

CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH PLAN REVIEW 2009  
Survey Summary

The survey was carried out throughout April and May 2009 and two copies of the questionnaire were delivered to all households in the parish. The survey was also available for completion online at the parish council website.

There were 522 responses received in total which represents just over 23% of the electorate.

**Q1 Gender**

52% of the respondents were female, 46% male and 3% either left this question blank or ticked both 'male' and 'female'!

**Q2 Location**

The % of respondents from each location as defined in the questionnaire is shown below.

Location	% of responses
Ballsdown, Coxcombe Lane, Ridgley Road, Pathfield, Ashcombe, Stephens Fields	24%
Lower Woodside, Queens Mead, Hartsgrove, Yewens, Crofts Close	17%
Combe Lane, Upper Woodside, Pinckards, Woodberry Close, Ash Vale	16%
Mill Lane, South Bridge, Turners Mead, Petworth Road (South)	10%
The Green, Lincolns Hill, Skinners Lane, North Bridge, Petworth Road (North)	10%
Pockford Road, High Street Green, White Beech	7%
Ramsnest, Killinghurst, Rodgate Lane, Anstead Brook, West End, Prestwick	7%
Fisher Lane, Pickhurst Road, The Knipp, Shillinglee	7%
(blank)	2%
Other: Station End, School Lane, Westway Close	1%

**Q3 Length of time lived in village**

Over 85% of the population of the parish have lived here over 5 years, with 45% having lived here more than 20 years.

**Housing**

**Q4 Type of housing lived in**

89% of respondents live in private housing; 6% rent from a public landlord and 3% from a private landlord. The remainder either left this question blank or live in a property in co-ownership. These results closely reflect the actual housing mix of the village as detailed in an independent survey carried out for Waverley Borough Council.

**Q5 What sort of houses you think should be built in Chiddingfold**

Type of housing	% of responses*
Affordable housing for shared ownership	44%
Affordable housing for rental	38%
No more housing	35%
Private housing for sale or rental	34%
(Blank)	2%

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\*Respondents were able to select more than one option. Thus 35% want no more housing and 63% are happy to see more housing and selected one or more of the other three categories – see table below.

Affordable Housing for shared ownership was the most popular response with 44% of the respondents selecting this option. The demographics of the responses are similar to that of the overall survey - the majority (87%) of respondents live in privately owned properties, 8% rent from a public landlord and 4% rent privately. The remaining 1% did not answer the question regarding their type of housing.

Affordable Housing for rental was the second most popular choice with 38% of respondents selecting this option. Again, whilst the majority (80%) live in privately owned properties themselves, 15% currently live in public rented accommodation and 4% in private rented accommodation.

35% of respondents do not want any more housing built, of these 96% live in private housing themselves, 2% in private rented accommodation and the remaining 2% either in public rented or in co-ownership with a Housing Authority.

34% of respondents want private housing for sale or rental built, of which 97% live in private housing themselves, 2% in private rented accommodation and the remaining 2% in public rented accommodation.

### Q6 Now please tell us where you think they should be built:-

Number of responses	Within the village boundary	Just outside that boundary on Green Belt land	Anywhere within the parish boundary
Affordable Housing for shared ownership	46%	38%	20%
Affordable Housing for rental	50%	29%	25%
Private housing for sale or rental	41%	39%	20%

The % for each choice will not add up to 100% as respondents were able to select more than one option

The most popular choice was Affordable Housing for shared ownership and the most popular location selected was within the village boundary, followed by just outside that boundary on Green Belt land.

The second most popular type of housing was Affordable Housing for rental which people would also prefer to be built within the village boundary.

### Q7 Are there any additional comments or remarks you would like to make about housing?

Respondents' main concerns were that the school is already oversubscribed and could not cope with the additional children that new housing might potentially bring. The same concerns were made regarding the doctors' surgery and infrastructure including the roads, Witley train station and parking facilities in general.

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Many suggestions were made to build bungalows, small properties (flats or houses) or sheltered accommodation for the elderly with the view that this would free up the family homes that may currently have single occupants.

### Business & Employment

#### Q8a Should Chiddingfold be a village where people live whilst working elsewhere?

Response	% of responses
Yes	28%
No	65%
Other	1%
(Blank)	6%

#### Q8b What kind of business or employment would you like to see become available in Chiddingfold?

The most popular suggestions were for a tea/coffee shop, some specifying an 'Internet café', and for the return of the bank.

Other popular suggestions were for a bakery, greengrocers and a deli as well as a rural crafts shop.

A farm shop selling locally produced fruit/vegetables/meat was also popular although some preferred the idea of a weekly farmers' market.

Suggestions were also made for a restaurant or takeaway.

Tradesmen such as builders, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, gardeners, decorators and roofers were also suggested.

#### Q8c Would you support small office developments and/or light industrial units on carefully chosen sites?

##### Small office developments

71% of respondents supported small office developments; 31% within the village settlement boundary only, 26% anywhere within the parish boundary and 22% within the existing village boundary and immediately adjacent on Green Belt land.

##### Light industrial units

58% of respondents supported light industrial units; 23% within the village settlement boundary only, 26% anywhere within the parish boundary and 16% within the existing village boundary and immediately adjacent on Green Belt land.

Q9 Are there any comments or remarks you would like to make about business and employment in Chiddingfold?

The main concerns over small office developments or light industrial units were that there would be more traffic on the roads which was not desirable.

Others made comments regarding the 'Credit Crunch' such as:-

"In our present situation of rising unemployment and financial instability businesses are closing down - not opening"

"I have no objections to new business in Chiddingfold but in the present financial climate it is not easy to start up"

Positive feedback was received on the village shops:-

"Our village shops and services are excellent. Friendly and very helpful to all ages. One feels like a person who matters, which you don't get with bigger shops. The elderly are treated with respect and all shopkeepers go out of their way to cater for all our needs".

Many were concerned that not everyone supports the local businesses and services, such as the milkman ,and that these may eventually be lost.

Traffic Management

Q10 The last survey demonstrated residents' widespread concern about traffic and the management of it. To help set the Parish Council's priorities in terms of what it can do to influence the decisions of bodies such as Surrey Highways, please prioritise the following:-

The results were

Improving pot holes	Most Important
Reducing the speed of traffic within the village	
Improving safety by the school	
Cutting back overhanging scrub on blind bends	
Improving drainage reduce wet areas	
Introducing a crossing on the A283 by the forge and village pond	
Reducing the speed of traffic within the parish	
Improving pavements and access to them	
Improving safety at the Combe Common/Woodside Road junction	Least Important

Q10a Do you think there should be any changes to the current speed limits in the parish? If so which roads within the parish boundary? (eg. Combe Lane, Prestwick Lane, High Street Green)

13% of respondents said they did not think any changes need to be made to the current speed limits and 33% left this question blank.

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There was support for lowering speed limits in the following areas:-

### 20 mph

- within village
- during the hours of 08:20 - 08:45 and 14:55 - 15:30
- from Woodside Road to Turners Mead on A283.
- A283
- Outside school
- Pockford Road

### 30mph

- All village roads

### 40mph

- in all areas and 30 within village at all times
- Pockford Road to Vann Lane and Skinners Lane -reduce speed limit from 60 mph to 40 mph
- Pickhurst Road
- High Street Green
- Prestwick Lane

Combe Lane - suggestions were made for 20mph, 30mph and 40mph

Petworth Road - suggestions were made for 20mph, 30mph and 40mph

Pockford Road/Skinners Lane is 60mph and I think it needs to be reduced

Ridgley Road - suggestions were made for 20mph and 30mph

Many people suggested the use of speed cameras or average speed cameras, especially along the Petworth Road.

### Q10b Do you have any comments or remarks to make about traffic management?

47% of respondents left this question blank.

Comments were made about the lack of police presence such as:-

- "Some police presence with a speed gun every now and then would help drivers stick to the limits."

Many people suggested that a crossing should be installed:-

- "a crossing near to the school would assist both the school and the amount of residents that cross the road from the tennis courts to the shop."
- "We need a crossing of some kind as we have a lot of people with disabilities and have trouble crossing the main roads especially so they do not get to use the village shops".

Again many suggestions were made for speed cameras to be installed, or for speed bumps:-

- "Speed restrictions should be enforced by proper speed cameras, not just reminder signs. All those who regularly use the A283 know there are no cameras"
- "Traffic management is non-existent. We need speed bumps through the village and on residential roads and failing that, speed cameras. NOBODY observes the 30 limit and before 6:30 am cars are regularly doing 60-70 through the village and some do it at other times if they can."
- "I think that the village should start a fund to have safety cameras fitted as it is the only way to cut the speed of the traffic."

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Many parking issues were raised: people parking on pavements, parking dangerously when dropping children off at school and parking on bends leading to poor visibility:-

- "Parking outside the school should not be permitted under any circumstances."
- "Car parking right on the corner of the road outside St Mary's Church should be stopped. It is too dangerous now. Encourage people to walk or introduce a 'Drop Off Point' for passengers in cars".
- "Please draw attention to the inconsiderate parking on pavements - the disabled can't use the footpaths, children have to walk in the roads, visually impaired can bump into vehicles left on the pavements, besides the disintegration and broken surfaces of the pavements eg. Ridgley Road leading to surgery. Many falls have taken place."
- "It would help visibility, and therefore safety, if cars could be prevented from parking on the bend into Pockford Road by the Post Office. Possibly using double yellow lines?"

Concerns were raised regarding the amount of HGVs passing through the village, either via narrow lanes or speeding along the Petworth Road. Suggestions were made to ensure that Satellite Navigation Systems warn HGVs not to pass through the village due to the unsuitability of the roads. Some people praised the usage of speed limit signs and wanted more while others wanted to reduce unnecessary signage that they felt was largely ignored:-

- "Please, please, please do not introduce any more traffic management schemes into the village - you are making it ugly and suburban. Please follow the advice of Surrey Hills AONB research on effective measures which indicate the need to increase driver's perception of danger"

### General Questions

Q11 How do you usually get information about events taking place in Chiddingfold and how would you like to receive information?

% of Responses	Usually	Like	Usually & Like	(Blank)
Word of Mouth	57%	4%	5%	34%
Email	6%	15%	1%	79%
Websites (e.g. for club, church or society)	12%	14%	1%	72%
Parish Magazine	65%	5%	8%	22%
Parish Office/Parish Council Minutes	11%	8%	1%	80%
Notice Boards	37%	8%	4%	51%
Post Office	42%	5%	3%	50%
Mobile Library	3%	2%	0%	94%
Local Newspaper	36%	9%	4%	51%
Local Radio (Delta/Southern Counties/The Eagle)	13%	4%	1%	82%

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Q12 Do you think the amount of information available about what's going on in Chiddingfold is :-

	Number of responses	%
Good	123	24%
Reasonable	316	61%
Poor	47	9%
No opinion	23	4%
(Blank)	13	2%

Q13 Chiddingfold has many societies and activities as well as local businesses, not all of which are well known. Would you support a regular event (perhaps annual) that would allow these to be promoted?

	%
Yes	73.4%
No	16.3%
(Blank)	9.6%
Maybe	0.6%
Good Neighbours booklet has this	0.2%

Comments were made that this already happens either through the Church or the Parish Magazine. Suggestions were also made to incorporate this into the Parish Festival.

Q14 Many of the activities, groups and societies in the village rely on volunteers to run them, including the Parish Council.

a. Do you currently volunteer for any?

	Number of responses	%
Yes	194	37%
No	306	59%
(Blank)	22	4%

b. Would you be prepared to give more of your time than you currently do for the benefit of the village?

	Number of responses	%
Yes	203	39%
No	272	52%
(Blank)	44	8%
Possibly	3	1%

## 2009 Chiddingfold Parish Plan Review Survey Results

### Spending Priorities

Q15 Every year the Parish Council spends the money it raises from tax payers in the following ten areas. To help guide spending priorities please rank each area in order of importance ranging from 1, being the most important, to 10, being the least important.

The results were:-

Road safety improvements	Most Important
Improved maintenance of infrastructure such as drains and pavements	
Maintenance of village appearance (grass and hedge cutting on the common land)	
Community sports & leisure (provision and maintenance of football and cricket pitches, tennis courts, basketball etc.)	
Community buildings (village hall, Coxcombe pavilion, new pavilion for Combe Lane recreational ground)	
Provision of public facilities (such as litter bins, posts on verges to stop cars parking on the grass, new street name signs)	
Improvements to the Conservation Area (such as the re-paving already completed outside the chemist, proposed replacement fencing around the cricket green, re-paving between the butcher and The Swan Inn)	
Provision and maintenance of children's facilities such as playgrounds for all ages	
Provision and maintenance of allotments for gardeners	
Developing communications (e.g. newsletter, more public consultations)	Least Important

Q16 Would you be prepared to pay a slightly higher Parish Council tax to meet some of the needs of Chiddingfold?

	Number of responses	%
Yes	116	22.2%
Maybe	222	42.5%
No	159	30.5%
Blank	22	4.2%
No/Maybe	2	0.4%
Yes/Maybe	1	0.2%

Just over two thirds of respondents did not object to paying a slightly higher parish council tax to meet some of the needs of the village, only 31% objected.

The full results of the survey are held in the Parish Office.

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April 2010