



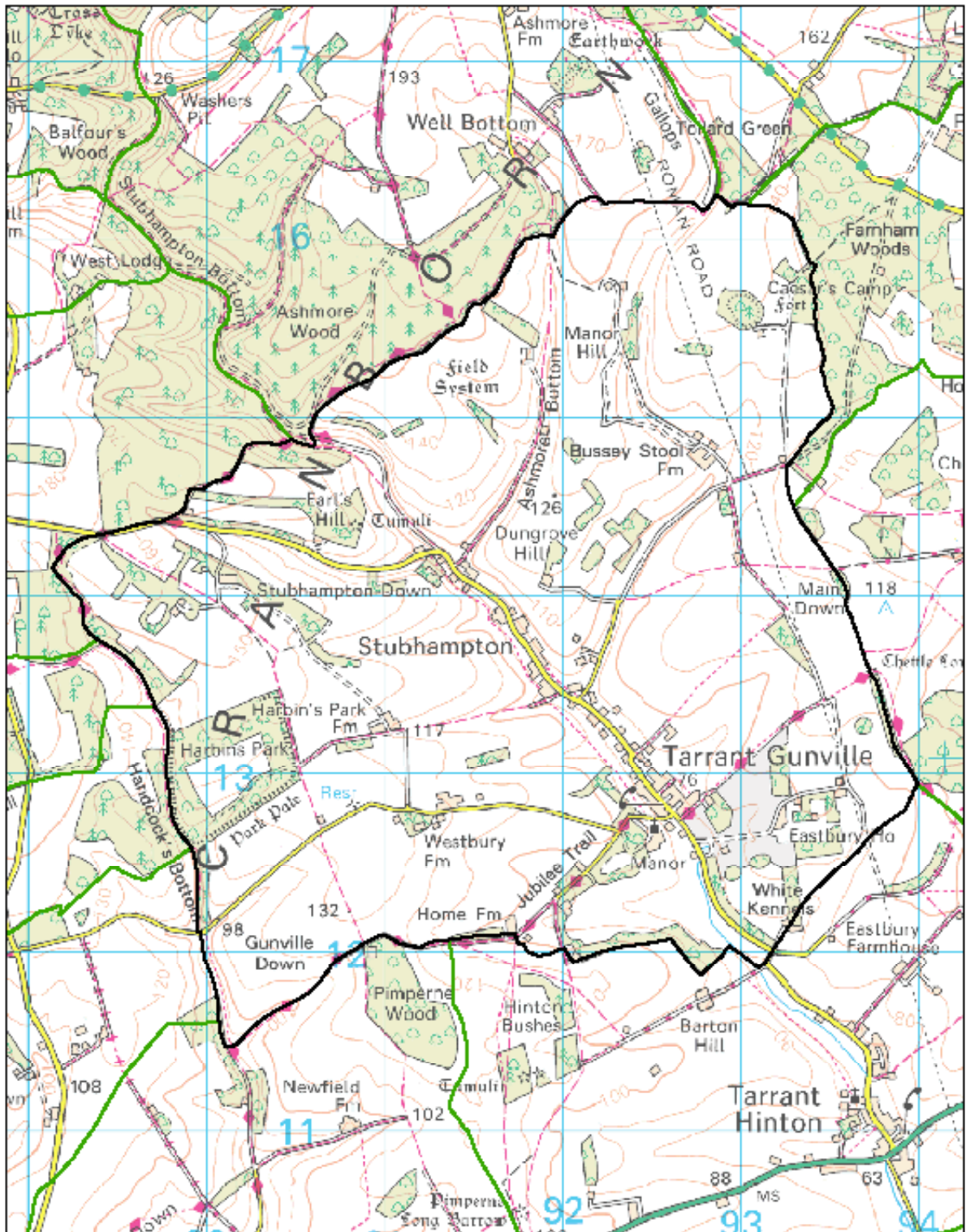
Tarrant Gunville and Stubhampton Parish Plan 2009

Cover photographs
Tarrant Gunville and Stubhampton by Jim Farquharson

Contents

	Location and Map of area	p4
1	Introduction and History	p5
2	Some Facts and Figures	p7
3	Action points	p14
4	Long Term Issues	p15

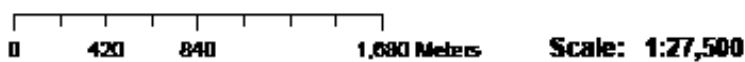
Map of the area



Tarrant Gunville CP Boundary

North Dorset
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Green Copyright. All rights reserved.
North Dorset District Council
LA 100010415 (2007)



Tarrant Gunville and the hamlet of Stubhampton Parish Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

Background to Parish Plan

In 1800 Tarrant Gunville Parish consisted of about 100 houses with 408 people. How many households at that time would be a guess, but it is interesting to note that as a number of neighbouring houses became one larger house our today's parish survey was a mere 105 households suggesting little change in the parish size.



In the more recent past there was a post office, village shop, The Bugle public house, school, church, parish room (village hall) and playing field. Today, we have the church, a new parish room on the same site with modern facilities, a playing field and a new farm shop at Home Farm, but economic and demographic changes have closed the other meeting spots. However, it is interesting to note that there remains a desire to re-establish a public house!

The community spirit in Tarrant Gunville (de Gunvills, Gondeville, Gounvyl, Gounfyld, Gundfield and Gunvill) and Stubhampton (Stibeemetune, Tarente Stubhampton, Stupyngton and Stepinton) has remained harmonious and busy, but only the church, parish room, playing field and farm shop are places where most villagers now meet. Outside, the Squires Playing field has also been modernised to meet with current legislation. The field now boasts a tennis court and spectacular children's playground where the old roundabout has been updated and remains a reminder of many people's happy childhoods. The annual carol singing still starts at Gunville Manor and Eastbury continues to host the annual fete.

The majority of people never leave the parish and with the mix of age groups and working/retired interests, many have worked hard to provide a cross section of activities covering all walks of life and using all the village meeting places to foster a close community spirit. The church congregation has grown and extra services in Arthur's Barn have brought many infrequent churchgoers together at a preferred venue. The farm shop has been a great success in not only bringing the community together, but putting the parish on the map. The playing field remains popular in good weather though the more athletic pursuits (tennis) have room for growth. The parish room is in constant demand. Of course, all these community activities require effort from the villagers and the results bear testament to the enthusiasm and esprit de corps existing in the parish.

Farming, despite its own industrial revolution, remains the main local business focus. Some farmers have moved away from the villages and in particular the pig farm in the centre of Tarrant Gunville, but where the animals have disappeared arable farming has taken their place. The approach to Tarrant Gunville from Tarrant Hinton is seen as a particularly pretty scene and the farmers have notably planted trees and changed their fields' layouts to improve the environment with obvious success.



Parish Plan Analysis

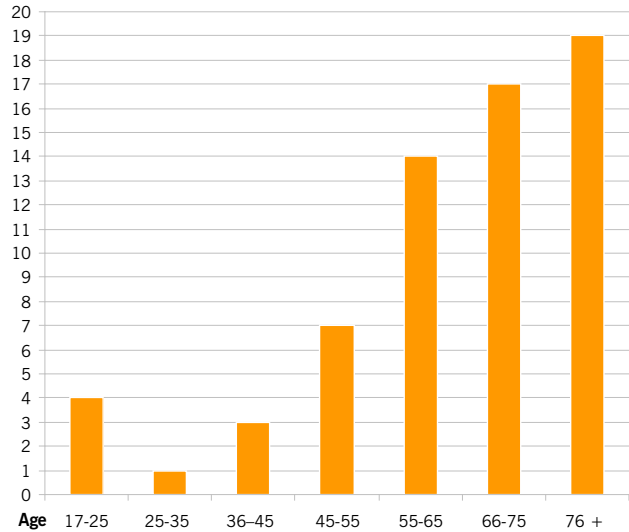
The results of the survey have merely confirmed a number of issues needing action. Some have been and will be ongoing for years ahead but reasonably quick action on some matters is expected.

2. SOME FACTS & FIGURES

65 households out of 105 replied to the survey

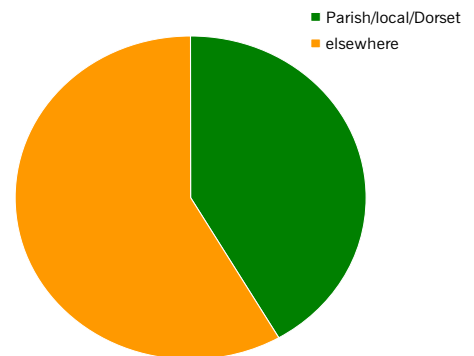
Age Structure Chart

According to the survey on age of residents 37 males and 28 females completed, That is 65 people



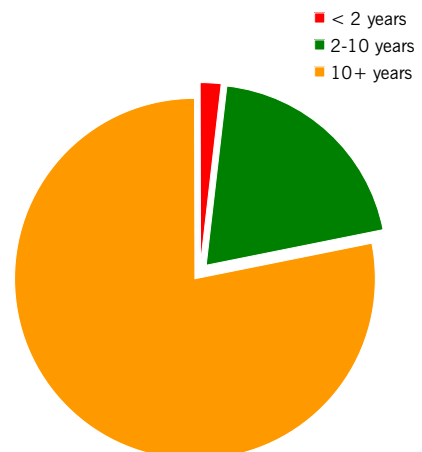
Birth area

Parish/local/Dorset 27
 Elsewhere 38
 TOTAL 65



Period of Residency

The survey showed the results to be
 11 < 2 years
 11 2-10 years
 43 10+ years
 65 TOTAL (only 3 work in the parish)



Reasons for living in the parish

- Sociable and close knit community
- Restrictions on building expansion in conservation area
- Strong bonding through village hall, church, farm shop and organised interest groups
- Conservation area with beautiful and peaceful countryside
- Residents rarely move from the village except for work/old age reasons



Utilities

- Electricity supply satisfactory since installation of multicore cables
- Poor mobile reception, but landlines satisfactory though cables below ground preferable
- Broadband has been well received
- Public telephone box (cards only) useful due to poor mobile telephone reception and adds to village quaintness (box needs repair)
- Majority (99%) do not want any street lighting

Refuse

- Refuse collection satisfactory, but community prepared to assist further with recycling if Council assistance provided. Waste management facility in Blandford considered satisfactory
- More refuse/dog bins would be useful

Drainage and flooding

Much of the Parish particularly Tarrant Gunville is without main drainage. Additionally, the River Tarrant rises in December to March most years turning the road into a river. Not only is this unacceptable today, it is also a health hazard in respect of the many houses off main drainage. However a large percentage of people were happy with the present situation.

Rights Of Way/Grass Verges

Rights of way/footpaths were considered satisfactory, but there is little support for voluntary conservation activities. Provision for walkers and horse riders is satisfactory.

Grass verges were in the past kept in order by a member of the community, but now it is appropriate that the Council deal with the unsatisfactory state of banks/verges and maintain the beauty of the Parish. Lack of action could result in substantial damage to the roadside walls and create unnecessary expense for the council. This issue will be addressed by the parish council.

Local Services

The replacement of the old village shop several years ago with a farm shop has been well received by the local community and beyond.

Whilst many would enjoy a local pub again, it is clear that a school and post office will not return.

Milk delivery is well received by many.

The newspaper delivery is also highly valued.

Fresh fish sold from a van is well received. The library service is well used.



Shopping

Everyone uses Salisbury, Blandford or Shaftesbury at least once a week.

Many people with transport visit these and other nearby towns more frequently.

Parking is considered satisfactory, though more free parking could assist some high street shops.

Transport

Whilst most people use their own or family transport, the limited public transport services are well used and particularly by the older residents.

Many older residents would enjoy a more frequent public transport service.

Communication

The Tarrant Times and other local advertising material is well received.

The village notice board is a useful information centre, but under utilised by many in the village.

This is a neighbourly community which is strengthened by events both within the village and organised events outside.

Local Businesses

Blandford provides adequate services for most activities such as garaging, computing, post office etc.

A number of locals offer general maintenance facilities, gardening assistance, fencing improvements, tree surgery (important in conservation area) etc.



Parish Facilities

The village hall is well used for many events such as WI, bridge, keep fit classes, coffee mornings, meetings, concerts/plays, bowling, pre-kindergarten get-togethers etc.

The playing fields are much improved and both the playground and tennis court prove popular. The field is also used as a car park for big functions.

Whilst the church is used mainly for church services it has been a useful venue for concerts and remains readily available.

There is little support for an increase in indoor/outdoor facilities.

Community Parish Facilities

There is a desire for more social, sports and holiday facilities to be provided for the under 16s/young people, unfortunately this has relied on a few good energetic people to give of their time.

There is particular support for

- Travelling cinema
- Computer facilities/courses
- Cyber café arrangements

Environment

There was a substantial majority concerned at the speed and quantity of traffic through the village. The number of heavy lorries was blamed for the disintegration of the main road and cracking of some house exterior walls.



There is a strong desire for the speed limit to be extended from the northern end of Tarrant Gunville right through to the end of Stubhampton village; and also for a weight restriction on heavy vehicles.

Encouragement of further community bonding using the village hall.

Verges and sign posts to be tidied/cleaned to add to the beauty of the village.

Whilst the majority of respondents to the survey were from the older section of the Parish community, approximately half expressed support for attractive affordable local housing.

Council Satisfaction

It was considered that the Dorset County Council and North Dorset District Council were providing a satisfactory service, but the Parish Council needs more community support to be more effective.

The Countryside

Whilst there is concern regarding the stream/riverbed, conservation and protection of the environment/wildlife was considered satisfactory.

Areas of interest to the residents requiring more information are:

- Areas of outstanding natural beauty
- Water protection
- Flood Plains/flooding
- Sustainable energy (such as solar energy etc)



Tourism

People are attracted to the beauty of the village and the church (the closing of the pub has had an effect in reducing the number of ramblers).

Whilst the Great Dorset Steam Fair benefits the local community, there is mixed reaction to the event re road usage through the village, traffic jams on major roads and the increase in crime.

Blandford's Georgian architecture and Shaftesbury's Gold Hill are popular local destinations.

Transport

Most people own or have access to a car, but find public transport useful although very limited.

There is an equal cross section of transport usage for work, school, social, shopping and appointments. Clearly the first three aspects are the most used. A minority of residents have difficulty in getting to appointments, but half the respondents were pleased to assist in car sharing/helping those without transport.

There was little support for the idea of a parish transport system, though some would be prepared to assist with shopping trips on request.

Traffic Issues

- Traffic speeding.
- Abuse from drivers requested to slow down to speed limit and show consideration to walkers/joggers.
- Vibration from the ever increasing heavy, large vehicles.

Housing

Majority are happy with density of village buildings.

Whilst a supportive view on low cost housing exists, there is concern that new houses should blend with traditional houses. Young people especially to bolster the farming community are needed.

Other areas requiring support are good quality food production and tourism. Traditional light industry was to be encouraged.



Courses In The Village

In addition to present events such as bridge and keep fit classes, computer, adult education and a larger cross section of courses would prove popular.

Several people expressed interest in attending courses with preferred times being spread across the day/evening. There was particular interest in languages, art and computers. The village hall was voted the best venue.



Homecare

30% have given care to relatives and friends.

Some requested the formation or ability to request a home visit service, though there has only been demand by three people for visits in the past five years.

Police And Security

There have been some burglaries over 5 years of which one was scared off.

There are two neighbourhood watch representatives who know the policeman responsible for both villages.

The village hall notice board is used to convey useful information/warnings and notices are also put through doors of relevant people when appropriate.

The Tarrant Gunville representative is prepared to ask the local policeman to give a short chat in the village hall.

3.ACTION POINTS

Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Comments	
Environment				
1	Road signposts need cleaning/painting	NDDC	Immediate	PC to action
2	Roadside grass cutting	NDDC	Summertime	PC to action
3	Continuing interest in environment	Community	Continuous	This includes litter, bottles etc on roads and footpaths PC to encourage
Police				
1	Investigate "neighbourhood speed watch"	Mr Dowse in consultation with Police	Immediate	
2	Speed limit in Stubhampton	Mr Dobre Carey	Immediate	Issue for Stubhampton neighbourhood watch organiser
3	Travellers to continue to be accommodated by the Steam Fair	PC and community	Ongoing	The site must be a temporary site for the steam fair duration
4	Closer involvement with the police - meeting and talks at village hall	PACT	Ongoing	There is a good relationship with the police and neighbourhood watch.
Telephone/Electricity				
1	Underground wiring wanted	NDDC	Ongoing	PC to action. This improves the environment and is consistent with technological progress
2	Poor mobile phone reception Upkeep of telephone box	BT	Ongoing	Phone box essential in view of poor mobile phone reception
Roads				
1	Road at Stubhampton constantly needs repair	Highways	Ongoing	PC to action An annual problem
2	Significant road subsidence by the Chase bungalows. Accident waiting to happen	Highways	Ongoing	PC to action. Council already approved
3	Erosion of roadside verges	Highways	Ongoing	PC to action. Cars forced off the road by oncoming traffic
4	Volume, speed and weight of through traffic	Police/ community	Ongoing	There is considerable concern about increasing through traffic and enforcement of speed limit and weight restriction on lorries other than deliveries to local businesses/houses
Rights of Way				
1	Advice on improvement of signage	NDDC	Ongoing	Michael Daniels to action
Village Amenities				
1	Return of public house			It is recognised that another "pub" is not an easy option
2	Some (but not all) would like main drainage			These are long term issues
3	Possibility of sustainable energy initiatives in the village			
<i>This is a dynamic document subject to ongoing changes</i>				

4. LONG TERM ISSUES

- Get our pub back!
- Consider main drainage (some do not support this)
- Consider the possibility of sustainable energy initiatives in the village

Acknowledgements

North Dorset District Council (Reprographics)

Dorset Community Action Simon Thompson

Dorset Strategic Partnership

History of Tarrant Gunville and Stubhampton by Eddie Brown

Photography Jim Farquharson

Parish Planning Group Joyce Billings, the late David Angus,
Jim Farquharson, Michael Pawson
and Chris Tatham.

