

Sibdon Carwood **PARISH PLAN** *2020*



BACKGROUND

Sibdon Carwood is a small hamlet and parish in South Shropshire situated to the North and west of the market town of Craven Arms. The western half of Sibdon Parish lies within the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Shropshire Hills was designated as an AONB in 1958 to protect the region's natural landscape. The parish lies overall in a very rural setting with most of the population living along the west side of Watling Street and the hamlet of Long Meadow End to the East.

At the 2001 census the parish recorded 84 residents in 34 households, but since then a housing development has been completed, with a further 25 homes joining the parish in 2016.

The parish was first recorded in the Domesday Book and the original Church of St Michael and All Angels dates from Norman times, although it was re-modelled in 1741.

The beautiful landscape is traversed by several footpaths, used by many walkers, and Long Lane in the parish is part of the National Cycle Network. The land is predominantly used for agriculture.

The Parish does not have any facilities but the Parish church, which is owned by a Charitable Trust, is sometimes used for parish events.

For other facilities the inhabitants rely on the range of facilities in Craven Arms where there is a school, doctor's surgery, a number of shops and small businesses.

Sibdon Carwood does not have a population large enough to establish a Parish Council, but holds regular parish meetings to discuss local issues and a committee which organises some social events for the parish.



INTRODUCTION

In early 2019, Sibdon Carwood Parish meeting decided that they would like to support the production of a Parish Plan for the community and they embarked on the process of how to do this, and the formation of a steering group to take this forward.

A Parish Plan is a document which sets out a shared vision of how a community sees their priorities for the next five to ten years. It will set out the aims and aspirations of residents within the Parish and will identify strengths and weaknesses through community consultation. Parish Plans have been used locally in Shropshire and also by communities countrywide.

- Identify aspects of the community which need to be preserved and improved
- Highlight action which can be taken
- Pool knowledge, skills and experience
- Influence decisions by external stakeholders

The steering group undertook a programme of consultation to establish the views of local residents. This comprised a questionnaire for each household which was distributed and collected during July 2019.

The survey data was independently analysed by staff from the Shropshire Rural Communities Charity and a number of issues were highlighted. A draft Action Plan was written and due to be presented to the Parish in March 2020. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic the draft plan could not be presented to the community, but was discussed, agreed and adopted via internet discussion in December 2020. The Parish Meeting will take on the responsibility to facilitate and monitor the actions and report back to the community, thus achieving the aspirations of the community.

Many thanks go to the residents of Sibdon Carwood Parish who took the time to share their views and members of the steering group who gave up their time to carry out the process. Over 80% of households filled out their questionnaire and we were delighted with the response. The complete Residents Survey Analysis Report is available for anyone to view. Please contact Mark Trafford, Chairman of Sibdon Carwood Parish Meeting, 07945 412440, m.trafford1@btinternet.com

Further thanks go to Shropshire Rural Communities Charity for their advice and guidance.

PARISH PLAN RESULTS

ENVIRONMENT

Residents were asked about the rural nature of the Parish and included questions on footpaths, hedgerows, tree planting, litter and site screening.

The rural character of the parish came out as the most important issue to impact family life. 72.7% said this was very important. All other aspects were felt to be important including reduction of litter which was supported by everyone.



TRANSPORT AND ROAD SAFETY

Speeding issues were particularly highlighted along Watling Street and the Clun Road. The state of the roads also caused concern and revealed an urgent need to tackle potholes.

HOUSING

Around 50% voted for no additional housing in the Parish.

However there were an equal number of people who would like to see a small number of additional houses over the next ten years. Most people felt that this should be Affordable Housing, prioritised for local people. If any houses were built, these should be conversions, or on brownfield or derelict sites. Greenfield sites and infill got the least support.

People felt that agricultural land should be protected from development. The comments indicated that people held strong views on these questions



COMMUNITY SAFETY

Just under half of residents do have concern about security of their possessions, and a smaller number would be willing to participate in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

COMMUNICATION

The majority of residents do not work from home but most people would like to see improvements in broadband and mobile phone network coverage.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The majority of people (72%) are aware of social events going on in the parish, and word of mouth is the most common way of passing on information. There are a group of residents who are not aware of what is going on and would like to be notified.



FACILITIES IN CRAVEN ARMS

The majority of the Parish use the Medical Centre, the Community Centre, the Discovery Centre, public transport and the Industrial site. Other than those who work in the school, or have children of school age, there is not much contact with the primary school.

“We are lucky, it is a beautiful place”

ACTION PLAN

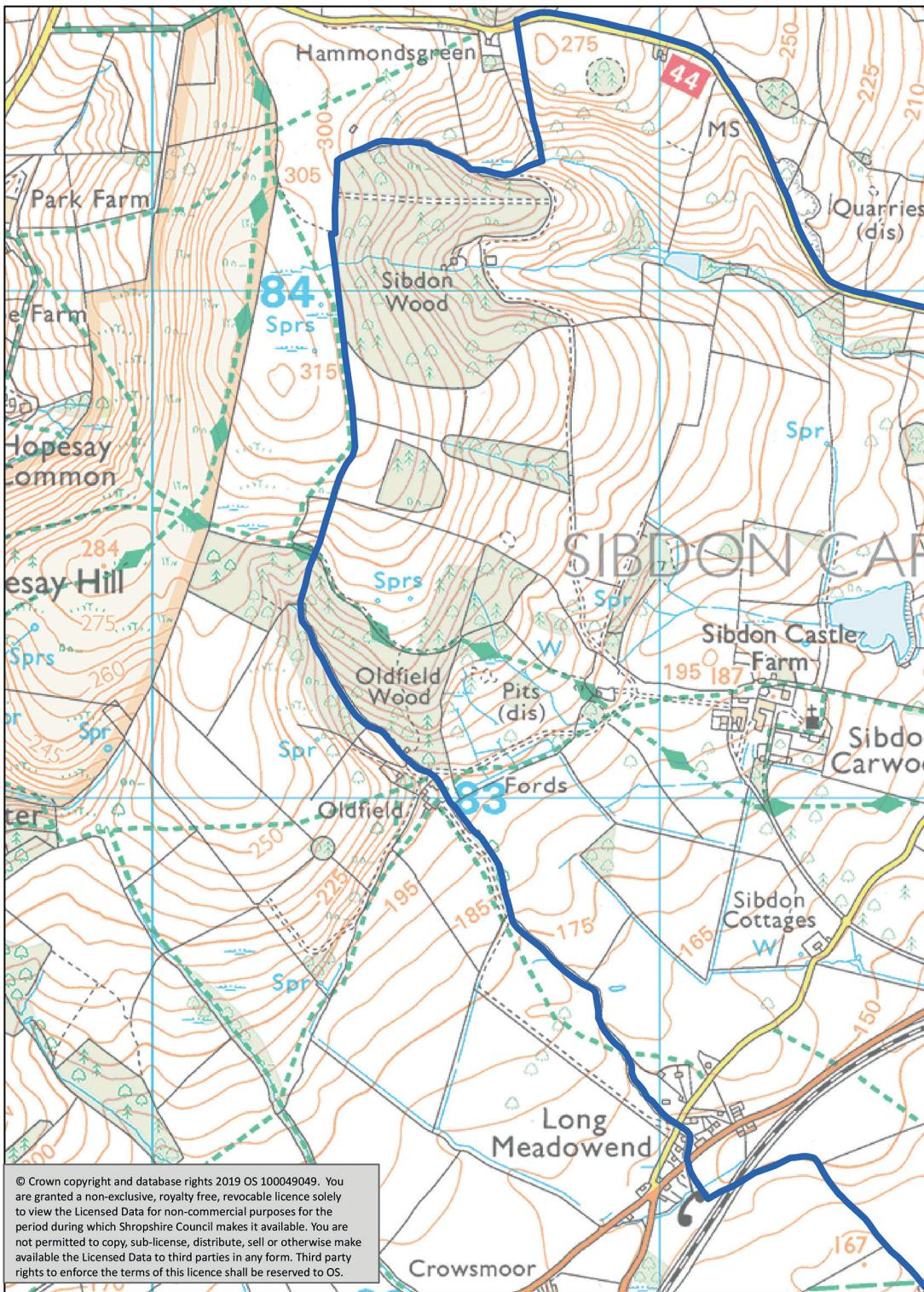
	ISSUE	LEAD ORGANISATION	DATE
ENVIRONMENT	Tree planting	Parish Volunteers	Autumn 2021
	Maintenance of Footpaths	Parish Volunteers	Summer 2021
	Litter	Parish Volunteers	Summer 2021
TRANSPORT	Speed Limit	Parish Meeting	Ongoing
	Pot Holes	Parish Meeting	Ongoing
HOUSING	Future Housing	Parish Meeting and Parish Plan	Spring 2021
COMMUNITY SAFETY	Neighbourhood Watch	Parish Meeting	Ongoing

ACTION	OUTCOME	PARTNERS
Investigate tree planting grants. Approach Woodland Trust and AONB	Trees Planted	Shropshire Council, Woodland Trust, AONB
Form a working group to maintain footpath access.	Footpaths Maintained	PPP (Parish Paths Partnership)
Organise litter picking day.	Annual Event	
Lobby for new speed limit in Watling Street and Long Meadow End	New Speed Limits	SCC Highways
Lobby for repairs.	Improved Roads	SCC Highways
Ensure the views of the residents are known and understood by the planning department	Shropshire Council fully aware of views. Elements of Parish Plan adopted into Place Plan.	Shropshire Council Planning Policy. Shropshire Council Place Plan Officer
Explore the possibility of establishing a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Set up community safety event.	Scheme Set Up	Safer Neighbourhood Team

ACTION PLAN *(CONTINUED)*



	ISSUE	LEAD ORGANISATION	DATE
COMMUNICATION	Better Broadband	Parish Meeting	Ongoing
	Better 4G	Parish Meeting	Ongoing
SOCIAL EVENTS	Organise parish events and communicate effectively	Parish Meeting and Social Committee	Summer 2021
	Improve communication across the parish	Parish Meeting and Social Committee	Spring 2021
FACILITIES	Play area at Sibdon Fields.	Parish Meeting	Ongoing
	Streetlights along Clun Road	Parish Meeting	Ongoing

ACTION	OUTCOME	PARTNERS
Lobby Council	Every property can access high speed broadband	Connecting Shropshire
Lobby Council	Better mobile coverage for everyone	Connecting Shropshire
Plan at least one event a year? Possibly put up another notice board.	All residents find out about events. Explore buddy system where necessary to ensure contact.	-
Updating parish website and communication email.	Respond to individuals who gave us details.	-
Investigate organisations/ charities to help with this	Play Facilities Built	Housing Association. S.C. Place Plan Lottery Community Fund
Lobby Highways Department	Some additional Street Lights	S.C. Street Team and Place Plan



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 New Development
 Parish Boundary
Scale: 1:9,000

