

Brickendon Liberty Parish Plan – Looking to the Future

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This Parish Plan was commissioned by Brickendon Liberty Parish Council.

The Parish Plan Steering Group researched analysed and compiled the report from responses to their questionnaires issued in November 2006 and June 2007.

No responsibility is accepted for any legal or financial consequences arising from any perceived errors in this Parish Plan report.

For further information, or to obtain extra copies telephone 01992 511551

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Statement by Brickendon Liberty Parish Council:

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Why a Parish Plan?

In 2000, the Parish Council undertook a 'Village Appraisal'. More recently the subject of parish plans appeared on the agenda at various seminars attended by local councillors and the Parish Council became interested in its potential long term benefits to the parish of Brickendon Liberty.

Such a plan would have to reflect local opinions and would be an opportunity for every household to be involved. The Parish Council would then be able to identify any perceived shortcomings, improvements and priorities on aspects of living in Brickendon Liberty in order to plan for the future.

East Herts District Council and Hertfordshire County Council would be better able to take the results of the Parish Plan and subsequent action by the Parish Council into consideration, particularly concerning future planning issues. Furthermore, such a document would provide proof of the involvement of those living in the parish, thus more easily opening the door to grants in the future.

The Parish Council was aware that the parish plan would take a considerable amount of time and effort to achieve a worthwhile result and it was therefore decided to invite members of the community to form a steering group to develop the document. A public meeting was held at which

the purpose was explained and from which the steering group was formed. An initial grant of £1,500 was awarded by East Herts District Council to start the project.

The members of the steering group are confident that the implementation of the recommendations by future Parish Councils will make Brickendon Liberty a better place in which to live for the foreseeable future.

Statistical Profile of the Parish

The population, reflected by this survey, has increased since the 2000 Village Appraisal by just over 5% to a returned figure of 371. Amongst those people are 29 families who have lived in the Parish for over 25 years and 45 families that have been here for from 6 – 15 years. An indication of a stable population.

Since the Village Appraisal there has been a marked decrease in children aged between 5 and 10 years. This in part is accounted for by these children having moved into the next age bracket of 11 – 15 years. The age group 0 – 4 years is slightly greater but the ages 16 – 24 shows an increase of 58%. We have an increasing number of middle aged and elderly people, but the average age has remained constant at 41 years.

Business and Employment

There were 319 people represented by the responses to this section of the 2006 questionnaire of which 23% are in full time employment, 8% are in part time employment, 10% are

employers and 14% are self employed, thus 55% of these residents are working. 18% are retired and 21% are in school or higher education. Nobody is recorded as unemployed or in work-based training. 2% are sick or disabled and 4% are unwaged.

The majority of those in employment work within 15 miles of the parish, while 25% work in London.

About half of the “self employed” run a business from home as their main income, which suggests that the other half work from dedicated premises either in the parish or elsewhere.

Agriculture and horticulture are the main activities of those working locally (39%), the next largest, leisure and tourism, employs 17%.

The general view expressed by respondents is that small businesses should be encouraged with the emphasis on “small” and particularly those with little negative impact on the neighbourhood. There is a desire for a more comprehensive directory of locally based providers of goods and services. respondents said they would refer to it before looking further afield. Some residents would like a shop in the area.

The majority of respondents expressed few concerns about the operational activities of local businesses; however, 38% had concerns about planning controls, traffic levels, the size of vehicles and the erosion of Brickendon Liberty’s rural nature.

Actions

- To propose strict planning controls on businesses
- Planning applications should be publicised locally on the Brickendon Liberty website.
- Businesses should be small scale and sympathetic to the area e.g. rural or craft based

Community Safety

The overwhelming view of respondents (93%) is that they feel safe living in the parish, however, there are two main areas of concern, speeding traffic in the lanes, and security at Bayford train station and car park.

In relation to crime, speeding or dangerous driving is the biggest concern, not only in lanes but also from quad bikes and motorbikes on bridleways. Another major concern is the level of fly tipping.

Although a high percentage of people feel safe in the parish only 54% of households are satisfied with the police presence in the community and some have had problems contacting the Police Community Support Officer. When there has been a need to call the police 56% of households were not satisfied with the service they received.

To conclude, the biggest concerns for the parish are the volume, size and speed of traffic using the highways and byways of Brickendon Liberty and the level and quality of policing.

Police relations

Police Community Support Officers have attended parish council meetings and it is hoped will continue to do so in the future. As well as contributing to the meeting they have been available to discuss issues with residents. The police manned a mobile police station at the annual fetes in September 2006 and 2007.

There is a police contact section printed in the Brickendon Newsletter together with contact details for our Neighbourhood Watch organiser.

The actions needed are for police to have a higher visible presence and for there to be better communication between the police and the community. Regular speed traps are a short term measure. In the long term, plans must be put in place to allow for increased levels of traffic from the housing developments proposed in the East of England Plan and the expansion of Stansted Airport.

Actions

- Continue to assist the police in various parts of the Parish to identify, stop, and warn motorists breaking speed limits.
- Institute a process for reporting fly tipping.
- Encourage increased police visibility and communication within the parish.

Community Facilities

We are socially a very active community, considering the size and the spread of our parish. Most of the current clubs and activities were formed as a result of the Village Appraisal undertaken in 2000 and are regularly reported in the Brickendon Newsletter. Currently the most popular is the Gardening Club but Boules/Petanque is swiftly catching up. The History Group is clearly ready for revival. The Whist Drive (our longest running group), the Book Club and the Walking Group are not far behind in popularity. Both the Table Tennis and Bridge Clubs have smaller memberships but meet weekly. A Football Club was recently formed and there is also an active Land Rover Club which meets at Wormley West End.

Several residents consider that we have enough activities while others provided plenty of ideas for new interests ranging from dancing, fitness and relaxation classes to a gun club. Requests were also made for youth and children's activities – particularly for the under 10's. There is a call for safer direct off-road access to woods for cyclists and walkers. There were suggestions for a mountain bike club, a motoring club and a bowls club. Organised coach outings were also requested.

The focal point for most indoor clubs is Fanshaws Room (Brickendon's parish hall). However, respondents said they visit the Farmers' Boy pub more often than either Fanshaws Room or Brickendon Green. The Woodman pub in Wormley West End is also well used. The use of Brickendon Grange Golf Club for social purposes as well as for golf came next.

Sadly the tennis courts are not well used by residents and the mobile library is low on the users' list.

Most people do not wish to get more involved with parish affairs, which may mean they are already well involved. It was rewarding however, that well over a dozen residents completed the contact sheet, which accompanied the questionnaire, volunteering help.

On the whole it would appear that our residents are well informed, mostly by the Brickendon Newsletter. The Hertfordshire Mercury is the second most important source of local information followed by the Hartford Hundred West Church magazine and the Brickendon Liberty website (www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk).

Over 78% of residents are satisfied with the community facilities available.

Only 21% of those who answered the question attend a place of worship though not necessarily the Chapel of the Holy Cross and St Alban in Brickendon Lane.

Of concern is that thirteen respondents felt isolated and precluded from activities, although it is heartening in such a scattered rural community to learn that the majority do not.

Most people do not want to encourage more tourism but nevertheless several would like to have more facilities available for short-term accommodation.

In summary, considering the size and spread of Brickendon Liberty Parish it is socially very active with over three

quarters of residents very satisfied with the facilities and the wide range of successfully run activities available. This has clearly encouraged even more ideas to be put forward though it is disappointing that few wish to be involved in parish affairs. Most are satisfied with the sources of their information although the overwhelming majority did not feel isolated the few that do are of concern.

Actions

- Suggested activities should be investigated and people encouraged to come forward to run them.
- The tennis courts need to be used more by local people and one way of doing this may be to form a tennis club.
- The provision of more facilities for teenagers and under ten year olds should be investigated.
- Consider a community service to take people shopping on a monthly basis.
- Work to identify and include residents in the parish who feel socially isolated.

Environment

It is clear from this survey that residents care deeply about their surroundings and recognise that this is a relatively unspoiled part of the country that is well worth protecting. Far from being complacent, many are ready to look at what more they can do to reduce their personal impact on the environment

There is no universal complaint although 35% do have issues to raise; several respondents highlighted the problems of fly tipping and speeding vehicles. Dog fouling, dog barking, the noise of aircraft and quad/ scramble bikes are mentioned by a few. The majority (87%) are happy with path /track usage and 76% are happy with the present level of signage. There are a number who feel that cycle paths are not well marked and that safe ways into the woods and green areas for walkers and cyclists are not sufficient.

The creation of more conservation areas was called for by 64% of respondents. 90% opposed all building and commercial development within Broxbourne Woods which is Hertfordshire's only National Nature Reserve and one of the largest oak-hornbeam woodlands in the country. This is mostly an ancient woodland which has been in existence for many centuries.

How environmentally green is our parish? Not nearly as green as most want it to be! With 92% supporting an increase in domestic waste recycling and almost as many saying that they would use a local recycling bank as well as the household recycling collections, there is clearly a demand in the parish that is not yet fully met.

Very few actually use green energy (4%) but many want to know much more about how to achieve this, with 73% saying that they would consider installing some sort of green energy option and applying for a grant to do so,. 64% would consider joining a local green energy co-operative venture. Of the alternative energy sources listed, solar was most popular followed by wind and geo-thermal.

Actions

- Green energy options are to be explored and the viability of a community energy project to be assessed.
- Continue to support the organisations protecting the parish's woodlands from development.
- Work towards facilitating safer off road access to woods and nearby towns for both walkers and cyclists.
- Campaign for the Parish Council to have greater influence within the planning application vetting process.
- Discuss with East Herts District Council improved facilities for collecting and re-cycling a greater range of household items

Description of Brickendon Liberty

The Parish of Brickendon Liberty consists of the village of Brickendon, the hamlet of Wormley West End, and a number of farms, homes and small residential developments in outlying areas. Located only 25 miles from Central London, Brickendon village is served by Bayford railway station. Many come to enjoy the beauty and tranquillity of the woodlands and countryside. Brickendon is a quintessential English village with cottages, houses and a village pub-The Farmers Boy, clustered around a large green, complete with pond and play area. Nearby lies the chapel of the Holy Cross and St Alban built in the 1930's by

a local family using wood cut from the area and weathered on the village green. The chapel is based on a barn design, with a strong leaning to the arts and crafts movement.

Wormley West End lies on the very edge of Broxbourne Woods and has a lively public house, The Woodman, at its heart.. Neither Brickendon nor Wormley West End has either a shop or a school.

Brickendon Liberty Parish is a vibrant mix of old and new including farms, a wildlife park, a golf course and small businesses. It has a friendly community spirit with a warm welcome for newcomers. These attributes have been recognised by it winning many national Village of the Year Awards in Hertfordshire, including 'Small Village of the Year', 'Village of the Year East' and most recently winning the Business Category Award 2006'. A real sense of local pride exists. We have a lively Parish Council and Fanshaws Room Social Committee whose aim is to involve everybody in parish events.

Our Parish is a special place because its residents are remarkable. They really care about their neighbours and appreciate how privileged they all are to live in such a lovely environment. Residents are kept up to date with events and Parish Council decisions through the Brickendon Newsletter and website. Many people support by taking part, or helping to organise, the wide range of activities and clubs in the Parish, warmly welcoming those from neighbouring villages as well.

Housing

Bearing in mind the East of England Plan requirement, 41% of the respondents considered that the parish could accommodate more houses (up to a maximum of 30) compared with 59% who thought it should not.

Conversions to provide extra dwellings were most acceptable, particularly of very large houses in the parish and of obsolete barns. Most people would be happy to see a limited number of affordable, cheap, carefully planned houses, limited in size. Some infilling was also acceptable. There was a call for sheltered accommodation and a residential home for elderly people enabling those living in the parish to continue to do so.

Conservation Areas and Greenfield Sites

Residential building construction in conservation areas and on greenfield sites, though acceptable to some 24%, – subject to certain provisos, was totally unacceptable to the majority of residents. Greenfield sites should only be built on as a last resort after proving that they were unsuitable for any other purpose. It was considered most important to retain the current character of our parish and surrounding countryside for future generations. The location of any development, its impact and individual merits would also be of the utmost importance and should be strictly monitored.

'Affordable' Housing

The point was made that all housing is affordable – to someone! The intended meaning being small, well designed starter homes, affordable to young people and those on small incomes and it was clear that on the whole this would be acceptable to 59% of those responding. It was widely

felt, 83%, that these should be made available, initially, to people who already live or work in or are serving the parish. Some considered 'affordable housing' should be available to rent to those unable to afford to buy.

Planning consent

The vast majority of respondents considered that the current rules controlling planning consent were about right.

In conclusion, even a limited number of new houses would not be acceptable to the majority, whilst conversions and new affordable housing would be supported. These should be made available to those who already had a connection with the Parish. Most people were against the use of greenfield sites and sites within conservation areas and existing planning controls were considered about right.

Transport and Highways

Fifty seven percent of the respondents answered that local public transport was poor. This is not surprising since Wormley West End and Mangrove Lane areas are beyond the scope of bus or train services. Where train services are accessible they were rated satisfactory. Bus schedules were considered less convenient.

Roads were the subject of keen dissatisfaction; speeding vehicles, despite the speed limits, pot holes and misshapen carriageways,. Flooding and puddles on dangerous bends and the lack of safe walking areas along the lanes were particularly mentioned. Width, height, weight and special speed restrictions on coaches and commercial vehicles

using lanes in the parish would be almost universally welcomed.

Reduced enforceable speed limits were widely requested, along with the possible introduction of traffic calming measures in built-up areas and at blind bends and accident black spots.

Respondents advocated more control on the use of traditional rights of way by motorised vehicles.

A link lane connecting Brickendon Lane with Mangrove Lane, without having to go through either Hertford or Hoddesdon, was proposed by some respondents.

Actions

- Arrange discussions with Arriva and First Capital Connect with a view to improving services
- Arrange a meeting with representatives of Hertfordshire County Council Highways Department, to discuss a lowering of speed limits in local lanes and also traffic calming measures in villages and other safety measures
- Investigate the upgrading of the green lane between Mangrove Lane and Brickendon Lane to carry light vehicles

Leisure and Youth

When asked how often various local amenities were used by local children or teenagers, Paradise Wildlife Park ranked highest, followed closely by the play equipment on Brickendon Green. Middle ranking, were the Parish Hall, the tennis courts, the football pitch and Celtic Harmony Camp, whilst the golf club and a riding school were used least frequently by this group.

The question of what other facility or activity people would like to see on offer to younger residents of the parish drew a very wide range of suggestions: a summer tennis club; junior football and youths football training on the green; girls netball and a basketball net on the tennis courts; an outdoors activities club; a younger children's club; sport-related activities were the most commonly suggested, but other requests included a toddler group; music (carols, brass band, choir); drama club; brownies/beavers/cubs/guides and scouts; archery and golf at concessionary rates for Brickendon Liberty children; salsa dancing; yoga; firework displays and a first aid course. The need for organised activities for the young people of the parish is quite apparent, however when respondents were asked whether the under-eighteens would be likely to attend a local youth club, only 14% thought that they would! Not all residents are directly affected by what is on offer to younger members of the parish but indirectly it is in everyone's interest that young people contribute to and benefit from the community in some way. Babies, toddlers, children and teenagers are, by definition, an ever-changing group, with diverse needs, different time constraints, and limits on their ability to travel. Therefore, the challenge of how best to engage them may require more thought.

Actions

- Seek volunteers to arrange supervised youth activities in compliance with the relevant laws and guidelines.
- Widen the catchment area to include, for example, young residents of Bayford and other surrounding villages.
- Consider some occasional events targeted towards a young audience either in the Parish Hall, on the Green or other suitable venues.
- Investigate the viability of upgrading the parish website to create a forum for young people.

Council and Other Services

A majority of households (69%) showed satisfaction with the present arrangements for the vetting of planning applications, although the question indicated that the Parish Council's view was not always upheld by the East Herts District Council planning department's decisions. When asked if obtaining planning consent should be easier or harder or was about right, 71% thought it about right.

These views have been confirmed by the 70% of households who consider the Parish Council's performance is either good or excellent in relation to their encouragement of local activities, looking after the wellbeing of the parish, maintaining Brickendon Green and its' playground,

protecting the parish's rural nature and representing parishioner's views.

However, very few residents attend the Parish Council meetings or raise points in the open session but again a large majority (87%) feel that they are adequately informed about the Parish Council activities and even more are very happy with the Brickendon Newsletter and website methods of supplying local information.

There was a wide spectrum of feeling regarding the services provided by the District and County Councils. Of the 3 services referred to in one of the questions, the level of satisfaction with East Herts District Council ranges from *fair* for re-cycling to *good* for planning and *excellent* for rubbish collection.

Of the 8 services listed for Hertfordshire County Council, the respondent's satisfaction ranged from *poor* for highways and road safety, to *good* for social services, emergency planning and household waste, and *excellent* for education, libraries and trading standards.

55% of respondents were satisfied with the service provided by the Riversmead Housing Association.

Opinions of the East of England Regional Assembly were 5% in favour, 49% against and 46% answered 'don't know'. The East of England Plan was opposed by 75%, and 67% were against the expansion of Stansted Airport.

Most households in the parish appear to find the services supplied by utility companies *good* or *satisfactory*, with the

Royal Mail service considered *excellent*. Mobile phone reception is *poor*, and in some parts of the parish is non-existent.

In conclusion, the great majority of parishioners are satisfied with the extent of the Parish Council's powers and the way they are used.

Actions

- To act on behalf of the parish in opposing the East of England Plan, particularly Harlow North, and Stansted Airport expansion plans.
- The Parish Council should provide the results of this survey to all the utility companies, Hertfordshire County Council and East Herts District Council, the Police, local businesses and Brickendon Liberty residents.
- Planning contraventions to be brought to the notice of planning enforcement officers

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Authorities

As an addition to the survey carried out among the residents, surveys of local authorities, utility companies and employers within the Parish were also conducted. The respondents were as follows:

Hertfordshire Police
East Herts District Council

Hertfordshire County Council, including the Environment Dept.

Broxbourne Borough Council
Environment Agency

The organisations contacted chose to respond in letter format. Here we have attempted to follow the format of the questionnaire, using the answers contained in the letters received.

In response to a question regarding any difficulties being experienced in providing services in Brickendon Liberty, **East Herts District Council** commented that the approach of local councils will be largely influenced by the impending 'East of England Plan' which the Government initially said would be published later in 2007. Local development documents will then be prepared.

As far as policing is concerned, Brickendon Liberty is part of the locality of Rural East. This area is policed by a team of eight officers.

The police welcome input from the Parish Council on local policing issues.

When asked if there was anything positive that the Parish Council could do to assist in future policy planning, East Herts District Council stated that, "wherever possible, consultation will take place at the earliest opportunity". A 'Statement of Community Involvement' setting out the principles of community engagement will be sent to the Parish Council as soon as available. Involving the council in the preparation of the local development document will be assisting in developing future policy planning.

The survey asked: 'Is there any emergency planning in place that would involve or affect the residents of Brickendon Liberty? E.g. terrorism, air or rail crash rescue, flooding, pollution etc'. None of the responding authorities addressed this question!

The Environment Agency said that its role is to ensure that new development is not at risk of flooding nor likely to increase the risk elsewhere. A **Flood Risk Assessment** is required in all designated flood zones. Pollution and land contamination measures are applied in conjunction with planning authorities.

Water Resources

Water consumption rates are very high across east Hertfordshire, and the Environment Agency provides advice on water efficiency measures.

Planning authorities and developers are also advised on:

- Pollution prevention and control
- Development on brownfield land
- Waste management
- Water management and sustainable drainage systems
- Promoting open and green spaces

When asked if there are projections or proposals that would allow urbanisation to spread into the greenbelt in Brickendon Liberty, both East Herts District Council and the Borough of Broxbourne pointed out that the parish of Brickendon Liberty is located in the greenbelt and, as such, development would be inappropriate. However, Policy RA2 in the East Herts Adopted Local Plan does allow for amendments to this, for example, "for mineral extraction,

provided that high environmental standards are maintained and that the site is to be well restored”.

It was also pointed out that under Policy OSV2, Brickendon is a Category 2 village which means that some infill development may take place if it meets an identified need of the village or Parish. This is defined as the erection of up to five dwellings on a site within the built-up area of the village, but does not constitute the linking of two separate built up areas within a settlement or the consolidation of an isolated group of buildings.

In addition, small-scale employment development may also be permitted if it satisfies the stated criteria of the Local Plan.

It should also be noted that the Environment Agency has a key role in the planning system. The Environment Agency is a statutory consultee for local planning authorities, providing input to the planning processes at all scales of a project, with the aim of achieving sustainable development which protects and enhances the local environment. It has recently launched an information pack which can be accessed online via its website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/developers.

When asked what improvements are envisaged in the public transport service in the east of Hertfordshire which would benefit Brickendon Liberty’s residents, **Hertfordshire County Council** replied that it was not aware of any planned improvements to the rail services but pointed out that additional cycle racks are to be provided at Hertford North station and First Capital Connect has a programme

for CCTV at rail stations. The County Council would welcome any specific locations which the Parish Council may have in mind for the positioning of additional bus stops.

Hertfordshire Police

Brickendon Liberty is considered a very quiet area. In total, between April 2006 and February 2007, there were 26 reported crimes in Brickendon Liberty.

Dwelling burglaries	2
Violent crime	4
Motor vehicle	6
Other burglaries	2
Theft	6
Damage offences	5
Robbery	1

The police are aware that in spite of a low incidence of crime there is still a high fear of crime. Working closely with other organisations they are attempting to address this issue. They are also aware that local residents do not feel the police have high visibility in this area and they are hoping to include Brickendon Liberty on the rota for the mobile police station which is planned to cover East Herts. The police are also willing to attend public meetings and local clubs if invited to do so.

It is worth noting that a neighbourhood watch scheme, a farm watch scheme and a stables' watch scheme are all operating in the parish.

Employers

Of the eighteen employers initially visited, only eleven responded. In an effort to improve this figure an additional mailing was made. This resulted in a further seven replies. These eighteen organisations employ a total of 430 staff, 344 full-time and 86 part-time, of whom only 34 live in the Parish.

They were asked what benefits they find in running their business in this rural area, and responses included these comments:

Rural location – scenic, pleasant and quiet working area

Disturbance to residents minimal

Close to link roads, accessible from local towns

Proximity to London

No door-to-door salespeople.

What disadvantages:

Visitors have difficulty finding the location

Difficulty for staff to get to work in inclement weather

Poor or absent public transport services

Remote location makes it difficult to attract staff

Lack of affordable housing to attract local workers

Too much non-farming or non-local commuter and heavy traffic

Frequent electrical supply interruptions.

What issues should be drawn to the attention of the Parish Council:

Problems with quality of electricity supplies

Lack of mains drainage
Road surfaces/edges and signing could be improved
Flooding and, in icy weather, lack of gritting in the
lanes.

Where available, local rail services were deemed satisfactory but bus services should be improved. On the subject of re-cycling, it was also felt by businesses that council services should be improved.

The advertising of products, services and staff vacancies is primarily via Yellow Pages and the Hertfordshire Mercury.

Most local businesses/employers already participate in local events by sponsorship and those that do not stated their amenability to being approached.

In conclusion, the larger employers would find it easier to recruit local staff if more low cost housing was available in the Parish to attract younger workers. Since only 8% of those employed by local businesses actually live within the Parish, the creation of new affordable local housing should be an important consideration for the Parish Council and East Herts District Council's planning department.

Utilities

Only one response was received from local utilities in spite of a strong effort to gain their views. EDF Energy provides electricity for domestic, commercial and industrial premises. Its input is summarised as follows:

- It has plans to extend its network and to undertake some refurbishment work on overhead lines in the area within the next seven years.
- Although no other major works are planned it states that it will respond to customer requests and other needs as they arise.
- EDF will invest £10.6 million over the next five years to place underground, the overhead lines in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks, with £2.9 million earmarked for the East of England. and £7.7 million for the South East.
- Narrow lanes provide little opportunity for vehicles working on or near the highway.
- EDF Energy invests in programmes to help its customers reduce energy consumption.
- EDF Energy has a list of tips for ways to reduce the amount of energy used and promote environmental friendly usage (*These tips are available to residents of the Parish on request to the Chair of the Parish Plan Steering Group*).
- Distribution supply networks are constantly monitored and reviewed and the reduction of supply failures is a priority including the introduction of new remote control and automated switching equipment onto the network to reduce the numbers of customers affected and the duration of any power failure that does occur.

Actions

1. Investigate the disruption of electricity supplies to Brickendon Liberty
2. Investigate the provision of mains drainage to Wormley West End and other parts of the parish
3. Investigate the possible provision of conveniently timed bus services in Brickendon Liberty
4. Investigate the apparent lack of emergency planning covering the parish.
5. Investigate the provision of local affordable housing for occupancy by employees of businesses in Brickendon Liberty.

Map of Brickendon Liberty Parish

With funding from the Parish Paths Partnership and the Hertfordshire Environmental Landfill Partnership, the Parish Council produced and distributed free to all residents a map of Brickendon Liberty Parish and its rights of way. It is still available to all newcomers to the Parish. www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk

Celtic Harmony Camp

Nestling in Bourne Woods just off Brickendon Lane, Celtic Harmony is a not-for-profit organisation promoting a more sustainable way of life through natural and cultural heritage education for children and adults. For more details see www.celticharmony.org.

Brickendon Parish Environmental Action Plan (PEAP)

The Parish Environmental Action Plan sets out specific plans and actions that have been, and will be, undertaken to maintain and enhance the environment in the parish. This has included improvements to the wildlife habitat on Brickendon village green.

For more details see www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk

Countryside Management Service

CMS works with communities across Hertfordshire to help them care for and enjoy their environment. Locally CMS supports voluntary activity within the National Nature Reserve through the work of the Wood Wardens and their Wednesday volunteers.

Broxbourne Woods National Nature Reserve (NNR)

Hertfordshire's only NNR is managed by a partnership of organisations including: The Woodland Trust, which owns and manages Wormley and Hoddesdonpark Woods, Countryside Management Service, which manage Broxbourne and Bencroft Woods on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council and Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust which manage nearby Danemead. The NNR is organised according to a shared management plan agreed with Natural England, the Government advisors on conservation and rural matters.

Broxbourne Woods Area Conservation Society

The aims and objectives of the Broxbourne Woods Area Conservation Society are to:

- Act as guardians to protect and preserve the Broxbourne Woods area

- Maintain close contact with county planners, in order to prevent, as far as possible, undesirable developments taking place
- Encourage more people to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this National Nature Reserve

Great Groves

A detached part of the Broxbourne Woods complex, this 18.2ha site is privately owned and managed. It is mainly semi-natural woodland mostly oak and ash with hornbeam underlay. For more details see www.greatgroves.co.uk.

Broxbourne Trust for Open Spaces

The trust, formed by the Broxbourne and Hoddesdon Open Spaces and Recreation Grounds Act 1890, exists to protect, care for and regulate certain areas of common land, some of which now lie in Brickendon Liberty Parish. These include strips of land on either side of White Stubbs Lane, Broxbourne Common and Emmanuel Pollards.

Action Plan

This Parish Plan is seen as an ‘active document’ and the following action points are the result of information gathered by the survey will be reviewed regularly.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Who will do it</i>
BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT			
	Strict planning controls on businesses	Ongoing	Parish Council and EHDC
	Planning applications should be publicised on the Brickendon Liberty website	Ongoing	Parish Council
	Businesses should be small scale and sympathetic to the area e.g. rural or craft-based	Ongoing	Parish Council and EHDC
ENVIRONMENT			
	Green energy options to be explored	Short term	Parish Council and EHDC
	Support organisations protecting the parish’s woodlands from development	Ongoing	Parish Council
	Campaign for the Parish Council to	Medium	Parish Council

	have greater powers within the planning application vetting process	term	
	Improve facilities for collecting and recycling a greater range of household items	Short term	Parish Council and EHDC
	The viability of a community energy project to be assessed	Short term	Parish Council and EHDC
	Work towards facilitating safer off-road access to woods and nearby towns for walkers and cyclists	Medium term	Parish Council
COMMUNITY SAFETY			
	Work towards facilitating safer off-road access to woods and nearby towns for walkers and cyclists	Medium term	Parish Council
	Continue to assist the police in various parts of the parish to identify, stop and warn motorists breaking the speed limit	On going	Councillors, Police and local residents
	Work with police to limit use of local lanes by heavy goods vehicles (except for access)	Medium term	Councillors, Police and Hertfordshire Highways Department
	Institute a process for reporting fly	Short term	Parish Council

	tipping		
	Increase police visibility and communication within the parish	Medium term	Police
COMMUNITY FACILITIES			
	Suggested additional activities to be investigated	Short term	Fanshaws Committee
	Promote tennis courts for use by local people maybe form a club?	Short term	Fanshaws Committee
	Investigate facilities for younger members of community	Short term	Fanshaws Committee
	Identify and overcome problems of those who feel isolated	Short term	Parish Council and Social Services
	Consider a community service to take people shopping	Short term	Parish Council
LEISURE AND YOUTH			
	Seek volunteers to arrange supervised youth activities	Medium term	Fanshaws Committee
	Consider occasional events targeted towards a younger audience	Medium term	Fanshaws Committee
	Investigate viability of upgrading the parish website to create a forum for	Medium term	Parish Council and

	young people		webmaster
TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS			
	Arrange discussions with Arriva and First Capital Connect with a view to improving services	Medium term	Parish Council, Arriva and First Capital Connect
	Arrange a meeting concerning speed limits and other road safety measures such as traffic calming	Short term	Parish Council, HCC Highways Dept and Police
	Investigate upgrading of the green lane between Mangrove Lane and Brickendon Lane to carry light vehicles	Long term	Parish Council and HCC Highways Dept
COUNCIL AND OTHER SERVICES			
	Oppose East of England Plan particularly Harlow North and Stansted Airport Expansion plans	Short term	Parish Council
	Provide results of Parish Plan survey to all relevant authorities, businesses and residents	Short term	Parish Plan Steering Group

	Planning contraventions to be brought to notice of planning enforcement officers	On going	Parish Council
SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS			
	Investigate the disruption of electricity supplies to Brickendon Liberty	Short term	Parish Council
	Investigate the provision of mains drainage to Wormley West End and other parts of the parish	Long term	Parish Council
	Investigate the possible provision of conveniently timed bus services in Brickendon Liberty	Short term	Parish Council
	Investigate the apparent lack of emergency planning covering the parish	Immediate	Parish Council
	Investigate the provision of local affordable housing for occupancy by entitled residents and potential employees of businesses based within Brickendon Liberty	Short term	Parish Council

Compiled by the Brickendon Liberty Parish Plan Steering Group

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