

Milton Ernest Parish Plan



Questionnaire Results

a. General Questions about you

Which of the following applies to members of your household?

	Male	Female
Under 5	29	18
6 - 8	16	13
9 -12	14	18
13 - 18	23	24
19 - 24	17	18
25 - 44	55	70
45 - 59	63	71
60 - 74	64	63
75 and over	14	23

How long have you lived in Milton Ernest?

Less than 1 year	14
1 - 5 years	66
6 - 10 yuears	50
11 - 25 years	58
More than 25 years	55

Do you have any intention of moving from Milton Ernest in?

0 - 2 years	24
3 - 5 years	20
6 - 10 years	15
11+ years	11
I have no intention of moving	164

Why would you contemplate moving?

See comments a11f

b. Life in the Community

I like living in Milton Ernest because
(please tick the statements that apply to you)

It is in the country	197
It is a good place to get to work	75
It is close to towns	114
The people are friendly	127
Of the school catchment area	79
Other	36

What do you consider to be the heart of the village?

Village Hall	20	
Garden Centre	35	
Church	53	
Church Green	21	
The Queen's Head	27	
The Playing Fields	3	
The Village School	43	
Other	16	<i>See comments b7</i>

Do you have difficulty in getting to any of the following?

Doctor's surgery	11
Chemist's for prescriptions	8
Hospital	11
Dentist	9

If we find that people have problems in reaching their surgery, doctor or dentist, or collecting prescriptions would you participate in a community "taxi" service (Good Neighbour Scheme)?

Yes	No
94	113

If the Lower School were to close for any reason would you consider moving away from Milton Ernest to be closer to your child's school?

Yes	No	Not Relative
25	35	172

c. Services

How often do you use the bus service

Daily	10
Weekly	28
Monthly or less	63
Never	138

Do you find the buses from Milton Ernest are generally ...?

On time	55
Early	1
late	7
Irregular (a mix of the above three)	40
Do not use	132

Would you use the bus more often if there were ...?

A more frequent service	78	
More buses to the station	50	
Late Bedford buses wanted	51	
More destinations	17	<i>See comments c6</i>

Would you purchase any of the following if they were available in the village?

Newspapers	192	
Milk	183	
Fresh fruit and vegetables	203	
Cash point availability	155	
Other	34	<i>See comments c11</i>

d. Recreation and Leisure

How many events or activities have members of your household attended in the Village Hall in the last year?

None	92
1 - 5	106
5 - 10	12
10+	28

Would any members of your household attend any of the following activities in the Village Hall?

	Yes	No	
Yoga	72	101	
Pilates	78	100	
Senior Citizens club	38	119	
Advice sessions	48	114	
Brownies/Rainbows	28	125	
Cubs	28	123	
Summer club for children	43	113	
Adult education classes	109	76	
Garden Club	79	96	
Art Group	49	110	
Other	27	12	<i>See comments d12</i>

How often do members of your family make use of the playing fields?

Daily	8
Weekly	36
Monthly	55
Never	135

How would you rate the playing field and its equipment?

	Good	Fair	Don't use
General condition of site	85	40	98
The grass surface area	69	53	101
Condition of equipment	71	43	105
Variety of equipment	52	58	108
Suitability of equipment	61	49	108
Equipment safety	78	32	109
Safety of surfaces	78	36	105
Seating areas	33	78	106

Would you like to see any of the following pieces of equipment in the Playing Field?

	Yes	No
Adventure playground	89	45
Mountain bike trail	52	75
Under 5' playground	92	45
Skateboard/Roller blade park	46	82
Tennis Courts	102	48
Enclosed basketball area	47	122
A sports pavillion	57	67
Seating/picnic area	101	44
Other	13	6

See comments d30

The Parish Council is seeking an area for allotments for parishioners. Would you be interested in renting an allotment?

Yes	No
77	157

How do you rate your Broadband internet speed?

Fast	8
Adequate	86
Slow	79
Do not have	61

How do you rate your Freeview signal?

Excellent	29
Acceptable	92
Poor	44
Do not have	68

e. Housing

There are just over 300 houses in Milton Ernest. What do you consider should be the limit to the number of additional houses built?

None	87
1 - 10 houses	55
11 - 20 houses	46
21 - 50 houses	40
51+ houses	12

Would you like to see any of the following types of development in Milton Ernest?

	Yes	No
Infill (building between existing houses)	58	158
New housing estates	19	195
Expansion on edge of village	66	154
Low cost housing	55	152
Flats and apartments	16	196
Sheltered housing	77	141

f. Environment

Do you think any of the following are a problem in the village?

	Yes	No
Air pollution	35	169
Light pollution	28	169
Noise pollution	88	124
Unpleasant smells	103	27
Dog fouling	67	142
Litter	61	147
Fly tipping	31	167

Are there any trees in the parish that you consider to be “special” because of their age, species, landscape/aesthetic value?

Yes	No	
80	123	<i>See comments f8</i>

Are there any open spaces in and around the village that you consider we must preserve?

Yes	No	
155	59	<i>See comments f9</i>

Could these open spaces be enhanced by any of the following?

	Yes	No	
Planting of wild flowers in grass areas	133	50	
Planting of trees	123	59	
Planting of flowers, shrubs etc.	135	50	
Other	14	2	<i>See comments f13</i>

Would you like areas of the village managed for the benefit of wildlife in any of the following ways?

	Yes	No
Less regular mowing of some areas	48	116
Planting of wild flowers in grass areas	136	54
Planting of trees	128	53
Planting of hedgerows	88	75

Would you be prepared to help community-run environmental activities in the village on a voluntary basis (environmental projects, tree/shrub/flower planting etc)?

Yes	No
90	129

g. Roads and Footpaths

Many people have suggested that they would like to see the village bypassed. This is something that is not within the remit of the Parish Plan. Your views on whether you would support a bypass could be useful.

	Yes	No
Would you support a Bypass?	178	45

Do you consider any of the following to be a problem in Milton Ernest?

	Yes	No
Pavement condition	76	129
Road surface condition	82	119
Maintenance of roadside verges	64	136
Maintenance of roadside hedges	48	145

Is speeding an issue in these parts of Milton Ernest?

	Yes	No
A6	178	42
Radwell Road	167	46
Thurleigh Road	91	96
Estate roads	42	126

Which forms of traffic calming would you like to see in the following roads?

Tick any boxes applicable.

A - A6

B - Radwell Road

C - Thurleigh Road

D - other

	A	B	C	D
Speed tables – flattened raised area	18	41	6	4
Speed humps	22	43	9	2
Speed cameras	90	24	16	1
Cameras measuring average speed	74	16	10	1
Random speed checks	75	48	26	7
Chicanes with one way priority	7	28	13	3
Speed limits painted on road	66	39	30	11
Enhanced planting on sides of the roads	22	19	13	12
None required	17	20	27	25

Is on-road parking a hazard in Milton Ernest?

Yes	No
162	68

See comments g21

Do you consider that there is a need for traffic lights incorporating a pedestrian phase at the staggered junctions of the A6, with Radwell Rd and Thurleigh Rd?

Yes	No
97	129

Would you like to see a more extensive network of local cycle paths?

Yes	No
166	55

How often do you walk any of the Parish country footpaths and bridleways?

Daily	47
Weekly	49
Monthly	39
Rarely	75
Never	26

Would you like to see any of the following improvements to the footpaths and bridleways in the parish?

	Yes	No
Clearer signposting	116	41
New paths to make circular routes	149	24
Clearance of overgrown footpaths	142	27
Information leaflets	102	51
Information boards	106	43
Better access for those with problems	104	39
No improvement necessary	21	54

h. Energy Use and Carbon Footprint

Would you like to see any of the following?

	Yes	No
More street lighting	43	131
Less street lighting	32	106
More time controlled street lighting	116	63
Low energy lighting	168	31

How do you rate your household's contribution to recycling?

Good	166
Average	58
Poor	9
Do not recycle	4

What could be done to help you with recycling?

	Yes	No
Clarify what can be re-cycled	88	84
Do not have enough space to recycle	85	74
Publicise villagers who collect specifics	123	48
Provide more local recycling facilities	141	42
Glass recycling	168	34
Community Composting	81	71
BBC to expand range of recyclables	164	24

Would you be interested in information on household renewable energy, such as solar and wind power?

Yes	No
82	152

Would you support the construction of commercial wind farms in the parish?

Yes	No
94	130

Would a car sharing scheme be useful to any members of your household?

Yes	No
10	225

i. Policing and Crime

Have you been affected by any of the following in the last two years?

	Yes	No
Vandalism	18	198
Theft from property	25	189
Theft from cars	23	195
Theft of bicycles	4	207
Anti-social behaviour	33	187
Noisy neighbours	44	179
Threat to person	11	201

Do you think any of the following measures are needed in Milton Ernest?

	Yes	No
Regular foot patrols by the local officer	87	100
Regular foot patrols by CSOfficers	78	101
Regular police patrols by car	107	88
Better consultation	110	64
A Neighbourhood Watch scheme	132	32

j. All Saints Church

How is All Saints Church important to you

	Yes	No
As a place of worship	107	77
As an historic building	176	20
For baptisms, weddings and funerals	135	40
For Theme Services	133	44
As a focal point for the village	174	28
For functions organised by Church	108	55

Would you like to support the All Saints Church by becoming involved in any of the activities listed below?

	Yes	No
Church fundraising	52	97
Helping church groups	22	118
Flower arranging	20	119
Helping with cleaning	26	115
Grass cutting	22	116
Joining the choir	12	122
Bell ringing	16	117
None of the above	49	98

Should All Saints Church be used for a wider range of activities?

Yes	No	
61	114	<i>See comments j15</i>

k. Parish Council and Local Government

Do you understand which service is managed by which level of local government? (Parish Council, Bedford Borough Council, Bedfordshire County Council)

Yes	No
108	124

Would you know whom to contact over any local issues?

Yes	No
139	94

Do you understand what powers the Parish Council has?

Yes	No
85	149

Do you know who your representatives are on the Parish Council?

Yes	No
130	105

Have you attended any Parish Council meeting in the past two years?

Yes	No
55	182

I. Communication

Each household receives a free copy of The Villager. How much do you read?

All	197
Milton Ernest only	38
None	4

Are you aware of the Milton Ernest Parish Council website at www.milton-ernest.co.uk?

Yes	No	
92	140	See comments i2

Would you like to be informed of village events through the following?

	Yes	No
The Villager	224	8
Notice Boards	139	37
Web site	95	61
Email	49	87
Other	7	3

Would you like to see the publication of a Village Directory, providing details of clubs, societies, activities and local businesses?

Yes	No
174	44

m. Twinwoods Business Park and Yarlswood Immigration Detention Centre

There are plans for substantial investment and enlargement of Twinwoods Business Park (the former Wind Tunnel site). Do you consider any of the following types of development acceptable?

	Yes	No
Commercial	173	47
Warehousing/distribution	79	133
Light Industrial	132	83
Heavy Industrial	14	195
Waste management	20	190

Would any of the following concern you in relation to further development of this site?

	Yes	No
Light pollution	110	83
Noise pollution	180	35
Air pollution	171	36
Increased traffic	210	17
Smells	181	26
Environmental damage	183	28

In which ways would you like to be notified of any future plans for development on this site and other major developments affecting the village?

	Yes	No
Letter from Bedford BC	164	21
Notice Boards in the village	114	50
The Villager magazine	202	15
Flyers and pamphlets	141	42
Public Presentation	107	48
Village web site	98	49

Do you have any concerns in relation to the doubling in size of the Yarlswood Immigration Detention Centre, such as?

	Yes	No
Increased traffic	188	34
Security	190	34
Light pollution	97	86
Adverse effects on property values	153	52
Other	23	6

n. Parish Plan Team Feedback

The Parish Plan Team would like to know what impact it has made and would appreciate your comments on the following statements.

	Yes	No
Good publicity	186	41
Opportunity to make my views known	198	28
Attended events	76	153

COMMENTS from *Other* - please specify sections

a11f

"What sort of question is this?"
To downsize house because family have left home
Any deterioration in the present village atmosphere
are renting and want to buy eventually
Bereavement
Bigger house - growing family
Boring and Bedford is vile
Both in armed forces - could move through job.
Closer to shops and town centre
cost
Don't know.
Downsize
Downsize
downsizing
Emigration
changing circumstances
Choice of Middle School.
Different type of property.
House too big -family gone.
If a traveller site were proposed close by.
If the traffic on the A6 increased considerably
If unable to find smaller property in village.
Lack of amenities for elderly.
Noise levels.
Retire to the coast.
Retirement, down-sizing.
Retirement.
Retirement. Downsizing to pay off our mortgage.
Retiring to the coast.
To a village.
To be nearer family.
To emigrate when our child is older.
Too long in the village.
Work related.
I am a widow & my family lives in Mid-Beds. Old Warden is my home.
I have no intention of moving currently but if jobs or a nice house caused a change in circumstance then we would.
Jobs/circumstance re family
lack of amenities
Larger house and a village with more facilities.
more cultivatable land
More rural location
Nearer shops
no facilities for old people
Not if Traveller Site or too much growth
Only if unable to look after myself
Pollution from A6.
Property improvement, monetary gain, closer to work
Recently retired and wanting to move nearer children and grandchildren
Retirement
retirement

Size Down.
Smaller property in quieter location when we are older
To a larger house (would like to stay in the area)
to be closer to amenities eg shops, gym etc
to better country with more opportunities
to buy a house, will probably be too expensive here
to country cottage with bigger garden
To downsize in village if possible
Want to downsize and would like a village with a shop.
Would move only if anything drastic changed in the village
Would only move if could no longer cope
yes if work required

b7

heartless
None.
A village store (Cooperative scheme). ??????
None.
Does not have one.
none
Not since The Swan closed
Isn't one
There is none - the Queens Head used to be but the commercial business dominates the atmosphere & attitude. This response is totally our views.
none
What was the heart is now houses.
Milton Ernest has no heart
Don't feel the village has one!
no central meeting point such as a shop
No heart
Woodlands Tennis Centre

c6

Mill Court stop needed
A bus stop near the end of the new motorway.
Northampton Milton Keynes London
Cheaper fares
if buses were destination friendly I would use
Unable to cope on my own
Milton Keynes direct.
If it were cheaper!
Milton Keynes
To Elms Farm Industrial Estate, Norse Road, Bedford.
Milton Keynes, Northampton
connection to long distance via Bedford available
Oakley
Milton Keynes

c11

meat
Fruit and veg if fresh
Fuel
Groceries
Bread
Would support a village shop.

Please can Milton Ernest get these!
petrol
Butchers products.
General Store goods.
Food and meat
Groceries
Meat, basic groceries
All household products
General provisions
A reasonably priced take away
hardware store - paint, nails etc
"We need a shop!"
Bread
some groceries
General Stores
There is a dire need for a "Corner Shop".
Off licence.
Use of recycling facilities.
Essential groceries.
other groceries
groceries
eggs, bread, fresh meat
Stamps
General groceries.
A general store would be a boon.
Deli meats/fish
alcohol, toiletries. No shop only downside to living here.
a little village general shop
Shop at Sharnbrook. Does not want open all hours shop as encourages youth to congregate.
locally and organically grown vegetables, organic milk/bread
Groceries.
Corner shop.
Off licence.

d12

Attend WI every month
Bridge
Football dance
Choir
social events
WI.
Activity club.
Occasional talks on local history, wildlife etc.
Local history. Bird watching / wildlife.
Mens Fellowship Group
Keep fit/Aerobics
Quiz nights
School related activities
NFAS Club, photography
Book club
aerobics, dance classes
drama group
fitness classes

Toddler group
If I was able to get there perhaps
Sports classes - netball etc.
I am a qualified reflexologist.
Table top sales. Local activities eg. Hobbies, models etc.
Family history group. Dancing - tap, ballroom etc.
Book club
Keep fit - aerobics.
youth club
only if activities were in evenings
Badminton
Debating society

d30

Parking
Trees for shade or wind break
Rugby posts
Swimming pool
Picnic benches would be a great idea with some shade
A "usable" safe area adjacent to Church Green
A lot of money should not be spent on field till the land is owned by MEPFA.
Any activity to help young people would be supported.
Golf pulling course. <i>(Do they mean PUTTING?)</i>
cannot comment as do not use play area
Small bike / skateboard ramps. Zip wire.
The outlook of the residents whose properties back on to the playing field must be considered. Also, the dreaded Health & Safety aspect!
roundabout
outdoor exercise machines
Trim-trail for adults.

f8

The Lime Avenue
Trees, A6 Approach to ME from Bedford
yew and holly in churchyard
Dutch Elms at top of Bobs Field (Limes I think)
Chestnuts on A6
All trees are special.
All of them !!!!
The Park (not the playing field).
Field next to Parkside (4 limes).
A6 horse chestnuts a lovely entrance to village.
Avenue of trees down Radwell Road. Trees at church
Horse Chestnut trees at Milton Ernest Hall.
By the river.
Walnut Willows bottom od River Lane
A6 Horse Chestnuts Cherries in Radwell Road
Horse Chestnuts on A6 and Village Farm Garden
A6 Horse Chestnuts
Radwell Road
A6 Horse Chestnuts
Any trees besides roads
Churchyard
All trees are of importance
All of them

There are so few it would be a shame to lose any
Chestnut trees as you come into the village from Bedford
Churchyard
Horsechestnut on Bedford Road coming into village
Horse Chestnuts in Milton Ernest Hall grounds. Silver Birch at 3 Arkwright Road Church Yard
All of them.
Rushden Rd opposite police house.
On communal ground to the rear of Butterfield Court
don't know of any
not had a chance to look around yet
Wigney Wood
church yard
Horse chestnuts Radwell Rd and A6 by boundary of Milton Ernest Hall.
churchyard, woodlands
Horse chestnuts on Bedford Road
Church, but need more planted in and around the village
The horse chestnuts on the way into the village going north and the weeping willow on t Green in Marsh Lane.
All the trees as I believe these add that picturesque feel and maintain the "good" look of the village.
Woodlands London Plane Tree and Oak.
Willow near river, River Lane
Trees near the Village Farm end on Radwell Road. ????'s should be planted & encouraged. (????)
The river & meadow opposite Riverside View.
All trees.
ME Hall wall.
Willow behind Village Hall.
outside Milton Ernest Hall
Both sides of A6 near Milton Ernest Hall
River Lane
ME Nursing Home wall - horse chestnut trees left of the A6
all trees are precious
horse chestnuts along main road
Horse Chestnuts on approach to village from Bedford.
All the Horse Chestnuts.
Willows at end of River Lane. Willow behind Village Hall & large tree. Trees along wall at front of Milton Ernest Hall.
All around the village. All trees are special.
All trees are "special" & I am becoming increasingly alarmed / infuriated by householders removing trees without permission.
Not sure
All the trees in the village!
The trees when you enter Milton Ernest on the A6 from Bedford. I believe they are "chestnuts" & appear to be dying - I hope they don't.
church yard
opposite bungalows across from school big tree provides a dome of leaves
horse chestnuts by ME Hall wall, perhaps grant could be available as expensive to maintain?
Chestnuts along the wall of ME Hall - they are diseased
All chestnuts on A6 by ME Hall. All old trees in churchyard and nearby it.
all around village

Chestnuts on A6 approach to village, in "part", willows on river bank, trees down River Lane
all adjacent to A6, trees on the park, river willows, all trees down River Lane
Need advice for protection of Horse Chestnuts.
All trees.
Chestnuts as you approach ME on the A6.
Chestnut trees.
all trees
A6 Horse Chestnuts
Woodlands Tennis Centre
Radwell Road Riverside View turn

f9

Church Green Playing Field Marsh Lane
Village Green
Village Green
Village Green
Church Garden
Village Green
Village Green
Village Green Playing Field Riverside View
Starys Meadow
Church Green Radwell Road seat A6 to Marsh Lane Landscaped area
Village Green
Village Green
All of them !!!!
I don't think any open spaces should be changed because it would spoil Village atmosphere
The park, the playing field, church green, village hall/bus shelter area
As above.
Area behind A6 bus stop. Garden Centre grassed area
Church Green. Flewton End meadows.
Milton Park, opposite River Lane & behind 1 - 11 Radwell Road and land adjacent to Milton Hall
Village green.
All the green spaces should be preserved. There is no room for additional housing
Flewton End. Land in front of Milton House is untidy
Church Green. Playing field.
The Greens. The field bounded by River Lane, Radwell Road adjoining ME Hall Field on Thurleigh Road after Vicarage
By the river.
Riverside View Church Green
Village Green Playground
All trees, Playing Field, Radwell Road Rushden Road Starey Close
Village Green Playing Field Riverside View
near river
all
Village Garden, The Spinney Amenity areas on Radwell Road spaces and Huntsmans Way
Riverside View
Designated areas in Radwell Road, Huntsmans Way, Arkwright Road
All Horse Chestnuts
Riverside View
All

The Green and area behind the bus stop on A6
Village Green River Walk
Area behind bus shelter and village hall, Village Green
Any greens within the village
Playing field and Village Green
Village Green
Green / Playing Fields / Hall gardens area
Village Green - Playing Field
Village Green, By river
All open areas eg fields , rivers
Playing field, Village Green, Riverside Meadow
All established areas
Park and Riverside
Church Green. Playing Fields
All of them
Areas surrounding playing fields and either side of Radwell Road. Farmland in general
Village Green. Playing Field, Flewton End,Riverside Meadow
Village Green. Riverside should be available for public access Rights of way clearly marked
Village Green, Playing Fields, Area near bus shelter
Playing field
The Village Green, the open space down Radwell Road bit in front of Monica Robisons house and RV picnic area which is fantastic
Village Green. Area behind old vicarage. Open space within Huntsmans Way
All of it
Playing field, The Green, the fields from Marsh Lane along end of Church into f?
Village Green and playing field
Church Green and all existing open spaces
space by River View down to the river
all footpath areas, walks by river
as above
grass area Marsh Lane
Safer walking areas on bridle paths. Weeds too long undergrowth dangerous when walking
all of them
Village grn, grn space in Marsh lane, field off River Lane next to The Hall
all current open spaces (eg Radwell Road at the top)
Church Green, village hall
Area around the river. Fields and open space along Thurleigh Road
Church Green
all open spaces
lots
Village Green, Area in Radwell Rd opposite Bob's.
Village Greens - BOTH sides of Thurleigh Road. Playing field + area in front of garden centre.
Grass area on Marsh Lane, Village Green, Playing Field.
Riverside areas, fields to rear of village.
The Village Green
Village Green and Riverside
The Green behind the school. The land towards the nursing home. The fields between Milton Ernest and Radwell.
Village Green (front of church - should not have proposed new fencing for school allowed).Land by footpath Marsh Lane to A6. Open spaces on Huntsman's Way and

Village Garden.
The immediate fields surrounding the village.
The fields around the village give it an open feel rather than crowded by houses.
Green Belt & Public footpaths.
Meadow opposite Riverside View.
Field behind Bob's shop.
The "Set Aside" area around Bedfordia field just north of Garden Centre on right. Many village residents enjoy walking in this area.
Riverside Meadow playing field.
Village Green, playing fields, field in Riverside View.
Village green, Riverside Meadow, playing field.
Area behind Village Hall. Playing field. Village Green. Meadow on Riverside View.
Riverside Meadow & playing field.
Village Green.
Bottom of Riverside View and land to right of Garden Centre
Riverside meadow, Church Green
all open spaces
All green designated public areas
The green. Riverside View front to river
Riverside View meadow
Riverside meadow and the playing fields
riverside area
Village green, riverside meadow
Green, playing fields, fields outskirts of village
Radwell Road
all that are now open
all adjoining farmland and river frontage
fields on edge of village, Flewton End Walk
WI Garden (needs tidying up). Area around bus stop. Village green, River Lane, riverside area
Field at back of Parkside. Village Green.
Wild flower meadow. Park at Milton Ernest Hall.
Playground, riverside.
Church Green. Playing field. Riverside Meadow. Flewton End.
Land to back of playing field.
Picnic area next to river & plot next to it. Play area opposite 32 & 34 Huntsmans Way.
We should aim to preserve all open spaces available.
All those that remain. I've "lost" the view from my back window. How many others are in a similar situation?
Not sure
All open spaces along Radwell Road.
Village Green. Playing field. Space behind village hall.
Playing field. Village Green.
Virtually all open spaces should be preserved.
The playing field & areas in Huntsmans Way.
The green areas on the Huntsmans Way development.
Excluding those already covered. End of River Lane & the park around the Hall, which should be listed grade one but is still a potentially large development site.....
All of the open spaces in the village.
End of Riverviewy
playing field
A small grassy area with tree at bottom of Huntsmans Way
Village green by church. Small green on Radwell Road opposite Strawberry Tree

cottage.
Church green, riverside, land around ME Hall
all
the green
All the little green places must be preserved. The lovely meadow at side of River Lane.
all play areas - as when estates built in village
Land beside Radwell Rd on the road to Radwell from playing fields/garden centre onwards
The park in River Lane, fields opposite the council houses next to Garden Centre.
Church green, edge of village by garden centre, playing field, by river in from of Riverside View, by nursing home
Playing field and church green
listed too many to fit here - just about every green area in and around village was mentioned
Park, Riverside meadow, fields north side of A6, playing field, garden centre grass, behind Protech, etc
Village Green. Radwell Rd green area. Playing field. Riverside & behind garden centre.
Church Green. The Park.
All of them.
Church Green. Playing field. River field. Milton Ernest Hall.
Wild flower meadow & picnic area, Riverside View.
The Village Green & fields around Thurleigh Rd for our views!
River frontage - should be able to walk alongside the river from "riverend" all the way to Radwell & beyond. The river bank should be for all to use.
Riverside. Village Green. Playing field.
Riverside Meadow.
Riverside View Fletwon End Playing Field Church Green
all open spaces
Walkways around the fields River Park
All of them
Village Green and Riverside View

f13

seating
Some more parkland trees around Milton Ernest Hall. Restoration of Elm Avenue
Radwell Road Huntsmans Way footpath needs grass
Park/Playing field
Village walks circular
Wild flower meadow between Radwell Rd and football pitch. Could just mow strip from gate to pitch in summer
Junction of Radwell Road and A6. Alongside fencing on A6/Arkwright Road
More trees
as above
Dog bins bottom of Marsh Lane. Smooth and cleaner walkways. More enforcement of LAZY dog owners. Nb dog owners that actually clean behind
Perhaps planting more trees around playing field so that it wasn't as exposed.
Keep it natural.
Maybe a seat in play area opposite 34 & 34 Huntsmans Way.
perhaps - depends which space
A6 and Radwell Road
A6 junction with Radwell Road, along Radwell Rd.
All along Radwell Road
All roads. If people emptied the rubbish from their garages, they could put one of the family cars in instead.

g21

Radwell Road near Garden Centre
Radwell Road near to A6.
Radwell Road opp Bobs Shop
Radwell Road opposite Strawberry Tree & Bob's shop
Radwell Road when turning out of Riverside View.
Radwell Road, Huntsmans Way/Arkwright road
Radwell Road, Marsh Lane
Radwell Road, Riverside View
Radwell Road.
Radwell Road. Bend in Huntsmans Way.
Radwell Road. Lower End of Huntsmans Way, but this is made worse by volume of cars & vans parked there.
Radwell Road. Occasionally Huntsmans Way.
Radwell Road. The bend opposite Bob's shop - vans parked there. This road requires laybys to improve parking. There is plenty of grass verge.
Radwell Rod
Rawell road, Parking opposite turns and on bends
Riverside View into Radwell Rd - turning right is hazardous
Sometimes on Radwell road
The kinks in Radwell Rd near A6 where oncoming traffic is obscured by a parked van
Thurleigh Road.
Too many cars park on the roadside everywhere!
top of Radwell Rd near A6
Top of Radwell Road.
Top of River Lane to A6.

j15

Social activities
Village Hall enough
Visiting choirs?
Art / craft exhibitions. Christmas tree festival bi-annually
Youth amenities
Appropriate by development Toilet/Hall facility
Social Functions
Dependent upon activity itself.
Handicrafts, art and photography exhibitions, meetings, concerts
Being Roman Catholic we would have ?????????

Catholic services.
noisy enough at times
play group, clubs etc
The church should be used for as wide a range of activities as possible to keep it viable and as a focus of the community.
We have lived in ME for 8 years & have never had the local vicar call. Much needed communication to be done.
I went to a play in Dunton church. It was very good & gave church funds. Also a cheese & wine evening.
not sure if it is suitable
musical evenings
Festivals, recitals.
Social activities.
Music groups eg organ / piano lessons.
Concerts, meetings (but village has village hall)
Since village hall used term time by school, perhaps senior citizens club could be held there.
concerts, talks, appropriate things for the villagers
showing films, concerts
film shows, concerts
Concerts

i2

Use to advertise things for sale
Parish Council Chairman never answers e:mails
Helpline numbers for parents & children.
OK as it is.
Quite happy with content
Diary of events and activities
All major planning applications, vacancies
More update and local planning details
Forthcoming Village events
Swaps, free cycle type, items for sale, services offered by local trades ie Builders Decoraters etc
Well I am (aware of the PC website) now.
A comments page open for villagers
Not everybody has .com. Nor can I afford a PC.
local ebay and village directory
Up to date minutes
More info on what's happening in the village.
Village events
More regular updating. More info on activities???? And info of organisations and activities. Newsletter.
Requests for more village hall activities.
Enough.
Village news, activities, general things happening in ME
no access, no computer
Events, news - same info as goes on noticeboards.
Local contacts. Publicity of any upcoming events etc.
Recently advised, not viewed yet.
Never actually looked at it.
Updated more regularly as Parish Council meetings are usually behind pictures
do not have PC

A very good site. Easy to use.
details of planning proposals/applications
Up to date info on what's happening ie. Speed camera results, progress on roadworks etc.
Village Directory Village Diary PC Meeting Minutes
Parish Plan info Whats on in the Village

m22

Escape of inmates
Value is zero to the village. ? Worth of operation
Feel that government should speed up processing immigration/asylum and return to their own countries
Introduce measures to avoid the need for the centre
enough as above
Moved from Bedford to get away from non British identity and ethnics being fobbed off on ??? I'm British and want British values maintained.
it is inappropriate
pressure on public services, such as schools
Increased traffic but only if the access was changed to the Thurleigh Road entrance.
Speed up return of rejected immigrants then doubling size would not be necessary.
not justified
Do not wish this to be turned into a prison
Possible threat from escapees - crime.
Human rights.
Don't like it there.
insurance premiums rising
will doubling in size take it back to the status quo before the fire?
If it goes up in smoke again, who pays? - US US US
possibility of Yarlswood IDC becoming a prison
possibility of it becoming a prison

n3

Freeform comments on anything not covered in questionnaire.

I would like to see more Community functions on the village green apart from the fete.

Two minor problems we have:

Garden/power tools being used very early in the morning, e.g. 7am. It would be nice if there was a voluntary code of some sort to prevent this.

The stray dog in our garden and more importantly crossing the A6.

Other than that we love living here.

Dog fouling:

Why should non-dog owners pay for poo bins and their upkeep?

Parish Council should introduce a local Dog Tax of say £100/dog/year to pay for this.

Dog owners should also be made to carry buckets of disinfectant to clear up residual faeces which harbour child-blinding parasites.

Dog urine is also smelly and unpleasant. Owners could use their bucket to wash down lamp-posts, car wheels etc where their mutts have polluted.

Serious consideration needs to be given to the village by-pass. (This is one aspect which is seriously affecting the village including well being and carbon footprint).

More support for school (donations/events etc to raise money etc).

A sign for Milton Ernest would be well placed on the village boundary – i.e. at the end of the by-pass by the Gables, thus enabling people to know that they are in Milton Ernest.

Noise from events at Twinwoods Centre. (Music events) this carries across fields and can be heard over television – no windows can be opened and it is annoying.

Bypass: I still can't understand why Clapham bypass did not pass the North side of Clapham and bypassed Milton Ernest and Bletsoe and came out at the Sharnbrook roundabout... but it's completed now.

River Great Ouse: We have a great river. Hydro-electricity, River footbridge to Pavenham, canoe club, River walks.

Bob's shop: All chip in for new windows. He's lived here forever.

BACK OFF LEAVE THINGS ALONE AND STOP WASTING MONEY

Evidence of camp fires continue to be seen in Wigney Woods (part of the Conservation Walk). With severe burning to over-hanging branches. Fire warning notices and beaters are required.

A farmshop type development would be an asset – perhaps on the Garden Centre site or at Bedfordia Farms.

The bus stop opposite Huntsman Way is positioned dangerously. Cars overtaking buses (especially waiting school buses) whilst vehicles coming out of Huntsmans create a hazardous situation.

No mention made of the little nature reserve on Thurleigh Road. This is an excellent amenity for walkers, birders (like me) and generally somewhere to get away from it all. I believe more could be done to improve the flow of walks on this side of Thurleigh Road and in view of the ancient earthworks on both sides perhaps Bedfordia could open up more footpaths to the right of Thurleigh Road to give walkers more scope and variety. Could Bedfordia be encouraged to develop better set aside areas to encourage wildlife in these areas as well.

There are four adults in the household and one questionnaire does not represent the view of them all.

I can't comment on the above as I am new to the village and haven't really had any contact with the Council. However, I am very pleased to see this questionnaire and realise there is a lot of people who are interested in the village.

Appreciate the bulky waste collection service twice a year.

M.E. is a v. pleasant place to live and a good place to have raised our family.

Pathway walk along river bank.

1. We want a village shop and for 'Bob's' shop not to be converted to a house.
2. More affordable housing is needed in the village.
3. The 'Maltings' should not be demolished and converted to urban flats.
4. We need more jobs in Milton Ernest.

Traditional Christmas Carols during Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve at the Church.

Thankyou for this opportunity to express our views.

Make Milton Ernest a 20mph zone except A6.

Milton Ernest desperately lacks a village store.

Whereas I would be against an increase in housing I would support the introduction of small businesses which could enhance the village (e.g. crafts,workshops etc).

Well done for polling the opinion of us villagers.

Tree shredding services within village, if just 2 or 3 times per year, would be useful to get rid of brances etc that are too big for the green bins.

Would like to see dogs allowed on playing field with a dog poo bin

A cash machine that doesn't charge would be good somewhere like the garden centre.

A proper shop/newsagent would be good.

A second pub which is more of a good old-fashioned pub than the Queen's Head is – something exactly like the Swan was with darts team, summer barbecues, bands in the garden.

More events like the summer fete. This is a great time for the whole village to get together. There are certain people in the village that I like chatting to and I only see them once a year at the fete.

More things to do for 12 to 16 year olds.

I would like to be informed about date/times when Bedfordia spray crops.

All owners of cats should put collars with bells on their pets to stop decimation of birds life.

Periodic organisation of village clearance of litter in roadside verges.

Provide wild bird nesting boxes.

Traffic lights incorporating a pedestrian on Thurleigh Road between the school and the Village Hall

A. For the children crossing at lunch times and when the hall is a classroom.

B. When collected and delivered to school by mums and dads.

C. It would be a short walk to be used by the villager walking the A6 and would be well clear of the junction.

Very concerned regarding walking children down A6 to school as only access into village. Suggest road control to be hugely invreased of railings or a cut through from play field Huntsmans to avoid children walking by A6. Problem not children as traffic explained but speeding vehicles a daily problem with people of mobiles and trucks.

I feel Milton Ernest is a non-entity. There is nothing here to tempt us out of the house. The sooner we leave here the better.

Walking on the A6 is very dangerous – narrow paths and speeding traffic increase chances of fatal accidents. There have been accidents already especially on the northern bend near Protech and Bedford Car Repair. The A6 to Arkwright Road cut through is inadequate and a second cut through near the play area should be considered. The presence of the Traffic Police in Butterfield Court highlights the speeding problem and other offences. People are stopped within minutes of detection activity starting. In addition the general effect is a slow down. The only permanent way to resolve are fixed speed cameras.

Cars parked on footpath near pelican crossing on Rushden Road a hazard.

Ditch and hedge along A6 Rushden Road always used to be cut and cleared – now is totally overgrown.

Some shrubs, trees etc along opposite side of A6 Rushden Road need cutting back as they are restricting the footpath.

Speeding and people using mobile phones whilst driving along A6 needs enforcing more efficiently.

Speeding on A6 is an extreme problem for the houses on the edge of the village.

It is difficult at times to negotiate the parked cars on pavements and the speeding traffic, especially if with young children and pushchairs.

The occasional policeman with speed camera does not help as cars flash each other to warn drivers to slow down, but at times traffic is so fast it caused major problems. If residents drive at speed limit we are overtaken by speeding drivers, an accident waiting to happen.

I think that a lot more could be organised in the Village Hall to get the community together like in other villages – for example quiz nights which are very popular, barn dance etc.

Lack of respect by others typical attitude these days from Joe Public. Be rude inconsiderate and to hell with what others want. No that's not me or the wife but we are both in our 60's and want a quiet life.

Let the planners get true respect and consideration by our younger generation and respect that as one gets older we don't want our urban close to be designated "play-

Encourage the noise in allocated areas that can be supervised, not expect neighbours to be taken for granted and assume that we are happy with their children's noise. We have done our bit.

The parents don't like it because they do not exercise parental control in public.

Sorry but that's what we want.

Well done and thanks for making the effort.

More storage room needed at the Village Hall.

The Village Hall car-park needs tarmac.

Problems with blocked paths, cars and wheelie bins, mainly Radwell Road. Prams and wheelchairs are difficult to get past.

Could the grass cutting contract please include collection of cuttings.

It would be great to have a Village Shop/General Store.

A few activities in Church Hall especially for pensioners.

Regular delivery of paper – Beds on Sunday – to avoid going to Mill St office.

A visitor especially for pensioners to check what they need.

Someone to call on the older people who cannot get out.

Care should be taken when encouraging housing development. Two areas are under threat : off New Road up to the playing field and off A6 between Old Police House and Flewton End involving one landowner in both cases. Previous applications have involved large scale development but were turned down by local Planning Inspector.

Keep the good work up!!

Extending and increasing peoples involvement in the village will make it a much better

place to live. Well Done!!

More info on when the Parish Council are holding meetings, the agenda and any papers being presented.

It would be helpful if permission could be obtained from Bedfordia (reasonable and socially aware) to walk along the path from the Garden Centre to the River and along the riverbank all the way to Radwell Bridge.

1. Youngsters riding a moped on Riverside meadow at 11pm.
2. As recent residents of the village we are still members of the congregation at St. Paul's Bedford and officers of the Friends of St. Paul's committee.

Traffic calming Radwell Rd having lived in the village for 38 years have found parking and speed of vehicles on the Radwell Road dangerous with speed and view for drivers and pedestrians.

More seats in public places please.

A questionnaire should go to each adult within the village to get a true reflection of opinions without asking for an extra copy.

Also teenagers have an opinion and have not been able to express it!

In view of the unlikely possibility of a bypass for Milton Ernest there has not been much mention of pedestrian safety in the village, particularly for children and the elderly.

There is much that could be done e.g. safer crossing places indicated along Radwell Road, footpaths moved away from or protected from the A6 (railings etc), footpaths between areas of housing (new houses north end of village linked to Arkwright Road, London End linked to Riverside View etc).

Many other residents of Milton Ernest must also suffer the long traffic queues to Bedford in the mornings – some of this traffic is the empty yellow buses returning from their school dropoffs – there must be a solution in there somewhere!

I am increasingly concerned by how certain people are allowed to get away with flouting planning laws. I know this is almost certainly down to the Borough rather than the Parish Council, but there must be a certain amount of liaison between the two. I increasingly feel that despite paying over £1000 a year in Council Tax (after a 25% reduction as sole resident), I am living on a Council estate, what with rusting cars, unkempt gardens and houses, residents working on their vehicles on the public highway, illegal signs outside properties e.g. no-parking, extras added to properties bit by bit, C.C.tv cameras in at least one house in my road which makes a noise, albeit not very loud, and I object strongly that nobody in authority will do anything. Why?

If necessary how should the Parish Council be contacted? We have never seen a published list of Councillors with contact details.

This is a village. Please keep this in mind when considering things like calming, tidying up roadsides etc, or will end up being horribly suburbanized and way too neat and tidy.

I would like to say that people around here are very nose, they don't mind their own business, they interfere with peoples' lives, people would get on far better if they leave people alone and let people get on with their own lives. I would like to say there's so many sad people around this area that they don't know how to be happy. I would like to say that I could count these people on my fingers. All I had since I've moved here is

people saying this and that. So I would like to be left alone and I recommend that people get on with life cos they've only got one life and life's too short.

County of Hertfordshire and Luton Council have facilities for the elderly and infirm to have wheelie bins collected from their properties (not necessarily from property boundary). Is there such a facility here in Bedford?

A bypass would most likely result in the village doubling in size. Keep Milton Ernest a village – not another Clapham.

Pavements all around Milton too narrow or blocked by cars, low trees, hedges, of fallen fruit. Unable to walk from property to Garden Centre or Church without difficulty at some point en-route. Pavement on A6 narrow but with a lovely grass verge. Swapping two around – path on the verge and grass on the path would help with buggies.

Butterfield Court should not be detached from village (and I don't live here).

Parish Council should pay more attention to serious issues like traffic, security and blocked paths and less attention to grass verges and strange noises.

1. I would like to see the Milton Ernest Parish Council website address printed in the villager so that people know it exists. It would be nice to print it on the Milton Ernest news section.

2. Similarly, it would be nice to have an image of the front cover of the Villager reflected on the web-site (current copy) then the Villager would rank right up there with Time, Newsweek etc even if it is of modest means.

Very comprehensive!

It is such a shame there is not a proper village shop. The only shop we have in the village apart from the Garden Centre is disgusting. I am sure if a convenience

So many people have e-mail access now why not set up a database and let people know what/s going on in the village. At the moment not a lot! Socially I mean. This initiative is good.

Not easy to get to know people in the village – perhaps easier if you have young children at the school.

I would go to the pub more often if the welcome was warmer!! Good job this is anonymous.