

Ashwater Parish Plan



2013

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Foreword

Dear Parishioner,

This is your copy of the 2013 Ashwater Parish Plan, which has been written and created using the results of the questionnaires delivered to your household in 2012. It focuses on the Parish as it is at present, and how you would like it to improve and develop in the future.

Parish Plans were formed from the Rural White Paper 2000 and are designed to provide a structure for communities to set out a vision for their own future. The purpose of a Parish Plan is to identify issues and problems that need to be addressed and show how the distinctive features of the parish might be protected and improved. The Parish Plan includes social, economic and environmental issues and must be consistent with local planning policy and strategic development.

The power of the Parish Plan is that elements which have gained broad agreement will carry significant weight among those agencies whose agreement and co-operation, and possibly funding, are needed to make the plan work.

The Parish Plan is a live document and will be reviewed annually over the next ten years. The Parish Plan will be revised and updated as circumstances change and opportunities arise, providing support for plans to mature which reflect the wishes of the local community.

As the Parish Council Chair, I would like to thank everyone who has been involved. Special thanks goes to the members of the Parish Council for their hard work in distributing and collecting the completed questionnaires, Trevor Armstrong and the girls at Alternative Recruitment in Holsworthy for collating all the data received, Ivan Buxton and Andrew Stacey for their contributions, and Kate Tomlinson for her photography. I also wish to thank you for all your responses, views and input, without these we would not have been able to produce the plan.

Alex Beynon

S A Beynon

Ashwater Parish Council Chairman.

Introduction to Ashwater

Across the centuries Ashwater has embraced many changes. Origins of prehistoric occupation exist as burial mounds, but it was in Norman times the village centre developed around the church, believed to be on a Saxon worship place. The name probably derives not from the ash trees and abundant water sources but from the word combination of the Saxon Manor of Esse or Aisse which was later held by Fitz Walter. First recorded as Esse Fitzwalter around 1300 then corrupted to Ashwater. The village is surrounded by low grade land reclaimed from moor-land often changing ownership with irregular shaped fields and hedge-banks signifying how possession is marked also providing protection from the elements. Many boundaries were created over 800 years ago accompanied by buildings of cob and stone some recorded in Domesday records, later 'improvements' have not greatly changed the design since the twelfth or thirteenth centuries. The present village boasts a green, a pub, a hall, a shop/PO, a school and places of worship and contains a mix of old thatched or slate roofed cottages, barn conversions, Victorian brick and an eclectic mix of modern dwellings. It is a thriving self contained settlement proud of its heritage and community spirit. – Ivan Buxton



The Companion Guide to Devon by Shirley Toulson published in 1996 describes Ashwater as follows: *“This is a village with a large central green flanked on one side by the whitewashed manor House Inn, and on the other by a medieval church restored in the eighteenth century. It is probably the burial place of Sir Hugh Courtenay, killed during the Wars of the Roses in the bloody battle of Tewksbury, in which Margret of Anjou died. He was the son-in-law of Thomas Carminow, who died in 1442 and whose well preserved effigy, together with that of his wife, is thought to have been placed here by his two daughters.*

Although Ashwater is almost as far from the sea as anywhere you will find in Devon, the county’s seafaring tradition was not forgotten here, as the carved ships on the bench ends witness. However, it is inland pleasures that are now to be found here.”

The Village Hall

The first Parish Hall was built in 1904 for the Ancient Order of Rechabites and passed to the Ashwater Parish Hall and Institute in 1929. Constant use and the ravages of time meant by the 1990's it was no longer fit for purpose.

A group of likeminded parishioners began what turned out to be over a decade of hard work. A parish survey established that a new hall was preferable to trying to upgrade the old and local land-owner Jack Moon offered part of a field in exchange for arranging mains water connection. After many trials and tribulations planning consent was secured and the funding obtained. The Big Lottery Fund awarded a large grant but a substantial amount was still needed before work began on clearing the site and installing essential services.

The next phase was to raise more money to bridge the gap between overall building costs and the sum promised by the BLF. This was achieved by grants from Devon County Council Airport Fund, Community Council of Devon, Torrridge District Council, Ashwater Parish Council, The Foundation for Sport and the Arts, The 29th May 1961 Trust and pledges from parish members as well as numerous fund raising events.

A total of almost £500,000 was raised which enabled the new hall to be built 105 years after the original and it was formally opened by Cllr Barry Parsons in March 2010.

The hall is located next to the historic Church has fine views across open countryside, plenty of parking and is a short walk from the Village Green and the popular Village Inn. – Ivan Buxton

The Village Shop

Until the end of 2009 there had been an uninterrupted Post Office Service in the village for 143 years. A false rumour in 1970 concerning closure of the facility was quickly corrected as the service has always been supported by the people of the parish and this was again in evidence when the threat of closure loomed in 2008 under the national restructuring of rural post offices. Ashwater fought successfully to retain a Post Office presence in the village, but with closure of the shop premises the facilities were held in abeyance. Now a new shop is up and running the Post Office has returned on a partnership basis providing the usual postal services, bill payment facilities, mobile phone 'top-ups', pension and cash withdrawals and can even issue anglers with full or temporary rod licences. The new Community Shop opened in November 2010. The previous village shop closed at the end of 2009 and following consultation with the parish residents a committee was organised for fund raising and a suitable site was found for new premises that could also house the Post Office alongside the Parish Hall.

Money was raised from community events, share subscriptions; grants from The Plunkett Foundation, the County Councillor's Community Grant Scheme and the Big Lottery Awards for All Scheme plus additional finance from the Parish Council, the Leader 4 North Devon+ Scheme; donations and loans from residents, an interest free sum from the Community Council of Devon; a substantial loan from the Co-operative and Community Finance and monetary assistance from Devon County Council to help with the Post Office meant over £100,000 was secured. – Ivan Buxton

Ashwater Primary School



Originally built in 1900, the buildings comprise of two classrooms, a hall and the Headmasters House. There were later additions of a toilet block and kitchen, however these were replaced in 2005, giving new accommodation, comprising of a kitchen, toilets and library / ICT room. Prior to the above renovations a conservatory was added to the infant classroom in 2001/2 to give extra space for the Foundation children. The Headmaster's House has now been converted. The upstairs is now used as offices and resource room. The downstairs consists of three rooms, which is predominantly used by pre-school. The grounds consist of a playground to the front of the school, a playing field to the rear and our environmental area behind the old school house.

The environmental area supports many subjects within the school curriculum and consists of a garden, pond and natural wildlife areas. The children are only allowed supervised access to this area. Gardening club is held in this area and the children thoroughly enjoy maintaining and developing it. The school has its own catering facilities. Ashwater Pre-school uses the rooms on the ground floor of the school house. A staff room, administration office and resources room are on the school house first floor. The school caters for children from rising fives to eleven years of age. Classes are organised according to age at present - one class for Foundation/KS1 and one class for KS2. Each class therefore contains a cross-section of abilities, aptitudes and ages.

Parish Plan – The Process

In 2004 local government initiated local community involvement in local planning policies. Developing Parish Plans is key to this, and aims to enable communities to:

- Engage with local planning processes.
- Identify issues that affect them.
- Prioritise and identify key issues.
- Produce an action plan to preserve the existing environment and services and promote changes where required.
- Identifies local problems and opportunities.
- Influence the continuation and creation of community services and facilities.

- Influence planning decisions such as identifying needs for affordable housing, community facilities and which open spaces are needed or valued locally.
- Plan actions the local community can do itself, for example, environmental improvements, play areas and open spaces for young people and promoting more community involvement.

Throughout 2012 the Parish Plan questionnaires were designed and rigorously refined in order to make them as user friendly as possible. Many questions were taken from Devon County Councils guidelines and also refined to make them more applicable to Ashwater Parish. Once the final sets of questions were decided upon, the plan went to print. This is what you as parishioners filled in and returned.

The data was then collated and analysed.

The Parish Plan is now the Parish's working document to be used for how agreed actions are moved forward. It is hoped that an update is given each year at the Annual Parish Meeting and recommended that a new survey will be required in the next 5 to 10 years subject to change.



The Vision

- A Parish that values and protects its environment.
- A rural village with its own sense of character.
- A pleasant place to live for all its residents.
- A thriving community that enjoys a safe, secure and harmonious way of life.
- A caring community in which everyone is important.
- A forward thinking community, ready to accept change and adopt new activities to enhance the quality of life for all and to sustain the economic viability of the area.

Questionnaire Results

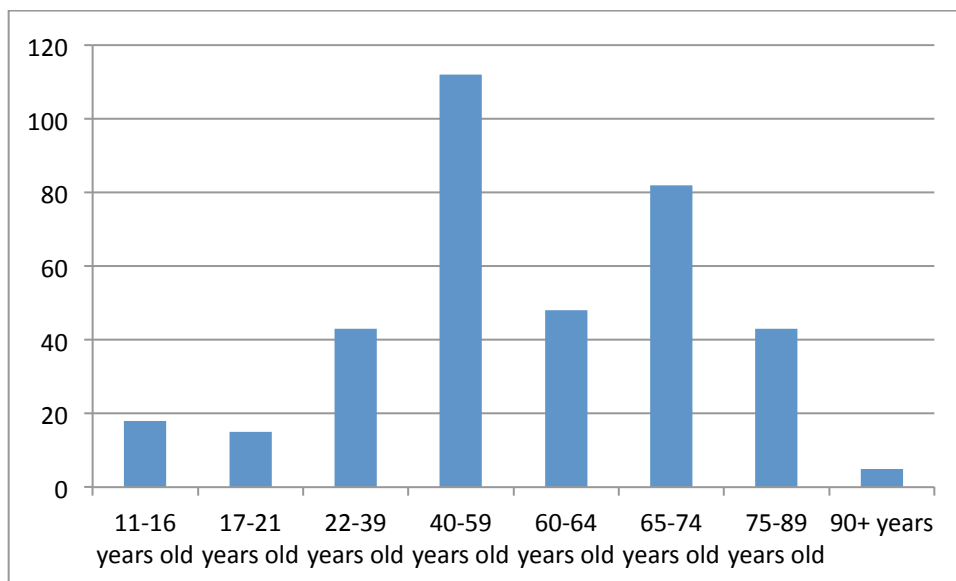
From some 270 questionnaires sent out, we received back 180 completed forms, a return of some 66%. All credit to the community for this very good response. Not all households or individuals answered all the questions. The analyses in this and in subsequent sections of the report reflect the number of answers given and therefore there will be variations between the numbers of households/persons who answered individual questions. Anonymity was maintained by the parishioners not being required to supply names and collection of the completed questionnaires was random.

The questionnaire was split into 2 sections, Household and Personal.

Section 1: Household

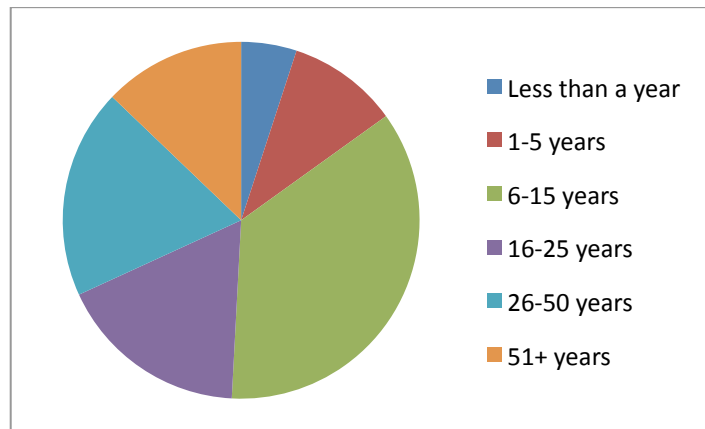
As expected from this thriving and diverse community, the results indicate that there is a wide range of ages with the largest group being the 40-59 years bracket. Gender split is almost equal with 51% males and 49% females.

Breakdown of age groups within the Parish of Ashwater



Many households, 98%, consider their homes as their main place of residence.

Length of time the household has lived in the Parish

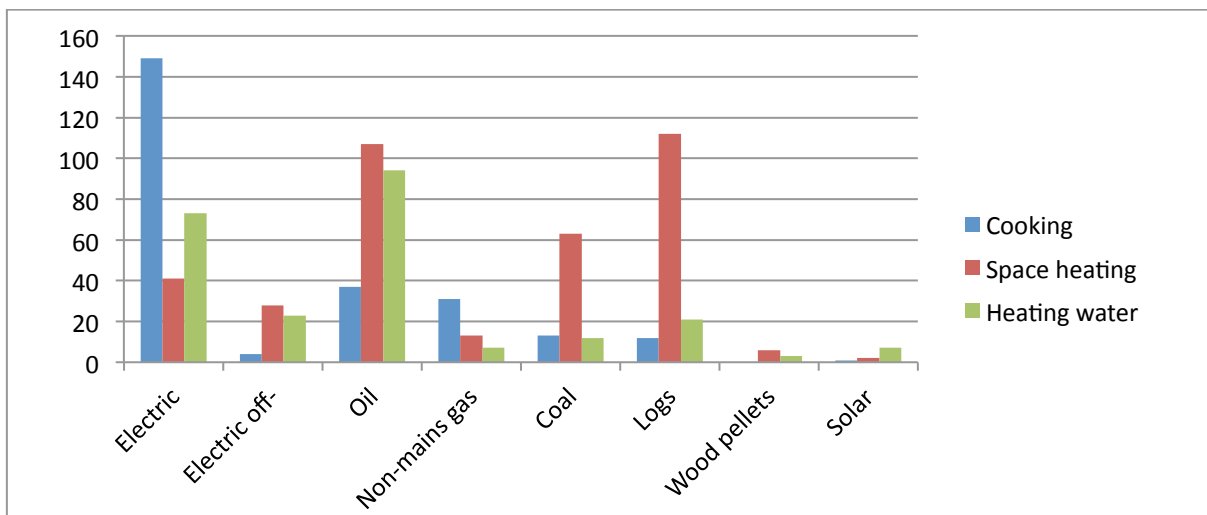


The majority of households have lived in the parish between 6-15 years, seconded by those who have live here for 26-50 years. Only 5% have lived here for less than a year, whilst almost 13% have lived here for more than 51 years.

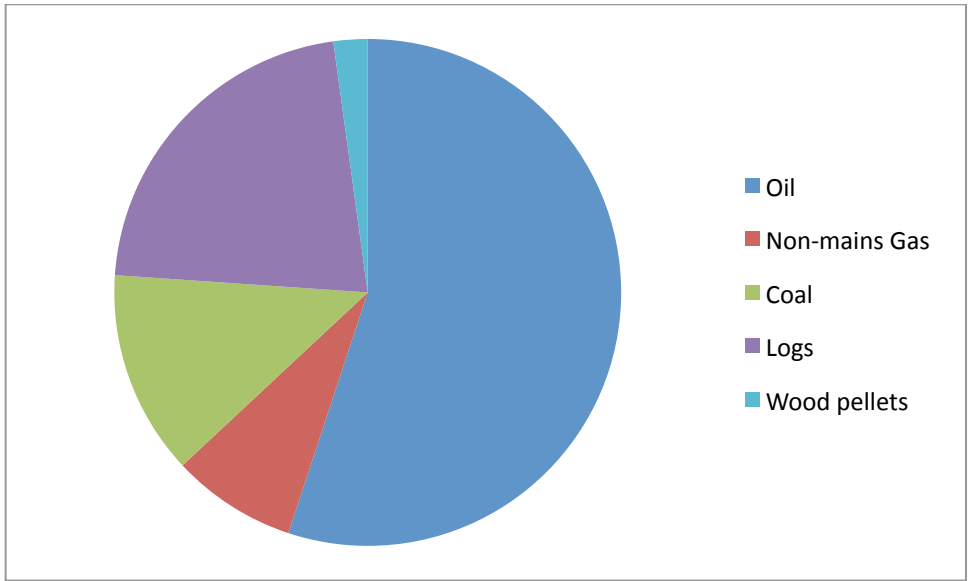
The vast majority of the households in the parish, some 84%, have three key energy saving features, those being lagged hot water tank, loft insulation and double glazing. Surprisingly only 10% of respondents have cavity wall insulation, and 4% utilise solar energy.

Some 60% use electric to cook, 15% oil, and 13% gas. For heating, the majority use logs, 30%, seconded by oil at 28%. To heat water, 70% of the respondents either use electric and/or oil.

The use of energy within Ashwater



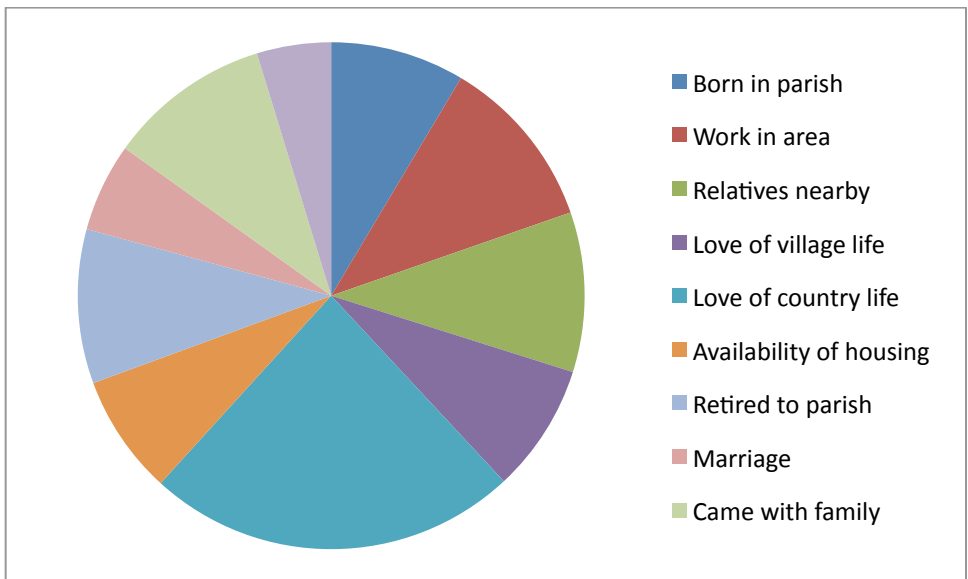
There was significant response to joining a group purchasing arrangement for various fuels.



The results showed that over half of those who responded, 55%, would be willing to come to some arrangement for oil, and 21% for logs.

Sections 2: Personal

There seemed to be a fairly balanced and even response from how people came to live in Ashwater. The majority, almost 24%, seemed to just “love the country life”.



Housing and development

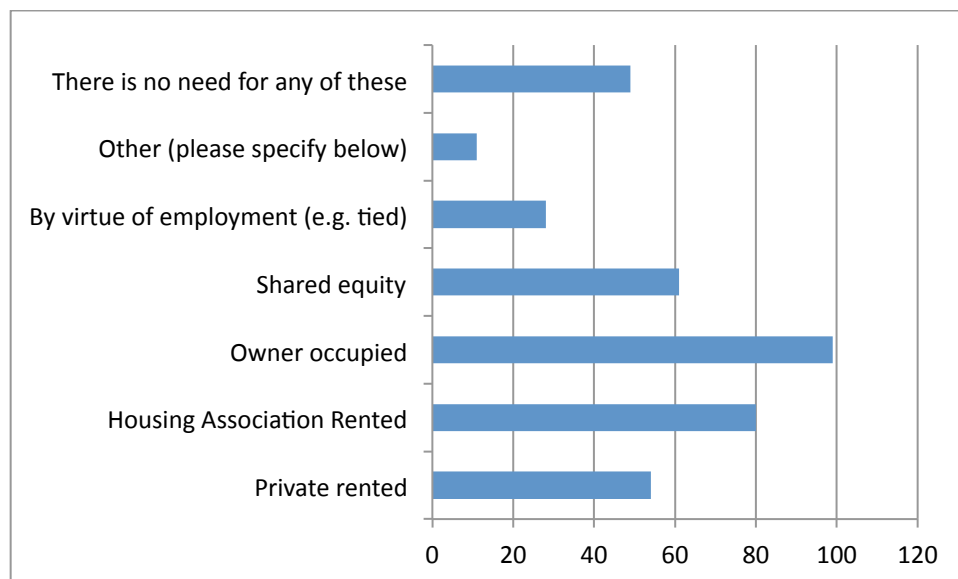
The Issues:

- Need for affordable housing
- Increase in housing stock
- Maintenance of the character of the village whilst allowing development
- Type of housing development
- Locations of any future developments

The dwellings in the Parish reflect the varied developments which have taken place through the years. These range from properties of considerable age to those which have been constructed very recently. There was significant infill in the late 1960's and 1970's and small infill has occurred since then. The majority of houses are within the main village, with clusters of dwellings in other parts of the Parish.

A major objective of the questionnaire was to establish the needs of local residents for housing and to balance these against the concern about opening up the Parish to large scale and unwanted residential development. Ashwater, like many rural communities, reflects a high percentage of elderly home owners and residents who have moved into the parish in recent years. It was anticipated that the results would show there was a need for some form of social and/or affordable housing. From 176 responses, 4 indicated a member of their family was seeking some form of social housing.

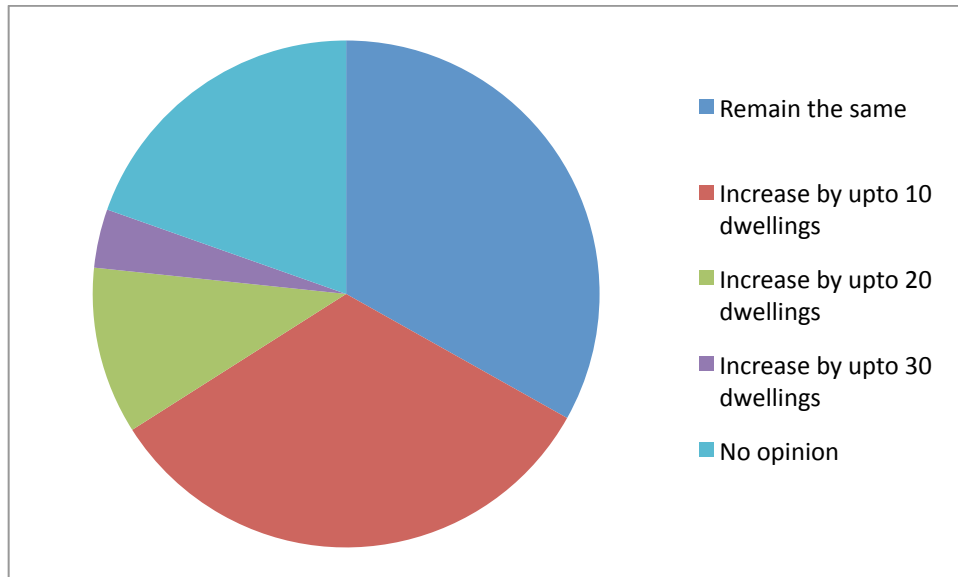
The graph below shows the responses to the question: "Is there a need for accommodation of the following types?"



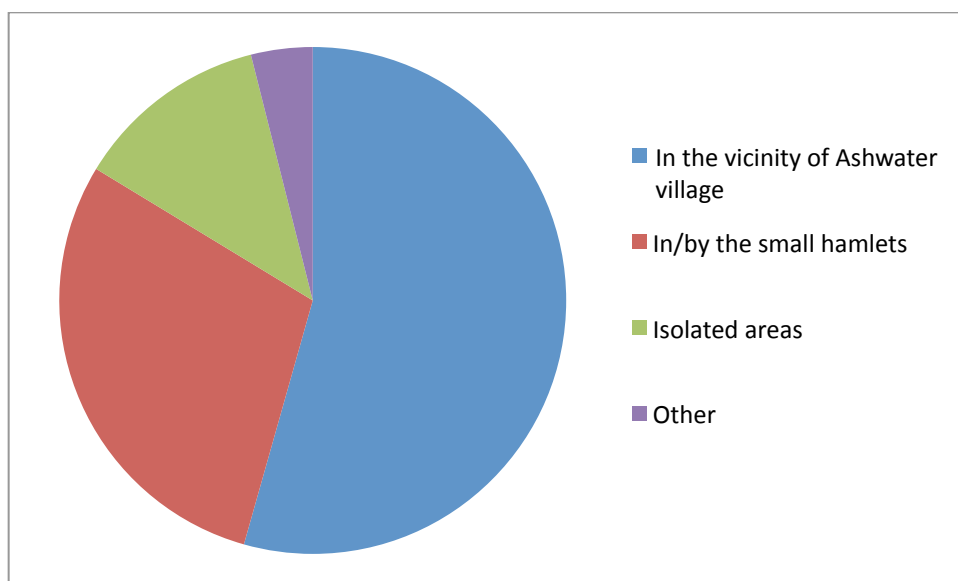
From this we see that 26% of respondents expressed that they perceived a need for more owner occupied dwellings, 21% a need for Housing Association rented and 16% a need for shared equity housing.

A slightly differently worded question gave a clear indication that the majority of respondents, some 43%, felt that any housing built should be for restricted sale, in essence, for local needs only. Seconded to that 23% felt that any housing built should be for housing association to rent.

The survey sought to identify the need within the parish for housing over the next 10 years. From the results, 33% wish the number of houses within the parish to remain the same, whilst another 33% would like it to increase by “up to 10 dwellings”.



The survey also sought to seek out where in the parish any possible developments would be preferred. From the results, 53% of respondents considered that any development should be “in the vicinity of Ashwater village”, whilst 29% considered that any buildings should be closely located near to current developments.



Actions:

- A further Housing needs survey should be undertaken within the next 2-5 years.
- Any further development in Ashwater Parish should be very carefully considered as to its type, its location and its use.
- Torridge District Council to incorporate recommendations into their Local Development Framework.
- The findings of this Parish Plan to be included as part of the Specific Planning Document for Torridge.

Employment

The Issues:

- To identify where people work.
- Opportunities for employment.
- Potential new businesses.
- Premises.

The survey shows that most people have chosen to live in Ashwater Parish because of its rural location and their love of the country life. Access to larger towns has enabled them to successfully sustain living in a rural location. The majority as you can see from the tables below, are wholly retired. The primary business in the parish is agricultural. Subsequently, employment opportunities within the Parish, outside of agriculture, are limited. This obviously has an effect on youths who wish to stay in the Parish in obtaining suitable employment which will enable them to remain living here. Currently, very few youths have full time local employment.

Ashwater Employment statistics:

Employed	27%
Self-employed	23%
Unemployed	1%
In a government training scheme	0.20%
In full-time education	5.50%
Wholly retired	33.50%
Un-waged wife/husband/partner	4.20%
Permanently sick/disabled	1.70%
Other	2.80%

Where you work:

At home	43.80%
Elsewhere in the parish	10.50%
Outside parish but within 10 miles	18.60%
Within 11 - 30 miles	19.80%
Over 30 miles	7.30%

The survey shows that the majority of those working are employed or self-employed. It also shows that while the majority work from home, there is in essence a 50/50 split with those who work in the Parish and those who have to travel out of the Parish for their employment. Just over 62% of respondents use a car or van to travel to work.

Poor transport and communications, especially broadband speed, are widely considered by many to be the greatest barrier to local economic growth. Lack of suitable premises is also another issue. The survey showed that 50% of respondents were in favour of some light industrial units, with 24% against, and 26% of no opinion. It also showed that 64% of respondents felt that Torrridge should play more of a role in encouraging local employment.

Actions:

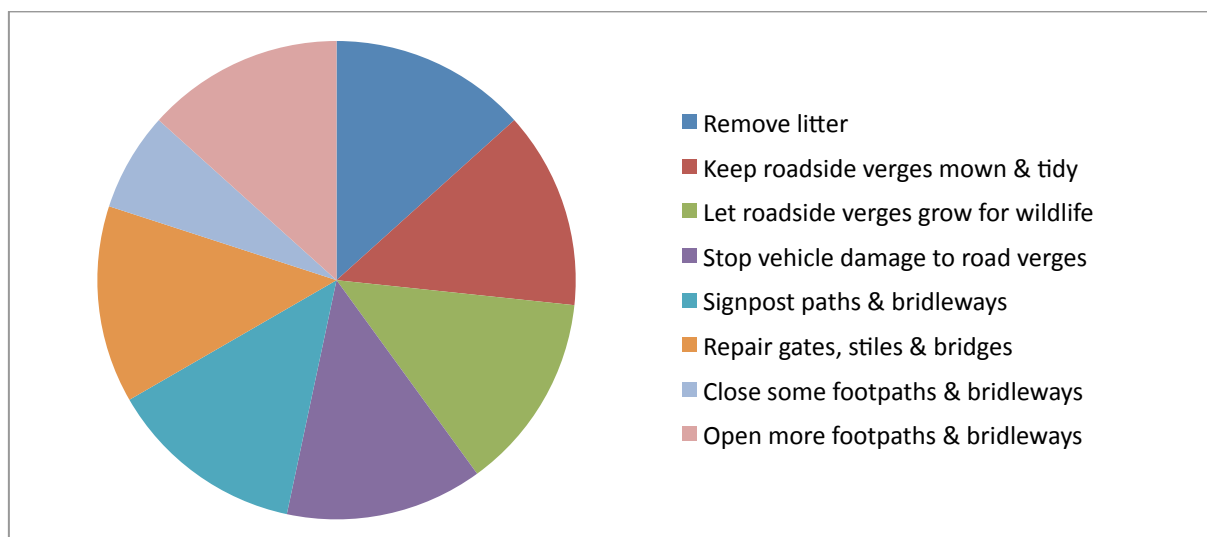
- Provide Parish and local job information.
- Liaise with the planning authority to support local business needs.
- Improve accessibility and information on training opportunities.
- Identify potential sites for light industrial units.
- Encourage local business start-up.

Environment

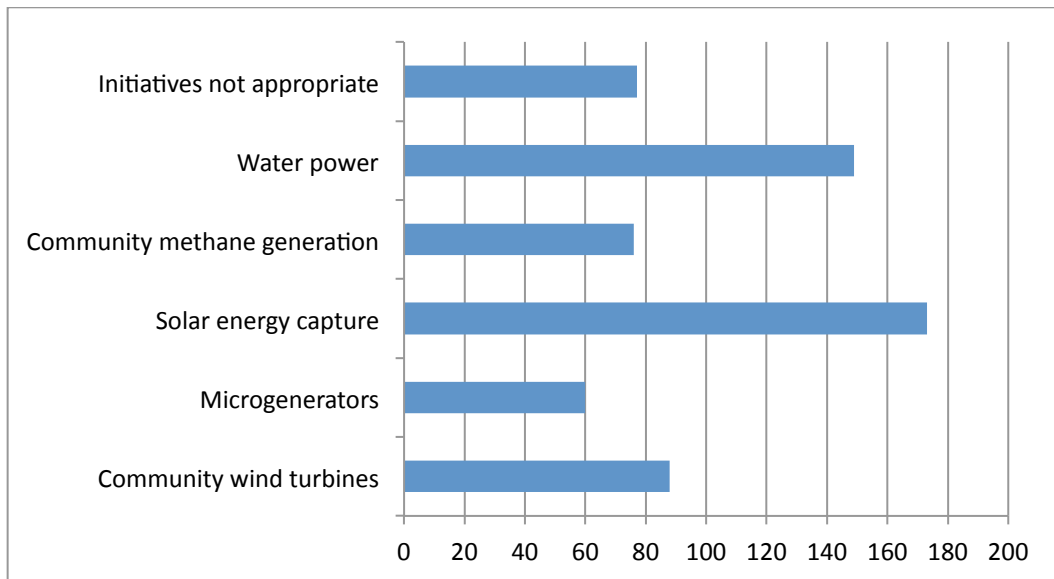
The Issues:

- Condition of roads and footpaths.
- Renewable energy.
- Ashwater carbon footprint.

The results indicated that there was a fairly balanced concern on all the topics investigated indicating that parishioners are generally happy with the condition of the environment within the Parish.



Renewable energy within the Parish is without doubt a controversial topic. From the survey a majority of 27% said that if Ashwater Parish was to have renewable energy, they would prefer it to be solar energy capture. Second to this with almost 24%, suggested that water power would be preferred. Only 14% thought wind generation appropriate, whilst 12% did not think any of the suggestions were appropriate at all.



The results show there was a major requirement for support and advice on making both homes and businesses within Ashwater Parish more energy efficient. Just over 17% felt that street lights should be turned off between midnight and dawn. Almost 11% felt that allotments should be made available to local residents.

Actions:

- Continue to monitor the condition of verges, hedgerows and litter.
- Investigate any potential new footpaths which may be opened.
- Investigate the viability of other forms of renewable energy and communicate information on ways to save on household energy bills.
- Monitor the street lighting in certain areas of the Parish.
- Investigate if there are any areas where allotments could be viable.

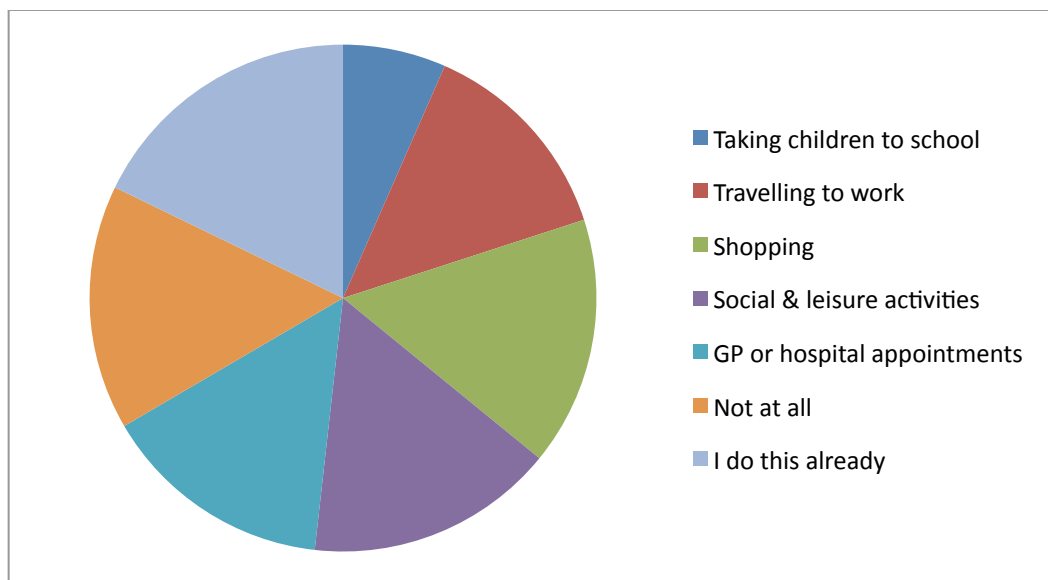


Transport

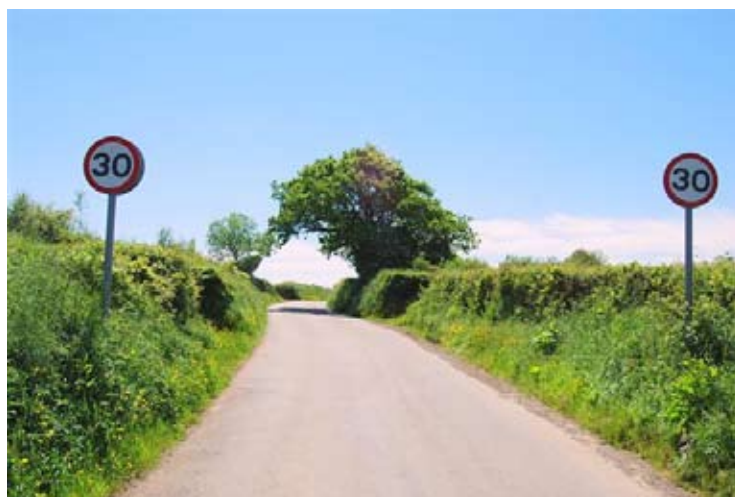
The Issues:

- Traffic Speed.
- HGV and Agricultural vehicles.
- Condition of the roads.
- Street Lighting.
- Public Transport.

Ashwater Parish is a rural community. The most common method of transport used by parishioners is the car. Just over 42% of respondents were in favour of car sharing, whilst there was a fairly equal response as to in what circumstances people would be prepared to share.



Many parishioners are concerned about traffic speeds in the Parish. The majority are happy with the current speed restrictions however there is concern about the speed of traffic outside the school. With limited parking available at the school during start and end of school day, the build up of children being picked up and dropped off is a cause for concern.



Most are happy with the present road signs within the Parish. Some felt that clearer signs with regard to HGV and large agricultural movements should be improved, especially entering the village from Ashmill. Parking within the village does not seem to be a major issue. 80% never experience any parking issues, whilst 17% experience some issues, and 1% often have issues.

Potholes present the biggest problem when it comes to the condition of the roads. With the increased usage of the many minor roads by larger vehicles, often agricultural and increasingly likely to be HGV's delivering materials for renewable energy projects, the roads must be constantly monitored.

Street lighting within the Parish has been an agenda for some time. There has been concern about the area between the village hall and the green. At the time the questionnaires were sent the Parish Council were making preparations for a light to be installed. It is now up and running. The results showed that 60% of the respondents considered the street lighting in the parish to be good / reasonable, whilst only 7% considered it poor and 33% of no opinion.

Public transport via buses is available 3 times a week. Tuesdays, Halwill to Barnstaple via Ashwater and Holsworthy, Wednesdays, Halwill to Holsworthy via Ashwater, and Fridays, Halwill to Tavistock via Ashwater and return to Halwill. There is obviously potential for more frequent use of this system, but it will depend on demand.

Actions:

- Investigate and promote the possibility of more "car sharing".
- Liaise and monitor the traffic speed outside the school.
- Investigate the possibility of clearer restrictions when it comes to larger vehicles entering dangerous areas when weather conditions deteriorate, notably Ashmill Bridge and Henford Hill.
- Keep reporting the potholes to the relevant body; continue to advertise the pothole website in the Parish Newsletter.
- Monitor the demand for more Public Transport.

Community

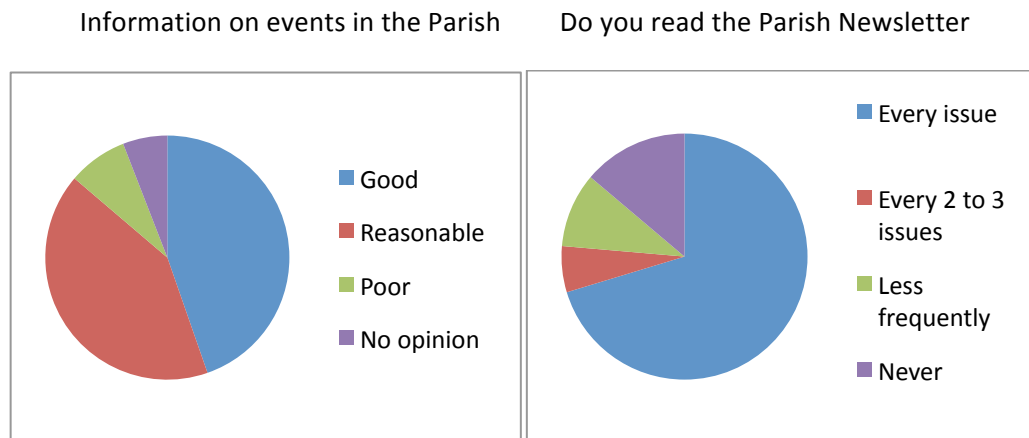
Issues:

- Is Ashwater Parish a satisfactory place to live?
- Is Ashwater Parish a diverse place to live?
- Is information about local services acceptable?
- Is the process of local decision making acceptable?
- Is there scope for more involvement in the community?
- Are the services and amenities in the Parish acceptable?

Overall the results indicate that Ashwater Parish is a satisfactory place to live. Around 89% of respondents considered Ashwater Parish as "very satisfactory" or "satisfactory". Just fewer than 10% were neither "satisfied nor dissatisfied", and 1% dissatisfied.

Ashwater Parish seems to be a diverse place to live. The results show 68% of respondents agreed that Ashwater Parish was a place where people from different backgrounds got on. Only 8% disagreed with this, whilst the remainder “didn’t know”.

It appears that people are generally satisfied with the accessibility of information as to what is going on in the Parish.



It is apparent that the Parish Newsletter and notice board are widely used for accessing local information for the Parish. The Parish website is still being rebuilt. It is hoped that designated individuals for all the organisations within Ashwater Parish will at some point have their own unique log in and will be able to update their page with up to date information. Hopefully this website will be up and running in the very near future. It will also allow access to Parish Council minutes, action plans and achievements. It is not of opinion that this website will replace the Newsletter as not all parishioners have access or use of the internet.

A number of parishioners have attended Parish Council Meetings held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Village Hall at 7:30 pm. It is not widely known that anyone is allowed to attend these meetings. Most parishioners know one or more members of the Parish Council, but there are some who do not know any. There seems little understanding of what the Parish Councils’ role is and this is reflected in how well parishioners feel local concerns are dealt with, with the majority feeling that the work done is satisfactory.

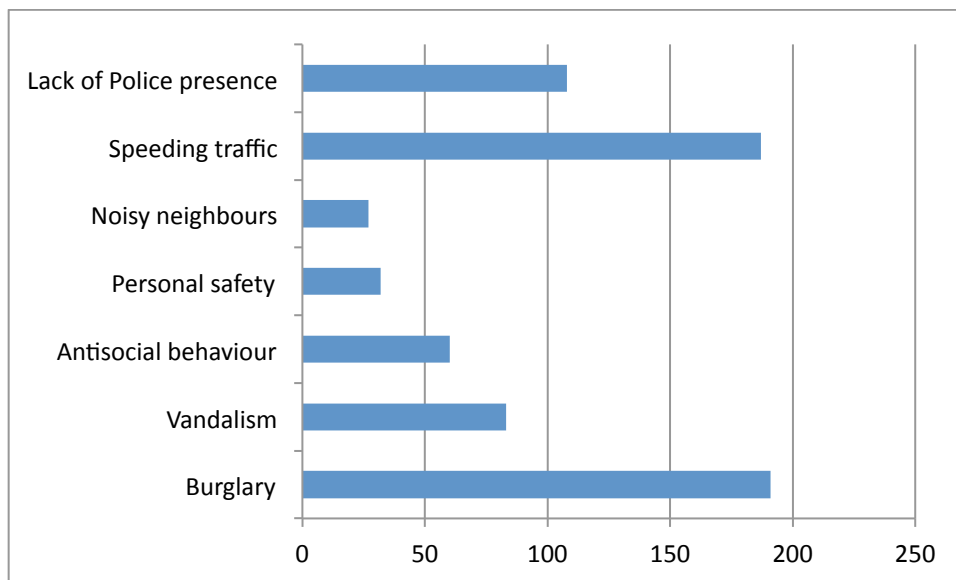
From the results, the survey suggests some 46% of parishioners are fairly well informed about getting involved with local decision making, whilst 38% do not feel informed at all. This was also illustrated in the results on whether parishioners could influence decisions affecting Ashwater Parish with 35% feeling they could, and 41% indicating they could not. Some 24% did not know at all further illustrating the point that some do not know that they are able to attend Parish Council Meetings.

As predicted, the involvement of parishioners in the local decision making process was “dependent on the issue”.

There was a fairly balanced view of services and amenities within the Parish. Most felt that all the topics considered were of reasonable standard. The one area which required some improvement was winter weather services, i.e. gritting.



Ashwater Parish is a generally safe area with little recorded crime. Many parishioners have not experienced any serious crime within the Parish. The results indicate that the majority feel that burglary and speeding traffic to be of greatest concern, whilst the lack of Police presence was also a major worry too.



The results and comments from the questionnaires led to a mixed response with regard to Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. Although there is one in place for Ashwater Parish as various comments suggested, it was not widely known. Some 62% of respondents wished to be involved, whilst 38% did not.

Actions:

- Promote active participation in the Ashwater Parish website from all the organisations in the Parish.
- Continuation and improvement of the newsletter.
- Continue to publish Parish Council information and news.
- Monitor the gritting and winter weather situation within the Parish.
- Monitor the speeding traffic situation, highlight hot spots and find workable speed reducing initiatives.
- Liaise with local Police and possibly get them to visit the Parish for an invisible marker session.
- Appoint a Neighbourhood watch representatives and advertise contact details.

Recreation & Education

The Issues:

- A Parish playing field
- Village Green play area
- Indoor Sports facilities
- Village Hall
- Availability of activities for youths in the Parish.
- Topics to be considered for further education.

There seemed fair support for the need of a permanent playing field in the Parish. From the results, 66% agreed that the Parish would benefit from a permanent area, 6% felt that it was not needed, and 28% had no opinion.

Ashwater Football Club (AFC) was reformed in 2010 to provide local people with the chance to play competitive football in the Kingsley League. The pitch was rented from a local landowner and the teams changed in the parish hall.



After two successful seasons, winning the league in 2011-2012, it was decided the team would move to the North Devon League at senior level, where changing rooms and showers were required. The Club raised funds to buy two second hand portacabin changing rooms. A second team was formed to enable more local footballers the chance to participate in this sport. The planning limitations on the current site mean AFC are unable to use the pitch for training. There is also interest in starting a youth team which the AFC fully supports. As there is no permanent pitch, sport related grants are not available to AFC. A permanent area would be of huge benefit both to the club and the Parish.

There has been increasing concern that the swings on the green are a little outdated. The Parish Council has been looking into updating these and introducing potential new equipment for the youngsters of our community.

Generally, the respondents considered the availability for indoor sports facilities to be very poor throughout all age groups.

The village hall is a great asset to Ashwater. The results showed that 58% of the respondents used it occasionally, whilst 22% used it once a week or more, and 19% never used it at all.

Many suggestions were made requesting provision of activities for the younger generation. Some of the more frequent and popular examples being, youth clubs, sports clubs, climbing wall, IT workshops, creative workshops and rural crafts.

Divided opinion on whether the parishioners would pay to use facilities at the school if they were provided. Some 34% indicated they would be prepared to pay, 31% indicated they would not, and the remainder of 35% had no opinion.

Again there was a great response and many suggestions for learning topics to be made available to parishioners. Around 65% indicated they would like to see more topics being made available. Some examples suggested being, language classes, Spanish and French, IT skills, photography and art classes, craft classes, and first aid courses.

Actions:

- Investigate the possibility of a permanent playing field for Ashwater Parish. Liaise with local landowners.
- Investigate further sports that could be made available in the Village Hall.
- Arrange meetings to discuss the establishment of youth club, sports clubs.
- Gather real interest for learning topics and approach relevant tuition.
- Identify and Appoint representatives who are willing to lead a potential interest.
- Utilise the advertising capability of the newsletter in order to gather real interest in all topics.

All of the organisations within Ashwater Parish are voluntary. The results indicate that 57% of the respondents contributed to some form of volunteering at some point, whilst 36% did not contribute at all. Hindrances to those who did not contribute but may be encouraged to do more included not knowing what specific help was required and wanting to be part of a friendly group.

Mobile & Broadband Reception

The results show that mobile reception in and around Ashwater Parish is mixed. Some 48% consider reception good, whilst 45% consider it could be better.

Broadband reception received many negative comments. The results show that 51% consider that broadband reception is not acceptable. Those who find it acceptable made up just 32% and the remainder claimed they did not use broadband.

Actions:

- Locate the mobile black spots within the Parish and investigate solutions.
- Identify why broadband is a major concern and write to the relevant authorities.
- Liaise with Torridge for support.

Action Plan Summary

Key :	
Ongoing	Continually monitor
Short Term	Within 1 year
Medium Term	Within 5 years
Long Term	Within 10 years
PC	Parish Council
PPQR	Parish Plan Questionnaire Results
TDC	Torridge District Council

Housing

Issues	Actions	By	When
Need for affordable housing	A review of this needed within 2-3 years, and every 2 years after. Cater for local needs including low income families.	PC, TDC, Housing Association	Short/Medium Term
Increase in Housing stock	Monitor this over next 5 years.	PC, TDC	Short/Medium Term
Maintain the character of the village	Monitor this continually and complement local character.	PC	Ongoing
Type of housing development	Any development to be in keeping with village character. Where possible steer towards environmentally friendly and energy efficient homes.	PC, TDC	Ongoing
Locations of future development	Closely monitor this in line with PPQR.	PC	Ongoing

Employment

Issues	Actions	By	When
Opportunities for employment	Provide Local Job Information.	PC	Ongoing
Potential New Businesses	Provide support and information on small business start up grants.	PC & Local Employers	Ongoing
Premises	Identify potential sites where small industrial / commercial units may be situated.	PC, TDC, Local land owners	Ongoing
Broadband	Maintain pressure on relevant authorities to increase bandwidth and broadband speed within Ashwater Parish.	PC, TDC	Ongoing

Environment

Issues	Actions	By	When
Condition of roads and footpaths	Continue to monitor condition of roads and footpaths. Investigate any new potential footpaths.	PC, Parishioners	Ongoing
Renewable Energy	Investigate and advertise new forms of renewable energy.	PC	Ongoing
Ashwater Carbon Footprint	Monitor street lighting demands within the Parish.	PC, Parishioners	Medium Term
Allotments	Investigate any potential sites for a few allotments.	PC, Local land owners	Ongoing

Transport

Issues	Actions	By	When
Public Transport	Advertise the Bus routes and possibly campaign for a more frequent service.	PC, Newsletter	Ongoing
Traffic Speed	Campaign for all road users to reduce their speed. Investigate and implement initiatives to reduce speeding traffic outside the school.	PC, Newsletter, Highways	Short Term
HGV & Agricultural Vehicles	Monitor hot spots where larger vehicles often get into difficulties.	PC, Highways	Medium Term
Condition of the roads	Continue to monitor the pot holes and any other damage. Continue to advertise the pot hole website in the newsletter.	Everyone	Ongoing
Car Sharing	Arrange a meeting for those who may be willing to car share as per PPQR.	PC	Medium Term
Winter weather preparations	Monitor hot spots where vehicles have issues and investigate ways to combat.	PC, Parishioners	Medium Term
Public Transport	Monitor the demand for a more frequent service.	PC, Parishioners	Medium Term

Community

Issues	Actions	By	When
Newsletter and Website	Encourage and promote the monthly newsletter. Finalise the website and appoint delegates for all the organisations. Encourage up-to-date information.	PC, Clubs, Organisations	Ongoing
Local Knowledge of the role of the Parish Council	Publish any hot topics in the newsletter and keep parishioners updated of any changes.	PC, Newsletter	Ongoing
Community Involvement	Promote Parish Council meeting attendance.	PC, Newsletter	Ongoing
Local Decisions	Promote attendance on controversial issues affecting Ashwater Parish.	PC, Newsletter	Ongoing
Neighbourhood Watch	Organise a meeting with the local representative and increase awareness that the scheme exists. Appoint more representatives in specific areas and advertise their contact details.	PC, Neighbourhood watch representative	Short / Medium Term
Tackling Crime	Liaise with local Police. An annual marking of possessions at the Village Hall. Advertise local Police services in the Newsletter. Keep parishioners updated on rural crime.	PC, Police, Neighbourhood watch rep	Short Term

Mobile and Broadband Reception

Issues	Actions	By	When
Mobile Reception	Highlight Parish black spots. Advise parishioners on what network is best in the area.	PC, Newsletter	Medium Term
Broadband Reception	Campaign for faster broadband and increased bandwidth for the Parish.	PC, TDC	Short Term

Recreation & Education

Issues	Actions	By	When
Playing field	Investigate the further need for a permanent playing field and liaise with local landowners as to the potential viability of this project.	PC, Local land owners, football club	Short Term
Village Green Swings	Investigate the options available and implement accordingly.	PC	Medium Term
Indoor Sports facilities	Investigate the further options that may be appropriate.	PC, School, Hall Trustees, Hall Committee, Parishioners	Ongoing
Village Hall	Working in partnership with the Hall Committee to improve usage of the hall and increase local / youth clubs.	PC, School, Hall Trustees, Hall Committee	Ongoing
Youth Activities	Hold a meeting with the youths of the community and discuss what they would most want.	PC, School	Short Term
Further Education	Gather real interest and demand for topics, appoint a representative, and approach relevant tutors.	PC, Parishioners, Newsletter	Medium Term
Volunteer Groups	Liaise with all the clubs and organisations within the Parish. Establish a line of communication which can potentially lead to an increase in members and volunteers.	PC, Newsletter, Ashwater Clubs and Organisations	Medium Term