

Action Plan

Recommendation	Responsibilities	Priority	Timescale	Resource implications
Set up an Implementation Group to replace the Thurnham Parish Plan Group to monitor, review and up-date the Plan. The Group should include volunteers from the local community.	Thurnham Parish Council (TPC)	High	To be set up within three months of the Plan being approved by the TPC	Small manpower and cost implications
Thurnham under Threat				
An Environmental Impact Assessment should be undertaken of the development proposed for the County Showground	Showground developers	High	Before any planning application is submitted	Limited
The Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) should reject the proposals submitted by Kent International Gateway (KIG) for a rail link distribution park with road to rail transfer facilities and associated business development.	MBC	High	Until the proposals are finally rejected	Substantial
The TPC should continue to play a leading role in opposing the KIG application	TPC	High	Until the proposals are finally rejected	Substantial
The land south of the M20, between Thurnham Lane and Junction 8 should retain its designation as a Special Landscape Area, free of all development	MBC	High	To form a key part of the revised development plan for Maidstone	Small
The MBC should pursue a policy of urban regeneration, focussing new development within the existing urban envelope	MBC	High	Strategy to be developed as part of the revised development plan	Significant
The TPC should continue to press the MBC to settle on a LDF which accords with residents' wishes as expressed in the Parish Plan	TPC	High	Strategy to be developed as part of the revised development plan	Significant
The Jewel in the Crown				
The Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council should set up a group to consider the long term future of St Mary's and how best its wider use by the community can be funded.	The Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council	Medium	To be completed by 31-Mar-08	Modest
Cleanliness, Disturbance and the Appearance of the Parish				
The TPC should press the Kent County Council (KCC) to review its policy for cutting hedgerows and verges so that they do not over grow roads and pavements in order that motorists, pedestrians and horse riders can proceed with greater safety; while at the same time avoiding damage to wildlife and vehicular erosion. A policy of 'little and often' would seem best.	TPC and KCC	Medium	As soon as possible	Modest

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The TPC should invest in more litter and poop scoop bins to be strategically around the parish	TPC	Medium	By end 2008	Modest
The TPC should act to provide recycling facilities within the parish to complement the services provided by the Borough Council and private sector providers	TPC	Medium	As soon as possible	Significant
The TPC, in conjunction with the Bearsted Parish Council (BPC), should act to find more effective ways of keeping the pavements clear of dog mess, especially on routes to and from Roseacre Junior and Thurnham Infants schools.	TPC and MBC	High	As soon as possible	Modest
The TPC should press the MBC to improve gutter cleaning and ensure drains are maintained in good working order so that they do not become clogged.	TPC and MBC	Medium	Before winter 2008	Significant
More should be done to reduce noise pollution from the M20 Motorway by resurfacing the road with a low noise surface.	The Highways Agency	High	As soon as possible	Substantial
Barriers should be installed to reduce noise from the M20 and the CTRL	The Highway Agency and	High	As soon as possible	Substantial
The TPC should explore ways in which it can promote a good neighbour policy by encouraging residents to be considerate in all activities that are likely to impact on their immediate neighbours.	TPC	Medium	As soon as possible	Modest
The impact of noise and light pollution should continue to be of high concern when considering applications for commercial and industrial development in the parish and any development allowed should be accompanied by conditions limiting the impact on neighbours to acceptable levels.	TPC and MBC	High	Continuing and developing existing policies	Low
White Horse Wood and the AONB				
The KCC should locate the proposed roundabout on the A249 opposite White Horse Wood and the entrance to the County Showground where it can be of most benefit to local people.	KCC	High	Decision required as soon as possible	Modest
The TPC should actively promote White Horse Wood including a visitor centre.	TPC in association with KCC	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Modest
More should be done to celebrate Battle of Britain Day in Thurnham	TPC in association with Detling and Stockbury Parish Councils and local churches	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Low

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The TPC should consider erecting a memorial to Air Vice Marshall, Sir Keith Park at White Horse Wood.	TPC in possible association with the Detling and Stockbury Parish Councils, the MBC and other groups	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Modest if shared between groups
Public Rights of Way				
The TPC should improve waymarking and sign posting on the footpaths within the parish.	TPC	Medium	Initiate action plan before end 2008	Modest
Press the KCC to ensure footpaths in the parish are kept clear and that stiles are of a height that allow them to be used comfortably by older walkers.	TPC and KCC	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Modest
Ensure that land owners comply with the legal requirement to restore footpaths and bridleways within 14 days after ploughing	TPC and KCC	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Low
Continue to support the work of the local footpath group that does so much to ensure that these paths are kept open and serve the interests of the local community.	TPC	Medium	On-going	Low
The KCC should ensure that land owners cut back overhanging hedgerows and vegetation on bridleways and footpaths to create clear and safe paths for horseriders and walkers.	KCC and local land owners	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Low
The KCC should ensure that land owners remove trees and fallen branches from bridleways and footpaths and ensure fences bordering bridleways are well maintained.	KCC and land owners	Medium	Initiate action before end 2008	Low
Transport, Roads, Traffic and Parking				
The TPC should join with other local councils to press for more frequent and faster train services to and from London	TPC, BPC and other parish councils along with South East Trains	Medium	As soon as possible	Substantial if local needs are to be met
Arriva bus route 19 should operate in a loop from Maidstone via the Kentish Yeoman and Roundwell returning via Bearsted Station and the Landway.	TPC, MBC and Arriva	Medium	As soon as possible	Low
A bus service should be reinstated along Ware Street with appropriate stops to enable residents to travel to Tesco and Maidstone.	TPC, MBC and Arriva	Medium	As soon as possible	Significant
There should be increased provision for school buses	TPC, MBC and Arriva	Medium	As soon as possible	Significant

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New bus stops should be introduced at Roundwell and opposite the Potted Garden Nursery.	TPC, MBC and Arriva	Medium	As opportunity allows	Low
There should be a maximum 20mph speed limit on all roads in the parish apart from a 40mph maximum on the A20 and a 50mph limit on the A249 through Thurnham.	TPC and KCC	High	Initiate consultations within 3 months of plan being approved.	Modest
A new island should be built on the A20 opposite the Marriott Tudor park Hotel to help pedestrians cross the road in safety.	TPC and KCC	Medium	Initiate consultations within three months of Plan being approved	Low
A Quiet Lanes Strategy should be implemented north of the CTRL.	TPC and KCC	High	The TPC should press ahead urgently with the initiatives it has already launched	Modest
The highway authority should construct a pedestrian crossing and introduce appropriate traffic calming measures at the Bell Bridge.	TPC and KCC	High	Work should be completed before end 2008	Significant
The legislation or at least the drafting of Section 106 Agreements should be reviewed to allow greater flexibility in the use of such funds for the benefit of people in the immediate vicinity of the development by which they are generated.	TPC, MBC and Central Government	High	TPC to initiate consultations before end 2008	Modest
The former coal yard should be used to provide additional car parking spaces; and within the site space should be allocated for the use of local residents so that the station does not become a magnet for commuters from surrounding villages.	TPC, MBC, BPC, Network Rail and South East Trains	High	TPC to initiate consultations within 3 months of Plan being approved.	Significant
Law and Order				
Thurnham, Bredhurst and Detling Parish Councils should consider purchasing a vehicle to enable the new PCSO to get around the parishes	Thurnham, Bredhurst and Detling Parish Councils and Kent Police	High	TPC to initiate consultations within 3 months of Plan being approved.	Modest if spread across the three parish councils.
A notice should be placed in every parish notice board announcing the appointment of the new PCSO, displaying a photograph and giving details of a contact point.	TPC and Kent Police	High	As quickly as possible	Low
The new PCSO should attend meetings of the TPC on a regular basis.	TPC and Kent Police	High	As quickly as possible	Low

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The mobile police station should be moved around the parish so that it is within easy access of residents in, for example, Bearsted Park and north Thurnham as well as Caring Lane and Crismill Lane. The times of its availability should be publicized well in advance.	TPC and Kent Police	Medium	As quickly as possible	Low
The new PCSO and the PCSO for Bearsted should share a surgery on the last Saturday in each month at Bearsted Library.	TPC, BPC and Kent Police	High	As quickly as possible	Low
The TPC should permanently display on its notice boards details of local Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, how residents can go about joining; and do whatever else it can to facilitate the setting up of these schemes.	TPC and Kent Police	Medium	As quickly as possible	Low
Housing and infrastructure				
Thurnham should retain its clear sense of identity and not be built over so that it becomes an indistinguishable extension of the county town.	TPC and MBC	High	Ongoing	Modest
Any development that takes place should not compromise the Special Landscape Area, should be small in scale and restricted to social and sheltered housing, properties to rent and other demands related strictly to local need.	TPC and MBC	High	Ongoing	Modest
Any future development should be built in a style that respects adjacent development, is in sympathy with the environment and which uses materials that are not jarring or intrusive.	TPC and MBC	High	Ongoing	Modest
Extensions to existing properties, conversions or garages should be built using materials that are the closest possible match to the original and in a way that complements the existing buildings on the site and the locality.	TPC and MBC	High	Ongoing	Modest
The TPC and BPC should work together to try and find ways of increasing public car parking in the area of the Bearsted Medical Practice by, for example, pressing for planning permissions for new commercial development in the adjacent area to include an element of public parking.	TPC, BPC and MBC	High	Ongoing	Modest
MBC should take steps to ensure that the necessary infrastructure accompanies new development and does not lag behind.	MBC	High	Ongoing	Significant

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Social Services, Leisure and Youth				
The TPC should press the MBC to upgrade facilities on the Peverel Drive play ground site.	TPC and MBC	Medium	Initiate consultations within 3 months of Plan being approved	Modest
The TPC should consider the scope for developing the area of open space adjacent to the ransom strip at Averches Road for the benefit of the local community.	TPC	Medium	Already in hand	Modest
The TPC should seek to involve young people and their parents in tasks that involve improvements to the appearance and facilities of the community; e.g. the planting of new trees and hedgerows.	TPC	Medium	As soon as possible	Modest
Local Governance				
At least once a year the TPC should hold an open day at the Marriott Tudor park Hotel to provide a forum at which the Council can explain its work, policies and initiatives to electors and to provide an opportunity for the public to raise issues of concern to them.	TPC	High	As soon as possible	Low
Once a year in the summer months the TPC should hold an open surgery for residents at the ransom strip at Bearsted Park where the bulk of the population live.	TPC	High	As soon as possible	Low
The TPC should do more to expand the parish web site and ensure it is kept fully up to date.	TPC	High	As soon as possible	Modest
The TPC should do more to improve the appearance of notice boards throughout the parish	TPC	High	As soon as possible	Low