

## SHADOXHURST VILLAGE – the woodland gateway to the countryside.

**Our mission is to maintain the rural feel of our charming village and develop our rural community.**

**We maintain and enhance our beautiful open spaces, quiet ancient woodlands and community facilities for all to enjoy; retaining and celebrating our wonderful dark skies. We support local rural businesses and interest groups whilst encouraging local wildlife, sustainable farming and woodland trails. We manage development changes wisely - ensuring everyone has a voice.**

### OUR BRAND

Ancient Woodlands, Agricultural Village. Historic Buildings. Conservation areas with listed buildings. Unique rural characteristics – dark skies, farmland, farm animals, horses, oak trees, fields, natural ponds. Separate from urban areas. Peaceful and quiet. Community Events. Caring, vibrant, cohesive and active community. Diverse wildlife including Nightingales. Lovely village pub, local 14<sup>th</sup> Century Church, pavilion and village hall facilities. In keeping with a small rural village. Distinct from Ashford. Beautiful clear, dark skies. No light pollution. Fresh clean country air. No traffic pollution. Interesting history – saw mill supplied miners & land given to injured servicemen.

### 2017 FINANCIAL TARGETS

1. TBC
2. TBC
3. TBC
4. TBC

### VALUE PROPOSITION

A rural village of natural beauty which is peaceful and quiet, which has a sense of community, pride, kindness and compassion. Good inclusive rural facilities to support local interest groups and activities. Safeguarding the rural feel of our village and making Shadoxhurst the best village to live in the local area. A woodland gateway to the countryside which has a lovely pub to enjoy. Woodland walks/trails and education points on wildlife, woodland and agriculture.

### OUR 'PROMISE' to VILLAGERS

Thoughtful leadership by the Parish Council. Working hard to improve the rural quality of life. Promoting a good sense of community. Learn and share best practices from other villages. Work with neighbouring villages as one voice on shared issues. Seek to represent the village interests and influence decision makers to align with our mission of retaining the rural and woodland feel of our village. Listening to villagers through village community forum.

### STRATEGIES

### PLANS

### Responsible

<b>1</b>	<b>CREATE A VILLAGE IDENTITY</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Create village entry signs to the village 'Shadoxhurst – Gateway to the Countryside'</li> <li>b. Create nature education and information boards on our country walks</li> <li>c. Keep our village green by the pub and retain a 'necklace of green' around the village</li> <li>d. Increase historic awareness by showcasing our heritage and history</li> </ol>	
<b>2</b>	<b>IMPROVE VILLAGE PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Agree responsibilities and accountabilities between the Parish Council and the village</li> <li>b. Have regular fund raising events – including a Shadoxhurst wine tasting and showcasing home-brew event &amp; scope feasibility of a farmer's market</li> <li>c. Promote the Parish Council and Village Community Forum</li> <li>d. Set up a Parish Council Facebook page</li> <li>e. Promote local interest groups and clubs</li> </ol>	
<b>3</b>	<b>IMPROVE VILLAGE FACILITIES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Install Adult Exercise Equipment</li> <li>b. Remove and replace children's play equipment</li> <li>c. Upgrade the pavilion car park facilities</li> <li>d. Identify facilities that need improving, replacing, repairing and prepare cost estimates (programme of improvements)</li> <li>e. Map out, identify and make improvements to our woodland walks</li> </ol>	
<b>4</b>	<b>PRESERVE THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Research and make a proposal to apply for 'dark skies' status</li> <li>b. Create a Parish Protection Policy</li> <li>c. Reduce our village speed limit to 30mph</li> </ol>	

### VILLAGE COMMUNITY FORUM VALUES

- To maintain the quality of life for all in the village
- To generate issues that can be put to the Parish Council
- To re-kindle community spirit and engender friendship
- To build a social feeling in the village
- To suggest things that bring people together
- To create and develop a positive community spirit