





## CONTENTS

PAGE 1:	Contents
PAGE 2:	Introduction to the Parish Plan
PAGE 6:	The Parish Boundary
PAGE 7:	Employment
PAGE 8:	Services
PAGE 9:	Housing
PAGE 10:	Road Safety
PAGE 11:	Environment, Footpaths and the Conservation Area
PAGE 13:	Conservation Map
PAGE 14:	Facilities and Leisure
PAGE 18:	The Children's Survey
PAGE 20:	Conclusion
Appendix 1:	The Action Plan

The name Great Alne takes its name from the River Alne. First chronicled in the charter of king Ethelbald (723-737) "near to the river which our ancestors used to call, and which is called to this day, 'Alwine'. The Celtic word Alwine meaning bright or clear.



***Please note that all quotes contained within this brochure are taken from the questionnaire sent out in September 2007 and are therefore opinions of residents of the Parish of Great Alne.***



## INTRODUCTION

**Parish Plans are an important and significant document and have the potential to influence a wide range of organisations and processes that affect the lives of our community. They intend to set out a vision for how the community wants to develop, and identify the actions needed to achieve this.**

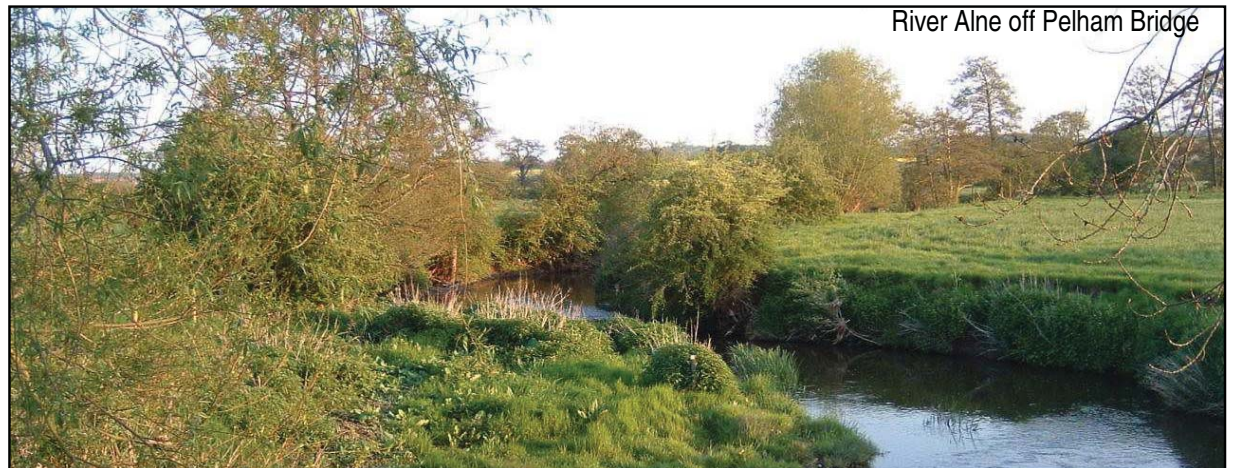
### A Brief History of the Project:

The Parish Council made the decision to promote the production of a Parish Plan in November 2006, and a small budget for the project was agreed to be included in the precept for 2007/8. The Parish already had a Parish Appraisal that had been completed in 1994 and updated in 2001. This document, which had been officially adopted by Stratford District Council, had proven to be an invaluable tool for the Parish Council. A Parish Plan is an updated and advanced version of the Parish Appraisal and it was considered that it would be hugely beneficial for the Parish. The proposed project was advertised and a number of volunteers came forward. The Parish Plan Group held their first meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007. The group originally started off as twelve but soon became a working committee of ten. Elected Chairman was Philip Holmes, the elected Vice-Chairman (and Parish Council representative) was Richard Collings until he resigned in November 2008 and was replaced by Andy Harris. Other Committee members were Michael Hinrich, Philip Malan, Judy Holmes, Hazel Bowring, Peter Hucker, Jane Harris, and Lorraine Holmes.

### Objective:

The objective of the group was to prepare a document, which reflected the views of as many Great Alne parishioners as possible, relating to a wide spectrum of issues such as:

- The features and characteristics which residents value
- Opportunities to improve the environment
- How the community should develop in the future



The final document was to include a schedule of actions that would be required to address the major issues raised by residents. Information concerning these issues and what practical steps may be taken to address them, and steer future development was to be made available to every resident in the village.

The Parish Plan and associated action plan has the power to communicate the wishes of the Parish residents to various bodies who are able to influence the affairs and development of the Parish, such as local councils and the Police. It is intended to submit the finished item to Stratford District Council for adoption.

The First Stage:

The following six months were spent compiling an adult questionnaire, and a separate questionnaire for children under the age of 16. Both the questionnaires were circulated to all 224 homes in the Great Alne Parish in September 2007.

The completed questionnaires were to be returned by the end of October 2007. There was an excellent response from the residents with 143 completed questionnaires returned; this was 62% of the Parish. The results were analysed during the first part of 2008 by an independent company specialising in the analysis of data.

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008 the results of the questionnaire along with a summary of each section was displayed at the Memorial Hall for anyone to attend, the event was well received.



Jubilee Oak, Park Lane

The 'Jubilee Oak' on Park Lane was planted to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887



View from Pelham Lane

**What do you like about living in Great Alne?**

*"We like the quiet environment, the surrounding countryside, pleasant walks, absence of traffic and crowded streets. The attractive mix of houses and people."*



## INTRODUCTION continued

**Great Alne Station** - The Great Western branch-line between Bearley and Alcester opened on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 1876. The railway and station were constructed by engineer William Clarke and was originally the only intermediate station on the Alcester Railway. It was closed to passengers in 1917 only to reopen between 1922/3. Passenger use was stopped again in 1939, except for trains carrying workers for the Castle Maudslay Motor Company. The line closed completely in 1951.



### General Information about the parish:

The information contained in this brochure directly reflects the feedback from the questionnaire. However, the Parish Plan questionnaire began by seeking some general information about the length of residency of respondents, the types and sizes of dwellings in the Parish, whether the dwellings are listed and had any energy conservation features. It also asked about the numbers of occupants and whether they had special needs and finally, in this section, a question on dog ownership.

- Of the total of 141 respondents, 4.3% have lived in the parish less than one year, 32% have lived here between 1 and 10 years and 64% have lived in the Parish for more than 10 years. For a detailed analysis of these figures please see the relevant graphs.
- The majority (87%) of respondents live in a house, 9.5% live in a bungalow and 3.6% live in other types of property. None of the respondents live in a flat.
- The majority (over 70%) of respondents' dwellings have 3 or 4 bedrooms, 18 % of the properties have 2 bedrooms, and 8.6% have 5 or more bedrooms.
- Some properties in the Parish are "listed" and 16 respondents (12 %) live in a grade 2 listed property. The other 88 % do not live in a listed property. There are no grade 1 listed residences in the Parish.
- A large number of properties in the Parish have one or more energy conservation features. The majority of dwellings have loft insulation (91%) Another large majority (84%) have double glazing. Other energy conservation features in dwellings in the Parish are solar power, condensing boilers and cavity wall insulation. No dwellings had wind power at the time of the survey.
- A majority (58%) of occupants are aged between 19 and 65 years old. Another large group (21%) are over 65 years old. The remaining 20% are 18 years old or under.
- The number of members in each household was given. This ranges from 1 to 6 members per household. The majority (52.4%) consist of 2 members. The next largest group, 21 households, (14.7%) consist of 4 members.

- Nine respondents said that members of their household have special needs but only slightly fewer than half felt that these needs are being fully met.
- Approximately 40% of households own dogs, most having 1 or 2 dogs. However 2 households have 3 and 4 dogs each.

The document known as the Action Plan that is attached to this brochure is a fluid document that is continually evolving and changing as items on the list are investigated and addressed. A regular review of the Action Plan will take place by the steering committee and the Parish Council will report on its progress at least once every twelve months at the AGM that takes place in May each year. Details of Parish Council meetings are posted on the notice board outside of the Memorial Hall in the village, or are available on the web site: [www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk).

Both the Brochure and Action Plan are going forward to Stratford District Council for adoption in June 2009.

**The Boot Inn:** Dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century the Boot Inn used to stand *on the corner of Mill Lane and Henley Road*. It was closed in 1961 and demolished in 1962. Three chalet style bungalows were built in its place.

### **What do you dislike about living in Great Alne?**

*"No pub, social club or shop, speed of traffic through the village, play equipment in the park is dangerous and old, and the fact that dog owners do not clear up after their dogs..."*

**Alne Mill**, which is no longer working, was converted to luxury apartments in 1989. It lies about a quarter of a mile to the south of the village on what is now known as Mill Lane. This lane is probably the Milnewey or Millway mentioned in 1541 and 1728. The mill at Great Alne was worth 5-shillings in 1086 when it was mentioned in the Domesday survey. In 1291 it was valued at 6s. 8d. in the Taxation records. In 1516 it was let by the Abbot of Winchcombe to John and Elizabeth Palmer at an annual rent of thirty shillings.



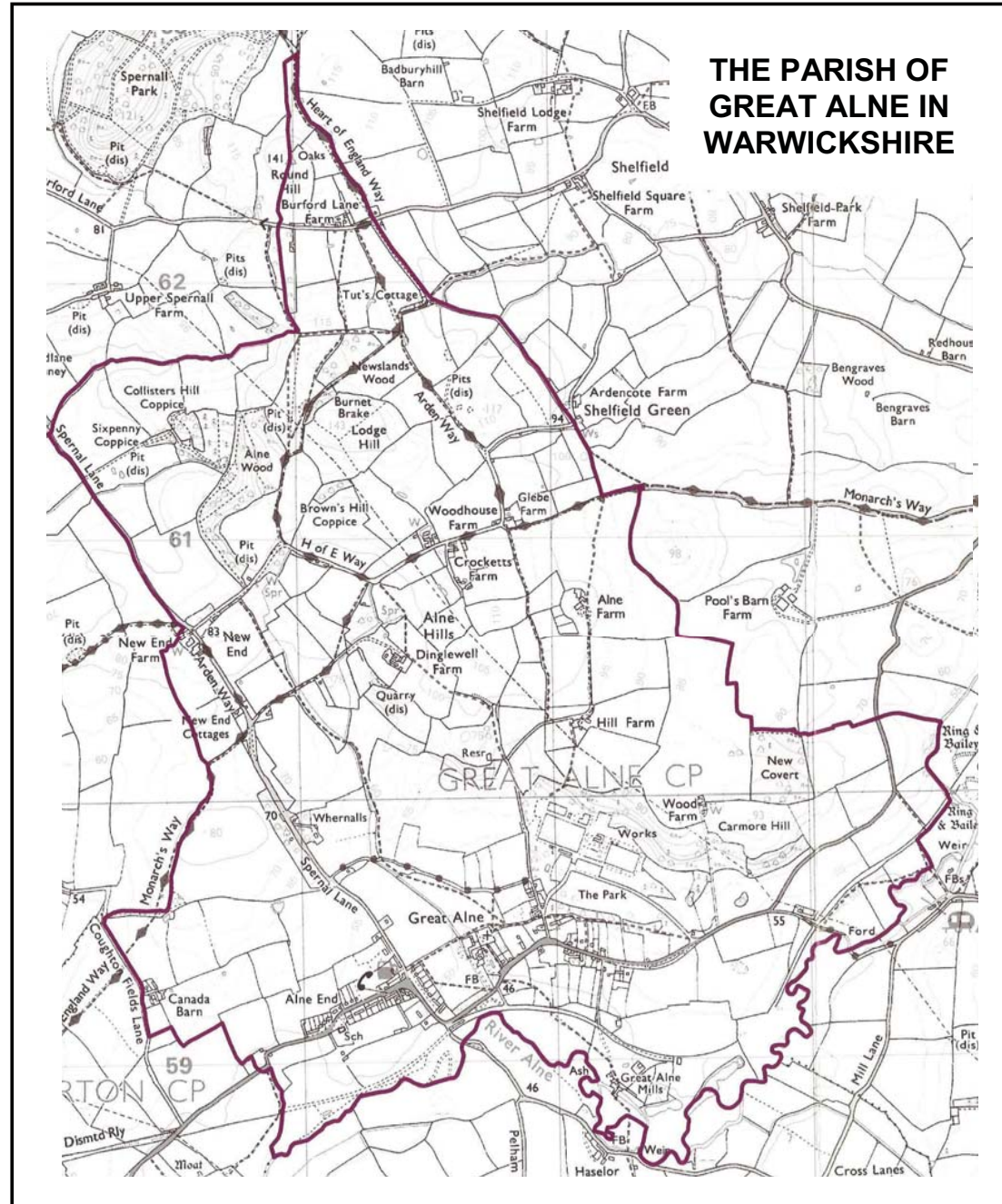


## THE PARISH BOUNDARY

**The Great Alne Parish covers an area of 1,764 acres and had a total population of 587 at the time of the 2001 Census. Presently there are 232 households in the Parish.**

**The red line shows the boundary of the Parish of Great Alne.**

**The other Parishes that border Great Alne are Kinwarton, Haselor, Aston Cantlow, Coughton, Spernal and the combined parish of Morton Bagot and Oldberrow.**

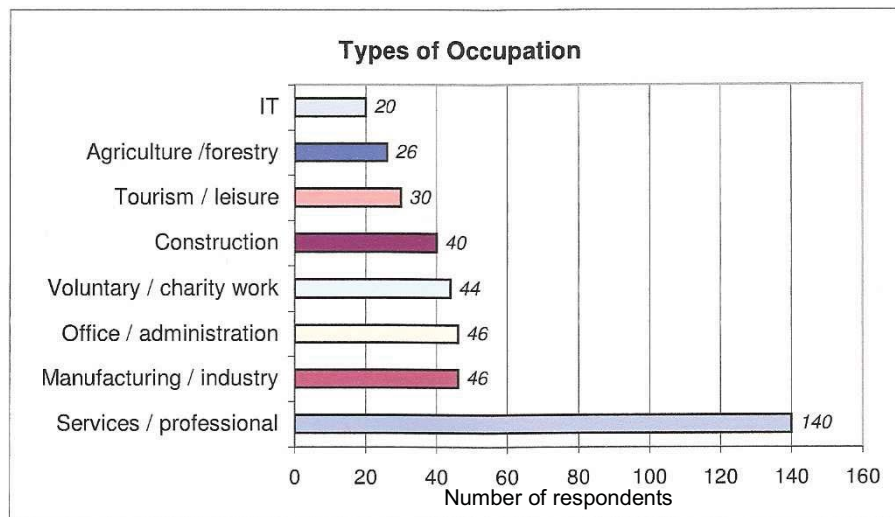
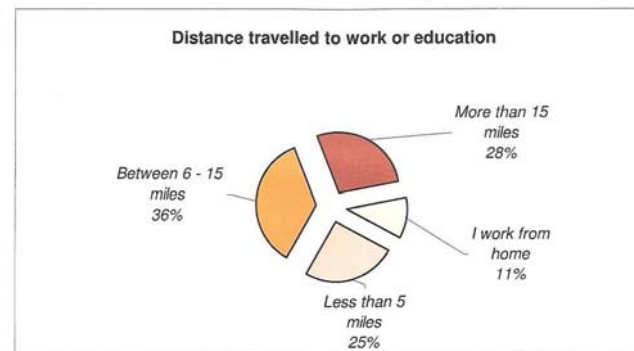
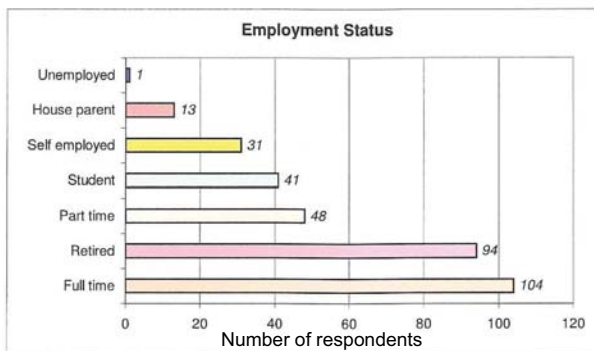




# EMPLOYMENT

Regarding employment opportunities 75% of residents who responded to the questionnaire felt there was insufficient in the Parish. However, only 0.3% are presently unemployed.

Over 31% of residents work full-time, 14.5% work part-time, and more than 9% are self-employed. 61% of residents travel less than 15 miles for work suggesting that the parish is well situated for employment opportunities. An additional 11% work from home, which is an increasing national trend. There was a wide range of occupations as the graph shows. It was interesting to see over 28% of the parish population is retired.



In the early 1960's a Mr Edwards, a baker, lived on School Road. He left Great Alne to work for Messrs Lyons & Co but when he returned he claimed to have invented the Swiss Roll. Messrs Lyons & Co have been unable to clarify this claim.

*" For education and employment everyone looks further than the village. Keep the village rural, it is a haven hopefully for everyone who lives here."*

*"Very fortunate to live in an attractive village surrounded by open countryside and being well placed for travelling both for leisure and commuting for work"*

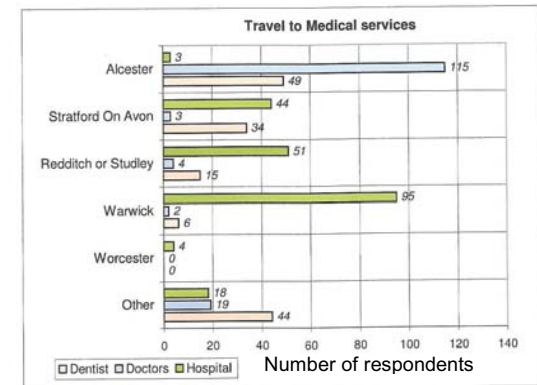
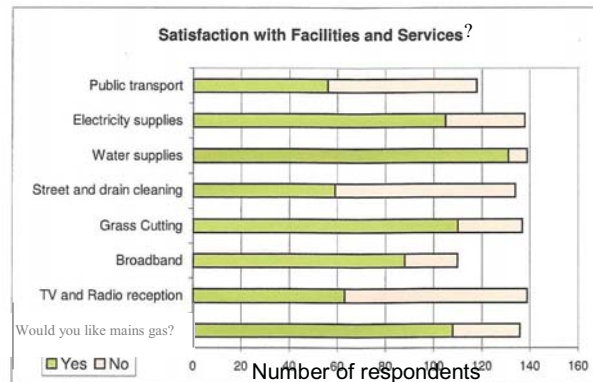


# SERVICES



The majority of respondents to the questionnaire were happy with mains facilities and services in the village, such as electricity, water supplies, and grass cutting. The areas that received a less positive response were regarding public transport, street and drain cleaning, and TV and radio reception.

79% of respondents expressed an interest in having mains gas supplied to the village.



Use of services such as doctors' surgeries, dentists and hospitals were spread over a large area.

The Neighbourhood Watch is well known with 71% of respondents knowing who their representative is.

75% of respondents would like to see a more active police profile in the village.



# HOUSING

The results of the Great Alne Parish Plan questionnaire indicate that 64% of residents have lived in the village more than 10 years.

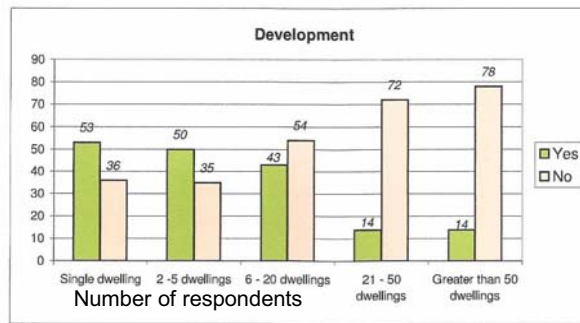
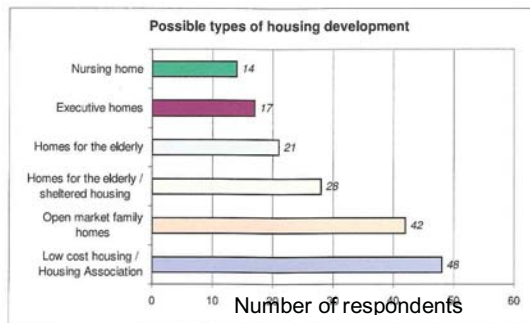
The dwellings consist of nearly 87% houses, a further 10% are bungalows. Of these 39% have 3 bedrooms, 35% have 4 bedrooms, 18% have 2 bedrooms, and the remainder have 5 bedrooms or more.

64% of properties are occupied by two occupants or less. 12% of properties have three people living in them and the remaining properties have four or more residents.

With regard to future housing development 45% were in favour of some development in the Parish.

28% of respondents to the questionnaire expressed a preference for low cost housing/ housing association if any development were to take place. Open market family housing was preferred by 25%; housing for the elderly/sheltered housing was preferred by 17%; housing for the elderly in general was preferred by 12%; executive housing was preferred by 10% and a nursing home was preferred by 8%.

Respondents indicated that, with regards to the size of development, single properties or up to twenty dwellings, were considered to be appropriate. However, developments greater than 21 dwellings were considered inappropriate.



## What do you like about living in Great Alne?

*"The fact that it is a village, and would like it to stay like a village, not a series of mini groups of housing plots"*

*"The rural setting of the village, its tranquillity and friendliness. Developments in the village have been thoughtfully and pleasingly carried out."*



Daniel Ratcliffe built **Great Alne Hall** in 1876, he also built the Lodges at each entrance to the Maudslay site. The Hall was demolished in the early 1940's when the Maudslay Motor Company moved to Great Alne from Coventry. The office block now stands in the place of the Hall.



# ROAD SAFETY

## What do you dislike about living in Great Alne?

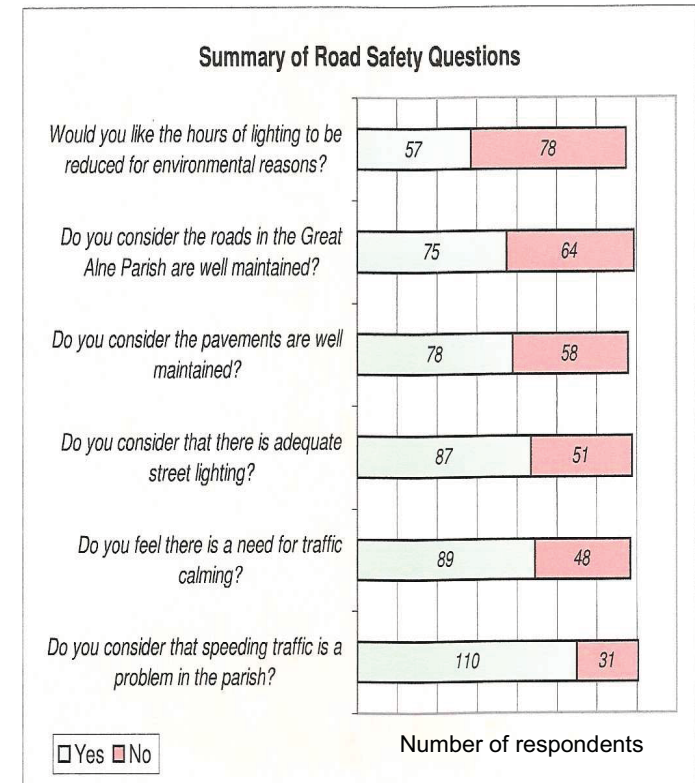
*"The speed of traffic through the village and the lorries that come through some times."*

*"Traffic speeding along the 30mph limit stretch of Spernal Lane"*

**Austin Cottage:** This cottage on School Road was built in 1924. It takes its name from the fact that Mr Herbert Austin Drove the very first Austin Seven car up the drive and offered the job of chauffeur to the then groom of Mr Theodore Neal.

Of all the questionnaires distributed to Great Alne households, replies were received from 143 and almost all of these gave answers to the questions concerning Road Safety Issues. This is an indication of the serious concern residents have for this subject.

- A large majority of respondents, 78%, believe that speeding is a problem in the Parish
- A smaller percentage, 65%, feels that traffic-calming measures are needed.
- A little under half of respondents, 46%, feel that our roads are not well maintained.
- A slightly smaller percentage, 43%, feels that the pavements are not well maintained.
- The majority of respondents, 63%, feel that existing road lighting is adequate and 42% would like the hours of lighting reduced to save energy.



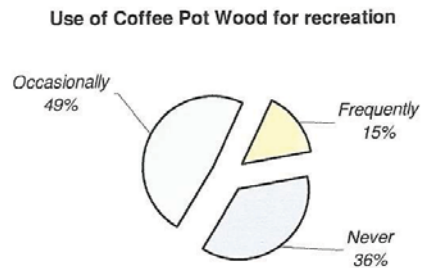


## ENVIRONMENT

### Environment

The results show that 58% of respondents think that the River Alne is adequately maintained within the Parish. 85%, think that there are measures which could be taken to prevent flooding during times of heavy rain.

### Coffee Pot Wood



The wood is a useful recreational facility within the Parish, with almost half, 49%, of respondents using it occasionally, and a further 15% using it frequently. Some people, 36%, never go there. Some respondents remarked that they did not know where it is and had not heard of it. It is not marked

specifically on the Ordnance Survey map.

A majority of people felt that information on local wildlife should be displayed. Just over half, 53%, would like to see this information on plaques, 49% on a website and 25% on leaflets, but 24% do not want to see it displayed at all.



Bluebells on the Alne Hills

### Footpaths

A large majority, 90%, are aware of the network of footpaths within the Parish with 89% using them. Approximately two-thirds of respondents think our footpaths are adequately maintained and signposted and 60% would like more information about them.

**Coffee Pot Wood** was bought by the residents of Great Alne in the 1990's and given to the Woodland Trust. The wood was named after the small steam engine that ran through Great Alne which was affectionately known as the 'Coffee Pot'. It was children at the Primary School who gave the wood its name.

### What do you like about living in Great Alne?

*"The village is in a beautiful area, quiet, wooded with river and very much the Warwickshire type."*

*"...the walks, it is quiet, lovely countryside."*

*"Peace and quiet, beautiful scenery, wildlife"*

On the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1969 Warwickshire County Council formally designated an area within Great Alne as a Conservation Area, in accordance with section 1 of the Civic Amenities Act 1967.

The Conservation Area includes most of the 'old' village east of the Memorial Hall. Within this curtilage there are twelve listed buildings of local architectural and historic value.

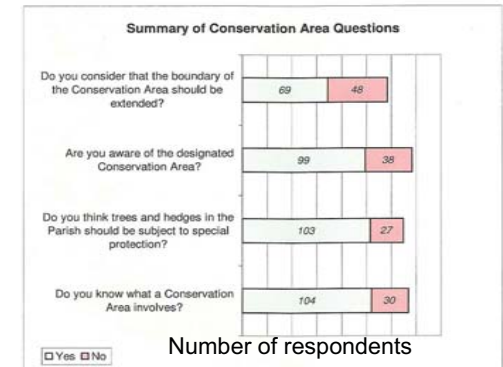
The boundary of the Conservation Area was last reviewed in 1996 when a number of changes were made, including an extension to envelope Coffee Pot Wood.

**More information about the Conservation Area can be viewed at:**

**[www.stratford-dc.gov.uk](http://www.stratford-dc.gov.uk)**

## Conservation Area

Most people, 72%, are aware of the Conservation area within the village, and a slightly greater number, 78% are aware of the meaning of the term 'conservation area'. However only 59% feel that the boundary of the Conservation area should be extended and a large majority, 79%, think that trees and hedges in the Parish should be subject to special protection.

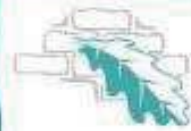


## What is a Conservation Area?

Local authorities have the responsibility to designate Conservation Areas, defined as: '***an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.***' - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

If you live, work or own property in a Conservation Area, certain responsibilities are placed on both you and the District Council to preserve or enhance that special character and appearance;

- In many cases, you must apply for permission to extend or demolish a part of your property.
- Proposals for new development, signs and advertisements will need to be sensitive to their surroundings.
- You must notify the District Council if you wish to undertake pruning works or fell a tree.



# Great Alne Conservation Area

Great Alne village is clearly of two separate parts. The oldest part, east of the Manor Hall and old railway station, is an informal group of cottages and houses which have become established around two or three farmsteads within the wealthy rural manor of Great Alne Hall (now demolished).

This is a blue-lias limestone area - there were lost quarries at Catmore Hill, Wilmore and Temple Grafton. However, the earliest pre-18th century cottages were mainly oak framed and thatched. As the area was always well wooded, there was a plentiful supply of timber at hand. The 18th century inevitably saw the introduction of red brick and clay tile, followed by Welsh slate. The result is that there is now an even mix of stone, oak frame and brick building.

Although Great Alne has never developed a proper village centre and lacks a local main street, there is a special character and setting created by this group of highly individual buildings, unified by an extensive enclosure of landscape trees, hedgerows and woodland areas. The only connection between the village and the River Alne is at the west end, where Coffee Pot woodland adjoins it.

The conservation area was designated in November 1989 and reviewed, with minor alterations to its boundaries, in June 1997.



The gardens, hedgerows, tree groups and woodland all appear to be well cared for and it is evident that there is considerable local pride in this woodland character.

Great Alne is essentially on flat land contained to the north by the Alne hills.



There are a number of good stone and brick boundary walls.



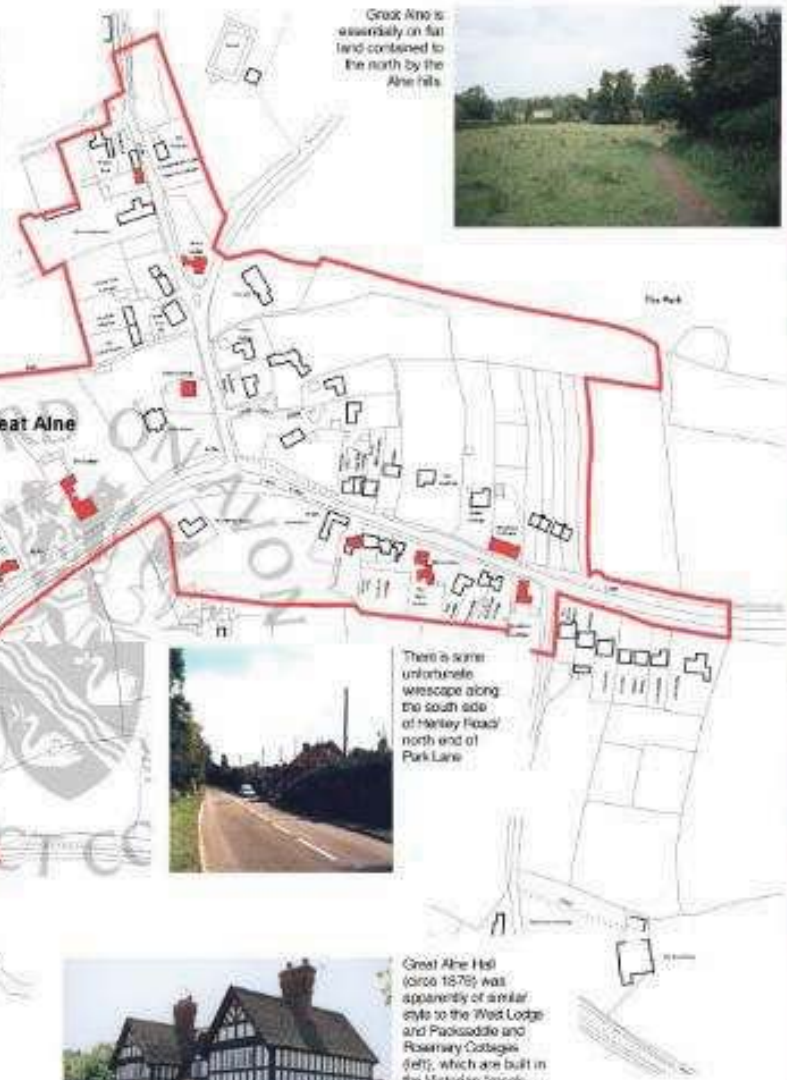
The dominant character of the village is the lush, well maintained woodland setting.

Divisions deemed listed by virtue of standing within the curtilage of Listed buildings, and extensions to Listed Buildings are not shown in red on the Conservation Area Plan. However, they are subject to Listed Building legislation and may have significance within the Conservation Area.

Produced by the Council of the City of Oxford in cooperation with the Oxford City Council. The Council of the City of Oxford is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this document. The Council of the City of Oxford is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this document. The Council of the City of Oxford is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this document.

- Listed Building
- Designated Conservation Area Boundary

Where property boundaries define the limits of the Conservation Area, all features forming the boundary (e.g. walls, hedges, trees etc.) are assumed to be wholly within the Conservation Area.



There is some unfortunate wirescape along the south side of Herley Head north end of Park Lane.

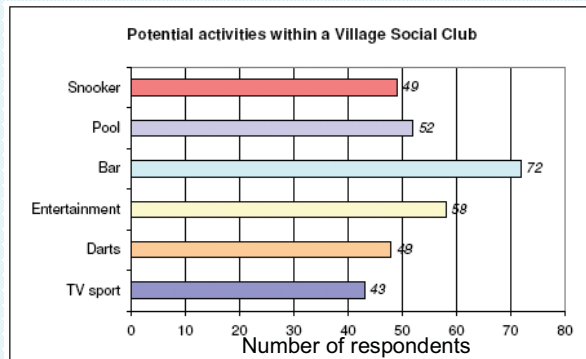


Great Alne Hall (since 1876) was apparently of similar style to the West Lodge and Packardside and Rosemary Cottages (left), which are built in the Victorian "mock-Tudor" style with rubble stone ground storey and timber-framed first floor gables.



## FACILITIES AND LEISURE

The memorial to the men of the parishes of Great Alne and Kinwarton, who lost their lives during the 1<sup>st</sup> world war, was opened on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1921. It originally had a thatch roof and was funded by local people.



### GREAT ALNE AND KINWARTON MEMORIAL HALL

A preference for advertising of the Halls activities in the Parish Magazine and on the village notice boards was expressed.



The Memorial Hall in 2008 above, and when it was first built, including the thatched roof.

### **SOCIAL CLUB**

67% of the respondents would potentially support a village social club with the range of activities, as shown in the graph to the left.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

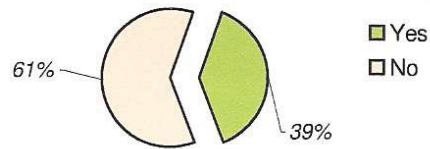
61% of children of primary school age living in the parish use the village school. It was noted that only 35% of the Parish attended school functions during a year.



### ADULT EDUCATION

Out of 117 residents who answered this question 89 (76%) were interested in adult education classes in the village.

Use of the playing field



### PLAYING FIELD

The playing field is used by 39% of the parish; of these residents it is split as to whether it meets their needs.

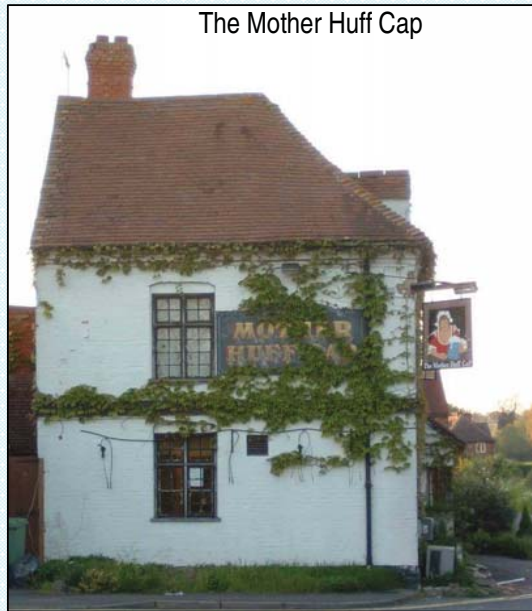


**The Old School** was built in 1839 but the first schoolroom was attached to the village church around 1836. The new school was built in 1965 and currently has about 116 pupils. The Old School is now being used as a Pupil Referral Unit, and is now known as the Seymour Centre.

**Playground** - *"Kids love the open area but play toys are dated and dangerous. See saw and roundabout have been there since at least the early 70's"*

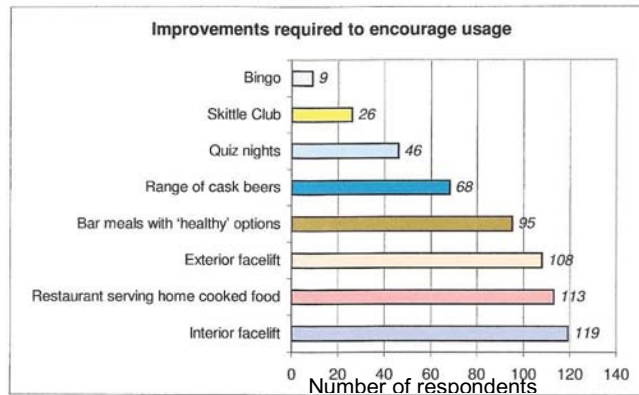
Mr Theodore Neal, of the Long House on Park Lane, gave the field used as the village playground to the Parish of Great Alne in 1927. If it is ever not needed as a playing field it is to be returned to his heirs.





**THE MOTHER HUFF CAP – (closed when survey was completed)**

91% of respondents to the questionnaire believed the Mother Huff Cap should be a vital centre of the parish. When asked what would encourage residents to use the pub more frequently the following information was given. Showing a need for an interior and exterior refurbishment, with general modernisation of the facilities, and offering good, home cooked food.



**Mother Huff Cap**  
 With its unique sign and name the public house is mentioned in 1675 as the one of the six prime post ways on the London to Shrewsbury road lying 104 miles and one furlong from London.

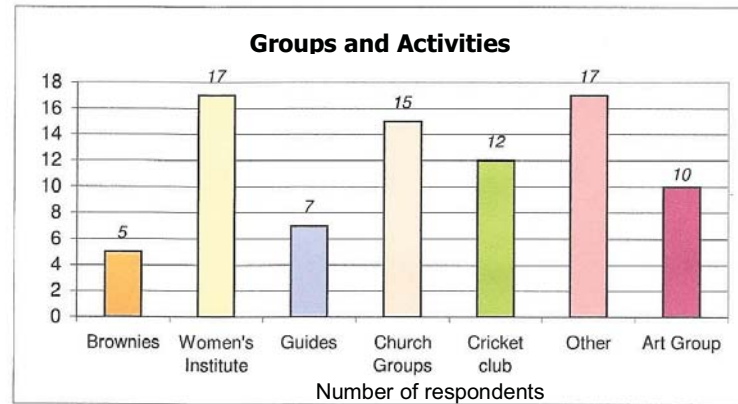
*Twixt Michealmas and Martinmas Old  
 dame began to brew,  
 With half a pint of old malt  
 And half a pint of new,  
 First twenty gallons of Huff My Cap,  
 Then twenty gallons worse than that,  
 Then twenty gallons as amber clear,  
 And then she brewed the servant's beer.*

***"It would be nice to walk to the pub as a social centre, especially if clean and warm and served good food."***



## GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

These groups are active within the parish and are attended by at least 25% of the respondents as the graph shows. In general local social facilities for all age groups were considered poor. Since the survey was done the guides has also stopped.



## ALLOTMENTS

Although the village has had allotments in the past these were lost due to development and the questionnaire has highlighted a need for these to be replaced.

## TOURISM

There was little interest in encouraging tourism to the Parish.

## SHOPPING

The majority of shopping is done in Alcester or Stratford once or twice a week. The Post Office in Alcester is used at least twice a week by 84% of the questionnaire respondents.

## OTHER FACILITIES

Overall feedback regarding the location and quantity of facilities such as notice boards, dog waste bins, bus stops and the telephone box suggests they are generally sufficient and well located.



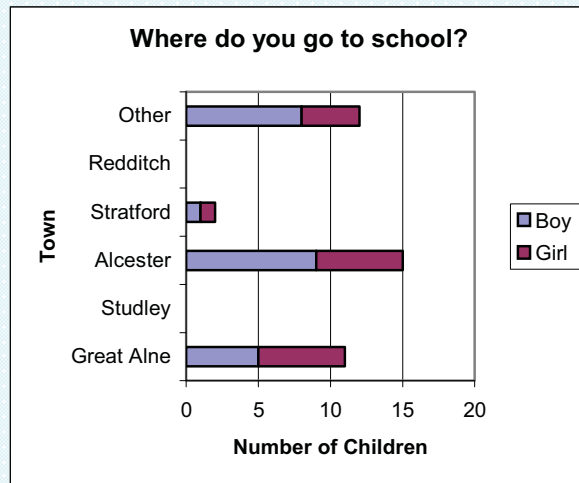
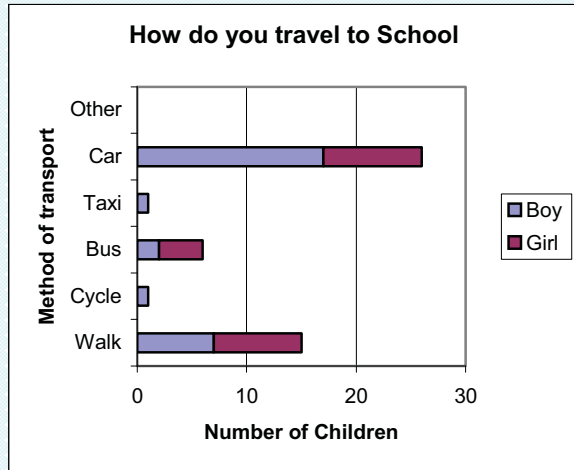
**Cricket Club:** The present Great Alne Cricket Club was founded in 1899 however there was a cricket club in Great Alne before this, which was probably started in the 1860's. Originally the present Cricket Club was down Mill Lane but moved to their present location when the Maudslay Motor Company came in 1942.

***"It would also be nice to see more people in the village attending and supporting the events at the cricket club as some people are not even aware there is a local club."***



# CHILDRENS RESPONSES

The total number of respondents to the children's questionnaire was 40, with an age range of 0-15 years (split 57% boys and 43% girls), the majority of which have spent their whole life in the village.



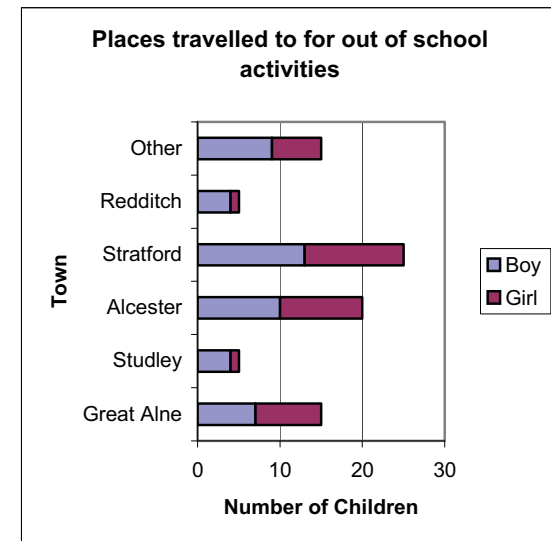
## EDUCATION

Of the 21 children of primary school age only half attend Great Alne School, the others attend schools in the local area. When you look at the responses chart below on means of travel to school then clearly the family car is a key factor in assisting the children to access these needs.

## ACTIVITIES

Activities and interests are varied and it is nice to see that our young parishioners have a wide range of activities, many of which involve physical exercise of some description.

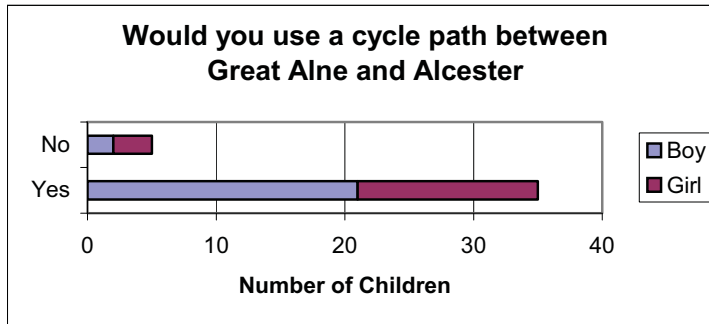
It is clear from the tables above that the young people of our parish rely heavily on good transport and communication links (and understanding parents!) with many of educational and general interest needs satisfied outside the immediate parish boundary.



## CYCLE PATH

Our young people were asked if they would use a cycle path to get to and from school and 17 respondents said they would, representing an increase of 40% over that current method of travel to school, where only 1 respondent cycles.

When this question was widened to 'general use of a cycle path' between Alcester and Great Alne the number of positive responses increased to 35 (87%).



## VILLAGE PLAYGROUND

Our final question concerned the use of the playground for which 31 respondents (77%) confirmed they use this area for some form of recreational activity.



## What do you like about living in Great Alne?

*"Freedom of countryside, feeling safe"*

*"Playground and cricket club"*

*"Walks, cricket ground, the people"*

*"Park, playing football, river for fishing, friendly people"*

*"Tranquillity and closeness of countryside"*

## What do you dislike about living in Great Alne?

*"Not enough to do in playground"*

*"No shop to buy sweets"*

*"Dog poo on footpaths"*

*"Not a lot to do, would like more play equipment"*

*"No safe cycle path to get to Alcester"*



## CONCLUSION

### Great Alne Church

The parish church of St. Mary Magdalene consists of a chancel with a north vestry, nave, north aisle, and west porch-turret. It is originally a mediaeval building with many additions over the years. Originally there were two bells however these were recast into one by John Martin of Worcester in 1670. The register of baptisms begins in 1604 and of marriages and burials in 1614.



The Parish Plan lays out a shared vision for the community of Great Alne for the next ten years or so. Change cannot be prevented, however this document will prove to be an invaluable tool to influence decisions that will be made in the future.

The Parish Plan is a two-part document. The brochure contains the results of the questionnaire sent out in September 2008, however the Action Plan picks out the important actions and opinions that need to be addressed and considered. The Parish Council have the responsibility of monitoring the implementation and progress of actions within the Action Plan and regular updates will be sent out to the parish. An annual review and summary will be discussed at the AGM of the Parish Council that takes place each year in May.

The Parish Plan group would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people and organisations who have contributed or helped with the project, especially the residents in the Parish who took the time to complete the original questionnaire, and have expressed an interest in the project ever since.

***"Very friendly well  
balanced community in  
quiet and unspoilt rural  
surroundings"***



# **GREAT ALNE PARISH PLAN**

## **ACTION PLAN**

**Version: May 2009**

This plan of action stems from the response of residents to the questionnaire issued in 2007. It aims to initiate actions by local authorities and other responsible bodies to make changes to and/or maintain facilities within the Parish of Great Alne to meet the expressed needs and desires of residents.

The Action Plan will be reviewed periodically by the Parish Council and up-dated to reflect progress towards the desired ends.

Any Parishioner having a particular interest in one of the Issues or wishing to volunteer to assist with any Action recommended herein should contact a member of Great Alne Parish Council. Parish Council contact details can be found on the notice boards in the village, or at [www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk)

The Issues listed in this Plan are in the same order as they were listed in the original questionnaire.  
This does **NOT** reflect their relative importance or priority.

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#### **Abbreviations used in this document are:**

P.C.	Great Alne Parish Council
S.D.C	Stratford-on-Avon District Council
SG	Steering Group
TPO	Tree Preservation Order
CVS	Council for Voluntary Services

PCT	Primary Care Trust
W.C.C.	Warwickshire County Council
PACT	Police and Community Team
GP	General Practitioner

ISSUE	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE	HOW IT WILL BE DONE	WHO IS INVOLVED	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY
<b>SERVICES</b>					
<b>MAINS GAS.</b> A significant number would like mains gas in the village.	Suppliers to assess whether it would be viable.	Approach gas suppliers.	P.C.	12 months	Low
<b>TV/RADIO.</b> Digital TV/Radio reception is generally poor. Imminent switch off of analogue signal will leave only low quality service.	Ascertain what needs to be done to improve reception.  Identify planning restrictions on aerials, e.g. dish aerials in conservation area. Further information can be obtained from SDC planning department on 01789 267575.	Discuss signal strength with BBC/local aerial suppliers.	P.C.  P.C. S.D.C.	12 months	Medium
<b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT.</b> Buses only stop in the west end of the village. Passengers from other parts either have to walk or use a car to catch the bus. Formerly No.25 service stopped at both ends.  Actively promote community transport schemes.	Determine if bus companies could re-start No. 25 or similar service.  Identify transport schemes running in area and advertise to parish.	Discuss with bus companies and W.C.C.  Identify likely number of users and lobby bus companies  Notice boards and parish council web site.	P.C. W.C.C  P.C.	3 months  On-going	High  Medium
<b>TRAVEL TO HOSPITAL.</b> The majority of people going to hospital have to go to Warwick. There is no practicable public transport.  The time taken by ambulances to get to Great Alne and back may be critical, especially in the case of heart attack.	Identify who is likely to need assistance and list volunteer drivers in Great Alne who are willing to help.  Possibly place a defibrillator in village and have several people trained to use it.	Seek volunteers and/or organisations to hold/operate such a list. Engage with CVS. Investigate possible taxi share scheme with local taxi co.  Discuss issue with PCT. Seek volunteers to hold defibrillator and be trained to use it.	P.C. Neighbourhood Watch CVS Volunteers SG  PCT, GPs SG Volunteers	6 months  6 months	High  High

ISSUE	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE	HOW IT WILL BE DONE	WHO IS INVOLVED	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY
<b>HOUSING</b>					
Residents feel there is a need for low cost and open market housing in the Parish.          Results of the survey indicate that residents would be prepared to accept developments of no more than 20 houses during the life of the plan.	Identify present level of affordable homes required for local people, and look to bring forward a scheme to meet level of homes identified.	Prepare a Local Housing Needs Survey for housing in conjunction with WRCC and SDC	SG P.C. S.D.C. WRCC	Continuous	High
	Explore this indication further.	Investigate options to meet the needs identified in the survey.	WRCC SDC	Continuous	High
	Ensure that the Parish Council's response to any planning application and follows the Parish Plan.	Work in conjunction with SDC as part of the Local Need Survey.	PC SDC	Continuous	High

<b>ROAD SAFETY</b>					
<b>TRAFFIC SPEEDING.</b> A large majority of residents regard traffic speeding as a serious problem.	Assess effectiveness of current methods; Mobile Speed Camera, Speed limit signs, road markings etc. Seek advice on further measures.	Discuss with Traffic Police, Road Safety organisations and W.C.C. (Highway Authority).	P.C. WCC Police	6 months	High
<b>INCREASED POLICE PRESENCE.</b> Residents feel the need for more frequent patrols in the village, preferably on foot.	Increase the frequency of police visits.	Discuss with Alcester Police. Consider raising at PACT meeting or Local Area Forum	Neighbourhood Watch P.C. POLICE/ PACT	3 months	Medium
<b>TRAFFIC CALMING.</b> A majority of residents believe some traffic calming measures are needed.	Assess effectiveness of existing village 'gateways' and red surface strips. If necessary consider what further actions could be taken.	Seek information on and costs of other methods of traffic calming. (See Traffic Speeding above.)	P.C.	6 months	High
<b>PAVEMENTS.</b> Mothers with children in pushchairs and disabled in wheelchairs have difficulty negotiating kerbs at road junctions/crossings.	Identify road locations where dropped kerbs are needed and ensure work plan for installation is developed	Lobby WCC until dropped kerbs are installed at the appropriate locations.	P.C. WCC	12 months	Medium



<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>					
<b>RIVER FLOODING.</b> The main reasons for river flooding lie outside the Parish.	Develop long term strategy to manage run-off and ensure that river banks are kept clear of litter, fallen branches and trees.	Engage with Environment Agency. Annual inspection and removal of rubbish.	P.C. Volunteers. Environment Agency.	Continuous	Medium
<b>ROAD FLOODING.</b> This causes serious inconvenience and occasionally vehicle and property damage. Main locations are end of Spernal Lane (Mother Huff Cap), front of Memorial Hall, Alne Cote corner and Park Lane/Stoat Lane corner.	Broken/blocked drains to be repaired/cleared. New drains provided where necessary. Ditches and culverts to be kept clear.	Develop a programme with WCC to ensure that roads, drains and ditches are regularly checked and cleaned.	PC W.C.C. Landowners	6 Months Continuous	High
		Blocked/damaged drains to be reported promptly.	W.C.C	Continuous	High
<b>COFFEE POT WOOD.</b> In places the wood is unkempt and contains some rubbish.  Information on the natural ecology of the wood has been requested.	Clean and tidy.  Place information plaques at the entrances to the wood.	Develop a programme of inspection and action  Speak to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	SG Woodlands Trust WCC Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	Continuous	Low
<b>FIELD FOOTPATHS.</b> Not All are clearly marked and some are in a poor state.	Replace way marks at field boundaries as necessary. Create footpath map. Landowners to maintain paths to required standard.	Identify problem areas. County Council to advise on funding	SG P.C. W.C.C. Landowners	Continuous	Medium
<b>CONSERVATION AREA.</b> There is a strong desire to preserve the nature of the village and its architecture.	Review the current Conservation Area and consider whether it could be extended.		PC SDC SG	12 months	Low
	Review existing Preservation Orders on vulnerable trees.	Survey trees within village and investigate possibility of applying additional TPO's to identified trees.	PC SDC SG	12 months	Low

<b>FACILITIES &amp; LEISURE</b>					
<b>VILLAGE SHOP.</b> Children and adults have a need for a small shop.	Assess the viability of a community store using existing facilities or a mobile store.	Determine how such a store could be run and seek volunteers. Obtain advice from WRCC.	SG PC WRCC	12 months	Low
<b>GREAT ALNE &amp; KINWARTON MEMORIAL HALL.</b> More information on events in the Memorial Hall is required.	Discuss with the publishers of the 'Hall Herald' the possibility of including notices of all events, one-off and regular, held in the Memorial Hall.	Continue to publish 'Hall Herald'. Include on village website	Hall committee.	Continuous	Low
<b>SOCIAL CLUB.</b> Residents have expressed need for a Social Club with a wide range of activities.	Set up a group to explore viability of a club to meet needs.	Identify volunteers and level of interest among residents.	SG	Continuous	Low
<b>SOCIAL FACILITIES.</b> There are no social facilities, clubs, etc. for old and very young persons in the Parish.	Organise and run appropriate facilities in suitable premises.	Create a steering group/volunteers to initiate/run facilities. Identify possible locations.	SG	12 months	Low
<b>ADULT EDUCATION.</b> Some adult education classes are required. To avoid excessive fees these will have to be created and run by members of the local community.	Organise such classes as are required using suitable premises	Create a steering group/volunteers to initiate/run facilities.	SG WCC	12 months	Low
<b>PLAYING FIELD.</b> Surface is too rough for ball games.	Investigate state of surface and what is required.	More frequent mowing, rolling if required.	P.C. Volunteers	Continuous	Medium
<b>THE MOTHER HUFF CAP.</b> A good pub is regarded as an asset to the village.	Ensure tenants remain aware of what residents would like.	Establish liaison group.	P.C. Parish residents.	Continuous	High
<b>ALLOTMENTS.</b> Some residents would like an allotment.	Consider providing new allotments. Identify possible sites and level of demand. Consider facilities for old, disabled and young.	Contact interested parties to see what would be adequate. Discuss possibility of shared facility with adjacent parishes.	P.C. SG	12 months	Low
<b>DOG FOULING.</b> Dog faeces are to be found on or near most footpaths.	Publicise the need to clear dog mess and the possible penalties for not doing so.	Signs to be placed at footpath entrances. Location of Dog Waste bins and fines for not clearing up dog mess to be highlighted and advertised.	P.C. SDC Dog Warden	6 months	Medium

<p><b>ENERGY CONSERVATION.</b> There are a number of benefits available for elderly residents to improve the insulation of their homes.</p>	<p>Determine what can be provided and the relevant costs.</p>	<p>Publicise results through Parish Newsletter and Parish Council newsletter.</p>	<p>P.C. S.D.C. Utilities Age Concern</p>	<p>3 months</p>	<p>High</p>
<p><b>CYCLE PATH TO ALCESTER.</b> A majority of child cyclists would use a cycle path between Great Aine and Alcester.</p>	<p>Assess if a practicable track can be found. Get cycle path included on WCC work plan</p>	<p>Survey possible routes and assess cost. Obtain Kinwarton PC involvement. Another possible Vision for Alcester project</p>	<p>P.C. W.C.C. Kinwarton PC Vision for Alcester</p>	<p>12 months</p>	<p>Medium</p>

## **Update on the Action Plan – May 2009**

### **Road Safety:**

At the time of the questionnaire the traffic calming 'gates' to the village were in the process of being installed and had not been completed. The Parish Council are advised to contact the WCC minor works officer if they wish consideration to be given to funding a feasibility study for traffic calming from the delegated budget for additional works. They are also advised to seek support from their County and District Ward Members. Joint Committees have limited funding allocated for road safety and maintenance also and requests for funding are generally considered in January.

### **Dropped Kerbs:**

Since the Action Plan was compiled the Parish Council have initiated the installation of dropped kerbs through the village, these were installed in February 2009.

### **Housing:**

Charles Barlow is the contact at WRCC to discuss the preparation of a Local Housing Needs Survey. The survey will cover local housing needs and also a section prepared in conjunction with Stratford DC planning department regarding village development. Because the Maudslay site is such a unique brown fill site being so close to the village it is paramount that questions are designed to address development within the village/ parish in general without the influence of the Maudslay, and then a separate section to address the Maudslay. This document will be a recognised document as far as Stratford District Council are concerned. The Housing Needs Survey has a status of its own however to add additional weight to the conclusions regarding village development they can be submitted for adoption at a later stage as an appendix to the Parish Plan.

### **Flood Defence:**

Karen Johnstone to speak to Flood Defence Officer and advise the Parish Plan group further. The Parish Council are currently working in conjunction with County Councillor Nina Knapman and Warwickshire County Council regarding flooding issues.

### **Recreational Footpaths:**

The Group has spoken to Iain Merivale of Warwickshire County Council (WCC). The Parish Paths Partnership would require someone from the village to act as liaison officer with WCC. Once the paths have been assessed and any work required agreed with WCC a grant is given to the parish council. Can use either volunteers or contractors to do the work however all Health and Safety issues and insurance has to be considered. It was considered easier if the parish council would take ownership of the project. Countryside Access Team: 01926 413427.

### **Conservation Area:**

There are 75 conservation areas within the Stratford District and all are due for review. However Great Alne was last reviewed in 1996 and is not considered priority so it will probably be 20016/17 before it is considered unless a convincing argument is put together for the conservation team to

bring this date forward. Priority is given to areas where changes, such as development, have taken place within the conservation area since the last review.

**Village Shop:**

Jane Harris has spoken to Steve Patalang of Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC). He recommends 3 or 4 people to set up a committee and at least 28 volunteers for the rota to man the shop. Would also need to consider the legal status of the shop. Recommends looking at the vital villages web site. Local community shops are Barford, Clavedon and Feckenham. Talked about using pub car park or school for a farmers market type stall. It was considered local produce; even if this was slightly more expensive would probably attract more custom.

**Tree Preservation Areas (TPO's):**

Iain Clark, Stratford DC Arboricultural Assistant on 01789 260324 is the contact for TPO's. New TPO's are only made if there is reason to believe a tree is under threat.

**Playing Field:**

Since the questionnaire new play equipment has been installed into the playground (September 2009).

**Adult Education:**

Contact: Jan Willows, Adult Learning Area Manager for South Warwickshire, the Adult and Community Learning Service at WCC. Tel: 01926 413608

**Mother Huff Cap Public House:**

Since the questionnaire went out the pub has re-opened, closed and now re-opened again. Punch Taverns currently have it on the market for sale.

**Cycle Path to Alcester:**

Possible Vision for Alcester project, the idea is to be discussed with County Ward Member.

Karen Johnstone of Stratford DC has been in contact with WCC Transport Department and has the following feedback: "The scheme does not directly contribute to the LTP (2) Cycling Strategy objectives of developing the cycle network in key urban areas of the County, as such WCC Transport will not be able to provide financial assistance to the project. However, if funding is obtained by the Parish to design and construct the scheme, they may be in a position to provide complimentary cycle parking infrastructure through the Cycle Projects Fund. John Harvey, Transport Planning, is happy to provide some technical support on any proposals."

A possible source of funding was suggested by the Safe Routes to School Officer, Simon Gordon: Part of the B4089 between Great Alne and Alcester is on the National Cycle Network, and so it is possible this scheme could be eligible for Links to School funding from Sustrans, which can contribute up to half of the money to building a scheme. However, Great Alne would require proof that a significant number of children who live in Great Alne go to school in Alcester, and evidence that a high number of those would cycle. Looking at the size of the village, he thinks it is unlikely to be very high. The Parish or District Council would also have to get agreement from local landowners to freely dedicate some of their land adjacent to the road, in order to

provide off carriageway facilities for some of the route because the existing verge line (highway) between Alcester and Great Alne is unlikely to be wide enough. He doubts parents would let their children cycle on the road in peak hours, otherwise they would already be doing so. Another option would be to find a route through farm land, or on existing footpaths or bridleways but there is no obvious route and landowners may be reluctant to disrupt their farming operations.

**Defibrillator:**

Great Alne Parish Council have already looked into the feasibility of having a defibrillator within the village and took advice from a local GP. For a number of reasons it was considered impractical, and possibly just as quick for a paramedic to reach the patient.