



Aynho Parish Plan 2009 - 2014

The Parish Council is pleased to present the new Parish Plan for the village. The aim of the plan is to improve the quality of life for everyone in the village. As a result of the Village Future Needs Day held on 11th May 2008 and the Survey which followed in September 2008, a number of issues emerged, some new, others ongoing, which will form the basis for the Parish Council's activities over the next five years. An initial summary of the results of the Survey was presented to the village in November.

The Parish Council would like to thank Officers at Northamptonshire ACRE, initially Kathryn Smyth, and later Beth Carswell, for their support with the process and for help towards the funding. We would also like to thank County Councillor Ron Sawbridge for help in obtaining a grant from the County Council. The Council is also very grateful for all the voluntary support and expertise from within and beyond the village and finally to all the residents for a very positive response.

Why we need a new plan

Our first Village Plan ran from 2003 – 2008, and followed a Future Needs Day and Survey in 2002. The response to both was very encouraging, with over 80% of households returning the survey.

As a result of our first plan the Aynho Recorded Music Society (ARMS) was set up and has run successfully ever since. More recently the Aynho History Society has taken off after a couple of false starts. The farm walk, after five walks, still attracts a hundred participants. There have been improvements on the sports field: a major revamp of the pavilion, a bench and a tree donated by the W.I. A tree has also been planted in the children's playground and dog bins located on the black path. There has been some progress on traffic management but this is still a major issue.

There have been a number of developments in the village since the last plan was published. The population has changed: there are many more young people and a regular movement of residents into and out of the village. The Park House and the Cartwright Hotel have new owners whose ideas may well affect aspects of village life. Broadband is now available, giving easier access to electronic communication and information and many more people use this technology as a matter of course.

About Aynho

Aynho is a village with a population of approximately 625 in the far south west of South Northamptonshire District close to the Oxfordshire border. It is located on the B4100, about 11km (7 miles) from Banbury to the northwest and 10km (6 miles) from Brackley to the northeast. Aynho has developed on the edge of an oolitic limestone plateau at approximately 145 metres above sea level, with sweeping views westwards towards the Cotswolds across the Cherwell Valley, in which the M40 London to Birmingham motorway runs only 1km (3/4 mile) away from the settlement. Aynho Conservation Area was originally designated in 1968, covering virtually the whole of the village. In 1987 the boundary was amended to exclude most of the post-war housing on its eastern side.

The first recorded Lord of the Manor in Aynho is a Dane called Aega or Asgar and it is thought that the village name derives from 'the hill of Aega', a fortified hill settlement. In 1616 Richard Cartwright, the younger son of a Cheshire Squire and a wealthy lawyer, bought the Manor and its associated estate lands which included a large amount of village property. The Manor stood where the present house of Aynhoe Park exists today and had a deer park of more than 200 acres. During the Civil War period Aynho saw much coming and going of troops on both sides and at one point Royalist soldiers were garrisoned in the big house. The present house took shape at the end of the 17th century with a number of later modifications. The Cartwrights continued to dominate the life of the village until 1954 when the last Squire and his only son were killed in a car accident. The estate was split up and sold and the house converted to luxury apartments. The most famous legacy of the Cartwrights is probably the planting of the apricot trees against the stone walls of many tenants' cottages. This was carried out in the late 19th century by Thomas Cartwright who was a keen horticulturist and had the trees well maintained by his gardeners, no doubt instructing them to pick the choicest fruits for his table. It is a myth that tenants were able to pay their rent in apricots.

The house has recently been acquired by Mr. James Perkins who is in the process of restoring it to Sir John Soane's original design. It is the private residence of Mr. Perkins who continues to allow traditional village events in the grounds. The two wings of the house are used as commercial offices. The house also contains part of a collection of sculpture casts of international importance.

Mr. Perkins has also acquired Rylands Hill Woods to the east of the village next to the B4100. He is developing plans for the site, which could fundamentally affect its current nature.

Aynho Wharf rose to prominence with the opening of the Oxford Canal from Oxford to Coventry in 1791 and the great Western Railway line in 1845.

A Conservation Area covering all of the older part of the village was established in 1968. There are some important listed buildings including St Michael's Church, the Grammar House and the Almshouses.



Although there is no school and no shop in the village there are thriving Church, Sport and Arts organisations as well as a History Society. The Village Hall, built in 1920, was completely refurbished some years ago, after a major fundraising campaign. A committee of users manages and maintains the hall, which is in heavy use throughout the year.

There is a large sports field with an excellent tennis court and two good football pitches currently used by 4 teams. The pavilion has been renovated and is available for sports and recreation users at a low rental fee. There is some older children's play equipment on the field and a younger children's playground in the centre of the village. Further development of the parking and access to the pavilion and field could be beneficial.

There is a daily postal collection (except Sundays) and a two hourly bus service to Banbury and Brackley. The nearest railway station is at Kings Sutton, 2½ miles away.

Two public houses serve the parish. The Cartwright Hotel, recently refurbished, is at the centre of the village and the well-established Great Western, is at Aynho Wharf.

There are medical practices in Deddington, Banbury and Brackley. The Parish Council funds a bus to the Deddington Surgery and a group of volunteers deliver prescriptions in the village.

There is a monthly church/village newsletter distributed to every household, a village website at www.aynho.net and the Parish Council issues an annual report containing entries from every organisation in the village as well as reports from our County and District Councillors. People moving into the village receive a welcome leaflet, which is regularly revised.

The Parish Council

The aim of The Parish Council is to maintain and improve the quality of life for those who live or work in the Parish of Aynho. As the first level of government the Council has certain duties, powers and responsibilities to help in this purpose and works as well as it can with South Northamptonshire Council, Northamptonshire County Council, the Northamptonshire Police Authority and other relevant organisations, all of which have a direct impact on the quality of life in our parish. The Council is supported in its work by Northamptonshire ACRE, an organisation which offers training and advice to parish Councils and village halls.

In practical terms the Council owns and maintains street lamps, playground equipment, bus shelters and benches. It has responsibility for grass cutting and shares responsibility for general tidiness and litter clearance with District and County Councils. It is consulted on all planning applications but can only make observations on these. Its views are sought frequently on a whole range of policy issues by the organisations listed above and many others.

How Much Does this Cost?

The Council agrees a budget to meet the responsibilities listed above and precepts the relevant amount from the county Council. This is itemised separately on the Council tax statement. The Council's Responsible Financial Officer manages the accounts, which are subject to annual audit internally and externally.

The total Precept for 2008-2009 is £17,325, which represents an approximate average of £61.65 per household.

Contacting the Council

You are welcome to attend all or part of any Council meeting. These are held in the village hall at 7.30 pm on the first Monday of the month except in January and August. The Agenda is published on the notice boards several days before the meeting. You may want to listen to what is said on a particular subject or put your own views. The chairman can suspend standing orders and invite you to join in the discussion, but obviously only Councillors can vote on any proposals arising.

At other times you can contact the Council through the clerk. If you wish the Council to discuss a particular issue it is best if at all possible to put the matter in writing. The Council is then obliged to discuss it.

Many people raise issues informally with Councillors known to them and problems can be resolved through informal advice, but the full Council is not obliged to discuss issues raised in this way.

The Planning Group

The current plan was devised and put together by a group of Parish Councillors and other volunteers from the village, advised by Northamptonshire ACRE.



Amby Hitchcox



Andrew Bellamy



Colin Macklin



Peter Cole



Keith McClellan



Roger Bradford



Lawrence Wilkinson



Sara Clutton

Kay Anderson and Amanda Leigh have also been members of the group.

The group met regularly, organised the Future Needs Day, the Survey, the presentation to the village and the content and publication of this Report.

Future Needs Day, 11th May 2008.

Over a hundred people attended the event. Many societies in the village gained new members and officers from District, County and National Health authorities told us their attendance had been worthwhile in gaining insights into the needs and views of villagers.

Comments recorded at the event suggested that the village is seen as a friendly place with a good mix of community activities. It is felt to be a clean and well-kept village in attractive countryside providing a happy environment. The playground and sports field are highly valued as safe places for children to play outside.

Some issues raised last time were reinforced and some new ones raised. These were incorporated into the Survey.

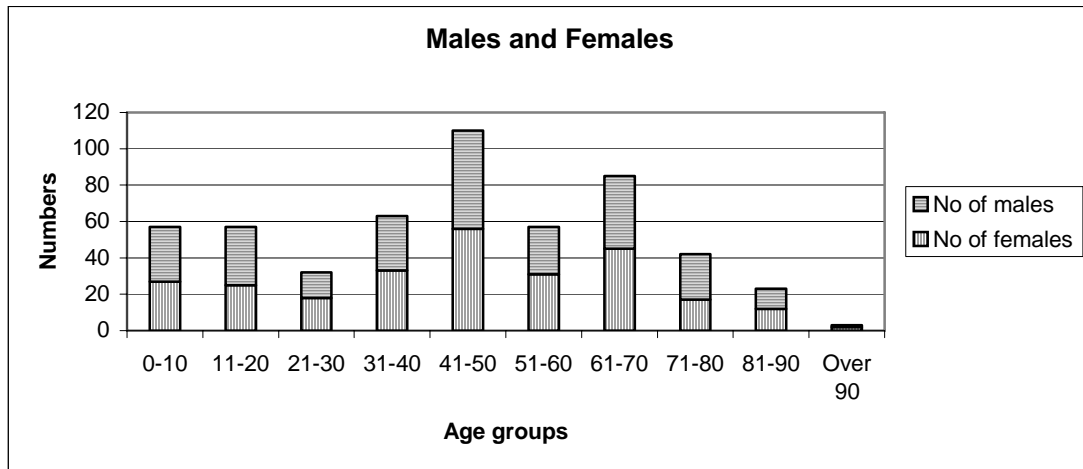
The Survey

The survey was available online and distributed to each household in the village. 220 survey forms were returned. This represents approximately 75% of households, a similar percentage to the 2002 survey. The survey was divided into a number of sections. The results and conclusions follow.

Household and Personal

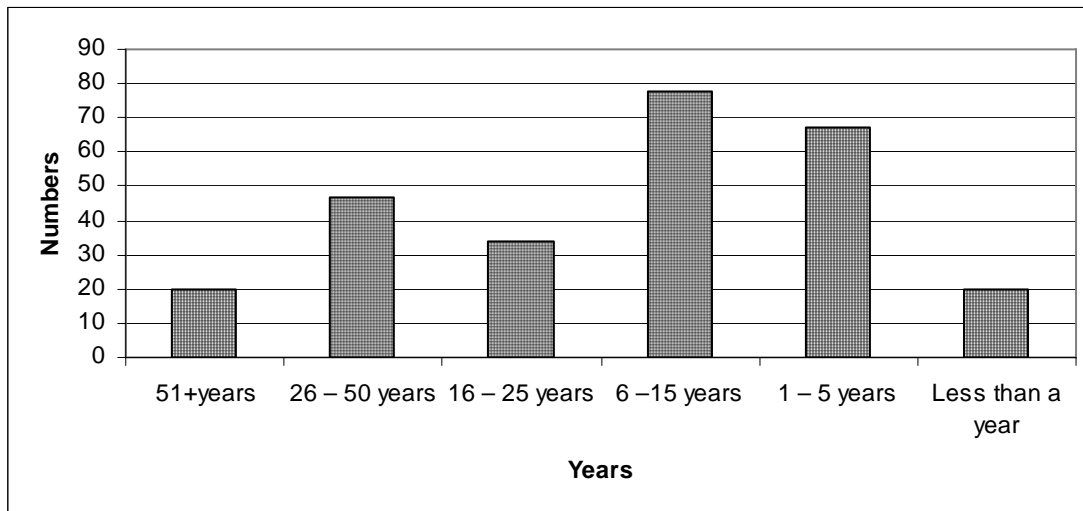
Population

Age Distribution (Q1)



Over 21% of the population are under 20 years old. The largest group is aged between 40 and 50, the next largest between 60 and 70. More than 12% are aged over 70 with 3 people aged 90+.

Length of Time in the Village (Q5)



Over 33% of respondents have moved into or been born into the village since our last survey in 2002. Only 30% have lived here longer than 15 years.

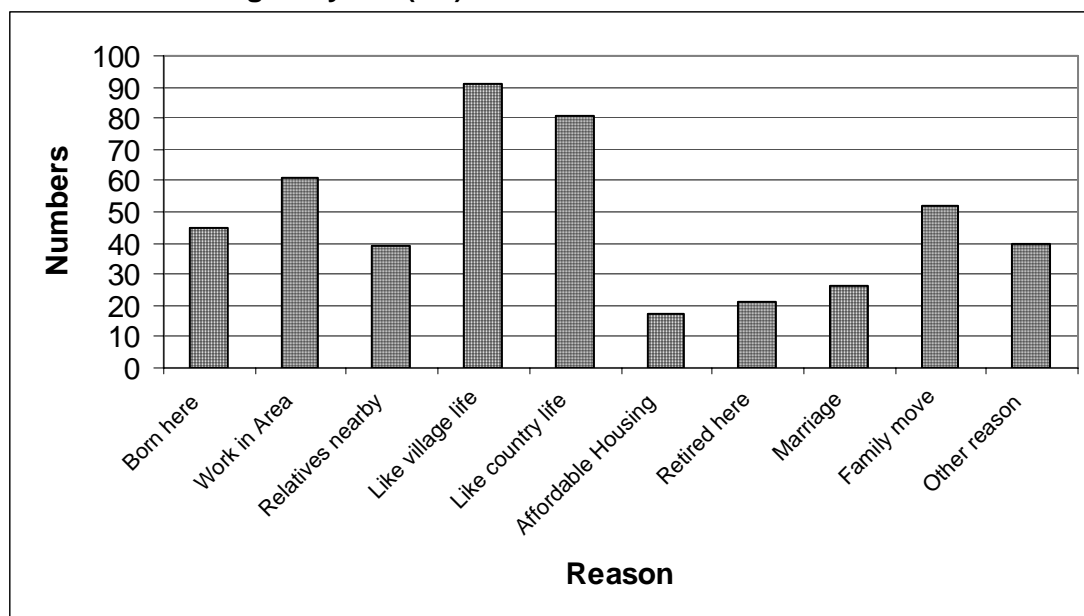
Current Situation

The two changing features in the population are the increase in teenagers as a proportion of the population and the third of the population who have arrived in the last six years. There is also an increase in the numbers of elderly people.

Future Action

- Consult further on ways to meet teenage leisure needs.
- Ensure provision and support for the elderly.

Reasons for Living in Aynho (Q6)



People could give more than one reason for living in the village, but it is clear that many people enjoy village life and life in the country. 36% give this as a reason for living here. As expected, work in the area and family move are the other strong reasons given.

Education

Under 16 Education (Q2)

	2002	2008
Play Group	6	10
Nursery School	8	6
Primary School	47	32
Secondary School	26	35
School for Special Needs	0	0
Other -	5	2
Total	92	85

85 children under 16 were in some level of education, a similar number to 2002. The main difference since then, as expected, is the increase in the number of secondary school students so that numbers are now evenly divided between Primary and Secondary School and these made up 67 of the total.

In 2002 47 children were in Primary but only 26 were in Secondary. 16 of the remainder were at Play Group or Nursery school.

16+ Education (Q3)

Of the over 16s in education numbers were almost evenly divided between sixth form, college and university with a small number on training courses.

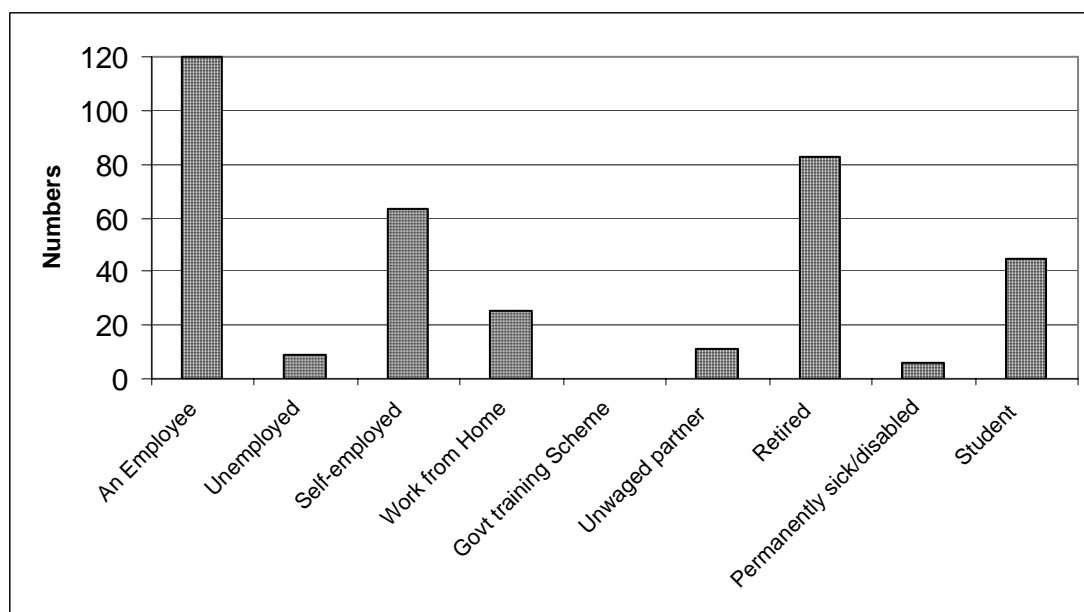
The vast majority of the young population in the village are involved in education at the appropriate age levels.

Getting to School (Q4)

Get to School	Total
Walk	2
Cycle	0
Car	55
School Bus	44
Service Bus	2
Total	103

The majority of children get to school by car, closely followed by those who take the school bus. No children appear to cycle to school.

How People Are Employed In Aynho (Q7)



Business Network (Q7a)

Although the majority of the people who answered this question were not interested in the formation of a Village Business Network, this is hardly surprising as the Business Network will be attractive to mainly the small business owner/Director or sole trader. Encouragingly, 37 people answered in the affirmative.

Current Situation

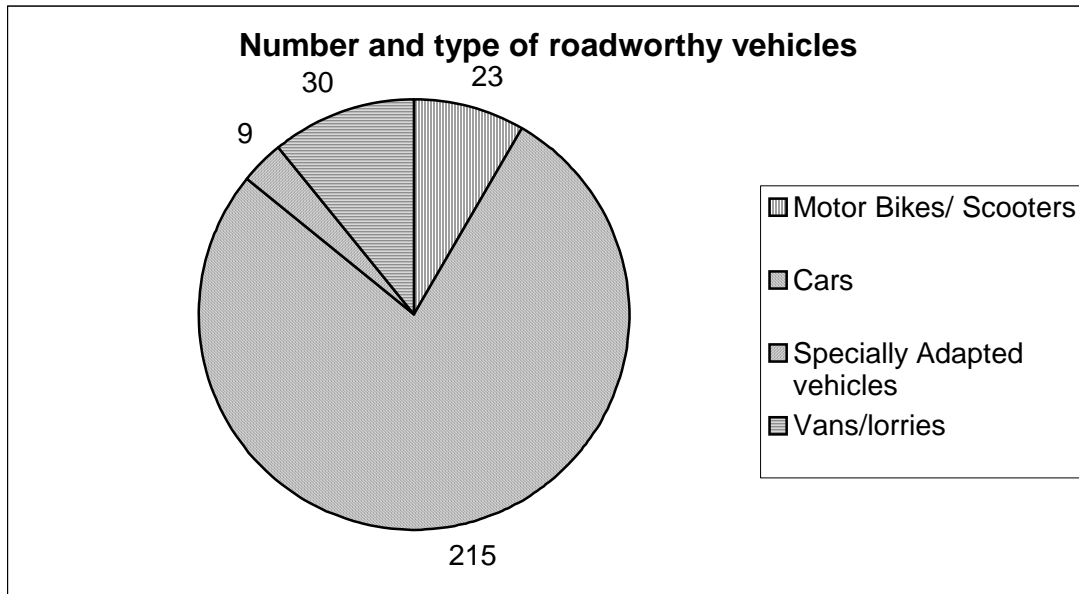
The Parish Council agreed that there are sufficient people to justify holding a first meeting. A Breakfast Meeting was held with support from the Cartwright Hotel on 3rd March, 2009. This was well supported. It was agreed that the group would now be known as the Aynho Business Community (ABC). A small steering group has been set up to shape future development. Parish Councillors Colin Macklin and Andy Anderson have led this initiative.

Future Development

The Council will continue to support the steering group in establishing the ABC as a self - sustaining organisation, which meets the needs of its members.

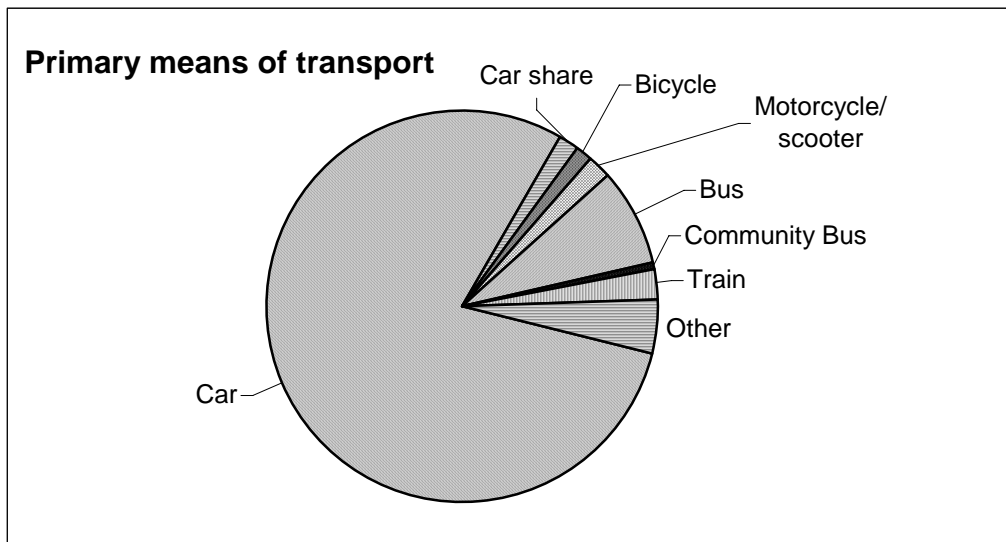
Roads & Transport

Roadworthy Vehicles (Q8)



The 220 respondent households together owned 426 vehicles. Given that Aynho is rurally remote, together with the infrequent transport links and the need to travel for work, education, recreation, visiting hospital/doctors/dentists, the figure of almost two vehicles per respondent family can be understood. The fact that each residence needs parking space for two vehicles underlines the pressure on car parking spaces that are highlighted later in the survey results.

Primary Means Of Transport (Q9)



The car is the primary means of travel for the 2 parent respondents within the households – 95% of the Person 1 respondents and 71% of the Person 2 respondents declared the car as their primary transport mode. Additionally a further 65 people amongst the respondents declared the car to be the primary means of travel. These 65 people may be adult children of the family and own their own cars to travel for work/education/recreation/shopping etc

The survey notes a low level of car sharing in the village (5 people in 220 respondents).

Very few people (4) declared the bicycle to be their primary means of travel. Motorcycle usage, declared as the primary transport means, is equally small (6)

The bus is the primary transport mode for only 30 villagers: the train for only seven.

Daytime use of the vehicle (Q10)

As expected the majority of respondents use their vehicles for:

- Business or going to work - 290 respondents
- Leisure – 281 respondents
- Shopping – 264 respondents
- School runs – 54 respondents
- Other – 47 respondents

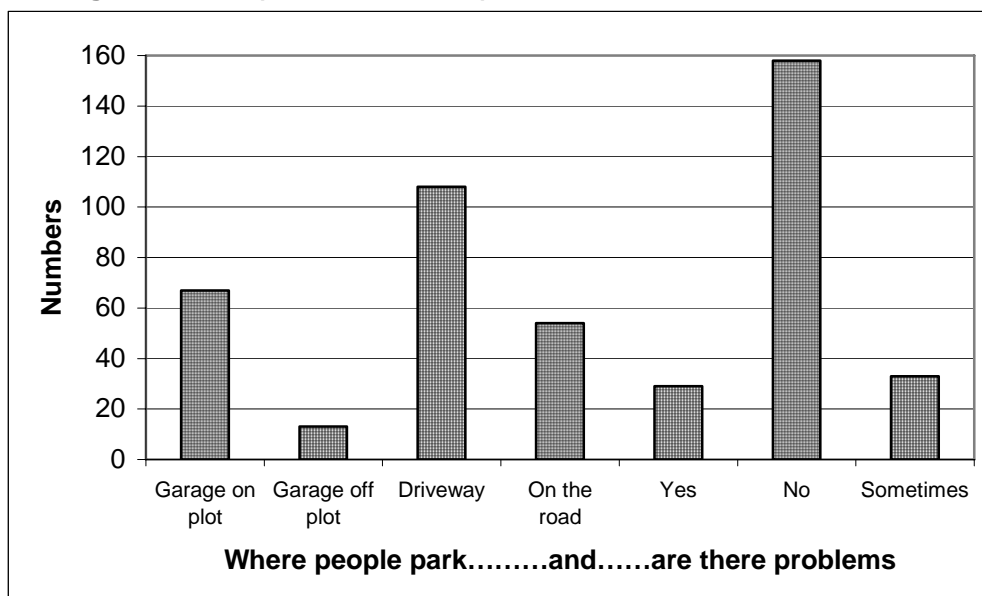
Given the number of school buses servicing the village (to schools that village children are entitled to attend) the 54 people who use their cars to take children to school is high.

Parking Places (Q11)

Of the 420 vehicles that were declared by respondents:

- 114 were parked in garages
- 174 were parked in driveways
- 86 were parked on the roads
- 42 were parked in other areas (e.g. The grass areas in The Glebe)

Parking Problems (Q12, Q13, Q13a)



Given that 77% of all vehicles are parked in private garages or driveways, it is not surprising that the majority of respondents (72%) felt that parking in the village was not an issue.

For those people who do not have the means to park on their property, parking space is a key and growing issue, with limited road space adjacent to properties trying to provide parking for an increasing number of people (residents and visitors). The survey suggests that parking is an issue in the following locations:

- Roundtown
- The Square
- Croughton Road (inc the green in front of the Cartwright Hotel)
- Charlton Road
- The Glebe

73% of respondents would support changes to the village to accommodate parking. This high figure is indicative of the depth and scale of the parking issue and that something needs to be done to solve the issue.

Current Situation

- The recent reopening of the Cartwright Hotel has exacerbated the parking issue in the vicinity of these premises and will increasingly do so.
- The Parish Council has recently investigated the provision of a Residents' Parking Permit Scheme for this area of the village. It appears that the time and expense of setting-up and policing a residents' parking permit scheme is heavily bureaucratic, onerous and expensive.
- The Parish Council is in dialogue with officers of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) on the issue of parking throughout the above-mentioned areas of the village. The Parish Council is making the case that the lack of provision of "approved" parking spaces is forcing residents and visitors to park in increasingly dangerous places (e.g. opposite the double white line road markings in Roundtown and on/near to corners in Charlton Road), which are often illegal. Aynho PC is using this issue of the danger that is created as a means of securing capital to invest in parking schemes that will alleviate these problems. The Parish Council is investigating with NCC whether the capital can be utilised from the forthcoming NCC RightTracks Road Safety programme. Two out of the eight routes designated in this programme converge on Aynho – the B4100 and the B4031. The Parish Council is making a strong case for the parking issue to be solved under this programme and is cautiously optimistic that at least three elements of the problem can be solved

Future Action

- The Parish Council will look at other sources of finance to solve any issues that are not included in the RightTracks programme.
- The Council will use the support provided by the survey to press the case.

Interest in a Car-sharing scheme (Q14)

23 residents would be interested in such a scheme.

Future Action

The Parish Council will research the 34 received comments from respondents and if sufficient demand exists will investigate the opportunities for creating a scheme.

Street Lighting (Q15)

The majority opinion (65%) in the village is that the levels of lighting are appropriate for a small village. Only a small minority (3%) believes that there is too much lighting in the village. There are however areas of the village where the lack of provision of street lighting constitutes a danger to our residents:

- Banbury Road from College Fields to Charlton Road
- Roundtown

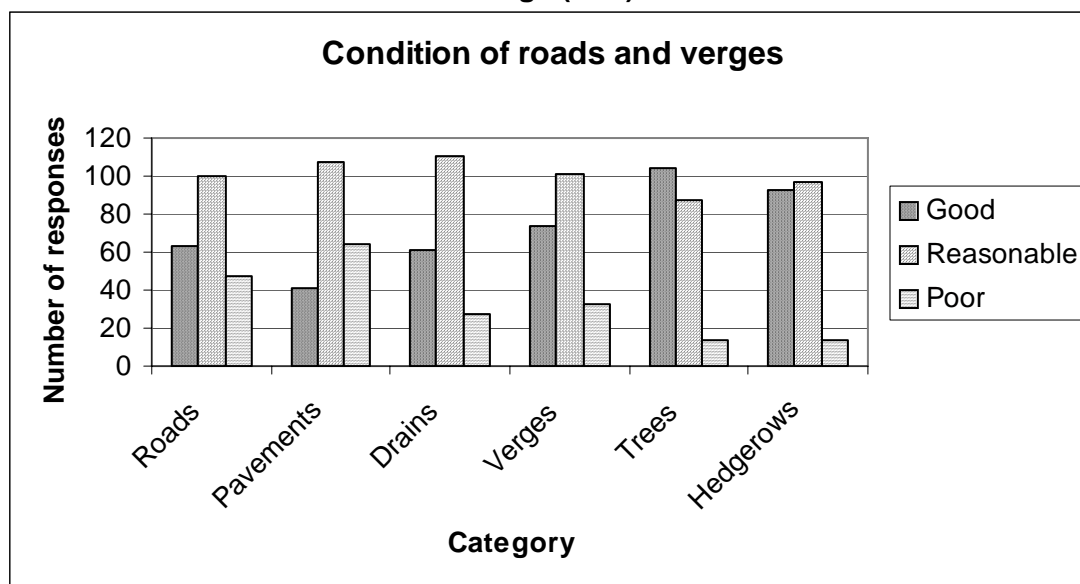
Current Situation

- Health and Safety concerns dictate that lighting should be considered for installation in these areas
- The Parish Council is investigating provision of solar powered streetlights for the above areas.

Future Action

The Parish Council will consult those affected with proposals and positioning for any new lamps.

The state of infrastructure in the Village (Q16)



Roads – 78% of respondents believe that the local roads are in good or reasonable condition, but the following roads are reported in poor condition: Charlton Road, Portway, Cartwright Gardens, Banbury Road.

Pavements – 70% of respondents believe that the condition of local pavements is good or reasonable, but the following areas are in poor condition: Charlton Road, Roundtown, Main Road, The Butts/ Bowmens Lea.

- **Drains** – 86% believe that drains are in good/reasonable condition. There are areas of the village where foul-smelling drains are affecting the quality of life of residents:
 - Bottom of Holloway/ Blacksmith’s Hill
 - Banbury Road by Charlton Road corner
 - By the footpath into College Fields
- These smelling drains are particularly obvious during prolonged hot weather but also increasingly in the recent wet spells where large volumes of water flood from drains higher in the village
- **Verges, Trees and Hedgerows**
An overwhelming majority of respondents believe that these items are in good/reasonable condition.

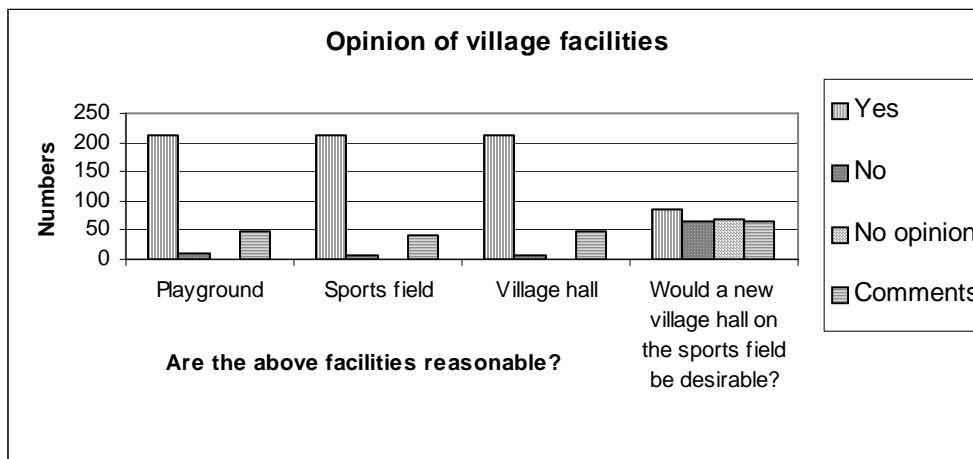
Current Situation

- Potholed surfaces are adding to road noise and causing damage to vehicles.
- Aynho PC has embarked on a detailed and to-date constructive dialogue with May Gurney, the NCC Highways Agents, on this issue and is pressing for roads and pavements to be repaired, and road signs to be regularly cleaned/repaired.
- The Parish Council has recently appointed a local contractor to clean signs and pavements, and to clear road drainage where necessary.
- Previous investigations by Thames Water have had only a short-term effect on the foul-smelling drain areas.

Future Action

- Continue to work with NCC and May Gurney.
- Monitor situations through annual risk assessment procedures.
- Communicate avenues for residents to raise issues, via newsletter, website, and welcome leaflet.
- Individual comments from returned questionnaires will be researched with a view to making incremental improvements to the condition of verges etc.

Community Social Facilities



Children’s Playground (Q17)

79% of those who responded thought facilities were reasonable. Some comments suggested an update is necessary. Ideas for improvement included:

- More equipment – roundabout, adventure trail
- More equipment for 8-12 year olds
- Shelter/Shade

Sports field (Q18 & 19)

82% of those who responded thought the facilities were reasonable. The tennis court and the improvements to the pavilion were noted as benefits.

25% suggested further facilities and those mentioned most often were:

- Running and cycle track/trimtrail
- BMX park/skate board area (as at King’s Sutton)
- Golf bunker – rugby post– cricket net – tennis practice wall

Other comments mentioned the access road and lack of parking facilities, and a need for more provision for teenagers.

Village Hall (Q20 & 23)

74% of respondents thought the village hall a reasonable facility although some felt it was outdated. Parking facilities were seen as the main problem.

30% would favour a new village hall on the sports field, 23% oppose the idea. The remainder had no opinion.

Comments in favour valued the Community centre idea, and the improved parking facilities and felt the current hall would provide a good facility for a shop or a car park. Those against felt it would be on the periphery of the village and would take up space currently used for sports. They also questioned the necessity and the expense.

Further Social Activities (Q21 & 22)

A wide range of further social activities were suggested including the following:

Clubs: for Books, Bridge, Brownies/Cubs, Film, Over 50s, Photography, Rambling, Scrabble, Tennis, Yoga, Youth.

Social activities: such as meeting points, camp night, café, quiz nights.

Other Facilities and Events included: a better fête, a shop, keep-fit, barn dance.

20% of respondents would consider helping to set up or run such activities.

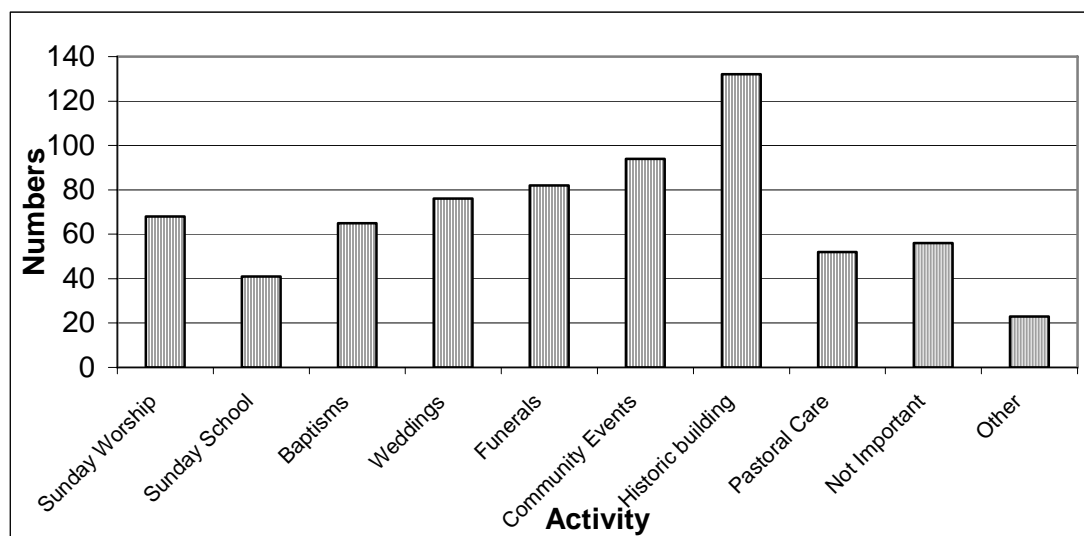
Current Situation

- The playground is inspected and maintained by the Parish Council, and ROSPA recommendations are put in place.
- Grants have been researched and volunteers recruited towards developing a running/cycling track for the sports field.
- The village hall is well maintained and has a newly refurbished kitchen
- May time in The Square will continue and develop into a more varied festival

Future Action

- Continue to update play areas with additional facilities for older children
- Pursue grants and develop track facility
- Further develop pavilion to provide alternative venue for social events
- Encourage social groups to organise events.
- Communicate information about groups and facilities effectively.

Importance of St Michael's Church (Q24)



As the above table shows, St Michael's Church, Aynho, is valued by a large number of residents as a historic building and a focal point for the community. Some residents also value the spiritual life of the church and the main festivals. Several residents commented on how much they enjoy the carillon and bells. The church fete is a key date in many people's calendars and there were several requests for similar events, so the wider village community could perhaps explore this.

The Parochial Church Council has noted any comments.

Healthcare Section (Q25, 26, 27)

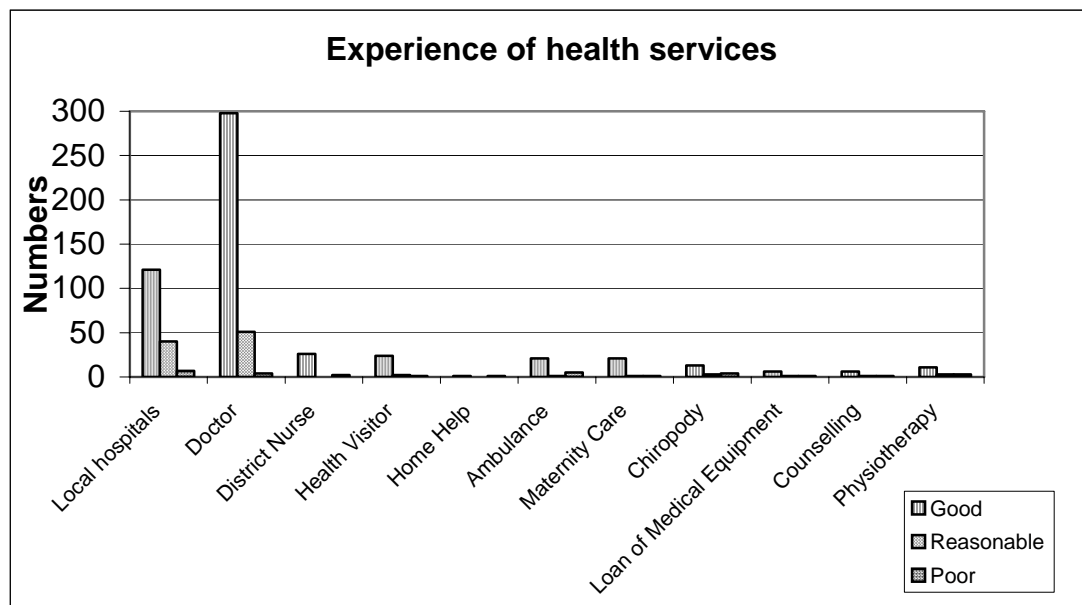
Local Surgery or Health Centre

Deddington Health Centre is used by 54% of households responding, 21% use practices in Banbury, 16% Brackley, the remaining households use a range of other practices in such places as Bicester and Bloxham.

Since 2002 Deddington has increased from 47% at the expense of Brackley practices, which have reduced from 23%. This means 84% of residents are now registered with practices in Oxfordshire but receive social care from Northamptonshire.

As the chart below shows the vast majority of respondents find the local practices and the local hospital either good or reasonable.

12 residents from eight households are registered disabled.



Future Action

The Council will follow up on communication problems between the two health and social care authorities where there is evidence of poor co-ordination.

Safety & Environment

Views on Police Surgeries held at some Post Office sessions (Q28)

A large majority of residents (79%) thought the service inadequate. The main reasons given were that people did not know of the service, or they did not know in advance which days the officers would be there.

Current Situation

Sessions in the village Hall are now at regular fortnightly intervals unless there is a major emergency. Dates are advertised in the village newsletter.

Views on Litter and Dog Waste Bins (Q29)

A large majority of residents (85%) think provision is adequate. There were many suggestions for extra bins but the area most frequently identified for litterbins was the sports field: for dog waste the Charlton Road, especially near the junction with Green Lane.

Current Situation

Regular reminders in village newsletter

Future Action

Cost the installation of one further bin.

Difficulties with Footpaths and Bridleways (Q30)

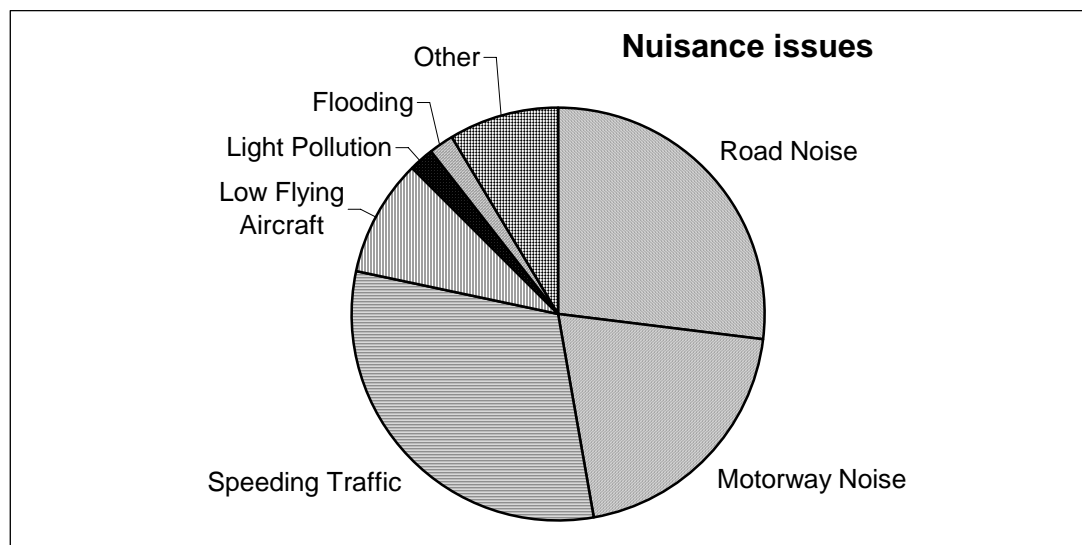
There is often a misunderstanding about footpaths because the term describes both the paths out into the countryside and the pavements within the village. In addition bridleways are for the use of horses as well as walkers, whereas footpaths are for walkers only. Most people have no problems with the countryside footpaths and bridleways or do not use them.

Current Situation

- The footpath warden patrols paths regularly and reports to the Parish Council quarterly, negotiates with Rights of Way officers and farmers over any problems. Farmers very co-operative.
- The Parish Council organizes annual farm walks so that farmers can explain their land use and how people can use the countryside safely without causing problems to farming livestock and wildlife.

Nuisances from which Aynho residents suffer (Q31)

This question in the village survey was designed to attempt to quantify the depth of feeling on a series of annoyance issues that have been long known about and cause concern to Aynho residents.



Speeding Traffic and Road Noise.

Current Situation

- Aynho PC petitioned the full NCC Council meeting in June 2007 to achieve recognition of the extreme nuisance from which the village suffers.
- Constant lobbying on this issue has resulted in the B4100 and B4031 being designated as 2 of the 8 rural routes in South Northamptonshire to be included in the government-funded RightTracks programme of Road Safety upgrades.

Future Action

- The Parish Council will maintain the pressure for Aynho to be granted safety upgrades from this programme that will be focussed on reducing the speed of traffic into and through the village. Aynho PC is fully aware that some preventative measures can cause adverse side effects (e.g. speed bumps) and will therefore oppose their adoption. Capital investment projects for inclusion in the RightTracks programme will be designed by March 2009 and the improvements will be in place by March 2010.

Motorway Noise

Current Situation

- Aynho PC has recently made strong representations to the Highways Agency on this issue. The Highways Agency has refused to take action because it uses planning criteria based on the distance that an affected village must be located from the Motorway: Aynho does not qualify.

Future Action

- Aynho PC will persist on this issue and will join an existing campaign of Councils in the Chilterns section of the M40 to try to obtain relief.
- The Parish Council will continue to use the levels of noise results obtained from a 2005 South Northamptonshire Council noise monitoring survey. These showed that Aynho persistently suffered noise levels throughout the 24-hours that are adjudged by the World Health Organisation to be a danger to health.

Low Flying Aircraft

Current Situation

- Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airstrip is used by a variety of light aircraft. The Parish Council and the other parishes in Little Brook Ward have raised the issue and understand that pilots are asked to avoid villages. This does not seem to happen as 86 people noted.

Future Action

- The Parish Council will write to the clubs again to seek their cooperation in adopting flying patterns away from the village.

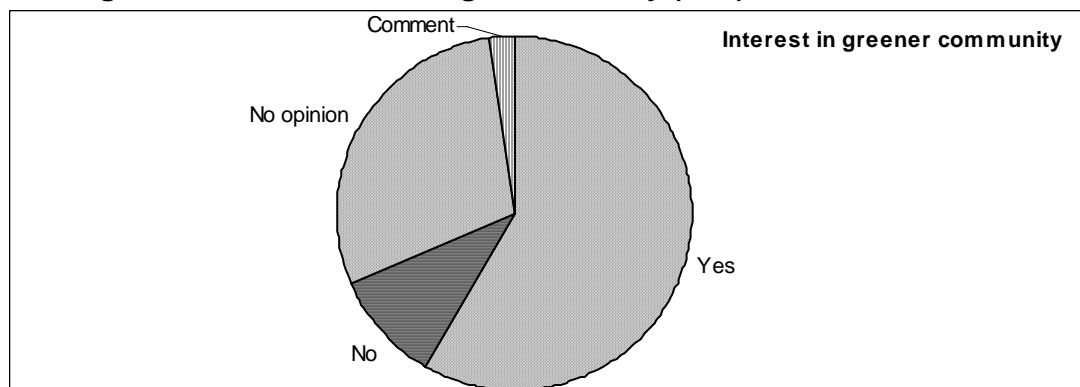
Light Pollution – mentioned by 18 respondents. The majority of the respondents were content on this issue but there are a number of areas of the village where lighting levels are dangerous. Action needs to be taken, but in a sympathetic way to avoid light contamination. (see note on Street Lighting, Q15)

Flooding – mentioned by 20 respondents. This is a real issue in the area of the village that surrounds the Canal Boatyard.

Future Action

- The Parish Council will consult residents and NCC to establish the extent of the problem.
- Press for effective action to prevent future flooding.

Working Towards a Greener Village Community (Q32)



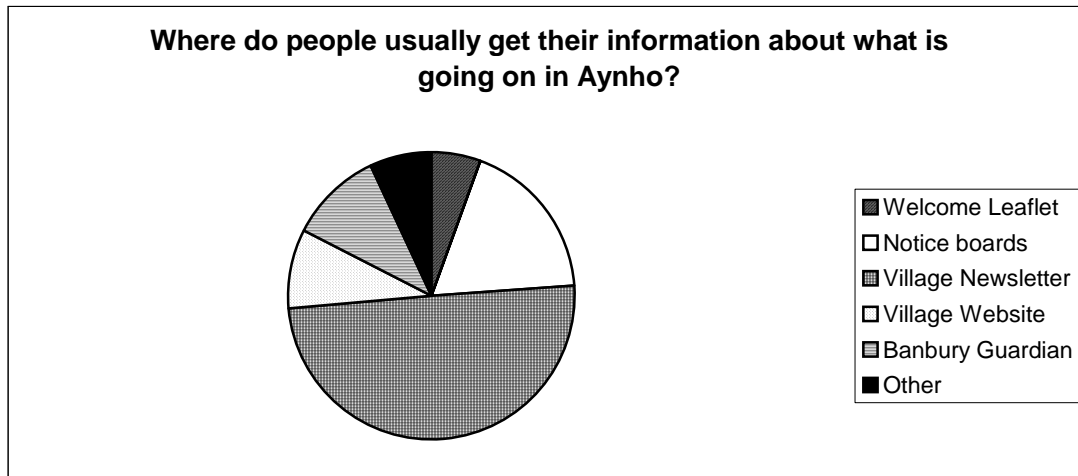
A majority of residents (55%) would favour working towards a greener community, 12% would not and 34% were undecided. Comments emphasised the need for better recycling, more information and more community commitment.

Future Action

- The Parish Council will call an initial meeting to test the viability of forming a group to promote a greener community. Such a group can then establish a framework for working.
- The Parish Council will examine the practicality of considering environmental issues in any projects it undertakes.

Communications

The sources and quality of information about village events (Q 33, 34&35)



Many people will look at more than one of the above. In 2002 no one used the village website and only 5% the welcome leaflet.

Most people find the quality of information provided is good or reasonable. Many people pointed out that much depended on the quality of information provided by the various organisations themselves. 75% thought the quality of information from the Parish Council good or reasonable, 9% thought it poor and 16% didn't know. This is a big improvement from 2002, when over 25% thought it was poor.

Access to the Internet (Q36)

80% of respondents have regular Internet access, compared with less than 70% who ever used it in 2002. It is clear that we cannot rely on *www.aynho.net* as the only means of publicity. It is useful for information which cannot fit into the newsletter, for example the Parish Council minutes.

10% of this survey's responses were via Internet.

Current Situation

There has been an improvement in the quality and accessibility of information about the village and the issues that affect it since the last survey. The Parish Council is working with the current manager of the website, Lawrence Wilkinson, to modernise the site, so that village organisations can upload their information for themselves, thereby keeping all sections up to date.

Future Action

- The Parish Council expects to complete the website arrangements shortly.
- The council will continue to give as much information as possible in the newsletter.
- It is hoped that there will soon be a village correspondent for the Banbury Guardian.

General Comments

What People Like about Aynho (Q37)

friendliness of villagers	17%
attractive location, country aspect and pursuits	14%
unspoilt nature and picturesque qualities	13%
strong community spirit and number of activities available	11%
general peace and quiet (aside from motorway noise)	8%
good access to surrounding towns and road links	7%
historic buildings	6%

Remaining comments covered the safe village environment and character, the cleanliness and order, the mix and neighbourliness of people, and the welcome given to newcomers.

Aynho Would be Even Better if it Had (Q38)

a shop	30%
a good village pub	21%
lower traffic density and/or speed	15%

Other respondents asked for a primary school and doctor's surgery; safety measures on the main road through the village, including a crossing; more interaction with other villages and within the village; better broadband; getting wider involvement in running village affairs; providing social visiting services for the elderly/infirm.

Other Comments (Q39)

good service from Parish Councillors	12%
a shop, please	8%
improved warning signs/traffic controls at junctions	8%
tidy up the footpaths and trees	8%

Other issues raised by one or two respondents were:

environmental protection; communications infrastructure; access to more information about what is happening in the village; inclusion of the Wharf area in village plans; integration of single people into a village of increasing numbers of families.

Current Situation

- Cartwright Hotel is now open and provides bar, restaurant and functions room facilities.
- The Village shop group is working hard towards the establishment of a local shop
- Other key points raised are addressed earlier in the plan.

Funding

Northamptonshire ACRE	£760
Northamptonshire County Council	£350
Parish Council	£75
In Kind by helpers (well over)	£300
Total	£1485

Action Plan

An Action Plan will be developed to incorporate the following points as suggested in the consultation.

No.	Key issue	Action	HT	PC	Comm
1	Population change	Consult on teenage needs		X	X
2		Ensure provision/support for elderly	X		
3		Continue to support ABC			X
4	Roads/Transport	Continue with Rightracks	X		
5		Seek finance for other transport issues	X		
6		Assist estab Car sharing scheme			X
7		Consult on placing of street lamps		X	
8	Infrastructure	Work with May Gurney on issues raised	X		
9		Regular risk assessments		X	
10		Give residents means of raising concerns		X	
11		Check comments on Survey.		X	
12	Community Facilities	Programme to update Playground		X	
13		Cont. with Running track etc		X	
14		Pursue further interests			X
15	Health care	Check comm. problems Ox/Nth	X	X	
16	Environment	Cost another dog bin		X	
17		Work with pressure groups re Motorway		X	
18		Use sound readings	X		
19		Re-contact Hinton Air – re noise		X	
20		Consult re flood risk at Wharf and follow up if necessary	X		X
21		Kick start Green Group			X
22	Communications	Continue website revision		X	X
23		Continue info re. newsletter		X	
24		Banbury Guardian correspondent			X
25	General	Cont support for shop group			X

HT = Higher Tier of local government PC = Parish Council Comm = Community