

# Irthington

## PARISH COUNCIL

**Community Plan Report 2011**



# **Irthington Parish Council**

## **Community Plan Report**

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# **Irthington Parish Council**

## **Community Plan Report 2011**

### **1. Summary**

During 2010, and the early months of 2011, Irthington Parish council has carried out a wide consultation exercise to seek the views of its parishioners. The concerns and desires expressed have been drawn together into an action plan, which is presented in this report. While many of the proposed actions will require co-operation and/or funding from other bodies we feel that this forms a viable basis for long term planning of the actions of the Parish Council. Given the current financial climate, it is recognised that this programme may well be rather more extended than we would have liked, but it will remain our aim to achieve these targets over the next five years.

## 2. Introduction

- **Location**

Irthington Parish is located in the Carlisle City Council district of Cumbria and is bounded by the parishes of Brampton, Walton, Hethersgill, Scaleby, Stanwix Rural and Hayton.

- **Background**

In 2005, Irthington Parish Council took part in the development of a Joint Parish Plan with a group of eight parishes centred on Brampton. This Joint Action Plan had largely been completed by 2009, so the group began meeting again to develop a new plan. However, for various reasons, several parishes left the group until the remaining members ceased to be a meaningful grouping. Irthington Parish Council decided that it was still desirable to have a community plan, and decided to “go it alone”. This report is the outcome of that decision and records the process adopted and the conclusions arrived at.

- **Objectives**

The intention of the Parish Council in developing this plan was to establish the wishes and identify the needs of the people of Irthington, so as to provide a framework against which the future work of the council would proceed. Day-to-day events inevitably mean that the work of the council tends to be dominated by many other issues as they occur, but this plan expresses the joint desire of the council and its parishioners as to what it would ultimately like to achieve in the next few years.

- **Parish population statistics and demographics.**

The following data is taken from The Parish Profile for Irthington (Parish) 2010 ©ACRE/RCAN/OCSI 2010 which was produced by Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion for ACT (Action with Communities in Cumbria). It provides an overall “snap-shot” of the population of the parish at that time.

### Who Lives in Irthington?

	N	%
All people	765	
Male	375	(49.3)
Female	390	(50.7)
Age 0-15	140	(18.3)
Working Age	455	(59.4)
Pensionable Age	170	(22.2)

The proportion of the population who are children is slightly more than in Cumbria as a whole, but the proportion which is pensionable is slightly lower. Almost all the population (99%) is White British in ethnic origin.

### Household Composition

50.7% of households in Irthington are occupied by married or co-habiting persons. 26.2% are pensioner households and 17.7% are lone parent households with dependent children. We have a smaller proportion of lone parent households than Cumbria as a whole.

### Economy and Employment

Of those people of working age in Irthington 68.7% are economically active.

	N	%
All People 16-74	545	
Economically active	375	68.7
Economically Inactive	170	31.3
Working >49hrs/wk	110	28.7

At the time of the survey, only 3.3% of the working age population were receiving 'out of-work' benefits, which is lower than the proportion across Cumbria (9.6%)

We have a higher proportion (15%) of people employed in managerial occupations than across Cumbria as whole (12.9%), but a smaller proportion of people (8.9% compared to 13.9%) in occupations described as elementary.

Our working population has a higher proportion of people qualified to degree level or above (21.8%) compared to Cumbria as a whole (17.2%).

### Social Exclusion

No single indicator encapsulates the different dimensions of deprivation and exclusion for people in rural areas. The following data gives a general measure and is drawn from Department of Work and Pensions data for 2009.

	Irthington		Cumbria
	N	%	%
Working age and receiving benefit	30	6.4	14.6
"Income Deprived"	40	5.1	12.8
Income Support	10	1.8	4.4
Pension Credit	20	10.6	19.2
Housing Benefit/ Council Tax Benefit	25	7.7	19.6

### Health

Although 9.5% of the population reported themselves as having a limiting long-term illness, this is lower than people across Cumbria (12.9%). Only 10.6% of all older people receive Attendance Allowance compared to 17.2% in Cumbria as a whole, and only 1.3% of all people receive Disability Living Allowance (Cumbria 5.7%)

### Access to Services

Only 8% of households in Irthington have no car or van. This is much lower than the Cumbrian population as a whole (24.4%). 91.7% of our households are more than 8kms from the nearest job centre, but no households are further than 8kms from the nearest GP or secondary school.

### Housing

Social housing levels are lower than across Cumbria, with only 4% of households renting from the Local Authority or Registered Social Landlords, compared to 16%. The majority (83.4%) of households are owner occupied.

In terms of housing types, only 2.3% of households live in flats, 68.5% in detached houses, 23.2% in semi-detached houses and 8.9% in terraced accommodation.

### Summary

All these indicators show a favourable picture of Irthington parish as having little or no social deprivation problems.

### **3. The Consultation Process**

Once the decision was taken to go ahead to develop a community plan for Irthington, and sources of funding had been identified and secured, a sub-committee of the Parish Council was set up to guide the process. This consisted of five parish councillors and representatives of the City Council and of ACT (ACTion with communities in Cumbria).

It was decided that the widest possible consultation with the community would be attempted. The main method adopted was via a questionnaire distributed to every household in the parish by individual parish councillors, who also personally collected them, although some were returned by hand and via the postal system.

While the precise questions to be incorporated into the format were being decided, some consultation was undertaken to try to reach some of the “hard to contact” groups, such as older people and children. Letters were sent to Irthington W.I., to the Village Hall Committee and to the Parochial Church Council offering to attend their meetings and explain what we were doing and seeking their views on issues to be included.

The W.I. responded with an invitation to the Chairman, who attended and distributed a checklist of possible concerns to enable the members to indicate their priorities. A copy of this checklist is included in the appendices, and a summary of their views is shown in the associated table in the appendices.

One council member spent some considerable time talking to children at Irthington School to hear what they liked or did not like about the parish, and a similar exercise was undertaken with pupils from Irthington who attend William Howard School in Brampton.

A selection of local businesses were contacted by letter and by telephone to collect their views on the parish requirements, using a similar format to that used for the W.I

The firms contacted were:

- Dundee Tyres Ltd
- E & N Farrer
- ECM Ltd
- The Golden Fleece, Ruleholme
- Hogg & Robinson Ltd
- Irthington Village Shop
- Laversdale Timber Co Ltd.
- The Salutation Inn, Irthington,
- Stobart Air
- System Group
- The Sportsman’s Inn, Laversdale

Of these we were disappointed that only two companies responded. These were ECM Ltd., who sent back the format with nine areas of concern highlighted. The other was Stobart Air, who declined to offer any specific views at the time of writing.

As a result of this research and with advice from ACT, a questionnaire was devised by the sub-committee. This was distributed and collected as described above. A copy of the questionnaire is included in the appendices. The returned questionnaires were analysed and summarised and the resulting data is reported in the next section.

As a result of this report, and taking into account the data available from the Parish Profile as well as the feed-back from such groups as the children, the W.I. and commercial concerns, the sub-committee drew up an Action Plan to address these concerns and this is presented at the end of this report.



## 4. The Questionnaire Report

During September and October of 2010 a questionnaire covering a range of socio-economic issues was distributed to each household in the civil parish of Irthington. The responses to this survey will form the basis for the Community Plan which will guide council activities for the next few years.

### Response Rates

A total of 340 questionnaires were issued. 184 were returned, giving an overall response rate of 54.1%. Despite being a lower response rate than that for the similar survey conducted in 2004, this is a very good response for this kind of survey, and lends credibility to the results reported below.

### How many in your household?

In this sample of 184 households in the parish, there were 446 people, giving an average of 2.4 people per household. In 2004, the average was 2.5 per household. The age distribution in this sample is as follows:

0-5 years	27	6.0%
6-10	23	5.1%
11-20	31	7.0%
21-40	81	18.2%
41-60	125	28.0%
60+	159	35.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Provision of Services

(1) Village Shop Nearly three out of four respondents (73.4%) said they use the village shop, which indicates that parishioners still place a high value on having this service nearby, but 42.3% said that the loss of a full Post Office service had caused them to change their shopping or banking pattern, several adding an open comment that they would like to see the full service restored.

(2) Computer Services. An overwhelming majority of respondents own a computer (81.5%), with most (74.5%) having a broadband internet connection. However, only 38% indicated that they were satisfied with the quality of that connection. As 67.9% of the sample said that they access shopping or banking services on-line, an improvement to the quality of local broad-band internet connection seems important. There was little demand for provision of training for using a computer (15.8%), which is probably a reflection of the widespread ownership and use, indicating a good level of competence.

(3) Other Services A quarter of the sample (25%) indicated that they would like some other services within the parish; the commonest service mentioned being an improved bus service. In particular, a more frequent service to and from Brampton and Carlisle from the main village centres was often cited as desirable. This is consistent with the response that 17.4% have a public transport need.

Nearly three quarters (71.2%) of the sample were happy with the current level of policing in the parish, although some commented that they never see the police. The failure of police representatives to attend at a recently arranged public consultation in

Newby East caused adverse comment in this settlement. Where concerns were expressed in open comment these usually concerned speeding in the settlements; either the lack of speed limits (Newtown, Laversdale) or failure to adequately enforce those in place (Irthington, Newby East)

Although only 22.8% of the sample felt that there were adequate provisions for access for the disabled, few elaborated on this. As 65% either answered "N/A" or declined to answer on this point, interpretation is difficult.

The great majority of the sample (83.2%) expressed satisfaction with the level of communication received from the council, many commenting favourably on the Chairman's newsletter. The web-site was mentioned by some in free comment. Most noted that it was not maintained properly and could be a useful communications medium; others were unaware of its existence.

It is worth noting that the provision of a mobile library service would be welcome to some, according to the free comments, particularly in Laversdale.

### **Leisure and Tourism**

Of those who responded to the question of whether they would like to see an increase in tourism in the parish, opinion was divided almost equally, 41.3% said Yes and 37.5% said No. The promotion of Hadrian's Wall was seen as well promoted (81%) and 60.9% felt that the parish footpaths, bridle paths and cycle ways were well maintained. This question on maintenance of footpaths caused confusion to some, who interpreted this as being concerned with maintenance of roadside pavements in or near villages.

One third of the sample either failed to answer, or answered N/A to the question of there being any other leisure needs in the parish. Most of the 20.1% of the sample who indicated that there was a need, singled out the need for a play area for children (swings etc.). A need for better provision of youth facilities was also mentioned. These comments should be read alongside the response concerning Social & Community Matters below.

### **Environment**

(1) Rubbish Disposal The majority (79.9%) are happy with their kerbside recycling arrangements, although some of the more remote areas of the parish complained of the lack of a service. The recycling centre at Brampton Town Foot received widespread approval (70.1%). The standard of litter picking on rural roads divided opinion, 54% were satisfied and 40.2% dissatisfied with this, and 22.3% said they would be prepared to volunteer to help with this problem (or already do this now). Some of these volunteers highlighted the problem of disposing of the collected litter, saying that Town Foot will not accept this rubbish.

(2) Dog Fouling Dog fouling seems to be a localised problem. The majority (72.3%) do not see this as problem but 20.1% do.

(3) Other Only 15.2% offered any suggestions to further improve the environment of the parish. There was little consistency about these suggestions. The most frequently mentioned were the need for more attention to road drainage and improvements to winter gritting of rural roads.

### **Roads, Transport etc.**

(1) Road maintenance Half the sample felt that the minor road system was not well maintained (51.6%) but opinion was divided; 44.6% felt that it was. The Highways Stewards scheme seems to have been under publicised, as 31.5% either failed to answer or indicated N/A to this question, often adding a comment asking what the scheme was! This scheme has now been replaced by “Better Highways”.

A surprising number of people (42.4%) responded that they did not know how to report road defects.

(2) Traffic Speed As noted above, speeding traffic is widely seen as a problem (69.6%) and 52.2% are not happy with the enforcement of limits where they exist. A large number (59.8%) would like to see further speed reduction measures in their locality.

(3) Road Signage Road signage in the parish is seen as satisfactory, on the whole, with 77.2% indicating approval, but a number singled out the road signage at Newby road end and Irthington road end as poorly sited, causing obstructed visibility to those attempting to join the A689 from side roads or from their property.

(4) Carlisle Airport Development The responses to the question regarding Carlisle Airport development need careful interpretation. While 58.2% indicated that they would like to see development and 26.1% said that they would not, this question frequently attracted qualifying remarks. These remarks came from respondents who had indicated “Yes”, “No” and both “N/A” and failure to indicate. These remarks were often of the nature: “Yes, but as an airport”, “Not as an industrial park”, “Not a lorry park” and “As a small regional airport only”. One wit said “Yes, as a theme park!” Several added comments to their approval of development saying that it would increase local employment opportunities.

### **Social & Community Matters**

The three questions concerning the adequacy of provision of facilities for child care, for young people and for older people each attracted a large “N/A” response or failures to answer, which makes interpretation rather difficult. In the case of Play Group/Child Care/Nursery facilities 21.7% said “Yes” there are sufficient facilities, and 10.3% said “No”, 67.9% either failed to answer or indicated “N/A” Is this approval on a 2:1 ratio, or does it mean that only one in five think that facilities are adequate?

Only 7% of the sample agreed that there are sufficient facilities for young people and 40.2% said there were not, but 52.7% failed to give a “Yes” or “No” response. This should perhaps be read alongside the response to the question on leisure needs mentioned above.

There was a similar response on the question of activities for older people; “Yes” 34.2% “No” 19%, but 46.7% gave no clear cut answer.

Very few people were prepared to offer help in organising or running any of the above. Only 12.5% indicated a willingness to get involved, but that does represent 23 people. There could be a pool of helpers should a decision be made to provide such facilities.

## **Housing**

Thirty-three people (17.9% of the sample) said that they or a member of their household would need new accommodation within the next five years. Although this is by no means as thorough a survey as a full housing-needs survey, and says nothing about the need for affordable homes in the parish, it is surely sufficient to justify the council requesting that Carlisle City Council arrange such a full housing needs survey.

Almost three quarters (72.3%) of the sample agreed that it was desirable to provide affordable housing in the parish, but only nine respondents could offer any suggestion as to where these could be sited. These would all require land-owner consent and planning permission. Frequent comment was made that any affordable homes provided in the parish should go to local people.

## **Open Comments**

Note: Comments only included if not covered elsewhere in questionnaire, not personal, and are readable.

- There needs to be a weight limit on the road through Laversdale.
- There should be street lighting in the centre of Laversdale.
- Turning lanes should be provided on the A689 at Watch Cross, Irthington and Newby junctions.
- If the village shop is lost would the P.C. help to set up an alternative even if part-time?
- Irthington needs social cohesion. Parishioners need to be able to meet together.
- Village signs could be highlighted with flowers.
- Road narrowing at each end of village.
- The speed bump that is in the archway leading in to Stanegate should be removed.
- Private car parking just off the main road in Newtown is very dangerous.
- The parish council should take any measures possible to prevent sub-urbanisation of the rural environment.
- Toilets near Irthington Church.
- Need warnings to drivers to slow down for horses.

## **5. Appendices**

- a. Concerns Checklist
- b. W.I.Responses to Community Plan Concerns Checklist
- c. Community Plan Questionnaire

Please tick the top 20 issues your group considers are important in xxxxxxx

- ☐ Accessibility
- ☐ Advice services
- ☐ Air quality
- ☐ Alcohol abuse
- ☐ Animals & birds
- ☐ Anti-social behaviour
- ☐ Arts & Crafts
- ☐ Building scale & character
- ☐ Building use
- ☐ Burial sites
- ☐ Buses
- ☐ Cafes
- ☐ Car parking
- ☐ Character of area
- ☐ Childcare facilities
- ☐ Churches
- ☐ Clubs and societies
- ☐ Community Centres
- ☐ Conservation of buildings
- ☐ Conservation of landscape
- ☐ Crime
- ☐ Culture
- ☐ Cycle facilities
- ☐ Density of development
- ☐ Disability facilities
- ☐ Disaster management
- ☐ Dogs & other pets

- ☒ Drainage
- ☐ Drug abuse
- ☐ Education facilities
- ☐ Electricity supplies
- ☐ Employment & income
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Erosion
- ☐ Events
- ☐ Farming
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Fly-tipping
- ☐ Fumes
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Gas supplies
- ☐ Graffiti
- ☐ Health & health services
- ☐ Highways
- ☐ Historic connections
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Housing requirement
- ☐ Information availability
- ☐ Information technology
- ☐ Internet access
- ☐ Lakes and ponds
- ☒ Land and property use
- ☐ Libraries

- ☐ Lighting - street & buildings
- ☐ Litter
- ☐ Leisure facilities
- ☐ Local authorities
- ☐ Local produce
- ☐ Local services & facilities
- ☐ Local shops
- ☐ Men's facilities
- ☐ Minority groups
- ☐ Noise
- ☒ Older people's facilities
- ☐ Open spaces
- ☐ Paths
- ☒ Planning procedures
- ☐ Play facilities
- ☐ Policing
- ☐ Pollution
- ☐ Power supplies
- ☐ Pubs
- ☐ Quality of design
- ☐ Quality of life
- ☐ Railways
- ☒ Recycling
- ☐ Refuse collection
- ☐ Rivers & streams
- ☒ Road maintenance
- ☒ Safety

- ☐ Schools
- ☐ Sewage disposal
- ☐ Special needs facilities
- ☐ Sports facilities
- ☐ Street signs & numbering
- ☐ Tourism
- ☐ Traffic
- ☐ Transport options
- ☐ Vernacular architecture
- ☐ Voluntary organisations
- ☐ Water supplies
- ☐ Women's facilities
- ☐ Youth clubs
- ☐ Youth services



Would you like to comment on any of the issues you have ticked?

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## Appendix B

## W.I. Responses to Community Plan Questionnaire

[illegible]

## TOP TWELVE ISSUES

Rank	Service	Count
1	Crime	10
2	Road Maintenance	9
3	Health & Health Services	8
4	Fly-tipping	7
5	Policing	6
6	Schools	6
7	Traffic	6
8	Buses	5
9	Churches	5
10	Drainage	5
11	Farming	5
12	Safety	5

## IRTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

The Parish Council is revising Irthington's Community Plan to ensure that our future objectives are closely related to the wishes of the members of our community. To help us to achieve this we would be grateful if you would spend a little time answering the questions below. Please answer these questions on behalf of all members of your household and use the comments boxes to give any additional detail for the questions in that section.

### About you and your household

Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Which settlement do you live in or is nearest to you? (Please tick)

Irthington    ☐                  Newtown    ☐                  Laversdale    ☐  
Newby East   ☐                  Other        ☐ (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

How many persons in the following age groups live in your household? (Enter number)

0 - 5 yrs \_\_\_\_\_                  6 - 10 yrs \_\_\_\_\_                  11 - 20 yrs \_\_\_\_\_  
21 - 40 yrs \_\_\_\_\_                  40 - 60 yrs \_\_\_\_\_                  Over 60 yrs \_\_\_\_\_

### Provision of Services

Please circle: Yes / No / Not Applicable

- |   |   |   |     |
|---|---|---|-----|
| 1. Do you shop in Irthington Village Shop?  | Y | N | N/A |
| 2. Has the reduced Post Office service caused a change in your shopping or banking pattern? | Y | N | N/A |
| 3. Do you have access to a computer?  | Y | N | N/A |
| <i>If you have answered "No", go to Question 8</i>  |   |   |     |
| 4. Does it have a broadband internet connection?  | Y | N | N/A |
| 5. Are you satisfied with the broadband connection?   | Y | N | N/A |
| 6. Do you shop or access services on-line?  | Y | N | N/A |
| 7. Would you like help to use your computer better?   | Y | N | N/A |
| 8. Are there any other services you would like in the parish?                               | Y | N | N/A |
| 9. Are there adequate provisions for access for those with disabilities?                    | Y | N | N/A |
| 10. Do you have a public transport need? If yes, comment below.                             | Y | N | N/A |
| 11. Are you happy with the current level of policing in the parish?                         | Y | N | N/A |
| 12. Are you happy with the level of communication you receive on community matters?         | Y | N | N/A |

Comments:



## Leisure & Tourism

- |   |   |   |     |
|---|---|---|-----|
| 13. Would you like to see an increase in tourism in this parish?                              | Y | N | N/A |
| 14. Do you think that Hadrian's Wall is well promoted as a tourist attraction?                | Y | N | N/A |
| 15. In your opinion, are the footpaths/bridle paths/cycle ways in the parish well maintained? | Y | N | N/A |
| 16. Are there any other leisure needs?  | Y | N | N/A |

Comments:

## Environment

- |   |   |   |     |
|---|---|---|-----|
| 17. Are you happy with current arrangements for kerbside recycling?             | Y | N | N/A |
| 18. Do you make use of the recycling centre at Brampton Town Foot?              | Y | N | N/A |
| 19. Are you happy with the standard of litter picking on rural roads?           | Y | N | N/A |
| 20. Would you volunteer as an occasional litter picker, say monthly?            | Y | N | N/A |
| 21. Is there a problem with dog fouling in your area?                           | Y | N | N/A |
| 22. Do you have any other suggestions to improve the environment in the parish? | Y | N | N/A |

Comments:

## Roads, Transport etc.

- |  |   |   |     |
|--|---|---|-----|
| 23. Do you feel that the minor road system in the parish is well maintained? | Y | N | N/A |
| 24. Are you happy with the service provided by the Highways Stewards Scheme? | Y | N | N/A |
| 25. Do you know how to report road defects?                                  | Y | N | N/A |
| 26. Do you feel that speeding traffic is a problem?                          | Y | N | N/A |
| 27. Are you happy with the enforcement of the existing limits?               | Y | N | N/A |
| 28. Should there be speed reduction measures?                                | Y | N | N/A |
| 29. Are you happy with road signage in the parish?                           | Y | N | N/A |
| 30. Would you like to see Carlisle Airport developed? (please give details)  | Y | N | N/A |

Comments:

## Social & Community Matters

- |  |   |   |     |
|--|---|---|-----|
| 31. Are there sufficient Play Group / Child Care / Nursery facilities in the parish? | Y | N | N/A |
| 32. Are there sufficient activities for young people?                                | Y | N | N/A |
| 33. Are there sufficient facilities or activities for older people?                  | Y | N | N/A |
| 34. Would you be prepared to help in organising/running any of the above?            | Y | N | N/A |

Comments:

## Housing

- |  |   |   |     |
|--|---|---|-----|
| 35. Will you or any of your household need new accommodation, now or within the next five years? | Y | N | N/A |
| 36. Do you consider it desirable to provide affordable housing in the parish?                    | Y | N | N/A |
| 37. Do you know of any suitable and available sites for such housing?                            | Y | N | N/A |
| 38. If yes, where? _____   |   |   |     |

Comments:

## Any Other Comments

(Please elaborate on any of the above or any other issues that you feel need to be addressed in the next four years.)

**Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. If you would like a response to any points you have made please ensure that you have entered your name and contact details at the start. If you would like to know more about the Community Plan or get involved, please contact our parish clerk Allison Riddell on Tel:016977 3382 or Email:allisonriddell@msn.com or write to her at Unit 2, The Old Brewery, Craw Hall, Brampton CA8 1 TR**

**John Harris (Chairman), on behalf of Irthington Parish Council**

## 6. Acknowledgements

Irthington Parish Council is pleased to acknowledge the help it has received and the contributions made to this report from the following.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
George Beck	Irthington Parish Council
Ian Gibson	Irthington Parish Council
John Harris	Irthington Parish Council
Margaret Ogden	Irthington Parish Council
Michael Ridley	Irthington Parish Council
Hellen Aitken	ACT (ACTion with Communities in Cumbria)
Lynne Hutchinson	Carlisle City Council
Zoe Sutton	Carlisle City Council
Judith Gardner	Cumbria County Council

We are also pleased to acknowledge the funding kindly supplied by Wetheral & Stanwix Rural Neighbourhood Forum, without which this Community Plan would not have been possible.

We are also pleased to acknowledge the promise of funding should we have needed it from ACT. Although it has not proved necessary to call on this, the knowledge that it was available gave us great confidence.

We would also like to thank ACR/RCAN/OCSI 2010 for permission to quote from their parish profile data.

## **7.0 The Action Plan**

## **7. The Action Plan**

### **NOTES:**

1. In the column headed “partners”, we have listed those organisations which we expect to have to work with or negotiate with to implement the particular action. The presence of a particular named organisation in the plan does not imply that they are already committed to helping us to bring the action about.
2. In the column headed “funding”, we have indicated possible sources of funds for the particular action. The presence of a particular name does not imply that they have committed funds for this purpose. In some cases (ACT in particular), they do not have such funds to draw on, but we expect them to be able to help us find suitable funding partners.
3. Some abbreviations and acronyms are used in the following Plan. These mean:

ACT: ACTion with communities in Cumbria  
BT: British Telecom  
MP: Member of Parliament  
PPI: Parish Paths Initiative (Cumbria County Council)  
SRPC: Stanwix Rural Parish Council

ACTION PLAN						
ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	FUNDING
1. Provision of Services	1.1 Preserve Shop Facility in Irthington Parish	1.1.1 Seek ways to support shop and extend post office services	On going	Medium	Owner Post Office	None as yet
		1.1.2 Consider forming shop support group if closure thought likely	1 yr if/when needed	Medium	Owner Shop users ACT	ACT Shareholders
2. Computer Services	2.1 Seek ways to improve broadband internet services in parish	2.1.1. Support the Eden Valley broadband initiative	On going	High	M.P.	None
		2.1.2 Lobby service providers for improved services	On going	Medium	BT Other service Providers	None
3. Other services	3.1 Improved local bus services	3.1.1 Lobby service providers to divert services via village centres	On-going	High	Stage Coach Hadrian's Wall bus Stacey's Reays	None
		3.1.2 Press for review of timetables	On-going	High	As 3.1.1	None
		3.1.3 Revisit Voluntary Car Scheme and evaluate for feasibility	1 yr	Low	Volunteers	Own funds
	3.2 Improve Council communications	3.2.1 Continue with newsletter	On-going	Medium	None	Own funds
		3.2.2 Develop Parish web-site	1 yr	High	Site Host	Own Funds
	3.3 Restore mobile library service	3.3.1 Investigate restoration and/or provision of library service	1 yr	Medium	City Council	None

ACTION PLAN						
ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	FUNDING
4. Leisure & Tourism	4.1 Promote tourism in parish	4.1.1 Monitor Maintain & improve paths and bridleways in parish	On-going	Low	County Council City Council	PPI ACT
		4.1.2 Consider booklet on parish history.	1 yr	Medium	None	N'hood Forum PPI
		5.1.1 Lobby to obtain improved services for remote areas	On going	High	City Council	None
5. Environment	5.1 Improve roadside collection of rubbish & recycling 5.2 Improve roadside litter picking	5.2.1 Organise voluntary litter picking & arrange disposal of product	1 yr	Medium	Volunteers City Council	City Council Own Funds
		5.3.1 Identify problem areas & arrange warden attendance & notices	1 yr	High	City Council	City Council
		5.3.2 Provide disposal points for bags of dog muck	1 yr	High	City Council	City Council
6. Roads, Transport etc.	6.1 Improve rural road maintenance 6.2 Reduce traffic speeding in villages	6.1.1 Support "Better Highways" by publicity for road defect hotline	On going	High	County Council	None
		6.2.1 Seek speed limits for Newtown and Laversdale possibly via N'hood Forum	1yr	High	County Highways Police N'hood Forum	None
		6.2.2 Obtain better access to and frequency of use of S.I.D	1 yr	High	SRPC Police	Appr £2500 City & County Councillors N'hood Forum Own Funds



ACTION PLAN						
ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	FUNDING
6. Roads, Transport etc (cont)	6.2 Reduce traffic speeding in villages (cont)	6.2.3 Consider lobbying for suitable traffic calming measures in villages	On-going	Medium	County Highways Police	None
	6.3 Reduce heavy through traffic in villages	6.3.1 Press for weight restrictions on through traffic in villages	1 yr	Medium	County Highways	None
	6.4 Improve road signage at A689 road junctions	6.4.1 Existing road signs at Newby, Irthington & Watch Cross junctions to be resited to improve visibility	1 yr	High	County Highways	None
	6.5 Acceptable development at Carlisle Airport	6.5.1 Maintain a policy of support for development as an airport but ensure an associated industrial development is acceptable.	On-going	High	City Council SRPC	None
	6.6 Pedestrian Safety in villages	6.6.1 Improve street lighting in Laversdale	1 yr	Medium	City Council	City Council
7. Social & Community	6.7 Horse & Rider safety in villages	6.7.1 Provide "Slow down for Horses" signs	1 yr	Medium	County Highways	None
	7.1 Improve social facilities for all ages in Irthington	7.1.1 Investigate use of School grounds to site a meeting hut	1 yr	Medium	School Volunteers	ACT
	7.2 Improve facilities for young people	7.2.1 Investigate feasibility of providing a play area	1 yr	Medium	City Council	City Council N'hood Forum
	7.3 Improve activities for all ages	7.3.1 Encourage village halls committees to review the activities provided and consider addition.	On-going	Low	Volunteers Hall Committees	ACT Own Funds



ACTION PLAN						
ISSUE	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	TIMESCALE	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	FUNDING
8. Housing	8.1 Assess housing needs in the parish over the next five years	8.1.1 Press for a full housing needs survey in the parish.	1 yr	High	City Council CRHT	None
9. Other	9.1 Improve image of villages	9.1.1 Provide flower boxes at village name signs	1 yr	Low	Volunteers	N'hood Forum