is equally valued through the Church and the varied and wide range of clubs together with having two meeting places (Abingdon Hall and the Village Club).*

*IM is generally perceived to be safe and child friendly.*

*Villagers also value very highly the facilities and amenities available including the Shop/PO, The Butchers, Pub and Garage.*



*The War Memorial*

## **Appendix (1) (continued)**

### **7 What irritates.**

Poor control over planning.

Traffic and the need to relieve the A350 somehow.

The fast “school run” traffic on the very narrow Tower Hill.

Careless on-road parking in narrow lanes.

Neither the Village club nor Abingdon Hall are big enough – A need for a larger single hall?

### **8 Housing and village size.**

The majority of respondents believe that the existing quality and quantity of housing is adequate. However there is a significant minority (50) who feel attention needs to be given to affordable housing both for young families and older residents.

The preference is not to extend the village boundaries but where possible to infill as there is felt to be a danger of over development and assimilation into neighbouring villages.

### **9 Health facilities and childcare facilities.**

Whilst the majority of respondents are happy with the current arrangements with the health centre at Child Okeford, there are concerns for those who have no means of transport or are very frail/elderly and unable to travel far.

Suggestions range from a separate health clinic in the village to a weekly or twice weekly surgery including a NH dentist.

Also suggested is a voluntary car service for those without transport and either a pharmacy or a prescription delivery service into a central point in the village.

A small number of respondents would welcome a toddler group, a crèche at Clayesmore and more day care/nursery facilities for working mothers.

### **10 Sports and Recreation.**

Most villagers feel that the current facilities are sufficient but there are suggestions that a larger village hall similar to Fontmell Magna would provide a purpose built village centre which could be used by a number of different interest groups.

There is also felt to be a need to provide some more facilities such as ball courts, a basket ball hoop and possibly a skateboard ramp for the youngsters - possibly sited at the village field.

### **11 A Youth club.**

64 respondents felt that a youth club should be formed and, when asked, 17 offered to help in its formation and running.

### **12 Getting about.**

The majority of respondents felt that transport and accessibility was not an issue.

However there were significant numbers of villagers who felt that if bus services could be made more frequent, run earlier and later, with improved connections beyond Blandford and Shaftesbury, then they would consider using them.

A number of residents would like to see a taxi service in the village or a minibus/post bus service.

A car sharing club is also mentioned.

A number of requests have been made for better/safer cycle paths for footpaths to be better maintained and or reinstated.

Better signage and user friendly gates rather than styles are also suggested.

For those with mobility difficulties, improving the state of footpaths, pavements and roads is important along with wheel chair access to Abingdon Hall the shops and the Church together with more community transport.

## **Appendix (1) (continued)**

### **13 “Anything else”**

**(Residents were invited to raise questions on any matter of personal interest)**

Neighbourhood watch please.

Will those involved in planning please be sensitive to ensure that the village’s equilibrium is Maintained - evolution not revolution .

What happened about mains gas?

Concerns regarding an influx of travellers as in Somerset.

Need for a list of volunteer drivers for those without transport.

Involve Clayesmore School in village development and plan.

### **14 Broad Issues for consideration**

The survey has highlighted four key themes to explore :-

The massive community spirit and the challenge of retaining this for the future.

Making and keeping Iwerne Minster as a place for the young as well as the older resident.

Planning and retaining the village’s essential facilities, character, style and integrity.

Dealing with the ever- increasing traffic and road safety issues.

**IWERNE MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**THE FUTURE OF THIS VILLAGE**

**VITAL VILLAGES INITIATIVE**

**VILLAGE PLAN SURVEY**

15<sup>th</sup> October 2004

Dear Neighbour,

You might have heard about the village plan that is being prepared for Iwerne Minster. The Parish Council has begun this on your behalf so that North Dorset District Council, Dorset County Council and, ultimately, Whitehall can be certain that they know what people who live here want for their community.

It has been made clear to us that if we want government, at any level, to listen and take notice of what we want, we must be able to show that those desires have been properly identified and have also been clearly stated by everyone who lives here.

In other words we need a Village Plan, set out as a formal document which will be given to North Dorset District Council, so that your wishes for the future of your village will be respected.

The Parish Council needs your help to do this and has formed a committee of villagers to agree how the plan should be prepared.

The first step is the preparation of the enclosed questionnaire by which we are trying to learn your opinions on crucial questions for the village.

We need as much help in doing this as we can find and if you would like to play a part in developing the plan you will be very welcome and you should tell the Chairman, Dianne Benfield, or any of the committee members that you would like to help.

The purpose of the questions we ask is simply to find out what you like about the village and why you like to live here. We also need to know if there is anything you don't like and what you want to see changed or improved.

Please do your best to answer all the questions but if there is anything else you want to say please add it to the form in any way you wish.

If you would like to discuss the questionnaire, or if you would like help to answer any of the questions, please ask any of the committee members who are listed at the end of the form. They will be happy to help.

While it is very important to the village that we find out what you want, it is just as important that we can show that every resident has been involved so;

**PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE AND  
PLEASE DO NOT THINK IT IS SAFE TO LEAVE IT TO OTHER PEOPLE TO DO SO.**

**YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT**

Dianne Benfield,  
Chairman, Parish Council.

**Appendix (2)**

**VITAL VILLAGES INITIATIVE**

**SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please take the time to complete this questionnaire.

It is very important that everyone should do so because it is your village and only your views matter.

Although it has been prepared on the basis that it will be completed by the whole household, replies from individuals will be welcome and if you need more forms please telephone Irene Burgoyne on 812048 who will arrange for them to be given to you.

You could also have a larger print version if that would be helpful.

**Your Household**

1. Please give your address, or if you prefer, just your street name.

---

2. Please state if this is your main residence. Yes/No

3. How many people live at your address and how old are they?

Age Range	0 – 14	15 - 29	30-44	45 – 59	60 – 74	75+
Number of people						

4. Are you answering this questionnaire as a household? Yes/No  
Or are you answering this questionnaire as an individual? Yes/No

5. How many years have you / your household lived in the village? \_\_\_\_\_

**The Local Economy**

6. How many members of your household are currently in employment? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you think we need new businesses and shops in the village? \_\_\_\_\_

**The Local Environment**

8. What local environmental and planning issues are of particular concern to you and your household? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are there any particular issues of safety that concern you? (eg. community safety, road safety, personal safety etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. What is your opinion of the current condition of the following features: -

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Roads					
Pavements					
Dry stone walls					
Hedgerows					
Footpaths					

11. If you marked any of the above as either “Poor or “Very Poor”, please tell us why you think so.  
\_\_\_\_\_



12. Do you think that we have enough of the following?

	Yes	No
Dog Bins		
Litter Bins		
Notice Boards		
Public Seats		

13. Please tell us if you think that any of the facilities above are in short supply and suggest locations for additions.

---

14. Are you satisfied with existing arrangements for:-

Household rubbish. Yes/No.

Recycling. Yes/No

If not, what changes would you like to see?

eg. more frequent / less frequent collections

---

15. Would you support the use of Wheelie bins ? Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

16. What aspect or features of the village do you enjoy most and makes you glad to live here?

---

17. Is there anything about the village that you don't like and, if so, what action would you like to see taken for improvement?

---

## Housing, Social and Community Issues

18. Do you think the existing quality and quantity of housing available in the village is adequate?  
(Yes / No)

19. If not, please specify the type of accommodation required to fulfil existing needs (eg. affordable ( ie. rented or shared ownership), retirement, flats, maisonettes, bungalows)

---

20. Would the provision of some affordable housing to meet local needs be good for the community? (Yes/No)

21. Does your family have a need for affordable housing in the village? (Yes/No)

22. If you answered "yes" to question 21, please indicate which of the following terms describes your situation:-

You are an entire household which is unable to move due to the cost of alternative accommodation.

Yes/No

You are part of an existing household and wish to form a new separate household but are unable to do so due to the cost of accommodation. Yes/No

23. Are you in favour of the village growing larger? Yes/No

24. If you said yes, should this only be within the existing village boundaries. ie infill development ? (The village boundary can be identified from a plan displayed on the notice boards).

Yes/No

25. Should the village development boundary change? Please give your opinion below.

I think it should be relaxed. Yes/No

I think it should be kept as it is. Yes/No

Other comments

---

26. Are there sufficient health centres/doctor's surgeries/dentists/pharmacies available locally and are they sufficiently accessible to you?

Yes/No

27. If you said "No" please suggest the improvements you would like to see for new facilities or for easier access to existing.

---

28. Are there sufficient childcare/playgroup/nursery facilities available locally and are they sufficiently accessible to you? (Yes / No)

If you said "No" please suggest the improvements you would like to see for new facilities or for easier access to existing.

---

29. Are there sufficient recreational facilities existing in the village (e.g. equipped areas for play, open spaces, sports-walls, ball-courts, youth clubs, bowling greens, senior citizens' clubs, community halls etc)? (Yes / No)

If you said "No" please suggest the improvements you would like to see for new facilities or for easier access to existing.

---

30. Would you like to see a local Youth Club formed? (Yes / No) \_\_\_\_\_

If you said "Yes" would you be willing to help create and run such a club?

(Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Transport and Accessibility Issues**

31. Do you think existing transport facilities are adequate to meet the needs of all members of your household? (Yes / No) \_\_\_\_\_

32. If not, what improvements would encourage you and other members of your household to make use of public transport?

---

33. What (if any) other modes of transport would you wish to see made available.

---

---

34. Are existing facilities for walkers and cyclists adequate, such as Bridle or Cycle-lanes and public footpaths, gates/stiles.

Yes/No

If not, what new facilities would you like to see provided?

---

35. If you have mobility difficulties, do you feel that any improvements need to be made to existing public footpaths and pavements?

If so, please tell us what changes you think should be made.

---

36. If you have mobility difficulties, are there any other matters where you need help, such as buying your shopping or making medical visits, for example. What help would you like?

---

---

## Other Issues

37. Are there any other significant issues we have not mentioned that you consider should be addressed in the draft Action Plan? If so, please give details below: -

---

---

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

Although it has been prepared on the basis that it will be completed by the whole household, replies from individuals will be welcome.

If you need more forms please telephone Irene Burgoyne on 812048 who will arrange for them to be given to you. You could also have a larger print version if that would be helpful.

The results of the survey will be used to produce the village plan which will help to develop the village in the way that you want it.

It could help to attract extra funding where it is needed to provide new or improved facilities and to encourage more investment in the village's future.

The full results of the questionnaire will be published as an Action Plan in due course so that everyone will be able to see what progress is being made as time goes on.

Someone will collect this questionnaire from you after 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Alternatively you can drop it off at the village shop in the box provided there.

All forms must be returned please by 15<sup>th</sup> November.

The name of the person who will call to collect the form from you is: -

.....

The Steering Group Committee Members:-

Dianne Benfield	(811507)
Irene Burgoyne	(812048)
Chris Nadin	(812377)
Annie Newbury	(812149)
Terry Payne	(811251)
David Rhodes	(811489)
Jon Truscott	(812361)
Derek Wolfe	(01297 35423)

You are welcome to speak to any member of the Committee if you need any more information or to discuss any of the questions.

The person collecting your form might not be one of the committee members listed above but they will also be glad to help if needed.

**IWERNE MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**VILLAGE PLAN  
YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE  
(Under the age of 18)**

**The Parish Council is trying to develop a Structure Plan for the village to try to protect its character and to provide the sort of community that its residents want.**

We need your help so that we can try to build that community in the way that you want it to be in the future.

Please help us to do this by answering the following questions as best you can.  
If you want to add anything to the form you are welcome to do so.

Male / Female (delete as appropriate)

Age \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) How long have you lived in the village? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) What do you like most about living here?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What do you dislike about living here?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Do you want to see any changes take place in the village?  
If so, please say what changes you would make if you could.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Do you think there should be more clubs or facilities in the village, such as a youth club or football team or any other activity that we don't have now?  
Please tell us what you think we need.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Do you feel safe in the village or are you concerned in any way about the possibility of crime? Please say what you think about this.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Are there any other local issues that worry you or that you consider should be addressed in an action plan by the Parish Council?  
If so please give your views below.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8) If you have anything else that you would like to say please attach other pages if you wish.

## Appendix (3)

### IWERNE MINSTER PARISH DIRECTORY – January 2006

A guide to contacts and organisations in the village indicating some of the activities available.

If you are new to the village, then WELCOME.

If you would like to take part in a particular aspect of village life, please contact the person indicated in this directory. New members are always welcome.

#### THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets on a four-weekly cycle, usually on the first Wednesday in each month at 7.30 p.m. in the Abingdon Hall, but this can vary and dates are advertised on the Parish Notice Boards.

The public is not only welcome but urged to attend and there is an opportunity at each meeting to raise issues or concerns with your elected Councillors. The Parish Council wants your involvement. All enquiries may be directed to the Parish Clerk or to any Parish Councillor but it is helpful if specific queries are directed to the Councillor responsible as indicated below. Any changes to Councillors responsibilities will be displayed on the notice boards as necessary.

<b>Parish Councillors</b>		<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
Dianne Benfield	(Chairman)	(811507)	Recreation
John Hooper	(Vice Chairman)	(811262)	Rights of Way
Jill Ball		(811632)	Planning
Hugh Capstick		(811638)	Roads & Transport
Deborah Croney		(812469)	Vital Villages
Sarah-Jane Newland		(811723)	Community Planning
Terry Payne		(811251)	Conservation

#### Parish Clerk

Derek Stanley: 9, French Mill Lane, Shaftesbury, SP7 8EU. Telephone 850720

District and County Councillor	Mr. Angus Campbell (811219)
District Councillor	Mr. Frank Spencer (01258 860081)
Member of Parliament	Mr Robert Walter (Agent 01258 52420)

#### VILLAGE FEATURES

Children's Playground: Off Watery Lane at its junction with Old School Lane.  
The Recreational Field: On the corner of Watery Lane & Dunns Lane. Available for hire from the Parish Council at £5.00 per day and may be used for car parking subject to weather conditions.

*(Please note that dogs are not allowed on these two facilities for Health & Safety reasons)*

Bus stops & shelters: Located opposite The Talbot on the corner of A350 & Post Office road.  
Village Club: Situated on the recreational field. Membership £5.00 pa. Enquiries to Mervyn or Penny Marsh (811339).  
The War Memorial: Perhaps one of the finest in Dorset. On the A350 opposite Clayesmore.  
The War Office: With links to the First World War; holds some of the village notice boards and located on the corner of Higher Street & Shute Lane near The Pump.  
Notice boards: There are further boards opposite the Post Office and in the Chalk.  
The Old Water Pump: Is located in Higher Street at its junction with Shute Lane.  
The Tap House: Located in the Chalk.  
The Village Hall: Situated in the Chalk and known as the Abingdon Hall, it is available for hire. Enquiries to Jean Kennard (811869)

*These features are maintained by the Parish.  
Please help us to care for them.*



## VILLAGE SERVICES & AMENITIES

### BED & BREAKFAST:

#### **Orchard House, Blandford Road,**

Offers stylish and comfortable accommodation in one of the prettiest villages in Dorset. Lovely views, comfortable beds and "Heritage" en suite bath and shower rooms. Easy parking and a warm welcome with tea served in the conservatory upon arrival. Telephone Hazel Aldridge on 812079 or E-Mail [Hazel@aldridge3200.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:Hazel@aldridge3200.freeserve.co.uk).

#### **Cedarwood, Blandford Road,**

A self contained annexe suitable for overnight, weekend or holiday stays to sleep 4 with main room c/w double bed, dining table and chairs, kitchenette with full cooking facilities. Separate bedroom with bunk beds and separate bathroom, c/w all facilities. Telephone Anne or Tony Brown on 811688

### BUILDERS AND DECORATORS:

K. Brown	(811107)	A. Domoney	(811502)
A. Hall	(811181)	I. Vickers	(811132)

### **BUTCHER: SIMON J. HARVELL (811229)** High Class Family Butcher.

Fine quality meat a speciality. Also game, free range eggs, farmhouse butter, smoked fish, pate, and olives. An extensive selection of unpasteurised French farmhouse and locally produced cheeses plus a fine range of condiments and a selection of Italian chocolates.

**COAL DELIVERIES:** G. Northover & Sons Ltd. 01258 472619

**ELECTRIC CONNECTIONS:** A. J. Graham, Keepers Cottage, Home Farm. (812440)

FREE ADVICE GIVEN on all matters electric for those who are NOT happy with cost, or electric shocks. 40+ years experience. Honest, FREE advice willingly given.

**GARAGE: COOKMAN & HAWKINS LTD. (811227) –**

Servicing, Repairs & M.O.T. to all makes of vehicles. Accident & Insurance repairs. Collection & Delivery arranged. New & Used Cars. Car Wash: Petrol : Pre-packed coal.

### GARDEN MAINTENANCE:

David & Debbie Cranton	(811890)	Geoff Dorrington	(811991)
Rob Smith	(Iwerne Valley Garden Services)	(811796)	

**MILK:** A. J. Roberts. Local deliveries to your doorstep. 811705

**NEWSPAPERS:** Delivered to your home - but not on Sundays - (01258 453168)  
Delivered on Sundays (854166) - Call after 7.00pm  
Also available at the Iwerne Minster Post Office & General Stores

### **IWERNE MINSTER VILLAGE STORE & POST OFFICE (01747 811202)**

**A Village Store with a Difference:** Freshly Baked Bread, Rolls, Meat Pies and Morning Goods. Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, Sacks of Potatoes Delivered, Frozen Food, Cards & Stationery, Newspaper & Magazines, Black & White also Colour Photo Copying, Laminating for Photographs & Certificates, Paper Comb Binding Service, Dry Cleaning, Laundry, Shoe Repair, Photograph Development, Tailoring Services. Fresh Flowers, Logs & Kindling Wood, Wednesday Home Delivery Service, plus much more from a Village Store. Prescription collection for the 60's and over from Child Okeford Surgery.

**Post Office** Bills payments and Cash withdrawals with selected bank accounts, Foreign Exchange & Travellers Cheques, Home Phone package, Car, House and Travel Insurance, plus Flower Delivery anywhere in the UK.

**TALBOT HOTEL:** (811269) Saloon and Public bars are to be refurbished with excellent restaurant and hotel accommodation offering comfortable double rooms.

**THERAPY:** **Sharon Hamilton** (812361 & 0771 428 7066). Holistic Therapist, Reiki Master, Reflexology, Aromatherapy, Shiatsu and Indian Head Massage.

## VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

**CRICKET CLUB:** Contact Dianne Benfield (811507).

Facilities include a new pavilion and a pitch which is regarded as one of the finest amateur grounds in the South West.

### **HORTICULTURAL & PRODUCE SOCIETY:**

Contact : (Chairman) Robert Smith (811796) or (Secretary) Jill Ball (811632).

The Society holds monthly evening meetings at the Abingdon Hall.

A Summer Show is held annually, usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in August.

Dates and venues will be advertised on the notice boards.

### **PARISH CHURCH - St MARY'S:**

St Mary's is one of five churches in the Iwerne Valley Benefice.

Rector : The Reverend Simon Everett (811291)

Churchwarden: Miss Sheila Duly.

The Churches Office is in the Elizabeth Freke Hall at Shroton. (01258 861576).

Administrator Mrs Jill Ball.

(For details of services please see the Church notice board. )

**VALLEY VIEWS (Magazine):** (Editor 812071): The Editor is always pleased to receive items for publication. The magazine is for the Iwerne Valley Churches and circulates in the villages of Iwerne Minster, Ashmore, Fontmell Magna, Shroton and Sutton Waldron.

**TUESDAY CLUB:** Contact Edred Bowman (811024) or Beryl Cheeseman (811868).

Meets monthly. Senior citizens especially welcome.

**VILLAGE CLUB:** Contact Mervyn or Penny Marsh (811339). Facilities at the clubhouse, situated on the recreation field, include billiards and snooker. Membership £5.00pa. Frequent social events take place throughout the year. The club also shows the latest cinema attractions between September and March – see notice boards for forthcoming films.

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:** Contact Jenny Matthews (01258 860327).

Monthly meetings, 3rd Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Sutton Waldron or Iwerne Minster Village Hall, plus other activities including Reading, Craft and Scrabble Groups and Croquet in the Summer.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**CLAYESMORE SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE:** Membership is available - also courses for non-members (all ages) including keep-fit, aquatic aerobics, indoor bowls, badminton and short tennis. Children's activities in the holidays. Enquiries welcome (811810).

**CLAYESMORE SCHOOL:** Exhibitions, plays and musical events take place in the school buildings. (Further enquiries to 811217).

**DOCTORS SURGERIES:** Doctors Emms, Weir & Daddy at  
Fontmell Magna (812058)

Doctors Thomas, Prior & Berry at  
Child Okeford (01258 860687)

**EMERGENCIES:** Blandford Forum Hospital - 01258 456541  
Westminster Hospital, Shaftesbury - 851535

**HOME WATCH:** A new home watch scheme is being implemented and development progress will be announced on the notice boards. A scheme is already being operated in some parts of the village and this will be extended as additional volunteers come forward.  
Anyone who would like to take part should speak to any member of the Parish Council.

**INFORMATION & NOTICE BOARDS:** These are situated in the War Office at the Junction of Shute Lane and Higher Street; outside the old stables in Post Office Road and in the Chalk. Notices can also be placed in the Post Office Stores (by arrangement).

**LIBRARY:** Dorset County Council (01258 452075).  
The mobile library visits the village on Fridays, stopping at the Chalk at 11.20am and Oakwood Drive at 12.15pm. Times & dates may vary. (See notice boards).

**NEIGHBOURING CLUBS AND SOCIETIES:**  
There are Clubs in Blandford and/or Shaftesbury for:-  
British Legion, Inner Wheel, Probus, Rotary and Round Table

**REFUSE COLLECTION:** North Dorset District Council. (01258 484341)  
Black Bags collected weekly on TUESDAYS, usually early a.m.  
Green Boxes for recycling collected alternate THURSDAYS.  
There is a mini recycling centre in the car park at Tesco's stores in Blandford and Shaftesbury.  
There are bulk household disposal/recycling centres in Blandford Forum and Shaftesbury.

**SCHOOLS:**  
The village is in the catchment area for St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School at Fontmell Magna. Ages 4-11. Head: Mrs A. Way. Enquiries to (811500).  
Pupils proceed to Shaftesbury Upper School (854498).  
Clayesmore School (founded in 1896) is in the independent sector and has separate teaching units for ages 2 to 18. School Office (811707).

**Notification of any omissions found in this issue of the Directory or suggestions for alterations should be passed to the Parish Clerk please.**

Published by Iwerne Minster Parish Council

## Appendix (4)

### St Mary's Church, Iwerne Minster

St Mary's Church stands at the centre of the village and, for many villagers, at the centre of the community.

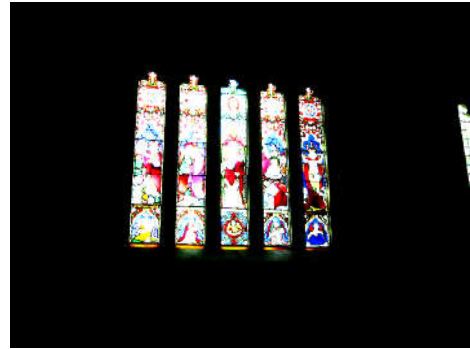
There has been a Church on the present site since 956 AD. The present Church, dating back to 1100AD, is a beautiful building with a medieval ribbed stone spire, one of only 3 in Dorset, and a chiming clock that was made in 1690.

Inside the Church there is an atmosphere of ageless peace and tranquillity, a perfect place for quiet prayer and reflection.

The beautiful Norman arcade of 3 rounded arches on each side of the aisle is an unusual feature to find in a country church and although it was probably completed around AD1150, it is still in good apparent repair.



*The Arched Norman arcade and a superb stained glass window- one of several*



There is a recessed arch below one of the windows in the centre of the Church and although its original purpose is lost it is now used as a focal point for some of the services; for the crib at Christmas; for the Easter garden vegetables and the loaf at Harvest Festival and for Penny Marsh and her team's beautiful flower arrangements all year round.

The Church is in constant use and has a regular and faithful congregation, there is a prayer service held every Wednesday morning in the North Chapel and every Sunday there is a morning service which is either a Communion and/or a Family Service, and twice a month there is also a service of Evensong. The only Sunday when there is not a regular service is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month when there is a Benefice service shared by all 5 Parishes and this is held in each Parish church in turn. As well as these regular services it also christens our children, marries our couples and buries our dead – the mainstay rites and rituals of a Christian community which even the non-regular churchgoers of the village look for in times of need.

The Benefice as a whole consists of the Parishes of Iwerne Minster, Sutton Waldron, Shroton, Fontmell Magna and Ashmore. We are extremely well served by a very hard-working Ministry team led by our Rector, The Reverend Simon Everett, who also serves as the Rural Dean for this area. (tel.no.01747 811291 : Office 01258 861576 : e-mail ivbco@tiscali.co.uk)

A Benefice magazine, Valley Views , provides information about the Church , other village activities and also advertises local trades people and services.

#### **Appendix (4) (continued)**

The Church is looked after by our equally hard-working and faithful churchwarden Miss Sheelagh Duly, as well as the often unseen teams of sacristans, church cleaners and flower arrangers who ensure that the Church is always clean and attractive both for the congregation and for the many visitors who come to look and to pray. Thanks are also due to those who look after the Churchyard, many of whom are non-churchgoers with special thanks to Hugh Capstick who has just retired as a churchwarden after many years of dedicated service.

We are lucky to have this lovely Church, well run and well supported, in our village. Some villagers use it every week and are deeply involved in its life and works, most villagers attend a service at some time during the year and all villagers would surely feel that we would be a much poorer community if it ever, finally, had to shut its doors.

The church always welcomes everyone whether they come to regular or occasional services and are always most grateful for offers of help with financial aid or practical help in cleaning the Church and maintaining the churchyard – if you would like to know more about our Church and its many and varied works and needs then have a chat to Sheelagh or any Parochial Church Council Member for details. Phone numbers are given in the Valley Views which is published monthly and delivered free to every household in the village.



*A view of The Wolverton Chapel*

## Appendix (5)

### Fontmell School Children's Survey Response

Report of a visit to Fontmell School by Dianne Benfield, Chairman of the Parish Council, on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2005. when children, resident in Iwerne Minster, were asked for their likes and dislikes of the village and facilities. There were 17 children taking part aged between 5 and 11. (12 boys and 5 girls). The questions asked and their replies were as follows;-

- 1) Do you use the Play Area (Swing Park)? Yes – 17
- 2) Is there anything you have seen in other swing parks that you would like to see in Iwerne Minster?
  - a) Springy Rocker.
  - b) Sandpit
- 3) Is there anything you don't like about the swing park in Iwerne Minster ?
  - a) The swings are too high; we have to jump to get on them.
  - b) The goal posts are too small.
  - c) There is always bird poo on the swing seats.
- 4) Do you use the Recreation Field ?  
Yes – all the boys. No – all the girls.
- 5) What do you do there ?
  - a) Play football.
  - b) Ride bikes.
  - c) Hang about.
- 6) What sort of things would you like to see there ?
  - a) Football posts.
  - b) Obstacle Course.
  - c) Swinging rope.
  - d) Cycle ramps.
  - e) Basketball or Netball goals.
  - f) Rugby Posts.
  - g) Benches for chatting.
- 7) Do you use the nets at the cricket field ?  
Yes – most of the boys.
- 8) Would anyone else like to use them ?  
Yes – The rest of the boys and three girls.
- 9) Do you use the Clayesmore Sports centre ?  
Yes - all
- 10) Can you swim ?  
Yes - All
- 11) Did you learn to swim at Clayesmore ?  
Yes – 16 of the 17 .
- 12) Are there any parts of Iwerne where you do not feel safe ?
  - a) Crossing the main road to get to the sports centre.
  - b) Getting off the school bus on the main road. (There was a real worry amongst the children that they would eventually have to catch the bus in the mornings from the main road).
- 13) When you are riding around on your bikes, do you find the traffic in the village a problem ?  
They all answered “No” to this question.

#### HOW THEY WOULD LIKE THE PROBLEMS SOLVED

- 1) Re-erect the goals in the recreation field. The goals in the playground would then be considered OK. The goals should not be too far apart as the whole field is too big for their games and a possible solution is to provide a large goal at one end and a smaller one at the other end for the younger ones.
- 2) They would like a meeting place – Possibly a shelter with benches where they can “hang out”. Mrs Way suggested a wicker (willow stick) shelter.

#### OTHER SUGGESTIONS

An enclosure for dogs “so that if you are out walking your dog and you want to go to the park you could put your dog into the enclosure rather than tie them to the fence”.

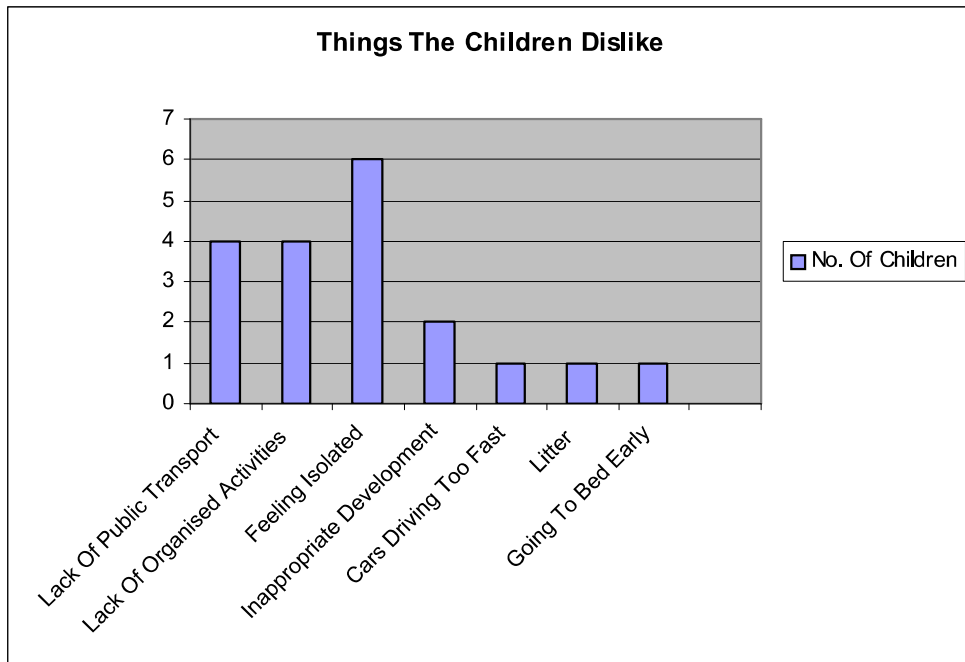
#### FINALLY

We then had a discussion on how lovely the village is and how they help to keep it that way by not dropping litter and by not causing any damage to the play equipment, the cricket field and other parts of the village.

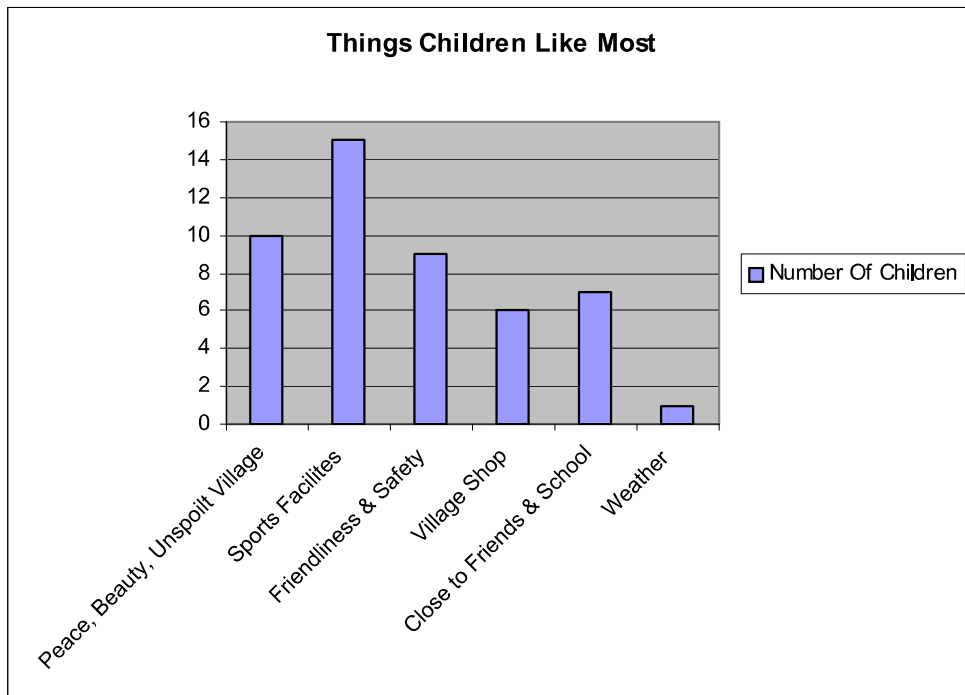
I told them we are very proud of them.

**Appendix (6)**

**Children’s likes & dislikes (taken from the survey returns of young people under the age of 18)**



*Some of the headings mentioned, such as “going to bed early” or “the weather”, are very likely to be outside the ability of the steering group or Parish Council to change but the responses demonstrate, in the main, a clear appreciation of what the Young think is important and what really does matter to them.*



## Appendix (7)

### ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

This summary details the issues which have been identified in the plan and the actions proposed. It will provide a checklist to help monitor progress and provide a ready reference for future reports.

#### Section A – Social & Community Issues

<b>Issue (As identified in the plan)</b>	<b>Action (As agreed by the steering group &amp; community)</b>	<b>Start/ Finish Dates</b>	<b>Led by:- (eg Parish Council)</b>	<b>*Supported :-</b>
<b>A1 (i)</b> Improved car parking at the village club.	Liaise & agree with the village club Committee.	Summer 2006 to Autumn	Parish Council	Village Club
<b>A1 (ii)</b> A perceived need for a larger Village Hall.	Examine the viability of a larger Village Hall.	TBA	Steering Group & Parish Council	
<b>A2</b> Investigate to see if a need exists for further affordable housing.	Pursue the housing needs survey with NDDC.	June 2006	Parish Council	NDDC
<b>A3</b> The re-establishing of an active Neighbourhood Watch.	To implement a joint scheme with Dorset Police and community volunteers.	October 2005	Councillor Deborah Croney	Ringmaster
<b>A4 (i)</b> A voluntary car service requested. (Doctor/medical)	Liaison with existing services locally.	June 2005 (ongoing)	Steering Group	Child Okeford Voluntary car scheme members.
<b>A4 (ii)</b> A Prescription Delivery Service.	Discuss with Child Okeford surgery & local businesses.	June 2005 - Complete	Steering Group	IM. PO/ Stores & Surgery at Child Okeford.
<b>A4 (iii)</b> Formation of a local Toddler group.	Liaise and obtain help from residents in need to provide this facility.	March 2005 - ongoing	Steering Group	
<b>A5</b> Expansion of sporting activity.	Discuss with the Village Club & Parish Council to provide more features on the field and/or playground	May 2006 (ongoing)	Steering Group	Parish Council & Village Club
<b>A6</b> Young people need (and want) a Youth Club.	Pursue discussions with volunteers to start and run a Club. (separately or in conjunction with the Village Club).	June 2006	Steering Group	Village Club & Parish Council
<b>A7</b> There is a need for a more flexible bus service to local Towns.	Inform NDDC of residents requests and promote the use of existing services.	May 2006	Parish Council	NDDC Nordcat

**\* Funding:**

*Funding sources have not been researched at this stage because need and/ or extent has not yet been established but any costs likely to be outside the resources of the Parish Council and village residents will be the subject of separate research and further reports as progress and identification of such costs is achieved.*



**Appendix (7)**  
(CONTINUED)

**Section B – Environment**  
**(Planning; Road Safety; Litter/tidiness)**

<b>Issue (As identified in the plan)</b>	<b>Action (As agreed by the steering group &amp; community)</b>	<b>Start/ Finish Dates</b>	<b>Led by:- (eg. Parish Council)</b>	<b>*Supported :-</b>
<b>B1</b> Residents want a greater say on how their village is developed and are dismayed that their concerns seem to be ignored by the planning authorities.	That guidelines should be prepared so that the Planning Authorities may be properly informed of the environment that residents want them to provide.	May 2006 (following publication of this plan)	The Parish Council has accordingly developed the 'Design Statement' contained within this plan.	NDDC and DCC

**Section C – Economy**  
**(Employment; Existing Businesses; New Business)**  
**Also Communications & Business promotion**

<b>Issue (As identified in the plan)</b>	<b>Action (As agreed by the steering group &amp; community)</b>	<b>Start/ Finish Dates</b>	<b>Led by:- (eg. Parish Council)</b>	<b>*Supported :-</b>
<b>C1&amp;2</b> The employment of local people within the village and the encouragement of new small businesses.	To encourage the employment of local people within the village, by offering support and advice, and similarly to assist new enterprises wherever practical.	May 2006	Parish Council	
Communications;	Examine viability of a Web site.	May 2006	Steering group	
Business promotion.	Promote and publish an updated Village Directory.	May 2006	Parish Council	

**\* Funding:**

*Funding sources have not been researched at this stage because need and/ or extent has not yet been established but any costs likely to be outside the resources of the Parish Council and village residents will be the subject of separate research and further reports as progress and identification of such costs is achieved.*

## **Appendix (8)**

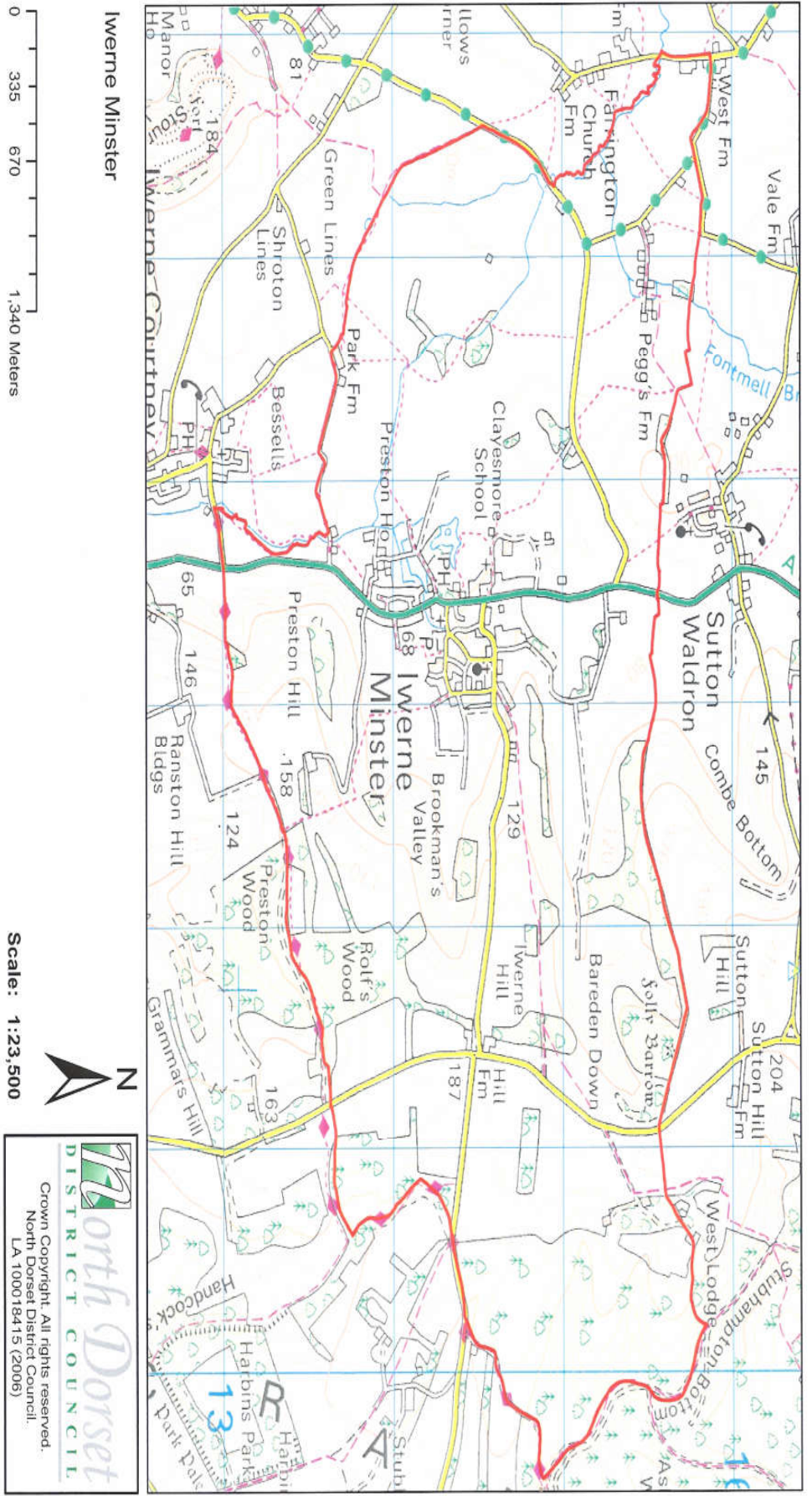
### **Steering Group Members**

(Local telephone code 01747)

Dianne Benfield	811507
Irene Burgoyne	812048
Deborah Cronney	812469
Emma Lewis	811891
Chris Nadin	812377
Annie Newbury	812149
Terry Payne	811251
David Rhodes	811489
Jon Truscott	812361

The Steering Group would like to thank the many people who assisted throughout the process in research and the footwork for distributing forms and gathering information, with special thanks to the Parish Clerks – formerly Derek Wolfe and now Derek Stanley.

Any questions, suggestions or advice from residents for implementing the aims of the plan will be welcomed by any member of the group (given above) or by any member of the Parish Council. Similarly, if any resident would like to become involved in any of the ideas that have been put forward to improve the quality of life in the village, their help will be most warmly welcomed.



Iwerne Minster

Scale: 1:23,500

**North Dorset**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Crown Copyright. All rights reserved.  
North Dorset District Council.  
LA 100018415 (2006)