

TUR LANGTON



Community Questionnaire Analysis

April 2016

OVERVIEW

The Parish of Tur Langton 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. A key part of this has been the development and dissemination of a community questionnaire.

The questionnaire contained 22 questions and is based on important issues established following initial consultation work by the Tur Langton Parish Council. These issues are: Village Character, Transport, The Village Hall, Important Open Spaces, Business and Housing.

The survey took place between February and March 2016. It was available to complete electronically and as a paper copy. The level of response from the community was good, there being 27 returns, (17 paper copies and 10 electronic), this represents a return from 8.5% of the total population of 316; almost 15% of the adult population, excluding children.

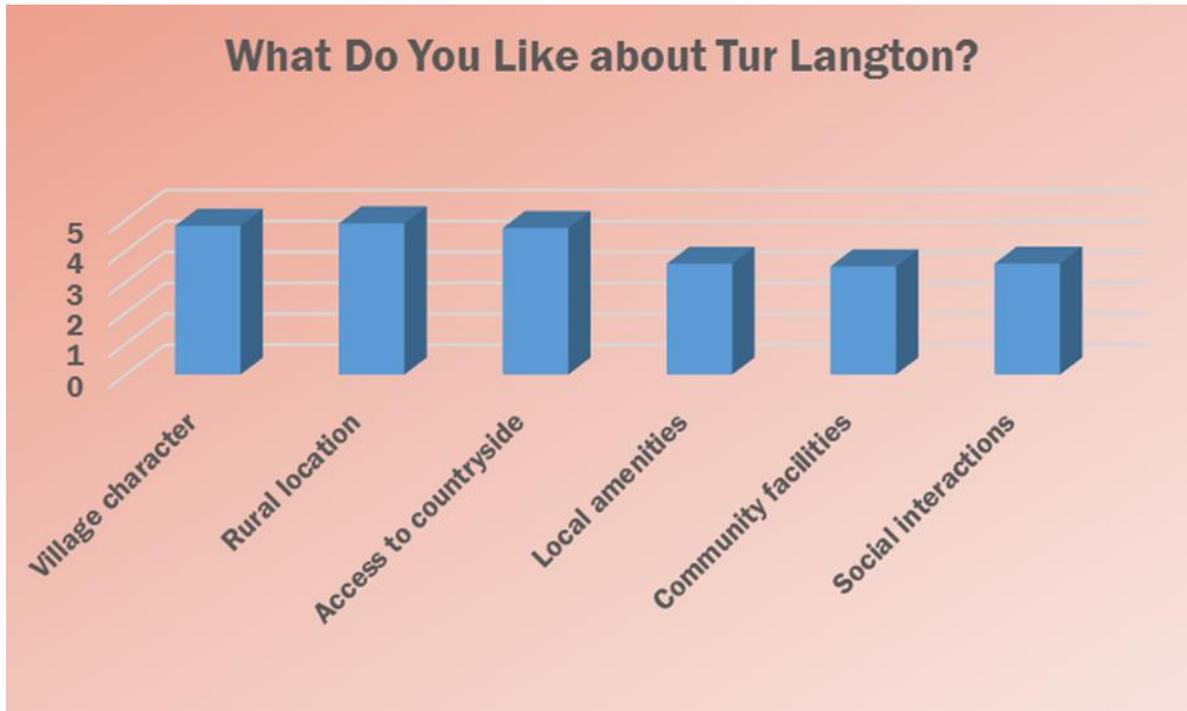
Given that some households choose to respond collectively rather than as individuals; it is also pertinent to consider the number of responses in relation to the number of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The number of responses represents 25% of the 107 households.

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



Population data taken from 2011 Census

CHARACTERISTICS & Amenities



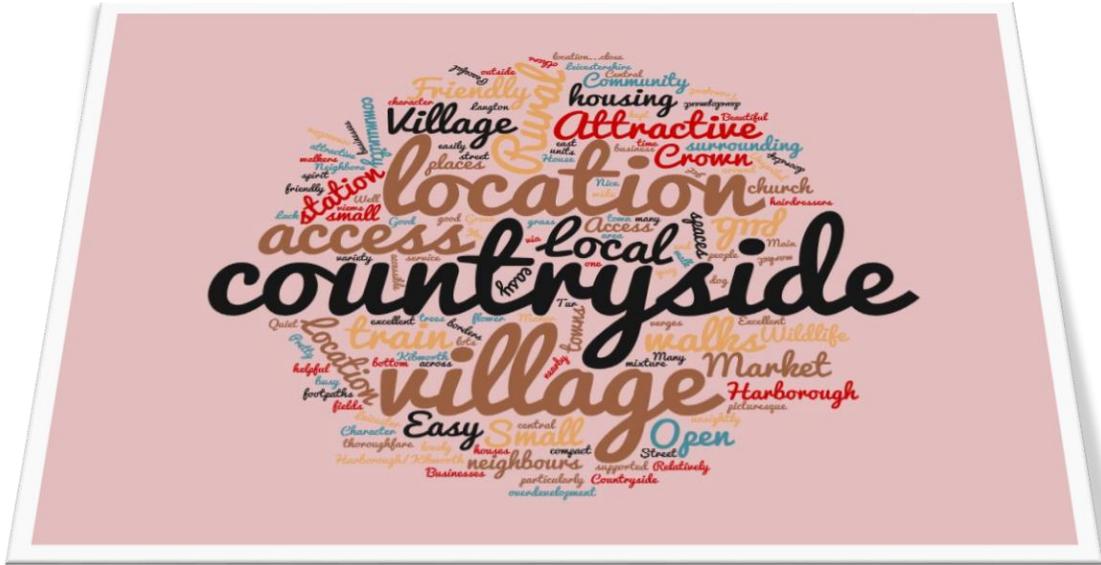
Each of the characteristics and amenities identified in the question are considered important to respondents, indicating a close correlation with responses from earlier consultation.

Rural location, village character and access to countryside are considered the most important. Together they create a sense that respondents believe them to be central to the essence of their Parish.

Less important to respondents but still receiving a positive weighting are social interactions, local amenities and community facilities.

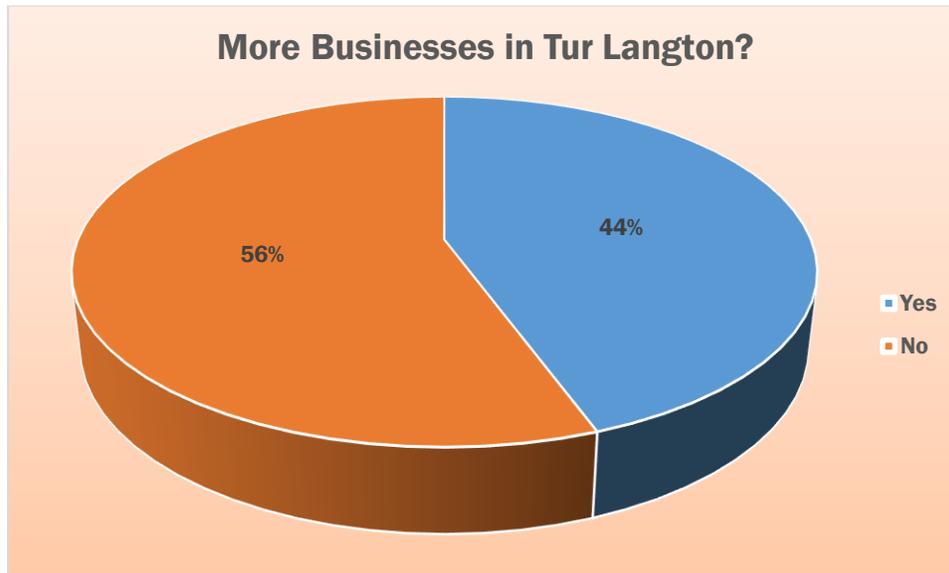
Whilst they do still appear to be considered generally important, these amenities and characteristics are not perceived by respondents to compare with the importance of characteristics such as rural location, which encompass a wider sense of what makes Tur Langton special.

OUR THREE Favourite Things



- Access to countryside x14
- Rural location x9
- Access to towns and train station x9
- The Crown x7
- Village community x6
- Nice neighbours x4
- Picturesque look of the village x4
- Attractive mixture of housing x3
- Small and compact village, with attractive housing x2
- Relatively small village x2
- Quiet most of the time! X2
- Businesses are kept to one area x2
- Beautiful church x2
- Wildlife x2
- Unspoiled by development x2
- The Manor House cafe
- Attractive village street - wide grass verges with flower borders and many lovely trees
- Main Street is not a busy thoroughfare
- Local businesses such as the hairdressers

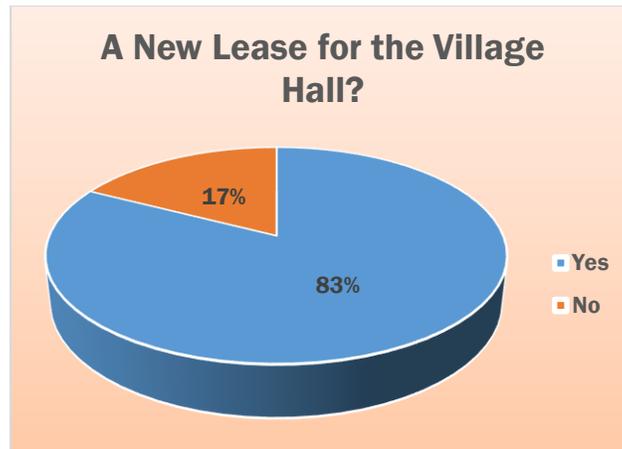
BUSINESSES: Would You Welcome More?



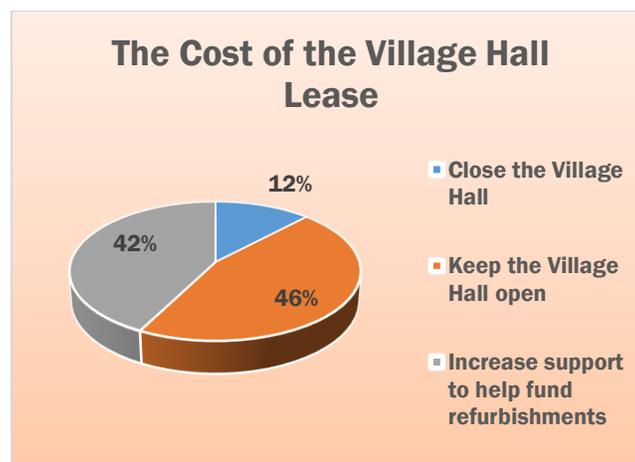
If yes, what should it be?

- Brewery, corner shop.
- Village shop - only one, but unlikely. A small shop selling groceries etc.
- Low traffic such as office type or for children's activities.
- A shop if an appropriate place could be found for it.
- Arts and Crafts, Antiques, Architecture, Gardening, Outdoors equipment and Clothing.
- Supermarket. Restaurant would be nice.
- Small general stores.
- If left unchecked, the Manor's business enterprises will continue to grow. It is already too big, generating traffic and noise. We would welcome a more defined strategy for the future of the Manor's business operation, including an assessment of traffic, impact on views into the village, etc. The non-stop piecemeal and opportunistic expansion of the past 10-15 years should not be allowed to continue.
- Small, entrepreneurial businesses.
- I would be happy with any new, thoughtful enterprise which respected the character of the village.
- Anything that would offer services the community as well as their wider purpose but does not generate inappropriate amounts of traffic or large vehicles.
- Post office, leisure.

THE VILLAGE HALL: A New Lease?

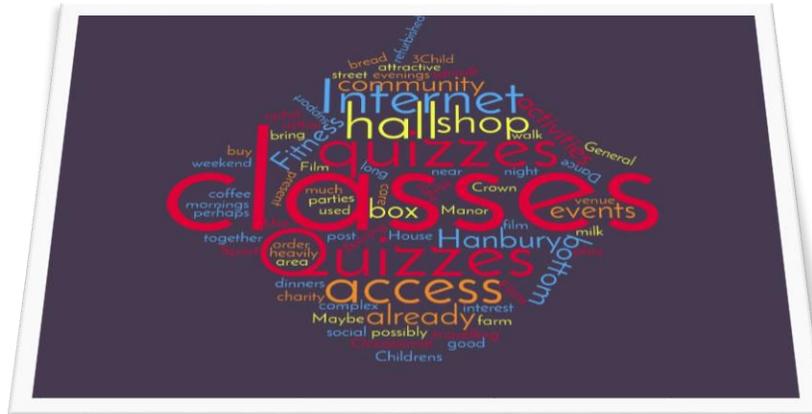


The Parish Council is seeking to secure a new lease for the Village Hall from Merton College Oxford, to realise their vision of a pleasant and sustainable village amenity. 83% of respondents demonstrated their support for this initiative.



Indications are that if a new lease is signed the ground rent will increase from £1 to £500 per year. In response to this information, 12% of respondents prefer to close the Village Hall; 46% wish to keep the village hall open, presumably accepting the increased cost; 42% selected the option for an increase in support to help with refurbishment.

THE VILLAGE HALL: Additional Activities



Parishioners were asked what additional Village Hall activities they might enjoy:

- Use the village hall as a social venue more once refurbished. Children's play area?
- Quizzes x10
- Evening classes x6
- Internet access x4
- Film night x4
- Fitness classes & Sport classes x2
- General village get-togethers. If the hall was in good order it would be much more heavily used.
- At the Hanbury hall, quizzes at the Crown - we already have a thriving cafe at the Manor House complex. Maybe a community shop there too x2
Child care. But Hanbury already does this.
- More activities which bring the village together, interest groups and possibly.
- A farm shop.
- A post box at the bottom of the street, perhaps near the village hall. (It's a long uphill walk to the present box from the bottom of the village!) Occasional coffee mornings.
- Dance classes.
Village dinners and parties.
- Dancing...Cafe...somewhere to buy bread, milk, etc.
- Village events, charity events. If the activities are attractive I would support rather than travelling out of the village.

PARISH AMENITIES: How Important?



Parishioners were invited to rate the importance to them of three Parish amenities on a scale of 1 to 5.

With a very high rating is the pub. 85% of respondents feel that this is important or very important.

The church also received a very positive response. 66% of respondents believe that this is important or very important.

Less positive is the respondents view of the employment site. 70% feel that this is unimportant or very unimportant.

HOUSING: Is there a Type We Need?



- Houses that match other houses.
- Housing for older people.
- Affordable homes x6
- Smaller homes x6
- Housing for Older People x4
- A mixture x3
- None x7
- I don't think Tur Langton requires any additional housing!
- None, except housing for older people.
- Young family housing, retirement housing, expanding moderate housing to expand the village but with a mixed income group.
- A small new development of small starter/retirement houses, plus a few family houses would be good.
- No. There is a good mix of housing. The property market is such that even small houses in Tur Langton are unaffordable, so pushing for affordable housing is not the right approach. The housing mix should continue to be balanced.
- Definitely more affordable housing for young families.
- Small homes to balance the number of larger homes.

HOUSING: The Style of New Housing?



- **In keeping with the character of the village x7.**
- If inevitable, new housing should blend in with rest of village.
- They should be in keeping with existing houses bearing in mind that few of which are the same.
- Architecturally in keeping with other village housing.
- Character houses.
- Matching the houses/cottage feel.
- In tone with the village. The Bulls Head development is good compared to the run down pub.
- In keeping with the houses on the Main Street. The "Bulls Head " development is a good example of considerate style in keeping with the village.
- The village has developed over the years, with individual houses being built one at a time. Each house is individual. This character should be retained. Developments such as the houses in the Bulls Head development are completely out of character with this. Future development should not be allowed to happen like this. If it is possible to enforce single-property development in the NP then this should be done, with each new house being unique. All new houses should be built using traditional masonry construction, using old bricks where possible. More modern construction methods (lightweight timber frame) should not be used as they will not age as well.
- No housing estates. Only housing which fits with existing look and feel.
- No more out-of-context enormous extravagant properties - ideally built from local materials.
- The less ostentatious the better.
- Red brick with slate roofs x3
- Gardens at the front and back. Space for wheelie bins away from the back door. Space for trees. Houses detached.
- Some rendering, stone detail is acceptable. Nothing too tall. The surrounding properties should be considered. No need to match but should not dominate or overshadow.

HOUSING: Location of New Housing?

Parishioners were asked if they would like to suggest where any new development should be located:

- Yes, about 30 miles down the road.
 - No x6
 - No! It would look like Foxton, houses 3-4 deep from the Main Street. Awful.
 - Further up Melton Rd to slow down the traffic into the village?! In-fill existing buildings but also room to expand along the two roads.
 - No but careful thought has to be given to adding any more cars entering and exiting properties on the B 6047.
 - North of the Village Hall.
 - Craneo Rd x2
 - Stonton Rd. Shangton Rd.
 - Only place we feel would be an extension to houses on Craneo Rd - perhaps developer could contribute/build new community facility there too!
 - Craneo Rd, opposite existing housing. There are several small plots of land / gardens that could take an extra house without spoiling the linear nature of the village. Care should be taken not to build groups of very similar houses as this is not the nature of development in the village apart from Craneo Rd where a development of smaller houses would fit in well.
 - Development should be very limited if any. The linear nature of the village should be retained. Development of the disused barns to the north should not be allowed - they are clearly no longer needed and therefore should be removed to tidy up this important view of the village and to improve the environment around the well-used footpaths. A possible development site may be 1 or 2 small houses along the Manor access road, at the gate beside the existing houses.
 - Extending and maintaining the linear arrangement of housing. No backfill. No infill covering views into green spaces within village.
 - Certainly not on any ridge and furrow land.
- On the 6047 going towards Shangton.
 - Paddock behind 7-10 Craneo Rd.



PRIORITIES: Your 3 Key Issues

Transport Inappropriate Development Traffic Management Heritage Assets Housing Village Environment

- Traffic management/speed x9
- Lorry above 7.5 ton should not be going through village!
- Environment x4
- Housing x4
- Housing that blends with existing houses.
- Size of development.
- Controlling inappropriate development, providing a means for resisting selfish developer interests.
- Heritage assets (safeguarding from inappropriate development) x2
- Protecting areas of importance.
- More social amenities for children and families.
- Community facilities including a Tennis court.
 - Housing x4
 - Measures to enable local people to benefit from any housing plans.
 - Community facilities x4
 - Safeguarding the village Hall, church, and pub.
 - Heritage assets x4
 - Environment x3
 - Traffic management measures/ Keep the roads as quiet as possible x2
 - Respect of residents who live near the pub x2
 - No more additions to The Manor "industrial" development - very heavy lorries and delivery vans - too much for our village street which already has many parked cars.
 - Signage should be better to stop them taking this route.
 - Kids play area.
 - Housing (ensuring any further development is right) x5
 - Our lovely views of farm land (our heritage) should be maintained.
 - Effect on character of village.
 - Community/Community facilities x3
 - Traffic x4
 - Heritage assets x3
 - Litter x2
 - Street lights.
 - Neighbourhood Watch as have heard of a number of incidents.
 - Environment.

PROTECTING IMPORTANT SPACES

Parishioners were asked which important spaces they would like to see protected from development:

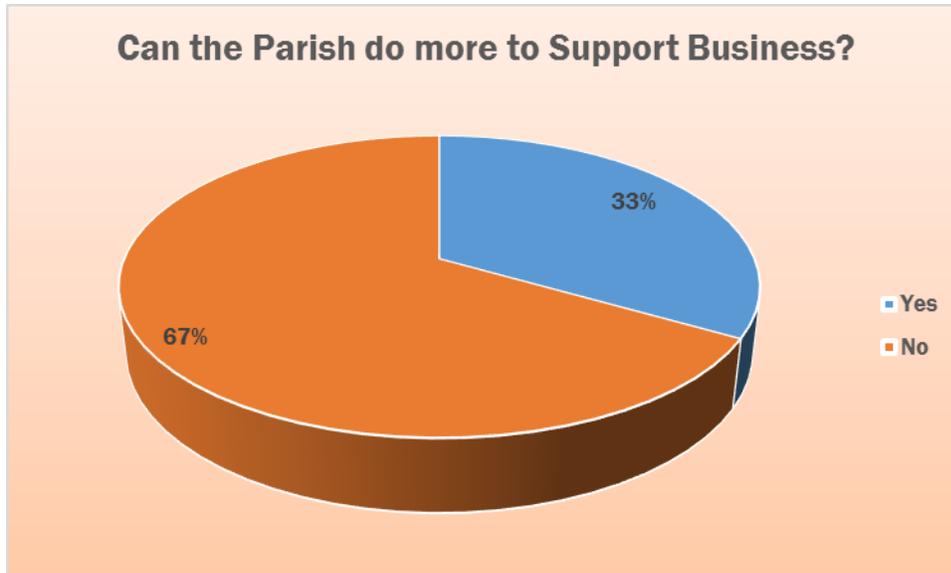
- Village Hall Horse fields by the Manor
- The paddock & field views between Mr Burton's house, "Meadow View" and Mr Phillipson's house "Greystones".
- 2. Land adjacent to "The Chestnuts" and "The Elms".
- 3. Land where the footpath leads from Kibworth Rd. to Shangton Rd.
- There are 3 designated important open spaces on the Main Street.
- Area at rear of Village Hall. Area adjacent to Greystones.
- Gray Stones Paddock Manor House Paddocks Elms Paddocks.
- Village Hall area.
- Only lived here a short while so unfortunately don't know the names
- I love all the countryside around us so it is important to me to protect all the surrounding areas.
- Love the village as it is - but if more development of housing compulsory - then can only support the Cranoe Rd.
- I think they are all as important as each other.
- The pub car park. There was historically some pressure to develop this.
- Gardens on Main Street. Land behind Main Street - both sides. In particular land behind The Orchards where planning permission has been refused several times.
- All ridge and furrow land x2
- The fields behind the church.
- Any paddock land that is behind existing properties leading to small collections of houses that destroy the linear nature of the village.
- Land to the rear of existing houses.
- The land along the Cranoe Rd.



ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

- Recent thefts of stones from Greystones - streetlights may have deterred burglars? CCTV needed on Main St? More village events at church? Speed bumps on Main St needed to slow traffic (near Nora and Daisy's house)? Can Council remove fallen leaves on Main St? More village events at weekends when people are not at work?
- Tur Langton is no longer a "farming village", but we should try to keep as much of our heritage alive as we can. That is a great part of its attraction that makes it "a nice place to live in".
- I would support the village hall but to neglect the church would be more of a disaster. If the village can support both that's great, but I'm sure in between the church, pub and the Hanbury Centre would cover most events.
- We would like to have a Neighbourhood Watch as we have had our dishwasher stolen from our driveway when we moved to our house (Rose Cottage, Main St) 2 years back now. Like I mentioned before to have street lights will scare any robbers to come to our village at night. Kids play area will be nice to have in our village as we 3 kids and many other kids in the village as well.
- The paths are extremely narrow in some areas and with no street lamps of any description it is very dangerous to walk at any time when the sun has gone down.
- I would like to add that I love living in Tur Langton and having moved here and having moved here almost 10 years ago, I tried to make a difference and doing my best for the village by joining the Parish Plan Group of 2010 (that's given my identity away!) but felt that not a lot of people really cared and nothing really changed. Since then I've kept myself to myself but still litter pick round the village (have you seen the litter in the little ditch that runs alongside where the new houses at the old pub are being built!) I do feel now that I need a little help from the village. I don't like to go into the pub and be confrontational but (I'm going to sound like Victor Meldrew!) I do have 3 issues with the pub, living close to it. 1. The new children's play area surely needs a time curfew. 10.30 on a recent, cold winter's, still, night and there are young children running round screaming their heads off - while the parents happily prop up the bar.... where's the supervision? If you're up at 4 o'clock in the morning, believe me, it's a big problem! 2. The speed of cars exiting the car park. Certain residents/staff/members of the public, seem to feel they cannot pull out of the car park without wheel spinning and accelerating down the village to Kibworth at frightening speeds. 3. Blocking nearby residents access to garages and trapping vehicles in on carvery days. These are things we can change for people who are sober... I won't go into the drunken people who fight, urinate in gardens and vandalise things while constantly yelling things across the car park in the early hours of the morning. Any chance of at least a sign in the car park to respect local residents? I know, I know, I should never have moved near to a pub! As for the traffic, having been involved in speed watch campaigns, you'll never educate people to slow down...the only thing that will is speed cameras and traffic islands, chicanes and give way points but that will be unpopular but it will work.
- Important to keep a pub and a village hall.
- I am not against new housing in the village as long as the new properties are discreet and do not cast long shadows over other properties.
- Thanks for putting the time and effort into completing the questionnaire.

Businesses in the Parish



Comments from respondents:

- Secure lease and refurbish the Village Hall
- Faster Internet



Comments from respondents:

- It is important to recognise the people who work periodically from home

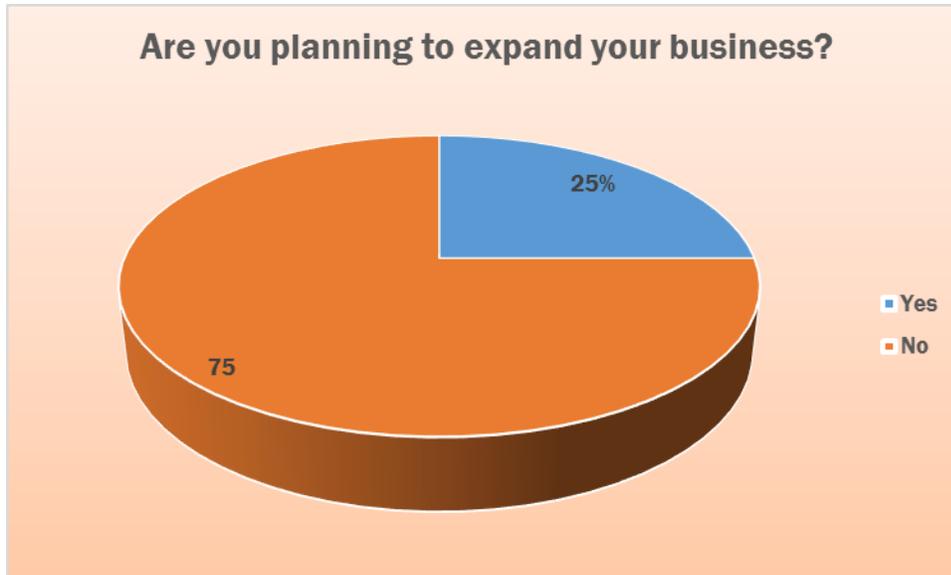
The questionnaire sought to establish whether there is potential for more business development in the Parish.

Two thirds of respondents felt that there is not.

It is perhaps of note that comments elsewhere in the questionnaire about the impact of transport in the village suggest that this may be a reason for the predominant view. However, other comments indicate that respondents would like a shop for example, whilst others mention the increasing phenomenon of people being self-employed and working from home in businesses which do not increase traffic volume.

There were 6 respondents who explained why their business is based locally. Amongst this small sample, the rural location was the single most important reason given.

Improvements to help your business?



Four people responded to the question concerning the future expansion of existing businesses. Just one person intends to expand their business during the next 5 years.

It is assumed that business will feature as part of future Tur Langton Neighbourhood Plan discussions. These responses provide an interesting and useful starting point.

Comments from respondents:

- Faster Broadband x3
- For people who work from home, it is important to retain the peaceful environment on the village, by limiting HGV traffic through the village, that generated by the manor businesses.

Five people responded positively to the questionnaire’s invitation to offer help within the community. The responses are not specifically related to the development of the Neighbourhood Plan but they do display a wider commitment to support a community that they clearly feel deeply about.

These people are not named in this analysis but it is assumed that they will be contacted separately.

In 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 the Parish Council as it progresses with the development of the Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan.

These results will be taken into account as part of the evidence gathered to develop the Plan policies.

