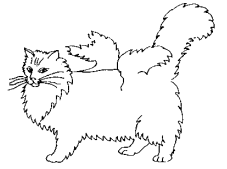


Wiveliscombe Messenger



Serving the Wivey Area

April/May 2006 No 52

Milverton Parish Plan - shaping the future

Q What is a Parish Plan?

A It is a vision of how the community wants to develop and it identifies the actions needed to achieve it. It includes everything that is relevant to the people who live and work in the community, from employment and playgrounds to the design of new buildings and the protection of hedges and ponds.

The Parish Plan should:

- Reflect the views of all sections of the community
- Identify which features and local characteristics people value
- Identify local problems and opportunities
- Spell out how residents want the community to develop in the future
- Prepare a plan of action to achieve this vision.

(This is taken from a Guidance for Parish and Town Councils which was produced by the Countryside Agency)



Milverton residents take a full part in planning for the future

ALMOST twelve months ago, at the Annual Milverton Parish Meeting, a parishioner mentioned that they thought we should be preparing a Parish Plan.

At the time, very few people knew what it was, and it has taken twelve months to get started, but that has included preparing a successful application for a grant, which arrived in February 2006.

This will help to cover the significant costs which will be incurred in consulting every household in the Parish, and printing the final document over the next twelve months.

As soon as the grant cheque arrived, a core group got together to plan what was called "Make a Difference Day".

This happened on Saturday March 11th when almost 150 people of all ages came to the Victoria Rooms to have their say.

Most looked very careful-

ly at a Power Point presentation which gave lots of ideas about "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" of the parish, before taking "post it" notes and filling in their ideas, which were then stuck to the subject boards placed around the room.

At the same time, Victoria Rooms committee members very kindly provided coffees and cakes, to make it less of a chore, and more of a pleasure. At the end of the day, almost 600 ideas had been registered.

The next stage is the sifting of all of the ideas and preparation of a questionnaire, based on the ideas

presented. Volunteers will deliver this questionnaire to all households, and once these have been returned, groups of volunteers will set about working on the details of every section.

These will include Agriculture and Biodiversity, Arts, Sports, Leisure, Business, Employment, Child-care and Children, Community, Community Safety, Health and Social Needs, Housing, Training, Learning, Traffic and Parking, all within the umbrella of the history and development of the Parish of Milverton.

Once the final document

has been drawn up and circulated, the parish will know it has produced a document which accurately reflects the views of those who live and work in the parish, and which can, therefore, be presented to Local Authorities, Government and Statutory bodies which may have an influence upon those views.

Anyone who would like to become involved in any part of the Parish Plan is asked to get in touch with Jenny Hoyle on tony@the-hoyles.freeserve.co.uk or Gwilym Wren, the Milverton Parish Clerk.

Printed and published by the West Somerset Free Press on behalf of the Wiveliscombe Civic Society

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Deadline for next issue

THE deadline for copy for the June/July issue is Thursday May 11th. All material can be sent or delivered to Wiveliscombe House or sent by email to: messenger@wiveliscombe.com

Our aim is to ensure that copies of the Messenger are delivered and available to the community within three days of publication. If you can help us with delivery please contact Hilary Miller 01984 623875.

Editorial Team

Hilary Miller: 623875 - Newspaper co-ordinator
Brian Collingridge: 624336 - Local Economic Initiatives
David Bond: 623308 - Photographic, general interest
Pauline Homeshaw: 624564 - General interest
Lavinia Werrett: 01823 401464 - Milverton correspondent
Dave Meehan: 624544
Simon Turnbull: 623330
Ilana Alder: 624102
E-mail: messenger@wiveliscombe.com

EDITORIAL

New outlets for the Messenger

THE Wiveliscombe Messenger is now available from the new Stawley Village Shop and Post Office which is located conveniently right next to the Primary School with ample parking.

Many thanks are due to all those connected with Greenham Post Office from where the Messenger used to be distributed.

There is also a change of outlet in Milverton - after many years, Keith at the Post Office has suggested that the Cost-cutter would be a better place for people to pick up their copy of the paper. So

thank you to all concerned for enabling the change to take place.

Some people prefer to make contributions to the Messenger under a nom de plume or anonymously. This is possible, although some might say that people should have the courage of their convictions.

However, the Editor is legally required to know the name and address of all correspondents, even if they are not named in the paper. Therefore Mr, Mrs or Ms who wrote about £25,000 feasibility funding and suggested other ways of using this money, as you gave no name, we can't print your opinions.



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- ★ Fresh Bread (some baked in shop) ★
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