

Feedback

Comments from the consultation evening, 15th September 2004

PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT EXCITED PEOPLE

- Potential to pull the parish together.
- Prospect of a new/improved village hall with extra facilities, including Village Green.
- Improvement of safety around the school.
- Closer links between the school, village and wider community.
- Provision of space for village teenagers.
- Increase in circulation of Corvedale News, Welcome Pack etc.
- A good plan – well put together.
- Focus on key issues; Village Hall, Children's play area, sort out traffic circulation by school and link with open space and affordable housing.
- Ongoing consultation.
- The Parish Plan may well draw out latent willingness to contribute to the life of the parish and draw people together in this large fragmented area.

PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CONCERNED PEOPLE

- Position of a new village hall. Is there a need for new/improved village hall?
- Who will carry out the recommendations in the plan – don't lose momentum and let the enthusiasm fizzle.
- Overdevelopment – keep Diddlebury a rural village.
- No footpath on Delbury Park side of Mill Lane.
- Need to provide for young people in the parish.
- Footpaths poorly signed and obstructed.
- Not enough houses for local young people.
- Funding for the proposals Informal car sharing between people, use of TESS to identify people needing transport and those prepared to offer transport.
- Some of the bigger projects eg village hall development may overshadow some smaller recommendations.
- Volume of cars parking near school – needs sharing of transport.
- Better use of Community notice boards.



History is everywhere – Broncroft castle which is still inhabited today.

An Introduction to Diddlebury Parish

The parish is part of an area of outstanding natural beauty with hills, ancient woodlands, meadows, streams, heavy red clay for arable farming, and pastures for sheep and cattle. History is everywhere around. An Iron Age fort is visible far up on Brown Clee. Within the parish are the remains of castles and strongholds. Broncroft Castle is still inhabited. A Saxon-Norman church, old houses and barns reflect centuries of rural life.

There are nine settlements within the parish: Bouldon, Broncroft, Corfton, Diddlebury, Middlehope, Peaton, Seifton, Sutton, and Westhope. Some new housing has been built in the past twenty years mainly around Diddlebury, where most of the population of 1073 lives. The B4368 runs through the parish connecting Bridgnorth with Craven Arms and Ludlow. Another mediaeval highway runs through the hamlets, and deep green lanes criss-cross the area.

Employment includes farming, tourism, livery stables, pottery, plant nursery, building and education. Many people commute, but an increasing number are working from a home-based office. Unemployment at 1.6% is slightly below the Shropshire average of 2.0%. Average income for the county of Shropshire is one of the lowest in the country.



Corvedale School.

The primary school in Diddlebury serves the whole of the Corvedale. There are nursery and playgroup facilities in Diddlebury, and a craft college at Westhope. The parish has two public houses, one of which has a brewery, two village halls and a community room.

A neighbouring village has a combined shop and garage. Other shops and services are in the market towns of Bridgnorth, Church Stretton, Craven Arms, Ludlow and Much Wenlock. There are bus links with these including a community bus scheme. Milk and newspapers are delivered, a mobile library calls, and there is a collection scheme for recycling bottles, tins and old newspapers.

How the Parish Plan started

A Steering Committee of ten was created in June 2003 by advertising in the Corvedale News and by approaching individuals to represent geographical areas and local organisations. With support from Diddlebury Parish Council a grant was obtained from the Countryside Agency in August 2003 to create the Plan.

Why a Parish Plan?

Diddlebury is an attractive parish set amid wonderful tranquil countryside with few apparent problems – why do we need a plan? With many changes affecting our community we want to make sure that we can influence change in a way that will have positive benefits and enhancements for the community we serve and which will reflect their aspirations and needs.

With Support from the Countryside Agency and the Community Council of Shropshire many villages around us are creating their own plans. By joining with them we can ensure that we have a voice in planning for the future of our rural communities.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

The Draft Parish Plan was presented to the community and discussed on September 15. Following discussion with the Parish Council it was decided that this plan would be published and adopted as policy by the Parish Council.



The fish pools at Delbury Hall.

The Parish Council has agreed to the creation of a Parish Plan Implementation Group, and together they will identify the priorities for action. The Implementation Group, working on a Community Development strategy, will establish project groups around the actions encouraging as many people as possible to be involved with the projects. The Project Groups will draw in all interested parties and consider options, resources and timescales. The Implementation Group will monitor and review the process, reporting regularly to the Parish Council.

To assist the implementation the role of a community advocate/co-ordinator should be explored. Such a role could be shared with neighbouring Corvedale parishes. The person would represent the needs and issues of our rural communities to public, private and voluntary bodies, with the aims of developing understanding and vision, creating working partnerships and obtaining practical support for local initiatives and projects.



Looking across the Corvedale towards Sutton.

PROPOSAL 19:

To explore the role and sources of funding for a parish advocate /co-ordinator to work with parishes in the Corvedale.



Bouldon Mill.

CONSERVATION AND PLANNING

In the survey and consultation process concern was expressed about the style and materials for new buildings within the Parish. Over the years a fairly relaxed planning control regime operating in the area has allowed the growth of a varied mix of building styles with little regard to the local vernacular.

More recently attempts have been made to encourage styles more sympathetic to the historic traditions – particularly in the core conservation area of Diddlebury village. There are opportunities through the preparation of Village Design Statements to exert greater influence over the design and siting of new buildings and also how their villages might be extended, modified and conserved to improve environmental quality, facilities and appearance.

PROPOSAL 18

To explore options to raise the awareness and profile of design and conservation through the potential of village design statements and additional conservation areas.



THE AIMS OF THE PLAN

- Identify people's concerns and issues.
- Draw up priorities for action and attract resources where needed.
- Improve the quality of life for all.
- Influence planning and decision making at district and county levels.

How we identified issues and concerns

We began by inviting people to tell us their views at the Autumn Show, Harvest Suppers, and at the local public houses. The results then formed the basis of the Parish Survey which was distributed to all 275 households in November 2003. We were able to employ a local person to help us to construct and analyse the questionnaire. The return rate was 47%. Further consultation followed, focussing on the needs of children and young people, older people, local businesses, and the environment.

The plan is set out in three sections reflecting the four themes of the Community Strategy of the South Shropshire Partnership. The first section groups together the proposals and actions dealing with many aspects of Community Well Being and Life Long Learning; the second section brings together the actions we think are required to deal with the issues surrounding the Environment and Local Economy. The third looks at making the plan work.



Diddlebury village and parish looking from Pinstones.



Westhope College and The Orchard memorial garden Westhope.



Community well being and lifelong learning

This section of the Plan covers all the issues we discovered were important to improving the sense of community and feeling of well being, including opportunities for individuals to develop through learning and participation. Based upon what we learnt from the survey and focus groups we set the following objectives which our proposals and action plans are designed to address:

COMMUNITY WELL BEING AND LIFE LONG LEARNING OBJECTIVES.

- **Maximise the involvement of members of the local communities and provide opportunities for volunteering.**
- **Ensure that there are adequate facilities to support a wide range of clubs and potential user groups.**
- **Support facilities which will enhance the learning and educational experience of children and provide opportunities for older age groups to return to learn.**
- **Support improvements that will encourage economic gain.**
- **Meet the needs of the disabled and other disadvantaged community groups.**
- **Improve access to public transport.**
- **Improve access to health and medical care.**
- **Improve road safety for all road users but particularly vulnerable groups.**
- **Improve the usability of the Parish's network of public footpaths.**



Fernalls Mill on the road to Middlehope.

THE ECONOMY

In general people are in favour of creating more jobs locally. There was some support for small business developments, tourist accommodation, leisure facilities and farm shops, while opinions were more divided over the provision of light industrial workshops and tourist attractions. Comments included being forward looking while maintaining the ethos of a working rural community. Nevertheless, the implications of supporting and encouraging a rural economy may often mean the erection of buildings or intensification of use.

PROPOSAL 17

To create specifically formed focus group to encourage local businesses to use local businesses, create a local 'Yellow Pages', and form networks with business support services in the towns.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Work on Proposal 17 has already commenced. There are clear links between this work and the proposals on communication, especially the principle of taking a strategic approach involving the whole Corvedale.



Farm building at Peaton.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The survey found between 43% and 80% people thought that a range of nature conservation and clean up initiatives are important or worth doing. These include wildlife information, a nature reserve, maintaining Diddlebury churchyard and the brook, garden waste collection, reducing litter and preventing fly tipping.

HOUSING

PROPOSAL 15

Develop a programme of work to enhance the quality of the environment. Priorities will be maintaining the stream in Diddlebury, garden waste collection, wildlife information, preventing fly tipping and reducing litter.

There is general support for affordable housing to rent (52%) and to buy (48%); also homes for single people (30%) and small family homes (49%). However in terms of the Local Plan for South Shropshire, there are only limited opportunities within the Diddlebury village boundary for any additional housing of any sort and probably no opportunities elsewhere within the Parish. It will be an important area for discussion about the best way to provide some additional housing and consideration will need to be given to whether it might be appropriate to seek additional housing for affordable housing purposes if sites can be found.



Country cottage, Bouldon.

PROPOSAL 16

To work with Housing Associations to identify future requirements for affordable homes, and to facilitate provision.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

To continue the work with South Shropshire Housing Association in undertaking a Community Housing Survey.

PARISH AMENITIES

VILLAGE HALLS: Up to 34% of people use the village halls more than three times a year – although there are a significant number who use the halls infrequently or never. Just over half of households with young people use Diddlebury Village Hall. Users of Westhope Village Hall seem generally satisfied with the facilities. Neither hall has a PA system with loop for hearing aids. Diddlebury hall is seen as needing significant improvement, especially by younger and older people. It seems clear from the survey that better hall facilities would enable a wider range of activities to take place throughout the year: youth club, after school club (25%), homework facility, holiday play schemes, clubs for older people, adult education (32%), indoor bowls (23%), gardening club (28%), local history club (35%), book club (23%), and keep fit (32%) were identified. There is support for sharing facilities between the community and Corvedale School. Transport links are important.

THE CHURCH: Baptisms, weddings and funerals involve 52% of respondents; Christmas, Easter and Harvest Services 36%; school events 51%; private prayer 12%; cultural events 19%. A PA system is needed.

OUTDOOR FACILITIES: There is much support for better outdoor amenities for all ages (around 50% households with young children) including a children's playground, bike area, sports facilities (24% all respondents), and a village green (38% all respondents) with benches. Corvedale School also requires more hard surface areas and grass areas for the children's activities.

Diddlebury Village Hall

The existing hall was built in the early 1950s on land donated by the Wrigley family. Whilst improvements have enabled it to continue to cater for the needs of the community for over 50 years, it would appear to be reaching a point where it will become increasingly difficult and expensive to both maintain and meet the changing needs of the community in the 21st Century.

Its present layout and configuration of space makes it difficult to cater for the wider range of needs and activities associated with the recreational pastimes and communal activities of the community – in particular learning activities and opportunities for periodic medical consultations.



Westhope Hall



Diddlebury Hall

The condition and layout of the building means that it will be difficult to cater for many of the needs/requirements expressed in the surveys eg: secure disabled access without creating new accesses; the side room is too large to meet the requirements of small informal groups: the sound insulation and circulation space precludes more than one activity taking place at any one time; a new toilet block would need to be constructed to meet modern standards and expectations.

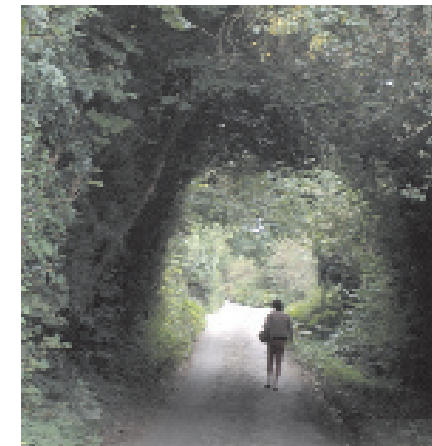
Improved facilities are required by the school for their curriculum and after school activities, and also by the community to provide comfortable all-year facilities for adult education, social events, play schemes, indoor sports and meetings of small groups. The hard-surface and grassed areas are needed for sports and recreational facilities for the school and the community including a playground and village green with benches. Car parking could be integrated with this proposal.

Exploratory work by the Parish Plan Steering Group and sub groups have concluded that seeking improvements to the existing Village Hall whilst potentially a less expensive and perhaps a more easily affordable option for the community is unlikely to meet many of the emerging objectives above. Major extensions and structural alterations would be required to meet the wide range of needs described above. It was therefore concluded that the most appropriate way forward will be to seek a replacement Village Hall.

PROPOSAL 1:

It is proposed to replace the Diddlebury Village Hall with a new facility which will meet the diverse needs of the community.

About 38% of respondents to the survey felt a village green would be an important facility. However, it would be difficult within the context of the existing land use configuration within Diddlebury to identify where a suitable location might be. Nevertheless there might be opportunities arising from the relocation of the village hall proposal which could be explored further in this context.



A parish of quiet roads and green lanes.

PROPOSAL 14

To explore options for creating additional public open space within Diddlebury as part of the work on the Village Hall proposal.



A footpath crosses through park land on Delbury estate.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposal 13 will be carried out by the footpaths group, and funding opportunities in liaison with appropriate local authority officials and voluntary agencies and groups.

Proposal 14 will be part of the work carried out by the Village Hall group.

ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

This section of the Plan looks at the local economy and the environment. In particular it addresses the issues people feel most strongly about in terms of environmental quality in many forms and the pressures placed upon that environment by development pressures and needs arising from housing and employment demands.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OBJECTIVES

- To help local business and employment initiatives thrive.
- To help local housing needs arising in the Parish to be met locally.
- To ensure informal recreational activities are encouraged and catered for.
- To help protect the conservation of the historic and natural environment.

FOOTPATHS AND OPEN SPACE

Footpaths and Bridleways

These require maintenance (72% respondents) and signposting (60% respondents). The provision of an off-road footpath from Diddlebury to Aston Munslow was supported by 58%, and cycleways between villages by 50%. The network of footpaths and bridleways around the Parish are in various stages of maintenance. A considerable level of opinion took the view that further maintenance and sign posting are required. Setting out a programme of work for the Shropshire County Council to undertake will need to be part of the finished Plan.



Diddlebury from near Pedlar's Rest.

PROPOSAL 13

To support and extend the network of public footpaths.

Location of a new Community Hall

The Village Hall is built on ground owned by the Parish Council. The ownership includes the school playground which doubles as an occasional car park for village hall and church events. Initial conclusions drawn by the village hall sub committee following work with architects and planners has concluded that it will be difficult to site a new building, designed to meet the requirements of the community, on the present site. There are a number of alternative locations. However, choice of location will need to be set against criteria which would include opportunities to resolve other longstanding problems such as traffic circulation, and at the same time possibly secure enhancements to the environmental and social fabric of the Parish.

PROPOSAL 2:

It is proposed to identify a new site for the Community Hall in accordance with the criteria set out below.

- Maximise joint use with the school (and potential contribution towards capital funding and maintenance).
- Maximise distance from residential property.
- Acknowledge comments regarding new hall.
- Maximise opportunities for realising capital value tied up in land ownership in order to cross subsidise the cost of a new building.
- Seek to resolve other problems identified in the survey such as car parking issues, and bus circulation.
- Seek to create additional enhanced recreational and landscape benefits as part of any scheme.

The needs of people with hearing impairment

The Parish contains a significant number of older people, many of whom experience some degree of hearing loss. Comments have been made about the poor acoustics within the village halls and the church. It would be appropriate to consider the introduction of loop systems to help the hard of hearing which would enable more people to participate in activities .

PROPOSAL 3

To improve acoustic facilities within Diddlebury and Westhope Village Halls and the Church.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposals 1-2 will be implemented through a special Project Group. Key decisions will be required.

The Project Group will:

- Suggest a series of options for a new Community Hall in conjunction with partners – the school, representatives of user groups, local councillors, land owners, residents, etc. Potential funding sources will be explored.
- Recommend up to three preferred options, and following consultation will commission architects to carry out a broad feasibility study. Funding will be needed for this.
- Consult with the community and carry out second stage feasibility to ascertain probable costs of the preferred option. Will seek outline planning approval for the whole scheme, including any additional non-Village Hall elements. The Parish Council may need to consider the financial implications.
- Will arrange for the scheme design, detailed costing, and planning approvals.

Proposal number 3 will be implemented by seeking grant funding.



The Autumn Show is one of the social highlights of the year.



Traditional farm buildings in Middlehope.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposals 10, 11 and 12 will involve a wider area than the Diddlebury Parish Council area. There is a clear need to involve other parishes. The most appropriate way forward would be to develop a Communications Strategy for Corvedale which seeks to bring together a number of proposals related to communications and proposals identified under Economy. The Parish Council will therefore need to work with neighbouring parishes on a communications strategy for Corvedale.

COMMUNICATIONS

Most people get to hear about events and activities through word of mouth (72%), the Corvedale News (71%), through school for households with young people, and local notice boards. Households with young people are less satisfied with information available. Around 70% of households subscribe to The Corvedale News. The internet is used by 28% people. Over 50% have a medium to high interest in improved mobile phone reception and broadband access.



Classic red phone box at Westhope.

In view of the high penetration of the

PROPOSAL 10

Explore ways of increasing the circulation of Corvedale News

Corvedale News this is likely to remain the most effective communication medium – at least in the short term. Finding ways of improving its effectiveness – especially by ensuring more information to families with young people – and increasing circulation might be a priority.

Although Internet use is not very high currently, its use is likely to increase especially with the advent of Broadband. There will be opportunities to create a community website for the Parish (or indeed for the whole Corvedale area) which might be linked with tourism and business advertising and which would enable up to date information about Parish events to be made available.

PROPOSAL 11

Explore options for a website and visitor information.

Communications need to extend down to all levels and are important to people new to the area who will be without the typical networks. Creating an information 'Welcome' pack containing information and contacts within the Parish will help newcomers settle in and help recruit new people into activities and events which will benefit from additional support.

PROPOSAL 12

Prepare a welcome pack for people new to the area.

ROAD SAFETY, CRIME AND SECURITY

Several specific issues were identified in relation to improvements to pedestrian comfort and safety, and traffic circulation and parking around Diddlebury.



ROAD SAFETY ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE SURVEY:

Priorities include lower speed limits (63%), footpaths along the B4368 and Mill Lane (60%), traffic calming (46%), speed cameras and improvements to road junctions. A car park is required in Diddlebury (44%), because the village hall car park doubles up as a playground for the school. This causes difficulties when there are special events such as funerals in the church. Road access to the school needs improving (30% households with young people.)

The Parish Council has limited powers in relation to highway matters and the issue of vehicle speeds along the B4368 is currently the subject of consultation and investigation by Shropshire County Council. It will nevertheless continue to lobby for improvements which secure a safer environment for all road and footway users. Particular consideration should be given to Mill Lane as an important route to school, fronted by family homes, along a straight stretch of lane which encourages traffic speeds.

It may be possible for the PC to intervene in respect of securing improvements along Mill Lane by working with the Highway Authority – which would include contributing to the cost of improvements where this would either bring them forward in the highway improvement programme or raise the specification and quality above what might otherwise be a minimum solution. Various measures could include constructing missing footway links and/or introducing traffic calming by creating narrow pinch-points in the highway allied to an increased footway width in certain locations.

PROPOSAL 4 :

The Parish Council is working with the Highway Authority to secure improvements to the pedestrian environment in Mill Lane and will seek the necessary resources. The scheme may include introducing pinch points, traffic calming, speed restriction signs, and footway widening.

Car Parking

Car parking as a problem was identified only in relation to the use of the school, village hall and church where occasional functions – and sometimes overlapping functions – place pressure on the parking facilities available on the school playground, frequently resulting in overspill parking along approach roads. Local landowners allow overspill parking on their fields during some events that take place in the summer months.

However, problems remain – particularly for events that take place of an evening and in winter. Further parking problems are associated with travel to school where there are additional conflicts with bus parking and turning movements. Within the existing configuration of land uses there are no opportunities for either increasing car parking provision or resolving bus circulation difficulties. However, relocation of the Village Hall identified in the previous proposal may provide an opportunity to reconsider this matter.

PROPOSAL 5

It is proposed to address the car parking and bus circulation problems through the opportunities arising from the relocation of the community hall.



Looking towards The Tally Ho! public house at Bouldon.

LOCAL SERVICES

HEALTHCARE SERVICES:

The survey found some people had difficulties in accessing services such as NHS dentist (32%), doctor (9%), hospital (5%), and other services (3% or less). A few people are looking for counselling and Meals on Wheels. Around 42% said they were happy with the emergency services (52% don't know). The Parish Council has no direct responsibilities or influence in the provision of these services. Access difficulties to health care facilities is common in rural areas, especially in remoter parts of Shropshire. The Parish Council will work with the South Shropshire Strategic Partnership to deal with these service problems. Other means of improving services may be to create space and facilities to encourage or facilitate outreach clinics in places such as a village hall, and by developing public transport initiatives outlined in the above proposals.

OTHER SERVICES: Most people are satisfied with refuse collection, recycling, public telephones and the mobile library. Most wanted are window cleaners, gardening services and a mobile shop. There is little the Parish Council can do to affect provision of these services. However, the proposals in this plan aimed at improving communications will provide an improved opportunity for such services to be advertised and made known to a wider population.

PROPOSAL 9

The Parish Council will seek to improve access to health care and personal social services through the following means:

- Working through the South Shropshire Strategic Partnership.
- Improved public transport / buzzard services/ voluntary car schemes.
- Outreach clinics in an improved Community Hall.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposal 9 will be implemented through liaison with the appropriate agencies and also through the proposals outlined elsewhere for the improvements to Diddlebury Village Hall and public transport.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

TRANSPORT: 92% of respondents use a car, 12% walk, 8% use the bus, 5% have lifts, 3% cycle. While 25% **occasionally** experience difficulties getting in and out of the parish, 11% of households with people over 60 years old **often** have difficulties. 7% use the Buzzard occasionally (2% often) and 5% use public transport. 12% said they would use public transport and the Buzzard if it better met their needs. Key improvements suggested are timetable information, routes, frequency, and service to villages.

Like many rural communities in Shropshire, Diddlebury parish is poorly served by public transport – and most people have and use private vehicles for the majority of travel, either as owner-drivers or passengers. However, a comparatively large minority experience difficulty in getting around. Amongst these will be the elderly, disabled and young people. Existing transport links to nearby towns are often at times and to destinations which are not always convenient to those who wish to use them.

The Parish Council has a role in working to improve these links and timetables – although it is unlikely to succeed in intervening successfully in what are often commercial decisions. Its greatest chance of success will be through influencing agencies responsible for subsidising certain routes, developing voluntary car share schemes, and supporting innovations such as the Buzzard. A key area for consideration may be identifying specific services aimed at connecting to events in nearby towns and promoting these. A new Community Hall may become the focus of an enhanced Buzzard service bringing in people to special events regular clubs and activities .

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposal 8 will be implemented by appointing a project group or a champion who will take the initiative in working with public transport providers and potential user groups. Funding may be required to pilot new projects and services.

PROPOSAL 8

It is proposed to hold a Corvedale Consultation to identify appropriate routes and timetables that could be subsidised; to explore a comprehensive car share scheme; and to extend and promote the service provided by the Buzzard.

Crime and Security

Around 50% of people are concerned about theft and vandalism, while vehicle crime, drug abuse and noise disturbance worry about 30%. Measures such as more consultation between the police and residents, and Neighbourhood Watch received support from 50-70% people.



PROPOSAL 6

To explore Neighbourhood Watch and similar schemes with residents and the police.

Although noise and disturbance in particular does not appear to be a widespread problem, its effect on people's lives when it does happen should not be underestimated. Noise and disturbance may be a result of unthinking behaviour rather than arising from malicious intent. Consequently the Parish Council may be able to consider a variety of informal mechanisms aimed at reducing

PROPOSAL 7

To support the action being taken to reduce the levels of noise and disturbance arising from anti-social behaviour.

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proposal 4 will require a joint agreement with the Highway Authority. A commitment will be needed to make available funding in order to raise the profile and priority of this proposal.

Proposal 5 will be dealt with by the sub group set up to oversee the Community Hall proposals.

Proposal 6 will need to be led by specific sub groups set up to deal with specific locations.

Proposal 7 will be tackled through establishing a Youth Forum group and engaging younger age groups in decisions affecting them.

The Parish of Diddlebury



DIDDLEBURY



Parish Plan

**A Blueprint for the Future
(2004)**

Acknowledgments

The creation of this Parish Plan would not have been possible without funding support from the Countryside Agency. Diddlebury Parish Council have given their support to the venture from the outset. The Community Council of Shropshire have provided encouragement and advice with representation from Caroline Oakes. Corvedale School have allowed their photocopying resources to be used, hosted some of the meetings, and helped with the distribution of the survey and plan. Richard Loveridge of the South Shropshire Partnership has been the link with wider planning processes and will ensure this plan is represented in future strategic planning. Jill Ming proved an excellent consultant for the development and analysis of the household survey and was very generous in her allocation of time. Ross Stokes has given his time to lay out and edit the Plan and provide photographs. Many other people in the parish have helped in the consultation process and expressed a willingness to assist in the implementation of the plan.

Finally, thanks are due to the very committed and hard working Steering Group members: Doug Billingsley, Ray Budd, Catherine Crowther, John Farley, Sue Farrell, Nicky Fuller, Ian Hankinson (secretary), and Johanna Woodhouse.

Peter Bellamy, Chair of Diddlebury Parish Plan Steering Group.

