



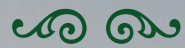
A PARISH PLAN FOR

LAMBLEY

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

2009 ~ 2019





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❧ FOREWORD ❧

The purpose of this document is to reflect the views of the community of Lambley as it is now and where it would like to be in ten years time.

It provides a focus for the Parish Council who have a lead responsibility for many of the proposed actions. It should also engage many members of the Parish in working parties set up to carry out the actions such as the Planting Group which already operates. We have attempted to keep the targets realistic and achievable, but many depend on outside agencies co-operating.

Again, thank you to all the Lambley residents who have supported us by filling in the two questionnaires, added comments and suggestions, who attended public meetings and gave time and energy by distributing and collecting questionnaires. Your responses to the questionnaires have already been used to endorse our views in communication with Nottinghamshire County Council, Highways, Carlton Police and Gedling Borough Council Planning Department.

It is intended to review this document, assess which targets have been reached and set new goals, after two years.

Lastly, many thanks to the Steering Group who have implemented this document. It has involved a huge commitment of time, energy and resources over the last 18 months. The team brought many skills to the project, especially IT skills which made communication easier. They have been a great team. I would especially commend John Brailsford, age 14, representing youth who has attended all meetings apart from a couple when he was ill and had as much input as other members of the team. During this time he has shown himself to be a mature, responsible person. He, and others in the village like him, are the future of Lambley. One good reason to have some affordable housing?

Margaret Meadows
Chairperson Steering Group
April 2009

WHAT IS A PARISH PLAN?

A Parish Plan is a community's vision for its future. A plan should address matters of greatest concern to residents.

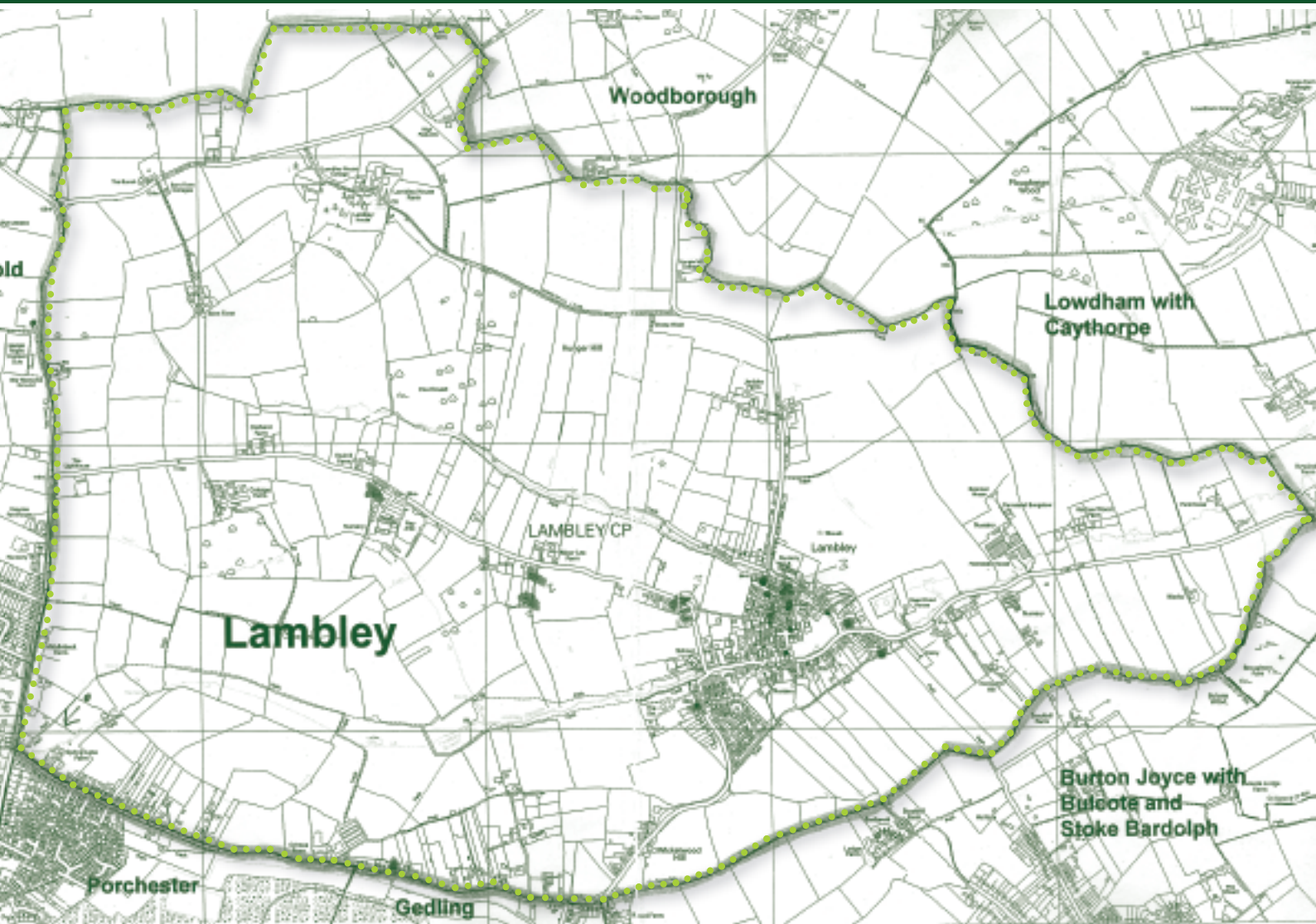
The Government has been encouraging communities to produce plans since the announcement in the Rural White Paper in 2000 with the intention of giving communities a chance to plan for their future over the next 10 years.

The Parish Plan should consult everyone and give them a chance to say what they think about the social, economic and environmental issues affecting them and how they would like to see their community improve over the next 5 to 10 years.

The aim is to create a united community where everyone can use the amenities and feel safe, valued and respected.

www.lambleyplan.org.uk

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LAMBLEY

THE VILLAGE

As the many comments made in response to the second questionnaire stated - Lambley is a small village with the benefits of being only six miles from the large city of Nottingham. It is, however, heavily dependent on urban facilities with regard to education, shopping, health and leisure. The population is just under 2,000 with approximately 500 households. The centre of Lambley, where the older buildings are, is designated a Conservation Area. Lambley is surrounded by countryside in the Green Belt.

Protected from being absorbed into the suburbs of Nottingham by Gedling Pit, the village of Lambley has retained its medieval form. The main area of building lies in the valley along Main Street with outliers of linear development along Catfoot Lane, Green Lane and Park Lane. There was a council development at the side of Spring Lane in the 1960s and 1970s. Most of these houses are now privately owned. Another 60s/70s development took place on the farmland off Main Street and made a small estate of mixed bungalows and houses.



In the past old cottages were demolished, particularly in the 1960s. These were replaced by larger dwellings. Cottages were also renovated and turned from “one up, one down” into larger buildings with bathrooms and garages. Therefore, in the last 50 years, even with the developments of Orchard Rise and Cromwell Crescent, the housing stock has not greatly increased.

The Robin Hood pub was once three cottages and the buildings along Main Street have their strip of land up to Back Lane, as shown on the earliest maps. There are three timber framed houses still in Lambley. Another old wood framed building has been recently restored near the school, Brookside Cottage. Lambley still retains the red telephone box, capturing the village scene.

Many of the cottages built in the 1800s for the stocking frame industry (in 1844 there were 381 frames) still remain, as does the I & R Morley Factory for the hosiery trade. There is a row of houses, known as New Row, built for the managers of Gedling Pit when that was opened in the early 1900s.





The Lambley Day Nursery is housed in the Old School Room, providing childcare for children from six weeks to six years in a welcoming and friendly environment.

Lambley has a lovely Grade I listed

There has been a school in the village for over 100 years; the older part of the present building having been erected in 1907 and added to in 1972. The primary school is now housed in more modern premises, the older part of which serves a dual role with the community as the Village Hall. Thanks to fundraising activities, the school playground has been extensively developed, with a "mini-amphitheatre" for drama, a wildlife area and a dry-play pitch. There is also a large field which is used for football and field sports.

Perpendicular Church, originally built in the 11th century and rebuilt in 1470. The lower two storeys of the tower date from the late 12th century. There is a proposal to build a Community Room on to the side of the Church. The Church creates a nucleus for the village with the Pingle Field site thought to be where the Old Manor House of Ralph de Cromwell stood, fronting Main Street. There is a regular congregation at the Church of 30 - 50 people and a Sunday School.

Until recently there was a Methodist Chapel but that closed and it is now a photographic studio. The Methodists have a corner for burials in the Lambley cemetery.

There are two burial grounds. One is at the Church, and the other belongs to Lambley Parish. In these are gravestones engraved with the names of families who have lived in Lambley for generations. People feel a sense of continuity in Lambley through a link with these families.

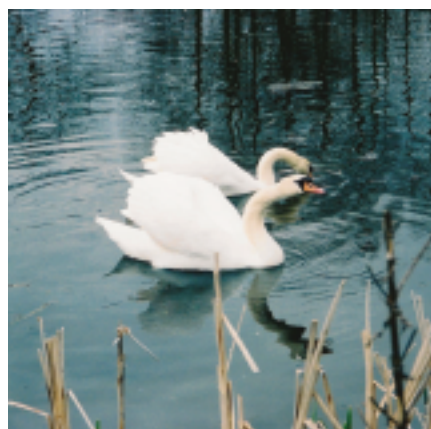


Surrounded by farmland, Lambley is still an agricultural village. Many of the fields retain their names, Northfield, Eastfield, Crifftin Field, Millin Field etc. Arable crops are grown and beef cattle kept including some Aberdeen Angus. Many people keep chickens, grow fruit and vegetables and there is some honey production. Horticulture also plays an important part in providing employment as Lambley has five nurseries, including Floralands, Hilltop, Blands, Stones and Ashdale, some on a large scale. The horse industry also provides employment as it becomes an increasing leisure activity. It has also seen farmland give way to stables, taping of fields, livery etc which is changing the face of the countryside.



Another rural provider of employment is the provision of boarding kennels for cats and dogs. There are several residents working from home using broadband technology.

Lambley has several wildlife areas and natural spaces. The Millennium Wood has been created at Bonney Doles. The land was purchased by the residents of Lambley and donated to the Woodland Trust. The Reed Pond, which is thought to have been the medieval stew pond belonging to the



Manor has been donated to the Wildlife Trust and is used by many species of birds.

The Pingle Field remains open in the centre of the village and the Dumbles provide a variety of wild life as well as pleasant walks. The Dumbles are known as Top Dumble and Bottom Dumble. The walk from Spring Lane to Lambley School along the Top Dumble is featured in D H Lawrence's writings. He walked from Bulwell, through Arnold to Lambley.

Lambley's claim to fame, apart from the celebration of Cowslip Sunday, is that one of the greatest statesmen of the Middle Ages was born in Lambley either at the Manor at the site of the Pingle Field or the ground that was covered by the old Rectory and Reed Pond. A son was born in 1394 to the Lord of Lambley. He was named Radulphus.

He lived to become Lord Cromwell, Treasurer of England, builder of Tattershall Castle, Wingfield Manor and the restorer of the Lambley Church. The Lord Treasurer's badge, representing money bags, may be seen at the west front of the Church.



Lambley may also have been involved in the infamous Luddite movement in the 1800s against the mechanisation of the stocking industry when machines were destroyed which were threatening their cottage industry.

The biggest change in Lambley has been the loss of shops and other amenities. As one resident commented on the second questionnaire "When we came to the village 35 years ago we had:

- General Stores
- General Hardware Store
- Co-op Supermarket
- Good Bus Service
- Butcher
- Youth Club
- Post Office
- Judo Group
- Cricket Team
- Scouts
- Football Team
- Cubs - Brownies
- Resident Police Officer
- Doctor's Surgery

These are all now gone."

LAMBLEY



An accountants' situated on Main Street provides a professional financial service. The Farm Shop at the top of Spring Lane also provides employment for 27 people.



Lambley people work hard to retain a community spirit. Until recently there have been several Lambley annual community events. One of these that has survived is the Annual Village Show which is well supported. Originally this was opened by a procession along the Main Street with a queen and band playing. We have had Gala Days and Lambley In Focus Days where the village street has been closed and stalls set up and entertainment provided.

These have also included Art and Craft Shows, Swing into Shape displays and also Cowslip Sunday was celebrated.

With the help of the government rural bus subsidy, we do have two bus routes through the village on a daily basis. Provisions are kept in a small store at the village garage which also provides fuel, service and vehicle sales. The service of a delivery milkman is available and also a mobile library.

Lambley has four public houses, one known as the Lambley Restaurant. The other three, the Woodlark, the Robin Hood and the Travellers' Rest also provide food with many coming from outside the village to dine. Other amenities include a village hairdressing shop as well as mobile hairdressers. The Post Office has now closed and provision for these services is either in the next village of Woodborough, Arnold Town or Nottingham City. None of these is within walking distance. No medical provision exists now in the village nor is it easily accessible by public transport. There are numerous horse riders, stables and livery and demesnes. There is a saddler working in the village at the present time.

A community project has provided a new children's playground (under 12s only) on the village field and there are some tennis courts. The Parish Council have plans to extend the children's playground with equipment for under 4s.



LAMBLEY



There are plans to install baby swings and a mini roundabout in the near future. The Parish Council also plans to reinstate the football pitch on the village field. There are no formal exercise classes due to lack of facilities, especially during the daytime when elderly people prefer to participate in these. However, there is a Lambley Walking Group providing shorter walks, especially for people who do not like to walk alone.

The provision for activities for all age groups in Lambley is limited by the lack of meeting places. Lambley Primary School has joint usage of the Village Hall. This prevents the main hall being used during the day until 6.00pm. There is a small Committee Room used by the Toddler Group and Wednesday Luncheon Club. This is then used until 6.00pm by the After School Kids' Club. Other groups using the Village Hall are Women's Institute and Badminton Group. Some organisations come in from outside the village but do not necessarily include residents of the village

The Parish Council and Village Hall Association hold Committee meetings there. The Church Women's Fellowship meet in the Church. The Art Group sessions are held on private premises and the British Legion meet in the Woodlark.



At present the Lambley Historical Society meet in the WI Hall at Lowdham. There is also a Lambley Men's Group who seem to meet in various places. There is a proposal to build the Trinity Community Room on to the side of the Church.

More recently we have had the planting of trees at the Millennium Wood project, joint events with Lambley Primary School and Lambley Historical Society, the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights on the first Monday of December and fund raising events held by the Church and School. The August Garden Party at the Church now has a widespread reputation as an event to attend and we now have an annual community bonfire on the 5th November on the village field.



According to deprivation indicators Lambley Ward is the most deprived area in the Borough relating to barriers to housing and services deprivation, falling within the 20% most deprived nationally (State of Gedling Borough Report).



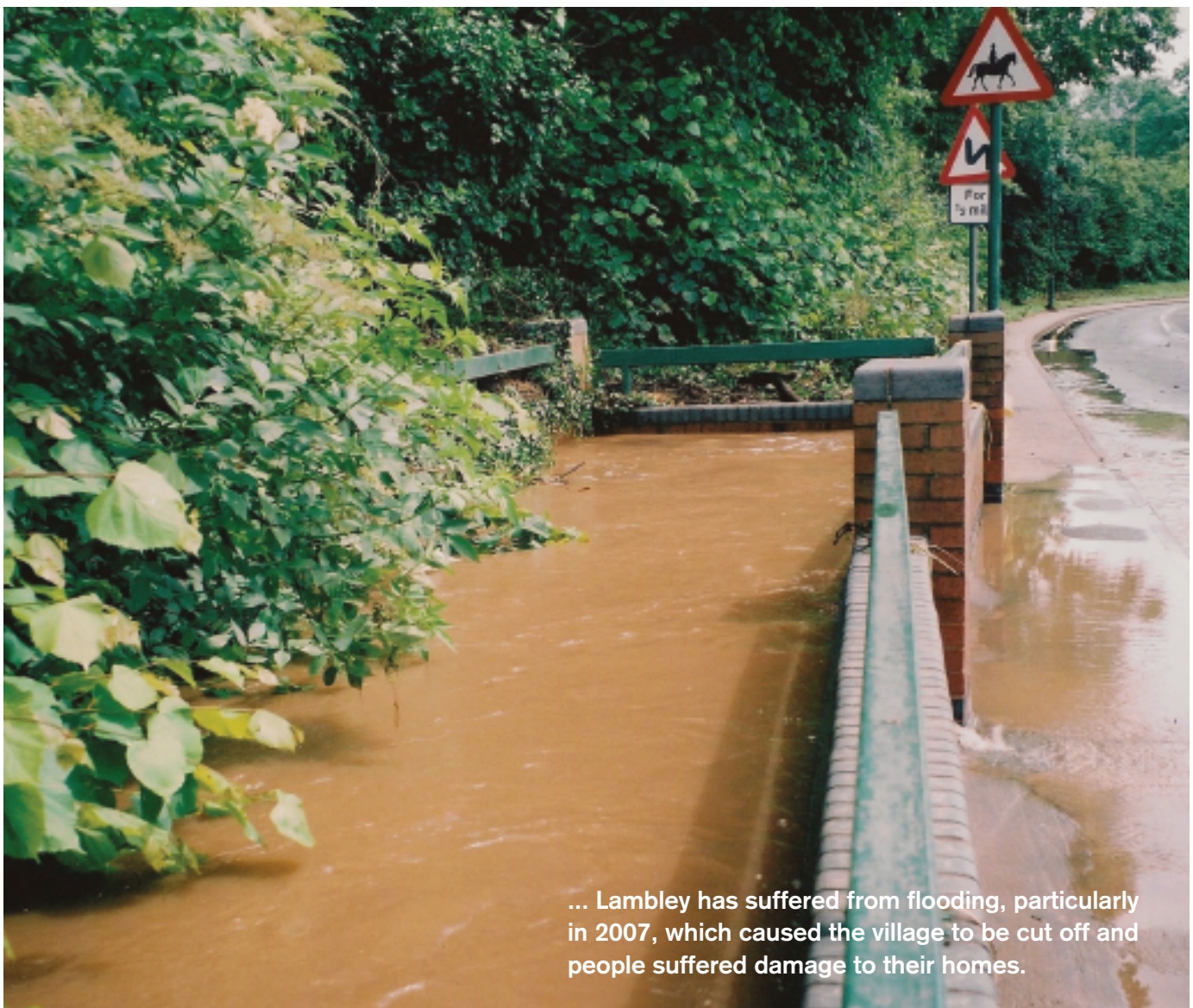


In recent years, Lambley has suffered from flooding, particularly in 2007, which caused the village to be cut off and people suffered damage to their homes. In the past Lambley has drawn its water from springs surrounding the village where the clay meets the Mercian Mudstones. Severn Trent has boreholes and a pumping station on Spring Lane but most Lambley residents receive their water from Oxtou Reservoir. The clay can become saturated and lead to flooding as the water runs from the hills into the Cocker Beck which overflows.

The other source of flooding is water pouring into the backs of houses from the saturated fields. Looking back in Parish Council minutes this flooding seems to have occurred on several previous occasions. The Cocker Beck is fed by two streams rising on Mapperley Plains. They join at the junction of Church Street, Main Street and Park lane, one of the main areas of flooding. The two streams have created incised valleys in the Mercian Mudstones, probably deepened by melt water and increased precipitation after the Ice Age and these are a feature of the Lambley landscape.

The second major problem has been the increase of traffic and speeding traffic due to the block on the A612 at Shearing Hill junction, affecting many Lambley residents.

These two events have probably led to a fantastic response of over 50% on both questionnaires and the well attended public meetings. These are the chief issues to address in our Parish Plan as well as the lack of amenities and enhancing the village environment.



... Lambley has suffered from flooding, particularly in 2007, which caused the village to be cut off and people suffered damage to their homes.



THE QUESTIONNAIRES



There was a fantastic response of over 50% to both questionnaires. People under 18 years of age also had the opportunity to make their needs known when a public meeting was held to compile a “Youth Wish List”.

In both questionnaires the top priorities were volume of traffic, speeding, flooding and a lack of parking facilities. Actions have been written into the Parish Plan to tackle these issues, together with the need to retain the rural environments and the conservation status of the village.



TRAFFIC

Speed

Increased volume of traffic and the speed at which it travels were the main issues.

From information gathered from the questionnaires it would appear the following traffic calming measures are required:

- 1 **20mph zone along Main Street, especially around the school**
- 2 **Movement of 30mph zone back to Floralands along Catfoot Lane**
- 3 **Movement of 30mph zone back to Harlow Wood Farm approaching Lambley along Park Lane**
- 4 **Narrowing of road entrance to village near "The Lambley" across to bus shelter area.**

We now have the interactive speed signs which are intended to be permanent. Action against speeding motorists has already taken place with the use of the Speed Gun from Carlton Police Station and with the Speedwatch Team.

Parking

It is recognised by the village that parking is a multi-faceted problem which needs to be addressed both in the short term and the long term.

There were requests for yellow lines all over the village but particularly :

- 1 **Orchard Rise junction**
- 2 **New Row**
- 3 **Outside bus stops**
- 4 **Outside Robin Hood Inn**
- 5 **Outside Woodlark**

Alternative solutions are being sought, rather than paint yellow lines everywhere by :

- a) **Investigating land for off-road parking**
- b) **Raised kerbs and white lines at bus stops on Main Street. Raised kerbs making it easier for elderly people to access the bus.**

Volume

Minutes from Notts County Council state that the situation in Lambley can stay as it is until the new road is built and then it will be reviewed.



ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

Flooding

Following the torrential rains of June and July 2007, Main Street and Church Street became impassable on three occasions within ten days. The severity of the flooding was caused by debris being swept down both the Top and Bottom Dumbles, eventually blocking grids and culverts. It is likely that these grids and culverts would not have coped with the volume flow rates involved even if the debris had not exacerbated the situation.

The Environment Agency has the power to adopt a watercourse if, when it floods, more than 12 houses suffer water ingress. In the case of Lambley, fewer than 12 houses suffered water ingress though many more were affected either directly or indirectly. As the present legislation stands, the Environment Agency is unable to adopt Cocker Beck though the Government has been talking about changing the rules.



The outcome for Lambley is that landowners of land that abuts a watercourse have Riparian Responsibilities to maintain that watercourse and to make sure that nothing in their section of it inhibits the flow of water through it. Indeed, the legislation suggests that it is possible to sue a landowner further upstream if it is clear that he has failed in his Riparian Responsibilities. It is certainly true that both Gedling Borough Council and Notts County Council are taking their responsibilities much more seriously since 2007 and have cleared silt and growth from the public areas of the Cocker Beck.

They are also committed to continue this maintenance work. Severn Trent have no direct responsibility for the Beck but during periods of heavy rain, the main sewer on Main Street backs up and overflows into the Beck. Before 2002, it was possible to direct surface water drainage into the main sewer but since that time, surface water has to be directed to soak-aways or directly into the beck. Severn Trent has carried out some work on sewers but the lack of capacity along Main Street continues to be a threat to public health.

To help the Village with the threat caused by flooding, the Parish Council have appointed a Flood Warden, Mr Peter Adams of 62 Main Street. He will receive warnings of potential flooding and contact relevant residents and co-ordinate possible defences.





DEVELOPMENT

Development

It is proposed, as responses to the questionnaires indicated, to support the Conservation Area, enforce the Green Belt, restrict development and to maintain the character of the village.

An opportunity will be sought to create some affordable housing for young people who have been born in Lambley. Lambley people love living in Lambley. Some mention living in Lambley all their lives and would not move. They want Lambley to remain a village and love its buildings, built in vernacular style with local bricks and pantiles.

The Parish Council employ a village contractor who has had included in his job description, the task of clearing litter from lanes and ditches, as well as from the cemetery. Gedling Borough Council removes fly-tipping debris.

Additional planters will be added annually and it is intended to continue enhancing the village environment.



FOOTPATHS

It is proposed to support the use of and improve and develop, all types of footpaths within the Parish.





POLICING

In the questionnaire concern was raised over speeding traffic, lack of a visible police presence and activities in the cemetery car park. Your responses to this were all fed back to Inspector Mark Towlson at Carlton Police Station. Simon Wells, the Community Policeman also received this information.

The Community Support Officer, John Hollins has attended every Parish Council Meeting and exchanged information with the Parish Council. Surgeries have been organised for the public to attend. Leaflets have been distributed around the village publicising this and also with information for police to be contacted. Times and venues of surgeries are on the police website.

Increased patrolling has taken place in the cemetery area.

The police now have a policy for more community policing and a visible presence.

They now have their own speed gun at Carlton Police Station for use in rural areas as Traffic Police from Nottingham did not seem to reach us. This has been used in Lambley as well as our own Speedwatch Team checking speed at various points in the village. At a recent Parish Council meeting it was stated by Simon Wells that their top priorities in Lambley are speeding and parking.



AMENITIES

In view of the numerous suggestion for activities within the Parish it would appear that the venues for meetings/activities need to be extended.

This is because the Village Hall is used jointly with the School/Notts Education Authority. The Village Hall is not available to residents of Lambley until 6.00pm each weekday. The Committee Room is also used by the School during the day and by the Kids' Club late afternoon until 6.00pm. It is not large enough for physical activities.



The proposed Trinity Community room will hold 20/25 persons. It may be used for developing health facilities (separate sinks, etc. will be required), for coffee mornings and groups such as the History Society, now using the WI Hall at Lowdham.

Therefore it would seem that to provide more amenities with the village for all age groups we need either :

To build a new Village Hall or extend existing facilities.

It is particularly important to develop facilities for use during the day. Younger children, school age children are catered for with the Toddler Group, Lambley Day Nursery and Lambley School followed by Kids' Club. There is also a periodic Sunday School held on a weekday. Many residents are working during the day and there is not such a need for social activity. However, older people often prefer not to go out at night and would benefit from activities such as an exercise class during the day.



LAMBLEY



IMPLEMENTATION

The Playground Committee is reforming and fund raising is again underway to provide baby swings, a roundabout and more seating. Another project underway is to revitalise the football pitch. The village owns tennis courts and there is a Lambley Football Team. The Lambley Cricket Club has to play its matches outside the parish.

Lambley is well served by footpaths. The state of these paths is monitored by residents, the Footpath Warden and Gedling Ramblers. Lee Scudder, Environmental Officer carries out repair work with his teams too and enhances the village with his efforts. Recently more seating has been provided around the village.

One of the requests arising out of the questionnaire was for more planting around the village and there are plans to extend this. Also it is intended to erect heritage boards, such as those along the Dumbles, with information about the history of Lambley.



We now have the Christmas lights placed around the village and it is planned to extend these further.

The bus service has improved. The Number 7 now runs every hour at approximately 30 minutes past the hour through the village and leaves on the hour from Parliament Street outside the Blue Bell Inn. There is also a shopping bus S8 to Morrisons on Friday at approximately 9.45 through the village. The Number 61 also serves the village travelling between Nottingham and Southwell. Encouragement and support will be given to sustain a good public transport service but it must be used by Lambley residents.

The provision of health facilities depends on the availability of suitable premises.

Lastly, planning application for the former Post Office to become a florist/café has been passed by Gedling Borough Council. It is unlikely we will retrieve a Post Office in view of the national closures.

In order to carry out these recommendations it is hoped that working parties will be formed from volunteers in the village. In the Autumn of 2009 a Public Meeting will be held to further inform and gather ideas for the implementation of the Parish Plan.





Acknowledgements

The Lambley Parish Plan Steering Group is pleased to acknowledge the support given to them by:

Lambley Parish Council

County Councillor Mark Spencer

Jennifer Kirkwood – RCAN (Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire)

Laurence Quirk – Gedling CVS

Gedling Partnership

Lambley Village Hall Management Committee

Nottinghamshire Community Foundation – Grassroots Grants

Alex Mckenzie

Historical photographs courtesy of the Lambley Historical Society

We would like to have included more photographs of activities in the village, especially those which included children, but we have been constrained by rules and regulations.

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