

## KEY FINDINGS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The main message coming through the responses is that for most of us Doynton is a very nice place to live and work. We want to keep it that way, through conservation and gradual improvement rather than through radical changes.

### What were the most important issues ?

The countryside and the appearance of the Parish were rated as the most important issues (23% of the survey respondents). If all responses are taken into account then traffic was second most important, crime / anti-social behaviour third, shopping fourth and indoor leisure fifth.

### Countryside Issues and Appearance of the Parish

Protecting the Conservation Area and keeping open spaces were considered the most important element in preserving the character of the Parish. Strong interest was also shown in protecting trees / hedgerows, wildlife habitats and in footpaths, bridleways and country roads. 66% thought that a conservation group should be set up.

67% considered fly-tipping to be a problem but litter was thought to be less of a problem with only 37% of the survey considering it to be an issue.

61% would like to see the village beautified by flowers etc, but 30% were against this.

67% considered the street lighting to be sufficient, but some thought it poor in the centre of the village.

### Housing

53% thought that the number of houses in Doynton should stay about the same, with an additional 16% being of the view that it should increase by no more than 10 extra houses. There was widespread concern that the character of the village would be damaged if more houses were to be built.

Of those who wanted more houses many thought that this should be by "change of use" of existing buildings and that there should be shared ownership or starter home schemes.

### Community Services

65% expressed satisfaction with current health services. Of those who were not satisfied, many have experienced difficulties in getting appointments at Wick Surgery at convenient times.

12% (29 individuals) were not happy with the disabled facilities in the Parish.

Of the 25% who have used the emergency services almost all were satisfied with their performance.

Flooding is still an issue in areas of the Parish with 20 individuals reporting problems and 41 individuals have experienced drainage problems

60% are satisfied with the work of the Parish Council.

### Refuse & Recycling

42% considered that the refuse / recycling services were adequate, but there is a general desire for a plastics recycling facility.

39% were in favour of setting up a "Eco Friendly Group". Several energy saving ideas were suggested.

### Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

20% reported having experienced a crime in the last 5 years, mainly burglaries from homes and gardens.

32% reported seeing acts or the effects of vandalism in the Parish and 16% reported having suffered from anti-social behaviour in the Parish.

46% considered that Doynton was not adequately policed and 48% felt that there is a need for a Neighbourhood Watch scheme to be set up in the Parish.

### Traffic & Road Safety

70% thought that speeding is a problem, mainly on the through routes in the village. There is also support (45%) for a reduction of the 60 mph limit on the A420 at Tog Hill

72% considered that safety could be improved at the Pool Farm junction of the A420. Many believe that a roundabout or traffic lights would be the answer.

34% said that they do not feel safe as a pedestrian, horse rider or cyclist.

73% consider that parking in the Parish is sufficient at all times.

### **Keeping People Informed**

40% find information on what is going on in the Parish from the Parish Magazine and a further 17% by "word of mouth". The two initiatives identified to improve communications were a more comprehensive parish magazine (22%) and a Doynton website (20%).

60% use broadband for internet access but only 37% consider it adequate. Many feel it should be faster.

52% have experienced problems with mobile phone coverage.

### **Shopping Issues**

Only 23 people use the weekly Post Office facility in the village but many more would use it if it was open at other times, especially on Saturday mornings

40% indicated that if a shop were to be set up in the village they would use it several times a week and a further 15% said that they would use it just once a week.

15% said they would use a part time café regularly, a further 45% said that they would use it occasionally.

25% are interested in paying for a gas installation and 37% in bulk buying of oil.

### **Transport Issues**

Only 14 people regularly use the local bus, mainly the under 18's and those over 70. Problems are routes and frequency. Many said they would use a bus if it went to Bath.

Very few use Dial-a-Ride now but 28 people said they are interested in using the scheme.

There is some interest in using a shared car scheme in the village and in a voluntary car scheme to help people get to medical appointments etc.

### **Public Spaces & Outdoor Leisure**

46% indicated that extra space for outdoor sporting and recreation activities is required.

In terms of using outdoor sporting and recreation facilities, 64 people said that they would play tennis if it was available. There was also considerable interest in using a nature trail (49), a community garden (42), a mountain bike track (42), and adventure playground (35) and an improved children's playground (35).

52% thought that the footpaths should be better marked and maintained, and 54% said that they would use a cycle / walking track to Wick.

32 people said that are interested in applying for an allotment.

### **Indoor Leisure**

There is support for a range of additional indoor activities. 67 people are interested in dance and other fitness activities, 45 in adult education classes, 38 in badminton, 29 in music and 23 in amateur dramatics.

Suggestions were made for a venue for the under 18's to meet on a casual basis.

30% are in favour of using the Church building for other activities but 43% are against .

40% consider that the Church meets their spiritual needs but 8% said that it does not.

70% attend some or all of the Church events and a number of additional village events were suggested, e.g. summer BBQ, open meetings etc .

16% use the Village Hall several times a month and a further 51% use it several times a year. 65% believe that the community would use the Village Hall more if facilities were improved. The improvements thought most beneficial were to open the back for a patio / BBQ area and to increase the space in the building.

47% use the Cross House on a regular basis. A number of suggestions were made to encourage more frequent visits.

**MANY THANKS TO CLIVE HUMBY FOR ALL HIS HELP IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE**