



TRANSPORT

The great majority of the respondents (99%) say that they travel either by car or van. This is for both work and pleasure. Very few people make use of the public bus and fewer still are using the community bus. The main reasons given in the comments for not using the public bus were that it did not go where people wanted to go and did not go at times that were acceptable or practical.

It was commented that for the bus services to be of use in this rural community buses need to leave and return at times that were practicable for people to get to work, i.e. leaving around 06.30 and returning around 18.30.

Buses to Didcot station for commuting to either London, Reading or to Swindon were put forward as a possible solution. The frequency of the present two local bus services, the daily 67 bus to Faringdon/Wantage and the X47 Saturday bus to Swindon are said to be useless as

a means of commuting, or for much else. Consequently the services are underutilised, thereby being at risk of being cut. A much more regular service connecting to Shrivenham/Watchfield would give a link to the frequent buses to Oxford and Swindon.

The reopening of Wantage Road Rail Station would be a great benefit to many residents who work away from Uffington. A request stop at Uffington Station also was mentioned as being useful.

ACTION 6.3: PC/PMs to work with local government and bus companies to improve both frequency and range of destinations that services cover, specifically considering Oxford as a destination and provision of evening services. Longer term PC/PMs to undertake an analysis of potential transport needs of residents over the next 15 years and explore communal solutions to fulfilling these needs.

7. EDUCATION

At the present there are approximately 120 pupils (including pre-school) attending Uffington C of E Primary School. Some of these pupils are drawn from outside the catchment area. 96% of those people who responded to the questionnaire thought that it was important that all the children from Uffington, Woolstone and Baulking should be able to attend the school if they wished.

There was concern that places were not limited to children living in the catchment area so that some younger siblings did not have a guaranteed place at the school.

The results of the questionnaire show that there are concerns about the future of the school. These are mainly as a result of the recent planning applications which would obviously increase the need for more places. More places could be created by extending the school and by adding classrooms.

Parking in the area of the school is a problem as there is very limited on-site parking and it is located on a narrow stretch of Broad Street, close to a sharp bend, (see section 6).

The school has a useful means of communication with its weekly email, outside notice board and school website.

About 58% of respondents attend one or more of the fundraising events run by the P.T.A. This provides significant funds to support the school by buying equipment etc. 22% of respondents felt they had skills and interests that could be useful and that they were willing to share with the school.

It is obvious that the school in its historic setting is highly valued by the residents of all the villages. They would like its future to be assured, since it plays an important role in village life and is the reason that many people choose to live here.

ACTION 7.1: PC/PMs to work with school governors to make a phased plan for addressing the parking issues and extending the school so that it can take more children when necessary due to planned future development.



8. PUBS, SHOP AND POST OFFICE

PUBS

The response from Uffington and Baulking residents were made in relation to the Fox and Hounds and those from Woolstone residents regarding pubs were made in relation to the White Horse Inn.

The majority of respondents (56%) felt that it was 'very important' to have a pub in their village; and another 31% felt it was 'quite important'. Given this level of support, actual usage recorded by respondents is relatively modest. 15% attend at least once a week, 36% once or twice a month, and 49% attend rarely or never.

The most important aspects of the pub were recorded by 77% as the welcome and ambiance and a range of freshly cooked food. 48% saw a range of beers & real ale as important and 42% wanted a beer garden. 34% rated the bar service as important.

To encourage more visits, the following changes were suggested: cheaper food & drink (49%), a regular quiz night (29%) and a loyalty scheme for locals (Fox & Hounds) (27%).

ACTION 8.1 CLP to pass responses (tick boxes and comments) to the pubs.

SHOP AND POST OFFICE

66% of respondents visited the shop at least twice a week, while the remainder visited once a week or less often. The most likely purchases made by respondents were bread or milk (80%), newspapers/magazines (63%), last minute cooking ingredients (62%), sweets/biscuits (29%) and prescription collection (29%).

The most popular improvements proposed for the shop are bakery (77%), click & collect service for parcels (56%), sewing/mending service (43%) and Cafe/hot drinks service (36%). A number of suggestions for improving the shop were also made in comments.

A majority of respondents would support the Parish Council spending more on benches & picnic tables around the shop or village playground.

ACTION 8.2 CLP to pass responses (tick boxes and comments) to the shop.



9. VILLAGE HALL, MUSEUM & CHURCH

THOMAS HUGHES MEMORIAL HALL

The Uffington Village Hall has been used by 54% of respondents with 77% of those who have not used the Hall saying that they have no use or need for it. Based on limited responses there is a view that the THMH is worthy of Uffington. It is worth noting that there was support for new activities which could take place in the THMH (eg Film Society/Club, Pilates) but these would require somebody to organise them. Sadly 95% of respondents were not interested in joining the Management Committee.

ACTION 9.1: Advise the THMH Management Committee of the responses and, as with other community activities, try to identify new initiatives and people to run them.

TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL MUSEUM

It is clear that most respondents think that the Museum is an important part of the village (96%) and have visited (80%). There was support for more activities and events and for better communication about events and opening hours. One comment asked for refreshments to be on sale, for lavatories and disabled access but these would be difficult to provide.

ACTION 9.2: Advise the Museum curator of these observations.



CHURCH

There are four Church of England parishes in the Benefice of Uffington – St Mary's in Uffington, St Nicholas in Baulking, All Saints in Woolstone and St Faith's in Shellingford, the latter being outside the area covered by the CLP. There is also a Strict Baptist Chapel in Uffington. (Note that it was not possible to distinguish between responses from different parishes)

Questionnaire replies indicate that respondents see the Church buildings as historic monuments (86%) and providing focal points within the communities they serve (65%). Similar percentages value the Churches as places of worship (43%), for quiet contemplation (49%) and for the bells (47%). Baptisms, weddings and funerals were also valued by between 41% and 53%. The Churches were valued for the link to Uffington Church of England Primary School (39%), as venues for concerts and plays (42%) and teas in the summer (24%).

Interestingly 66% of respondents were satisfied with the current forms of worship although 34 respondents asked for multi faith services/gatherings as well as some individuals suggesting more obscure practices. There was some support for more Benefice services and for creative ideas which would attract young families.

ACTION 9.3: The churches to consider multi-faith services and wider diversity in use of the churches to better encourage congregation membership.

Overall the Questionnaire confirms that the Churches have a special place at the heart of our communities but this is not borne out by attendance except on special occasions, nor is it easy to find volunteers to help run the Churches.

ACTION 9.4: Advise the PCC of results. (Note that by the time this Report is circulated a new Vicar will have taken up his post. His arrival will undoubtedly prompt a review of the pattern of services within the Benefice).

MESSY CHURCH

7% of respondents said that their young children attended Messy Church which is run in the THMH. Perhaps significantly 2 out of 11 respondents expressed a preference for any day other than Friday.

ACTION 9.4: Advise Messy Church organiser of the responses.





10. COMMUNICATIONS

Respondents appear to make good use of the communication channels available locally. 81% said that they read “What’s on in and around Faringdon” (yellow paper) and 76% read The Courier. Uffington village shop noticeboard and notice boards / posters on telegraph poles are also well utilised, scoring 71% and 63% respectively. It should be noted that there were several comments pressing for the village shop noticeboard to be relocated to a more convenient place.

The village websites **www.uffington.net** and **www.woolstonevillage.co.uk** were not seen as such useful sources of information, scoring 30% and 3% respectively.

56% of respondents would like to be on a residents email distribution list, but 44% would not. When asked if there is a need for better communication in the parish, 52% said no, with 48% answering yes. See Action 3.1

‘Better Broadband for Oxfordshire’ is a £25m project to bring fibre broadband to over 90 per cent of homes and businesses in the county by the end of 2015 (minimum speed 24MB/s). The Uffington exchange is in the plan and, according to the betterbroadbandoxfordshire.org.uk website, planning and survey work is currently underway. Residents can register online for updates, but registrations will not affect the order of the upgrades.

20% of respondents feel that the current broadband provision is too poor to meet their needs. Nevertheless, broadband is successfully used by many in the parish for domestic purposes including home shopping, education and information, work and leisure.

Respondents said that they do suffer from landline telephone disruption to services, but on the whole disturbances were reported as rare (77%). Villagers are less happy with the mobile phone coverage that they receive in their homes: a total of 58% answered that it is fairly poor or very poor.

ACTION 10.1 PC/PMs to liaise with BT Open Reach and local government to drive through as soon as possible the broadband improvements expected and to seek improvements in mobile phone reception by liaison with mobile phone providers.

11. EMPLOYMENT

The majority of respondents aged 18+ are either working, full or part time, or retired. Of those who work, responses show a fairly even split between those who work at home; very locally (Faringdon or Wantage); locally (Swindon / Oxford / Witney / Abingdon etc.) or travel further afield, for example to London or Reading.

When asked what three things would help residents to work at home or more locally, there were clear winners. In order of priority, these were: a more reliable mobile phone service; more reliable broadband and faster broadband. (See section 10 above).

Respondents welcomed the idea of creating an Uffington, Woolstone and Baulking Business & Services Directory. 95% responded that they would use it and 23% said that they had a business or service to list in it.

ACTION 11.1 PC/PMs to co-ordinate a better and more comprehensive business services directory, stand alone from the current provision through the Courier and the village website.

12. HEALTH & CRIME

Safety in the villages was generally felt to be good with 85% of respondents feeling safe at all times. Only 4 people felt unsafe at home, 8 walking by day and 28 by night. 51 respondents (27%) declared an interest in participating in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme and submitted their names. 33 people (18%) are signed up to Thames Valley Police alert and 32% intend to do so. 50% are not interested.

115 respondents were aware of access to First Responders in the villages via a 999 call whereas 97 were not aware. 15 people volunteered to become first responders and left their names on a separate volunteer sign up sheet.

177 respondents (87%) were aware that prescriptions ordered from the local medical practices could be collected from Uffington Post Office Stores.

ACTION 12.1 PC/PMs to set up a working group to liaise with local NHS to consider how better to provide healthcare support for elderly at home.



APPENDIX 1A: ACTION PLAN TABLE

The actions formed from the questionnaire analysis are highlighted in the body of the text and summarised in this appendix. The actions have all been assessed for importance based on the degree of majority opinion as per the results, complexity as considered by the CLP Steering Group and cost as estimated by the Steering Group. These scores have all been multiplied to create an overall score to facilitate Parish Council (PC) and Parish Meeting (PM) prioritisation (higher score means higher priority). This leads to a clear 14 stage plan, the stages of which do not necessarily have to be managed in series, the tasks largely being discrete and lending themselves to parallel activity.

| | | IMPORTANCE | COMPLEXITY | COST | OVERALL SCORE | RELATIVE PRIORITY |
|-----|---|------------|------------|------|---------------|-------------------|
| 2.1 | Transfer lists of volunteers to the relevant organisation | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 3.1 | PC/PMs to address communications within villages for new residents including specific consideration of a welcome pack and to consider how to provide better 'what's on' updates to residents, using email and improvements to the village websites as preferred media. | 5 | 3 | 3 | 45 | 6th |
| 3.2 | PC/PMs to appoint a good neighbour coordinator to liaise with the Oxfordshire Community Information Network and to address some of the needs of the elderly. | 2 | 2 | 5 | 20 | 10th |
| 3.3 | PC/PMs to consider organising or co-ordinating an outdoor concert or village picnic for all 3 villages | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 13th |
| 4.1 | PC/PMs to initiate a tree planting scheme which could include a funding mechanism for planting on private land, specifically considering the Jubilee Field, but also including other areas. | 2 | 3 | 2 | 12 | 12th |
| 4.2 | PC/PMs to initiate analysis and action plan (with experts) of what further improvements to the ditches and streams can be achieved and what advice given to householders in particular locations. | 5 | 2 | 2 | 20 | 10th |
| 4.3 | PC/PMs to initiate action to create new loop walks and bridleways around the parish, specifically considering working with local land owners and government to look at reopening the tow path of the Wilts & Berks Canal, and to arrange for maps of footpaths to be more accessible. | 3 | 3 | 5 | 45 | 6th |
| 4.4 | PC to consider suggested changes and additions to play area focussing specifically on provision of more adventurous equipment for older children, ensuring a robust maintenance plan is in place. Also to consider provision of football goals at the Jubilee Field. | 4 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 12th |
| 4.5 | PC and /or Village Hall committee to consider opening toilets to the public. | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 14th |

| | | | | | | |
|------|--|---|---|-----|-----|------|
| 5.1 | PC/PMs to encourage new business operations at the station site, pressing the appropriate authorities accordingly, and to investigate how the parishes could create better facilities for local businesses. | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 13th |
| 5.2 | PC/PMs to initiate a Neighbourhood plan to address future housing development in the three villages; to consider the Local Plan and Conservation Area policies as well as design guidance to determine what additional local policies are needed on the location, size and appearance of new buildings and extensions within Conservation Areas giving attention to the impact on the character of the villages; to review the current Conservation Areas to ensure that all appropriate areas and buildings are included and that there is an up-to-date appraisal supporting each conservation area; the Neighbourhood Plan also to include other appropriate themes such as infrastructure, transport, economy, heritage, green spaces etc. | 5 | 3 | 5** | 75 | 2nd |
| 6.1 | PC/PMs to work with local government to address pot hole issues, specifically reviewing the Fawley Road area through Fawley, but also considering all roads in the parishes. | 4 | 4 | 4 | 64 | 3rd |
| 6.2 | PC/PMs to consider speed restriction on all roads within the parishes, specifically considering 20mph zones and speed chicanes as preventative measures. | 4 | 4 | 3 | 48 | 5th |
| 6.3 | PC/PMs to work with local government and bus companies to improve both frequency and range of destinations that services cover, specifically considering Oxford as a destination and provision of evening services. Longer term PC/PMs to undertake an analysis of potential transport needs of residents over the next 15 years and explore communal solutions to fulfilling these needs. | 5 | 2 | 4 | 40 | 7th |
| 7.1 | PC/PMs to work with school governors to make a phased plan for addressing the parking issues and extending the school so that it can take more children when necessary due to planned future development. | 4 | 2 | 4 | 32 | 8th |
| 8.1 | CLP to pass responses (tick boxes and comments) to the pubs. | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 8.2 | CLP to pass responses (tick boxes and comments) to the shop. | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 9.1 | Advise the THMH Management Committee of the responses and, as with other community activities, try to identify new initiatives and people to run them. | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 9.2 | Advise the Museum curator of these observations | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 9.3 | The churches to consider multi-faith services and wider diversity in use of the churches to better encourage congregation membership | 2 | 5 | 5 | 50 | 4th |
| 9.4 | Advise the PCC of results. (Note that by the time this Report is circulated a new Vicar will have taken up his post. His arrival will undoubtedly prompt a review of the pattern of services within the Benefice.) | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 9.5 | Advise Messy Church organiser of the responses. | 5 | 5 | 5 | 125 | 1st |
| 10.1 | PC/PMs to liaise with BT Open Reach and local government to drive through as soon as possible the broadband improvements expected and to seek improvements in mobile phone reception by liaison with mobile phone providers | 5 | 2 | 5 | 50 | 4th |
| 11.1 | PC/PMs to co-ordinate a better and more comprehensive business services directory, stand alone from the current provision through the Courier and the village website | 2 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 11th |
| 12.1 | PC/PMs to set up a working group to liaise with local NHS to consider how better to provide healthcare support for elderly at home | 3 | 2 | 4 | 24 | 9th |

APPENDIX 1B: ACTION PLAN TIMELINE

This diagram indicates the target date for each action based on the Steering Group's analysis of responses to the CLP questionnaire. These dates may have to change in the

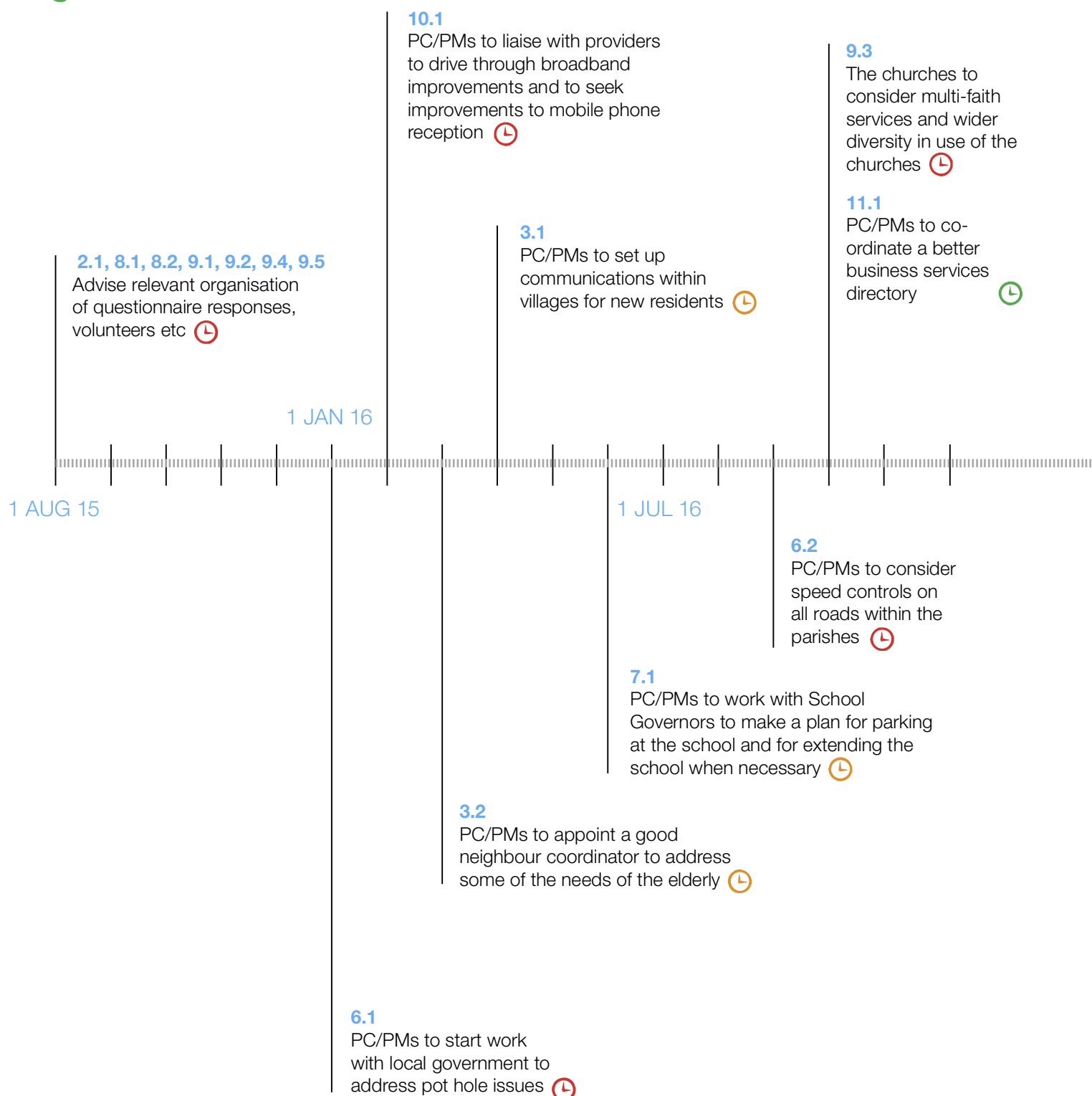
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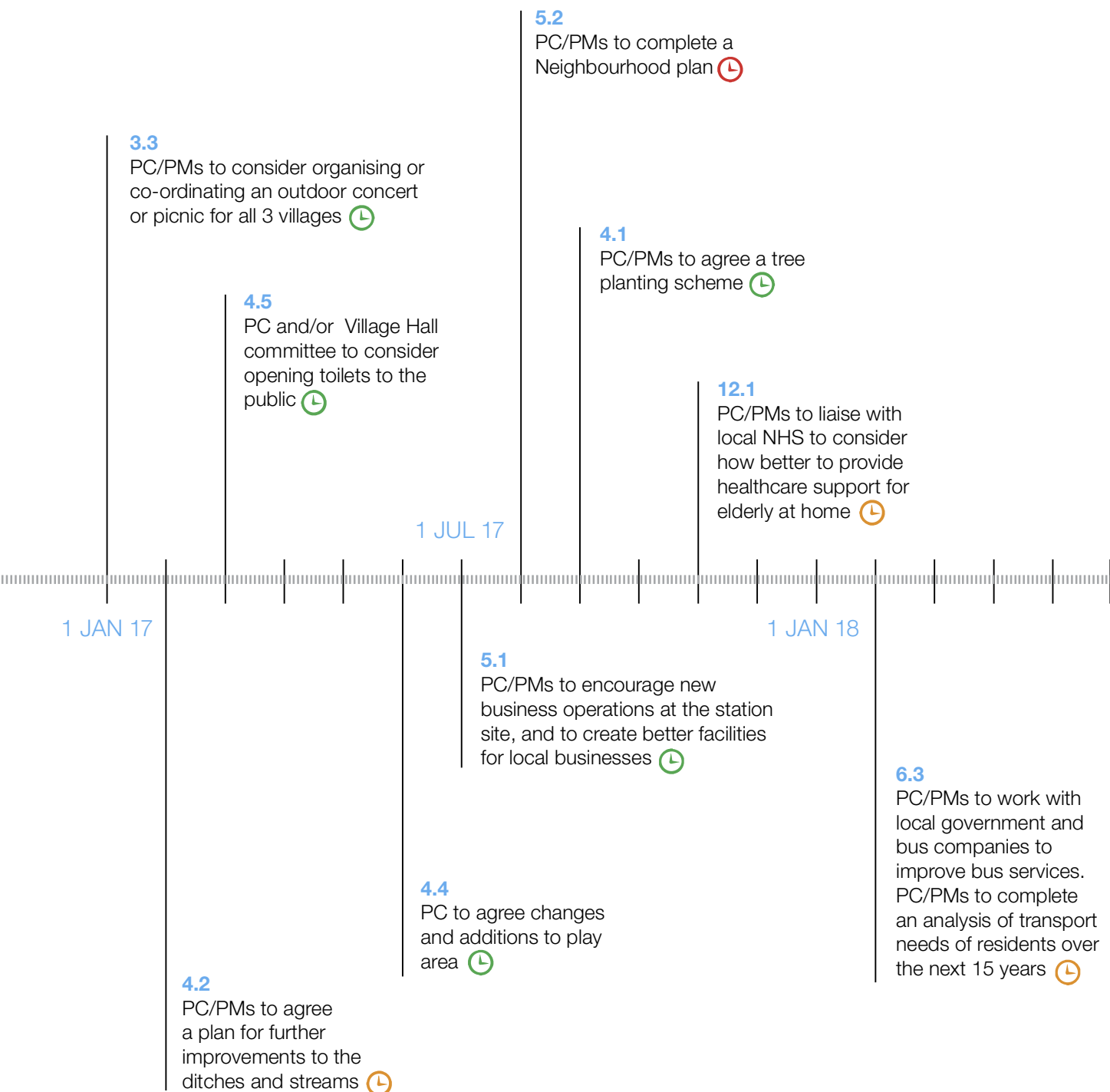
Parish Council will report on progress from time to time.

 **HIGH PRIORITY**

 **MEDIUM PRIORITY**

 **LOW PRIORITY**





APPENDIX 2:

CLP GROUP & CONTRIBUTORS

The members of the Steering Group which prepared this report for approval by the Uffington Parish Council and the Parish Meetings of Woolstone and Baulking were: Robert Hart (chair), Michael Lord (treasurer), Anthony Parsons (secretary), Ray Avenall, Anna Bendall, Pam Coulson, Hilary Deakin, Simon Jenkins, Mike Oldhall, Maxine Parsons, Jude Reynolds, Tory Russ, and Mike Thomas.

We are very grateful to others who helped in the earlier stages: Natasha Camplin, Evelyn Godfrey, Trudy Hansen, John Haxworth, Janet Kirk, Clive Shanley and Mary Wiltshire. We also thank others who helped from time to time and particularly those who assisted in distributing and collecting the questionnaires. And of course we thank all those residents who took the trouble to complete the questionnaires across the three parishes – without their conscientious efforts no worthwhile conclusions could have been reached.

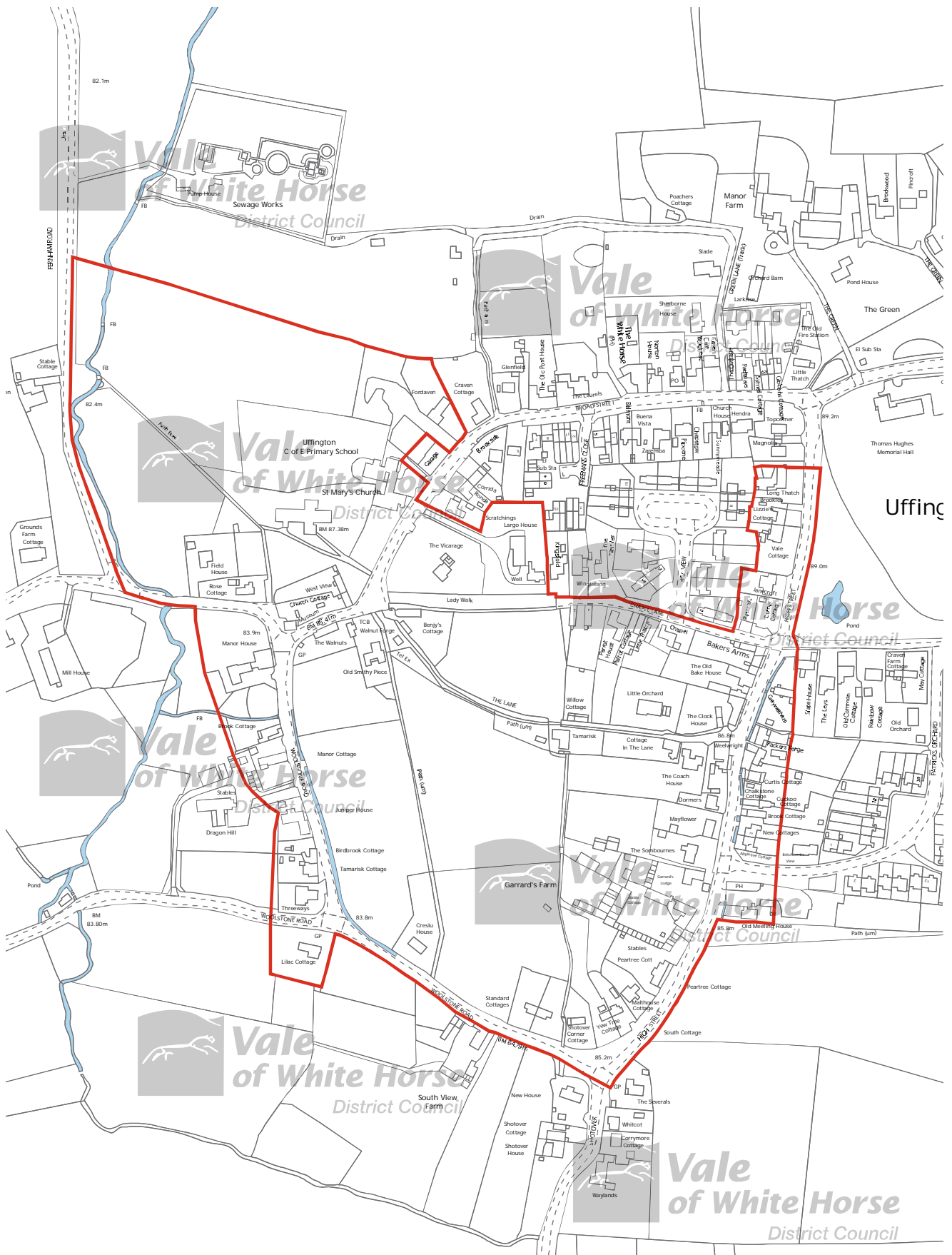
We were helped at various stages with valuable advice and analysis from colleagues from our local councils: particularly Andreea Anastasiu (OCC), Fiona Mullins (ORCC), Anne Richardson (VWHDC)

We are grateful to Mike Oldhall and Muriel Lindo for the use of their photographs and to Google for the satellite view.

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MAPS: CONSERVATION AREAS

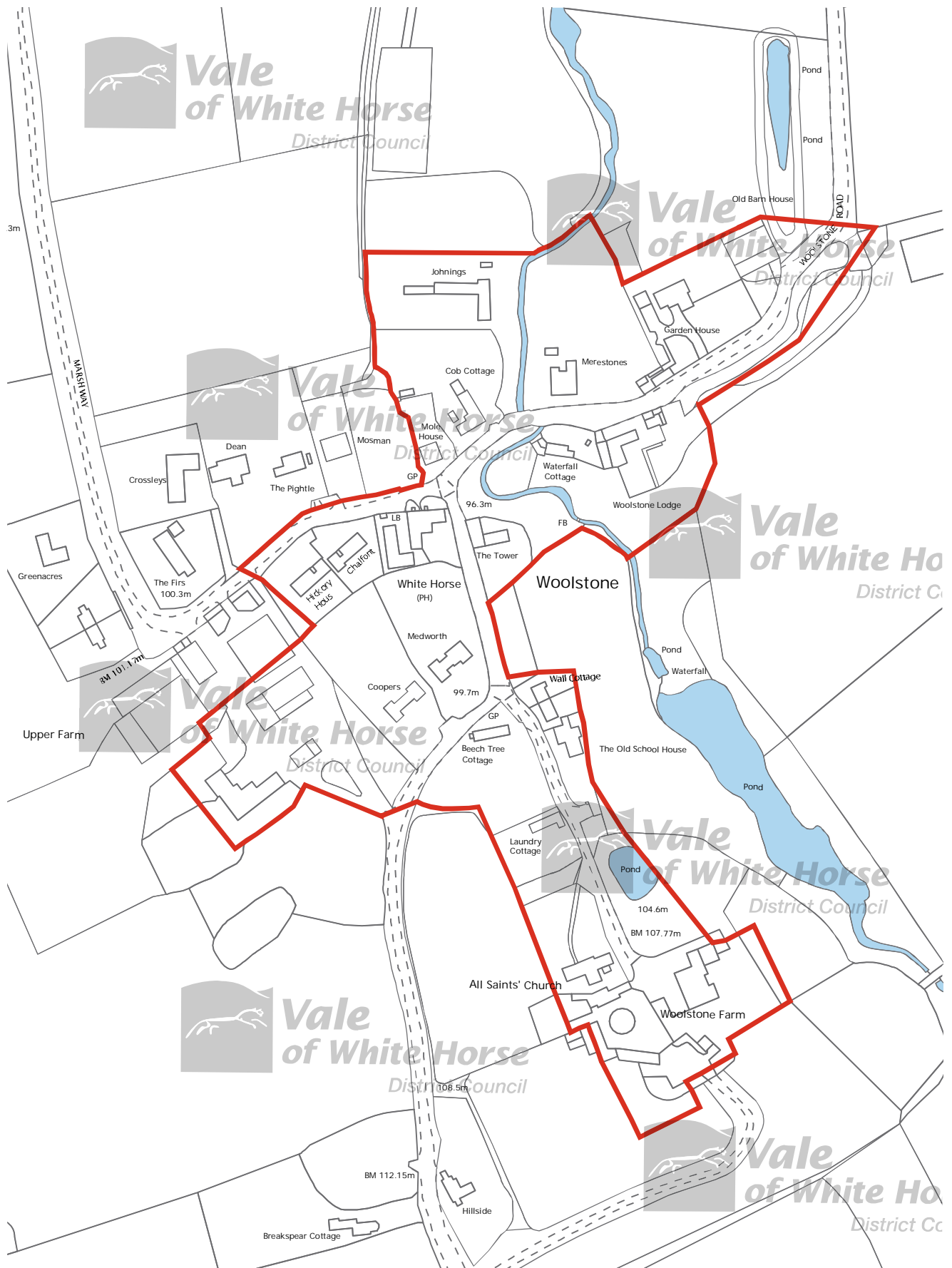
UFFINGTON CONSERVATION AREA



The map illustrates the proposed Baulking Green Neighbourhood Development Order boundary, outlined in red. Key features include:

- Hyde Farm** and **Spencers Farm** at the top.
- Manor Farm** and **Baulking Green** in the center.
- St Nicholas Church** and **Church Farm** at the bottom.
- Roads:** A41, A4130, and A4131.
- Ponds:** Several ponds are marked throughout the area.
- Landmarks:** Hyde Farm, Spencers Farm, Manor Farm, Baulking Green, St Nicholas Church, Church Farm, and The Old School House.
- Boundary:** The red line indicates the proposed boundary for the Baulking Green Neighbourhood Development Order.
- Logos:** The Vale of White Horse District Council logo is repeated across the map.

WOOLSTONE CONSERVATION AREA





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