

Village Review

Waldringfield



12th January 2012
at the Village Hall

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Waldringfield (a brief background)

Population (approx): 475 (2010)

Working age: 280

Under 16: 65

Over 65: 130

Population split by gender: Male 50%, Female 50%

Village assets: Primary school, Village Hall, Children's Sports Field and Play Space, Church Field, Maybush Public House, Parish Church, Church Rooms, Baptist Chapel, Quay, Sailing Club, Golf Course, Car park.

Local issues known in advance and likely to feature at the meeting:

1. Large planning application by BT
2. 2nd pontoon for boats.

Date held: Thursday 12th January 2012.

Venue: Village hall

Time: 7.30 – 9.45pm

Weather: fine, no rain or frost

No of people attending: 64 (39 females & 25 males, as compared to population statistics which show 50% male/female split)

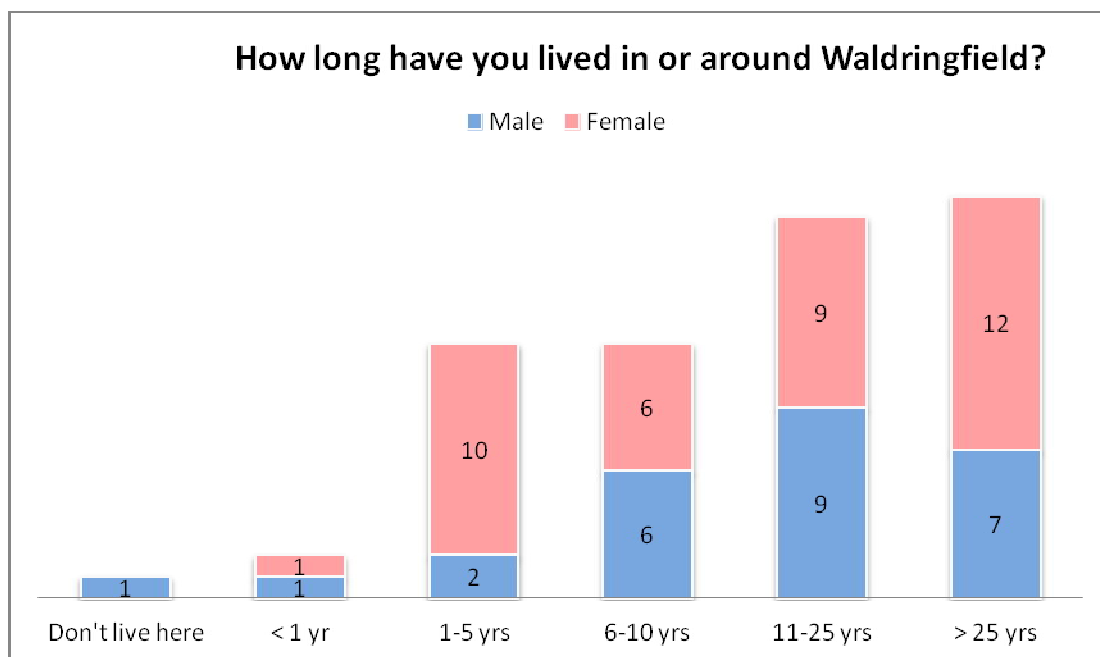
Percentage of population attending: 13.5%

Young People & Families consultation.

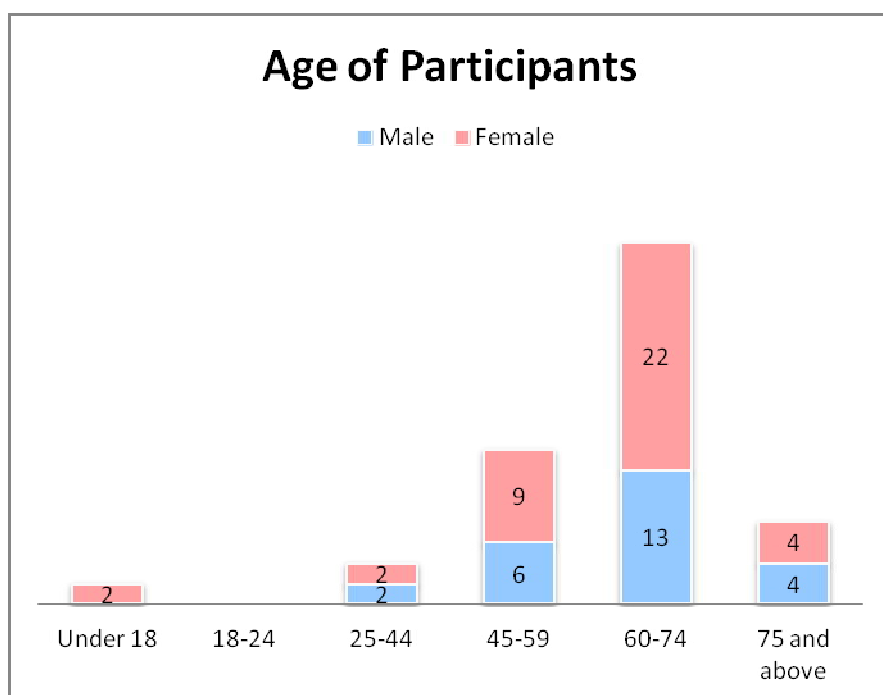
In the afternoon there was a consultation at the school facilitated by an organisation called "Shared Learning" for the young people and their families to express their views, needs and aspirations. This lasted for one and half hours and was split into age groups to help even the youngest children to give their views.

At the evening event an audit of attendees was taken as people arrived to provide basic statistics of age, location and length of stay. This was followed by exercises asking for good points about the village, and what people would like to see in the future to capture positive aspects of living in the village. There was also an exercise to look at where the residents go to access work, leisure and services.

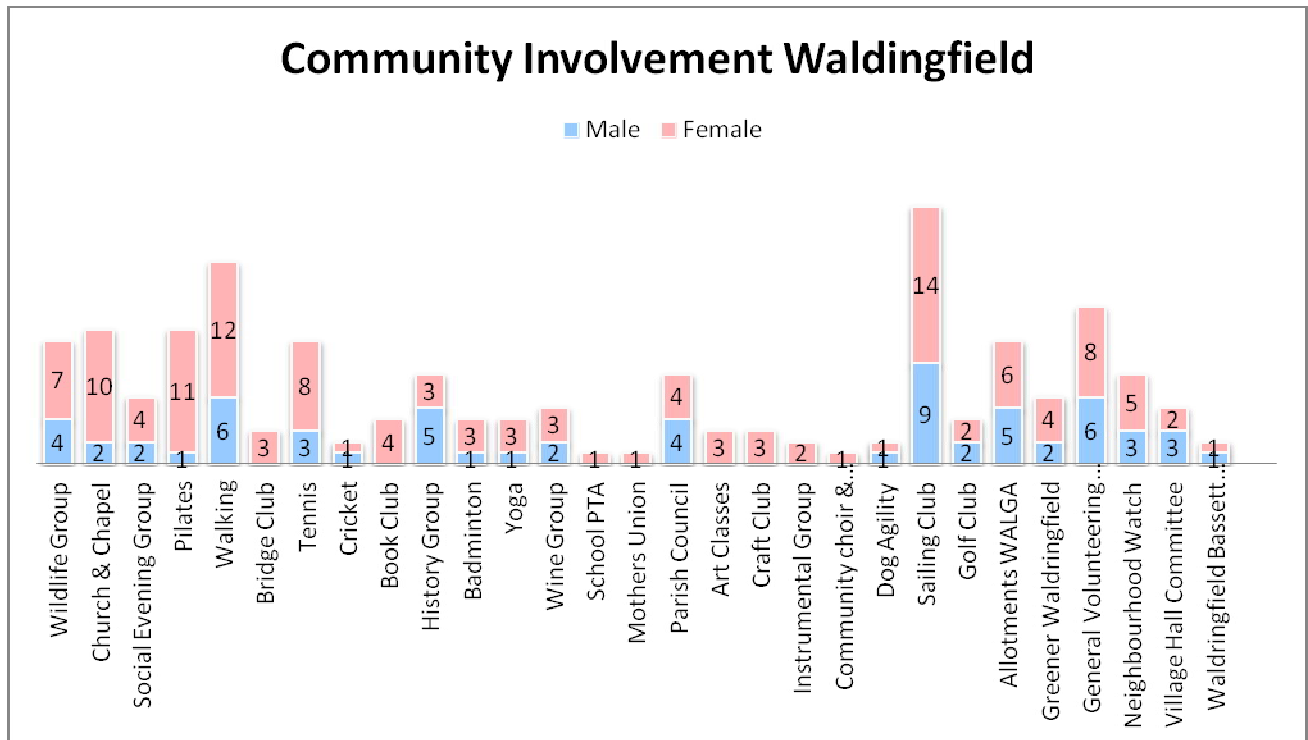
How long have you lived in and around Waldringfield?



Age of Participants.



Community Involvement of those attending.



Other clubs and societies available in the village are a Madrigal Group, Bowls Club, Playgroup, Youth Club, Sea Scouts and Saturday Football.



Map showing the geographical location of participants.

What do you like about Waldringfield?

The top five comments about the village were:

1. Riverside location (36 others agreed)
2. Country walks (29)
3. Friendly atmosphere (28)
4. Active community (26)
5. Excellent village hall (25)

Comment	People in agreement
Although close to services, fairly free of noise and light pollution	19
Currently unspoiled (somewhat but?)	17
The people	17
Sailing	16
Lots of social clubs & activities	15
People, surroundings, river, feel comfortable	10
A really community spirited village with lots of values. Considers people & wildlife etc	9
The river, night sky & walks	8
Special Tranquil place – though far from dead	7
The school	7
It's a dead end road	6
Almost face – to – face size	5
Large number of public footpaths & bridleways (not enough)	5
River Deben AONB & use by many on river & banks & beach	5
It's a pleasant English village	3
Church field	3
Pub	3
Variety of people within the population	3
My neighbours	3
Riding	3
The pace of life	
Comparatively peaceful, not urban	
Clean air and lack of light pollution	
The view of the river in all seasons	

Where do you go for work (paid or unpaid)?

Comment	Number of other people
Ipswich	9
Waldringfield	8
Woodbridge	7
London	6
Work from home	5
Retired	3
Martlesham	2
Woolverstone	1
Felixstowe	1
Sudbury	1
Eye, Suffolk	
Levington (Dog Agility)	
Hollesley	
Melton	
Colchester	
Waldringfield & District	
All over UK	

Where do you go for leisure?

Place	Number of other people
Waldringfield	33
Woodbridge	25
The Deben Estuary	23
Sailing	18
Snape	17
Ipswich	14
Felixstowe	9
Minsmere	9
Orford	9
Newbourne & Hemley	6
Cambridge	6
Levington Marina	5
Aldeburgh	5
London	4
Rendlesham & Forest	4
Bury St Edmunds	3
Colchester (Theatre & Gallery)	3
To bed	3
Gleaving Badminton Club	2
Golf Club	2
BT gym	1
Halesworth	1

Where do you go to access services (including shops)?

Place	Number of other people
TESCO	32
Martlesham Heath	13
Martlesham	10
Ipswich	21
Bury St Edmunds	5
Woodbridge	40
Martlesham & Woodbridge	7
Norwich	6
Felixstowe	17
On-Line	12
Newbourne Farm Shop	30
Warren Heath/Ransomes	14

The exercise shows people in the village need to travel widely to access work and other services.

How do you see the village in 10 years time?

Comment	People in agreement
Much busier, & noisier	24
Swamped by leisure seekers from increased housing nearby	22
More traffic, more houses, (No!)	17
Trying to maintain its identity as a village	16
Ipswich Suburb - yuk	15
Ageing population	13
More traffic, more people, more houses (No!), (Hope not)	12
Cut in local services	12
More trees and wild flowers thanks to current planting plans	9
Transport anxieties	9
Overrun with visitors, ageing population	7
More criminality (burglaries, doorstep scammers)	7
Probably busy but hopefully retaining a friendly & close environment as it always has	6
Need a village shop	6
Keep our country lanes	5
More children please!!	5
As part of Ipswich/Woodbridge/Felixstowe Area	5
Village identity lost to creeping urbanisation Urgh!!	3
Village school in jeopardy	2
Adastral Park Development – swamping Waldringfield	1
A thriving village that includes “Waldringfield Boatyard CIC	1
Not much change	
More second homes creeping up, need a more diverse community	
Devastation of the wildlife within the village & outlying area!!	

We then conducted a “needs analysis” to look at areas people felt needed some sort of action and had 5 sheets on which they could leave comments about issues they were concerned about. If there was a comment there already that they agreed with they didn’t need to write it again they could put a tick against it.

They were then given 3 red dots each and asked to put a dot against the issues they felt were the most important to them. The 8 or so issues with the most dots were then discussed by groups on the night and an Action Plan produced to take forward the actions each group agreed on.

Comments on the 5 Topic Sheets

Parish/Town Council Effectiveness & Utilities

Comment	People in agreement	Votes
Village hall needs broadband internet	20	9
Mains gas please	13	6
Bury the electricity cables & SCDC	7	1
Enhanced mobile phone reception	6	4
Maintenance of trees re electricity cables	5	
More public participation in parish council	2	
Less power cuts	1	
Internet (cafe) access at village hall for those who don’t have PCs etc	1	
Utilities		
Parish Council, less of a talking shop & more action		

Community Services, Social Interaction, Communication & Village Hall

Comment	People in agreement	Votes
Community village shop	17	3
Public Loos	10	3
Support for older citizens who don’t have computer or internet	10	
Maintenance to make existing footpaths more accessible in bad weather	9	
Local coffee shop - could be in village hall	7	
Public toilets	6	2
Welcome leaflet for newcomers	6	
Equipment sharing scheme	4	
Online services, library, postman, milkman	3	
Neighbourhood Watch – people not online don’t get told	2	
Access to libraries	2	
Networking club, men & women during the day – speakers etc, focus on business	2	
More support for mobile library	1	
Time banking – (What’s this?)	1	
Bowls Club		

Traffic/Transport/Highways

Comment	People in agreement	Votes
We need to limit the size of trucks entering the village	14	1
30 mph sign from Golf Club to village	11	4
20 mph throughout village	9	1
Flashing 30 sign for speeding coming into village (solar pane!)	8	5
No street lights	6	4
Slow school mums and visiting sailors down, thru village	6	1
Cycle paths	4	
Dangerous road junction- crossroad by Fishpond Road	4	
No more humps	3	3
Toll booth at crossroads	3	1
No new traffic lights on the A12	3	
Road confidence building for cyclists (courses) – (it will happen)	2	
Lift sharing	2	
Transport into Ipswich & Woodbridge for the car-less	2	1
Traffic calming from Heath crossroads to School Road to School	2	
2 sleeping policemen near sewage works to prevent “rat run” in Sandy Lane/Fishpond	2	
30 mph limit between fishpond & crossroads	2	10
Clearer signage as you come into School Road on the corner that pedestrians may be in the road – have nearly been hit several times whilst walking dog around corner to Fishpond Road	2	1
Speed restriction needed on 30 mph winding approach road into village – serious accident waiting to happen	2	2
White line centre of road: Village to Golf Club crossroads	2	
Dangerous road junction	2	
New route to riverside car parks to take traffic out of village street	2	1
Right of way for vehicles into School Lane (access to village hall & parking at school time) to avoid near misses	1	
Dial-a-ride	1	
Orwell Bridge lock – ups will be regular from next year	1	
20 mph limit in School Road or pavements		
Speed limit on road into village & road to Low Farm		1
Path on T- junction at start of village (dangerous!)		

Health/Education/Child Care/Young/Old

Comments	People in agreement	Votes
Have a "Parish Volunteers List" – people able to help others with a list of skills they can offer	7	1
Opportunities to learn skills like – composting, grafting trees, planting and pruning trees	8	
Adult education opportunities, computer training, local history, foreign languages	5	1
Computer Club for both young and old	4	
Celebrate "Waldringfield Smugglers Day" 17 April (1783?)	2	
List of vulnerable, i.e. elderly (?) who may require help/support in emergency	8	
Use of village hall for youth/community clubs, scouts, brownies etc Holiday club, after school clubs	4	
Play equipment – area for ages 1 month to 4 years behind railings. Adventure area for ages 5+	4	1
To identify the improvements needed for the playing fields	1	
We need a play area for children other than the park for events/campouts/adventure. Like Newbourne	4	
Children's playgroup	1	
We need some youth leisure activities in the village	5	
Keep our Primary School	28	14

Natural Environment/Environment/Housing/Business

Comments	People in agreement	Votes
Conservation of green space, river, village life	1	3
We need TPO's on our best trees (yes)	10	3
Survey of dangerous dead trees at roadside	8	1
Keep a check on dog fouling	11	1
Local composting scheme - (Why?)	12	1
Pond restoration	2	
Access to local food - allotments	8	1
Allotments and community orchard	11	4
Orchards	9	2
Footpath from Back Road to Newbourne Road through Cross Farm	1	1
More Bridle Paths inc Circular	2	
More circular footpaths	8	1
Establish a "river" footpath route to Woodbridge not on roads	4	
Reclaim footpaths/extend footpaths along banks of the Deben	5	2
No marina development – preserve riverside environment	7	
No pontoon	15	4
Should not be a new pontoon	14	5

Limit influence of Yacht Club on foreshore	6	
No to dinghies on foreshore in winter		
More understanding by sailing club of villagers' interests. The Deben doesn't belong to sailors	5	
Sailing Club & villagers to build bridges		2
Local marina (v. Basic) with corresponding reduction in moorings – (NO!!)	2	1
Find a young boat builder who wants to work here	3	
Repair to river wall to allow walk to Martlesham Creek	1	
ENVIRONMENT Minimise any change that involves building or structures i.e. Environment Agency fencing around sluices		1
I'd like to see walls restored especially the breach	1	3
Breach of defence at footpath near swing in wood (between Waldringfield & Martlesham Creek)	2	
Cannot use the footpath (towards Martlesham Creek) at this time of year – consider surface of the path to improve accessibility	3	1
River Deben needs to be protected against damage by increasing visitor pressure	16	9
We must strengthen the status of AONB or improve our ability to preserve the natural wildlife		2
Democratically elected Fairway committee	5	
Do not expand village envelope		1
Expand village envelope		
Minimise change – housing to be appropriate within envelope – business must not increase traffic	7	4
Housing stock pressures since 1948 – where is the land coming from?		1
A few homes – affordable - <u>family</u>	9	1
No large housing development	11	
Turn down Adastral 200 house development – wish that SCDC paid attention to our local planning concerns	23	32

Top issues in terms of votes (red dots) cast on the night.

Housing development issues & SCDC not listening to villagers	32
Speeding in the village	30
Keep our Primary School	12
Protection of the Deben Estuary from erosion	9
"No" to a new pontoon	9
Faster Broadband/Broadband in VH	7
Forming an energy group (mains gas)	6
Securing allotment land	5

These were the issues (with related subjects) discussed on the night however there were a number of other issues identified which the Steering Group/Parish Council may wish to follow up.

Additional information from discussions.

Traffic

Topics discussed:

School parking – parking for school drop off and pick up is needed.

Speeding through the village is a concern:

- Reduction of speed limit
- More speeding solutions needed
- Flashing signs – lots of suggestions for locations
- Community Speedwatch – position of camera may be a problem

Streetlights – majority do not want any in the village.

Large developments planned as part of LDF

- There has been no consultation with the village since 2008.
- SCDC wouldn't give them 10 minutes at a Council Meeting despite a 4000 signature petition so villagers feel no-one wants to listen or discuss issues with them.
- Feel that a number of planning applications have been turned down with the AONB being given as a reason, but the Adastral Park will be closer to the village than any of the other applications were.
- There is concern about the sustainability of a large housing scheme
- Concern about the A12 & A14 especially which is having trouble coping with the present level of traffic
- There were also concerns about employment and that jobs the housing was being built for were vanishing
- Villagers are not convinced there is a demand for the level of housing in the area and that this will be another commuter development with people adding to the gridlock on the roads
- They would like to talk with SCDC and look at the process and impacts together in an objective way, villagers are not sure that the fundamental basis for housing and development is sound.
- They would like the AAP to happen and hope it will be done properly and thoroughly

Resources for your next steps

General help:

County Councillor:

Patricia O'Brien patricia.obrien@suffolk.gov.uk

District Councillor:

Patricia O'Brien – 01394 448228 patricia.obrien@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Veronica Falconer

Our Place Officer:

Denise Whiting – 07917 085214 denise.whiting@suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk County Council liaison:

Alison Wheatland – 01473 264403 alison.wheatland@suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk Coastal Resource Network (SCRN)

www.scrn.co.uk

Community Action Suffolk:

Gillian Benjamin (Community Led Planning Officer) – 01473 345327
gillian.benjamin@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Sunila Osborne (Rural Housing Enabler) – 01473 345344
sunila.osborne@scommunityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Robert Horn (Village Halls Advisor) – 01473 345359
robert.horn@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Elizabeth Storer (Funding Advisor) – 01473 345311
elizabeth.storer@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Nat Bocking (Good Neighbour Schemes) – 01473 345358
nat.bocking@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Barry Henson (Enterprise Support) – 01473 345332
barry.henson@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Waldringfield Village Review Action Plan 12th January 2012								
What is the issue?	Action to be taken	Who is to lead the action?	Partners	Do you need to recruit help?	Are you going to involve the community?	How are you going to finance the action?	When do you propose to start?	How long will it take?
Keep our Primary School (Keep the Village alive)	Look into: 1. Reputation of school.	Parish Council, LA's,	SCC Education	Consult with other parishes for support.	Yes – awareness, word of mouth. Support for school. Jubilee celebrations	Volunteers, parents, community. Sponsorship from local businesses.	On-going? Raising the profile	?
	2. Sustainability of community							
	3. Determine the threat							
	4. Do a local Housing Needs Survey							

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The Parish would like to discuss with SCDC the impact of the housing allocation within the Ipswich Policy Area of the Core Strategy and the process that was followed to identify a site specific location within a strategic document.	Therefore will arrange a meeting with Philip Ridley to review the current situation and examine the issues in greater depth.	Parish Council	NANT	On going	Already involved	Already financed	ASAP	?

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Speeding in the village between Fishpond & Crossroads	1.Revitalise the Traffic group	Parish Council	Other Parish Councils who have done this, Highways, Police, SNT, volunteers in community	Volunteers	Request accidents are reported. Publicity in Focus Magazine, Parish Magazine requesting volunteers. Flyers through doors. Posters	Through parish Precept	Next Parish Council Meeting	4 months
	2. Look into traffic calming							
	3. Talk to other Parish Councils							
	4. Book SCC Speed Camera							
	5. Investigate Community Speedwatch							

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"No" to a New Pontoon at the Sailing Club which has been turned down by SCDC but they may appeal.	If there is an appeal – resist any action by the Sailing Club to pursue the action. Network more widely to seek external support for the campaign to oppose their campaign.	Parish Council	?	Find external supporters to bolster the case against the pontoon.	Letter writing and campaign (again)	?	?	?

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Protection of the Deben Estuary from erosion. (what are the Environment Agency planning to do with this stretch of river?).	1. Maintenance of footpath – all sections up and down river.	Parish Council (What is the Parish Council Policy on this issue?)	Brett Quarries (Footpath materials), SCDC (re TPOs), “Fairway” Committees, Environment Agency, River Deben Association, Deben Estuary Partnership, AONB, Sailing Club, Pub, landowners	Partners as listed (need to map out the roles and responsibilities of all involved).	Some volunteers have offered to help	Parish Council is funding some work already	Attend Parish council meeting	?
	2. Provide bridge across breach between Waldringfield and Martlesham.							

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	3. Policing of speedboats, especially after dark							
	4. Promote respect between all river users							
	5. Consider the volume of use of the estuary & its impact on sensitive areas.							
	6. Protect the estuary landscape, including seawall & trees (TPOs)							

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Securing Land for Allotments	Approach the parish Council regarding purchasing/finding land for allotments	WALGA	Parish Councils (3 of them), Suffolk Traditional Orchard Group, Tree Warden, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, SCDC.	Funding Advice – Suffolk ACRE, & SCDC	School has been involved already.	Grant funding, fundraising, in kind donations, volunteers.	On going	?
Faster Broadband/ Broadband in Village Hall	Encourage participation in SCC survey of Broadband	Parish Council			Publicise the web link by widest means possible and encourage people to complete survey.			

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Broad range of energy issues – supply, cost etc	1. Parish plan to include the formation of an Energy Planning Group.	Parish Council (to start with)	?	Volunteers to form group	Publicity to get volunteers	?	?	?
	2. Advice to villagers on energy use.							