

Caythorpe & Frieston

Parish Plan

(Revised 2010)



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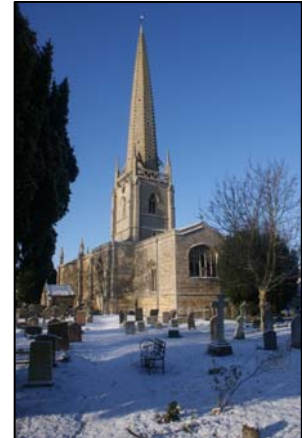
Caythorpe and Frieston from the air, July 2010

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 - THE PARISH PLAN. The first Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Plan, published in 2004, was originally part of a government rural initiative and outlined how the community saw itself developing over a 5 year period. It identified local problems and opportunities, set out achievable aims for the future and provided a plan for the development of the parish. Most of the aims in the 2004 plan have now been met and this revised plan lays out the views of the community as to how the parish should develop over the next 10 to 15 years (2010 - 2025). This is an important document as it reflects the needs of the parish, sets down the priorities for the coming years and will enable all parishioners to monitor the progress against the plan's aims and objectives.



1.2 - THE PARISH OF CAYTHORPE AND FRIESTON. 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 and its boundaries are elongated on its east to west axis. To the west is the river Brant and on the east, the old Roman road of Ermine Street (known locally as the High Dyke). The largest centre of population is the village of Caythorpe which with the smaller hamlet of Frieston comprises the parish.

1.3 - A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PARISH. 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, 2 miles to the south and 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 which 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.

1.4 - THE PARISH TODAY.



(a) Community. The parish has a very strong sense of community and is a sought after place in which to live. The 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 limited but good range of local services and facilities. The need for the parish to continue to grow and change is accepted but at a pace which will not have a significant or detrimental impact on its existing way of life. Hence any changes should be incremental and in sympathy with both the environment and the views of the parishioners.

(b) Local Service Centre. The parish, along with others has recently been designated as a Local Service Centre (LSC) in the South Kesteven Local Development Framework (LDF) which will eventually become the development plan for our area. This takes account of those services and facilities considered to be essential or desirable to meet the daily needs of the 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 SKDC will ensure that services are provided or sustained to meet local needs for the foreseeable future, support will be given to proposals and activities that protect retain or enhance existing community assets or that lead to the provision of additional assets that improve community well-being.

(c) Population. Based on the 2001 census (this remains much the same in 2010), the parish has approximately 550 or so residential properties and a population of approximately 1,450 people (46% of the population are male and 54% are female). The 2004 Parish Plan survey questionnaire showed that the parish has a predominance of people in the 45 to 59 years age group (24% in the survey) and the 60 to 74 years age group (28% in the survey). The 2009 survey showed that the village remains much the same in this respect.

(d) Employment. Caythorpe and Frieston is a rural parish. Farming still dominates local land use but two larger employers, Mid UK (Recycling) Ltd and PGL Ltd now offer employment opportunities to local people. Other employers are the Primary School, Albion Copper Cylinders, Bioflame Ltd, Woodward's Garage, two public houses, flower shop, the SPAR general store, a hairdressers, fish and chip shop, beauty salon, post office and a residential care home. The Elms Farm site includes an equestrian centre and light engineering works in addition to the Shirebrook bespoke furniture makers. Bed and breakfast hospitality is also to be found on the heath. 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.

(e) 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 despite being recently being enlarged to include a Children's Centre and a Pre-School facility (previously run in the village hall). Senior school children have to 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+.

(f) 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).

2. PREPARING THE PLAN

2.1 CONSULTATION PROCESS. Following the production of the 2004 plan the CFPC agreed to establish a small sub-committee to coordinate and conduct the preparation of this revised plan. The sub-committee of eight included four members of the CFPC along with local residents and representatives from a number of societies/clubs within the parish. The Parish Clerk gave invaluable assistance to the committee. A detailed, broad ranging questionnaire was distributed to all households within the parish. The level of response of 28% exceeded that achieved in 2004 and gave a clear indication of the views of the respondents to the questions raised. The process was



well publicised in the Caythorpe News and residents were invited to make comments and observations as well as completing the questionnaire.

2.2 SUBJECTS COVERED. The questionnaire which was put together after detailed consideration by the sub-committee covered the following areas;

- A profile of all respondents.
- Local services.
- Safety and security in the parish.
- Housing.
- Community information.
- Transport.
- Environmental issues.
- Leisure and recreation.
- Local countryside.

2.3 PLAN TIMETABLE.

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| • March 2009 | CFPC agree the process to be adopted. |
| • April 2009 | Sub-committee formed. |
| • June 2009 | Questionnaire sent out. |
| • August 2009 | Questionnaire returned. |
| • September to November 2009 | Analysis of data. |
| • December 2009 to March 2010 | Drafting the plan. |
| • May 2010 | Draft plan reviewed by sub committee and CFPC |
| • June 2010 | Consultation of draft plan with parishioners in Village Hall |
| • June 2010 | Draft document available on parish web site |
| • July 2010 | Approval of plan by CFPC |

2.4 QUESTIONNAIRE STATISTICS.

- 150 households returned the questionnaire which represented 28% of those distributed.
- The households responding covered 259 adults which with 36 young persons gave a total of 295.
- 55% of respondents had lived in the parish for 15 years or less.
- Of the 259 adult respondents some 208 or 80% were aged 45 and over.
- The gender split of respondents was exactly 50% male and female.

2.5 KEY POINTS ARISING.

- **Whilst welcoming future development respondents were very keen to ensure that it would be proportionate to the size of the parish, take account of the lack of affordable housing and the impact that it would have on the already overstretched infrastructure.**
- **96% of respondents felt safe and secure in both their homes and in and around the parish.**
- **84% thought that the transport links were adequate.**
- **71% were concerned with the issues of pollution and increased volumes of traffic generated by the waste recycling facility.**
- **The majority felt that a new village hall with adequate parking was a priority.**

- The majority of respondents greatly valued the local shops and services which they wished to support on a regular basis and would welcome the setting up of any new businesses.
- Respondents welcomed the use of the Caythorpe News as a means of keeping them informed about parish issues and events.
- 68% of respondents thought that the local refuse and waste recycling facilities were good.
- Concern was expressed with regard to issues over access and the condition of local footpaths and bridleways.

3. THE FINDINGS.

3.1 HOUSING

Background. The parish contains approximately 550 dwellings and around 1,450 residents. There is a serious shortage of affordable housing even having taken into account local authority and housing association rented properties. In recent years most of the development in the parish has been of larger, executive style, detached properties. The current village infrastructure (roads, mains water and sewage, primary school, doctor's surgery etc) fails to cope with the current needs of the parish and any appreciable increase in housing numbers would overwhelm the situation.

Local Development Framework (LDF). The South Kesteven Local Plan which has been in place for some time and which provides guidance as to the type of development and land use permitted within the district is soon to be replaced by the LDF. This will provide a framework for the location, design and development of homes, shops, offices etc and for protecting the natural and built environment up until 2026. A consultation process is currently underway and it is anticipated that most elements of the LDF will be completed by during 2011.

Future Development. The parish has welcomed change in recent years and is keen to be able to accommodate both new comers and provide suitable housing for local residents who have been born and brought up in the parish. It is important that any future development accommodates these two aspects, should be proportionate to the current size of the parish and take account of the already over stretched local infrastructure. To this end the CFPC supports the provisions of the draft LDF relating to housing which provides for only 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.

Objective.

To support policy H1 of the draft SKDC Local Development Plan Framework and in so doing ensuring that any future developments within the parish are proportionate to its current size, reflect the need for affordable housing and will not impose pressure on the existing local infrastructure.

Aims.

- To support the housing policies of the draft 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 the elderly.



3.2 RETAIL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Background. The 2009 survey revealed that most respondents use at least one of the retail facilities on a monthly basis and in many cases more regularly than that. The most widely used services are the SPAR shop and the Post Office, in addition having a doctor's surgery and two public houses adds considerably to the facilities available in the village.

The 2009 survey revealed that approximately 40% of respondents felt that, despite the above mentioned services and facilities, additional retail services were required in the parish. The most commonly asked for included a butcher, green-grocer, bakery, café, Chinese/Indian take-away, and farm shop, other suggestions included a chemist and perhaps a charity/gift shop.

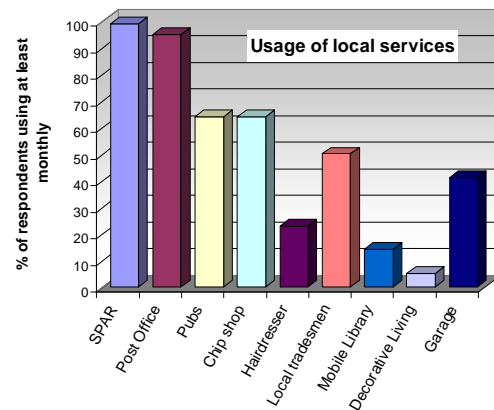
Internet Services. Access to the internet, as a result of poor local broadband speeds, impacts significantly on the ability of parishioners to use this facility for business purposes as well as for both educational and recreational activities.

Objective.

To ensure that the current range of services are maintained and where ever possible new ones are introduced into the parish.

Aims.

- To encourage parishioners where ever possible to use local shops and facilities available to them.
- To ensure in particular that the parish does not lose the use of its Post Office as this provides a very valuable level of service to the community.
- To encourage the establishment of new local shops and businesses.
- The CFPC to establish a directory of all business activities conducted within/from the parish in order that it can more readily understand their needs and thus work more closely with them. To seek to improve the broadband connection speed by continuing to apply pressure to BT in particular.



3.3 THE PARISH ENVIRONMENT



A scene untouched by time!

The Village Scene. The residents of Caythorpe and Frieston are proud of their villages. The parish environment/street scene attracted a great deal of comment in the 2009 household survey with most respondents mentioning aspects of the environment which they were concerned about. Dog fouling of streets and footpaths was the number one complaint, only a greater awareness of the problem by dog owners will reduce this problem.

Street Cleaning. Since the employment of a community cleaner our streets are generally clear of waste paper, the SKDC road sweeper comes to the village every three months to clean the gutters. A number of people commented on the litter in front of the local SPAR shop (an issue that the owners are aware of).

Household Waste Collection. In general residents consider that the household collection system and local recycling facilities are excellent. All village residential household waste is efficiently and effectively collected by the SKDC using a 3-bin system. There are no other recycling facilities in the parish although the waste site in Leadenham is within easy access.

Waste Recycling Facility (WRF). The WRF site which incorporates the activities conducted by Mid UK (Recycling) Ltd and Bioflame Ltd is currently licensed to process up to 200,000 tonnes of waste per year. The issues of light and noise pollution and in particular the effects from potentially toxic fumes created by the incineration of waste were concerns expressed by some 71% of respondents.

Sustainability. The issue of diminishing world energy resources and their ever increasing cost along with the need to ensure that these resources are used as efficiently as possible are issues which parishioners are well aware of. The fact that the parish does not have a gas supply means that any shortages of fossil fuels may well result in a greater impact on the parish in the future. The parish has within its boundaries a recycling site which includes the facility for generating electricity for supply to the national grid by the burning of certain waste products. The CFPC continues to work closely with all relevant parties in order to help ensure that this site is operated within current planning and environment guidelines.

The Lincolnshire Best Kept Village (BKV) Competition. The village is a pleasant place in which to live, work and to visit and has always entered the Lincolnshire 'BKV' competition but has never reached the finals. The CFPC is looking to organise a committee of local residents representing the various village organisations who, with help from the CFPC should enable the parish to have a higher profile in this competition.

Objective.

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

Aims.

- **To continue to promote and improve the waste and recycling services within the parish by working closely with SKDC.**
- **To work closely with the owners/operators of the local recycling facility and appropriate regulatory bodies in order to ensure that its activities at all times do not impact adversely on the parish.**
- **To work with SKDC to ensure that a footpath is constructed for the whole length of the road to Caythorpe Court.**
- **To work more closely with all parishioners with regard to the issues of energy efficiency and sustainability.**
- **To co-ordinate future entries into the Lincolnshire BKV.**

3.4 RECREATION AND LEISURE FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

Facilities. The parish has a wide range of recreational and leisure activities. Some have open access such as the 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 newly refurbished John Hammond Pavilion. Other village facilities have restricted opening hours such as the Sports and Social Club, whilst others, such as the Sherwood Centre, are available to specific groups and clubs for organised activities.



The modernisation of the Village Hall (new entrance porch, toilet and catering facilities) and the Sports Pavilion (complete refurbishment including new sports changing rooms with help from The Football Foundation as a result of the involvement of junior football) has recently taken place. In the past, there have been various attempts to merge the village hall and playing field premises and organisations however, a site large enough to accommodate both has not yet become available.

Activities. There are a wide range of activities for all age groups in the parish with a high level of participation (see a detailed list in section 5). The 2009 survey again revealed that the age group least catered for in the parish is 11 to 24, and in particular 16 to 17 year olds. The activities available for this age group although mainly limited to both football and cricket also include the Bridge Youth Club. Attempts to improve activities for young people have been sporadic in the past but nonetheless work continues in order to develop this particular amenity area. Survey respondents identified a range of other activities that they would like to participate in but the lack of available local space and the investment required are major factors affecting any of these being considered in detail.



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



Objective.

To help ensure that all residents are provided with as broad a range of facilities and activities as possible given the size of the parish catchment area and the financial resources available.

Aims.

- **To continue to explore sites for a new combined village hall and playing fields facility.**
- **To improve the range of activities for younger people particularly for those in the age range of 11 to 17 years old.**
- **To support the renewal of the children’s play area.**

3.5 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Background. There are a wide variety of community activities, clubs and groups for residents to become involved in (see details in section 5) The 2009 survey revealed that 55% of respondents were involved in a community activity of some sort, a 20% increase on the 2004 survey figures.

Communication. In response to the 2004 survey the CFPC now use the last few pages of the Caythorpe News to update parishioners on all relevant issues (now used by 93% of all respondents to obtain local information). The clerk to the CFPC maintains a village “e” group and the parish Website is becoming a modern focal point for village news and is well used.



Participation. 48% of all respondents are keen to involve themselves in village activities, how ever not many of those who responded would be prepared to act in an executive capacity.

Objective.

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

Aims.

- **To continue to support the development of the parish newsletter by ensuring that it is properly funded and is contributed to by as many residents and interest groups as possible.**
- **To encourage greater involvement by parishioners in the local community by widely publicising all parish activities.**
- **The CFPC to consider how best to support community activities and where there are gaps in certain aspects of its capacity to deliver to consider including paid support.**
- **The CFPC to continue in its search for a central resource office for community activities including IT.**

3.6 COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fear of Crime. The 2009 household survey showed that most residents (91%) feel safe in their homes and in and around the parish. A limited number of the survey respondents were concerned at a small number of recent burglaries and some anti-social behaviour in the parish such as noise pollution (near village pubs in particular), litter and rubbish, rowdy behaviour and nuisance.



Household Safety Schemes. Over half the survey respondents would be willing to be involved in a neighbourhood/home watch scheme by attending meetings, providing ideas and taking part as a householder but few wished to act in an executive capacity. Home Watch schemes have previously been in existence but have fallen into disuse. A new village Home Watch Co-ordinator would be a valuable addition to our overall security especially in view of the fact that there is no longer a village policeman.

Why Join a Home Watch Scheme? Home Watch schemes play a vital part in preventing crime, and statistics show that you are less likely to be burgled if you belong to an active scheme. You may also receive a reduction in the cost of your house insurance.



- By joining your local Home Watch scheme you can feel more secure knowing that you and your neighbours are keeping an eye on each other's property.
- Getting together with your neighbours can prevent crime and well-run schemes have a big impact on reducing the opportunities for crime.
- Home Watch can play a big part in reassuring those who live in fear of crime.
- Home Watch can rekindle community spirit and is a great way to get to know your neighbours.

Objective.

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

Aims.

- To support the continuation/expansion of home-watch schemes by seeking to appoint a parish co-ordinator.
- To help ensure that parishioners are not subject to anti-social behaviour by working closely with both SKDC and the local police authority.

3.7 OUR LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE



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 Lincoln Edge' or the 'Cliff' never reaches more than 150ft above sea level but is a significant geological formation in Lincolnshire.

The Future. The 2009 household survey showed that residents show a great interest in developing the use of local footpaths (and possibly cycle tracks) given a supply of suitable maps and descriptive leaflets. In addition, a number of respondents felt that a map (showing local footpaths), situated in the centre of the parish would be a welcome initiative and would encourage walkers and other tourists to the village. This was mitigated to an extent by the feeling that some paths were somewhat overgrown and difficult to traverse. The CFPC continue to inform the LCC about any problems with footpaths. It was also felt that bird boxes and maybe hides at strategic positions might provide an added interest for visitors to the parish.

Objective. To ensure that parishioners can continue to enjoy the local countryside for leisure and recreational purposes.

Aims.

- To provide freely available 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 and LCC.
- To help improve access to the local countryside.
- To ensure that the local farm land is maintained for the production of food and the enjoyment of the public by actively opposing any inappropriate developments on good quality agricultural land.

3.8 TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

Transport Links. 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. Rail connections (via Grantham or Newark) allow residents to travel to London by train in under 1½ Hours. Most residents find the local transport services adequate for their needs; however some feel that additional east/west public transport is required.

Congestion. There are some congestion problems along Caythorpe High Street which occasionally leads to short delays for buses and other large vehicles. The routing of buses via Old Lincoln Road might resolve this problem; however, as a new covered bus stop has just been built on the High Street, this alternative will not be explored at this time. In general the village streets are well maintained and are large enough to accommodate most vehicles.



Speeding. Like most other rural villages there are issues concern speeding traffic, especially on the High Street. Most residents wish to preserve the village environment and would not like to see permanent traffic-calming measures and signage. An alternative to parents parking on the High Street to deliver and collect children from school would be beneficial. The increase in the number and often the size and speed of heavy vehicles going to and from the local waste recycling site was seen as a cause for concern. It was felt that the local roads within the area (the A607 in particular) were not able to cope with the increases in vehicle movements and that sooner or later a serious accident would arise.

Highway Maintenance. Overall highway maintenance is carried out by the LCC (South Kesteven and Sleaford Highways Division) to a generally acceptable standard with a recently completed resurfacing of the High Street and the construction of two new footpaths. The CFPC continues to keep the LCC Highways Department aware of stretches of highway and footpaths requiring maintenance and street lighting issues.

Objective.

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

Aims.

- 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 curb speeding within the parish in particular within the vicinity of the primary school but without adversely affecting the ability of residents to park their cars either outside of their properties and/or the local village shops.
- To reduce the impact of parking on Caythorpe High Street that occasionally gives rise to unnecessary congestion.
- To work with the primary school in order to encourage more parents to walk their children to school and thus help ease traffic congestion.

4. THE NEXT STEPS.

The CFPC having adopted this plan will ensure that it carries out the following actions;

- To ensure, where ever possible that there are adequate resources made available in order that the objectives and aims can be achieved.
- To monitor and review the progress of the plan at a parish council meeting on annual basis.
- To report on the plan's progress to all members of the parish on an annual basis.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION

5.1 - GLOSSARY

LCC	Lincolnshire County Council
SKDC	South Kesteven District Council
CFPC	Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
LDF	Local Development Framework
PCC	Parochial Church Council
LRHA	Lincolnshire Rural Housing Association
EA	Environment Agency

5.2 - LOCAL SPORTING, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

After School Club	Craft Club	Pool League
Badminton Club	Coffee mornings	Playgroup
Bell ringing	Darts	Prayer meetings
Football Club *	Sunday school	Bingo
Gardening Society	Solo	Beavers
Golf Society	Scouts	Brownies
Ladies keep fit	Women's Institute	Cricket Club *
Mother and Toddlers Group	Whist	Cubs
'Old Friends'	Sports and Social Club	Youth Club

*(junior and senior)

5.3 ANNUAL PARISH EVENTS

St. Vincent's Church Fete; Caythorpe Canter; Caythorpe Chase; Caythorpe Gala; Jazz in the Garden; PGL Open Day.

For further information regarding this Parish Plan or the villages of Caythorpe and Frieston, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council: Mr Patrick Fleming - 01400 275 105.