

# A Parish Plan for Williton

Traffic and  
Transport,  
Commerce,

Our  
Environment,

Community  
Facilities,

The Built  
Environment,

Children and  
Young People





# Contents

5. Introduction
7. Where is Williton?
8. Williton SWOT Analysis
9. The Consultation Process
10. The Parish Plan Key

## A Plan for Action

11. 1a Public Transport
13. 1b Traffic Management and Road Safety
15. 1c On Bike/Foot/Hoof
17. 1d Parking
19. 2a Village Centre
21. 2b Industry
23. 3a Open Spaces
25. 3b Conservation
27. 4 Housing
29. 5a Parish facilities
31. 5b The Memorial ground
33. 6a Skate and BMX Provision
35. 6b Other Activities
37. 7 Williton's Youth
  
39. What Happens Next ?

March 2006

# Introduction

This Parish Plan sets out a vision for Williton of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in, the design and quality standards new development should meet as well as how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future.

We realise that this plan is a working document and is for the future as well as for today. Action will now need to be actively undertaken on the recommendations not only by our Parish Council, but also by other bodies such as the County and District Councils and by residents in our own community.

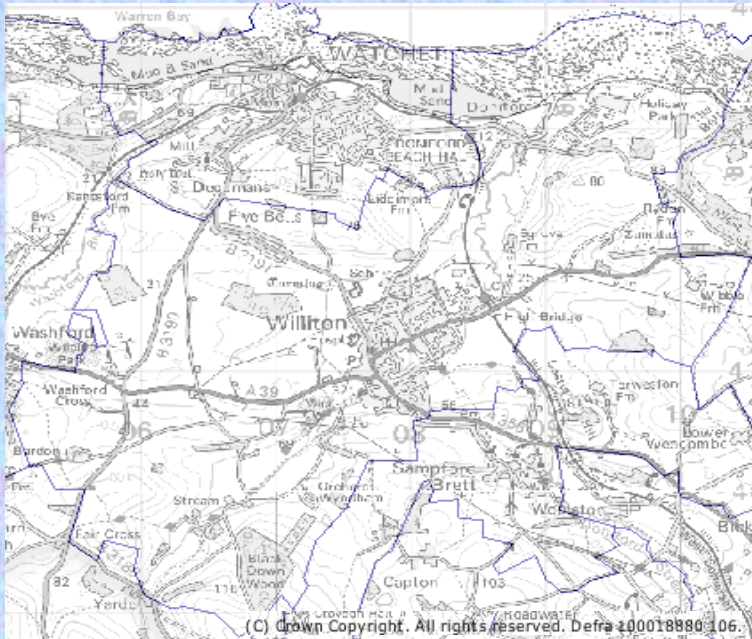
We trust that this plan will be adopted by the Parish Council and that, in time the proposed solutions to the issues raised through the consultation process are realised, making Williton a better place in which to live, work and play.

Elizabeth Peeks

Chairman, Williton Parish Plan

March 2006

# Where is Williton?



Population: 2710

## A Vision for Williton

“ A local distinct and vibrant community, nestled between Exmoor and the Quantocks; serving the needs and aspirations of today's and tomorrows residents, businesses and visitors, within a high quality, safe and user friendly environment”

# Williton SWOT analysis

## Strengths

On an established tourist trail  
High quality of life factors  
Strong residential market, with good quality private development  
Within Minehead and Taunton TTWA (travel to work area)  
Rich social and built heritage  
Low levels of vacancy and dereliction  
Low levels of crime and disorder

## Opportunities

Taunton TTWA (Travel To Work Area)/PUA (Principle Urban Area) is a major opportunity that can be exploited  
Young commuters seeking good quality residential accommodation  
Space for SME(Small and Medium Enterprises) businesses – need to attract high value and growth sectors  
Lower land and rental costs than Taunton  
Killick Way site in public ownership

## Weaknesses

Relatively low value business economy  
Poor mix of retail and town centre services  
Poor quality public realm and urban design in the village centre  
Traffic through the centre generates congestion and an unsafe environment  
Polarisation of wealth amongst residents  
Nationally identified as an area of deprivation

## Threats

An unimaginative central site development will scupper wider regeneration  
Negative attitudes from residents  
Potential planning application for another Supermarket could undermine current local retailers

# The Consultation Process

In 2002, Williton Parish Council decided that a vision for the village should be produced and more importantly, be implemented. It was decided that the 1997 village appraisal needed updating before a plan for the future could be devised. It was decided to take advantage of the grant aid available to produce a Parish Plan.

A model of Williton, produced by the children of Williton was used at the initial consultation events which were held at 10 venues across Williton. The comments from these events were analysed. By the time the poorly formatted results came back in a poor format, the group decided consult on a draft of a plan in March 2005.

## Parish Planning

Inclusive communities are those where everyone has a say in the future. That's why we want Parish Planning to be a priority for the South West. Parish Plans involve all sections of the community in planning for a better future, so ensuring meaningful and broad-based action plans that can really make a difference.

More than 200 South West parishes are already working on plans tailored to meet local needs. As a result, many communities are developing projects essential to improving their quality of life.

# The Parish Plan Key

## Issues

The issues were identified by the public through the consultation processes. They represent the issues and needs of this community.

## Solutions, Actions and Partners

The Parish Plan steering group have identified solutions to tackle issues raised through public consultation. Throughout this document possible actions to solve the issues have been identified. Some actions are already moving forward, but with others it will be up to the partners to initiate actions.

## Key for Timescale and Costs

Timescales	
<b>NOW</b>	Present - 1 year
<b>SOON</b>	1 - 3 years
<b>LATER</b>	Over 3 years
Costings	
<b>A</b>	£1 to £1499
<b>B</b>	£1500 to £9999
<b>C</b>	£10,000 to £24,999
<b>D</b>	£25,000 to £99,999
<b>E</b>	In excess £100,000

# 1a. Public Transport

Traffic & Transport

## Issues

- A lack of quality bus shelters in the parish
- Do buses travel routes at appropriate times that residents desire?

## Solutions

- New/improved shelters at parish bus stops
- Better dialogue needed with current and potential users of public transport.
- Community Car scheme

*(Already established through Parish Transport Grant funding)*

## Statistics

23% of households in Williton have no car  
(27% national average)

Williton has a railway station that is used by patrons of the West Somerset Railway

Journey time to Minehead by bus **20 mins**  
 Journey time to Minehead by train **48 mins**  
 Journey time to Taunton by Bus **37 mins**  
 Journey time to Bridgwater by Bus **97 mins**



## Policy Statement

A reliable and convenient public transport service is needed to serve the Parish

## Issue no.

1ai

## Actions

Identify a suitable and cost effective design to be used for bus stops/shelters in Williton.

Access funding streams for the provision of new shelters at North Street, Larviscombe/ Doniford Rd & Townsend vicinity.

## Suggested Partners

*Somerset County Council Rural transport partnership, Parish Council*

## Timescale & Cost

**NOW**

**NOW**  
**B**

# 1a. Public Transport

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>1aii</i>	Commission a “Transport Needs Survey” to identify any gaps in the provision of Public Transport within the Parish.	<i>Parish Plan group, Forum 21, SCC RTP</i>	<b>NOW</b> <b>B</b>

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Locate a bus stop at the Fire Station / Hospital
- Additional Bus Service for Long Street

# 1b. Traffic Management and Road Safety

Traffic & Transport

## Issues

- Speeding traffic in specific localities
- A high volume of vehicles travel through the parish centre along the A39 & A358.

## Solutions

- Improved / new traffic calming in the vicinity of:
  - The schools (St Peters / Danesfield)
  - Long Street / Brook Street / Tower Hill
  - High Street
- Investigate the feasibility of a new route linking the vicinity of Fore St/ North St junction to A39 (Mamsey locality)



## Policy Statement

Improvements to the road infrastructure is essential for road safety and to alleviate conflict between tourist traffic and local users

### Issue no.

1bi

### Actions

Identify the potential for traffic calming measures in the proximity of the two schools in Williton

### Suggested Partners

*Somerset County Council Highways, Parish Council, Williton Schools*

### Timescale & Cost

**NOW**

# 1b. Traffic Management and Road Safety

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>1bii</i>	<p>Identify and implement improved traffic calming in the following localities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Long Street</li> <li>- High Street</li> <li>- Tower Hill</li> <li>- Brook Rd</li> </ul> <p>The feasibility of an inner relief road is being assessed by WSDC as part of the redevelopment of Killick Way</p>	<p><i>SCC Highways, Williton Parish Council</i></p> <p><i>WSDC / SCC Highways Dept</i></p>	<p><b>NOW</b></p>

### Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- One way system within the Shell petrol filling station
- Improve country lanes throughout the parish
- A one-way system in Robert St and road to St Peters Church

# 1c. On Bike/Foot/Hoof

Traffic & Transport

## Issues

- The safety of residents and other users while using highways and byways.
- Williton is currently served by a poor network of footpaths and cycleways.

## Statistics

One permissive bridleway

There is no network of definite Bridleways in Williton

WSDC's "Cycle West Somerset" proposals could improve cycling infrastructure and linkages beyond Williton



## Solutions

- Safe cycle routes within the Parish
  - to Minehead, Watchet & along the A39 into Exmoor.
- Improve, enhance and expand the Parish Footpath Network
- Examine & evaluate the locations of all existing pedestrian crossings and any proposed as a result of the Consultation
- Improve street lighting in areas identified

## Policy Statement

Promoting safe alternatives to the motor vehicle and reducing possible conflict between different user groups

### Issue no.

*1ci*

Liase and contribute towards the Cycle West Somerset initiative.

*1cii*

Promote the public use of Watery Lane/Union Lane footpath .

### Actions

### Suggested Partners

*Cycle West Somerset  
Parish Council*

*Parish Council*

### Timescale &

Cost  
**NOW**

**NOW**  
**A**

# 1c. On Bike/Foot/Hoof

## Issue no.

*1ciii*

Appraise the potential of pedestrian crossing points in the vicinity of:

- Long Street / Memorial Ground
- Workhouse / Townsend
- Long Street / Brook Street Junction
- North Street at the Co-op / Butchers
- North Road at The Masons

*1civ*

Improve the street lighting in the following locations:

- North Rd
- Union Lane
- Croftways / Whitecroft
- The Green
- High Street
- Station Rd / Trading Estate

*1cv*

Liase with local equestrian users to identify a trail that encompasses gas works lane (footpath over Watchet hill).

## Actions

## Suggested Partners

*SCC Highways,  
Parish Council,*

*Parish Council, local  
electricity board,  
developer  
contributions*

*Equestrian users*

## Timescale &

Cost

**SOON**

**C**

**SOON**

**C**

**NOW**

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Cycle parking at Killick Way / Memorial Ground locality.



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# 1d. Parking

Traffic & Transport

## Issues

- More “Short-stay” spaces needed in the centre of Williton
- Disabled Parking
- Pay and Display
- Lack of Coach / Bus parking

## Statistics

Killick Way is the main pay and display car park in Williton

Number of coach parking spaces: 0

## Solutions

- Identify any locations within the Long Street locality for short-stay parking spaces
- Improved disabled parking in the parish entre
- Free car parking was identified as a top priority during parish consultation
- Improved on-street parking at the 2 schools
- Identify a suitable location for coach/bus provision

## Policy Statement

Ensure adequate provision and convenient parking facilities, available at the centre of Williton and in the vicinity of the two schools.

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>1di</i>	Identify “Short-stay” locations within the High Street/ Long Street area.	<i>Parish Plan group Parish Council SCC Highways</i>	<b>NOW</b>
<i>1dii</i>	Although disabled parking has been improved in Killick Way, more spaces should be sought.	<i>Parish Plan group</i>	<b>NOW</b>

# 1d. Parking

## Issue no.

*1diii*

Lobby Local authorities for the provision of a limited free car parking area within the Central site.

*1div*

Identify opportunities for better provision of safer “On-Street” parking at the two schools

*1dv*

Provision of coach/bus parking on the Killick Way locality as part of the Central Site redevelopment.

## Actions

## Suggested Partners

*WSDC,  
Parish Plan group*

*SCC Highways,  
Schools*

*WSDC Central Site  
working group*

## Timescale &

Cost  
**NOW**

**NOW**

**NOW**

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation



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# 2a. Village Centre

Commerce

## Issues

- Lack of retail variety
- WSDC Offices centralisation to Killick Way
- Enhancement of the built environment needed
- Poor visitor provision within the village centre

## Statistics

Outlets lost over the past 5 years include:  
1 Public house, Funeral Directors,  
Betting shop, Car dealership, dentist and a  
petrol station

Williton has no farmers market, A  
country market is regularly held  
in the Red Cross building.

Petrol station located in the centre



## Solutions

- Market stalls within the village centre
- Quality retail units needed to provide variety
- Village centre enhancements
- Resolve retail issues arising from consultation
- Better provision for visitors

## Policy Statement

The village centre, an easily accessible vibrant and  
buzzing centre at the heart of our local community.

## Issue no.

2ai

## Actions

Begin dialogue with Somerset Food Links about the possibility  
of developing the market stall project within the  
redevelopment of the Killick Way site.

## Suggested Partners

*Somerset Food Links,  
Parish Plan group,  
local enterprise*

## Timescale &

Cost

SOON

B

2aii

Identify more retail provision as part of the new plans for the  
Central site

*WSDC Central site  
team, Local business*

NOW

# 2a. Village Centre

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>2aiii</i>	Proactively attempt to retain and attract employment to the parish, including office work, social care and engineering/ hi-tech opportunities. Providing full and part time employment.	<i>WSDC Central Site working group</i>	<p><b>NOW</b></p> <p><b>SOON</b></p> <p><b>LATER</b></p>
<i>2aiv</i>	Identify enhancement opportunities for the Village Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improvements to the public realm</li> <li>- Shop front improvements</li> </ul>	<i>WSDC, Central site group, local business</i>	<b>NOW</b>
<i>2av</i>	Liase with local businesses to resolve the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chemist provision on Saturdays</li> <li>- Electricity / gas key meter top up.</li> </ul>	<i>Local Business</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>2avi</i>	Better signage and interpretation of Williton for visitors	<i>Local business/ Tourism promoters</i>	<p><b>SOON</b></p> <p><b>B</b></p>

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Suggestions of a national fast food outlet. (Local multiplier would be low)  
*For more information about local multipliers go <http://www.pluggingtheleaks.org>*



# 2b. Industry

Commerce

## Issues

- Lack of various sized employment units
- Low skilled local workforce
- The district has poor road links. Williton is well sited being situated at the A358 & A39 junction.

## Statistics

### High rate of Micro businesses in Williton

Nearest Job Centre+: **Minehead**

Key Industrial Sectors of employment:  
**Public Admin, Educ & Health: 36.3%**  
**Distribution, hotel, restaurant 27.6%**  
**Manufacturing 18.2%**



## Solutions

- Enhancement, modernisation of Roughmoor industrial estate (encouraging new businesses)
- “Tailor made and credible” support for existing businesses working in a deprived area
- Larger units needed to assist expansion
- Development of Williton tourist sector
- Better promotion of vocational opportunities in skilled industry sectors

## Policy Statement

Attracting new industry to Williton and actively supporting the retention, development and training needs of existing industry

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
2bi	Establish a Roughmoor Working Group to identify, prioritise and tackle issues affecting businesses on the estate.	<i>Local businesses, landowners &amp; WSDC</i>	<b>NOW</b>
2bii	Identify innovative ways of supporting existing businesses	<i>Local Commerce, WSDC, Som Business Link</i>	<b>NOW</b>

# 2b. Industry

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>2biii</i>	Proactively attempt to provide a range of accommodation for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business Start ups</li> <li>- Existing businesses who have outgrown their premises</li> </ul>	<i>Local landowners, WSDC Workspace Strategy. EU Funding</i>	NOW SOON LATER
<i>2biv</i>	Lobby West Somerset District Council to allocate more land for employment purposes within Williton.	<i>Parish Plan Group, Local Business Parish Council</i>	SOON LATER
<i>2bv</i>	Identify more ways of capitalising on the through flow of tourist traffic.	<i>Local business/ tourist bodies</i>	NOW SOON

Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Liaise with accommodation providers to investigate the potential of increased bed spaces within Williton



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# 3a. Open Spaces

Our environment

## Issues

- More information about the quality and amount of open space in Williton is needed.
- The Parish Plan consultation identified areas of open space residents wished to see retained

## Statistics

The character and environment of Williton are of good quality. .... To the east there are fine views of the Quantocks, and from Tower Hill views extend as far as Wales.... Careful protection of the surrounding open countryside is considered to be a matter of great importance to the Local Planning Authority.

*West Somerset District Local Plan 1998 deposit*

## Solutions

- Undertake a baseline data exercise of open spaces
- Lobby Local Authorities to retain areas of open space that residents have identified
- Integrate public art into various locations around Williton

## Policy Statement

To retain and enhance open space in and around Williton

## Issue no.

*3ai*

## Actions

Undertake Worksheet S6 (Public open space) of the market towns healthcheck to provide detailed base line data.

## Suggested Partners

*Parish Plan group /  
Parish Council /  
Local residents*

## Timescale & Cost

**NOW**

# 3a. Open Spaces

## Issue no.

## Actions

## Suggested Partners

## Timescale &

*3aii*

Lobby WSDC to retain the following open spaces in the new local development framework:

- The Bury & adjoining field
- Rear of Catwell / Townsend
- The Memorial Ground
- The racing field
- Quarry/Rifle Club

*Parish Plan group,  
WSDC,  
Parish Council*

Cost  
**NOW**  
**SOON**

*3aiii*

Investigate legislation surrounding Village Greens to identify ways of protecting open spaces.

*WSDC  
Parish Council*

**NOW**

*3aiv*

Identify opportunities to purchase areas of open space in private ownership.

*WSDC  
Parish Council*

**SOON**  
**C/D**

*3av*

Use public art as a positive enhancement to areas identified through public consultation:

- Memorial Ground/Killick Way/central site
- Railway Station

*WSDC Parish Council  
Williton Station*

**SOON**  
**B**



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# 3b. Conservation

*Our environment*

## Issues

- Threats to conservation and wildlife areas within our parish
- Lack of recognition and preservation of “Old Williton”

## Statistics

“The village does not have a designated Conservation area, however it contains many Listed Buildings and several scheduled ancient monuments around the main roads. There are a number of trees.. in and around the village... all should be given consideration in the future development of the village”

*West Somerset Local plan (1998 deposit)*



## Solutions

- i Protect and conserve wildlife locations around the Parish
- ii Protection of existing trees in some locations
- iii New tree planting
- iv Maintenance of the Doniford Stream
- v Production of a Williton Design Statement

## Policy Statement

To protect and enhance the wildlife areas in and around Williton, together with the built environment of Old Williton

## Issue no.

*3ai*

## Actions

- Establish a working group to produce a conservation plan for the following areas:
- Rear of Catwell
  - Egrove farm
  - Gas Works Lane

## Suggested Partners

*Local Residents  
Parish Council  
WSDC  
SCC  
Environment Agency*

## Timescale &

Cost  
**NOW**  
**SOON**  
**C**

# 3b. Conservation

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>3bii</i>	<p>Protect trees that make a significant impact on our local surroundings (The following have been identified through Parish Consultation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rear of Catwell / Townsend</li> <li>- In and around the Memorial Ground</li> <li>- Doniford Stream area</li> <li>- Egrove Farm</li> <li>- Central site</li> </ul>	<p><i>Local Landowners, Parish Council WSDC</i></p>	<p><b>NOW</b> <b>SOON</b> <b>LATER</b></p>
<i>3biii</i>	<p>Initiate new tree planting rear of Catwell.</p>	<p><i>Local Landowners Parish Council</i></p>	<p><b>SOON</b> <b>A</b></p>
<i>3biv</i>	<p>Produce and implement an action plan for the Doniford Stream to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dredging</li> <li>Litter picking</li> </ul>	<p><i>Local Residents Parish Council WSDC Environment Agency</i></p>	<p><b>NOW</b> <b>SOON</b></p>
<i>3bv</i>	<p>Produce a “Design Statement” for Williton</p>	<p><i>WSDC / Parish / SCC</i></p>	<p><b>LATER</b> <b>C / D</b></p>

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Designate the area around Bridge Street & St Peters Church as a conservation area.



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# 4. Housing

## Issues

- More homes needed for:
  - families
  - elderly and young people
- Opposition to building on land rear of Catwell

## Statistics

Pensioners living alone: **21.6% (Williton)**  
 (Census 2001)      **14.4% (UK):**

Average house Price (Oct-Dec 04):

Detached: **TA4 4: £313,250**

**UK avg £282,076**

Semi-Det: **TA4 4 £204,500**

**UK avg £167,143**

Terraced: **TA4 4 £ too few sales**

**UK avg £137,805**

Flats: **TA4 4 £ too few sales**

**UK avg £ 171,582**



## Solutions

- Innovative and sustainable designs for new build and conversions
- Work with local planning authority and landowners to deliver:
  - more provision for the elderly
  - more provision for families
  - affordable homes for Young People

## Policy Statement

Ensuring a variety of residential accommodation, primarily to meet the needs of the local population.

### Issue no.

*4i*

Initiate flats above shops project

*4ii*

Produce and implement a Design Statement for Williton  
 (This may be as part of the Area Action Plan for Williton)

### Actions

### Suggested Partners

*Property Owners /  
Landlords*

*Parish Council  
WSDC Policy team*

### Timescale &

Cost

**SOON**

**NOW**

**B**

# 4. Housing

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
4iii	Investigate the provision of more elderly units at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rear of North Street/Mamsey</li> <li>- Rear of Quantock Grove</li> </ul>	<i>RSLs (Registered Social Landlords)</i> <i>Private developers</i> <i>Parish Council,</i> <i>WSDC</i>	<b>NOW</b> <b>SOON</b>
4iv	Investigate the provision of family sized residential at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rear of Egrove Way</li> <li>- Rear of North Street</li> <li>- Rear of Quantock Grove</li> <li>- Rear of Mamsey House</li> </ul>	<i>RSLs</i> <i>Private developers</i> <i>Parish Council,</i> <i>WSDC</i>	<b>NOW</b> <b>SOON</b>
4v	Investigate the feasibility of a supported housing scheme for Young People.	<i>RSLs</i> <i>Private developers</i> <i>Parish Council,</i> <i>WSDC</i>	<b>NOW</b>

Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Concerns surrounding the high proportion of RSL housing currently in Williton



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# 5a. Parish Facilities

Community Facilities

## Issues

- Lack of a well resourced community building
- Poor coverage of Williton on the internet
- retention of public toilets in Williton
- Lack of visual and physical awareness of lifelong learning opportunities

## Statistics



Concept of how a community building might look

## Solutions

- “Bottom out” the feasibility of having a community building.
- A comprehensive Parish website with various uses
- Lobby to keep Williton public toilets.
- Investigate better promotion of community IT facilities and possible opportunities for expansion of service provision

## Policy Statement

The provision of facilities in Williton should meet the expectations that a rural service centre warrants

### Issue no.

*5ai*

### Actions

Review stakeholder analysis to discuss/discard the potential for a community building being situated in the Parish

### Suggested Partners

*All stakeholders of a community building in Williton*

### Timescale & Cost

**NOW**  
**B**

# 5a. Parish Facilities

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>5aii</i>	<p>Initiate a Project Working Group to manage a Parish website project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resource for community information (links to organisations)</li> <li>- Tourism promotion to</li> <li>- Providing local voluntary and community sector groups with Web space</li> </ul>	<p>Local Residents, Parish Council, Voluntary &amp; Community groups WSDC</p>	<p><b>NOW</b> <b>B</b></p>
<i>5aiii</i>	<p>Lobby to keep public toilets in Williton open and to include opening at night</p>	<p>Parish Council Local users</p>	<p><b>NOW</b></p>
<i>5aiv</i>	<p>Work with SCC lifelong learning to identify ways of attracting residents to increase their IT skills</p>	<p>SCC Adult Learning.</p>	<p><b>NOW</b> <b>A</b></p>

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- An internet café somewhere within the village centre



# 5b. The Memorial Ground

Community Facilities

## Issues

- The ground is an under used community asset
- Poor quality play equipment
- Consultation identified the ground as a location for skate facilities
- Residents have identified the Memorial Ground as a location for a community building



## Solutions

- Expand the potential users of the Memorial Ground, to celebrate this community asset
- “Bottom out” the feasibility of having a community building within or adjacent to the Memorial Ground
- Provide a performing space on the ground
- Improve the quality of play equipment

## Policy Statement

To make the Memorial Ground an attractive, accessible and well used focal point for Williton

## Issue no.

*5bi*

Identify current and potential user groups of the Memorial Ground

*5bii*

Undertake a stakeholder analysis to discuss/discard the potential for a community building being sited on the ground

## Actions

## Suggested Partners

*Mem. Ground Trustees*

*Stakeholders partnership*

## Timescale & Cost

**NOW**

**NOW**  
**A**

# 5b. The Memorial Ground

## Issue no.

*5biii*

## Actions

Encourage and implement an events programme for the Memorial Ground to possibly include:

- Funfair
- Open-air theatre
- Music concerts/discos
- Fetes

## Suggested Partners

Voluntary & community groups, Parish Council, Artlife, Visit Exmoor Events and Festivals Co-ordinator,

## Timescale & Cost

SOON  
B

*5biv*

Improve existing equipment in the play area and increase the facilities of the play area

- Longer monkey Bars
- More swings
- Mat at the end of the slide
- Assault course

*(The above suggested during St. Peters School consultation.)*

Local users (Surestart, Schools), Memorial Ground trustees, WSDC Leisure and Community

SOON  
C

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- A hard surfaced footpath across the Memorial Ground between the Robert Street entrance and the Catwell entrance



*A Parish Plan for Williton*

# 6a. Skate & BMX Provision

*Sport & Entertainment*

## Issues

- Skate facilities within Williton were identified as the top priority during consultation!
- Improved sporting opportunities needed



## Solutions

- Encourage and support proposals from local users for improved skate and BMX provision
- Identify fundraising opportunities for the provision of skate and bike equipment

## Policy Statement

Disaffection amongst some young people can result in anti-social behaviour. Provision of lifestyle sports facilities can counter this imbalance

## Issue no.

*6ai*

## Actions

Work with users and Local landowners to identify and acquire a site for skate and BMX use.

*6aii*

Work with local users to prioritise what equipment should be put in any facility.

## Suggested Partners

Local users,  
landowners,  
Parish Council  
WSDC Leisure and  
Community

## Timescale &

Cost

**NOW**

**B**

**SOON**

**C / D**

# 6a. Skate & BMX Provision

## Issue no.

*6a iii*

## Actions

Once plans and costings for the facility have been made.  
Encourage and support local user groups to undertake fundraising activities

## Suggested Partners

Local users  
WSDC Leisure and  
Community  
Open4community

## Timescale & Cost

SOON  
C / D

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- Ice Skating was identified as a popular strand through the parish consultation



# 6b. Other Activities

## Issues

- A strong desire for parish swimming facilities
- A demand for improved leisure facilities and play equipment within the Parish
- A desire to improve tennis facilities to include a tennis pavilion

## Statistics

Nearest Leisure centre: Minehead

Nearest Swimming pool: Watchet

## Solutions

- Investigate the possibility of swimming facilities as part of one of the Williton educational establishments.
- Investigate the feasibility of attracting a funfair to coincide with another Parish Event
- Improving the tennis facilities within the parish (possible provision of facilities that can be used by adjoining parishes)

## Policy Statement

To provide an ample range of facilities for parish residents to increase their physical activity

### Issue no.

*6bi*

### Actions

Liaise with the Local Education Authority and West Somerset District Council to investigate the feasibility of a swimming facility in Williton

### Suggested Partners

*LEA, WSDC, Parish Council, Potential user groups*

### Timescale &

Cost  
**SOON**  
**E**

# 6b. Other Activities

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>6bii</i>	Identify an event that could be supplemented by the provision of a funfair	<i>Parish Council, Funfair operators, young people</i>	<u>Cost</u>  NOW A
<i>6biii</i>	Establish a working group to take forward the proposals of enhanced tennis provision in Williton	<i>Potential users, WSDC Leisure and Community Team, Lawn Tennis Association</i>	NOW SOON D

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- More games of Cricket in Williton during the summer months



# 7. Williton's Youth

Children & Young People

## Issues

- Lack of skate and BMX facilities in Williton
- Limited out of school activities for the youth
- Lack of dialogue with young people

## Statistics

255 respondents identified skate facilities as a priority. The highest response rate within Parish Plan consultation.

Young people use the changing rooms on the Memorial Ground as a place for activities. The building is of poor quality.



## Solutions

- Seriously consider skate & BMX provision in Williton.
- Improve and enhance the existing provision for young people at the changing rooms on the Memorial Ground
- Initiate the provision of a Youth Council

## Policy Statement

To continue to provide a wide range of initiatives with a focus on disaffected groups tackling barriers to youth participation.

## Issue no.

7i

## Actions

- Establish a skate working party to:
- Identify/acquire land for a skate facility
  - Identify equipment to locate in a facility
  - Fundraise

## Suggested Partners

*Youth Action Group  
WSDC Community  
and Leisure, Parish  
Council, Local  
landowners*

## Timescale & Cost

**NOW**  
**B**

# 7. Williton's Youth

<u>Issue no.</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Suggested Partners</u>	<u>Timescale &amp; Cost</u>
<i>7ii</i>	<p>Identify ways of improving the provision of young peoples facilities on the Memorial Ground or identify another site for youth provision in Williton.</p> <p>Think of ways to fundraise for better equipment / facilities.</p>	<p><i>Youth Action Group, Parish Council, WSDC Community and Leisure</i></p>	<p><i>SOON C / D</i></p>
<i>7iii</i>	<p>Work with young residents to establish a Youth Council with a budget.</p>	<p><i>Youth Action Group, Parish Council, WSDC</i></p>	<p><i>NOW A</i></p>

## Other ideas arising from Parish Consultation

- A youth drop-in centre located in an empty shop

# What happens next?

The Parish Plan is not just a pile of paper with a glossy leaflet – it helps set out the future direction for the Parish.

In your hands is the power to inform planning guidance, opportunities to build partnerships with agencies and a tool to attract funders to address needs outlined within. The time has now come to take hold of the plan and start implementing it.

# How you can help

This plan has been produced by two phases of consultation with Williton's residents.

Each action within the plan has the potential to be a project; some of these actions can be delivered by agencies with the support of residents. If you would like to assist in delivering a specific action then you can speak to the Williton Parish Clerk or West Somerset District Council's Market Towns Regeneration Officer.

Photographs supplied by:

Mrs P Holden

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# A Parish Plan for Williton



## Contact Details

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