

## Implementation Plan for the Willaston District Community Plan (Updated May 2016)

The plan produced as a result of the Willaston and District Community Plan identified 42 Actions that the community felt should be addressed. The plan identified the degree of importance of each action to the community, with additional information on the “priorities” for action being determined at the 21 June 2014 Public Meeting. With this information the committee of Willaston Residents’ and Countryside Society, who will lead the implementation phase, reviewed how easily these actions could be implemented bearing in mind the availability of suitable volunteers and any necessary funding. The initial review was done in November 2014 and this document has been updated in May 2016.

The actions have then been rated according to the following colour scheme:

**GREEN** – An action that can be implemented immediately or easily or that is something that is already being taken forward and will continue to be pursued.

**YELLOW** - An action that is important but will probably take longer to complete, often because we need a team of volunteers to take the action forward and/or considerable funding may be needed.

**RED** – An action that is very difficult to complete and that will take considerable time to evaluate and progress.

### TRANSPORT – TRAFFIC

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
1	Volume of traffic passing through the village	Implement restrictions to reduce the volume of traffic travelling through the village.	HIGH	We are not aware of any legal procedures that we can use to reduce the volume of traffic in the village, so this looks to be difficult to implement.
2	Speed limit on village approach roads	Implement the previously promised reduced speed limits on the village approach roads.	HIGH	The 20mph speed limit in the centre of the village has been implemented and we have 30 mph to the village limits. The effects of this on speed in the village needs to be monitored before any further actions can take place.
3	Speed limit in village centre	Implement a 20mph speed restriction through the village centre.	HIGH	This has been done and now the effects need to be monitored.
4	Visible policing of vehicle speeds through the village	Provide more visible policing and frequent police speed checks throughout the village.	HIGH	This is being done with a team of village volunteers who support the PCSO. Without volunteers, this cannot be progressed. We need to ensure that it continues to be done and monitoring of speed is maintained.
5	Heavy goods traffic	Reduce the number of HGVs travelling through the village.	HIGH	We are not aware of any legal procedures that we can use to reduce the volume of HGV traffic in the village, and we are aware that the Council believe the HGV volumes to already be very low, so this looks to be difficult to action.

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
6	Maintenance of roads and pavements	Improve maintenance of roads and pavements.	HIGH	We already pursue the Council when problems exist and we will continue to do so. Some minor issues on pavements may be possible to address using teams of volunteers and we can look into this.

## TRANSPORT – CAR PARKING

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
7	Inappropriate car parking	Increase the presence of Parking Enforcement Officers in the village. Address specific 'hot spots' including the school and Johnston Recreation Ground.	HIGH	This may be possible to address using teams of volunteers to liaise with the Council, and we can look into this.
8	Car parking time restrictions	Implement time-related parking restrictions on The Green.	HIGH	We have tried to implement this but there were strong objections from the business community when the formal consultation was held with the Council. Before further action can be taken a survey by Volunteers would be needed to give us a clear understanding of who parks on the Green & why.
9	Car park facilities	Encourage cycling and walking in preference to car use. Provide additional parking facilities.	HIGH	This is something we could progress but it needs to link with item 8.
10	Narrow roads & pavements	Address residents' concerns with respect to narrow roads and pavements.	HIGH	When pavements are overgrown from residents' hedges and undergrowth & is brought to our attention, we contact the owners and ask them to cut their hedges and/or request the Council to take action. If you are aware of problems, please let us know the address of the property.
				We are not aware of any legal opportunities that we can use to increase the width of road or footpaths within the village.

TRANSPORT – CYCLING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
11	Usability and upkeep of cycle routes	Ensure existing cycle routes are maintained and upgraded as necessary.	MEDIUM	This is something we could consider but it would need a team of volunteers to implement it and liaise with the Council where necessary.
12	Cyclist safety on roads	Conduct a feasibility study for cycle lanes along the main roads leading into and through the village.  Set up a cycling group to follow up the recommendations.  Investigate government funding to help pay for any agreed cycling projects.	LOW	This is something we could consider but it would need a team of volunteers to undertake an initial feasibility study before any other actions can take place.
13	Residents' awareness of public transport services	Improve publicity of available services.	HIGH	We have used the WC&RS newsletter to highlight changes in the bus service and will continue to highlight transport services in this way.
14	Hospital transport services	Provide direct bus links to Clatterbridge, Arrowe Park, and Countess of Chester hospitals.	MEDIUM	This is something we could progress but it would need a team of volunteers to review options for working with the bus companies and/or voluntary groups to implement it. This might need considerable funding
15	Evening bus services to / from Hooton Station	Provide an evening service between Willaston and Hooton Station.	MEDIUM	This is something we could progress, however bus services are deregulated & bus companies will only take on a profitable service. There may be opportunities for funding when developments are made at Hooton Station which we can investigate, but other opportunities appear to be very limited.
16	Frequency of local bus services	Improve frequency of local public transport services.	MEDIUM	Bus services are deregulated so it is difficult to influence frequency. We have highlighted the recent return of the 22 bus service in our newsletter to encourage people to use it and have spoken to providers to try to improve reliability.
17	Bus shelters	Provide additional bus shelters throughout the village.	HIGH	We have recently looked into providing a shelter on the Village Green but it is very expensive. We felt that it was more important to put our efforts and limited funding into bus services than providing shelters at the moment.

## VILLAGE FACILITIES

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
18	Preservation of Hadlow Road Station	Improve maintenance and enhance facilities.	MEDIUM	We have established Friends of Hadlow Road Station as a separate entity and improvements are being made to the facilities at the station.
19	Wirral Way	Improve maintenance.	MEDIUM	This is something we could progress but it will probably need a dedicated team of volunteers to liaise with & assist the Ranger.
20	Seating at Johnston Recreation Ground	Improve seating facilities.	MEDIUM	We have completed stage one of the play area improvement, which included the installation of several more benches.
21	Use of community space in Johnston Recreation Ground for sports	Promote use of Johnston Recreation Ground for a wider variety of sports.	MEDIUM	This is something we would like to see progressed but it comes under the remit of the Johnston Recreation Ground Advisory Group.
22	Children's play facilities within Johnston Recreation Ground	Improve the existing children's play facilities.	HIGH	We have completed stage one of the play area facilities and agreed the stage two proposals which we are now fundraising for.
23	Allotment allocation	Ensure that there is a transparent process for allotment allocation.	LOW	This is something we would like to see progressed but it comes under the remit of the Johnston Recreation Ground Advisory Group.
24	Big Meadow seating facilities	Improve seating facilities.	MEDIUM	The Friends of Willaston Meadow has installed additional seating and this action is now complete.
25	Lack of multipurpose indoor community facilities	Consider options for a multi-purpose facility that includes a stage for performances.	LOW	This would be a major project. If we considered progressing this then it would need a team of volunteers to do an initial feasibility study to identify options and funding needed etc
26	Library facilities in Willaston	Support continued provision of library services in Willaston.	MEDIUM	We have already been in discussions with the Council about the library service provision and the potential of maintaining a service. A mobile library is being considered by the Council to replace the current provision.

## ENVIRONMENT

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
27	Preservation of the Johnston Recreation Ground as a green space	Council consultation with all Willaston residents regarding any proposed changes to the Johnston Recreation Ground trust deed that might affect its charitable status as a green space. Investigate how ownership of the Johnston Recreation Ground would be affected if Willaston residents elected to form a Parish Council in the future. Monitor planning applications relating to the recreation ground.	HIGH	The Johnston Recreation Ground Advisory Committee has had discussions with the Charity Commission and been advised not to make any changes to the trust deed.  All planning applications are monitored by us at our meetings and we respond if there are concerns.
28	Footpath usage	Engage in further discussions with the Council Green Space team to prevent misuse of footpaths.	HIGH	This is something that we regularly monitor and when issues are identified, we discuss them with the Council.
29	Access to the Wirral Way	Request the Council Green Space team to provide alternative access points to the Wirral Way for horse riders, cyclists and the disabled.	HIGH	We investigated the possibility of developing a new access point at Damhead Lane onto the Wirral Way. However, we were unable to get permission from the landowners.
30	Condition and improvement of pavements and verges	Resurface pavements and improve maintenance. Provide drop kerbs where necessary and investigate widening of narrow pavements.	MEDIUM	There has recently been a programme of installing drop kerbs throughout Willaston. We monitor the condition of pavements and verges and when we are aware of problems, report them to the Council.
31	Obstruction of pavements	Ensure that hedges do not overhang pavements.	HIGH	When pavements are overgrown from residents' hedges and this is brought to our attention, we contact them and ask them to cut their hedges. If no action is taken, we then ask the Council to enforce this. If you are aware of problems, please let us know the address of the property.
32	Maintenance of highway drainage	Provide more regular clearance of roadside gutters, drains and ditches.	HIGH	We monitor the condition of highway drainage and when we are aware of problems, report them to the Council or other relevant authority.
33	Fly tipping	Ensure better prevention of fly tipping and action taken against those offending.	HIGH	If there are specific incidents we report these to the Council and they are dealt with quickly.
34	Dog fouling	Enforcement of law regarding dog fouling and educate irresponsible dog owners.	HIGH	We have asked the Council's dog 'roadshow' to come to the village on several occasions when education is undertaken. We have also provided information about known culprits to the Council so that they can be followed up. We will continue to do this.
35	Energy saving street lighting	Consider reduced hours of street lighting and widespread use of low energy technology.	MEDIUM	This is something we could consider but it would need a volunteer to identify what can be done, and to liaise with the Council.
36	Overall village appearance	Form a group of volunteers to keep Willaston village attractive and tidy.	HIGH	This is something we could consider but it would need a dedicated team of volunteers with a leader.

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
37	Village planning, development and related issues	Request Cheshire West & Chester Council Planning Department to ensure they take into account the survey views with respect to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Village Inset and the Green Belt;</li> <li>- Types of housing development that might be acceptable;</li> <li>- Village views on the Conservation Area; and</li> <li>- Village views on green energy sources.</li> </ul>	HIGH	<p>The WDCP group sent a copy of the plan to the Council's Planning Department who have assured us that it will be of material consideration when making planning decisions.</p> <p>We use the findings from the survey when responding to planning issues on a regular basis.</p> <p>Our two priorities remain as prevention of new developments within the Green Belt surrounding the village, and ensure only appropriate development takes place within the Conservation area</p>

## BUSINESS

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
38	Business development	Encourage the business community to work together to ensure their ongoing viability including the development of a tourism plan.	MEDIUM	This is something that we could consider but it needs a volunteer (preferably from a local business) to lead on it.
39	Tourism assets	Development of facilities at Hadlow Road Station to attract additional tourism.	MEDIUM	We have established Friends of Hadlow Road Station as a separate entity. They have held two events in 2015 and are now intending to improve the facilities so that further events can be held.
40	Signposting of local shops and services from the Wirral Way	Install signs directing users of the Wirral Way to Willaston Village.	MEDIUM	This is something that we could consider but it will need funding and a volunteer to lead on it.

GENERAL

Issue		Recommendation	WDCP Priority	WR&CS Assessment and Action
41	Village communication	WR&CS to improve and develop methods of disseminating information to the village.	MEDIUM	<p>We have developed a village website, which all organisations are able to use. We also have various email listings that people are able to sign up to if they want to receive information.</p> <p>We have established a bi-annual newsletter which goes to all houses in the village.</p> <p>We would welcome additional ideas for improving the dissemination of information that take into account our limited budget.</p>
42	Community action	Create a volunteer "Task Force" to help with community work e.g. keeping the village free from litter and clearing footpaths.	MEDIUM	<p>We have developed a database of volunteers that we can contact when volunteers are needed and people on the list are regularly told about different opportunities in the village.</p> <p>A litter picking task force has been established, led by Myles Hogg, which meets regularly.</p>