

Appendix 2: Responses to the Household Questionnaire

Introduction

Each of the 250 occupied homes in the Parish of Figcheldean received the questionnaire in mid-November 2006, and 197 households responded. Questions variously required answers of two types:

- Quantitative responses were typically from individuals in the form ‘I agree strongly / I agree / I disagree / I disagree strongly’; or ‘Yes / No’; or some other choice of options.
- Comment responses were mostly sought from households, with one person asked to reply on behalf of all. In this overview we deal with those ideas that find the greatest support.

It is important to note that in the introduction to the questionnaire, we emphasised that we did not expect everyone to know about or have an opinion on everything. This means that the total number of answers varies with each question. Therefore to give a common basis for comparison in the tables that follow, we show responses as **a percentage of the total replies to that question**, along with **that total number**. The 197 participating households included 447 persons of 11 years or more, so that is the maximum possible number of individual replies.

Background Demography

The following table shows the number of homes in each area of the Parish, how many were occupied at the time of the survey (=households), and the distribution of households that responded (=responses). Three households were excused participation on the grounds of long-term illness or holiday absence.

Area	Homes	Hholds	Excused	Responses	% area	% total
Church Lane	18	17	0	14	82.4%	7.1%
High Street & Mill Lane	43	43	0	42	97.7%	21.3%
Avon Banks	26	26	2	14	53.8%	7.1%
Oak Lane	29	29	0	29	100.0%	14.7%
Pollen Lane & Pollen Close	30	28	0	27	96.4%	13.7%
Hilltop	11	11	0	10	90.9%	5.1%
Ablington	30	29	0	21	72.4%	10.7%
Camp	58	49	0	27	55.1%	13.7%
Outlying dwellings	19	18	1	11	61.1%	5.6%
Not stated				2		1.0%
Totals	264	250	3	197	78.8%	100.0%

% area = number of responses / number of occupied homes in each area

% total = number of responses from an area / total number of responses from the Parish

Question 1 asked the **age and gender of residents**. Results were as follows.

Persons of each age and sex:	Male	Female	Not stated	All	% total
Up to 10	16	23		39	8.0%
11 to 19	31	17		48	9.9%
20 to 29	29	27		56	11.5%
30 to 44	52	53		105	21.6%
45 to 59	53	47		100	20.6%
60 to 74	50	51		101	20.8%
75 and over	13	20		33	6.8%
Not stated			4	4	0.8%
Totals	228	215	4	486	100.0%
Total potential individual replies (= total residents aged 11 years or more)				447	

Views on Travel and Transport Services

To what extent do you agree / disagree that:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q2	Excessive speed is a problem on most roads in the Parish	39.3%	39.8%	19.5%	1.5%	400
Q3	The present 30mph speed limits should be reduced to 20mph	25.6%	35.7%	32.9%	5.8%	398
Q4	Traffic calming measures are needed in Figheldean High Street	14.3%	25.3%	44.1%	16.3%	363
Q5	A reduced speed limit is needed on the back road between Netheravon Camp and Syrencot	54.0%	33.3%	11.4%	1.3%	396
Q6	A 50mph speed limit is needed on the A345 from the de-restriction at Netheravon to the present 40mph limit north of Hackthorne	43.1%	37.6%	16.2%	3.0%	394
Q7	The bus service along the A345 is adequate for your needs	3.9%	67.3%	22.7%	6.1%	309
Q8	You would use the service/s more if small buses ran through the village/s	12.8%	40.5%	40.8%	5.9%	304
Q9	You use the existing bus services	4.0%	33.1%	54.8%	8.0%	299

Q10 If any member(s) of your household travel outside the Parish regularly (i.e. most days) to school, collage or work, please tell us where they travel to – please state town [each individual could reply]

121 households responded, containing 234 members who travelled - some to more than one destination. See page 12 for summary of answers.

Q11 Is there any shared transport arrangement (for example car sharing, mini-bus, a bus service that doesn't exist now) that any member(s) of your household would use regularly if it could be made available? Please note destination(s); times of day; purpose of journey(s). Please indicate how many people would use the arrangement.

47 households responded

- Sharing would be impractical – almost universal theme;
- Minibus or similar could be of interest (5).

Views on Community Development

To what extent do you agree / disagree that:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q12	The Parish is fine as it is: no changes are needed	7.2%	39.9%	46.9%	6.0%	318
Q13	You are willing to consider ideas for future change in the Parish	9.6%	81.7%	7.0%	1.7%	355
Q14	A mixed community of older and younger people, working and retired, is worth trying to maintain	44.8%	54.5%	0.5%	0.3%	382
Q15	There are adequate work opportunities for you within a reasonable travelling distance (including voluntary work)	8.9%	63.7%	18.8%	8.6%	303
Q16	It is important to have a primary school in Figheldean	65.5%	34.3%	0.3%	0.0%	388
Q17	The primary school needs modern buildings	25.5%	48.1%	22.6%	3.8%	314
Q18	The range of secondary schools available to us is adequate	7.3%	66.2%	21.1%	5.5%	275
Q19	It is important to retain the mobile library service	32.3%	60.2%	7.0%	0.6%	359
Q20	It is important to retain the village shop / post office	80.5%	19.0%	0.5%	0.0%	395
Q21	The Parish Church is an important part of your own life	20.7%	41.4%	31.5%	6.4%	314
Q22	The Parish Church has an important role in community life	32.2%	62.4%	4.1%	1.2%	338
Q23	The Parish Church should be available for appropriate social activities during the week	13.2%	67.8%	18.6%	0.3%	295
Q24	It would affect you if the Parish Church closed down	21.6%	44.1%	30.5%	3.8%	338

Q25 How could the village shop / post office better meet your needs?

147 households responded

- Shop (then) met the household's needs (131);
- Some people felt that the shop did not fill all their needs, however analysis was not made of the items that people would buy there;
- The full analysis was passed to the Parish Council with recommendations for a working group to be set up.

Note: The need for a shop was one of the most important issues named in responses to Q108 to 110 (q.v.)

To what extent do you agree / disagree that:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q26	You feel safe in your home	30.4%	66.3%	2.8%	0.5%	398
Q27	You feel safe elsewhere in the Parish	19.4%	76.0%	4.7%	0.0%	387
Q28	The Police / Neighbourhood Watch reports are helpful	7.5%	69.8%	17.1%	5.6%	321
Q29	Neighbourhood Watch is an effective scheme	8.0%	72.1%	18.1%	1.8%	326

		Foot	Vehicle	Replies
Q30	Do you think that if police were to patrol here regularly they should be on foot or in a vehicle?	67.3%	32.7%	391

Q31 Which of the following community issues affect your household:
Antisocial behaviour / Burglary / Drug abuse / Personal assault / Vandalism / Other (state what)?

	number	% (of 197)
Antisocial behaviour	29	14.7%
Burglary	19	9.6%
Drug abuse	2	1.0%
Personal assault	3	1.5%
Vandalism	18	9.1%
Dog (and cat) mess	6	3.0%
Litter	3	1.5%
Noise / foul language	2	1.0%
Poaching	1	0.5%

Q32 What are your ideas on combating any of the problem(s) identified in Q31 above?

The most popular among the wide-ranging responses included:

- Bring back the bobby! (36)
- Other ideas for greater policing / cctv
- Greater use of neighbourhood watch
- Greater provision of / support for organised youth activities
- Encouragement of individual responsibility (especially for litter and dog mess)
- Suggestions for improvements in road safety
- Review use of Mill area

Please identify any concerns you have about the following:

Q33 Ambulance services

48 households responded

- Distance / response time from depot (19)
- Inconsiderate parking impeding access especially along High Street (6).
- Positively stated no concern (12)

Q34 Fire service

39 households responded

- Inconsiderate parking impeding access especially along High Street (8)
- Need for crews to be directed (2)
- Positively stated no concern (16)

Q35 Mail service

55 households responded

- Delivery too late (25)
- Positively stated no concern (11)

Q36 Medical and social services

35 households responded

- Want local doctor/surgery (2)
- Appalling access to NHS dentist (2)
- Positively stated no concern (12)

Please identify any concerns you have about the following:	
Q37	Community support for the elderly or disabled or other group (specify) 28 households responded
-	Assistance for elderly including lifts to hospital
-	Support for youth
-	Positively stated no concern (8)

To what extent do you agree / disagree that:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q38	There are sufficient 3+ bedroom houses in the Parish	13.4%	65.6%	17.4%	3.6%	276
Q39	It is important that smaller homes are available	27.0%	57.9%	10.0%	5.2%	330
Q40	A certain amount of new building may be necessary to provide affordable housing for younger local people	34.5%	42.5%	14.5%	8.5%	365
If suitable sites could be identified, which of the following kinds of housing development would you agree with?		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q41	Conversion of existing buildings	14.6%	67.1%	10.8%	7.6%	316
Q42	Build single dwellings	14.1%	62.7%	12.9%	10.3%	311
Q43	Build groups of up to 10 dwellings	9.5%	51.7%	16.5%	22.2%	315
Q44	Build larger groups of dwellings	3.4%	13.7%	28.0%	54.9%	293

Please tell us which, if any, of the following potential community initiatives your household agrees with?		AS	A	D	DS	Hhold resps
Q45	Construction of small work / industrial units	2.7%	28.8%	36.9%	31.5%	111
Q46	Small scale wind turbines	29.7%	49.5%	0%	20.8%	101
Q47	Lease or rental of small work / industrial units	9.4%	30.8%	30.8%	29.0%	117
Q48	Shared power purchase deal	13.9%	50.6%	27.8%	10.1%	79
Q49	Other, please specify Initiatives each suggested by one household, were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubbish and recycling collection points • Water turbine • Investigate geothermal community energy sourcing • Gas connection to the village 					

Views on Our Environment

To what extent do you agree / disagree that:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q50	The recycling point at the rear of the Working Men's Club is adequate	4.3%	46.3%	39.2%	10.2%	324
Q51	Dog fouling is still of concern	35.7%	40.3%	22.5%	1.4%	347
Q52	All roads need better maintenance (e.g. timely filling of potholes)	54.3%	38.8%	7.0%	0.0%	374
Q53	The pavements need better maintenance	31.7%	48.0%	20.0%	0.3%	350
Q54	The road-side verges need better maintenance (e.g. more frequent cutting) in order to maintain visibility	36.4%	47.2%	14.8%	1.6%	371
Q55	The streets need more frequent cleaning	18.1%	43.4%	37.3%	1.2%	332
Q56	The village footpaths need better maintenance	19.9%	58.7%	21.1%	0.3%	332
Q57	The Mill Pool area needs regular tidying / maintenance	37.9%	58.1%	3.7%	0.3%	322
Q58	Parts of the Churchyard may be managed as natural areas provided that burial areas are kept tidy	15.5%	73.1%	10.8%	0.6%	342
Q59	We should finance a part time groundsman through the the Parish Council precept	10.5%	63.6%	22.8%	3.1%	324
Q60	Lighting should be installed at the multicourt	16.4%	53.0%	25.8%	4.7%	298

Q61 If you think the lighting of streets or footpaths is unsatisfactory, where do you think it needs improvement?

A total of 32 households identified a requirement for more lighting. Areas receiving most mention were:

- Ablington / woods / youth club (13)
- Pollen Close / footpath (5)
- Pollen Lane / footpath to Oak Lane (4)
- Camp , Kerby Avenue (3)
- Hill Top / Village Hall (3)

		Yes	No	Replies
Q62	Do you keep a vehicle in Figheldean?	78.8%	21.2%	368
Q63	Have you space to park it on your own premises?	83.8%	16.2%	327
Q64	If public parking could be made available nearby, would you use it?	18.2%	81.8%	292
Q65	Does other people's car parking cause difficulties for you?	43.9%	56.1%	328

Overall, how do you rate the environment of our Parish now?		Poor	Acceptable	Good	Outstanding	Replies
Q66	The man-made environment	4.7%	49.9%	44.0%	1.4%	359
Q67	The natural environment	1.1%	27.9%	51.3%	19.8%	359

Q68 What does your household think are the two changes – either something we've mentioned above, or something else - that would most improve the environment of the Parish?

The most popular topics among the 88 households which responded were:

- Maintenance / improvement of footpaths including gaining access to river banks (19)
- Promoting cleanliness and combating litter (16)
- Discouraging inconsiderate car parking (12)
- Amenity use of the Mill area (10)
- Discouraging speeding (9)
- Improved maintenance of roads (8)
- Street lighting – both more and less (6)

Parish Matters

To what extent do you agree / disagree that the following are worthwhile?		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q69	Reading the Parish Newsletter	31.5%	62.3%	5.4%	0.8%	387
Q70	Reading the Parish Minutes displayed on notice boards	8.5%	61.1%	28.5%	1.9%	316
Q71	Reading 'Meeting Points' (Church Magazine)	17.6%	61.7%	17.6%	3.0%	329

		Yes	No	Replies
Q72	Have you any interest in local government?	29.6%	70.4%	372
Q73	Would you consider becoming a Parish Councillor?	9.8%	90.2%	366
Q74	Would you be interested in bulletins / briefings from councillors on current matters of interest?	60.2%	39.8%	364
Q75	Do you think that the Parish Council is an authoritative body that is capable of influencing change in the Parish?	63.1%	36.9%	331

Q76 If you answered 'no' to the previous question, how could the Parish Council gain more authority?

34 households responded

- Clarify the role of PC (12)
- Improve representation throughout Parish for all areas (12)
- Encourage Parish Newsletter (5)
- Open consultation and working groups for major problems (3)

Q77 What would encourage any member(s) of your household to take a more active role in Parish activities? Please tell us about any ideas you have for co-operation.

49 households responded

- More information about the structure and function of local government bodies, including how parishioners are represented on the Parish Council would be helpful;
- Some people already involved with other Parish activities explained that a lack of time precluded them from PC duties now or in the near future;
- Frequent movement of troops makes service staff reluctant to take on long term local commitments.

Leisure Activities

To what extent do you agree / disagree that, in the playing field:		AS	A	D	DS	Replies
Q78	The football pitches should be levelled (potentially making the area more suited to cricket also)	20.1%	48.6%	24.3%	6.9%	333
Q79	Golf / cricket practice nets should be installed	16.9%	50.0%	29.9%	3.2%	314
Q80	A large climbing frame should be installed	11.3%	53.6%	32.6%	2.4%	291
Q81	A slide should be installed on the existing slope	14.9%	62.6%	21.4%	1.1%	281
Q82	The enclosed younger children's play area is satisfactory	5.8%	72.3%	18.2%	3.8%	292
Q83	A licensed eating establishment is needed in the Parish	27.2%	42.8%	24.8%	5.2%	327
Q84	Better access to swimming facilities is needed	17.5%	43.7%	36.6%	2.3%	309
Q85	The direct footpath between Figheldean and Netheravon via Harefield Crescent should be re-opened	36.8%	55.4%	5.1%	2.7%	334
Q86	You would use a riverside walk if one could be provided	49.4%	45.0%	4.4%	1.1%	362

In which of the following would you wish to actively participate? <i>Note: activities in italics are just suggestions at the moment.</i>		Yes	No	Replies
Q87	Help to manage the village hall	15.1%	84.9%	298
Q88	Help to organise or run the annual Figheldean Fayre	27.3%	72.7%	300
Q89	Singing with the Figheldean Singers	5.1%	94.9%	296
Q90	Table Tennis Club	8.3%	91.7%	289
Q91	Youth Club as a member	6.2%	93.8%	273
Q92	Over 60s Club	14.3%	85.7%	280
Q93	<i>Helping to run after-school activities for 5 to 16 yr olds</i>	11.4%	88.6%	289
Q94	<i>Maintaining and developing a village web site</i>	9.3%	90.7%	289
Q95	<i>Keep fit classes for adults</i>	36.9%	63.1%	295
Q96	<i>Drama Group</i>	19.6%	80.4%	286
Q97	<i>Film Club</i>	24.5%	75.5%	290
Q98	<i>Bridge / whist / card games</i>	19.1%	80.9%	282

		Yes	No	Replies
Q99	Do you know how to hire the multicourt?	70.0%	30.0%	340

		High	About right	Replies
Q100	Are the present charges for it high or about right?	5.1%	94.9%	235

		Yes	No	Replies
Q101	Do you know how to hire the Village Hall?	77.8%	22.2%	343

		High	About right	Replies
Q102	Are the present charges for it high or about right ?	9.2%	90.8%	261

Q103 What kind of events at the village hall (in addition to those held at present) would members of your household support?

53 households responded; many mentioned more than one type of event. Below the number of mentions for each activity is given in brackets.

- Support was confirmed for types of event that already take place, including Dinner Dances (5), Suppers / Fetes (5), Charity events and auctions (3), Craft Fairs
- Support for several of the activities suggested in QQ93 to 98 was re-iterated: keep fit and similar (14), Drama (11), Films (7),
- The following new activities would also find support:
 - Car Boot, Craft Show, Beer festival & Food Fair, Bazaars, Annual Welcome Party (9);
 - More Social activities for older children e.g. Discos, Cubs/Guides etc (8)
 - Mothers and Toddlers Play Group, Xmas Party, Pre-school activity (8)
 - Dance lessons (8)
 - Concerts (7)
 - Indoor Sports, mostly football (7)
 - Computer Club, Book Club and interesting talks (4)
 - Gardening Club (2)
 - Dog Show (2)
 - Band Practice (1)

Concluding Questions

	<2	2to5	6to10	11to20	>20	Replies
Q104 : For how many years have you lived in the Parish?	17.3%	17.0%	17.5%	16.3%	31.9%	405

	Yes	No	Replies
Q105 : Is this residence your only or main home?	91.1%	8.9%	371

	Not at all	A bit	A lot	Replies
Q106 : How closely do you identify with the Parish?	10.8%	47.1%	42.1%	378

	Poor	Acceptable	Good	Outstanding	Replies
Q107 : How do you rate your overall quality of life here?	1.0%	13.6%	66.1%	19.3%	389

Q108, Q109, Q110 For you, which were the most, second and third most important issues in this questionnaire?

People presented their responses to these questions in different ways. (*Do we have a total of different respondents?*) We concluded that it was most constructive to combine the answers to all three, giving the following result:

- Excessive speed (140 in all - 39 on A345; 38 on C32 back road; 27 in the villages; 21 speed in general; 15 thought traffic calming important)
- Housing issues (74 in all – 37 supported some house building aimed at people with local connections; 37 favoured construction of small group/s of houses)
- Retention of a shop/PO (43)
- Environmental improvements listed in Q68 (*q.v.*) (26)
- Retention / modernisation of village school (26)
- Retention of a mixed community (24)

The remaining answers were spread over nearly all of the topics raised in the questionnaire, plus a few that were not.

Q111 Please give one or more suggestions that your household think will help the Parish to prosper in the 21st century.

118 households responded.

- Retain a focal point/social centre (28, of which 15 supported a licensed dining premises, 9 gave the shop and 4 the Working Men's Club as important);
- Develop the community spirit while maintaining a small village with a mix of ages (23 in all);
- New housing suitable for today's young people (12, including 5 which suggested moving the school and using the site for building them).

Aerial photograph Figheldean and Ablington

