



# Ombersley & Doverdale

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## Parish Plan 2009



The Government is encouraging villages to be more active in the control of their neighbourhoods by having a say in the future development of the place in which they live.

In order to stimulate communities to be more proactive, The Government has introduced Community or Parish Plans, which are intended to reflect the views of the community on how they currently see a parish, village or small town and what is needed to make it the sort of place that people want to live and work in.

Plans can cover a wide range of issues such as employment, building design, transport, conservation, roads and social issues. Having outlined the local issues through community consultation, the Plan should present a summary of how the Parish could change for the better in the eyes of the community. These Plans, which are presented to the Parish and District/County Councils, are intended to assist Councils to better represent their Parishes. In addition, other service providers will be able to access the Plan.

Although the Plans have no formal status yet, it is hoped that they will influence a wide range of organisations that provide services to rural communities and help shape the future of these rural areas.

The process of developing a Parish Plan does not stop. Although the summary document is complete, it is important that the Parish Council continues to canvass the changing views of the Parish on particular issues as they arise.



The Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale is located in Worcestershire, four miles West of Droitwich and five miles North of Worcester, and close to the River Severn at Holt Fleet. The A449 main road from Kidderminster to Worcester runs North to South through the Parish.

The Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale consists of a number of villages and hamlets, including: Hadley, Lineholt, Acton, Boreley, Sytchampton, Doverdale and Chatley in addition to the village of Ombersley.

The Parish has a population of 2178 and 900 households (2001 Census). The majority of these households are located within the village of Ombersley. The total area of the Parish is 3184 hectares and the population density is 0.68 persons per hectare.

The Village of Ombersley or “Ambreslege” was first (to the best of our knowledge) identified as little more than a clearing in the forest in an ecclesiastical and royal charter dated AD 706. It is referred to in the Domesday Book and in various other later medieval manuscripts. It does seem that for the approximately 500 years covering the Norman and Medieval periods the village changed little, at least in terms of scale and economic activity. It is really only from around 1600 that the village began slowly to expand, a trend that has continued to this day. Thus the heart of the village around the roundabout is a mix of Tudor, Georgian and Victorian properties with a few more modern additions. To the North of the roundabout the style in the village is more mixed.



Many of the original period buildings are still standing and in good condition. There have been no Parish design guidelines for modern times and given that the village is a mixture of design styles spread over 500 years that would not be easy to formulate. Throughout consultation with the Parish, respondents fed back that they wanted to retain the “character” of the Parish. Many residents felt that the Parish served their needs very well currently and most were concerned that it should not change significantly. The consultation process did not specifically identify what was meant by “character” but it would be reasonable to assume that it is a combination of scale, culture and looks. Whilst the potential difficulties of formulation are acknowledged, it would, nevertheless, be appropriate for the Parish and District Councils to consider this feedback further by way of a Village Design Statement to ensure that the village does not lose its period charm when considering future development.

The Parish boasts a number of facilities which many other rural parishes do not have; a number of pubs and restaurants, 2 schools, 2 hotels, a bakery, wine store, delicatessen and convenience store, 2 petrol stations, butcher & fishmonger, dentist, doctor's surgery, 2 community halls and 2 churches.

A new doctor's surgery and dispensary was recently built in Ombersley which now provides a number of additional new services.

The Parish has its own tennis club, cricket club, golf club and playing field. Some of these clubs have independently sought funding to improve the facilities over the years and the committee recommends that there could be an opportunity for these clubs to work together to obtain joint funding for future improvements. Ombersley School has also been developing plans for additional sports facilities and could be a participant in this process.

The Parish has excellent road transport links; it is connected to the M5 a few miles away by a trunk road and many of the inhabitants commute to Birmingham and surrounds approximately 25 miles away. There is no railway station but a limited service is available from Hartlebury to the North of the Parish and more regular services from Droitwich Spa, 4 miles east of Ombersley.

Ombersley Parish Council successfully obtained a Countryside Agency grant and has used these funds for the purpose of producing a Parish Plan.

A temporary Steering Group was elected from volunteers from the Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale to consult with the local community and obtain their representative views of the Parish through circulation of a preliminary followed by a substantive questionnaire to 856 homes in the parish. 303 people responded to the main questionnaire.

An independent company with experience in obtaining and analysing feedback from rural villages was appointed to ensure that the principle questionnaire was impartially formulated and properly analysed.

In addition to the questionnaires, the Steering Group has interacted with the Parish through various group consultations in order to obtain views which reflect opinion throughout the Parish.

The surveys and consultation provided the following main feedback:

- Most people want to see the re-introduction of local Post Office services. This is the strongest finding from the survey.
- Another key issue is that of speeding and safety through Ombersley village as a result of its location at the junction of the A449 and A4133. Most people want to see measures taken to reduce the speed of traffic in the Parish, by the introduction of traffic cameras and other speed calming measures. Some residents wish to introduce street lighting. There is also desire for a zebra crossing by the school.
- An issue of equal weight is the volume of traffic through the Parish. There are two main problems: the Parish straddles the fast A449 trunk road and it also sits on the A4133, which is a busy route across the River Severn. Most people want to see measures taken to reduce the volume of traffic and the number of HGVs passing through the village. There is recommendation for a new by-pass for traffic crossing the river. (Note – Ombersley village already has a by-pass – the A449).
- Safety along key stretches of pavements in the Parish is highlighted as an area for improvement and there are areas where additional pavements are recommended such as the Ombersley to Droitwich road. Pavement surfaces are generally uneven due to only partial repair and maintenance. Hedging too is not always sufficiently pruned, effectively narrowing the walking area.
- The frequency and reliability of the bus services are a concern as is the lack of information regarding timetables and routes. Dial-a-ride and increased hospital bus services are identified as specific transport requirements by a small group of respondents.
- The Parish has few street lamps and there is divided opinion on whether lighting should be introduced in certain areas of the Parish in particular where children are walking home from the school bus stops. Further investigation into the needs and possible solutions which fit in with the keeping of the parish are recommended.
- There is a desire to live in the Parish, but there is a lack of clarity on the exact housing needs. The committee recommends that the Parish would benefit from an up to date housing needs survey.
- A number of residents would like to protect the village / community way of life; the rural setting/tranquillity and countryside; the facilities shops and schools and the churches and old buildings and history. There was strong feedback to suggest that the Parish should preserve its heritage.

The Steering Group has proposed an action plan which prioritises the main areas of action resulting from the parish feedback which the Parish would like the Parish Council and District/County Council to consider when making future decisions which impact the residents and future development of the Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale. The results of the questionnaire and consultation stimulated some healthy debate within the Parish, which has provided the Steering Group with some collective opinions and anecdotal evidence on some key issues facing the Parish. This Plan will be officially passed to the Parish Council from the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee recognise that the actions in this plan cannot be the sole responsibility of the Parish Council and as such recommend that the Parish Council adopts the action plan and identifies a number of volunteer committees to report back to the Parish Council on progress on a series of identified projects. The sub committees should be made up of volunteers with expertise in a key area and also people with the time to conduct the necessary consultation, project work and lobbying to support the Parish Council to ensure that the action plan is delivered.

It is hoped that the elected representatives of the Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale and Wychavon District Council ("WDC") will also use this information to better represent the views of the Parish during policy creation and longer term planning, a copy of the plan will also be passed to WDC.

The Parish has a significant but fragmented local farming community. The committee felt that the views of this element of the population were not represented in the feedback collected, and recommend that this is an area that the Parish Council could explore further.

Feedback from young people in the parish was limited as it is likely that questionnaires were filled in by parents rather than their offspring. The younger people in primary schools were consulted via their head teachers and the teenagers via the Police and the Youth Club. It is still however recognised that this group have not been widely consulted with. The Parish Council may wish to give further thought to how this important and substantial group of people can be involved in future planning.

The committee recommend that a sub committee of volunteers be appointed to work with the young people in the Parish on an ongoing basis reporting back to the Parish Council.

Flooding has not been a big issue in the Parish until recently and work to address this problem would be welcomed by some. The initial questionnaire did stimulate some respondents to raise the matter as a problem, but it did not rank highly and was not carried forward in the 'top ten' subjects for further investigation. We suspect that if that consultation were to take place now, it would be more prominent as a local problem. We welcome the work that the Parish Council is currently doing to record and address local flooding, which appears to be caused mostly by blocked ditches/drains and run-off from fields.



There are recycling facilities in the Parish, but the household door to door collection service is not offered to all homes. Since the survey was completed, a new bi-weekly refuse collection service has been introduced in 2008. The views of the Parish in this regard have not been identified



## POPULATION

Population	Male Population	% Male	Female Population	% Female
2178	1096	50.32%	1082	49.86%

## AGE BREAKDOWN

Age Group	Number	%
0-4	92	4.2
5-9	139	6.4
10-17	191	8.8
18-44	617	28.4
45-64	720	33.1
65-74	260	11.9
75+	159	7.2

## HEALTH

There are **324 (14.88%)** in the Parish with long-term illness.

There are **230** people who provide unpaid care for dependents, of which **32** provide over 50 hours a week of unpaid care.

## HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Household composition	Number of households	% of households
Pensioner households	237	26.36
Married / cohabiting couples with dependent children	200	22.25
Lone parents with dependent children	21	2.34

## HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS

Tenure	Number of households	% of households
Total number of households	909	
Owned or with mortgage	702	78.09
Shared ownership	0	0
Council / social housing	95	10.57
Rented privately	78	8.86
Other	34	3.78

Source: 2001 Worcestershire County Parish Profile.



## 1. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

20% of the respondents confirmed that they use the bus service to Droitwich, Kidderminster and Worcester.

Worcester is the main destination travelled to by bus. Droitwich was cited as the main other destination respondents would like to be able to travel to more often. The youth group were consulted with and they commented that they would like a bus service to Droitwich on Friday and Saturday evenings between 6pm and 10pm to enable them to socialise on a wider scale.

It is also noted by the Steering Group that late night buses to and from Worcester appear to have ceased.

Bus stop locations and destinations served were generally referred to in a positive way. Information on bus services and costs received the poorest scores and the request for more timetables at bus stops was cited qualitatively from a variety of sources. Timetables have been placed at the bus stops since this survey improving awareness of the bus times. The steering committee recommends that these are monitored so that they are up to date.

Main mode of transport?	Number
Car	275
Foot	30
Bus	14
Bicycle	12
M/Bike or Scooter	4
Other	3
Taxi	2
No Answer	1

The following locations were identified as the most popular pick-up points; School Bank, Woodhall Lane, Chapel Lane, Ombersley village and Holt Fleet. The Parish Council should bear this data in mind in relation to the upkeep of bus shelters. It should be noted that the number of respondents to the questions on public transport was low. It is therefore difficult to provide any data which will support the Parish Council in lobbying for additional services. The Steering Committee do however recommend that the Parish Council continue dialogue with the transport providers to discuss how the Parishes along the bus routes could be better consulted with to provide the information the bus companies need to establish the need for more frequent services and a later evening service to Droitwich and Worcester.

17 respondents added that a dial-a-ride service would be welcome and 15 mentioned hospital buses. These numbers are a high proportion of bus users.

35% of respondents communicated that they would use cycle shelters if they were made available.

## 2. PAVEMENTS

50% of the respondents rated the roadside footpaths in the Parish as poor or moderate. As the majority of the respondents were from the village of Ombersley, the main routes referred to were in Ombersley which were the A4133 / Ombersley to Holt Fleet, Sandys Road and Ombersley to Droitwich.

Pavement surfaces are generally uneven, occasionally rutted, such as from the roundabout to Ombersley school. It is clear that the constant installation and repair of underground services causes some of the problems but the Parish Council should, nevertheless, consider whether more could be done to improve the overall state of some of the footpaths.

It is also important, particularly as the Village of Ombersley is unlit, that hedges are not allowed to overgrow where the footpaths are narrow. Both the Holt Fleet Road and the footpath adjoining the northbound feed to the A449 approaching the Reindeer Inn are, as examples, vulnerable when this occurs.

Respondent quote: "Holt Fleet to Ombersley is very narrow and overgrown".

When asked where new footpaths are required, the main responses were, Ombersley to Droitwich. The lack of pavement at School Bank where school children get off the bus was mentioned frequently. As there is not much room for a pavement, the Steering Committee recommend that this is considered as part of a wider road safety issue of children crossing at that point.

### 3. ROADS AND SPEEDING

53% responded that parts of the road network need improving.

Improvements requested were to the following: A449 Worcester to Kidderminster road, a busy trunk route with varying speed limits through the Parish and A4133 Ombersley to Droitwich road, a typical rural A-road with many bends and gradients. Some residential properties are very close to the road resulting in 'pinch points' and road traffic accidents. The speed limit along this road varies.

Respondents were asked to suggest what improvements need to be made.

186 respondents (61 %) answered this question and further feedback has been given qualitatively.

The following main measures were recommended:

- Traffic calming was requested on the following roads; A449, Ombersley Village, School Bank (within village), A4133, Kidderminster Road (within village) and Holt Fleet Road are identified by half of the respondents
- Speed reductions and improved signage on the A4133 Ombersley to Droitwich Rd
- Specifically improve signage, traffic calming and speed reductions on the A4133 road to Hadley where the road narrows and there is a residential property and barn at either side of the road
- A zebra crossing at the bottom of School Bank
- Improved signage enforcing speed limits
- Speed enforcement

Speed cameras, speed humps and reduced speed limits were the main responses when asked what measure would be most suitable. Other measures included better signage and traffic enforcement.

73% of respondents agreed that Heavy Goods Vehicles (speed, vibration and noise) are a problem in the Parish. There is a particular problem with vehicles passing through to use the river crossing at Holt Fleet. A by-pass and re-routing were identified as possible solutions. Although these measures are longer term, the notes on speeding could be implemented to address some of the issues associated with Heavy Goods Vehicles.



Respondent quotes,  
 "It's main road, let's keep it rural."  
 "Main road please, but discreet lights."



## 4. RECYCLING AND ENVIROMENT

When asked what would make you change your recycling habits, suggested changes put emphasis on improved doorstep collections and better local recycling facilities within the Parish.

Other options put forward include better home storage, wheelie bins and better information promoting recycling programmes and facilities.

Current recycling in the Parish consists of:

- Glass, paper and clothes at the Crown and Sandys, The Reindeer and the Spice Fusion pubs.
- Alternate weekly collection of green and black wheelie bins and recycling bags.

At the time of collecting feedback, the new system of bi-weekly collections had not been proposed; it is now introduced to virtually all households. Given that the waste collection system has recently changed, the Steering Group recommends that further feedback be obtained from the Parish and Wychavon in order to identify any weaknesses in the new system.

Other issues highlighted by the feedback are; The lack of frequency of emptying litter bins such as the Memorial Hall field bins which should be addressed by the District Council and also the increase in fly tipping.

The Steering Committee recommends that the Parish Council publish the contact numbers in their Parish newsletter so that Residents can report fly tipping and overflowing bins.



## 5. HEALTH

When asked which additional services the new surgery could provide, the main responses were chiropody, physiotherapy and dentist (although this service is currently provided by the Dentist, the response was in answer to services the surgery could provide).

Additional services requested	No. of respondent
Chiropody	23
Physiotherapy	14
Dentist	11
Minor Operations	10
Alternative Medicine / Therapies	5
Eye Tests	5
X Rays	5
Counselling	2
Nothing	25
Other	83
No Answer	160



The Parish has had a new doctors' surgery and dispensary since the questionnaire was returned. A chiropody service is now provided, as are many other additional services which could not be provided within the old surgery.

52% of residents are aged 45 or over and there is a high number of carers in the Parish. This is an area which is worth further exploration, possibly directly with the new doctors' surgery. This information has been passed to Ombersley General Medical Practice.



## 6. BUSINESS, SERVICES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITY

### BUSINESSES

The Parish is unusual in that it has a high number of businesses compared to other rural villages of its size.



(Please note that since the questionnaire the newsagent closed and this service is now provided by the convenience store).

60% of respondents commented that the Post Office is the service they most would like to use within the Parish. The Ombersley Post Office closed in 2004. The nearest Post Offices are in Holt Heath (currently for sale) and Droitwich. Both destinations have infrequent bus services.

10% of the respondents to the questionnaire own businesses in the Parish. Over half of those who responded said that there was nothing that the Council could do to assist them. Of the remainder, marketing was the principal area of help sought.

1	Doctor's
2	Newsagent
3	Pub
4	Grocer's/convenience store
5	Pharmacy
6	Restaurant
7	Bakery
8	Library (mobile)
9	Dentist



## 6. BUSINESS, SERVICES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITY Continued



### SERVICES

A number of businesses in the Parish have commented that the current post boxes are not large enough to take the business post. The committee recommends a larger central post box to accommodate this need, possibly adjacent to the convenience store.

The Parish has a magazine which is either delivered on request by volunteers or can be picked up from various shops and businesses in the Parish. The magazine has positive feedback from the residents, however it should be noted that not all members of the Parish read this magazine. The Committee recommends that the notice boards and the new Parish Council Newsletter which is issued to all homes in the Parish be used as additional methods of communication.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITY

The Parish benefits from The Memorial Hall and field facility. A number of social activities take place here such as Pre school nursery, Brownies and Guides, football, amateur dramatics, dancing lessons and Parish meetings.

There were a positive number of respondents citing the use of the church and various groups. Clubs include tennis, cricket, bowls, golf and football while societies include the Women's Institute and the British Legion; youth, gardening and sunshine clubs. Amateur Dramatics and the mother and toddler group are also attended in the Parish.

Sytchampton Community Centre has recently been refurbished with the centrepiece being a brand new oak floor. The building has also been double glazed. Updated kitchens and handicap toilets were installed several years ago. It is now successfully attracting a range of new customers and users to include Indoor Bowls, Folk dancing, Tae Kwan Do and a variety of different functions. It should prosper in the years to come.

Omersley and Doverdale Parochial Church Councils hold annual fetes as well as the Memorial Hall. These events are popular and awareness is good. The Steering Committee notes that the organisers could use the community notice boards to seek new residents to become involved in the preparation of the events.

Additionally Sytchampton and Ombersley Schools have school halls which can be used for community events. Both schools hold an annual summer fete which residents feel could be better promoted in the Parish.

A youth shelter has recently been placed in the Memorial Hall field adjacent to the play area as a result of consultation with the community and the young people using the field and benchmarking of local village at Fernhill heath. This has been positively viewed by the young people in the Parish. However it has been noted by residents that graffiti, evening noise, boy racers and litter in the playing field are an ongoing issue which has been noted by the local community Police Officer who has used the new youth shelter to engage with the local young people.

A Youth Club exists, but its ongoing availability is linked to limited funds available and volunteers. The young people would like to see more equipment for the group to use and storage facilities made available for them.

Activity	Number
Church	77
Sports Club	67
None	65
Society/Group	64
Crèche	1

## 6. BUSINESS, SERVICES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITY Continued

### SOCIAL ACTIVITY (Continued)

Some of our young people have commented that they would like to make a better connection with the tennis, golf and archery clubs. The Steering Committee recommends that this issue be explored further by the Parish Council.



The Youth groups consulted with have asked for additional developments to be made to the Memorial Hall area. The Memorial Hall has sought funding to develop the facility to better meet the needs of the village as a whole.

The preservation of these social activities and the services in the Parish are key to preserving the village community / way of life the Parish want to see continue.

The notice boards are used throughout the Parish and it has been noted that some of these are old, not large enough and poorly located. It is recommended that funding is sought to replace some of the older notice boards with larger, more accessible ones and maintain this important tool for communicating community news and events.



Additionally the Steering Committee recommends that the Parish Council use the notice boards as a vehicle to promote more of the activities taking place in the Parish. A number of people noted that Ombersley Parish does not proactively promote its website. The Committee recommends that the Parish Council identify volunteers who could manage this project or secure sponsorship from a local business..

The parish recreational, sporting and entertainment facilities are independent entities. All of them are searching for grant based funds to improve their facilities. The Steering Committee believe that there may be some merit in exploring the possibility of a village based initiative which may have a better chance of raising funds. The Steering Committee recommend that the Parish Council consider forming a committee to work with all of the entities and the District and Parish Councils and Community Development Officer to address the best way of addressing a Parish initiative and apply for grants and funding.



## 6. BUSINESS, SERVICES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITY Continued

### HOUSING

52.5% of the respondents are in favour of new houses, 39% are not. When asked in which new areas houses should be developed, there were few responses.

23% of the Parish commented that they have relatives in the Parish affected by affordability of housing in the parish. 42% of the respondents felt that the issues of affordability of houses in the Parish could be overcome by building homes for first time buyers.

93% of the respondents commented that it was important that any new build should be in keeping with the character of the Parish.

The information collected is not enough to make any meaningful recommendations regarding design of new houses and buildings and the type and location.

The committee recommends that the Parish Council undertakes an up to date Housing Needs Survey to assess the extent of the affordable housing need, the last one having been completed some 10 years ago. The Parish Council would need to liaise with the Rural Housing Enabler for Worcestershire and the District Council Housing Services Section who can assist with this process.

Additionally it is recommended that the Parish develop a Village Design Statement for the Parish Council and Wychavon District as a local planning authority to take into consideration when determining future developments in the Parish and to ensure that some of the character of the Parish is preserved and a consistency in development.



## 7. LIGHTING IN THE PARISH

There is currently no street lighting in the Parish.

Opinion on whether street lighting is required or desirable is polarised. There are some very strong opinions both for and against installing street lighting in key locations in the Parish.

54% responded that they do not think that introducing it in certain locations would aid vehicle and pedestrian safety. 35% responded that they thought that it would. A key issue highlighted is lighting the roads and pavements on the way home from Ombersley and Sytchampton Primary Schools.

Respondents who do want lighting mainly wanted it to be introduced through Ombersley Village.

The Steering group recommends that the Parish Council review alternative lighting methods which would be in keeping with the Parish character as a project and canvass opinions on the various options.

## 8. CRIME AND POLICING

58% of the respondents were not aware that there is a Parish Policeman with 80% not aware of how to contact him.

When asked about crime, nearly 50% of the respondents did not answer or had not been affected by crime in the Parish. Of those who had, burglary was most common (38%), but as previously stated this would represent many years' crime as the real annual burglary figures are 1-2%.

When asked what could be done to improve the situation, a small number of people responded, visible Police presence / more Police.

It is recommended that the Community notice boards have details of how to contact the local Policeman, Crimestoppers and the Community Neighbourhood Warden.

It is additionally recommended that the Parish Council encourages the Parish to continue its efforts to build a Neighbourhood watch scheme which extends across the Parish using the noticeboards, Parish Newsletter and new Parish Council Newsletter.

# OMBERSLEY AND DOVERDALE PARISH ACTION PLAN

The findings from the report highlight a number of areas where changes can be made to improve life in the Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale.

A recommended action list has been developed by the Steering Committee intended to guide the Parish Council towards the Parish recommended change. Some of the recommendations are longer term and some recommend that further investigation is required or volunteer committees are formed to focus on key projects reporting to the Parish Council.

Section	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Public Transport	Infrequent and not always punctual bus service	Investigate the possibility of improving public transport in the whole parish	Parish Council/Bus company	2009
Public Transport	Some residents would like more frequent services to Droitwich and night buses to Worcester	Understand the Parish needs for services in more detail and liase with the bus company to press the case for additional services	Parish Council/Bus company	2009
Public Transport	No public transport for those who live away from the A449	Investigate a dial a ride service or similar & communicate on noticeboards	Parish Council/ Voluntary Organisations/ County Council	2009
Pavements	Poorly maintained and overgrown pavements in places which are unsafe	Investigate where surfaces and key pavements are unsafe and or overgrown	Parish Council to consider involving local organisations/ groups to assist with footpath survey e.g. The Women's Institute	2009
Pavements	Poorly maintained and overgrown pavements in places which are unsafe	Develop priority plan for improvements	Parish Council/Lengthsman	2009
Pavements	Non-existent pavements in key locations	Investigate feasibility of adding new pavements to key locations – e.g. A4133 Ombersley - Droitwich	County Council/Parish Council	2009/ 2010
Pavements	No pavement at School bank for people getting off the bus	Investigate moving bus drop off point from School Bank or providing a crossing near the bus stop	Parish Council/County Council/ Kestrel and other bus companies/Police/Education Authority/Headteacher Ombersley School & obtain posters	2008
Roads	Speeding in Ombersley Village A4133, A449	Investigate and lobby necessary authorities for traffic calming measures and signage Implement temporary signage campaign "Calm your Speed".	Parish Council to consider the formation of steering committee for speeding and road safety in the Parish & obtain posters	3 year action plan 2009-2011
Roads	Speeding on A4133 from Ombersley to Droitwich	Investigate and lobby necessary authorities for traffic calming measures and signage, in particular at key narrow point at Hadley	Parish Council to consider the formation of steering committee for speeding and road safety in the Parish	3 year action plan 2009-2011



Section	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Roads	Congestion, speeding and noise from HGVs in Ombersley Village	Lobby County Council and national government for a 3rd bridge crossing over the River Severn Impement "Calm your Speed" campaign	Parish Council/County Council/ District Councillors/Council for the Protection of Rural England/ Steering Committee	3 year action plan 2009-2012 Long term lobbying
Roads	Traffic congestion and safety concerns at Ombersley School pick up/ drop off	Consider the possibility of using land adjacent to the school for car parking	Ombersley School/Lord Sandys/ Education Authority/Parish Council/Lloyds Trust	2009
Environment	Opinion is divided but there may be areas of the village that would benefit from lighting (e.g. around School Bank)	Look at whether introduction of discreet lighting would improve safety for pedestrians, in key areas particularly for school children	Parish Council/County Council/ schools	2009
Environment	Current recycling system in the Parish does not extend to all homes	Discuss issues with District Council and lobby for additional collections	Parish Council/ District Council	Target by Wychavon DC 100% by end of 2009
Environment	Fly tipping is increasing in the Parish Dog litter is increasing	Liase with District Council to investigate and reduce. Inform residents of correct reporting procedures, use noticeboards. Dog waste campaign posters	Parish Council to inform residents of correct reporting procedures /obtain posters	2009
Environment	Waste bins in the Memorial Hall field are not emptied as part of the weekly refuse collections and often forgotten	Liase with County Council to ensure collection included. Inform residents of correct reporting procedures	Parish Council to inform residents of correct reporting procedures	2009
Community Services	Post Office closed, many people cannot access Holt Heath or Droitwich Round trip by bus to Hartlebury is not feasible	Investigate new opportunities to replace the Post Office service. Approach existing businesses with a view to locating the service within an existing business. Discuss increasing frequency of bus service to Droitwich for alternative Post Office.	Parish Council  Parish Council/Bus Company	2011  2009
Community Services	Post Box in Ombersley Village is often full and not large enough for business mail in the Parish	Request post box facility for larger business mail on the main street close to Checketts	Parish Council	2009



Section	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Community Services	The notice boards are not large enough for community news and are poorly located Not all residents receive newsletter pamphlet	Obtain charitable funds for new Church and Parish notice boards possibly through sponsorship Ensure Memorial Hall & Sytchampton Hall regular events/activities published outside building	Organisers of the Summer fetes/Community volunteers Memorial Hall committee, Sytchampton Hall committee & volunteers	2009
Community Services	Increase community involvement in annual summer fetes	Request volunteers in advance using the noticeboards	Organisers of the Summer fetes/Community volunteers	2009
Youth/ Young People	Young people would like to have more equipment at the youth club and additional services at the Memorial Hall Field  Graffiti, noise and boy racing in the Memorial Hall Park especially at night is an issue	Work with young people to define needs and costs of new items and consult with residents regarding proposals  Identify sources of charitable donations and fund raising for Youth club and additional equipment  Review closing Memorial Hall Gates every night  Liase with Community Police Officer who is liasing with young people in the Memorial Hall Field	Parish Council to consider formation of steering committee for young people in the Parish	2009
Local Businesses	Farming is a key part of the local economy but there is very little specific feedback from farmers	Carry out more work to gauge the opinions of the local farming community	Parish Council to survey farming community and provide feedback on any key issues	2010
Housing	There isn't enough Parish feedback to establish the Parish's housing needs	Establish an up to date housing survey	Parish Council to liase with Rural Housing enabler for Worcestershire & District Council Housing Services Section	2010
Housing	The Parish want to preserve the character of the Parish, but there are no guidelines New build lacks consistency in design	Establish a Village Design Statement  Work with the Council Planning office to ensure that new buildings are built with character and guidelines in mind	Parish Council to consider formation of Steering Committee to establish draft guidelines	2009/10



Section	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Crime and Policing	Some residents feel that policing is not visible in the Parish. There is a perception with some that policing is not taking place in the Parish	<p>Improve contact liason between Police and Parish Schools</p> <p>Encourage users of the Memorial Hall field to report crimes to Crimestppers, possibly put up sign.</p> <p>Encourage neighbourhood watch schemes to form in the Parish</p> <p>Ensure that the Parish are aware who the Parish Police officer is. Add the local police officer's details to notice boards and Crimestoppers contacts</p>	Police/Parish Council/ Community volunteers	2009
Recreation and sporting venues	Unsucessful attempts by a number of recreational/ educational/sporting entities to obtain grant based funding for improvements	Form Parish committee to address cummyunity scheme to apply for grants and Parish funding for development of all venues	Parish Council. Wychavon Community Development Manager New steering commitee Ombersley/Sytchampton school	2009



The following people have volunteered their time to contribute to the production of the Parish Plan  
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**Ombersley & Doverdale**  
Parish Plan 2009

Amy  
Ballard  
Ombersley guides  
Age 11

Ombersley in 5 years time



**O** is for Ombersley, Let's make it better,  
**M** is for Memorial, Keep it alive,  
**B** is for Bakery, Lot's of more yummy food,  
**E** is for everyone, Let's make a **START!**  
**R** is for roundabout, maybe keep it clean,  
**S** is for school, let's keep it the same,  
**L** is for Lamppost, we don't like it dark,  
**E** is for environment, don't make it bad,  
**Y** is for YOU! PLEASE help ME!

