



*Dilwyn*  
Parish Plan  
*2014*



# *Dilwyn*

Parish Plan

# *2014*



## *Table of Contents*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| What's a parish plan for? .....                   | 3  |
| How was the plan developed? .....                 | 4  |
| About Dilwyn .....                                | 7  |
| Short history of Dilwyn .....                     | 9  |
| Facilities and historic buildings .....           | 10 |
| Community assets – groups and organisations ..... | 12 |
| Active community life .....                       | 14 |
| Parish action plan .....                          | 14 |
| References: .....                                 | 14 |



# *What's a Parish Plan For?*

The Dilwyn parish plan has been informed by the views of those who live in the parish – a plan developed by the community for the community. The parish plan will help shape the future of Dilwyn by:

- guiding the parish council in influencing Herefordshire Council's housing and planning departments with the views of people who live here
- supporting people who develop local initiatives for the benefit of the community
- helping the community make Dilwyn an even better place to live and work in, both now and in the future.

This is summarised as an action plan with long-term objectives at the end of this document, which will be reviewed annually. The parish plan has become even more pertinent in the face of significant budget cuts in the public sector and a long term structural change in the way that communities are supported by local authorities. Things will look very different in the future and our community need to continue to work together to safeguard what we have in Dilwyn.

THANK YOU to all who've given views and been involved so far, particularly those who have volunteered considerable amounts of time, energy and ideas to the process of developing OUR parish plan.

## *Dilwyn parish plan steering group*

Alan Rudland, Andrew Brown (parish councillor), Chris Jennings, Elaine Russ, Gill Okell, Jane Clarke, Jim McGeowan, Madeleine Spinks (chairperson), Martin Huxtable, Marion Willcocks, Meg Wainwright, Nick Reid, Pete Stilwell (parish councillor), Richard Kelly (treasurer, note taker), Ruth Davies, Ruth Ford (parish councillor) and Sue Rowe.

We also acknowledge the involvement in the group in the earlier stages by: Chris Davies, Elaine Stilwell, Gerry Duncan, Helen Wingrave and John Gerrish; and the advice given by Linda Wilcox (HALC), Sophie Pryce (Community First), Chris Gooding (Herefordshire Council), Mary Burton and Rebecca Semple (Ecohere project).

Thanks also go to Dilwyn parish council and Herefordshire Council's grants team who funded the development and printing of the plan. Finally, **thank you** to the Dilwynner team and the trusty community website editors who publicised events, updates and reports for the parish plan. Photographs in this report were provided by Laura Brown, Erica Creer and Madeleine Spinks.

# How was the plan developed?

The process started with a public meeting in the village hall in February 2011 with a steering group formed to develop a parish plan, which was ratified by the parish council in November 2013. The process has included many opportunities for residents to get involved and give views on what they think is important and what they want in future for Dilwyn, with the different stages shown in the following table. Gathering evidence on people's views has formed a crucial part in initiatives to save and maintain several village facilities over the last couple of years.

| Date  | What happened  |
|---|--|
| <b>The beginning</b><br>16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2011                     | <i>Public meeting held at the Cedar Hall, facilitated by Linda Wilcox from the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils, attended by approx. 50 people</i><br>A list of issues was drawn up, including safeguarding the facilities we have (school, pub, hall etc) and proposing new aspects such as a community shop, affordable housing, emergency plan and bulk buying. 18 people prepared to go on a steering group to develop a parish plan. |
| <b>Setting things up</b><br>April - July                              | 14 <sup>th</sup> April: First steering group meeting with Sophie Pryce from Community First at the Crown Inn. Treasurer & Secretary appointed. Constitution finalised in June. Grant fund and pub subgroups established July.  |
| <b>Saving the school</b><br>March – June 2011                         | Notification that Herefordshire Council run school body will close end of July. Action to continue the operation of the school to ensure continuity of education from the school building from August 2011.  |
| <b>Saving the pub</b><br>18 <sup>th</sup> August 2011                 | <i>Public meeting</i> with a focus on saving the pub & need for a fast-track village facility questionnaire  |
| <b>Facilities survey</b><br>30 <sup>th</sup> August                   | Fast track survey of 3 village facilities (pub, hall & play area) to obtain key evidence for funding to save pub, insulate village hall roof and refurbish the play area facilities. Summary results published early October.  |
| <b>Planning for Real</b><br>8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> October | <i>Planning for Real</i> events in the pub and in the hall to explore what's important in Dilwyn and what needs improving, using large maps. Report done of results.   |
| <b>Results of survey</b><br>November                                  | Full report of survey results done for parish council & parish plan steering group, focus on pub & hall reports done for pub-subgroup & village hall committee (to help prioritise action on improvements).  |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Community buy the pub</b></p> <p>Dec – March <b>2012</b></p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012</p> <p>March</p> <p>April</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pub-subgroup &amp; parish council meetings discussed community buy out of pub</li> <li>• Public meeting which sought a mandate for community buy-out of pub or not (lead by parish council in the hall). Mandate given by a fully packed hall.</li> <li>• Parish council bought the pub using a public works loan.</li> <li>• Pub management committee established which includes five parish councillors, an accountant, a solicitor and several members of the community.</li> <li>• Tenant found and pub re-opens for May bank holiday (village show cancelled)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Teasing out the issues</b></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> March</p>   | <p>Parish plan group divided into thematic groups (environment; community help and facilities/assets) to focus on items for improvement or new initiatives. ‘Maintenance’ issues were passed to relevant organisations. New initiatives were scoped further to test need and demand using the extensive questionnaire and action plan.</p>   |
| <p><b>Eco-Dilwyn event</b></p> <p>20<sup>th</sup> June 2012</p>   | <p><i>Eco-Dilwyn event</i> held to explore sustainability issues raised in the Planning for Real events e.g. community garden/allotments, community transport, composting, bulk-buying LPG. In conjunction with Eco-here</p>   |
| <p><b>Youth engagement</b></p> <p>31<sup>st</sup> August</p>  | <p><i>Festival of fun</i> event for young children alongside Wildplay event, asking what they liked about Dilwyn &amp; what could be improved. Report done on this in September &amp; circulated to parish plan group &amp; parish council.</p>  |





|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Household questionnaire</b></p> <p>October 2012 – March 2013</p>                 | <p>Extensive household questionnaire drafted, checked by Council experts and ratified by the parish council.</p> <p>2 questionnaires per household distributed by the Dilwynner team, collected by hand end of November by volunteers. Closed 10<sup>th</sup> December and prize draw done at Carols on the Green. Data entry begun. Analysis and headline results in January 2013. Results presented to parish council 12<sup>th</sup> Feb and reports published and distributed in March.</p> |
| <p><b>Free school opens</b></p> <p>January 2013</p>                                    | <p>First free school in Herefordshire officially opened after running on volunteer power for 18 months including all teaching staff. Funding now received directly from Dept for Education.</p>   |
| <p><b>Prioritise which initiatives to take forward</b></p> <p>April &amp; May 2013</p> | <p>18<sup>th</sup> May: Parish plan event with feedback of what's happened so far, results of all the consultation and events and to seek views on whether the parish plan group is on the right track with a first draft of the parish plan. All community groups and organisations invited to the event.</p>  |
| <p><b>Draft parish plan consultation</b></p> <p>July &amp; August</p>                  | <p>July – August: Second draft of the parish plan available for comment online, in the hall, pub &amp; church.</p>  |
| <p><b>Monthly market</b></p> <p>September</p>  | <p>First monthly market trialled.</p>   |
| <p><b>Parish plan sign off</b></p> <p>September to November 2013</p>                   | <p>Parish plan steering group met to consider any comments or amendments needed to the parish plan. Formally ratified by the parish council November 2013. Printed and launched in the hall in spring 2014. Report to the annual parish meeting in May 2014.</p>  |



# About Dilwyn

Dilwyn is a beautiful rural village in the north west of Herefordshire in Weobley locality, 9 miles south west from the market town of Leominster and 12 miles to the north west of Hereford city. Dilwyn has a strong sense of community with significant facilities and assets, given the relatively small population. The facilities include a village hall (called the Cedar hall), St Mary's parish church, a community-owned pub (The Crown), a school (St Mary's Church of England primary), a preschool (Dilwyn Playgroup), a village green in the centre of the village and a playing field with wildlife garden next to the school and village hall. Dilwyn also has nearly twenty local organisations and groups which manage these facilities alongside other purposes such as a social club for older people (Cedar Club), or a link with national organisations (Women's Institute, Young Farmer's Club, Royal British Legion) or classes for health and well-being (fitness, art, crafts).

The 2011 Census showed that there are 711 residents in the parish living in 300 households, with an overall older age profile than the county and nationally as shown in the table below. Dilwyn is a relatively large parish at 2,363 hectares and is very sparsely populated (0.3 people per hectare). Just over half the population are female at 52 per cent (similar to county and national rates).

| Age group | Dilwyn |      | Herefordshire | England |
|-----------|--------|------|---------------|---------|
|           | Number | %    | %             | %       |
| 0-17 yrs  | 149    | 21.0 | 19.6          | 21.4    |
| 18-24 yrs | 28     | 3.9  | 7.2           | 9.4     |
| 25-44 yrs | 128    | 18.0 | 23.5          | 27.5    |
| 45-64 yrs | 231    | 32.5 | 28.6          | 25.4    |
| 65-74 yrs | 102    | 14.3 | 11.2          | 8.6     |
| 75-84 yrs | 55     | 7.7  | 7.2           | 5.5     |
| 85 yrs +  | 18     | 2.5  | 2.9           | 2.3     |
| TOTAL     | 711    |      |               |         |

*(Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright)*

**Table 1: 2011 Census population with proportion of total by age-band for Dilwyn, Herefordshire and England**

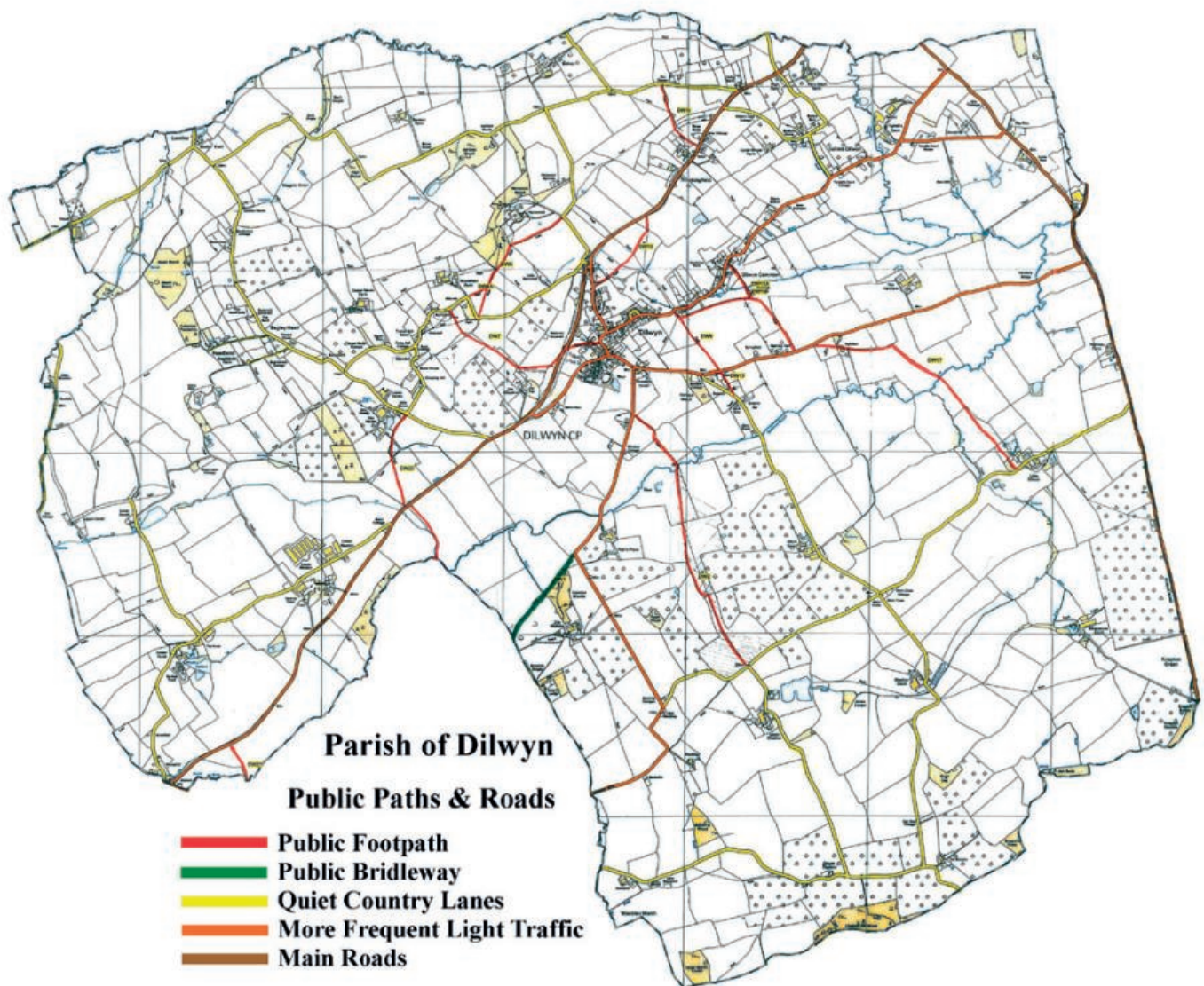
Residents of Dilwyn in general are in good health with slightly lower levels of people whose daily activities are limited by a long-term illness or health problem (about 15 per cent of households). A fifth of households are families with dependent children and 13 per cent are households with people aged 65 and over – both higher than county and national levels.

Dilwyn is part of the Weobley locality which is one of the 10 per cent most deprived areas in England in terms of a lack of access to services. In addition to that, our locality is also one of





the few rural areas in the 25 per cent most deprived in the county for so-called 'multiple deprivation', primarily income and economic deprivation. Being physically isolated in a rural area can add challenges to accessing services and for interacting socially. This makes local organisations and facilities so important. Rural households are also likely to face additional costs associated with transport and heating the home, which have increased at a higher rate than inflation – in 2013 minimum income requirements were estimated nationally to be at least 10 per cent higher for residents of villages than for the population as a whole. Pensioner couples had the greatest difference with income requirements being 25 per cent higher.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Source: 'Understanding Herefordshire'; [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures)





# *Short History of Dilwyn*

*By Andrew Stirling-Brown*

We do not know when the settlement of Dilwyn was founded, but we can be fairly certain that it was an established Saxon community before the Norman Conquest. The earliest written evidence is to be found in the Domesday Book, which tells us that before 1066, 'Dilven' was a thriving holding of the Saxon thane, Edwin. At the time of Domesday it was in the hands of the Norman, William d'Ecouis. Many noted and famous medieval families have been associated with the later lordship of Dilwyn and its surrounding, smaller manors. These include such names as Gammages, Talbot, Mallory and Tyrrell.

In 1259, King Henry III granted the manor to Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester and the king's brother-in-law. De Montfort, regarded as a pioneer in the development of what would become England's parliamentary system, later rebelled against the Crown and was eventually defeated and killed at the battle of Evesham in 1265. The king then granted Dilwyn to his younger son, Edmund, earl of Lancaster. This lordship continued through the descendants of Edmund, the subsequent dukes of Lancaster, who sub-tenanted Dilwyn to minor aristocratic families.

Throughout the 16th century, lordship of the manor would appear to have rested with the Tomkyns family of Monington. On Thursday, November 18th, 1645, the countrywide impact of the English Civil War was felt in the village when a troop of Royalist horsemen "removed to Delwyn" for a few days. In his diary, one of the troopers present, Richard Symonds, gives a detailed description of what he saw in the village church, as well as a timber constructed building at the church gate called a "palme-howse". He also mentions seeing a 6 feet in diameter waterwheel that "will turne spitts, two chernes, and beate in a mortar". In the 1660's – 70's, Martin Johnson, vicar of Dilwyn, wrote how the longevity of his parishioners was down to the drinking of nothing but cider! He also claimed that a Morris dance had been performed by ten villagers whose total ages amounted to more than a thousand years!

Around the mid to late 17th century, a lot of reconstruction would appear to have taken place in the village. Many of the surviving timber framed houses that can be seen today date from this time, some incorporating older timbers from earlier buildings. One example is the Crown Inn, the last functioning pub of three that are known to have existed here. This may be down to the wealthy Tyler and Carpenter families, resident in and around Dilwyn at the time and after. John Tyler, of the Great House in Dilwyn, was sheriff of Hereford in 1729, while Thomas Carpenter had occupied the post six years earlier.

The 19th century saw great social change in the country, evidenced in Dilwyn by such things as the building of its first proper school in 1845 (still in existence today) and the introduction of trade unionism to the working population. In the October of 1872, representatives of the National Agricultural Labourers Union paid two visits to the village. On a wet Thursday, October 18th, around 300 "...a little bit timid and fearful" locals turned out for the first meeting to listen to the speakers. Ten days later, the union reps returned and this time the reception was much better, "Hearty cheers both loud and long were given," and 25 new members were enrolled on the spot.

In the early 1900's, famous author and folklorist Ella Mary Leather, a resident of the village of Weobley, invited the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams to the area to collect folk songs and carol tunes, some of which he heard from residents in and around Dilwyn. The nationally famous Morris dance known as the Dilwyn Stick Dance was also noted down around this time. This dance is still performed by the village children every May bank holiday at the village show.

The 20th century saw many changes to the village, such as the gradual dominance of the motor car, modern road surfaces, electricity, changes in work and recreation, new housing developments and the loss of its local shops and post office. Neither did it escape the effect of two world wars, as it's church war memorial testifies. Further information and Dilwyn history can be found in St Mary's church and the Crown Inn.



# Facilities and Historic Buildings

*Dilwyn has many historic buildings and interesting features with most of the central village designated as a conservation area. There are some forty listed buildings within the village and surrounding parish, some of which are listed in the following section.*



**St Mary's Church** is the site of religious worship in the village built of local sandstone. The church tower (circa 1200) is the oldest surviving part of an earlier church, contains 6 bells and, like the main body of the church, has castellated parapets. The transept is mid 14th century. In the 15 century the clerestory was heightened and windows inserted. The porch dates from the 16th century. The earlier timber spire was rebuilt in the 19th century. The church has fantastic acoustics so is used for organ recitals, classical music concerts and the annual school nativity play.



**Old Forge & Craft Centre** The 17th century Old Forge cottage is a pretty black and white Grade II listed cottage next to the Old Forge which is now used as a craft centre and tea room.



**The Great House** in the centre of the village was originally a 16th century timber-framed house which was much altered and refaced in brick.



**Karen Court** Although looking as if they were always cottages, these buildings were originally the farm structures belonging to the Great House. Of 17th century origin, they included a granary, barn and tallat (apple or grain store).



**The Village Green** in the centre of the village is a relatively recent addition. The green used to be a fenced field that was part of Townsend Farm whose buildings were behind the present green. When the Garnstone Estate sold off the farm and land, development was not allowed in the centre of the village and this area was eventually donated to the community. It is now a protected open space.





### **Village School**

The school was originally established with an endowment from Lacon Lambe (Henwood) and with nine acres of land donated by Thomas Phillips. The original 1850 building has been extended over the years and is now the home of **St Mary's Church of England primary school** - Herefordshire's first 'free' school funded directly by the Dept for Education. The adjoining playing field and play equipment is leased to the school but is also used by the wider community as a valuable green space.



**The Crown Inn** is the first community owned pub in Herefordshire and is the only pub in the village. The original 17th century timber-framed building is hidden by changes made in the late 18th or early 19th century. Some of the original framework is still visible inside the public areas and old photographs of Dilwyn adorn the walls.



### **Dilwyn's Hidden Castle**

Now concealed within private gardens and not accessible to the public, Dilwyn's norman castle was a motte and bailey type structure having a shell keep with a 5 to 6 foot wall thickness. Excavations show a possible square stone keep within the shell. A square keep would be quite rare for Herefordshire. Most of the original upper bailey has disappeared under modern development. The motte, moat, lower bailey and fishponds have survived to varying extents.



### **Dilwyn Cedar Hall**

The village hall is the largest community space in the village with access for mobility limited people. It was established in its current form in 1972 and managed as a charity by members of the community. It is regularly used by the local pre-school, Dilwyn Playgroup, parent and tots group, for art and craft classes, yoga and fitness classes, and for meetings (W.I., parish council meetings and a social club for older people). It is also regularly hired out for celebration events, live music, theatre, films, fetes and fairs and charity coffee mornings.



# Community Assets - Groups & Organisations

## Dilwyn Parish Council

*The Council plays an active part in the life of the civil parish, dealing with such matters as planning applications, general amenities and maintenance of the area defined by the Parish boundaries, while supporting various organisations with grants, etc., where appropriate. It is financed through a parish precept as part of Council Tax and has 12 elected parish councillors. It meets monthly and the agenda and minutes are publicly available and any member of the public is welcome to attend.*



## Cedar Club

Essentially a social club, Dilwyn Cedar Club meets on the third Thursday of the month, at 2.30pm in Cedar Hall. The Committee aims to provide a varied programme of speakers, with interesting subjects to cover all tastes, and also arranges several outings during the year, for which a coach is booked



## Dilwyn Woman's Institute

Part of a national institution, the W.I. plays a unique role in providing women with educational opportunities and the chance to build new skills, to take part in a wide variety of activities and to campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities. Meetings are held every 2nd Thursday of the month in the Cedar Hall.



## Royal British Legion, Dilwyn Branch

The Dilwyn Branch was formed on 1st April 1928 and amalgamated with Eardisland and Monkland into the present Dilwyn Branch in the late 1980s. There are now two social evenings each November and February where invited speakers talk about a military subject. In addition, the annual Remembrance Parade and the AGM are held. Where possible, outside trips and visits are also organised. The programme has proved to be very successful over the last 13 years in gaining and retaining, members with the result that we currently have 107 active members! Meetings are held at the Crown Inn, Dilwyn.



## Dilwyn Neighbourhood Watch

Dilwyn has a long standing and very active Neighbourhood Watch scheme run by volunteers. Liaising closely with the Kington Rural Police, Dilwyn's NHW scheme operates regular night patrols covering the whole parish. We meet regularly at the Crown Inn when a police officer usually attends. The meetings are open to all, and are friendly informal gatherings.



# DILWYNNER

## The Dilwynner

A free magazine delivered to all households within Dilwyn parish and additional copies in the Cedar Hall, church and pub. Run by volunteers which includes the editor, compiling, contributions and distribution. The Dilwynner is financed by its advertising income and by the civil Dilwyn Parish Council and is printed and delivered free of charge to all parish households by a team of volunteers. The Dilwynner, in its present form, was created in 1991 and ever since has served our community well, providing interest and information on local amenities and events. Over the years, the team producing it has changed from time to time but, for much of its existence, it was led by Alec Whitfield, to whom a great debt of gratitude is owed for his wisdom and for his mastery of the technicalities, to say nothing of all the hard work involved.



## dilwyn.com Community Website

Community run website provides information for visitors from history to events, facilities and groups.



## Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers

The HFYFC is dedicated to providing young people in Herefordshire aged 10-26 years with a wealth of new experiences and opportunities. These include personal development and training opportunities that enable members to learn an array of new skills, take part in a varied competitions programme, get involved with the local community, have a voice on rural issues, travel abroad and enjoy a dynamic social life. The Dilwyn YFC meets fortnightly on a Wednesday at 8pm in the Cedar Hall.

## Dilwyn Cedar Hall Management Committee

Dilwyn Cedar Hall Management Committee (charity) with subcommittee Flicks in the sticks which organises monthly films.

In addition to these formal organisations, there are a plethora of informal activities and groups, focussed on interests, hobbies and social gatherings. This rich tapestry of community activity needs to be supported and protected by the village plan.



# Active Community Life

There are many and varied events organised in Dilwyn to celebrate particular times of the year or for fund-raising events. These are all important opportunities to socialise. The parish plan survey showed that most people (just under 90 per cent) are in contact with family, friends or neighbours on a regular basis. It also showed that 40 per cent of people in Dilwyn volunteer at least once a month through clubs and organisations, higher than the county (34 per cent). Both aspects are important parts of 'social capital' and a strong community.

The largest event is probably the village show in the first May bank holiday of the year, attracting thousands of people. Other examples include fund-raising themed parties, ceilidhs, coffee mornings, Easter egg hunt, church fete, harvest festival, Halloween, bonfire night, Burns night, beer festival, Carols on the Green, Christmas (including a crib service on Christmas Eve) and New Year's day hunt.

# Parish Action Plan

See the following table with objectives, action and status.

# References

Reports showing the results of all consultation and engagement related to the parish plan can be found on the Dilwyn community website as listed below:

1. Public meeting to establish whether to do a parish plan (16th Feb 2011)
2. Facility survey (August 2011)
3. Planning for Real events (October 2011)
4. Eco-Dilwyn event (20th June 2012)
5. Youth engagement event/'Festival of fun' (31st August 2012)
6. Parish plan household survey (October 2012)







# Action plan

(to be reviewed at the annual parish meeting)

| Objective                       | Need (majority support or minority need)   | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)  | Responsibility  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| To re-open the Crown Inn        | Focal point for socialising, food and drink in the village. 95% of residents who responded to the 2011 facility survey said that it was important to have a pub in the village. 65% said they would support a proposal for the community to buy the pub with a further 16% stating 'it depends' such as more information needed, requires someone good to run it and if there was a viable business plan.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek a mandate from residents to pursue the community buying the freehold via a public works loan through the parish council. <i>Mandate sought by parish council (public meeting March 2012, facility survey autumn 2011)</i></li> <li>Purchase the pub on behalf of the community using a public works loan via the parish council. <i>(Achieved April 2012).</i></li> <li>Re-open pub in time for the village show. <i>(Tenant found, pub re-opened for first May bank holiday (village show cancelled due to poor weather).</i></li> <li>Run a successful community pub <b>(TENANT)</b></li> <li>Oversee long-term future of this village asset, management of tenancy and ensure adequate maintenance of the buildings and grounds</li> </ul> | Pub hub committee of Dilwyn parish council with the tenant. Advice from Herefordshire Council and Herefordshire Assoc. of Local Councils. |
| To keep the primary school open | Need to continue to provide education for young children in the village, to reduce the need to travel and keep the village attractive to families. 2010 consultation showed very high levels of support for the continuation of the school in the village as the heart of this rural community. 98% of respondents to the survey said the closure of the school would have a negative impact on the community. Also, to continue the use of the school building and playing field for community use. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run the school voluntarily as a non-fee paying independent school until state funding is secured. <i>(Done for 18 months by action group with teachers, parents and others working unpaid to keep the school going)</i></li> <li>Secure state funding <i>(Done, opened as the first free school in the county Jan. 2013)</i></li> <li>Continue to support the school as a community so it is successful in the long-term.</li> <li>Strengthen the partnership with Dilwyn Playgroup as a feeder to the school, to ensure the long-term</li> </ul>  | St Mary's CE primary academy ltd; Friends of St Mary's. In partnership with Dept of Education; Dilwyn Playgroup; the community.           |



| Objective  | Need (majority support or minority need)   | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)  | Responsibility   |
|--|--|---|--|
| To improve the village hall facility                       | 95% of residents said the hall is important in the village (facility survey 2011). Nearly 90% said the heating/insulation needed improving as it was inefficient and costly. Regular hirers complain of heating costs and cold. 38% said the kitchen needed refurbishment (kitchen counters disintegrated 2012).   | <p>financial viability of both.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Obtain quotes for insulating/replacing the roof (<i>July 2012</i>)</li> <li>● Obtain advice &amp; apply for funding (<i>June - August 2012</i>)</li> <li>● Refurbish kitchen (<i>March 2013</i>)</li> <li>● Review action plan for insulation of roof &amp; secure funding (<i>Funding secured from grants &amp; donations by autumn 2013</i>)</li> <li>● Insulate roof and replace roof covering (<i>completed Dec 2013</i>)</li> <li>● Continue to maintain and improve the village hall for the use as a community resource in the future (<i>consideration of proposals to develop and extend the hall as part of the long term support of village institutions, 2014</i>).</li> </ul> | Dilwyn Cedar Hall committee. In partnership with the community; the parish council; Community First. |
| To improve the equipment in the play area next to the hall | Need to refurbish the existing equipment and provide new aspects raised in the Planning for Real and Festival of fun events. 94% of respondents in the facility survey said it was important to have play equipment in the play area, 97% said the playing field is important, 82% said picnic benches and 73% said the wildlife area is important. Improvements needed mostly focussed on renovation, replacement and new play equipment. e.g. swings for older children. This was also reflected in the parish plan survey a year later. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish what new equipment is desired (<i>done 2011/12</i>)</li> <li>● Refurbish existing play equipment (<i>done, March 2013</i>)</li> <li>● Investigate funding for new equipment</li> </ul>   | St Mary's CE primary, Dilwyn. In partnership with the community.                                     |





| Objective  | Need (majority support or minority need)   | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)   | Responsibility   |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>To have more local control on the type of development in the parish (planning applications)</p> | <p>51% of respondents from the parish plan survey felt there should be some <i>new housing built but within strict limits</i>, followed by 30% saying <i>there should be some limit on new house building</i>. If additional houses were built in future; 57% said they should be affordable houses; 58% said starter homes; 54% said family homes and 17% said homes adapted for limited mobility. Nearly 80% of respondents said they would support the conversion of redundant buildings for workshops/retail compared with 56% who would support small business units. 76% said they would not support the development of large industrial buildings in the parish</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback to parish council (<i>done February 2013</i>)</li> <li>• Parish council to use when considering planning applications</li> <li>• Parish council to use as evidence to support feedback on planning application to local authority planners</li> <li>• Consider whether to pursue a neighbourhood plan</li> </ul>   | <p>Dilwyn parish council. In partnership with Herefordshire Council.</p>   |
| <p>To improve access to footpaths, particularly replacing stiles with kissing gates</p>            | <p>Planning for Real identified (on a map) gaps in the footpaths, particularly to create another circular route. The parish plan survey found that 42% of respondents use footpaths or bridleways monthly or more frequently, 37% less often. Nearly two-thirds of respondents said they would like to see kissing gates replacing stiles with just under half saying they would like to see stiles with easier dog access and better signage, followed by improved suitability for the disabled.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport and footpaths subgroup established. <i>April 2012</i></li> <li>• <b>Short term:</b> improve and promote the use of the existing public rights of way. Maintenance and replace stiles with kissing gates (<i>Some done in 2012/13</i>). Support the work of the parish footpaths officer.</li> <li>• <b>Medium term:</b> to help promote the use of paths, publish a route guide for a long and a short circular walk starting/finishing in the village centre. Organise a guided village/family walk a few times a year using the paths such as the sponsored church walk and the Yuletide family walk.</li> <li>• <b>Longer term:</b> create a longer circular walk, making</li> </ul> | <p>Dilwyn parish council (footpath officer with support from informal footpaths group). In partnership with Herefordshire Council.</p> |



| Objective  | Need (majority support or minority need)  | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)   | Responsibility  |
|--|---|--|---|
| To coordinate volunteer support for facilities in the parish                                       | Same few people organising events and running local organisations. Can lead to individuals becoming over-committed and clashes in fund-raising events   | <p>existing paths into a more useful network, joining up public rights of way with permissive routes diplomatically negotiated with landowners. (<i>Negotiation underway with landowners</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Long term dream:</b> A surfaced safe walking and cycle path between Dilwyn &amp; Weobley. Possibly along the wide left hand verge alongside the A4112.</li> <li>• Map out current facilities and assets (<i>done April 2012, 2013 and included in this report</i>)</li> <li>• Identify areas to integrate and coordinate volunteer activity for the benefit of the community</li> <li>• Test ideas out with the community and local organisations (<i>village events diary held at the pub; trial online calendar of events on community website</i>)</li> </ul> | Dilwyn parish council   |
| To support people in need of help in the parish, particularly those who are isolated or vulnerable | Identified at <i>Planning for Real</i> events and parish plan thematic group. Minority need from parish plan survey (20% would like help with the garden, 11% help at home, 12% are in contact with people once a week or less). Given the older age profile of the residents in Dilwyn, the shrinking public sector and poor public transport links; it is still important to those in need: to support some people with getting to and from health appointments, collecting prescriptions, help at home and in the garden. This need may be occasional e.g. recovering from an operation, bereavement or regular. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community support sub-group established (<i>April 2012</i>)</li> <li>• Research what works and what doesn't (<i>May - June 2012; included investigation into Red Cross village warden and good neighbour schemes locally</i>)</li> <li>• Undertake further research into feasibility with existing local support/informal help</li> <li>• Establish an informal 'good neighbour' scheme, building on existing forms of support in the village such as RBL, W.I. and Cedar Club. (<i>Discussed summer 2013, decided to focus on establishment of community café and market</i>)</li> <li>• Ensure link with emergency plan (using local knowledge to ensure most vulnerable are prioritised)</li> </ul>  | Informal parish plan community help group, linked to community café and market and parish council emergency plan. |





| Objective   | Need (majority support or minority need)  | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)  | Responsibility                             |
|---|---|---|--|
| To establish a locally produced/made market                 | <p>Idea at Planning for Real event and explored further by parish plan group and Eco-Dilwyn event. Survey found that 78% of people would use a market for locally produced goods; a quarter said they'd help run it (45 people) and a further 14% said it would depend on what was required.</p> <p>Related to this, 42% of respondents to this question said they would use a barter system for services/goods regularly or occasionally</p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate demand using parish plan survey <i>(done)</i></li> <li>Propose how it would work <i>(several potential champions from the group &amp; offers of help from the survey)</i></li> <li>Test ideas out with the community and local organisations at parish plan event</li> <li>Trial run monthly locally produced market in September 2013 and possible Christmas market alongside Carols on the Green <i>(now running successfully every month since September 2013 from the Cedar Hall)</i></li> </ul> | Dilwyn Cedar Hall committee                |
| To establish a community shop                               | <p>Ideas raised in relation to the community purchase of the pub and adjoining building, confirmed by facility survey and parish plan survey (75% said they'd use a community run shop and a further 14% saying 'it depends'. 25% said they'd help run it (44 people) with a further 14% saying 'it depends').</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate demand using parish plan survey <i>(done 2011)</i></li> <li>Test ideas out with the community and local organisations</li> </ul>   | Pub hub committee of Dilwyn parish council |
| To improve access to transport to reduce dependency on cars | <p>Identified at Planning for Real and Eco-Dilwyn events. However parish plan survey results don't show great demand for establishing a community transport scheme although the results provide useful information for the 'help your neighbour' scheme. Park and share scheme may be feasible (33% would use + a further 25% 'it depends'). This is where people car sharing can leave one car at a designated parking place in Dilwyn during the day.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate feasibility by looking at existing schemes and test demand using parish plan survey. <i>Parish plan survey results showed very low demand for public transport and the establishment of a community transport scheme. 2011 Census showed very high rates of car ownership, with only 6% of households with no car/van compared to 16% in the county and a quarter nationally.</i></li> <li>No further action to establish a community transport scheme</li> </ul>                                    |  |



| Objective   | Need (majority support or minority need)  | Action plan and status (as of June 2014)   | Responsibility                              |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>To 'live more, use less': share and publish information on schemes to help</p> | <p>Planning for Real and Eco-Dilwyn events.<br/>           Help to live independently<br/>           Help on sustainable living – energy efficiency, sharing transport, reducing energy costs, bulk buy food, oil and LPG</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate alternative means to Dilwynners e.g. existing community transport schemes (<i>done in Dilwynner article 2013</i>), car sharing database (<i>done at parish plan events 2013</i>).</li> <li>• Green deal initiative explored with six households (<i>no progress, time constraints</i>).</li> <li>• Share information on schemes using the Dilwynner and the website.</li> </ul> | <p>Informal Dilwyn sustainability group</p> |