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Meeting	Finance & Policy
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Report Title	Community Led Action Plan Progress Report
Agenda Reference	Agenda Item 18
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Recommendations:

1. **Note the progress made to date in implementing the Community Led Action Plan.**
2. **Note the Councillor-led community engagement activity undertaken and the current survey response figures.**
3. **Note the key themes emerging from the community, play area and outdoor gym feedback.**
4. **Support the continuation of the resident engagement programme and further promotion of the surveys to encourage greater participation.**
5. **Encourage all Committees to consider the relevant resident feedback and take ownership of their associated CLAP actions.**
6. **Agree that a further progress report be brought back to a future meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee and bi-monthly Committee meetings.**

1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on progress made following the adoption of the Community Led Action Plan (CLAP), with particular focus on the development of monitoring arrangements, Councillor-led community engagement and feedback received from residents.

Since the adoption of the Plan, work has focused on establishing a clear process for monitoring actions and engaging with residents to understand their priorities, identify areas for improvement and assess whether the Council's activities reflect the needs of the community.

2. Background and Previous Updates

At Full Council meeting on 26th July 2026, Members received an update from the Chairs and Strategic Development Sub-Committee, which had met on 14th July 2026. The Sub-Committee agreed that an action tracker should be established for the CLAP, with individual Committees taking responsibility for championing actions relevant to their areas of responsibility and providing progress updates at each Committee meeting.

The Sub-Committee also agreed to trial a programme of direct engagement with residents, including visits to local communities and the use of surveys. The intention was to establish whether the Council's existing and planned activities were meeting residents' needs and to identify opportunities to enhance service delivery.

At the September Full Council meeting, Members received a further update on the Councillor-led community engagement programme. This programme was developed to support the Council's three-year strategy and gather feedback from residents across the Parish.

Members were advised that engagement materials, including surveys and consultation tools, were being developed. Planned activities included visits to schools, consultation with children and young people, engagement at North Swindon Library and Orbital Shopping Park, and outreach at local play areas to engage with families.

A programme spreadsheet was also being prepared to coordinate activities and enable Councillors to sign up to engagement opportunities. Councillors were to be provided with suggested prompts and talking points to support meaningful conversations and ensure feedback was captured consistently.

The first engagement session was scheduled for 4th October, followed by a programme of further Councillor-led engagement sessions.

3. Community Engagement and Survey Activity

A number of Councillor-led engagement sessions have now taken place, providing opportunities to speak directly with residents, promote the surveys and gather feedback on local priorities.

A resident engagement spreadsheet has been developed to help coordinate these activities. It identifies suitable locations across Haydon Wick where Councillors can engage with residents, including:

- Dog Park
- Outdoor Gym
- North Swindon Library / Orbital Shopping Park
- Local play areas
- Community events and other suitable venues.

The intention is to reach as broad a cross-section of the community as possible, ensuring that feedback is not limited to residents who routinely attend Council meetings or participate in formal consultations.

The surveys have so far generated the following responses:

Survey	**Responses received**
Full Community Survey	10
Play Parks Survey	8
White Eagle Survey	1
Dog Park Survey	0
Total	**19**

In addition, separate feedback has been received through engagement at play areas and the outdoor gym. The findings from these activities are summarised below.

4. Community Survey – Key Findings

The community survey has provided useful insight into how residents feel about Haydon Wick, the services and facilities available and the improvements they would like to see over the next three years.

Feedback has been received from residents across a number of areas, including Haydon Wick Village, Oakhurst, Pembroke Park, Haydon End, Woodhall Park, Abbeymeads and Greenmeadow.

The responses identify several recurring themes.

4.1 Community Facilities and Activities

Residents generally value the community facilities and activities already available, particularly community events, The Haven and Memory Café.

However, there is a clear interest in expanding opportunities for different age groups, particularly young people, families and older residents.

Suggestions included:

- More activities and facilities for young people, particularly during school holidays.
- Greater engagement with local secondary schools to identify what activities and facilities young people would like.
- More affordable or free family events and activities.
- Additional youth outreach activities to help reduce antisocial behaviour.
- More volunteering opportunities and support for older residents.
- Greater access to mental health and wellbeing support.
- More opportunities for daytime social groups for adults under 60.
- Continued community events across the parish.

One family visiting Gaynor Close Play Area commented that there was little available for older children during half-term that did not involve a cost. They were also unaware that the youth club was operating.

This highlights an opportunity to improve communication about existing provision as well as consider whether additional activities are needed.

4.2 Communication and Councillor Engagement

A number of residents expressed a desire for more visible and accessible Councillors.

Comments included requests for more personal contact, greater engagement within individual neighbourhoods and opportunities for Councillors to visit local areas to hear residents' concerns directly.

Some residents also indicated that they were only somewhat informed about the Council's activities or were unsure whether their views were being heard.

This supports the decision to introduce Councillor-led engagement sessions and suggests that these should continue as an important part of the CLAP.

Residents identified the following preferred communication channels:

- Parish magazine.
- Facebook.
- Council website.
- Community noticeboards.
- Monthly email bulletin.
- In-person events.

The findings suggest that a combination of digital communication and direct personal contact will be important in reaching different sections of the community.

4.3 Maintenance, Highways and Accessibility

Maintenance of public spaces, hedges, footpaths and roads was one of the strongest recurring themes.

Residents raised concerns about:

- Overgrown hedges and brambles in several areas, particularly Oakhurst and Haydon Wick.
- Maintaining shrubs and replacing dead or damaged hedging.
- Cracked and uneven footpaths.
- Paths that are difficult to use for people with mobility scooters.
- Hanging foliage obstructing access.
- Road and junction conditions, including uneven road surfaces.
- Litter and dog fouling.

There was also positive feedback from residents who had noticed improvements in grounds maintenance and wanted the Council to maintain the standards already achieved.

Specific locations mentioned included Abbeymeads, Haydon End, Oakhurst, Pembroke Park and Haydon Wick Village.

The feedback suggests that regular inspections and maintenance of footpaths, hedges and green spaces should remain an important consideration when reviewing CLAP actions.

4.4 Safety and Antisocial Behaviour

Most respondents described feeling fairly safe in their local areas, although some expressed concerns about particular locations, especially after dark.

Residents suggested:

- Increased visible patrols.
- Better maintained routes and pathways.
- Improved road safety measures.
- Youth outreach activities.
- Greater attention to speeding and the use of e-scooters and electric bikes.

Specific areas of concern included:

- The outside area of Haydon Court and the Orbital Retail Park after dark.
- The wooded area alongside the protected orchid field and Luna Park.
- The route between Orchid Vale School and Asda.
- Paths around Green Park and Taw Hill.
- The back alley between Avonmead and Hilliers.
- Back paths in Abbeymeads.
- Paths around Hamble Road and Avonmead.

Concerns were also raised about young people riding electric bikes in a manner that residents considered intimidating.



These comments could be shared with the relevant partners, including the Police and other appropriate agencies, where matters fall outside the Parish Council's direct responsibilities.

4.5 Environment and Green Spaces

Environmental improvements were considered important by many respondents.

Suggestions included:

- Tree planting.
- Wildlife projects.
- Improvements to nature reserves.
- Community gardening.
- Additional seating and nature spaces.
- Outdoor fitness activities.
- Recycling and waste awareness.
- Climate action initiatives.

Residents also highlighted the importance of maintaining existing green spaces and making them attractive, accessible and welcoming.

One resident specifically suggested that more open space work would benefit Haydon End, while another requested additional seating around local fields.

There was also a suggestion to reinstate Greenmeadow's identity through improved signage at the entrance to the area.

These comments demonstrate that environmental improvements and the protection of green spaces remain important priorities for residents.

4.6 Other Local Concerns

A number of more specific issues were also raised, including:

- Concerns about the positioning of school buses and the impact on Timandra Close.
- Requests for better road and junction maintenance.
- Dog fouling and litter.
- Greater reassurance and support for vulnerable residents.
- Improved signage and recognition of individual neighbourhood identities.

Although some of these comments relate to matters outside the direct control of the Parish Council, they provide useful intelligence that can be shared with the relevant authorities or considered when developing future priorities.

5. Play Area Survey – Key Findings

The Play Area Survey received eight responses from residents across Haydon Wick, Oakhurst, Moredon, Abbeymeads, Ash Brake and Haydon End.

Overall, feedback was positive.

All eight respondents rated their local play area as either **Excellent or Above Average**, with four selecting each category.

All respondents also indicated that they felt the facilities were well maintained.

Five respondents had noticed improvements within the last 12 months, two had not noticed improvements and one response was recorded as not applicable.

Main Feedback and Suggested Improvements

Residents particularly valued:

- Safe and secure spaces.
- The location and accessibility of play areas.
- Open space and the surrounding environment.

Suggestions for future improvements included:

- Filling holes and improving uneven ground.
- Addressing potential mud during wet weather.
- Adding benches and seating.
- Introducing some dog agility equipment.
- Maintaining cleanliness and existing standards.
- Considering whether some areas could be made slightly larger.

One respondent specifically suggested dog agility equipment, while another felt that the existing provision was already very good and simply needed to be maintained.

Overall Assessment

The feedback indicates that residents are generally satisfied with the existing play areas and recognise improvements already made.

Rather than suggesting a need for major redevelopment across all sites, the responses point towards targeted improvements, ongoing maintenance and consideration of additional facilities where there is a clear demand.

The suggestion to introduce agility equipment could be considered alongside the wider review of outdoor recreational facilities.

6. Outdoor Gym Survey – Key Findings

One response has been received through the separate Outdoor Gym Survey.

The respondent, from Haydon End, uses the facility monthly, primarily for general fitness, and rated the outdoor gym as Excellent.

They were very satisfied with:

- The condition of the equipment.
- Cleanliness.
- Accessibility.
- Signage and instructions.

The surrounding environment received a neutral satisfaction rating.

The respondent felt that the outdoor gym contributes significantly to health and wellbeing in Haydon Wick.

The main suggested improvement was to provide a bin closer to the facility, as there was a build-up of dog waste bags.

Although the response is limited, it provides positive feedback about the facility and identifies a practical maintenance issue that could be investigated.

Further engagement would be beneficial to understand how frequently the gym is used and whether other users would welcome additional improvements.

7. Mapping Resident Feedback Against the Community Led Action Plan (CLAP)

An important part of the community engagement process is ensuring that the feedback received from residents directly informs the delivery and monitoring of the Community Led Action Plan.

The survey findings have been reviewed against the four key priorities within the 2026–2029 CLAP to establish how residents' comments align with the actions already agreed by the Council. This provides an opportunity to identify where existing actions are supported by community feedback, where additional attention may be required and where progress can be measured against residents' expectations.

The findings demonstrate that the four priorities remain relevant to the issues raised by residents. The following section maps the feedback against the individual CLAP actions.

7.1 Priority 1 – Haydon Wick: A Clean and Well-Maintained Place

Our aim: Clean streets, well-maintained green spaces, and safe, accessible paths and play areas.

Residents raised a number of concerns relating to the condition and maintenance of public spaces, particularly hedges, brambles, footpaths, roads and green spaces.

There was also positive feedback from residents who had noticed improvements in grounds maintenance and wanted these standards to be maintained.

CLAP action	Feedback received and relevance to the action
GOOD GUTTERS	Although there was limited specific feedback about blocked gullies or flooding, residents raised wider concerns about road and junction conditions. Continued monitoring of known problem areas remains important.
WEEDS & VERGES PLUS	Strongly supported by residents. Comments included overgrown hedges, brambles in Oakhurst, shrubs requiring better maintenance and hanging foliage obstructing paths. Residents also praised previous improvements to grounds maintenance and asked that these standards be maintained.
PAVEMENT WATCH	Directly supported by feedback from several areas. Residents highlighted cracked and uneven footpaths, accessibility problems for mobility scooters and damaged pathways in Haydon End, Abbeymeads, Haydon Wick Village and other locations.
PLAY AREA INSPECT & REPAIR	Supported by the play area survey. All eight respondents rated their local play area as Excellent or Above Average and confirmed that they considered it well maintained. Suggestions included filling holes, improving ground conditions and adding seating.
PARK PATROL	Residents raised concerns about litter, dog fouling and waste management. One outdoor gym user specifically requested a more conveniently located bin because of dog waste bags accumulating nearby.



Key finding and consideration:

Maintenance of public spaces, hedges and footpaths is one of the clearest themes emerging from the consultation. The feedback supports the continued delivery of WEEDS & VERGES PLUS and PAVEMENT WATCH, with particular attention to accessibility and the removal of overgrown vegetation.

The positive feedback on play areas also demonstrates the importance of maintaining existing standards while considering smaller, targeted improvements.

Suggested monitoring: The relevant Committee should consider whether recurring locations identified by residents can be added to maintenance inspection schedules and whether reported pavement and grounds maintenance issues are being tracked through to resolution.

7.2 Priority 2 – Haydon Wick: A Kind, Connected and Caring Community

Our aim: A Parish where residents feel supported, informed, connected, and able to participate.

The community survey highlighted the importance residents place on community activities, youth provision, family events, older residents' services and improved communication.

Residents generally valued existing facilities such as The Haven, Memory Café and community events. However, there were repeated requests for more activities for young people, improved awareness of existing services and greater personal contact with Councillors.

CLAP action	Feedback received and relevance to the action
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT	Strongly supported. Residents requested more activities for young people, particularly during school holidays, and suggested working with local secondary schools to identify their needs. Concerns were also raised about young people having limited access to affordable activities.
PLAY4ALL	The play area survey was positive, with all eight respondents rating their facilities Excellent or Above Average. Residents suggested additional seating, improved ground conditions and dog agility equipment. There were also requests for more inclusive play opportunities.
MENTAL WELLBEING IN THE COMMUNITY	Residents identified mental wellbeing support as an area where additional provision would be welcomed. Outdoor fitness, social activities and opportunities to connect with others were also suggested. The outdoor gym feedback confirmed that the facility contributes positively to health and wellbeing.
OLDER RESIDENT SUPPORT	Residents identified a need to maintain and promote the Memory Café and services for older people. Suggestions also included more daytime social groups for adults under 60 and opportunities to reduce isolation.
VOLUNTEER SUPPORT NETWORK	Residents identified volunteering opportunities as something they value and would like to see continued. Community gardening and environmental volunteering were also suggested.
COMMUNITY EVENTS	Strongly supported. Residents referred positively to previous summer family events at Oakhurst Luna Park and Greenmeadow and requested more free or affordable activities for families and young people.

IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS	Directly supported by feedback. Some residents were unaware that the youth club was operating, while others requested more information about Council activities and services. Residents identified the Parish magazine, Facebook, website, noticeboards, monthly email bulletin and in-person events as preferred communication channels.
YOUTH VOICE	Supported by requests for greater engagement with young people and local schools. Residents want young people to have access to activities and facilities that reflect their interests and provide positive opportunities to participate in the community.

Key finding and consideration:

The findings demonstrate that residents value existing community provision but want more opportunities to participate, particularly younger residents and families.

There is also a clear communication issue. The feedback that some residents were unaware of existing youth provision suggests that improving awareness is as important as introducing new activities.

The request for more visible and engaged Councillors also supports the wider objective of creating a more connected and accessible Parish Council.

Suggested monitoring: The Council should consider monitoring awareness of existing services, participation at community events, youth engagement levels and feedback from families. Future engagement should also seek to involve young people directly, rather than relying solely on feedback from adults.

7.3 Priority 3 – Haydon Wick: A Green and Sustainable Environment

Our aim: Protect wildlife, support climate action, and promote sustainable living.

Residents demonstrated an interest in protecting and improving the natural environment, with tree planting, wildlife projects, nature reserves and additional green spaces featuring regularly in the survey responses.

There was also a desire to see existing green spaces properly maintained and more opportunities for residents to enjoy them.

CLAP action	Feedback received and relevance to the action
WILDWICK & NATURE PROJECTS	Strongly supported. Residents requested wildlife projects, nature reserve improvements and better protection of natural habitats. Community gardening and opportunities to participate in environmental projects were also suggested.
TREES & BIODIVERSE GREEN SPACES	Directly supported by requests for tree planting, additional seating and improved natural spaces. Residents also highlighted the importance of maintaining existing green spaces and improving their appearance.
CLIMATE ACTION	Some residents identified climate change and climate action initiatives as important priorities. Suggestions included recycling awareness and environmental improvements.
GREEN GYM & FITNESS	Supported by the positive feedback received from the outdoor gym user, who felt the facility made a significant contribution to health

	and wellbeing. Residents also identified outdoor fitness activities and improved walking routes as priorities.
VISIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION	Residents expressed interest in better communication about local environmental projects and more opportunities to participate in community activities. Improved signage and recognition of local green spaces could also support this action.
RECYCLING & WASTE AWARENESS	Residents identified recycling, waste reduction and environmental awareness as areas of interest. Litter and dog fouling were also recurring concerns, highlighting the importance of promoting responsible use of public spaces.
NATURE BENCHES	Directly supported by requests for additional seating around fields and green spaces. Residents would like more opportunities to sit, enjoy nature and use outdoor spaces.

Key finding and consideration:

The survey responses demonstrate that environmental improvements remain important to residents. There is particular support for tree planting, wildlife projects, nature reserve improvements and additional seating.

The feedback also suggests that residents would welcome more opportunities to get involved in environmental projects rather than simply seeing improvements delivered by the Council.

Suggested monitoring: Progress could be demonstrated through the number of trees planted, environmental projects delivered, volunteering opportunities created, nature improvements completed and additional seating installed. The Council should also consider how these activities are communicated to residents.

7.4 Priority 4 – Haydon Wick: A Safe and Friendly Place to Live

Our aim: Residents feel safe, especially in shared spaces, parks and walking routes.

Although most survey respondents described feeling fairly safe in their local areas, a number of specific concerns were raised about walking routes, antisocial behaviour, speeding, electric bikes and locations that feel less safe after dark.

Residents also requested more visible patrols and better maintained pathways.

CLAP action	Feedback received and relevance to the action
CCTV	Residents identified a number of locations where they feel less safe, particularly around the Orbital Retail Park and certain walking routes after dark. These locations could be considered when reviewing existing CCTV coverage and whether any further assessment is required.
PARK & COMMUNITY PATROLS	Strongly supported by requests for increased visible patrols. Residents identified concerns around antisocial behaviour, electric bikes and particular locations where they would welcome a greater visible presence.
STREET LIGHTING ADVOCACY	Residents highlighted pathways and locations that feel unsafe at night, including routes around Haydon Court, the Orbital, Abbeymeads and other local walking routes. These concerns should be considered when identifying potential lighting improvements with Swindon Borough Council.
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN	The community survey provided limited direct feedback on emergency preparedness. However, comments about supporting vulnerable residents

	and providing reassurance demonstrate the importance of effective community communication and support networks.
ROAD SAFETY MEASURES	Residents raised concerns about speeding, e-scooters, electric bikes and road safety. Specific comments also related to school bus arrangements and the impact on local roads. These issues could be shared with Swindon Borough Council and other relevant partners.
YOUTH SAFETY & BEHAVIOUR	Directly supported by concerns about electric bikes, antisocial behaviour and young people having limited access to affordable activities. Residents also suggested increased youth outreach and more diversionary activities.
PERCEPTION OF SAFETY	The feedback supports this action, as residents identified specific locations where they feel unsafe, particularly after dark. Better maintained pathways, improved lighting, visible patrols and clearer communication could all contribute to improving perceptions of safety.

Key finding and consideration:

The findings suggest that improving residents' perception of safety should remain an important priority. Although most respondents felt fairly safe, the identification of specific locations and concerns provides useful information to help target future work.

There is also a clear connection between youth engagement and community safety. Residents' concerns about antisocial behaviour and electric bikes sit alongside requests for more affordable youth activities and outreach programmes.

These issues should therefore be considered together, recognising the importance of providing positive opportunities for young people while also addressing residents' safety concerns.

Suggested monitoring: The Council should record locations raised through surveys, share relevant concerns with the Police and Swindon Borough Council, and monitor feedback following any environmental or patrol improvements.

8. Recommendations Arising from the Survey Findings

In light of the feedback received, the following areas are suggested for consideration as part of the ongoing delivery of the CLAP:

1. **Maintenance priorities:** Consider adding locations identified by residents to relevant maintenance and inspection schedules, particularly where concerns relate to overgrown hedges, brambles, damaged footpaths and accessibility.
2. **Youth provision:** Review how existing youth activities are promoted and consider further engagement with local schools and young people to identify demand for additional activities.
3. **Community engagement:** Continue Councillor-led visits and improve opportunities for residents to speak directly with their local Councillors.
4. **Environmental improvements:** Consider the requests for additional tree planting, wildlife projects, nature improvements and seating when planning future environmental work.
5. **Community safety:** Share specific concerns about walking routes, antisocial behaviour, electric bikes and road safety with the relevant external partners.
6. **Communication:** Review how effectively the Council promotes its existing services, activities and events, ensuring that information reaches residents through a variety of channels.
7. **Action tracking:** Ensure that relevant survey findings are recorded against the corresponding CLAP actions so that Committees can demonstrate how resident feedback is being considered and what progress is being made.

The survey findings should be treated as an initial indication of residents' priorities rather than a representative picture of the whole parish, given the relatively low response numbers. Further engagement will be important to test these findings and establish whether the issues raised are shared more widely.

9. Monitoring and Tracking Progress

Alongside the engagement programme, work has progressed on establishing arrangements to monitor delivery of the CLAP.

A CLAP action spreadsheet has been created to provide a central record of the actions within the Plan. Its purpose is to help identify:

- Actions that have been completed.
- Actions currently underway.
- Actions requiring further attention.
- Committees or individuals responsible for progressing particular actions.
- Areas where further discussion or resources may be required.

This will support the agreed approach whereby each Committee takes ownership of relevant actions and provides regular updates on progress.

A separate resident engagement spreadsheet has also been developed to coordinate consultation activities and record opportunities for Councillors to engage with the public.

These spreadsheets provide a useful starting point for monitoring progress and coordinating activity. However, an update from office staff on the development of the wider CLAP tracker would be welcomed.

It was previously understood that a more comprehensive tracker would provide a central point of reference for Councillors and office staff, allowing progress updates to be viewed, actions monitored and community engagement results accessed.

Members are therefore asked to seek clarification on the current status of this tracker, including how it will operate and how information will be maintained and shared across Committees.

10. Overall Conclusion

The initial engagement and survey findings provide a useful indication of residents' priorities. Positive feedback highlighted community events, support services, play areas and outdoor facilities. Key areas for improvement included youth provision, communication, maintenance of paths and green spaces, accessibility and perceived safety.

These findings broadly support the four CLAP priorities and should inform the Council's work over the remainder of 2026/27. As response numbers were relatively low, further engagement will be important before drawing wider conclusions.