

LINGFIELD **TOWARDS** **FELCOURT**
2010
VILLAGE PLAN

LINGFIELD & FELCOURT VILLAGE PLAN 2010



FINAL REPORT

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Front illustration by Lewis Reynolds (when 8)

Your Community ...

Your Survey ...

Your Action Plan

Dear Resident,

The Lingfield and Felcourt Village Plan 2010, launched in February 2003 to ascertain residents' views on the future of their community, is now complete.

A series of well-defined issues were identified by many local residents, following our initial request for comments. These issues became the heart of the Questionnaire and included such topics as Environment, Social, Safety, Housing, Traffic and Transport Services.

From this, 50 key questions were identified. The Village Plan Steering Group, made up of local people representing a range of different ages and interests, then distributed the final Questionnaire to every household in Lingfield and Felcourt. Once complete, these were collected or returned to the Community Centre and the answers collated to produce this Village Plan 2010 Report.

The distribution, collection and collation of all this information has been no mean feat, and those who have assisted in this mammoth task deserve our congratulations. The response has been encouraging and reflects the community's broad interests.

To help launch the Village Plan, a children's poster competition was held at the Community Centre. The winning painting by Lewis Reynolds of Felcourt has been used for the cover of the Plan.

We would like to thank everyone for taking part in the Village Plan, to residents for their time in completing and returning the Questionnaire, to the team of deliverers and collectors, to those who collated all the information, and to the Countryside Agency and the sponsors for supporting the production of this Report.

The Lingfield & Felcourt
Village Plan 2010 Steering Group

March 2005



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Photographs were taken between 1999/2000

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A Brief History of Lingfield and Felcourt

The Parish of Lingfield, which includes Felcourt, lies in the extreme south eastern corner of Surrey, with an approximate population of 5,200. Close to both Gatwick Airport and the M25 (junction 6), with its own railway station offering a direct line to central London, Lingfield is still very much a country parish.

There is a record of certain lands in Lingfield in a will as far back as 960 A.D. during the reign of King Edgar, although more detailed records of the parish appear in the 14th and 15th centuries when the great Wealden forest was being developed for agriculture and the iron industry.

The Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, which was rebuilt in 1431, is the largest church in the Perpendicular style in Surrey. The original 14th century tower still remains, and the church contains the finest collection of brasses in Surrey.

To the south of the church sits the oldest of the original settlements of Lingfield, known as the Old Town and boasting a wealth of beautifully preserved buildings – some former shops but now all houses – dating from the 16th to the 18th centuries. Whilst to the north of the church lies ‘The Library’, housed in the Old Guest House of the College for Secular Chaplains built in 1431. This hall-house is all that remains of the original College but an 18th century farmhouse, called the Colledge, marks the site of the original establishment.

The second settlement of the village lies around Plaistow Street, or the western entrance to Lingfield with the adjacent village pond. This area boasts St Peter’s Cross which has been around for 500 years, together with The Cage or lock-up, which was added in 1773 as a temporary gaol, and last used in 1882 to detain a poacher.

Although a semi-rural community, today, Lingfield is famous for its racecourse with regular race days and all-weather racetrack. More residents commute to work in London and its suburbs, or to Gatwick and Crawley, than work in agriculture.

Jacks Bridge Hill leads south to what was Felcourt Heath then Beacons Heath. Rent on six hides of land at Felcourt Manor was paid to the Abbey of Hyde at the Abbot’s Manor of Felcourt, until the Dissolution in 1534/5. In 1539 it was granted by Henry VIII in fee to Sir John Gresham, eventually being divided into four after passing through various owners. The road is now edged with individual residential homes plus some open fields and farmland, and continues south past The Grange until it crosses the county border into West Sussex at East Grinstead.

The expansion of Lingfield has brought many changes. The village boasts a busy High Street and centre offering essential local amenities, with a thriving community spirit with many rural, social and sporting activities. Two Nature Reserves with a Tree Trail give residents and school children the opportunity of walking and observing local wild life and flora in a natural habitat in open countryside.



Lingfield and Felcourt Village Plan 2010

The purpose of the Village Plan is to highlight issues that *you*, the community, want to address. The results will form the basis of an Action Plan that can be taken forward. This is part of the Countryside Agency's national initiative to encourage an active review by local communities in order to address issues flagged up by residents.

The next stage in the process is for the Action Plan Steering Group to investigate ways of implementing the issues raised.



The Village Plan has been produced thanks to a grant of £5,000 from the Countryside Agency, plus £500 donation from the Parish Council along with sponsorship from local businesses and volunteer help.

A total of 1813 Questionnaires was hand-delivered throughout the Parish of Lingfield and Felcourt, with 839 returned (46.28%). Percentages and numbers are based on responses received. The aim is to hand-deliver a copy of the Lingfield Village Plan 2010 Final Report to every household.

Some interesting statistics resulting from the first 5 questions:

Locality: 11% of respondents live in Felcourt and 89% in Lingfield.

Time in the Community: A high number of residents have lived within the area for a considerable period, indicating the pleasant quality of life offered by our country parish. Of those who completed the Questionnaire:

25% answered that they had been living here between 1 and 5 years

8% have lived here for 5-10 years

35% have lived in the area for more than 10 years

32% said they had been residents for longer than 21 years.



STATISTICS

Size of Household: Of those who answered the question: *How many people live in your household?* 26% replied only one occupant, whereas 39% said there were two; 16% answered three; 12% four; 6% five; and 1% six, respectively.

Age of residents in each Household:

5% aged from 0 to 4	18% aged from 25 to 44	10% aged from 65 to 74
16% aged from 5 to 15	20% aged from 45 to 59	9% aged from 75 to 84
12% aged from 16 to 24	6% aged from 60 to 64	4% aged from 85 +

Gender: With regard to the balance of the sexes, there are 2 girls for each boy aged 5 to 15, but from 45 through to 85 + the ratio of males to females is much more even.





Protecting our villages

When asked what residents felt was most important to them about living in Lingfield or Felcourt, your local environment topped the list at 933. The location (794) and the community (778) followed closely.

Respondents said the most important way to help protect and enhance the local environment are:

Re-cycling	1144
Traffic regulation and control	912
Improved public transport	645
Energy saving	297
Improved rights of way	281
Local community composting	276
Car sharing	137

The condition of local pavements

Replies indicated that, on the whole, people felt the pavements were user friendly for wheelchairs and pushchairs, although there are areas where restricted width is a problem. Those who felt pavements were poor did, however, indicate where they were too narrow and felt to be unfriendly not only for wheelchairs and pushchairs but for disabled pedestrians as well (see summary at end of report). The surfaces on many pavements throughout the parish are poor, being uneven or rough, with too many potholes. The amount of dog fouling was felt to be totally unacceptable.

Particular concern was raised about the lack of parking spaces, the illegal parking of cars on pavements and footpaths and parking on single or double yellow lines. The point was also made that there is little provision for wheelchair access to the village shops. The steps into the older Lingfield village shops were not designed to meet requirements for wheelchairs, but traders are taking measures to make this easier.



M E N T

Noise disturbance

Responses showed the major anxiety for residents to be Gatwick aircraft noise and the need to monitor and resist the increased number of flights and expansion of Gatwick. The concerns you listed indicating those matters causing growing annoyance were:

Gatwick aircraft noise	1106
Traffic noise	717
Late night private firework displays (fine around 5 Nov, but not all year)	429
Clay pigeon shooting	128

Other comments by a large number of residents included:

- Crowd noise and loud music from pubs
- Groups hanging around the pond and centre of Lingfield at night
- Unfriendly bonfires in the Summer

Your Key Issues

- enforce penalties for dog walkers who do not clear dog fouling left by their pets on footpaths, pavements, grass verges, etc.
- more regular grass cutting, with better sweeping up
- more extensive and regular clearance of litter, including re-cycling bins
- extend re-cycling facilities to include plastics
- local community composting facilities
- important to protect our existing trees, replace when required; hedges and overhanging trees should be cut back and kept short and tidy
- removal of graffiti and repair of vandalised property
- more community planting, tubs, etc., to enhance village





The decline of local services and facilities is recognised as one of the greatest threats facing rural communities today. The Countryside Agency's Survey of Rural Services 2000 identified that 546 post offices closed between 1997 and 2000 and that 78% and 72% respectively of rural settlements do not have a general store or food shop.



Lingfield is relatively well served and has access to many important services including Post Office, Bank, Primary School, Doctors' Surgery, Dentist, shops and other local services.

However, Felcourt residents would welcome the re-introduction of a village shop/Post Office.

Lingfield also has a thriving community centre providing a range of social and educational activities such as pre-school nursery, Brownies, Rainbows, Writers Group, Craft Group, aerobic classes as well as general meeting facilities. The centre also has

an IT/Computer Suite providing Internet access and computer training. However, the village surgery and primary school, in particular, are under significant pressure and have found it increasingly difficult to cope with increased numbers in recent years.

POLICE SERVICES

An overwhelming response from local residents stated that a greater visible police presence was needed locally. The following table shows how residents would like anti-social behaviour to be addressed:

A greater police presence	1031
More activities for young people	750
More street lighting	518
More drug/drink education/prevention	493
CCTV	469
Better police consultation	385

Responses indicated that vandalism (1114), graffiti (935) and theft (875) were of the greatest concern. 215 people already belong to Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, a further 425 indicated they would like to, although 389 did not.

ICES

ENHANCEMENT OF THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Q.17 Should facilities in Lingfield and Felcourt be improved?

Pedestrians	708
Wheelchairs	534
Cyclists	499
Pushchairs	431
The partially sighted	401
Access to premises	257



Improved facilities for pedestrians included requests for footpath along the East Grinstead Road to Jacksbridge into Felcourt and also along Crowhurst Road from Station Road, automatic doors (e.g. at the surgery) and better access to the shops and library.

Post Office

The village post office is most commonly used for basic postal services such as purchasing stamps and postage of letters and parcels. The number of people who use the post office for personal finances including payment of bills, savings accounts and giro deposits is also significant, identified by 778 respondents.

Collection of information leaflets and application forms such as travel insurance, passports and driving licences is also common.

Comparatively few respondents (181) used the service for benefits such as pension and other allowances. This is surprising in view of the elderly age structure of the village with 23% of residents over the age of 60 (Government Census), although it may reflect the recent trend for benefits to be paid directly into bank accounts.

Your key issues –

- Extension of pavements where traffic endangers walkers
- Improved and more visible police presence
- Wider variety of retail outlets, in particular, clothes shop, haberdashery, and different restaurants, e.g. Italian, wine bar, bistro
- Additional adult education facilities, after school clubs and holiday play schemes
- More flexible public transport, with times linked to after school activities

Parking

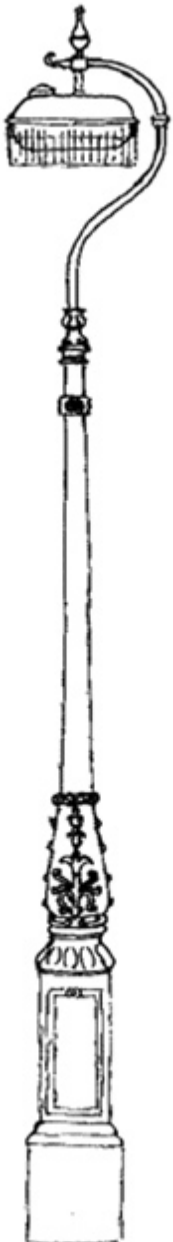
The Questionnaire addressed the problem of traffic congestion in the centre of Lingfield - identified by a third of all respondents as a major problem – together with possible ways to deal with it.

981 people said that more car parking space was needed.

270 indicated a problem with cars blocking the entrance to their properties. This reflects the roads where houses pre-dated private car ownership, e.g.

Vicarage Road, Station Rd., and the shortage of car parks in the village centre. However, although so many people asked for more car parking, it

should be recognised that it will be difficult to identify a suitable site due to lack of available sites within the village and surrounding Green Belt restrictions.



Lighting and pedestrian safety

51% felt that more street lighting was needed - 20% wanted more environmentally sensitive lights - whilst 39% felt that the existing lighting was adequate.

16% want additional pedestrian crossings and 13% more pavements.

13% of respondents asked for more cycle paths in Felcourt and Lingfield.

Road Safety

East Grinstead Road attracted the greatest response for action to improve road safety on local roads, followed by the High Street and Station Road. It is interesting to note that all three roads are affected by on-street parking and, as a result, regular congestion. Surrey County Council Highways officers and the police have always said that parked cars are the greatest deterrent to speeding traffic!

Other comments indicated Vicarage Road, Blackberry Road and Bakers Lane/Selbys to be areas of concern.

HIGHWAYS



Traffic Calming

Q.24 Do you think that traffic problems in Lingfield and Felcourt are related to any of the following?

Lack of parking	829
General congestion	810
Lorry traffic	717
Traffic speed	606
Need for traffic regulation	466
Need for more public transport	348

From the above, it is apparent that next to the lack of parking spaces and general congestion, the number of heavy lorries using the roads is a major issue. This is followed by traffic speed. 23% felt that traffic calming would help to control traffic problems. However, from comments made, residents are divided between those who favour road humps and those who do not.

Your key issues –

- Lack of enforcement of current laws to control speeding and illegal parking, and to prevent inconsiderate parking
- Rat run traffic from the A22 and school run traffic in term time
- Lorries using the B2028 as a through route
- Traffic calming, particularly along Felcourt Road
- Provision for more car parks
- Limited parking times in High Street parking bays
- More and improved street lighting







CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

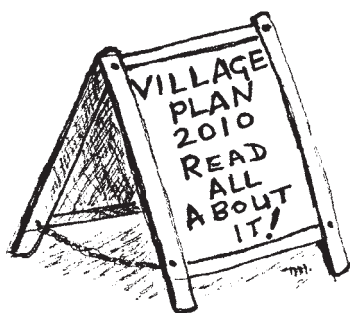
One of the most recognisable features of Lingfield and Felcourt is the number and range of social activities for residents. These range from affiliated organisations such as Women's Institutes, Sports Association, Scouts and Guides to more specific groups including Horticultural Society, Alcoholics Anonymous, RH7 History Society, Writers Group, Flower Club and the Lingfield Silver Band.



The parish is also well served by voluntary groups for all ages from Cubs, Beavers, Rainbows and Brownies to 'Meals on Wheels', Lunch Club, 'Darby and Joan' and Marathon bus.

However, the village lacks a range of courses associated with larger settlements such as cookery, engineering and other vocational courses provided in nearby towns such as East Grinstead and Crawley. The village also lacks any purpose-built leisure centre. This clearly means that residents have to travel outside the parish to access these facilities.

GETTING INFORMATION



'Community News' is most commonly used by residents to obtain information on forthcoming social events in Lingfield and Felcourt, identified by over one fifth of respondents, followed by free newspapers and word of mouth.

FACILITIES FOR THE YOUNG

Many additional comments at the end of the Questionnaire included the need for additional facilities for young people of all ages under 16 – pre-school groups and for teenagers in particular. Improved and updated facilities at Talbot Road and Jenners Field play areas were requested.

ACTIVITIES

SPORTS

Swimming was found to be the most requested sports activity identified by more than one third of respondents, followed by tennis, badminton and golf. Football, running and cricket were mentioned less by respondents. This is surprising in view of the fact that these are three of the most accessible and long established sports in the village, but may reflect the level of opportunities already provided.



The popularity of swimming was also reflected in people's response to new development with 673 residents supportive of a village swimming pool.

The use of sports facilities outside Lingfield and Felcourt varies considerably. Participation in bowling, hockey and rugby was rare with less than 10% response. This contrasts with the use of leisure centres and swimming pools where 52% and 64% respectively of respondents used facilities outside the village, mostly on a weekly or occasional basis.

Other Social activities

A wide range of alternative social activities was suggested by residents with cycling, walking and rambling the three most common. A number of other activities were identified as being of interest including arts and crafts, languages, theatre, book clubs and amateur dramatics.

Your key issues –

- Provision of local swimming pool
- Access to and promotion of local walks
- Visits to shops and/or cultural centres outside the parish
- Development of local interest clubs, e.g. amateur dramatics
- More provision for young people under 16
- Improved and updated facilities of children's play areas



Protection of the Green Belt

Over the past five years, whilst there has been little development of Felcourt due to rigorous defence of the Green Belt by local planners, Lingfield has seen several areas of residential development – the most recent being the former Geest site in Station Road and the former scrapyard in Lingfield Common Road. Earlier, there has been development on sites off Vicarage Road and Bakers Lane. Residents feel it is important to protect Lingfield's Conservation Areas.

Housing and the environment

An overwhelming majority of residents responding (1063) judged that more new housing would spoil the environment in Lingfield and Felcourt.

Whilst most people indicated that difficulty in moving to different types of accommodation did not apply to them, 225 respondents identified house price as a material factor. 96 felt there was a shortage of suitable accommodation to buy.

335 said there is a need for low cost housing, and 202 wanted more low cost or housing association dwellings. 228 said that sales should be restricted to local people. This may be a reflection of the cost of small housing in the area, and difficulties which this inevitably creates for local young first-time buyers.

New Housing

641 people felt there should be no further housing in Lingfield and Felcourt, but the majority felt that, where new buildings received planning permission, they should be put either on brownfield sites (575) or infilling between existing houses (302) rather than on Green Belt land.

Concern was expressed by many that the existing infrastructure – school places, doctors' surgery, dentist – was insufficient to cope with any substantial increase in housing.



Future development

Q. 41 Which types of development would you support in Lingfield and Felcourt?

A local swimming pool	673
Small groups of houses	351
Retail	293
Light industrial	138
Offices	97

These figures indicate continued support for a village centre offering a mix of business, retail and residential opportunities.

In a community which states that the main sporting activity is swimming, it should not be surprising that 673 felt that a local swimming pool would be desirable. However, a swimming pool may be an expensive facility to fund and maintain locally.



Your key issues -

- Limit new housing
- Where housing is permitted, encourage low cost dwellings
- Preserve the Green Belt and Lingfield's Conservation Areas
- Investigate provision of a local swimming pool/swimming facilities
- Investigate provision of school places, doctors' surgery and dentists





Access to local and neighbouring services

Although there was a relatively low response to this section, there was an overwhelming indication that residents (818) had no problem using local facilities – shops, chemist, etc. This may be a reflection of the very good service given by local shops. 17 people said that on occasion they had difficulty getting to hospital, and 9 often did.

1066 people said they used the car as their main method of transport and only 141 travelled on public bus services. 262 people had occasional problems accessing entertainment or social functions outside the area, whilst 90 often experienced difficulties.

Public Transport

The following table shows the summary of responses to the Questionnaire:

Q. 47 How often do you use the following services?

Public bus service - never	782
- monthly	97
- weekly	64
- daily	32
Train - never	329
- monthly	443
- weekly	107
- daily	157
Coach - never	784
(inc school - monthly	19
transport) - weekly	7
- daily	24
Community Bus - never	811
- monthly	20
- weekly	8
- daily	3

Where people have no access to a car, then efficient local public transport becomes an essential feature of their life.

AND SERVICES

Public bus services

Approximately half of those who responded to Question 48 (*How do you rate the public bus services?*) expressed no opinion, which may reflect the low usage of local bus services.

The high level of car ownership has been reflected in the expressed need for more car parks and complaints about congestion in local roads from parked cars. This may account for the relatively low response to questions about the use of public transport.

Many respondents felt that the bus routes were inflexible, infrequent, costly and had poor access for the disabled – all reasons for finding cars easier and more convenient.

Your key issues –

- improved public transport access to hospitals
- better, more frequent public travel facilities for the disabled
- more reliable and later running services of trains and buses
- lack of public transport links to Crawley and Gatwick
- promotion of local subsidised or free travel schemes



LINGFIELD & FELCOURT PLAN - ACTION PLAN 2005/2010

Key Issue: Car parking

	OBJECTIVE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	CONTACTS	TIMESCALE
1	To provide adequate off-street parking for shoppers and visitors to the centre of Lingfield	<p>Liaise with Lingfield Park re acquiring land for additional public car park</p> <p>Open discussions with planning authority to investigate possible site/planning permission for car park</p> <p>Approach Lingfield Victoria Club committee re opening car park for general parking, eg weekday mornings</p>	<p>Lingfield Park Surrey CC Highways Tandridge Planning</p> <p>Tandridge DC Planning Directorate</p> <p>Lingfield Victoria Club Lingfield Parish Council</p>	<p>2005-6</p> <p>2005-6</p> <p>Summer 2005</p>
2	To provide short-term parking for shoppers	Implement short parking times in High St parking bays as previously installed at East Grinstead Road	Surrey CC Highways	2005-6
3	Alleviate commuter parking at Lingfield Station	Liaise with LPC and Lingfield Park re possible use of field corner of Station Road/Racecourse Road	Lingfield Parish Council Lingfield Park	2005-7
4	Minimise parking congestion where houses have no garaging - Station Road, Vicarage Road	Investigate one-side of the road only parking systems	Lingfield Parish Council Surrey CC Highways	2005-8

Key Issue: Traffic congestion

5	Develop Lingfield Primary School initiatives re walking to school and reducing parents use of cars and subsequent congestion	Stagger drop-off/collection times; extend Walking Bus scheme to other sides of the Parish; investigate 'Park & Ride' collection of children; car share for parents	Lingfield Parish Council School Governors Surrey CC Lingfield Primary School	2005-7
6	Look at long-term local plans to alleviate rat-run and traffic avoiding A22 congestion at Felbridge/East Grinstead	Investigate proposed plan for East Grinstead by-pass	East Grinstead TC West Sussex CC	ongoing - 2010
7	Find alternative routing for HGVs at present going through Lingfield High Street	Investigate question of low bridge on Edenbridge road, preventing HGV 's getting through. Discuss alternative route for horseboxes on race days	Edenbridge TC Lingfield Chamber of Commerce Surrey CC Highways Railtrack Lingfield Park	ongoing - 2010
8	Enforcement of current parking laws	Employment/training of part-time warden	Lingfield Parish Council Tandridge DC/SCC Police	2005-7



LINGFIELD & FELCOURT PLAN - ACTION PLAN 2005/2010

Key Issue: Safety

	OBJECTIVE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	CONTACTS	TIMESCALE
9	Greater visible police presence on the streets	Discuss with local police and Police Community Partnership Group ways and means	Police PCPG Chairman Lingfield Parish Council	2005
10	Extend pavements on East Grinstead Road, Felcourt Road, Crowhurst Road	Discuss with officers of SCC Highways and County Councillor	Surrey CC Highways Surrey County Councillor	2005-2010
11	More and improved street lighting	Consult with LPC on priority sites identified. Survey residents to decide priority sites. Liaise with SC Highways re funding/implementation	Lingfield Parish Council Residents Surrey CC Highways	2005-8
12	Reduce traffic speed, particularly Felcourt Road, Godstone Road, Newchapel Road	Investigate with SCC Highways options for traffic calming - interactive signs, road narrowing, rumble strips, etc. Discuss with police increased use of local hand speed gun. Contact other Parish Councils re volunteer speed monitoring schemes	Surrey CC Highways Local police Hartfield and other Parish Councils Lingfield Parish Council	2005-2010
13	Investigate installation of additional safe cycling paths/routes	Investigate and identify priority routes	SCC Highways Lingfield Parish Council	2006-2010
14	Support Tandridge Access Group's review of local facilities to promote improvements for disabled, pushchairs	Liaise with local shops/business/public buildings Promote measures taken	Tandridge Access Group Lingfield Chamber of Commerce Lingfield Victoria Club	2005

Key Issue: Housing

15	To try to keep current stock of small houses and include small, low cost housing in future developments	Scrutinise all planning applications, particularly for enlarged dwellings and lobby to keep small dwellings Investigate rural housing scheme	Lingfield Parish Council / Tandridge District Council Surrey Community Action/Housing Associations	Ongoing 2005
16	Ensure the local infrastructure - doctors, dentists, school places, parking - is sufficient to cater for existing and future needs	Research/survey for up-to-date, accurate figures on existing position. Investigate how to provide for increased needs	Health Authority Education/ Lingfield Primary School (see section on parking)	SCC 2005-2010





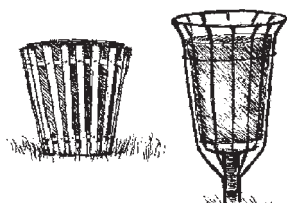
LINGFIELD & FELCOURT PLAN - ACTION PLAN 2005/2010

Key Issue: Environmental Services

	OBJECTIVE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	CONTACTS	TIMESCALE
17	Improve grass cutting and clearing up	Discuss with LPC re extending contract mowing to include corner Church Rd/Town Hill and other areas to be identified Liaise with SCC Highways re mowing schedule and discuss possible improvements in standard of work	Lingfield Parish Council Surrey CC Highways Officer	2005-6
18	Clear public places of dog mess	Ascertain local bye-laws and sanctions Investigate enforcement - cost of dogwarden Post stickers prominently throughout the Parish Publicity in local newspapers/ Community News re anti-social attitudes	Tandridge DC Volunteers The Star Church magazine Community News editorial team	2005-2010
19	Timely cutting back of hedges and trees to keep pavements clear for pedestrians, pushchairs and wheelchairs	Use local free press/newspapers to remind householders of their responsibility Work with SCC Highways to cut back more regularly Ask LPC to remind individual residents where necessary	Residents Action Steering Group SCC Highways officers Lingfield Parish Council	Spring/Summer each year
20	Improve litter clearance along roadsides and in Gunpit car park	Discuss with Tandridge DC extending the road sweeper service in the village centre	Tandridge Corporate Services Lingfield Parish Council	2005-6
21	Increase frequency of emptying recycling bins, particularly in Gunpit car park	Ask Tandridge DC for more frequent clearance. Monitor use of bins and get evidence to support emptying when needed eg Bank Holidays	Tandridge DC Corporate Services	2005
22	Extend recycling to plastics Local community composting facilities	Lobby Parish Council and District Council. Investigate neighbouring recycling schemes to provide information and evidence	Parish and District Councillors Tandridge DC Corporate Services East Grinstead TC	2006-7

Key Issue: Public Transport

23	To provide bus services which meet the needs of local residents which would reduce car movements	Survey local residents to find out details of route/timings/cost which would encourage them to use the bus. Open discussions with bus companies Investigate locally run mini-bus service Promote local services eg EG-Bus and TDC 'Buses 4U' and other initiatives	Residents SCC Transport Officer East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership	2005-2010
24	Investigate bus links between Lingfield and Crawley/Gatwick	Survey to ascertain level of demand and whether for work or shopping. Discuss with BAA Gatwick funding and provision of vehicle/drivers	Residents BAA Gatwick SCC Transport Officer East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership	2006-2010



LINGFIELD & FELCOURT PLAN - ACTION PLAN 2005/2010

Key Issue: Leisure and sport

OBJECTIVE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	CONTACTS	TIMESCALE
25 Provision of swimming pool/ access to facilities locally	Investigate costs - capital and revenue - for local swimming pool	Tandridge DC East Grinstead TC	2006-2010
	Contact Chartham Park and Lingfield Park re their new leisure facilities and access for local residents	Chartham Park/Lingfield Park	2005-6
	Liaise with NYCPE re use by local residents of their facilities and also transport provision, eg minibus service	NYCPE	2005-8
26 Promote local footpaths and Nature Reserve	Liaise with local societies and interested groups.	Lingfield & District Conservation Society LPC/TDC/LWAA Local sponsors	Summer 2005-6
27 Promote existing activities for young people, adult education classes, local leisure activities	Investigate funding to produce a local directory to be available to all households - arrangements for keeping it up to date to be the responsibility of the Action Group	Community Centre Lingfield Parish Council Tandridge DC Community News	2005-6
28 To improve facilities for young people	Survey and investigate upgrading equipment in play areas on Talbot Rd/Jenners Field. Find costs and funding sources. Liaise with Lingfield Primary School re after-school/homework clubs Promote wider use of Talbot Road sports facilities	Tandridge DC Lingfield PC Equipment suppliers Neighbouring play areas Lingfield Primary School Youth Club	2005-8

PROPOSED TIMESCALE						
Obj.	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	Off street parking in Lingfield High St					
2	High St parking bays					
3	LPR car park in field					
4	Parking one-side of road parking					
5	Lingfield School initiatives					
6	A22 rat run					
7	HGV routing					
8	Law enforcement					
9	More visible police					
10	More pavements					
11	More, improved lighting					
12	Traffic speed					
13	Cycleways					
14	Disabled access					
15	Planning applications					
16	Infrastructure					
17	Grass cutting					
18	Dog fouling					
19	Hedges					
20	Litter clearance					
21	Recycling clearance					
22	Extend recycling					
23	Improved bus services					
24	Crawley bus links					
25	Swimming pool					
26	Footpaths/LNR					
27	Local youth directory					
28	Improved facilities for the young					



S U M M A R Y

The Action Plan has been drawn together under group headings in order to better address the specific concerns raised in the Questionnaire. The structure and content of the Questionnaire was based on issues YOU indicated in the response leaflets, discussed at the Open Day held in the Community Centre, and on matters relevant at the time of publication. There will always be other questions that we could have included, but hindsight is a wonderful thing!

The primary issues highlighted by the Questionnaire are:

- Traffic and Congestion
- Noise
- Parking
- Police visibility
- Public transport
- Dog fouling and litter

Upon analysis the importance attached by residents to these concerns became immediately obvious since comments were often repeated from one section to the next. They are given priority in the Action Plan shown on pages 24-25 and 27-28

It is clear that the solution to eradicating traffic congestion in Lingfield and Felcourt does not lie solely within the hands of local agencies since the neighbouring towns of East Grinstead and Edenbridge affect traffic flows through our community. It is only by working in conjunction with neighbouring authorities that any impact can be made.

On a more domestic level, the re-occurring theme is one of frustration and annoyance with dog fouling, litter, vandalism and noise pollution - these issues are addressed within the Action Plan under the 'Services' section.

It is encouraging to note the demand in the community for re-cycling and a desire to expand these services. With the prominence of 'Climate Change' in the national press, conserving energy, composting and re-cycling are all issues that the Action Plan Steering Group will have to take forward. This is covered under the section 'Environment'.

The timescale under which action is to be taken is based on the Steering Group's best estimate and is dependent upon a robust response by other agencies and local government. To drive the Plan forward, the Action Plan 2010 Steering Group will require the collaboration of the Lingfield Parish Council, Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council, the Lingfield Chamber of Commerce, Lingfield Primary School, the Police, local businesses and many others, as well as the backing of individual residents. This document is but the first step on the way.

THE NEXT STEP

One of the main reasons for the Countryside Agency to provide funding was to enable the residents of villages and parishes to have an unprecedented opportunity to have their 'say', and make public those things they think are good, unacceptable or inefficient, and to suggest changes they would like to see in the area where they live.

Parish Councils do, in fact, have quite a long list of matters for which they are responsible or can initiate to improve their parishes. Every Parish Council has a different programme, depending upon its population size and needs. A Parish Council can decide its own priorities and allocate its own budget. However, some rural and semi-rural communities are very small and can be neglected, as their Parish Council will only budget for the minimum amount of money they wish to spend on administering local matters. All income is raised via the Parish Council's annual 'precept'. In turn, this 'precept' money comes back from the District Council, and is paid for as part of your household Council Tax.

In addition, a Parish Council can lobby and make recommendations to higher local authorities, and can apply for grants or enter into partnership agreements with District or County Councils, perhaps making a contribution towards the funding of local initiatives.

In Lingfield and Felcourt the local government authorities of Tandridge District and Surrey County Councils are responsible for providing the following services and amenities:

- Education
- Police
- Planning
- Highways
- Traffic Wardens
- Dustbins
- Traffic
- Housing
- Re-cycling
- Transport
- Social services
- Road sweeping

This Final Report highlights the views and comments of local residents, and their hopes for the future of Lingfield and Felcourt. The Action Plan on pages 22-23 and 25-26 lists those matters requiring investigation and remedial action, together with the names of the agencies to approach for help and advice, and a provisional timetable.

THE NEXT STEP is for this Action Plan to be taken forward by a group of local residents working with the Lingfield Parish Council to grab the opportunity offered. It will not be possible to achieve everything overnight, but the Lingfield & Felcourt Village Plan 2010 Final Report will be regarded as indicating the priorities of the local community and, as such, will need to be taken seriously by the appropriate authorities in the future.

If any of these issues affect **YOU**, then you can become actively involved in helping to implement the Village Plan 2010. Like to know more? Then initially please contact Lingfield Parish Council, Parish Office, Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield, RH7 6AB - Tel. 01342 835557. No special skills are needed, just a wish and a tenacity to be part of a team – with a chance to help your family, friends and neighbours in Lingfield and Felcourt to try and get 'something done'!

