



2nd Parish Plan Open Day.

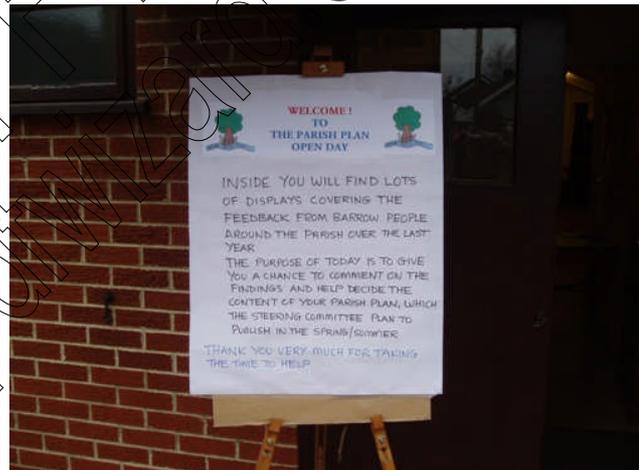
28th February 2009

Held in the Village Hall.

Report by Julian Simpson

The Barrow upon Trent Parish Plan Steering Group organised a 2nd Open Day to show what responses had been received from the distribution of flyers and the results of the various questionnaires that had been completed and returned.

The Open Day was held in the Village Hall on 28th February from 10am until 2pm with some excellent displays, representatives from various associations within the village. There were excellent refreshments, competitions for the children and a free prize draw for every entrant.



Over 70 people were in attendance from around the Parish plus the 20 or so Steering Group volunteers manning the displays and providing the refreshments. A very good turnout with a large percentage of the Parish represented in some way. The welcome at the door was from Duncan Hewitt, a Parish Plan Committee member who lives in Merrybower.

Lots of very useful and interesting feedback was received from the questionnaires which were sent out last August, the responses were analysed and the results collated and placed into various group displays around the hall.

Visitors were asked to stick “smiley faces” on prepared display forms which showed their areas of particular interest and concern.



This is the section on “Law and Order” within the Parish, and Parish Council arranged and manned by Keith Slater and Anne Heathcote.

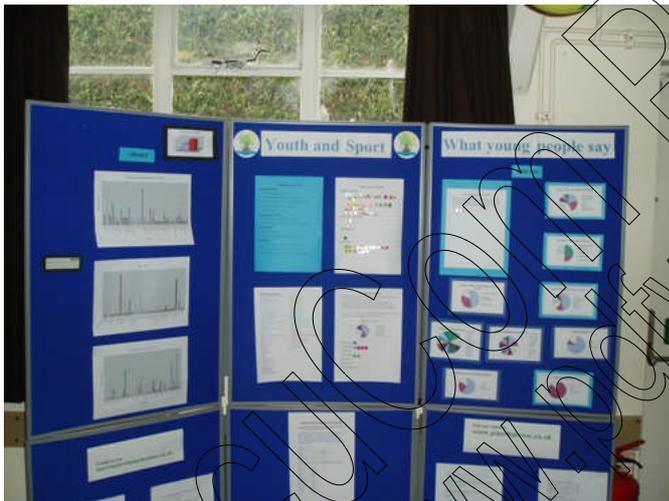
By 10.30am there were several groups of people looking at the displays and adding comments to the “comments boards”.

Refreshments were served by Norma Sharpe and Kathy Slater, and while folks enjoyed a cup of tea they could take part in a picture quiz created by Liz Peck.



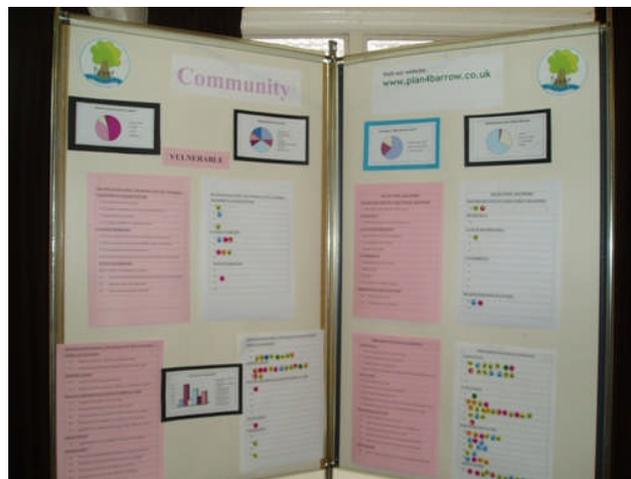
“Consideration for others” was also presented by Liz Peck from Merrybower, on many occasions overlooked as part of the Parish. The involvement by so many villagers with the Parish Plan will help to cement the connections and acquaintances made.

Catherine Blackmore, supported by Suzanne Hewitt organised a display entitled "Village Comforts" which aims to find out what Villagers like and dislike about the Village and Parish and what would they like to see improved.



Very high up on the Parish Plan is "Consideration for the younger generation in the parish". Helen Atkin is very much in touch with the School and Youth Group and organised this display With Tor Lucas to display comments from this important sector of feedback. "After all, they are the future".

Since the setting up of the Steering Group flyers have been sent out to all homes asking several basic questions about the "Community" of village life. The results from the questionnaires were very interesting with a greater community spirit high on the list of priorities and are shown in this display organised by Jill Scarfe.





Ron Scarfe having a final inspection before the doors open.

Simon Warburton, supported by Judith Thompson, looked after the “Parish Amenities & Education” display which was busy for large parts of the day and shows that many Parishioners are very keen on improving local amenities and problem areas in the locality.



We even had visitors from other Parishes keen to see how Barrow had faired with their Parish Plan.

With Simon and Jill are a group from Hatton Parish Plan Steering Committee.

The lagoon and other green area issues were dealt with by Dave Hateley and Ken Atkin.



Thanks to the work done by the Village Hall committee; we will now have new windows in the hall

They say communication is the key!

Our Broadband service to the Village has improved and it's all down to you.

The litterbugs (designed by the school children) were very well behaved throughout the day.





Images of the village were played throughout the day on a large screen.

And finally

It just wouldn't be the same without the raffle.
Some very nice prizes.



The comments and views made at the Open Day have been recorded and working groups will now be set up to tackle the areas that require action to formulate the Parish Plan.

Volunteers are required. It is your Parish Plan