

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Ideas

Following several discussions in the Participation and Engagement Working Group, and elsewhere, the four suggestions below were put forward.

Based on experience from previous jubilee events it is expected that various villages, and communities, within the parish will organise their own events, such as street parties etc. The ideas here are intended to supplement and not replace these.

One of the main principles of the suggested ideas is that they must be sustainable. In the past commemorative memorabilia was produced to give out to children, for example. This type of thing is now not thought to be environmentally sustainable.

The four suggestions below are not mutually exclusive, they could all be done.

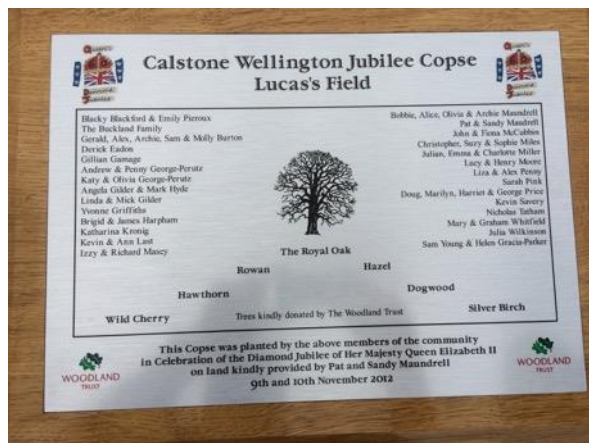
1. Community Orchards.

There is a Government initiative created in 2011 to create community orchards - [Community orchards: a 'how to' guide - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guides/community-orchards)

One, or more, orchards could be set-up in the parish to create areas for residents to walk and sit in peaceful surroundings, and it would be a lasting symbol of the jubilee.

Pros – Permanent, promotes community cohesion whilst being created and when picking and processing the fruit, promotes wellbeing whilst walking and sitting in the orchard, environmentally beneficial.

Cons – Land has to be found, trees procured, and it must be maintained indefinitely (this could be a “pro” if a group of villagers would take on the tasks of pruning, cutting grass etc). On a geographically large parish like ours some communities will be too far from an orchard to gain any benefit.



A similar case study is - Calstone build a village copse for the last jubilee in 2012 as part of the “Jubilee Woods” initiative. The land was donated by one very generous farmer (he still owns it but allowed a copse to be built on it and granted free public access over it), and trees were provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust. Everyone in the village was given the opportunity to plant at least one tree over a planting weekend. A commemorative plaque was created to celebrate the event and it mentions everyone who planted a tree. A bench purchased to sit and watch the trees grow!

2. Jubilee Footpaths.



Several walking routes within the parish could be defined and publicised as “Jubilee Walks”. These walks should be in various parts of the parish and encourage our residents to enjoy walking in the parish. At least one of the walks should be within walking distance of residents, and we could encourage others to cycle, or catch public transport, to the start points rather than to drive. I have made a “mock-up” of one in Calstone – see annex at the back of this document. The routes would be advertised on our website.

Pros – Permanent. Encourages people to walk and exercise more, encourage walkers to cherish the countryside, enhance interest in wildlife and agriculture. Could be ready for the jubilee weekend. No costs.

Cons – People will probably drive to the start point rather than get there in a more sustainable way. Work has to be done to create the route plan document. The walks may not be assessable for disabled people.

3. Community Walk.

This is taking one of the walks from (2) above and setting a date for as many people as possible from the parish to take part in it. Individual families could bring their own picnics. There would be a stop halfway around for the picnic and possible entertainment to be provided. In principle guided tours could be set-up to point out key landmarks for the walkers. (The National trust warden used to do this years ago in Calstone – he or she may be willing to do it again, or knowledgeable individuals could do it instead as a fall back.)

Pros – Potentially a lot of community engagement. Encourage residents to explore our parish as a group, which may lead to them to explore other paths on their own. Very low, or no cost – depending on if we provide entertainment, guides.

Cons - People will probably drive to the start point rather than get there in a more sustainable way. The walks may not be assessable for disabled people.

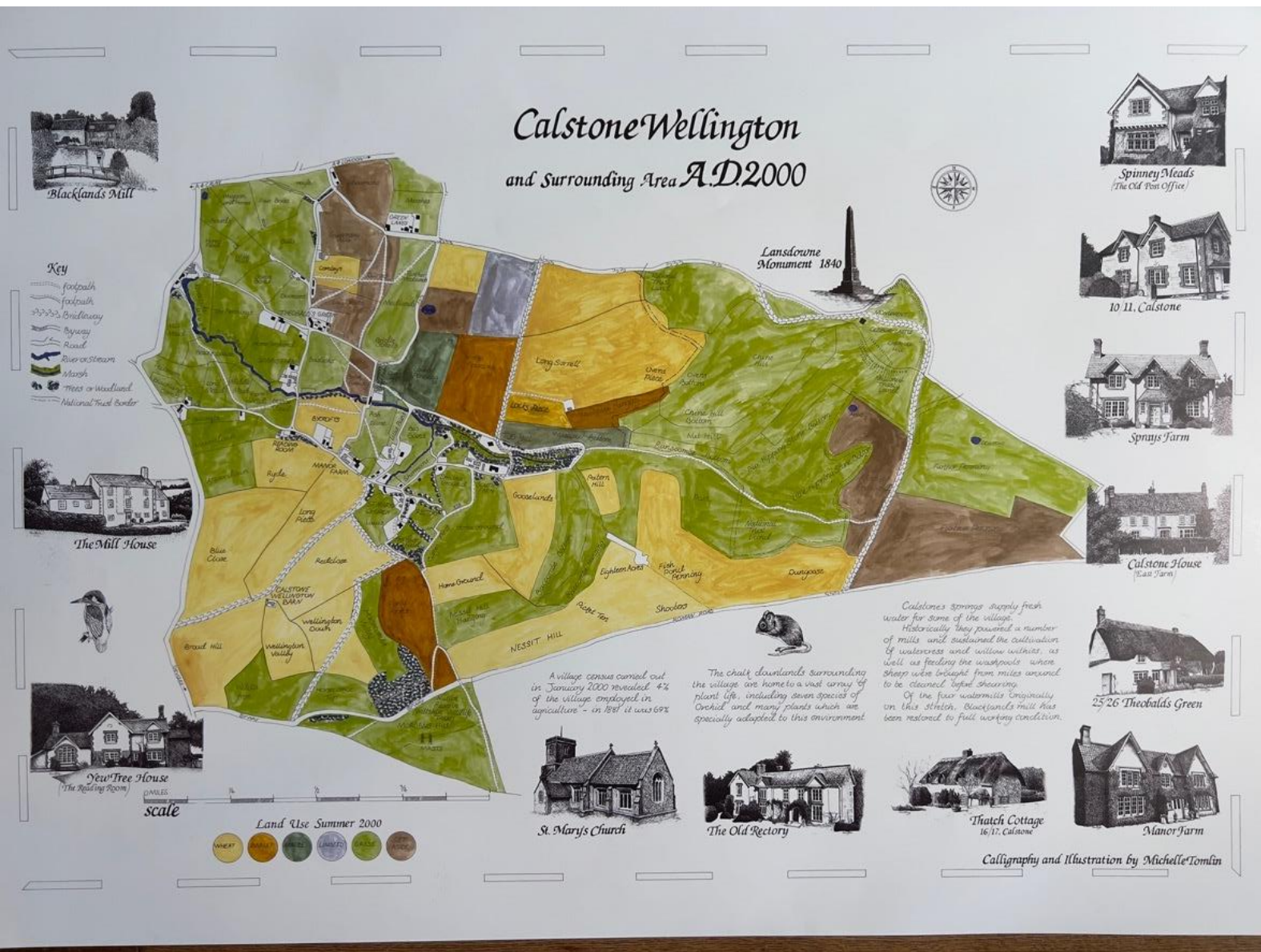
4. Parish Map.

As the parish may be being split-up in the not-too-distant future, a map showing the current parish and its land use, and interesting features might be an interesting thing to create.

As a case study, for the Millennium Calstone created a village map showing the village, the old field names, and what all of the fields were being used for at the time. It also has drawings of some of the houses around the outside. It is a unique snapshot of the village in the year 2000. A copy of the map was etched in steel and put on a sarsen stone in the centre of the village. A copy of the map is overleaf.

Pros – Permanent historical record of the parish at the time of the Platinum Jubilee.

Cons – Some may find it boring. It will take a lot of work to create. Costs of licencing the reuse of Ordnance Survey map unknown.





MOCK-UP

Jubilee Walk number 1 Calstone & Blackland Downs 5 miles

Alternate route for those catching 42 bus to be created.

This is a 5 mile walk which will take you from the layby just after Blacklands Crossroads, through village of Calstone Wellington and up onto the Blackland Down, past the Lansdowne Monument, through the Oldbury Iron Age hill fort, over Calstone Downs and through the coombes. Finally, there is a walk back through the quiet village of Calstone Wellington again. It will take between 2 and 3 hours and involves a fairly long, but not steep, path up to the top of the downs. The path is passible all year around but does get wet and slippery in places in the winter.

The number on the photos below refer to the point on the walk that they

were taken.

..... Update with lots of interesting facts and things to see



1



2



3



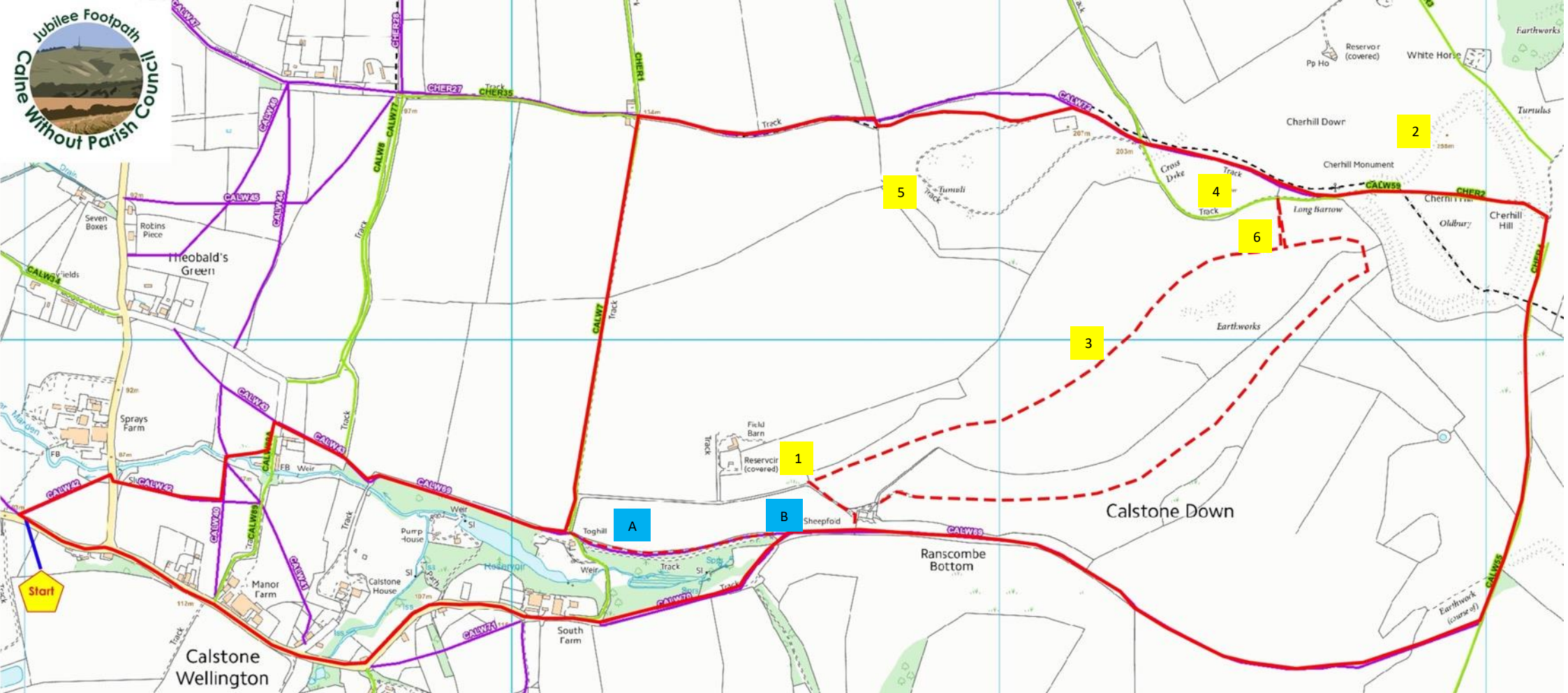
4



5



6



- Park in the layby near the “start” indicator and walk west along the road, towards Blacklands Crossroads, for approx. 70 metres until you come to the first footpath (CALW42) on your right. Then follow CALW40, CALW69, CALW43, CALW69, CALW7, CHER35, CALW72, CALW59, CHER2, CHER4, CALW55, CALW69, CALW70 and then follow the road through the village to the starting point.
- This is a great walk if you have dogs but please look out for cows and sheep in the fields. Always follow the Country Code.
- There is a dotted red line near “Toghill” (A) on the map. You can follow this path if you wish to have a much shorter walk, avoiding the downs, or if you wish to walk an alternate way to the downs near “Sheepfold” (B) on the map.
- Much of the downs are National Trust Land. You can walk anywhere you like here, there are plenty of stiles for people and dogs! There are two alternate suggestions for routes to get to the Lansdowne Monument. Both of these are steeper than the marked route, but they are easier a lot less muddy and slippery in the winter. They both start at “Sheepfold” which can be reached by following the red dotted line at Toghill (CALW69)