

Business - Policy Statement

The following actions are designed to maintain and improve the business environment in the parish and to enable continuing long-term employment and prosperity.

a) Internet Broadband

As society in general and business in particular becomes more dependant on Information Technology, the provision of Internet Broadband becomes essential to business development. Since the survey took place in summer 2002 there have been developments as follows: -

Commercial satellite based broadband now available

Wireless based local broadband shortly available

BT investment in upgrading local exchanges to ADSL (Broadband Internet access) announced.

Because of the distance limitations of ADSL, even upgrading the exchanges will not put this variety of broadband within reach of all, so a combination of ADSL and the new commercial satellite and wireless based systems is the most likely outcome. Details of these schemes need to be made easily available to businesses and it is proposed that there should be links to all the potential providers from the Parish Web site. A volunteer needs to be appointed to collate the details and pass them to the Web Site publisher for inclusion. Since there is a commercial interest involved there is always the possibility of some sponsorship from the providers.

b) Skills Interchange – Use of Web Site

There is a perceived need for employers to advertise their vacancies and for potential employees to advertise their skills and the ideal forum for this is the Parish Web Site. An employment co-ordinator needs to be appointed to collate details from employers and employees and keep the relevant section of the Web site up-to-date.

c) Future Business Development

The Parish Council, whilst encouraging small enterprises in its planning stance, has to strike a balance between employment needs and the preservation of the rural nature of our area.

d) Business Promotion Event – Village Hall

A volunteer needs to be sought to evaluate and promote this event, which received significant support in the survey.