

Caythorpe and Frieston

Parish Plan 2016



Aerial view of the parish viewed from the west

Contents

	Page
1.0 Introduction	3
1.1 The Parish Plan	3
1.2 Location	3
1.3 Brief history	3
1.4 The parish today	3
2.0 Preparing the plan	5
2.1 Consultation process	5
2.2 Review group membership	5
2.3 Household survey	5
2.4 Plan timetable	6
2.5 Response to household survey	6
2.6 Survey highlights	6
3.0 Plans and priorities	7
3.1 Housing	7
3.2 Roads, parking and congestion	8
3.3 Pavements and footpaths	9
3.4 Public transport	10
3.5 Pollution	11
3.6 Shops, businesses and employment	12
3.7 Children and child care	12
3.8 Recreation and leisure	13
3.9 Community safety	14
3.10 The environment	15
3.11 Volunteering and skill sharing	16
3.12 Information and communication	17
4.0 Next steps	18
5.0 General Information	19

1. Introduction

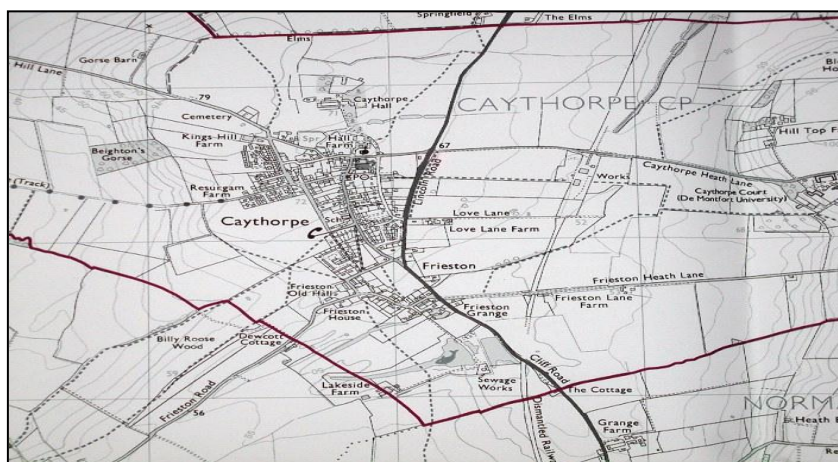
1.1 THE PARISH PLAN The previous parish plan, published in 2010, identified local problems and opportunities, described progress over the last five years and set out new priorities for the future. Building on these achievements, this next plan follows a series of listening events with different communities of interest, as well as a parish household survey. The evidence from these initiatives informs new planning priorities for the next five years.

1.2 LOCATION The parish of Caythorpe and Frieston lies 11 miles south-east of Newark-upon-Trent, 10 miles north of Grantham and 15 miles south of Lincoln in the county of Lincolnshire. The parish covers approximately 4,250 acres. To the west is the river Brant and on the east is the old Roman road of Ermine Street (known locally as the High Dyke). The largest centre of population is the village of Caythorpe together with the smaller hamlet of Frieston.

1.3 BRIEF HISTORY The origin of the name Caythorpe is possibly derived from the Old Norse, Kati's (a Viking personal name) outlying farmstead/hamlet (ON.thorpe). Caythorpe's Saxon name was believed to be "Kari-torp" meaning the settlement of the 'happy man'. There is evidence of Roman occupation and it has been established that there was a Roman camp at Honington, two miles to the south. It is likely that the Romans also had a holding camp at Hough on the Hill, just a mile away from Caythorpe. Not until the Domesday Book entry in 1086 is the village referred to as "Catorp", and by then it was a settlement held by a Norman lord, Robert de Vesci. It had two churches, a hall and a park, and was the proud owner of half a mill, which it shared with 'Fristun'. A map of 1576 shows the village name as 'Cathorpe' which eventually, after a few more spelling changes, became 'Caythorpe'. By the end of the 19th Century there were three large estates in the village - Holy Cross, Caythorpe Hall and Frieston Hall. The parish church of St Vincent is a cruciform building of Ancaster stone. It is presently undergoing restoration to the roofing and interior.

1.4 THE PARISH TODAY

Community The parish has a very strong sense of community and is a sought-after place in which to live. Residents have embraced change over the years but are keen to ensure that a balance is maintained between living in a rural community whilst at the same time benefiting from a range of local services and facilities. The need for growth and change is accepted but at a pace that will not have a significant or detrimental impact on existing lifestyles. Hence any changes should be incremental, and in sympathy with both the environment and with the aspirations of the people who live and work here.



Local Service Centre The parish is designated as a Local Service Centre (LSC) in the South Kesteven Local Development Framework (LDF) which provides the development plan for our area. This takes account of services and facilities considered to be essential or desirable to meet the daily needs of local communities. In effect, this means that some development is being directed towards our village to enable it to remain a sustainable community. This is good for the village in that South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) will ensure that services are provided or sustained to meet local needs for the foreseeable future; and support will be given to proposals and activities that protect, retain or enhance existing community assets, or lead to the provision of additional assets that improve community well-being. However, as explained in para 3.1 below, at the time this plan is being produced SKDC is revising the development plan for the area and changes may be made as a result of this.

Population At the time of the 2011 census the parish had 552 residential properties and a population of 1,374 people (48.6% male and 51.4% female). In terms of age group, 27.1% of the population was aged less than 25 yrs; 19.1% 25-44 yrs; 29.9% 45-64 yrs; 13.7% 65-74 yrs and 10.2% 75+ yrs. Since the 2011 census there has been some new but limited house building so the number of residential properties is currently in the region of 560.

Enterprise and business Caythorpe and Frieston is a rural parish. Farming still dominates local land use, but two larger employers, Mid UK (Recycling) Ltd and PGL Travel Ltd., provide important employment opportunities for local people. Other employers include the Primary School, two service garages, a window company, two public houses, medical centre, two craft/interior design retailers, SPAR general store, hair and beauty salon, post office, cycle repair service, garden/landscape design, computer repair and IT support, heating, plumbing and electrical services, painting and decorating services, roofing and plastering services, driving school, dog walking and training, cleaning services, packaging consultancy, chimney sweep and a residential care home. There are also important mobile services, for example fresh fish, milk, logs, coal and, most recently, a fish and chips van; and also domiciliary services such as podiatry/chiropractic. The Elms Farm site includes an equestrian centre and light engineering works in addition to a bespoke furniture maker. The largest single employer in the area is the Royal Air Force, with two major bases at Cranwell and Waddington providing a range of career Civil Service and contractual employment outlets in addition to the uniformed members of the RAF. Lying just outside the parish near the village of Brandon is PFI Karting, the UK's biggest outdoor karting circuit which hosts British, European and World karting championships as well as regular club races.

Education The education of children up until the age of 11 is catered for at Caythorpe Primary School which currently is nearing its full capacity, complemented by a Children's Centre and a Pre-School facility on an adjacent site. Senior school children apply to Sir William Robertson High School or various secondary schools in either Grantham or Sleaford, a number of which are grammar schools and require pupils to pass the 11+.

Governance The parish of Caythorpe and Frieston has a three-tier system of governance covered by Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council (CFPC) (awarded Quality Council Status in 2009), South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC).

Primary care and public health The Caythorpe and Ancaster Medical Practice operates from two sites in south west Lincolnshire, serving 8000 patients. We are fortunate to have one of the sites based in the centre of Caythorpe. It is a multi-partner rural training practice with medical and nursing staff and an attached pharmacy. Through local fund-raising efforts in the last few years, four defibrillators have been acquired that are now located in different parts of the parish, and there is a local LIVES First Responders team that works in close conjunction with paramedic staff and ambulance crews.



Defibrillator at Village Hall

In 2011 a Walking for Health group was established in the parish. It now has 15 trained volunteer walk leaders and has established over 30 local walks. The group meets every Monday morning at the Hammond Pavilion. Walks are free and open to all. Yoga, pilates and keep fit classes run on a weekly basis from the Village Hall. Personal fitness training services are also available in the parish.



The Walking for Health group heading towards Hough-on-the-Hill – there is a footpath!

2. Preparing the plan

2.1 CONSULTATION PROCESS With a brief from the parish council to produce a refreshed parish plan, a Review Group (RG) was established in June 2015. Operating independently of the CFPC, the RG began by organising a series of ‘listening’ or consultation events, starting with children from Caythorpe Primary School and then extending out to other communities of interest across the parish. The aim was to incorporate people’s ideas and concerns into a subsequent community-wide survey to generate an evidence base for the refreshed parish plan. The ‘Your Chance to Have a Say’ household survey took place in October/November 2015, the results of which are outlined in a report that can be downloaded from the Parish Council website.



Household survey questionnaire

2.2 REVIEW GROUP MEMBERSHIP The RG comprised local people with different interests: Rob Cook (education interests), David Cree (Playing Field Committee), Tom Mountain (business interests), Jean Nelson (Village Hall Committee), Jo Russell (faith interests), Karen Bailey (Parish Council ex officio), Andrea Smith (clerk to Parish Council), Gordon Grant (chair).

2.3 HOUSEHOLD SURVEY The survey questionnaire covered the following themes: housing, roads, pavements and footpaths, public transport, pollution, shops and businesses, employment, child care, leisure and recreation, quality of the community environment, safety, volunteering and skill sharing, information and communication, and finally quality of community life.

2.4 PLAN TIMETABLE

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| • March 2015 | Gordon Grant invited to develop brief and form the RG |
| • June 2015 | RG formed and had first meeting |
| • July 2015 | Community projects with children from the primary school |
| • August/September 2015 | Listening events at Gala and Village Breakfast |
| • October 2015 | White board exercise at Waggon and Horses |
| • October/November 2015 | Parish household survey (hard copy and online) |
| • February 2016 | Survey report presented to CFPC |
| • March 2016 | Survey report published on CFPC website |
| • May 2016 | Draft parish plan presented to CFPC |

2.5 RESPONSE TO HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

- 240 respondents returned the questionnaire, representing 42% of those distributed. This compares very favourably with parish surveys elsewhere.
- Responses were split almost 50:50 between hard copy and online versions.
- 21.5% of respondents had lived in the parish less than 5 years, 32.6% had been resident 5-14 years, 21% had been resident 15-24 years, and 24.9% had been resident 25+ years.
- 8.2% of respondents were aged less than 25 yrs, 24.4% were aged 25-44 yrs, 31.3% were aged 45-64 yrs and 36.1% were aged 65 yrs and over.
- The gender split of respondents was 42.3% male and 57.7% female.

2.6 SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

1. The main priority for any new housing was that it should be affordable. However there was significant support for infill housing and upgrades rather than new housing developments of scale.
2. The most widespread issues regarding local roads were potholes and too many parked cars. Parking problems, especially in the High Street, were perceived as persistent and needing prompt action. Solutions were thought to require a combination of traffic calming and rearranged parking measures. In the longer term these measures were perceived as linked to decisions about the future of the village hall (which has no dedicated parking) and its possible replacement.
3. Dog fouling was the most prevalent concern for people using pavements and footpaths, though overgrown hedges/verges and cars parked on pavements were problematic for a significant minority.
4. The main issue for people using local buses was the lack of an east-west service linking Newark and Sleaford, particularly on market days.
5. Pollution concerned many residents for a variety of reasons but the stand-out pollution issues were unpleasant odours and litter. The nuisance value of these concerns was their persistence.
6. Supporting local enterprise and retaining the commercial infrastructure (post office, pubs, shops) was recognised as key, but there was also support for attracting new shops and businesses into the parish.
7. The quality of existing child care services was thought to be very good, but there were divided opinions about the availability of some services such as holiday playschemes and childminders/babysitters.
8. Opinions were split between those wanting a new village hall and those preferring upgrades to the existing village hall. In recreational terms it was recognised that more should be done for teenagers in particular.

9. Improvements to the quality of the community environment were thought to require more dog poo bins, a countryside trail and village map, more benches and flower beds/trees.

10. Across all age groups it was gratifying to note the high levels of expressed safety. However, a majority of people said they would feel even safer if there was a drop-off zone for school children at the back of the school, a more obvious police presence, and an advisory 20 mph speed limit applied to the High Street.

11. Despite the high level of voluntary work in the parish, even more people were offering their services across a range of activities including, among other things: helping at big village events, conservation work, shopping for neighbours, and voluntary work at the primary school. This indicates a community rich in human capital.

12. The vast majority of people thought they were being kept well informed about local community activity. Awareness of the Parish Council and its work was good, though improvements were thought to be necessary to the Parish Council website, and lots of people did not even know that there was a parish website. Use of the internet and social media, as well as more traditional media (newsletters, noticeboards), were key to keeping people informed and involved.

13. It is important to stress that opinions were sometimes clearly differentiated by age group. This in itself highlights a challenge for the Parish Council and local residents – how best to reconcile the needs and preferences of different communities of interest.

The full survey report can be accessed and downloaded from the CFPC website at www.caythorpe.org

3. Plans and priorities

3.1 HOUSING

Background Estimates suggest that the parish currently contains approximately 560 dwellings and around 1,400 residents. There is a serious shortage of affordable housing, even taking into account local authority and housing association rented properties. In the household survey just over 50% of respondents identified affordable housing as the top priority. In recent years most housing developments in the parish have been of larger, executive style, detached properties. By contrast, only 4% of survey respondents identified executive style homes as the priority. Almost 28% of survey respondents considered that no new housing was necessary. The current village infrastructure (roads, mains water and sewage, primary school, doctor's surgery etc) struggles to cope with the current needs of the parish so any appreciable increase in housing numbers would exacerbate the situation. Despite representations to the planning authorities by the CFPC, there have been no opportunities in recent years to meet demand for social or affordable housing.

Local Development Framework (LDF) The South Kesteven Local Development Framework provides guidance as to the type of development and land use permitted within the district. This framework encompasses the location, design and development of homes, shops, offices etc and the protection of the natural and built environment up until 2026. The LDF is at present undergoing a fundamental review and there is a possibility that some of the planning policies including those relating to housing provision could be altered.

Future Development It is considered important to provide affordable housing, both for local residents born and brought up in the locality, as well as people new to the area. Future development should be proportionate to the current size of the parish and take account of demands on local infrastructure. The Parish Council supports the provisions of the LDF relating to housing which provides for a modest level of new housing development up to 2026, and in particular policy H1 which would oppose any large-scale residential development in the parish. At the early stage of the review of planning policy referred to above the Parish Council has already indicated that it will continue to support policies that will have an effect similar to that of policy H1. The council supports modest levels of development in the parish. It would oppose large-scale

development because (1) this would have a detrimental effect on the rural character of the settlement as it currently exists with its 560 dwellings and (2) the Parish Council considers very strongly that the current infrastructure barely services the existing level of development. Large-scale expansion of housing stock is therefore not viable. Feedback from the parish survey supports this position.



Housing framing Frieston Green

Aim

To support policy H1 (or updated policies that have a similar effect) of the SKDC Local Development Plan Framework, thus ensuring that any future developments within the parish (i) are proportionate to its current size, (ii) reflect the need for affordable, eco-friendly housing, and (iii) minimise pressure on existing local infrastructure.

Objectives

- To support the housing policies of the LDF in ensuring that development is proportionate to the size of the parish and provides affordable housing.
- To work with providers to secure additional units of social housing to meet local need.
- To encourage social landlords, wherever possible, to provide accommodation for people with local connections and support, e.g. both young families and older people.

3.2 ROADS, PARKING AND CONGESTION

The household survey revealed that potholes (73%) and too many parked cars (72%) were by far the issues of most concern for residents, exacerbated by too much heavy goods traffic and speeding vehicles. These generated concerns about safety (see section 3.10). There were particular concerns about the persistence of traffic congestion and attendant safety issues in the area between Caythorpe Primary School and the Spar Shop.

Traffic calming solutions were seen as one response to this problem, with 54% of survey respondents suggesting a 20 mph speed limit for the High Street, 39% advocating an electronic smiley face advisory speed limit, 39% opting for more yellow lines, 31% for park and stride and 20% for speed bumps. Rearranged parking solutions offered a second response to the problem, with the vast majority of survey respondents (85%) proposing a drop-off zone for children at the rear of the school and 73% proposing more parking places at the rear of the school. It was also recognised that a combination of public education and enforcement was required to make all this work.

Aim

To give the highest priority to resolving the long-standing parking and congestion problems in the parish, liaising with partner agencies as necessary.

Objectives

- To resolve the persistent parking and congestion issues through a combination of traffic calming and rearranged parking strategies.
- To work closely with SKDC to bring about improvements to the condition of local roads.
- To work in tandem with LCC and the police authority in introducing educational and enforcement approaches to improve road safety.
- To consider sympathetic herringbone parking in Back Lane at the rear of the school as a step towards alleviating parking problems in the vicinity.



Council road sweeper trying to negotiate High Street

3.3 PAVEMENTS AND FOOTPATHS

Pavements With the help of representations by the CFPC, the pavement from the A607 to Caythorpe Court has been significantly extended, thereby much improving safety for pedestrians. Once again, mirroring concerns expressed in the 2009 household survey, it was found in the recent survey that dog fouling remained the dominant challenge for local residents (61%), followed by overgrown verges or hedges (49%), cars parked on pavements (40%) and uneven surfaces (33%).

Footpaths The survey showed that dog fouling was also the dominant challenge here for local residents (55%), followed by crops/hedges blocking paths (38%), lack of information about wildlife or places of local interest (34%), lack of signage or way markers (28%) or stiles/footbridges in poor repair (20%).



Intersection with Danelaw Way

Aim

To ensure that pavements and public footpaths are 'fit-for-purpose', well maintained and safe for residents of all ages.

Objectives

- To implement an integrated educational and enforcement campaign to reduce persistent dog fouling.
- To make more dog poo bins available at strategic places.
- To enlist the help of local voluntary groups in monitoring and reporting blocked pavements and footpaths.
- Through liaison with LCC, to invest in more signage and information boards at strategic places on the footpath network.
- To consider pressing for a footpath to be incorporated into Back Lane in the interests of public safety.



Planted aubretia embankment

3.4 PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The parish has good communications links with Lincoln to the north and Grantham to the south (via the A607), Sleaford to the east and Newark to the west (via local roads and the A17). Local public transport is provided by the Stagecoach Bus Company for journeys north and south of the village (Lincoln 45 mins/Grantham 25 mins) and there is a lesser service to other locations via the 'Call-Collect' service. Bus services have so far survived public sector funding cuts, but the situation may change depending on the future state of the national economy. Rail connections (via Grantham or Newark) allow residents to travel to London by train in under 1½ Hours.

Typical of many rural areas, the level of car ownership in the parish is high so many people do not use the local bus service, or at least not very often. The survey findings suggest that the majority of people thought that the bus timetable and reliability of the service are about right, though several respondents were frustrated that buses stopped running too early in the evening. Almost three-quarters (72%) thought that there should be free school transport. There was strong support for an improved east-west bus service linking Newark and Sleaford, especially on market days, taking in nearby villages en route.

Aim

To maintain the current level of local transport links, obtaining improvements where possible, whilst ensuring that the infrastructure of local highways is maintained to as high a standard as possible.

Objectives

- To ensure that the Grantham/Lincoln bus link is maintained and where possible to improve the level of service at the end of each day.
- To advocate with the bus companies, SKDC and LCC about improving east-west public transport options, especially on market days.
- To investigate the re-routing of the Grantham-Lincoln bus service by using both High Street and Old Lincoln Road in Caythorpe, as part of an integrated strategy to reduce congestion.

3.5 POLLUTION

The parish has within its boundaries one of the sites site operated by Mid Uk Ltd. which specialises in sustainable resource extraction, processing, treatment and recycling. It works with local businesses and councils to achieve 100% landfill diversion. The Parish Council continues to work closely with the operator and partner agencies to ensure that the site is operated within current planning and environment guidelines.

Residential household waste is efficiently collected by the SKDC using a 3-bin system. However, in the face of public sector austerity measures imposed on district and county councils, the Leadenham waste recycling site closed at Easter 2016 despite a vigorous local campaign to keep it open.

In the previous 2009 household survey over 70% of parish respondents were concerned about toxic fumes in the locality. Findings from the present survey suggest that the situation has eased with just over 60% identifying pesticides, chemicals and unpleasant odours from all sources as being of current concern. There were other pollution issues (litter, traffic, aircraft noise, neighbours, smoke from domestic fires) but the most widespread of these was litter (39%) on pavements, footpaths and roads and in hedgerows – this despite the three-monthly SKDC road sweeper and employment of a community cleaner.

Aim

To ensure that the parish is a clean, safe and visually appealing environment in which to live and work and that all residents are made aware of the issues of recycling, energy efficiency and sustainability.

Objectives

- To continue to promote and improve the waste and recycling services within the parish by working closely with SKDC.
- To continue to work closely with the owners/operators of the local recycling facility and appropriate regulatory bodies in order to ensure that environmental standards are maintained.
- To work closely with all parishioners with regard to the issues of energy efficiency and sustainability.
- To revitalise interest in re-entry into the Lincolnshire Best Kept Village competition.
- To consider instigating 'litter clearing days' involving volunteer teams.

3.6 SHOPS, BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYMENT

In the last five years high speed broadband has become available locally, a development that adds significantly both to the viability and sustainability of local enterprise and also to the benefit of local residents.

Comments from survey respondents revealed that local retail services and businesses in the parish are highly valued, and that there would be widespread support for the Parish Council to work to maintain key commercial and public infrastructure like shops, pubs, post office, medical practice, school, garages, mobile services and indeed all local enterprises. The post office is about to close after many years of valuable service to the local community but it is hoped that it will re-open under new management in another location. There was significant support for additional shops and services, as and when premises become available, especially a new fish and chip shop, fruit and veg/farm shop, butcher, tea/coffee shop/café, take-away food shop and taxi service, with 36%-53% of survey respondents supporting each of these options.

Few survey respondents thought that there were good employment opportunities for young and working-age people, but especially for people with disabilities. Only 23% thought public transport to places of employment was adequate.

Aim

To ensure that current services are maintained and, where possible, that new enterprises reflect local needs and demands.

Objectives

- **To encourage parishioners to use local shops, businesses and facilities in order to support their viability and sustainability.**
- **When necessary, campaign to ensure that the parish does not lose vital services as these are core to the viability of the entire community.**
- **To encourage the establishment of new local shops and businesses in line with what parishioners need and want.**
- **To maintain and consolidate cordial relationships with major local employers such as RAF Cranwell, PGL and Mid UK Ltd so as to make people of working age aware of local employment opportunities.**
- **To maintain an up-to-date directory of all business activities conducted within or from the parish so that the Parish Council can keep abreast of business and commercial interests and needs locally.**

3.7 CHILDREN AND CHILD CARE

Caythorpe Primary School has been a prominent and valued resource in the community for many years and it currently has a record rated as good by Ofsted. The community also benefits from having a Children's Centre and pre-school facility located adjacent to the primary school. These facilities are highly valued by young families and children. They are also subject to the vagaries of public funding which is currently under severe pressure. There has been considerable investment in a play area with swings and safe structures for young children at the playing field.

The household survey findings supported the view that the school breakfast club is very useful, that there was adequate pre-school support and that play equipment at the playing field was good. There were divided opinions about the ease of getting hold of childminders and babysitters, and the availability of holiday playschemes.

The 'listening' exercises indicated that, if they are given the right opportunity, young children can express their views very clearly about both their own preferences and also priorities for the community. Future planning at the local level needs to keep this very much in mind.



Caythorpe Primary School from Back Lane

Aim

To protect the valued and hard fought for resources and facilities in the parish currently available to young children and their families.

Objectives

- To help ensure that the Children's Centre and pre-school facility are used to their maximum capacity.
- Maximise the involvement of the primary school, Children's Centre and pre-school facility, and young children in general, in planning for activities that affect them directly.
- To enlist help from people who have indicated an interest in volunteer work with young children and families (see section 3.11 on volunteering and skill sharing).
- To explore the feasibility of improving access to childminders, babysitters and holiday playschemes.

3.8 RECREATION AND LEISURE

Facilities The parish has a wide range of recreational and leisure activities. There is a play wall, BMX track and children's play area located within the playing field, along with the football and cricket pitches which are served by changing rooms and other facilities within the John Hammond Pavilion.

The refurbished Village Hall, Hammond Pavilion and playing field continue to be well utilised, the latter having become something of a regional mecca for sponsored athletic events that attract runners from many parts of the country.

Opinions were divided in the survey between retaining and developing the Village Hall as a site for recreation and seeking an alternative location for a totally new purpose-built Village Hall/Community Centre with its own dedicated parking.

Activities The survey findings revealed that the interests of older people were generally well catered for, but once again, as in the 2009 survey, it was the teenager group that stood out as having interests that were met least well. Nearly 50% of the 2015 survey respondents were of this opinion. There were suggestions that an



One of the fund-raising athletics events in the parish

emphasis on age-integrated activities (contemporary dance, personal exercise, bakery for example) and also attention to timing (after school, evenings, weekends) should be considered. There was some support (34%) for an astroturf (all weather) play/sports area and also (26%) for a covered play area for children, both of which have significant resource implications.

The parish enjoys and benefits from a close working relationship with the management of PGL Travel Ltd. The company has a major centre within the parish which welcomes some 35,000 children a year, all of whom can enjoy a wide range of exciting activities. As well as being a local employer the company supports local events, provides a venue for some parish activity groups and encourages its staff to fully involve themselves in local committees in order to ensure close liaison at all times.



Aim

To help ensure that all residents are provided with a broad a range of facilities and activities that serve their leisure and recreational needs, taking into account the parish catchment area and available resources.

Objectives

- To continue to explore sites for a new village hall.
- To improve the range of activities for younger people, particularly teenagers, drawing on advice and expertise from young people themselves.
- To explore the scope for more age-integrated leisure activities.

3.9 COMMUNITY SAFETY

Crime and safety The local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) beat team continues to use the Rural Beat Office in Old Lincoln Road for occasional surgeries that are advertised to



residents. The office is also used by the district councillor for regular surgeries. The CFPC monitors use of the beat office and is keen not to lose it as a valuable community resource. Though there continue to be burglaries, thefts and anti-social behaviour at times, the survey findings support the idea that the vast majority of residents feel very safe: 97% felt safe in their own homes, 97% felt safe out and about in the parish, 90% felt safe walking alone on local footpaths and 77% felt safe walking through the village at night.

However, many people still considered that more could be done to improve community safety: 69% thought that a drop-off zone for children at the rear of the school would be helpful, 55% thought that a more obvious police presence would be helpful, 53% considered that an advisory 20mph speed limit applied to the High Street would be useful, and there was support from 34% of the survey respondents for the reintroduction of a neighbourhood watch scheme.

Aim

To ensure that the parish continues to be a secure and safe environment in which to live.

Objectives

- **To assess the scope for introducing traffic calming and rearranged parking options in order to improve road safety.**
- **To review the reintroduction of a local home-watch scheme.**
- **To help ensure that parishioners are not subject to anti-social behaviour by working closely with both SKDC and the local police authority.**

3.10 THE ENVIRONMENT



Harvesting in low fields west of Caythorpe and Frieston

Geography To the west of the village the land falls sharply down Gorse Hill until it meets the River Witham and eventually, the River Trent. The flat farmland on the western side of the village drains into the Witham which flows north towards Lincoln and eventually, into the sea at Boston. The land to the west of the village is known as the 'Cliff' and is part of a long limestone escarpment reaching from Grantham northwards to beyond Lincoln and nearly to the Humber estuary. The 'Cliff' villages linked by the A607 lie between 50-70 metres above sea level, the escarpment or 'Edge' being a significant geological formation in Lincolnshire.

The countryside The CFPC has lobbied successfully against inappropriate wind farm developments in cases where they would lead to 'blots' on the landscape. Private wind farm developers continue to generate refreshed proposals so the situation is kept under close scrutiny. The household survey showed that residents have a great affection for the local countryside but that the quality of experience could be improved in a

number of ways. Over half (56%) of respondents saw benefits in having a countryside trail and map of the area for the benefit of walkers, cyclists, picnickers and horse-riders. Benches (44%), more trees (29%), picnic areas (26%), hanging baskets (20%) and a pond (20%) were all seen as potentially adding to the significance of experience.

The CFPC continue to inform the LCC about any problems with footpaths. Younger people were more likely to say that they would prefer a village pond and picnic area, whereas older people favoured more trees, hanging baskets and a countryside trail and map. The Walking for Health group established in 2011 has already produced leaflets describing over 30 local walks. With the help of generous CFPC and Big Lottery funding, the Caythorpe and Frieston Allotment Association was formed in 2015, with a complement of 22 full- and half-sized plots, one of which belongs to Caythorpe Primary School.



Public opening of the Caythorpe and Frieston Allotment Association, 2015

Aim

To ensure that the local countryside is accessible to all for leisure and recreational purposes.

Objectives

- Liaise with the Caythorpe Walking for Health group and SKDC to extend the availability of information on local walks and footpaths through the production of maps and leaflets.
- To support the maintenance of all current footpaths, bridleways and public rights of way in liaison with local landowners, LCC and local voluntary groups.
- To ensure that the local farmland is maintained for the production of food and the enjoyment of the public by actively opposing any inappropriate developments on good quality agricultural land.

3.11 VOLUNTEERING AND SKILL SHARING

The parish has acquired for itself an enviable reputation for the vibrancy of its community life, its neighbourliness and the many activities that take place locally. Typifying this social capital was the 2012 Queen's Jubilee celebrations that took place over several days, with big and small events involving hundreds of residents and many volunteers. Despite many survey respondents saying that they were near or at volunteer 'saturation point', still more people indicated a preparedness to volunteer their services to the community. Helping out at big village events like the Gala or the athletics events was the biggest draw (63%), but people indicated a willingness to support conservation work (eg. tree planting, footpath clearance) (44%), shopping for neighbours (41%), helping children at school (eg. reading, writing) (26%), co-option to club/society committees (18%), minding/sitting for families with children or adults with disabilities (16%) and coaching/tutoring for sport/hobbies (8%). These stated commitments were in evidence across all age groups.



A few of the revellers at the Queen's Jubilee street party

Aim

To exploit the untapped reservoir of human capital in the parish by enlisting more volunteers of all ages to support community activities.

Objectives

- To develop a skills and interests data bank reflecting community talent and ensure that it is put to good use.
- Make appeals for assistance with specific activities from volunteers in preference to making generalised appeals.
- Assist local clubs, societies and groups to recruit younger people to their committees and task groups.

3.12 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Keeping everyone well informed about local issues and activities is key to enabling involvement and empowerment. For many years the parish magazine and noticeboards have served us well in this respect. The revitalised and much expanded monthly News and Views has been warmly welcomed. It is complemented as a news and information-sharing channel by the parish website, parish Facebook pages and social media.



The household survey confirmed this commitment, with 84% of respondents saying they felt well informed about community activities and 76% thought that the parish council kept everyone well informed. An impressive 83% identified News and Views as their information channel of choice and 67% opted for

noticeboards. However, 35% preferred websites, 29% an online News and Views and 24% social media. The parish website was thought to require updating to make it more interesting and user-friendly. Younger survey respondents favoured social media and an online News and Views much more than older respondents.

Aim

To ensure that all parishioners are able to access up-to-date and accurate information with regard to all issues of importance in the parish and to encourage wider participation in parish events.

Objectives

- **To continue to support the redeveloped parish newsletter, News and Views, by ensuring that it is properly funded, with news and information contributions from as many residents and interest groups as possible.**
- **To encourage greater involvement by parishioners in the local community by widely publicising all parish activities.**
- **To upgrade the design of the parish council website with an eye on its user-friendliness.**
- **To encourage greater use of parish Facebook pages as an effective route to speedy fact-finding and information dissemination.**
- **To consider enabling IT classes for all, but especially older residents, so that the full benefits of IT and social media can be reaped.**
- **Consider holding occasional ‘meet the councillor’ evenings to familiarise the community with its locally elected representatives.**
- **To continue the search for a central resource office for community activities including IT.**

4. Next steps

Once the plan is adopted, the CFPC will ensure that it carries out the following actions:

- **Publish a year-on-year list of priorities for action.**
- **Ensure, wherever possible, that there are adequate resources made available to meet aims and objectives.**
- **Establish clear milestones to guide the implementation of all the elements of the plan, thereby aiding project management, transparency and accountability.**
- **Monitor and review the progress of the plan on an annual basis, reporting progress to the community.**
- **In relation to significant or more strategic decisions to be taken, for example the possible siting, funding and development of a new Village Hall/Community Centre, to consult fully with local residents first.**

5. General information

LOCAL SPORTING, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Since the last parish plan a number of groups/activities have ceased but have been replaced by new ones, reflecting changing local needs and resources in the locality. Existing groups/activities are shown below.

After school – sports, art, cookery	Dominoes/cribbage	Pool league
Allotment association*	Festival singers*	Prayer meetings
Badminton club**	Football club**	Quiz nights*
Bell ringing	Garden society	School breakfast club*
Brownies	Golf club (Caythorpe Hackers)	Sports and social club
CLOGS*	Guides	Sunday school
Coffee mornings (church-linked)	Ladies keep fit	Village breakfast*
Craft club	LIVES first responders*	Walking for Health group*
Cricket club**	Meditation group*	Womens Institute
Darts	Pilates*	Yoga*

* formed since previous parish plan

** (junior and senior)

ANNUAL PARISH EVENTS

St. Vincent's Church Fete; Caythorpe Canter; Caythorpe Chase; Caythorpe Dash; Caythorpe 10k; Caythorpe Gala; Jazz in the Garden; Caythorpe Primary School Fete, PGL Open Day, Open Gardens (once every two years).

GLOSSARY

CFPC	Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council
LCC	Lincolnshire County Council
LDF	Local Development Framework
LSC	Local Service Centre
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
RG	Parish Plan Review Group
SKDC	South Kesteven District Council



Aerial view of Caythorpe and Frieston with St Vincent's Church in the foreground

Further information regarding this Parish Plan or the villages of Caythorpe and Frieston can be found at the parish council website: parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/caythorpeandfrieston

Alternatively, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr Mel Stevens, Tel: 01400 272399, email: caythorpepc@live.co.uk