

# Cherry Willingham looking towards 2020



# A COMMUNITY-LED VISION

# A Community-Led Vision for Cherry Willingham looking towards 2020

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## Related Documents

(see Parish Council web-site: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/CherryWillingham/>)

1. Display materials and questionnaires used for consultation process:
  1. Love It/Hate It survey via Cherry News September 2011
  2. 2012 Annual Parish Meeting and related Library event
  3. 2012 Primary School Summer Fair, Community Gala & Church Fete
2. Raw data by topic of residents’ responses from above consultations
3. Communication with residents reference the process and events - including articles in the Cherry News and leaflets/posters concerning events.

## Glossary of Abbreviations

<b>CWPC</b>	CW Parish Council	<b>APM</b>	Annual Parish Meeting
<b>WLDC</b>	West Lindsey District Council	<b>IAG</b>	Information, Advice & Guidance
<b>LCC</b>	Lincolnshire County Council	<b>CWYF</b>	CW Youth Forum
<b>CWCP</b>	CW Community Partnership		



# Community Led Planning

## Producing the CW2020 Community Led Plan

As part of the nationally agreed process which the CW2020 Steering Group has followed in producing this Vision and Plan, the draft report was submitted to West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) and Community Lincs whose remit is to advise and support groups producing such plans. They have responded as follows:

**WLDC Officers:** “..... it is a thorough piece of work which seems to cover all the areas pertinent to such a plan. This will be a powerful document which will help the community when writing funding bids or talking to the Authorities about their needs.”

**Community Lincs Officer:** “I was very impressed! I feel it is a well written, researched and consulted upon piece of work. Particularly impressed with the concept of the village partnership, we would very much like to encourage other communities to do the same. The plan has been assessed against the Community Lincs quality standard kitemark (*see top of page*) criteria and I am happy to award the kitemark but with a condition attached. The kitemark clearly states that there must be a robust and SMART action plan included with the main plan. I understand why there isn't such an action plan but when the time comes and appropriate groups/people are undertaking projects etc there needs to be an action plan produced.” (*Note from Steering Group: We acknowledge this and believe that the process suggested in Sections 3.3 & 3.4 will meet this requirement. We request the Implementation & Monitoring Group to consider this in its work.*)

## Thank you from the Members of the CW2020 Steering Group

- ◆ To all residents who gave their time to respond so helpfully at each stage of the consultation process - we trust that we have responded in a way which addresses your concerns and vision for the future of our community/village.
- ◆ For the support provided by the Members of the Parish Council, by Fiona Lowe from Community Lincs and by Mary Hollingsworth and her colleagues at West Lindsey DC.
- ◆ To Andy Sharpe for his great cover design.
- ◆ The Chair personally thanks the other members of the Steering Group for the time and effort that they have contributed over many months.

### About the Kitemark

This kitemark standard has been derived from the best practices of the most successful examples from across the county. It unifies the needs of the communities involved and service providers to produce the best possible results into the implementation stage. The Kitemark criterion ranges from governance to inclusion and action planning to name a few. Groups that achieve the Kitemark have shown they have followed the national LEAD process and undertaken consultation that is inclusive, robust and is of value when proving evidence of need with potential funders.

The Kitemark is endorsed by funders and local authorities alike, including WLDC.



**Building on all that is good about the village and community now, our vision is:**

**“Make it AMAZING”  
12 year old Scout**

**to create a friendlier, greener, safer, healthier place to live;  
with enhanced facilities and services which meet the needs of all residents;  
supported by a volunteering community, vibrant voluntary organisations and partnerships and strong relationships with other agencies whether statutory or charitable.**

## 1. Introduction

The members of the CW2020 Steering Group present this **Vision and Plan** to all residents of Cherry Willingham, Cherry Willingham Parish Council, West Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and all other existing and potential partners.

**We believe that this Vision statement reflects the vision of residents looking towards 2020 as we have heard it through various consultations. This Plan then contains suggestions/recommendations for delivering that vision.**

From the beginning of our work it was clear that residents felt that the village is a good place to live, partly because of its rural feel and partly because of its proximity to the employment, facilities and amenities provided by the city of Lincoln. There is also an appreciation of the facilities and amenities within the village and of the friendly spirit to be found here alongside the valuable role of volunteers and voluntary organisations.

In bringing forward this Plan we want to express our appreciation of all who have contributed to making

Cherry a good place to live. We wish to build on that hard work. We have been aware during our work that much is changing in the world around us and so we have sought also to respond to some of these developments. Some of these changes are the result of the current national and international financial crisis and the consequent massive cuts in state funding for a wide range of services.

Indeed we have engaged with some of this through the establishment of the voluntary Youth Centre Management Committee which has enabled the continuation of youth activities. Likewise we have been directly involved in considering proposed changes to library services in the village. At the same time we are advised that there will inevitably be significant changes/reductions in health and social care provision for an increasingly elderly population.

There have also been major changes in national planning processes which could have an impact on the future of the village. The Parish Council will use our work to develop a Neighbourhood Plan which is part of this new framework.

In all our work on this Plan we have accepted that these changes are a reality and that we must respond to them rather than simply letting others decide the future shape of the village and its community.

All this has led us to conclude that we, as a community, will need to be more pro-active in meeting our own needs and especially those of more vulnerable residents.

**To this end, two key themes throughout our proposals are the need for effective partnerships and a strengthening of the role**

**of volunteers and voluntary organisations.**

Some of the concerns raised and suggestions made by residents can be addressed with relatively small-scale effort and resources. However we recognise that some are visionary and would require large amounts of both time and money and so may be less deliverable especially in the short term. However, it is important to retain these ideas, as opportunities to deliver them may present themselves in the future through changes in economic circumstances and national, regional and local strategies.

## 2 Cherry Willingham Past and Present

### 2.1 Cherry Willingham Past

The village lies some 2 miles east of Lincoln and today has a population of over 3,500. However, reference to the 1907 ordinance survey map shows that it was then little more than a hamlet.

Most visitors to the village today will simply see a community that has grown dramatically since World War 2 and be unaware that it has a much longer history.

The earliest documentary evidence is its presence in the Domesday Book of AD 1086.

**Gullingham / Ulingeham / Wilingeaham: Bishop of Lincoln and Osbern from him; Gilbert de Ghent. Church, 2 fisheries.**

**Gilbert de Ghent** - Abbot from 1076. Came from French monastery of Marmoutie. Abbey holdings in southern counties. One of few to escape Danish siege of York in 1067; died 1094.

However, there have been many finds in the village and surrounding area from the Iron Age, through the Romans and Anglo-Saxon eras, and the medieval period to the 19th century. A significant amount of material excavated at our near neighbour Fiskerton in on display at The Collection in Lincoln.

There has been a manor house since at least AD 1086 although the present building is more modern. It is believed that there has also been a church in the village for many centuries; the current one is a fine

and rare example from AD1753. In the last few years, much work has been undertaken to save and restore a medieval fish pond which was probably attached to the original manor house.

The village is set in the context of the Witham Valley with its key monastic sites nearby and the growth in importance of Lincoln itself. We believe that both of these are significant for the history and heritage of Cherry Willingham.

Reflecting on these facts, the CW2020 Steering Group asked residents: “Does it matter that we understand and value this history?” 83% of respondents said “yes” and went on to suggest ways in which we can use it to develop a sense of identity for our community along with ideas about recording/ displaying it, creating heritage trails and engaging our young people in it.

(NB: The pottery shown here was found by a resident in a garden near the medieval pond on Lady Meers Road.)



Glazed handle  
12th/14th century  
Splash glazed

Toynton type ware with applied decoration from medieval kilns at Toynton All Saints 13th or 15th century



## Cherry Willingham Heritage Society

The Society was formed in mid-2012 - significantly directly from the work of CW2020 - to explore further this history, to engage residents, including our young people, in this work and to capture it for future generations. It has already undertaken some interesting projects with young people at our two schools and looks to build on this.

In the coming months and years it will undertake a number of long-term projects including producing

information boards and leaflets for visitors as part of a sign-posted heritage trail; capturing, collating and making accessible a large amount of information already available about our history and heritage; and the creation of an oral archive drawing on the memories of long time residents.

One of its aims is to establish a small heritage centre, perhaps with Heritage Lottery funding, where artefacts and other materials can be housed and education activities be held. This links to the concept of a Community Hub (see Section 4.8).

## 2.2 Cherry Willingham in the 21st Century

The detailed local information from the 2011 census was published too late for us to be able to use it. This section will be updated as implementation commences. From the current information available to us we identify the following key facts:



The village does have a rural feel but its proximity to, and links with, Lincoln are key factors in shaping the village and its services

& facilities. This means that there are a limited number of retail outlets and other public services in the village whilst it acts as a dormitory for those of working age employed in the City and surrounding areas. This means also that we do not envisage any significant growth in these services and facilities. It is served by a regular day-time bus service (not Sundays or evenings) which facilitates access for residents to Lincoln.



We understand that currently some 1,600 housing units in the village, along with a residential care home and some sheltered housing for older residents, accommodate a population between 3,500 and 4,000. The composition of village housing stock, including many bungalows, makes it an ideal location for retired folk who represent around 34% of residents - above the national average.

The needs of children and young people from the village and surrounding area are met by the Primary and Community Schools, the Children's Centre, the Youth Centre located on the Community School site and various voluntary organisations with their



facilities such as the Scout Hut.

There is a Parish Church, home to the Anglican congregation, while the Methodist and Vine Community Churches use

community buildings for their activities. The village is also well-served by a wide range of voluntary and sports organisations. The Village Hall is shared by residents of the village and those of Reepham and is located between the two villages. There is a Church Hall available for use by the community close to the Millennium Hall (former Methodist Chapel) which houses the Parish Council.



Adjacent to the Primary School there is a playing field shared by football, cricket and bowls clubs alongside a children's play area/open space. There are two more children's play areas in other parts of the village. The Community School has a wide range of sports facilities including a sports hall and 3G pitches.

The Parade provides a doctor's surgery, public library, a number of retail and take-away outlets and a pub. There is also another pub and a further take-away in the village.

Responsibility for many of the public services lies with the three Councils with administrative responsibility for the area i.e. Cherry Willingham Parish Council, West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council. At a local level the Parish Council, itself consisting of volunteer residents, has been working to improve village facilities and its appearance.



Through an active Association, the village is twinned with Le Grand Luce in France. Regular exchange visits take place.

Further information about the village past and present can be found on the following web-sites

- ◆ Cherry Willingham Parish Council: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/CherryWillingham/>
- ◆ Cherry Willingham Heritage Society: <http://community.lincolnshire.gov.uk/cherrywillinghamheritage/>

# 3. Delivering the Vision through Partnership

## 3.1 Working with Partners

**We recognise that much of this vision will require major effort to implement and believe that the key to achieving as much as possible lies in creating effective partnerships both within the village community and with external partners.**

We suggest below some of the potential partnerships and how these may be developed.

### Statutory Partners

Some aspects of the vision are covered by areas of statutory responsibility of the three councils covering the village. The report will be presented to each of them for consideration and response in relation to their responsibilities.

There are aspects of the vision which may be worth communicating to other public bodies such as the Police and, perhaps through the medical practice, the new GP-led health commissioning body for West Lincolnshire.

### Partnerships with non-statutory bodies

Delivery of some aspects of the vision will benefit from engagement with the resources and expertise of charitable bodies such as Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust (LWT) and the Woodland Trust (WT).

The Heritage Society will be looking to draw on the resources and expertise of e.g. Heritage Lincolnshire (HL) and the Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology (SLHA).

### Village Partnerships

A great deal of valuable work is already being undertaken by a wide range of village organisations including the Parish Council, the voluntary groups, sports clubs and churches.

**However, we believe that there is much to be gained, including access to funding, by extending partnership working between them.**

We note that Cherry Willingham Youth Forum (CWYF) has already been established to achieve this aim in relation to the needs of young people. Perhaps there could be a similar approach to the needs of children and their families.

In relation to sports activities and facilities, we believe that there would be benefit in the existing sports clubs working more closely together and with the Community School. Section 4.4 refers to

partnership working to address the needs of older people.

In particular we propose the creation by all village organisations of a **CW Community Partnership (CWCP)** as a vehicle for delivery of some of the larger aspects of the Vision such as the Community Hub. We suggest that the Parish Council be a member of this partnership. This idea is developed further in the report included at Section 4.8.

## 3.2 Funding

As more than one resident has pointed out, many of these ideas carry a considerable cost which, at a time of national austerity and major budget cuts in public services, is not going to be easy to secure. We accept that, but still believe that over the period to 2020 it should be possible with well thought out plans to secure at least some of the funding required.

In relation to the ‘public purse’ we believe that this will be accessed by demonstrating partnership and how projects help to improve the quality of life of local people whilst delivering national and local targets.

When it comes to other sources of funding such as the National Lottery, it is important to meet their funding criteria and to demonstrate both the need for the project and the existence of partnership in its delivery. We note that the Parish Church and the Heritage Society are already working towards such a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and that they have already responded favourably to an initial approach.

We note that the Laburnum Drive Playing Field, Sports Pavilion, Village Hall and Scout Hut were provided through the hard work and fund-raising efforts of residents at various times. We suggest that current residents consider this sort of collective action in the future as public services are scaled down.

We would also ask the Parish Council to consider how the Parish Precept might be used to support some of these developments. We note that the per capita level of the current precept is considerably lower than other large villages in the area and believe residents may be willing to see increases in it in order to deliver some of their vision for improved services and facilities in the village.

Reepham & Cherry Village Hall



### 3.3 Initiating and Monitoring Delivery

The Steering Group is keen to ensure that the Plan is seen not just as a vision for 2013/14 but that real enthusiasm is engendered and action taken in the longer term so that the Vision becomes a reality.

Much of the implementation of the proposals in this Plan depends on the response of existing partners such as the Councils and the creation of additional partnerships in the village. We have, therefore, identified the specific actions which are required to initiate these processes with the understanding that more detailed programmes and timetables will be produced through these partnerships. If it is possible to create the Community Partnership (see Section 4.8), it could play a key and on-going role in this process.

**We recommend that, following the Annual Parish Meeting (APM), an Implementation and Monitoring Group is established to oversee this task at least until other partnerships are able to take it on. We suggest that this Group contains representatives of the Parish Council, the CW Youth Forum, some members of the CW2020 Steering Group and any other residents who volunteer following the APM.**

It is recommended that this new Group be responsible for undertaking the tasks below and for keeping residents informed about progress e.g. at the Community Gala on 13 July 2013 and through the pages of the Cherry News.

### 3.4 Suggested Timetable for Implementing the CW2020 Plan

March 2013	“Launch” of Plan to residents of the village at the APM	CW2020 Steering Group
	Presentation of the Plan to the Parish Council, West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council with the request that they respond to the appropriate sections. Partners to be asked to respond to the Implementation and Monitoring Group	CW2020 Steering Group with named partners
	Use of the relevant sections of the Plan to feed into the Parish Council’s Neighbourhood Plan Working Party	Parish Council with CW2020 Group
March/April 2013	Establishment of the Implementation and Monitoring Group	Parish Council and CW2020 Group
April/May 2013	Invitation to village organisations to form a Community Partnership as set out in Section 4.8	Implementation and Monitoring Group
	Communication of the relevant section of the Plan to the Youth Forum with the request that they feed back their response	Implementation and Monitoring Group
June 2013	Discussion with the two Schools and the Children’s Centre of the relevant sections of the Plan and the identification of action points.	Implementation and Monitoring Group
July 2013	An invitation to members of the Witham Valley Access Project to reactivate their work especially in relation to Section 4.6	Implementation and Monitoring Group
September 2013	In the light of the above, further work to identify which recommendations have been covered and which haven’t and require further action	Implementation and Monitoring Group
APM 2014	Presentation to residents of progress in the delivery of the Vision and Plan	Implementation and Monitoring Group



## 4. Aspects of Village Life

In the tables contained within the following sections the left hand column represents the concerns and aspirations raised by residents through the consultation process; the right hand column some suggestions as to how these might be delivered moving towards 2020.

### 4.1 What Kind of Community do Residents Want to Live in by 2020?

From the beginning of our consultation through the Love It/Hate It survey it was clear what residents value now about living in Cherry Willingham:

- ◆ The sense of rural living with the village's feeling of peace and quiet, with its access to the countryside and green spaces plus the wider countryside & coast of Lincolnshire.



- ◆ Its proximity to the employment, services and facilities of Lincoln.
- ◆ The shops and services focused on The Parade along with the other facilities and amenities such as the playing fields.



- ◆ The general friendliness of village residents and its good community spirit including the voluntary organisations/social outlets which it offers.

- ◆ The good schools and facilities for children and young people.

A foundation of our whole report is, therefore, the understanding that residents want to see these aspects of life in the village sustained and enhanced wherever possible. We have considered residents' suggestions for improvements which will add value to the above alongside their concerns about things which impact negatively on the quality of life:

Factors which affect the general appearance and safety of the village such as litter, badly maintained hedges and poor pavements and roads. General management of increasing traffic through the village including its speed.	We acknowledge the key role of the Parish Council in dealing with some of these and in liaising with WLDC & LCC on others. We note that the Council has, with the support of residents, increased its budgets for tackling these issues.
The impact of growth over the last few decades and the potential impact of future growth. This ranges from those who wish to see no further building to those who accept some additional housing will be required. It links to concerns about the necessary infrastructure, services and facilities to support a given level of population.	This is addressed in Section 4.5.
A desire to see improved footpaths and cycleways in and around the village and especially access to and over the River Witham.	This is addressed in Section 4.6.
A concern to see the retail and other services on The Parade not only maintained but enhanced to meet the needs of residents of the village and those of Reepham and Fiskerton who also depend on them. These include extended access to library services and the doctors' surgery. Parking policy and practice on The Parade is also a concern.	Many of these concerns are covered in Section 4.8. We note that discussions have taken place with the Partners of the Doctors' Practice and that there are major funding issues related to branch surgeries such as Cherry Willingham.

<p>A desire to build on the current community spirit and the work of active voluntary organisations through more events and more effective communication.</p>	<p>The Midsummer Madness programme in Summer 2012, including a Community Gala, which was judged a success in addressing these issues and we note plans are being made for a similar event in 2013. Other of these concerns are covered in Section 4.8 We recognise the important role of the Cherry News as a tool for village organisations to communicate.</p>
<p>Based on the value placed on them, residents wish to see the work of the village's voluntary organisations and activities enhanced. Improved access to information, advice and guidance services.</p>	<p>Many of these concerns are covered by Section 4.8. There is a desire to see the excellent facilities available at our village schools used to support these aims.</p>

## 4.2 The Role and Needs of Our Children & Families

Based on what residents have told us, we believe that it is vital for the future of the village that it provides a good, safe, stimulating place for families to bring up pre-secondary school age children. They have a significant role within the overall demographic of the village community. We recognise the different needs of those with pre-school age children and those whose children are in school.



To this extent we have engaged with them through our consultation processes along with representatives of relevant village organisations, the Primary and Community Schools and the Children's Centre which are all key providers alongside private providers of childcare and nursery provision. At the same time, the Parish Council has been looking at its provision of playing fields and associated equipment.

Residents appreciate the activities for Children and Families provided by village organisations as below:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Uniformed groups such as Scouting &amp; Guiding and the Cadet Corps</li> <li>◆ Church based groups and activities</li> <li>◆ Witham Adventure Club for Kids (W.A.C.K.)</li> <li>◆ Special Families Club</li> <li>◆ Children's Centre</li> <li>◆ Parents R Us (fund-raising), Reepham Rascals, Buggy Service, and groups at the Children's</li> </ul>	<p>Centre are just some of the activities put on for parents/carers and young children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Children's Centre also provides many interesting sessions for young children and their families and carers.</li> <li>◆ The library offers a story time activity run by volunteers for young children and parents/carers fortnightly. This has been extended because of demand and has proved very popular.</li> </ul>
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There is a desire to see these enhanced wherever possible and better publicised, along with more support from the community in the form of volunteers and funding. We believe that increased partnership between the statutory providers, the Parish Council and voluntary groups working with children will be a key factor in meeting the aim stated in the first paragraph above. We suggest that consideration is given to the delivery of a Partnership for Children and Families along the lines of the Youth Forum (see Section 4.3)

<p><b>Play areas and equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ There is a generally positive feeling about the facilities at Laburnum Drive and St Paul's but concern about limited facilities at Hawthorn Avenue and at none on Lady Meers.</li> <li>◆ Possibility of additional facilities for children with disabilities</li> <li>◆ Possibility of additional equipment such as zip wire, climbing ropes, basket swing/spinner, skateboarding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Some of this is within the remit of CWPC. They are already looking at removing the 'No Cycling' rule/signage. A multi-play area has recently been installed at St Paul's with combined football and basketball equipment.</li> <li>◆ It is hoped to provide later an area where children will be able to learn to ride their bikes.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Play areas and equipment (cont)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Provision of a soft play area</li> <li>◆ Places both to learn to ride a bike and to ride in safety</li> <li>◆ Use of play areas to provide social places for families to meet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We note that much of the current provision of equipment was generated by community fund-raising and believe a similar approach may be required - perhaps through the Partnership suggested above - given that the Parish Council is limited by the scale of the Parish Precept and cannot access some sources of funding.</li> </ul>
<p>Residents are keen to see a wider access for the whole community to the facilities at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ CW Primary School</li> <li>◆ CW Community School</li> <li>◆ CW Children’s Centre</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ All have expressed their readiness to explore how this may be possible perhaps through the Partnership suggested above</li> </ul>
<p><b>Information, Advice &amp; Guidance (IAG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Access to benefits and other information services and surgeries</li> <li>◆ Information about activities and facilities available in the village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Aspects of this are covered in Section 4.8.</li> <li>◆ The Children’s Centre already offers some IAG services/sessions and has expressed its willingness to engage with the Hub</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Concern about providing a safe environment including parking around schools and for walking/cycling in and around the village</li> <li>◆ Allotments for children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ See Section 4.6</li> <li>◆ Children’s Centre and Garden Club/Youth Centre NEET project may assist with allotments (see p.18) CWPC have begun exploring the possibility of allotments at St Paul's playing fields in the form of raised beds surrounding a paved area. This would provide opportunity for children, including those with disabilities, to take part in gardening activities and could be developed also into a sensory area for all children and young people to explore</li> </ul>



St Paul’s Play Area



Laburnum Drive Play Area

A wintry view of the Mediaeval fish pond



## 4.3 The Role and Needs of Our Young People

In this section by ‘young people’ we mean those of secondary school and college age. Based on what residents and the young people themselves have told us, we believe that it is vital for the future of the village that it provides a suitable place for them to grow up with quality education through our Community School and with voluntary organisations, amenities and facilities that meet their needs. One such issue is the provision of suitable housing to enable them to stay in the village should they wish to. This is addressed in Section 4.5.

We are very grateful to the Head and Staff of **Cherry Willingham Community School** for their support as we have engaged directly with the young people who attend the School. In discussions with the School, we have learned about their wish to be a true “community school” and build on the effective partnership of the last few years. They also want to be part of the Youth Forum and developments such as the community hub.



We applaud the work undertaken by residents, who faced with the effective closure of the **Youth Centre**, have worked so hard to establish the CW Youth Centre Management Committee thus ensuring a future for the Centre and for youth services in the village. We are grateful that they have also facilitated the establishment of a Youth Forum of which many of the organisations below have become members and which has the following aims:

1. To be a direct link between the Parish Council and the young people of the village.
2. To examine ways in which each organisation can offer practical help to other organisations, such as arranging trips and competitions.
3. To see how the recommendations from the Cherry Willingham 2020 report can be put into reality.
4. To bring together the young people of the village as, at each meeting, each organisation will be represented by a leader and representatives of the young people.

**We recommend that members of the Youth Forum be asked to co-ordinate taking forward some of the aspects mentioned below especially in partnership with CWPC and the Community School.**

<p><b>Play areas and equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ There is a generally positive feeling about the facilities at Laburnum Drive and St Paul’s but concern about limited facilities at Hawthorn Avenue and on none on Lady Meers.</li> <li>◆ Consultation with young people through CWCS told us that their priorities included parks enlarged and improved, additional sports facilities such as a swimming pool, a skateboarding facility gym &amp; football/basketball equipment, and “chill-out” space.</li> <li>◆ They also wanted additional facilities for young people with disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Some of these matters are within the remit of the Parish Council and it is reviewing its provision of appropriate equipment at its playing fields. As a result of consultations with Community School students through the work of CW2020, a new football goal/basketball net has been provided in St Paul’s at the beginning of 2013. Other provision such as skateboarding facilities have been costed but would require access to significant funding.</li> <li>◆ Some of these aspects are covered in Section 4.7 and in the relevant part of Section 4.2.</li> <li>◆ We note that much of the current provision was generated by a fund-raising group and would encourage a similar approach given that the Parish Council cannot access some sources of funding.</li> </ul>
<p>General appreciation by residents of the activities for Young People provided by village organisations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Youth Centre managed by residents</li> <li>◆ Uniformed groups</li> <li>◆ Church and other voluntary groups</li> <li>◆ Community School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ There is a desire to see these enhanced wherever possible and better publicised, along with more support from the community in the form of volunteers and funding.</li> <li>◆ We recommend that the Youth Forum should be invited to address these issues</li> </ul>

<p><b>Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Better use of the facilities available at CW Community School</li> <li>◆ Young people are very dependent on public transport to access the amenities of Lincoln and would like to see it improved in the evening and at weekends.</li> <li>◆ They appreciate the facilities at the Parade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The School have indicated their desire to ensure wider use by the whole community.</li> <li>◆ See Section 4.6</li> <li>◆ See Section 4.8</li> </ul>
<p><b>Information, Advice &amp; Guidance (IAG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Benefit and other information</li> <li>◆ Information about activities and facilities available in the village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Aspects of this are covered in Section 4.8</li> </ul>

Other residents supported much of the above and in addition made the following comments:

- ◆ *Young people must be helped to feel that they 'own'/have a personal investment/interest in any project aimed in their direction. At the same time 'doing their own thing' is perhaps too open - gentle leadership might well be needed.*
- ◆ *This is so important in my opinion to help them develop.*
- ◆ *The fact that the youth centre is still a going concern with council support proves that local issues can work providing local people have a*

*vision and commitment.*

- ◆ *Agree that the Community School facilities are a fantastic asset to be utilised as a focus within the village.*
- ◆ *More facilities for teenagers in village.*
- ◆ *Subsidised travel for young people*
- ◆ *Important that schools offer clubs also that the youth centre remains for young people. From past experience they offer good support*

For information we pass these on to the Youth Forum.



New equipment  
St Paul's  
Play Area



The Scout Hut



Army  
Cadets  
HQ

## 4.4 The Role and Needs of Our Older Residents

- ◆ Data currently available indicates that over 30% of residents are aged 65 plus. In line with national trends, this could rise towards 50% in the next 20 years with proportionally larger numbers in the 70 plus and 80 plus age groups. The 2011 census data will provide more accurate information. This is above the national average and is probably a product of a significant proportion of bungalows within the mix of village housing and the quality of living provided by the village with its ready access to Lincoln.
- ◆ Within the overall aim of this plan to further develop the element of 'good neighbourliness', identified positively by respondents throughout the consultation process, we want to recognise the important role played by older residents in the life of the village and to see their needs catered for alongside those of other age groups.
- ◆ The needs of people over 60/65 are varied. For much of the past 100 years these have been the traditional retirement ages for women and men respectively and so have been seen as the transition point into 'old age'. However, in more recent years, improved healthcare and increasing life expectancy, means that the majority pass this age in good health.
- ◆ For the purposes of this report, we picture older residents in three main groups:
  1. Active retired who often provide the 'bedrock' for many of the voluntary groups and their

activities thus contributing to the positive feel of the village. This can contribute towards their own needs to be active and engaged.

2. Those who are able to stay in their own homes but are more dependent on support provided by public services, families/good neighbours and voluntary organisations.

3. Those who cannot be sustained in their own homes and need some form of sheltered or nursing accommodation.

- ◆ These cannot be defined by age but are more dependent on the health and well-being of each individual. Trends suggest that people will have to work beyond historic retirement ages - potentially impacting on their contribution to the life of the village and its voluntary organisations.

- ◆ The increasing demands of an aging population, coupled with growing pressure on the public purse, means that there is a squeeze on the services traditionally provided by the public sector over recent decades. This means a greater dependency on voluntary support and good neighbourliness for many in group 2 above.

- ◆ We believe that these issues can only be addressed through partnerships between the community and both statutory agencies and larger voluntary organisations such as Age UK.

- ◆ The following table set out some of the key needs of older people as identified by residents along with our suggestions for addressing them.

<p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ It is vital that the demographic profile of the village is balanced and so future housing should be aimed at younger people especially in the affordable category. On this basis we do not envisage the need for additional ‘older peoples’ housing within the general housing stock of the village.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We would, however, recommend a review of the current provision of ‘sheltered’ and ‘care home’ within the village with an exploration of options for additional and specialised provision if need is identified.</li> <li>◆ We recommend that these issues are addressed as part of the planning agenda (Section 4.5)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Health care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Access to health care is proportionately greater as people grow older and so this is a key concern for older residents of the village.</li> <li>◆ Our consultations demonstrate an appreciation of the presence of the surgery and pharmacy in the village while expressing concern about the day-to-day operation of the surgery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We note that discussions have taken place with the Partners of the Doctors’ Practice and that they remain committed to maintaining surgery facilities within CW.</li> <li>◆ We recognise that the Practice has made considerable strides in informing patients about their services and encourage this to continue.</li> <li>◆ Recognising that residents still need on occasions to visit the Nettleham surgery and other medical facilities, we want to encourage the voluntary driver scheme.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We note an increasing trend towards enabling older people to stay in their own homes and we believe this is the wish of the majority of such residents.</li> <li>◆ There is growing financial pressure on the support services provided by statutory agencies to enable this. An example of the kind of solutions these agencies are seeking to develop is that for either ‘keeping people out of hospital’ or facilitating discharge from hospital.</li> <li>◆ There will be a growing need for support to be provided through families and good neighbours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We recommend the development of a more co-ordinated voluntary network to provide ‘good neighbour’ support especially to those without family support immediately available to them. See Section 4.8.</li> <li>◆ We recommend discussions with Nettleham Medical Practice and Lincolnshire West Clinical Commissioning Group about how this might be developed in a formal arrangement which would also involve LCC. Such arrangements would raise issues on volunteer selection, training and information sharing between statutory and voluntary bodies.</li> <li>◆ We note the Emergency Planning provision by the Parish Council to address the needs of residents in extreme weather conditions and envisage that these could be linked.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Mobility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ One of the keys for older people is to be able to access services when they no longer have access to a car. This includes access to The Parade, to Nettleham and to Lincoln.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ An important part of meeting this need is maintenance of, and where possible improvement, to bus services. These issues need to be addressed with the service providers and District &amp; County Councils.</li> <li>◆ We recommend an exploration of the possibility of expanding the voluntary car driver scheme to assist with some of these needs.</li> <li>◆ In the longer term we encourage a project to consider the provision of a village minibus (electric vehicle) perhaps in partnership with Reepham and Fiskerton.</li> <li>◆ While recognising some of the ‘legal’ issues involved, we suggest consideration of a wheelchair hire scheme.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social networks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ All human beings need to engage socially with other people. One of the most significant problems facing older people as they become less mobile is the loss of such contact, leading to loneliness which has an effect on health and well-being.</li> <li>◆ It is clear from our consultations that residents value the generally friendly nature of the village community and we want to see this feeling strengthened.</li> <li>◆ Older residents value the work of the village’s voluntary organisations both for the social opportunities they provide and for the services they receive from them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Again we value the part played by good neighbours and the role of churches and other local groups such as “Fit as a Fiddle” in meeting these needs. We want to see greater acknowledgement of, and support for, these by the public sector especially within the Government’s ‘localism and decentralisation’ agenda.</li> <li>◆ A significant number of residents benefit from the activities of U3A. The Witham Valley branch of this national organisation offers learning opportunities for older people.</li> <li>◆ We would also want to explore whether the groups can benefit from working together in a community network.</li> <li>◆ Many of these concerns are covered by Section 4.8.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leisure and recreation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Being active is one of the most important antidotes to aging and older residents want to see that appropriate facilities are available from clubs through appropriate walking routes to basic meeting places.</li> <li>◆ An important service for many older people is the library including its access to computers for those who don’t own one.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ There is a desire to see the excellent facilities available at our village schools used to support the needs of older residents.</li> <li>◆ Action to address some of these issues is covered in Sections 4.6, 4.7 &amp; 4.8</li> </ul>
<p><b>Information, advice and guidance (IAG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ One of the greatest problems faced by older people is being aware of what benefits, facilities and services are available to them and how to access them.</li> <li>◆ The public sector makes reasonable efforts to provide information and organisations such as Age UK also offer IAG for older people. One problem is that an increasing amount of information is primarily available through the internet to which many older people don’t have access.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ We support, therefore, the development of a local voluntary IAG service to act as a ‘signpost’ for residents including older people to sources of information about e.g. benefits and services. We recommend that this is undertaken in partnership with e.g. West Lindsey DC/LCC and Age UK along with e.g. the library, surgery and other village organisations.</li> <li>◆ A possible approach to this is covered in Section 4.8.</li> </ul>

## 4.5 Planning for the Future including Housing Needs

**We are aware the future of the village has to be addressed in the context of national, county and district strategies, aims and targets, including changes in national planning frameworks and the development of the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy.**

- ◆ The Core Strategy is being developed in a partnership between WLDC, Lincoln City Council and North Kesteven DC working with LCC and looks towards 2031.
- ◆ We have sought to engage with this strategy and note that it is predicated on significant growth in Lincoln and especially large numbers of new houses in the Greetwell Quarry Area. It also assumes the building of the Eastern Bypass.
- ◆ There are no specific references to Cherry Willingham in the current draft but all this potentially has a major impact on the village, especially given residents desire to retain its clear physical separation from the City.
- ◆ The strategy may also contain suggestions about the provision of a Park & Ride scheme to the north of the City. Depending on its location it may have an impact on Cherry Willingham.

**Indeed, the question of whether there should be further development, especially housing, in the future has been a major issue throughout the CW2020 consultation process.**

- ◆ A significant number of respondents were adamant that the village is already large enough and that further development would damage the nature of the village community.
- ◆ A second group suggested that development leading to some increase in population is necessary if the village is to retain its services and facilities.
- ◆ The majority accepted that the pressure nationally to meet housing need, alongside the growth agenda for Lincoln envisaged in the emerging Central Lincs Core Strategy, means that some additional housing is inevitable. **All were clear, however, that conditions should be attached to any further development:**
  1. Residents should have a say in the location of any future housing. A majority of respondents suggest that this should be in a corridor along Hawthorn Road between the Community School and the Hawthorn Avenue area of the

village. In particular there is majority opposition to development on the Lincoln side of the village and any which would narrow the green spaces between the village and Reepham and Fiskerton.

2. Significant improvements must be made to the infrastructure of the village such as drainage and flood protection.
  3. There should be significant planning gain, i.e. provision of additional services or facilities, as a condition of planning permission.
  4. Any such development should in particular address the needs of the frail elderly, for starter homes to encourage younger people to stay in the village and affordable housing FOR local people.
- ◆ Other sections of this CW2020 Plan also carry implications for planning e.g.
    1. The need for further provision for sport and recreation identified in Section 4.7.
    2. Improvements to make the village ‘greener, safer, healthier’ - Section 4.6.
    3. Housing needs of elderly residents needing some level of care - Section 4.4
  - ◆ One critical avenue to be explored which relates to the ‘growth agenda’ in the Core Strategy is the lower corridor of access between the village and Lincoln i.e. Fiskerton Road/Greetwell Road. Given the clear relationship in the Core Strategy between Lincoln and its neighbouring villages, and local residents acknowledgement of the same, there needs to be some discussions about a clear strategy for making this corridor ‘greener, safer, healthier’ (see Section 4.6).
  - ◆ It has been drawn to our attention that, in some parts of the country where there are similar narrow roads to those in Lincolnshire, footpaths/cycleways have been created off the road e.g. behind the hedge line. We wonder whether this could be an option for this ‘corridor’ or whether it would be possible to utilise the present footpath extending from Green Lane to the minor road running between Greetwell and the Carlton Estate. Access across the river to the Water Rail Way would also provide another solution.
  - ◆ Delivery of the marina development - welcomed by the majority of residents - for which planning permission has already been granted is clearly another key element in the of delivery of residents’ aspirations. We envisage that the group looking at the Neighbourhood Plan would engage with the developer to establish their intentions in



relation to delivery and the planning conditions which meet the wishes of residents.

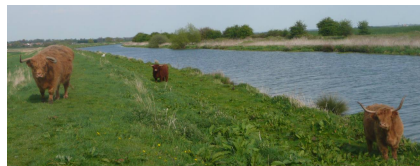
- ◆ There is a concern to see a closer integration of the Hawthorn Avenue part of the village into the whole. This may be addressed in part if the housing development suggested above takes place but also requires all service providers and community organisations to be more aware of the need of its residents.
- ◆ Residents have identified the importance of the relationship, both geographically and in terms of facilities and services, between Cherry and Reepham & Fiskerton. We suggest, therefore, that many of these planning issues would ideally be tackled through a partnership of the three villages. Partly this is because of the significance of the

land between them for future developments.

- ◆ It would also increase the target population to c7,000 thus increasing the potential for securing funding especially for ‘green’ developments. Issues such as access to the river, an improved footpath/cycleway network and development of woodland and nature habitat would be best considered in this way.
- ◆ We have kept in touch with the concept of **Neighbourhood Plans** as included in the Government’s planning changes and note that the Parish Council has resolved to initiate this process for Cherry Willingham. We note that in doing so it will build on the results of the community engagement results of the CW2020 process.

**We request the Parish Council to address the issues identified above through the Neighbourhood Plan as the most appropriate vehicle for pursuing residents’ concerns and suggestions and offer whatever assistance we can to facilitate the process .**

Banks of the River Witham



Great crested newt saves the pond

## 4.6 A Greener, Safer, Healthier Village

Although residents have identified its rural setting as one of the attractions of living in the village, they have also identified a number of ways that it can be greener, safer and healthier - all of which are significant national agendas.

Many of these aspects of the Plan would require significant funding and partnerships with other local and national bodies as shown below. We suggest that a number of these issues would be best addressed in partnership with Reepham & Fiskerton as having a target population c7,000 would increase the funding chances and provide appropriate developments both to preserve the boundaries between the villages and ensure the use of the land between for green purposes rather than development.

In relation to some of the aspirations below we have noted that the village is relatively small in terms of land area within the parish boundary and that this can be roughly categorised as:

1. Land occupied by the built environment - largely housing.
2. The land between Fiskerton Road and the River Witham which is flood plain which we trust would not be used for housing and which is largely used currently for agriculture.
3. Most of the rest which is farmed intensively.
4. Small pockets of green space such as the parish and school playing fields and around the pond.

This means that there is currently very little woodland or preserved habitat for nature. We understand that most of categories 2 and 3 are in private ownership and that any changes would require their cooperation.

### A Greener Village

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Litter and related issues</li> <li>2. Improved public transport to reduce car usage e.g. through better bus services - extended timetable at evenings and on Sundays - and provision of a railway station</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See Section 4.1</li> <li>2. Discussions with service providers indicate that this will not happen without subsidies.</li> </ol>
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<p>3. Improved open spaces, including new woodland, with links between them as improved wildlife habitats and public access</p> <p>4. Improved recycling and composting schemes</p> <p>5. Educational projects especially for young people</p>	<p>3. Refer to Planning Section 4.5 Explore possibilities through bodies such as LCC/ WLDC, with landowners who can obtain grants - possible advice from e.g. the Woodland Trust and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust</p> <p>4. Refer to WLDC/LCC</p> <p>5. Follow up through links with village schools - see Sections 4.3 &amp; 4.4</p>
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### A Safer Village

Fortunately the village is fairly safe but residents want to see it stay that way and where appropriate to be improved - especially for children and older people.

<p>1. Management of traffic through the village Croft Lane/Waterford Lane, Church Lane and Fiskerton Road</p> <p>2. Safer access to Lincoln other than by car along Fiskerton Road/Greetwell Road</p> <p>3. Access to and over the River Witham and to the land between the river and Fiskerton Road</p> <p>4. Improved footpaths and cycleways both in terms of connectivity within the village and surrounding areas Create footpath/cycleway route between Hawthorn Avenue and Green Lane especially for families requiring access from the former to the Primary School and other facilities</p>	<p>1. See Section 4.1</p> <p>2. See Section 4.5</p> <p>3. We understand that this is most likely to be delivered through the planned marina development</p> <p>4. Explore options with LCC and landowners perhaps for permissive paths - possibly with advice from e.g. SusTrans, Ramblers Association, Lincs Footpaths Assoc and Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) . Possible partnerships with Reepham and Fiskerton.</p>
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### A Healthier Village

We note the national agenda concerning obesity and the efforts to get children more active along with keeping older people active. Walking and cycling along with swimming, bowls, dancing and sports such as new age kurling are activities - some already being offered by local groups - which can contribute to the health of all age groups.

<p>1. Opportunities for physical activity for all residents</p> <p>2. Allotments including for children will provide physical activity and encourage healthier eating</p>	<p>1. Many of the proposals above will open up opportunities for walking and cycling. Likewise Section 4.7 and will help in tackling this agenda Fit as a Fiddle - supported by Age UK - provide exercise appropriate for older residents The NHS offers ‘exercise on prescription’ where this is a real problem. Currently provided at Yarborough Leisure Centre but could be delivered locally. Consult Medical practice We note programmes such as Walking for Health which is now operated by the Ramblers charity. We note that a new gym facility has been opened at the Community School and would hope that local residents would have preferential access to it.</p> <p>2. We understand that responsibility for considering the provision of allotments lies with the Parish Council and that a request from residents is currently being considered.</p>
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Many of these issues would require consideration at the planning level and we would ask that they are considered as part of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan (see Section 4.5).

We suggest that many of these issues are inter-related and can be addressed through a unified approach.

We recommend that an effort is made to develop a village forum to address all these issues over the long term perhaps building on the previous work of the Witham Valley Access Project.

In addition to the bodies noted above we have recently become aware of the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership launched on 8 November 2012. It has some 40 member organisations and has taken over co-ordinating delivery of the biodiversity agenda across the County. It may be another potential partner or able to offer guidance and assistance locally.

## 4.7 Leisure, Sport & Recreation

Opportunities for participation in leisure, sport and recreation activities are an important element of the life of any community. They contribute to building a sense of community and to health and well-being of residents. Residents have indicated their appreciation of the ready access from the village to the facilities of Lincoln and its surrounding area and to the wider delights of Lincolnshire's countryside and coast. However, they also value the existing activities in the village and would wish to see further development of these in the future.

We identify the following aspects of this agenda which operate currently in and around the village:

1. Active participation in sport through organised clubs including Cricket, Bowls, Football, Badminton, Tennis, and Judo
  2. Organised activities for children and young people (see Section 4.2 & 4.3)
  3. Shared interest groups and meeting places such as the Twinning Association, knitting groups, Women's Institute, Mothers Union, Church based activities, Gardening Club, social & lunch clubs, physical exercise for older people, Heritage Society, U3A and those provided at the Children's Centre.
  4. Provision of library services including books and access to the internet.
  5. Recreational activities such as walking & cycling
- All these function only through the effort of committed volunteers and the generation of funds.

We would encourage generation of both volunteers and funding through the proposed Community Partnership (see Section 4.8).

The delivery of these activities depend also on good quality facilities such as:

1. Meeting places e.g. the Parish Church, the Church Hall, the Village Hall, the Millennium Hall, the Children's Centre, the Community School's hall and indoor sports facilities.
2. Outdoor play areas and sports grounds such as those at Laburnum Drive, St Paul's and Hawthorn Avenue (all CWPC) and the Community School's outdoor pitches.
3. Those required to ensure continuation of library services through engagement of the community in a partnership with LCC.
4. Access to green spaces with well maintained foot and cycle paths (see Section 4.6).

Residents are concerned to ensure that existing facilities are protected and that further developments are made to these alongside possible new provision.

We suggest that a long-term strategy is developed between the owners/operators of these facilities to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the continued funding and operation of all these facilities. This could be delivered through the proposed Community Partnership and the Community Hub agenda. It may be helpful also if the various sports clubs worked together on the facilities agenda supported by the Partnership.



Laburnum Drive sports field



School's 3G pitches



School sports field

The following are some specific longer-term priorities identified by residents which could be considered through this process:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| ◆ E.g. a youth shelter, Skateboard -BMX park, street dance facilities and wall for tag art | ◆ Fitness trail play areas & pond                                 | ◆ Informal woodland walks/ riverside/country walks  |
| ◆ New cricket or football pitch and pavilion to relieve pressure on Laburnum Drive field   | ◆ Picnic area with tables   | ◆ Lighting on play parks to increase availability and enhance everyone's safety and security. |
|  | ◆ Outside/green gym   |   |
|  | ◆ Swimming pool   |   |
|  | ◆ Improved footpaths and access to the river for recreational use |   |

### External Support and Partnership

We are aware of a great deal of talk about the Olympic/Paralympic legacy and the Government talks about building partnerships between local sports clubs and schools, about competitive sport in schools and about the need to provide better facilities. We are not clear what substance there is to this but presume that the District and County Councils can advise on this. In addition we presume that national sports associations have a role to play in supporting local clubs to achieve these ends.

There are national health agendas around getting all generations more active as part of the fight against

obesity. We understand that it may be worth pursuing this with the West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group when it comes into operation in April 2013.

We note that the Lincolnshire Sports Partnership can offer fund raising and communications advice plus a small number of sport specific officers who can help establish e.g. local rounders league. Part of their organisation is the Lincs Active Community Network (LACN) which offers sports coach hire e.g. 6 sports (incl dance) access across 3 evenings and taster sessions. This is done in partnership with village organisations but funding has to be secured locally.

## 4.8 A Community Partnership and Community Hub

### A. Creating a Community Partnership

1. Section 3 of the Plan sets out the potential for delivery of our shared Vision through enhanced partnerships and shared activities.
2. We suggest that a key tool in achieving this would be the establishment of a Community Partnership to work alongside the Parish Council and other agencies/village organisations to foster co-operation between them and to encourage the engagement of residents in providing voluntary services in the village. We stress that this is to work in partnership with the Parish Council, who we see as a key member of the Partnership, to deliver activities which are outside its remit including access to funding streams not available directly to the Council.
3. Such a model needs to be financially sustainable and have the capacity to manage its activities. It will preferably also be 'owned' by the community in some form.
4. We recommend that the members of this Partnership should be village organisations rather than individual residents partly because its role would be about using their combined resources more effectively and partly because it would provide continuity. We would anticipate that eventually the Partnership would be a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. Member organisations would nominate a representative who would be a trustee/director. We are aware that such models exist in other communities and we could learn from these.

**establishment of a Community Partnership**

**members of this Partnership should be village organisations**

### B. Community Facilities and Services

1. Our consultations with residents over the last 18 months have indicated that they:
  1. Value the retail and other services currently provided on The Parade and want to see these not only retained but developed to reflect the continued growth of the village population. (It is noted that the retail and other services on The Parade are used also by residents of Reephram and Fiskerton.)



2. Would wish to see a more integrated approach to residents' needs for information, advice and guidance (IAG) perhaps working with e.g. WLDC's benefits services, the Police, Age UK and CAB.
  3. Can be unaware of all services and activities available in the village and unclear how best to obtain information although we note the valuable role of the Cherry News in this.
  4. Want to see actions which develop the community spirit in the village and enhance current voluntary activities.
2. We note that other facilities in the village include:
1. The village hall located midway between Cherry and Reepham which provides the largest community -owned meeting space available to village residents.
  2. Both schools which are significant assets for the village. We believe that they are ready to explore how their facilities can be better used for the whole community.
  3. The Youth Wing at the Community School which will shortly be operated by the newly formed voluntary Youth Centre Management Committee.
  4. The Children's Centre operated by LCC and located on the Primary School site. It already offers IAG and other support services, principally to families with children under five.
  5. The Millennium Hall owned by the Parish Council and providing its operational base.
  6. The Church Hall (see below).
  7. The current Library building and medical practice owned respectively by LCC and the Doctors' Practice.
3. Amongst other possible developments in the village we have noted that:
1. The Church Hall Management Committee is looking to refurbish and redevelop the Hall to make it even more useful to both the Church and the wider community.
  2. The recently established CW Heritage Society is keen to see the provision of a facility (museum) for displaying artefacts and information about the history and heritage of the village (see Section 2).
  3. The Church Hall Committee and Heritage Society are considering a joint bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for these projects. In preliminary discussions with the Fund, its representatives have encouraged a bid with a broad compass such as that envisaged in the Community Hub concept below.



### C. A Community Hub for Cherry Willingham

1. We recommend, therefore, the creation of a Community Hub to co-ordinate a wide range of facilities and services and especially to enhance access to information, advice and guidance services for residents of all ages. It would provide maximum benefit if there is a physical base on The Parade for the Hub but other locations would be possible. It would draw also on other community assets and services in the village whether provided/owned by statutory agencies or community organisations.
2. We suggest that the Community Partnership detailed above would be the best vehicle to deliver this. It could own/have a lease on a core Hub building but all other buildings would remain in current ownerships.
3. Cherry Willingham Parish Council have indicated an interest in locating the parish office closer to the 'heart' of the village should a Hub be developed. Such a move would mean that the Millennium Hall would be freed, either to be sold to provide funds for CWPC or to be used as part of a Community Hub.
4. We envisage, therefore, that the core offering through a central Hub could include an office base for CWPC and the Parish Clerk; facilities, including internet access, to offer integrated IAG services; potentially library services should discussions progress with LCC; and Cherry Connects as an electronic service (e.g. through Facebook) to enable residents to engage with each other on matters of mutual concern.
5. Depending on space, other options in the central Hub might include additional meeting space for Community use; training services for local residents e.g. in conjunction with the schools, Job Centre Plus or U3A; and a 'village heritage centre/museum'. In many instances such hubs incorporate a community

### creation of a Community Hub

café but we would not wish to compete with existing food provisions on The Parade. However we would wish to explore how existing facilities can be enhanced or complemented.

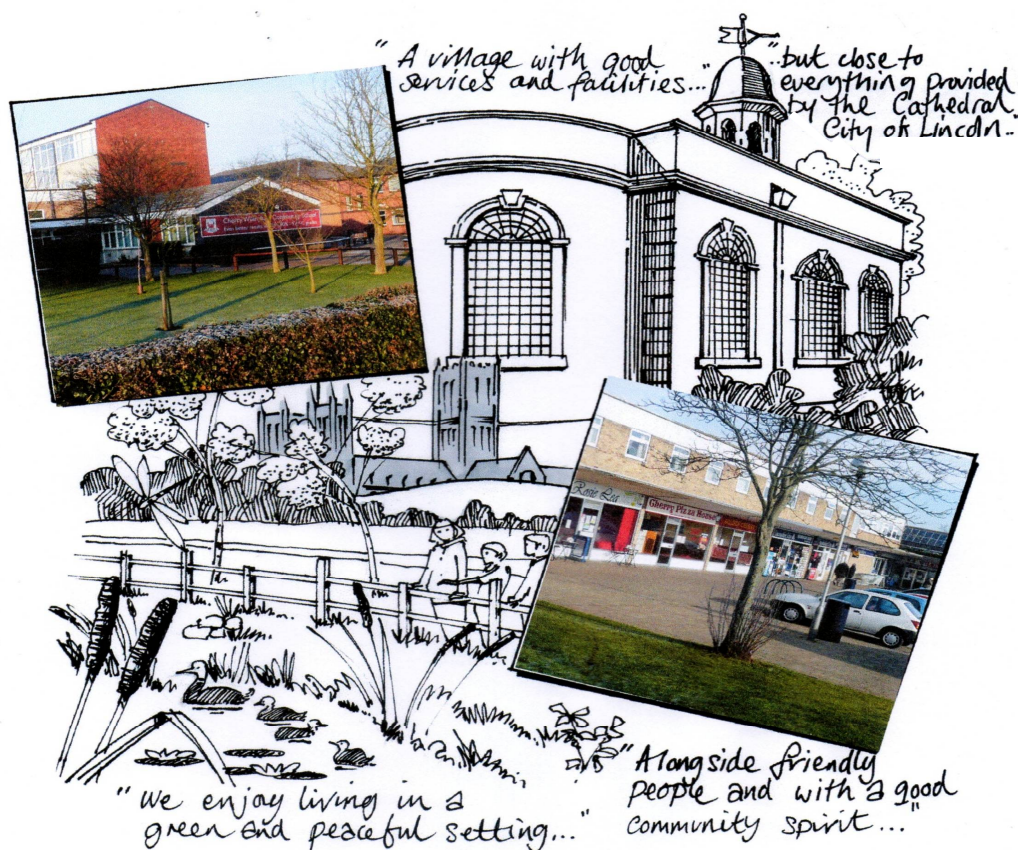
6. The ability to operate such a hub will depend significantly on:
  1. the willingness of village organisations to support it,
  2. an adequate supply of volunteers from the community probably with a part-time paid coordinator to oversee the hub and recruit, train and supervise the volunteers,
  3. capital funding to reorder and equip the relevant premises,
  4. the ability to generate funds for operational costs.

All these would need to be tested as part of the implementation agenda for the Plan.

### Notes on Funding

We have not explored this in any detail but are aware of the following:

1. WLDC's Community Assets Fund which is loan funding for community enterprise. This requires an element of trading and so we are not sure at this stage whether this is relevant. CWPC could also secure a loan from the Public Works Loan Board interest free and repayable over ten years.
2. There are possibilities with the Heritage Lottery Fund and perhaps general lottery funding.
3. Lincolnshire Co-op have funding available up to a maximum of £3,000 to support the establishment of co-operative businesses plus a general grant fund.
4. The Quirk Report "Making Assets Work", sets out criteria for management and transfer of assets from Council into Community Ownership and the possibilities afforded by this should be fully explored.
5. The proposals within this report accord very closely with the current Government position on "Big Society", it is understood that funding and support to assist in this may be available via either the County or District Council.
6. We are aware of other sources of advice and funding which can be explored. Some of these are accessible to CWPC but others are available only to community groups.
7. Subject to CWPC's decision-making/consultation processes we believe that there may be options to support this project through the parish precept given the high level of support for such developments among residents as demonstrated through our consultation process.



# Appendix 1 The Story of CW2020

## Developing the Vision & Plan by Listening to Village Residents

The following shows the key dates and actions in the process of developing the Plan. A lot of other work was undertaken in between by the members of the Steering Group including formal and informal conversations with village residents and village organisations.

**March 2011:** On the initiative of the Parish Council the question of producing a ‘parish plan’ was raised at a very well-attended Annual Parish Meeting with a presentation by Janet Clarke of **Community Lincs** – an organisation recognised by WLDC and LCC to act on their behalf to support and monitor villages that set out on this course. The meeting indicated a clear wish that the process be set in motion and a steering group be appointed with the following aims:

1. To produce a shared vision of life in Cherry Willingham, along with practical plans/actions for achieving that vision, through our own efforts as residents and village organisations and by influencing the decisions of Parish, District and County Councils and other appropriate public and private bodies.
2. To engage as many residents of the village as possible, along with non-residents users of its facilities and services, in the process of developing the vision and plan.

The clear advice was that this should not be done by the Parish Council but should contain representatives of the Council – later agreed at three. An invitation was given to residents at the Annual Parish Meeting to join the **Steering Group** (the Group). This invitation was repeated on many occasions - at events and through the Cherry News - and a number of residents responded.

**April 2011:** Preliminary meeting to constitute a Steering Group. The Group further consulted Community Lincs and looked at a number of existing village plans. On their advice the Group adopted the nationally recognised nine-stage **Community Led Plan Toolkit** and followed it to the end. They advised also that the Group maintain its evaluation records throughout the process and that this would provide the evidence for seeking the **Kitemark** by which such plans are judged.

**September 2011:** The Cherry News was used to reach out with a **Love It/Hate It survey** – a tool recommended by Community Lincs. Ninety-seven responses were received representing c150 residents. This provided evidence of issues which concerned residents both positively and negatively.

**March 2012:** Survey responses were used to frame some thoughts about the future which were the subject of another major consultation at another well-attended **2012 Annual Parish Meeting**. This was publicised both through the Cherry News and by leaflets hand-delivered by members of the Group to all homes in the village. This was complemented by a Saturday session in the Library using the same materials. Again there was a very positive response from residents with c100 forms completed representing at least 140 residents.

In the meantime, a Councillor and the Chair of the Group led a citizenship lesson with every year/form group at the Community School. This included asking them about their views on the future of the village. Some Group members and other residents then ran a three day programme with Year 9 engaging them in more in depth thinking how the village can better meet their needs. Again both of these provided a large amount of the data used to shape this document.

**July 2012:** Early in 2012 the Group consulted the Parish Council and all village organisations about the possibility of holding a community event which would include a further CW2020 consultation. This was agreed and a considerable number of volunteers, including members of the Group, were involved in planning a series of events under the banner ‘Midsummer Madness’. This comprised the **Primary School Summer Fair** on 30 June, a **Community Gala** at the Community School on 1 July and the **Church Summer Fete** on 7 July. Courtesy of funding from WLDC and CWPC, this was publicised in the Cherry News and through a leaflet drop to all houses in the village, followed by a programme in the days immediately preceding the events. It is estimated that some 400 people attended the Gala.

The Group used the data from the previous consultations to produce posters and a questionnaire for use at each of the three events - all attended by members of the Group. The response from residents was very positive and encouraging in relation to the issues identified and suggestions made as the basis for the CW2020 Plan. Some 74 forms were completed representing at least 100 residents. Others told us that they agreed but didn't feel the need to complete the questionnaire.

The material for each these consultations and the associated questionnaires, along with analysis of residents' responses can be found at on-line at <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/CherryWillingham/> or via the Parish Office.

At these events, and through the Cherry News, the Group also invited residents who were interested in any specific aspect of the Plan to join a small short-term working party on that particular issue. A number did respond positively and were involved in the groups but, unfortunately, others weren't able in the end to find the time to actually engage in them.

Members of the Group have also met representatives of both Schools, the Children's Centre and a number of village organisations.

**July- September 2012:** At the request of LCC Library services, the Group was involved with the Parish Council in a joint working party to consider the possible engagement of the local community in the future delivery of library services in the village. This was linked to the Group's proposals for a Community Hub and Community Partnership. This matter is the subject of separate processes involving the Parish Council but could link to the proposals in section 4.8 of this Plan.

**October/December 2012:** On the basis of residents' responses through the engagement process outlined above, and its own ideas for addressing these, the Group produced a final draft of this Plan . Much of this work was done by smaller working parties consisting of members of the Group alongside the residents who responded to the above invitation.

**January/February 2013:** Working with Community Lincs and West Lindsey District Council, the Group finalised the Plan and arranged its printing in preparation for its presentation to partners and residents at the 2013 Annual Parish Meeting in March.

## **Appendix 2: Membership of the CW2020 Steering Group**

Mrs Lynn Holmes	Mr Ian Pike
Cllr Valerie Houghton	Cllr Jenny Robinson
Mr Martin Joy	Mr Barry Robinson
Mrs Hazel Larcombe	Mr Derek Sidman
Mr Mike Mason	Mrs Jean Trahearn
Mrs Hazel Moss	Mr David Stubbs

Mr Gordon Heard was also a member but sadly died before the Plan was published.

Other people were members of the Group for varying lengths of time but felt unable to continue due to other commitments - our thanks to them and to others who were members of our working parties or assisted us in other ways.

### **Between us the Members belong to and/or represent the following village organisations:**

St Peter & St Paul's Church	CW Parish Council
CW Children's Centre	CW Twinning Association
CW Gardening Club	CW Women's Institute
CW Heritage Society	CW Youth Centre
CW Methodist Church	CW Youth Forum