

*Marcham **Forward***

Community-led Plan 2013



How this plan came about

The creation of this Community Led Plan was a joint initiative between Marcham Community Group (MCG) and Marcham Parish Council. It started with two public meetings in July 2011 when the idea was unveiled and people were asked to list the things they liked and things they wished to change in our village. We also invited anyone in the village who was interested to join the Steering Group, and eighteen members of the community volunteered to help.

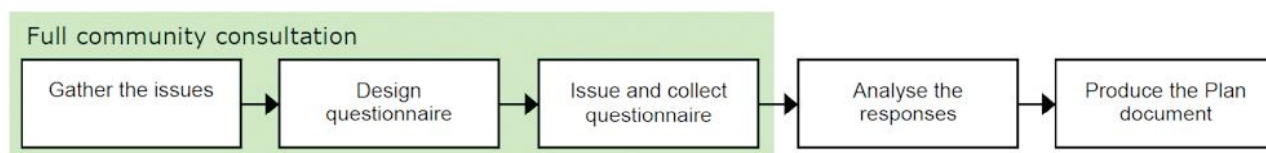
The Steering Group met in late July and created terms of reference which were subsequently approved by the Parish Council and MCG. We also began work on collecting details of the issues in the village from individual residents as well as all local organisations and community groups. During the autumn those issues began to be turned into questions which would be put to every resident.

The range of questions gradually took shape and by February 2012 we had created a first draft of the complete questionnaire which contained 80 questions. This was circulated to Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC), Oxfordshire County Council, the Vale of White Horse District Council, the Parish Council and MCG for consultation. We also began trials of the questionnaire with individual residents across a range of ages.

In April 2012 Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire, on behalf of the Anson Trust, submitted a major planning application to build 51 new houses on half of the Anson Field and to use the proceeds to fund a new community building and sports pitches on a site at the edge of the village. The Parish Council carried out a referendum of every adult in the village in May 2012 so, to avoid any confusion, the Steering Group decided to wait until the planning application process was complete before sending out the questionnaire. Meanwhile work continued and the final draft was produced which had been reduced to 68 questions (although some questions had several parts).

In September 2012 the questionnaire was delivered by hand to every house in Marcham. Over the following few weeks a team of nineteen volunteers collected the completed questionnaires from 559 households, which is a return rate of **87%**. A total of 1207 people in the village (including 1039 adults) had completed the questionnaire.

A team of twelve volunteers typed the answers from the questionnaire into their computers over the following two months, entering more than 200,000 items of data. The data entry was audited and had an average error rate of no more than 0.8%. The consolidated anonymous data file will be made available to the public in due course.



Work began on creating this document in December 2012. In February 2013 a public meeting was held where an analysis of all the data was made available and residents were asked to make suggestions for actions that could be in the final Plan, provided that the actions were supported by the data from the whole village.

The final draft was again circulated to ORCC, Oxfordshire County Council, the Vale of White Horse District Council, the Parish Council and MCG for consultation and the responses have been taken into account when producing this Plan. The final version of this plan was adopted by Marcham Parish Council and Marcham Community Group in June 2013.

Your guide to this Plan

The aim of this document is to spell out how the people of Marcham wish to see their village develop over the next five years. It is based on the evidence that was collected in the questionnaire that went to every house in the village. Some of the responses made it clear that people already like what they have and don't want to lose it or to see major changes – for example there is enthusiastic support for our school and the newly re-opened village shop and post office, and a wish for little or no new housing. There is also a desire to make improvements in such things as traffic on the A415 and pavements within the village.

Those responses have been turned into a set of 39 actions which are spread throughout this Plan, along with the supporting evidence for them. There is an indicative timescale for each action, where short term means within twelve months, medium term is within three years and long term means beyond that. Some actions are shown as on-going, which means something is underway but we need to work to keep it in place. Each action also has a list of organisations who will be involved in taking the action. It is important to realise that not every organisation has signed up to carry out every action! Often this is because there is not enough funding available to achieve a particular goal; sometimes what we want runs counter to a County or a District plan. The point of this Plan is to focus on what we as a community want and then to persuade outside bodies and seek funds to get things done. Of course knowing what you want is no guarantee of getting it, but you are certainly more likely to succeed if you know where you want to go.

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Acknowledgements

More than 70 people helped to create this Plan. Contributions included delivering and collecting questionnaires, typing in the data, helping to draw up the actions, creating the text and graphics and working on the Steering Group. The photographs were provided by Jim Asher, David Walton, Jessica Brod, Sheila Dunford, Getmapping plc and Oxfordshire County Council – Oxfordshire History Centre, all of whom retain their respective copyright. We are also grateful to Anton Nath from ORCC who helped and guided us through the whole process.

A history of Marcham

Marcham is 9 miles southwest of Oxford and 3 miles from Abingdon, on the A415 to Witney. The land slopes gently southwards from the village towards the River Ock. Lying on light soil associated with the coral ridge which existed here some 150 million years ago, there was Marcham Brook for water and water meadows for farming but the settlement was high enough to avoid flooding.

The name 'Marcham' derives from Anglo-Saxon meaning riverside meadow where the wild celery (*apium graveolens*) grows. The Anglo-Saxon name for this plant is merece; a local name for the same plant on the Gower peninsula in the early 20th century was "march". Wild celery can still be found on a protected site on Manor Farm, Marcham.

There is evidence that, long before houses were built, this easily worked land was being exploited by man. Neolithic flint tools some 4,500 years old have been found in the village, a recent excavation on the playing field discovered a number of Bronze Age barrows, and there are Bronze Age earthworks near the A338. Excavations to the west of the village in the 19th and 20th centuries revealed an Iron Age and Roman site and an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery. More recently, excavations carried out from 2000 to 2011 by the School of Archaeology at Oxford University have shown this to be a Romano-British religious site of major importance that was in continuous use throughout the period.

The main activity had moved to the present village by the late Saxon period. By the time of the Domesday Book, Marcham was held by Abingdon Abbey, was important enough to have a church and was head of the Marcham Hundred, where the hundred court was held.



Hyde Farm

The oldest house in the village, Hyde Farm, (shown in the photograph) dates from 1290. It shows some civil war damage; there were small skirmishes around the village at that time.

Marcham was mainly agricultural until the mid-20th century. The population nearly doubled in the 1960s with the building of a large estate to the north-east of the existing village. Smaller developments have continued sporadically since then but at the same time the village amenities have decreased. In 1980 there were two pubs (The White Hart and The Crown) and three shops within the village. Since then The White Hart has become a private house and the mini-market and newsagent on the estate mentioned above have both closed. The remaining shop and post office has recently been re-opened as a community venture run by volunteers.

Community

Marcham has an active community, with a range of leisure and sport groups that meet regularly. There are good levels of volunteering in these and other activities within the community.

In the recent past, Marcham has held some big community events, such as the Royal Wedding Tea Party in April 2011 and the Great Marcham Jubilee Weekend in June 2012. Turnout at these has been high with several hundred local people and visitors taking part.

- 742 respondents (61%) had attended a community event in the last 12 months;
- 770 people (64%) would attend an annual outdoor community event, such as the Great Marcham Jubilee Weekend;
- 288 people (24%) said that they would like to become more involved in community activities.



Great Marcham Jubilee Weekend 2012



Royal Wedding Tea Party 2011

This is an encouraging indication of demand and interest for Marcham Community Group and for the various interest groups involved in community events. To get the broadest involvement, we should encourage local community groups to work together and to find new ways to promote a wide range of village activities.

Action		When	Who
1	Run community events at least annually in Marcham	On-going	MCG and other groups
2	Set up a self-sustaining system for promotion of village activities and volunteering opportunities	Short - medium term	MCG and other groups



▷ Volunteering

- An impressive 194 adults (20% of the adults who responded to the question) said they already do voluntary work in Marcham.
- A further 250 adults who are not already volunteering indicated in the questionnaire that they are willing to do voluntary work in the village.

National surveys have shown an average of about 25% of adults volunteering at least once per month (Communities and Local Government Citizenship Survey: 2010 – 2011). Given that many people are likely to be doing voluntary work outside the village, the figures for Marcham are encouraging.

One of the factors that may limit the extent of volunteering is awareness of where help is needed and the opportunities for individuals to

participate. It is increasingly important now to use a wider range of channels for publicity, extending beyond notice boards, MAD News items and word of mouth to embrace electronic communications, such as websites and social media.

In addition, there is enthusiasm to provide a venue to showcase local groups and publicise volunteering opportunities, such as through a ‘local groups and needs’ exhibition at a suitable public event. Other ideas include: setting up a register or exchange of willing volunteers, a register of groups with needs and a Marcham Volunteering website.



A village meeting

Action		When	Who
3	Encourage and facilitate wider participation in volunteering	Short term	Volunteering group

Activities and facilities

Marcham has historically had a range of sport and cultural activities with support from the Arthur Anson Memorial Trust (the Anson Trust) and Marcham Parish Council. The primary school makes its hall available for hire, and All Saints Church and the Baptist Church are also available. There is currently a football pitch and a cricket pitch on the Anson Field. Marcham Sports, Scouts and Social Club (MSSSC) built their own facilities on the Anson Field under a leasehold agreement in the early 1980s. The Anson Trust closed The Institute (our village hall) in 2004 due to financial problems.

The questionnaire responses indicated demand for a range of activities.

The highest demand in the village is for these activities:

- Film club/cinema
- Drama productions
- Adult education/evening classes
- Snooker/billiards/pool
- Keep fit / Multi-gym
- Badminton
- Tennis
- Circuit training/running

The highest demand amongst youth is for these activities:

- Zip wire
- Climbing walls
- BMX / skateboard
- Adventure playground
- Football

Availability of leisure, cultural and social activities contributes to the quality of life. Social and cultural activities have been developed by active organisations which are currently operating in non-ideal premises. Suitable facilities are needed and should be designed to respond flexibly to that demand. The Community Facilities Group (CFG) is exploring possible options for such facilities.

There was a range of views about the best option for The Institute building.

Of the 941 people who gave a view, a majority were in favour of community uses:

Re-open as a community facility	49%
Turn into a large village shop	16%
Become an arts centre /museum /library	12%
Demolish for housing	9%
Become private housing/flats	7%
Become a business centre	4%
Become a small hotel/guest house	3%



The Institute

Action	When	Who
4 Work to create a community building which meets the demand for indoor leisure activities within the village, and which is financially viable	Short - medium term	CFG Parish Council The Anson Trust
5 Ensure that village opinion is taken into account when deciding the future of The Institute	Short - medium term	CFG Parish Council The Anson Trust
6 Work to provide facilities for a range of outdoor activities and sports which correspond to demand from within the village	Short - medium term	CFG Parish Council The Anson Trust
7 Ensure that there are tennis courts within the village and seek to improve their quality and availability	On-going	CFG Parish Council
8 Develop a plan for a youth sport group and club	Medium term	CFG + MSSSC

Environment



The Arboretum

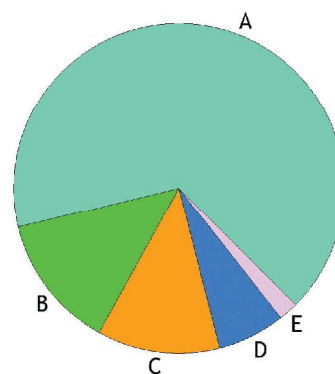
▷ Green spaces

The green spaces available to the village include the arboretum (shown above), the Anson Field, the churchyard, the allotments and the Green.

730 people (66% of those who answered the question) want our existing open spaces protected, with a further 145 people (13% of those who answered the question) wanting more green spaces in the village.

How do you feel about the green spaces in our village?

A	Keep all of our existing green spaces	66.3%
B	We need more green spaces in our village	13.2%
C	Wouldn't mind if some green space is lost	12%
D	Don't know	6.6%
E	No interest in green spaces	1.9%



Dog waste bin user

When asked about litter / dog waste bins, 250 people (21%) thought we had enough, while 467 people (39%) thought that there were not sufficient bins in the village. 490 people (40%) either didn't know or left this blank.

Details of the current positions of the litter and dog waste bins are available on the Marcham Forward website.

Action	When	Who
9 Protect all of the existing green spaces within the village	On-going	Parish Council
10 Provide more dog waste / litter bins	Short term	Parish Council

▷ Storm drainage

Storm drainage was the third most popular in the list of priorities (shown on page 19) with 159 people (18% of those who answered the question) choosing to put that as their top priority.

There was no clear pattern for where the people who want to improve storm drainage live within the village. It seems likely that the demand is to improve the through roads which suffer regularly from flooding, particularly on the A415 in both directions out of the village.

Action	When	Who
11 Improve storm drainage within the village	Long term	Parish Council

▷ Pavements and footpaths



North Street

664 people (55%) said they walked along North Street between Howard Cornish Road and The Gap at least once or twice a month. 614 people (63% of those who expressed an opinion) said they were worried about their safety whilst doing so.

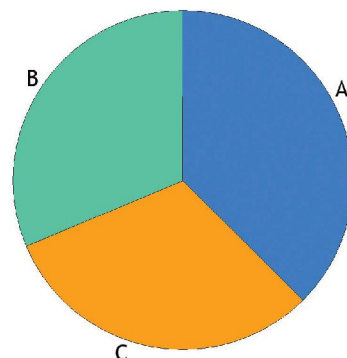
A new pavement on this stretch of North Street was the second most popular in the list of priorities (shown on page 19) with 189 people (19% of those who answered the question) choosing to put this as their top priority.

The condition of pavements and footpaths within the village is poor and this could be the reason why some people said they were afraid when walking around the village, particularly at night when visibility is reduced.

Action	When	Who
12 Provide a pavement on North Street between Howard Cornish Road and The Gap	Long term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council
13 Improve and maintain pavements and internal footpaths within the village	On-going	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council

How do you feel about footpaths out of the village?

- A We need more footpaths 37.5%
- B There are enough footpaths 31.3%
- C No opinion 31.1%





Footpath from Marcham to Frilford

914 people (76%) use the existing footpaths out of the village either occasionally or regularly. 428 people (37% of those who answered the question) thought that we needed more footpaths leading out of the village.

There is a network of footpaths out of the village including several which were opened as permitted paths in 2003. A leaflet giving details of the existing footpaths can be obtained from the village shop, or it can be downloaded from Marcham Society's website (details on page 21).

Action	When	Who
14 Preserve and promote the existing network of footpaths leading out of the village and seek to create new footpaths	Long term	Parish Council Marcham Society and volunteers

Education

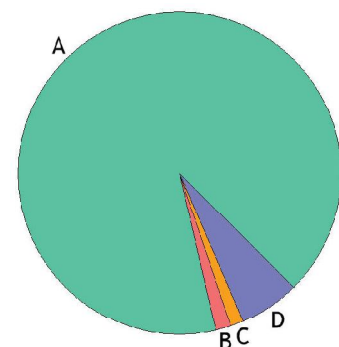


Marcham C.E. Primary School

Marcham C.E. Primary school is a vital part of the village. As well as being an effective educational establishment, it also provides a key focus for the community. It has become increasingly popular over the last twenty years – so much so that at times it has struggled to provide sufficient places to meet the demand from within the village. An overwhelming 91% of people thought that it was important that all Marcham children should be able to attend the village Primary School if they wished to do so.

Do you think it is important that all Marcham children are able to attend the village Primary School if they wish to do so?

A	Yes	1100
B	No	18
C	Don't know	16
D	(blank)	73



Action		When	Who
15	Ensure that there are sufficient places in our Primary School to enable all Marcham children to attend if they wish to do so and hence avoid zoning within the village	On-going	Marcham Primary School Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council

The final decision about where Marcham children go to school is made by Oxfordshire County Council. The key to ensuring that there are sufficient places is to insist that any new development in the village provides sufficient funding (typically over and above the statutory requirement which appears in a planning agreement) to build additional classroom(s) to meet the needs created by the new housing. It is also important that the school retains sufficient playing fields, which means that there is a limit to the number of new classrooms and hence to how much new housing the village can sustain.

Action		When	Who
16	Ensure that the village school retains sufficient playing fields	On-going	Marcham Primary School Oxfordshire County Council

▷ Nursery and pre-school

The village currently has a commercial nursery and a pre-school which is based in the Primary School.

Households which had children aged under 5 were asked if the current provision met their needs; 29 households (59%) said yes, 10 households (20%) said no, and 10 households (20%) didn't express an opinion.

Action		When	Who
17	Ensure that there is sufficient nursery and pre-school provision to meet the needs of parents in Marcham	On-going	Parish Council Marcham Primary School Oxfordshire County Council

Housing

There are currently about 650 houses in the village of Marcham, of which approximately 40 were built over the last ten years, typically in developments of between four and ten houses. Since 2011 there has been very strong pressure from national and local government to build substantially greater numbers of houses in villages of our size. This coincided with a planning application by Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire, on behalf of the Anson Trust, to build 51 new houses on half of the Anson Field and to use the proceeds to fund a new community building and sports pitches on a site at the edge of the village. There was a village-wide referendum on this proposal, with 359 voting for the plan and 412 voting against it. The Vale of White Horse planning committee subsequently voted to approve the application.



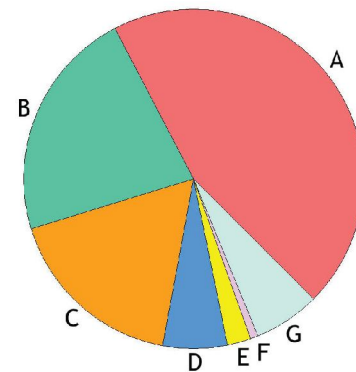
Longfields

In addition to the Anson Field development there have been expressions of interest in building houses on four other sites on the edge of the village, amounting to approximately 175 more new houses.

How many more new houses should be built in Marcham (beyond the Taylor Wimpey plans) over the next 10 years?

The answers from 1039 adults were:

A	None	45.5%
B	No more than 20	22.4%
C	No more than 50	17.4%
D	No more than 100	6.0%
E	No more than 200	2.2%
F	More than 200	0.8%
G	(blank)	5.7%



When asked about future housing in the village, 887 adults (85%) wanted no more than 50 additional new houses (beyond the Taylor Wimpey plans) built over the next 10 years, including 473 adults (46%) who wanted no new houses at all.

It is reasonable to assume that the requirement is for a steady supply of new houses over that period, rather than a large number in one development which would put undue pressure on the school and infrastructure.

Action	When	Who
18 Control any further house building in Marcham with a target of no more than 50 new houses over the next 10 years. The target should be delivered in a sustainable way - i.e. paced evenly over the period so as to avoid undue pressure on village facilities and infrastructure	10 years	Parish Council Vale of White Horse District Council

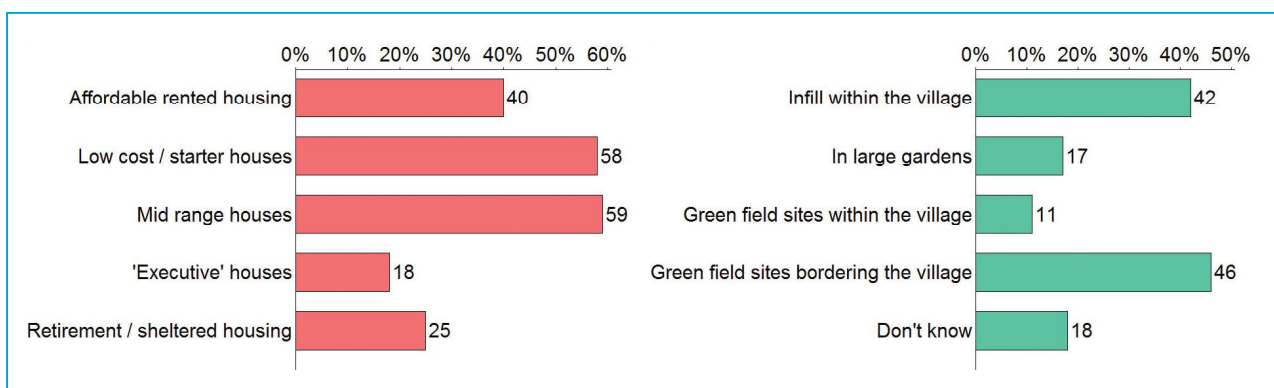
When asked, 795 adults (77%) wanted priority for any new affordable housing in the village to be given to people with existing family or other close connections to Marcham.

When affordable housing was built in Longfields, it was agreed with the developers that priority should be given to people with close connections to Marcham. In our survey, a total of 147 people said they would like to move in or go on the waiting list for such a property in Marcham.

Action	When	Who
19 Seek to ensure people with existing close connections to Marcham should have priority for any affordable housing which is built in the village	On-going	Parish Council Vale of White Horse District Council Relevant Housing Associations

▷ House types, and where to build them

Among adults who wished to see some new houses built in Marcham over the next 10 years, there was a range of views on house types and the type of land that should be used for those houses. The main demand was for affordable housing, low-cost starter and mid-range houses, with little enthusiasm for 'executive' housing. The preference was for these to be built either as infill within the village (for which there are relatively few opportunities) or on green field sites which border the village, but not on green field sites within the village.



Action	When	Who
20 Promote an appropriate mix of housing sizes and types to correspond to demand from within the village whenever development is planned within the village	Medium term	Parish Council Vale of White Horse District Council

The National Planning Policy Framework makes it clear that communities cannot simply say no to sustainable development, but they can try to shape what and where developments take place. Simply objecting to all large scale planning applications which are then approved by the District Council, or allowing haphazard developments, is not likely to produce the best outcome for Marcham. A housing policy may be a way to secure a better future for the village.



New houses in The Green

Action	When	Who
21 Develop a housing policy for the village	Medium term	Parish Council

Business and economy

▷ Working in the village

Marcham has grown from a small village with a deep-rooted agricultural base into a diverse community of around 1,400 inhabitants. Local work and home-working play a significant part in helping to preserve and strengthen the community. Employment opportunities in the village help maintain community integrity. These both allow and encourage families to remain close to their roots whilst also helping to benefit others in making the village their long term home.



Garage, North Street

- 507 adults (49%) felt there should be more job opportunities in the village as against 224 adults (22%) opposed and 308 adults (30%) with no opinion.
- Of those saying 'yes' to more job opportunities, 356 adults (70%) would support office based work and 256 adults (50%) would support light industry.
- 152 adults (30% of those saying 'yes' to more local job opportunities) would consider applying.
- Of those saying 'yes' to more job opportunities, 398 adults (79%) prefer that existing premises are adapted and used where possible.

Action		When	Who
22	Establish a Marcham Business Forum and produce a directory of village tradespeople	Medium term	Business community volunteers
23	Develop an employment strategy for the village	Medium term	Business community volunteers

▷ Communications in the village

Marcham was one of the last villages to have its telephone exchange converted from the analogue system. Today some villagers have voiced their frustration at how slow the current broadband connection is, especially at certain times of the day, and this situation does not particularly encourage those with the flexibility of working from home to choose that option.

- 444 households (79%) have access to broadband.
- 408 people (34%) feel that their current broadband is fast enough to meet their leisure needs, while 433 people (36%) feel it is not fast enough.
- 147 households (26%) would be happy to pay more to have faster broadband coverage, with 109 households (20%) not willing to pay more, and 303 (54%) non-committal.

Action	When	Who
24 Improve the speed of broadband within the village	Short term	Volunteering individual or group

▷ Post Office and village shop

Marcham Village Shop (MVS) opened in July 2012, with the Post Office Local starting in November 2012. The Post Office is a key hub for the village as a whole, and is also important for the business community. MVS and the Post Office both rely on the invaluable services of a small army of volunteers managed by three part-time paid employees. Continued community support is crucial to the survival of the Post Office and the village shop.

504 households (90%) said they might buy items regularly from the village shop and 459 households (82%) said they might make regular use of the Post Office.



The Post Office Local

Action	When	Who
25 Use the shop and Post Office regularly to ensure that they continue to be available within the village	On-going	Community

Transport

The total number of vehicles kept in the village by the 559 households who returned a questionnaire is 992, an average of about 1.8 vehicles per household.

Marcham is a car-owning and car-using village. Public transport and cycling are relatively little used for travel in and out of the village. Car ownership has increased since the 1994 village appraisal when it was reported that 670 cars were kept in the village – about 1.5 cars per household. Parking and speeding were felt to be problems in 1994, as they are now.

Marcham is on the A415, the main road west from the A34 at Abingdon. This busy route cuts through the village in the form of a narrow twisting roadway aptly called Packhorse Lane. It is, in part, too narrow to have a pedestrian pavement even on one side. Through traffic has been an issue for decades; there has been a demand for a Marcham by-pass for as long as can be remembered.



Packhorse Lane in 1910.
Henry Taunt Copyright OCC



Packhorse Lane in 2013

▷ Car use

697 people (58%) said they went to work or school outside the village. Of these, 583 (84%) travel by car, including 25 (4%) who car share. Of the remainder, 45 young people (6%) use the school bus, 26 people (4%) travel by service bus and 25 people (4%) cycle.

Action	When	Who
26 Encourage car sharing in the village	Medium term	Village volunteer

▷ Buses



31 bus to Oxford

446 people (37%) never travel by bus from the village and 486 (40%) do so less than once a month. The chief incentives for increased bus use would be more frequent buses (473 people) and lower fares (365 people). 667 people (55%) said they would use a direct bus to Oxford and 342 (28%) that they would use a bus to Didcot / Milton Park.

Marcham is served by two bus routes, the hourly 31 (to Oxford via Abingdon, or to Wantage) and the X15 (to Abingdon or to Witney). The 31 route goes along North Street and Howard Cornish Road, while the X15 goes directly along the A415.

Action	When	Who
27 Seek to increase the frequency of the 31 bus service, particularly at rush hour, and lobby to re-introduce a direct to Oxford service (the X31)	Medium term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council
28 Seek to reduce bus fares to and from the village, particularly the fare from Marcham to Abingdon	Medium term	Parish Council
29 Raise awareness of the available bus services and encourage wider use	On-going	Parish Council

▷ Trains

52 people (4%) from the village travel by train from Didcot more than once a week, and 21 people (2%) travel by train from Oxford more than once a week.



First Great Western Train

▷ Cycling

A cycle / pedestrian path was built along the A415 in the early 1990s leading from the east of the village to the A34 junction just outside Abingdon. Unfortunately, it ends at the junction without providing a safe way to cross the A34 slip roads.



Cycle track A415

173 people (14%) use the cycle track at least once a month, while 311 people (26%) hardly ever use it and 671 people (56%) never use it all. 494 people (41%) might be persuaded to use the cycle track more often; the main incentives would be widening (73%), cutting back overhanging vegetation (67%) and an improved crossing at the A34 (72%). 524 people (43%) could never be persuaded to use the cycle track.

It is clear from these answers that the poorly maintained present state of the path is a major disincentive to its use. The width has been reduced over the years as grass has grown gradually over the tarmac surface.

Action	When	Who
30 Cut back the grass and overhanging vegetation on the cycle track to Abingdon on a regular basis	On-going	Oxfordshire County Council Local land-owners
31 Add a crossing at the A34 roundabout for cyclists and pedestrians	Long term	Oxfordshire County Council Highways Agency

▷ Parking

Households reported a total of 203 cars that are parked on the street overnight in Marcham. 737 people (78% of those who expressed a view) think there is a problem with parking in Howard Cornish Road. 501 people (58% of those who expressed a view) think there is a parking problem in North Street. Many other roads in the village were also mentioned as having parking problems.



Howard Cornish Road

Action	When	Who
32 Ensure that all new houses and plans to improve existing houses have sufficient off-street parking	On-going	Parish Council Vale of White Horse District Council

▷ Speed limits

The current limit on Sheepstead Road (which goes north from the village) is the national speed limit of 60 mph.

595 people (52% of the people who expressed a view) are in favour of introducing a 40mph limit on Sheepstead Road, and a further 294 (26% of the people who expressed a view) are in favour of having a 50mph limit.

Action	When	Who
33 Seek to introduce a 40mph speed limit on Sheepstead Road	Medium term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council

604 people (59% of those who expressed a view) thought that speeding is a major problem in the village. There was support for introducing a 20mph limit in the village, as follows:

Howard Cornish Road	769 people (64%)
North Street	753 people (62%)
Around the Primary School	913 people (76%)
The rest of the village	638 people (53%)

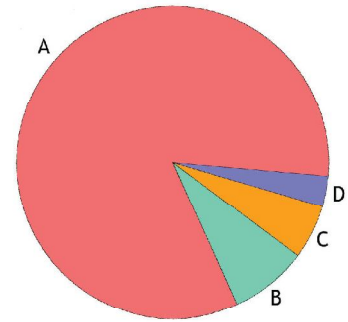


Action	When	Who
34 Seek to introduce a 20mph speed limit on all roads within the village	Medium term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council

▷ Through traffic

Do you support a ban on large lorries (HGVs over 7.5 tonnes) passing through Marcham on the A415?

A	Yes	1004
B	No	97
C	Don't know	68
D	(blank)	38



821 people (68%) supported the building of a new by-pass around the village and 161 people (13%) rejected the idea.

1004 people (83%) supported a ban on large lorries passing through the village on the A415, with 97 people (8%) rejecting it.

A pedestrian crossing on the A415 was the most popular in the list of priorities with 375 people (39% of those who answered the question) choosing to put that as their top priority.



Packhorse Lane

Action	When	Who
35 Lobby to introduce a ban on large lorries (HGVs over 7.5 tonnes) passing through Marcham on the A415	Long term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council
36 Upgrade the new zebra crossing on the A415 between North Street and Mill Road to a pelican crossing	Long term	Parish Council Oxfordshire County Council

▷ Potholes

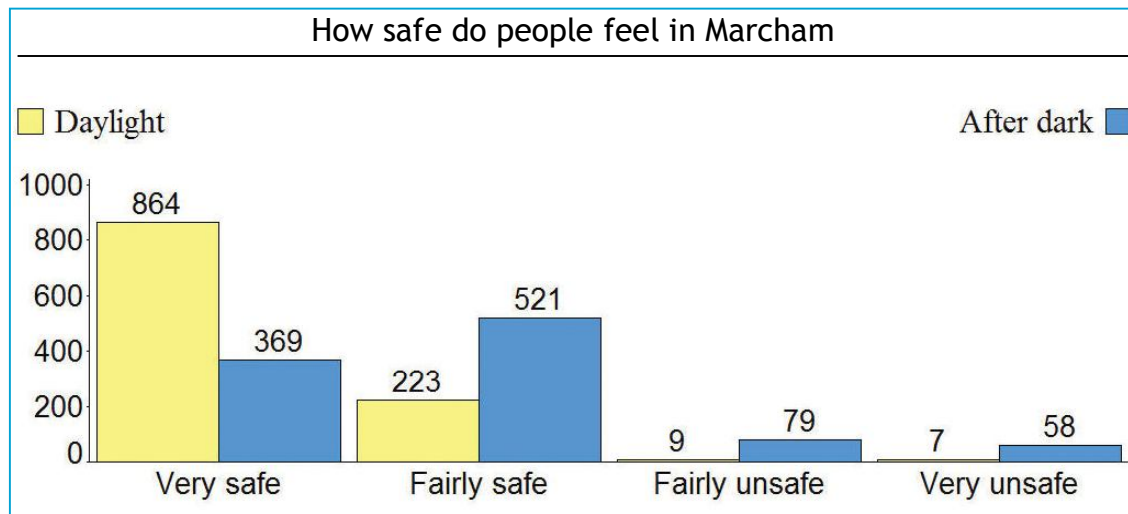
Filling potholes was by far the most popular choice for increased spending in the village. The number of potholes is usually at its lowest level in September when people completed the questionnaire, so this view is likely to be even stronger at other times of the year when bad weather will have taken its toll on our roads.

864 people (72%) would like greater spending on repairing potholes in Marcham, paid for from their Council Tax. 190 people (16%) would like to spend the same and 3 people (0.2%) would like to spend less than is currently spent.

Action	When	Who
37 Ensure that potholes within the village are reported and repaired in a timely manner	On-going	The community Oxfordshire County Council

Crime and community safety

▷ Perceptions of personal safety



851 people (71%) were satisfied with the number of street lights in the village. 750 people (62%) were content with the amount of street lighting from 12.30am to 5.30am, with 215 people (18%) wanting more lights and 106 people (9%) wanting fewer lights during those times.

▷ Reporting crime

Below are the numbers of households where one or more people said they had been a victim of the following crimes in Marcham over the last year:

Break in	14 households (2.5%)
Car theft	11 households (2.0%)
Petty theft	21 households (3.8%)
Vandalism	38 households (6.8%)

It would appear from comparison with police figures that some of these incidents were not reported to the police by the residents concerned. Crime prevention and detection is likely to be more successful if the police have a complete picture of what is happening and where.

Action	When	Who
38 Encourage and improve crime reporting within the village	On-going	Neighbourhood Action Group Our local PCSO

▷ Neighbourhood Watch schemes

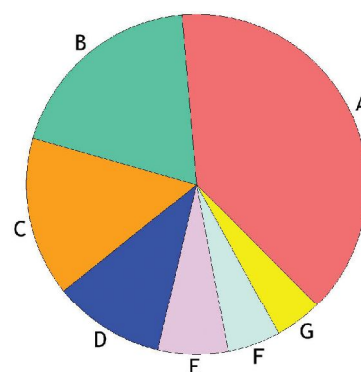
105 households (19%) said that they are currently in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. 267 households (63% of those which are not in such a scheme) would like to join a Neighbourhood Watch scheme if one was started in their road.

Action	When	Who
39 Introduce Neighbourhood Watch schemes on those roads where there is sufficient support from residents	Short term	Neighbourhood Action Group Our local PCSO

Future funding

What do you think should be the highest priority for new spending in Marcham?

A Pedestrian crossing on the A415	38.9%
B Pavement on North Street	19.2%
C Improved storm drainage	15.1%
D A skateboard / BMX area	10.6%
E One or more new footpaths	6.7%
F Other	5%
G Extra bus shelters and RTI screens	4.5%



Residents were asked to choose their highest priority for new spending in Marcham. The list offered was of capital projects, but without any indication of cost. The top three priorities are reflected in actions numbered 36, 12 and 11 respectively.

What happens next

After a copy of this Plan has been delivered to every house in Marcham, the next step will be to set up a new body called the CLP Implementation Group. We will be seeking volunteers to join this new group which will meet regularly to monitor what has been achieved, to identify the obstacles and to exert pressure on Councils and other bodies to carry out the 39 actions.

The Implementation Group will provide an up-to-date progress list for each of the actions on the Marcham Forward website. We will also welcome support from any member of the community in helping to achieve any of the actions in this Plan.

== www.marchamforward.org ==

Unfortunately, for copyright reasons,
we have had to remove the aerial picture
of Marcham from this document

Marcham resources in mid-2013

The following is a list of organisations and resources in Marcham. Up-to-date contact details are on the Marcham Forward website, and/or on individual websites as below:

- Marcham Forward – www.marchamforward.org
- Marcham Parish Council – www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk
- Marcham Community Group – www.marcham.org
- Marcham and District News – www.madnews.co.uk
- Marcham Primary School – www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk
- Marcham pre-School – www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com
- Marcham Society – www.marchamsociety.org.uk
- Marcham Players – www.marchamplayers.co.uk
- Marcham Road Health Centre (nearest doctor) – www.marchamroadhealthcentre.co.uk
- All Saints' Church Marcham with St Luke's Garford – www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk
- Anson Trust – www.ansontrust.org
- Pavements and roads – www.oxfordshire.gov.uk
- Refuse services – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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| • Abingdon Hospital Minor Injuries Unit | • Marcham Rainbows |
| • Baby & Toddler Group | • Marcham Sports, Scouts and Social Club |
| • Bell-ringers | • Marcham Senior Citizens |
| • Flood prevention plan | • Marcham Tennis Association |
| • Friday Club (youth group) | • Marcham WI |
| • Litter Blitz | • Marcham Youth Club |
| • Marcham School Parent Teachers Association | • Men's Breakfast |
| • Marcham Village Shop and Post Office | • Mobile Library |
| • Marcham Baptist Church | • Neighbourhood Action Group |
| • Marcham Bridge Club | • PCSO |
| • Marcham Brownies | • Sunshine Club |
| • Marcham Cricket Club | • TAG Club |
| • Marcham Cubs | • Village Café |
| • Marcham Ex-Servicemen's Club | • Village Diary |
| • Marcham Football Club | • Women's Breakfast |
| • Marcham Guides | |

Data from the questionnaires

A comprehensive analysis of the data from the questionnaires can be found on our website www.marchamforward.org. There is also a data file on the website which contains the complete set of anonymous answers from the questionnaire so that others can also analyse the data for their own purposes.

