Long-Term Planning Group: Survey Results - Summary

Thanks to all who completed the survey in November. This short summary gives a quick overview of the results: more details will be posted online later (paper copies available).

Main conclusions

- Just over half the Parish participated:
 298 replies from 565 surveys
- The mix of replies tilts towards owners rather than renters, but the latter are quite well represented
- Age-wise we seem to be a Parish with more middle-aged and older people (census data seems to say the same).
- There is demand for new housing and most responders support this, but there is a group opposed to building.
- Brownfield sites are preferred for new builds and small developments in the hamlets were supported.

Respondents

77% of the responders were owner-occupiers, with 16% renting and 4% in shared ownership, so with some 80 properties owned by the housing association and 75 from private landlords, this tilts towards owner-occupiers.

90% of responses were from households with 4 or fewer inhabitants.

Looking at age, responses were weighted to the 35-60+ range, which is quite wide, but 150 people were reported in the lower ranges.

Demand

22% of the responders said that someone in the household would need their own accommodation within 5 years. This group was 65 in number.

The vast majority of the responses related to 1 or 2 people, seeking new accommodation.

Of those wanting to move, half wanted to stay in the Parish but a further 29% were not sure.

Type of accommodation

Turning to type of accommodation needed, the weightings were for 1 bed (20%), 2 bed (61%) and 3 bed (14%).

This group was seeking a mix of accommodation type, with 42% preferring affordable and 16% sheltered. Cutting the pie differently, around 60% were looking for a property to own and the balance to rent. This suggests that some responders wanted to own an affordable property.

New homes

A significant minority, 30%, thought there was no need for new building, but the main weighting was for a similar rate of new homes as in the last 15 years. 23% thought 10 new units would be enough, 34% favoured up to 20 and 13% would accept 50 or more.

Assessing the replies by type of home proposed was made difficult as people could tick several categories, but the three which stood out were affordable housing (151 votes), small family homes (148 votes), homes for elderly people (225 votes) plus a notable 25 votes for people with special needs.

Locations

If new houses are to be built, the preferences were tilted clearly towards brownfield (84%) and with a preference for being adjacent to existing units. Greenfield sites got 35 votes, compared with 236 for brownfield.

There was strong support for small developments in the hamlets (Stoke, Binley, Egbury, the Wykes) with 72% voting Yes and 28% No.

