

Rushmere St Andrew Parish Review



20th June 2017

At Rushmere St Andrew Village Hall

(Version 2 7/8/2017)

Index

Page

3	Introduction & Statistics
3 - 5	Who attended
5	Introduction to Gathering Issues/Good points
	Comments & Votes:
6 - 8	Traffic/ Transport/Highways
9 - 10	Parish services & facilities
11 - 12	Development & environment
12	Economy & utilities
12 - 13	General services
13 - 14	Other contributions
15	Top issues & Resources
16 - 18	Action Plan

Rushmere St Andrew (a brief background)

Population: 6185 (Census 2011)

Population split by gender: Male 50%, Female 50% (2011)

Parish assets: 2 parish halls, churches, primary school, plus a variety of public houses/cafes, sports facilities, businesses and shops.

Date held: Tuesday 20th June 2017

Venue: Rushmere St Andrew Village Hall (Humber Doucy Lane)

Time: 7.30pm – 10pm

Weather: Fine and warm

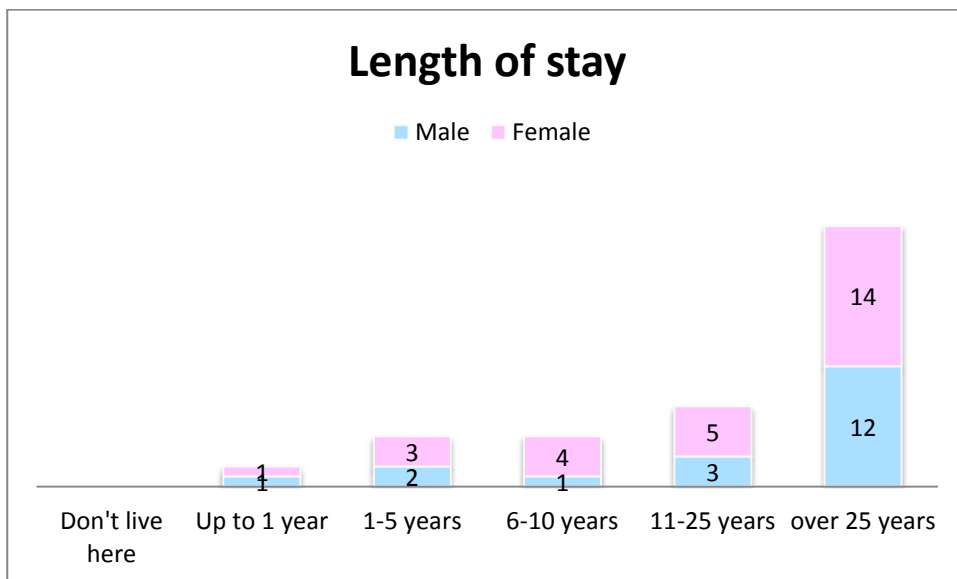
No of people attending: Approximately 100 of which, 19 men and 27 ladies used the signing in sheets.

Percentage of population attending: 1.5%

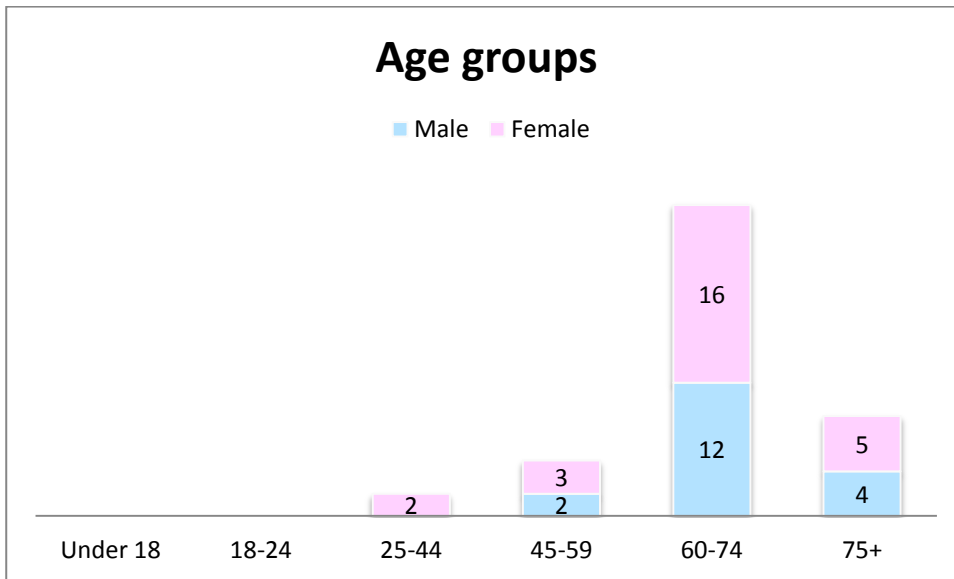
On arrival people were asked for a few basic details about themselves to give general statistics about the participants in the Consultation. This helps with identifying whether groups of people or areas were less well represented and whether other methods of consultation might be needed as a follow up to this event.

We asked for the following details:

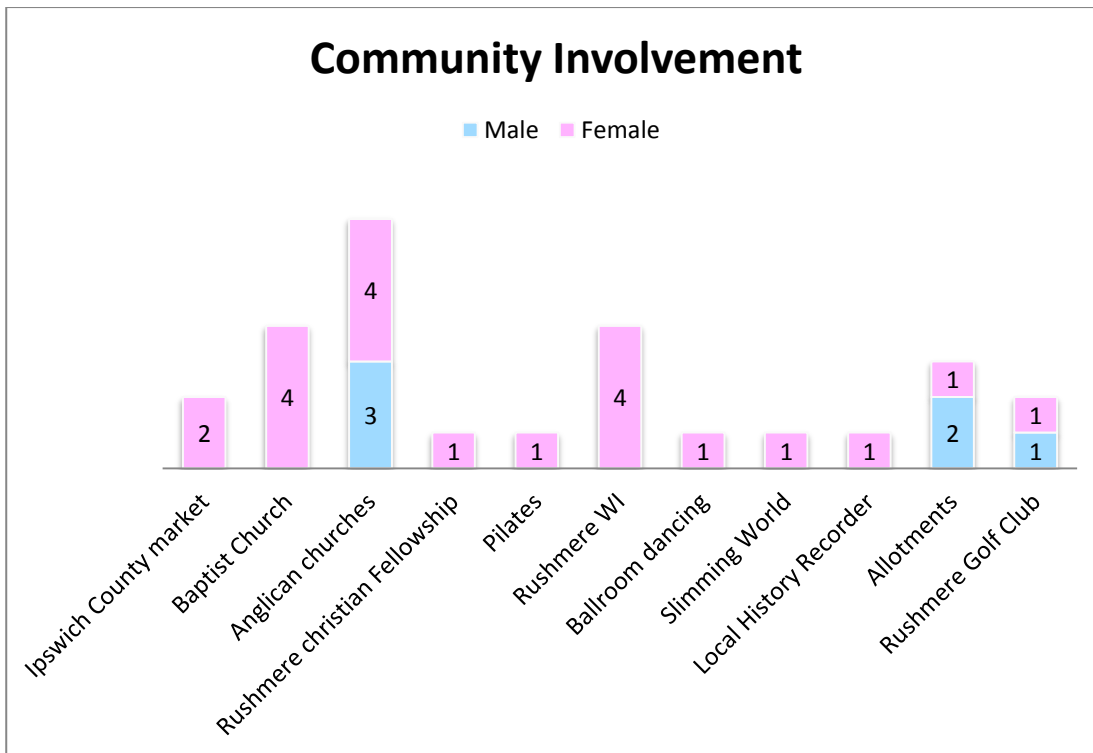
How long have you lived in or around Rushmere St Andrew?



Age of Participants

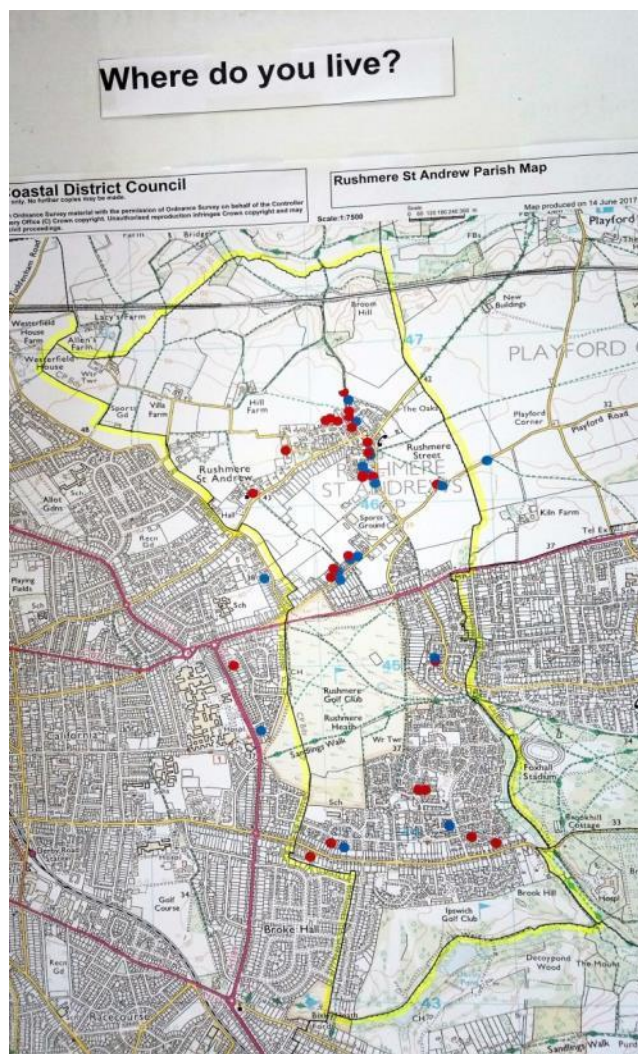


Community Involvement of those who attended



The graph only shows the groups where someone put that they participated in it. There were many more groups listed and for instance several members of the Parish Council were at the meeting but that was not reflected on the sheets so that may have been the case with other groups too.

Map showing the geographical location of participants.



Looking at the spread of red and blue dots most people were from the Village Ward with less people coming from Tower Ward however it's worth noting that only about half of the people at the meeting participated in this exercise and a number seem to live outside of the parish which was not reflected on the "Length of Stay" sheet on page 3.

Concerns and thoughts about issues

We then conducted a "needs analysis" using 5 large topic sheets on which everyone was encouraged to leave comments about any good points, concerns and aspirations and which people felt needed some sort of action. If there was a comment on there already that they agreed with they didn't need to write it again they could put a tick against it. The sheets also had a section for people to record good points.

When people had finished writing their comments they were given 3 red dots and asked to put a dot against the issues they felt were the most important to them i.e. to vote for them. The issues identified as being important and any issues related to them were then discussed by groups on the night and an Action Plan produced to take forward the actions each group agreed on.

Comments on the 5 Topic Sheets

Traffic, Transport & Highways

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good points		
Footpath on Street & Bent Lane	3	1
Having a footpath along The Street has been a bonus	3	
Speedwatch has been set up and running	1	
Less flooding at Chestnut Pond	1	

Traffic		
Speed & Volume		
Speeding traffic along The Street and Foxhall Road	7	4
Too much traffic through the village going (?) rush hour – morning & evening. This is only going to get worse. Needs sorting.		4
Require lower speed limits The Street, Playford Road (in sections), Lambert Lane, Playford Lane		2
Speed bumps in Humber Doucy Lane are dangerous!	12	1
Playford Road, The Street used as rat runs, as is Humber Doucy Lane	3	1
Traffic horrendous. Too fast	3	1
Introduce (30) signs in The Street & Playford Road or speed bumps!		1
Bixley Drive dangerous – no line in the road. Has become a race track		1
Speed of vehicles The Street & Playford Road	7	
Speeding motorcycles causing problems	1	
Speed limit on main road should be 40 to help stop pollution	1	
Foxhall Road 30 mph need speed gun along there as drivers go MUCH faster	1	
7.5 tonne weight limit on vehicles through village		
Calming services required re speeding along the street		
No speed cameras or speed bumps		
Need “30” mile area painted on roads. More road signs “30”		

Traffic & Development		
Adastral Park – how is it going to impact on Foxhall Road?		1
Building on Bell Lane – how is traffic going to be managed?	1	

Highways		
Road repairs? Untidy (?)		2
The bend on Bixley Drive has poor visibility and no central markings – needs central marking and possibly “slow” signs	1	1
Prevent “Rat runs”	1	1
Bell Lane Junction needs to be sorted, awful at peak times	5	

Road markings have vanished in village	1	
Very bad pot hole in Holly Lane		
Poor infrastructure		
Road in poor condition at the corner of Bixley Road & Bladen Drive – on a bus route		
Bixley Lane dangerous as no road markings & is like a race track!		
Repair pot holes on Humber Doucy Lane and Mendip Drive. Cheap, shoddy work has to be re-done annually at our cost		

Footpaths & Verges		
All hedges & trees fronting the public footpaths should be cut back to the boundary by the 2 nd week of June	3	1
Verges not cut – so cut them	2	
Verges in Lamberts Lane require attention, approximately 8ft over lane in parts	2	
Hedges along Playford Road need cutting more regularly	2	
Playford Road needs footpath re-defined. Overgrown and dangerous to walk along	1	
Hedges and verges need urgent attention both at Lamberts Lane and Playford Lane		
Dead trees need removing before a nasty accident happens		
Overhanging hedge (where?)		
Bixley Lane – large trees need cutting		

Flooding		
Drains blocked outside Ipswich Town football training grounds at The Mills – causes flooding	5	5
Flooding Playford Road	5	3
Public footpaths need attending to i.e. shrubbery cut back more frequently as access is poor	1	3
Flooding on Playford Road & near church		2
The bridleway off Holly Lane, no proper maintenance. Trees allowed to die fall over on the path. This should be an asset.	2	1
Flooding outside the ITFC training ground on Playford Road and The Mills	7	
Flooding still a problem in certain areas	5	
Over-hanging shrubs on pavements. (Added comment - Along Playford road @ No 10)	2	
Road re-surfacing on Foxhall Road after Dobbs Lane junction, there are horrendous puddles half way over the road after rainfall	1	
When raining it floods corner of Foxhall/Bixley Drive. On a bus route		
Soakaways are inadequate in Bixley Farm		
Public footpaths need hedges cut & cleared far more frequently		

Parking		
No parking on grass verges – ruins underground pipes and can't cut the grass properly	3	1
Non existent policing. Parking problems everyday, obstructions etc. Emergency vehicles would be unable to get to my house during the school run		1
Parking on pavement	5	
Double parking along Foxhall Road for school drop off & pickup – very dangerous	2	
Too many cars for local roads, especially where they are narrow	2	
Yellow lines needed into the entrance of Chestnut Close (some very near misses!)	1	
Less road parking		
Area around Broke Hall School becoming badly run down – parking on verges, gardens – wheelchairs can't get by vehicles which are parked on paths		
Junction of Foxhall Road/Bixley Drive is a bus route & there are double yellow lines but especially on Saturday there are always cars badly parked (often on the double yellow lines) & no one ever seems to enforce the parking restrictions		
Less road parking in front of homes		

Transport		
Lack of bus services	5	8
No bus service through the village, (a service) would enable anybody to attend any hospital appointment. Mon, Wed, Fri – only one bus a day		5
Bus services very limited in Holly Lane. Currently services on Mon, Wed & Fri mornings – return at 12 noon	4	2
Buses from Bixley Farm to the station should run regularly throughout the day i.e. extra 3 per hour		1
Better bus service, even if we have to pay a little if you have a bus pass e.g. 50p		1
Poor public transport	15	
Very poor bus service	5	
More local buses needed through the village of Rushmere at prices affordable to young people to and from town	4	
i.e. 2 extra buses to Broke Hall	3	
Buses along Playford Road into Ipswich	3	
Bus service is ABYSMAL, which was confirmed; at PC meeting we were told give us credit for what we have achieved		
Unless I drive I can't get anywhere. No public transport.	3	
Buses into Woodbridge please	2	

Parish Services & Facilities

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good Points		
Ipswich Wanderers FC	1	4
We are starting a church in Tower Hall to serve the Bixley Farm area (C of E)		1
A lovely hall	9	
A nice place to live	8	
Smashing place to live – don't destroy	3	
Tower Hall is great	3	
WI x 2	1	
Baptist Church is most involved in area	1	
Neighbourhood watch – Chestnut Close	1	
I love living in Rushmere village. People are always willing to help each other		
Church bell ringers		
Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pubs • Schools • Health services • (Speed?) watch • Clubs for lunch, elderly, young • Tower Hall rooms availability • Shops • Events 		
Sports Club		
Baptist Church is involved in the area and provides lunch clubs & children's clubs for the village		
New church (C of E) at Tower hall from Sept 3rd		
Good clubs at the 2 churches		
WI Country market		
Church		

Parish Facilities		
More scope of regarding people's regarding lawn cemetery. Allow ceramic photos on graves		2
Important to keep the sports facilities		1
Village Hall poorly placed to serve the village – more use to the Scotch estate	2	
Ipswich Wanderers very noisy		
School far too big – roads can't cope		
Disappointed small room in Tower Hall not now available!		
Need a rubbish bin in the car park near Tower Hall		

Community		
Need to separate the 2 parts of the parish - dysfunctional		6
Village & Tower are not the same	6	3
It would be good to develop a community spirit in Rushmere Village – too isolationist!		1
Keep Rushmere separate from Ipswich	12	
Not really one village – should we become two? No real connection.	7	
A divided parish with no services	5	
No services, need to go to Kesgrave or Ipswich	2	
Councillors do not listen to people, but give platitudinal answers	2	
Village/Tower Ward distinction		
Divided parish. Needs to split – different needs		
Social interaction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media • Lack of information 		
More events would be good		
Need to encourage young blood in village & on councils		

Communication		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village website needed • Facebook • Twitter • Other social media? 	5	2
Facebook to engage young people		1
(Parish Council?) Does try to keep people informed	3	
Informative parish newsletter twice a year	3	
Had no idea of all the groups available in Village Hall	2	
Communication between council and residents	3	
Better informed	2	
Too little information	2	
The village was not even mentioned as such in your literature	2	
Local directory listing all voluntary groups would be good	1	
Events not publicised or not in place	1	
Lack of information about social groups	1	
Too little info		
Vagueness of District Council services		

Development & Environment

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good points		
Allotments x 4	4	3
Very good access to the local countryside	6	
Two ponds. Added comment – where are the ducks?	4	
Public footpaths	1	
Ponds		
Good areas of accessible green areas		
Nice ponds. Need fish		
Sandlings open area – hurrah!		

Environment		
Need to keep access to countryside, footpaths & bridleways	4	
Public footpaths are a disgrace around Limes pond; litter from trees is never cleared up. No maintenance of public footpaths	4	
Trees down Holly Lane need attention. Several are dead	1	
Rushmere Village – remove koi carp from limes pond and bring back our ducks at Chestnut pond!	1	
Keep the footpaths & the Fynn Valley		
Trees need sorting near ponds		
Would like allotments etc. in the southern part of the parish (Bixley Farm)		
More community green spaces needed in & around the village		

Development		
Affordable houses for young families		4
Existing Rushmere St Andrew Street needs to be kept as far as possible as it is, bearing in mind already approved development of Reedcroft		2
Sort road infrastructure before more housing – especially Bell Lane junction	9	1
Small houses needed	2	1
Village development. Further development is inevitable so need to define: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where • Where not • Type • No more big houses – need affordable homes 		1
No more houses	9	
Community green spaces around Heath – please keep	4	
No more development in Tower ward south of Woodbridge Road	1	
Don't encourage smaller homes being built	1	
Quality of life decreased	1	
Poor mix of housing – not enough young family homes		

Make sure development doesn't encroach on The Heath		
Retain and protect Heath		

Economy & Utilities

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Broadband		
Poor broadband especially given how close to BT and Ipswich we are	6	5
Broadband	3	2
Broadband needs improving	4	1
Broadband "not spot" in village	8	
Mobile signal	3	
Poor broadband speeds		
We are fed by Foxhall exchange so long way from exchange to The Street		

Power network		
Maintenance of power lines, drains	3	
Out-dated electric supply – every storm brings power cuts		

Business		
Keep the village as it is residential. We do not want to be absorbed into Ipswich	7	3
Keep the village residential – no business premises	2	
Access to jobs & training almost non-existent. No transport worth speaking of to get to Ipswich; what about shift workers?		
Greggs litter		
Lots of sports & social clubs in Rushmere – no pubs now except for "Golf". Could there be more open to residents?		

General services

Comment	People who agreed	Votes
Good points		
Square pharmacy Foxhall Road	1	
Defibrillators at Tower Hall & Baptist Church x2	3	
Ipswich Academy		
Good early years & primary school provision in south of parish	3	

Services		
No pubs (Added comment - Golf Pub)	4	2
Little services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No shop • No pub • Poor bus service • No doctor or health provision 	8	1
Better police attention	4	1
No health services in parish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No doctors • No dentists • No community health services 	1	1
In the village		
Nothing for teens to do – they gather around shops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No community • No pubs • No shop • No post office • No health centre 	11	1
No doctors? No pharmacy	6	
No post office or shop	5	
No pub or shop	3	
Doctors inadequate in area	1	
No local greengrocer/baker		
No services for elderly e.g. lunch clubs (Added comment – Yes there is, Rushmere Baptist Church Wednesdays)		
More neighbourhood watch needed		
Dustmen refuse to drive along Playford Lane		

Explanatory notes:

People who agreed – When people agreed with a comment they could put a tick, so the number shown is the number of ticks against each comment.

Votes – this is the number of red dots against a topic (people were given 3 red dots and asked to put a dot against the 3 issues that were most important to them, so in effect voting for them).

The numbers may not be entirely accurate, red dots sometimes get detached and some ticks were beside the post it notes which were then moved or fell off leaving any ticks behind on the sheet.

Other contributions were also received by the Parish Council as below:

Summary of contributions received by letter and email.

There were six items received by the Parish Council directly related to the meeting.

TRANSPORT/ROADS/TRAFFIC/ROADSIDE VERGES

Issues raised included “**speeding traffic**” in various locations. [Community Speed Watch is up and running in the Parish although it is early days yet and not all parishioners are familiar with the scheme].

Parking problems including parking in cycle lanes on the A1214; parking on pavements/grass verges; “irresponsible” parking associated with schools.

State of roads/potholes (several locations).

Surface water “flooding” at various locations.

Condition of (uncut) grass verges and litter strewn verges.

HOUSING

Little mention made by any contributors but where it was mentioned the consensus was that village residents did not want more housing and mention was also made regarding maintaining the distinct identity of the village of Rushmere.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Again little was said on this topic and it was only touched upon by one contributor.

ENVIRONMENT

Several contributions concerned the environment in various ways. Local residents very much appreciate living in Rushmere St Andrew and they wish to retain the quality of life and this counts for both the Village and the Tower Wards of the Parish.

Items mentioned included the state of **public footpaths** / overhanging vegetation / “hazardous” vegetation left after maintenance and ensuring that footpaths in current use are added to the definitive footpath map.

Concern was raised regarding the maintenance of parts of Rushmere Common as was the perennial issue of errant dog fouling.

Litter issues of concern at the Local Centre (Broadlands Way).

Consideration be given for more public seats at the local POS / extra dog waste bins and ordinary waste bins.

COMMUNICATIONS

One contributor raised issues regarding the potential of using social media in order to facilitate community awareness.

ORGANISATIONS

Although not directly associated with this consultation exercise one contributor sent in details of an upcoming community event associated with a local church.

Main issues on the night

- Community identity and parish split
- Highways, traffic & transport

We split into 4 groups to look at various issues and from those discussions the action plan at the end of this report has been compiled.

Resources for your next steps

General help:

County Councillors:

Robert Whiting – 07714 598155 robert.whiting@suffolk.gov.uk

Stuart Lawson – 07590 627683 stuart.lawson@suffolk.gov.uk

District Councillors:

Deborah Dean – 07900 914460 deborah.dean@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Mark Newton – 07788 456641 mark.newton@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Communities Officer (Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils):

Gillian Benjamin – 01394 444321 gillian.benjamin@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Community Action Suffolk:

www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Rural Housing Enabler

Sunila Osborne – 01473 345344 sunila.osborne@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

A new Localities Officer is being recruited so in the meantime please contact:

VCSE Localities Officer Team leader

Jon Eaton - Tel: 07775 907828

Email: jon.eaton@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Volunteering Services Officer

Siobhan Kranjanasilp – 07710 390487 Email:
siobhan.kranjanasilp@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Rushmere St Andrew Action Plan 20 June 2017

What is the issue?	Action that could be taken	Priority	Who will lead, organisation & Partners	Resources needed	How will people be updated?
Transport					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of bus service, only stop at certain times only Monday, Wednesday & Friday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise with the Parish Council ask them to contact the bus provider Could a community transport provider help? Need to demonstrate there will be enough customers State the benefits i.e. health & wellbeing & reducing isolation Suggest smaller buses and a nominal fee to travel 	High	Parish Council	Time	Newsletter and/or meeting

Traffic/Highways					
Speeding	Community Speedwatch in place (and it was advertised in the newsletter)	Ongoing	Parish Council	More volunteers	Newsletter? Posters?
Speeding	More signage in The Street to remind people there is a limit	High	Parish Council SCC Highways		
Overgrown verges	(See post it notes above for details of areas and concerns)	High	Parish Council/SCC Highways		
Flooding outside ITFC Training Ground (The Mills)	ITFC have filled in the ditch and have taken some responsibility for that	Ongoing	SCC Highways Parish Council County Councillor	Time	County Councillor and Parish Council
Flooding at Parish Church	More work needed to find out why this is happening		Parish Council SCC Highways	Time to start with	

Playford Road (No 49) Road dips and water comes out from Humber Doucy Lane into Playford Road	More information needed and also about drainage onto The Heath		Parish Council SCC Highways	Time to start with	
--	--	--	--------------------------------	--------------------	--

Development					
Maintain identity of village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritising village identity • Looking separately at issues from southern & northern areas 	High	Parish Council		
Protect Rushmere Heath – absolutely no development		Medium	Parish Council/SCDC		
Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pubs • Schools • Health services • shops 	(no actions specified – issues as on post-it notes above)				
Housing – concerns about urban sprawl and Rushmere Village extending towards Ipswich Being close to Austraal Park – consuming local housing need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas to protect from development • Identify suitable areas where development would be acceptable. • In particular brownfield sites such as car parks and areas east of Rushmere Village 	Medium	Parish Council/SCDC		

Environment					
Footpaths (Bixley lane) & protection of bridleways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular cutting of trees off Holly lane – not enough cutting 	Medium	Norse (SCC Highways?)	Maintenance	Newsletter
Trees fallen near railway line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to be removed 	Medium	Norse (SCC Highways?)	Maintenance	

Community					
Village/Tower Ward distinction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 different places 2 different locations 2 different wants and needs 	2 separate plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share information about both sides of the parish Research distinctive requirements of both parts Events as below to try to bring the community together more 	High	Parish Council, steering group?		
Social interaction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication Raising awareness Clubs Events not publicised/in place Lack of publicity/info Make Tower Hall rooms available Needs of different age groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A big party for the centenary of the Armistice on the playing field for the whole parish. (Are there links with Belgium or France?) Use of social media Halls/Venues committees to meet Events A managed link between website updates and Facebook 	High	Parish Council, Social committee?		
Broadband is much slower/less reliable in the northern part of the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only one cabinet by the church Signal can be boosted (put in units/FTTP etc.) but this is expensive No cable TV so no competition 	Medium			