

BARNACK AND PILSGATE PARISH ACTION PLAN
Second revision, January 2018



Barnack and Pilsgate Parish Council

Background and purpose of the Action Plan

A Parish Plan for Barnack and Pilsgate was first drawn up in consultation with residents and published by the Parish Council in 2005. In 2013 an Action Plan was produced, with the aim of building on and implementing the principles set out in the Parish Plan. This was in response to the 2011 Localism Act, which encourages local communities to play a greater role in determining their own future. By creating an Action Plan, the Parish is able to justify funding bids by demonstrating public support for projects. The Plan promotes a sense of community by setting out a shared vision for the Parish and its future. It also offers a framework within which to assess development proposals.

The Action Plan was created through community involvement, led by the Parish Council. It was launched at a village meeting in the spring of 2013. A draft plan was subsequently circulated and residents suggested amendments. These were incorporated into the final version, which was published in January 2014. The Action Plan is reviewed every two years. Achievements are noted and new challenges and proposed actions are added. The first revision was produced in December 2015 and the second early in 2018.

Two major events have influenced the latest revision of the Action Plan. In 2017, outline planning permission was granted on appeal for up to 80 houses, which could increase Barnack's population by 20%. The second event was a decision to explore the possibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. This, if adopted, would form part of Peterborough City Council's development plan, so it would carry legal weight on planning matters. In December 2017 the Parish Council held a public meeting to explain the advantages and disadvantages of producing a Neighbourhood Plan. In a subsequent poll, 84% of the votes cast were in favour of producing one. Although only about 12% of eligible residents voted, there were numerous offers of help and expertise, so the Parish Council decided that there was sufficient support to form a community group to investigate the matter further. This Action Plan will contribute information to the continuing debate about a Neighbourhood Plan.

Our Vision

Barnack and Pilsgate – a vibrant community with a rural lifestyle

The Framework for Action

Maintain the village character

Enhance community spirit

Improve health and safety

Maintain village amenities

Promote employment opportunities

Improve communication

Conserve biodiversity

Enhance leisure facilities

Enhance cultural, educational and spiritual life

Promote a sustainable life style

The following table lists ongoing and proposed actions and recent achievements, under the ten themes of this framework.

Action	Lead	Priority	Time-frame	Action since 2014 and comments
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Maintain the village character

Maintain the rural and historic character of the Parish (e.g. preserve conservation area, open green spaces; trees, historic buildings, old stone walls, landscape features)	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Installation of roof-mounted solar panels on certain houses in the core of Barnack's conservation area now requires planning permission.
Oppose any further large housing development in the parish, also any development outside the village envelopes.	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	The Parish Council opposed the Uffington Road development proposal at a Public Inquiry in February 2017.
Scrutinise and comment on PCC's new Local Plan	Parish Council	High	2018	Comments on draft submitted in 2017. Further comments submitted in 2018.
Take steps to prevent inappropriate development (e.g. by emphasising Barnack's designation as a Medium Village and Pilsgate's as a Small Village).	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	The Parish Council will continue to oppose inappropriate development. It has commented on Peterborough's draft new Local Plan.
Scrutinise and respond promptly to planning applications. Ensure that the new development of 80 houses is in keeping.	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	The Parish Council has responded promptly to all consultations. Some plans have been modified as a result.
Ensure that additions to existing properties are appropriate in style and materials	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	The Parish Council will respond promptly to all consultations.
Joint action with neighbouring villages on planning issues, when appropriate	Ward Group	High	Ongoing	The Parish Council is active on the Barnack Ward Group of parish councils.
Produce a Neighbourhood Plan as a statutory basis for influencing the future of the village and to increase income from Community Infrastructure Levy.	Parish Council	High	2020	Village meeting held in 2017. Subsequent poll showed sufficient support from the community to explore the possibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.
Improve road junction at war memorial green to protect the memorial. Landscape the green.	Parish Council	High	2018 /2019	Approved at village meeting in 2017. Request made to PCC to realign road junction. Plan produced for landscaping.

Enhance community spirit

Support Village Hall and Village Sports Pavilion. Optimise their use.	Community Assoc., PC., Cricket Club	High	Ongoing	Village Hall and Pavilion are well used. Parish Council contributed to the cost of repair of the Village Hall car park wall.
Produce updated village information, leaflets and web site material.	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Village noticeboards refurbished. Information Plaque in The Square may soon require maintenance. Leaflets revised and reprinted.
Encourage community pride and involvement through volunteering and community projects (e.g. litter picks, wildlife conservation)	Parish Council, Local societies	Medium	Ongoing	Community Payback has been involved in Parish Council projects. Friends of Barnack Hills and Holes formed. Litter picks organised.
Maintain cooperation with neighbouring parishes	All Parish Councils	Medium	Ongoing	Barnack Parish Council contributed to the Barnack Ward Plan and to the Rural Vision and Parish Charter.
Promote and organise social events in the Parish and help to combat loneliness.	Parish Council and others	Medium	Ongoing	2017 Christmas celebrations held in The Square. Centenary of end of World War 1 to be commemorated in November 2018.

Improve health and safety

Promote community policing, safety, security	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Liaison with the police continues.
Install traffic calming equipment (e.g. signs, lights, speed cushions, village gateways)	Parish Council	High	2018	Consultant employed. Traffic calming plan drawn up. Implementation agreed.
Promote other traffic safety measures (e.g. restrictions on lorries, Speedwatch)	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Speedwatch may be revived after traffic calming measures are installed.
Improve dangerous junction between B1443 and C40 at war memorial	Parish Council	High	2018 /2019	Plan approved at a village meeting. Commitment to be sought from PCC for realigning the road junction.
Monitor road conditions. Liaise with Highway Authority over road safety	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Pot-holes, dangerous junctions etc. reported regularly.

Promote the adequate provision of off-street car parking	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Planning applications (including Uffington Road development) will be scrutinised.
Install accessible first aid equipment	Parish Council	High	2018	Defibrillator installed at the Village Hall. A second to be installed in Pilsgate phone box and possibly another in Barnack.
Provision of adequate litter and dog waste bins	Parish & City Councils	High	Ongoing	Bins installed in Hills and Holes, on Pilsgate Path and elsewhere.
Provision of an adequate supply of grit bins	City Council	High	Ongoing	Bins checked regularly.

Maintain village amenities

Support the Millstone pub and re-instate the village post office and store	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	The post office and shop closed.in 2017. The possibility of a community shop will be explored and opportunities for installing an ATM will be pursued.
Support provision within the village envelope of sufficient affordable housing and retirement accommodation to meet local needs	City & Parish Councils	High	Ongoing	The Paynes Field development includes affordable housing. The Parish Council will press for a full 30% of affordable housing in the new development.
Support school, pre-school and Home from Home	City & Parish Councils	High	Ongoing	Pre-school and Home from Home have received grants from the Parish Council.
Support and enhance the bus service	City & Parish Councils	High	Ongoing	Delaine service maintained and Call Connect operating.
Maintain and enhance cemetery and create database of burial records	Parish Council	High	Ongoing. Repair 2018	Repair of graves progressing; hedge and roses planted; burials database created.
Maintain appropriate vegetation management in cemetery, churchyard, war memorial green and on road verges	Parish & City Councils	High	Ongoing	An annual mowing contract for burial grounds and the green is in operation.

Promote employment opportunities

Promote village job opportunities	Local business	Low	Ongoing	Local businesses included in Barnack and Pilsgate Directory
Manage suitable tourism initiatives	Parish Council	Low	Ongoing	Village leaflets have been reprinted.

Improve communication

Secure super-fast broadband for the whole parish, including the village hall	Parish Council	High	Almost achieved	Gigaclear has installed fibre infrastructure throughout the Parish. Gaps in coverage to be remedied.
Public access to Wi Fi	Parish Council Community Assoc.	Medium	2018	Public access to the Internet to be provided at the Village Hall.
Press for improved mobile phone reception	Parish Council	Low	Ongoing	No progress up to January 2018.
Enhance the village website and initiate other forms of electronic communication	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Web site upgraded. Facebook page created.
Update Barnack and Pilsgate Directory	Parish Council	Medium	2018	2016 edition produced. Further update planned.

Conserve biodiversity

Conduct wildlife surveys	Ward Group, Friends of Hills and Holes	Low	Ongoing	Man orchid counts, glow-worm walks and bat survey on Hills and Holes by Natural England and Friends of Barnack Hills and Holes.
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Liaise with Natural England over the Hills and Holes National Nature Reserve	Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing	Continued liaison with Natural England and Friends of Barnack Hills and Holes. Cooperation over NE's plan for a possible extension to the Hills and Holes.
Enhance wildlife habitats (e.g. wildlife corridors, pond, protected verges, tree and hedge planting)	Parish Council, Ward Group	Medium	Ongoing	Project to enhance floral diversity on Mill Road verge was undertaken but was unsuccessful. Hedging planted. Wild flower meadow in cemetery. Bat boxes installed and monitored.
Plant a community orchard	Parish Council	Low	2020	Site for a community orchard being sought.

Enhance leisure activities

Extend footpath, bridleway and cycleway network	Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing	Pilsgate to Burghley Path completed with a grant from Natural England / EU. Possibility of new footpaths and bridleways being investigated.
Produce and update guides to local area	Parish Council	Low	Ongoing	Village walks leaflets updated and available in Church and Millstone.
Create a range of new sports facilities for all age groups.	Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing. c. 2020 for play-ground	Suitable site for Multi-Use Games Area not yet found. Young children's play area to be incorporated in the new development off Uffington Road.
Support existing village sports clubs	Sports clubs, Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing	The Parish Council will consider applications for small grants.

Enhance cultural, educational and spiritual life

Support local clubs, societies and church	Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing	Requests for assistance will be considered by the Parish Council.
Expand the village archive, improve ease of public access to it	Parish Council	Low	Ongoing	Parish Council papers archived at City Library. Liaison with Friends of Barnack Church.
Create a village museum	Parish Council	Low	Long term	No progress up to January 2018.

Promote a sustainable life style

Promote bulk buying of power and fuel	City Council	Low	Ongoing	Local Energy Advice (LEAP) and collective energy switching (<i>Ready to Switch</i>) operating in Peterborough.
Promote appropriate green energy generation (e.g. solar panels in appropriate situations)	Parish & City Councils, businesses	Medium	Ongoing	Solar panels installed on many roofs. Other opportunities to be taken or encouraged in acceptable locations.
Encourage full use of the allotments	Parish Council	Low	Ongoing	No progress up to January 2018. Proposal for Community Orchard on allotments turned down by Burghley.
Promote the use of public transport	Parish Council	High	Ongoing	Stamford-Peterborough Delaine bus service is highly valued. Parish Council responded to 4 th Local Transport Plan consultation.
Promote efficient waste management (e.g. skips, recycling, report fly-tipping)	Parish Council	Medium	Ongoing	Fly tipping reported promptly by Parish Council. Free bulk waste disposal for Barnack organised periodically.

Barnack and Pilsgate Parish Council, 2018

Councillors and Clerk	Tel.	Email address	Representing the Council and special responsibility	Working Groups
Chairman Harry Brassey	01780 740115	hcb@manorfarm.co.uk	Barnack Ward Group and Parish Council Liaison Group. Cemetery	Traffic calming
Vice-Chair Margaret Palmer	01780 740988	bmpalmer@aol.com	Barnack Ward Group and Parish Council Liaison Group. Financial overview, planning and environment	Traffic calming
Martin Bloom	01780 740966	martin.bloom@hegarty.co.uk		Traffic calming Human resources
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