Wem Rural Community Plan

Actions – Monitoring Report

6 September 2016

Title	Issue	Action	Reasoning	Objective	Timescale (priority)	Partners	Potential partners	Update	Completed
Plan									
	Socialise results data	Highlight relevant results to key stakeholders	To enhance awareness of local issues	Enhance awareness of issues and improve/resolve issues	High - 2013 action	Wem Town Council, Wem Rural Parish Council, Library Service, Police, Shropshire Council Planning Dept, Shropshire Council Highways Dept	Wem Economic Forum, Wem Tourist Information Office, churches, schools and colleges, Tourist Information	25/10/13 : Copies of Plan distributed with relevant results highlighted.	Yes
Wem Town									
	Socialise results data	Inform Shropshire Council of the overwhelming feeling that parking charges in Wem have been a negative and retrograde step for the economy of the town and surrounding area	To enhance awareness of local concerns with Shropshire Council decision makers	Enhance awareness of issues	High - 2013 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council		25/10/13 : Letter issued to WTC	Yes
	Socialise results data	Inform Shropshire Council and Wem TC of the perceived need for a rejuvenation of Wem town centre	To enhance awareness of local issues	Enhance awareness of issues and improve/resolve issues	High - 2013 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Town Council		25/10/13 : Letter issued to WTC	Yes

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Access to information									
	Socialise results data	Highlight the poor support of libraries and suggest to Shropshire Council that they may need to target user groups and publicise services better	To enhance awareness of poor usage of library service	To stimulate an improvement in the promotion of the wide range of services provided by the library	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Local library & library service		25/10/13 : Letter issued 17/4/14: Meeting with Library Manager and Cllr Parsons and Clerk. Mobile Library service to be investigated for additional stops. PC to publicise Library events and assess demand for mobile and other services through Rural Review June 2014: Articles in Rural Review **September 2016: Library part of Shropshire Council cuts. Negotiations with Wem Town Council on-going.**	**Yes until outcome of the future of the Library is known.**
	Socialise results data	Inform Shropshire Council of the urgent need for improved broadband supply and increased bandwidth supply	To highlight the need for Wem Rural to be included at an early stage in any infrastructure improvements	To improve bandwidth (MB) and service availability	High - 2013 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council		30/10/13 : Cllr Staines and Cllr Mellings to meet with Connecting Shropshire project team. April 2014: Cllr Staines requested more specific information relating to Parish December 2014: Update presentation by Programme Manager, Connecting Shropshire. January 2016: Research into alternative solutions to fibre carried out Autumn 2015. **September 2016: Response due this month from BT under the**	

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								Community Fibre Partnership Scheme.	
	Service awareness	Improve publicity and promotion of existing support groups offering information of use to local businesses (egg. Business Link and Wem Economic Forum)	To support and help businesses	To help local businesses to grow and develop	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme. March 2015: information placed on website	Yes
	Service awareness	Create a register of local businesses, and promote their services at all identified information points	To support and help businesses	To help local businesses to grow and develop and to highlight to local residents the wide range of businesses available in the local area	High - 2013 action	Wem Rural Parish Council, Shropshire Local Joint Committee	Wem Economic Forum, Wem Tourist Information Office, Wem Local	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme. July 2014: Register of businesses on Industrial Estate started. Other businesses in parish to be approached. November 2014: Business consultation letter issued. March 2015: poor response from businesses (less than 5)	Yes but review in due course
Community spirit and neighbourliness									
	Parish communication improvements	Ask Wem Rural Parish Council to consider extending regularity and content of Rural Review so as to perhaps include events and paid for adverts	To improve communication with parishioners and local businesses of local news and events	To improve local awareness and stimulate community spirit	High - 2013 action	Wem Rural Parish Council		April 2014: Budget for 2014/15 allows quarterly issues. Events will be included where advised. No paid adverts as conflicts with the 'independence' of the publication.	Yes but also ongoing

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	Parish communication improvements	Ask Wem Rural Parish Council to review promotion and content available on the PC website as result show the website is not visited regularly	To improve communication with parishioners and local businesses of local news and events	To improve awareness of Wem Rural Parish Council website, enhance content and improve promotion	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council		April 2014: new website formally launched. Business and Community Group sections to be completed.	Yes but also ongoing
Crime and safety									
	Parish security	Liaise with the police to request increasing the presence of officers in the parish but particularly around business areas	Respondents to the business questionnaire feel that theft and burglary are main concerns and increased police presence is perceived as best way to resolve	To reduce crime and to help business feel better protected against crime	High - 2013 action	Police, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Security and Safety Awareness Day to be organised jointly with Police. Saturday 5 July 2014 at Edstaston Village Hall. July 2014: Event held April 2015: Agenda item on Annual Parish Meeting including presentation by Sgt Claire Greenaway and Roger Ashton. Article in Rural Review November 2015.	Yes but also ongoing
	Parish security	Work in conjunction with the police and other services to promote the various 'Alert' and 'Watch' services, and the Police and Communities Together (PACT) initiative	Burglary and theft was shown to be one of the main security concerns of businesses and the various Watch schemes were rated as important to reduce crime	To reduce crime and to help business feel better protected against crime	High - 2013 action	Police, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Day to be organised jointly with Police. Saturday 5 July 2014 at Edstaston Village Hall. July 2014: Event held April 2015: Agenda item on Annual Parish Meeting including presentation by Sgt Claire Greenaway and Roger Ashton.	Yes but also ongoing

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	Environmental issues	Publicise the issue of litter and fly tipping within the parish, and educate parishioners on how they can monitor and report instances of these crimes	Concern about litter and fly tipping was shown in the responses	Reduce litter and fly tipping and raise awareness with parishioners	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council , Wem Town Council, Police		April 2014: Article included in Rural Review March 2014. Contact details placed periodically in Rural Review	Yes but also ongoing
Employment, local economy and tourism									
	Service awareness	Compile a list of businesses currently available on the Wem Industrial Estate (and other local parks) and encourage the Parish Council and Wem Economic Forum to look into collaborating on creating a useful directory	To support and help businesses	To help local businesses to grow and develop and to highlight to local residents the wide range of businesses available in the local area	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum, Owners of Wem Industrial Estate	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme. July 2014: Register of businesses on Industrial Estate started. January 2016: No demand at present for register.	
	Education and training Issues	Highlight the skills gap identified by local businesses to the local secondary schools and colleges, and help drive collaboration between the two groups	Businesses highlighted a lack of suitably qualified staff available locally	To help businesses to find suitably educated local staff and to help create job opportunities for local people	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Thomas Adams, Colleges, Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme.	
	Business support	Highlight financial incentives for training, employment and investment available to local businesses from local, regional and national sources	Most business responses indicated that financial support incentives were needed to keep businesses in the area and	To promote financial incentives currently available to help businesses	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme.	

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			attract new businesses						
	Business support	Request that Shropshire Council improve access to advice on planning and remove any associated costs	The council has started charging for planning advice and it seems this policy is in conflict with the needs of businesses	To help local businesses to grow and develop	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	Some advice is free under 'New Business Support'. Pre-application advice is a formal procedure and part of the Planning Application Process.	Yes
	Business support	Ask Shropshire Council Highways Department to review the local road network and make suitable improvements	Responses indicate that businesses have a general dissatisfaction with the road infrastructure and this issue is a problem for businesses and may be restricting economic growth.	To help local businesses to grow and develop	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Highways, Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme. January 2016: being progressed with Shropshire Council through membership of Wem Economic Forum	
	Business support	Investigate the viability and desire for the creation of a cooperative buying group for businesses	To help businesses to reduce costs	To help local businesses to grow and develop	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Wem Economic Forum, WTTI	April 2014: Clerk to progress as part of Wem into Work programme. July 2014: Once register of businesses complete viability of cooperative can be investigated.	
Environment									

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	Poor roads	Ask Shropshire Council Highways Department to provide an overview of the planned road improvements and maintenance schedule for roads in the parish. Share this with parishioners via the Rural Review	There is a general dissatisfaction from parishioners with roads and verges in the parish	To improve the quality of the road network	High - 2013 action	Shropshire Council, Highways, Wem Rural Parish Council		April 2014: Highways Dept invited to Annual Parish Meeting May 2014.	
	Poor roads	Ask Shropshire Council Highways to publicise, possibly via the Rural Review, ways in which parishioners can update Shropshire Council directly regarding maintenance issues on the parish roads	Responses to the adult and business questionnaires highlighted negative views regarding the state of the parish roads	To provide Shropshire Council Highways with early warning of potential problems, to facilitate early repair and to empower parishioners				April 2014: Article included in Rural Review March 2014.	Yes but also ongoing
	Removal of litter	Work with local organisations to organise regular community litter picking exercises within the parish	Litter is perceived to be a problem and community schemes can make people more aware of this	To help clean up the parish and help make local parishioners aware of the negative impact littering has on the environment	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Scouts, WI, Church Groups, etc.	April 2014: Article in Rural Review March 2014 to identify litter 'hot spots'. Once areas established work with local groups etc. No response to date October 2014: Planned joint litter pick of Newtown with Primary School cancelled due to bad weather	Yes but also ongoing
	Reduction in fly tipping	Educate parishioners of the main contact points at Shropshire Council to report incidents of fly tipping in the parish	Questionnaire results show this is perceived as a problem	To help clean up the parish and remove any negative impact fly tipping has on the environment	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council . Wem Town Council,	Watch" schemes	April 2014: Article included in Rural Review March 2014.	Yes but also ongoing

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	Planning	Highlight the views of local parishioners to potential future planning issues. Ask Shropshire Council Planning department to advise how they plan to communicate this information internally and work with Wem Rural Parish Council to ensure that parishioners' views are considered when planning decisions are made	To share local views with planners to ensure that the views of local parishioners are considered along with national guidelines when future planning applications are considered	To ensure that the parish continues to develop in line with local views and desires for the community	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Councilwoman Rural Parish Council		April 2014: PC maintains regular communication with both Planning Policy and Development Management Teams. PC regularly attends planning related training and briefings to ensure parishioners views and are made in the correct manner so to be considered under the planning regulations/policies. Suggest a meeting with Planning Officers to review current issues in parish once SAMDev and/or 5 year land supply issues are adopted/resolved.	Yes but also ongoing
	Environmental issues	Highlight the enthusiasm for solar panels and other renewable technologies to appropriate organisations with the aim of organising local promotional events	To help local parishioners understand the cost implications and potential benefits (both financial and environmental) from adopting renewable energy solutions	To improve awareness and reduce the parishes requirement for fossil fuel energy	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Energy Saving Trust or similar	April 2014: Green Event to be organised. Potentially Spring 2015	
	Leisure and environment	Work with existing third sector organisations and the community to set-up local groups with a focus on walking, wildlife and countryside	To support the demand shown by parishioners when completing the adult questionnaire	To help local people to enjoy the local countryside and wildlife	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Wem Rural Parish Council	Edstaston WI, Scouts	April 2014: Cycling Safari to be organised in September with focus on Wem Moss. SC and Meres and Mosses Landscape Scheme involved. July 2014: Publicity for Cycle Safari commenced. Other projects to be investigated. September 2014: Successful	

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								Cycle Safari held.	
	Leisure and environment	Identify the Shropshire Council Outdoor Recreation Team member with local responsibility and include contact details in the Rural Review publication. Highlight the results to the Outdoor Recreation Team and establish what future development/maintenance plans Shropshire Council have for the parish footpaths	To support results of questionnaires	To improve footpaths, generate increase awareness and usage and ensure that footpaths are regularly maintained	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council ,	Parishioners, countryside and walking groups	April 2014: Clerk met with SC December 2013. Parish Paths Partnership request for volunteers in Rural Review March 2014. No response to date. January 2016: Mapping and maintenance survey to be commence Spring 2016.	Yes but also ongoing
Transport & Traffic									
	Safer cycling	Investigate with Shropshire Council Highways Department, and other departments, potential initiatives to make walking and cycling safer in the parish. Feedback proposals to the community	There was a clear indication that cycling and walking is valued by parishioners but are not considered as safe as they should be	To reduce risk to cyclist and walkers in the parish, which in turn will encourage these activities	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Shropshire Council, Wem Rural Parish Council	Community	April 2014: Clerk to meet with Shropshire Council April 2014 to discuss issues February 2014: Walking for Health promoted in Rural Review.	

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	Speeding traffic	Highlight to the Police and Shropshire Council Highways Department that speeding and heavy vehicles are seen to be a major problem locally. Investigate ways to reduce both problems and report back to the community with a plan of action	Speeding and heavy vehicles are considered a problem by members of the parish	To make parish roads safer	Medium - 2013 / 2014 action	Police, Wem Rural Parish Council. Wem Town Council.	Wem Economic Forum	April 2014: Clerk met with Police March 2014 to highlight issues. **September 2016: Submissions made on regular basis under Shropshire Council's Road Safety Scheme as Community Concerns.** **Community Speed Watch Scheme advertised but insufficient volunteers came forward to implement.**	
Health									
	Older and healthier generation.	To secure an older and healthy workforce, and create a healthy ageing culture people need open access to prevention services at a much higher level of sophistication and with much better access than that which is on offer at the moment.							