

P30402 The Sustainable Built Environment
Research Paper

An Investigation of the Transition Movement as a Model for Sustainable Development: 'Haddenham in Transition'



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Abstract

This paper explores the Transition movement as a model for sustainable development. The grassroots movement aims to increase community resilience in response to climate change and peak oil and emphasises local positive action. 'Haddenham in Transition', a village initiative in Buckinghamshire, is used as a case study. The Transition movement at the theoretical level is compared with its practical implementation in Haddenham. Their Transition activities and the level of local awareness and engagement are examined. The research method is through desktop research on Transition philosophy, a face-to-face survey of 20 Haddenham residents, and a telephone interview with the key contact for the initiative, David Lyons. The findings are that local residents were generally not familiar with the Transition movement. However, specific events and projects had a high level of awareness, Homemade in Haddenham in particular. The top priorities for respondents were 'Education and Awareness' and 'Transport'. The Transition group currently focuses on 'Buildings and Energy', 'Food' and 'Education and Awareness'. It is concluded that Haddenham in Transition needs more active members to progress. It is recommended that the group find new ways of recruiting participants. The use of terms like Transition and sustainability are found to be off-putting. Framing activities in terms of saving money and having fun are more likely to engage the community. The Transition movement as a whole is judged to be replicable in most communities. However this is dependent on residents being open to the ideas. Having a motivated core group is the key to a successful initiative.

Key words: Transition movement, Haddenham in Transition, peak oil, climate change

1.0 Introduction

Typically the move to a low-carbon society is imposed on communities from the government. The Transition movement was conceived as a localised response to two global concerns: peak oil and climate change. This paper investigates Transition as a model for sustainable development. The twentieth century saw unprecedented growth in population and energy use; the twenty-first century promises their decline and catastrophic weather events (Heinberg, 2008:9). Much of that growth is attributed to an abundance of cheap energy, mostly from fossil fuels. Now dependence on oil makes society vulnerable, given its depletion and environmental effects.

1.1 Peak oil and climate change

Peak oil is defined as the point at which global oil production reaches its maximum rate, after which a decline is predicted (figure 1). This has implications for the cost of food, travel, retail, and domestic energy use. It is not the last drop that matters, but the peak; from then on there will always be less year-on-year, with increasing scarcity and becoming increasingly expensive (Hopkins, 2008:21). There are differing opinions on when peak oil will occur (FEASTA, 2007).

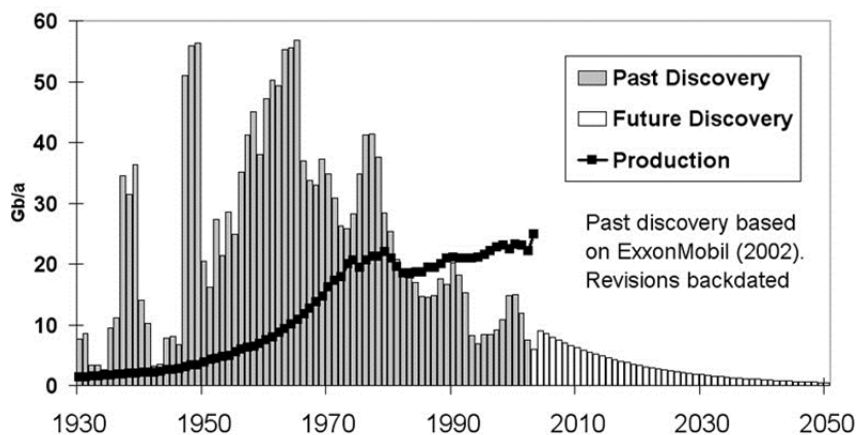


Figure 1. 'The Growing Gap' depletion model (2004)
Source: Colin Campbell, peakoil.net

Transition stresses that peak oil and climate change are part of the same issue; an 'addiction to fossil fuels' (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009). It is acknowledged that climate change will bring about changes, some of which are difficult to predict. However, these issues open up opportunities for transformative green restructuring around low-growth, alternative-growth or localisation strategies (While, 2011:49).

1.2 Background

Rob Hopkins, the founder, was a permaculture teacher and learnt of peak oil from leading petroleum geologist Colin Campbell (Heinberg, 2008:8). He developed the concept of 'energy descent', reducing overall consumption of energy derived from fossil fuels. 'Climate change says we *should* change, whereas peak oil says we will be *forced* to change' (Hopkins 2008:37). Transition recognises that fossil fuels have brought enormous economic boons but also problems including climate change and dependence on foreign sources (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009). The term 'Transition' is important, indicating a gradual shift rather than a sudden change in lifestyle and practices. The first UK Transition initiative was piloted in 2006, in Totnes, Devon.

1.3 Features of the Transition movement

The central concept is increasing local resilience. This is the ability of a system to function in the face of change and shocks from external conditions. Hopkins (2008:54) states that resilience goes beyond the better-known concept of sustainability. He uses recycling as an example of being better for the environment, but adding little resilience to a community.

The Transition model empowers communities and is designed to be replicated by citizen groups across the world. Here, environmental campaigning should generate elation rather than guilt, anger and horror (Hopkins, 2008:15) and positive action. The movement is described as 'more like a party than a protest march' by Heinberg (2008:10). It shifts the common view that there is nothing that an individual can do.

'It's not about changing behaviour; it's about setting in place structures' (*In Transition 2.0*, 2012), which can be available when their usefulness is perceived. There are themes around which Transition initiatives may form sub-groups. These are used as the basis of analysing the case study:

- Buildings and Energy
- Economy and Businesses
- Education and Awareness
- Food
- Heart and Soul
- Inclusion
- Reskilling
- Schools
- Transport

1.4 Transition Network

The Transition Network is a website for co-ordination, support and sharing ideas. Any group can register and choose to be assessed against a set of criteria (Appendix A) to become 'Official'. The criteria relate to the group's knowledge, skills, parameters and aims. As of June 2012, the network comprised of 987 registered initiatives in 34 countries. In the UK there are currently 389 Transition initiatives, of which 212 are Official. Each will deal with issues and advantages unique to their locality, within the overall theme of reducing oil dependency and increasing resilience.

2.0 Case Study

2.1 Haddenham in Transition

Haddenham is a village in Buckinghamshire (figure 1) with 8000 residents. In January 2009, Haddenham in Transition began life as 'Transition Thame & District', changing its name in November 2010. It was instigated by David Lyons, who found out about the movement when he picked up the Transition Handbook at the Eden Project (pers. comm., Nov. 2012).



Figure 1. Haddenham location and nearest large settlements
Source: Google Maps

2.2 Aims of the study

The empirical data on which this paper is based comes from a small-scale study of Haddenham in Transition. 'Transition is a social experiment on a massive scale' (Transition Network, 2010). Having started in 2006, much of the literature on the topic is at a theoretical level. This research is important, as investigating a specific case can reveal information about practical implementation. The Haddenham initiative has been running for almost four years and was judged to be at a suitable stage for meaningful feedback.

This paper aims to find:

- i. how aware and involved Haddenham residents are with Transition activities;
- ii. what their priorities are for Haddenham and what changes they would like to see;
- iii. the Transition group's current and planned activities; and
- iv. successes and issues within the initiative.

The expected outcome of this research is a set of results that identify the values which are important to Haddenham residents and to the Transition group, which can be compared with each other and against the overarching Transition theories. Any comments would add qualitative information to contextualise the study.

2.3 Research Method

Initial research on Transition philosophy was done through desktop study. Primary research was conducted in two parts:

- A face-to-face survey of 20 Haddenham residents who were selected at random, in the local library, fruit shop and corner shop. There were 12 questions (Appendix B). The survey was carried out on a Saturday over 3 hours, 10:30 to 14:30.
- A structured telephone interview with the key contact for the initiative, David Lyons, over 2 evenings. This was initially an online questionnaire of 24 questions (Appendix C) but the interviewee preferred to answer verbally.

This method was chosen for comparisons to be made between the aims of the group (as described by a representative) and a sample of residents. The level of research was constrained by the completion deadline for this paper.

3.0 Findings and Discussion

3.1 Respondents

3.1.1 Demographic

A range of respondents were sought, to better reflect the variety of views that there might be in the village.

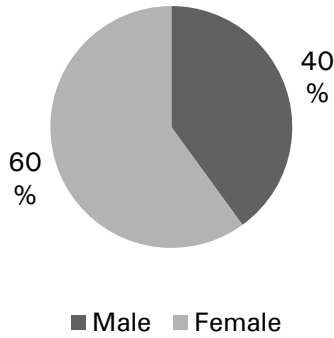


Figure 2. Gender of respondents, $n=20$

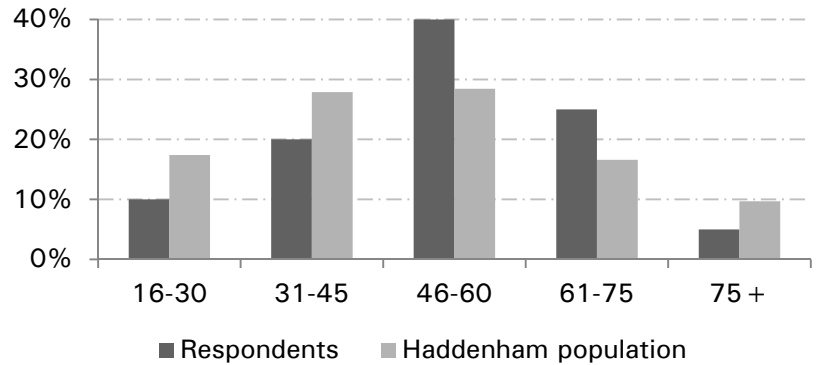


Figure 3. Age distribution of respondents, $n=20$ and Haddenham population. Source: Office of National Statistics (2001)

The gender balance was close to equal (figure 2). The aim was to sample evenly across age groups but there was a heavier weighting in the 46-60 and 61-75 brackets (figure 3). This could be due to the time and locations of the surveys.

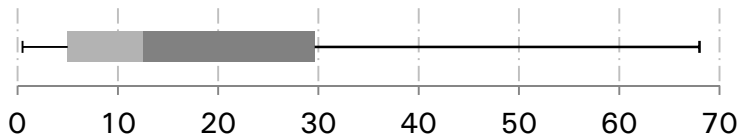


Figure 4. Years respondents have lived in Haddenham, $n=20$

The length of time respondents had lived in Haddenham ranged from 6 months to 68 years (figure 4), the median being 12.5 years.

3.1.2 Awareness

Respondents were asked about their awareness of the Transition initiative (figure 5). No one responded with 'I know a lot about it'.

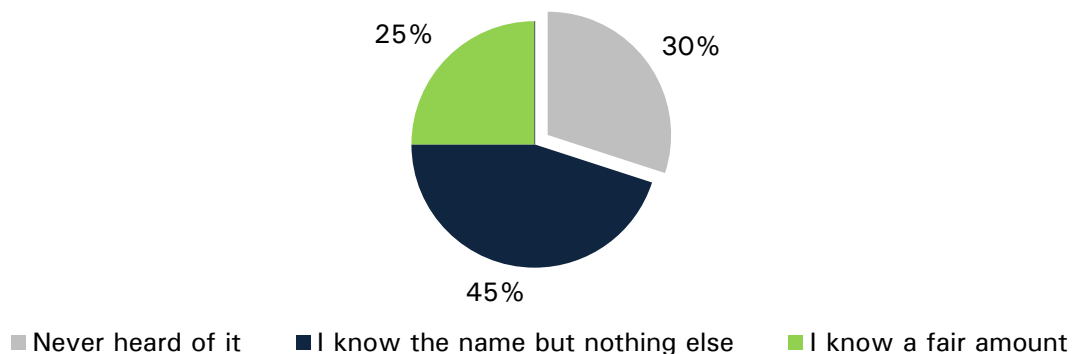


Figure 5. Awareness of Haddenham in Transition among respondents, $n=20$

Individual projects in Haddenham had varying levels of awareness (Table 1), but respondents did not necessarily know that they were set up by the Transition group. No one said they had helped to set up any of these projects. The highest levels of awareness were for the Homemade in Haddenham (70%) and the Allotment Club (55%). The lowest awareness levels were for the Apple Press and Water Butts projects. Homemade in Haddenham is a yearly event (in its second year) featuring local foods and crafts, and demonstrations (figure 6).

Respondents commented:

“Your programme needs more publicity so that “old fogeys” like me know more about it!”
“Homemade in Haddenham – excellent.”



Figure 6. Homemade in Haddenham poster. Source: Haddenham in Transition microsite

Table 1. Questionnaire responses: awareness of Haddenham in Transition projects (n = 20)

Project	Not aware	Aware	Used/attended
Haddenham Apple Press	80%	5%	15%
Haddenham Allotment Club	45%	50%	5%
Haddenham Water butts	75%	20%	5%
Homemade in Haddenham	30%	45%	25%
Vale Harvest	70%	15%	15%
Stall at May Day	65%	25%	10%
Thermal imaging surveys	65%	15%	20%

3.1.3 Participation

Many respondents had not attended or used any Transition activities or projects. People were most willing to offer custom at events and one respondent was interested in helping at stalls. Comments if they could not offer support included:

“Too busy with work, children etc.”
“Not enough time.”
“I would need to know more before I could decide.”
“Possibly in a few years!”

Currently Haddenham in Transition has 8-10 key members, 25 involved members and 150-200 people who are on the mailing list and participate infrequently. The main thing the group needs is for people to give time and run projects and generally become more active (David Lyons, pers. comm., Nov. 2012), as existing participants are stretched. The group has not had many issues in getting resources when needed and the received wisdom is that donations are not needed for Transition activities as there are other funding sources.

3.2 Themes

3.2.1 Buildings and Energy

Transition envisages carbon-neutral homes which use local materials, are well-insulated and energy efficient. The reduction of energy usage and production from renewable sources is important. Communal facilities are also useful for efficiency and a sense of community. The group has not produced an Energy Descent Action Plan as it takes a lot of resources (David Lyons, pers. comm., Nov. 2012).

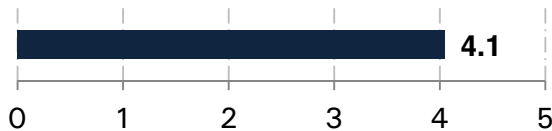


Figure 7. Importance of Buildings and Energy to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

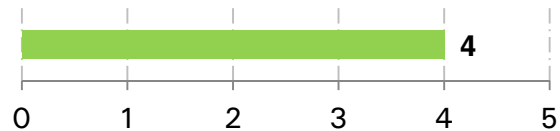


Figure 8. Importance of Buildings and Energy to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Buildings and Energy are given a similar level of importance by respondents and the transition group (figure 7 and 8). One of Haddenham in Transition's first projects was carrying out free thermal imaging surveys for residents, using a camera funded by the local council. David Lyons (pers. comm., Nov. 2012) said that the project was well-publicised and lots of homes were surveyed. It was reported that 'nearly two-thirds of participants have taken – or are planning to take – action to improve the energy efficiency of their homes' as a result (Haddenham in Transition microsite). The group has also initiated Thame & Haddenham Solar, a community group buying scheme for photovoltaics.

3.2.2 Economy and Businesses

Keeping money within communities is the key economic goal for Transition. One example is introducing local currency, not as a replacement but complementary to the national currency. The need for global markets for industries such as healthcare, technology and manufacturing is acknowledged but there is overdependence on them which Transition aims to reduce – it is about finding the right balance (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009).

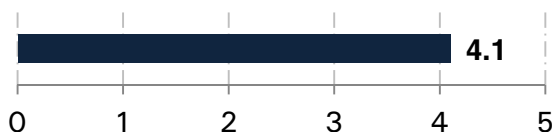


Figure 9. Importance of Economy and Businesses to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

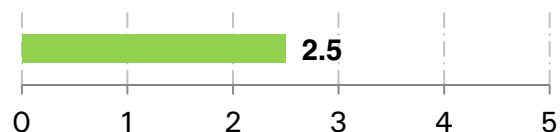


Figure 10. Importance of Economy and Businesses to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Respondents rated this category highly, but activities in the group have not been fully established (figure 9 and 10). In the past Haddenham's economy was rural and agriculture-based. Now many people commute and the majority work in the service sector. For a low-carbon economy, David Lyons stated that Haddenham needs more commercial activity and for more residents to be employed locally (pers. comm., Nov. 2012). He described Haddenham as 'a vibrant community with lots of knowledge and experience.' However for Transition, there is a need for more people in practical roles. Specifically, he identified agriculture, shops that sell useful things such as hardware, and repair shops. Ultimately, demand would be driven by the changes through Transition and rising costs due to peak oil and climate change.

3.2.3 Education and Awareness

The movement suggests exploring 'how to make education appropriate for these fast changing times' (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009). These activities would be not only about reducing carbon footprints, but also instilling a sense of community and bringing people of different ages together to share knowledge and experience.

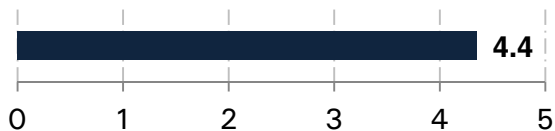


Figure 11. Importance of Education and Awareness to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

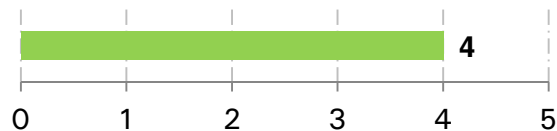


Figure 12. Importance of Education and Awareness to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Education and Awareness are a priority both for respondents and Haddenham in Transition's activities (figure 11 and 12). The group donated a set of Transition books to the local library and held film screenings to engage people on the topic. David Lyons (pers. comm., Nov. 2012) said that resilience is a hard topic to educate people about - 'you don't want to burden people with the theory'. He stated that terms like Transition and sustainability can be off-putting to people - there isn't a good 'elevator pitch' for it. He would like to reframe it as being about community, local resources, and a way to have fun and save money. The Transition group have embraced the model but very few people engage with the term.

3.2.4 Food

A community's ability to feed itself is crucial to its resilience. Food groups are often the starting point for Transition initiatives and promote home-grown seasonal food and support local agriculture. It is also favoured as there is no waiting for permission or funding (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009).

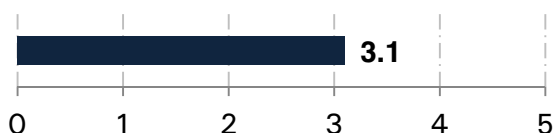


Figure 13. Importance of Food to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

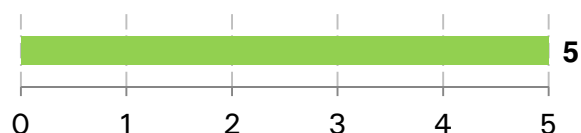


Figure 14. Importance Food to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Respondents did not prioritise food as much as the Transition group (figure 13 and 14). The biggest thing for any resilient community would be food, according to David Lyons (pers. comm., Nov. 2012). He recognised that they would never be able to grow enough food within the village boundaries to feed the current population. Being in a rural area, they would be able to source from nearby farms but can't think of the village in isolation and must consider the surrounding areas.

The group's activities centre on 'making local food easier to produce, buy and sell' (Haddenham in Transition microsite). Transition activities relating to food include the purchase of an apple press which people can loan for a donation, Vale Harvest – an online directory of local food producers, and Homemade in Haddenham.

3.2.5 Heart and Soul

Heart and Soul addresses the emotional and spiritual aspects of Transition and would therefore be very specific to each group, as a way to offer each other support.

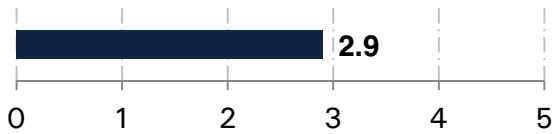


Figure 15. Importance of Heart and Soul to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

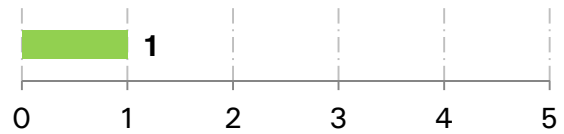


Figure 16. Importance of Heart and Soul to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

David Lyons said there is only one person in the current group who would be interested in Heart and Soul (pers. comm., Nov. 2012) – 'most people are business-like'. Although there isn't space for this at present, he could see the value of it to Transition. Compared with other aspects, it is not highly prioritised by respondents or the group (figure 15 and 16). It would be expected that this emotional support network manifests itself as a by-product of other community activities over time.

3.2.6 Inclusion

The Transition movement promotes inclusion and removing the barriers to participation for resilient communities. 'If Transition... fails to create a process over which all sections of the community feel some sense of ownership, it will not truly be creating resilience' (Hopkins, 2010).

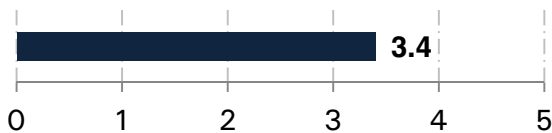


Figure 17. Importance of Inclusion to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

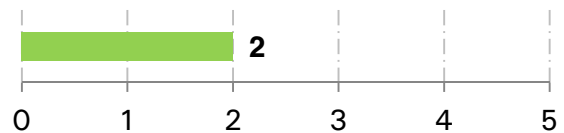


Figure 18. Importance of Inclusion to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Respondents valued the concept of inclusion but the group has not established it as a priority (figure 17 and 18). David Lyons stated there is not much opportunity for activities around this in Haddenham; it is a relatively affluent community with quite a homogeneous population (pers. comm., Nov. 2012).

3.2.7 Reskilling

The shift to a low-carbon society will require different skills, some of which were prevalent in the past and others which embrace new technologies and practices.

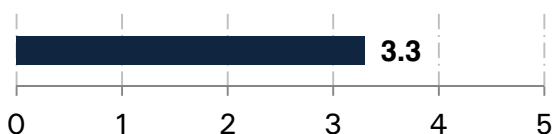


Figure 19. Importance of Reskilling to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

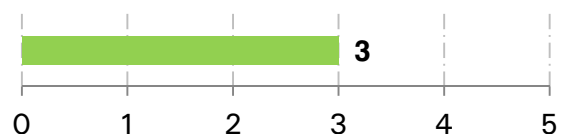


Figure 20. Importance of Reskilling to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Respondents and the Transition group place a similar level of importance on reskilling (figure 19 and 20). The group have held workshops on growing food, beekeeping, and raising pigs. Lots of Transition meeting discussions are around skills, but David Lyons would like to push this further at a practical level (pers. comm., Nov. 2012).

3.2.8 Schools

Transition encourages the idea of enhancing the relationships schools have with their local community and addressing issues of sustainable living as a learning process.

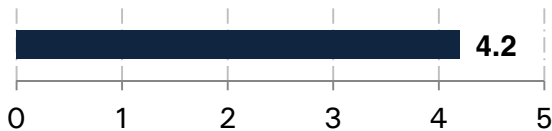


Figure 21. Importance of Schools to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

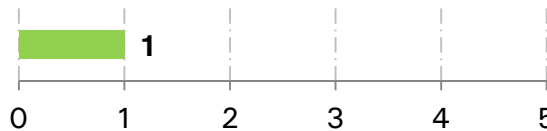


Figure 22. Importance of Schools to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

This category was where the biggest disparity lay between respondent priorities and the group's current work (figure 21 and 22). The group would like to cover this, David Lyons stated (pers. comm., Nov. 2012). There are opportunities in the work the group already does with food and workshops that would allow future generations to learn important concepts and skills around low-carbon living.

3.2.9 Transport

Transition includes exploring ways to make transport radically more sustainable (*In Transition 1.0*, 2009). At present transport is heavily dependent on fossil fuels. Public transport is preferable but still produces carbon emissions. For a village, Haddenham is relatively well-connected by public transport. Aylesbury and Oxford are served by a bus service which runs up to every 20 minutes. Haddenham and Thame Parkway is on the train route between Birmingham and London. However, the car still dominates for getting to nearby rural settlements.

Of the respondents who work or study, the majority do so outside of Haddenham (figure 23). On average they travel 14.73 miles to their place of work or study. Respondents cited cost as the reason they do not use more public transport to areas outside of Haddenham.

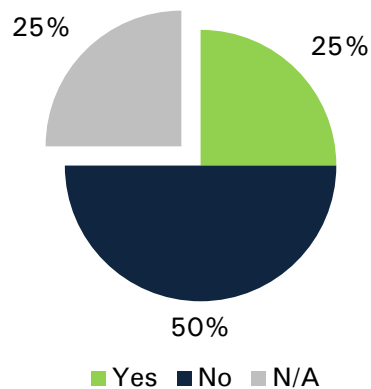


Figure 23. Respondents who work or study in Haddenham, $n=20$

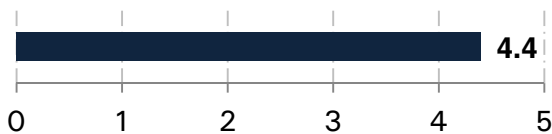


Figure 24. Importance of Transport to Haddenham's future (average score on scale of 0 to 5), $n=20$

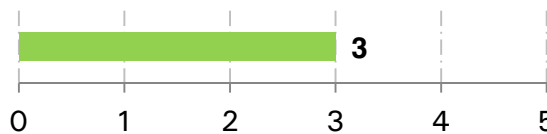


Figure 25. Importance of Transport to Haddenham in Transition's current activities (score on scale of 0 to 5)

Transport was one of the top priorities for respondents (figure 24). It is ranked lower by the group as there is no specific transport focus (figure 25), although some Transition members are part of the Haddenham Safe Cycling & Walking Group. Their objective is to make it easier to use non-motorised transport. Current ideas are mainly centred around existing provision; improving footpaths, cycle racks, and a cycle maintenance workshop at the station (David Lyons, pers. comm., Nov. 2012). A cycle route to Thame has been pushed for; currently people have to cycle on the main road, which discourages some cyclists. One problem is that part of the land for the proposed route is owned by someone who is strongly against it and is 'vociferous' about it at public meetings. It is envisaged that fewer people would travel out of their community for work or shopping in a low-carbon community.

4.0 Conclusion

Overall, Transition is designed to support 'community-led responses to peak oil and climate change, building resilience and happiness' (Hopkins and Lipman, 2009:7). In Haddenham, they have a group which begins to address this. Food is the most established and important focus of Haddenham in Transition's activities. It is also where they have been most successful. This is noteworthy as respondents did not highly prioritise food as an overall category but evidently take pleasure in local and seasonal produce. Respondents prioritised different themes, with food being lower and transport being higher than the Transition group's focus. The identified issues are the need for more people to participate in and manage activities; staying motivated; and dealing with opposition to proposals. Recommendations for Haddenham in Transition to develop are to:

- Raise awareness of the importance of local food to resilience;
- Engage with the local school with workshops and demonstrations;
- Consider community-owned assets for energy generation;
- Connect with local businesses such as leasing space for solar panel arrays; and
- Explore ways to recruit group members such as offering work experience to young people

Some of the findings in Haddenham are likely to apply in other settings. Other Transition groups may find that connecting with existing local groups will make activities easier to set up, but should avoid replicating their work. It can be off-putting to use terms such as 'resilience', 'Transition' or 'sustainability'. By emphasising general benefits (saving money, fun, learning) they are more likely to engage with the wider community. It is not necessary for participants to be interested in all aspects of Transition; for example, they may focus on local food, which still fits with Transition aims.

Heinberg (2008:9) describes Transition as a replicable strategy for harnessing local talents, vision and goodwill. Through this investigation, it is evident that this characteristic has both positive and negative aspects. The movement is not prescriptive, so that solutions are appropriate to each community. However, those starting out may struggle to find which measures they can take which would be most beneficial to their community. Transition has the potential to be successful in most communities. This is reliant on favourable conditions such as residents who are open to ideas around Transition. A motivated core group, comprising of both 'thinkers' to radically reimagine the community, and 'doers' to implement these ideas, will be able to make significant strides towards a low-carbon future.

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Cover image

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Appendix A: Criteria for official Transition town status

(Transition Network website)

1. an understanding of peak oil and climate change as twin drivers (to be written into constitution or governing documents)
2. a group of 4-5 people willing to step into leadership roles (not just the boundless enthusiasm of a single person)
3. we recommend - time and resources permitting - that at least two members of the core team aim to attend the 2 day Training for Transition course (according to those initiatives who attend, it really does seem to make a huge difference). These are now available internationally, listed either here or on the National Transition Hub for your country.
4. a potentially strong connection to the local council
5. an initial understanding of the 12 ingredients to becoming a TT
6. a commitment to ask for help when needed
7. a commitment to regularly update your Transition Initiative web presence - either the "community microsite" (collaborative workspace on the web that we'll make available to you), or your own website
8. a commitment to make periodic contributions to a blog (the world will be watching) either on the Transition Network site itself or on one that we can aggregate onto the site
9. a commitment, once you're into the Transition, for your group to give at least two presentations to other communities in your vicinity that are considering embarking on this journey – a sort of "here's what we did" or "here's how it was for us" talk
10. a commitment to network with other TTs
11. a commitment to work cooperatively with neighbouring TTs
12. minimal conflicts of interests in the core team
13. a commitment to work with the Transition Network or your National Transition Hub re grant applications for funding from national grant giving bodies. *Your own local trusts are, of course, yours to deal with as you see fit.*
14. a commitment to strive for inclusivity across your entire initiative. We're aware that we need to strengthen this point in response to concerns about extreme political groups becoming involved in transition initiatives. One way of doing this is for your core group to explicitly state their support the UN Declaration of Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948). You could add this to your constitution (when finalised) so that extreme political groups that have discrimination as a key value cannot participate in the decision-making bodies within your transition initiative.
15. a recognition that although your entire county or district may need to go through transition, the first place for you to start is in your local community. It may be that eventually the number of transitioning communities in your area warrant some central group to help provide local support, but this will emerge over time, rather than be imposed. (This point was inserted in response to the several instances of people rushing off to transition their entire county/region rather than their local community.) Further criteria apply to initiating/coordinating hubs – these can be discussed in person.
16. and finally, we recommend that at least one person on the core team should have attended a permaculture design course... it really does seem to make a difference.

Appendix B: Questionnaire for residents

This questionnaire is a survey of local residents about Haddenham in Transition. Your responses will only be used for academic purposes and will be anonymised in the final report. There are 12 questions and will take about 5 minutes to complete.

Personal details This information is needed only to ensure a wide range of respondents

Age group 16-30 31-45 46-60 61-75 75 and over

Gender Male Female

How long have you lived in Haddenham? _____

1. How much do you know about the Haddenham in Transition movement?

- Never heard of it
- I know the name but nothing else
- I know a fair amount
- I know a lot about it

2. How active are you in participating in the transition group?

- Participate most months
- Participated a few times in last year
- Been to irregularly, and/or on mailing list,
- Never

3. Are you aware of these activities/projects by the transition group and have you taken part?

	Not aware	Aware	Used/attended	Helped to set up
Haddenham Apple Press	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haddenham Allotment Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haddenham Water Butts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homemade in Haddenham	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vale Harvest (local food)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HiT stall at May Day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thermal imaging survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. If you are not involved with any transition activities, why not?

- Didn't know about it
- Do not have time
- Not interested
- Do not feel I have skills to offer
- I disagree with its principles
- Other (specify) _____

5. What activities would make you want to get involved?

6. At present would you be willing to offer any of the following?

- Time (one-off, regular)
- Resources (tools, space, etc.)
- Money (one-off, regular)
- Other (specify) _____
- None at present

Comments/reasons (if any) _____

7. Which categories below do you think are important to Haddenham's future?

Rate between 0 and 5. Please mark 'X' if you don't know.

(0: Not relevant, 1: Not at all important, 2: Not very important, 3: Important, 4: Quite important, 5: Very important)

Buildings and Energy	
Economy and Businesses	
Education and Awareness	
Food	
Heart and Soul	
Inclusion	
Reskilling	
Schools	
Transport	

8. Do you work/study in Haddenham? Yes No N/A

9. If not, how far do you travel? _____ miles one way (put name of place if you don't know)

10. What types of transport do you use for getting from Haddenham to the surrounding region and are they sufficient for your needs?

	Use currently	Would prefer	Reason if not used e.g. distance from home/ frequency of service/ cost/ other
Personal car or motorbike	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Shared car or motorbike	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Train	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

11. What have you done or would you be willing to do to reduce your use of fossil fuels?

	Already do/done	Would do	Would not do	Doesn't apply	If not, comments/reasons e.g. time/ hassle/ cost / other
Use public transport and/or walk/cycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Changes to home (e.g. adding insulation, double glazing, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rainwater harvesting (water butts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Work from home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Buy local food and/or grow your own	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

12. Any other comments about this survey? _____

Thank you for your time!

Appendix C: Questionnaire for David Lyons, Haddenham in Transition founder

This questionnaire is a survey of Haddenham in Transition, to get an overall picture of the initiative; what has been achieved and ambitions for the future. This research will be used for academic purposes only and will not be passed on. There are 24 questions. Please answer in as much or as little detail as you feel necessary and leave any that you prefer not to answer.

1. Is the geographic extent of Haddenham too large to maintain without fossil fuels?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your answer

2. Which types of transport are sufficient for connecting Haddenham to the surrounding region?

- Personal cars or motorbikes are the only option
- Shared cars or motorbikes
- Bus
- Train
- Other (specify) _____

Please state if any improvements to transport are needed to support Transition aims (e.g. cost/frequency/location)

3. Are pedestrian paths or pavements available in and around Haddenham suitable and sufficient?

- Yes
- No

4. What do the business conditions of Haddenham in Transition need to be like for a vibrant local economy?

a. Level of commercial activity needed:

- More
- Less
- Same

b. Number of Haddenham residents needed:

- More
- Less
- Same

c. Different types of businesses needed (if any):

d. Different demographic of residents needed e.g. age, education, etc. (if any):

Please explain your answer

5. Roughly how many people are involved in the following categories?

- Key participants (participate most months)
- Involved members (participated a few times in the last year)
- Occasional (irregularly participate, on the mailing list)

6. At present, which is the most important for people to offer, for the initiative to progress?

- Time (one-off, regular)
- Resources (tools, space, etc.)
- Money (one-off, regular)
- Other (specify) _____

Please explain your answer

7. What activities have been most successful in attracting people to join or become active in the group?

8. Have any projects been particularly valuable for connecting with other local groups and organisations?

9. What are the main strengths of the group?

10. And what are the group's weaknesses?

11. What additional skills or experience would the group would benefit from?

12. What instigated the setting up of Haddenham in Transition?

13. What was the most successful aspect of the initiative's 'unleashing'?

14. And what would the group have done differently?

15. Has an Energy Descent Action Plan been produced? If so, would you be willing to provide a copy?

16. What is the biggest priority for Haddenham in Transition?

17. What is the main obstacle to meeting the goals of the Transition initiative?

**18. How important are the following areas to your current Transition activities?
Please rate between 0 and 5.**

(0: Not at all important, 1: Not very important, 2: Under consideration, 3: Setting up, 4: On-going, 5: Established)

- Buildings and Energy
- Economy and Businesses
- Education and Awareness
- Food
- Heart and Soul
- Inclusion
- Reskilling
- Schools
- Transport

19. What initiatives are currently being planned for Haddenham in Transition?

20. Do any planning restrictions hinder the Transition initiative's attempts to re-localise the community's economy?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please explain your answer

21. What support have you received from the local government?

22. How are your activities funded and in approximately what proportion?

- Government / local authority%
- Lottery funding%
- Other grants%
- Private one-off donations%
- Private regular donations%
- Sales%
- Other%

23. Has the community has mostly been supportive, indifferent or unfavourable toward Transition activities?

24. Any other comments