

... Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plan



Community Questionnaire Analysis ...

The Parish of Braybrooke has commenced the preparation of their Neighbourhood Plan.

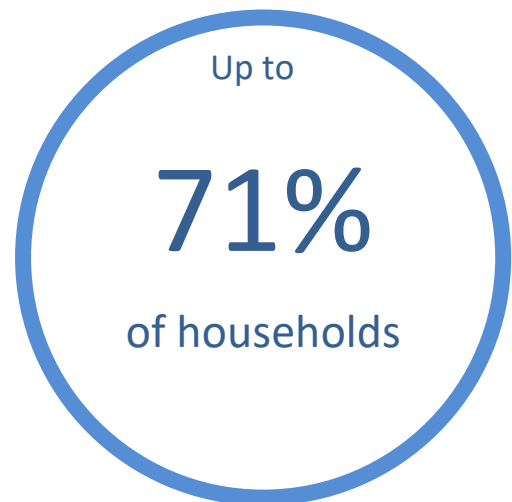
An important part of this inclusive process is, of course, obtaining the views and aspirations of the community. Key to this has been the development and dissemination of a community questionnaire.

The questionnaire contains 49 questions and is based on important themes established following initial consultation work by the team leading the Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plan.

The questionnaire took place during October and November of 2020. It was available to complete electronically and as a paper version. The level of response from the community was good, there being 119 responses. This represents a return from over 36% of the adult population, (329 aged 16 plus).

Given that some households choose to respond collectively rather than as individuals; it is also pertinent to consider the number of responses in relation to the number of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The number of responses represents the equivalent of up to 71% of the 167 occupied households.

This demonstrates a very good level of commitment to the Neighbourhood Plan by the community and, in turn, adds strength to the validity of the collected views expressed.



Braybrooke Community Life

Q1 As a resident of Braybrooke Parish how important do you consider the following?

	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
Rural location and access to countryside	0.00% 0	0.87% 1	0.00% 0	12.17% 14	86.96% 100
Community facilities - village hall, pub, church/chapel	0.00% 0	2.56% 3	4.27% 5	13.68% 16	79.49% 93
Open spaces and green areas	0.00% 0	1.77% 2	5.31% 6	18.58% 21	74.34% 84
Footpaths	1.74% 2	3.48% 4	5.22% 6	18.26% 21	71.30% 82
Village character - its buildings and history	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	10.08% 12	24.37% 29	65.55% 78
Village community/identity	0.00% 0	0.87% 1	6.09% 7	26.09% 30	66.96% 77
Social interactions, events, clubs & groups	0.00% 0	4.35% 5	16.52% 19	30.43% 35	48.70% 56
Proximity to local towns	6.19% 7	4.42% 5	21.24% 24	28.32% 32	39.82% 45
Public transport	1.74% 2	8.70% 10	26.09% 30	25.22% 29	38.26% 44
Cycle paths	11.71% 13	8.11% 9	27.03% 30	27.93% 31	25.23% 28
Facilities for children & teenagers	3.57% 4	11.61% 13	26.79% 30	34.82% 39	23.21% 26
Access to major road networks, railways & airports	10.71% 12	8.93% 10	33.93% 38	25.89% 29	20.54% 23
Suitable housing development to meet local needs	12.71% 15	11.86% 14	38.14% 45	22.03% 26	15.25% 18

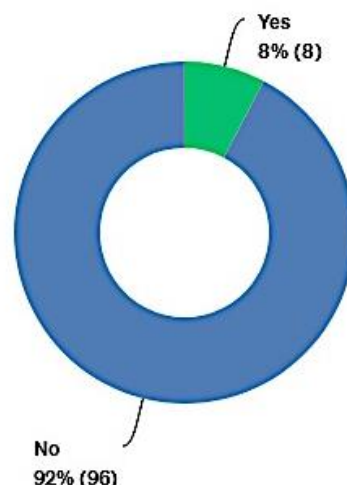
(The table shows the percentage and the number responding to each option)

All but two of the options in this question have a majority of responses stating that they are important/very important - only 'access to major road networks, railways and airports' (46%) and 'suitable housing developments to meet local need' (37%) do not.

Considered most important is 'Rural location and access to countryside' (99%). Elements of the rural nature and community spirit are shown by respondents to be important benefits to living in Braybrooke.

Respondents made a number of additional comments. These appear in full in the appendix. Several responses emphasise the value placed on the rural, quiet location and the desire to see this preserved. Others focus on disabled access, footpaths and cycle routes.

Q2 Are there any special requirements (e.g. use of a pushchair/pram/wheelchair) you or any members of your household have?



8% of respondents said they had special requirements regarding access.

In comments made, 6 respondents mentioned wheelchair access, 7 mentioned pushchair and pram access. One person raised the issue of walking with a stick and two people celebrated not having any such special requirements at present!

A full list of responses appears in the appendix.

Environment & Heritage

Q3 How important are the following?

	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
Protection of wildlife and habitat	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5.31% 6	20.35% 23	74.34% 84
Green spaces	0.00% 0	0.89% 1	4.46% 5	24.11% 27	70.54% 79
Rural views	0.00% 0	0.89% 1	6.25% 7	22.32% 25	70.54% 79
Community buildings - e.g. village hall	0.00% 0	1.77% 2	8.85% 10	22.12% 25	67.26% 76
Significant trees and hedgerows	0.00% 0	0.88% 1	5.31% 6	27.43% 31	66.37% 75
Undeveloped or wild areas	0.00% 0	3.60% 4	6.31% 7	26.13% 29	63.96% 71
Public footpaths and bridleways	1.77% 2	1.77% 2	2.65% 3	31.86% 36	61.95% 70
The river	0.00% 0	3.54% 4	14.16% 16	26.55% 30	55.75% 63
Public areas - e.g. village green, playground	1.79% 2	4.46% 5	16.07% 18	32.14% 36	45.54% 51
History of Braybrooke	0.88% 1	6.19% 7	21.24% 24	30.09% 34	41.59% 47
Provision of public transport	0.88% 1	7.89% 9	24.56% 28	28.07% 32	38.60% 44

Each of the options in this question has a majority of responses stating that they are important/very important. Protecting wildlife and habitat (94% important/very important), green spaces (94%) and rural views (92%) are considered most important whilst the history of Braybrooke (71%) and provision of public transport (66%) are considered the least important options.

Q4 To what extent do any of the following cause you concern within Braybrooke Parish?

	1 NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	2	3	4	5 VERY CONCERNED
Fly tipping	0.00% 0	4.39% 5	6.14% 7	15.79% 18	73.68% 84
Traffic speed	0.00% 0	4.50% 5	12.61% 14	34.23% 38	48.65% 54
Environmental protection	4.46% 5	7.14% 8	18.75% 21	25.00% 28	44.64% 50
Litter	3.54% 4	7.96% 9	19.47% 22	25.66% 29	43.36% 49
Dog fouling	3.60% 4	10.81% 12	26.13% 29	22.52% 25	36.94% 41
Lack of public car parking provision	18.02% 20	13.51% 15	29.73% 33	11.71% 13	27.03% 30
Water quality	20.00% 22	17.27% 19	21.82% 24	16.36% 18	24.55% 27
Noise pollution	19.30% 22	15.79% 18	30.70% 35	13.16% 15	21.05% 24
Air pollution	18.18% 20	20.91% 23	30.91% 34	11.82% 13	18.18% 20

Fly tipping is of significantly greater concern to respondents than any of the other options (89% concerned/very concerned). Of relatively small concern are water quality (40%), noise pollution (34%) and air pollution (30%).

Q5 How important are the following potential initiatives for Braybrooke Parish?

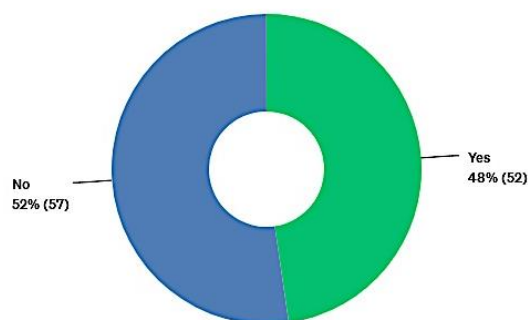
	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
Protection of wild areas, including verges	0.89% 1	0.89% 1	5.36% 6	27.68% 31	65.18% 73
Planting new woods (reforestation)	0.89% 1	2.68% 3	16.96% 19	29.46% 33	50.00% 56
Maintaining public transport services	1.79% 2	6.25% 7	18.75% 21	29.46% 33	43.75% 49
All new development to use renewable energy solutions*	3.54% 4	4.42% 5	20.35% 23	30.09% 34	41.59% 47
Investigate ways to reduce reliance on domestic oil	7.14% 8	6.25% 7	15.18% 17	36.61% 41	34.82% 39

*(e.g. solar panels, geothermal heating, low energy lighting)

Each of these positive potential initiatives is strongly supported by those responding. They indicate a forward thinking parish, which has collective support from respondents.

A full list of comments appears in the appendix. Comments show that, whilst there is clear support for green energy generation, there is concern about its affordability. There is interest in community initiatives such as community planting – especially of native wild flowers.

Q6 As well as small individual households energy saving initiatives, several other parishes are starting to develop their own community energy generating capacity from larger projects. This would usually involve the use of something like solar farms or wind turbines within the parish, from which the community would benefit through the electricity they generate. Would you like this for Braybrooke Parish?



Whilst there is considerable support, there is a 4% majority against community energy generation.

Q7 If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please suggest where in the parish such projects could or should be located?

A full list of comments appears in the appendix. There are several carefully thought out suggestions for siting wind and solar installations, which would minimise their visual impact on parishioners.

Q8 As well as eight structures with listed status, see <http://www.braybrooke-pc.uk> Braybrooke Parish includes buildings not formally protected but of historical interest and significance. Please suggest any buildings or structures in the village you think should be considered as historically significant.

A complete list of responses appears in the appendix. The Baptist chapel, the Swan Inn, the village hall and the castle are each mentioned by more than one respondent.

Q9 Are there any other comments that you would like to make about environment and heritage?

A full list of the thoughtful and heartfelt comments appears in the appendix. Many respondents express their love of their environment, list wildlife that they see, wish to see this retained and maintained. A number of responses suggest providing more information (e.g. information boards) about the parish environment and its wildlife.

The potential conflict between housing development and environmental protection is also highlighted.

Community Amenities & Services

Q10 How important do you think the following amenities would be to improving life in the parish?

	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
A protected nature area	5.61% 6	6.54% 7	19.63% 21	30.84% 33	37.38% 40
A village shop/postal services*	7.27% 8	7.27% 8	18.18% 20	30.00% 33	37.27% 41
Improvement of children's play facilities	12.96% 14	24.07% 26	21.30% 23	24.07% 26	17.59% 19
A dedicated sport facility	15.74% 17	18.52% 20	29.63% 32	25.00% 27	11.11% 12
Allotments	16.98% 18	23.58% 25	23.58% 25	24.53% 26	11.32% 12
Improvement of facilities in village hall	16.82% 18	14.95% 16	37.38% 40	20.56% 22	10.28% 11
A room dedicated to village heritage and history	22.22% 24	32.41% 35	22.22% 24	14.81% 16	8.33% 9
An additional room for hire in the village hall	27.52% 30	29.36% 32	25.69% 28	12.84% 14	4.59% 5

*(perhaps run out of an existing business or private address)

There is strong support from respondents for a village shop/postal services (67% important/very important) and for the provision of a protected nature area (68%). There is less support for the other suggested new amenities – a room dedicated to village heritage and history and an additional room for hire in the village hall are not considered important overall.

Q11 How important do you think the introduction of new services or development of existing services would be to improving life in the parish?

	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
Improvement of support network for the elderly	2.75% 3	3.67% 4	26.61% 29	41.28% 45	25.69% 28
New groups and clubs	8.41% 9	9.35% 10	42.99% 46	26.17% 28	13.08% 14
Education on how to use the internet and digital skills	16.04% 17	21.70% 23	30.19% 32	23.58% 25	8.49% 9
Education on business skills	27.36% 29	24.53% 26	34.91% 37	9.43% 10	3.77% 4
Business services	25.47% 27	28.30% 30	33.96% 36	10.38% 11	1.89% 2

This question is about new or enhanced services. With one exception, there is limited overall support for the options offered, suggesting perhaps that respondents, as indicated in responses to other questions, are keen to maintain the status quo.

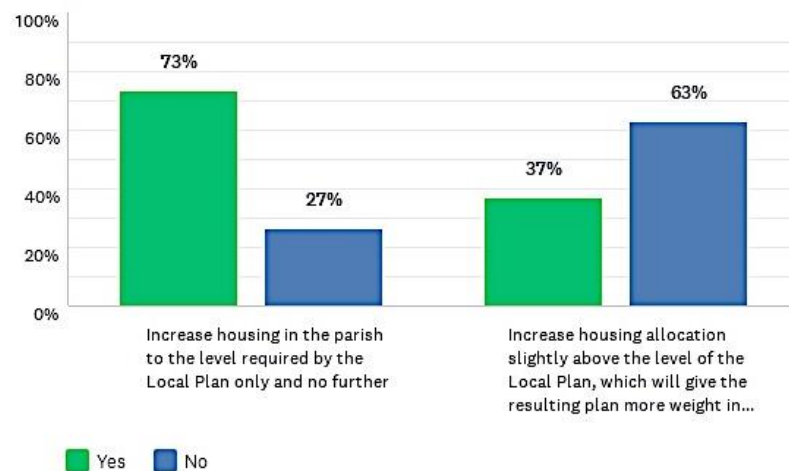
The exception is the 'improvement of support network for the elderly' which 66% of respondents feel is important/very important.

Q12 Are there any other comments that you would like to make about amenities and services?

A full list of responses to this question appears in the appendix. There is carefully considered support for the better use of the Baptist Chapel, potentially as a museum of village history. There is support for a local shop and/or café. There are also respondents who are keen to see more recreational/sports spaces for children and adults.

Housing

Q13 Thinking about the quantity of new housing in Braybrooke Parish how do you think that this should be developed?



A majority of respondents wish to see increased housing only at the level required by the local plan (73%). This correlates with comments from respondents elsewhere in the questionnaire, which seek to minimise new housing.

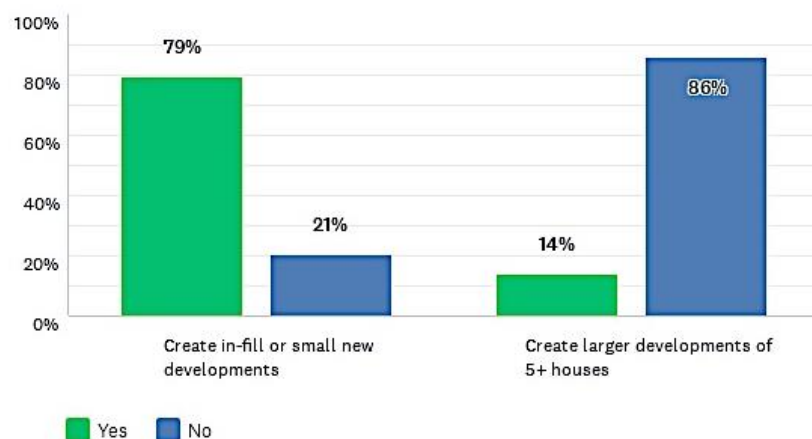
Q14 Regarding location of new housing to be developed, how do you think this should be organised?

	1 STRONGLY DISAGREE	2	3	4	5 STRONGLY AGREE
Anywhere in the village except in the historic centre/conservation area	28.57% 28	7.14% 7	24.49% 24	9.18% 9	30.61% 30
Anywhere within the village boundary	38.00% 38	13.00% 13	26.00% 26	10.00% 10	13.00% 13
Outside the village but adjacent to the current boundary	38.54% 37	7.29% 7	31.25% 30	13.54% 13	9.38% 9
Anywhere in the broader parish except within the village boundary	47.42% 46	9.28% 9	26.80% 26	8.25% 8	8.25% 8

	1 STRONGLY DISAGREE	2	3	4	5 STRONGLY AGREE
Anywhere in the parish	56.25% 54	8.33% 8	26.04% 25	5.21% 5	4.17% 4

There is significant support only for new housing development 'anywhere in the village except in the historic centre/conservation area' (39% agree/strongly agree). Fewer than 25% of respondents agree with any of the other options.

Q15 Thinking about the type of development, which would you agree with?



Respondents overwhelmingly (79%) want to see 'in-fill or small new developments. 86% are opposed to larger developments of five or more houses.

Q16 What types of housing do you think should be encouraged in Braybrooke?

	1 STRONGLY DISAGREE	2	3	4	5 STRONGLY AGREE
Affordable housing	22.77% 23	7.92% 8	26.73% 27	20.79% 21	21.78% 22
Bungalows	14.00% 14	14.00% 14	28.00% 28	26.00% 26	18.00% 18
Detached houses	13.98% 13	9.68% 9	36.56% 34	22.58% 21	17.20% 16
Semi-detached houses	15.46% 15	4.12% 4	36.08% 35	30.93% 30	13.40% 13
Flats / maisonettes	82.98% 78	5.32% 5	8.51% 8	3.19% 3	0.00% 0

There is support for affordable housing, although 1% more respondents strongly disagree than strongly agree. There is a broadly neutral view about bungalows,

semi-detached houses and detached houses. However, there is strong opposition to flats/maisonettes.

Q17 Regarding size of houses to be developed in Braybrooke, what types do you think should be encouraged?

	1 STRONGLY DISAGREE	2	3	4	5 STRONGLY AGREE
2-3 bedrooms	13.86% 14	0.99% 1	21.78% 22	29.70% 30	33.66% 34
4-5 bedrooms	28.13% 27	17.71% 17	25.00% 24	16.67% 16	12.50% 12
More than 5 bedrooms	60.64% 57	15.96% 15	10.64% 10	3.19% 3	9.57% 9
1 bedroom	47.31% 44	18.28% 17	21.51% 20	8.60% 8	4.30% 4

Large houses (6 bedrooms and over) and small houses (1 bedroom) are not supported. There is limited support for 4-5 bedroom houses, with a majority against. However, 2-3 bedroom houses are supported, (63% agree/strongly agree).

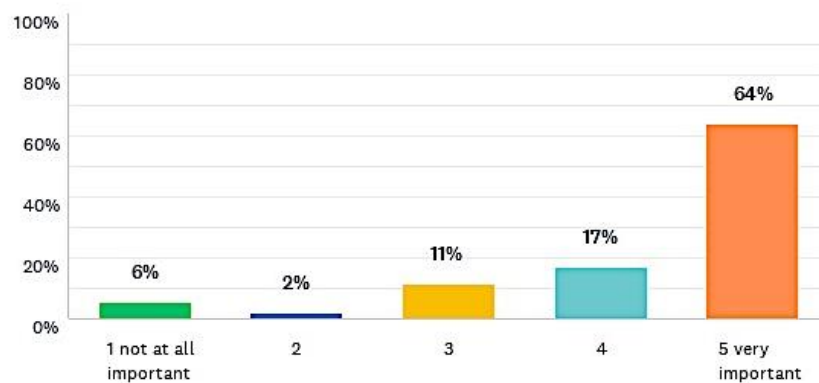
Q18 Regarding design of houses to be developed in Braybrooke, what style do you think would fit best?

	1 STRONGLY DISAGREE	2	3	4	5 STRONGLY AGREE
Traditional style, traditional materials	10.10% 10	5.05% 5	17.17% 17	26.26% 26	41.41% 41
Modern design, traditional materials	25.25% 25	16.16% 16	34.34% 34	13.13% 13	11.11% 11
Traditional style, modern materials	13.73% 14	2.94% 3	24.51% 25	27.45% 28	30.37% 32
Unique design and/or materials	37.11% 36	17.53% 17	24.74% 24	14.43% 14	6.18% 6
Modern design, modern materials	35.11% 33	26.59% 25	25.52% 24	9.57% 8	3.19% 3

There is a clear preference for traditional house design, which supports the existing parish vernacular. 67% agree/strongly agree with development in traditional style and materials and 57% agree/strongly agree with traditional style with modern materials. Just 20% of respondents agree/strongly agree with unique design and/or materials and just 12% agree/strongly agree with modern design/modern materials.

Braybrooke Conservation Area

Q19 Thinking about the Conservation Area, how important do you think it is for Braybrooke to focus on protecting and enhancing this area of the village?



There is strong support for protecting and enhancing the Braybrooke Conservation Area. 81% of respondents state that it is important/very important.

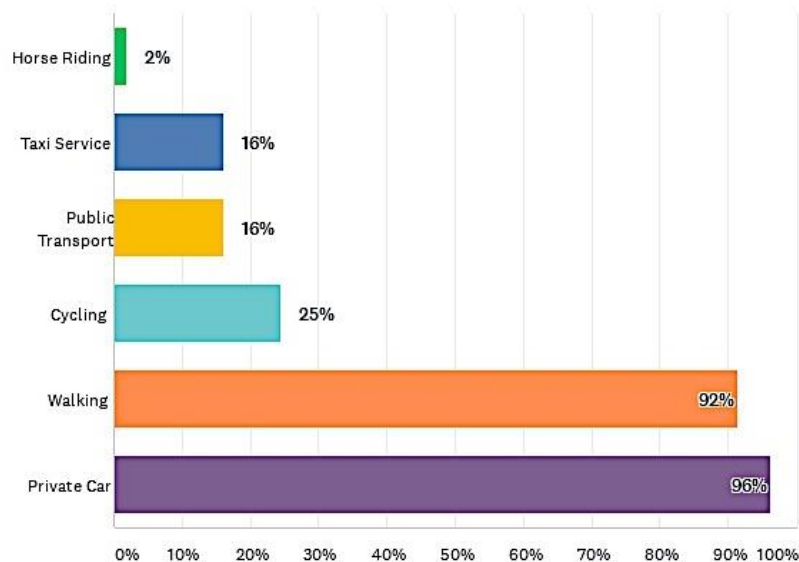
Q20 Are there any other comments that you would like to make about housing or the Conservation Area?

A full list of carefully considered comments appears in the appendix.

There is a strong sense that the parish has already grown quite considerably in recent years and is at risk of losing the rural character that respondents greatly appreciate. Concern is shown that the status of the conservation area has not protected its character from changing. Opinions differ about where any new development should be situated. There are also comments in favour of smaller developments to enable both younger and older people to remain/live in the parish.

Transport

Q21 Which of these modes of transport do you use regularly whilst in and around Braybrooke?



Almost all respondents regularly use a private car whilst in and around the parish. Most also regularly walk. A quarter cycle regularly. An equal number use a taxi and public transport.

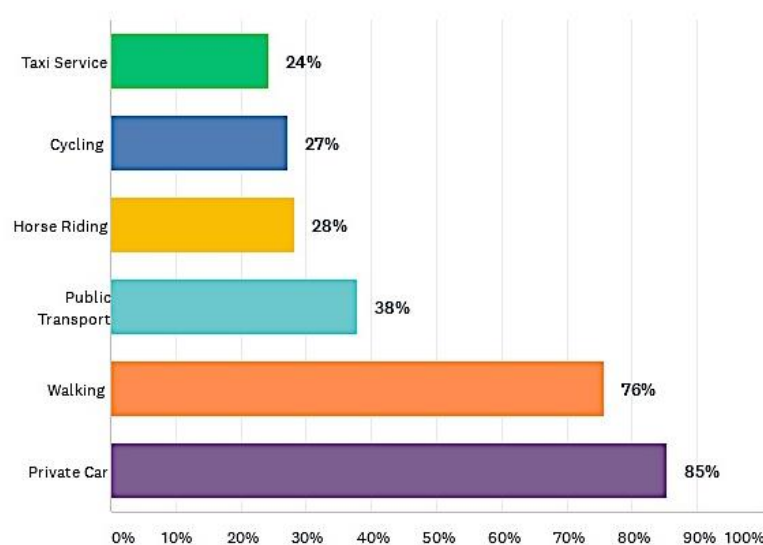
Q22 For what purpose do you use the modes of transport you have identified?

	SHOPPING	TRAVEL TO WORK	LEISURE/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	SCHOOL RUN	OTHER PURPOSE
Private Car	93.14% 95	46.08% 47	72.55% 74	22.55% 23	15.69% 16
Walking	4.35% 4	1.09% 1	92.39% 85	3.26% 3	13.04% 12
Cycling	8.00% 2	16.00% 4	96.00% 24	4.00% 1	4.00% 1
Public Transport	63.64% 14	4.55% 1	54.55% 12	9.09% 2	27.27% 6
Taxi Service	10.00% 2	10.00% 2	85.00% 17	0.00% 0	5.00% 1
Horse Riding	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0

The private car is used more than any other form of transport for each purpose except the school run.

Apart from the private car and public transport, each other mode of transport is used predominantly for leisure/social activities.

Q23 Which of these modes of transport would you say is currently well served in Braybrooke?



Understandably, the most used modes of transport are those that respondents believe are currently well served. Despite being equally well used, the taxi service is considered to be less well served in the parish than public transport.

Q24 How many vehicles belong to your household?

There were 106 responses to this question and the total number of vehicles respondents say belong to their household is 230. Most respondents own 1 or two vehicles, some none, several 4 and a two respondents own 5 vehicles.

Q25 How many are electric or hybrid powered?

Respondents stated that a total of 14 electric or hybrid powered vehicles are amongst the total number of 230 vehicles (6%).

Q26 How many can be parked within the boundary of your property?

104 respondents stated that a total of 335 can be parked within the boundary of their property.

Q27 How important do you think the following would be to improving life in the parish?

	1 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	2	3	4	5 VERY IMPORTANT
Controlling the speed of vehicles	0.00% 0	1.90% 2	4.76% 5	20.95% 22	72.38% 76
Maintaining condition of road surfaces	0.00% 0	0.94% 1	5.66% 6	25.47% 27	67.92% 72
Maintaining condition of pavements	0.96% 1	1.92% 2	7.69% 8	22.12% 23	67.30% 70
Managing safety risk at junctions	3.85% 4	3.85% 4	14.42% 15	23.08% 24	54.80% 57
Making the parish more walker/cycle friendly	4.85% 5	4.85% 5	21.36% 22	28.16% 29	40.77% 42
Placing limits on HGV and agricultural vehicles	7.14% 7	11.22% 11	18.37% 18	30.61% 30	32.65% 32
Improving disability access	2.94% 3	6.86% 7	39.22% 40	22.55% 23	28.43% 29
Improving availability of community/public transport	2.86% 3	8.57% 9	28.57% 30	32.38% 34	27.61% 29
Provision of electric car charging points	20.59% 21	23.51% 25	18.63% 19	22.55% 23	13.73% 14

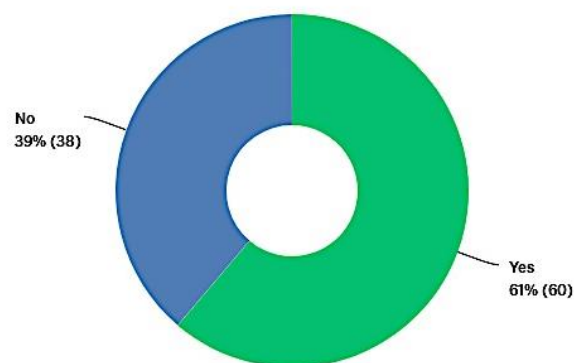
There is strong feeling about transport and respondents indicated that most of the issues in this question are important/very important. For example, 93% of respondents think that controlling the speed of vehicles is important/very important. Only the provision of electric car charging points has an overall 'unimportant' rating. This may, in part, be because currently just 6% of respondents own a vehicle that may require a charging point.

Q28 Are there any other comments that you would like to make about transport?

A full list of responses appears in the appendix. There is a range of comments about disability access, inconsiderate parking and uneven pavements. Better footpaths and cycle routes, especially to Market Harborough, are identified issues. There is also a view that agricultural vehicles and HGVs should not be considered together as agricultural vehicles are an integral part of a rural community. The location of potential electric charging points and the bus service are also mentioned.

Business & Enterprise

Q29 Would you welcome new businesses to the parish?



Q30 If yes, what type of business?

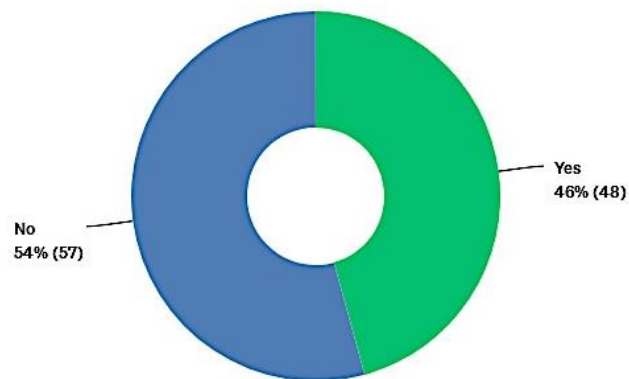
A full list of responses to this question appears in the appendix. Many respondents would like a local shop/post office, a café or a bakery. There is a strong desire for small businesses that may even be based at home, which benefit and employ local people.

Q31 Which business services would you like to see offered within the parish?

	YES	NO
Informal meeting places e.g. cafe or coffee shop	83.16% 79	16.84% 16
Better or increased choice in broadband provision	69.47% 66	30.53% 29
Communal workshop areas	55.56% 50	44.44% 40
Meeting facilities for hourly rental	35.96% 32	64.04% 57
Small office space for short term rental	26.14% 23	73.86% 65
Storage facilities	11.11% 10	88.89% 80

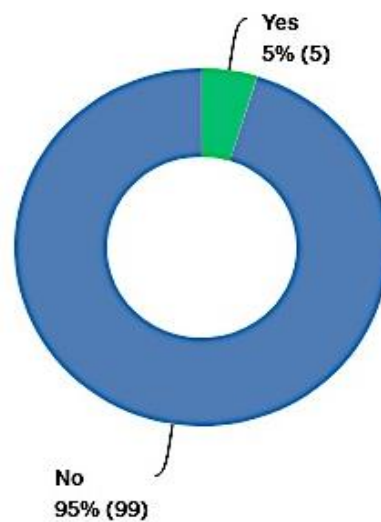
Communication is key to the business services respondents would like to see in the parish - informal meeting places, better broadband and communal workshops are supported. Most respondents do not support storage facilities and office space for short-term rental. (It should perhaps be noted that, although only 12 respondents state that they own a business in the parish, over 90 responses were received for this question). Further comments, which include use of the village hall, broadband and parcel collection, appear in the appendix.

Q32 Do you regularly work from home?

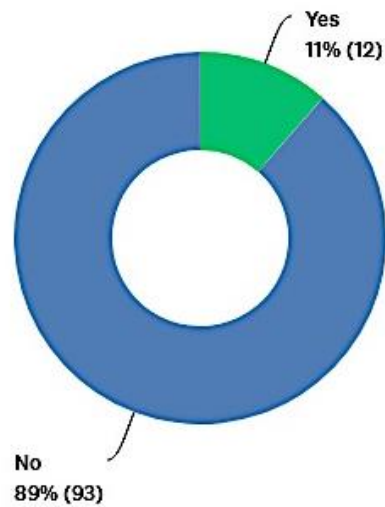


Nearly half of respondents to this question regularly work from home. Covid 19 and associated restrictions have, of course, accelerated the trend towards home working with consequent changes to the way some homes are used and the amount of rooms/space such households need.

Q33 Are you employed by a local business within the parish?



Q34 Do you own a business within the parish?



Q35 Which of the below, if any, encouraged you to set up a business in the parish?

	YES	NO
Proximity to main residence	76.92% 10	23.08% 3
Consumer base provided within the Parish and surrounding areas	20.00% 3	80.00% 12
Transport links and infrastructure	21.43% 3	78.57% 11
Price/availability of required premises	15.38% 2	84.62% 11
Quality of required premises	15.38% 2	84.62% 11
Workforce provided within the Parish and surrounding areas	7.14% 1	92.86% 13

Proximity to the main residence is the key reason respondents say encouraged them to set up a business in the parish. One respondent commented that theirs is family business and another set up their business in the parish because of village support.

Q36 What sector does your business operate in?

Below are the answers received:

- Project Management
- Farming
- Marketing x2
- Industrial cleaning
- Agriculture
- Motor trade
- Management consulting
- Education
- Engineering/construction services
- Beauty
- Online tutoring

Q37 How many people are employed by your business?

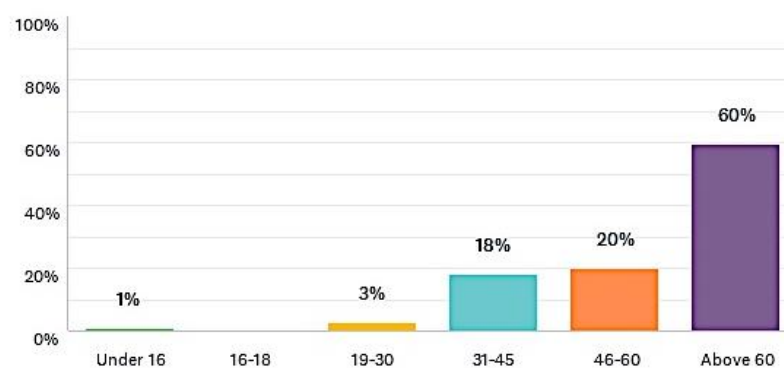
There were ten responses to this question – respondents indicate that a total of thirteen people are employed in their businesses. Three respondents employ two people and seven have one employee.

Q38 Are there any other comments you would like to make about business and enterprise?

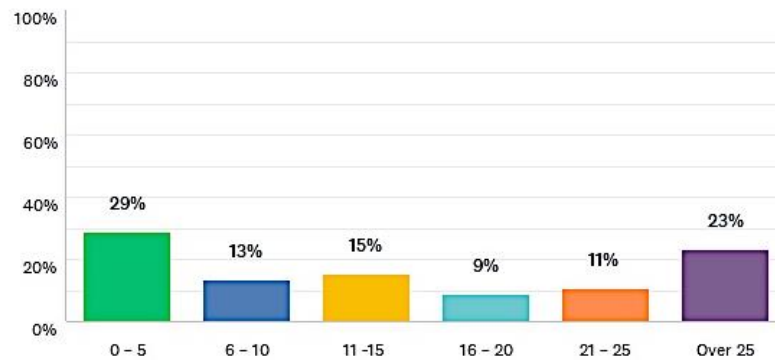
A full list of comments appears in the appendix. These primarily concern meeting space and broadband quality.

Demographics

Q39 What is your age group?



Q40 How many years have you lived in Braybrooke?



Q 41 How many people of each age group below, including your self, live in your home

AGE	TOTAL NUMBER
Under 16	29
16 - 18	2
19 - 30	12
31 - 45	39
46 - 60	43
Above 60	103

44 respondents said they would like to continue to be involved in the Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plan.

Summary

A strong response to the Neighbourhood Plan Community Questionnaire has demonstrated a set of clear concerns and preferences amongst the respondents. This offers a good steer to those actively involved in the development of the Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plan, the wider community and the Parish Council.

These results will become an important part of the evidence gathered to inform and develop the Plan.