



Parish Survey 2010

The original parish survey of 2006, in retrospect was poorly designed and left several unanswered questions.

The 2010 survey was put together by a Parish Plan Group made up of representatives from the Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall Management Committee and a resident.

Approximately 100 questionnaires were distributed. 35 completed forms were returned. This represents a 35% response rate. This is an above average return rate for such a survey.

The questions covered the range of areas shown below. For each question we have shown the number of people who said yes, followed by this number as a percentage of the number of returned questionnaires.

The Parish Plan Group has initially identified which organisation is best placed to respond to each set of responses. Identified by initials in the contents below.

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Computer training

The original survey found that some people wanted computer training but gave no detail.

1- Would you attend computer training if laid on in the village? 9 said yes (25.71%)

2 - Would you be prepared to pay for this? 9 said yes (25.71%)

3 - How much for an hours session?
6 said £5
2 said £8

Other amount? No replies

4 - Are you looking for one session to get you started? No responses

Training over several sessions 5 people wanted this

Something else
1 person wanted tuition in the finer points
1 person wanted spread sheets

5 - What particular training are you in need of?

2 people wanted Microsoft Word (5.71%)

3 people wanted Microsoft Excel (8.57%)

1 people wanted Microsoft Access (2.86%)

1 people wanted Microsoft PowerPoint (2.86%)

1 used a Mac (2.86%)

5 people wanted understanding the internet (14.29%)

6 - What other courses would you like to attend?

Water colour painting, art, art and crafts, painting
Upholstery, curtain making, needlecraft, patchwork
Languages, Spanish.
History, geology, geneology
Ballroom dancing

4 said £5

3 said £8

1 said £10

7 - How much would you pay for a session?

For the 2006 survey several people responded that traffic was travelling too fast through the village but with no detail. We are aware of the B 1110 issue of speeding and the Parish Council has worked with Norfolk County Council to try and make the road safer.

8 - Are there other places within the village where speeding is a problem?

Church Road

Church road . When I obtained the 30 MPH restriction & the restriction re heavy lorries the highways authority said if the then experimental 20 mph limitation worked in other villages they could consider introducing it for wood Norton.

Church Road. Especially lorries.

Church corner. Speed humps?

Church Corner

Foulsham Road -going out of the village - two very sharp bends, both have had their near misses

Into village from Foulsham Road

Foulsham Rd

Cromes to the green

Foulsham Rd up to Cromes

Extend restriction beyond Cromes Barn

Cromes, Rectory Road,

Foulsham Rd. Cromes and the Lodge

Travelling too fast along the bottom end of Rectory Road

Rectory road.

Wood Norton to Stibbard Road

Stibbard Rd. Speed limit needs extending.

B1110 is still not safe. 40 mph would be more appropriate.

20 mph throughout village .

Excluding B road. A 20 mpg throughout village

The increase in lorries with no room to pass

9) Prepared to take part in community speed watch

14 said yes
40%

Energy efficiency

10 - Are you interested in ensuring your house is as energy efficient as possible?

24 said yes (68.57%)

11 - Would you be interested in :-

A Carbon Trust free survey?

14 said yes (40%)

Micro-generation of electricity?

17 said yes (48.57%)

A Community generation scheme?

16 said yes (45.71%)

Young people in the village

12 - Do you have young people under the age of 16 living in the house?

5 said yes (14.29%)

13 -

There was one between the age of 0-5

There were none between the age of 6-11

There were 5 between the age of 12-16

The questionnaire asked these young people:-

14 - Would you like an area in the village where you could meet and/or young children play?

3 said yes (8.57%)

This is 50% of the young people identified by the survey

15 - Would you be prepared to join a group of young people to develop ideas for an activity area?

1 said yes (2.86%)

This is 16.67% of the young people identified by the survey

16 - Would you like more say in what happens in the village?

2 said yes (5.71%)

This is 33.33% of the young people identified by the survey

17 - Would you be interested in helping to establish and maintain a conservation area in the village?

20 said they would be interested. (57.14%)

The original survey indicated that some people within the village felt isolated. Without knowing the reason why we can do little as a community to help. Please answer the questions below if you would like help to overcome any feeling of isolation. If people did not feel isolated they were asked to skip this question.

18 - Which of the following would benefit you?

a - A telephone buddy system.

2 said yes (5.71%)

b - A regular friendly type club where people could go for a friendly chat and a cup of tea

3 said yes (8.57%)

c - Do you have any other ideas?

A village transport scheme for residents by residents

Severe weather buddy

A real community centre

Todays litigious society may discourage helping

Maintaining a conservation area

A visitor

19 - If you know of someone who might feel isolated in the village what do you think would improve the situation for them?

Move

Start walking around the village & talking to your neighbours

Home visit

A community of friends who genuinely care and are on hand when needed

Many people within the village have never or almost never made use of the village hall or events organised by the Village Hall Management Committee and/or the Church. The questions asked were intended to help the Village hall and Church understand why

20 - Do you attend events at the village hall or the church?

29 said they did (82.86%)

From this we could infer that 6 do not (17.14%)

21 - Those who do not attend events were asked why.

1 had no interest in live music

1 had no interest in live drama

2 had no interest in being part of the village hall community

2 prefer to keep to themselves

1 did not like the company

2 find the village hall rather hot

2 find the village hall claustrophobic

22 - Other reasons for not attending events were:-

Only here half the time and not keen on modern pop music

Simply busy doing other things

23 - other types of events people would like to attend at the village hall/church?

Community fundraisers for global good

Outdoor picnic / live band

23 - Other events people would consider attending at the village hall/church beyond what is already offered

More classical/choral offerings. Can we have a film night like Hindolveston
Anything on offer
book club , film shows , craft club eg sewing . Evening events
More live music/bands
More musical events in the church
More concerts in church
Guest speakers, chef's - organic, what to eat seasonally, how to preserve.
A simple coffee morning/afternoon
AS variety of keep fit activities
Regional/local history lectures, classical concerts
Art exhibitions, poetry evenings

Questions about how people get out of the village, public transport and information

24 - Do you need to use public transport?

3 said yes (8.57%)

25 - Do you use Thursday market bus?

0 said yes (0%)

26 - Do you rely on friends for shopping /
doctors?

2 said yes (5.71%)

27 - Would you use a voluntary lift scheme,
where you paid the fuel costs?

3 said yes (8.57%)

28 - If you are a driver would be prepared to
use your car to give others lifts to shops/
doctors?

16 said yes (45.71%)

29 - Would you be interested in an electronic
parish newsletter?

20 people said they would. (57.14%)

Housing

30 - Do you or a member of your household have any difficulties with your housing? If so please describe briefly below.

1 person had a solid wall that needed insulating. This was the only response to this question

31 - Do you feel safe living in Wood Norton?

34 said they do (97.14%)

32 - If not why?

Inconsiderate neighbours with dogs

33 - Would you be interested in bulk purchase of heating oil?

23 said yes (65.71%)

34 - Would you be prepared to coordinate bulk purchase of heating oil?

6 said they would (17.14%)

35 - Finally space was provided for people to add anything they felt the questions missed

Parish Council

1. Interested in good insulation.
2. Conservation area in paddock in centre of village.
3. Stop cutting the verges
4. re question 17 I think the idea of purchasing this land is a good one, particularly for those with young children. But where is the purchase money coming from ? When we decided to build the village hall an approach was made to the Poors Allotment Charity. It was only after a long struggle with the Charity Commissioners that leave was obtained to amend the stringent terms of the Trust Deed. Perhaps they might help again
5. Allotments needed
6. Allotments needed
7. This parish plan is an utter waste of money, after the first plan not an exercise was forthcoming or achieved. Paper is being wasted at a phenomenal rate this repeated survey is just one incident. As for question 17 we live in the country not the town, families can walk to the play area at the village hall and have a picnic.
People I have talked to are refusing to reply to this questionnaire as they are of the same opinion as myself.

Parochial Church Council

1. Conservation area. Lets start with the Church Yard.

Village Hall Management Committee

1. Could the village hall be used as a gym with equipment provided, for young and old
2. Parishioners are not willing to look after & maintain the play area at the village hall, expenses falls on V. Hall Committee.
3. I do find the village hall rather hot
4. Chairs very uncomfortable
5. Save energy, light pollution (and money) by not illuminating outside of the village hall at night
- 6.

General

1. We are a small community rather outside the main village. Fortunately we all get on well together although of different age groups, most of us are working but my wife and I are retired and just enjoy the peace and quiet.
2. To preserve our village, would it be possible for funds from the Poors Allotment to be used to purchase any fields that come up for sale around the village (like Ryors Lane field). Not only will the assets increase in value, but the fields could be rented to local farmers which would bring in a better return than any other investment.
3. Would like to see committees more open to outside suggestions
4. Wood Norton is a very pleasant and well run village. The various committees do an excellent job

So what happen with the 2006 survey?

What has happened since the last survey and what could happen now.

Since 2006

The original parish survey in 2006 was poorly designed and gave us more questions than answers. However this does not mean that nothing has happened. On four fronts there has been change.

Policing

A general desire by the village/respondents to see improved policing in the village happily coincided with the establishment of the Safer Neighbourhood teams and PCSOs.(Police Community Support Officer) We now have a PCSO who patrols in Wood Norton as often as is practicable, generally keeps an eye on criminal activity in the area and attends Parish Council meetings to report on matters relevant to this village.

Homewatch

The original Homewatch scheme was run by one ex-police officer covering a very large area, so we found it almost impossible to move this one forward. Thankfully the scheme is now administered by the SNT at Fakenham.

We have a new scheme covering the top part of the village (B1101), which was excluded in the original one, with new signs and also new signs throughout the main part of the village. If you would like more detail about the Homewatch scheme then either visit the village website or speak to the Clerk.

Churchyard maintenance

A substantial number of respondents wanted the Parish Council to assist the Parochial Church Council with church yard maintenance. This is one of the powers that Parish Councils have. So a contribution has been to the Parochial Church Council to help them maintain the church yard. This is reviewed on an annual basis by the Parish Council.

Speeding

Not so much progress here. Although we have been able to get some minor safety improvements made to the bends on the B1101, Community Speed Watch has not happened and has now become a victim of the NCC cuts. Check this

What will happen now?

The 2010 survey

What happens now really depends upon what the village wants to happen!

Members of the Parish Plan Group have agreed to encourage their respective organisations (Parish Council, Parochial Church Council and Village Hall Management Committee) to explore ways of responding to what the survey tells us. We have agreed to meet again towards the end of the year to see what progress has been made.

Some of the results clearly sit within one individual organisation, for example the Parish Council clearly has a role in looking at the speeding issue.

In cases where there is no clear lead organisation the Parish Council is the default, but the mechanisms and statutory functioning of a Parish Council often makes it poorly equipped to react quickly to community needs. Quite often particular projects are far better addressed by special interest groups set up by other members of the community. For example the Parish Council might not be best equipped to lead on something like establishing a wildlife area/orchard, electronic newsletter or the bulk purchase of oil.

If, having read this report you feel that there really are some issues that need to be dealt with and you want to make them happen then do please get in touch with someone from the lead organisation as shown on page 2 .

Parish Council Clerk: Linda Jennings 01362 680007

Parochial Church Council: Jean Johnson 01362 683344

Village Hall Management Committee: Pam Edwards 01362 683291

On your own? Need to speak to someone?

Give Jenny or Graham a ring if you feel isolated or have no one to speak to

Jenny 01362 684101

Graham 07771 923673