



Willingham Community Plan

PROGRESS REPORT

Chris Chesher | WCPG | May 2023

1. Introduction

The Willingham Community Plan Group (WCPG) was established at the invitation of Willingham Parish Council (WPC) in late 2020 to update the Parish Plan of 2008. The group is formed from volunteers, with Councillor Phil King as our WPC advisor.

The purpose of this document is to report on progress of the WCPG over the last year. The previous report dated May 2022 reports on progress up to that date.

The stated objectives of the WCPG are:

- To discover the hopes and aspirations of those who live or work in Willingham for the future of the village
- To publish a plan which expresses these findings and to present this to the community and appropriate authorities
- To encourage implementation of the plan.

The agreed process to followed is similar to the process of the successful 2008 Parish Plan, including to:

- Produce a questionnaire for the residents of Willingham to discover their hopes and aspirations.
- Correlate the results of the survey with other relevant information to produce a report to communicate the village's hopes and aspirations.
- Hold public meetings throughout the process to seek input and communicate progress.
- To inform implementors within the community and beyond (WPC, District & County Councils, MP etc.) of the desires and wishes of the village.

The project is now at stage 2 of this process production of the report, although public meetings have been held and further ones are planned.

2. Survey

The survey was completed in 2021 and described in the previous report.

3. Results

Sections of the survey were completed by the following numbers of people, around 90% online and 10% in hardcopy form:

Section 01 (Let's start here!) = **864**

Section 02 (Traffic, Roads & Transport) = **653**

Section 03 (Your Children & Young People) = **435**

Section 04 (Housing, Development and the Environment) = **584**

Section 05 (Leisure, Amenities and Communications) = **560**

Section 06 (Medical Services, Health and Wellbeing) = **555**

Section 07 (Employment and Business) = **506**

Section 08 (Community, Governance, Crime & Antisocial Behaviour) = **541**

A statistical analysis of the results has been completed using Microsoft Forms tools. This was relatively straight forward for questions that were multiple choice format, however a number of questions allowed answers as free text. The interpretation of these results, together with additional research and consultations with the community and implementing parties have taken substantial time and effort. The text comments have been coded by common themes, each response having been read and assigned a code. A similar coding system was used for each section where applicable, duly adapted according to the subject matter. Consultation meetings have been held with interested parties such as Willingham Medical Practice.

The results will be communicated to the Village in a public meeting, before publication of the report. The proposed date for this meeting is 28th June. The main concerns of the village are like those expressed in 2008 and a comparison will be made in the meeting.

4. Report

The report layout is like the 2008 layout, albeit with a more granular breakdown in terms of the section structures. The structure of the report will be as below:

Executive Summary

Introduction

Willingham Historical Perspective

Section 1 – “Top of head” with linkage to all other sections – key to creating an effective report.

Section 2 – Traffic, Roads & Transport

Section 3 – Children & Young People (incl. Education)

Section 4 – Housing, Development & the Environment

Section 5 – Leisure, Amenities & Communications

Section 6 – Medical Services, Health & Wellbeing.

Section 7 – Employment & Business

Section 8 – Community, Crime & Governance

There is also a Youth Section based on the 2021 Youth Survey results (ages 11 to-18), which will appear as a separate volume. The Youth Survey report used the same data analysis methods and follows the same format as the main Willingham survey report. It provides recommended actions that are also cross-referenced with the main survey results. Key issues, overall, are similar to those of the 2008 and 2021 main survey results but the report also offers fresh recommendations for involving young people more in village life. The youth survey report is in good draft form and will be finalised alongside the main report.

The data used to create both reports will be available online for people to view if they wish.

Each section has been written by a member of the WCPG and is in draft format and has been checked by other members of the group to maintain consistency of approach. The Historical Perspective has been largely taken from the 2008 report and updated. It should be noted that the 2008 report is referred to in the text to give comparisons.

The draft report will then be passed to a professional editor, who will check through it and give the report a consistent and professional feel. As indicated above, a public meeting will be held to communicate the results and obtain feedback. After this the report can be printed and distributed. The publishing date is difficult to predict until the report has been assessed by the editor.

5. Finance

Our accounts have been published separately. Expenditure has been mainly on software with a balance that will be sufficient for the report editing and printing stage.