



PARISH PLAN 2007



ROGATE AND RAKE 2020

Aerial View of Rogate Parish



Dear Residents of Rogate & Rake

Thank you very much for your support and contribution to this first Parish Plan for Rogate, both in terms of attendance at Open Days, in the Business Survey in 2005 and in particular to the more than 33% of you who participated in the Parish Survey carried out last summer.

This Parish Plan, reflecting the views of the community, is a snapshot of our community today and of the issues immediately facing us. Under a number of general headings, this Plan tries to cover both the short term and the longer term issues in the parish and offers some action points to be addressed over its 10-15 year life. The intention is that after publication, an Action Plan will be compiled which indicates priorities, sets dates, assigns responsibilities and gives likely estimates of cost and that the Parish Council will be charged with monitoring its progress over time. We hope to have regular consultations on the Parish Plan and its action points starting at the Parish Annual General Meeting on 30th April, and your ideas and comments will always be welcome.

There is a statistical summary of the Parish Survey available, which you can access in the village shops, on line at www.rogate-rake.org.uk or contact the Parish Clerk (telephone: 01730 892852) for your own copy. Copies of the Parish Plan will be sent to the County and District Councils as the intention is that the Parish Plan will play a significant role in local authority planning and administrative processes.

With the Plan comes a 'Volunteers' sheet: we are hoping that many of you will want to play your part in implementing the actions and we hope you will let us know who you are and how you would like to help.

Our thanks go to the many who have helped with all aspects of the parish planning process, in particular to the eleven members of the Working Party who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the views and aspirations of residents are adequately and truthfully represented. Also to Rogate Parish Council, Rogate & Terwick News, Chichester District Council, WSCC and Action in rural Sussex for their financial contributions and to all those who have helped in a variety of other significant ways.

On behalf of the Rogate & Rake 2020 Parish Plan Working Party,



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Spring 2007

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About Our Parish



Rogate derives its name from 'roe deer gate'. From medieval times it was the first and largest of the valley communities and the two fine stone bridges at Durford and Habin date from that time. Typically parishes in the area, including Rogate, ran northwards in strips from the river Rother across the varying types of soil. The parish is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and contains several designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It also lies within the proposed South Downs National Park.

Rogate is a comparatively large rural parish within the Sussex Downs AONB. The civil parish measures some five miles (8 km) from north to south and three miles (5 km) from east to west and is roughly 9 square miles (23 sq km). Rogate village, at the centre of the parish, lies on the A272 between Midhurst and Petersfield, the county's second most important primary road running east-west, north of the South coast. The two main centres of population, Rogate and Rake/Hill Brow, are not naturally linked. The parish also includes the hamlets of Fyning, Terwick, Durleighmarsh, Wenham, Durford Wood, Habin and part of Nyewood.

Rogate has a village hall and recreation ground used regularly by several sports clubs and societies, a nursery school, two churches, a primary school, general stores/post office, a public house, and a car sales/repairs garage.

The West Sussex/Hampshire border splits the settlement of Rake which lies on the B2070 (the old A3) between Petersfield and Liphook adjacent to Liss, and includes Langley, Harting Combe and Hill Brow. Rake has a village hall, which is actually situated in neighbouring Hampshire, a primary school, general stores/post office, three public houses, a garage and a variety of retail outlets. The parish church for Rake is part of the Milland ecclesiastical parish as the ecclesiastical parish boundary of Rogate is not coincident with the civil parish, the subject of this plan.

The total population of the parish is 1,513 living in 685 households. About two thirds live in Rogate and the other third in Rake/Hill Brow. 49% of households who participated in the survey comprise two adults and a further 35% three or more people. The age breakdown of the parish in the 2001 Census of Population was as follows:

0-4 yrs	5-15 yrs	16-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	65-74 yrs	75+ yrs
5%	13%	7%	22%	31%	11%	11%

The gender split was approximately 50:50. Almost 20% of the parish population is less than 15 yrs old and a further 22% is 65 or more.

The village flourishes with a healthy mixture of long-established village families and those who have settled in the area more recently. Almost half of residents have lived in the parish for over 20 years; in fact, over one quarter of the residents have been here more than 30 years and in total more than three quarters have lived here more than 5 years.

Approximately half of the population is economically active. Of these, 56% work locally (within 10 miles) and the vast majority of those who have to travel to their place of work do so by car.

But the cycle of demographic change is taking effect. In more recent years, a higher proportion of younger families has settled in the area, thereby invigorating the community. Nearly 40% of the survey respondents have moved into the parish within the last 10 years.



Housing

The present parish of Rogate and Rake comprises mostly privately-owned houses built between mid Victorian times and the mid 20th century. There are also older cottages some of which were originally shops or tied cottages built for workers on the estates or farms. Most of the 20th century houses were built along the A272, the B2070 through Rake and Hill Brow, and up Fyning Lane. After the Second World War there was both private and Local Authority building. The private houses were built mostly on the outskirts of the villages and included several barn conversions. Local Authority housing – a mix of houses and bungalows – was built at Terwick Rise at the top of Fyning Lane, Knowles Meadow in Hill Brow and on the Parsonage Estate where further houses were added in the 1990s.

Present building activity is confined to the occasional conversion of farm buildings for residential use or replacement dwellings on the site of existing homes. The Settlement Policy Area defined by Chichester District Council (CDC) allows for new building only within the immediate village centre of Rogate. No building is currently allowed in any other area.

Registered Social Landlords own approximately 100 of the nearly 700 dwellings in the parish, and there are 15 sheltered one or two-bed units for private rental at East Lodge in Rogate. The 'Right to Buy' legislation has transferred many of the post-war Local Authority houses owned by CDC to private ownership.

There is no one overall style of architecture but most houses are brick or stone with tiled roofs. As in any village, the size of dwellings varies, and the following indicates the range in comparative value of the 685 houses in the parish:

Number of dwellings by Council Tax Bands – February 2007

Band A	30	Band E	113
Band B	35	Band F	102
Band C	134	Band G	122
Band D	92	Band H	57

CDC's Local Development Framework (LDF) has proposed that the parish should absorb an additional 16 units by 2018. Happily this falls in line with residents' views in the survey that an additional 11-20 units would be the optimum number for the parish.

The survey indicates that the majority of residents want the new houses to be low cost 'starter' homes to encourage young families with children to move into the parish. Residents' recommendations suggest re-developing parts of the Parsonage Estate, thereby increasing the density of houses in order to accommodate some of the increase. This coincides with the proposal in the LDF but further sites are required to fulfil the quota of new houses.

Where to locate these additional dwellings, and more family housing identified in the survey, needs some definition. Of prime importance is the maintenance of the beauty of the area within which the parish sits. The spectacular views across Rogate, nestling in the valley between the high ground to the north and the South Downs, would be spoiled by any ribbon development radiating out from the village centre; similarly there is opposition to further development of any greenfield sites. There is the possibility for the occasional family house to be built in 'hidden' locations which would not have any detrimental effect on the AONB.

The survey indicated some demand for additional housing of all kinds in Rake and Hill Brow, but since there is no settlement policy area covering this area, additional units are unlikely although there is potential for conversion of existing dwellings to multiple occupation.



There is, however, a problem with the affordability of property. House prices have roughly trebled since 1996 and those in the parish, like the rest of West Sussex, are among the highest in the whole country putting them beyond the reach of most families, especially those new to the market. Without a stock of affordable houses it is difficult to attract young families into the parish to keep it and its institutions alive. Residents mostly want any new housing to be owned rather than rented and the best way forward may possibly be by shared ownership with a housing association for example.

Providing more retirement homes in the parish was not popular among the majority of survey respondents but the parish does have a more aged population than the national average: those aged 65 and over account for 21.8% in this parish versus 16% nationally. The provision of more bungalows or flats would allow the elderly who want to stay in the village to do so in homes they can manage. Families wanting to move into the village could then acquire their family homes. The parish already has a number of retirement and nursing homes in Rake (with more over the border into Hampshire) as well as East Lodge in Rogate.

Conclusions:

The cost of buying housing and the placement of the new homes are two thorny questions the parish faces. The LDF document states that the parish should provide an additional 16 dwellings by 2018 and from the research already undertaken, residents have stated their preferences for where that build should be.

Affordable family housing is the priority for future parish development without which it is in danger of stagnating. The young families the parish needs to provide the children for our schools and custom for our shops, churches and other parish institutions, cannot afford to buy homes here unless they are already on the housing ladder elsewhere. Joint ownership with a housing association is a possible way forward.

Because of the parish's situation in the AONB, further new build or building conversion is tightly controlled.

Action Points:

The Parish Council should be positive and encourage planning applications for affordable housing, and for the odd single family home, up to the 16 total new dwellings for the parish proposed in the LDF document to 2018.



Businesses

The business survey revealed that there are at least 80 businesses in the parish, but only five employ 20 or more full-time staff.

These businesses are diverse: farms, nursing homes, car dealerships, motor finance, engineering companies, soft furnishings, electricians, accountants, as well as fashion and furniture designers to name but a few. They are located throughout the parish and many are conducted from converted industrial or agricultural units, with a substantial number operating from home addresses. Within the parish there are five dedicated multi-unit business sites.

36% of employees working in our parish commute from 25 miles or more. Farms and nursing homes, which are among the larger employers in the area, do not employ significant numbers of village residents and are tending to use migrant and seasonal labour transported in by mini-bus. The large and middle-sized employers indicate that poor transport facilities and expensive local housing, as well as constraints imposed by the planning authorities, make it difficult to expand their businesses.

In the residents' survey, there was some ambivalence about larger businesses moving into the parish. The need for local employment is recognised but people feel that additional large businesses will also cause more traffic and pollution.



Conclusions:

Over half the businesses in the parish employ less than six people, the majority of whom are either resident in the parish or live nearby.

For the future, the parish environment is considered to be more suited to small artisan, skill-based, country/land-oriented and some high-tech businesses, which employ local people who will patronise the local shops and other parish facilities. This is in preference to the development of units for larger industrial or engineering businesses for example, which tend to generate traffic, disturb and pollute the peaceful environment of the area and do not offer significant employment opportunities to local residents.

Action Points:

1. When consent is given for change of use of derelict or abandoned buildings to business use, the planning authorities should be lobbied to make sure they apply and enforce controls covering hours of operation, levels of noise, lighting, signage etc.

The parish will benefit from the addition of small scale businesses occupying sites which are otherwise derelict or are brownfield sites.

2. The planning authorities should also be regularly reminded by the Parish Council of residents' request for restriction of permission only to the types of businesses that will benefit and fit in with the community.



Our Environment

The parish land is divided between agricultural land in the Rother Valley and woodland on the Wealden ridge, with excellent views of the Downs to the south. There is much open access land at Chapel Common, Forestry Commission land at Tullecombe and Combe Hill, the National Trust's Durford Heath and near the centre of Rogate Village, the Woodland Trust's Garbitt's Wood. In addition the Parish Council owns land in Terwick Woodland, Fyning recreation ground, Oliver's Piece (a small viewpoint on London Road in Rake) and the recreation ground on Bull Hill. There are SSSIs containing some important species of flora and fauna at Fyning Moor, Chapel Common and Rake Hanger.

The parish survey, perhaps unsurprisingly, suggests that most of us are very happy with our environment as it is. There was some concern among residents about litter, dog fouling and fly-tipping but on the other hand, there is a reluctance among residents, to spend existing or additional parish funds cleaning up. Providing more litter bins, outside the village shops for example, is thought to be a good idea. It should be possible to maintain an environment free of dog mess without specialist bins that have to be emptied and maintained. Fly tipping may increase in the future when tighter legislation on waste disposal comes into effect.

Parishioners are happy to use the existing recycling facilities locally and they are keen to increase the range of plastics that can be recycled. Domestic collections of glass and garden-waste would be appreciated by some.

It is important to some residents that bridleways are kept passable and that field footpaths through crops are kept clear. An environmental issue of concern to residents is flooding after heavy rain which causes problems for road users and properties adjacent to the roads. There has also been considerable unhappiness about the odour of the human waste fertiliser used close to the village centre in Rogate and representations have been made to the farmers concerned.

The rural environment is best protected by understanding what we have and by working with specialist agencies to look after it, whether footpaths, bridleways or metal roads. The creation of a habitat map for the parish in co-operation with the South Downs Joint Committee and the Sussex Biodiversity Partnership would give the people of the parish an opportunity to get to know their environment while helping arm themselves against the threats of inappropriate development. Also, it would be wise to register the regularly used but presently unregistered footpaths in order to protect these valuable facilities for the future.

Some residents feel a need for more pavements to facilitate safer access from residential sites to the village centres, schools and bus stops. In these locations, competition with traffic presents a considerable hazard for pedestrians but at the same time there is noticeable opposition to greater urbanisation of our rural environment signalled by an increase in asphalt.

The noise of helicopters, both private and military, continues to irritate some residents, as they fly low across the valley at unsociable hours.



Conclusions:

The aim for the parish environment must be to maintain the attractive rural environment as far as is possible in a thriving village community. Residents should be encouraged to take an active role in caring for their own environment. Those with dogs in particular should take responsibility to ensure that dog mess is not a problem, particularly in residential areas and on footpaths.

Action Points:

1. The parish must work with the appropriate authorities to ensure that those responsible maintain the parish environment to a suitable level of cleanliness, functionality etc. Residents of the parish should be made aware of how to contact these organisations via the website, Parish Welcome Pack and noticeboards.
2. Under the guidance of the Parish Council the community should launch its own initiatives for caring for the environment: eg. litter picking, spring clean-ups, maintenance and improvement projects.

Getting About

The principal roads of the parish are the A272, the major east/west trunk road through Rogate centre; the B2070/old A3 through Hill Brow and Rake, and the network of mostly narrow, twisting country lanes which connect the outlying settlements and larger local towns. Correspondingly, responses show that the vast majority of residents travel to work only by car. Only 5% use buses to get to work and very few respondents use a bike to travel to work; indeed there was little demand at all for additional cycle paths for travel to work or for recreation.

Of all topics covered, parish residents had more to say about problems with roads and transport than any other subject. They were highly critical of the speed and volume of traffic on the roads within the parish. The beautiful country lanes suffer from speeding cars, heavy lorries, agricultural traffic and buses, all frequently conflicting with each other. But of overriding concern are the problems of safety, excessive speed and the increasing density of traffic on the two major roads that pass through the communities. Each road divides its respective community into two halves frequently denying safe crossing for any pedestrians wishing to access village amenities.



This is especially so in Rogate where traffic volume affects the very fabric of the village and pollutes both by sound and smell. The absence of pavements on Rogate village's roads, particularly North Street, also makes walking difficult. Parking for those wishing to visit the village shop, pub or church adds to traffic congestion and is limited to a few metres alongside the main highway, in

bus stops and driveways etc. Those few who wanted additional parking provision, however, did not want it at the expense of green fields. In Rake, the excessive speed of traffic past the primary school causes particular concern.

In the parish survey various ideas for traffic calming were put forward to address these problems; the most popular of all were Speed Indication Devices (SIDs), coloured road surfaces and speed cameras. There was also hope expressed of re-opening the debate for a by-pass for Rogate, such is the concern about volumes of traffic.

Only an estimated 15% of the parish population uses the buses. Few buses run after working hours or at weekends and during the day they are often underutilised.

Rogate is well served with connections to Petersfield and Midhurst, Hill Brow, Nyewood and Fyning. Rake, however, is not and residents complain about the difficulty of making connections from all points to Chichester's transport services in particular. Further, there is no regular bus service between Rake and Hill Brow and that from Rogate to Midhurst via adjacent/neighbouring villages is considered slow.

The overriding view is that services are badly timetabled outside school times and are expensive. Few buses run after working hours or at weekends. Those scheduled buses that do run are regularly empty which residents consider wasteful.

It is hoped that bus usage may increase in 2008 when the parish's senior citizens are able to make free bus journeys on East Hampshire buses, though not all may know that they can in fact use their passes now if the bus journey started in Sussex! Residents suggest that financial incentives to favour students would increase bus usage with younger age groups.



As an alternative or an addition, however, a community bus does not seem to be the answer. Few who responded would be prepared to support such an initiative either financially or by offering practical help and there was concern about its possible negative impact on the regular bus service.

Conclusions:

Road traffic and the consequent problems of road safety were the most pressing issues in the parish survey. Foremost in villagers' minds is the detrimental effect that road traffic has on the harmony of village life, now and into the future. Traffic volumes will inevitably increase across the country but in this parish in particular, the situation is made worse by the absence of an integrated, cost effective affordable public transport service.

Road traffic is a barrier to young people's movement around the parish. The fact remains that parents have to accompany their children if they are to be able to access facilities around the parish on foot.

Currently the public transport services which exist are of limited appeal because they are considered to be expensive and poorly scheduled.

Along with increase in traffic, more cars on the road mean more need for parking in the villages; presently in Rogate and Rake, there is limited scope for additional public parking.

Action Points:

1. The Parish Council should be campaigning for money to be spent on speed control measures:
 - on the B2070 near the primary school in Rake
 - in Rogate either side of the village centre on the A272.

SIDs, coloured surfacing and cameras are considered to be the most effective.



2. If residents are serious about traffic as a priority and making improvements, they should work alongside the Parish Council through a 'Transport & Traffic' working party.
3. If the current bus service does not serve the needs of the community, residents and bus users should lobby the bus operators to re-think their schedules and routes.

A working party should undertake its own research to provide evidence to support claims for improvements to the services offered. Another initiative is examining the feasibility of a student ticket scheme.

4. Parking in the centre of Rogate needs attention. There are opportunities to improve parking by reducing the width of the pavement to allow for parking bays and by designating the lay-by on the western outskirts of the village an official parking zone. These suggestions should be communicated to the appropriate authorities by the Parish Council or its working party.

In the longer term, there is the possibility of working with the Village Hall Committee to increase parking at the Village Hall.

Providing for Our Community

The existing provision of facilities and services for residents in the parish is generally of a high quality. There are two C. of E. primary schools, three pubs and each village has a shop with post office. The shops both offer additional services of benefit to the community, eg. photocopying, shoe repairs, dry-cleaning, laundry and prescription collection service. Residents need to be reminded and encouraged regularly to support the village facilities eg. shops, post offices in particular, also pubs, garages, schools and village halls to help them remain viable.

Rogate Village Hall and its adjacent large recreation ground host numerous clubs and societies weekly (see Appendix II), an independent nursery school and a weekly youth club run by WSCC. The hall is also available for private hire. The recreation ground, in addition to open pitch space used by football and cricket players, has tennis courts, a bowling green, an all weather multi-sports arena and limited playground facilities (swings only). A Midhurst medical practice holds a monthly surgery in the village hall. Rogate Village Hall and its recreation ground are managed by Rogate & Terwick Village Committee and are funded by the annual summer flower show and fete, hall rental charges and contributions from clubs using its facilities. It also receives an annual donation from Rogate Parish Council.

Rogate Village Hall is a well-used facility and it is important to residents that it is regularly maintained and decorated. The survey indicated that residents would like to see some further updating of the kitchen facilities and changing rooms and there is a feeling that better use could be made of the old kitchen and storage facilities. Also there is support for encouraging more and varied activities and events; for example adult education classes, film shows, concerts, theatre productions, keep fit classes, dances, after school/holiday activities for children and young people, business courses and workshops.



Rake Village Hall (situated in Hampshire and therefore not in the parish) is run by a management committee and is funded mainly by hall rental charges. Only a minority of residents use it which could in part be because of its lack of facilities eg. no playground, limited parking. A tennis court has recently been constructed on adjacent land, following several years of fund-raising efforts by members of Rake Tennis Club.



Thriving church congregations are widely involved in an outreach role serving the community and Rogate and Rake Primary Schools have close connections with St Bartholomew's Church, Rogate and St Luke's Church, Milland respectively. The ecclesiastical parish of St Luke's, Milland extends to Rake and Hill Brow and its continued involvement with Rake school is to be encouraged.

There are fortnightly visits of the WSCC mobile library to the Parsonage Estate and there is satisfaction with this among the very few who use it. Neither a change of location, more frequent service nor change in the selection of books would lead to significantly increased use of the service, though more publicity by the County Library service might increase awareness of this facility.

For the majority of respondents to the survey, crime is not felt to be a problem in the parish, though the possibility of increases in petty crime and anti-social behaviour, vandalism and drug abuse amongst youngsters is of concern, as are traffic offences, particularly speeding cars and motorbikes. The lack of policing was considered responsible for such criminal activity as there is within the parish. Residents believe that a police presence would act as a deterrent for petty criminal activity.

There is demand for a regular and visible presence and frequent mobile patrols in the parish villages especially at night. The six weekly visits by the mobile police van are not considered as important. The lengthy response time at the telephone call centre causes concern and currently the police are only evident when responding to an emergency or an incident. There is only limited demand to fund a Community Support Officer (CSO) through the parish precept. Residents would rather have more 'real' police, whom they expect to come out of Sussex Police's budget, or a youth worker.

In terms of parish communications, the Rogate and Terwick News is the most popular source of local information, followed by the local press and village noticeboards respectively. The amount of information currently available is considered to be sufficient though people would appreciate even more information and also photographs. Today a parish website for Rogate and Rake is widely thought to be a desirable and cost-effective means of communication, both to increase awareness of all parish organisations and services and also to act as a diary for forthcoming events.

In 2006, the level of the parish precept (£15.52 for a Band D home) was low in comparison with neighbouring parishes (Milland £40.99 and Harting £24.38), and when reminded of this, 54% of respondents expressed a willingness to pay an increase in the annual precept of £10+ per Band D house to go towards funding improvements in the parish.

After traffic and speed controls previously mentioned, the next priority was for investment in recreation facilities, particularly for the parish's young people. Thirdly respondents want money spent on maintaining the general appearance of the village. Other proposals for spending include more effective policing and better bus services.

Conclusions:

Overall there is contentment and general satisfaction with the locality. Residents of course request some improvements to services and facilities and the Parish Council will have to determine its priorities for spending as time progresses. In terms of crime and policing in particular, preventive rather than reactive measures are required.



One further point to note; according to the latest Government White Paper, parish councils are intended to play a more important role in local government structure. Rogate Parish Council should be more proactive in making more improvements to parish life. It should publicise itself and its activities more regularly and in more detail and be instrumental in setting up issue-based working groups to campaign for and to effect change.

Action Points:

1. Rogate Parish Council should start work on improvements to facilities in the parish which would benefit the whole community. Priorities for spending stated in the survey were:
 - Improved playground equipment
 - More and improved facilities for the youth club
 - Additional litter bins outside the village shops and also elsewhere as appropriate
 - Continued development of a parish website
 - Development of a Parish Council Newsletter

2. The Parish Council ought to bring in more 'helpers' and should set up a series of dedicated working parties to champion change in a number of different areas

A Parish Volunteers' Register should encourage residents to join in working parties and other initiatives and thus spread the parish tasks around a bigger group of people. This would also help to build a closer community spirit.

For example, volunteers could:

- Run Scouts and Brownies groups for the parish's young people
 - Help with the Youth Club
 - Be the village publicist – ie. post notices about village and parish matters and events on parish noticeboards, the website and also liaise with local newspapers
 - Visit patients in hospital
3. The Parish Council should put pressure on the Sussex Police Authority to increase its presence in the parish, possible via a CSO. Also, the feasibility of a community warden should be investigated.
 4. Further improvements to the village hall and its facilities that residents want should be communicated to Rogate & Terwick Village Committee.
 5. The Parish 'Welcome Pack' planned for new residents should contain data across the whole parish eg. useful telephone numbers, details of local societies & clubs, key dates for the diary, and be updated at least annually. It could be published both as a hard copy and on the website.

Facilities for Youth & Young People

In the parish survey, questions covering facilities for youth and young people was an optional section of the questionnaire. Notwithstanding, almost half the sample responded and of these roughly one third have children of primary school age. A much smaller proportion, however, actually attend the village schools in either Rogate or Rake, though there are more who do so in Rogate than Rake. The conclusion to draw from this is that presently there are 20+ children of primary school age living in the parish who do not attend the parish schools.

Children from both parish primary schools played their part in generating interest in the Parish Plan by taking part in an art competition. The task was to create an image of the parish, either real or imaginary; the pictures were judged, prizes awarded and the winners displayed at the Open day meetings.

The survey indicates that people are generally satisfied with the provision of pre-school & primary education in the parish but considerably less so with the secondary schooling offered. Midhurst Grammar School came in for particular criticism for its poor recent OFSTED report.

The middle school system is also unpopular with residents in the survey and indications are that primary schools' registration suffers from it. Parish parents who want to send their children to secondary schools in the local area starting at age 11 tend to avoid the primary schools which are linked to the middle school system where transfer takes place a year earlier at age 10. This means they either avoid the village schools completely or they transfer out of the parish primary schools early to get their children into a neighbouring system.

In the 2001 Census, there were 378 young people under the age of 25 in the parish (25% of the population) and for the age group under 16, Rogate's population falls roughly in line with the national average of 19% (Rogate 18%).



In terms of schools, the parish is well-provided for with both primary and pre-school facilities. Rogate and Rake villages each have primary schools. Rogate C.E. Primary School and Rake C.E. First School cater for children who live within their catchment area and also those from further afield, eg. Petersfield and Liphook.

Since 2004, Rogate village has also had a pre-school nursery which operates in the Village Hall and offers five half day sessions a week. With no similar provision for pre-school children in Rake, parents travel to Liss, Rogate, Petersfield or Milland to access nursery schools.

The pre-school facility in Rogate is a significant asset to the village, as the stepping stone for parish children to the parish primary schools. Working on fostering good relationship between the schools will encourage and promote the transition from pre-school to first school for village children within the parish.

Falling numbers of school age children across the county is given as the principal reason for the decline in the school roll. There are, however, other contributing factors; the rising cost of housing, particularly at the starter end of the market; competition from independent schools at all levels and the gradual ageing of the parish population. Effective and frequent marketing of the schools within the parish and beyond to increase the roll should be a priority for the governors and heads of schools.

The findings of the survey confirm that there is a desire for more recreational facilities for children of all ages in the parish, particularly of the recreation ground at Rogate and in Rake at the Village Hall. Two particular requirements were identified: better/more playgrounds and better utilisation of existing facilities.

In Rogate the need is for more play facilities, including a dedicated play area for the younger children ie. under 10 years in particular: the playgrounds in Milland village and on Petersfield Heath are good examples.

There is a feeling among respondents that older children in Rogate would be better served by conversion of the existing under-utilised basketball court in the north east corner of the recreation ground to something more suitable and popular for this age group. Many suggestions were made but exactly what improvements are needed should be the subject of further research.

In Rake, the preference is for play equipment at the Village Hall, where the new tennis court has been built and where there is some parking. The other available site at Canhouse Lane is not so popular because it is less easy to access. Suggestions were made that it could be made more attractive or be converted to some other use.

There is clearly concern about the safety of youngsters getting to any recreation ground in the parish. In Rogate in particular, access from the Parsonage Estate necessitates crossing the busy A272; there was therefore some support for an improved recreation area on the Estate. The addition of traffic calming measures around the village, as mentioned elsewhere in the plan, would enable children to cross the roads and to cycle more safely.

The lack of facilities for teenagers in the parish is also a point for concern and many ideas were put forward to improve this such as sport and exercise classes, indoors or outdoors, workshops, a community drop-in centre or hobby clubs.

Beavers, Scouts, Brownies, Girl Guides groups in the parish were considered a good idea. The nearest local packs are in Petersfield or Liss. In the survey, residents volunteered to help establish groups. There is a Children's Church group in Rogate that meets monthly and has been successful in maintaining its numbers of members, both from within the ecclesiastical parish and from further afield.



There is a Youth Club which meets at Rogate Village Hall one evening per week but it is not heavily subscribed. Those who do use it would like it to be open more often and again parents said they will help out with it. There is no Youth Club in Rake at present, nor any

significant demand for one. Its viability, as well as that of the uniformed groups, depends on maintaining numbers, having the leaders, staff, space, facilities and support.

Conclusions:

Village schools are always at risk from falling rolls which coincide with the patterns of socio-demographic change and it is critical to the survival of the primary schools in the medium/long term that something is done to attract more 'target' families to the village. The schools themselves can help counter the downward trend by maintaining the highest standards of education and ensuring their marketing is well planned and correctly targeted.

The most obvious solution is the provision of more affordable housing in the parish; this must be a priority. In addition, the schools will need to promote themselves to families outside their catchment areas, but who are still close enough to be able to attend.

The second most pressing problem for the parish's young people is that the parish is not providing enough facilities/things for them to do. Add to this the difficulty of getting to these facilities because of crossing major roads on foot, coupled with the lack of public transport, and the result is bored youngsters looking for trouble.

Action Points:

1. The schools should keep track of the young children and new families arriving in the village by maintaining close links with community groups and individuals leading them eg. Children's Church, Little Angels playgroup, Rogate Pre-school. They should continue to promote their unique characteristics to these parents and to others outside the catchment area and maintain a high profile in the community.
2. Concerned residents and parents should be encouraged to maintain pressure on the County Education Department and other appropriate bodies to keep under review the middle school system of schooling.

The effects of the middle school system on parents' choice for their children at primary school age and thus the impact on Rogate and Rake schools ought to be monitored.

3. The Parish Council, in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee, should be the initiators of a fund-raising committee to work on a playgrounds' appeal. It should be a priority because there are funds available both locally and nationally for such ventures.
4. The Village Hall Committee, supported perhaps by the Youth Club, should initiate research into how best to redeploy the existing multi-sports area on the recreation ground alongside any investment in additional play facilities in Rogate.
5. As a priority, the Youth Club needs investment by the parish in time, resources and in volunteers. It operates in the village but is controlled by WSCC. There are enough children in the village to use a Youth Club. Closer links should be established by Rogate with WSCC who fund it and the parish could contribute funds and assist with facilities, resources, promotion and volunteers.

Research into what activities and facilities the young people want should be organised by a working party of volunteers, in conjunction with the Youth Club organisers.

6. Pressure should be kept up on the Parish Council and the proposed 'Transport and Traffic' group to work on improving access for children to the playgrounds and to elsewhere in the villages.

APPENDIX I

Survey Respondent Data

1. Which area of the parish do you live in?

Area	No. of respondents	%
Rogate Village	64	29%
Fyning Lane & Terwick	56	25%
Hill Brow & Durford Wood	41	18%
Rake & Langley	31	14%
Slade Lane, Wenham & Durleighmarsh	12	5%
Haben & Nyewood	14	6%
Other	6	3%
Total	224	100%

2. How many people, including children, does your household comprise?

	Residents per household						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
No. of respondents	36	108	29	34	14	2	223
%	16%	49%	13%	15%	6%	1%	100%

3. Please indicate the number of people in your household in each age group and their sex

Age in years	Male		Female		Total	
	Nos.	%	Nos.	%	Nos.	%
0-4	17	3%	10	2%	27	5%
5-10	17	3%	20	4%	37	7%
11-17	22	4%	23	4%	45	8%
18-21	9	2%	10	2%	19	4%
22-40	39	7%	34	6%	73	13%
41-60	82	15%	86	16%	168	31%
61-75	56	10%	63	11%	119	21%
76+	29	5%	35	6%	64	11%

4. How long have you lived in this parish?

	Number of years							Total
	0-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31 +	
No. of respondents	51	38	22	15	16	21	63	226
%	22%	17%	10%	7%	7%	9%	28%	100%

APPENDIX II

Rogate Clubs and Societies

Rogate Clubs and Societies - and other organisations meeting regularly (usually in Rogate Village Hall)

Rogate Bowling Club

Royal British Legion – Rogate Branch

Children's Church

Rogate Choral Society

Rogate Church Bellringers

Rogate Computer Club

Country Music Club

Rogate Football Club

Fyning, Terwick & Borden Wood Residents' Association

Rogate Garden Club

Little Angels (Mother & Toddler Group)

Neighbourhood Watch – Rogate Branch

Rogate Society

Scottish Dancing

Rogate Tennis Club

Rogate Wayfarers Cricket Club

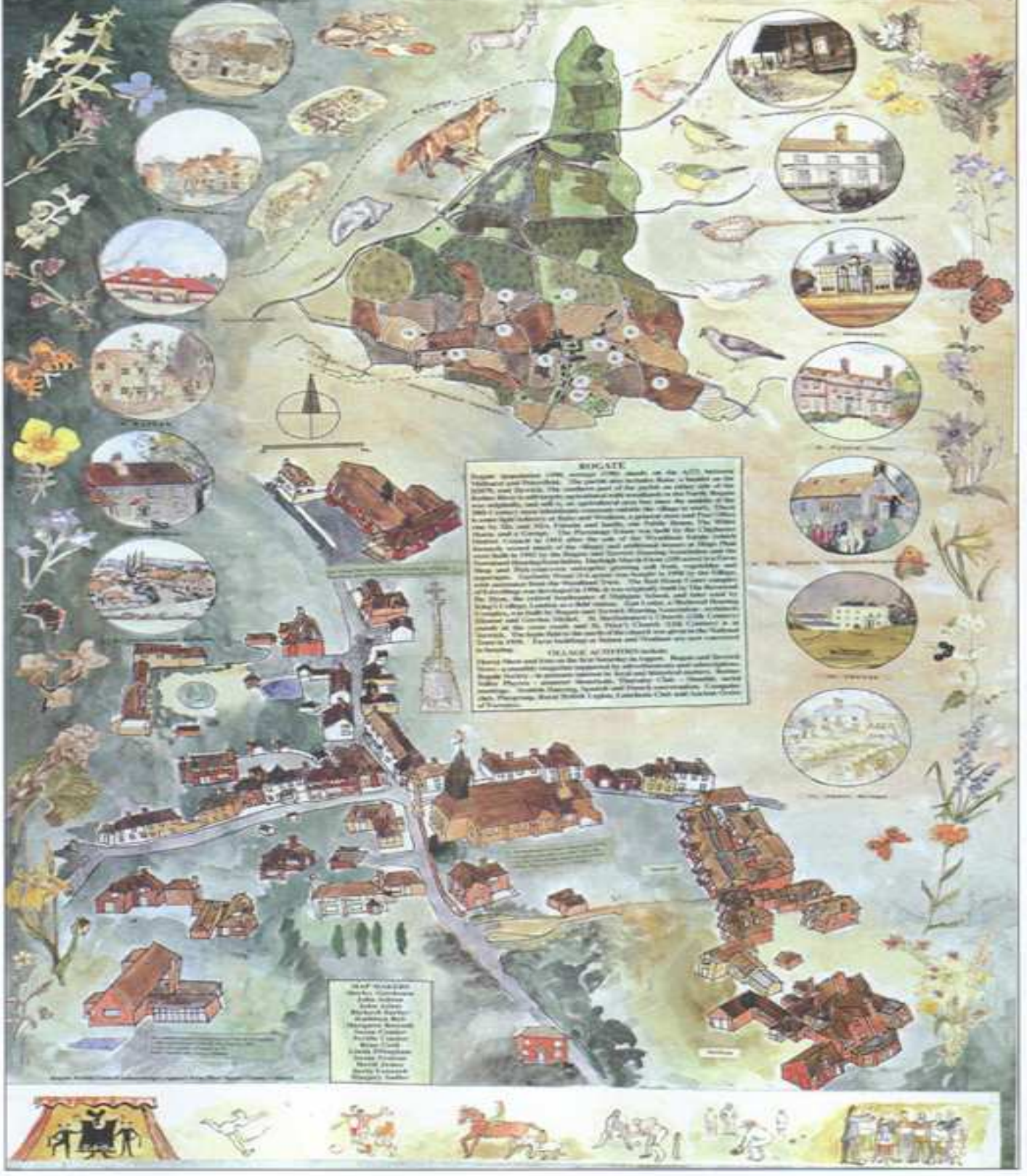
Thursday Club (replaced WI)

Wednesday Luncheon Club

Youth Club



PARISH OF ROGATE ~2000 AD.



ROGATE

From the Middle Ages until the 17th century Rogate was a hamlet in the parish of St. Andrew's and the parish of St. Andrew's. The parish of St. Andrew's is bounded on the north by the parish of St. Andrew's, on the south by the parish of St. Andrew's, on the east by the parish of St. Andrew's, and on the west by the parish of St. Andrew's. The parish of St. Andrew's is bounded on the north by the parish of St. Andrew's, on the south by the parish of St. Andrew's, on the east by the parish of St. Andrew's, and on the west by the parish of St. Andrew's.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW

St. Andrew's Church is a small church of the 14th century. It is a simple rectangular building with a square tower. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle. The church is a good example of the architecture of the 14th century.

- MAP OF HOUSES**
- 1. The Rectory
 - 2. The Vicarage
 - 3. The Rectory
 - 4. The Vicarage
 - 5. The Rectory
 - 6. The Vicarage
 - 7. The Rectory
 - 8. The Vicarage
 - 9. The Rectory
 - 10. The Vicarage