

9. Community action projects

9.1 The Neighbourhood Plan is principally concerned with land use planning matters. However, through public consultation and discussion with local stakeholders, issues emerge which do not fall within the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan. Nevertheless, these matters are of legitimate concern to Strumpshaw residents. Such issues are treated as 'community action projects' and may be funded through future Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in the parish (see chapter 10).

Name of community action project	Details
Quiet Lanes	<p>Investigate the potential for some of Strumpshaw's roads to become 'Quiet Lanes'.</p> <p>Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads, typically C or unclassified routes, which have been designated by local highway authorities to pay special attention to the needs of walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vulnerable road users, and to offer protection from speeding traffic. Cars are not banned from Quiet Lanes and the use of Quiet Lanes is shared. Measures such as lower speed limits and discrete road signs aim to encourage drivers to slow down and be considerate to more vulnerable users who can in turn use and enjoy country lanes in greater safety, with less threat from speeding traffic.²⁶</p>
Speed reduction measures	<p>Investigate the potential for introducing one or more of the following speed reduction measures along Norwich Road, Strumpshaw:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village gates • Changes to signing and lining • Speed tables or speed cushions • Rumble devices • Give-way/chicanes
Central green space	<p>Support will be given to the creation of a central green space for community use, which will be a focal point within the parish.</p>
Village sign	<p>Work towards the creation and installation of a village sign.</p>
Village map	<p>Map of the village showing green spaces and footpaths.</p>
Bus shelter	<p>Provision of a new bus shelter at the Huntsman end of Strumpshaw village.</p>
Information boards	<p>Work with Norfolk County Council to install information boards at the former landfill site.</p>

²⁶ CPRE's guide to Quiet Lanes (2009) https://www.cpre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/quiet_lanes_1.pdf (accessed 13.09.24)

Community Action Project Priority Table

Purpose

This scoring matrix helps the Parish Council prioritise projects fairly, transparently, and consistently. It ensures decisions are based on clear criteria: community benefit, feasibility, cost, alignment with the council’s vision, and urgency.

Using this tool supports evidence-based planning, improves accountability, and helps the council focus resources on the projects that will deliver the greatest positive impact for residents.

Project Priority Scoring Table

Project Title <i>(from Neighbourhood Plan Community Action Projects)</i>	Community Benefit (1–5)	Feasibility (1– 5)	Cost & Resources (1–5) (lower cost = higher score)	Alignment with Council Vision (1–5)	Urgency (1–5)	Total Score
Bus shelter at The Huntsman end of the village						
Central green space						
Information boards at former landfill site						
Quiet Lanes						
Speed reduction measures						
Village map						
Village sign						

Scoring Guidance (1–5 Scale)

Use this guidance to ensure consistent scoring across councillors.

1. Community Benefit (1–5)

How much will the project improve life for residents?

- 5 – Major benefit: Large proportion of residents; improves wellbeing, safety, or inclusion.
- 4 – Strong benefit: Helps many residents or a key group.
- 3 – Moderate benefit: Useful but limited in scope.
- 2 – Small benefit: Helps a small group or niche need.
- 1 – Minimal benefit: Very limited or unclear impact.

2. Feasibility (1–5)

How realistic is it for the council to deliver?

- 5 – Very feasible: Straightforward; within council control.
- 4 – Feasible: Some dependencies but manageable.
- 3 – Moderate: Requires coordination or permissions.
- 2 – Challenging: Significant barriers.
- 1 – Very difficult: Low likelihood of delivery.

3. Cost & Resources (1–5)

Higher score = lower cost / lower resource demand.

- 5 – Very low cost: Minimal spend; volunteer-friendly.
- 4 – Low cost: Small spend; manageable within budget.
- 3 – Moderate: Requires planned allocation or small grant.
- 2 – High cost: Significant spend; external funding needed.
- 1 – Very high cost: Major capital or long-term funding.

4. Alignment with Council Vision (1–5)

How well does the project support strategic aims?

- 5 – Strong alignment: Directly delivers core priorities.
- 4 – Good alignment: Supports one or more major themes.
- 3 – Moderate: Helpful but not central.
- 2 – Weak: Only loosely connected.
- 1 – None: Not linked to council vision.

5. Urgency (1–5)

How time-sensitive is the project?

- 5 – Immediate: Safety, statutory, or time-critical.
- 4 – High: Should be addressed within 12 months.
- 3 – Medium: Important but not urgent.
- 2 – Low: Can wait 1–2 years.
- 1 – Very low: No time pressure.

How the Council Should Use This Matrix

- Each councillor scores independently.
- Scores are averaged or discussed collectively.
- Highest-scoring projects become Year 1 priorities.
- Mid-range projects become Year 2 or opportunistic priorities.
- Low-scoring projects are deferred or reconsidered.
- The final list is published for transparency.

Multi-Year Planning Overview

Use this to map which projects are:

- Year 1 (2026–27) Delivery
- Year 2–3 Development
- Long-term ambitions

Project	Year 1 Delivery	Year 2 Development	Year 3 Development	Long-Term	Notes

Review Points:

(e.g., review at Council meetings.)

Council Action Plan Template (2026–27 and Beyond)

Purpose: To set out clear actions, responsibilities, timelines, and expected outcomes for each priority project.

Project Title:

Project Summary:

(Brief description of what the project aims to achieve.)

Action Step	Lead Councillor / Working Group	Partners (if any)	Timeline	Resources Needed	Risks/ Dependencies	Expected Outcome

Success Measures / KPIs:

(e.g., number of volunteers involved, area improved, resident feedback, carbon reduction, accessibility improvements.)

Review Points:

(e.g., quarterly review at Council meetings.)