

CORSENSIDE PARISH PLAN 2007



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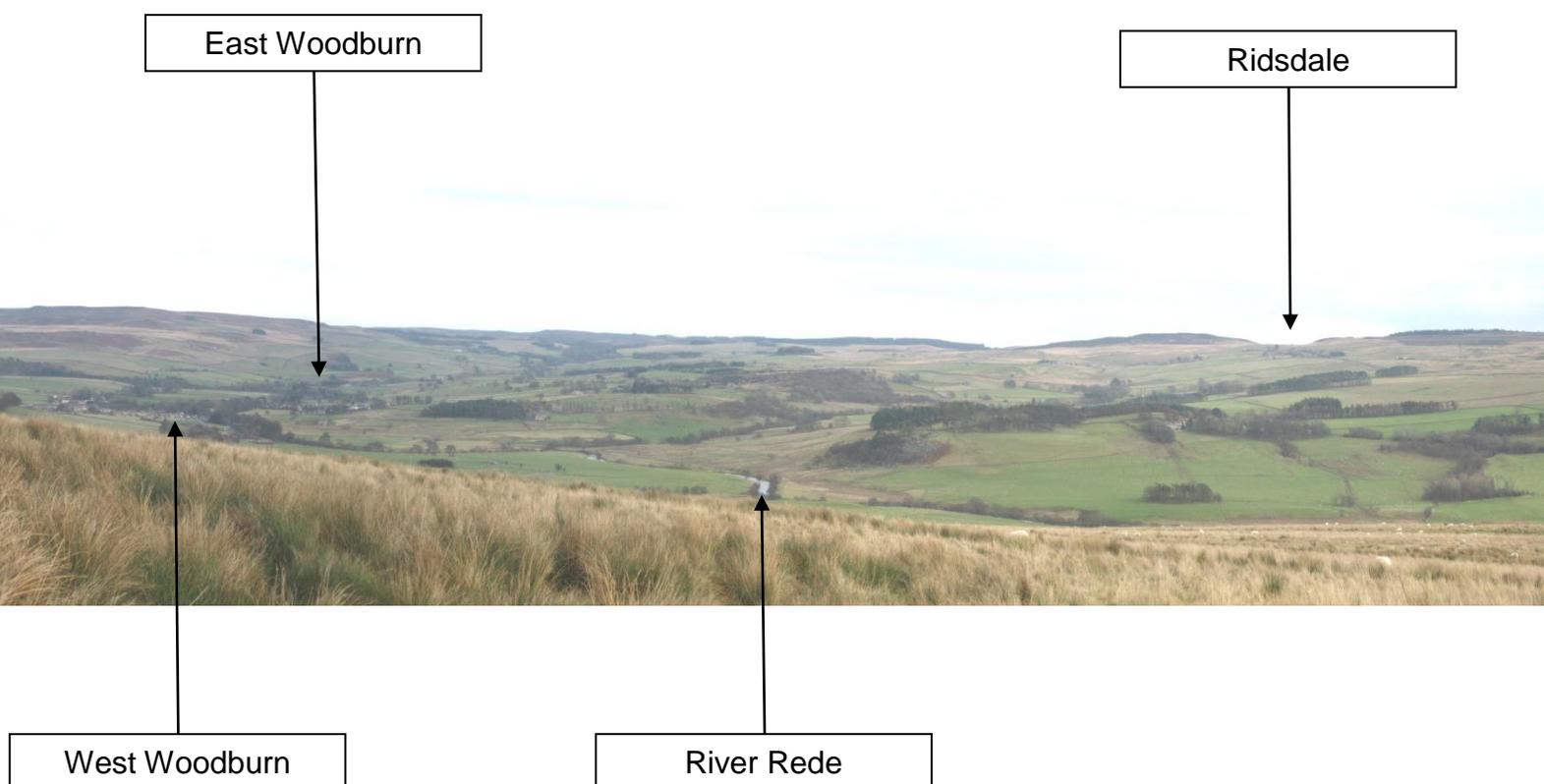
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Corsenside is a small, relatively isolated, rural parish in Northumberland. Currently, the parish is poorly served by facilities or services. Furthermore, there are serious concerns as to the sustainability and continuance of the few resources within the parish.

Despite this paucity and associated concerns, there are a wide variety of volunteer community groups within the parish. Several of these are concerned with tackling the effects of rural deprivation on the younger and older sections of our community.

Corsenside is a vibrant community with a large number of young people; however, there is very little on offer to this section of our community and accessing any form of leisure or entertainment will require access to private transport.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are also limited opportunities and services for retired people in the parish, especially those with no access to private transport.



A view of the southern end of Corsenside from the West (NY8686)

BACKGROUND TO THE PARISH PLAN

As with many rural parishes, there is concern in Corsenside that our few local resources are all vulnerable to the possibility of future closure. In recognition of this, some three years ago a discussion group was formed and it was agreed that we needed to improve communications between the various local committees and that this could best be implemented through a 'Community Partnership' committee. A short questionnaire was distributed round the Parish to gauge the response to this and the Corsenside Community Partnership was eventually formed in the spring of 2007.

The purpose of the Partnership is to provide a forum for representatives of the various services and amenities within the Parish to meet and generate an effective voice in local affairs. Membership includes representatives from the Parish Council, the Parish Hall Committee, the Parochial Church Council, West Woodburn First School, Village Show Committee, Ridsdale Junior and Senior Citizens' Fund Committee, Ridsdale Village Hall Fund, Ladies' Fellowship and Corsenside website editor. All meetings are held in the public domain and decisions and policy are presented to the Parish Council for comment. The tasks first taken on by the Partnership were to restart the defunct Parish Newsletter and to produce a Parish Plan.

Many parishes in Northumberland and throughout the country have formulated a Parish Plan; these being in response to the Government's rural white paper, 'Our Countryside – The Future', published in November 2000. The process of constructing a Parish Plan requires information to be gathered from the community through a questionnaire and public meetings. The Parish Council successfully applied for a Defra grant through the Community Council of Northumberland to help with associated expenses.



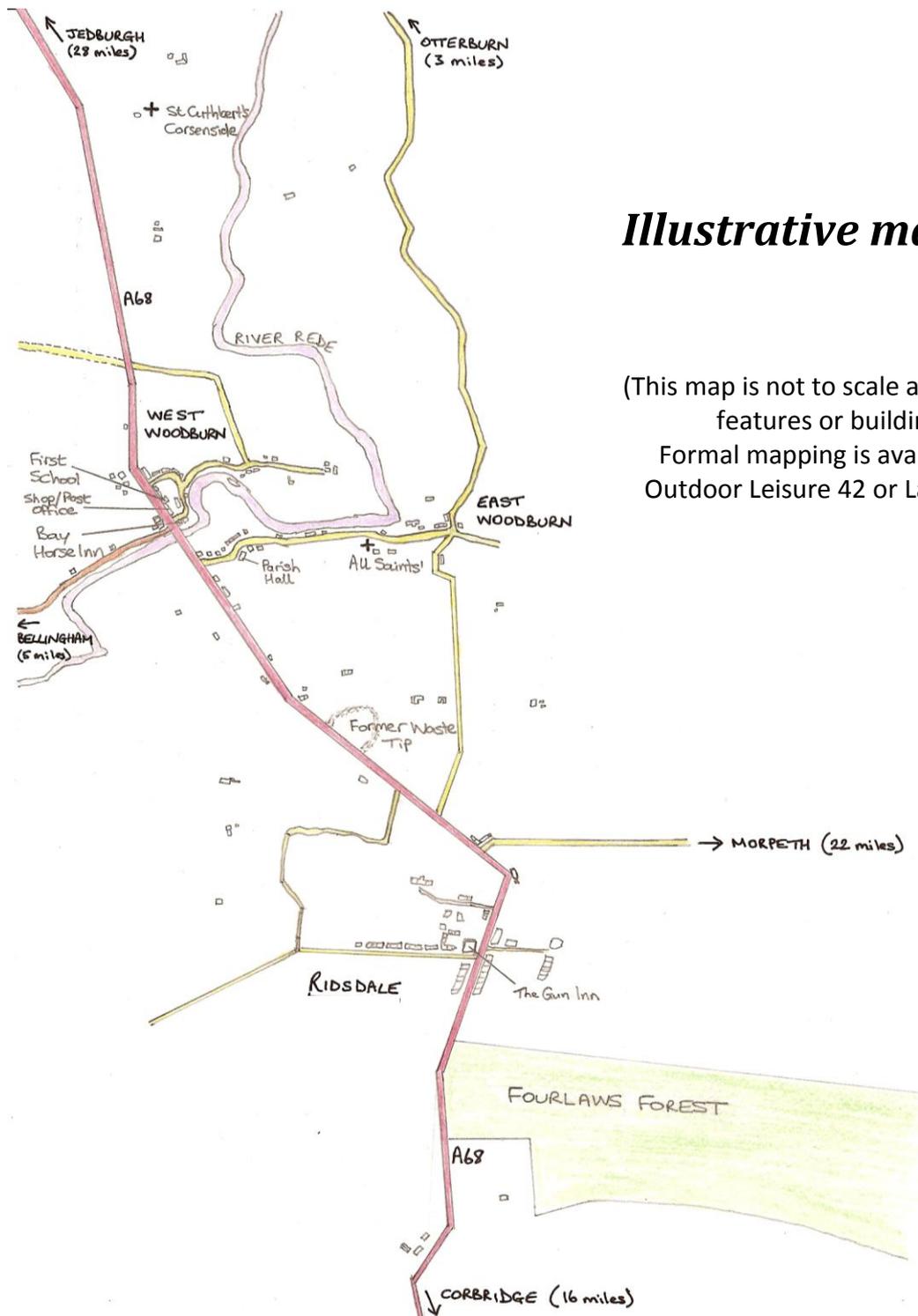
A view of the northern end of Corsenside from the west (NY8887)

INTRODUCTION TO THE PARISH OF CORSENSIDE

LOCATION

NY 890 894 is the spiritual centre of the Parish – St Cuthbert's Church.

The parish lies 35 miles northwest from Newcastle upon Tyne, 20 miles north of Hexham and 30 miles south of the Scottish border town of Jedburgh. The A68 Darlington to Edinburgh road runs through the centre of the parish.



Illustrative map of Corsenside

(This map is not to scale and does not include all of the features or buildings within the Parish.

Formal mapping is available on Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure 42 or Landranger Series Sheet 80).

Corsenside is at the centre of Redesdale in Northumberland. It lies along a stretch of the River Rede where the river has cut a deep valley through the moorland of the county.

The parish is made up of many isolated farms and dwellings and the communities of West, Middle, and East Woodburn and the village of Ridsdale.

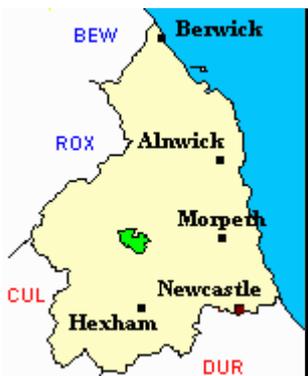
The Woodburns lie in the deep valley of the Rede and above the valley you will find Ridsdale, a village with a long mining and industrial heritage.

Corsenside borders the Northumberland National Park, popular with walkers for its bleak beauty of rolling heath covered moors – the final section of the Pennine Way runs just to the west of the parish.

The local stone has always been a popular building material and quarrying remains an important industry. The local quarry supplied material for the famous Princes Street in Edinburgh, reinforcing the importance of its border location over the centuries.

The local geography of the area also lends itself to forestry work and provides employment both in the form of harvesting and transport of the timber throughout Britain.

A large part of the National Park to the north is used as a military training ground – Otterburn Camp, this is also a significant employer for the community.



The Parish of Corsenside is shown in green.

Source: GENUKI



Approximate location of Corsenside parish within Tynedale District

Source: Tynedale District Council

HISTORY OF CORSENSIDE PARISH

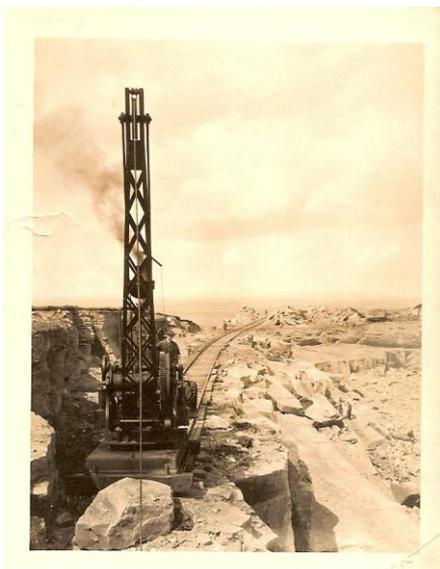
The Parish of Corsenside is about six miles long by four and a half broad, totalling about 12,000 acres (5,000 ha). The Parish is bisected by the River Rede and the A68 (the road largely follows the line of Dere Street, the Roman road which ran from York to Scotland). This largely agricultural area has been occupied historically by Neolithic man, the Romans, and St Cuthbert's Celtic monks. It has been an area of war in the turbulent times of the Scots raiders (the Reivers) up to the Union of the Crowns of Scotland and England in 1603. Later it became a site of heavy industry with the iron works in Ridsdale, a woollen mill at West Woodburn and was served by the eccentric Border Counties Railway from 1865 until 1965.

The name Corsenside is probably derived from "Cressentsit" or "Crossensite", the site of a Celtic Cross erected by St. Columba's monks to mark where they preached in 9th Century. There were early settlements at:

- **Corsenside** where the Church sheltered St Cuthbert's corpse as it was carried from Lindisfarne to Chester le Street;
- **The Brig**;
- **Habitancum** where the Roman Fort guarded the bridge where Dere Street crossed the River Rede;
- **East Woodburn** which held the seat of the important Norman family de Lisle after whom the Lisle's Burn is named;
- **Ridsdale** where iron was smelted with local coal and iron ore, initially within the village and then in later years was taken to Elswick for Lord Armstrong's works there.

Apart from extensive stock rearing other industries in the parish include:-

- Two sandstone quarries from where the stone goes to reface Victorian buildings in Leeds, Edinburgh and Glasgow;
- Lord Armstrong's former gun testing range at The Steel continues to meet research and development needs of the 21st Century defence industries, now under the ownership of Vickers;
- A substantial drainage and pipe laying contractor.



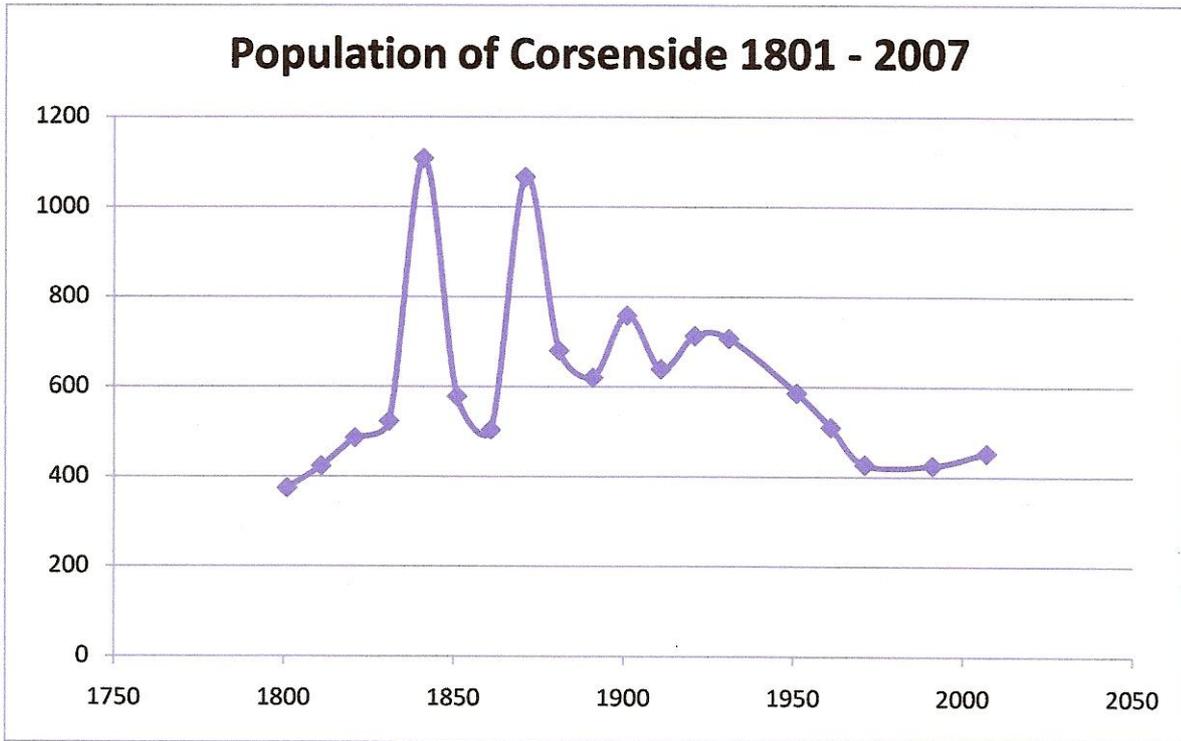
Visions of Corsenside past.



The Sandstone blocks pictured were for the cornice of the Scottish Legal Insurance office on Bothwell/Argyle Street, Glasgow.

Population

The population has varied considerably over the last two centuries:



The peaks in 1841 and 1871 show the doubling of the population at the two times when the Ridsdale Iron Works was in production. After a slow decline in the early twentieth Century, the population levelled off around 1970 and has recently begun to recover slightly.

School

Where in 1900 there were schools in East Woodburn, Ridsdale and West Woodburn, now there is only the thriving West Woodburn First School.

Shops and Inns

Where in the 1900's there were 4 Inns, 2 Tailors, 5 Grocers, 2 Blacksmiths and 2 Post Offices, there are now 2 Inns and 1 Shop/Post Office.

As we drive our cars and surf the net, remember Mr Grain (Graham), the Curate of Corsenside for 40 years who existed on a stipend of 13 shillings and 4 pence (70p), whose condition was described in 1663 as *"sordid and scandalous in tattered weeds and where sharp misery had worn him to the bone"*.



CORSENSIDE PARISH IN 2007

The current population of the parish is 426 residents*. This is a 6.6% increase on the population recorded at the last parish census in 1991. There are currently 253 dwellings within the parish*, compared to 233 recorded in the 1991 parish census.

* From 2001, census data has only been available on a ward basis. Prior to 2001, census data was available on a parish basis. This has made it very difficult to identify any current trends from the data. It has also made it difficult to establish accurate current data for the parish. Where current data is presented, this has been calculated by a local 'census' carried out by members of the newsletter distribution chain. Currently, 12 volunteers share the task of distributing the parish newsletter, with each of these volunteers having an in-depth knowledge of their own geographical section of the parish.

In 1991, when parish census data was last available, 18.1% of households in the parish had no car. Current data is not available; however, ward data from 1991 shows 14.3% of households in the ward having no car, which reduced by 30% to 11% of ward households in 2001. Assuming a similar 30% reduction, it can be extrapolated that the number of parish households with no car at the turn of the millennium is in the region of 14% (33 houses).

In 2000, Wanney Ward, which includes the parish of Corsenside was ranked 25-50% on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

[Source: Tynedale District Council]

The parish post code is NE48 2**. This post code also includes the neighbouring community of Bellingham. In October – December 2006 the average house price in NE48 2** was £130,868. (This can be compared with average house prices in the nearby communities of Otterburn: £238,983 and Hexham: £226,594 over the same period).

[Source: Land Registry]



Community Groups

There are eleven formal volunteer community groups currently operating within the parish (in addition to Corsenside Parish Council).

- **Corsenside Community Partnership.** Synonymous with the Parish Plan Steering Group, the Partnership also provides a forum and an opportunity for members of the local community groups to network. The Partnership has formal terms of reference and elected officers;
- **Ladies' Fellowship.** Currently has around 16 members and meets in the Parish Hall on the last Tuesday of the month (except August and December). Meetings usually feature a speaker or demonstration;
- **Ridsdale Junior and Senior Citizens' Fund.** Meets in the Gun Inn, Ridsdale on the last Monday of the month (except December). The Fund has its own bank account and elected officers. The committee arrange community events such as an annual summer trip or village fun day, and children's and senior citizens' Christmas parties, along with fund-raising activities.
- **Parish Hall Management Committee.** Meets once a month in the Parish Hall. There are three elected members, one appointed member from each of the Parish Council, the Ladies' Fellowship, the Redesdale Society and the Village Show Committee, and a maximum of two co-opted members.
- **Village Show Committee.** Meets every other month in various locations within the parish. There are eight committee members and 32 regular members. The committee is responsible for arranging the annual Village Show, which is held in the Parish Hall on the third Saturday in September.
- **Corsenside Recreation Access Group (CRAG).** Newly formed in 2007, CRAG exists to improve access to, and recreation opportunities within, the countryside in and around Corsenside for the pleasure and enjoyment of residents living in the parish. CRAG is currently working closely with the Forestry Commission and local land-owners to develop a network of footpaths in and around Fowlaws forest. CRAG has a formal constitution, business plan, bank account and elected officers.
- **Ridsdale Village Hall Fund.** Six trustees (2 nominated by the Parish Council and the remainder co-opted) administers a trust fund established on the sale of Ridsdale Village Hall in 1980. The trustees meet a minimum of twice a year in the Gun Inn, Ridsdale.
- **Mission Hall Trust.** A trust fund established on the sale of the Mission Hall in Woodburn in 1995. As the Mission Hall was built as a Church School, the Charity Commissioners stipulated that the income from the fund should be applied to the advancement of education, particularly religious education, of persons resident in the parish of Corsenside.
- **Action for Slower Traffic In Ridsdale (ASTIR).** Formed in 2006 to campaign for a lower speed limit in Ridsdale (currently derestricted, i.e. 60 mph limit applies). ASTIR attracted over 40 active members and embarked on a letter-writing and press campaign.

Following a relatively successful public meeting in early 2007, the local authority agreed to the implementation of a 40 mph limit on the A68 and a 30 mph limit on the residential side street in Ridsdale. Members of ASTIR have indicated that they will continue to push for what they see as an equitable 30 mph limit on the A68 through the village.

- **Sunday School.** Meets on the first Sunday of most months at All Saints' Church and Middle Woodburn House. There are two organisers and 6 children from the parish regularly attend.
- **Redesdale Society.** Formed in West Woodburn in 1973 with the aim "to collect, record and preserve information relating to Redesdale's past and present for the benefit of future generations and to **enjoy so doing**". The Society meets on the second Friday of the month in various locations across Redesdale, including the Parish Hall in West Woodburn. The Society currently has in excess of 30 members.

In addition to these groups, groups of people meet informally to arrange other community activities, e.g. children's and senior citizens' Christmas parties in Woodburn.

Key events in the community calendar

There are a number of community events held on an annual basis. These include the 'Village Show', held on the third Saturday in September in the Parish Hall. The Show is open to all residents of Corsenside and has three sections: garden produce, industrial, and under 16's. There is a Woodburn Garden Party, held in the summer to raise funds for the local churches. In 2007, this event raised over £1,000.

December is the busiest time in the Parish calendar. West Woodburn First School puts on a Christmas Show, there is a Christmas Craft Fayre at Brandy Bank Tea Room, and a Cake and Candy Sale in the Parish Hall. In addition, local artist Mary Ann Rogers holds a pre-Christmas Art Show, which is well-attended by parishioners. Community volunteers also arrange Children's and Senior Citizens' Christmas parties in both Woodburn and Ridsdale.

Finally, in January there is a village 'pantomime' arranged by Corsenside Parish Council. This is performed by the Northumberland Theatre Company and is held in the Parish Hall.



WEST WOODBURN SHOW 2007



THE PARISH PLAN PROCESS

An essential element of the formulation of a Parish Plan is obtaining the opinions and ideas of parishioners. To this end, the Steering Group decided upon a questionnaire to be delivered to each household. Careful thought was given to twelve 'headings' and how they should be broken down to fully cover each subject, and attract detailed responses. At the end was a final section for any matter not covered to be raised. A separate 'Young Persons' Questionnaire was produced to invite the views of the under 18's on a range of subjects of interest and concern to them.

The questionnaires were distributed by members of the Steering Group and helpers in early June, to be returned by 31st July 2007. As an inducement to complete and return both versions, the frontispiece of each advertised prize draws with gift vouchers as prizes to be drawn at the Village Show, West Woodburn on 15th September 2007.

During the course of June 2007, three public meetings were held in order to discuss matters of importance to those attending. The meetings were held at the Bay Horse Inn, West Woodburn on the evening of Monday 18th June, the Gun Inn, Ridsdale on the evening of Wednesday 27th June, and in the Parish Hall, West Woodburn on the afternoon of Saturday 30th June. Attendance at these was disappointing. Despite the meetings being well advertised and the offer of free refreshments at each, a total of 32 parishioners attended.

Due to the sparse nature of the Parish, the Steering Group considered that utilising the traditional 'Planning for Real' model-making exercise would be of limited value in the consultation process. As an alternative, large mounted aerial photographs of the major settlements in the Parish were provided at the public meetings. These gave parishioners a bird's eye view of their community and proved useful in readily identifying particular areas of concern.

Each of the meetings was chaired by a different steering group member, and whilst every attempt was made not to 'steer' the meeting, a list of discussion topics was agreed by the Steering Group and utilised at the meetings to stimulate discussion. Whilst attendance was disappointing, the meetings did give the process an important element of dialogue, largely lacking in the questionnaire approach.

An additional spur was felt to be needed, and the 'Corsenside Apocrypher' was conceived by the Steering Group. This was distributed with the July edition of the Corsenside Parish Newsletter and, dated July 2017, foretold horrendous events to befall the parish at that time as a result of parishioners having failed to return their Parish Plan questionnaires in July 2007. This certainly raised dust, and was not well received in some quarters. There was, however, a

late flush of completed questionnaires. Additional publicity to the Corsenside Parish Plan was given by the Hexham Courant on two occasions, once in relation to the public meeting at the Gun Inn, Ridsdale, and the other concerning the 'Corsenside Apocrypher'.

In the event 253 household questionnaires were distributed. Discounting vacant properties and holiday homes, there were 237 households in the parish in occupation at the time of the survey from which 123 questionnaires were returned. This is a response rate of 51.9%. There were 94 Young Persons' questionnaires handed out and 43 returned, a response rate of 45.7%. Collation and analysis of the questionnaires was undertaken by Peter Stobie, a member of the Steering Group who presented the results at the Group's meeting on 8th August 2007.

Due to a mistake at the printing stage of the household questionnaire, a promise of anonymity which had been made could not be fulfilled. This resulted in a substantial number of the returned forms having no personal details on them, and therefore those respondents being denied an opportunity of entering the Prize Draw. This is something which the members of the Steering Group regret.



The site of Habitancum Roman Fort, just southwest of West Woodburn

SUBJECT AREAS

Introduction

Once responses from both the questionnaire and the public meetings had been collated, these were categorised into five subject areas, each with sub-sections identifying the specific issues highlighted by the community. The Steering Group then identified appropriate actions to address these issues, along with possible delivery partners, any resources required, and a realistic timescale for implementation. For the purposes of this Plan, timescale is defined as follows:

Short Term:	Within 12 months
Medium Term:	Within 5 years
Long Term:	Within 10 years

1. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY

Information

a) Background

The local weekly newspaper is the Hexham Courant.

Three notice boards were installed in the Parish by Corsenside Parish Council – one in each of the settlements.

The Corsenside News was a popular parish newsletter, published between December 1997 and February 2002. Re-launched in 2002 as the New Corsenside News with a new editor, the newsletter lasted less than a year. There was an attempt to re-launch it again in 2006; however, despite one issue making it to press, the Corsenside Newsletter again floundered.

It became apparent to the Parish Plan Steering Group that a Parish Newsletter would be an excellent means of disseminating information around the Parish, and it was agreed to re-launch the Newsletter for at least the period of the parish planning process. The first issue was distributed in July 2007 with publication costs being met from the Defra grant.

The Newsletter has been viewed as the first success of the Parish Plan, and its future has since been secured with Corsenside Parish Council having agreed to underwrite the costs of publishing 6 issues per year.



b) Results

The main sources of local information were reported as the Hexham Courant and the parish notice boards. Only 50% of respondents felt that the current sources of information were adequate.

57.4% of respondents have broadband access, and 40.8% indicated that they would use the Corsenside community website.

The top suggestion for an additional source of local information was a parish newsletter.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Not enough local information available	- establish parish newsletter - develop parish website	Corsenside Community Partnership (CCP)	Fund printing costs Fund website hosting and upgrade	Short term

Parish Council

a) Background

The current Council was elected in May 2007. There are seven seats on the Council and six councillors were returned unopposed. The final vacancy was filled by co-option in June 2007.

b) Results

Whilst 62.4% of respondents knew who their parish councillors are, only 58.1% knew what the Parish Council does.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Role of Parish Council unclear	- raise the profile of the Parish Council via regular articles in the parish newsletter	Parish Council Newsletter Editor	Newsletter funding	Short term

Parish Hall

a) Background

Corsenside Parish Hall is sited in West Woodburn, on the road to East Woodburn, with limited adjacent parking on a forecourt and is owned by the Parish community. It dates from 1905 and is of a type that was then typical in the North East, being constructed on a timber frame with board lining and corrugated iron cladding. It consists of a main hall with a maximum capacity of 180, a smaller meeting room with a capacity of 30, as well as ladies' and gentlemen's toilet rooms and a kitchen.



In the past, the Hall has been an important venue for dances, receptions and other community events. Current usage includes Parish Council meetings, Ladies' Fellowship, the Redesdale Society, the Village Show Committee as well as less regular events such as parties and whist drives. A tea room was run during the summer months of 2006, entirely by voluntary effort. This provided funds for significant renovation in the smaller meeting room and the kitchen. The responsibility for the management and upkeep of the Hall resides with the trustees and Parish Hall Committee. The Parish Council may also be asked to consider any issues requiring wider discussion. The income for the upkeep of the Hall is derived solely from hire income and this has, hereto, been sufficient. However, the fabric of the Hall is, by its nature, vulnerable to decay and recent surveys have indicated that the point is being approached at which replacement or major renovation of the building will be necessary within the next few years.

b) Results

85.3% of respondents rated the Parish Hall as very or fairly important, with 58.9% of respondents regularly or occasionally attending events/meetings in the Parish Hall.

The main reasons for those not attending are a lack of information about events (24 respondents) and no events of interest (18 respondents).

The top suggestions for additional activities were keep fit sessions and a youth club; however, response rates were low. Discos, dances and ceilidhs were also popular suggestions. 10 respondents (11.2%) indicated that they would help to provide new activities in the Parish Hall. The majority of respondents (74.1%) supported a community project to improve/refurbish the Parish Hall, with complete refurbishment being the preferred option. Improvements to the current heating system were also identified as desirable.

The majority of respondents (52.6%) identified that they would be prepared to help with any improvement project.

The majority of respondents (75%) also supported the idea of building a 'Community Hall', owned by the community and incorporating, for example, Church, Parish Hall and School indoor games area. The top suggestions for other services which this facility could provide were a doctors' surgery and a toddler group.

At all three public meetings, major refurbishment or replacement of the Parish Hall was identified as the most worthwhile investment in the parish.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Community deterred from using the Parish Hall due to its current condition	- investigate future options for a community facility	Parish Hall Management Committee, Community Action Northumberland, Tynedale District Council, sponsors	Funding required for feasibility studies	Short term
	- improve or refurbish the Parish Hall		Funding required for improvements/refurbishment	Medium to Long term

Pubs

a) Background

There are two pubs and one licensed Bed and Breakfast in the parish:

- The Bay Horse, West Woodburn →
- The Gun Inn, Ridsdale
- Brandy Bank Guest House, West Woodburn



Both pubs offer meals and accommodation and are both supported locally and from the wider surrounding area.

b) Results

The majority of respondents rated both the Bay Horse, West Woodburn and the Gun Inn, Ridsdale as very or fairly important.

At the public meeting in Ridsdale, the Gun Inn was identified as essential to life in the village.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Local pubs were identified as important to the community	- Maintain watching brief, be alive to opportunities of supporting/ sustaining the local pubs	Corsenside Community Partnership (CCP)		Ongoing

Children and Young people (under 18's)

a) Background

The Parish has a burgeoning population of young people. In 2007, 19.2% of the parish population were under 18. This equates to 87 young people in the Parish. This is a 20.8% increase in the number of young people compared to the last Parish census figures in 1991 which showed that 16.8% (or 72 people) of the population were under 18 (please see note on page 9 about census data). This trend is continuing, with 2 children having been born in Ridsdale in December 2007 alone (not included in the above figures). Facilities and activities for young people within the Parish are extremely limited. This is explored further in Section 3.2 (page 33).

b) Results

The Young Person's questionnaire identified that the three things that the under 18's like best about living in Corsenside are that it is safe and quiet, they have good friends, and the countryside/wildlife. Young people reported that the three things they like least are that there is not enough to do, it is too remote, and speeding traffic.

The questionnaire also identified a general lack of leisure facilities for young people in Corsenside and appropriate actions are detailed in item 3.2 – Leisure, Children's Interests.

c) Action

Leisure, see section 3.2 (page 33)

Speeding traffic: see section 2.16 (page 30)

2. SERVICES

Care Services

a) Background

There are no residential or nursing care homes in the Parish and no sheltered housing schemes. There is no day care provision or charitable arrangements, such as meals on wheels in Corsenside. Access to care services through social services is dependent on need, but this is hard to accomplish in rural areas like Corsenside due to a lack of carers and facilities.

The nearest residential care home is in Otterburn (5-7 miles). This is the only residential care home north of the Tyne Valley in West Northumberland. The next nearest are in Corbridge (14-16 miles), Hexham (19-21 miles) and Morpeth (22-24 miles)

b) Results

59.3% of respondents reported that there is a need for accommodation with care/support services to enable frail, older and disabled people to stay in the parish.

Only 3.4% of respondents indicated that changes are needed to their homes due to disability/illness.

45.7% of respondents indicated that there is a need for more care services for elderly/disabled people.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Possible need for improved care services within the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relay issues raised with the relevant authorities - Further targeted research 	CCP, Care Trust, Social Services, GP, district council planners	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing

Church

a) Background

There are two Anglican churches in the Parish.

All Saints', Woodburn: beside the River Rede on the road between West Woodburn and East Woodburn, consecrated in 1907 and containing some fine woodwork. Services are held on Sunday at 11am for Holy Communion and Monday to Friday at 8.30am for Morning Prayer.

St Cuthbert's, Corsenside: This ancient and historic church lies 2 miles north of West Woodburn and dates from the 11th Century. St Cuthbert's body rested here during its peregrination from Lindisfarne to Durham Cathedral. There are periodic services during the year. The Church is surrounded by the parish burial ground which contains seven Commonwealth war graves.



b) Results

74.7% of respondents rated All Saints church as very or fairly important

67.3% of respondents rated St Cuthbert's church as very or fairly important

94.8% of respondents indicated that retention of the churches was important, even if only for Christenings, Marriages or Funerals. Only 6 respondents indicated that the churches were not important.

At the public meetings, it was identified that the church was considered to be more than a building and to have an importance greater than suggested by a small congregation. The public meetings also highlighted the need for better signage to the churches at Corsenside and Woodburn from the A68.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Local churches identified as important. Signage could be improved	- Pass on information to the Parochial Church Council (PCC)	CCP, PCC	Minimal short term resources	Short term
	- Corsenside PCC are keen to explore further the concept for an all purpose community hall with the Parish Council			Short term
	- Maintain watching brief.			Ongoing

Crime and safety

a) Background

Corsenside enjoys a relatively low crime rate:

Recorded crime rates 2006-2007

Crime	Corsenside	Rural West Northumberland	Northumberland
Total crime	5 (11.01 per 1,000 population)	302 (10.06 per 1,000 population)	19,735 (63.4 per 1,000 population)
Criminal Damage	1 (2.2 per 1,000 population)	69 (2.3 per 1,000 population)	5,493 (17.5 per 1,000 population)
Household Burglary	1 (2.2 per 1,000 population)	14 (0.47 per 1,000 population)	726 (5.4 per 1,000 population)
Violent crime	0	48 (1.6 per 1,000 population)	4,472 (14.4 per 1,000 population)
Vehicle crime	0	34 (1.13 per 1,000 population)	1,641 (5.3 per 1,000 population)

Figures courtesy of Northumbria Police

b) Results

Crime and safety was not raised as a cause for concern.

The majority of the parish is not covered by a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

However, 84.6% of respondents indicated that they were not willing to start such a scheme.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Crime and safety not raised by the community as a	- Response may reflect current situation. Maintain watching brief	CCP, Northumbria Police	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
cause for concern	and develop relations with local police			

Adult Education and training

a) Background

There are currently no opportunities for adult education within the Parish. The nearest Adult Education department is at Bellingham Middle School (5-7 miles).

b) Results

3 respondents currently attend full time adult or further education classes and 13 respondents currently attend part time adult or further education classes

Of those who would like to attend such courses, 80% reported that they didn't attend as there were either no courses of interest or there was a lack of information about what was on offer.

46.8% of respondents indicated that they would attend classes if they were held in West Woodburn, with a further 35.7% unsure. Top suggestions for such classes were computing (11), photography (8), local history (7), gardening (6), craft/needlework (5), keep fit (4) and art (4).

The preferred time for classes was during the evening.

However, the three public meetings all identified that adult education classes are not much in demand.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
There may be a need for adult education and training if this was available in West Woodburn	- Pass on information received to Bellingham Community Education department	CCP, Community Education Department	Minimal short term resources	Short term
	- Re-examine issue when Parish Hall upgraded/refurbished			Long term

Electricity supply

a) Background

The parish used to be subject to fairly frequent power cuts, especially during the winter, in periods of inclement weather, and nearly always at Christmas lunchtime!



NEDL has in recent years upgraded the high voltage power cables serving the parish, since when the electricity supply has become much more reliable, and Christmas dinners much less stressful!

b) Results

60% of respondents rated the local electricity supply as excellent or good.

c) Action – see page 24

Fire Service

a) Background

The nearest fire station is in Bellingham (5-7 miles). There is currently a team of 13 retained firefighters stationed here (with one vacancy). The fire station is equipped with a standard fire engine along with a back up pick-up vehicle which can be used for RTCs and can be converted to a fogging unit during local heath burning.

Parishioners can access free home fire risk assessments and smoke alarm fitting through the local fire service.

b) Results

78.7% of respondents rated the local fire service as excellent or good.

c) Action – see page 24

Health and personal care

a) Background

The nearest General Hospital is in Hexham (19-21 miles); however, only limited services are available from this hospital, with only routine cases admitted and many cases referred to other hospitals, generally one of the three hospitals in Newcastle upon Tyne (an additional 22 miles from Hexham), but sometimes even further afield.

Referrals further afield for prolonged treatments also pose difficulties to families and friends visiting patients, especially in light of the Parish's poor public transport links.

The nearest GP practice is in Bellingham (5-7 miles). In December 2007, proposed budget cuts were announced which seriously threaten the continued existence of the practice. Closure of the Bellingham practice would have a major detrimental effect on healthcare provision for the Parish.

Bellingham ambulance station closed in 2006, since when, in the event of a medical emergency, the Parish has relied on local paramedics and community first responders until such time as an ambulance can attend from further afield.

In 2007, one of the Great North Air Ambulances has been based in Otterburn (5-7 miles). The nearest dentist is in Corbridge (14-16 miles).

b) Results

88.6% of respondents reported no difficulties in accessing any type of healthcare. The main difficulties reported were travel/distance and a lack of NHS dentists.

c) Action – see page 24

Street Lighting

a) Background

There is street lighting on all of the residential streets in the Parish and on the A68 through both Ridsdale and West Woodburn, although not on the 1½ mile stretch of A68 between the two communities. The street lighting operates from dusk to dawn.

b) Results

64.6% of respondents rated street lighting as good or excellent; however, the issue of light pollution was raised during the consultation and this is covered under section 4.3, page 38.

c) Action – see page 24

Police Service

a) Background

Corsenside is part of the Rural West Northumberland Neighbourhood Team. This Team covers a vast geographical area of approximately 600 square miles, including North Tyne and Redesdale, Haltwhistle and West Tyne, and the Mid Tyne parishes.

The Team is overseen by an Inspector, with three sergeants covering the three police stations in Bellingham, Corbridge and Haltwhistle. Since 2007, none of these three rural police stations have reception facilities and the nearest police station with a permanently manned front desk is in Hexham (18-20 miles).

The local police station in Bellingham (5-7 miles) is staffed by 8 officers, as well as the sergeant. Three of these officers are Neighbourhood Beat Managers (NBMs), who have responsibility for designated areas. The NBMs back up the other five 24/7 officers operating out of Bellingham police station. Shift patterns ensure that there should always be one NBM and one 24/7 officer on duty at any given time. During shift overlaps, this cover will double. In the case of a major incident, additional cover may be available from the 24/7 officers working out of Corbridge or Haltwhistle police stations.

In addition, there is one special constable based at Bellingham, who works mainly Friday and Saturday nights. Further cover is available from the two traffic officers who work out of Hexham and cover Hexham, Prudhoe and the North Tyne, as well as two dog handlers. Cover from officers stationed at Hexham and Prudhoe (23-25 miles) is also available if required. The police aim for a maximum 20-minute response time, and statistics show that the vast majority of call-outs achieve that response time target. Currently there are no designated sites in Corsenside for mobile speed camera vans; however, speed checks with hand-held devices are carried out in West Woodburn on an ad hoc basis.

b) Results

59.4% of respondents rated the Police Service as excellent or good

c) Action – see page 24

Post boxes

a) Background

There are five post boxes in the parish, 2 in Ridsdale, 2 in West Woodburn and 1 in East Woodburn.

b) Results

92.3% of respondents reported that there are enough post boxes in the parish

c) Action – see page 24

Public telephones

a) Background

There are 2 public telephones in the Parish, 1 in Ridsdale and 1 in West Woodburn.

b) Results

68.2% of respondents reported that there are enough telephone boxes in the parish

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The majority of the community is satisfied with Electricity Supply, Fire Service, Health Care, Lighting,	- Pass on information to the relevant bodies	CCP, NEDL, Fire Service, Health Service, County Council, Northumbria Police, Post Office, British Telecom	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Police Service, Post Boxes, and Public Telephones				

Housing

a) Background

There are currently 253 dwellings in the Parish. These are generally stone-built cottages and houses dating from the 19th Century; although there are several houses dating back much further and several built during the 20th Century. Since the last parish census figures in 1991, there have been approximately 20 additional houses built in the parish. The major development was the conversion and extension of the old Chapel in West Woodburn into 6 units. These dwellings are rented out through the local housing association with a priority given to local people and their families.

Current planning guidelines prohibit the building of new dwellings in Ridsdale due to the village's lack of local services, although they do allow some development in West Woodburn.

b) Results

The majority of respondents indicated that additional low cost housing was required in the Parish both for sale (61.7%) and to rent (65.5%). 42% of respondents indicated that new houses should be restricted to Parish residents, with 36.1% against this restriction.

All three public meetings identified that affordable housing is needed in the Parish, and it was felt that this would be best sited in West Woodburn. It was consistently reported at the meetings that the scale, density and appearance of any housing developments should be appropriate to the Parish. However, no need was reported at the public meetings for any major housing development within the next five years.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The future need for additional low cost housing appropriate to the parish was identified.	- Pass on information to Tynedale Council's Housing Enabling Officer and Milecastle's Community Development Officer	CCP, Tynedale District Council, Milecastle Housing	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Local Authority Services

a) Background

Currently these services are delivered by three councils:

Northumberland County Council:	gritting, snow clearing, public library
Tynedale District Council:	refuse collection
Corsenside Parish Council:	grass cutting



Snow clearing / gritting in Ridsdale

In July 2007, the Government announced that Northumberland's County and District Councils would be replaced with a new single unitary authority, to be in place by 2009.

The nearest public library is in Bellingham (5-7 miles). Refuse collection is carried out using a twin bin scheme with alternating fortnightly collections of household waste and recyclable materials (excluding glass, tin foil and most plastics).

b) Results

Refuse collection: 68.2% rated good or excellent

Gritting: 46.6% rated good or excellent

Snow clearing: 38.2% rated good or excellent

Grass cutting: 37.1% rated good or excellent

Public library: 43.4% rated good or excellent

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Moderate dissatisfaction was raised with Local Authority Services , primarily gritting, snow clearing, grass cutting and public library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pass on information to the relevant local authority - Further targeted research 	CCP, Northumberland County Council, Corsenside Parish Council	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Public transport

a) Background

The Parish is currently poorly served by the public transport network. There is one bus per week from the Parish to the nearest market town of Hexham. This travels from Otterburn to Hexham every Tuesday, passing through West Woodburn at 9.40 a.m. and Ridsdale at 9.45 a.m., and reaching Hexham at 10.30 a.m. The bus returns at 1.45 p.m.

There is an additional bus service linking the Woodburns/Ridsdale and Bellingham which runs at 9.30am on Thursdays and Fridays, returning at 11.30am. It is theoretically possible to use school buses and post buses; although little information on these services is available. In addition, school buses only run during term time. For someone living in Ridsdale who wanted to travel to work in Hexham for 9 a.m. on Friday 4th January 2008, Traveline North East lists the only available route as leaving home on Thursday 3rd January at 12.46 p.m. and travelling overnight via Otterburn, Edinburgh, and Newcastle upon Tyne. A clearly unrealistic combined travel time of 18 hours and 32 minutes.

b) Results

Only 34.8% of respondents rated bus services as important or very important. However, if better public transport was available 80% of respondents indicated that they would use it at least occasionally.

The three public meetings identified that parishioners feel poorly served by public transport, and there were consistent suggestions to extend existing routes into the parish, for example, The Tyne Valley service which visits Gunnerton and Barrasford each day could perhaps be extended to Corsenside.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The community is poorly served by public transport and improvements would be welcomed and utilised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examine the possibility of local bus companies extending existing routes into the parish - Publicise existing available services 	CCP, local bus companies	Minimal short term resources	Short term

School

a) Background

West Woodburn First School is a small rural school situated in the heart of the village but covering a large catchment area, including the villages of West Woodburn, Ridsdale, East Woodburn and further outlying hamlets and dwellings. Learners come from a mixed socio-economic background. While some parents are employed in rural occupations such as farming, there is a mix of other manual and professional occupations. There are currently 29 children on roll, with a rising roll anticipated in the foreseeable future.



The school is inclusive in terms of welcoming children irrespective of gender, class, health, SEN and whether they live within the local area or beyond. At present there are no children of ethnic minority. Small cohort numbers mean that children are taught in mixed age and mixed ability classes. Staff comprises one full time Headteacher (with a 50% teaching commitment), two part-time teachers, two part-time teaching assistants, an administrator, a cook, a lunchtime supervisor and a site supervisor. The building is over 100 years old, but in good condition, with plans and work underway to add a conservatory extension and develop an outdoor classroom. However, the school would benefit greatly from the provision of a purpose built hall. At present the hall area is extremely small, is integral to one of the classrooms and doubles as PE and dining hall. This is restrictive to our PE curriculum, with children having to travel to Bellingham Middle School in order to access large gymnastic equipment. A purpose built hall would also increase the availability of pre-school sessions in West Woodburn as well as providing a venue for other community activities.

An Ofsted inspection in summer of 2006 recognised the quality of provision and high standards, judging this to be 'a good school'. The team work together positively, making the school a happy environment in which children can enjoy learning and achieve high standards. The Basic Skills Primary Quality Mark was recently renewed following a rigorous assessment to ensure that the criteria of ten required elements is met. The award recognises good practice in the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy.

It is ensured that pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported. Children adopt a healthy lifestyle through the daily school routine and in science, P.E. and P.S.H.E. lessons. Healthy Schools' status means that the school has achieved excellence in promoting a healthy lifestyle. Water bottles are easily accessible and there is daily fruit and milk. Children take part in weekly swimming, the after school sports club and have visits from Food Lab & Life Education Centre. Learners feel very safe in school. Children's awareness of safety issues is addressed by visits from the emergency services. Children work in small groups and there is a family atmosphere. Through the School Council and the Buddy System, the children are able to discuss their concerns with their peers. Small numbers mean that staff get to know children well and support them both pastorally and academically.

The extent to which the curriculum and other activities meet the range of needs and interests of learners is good. PSHE allows children to express themselves and explore a range of social and emotional issues. Children demonstrate good skills in reading and ICT which positively impacts on teaching and learning. Appropriate support for children with Special Educational Needs is provided. Children participate in an after school sports club and in activities with other schools in the Partnership, e.g. PE with Middle School and participate in the SSCO Tynedale Partnership enabling them to access specialist PE teaching. Visits into the environment are incorporated into a topic based curriculum to enhance learning, e.g. Eden Camp as part of the World War 11 topic, Pax Britannica event at Walltown Crags as part of the Romans topic, North Bistle as part of the VARC project and a residential visit to Ford Castle to support geography. Visiting speakers are encouraged into school to further enhance learning and enjoyment, in

particular, appreciation of the local environment, e.g. National Park Ranger, Heritage Centre. Recent development of the ICT suite for community use will provide extended services contributing to learners' enjoyment and achievement.

The school works closely with parents and the community. An open door policy is in operation and there is ample opportunity for parents to raise concerns and for ideas and views to be shared between parents and staff. Surveys of parents' views are carried out through questionnaires and consultation meetings regarding specific issues. There is a good level of support for school events. Children are involved with the community through church events, inviting older members of the community to school events and involving pre-school children in school events such as sports day. The school works closely with the neighbourhood pre-school and after school use of the ICT suite by the wider community is imminent.

Children like being at school and are comfortable with the ethos of the school. Children's positive attitudes are seen in their eagerness to come to school and to be involved in all aspects of school life, e.g. high take up of after school club. They are engaged in their learning and display genuine enjoyment. Pupils achieve good standards in national tests especially in reading and are keen to take books home to read. Children particularly enjoy the visits undertaken to enhance their learning and enrich the curriculum. Positive behaviour approaches mean the children learn to recognise acceptable behaviour and feel comfortable with the boundaries which are set.

The majority of children transfer to Bellingham Middle School at the end of Year 4 (age 9). They continue their education there until the end of Year 8 (age 13) when the majority transfer to Haydon Bridge High School. There is good liaison with Bellingham Middle School to ensure continuity and progression and a smooth transmission process. This mini-partnership of schools are working together collaboratively to ensure that children access as broad and balanced a curriculum as possible and achieve the highest possible standards.

b) Results

When asked 'do you support West Woodburn First School?' 81.2% of respondents indicated that they do. However, it was evident that this question carried a level of ambiguity, i.e. was this active support or simply supporting the school's existence?

Only one respondent indicated that they did not want West Woodburn First School to remain open, compared to the 115 respondents who did (99.1%).

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
West Woodburn First School is strongly supported by the community	- Pass on information to the school's governing body	CCP, West Woodburn First School	Minimal short term resources	Short term
	- Establish a mechanism			Short term

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
	to feed CCP issues to the school's governing body - Raise local profile of the First School and publicise school activities			Ongoing

Traffic speed and volume

a) Background

The A68 which bisects the Parish is a busy former trunk road. It forms one of the three major arterial routes from North East England to Scotland. Ridsdale and West Woodburn are two of only three settlements on the A68 within Northumberland. The speed limit in West Woodburn is 30 mph; however, this limit is regularly flouted. Ridsdale and East Woodburn are currently derestricted. Whilst the single track roads within East Woodburn serve to slow traffic down, the speed of traffic on the A68 through Ridsdale and the residential side street have been reported by residents as a cause for concern for many years. In 2006 an action group was formed: 'Action for Slower Traffic In Ridsdale' (ASTIR) which launched a campaign for a 30 mph speed restriction in the village.

There are currently no traffic calming measures or fixed speed cameras within the Parish.



b) Results

Speeding traffic was identified by the majority of respondents as the main environmental problem in the Parish.

The three public meetings also identified speeding traffic and dangerous overtaking as a major concern to parishioners, with speeding traffic on the A68 perceived as a particular menace, especially to schoolchildren in early mornings/afternoons. Acquiring speed cameras / vehicle actuated speed limit signs were identified at the meetings as possible ways of ameliorating the situation.

It was also consistently reported at all three public meetings that the heavy quarry traffic on minor roads is unacceptable and causes danger, inconvenience and damage. There was consensus that the quarry owner should develop an alternative route for these vehicles to the A696.



Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Traffic speed was identified as the main environmental problem in the parish	- continue to push for lower speed limit in Ridsdale	CCP, CPC, Action for Slower Traffic In Ridsdale (ASTIR), Northumbria Police CCP, CPC, Northumberland County Council	Major funding would be required for traffic calming	Ongoing
	- continue to seek traffic calming measures across the parish			Ongoing
Heavy quarry traffic is viewed as unacceptable on the parish's minor roads	- Write to quarry owner with issues raised, seek possible solution, e.g. alternative route, road widening or funding traffic calming	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Water and sewerage

a) Background

Not all properties in Corsenside are served by mains water and drainage. Approximately 5% of houses in the parish have a private water supply and at least 10% have private drainage.

b) Results

86.3% rated water supply as good or excellent

75.5% rated sewerage disposal as good or excellent

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
On the whole, the parish's water supply is viewed as very good	- advise Northumbrian Water	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Wildlife and natural habitats

a) Background

There is no designated wildlife area within the parish, but the former Woodburn/Brandy Bank waste disposal site merits investigation, especially if it can be linked to a footpath from Ridsdale to West Woodburn. There is a Forestry Commission woodland just south of Ridsdale (Foullaws). There is currently no access to this woodland from the village; however, the newly formed Corsenside Recreation Access Group (CRAG) have been working with the Forestry Commission and the local landowner to create a route of permissive paths from Ridsdale into the local woods.



Former Woodburn waste disposal site

b) Results

49.5% of respondents would like to see more local spaces/walks for relaxation/picnics, with a further 17.1% being unsure. Only a third of respondents would not like to see additional opportunities provided.

62.7% of respondents indicated that more could be done to look after the countryside in the parish, with a further 28.1% unsure.

At the Ridsdale public meeting, the future development of multi-user circular routes by Forestry Enterprises in Foullaws forest, which had been the subject of a recent meeting, was greeted with enthusiasm.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Additional / improved local public spaces for walks/relaxation would be welcomed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further targeted research - Support local groups 	CCP, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Border Natural History Society	Minimal short term resources	Short term Medium to Long term

3. LEISURE

Access to the countryside

a) Background

There are 18 miles of Public Rights of Way (footpaths and bridleways) in the Parish which give connection between Woodburn and Bellingham, Otterburn and Kirkwhelpington.

Internally, there is no footpath alongside the A68 between Ridsdale and West Woodburn and no easily accessible route between Ridsdale and Woodburn which doesn't use or cross the A68.

There is a public green in West Woodburn and the Parish Council has applied to formally register this space as a village green. There is no public land or playing area in Ridsdale or East Woodburn.



Woodburn 'green'

b) Results

Only 40.9% of respondents felt that footpaths/Rights of Way (ROWs) are well maintained and signposted. The relatively high number of respondents who weren't sure (27.9%) suggests that the ROW network is not widely used by everyone in the Parish.

The public meetings identified that whilst the ROW's were generally good around Woodburn, they were felt to be generally poor around Ridsdale.

62.7% of respondents indicated that more could be done to look after the countryside in the parish, with a further 28.1% unsure.

Only 25% of respondents felt that more footpaths/ROW's were needed (47.4% felt that the current network was adequate); however, the public meetings identified that the development of a proper footpath/cycleway between Ridsdale and West Woodburn would be of great benefit to both communities. Six respondents also made this suggestion on their completed questionnaires.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
A possible need for additional/improved local footpaths was identified	- Further targeted research - Maintain watching brief	CCP, local ramblers association, Tynedale Health Walks, local cycling groups, British Horse Society, NNPA, Northumberland County Council	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing

Children's and Young People's interests

a) Background

Apart from the play area and the green in West Woodburn, there are no other facilities available for children and young people within the Parish. The play area was created two years ago thanks to the fund-raising and community involvement of a Play Area Committee.



There is no play area in Ridsdale, despite the village being home to 34 children under the age of 18. Apart from the Sunday School and periodic events such as the Children’s Christmas parties, there are no regular organised events for under 18’s in the Parish.

The nearest facilities are in Bellingham (drop-in centre, MUGA, skateboarding) and Otterburn (RTC sports centre). Due to the lack of public transport, either of these options would be dependent on the young person having access to private transport and a ‘chauffeur’.

North Tynies Children’s Centre in Bellingham does offer an Out of School Club (3pm to 6pm during term-time and 8am to 6pm during the school holidays) for all school-age children and can arrange transport to/from West Woodburn First School to Bellingham.

There are no youth clubs within at least 10 miles of the Parish.

b) Results

90.9% of respondents to the household questionnaire indicated that it was either important or very important to have play areas in Woodburn and Ridsdale.

95.1% of respondents to the Young Person’s questionnaire indicated that there were not enough facilities for young people in the area, with the top suggestion for an additional facility being a play area in Ridsdale.

This strong level of support for a play area in Ridsdale was reflected in the comments made at the public meetings.

The second favoured additional facility was a youth club. 74.4% of young people also indicated that they would like a place for young people to meet, with a youth club being the top suggestion for where this could be.

81.9% of respondents to the household questionnaire indicated that a local youth club would be a benefit to the community and 8 respondents indicated that they would be prepared to help organise a youth club, with a further 11 being prepared to help run it.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The need for additional facilities for young people was identified	- create a play area in Ridsdale	CCP, CPC, Working Group, Tynedale District Council, Youth Service, Leisure Tynedale, Bellingham Middle School, RTC Otterburn	Major funding would be required for play area in Ridsdale	Medium to Long term
	- facilitate access to existing facilities in Bellingham and Otterburn			Short term
	- publicise local facilities via Parish newsletter			Ongoing

Sports & Leisure

a) Background

There are no facilities for organised sports and leisure in the Parish, and the Parish Hall is not currently used for such activities. Whilst there are opportunities for horse-riding in the Parish, there are significant 'missing links' in the bridleway network around the Parish, especially in a clear route linking the Parish to Bellingham.

The nearest facilities for each sport are indicated in the results table which follows.

b) Results

Respondents reported that they currently enjoyed* the following sports:

Sport	Household Questionnaire	Young Person's Questionnaire	Nearest Facility for this Sport
Football	41	9	Bellingham
Rugby	27	4	Corbridge
Cricket	18	0	Corbridge
Tennis	18	0	Bellingham
Badminton	12	0	Bellingham/Otterburn
Bowling	8	0	Otterburn
Keep fit	25	0	Bellingham/Otterburn
Swimming	37	11	Bellingham/Hexham/Kielder
Squash	3	0	Hexham
Horse riding	22	0	Various
Table tennis	7	0	Otterburn
Other	28	41	

* It is recognised, with hindsight, that this question could have been ambiguous. Whilst the intention was to seek information on participation in sport, it could be argued that a person could enjoy a sport as a spectator (perhaps even televised sport).

Only 28.1% of respondents felt that there were adequate opportunities for these sports in Corsenside.

The public meetings all identified the need to develop additional recreational facilities in the parish, with the development of an outdoor multi-use games area (MUGA), possibly on the green in West Woodburn, being perceived as of great benefit.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The need for additional sports	- further targeted research	CCP, Leisure Tynedale, Bellingham	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
and leisure facilities for all ages was identified	- facilitate access to existing facilities	Middle School, RTC Otterburn		Ongoing
	- publicise local facilities via Parish newsletter			Ongoing

Visitors and tourism

a) Background

There are very few facilities for visitors and tourists within the Parish. Whilst there are many fine walks to be had locally, there is no information available about these. There is currently poor signage to any places of interest and no information boards. There are no picnic areas and very few seats within the Parish. There are four Bed and Breakfast establishments within the Parish (including the two pubs). There are two 'Art Tour' locations within the Parish – the studios of Mary Ann Rogers and of Mike Bell.



The Parish is ideally suited for tourist traffic as it is situated on the A68 which is a major tourist route from North East England into the Scottish Borders. Increasing the number of visitors who stop on their way through would help to improve the viability and sustainability of local services.

b) Results

The majority of respondents (77.8%) thought that more visitors and tourists should be encouraged to come to the parish. Only 11.5% of respondents disagreed, with the remainder unsure.

To facilitate this, provision of the following facilities was suggested:

Signs for walk or cycle routes: 93 respondents

Signs for local places of interest: 95 respondents

Picnic areas: 66 respondents

Local bus and taxi information: 92 respondents

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
More visitors and tourists should be encouraged to come to the parish	- improve signs for walk or cycle routes - improve signage for local places of interest	CCP, CPC, Tynedale District Council's Tourism Officer, Northumbria Tourist Board	Funding for improved signage and picnic facilities will be required	Medium to Long term

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improve local bus and taxi information - improve picnic area facilities 			

4. ECONOMIC

Employment needs and opportunities

a) Background

Within the Parish there are:

- three working quarries;
- one drainage contractor;
- one specialist utilities company;
- three small building firms;
- one private motor hire company;
- one internet company;
- one haulage contractor;
- one flower nursery;
- two garden maintenance businesses;
- one bed and breakfast establishment;
- one licensed bed and breakfast establishment;
- two public houses;
- one shop / post office;
- fourteen farms, mostly rearing sheep and cattle (currently none offer B&B)



In addition the following craftspeople are based in the Parish:

- Purple Paws cards;
- Two professional artists;
- One woodcrafts and carpentry;
- One chocolatier;
- One recycled slate manufacturer

b) Results

66.5% of respondents are currently in employment, 21.6% are retired and 1.3% are registered unemployed.

82.8% of respondents would like to see more opportunities for employment in the parish.

materials are collected on an alternate week basis from each bin. Currently, recyclable materials collected include paper, thin cardboard, plastic bottles, drinks cans and food cans. Recyclable materials not currently collected are glass, plastic food trays, yoghurt pots and margarine tubs, other plastics, plastic bags, cartons, tin foil, used batteries, light bulbs, and electrical equipment. Facilities do exist to deposit some of these materials at alternative locations such as the Household Waste Recovery Centre in Hexham (17-19 miles). This is open 8 am to 7.30 pm in the summer and 8 am to 4 pm in the winter. Information on the types of materials which can be recycled at this Centre is difficult to locate.

The street lighting in the Parish (see page 23) is not energy efficient and operates from dawn to dusk.

b) Results

93.3% of respondents indicated that the retention of recycling facilities in the parish is important.

In the young person’s questionnaire, the under 18’s were asked what steps they thought might be taken in the parish to combat global warming. The top suggestion was more local recycling. Other suggestions identified in the young person’s questionnaire were more public transport, the more thoughtful use of electricity and a community wind turbine.

At the public meetings, the following were identified as ways of reducing the parish’s carbon emissions:

- shared transport schemes;
- increased use of public transport;
- turning street lights off at a sensible time;
- a central wood-chip fired boiler supplying hot water to the school and Whiteacre in West Woodburn;
- community-based sustainable energy provision;
- more considered use of electricity.

c) Actions

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The need to retain recycling facilities in the parish was identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensure the retention of recycling facilities in the parish - examine expansion of recycling opportunities 	CCP, CPC, Tynedale Council	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing Short term
Establish mechanisms to reduce the parish’s carbon emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - turning street lights off at a sensible time - article on more considered use of electricity in parish 	CCP, CPC, NCC, Energy Saving Trust	Minimal short term resources. Funding need may be identified after initial investigations	Short term Short term

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> newsletter - investigation into community woodchip-fired hot water system centred around Woodburn First School - investigation into web-based shared transport scheme 			<p>Short to Medium term</p> <p>Short to Medium term</p>

Retail services

a) Background

There is one shop in the parish which is co-located with the Post Office on the Main Street (A68) of West Woodburn. The shop sells a wide range of food, bakeries, sweets, frozen food, tins and newspapers. The shop is open daily, from 6.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Monday to Friday, 6.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. on Saturday and 7.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on Sunday. The Post Office is part-time, open all day on Monday and Thursday and half-day on the remaining weekdays.

There is also a market garden in West Woodburn selling plants.



West Woodburn shop / post office

b) Results

The majority of respondents indicated that they did their main shopping in Hexham (69.9%). 98.3% of respondents indicated that they use West Woodburn shop and the same percentage of respondents rated the shop/post office between fairly and very important (this was the highest rating of all local services)

90% of respondents indicated that easy access to a Post Office is important or very important.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
West Woodburn shop / post office was identified as important to the community	- Maintain watching brief; be alive to opportunities of supporting/sustaining the shop/post office	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing

5. LAND AND ENVIRONMENT

Environmental problems

a) Background

West Woodburn and Ridsdale are bisected by the A68 with steep inclines through both villages. This leads to speed and noise problems in both communities. There is, at best, sporadic visits by police mobile speed cameras in West Woodburn, and currently none at all in Ridsdale.

There are three working quarries in the Parish which transport large sandstone blocks by articulated flat bed trailers along narrow roads built for light traffic and so are causing damage to road surfaces and dangers to other road users.

The River Rede is prone to flash flooding from West Woodburn to Low Leam (towards Bellingham).

Three separate planning applications have been made for a total of 48 large-scale wind turbines on the high ground to the south and east of the Parish. Whilst alternative sources of energy are supported by residents, these proposed wind farms are NOT supported. Corsenside Parish Council has lodged a written objection to the wind farm planning applications, which will be the subject of a Public Enquiry in early 2008. The Parish Council will be making representations at this Enquiry.

There are a few litter bins in the Parish; however, due to the prohibitive cost of servicing dog waste bins, the Parish Council has been unable to provide these.

b) Results

The main environmental problems identified were:

Speeding traffic: 88 respondents

Fouling by dogs: 40 respondents

Traffic noise: 24 respondents

Parking problems: 24 respondents

It was reported at the public meetings that whilst vehicles parking on the A68 in West Woodburn village were doing so in contravention of the solid white line road markings, the presence of parked vehicles was playing a part in reducing traffic speeds through the village. The parking issue may be of greater concern in specific parts of the Parish and further targeted research is required to indentify any such 'hot spots'.

No concerns regarding flooding were raised, either in the questionnaire or at the public meetings. However, no specific response was sought regarding this issue and further targeted research may be required.

It was consistently reported at all three public meetings by virtually all present that large scale wind farms were not welcomed in or around the Parish and it was felt that they would degrade important landscape for no clear purpose.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Dog fouling was identified as an environmental problem	- raise the issue with Tynedale Council	CCP, CPC, Tynedale Council	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Parking problems were identified	- further targeted research	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Large scale wind farms were not welcomed in or around the parish	- further targeted research - maintain watching brief	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing

Speeding traffic is covered under section 2.16 (page 30).

Historic sites and heritage features

a) Background

There are 23 listed buildings within the parish, which are mostly farmhouses, farm buildings and bastles. Also included are two bridges, the two churches and the Bay Horse Inn.

Within the Parish there are 10 scheduled monuments:

- Medieval cross at Woodburnhill Farm
- Fishponds south west of Townfoot Farm
- Round cairn north of Woodhouse
- Low Cleughs Bastle →
- Bastle at Low Leam Farm
- Bell Knowe round cairn
- Habitancum Roman Fort
- Robin of Risingham
- Engine House at Ridsdale Ironworks →
- Swine Hill Roman temporary camp



b) Results

Not conclusive. There was very little mention of parish heritage in the questionnaire or public meetings, but a specific response on this issue had not been sought.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Views on historic sites and heritage features were not sought via the questionnaire or public meeting	- further targeted research	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Landscape

a) Background

The northwest corner of Corsenside lies within Northumberland National Park. The Parish is bounded to the east by the 'Wild Hills o' Wanney' made famous by the ballad writer James Armstrong. There are no known SSSI's or other conservation designations in the Parish.

b) Results

The public meetings identified that the local landscape is held in high regard by parishioners and that it is of such high value that it should be protected. It was consistently suggested that enquiries should be made as to whether Corsenside and 'The Wanneys' could be included in Northumberland National Park.

c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The local landscape is held in high regard by parishioners	- enquiries to be made on including Corsenside and The Wanneys in Northumberland National Park - discussions to take place on the creation of SSSI's in the parish	CCP, NNPA	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Roads

a) Background

The parish is bisected by the A68 and with a network of minor C-class and unclassified country roads which join or cross the A68. The A68 is a major route between England and Scotland and was a former trunk road. The road was detrunked in 2004.

The problems of speeding and traffic noise have already been covered under Environmental Problems (section 5.1, page 41). This section refers to the condition and maintenance of roads in the Parish.

b) Results

87.2% of respondents rated the condition of roads in the parish as fair or poor, with no respondents rating them as excellent. Responses indicated a consensus that roads in the parish are generally poorly maintained, this was reflected in consistent comments to the same effect at all three public meetings.

The roads identified as needing urgent attention are:

- West Woodburn to Bellingham: 51 respondents
- A68 through the parish: 29 respondents
- West to East Woodburn: 12 respondents
- Shaw Lonnen: 10 respondents
- Wanneys Road: 8 respondents
- Road to Hartside/Harewalls: 3 respondents
- All local roads: 8 respondents



Road to Bellingham just west of West Woodburn- prone to flooding from the adjacent River Rede and frequently patched up



c) Action

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
The majority of parishioners believe roads in the parish to be poorly maintained	- register reported concerns with the County Council	CCP, NCC	Minimal short term resources	Short term

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

This Parish Plan was written between August and December 2007. In October 2007, the draft Summary Action Plan (see page 47) was circulated to every household in the Parish, along with the Parish Newsletter. This was followed up by an open meeting held on 12th November seeking comments or concerns from parishioners. This meeting was widely publicised, including a mention in the Hexham Courant. Contact details were also provided for any parishioner who wished to comment but was unable to attend the meeting. As no concerns were raised it was agreed to adopt the Summary Action Plan.

No concerns with the Summary Action Plan were raised by Corsenside Parish Council, and the full Parish Plan will be presented to the Parish Council meeting on 7th January 2008 for endorsement. The Plan will then be presented to potential partners, including Tynedale District Council and Northumberland County Council for information and comment.

Corsenside Community Partnership have agreed that following publication of this Parish Plan, they will continue to meet on a monthly basis to initiate and monitor the Actions contained within.

Formal publication of the Plan will also be accompanied by publicity which will seek additional community involvement, and encourage more local people to become involved with both the Partnership, and with the projects and research resulting from this Plan.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Production of this Parish Plan would not have been possible without the help and support of the following partners:

- Community Action Northumberland (Jane Hart)
- Corsenside Parish Council
- Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- North Tyne and Redesdale Community Partnership (Lesley Allen)

Corsenside Community Partnership would like to thank the following for their contributions to the Parish Plan:

David Allen – Fire Service section (page 22)

Susan Beavers – West Woodburn First School section (pages 27-30)

Colin Chun – Location section (page 5)

Richard Cross – History of Corsenside Parish (pages 7-8), background sections on the churches, economic and environmental issues, and photographs 1-4 on page 4

Ina Dent – photographs on page 7 and photograph 1 on page 31

Inspector Brian English (Northumbria Police) – parish crime figures (page 20)

Genuki – Map of Corsenside (page 6)

Sergeant Tony Laidler (Northumbria Police) – Police Service section (page 23)

Office for National Statistics – Census data (page 9)

Anne Pender / Adrian Rawlins – Background to the Parish Plan (page 4)

Adrian Rawlins – Parish Hall section (page 16) and developing the Parish Plan questionnaire
Peter Scott – photograph on page 17 and photograph 1 on page 42
Peter Stobie – The Parish Plan Process (pages 12-13) and for the significant effort in analysing and collating the questionnaire data
Tynedale District Council – Tynedale District map (page 6)
Revd Dr Richard Virden – landscape photographs on page 11, photographs on pages 19, 21 and 40 and photograph 2 on page 30.

Thanks are also extended to all of the residents of Corsenside who took the time to complete questionnaires and attend the public meetings.

This Plan was collated by **Pete Saunders** in full consultation with Corsenside Community Partnership and its partners. All graphics and photographs not accredited above were provided by him.

Corsenside Community Partnership (aka The Parish Plan Steering Group) are:

Susan Beavers – Headteacher, West Woodburn First School
Colin Chun – Corsenside website editor
Richard Cross – Parochial Church Council
Ina Dent – Corsenside Ladies' Fellowship
Andrew Harding – Village Show Committee
Anne Pender – Chair of Corsenside Parish Council
Adrian Rawlins – Chair of the Parish Hall Management Committee
Revd Dr Susan Ramsaran – Team Rector, North Tyne and Redesdale Team
Pete Saunders – Ridsdale Junior and Senior Citizens' Fund
Peter Scott – Mission Hall Trust
Peter Stobie – Ridsdale Village Hall Trust
Revd Dr Richard Virden – Local Priest

22 meetings were held between 18th April and 12th December 2007, usually on a fortnightly basis. All of these meetings were open to anyone wishing to attend and were advertised on the notice boards and in the Parish Newsletter.

The Partnership was chaired by **Adrian Rawlins** from April to July 2007 (the data collection process) and by **Pete Saunders** from July to December 2007 (the Plan writing process). The secretary from April to July 2007 was also **Adrian Rawlins**, and from July to December 2007 was **Anne Pender**.

The treasurer throughout was **David Feeney**, Clerk to Corsenside Parish Council.

SUMMARY ACTION PLAN

Issue identified	Specific Actions	Responsibility (Lead & Partners)	Resources	Timescale
Not enough local information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish parish newsletter - develop parish website 	Corsenside Community Partnership (CCP)	Fund printing costs Fund website hosting and upgrade	Short term
Role of Parish Council unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - raise the profile of the Parish Council via regular articles in the parish newsletter 	Parish Council Newsletter Editor	Newsletter funding	Short term
Community deterred from using the Parish Hall due to its current condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - investigate future options for a community facility - improve or refurbish the Parish Hall 	Parish Hall Management Committee, Community Action Northumberland, Tynedale District Council, funders/ sponsors	Funding required for feasibility studies Funding required for improvements/ refurbishment	Short term Medium to Long term
Local pubs were identified as important to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain watching brief, be alive to opportunities of supporting/ sustaining the local pubs 	Corsenside Community Partnership (CCP)		Ongoing
Possible need for improved care services within the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relay issues raised with the relevant authorities - Further targeted research 	CCP, Care Trust, Social Services, GP, district council planners	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing
Local churches identified as important. Signage could be improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pass on information to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) - Corsenside PCC are keen to explore further the concept for an all purpose community hall with the Parish Council - Maintain watching brief. 	CCP, PCC	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing
Crime and safety not raised by the community as a cause for concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Response may reflect current situation. Maintain watching brief and develop relations with local police 	CCP, Northumbria Police	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing
There may be a need for adult education and training if this was available in West Woodburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pass on information received to Bellingham Community Education department - Re-examine issue when 	CCP, Community Education Department	Minimal short term resources	Short term Long term

	Parish Hall upgraded/refurbished			
The majority of the community is satisfied with Electricity Supply, Fire Service, Health Care, Lighting, Police Service, Post Boxes, and Public Telephones	- Pass on information to the relevant bodies	CCP, NEDL, Fire Service, Health Service, County Council, Northumbria Police, Post Office, British Telecom	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Moderate dissatisfaction was raised with Local Authority Services , primarily gritting, snow clearing, grass cutting and public library	- Pass on information to the relevant local authority - Further targeted research	CCP, Northumberland County Council, Corsenside Parish Council	Minimal short term resources	Short term
The community is poorly served by public transport and improvements would be welcomed and utilised	- Examine the possibility of local bus companies extending existing routes into the parish - Publicise existing available services	CCP, local bus companies	Minimal short term resources	Short term
West Woodburn First School is strongly supported by the community	- Pass on information to the school's governing body - Establish a mechanism to feed CCP issues to the school's governing body - Raise local profile of the First School and publicise school activities	CCP, West Woodburn First School	Minimal short term resources	Short term Short term Ongoing
The future need for additional low cost housing appropriate to the parish was identified.	- Pass on information to Tynedale Council's Housing Enabling Officer and Milecastle's Community Development Officer	CCP, Tynedale District Council, Milecastle Housing	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Additional / improved local public spaces for walks/relaxation would be welcomed	- Further targeted research - Support local groups	CCP, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Border Natural History Society	Minimal short term resources	Short term Medium to Long term

A possible need for additional/improved local footpaths was identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further targeted research - Maintain watching brief 	CCP, local ramblers association, Tynedale Health Walks, local cycling groups, British Horse Society, NNPA, Northumberland County Council	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing
The need for additional facilities for young people was identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - create a play area in Ridsdale - facilitate access to existing facilities in Bellingham and Otterburn - publicise local facilities via Parish newsletter 	CCP, CPC, Working Group, Tynedale District Council, Youth Service, Leisure Tynedale, Bellingham Middle School, RTC Otterburn	Major funding would be required for play area in Ridsdale	Medium to Long term Short term Ongoing
The need for additional sports and leisure facilities for all ages was identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - further targeted research - facilitate access to existing facilities - publicise local facilities via Parish newsletter 	CCP, Leisure Tynedale, Bellingham Middle School, RTC Otterburn	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing Ongoing
Traffic speed was identified as the main environmental problem in the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continue to push for lower speed limit in Ridsdale - continue to seek traffic calming measures across the parish 	CCP, CPC, Action for Slower Traffic In Ridsdale (ASTIR), Northumbria Police CCP, CPC, Northumberland County Council	Major funding would be required for traffic calming	Ongoing Ongoing
Heavy quarry traffic is viewed as unacceptable on the parish's minor roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write to quarry owner with issues raised, seek possible solution, e.g. alternative route, road widening or funding traffic calming 	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term
On the whole, the parish's water supply is viewed as very good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advise Northumbrian Water 	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term
More visitors and tourists should be encouraged to come to the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improve signs for walk or cycle routes - improve signage for local places of interest - improve local bus and taxi information - improve picnic area facilities 	CCP, CPC, Tynedale District Council's Tourism Officer, Northumbria Tourist Board	Funding for improved signage and picnic facilities will be required	Medium to Long term
A need for more opportunities for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discuss possibilities with Tynedale Council's 	CCP, Tynedale Council, Job Centre	Funding need may be identified after	Short term

employment in the parish was identified	Economic Development Department and Enterprise Officer, together with Job Centre Plus - develop action plan if practicable	Plus	further discussions	Ongoing
Some respondents indicated they would like to participate in voluntary work	- publicise volunteering opportunities in parish newsletter	CCP	Funding newsletter publication	Ongoing
The need to retain recycling facilities in the parish was identified	- ensure the retention of recycling facilities in the parish - examine expansion of recycling opportunities	CCP, CPC, Tynedale Council	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing Short term
Establish mechanisms to reduce the parish's carbon emissions	- turning street lights off at a sensible time - article on more considered use of electricity in parish newsletter - investigation into community woodchip-fired hot water system centred around Woodburn First School - investigation into web-based shared transport scheme	CCP, CPC, NCC, Energy Saving Trust	Minimal short term resources. Funding need may be identified after initial investigations	Short term Short term Short to Medium term Short to Medium term
West Woodburn shop / post office was identified as important to the community	- Maintain watching brief; be alive to opportunities of supporting/sustaining the shop/post office	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Ongoing
Dog fouling was identified as an environmental problem	- raise the issue with Tynedale Council	CCP, CPC, Tynedale Council	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Parking problems were identified	- further targeted research	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term
Large scale wind farms were not welcomed in or around the parish	- further targeted research - maintain watching brief	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term Ongoing
Views on historic sites and heritage features were not	- further targeted research	CCP	Minimal short term resources	Short term

sought via the questionnaire or public meeting				
The local landscape is held in high regard by parishioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enquiries to be made on including Corsenside and The Wanneys in Northumberland National Park - discussions to take place on the creation of SSSI's in the parish 	CCP, NNPA	Minimal short term resources	Short term
The majority of parishioners believe roads in the parish to be poorly maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - register reported concerns with the County Council 	CCP, NCC	Minimal short term resources	Short term

Annex 1 – Individual suggestions from the Parish Plan questionnaire.

- Parish Council should publicly oppose windfarms: 2
- Corsenside church neglected: 3
- Drains and weeding need attention in Ridsdale: 3
- Church important, people not building: 1
- Problems in East Woodburn overlooked: 1
- Sensitive development of Fourlaws forest and Wanney crags needed
- Shop/post office important: 1
- Ridsdale neglected by Parish Council: 1
- 20mph speed limit and sleeping policemen for Armstrong Street, Ridsdale: 1
- Communal wheelie bins: 1
- Public meetings re planning applications: 1
- More information needed in support of windfarms: 1
- Stress importance of school: 1
- Local refuse tip required: 1
- Memorial seat for Joe Carroll near war memorial: 1
- More evident local police: 1
- Layby rubbish bins needed: 1
- Reduce parish hall fees: 1
- Roads need improvement: 1
- Speed camera in West Woodburn: 1
- Develop former landfill site as a country park: 1
- Tree planting needed: 1
- Condition of roadside footpaths needs attention: 1
- Public access should be available to Ridsdale 'castle': 1
- Bulb planting on verges: 1
- Traffic calming in West Woodburn and Ridsdale: 1
- Improve Blackburn and access to it: 1
- Revive interest in local groups: 1
- Danger caused by vehicles parking on footpath in Armstrong Street, Ridsdale: 1
- Concern about anonymity of questionnaire: 1
- Corsenside Apocrypher was in poor taste and caused distress: 1