

BARROW cum DENHAM PARISH PLAN

FINAL REPORT - PART II



Detailed data supporting Main Findings

This Part II of the report is based on the community wide surveys conducted by the Parish Plan Steering Group. It provides detailed support for the topics described in Part I which was sent to all households; copies of both Part II (supporting detail) and Part III (the action plans) will be accessible online at www.barrowcumdendhamparishplan.com and on the village websites; hard copies will be displayed in public places and a limited number will be available on request.

The full report is provided for the Parish, District and County Councils, the MP and anyone interested in particular topics.

The proposals for action, and the supporting analysis data, need to be read carefully to reach a considered view. Many of the actions will need to be carried out by individuals and voluntary groups.



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This Part II of the report is based on the community wide surveys conducted by the Parish Plan Steering Group. Each topic referred to in Part I is supported in Part II by the statistical data and comment in Section 3.

Also included are Appendices A to E which provide other related information. Appendix F, which contains the detailed proposed action plans, is bound separately as Part III.

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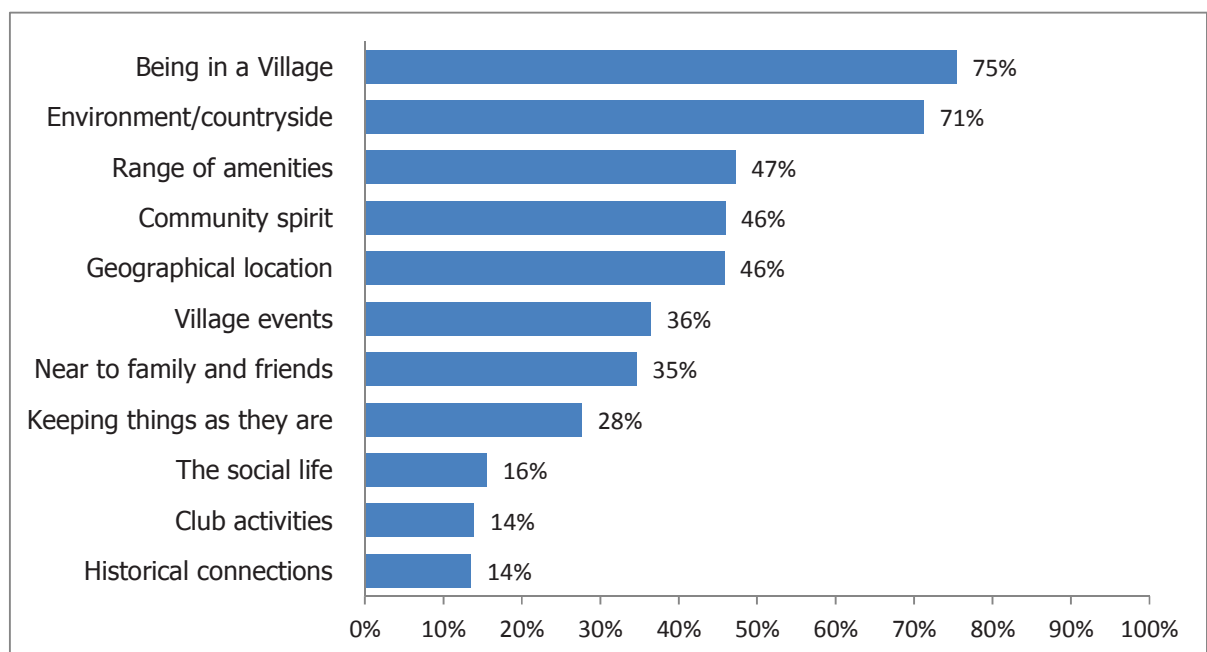
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3.1 GROWTH OF THE VILLAGE

The village has been designated as a "Key Service Centre" and is planned to grow significantly in the next 5 years. Many residents had previously expressed concern that features of the parish which they value most may be spoiled by such growth.

Questions 7 to 11 were designed to explore people's views on the planned growth and what features they thought should not be disturbed by the developments.

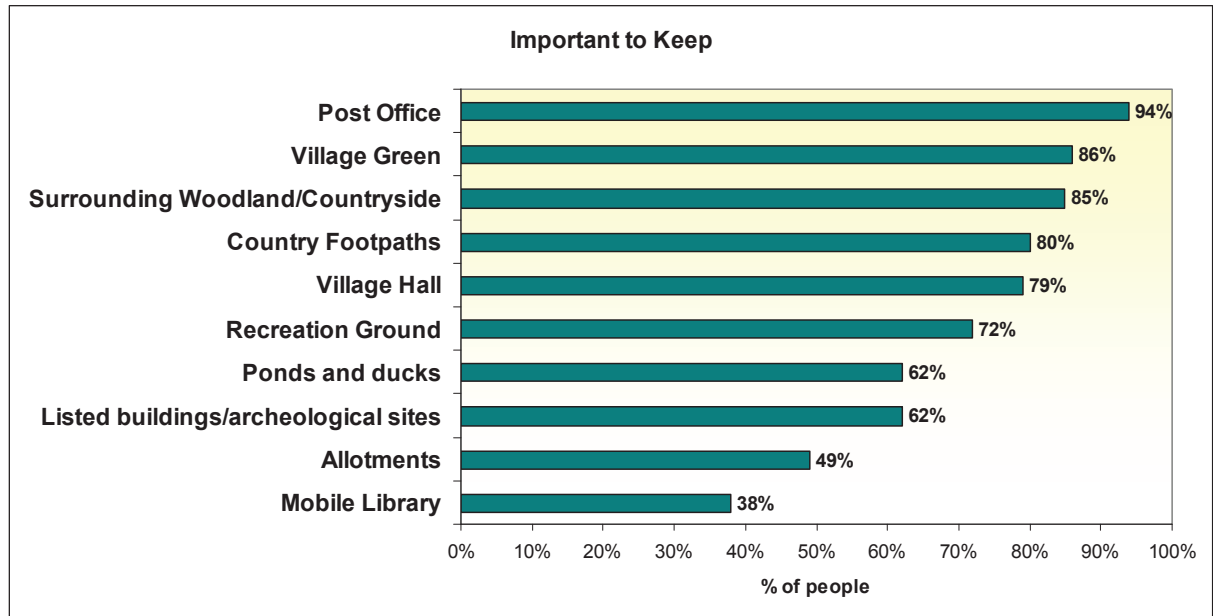
Q.7 "Which of the following are important to you?" (991 respondents)



Key message:

- Most valued are "being in a village" and "the environment and countryside"
- Club activities, historical connections and social life (14 to 16%) were not considered so important

Q.8 "At a time when Barrow is planned to grow by over 25% in the medium term, which of the following features are important to keep?"
(992 respondents)



In addition to the above, 38% of respondents thought 'Appropriate local street names' important.

Respondents' comments on other matters they thought were important matters to keep included: new houses of a design in keeping with the village, current societal balance, street lights, ponds and fishing.

Key Message:

- *Over 60% of respondents rate all but two of the listed items as important, the most important being the Post Office, village green and surrounding countryside .*

Comment:

Ways should be considered to ensure that these important features are preserved, e.g. possible protection for the Village Green.

Q 9 "Are you aware that substantial Government incentives are available to County and Borough Councils based on the number of houses and affordable houses built?" (956 respondents)

This question was asked because this scheme is intended to make substantial funds available for local amenities, and parishioners will want to be sure that the funds are used to meet the evidenced needs of the parish.

Key message: 60% of people did not realise this

Q.10 “Which of the following statements most closely relates to your view of 25% growth of Barrow cum Denham (provided that it is considerably designed and adequate infrastructure is introduced to match)?”

(980 respondents)

There is a concern about the growth of the village and more housing:-

	% of responses
Welcome growth	3%
Prefer slower growth	17%
Accept growth up to 25% over 5 years	17%
Prefer less growth	24%
Prefer little or no growth	32%
Don't know	7%

No particular viewpoint could be related to age or time lived in the village.

Key message: Only 3% welcome and 17% accept the growth planned in Rural Vision 2031

Q.11 “In view of the planned housing growth of 25% in Barrow cum Denham, do you think any of the following work opportunities should be encouraged?” (818 respondents)

Type of work opportunity	Responses	% respondents
Small industrial units	370	45%
Small offices	376	46%
Tourism and leisure activities	384	47%
Commercial businesses	195	24%
Other	95	12%

Although there was no option within the question to express a negative view, ‘other’ included comments from 53 people against any further development or industrialisation. A further 14 people stated that only some types of business would be acceptable e.g. a dentist, home working and a rural business. None wanted any larger businesses.

Key message: Nearly half of the respondents agreed to the encouragement of work opportunities in the categories listed and a minority, of 53 people (7%), did not want this.

Q. 53 “Do you think that Barrow cum Denham should have a strategic plan to deal with future growth, including all services and amenities?”

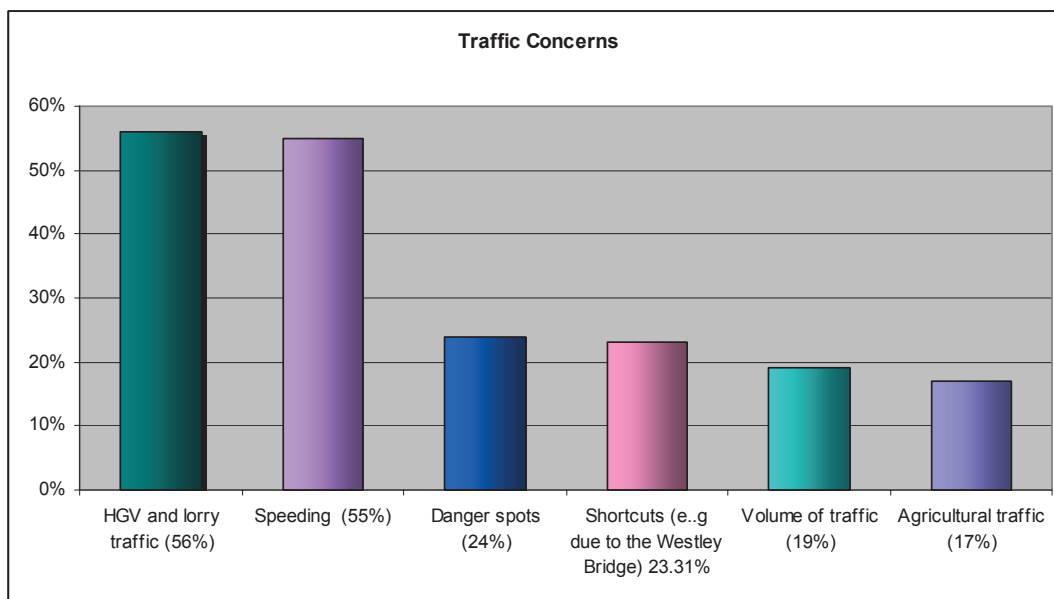
(986 respondents)

Overwhelming support for a strategic plan (see section 3.20)

3.2 TRAFFIC AND PARKING

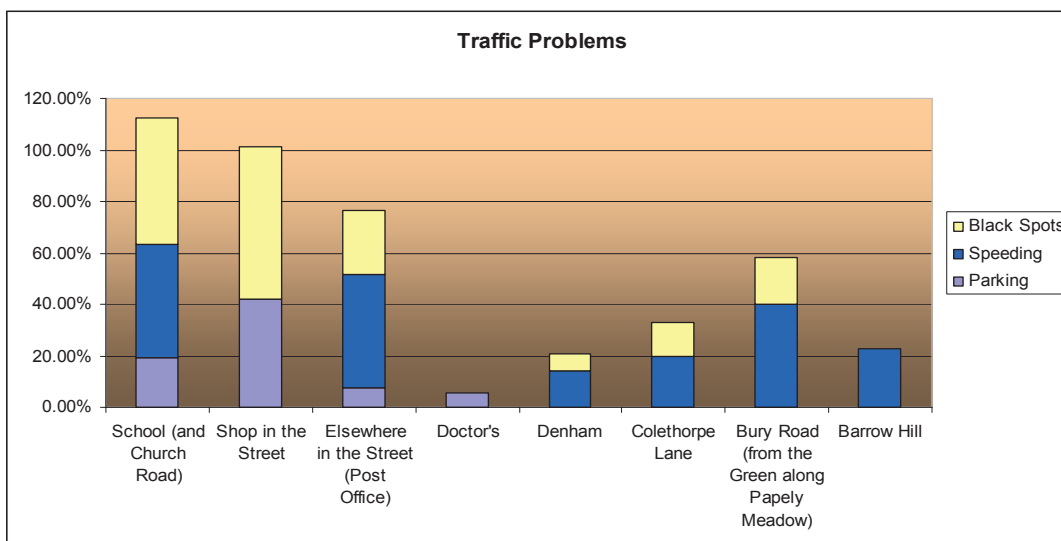
These two topics loom large in respondents' minds.

Q.13 "Do you feel Barrow cum Denham has traffic problems related to any of the following?" (974 respondents)



787 people (81%) thought that at least one of 6 listed types was a problem. Over half consider HGV and lorry traffic and speeding as a problem.

The next chart combines the results of question 13 above with questions 12 and 14 to show the level of peoples' concerns about the main places which are danger/black spots, and have speeding and parking issues.



In addition to the main black spots in the area around the school, outside the shop and the other areas illustrated above, comments highlighted the following other places of particular concern:-

- HGV speeding and in Barrow and Denham and road width in Denham
- Blind corner/no pavement at corner of Denham Lane and Brockley Lane
- Blind corners in Denham
- Black spot at the narrow area of The Street
- Speeding and parking in The Street around the post office
- Visibility at the junction of Sharpe's Hill and Bury Rd
- Parking, speeding and horses at Burthorpe Green
- Black spot at Saxon bends (going to Bury)

Key messages:

- 242 people wrote about the danger/black spots.
- The traffic issues at the school are not only experienced by families with children at the school but by all other groups of people at peak drop-off and collection times.

Q.14 "Do you think speed control measures are required in the following locations?" (958 respondents)

Location	Responses	% respondents
The Street	422	44%
Bury Road	379	40%
Barrow Hill	223	23%
Colethorpe Lane	191	20%
Denham	135	14%
Not required	172	18%
Other	70	7%
No Opinion	106	11%

Others included: the school, Sharpes Hill, Burthorpe Green, the shop in The Street and Denham Lane.

The percentages of total respondents can be misleading as they do not take account of the level of danger experienced in each area; some places are used by most people and others by fewer people and this will affect the number of respondents recorded against each location. In Barrow Hill and Denham (less generally used routes), there are serious speeding issues which affect a relatively smaller number of people.

Key message: A significant number of respondents want to see control measures including in Barrow Hill and Denham

Q 12 “Do you presently experience any parking difficulties in Barrow cum Denham?” (982 respondents)

Parking is a problem for half the people who responded. The analysis of responses is:-

Location of difficulty	Responses	% respondents
No parking problems	485	49%
Shop in The Street	423	43%
At the School	200	20%
Elsewhere in the street	90	9%
Doctors’ surgery	56	6%
Lion Green	31	3%
Disabled parking	26	3%
Other	41	4%

Other areas include: Brittons Crescent, Autumn Close, Burthorpe Green and Ley Road. There were complaints about the fact that new houses have limited parking spaces (for only 2 cars), that commercial vehicles are parked around the green and poor parking makes it difficult for pedestrians and others to get around the village.

Q.15 “Which of the following speed control measures would you accept?” (967 respondents)

Speed control measure	% respondents
Don’t want any measures	11%
Flashing 30 mph signs	57%
Restricting large HGV traffic through the village	57%
Community speed watch	21%
Priority system at narrow section	17%
Narrowing road as you enter Barrow cum Denham	15%
Speed cameras (fixed yellow box)	14%
Buff rumble strips	14%
20s plenty throughout the parish	13%
Passing places	9%
Sleeping policeman	8%
One way traffic flow	2%

Key messages:

- *There are some speed controls which many people are not prepared to accept.*
- *Only “flashing 30 mph signs” and “restricting HGV traffic through the village” were acceptable to more than half the respondents.*

Comment:

Community Speed Watch already operates and identifies and reports on substantial numbers of cars speeding in the parish, though only 21% regard it as acceptable.

3.3 Housing

The section explores the tenure of houses in which respondents live, what proportion of the householders will consider moving within 5 years (and what type of tenure they would prefer) and the demand for affordable housing.

Q.5 (Household) "What type of housing do you live in?"

(552 respondents)

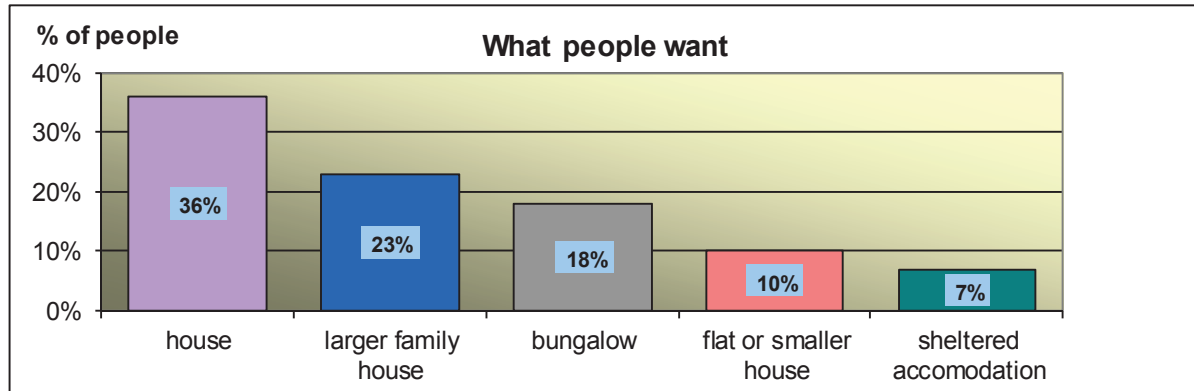
Type	% respondents
Owned	78%
Rented	14%
Private rented	6%
Other	2%

Key message:

- The majority of respondents (78%) live in owner occupied homes - higher than the national average (66%).

Q6 (Household) "If you or anyone in your household is intending to move within the village in the near future what type of housing is required?" (152 respondents)

The type of house which people want is shown below:



The housing needs shown above do not correlate with the age of the respondents. No one asked for a nursing home (even though 35% of respondents are over 65).

Key messages:

- 152 respondents intend to move in the near future, representing 28% of the total households which responded to the questionnaire.
- Thus in 5 years' time, with the new building planned, half the parish will be relative newcomers
- Twice as many people would like to buy compared to those who would like to rent.
- Only seven people would like to be on a shared equity scheme.

Q.7 (Household) "Is there anyone in your household requiring Affordable Housing (low cost)?" (479 respondents)

40 households (8%) of respondents want affordable housing; there were three people already on the housing register for affordable or low cost housing.

Of the households where someone wants affordable housing, just over 50% are rented (30% from Havebury Housing and 20% privately). One is in tied accommodation and the rest are owner occupied.

Key messages:

-40 households want affordable housing. Over 30 are expected to be built in the short term.

Comment

It is noted that only three people were on the housing register.

With house prices high and interest rates currently low, more people may need affordable housing than at present if interest rates rise.

3.4 ENERGY

Energy is a subject of increasing importance as it becomes more expensive. Possibly, to a lesser extent, is the issue of CO2 release into the atmosphere affecting climate change. Three questions were aimed at understanding the present position of conservation, use & generation and the possible use of Gas as a future energy source.

Q.8 "Does your property have any of the following energy saving features?" (543 respondents)

<u>Energy saving feature</u>	Responses	% respondents
<u>Insulation</u>		
Roof - Loft insulation	493	91%
Window - Double Glazing	489	90%
Water - Lagged hot water tank	378	70%
Wall – Cavity wall insulation	349	64%
Wall - External/Internal wall insulation	71	13%
Roof - Flat roof insulation	52	10%
Floor - under floor insulation	48	9%
Window - Secondary Glazing	33	6%
Draught proofing	128	24%

<u>Controls</u>		
Central Heating Programmer	380	70%
Thermostatic radiator valves	322	59%
Room thermostats	214	39%
<u>Other energy saving (see comments)</u>	14	3%

The number of comments on items not listed above were:

- Low energy light bulbs 2
- Combi boiler 1
- Solar panels 2
- Solar water heating 2
- Night storage heaters 1

Q.9 "What energy sources/methods of use does your property have?"

(546 respondents)

<u>Energy use</u>	Responses	% respondents
Oil boiler	391	72%
Electric Heating (hot water)	212	39%
Wood burner	137	25%
Open fire	134	25%
Electric Heating (room heating)	123	23%
Calor gas	70	13%
Wood Biomass boiler	3	1%
Air source heat pump	1	0%
Ground source heat pump	0	0%
Straw boiler	0	0%
<u>Energy collection</u>		
PV solar panels	15	3%
Solar Thermal Panels	11	2%
Wind turbine	0	0%
<u>Other use and collection</u>	13	3%

Other includes: oil boiler/central heating (3), under floor heating (2), multifuel range/cooker (2), solar water heating (2), and one respondent for each of Rayburn, immersion heater, night storage heaters, and bio-ethanol fire.

Q10. "Would you consider using mains gas if it was available?"

(538 respondents)

	Responses	% respondents
Yes	390	72%
No	148	28%

Comment:-

This fuel may be a consideration with the large number of new houses planned to be built.

Overall comments on energy

Energy conservation

- The results are probably a reflection of the ease/expense of each method of conservation and the building regulations.
- Households rented from private landlords and via housing associations recorded less energy saving features than privately owned properties.

Energy use

- Oil is by far the most used fuel.
- There is a surprisingly large number of wood burners and open fires as primary or secondary heating
- There are a significant number of LPG users

Energy collection

- Solar PV and thermal is a small but fairly significant number
- Little use is yet being made of new sources of collection e.g. heat pumps

Future energy

- Gas would be a popular choice; however no initial installation charge was suggested in the question.

3.5 PATHS AND PAVEMENTS

A distinction should be drawn between pavements and country footpaths. The responses to the question asked make it difficult to draw firm conclusions.

Ideally, where there is traffic, there should be safe and well maintained pavements for all age groups. In the countryside, this may not be either practical or desirable, but in a busy village they are more important.

Safe progress on country roads may be possible using unpaved country footpaths. Since country footpaths are a major source of recreation (Q24 in section 3.8), their maintenance is also important to many people.

3.5.1 Pavements

In Barrow and Denham, there is an increasing amount of traffic, concern over danger spots, parking and speeding (section 3.2), the main problem areas being:-

Location	Location
School and Church Road	Shop in The Street
Elsewhere in The Street	The Doctors surgery
Denham	Colethorpe Lane
Bury Road	Barrow Hill

Q16 "Is there a need for the following in Barrow cum Denham?" (952 respondents)

More pavements (specify where) (143 respondents, 15%)

Location	Responses
Denham Lane, from Green Farm Lane to Brockley Lane	29
Barrow Road, Denham	19
Colethorpe Lane	25
Barrow Hill	11
Church Road	9
Others	48

Others: Lion Green to shops, Lion Green to anywhere, around the greens/across the green, Denham Lane to Bury Road, Sharpes Hill corner to Papeley Meadow, Barrow Hill surgery side, on both sides of The Street, bottom of Bury Road as far as footpath sign, from end of pavement on Sharpes Hill to Little Mill Lane footpath.

Comment:

The corner in Denham by Brockley Lane is especially dangerous without a pavement. Many people walk from Barrow to Brockley Lane and a pavement is needed there for safety. Colethorpe Lane is dangerous for walkers with traffic coming at speed. Church Road is an area where parents and young children are walking to school, and needs a pavement on the

corner by the pond and up to the stables, also along by the Church. Denham has no pavements and, with the speed of traffic and the HGV/lorry traffic, walkers need to be able to get off the road.

Wider pavements (specify where). (129 respondents, 13%)

Location	Responses
Bury Road, from Sharpes Hill to the Green (especially Sharpes Hill to Mill Lane)	72
Pavement on the corner opposite Costcutters	13
The Street from opp. Costcutters to the School	16
Church Road	12
Also Barrow Hill	

Comments:

People are especially concerned about the width of the pavement on Bury Road. It is seen as particularly dangerous because of the speed and proximity of the traffic which will increase with the new developments. A solution to this issue could involve some significant works but would overcome a real hazard. The development of a good path/cycleway between Burthorpe and the village/school may help to ameliorate the problem.

Barrow Hill will have a similar problem when the new houses are built. At the moment there is not room for a mother with a pushchair to walk with a child beside her on the narrow pavement on Barrow Hill. On Church Road, and widening the pavement on the corner by the school were mentioned. The corner opposite Costcutters is very narrow and there has been a suggestion to put a barrier there as well as widening the pavement.

Pedestrian crossing (specify where.) (130 respondents, 13%)

Location	Responses
In the area of Costcutters/the chapel	91
By the school	37
By the post office	7
Also by Papeley Meadow and the Surgery	

Key messages:

- *It is clear where people would like crossings.*
- *Only 130 of the 1020 respondents to the questionnaire said they want these*

Dropped kerbs for wheel chairs, mobility scooters etc (specify where) (52 respondents).

Locations needing dropped kerbs: Mill Lane, Colethorpe Lane and Church Road to the school, at the end of the path near Barrow Lodge, outside Plumtree pre-school, Bury Road, Papeley Meadow, Brittons Close opposite the alley to The Street; also at every road crossing, all junctions, on all street corners and half way up each road. Dropped kerbs on Denham Lane are positioned incorrectly.

Comment: Although a small number, 32 of these respondents have wheelchairs or mobility scooters, others may be disabled or have difficulty walking.

Trim hedges affecting public thoroughfare (specify where) (190 respondents, 19%)

Location	Responses
Bury Road – Sharpes Hill to Mill Lane	46
Denham Lane (between Green Fm Lane & Brockley Lane)	40
Barrow Hill (opp. Surgery)	9
The Street – by the school	4
Orchard Farm Barns – footpath	5
Orchard Way & Orchard Close	3
Church Road, Burthorpe	5
Colethorpe Lane	5
Coffin walk to church	6

Also mentioned: Between church and cemetery, footpath behind village hall, Sharpes Hill & Bury road junction, Ley Road, Brockley Lane, Church Road at church (not a hedge but heavy growth round road sign which cannot be cut mechanically), Colethorpe Lane – traffic signs often covered by vegetation, between Papeley Meadow and bottom end of Stoney Lane, corner of Denham Lane opp. Green Wellie, footpath from Coalpit Lane to Higham on Horse Paddocks, tidying around ponds to make more of a feature.

Comment:- This is a problem for 190 people; it requires attention. Some of these expose pedestrians to danger and others restrict the view of motorists.

Better winter weather service (e.g. gritting) (377 respondents, 39%)

Area	Location	Responses
1	Denham	59
2	Barrow (North)	16
3	Burthorpe Green	32
4	Barrow (Central)	192
5	Barrow (along Bury Road)	40
6	Barrow (South)	25

This is a particular problem for Denham where 53% of the residents who completed the questionnaire mentioned this.

Significant other comments: "Gritting needed in Ley Road, many OAP's live there". "Ley Road is never gritted it gets very dangerous. There is sheltered accommodation in this road. Residents stay indoors for fear of falling over on ice etc." "Poplar Close houses entirely elderly residents. We have requested many times to have pavements made safe in icy and snowy conditions but to no avail". "Grit boxes for closes". "Gritting bins further into housing areas e.g. Hudson Way". "Yellow boxes for gritting for off the main roads like Brittons Road, Lion Green, Cedar Road". "Grit Denham Lane please. Grit box by Green Farm Lane". "In Denham during the snow months there is no gritting or snow removal". "Grit Denham Roads".

"None of the above required". (115 respondents, 12%)

"No opinion" (153 respondents, 16%)

"Other" (please specify) (60 respondents 6%)

Comments that have not otherwise been covered in the above answers to this question: "Current paths need repairing (lots of puddles) particularly on path opposite Dr's surgery". "Suggest someone tries in a wheelchair to go from Autumn Close to the doctors". "Road surface in Ley Road is very bad could cause damage to vehicles or someone could trip". "Too many cars park on pavement". "More street lights for pathways, shop to weeping Willow". "Better street lighting in winter". "More trees on the Green". "Levelling of pavement – opposite the Weeping Willow. It slopes into the road, mobility scooters lean towards the road". "Trim verge and brambles outside Sharpes Hill – this would improve visibility and safety. The road near (in Barrow Hill) is often partially blocked by parked vehicles". "Lollipop lady by school gates on Church Road". "Removal of dangerous type of narrowing by pond". "Vegetation needs cutting back off pavements in some areas and pavements swept". "Cut trees down (to near electricity wires)".

Q.27 – "If you are handicapped, disabled or have mobility problems, what amenity in Barrow cum Denham are you unable to use or get to?"

(42 respondents)

The post card survey indicated that some people had difficulty moving around the village due to lack of dropped kerbs or footpaths, especially for wheelchair users. Additionally some older people found difficulty walking long distances, such as down to the church, as there were few resting places / benches.

Area	Responses
No difficulty	19
Shops	6
Post office	5
Village green	3
All Saints church	2
Surgery	2
Footpaths	2
Autumn Close	1
Buses	1
No disability play area	1

Key Message:

- These difficulties should be taken into account in dealing with pavements and amenities (sections 3.5 and 3.8).

Q18 "Would you like to see any of the following in Barrow cum Denham?"

(935 respondents)

Better maintenance of public footpaths (323 respondents, 34%)

More footpaths (specify where)

Location
Denham to Barrow
Brockley Lane to Colethorpe Lane
Complete route from Barrow to Saxham and Bury (Section 5.6)
Along Colethorpe Lane
To doctors surgery from Bury Road
More field edge access
Link footpaths to provide all off road circular walks
Barrow Hill to Denham.

More bridleways (specify where) (45 respondents, 4%)

Barrow to exit village	Burthorpe Green to Mill Lane
Wolfe Hall to Abbots Farm	Denham to Dalham
Higham to Colethorpe Lane.	

Key messages:-

- Of the 636 people who use local public footpaths, half want better maintenance
- Many ideas to extend the parish's footpaths and bridleways have been identified but these would need to be agreed with landowners and the authorities.

General comments on pavements and pathways.

Some of these items concern only a few people, but for those that have commented, they are important. Compared with some of the parish issues, most will be relatively small matters.

The procedure for dealing with smaller issues needs to be made clear to the public; the complainant needs to know who to contact to see that it is dealt with.

3.6 CYCLE/PATHWAYS AND ROUTES

The three questions below were to gauge the level of interest in cycling and walking as a means of transport and leisure.

Q18 "Would you like to see any of the following in Barrow cum Denham?" (935 respondents)

Location	Responses	% respondents
Off road cycleway/footpath Barrow to Bury	382	41%
Off road cycleway/footpath Burthorpe to Barrow Church	234	25%

Q41 "What methods of transport do you use?" (991 respondents)

Method of transport	Responses	% respondents
Walk	594	60%
Bicycle	311	31%
Wheel chair	17	2%
Mobility scooter	13	1%

Q16 (Youth) "If there was a cycle path, would you use it?" (108 respondents)

Location	Responses	% respondents
From centre of Barrow to Saxham and Bury	75	70%
From centre of Barrow West to Denham	60	56%
From centre of Barrow North towards A14	48	45%
From centre of Barrow South towards Hargrave	47	44%

Key messages:

- *Safety is a big issue, particularly for the young when walking or cycling*
- *There is great support for the creation of safe cycling and walking routes,*
- *Youth comment on cycle/pathways **"This would give me independence"***
- *Cycle/pathways could be an alternative route to school.*
- *Any new developments in the Parish must provide cyclist and walker with safe convenient routes.*

3.7 DRAINAGE

Concerns had been expressed frequently in the initial survey about the poor drainage of roads in and around Barrow and Denham. Not only are deep puddles dangerous on narrow roads, but they also result in pedestrians being soaked by passing motorists.

Although many of the larger problem areas have been dealt with, there is an ongoing problem, particularly after heavy rainfall, at places where there is no (or an inadequate) ditch by the road, and where depressions in the road develop (the tendency for the road to be widened by large vehicles eroding the verge contributes to this). Having a high water table is also a factor.

Q.17 "Are there any drainage problems in Barrow cum Denham?" (905 respondents)

Problem	Responses	% respondents
No drainage problems	115	12%
The Street (improved since survey)	545	60%
Colethorpe Lane to A14	343	37%
Pumping Station on road to Risby	160	17%
Denham	73	8%
Others	178	19%

Other locations mentioned were:

- Denham Lane junction with Barrow Hill
- Ley Road by Post office
- Bottom of Sharpes Hill
- The Green by the hairdressers (old location)
- Church Road Pond
- Barrow Hill opposite doctors' surgery
- Brittons Crescent.

Key messages:

- *There is still a road drainage problem in many places*
- *The deeper puddles and drainage down roads in some places present a road hazard.*

Comment:-

A complete solution for the whole parish would be very expensive and unlikely to happen in the medium term. With limited budgets, dealing with the short term will be unavoidably difficult, but good long term planning should at least help to make sure that precious funds are applied in the best way possible. Such planning should take account of the rapid growth planned for the parish (section 3.1).

There may be ways in which scarce Highways resources can be saved for the longer term solution through the community assisting with some of the simpler shorter term problems. Community Service or voluntary working parties might be considered for this.

3.8 AMENITIES

As most residents have use of the motor car to access good amenities outside the parish, they are only likely to be attracted to amenities in the village which are well run and equipped or which are of a local nature.

This section contains information to help decide what type of amenities will be required to handle the potential demand from projects identified in this survey and the significant growth planned for the parish. Information in section 3.9 Leisure will also affect this.

Q19 – “Which of the following should be encouraged in the parish?”

(946 respondents)

Item	Responses	% of Respondents
Drop-in centre / café	396	42%
Book exchange	216	23%
Heritage projects	215	23%
DVD exchange	102	11%
Toy exchange	98	10%
Other	30	3%

Items in Other		
Youth meeting place / club	Children’s clothes shop	Good pubs
Library	Web page / newsletter	Film night in village hall
Village garage sale	Toilets	Projects for retired people
Tool exchange		

Key Messages:

- There is strong support (42%) for a Drop-in centre/café (see also Q21 below).
- The number of respondents suggests that there may be enough interest to organise all of the five listed items, if there are people who wish to form groups to run them.

Q20 -“How important to you are All Saints & St Mary’s churches for the following?” (914 respondents)

Item	Important	Not Important	No Opinion
Regular Worship	40%	25%	35%
Weddings, christenings blessings & funerals	67%	14%	19%
Civic services	28%	25%	47%

Key Messages:

- A large number of respondents believe the church is important, especially for formal occasions.

Q21 – “How important will the Town Estate Room (Formerly Plumtrees) be to you as a community centre?” (991 respondents)

There is considerable interest in the village about the future of this building, and renovation by the church, aided by volunteers, is already in hand.

	Important	Not Important	No Opinion
Overall response	32%	23%	44%

*Key Message: There is good support for a Drop-in /café (see also Q19 above).
44% don't have an opinion and therefore may not know about it*

Q22 – “If the Village Hall does not meet your needs, please indicate why?” (944 respondents)

Reason	Responses	% of Respondents
No opinion	420	45%
Does meet need	408	43%
No indoor sports equipment	53	6%
Hard of hearing	35	4%
Storage space	25	3%
Availability	18	2%
Other	24	3%

Other - negative		
Cleanliness and smell	Acoustics & PA	Poor facilities, kitchen & sound proofing
No table tennis / darts	Appearance	Parking

Key Messages:

- Only a small % of the respondents think the village hall requires improvement.

Q23 – “Does Barrow cum Denham need any of the following sports facilities?” (943 respondents)

Sports facility	Responses	% of Respondents
Nil	535	57%
Indoor sports e.g. table tennis in village hall	197	21%
Pavilion	175	19%
Changing facilities	157	17%
Cricket pitch / nets	140	15%
Improved football pitch	137	15%
5-a-side	113	12%
Trim trail	110	12%
Petanque area	70	7%
Netball court	67	7%
Other	58	6%

Items in Other		
Badminton	Children play area	Bowls
BMX & mountain bike	Rugby	Netball in tennis courts
Dancing	Football team	Multi sport
Rounders		

Key Messages:

- 57% of the respondents thought that none of the listed sports were needed.
- At least 19% of respondents thought that a hard facility (building) was required.
- Many of these activities are indoors

Q.24 – “If you use any of the following facilities in the village, indicate how frequently?” (970 respondents)

Facility	Total users responding	Frequent Users	Occasional Users
Local public footpaths	636	428	208
Pubs	603	123	480
Village hall	543	146	397
Area of recreation park for dog walking	257	158	99
Play area (swings & slides)	241	91	150
Academy	174	59	115
Recreation park, other areas	147	66	81
Hairdresser	136	104	32
School facilities, after school hours	120	51	69
Mobile library	114	45	69
Skate park	71	26	45
Football pitch	61	14	47
Stables	49	28	21
Basketball area	37	12	25
Other	32	23	9

Other			
Doctors	Red shift	Recycling	Allotments

Key Messages:

- Many village facilities, especially public areas, have a high number of users.
- Public footpaths have the most number of users (65%).
- Public outdoor areas (footpaths and recreation park dog walking area) have a higher number of frequent users than occasional users.
- The Academy, which offers many activities, is not greatly used by parishioners.
- 71 adults say they use the skate park (26 frequently)

Q.5 (Youth) "Which facilities do you use regularly?"

(121 responses)

Facility	Responses	% respondents	Male/female ratio
Village shops	105	86%	
Public footpaths	83	68%	38/36
Skateboard area	46	38%	30/11
Childrens' play area	44	36%	20/21
Tennis courts	31	25%	18/7
Village hall	29	23%	6/21
Recreation park (football)	27	22%	20/2
Recreation park(other games)	25	20%	9/12
Rec'n park (other activities)	24	19%	10/10
Basketball area	19	15%	11/2
Allotments	7	5%	2/5
Places of worship	6	4%	1/5
Mobile library	6	4%	1/4

Others mentioned: Academy gym (4), Barrow stables (2), Burthorpe Green (2), Dance School (2).

Key message:- Apart from skateboarding, the children's play area and tennis courts, the recreation facilities are used by less than a quarter of the children.

Q.6 (Youth) "If you are under 12, what sort of playground equipment do you like using most?" (91 children responded)

Apparatus	Respondents	Best	Good	Total
Zip Wire	87	73	9	82
Swing for many	84	34	27	61
Swings	83	32	26	58
Roundabout	85	26	28	54
Somersault bars	85	31	25	56
Slide	85	22	26	48
Climbing nets	83	20	30	50
Balancing equipment	84	13	33	46
Trim Trail	78	25	16	41

Suggestions by the children were:-

More ramps and proper equipment, monkey bars, fireman pole, slide in a tube, pirate ship, drop slides, BMX track, mountain bike course, cycle trails.

Q7 (Youth) "If funds were available, what new facilities would over 12 year olds like at the recreation park?" (63 respondents)

Six want more ramps and bigger skate park, covered area, 5 want a shelter "A shelter/place to sit and talk, hang out" A hut. A dry area. 3 children for each of the following - mini football goals, outside gym equipment, graffiti art. 2 children for each of the following - a climbing wall, cricket pitch/nets. Others

ask for a swing, for benches to sit on, all year football pitch, astro-turf pitch, bmx track, netball court, rounders pitch, toilets, maze, pull up bars, a pump track for dirt riders, r/c car track.

13 of the children asked for a better playground for older children. These related to specific apparatus and were: Zip wire (9), want swings (8), "swing for many" (3), a slide (3), trim trail (1)

Comment on amenities:-

Some of the principal amenities suffer from fundamental difficulties which will have to be overcome if the expected increase in demand on them is to be met:-

- **The two pubs** appear to be suffering from the low profitability now prevalent in the trade; one has been for sale (failing to find a purchaser) and one has had frequent changes of management. Growth of the parish should assist them.

- **The Village Hall** - is nearly always fully booked up during the week and may have difficulty providing space at key times for many new indoor activities which have been requested.

- a more flexible interior may be needed to accommodate more indoor activities in the longer term.

- **Outside one of the shops**, there is a major parking problem (section 3.2)

- **The Recreation Park** suffers from - limited accessibility

- vandalism (section 3.15)

- dog fouling (section 3.17)

- few sporting facilities

- noise issues

- lighting issues

- may not have enough space for all potential new activities

- **The Academy** has spare capacity particularly in the day and at weekends but is located at the edge of the village.

- **The Town Estate Room** needs to complete its renovation.

The School has some facilities which it makes available to the parish out of school hours. If it is expanded (section 3.13), consideration could be given to incorporating more shared facilities.

In establishing what is the best way to develop and use the existing amenities, account will also have to be taken of the amount, timing and location of new housing development and leisure, parking, security and youth issues covered elsewhere in this report.

3.9 LEISURE

Information on the leisure activities that people want will impact on decisions to invest in amenities (section 3.8 above) and will also assist those running or thinking of setting up clubs/groups in assessing their potential membership.

This section is in four parts:-

- 3.9.1 Children's' play facilities
- 3.9.2 Adult leisure pursuits
- 3.9.3 Young people's leisure pursuits
- 3.9.4 Allotments
- 3.9.5 Events

3.9.1 CHILDRENS' PLAY FACILITIES

Q.25 – "How important for the parish do you rate the establishment of the following?" (946 respondents)

Value	Separate Play Area for Toddlers / Under 5's		A Well Equipped and Fenced Children's Play Area, With Room To Develop as the Village Grows	
Important	534	64%	630	72%
Not important	95	11%	67	7%
Don't know	209	25%	184	21%

Key Messages:

- *There is strong support (64% & 72%) for both the above.*

A project group has since been formed to create a greatly improved children's play area.

3.9.2 ADULT LEISURE PURSUITS

In Section 3.8 above, about Amenities, the responses to questions 23 and 24 reflect the leisure interest of adults. **These need to be considered in conjunction with question 26 in this section.**

Q.26 - "What new activity would you be interested in joining/using if available in Barrow cum Denham?" (884 respondents)

Item	Responses	% of Respondents
Not interested	413	47%
Film showing (flix in the stix)	331	37%
Book club	115	13%
Art club	97	11%
Music club	77	9%
Bridge / Whist club	45	5%
Other	55	6%

Other (main suggestions)	
Running	Cycling
Drama	Dog training
Photography	Bowls
Dance (for adults)	Fitness
Crafts	Indoor sports & activities
Floristry	Metal detecting
Youth	Knitting, sewing, patchwork & dressmaking
Beavers & Cubs	

Key Messages:

- 47% were not interested in any new activities.
- Film showing was supported by 331 people (37%).
- There is sufficient interest for many new groups to form.

3.9.3 YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEISURE PURSUITS

Questions 8 to 11 of the youth questionnaire which follow show what leisure pursuits young people take part in and would wish for.

Q.8 (Youth) – “At present where do you mostly go for the following activities out of school hours?” (117 respondents)

Activity	Respondents	Applicable responses	
		In the village	outside the village
Football	96	23	19
Cricket	90	7	17
Tennis	96	27	21
Netball	86	3	16
Basketball	89	16	15
Skateboarding	90	20	6
Martial Arts	88	13	4
Gym	84	5	12
Gymnastics	92	4	16
Swimming	96	13	57
Dancing	95	17	14
Singing & Acting	91	19	20
Cinema	101	4	73
Brownies, Guides Cubs, Scouts, Boys Brigade	92	13	10
Woz Up Truck	88	10	3
Indoor Sports	92	7	33
Hobbies	90	30	37
Events	50	11	18

Q.9 (Youth) – “For outdoor Sport (including coaching), which of the following sports would you like to do in the village if they were available?”

(115 respondents)

Activity	Responses	% respondents	male/female
Assault Course	65	56%	33/28
Roller skating	48	41%	12/29
Athletics	42	36%	16/19
Basketball	41	35%	15/22
Netball	36	31%	1/30
BMX	34	29%	23/8
Football	28	24%	22/3
Keep fit	26	22%	5/16
Hockey	23	20%	8/13
Rugby	20	20%	17/3
Cricket	23	20%	15/4
Trim trail	22	19%	11/7

16 ideas and comments came from children including: an outside roller skating rink, tennis (4 children), scootering, pigeon shooting, mountain biking, trampolining, monkey bars, high jump, boxercise, aquazumba, rounders (2), dancing and gymnastics.

Q.10 – “For indoor sport, which of the following sports would you like to do in the village if they were available?”

(107 respondents)

Activity	Responses	% respondents	male/female
Table tennis	54	50%	29/18
Internet/online gaming	47	43%	30/11
Badminton	44	41%	13/24
Snooker/pool	42	39%	31/9
Short tennis	36	33%	12/17
Chess	30	28%	15/12
Other board games	27	25%	13/13
Darts	25	23%	17/4
Table football	21	19%	14/4

Other suggestions from 11 children include: dodgeball (2), draughts, benchball, crab football, karate, indoor hockey, gymnastics, squash (2).

Q11 (youth) - “Which of the following activities would you like to do in the village if they were available?” (117 respondents)

Activity	Responses	% respondents	male/female
Cinema	65	55%	23/37
Photography/film-Video making	54	46%	19/31
Art/design	52	44%	17/30
Just meeting friends	49	41%	17/31
Cooking activities	46	39%	13/30
Discos	39	33%	14/21
Sports & other matches	38	32%	20/18
Acting/theatre	38	32%	4/28
Motor sport	37	31%	33/3
Youth shelter	34	29%	12/16
Radio controlled cars/planes/boats	34	29%	26/3
Music groups	31	26%	8/17
Music events	31	26%	10/16

Key message:

- *There are plenty of activities in which young people would enjoy taking part if they were available.*

Comments on youth activities are in section 3.18 Youth

3.9.4 ALLOTMENTS

Q.28 – “Spare allotments have not been taken up in Burthorpe and Mill Lane; which of the following discourages you from taking one up or retaining the one you have?” (913 respondents)

Discouraging feature		Responses	% of Respondents
Not interested in allotments		625	68%
Too big to manage		84	9%
Water not easily accessible		78	9%
Unaware of who to contact		58	6%
Poor access to individual allotments		18	2%
Allotments in wrong location		12	1%
Other		153	17%
Other (many reasons but only those mentioned several times shown)			
Grow in garden (63)	No time (28)	Age & disability (15)	Security / theft
Live too far away	No sheds	Water tap too far	

- Most respondents are not interested (68%) or grow in their own garden (7%).
- Addressing water accessibility and allotment sizes may help take-up.
- Better advertising and communication and point of contact may help take-up.

3.9.5 Events

Comment:

The parish is fortunate to have a number of events which bring together the whole community. These include the Barrow Village Fete, Bonfire night, Flower Show, Beer Festival (recently introduced), the Great Barrow Challenge, Remembrance Sunday and Church events. These events contribute to the community spirit which 46% of respondents considered important (section 3.1). Every opportunity to bring the parish together, including the annual parish meeting, should be grasped as a chance to develop this.

3.10 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

The community will be better able to flourish if parishioners know what is going on and can find the information they need conveniently and in good time.

Information can be official, social or commercial. With good communications and hard evidence, all levels of government and the parishioners are able to base their decisions and contributions more on evidence and less on surmise

The responses to many questions confirmed our earlier findings that there is considerable room for improvement in the provision of information and the way it is communicated. This is reflected in the answers to many questions, 9,10,29,30,31,32,35,36 & 37 and 53 of the individual questionnaire, questions 13,14,17,18,19 &20 of the business questionnaire and question 18 of the youth questionnaire. Details of the responses to these questions are set out below grouped under sub-headings:-

- 3.10.1 Communication of official information,
- 3.10.2 Sources of information used,
- 3.10.3 Existing communication methods,
- 3.10.4 Recommended action.

3.10.1 COMMUNICATION OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION

A community needs to be kept aware of important issues and the policies their representatives are pursuing on their behalf (at present not much evident to the public here). Parishioners also need to be informed of any significant plans for change in enough time to form their views and convey them to those putting proposals forward. There is also evidence that improvements can be made between County and Borough and Parish Councils as well as between them and the public.

Q.10 “Which of the following statements most closely relates to your view of the 25% growth of Barrow cum Denham (provided that it is considerably designed and adequate infrastructure is introduced to match)”(see section 3.1)

There was wide public consultation over Rural Vision 2031, but planning decisions have been made subsequently which increase the amount of growth even further and faster. These approvals appeared to have been made in haste over holiday periods and in months when the Parish Council did not meet and afforded the parish and its representatives less than reasonable opportunity to consider and respond to a topic already an issue of concern. The ‘postcard survey’ indicated that public confidence in the planning process was low. Better communication and consultation would help to improve confidence.

Q.9 Responses to Question 9 showed low public awareness of the potential for developing local amenities from funding related to building new houses, including affordable housing – this will be an important factor in obtaining the necessary new amenities for the parish.

Q18/19/20 (Business) “If you would like to see improvements to the planning process or council administration for Barrow cum Denham Parish Council, please describe them”. And similar questions for the County and Borough Councils.
(section 3.19)

Suggestions for improvement to communications:-

Parish Council:	Regular talks to business, knowing councillors and easy access to them, circulation of parish news, clear notification on notice boards of developments & meetings, suggestion box.
Borough Council:	Talk to the village, West Suffolk House very unhelpful, more publicity and access to future planning
County council:	More understanding of agriculture

Q.35 “Indicate which of the following you know how to contact”

Under half the respondents knew how to contact a parish councillor (section 3.12)

Q.36 - “Please give your views on how the Parish Council performs the following topics”,

Under 20% of respondents consider the Parish Council to be good at communicating with the parish (section 3.12)

Q.37 Would you like our Parish Council to become a “Quality Parish Council?”

53% said “yes”. A move towards the standards of a Quality Parish Council would involve a significant improvement to two way communication with the public including adequate and timely publication of agenda, minutes and financial information and greater encouragement to the public to participate in parish affairs (section 3.12).

Q32. “When change is proposed (e.g. planning), do you hear about it in sufficient time and detail?”

37% said they received information in time and 37% said they did not. A further 26% didn’t know. This could be improved upon (section 3.10)

Q.53 Do you think that Barrow cum Denham should have a strategic plan to deal with future growth, including all services and amenities?

The 87% “yes” response suggests that there is an unfulfilled wish to know much more about plans for the future than is available now (see section 3.20).

3.10.2 SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED

Q.29 “Where do you obtain information about activities/events taking place in the parish?” (982 respondents)

Source	Adult responses	% respondents
The Stile	651	66%
Notices in Post office and shops	581	59%
Word of mouth	563	57%
Flyers	487	49%
Village notice Boards	417	42%
Notices on telegraph poles	367	37%
Notices in village Pubs	151	15%
Social network	140	14%
Notices in village Hall	104	11%
Around Barrow Website	55	6%
Emails	24	3%
School	11	1%
Others	21	2%
Total	3572	

Q.13 (Business) 48 businesses reflected a similar pattern to Q,29 (above): “The Stile” (20), Post Office (13), Shop (7), Notice boards (4), Consultation via PC (2) and 1 each via Around Barrow website, PC Newsletters, Pub, Facebook, Telephone and Social network.

Q.14 (Business) 39 showed interest in publicity space; 16 in the Parish Magazine, 14 in the Parish website and 6 in PC Newsletters (only recently started).

Q17 (Youth) How do you find out what is going on in Barrow and Denham?
(118 respondents)

Source of information	Youth responses	% respondents
Word of mouth	61	51%
Village magazine/newsletter	51	43%
Village notice board	46	38%
Social networking (facebook/myspace/twitter	37	31%
Village web site	30	25%
E-mail	20	16%
Local newspaper	22	18%
Other	2	1%
Not interested in finding out	11	9%

Other includes “From church too”, “Seeing what friends are doing”.

Key messages on sources of information used:-

- *Only The Stile, "post office/shop" and "word of mouth" are used by more than 50% of the adult respondents.*
- *"The Stile" has to cover other villages as well.*
- *Websites, and social networking are currently fairly well used by young people but little used by adults.*
- *Village hall and pub notice boards are not well used.*

Comment:-

The use of social networking and village website by young people is noticeably greater than by adults. This method of communication can be expected to increase in future. It will be necessary for anyone organizing activities, events or clubs, to be able to communicate in this way if they wish to reach these young people.

The village website is used by 30 young people. With such a large number of children having access to the internet, the village web site can be a good means of communicating, though it may be affected by the way social networking develops; it will need to be kept up to date and run efficiently to be well used and linked with other sites e.g. Parish Council site and job vacancies.

3.10.3 EXISTING COMMUNICATION METHODS

Adults responded to 2 questions and young people one question to probe into the use made of traditional methods of communication and the potential for using the internet:-

Q.30 "...do you think Barrow cum Denham needs any of the following?"

(879 respondents)

Item	Responses	% of respondents
Improved mobile reception	565	64%
Improved broadband speed	380	43%
Fibre Optic Broadband	363	41%
Outside notice boards for general community use	274	31%
Improved digital TV reception	251	29%
Welcome Pack/Village directory	222	25%
Central Information point	220	25%
Community run website	206	23%
WiFi in VH/town Estate room	169	19%

Analysis of the above is as follows:-

For improved mobile reception

The breakdown by supplier of the responses as a % of responses:

Supplier	% respondents
Vodafone	38%
O2	19%
Orange/EE	17%
14 others	23 %
All	2%
All but Vodafone O2 and Orange	1%

This may or may not reflect the number of each supplier's mobiles used by respondents. Mobile reception in the North and West of the parish appears to be worse than in the South & East.

For faster Broadband, the breakdown by supplier of the responses is:

Supplier	% respondents
BT	57%
Talk-talk	14%
Sky	5%
Orange EE	5%
11 others	15%,
All	2%,
All but BT	1%.

Speed nearer the centre of the parish appeared to be better than in outer areas.

Fibre optic broadband responses were unsurprisingly similar to those wanting better broadband. If there is delay in introducing fibre optic broadband, existing alternatives should be considered.

Outside notice boards for general community use are wanted by 31% of respondents (areas 2,3 & 4 more than areas 1,4 & 5)

A welcome pack/village directory appealed to 222 people (23%); half of these have arrived in Barrow in the last 10 years; there seems to be a case for reinstating this in some form.

The need for a central information point is supported by 220 people (23%)

Q.31 "Do you use the internet" (992 respondents)

- 81% of respondents use the internet. Barrow (North) and Burthorpe Green were particularly high users and Barrow (south) (high older population) at 75% was lower than the others. Only 8 of those who did not use the internet were under 50 and only 26 were aged 51-65.
- Of the 152 respondents who do not use the internet, 45 gave no detailed analysis; of the 107 who did give details, 48 wanted better outside notice boards and 28 wanted a central local information point; 10 wanted a community run website.

- The high internet usage (which may not all be on respondents' own computers at home), suggests that the village is ready to accept more modern methods of communication.

Q.18 (Youth) Do you have the following? (121 respondents)

Item	Responses	% rsepondents
Your own personal mobile phone	90	74%
Your own computer with Internet access	75	61%
Your own computer with no Internet connection	3	2%
Use of a family computer with Internet access	76	62%
Use of a family computer with no Internet access	2	2%
Your own email account	93	76%

Key messages on existing communication methods:-

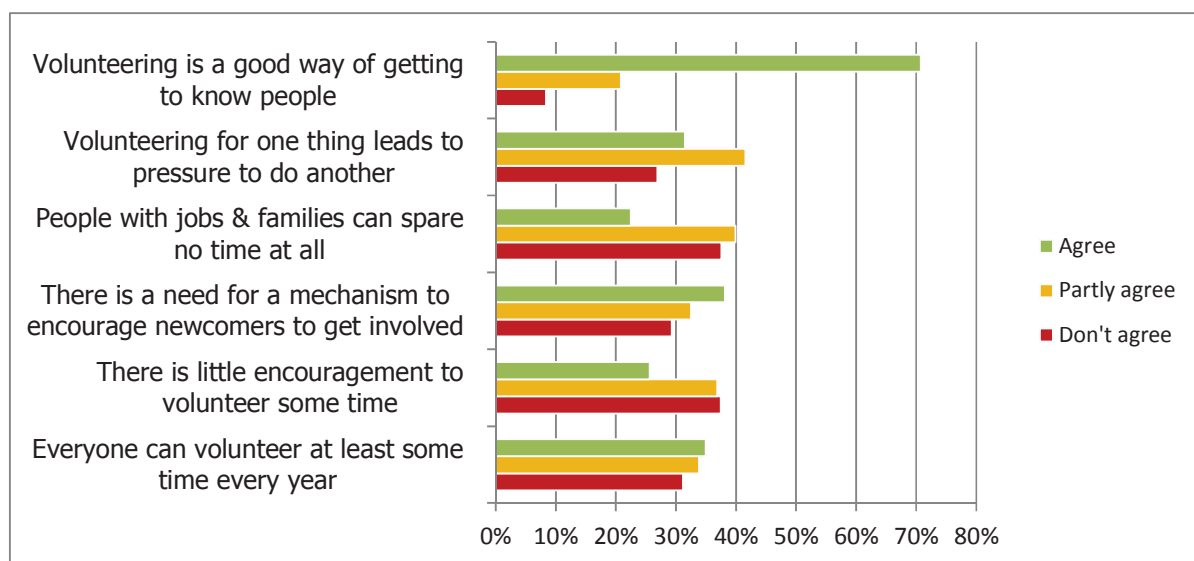
- *High level of dissatisfaction with Broadband and Mobile performance needs to be overcome, particularly with imminent new housing and possibly business activity,*
- *29% adverse comment on TV reception is high and the causes need to be found,*
- *At least 76% of young people have access to the internet at home, and 74% have their own mobile phone.*
- *Traditional methods of communication are also required by many people.*

3.10.4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Since 81% of the 992 respondents said they use the internet, there is an opportunity to transform communication within the parish. A complete review of how official, social and commercial information is made available within the parish needs to be undertaken by a suitably experienced and knowledgeable group. This would include consideration of the operation of village websites, social networking and the internet generally, village notice boards and central information point. The content and timing of information will also need to be considered, especially information relating to planning and other official issues.
- Place high priority on getting faster broadband (the MP has mentioned the importance of this for Barrow and Denham), better mobile reception and TV reception.
- If fibre optic cable broadband is not introduced soon enough, alternatives which are currently available should be considered to improve broadband speed.
- Re-introduce a form of welcome pack/skills register
- Provide more outside notice boards for general use.
- Since most of those who do not use the internet are over 65, consider ways to encourage them to use IT for health and entertainment as well as for parish information.

3.11 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

With the growth of the parish and the influx of new people, additional pressure will be placed on those representing the community on councils, village hall, clubs, groups and parish events. Even now, as shown in the action plans in Part III of this report, there are many matters which need attention. In practice, many of these important actions will be best resolved with the involvement of members of the community.



Comment:

Volunteering is also a good way for young people to get work experience and add to their cv; for those who have had time off work it can be an aid to regaining skills; for the retired or unemployed it is a good way of meeting people, finding a new interest/skill, and helping in the community.

Question 34 - 387 respondents (46%) offered to give some specific help to groups. Of these, 121 gave their contact details. This encouraging response from so many people covers 30 different activities:-

Group to be helped	Responses		Responses
Good Neighbours	171	Summer play scheme	26
Village Fete/Fireworks	129	Arts/crafts,films,music	11
Parish Council	52	Brownies/Guides	7
Town Estate Room refurbishment	49	Cricket	3
Community Centre daytime help	46	Football	2
Youth Club	35	Run,walk,athletics,cycle	4
Community Speed Watch	34	Other outdoor	3
Organised Team games	29	Indoor sports	2
After School Clubs	27	13 different activities	13

The action plans in Part III include suggestions for setting up many project groups to carry out important and interesting activities. These will require a variety of levels of energy, commitment and skills, for example:-

Activity	Nature of commitment
Bulb planting	Light physical work done in small groups annually
Wildlife	Enjoyment of the countryside, variable involvement
Litter picking days	Light work in larger groups a few times a year
Support for youth activities	Aptitude for this, DBS clearance, regular commitment
Fact finding projects	Single project commitment
Backroom support	For clubs, groups, events, etc, regular commitment
Good Neighbours Sch.	DBS clearance, irregular activity
Fete	Annual
Cycle routes	Long term, intermittent, commitment
Sports	Participation in season

Comment:

An initial meeting has been held to form interest groups. 45 people attended and a foundation was laid for several projects. Another meeting will be held in the early 2014 and it is hoped that further events will take place at which people with new project ideas can find others with similar interests.

If people are to get more involved in parish projects, the maximum encouragement and recognition will be needed. Every opportunity should be taken to do this and to hold public events to do with new projects and ideas for the parish.

The potential for improving employability through voluntary work should be emphasised.

All age groups can play a part. One third of the respondents are over 65 and many might welcome the interest a project offers and contact with new people. Others may have less time to offer but have particular skills or availability at certain times of the day. Newcomers to the parish, some of whom may have been involved in their previous community, are a category who might welcome the opportunity to meet people and use their abilities. A system for matching people's availability and interest with projects would greatly encourage people to commit, particularly if the extent of the commitment were clear from the start.

3.12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Q.35 – “Indicate which of the following you know how to contact”

(965 responses)

Item	Responses	% of Respondents
Parish councillor	417	43%
Village hall booking clerk	364	38%
local religious leader	320	33%
Parish clerk	282	29%
Church wardens	249	26%
MP	225	23%
County councillor	142	15%
Good neighbours scheme	138	14%
District councillor	131	14%
Neighbourhood watch	76	8%
None of the above	335	35%

Key Messages:

- 35% did not know how to contact any of the above.
- A fair number of people (43%) know how to contact a parish councillor.
- Awareness of the Good Neighbours Scheme and Neighbourhood Watch appears low, bearing mind the high proportion of older people in the parish and concerns expressed over crime and anti-social behaviour (Section 3.15).

Q.36 - “Please give your views on how the Parish Council performs the following topics” (933 respondents)

Item	Good	Adequate	Un satisfactory	Don't Know
Consults with the public	20%	36%	19%	25%
Listens to issues raised by parishioners	14%	27%	18%	41%
Acts in response to issues raised by parishioners	13%	23%	16%	47%
Encourages participation in parish affairs	13%	23%	20%	43%
Answers your correspondence & queries	11%	14%	9%	64%
Makes effective use of web and IT	5%	10%	16%	70%
Publicises its activities / decisions / finances	12%	30%	19%	39%
Publicises planning applications & key issues	17%	35%	18%	30%
Maintains the greens	63%	26%	3%	8%
Maintains other parish facilities	32%	35%	6%	27%

Key Messages:

- 89% say it looks after the greens well or adequately. 67% think the same about its maintenance of other parish facilities (only 6% consider it unsatisfactory).
- It is perceived to do less well in its communications with the public.
- Between 25% - 70% don't know whether it communicates well or not.

Q.37 – “Would you like the parish council to become a ‘Quality Parish Council’? – a ‘Quality Parish Council’ is a Nationally recognised minimum standard of accountability, procedures and community engagement”.

954 Respondents		
Item	Responses	% of Respondents
Yes	484	51%
No	57	6%
Don't know	413	43%

Comment:-

Over 50% want the parish council to become a “Quality Parish Council”. However, the attainment of formal accreditation would place extra clerical demands on a Parish Council which is already fully occupied. The most important thing is to implement the key features of the standard, which emphasise transparency, accountability, good interaction with the community, well trained and informed members and sound financial management and decision making. Emphasis should be placed on these before gaining formal accreditation.

Q17.(Business) “How well do you think that the needs of your business are understood and addressed by the following (councils)?” (36 respondents)

Rating	By PC	By St. Eds.	By SCC
Well	7	3	2
Adequately	8	11	9
Poorly	5	5	6
Don't know	16	15	18
Nil return	-	2	1

*Key messages:- half the respondents don't know
- a third say "adequately" or "well"*

Q18/19/20 (Business) “If you would like to see improvements to the planning process or council administration for Barrow cum Denham Parish Council, please describe them”. And similar questions for the County and Borough Councils.

Suggestions for improvement mainly related to communications:-

Parish Council: Regular talks to business, knowing councillors and easy access to them, circulation of parish news, clear notification on notice boards of developments & meetings, suggestion box.

District Talk to the village, West Suffolk House very unhelpful, more publicity and access to future planning

County More understanding of agriculture

3.13 EDUCATION AND SCHOOL

In addition to the quality of its teaching, the primary school and play schools provide a natural meeting point for a significant proportion of the parish population. The School has also played an important part in supporting parish wide events such as the fete.

The school serves other parishes as well as Barrow and Denham and is at full capacity. Its facilities will be severely strained by the planned growth of the parish. Rural Vision 2031 includes no plan for dealing with this.

Q.38 – “How important is the Primary School to the local community?”
(997 responses)

83% said that it was very important and a further 11% said it was important.

Q.39 – “Which of the following school systems do you support?”
(977 responded)

System	Responses	%
Two tier system	199	20%
Three tier system	462	47%
Don't know	316	33%

The three tier system, currently applicable in Barrow, at 47% is considerably more favoured than the two tier system, particularly by those under 40 years old.

Q.40 - “Do you think there is any need for the following in Barrow cum Denham?” (921 responded)

Item	Responses
No Opinion	528
Adult Education evening classes	324
More mothers & toddlers sessions (0-3 years)	98
Mothers & toddlers (3-5)	96
More registered childminders	63
Under 5's parents internet based club	30

34% of respondents wanted adult education classes. This includes all age groups. The subjects and levels which people want are not known.

There are enough interested responses to the other activities to consider forming project groups to obtain them.

3.14 TRANSPORT

The growth of the parish provides an opportunity to improve the present limited public transport services through the increased revenue which will accrue to the operators.

Two questions enquired into the mode of transport people use:-

Q41. – “What methods of transport do you use?” (991 adult responses)

Method of travel	Reponses	Method of travel	Responses
Car	922	School/coach	30
Walk	594	Car share	19
Local bus	238	Wheel chair	18
Taxi	110	Mobility scooter/car	14
Motor bike/moped/scooter	34	Other (incl.vans 4; lifts 4; train 1)	14

Key messages:

60% walk (see also Section 3.2 Traffic and Parking)

31% cycle (across the age groups) (see also Section 3.6 re cycle routes)

24% use the bus (see Q42 & Q43 below)

26% of 22-30 year olds used taxis but only 4% of 65-74 yr olds (ave. 11%)

19 people car share

32 people use mobility scooters or wheel chairs (Q 27 Section 3.5)

Q.14 (Youth) – “ How do you normally go to places outside the village?”

(121 young people responded)

Mode of transport	Responses	% respondents
Car	110	91%
School bus/coach	67	55%
Cycle	19	16%
Public bus	7	6%
Moped	3	2%
Taxi	3	2%

Others were – walk (3), scooter (2), train (1)

Key messages: - only 55% (who are all of school age) use the school bus service
- 16% cycle to places outside the village (see section 3.6)

The next three questions addressed the use and potential use of the bus service. The planned new housing will require route changes and should provide more users:-

Q42 – “How frequently do you use the bus service?” (967 adult responses)

Frequency	Responses	Details
Daily during rush hours	16	(7 in education)
Daily at other times	12	(5 retired)
Weekly	48	(27 retired)
Occasionally	276	(125 retired)
Never	613	

Key messages:-

- Apart from rush hours, half the users are retired and may have free bus passes.
- Over a third of the respondents use the bus (more than indicated in Q41), of which only 28 used it daily and 48 weekly
- Of those in education, 7 use it daily in rush hour, 2 daily at other times and 3 weekly.

Q43. – “Would any of the following improvements induce you to use the bus service or use it more?” (873 adult responses)

Inducement to use the bus	Responses	% respondents	Details
Better times - for going to work	132	15%	16 in education
Better times - other in working hours	223	25%	103 retired, 16 in educ'n
Better times – evenings & weekends	304	35%	Incl. > half 17-21yr olds
Reliability	180	20%	55 retired, 16 in educ'n
Cost	105	12%	75employed, 15 in educ'n
Bus shelter – Papely Meadow	38	4%	25 over 50 years old
Bus shelter – other	22	3%	7 for the Green, 6 others
Access for those with disabilities	36	4%	5 unable to work/disabled
Links with other public transport	85	10%	51 in work
No – will not use the bus	353	40%	
Other (see below)	51	5%	

Comment:

Of the 51 people commenting in “other”, 10 want better advertising of times and 11 say they may use the bus in later life. Suggested timetable improvements included more frequency, restore Newmarket pm service (withdrawn), no bus to Mildenhall, the Hospital and Cambridge. Space for buggies was also mentioned.

Q,15 (Youth) – “ How well does the present bus timetable enable you to travel conveniently to?” (118 respondents)

Purpose	Respondents	Good	Adequate	Improvement needed	Don't know
School	111	58	18	10	25
Shops	107	18	19	17	52
Sport	102	13	6	22	60
Entertainment					
-In the day	103	13	13	23	54
-In the evening	96	8	5	27	56

Key messages:

- The school bus service has a high ‘good’ rating, though 10 seek improvement .
- Demand for an evening service and better timetable need to be considered.

24 young people specified improvements they required: not enough regular buses and lack of an evening service. Examples of comments are: “There is no way of getting back in the evening”. “More buses and a night bus”, “More later and regular bus times”, “Too few buses”, “Bus needs to come more often”, “Bus times not convenient”, “Don’t know when bus goes at weekend”, “The 3 Horseshoes bus shelter is in bad condition, I use it every day to go to school and I don’t like it”, “Does not stop at Papeley Meadow so I have to walk back”.

Q44. – “Would you use the train if Higham Station was reopened for...?”

(981 respondents)

Use	Responses
Travel to work - westward	89
Travel to work - eastward	59
Holidays (airport, etc)	263
Occasional journeys	661
Would not use	261

720 people said they would use the train. 148 would use the train to go to work, 263 for holidays and 661 for occasional journeys. Some of these may currently use Kennet station. These figures could increase considerably with the planned building of approximately 200 new houses.

Key message: There is enough potential revenue for the train service providers to consider the viability of a nearby station, perhaps using facilities already at Higham.

3.15 SECURITY

Q45 – “Which if any of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Barrow cum Denham?” (959 respondents)

Concern	% Respondents
Dog-fouling (also section 3.7 Environment)	48%
Vandalism	32%
Burglary	29%
Rowdy behaviour	16%
Foul language	16%
Drug/substance abuse (concerned 127 people)	13%

Vandalism is most prominent at the Village Hall, recreation ground and play area including the Skate Park and Tennis Court. The Ponds were also an issue (25 responses). Other places involving vandalism were the Cemetery (3), the Church, Bus shelter, Bus stops, Car park, Bottle banks, Damaged cars/garages, and Domestic property in many areas. Lesser concerns included intimidation and litter (see section 3.7).

Q46. – “In 2012 the police advised the following measures for Barrow cum Denham. Do you agree?” (between 658 and 785 responded to 7 measures)

There was a high level of agreement with the police advice to introduce a drop in centre, youth club, adequate lighting, CCTV and more bins in the park, and reporting of offending events to the police (between 69% and 88% agreed). 58% agreed with the advice to form a youth council. The level of disagreement was low at under 6% for all measures except for CCTV in the park (13%).

Q.21 (business) - 8 out of 50 business respondents rated the police as poor or inadequate.

Q.19/20 (Youth) – “Do you feel safe in Barrow, Denham and Burthorpe?”
- “If no, where do you feel unsafe and why?”

3 out of 121 young respondents did not feel safe.

The nine comments on unsafe places referred to: the pathway from CDC to Ley Road, the park, bullying in the skate park and by the fish shop, out at night (2), Meadow Way, no CCTV in recreation ground, and older children.

Q21 (Youth) “Have you been affected by any of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour in Barrow, Denham and Burthorpe in the last 2 years?”

In two years, 38 young people out of 109 respondents were affected by 84 incidents. The most frequent was bullying (experienced by 29 people), followed by theft (12), vandalism (11) and drug related offences (7).

Q.22 – (Youth) “What do you think are the causes of vandalism in this parish?”
(81 respondents)

Cause	No. of comments
Boredom	37
Nothing to do	14
The character/attitude of other children	19
Drugs	3
Other	8

Comment on Security responses:

The level of crime and anti-social behaviour experienced by adults and youth was not high compared with many places, though every occasion is one too many.

Actions can be taken to develop vigilance, e.g. Neighbourhood Watch, and to respond to police advice, especially to develop youth activities.

Adults and children can be encouraged to have pride in their village by entering competitions such as “best kept village”.

3.16 HEALTH

Q.47 - "Where is your Doctor's Surgery/Health Centre?"

Answered by 1000 people

Location of surgery	Respondents	% respondents
Barrow	617	61%
Neighbouring village	108	11%
Bury St Edmunds/Newmarket	248	25%
I am not registered with a doctor at the above locations.	27	3%

Key message: 39% of the respondents use surgeries outside the parish.

Q.48 – "If you attend Barrow surgery do you have any concerns about the following?" (237 respondents)

Concern	Responses
Making a convenient appointment	188
Travelling to the surgery	15
Lack of any medical facilities you require (please specify)*	56*

*The majority of comments were positive. 24 had no complaints and received a good service (1 thought it had deteriorated). The main problems mentioned were: irregular hours (8 people); difficulty getting an appointment/ not being able to pre-book (5); telephone expensive (3) (but 1 said they liked the 0844 number); surgery was somewhat overridden by Guildhall patients from Bury (3); need for a good pharmacy (3); need for a dentist (3); Open on Saturday (2); others included: need for a physiotherapist (2), a chiropodist (1) and more doctors (1). 1 felt it would be good to have a card payment facility.

Key messages:

- 30% of the 617 respondents who use Barrow surgery have concerns about making a convenient appointment
- a pharmacy has been set up since the survey
- growth of the parish by 100-200 people in the short term, with much more to come later, will need to be accommodated by the surgery

Q.31" Do you use the internet?"

Many of the over 65 age group do not use the internet and thereby do not benefit from the communication, health and other information which it can provide.

Key message: provide suitable introductory training to overcome resistance to its use.

Q.49 – "Are you caring for a member of your household who has a physical/mental health problem/disability?" (899 respondents)

73 people answered yes.

Q.50 – “Do you have a need for any of the following care/support services in Barrow cum Denham?” (909 respondents)

Need	Responses	% respondents
No need	826	91%
Help with household repairs	26	3%
Help with household tasks	13	1%
Help with transport	12	1%
Prescription collection	11	1%
Someone to call in to see if you're OK	7	1%
Pension collection	2	0%
Other, please specify*	12*	1%*

*Few people responded with a need for other care/support services. Two responses were for help in the garden. One is already involved with a cancer survivor's support group and 2 feel they can call on Age Concern at any time. Four responses said there was no need now but might need help in the future. There were 2 ambiguous replies.

Key message:

83 people said they have a need for care/support services.

Comment

The extent to which they already receive help is not clear from the survey, but all should be made aware of the local and other care/support services available.

3.17 ENVIRONMENT

As people had previously expressed their enjoyment of the countryside, we suggested some environmental projects that they might enjoy working on together and which would bring nature into the village. They were also asked to suggest projects they were interested in.

Q51 “Would you be interested in taking part in any of the following environmental projects?” (880 respondents)

363 people gave positive answers. Out of these, 320 people said that they were interested in helping with one or more projects:-

Project	Responses
Planting areas of spring bulbs and wild flowers	162
Creating a Nature Reserve	160
Putting up nest and bat boxes	142
The Suffolk Hedgerow Survey	125
Creating a Community Orchard	113
Forming a Bio-diversity/Wildlife group	54
Supportive but unable to help	43

All age groups were well represented among those offering help.

The comments of the 43 unable to help but interested and supportive of the projects were:-

- interest in a childrens' wildlife group (2 people),
- tree planting,
- clearing and maintaining ditches,
- "consider nature reserves on planning land would be better and environmentally friendly",
- "be aware of activities to encourage biodiversity on farmland",
- verge litter collection.

An environmental group is forming in response to the interest expressed by so many people in this survey and at a subsequent public meeting. Bulb planting has already started and other projects currently under active consideration are:-

- a wildlife group
- creating a nature reserve
- hedgerow survey,
- bird and bat boxes,
- community orchard

A further public meeting will be held in March 2014 with a view to setting up a group.

Q.52 – "Do you think Barrow cum Denham should be kept clean and tidy by...?"
(959 respondents)

Method	Responses	% respondents
Enforcing the system of fines for litter & dog fouling.	485	51%
Erecting notices (no dog fouling/no litter)	284	30%
Having a 'Spring Clean Day'	230	24%
Having more litter collections	229	24%
More litter/fido bins (Specify where)	220	23%
Entering 'Village of the Year' competition	212	22%
Nominated 'No Dog' areas	204	21%
No opinion	179	18%

Comments:-

The fact that over half the respondents want fines for litter and dog fouling to be enforced warrants consideration. Substantial fines can already be imposed. However, from a community point of view, it would be better not to have to rely on these, rather that offenders be encouraged by witnesses to be more considerate in future and reminded of the possible fines. If no improvement is experienced through persuasion, a few examples of fining might have to be made and/or nominated "No dog" areas introduced.

Putting up more well made notices would be a further reminder of the obligation not to create litter or dog fouling. A code of "best practice for dog owners" could be issued.

Litter in the centre of the village is already collected. Many respondents want more collections. There is a lot of litter in the surrounding hedges and ditches and, with the evidence of strong parishioner support, it should be possible for "Community Clean-up days" to be held at suitable intervals.

Initiatives such as entering a "best kept village" competition could develop greater pride in the village and achieve better litter and dog discipline.

220 people said they wanted more litter/fido bins, though only 94 gave details. Some did not say exactly which type they wanted or where they wanted them. However, there is a clear wish for many more bins than there are now and a large number of locations have been identified which can be monitored to obtain more data on what is required at each place. The following grouping may be helpful in deciding exactly what is needed:-

General location specified (type unspecified unless shown)	Responses
Outside shops and in The Street	16
Park (incl. 3 in play area)	12
Church Road & towards Church	10
Bury Road	6
Papeley Meadow area	6
Cemetery area	6
Bus stops (1 for Cigarette bin)	4
Pond	4
Horse manure on roads	4
Surgey(2 at footpath entrance)	3
Ley Road	2
Mill lane allotments	2
Mill Lane (incl. 1 for bridleway to W.)	2
Footpath from park to Church	2
Crattle Hill (?New Road)	2
7 others (see below)	7
Unspecified location or type	40
Total	128

5 of the others were relevant: The Green, end of Sharpes Hill junction to Risby, Stoney Lane for bridleway and footpath, side roads (e.g. Ley road etc).

201 people think that there should be some "no dog areas". This would be particularly beneficial for the Childrens' Playground and areas such as those used for sports. Since this will be an ongoing issue, responsibility for

continuously monitoring the situation needs to be allocated. It is suggested that a project group could undertake this task.

The cost of achieving the above might be kept to a minimum by volunteer participation and/or sponsorship including possibly the making of fencing, signage and bins.

3.18. YOUTH

The villages of Barrow and Denham will have an increasing number of children due to the three large developments which are to be built in the village. The Youth Questionnaire set out to gather information on the needs of the children in the village aged from 8 – 16yrs (though some under 8's who wished to have also contributed).

Initial surveys included a survey of parents at the Primary School and the two nurseries, and 124 young people (two thirds of the youth population) completed the Youth Questionnaire. A further survey was done with a focus group organized by a local Youth organization (Woz Up) with 14 young people aged 11–16.

This section of the report identifies separately the details of the young respondents, their current activities and interests, and their interest in participating in the community. Some of the questions are also dealt with in sections 3.8 Amenities and 3.9 Leisure.

Q.1 - 2 (Youth) Respondents' ages and location

Q.1 "Where do you live?"

Area	Respondents
Denham	18
2 Colethorpe L. Church R.	13
3 Burthorpe, Papeley M.	27
4 Central area, The St.to Mill L.	42
5 The Green, Bury R.	21
6 South	6

Q.2 "What is your age?"

Age	Respondents
16	16
15	4
14	18
13	11
12	16
11	12
10	23
8-9	14
under 8	11

Key message:

- Children in Denham, Burthorpe Green and Barrow (south) (51 young people = 25%) live well away from recreational facilities
- 49 respondents were over 12, and 76 were 12 and under.

Q.3 (Youth) "What is your gender?"

There was a similar number of male and female respondents.

Q4 (Youth) "Do you know many children/young people in Barrow cum Denham?" (124 responded)

75 (60%) know many more than a dozen children in the village. 23 (18%) know a dozen, and 26 (20%) know only a few other children.

Comment: After the age of 9, Children go to school outside the village.

Q.5-11 FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH

Q.5 (Youth) "Which facilities do you use regularly?" (also in section 3.8 Amenities) (121 responses)

Facility	Responses	% respondents	Male/female ratio
Village shops	105	86%	
Public footpaths	83	68%	38/36
Skateboard area	46	38%	30/11
Childrens' play area	44	36%	20/21
Tennis courts	31	25%	18/7
Village hall	29	23%	6/21
Recreation park (football)	27	22%	20/2
Recreation park(other games)	25	20%	9/12
Rec'n park (other activities)	24	19%	10/10
Basketball area	19	15%	11/2
Allotments	7	5%	2/5
Places of worship	6	4%	1/5
Mobile library	6	4%	1/4

Others mentioned: Academy gym (4), Barrow stables (2), Burthorpe Green (2), Dance School (2).

Key message:- Apart from skateboarding, the children's play area and tennis courts, the recreation facilities are used by less than a quarter of the children.

It became apparent from our postcard survey that many parents thought that there was a great need for an updated playground. This was made even clearer by another survey of parents at the school. Answers to Q.6 and Q7 show what equipment the children most like using.

Q.6 (Youth) "If you are under 12, what sort of playground equipment do you like using most?" (91 children responded) (also in section 3.8 Amenities)

Apparatus	Respondents	Best	Good	Total
Zip Wire	87	73	9	82
Swing for many	84	34	27	61
Swings	83	32	26	58
Roundabout	85	26	28	54
Somersault bars	85	31	25	56
Slide	85	22	26	48
Climbing nets	83	20	30	50
Balancing equipment	84	13	33	46
Trim Trail	78	25	16	41

Suggestions by the children were:-

More ramps and proper equipment, monkey bars, fireman pole, slide in a tube, pirate ship, drop slides, BMX track, mountain bike course, cycle trails.

At least 15 young people aged over 12 years also answered this question.. The requirements of these will need to be thought about when designing a new playground.

Q7 (Youth) "If funds were available, what new facilities would over 12 year olds like at the recreation park?" (63 respondents) (also in section 3.8 Amenities)

Six want more ramps and bigger skate park, covered area, 5 want a shelter "A shelter/place to sit and talk, hang out" A hut. A dry area. 3 children for each of the following - mini football goals, outside gym equipment, graffiti art. 2 children for each of the following - a climbing wall, cricket pitch/nets. Others ask for a swing, for benches to sit on, all year football pitch, astro-turf pitch, bmx track, netball court, rounders pitch, toilets, maze, pull up bars, a pump track for dirt riders, r/c car track.

13 of the children asked for a better playground for older children. These related to specific apparatus and were: Zip wire (9), want swings (8),"swing for many" (3), a slide (3), trim trail (1)

Woz Up Group – Focus group (14 youths 11-16 yrs) – Sept 2012

The Woz up group has been working with young people in Barrow for some years. They organized a focus group and the 11-16 year olds identified the following facilities they would like in the Park and elsewhere and other things that would help them:-

Floodlights on the park for football
New football team
Strong nets for the goals. They spend too much time going to collect balls.
Permanent Youth Club – home for 2-3 days a week, and somewhere to store their things for youth club like football nets, balls etc
Shelter in the park from rain
Graffiti boards (they could make their own) so that they could paint one and repaint it They know an artist who would help them with the project. They have done some research
Tennis club arrangements. Someone who could allow them in and supervise it.
Picnic tables. Play area – climbing equipment. 5 a side pitch.
Funding for activities.
They enjoyed paintballing which was put on once by the Academy.
Buses to town are too expensive and there are not enough of them so that they have to wait in town for a long time before they can get home
A number of them have done a "Street Response Course".

Comment:

These suggestions come from people with wide and effective experience of providing activities for young people and also from the young people in the village themselves.

Q.8 (Youth) – "At present where do you mostly go for the following activities out of school hours?" (117 respondents) (also in section 3.9 Leisure)

Activity	Respondents	In the village	outside the village
Football	96	23	19
Cricket	90	7	17
Tennis	96	27	21
Netball	86	3	16
Basketball	89	16	15
Skateboarding	90	20	6
Martial Arts	88	13	4
Gym	84	5	12
Gymnastics	92	4	16
Swimming	96	13	57
Dancing	95	17	14
Singing & Acting	91	19	20
Cinema	101	4	73
Brownies, guides Cubs, Scouts, Boys brigade	92	9	3
Woz Up Truck	88	10	3
Indoor Sports	92	7	33
Hobbies	90	30	37
Events	50	11	18

Key messages:

- there are many young people who go outside the village for activities and might be interested in doing them in the village, **if the facilities were good.**
- There appears to be potential for many local indoor sports and activities.

Q.9 (Youth) – “For outdoor Sport (including coaching), which of the following sports would you like to do in the village if they were available?”

(115 respondents) (also in section 3.9 Leisure)

Activity	Responses	% respondents	Male/female ratio
Assault Course	65	56%	33/28
Roller skating	48	41%	12/29
Athletics	42	36%	16/19
Basketball	41	35%	15/22
Netball	36	31%	1/30
BMX	34	29%	23/8
Football	28	24%	22/3
Keep fit	26	22%	5/16
Hockey	23	20%	8/13
Rugby	20	20%	17/3
Cricket	23	20%	15/4
Trim trail	22	19%	11/7

16 ideas and comments came from children including an outside roller skating rink, tennis (4 children), scootering, pigeon shooting, mountain biking, trampolining, monkey bars, high jump, boxercise, aquazumba, rounders (2), dancing, gymnastics.

Comments:- There is a wide range of interest in many activities which could be incorporated within an organized youth group. In addition to this, there is some potential for existing clubs such as football and cricket to generate more young members.

The most popular outdoor activities appear to be

For both boys and girls: assault course, roller skating and basketball.

For girls: netball, roller skating, assault course, basketball, athletics, keep fit and hockey.

For boys: assault course, bmx, football, rugby, athletics, basketball and cricket.

Q.10 (Youth) – “For indoor sport, which of the following sports would you like to do in the village if they were available?” (107 respondents) (also in section 3.9 Leisure)

Activity	Responses	% respondents	male/female ratio
Table tennis	54	50%	29/18
Internet/online gaming	47	43%	30/11
Badminton	44	41%	13/24
Snooker/pool	42	39%	31/9
Short tennis	36	33%	12/17
Chess	30	28%	15/12
Other board games	27	25%	13/13
Darts	25	23%	17/4
Table football	21	19%	14/4

Other suggestions include: dodgeball (2), draughts, benchball, crab football, karate, indoor hockey, gymnastics, squash (2).

Comments:- Most popular indoor activities:

For the boys are table tennis, snooker/pool, internet/online gaming, followed by, darts, chess, other board games, badminton, short tennis, table football.

For the girls, the most popular are: badminton, table tennis and short tennis, followed by, chess, other board games, online gaming, snooker/pool, darts, table football.

Q11 (Youth) “Which of the following activities would you like to do in the village if they were available?” (117 respondents) (also in section 3.9 Leisure)

20 Activities were suggested and the children were asked for their own suggestions.

Activity	Responses	% respondents	male/female ratio
Cinema	65	55%	23/37
Photography/film -Video making	54	46%	19/31
Art/design	52	44%	17/30
Just meeting friends	49	41%	17/31
Cooking activities	46	39%	13/30
Discos	39	33%	14/21
Sports & other matches	38	32%	20/18
Acting/theatre	38	32%	4/28
Motor sport	37	31%	33/3
Youth shelter	34	29%	12/16
Radio controlled cars/planes/boats	34	29%	26/3
Music groups	31	26%	8/17
Music events	31	26%	10/16
Model making	28	23%	11/15
Wildlife projects	26	22%	8/13
Environmental projects	21	17%	4/11
Outings to events/ matches/activities	24	20%	9/15
Dressmaking	22	18%	0/22
Historical	17	15%	9/7
Cubs/scouts/boys brigade	12	10%	12/0

Cinema is popular with both boys and girls as is film and video making, art and design, music and just meeting friends. Acting/theatre, cooking, dress making and discos were particularly popular with the girls. Radio controlled cars/planes/boats and motor sport appealed to the boys.

A Youth Shelter has been asked for in other questions and is not at present available.

Key message from Questions 7-11:-

- It should be possible to provide for many of these activities, though not necessarily all of them, with facilities at the school, Academy, Village Hall, and Recreation Park (and the Town Estate Room when it is available).

Comment on questions 7-11:

If enough adult volunteers with the necessary enthusiasm, skills and time can be brought together, there appears to be a good chance of establishing a programme of youth activities or a youth group/club. Whether it is a programme of events or a more formal group, it would have to be run with the required procedures and checks.

Q.12 (Youth) – “ Would you be interested in joining a youth club in Barrow to make some of these activities available in Barrow, Denham & Burthorpe?”

(Answered by 119 children)

Answer	Responses	% respondents	Male/female ratio
Yes	43	36%	55/45
Maybe	45	36%	36/64
No	31	26%	60/40

Key messages:

- 88 children are possibly interested in a Youth club of which 43 have said "yes"
- There is good interest from both males and females.
- The younger ones are as interested as the older (46 under 12yrs and 41 from 12 -16 years) and including nine 16 year old 'maybe's'.
- This would probably require sessions for the young and sessions for the older group.

Q.13 (Youth) – “Would you be interested in setting up a youth club?” (115 responded).

Answer	Respondents	% respondents	Comment
Yes	17	15%	(4 over 12 yrs)
Maybe	33	28%	(7 over 12 yrs)
No	65	56%	

Key message:

- 15 of the yes responders said **in writing** that they were interested in forming a youth club

Comments:-

There appears to be sufficient interest to help establish a viable group for young people. The question asked about a youth “Club”; there are less formal possibilities which may also appeal to young people.

Q.23 (Youth) – “Have you done any of the following in the last 2 - 3 years?” (114 respondents)

Activity	Responses
Taken part in a sponsored event	49
Taken part in a local sports team	40
Taken part on the school council	31
Helped organise a charity event	21
Attended Woz Up activity in the summer	10
Signed a petition	9
Attended a Parish Council meeting	3
None of these	31

Young people’s comments on other useful activities in the community:

“I help out regularly with an event in the church for young children”
 “Performed dance at fair” “Dance club” “Dance festival”, “Run a club”, “Helped with the Church and Barrow Primary School activities”, “Dance show”

Comment:

83 children took part in events on 163 occasions, 31 representing their peers in a school council, 21 helping with the organization of a charity event, and 49 giving their time to help others by taking part in a sponsored event.

Q.24 (Youth) – “ Do you think Barrow cum Denham should have a Youth council? (A Youth Council is a group of young people who represent the views of all young people living in the same village)”. (123 respondents)

Answer	Responses
Yes	40
Maybe	48
No	14
No opinion	21

88 children may be interested in either being on it or taking some part. 17 have given their details on the back page of the questionnaire to say that they would like to help set it up.

Comment:- How a youth council would operate here has not been developed.

Q.25 (Youth) – “ What do you like best about living in Barrow, Denham & Burthorpe?” (107 respondents) (also in section 3.9 Leisure)

Like best - main responses	Response
The friendliness of the village	34
Countryside	20
Quiet	14
“Safe”	7
Open spaces	7
Range of facilities/clubs	5
Sports facilities	4

Comment:

The importance attached to friendliness may suggest fruitful ground for developing youth facilities. Little reference is made to the skate park (2) or recreation park, though both are quite well used by young people (Q.5 above).

Q.26 (Youth) – “What do you like least about living in Barrow, Denham & Burthorpe?” (98 respondents) (also in section 3.9 leisure)

The main items are:-	Responses
Nothing to do	17
Better bus service	16
Road safety related issues	12
Play area improvements needed	11
Sports facilities	10
Park improvements needed	9
Vandalism	6
Anti social other	8
Cycle paths	4
Tennis club issues	3

Comment:

- “Nothing to do” is the main issue.
- Other items are covered in the relevant sections of the report (e.g. “Better bus service” in Section 3.14 Transport, Vandalism in Section 3.15 Security)

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN POINTS FROM THE YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE

- The responses to the Youth questionnaire reflect many of the adult responses.
- Both adult and youth responses show that young people do not have enough to do in the parish.
- Both youth and adults have recorded that they think youth activities should be provided in the parish.
- Young people's responses show a viable demand for a wide range of both indoor and outdoor activities for males and females.
- There is currently space for most outdoor and indoor requirements
- Enough young people have offered to provide a (vital) input to an organization for youth activities.
- Enough adults have indicated support for a youth club; parental written commitment would also be a vital requirement for building a successful youth club.
- A blueprint is available to deal with the formal establishment of a youth group and its procedures.

An initial scoping exercise suggests that the formation of a youth club would not necessarily be very expensive to set up. Key to success would be the availability of a leader whom young people would easily respond to; professional leaders are available at modest cost and could be used initially to develop local leaders and thereby reduce future cost.

There appears to be every reason to set up a project to work out exactly how to proceed.

3.19 BUSINESS

Q. 1-7 Facts about the businesses which responded

49 businesses (2/3rds of those in the parish) completed the questionnaire. 8 of these are in agriculture, 8 in IT, 5 in finance/professional services and 4 in retail. 27 of these businesses are based at home, 10 operate from agricultural buildings and 7 are in industrial buildings.

25 have been established over 10 years and 5 for 5-10 years. 5 new businesses were started last year compared with an average of 2 per year in the previous 9 years.

6 have no employees, a third have only 1 permanent employee and a third have 2-5 permanent employees. The 8 largest businesses employed only a small number of local people.

In addition to permanent staff, 6 businesses employed 1-10 temporary staff, 2 employed seasonal staff (1 6-10 in construction, of which half lived in the parish, and 1 with over 20 in agric/horticulture - area 5 - mostly from the parish). 2 employed 1-10 sub-contract staff.

*Key messages: - a large proportion of the businesses are micro-businesses
- apart from the self employed, few parishioners work here.*

Q.8-10 (Business). - about business premises.

21 respondents thought they would be able to expand within the parish and, from a wide range of industries, 8 thought they would not; 5 are likely to need new premises in the next 5 years.

Asked what type of premises are required if there is a need for additional premises, 21 businesses said there was no requirement and 10 offered opinions: – 7 for office space, 6 for small factory/workshops, 5 for space to park, 2 for storage space, 1 for local shared business centre and 1 for more land.

Key message: There will be a modest demand for new businesses premises - mainly office, small factory/workshops and storage.

Q.11 (Business) – about employment

Out of 38 responses, 36 had no problems filling vacancies in the last 12 months; no suitable candidate and inadequate experience caused the 2 problem cases.

Q.12 (Business) – Co-operation amongst businesses

12 businesses wanted some form of business forum or meeting for local businesses.

Development of the website and a village skills register were similarly favoured.

There was also some support for a job vacancy list and shared business centre.

48% of respondents did not want any of the listed items.

Key message: There might be enough businesses interested to form a small group of businesses for mutual benefit.

3.20 STRATEGIC PLAN

Good practice in all organisations in a changing world requires strategic planning and for this reason the parish should develop a strategic plan to control the affects of the substantial developments which are taking place here.

There is little evidence of an integrated strategy at present; indications are of short term reaction to events rather than a proactive strategic approach to issues. The rapid growth planned for the parish will have a big impact on most amenities and activities, including those where actions are already needed now.

In the present economic situation, it is unlikely that all the items needed could be funded when required. Some plan to achieve them over time therefore needs to be developed.

Such a strategic plan could cover 5 years and include a financial projection based on an assessment of the income streams which are can be expected to accrue (including funds due in respect of new building) and the expenditure on the projects planned to be carried out in each year. Relevant aspects would need to be agreed with the District and County Councils. The completed strategic plan and annual updates should be explained to the public who would then be aware of the policies being pursued in its name and how they would affect the parish. All parties would then be able to monitor progress against it. The action plans in this report can assist in developing the plan.

Q.23 (business) – “If there was a strategic plan for the parish...would it benefit your business?” (45 respondents)

16 businesses thought such a plan would benefit their business, 17 didn't know and 12 thought it would not.

Q.53 (individual) – “Do you think that Barrow cum Denham should have a strategic plan to deal with future growth, including all services and amenities?” (986 respondents)

87% of the individual respondents think that there should be a strategic plan. 11% had no opinion, and 2% did not want one.

Key message: There is overwhelming support for a strategic plan.

3.21 RESPONDENTS' COMMENTS ON ISSUES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE (Q.54)

147 people gave comments in addition to their responses to the other questions. Most of these related to topics about which questions had been raised in the questionnaire, but some, though small in number of responses, were innovative and constructive.

A breakdown of the 151 comments by topic is:-

Topic	Comments
Development related comments	31
Traffic related comments	19
Playground	16
Cycle track	4
Clinic	4
Buses	3
Parish Council communication and election	3
Dog fouling	3
Denham items	3
Trees	2
Allotments	2
Clubs	3
Sub-total	84
Not relevant	11
Comments about the questionnaire	9
Miscellaneous comments (see below)	47
Total	151

Miscellaneous comments included mention of an offer of free guitar and singing lessons, non receipt of flyers/The Stile/newsletter, push the website more, youth activity, ducks, excessive dog barking, non existent Neighbourhood watch, PC member to be newcomers point of contact, don't forget the houses outside the village, have a Christmas Show, use of Town Estate room for PO/clothes & toy swap/used books/cakes/ why use it as there is a village Hall?, police support officer in Barrow, More street lights on Denham Lane. ATM machine for when PO closed, petrol station, café in Barrow, don't get value for money from County council – more money to be spent by PC.

APPENDIX A

A HISTORY OF BARROW AND DENHAM

As part of our Parish Plan, we thought we should look at our place in history, in the comparatively short amount of time that we will inhabit our village, and about the mark we will put upon it for the next generations.

Most people are interested in the area where they live and what it was like in the past. It gives us a feeling of our place in time. Here therefore, is a very short history of these two ancient parishes which date back to before the Domesday Book. Denham is still a relatively small hamlet. Barrow is now set to grow substantially.

BARROW - Barrow sits in undulating countryside 94 metres above sea level with a tributary of the river Lark running through the north of the Parish. The meaning of Barrow is grove or wood, hill or mound. Implements from the Neolithic and earlier Palaeolithic Age have been found as well as archaeological items from the Bronze Age. Pre Norman Conquest Barrow was the property of Edward the Confessor. Barrow is mentioned in The Domesday Book where the population in 1086 was recorded as 27. Barrow has a hamlet to its North East border called Burthorpe. From the Norman Conquest Barrow was owned by various feudal overlords and tenants in chief. In 1540 it was sold to Clement Heigham, chief baron of The Exchequer and one time Speaker of the House of Commons.

Mary Beale 1633-1699 was born in Barrow to the rector. She became a portrait painter of great distinction. It was remarkable to succeed so well in what was then a male dominated field. She is buried in the artists' church, St James', Piccadilly. Another person of note was Edith Crack. Her family were hurdle makers for nearly one and a half centuries in Barrow and she is believed to be the only female hurdle maker in the country.

Barrow has 23 listed buildings. All Saints' Church is listed as grade 1. It is an ancient building of flint and stone in the Early English style. There is a brass effigy to Sir Clement Heigham and various tablets in remembrance of his family and descendants along with former rectors of the Parish. Nearby is Barrow Hall, a grade 2 listed building. This has a moat enclosing the site of an ancient manor house. Another building of note is the Town Estate Room. This is a 17th century building with a probable mediaeval core. The village Hall was built to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. The village sign is relatively new having been erected in 1991. This was inspired by a few residents who raised the money and collaborated with the design. Ducks are a feature in Barrow and at one time there were over fifty ponds, though in the past you would have been more likely to find geese rather than ducks grazing on the green.

In the early 1900s Barrow was largely self-sufficient. It had two general stores, four slaughter houses, a tailor, newsagents, two doctors, a vet and many more. It also boasted a cinema. Many residents worked on the surrounding farms or from home. Barrow is still surrounded by farmland though few inhabitants work in farming due to mechanisation and modern devices. Today like the past, Barrow is a growing and thriving community. It has a primary school, play schools, a doctor's surgery, two pubs, three village shops and a hairdresser. It has a well used Post Office which serves many of the surrounding villages, sheltered accommodation, recreation grounds, sporting facilities and a livery stable to name but a few of the amenities. There are many clubs and organisations for all ages with more planned. Community events are held such as the Village Fete, Flower Show, Bonfire Night and Beer Festival. Today, due to the proximity of the A14 more people tend to commute to local towns or further afield to work, however there are a number of small businesses and some self employed with various trades such as accountants, builders, garden designers and window cleaners.

There is a bus service that runs through Barrow but most people use their own transport as the buses are not very frequent. During school term there are buses to take the children to the middle and secondary schools in Bury St Edmunds. There are many footpaths and bridle ways around Barrow which are used not just by the residents but many ramblers from further away who enjoy the walking and beautiful scenery. Barrow has a 30mph limit with a '20's plenty' around the school and a 40 mph from the A14. There are various traffic calming points on the roads and there is a speed monitoring group as speeding is of concern, not only with cars but also HGVs and farm machinery.

Barrow is a popular place to live with the average house costing £230,000. It has a deep sense of community, a Good Neighbour's Scheme and many services. More housing is scheduled to be built in the near future which will enable the village to grow and look to the future with confidence.

DENHAM - Denham is a hamlet in gently rolling Suffolk countryside adjacent to the village of Barrow. From the lane that runs through Denham, Ely Cathedral can be seen 22 miles away on the Fens. Denham means meadow/pasture in a valley. In the Domesday Book it recorded a population of 22, a church and a manor. After the Norman conquest, the Saxon owner was turned out and the de Clare family, followed by the de Vere family became the owners. Alice de Vere transferred the lands in Denham to the Abbey of St Osyth. After the Reformation, secular landowners took over, and in the 16th century Sir Edward Lewkenor built the moated Hall which stands today beside the Church. He owned all the land around Denham and Barrow. Both he and his wife died of smallpox in 1605. He is buried in Denham Church where there is a large monument depicting him, his wife and their 6 surviving children. To the north across the fields is a scheduled monument, a motte and bailey castle known as Castle Holes, built in the 12th century: little is visible today. Around it graze sheep derived from ancient British breeds and sold by the estate as Denham Castle Lamb

The Church and Hall stand a little isolated from the rest of Denham. Early settlement took place at Denham End in the North and at the South end, and today they are still separated with the Church in between. By 1851 there were 218 inhabitants living in 42 houses. Agriculture has always provided employment for local people and today the Denham Estate is the main employer. Their deer farm provides venison for hotels and restaurants in London, there are acres of arable land and woods, and shooting in season. A beautiful venue for weddings and other celebrations is found at Abbots Farm. The Denham Jubilee Picnic was held there in 2012. Today the population of Denham is 190 (2010). They live in 64 households (8 of them listed buildings). Most travel to Barrow, Bury St Edmunds and elsewhere for work, but the advent of computer technology has now enabled some to work from home.

Other than the Church, Denham lacks a centre of its own. Traffic in the lane is a hazard and people tend to drive into Barrow for local facilities. The school closed in 1920. Most children today, are driven to nursery or primary school in Barrow, and busses collect those who attend the Middle or Upper School in Bury St Edmunds. Some attend independent schools in Bury St Edmunds or further afield. An infrequent bus service is available to Bury St Edmunds and Newmarket, 6 and 8 miles away, so a car is a necessity. There is a network of footpaths and a bridleway which are used mostly by dog walkers and horse riders. There is also a conservation verge full of orchids and cowslips in season. Wild deer, muntjack, rabbits, foxes, hares, pheasant and partridge are regularly seen. Denham is designated as "Countryside" and so is exempt from new development. However, in 2013 planning permission was granted for an industrial sized Anaerobic Digester. One of the concerns is the extra heavy traffic in the lane and through Barrow.

Many people live in Denham for the peace and quiet and the lovely countryside.

APPENDIX B

CONSULTATION, DATA COLLECTION AND VALIDITY

Consultation and data collection

The assignment started in May 2012. It has been conducted by a steering group comprising seven parishioners, of whom two are Parish Councillors, and professional guidance was given by Suffolk ACRE (later to become Community Action Suffolk).

An initial period of familiarisation was spent making contacts and learning more about the parish. The main stakeholders were contacted, including the MP, County and Borough councillors, neighbouring parish councils, clubs and organisations in the parish, hard to reach groups and a third of the businesses.

A "postcard survey" was conducted. All households were asked to say what they liked, disliked and wanted changed in the parish (a 47% response was achieved). From this, a picture of the important needs of the parishioners was gained. Two "Drop-in Events" were then held. 213 parishioners attended and their comments complemented what had been learned from the post card survey.

In addition to publicity from the events above, the project had a presence at the village fete and set up a blog on the village website to encourage participation.

An application was made to Awards for All for funding of the major parts of the project. The purpose of the funding was to pay for the advice from Suffolk ACRE, the cost of printing questionnaires and the cost of data input on to their analysis software. In this application a full justification for the project was required.

The Steering group developed questionnaires for: Households (11 questions), Individuals (54 questions), Youth (26 questions) and Business (24 questions), Most of these questions required responding with much more than one piece of data.

42 people were trained to distribute, explain and collect the questionnaires which were offered to all households and businesses. This resulted in a good response (see below)

Data from the questionnaires was entered into the computer system by Community Action Suffolk and the output analysed by the Steering Group.

Validity of the results

The high number of completed questionnaires and responses to individual questions gives validity to the results:-

	<u>Households</u>	<u>Residents > 16</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Business</u>
Per 2011 Census & local sources	785	1460	183	75
Respondents	548	1020	124	49
% response	71%	70%	68%	65%

STEERING GROUP AND SUPPORT

1. Steering group

At a well-attended public meeting on 9th May 2012, A Steering Goup was formed comprising:-

John Bainbridge (Chairman)	Sarah Chrisp (Secretary)
Peter Chrisp (Treasurer)	Mary Damerell
Nicki Green	David Mann
Roy Banks	John Cairns (retired 2012)
Brian Rogerson (moved away 2012)	

A constitution was approved on 9th July 2012

2. Financial support

The Barrow cum Denham Parish Council gave £500 to start the project and Suffolk County Council provided a further £500. This funding covered the cost of the initial work leading to a £7821 grant from Awards for All – The Big Lottery Fund. Free use of the village hall has been granted for project meetings and events.

3. Professional support

Throughout the project the Steering Group have received guidance from Community Action Suffolk (formerly Suffolk ACRE). They have provided training in the methods of consultation to be used, sources of information, input of data to their analysis software and advice on communication with the community.

This support is funded by the Big Lottery Fund (above).

4. Support of the public

A key ingredient to the success of the project was an effective method for distributing large questionnaires to nearly 800 households, explaining the need for their completion and collecting them. This was achieved by using 42 volunteers over a period of three weeks.

The 71% response level by the adult public and two thirds response from Youth and Business has made the project worthwhile.

APPENDIX D

ACTIONS ALREADY TAKEN

During the course of the project, it was possible to contribute data to the development of several projects.

A copy of the analysis of the postcard survey was handed to the Chairman of the Parish Council in October 2012.

A group had formed to develop the children's playground. Statistics showing the usage and equipment preferences of the young people aged 8 to 16 years were provided to the group in November 2013

Data regarding the precept, the bus service and the surgery was provided to the Parish Council in 2013.

The interim report in December 2103 included:

- Response levels to the questionnaire
- Profile of respondents
 - Age
 - Time lived in the village
 - Occupation
- Growth of the village
 - Attitudes to 25% growth and incentives to grow
 - Important features to keep
 - Distance to work
 - Attitudes to work place growth
 - Need for a strategic plan
- Education and School
 - Importance to the community
 - View of 2 and 3 tier school systems
- Interest in cycle routes
- Community involvement
 - Attitudes to volunteering
 - Details of willingness to help
- Youth
 - Need for a safe play area
 - Need for youth activities
 - Availability of volunteers to help run activities

45 people attended a public "new projects" meeting held for those offering in the questionnaire to take part in new parish projects. A bulb planting group had already been formed and a basis for several other activities was laid down including an environmental group. Interest was shown in a community orchard, hedgerow survey, "clean and tidy" project, cycle path & youth activity groups.

Some volunteers were found for the Town Estate Room, Community Speed Watch and Good Neighbours Scheme.

DENHAM

APPENDIX E

Although it shares a Parish Council with Barrow, Denham has a very different character. Whereas Barrow is a large and growing village designated as a "Key Service Centre", Denham is a small hamlet of 64 widely spread houses in countryside. The concerns and needs of each may therefore be different. This appendix contains data which has been extracted from the survey for the whole parish to see if Denham responses differ materially from those of the whole parish.

1. Details of respondents

112 people responded. Only 20 adults were under 30 and 44 were retired. Time lived here was split evenly between 0-10 years, 11-20 years and 21 years & above. 21 travel under 5 miles to work, 17 go 5-14 miles, 9 go 15-29 miles. 1 goes 30-49 miles and 6 travel over 49 miles. 54% of the respondents were female and 46% were male. 75% of houses are owner occupied. 12 houses have single occupants. 2 people are seeking affordable housing. Half the respondents use Barrow surgery.

2. Important features to protect

The things that residents care about most are: the environment and countryside, being in a village and the geographical location. The least important to them among those listed are clubs and activities and the social life. With growth planned for Barrow, the most important things Denham residents want to preserve are: the post office, the surrounding woodland and countryside, the country footpaths and the village green.

3. Concerns

The main concerns of Denham residents are about traffic - HGV/lorries and traffic speed. Several danger spots are mentioned: the corner by Brockley Lane, Shop Close corner and near Abbots Close. 60 people would accept speed control measures; 70 want to restrict HGV movement through the village, 58 want flashing 30mph signs and 33 want Community Speedwatch. Over half the respondents would like better winter weather service e.g. gritting, and 39 say that road drainage is a problem, Farm Close particularly.

19 people say that a pavement is needed between Green Farm Lane and Brockley Lane. 15 want a pavement from Denham to Barrow. One description referred to an "Accident waiting to happen at the corner of Brockley Lane/Barrow Road. Vans have been seen to narrowly miss pedestrians and cyclists".

21 people said that they would like better maintenance of public footpaths, 18 would like more footpaths in Denham and others, "more field edge access".

53 residents say that they need improved mobile reception, 48 want faster internet broadband speed, 45 want fibre optics broadband and 27 want better digital TV reception. 14 respondents do not use the internet.

12 people are caring for others in their households. Some need help with a variety of tasks from prescription collection to help with transport.

Antisocial behaviour is a concern to Denham residents - 48 about burglary and 38 about dog fouling. Other concerns are about litter in the hedgerows, horse fouling and speeding

4. Other responses

Responses show that parking is not a problem in Denham but the parking problems in Barrow are experienced by Denham residents.

The church is considered important by 67 people for christenings, weddings etc., by 47 for regular worship and by 27 for civic services. 30 people thought a drop-in centre/café should be encouraged, 25 were in favor of heritage projects and 16 wanted a book exchange.

There are currently very few recreational activities in Denham. However, the survey showed that residents would be interested in joining the following activities: 32 for film showing, 8 for a book club, 8 for an art club, 7 for a music club. 11 would like Mother and Toddler sessions 3-5, and 8 would like Mother and Toddler sessions 0-3. They also supported sports facilities in the parish: 17 for indoor sports, 16 for petanque, 18 for cricket, 13 for an improved football pitch and 6 for five aside. 23 people wanted adult education classes.

43 people said they would volunteer to help on 15 activities including: 20 for Good Neighbours Scheme, 9 for the Parish Council, 8 each for Neighbourhood Watch and the Fete and 7 for Community Speedwatch.

Information about what is happening in the village is mostly through "The Stile", word of mouth and notices in the Post Office. 51 residents do not know how to contact any of the local groups such as Good Neighbours, local councillors, etc.

For Denham, the performance of the Parish Council is rated better than the total parish rating, with 'good plus adequate' totaling over 40% on most questions. Like the total parish response, the 'good plus adequate' percentage for use of the web and internet is low (13%). Consultation with the public is high (60% for 'good plus adequate').

Unlike the parish as a whole, the two tier school system was marginally preferred to the three tier system.

32 people would like an off-road cycle route from Barrow to Bury St Edmunds and 1 person would like one from Denham to Barrow.

The local bus service is used by 3 people regularly and 35 occasionally. Residents say that they would use it more if it was timetabled better for work (12 people), for other times during the day (22 people) and in the evenings and weekends (27 people).

If Higham Station was opened, 27 people would use it for travelling to work regularly (14 westwards and 13 eastwards), 29 for holidays, and 66 occasionally.

5 children said "yes" and 5 "maybe" joining a youth club, 4 of whom would help set one up.

Comments on matters not covered elsewhere in the questionnaire mentioned: have a Christmas show, police support officer in Barrow, storage/spreading of sewage waste on fields is antisocial and environmentally damaging to the watercourses and also smelly, publication of Parish council meeting dates, concern over HGV traffic from the anaerobic digester proposition, no development to be allowed on greenfield sites.