

RESULTS

AMENITIES

Existing Facilities

For a Parish with this size of population Dinton has managed to retain a good range of facilities. In particular we have a primary school, a shop with a Post Office, two public houses, two churches and a village hall. There is a recreation ground with a pavilion and Dinton Park, owned by the National Trust (NT) in which to walk.



Improvements

Medical Facilities. **Agree 141 Disagree 31**

Most villagers believe there should be some form of medical facility in the Parish. Various options have been examined but the advice we have received so far indicates that there is little chance of any changes to the current system where villagers go to Fovant, Tisbury, Wilton and Codford. The Fovant surgery has a system for delivering prescriptions but similar systems are required for the other practices. The transport section covers two methods of transporting patients to practices or hospital.



Reduce cost of Village Hall Hire. **Agree 97 Disagree 35.**

There is a feeling that the Village Hall should reduce its hire charges. It is appreciated that the Hall must be self funding and therefore its rates need to be set accordingly. It is therefore suggested that the Village Hall Committee acknowledge the strength of opinion and wherever possible seek financial assistance from elsewhere or sponsorship. It was also felt there should be different charging rates for villagers and outside organisations with the latter paying the higher fees. The response from the Village hall trustees is that they have to act within charity law and also be as prudent as if they were running a business. They have a duty to achieve the maximum return for our superb village amenity. The charges are reviewed at each meeting, taking in to account **the running costs** and any feedback from user groups and rates





are reduced for the benefit of the community. Whilst the income from lettings is rising, it has to be balanced against any costs of enhancement and maintenance. As with any building, let alone one worth around £500,000, repairs are bound to be needed one day and we do not want to be in a situation where we have to organise fund raising to pay our way due to poor management.

Villagers voted 2 to 1 against there being an indoor smoking area in the Hall. There was a call for the Hall to be used for badminton, adult education and skills classes, bring and buy sales and to be used as more of a community centre for young and old; possibly with an internet café.



**All Weather Court.
Agree 161 Disagree 17**

There was very strong support for an All Weather Court which could be used for tennis, netball and basketball. The Steering Committee understand that planning permission still exists for such a court at the Recreation ground on the site being in filled. Lottery Funding was available but on the condition that there was an existing tennis club and that the court should be flood lit.



**Open Air Entertainment.
Agree 125 Disagree 23**

There have been outdoor plays at Philipps House, by permission of the NT, in the past and there was a Jazz Night this summer organised by Mr Mark Allen; there is also of course the annual firework display run by the Bonfire Boys. It is hoped there will be more such events in the future.

**A Fete.
Agree 174 Disagree 10**

There is a wish for a fete, incorporating a flower and produce show along with the types of stalls and events which have made the Village Fete a success in the past. It is hoped that organisers will come forward.



Mobile Cinema.
Agree 102 Disagree 47.

The Cinema Day organised as part of the production of this plan was a great success. The children who attended called for it to be a weekly event! Teffont's film nights were a success. It must be remembered that these shows were free and therefore cost becomes a major factor unless the Village Hall Trustees could raise sufficient funds to buy the necessary equipment.

Keep Fit Classes.
Agree 152 Disagree 7.

Classes are now being run in Dinton School and are open to all.

Public Toilet

The provision of a public toilet within Dinton was suggested by a number of people. There was at one time a toilet in the south west corner of the recreation Ground but it was difficult to maintain and was demolished. This needs further investigation but it is appreciated that in addition to the building cost there would also be the bills for cleaning, maintenance and repairing any vandalism. Given that many of the visitors to the villages are drawn to the NT properties and land, it has been suggested that the PC should discuss a joint venture with the NT.

Shop

Overall villagers showed how much they appreciated the shop and Post office and the people who work there. The shop is owned by Bill and Margaret Thomson who have kindly provided answers to suggestions raised about its operation.

Could newspapers be supplied? Newspaper wholesalers will not supply a new retailer in an area which is already served by an existing retailer. Newspapers are delivered to Dinton from CR&J West at the Wylde shop.

Could prescriptions be picked up from the shop? This was a practice when Bill and

Margaret first came here but has gradually disappeared over the years. Bill is happy for it to be investigated although regulations regarding the control of drugs may be an issue.

Can the Post Office provide Car Tax? The number of car tax outlets is controlled by the DVLA. Although Bill and Margaret would welcome this service, they have been told they do not qualify. The DVLA are trialing a system of renewing tax via the internet which should help those with access to this resource.

Could the shop be open at lunchtime and later in the evening? Bill is reluctant to change the shop hours as he does not think he would recover the staff costs for the extra hours worked. He will, however, consider it.

Could there be a Sunday mail collection? This already happens and is indicated on the relevant post boxes.

Could there be some larger mail box openings for larger letters? This would have to be discussed with the Royal Mail.

Everyone is aware of the increasing number of village shops that are closing due to the change in people's shopping habits and the increasing competition from supermarkets. The future of the rural network of Post Offices is not clear in the long term. The present government is committed to supporting the rural network until 2008. After this, we do not know what will happen, as offices such as Dinton, do not make a profit for the Post Office. Bill feels that in 10 years Dinton is unlikely to have a shop and Post Office.

Bus shelter

A request for a bus shelter for Spracklands was put forward and the Parish Council built one.



Organisations

The Parish has a wide range of clubs and organisations. There is no longer an adult soccer team using the Recreation Ground but there is a successful football club for youngsters. The current goal needs refurbishment and there is a strong request from the youth of the village for another goal so they can play a game without using coats as posts. Not many villagers currently play in the cricket team but as it is seen to represent part of English village life it should be encouraged.

There is also: netball, indoor bowls, Historical Society, Golden Club for the older members of the Parish, bell ringing, church choir, Dinton Amateur Dramatic Society (DADS), fishing clubs, Bonfire Boys, Woman's Institute, Friends of St Mary's and the Fibromyalgia Support Club. It was suggested that these organisations could be more widely publicised. The Parish would benefit from a better information system by means of the website, glazed notice boards and a Village Information sheet which lists these clubs and amenities and is up to date. Some, or all, of this information could be provided in the Dinton, Baverstock and Teffont Times. A Parish website has been established at www.southwilts.co.uk/site/Dinton/index.htm. Another useful website, to which ours should be linked, is the Nadder Valley Team Ministry site at: www.nadderfocus.com







YOUTH

The Current Position

The 2001 census showed there were 33 children in the 0-4 age range, 34 in the 5-9 range and 62 in the 10-19 range living in the Parish. However, only 49 children between 10-19, living in Dinton, were identified in 2005.

Dinton has a Pre-School, with 43 children currently attending and capacity for 60. There is also a Primary School, with 106 children registered and a capacity for 120. Approximately 70% of the Primary School children come in to the village to attend the school. The Playgroup closed in 2005 due to lack of support, with more mothers working or having day time commitments.

The Recreation Ground has a fenced in playground, a slide, and swings and a seesaw unfenced. These are most suited to children aged between 4 and 9.

There is also a Skateboard Park with 2 ramps and a metal meeting place shelter nearby for older children and brave adults. There is space for a football pitch and a cricket pitch with a pavilion providing changing facilities. A Football Club started in April 2005 is aimed at children between 8-9 years, although younger children are able to join in.

The Primary School organizes the Youth Choir which is run by a parent. After school clubs include sports, country dancing and art. The church provides a Sunday School.

The Rainbow Centre at nearby Fovant (2 miles) has after school activities – dance, art and craft, sport, cooking and computing. Wilton (5 miles) provides dance classes and Brownies. The Tisbury Sports Centre (7 miles), currently under threat of closure, offers gymnastics, dance, trampolining, karate etc for children aged 5 years and upwards. Salisbury has a swimming pool and sporting activities. Travel to these locations appears to be a factor with their lack of up-take.

As no one under 31 years of age attended the initial meeting specific activities were arranged

to target the youth of the Parish to gain their opinions. There were 5 questions in the questionnaire specifically aimed at the needs of youth. 21 youngsters replied with many more attending the other events and in particular the Pizza evening.

**Was a Youth Club required?
Agreed 156 Disagreed 7**

21 felt the Village Hall should be used, preferably at no cost. The lack of volunteers to help was highlighted as a problem.

Action so far.

The Salisbury District Council Youth Champion agreed to canvas Wiltshire County Council (WCC) to see if Youth Workers could help us. Youth Workers have begun visiting the village on Tuesday evenings. Following a meeting with some of the Parish Councillors actions have been agreed to get the Youth Club in place. Anyone assisting at the Youth Club needs a Criminal Record Bureau check – these can be funded by WCC. Fundraising started in October 2005. A wide variety of activities (dance/football instruction etc) are available through the Youth

Workers. The aim is to get the Youth Club running with the help of the Youth Workers, with the village taking it over within 6 months and the Youth Workers stepping back.

**Is a Meeting Place needed for the Youth?
Agreed 157 Disagreed 10**

They would like somewhere to sit and talk, out of the rain. The metal shelter, which has been provided, is quite open. The wind and rain blow through which is not conducive to sitting there in all weathers. Suggestions included using the Village Hall or the Pavilion.

Action so far. Wiltshire County Council has some coaches which have been converted into Youth buses. This option has been explored, but there is no further capacity to enable the coach to come to Dinton at present. The strategy is to visit more disadvantaged areas.

The Dinton Recreation Ground Management Group was asked, at the 2005 AGM, if the Pavilion could be used. The youth were willing to raise funds to cover heating and pay for some improvements to the Pavilion. The request was not agreed. It is felt that this decision should be revisited.



The Salisbury District Council Youth Champion is not able to help with this matter. Concerns of Health & Safety along with the need for some sort of supervision, makes setting up accommodation very difficult. Alderbury and Winterslow are also trying to solve this issue, with little success.

Should there be more in the playground for the children?

Agree 116 Disagree 30

There were requests to extend the playground. Items to include were: adult swings (there are only toddler & childrens swings at present), roundabout, climbing frame. The need to maintain and ensure safety measures were in place was highlighted. Perhaps a path so you could enter without getting wet from the grass. There was also strong support for a bike track with jumps. It was thought that local businesses might be willing to sponsor improvements.

Better facilities are needed for the children?

Agree 96 Disagreed 4

As already discussed the playground needs facilities for different ages and levels of ability. There is nothing for the very young or the teenagers. Could the school swimming pool be used by the Parish during the summer holidays? It is appreciated that permission would be required from the school and there are insurance and supervision to be resolved. Perhaps Tumble Tots could be held in the Village Hall. R2 money, which comes from developers building in the village, may be available to provide more facilities. Wiltshire County Council Youth Workers are helping to identify what grants may be available which would be suitable to apply for.

Better facilities are needed for Teenagers?

95 Agreed. 7 Disagreed

This section had the most ideas put forward with 113 different suggestions being made. A variety of clubs were requested for teenagers and younger children: ballet, dance, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Rainbows, homework, Art, IT, table tennis, basketball, robot wars, cycling, video, tennis, science, dress making, music, boxing, drama, book, bowling, gymnastics, French, German, badminton, keep

fit, fishing and After School Club. Brownies and Scouts, along with some dance and music sessions, are provided at Wilton. The Tisbury Sports Centre currently provides gymnastics. Before such clubs are started, if organisers can be found, it must be determined if there would be enough people attending from the Parish and surrounding villages to make them viable. There were also ideas for activities in the holidays which need further investigation and the involvement of disabled children should be considered throughout.

General ideas for improvement.

It was felt that there should be more jobs available for teenagers within the village. In response to a question about girls joining The Bonfire Boys, they said that anyone is welcome to become involved. They do, however need to be able to manage the physical side of the role. Interested people should contact Richard Crouch or Michael Glover.

The youth to have a representative on the Parish Council.

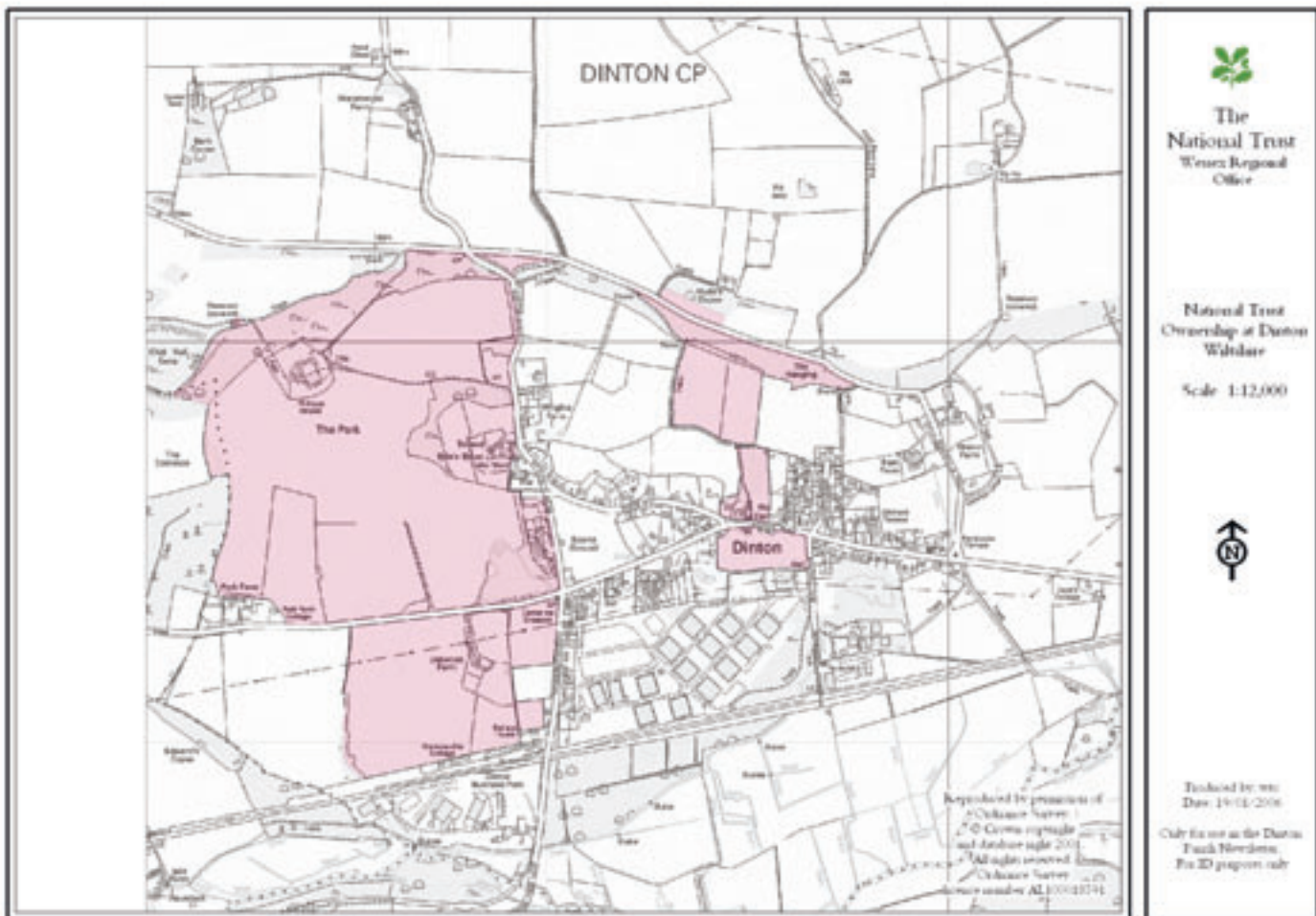
Action so far. This was discussed at a Council meeting. Volunteers need to be over 21 years of age to join the Council. It was agreed that the 10 minutes open session at the start of each meeting would be the most suitable time for a youth representative to put forward their views. The 10-19 age group agreed to meet 3-4 times a year to discuss issues to put to the Parish Council.



ENVIRONMENT

The parish of Dinton lies within the Cranborne Chase and Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and much of the northern part of the village of Dinton is a conservation area. To the south, a large proportion is taken up by industrial units, the old Ministry of Defence (MOD) Baverstock site alone measuring some 15 hectares. Here you will also find beautiful natural wildlife habitats unspoiled and undisturbed for more than forty years. Dinton Mill and Wickball Camp are sites of interest with the River Nadder to the south is an area of special natural beauty. The National Trust covers approximately 150 acres in the Parish of which 100 acres are grassland and the remainder is woodland.

Map of National Trust Properties





The environment is protected by individuals and the whole, many within the Parish should be congratulated for their efforts in making this an area which is a pleasure to live in. The Best Kept Village competition is an incentive and in 2005 we managed 2nd place within our category, which leaves some room for improvement. Our environment is by its very nature ours to look after. We have inherited a well tended and much loved village. There are some areas which need to be improved and a community spirit and the will to achieve would have the desired effect. Organisations within the village need to consider the impact their activities have on surrounding neighbours. Our village is often referred to by estate agents as the **'pretty and popular village of Dinton.'**

**Mobile telephone masts.
Agree 130 Disagree 48**

Whilst there was a clear consensus against more mobile telephone masts a number of responses appreciated a minimum number should be allowed to improve services. Any future masts should be considered very carefully and their siting should be away from houses and the school.

**Access to river banks.
Agree 151 Disagree 29**

The river banks are privately owned and unless there is a public path there is no public access. However, this topic is also connected to the suggestion on the reopening of footpaths, which is below.

**More picnic areas with tables and bins.
Agree 128 Disagree 46**

The NT has restored the park to its original landscape of 1817 and their view is that picnic areas would detract from this work. However, they would consider tables behind their car park, in addition to the one already there. It has also been suggested that additional tables should be provided for the recreation ground perhaps using sponsorship.

**Plant more native trees.
Agree 178 Disagree 11**

A Millennium event to plant trees between Dinton and Barford took place but the trees did not survive. Villagers will be asked where they believe trees should be planted at the event to launch this plan.

**Expand Recycling:
Kerbside Agree 127 Disagree 13
Village Hall Agree 150 Disagree 11**

There was strong support for more recycling facilities, both by additional kerbside collections and expanding the facilities at the Village Hall. Plastic and garden refuse were mentioned in particular for the Village Hall, with plastic, glass and metal at the kerbside.

**Install Street Lights.
Agree 62 Disagree 127**

The installation of street lights was firmly rejected. This should include any new developments.

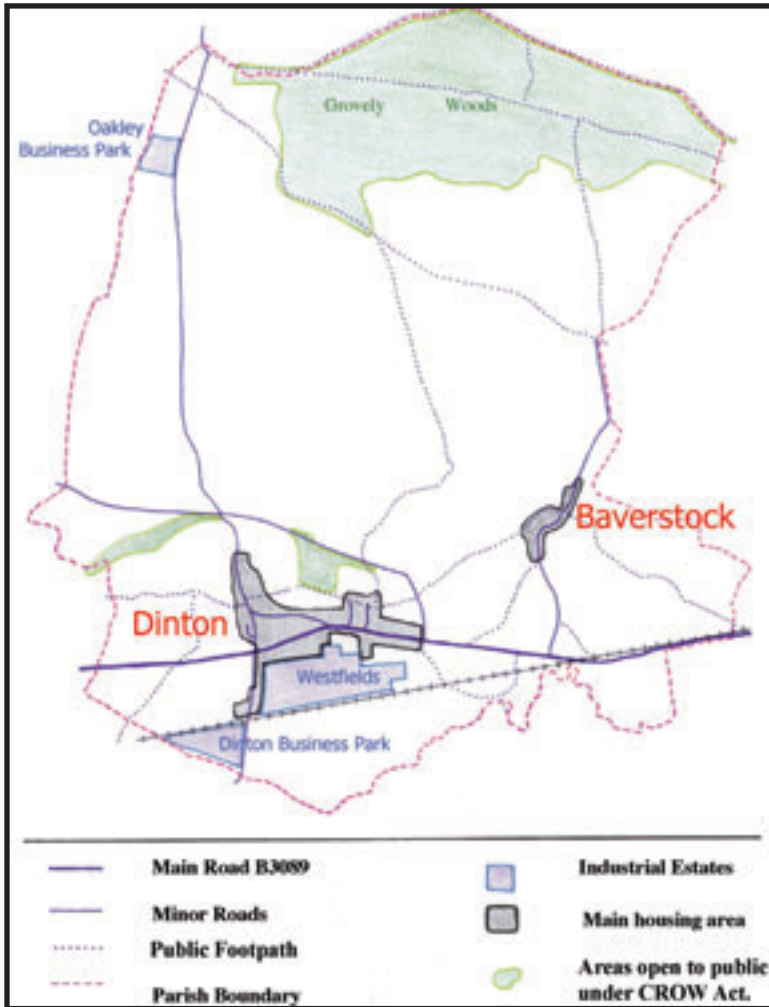
**Cleaner Footpaths.
Agree 125 Disagree 21**

There should be more emphasis on removing dog mess. There was also a call for better maintenance of hedges bordering paths. This includes the area of the Village hall and the recreation Ground. The NT have agreed to maintain their hedge in Bratch Lane. Some of this work can be carried out by the lengthsman. However, it was felt that their duties should be spelt out so people understood what they could or could not do.

**Footpath to nursery school.
Agree 95 Disagree 22**

The NT would be pleased to see pedestrians using their land as a footpath. A surfaced path could not be built, as the current open countryside to the 1817 design would have to be retained and an access established from the park.





Re-open Footpaths
Agree 72 Disagree16

The Parish has a good network of paths but some of these are in need of maintenance which is the responsibility of the rights of way team at the Wiltshire County Council. The Countryside & Right of Ways Act (2000) gives the opportunity to create additional footpaths by two different methods. If there is evidence that a footpath has been regularly used in the past it can be registered under the Discovering Lost Ways scheme. This is a Countryside Agency Project under which all such paths have to be registered by the year 2026. The Archive Research Unit will then investigate the evidence and a right of way may be established. There is strong evidence that some of the river banks within the Parish have been used in the past and these should be registered. Wiltshire is one of the two pilot counties for this scheme. Under the Rural Development Service, Environment Stewardship Scheme landowners can seek assistance to establish new paths and will be given grants to open paths and install such items as benches.

Link Footpaths
Agree 86 Disagree 11

There were calls for a number of new footpaths including one to the Penruddocke Arms.

Overhead Cables

A number of villages called for the overhead power and telephone cables to be buried to remove these eyesores. This was raised with the utility companies concerned who stated that it was too expensive.



Traffic

Road Improvements
Traffic Calming
30 mph speed limit from Hindon to Wilton
Restrict Lorry Access

Agree 100 Disagree 11
Agree 107 Disagree 51
Agree 36 Disagree 149
Agree 112 Disagree 33

The whole question of traffic flow through Dinton caused a lot of comment. Many people were of the opinions that long access to the industrial sites in the village should be restricted both in volume and timing. It is felt that the heavy traffic caused by the industrial sites far exceeds the predictions given when planning permission was granted and this should be re-examined. One difficulty is the firework site which lies in the Parish of Fovant but all the traffic flows through Dinton. This whole subject needs careful examination by the PC. Ideas for improvement include: villagers being trained to use a speed camera, radar controlled speed signs and width restrictions. The area outside the school, Catherine Ford Road and Bratch Lane came in for particular mention. A weight limit is about to be more clearly marked at Steep Hollow, which may help matters in this area.

A Police survey showed that the average speed through the Dinton was 31.6mph. Whilst this may be the case towards the centre of the village, when the police are prominent, there is a lot of overtaking at the ends of the village at much higher speeds and even outside the school.

There is considerable noise generated by traffic on Hindon Road which could be reduced by 50% if a different surface is used.

Gritting Dinton to Wylde Road
Agree 151 Disagree 18

This road is not on the Wiltshire County Highways list of routes to be gritted as it is not considered an important route. This matter should be taken up by the PC.



TRANSPORT

Transport in the Survey

On all the transport questions, many more respondents agreed with the suggestions than disagreed. The greatest proportional agreement was with the suggestion of more buses after 6pm. The lowest proportional agreement was with the suggestion of reopening the railway station. No question had a big enough volume of agreement to be included in the prioritising exercise at the Village Breakfast. We must conclude that none of the transport issues is a high priority with the whole population of Dinton, although some of those issues may well be important to particular groups.



Bus Services.

A table showing the buses serving the Parish is at Annex B. It includes the Wilts and Dorset and South West Coaches services, the Wigglybus and the Tisbus

The main service for people in this Parish is the two-hourly daytime Monday – Friday service to and from Salisbury. This is subsidised by the County Council, whose priority is to get school students to and from school and college. The daytime service is piggy-backed onto the school service; were the County Council to stop funding the school service, provision on this rural route would drop to less than a daily service. The District Council has, as has been widely publicised, no funds for any new developments.

The County Council does try to respond to major social demands (the Wigglybus is evidence of this), and adapt arrangements within the constraints of the budget – some limited improvement may be possible in the 8am bus problem as discussed below. The evidence of demand provided by our survey would help to monitor needs and plan transport development, but more focussed data would pack more punch.

Lastly, one major new influence may come into play on 1 April 2006, when senior citizens gain the right to travel free on all local services.

Tisbus

The Tisbus is based on Tisbury; Dinton and Baverstock are included as villages in its sphere of operation. Users pay an annual subscription and thereafter a flat fare for each return journey; they book their journey by telephone at least 24 hours ahead, and are picked up from home. The two buses have disabled access. In addition, the Tisbus can be booked by individuals or groups for special events or excursions. The Tisbus scheme is always in need of drivers, with an ordinary - clean - driving licence.

More frequent buses are needed.
Agree 98 Disagree 8

There were suggestions that a bus to Odstock would be useful (the Tuesday Tisbus goes to the hospital at Odstock on request); and that a dedicated school bus would reduce traffic. One issue that raised a lot of comment about the Wilts and Dorset service was that passengers going to Salisbury on the 8am bus have to change at Wilton during term time, with a direct service operating only during school holidays.

Buses after 6pm.
Agree 124 Disagree 7

The Wigglybus provides two late buses on a Saturday evening. Wiltshire County Council, which funds the service, is considering operating on a weekday evening on an experimental basis. This is the only improvement to evening transport that looks possible, and the survey evidence, particularly if refined to include information on where the demand lies, may help influence the decision.

Buses on Sunday

Agree 108 Disagree 10

At present there are no buses on Sunday other than the summer seaside feeder service. It would be useful to find out what the people who expressed an interest in a Sunday service would use it for, and work from there.

Free Transport to a Supermarket

Agree 103 Disagree 28

The question specified only Waitrose, and this provoked adverse comment. The question was phrased this way because the questionnaire was faithful to the wording of the suggestions made at the original public meeting about a parish plan.

The balance of the responses was in favour, but there is a body of opinion against the proposal (over 20 per cent of responses were negative), reflecting concern about the pressure this would put on local shops and markets. Dinton Stores was mentioned many times in people's lists of things about the village that must be preserved. We have to recognise that these are conflicting aims.

Waitrose's free transport network serves Wilton on Fridays. There are no current plans for other supermarkets to provide a service, although all say they monitor demand. Most of the larger supermarkets will deliver orders placed by internet.

Other Transport

Reopen Railway Station

Agree 94 Disagree 38

There was more disagreement (almost 30 per cent negative responses) on this than on any other of the transport question. Network Rail has no plan to reopen Dinton Station and it is difficult to see how they reasonably might do so. However, in any future consultation on rail network development, the survey result would provide useful evidence of demand.

Double-Track the line between Salisbury and Exeter.

Agree 103 Disagree 34

Double tracking any part of the line would benefit the passengers in that journeys would take less time and more trains could be punctual. South West Rail has a proposal to double-track a section of rail in the Axminster section. It remains an aspiration of the District Council to have double tracking of the line in this section, and it has secured the necessary area along the line to enable double tracking when circumstances permit. Again, the views expressed in the survey result would be useful evidence in any future consultation.

The Wilton Link

The Wilton Link scheme provides help for those who cannot access public transport for essential journeys, which makes the service very useful for those attending medical appointments. Volunteer drivers use their own cars, and passengers make a donation towards costs. Again, volunteers are always needed.

Way Ahead

There is a range of transport available which goes quite some way towards satisfying the demands expressed in the survey results. Daily and weekly buses take us to major local centres. The Tisbus offers a flexible service round the villages. The Wigglybus Saturday night buses allow a visit to the theatre or cinema. The Link scheme could help the elderly and less able. They all need more widespread publicity and support. However, the pattern of service is complex, and there is no single document capturing the whole picture.

Little improvement to public transport is immediately possible, because the provider companies currently do not consider the service to be commercially viable and funds for subsidies are stretched. But the survey will be valuable evidence in lobbying Parish, District and County authorities for future development; and the free service for senior citizens from 1 April 2006 may change the transport landscape and prompt an improved service.

The underlying truth is that if we want better public transport, we need to use it more. The question is how to get car owners to leave their cars at home, and thus to increase demand for improvements to the system which would benefit all of us.



DEVELOPMENT

Housing

There are approximately 275 houses in the Parish. Most of these are in the village itself with about 14 in the small village of Baverstock, and 15 in other outlying areas of the parish. Most of the older cottages have now been modernized and extended. The majority of newer houses are detached with 3 or more bedrooms. There are some 2/3 bedroom semis in Clarendon Close, Tyndale's Meadow and Catherine Ford Road. There are also about 12 smaller bungalows in the village.

There are a number of houses for private rent in the village. These vary from 2 bedroom semis to larger homes including some owned by the National Trust. There are 23 houses and 29 bungalows owned by Salisbury District Council. These are in great demand and are rarely empty for more than a few days when they become vacant. There are also several houses used for holiday lets. The village is not troubled by having many homes used as weekend cottages, but a number of respondents commented that efforts should be made to prevent this happening.

The majority of homes are beyond the means of young people in the Parish. Many young couples move to places where houses are cheaper.

Introduce Low Cost Housing
Agree 142 Disagree 30

More Starter Homes
Agree 159 Disagree 21

A 2004 survey of housing needs in the Parish showed a demand for about 15 affordable homes in Dinton, either rented or shared equity houses. This survey was sponsored by the two Parish Councils, Salisbury District Council and Raglan Housing Association. The two parish Councils of Barford & Dinton were asked to suggest a variety of sites in their respective villages from which one would be chosen. As a result of this survey Raglan Housing Association is at present negotiating the purchase of a plot of land on the west side of Catherine Ford Road suitable for the construction of about 8 houses.

This matter is still in the planning stage and will have to be acceptable to the District Council Planning Office as it is outside the boundary of the development area of the village. If these houses are built they will be for the neediest in the two villages. The reason that it is for the two villages is that separate housing provision would not be financially viable.

Affordable Housing – housing built specifically for people with local connections who are unable to compete in the local housing market, and which is managed to ensure that the benefits of low cost provision pass to subsequent occupants.
Salisbury District Local Plan

Property developers prefer to build large houses on plots in villages as they make a larger profit. All of the houses built or proposed in the last five years have been of this kind. The questionnaire showed that residents of the village would prefer no major developments, except for starter homes or houses for rent to local people. There was, however, a concern that if houses for rent were to be built, priority would be given to the people at the top of the council housing waiting list, wherever they lived in the Salisbury District Council area, rather than serve local need.

The survey also showed that people were concerned that a large estate-type development would destroy the character of the village. People stressed the importance of good design in the layout and appearance of the houses.



Design

New Housing in traditional materials. Agree 167 Disagree 12

The older houses in the village are mainly constructed of stone. Chilmark stone, a hard limestone as used in Salisbury Cathedral, has been used for the better houses. This is still available, though expensive, from the original quarries in Chilmark and Chicks Grove, and has been used for some new houses. Other old houses in the village are made of a mixture of poorer quality Chilmark stone and greensand. The greensand has come from the old quarries in the sandstone ridge just behind the village. These quarries are no longer worked but greensand is still available from further afield. The quality of the houses is further determined by the quality of the stonework; some houses have ashlar finish while the old cottages are made of undressed stone. The prevalence of stone garden walls in the village results from the re-use of stone from the many old cottages that have been demolished. Many modern stone houses use a reconstituted stone which is much cheaper.

In Victorian times the Wilton Estate set up a brickworks in the village. This used the clay which underlies the south of the village. Houses built in that time, especially Orchard and Pembroke Terraces and the old Methodist Chapel are built from these Dinton bricks. Newer houses have used a wide variety of bricks with no local connections.

Thatch has been the traditional roofing material in the village and there are still about 10 houses roofed with thatch. However many of the thatched roofs have been replaced with slates or tiles. There have been two serious fires in thatched houses in the village in the last 50 years. After one, a row of cottages was demolished, and after the second the cottage was rebuilt with a tiled roof. Some of the better quality houses use a stone slate, but most houses have clay or concrete tiles.

Houses built in the last 50 years have used a variety of materials, with no overall design criteria for which materials are used. It would be difficult to make an overall design statement because of this variety. However there is an emphasis on stone garden walls and hedges around properties which could be encouraged in new houses.





Control of development

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

As already stated the Parish is wholly within the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A Management Document relating to development in this area has just been published.

The primary purpose of AONB designation is

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape
- To meet the need for quiet enjoyment of the countryside
- To have regard for the interests of those who live and work there

Conservation Area

The older part of the village north of the B3089 and west of Clarendon Close, including Philipps House, is a designated Conservation area. This

provides a greater degree of protection from development. There are 31 listed buildings within the parish. These vary from the grade 1 listed Dinton Parish Church to the two milestones beside the B3089. The majority of these are within the Conservation Area. The National Trust owns a number of properties (two of which are open to the public at specified times) and areas of farmland and woodland within the village.

Conservation Area – area designated by local authority, usually within settlements but which may embrace other land which contributes to their setting, which have a special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Salisbury District Local Plan

Dinton is one of few villages in South Wiltshire with an open centre and this defines the nature of the Conservation Area. The main characteristic of this is the open nature of the area with houses well spaced with larger gardens, surrounding the open space of Dinton Recreation Ground. In-fill of any these areas would spoil the unique character of the village

Housing Restraint Area

Much of the Conservation Area is also a Housing Restraint Area.

Housing Restraint Area - area which derives its character from its open, informal, or irregular loose knit pattern of development and within which new housing development is unlikely to be acceptable. Salisbury District Local Plan

which is unpopular with residents, especially those in Catherine Ford Road.

The other two ex-MOD sites are also served by Catherine Ford Road. The site immediately to the south of the railway line is now used as a commercial estate. This provides a variety of employment. Most of the deliveries here are by van. The site further up the hill (actually in the parish of Fovant) is used for firework storage. Although a suitable site for this purpose, it also creates a number of container lorry movements



Commercial Development

Stronger Control of commercial development planning.

Agree 146 Disagree 20

It was felt that some of the newer companies on ex M.O.D. sites in the village were not very good at complying with the restrictions which were put on them by the planners. Whilst suitable employment in the village should be encouraged it should not be at the expense of the disturbance of local residents.

The main site of RAF Baverstock has been taken over by Westfields Ltd for warehousing and storage. On this site storage and warehousing takes place in the large hangers and on the hard standing outside. The hard standing is mainly used for storing vehicles for a local distributor. This means that there are a number of heavy lorry and car transporter movements every day,

which are well in excess of those predicted in the planning application. There is of course the added problem of seasonal peaks with this business.

The old brickyard site is now also used for commercial purposes, with access via Bratch Lane. The main occupants of this site are Domoney Woodwork who operates a carpentry and builder's merchant business, and M J Abbott, who are involved in land drainage and golf course construction. These again require a number of heavy lorry movements and a large number of smaller vehicles. This can be a problem, as Bratch Lane, which is also the site of the Village Hall, is narrow with no footpath.

The other commercial site is Oakley Trading Estate which is on the minor road to Wylve. This site is well shaded from the road and has a number of small units. The problem with this site is access. The road is narrow with several sharp

bends, and there have been problems with heavy lorries trying to negotiate Steep Hollow.

The Salisbury District Local Plan suggests that the north western part of the Westfields site could be used for Class B1 and B2 employment purposes *'where there is no adverse impact on neighbouring properties'*.

In addition to the heavy traffic movements caused by these sites there is also the problems of noise which can start early in the morning and continue late into the evenings and over the weekends. Companies should adjust their operations to comply with the restrictions imposed by their planning permission and if excessive the Environmental Health organisation should be notified.

General Village Environment

Many of the respondents to the Parish questionnaire commented upon the need to retain a lively village well supplied with facilities. Respondents also said they did not want major development which would spoil the character of the Parish. It is thus necessary to keep a balance between the two; development should be small in scale but should be adequate to maintain the facilities of the Parish such as the shop and Post Office, public houses, churches and school.