



THE DAMERHAM PARISH PLAN

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1. THE DAMERHAM PARISH PLAN - Introduction

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Damerham plan - **YOUR** Plan if you are a resident in the village. This document encapsulates householders' and local organisations' views and wishes concerning the future direction of this community's development, expressed through a series of household surveys and extensive consultation. The planning project has been conducted on behalf of local residents and Damerham Parish Council by a voluntary Steering Group drawn from residents attending an open meeting in May 2006.

The concept of parish plans is promoted by the Government to give local communities an opportunity to shape their own future, to engage with organisations and individuals that can help to make projects come alive and finally to work together to ensure that activities get 'off the ground' and outcomes are sustained.

This plan is designed to be a 'living document' for at least the next decade; the Parish Council is committed to regular review and reporting on progress. It contains useful information about Damerham, its people and buildings, landscape and economy - all carefully researched and edited to make easy reading.

There is a description of how the plan was researched and written and sign-posting to relevant documents should you want to know more of the detail. Results from the main questionnaire are published separately and are available from the Parish Clerk or via Damerham Parish Council's website www.damerham-pc.gov.uk (details on back page).

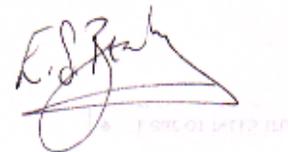
Most importantly, the plan lists ideas for projects and actions resulting from responses to the main survey - some of which aim to preserve the peace and rural character of the village, others designed to improve local services.

The children and staff of Western Downland (C of E Aided) Primary School contributed to the plan with their own survey results, observations and suggested projects, facilitated by our colleagues from Community Action, Hampshire. There is a separate report from this splendid piece of work and this has been presented to the Parish Council in its own right.

Finally, through our district Community Planning Officer, we are consulting with colleagues at New Forest District Council (NFDC), Hampshire County Council (HCC) and other agencies whose support and expertise is essential to ensure that certain projects do progress.

The Steering Group particularly thanks all the residents of Damerham who participated in the survey and consultation process - without their magnificent response their plan would have much less validity. Please read on and if you want to get involved in any of the projects or want further information, there are useful lists of organisations and contact details in Appendix 2.

Sarah Bealey
Chairman,
Damerham Plan Steering Group



Phil Tandy
Chairman,
Damerham Parish Council



2. THE PLANNING PROCESS

Working closely with advisers from New Forest District Council, the Plan Steering Group has followed the recommended process from the New Forest Community Planning Guide. In essence this consisted of:

- 1) An initial consultation with all residents to gain an understanding of what they valued in the community, what they disliked and also what they would like to see improved.
- 2) Using the results of the above consultation to guide the writing of a comprehensive questionnaire which was circulated to all households.
- 3) Using the results of the questionnaires (93% of which were returned) to guide the writing of the plan itself.

We knew from the beginning that effective communication was essential to our success, and as a result the Steering Group engaged with the community in as many ways as it could.

These included:

Display stands at village events such as the Village Fair and Apple Day.

- A dedicated village e-mail address for views and pages on the Parish Council's website.
- Production and distribution of a series of flyers, delivered by hand to each household in the village as well as a newsletter.
- Attendance at all Parish Council meetings to report on progress.
- Attendance at meetings of local groups (e.g. Tea & Chat, Parochial Church Council & the West Park Meadow Management Committee).
- Meetings with our Community Action facilitator, teaching staff at the Western Downland School and neighbouring villages' Community Planning teams.
- Open Days to share the results of the consultations with residents and a Children and Young People's disco and workshop.

Fundamentally, all members of the Steering Group remained neutral when listening to the views being expressed by local people but were hugely committed to ensuring that everyone was given an opportunity to contribute their view to the planning process.

3. DAMERHAM PARISH PROFILE

Significant Moments in the History of Damerham

Bronze Age: The first known habitation in Damerham was Knoll Hill Fort and the lost village north of Soldier's Ring.

965: One of the earliest written references to Damerham. It tells the tale of the beautiful daughter of the Earl of Devonshire, Elfrida, who married Edgar, King of England, in the year 965. He gave her Dobreham (now Damerham) as a wedding gift. Later, the estate was given to Glastonbury Abbey and was mentioned as such in the Domesday Book.

1086: The church tower was built on a Saxon site; this was probably preceded by a pagan temple as the church is on an ancient ley line which runs across to Old Sarum. The church was a satellite of Glastonbury Abbey and the Tithe Barn at Court Farm was used to collect the wool clip for the Abbey.

1348/9: The Black Death struck Damerham and resulted in the location of the village dwellings moving from around the church to where they are today.

1762: Sir Eyre Coote built West Park and owned most of the land in Damerham.

1863: The Great Fire started at 1 p.m. on May 11th 1863 in a cottage in the current location of Wath Cottage. The fire spread quickly from thatch to thatch, claiming 32 houses and 3 farms and resulted in many villagers becoming homeless.

In reaction to the suffering, a Fire Relief Fund was set up which gave money, clothing, furniture, etc., to the victims of the fire along with the funds to build 2 cottages and 8 bungalows (originally called The Barracks, but now named The Terrace) to house the homeless people. These cottages have remained ever since.



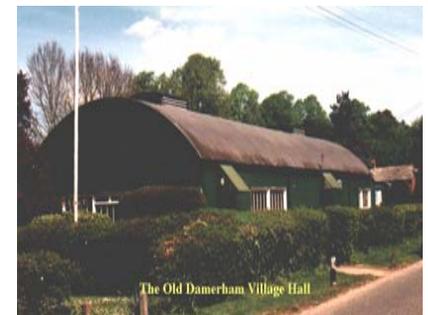
St. George's Church



The Soldier's Ring



The Allen River



The Old Village Hall

1895: Damerham moved from Wiltshire into Hampshire, under an Act of Parliament re-aligning the County boundaries.

1911: The first village hall was erected.

1941: Mains water came to Damerham with the help of Italian prisoners-of-war.

1941: The Cootes sold West Park to Pall Mall Estates.

1941: A bomb belt (ammunition storage beneath trees) blew up, killing 6 people and causing damage to property at Allenford Farm and Tripps End.

1945: The cricket pavilion was built and the land that is now the Sportsfield was given to the village by the Cote family.

1946: The first council houses were built.

1947: Pall Mall Estates sold West Park to Lord Radnor. At the same time Tylney Investments bought many houses in the village, thus Damerham ceased to be an estate village.

1960: The Compasses Inn gained its seven day licence, which split the village.

Late 1960's/early 1970's: Knoll reservoir was built providing the village with its own water supply.

1980: The Western Downland (C. of E. Aided) Primary School was established following a federating process with the Rockbourne and Damerham schools.

1996: The new village hall was built following a lottery grant and major fund-raising.

2005: The new sports pavilion was built.

The Village Hall



Western Downland School



The Compasses Inn



The Sports Pavilion



The Natural Environment

The parish of Damerham is extremely diverse in nature. In the north of the parish, chalk downland is in some places topped with non calcareous Reading Beds (sands and clays). The Allen River has eroded a shallow valley through the chalk, which is overlooked by prominent knolls and ridges, many of which have beech belts or woodland on the skyline. The valley sides are mainly arable with smaller fields of permanent pasture and small alder, willow and poplar copses along the river valley. Damerham village straddles the river where the valley widens out and the land becomes more undulating.

Most of the small meadows along the river were working water meadows with elaborate systems of carriages, weirs and channels, some of which are still visible. One of these meadows within the village is now a community meadow and orchard. Further downstream there are fish farm lakes and old watercress beds.

Arable fields dominate the central area of the parish, although some large mixed woodlands, notably that of Bousbury (part of which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest - SSSI) on the western boundary, stretch up onto the chalk ridges. In the very south of the parish there is a mosaic of small fields, predominantly permanent pasture, with high dense hedgerows and many small woodlands, here the soil is less well drained and acidic in nature. The variety in the

local topography is reflected in the wide variety of flora and fauna found within the parish, with more than 200 plant species found in the verges alone.



A large number of footpaths radiate from the village to all parts of the parish. There are two bridleways; one running from Eleven Cross to Tidpit and Martin Down, and the other links Mill End to Sandleheath.

The whole of Damerham parish falls within the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The Built Environment

The village of Damerham runs along either side of the Allen River, where two main bridges cross, linking the roads to Cranborne to the west, Martin to the north, Rockbourne to the north-east, Sandleheath to the south-east and the hamlets of Lower Daggons and Crendell to the south.

Most of the dwellings in the parish lie within the village along these roads or adjacent to the river in Mill End and The Common. Other houses are in the hamlet of Lower Daggons and Lopshill to the south of the parish or are outlying farms. The older parts of the village, West Park Drive and Court Farm, fall within the Damerham Conservation Area (see map - pages 15/16).

Typically the houses of Damerham are of brick construction, although some of the older houses date back to the 16th and 17th centuries and are of timber frame with either brick or plaster infill and some still have thatched roofs. Many houses, including The Terrace, were built after the 'Great Fire' in the latter years of the 19th century, and after the war more houses were built along West Park Lane and in South End. The new village hall was built in 1996.

The Norman Parish Church of St George has 12th century origins with the tower being rebuilt in the 17th century. Its structure is of rubble flint and squared ironstone; part rendered, with Chilmark stone dressings, a plain tile roof with

stone slabs on the aisles. The plain glass west window illuminates the interior with clarity of light. The building underwent considerable alteration at various times up to the Reformation, but escaped with only internal changes by the Victorians. Few early churches are dedicated to St George and the 12th century tympanum over the entrance is one of many interesting features.

St George's forms part of a group of four village parishes called Western Downland in the Diocese of Salisbury.



The Parish Church of St. George, Damerham

The Damerham Methodist Chapel was founded in 1876; the current building, in the High Street, was opened in 1877. In 1999 it underwent significant renovation with new chairs, new windows, etc.



The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel built in 1870 at Crendell also comes within the parish of Damerham.



Until a few years ago, there was a Congregational Chapel at South End, but this has now been deconsecrated and converted into a dwelling known as Chapel Cottage.

The Baptist Church founded in 1801 is located at South End.



There are 226 dwellings in the parish, most are detached (52%) or semi-detached (36%) and the remaining 11% are terraced. 2% are second homes.

63% of houses are owner occupied and the remainder are fairly evenly split between privately and socially rented.

Of the 226 dwellings in Damerham, 38 are affordable homes (31 council owned and 7 by registered social landlords). 15 people are registered on the Homesearch Register for affordable housing.

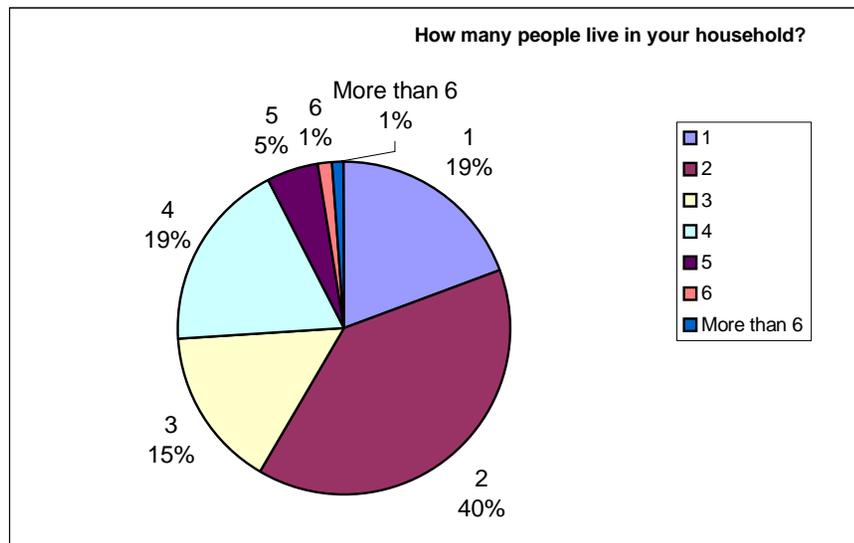
Our People

Damerham's current population is estimated at 545 people. Damerham has seen its population grow from 515 people in 2001 (*1) and this trend is expected to continue in the future, rising to 577 people by 2012, a growth rate of 12% (2001-2012) (*2).

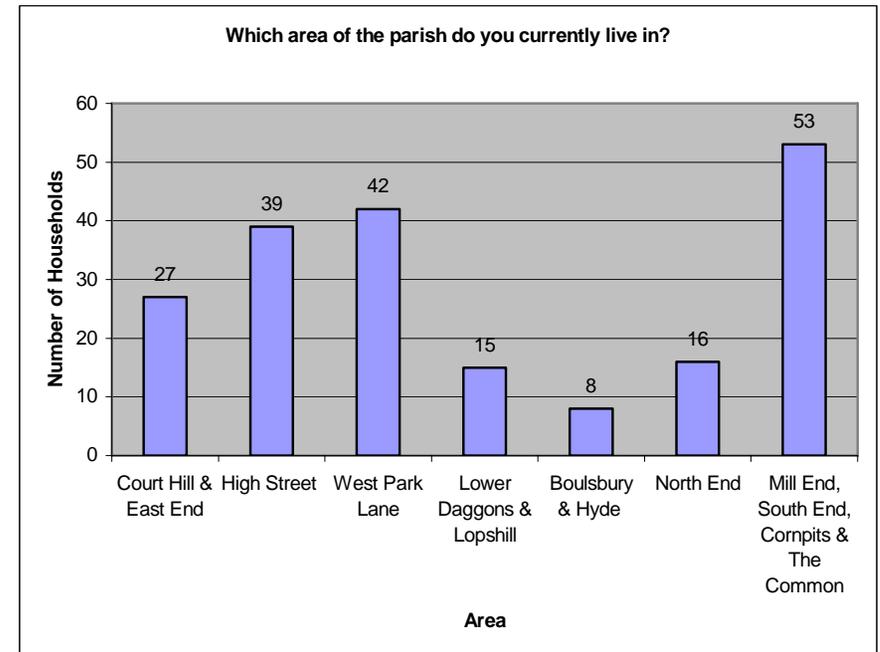
Source *1 : - 2001 Census

Source *2 : - Hampshire CC Small Area Population Forecast model (base: 2002)

Findings from the Questionnaire Household Size



Distribution of Households Within the parish



Most respondents to the questionnaire are aged between 30 - 60 years (45%). A quarter of respondents are young people under the age of 19.

There are 39 respondents aged 75 years and over. Three quarters of these residents live alone, and 45% have lived in the parish for 31 years or more.

Leisure Facilities

The Village Hall, re-built in 1996 following a National Lottery grant and fund-raising, is a modern, well-equipped hall with kitchen, additional function rooms, a large car park and large outdoor area.

It holds a huge variety of community events, including jumble sales, race nights, "Apple Day" and discos, and is the base for many community organisations including the local Badminton Club. "Tea & Chat" provides a regular social event for older people in the Village Hall.

West Park Meadow is the area of land adjacent to the Allen River and is leased by the Parish Council as communal, amenity land. Recently, a new management plan has been put into practice to transform this area into a wildlife meadow with seating and interpretation boards for the enjoyment of everyone who lives in the village. Projects have attracted a variety of grants and external funding, as well as support from the parish itself.

The Sportsfield was given in trust to the village by the Coote family. The Lobsters Cricket Club, The Damerham Casuals C.C, The Damerham C.C. and Damerham F.C. use the field and host many cricket and football fixtures. The field is also the location for bigger village events such as the Damerham Fair and Tent Dance. The new Sports Pavilion was built in 2005.

The Running Club meets regularly at the Compasses Inn.

There are a number of allotments in the village, all of which are currently rented out by the land-owners, Tylney Investments.

Damerham has over 20 different organisations and societies which operate in and around the village. This is a large number for a village of its size.

A complete list of these organisations and societies is given in Appendix 2.



West Park Meadow

Facilities for Children and Young People

Damerham "Fluffy Chicks" Parent & Toddler Group is a charity that offers a playgroup for pre-school children - run by volunteers and located in the village hall. There is a separate area for babies, a good range of recreational toys for older toddlers and activities include weekly craft sessions and music. It is thriving and currently has over 50 children in regular attendance who come from a wide area.

Within the village there is no children's playground or other facility for young people's recreation. The school playground has a variety of play areas and equipment, but is not available to local children outside school hours.

Various wildlife-hunting activities have been held on West Park Meadow for children and younger people. There are events run by the Friends of the School, village clubs and societies that are aimed at the young, e.g. Damerham Duck Race, Easter and Christmas Fairs, the Pantomime, "Apple Day", the Damerham Village Fair and the Spring Show.

Team Elite, a private firm, ran a junior football club on Saturday mornings between 2003 and 2006, but the initiative has proved unsustainable.

'Turn Up For Fun' is a new initiative run by The Hampshire Children and Families Forum and it runs on one morning a week

for 6 weeks in the summer. It takes the form of a travelling play facility that visits villages with few amenities for children and provides various crafts, games and activities.

During school holidays there is a privately run Holiday Scheme at Furze Hill, Fordingbridge for children between 5 - 14 years.

There is also a Play Scheme for children aged 5 - 11 years at Fordingbridge Junior School for the first two weeks of the summer holidays.

Lara of Year 2 has suggested a design for a Playground.



Economy and Business

Economy

70% of people aged 16-74 are economically active, half of those not active are retired (15%).

Of those economically active, 35% are employed full time, 19% are self employed and 15% are employed part time.

On average, men (in employment) work 45 hours per week and women work 28 hours, but this is skewed greatly by the fact that very few men (6 in total) work part time.

Businesses

There are 41 businesses operating in Damerham, of which 11 are agricultural/land based.



Allenford Farms



Thatcher at work

Of the other businesses, most are small and include a number of B & B's, the Damerham Garage, Damerham Trout Fisheries, and a number of building and decorating contractors.

There are more than seven office based business/finance companies and consultancies based in the village. There are also pet sitters, beauty therapists, garden services, bar and entertainment services and a theatre company.

More than half of the businesses have no employees, whilst two have more than 10 employees. Of those employed about 50 live within 5 miles of Damerham.

The economy of Damerham has changed significantly in recent years, with a number of traditional businesses having closed, including the village bakery run by Monty Palmer which closed in 1976.

The last farm to have a milking herd finished in 2000, whilst the Post Office located in the Garage also closed that same year.

Plenty of B & B and self-catering accommodation is provided within the village. There is also the "Garden Hideaway" with 2 rooms for B & B and beauty treatments.

The Compasses Inn has been an inn for 400 years and still provides a focal point for the village. It has a restaurant, large garden adjoining the Sportsfield, 6 bedrooms and 2 self-catering lets.

Travel and Transport

Two thirds of people travel to work via private car or van or motorcycle. Very few (1%) use public transport (due to a very limited service) and the remaining one third use other forms of transport or more likely work from home.

Roads:

Most of the roads within the parish are classified as 'C' roads, whilst the others are 'D' or 'unclassified' roads.

Many are very narrow, windy country lanes bordered by high hedges, unchanged since the "horse & cart" era.

Despite the narrowness of the roads, the village is frequently used as a "rat-run" for HGVs cutting across from the A338 main Salisbury to Ringwood road to the A354 Salisbury to Blandford road.



High Street in the 1890's



High Street as it is now



Crossways in the early 1920's



Crossways as it is now

Transport:

There is a car share service to Fordingbridge (Mon-Sat) which runs on a "call and book" system. The service delivers to Fordingbridge at 10.00 a.m. to meet the 10.13 a.m. scheduled bus to Salisbury.

Services are also available leaving Fordingbridge at 12 noon and 1.45 p.m. The cost of a fare is £2.30 single and £3.50 return. Children are half price and fare passes are accepted.

A return bus service operates through the village on Tuesdays and Saturdays travelling to and from Salisbury Market.

There is an inter-site bus for the primary school children that serves all the local villages and likewise a school bus service to Fordingbridge and The Burgate School.

The Western Downland Care Group operates a transport service for elderly and disabled people around the Western Downland Villages.

4. Damerham Parish Vision

The Damerham Parish Vision is to work towards a village community which will:

- sustain and safeguard its pleasant, peaceful and rural environment.
- be vibrant and stimulating by encouraging a sense of belonging and care for the things which people value most highly.
- contribute towards a universal feeling of contentment and satisfaction for all village residents.



5. DAMERHAM PARISH MAP

- Showing the Damerham Parish Boundaries and the Conservation Area.



ROADS AND PATHS Not necessarily rights of way

- M1 or A6(M) Motorway
- A35 Dual carriageway
- A2(T) or A35 Trunk or main road
- B3074 Secondary road
- Narrow road with passing places
- Road under construction
- Road generally more than 4 m wide
- Road generally less than 4 m wide
- Other road, drive or track, fenced and unfenced
- Gradient: steeper than 20% (1 in 5); 14% (1 in 7) to 20% (1 in 5)
- Ferry Ferry P - passenger only
- Path

RAILWAYS

- Multiple track standard gauge
- Single track
- Narrow gauge
- Light rapid transit system (LRTS)
- Road over; road under; level crossing
- Cutting; tunnel; embankment
- Station, open to passengers; siding

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- Footpath
- Bridleway
- Byway open to all traffic
- Road used as a public path (From late 2004 roads used as public paths are to be redesignated as 'Restricted byways'. Restricted byways provide a right of way for walkers, horse riders, cyclists and other non-mechanically propelled vehicles)

Public rights of way shown on this map have been taken from local authority definitive maps and later amendments. The map includes changes notified to Ordnance Survey by 1st Sep 2004. Rights of way are liable to change and may not be clearly defined on the ground. Please check with the relevant local authority for the latest information.

The representation on this map of any other road, track or path is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS

- Other routes with public access
- National Trail / Long Distance Route : Recreational Route
- Permitted footpath Footpaths and bridleways along which landowners have permitted public use but which are not rights of way. The agreement may be withdrawn
- Permitted bridleway
- Traffic free cycle route
- National cycle network route number - traffic free
- National cycle network route number - on road



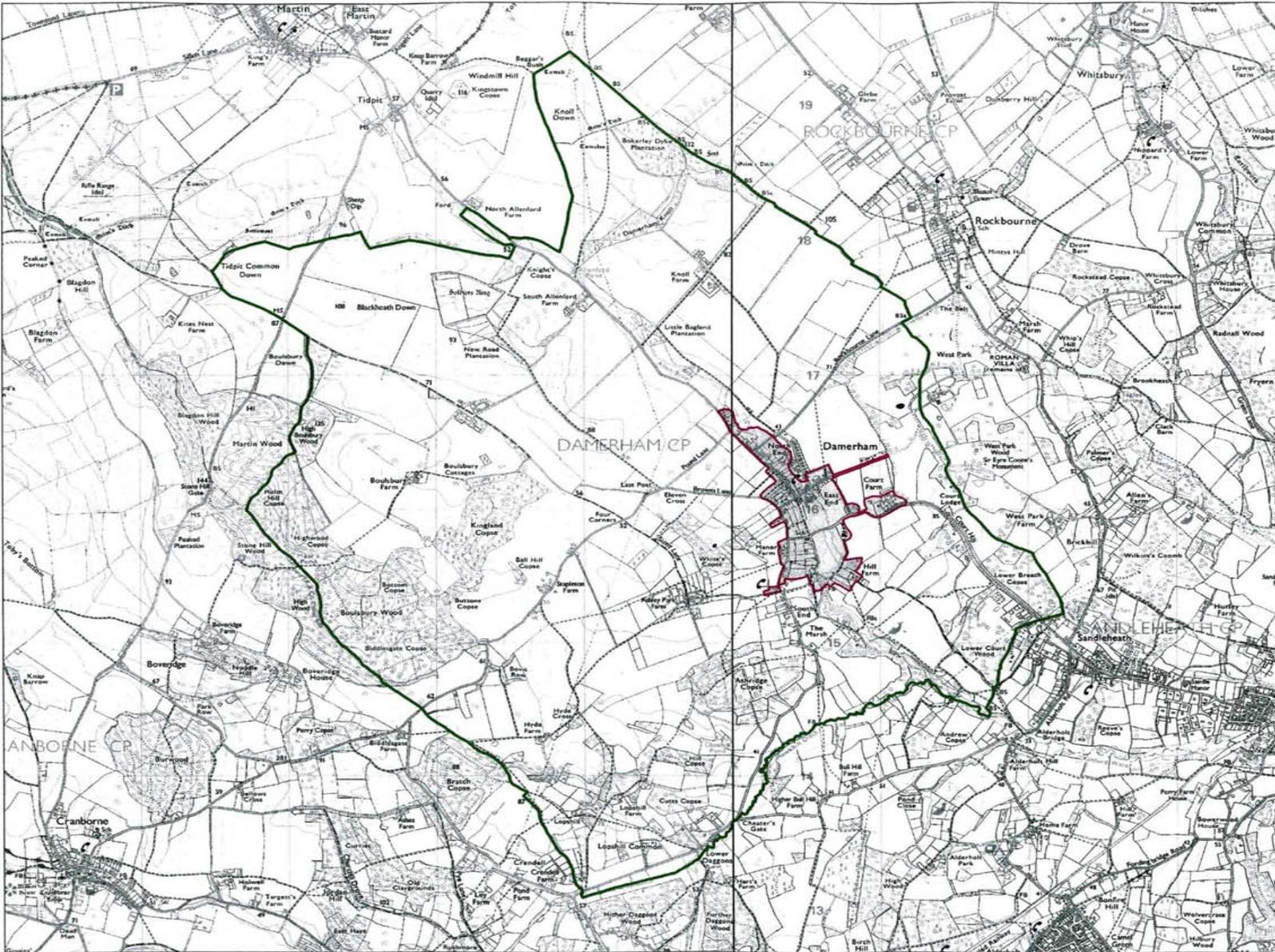


New Forest
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Community Services
New Forest District Council
Appletree Court
Lyndhurst
SO43 7PA

Tel: (023) 80285000

**Damerham Parish and
Conservation Area**



Scale 1: 25 000

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6. OBJECTIVES AND ACTION PLANS

The Environment

OBJECTIVE: To contribute towards an environment which preserves the peaceful and rural character of the village, which is safe and is sustainable in its use of resources.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- 90.5% feel it is very important to protect and preserve the rural character of the village, with 49% valuing peace and tranquillity most highly.
- 64% of households felt it important to preserve the absence of light pollution and the continued enjoyment of the night sky.
- Control of fly tipping is seen as most important in maintaining village character (85%), as was the control of fly posting (32%).
- Traffic (50%) and low flying aircraft (31%) are the main causes of unacceptable noise.
- A majority (69%) are happy with current collection of recyclables; those not content cited a glass collection as being required (79%)
- The garden waste service was seen as useful by only 9%, with over 44% not knowing about it.



<u>THE ENVIRONMENT: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
Organise Volunteer Groups to regularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clean/paint railings on the Allen River bridges. - clean bus shelter. - litter pick on a more regular basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hampshire County Council (HCC) to be consulted. -Parish Council to activate. -Ongoing, but could be done more regularly with help from NFDC.
Action to be taken against incidents of fly tipping and fly posting.	Village Information Team to supply information on whom to and how to report incidents at New Forest District Council.
Investigate the effectiveness of a kerb-side glass collection recycling programme and the current garden waste recycling scheme.	A Project Plan to be established with the NFDC Officer responsible for recycling.
Create a social awareness/good neighbour programme to deal with issues of noise and nuisance in the village.	The Parish Council to set up a project to establish a community health and safety policy.
Organise the resurfacing of Green Close and the lopping of trees adjacent to the Close for safety purposes.	Project already in place by the Parish Council with HCC.
Investigate the possibility of pedestrianisation of Church Lane between the bridge and the school, or the creation of pedestrian lay-bys or "refuges" for improving safety on the Lane.	Project to be set up by the Parish Council with HCC.
Provide a means of regularly maintaining and clearing footpaths in the parish.	Liaison between the Parish Footpaths Officer and the Parish Council together with HCC where appropriate.
Communicate the current network of footpaths and bridleways in the parish to all residents.	Village Information Team to carry out a review with the Parish Footpaths Officer.
Information to be circulated on the availability of allotments in the village.	Village Information Team to include information in the proposed Damerham Welcome Pack and in the Parish Pump.

Leisure

OBJECTIVE: To enhance the current range of activities and facilities to meet the needs and changing aspirations of all members of the village community.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- Damerham Village Fair is the most popular event attended (86%), with the Duck Race second at 68%, and the Christmas Get Together at 58%.
- A wide variety of further facilities/activities were suggested with exercise classes, films, youth club, and local bands/music leading the list.
- There is relatively low usage of the Village Hall by village residents (15% monthly), Sportsfield (4% monthly), similarly West Park Meadow (2% monthly).



Horticultural Society Show
at The Village Fair



The Duck Race



Snowdrop Sunday



Pig Racing for charity!

<u>LEISURE: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
Revisit the proposal for a children's playground to establish key issues which require resolution and make recommendations to overcome them.	The Parish Council to consider appointing a Project Officer to take forward actions arising from plan (including liaison with the school).
Encourage organisations to coordinate events more effectively, to review results and popularity of current events and identify possible new activities which will meet popular demand.	Village Information Team to publish an "Events Diary" in the Parish Pump and communicate its purpose to all residents alongside findings from the plan questionnaire responses on the subject of events.
To widen the appeal of the Sportsfield by providing a range of facilities that residents and visitors can access and want to use. The Sportsfield Committee will welcome any approaches from individuals, clubs etc. to use the facilities.	The Sportsfield Committee to develop plans for providing and funding: - a multi-purpose sports court, cricket nets, football posts and other maintenance.
<p>To encourage people in the parish to use the village hall more.</p> <p>Anyone can hire the hall, set up their own committee etc. and be self funding with permission of Hall Committee</p>	<p>Proposed village community body to establish projects to provide additional facilities and clubs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review case for exercise/ yoga classes. 2. Investigate films (Moviola). 3. Follow up suggestion for local band/music. 4. Investigate putting on regular quiz nights.
Review the success of the West Park Meadow project to date and recommend specific actions to take the project forward by increasing its utilisation by the community and to incorporate feedback from the planning consultation into development of the West Park Meadow Plan.	The Parish Council to require the West Park Meadow Committee to report on the way forward for the project, e.g. More information and facilities such as: picnic benches, a play trail or other children's facilities.
Ensure consistency between the West Park Meadow Plan and the Damerham Parish Plan.	Incorporate into the plan, the West Park Meadow management regime and other actions set out in the West Park Meadow Plan documents.

Communications

OBJECTIVE: To review the parish communication processes and needs, recommending, introducing and developing methods which will ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to be advised and updated with news, information and details of village activities and progress of The Damerham Parish Plan.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- 89% of households read the Parish Pump and 69% read the notice boards to stay informed about Damerham activities and events. More than 60% found these two media to be useful or very useful at keeping them informed. 15% look at the two websites of which about half found them not to be of use in keeping them informed.
- Half of households (106 households) would like more information on local businesses (48%), local organisations and societies (61%), local services (69%) and local events and activities (76%).
- Just over 10% of households felt that they missed local events and/or activities due to lack of information.
- 81% of households felt that a 'welcome sheet' should be produced for newcomers.
- 15 households would like more information / communication from the Parish Council and 99 would like to be consulted more about services provided by Damerham Parish Council.

A Village Information Team has been set up for the purpose of distributing news, information and details of events to the villagers. This has been done in conjunction with the Parish Council and a number of local volunteers.

<u>COMMUNICATIONS: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
Identify the needs of the community by further analysis of the results of the questionnaire.	The Village Information Team.
To review and evaluate existing village communication systems.	The Village Information Team and the Steering Group.
To explore possible improvements or enhancements to the communication systems.	The Village Information Team.
To liaise, develop and recommend enhancements to the methods of communications to meet overall objectives and other action points as raised in the plan.	The Village Information Team and providers of information.
To then set up and maintain revised information pathways and systems.	The Village Information Team, with the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee, the Sportsfield Committee, the Village Show Committee, West Park Meadow Committee, Churches and other groups and organisations.
To contribute items of news and information.	Residents/groups/organisations.
Produce and publish information that meets the needs identified in the review.	The Village Information Team.
Produce a "Welcome Pack" for the new residents of the parish with as much information as possible.	The Village Information Team, in conjunction with the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council.

Highways/Traffic/Transport

OBJECTIVE: To provide a clear statement of the priorities as perceived by the community for managing the flow and volumes of traffic through the village, thereby giving direction to the authorities to undertake action to counter traffic and transport problems.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- Speeding vehicles, HGVs and poor maintenance of roads are seen as being significant problems.
- Lack of parking around the school, in West Park Lane and at the village hall is seen as a problem.
- A "Walking Bus" to school would aid safety (63%), as would a pedestrian passing place in Church Lane (54%).

Housing/Planning

OBJECTIVE: To provide evidence of the extent of the need for, and possible solution to, the on-going problem of providing affordable accommodation for all village residents, which will seek to stimulate official action.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- 73% of respondents are in favour of up to 10 new houses being built over the next 10 years, with a preference for affordable housing, while 64% are in favour of conversion of existing non-residential buildings.
- 34% of respondents would be in favour of further small/light business development.
- 50% of respondents are uncertain about the role of current planning policy in contributing to the character of the village.

<u>HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC/TRANSPORT: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
Identify the current levels of traffic noise and traffic speed at key points in the village, including the use of village roads by HGVs, specifying their weight and size and destination.	The Parish Council to consult with NFDC and HCC on the best method for providing information on traffic using the village.
Conduct regular reviews of the state of the roads in the parish, identifying specific areas which require attention to HCC.	Village Information Team and the Damerham website to include current information on how and who to report to at HCC on specific requirements for work to be carried out on village roads.
Review the issues and potential solutions to the problems of car parking around the school.	The Parish Council to liaise with school representatives to investigate the need for additional signage/road marking on School Lane in conjunction with HCC.
Review school walking bus project linking all parts of the village with the school.	School staff to be asked to consider re-visiting a walking bus project in conjunction with parents.

<u>HOUSING/PLANNING: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
To support the Parish Council's investigation of the means of providing more affordable accommodation in the parish.	The Parish Council Officer for Housing to continue liaison with Community Action Hampshire and NFDC on this issue.
To produce a Village Design Statement as an aid to considering planning applications and their suitability for maintaining the character of the village.	The Parish Council to liaise with NFDC on the Village Design Statement as a specific project ensuring community involvement in its production.

Economy

OBJECTIVE: To identify mechanisms which could help the further development of the network of local businesses operating within the parish.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- A majority of business owners (72%) would like to see a business directory listing local businesses, services and contact details.
- 48% of business owners would be interested in a local business forum.
- 61% said they would use a farmers' market if it was held in Damerham.

Some of Damerham's older established businesses



Tiller's Builders & Decorators



The Compasses Inn



Damerham Garage & Shop

<u>ECONOMY: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
To include a local business directory on the Damerham website and in the Welcome Pack to be produced for new residents.	All local businesses to be contacted to identify those which would be willing to contribute to a directory.
To investigate the potential for holding a local business forum with other Downland villages.	Call a meeting of all local businesses in the Western Downland area to discuss the need for a local business forum and how it might be operated.
To look at the options for local people to buy local produce locally to satisfy the need for local shopping.	Consult with Future Farms in Martin and with Hampshire Farmers Market.

The Allen River at Mill End



Court Farm



Damerham from the church tower



Children and Young People

OBJECTIVE: To meet the needs and hopes of the children and young people of the parish by involving them in planning and delivery of events and activities throughout the year suitable to all age groups up to 18 years old. Also to provide facilities which will stimulate them and retain them as a cornerstone of the parish's future life. Finally, to ensure that our parish provides our children and young people with a healthy and safe environment in which to live, play and learn.

RESULTS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

- Children (particularly the under 11's) and young people are one of the largest groups in the village. (25.3% of residents in households that responded are under 20 years old).
- The creation of play facilities aimed specifically at under 11's would be an appropriate action for the plan. (65.1% of households with children or visiting children would like a playground in the village).
- The creation of a youth club would be an appropriate action for the plan. (60% of under 11's and 58.8% of 12-16 year old's who filled in their survey would regularly attend a youth club).
- 65.1% of households with children (or visiting children) use the Sportsfield. Working in partnership with the Sportsfield Committee and Western Downland Primary School, the Parish Council should encourage this section of the population who are keen to use the facility. One area of focus is the provision of wider sporting opportunities to all young people in the Parish, (not just those who wish to play cricket and/or football).
- If a local youth club is created, its organisers should consider providing films for young people as part of the project. (33.7% of households with children or visiting children would like films to be provided in the parish).

RESULTS FROM THE SURVEY OF PUPILS ATTENDING THE DAMERHAM SITE OF WESTERN DOWNLAND SCHOOL:

- Pupils stressed that the church and the river are features most liked in the parish.
- They disliked the uneven surface of the Green Close path, the dangerous crossing, the difficulty of opening the heavy gate at the school end of Green Close, the raised fire hydrant opposite and the lack of a safe walkway from the High Street end of Green Close to the footbridge over the river when they walk to the village hall.
- They also highlighted the lack of pedestrian "refuges" for them when they walk to the church on the single track road across the water meadow - as well as the fencing, which is difficult to stand against.
- The school children also wanted a swimming pool in the village as well as a play park or play area.

<u>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: ACTION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY: KEY PEOPLE</u>
<p>To develop plans and attract funding that will provide facilities and activities specifically to meet needs identified by children and young people in the plan's survey and research phases.</p>	<p>A children and young people's project team to be initiated under the Parish Council's authority working in conjunction with local youth and religious organisations.</p> <p>The Parish Council to seek funding for a Youth Project Officer to take forward actions arising from the plan.</p> <p>The project team to work with youth workers at New Forest District Council and other voluntary groups on a pilot project, funded by New Forest District Council and other sources, to build a calendar of events and activities for all ages of young people in the parish using a variety of local venues.</p> <p>A project will be established to source funding (possibly via future capital funding from NFDC) to construct and provide a play area and/or play facilities within the village. e.g. The construction of a play trail through West Park Meadow.</p> <p>The development of play facilities in Damerham is one of the priorities in the District Play Strategy and is also a recommendation arising from the recent Planning Policy Guidance 17 audit, which identified that such areas of open space are useful and needed.</p>
<p>To develop projects/events for young people with other local parishes.</p>	<p>The project team and Project Officer also to be tasked by the Parish Council to liaise with other Western Downland villages to look at cross-village initiatives, such as a youth club.</p>
<p>To create a project with the school to take forward all the ideas emerging from the school's research that have been formally accepted by the Parish Council. e.g. resurfacing the Green Close path, and asking the children to plot the course of the Allen River through the parish.</p>	<p>The children and young people's project team to meet with representatives from the school and the Parish Council in order to plan, fund and time-table the projects and events.</p>

7. MEASURING THE PLAN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

OBJECTIVES: To ensure that the individual action plans contained in the Damerham Parish Plan are being implemented and results are being achieved.

To provide a mechanism for consultation within the parish and between neighbouring parishes on how best to implement action plans where there are common points of interest.

ACTION PLANS:

- The Parish Council to decide on how the Damerham Parish Plan is to be implemented and the means whereby measurement of results and achievements can best be carried out.
- This will require decisions on:
 - Who is to carry out this process?
 - How often is it to be carried out?
 - In what form the reporting of results to be made?
- The monitoring and reporting on the plan will be carried out by one of the following possible options:
 - The Parish Council to take on the responsibility itself.
 - A member or members of the Plan Steering Group be seconded to carry it out and report to the Parish Council.
 - A separate parish body is set up with a mandate to report to the Parish Council.
 - The Parish Council to discuss with the NFDC Planning Officer how cross parish consultation on common points of interest in their parish plans should happen.
 - Those designated responsible for the individual action plans contained in the parish plan will need to produce detailed timetables, milestones and resource requirements for implementing their plans in order that the measurement and monitoring process can be carried out.
- A proposed format for this process is in Appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

FORMAT FOR MEASURING AND MONITORING ACHIEVEMENTS

ACTION	ACTIVITIES	COMPLETION DATE	LEAD & KEY PEOPLE	FUNDING	PRIORITY
Main action taken from the consultation section of the report	Sub actions/tasks needed to achieve main action	When you would like to see this action achieved by or date that it has been achieved	Who will take the lead from the parish? What other agencies need to be involved?	Will you have to apply for funding for this action? If so who?	Is this high, medium or low priority for the community?
<i>To produce and publish a 'Welcome Pack' with information that meets the needs identified in the review and to advise on the services available from the Parish Council.</i>	<i>To agree content. To produce draft. To arrange printing. Set up a system for updating. Set up delivery of pack and other publications.</i>	<i>January 2008</i>	<i>Village Information Team</i>	<i>Yes - Damerham Parish Council</i>	<i>High</i>

The form shown here is to be used to measure the progress of the individual projects identified as a result of the questionnaire for the Damerham Parish Plan. A typical project is shown for information purposes.

Each project has been presented with the approval of the Parish Council to New Forest District Council, and progress on all aspects of each project will be available to be seen via the Damerham web-site or from the Parish Clerk.

APPENDIX 2

ORGANISATIONS OPERATING IN THE PARISH

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Rob Shepherd (Secretary), South Allenford Farm House,
Damerham, SP6 3JN
Tel. 07773 287844

DAMERHAM FLOWER GROUP

Leslie Rann (Chairman), Ash Lodge, Alderholt Road,
Sandleheath, SP6 1PR
leslie-rann@tiscali.co.uk
Tel. 01425-655285

BADMINTON CLUB

Mr David Crane (Treasurer), Jay's Cottage, South End,
Damerham, SP6 3JW
davidalison.crane@tiscali.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518790

MARTIN & DAMERHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Cathy Godber (Secretary), Rose Cottage, High Street,
Damerham, SP6 3EZ
Tel. 01725-518350

DAMERHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mrs Carolyn Andrews (Membership Secretary),
Old Channel Hill Farmhouse, North End, Damerham, SP6 3HA
carolyn@ochf.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518802

WESTERN DOWNLAND CARE GROUP

Carolyn Armitage (Secretary), The Retreat, 4 West Park Drive,
Damerham, SP6 3HJ
carolyn@carolynarmitage.orangehome.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518682

TEA AND CHAT

Robin Robbins, Ashbourne House, High Street,
Damerham, SP6 3EU
robin.robbins1@btopenworld.com
Tel. 01725-518861

FLUFFY CHICKS PLAYGROUP

Vanessa Sherwood (Chairperson), Sycamore Cottage, West Park
Lane, Damerham, SP6 3HB
vanessa_sherwood@hotmail.com
Tel. 01725-518351

DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Brian Mair (Clerk), Greenbank Farm House, Crendell Road,
Damerham, SP6 3HE
brian.mair1@btinternet.com
Tel. 01725-518354(office) 01725-518757(home)

DAMERHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Jean Harris (Secretary), North End Bungalow, North End,
Damerham SP6 3HA
Tel. 01725 518418

DAMERHAM CRICKET CLUB

Mr D MacIldowie (Treasurer), 10 The Terrace, East End,
Damerham, SP6 3HQ
dmacildowie@btopenworld.com

DAMERHAM CASUALS CRICKET CLUB

Simon White (Leader), Rivers Edge, West Park Lane,
Damerham, SP6 3HB
siwhite@email.com
Tel. 07917 301331

DAMERHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Michael Farrant (Leader), Wild Cherries, Court Wood,
Sandleheath, SP6 1QA

DAMERHAM RUNNING CLUB

Andrew Donald (Organiser), 2 Coote Cottages, High Street,
Damerham, SP6 3ES
Tel. 01725-518361

DAMERHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Mrs Joyce Colborne,
3 Woodstock Road, Burton, Christchurch,
Dorset, BH23 7HY

DAMERHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Mr David Herrington,
Damerham Garage, 4 East End, Damerham, SP6 3HQ
Tel. 01725-518224

DAMERHAM SPORTSFIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs Joanna Child (Chair), Ebenezer Cottage, Mill End
Damerham, SP6 3HU
joanna_child@yahoo.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518598 Mobile 07810 605909

DAMERHAM VILLAGE FAIR COMMITTEE.

Mr. Hugh Mullens (Chairman), Knoll Farm House, North End,
Damerham, SP6 3JJ
hugh@hfg.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518768 Mobile 07966 395836

DAMERHAM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE,

Carolyn Armitage (Chairman), The Retreat, 4 West Park Drive,
Damerham, SP6 3HJ
carolyn@carolynarmitage.orangehome.co.uk
Tel. 01725-518682

WEST PARK MEADOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

c/o Damerham Parish Council, Brian Mair (Clerk),
Greenbank Farm House, Crendell Road, Damerham, SP6 3HE
brian.mair1@btinternet.com
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