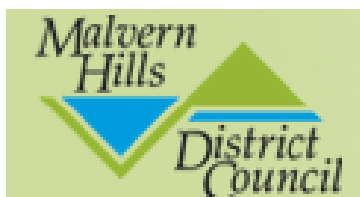


Our ref: PP250
September 2011



Dear District Councillor,

South Worcestershire Development Plan - Evidence Gathering – Village Facilities Survey

As part of the on going evidence gathering work for the South Worcestershire Development Plan, Malvern Hills District and Wychavon District Councils have recently sent a letter and questionnaire to Parish Clerks asking them to list the current availability and accessibility of facilities and services in their local villages.

As some of you will already be aware the results of this survey aids the South Worcestershire Development Plan's development strategy (village categorisation). For this reason can I ask that you impress on parish councils the importance in participating in this survey. Any help you can provide in facilitating this survey is very much appreciated; our deadline for Parish Clerk responses is Friday 30 September 2011.

For your benefit I have compiled a list of villages being surveyed that are located in the 73 Parishes of Wychavon District.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Matthews

Sarah Matthews MA **Planning Officer**
Direct Dial 01386 565453 **Fax** (01386)
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Civic Centre Queen Elizabeth Drive Pershore Worcs WR10 1PT
(01386) 565000 www.wychavon.gov.uk DX 25934 Pershore

Our ref: PP250

Wychavon District Council
The Civic Centre
Queen Elizabeth Drive
Persore
WR10 1PT

25 August 2011

Dear Parish Clerk

South Worcestershire Development Plan - Evidence Gathering – Village Facilities Survey

Parishes should now be aware of the Village Facilities and Rural Transport Survey which has informed part of the evidence gathering work for the South Worcestershire Development Plan. Thank you for all the responses received previously on the village facilities survey. **The aim of the survey is to assess the existing provision of social and community facilities within the rural area.**

The last review of facilities within your village was carried out in February 2010 so we are therefore now asking for an update on the facilities within your area to inform the third edition of the Village Facilities and Rural Transport Survey. Both Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Council's would like to offer Parish Councils another valuable opportunity to contribute and review the survey data. This will ultimately help the respective District Council's to ensure the data collected provides an accurate representation of available rural facilities and provide a sound evidence base to the Pre Submission Development Plan.

The purpose of the survey is twofold. Firstly to assist in the identification of sustainable rural settlements (as referred to in the 2001 Worcestershire County Structure Plan) which have a range of facilities and where a choice of modes of transport are available. Secondly to identify possible links between villages to enable us to build a picture of the relationship of villages to one another and the manner in which certain villages may act as a local service centre for surrounding smaller villages which may have few or no facilities of their own.

For the first time this survey also includes a section on internet (broadband) accessibility. The use of the internet has risen markedly in rural areas over the last decade and rural internet users are more likely to use it for accessing services (Commission for Rural England, 2008). This survey is trialling a method to gain a snap shot of broadband availability in your local communities. Attached to this letter are a set of instructions to help you ascertain internet speed in your local area.

It is important that the Parish Council recognise that the survey is a 'snap shot' based upon the judgement of whichever Parish Council representative(s) complete the returns. The District Council accepts that the survey results cannot hope to be representative of the preferences of all Parish residents. However, based upon the excellent ground knowledge of Parish Councillors, we will be able to achieve an even clearer idea of the pattern of service provision in the rural areas and how and where services are accessed.

Cont...

Enclosed is a copy of the survey form with detailed instructions on how to complete. I would be grateful if you or your Parish Council could complete the survey forms and return by **30th September 2011** (either by email or by post to the address above). If you require assistance on reviewing the response form or have any queries on the survey, please do not hesitate to contact me in the Policy Plans Team, Wychavon District Council on 01386 565453. Again I would like to thank you for your continued assistance in this matter; your support is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Matthews

Sarah Matthews MA **Planning Officer**
Direct Dial 01386 565453 **Fax** (01386) 565092
sarah.matthews@wychavon.gov.uk

South Worcestershire Development Plan

VILLAGE FACILITIES SURVEY - Autumn 2011

Please read the following instructions carefully.

INSTRUCTIONS

- The attached survey response form lists a range of services and facilities located within rural areas. The accompanying map depicts the survey area, **indicated by the circle**, which includes the main built up area of the settlement.
- If a facility listed on the response form is located **within** the survey area outlined on the map, please indicate the number of that facility present within the survey area using the column entitled '**Number**'.
- It would also be helpful if you could **identify the location of the facilities on the accompanying map**.
- If the facility is **not located** within the defined survey area, please provide details of the **nearest location** using the specified columns on the response form.
- Please also provide details of the **location most likely to be used** regardless of whether the facility is located within the survey area or not.
- Please provide any additional information you think may be useful on the response form.
- Please contact us if you know of any other settlements within your Parish for which you would like to complete a response form and we will forward additional response forms and maps.
- **INTERNET (broadband speed in your village):** We are asking you to visit <http://www.speedtest.net> (please note Speedtest.net requires at least version 10 of Flash). Once on the website please **only click 'BEGIN NOW'**. After 10 to 20 seconds this will provide you with a download and an upload speed. Ideally the more locations you try in your village the easier it will be to establish your village's average rural broadband speeds. However we do recognise this is an onerous task and any data you can provide will be useful.
We recommend that you are aware of the many adverts on the site and that you only click BEGIN NOW - Please note that MHDC and WDC take no responsibility for the content or material provided on speedtest.net).

If you have any queries regarding completing the response form, please contact Sarah Matthews on (01386) 565453.

**Malvern Hills District Council and Wychavon District Council – South Worcestershire Development Plan Evidence
Gathering**

VILLAGE FACILITIES SURVEY – August 2011

Village (insert your village here):.....

Shopping Facilities

Facility	Number	Nearest Location If Not Present	Location Most Likely To Be Used
Shop with Post Office			
General Store e.g. newspapers, food & household goods)			
Newsagent			
Mobile shop/service e.g. baker, seafood, vegetables			
Petrol Station including shop			
Garage e.g. petrol and car repairs			
Others e.g. internet access, specialist shops – please provide details			

Financial Services

Facility	Number	Nearest Location If Not Present	Location Most Likely To Be Used
Bank e.g. bank, building society			
Cashpoint machine			
Other – please specify			

Leisure and Recreational Facilities

Facility	Number	Nearest Location If Not Present	Location Most Likely To Be Used
Public House			
Café/Restaurant			
Parish/Village Hall, Meeting Room or Community Centre			
Recreation Ground – please state facilities provided e.g. football/cricket pitches, children's play area, bowls etc			
Library/Mobile Library – please specify type			
Church			
Other e.g. Leisure centre/sports hall, allotments – please provide details			

Medical/Health Facilities

Facility	Number	Nearest Location If Not Present	Location Most Likely To Be Used
Doctors Surgery			
Dentist			
Pharmacy			
Veterinary Practice			
Other – Please state (e.g. Optician, Chiropodist)			

Education Facilities

Facility	Number	Nearest Location If Not Present	Location Most Likely To Be Used
Pre-School Playgroup/Nursery			
Infant/Junior/Primary School			
Secondary/High School			
Adult / Evening Classes			

Internet Accessibility

Village location (e.g. village hall, home, school, etc)	How are you accessing the internet? (e.g. telephone line, 3G (mobile phone), satellite)	Download Speed (megabits per second)	Upload Speed (megabits per second)
<i>Example village, 1 Main street.</i>	<i>Telephone line</i>	<i>2.3 Mbps</i>	<i>1.2 Mbps</i>

Does your village have access to a free Wifi service? **YES** **NO** **(please circle)**

Employment (Please state details of local employers and number of employees if known.)

Please add any additional information you think may be useful to this survey including the most important facilities or services currently not present within the village:

Thank you for your co-operation in completing this survey