

MERIDEN

(including Millison's Wood and surrounding areas)

Parish Appraisal Newsletter No. 2, April 2008

The future of our community

Have your say in May

By May Day every household in Meriden Parish will receive a questionnaire:

Meriden Parish Appraisal and Plan – Household Survey 2008.

By completing this questionnaire you can have your say about the things that people of Meriden Parish are concerned about.

What sort of questions will be asked?

There will be a small section at the beginning about your household and a series of questions about issues such as planning and development, road safety, public transport etc and issues of particular concern to the elderly, young people etc.

How long will it take to fill in?

We have tested a draft of the questionnaire with 30 households and they reported that it took them between 30 minutes and an hour. We are encouraging people – adults and children for example – in each household to discuss the issues together and this accounted for the longer time taken in some households.

How and when will it be delivered to my home?

It will be delivered by a volunteer and put through your letterbox. It will be in an envelope clearly marked "Meriden Parish Appraisal Household Survey 2008". Please don't mistake it for junk mail. If you think it has been accidentally chucked out, phone one of the contacts at the end of this newsletter for a replacement. The collector (see below) will also have spares. Our target is to deliver them all between Saturday 26th April and Bank Holiday Monday 5th May.

Can I complete it on line using my computer?

Yes. We believe this is the first village appraisal survey in the country to have this facility. If you have an internet connection, we would encourage you to complete the form on line – it will be just as easy or possibly easier for you and it will greatly help us. But don't be concerned if you can't do it on line.

How do I return the completed questionnaire?

If you complete the survey on line, you need do nothing further. About two weeks after delivering the paper questionnaire, a volunteer collector will call at your house. Just tell him or her that you have done it on line.

If you complete the paper questionnaire, put it back in the envelope in which you received it and either:

- give it to the volunteer collector when they call (they will call again if you are out the first time), or
- drop it in to a collection point (these will be listed on the front of the questionnaire)

Can I get help to fill in the questionnaire?

Yes. The volunteer collector will be able help you if you wish. For example, in clarifying a question or assisting you to fill in the form. However, it is your views we want, so he or she will not tell you how to answer!

Is the survey confidential?

Yes. All responses will be analysed anonymously by a professional research agency which is registered under the Data Protection Act. However there will be a form on the back page of the questionnaire to include your name and address if you want to enter the **FREE PRIZE DRAW** and/or volunteer to join the team involved in the Appraisal. This page will be detached from the rest of the form before the form is processed.

When is the last date for completing the questionnaire?

We have set a target date of Saturday 31st May for getting in as many completed questionnaires or on line completions as possible, so you will have the whole of the month of May – but it would be really helpful if you could do it as soon as possible after it is delivered.

Why is it important to complete the questionnaire?

The higher return we get, the more weight we will be able to put behind the community's views on issues of concern and the improvements you want to see in our area and the life of our community. Let the voice of Meriden be heard loud and clear!

Contacts: Iain Roxburgh (Chair of Meriden Parish Appraisal Steering Group)
Tel: 01676 522496, email: IainRoxburgh@btinternet.com

Ian Tuersley (Member of Meriden Parish Appraisal Steering Group)
Tel: 07738 554388, email: tuersley@tiscali.co.uk

More info: www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk

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Finally, the open meeting organised by the Parish Council and the Appraisal Steering Group on
Meriden playing fields and housing development

with Bryants, Solihull Council's "preferred developer", which was postponed at Bryants' request from 19th March will be held on:

30th April at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Come and have your say.

Please send your detailed questions to the Parish Clerk by 21st April, to give Bryants advanced notice. There will be questions from the floor and general discussion.

**Julie Hall (Meriden Parish Clerk) Tel: 01676 522727
e-mail: info@meridenparishcouncil.org.uk**