

# Whitsbury Village Plan

## Defining Our Future



Produced by the Parish of Whitsbury  
December 2022

# Whitsbury Village Plan – Defining Our Future

## Contents

1	Whitsbury Village Plan .....	5
1.1	Introduction .....	5
2	Whitsbury Parish .....	6
2.1	Whitsbury Parish Map .....	6
2.2	Whitsbury Conservation Area Map.....	7
3	Whitsbury History .....	8
4	Whitsbury Present Day .....	10
5	The Village Plan Process .....	12
5.1	Introduction .....	12
5.2	The Village Plan Questionnaire and Analysis .....	12
5.3	Whitsbury Helpers.....	13
6	Village Plan Response Summary and Actions .....	14
6.1	Introduction .....	14
6.2	Questionnaire Returns .....	14
6.3	Top Village Items .....	14
6.4	General Narrative.....	14
6.4.1	Community Atmosphere and Communication .....	14
6.4.2	Services and Local Environment .....	16
6.4.3	Climate Change and the Wider Environment.....	16
6.4.4	Building Development and Business .....	17
6.4.5	Traffic, Transport and Routes.....	18
6.4.6	And Finally.....	18
6.4.7	General Narrative Comments.....	19
6.4.8	Plan Action Points .....	20
7	Vision Statement.....	22
7.1	Introduction .....	22
7.2	The Vision Statement.....	22
Annex 1.	Whitsbury Conservation Area .....	25
a.	Whitsbury Character Statement .....	25
Annex 2.	Village Plan Process Diagram .....	29
Annex 3.	Village Helper Card .....	30

Final

Annex 4. Full Questionnaire Results.....	32
--	----

## Figures

Figure 1 Whitsbury Parish Map .....	6
Figure 2 Whitsbury Conservation Area.....	7

## Tables

Table 1 Action Summary Table .....	21
------------------------------------	----

## Copies / Availability:

Parish Councillors

Village Hall Trustees

Parochial Church Council members

Village Hall – hard copy reading

Whitsbury Web Site

“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about”

Margaret Wheatley

# 1 Whitsbury Village Plan

## 1.1 Introduction

The first and most important thing to do here is to acknowledge those who have given their time and effort for this plan. This encompasses two groups. The first is actually the least obvious, although the most important, and comprises all those villagers who have taken the time to respond to the questionnaire and also discuss their views with the members of the committee. No plan would have been possible without their input.

The second is the members of the Village Plan Committee. Accordingly, thanks are extended to the following for giving their knowledge and advice so freely, and in doing so with overt enthusiasm and good humour at all times; the Village Plan that follows reflects their endeavours:

- Kirsty Castell
- Jon Dare
- Geoff Dominey
- Steve Husher
- Graham Thompson

The route towards this plan was begun by Whitsbury Parish Council. The last Village Plan was produced in 2006 and it was felt appropriate to update the plan in order to determine village priorities in 2022. This Village Plan is intended to collect and express the views of the community to help guide village decision-making, development, planning and initiatives. The intent is to refresh the plan every 5 to 10 years.

The questionnaire developed for the plan was developed from the original questionnaire used in 2006 to allow a bridge to be made to the outcomes of the previous plan.

Since we distributed the questionnaire, new national crises have arisen, such as the cost of living crisis. Whilst the questionnaire did not address such a specific area, we are well equipped to manage such issues through the philosophical approach we took to the Covid pandemic and this can be replicated at community level for new events and challenges.

Finally, we ask you to read the plan. We have attempted to keep it short and simple. For those not fortunate enough to live in Whitsbury, it exposes what is special about our village. For Whitsbury it is about Defining our Future!

The Village Plan Committee



## 2 Whitsbury Parish

### 2.1 Whitsbury Parish Map

The Parish of Whitsbury is shown below in Fig 1. This shows the boundary scope of this Village Plan. Whitsbury sits within the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) one of only 46 AONB designated areas in the country. The parish consists of approximately 100 houses and 200 residents.

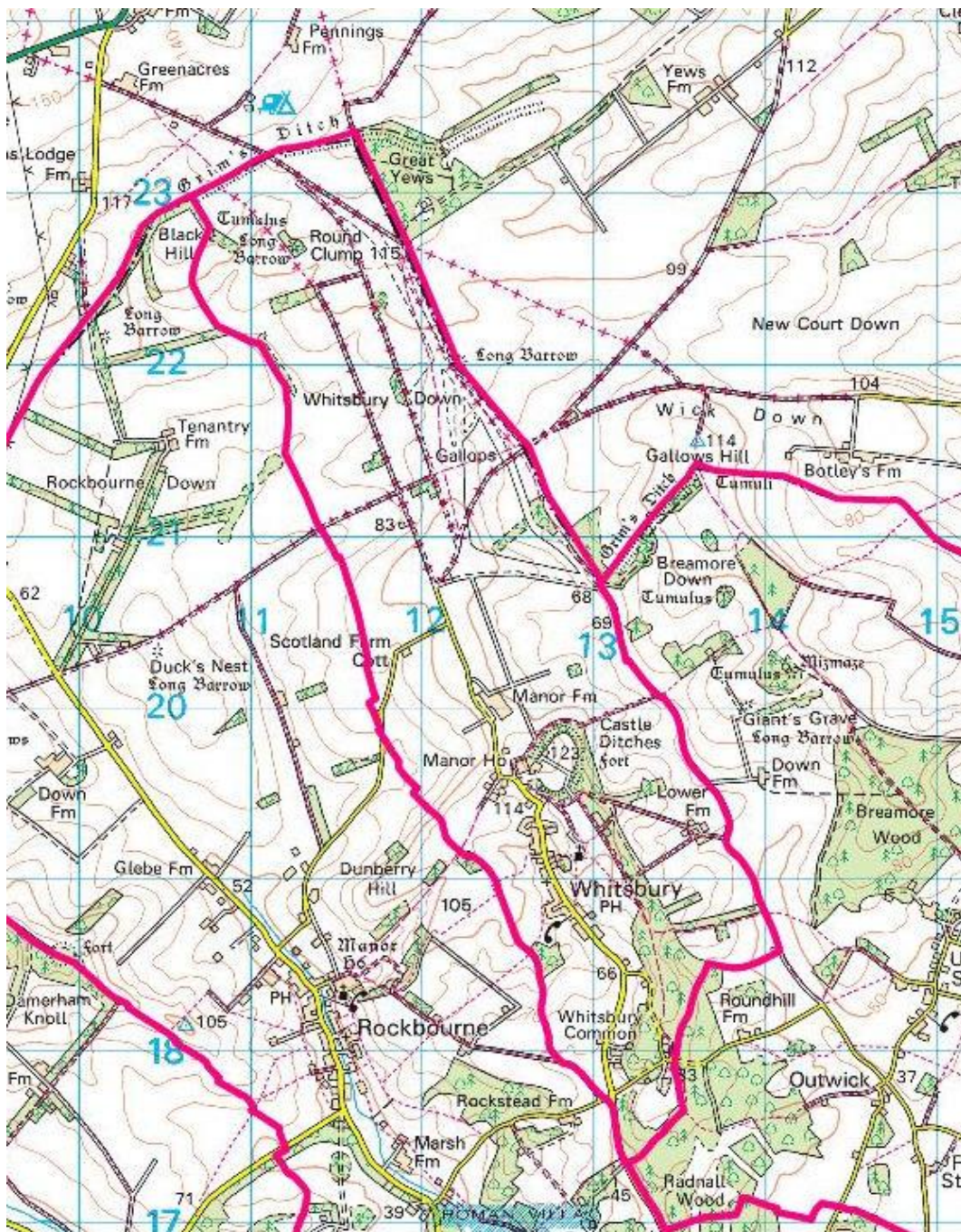


Figure 1 Whitsbury Parish Map

## 2.2 Whitsbury Conservation Area Map

Within the parish boundary there is an area designated as a conservation area. This area has special protection under New Forest District Council planning controls. The New Forest District Council have generated a Whitsbury Character Statement which is included in it's entirety within Annex 1.

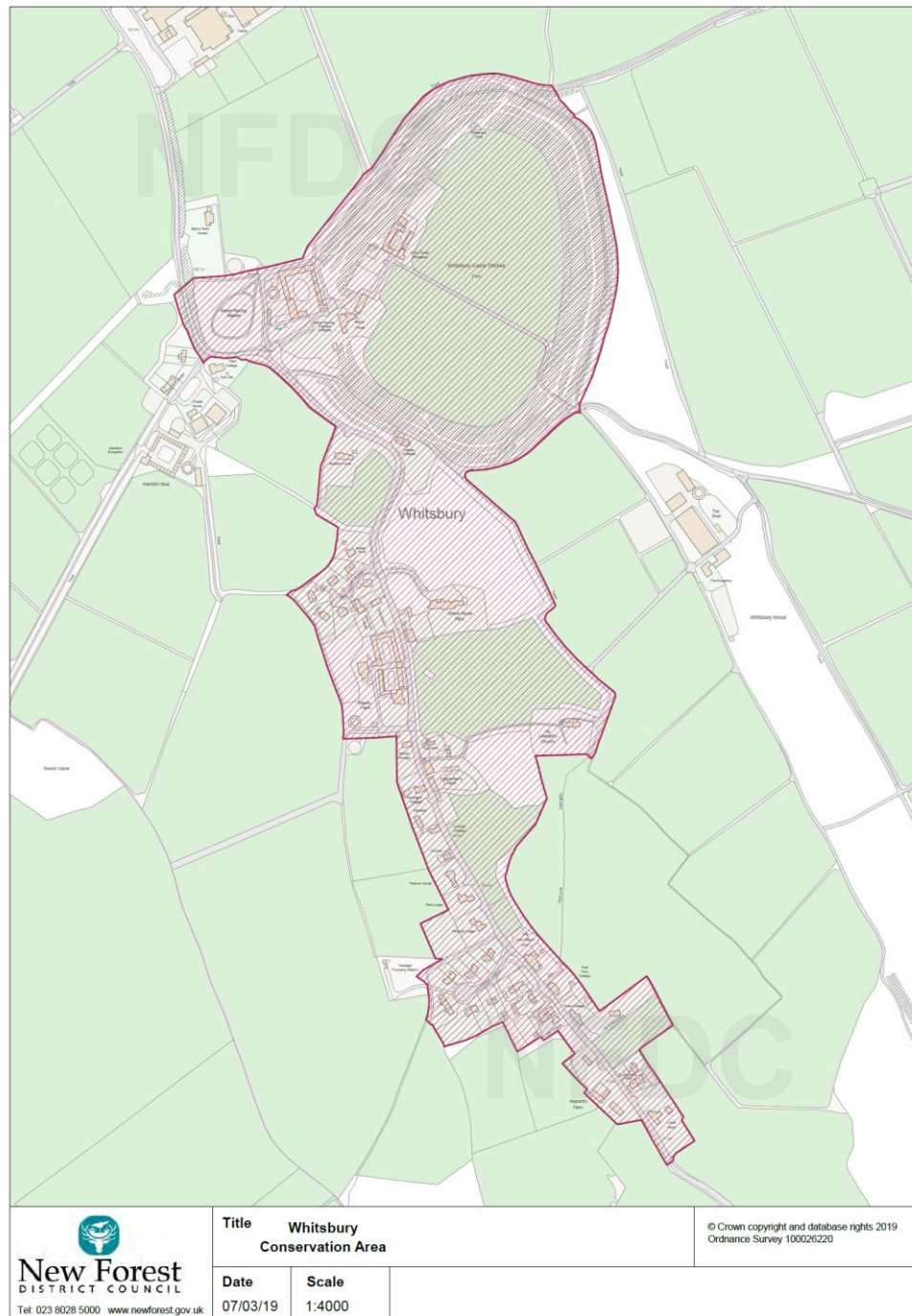


Figure 2 Whitsbury Conservation Area



### 3 Whitsbury History

Whitsbury has a depth of history. It is mentioned [Witeberge] in the Domesday Book. The Tenant in Chief was Robert Fitzgerald, nephew of Edward of Salisbury, the Sheriff of Wiltshire. The village then comprised 5 ploughlands, 50 acres of pasture, 10 acres of coppice and a mill. The population was 5 servants, 5 villagers, 11 cottagers and 1 borderer.

Habitation on the site of the village, however, extends way back further. The surrounding chalklands have been settled since the earliest times with flint implements dating from the Mesolithic period having been found nearby. At the top end of the village and with dominating views over the surrounding countryside is a hill fort, near which Roman coins dating from the 2nd century AD have been found. After Roman occupation the fort formed part of a line of fortifications, also comprising Clearbury Rings and Old Sarum, facing East and defending the line of the River Avon.

Since the details catalogued in the Domesday Book, periodic records have charted the fortunes of the village. In 1428 it is thought that there were only about 10 occupied houses in the village. By 1801 the village had consolidated to some degree; a survey then giving the numbers at 22 occupied houses, totalling 60 males and 72 females, of whom 43 were employed in agriculture. Shortly thereafter, in 1824, Whitsbury is recorded to have had 5 farmers, farming a total of 1622 acres between them, the majority of which were tenanted from Lord Shaftesbury. In 1905 the parish was recorded to comprise 1823 acres, of which 904 were arable, 689 permanent pasture and the balance woodland. More recently, in 1984, these figures had changed to reflect 700 acres of arable, 871 acres of permanent pasture, 125 acres of woodland and 120 acres of grass gallops.

Throughout this period, a constant presence in the village has been St. Leonard's Church, which occupies a breath-taking spot above the main part of the village on the wooded slopes to the north of the road. While the exact date of the foundation of St. Leonard's is not known, it formed part of the endowment of the monastery at Reading founded by Henry I, who died in 1119. Inside the church there is a list of incumbents and patrons dating back to 1307. A Church of England elementary school for 60 scholars was built by Edward Edwards in 1871, a memorial in the Church commemorates his death in 1903. St. Leonard's was largely repaired and altered in 1878. Considerable restoration work was carried out on the tower, including the installation of 9 bells cast by Mears of Whitechapel. As well as St. Leonard's there is also a small Methodist Church built in 1901 (now converted into a dwelling).

Another equally important feature is the Village Hall. Built in 1906, the hall exemplifies the architecture at the time, with beautiful wood panelling throughout, and, despite much modernization, has managed to retain its original character. The Cartwheel Inn public house sits at the centre of the village. Once there was also a small post office, shop (located in the Cartwheel Inn), which closed in 1970. There was also once a village school, located just to the south of Major's Farm, it was demolished in the 1950s and no sign of it now remains.



Although development has occurred in recent years, Whitsbury has changed little in recent times, in particular the street scene due to the lack of street lighting, pavements or traffic calming measures. Development that has occurred has on the whole been sympathetic to the character of the village. As a consequence, signs of Whitsbury's history are evident in the wealth of beautiful houses, many of which are thatched, and the other buildings and surrounding countryside mentioned above.

## 4 Whitsbury Present Day

Whitsbury is part of the group of villages known as the Western Downland, which includes Whitsbury, Rockbourne, Damerham and Martin. It is located on the edge of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The village is quintessentially English in nature, stretching primarily along a single road that winds its way up a valley flanked on both sides by brick walled and hedged gardens and old cottages, which themselves are surrounded by gently wooded slopes. Striking features are the beautiful church of St. Leonard's, with a breath-taking view over the surrounding area, the Manor House in a sunny spot at the top of the hill and the gallops lying to the north of the village. There is more, with a profusion of other wonderful cottages, houses and buildings, while the location in general is stunning. The natural beauty of Whitsbury is equally balanced by the vibrancy of the community itself. While not a large village, with only 100 houses and just 200 residents, there's an un-doubted spark within the village and the social diary is rarely empty.

The main employment is based upon the very successful equine and agricultural industry, comprising three major yards of racing stables, stud and farm. Consequently, the people intense nature of these businesses has allowed Whitsbury to retain a charm that has been lost in many other villages and communities. This human tableau is further enriched by many international stable hands working in the various yards. Furthermore, the daily presence of both the racehorses on the roads, byways and gallops, and young bloodstock in the fields and paddocks all around the village gives an undeniable rural and equine atmosphere.

While lacking a shop, Whitsbury is fortunate to have a range of other facilities and many that allow an active social calendar to be maintained. There is a church; St. Leonard's; a well-maintained Village Hall; and a pub, The Cartwheel Inn. There is a strong sense of community in the village, which is undoubtedly underpinned by the range of social activities that take place. These range from parties and a host of events in the pub, to the bi-annual village show, bingo evenings, coffee mornings, Christmas Concert and a variety of other events in the Village Hall. Periodically, these are supplemented by other one-off events.

As well as being active socially, Whitsbury is also an active community in respect of self-representation. Villagers are represented locally by the Parish Council, Village Hall Committees (Trustees, Management Committee and Hall Committee) and Parochial Church Council. These bodies have carried out a huge amount of good work on behalf of the whole community. Equally, there are many individuals who address issues within the community at their own volition.

In recent years, several sub-committees have been set up under the Parish Council. These groups have arranged village litter picks, book sharing, vegetable sharing and continue to introduce activities to improve village vitality and increase the sense of community. Indeed, with the advent of technology, there are several very active WhatsApp groups in the village covering the availability of sharing items:

- Whitsbury Food Share (*'There are apples available in the sharing box'*) and

- Whitsbury Watch. A virtual neighbourhood watch group is used to signal ongoing incidents and events such as thefts, vandalism or warnings such as storm damage and trees down.

Whitsbury enjoys a healthy balance. It is a peaceful and beautiful village yet with an energetic and active community. It has much to offer.



## 5 The Village Plan Process

### 5.1 Introduction

The intent throughout was to keep the process as simple as possible. The size of Whitsbury and intuitive feel for the range of issues to be addressed did not indicate a need for a series of village meetings or a range of sub-committees.

A Village Plan Committee was set up to:

- Manage the Village Plan update process
- Develop the question set for the questionnaire
- Interpret the responses to the survey
- Agree outcomes and
- Generate and approve the final report

A process flow diagram of the overall process is shown in Annex 2.

### 5.2 The Village Plan Questionnaire and Analysis

The questionnaire was formulated by the Committee and distributed to all houses within the Whitsbury Parish area. The questions were based on those posed in the 2006 Whitsbury Village Plan, supplemented with new questions that fit the current environment. In the 15 years since the last survey and plan, technology and environmental issues have advanced and so were included within the revised question set.

All survey responses were collated into an analysis spreadsheet to allow summation and consolidation. The general returns are included within Annex 4, which is a formulated output from the analysis spreadsheet.

The Committee held meetings to review the responses and develop the summary outcomes and actions. It should be noted that the Committee endeavoured to identify the community issues which required action but did not specifically look at solutions. The idea is to flow the actions back into the appropriate village group (Parish Council, Village Hall Committee etc) to allow them to consider and manage the outcomes.

The Parish Council would hold overall control of all actions post publication.

### 5.3 Whitsbury Helpers

Accompanying the Village Plan Questionnaire was a Whitsbury Village Helpers Postcard which sought those interested in helping in the following areas:

- Village Hall Events
- Village Repair Shop
- Whitsbury Helper
- Recycling
- Community Sharing
- Greening Whitsbury
- Community Delivery Plans
- Men's Shed

These areas were identified in association with the Village Plan questions as being areas that may need community support and help. Expressions of interest were received and will be forwarded to the associated co-ordinator.

The Whitsbury Village Helpers Postcard circulated alongside the Village Plan Questionnaire is included in Annex 3.

## 6 Village Plan Response Summary and Actions

### 6.1 Introduction

The questionnaire returns are shown in detail in Annex 4.

### 6.2 Questionnaire Returns

Returns were received from 54 households, which equates to 59% of our community. This also represents the views of 122 village residents.

### 6.3 Top Village Items

The top village items as articulated in the questions and narrative comments are as follows:

- Speeding Vehicles
- Digital Connectivity (Mobile Phones and Broadband)
- Road Maintenance
- Amenities
- Community integration

### 6.4 General Narrative

#### 6.4.1 Community Atmosphere and Communication

The majority of villagers have lived in Whitsbury for more than 10 years. The majority of households comprise one or two people. There is a relatively even spread across the age range, with slightly more in the 50 to 59 age range. About 40% of the village community have family connections and reasons for living in the village.

The general view within the questionnaire returns was that Whitsbury has a strong sense of community with villagers being welcoming and friendly. There is a strong positive view of Whitsbury as a place to live within a stunning local environment.

The survey indicated a view that there were a sufficient number and variety of events, although with the reduction due to the pandemic, we assume this to be reflective of pre-Covid event levels. We should certainly ensure the events calendar is maintained at a pre-pandemic level.

Events are seen to be a key part of maintaining the community spirit the top popularity of events were:

- Village Show
- Summer Village Barbecue
- Film Nights
- Harvest Supper
- Specialist Discussions and Talks
- Exercise Classes



- Band concerts etc
- Coffee Mornings
- Quiz Night

Some of the events suggested are not currently routinely undertaken, e.g summer barbecue, the Village Hall Committee (VHC) to consider what can be provided. ACTION 1.

The community is generally unaware of provisions for new arrivals to the village. The welcome pack has recently been re-introduced and this should continue. Consider how this is sustained in the future. ACTION 2.

There is some uncertainty over the activities of some of the village governance hierarchy, particularly as we move away from local village groups. There is some uncertainty and visibility of how Hampshire County Council (HCC), New Forest District Council (NFDC), and the Police actually act locally.

Perhaps communication of what these groups do could be made through the village web site, this might help understanding. ACTION 3.

Police engagement and visibility could be improved. Mixed feedback on visibility and actions taken. ACTION 4.

Communications work well in the village, with the following being the highest rated form of communications:

- Newsletter
- Word of mouth
- Village website
- Noticeboards

Given the linear nature of the village, consider a second village noticeboard near Manor Farm cottages. ACTION 5

Speeding was seen to be the biggest issue in the village, with several questions seeing high returns for this concern and also a large number of narrative comments. Noting that some questions were specifically directed towards this topic. There is an ongoing review going on in the village in consultation with Hampshire County Council and the Police. That work should take notice of the feedback from this plan. All responses from the questionnaire will be summarised and circulated to the speeding review team. ACTION 6

Villagers felt a nuisance was caused by

- Speeding cars
- Litter
- Behaviours
- Bonfires
- Noise and Light

Litter picks are being co-ordinated and these should be continued on a 6 monthly basis. They have been arranged as a community event with a social element of coffee and cake afterwards. These should continue. ACTION 7

The approach to bonfires should be reviewed. There are often complaints from excessive smoke causing issues for washing or houses with open windows. ACTION 8

External lighting is often used as a deterrent to burglars etc. It may be worth recommending that villagers use 'shielded' lights to prevent upwards transmission of light. We are in the Cranbourne Chase Dark Sky Area and outside cultural lighting affects the overall darkness of the skies. On a moonless clear night the sky vista is breath-taking. ACTION 9

The questionnaire indicated that the work done to help the community during the Covid pandemic, in terms of the Whitsbury Helper group worked very well and provides a good model for future events. This could be written up as a community emergency response plan if required. ACTION 10

#### 6.4.2 Services and Local Environment

There was agreement that the fabric of the village is well maintained. Thanks were expressed in the narrative comments to those who undertake the maintenance and particularly Chris Harper and his team. As far as village infrastructure is concerned, there was a strong view that additional pavements are not required and an overwhelming view that street lighting should not be installed.

In the case of digital infrastructure, there was a strong view that Improved mobile phone, broadband speeds and reliability are needed within the village. ACTION 11

Most villagers make frequent use of the local footpaths, byways and bridle ways for exercise, dog walking and nature watching. Some also take advantage of bridleways for horse riding.

Most villagers felt the public rights of way were suitably maintained. There were some comments about signage, stiles missing and paths not cleared. There is a process as part of the Hampshire County Council machine to help issues get dealt with via a reporting system. This reporting system should be available to the community to use and perhaps we could help provide guidance on this or alternative inputs via our village website which we could then get logged. 'What gets measured gets done' so if we don't report it won't get fixed!! ACTION 12

Villagers felt most nuisance on the public rights of way was caused by motorcycles followed by 4x4 drivers and then lorries. As long as these vehicles are acting within the law then little can be done. But some seem excessively noisy or use excessive speed. Slowing traffic down within the village may help.

#### 6.4.3 Climate Change and the Wider Environment

##### 6.4.3.1 Recycling and Waste

From a domestic rubbish and recycling perspective, most villagers thought the current systems for household waste, glass, bottles, paper and cardboard were covered

Final

acceptably well. Garden waste is more divided and potentially is because of the extra cost involved. It was felt more could be done in the recycling area. For example, tetra packs are seen to be more problematic. Wheely bins may help here when we find out more about how they will work. ACTION 13

Some local villages and Fordingbridge have started repair workshops. The concept of a repair workshop was seen as a positive move in the questionnaire. This needs further work to determine how we could either feed into other local initiatives or set up our own repair shop. ACTION 14

A local sharing scheme was supported less with probable concerns about damage etc

There were a number of questions on carbon reduction which received support from the community in general in the areas of carbon reduction methods, community delivery plans and community energy projects. It is recommended these are passed onto the 'Greening Whitsbury' initiative for further review and action. ACTION 15

#### 6.4.4 Building Development and Business

The village community is evenly split between no development and more affordable housing. Some concerns in the comments were made regarding second homes and their potential impact on the village community.

As far as amenities are concerned, a shop of some kind, either permanent or mobile, was seen to be a positive aspect although there was recognition that it may not be economically viable. Some villagers like the idea of convenience, whilst others prefer the idea of isolation.

A mobile library was thought of as relatively neutral with no strong bias either way.

As far as wider village facilities are concerned, villagers thought the following should be provided

- Repair shop
- Mother and baby toddlers group
- Activities for the older generation
- Children's playground
- Mobile library
- Fitness club

Villagers said they would use

- Repair shop
- Fitness club
- Mobile library
- Children's playground
- Central community space

The results here should be passed to the Village Hall Committee for consideration, include in ACTION 1



### 6.4.5 Traffic, Transport and Routes

Almost all of the village are travel independent. A village of car drivers, only one person did not have access to a motor vehicle

When asked what caused a nuisance to road users in Whitsbury, the overwhelming view was the main issue was speeding vehicles ACTION 6.

Followed by:

- Pot holes and road maintenance
- Poor drainage and flooding
- Lorries and parked vehicles

For road maintenance issues we should actively connect into Hampshire County Council's reporting system to ensure we are raising issues when required. ACTION 16

There is support from villagers for some form of traffic calming. Regarding the type of calming that could be employed

- Positive support for a speed indicating sign, road markings and speed posters
- Little or no support for speed monitoring with handheld devices or white lines to narrow carriageway

A reduced speed limit to 20 mph was also narratively recorded as being a popular solution element.

As far as parking was concerned, visitor parking was seen to be a potential problem at specific village pinch points, such as around the Old Post Office and The Close. Reports here of walkers parking at these locations to go for walks, additional signage may help.

From a signage perspective, comments were made that whilst racehorse signs are displayed, there are few other signs indicating sharp bends, narrow roads etc. ACTION 6.

There is a view that alternative methods of transport need to be provided with the low level bus service and taxis being the only apparent alternatives. It will be worth investigating other methods available to the village from the Western Downland Care Group transport scheme, free pensioner taxis and children's taxi. As we are poorly served by a frequent local bus service, there are alternatives which have been put in place by Hampshire County Council. This should be investigated further and publicised. ACTION 17

### 6.4.6 And Finally

As far as maintaining the character of the village is concerned, the top votes went to:

- Pub
- Working nature of the village
- Village Hall
- Church

- Public rights of way
- Calendar of events
- Equine atmosphere
- Lack of modernisation
- Mix of houses

It should be noted that most items were judged very important or important, supporting the view that the current village structure, atmosphere etc suits most people and does not need change or improvement.

#### 6.4.7 General Narrative Comments

There were some narrative comments that covered areas not specifically covered by the questions asked but seem somewhat important questions for the village and its organisations

- There were some comments about the Village Hall and perhaps an update was required as it was a bit tired.
- Some comments about the church and its use and utilisation. Was there more the Village could be doing to use this important asset?
- Village integration top of village to bottom of the village

General comments will be packaged and provided to the relevant group. There are some individual ideas and comments that should not be lost.

Actions derived are shown in Table 1 Action Summary Table.

## 6.4.8 Plan Action Points

Serial	Action Point Description	Reference	Action By
1	Review the events considered as part of the questionnaire and determine how the popularity included within the schedule of events could be adjusted accordingly. The following events, in particular, should be investigated further: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Village Barbecue</li> <li>• Film Nights</li> <li>• Specialist Discussion and Talks</li> <li>• Exercise Classes</li> <li>• Quiz Nights</li> </ul>	Question 12 and 35	VHC
2	Continue to deliver the welcome sheet to all new arrivals. This has been restarted recently and it should be ensured that this is sustained by bringing the governance of this under the Parish Council.	Question 13	Parish Council
3	Consider how activities of local groups can be communicated to residents (HCC, NFDC, PCC, Local Police, Local Surgery)	Question 14	Parish Council
4	Consider how reporting, engagement and feedback can be improved with local police	Question 14 and 15	Parish Council
5	Consider installing an additional village noticeboard at the northern end of the village near Manor Farm cottages. This would help with the linear nature of the village.	Question 18	Parish Council
6	The speeding review team should be provided with the questionnaire results. The speeding review team should consider the points made by residents and factor them in accordingly.	Question 19, 38, 39 and 42 Narrative	Parish Council Speeding Review Team.
7	Ensure litter picks are undertaken on a 6 monthly basis.	Question 19	Parish Council
8	Review the approach to bonfires and how they may be limited or timed to be less intrusive.	Question 19	Parish Council
9	Consider how cultural lighting might be minimised	Question 19	Parish Council
10	Consider generating a Community Emergency Response Plan from the approach and lessons learned from the Covid response.	Question 20	Parish Council
11	Consider how the village digital infrastructure can be improved incl Mobile Phone, Broadband (Speed and reliability)	Question 22	Parish Council
12	Consider how we can provide guidance and perhaps shortcuts for public right of way issue reporting. Links from the whitsbury website to HCC	Question 25	Parish Council

<b>Serial</b>	<b>Action Point Description</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Action By</b>
13	Determine what the new wheely bin service will provide and determine what the level of recycling will be.	Question 27	Parish Council
14	Investigate what would be required to either a. set up our own village repair shop b. Link into another local repair shop	Question 28 and 35	Greening Whitsbury
15	Pass data from the carbon reduction questions onto the Greening Whitsbury group for action	Question 29 and 30.	Greening Whitsbury
16	As far as road maintenance is concerned, we should look to see how we can use the HCC reporting system to report village road issues and monitor them through the Parish Council. Perhaps having a rotational agenda item. Standing items vs rotational items. Also, perhaps report initial issues via the village website	Question 38	Parish Council
17	Investigate how many alternative methods of transport are available to the village for example Western Downland Care Group transport, subsidised Taxi services etc and publicise	Question 43	Parish Council

*Table 1 Action Summary Table*

## 7 Vision Statement

### 7.1 Introduction

The Vision Statement below is an amended version of that developed in 2006 for the last plan. It feels right to maintain a contemporary view of the Vision Statement based on responses to the 2022 plan activities. Updates have been included to cover areas of improvement or concern at this time.

### 7.2 The Vision Statement

This statement distils the views expressed by villagers in the production of the Whitsbury Plan.

Whitsbury is a place where we enjoy living. It is a village with a unique character that has a strong and heartfelt appeal for all living here. We wish to preserve that appeal both now and for future generations. We accept that some changes are inevitable, but believe that a clear vision borne out of communication and consensus amongst our residents will enable us to steer that change such that will be beneficial to all. Our vision does not address specific issues but expresses our perception of the village as a whole and what we wish for it's future.

We believe the character of Whitsbury is defined by the intangible qualities expressed below. While changes may occur, they should not impact on these:

- The timeless charm of the village. We are very lucky to live in a village that has suffered little modern development and is visually very appealing; it is quaint and quintessentially English. The village is set in beautiful countryside with a distinct rural atmosphere born out of the lively agricultural and equine activity that forms the backbone of the employment and economy.
- The sense of community. While not a large village, Whitsbury has an extremely vigorous community. A wide range of events are held each year, which are always fully supported. This active interaction between residents enables everyone to know one another and forges an undeniable strength of bond within the community. This lies at the very heart of Whitsbury's character.
- The mutual respect between residents. The village's community spirit is founded upon the respect replicated between all residents. Whitsbury has a sense of composure balanced with vitality. There is a recognition that at times we all have to do things that will impact on our neighbours, yet this is done with due regard such that concern does not become an issue.

While we have articulated the essence of the village that we wish to preserve - what we want - it is equally important that we express what we do not want.

Most fundamentally, it must be recognised that Whitsbury is a small village with limited infrastructure and services.

- The village enjoys a tranquillity in terms of:

- Noise - there is little traffic and no industrial sites;
- Light - there is no street lighting; and
- Visual aspect - there are no significant eyesores or obstructions such as mobile telephone aerials.
- Development in terms of industry, new houses or other buildings [such as areas of street lighting or pavements] would undoubtedly stretch the infrastructure or demand its growth, and alter the character of the village by impacting on the tranquillity we enjoy. This is unwelcome.
- The importance of the sense of community of the village has been expressed clearly.
- Anything that would threaten this would be extremely unwelcome, in particular the loss of our own Parish Council, through which the residents of Whitsbury alone express themselves and are represented locally.
- To maintain a balanced village community, there may be a future need for more affordable housing. This need must be regularly reviewed.
- We should seek to address modern services and imperatives such as communication, environment and continued community integration.

Change is inevitable; we recognise this. We believe, however, that it can be guided such that it is a positive thing and improves our quality of life by introducing the opportunities of the modern world without being detrimental to our quality of life by impacting on the characteristics that attracted us to live in Whitsbury; those outlined above.

As new national challenges develop, such as the climate or cost of living crises, we should seek to develop local solutions to help support our community and assist in the national cause. We saw during the pandemic that the community pulled together to help each other. We can use similar principles and building on initiatives such as the Whitsbury Helpers and Parish Council sub-committees, we can help address these issues at community level.

With care and forethought, the correct balance can be maintained for now and in the future.

Improvements identified in the 2022 Village Plan update are consistent with the vision statement and the actions identified are very much in the line of small improvements to our way of life rather than anything large or manifest.



# Annexes

## Annex 1. Whitsbury Conservation Area

The following paragraphs are taken from the Whitsbury Character Statement as defined by New Forest District Council

### a. Whitsbury Character Statement

This attractive linear village forms part of the group of villages on the edge of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The village street with its hedges and low walls winds its way up to the wooded slopes of the Iron Age hill fort, a scheduled ancient monument. Perched above the straggling village of thatched timber-framed cottages and farms is the ancient stone and brick church of St Leonard with the old rectory alongside. Glebe House is a fine gentleman's residence dating from the 18th century in its small park. Carpenter's and Nippard's are good examples of 18th century brick farmhouses almost certainly encasing much earlier buildings while the turn of the century is represented by the typical red brick chapel and village hall. In spite of some modern development which has taken place just outside the conservation area the streetscene has changed little in the last hundred years or so.

The surrounding chalklands have been settled since earliest times. Flint implements dating from the Mesolithic period have been found indicating that the area was a focus for activity. Roman pottery and iron objects have also been found and some of these are now in Salisbury Museum. The hill fort dominates the top end of the village and it is easy to understand why its builders chose this site when you stand up on the footpaths and look at the views which extend for miles in all directions. The manor belonged to the kings of England until the time of Henry I who granted it to the monastery of Reading. After the dissolution of the monasteries it moved into private hands and in 1623 it was bought by Sir John Cooper of Rockbourne. The old manor house has disappeared although its name lives on in the buildings of the racing stables situated on the fringe of the western hill fort ramparts. A Church of England elementary school for 60 scholars was built by Edward Edwards in 1871. A memorial in the church commemorates his death in 1903. No trace remains of the school which has long since been demolished.

These are key features in the conservation area:

- Whitsbury Castle Ditches is a multivallate hill fort and would have been a very impressive sight when first constructed. It has three banks and two ditches which enclose an area of about 6.5 hectares (16 acres). The banks and ditches are now overgrown with woodland while the interior is pasture. Flint finds from the Mesolithic period include a scraper and a blade. Roman pottery from the 1st to the 4th centuries AD has been found in gravel overlying the Iron Age occupation suggesting Roman and post-Roman occupation of this Iron Age fort. There are impressive views to the north and west from the public footpath around the outside of the banks.
- The exact date of the foundation of St Leonards Church - Grade II - is not known. However it formed part of the endowment of the monastery at Reading

founded by Henry I and he died in 1119. The 18th century tower was rebuilt in 1878. In the chancel there are 19th century memorials to the Templeman and Purvis families. The south side of the churchyard is dominated by a very fine yew tree which is probably at least 200 years old and may be up to about 300 years.

- The village street scene has changed remarkably little over the last hundred years. Whitsbury is not on a through route and so only attracts local traffic and visitors. The narrow lane wends its way up the hill past cottages parallel and at right angles to it. The remaining agricultural buildings now have corrugated iron roofs, a cheap and easily fixed replacement introduced in the 19th century; they were probably once thatched.
- Like all the villages around here the footpath system links the street with the fields behind the dwellings. The narrow steep path winds up from Carpenter's Farm past the parkland grounds of Glebe House and suddenly comes out of the woodland into the brightness of the churchyard.

These are some of the things that make Whitsbury special - they need to be looked after:

- History

The relationship between the church and the settlement with its system of footpaths.

- Buildings

The church and the old rectory form an important group.

The brick houses of Carpenter's Farm and Nippard's Farm.

The Manor House group of house and farm buildings of brick and timber frames with weather-boarding.

Small cottages in English bond brickwork fronting or replacing timber frames with simple thatched roofs.

Weather-boarded and corrugated iron agricultural buildings.

- Archaeology

Whitsbury Castle Ditches is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Evidence of occupation from the Mesolithic and Roman periods have been found.

- Landscape/Townscape

The winding narrow village street with hedges.

The cast iron railings in front of Nippards.

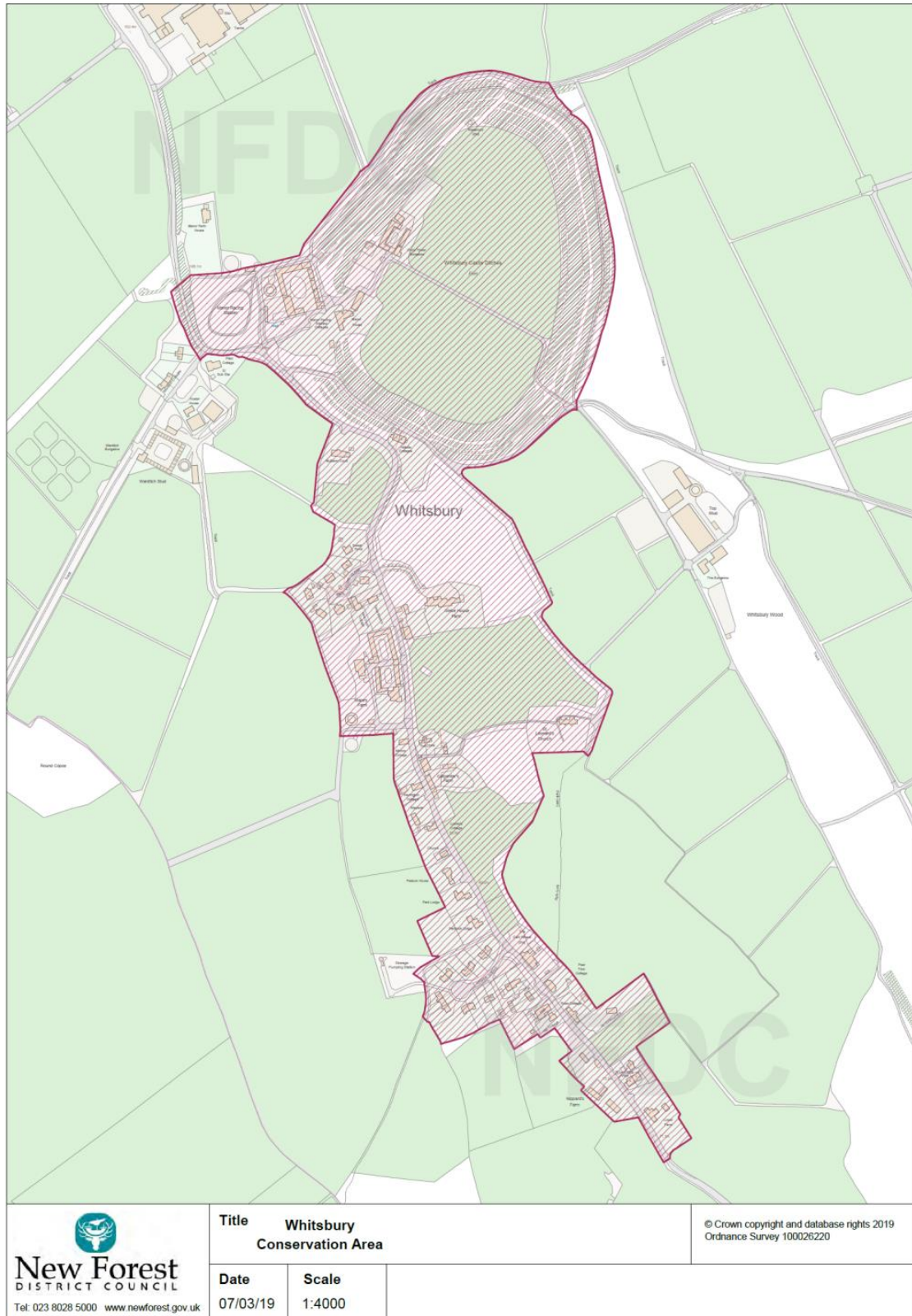
The cottages north of Carpenter's Farm form an important tight-knit group.

Cottages to the west are placed at right angles and those to the east parallel to the street.

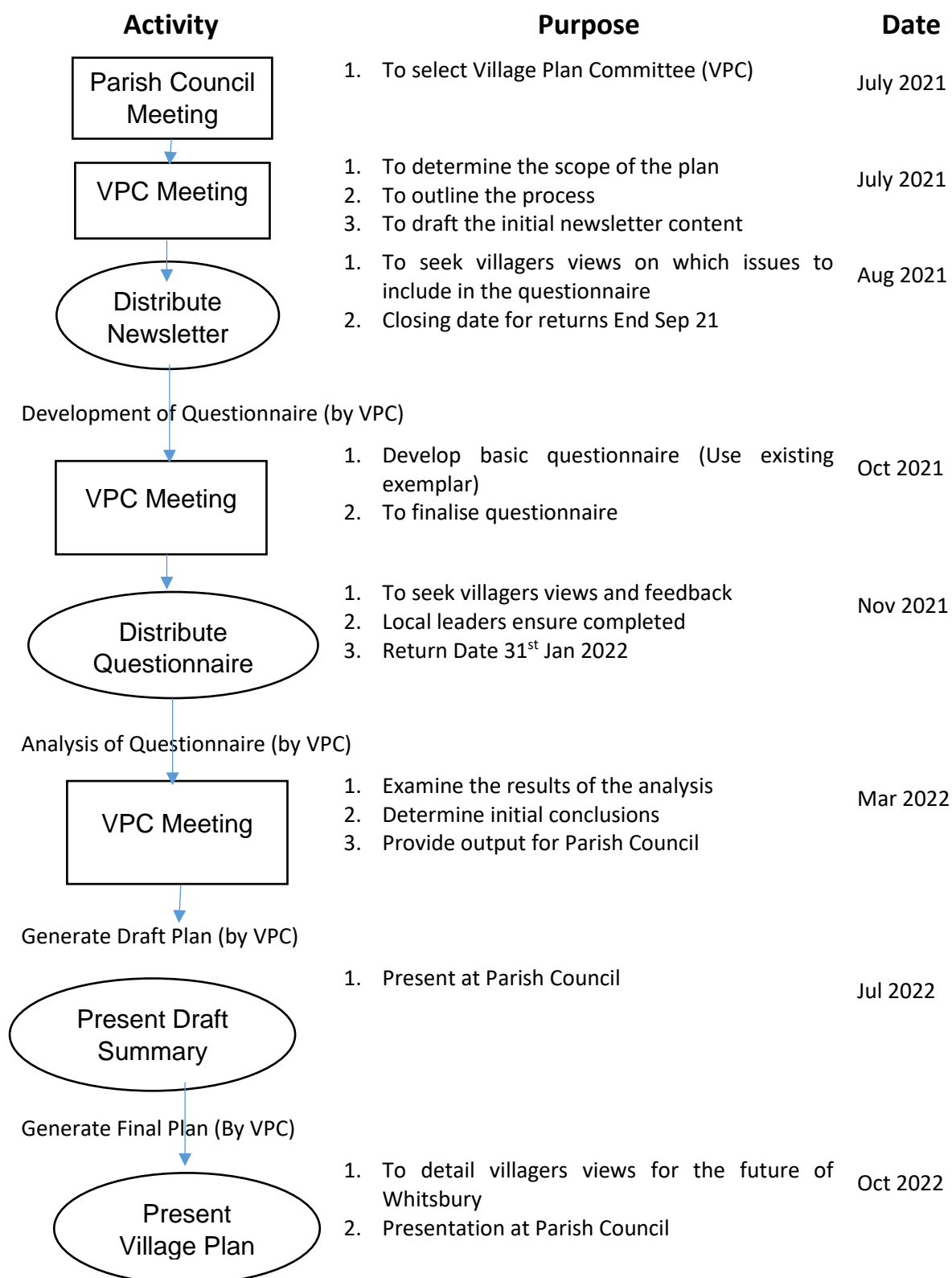
- Setting

Views down onto the village from the churchyard.

Views north and west from Castle ditches.



## Annex 2. Village Plan Process Diagram





## Annex 3. Village Helper Card

The postcard shown below was circulated alongside the Village Plan Questionnaire.

### Whitsbury Village Helpers – Doing A Little Helps a Lot

In conjunction with the Village planning exercise, we are looking for people to assist with future village support activities. You may have skills or experience that you would be willing to offer. Please use this card to indicate if you would be happy to assist with any of the following village community activities:

Item	Activity or Service	I am willing to assist
1	Village Hall Events	
2	Village Repair Shop	
3	Whitsbury Helper	
4	Recycling	
5	Community Sharing	
6	Greening Whitsbury	
7	Community Delivery Plans	
8	Mens Shed	

If you are interested in assisting, please complete the above and insert your name and address below. We will contact you in due course

Many Thanks

### My Details

Name

Address

Tel No

Please return with Questionnaire or post through the Village Hall post box on completion

## **Descriptions**

Below is listed a brief description of each activity or service.

### **Village Hall Events**

To assist with Village Hall held entertainments, this could range from being part of the organizing entertainments committee to assisting on the day of events by setting up, hosting or clearing away.

### **Village Repair Shop**

To be part of a village repair shop where we look to repair and recycle rather than throwing things away. Some things are readily repairable with the right knowledge. Assistance would be in the form of providing specialist skills such as electrical repair, wood repair, mechanism repairs, metalwork repairs etc.

### **Whitsbury Helper**

To assist in the event of pandemic type responses where we need to pull together a group of people to help and assist others with tasks such as shopping, prescription pick ups or being a voice on the end of a phone for a chat.

### **Recycling**

To assist with recycling efforts in helping coordinating recycling efforts in the village.

### **Community Sharing**

To assist or be part of a community sharing scheme where a register is held of items villagers may be happy to share if someone else needs a similar item for a short time. This could range from specialist tools and equipment to cleaning equipment or items needed in an emergency.

### **Greening Whitsbury**

To assist villagers with typical methods of carbon reduction in our own homes from insulation through to solar panels and heat pumps what can you do to be more carbon neutral. What steps can we all take to reduce our carbon footprint and do our bit towards national and global reductions.

### **Community Delivery Plans**

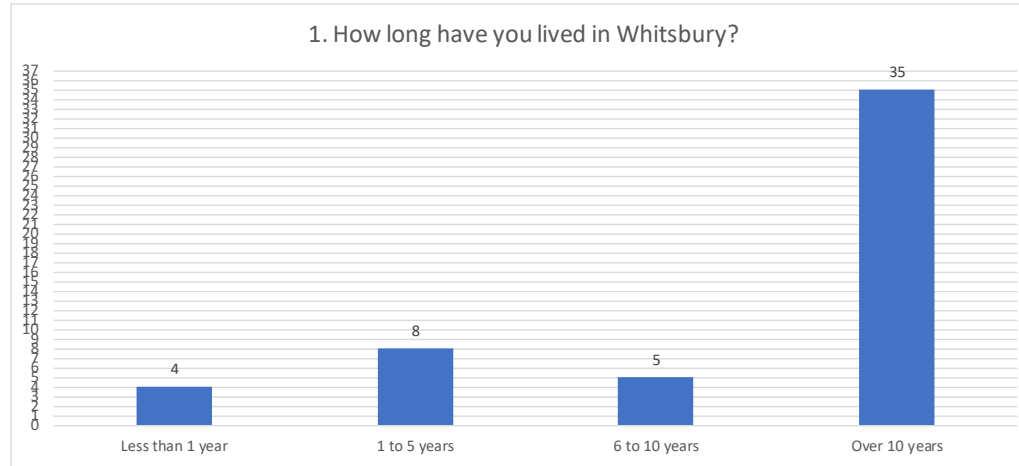
To assist with developing and help run a community delivery plan where we look to minimise trips to the village by utility services/lorries by creating joint delivery plans where single delivery trips can be replaced by multiple village addresses with the same truck or lorry such as heating oil and cess pit emptying.

### **Mens Shed**

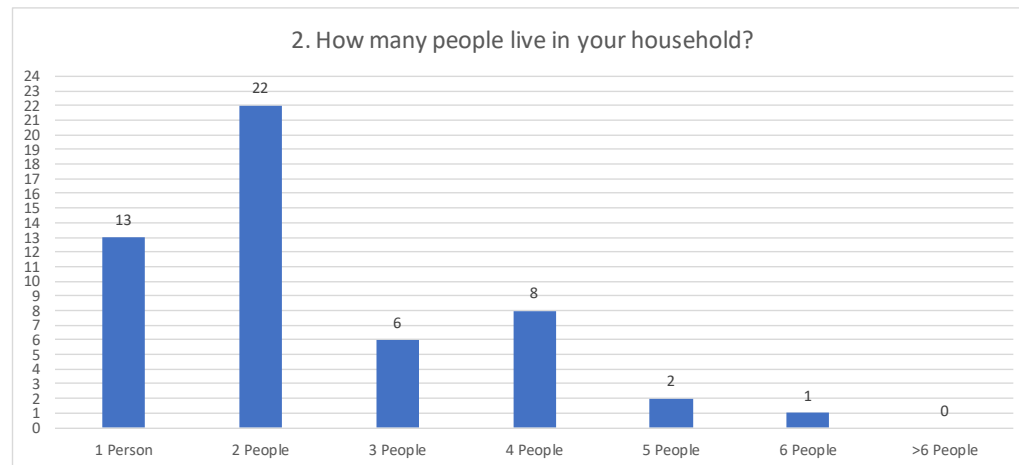
To assist with setting up or being part of a mens shed. They're community spaces for men to connect, converse and create. The activities are often similar to those of garden sheds, but for groups of men to enjoy together. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly, they're fun.

## Annex 4.Full Questionnaire Results

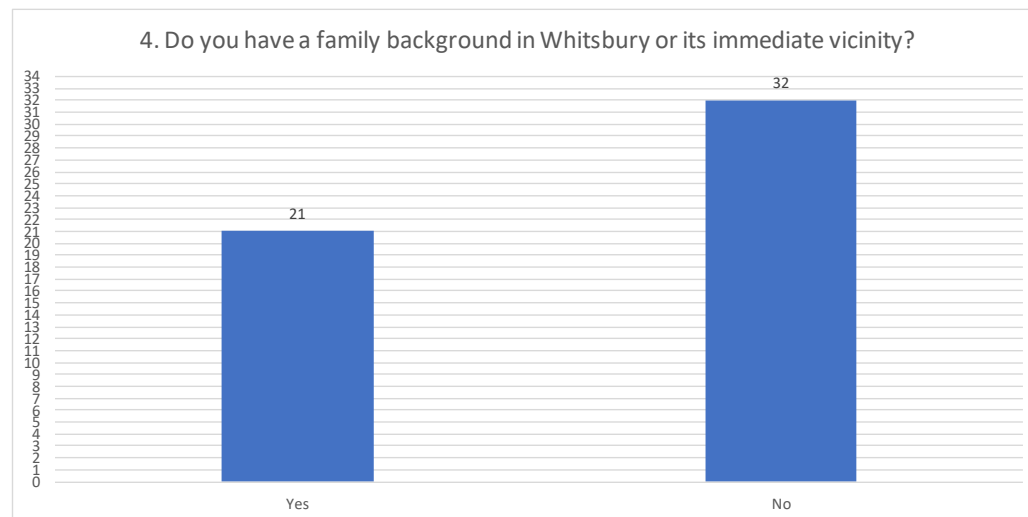
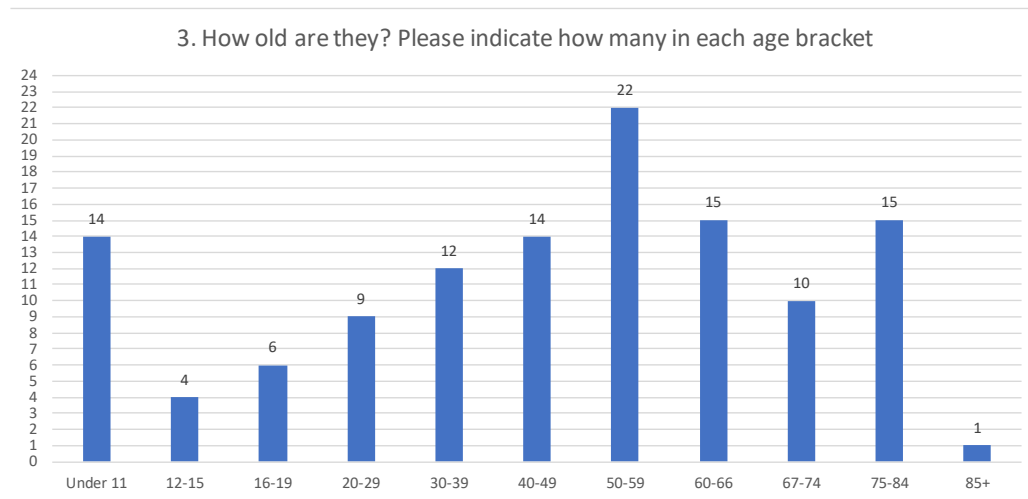
**Question and Graphic**



**Summary Narrative Comments**



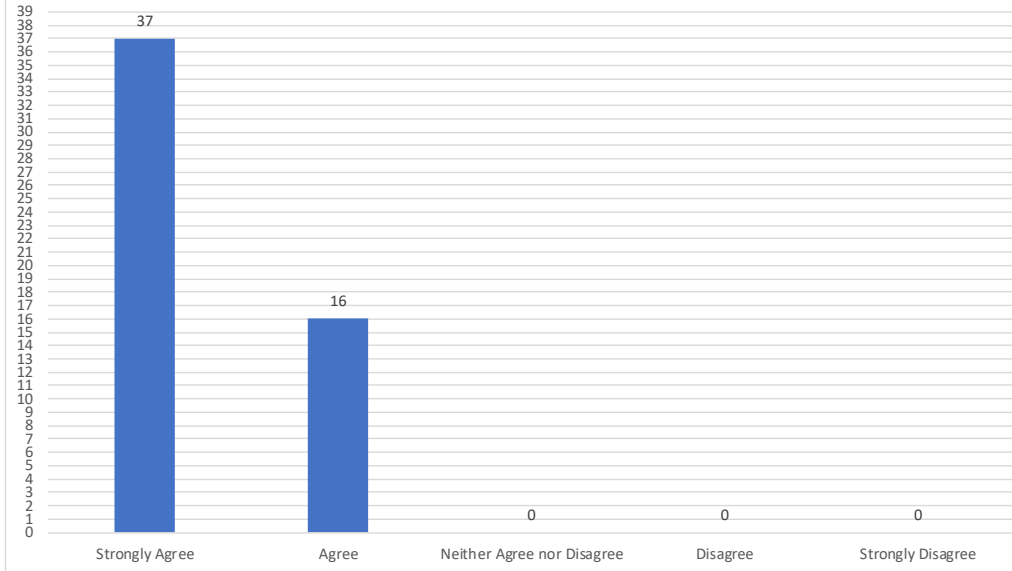
### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

### Question and Graphic

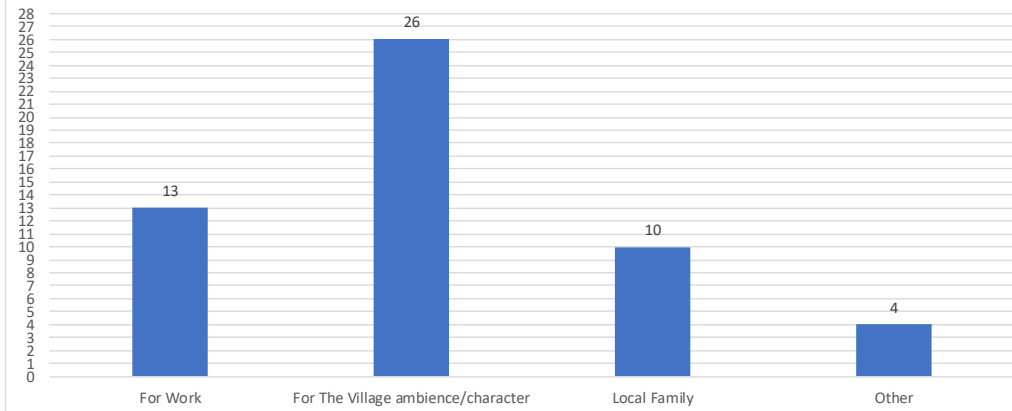
5. I enjoy living in Whitsbury?



### Summary Narrative Comments

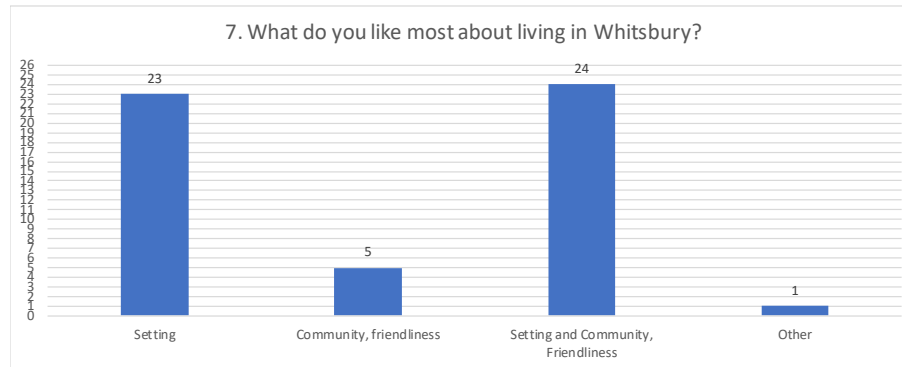
The location, sense of community, working village, the range and mix of people, the pub & church/village hall are all real assets of Whitsbury  
 No fibre broadband from cabinet to house  
 My whole family enjoy living in Whitsbury mostly for the peace and comfort of quiet surroundings

6. Why do you live in Whitsbury?



We love village life  
 Halfway between family in Salisbury and Bournemouth  
 Peace, Quiet, rural setting  
 and local family  
 and local family

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

Also beautiful, well maintained countryside, ease of access to stunning countryside for walking/cycling. Generosity and kindness of neighbours and a real willingness to support and help one another.  
Ease of access to outstanding NHS GP surgery and dentist and services of Fordingbridge for library, Co-Op, Caxtons etc.  
More community activity would enhance the experience  
Work  
We love the tranquility/peace in the area

### 8. What do you like least about living in Whitsbury?

Speeding cars, exceptionally poor, longstanding problems with landline telephone connection, TV Reception can also be poor.  
Speeders creating an unsafe environment for walkers  
Speed of Traffic - Roads monopolised by cars and lorries, poor public transport  
Big lorries and traffic whizzing through the village  
Minority of people racing through village (Cars/motorbikes/quads) + using gallops area as their own (It's private)  
Fast traffic on road  
Huge Lorries making car travel difficult at times  
Brookheath - Road kill - because of speeding vehicles, also litter  
Fast Traffic periodically through the village

Having to drive to the shops. Lack of takeaway options  
Lack of community space

No Village café / Store  
Travel to Shops (Even for basics)  
Lack of amenities

A village shop would be great

Nothing  
Nothing  
Nothing

Poor mobile phone reception  
Lack of phone signal

Light aircraft noise/ helicopters  
We expect a village to be quiet but it is often noisy

No fibre broadband - problem with an office and large family

Poor Internet

Smelly bonfires

Litter on verges and scramblers wrecking the land

Narrow Roads / Pot Holes  
State of the roads leading to it  
Lack of gritting in winter

People buying houses for "Holiday/weekend/2nd home" pushing prices up so that the next generation has to move away

Close to family, open space, nice countryside

Worry about 'undesirables' breaking into vehicle/shed

A little isolated, only in the sense of public transport, addressed later in here.

The long, straggling structure of the village

Lack of activities for children



## Question and Graphic

## Summary Narrative Comments

### 9. What do you think is the most important thing/s that could be changed to improve Whitsbury?

Speeding cars

More considerate driving

road safety

Reduce Traffic

20 mph speed limit on road

A 20mph speed limit

Cars driving slowly through the village

20 mph speed limit through village

The roads

Road from Fordingbridge, Traffic management to improve road behaviour

Pedestrian safety on the road, alternative paths through village, painted pavements

clearing of drains/improve water run off causing erosion to the edge of the roads

Improve the state of the roads leading to it

improved digital connection.

Improve Mobile Phone Reception

While we wait for the fibre to be installed from the cabinet to our homes please can the fibre from Rockborne to the

Whitsbury cabinet be upgraded and also the copper wire heading north up the village from the cabinet outside the

Cartwheel is in a terrible state of repair.

Improve internet connections,

Faster Internet

Better Wi Fi

Community Shop

A Village shop

Village Shop / Mobile Shop

village shop

A shop (Perhaps co-operative with volunteer helpers)

Wider community involvement

Increased community activity

More sense of community - using the village hall like Damerham do

More 'family' orientated events/more events in general especially at the village hall

Nothing

Can't think of anything significant

Very happy as it is

Less litter

Community Space

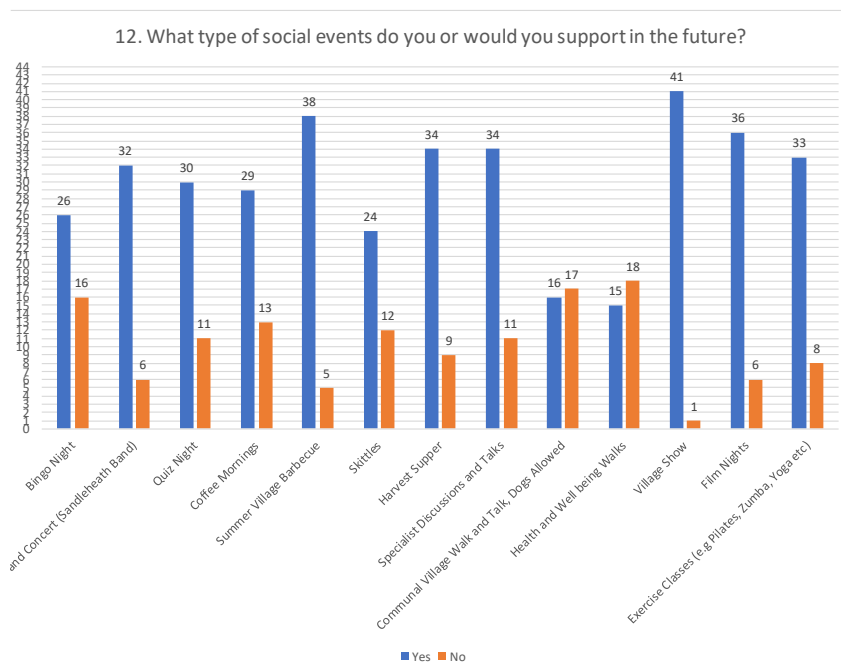
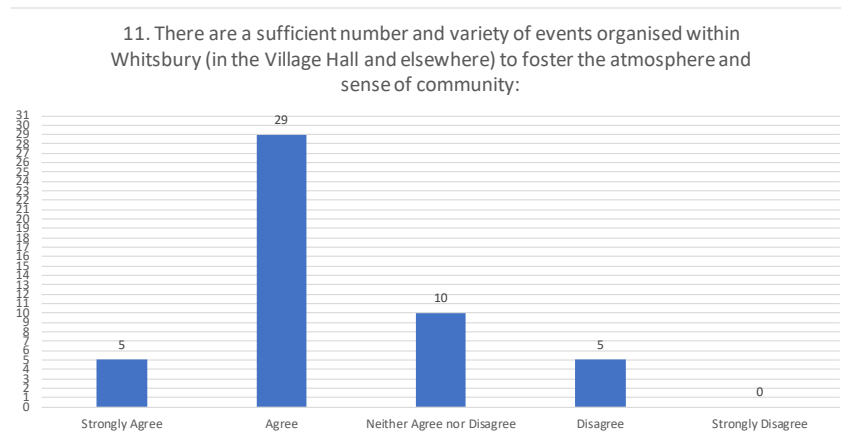
Childrens playground, village shop

More regular bus service

More frequent local police presence

Build more affordable housing for the next generation to buy

### Question and Graphic

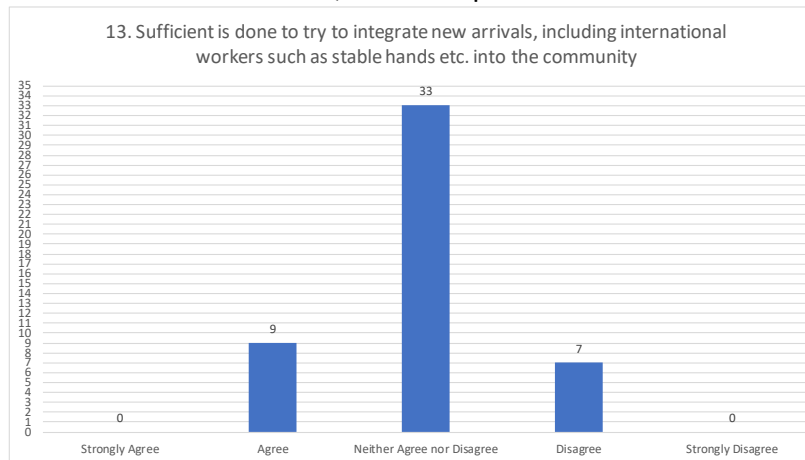


### Summary Narrative Comments

Nothing is supported fully by villagers, meetings etc  
 The last two years have been exceptional and a return to the level of activities before the pandemic would be good  
 Don't know yet  
 Things have changed since Covid  
 Covid has had such a profound effect, it is difficult to decide "where to" now!  
 We have always been pre-occupied by work  
 I don't really know of any that have happened

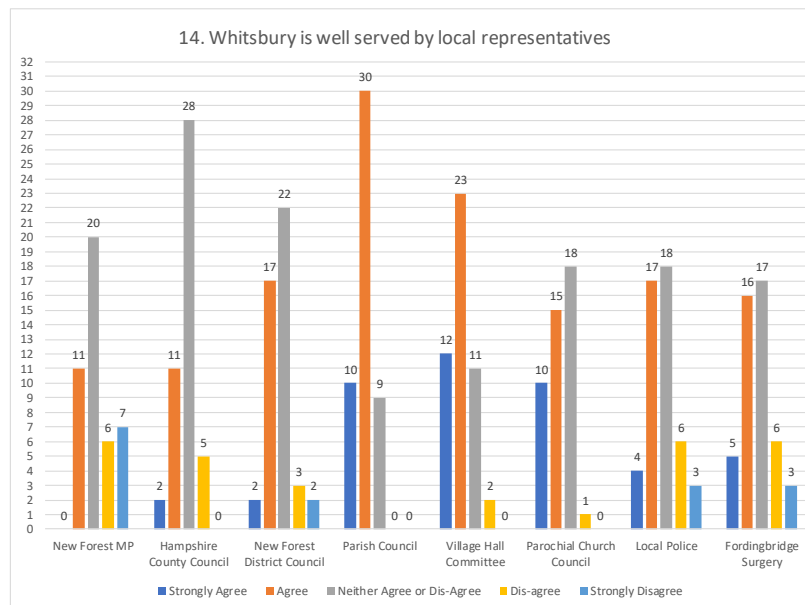
Martin ran a very successful wine tasting competition that was fun and enjoyable light hearted competition to try and guess wines.  
 Could combine events so have a walk which is timed to end in a coffee morning slot  
 Another combined event could be a games slot, seen this working at Christchurch library with a 2 hour game slot. Worth some research to see what else could be developed around the coffee mornings etc.  
 I think we need to be careful re skittles as I do not think we would be able to facilitate that in the hall and film nights are already a feature in Rockbourne and Coombe Bissett so possibly a question over levels of attendance. Possibly a knit and natter session as used to be held in the pub.  
 Events subject to dietary requirements, talks depends on subjects  
 Foraging experience walk / talk.  
 Badminton / darts evening  
 Village scarecrow competition  
 Clean Up Litter Groups  
 Childrens Fun Sports Day  
 Something for the kids, I'm happy to help

### Question and Graphic



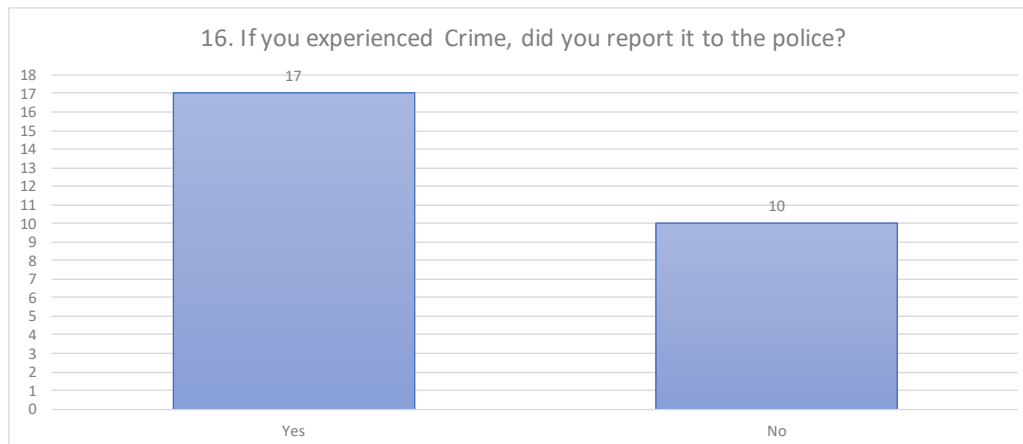
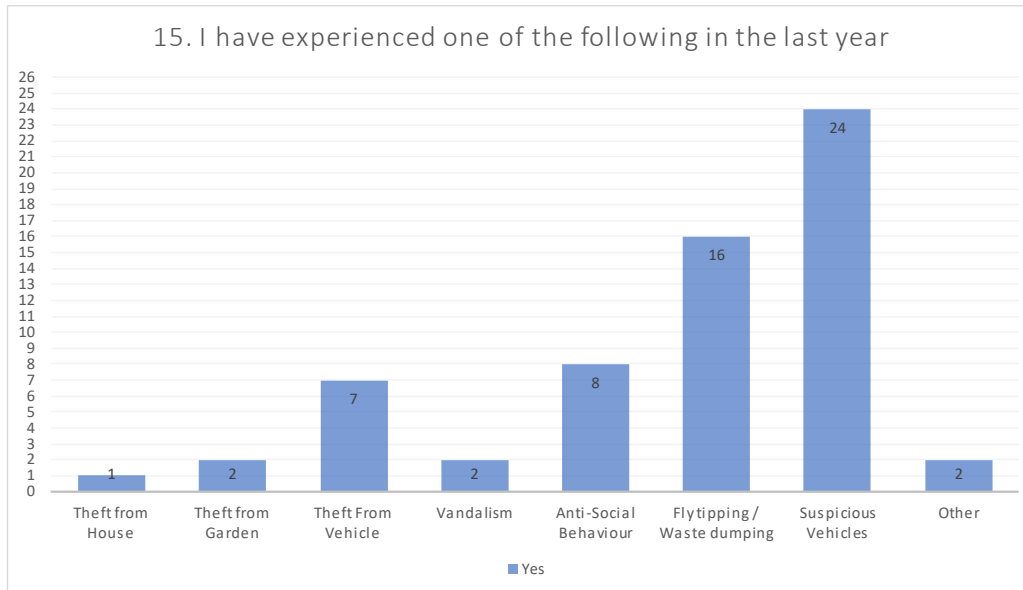
### Summary Narrative Comments

Unable to comment as do not know what is currently offered  
 An updated welcome letter/leaflet would be welcome. Not sure what we could do re international workers as I am not sure if this relates to families or individuals. Perhaps making a special effort to invite to social events  
 Unaware of new arrivals  
 Don't know  
 At one time useful information about the village was given to new arrivals. Does this still occur?



Personally feel that some of Desmond Swaynes MP contributions have been unrepresentative and strongly disagree with much of his actions on the environment. Contributions from Hants and NFDC could be better communicated  
 All local committees and PCC have been excellent, run with integrity and its clear, members try their utmost to put residents and village foremost and have total confidence in their actions.  
 Good to see regular and committed presence of local PC on Whitsbury Watch  
 We are privileged to be served by Fordingbridge Surgery - care organisation and services are outstanding  
 Do not know enough about this  
 Our MP does not reply to correspondence. The County Council takes ages to reply to communications if you can contact them. Not sure what the church council does apart from monthly newsletters  
 Unaware of representation of those mentioned above other than Parish Council (seeing meeting minutes)  
 Unaware of the above apart from the police  
 This question would have worked better if responsibilities of these bodies to Whitsbury had been identified.  
 Don't know as haven't been here long enough  
 The village hall is well maintained but I think it could be advertised and utilised in order to raise money for the village  
 Police - We had an incident and the police didn't pop out to check all was okay.

### Question and Graphic

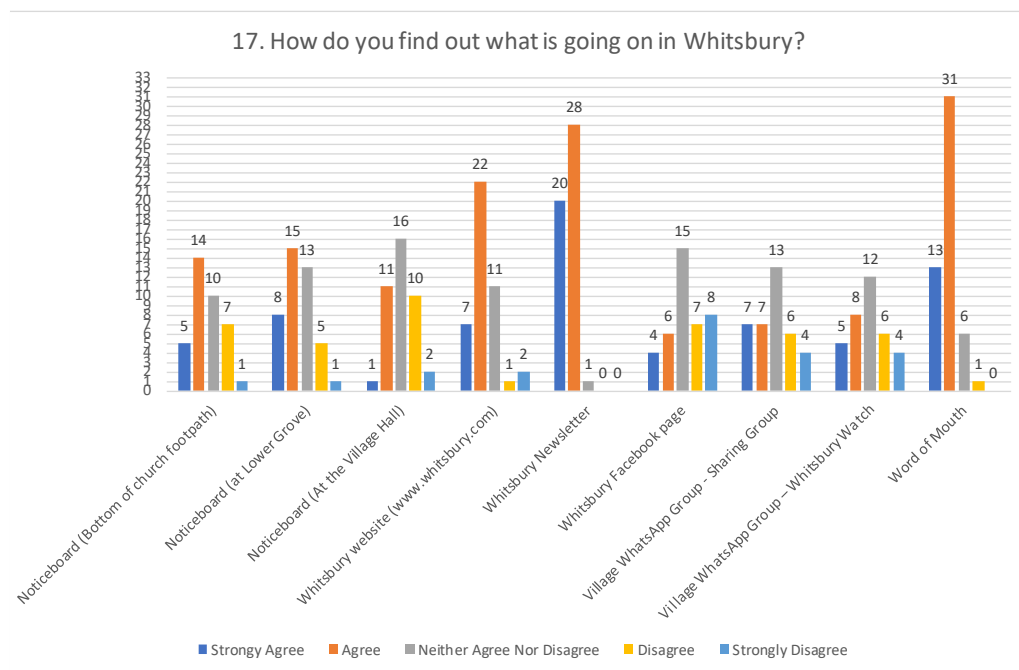


### Summary Narrative Comments

Speeding  
 Noisy motorbikes/quad bikes speeding through the village.  
 Theft from house - attempted  
 Theft from Garden - attempted  
 Fly tipping - on the gallopsIntruder in garden alerted by dog approx 2 years ago.  
 And general littering  
 Attempted theft from vehicle but was disturbed  
 Damage to car caused it to be a write off  
 Car full of loud men with several lurchers on gallops. Intimidating  
 We report suspicious vehicles and callers to the house  
 Blue van followed a resident

Good and helpful response. Was pleasantly surprised  
 They wouldn't have done anything

## Question and Graphic



## Summary Narrative Comments

Also read the Cartwheel Facebook Page

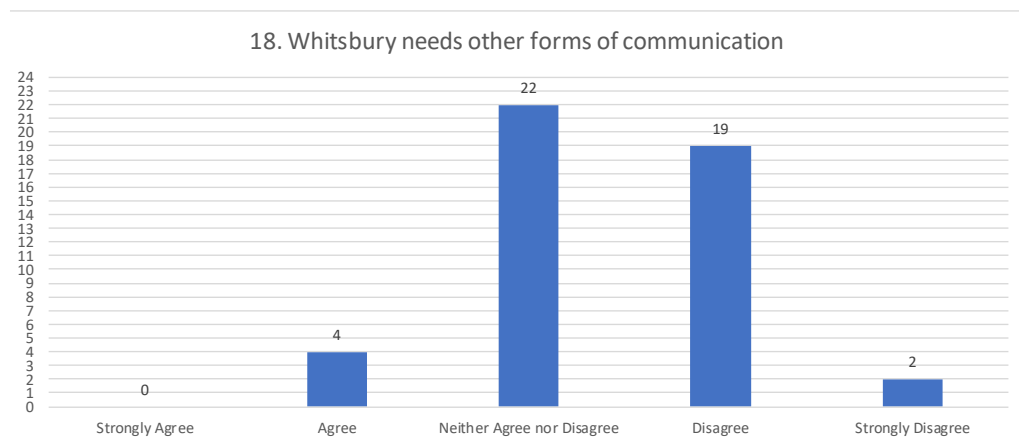
Would it be possible to get e-mail/whatsapp notifications when there is a change to the website.

Next Door e-mails

Newsletter to be e-mailed as a part of sustainable living

I don't do Facebook !

Notice boards seem a little unloved

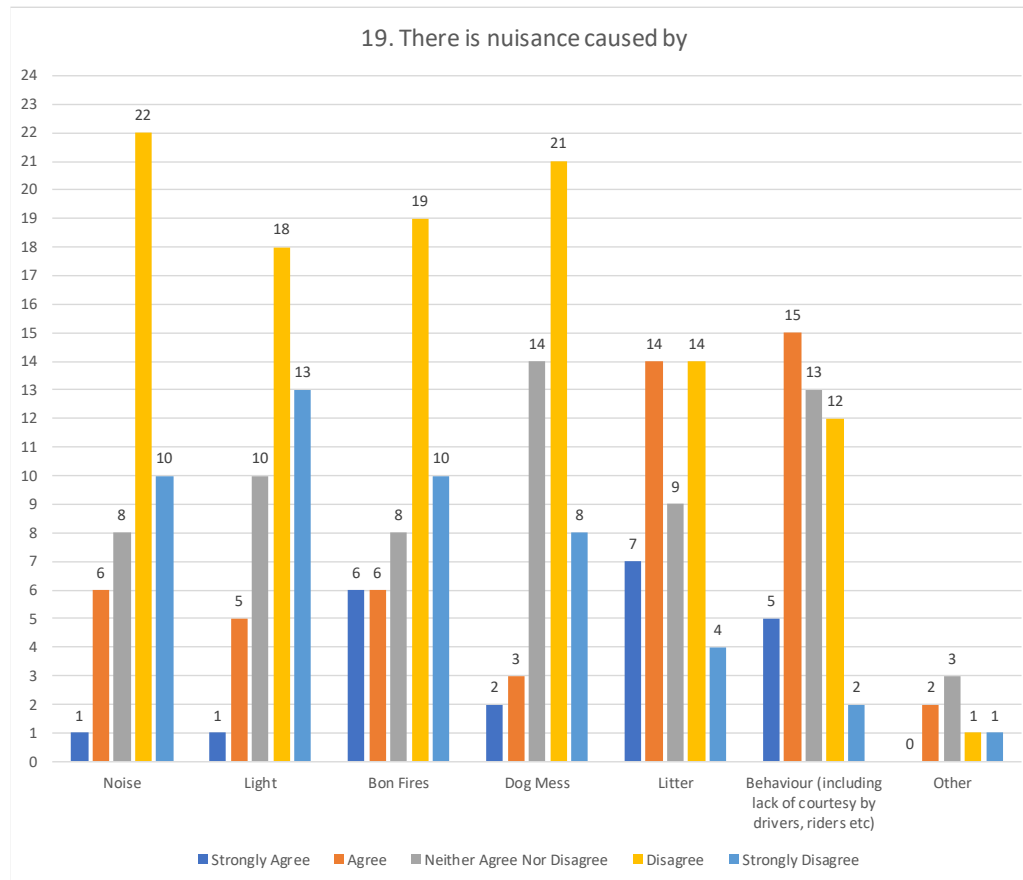


Village notice board at manor Farm cottages beside post box

A Whitsbury iCAL or digital calendar subscription would be useful

More Online - Flyers through doors?

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

We need regular Litter picks every 6 months

No Litter - Notices

Frequently fast food containers in hedges

Litter Pick

More community litter picking initiatives

Dog poo bins - signs,

Public Bin /

Traffic calming and signs

Report persistent offenders

Traffic calming measures

Lorries travelling too far for a small village

Speed Limit Reduction /

20mph limit through the village

Some form of escort leading the racehorses

Speeding can be an issue

Other - Aircraft Noise

Motorbikes on a Sunday

Ask manufacturers to make machines that run quietly! Chain saws, lawn mowers, hedge cutters

People attitude to having bon fires is not going to change

Stop bon fires during certain times, limit amount a week

advise people why indiscriminate burning of rubbish is bad for the environment

Bonfires -Another mention, strongly worded in the newsletter

Designated days for bonfires

Outside lighting to be more subtle

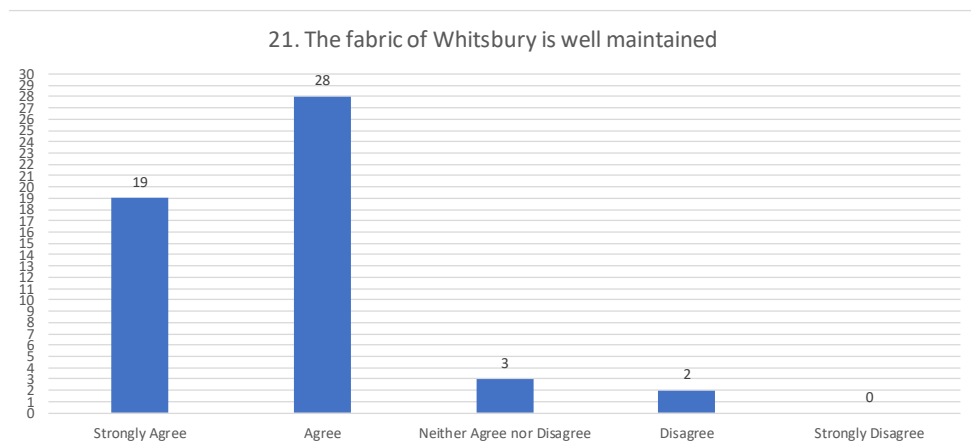
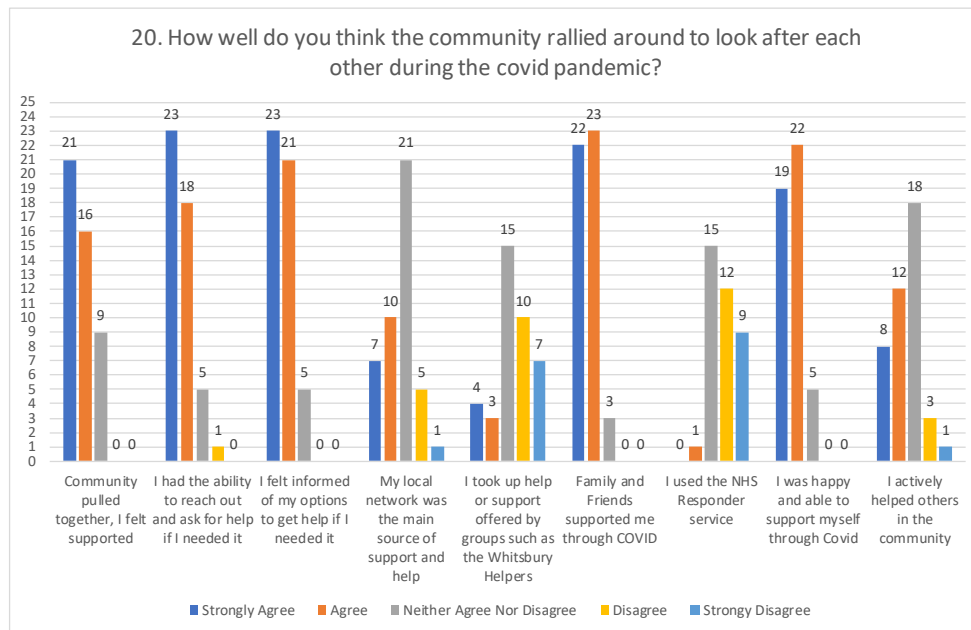
Can residents be encouraged not to have bright outside lights on at night

Maybe we should encourage outside lights to be turned off after 10 or 11 pm

The village hall lights are often left on for a long time (Days)



### Question and Graphic

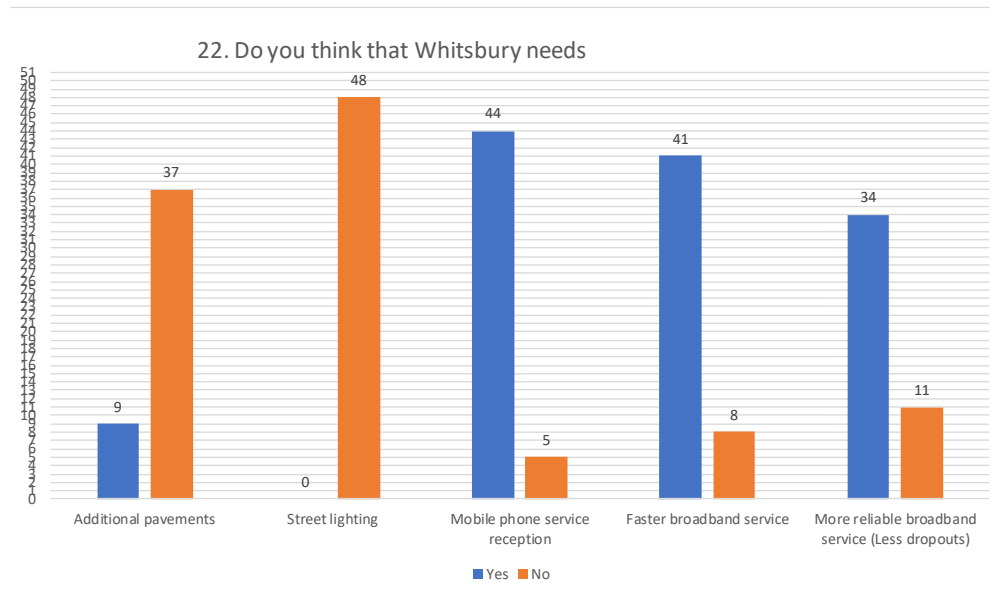


### Summary Narrative Comments

The Newsletter listing volunteers and contact nos was really helpful  
 We moved here after lockdown so avoided most covid issues  
 Not residents at this time  
 AS a family we were ocverwhelmed with the kindness and generosity from people in the village during the pandemic

Chris Harper and his team deserve recognition for the amount of work that goes into the fabric of the village and the number of things that just get fixed after issues, storms, etc.  
 Thank you to those who consistently care for the village - beautiful environment to live  
 Thank You Chris Harper  
 Footpath at base of path to church has been allowed to be worn away by cars constant encroachment on foot path

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

The road between Lower Farm and Woodside Close is dangerous if on foot around the road bends

Definitely No to pavements and street lighting

Mobile signal would be amazing

Mobile service is patchy. I have a reasonable broadband service/reliable but faster etc is most peoples expectation

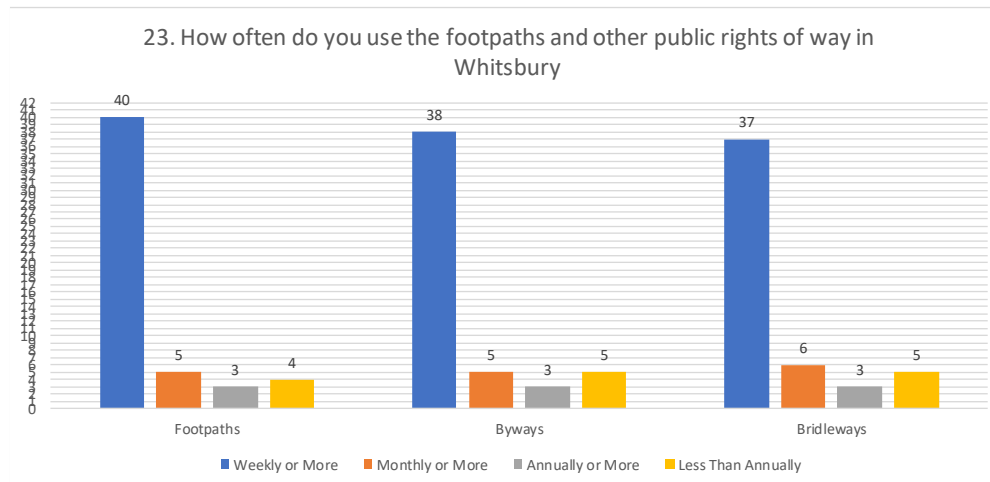
Birds and insects populations are adversely affected by street lighting, please keep it dark.

Painted pavements through village might/would help slow traffic

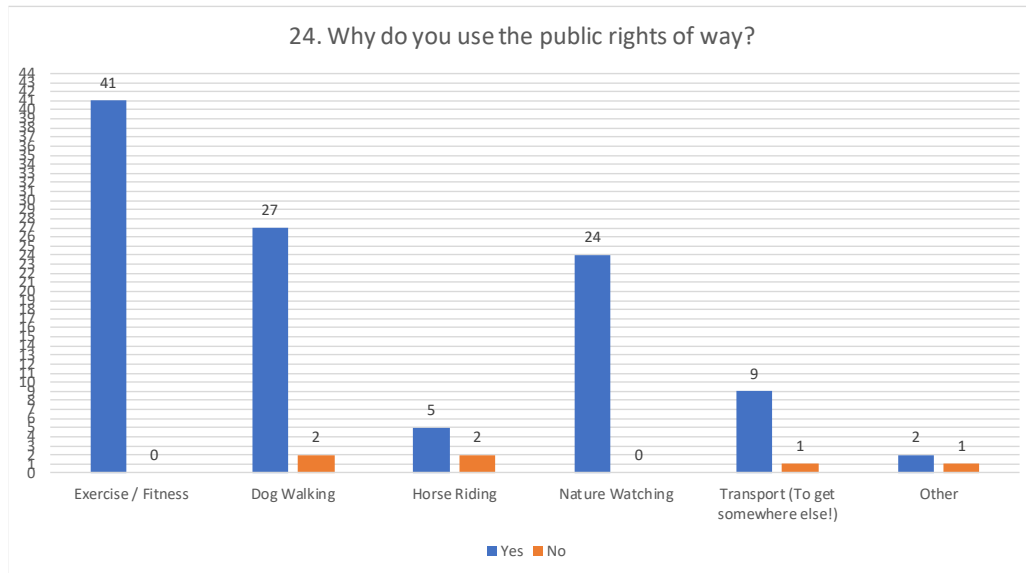
Please No street lighting

Still waiting for update to recent village poll as to fibre BB

Street Lighting - No No No

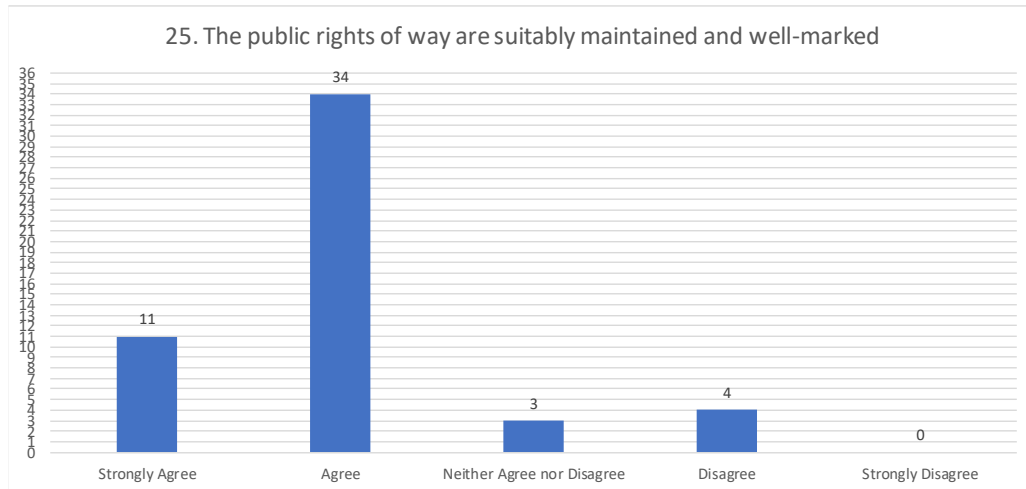


### Question and Graphic



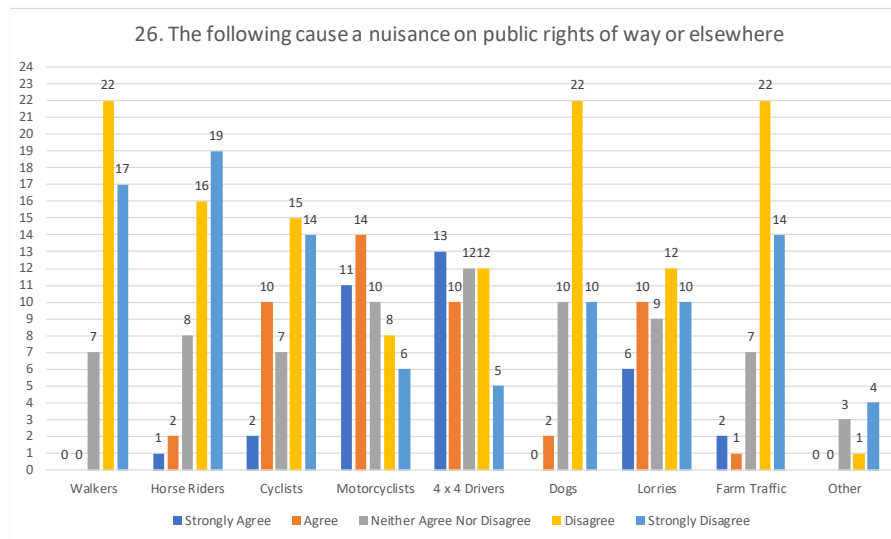
### Summary Narrative Comments

To enjoy the rural "away from it all" aspects of Whitsbury etc.  
Other - Cycling



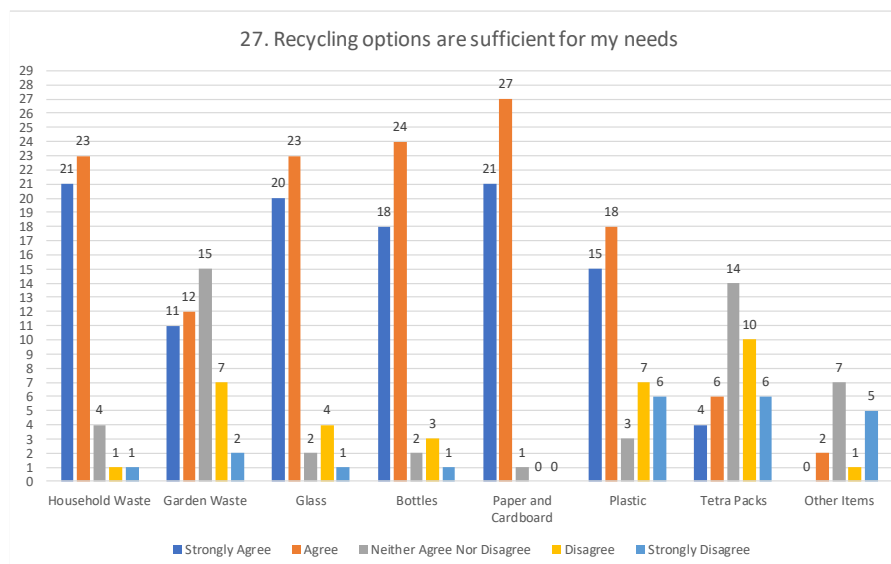
Too little / unmaintained signage  
Most routes OK, one or two signs removed occasionally !!  
Not suitably maintained but mostly well-marked  
Some signs removed on estate / blacked out  
Stile removed car park side of church  
Some paths not cleared or signed around Brookheath  
Not all the rights of way are signposted properly. The holes/craters at the bottom of the gallops are virtually impassable

### Question and Graphic



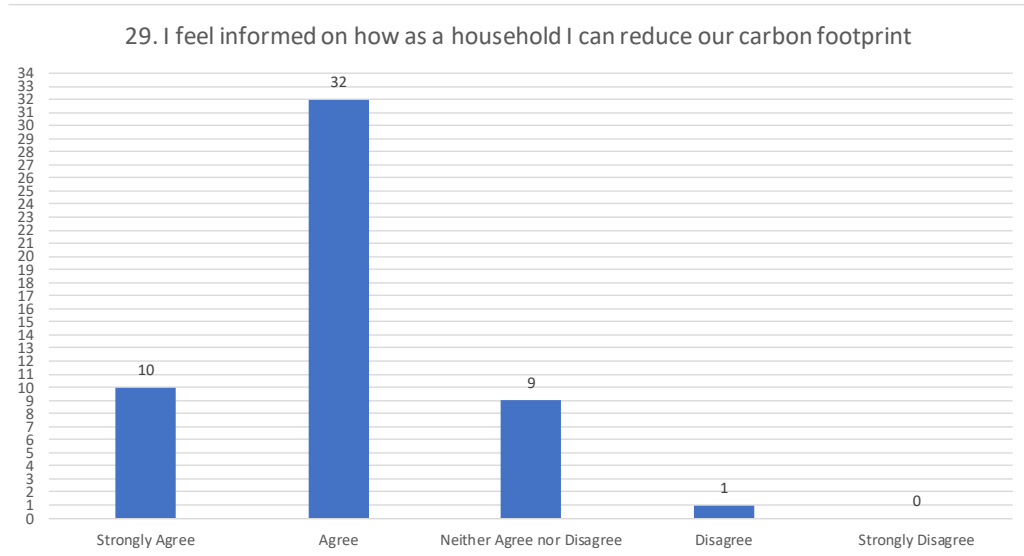
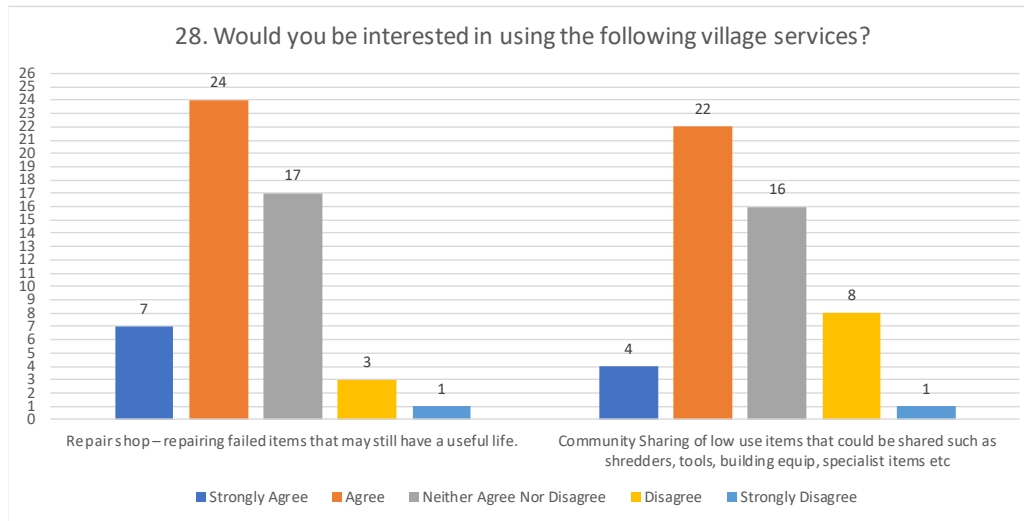
### Summary Narrative Comments

Motorcyclists - usually courteous and considerate  
 Lorries - Sometimes just too big for small roads and damage verges etc.  
 Farm Traffic - necessary obviously but sometimes just too fast!  
 The tracks around the gallops are being eroded by 4x4 vehicles playing which makes them hard to navigate on foot in places  
 Dogs off a lead can cause a nuisance (esp at gallops) and harm wildlife  
 Off lead dogs can be a nuisance  
 The by-ways should all be free of 4x4 vehicles with the exception of necessary farm vehicle movements (Motorcyclists make less mess than horses but some use excessive speed)



NFDC items accepted for clear bags is limited  
 We don't use garden waste collection service as it isn't substantial enough for our garden waste so will drive regularly to the tip  
 What is recycled is great but it needs to be extended and made more uniform  
 It would be advantageous if we could have enhanced recycling facilities for batteries, printer cartridges, single use plastics, clothing etc  
 Bottle bank removed and replaced with a less eco friendly option, which is more costly and less convenient  
 Collection services provided and recycling banks cater for me  
 Council needs to offer a wider scope of recycling (A national problem)  
 Wheely bins to keep animals out and reduce litter  
 Plastic - depends on plastic  
 Garden waste - Only current 4 week collection, every 2 weeks was good  
 Seems to be lots of waste that is recyclable that we aren't meant to put in our clear bags  
 Limited recycling options for plastic and tetra packs  
 No green bags, trolley bins, bags not village wide problem though I think  
 Do the clear bags from Whitsbury actually get recycled  
 We haven't had recycling bags for a while now  
 Food Waste

### Question and Graphic

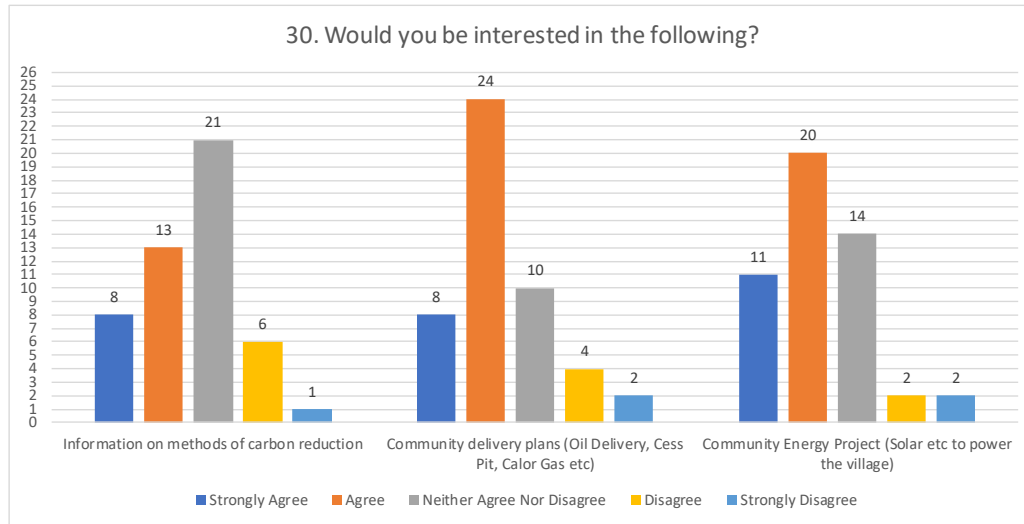


### Summary Narrative Comments

As long as they are set up properly  
 Lover repair shop works very effectively and raised significant sums of money for hospital.  
 They have a bank of retired engineers and trades people who provide a terrific service -  
 have used it many times  
 Certainly be happy to lend garden tools to help keep shared areas well maintained  
 I can see endless problems with the idea of sharing tools etc

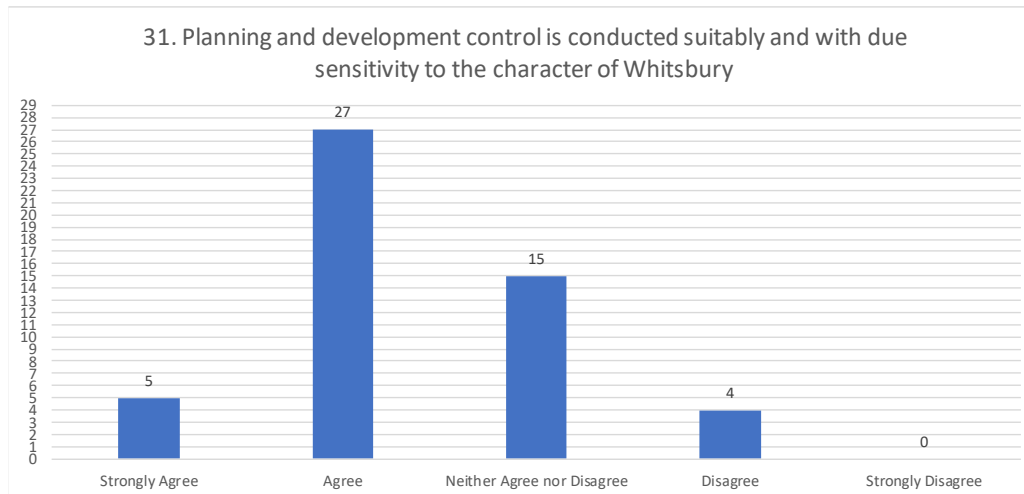
Too much conflicting information about this to truly know what to do  
 We should involve the community in the Village Greening Project

### Question and Graphic



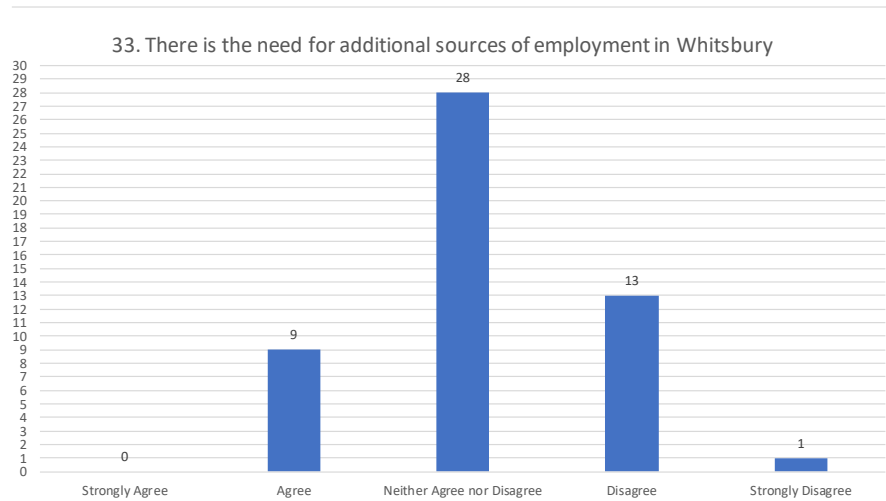
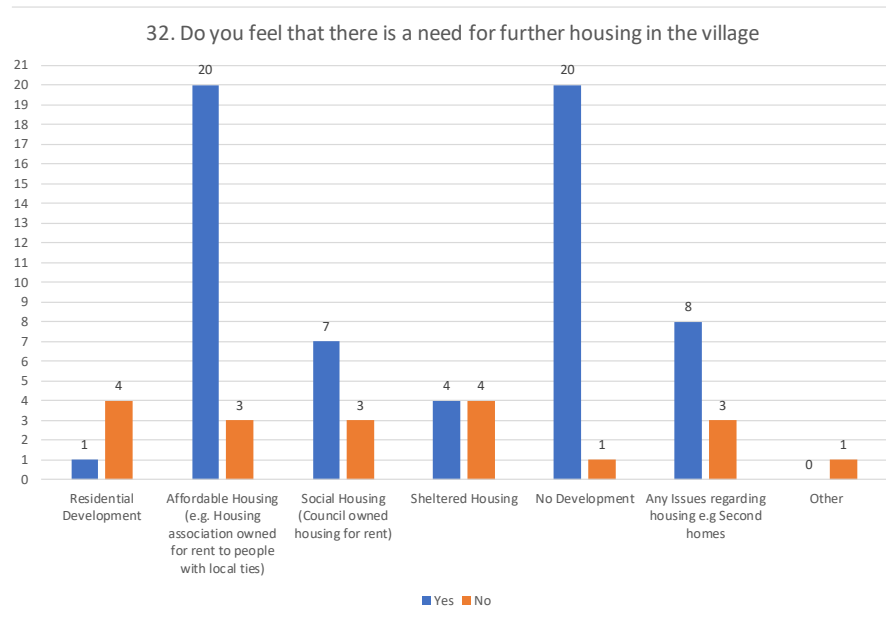
### Summary Narrative Comments

All of the above  
Group Oil purchase could be beneficial  
Can Whitsbury become carbon neutral ?



Sometimes the conservation people can be a bit picky  
Don't know yet but looks like it has so far  
Not aware of what controls are in place  
Always forward thinking  
The affordable housing (Bottom of Village) shows NO sensitivity to the character of Whitsbury. Indeed it looks like an industrial building  
We have not been involved so difficult to comment

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

Have left this section intentionally blank with no understanding / insight into this data for the real need for further housing, I feel unable to comment.

With regard to affordable and social housing, the issue seems to be it doesn't go to local people, despite the need.

Second homes: I worry about local housing stock going as second homes and wish there was a way of making 2nd home owners contribute financially to the village directly to make up for a lack of physical contribution.

Second homes/Air BnB. Can be detrimental to any village e.g. Burley now has 50% as second homes

Second homes are draining the community feel. Also the users are less sensitive to village life

More houses would mean more traffic

No development without appropriate infrastructure

There's a good balance of full time and weekend residents

Growing number of second homes. It's ok when only a few but too many I think would mean we could lose the community feel

Unsure as recent residents

I feel it would be nice to increase the critical mass at the centre of the village rather than any extensions at either end

One of the joys of Whitsbury is the low density of housing. The fields and paddocks throughout the village offer us glorious views and have a health benefit to us and our visitors. The benefit of these open spaces should be protected and the land not built on.

Not currently with large local development in progress / planned in Fordingbridge

Sheltered Housing - Not Flats

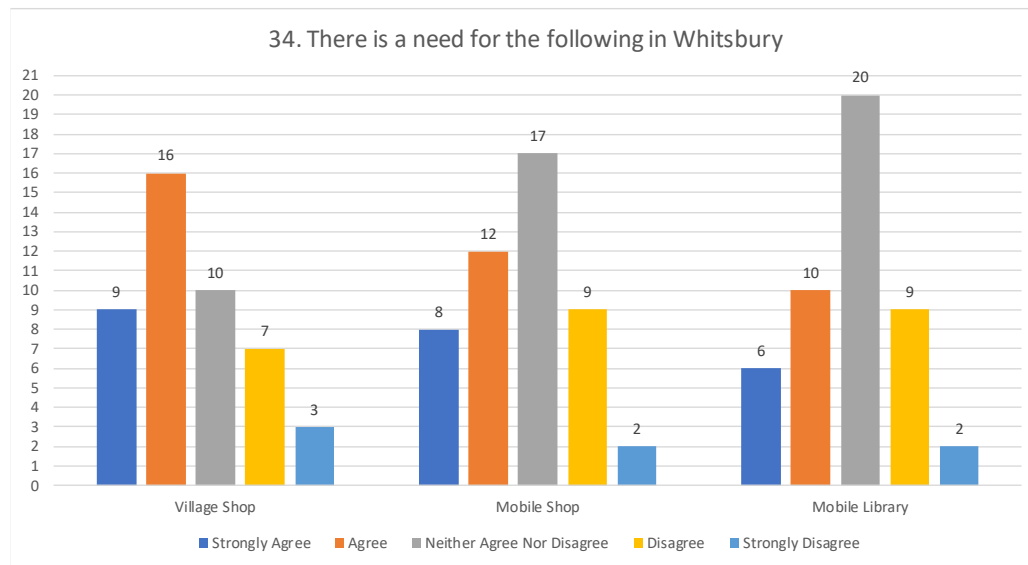
Again would need to see data/evidence for this before commenting

How ?

The changing nature of work and the effect that covid has had on accelerating changes may mean that additional sources of employment may just emerge without outside encouragement



### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

We would support a village shop as at Hale. People I believe have adapted to the services such as home delivery but a village bus or organized trips/ transport to Fordingbridge or Salisbury could be beneficial.

Not enough people to justify shop, ? Pub to stock essentials

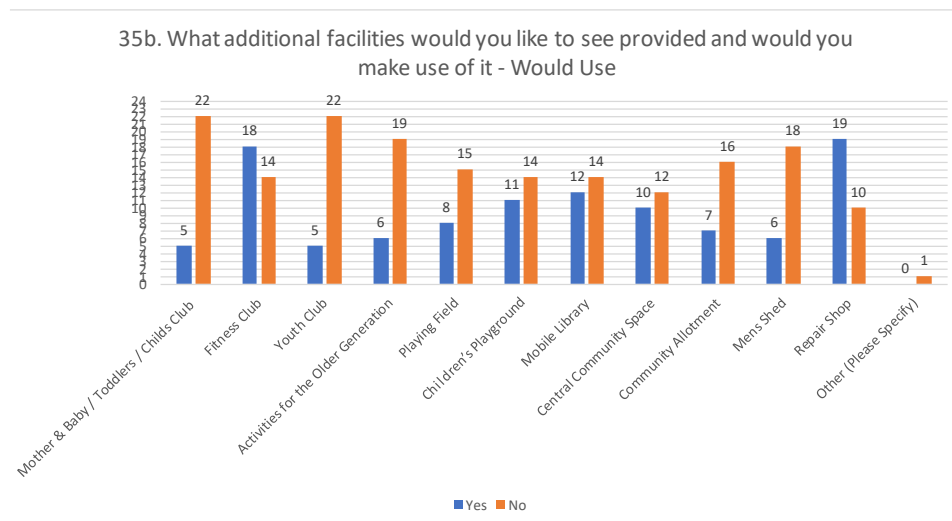
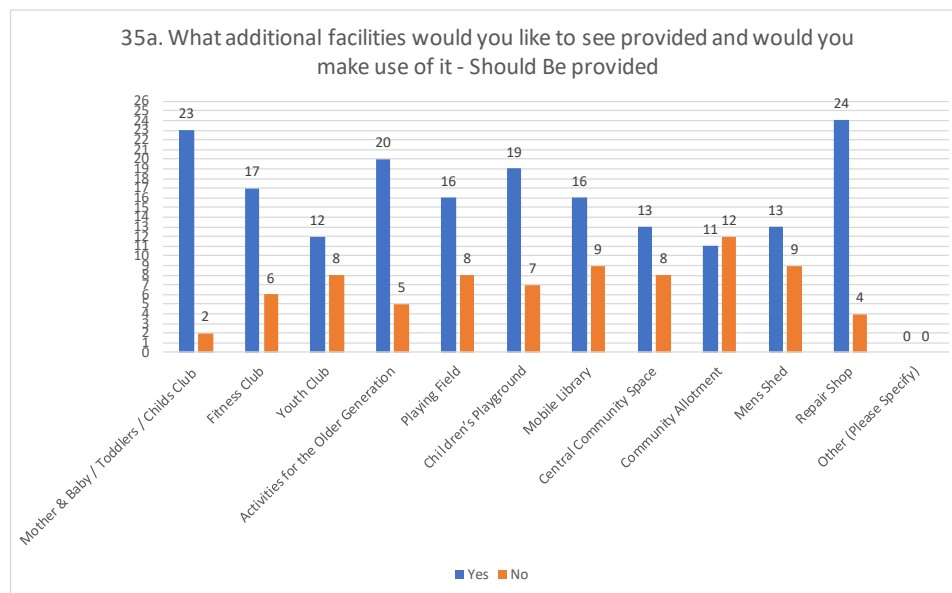
Shop would be nice but is the village big enough for it to be sustainable

I feel Whitsbury is too small a village to support a village shop

I like Whitsbury because it is rural

The village population is too small to make a village shop viable.

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

Fitness, Youth Club and Repair Shop in the village hall.

Meet up at Pub / Darts

We had a central community space but it was taken away when Mr Hobson passed and turned into another horse field

Mother abd Baby / Toddlers club already exists but is poorly attended

Village Hall is excellent facility and is provided 'at cost' to residents for any function.

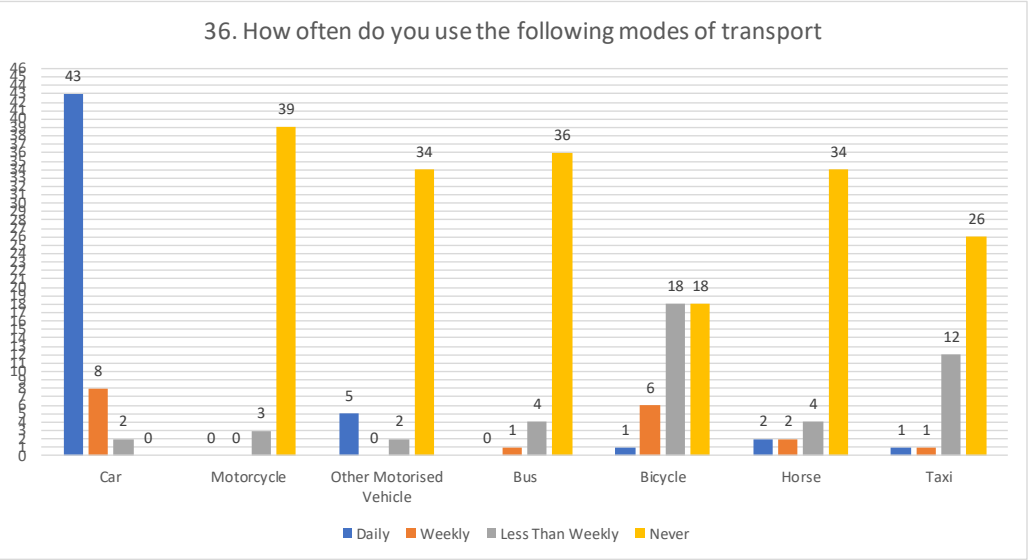
Demand is simply not there for all the activities (Youth/elderley) to be financially viable.

It would be lovely to have a playground/outside community space akin to a village green

I like the thought of a community space i.e. Village Green! But doubt it would get much use.

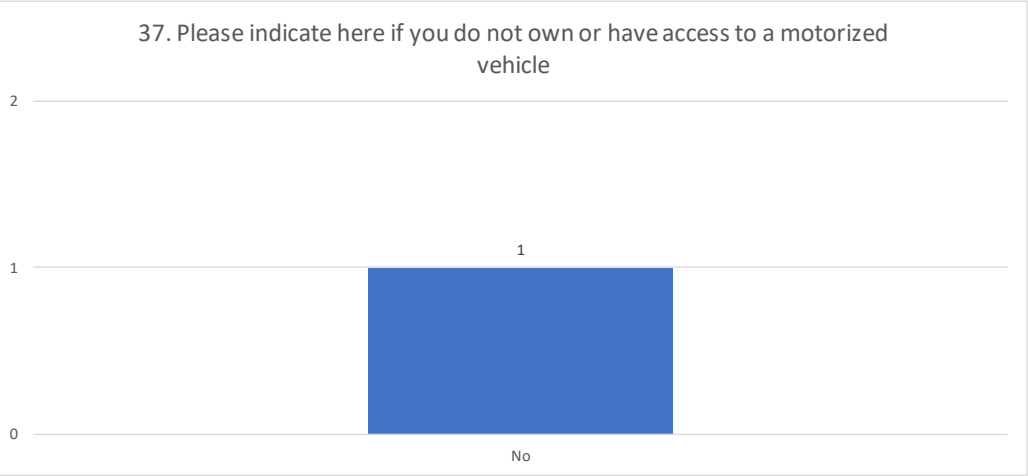
Also, there is no obvious place to put it.

Question and Graphic

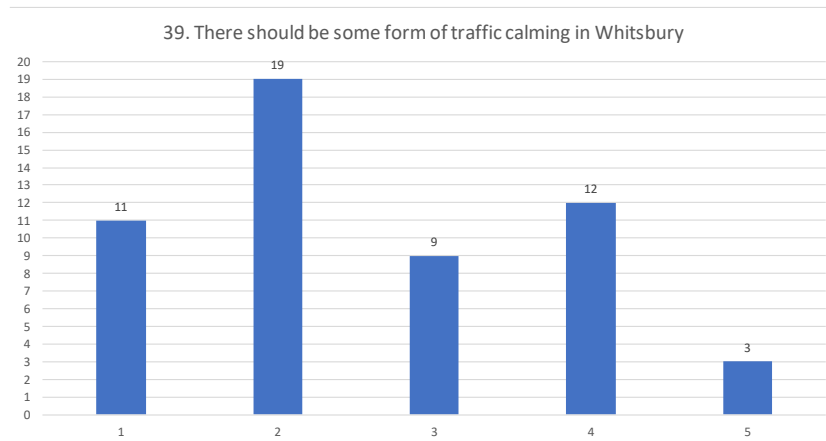
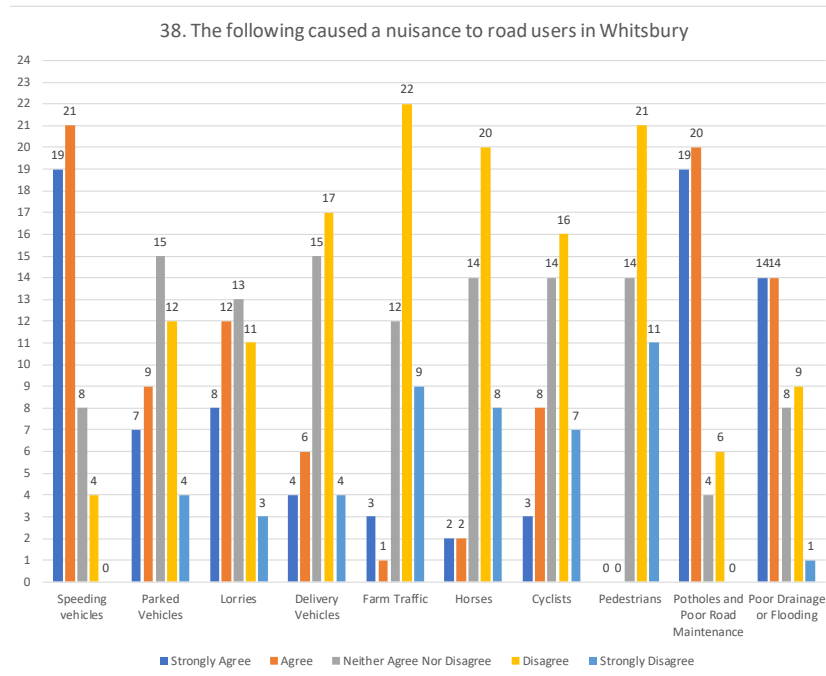


Summary Narrative Comments

Powered wheel chair as other motorsed vehicle



### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

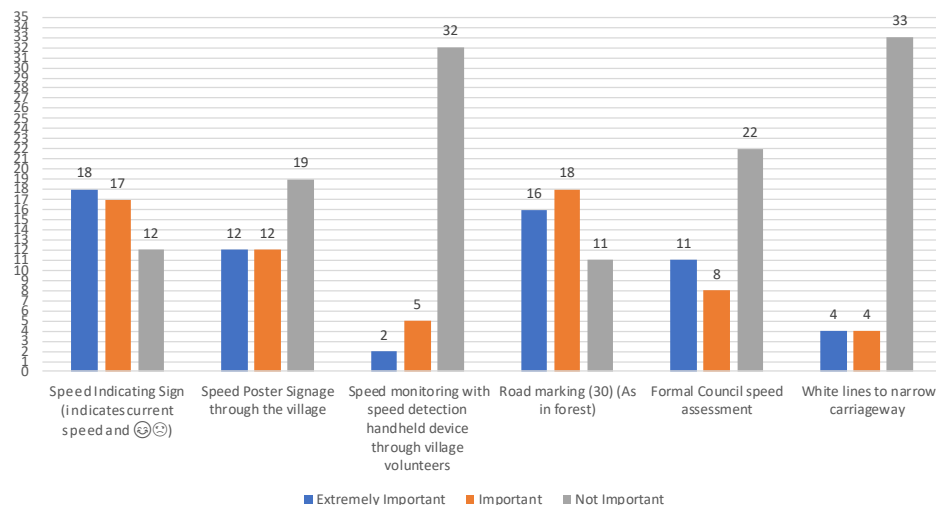
Cyclists can be thoughtless and need bells  
 Traffic too fast often through village and onward even worse  
 Lorries damage verge  
 Large delivery lorries for stud not suitable for roads and lead to disintegration. Horse riders generally rude and cyclists. HCC do not maintain road drains  
 Potholes/maintenance are a national ongoing issue - Drainage is a joke in Whitsbury (every drain etc is clogged with dirt/silt etc. - speeding is/has been a longstanding issue)

Flooding at Whipps Hill  
 Bottom of Whipps Hill - drainage ditches need redigging  
 Vehicles parked on village street making it narrow for working vehicles  
 Pot holes and drops at side of the road so you cannot move over  
 Drainage along the top towards the gallops  
 Visitors cars need parking not just anywhere!  
 Some huge lorries and delivery vans are too fast  
 Pretty much all drains are blocked and only cleared about once every other year  
 Fordingbridge end of Whitsbury Rd is falling apart  
 The roads are for everyone not just horses

But need to take into account of the essential traffic access required for farm, stud & stables. Farm traffic is not a nuisance  
 Notices, advisory signs  
 Pinch points or bumps  
 Flashing signs / road surface written sign (30mph/slow etc.)  
 Same as Rockbourne  
 Lower speed limit - 40mph between the village and Whitsbury  
 Slalom Gates to slow vehicles through linear village development  
 speed indicator signs  
 Painted pavements, speed limits marked on road  
 Road edges breaking away.  
 Parked vehicles when pub is busy cause a nuisance parking in Lower Grove.  
 Speed limit of 20mph from the corner before Lower Farm to Farm at the top  
 A lot of concealed entrances for cars to brake effectively 20 mph would help. Huge lorries and speeding ones cause a lot of vibration and this damages the very old buildings in the village that don't have modern foundations  
 Lower speed limit 20 not an obstacle course

### Question and Graphic

40. How important do you think the following calming measures are and would you support?

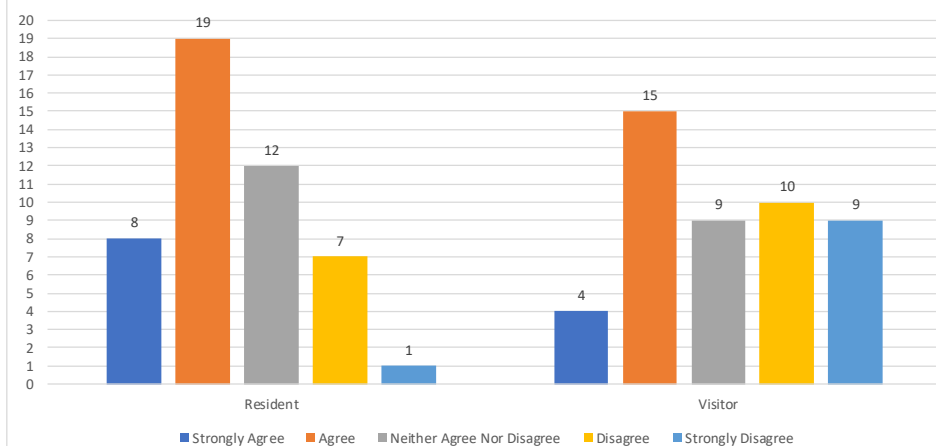


### Summary Narrative Comments

Individual measures listed may be sufficient  
 Would need to read the effectiveness data on these to know that if these are present whether they actually have any impact. There is a need to balance new signs and impact/effectiveness of these.  
 Speed posters and Speed monitoring - waste of time  
 New traffic calming measures in Rockborne look good. Are they working?  
 Volunteers may be subject to abuse/aggression from speed monitoring, which would concern me.  
 Road Marking - preferably 20 mph  
 Most people drive sensibly. I hear speeding cars at night though and motorbikes at the weekend  
 Perhaps asking people who we know drive fast, to please drive slowly through the village.

Possible 20mph through current 30 limit area. Road Marking 20

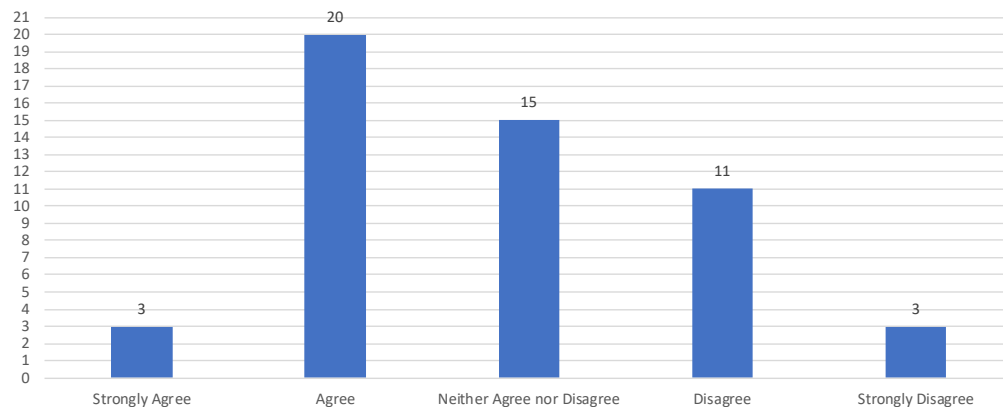
41. There is sufficient car parking in Whitsbury



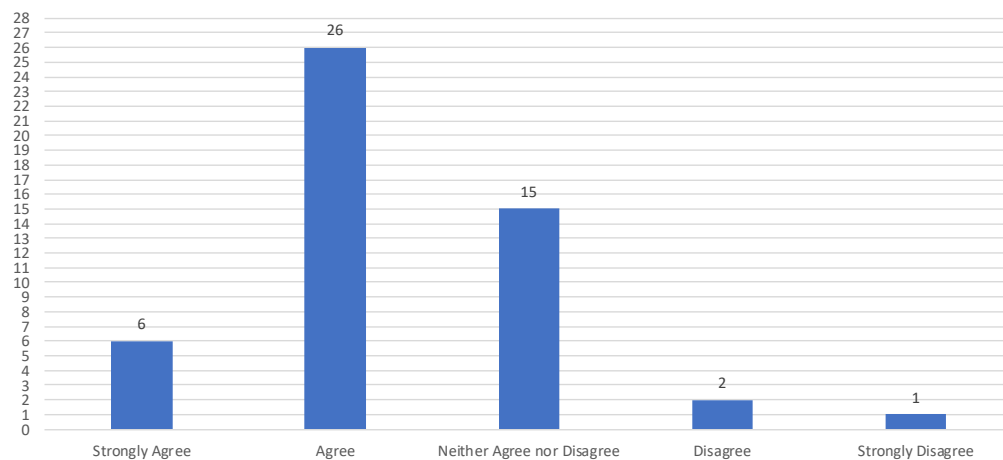
If there is access to Village Hall parking then there is no issue  
 Woodside close Strongly Dis-agree  
 Problems of parking at the close/old post office are residents issues to sort out, but can cause a nuisance if too many cars.  
 Top side from pub  
 There is only parking for 2 vehicles outside The Close. Sometimes walkers park there which is frustrating  
 Electric charging could be a problem for some

### Question and Graphic

42. Roads in Whitsbury are sufficiently well signed to highlight frequent hazards to motorists (horses, other animals, the elderly and children)



43. Alternative methods of transport need to be provided to be able to get to local centres such as Fordingbridge or Salisbury by taxi, car share or bus.



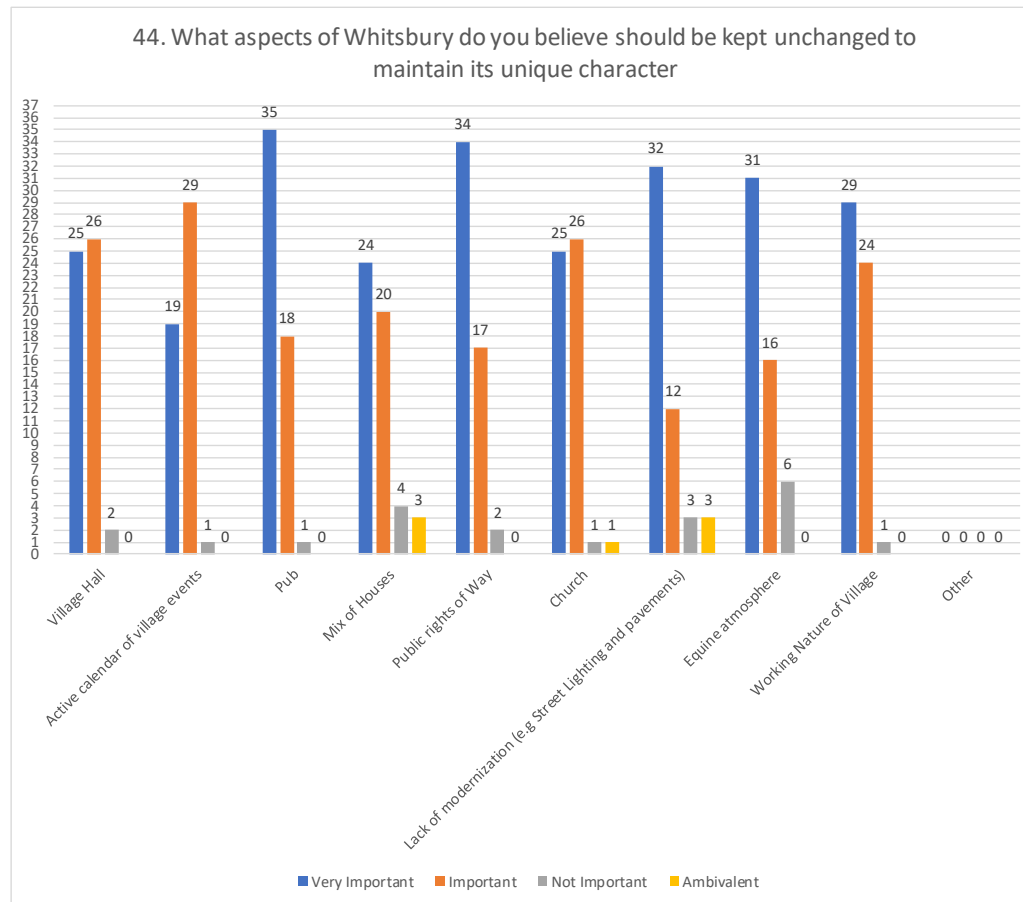
### Summary Narrative Comments

Only racehorse signs are displayed  
 Signage may be good but driver behaviour can be poor  
 We don't need more signs  
 At top near gallops - good signage for horses, could be more at other end  
 No signs about children/elderly and only signs regarding horses are private signs  
 Sharp bends  
 Bends need warnings. Those at either end of the village need better signage  
 More recognition of pedestrians and horses  
 Simple speed indicating sign (Indicates current speed would probably be sufficient)  
 Pot holes at side of roads  
 NO - need drive carefully, concealed entrances or similar signs  
 More wouldn't hurt

Evening Outing  
 Do not use so no opinion  
 Personal choice to live out here so need to consider transport when moving to Whitsbury

Car sharing for school runs etc.  
 Unspoilt environment  
 It would be useful to have a volunteer rota to transport villagers to Salisbury hospital or Fordingbridge surgery for medical appointments, if you've been instructed not to drive yourself.  
 Not sure what is currently available  
 It is not something we would need but I am sure it would benefit some residents

### Question and Graphic



### Summary Narrative Comments

Tricky wording of question here:

Think Village Hall is very important but badly needs update.

Calendar of events needs invigorating

Church is an important village asset. Currently neither adaptive or comfortable enough for wider village which is a pity. What is needed to make it fit for purpose in 10 to 20 years time, there needs to be a village conservation about this

The village Hall really needs a revamp. It is tired and dated and needs an uplift which might encourage further use. For example, it is not that inviting at present to encourage use for yoga, zumba, knitting etc. Street lighting we do not feel is required but enhanced road safety measures would be beneficial.



General Comments

## Question and Graphic

## Summary Narrative Comments

Thank you to the team in producing and analysing these, really appreciated the personal touch in distributing the questionnaire as well.

Some of the questions we've been unable to respond to as would need to see the evidence/data/background context prior to meaningful judgement.

Thanks for all the hard work

1. Somehow we need to ensure greater integration of the top and bottom of the village.

2. Because it is a linear village it would be difficult to identify the best place for any allotments or play area (should it be decided to have either) due to access, parking, safety and convenience.

Several rights of way have been removed on the street? We should monitor these and centrally list.

Support for the church is very important

Thank you for doing this! We love living here

Whitsbury has fantastic nature. It would be interesting to know what is being done to maintain / improve local biodiversity

For us living at Manor Farm cottages the speed of traffic as it enters the 30 mph limit is excessive for a residential area could something be done to improve this situation possibly 20 mph would alert drivers to dangers. Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts

What an exhausting questionnaire!! and fulsome

Concerned that the character of the village may change through holiday lets and second homes, but it's hard to see how anything can be done about this.