



Our vision for Puriton and Woolavington and what we will do in the next 2 years

November 2018

Summary

Since December 2012, residents of Puriton and Woolavington have been working hard to hear the opinions and needs of their neighbours and community in order to spend £1million of Big Lottery Funding via Big Local. In 2015 we created our first Big Local Plan and have delivered many projects and launched a community grants scheme under the name Villages Together.

Partnership members have designed a leaflet updating residents on progress and asking for comments and ideas for the new plan. Villages Together have also attended local village events to encourage more people to get involved and share their views. Most recently charts were put up on key noticeboards throughout the Big Local area. Residents were invited to give their opinion on the projects areas in this plan.

After reviewing all the new information, it is clear that the original vision is still appropriate:

“Puriton and Woolavington will become two thriving Polden villages, where people are happy to live in an environment that meets the needs of everyone from new-born babies to the oldest residents.”

To ensure we are delivering our vision, every project we support must fit under one or more of the following: **Building capacity in the community**, **Pride in our villages**, **Support for all**, **Better access and travel**, **Quality meeting spaces** or **Sharing information**.

We will continue to work with other key partners, namely SHAL who will administer all the funding on our behalf.

We recognise that we have not had the capacity to work proactively or had a worker, and that priorities and issues will change over time. Year one will be dominated by developing and testing project ideas. We anticipate that we will have a clear list of projects for delivery in year 2.

For our **next two years** we aim to deliver the following projects:

Tackling loneliness – develop and test projects to alleviate loneliness

Support for young people – work innovatively to address the needs of young people across the whole area.

Transport – work with local organisations to understand the issues in depth and develop and implement projects to address them.

Community facilities – assess the quality and gaps of current halls and communal spaces and support where needed.

Community grants – continue with current small grants scheme and review and update if needed.

Communications – substantially improve the Villages Together communications across a range of media.

Core costs – employ a Villages Together worker to deliver this plan alongside the partnership.

Contents

<i>The Villages Together Partnership is moving rapidly forward towards very exciting times. We now have new members from both Puriton and Woolavington, as well as a new chair and vice chair.</i>	Page
<i>We have developed even clearer guidance with support from our big local lead and our Locally Trusted Organisation (LTO) and after a really 'buzzing' session developed this new action plan.</i>	3
<i>We know we have to deliver the real changes our neighbours have wanted, requested and need.</i>	4
<i>We will all feel the fantastic benefits from the big local funds, making our areas even better places to live.</i>	5
<i>Thank you to everyone who has been involved in the creation of this plan, and you will be hearing a lot more from us soon.</i>	7
	8
	12
	21
	22

Vanda Crow

Chair Villages Together

How it all began

Puriton and Woolavington were chosen to receive £1million of Big Local funding in December 2012 by the Local Trust. The money is from the Big Lottery Fund and we are one of 150 areas across England involved in the scheme.

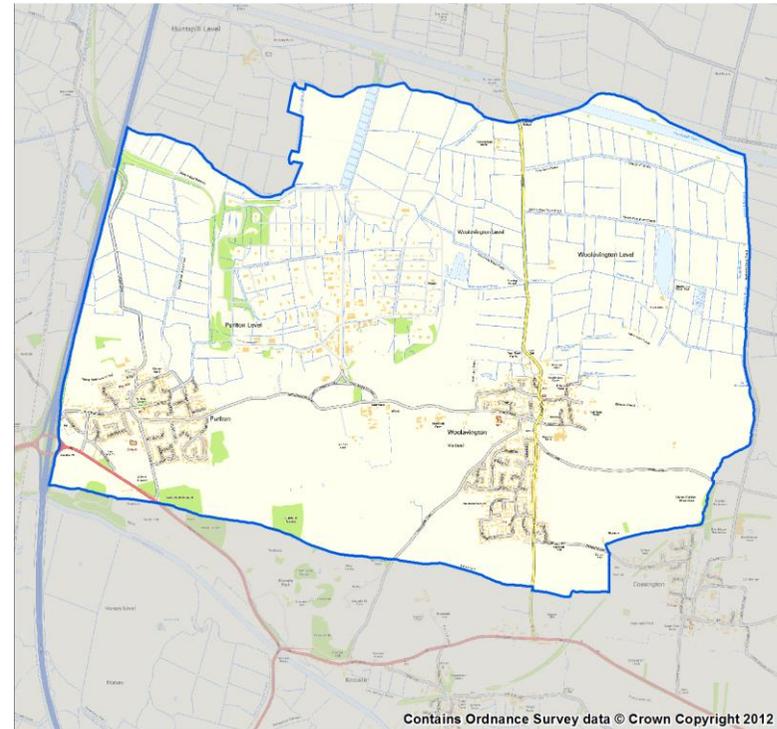
The money was allocated to bring together local talent, ambitions, skills and energy from local people, groups and organisations who want to make Puriton and Woolavington an even better place to live. It's about putting residents in charge and making sure everybody in Puriton and Woolavington can input on the plan and decisions.

Working with the local community, Local Trust set about creating a Big Local Partnership to deliver effective change in Puriton and Woolavington. In April 2014, the Villages Together Partnership was created and endorsed by Local Trust. It consists predominantly of residents of Puriton and Woolavington.

Learning from our first plan this plan will cover a two-year cycle, we will use this time not only to implement a series of projects but also to review the partnership, recruiting new members and continue our engagement with local people so that the projects reflect their needs and aspirations.

Puriton and Woolavington is a great place to live but, with this plan and our collective efforts, it will be an even better place to live in.

The Villages Together Area



Our Puriton and Woolavington

Puriton and Woolavington are villages in the Sedgemoor area of Somerset. The villages are 4.5 miles away from their closest town, Bridgwater. Since our last plan was published three years ago there are no updated data sets available

People

The joint population of both villages is 4,087. The number of pre-school aged children had dropped between the 2001 and 2011 census data, but the area is becoming older with a 20% decline in working age population (30-44 year olds) and a 32% increase in those over 60 years old. It is likely that the figures will change significantly at the next census as the both villages face the building of 100+ new homes.

Environment

Both villages have large open spaces with playfields. The villages are separated by a main road, with no footpath or cycle route and poor lighting. The M5 is very close to Puriton and, when the motorway closes, the whole area, including Woolavington becomes completely gridlocked.

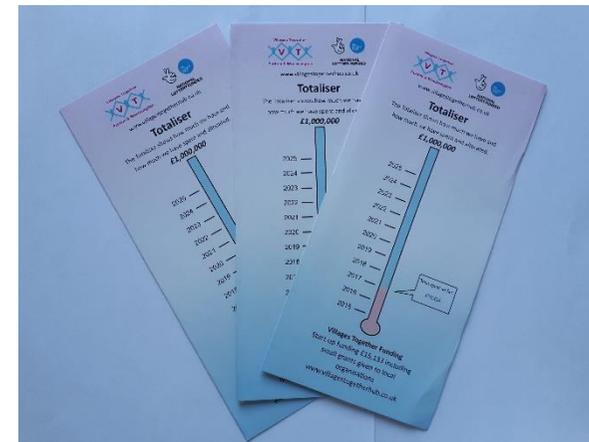
Community Buildings

As well as all our lovely open space we have two shops and a Post Office in Woolavington and a butchers, hairdressers and Post Office in Puriton which we value and are keen to support. Puriton also has the Puriton Inn and The 37 Club lies between Puriton and Woolavington. Both villages have village halls and Puriton has a sports centre, Woolavington a pavilion on the playing field. There

is also the Clist Room in Puriton and a communal hall in Woolavington. All venues are popular within their neighbouring communities and offer a broad range of activities and opportunities for all ages.

Schools

Both of the primary schools in Puriton and Woolavington are now academies and part of the same trust – Clevedon Learning Trust. As a result, both Head Teachers work closely together and the schools are working together more and more.



Our Work so far

We have been delivering our first plan since June 2015. As part of the plan we have agreed 10 community grants, installed a state of the art kitchen in Woolavington Village Hall, funded CCTV, fire safety works and improvement to Clist Room. We have delivered 4 large community events including the older people's information days and the family Easter egg hunt.

We have spent £70,572 to date.

Examples of how we have spent our money so far

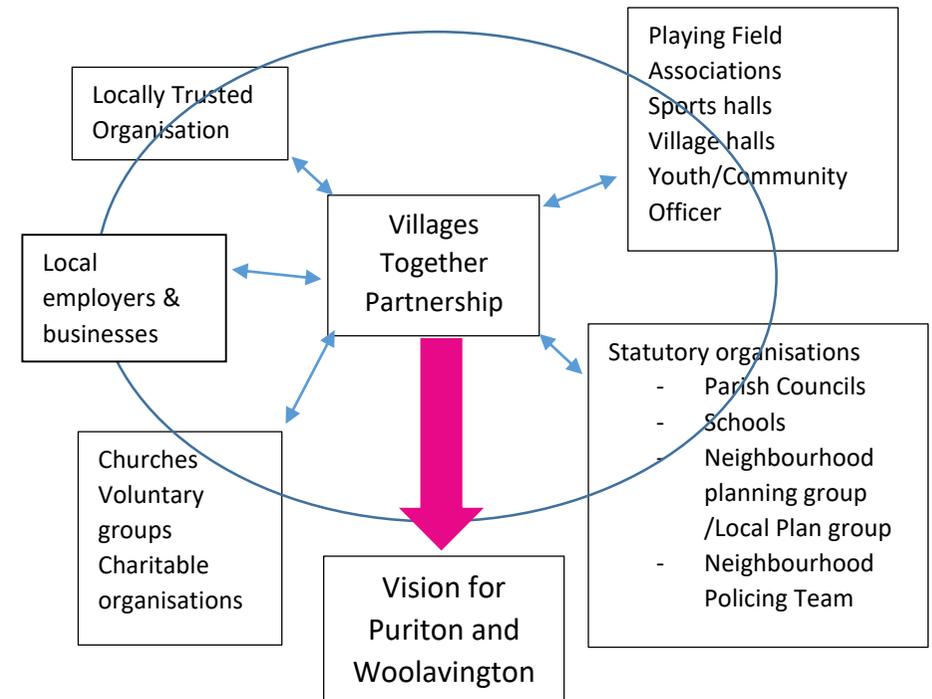


Methods of Engagement

To inform this plan we have worked hard over the past year to ask our community for their ideas and comments. We have used every opportunity we can to include people in the following ways:

- Leaflet delivered to every household
- Village Hall open day
- Parish Council meetings
- Older people's event
- Family East Egg hunt

How we have and will work together



What we have learnt

Events

Both villages are great at planning and organising events, but there is little evidence of a joined up approach between groups within, and between, the villages. Parties in the Park, dog shows, fetes, flower shows, village shows, best dressed Christmas house are just some of the events that go on.

Some great ideas have been generated, but not taken to fruition or monitored. We do not currently have a cohesive approach.

Consultation

Very disparate and strongly held views between representatives from each village, have slowed the decision making needed from consultations.

Whilst views were gathered in many ways from the community, engagement with the partnership and other relevant stakeholders could have been stronger. This was due to a variety of reasons including the changes of our Big Local Rep, resignation of Chairs, inconsistent attendance at meetings by core membership and general lack of momentum.

A variety of methods have been used to gauge opinions including audits, door to door discussions and leaflets, approaches to groups, interactive posters on noticeboards and attendance at key meetings to reaffirm that we are still on the right track, and heading in the right direction.

Delivering projects

Projects have not thus far progressed as they should. However, we are now beginning to feel a new momentum and enthusiasm. Very few people have participated or stayed involved for long. Although, with the new momentum we have generated our participants are growing in numbers.

Older people have benefitted from a number of lunches, talks and information days.

Up until recently, participants have not given much time to projects. We have been engaging residents old and young, by introducing them to community grants. There is now a buzz beginning as more small groups benefit and are enabled to expand their activities and purchase items of equipment that they could not have otherwise done. So far, 11 groups in Puriton, from toddler groups to groups for the elderly have benefitted, as have several in Woolavington. This is a proven way we have of reaching new people and demonstrating how Villages Together can support them. We hope to maintain a network of the community grants beneficiaries and will invite them all to an annual celebratory event.

We also need to understand the benefits we are delivering within our communities. We don't currently have any robust monitoring in place and so we are unable to capture the impact of our work.

Our Vision

Puriton and Woolavington will become two thriving Polden villages, where people are happy to live in an environment that meets the needs of everyone from new-born babies to the oldest residents.

Values

All our work is underpinned by being community led and ensuring that we are responding to local needs and aspirations. We also want to ensure that all our work includes and reflects the needs of all people in Puriton and Woolavington.

When implementing this plan, we will be doing more to record who is benefitting from our projects, so that we can compare the information to what we know about the make-up of the local population. If need be we will review how we promote our projects and how people can access them.

We need to communicate with all sections of the neighbourhoods, to develop their dormant potential and value.

We will also review how we conduct our decision making to ensure that we continue to be accountable to residents and Local Trust.

Aspirations for this plan

Deliverability: A key piece of work for the Villages Together Partnership over the next two years will be developing projects that address the needs identified. The partnership will then be able to have more time to discuss the emerging issues that are harder to address, drawing in experts and professionals with different expertise to widen their knowledge and understand the impact of their work. We recognise that our residents need support to develop their ideas into projects – our worker will do this.

Transparency and understanding: We understand that there is not a clear understanding of Big Local in our communities. As individual partnership members we need to ensure that we stand

by, and understand, decisions we make to ensure a clear message is communicated back to the wider community. We also need to make it more clear how to access the Big Local funding. We will address this by delivering high profile and high impact projects. We will radically improve our marketing, promotion and monitoring and we will become a key partner who 'gets things done'. People will understand what we are doing and why, and how to get involved and share their ideas and thoughts.

We have recently changed our terms of reference and will review annually to ensure we are being transparent, particularly around conflicts of interest.

Sustainability: We have not spent a lot of our money to date. However, we recognise that by the end of this plan we will be half way through our 10 years. Therefore, we will ensure that sustainability is discussed and we will ensure that we investigate different options, learning from other Big Local areas and looking at what our communities want and need.

In kind support: We need to make sure that we are working closely with residents and partners to make sure that we are making the best use of their networks and support. For example, residents asking their employers for support and us strengthening our partnership work with the schools and NHS, as well as the council to generate further resources.

Our Priorities

Using all the information we collected at different events and from our household leaflet, our 6 priority areas for our work going forward will continue. These 6 areas encompass all the issues you told us about and will help ensure we deliver against the real issues in Puriton and Woolavington. All our projects will fit under one or more of the following 6 priority areas:

Building capacity in the community

Pride in our villages

Support for all

Better access and travel

Quality meeting spaces

Sharing information

We tested our priority areas at different community events to ensure they were still priorities for our communities. We will arrange a partners' meeting to talk to local experts to start to develop projects.

Recognising that we can't do everything at once, this plan sets out what we will start to do in the next two years. The plan and its priorities will be reviewed every year.

Big Local funding must "add value" and not provide what statutory services should be doing. However, we will continue to work to influence service provision where we can.

The following remarks are examples of what individual people have said during our consultation.

Priority Area: Building capacity in the community
What could be better? You said.... Partnership meetings during the day Involvement from residents in Big Local Working together between villages Sharing ideas and support for similar events in each village Kids need to be part of what is provided so they respect it more Communication between each other – all ages Involvement of whole community Need more involvement from certain parts of the area
What can we do? You said.... Get the children involved in projects Work with residents to develop a project Speak to more people and be more visible
What we have done Established a website and recruited and website volunteer Continued to meet and learn as a partnership Held partnership meetings in different parts of the VT area
What we will do next – project area Employ a Big Local worker to support groups and individuals to develop projects – Core costs Support for young people

Priority Area: Pride in our villages
What could be better? You said.... Safe access for school children along by the entrance for scooters More lighting and pruning bushes More planting and welcoming signs to the villages Less dog mess
What can we do? You said.... Make a village farm and produce vegetables for the community No more houses More planting and improved village entrance signs Use spare grounds for planting bulbs An education campaign to address litter
What we have done Village entrance project was stopped due to not being able to plant and the development of the new estates – will revisit after building works. Funded three new benches for Woolavington
What we will do next – project area Community grants Community facilities Core costs

Priority Area: **Support for all**

What could be better? You said....

More things for children and young people
The play area in Woolavington
More activities for children
A place where people can meet socially and informally
More for young people to do in the evenings

What can we do? You said....

Intergenerational projects
Men's Shed
Community cafe
Community gardens where produce is given to those in most need
A new play area

What we have done

Older people's event x 3
Community grants
Benches

What we will do next

Support for young people
Tackling loneliness

Priority Area: **Better access and travel**

What could be better? You said....

Safe access for children on scooters near the school.
Transport between villages to access the doctors in Woolavington
Better parking
Less speeding
Vegetation obscuring pedestrians and cars on roads
Safer routes for cycling

What can we do? You said....

Bus to local fundraising events
Improve bus shelters
Swimming pool on ROF site
Support Village Wheels and possibly set up similar in Puriton

What we have done

Small grant to Woolavington Village Wheels
Improved access to the Clist Rooms

What we will do next

Transport
Tackling loneliness

Priority Area: **Quality meeting spaces**

What could be better? You said....

More for the young people to do – they are bored and get up to mischief

Puriton Sports centre

The Pavilion in Woolavington

The Communal Hall

The playing field needs draining

The village halls are always fully booked!

What can we do? You said....

A village cafe

Refurbish the communal hall

Invest in the sports centre

Men's shed

What we have done

Woolavington Village Hall kitchen extension

Fire safety works to Puriton Village Hall

What we will do next – project area

Community facilities

Communications

Core costs

Priority Area: **Sharing information**

What could be better? You said....

Not sure what Villages Together is

No website

Using social media

Some examples of how to access the money – we don't know how!

What can we do? You said....

Talk to people about how they can access the Big Local money

Need to be on social media

Put minutes and activities on a website

Newsletter and noticeboards

Talk to people in person – come to village events

What we have done

Household update leaflet

Community grants

What we will do next – project area

Communications

Core costs

Our Plan

Villages Together Partnership will work with the local community groups and other local partners to address the identified and agreed priorities of the area. SHAL is our locally trusted organisation – they administer the funds and set up contracts to ensure the work is carried out in line with this plan. Most of the hours which are invested into the Villages Together is from local volunteers, however we are currently recruiting a Big Local worker who we hope will be in post in January 2019.

A big part of the first year of our plan will be to develop and explore ideas for the second year of the plan. With our worker employed, we hope that many of the ideas we discuss will be able to be delivered. There will also be a big focus on communication in this plan. Having realised our weaknesses, we are certain that our plans to improve the quality and frequency of our communication will have a big impact on our communities.

We will work with SHAL, the parish councils and other local partners (who we will identify in year one for the individual project plans) to ensure what we are doing is complementary rather than duplicating what is already being provided.

When needed, we will set up project groups to help develop ideas or progress a project. Overall, Villages Together Partnership oversees the implementation of this plan, decides how to allocate further funding and continues to keep the community involved throughout.

What we will deliver and how much it will cost

	Year 1	Year 2
Community Grants	20,000	25,000
Tackling Loneliness	20,000	80,000
Transport	15,000	35,000
Support for young people	32,000	70,000
Community Facilities	50,000	250,000
Core Costs	35,000	36,000
Communication & engagement	25,000	25,000
Emerging Projects	12,500	14,000
Year Total	209,500	535,000
Total		744,500

Community Grants		Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together	
Why? We allocated £50,000 to a community grants scheme. It was for community groups and designed to be easy to access and to raise the awareness of Villages Together. Any community group can apply for £1,000 to use for the benefit of their group. It has proved very successful with the partnership and the community and we are keen to extend it beyond its current end date of March 2019 if needed. We will review and change the focus before a relaunch.										
Objectives To deliver a straight forward small grants scheme. To continue promoting the project to our community and encourage applications. To encourage people to promote and get involved with Villages Together. Maintain a network of project beneficiaries.			Outcomes A wide range of successful small projects delivered in Puriton and Woolavington. Our community see that they can access the Villages Together funding Partnership members learn new skills Villages Together is talked about positively in the community				Key Partners Villages Together SHAL			
Key Tasks									When	
To review the current scheme									March 19	
To refresh and promote the new grants scheme									April 19	
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Grants	13,000	2,000	2,700	2,000	19,700	6,000	6,500	6,000	6,000	24,500
Advertising		100	100		200	100		100		200
Plaques	50	50			100	100	100	100		300
Total					20,000					25,000
Total Project Costs										45,000

Tackling Loneliness					Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together
Why? Throughout all our conversations with our communities, people have always mentioned their neighbour who 'doesn't get out much', or that they know of several people living alone, don't or can't participate in the wide range of activities that take part in the Big Local area. This isn't just about older people. At the older people's event, people were concerned about those feeling lonely. It has also been proven in countless studies over the past 5 years that loneliness can have a detrimental impact on a person's health.												
Objectives To research and learn from other projects targeting loneliness. Consult as to why people feel unable to access what is going on locally (full range of activities). To develop partnerships for delivery of projects in the Villages Together area. To test project ideas in year 1. Using lessons learnt, deliver a full range of projects in year 2.				Outcomes People feel listened to and attend one event or more. Residents form new friendships and links. Barriers to participation are understood and overcome. The number of people feeling lonely decreases. Projects are tested and lessons are learnt. A wide range of projects are delivered targeting different barriers and age ranges.				Key Partners SHAL Homes in Sedgemoor GPs Schools Sedgemoor District Council				
Key Tasks												When
Research/ visit existing projects talking loneliness using list from consultation as a starting point												Feb 19
Establish project partnership with local organisations to test different projects												June 19
Speak to people who are known to be at risk of loneliness to understand why they don't/can't get involved in local activities												April 19
Review test projects and develop year two projects – this may include a dedicated partnership meeting with professionals												Nov 19
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total		
Research and visits	250				250	250				250		
Consultation		1000			1,000	1000		1000		2,000		
Test projects / projects			10,000	8,250	18,250	16,750	20,000	20,000	20,000	76,750		
Review				250	250	1,000				1,000		
Total					20,000					80,000		
Total Project Costs											100,000	

Transport	Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together		
Why? A very popular and emotive issue was the lack of transport. Although there is a relatively good bus service in the villages during the day, the evening and weekend services are very poor. Due to the busy main road that runs between Puriton and Woolavington, events and activities that run in Puriton are almost inaccessible for those living in Woolavington and vice versa without a car. Similarly, many of our community members are older and no longer drive or feel confident to drive. The area also has many steep hills. Although there is a well-used community transport scheme in Woolavington, it is solely dependent on volunteer drivers and their permitted parameters for use are restricted largely to medical purposes and is not available to residents in Puriton.										
Objectives To learn from the existing community transport scheme in Woolavington and investigate how we can support them. To research and learn from transport solutions locally and within the Big Local community. Form project delivery partnerships to test project ideas including private sector services			Outcomes Current scheme is better supported (by either money or volunteers) Transport needs and potential solutions are better understood Transport is less of a barrier for our communities with more people from Woolavington attending activities in Puriton and vice versa.				Key Partners Sedgemoor District Council Private sector bus and taxi companies Village Wheels Young Somerset			
Key Tasks										When
Meet Village Wheels to better understand their challenges and limitations.										Feb 19
Audit of what transport is available and what the gaps are										March 19
Research transport solutions										May 19
Test project partnership developed										June 19
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Research		250			250	250				250
Test projects/projects incl promotion	1,000	2,000	6,000	5,750	14,750	8,000	9,000	9,000	8,750	34,750
Total					15,000					35,000
Total Project Costs										50,000

Support for Young People					Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together
Why? In all consultation that has taken place, various concerns for young people have always come up as a priority from across the community. With more activities needed for young people of all ages and for a broad range of times. Also the importance of improving inter-generational relationships and sharing skills has been highlighted. The projects for year 2 will be known after year 1's test projects												
Objectives To increase activities and engagement for our young people To improve the offer of youth support services in whole Villages Together area and over evenings and weekends. Improve inter-generational and skills share opportunities Involve young people from Puriton and Woolavington in decision making processes and identifying appropriate activities.			Outcomes Young people feel more confident and involved in decision making processes. More young people are attending the activities on offer. Villages Together is better understood and known by young people. A sub group of Villages Together Partnership is established. The level of antisocial behaviour by young people is reduced					Key Partners Flare Youth Group SYRP Schools Toddler groups Community Policing Team Homes in Sedgemoor Clevedon Learning Trust				
Key Tasks											When	
Develop task group to understand what is being delivered and identify gaps.											Feb 19	
Work with partners to deliver and test project ideas											Mar 19	
Meet with schools to develop the extended code club project											Feb 19	
Establish youth group to feed in ideas											July 19	
Budget £			Year 1					Year 2				
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Test projects/ projects				10,000	11,000	11,000	32,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	60,000
Possible delegated budget for young people								2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	10,000
Total							32,000					70,000
Total Project Costs											102,000	

Communications & Engagement	Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together		
<p>Why? Villages Together started out with a very strong communications and engagement plan. During the past year, due to capacity, our communications have been poor. It is apparent that there is not a clear and consistent message about Big Local and Villages Together in the community. Without regular and timely information from the partnership, we have relied on word of mouth which isn't always accurate. We all recognise the need to improve our communications and our engagement across the whole Villages Together area and across all ages.</p>										
<p>Objectives To develop a deliverable communication and engagement plan encompassing all ideas already expressed. Test new ideas including info pop up sessions, listening boxes in shops, community radio. Arrange an annual Villages Together listening event to celebrate successes (you said: we did), recognise the volunteer effort, put forward new ideas and promote opportunities to get involved. Create a relaunch of Villages Together – new plan, new worker, new logo.</p>			<p>Outcomes Volunteer effort is maintained as clarity and consistency about how to access money and what Villages Together is doing, is communicated. More residents come forward to be more formally involved in Big Local or informally through sub-groups A website is created and updated. A newsletter is published every quarter. Noticeboards are bought and kept up to date and relevant. Local press is kept up to date with progress. A social media presence is created and maintained. More people know of Villages Together.</p>				<p>Key Partners Local newsletters SHAL Homes in Sedgemoor Sedgemoor District Council</p>			
Key Tasks								When		
Develop communication and engagement plan								Jan 19		
New logo, website and relaunch								March 19		
Buy new noticeboards								Feb 19		
Arrange Village Together event								April 19		
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Website and logo	4,000				4,000	1,000				1,000
Event and promotional materials	3,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	17,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	24,000
New noticeboards	4,000				4,000					0
Total					25,000					25,000
Total Project Costs										50,000

Emerging Projects	Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible?		
<p>Why? We have not had the capacity this year to develop projects to the level we would like or had the opportunity to meet with stakeholders and a broad range of the community consistently. Our communications have been poor and the messages and understanding of Big Local is inconsistent. We therefore recognise that with the employment of a worker and deliverable plan, together with a communications & engagement campaign we may discover great projects through new avenues or opportunities, hence the need for this budget line. This is especially important as the new housing development and redevelopment of the ROF site progress.</p>										
<p>Objectives To have the flexibility to be responsive to a great idea or opportunity as it arises, so long as it is in line with the Villages Together vision.</p>	<p>Outcomes</p>						<p>Key Partners</p>			
Key Tasks										When
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Project costs – research, development, delivery etc				12,500	12,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	14,000
Total					12,500					14,000
Total Project Costs										22.500

Community Facilities	Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Villages Together		
<p>Why? We are very lucky that our Big Local area has 6 venues for community use, as well as two playing fields, play parks and vital shops and services. Each community facility faces its own challenges, which, when considering buildings, are usually very expensive. Villages Together is committed to delivering its plan and to this end, know that they want to see all halls viable and useable. It is important to understand which venue offers what, to ensure Villages Together are being complementary to what is available rather than favouring one venue over another. Also, Villages Together need to ensure they are making decisions based on what the plan dictates rather than who asks first for example.</p>										
<p>Objectives Form a community building group to be inclusive to all venues and transparent. Undertake an audit of activities, spare capacity and needs of each venue to inform Villages Together partnership. Develop project ideas as generated by our consultation for example, cinema nights, pie nights – link with possible actions in Tackling Loneliness and Support for Young People. Promote What’s On across the whole area. Support hall committees to develop project plans</p>			<p>Outcomes Hall committees are clear about how they access and how much money they can access through Big Local and Villages Together. The sustainability of the community facilities is strengthened through higher standard of building and promotional activities. The broad range of community activities that underpins much of our communities is strengthened.</p>				<p>Key Partners Puriton Sports Hall Woolavington Pavilion Puriton Village Hall Woolavington Village Hall Clist Room Communal Hall – Homes in Sedgemoor.</p>			
Key Tasks								When		
Form community buildings group								March 19		
Community buildings audit								March 19		
Promotional plan/leaflet								May 19		
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Audit and advertising	10,000	500			10,500	500				500
Small works		13,000	13,500	13,000	39,500	10,000		10,000		20,000
Large works					50,000		70,000	80,000	79,500	229,500
Total					50,000					250,000
Total Project Costs										300,000

Core Costs	Priority Area	BCC	PV	SA	BAT	QMS	SI	Who is responsible? Big Local Partnership		
Why? To oversee plans for, and spending of the funding as well as continuously talking and listening to our community takes a lot of time and effort. Developing and delivering projects and promoting how well we are doing takes ongoing commitment. Ensuring we are making difference and monitoring our work requires a consistent approach. Although we are a very committed group we are volunteers and we see the benefit of investing some money in administrative support and communications. We have learnt that our communities need additional support to develop projects. We also need to focus on communications and our engagement with our fellow community members.										
Objectives To work with SHAL to employ a VT Worker. To ensure a robust monitoring and evaluation system is established for all projects. To communicate in a variety of ways to Puriton and Woolavington residents, local service providers and Local Trust. To work with SHAL to ensure our community grants are administered. Support the development of community led projects. Fund a minute secretary to ensure minutes are consistent and shared regularly.			Outcomes Volunteer effort is maintained as weight of admin is lifted. More residents come forward to be more formally involved in Big Local or informally through sub-groups. Local people have a better understanding of Villages Together and what it does. Villages Together has a central point of contact for queries. Local people have a better idea of how to get involved and have the confidence to put forward and develop project ideas.				Key Partners SHAL			
Key Tasks										When
Employment of worker (4 days/week)										Jan 19
Minute secretary										Jan 19
Deliver key tasks of the plan										ongoing
Budget £	Year 1					Year 2				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Worker employment (incl exps)	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	30,000	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	30,000
Minute secretary	120	120	120	140	500	120	120	120	140	500
Training		1,000	500	1,000	2,500	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	3,500
Partnership expenses and sundries	500	500	500	500	2,000	500	500	500	500	2,000
Total					35,000					36,000
Total Project Costs										71,000

Our Progress

It is important for us to know if our projects are delivering real change for the Villages Together area. We will be measuring the impact of the projects in a variety of ways, including:

Measuring outputs: We will be keeping a record of the number of people who participate in the projects and how often they take place. We are particularly interested in measuring the in-kind support we will be generating and how Villages Together funding will help draw in additional funding into the area. We also want to measure how many hours' residents contribute as volunteers.

By in-kind, we mean time and resources that are given for free that we would otherwise have had to pay for.

Measuring outcomes: Collecting feedback from the participants involved in our projects will be very important. We will also ask those involved in project delivery to record the outcomes of an activity. For example, a young person may attend a sports activity but then get access to an apprenticeship scheme via one of our projects

We will decide on the best method of monitoring each project with our key partners. Information will be gathered from the start of the projects right through to the end of the projects. Some projects won't necessarily have an immediate obvious benefit but it is our hope that the projects we deliver amount to more than the sum of their parts.

We will also evaluate our work annually to understand what has and hasn't worked and why. We will review our progress against

our plan every year when we will also review our budgets. We will ensure we know why we haven't spent according to plan be it overspend or underspend.

Measuring impact

We want to get better at understanding of our impact on our local communities. We will work with other agencies and service providers to see if our support is having an impact on their monitoring. For example, has there been a reduction in GP referrals linked to social isolation? Or has there been a reduction in the incidents of antisocial behaviour?

We will also use the local insight data and tools such as net promoter scores to understand if people feel that Puriton and Woolavington is an even better place to live.



Our Risks

In delivering the first three year plan we are now better aware of the risks we may experience in delivering this plan and how to mitigate these issues:

Partnership work: We must make sure that we understand our partners. For example, what they want to get out of a project and how they work e.g. their decision-making process. Likewise, we must make sure that they understand us and what we need. We need to do this at the start of our working relationship and be constructive with each other in sorting out any emerging or potential problems.

Working with each other on the Big Local partnership and how we work: We recognise most people on the Villages Together Partnership are volunteers who also volunteer on other local groups. Hence they are very busy people with lots of local knowledge and skills that we haven't previously capitalised on. Our meetings work best when we are actively working on something together and so part of our meeting is now, and will continue to be, dedicated to being active – all partners are asked to work on something at every meeting. We hope that this will also help Villages Together to have one voice – everyone will participate and so everyone will have a better understanding and ownership of the actions.

Working with the community: Since the initial plan development we have not held big community events, or commissioned big community events. Our older people's events have been very

successful and we have tested different ways of communicating with the community in the creation of this plan. We recognise that we need to be better at this, hence a large part of our worker's role will be talking and listening to people throughout the Big Local area. We know we need to improve our communities' engagement and understanding of what Villages Together is and what it can do.

Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Good Governance: We recognise that we must always work to a high standard when working with vulnerable people and the wider community. We are also aware of the responsibility we have in managing a substantial amount of funding, which we know has come from the general public. We are careful in how we manage the funds as well as making sure the projects we deliver are value for money. We will work very closely with our locally trusted organisation, SHAL and our Big Local Rep, to ensure we are being compliant, demonstrating good governance and promoting due diligence. We welcome scrutiny of our decision making and will be reviewing our governance including how we manage conflicts of interest.

Split of partnership into Woolavington and Puriton: We are an unusual area in that we have two, possibly three, distinct communities, split by a mile-long main road with no pavement. There has always been a friction between the two villages in the wider understanding of Big Local funding and so it is vital that we continue to give consistent and coherent messages and ensure we are transparent in all aspects of our work. We have also decided that to be quorate, two residents must be present at every meeting from both Woolavington and Puriton.