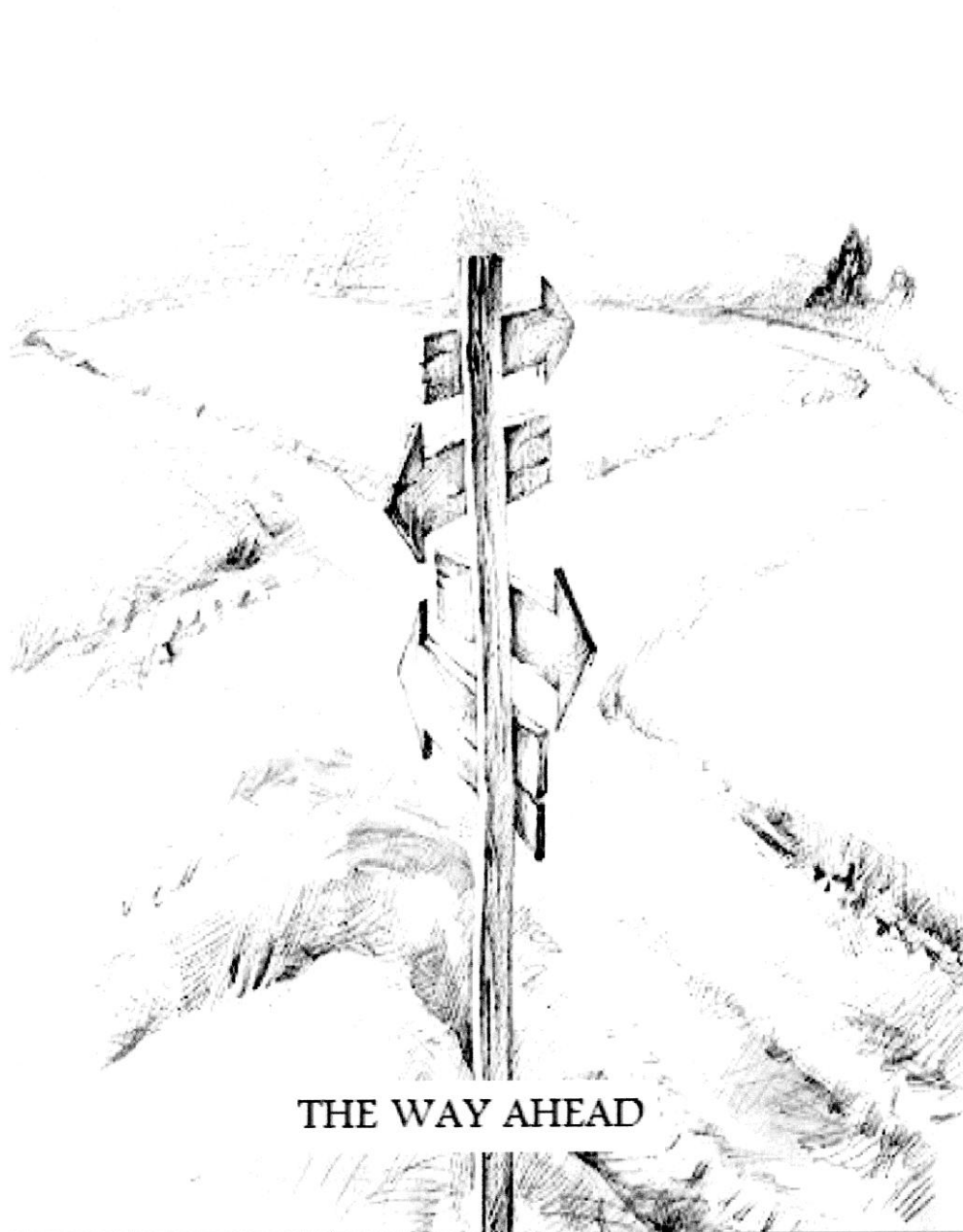


ALLINGTON

VILLAGE

PLAN



THE WAY AHEAD

WHERE IS ALLINGTON? – NATIONAL LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE
Town locations are approximate



Allington is in the East Midlands of England, near the junction of the A1 and the A52. It is in the south-west of the County of Lincolnshire, within the South Kesteven District Council, lying close to the borders of Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. The nearest market town is Grantham, followed by Newark, Stamford and Melton Mowbray. The nearest cities are Lincoln, Nottingham and Peterborough. The rail service from Grantham brings London to within one hour's journey.

ALLINGTON VILLAGE PLAN

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COMMUNITY LED PLAN

FOR THE VILLAGE OF

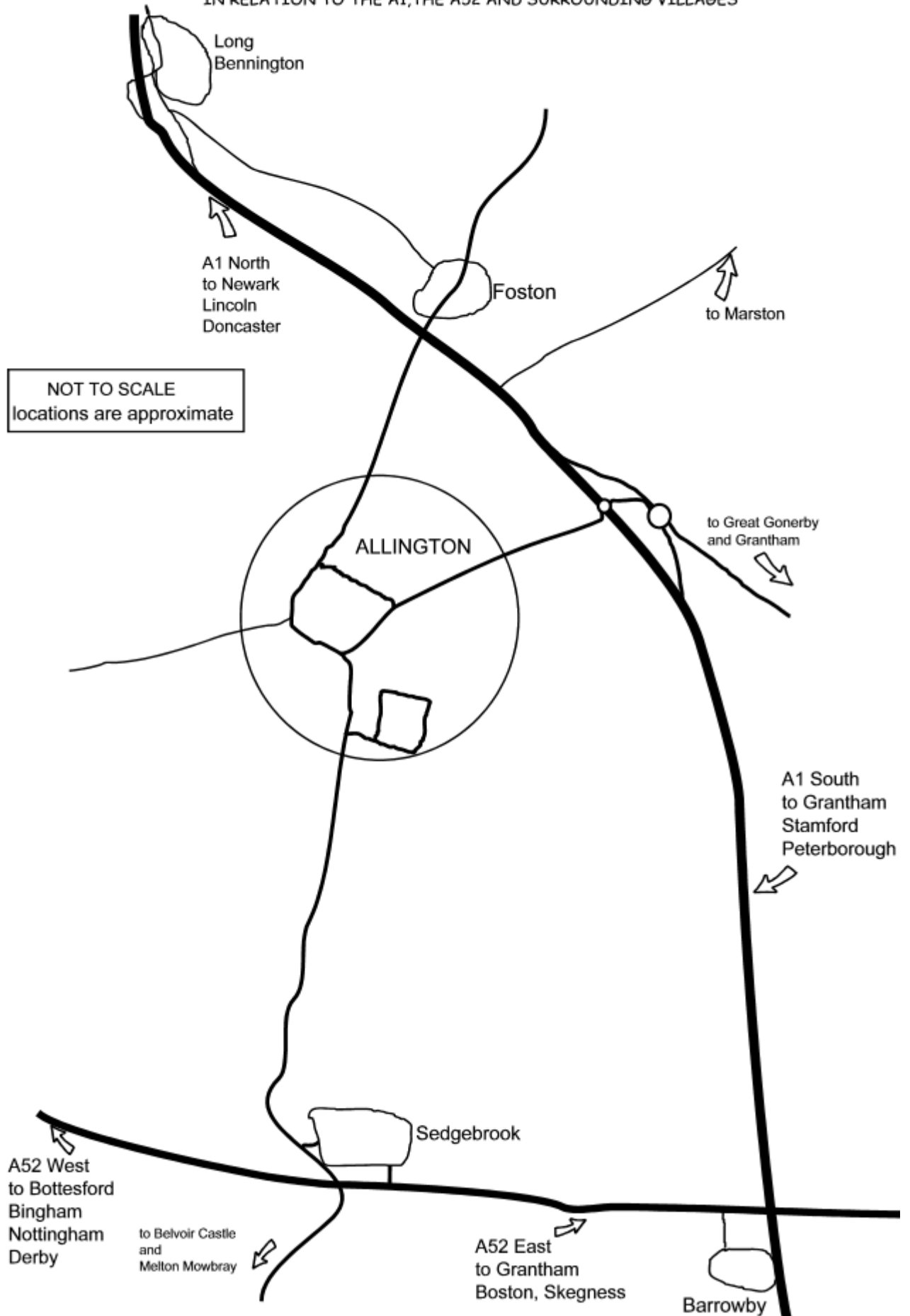
ALLINGTON

IN THE COUNTY OF

LINCOLNSHIRE

Allington is a rural village situated about 5 miles north-west of Grantham between the A1 and the A52, on the northern edge of the Vale of Belvoir. The parish is bounded by Gonerby Beck to the east, Sewstern Lane to the west and also by boundaries on the lanes between Allington and Sedgebrook, and Allington and Foston.

MAP SHOWING THE POSITION OF ALLINGTON
IN RELATION TO THE A1, THE A52 AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



INTRODUCTION

The Localism Act of November 2011 ‘passes significant new rights direct to communities and individuals, making it easier for them to get things done and achieve their ambitions for the place where they live.’ The Act includes:

- ‘New freedoms and flexibilities for local government
- New rights and powers for communities and individuals
- Reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
- Reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally’*

Following the original initiatives which led to the Localism Act, communities are being encouraged to develop their own local plans to determine what services they currently enjoy, how they could be improved and expanded, and how they would like to see their area develop in the future.

In 2010, a group of villagers volunteered to work towards drawing up a Village Plan for Allington. The Village Plan would include a part for submission to the Parish Council in the form of an ‘Action Plan for Allington’. In addition, the Village Plan could also be used to give ‘grass roots’ input into the future planning and development process.

The recommendations in the Village Plan would have to reflect the views of the whole village community, in order for it to be recognised by the various statutory bodies.

Questionnaires were formulated and provided to each household in the village to enable the views and opinions of the whole community to be gathered. Two questionnaires were sent to households – one for the household as a whole and the other specifically targeted at young people (age up to 19) within the village. The results of this second questionnaire are dealt with in a separate section within this document and are not included in the main results section.

The questionnaires were sent out in February 2011 via the Allington News (the village magazine) and residents were given until 18 March 2011 to complete and return them. Boxes were provided in several locations throughout the village to assist villagers to return the questionnaires, or they could be submitted by e-mail. Over 400 household were supplied with questionnaires and 185 were returned – a return rate of 46%.

*Crown copyright 2011 from ‘A Plain English Guide to the Localism Act’

ALLINGTON PAST

A Brief History of Allington, its Principal Buildings and Landmarks

Allington's history has its roots in the Saxon name 'Aela', and the Saxon word 'ton', meaning an enclosure. Aela's ton (or Aela's enclosure), becoming, over time, Adelingtune of the Domesday Book (at which time the population was 300), and then the Allington of today. Roman artefacts and also evidence of Neolithic settlement have been found.

Allington Hall

From early times Allington and the surrounding land was divided into three manors. By the 18th century most of the land had become the property of the Williamsons. In 1773 the Welby family of Allington Hall became Lords of the Manor by marriage. During the 2nd World War, Allington Hall was taken over by the War Department. Special Forces were housed there first, followed by the Airborne (due to the proximity of Normanton Airfield) and then the US Army in preparation for D-Day. Following this the Hall became nurses' quarters for a tented field hospital in the grounds. The estate was sold in 1944. Part of the original Hall still stands (the house to the west of the church) and two characteristic Lodges remain.

The Church

Allington comprised two parishes and two churches, East Allington and West Allington, both mentioned in the Domesday Book. They were amalgamated in 1950, and St James' church in East Allington (situated in the old churchyard in the middle of the old village), was demolished. The Parish Church is Holy Trinity, where the Norman arches are evidence of its age. Stones with Saxon carvings have been found on the site, indicating an earlier Saxon church. There was also a Methodist Church in the village, located near Ashes Farm on Side Street. This was demolished in 1938.

Farming and Employment

Farming was the main employment in the village since earliest times. There are two working farms remaining.

Wool tax records give evidence of a thriving market on the Village Green in the 17th century. Markets and Fairs used to be held on the Village Green but the last fair was held in 1964.

At the time of the 1851 census 75% of the village worked in agriculture or domestic service. The village also had a skill base of over 25 people employed in trades such as carpenters, brick-makers, dressmakers, tailors, and workers in the shop and post office.

The Shop

A shop has existed since the mid 18th century. It was also the post office until 2008.

The School

Records note a private dame school before 1848, when the first dedicated school was built on the Green. In 1892 there were 46 pupils on the register. The school was moved to its present site on Marston Lane in 1906. The school has been extended considerably since then, most recently in the early 2000's.

The Pub

In 1842 the village had two pubs, The Plough and The Spread Eagle, both facing the Village Green. The Plough is now a private house called The White House. The Spread Eagle was rebuilt and renamed The Welby Arms.

The Village Green and Market Cross

In the middle of the village is the Village Green, the ancient site for markets and fairs in the village, with its Market Cross. The current Market Cross, situated on the main crossroads in the village, dates from the mid 19th century, although records show one present in the 15th century. The Market Cross is not a War Memorial, as none of the residents who served in the armed forces during the 2 World Wars were killed.

The Village Hall

The Village Hall dates from 1929 and was a gift to the village from the Welby family. It is situated on Side Street.

The Salt Well

The Salt Well is located on the left of the road to Sedgebrook, just past Peach Lane. Documents date it to the early 13th century. It is a chalybeate spring, i.e. the water contains iron. In times of drought it was the source of most of the water for the village. Originally there were two tiers of stonework and later a pump was added, then steps up to the pump. There was also a pond nearby and a trough. Mains water came to the village in 1948. First the pump disappeared, then later, in the mid 1960's, the well head was demolished by local council workmen due to a misunderstood order. Following an outcry by villagers the lower part of the well's stonework was then rebuilt.

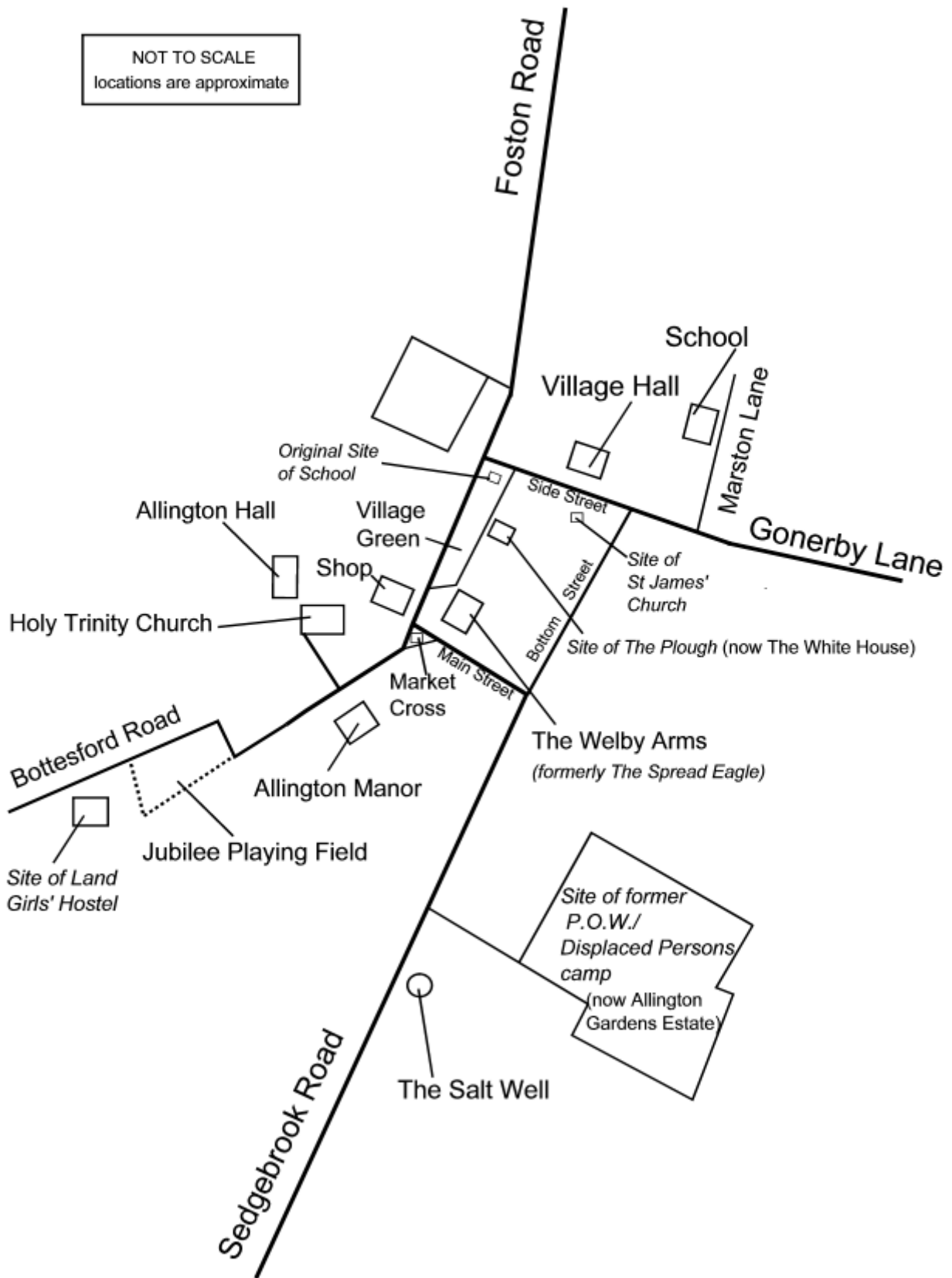
Allington Manor

Allington Manor, the large house situated on the left of Bottesford Lane, is a Grade 2 listed building. The original manor was recorded in the Domesday Book. Part of the present building dates back to 1450 and the distinctive Flemish influenced gable ends, visible from the Village Green, were added in the 1660's.

Past Developments

- 1933 Electricity first came to the village
- 1939-45 POW camp built off Peach Lane
Land Girls come to help on farms – remains of their accommodation off
Bottesford Lane can still be seen
- 1944 The village was sold by the Welby Estate
- 1946 The first telephone cables were installed
- 1948 Mains water arrived
- 1951 The Parish Council was established and 10 houses built on Gonerby
Lane
- 1952 Mains Drainage came to the village
- 1950's Allington Gardens developed from ex POW/displaced persons camp
- 1960's Bungalows built on Gonerby Lane and Bottesford Lane
- 1970's Building of the Park Estate
- 1977 Acquisition of the Jubilee Playing Field by the Parish Council

MAP SHOWING PRINCIPAL HISTORIC BUILDINGS/LANDMARKS



ALLINGTON PRESENT

Background

Allington is a rural village and in the past it was primarily a farming community. There are two farms remaining but the majority of Allington's working population now travel at least 5 miles to get to work. The population of Allington has doubled since the mid-19th century and is still growing. The latest confirmed population count for 2010 is 815, but the provisional population count for 2012 is 940, showing a large increase. Approximately 28% of residents are of pensionable age, 56% are of working age and approximately 15% are under the age of 16. The proportions for Lincolnshire as a whole are 21%, 62% and 17% respectively. The population turnover rate (2009 figures) shows an inflow of 72 per 1000 people and an outflow of 53 per 1000 people. This rate of increase has grown since 2009.

Statistics from the Census 2001 (the latest available) show 40 households (11.5% of the total) in Allington with no car or van. Most householders have reasonably easy access to GP services as the Long Bennington Surgery provides a service in the Village Hall on 2 mornings a week.

Also from the Census statistics, 85.5% of households in the village own their own homes, 25 households live in social rented accommodation, 15 live in private rented and 10 live in other accommodation such as tied agricultural properties.

Housing is found in three main areas: the old village located to the south and east of the Green, and reaching west along Bottesford Lane; the Park Estate located to the NW of the old village situated in what was the parkland of Allington Hall, and the Allington Gardens Estate (a park homes estate for the over 50's), to the SE, on the site of a Second World War prisoner-of-war camp. In the last few years a number of new houses have been built in the 'old' part of the village.

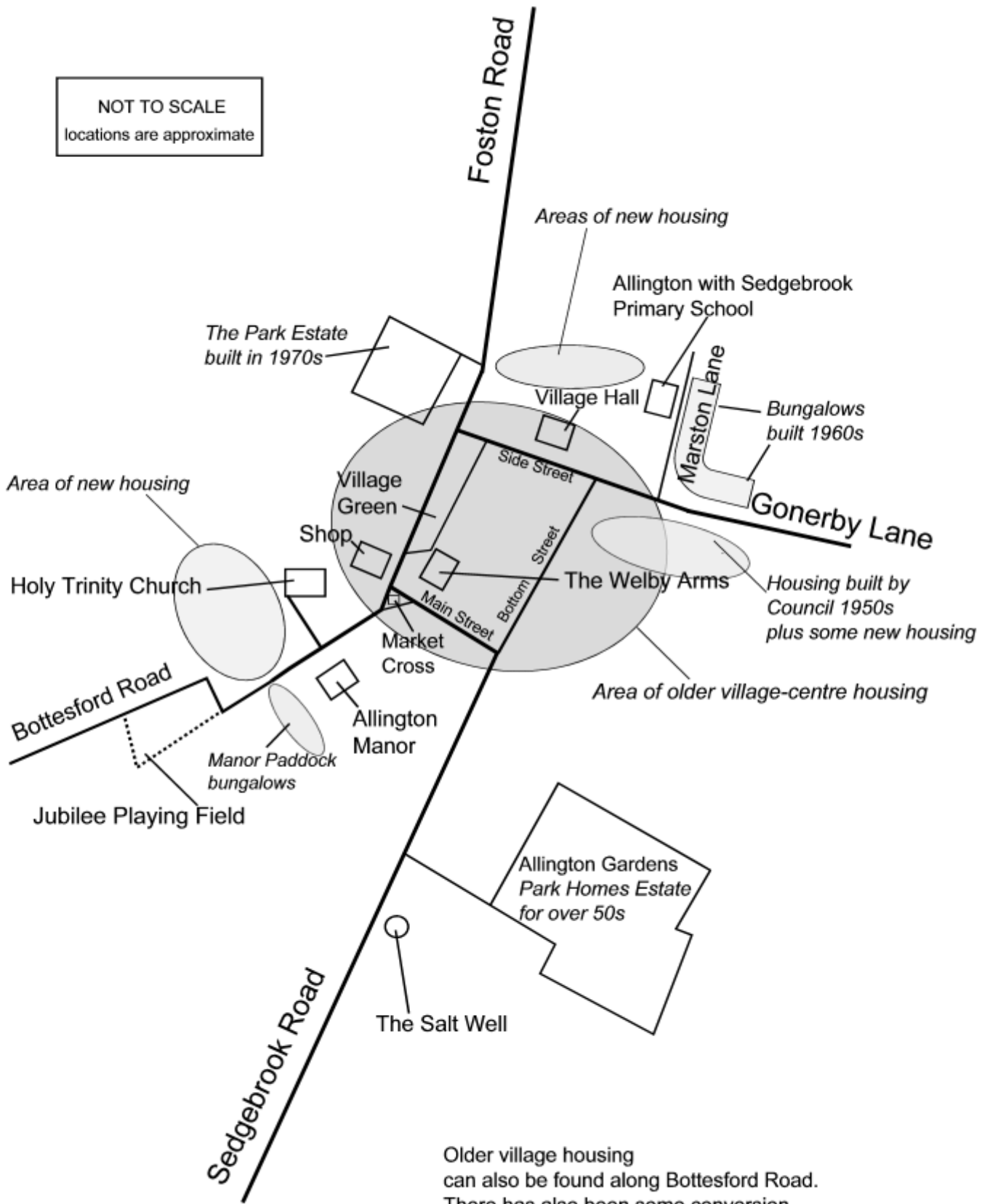
Until recently the Viking Way, a long distance (147 miles) footpath from the Humber Bridge to Oakham, ran through the village. It has been diverted to allow it to cross the A1 (the old Great North Road) on a bridge, but many people still follow the route through the village, bringing hikers and cyclists to the Welby Arms.

Allington's Current Amenities

These include the following:

Village Shop
Allington with Sedgebrook Primary School
Welby Arms Public House
Jubilee Playing Field
Village Hall - Doctor's Surgery (two mornings a week)
Outreach Post Office (three times a week)
Pre-School facilities
Holy Trinity Parish Church

MAP OF VILLAGE SHOWING AREAS OF HOUSING AND LOCATION OF AMENITIES



Older village housing can also be found along Bottesford Road. There has also been some conversion of disused farm buildings and infill developments in recent years.

FINDINGS FROM THE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRES

INFORMATION ABOUT RESPONDENTS

Most of the respondents live in Allington Gardens. It is therefore likely that a significant proportion of respondents are of retirement age. Most of those who have moved to the village in the last 5 years are 1 or 2 person households and all these are at or near retirement age. The larger households moving to the village in the past 5 years are all young families. Once living in the village most respondents stay – 35% of respondents have lived in Allington for more than 16 years. In particular, the majority of teenagers have lived in Allington for all or most of their lives.

GENERAL LIKES AND DISLIKES

Residents were asked to select the 3 things they liked best about living in Allington. Most respondents chose:

Number 1 Peace and quiet

Number 2 Friendliness

Number 3 Amenities

Overall, when the 3 responses are combined, Amenities came out top.

Residents were then asked to select the 3 things they liked least about living in Allington. Most respondents did not answer this question, so for the majority there is nothing actively disliked about the village. For those who did respond, most chose:

Number 1 Traffic eg village being used as access between A52 and A1 horseboxes travelling to and from Arena UK

Number 2 State of roads and verges

Number 3 Lack of Public Transport

Dog fouling/barking was also a significant issue on a par with number 3.

An additional question was asked:

‘Are there sufficient dog waste bins in the village?’

Most respondents replied ‘No’ and suggestions were made as to where additional bins might be placed. However, further on in the questionnaire it seems that respondents believe the problem with dog mess is rather the inconsiderateness and carelessness of some dog owners.

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Residents were asked whether more housing was required in the village and if so, what sort of development.

The majority (81%) of respondents do not want any more housing in the village. Of those who do want development in the village, most want conversion of existing buildings, infill, or affordable/1st time buyer homes only.

BROADBAND

Of those who responded to the question about the provision of Broadband in the village, 76% used the internet in their household. Those who responded to the question asking whether they would consider paying more for speedier broadband were almost equally divided, with the ‘yesses’ just ahead.

TRANSPORT

'Call Connect' is currently the only public transport service available. There are no bus services to the village. 39 of those who responded to the 'dislikes' question (outlined above) raised the inadequacy of public transport as an issue. Of those, 25 made this their 1st dislike of the village.

Residents were asked whether they would use more bus services if these were provided, and most respondents said they would use them occasionally; however there was a large minority who would use them often. 14 residents said that they may have to leave the village because of the inadequate bus service.

As it was known that the bus service was a problem in the village, residents were asked whether they would be interested in a voluntary car scheme. Most would not be interested, but 36 respondents would consider being a provider and 27 would consider being a passenger.

VILLAGE AMENITIES

Residents were asked which village amenities they regarded as essential and whether and how the amenities could be improved. Outlined below are the amenities listed on the questionnaire, together with the percentage of respondents who found the amenity vital to the village. Further information and some of the suggestions for improvements are also given.

Village Shop

90%. Some respondents thought the shop could be further developed. Suggestions included coffee/tea shop and deli, paper boy/girl.

Allington with Sedgebrook C of E Primary School

84% of respondents find the school vital. It is a very well-regarded school. There are currently 109 children on roll. The main issue raised involved parents' parking at the start and end of school days, including blocking private driveways on Marston Lane, and a potentially dangerous amount of traffic/parking on Side Street and Gonerby Lane.

Doctor's Surgery/Prescription Delivery Service

82%. The Long Bennington GP Surgery provides a Doctor's Surgery for 1 hour twice weekly at the Village Hall.

Prescriptions are delivered twice weekly, also at the Village Hall.

Some respondents from Allington Gardens would like to see the prescription service available in Allington Gardens too.

The Village Hall

77%. The Village Hall is available for hire for Music and Drama events and for private parties etc. It also hosts regular village activities including:

Pre-School
Parent and Toddler Group
Viking Squares
Allington Morris
Star Academy
Yoga
Karate
WI
History Society
Syntax (Literary Group)
Carpet Bowls

In addition, the following are based at the Village Hall:

Outreach Post Office (3 half days a week)
GP Surgery (1 hour twice weekly)
Prescription Delivery (twice weekly)
Meetings of the Parish Council and other village committees

Respondents made 11 suggestions for a variety of potential new clubs (for all age groups) including a Youth Club, Amateur Dramatics, exercise classes, Art, Craft and Music Groups.

Also requested for outside were bike stands and a litter bin.

Outreach Post Office

70%. Some respondents would like this service extended.

The Welby Arms

65%. The pub already has a monthly Quiz Night and some of the suggestions made for improvements in the village, eg Darts Team, Internet access, Takeaway Service, Coffee/Tea facilities for groups, Lunch Clubs, may be considered suitable for the pub to take up.

The Church

59%. Some respondents requested better reporting of church service details. A Bible Study Group was suggested. A request was made for grave stones in both churchyards to be cleaned.

The Mobile Library

41%.

Mobile Services

Of the 185 returned questionnaires, 109 did not supply information on other mobile services they used. Of those services used by 5 or more respondents, the majority used the Milkman, followed by On-Line Grocery, Mobile Library, Fishmonger and Post Office.

THE JUBILEE PLAYING FIELD

A separate section of the questionnaire asked residents for their thoughts on the Jubilee Playing Field, which has its own Playing Field Committee.

Currently the Playing Field has an All Weather Playing Surface (the MUGA), Football Pitches, Pavilion, Toilets, Children's Play Area and a Car Park.

Residents were asked how worthwhile they thought each of 6 suggested facilities would be for the village. The scoring suggests that respondents' preferences were in the following order:

- 1 Community woodland/wildlife area
- 2 Better children's play facilities
- 3 A new sports pavilion
- 4 A bowling green
- 5 A tennis club
- 6 Floodlights for the MUGA area

Residents were also asked for other ideas for the Playing Field. Suggestions were numerous. Following are the main ideas. The number of respondents suggesting the idea is also given where more than 1:

Clubs and Sports Facilities

Cricket (8), Rugby, Tennis nets (2), Skate, BMX/Scooter ramps (2)
Outdoor gym equipment for youngsters and adults (2), Rugby, Bike circuit, Target golf, Boules, Allotments next to woodland.

Environment

More benches/seating areas/picnic tables (8) Covered area for when it's wet or just for young people to sit and chat (2)
Ban dogs (possibly except from perimeter) (8)
Toilets that are open (3) (and that are accessible to disabled – 1)
Improved car park, drop-off area etc (to protect verges) (4)
Replacement of sheds/cabin
Re-painting of existing facilities

Events

There were many suggestions, including village show, carnival day, fun day and concerts.

ENVIRONMENT

There were suggestions for the placing of additional litter bins within the village (respondents were almost equally divided as to whether these were needed or not) although thanks to the village caretakers litter is generally not an issue within the village. It is more of a problem on the feeder roads leading into the village.
Dog fouling has been mentioned earlier as a significant issue within the village. Suggestions were made as to where additional dog waste bins could be sited, but

suggestions were also made that dog owners should be made to pick up their dog's mess and take it home with them.

Other suggestions for improving the environment of the village were varied and included the following.

- Improvements to footpaths and establishment of cycle paths
- More flowers in public areas
- Additional seating areas
- Protection of green areas including Bottesford Lane

SAFETY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Residents were asked how safe they felt living in Allington. 100% said they felt safe, with nearly half feeling very safe. When asked if there were any reasons for them feeling threatened, 3 respondents cited burglars accessing homes from a field behind the property, 2 had had trespassers in their back garden and 2 had cars broken into or attempts. Also mentioned was dark areas and hazardous nature of Bottom Street and garages in Lambert Road being broken into.

Residents were also asked whether they considered policing in the village to be adequate by scoring this from 1 to 10, where 1 is totally inadequate and 10 is entirely adequate. Respondents were equally split on this, 83 villagers scoring 1-5 and 84 scoring 6-10. The highest number of respondents, 36, scored 8. When asked whether residents had any problems with regard to public services, 91% (168) had no problems. Of those who did mention problems, 5 wanted more police presence.

ROADS AND TRAFFIC

Traffic and the state of the roads were numbers 1 and 2 in the dislikes in the village. There were many suggestions for improvements including:

- Lower speed limit in village (or more speed limit signs including automatic signs)
- Ban on 'through' vehicles
- Ban on bigger vehicles including restriction on horseboxes
- Traffic calming on Bottom Street/Side Street
- Better road repairs and maintenance

Additional questions were asked regarding traffic:

- 1 Should traffic calming measures be introduced?
- 2 Should additional street lighting be installed?
- 3 Should more frequent road repairs be carried out?
- 4 Should Side Street be one way street?
- 5 If there was a choice, should Sedgebrook Road be salted in winter instead of Foston Road?

For each question there was a very clear majority of respondents in favour of the suggestion.

Other suggestions and comments included:

- 20mph limit especially near school
- Off road vehicles and scrambler motorbikes can be nuisance and cause footpath damage
- Lower speed limit on feeder roads to village
- Too much parking on verges
- Street lights on Bottom Street required

FOOTPATHS AND PAVEMENTS

A variety of opinions were given regarding footpaths. Some respondents wanted no changes but those who did had suggestions and comments including:

- Provide footpath to Sedgebrook
- Improve footpath from Allington Gardens to village including path on Peach Lane
- Better signposts and a map
- Pavement from Church to Shop to be repaired and should go all the way to the Church
- Some footpaths being spoiled by horses, off road vehicles and scrambler motorcycles – gates suggested
- Re-instate stiles and paths where these are in danger of being lost
- Other problems include dog fouling, overhanging branches, inaccessible to disabled, paths blocked by crops, awkward camber on the Side Street pavement
- Street light half way down Park Road jitty requested

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Following initial discussions with village groups, questions were included to discover what activities might interest residents. Some of these have been mentioned in the sections relating to the Village Hall and the Jubilee Playing Field. From the activities specifically suggested, the most popular were a Youth Club and a Walking Group.

Other suggestions included a residents' book lending library, a gardening club, a music group/village orchestra, Bingo, village pantomime, fun-days/carnivals etc and lots more.

SPECIFIC PROBLEMS

Residents were asked if they had any specific problems in Allington. 128 respondents reported no specific problems. The problems reported by 3 or more respondents are as follows:

- Inadequate bus service - 14
- Poor broadband capacity and speed – 8
- State of Gonerby Lane road – 5
- Unsalted dangerous Sedgebrook Road in winter – 4
- Cars blocking driveways at start/finish school times – 3

VILLAGE PROJECTS

Residents were asked if there were any specific projects they would like to see in the future. 126 respondents gave no reply. The projects suggested by 3 or more respondents are as follows:

- Introduce traffic calming measures – 5
- Better internet speeds – 5
- New or refurbished Sports Pavilion – 4
- Resurface Village Hall car park – 3 (now completed)
- Develop Playing Fields including children's area – 3

SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT 5 YEARS

102 respondents recorded none. Of the projects suggested, the following were suggested by 3 or more respondents:

- Traffic calming measures – 13
- Better broadband availability and speed – 10
- Better roads and road surfaces – 10
- New/refurbished pavilion and other improved facilities at the Playing Field – 7
- Repair car park at Village Hall – 6 (now completed)
- Improved public transport service – 5 (Call-Collect now available)
- Slow down traffic in village, possible with 20mph limit throughout – 5
- Gritting to Sedgebrook Road and if possible Park Road/Avenue – 5
- Improve condition of Gonerby Lane, possibly even widen it – 4
- Ban horseboxes and 'rat-run' vehicles through village – 4
- Cut all village grass verges and improve village maintenance - 3
- Improve children's play area and equipment – 3
- Reduce heavy traffic – 3
- Fix potholes – 3
- Stop off-road bikers using Marston Lane – 3
- Add more street lighting – 3

FINDINGS FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE QUESTIONNAIRES

INFORMATION ABOUT RESPONDENTS

The Young People Questionnaire was addressed to residents aged 0 – 19. It was estimated that about 90 residents fell into this category. Completed questionnaires were received from 23, approximately 25% of the potential replies. Of these, 10 (43%) were girls and 13 (57%) were boys. Of the replies received, the biggest response rate was from the 10-13 age group (62%) and the lowest response rate (0%) was from the 13-16 age group.

CLUBS ETC ATTENDED

Only one activity was recorded as taking place in the village – football on the Playing Field. All other activities were carried out in school, or in Grantham or surrounding villages. Many activities were sports clubs or teams, including Cricket, Rugby, Gym, Swimming and Athletics to name a few. Non-sporting clubs and activities included Film Club, Book Club, Guitar Lessons, and Star Academy.

CLUBS ETC REQUESTED

The main ideas suggested for new clubs and activities within the village are listed below:

General

Brownies
Riding / Pony Club
Art Club
Cubs / Scouts / Explorers
Art Club
Holiday Club
'Teens only' disco
Place for teens to meet without being told off for being noisy

On the Playing Field

Cricket
Tennis
Skate Park
Den Building
Activities in MUGA

VILLAGE LIFE

The young people were then asked to score their opinions on aspects of village life. The respondents felt safe in the village and found it peaceful, and they liked the shop. The major problems for young people in the village are the lack of public transport and the lack of clubs and things for them to do.

PLAYING FIELD

The young people were asked what they liked about the Playing Field. The main replies are listed below.

- Children's Play Area / equipment
- Open Space to play in
- MUGA
- Football Pitch
- Tree area at far end of Playing Field to make dens in.

They were then asked what they would like to see on the Playing Field. The most mentioned items are:

- Fix and improve toilets
- More and improved play equipment and facilities including monkey bars, facilities for den-building and old tree trunks for climbing on
- New or refurbished Pavilion / Club House / sheds
- Shelter for when it rains

PARTICIPATION

The questionnaire asked if young people thought they could voice their opinion about what happens in the village. Most - 10 out of 16 respondents - replied 'no'.

The next question asked if whether the young people would be interested in joining a Youth Forum in the village. 9 out of 16 replied 'yes'.

So most young people feel they do not have a voice in the village and the majority would be interested in a Youth Forum to rectify this

REASONS FOR NOT JOINING IN ACTIVITIES

Young people were asked to indicate which of various reasons listed applied to them.

From the replies received, the respondents show that they are very interested in activities outside the home. Some of them have difficulty finding time because of time taken up by homework. But for most of them it seems that what they want to do is not available in the village.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO IMPROVE ALLINGTON FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

The respondents' ideas included:

- Make a park with different areas for different activities eg cricket, football, tennis, swings, so there is always something for everybody.
- On the Playing Field: better play equipment, bigger playground children's area to be more child-friendly and fun monkey bars and more climbing areas skate park
- Streetlights outside the Church
- Gonerby Road to be kept in better repair.
- More buses so young people can get about.
- Seating areas with shelter from wind and rain in places where young people can get together without being told off.
- Discos, concerts, and hot dogs
- A 30,000 seat stadium (!)

ALLINGTON FUTURE

THE ACTION PLAN FOR ALLINGTON

This Action Plan has been produced by the community living in Allington for submission to the Parish Council. The information gathered from residents of Allington and the views and comments given have been carefully considered. The majority of villagers appreciate and value living in a pleasant and friendly rural community with good amenities. The aim of this Action Plan is to improve life for residents both now and in the future, with consideration for the changing needs of the community.

The main wishes of the community can be broadly considered under the following 9 headings:

1 Traffic and Parking

Traffic

- Easily visible 'School' signs to be placed at the Gonerby Lane entrance to the village, and at the other end of Bottom Street facing Sedgebrook Road.
- 20mph speed limit to be applied to Gonerby Lane, Bottom Street and Side Street
- Better signage of weight and height restrictions to discourage large vehicles from entering the village.
- Larger or higher signs for Kestrel so lorries do not enter village in error
- Request 'Turn Left' signs at exit from Arena UK.
- 'Traffic Calming' including automatic speed indicators on roads into village

Parking

- Side Street to be a one-way street from the Village Green down to Bottom Street
- Investigate the possibility of a parking lay-by on Gonerby Lane or nearby.
- Investigate the possibility of a parking lay-by on Marston Lane and request assistance to enforce the law relating to non-blocking of residential drives on Marston Lane.

2 Roads, Pavements and Footpaths

Roads

- Improve the general upkeep of feeder roads – especially to quickly fill potholes and repair edges of roads, particularly on Gonerby Lane.
- The road between Sedgebrook and Allington should be gritted in icy weather.

Pavements

- The pavement between the shop and the church gates should be repaired.
- The camber on the Side Street pavement should be remedied if possible when it is next re-laid.

Footpaths

- Footpaths together with stiles should be re-instated where necessary and made fully accessible with signposts. A map could be made available within the village, possibly a reprint of the WI leaflet.

3 Environment

Flowers

- More flowers in public areas of the village

Dog Fouling

- Ban dogs from Playing Field (apart from perimeter)
- Reminders to be sent to all households for dog-owners to collect and dispose of any mess caused by their pets on any pavement, footpath, road, verge, the Village Green and children's' playing areas (eg the green in the middle of the Park Estate).
- More bins to be provided possibly at the village end of each major footpath (eg Marston Lane, Peach Lane, Bottesford Lane, Lambert Road)

Seating

- More seating requested in general and in particular an enclosed covered seating area sheltered from wind and rain so that young people can meet without being in trouble!

4 Facilities

Transport

- The Call-Connect scheme has in part made up for the loss of public transport in the village.
- Advertising of Call-Connect as a regular item in Allington News would assist residents.
- Contact details of villagers willing to give lifts to residents who are otherwise unable to access services could be made available.

Broadband

- It is essential that a reliable high speed internet connexion is made available in the village as soon as possible. This becomes more important as time progresses.

Shop

- Allington residents regard the shop as the most important amenity in the village. Contingency plans should be discussed in case the shop ever closes. A replacement would then be required urgently.

5 Playing Field

The following items are the ones most requested by villagers:

- Wildlife area
- More seating areas including picnic tables
- Refurbishment or replacement of Pavilion and toilets
- Children's play area to be improved with more equipment
- Outdoor 'gym' equipment
- Wood area for dens etc
- Skateboard/BMX/scooter area
- Enlargement of car park
- Cricket facilities / Tennis club / Bowling Green / Bike track

6 Village Hall etc

New groups, clubs and activities for village were suggested. The most popular were a Youth Club and a Walking Group. Time slots at the Village Hall for new groups are limited and prospective organisers for new ventures should approach the Village Hall booking clerk.

7 Safety

A large majority of respondents feel safe in the village but nevertheless there were requests for an improved police presence. This should be discussed further with villagers and the local police officers.

8 Future development

A large majority of respondents wanted no new development. Villagers who wanted some development requested conversion of existing buildings or infill only, to provide starter homes.

9 Youth Forum

Under 20's should be invited to join a Youth Forum in the village to have a say in the future of Allington.

The Parish Council is requested to consider the community's wishes set out in this Action Plan and to pursue appropriate solutions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Members of the original Village Plan Committee:

Mel Cant
John Slater
Theresa Tanner
Ted Berth-Jones
Derek Fisher
Judi Fisher
Gerry Barretto
Chris Bradshaw
Dan Cragg
Sue Marvin
Ian Blake

The Village Hall Committee

Household Questionnaire Analysis

- 1 Mel Cant
- 2 Dave and Marion Strange

Young People Questionnaire Analysis

- 1 Mel Cant
- 2 David Taylor
- 3 Cathy Green

Members of the Village Plan Working Group

Cathy Green
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Jo Barnett

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