



Codsall Parish & Community Plan

2010

The Parish and Community Plan Mission Statement:

'To retain the existing character and community spirit within the Parish whilst encouraging the development of a strong, inclusive and vibrant community, and, to ensure that all age groups, social groupings and economic sectors are included, addressing their needs and giving them the opportunity to thrive and develop.'

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1. Foreword

The Parish Council Clerk had recommended the implementation of a Parish Plan following the publication in 2000 of the Government Rural White Paper suggesting that Parishes consider formulating a plan that set out residents' vision for the future of their communities.

However it was not until 2008 at the request of the then Parish Council Chairman Councillor Pat Campbell that Councillor Brian Holland, who had raised the topic again, was asked to lead the approach to the community and form a community led committee. The Parish Council Clerk pledged assistance to organise Public Meetings, questionnaires, administration and research.

Councillor Holland accepted the challenge and as a result of two years' development the Parish Plan is now complete. The bulk of the work in preparing the Plan was guided by a steering committee that drew on expertise among residents and the Public and Private Sectors. The finalisation of the document was ably led by former Parish Council Chairman Cllr Dr Matt Ewart.

The Parish Plan has taken account of the views and ambitions of residents and of representatives from a wide range of organisations with interests in the Parish.

Public consultation meetings were held on three occasions, as well as every household receiving a consultation document and questionnaire. These were a vital part of the information collection process and helped to ensure that the Plan is an authentic reflection of our community's viewpoint.

There can be little doubt that in the current economic climate this is not an ideal time to seek change, particularly over the proposed four-year life of the Plan. Many of the developments sought by this plan inevitably carry cost implications and with financial constraint being called for, it will be challenging to entirely fulfil the worthy and desirable outcomes detailed herein. This is not a reason for abandoning our objectives. The Plan should be seen as providing guidance to enable spending to be directed to where it can most effectively meet the needs of the Parish.

We are confident that Codsall Parish Council will be constantly mindful of the contents of this plan and will continue to promote its objectives in every way possible. This will be achieved by maintaining the liaison with residents, official bodies and voluntary groups that were involved in preparing this Plan, and seeking every opportunity to help and encourage their efforts.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to those who gave their time in the production of this Parish Plan. It has been a community effort, and one in which we can all share satisfaction and commitment.

Parish Plan Steering Committee

2. Background

Our Parish, like many others, is undergoing constant transformation and evolution. It is therefore quite natural that many residents would like to keep the parish looking and functioning as it is today. However, desirable as this may be, it may not be possible. There are many local and external pressures for change. The changing ‘demographics’¹ of the Parish, together with Regional and National influences, must be recognised and responded to. Quite apart from these, there is also recognition that some things might be improved to provide better services and lifestyle opportunities for everyone who lives and works in the Parish.

Public, private, voluntary and community organisations must all be involved in this process through development of services and in looking ahead to produce a shared plan for the future.

It is important that this be done in a structured way.

For a plan to succeed it must be supported by our community, giving all residents the opportunity to make their views known so that their aspirations can, as far as possible, be met.

Thus the Codsall Parish and Community Plan has evolved with all of the organisations that contribute to the community working with each other as a ‘Steering Group’ and chaired by a member of the Parish Council. The Steering Group included representatives partner organisations including the District Council (conservation, planning and highways), the police, local voluntary groups and providers of health services.

This plan will help to inform, co-ordinate and guide what we do. It sets out an action plan and identifies the priorities and proposals for the work that we collectively need to do over the next five years and beyond. We must build upon the good work that has already taken place, strengthening and consolidating what we are doing well and reviewing and improving our efforts where we could do better.

Our Parish and Community Plan supports the strategies of our partner organisations and draws in concert their hopes and aspirations. The most important element of the plan is that it reflects the opinions, ideas, views and values of our residents. Importantly too, the plan includes clear and achievable objectives as well as a mechanism of review.

The Parish and Community Plan will act as a route map for making the positive changes that we all want to see, whilst retaining all that is good about our Parish.

¹ Demographics are the characteristics of a population as used in government, marketing or opinion research. Commonly-used demographics include sex, race, age, income, disabilities, mobility (in terms of travel time to work or number of vehicles available), educational attainment, home ownership, employment status, and location.

3. Introduction

3a A Brief History of Codsall

For hundreds of years Codsall was a small agricultural village. By 1801, the time of the first census, the population had risen to 589. During the next 50 years it doubled to over 1,000 in 1851. By 1901 it reached nearly 1,500 and in 1971 it was over 9,000 and before Bilbrook ceased to be part of Codsall it peaked at 13,000.

In the early 1800s the majority of Codsall people were labourers of one sort or another. The coming of the railway and the opening of a station here in November 1849 led to Codsall becoming an attractive place to live for Wolverhampton people and even those from further afield in the Black Country.

Wood Road was laid out at this time improving links with the road to Newport. There were three quarries being worked in the village, providing the stone for the rebuilding of the Church, the station and the numerous sandstone walls, many of which remain to this day.



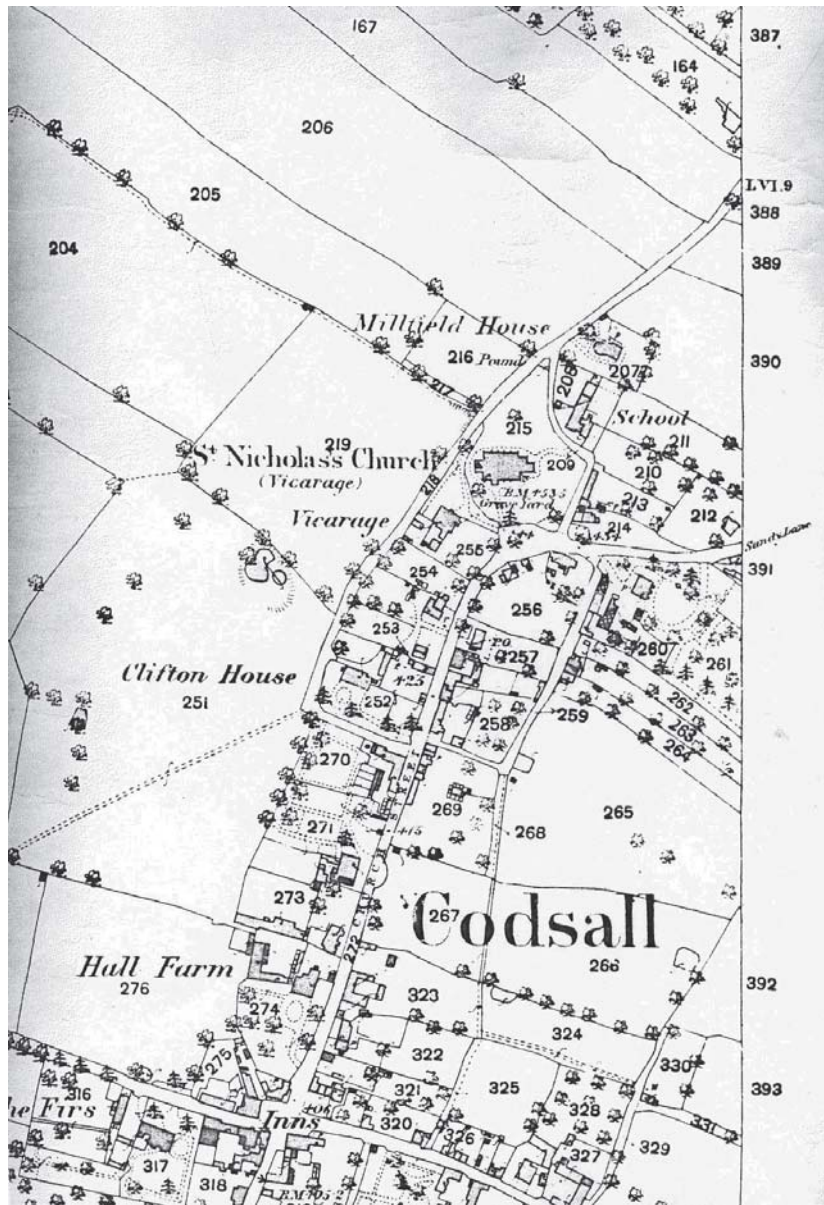
Money from industrial development in the Black Country led to the building of substantial properties in the village during the later part of the 1800s. The Birches, The Mount, The Firs, Clifton House and later Wheatstone Park, The Shrubbery, Brabourne, Flemmynge House, Pendrell Hall as well as large houses in Elliotts Lane, Oaken Lanes and Histons Hill all date from around this time.



Photo: Matt Ewart

In the late 19th - early 20th century semi-detached and terraced houses were built along Wood Road for trades-people from Wolverhampton; 12 Council houses were also built in Station Road in 1916.

Small allotments were developed around the village in the 1920s. This was part of the plan after the First World War for returning soldiers who had no work and nowhere to live. In the 1920s a deep sewer, a bus service and electricity supply were established.



1884 Map

Following the second war, there was a considerable increase in house building, commencing with Moatbrook Avenue. The Wheel Estate was developed in the 1950s and 1960s. The Mount disappeared and houses were built on the site. The same fate overtook Flemmynge House and Fairfield Drive became an estate of private homes. Also in the 1960s and 1970s, when Bakers Nursery closed, the by-pass was built and housing was developed along Bakers Way.

Since then ribbon development has occurred along every available road and there has been substantial infilling, with pressure on properties with large gardens to have these turned into housing.

The history of the Parish shows that on every occasion when transport links have been improved there has been an upsurge in demand for housing; this remains true today.

3b Codsall Parish Today

Codsall has expanded considerably since World War II, forming the largest part of the parish (the others being Codsall Wood and Oaken). It is the site of the headquarters of South Staffordshire Council and is twinned with the French village of St Pryvé /St Mesmin. The village has extensive leisure facilities shared with the remainder of the Parish including a swimming pool and a sports hall. The village hall at Codsall hosts a cricket club, football ground and drama group as well as providing a venue for many other activities.

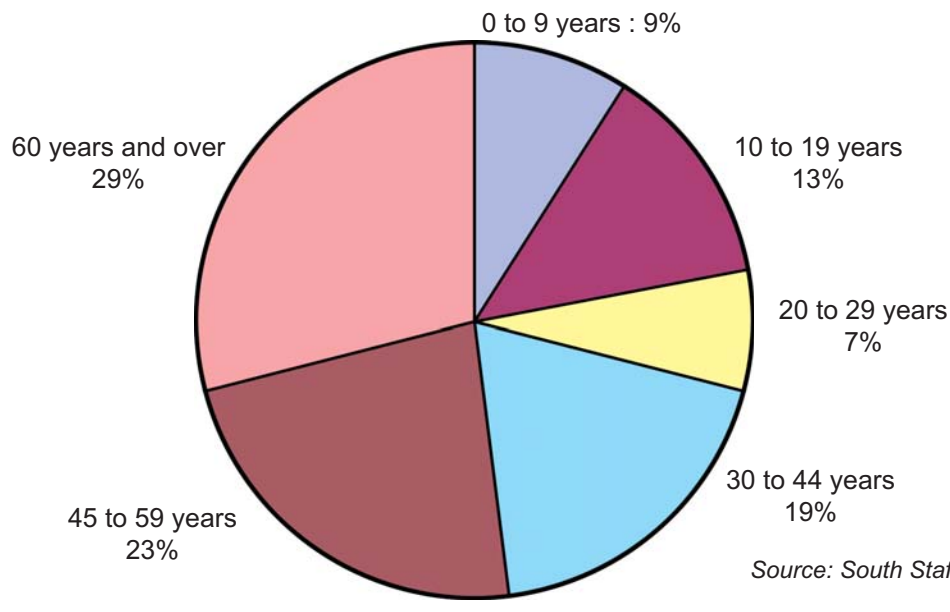
DSC6380.jpg (Chris Manley) - photo missing

The main shopping area around The Square has an excellent range of shops, cafes, restaurants and public houses, a supermarket, a bank and building society. A doctor's surgery and a dental practice are also located close to the village centre.



Photo: Chris Manley

The population of the Parish is around 8,000. The ethnicity of the population is predominately white (97.9%) and there is a high percentage of married people (some 52% of households, including pensioner households). The population density of Codsall is 6.3 people per hectare. The age distribution of the Parish is weighted towards older people, with some 22% of residents 65 or over, differing markedly from the national position where the comparable figure is 16%.



Whilst in the past Codsall was a centre for agricultural activity, changes in the nature and practice of agriculture have reduced this. The rural location of Codsall is still associated with a mixture of arable and livestock farming in the parish and the vicinity, as well as substantial areas of land now given over to leisure use, particularly equine.

3c South Staffordshire District

The Parish is one of the larger rural settlements in South Staffordshire District, which comprises 27 parishes, each with their own special character, history and timber framed houses. The area has a colourful past and royal connection with King Charles II at Boscobel House and Moseley Old Hall. Other stately homes include Weston Park, Chillington Hall and Himley Hall. There is a large proportion of unspoilt landscapes, breathtaking views and a wealth of walking routes.

The population of South Staffordshire is about 107,000.

3d Sources of information for the Plan

A series of face to face interviews with both residents and local business people resulted in five objectives being identified -

- Preserving the character of the Parish
- Improving the village environment
- Supporting and building the voluntary sector
- Dealing with crime and disorder
- Improving the health of the community

Running workshops involving residents and the various organisations that deliver services in the Parish further developed this approach. In addition, the views of residents were sought using a questionnaire with face-to-face interviews and completion on line. The questionnaire topics and resident's responses are set out in Appendix 2.

One objective of the face-to-face interviews was to ensure that the views of all age groups within the community were fairly represented.

The Parish and Community Plan Mission Statement encapsulates these overall objectives:-

‘To retain the existing character and community spirit within the Parish whilst encouraging the development of a strong, inclusive and vibrant community, and, to ensure that all age groups, social groupings and economic sectors are included, addressing their needs and giving them the opportunity to thrive and develop.’

Other information referred to during the development of this plan included population data from the former District Local Development Plan, now the Local Development Framework.

3e Benefits from the creation and use of the Plan

The Parish and Community Plan reflects the ambitions of the community, and has the support of those who, within each of their own remits, are able to help fulfil these ambitions. It is a reference document that during the five years following publication will give direction to the Steering Group and the Parish Council. The content of this document is not and cannot be completely definitive. Change, especially as brought about by external factors such as Government policy, may impact upon the aspirations of the Plan.

Nevertheless, the existence of this Parish and Community Plan provides evidence in support of the influencers and decision-makers who will have to play a part in guiding and directing the process of change. Whilst the Plan cannot guarantee favourable outcomes in all cases, it can be cited to support arguments that favour the collective wishes of residents, when resisting unwanted developments or seeking improvements.

4. Codsall Parish and its location

The former Codsall 'village' has long been assimilated into the modern Codsall, which, since the turn of the 20th century has been a popular semi-rural suburb to the north-west of Wolverhampton but separated from it by a narrow Green Belt.

Codsall is close to the Black Country and only 17 miles from the centre of Birmingham, and 25 miles from Birmingham International Airport. Transport is good; there are 2 railway stations, one near the centre of Codsall village and the other - called 'Bilbrook' - at Birches Bridge. Access to main roads and motorways is convenient. Nearby Wolverhampton (5 miles) is a major shopping centre.



Photo: Alex Skinner



Source: South Staffordshire Council

5. Looking to the Future

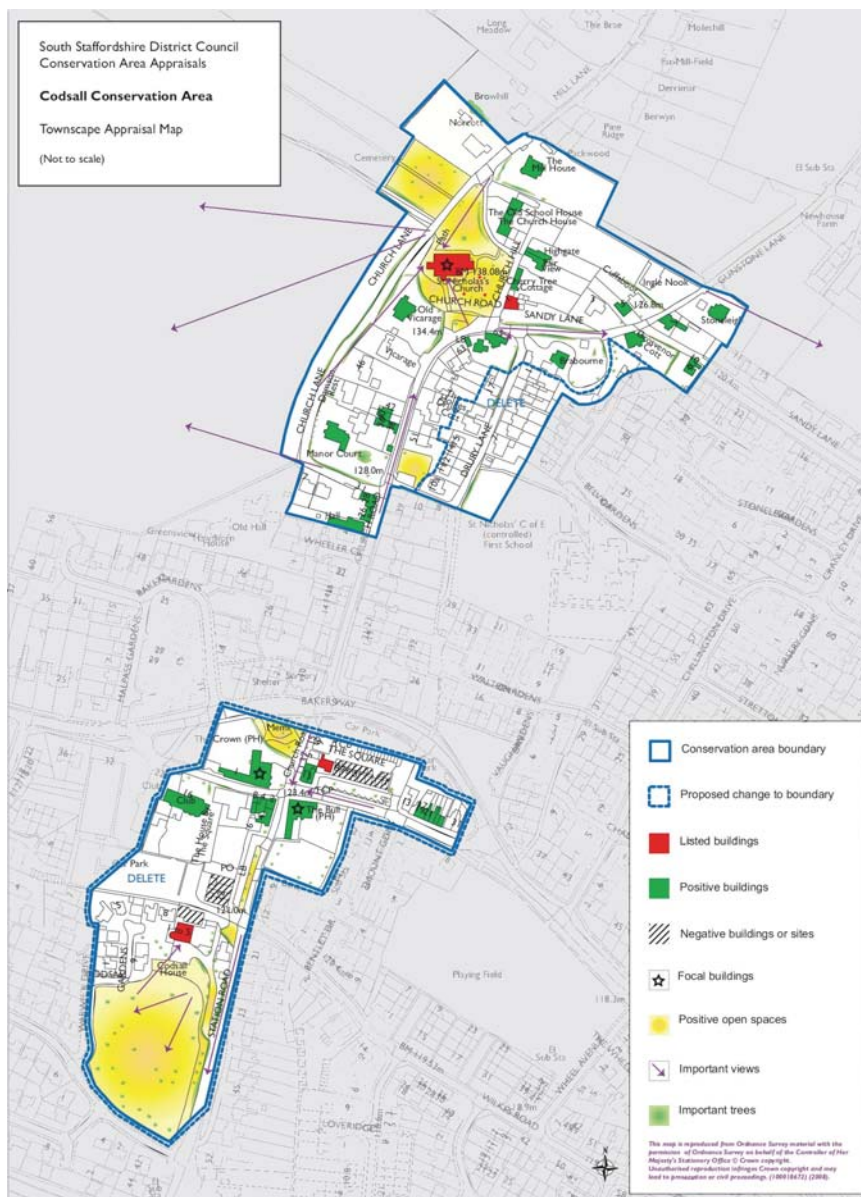
The five main areas for attention, with priorities, identified by the surveys are shown below.

Details are set out at Appendix 3, where headline (priority) issues, desired outcomes and the actions required are presented.

5a Preserving the Character of the Village

Codsall's popularity has led to development pressures. Fortunately, Conservation Areas have succeeded in retaining elements of the original village character as seen around St Nicholas Church and at the 'Square'. Retention of original open spaces further preserves the village character.

The Conservation Area is shown on the map below.



Other parts of the Parish also have houses and other buildings in traditional styles. Much of the remainder of the built environment is of recent design and some of that would merit replacement.

Future demand for housing will mean considerable development pressures on the Parish. Housing-needs surveys suggest that there is a shortfall of affordable homes, social housing and aged-persons accommodation. Meeting this need will require a sensitive approach to development if the character of the village is to be retained.

The Survey:

The survey revealed that there is an understanding that some new development will need to take place but;

- The extent of new development should only be sufficient to meet the needs of the community
- Any development that would encourage outward migration from the conurbation should be resisted
- To meet the needs of local people where development does take place;
 - A mix of house types and densities should be encouraged, including affordable housing
 - More support should be given to the provision of specialist accommodation for our elderly population and vulnerable groups
 - Any development proposed in the green belt should be resisted
 - Infill development should remain in keeping with surrounding properties



Photo: Chris Manley

Residents have said:

“Codsall’s position as a village is gradually being eroded.”

“Having travelled, through work, across the UK I have not visited many places that I would rather live in.”



Photo: Chris Manley

Main objectives for the future:

New development must adopt the principles contained in the SSC Village Design Guide (Appendix 1). This mechanism will ensure that; the physical environment of the Parish will be protected and enhanced; future development will be undertaken sensitively and with due regard to the scale and historic character of the Parish. All structures (buildings or street furniture) should enhance its surroundings through high standards of design. (Full details are given at Appendix 3.1)

5b Improving the Village Environment

Codsall Village centre is the hub of the Parish and is generally well appreciated by residents.

For this to continue it is essential to retain a sustainable mix of shopping and business activities. Increasing volumes of traffic is a related concern, as are problems caused by commuter parking and the 'school run'.

Whilst the maintenance of public open spaces and litter control is highly regarded by residents, concerns have been expressed about the condition of the highways and footpaths in the Parish, particularly in the more rural areas.



Photo: Matt Ewart

The survey:

Matters of concern included;

- Condition of roads, in particular the more rural routes
- The need for a sustainable mix of businesses in the village to prevent the centre becoming 'run down'
- The need to improve the appearance of the village centre by regulation of signs and shop fronts
- Other than small office accommodation and small retail units, business development should not be encouraged in the Parish
- The use of village centre car parks by commuters
- The specific need for additional parking to be created near to the railway station
- Problems caused to residents living near schools by the 'the school run'
- The need for a detailed traffic management study before further development takes place



Photo: Matt Ewart

Residents have said:

"All day parking for the station, needs urgent attention."

"While there is always room for improvement, what already exists should be appreciated and strengthened."



Photo: Chris Manley

Clear views have been expressed by residents.

The Plan has to ensure, as far as possible, that the village centre continues to provide a viable and sustainable mix of shopping and business opportunities. Problems caused by traffic flowing through and into the Parish will be addressed as will improvement of the standard of highway maintenance. (Full details are given at Appendix 3.2)

5c Dealing With Crime and Disorder

Codsall Parish is a relatively low crime area. Nevertheless crime and disorder, particularly anti-social behaviour, remains a concern for residents.

The local policing policy is seeking to address these concerns, however it is recognised that some of this will only improve with involvement of the wider community.

The main focus for the Parish and Community Plan is therefore aimed at community support given to the police to make the Parish an even safer and more pleasant place to live.



Photo: South Staffordshire Crime Prevention Partnership

The survey:

Four issues emerged;

- The danger posed by vehicles speeding
- The unacceptable levels of anti social behaviour and perceived lack of action
- The problems caused by drug and alcohol related offences
- The need for quicker police response times and improved follow up to reported incidents.

Residents have said:

'Speeding cars are an issue'

'We complained to the council regarding anti-social behaviour and vandalism'



Photo: Matt Ewart

Main objectives for the future:

Objectives include taking steps to achieve compliance with speed limits and to reduce unacceptable (anti social) behaviour.

There is a need to address the perception of lack of action to tackle the problem, and to increase emphasis on the reduction of drug and alcohol related offences.

The Parish must work with the police to shorten response times and improve follow up to reported incidents. (Full details are given at Appendix 3.3)

5d Supporting and Building the Voluntary Sector

Volunteering is essential to promoting and retaining community spirit. It is an objective of the Parish and Community Plan to support the development and enhancement of the community and voluntary sector infrastructure. It is expected that the South Staffordshire Community & Voluntary Association (SSCVA – an umbrella organisation that supports, develops and promotes local voluntary and community groups in South Staffordshire) will be a partner. Encouraging volunteering provides the opportunity for people of all age groups within our community to use their time and skills in a way that will be rewarding and fulfilling to them, thereby improving their own health and well-being.



Photo: Chris Manley

The survey:

- Codsall Parish has a network of voluntary organisations.
- Most volunteers are older people; action needs to be taken to encourage younger people to volunteer
- Much voluntary work deals with social and welfare arrangements for older people.
- Greater emphasis should be placed in volunteering that promotes healthy life styles throughout the community, including young people.

Residents have said:

“As a new resident to Codsall, I am impressed by the strong community spirit.”

“The element of overall importance is that the ‘village’ should work for the community.”

Main objectives for the future:

Addressing the issues raised will require focus on promoting and developing the work of the voluntary sector by encouraging people, particularly young people, to volunteer. It will be important to target allocation of public sector, and other funding, to achieve the most effective and efficient use of limited financial resources.

(Full details are given at Appendix 3.4)

5e Improving the Health of the Community

The Parish is well served by the Primary Care Trust with the provision of doctors, dentist and optician.

This is recognised by residents. In general the home-care provided by both the Primary Care Trust and Social Services are also well regarded.

The survey:

Given the age profile of the population the survey results expectedly emphasised services related to that sector as well as the need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

- Chiropody services
- Physiotherapy services
- Occupational health services
- There was strong support for the provision of healthy eating workshops, community planting/allotment schemes and health walks.
- The social aspects of healthy lifestyles was also reflected in the strong support for a volunteer buddy scheme
- There was limited response to taking part in exercise classes such as yoga and tai-chi



Photo: Chris Manley

Residents have said:

“A diet club may be a good idea.”

“A coordinated voluntary sector group may be an idea.”



Photo: Chris Manley

Main objectives for the future:

The provision of health services should continue to be adequate to meet demand and these services must remain accessible.

People will be made aware of the services that are available by the development of promotional material.

Initiatives will be undertaken to promote and support healthy lifestyles.

(Full details are given at Appendix 3.5)

6. How we will go forward

This Parish and Community Plan represents the start of a process of maintaining and improving the Parish in accordance with the expectations and ambitions of residents. It is not a solution in itself but rather it relies on continuing vigilance and activity on the part of all involved. The Steering Group will meet regularly to review progress and agree on subsequent actions. In addition there will be monitoring of progress by the Parish Council. It is essential that all stakeholders in the Plan, including residents, remain up-to-date and involved.

The main mechanism by which the Parish Council will set out to help the Plan's objectives to be achieved will be by using this document as a reference source during all of the Council's deliberations that relate to the Plan's contents.

This Parish and Community Plan has been fully adopted by the Parish Council and the objectives herein will be used as a guide for future development and assurance of the well being of the Parish and its residents.

The Parish Council has limited resource and finance, as do all other associated bodies. Thus, whilst all reasonable endeavours will be made to achieve the set objectives, the existence of obstacles and limitations, financial and practical, must be recognised.

Part of the process will be further dialogue with residents over the five-year period of this plan. This will be done by circulating further questionnaires designed to assess residents' perceptions of change and progress. These questionnaires will be issued at approximately 18, 36 and 60 months after the date of publication of the Plan. The last of these will be used to help set the framework for the next Parish and Community Plan.

7. Acknowledgements

The help and contributions of the following people is gratefully acknowledged:

The Steering Committee:

Councillor, Brian Holland,	Codsall Parish Council
Councillor, Dr Matt Ewart,	Codsall Parish Council
Councillor, Christine Millar,	Codsall Parish Council
Peter Serieys,	Clerk to Codsall Parish Council
Steven Skinner,	Codsall resident
Kelly Harris,	South Staffordshire Council
Inspector Pat Shannaghan,	Staffordshire Police
Inspector Andy Chapman,	Staffordshire Police
David Leese,	South Staffordshire Community Voluntary Action
David Wright,	Highways, Staffordshire County Council

Other significant contributors:

Maxine Baker,	Codsall Parish Council
Judy Davies,	Codsall and Bilbrook History Society
Revd Simon Witcombe,	St Nicholas Parish Church
Mrs Vance Birch,	Codsall & Bilbrook Twinning Association
Karen Richards,	South Staffordshire Council
Dr Paul Collings,	South Staffordshire Council
Ms Tilly Flannagan,	District Public Health Lead, South Staffordshire Council
Andy Halden,	Community Council of Staffordshire
Steve Pope,	Staffordshire Fire Service

All of the residents of the Parish who responded to the questionnaire, and those who commented on the drafts of this document.

8. Useful contacts

Codsall Parish Council,	01902 842426
Conservation and Planning Officers, South Staffordshire Council,	01902 696000
Staffordshire County Council,	0300 111 8000
Staffordshire Police,	0300 123 4455
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service,	0800 0241 999
Roads and Highways Officers, Staffordshire County Council,	0800 232 323
Community Council of Staffordshire,	01785 242525
South Staffordshire Community and Voluntary Action,	01902 851675
Codsall and Bilbrook History Society,	01902 847213
Codsall and Bilbrook Twinning Association,	01902 844660

9. Appendices

Appendix 1; Village Design Context

The following text is from the South Staffordshire Council “Village Design Guide”. It set out a summary of the context of Codsall as part of South Staffordshire.

1. Codsall has ancient origins. The Domesday Book records 6 households. Subsequently Codsall developed slowly until its major expansion in the later 20th Century. The settlement is located centrally in the District, to the west of nearby Wolverhampton.
2. The historic parts of the village have long since been enclosed by the extensive growth of the settlement to the south and east. However, its medieval origins and rural landscape setting are retained by the Norman doorway of the ancient Church of St Nicholas, and the open views across the agricultural landscape to the west.



Photo: Peter Serieys

3. The much expanded village has created a distinctly 20th Century, suburban character with an abrupt development edge opening to the largely arable agricultural landscape.



Photo: Peter Serieys

The modern settlement pattern is defined by the arterial roads leading off the crossroads at Histons Hill/Elliotts Lane and Wolverhampton Road. At the crossroads is located the Council’s offices. The village’s low rise form is enhanced by the extent of the planting and green spaces within the village. These lead towards the countryside edge, creating valuable networks of green space to the north and west. Farmland to the west and northwest, emphasises enclosure of the settlement in the greenbelt.

4. The village offers a great variety of building forms, but the scale of development is largely low-rise with spacious plots and extensive green edges and gardens. Development was in three phases: Historic – around the church and Church Road/ Wolverhampton crossroads; Post railway – elegant Victorian and Edwardian 3-storey villas and, Post-war. In common with much of the District, the buildings are largely brick and tile. The occasional use of render is consequently all the more striking when on landmark buildings.

5. A particular local characteristic is the use of low sandstone walls alongside the pavements on several roads. Codsall had a number of sandstone quarries exposed and exploited by the construction of the Shrewsbury to Wolverhampton railway line. These locally distinctive walls should be retained and in some instances it may be appropriate to repeat this detail in new developments in the village.



Photo: Matt Ewart

Materials

6. The building materials typically and frequently seen in Codsall are:

Tiles: Red clay

Bricks: Red

Facing: Render, some painted

Doors & windows: Timber



Photo: Matt Ewart

Archaeology

7. There is the potential for archaeological deposits to survive within the historic cores of villages and mitigation may be required at some point in the planning/development process.

Key Development Design Principles: Codsall

8. Codsall is a 'Main Service Village' it offers a good range of facilities and services, spread across two key centres. Therefore, the design guidance on both major and minor development outlined below in Section 6 and 7 is relevant, while specific attention should also be given to the following in developing design proposals.
- Maintain the distinction of the village character areas.** The historic core around St. Nicholas's Church should be retained as a distinctive character area and be protected from any peripheral development, which would serve to separate it from the open countryside
 - Strengthen the village character.** The density of development within the village centres, particularly around Wilkes Road/Wolverhampton Road should be increased to improve the legibility, viability and identity of the village centres.

- c. **Create new character areas.** The design of new development should be highly permeable and closely integrated both with the established village fabric and its enclosing countryside. In particular, new housing should face and enclose new streets and have walk able linkages to the village centre.
- d. **Green space enhancement.** The low-rise streetscape should be enhanced. A particular focus should be on the additional planting of trees and hedges, to create networks of green spaces, linking the village core with the enclosing countryside.



- e. **Landscaping of car parking areas.** Car parking should be integrated into the village fabric by means of boundary and integral tree planting to avoid sprawling open areas in the core of the village.
 - f. **Enhance the diversity of the built stock.** The village character should be strengthened by facilitating a greater diversity of building types within the various village neighbourhoods, while respecting the low-rise proportions of the existing built fabric. Cohesion should be created by use of common high quality materials, as well as by focusing on enhanced streetscape planting.
 - g. **Enhance the village entrances.** New development should contribute to the enhancement of the village entrances, particularly at the junctions with the countryside, for example along Watery Lane/Bilbrook Road and Birches Road/Codsall Road.
 - h. **Maintain views out into the countryside.** Views out to the enclosing countryside are mainly established along the village edges.
 - i. **Strengthen the Green Belt edge.** New development should contribute to the strengthening of the boundary planting, to reinforce the enclosure of the settlement within the surrounding countryside and create a clear and abrupt edge to the village's built form, as per the established edge along Keepers Lane and Oaken Lanes and Church Lane.
 - j. **Enhance the green space network.** New development should incorporate existing and new planting to enhance the compartmentalisation of the village's fabric, maintain the established open spaces and create a clear network of green spaces.
9. Codsall has an up-to-date Conservation Area Management Plan and Appraisal. This must be referred to when considering proposals for development within the Conservation Area or in areas outside the Conservation Area, which would affect views into or out of the Conservation Area.

Appendix 2; Village Survey - Questionnaire Responses

(% responses based on 107 returns; 1 = agree strongly, 5 = disagree strongly)

Table A2.1 Questionnaire Responses - Preserving the character of the village

	1	2	3	4	5
Development in the green-belt should be allowed where this is essential to meet housing need.	10	8	10	16	56
A mix of housing types and densities should be encouraged.	33	20	26	10	11
More support should be given to the provision of accommodation for the elderly and vulnerable.	38	26	22	7	7
The proportion of affordable housing sites should be increased.	36	22	16	14	12
Infill developments ('garden grabbing') should be resisted.	73	9	9	4	5
Higher density development should be allowed in the village centre.	14	5	8	17	56

Table A2.2 Questionnaire Responses - Improving the village environment

	1	2	3	4	5
More money should be spent on maintaining public open space in the Parish.	35	20	33	6	6
The Codsall conservation areas should continue to be protected.	77	14	8	1	0
The mix of shops and offices in the village centre is about right.	46	19	28	5	2
More businesses should be encouraged to locate in the Parish.	28	19	29	12	12
Developers should be required to pay a levy to improve the village infrastructure.	68	16	8	3	5
More money should be spent keeping the Parish litter free.	24	27	29	10	10
Funding should be made available to provide more facilities for young people.	33	28	23	8	8

Table A2.3 Questionnaire Responses - Dealing with crime and disorder

	1	2	3	4	5
Anti-social behaviour is a big problem in Codsall	20	20	35	23	2
There is very little burglary in Codsall	23	26	33	15	3
Drug dealing and taking is a big problem in Codsall	13	13	42	14	18
Most drivers speed on the main roads through Codsall	47	22	14	12	5
Codsall people worry about the risk of violent crime	16	20	28	19	17

Table A2.4 Questionnaire Responses - Supporting and building the voluntary sector

	1	2	3	4	5
I am aware of most of the voluntary groups in the Parish.	19	19	29	16	17
I think that Parish Council funds should be used to support voluntary organisations.	25	27	37	7	4
I think greater emphasis should be placed on supporting voluntary groups that provide caring .	28	20	38	7	7
I think more money should be spent supporting voluntary work with young people.	26	26	32	9	7
I am interested in volunteering.	14	4	16	19	47
I would be prepared to pay an increase in council tax to support voluntary organisations.	12	11	24	22	31

Table A2.5 Questionnaire Responses - Improving the health of the community

	1	2	3	4	5
I am satisfied with the level of GP provision in the Parish.	61	19	14	4	2
* Dentist	51	18	19	6	6
* Optician	62	19	16	2	1
* Physiotherapist	39	19	30	6	6
* Occupational Therapist	33	12	45	5	5
* Chiropodist	36	11	42	7	4

* Question about level of satisfaction with each of the listed services.

Appendix 3; Details of planned actions and outcomes

Table A3.1 - Preserving the character of the village

Headlines	Desired outcomes	Focus for action *
The wish to keep new development to a minimum	To limit the amount of new build in the Parish to satisfy mainly local demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with South Staffordshire Council (SSC) planning department to identify the most appropriate sites for development to take place in the Parish. • To work with SSC and West Midlands Regional Development Plan to determine the actual housing need in the Parish. • To focus development in meeting the needs of the Parish community.
The desire to retain the character of the Parish	To ensure that any new development is in keeping with the character of the village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adopt the principles contained in the SSC Village design guide. • To take account of the need for adequate infrastructure provision in conjunction with consideration of new developments. • To look to ensure that any development that takes place, particularly infill development is sympathetic to and remains in keeping with the surrounding properties. • To continue to support SSC policies to retain the green belt in the Parish.

* Action to be undertaken within the Local Development Framework timescale, using data from the Local Strategic Plan. The Village Design Context (Appendix 1) and the SSC Village Design Guide will be used in conjunction with established planning criteria when determining planning applications.
Co-operating organisation – South Staffordshire Council

Table A3.2 - Improving the Village Environment

Headlines	Desired outcomes	Focus for action *
Retain a viable and sustainable village centre.	The mix of village shops is varied and sustainable and that the appearance of the village centre is maintained to a good standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of local shops / produce / services • Implement policy via the planning process to restrict shop signage and improve shop frontages • Promote the development of a street scene that is in keeping with the historic nature and character of the village • Develop and protect conservation areas within the parish • Allocate funding / resources to maintain conservation areas / open spaces to a good standard
Tackle the problems of increasing vehicular movements.	The development of an integrated and sustainable traffic management plan for the parish / village.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify current traffic issues (parking / speeding) and report to public sector bodies (County / District council and Highways Agency) • Undertake a detailed traffic management study including a review of road junctions where safety or traffic delays are recognised issues • Implement recommendations from the study that help to reduce traffic flow / speed through the village and that address parking problems • Introduce parking restrictions within the village centre / car parks • Identify land for development of a car park for rail users, which also includes provision for cycle storage • Encourage villagers to walk, cycle or use public transport to reduce parking problems, reduce environmental impact and promote a healthier lifestyle
Improvements to highway and footpath maintenance.	Public sector bodies (County / District council and Highways Agency) recognising the current poor condition of roads / pavements in the Parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey and identify the worse roads / pavements in the parish • Identify rural roads that are in a poor condition and in need of urgent repair • Allocate funding / resources on a priority basis • Assess whether utility companies can be encouraged to improve repair standards or whether penalties can be imposed for sub-standard work

* The provision of additional parking for rail users and tighter controls on village-centre car parks will be a priority during the Plan's five year duration. A survey of roads and pavements will be carried out during the first year. The twice-annually village clean-up exercises will continue. Co-operating organisation - Staffordshire County Council, South Staffordshire Council and Codsall Parish Council.

Table A3.3 - Dealing with Crime and Disorder

Headlines	Desired outcomes	Focus for action *
The danger caused by vehicles speeding through the Parish	To take steps to achieve compliance with local speed limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the frequency of Community Speed Watch traffic monitoring • Improve (and install additional) signage in support of community speed watch • Police to carry out more frequent 'official' speed checks and enforcement.
The problems caused by anti-social behaviour in the Parish	Reduced unacceptable (anti-social) behaviour and address the perception of lack of action to tackle the problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise 'parental awareness' meetings to encourage parents to take more interest in their children's behaviour • Police to produce a leaflet to direct awareness and encourage monitoring and reporting • Police reports to focus on actions taken and outcome achieved, including advice to victims
The perceived increase in drug and alcohol related crime	Increased emphasis placed on the reduction of drug and alcohol related offences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trading Standards Officers and Police to regularly visit licensed premises to encourage traders to rigorously observe and enforce licensed trading laws. Public to be made aware on how to report infringements • Residents to be encouraged to report cases of alcohol consumption in public places leading to rigorous enforcement • Police to arrange a continuing programme of liaison with schools to provide talks and workshops dealing with drug and alcohol issues and citizenship responsibilities
The need to build public confidence that the police will respond to calls and take action.	The police to shorten response times and provide improved follow-up of reported incidents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police to ensure that all members of the public are aware of the most rapid means of reporting incidents • Police to give residents an incident-report pro-forma to refer to when calling the police • Police to report outcomes of investigations as well as numbers of incidents. Victims to be fully informed about outcomes of investigations, including those where culprits have not been apprehended

* A specified number of community speed watch exercises should take place each year, as well as 'official' speed checks by the police. In addition there should be a reduction of at least 3% in the number of anti-social behaviour orders issued in the village each year. Additional controls on alcohol should include at least 4 "pub watch" visits annually by the Police. A document informing residents how to report incidents to the police will be prepared during the first year of this plan.
Cooperating organisation – South Staffordshire Police.

Table A3.4 - Supporting and Building the Voluntary Sector

Headlines	Desired outcomes	Focus for action *
<p>The work of voluntary organisations is vital to maintaining and developing community spirit</p>	<p>Development of the work of voluntary organisations within the Parish</p>	<p>Working with South Staffordshire Community and Voluntary Association (SSCVA), to evaluate and assess the scope of voluntary organisations in the Parish to determine;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives of each organisation and how these objectives align with the desired outcomes of the Parish and Community Plan • Membership levels and age profile of membership and comment on membership issues • Funding requirements • Areas where there is a gap in third sector support within the community • Extent of support to be given to existing organisations
<p>Volunteering can both provide a valued service for the community and be rewarding and fulfilling for volunteers</p>	<p>More people, particularly young people, to volunteer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of the opportunities to volunteer and an understanding of volunteering. • Highlight the benefits to the individual from volunteering. • Adopt a proactive approach to the recruitment of volunteers and identify opportunities to contact and work with potential volunteers • Provide training to match skills with need • Consider incentives and links with local schools to encourage young people to volunteer
<p>There is limited funding available to support the voluntary sector</p>	<p>Public and private sector funding to achieve the most effective and efficient use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Parish and Community Plan outcomes that link to work of voluntary organisations • Introduce formal application procedure to be used in allocation of funds to strengthen the link between funding and desired outcomes • Work with the South Staffordshire Community Partnership to develop funding opportunities through grants and other community funding streams

* The overall aim for this aspect is to increase the number of community volunteers by 10% during the five year period of this plan. It is expected that by the end of year 1 a leaflet giving guidance to aspiring volunteers will be published and by 2 a policy review dealing with how the voluntary sector is supported will be completed. This will include a rationalisation of grant application and review procedures. Cooperating organisation - South Staffordshire Community and Voluntary Association.

Table A3.5 - Improving the Health of the Community

Headlines	Desired outcomes	Focus for action
Adequacy of health services in the Parish	Retained G.P provision within the village at a level which meets the demands related to new residential development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with local GP practices and the Practice based commissioning group • Primary Care Trust (PCT) to be consulted as part of any new developments
Access to services	Improved access to services, particularly with our ageing population in mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better engagement in Practice Based Commissioning (PBC) and PCT consultation and engagement activities • Production of a service directory (including health)
Promoting good health	Improved health education in our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a range of lifestyle services available in the community including health trainers, Slimming on referral schemes, Health Fit, community based physical activity programmes • Joint scheme already developed between PCT and Council to deliver support to overweight children and families • Better communication of services within the community
Healthy life styles	Recognition of the social aspects of healthy lifestyles and volunteer schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCT funding of the Super Active Senior Citizens programme • GPs referring to the Volunteer for Health programme • District Council leading on development of healthy walks (The role of the Voluntary Sector (A3.4) to be part of this. • Roll out of HealthNet (for families and young people) across South Staffordshire. Scheme to be publicised locally

Cooperating organisation - District Public Health, South Staffs Council

