

THE HARDWICK VILLAGE PLAN



DECEMBER 2018

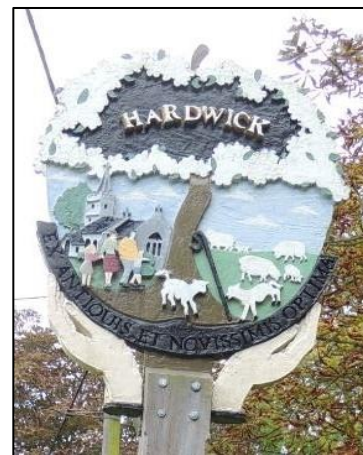
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THE HARDWICK VILLAGE PLAN

FOREWORD

On behalf of Hardwick Village Plan Committee, I am pleased to be able to comment upon the publication of this Village Plan. Considerable effort has gone into analysing the results of the survey and producing this plan over the last two years, and I urge you to read it. Whether you are one of the many residents who completed the survey, an officer or member of a local authority or another stakeholder wishing to know more about Hardwick's needs and views on its future development, please read on.



Reductions in funding are impacting on services such as health care and transport that are essential to the wellbeing of many residents of rural communities. Similarly, central government driven obligations for the construction of new housing in the region and the status and content of the District Council's Local Plan also impact on Hardwick. It is therefore vital to know what the residents of Hardwick want for the future of their village. In 2016/7, we asked residents and other stakeholders in our village about how they wished to see Hardwick develop over the next fifteen years. This document represents two years' analysis of the huge amount of feedback provided, as well as specific proposals for change.

I would like to thank the Parish Council for enabling us to conduct the survey and to create this document. I would also personally like to thank all those who have voluntarily given up so much of their valuable personal time and worked on the committee to digest all the information provided by the survey.

I hope that, like me, you will be both interested in the results of the survey and will be inspired to become involved in delivering the plan. Our collective ambitions and aspirations are more likely to be achieved if everyone gets involved in delivering the actions resulting from this project.

Martin Cassey, Chairman, Hardwick Village Plan Committee

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the Parish Council for its financial support. This report could never have been completed without the many volunteers, stakeholders and village plan supporters who gave freely and generously of their time

We would also, like to thank the Blue Lion, the school, the shop and the Sports and Social Club for supporting the survey by hosting a collection point on their premises and, the Cornwells for generously printing and donating free of charge hardcopies of the survey.

And, finally, we would like, once again, to thank all of you that have given your time and opinions to make this possible!

The Hardwick Village Plan Committee

THE HARDWICK VILLAGE SURVEY SUMMARY

Here is a summary of suggestions to improve Hardwick village based on the responses to the Village Survey (your opinions) gathered during the period November 2016 to February 2017. A more detailed account of all the answers given follows in the main body of the report.

These suggested actions and their owners are based on responses from 42% of all households (representing some 50% of the village population).

In the first table we have separated out those items that elicited the strongest opinions in the survey. The second table lists other opinions that are we felt important to mention in a “headline” summary. We have added suggested actions based on the responses you gave.

In each table, we have ordered the items by referencing the original survey sections rather than try and impose a more granular order. Once you have read the “headline” summary, more colour can be gleaned on each item by referring to the remaining sections of the report.

And, of course, if you have the time or desire to read the complete set of all the answers and opinions offered, these can be found on-line at <http://www.hardwickplan.uk/full-answers/>.

We hope these suggestions will inform you, your neighbours, statutory bodies and local developers of our needs and desires. Where we have suggested possible owners for the items, we do not presume to suggest that we have assigned all items correctly.

Indeed, we have no authority on assigning ownership and there is no explicit or implicit onus on those suggested to accept ownership or to act!

Ultimately, for many of these items, there is no “they” who can or will magically make these things happen. There is only “us”.

For example, if you want to keep existing clubs and village organisations, see new organisations or groups formed, then you either need to support those organisations or get together with like-minded fellow villages to create new ones.

Similarly, a strong Parish Council, representative of the full spectrum of village residents, would be an effective vehicle to implement many of these suggested actions.

TABLE 1: MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES AND SUGGESTED ACTIONS

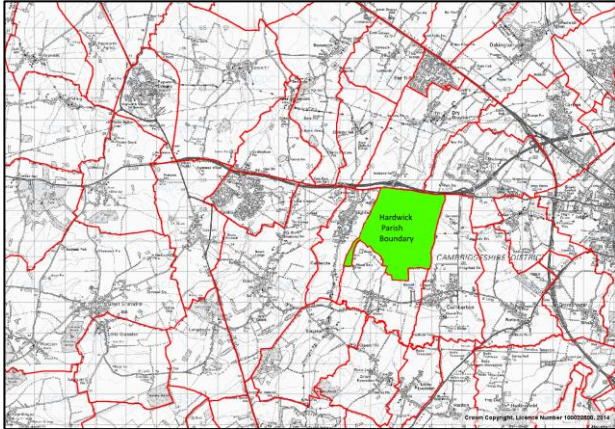
Issue	Suggestion	Suggested Owner	Section
Parking outside village shop	Re-visit and cost popular solutions: a third lane on existing road, traffic control measures and parking restrictions	Parish Council	Transport and Communications
Village vehicle access	Investigate new vehicle access routes into village	Parish Council	Development
Cambourne-Cambridge Busway	[Since the survey, options for the Cambourne-Cambridge Busway have evolved. The level of opinion in favour of the route to the North of the A428 might no longer be relevant, but the survey results should frame responses to consultations and decisions.]	Parish Council	Transport and Communications
Park and Ride into Cambridge	[Since the survey, options for the park and ride have changed so the level of opinion expressed in favour of the Madingley Roundabout option has been superseded, but the survey results should frame responses to consultations and decisions.]	Parish Council	Transport and Communications
Parking on pavements	Raise awareness among villagers and businesses that this is unacceptable and illegal	Police	Transport and Communications
Bus services	Lobby bus companies to: introduce a service along Cambridge Road and Main Street to serve south of village; improve late-night bus service; introduce a direct service to Cambridge railway station	Residents	Transport and Communications
Bus services	Lobby bus companies and Cambridgeshire County Council for more and affordable buses for travelling to schools and/or colleges	Residents	Transport and Communications
Burnt Out Building	Get rid of it	Owner and District Council	Safety and the Environment
Street lighting	Increase number of lights to eliminate dark-spots identified in this report	Parish, District and County Councils	Safety and the Environment
Street lighting	Prune trees around street lights	Residents and Parish Council	Safety and the Environment
Speeding	Support Speedwatch	Residents and Parish Council	Safety and the Environment
Lack of access to Health Care in the village	Lobby Cambridge and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group to provide access to health care services in Hardwick	Residents and local MP	Health Care
Community Buildings	Support new Community Building, Scout and Guide Hut, St Mary's Church Hall and school community provision	Residents, Parish Council and School Governors	Village Social Life
Retain Hardwick as a distinct village rural in character	Inform developers and planning authority that 73% of residents did not want to see more than 120 new homes built in the village [Since the survey approximately 250 houses already been approved to be built in the village]	Parish and District Councils	Development
Retain Hardwick as a distinct village rural in character	Inform developers and planning authority that the large majority of residents want sympathetic housing of a similar density for any new development in the village with more green spaces.	Parish and District Councils	Development
Green Belt Development	Be aware that there is little support (5%), for any development on the Green Belt	Parish and District Councils	Development
Effects of housing development	Develop and cost measures for mitigating the effects of increased traffic with traffic calming measures	Parish Council	Safety and the Environment
Better mobile phone coverage	Lobby mobile phone companies	Residents	Commercial Opportunities

TABLE 2: OTHER ISSUES AND SUGGESTED ACTIONS

Issue	Suggestion	Suggested Owner	Section
Lift sharing	Form a group that is interested in starting a village lift sharing scheme and advertise it to the wider community	Residents	Transport and Communications
Cycling	Lobby Highways Authority to improve the maintenance of existing cycle routes	Residents	Transport and Communications
Cycling	Lobby the Parish Council, Highways Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership and landowners to create a safe route from the north to the south of the village and new, off-road cycle-ways to Cambridge and neighbouring villages	Residents	Transport and Communications
Cycling	Form a cycling club	Residents	Transport and Communications
State of pavements	Notify Cambridgeshire County Council of unsafe pavements and request repairs	Residents	Transport and Communications
Walking	Notify landowners and Cambridgeshire County Council of specific issues with the signage, maintenance, accessibility and wet-weather usability of public footpaths, permitted access footpaths and bridleways	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Walking	Lobby the Parish Council, Highways Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership and landowners to create new footpaths, including a safe route from the north to the south of the village and making circular routes and links to neighbouring villages	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Walking	Create a village country/community park	Residents, Parish Council and Greater Cambridge Partnership	Sport and Recreation
Walking	Form a rambling club	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Running	Lobby the Parish Council, Highways Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership and landowners to create a running track	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Running	Form a running club	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Swimming pool	Form a group to investigate the feasibility of building a swimming pool in Hardwick or facilitating access to nearby pools	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Outdoor sport/fitness	Lobby the Parish Council, Highways Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership and landowners to create a fitness trail	Residents	Sport and Recreation
Outdoor sport/fitness	Support the work of the Playpark committee in improving children's playparks	Residents and Parish Council	Sport and Recreation
Outdoor sport/fitness	Note that the skateboard park is much enjoyed and ensure that it or a similar facility is maintained	Parish Council	Sport and Recreation
Indoor sport/fitness facilities	Build new Community Building designed to accommodate a range of sports available during the day, evenings and at weekends	Hardwick Community Centre Working Group/Parish Council	Sport and Recreation
Speeding	Consider suggestions for lowering speed limits in some parts of the Limes Estate and along St Neots Road	Parish Council and County Council	Safety and the Environment
Anti-social behaviour and crime	Support and encourage Neighbourhood Watch and increase police presence	Residents and Police	Safety and the Environment
General village maintenance	Appoint a volunteer or paid part-time gardener/handyman to address issues of general maintenance around the village	Parish Council	Safety and the Environment
Litter	Educate people and encourage existing village litter-picking events	Residents and	Safety and the Environment

		Parish Council	
Dog mess	Educate dog owners to clear up after their pets and consider the implementation of a public spaces protection order	Residents and Parish Council	Safety and the Environment
New village clubs	Create new clubs/groups/organisations	Residents	Village Social Life
Desire for a neutral social meeting place	Open a café that's open most days (if possible), perhaps run on a commercial basis	Community group or entrepreneur	Village Social Life
Community energy schemes and housing heat loss/insulation	Form a group to raise awareness of community energy and energy efficiency schemes and to offer heat loss camera surveys to residents	Residents	Sustainability
Adult education	Form a group to develop a programme for adult education classes in Hardwick	Residents	Education
Encourage new businesses	Entrepreneurs and business interests should be made aware of the desires for new retail and food businesses	Residents and Parish Council	Commercial Opportunities
Be aware of the dislike of some types of new businesses	Inform District Council planners of the community views on industrial, short-term business use of premises and light transport businesses if and when planning applications arise	Parish Council	Commercial Opportunities
Accessibility of Parish Council	Raise residents' awareness of Parish Council business and how to contact them	Parish Council	Village Social Life
Improve facilities and links across the village not just in the centre	Ensure that there is a reasonable distribution of resources and facilities around the village – see other suggested actions re walking/cycling routes, public transport and community buildings	All	Transport and Communications
Better internet connection	Residents with issues concerning inability to access fast broadband could consider forming a group to lobby BT and other Internet Service Providers	Residents	Commercial Opportunities

A BRIEF HARDWICK VILLAGE PROFILE



Map kindly provided by South Cambridgeshire District Council

Hardwick is a village of 2,700 people set in a rolling arable landscape. It lies to the south of the A428 between Cambridge and Cambourne about 5 miles to the west of Cambridge.

Hardwick is thriving with a post office, shops, a gastro pub, a vet, a church, a primary school and a pre-school and a range of businesses and community and social groups including flourishing Scouting and Guiding groups.

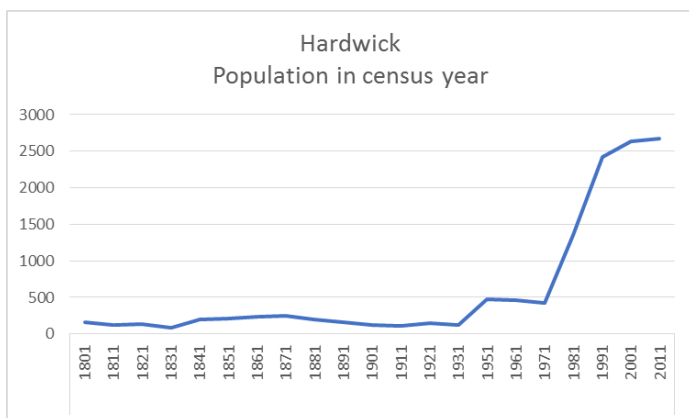


Historically, the village of Hardwick is hundreds of years old with the first recorded mention in 991AD and an entry in the Domesday Book of 1086. Hardwick used to consist of just a few houses and farmland around St Mary's Church, on what is now the southern edge of the village.

The first school was built with donations from various colleagues of the Rev. Brown in 1852 and the two pumps are the actual sites where villagers used to gather their water.



Hardwick is a relatively prosperous village. Economic activity rates are high; rates of full-time, part-time and self-employment are all above the national average. Dwellings are generally owner occupied (83% compared to an average for England of 64%) whilst rented properties represent less than 8% of total dwellings (less than half the national average).



Hardwick has expanded greatly since the 1960s. Indeed, residents were keen to see the Limes Estate, built in the 1970s, which more than doubled the size of the village. It was built on small holdings to the north of the original settlement.

In the last fifteen years, fewer than 100 houses have been added to the housing stock. Today there are some 1,020 households and provisional planning has been granted for 250 more.

For more on the village, there is a lovely book on the history of Hardwick entitled "*Hardwick, Old and New*".

For more information on the history of Hardwick, see <http://www.hardwick-cambs.org.uk/history-of-the-Village/> and there is also the Wikipedia page [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardwick, Cambridgeshire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardwick,_Cambridgeshire)

For a directory of Hardwick businesses, see <http://www.hardwick-cambs.org.uk/local-business-directory/#1>

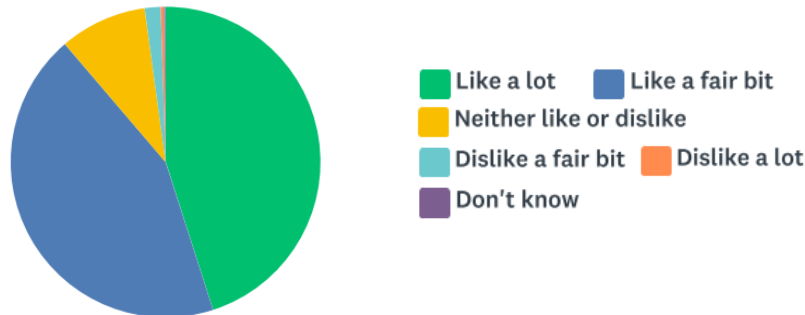
DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY



In the following pages, you will find a detailed summary of the survey. For those short of time or skim-reading for the first time, sections highlighted in dark blue try to capture the essence of village opinion.

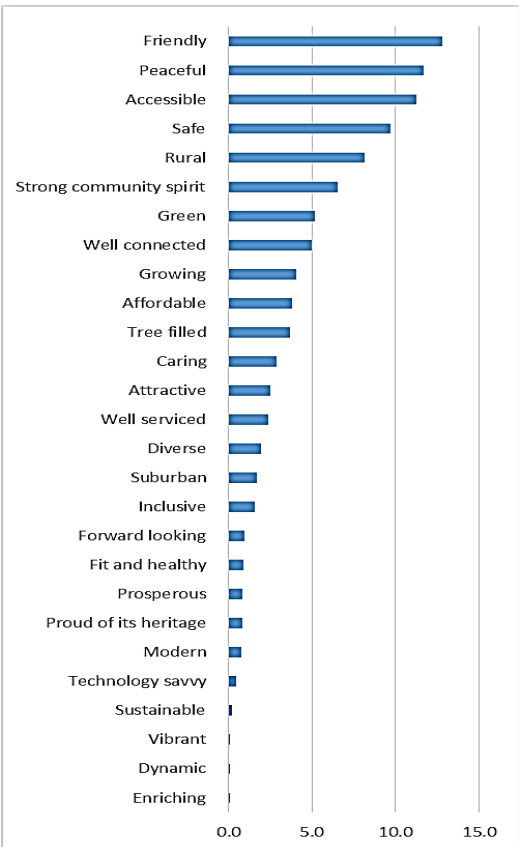
INTRODUCTION – DESCRIBING HARDWICK TODAY AND TOMORROW

Reassuringly, the vast majority of villagers like living in Hardwick (89%) with only a small minority (<0.3%) disliking it a lot.

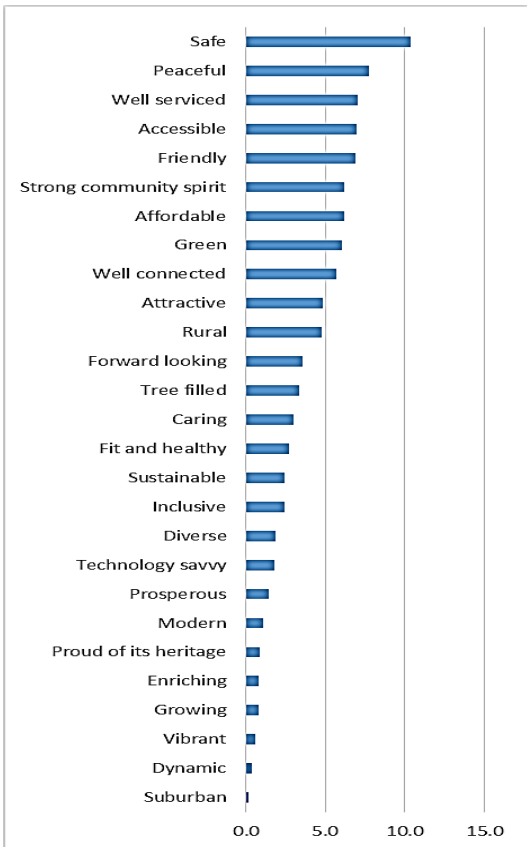


When ranking five things that characterise Hardwick today, friendly, peaceful, accessible, safe and rural, took nearly half the votes cast.

There was a broader spread capturing half the vote for central themes you would like to see in the future. Indeed more than ten items were required to reach a similar total, but the top places were consistent:



Perceived Hardwick character today

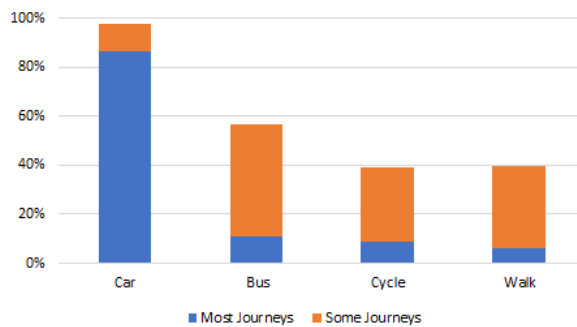


Desired future character for Hardwick

In the next fifteen years, most of you want to be able to say of Hardwick that it has remained close to the country with many trees and walks into the countryside with the village being a place where generations can live well together or near each other as they grow old. You want Hardwick to maintain its character with many trees, much greenery and tidy streets – a lovely, peaceful village home to come back to after a day at work or school.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

How You Travel In and Out of Hardwick



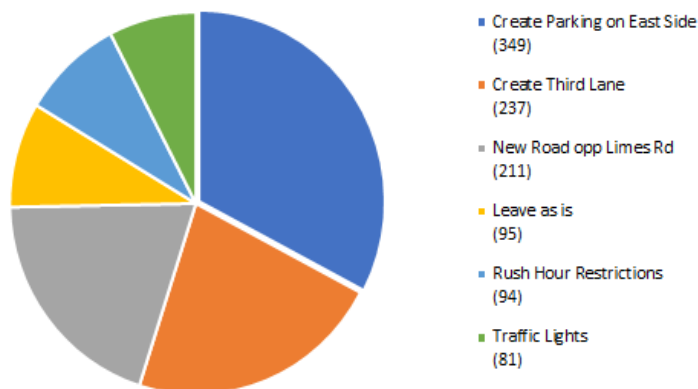
Virtually all of you use cars for either most or some of your journeys in or out of the village.

The next most significant mode of transport is the bus with other modes of transport being cycling, walking and taxi.

The use of a motorcycle in our list of options was omitted but 2% say they use a motorcycle some or most of the time.



Improving Access from St Neots Road

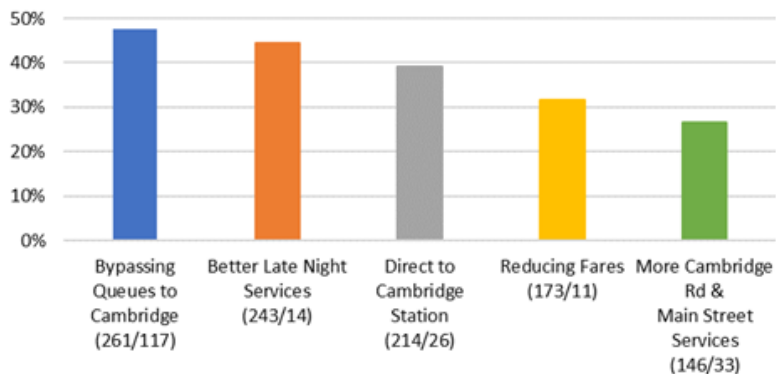


The vast majority of you consider that parking outside of the village shop is an issue that needs to be addressed. Our questions caused significant and often strong expressions of opinion with over 257 detailed comments.

The most popular solution to this problem is additional parking on the east side of Cambridge Road closely followed by a third lane of traffic and the construction of a new road opposite Limes Road.

84.5% of you disagreed with the Highways Authority that the “chicane effect” generally improved safety.

Increasing Use of Buses



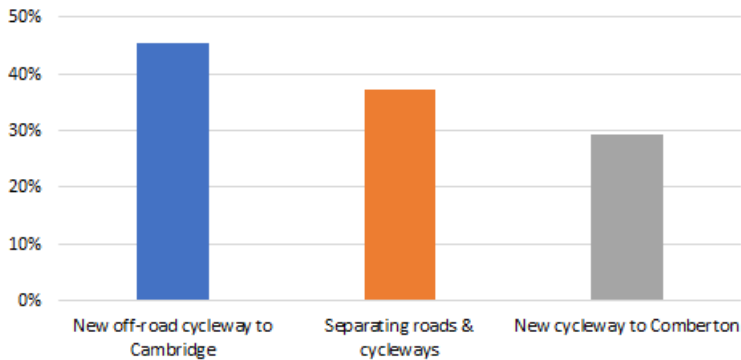
The top 5 responses for increasing bus use are highlighted here (with the number “for”/“against” shown in brackets).

A significant number of you were opposed to the idea of bypassing queues to Cambridge as a way to increase bus use.

Those asking for reduced bus fares wanted 40 or 50% reductions to encourage them to use buses.

When asked about the Greater Cambridge Partnership Plan for buses, preference was expressed for a busway along the north side of the A428 (62% for 38% against) with most objection raised to a busway to the south of Hardwick (67% against and 33% for). A Park and Ride at Madingley Roundabout saw 58% in favour and 42% against. A busway along St Neots Road (54% against) and a Park and Ride at Scotland Farm split opinion more evenly (52% in favour).

Incentives to Increase Cycling



The most important incentive to increasing cycling was the separation of cycle-ways and roads, followed by off-road cycle routes to Cambridge and Comberton. Cycle-ways to other villages and repair or storage facilities were also mentioned

Some specific suggestions were offered around improving lighting on the route into Cambridge, poor cycle path design, lack of maintenance, the poor state of pavements (making child cycling difficult) and general lack of consideration of all road users.

It is worth noting that the Greater Cambridge Partnership is proposing a cycle “Greenway” between Comberton and Cambridge that would include a spur link to the south of Hardwick. See

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/comberton-greenway/>

Lift Sharing to Reduce Traffic

Many of you were positive about giving lifts to other villagers, with lots of you saying you would give regular day to day lifts (133) and more saying you would offer occasional lifts (137). 61 of you said you would offer lifts through the current Village Car Scheme.

Other suggestions for reducing traffic included: bringing services into the village (reduce journeys), a community cycle scheme and not allowing housing development.

More Walking

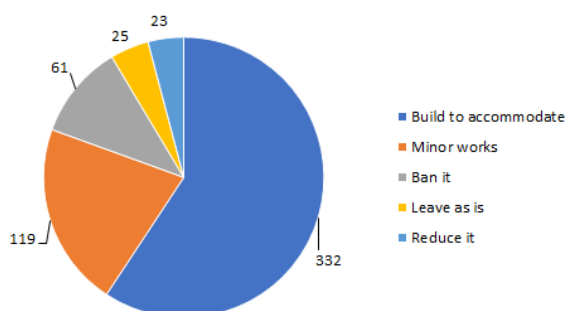


You gave the poor state of the village pavements and footpaths as the greatest barrier to walking. These included broken surfaces, being too narrow to pass with a buggy and poor lighting. More of your suggestions to improve walking follow in the next section.

Note the **Greenway route** linking Cambridge and Comberton Village College would provide a well-surfaced footpath from Hardwick to CVC and Coton/Cambridge.

Over 100 of you would be interested in joining a rambling club in the village.

Parking around the Village



You are generally happy with the parking in the village.

However, 96% of you want to change the parking near the village shop with 80% wanting something built or minor work done to change it.

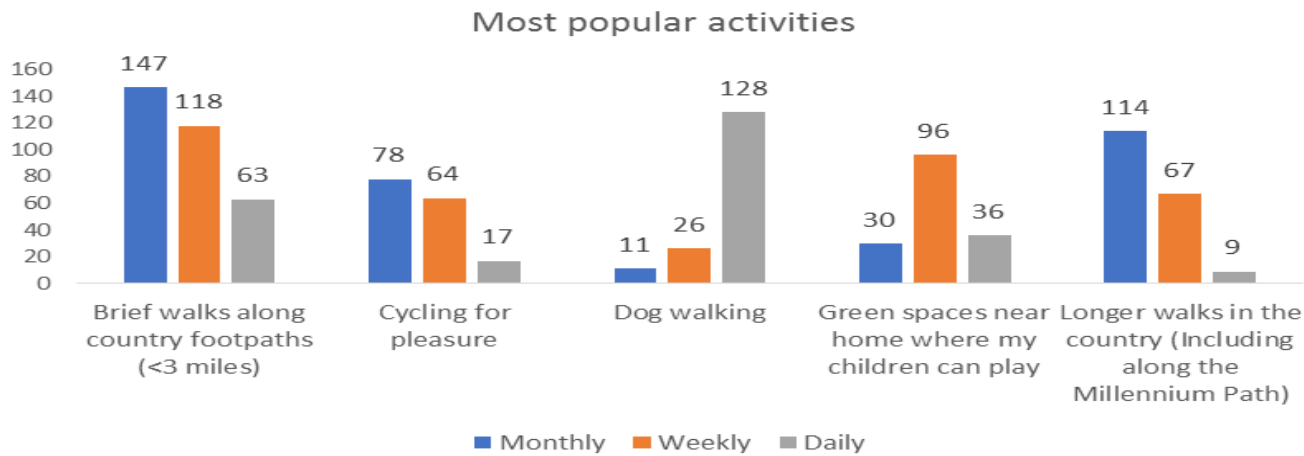
Parking on pavements also elicited a strong response, with 56% wanting it to be banned completely.

The feeling is that people should be encouraged to use their own off-road parking rather than park on the street.

SPORT AND RECREATION

Existing Activities

The survey asked if, and how often, you took part in different sports and other active pursuits in the village. By far the most frequently reported activity is walking. Dog walking is the most popular daily activities. 561 of you answered as follows:



Given the popularity of walking, cycling and running, it is unsurprising that there were many suggestions on how these could be made easier, more enjoyable, safer and more accessible.

<p>Walking Suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More circular walks with good signage and well-maintained paths• Creation of a country/community park• A footpath between the north and south of the village• Address the problem of footpath access in wet weather• Footpaths to neighbouring villages• A village rambling club	<p>Running Suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better street lighting• Better maintenance of pavements• A dedicated running track, perhaps within a community park• A village running club <p>Cycling Suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Well maintained off-road cycle paths (particularly to neighbouring villages)• A village cycling club
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Many other activities were reported and this “word cloud” captures some of them...



Many of you use village outdoor facilities at least once a month. The child play areas were reported to be well-used, with the one by the school being the most popular. St Mary's playground and the football pitches well-used with the skateboard park much enjoyed as well.

Many stressed the urgent need for upgrading of the village play areas, and for them to be made safer.



New Facilities

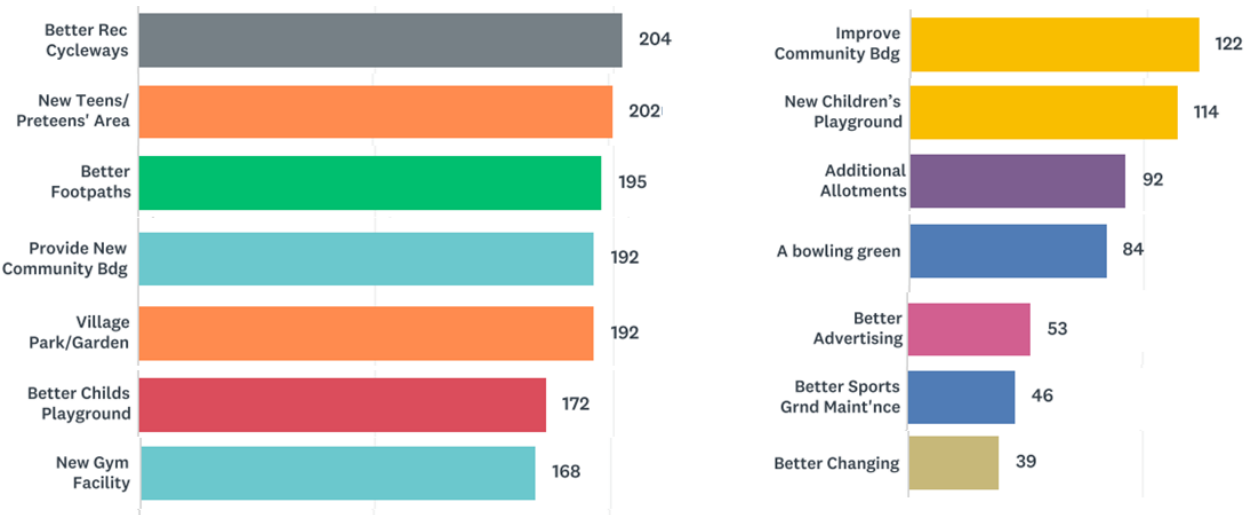


The most popular suggestions for new indoor facilities that would encourage you to become more active were a swimming pool and a new indoor fitness/gym/sport facility. Many stressed the need for an indoor space to be available to the whole community and be available throughout the day, evenings and at weekends.

You thought such a facility should offer an affordable gym (most popular), indoor bowls, badminton, volleyball, table tennis and new fitness classes. A number of you pointed out the current lack of exercise options for older people and others noted they leave the village to undertake their recreational activities.

There was a wide spread of requests for new outdoor facilities, the most frequently requested being an outdoor fitness trail of some kind (19 people).

Where you want to invest £500,000 in sporting or recreation facilities...



SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Remember the first question on the Village Survey asked what you thought should be **central to Hardwick's future....**

SAFE came top of the list.

In this section, we asked how safe you feel

76% feel "very safe" or "safe most of the time"

But **10%** feel unsafe at times, especially at night.

When asked what priority you would place on safety improvement measures (essential, high, medium, low, and against), you said:

	Essential/High priority	Against
Lighting	76%	3%
Neighbourhood Watch	66%	<1%
Reduce traffic speed	56%	11%
More visible police presence	42%	2%
Improve traffic flow	47%	23%
Speed bumps	28%	50%
Traffic lights	19%	57%

Lighting

An overwhelming number of people feel that the street lighting in the village is inadequate. In places the lights are obscured by trees. There is clearly a problem with the new lights, which are universally reported to be inferior to the old ones in strength of illumination and many reported "black spots".



Particular problem areas were reported in these locations: St Neots Road, Miller's Way, Pump Lane extension, Lambourne Road, Cambridge Road, Main Street (between Cahill's Corner and the Blue Lion), the area around the Scout and Guide Hut, the Social Club car park, Limes Road (particularly near the Recreation Ground), Egremont Road (by the playground), Sudeley Grove, Bramley Way, Pippin Walk, Pump Lane, Grenadier Walk, the footpath from Worcester Avenue to St Neots Road, and Hall Drive.

Crime

There is concern about the increased incidence of burglaries in the village with the link to poor street lighting mentioned by many. Support for Neighbourhood Watch is high (90% gave it a medium or higher priority), as is that for an increased visible police presence (79% give it medium or higher priority).



Traffic

Traffic speeding through the village is seen as a problem by lots of you, and the majority (89%) think this should be tackled in some way. Speed bumps are not a popular option, with the majority disapproving of them. Some of you suggest introducing lower speed limits (such as a 20 mph speed limit in parts of the Limes Estate and 30 mph limit on St Neots Road). Others suggest the greater monitoring of speeding and the enforcement of current limits.



[We note that since the survey, “Speedwatch” volunteers have started monitoring motorists’ speeds in the village and are reporting speeding vehicles to the police.]

Once again, the opportunity was taken to mention concern over traffic flow by the shop.

Keeping Hardwick Tidy

Hardwick is currently kept tidy not only by the activities of individual residents, but also by a part-time Parish Council litter-picker and village volunteers organising litter picks.



Positive opinion to paying more parish precept for a part-time gardener stands out, whilst litter picking sees both strong positive and negative opinion to paying more. Cleaning up dog mess sees a bias to non-payment.

	Over £25 more a year	Up to £25	Parish Council should pay	No spend
People to clear up dog mess	11	50	124	134
More litter pickers	22	140	78	139
Educate people to clear their litter or after their dogs	17	116	145	162
More litter bins	12	77	54	103
Part-time gardener	18	160	62	90
Maintenance of road signs	8	118	86	90

The Burnt Out Building

One thing that united almost all of you was the Burnt Out Building on St Neots Road.

94% were “very keen” or “keen” to get rid of the Burnt Out Building.

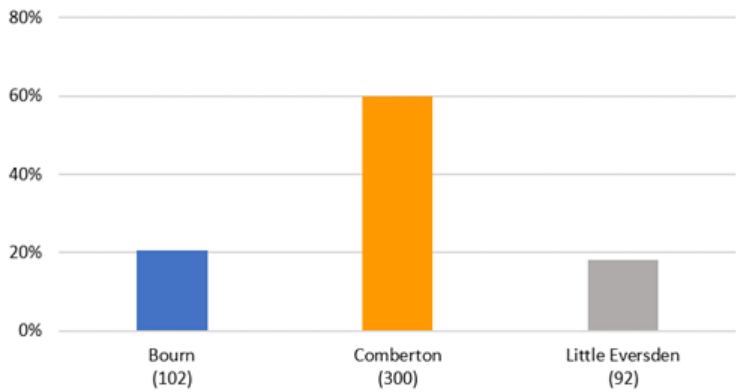


HEALTH CARE

In this section, we explore your use of Health Care in the local area.



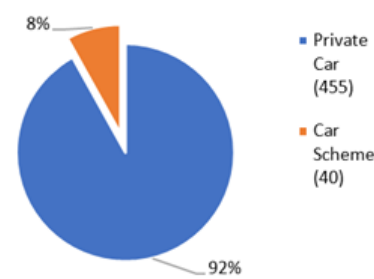
Use of Doctors Surgeries



Hardwick is served by two practices, one located in Comberton and the other in Bourn. The Comberton practice also operates a satellite surgery in Little Eversden. The vast majority of you indicate that you attend one of these practices. Only 1% don't.

Approximately 20% of you are registered with the Bourn practice and 80% with Comberton (a quarter of these registrants using the satellite surgery at Little Eversden).

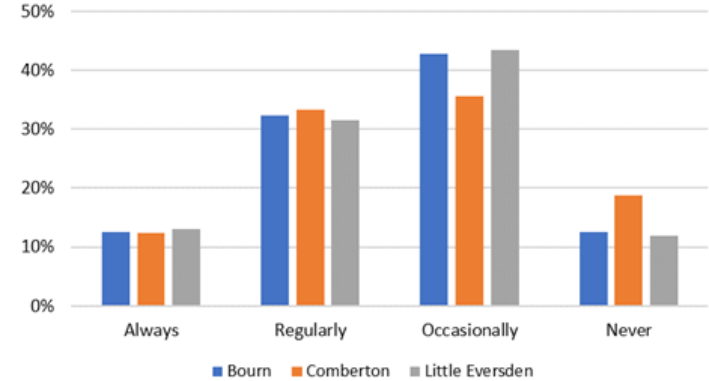
Travel Arrangements



None of the surgeries is served by public transport from Hardwick, so you travel to appointments by car.

Hardwick is fortunate to benefit from a Community Car Scheme. Volunteer drivers transport patients to medical appointments and it turns out that a significant proportion of you (8%) make use of this scheme to travel to GP appointments.

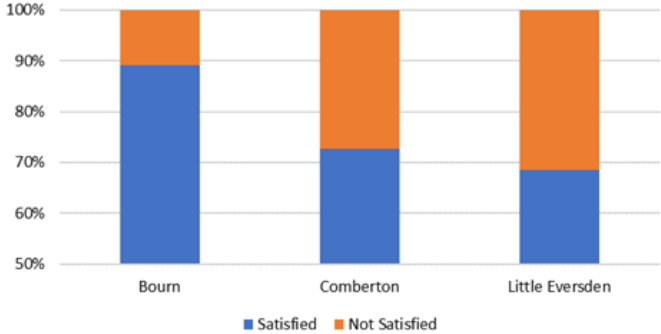
Car Parking



Bourn and Comberton surgeries are located in residential roads with limited on-site parking provision. Many of you reported difficulty in parking at the surgeries.

There is remarkable consistency in the proportion of you that always or regularly have difficulty parking at the surgeries.

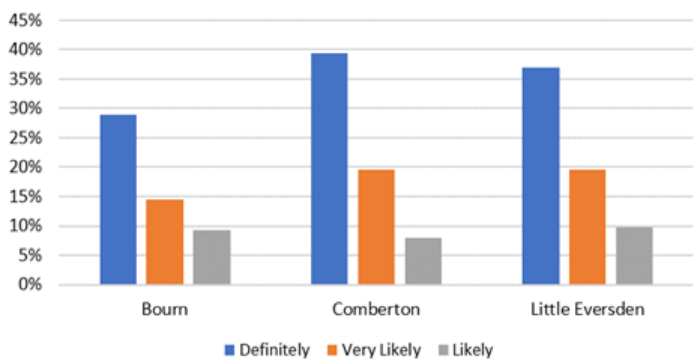
Satisfaction



Bourn and Comberton practices are both rated as "good" in Care Quality Commission assessments.

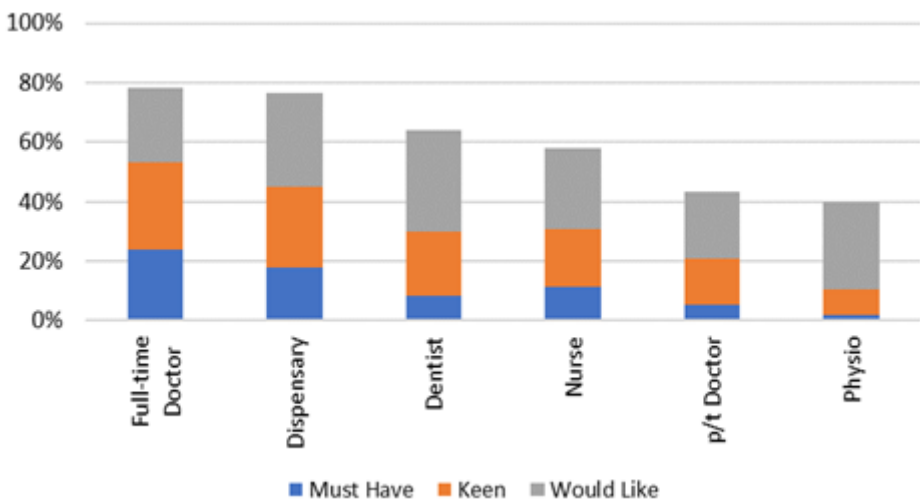
You have indicated generally higher levels of satisfaction with the Bourn surgery compared with those indicated for Comberton or Little Eversden.

Loyalty



When asked about how likely you would be to consider changing GP if there was a surgery in the village, many said you would consider it.

New Health Services in Hardwick



Indeed, many of you are keen or consider it to be a “Must Have” or are keen that Hardwick should have based in the village new health services such as a full-time doctor, dispensary, dentist or nurse.

VILLAGE SOCIETY

Background



Hardwick has a rich history of community engagement and currently has a wide range of volunteer-run societies and activities.

The most frequently attended groups are St Mary's Church (40 of you regularly and 65 occasionally and many more at the fete), the Sports and Social Club (43 and 71), Pippin's Café (68 and 77) and the Scout and Guide groups (96 and 20).

What New Clubs and Activities Would Villagers Like?

Existing groups are popular and well supported, but you have indicated a strong need for, and interest in, new groups.

You highlighted that sections of society are less well catered for. In order of frequency these are: teenagers/young adults, under 10-year olds, people living in the older part of the village (to the south) and the over 65s.

And here are the top 10 new activities villagers asked for:

1. Swimming Pool (22.8%)
2. Yoga/Pilates Club (16.1%)
3. Badminton Club (7.7%)
4. Rambling Club (6.7%)
5. Keep Fit Sessions for "Oldies" (6.5%)
6. Foreign Language Club (5.8%)
7. Film Club (5.3%)
8. A new Gardening Club (5.2%)
9. Art/Craft Club (4.9%)
10. Photographic Society (4.4%)

Other suggestions included: cycling club, jogging and/or running club, dance classes for adults, bowls club, table tennis club, Bridge club, martial arts, shooting club, board game club, adventure club, military, fitness and a discussion group.

Volunteering

All village groups are dependent on volunteers. About a quarter of respondents said they were currently actively volunteering in at least one village group, and 20 said they would like to start volunteering now.

Almost half of respondents said they would volunteer if they had more time.

Village Facilities

The survey highlighted three main areas of additional need:

- New community building(s)
- Better commercial infrastructure
- Improved outdoor recreational space

New Community Facility

Given the real prospect of new community building(s) being built in the village, the survey results are an important source of data on residents' future needs.

Work is underway to develop plans for a new community building, in part to replace the community facilities in the school. The survey results indicate that the building needs to provide new space combining a suitable space for sport/fitness activities (such as badminton, fitness classes) and a different type of space suitable for groups such as craft, adult education, meetings and so on.



Commercial Infrastructure

People said that the village needed a “centre” – somewhere to wander, meet and linger. There was a marked level of support for some sort of commercially run café – a place for people of all ages to meet and socialise in a neutral space. There was also support for a restaurant and/or take-away and more shops, and perhaps a children’s indoor play area.

Outdoor Space

There was a high level of concern about the state of the children’s play spaces. Some respondents said they’d like to see a tennis court, basketball enclosure, rugby pitch and bowling green. A footpath linking the north and south of the village was suggested by a number of respondents; others pointed to a shortage of benches.

Funding New Facilities

Few of you wanted to offer a frank opinion about how much extra you would be willing to pay in local taxes to help fund new facilities: only 145 expressed an opinion on one-off contributions and 180 on monthly contributions. So the following comments may not be representative.

Nearly a third of you who said anything, said they did not want to pay any one-off sum whilst the rest who did express an opinion, said they would be happy to offer £42 on average. A little over a quarter of you who commented, said you did not want to pay more monthly, whilst the rest said you would be happy to pay £10 a month more on average.

BASIC STATISTICS					
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEDIAN	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION
Please enter a number representing a one-off amount (in pounds)	0.00	500.00	20.00	41.81	69.68
Please enter a number representing a monthly amount (in pounds)	0.00	100.00	5.00	9.66	11.96

Access to the Parish Council

Of those who had an opinion, over a third of you believe you have “good” or “very good” access to the Parish Council, and just under half, “okay” access. Of those expressing opinions on how to improve access, advertising, on-line presence and allowing more than 15 minutes of public representation at meetings, cover most of the expressed sentiments.

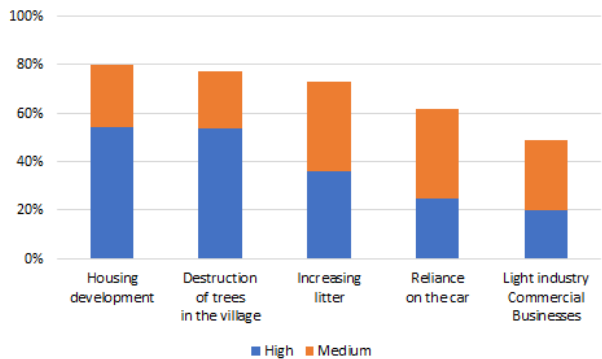
SUSTAINABILITY

Section 8 considers Sustainability in Hardwick, first considering the character of the village today and then exploring issues that are potentially important for the future.



Risks to the Sustainability of the Village

80% of you consider housing development to represent a significant risk to the village, closely followed by destruction of trees (77%) and increasing litter (73%). The next two significant sustainability risk factors are reliance on the car and businesses.

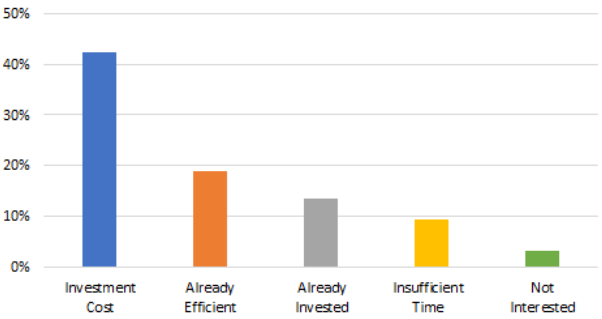


Given 98% of you use cars for either most or some of your journeys in or out of the village, unless there is a large increase in the use of mass-transport services, or an explosion of cycling or walking for commuting, it will be difficult to address these sustainability risks.

Barriers to Sustainable Energy Use

When considering the adoption of sustainable energy sources such as solar or wind power, many of you expressed a good understanding of issues such as roof orientation and concerns about aesthetics. However, many felt unable to invest given they were renting or that the payback time was too great.

For a significant number of you (40%), the ability to finance the upfront investment is a major barrier.



Community Energy Schemes

Your responses and comments relating to Community Energy Schemes were broadly consistent, with around 30% of you being unaware of Community Energy and around 45% of you being either interested or very interested in such schemes.

Waste Collections and Recycling

Generally, you consider the current waste and recycling arrangements to be good with 35% strongly agreeing and a further 51% agreeing that the village is well provisioned. A number of you commented that the reduced recycling collections in the winter are an issue. There is interest in additional static recycling points, particularly for electrical items, bottles and cardboard. Your preferences regarding locations for these facilities were near to the shop, Pavilion or in the south of the village.

House Heat Loss Check

Approximately one third of you would be interested in having a heat loss survey of your home.

Professional Village Planning

Should Hardwick employ a Professional Village Planner?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

There appears to be little awareness of the benefits of employing a professional village planner and the consensus did not support this proposal.

EDUCATION

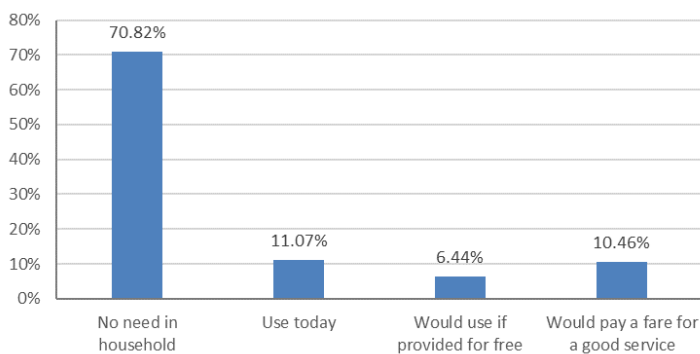
The survey results indicate that you strongly support both the **Hardwick Community Primary School** and the **Hardwick Pre-school**. Few families choose to send their children elsewhere for their primary education. Residents also reported sending their children to village childminders, who provide the Early Years curriculum.



Hardwick's young people have to travel outside the village for their secondary, tertiary and further education. Most secondary school children attend Comberton Village College, with a small minority opting for other local secondary schools. Post-16 young people attend a range of colleges in Cambridge and its satellite villages (most notably Comberton).

Transport to Schools and Colleges

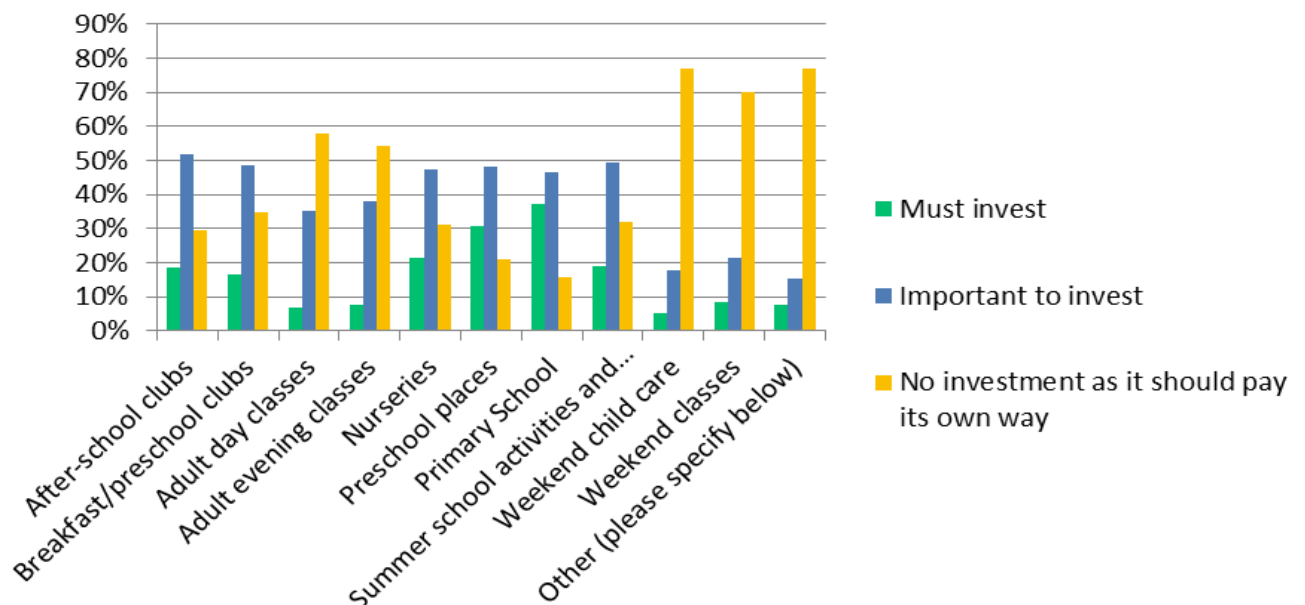
Do or would you use bus services to and from secondary or tertiary education if such services were provided (N=497)?



Hardwick has access to secondary and six form state education at Comberton Village College via a school bus service. However, for those attending colleges in Cambridge public transport is perceived to be less than ideal, with affordability and reliability being reported as significant problems.

We asked you if you use, or would use, bus services to educational establishments beyond Hardwick. Of those answering, 52 said they would use, and would be willing to pay for, a "good" service whilst 32 said they would use such services if they were free.

When considering what facilities should be provided over the next fifteen years, what investment would you prioritise?



Child Care and Education

The survey showed significant support for investment in out-of-school activities/education and child care in the village.

However, others questioned the need to prioritise child care rather than school education.

Adult Education

The survey predicted a significant interest in adult education in the future, although the majority thought it should be self-funding.

Some expressed concern at the increasing cost of adult education classes. Most thought they would go to classes at the village colleges in Comberton and Cambourne; others mentioned Hills Road and Madingley Hall. **Currently people have to travel outside Hardwick for adult education classes. There would be significant support for adult education classes held in Hardwick.**

DEVELOPMENT

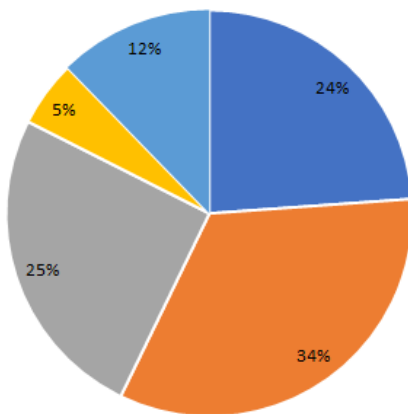
Section 10 of the Village Survey addresses a range of issues around future housing development and opinions about the priorities for the investment of funds from new housing development. Since the survey, the Grace Crescent development has begun and will provide 98 new homes. Outline planning permission has also been granted for 155 homes on a site off the St Neots Road.



Growth

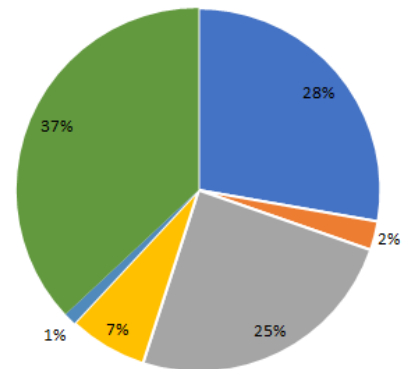
The majority of you are in favour of some sort of development in Hardwick (75%). Any development should be sympathetic and of similar density to current housing stock. That said, growth of fewer than 120 new houses was favoured by the majority (73%) but there was little support for development on the Green Belt. Around a quarter of you expressed an opinion for no development at all.

Which Type of Development Would You Like to See?
551 Responses



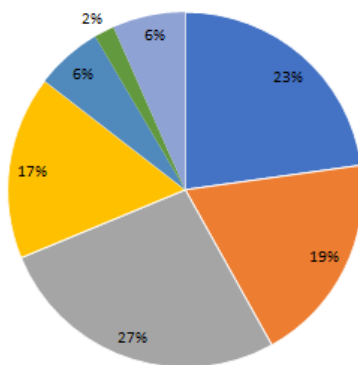
■ No Development ■ In Fill Only ■ On "Green Field" Sites ■ On The Green Belt ■ I Don't Mind

What sort of Housing Density Would You Like To See?
551 Responses



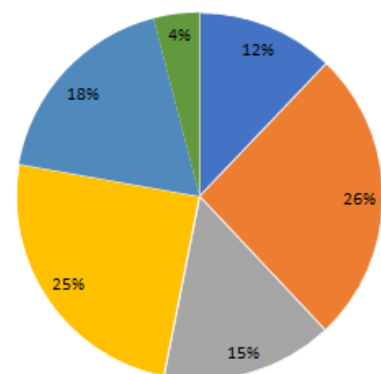
■ No Development ■ Higher Density ■ Current Density
■ In Fill Between Houses ■ Determined by Commerce ■ Sympathetic

How Much Development Would You Like To See?
544 Responses



■ No Development ■ By another 50 ■ 51-120 ■ 121-275 ■ 276-425 ■ More than 425 ■ Don't Mind


What Sort of Housing Would You Like to See?



■ Affordable flats to £80k ■ Affordable homes to £120k ■ Bungalows
■ Family Homes ■ Homes for resident's children ■ Luxury Dwellings

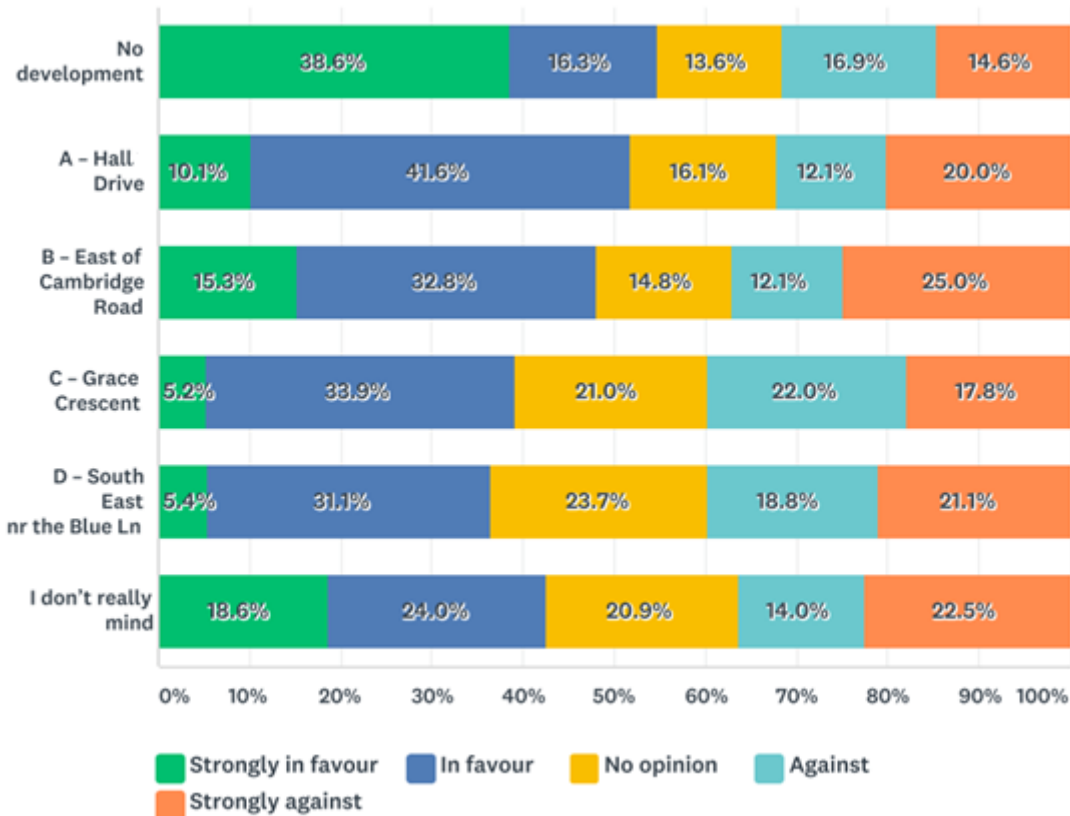
Housing Types

When asked what type of housing you would like to prioritise, affordable and family accommodation were highlighted as important, but the desire to see enrichment of village facilities and plenty of green



space were even more important. Your lowest priorities were sheltered accomodation, shared ownership and social housing.

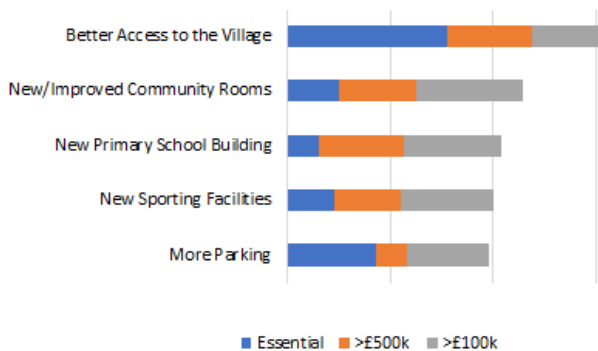
Location of New Development



When considering the locations of new development, strongest net positive opinion is expressed about it being around the Hall Drive development (largest difference between in favour and against).

Opinions for development are expressed less emphatically (generally “in favour” is larger than “strongly in favour”) and those who do not want development more strongly express that opinion. The suggestion that received the largest “strongly against” vote was east of Cambridge Road.

Section 106 Investment



Section 106 is a legal agreement between a local authority and a developer and is the money given to the local authority to be used within the community.

The overwhelming preference is to use it to improve access to the village, with many indicating that investment in improving access is essential, even without S106 funding

However, you are also keen to see a range of improvements across the village. The chart to the left shows your top five choices.

New Community Facility

There is an overwhelming preference (61%) for the location of any new community facility to be on or near the Recreation Ground. A significant minority (12%) favour redevelopment of the Burnt Out Building on St Neots Road. The only other location with significant support is opposite the shop to the east of Cambridge Road (8%).

Summary

Although most of you are opposed to significant further growth of housing in the village, generally you are relatively accepting of modest further development (<120 new homes) provided it is of similar density and sympathetic to the existing village environment.

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

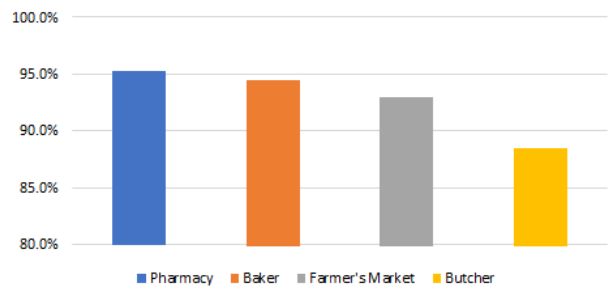
Section 11 of the Village Survey considered business in Hardwick from the point of view of business owners (current and future) and what businesses you would like to see and use in the village.



Businesses in Hardwick

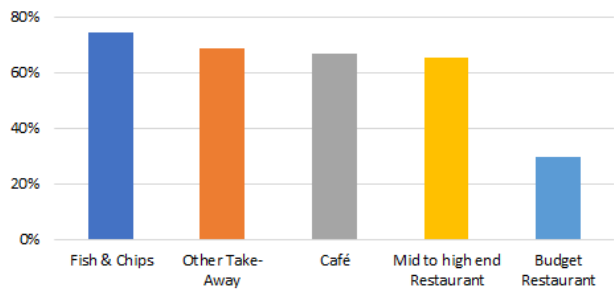
There is considerable interest in new retail and service businesses opening in Hardwick.

Popular Retail Businesses



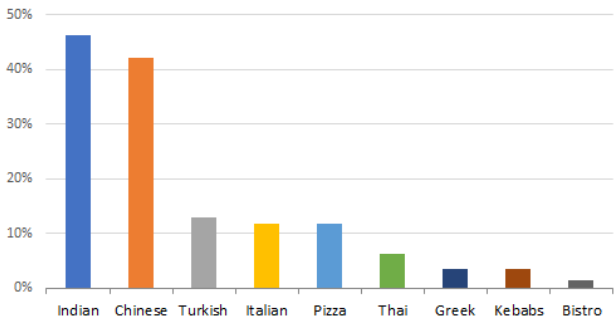
The most popular new retail businesses are a Pharmacy (93%), Baker (92.5%), Farmers’ Market (91%) and a Butcher (85%).

Preferred Food Outlets



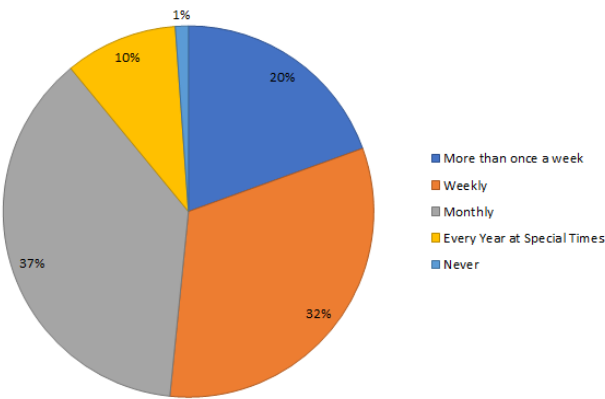
For new food outlets, Fish and Chips are preferred to the other options of restaurants, another café or take-away, with much less desire for more budget outlets.

Preferred Takeaways



When considering type of food outlets you would like to see beyond Fish and Chips, those of you who expressed an opinion in the “Other Take-Away” question were most keen on Indian (46%), Chinese (42%), Turkish (13%), Italian (12%) and Pizza (12%). Others were Thai (6%), Greek (3%), Kebabs (3%) and Bistro (1%).

Frequency of Using the Post Office

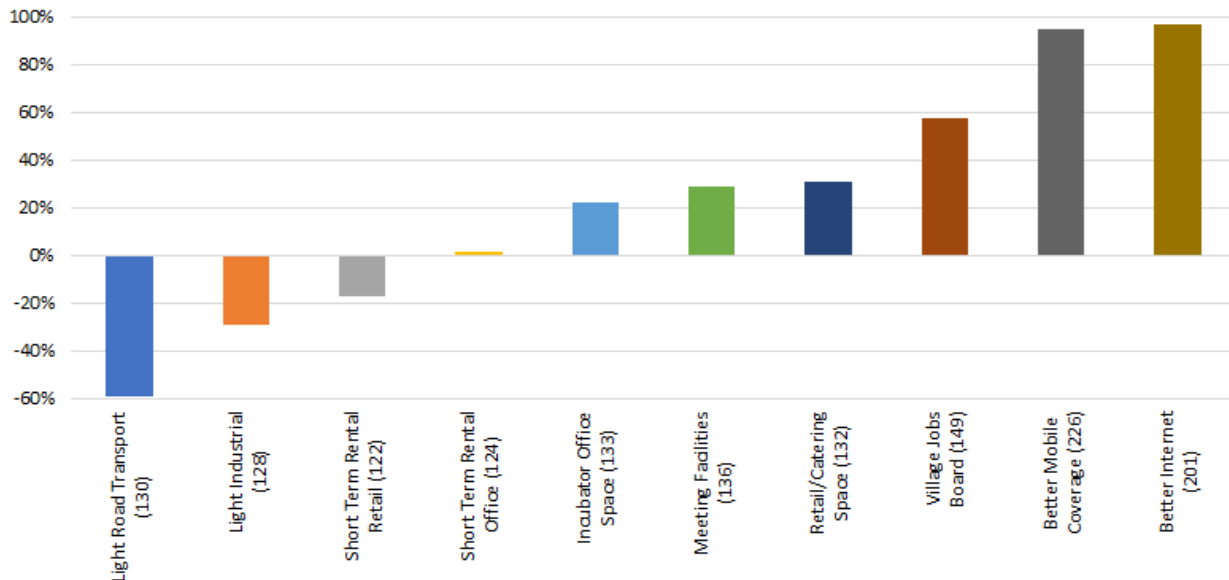


An important business in the village is the Post Office, with half of us using it at least once a month.

Running or Starting a Business in Hardwick

Interest in New Services

When we asked you about what would improve your business or encourage you to start a new business, the overwhelming majority highlighted internet service and improved mobile signal coverage. A village jobs board and retail/catering space would also be desirable.



This chart summarises the relative positivity for a given services as expressed by the 261 people who answered this question. The total responses are shown per answer (whether positive or negative)

Interest in New Facilities

There is significant positive interest in the availability of more premises suitable for Retail or Catering use (31%), Business Meeting Facilities (29%) and Incubator Office space (22%). That said, there is also significant opposition to most of these sorts of facilities, suggesting that a significant number of you want to see Hardwick remain a residential/commuter community.

This opposition to business premises is particularly noticeable when considering facilities such as a light road transport site, light industrial or short-term retail premises.

THE BEST SINGLE CHANGE TO HARDWICK

When we asked you, “In your opinion, what single change to Hardwick would most improve the community for those who live, work, study and visit here in the coming years?”, you were very forthcoming!

191 interesting comments followed from a subset of the 604 respondents and we have tried to group and prioritise what this group said. These are not the opinions of all but certainly enrich much of what you have already read in this report. If you have time to read the comments in full, there is more to learn!

Development

The desire for development, with a few exceptions, seems to be mainly for retirement bungalows to allow downsizing, and affordable housing for young adults moving out of their Hardwick family homes.

There were many, many more requests to stop or minimise future house building, based around fears of losing village identity, becoming part of an endless conurbation running from Cambridge to Cambourne, traffic, damage to wildlife, noise, pollution, disastrous effects on Hardwick School and Pre-School, fears about social housing increasing anti-social behaviour and the loss of Green Belt.

Removing the Burnt Out Building

This was at the top of many people’s agenda, the only variation being what to replace it with: parking, shops, GP surgery, café, club, dentist, office space, community centre, landscaped garden, village hall, church, baker’s, butcher’s, swimming pool, gym, takeaway and restaurants were all suggested.

One suggestion was to move the village shop: to sort the traffic congestion and eyesore in one fell swoop!

New Facilities

This was a very popular theme. All the above suggestions for the replacement of the Burnt Out Building were also made separately, as stand-alone requests, but with the following additions: a bed and breakfast facility, counselling service, adult education facility, mini cinema, a better Guide and Scout Hut, badminton court, more allotments, country park, library, more play parks and an off-licence.

Alongside this was the desire to increase school and pre-school provision: to prevent current village children missing out when the children from new developments join.

Traffic Management

Many respondents gave traffic management as their most wanted change:

- To improve the traffic flow around the shop and post office at all times, around the school during drop off and pick up, and generally increase/improve parking facilities were all popular choices.
- Improving access to Cambridge was suggested multiple times too: either with buses or another road/cycle path on to the St Neots Road from Limes Road.

Following on with this theme was the frequently expressed desire for better maintained roads, pavements and paths, especially Millers Way.

New paved paths for both pleasure and access, for cyclists and walkers, within and beyond the village, were also requested by many.

Better, cheaper bus links to train stations, colleges and business parks were not far behind in the popularity stakes.

Greening and Cleaning

Along with the dislike of the shabby northern entrance to the village came the hope from many to improve the village with trees and flowers; as well as repeated litter picking and dog mess clearing requests and one grass cutting request.

Community Spirit and a Community Centre

The desire to be able to do more volunteering, there to be more volunteering or for there to be more community and social events were again popular, along with the wish for greater village cohesion and a village heart for activities to centre around.

One person also wanted more families to move into the village so new blood could infuse the community.

Already Highlighted

A simple request for better street and path lighting was made many times. Better internet connectivity and mobile phone coverage were mentioned several times.

Communication of Village Matters

A greater presence of the Hardwick community on the internet, with lists of activities, Facebook groups or discussion forums was requested a couple of times; a desire to keep the village notice boards up to date featured too.

Seating

There were a couple of requests for seating at bus stops.

The Pre-school

Some took the opportunity to ensure we keep the pre-school: loved by all responders who mentioned it, the desire to protect it from damage is a recurring theme.

Keeping the Village As It Is

We had many responses saying they loved Hardwick dearly and did not want it altered.

But the last word goes to the “helpful” soul who wishes to build a moat around the village!

HAVE WE MISSED ANYTHING?

We had a large number of helpful and thoughtful suggestions in this section, many of which we have incorporated into the main body of the plan. Here are some of the others, in no particular order:

Transport Infrastructure

There is considerable concern about air pollution levels along St Neots Road, especially if a busway is introduced, and a request for the Parish Council to start monitoring air quality. Indeed, there was a request for the speed limit along St Neots Road to be dropped to 30 because of the difficulty householders are experiencing.

The St Neots Road is part of the village, but several respondents expressed the feeling they are being isolated: they have faced the A428 expansion and are facing extensive development plans plus the potential for “mis-guided” buses without feeling the rest of the village are supporting them.

Requests for better maintenance of roads, ditches and footpaths cropped up a lot! There were also a couple of suggestions that Hall Drive should be adopted, tarmacked, and made one way to ease some of the traffic past the Village shop.

The Burnt Out Building

Amongst the numerous requests to demolish the Burnt Out Building was a suggestion to turn the area into car parking, for the shop and post office.

Village Life

Several people expressed great pleasure in our existing village cohesion and social support. That said, someone wanted more village social events aimed at working aged adults, and someone else thought a village time bank would be good.

There were lots of suggestions about floral front gardens and there was even one saying we should organise hanging baskets on the streets, to both prettify the village and encourage community spirit. A suggestion was made that local businesses should be encouraged to beautify their surroundings.

Indeed, there is a recurrent theme around developing a “heart” to Hardwick around a village green and shops.

One suggestion was that we all make the effort to say “hello” as we pass!

Another idea was employing a community warden to support the vulnerable in our village.

The need for better broadband in the areas of the village lacking “BT infinity” cropped up.

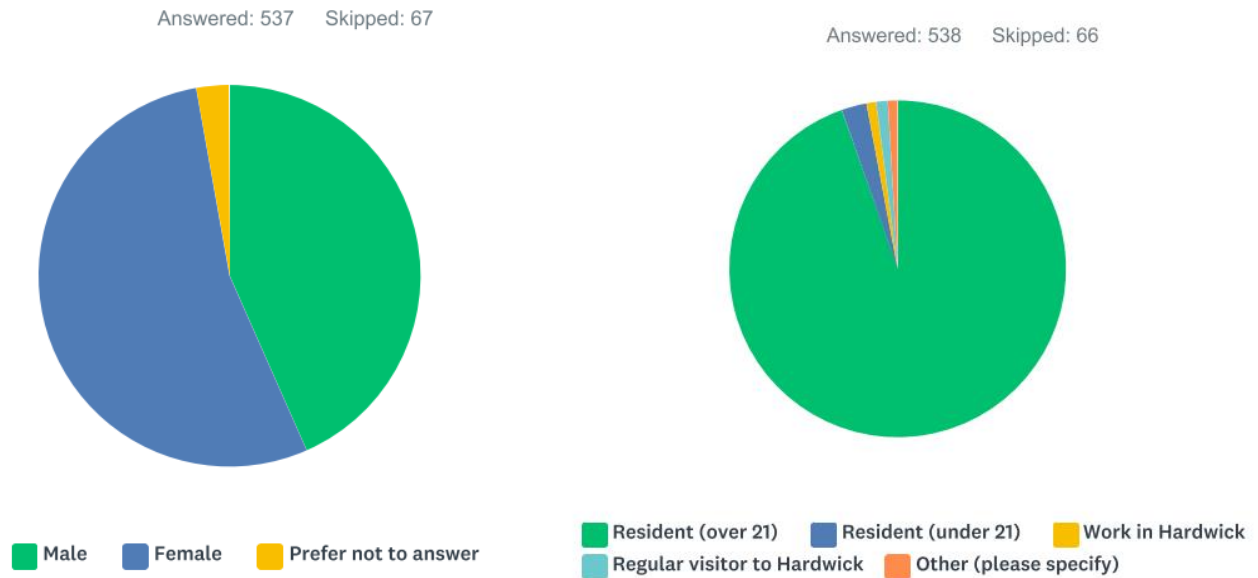
The sad state of the village pond has also got a mention.

Thank Yous

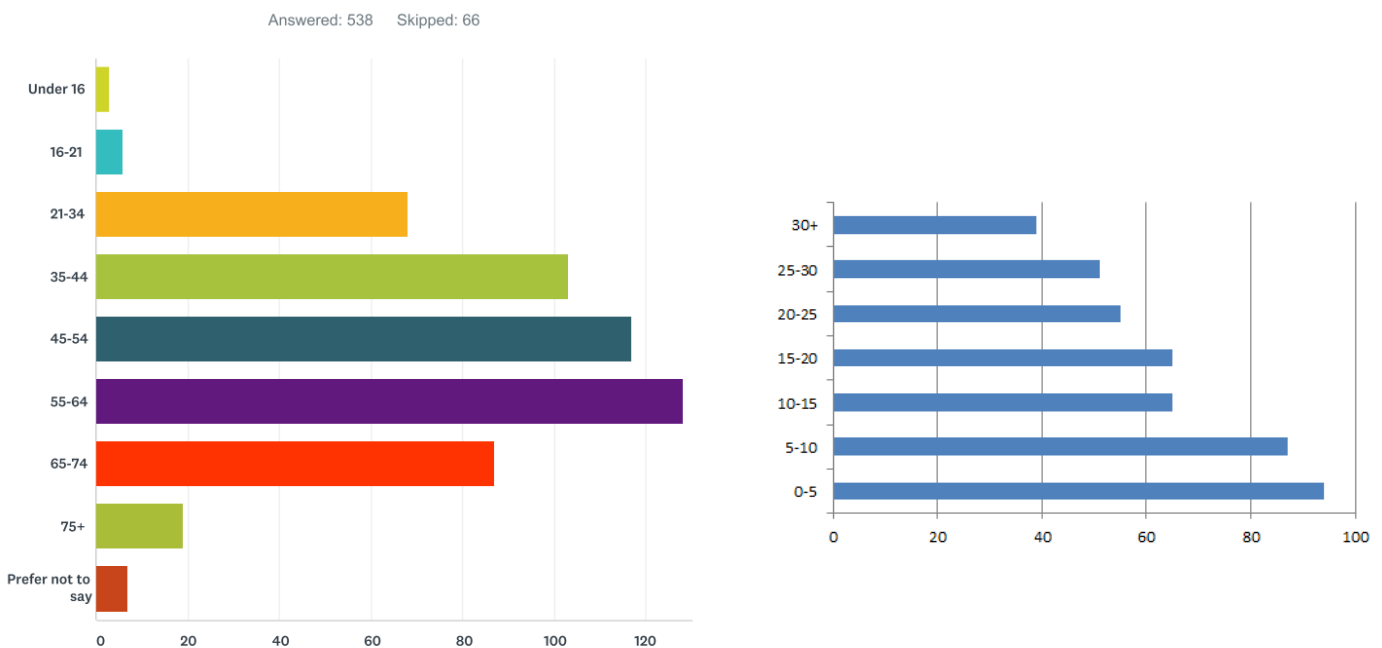
Lots of people thanked us for working so hard to do a very BIG bit of work although one person moaned that the whole thing was useless. Let’s hope they are wrong!

WHO COMPLETED THE SURVEY?

We asked you to provide information about yourselves and your households. We only used these data to validate your responses and, having done so, have removed them from the detailed survey answers.



These charts show an overview of the respondents' age profile and its match to the 2010 census¹.



As we stated when we launched the survey, we haven't done any deeper analysis of the respondents' personal data than this.

¹ See https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Census-database_Parishes.xls

VILLAGE PLAN TIMELINE

Since being funded and endorsed by the Parish Council in August 2015, many people have been involved with its creation. Initial meetings saw varied attendance that led to the formation of a committee and our first major public meeting to gather topics and ideas for the survey.

Regular meetings, awareness raising and other input followed leading to a draft survey.

This was shared with key stakeholders in the village for feedback and compiled into a final on-line survey. After testing using Survey Monkey and registration with the Information Commissioner's Office, the survey was launched on-line and with a mailshot to the mailing list of those who had expressed an interest by late November 2016.

To maximise the response, all those contacted were asked to encourage their family, friends and neighbours to complete the survey. Banners and posters were placed at strategic points in the village and, just after Christmas 2016, each house in the village had a leaflet delivered to raise return rates.

An option to fill in a hard-copy survey and return it directly to the committee or via collection boxes placed in three strategic locations enabled others to respond as well. When these were returned, we transcribed the answers into the same electronic dataset to allow analysis. Such returns are prefaced with TD or BG in the full answer set.

The survey deadline was extended into early February 2017, when the survey closed. We received 619 responses in hard copy or on-line. We consolidated these into a single set of data in Survey Monkey which we checked for completeness and duplicates and this left 604 valid responses.

The calculation of response rates was determined by using the number of households where one or more people responded (and number of reported people in those households by those respondents) as a proportion of the numbers from the 2010 census.

These responses can be seen in pdf on the HVP website, but without any personal data attached. We promised we would not use this for anything other than validating the survey coverage.

The 604 responses have been analysed to produce this report.

This took longer than expected given the rich responses and comments we received. Some of this analysis has already been disseminated to help inform discussions at a number of gatherings whilst this final document was being completed.

Finally, we also tried to directly engage younger members of the village with a simplified version of the survey. Unfortunately, this received too low a turnout to be statistically significant but we did find a number of survey responses from under 16s in the main survey.

