

# Community Vision for HP16

The Market Town Health Check Report  
for Great Missenden, Prestwood and the surrounding villages  
SPRING 2009

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## Appendices

This document contains appendices to the main CV4HP16 report as follows:

- Strategy & project table
- Worksheets\*
- Questionnaires
- Questionnaire and survey responses
- Interim project leaflets
- Published articles from The Source
- HP16 Business Network events
- Map and area data

\*separate document

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## **Strategy & project table**

The following seven pages detail the strategies and projects that were defined from the survey and research work that took place in the first stage of the CV4HP16 project. This formed the basis of the Plan for Action that was published in the Autumn of 2008.

## CV4HP16 - Action Plan

NOTES: Priorities shown against each action are suggestions only as proper priority can only be determined when all actions have been reviewed.

ECONOMY						
Strategic Aim	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
EC1. Establish a business network. Initial project = networking event on 23/9 @ the Abbey.	Demise of shops etc.	High	6 months	GMVA, FSB.	Local traders; business networking groups; professional services companies; Ngage.	Low - officer time
EC5. Develop a visitor strategy (tourists and residents) – what we have to offer and what gaps exist in facilities and amenities (link to transport strategy); Initial project = mapping of tourism offering (attractions, events, restaurants, pubs, heritage sites) using volunteers (see EC6 initial project).	Various comments about capitalising on museum.	High	6 months	RDM&SC	GMPC; GMPRG; voluntary groups e.g. Prestwood Nature; Chess Valley Architecture & History Society; Chiltern Society; CDC; BCC (inc. 2012); Hidden Britain; Tourism South East; library; churches; Chiltern Railways; Conservation Board; Nexus; cycling, rambling & equestrian interest groups	Medium – officer & volunteer time.
EC6. Develop an information and communications strategy; to include investigating the viability of and best practice for an Information Centre & information points. Initial projects = volunteer fair / information mapping	Lack of community feel.	High	6 months	CTOG to arrange volunteer fair (via Source article etc. to coincide with launch of CV4HP16 action plan in October, possibly using outreach vehicle); VACSB; link to CSR of large employers.	All (accumulate information needs of all partners referenced in this action plan)	Medium – officer & volunteer time, funding (e.g. for information centre)

## CV4HP16 - Action Plan

Proposed Project	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
EC2. Establish a Training and Skills Forum (schools, colleges, employers) 16+, 18+ local training careers support linked to local business	Need for investment for future prosperity of the area. Lack of affordable housing for young people. Need for business networking. Concentration of advantages for the elderly. Need to encourage younger people into the area.	Low	24 months	Business network	GMPRG; BCC; Schools; Rotary Club; Young Enterprise; The Abbey; Local businesses	High – officer time, organisational, funding.
EC3. Research who owns premises, lobby them to lower rents, provide incentives for local businesses	Lack of shops in High Street	Medium	12 months	GMPC / GMPRG	CDC; estate agents; businesses	Low – officer time
EC4. Produce updated traders / business directory / visitors' guide / parish maps	No direct evidence but implicit in identified need for GM & Prestwood regeneration	High	6 months	GMPRG / GMVA	Conservation Board / LEADER; GMPC; CDC; BCC; Tourism South East; Hidden Britain; business & community groups; Hawkes Design & Publishing	Medium – officer & volunteer time, funding.

CV4HP16 - Action Plan

ENVIRONMENT						
Strategic Aim	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
EN8. Investigate the potential for an Environment Forum (natural & built) and develop a Green Infrastructure Plan (audit of all public green spaces); initial projects = partner letter in November asking for input & feedback by Jan 09; forum / meeting spring 09.	Community values the local environment. Effect of traffic on environment. Fly tipping, recycling. State of roads, verges and pavements. Use of local resources (Misbourne water). State of local amenities such as Prestwood Common. Need for local groups to work together. Monitoring of pet mess.	High	6 months	AE / SJ (Shirley);	Prestwood Nature, Conservation Board, Chilterns Woodlands Project, Chiltern Society, CDC, Museum, Farmers, Simply Walk, Community Groups, GMPRG, GMPC, Prestwood Society, open spaces users, BBOWT, BTCV, Misbourne School, Ballinger Horticultural Society.	Medium – officer & volunteer time,
EN10. Village Design Statement (may comprise separate design statements for GM, Prestwood and villages); initial action = JS to propose & seek project team members at GMPRG meeting on 9/9/08.	Number of concerned residents about traffic planning and signage, also concerns over GM High Street regeneration / lack thereof and lack of focus in Prestwood. Key theme in Emerging Vision document; significant concern about future developments and their impact on the AONB. Also concern about lack of affordability for first-time buyers and those who work locally,	High	6 months	GMPRG (new project group)	Community groups, GMPC, CDC, BCA, Conservation Board	Medium – officer & volunteer time, funding

CV4HP16 - Action Plan

Proposed Project	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
EN9. Support & enhance the Misbourne and other public open spaces. Consider Missenden / Prestwood in Bloom initiatives	Natural environment rated as most positive feature in questionnaire feedback	High	6 months	Environment Forum	As above	High - officer & volunteer time; finance
EN11. Audit surviving heritage (see also EC5)	Love of the rural environment (part of the heritage of the area). Lack of investment in heritage events etc. Abbey seems divorced from village life. Lack of awareness of historic heritage (trees, listed buildings etc.).	Medium	12 months +	Museum / Chess Valley Archaeology and History Society (TBC)	Bucks County Council, Chiltern District Council, Museum, Schools, GMPC, Conservation Board; Chiltern Society, community groups	Medium – officer and volunteer time
EN12. Restoration of Great Missenden & Prestwood High Streets and Conservation areas	Buildings poorly maintained. Ugly and proliferating signage. Need for investment in future prosperity. Traffic & parking issues; traffic calming; signage / street furniture proliferation; building maintenance	These projects will emerge from the Parish design plan – see EN10		GMPRG	GMPC, GMVA, CDC, BCC, SEEDA	High – officer time, funding
EN14. Produce Rights of Way development plan  See also EC5 Visitor Strategy	Community loves the walks and rural environment. Key theme of conservation of the natural environment. Need for information about rights of way. Need for affluent hikers.	Low	24 months +	Prestwood Nature (TBC)	Chiltern Conservation Board, Farmers, Simply Walk, Ramblers Association, CDC, GMPC, Chiltern Society, Prestwood Nature, Chess Valley A and H Society	Low – officer time.



## CV4HP16 - Action Plan

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT						
Strategic Aim	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
TT15. Traffic management plan (intra-community) for our main streets, including review of GM traffic calming and car parking provision under SPA together with revision / upgrading of street furniture. Initial project = review by BCC already agreed at GMPRG meeting on 26/6/08.	Traffic and pollution are major concerns. Significant numbers feel speed bumps would be more effective for traffic calming than width restrictions. Narrowness of High Street exacerbated by restrictions. Three schools in GM create traffic gridlock. Traffic flow was noted as needing attention.	High	Review already started; 6 months for plan	GMPRG	Local businesses, local residents, schools, GMPC, CDC, BCC, Chiltern Society, NAG	Medium for plan – officer time; high for implementation – funding.
		Will form part of the of the GM, Prestwood & villages components of the Parish plan (see EN10). Review and any actions for GM could provide a template / framework for similar review in Prestwood and the smaller villages.				
TT16. Community Transport Plan (extra-community) to cover:  Travel planning to work, school & hospitals  Demand responsive Community bus  Initial project = mapping of community & public transport services and gaps by end 08	Traffic & parking issues   Need better public transport for villages	High  High  High	2008/9   12 months	GMPC (has powers to run a community bus service)	CDC, BCC, BCA, Arriva, Chiltern Rail, community transport providers	Medium – officer & volunteer time, external advisors.  High – officer & volunteer time, funding.

CV4HP16 - Action Plan

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY						
Strategic Aim	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
SC21. Youth Forum; initial project = feasibility study by community worker by end 08	YP's needs identified as key theme. Lack of public transport affects young people's sense of community access. Young people need facilities and events Youth centre not open enough, YP congregating in areas of GM & P. Need for a community building (esp. in Prestwood). Current fear of teenagers Divisiveness of selective education. Need for networking of local groups. Many recognise the need for better leisure facilities for all ages. Ecumenical Youth Worker research findings.	High	6 months	CTOG community worker	Schools, sports clubs, Scouts, Guides, GMPC, CDC, BCC, churches, kids' clubs, school buses NB – must involve and be driven by young people	Medium - admin resources, meeting point, mobile youth resource
SC22. Identification of an area for a potential community centre in Prestwood; initial project = contact Prestwood stakeholders (community groups) by end 08; article in The Source Feb 09.	Lack of facilities in Prestwood for community based activities. Different needs of different local communities. Prestwood lacks infrastructure / centre. Particular problems in Prestwood around the common. Lack of real community in Prestwood.	High	12 months	CV / AE (CTOG)	GMPC, GMPRG, CDC, community groups (existing facility users and potential users)	High – officer & volunteer time, funding, planning.



## CV4HP16 - Action Plan

Proposed Project	Evidence / issue	Priority	Timescale	Potential Lead Responsibility	Partners	Resource Implications
SC17. Production of Community Newspaper	Inability to communicate ideas about CV4HP16 to residents	High	Achieved; first edition of The Source distributed October 2007	CV4HP16	All committed community volunteers	High - ongoing financial, human and time constraints
SC19. Mapping of annual events	Questionnaire feedback about lack of activities/events for young people would also help with community cohesion.	High	1 month +	Great Missenden Community Group (TBC)	Traders, community groups, CDC, GMPRG, GMPC	Low – officer time
SC27. Village halls capacity and facilities audit; includes privately owned halls, schools, churches etc.	Evident lack of capacity; Difficulty in finding volunteers for trustee roles; Differing ownership & control mechanisms; Need for central booking facility?	Medium	6 months+	GMPC / GMPRG Village Hall Committee	BCA to supply information	Medium – officer time; High – financial to improve facilities
SC26. Ensure broad local community representation on NHS LINK in future to evaluate and improve access to health services	Level of concern in feedback from residents about access to hospitals and difficulty of reaching them due to lack of public transport.	Medium	12 months+	GMPC, Bucks NHS Trust	CDC, BCC	Medium – financial & organisational

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## **Worksheets**

The Market Town Health Check process provides specific research worksheets to be completed as part of the background to each project. For CV4HP16 as many as 70 local volunteers researched available data about the area to complete the relevant worksheets – a significant undertaking. The 128-page worksheet appendix is provided as a separate document (Appendix B).

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## **Questionnaires**

Two questionnaires were used during the CV4HP16 project. The first was designed to gather very basic opinions at the beginning of the project and the second to capture views about the Plan for Action. Both are shown in the following two pages



## **Community Vision for HP16 your comments – your future**

The Community Vision for HP16 aims to 'get under the skin' of the local community by involving people who live, work or study here, as well as those who visit us. It will develop a Community Vision and a Plan for Action, enabling the potential that exists here to be identified and unlocked for everyone in the community\*.

*\*The HP16 community comprises the Parish of Great Missenden and its neighbourhood in the HP16 postcode area from Prestwood through Great Missenden to South Heath and Ballinger.*

Please take a minute to enter your comments in the three boxes below. Feel free to enter as much information or as little as you wish – any comment will be valuable for the future of our community. Please also tick one of the boxes at the foot of the page and enter your details if you wish. When completed, please return this form to any of the locations listed below.

**What do you like about this area?**

**What do you dislike about this area?**

**What other comments do you have about this area?**

**Please tick one box below as appropriate:**

<input type="checkbox"/> I live here	<input type="checkbox"/> I work here	<input type="checkbox"/> I shop here	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a student	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a visitor
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***N.B. The Community Vision for HP16 needs your help to gather information to develop a Community Vision and Plan for Action. If you would like to help, please enter your name and phone number and / or email address below and we will contact you.***

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Phone / email:</b>
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Please return this completed form to any of the following: Post Office (Prestwood, Great Missenden or South Heath); Chequers Surgery (Prestwood); Rusts; Samways; Missenden Abbey; Great Missenden Library; Roald Dahl Museum & Story Centre.

*The Community Vision for HP16 is being conducted by the Great Missenden Parish Revitalisation Group.  
This project is supported by Chiltern District Council and Great Missenden Parish Council.  
For more information see [www.gmprg.org.uk](http://www.gmprg.org.uk).*

## Community Vision for HP16 Plan for Action – What do you think?

Please read the Plan for Action and respond to all of the following questions.

<b>1. To what extent do you agree with the Plan for Action as a whole?</b>							
Please put a tick next to your preference below:							
All of it		Most of it		Some of it		A little of it	None of it

<b>2. To what extent do you agree with the strategic plans?</b>					
Please circle a number below for your response to each of the strategic plans.					
(1 = strongly agree; 2 = agree; 3 = neither agree nor disagree; 4 = disagree; 5 = strongly disagree)					
Set up an Environment Forum	1	2	3	4	5
Prepare a Village Design Plan	1	2	3	4	5
Develop a Traffic management Plan	1	2	3	4	5
Create a Community Transport Plan	1	2	3	4	5
Set up a Youth Forum	1	2	3	4	5
New community Facilities in Prestwood	1	2	3	4	5
Build a Business Network	1	2	3	4	5
Create information and visitor strategies	1	2	3	4	5

<b>3. To what extent do you agree with the project ideas?</b>				
Please circle the relevant number below according to how important you think each one is:				
(1 = essential; 2 = important; 3 = desirable; 4 = unnecessary)				
HP16 in Bloom initiatives	1	2	3	4
Support and enhance the Misbourne and other public open spaces	1	2	3	4
Restoration of conservation areas	1	2	3	4
Rights of Way development plan	1	2	3	4
Restoration of Great Missenden and Prestwood High Streets	1	2	3	4
Audit of heritage sites and buildings	1	2	3	4
Produce a local guide and directory of local businesses	1	2	3	4
Develop a database of local business premises	1	2	3	4
Establish a training and skills forum linking local schools and employers	1	2	3	4
Develop a diary of community-wide events and plan new activities	1	2	3	4
Assess village hall facilities plus other spaces and buildings that may be available for community use	1	2	3	4

<b>4. Do you have any other comments?</b>
Please use the reverse of this form for any additional thoughts and suggestions.

**These strategies and projects will not happen without significant help from you and other residents within the local communities. If you are prepared to help in some way please enter your details below and we will contact you with some ideas about how you could be involved.**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Phone number:</b>	<b>Email address:</b>
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**Please return your completed form to a CV4HP16 launch event organiser.**

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## **Questionnaire & survey responses**

Surveys undertaken at public events, through schools and via the above questionnaires produced a range of responses that were grouped and ranked according to numbers of similar responses. This information is shown in the following seven pages.



Community Vision for HP16 questionnaire feedback

Like	No.	Dislike	No.	Other	No.
Rural environment, countryside, walks, footpaths, tranquil, safe, clean, etc.	171	Lack of parking / free parking / resident parking / disabled parking, inconsiderate / illegal parking, parking near schools, parking outside Rusts, cost of Station parking, lack of enforcement	76	Need better public transport / buses, particularly to Old Amersham & Chesham, Prestwood to GM, integrate with school buses	48
All essential services (shops, pubs, PO, restaurants, banks, supermarket, medical) and amenities are available	82	Traffic, traffic in GM High Street, speeding, inconsiderate drivers	51	Coffee shop / café / deli / tea room, better range of niche shops & food shops needed	28
Good rail & road transport links	61	Demise of useful shops / village shops & change to residential use, empty shops / petrol station	35	Young people need facilities / events	19
Friendly people & community	60	GM traffic calming	23	New speed limits and signs are positive, how will they be enforced? Quiet lanes?	11
Good quality schools	24	Poor maintenance of roads / pavements / footpaths / verges / drainage, lack of pavements on busy lanes / pavements too narrow	32	Police should be more active	10
Good library	21	Litter / fly-tipping, refuse collection arrangements / bin bags left on pavements, recycling facilities (poor / not enough)	23	Reduce speed limit through GM village / near schools / in built-up areas to 20 or 10 mph, use speed ramps / bumps	7
Lighthouse	17	Lack of affordable housing, poor housing re-development, condition of estate housing	15	Should be as vibrant as Wendover or Old Amersham	3
Churches	17	Proliferation of road signs	12	White village gates needed with traffic calming bumps	2
Interesting / attractive High Street & architecture (GM)	13	Poorly maintained buildings / shops / street furniture, inappropriate shop fronts / ugly signage	9	Traffic calming should be bumps in GM High Street	2
Museum	11	Lack of street lighting	11	Market needed	2
Buryfield	7	Museum has upset village life, too prominent, accidents will occur	6	Roundabout at Chiltern Hospital	2
Activities for older people, toddlers, etc	9	Lack of real community / vibrancy	8	No further greenfield development	2

No light pollution / street lighting	6	Crime / vandalism	7	Too many clubs / societies / do-gooders working for own ends rather than collectively and pooling information	3
Community-based activities	6	High business rates deter businesses, particularly shops / no encouragement for retailers	7	Abbey could integrate more with village / community	2
Peterley farm shop & farmers market	7	Lack of pedestrian crossings	4	GM gets all the attention, other areas are poor relations	3
Recreational activities, sports centre, playgrounds, etc	5	Aircraft noise	3	Buryfield parking should generate revenue for Parish / be kept for local users	3
Mixed age range, stable population – people move here and stay here	3	Station Approach / bollards	4	Museum should encourage school parties to use the High Street	1
Village halls	6	High council tax / low services	4	Prestwood [Nature] does a good job caring for Chilterns area	1
Good mix of housing	3	Proposed grammar school catchment area changes	5	Loss of Thai restaurant in the George was a shame	1
Low crime & vandalism levels	4	Drew's – poor condition and service	2	Plans should protect the countryside for use by people and limit the spread of vehicular access	1
Missenden Abbey & adult education courses	4	Notice board on Station Approach	2	Signs / local services information would be useful	1
Bus service	3			Potential visitors have high disposable income; shops should cater for them	1
		Dog fouling	4	Land around GM High Street could be used to grow produce for a greengrocer	1
Local events (steam fair, Dickensian, etc)	2	Too much difference between grammar and upper schools / 11+ tutoring	2	Cycling could be encouraged	1
Good recycling facilities	3	No swimming pool; could be at Sprinters?	3	Improve facilities / landscaping on Buryfield	1
Free parking for shops in Prestwood	1	Lack of cycle lanes	2	Flexible opening hours for shops	1
Affluent area	1	Reduction in social services by Council	2	Sense of community / place needed	1
Traditional values	1	Hospital services	3	No further expansion of Gateway School	1
Loyalty to local traders	1	Cyclists on pavements	1	Roadside recycling of plastic	1
Link Road crossing	1	No community centre	1	Business network / marketing service	1
		Step into chemist in GM is too high	1	Wine bar, cinema, art-house	1
Transport tokens for elderly	1	Misuse of Buryfield	1	Offer Museum open evening to local	1

				people	
Abbeyfield	1	Lack of investment in future prosperity	1	What revitalisation?	1
Lack of obtrusive religious presence	1	Undesirable people congregating in areas of Prestwood	1	Why revitalise GM? You can get all the vitality you need elsewhere. Don't do the action plan / vision!	1
Non-intrusive bureaucracy	1	Right turn into / out of Deep Mill Lane	1	Clarity over who is responsible for regeneration	1
Good Parish council newsletter	1	Lack of seating in High Street	1	Need to maintain a balanced community, not a high-priced ghetto	1
Good local trades-people	1	Overactive young people on Buryfield in summer evenings	1	Support local volunteers and church events	1
GM High Street discourages traffic	1	Selective education	1	Heavy goods vehicle restrictions needed on country lanes	1
New speed limits	2	No bank in Prestwood / lack of banks	3	Picnic area off Link Road car park	1
Good parking facilities	1	No NHS dentist	1	Pedestrian areas in Chesham have improved the High Street	1
Tennis club	1	Youth centre not open enough	1	Council should invest in community events such as Dickensian Evening rather than levy excessive costs	1
Prestwood Theatre Club	1	Misuse of Link Rd car park; needs night closure or CCTV	1	Newsletter should carry local news, events, clubs, etc.	1
Allotments	1	Library closed on Saturday p.m.	1	Bowling, snooker / pool hall	1
Zoran's bakery	1	Creeping suburbanisation	1	Church community good but not connected to rest of community	1
Butcher in Prestwood	1	Lack of business meeting place	1	Need a networking event for local groups	1
		Concentration of advantages for elderly – should be means tested	1	Community purpose / focus needed	2
		Churches Together not a success	1	Integrated working – e.g. school kids teaching 'silver surfers'; bring age ranges together	1
		Lack of alternative medicine clinics	1	Scheduled days for burning garden rubbish	1
		Pumping water out of the Misbourne	1	GM is an angry village with disgruntled residents, particularly where parking is concerned	1
		Un-maintained ponds	1	Council should not have allowed museum	1

				without extra parking; did not consult residents	
		Sports wall in Prestwood	1	[Community Vision] is a matter for elected representatives – ridiculous, time-wasting survey	1
		Cost of rail travel	2	Local events are good – Lighthouse, St George's Day, school events. Should be proud of GM	1
		Cost of taxis	1	Sprinters should have community café / swimming pool / more facilities	2
		Consistency of shop opening hours in GM	1	Museum should offer local residents' scheme / pass for multiple visits	1
		Lack of supervision of public areas	1	Museum should use school car park in holidays	1
		Burning of garden rubbish	1	The attractiveness of GM & P is due to their character and local activities	1
		School buses have too many pick-up points	1	Free parking is essential for trade and for elderly people	1
		Lack of mains gas in villages	1	Trains need more carriages	1
		Attempts to commercialise the tennis club	1	Need to encourage younger people to live here	1
		New speed limits	2	Museum attracts visitors; must be made welcome	1
		Trend towards supermarkets and large towns	1	Parish Council should have greater planning influence on CDC	1
		Greater focus on GM than Prestwood	1	Supermarkets should fund / provide recycling and reduce packaging.	1
		Lack of care for the environment	1	Want details of more walks of different lengths	1
		Lack of responsiveness of local authorities	1	Prestwood needs a centre	2
		Lack of leisure facilities	1	Twinning with 3 <sup>rd</sup> world village	1
		Distrust of teenagers	1	Bowls club	1
		Demise of library service	1	Prestwood Parish Council	1
				Pubs need to be child friendly	1
				Try to attract affluent hikers	1

REPLIES FROM YOUNG CHILDREN (PRESTWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL)					
Schools	8	Litter	5	Prestwood playground needs improvement	5
Local shops close-by	7	No street lights	4	Clean up the Common	2
Fields / woods / countryside / walks	7	Dog 'poo'	2	Prestwood needs improvement – new sweet shop	2
People I know / friends are close by	6	No beach or theme parks!	2	Convenient, nice place to live	2
Peaceful / quiet	5	No wheelie bins	1	Stop cutting down trees	1
Playgrounds	2	Park is disgraceful	1	Need parking near schools	1
Sweet shop	2	Traffic	1	More for children to do	1
Paths for biking	1	Alley to the infant school	1	More litter bins	1
Clubs	1	Teenagers	1	New park for older children	1
Red Kites	1	Prestwood is spread out	1	More shops like Rusts	1
Friendly people	1	Gum on Common	1	Prestwood Common needs a single community building	1
Chinese restaurant	1	Dead thorn bushes outside Greenside are messy	1		
Tennis courts	1	Some people can be really horrible	1		
Park (Common)	1	No ponds	1		
Scout hut	1	Parking outside Rusts	1		
Easy for mum to get to work	1	Kids hanging around the flats	1		
		Mean people in the park	1		



REPLIES FROM YOUNG CHILDREN (GATEWAY SCHOOL)					
Shops	36	Traffic, pollution, noise	38	Remove width restrictors	4
Buildings	2	Not much to do	2	Make more shops	5
Library	12	It's old fashioned	1	Bus service every half hour	1
Museum	19	Too quiet	1	Make GM High Street more colourful and welcoming	2
Supermarket	3	Not enough shops	4	Litter-picking service	1
Cheerful, friendly people	11	Teenagers	1	More parking spaces needed	11
Restaurants, pubs	9	Litter	3	Preserve interesting places for future generations	1
Playgrounds, parks	28	GM High Street is too narrow	8	More shops for kids (sweets / chips)	4
Countryside, wildlife, peaceful	51	Not enough buses	1	More traffic lights	1
Not much vandalism	1	Not enough parking	11	More clothes shops	1
Craft fairs	1	The motorway (bypass)	4	Places for teenagers	3
Halls	10	Smelly	1	Another restaurant	1
Churches	10	Creepy	1	Men's / boys' clothes shop	2
Roads & train links	8	Vandalism	1	Cinema	1
It's old fashioned	2	No duck ponds	1	Leisure centre	1
Mirrors at Pipers Corner	1	Lots of elderly people	1	Book shop	1
Gateway	3	Too many [women's] clothes shops	5	Skate park	2
Tennis courts	3	Museum not as good as expected (Aylesbury is better)	4	Bring back Dickensian evening	3
Schools	10	GM is crowded because of three schools	2	Improve tennis courts	2
It's like a town but like a village	2	Not enough playgrounds	1	Record shop	1
Hilly so less chance of flooding	1	Dangerous, bumpy roads	3	Cycle paths	3
Lighthouse	2	Poor footpaths	1	Look at traffic flow in GM	1
Lunches for elderly people	1	Not enough banks	1	More fun fairs & fetes	9
Fairs	3	Lollypop ladies	1	More things for children to do	3
Football & cricket clubs	3	Public toilets	1	Schools should come together for special occasions	2
Noise of cars racing past	1			Youth club	1
				Speed bumps instead of width restrictors	3



			Swimming pool	1
			Sports shop	1

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## **Interim project leaflets**

As milestones in the CV4HP16 project, information leaflets were produced and circulated in the autumns of 2007 and 2008. Their collective aims were to raise awareness of the project, highlight information generated at those points and encourage feedback. The first pages of these two documents are shown below and the full version of each can still be downloaded.

# Community Vision for HP16

An  
Emerging  
Vision  
Autumn  
2007

Your community • Your future

*This information affects you so please read and reply*



## Background

Over the last two years hundreds of residents, business owners, school children and representatives of local organisations from around Great Missenden, Prestwood, South Heath, Ballinger and Heath End have been taking part in a community-wide appraisal of the area called the Community Vision for HP16. The Great Missenden Parish Revitalisation Group, a voluntary organisation that acts as a forum for representatives of local community groups, set up the CV4HP16 group to gather and collate the information that you gave us. This document outlines the trends and issues you have identified as important. Your response to this 'emerging vision' will help to determine what needs to be done in the future by way of plans and projects that can be implemented by local people and local organisations for the benefit of the local community.

## What you can do?

Please read this brief leaflet and let us know what you think of the suggestions. What have we got right or wrong? What have we left out? What do you think is important for the future in this area? Then we can set to work as a community to make this 'emerging vision' a reality.

## History and heritage

We live right in the middle of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in a landscape that has been shaped over more than ten thousand years of farming and development since people first settled here in Neolithic times.

Iron Age tools have been found everywhere from Potter Row to Prestwood and the remains can be seen of a mediaeval farmstead in Angling Spring woods and a castle on Frith Hill. Trees from the once abundant cherry and apple orchards are still in evidence and beech woods proliferate where bodgers once worked to supply High Wycombe at the height of its furniture industry.

The 12th century saw the first Abbey in Great Missenden but when Henry VIII ordered the Dissolution of the Monasteries the Abbot was hanged from a tree in the Abbey's gardens and the building subsequently became an elegant house with landscaped grounds. There are over fifty other listed buildings in the Chilterns Conservation Area, some dating back to the Middle Ages, and another fifty across the Great Missenden – Prestwood area itself. In addition we have one of the most famous historic monuments in the area, commemorating John Hampden – 'The Patriot' – and his pivotal role in the English Civil War.



# Community Vision for HP16

A Plan  
for Action  
Autumn  
2008

Your community • Your future

*This information affects you so please take action NOW!*

## CV4HP16 – A Plan for Action

Three years ago a group of local people got together to start a community project – the Community Vision for HP16. These people were just like you – residents, not holders of public office, with a strong belief in the potential of this area. Their aim was to understand the feelings of local people about our communities and to use this information to develop some plans that could make a difference for the future of the area.



Beautiful isn't it? Help us to keep it that way

The Community Vision for HP16 (CV4HP16) followed the 'Market Town Health Check' template used successfully elsewhere in the region, initially using questionnaires and street surveys to ask people's views and generating several hundred diverse and interesting responses. A group of some seventy volunteers then gathered background data about the HP16 area – population, economics, services, infrastructure – and last Autumn the two sets of information were merged into an 'Emerging Vision' leaflet that was delivered to everyone in Great Missenden, Prestwood and the surrounding area, asking for feedback and ideas.

In the 'Emerging Vision' we told you that your feedback had identified the following key themes as being the most important for the local area:

- Conservation of the natural environment;
- High Street regeneration;
- The local economy;
- Litter and recycling services;
- Sympathetic and affordable development;
- Traffic and parking;
- A sense of community;
- Enhancement of social services;
- Community and recreational facilities;
- The needs of young people;
- Attracting visitors;
- Availability of local information.

Based on your responses we have now produced a set of strategies and project ideas that we feel could make a real difference to our communities in the future.



A new direction for our communities



# Community Vision for HP16

The Market Town Health Check Report  
for Great Missenden, Prestwood and the surrounding villages  
SPRING 2009

Your community • Your future

## **Published articles from The Source**

Since its inception as an idea generated by CV4HP16 in 2007, The Source newspaper has grown in popularity as a periodical carrier of ultra-local news and information. In parallel with CV4HP16, regular articles about the project appeared in The Source including a full page promoting the Plan for Action launch, which is shown below (The Source, issue 6, page 5).

# D-Day for Community Vision

## 16th October 2008

Three years ago a group of local people got together to start a community project – a project that spawned The Source. These people were just like you – residents, not holders of public office, with a strong belief in the potential of this area. Their aim was to understand the feelings of local people about their communities and to use this information to develop some plans that could make a difference for the future of the area. You have the opportunity to see these results on Thursday 16 October at the Misbourne School and we encourage you to do so.



Our countryside – possibly our greatest asset

The Community Vision for HP16 as the project is known, initially used questionnaires and street surveys to ask people's views and generated several hundred diverse and interesting responses. A group of some seventy volunteers then gathered background data about the HP16 area – population, economics, services, infrastructure – and last November the two sets of information were merged into an 'Emerging Vision' leaflet that was delivered to everyone in Great Missenden, Prestwood and the surrounding area, asking for feedback and ideas. This information was also included in two previous editions of The Source.

Based on your responses we have produced a set of plans that we feel could make a real difference to our communities in the future. This process has the support of Great Missenden Parish Council and should form part of the future objectives for Chiltern District Council and Bucks County Council in terms of their approach to this area. But the plans will not be delivered directly by the councils, they will need support and input from community organisations and from people who live and work here if they are to be realised – and that means you.



Clubs and societies are at the heart of the community



One of our thriving local businesses – Peterley Manor Farm Shop

Although the plans focus on the generic issues of transport, the environment, the local economy and community, they are based on real feedback from local people so they are specific to this area and are designed to be a starting point rather than definitive solutions to the challenges that face our communities in the future.

Just look at some of these challenges. The majority of us appreciate the relatively unspoilt environment hereabouts – whether we live or work here or just visit occasionally – but it would be all too easy for us to lose this environment if we failed to safeguard it. Numbers of local shops and services are decreasing, yet if we use local businesses we waste less time and money on travel and we could even encourage others to own and operate businesses here. Traffic and parking – it's no wonder that we complain about it when three quarters of us travel to work by car and most of us go to the shops the same way! And what about community? For several centuries the two focal points for community life in English villages have been the church and the pub but what does community mean to you now?



Great Missenden Station – our public transport hub

We probably have two choices for our communities: we either accept that we have no part in shaping what happens in the future or we decide that we want to be responsible for how that future might look. If you choose the latter then please join us at The Misbourne School on Thursday 16 October between 3.30-7.30pm where we will display the plans and ask for your ideas and comments. Please put that date in your diary and come along after school or when you finish work. This process needs your support so please get involved.

## Outline plans

- Set up a forum for local people and organisations to focus on how to maintain and improve the built and natural environments
- Embark on a Parish design plan project to consider issues such as regeneration and future development.
- Develop effective traffic management and community transport to combat our parking and traffic problems.
- Create a youth forum – we have a huge number of young people locally but what do they want for the future?
- Identify the need for new community facilities in Prestwood – it's our largest residential area but does it have what its residents need?
- Build a business network – this was trialled last year and was popular so a follow-up event has been arranged at Missenden Abbey on 23 September. If you're in business please go along.
- Develop a visitor strategy based on an assessment of what we have to offer – there's currently no publication or place for residents and visitors to find out all about the area and this will help.

What do you think? Come along on Thursday 16 October any time between 3.30-7.30pm at the Misbourne School and let us know.

## Find your niche!

Most people like to help others but it's tough to match the needs of the community with our busy lives. Whether you could offer an hour here or there or even a day or so a year, there are local organisations that would probably love to meet you and you would be making a real contribution to the local area. As part of the Community Vision for HP16 we will be approaching all local organisations, community groups and charities that can offer opportunities for volunteers and we plan to stage a Volunteer Fair in January 2009 to showcase these opportunities. For more information please contact us via The Source at editor@hp16.org.uk, or call Colin Veysey on 01494 862257, and watch out for the date and full details of the event in the next edition of the Source.

  
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# Community Vision for HP16

The Market Town Health Check Report  
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## **HP16 Business Network events**

Another by-product of CV4HP16 was a fledgling HP16 Business Network designed to bring local business people together and to engage them in the project. It is hoped that this initiative will continue. Promotional details of the events are included on the following three pages.

Improve your local marketing impact and business contacts at the  
inaugural meeting of the  
**HP16 Business Network**  
*“Creating a commercial community”*



Business Link, Missenden Abbey and the Community Vision for HP16 Project Team are pleased to present a unique opportunity to network with other business people from Great Missenden, Prestwood and the surrounding area.

Presentations include:

- Optimising your marketing communications
- Developing the right skills for your business
- The Misbourne - an untapped local resource

**Date & Venue:**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

The Carrington Room  
Missenden Abbey  
Great Missenden  
Bucks  
HP16 0BD

**Times**

6.30 pm	registration, tea and coffee & networking
7.30 pm	presentations start
8.30 pm	finish

**Cost: Free**

**Who should attend?**

This event is exclusively for Company Directors and Business Owners based or living in the HP16 postcode area.

**RSVP**

To reserve your place call the Business Link Customer Service Team on 0845 6009006 or email [events@businesslinksolutions.co.uk](mailto:events@businesslinksolutions.co.uk). This is an invitation-only event.



# Putting the 'Great' back into Missenden

Local residents and business people are becoming increasingly concerned about the state of Great Missenden's High Street. Empty shops and pubs, buildings in poor state of repair, rubbish left outside shops over the weekends, young high speed dragsters, lorries parking on pavements, safety for pedestrians – especially outside the Roald Dahl Museum.

Great Missenden is the centre of the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – it's in a conservation area – in 1066 we were listed in the Domesday Book - who would know?

*How can we make this village the vibrant centre of the community that it was?*

*How can we attract new businesses into the empty shops?*

**We are holding an open meeting for businesses and residents  
of the 'High Street' area of Great Missenden in the  
Roald Dahl Museum at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2008.**

The intention of the meeting will be to create a Great Missenden High Street Association to tackle some of the urgent issues which seem to be slipping through the net and to take action before it is too late!

We are already working with CV4HP16 (Community Vision for HP16) the Parish Council, Chiltern District Council, and Bucks County Council - a substantial grant has already been applied for to assist with the regeneration of Great Missenden.

We hope that you will want to show your support by getting involved and also making time to attend the meeting. We want to revitalise our village for those who live, work and visit Great Missenden.

The meeting is free – please tell your friends and neighbours. We want to make some important decisions that will affect you – but we need your input.

*At the meeting we want to discuss the 'grand vision'*

We believe the scope of the High Street Project should be the area:

Station Approach from the Chiltern Station to Buryfield Link Road  
Aylesbury Road - Black Horse pub to London Road - Nag's Head pub.  
Church Street to St Peter & St Paul Parish Church

Create specialist interest groups:-

- a. Attracting new business to Great Missenden**
  - i. Specialist businesses – bridal gowns
  - ii. Arts & crafts businesses
  - iii. Business associated with visitors to the Roald Dahl Museum
  - iv. Restaurants
  - v. High Street market – local farmers market
- b. Missenden – the centre for performing and visual arts in Buckinghamshire**
  - i. Choral societies
  - ii. Concerts – Jazz evenings
  - iii. Arts festival
  - iv. Food festival
  - v. Crafts exhibitions
  - vi. Courses – Missenden Abbey
  - vii. Great Missenden in Bloom!

**c. Promoting Great Missenden**

- i. Future events – Missenden Abbey / Roald Dahl / One Church Street Gallery
- ii. Areas of natural beauty – Angling Spring Wood
- iii. Footpaths & cycle tracks
- iv. Misbourne river walk from Great Missenden to Little Missenden
- v. Visitors Guide
- vi. Tourist Information Centre
- vii. Web-site – Newsletter etc.
- viii. Upper Misbourne Valley – Leader Project
- ix. Great Missenden Revitalisation Group.

**d. Good practice**

- i. Prepare a statement of good practice for the Great Missenden High Street
- ii. Consider strengths / weaknesses of adjoining towns – Wendover, Chesham etc.
- iii. Limiting vehicle access to the High Street – shared space – slow town
- iv. Consider EC good practice – Italy (Slow Town) – Holland (shared space)
- v. Appropriate signage in the High Street business area.
- vi. Encourage the schools to adopt a transport policy
- vii. Limiting the school run & school buses through the High Street
- viii. Twin with a similar ‘Slow Town’.

**e. Health & Safety**

- i. Vehicle access & parking – enforcement of existing restrictions
- ii. Carbon emissions in the High Street are getting to a danger level
- iii. Width of the pavements in High Street – outside Roald Dahl Museum
- iv. We have two old people’s homes and 3 large schools - at the moment traffic takes priority
- v. Traffic calming is a joke!
  1. 20 mph speed limit
  2. 7.5 ton weight limit
  3. Placement of calming areas
- vi. Speed camera
- vii. Rainwater – gutters & drainage in High Street

For more information contact Dennis Keeling, 1 Church Street Gallery, 01494 863344,  
[dennis@onechurchstreet.co.uk](mailto:dennis@onechurchstreet.co.uk) or Fiona Firth, 0777 370 4233,

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## **Map & area data**

The final piece of appendix data is available as a separate document (Appendix C) and relates to the Great Missenden Local Area. Although the area depicted in the document covers a significant part of the HP16 area it should not be overlooked that several other villages and hamlets are included in HP16 – The Hampdens, The Lee, Little Kingshill etc.

Great Missenden and Prestwood are their local hubs for transport, convenience shops, schools and other community amenities.

## **Any comments?**

Comments and feedback on this document and its contents are welcome and can be sent to GMPRG by email to [chairman@gmprg.org.uk](mailto:chairman@gmprg.org.uk).