

First of all may I say 'thankyou' to all those who have been involved in creating the 2020 plan. The amount of time, thought and commitment given is impressive indeed.

Below are the aspects I think a) are the most important, b) those which are valuable but perhaps of lesser importance, and c) those which I would call 'frills' but would be nice to have at some time in the future:

a) **Most Important**

1. Proposed new village green on Manor Farm and the avenue of trees leading to it. The proposed new hall to have areas to suit needs of varying village groups/activities

2. Adherence to a high building code standard and visual coherence; use of building materials that reflect past history (e.g. 'header & stretcher' brick design as in some High Street cottages & also Halls Close). Avoidance of ribbon development or significant extension of the village boundary.

3. Refurbishment of existing village hall which I think probably has the potential to be made as useful and attractive as that in Steventon.

4. Requiring contributions from developers towards funding facilities in the village, no matter how many houses they build, should be a mandatory requirement.

5. Work to screen the A34 and reduce traffic noise should be high priority.

6. Measures to reduce speeding cars; I prefer flashing lights or smiley faces. I think that forcing drivers to stick to 20mph is impractical. Pedestrian crossings on Steventon Road and the High Street would help.

7 Very important to increase sports facilities, playing fields etc. If a play area and gym is to be built on the Millennium Green could it be placed in a corner, so that the very attractive, peaceful central area is not spoiled.

8. Proposed extension to cycle track would be very welcome especially as Milton park is due to increase in size.

b) **Secondary importance**

1. Tree planting and wild flower meadows would increase the attractiveness of the scenery

2. Warden assisted housing might be useful but where? Might it be possible instead to provide housing for a warden/s to oversee the existing elderly residents' accommodation?

3. Retail & business space might be desirable but where? And also we have seen a number of small retail businesses open and quickly close in recent years, even though they were on the main road through the village. Maintaining existing shops would be helped by better parking facilities.

4. An increase in the number of buses might be desirable but for many people leading busy & complicated lives car travel is much more convenient; so would more buses be sufficiently used? Certainly bus companies might be urged to make services more reliable and signing of expected timing more accurate. The X1 bus has been a recent welcome addition to the local service.

c) "Frills"

1. As to car sharing I think that is possibly a desirable aim but not a very practical one. A few might car share but, as already said, people's lives are so complicated & busy that independent travel is more convenient for the majority.

2. A circular parish trail would seem to me to be unnecessary. The map of village footpaths shows that it is quite possible to do a large number of walks, both circular and otherwise, without creating a new route.

3. Green roofs seem like a bit of a gimmick

4. Bat & bird boxes might be an ecologically attractive idea but not of high priority. Maybe they could be something in future for a school project or a new natural history group.

5. Space for sale of local produce, crafts et.? Over idealistic?

Within each section I haven't necessarily listed my comments/ideas in order of priority.

The future is going to be a huge challenge for those who are currently involved and for future volunteers, and the necessary timescale will be daunting. Good luck to all.

Jenny.