

Useful Contacts

Doctors' Surgery

Dorrington – 718486

Bayston Hill – 874565

Police & Security

Non-Emergency – 0300 333 000

Emergency – 999

Local Policing Team – 264788

Ryton Neighbourhood Watch – 718194

Stapleton and Area Neighbourhood

Watch Co-ordinator – 07759 686725

Post Offices & Shops

Condover Post Office & Shop – 872216

Condover Butcher, Bert Butler – 872269

Dorrington Post Office – 719088

Dorrington Village Stores – 718206

Dorrington Butcher, Sadds – 718215

Long Gardens Garage & Shop – 718275

Recreation Ground Contacts:

Dorrington, John Beech – 718547

Condover, David Lane – 871107

Transport

Bus timetable – 0871 200 2233

To book a bus – 0345 678 9068

Publicity

Condover Church Magazine – 872486

The Six Parishes Magazine,

Sue and Mike James – m.james@lineone.net

Pubs & Social Club

Condover Social Club – 872763

The Bridge Inn, Dorrington – 718209

The Horse Shoe Inn, Dorrington – 718305

The Fox Inn, Ryton – 718499

Schools

Condover CE Primary School – 872108

Dorrington CE Primary School – 718462

Dorrington Nursery, Anna Dowsett – 01694 751216

Village Halls

Condover, Jackie Pearson – 873984

Dorrington, Ruth Lawrence – 718838

Ryton, Didi Wilde – 718932

Stapleton, Tony or Linda Tudor – 718274



Condover Parish Plan Summer 2009



Key values

What we value in Condover Parish

88% of us feel safe where we live and walking around our Parish.

98% of us value our local services such as post offices, shops, village halls and recycling facilities.

83% of us feel green space within our village development lines must be protected.

87% of us feel the future of the schools in our Parish should be safeguarded.

Introduction

Condover Parish Plan consolidates the aims and aspirations of the residents and businesses within our parish. These views will guide the economic, environmental and social developments of the Condover area in the coming years.

Condover Parish is situated approximately 7 miles from Shrewsbury and consists of the four rural villages of Condover, Dorrington, Ryton, Stapleton and a number of hamlets and outlying farms. The area is enjoyed by an electorate of approximately 1,458. Condover Parish has a comparatively large and predominantly rural area. Of the principal settlements, Ryton and Stapleton are both small villages. Condover is a much larger village, part of it centred around the historic Parish church and Condover Hall, and is a designated Conservation Area.

The other large village in the Parish is Dorrington, which is bisected by the A49 trunk road. The Parish has two industrial estates and there are three sand and gravel quarries. There are two Primary Schools, one in Dorrington, and the other in Condover.

Condover is a large and diverse parish which includes a range of different sized settlements. Despite this, the values and issues raised throughout the Parish Plan consultation period were generally not area-specific. The strengths and areas for improvement across the whole of our Parish are very similar regardless of where we work or live.

Main issues across all the villages in our parish

We want more provision for our teenagers and young people.

We want a pedestrian crossing across the A49 in Dorrington.

We are concerned about speeding traffic on our roads.

We would like a Parish map to show footpaths, bridleways and places of interest.

We want better information on local events and groups.

We want more accessible green space.



The steering group

The idea of a Parish Plan was initiated by the Parish Council. They needed to hear the views of the residents and businesses in Condover Parish to create a structured action plan to guide future activity in the area. This plan was written by residents, for the community.

Condover Parish Plan Steering Group was formed after a public launch meeting held in June 2008. The Community Council of Shropshire gave the group active support and funding guidance. A grant of £2000 was secured from Defra through the Community Council. Condover Parish Council donated £500. The remaining costs were made up of donations in kind through volunteer time to the value of over £2000.

This plan was written by residents, for the community.



Information gathering

Suggestion boxes were placed around the Parish and volunteers were asked for their views at community events throughout the summer and autumn of 2008. Local businesses were consulted by letter in August 2008. Written feedback via Condover Parish newsletter was received in October 2008. Condover and Dorrington Primary Schools enjoyed an interactive pod voting session in January 2009 to give their views. Information was finally collected from a household questionnaire delivered to every household in the Parish.

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The detailed information gained from the questionnaire will remain a useful document for the whole community when seeking funding for a particular scheme and to guide the Parish Council with a clear mandate.

The Parish Plan

The first phase of the Condover Parish Plan has now been finalised, taking into account the majority views of the people living and working in the Parish.

This document identifies achievable goals for the development of our Parish over the coming years. The detailed information gained from the questionnaire will remain a useful document for the whole community when they are seeking funding for a particular scheme and also to guide the Parish Council with a clear mandate.

Volunteers who put their names forward during the plan process will continue to push practical ideas forward through specific projects, actions and implementation groups.

The Plan will be regularly reviewed by the Parish Council. Look out in their newsletter for updates. Copies will also be given to Shropshire Council representatives.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who have given a considerable amount of time throughout the Parish Plan process and made it all happen:

- Everyone who filled in a questionnaire or a suggestion card.
- Everyone who has attended a Parish plan event.
- Everyone who delivered and collected the questionnaires.
- Everyone on the steering group.
- All the children at our two Parish primary schools for their feedback via interactive pod voting.

Leisure

There are a great number of active groups within Conover Parish, making use of a variety of meeting places. The village halls host a range of activities such as Brownies, football clubs, pre-school groups, drama, bridge, cricket, horticultural society, WI, historical society, yoga, badminton, art and many, many more.

Both Dorrington and Conover have recreation grounds, of which the Parish Council is Trustee. Both host senior and junior football teams. There is a Cricket club at Conover, and a well-established Bowling Club at Dorrington. In both villages there is an interest in developing tennis courts. Adjoining Conover is Shrewsbury Golf Course which is actively encouraging players of all ages.

Many people commented on the lack of publicised information available.

Children were very clear that they wanted more after school clubs.

Actions

- 1 Encourage all groups within the Parish to publicise their events through a common route.
- 2 Set up an events diary document / website for all Parish residents to access up to date information.
- 3 Facilitate and support provision of a play area in Conover.
- 4 Establish a youth club in the Parish, or transport to other clubs in the area for the young people. Contact Shropshire Youth Association.
- 5 Establish a youth representative link with Conover Parish Council and a youth forum.
- 6 Pass on event needs to village hall committees.

Children at Dorrington and Conover Primary Schools were very clear that they wanted more after school clubs including sports and a youth club, and area to 'hang out'. They also wanted to create a wildlife area to explore. A large number of people in Conover expressed the need for a children's play park.



Education

The Parish has a pre-school in Conover and a nursery in Dorrington. Both villages also have active toddler groups. Many children between the ages of 5 – 11 in the Parish attend their local school. 87% of those who answered the questionnaire felt the future of the schools in our Parish should be safeguarded. Young people must travel outside the Parish to access secondary and further education.

Children at Conover Primary School were clear that they felt unsafe crossing the road to school during pick up and drop off times. They wanted to feel safe moving around their village. Children at Dorrington Primary School wanted improved crossing provision across the A49 – see roads and transport section.

Conover Hall is currently vacant, but has previously provided services for young people with special needs.

There are opportunities for adult education within the Parish and respondents have asked for more. Computer skills, languages and art, local history and photography classes had the most support. 71% of those who answered the questionnaire felt that school buildings should be used for community use out of hours.

Broadplace is available at Conover Social Club offering access to computers and the internet to all.



There is a demand for adult education within the Parish.

Actions

- 1 Greater use of schools out of hours to be investigated by the schools, perhaps through Extended Schools initiative. Parish Council to detail community findings to school governors.
- 2 Improve school transport to reduce traffic and parking issues, especially at Conover Primary.
- 3 Pass on adult education needs to village hall committees, schools and Shire Hall.
- 4 Use Parish Plan as reference document to support school action group against school closures.

Community

Within Conover Parish there are various retail and industrial outlets. 98% of residents who answered the questionnaire value their local services such as churches, post offices, shops, village halls, doctors, pubs and recycling facilities, saying they represent an essential resource for the community. Village halls and other social clubs were seen as vital to the future of the community, but residents expressed a need for better information on local groups and parish services. Community spirit in Conover Parish was not seen as being very high.

98% of residents who answered the questionnaire value their local services such as churches, post offices, shops, village halls, doctors, pubs and recycling facilities.

Actions

- 1 Set up an events diary document / website for all Parish residents to access up to date information to encourage residents to participate in village life.
- 2 Promote access to services, footpaths and bridleways. Produce a Parish map showing key areas of interest.
- 3 Use the Parish plan document to ensure local services are kept if ever under threat. Encourage greater patronage of local businesses.



Roads & Transport

As a rural Parish, roads and transport are an important part of our lives for both work and leisure. Conover Parish is served by public transport, but people living in the Parish would like to see more frequent buses. Parking is a problem in some areas, particularly at certain times of the day. Speeding traffic is a real concern – we want safer roads, particularly outside schools and in our residential areas. There is one main trunk road through the Conover Parish, which dissects Dorrington, yet there is no provision for pedestrians to cross safely. We value our public footpaths and bridleways and would like to see them improved.

Since the research for the Parish Plan was conducted we have found out that there will be 30mph speed limits enforced through our villages.



Actions

- 1 Research the Highways Agency's parameters and requirements for provision of a crossing on the A49 in Dorrington. Lobby for action on this issue.
- 2 Discuss public transport and cycle network with Conover Parish Council, the Community Council and Shropshire Council.
- 3 Lobby for 20mph speed limits outside schools in the Parish.
- 4 Create a map showing all footpaths, cycle paths, bridleways and publicise local groups.

Speeding traffic is a real concern – we want safer roads, particularly outside schools and in our residential areas.

Housing

Situated in a rural area, Condover Parish has a mixture of old and new properties in an area possessing spectacular views and natural environment. The Parish Plan research has confirmed that there is a perceived shortage of housing for both older residents and young families in certain areas of the Parish. However this is not quantified.

It is strongly felt that there should be no development on current green field sites within the Parish.

It is strongly felt that green spaces within the village development lines must be protected.

Overall people feel that the Parish is not well suited to new housing development.

It is strongly felt that there should be no development on current green field sites within the Parish.



Actions

- 1 Parish Council to determine the actual need for affordable and social housing in the Parish. Put this in to Village Design Statements.
- 2 Discuss the issue of Village Design Statements with Parish Council and Shropshire Council to protect the appearance of the Parish. Put views on housing style guidelines, scale of new development and suitable location of new development in to the Local Development Framework.

Environment

Condover Parish is a large rural Parish and many people have commented on the pleasant views and village atmosphere of where they live and work. 83% of us feel green space within our village development lines must be protected.

Many people have commented on the problems of dog fouling and speeding traffic in the parish. It was also noted that residents did not want an increase in street lighting, many saying that we could reduce the amount we have already.

Many people have commented on the pleasant views and village atmosphere of where they live and work.



Actions

- 1 Ensure Condover Parish Council represents views of residents and uses Parish Plan document when responding to planning development which may affect Parish green spaces and street lighting. Develop Village Design Statements to protect and secure the appearance of the main settlements within the Parish.
- 2 Establish a village green in all main settlements.
- 3 Create a Parish map to show footpaths, bridleways and places of interest.
- 4 Promote responsible dog ownership through education and information.
- 5 Set up footpath volunteer group with Shropshire Council to facilitate keeping our footpaths clear in the parish.
- 6 Explore other uses of existing green spaces within the Parish such as wildlife reserves, public open spaces and green corridors between villages.
- 7 Encourage litter picking amongst residents, keeping their own patch clean and tidy.

Safety

Condover Parish is considered to be a safe place to live and work. 88% of us feel safe where we live and walking around our Parish. Despite this, people want more local policing in the Parish. Main concerns included speeding traffic, vandalism and burglary.

88% of us feel safe where we live and walking around our Parish.



Actions

- 1 Support the expansion of Neighbourhood Watch schemes.
- 2 Pass on areas of concern to our local policing unit.
- 3 Encourage greater attendance of Partnership and Community Together (PACT) meetings where local policing matters are discussed and useful information given. Call 264788 for details.
- 4 Ensure current levels of policing are maintained or increased. Monitor impact of new local police post at Condover, which provides a service for the whole Parish.

Condover Parish Council

There is a proactive Parish Council, currently made up of 14 volunteers. The Parish Council has the responsibility for providing certain services within Condover Parish:

- Commenting on planning applications.
- Liaison with Shropshire Council and various other agencies.
- Street lighting and footpaths.
- Reporting highway maintenance issues.
- Dissemination of information via notice boards, newsletters and the Parish Council website:
www.2shrop.net/condoverparishcouncil
- Providing surgeries at Dorrington Village Hall or Condover Social Club.

Local Government

Condover Parish Clerk:
Sue Hackett – 719012

Parish Council Chairman:
Tony Tudor – 718274

Dorrington Councillors:
Dania Evans – 718208
John Farley – 718402
Dennis Oakley – 718264
Lee Crowhurst – 718049

Condover Councillors:
Edna Francis – 873169
Penny Haynes – 872659
Jean Jackson – 873710
David Lane – 871107
Jackie Powell – 871063

Ryton Councillor:
Belinda Cousins – 718237

Stapleton Councillors:
Mike Bradbury – 07759 686725
Tony Tudor – 718274

Shropshire Councillor:
Tim Barker – 01694 731318

Shire Hall: 0345 6789000

Shropshire Council website:
www.shropshire.gov.uk

Actions

- 1 Promote access to details of Parish activity and community provision, for example, through Parish newsletters and notice-boards.
- 2 Communicate progress with Condover Parish Plan to Parish residents.



What has been done so far across the Parish?

Footpath and open spaces volunteers forwarded to Shropshire Council to set up task force for action. Training and resources will be provided.

Churchyard maintenance volunteers forwarded to church wardens in the Parish.

Litter picking group set up.

Adult education needs sent to village hall committees and Shire Hall.

Gardening for the elderly volunteer contacts forwarded to the Horticultural Society.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers forwarded to Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

Youth Bus booked to visit Dorrington and Condober during the summer holidays 2009.



Communication in Condober Parish

Main methods of communication used in the Parish are:

- Parish and village hall notice boards.
- Parish Council newsletter – you should get one delivered, free of charge, four times every year. If not, contact Sue Hackett at condoverpc@btinternet.com or on 01743 719012.
- Six Parishes magazine (inc Dorrington and Stapleton).
- United Benefice of Condober, Parish magazine (inc Ryton).
- Parish Council website: www.2shrop.net/condoverparishcouncil
- Weekly report in the Shrewsbury Chronicle.

What now?

Look out for your Parish Council newsletter which will update you on the progress with the Parish Plan. This will be a regular agenda item for the Parish Council.

If anything in this plan has inspired you to get involved, please contact Kirsten Mould on jkmould@aol.com or 01743 718061.