

SAUGHALL AND SHOTWICK PARK

PARISH PLAN



Website: www.saughall.gov.uk

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1. The Parish Council's vision for Saughall – Comments from the Parish Council Chairman

"To provide a thriving, vibrant community with the opportunity for all residents, including children and young people, to be included in social, recreational and community activities."

??To assist with this vision, the Countryside Agency, via its 'Vital Villages Programme' enabled the Council to embark on the compilation of a 'Parish Plan'.

??A Parish Plan is a road map that will prove to be a powerful tool and will be used to influence a wide range of issues and projects within our community in the coming years.

??The power of the Plan is that it is based on true consultation and effective engagement with the whole of our community.

??In March 2003 the Parish Council embarked on a major public consultation within the village to ask residents what they wanted in their community.

??Members of the Parish Council attended the Church Fete July 2004 and urged people to draw up their own 'wish lists' for the village. This was followed by a series of focus group meetings involving most groups within the village. The purpose of this was to formulate questions for a Parish questionnaire.

??In March 2004 the questionnaire entitled, 'Saughall & Shotwick Park Parish Council – The Future', containing 50 questions was delivered to every household in the village. The resultant data was analysed and an Action Plan was drawn up to guide the Council for the next five years.

??I want to thank all of the many volunteers who have given up their time and worked effortlessly to gather, analyse and interpret information.

??It is with a great deal of pride that I commend to you the Saughall & Shotwick Park Parish Plan.

Alan Bailey,
Chairman
Saughall & Shotwick Park Council

2. Introduction to the Parish Plan

During November 2000 the concept of the Parish Plan was introduced in the Government's Rural White Paper – Our Countryside: The Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England. It set out a vision of what was important to Rural Communities and informed that it was now the Government's intention to encourage Parish Councils to take greater responsibility for running their own affairs and to adopt the 'Bottom up' approach.

The Parish Plan concept was launched as part of the 'Vital Villages' scheme introduced by The Countryside Agency. It offered communities funding to assist the production of Parish Plans.

A completed Parish Plan should be an holistic and comprehensive document; it should be drawn up by a community that sets out a vision for the future. It should include such topics as social, economic and environmental issues. Aspects on Affordable Housing and Housing Design etc could then be adopted as a supplementary planning document ensuring that the residents of a Parish have a real influence on planning decisions.

Saughall and Shotwick Park Parish Council decided in April 2003 that a Parish Plan should be developed and with the assistance of Cheshire Community Council obtained funding from the Countryside Agency to develop it.

A Steering Group was formed and its membership was drawn from Members of the Parish Council, local business people, and members of local Churches and other organisations. This ensured, as far as possible, that all aspects of life within Saughall and Shotwick Park had representation. In addition to the Steering Group, Focus Groups were set up covering the main areas of concern, as follows:

- ✂✂ Youth Issues
- ✂✂ Business and Economic Development
- ✂✂ Community Halls
- ✂✂ Traffic
- ✂✂ Community Safety
- ✂✂ Environment
- ✂✂ Transport & Pavements

Each Focus Group met on at least one occasion with invitations open to all the residents of Saughall and Shotwick Park to attend. As a result of these meetings areas of concerns were identified and questions raised that were put forward to form a questionnaire.

In March 2004 the Steering Group issued a comprehensive questionnaire to the residents of the Parish. The purpose of this was to:-

- ?? Collect useful background information
- ?? Identify issues that were of concern to residents

??Establish what, if any, action was required

A questionnaire was hand delivered to every household in the Parish containing statistical data such as the age of each person in the household, their use of community facilities and their use of village services. The residents were also given the opportunity to state their opinions on the future development of specific areas and the general quality of life issues within their Parish.

The Steering Group was pleased with the response to this exercise as some 304 completed questionnaires were returned.

This Parish Plan is more than just a report on the survey results. It draws together the identified needs of the community, addresses their feasibility on how and when they can be implemented.

3. The Village of Saughall and Shotwick Park

History

Of the eighty three pre-Domesday village sites on Wirral, Saughall is one of the twenty nine built on clay. The origins of all of them are obscure and it is fascinating to ponder on which were settled by the Celts, Saxons and Scandinavians, all of whom were involved in the early history of the Wirral peninsula.

Around AD 670, the Anglo Saxons reached Wirral, and Saughall as a habitation probably dates from this period. The name Saughall is Anglo Saxon for 'willow nook' or 'corner where willows grow'. From the beginning, Saughall seems to have been associated with first the Saxon monastery, then the Norman Benedictine Abbey in Chester. Although its early history is obscure, by the time of the Norman Conquest, there was obviously a small but thriving community in Saughall overlorded by the Saxon Earls of Mercia.

The Domesday Book, compiled in 1086 after the Conquest, has two entries for Saughall because one third of it was held by the abbey in Chester and the other two thirds by William Malbanc or Malbedeng, the first Norman baron of the area.

In 1093, Hugh Lupus built Shotwick Castle as a defence against the Welsh. It was a pentagon in shape with 51ft sides and a 5 storey watchtower. This castle was nearer to Saughall than to Shotwick and, like the Abbey, had an important effect on the lives of the villagers.

Great Saughall, Little Saughall, Castle Shotwick, together with Rough Shotwick or Woodbank, Capenhurst and Church Shotwick (i.e. the present village of Shotwick) formed the parish of Shotwick, itself a part of the Hundred of Wirral, a Hundred being the sub-division of English shires formed about AD 950 for taxation purposes.

Little Saughall, like Great Saughall, was a royal manor within the parish of Shotwick. It was heavily wooded, and in 1260, there was a first mention of the King's Wood in Little Saughall. This name is of course perpetuated by Kingswood Lane which ran through it, and this Lane is almost certainly the ancient saltersway from Hoole Heath to Shotwick Ford.

In 1601, Queen Elizabeth appointed a commission to "view, perambulate and tread over our Park of Shotwick and the Palinge and Inclosure thereof".

In 1906, the Shotwick Park estate including the manors or reputed manors of Great and Little Saughall, were offered for sale at the Grosvenor Hotel. Mr William Vernon, later Sir William, purchased some lots comprising a square of land reaching from Parkgate Road to the Dee Bank, and from Woodbank Lane

to the main street in Great Saughall. Other parts of Great and Little Saughall were sold to other persons.

The 19th century saw some important additions to the village. In 1852 Thomas Wedge established a school, whilst the Great Western Railway was brought beyond the southern boundary of the village, providing a rather distant railway station in 1863.

Saughall people looked to Shotwick for their parish church until the end of the 19th century. However, as the village grew, Saughall needed its own parish church.

At the time of the Domesday Book in 1086, the total population of Great and Little Saughall and Shotwick Park was about 85, of which 40 lived in Great Saughall. The subsidy rolls of 1543 give an estimated population of 72 for Great Saughall and 50 for Little Saughall, whilst the Hearth Tax of 1663 gives 9 for Shotwick Park, 50 still for Little Saughall, but 144 for Great Saughall, the latter having doubled in just over 100 years. From 1801, the ten yearly census provides accurate population details. The 1801 figure for Great Saughall is only 147, scarcely different from the 1663 total. However, Great Saughall's population doubles from 1801 to 1811 to 304. There is then a gradual increase until 1901, when Great Saughall had 703 inhabitants and Little Saughall 137. After 1921, the population decreases, possibly due to the fact that Shotwick House, which presumably provided many jobs, was now empty and for sale.

4. Saughall and Shotwick Park Today

Saughall is a Parish that lies to the north west of the City of Chester, and is contained within the Chester City District. It is 5 miles away from Chester City itself, so for many parishioners it acts as a “dormitory” village to the City.



However, unlike some other “dormitory” villages around the country, Saughall and Shotwick Park retain their distinctive and pleasant features that make the area a desirable place to live within the Cheshire property market. This may be down to the green belt that surrounds the village with open farm land on all sides. The western Parish boundary forms the historical boundary between England and Wales.

Three separate settlements of Great and Little Saughall and Shotwick Park make up the Parish area. Great and Little Saughall became part of the Saughall Civil Parish in 1948, whilst Shotwick Park joined up in 1972.

Presently the village can be described as thriving, especially in comparison to some other parishes. The Parish contains:

- ??Two Schools (Infants and Juniors)
- ??Toddler Group
- ??Private Nursery
- ??Playgroup
- ??Three Public Houses
- ??Two Places of Worship
- ??Vernon Institute (Village Hall)
- ??Playground and Leisure Facilities
- ??A Post Office
- ??And a Number of Retail Outlets

It is the third largest Parish in the Chester District with a population of approximately 3,150. Also, in terms of precept, it is one of the largest in the District with a levy of £37,681 for financial year 2005/6. The Parish Council tax per band D property is £32.13, which makes Saughall one of the highest locally taxed Parishes in the District. It is used to provide services and functions for the local community.

In April 1998 the Cheshire Community Council produced for the Parish Council a Community Survey report. This involved a survey of opinion on three aspects of life in Saughall:

??Current provision of Leisure/Recreational Facilities

??Crime/Community Safety

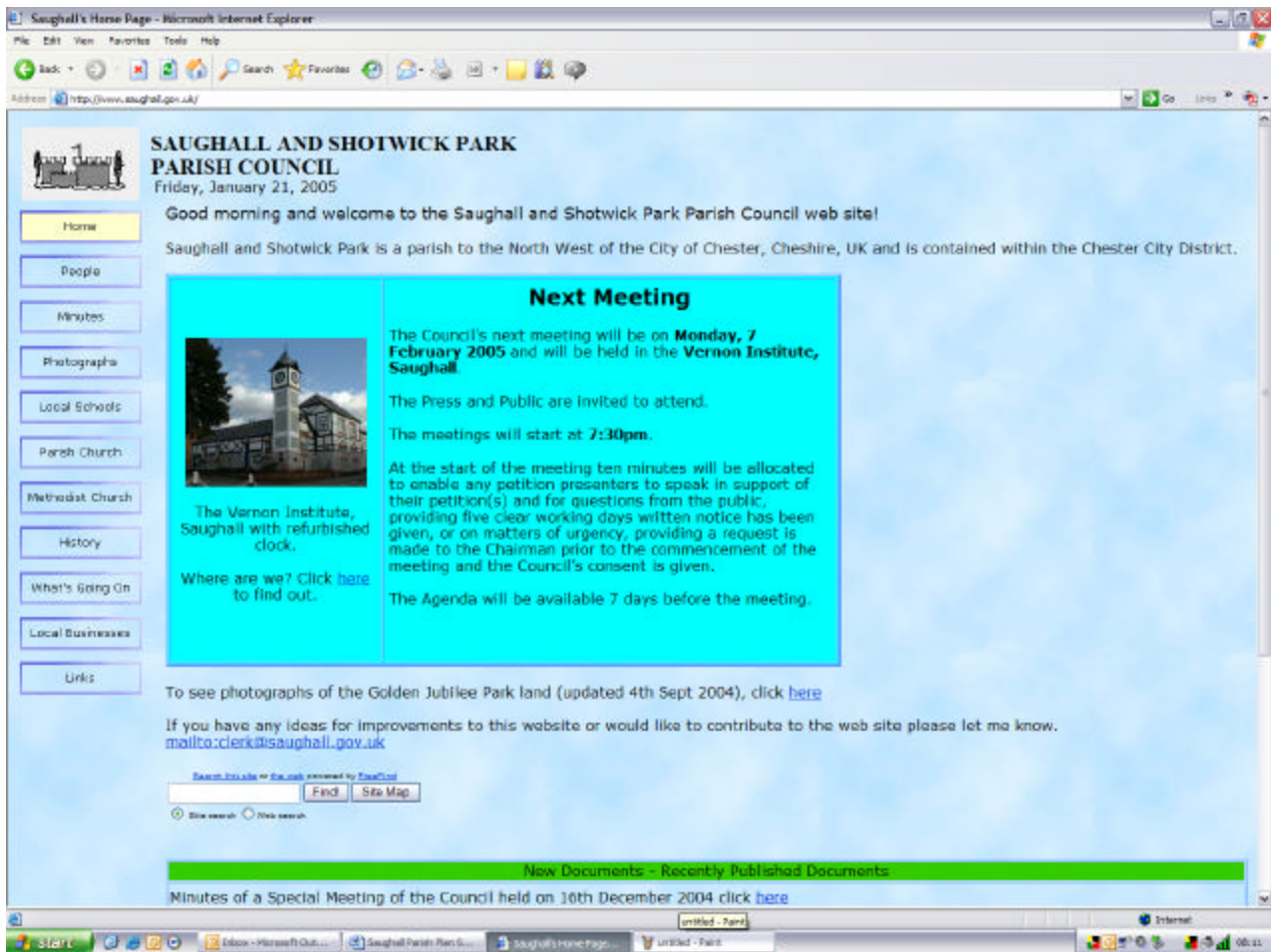
??The opportunities for effective dialogue between the Community and Police and between the Community and the Parish Council

Consultation was undertaken by the Cheshire Youth Service who looked at the young people and their social and recreational needs (both short and long term). The findings provided the Parish Council with a steer to develop, and to encourage others to develop, facilities and activities in the Parish that will improve the quality of life of all residents.

In response to this consultation exercise the Parish Council has purchased 5.5 acres of land that is now being developed for the recreational use of the whole village.

Following the findings of Chester City Council Rural Housing Needs Survey 2002, the Parish Council set up the Saughall Parish Rural Housing Working Group and invited officers from the Cheshire Community Council (the Rural Housing Enabler) and from Chester City Council's Housing and Planning Departments to become members and work in partnership to bring about the affordable housing required in Saughall to meet the needs of local people. There are ongoing negotiations by Arena (Housing Association) and Cheshire County Council as landowners to purchase land off Lodge Lane that already has planning permission for 12 units of low cost housing (an "exceptions site")

The Parish Council is forward thinking and proactive. It holds monthly Parish Council Surgeries. It launched its own website in 2001. This is currently hosted by Cheshire County Council free of charge and proves an invaluable tool. It provides easy access to the latest news and to a database of all its Minutes etc. It promotes the village, improves community relations and informs on activities available. It is the public face of this Council. The website www.saughall.gov.uk received a commendation at the Local Council Review Website of the Year Awards in 2002.



5. Environment

The overall opinion of the residents of Saughall and Shotwick Park is that they are happy and proud of the Parish in which they live. There is, however, concern over the limited life of the existing burial ground within the Parish, less than four years before it is full.

The residents believe that the planting of more trees/hedges and keeping existing hedgerows tidy, together with targeting the problem of dog fouling, will improve the look of the village.

5.1 Parish Burial Ground



The vast majority of residents when advised that the current Parish Burial ground has a remaining life expectancy of 4 years stipulated that they would prefer the Parish Council consider acquiring further ground within the Saughall boundary rather than the alternative use of the burial ground situated in neighbouring Blacon.

Actions

The Focus Group identified the short remaining life of the existing Parish Burial ground. As a priority we will:

?? Try to find ways in which Saughall residents can continue to be buried within the Parish;

?? Examine the usage of the existing burial ground;

?? Identify a new site; and

?? Work with the local churches to identify possible answers.

These actions will be led by both the Parish Council and the Local Churches.

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

5.2 Dog Fouling

Many of the residents voiced concerns over the escalating problem of 'Dog Fouling' in the Parish. A large number of residents thought that this problem was currently lowering the general standard of the Parish environment. The residents felt that the only solution to this problem would be to provide more 'Dog Litter Bins', promote them and encourage dog owners to use them.

Actions

The Focus Group identified the proliferation of dog fouling as a priority. We will therefore:

?? Seek to improve the general environment of the Parish by reducing the amount of 'Dog Fouling';

?? Ensure funding for dog litter bins by working in partnership with Chester City Council;



?? Provide more dog litter bins again in partnership with Chester City Council and by working closely with the Dog Warden; and

?? Educate dog owners about the benefits of dog litter bins.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Chester City Council and Dog owners.

Estimated Timescale: Short Term

5.3 Litter

Although recognised as an issue to be addressed in the Parish, residents thought that it was a lesser problem than 'Dog Fouling'. Residents did, however, suggest that it may be a good idea to buy in the services of a 'Litter Warden' to help keep the village as litter free as possible.

6. Business and Economic Development

The Parish Council has a stated Policy on the future employment in the village. It is as follows:

- ??The Parish Council recognises the importance of ensuring that there are jobs in the rural area.
- ??The Parish Council will seek to maximise appropriate employment opportunities both in the village and on its borders for the residents of Saughall and Shotwick Park.
- ??The Parish Council will work with prospective employers to create employment and develop new jobs within the village for its residents.
- ??The Parish Council will support regeneration of derelict sites within the village and encourage new industry/businesses etc to establish themselves there and provide job opportunities.
- ??The Parish Council will aim to increase the level of entrepreneurship within the local community and try to foster growth at a local level. This may include activity to increase the potential for social enterprises and community based business start-ups, enable community businesses to grow and sustain growth and improve the operating environment for existing businesses.

The Parish currently has a number of retail services. More in comparison to some other Parishes.

A large number of residents use the local shopping facilities on a regular weekly basis and believe that the facilities are generally of a reasonable standard for essential needs. The main reasons for residents choosing to shop outside of the Parish are because of greater choice and lower prices.

There was also an indication that 'Parking' in the village was a problem area that dissuaded some people from using local retail outlets.



Actions

The Focus Group identified the need to provide support for local shops and businesses. As a priority we will therefore:

- ?? Try to make local businesses as sustainable as possible;***
- ?? Encourage residents to make greater use of local facilities;***

??Encourage local establishments to market and promote themselves;

??Fight, if necessary to try to retain the variety of facilities available to residents currently available and encourage new businesses to set up in the Parish;

??Look at general improvements to business entrances;

??Encourage visitors to come into the Parish and make use of the facilities available within it; and

??Work together to look for possible solutions.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, local businesses and residents

Estimated Timescale: Short Term

7. Community and Social

Through the questionnaire it has been established that most people are happy with the community facilities that are available within the Parish. These include two Schools (Infants and Juniors), three Public Houses, two Places of Worship, Village Hall, Playground, Post Office and Leisure Facilities. There is, however, concern over how the community will develop in the coming years due to increasing house prices and lack of affordable homes for existing residents.



7.1 Housing

Saughall and Shotwick Park is the third largest Parish in the Chester District with a population of 3,150, in terms of precept it is one of the highest locally taxed Parishes in the District. It is a sought after place to live and consequently its house prices are escalating because of market forces.

The research carried out within this Plan shows that residents believe that there will be a shortage of affordable homes in the Parish within the next 10 years. It also highlighted that there are already a small number of residents who are in a position of being unable to move out of a family home to secure a home of their own in the Parish because of the current rising house prices.

The Council's position statement on this matter is as follows:

- ??The Parish Council wants to see the village developed for the benefit of the local community;
- ??The Parish Council wants to be fully consulted on any proposed development in Saughall and Shotwick Park; and
- ??The Parish Council will seek to encourage residential developments within the village and especially affordable housing to meet local housing needs.

Actions

The Focus Group identified the need to look at the provision of additional affordable housing. As a priority we will therefore:

- ??Lobby as appropriate in an attempt to ensure that the needs of residents and their families are met in the Parish;***
- ??Work with the Chester Housing Partnership to identify suitable opportunities;***

??Encourage the use of the proposed site off Lodge Lane for affordable housing; and

??Identify additional suitable sites to meet demand.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Chester Housing Partnership and Chester City Council

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

7.2 Community Halls

The vast majority of Parish residents are aware of what activities/facilities are available within the Community Buildings. However, a large number of these people admit to hardly ever using these facilities.



A large number of residents suggested that it would be appropriate to have one specific contact point to ascertain what is going on and availability, combined with a booking facility. The most popular suggestions are a designated telephone number, a facility within a local store or a specific e-mail address.

7.3 Social Facilities

The general opinion on the existing Social Facilities available to residents is that they are poor for those people under the age of 60. However, for the over 60 age bracket it was thought that the facilities are quite good.

When asked what new facilities would attract residents to use the Community Buildings and other leisure facilities the suggested activities included a Rambling Club, a Community Internet Access Point and the introduction of an Art Club.

Residents were also asked if they were prepared to help run such activities. A small number of residents did indicate that they would be prepared to help.

Most people find out about existing facilities through the Parish Magazine or village notice boards.

Actions

The Focus Group identified a need for additional Parish activities & promotion of community facilities. As a priority we will therefore:

?? Seek to improve the overall community spirit;

?? Increase the number of activities available in the Parish;

?? Contact all residents who indicated they would be prepared to help;

?? Establish more detailed requirements;

?? Look for potential suitable venues; and

?? Review funding priorities and identify funding options to be exploited.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council and volunteer residents

Estimated Timescale: Short Term

8. Community Safety

The Parish of Saughall and Shotwick Park is generally considered a good place to live. As mentioned previously, it is a sought after area with a wealth of character and a great diversity of people. Most residents feel safe in the area they live in.

However, one area of concern that the Parish Council will be taking action on is perceived intimidation, anti-social behaviour, vandalism and general nuisance activities of groups of youths that congregate in certain areas of the Parish.

8.1 Greater Police Presence

It was clearly highlighted within the results of the survey that the vast majority of Saughall and Shotwick Park residents believe that if there was an increased police presence in and around the village it would be a sufficient deterrent to reduce the amount of nuisance youth activity and crime within certain areas of the Parish.

Areas of concern include:

- ?? Car related crimes;
- ?? Speeding;
- ?? Intimidating Groups of Youths causing a Nuisance; and
- ?? Vandalism (Particularly Bus Shelters).

Actions

The Focus Group identified a need for a greater police presence. As a priority we will therefore:

?? Seek to improve the general "Quality of Life" of residents;

?? Invite the local police officers to join Councillors at regular monthly Parish Surgeryies whenever possible; and

?? Improve regular communications with the Cheshire Constabulary (Senior Management of Chester and Ellesmere Port Division) and when it is considered necessary seek a meeting with the Divisional Commander to voice concerns and request action.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council and the Cheshire Constabulary

Estimated Timescale: Short to Medium Term

8.2 HomeWatch

Saughall and Shotwick Park has a vibrant HomeWatch scheme within the Parish that is working well. This could be developed further if residents are willing to participate and help take this important initiative forward.

Actions

The Focus Group identified a need for increased use of the current HomeWatch scheme. As a priority we will therefore:

??Encourage residents to become HomeWatch Co-ordinators and play their part to improve community safety; and

??Continue to support and help finance the HomeWatch by making an annual contribution towards its administrative costs, etc



These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire Constabulary and the Saughall HomeWatch

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

8.3 Areas of Concern

The main areas of concern to the residents of Saughall and Shotwick Park are:

- ??The Golden Jubilee Park (formally known as Fiddlers Lane playing field)***
- ??The Church Road area (particularly the bus shelter) after dark***
- ??The play area behind Wain House***
- ??All Saints Burial Ground***

Actions

The Focus Group identified a need for increased use of the current HomeWatch scheme. As a priority we will therefore:

??Alert the Rural Police Officer to these concerns and request that he give them special attention; and

??Liaise and work with the Constabulary's Community Safety Network Officer.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire Constabulary

Estimated Timescale: Immediately

9. Young People and Leisure

Saughall and Shotwick Park has a large number of organised groups covering social and sporting activities specifically aimed at young people, however, there still appears to be a gap in this provision.

Concern has been expressed within the Community Safety element of this Plan at the level of perceived intimidation that is caused by large groups of youths congregating in certain areas of the Parish.

The questionnaire shows that the residents are generally happy with the facilities available within the children's playground; however, the younger members of the Parish have requested a Youth Shelter to be sited within the Golden Jubilee Park and a regular Social Evening to be organised. These requests have been supported by a large number of Saughall and Shotwick Park residents.



Actions

The issues detailed above have been reviewed by the Focus Group who request that we:

?? Investigate the viability of a Youth Shelter;

?? Give consideration to new general recreation and youth facilities that can be based within the Golden Jubilee Park;

?? Encourage youth participation in this project;

?? Assist in the facilitation of a regular Social Evening Event at a suitable venue specifically for young people;

?? Help to identify funding streams for such a Social Event; and

?? Work with Cheshire County Council's Youth Service to identify possible funding to employ a youth worker

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire Youth Service, Local Youth Organisations, Youth Club leaders and Cheshire Constabulary

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

10. Traffic

10.1 Infrastructure and Traffic Management

The quality of the infrastructure in Saughall and Shotwick Park appears to vary based on the requirement of the resident. The general road conditions are thought to be of a reasonable standard, although speeding is a major issue throughout the village. The road that causes residents most concern is Church Road. There is concern over the large number of parked cars on this road together with the speed at which motorists travel along it.

Residents have indicated that they would welcome traffic calming measures. The most popular suggestion appears to be that of speed control followed closely by an increase in the amount of 'children at play signs'.



It has been the aim of the Parish Council for many years to have a pedestrian crossing facility on Church Road by the Junior School. We will continue to lobby for this to be provided.

Actions

The issues detailed above have been reviewed by the Focus Group who request that we:

?? Look at ways to reduce the general speed of traffic;

?? Reduce the potential risk of accidents at hazardous junctions;

?? Seek to introduce speed restrictions such as speed bumps and/or chicanes;

?? Educate residents and visitors to "Kill their Speed";

?? Encourage residents to park their vehicles on driveways or in garages;

?? Work with residents to "Sign the Pledge" that they will not speed in their village; and

?? Continue to make use of the portable speed sign to highlight the current speed at which people are travelling.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire County Council and the Cheshire Constabulary

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

10.2 Parking

It appears that there is a current lack of off road car parking within the Parish which is one reason why people opt to go shopping outside of the village.

The majority of residents state that they normally park their vehicles off the road, however, it has been highlighted in more than one section of this Plan that there is a growing trend of on street parking that, in some cases, creates difficulties for pedestrians crossing the road.

Actions

The issues detailed above have been reviewed by the Focus Group who request that we:

?? Look at ways of improving car parking for shoppers, thereby making the Parish more attractive to shoppers

?? Consider ways of improving the use of existing parking facilities

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire Community Council, Cheshire Constabulary

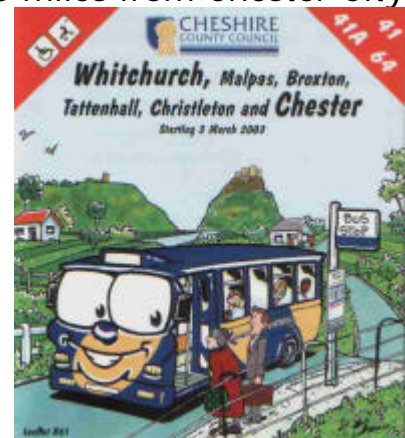
Estimated Timescale: Medium term

11. Transport and Pavements

11.1 Public Transport

As the Parish of Saughall and Shotwick Park lies only 5 miles from Chester City centre the public transport system currently in place appears to work well for most residents.

The survey revealed that there are only a small percentage of residents that actually make use of the public transport available with the vast majority stating that their most frequent mode of transport is by private cars.



Actions

The issues detailed above have been reviewed by the Focus Group who request that we:

?? Promote an increased usage of Public Transport not only to safeguard its future but to reduce traffic congestion and be more environmentally friendly;

?? Seek to reduce the reliance on Private Cars;

?? Promote the Environmental benefits of using Public Transport;

?? Promote the Health benefits of leaving your car at home;

?? Introduce car sharing schemes;

?? Liaise specifically with Chester City Transport and consider together the possible provision of more flexible public transport;

?? Consider local school transport issues e.g. request/ encourage schools to promote alternatives to cars;

?? Review the provision of before school and after school clubs;

?? Liaise with Cheshire Co-ordination Services; and

?? Liaise with Public Transport Companies.

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, Cheshire Co-ordination Services, Public Transport Companies, Local Schools

Estimated Timescale: Medium Term

11.2 Pavements

Accessibility of pavements has been a concern within the Parish over recent months; trials have been suggested to determine the suitability of the footpaths for pedestrians, wheelchair and pushchairs users.

The survey results highlight that there is a definite issue for users of wheelchairs and pushchairs. However, for the average pedestrian the paths are at an acceptable standard.

One concern highlighted in the Traffic Section is pavement obstructions. These are causing difficulties and are dangerous.

Actions

The issues detailed above have been reviewed by the Focus Group who request that we:

?? Remove obstructions on all existing pavements;

?? Carry out a specific survey to identify problems and opportunities;

?? Pull together a team of volunteers willing to assist with the survey; and

?? Liaise with Cheshire Highways Officers including the District Engineer

These actions will be led by the Parish Council, County Council and Private Land Owners

Estimated Timescale: Short term (Initial Survey Stage)

11.3 Street Lighting

The general standard of street lighting around the Parish is considered reasonable, with no real concerns highlighted.

No actions are needed at the current time, although street lighting will be kept under review and will be the subject of regular monitoring.



Conclusion

The way forward for Saughall and Shotwick Park

The information contained within this Parish Plan has been collected following consultation with residents and businesses within the Parish over a period of twelve months from August 2003 – July 2004 when the official Parish Plan launch took place.

The compilation of this Plan has been possible as a result of the partnership working between Saughall and Shotwick Park Parish Council, Cheshire Community Council and because of the consultation that has taken place with other public and private organisations and local people who agreed to become involved with this important initiative.

An initial Steering Group has built on an idea developed by the Countryside Agency and with the assistance of community minded individuals has gathered information and developed it into this working document.

The production of this Plan will make it easier for the Parish Council to work with a whole host of organisations to take forward the aims and objectives set out within it to bring about improvements in this village.

This Plan has provided an opportunity for local people to have their say and to help influence decisions that will determine the way in which the Parish develops over the next few years.

The publication of this Parish Plan is a time for celebration. We have come this far and achieved so much. However, this is no time for complacency nor is it the end of the Parish Council's work. We are still very much at the beginning. There will be interesting times ahead as we strive and fight to bring about the changes and improvements we want to see within the village.

This is our village so let us conserve it and ensure that it develops in a way that suits us. That it continues to evolve and have the facilities and services we can expect to enjoy in a rural village in the 21st Century. This Plan will help us achieve this – it is our blue print for the future, a commitment and with steadfast leadership we will work together to ensure success.

Appendices:

Questionnaire

Your Village; Your Council Tax; Your Choice

This is your chance to influence the future structure of your village.

Please take some time to answer the following questions and also have the opportunity to win

**A Family Day at Chester Zoo, including meals, or
12 bottles of fine wines, or
a superb hamper of goodies.**

It requires one member of your household to complete the questions, but you will find several ask the views of all members of the household.

If you wish to enter the free prize draw please complete the competition entry section at the back of the pack, place the completed questionnaire in the envelope provided and post it back to Cheshire Community Council by 31st April 2004.

Completion of the personal detail sheet on the next page is optional, but if you would like to receive the quarterly newsletter via email please complete your details. Because of the Data Protection Legislation the Personal details sheet will be removed from the main body of the questionnaire so as not to identify particular answers to any particular household, the numbering system is simply to help us group the questionnaires by area.

Please help us to help you

If you would like any information about the Parish Plan process please feel free to contact myself or any member of the Parish Council, who will be able to assist you. Details of all councillors appear on the competition entry form sheet towards the back of the pack.

Alan Bailey,
Chairman.

Household Section ~ To be completed by a senior representative of the household on behalf of the household.

1. How many people including children 0 – 18 years old normally live in your household?
Enter Number

2. Please enter the number of people in your household in each age group:
Enter number

	0-4	5-10	11-15	16-17	18-24	25-44	45-59	60-64	65-74	75-84	85+
M											
F											

3. Is any individual in your household, or your whole household, currently in need of alternative accommodation?
Please tick appropriate box

Yes
No

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

4. If 'yes' who is looking for alternative accommodation?
Tick more than one box as appropriate

Whole family
Daughter
Son
Parents
Other (Please detail)

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

.....

5. Why does your household/Individual need to move?

Give the most important reason only.

Tick one box only

For employment reasons

For family reasons

For education

To move to a cheaper home

To move to a larger home

To move to a smaller home

To meet the needs of an elderly or disabled person

Other. (Please detail)

.....

6. If your household/individual is unable to move to accommodation of the type needed, is this because?

Tick more than one box if appropriate

Accommodation is too expensive

Lack of local authority/housing association homes

Lack of private rented accommodation

No suitable sheltered housing

Lack of physically accessible homes

Other (Please detail)

.....

7. Do you perceive a shortage of any of the following types of housing in Saughall in the next 5 - 10 years?

Tick more than one box if appropriate

Property to rent

Bungalows

3+ Bedroom houses

Affordable housing

Other (Please detail)

.....

8. Do you know what facilities/activities are available in these Locations:

??The Vernon Institute
 ??The Methodist Church Hall
 ??The Parish Church

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Overall how often do you use the facilities within these halls?

Tick one box only

More than once a week
 Once a week
 Once a month
 Hardly ever
 Never

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Do you think it would be useful to have one contact point for enquiries or bookings for all three of these locations?

Yes
 No

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'Yes' please state preferred contact idea: (Please tick only one box)

E-mail address
 Specific telephone contact point
 Facility within local store
 Other (Please detail)

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

.....

11. The Young people of Saughall would like a youth Shelter, would you be in support of this if it was sited within the Fiddlers Lane Playing Field?

Yes
 No

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'No' please tell us why and give details of possible alternative sites:

.....

12. The young people of Saughall have requested a regular (monthly) party night to be held at the Vernon Institute. Would you be in support of this and if so would you be prepared to volunteer some time to supervise such an event?
Tick one box only

Yes, I would be in support

No, I would not be in support of such an event

Yes, I would support this and I would be prepared to volunteer some time

13. Saughall Parish Church graveyard only has capacity for a further 4-5 years, which of the following options would you prefer?
Tick one box only

A. That additional burial ground be acquired in the village

B. That future burials take place at Blacon Cemetery

That completes the First Section, Thank you

Please continue on the following page.

Personal Section

This section requires the views of oldest 6 members of the household over the age of 11 years old.

Throughout these questions please ensure you maintain the same person number e.g. 1 = Oldest adult member; 2 = Next household member etc

Example: The Jones household contains 2 x Male aged 47 and 18, 2 x Female aged 45 and 15. This would be completed as follows:

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
Male	47		18			
Female		45		15		

14. Gender

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
Male						
Female						

15. What age group does each household member belong to? Tick the appropriate box to correspond to with the table above.

	11-15	16-17	18-24	25-44	45-59	60-64	65-74	75-84	85+
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									

16. Do you think there are any major 'danger-spots' on the roads in Saughall ? Tick one box only

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						
No opinion						

17. If your answer to the previous question was 'Yes', where do you consider to be a danger spot in Saughall?

Person 1

Person 2

Person 3

Person 4

Person 5

Person 6

18. How long have you lived in your current home?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Less than a year						
1-5 years						
6-15 years						
16-25 years						
26-50 years						
51 + years						
Whole life						

19. Do you run your own business?

Tick appropriate boxes

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						

20. If you run a business, is it located?

Tick one box only

Person	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Saughall & Shotwick						
Outside Saughall & Shotwick						

21. If responsible for a vehicle, where do you usually park it?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
In a garage (on this plot)						
In a garage elsewhere						
Off the road						

On the road						
Not applicable						

22. Which of the following is your most frequent means of transport?
Tick one box only as appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Car						
Bike						
Bus						
Train						
By foot						

23. Do you think speeding traffic is a problem in Saughall & Shotwick?
Tick one box only per person

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						
No opinion						

24. Would you support the following speed control measures in Saughall & Shotwick ?
Tick more than one box if appropriate per person

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Extension of the speed limit						
Children at play signs						
Speed bumps						
CCTV Speed Control						
Traffic chicanes						

25. Is the standard of street lighting in Saughall & Shotwick ?
Tick one box only per person

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Good						
Reasonable						
Poor						
No Opinion						

26. Are facilities for pedestrians in Saughall & Shotwick?

Tick one box only per person

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Good						
Reasonable						
Poor						
No Opinion						

27. How user-friendly are the pavements in Saughall & Shotwick to people with disabilities, pushchairs or wheelchairs?

Tick one box only per person

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Good						
Reasonable						
Poor						
No Opinion						

28. How important are The Ridings Infant and Thomas Wedge Junior schools to the local community?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Very important						
Important						
Not very important						
No opinion						

29. What are your views on the standard of the following services in Saughall ?

Enter code:

A for good

B for reasonable

C for poor

D for no opinion

E for have not used them

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Fire						
Ambulance (Emergency)						
Hospital (Transport)						
Police (Emergency)						
Police (Bobby)						

30. Which, if any, of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Saughall & Shotwick ?
Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Theft						
Mugging						
Vandalism						
Drunkenness						
Groups of Youths						
Other						
None						

31. Are there any areas in Saughall & Shotwick in which you feel unsafe?
Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						
No opinion						

32. If there are areas in Saughall & Shotwick in which you feel unsafe, where are they?

Person 1.....

Person 2.....

Person 3.....

Person 4.....

Person 5.....

Person 6.....

33. As a precaution do you ever?
Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Stay away from certain areas						
Go out with somebody else rather than go alone						
Avoid going out after dark						
Carry a personal alarm						
Go to self-defence classes						

None of these						
Other						

34. Do you think that any of the following measures are needed?
Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
A more visable police presence						
Better consultation between police and local people						
Improved street lighting						
More drug/drink education/prevention						
More activities for young people						
CCTV						
Other (Please Detail)						

.....

35. What do you think of the state of the following?
Enter code:
A for good
B for reasonable
C for poor
D for no opinion

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Roads						
Pavements						
Grass Verges						
Street lighting						

36. How often do you use the following shops and services?

Enter code:

A for daily

B for weekly

C for monthly

D for less frequently

E for never

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Local shop						
Library						
Post Office						
Pharmacy						

37. What are your views on the range of shopping facilities in Saughall & Shotwick?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Good						
Reasonable						
Poor						
No Opinion						

38. If you usually shop out of Saughall & Shotwick, is it because?

Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Goods are cheaper there						
You have more choice there						
It is convenient to your place of work						
Nearer local school/nursery						
Easy to park						
Other (Please detail)						

.....

39. If you use the local Post Office Counter Services, please say what for?
Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Postal services						
Pensions/Allowances						
Giro bank/savings certificates etc.						
Vehicle tax/T.V. licence/other bills						
Information leaflets						
Other services						

40. Are the facilities provided in the children's playground?
Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Good						
Reasonable						
Poor						
No Opinion						

41. Which new clubs/activities would you attend in Saughall & Shotwick if they were provided?
Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Whist drive						
Rambling Club						
Art Club						
Drama						
Choir						
Music Society						
Band						
Young people's drama group						
Creative arts for children						
Homework club						
Public Internet Access Point						
Other (Detail below)						

Please provide details if answer 'Other' above:

.....

42. Would you be prepared to help organise or run any of the clubs/activities listed above?

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						

If you have answered 'Yes' to the above question, please list which activity you are interested in.

.....

43. What are your views on local social facilities e.g Activity club?

Enter code:

A for good

B for reasonable

C for poor

D for no opinion

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Children up to 16						
Young people 17-25						
People 26-60						
People over 60						

44. Where do you usually get information about events taking place in Saughall & Shotwick ?

Tick more than one box if appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Local Radio						
Saughall website						
Notice Board						
Parish Magazine						
Free paper						
Local paper						
Post Office						
Library						
Other						

If you have answered 'Other' to the above question, please provide detail below:

.....

.....

45. How well does the Parish Council publicise its decisions and activities?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Very well						
Reasonably well						
Badly						
No opinion						

46. Are you an active member of?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
All Saints Church						
Methodist Church						
Other Church						

47. Do you think the local religious groups contribute to community life?

Tick one box only

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yes						
No						
No opinion						

48. What do you think could be done to improve the environment of Saughall & Shotwick?

Enter code:

A for very important

B for worth doing

C for not necessary

D for don't know

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Plant more trees/hedges						
Cut down some trees						
Look after woodlands						
Keep hedges short and tidy						
Don't know						

49. Do you think Saughall & Shotwick should be kept clean and tidy by?
 Tick more than one box is appropriate

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Paying for a litter warden						
Putting up notices						
Entering a 'Community Pride' competition						
Having a 'Spring Clean Day' monthly						
Dog litter bins						
Already at an acceptable standard						
None of these						
No opinion						

50. In relation to local footpaths and bridleways, can you answer the following questions?
 Enter code:
 A for Yes
 B for No
 C for No opinion

PERSON	1	2	3	4	5	6
Do you know where the local paths are?						
Can you use them without difficulty?						
Are they well signposted?						

Personal Details Sheet

Contact Name.....

Address.....

.....Telephone Number.....

Would you like to receive your quarterly Parish Newsletter via the email system? If so please fill out you details below as clearly as possible.

Email Address.....

Myself / my Partner (name) would be willing to assist in the following activities:

- Running of Sporting activities (specify which).....
- Running of Saughall Youth Club.....
- Running of Saughall Uniformed Groups, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs or Scouts.....

If you would like any further information on any particular activity in Saughall please specify below and a member of that group will contact you.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Rainbows | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Brownies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Beavers | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Guides |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Cubs | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Scouts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Mothers & Toddlers | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Saughall Playgroup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Saughall Youth Club | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Activities at Vernon Institute | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Activities at Methodist Church Hall | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Activities at All Saints Church Hall | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Saughall Cricket Club | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Saughall Colts Football | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Club | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Institute | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Link Club | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Monday Club | |

Parish Councillor Details

Alan Bailey, Chairman 880453
Alan@bailey182.Freeserve.co.uk

Jenny Young, V. Chair	881133
Philamena Humphreys	880011
Jean Johnson	880895
Brian Kerr	880347
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Colin Moss	881422
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Andrew Warrington 880418

Dolores Whitton JP 881411

Charles Wynne-Eyton 01352 700220

Mairi Wynne-Eyton 01352 700220

Clerk to the Council

Shirley Hudspeth 0151 336 3367

Clerk@saughall.gov.uk

Local Police Officer

Constable Robin Fisher 01244 612701

Robin.fisher@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Homewatch Chairman

Charles McIlwrick 881036

Saughall & Shotwich Park Parish Plan Competition entry.

Name.....

Address.....

.....
.....

Telephone Number.....

(All winners will be notified by post)

Acknowledgments

1. All residents of Saughall and Shotwich Park who participated in the Survey.
2. Members of the 'Parish Plan Steering Group'
3. Volunteers who assisted with the distribution and collation of the Survey.
4. Sporting and Community Groups within the village.
5. Mike Bell, Bell Associates.
6. Cheshire Community Council.
7. Cheshire Constabulary, Wildlife & Environmental Officer.
8. Chester City Council.
9. Thomas Wedge School.
10. Countryside Agency.
11. All Saints Church Parochial Church Council.