

# **BLAXHALL PARISH PLAN - YOUR VIEWS WANTED**

Blaxhall is in the process of developing a Parish Plan, a new initiative from the Countryside Agency. The plan should include the views of every person of any age who currently lives in Blaxhall, and this brief questionnaire is the first step towards gaining those views.

To complete the form, just tick the appropriate boxes. Everyone in the household should put their own ticks on the same form even though they may tick the same or different boxes!

A volunteer from Blaxhall (details at the foot of this page) will be calling to pick up the completed form on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Alternatively you can drop the form in to the volunteer.

If you want a background on the Parish Plan read on (or contact the volunteer). There is also an information page on the web at [www.blaxhall.com](http://www.blaxhall.com).

## **What is a Parish Plan?**

- The chance for everyone in Blaxhall to express their views on social, economic, environmental and any other aspects of life in the Parish.
- An opportunity to form a local consensus, in a single document, on how the quality of life in Blaxhall might be maintained or improved in the future.

## **How will the Parish Plan be used?**

- Parish, District and County Councils will use it as guidance on local views.
- Government and other agencies (such as the Lottery Fund) which provide funds for Parish projects may require applicants to provide a Parish Plan as evidence of local support for such projects.

## **What are the benefits of a Parish Plan?**

- It will provide a snapshot of local views on Blaxhall's amenities, services and housing.
- It will provide a clear indication of Parish feeling regarding specific improvement projects.
- It will support Blaxhall's funding application for the Village Hall refurbishment – the results of the recent village hall survey (which are to be incorporated in the Parish Plan) showed strong local support for improving the facilities in the Village Hall whilst maintaining the character of the existing building.
- It has provided Blaxhall the immediate benefit of a Countryside Agency grant (in excess of £3500) to purchase a photocopier, computer, display boards and other equipment needed to prepare a Parish Plan (this equipment will be donated to the Parish Council upon completion of the Parish Plan).

## **How will the Parish Plan be created?**

- A group of volunteers from within the village have prepared a pilot questionnaire (overleaf) to provide you with a hopefully easy route to identify those aspects of life in Blaxhall, if any, which you believe require improvement.
- Your opinions are important as the results of this pilot will be used to build a local consensus and to focus attention on those areas requiring more detailed review and action. The detailed review will involve discussions with interested parties and potentially further questionnaires. There will be opportunity for further comment on the Parish Plan before it is finalised and put for adoption to the Parish Council.