

Market Overton Neighbourhood Plan Survey response 2017





Introduction

I am very pleased to be able to share with you the results from the survey that was carried out by the neighbourhood plan committee between March and April 2017.

The purpose of the survey was to gather the views of the village across 9 key areas from housing to Tourism.

The results of the survey feed into the neighbourhood plan which is used to inform Rutland County Council of the views, preferences and needs of the village from now until 2030.

The response to the survey was fantastic. We collected over 202 adult questionnaires which is a 48% response rate. Compared to other villages this is very high and shows that the residents of Market Overton have a real interest in the way the village evolves in the future.

All the data has been analysed by an independent statistician and summarised in the following pages.

We hope that you find the results of interest and we welcome any feedback or input that you may have.

Can I thank everyone for their participation and we look forward to your continued commitment as the neighbour plan is developed.

Yours

The Market Overton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

(more information on the neighbourhood plan process can be found at www.rutland.gov.uk/_resources/assets/attachment/full/0/49294.pdf)

Housing

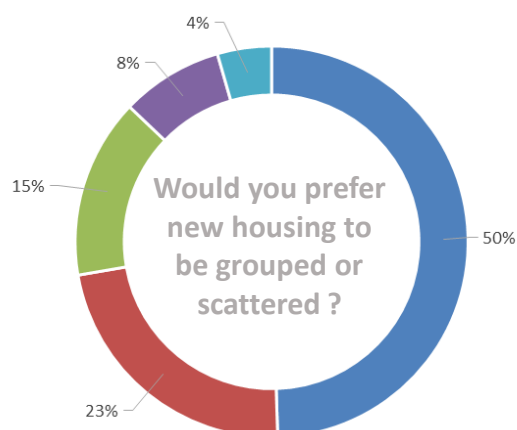
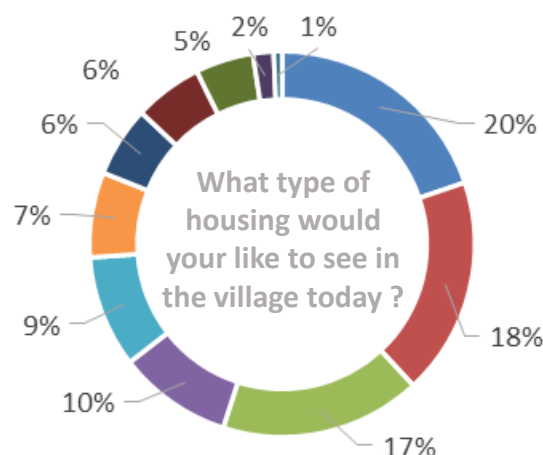
55% of the responses favoured smaller family homes and more specialist housing for older residents (bungalows/sheltered housing)

By 2035, bungalows were seen as the most needed type of housing

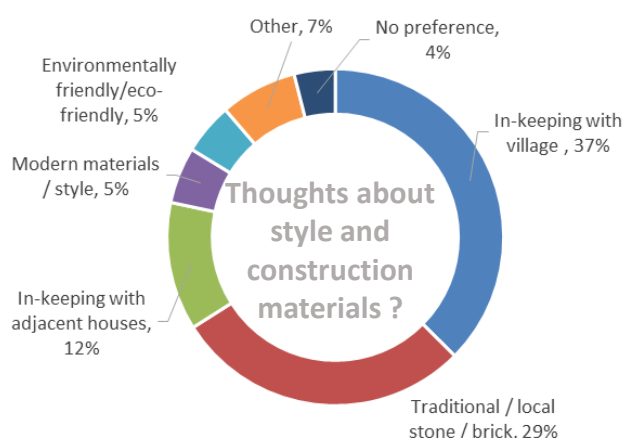


There was strong preference for new housing to be grouped rather than scattered across the village

79% of responses saw a need for less than 30 new properties in the village.



Grouped Scattered Mix of both No preference given Skipped question



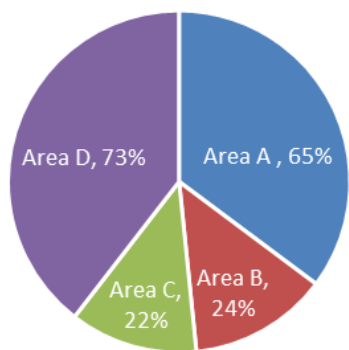
Maintaining the village look came out very strongly with over 75% of responses saying the building environment was important or very important (4 or 5 out of 5) and that buildings should be in keeping with the existing street scape and use traditional building materials



Potential sites for development



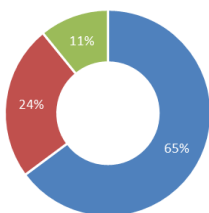
Respondents were asked to rank 4 locations that had been put forward for potential development



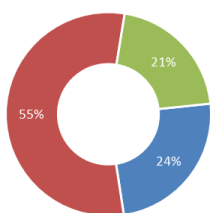
Areas A and D were considered the most suitable for any potential development in the future

This question generated a high number of responses (202) which are broken down below

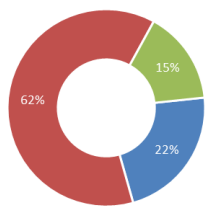
Area A



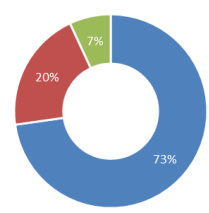
Area B



Area C



Area D



■ Suitable ■ Unsuitable ■ Unsure/Skipped

Each area received the same number of responses (202)

The Village Environment

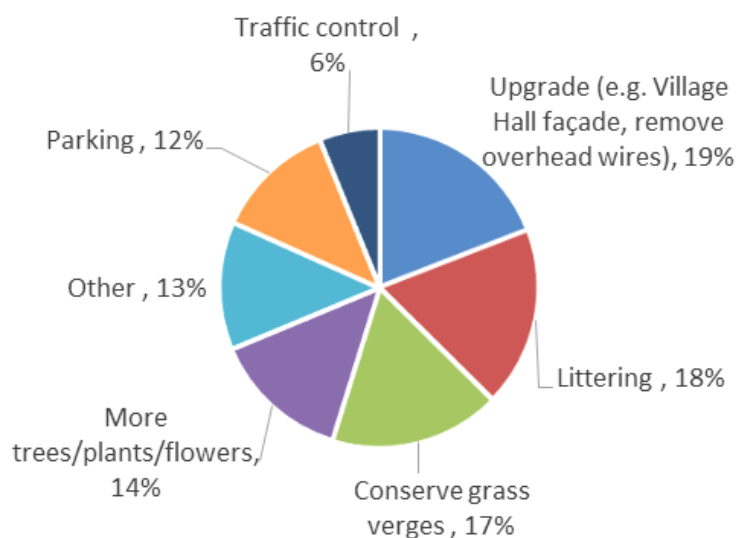
The village environment scored very highly. 67% of respondents access the natural environment daily with over 85% highlighting the cleanliness and variety of wildlife as major benefits.

Maintaining the quality of the village environment was important with 64% rating the preservation of the street scene and historic buildings as most important (5 out of 5) and 92% wanting to retain or increase the number of trees in the village.

There were many good suggestions to improve the environment including maintenance of the hedges and verges, more cycle paths with 66% of respondents wanting to increase the number of green spaces.

How could the village environment be improved ?

The challenges of off street parking were also raised especially for new developments



In general 94% of respondents felt secure in the village with 70% being happy with the environment and 27% seeing scope for additional improvements



Sustainable development

72% of respondents rated sustainable development as important or very important (4 or 5 out of 5) with 72% wanting the village to organise meetings to explain the nature and implications of any sustainable developments.

The support for village wide energy was mixed with solar and bulk energy purchasing being the most popular .



Village Amenities

The village amenities were well used by respondents.

When asked which they used frequently or occasionally 95% named the village shop, 70% the pub , 51% the cricket club and 45% the play area at the lodge.

In addition the allotments, village hall and doctors surgery were all seen as important facilities within the village.

Public transport was highlighted as an area for improvement along with better ways to communicate the events happening within the village.

The support for a local school was split 48% in favour and 52% against or undecided



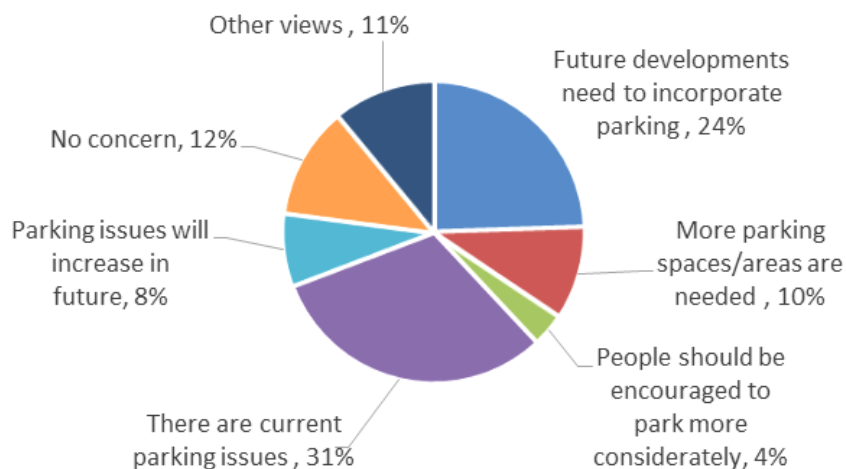
Transport and traffic management

Public transport , parking and through traffic were highlighted at the main concerns in the survey.

64% of respondents rated public transport as important or very important in the future (4 or 5 out of 5) but only 6% use the current service daily or weekly. The frequency of the services was highlighted as an area for improvement by 43% of respondents with 50% saying they would use a more frequent service.

Parking attracted a wide range of responses and is clearly a concern

Designated parking for new developments was a strong theme with 2 spaces per property being suggested



70% felt that road safety could be improved in the Village and 55% of respondents were in favour of traffic calming measures. Improved visibility at junctions was highlighted as a need by a number of respondents.

The use of roads within the village as “cut throughs” was also a concern. Weight limits and improved signage were suggested to avoid heavy vehicles using unsuitable roads.



Tourism

Only 42% of respondents were in favour of promoting more tourism in the village.

A number of suggestions were made to attract cyclists and walkers that were passing through such as better signage and a route to Rutland Water.



Community Infrastructure

90% of respondents use mobile phones and 65% were unhappy with coverage in the village.

91% have an internet connection with 40% being unhappy or believe that the service could be improved.

84% of respondents are registered at the Market Overton Surgery with 74% rating it as positive. Long waiting times and availability of appointments were the major criticisms.



Employment and business

81% of respondents used local trades people such as plumbers and electricians. 65% of respondents did not answer to the question “which trades would you like developed in the village” suggesting little demand for more capacity.

60% wanted the industrial estate to be developed to provide more local employment. However many respondents mentioned that this should be conditional on expansion being within the current footprint and minimal increase to traffic through the village



Next steps

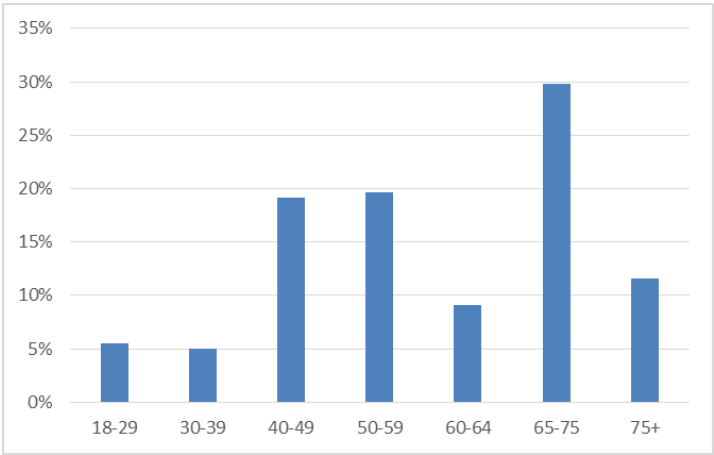
The survey has provided a broad overview of the key themes that residents of Market Overton consider important.

Preserving the street scape and access to the natural environment come out strongly through the survey and are reflected in the comments on development, transportation and congestion.

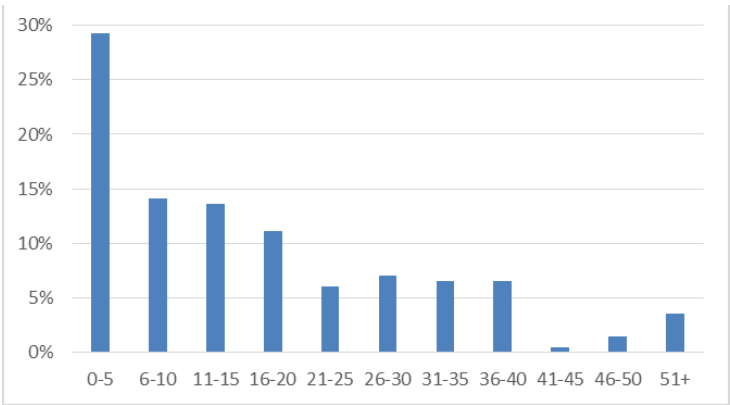
The neighbourhood planning committee will embed these themes and comments within the planning document and will continue to seek the views and opinions of the village as the document evolves.

Summary of sample

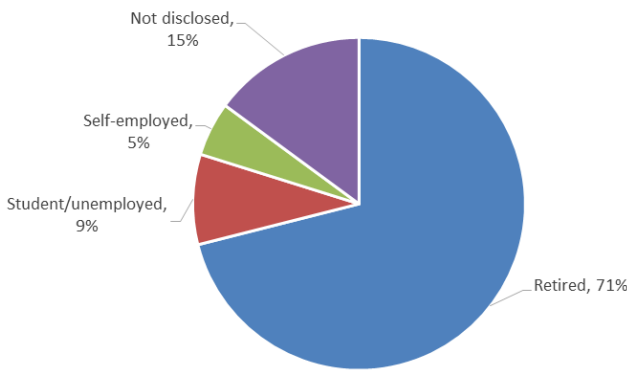
Age distribution



Years lived in the Village



Occupation/employment



202 responses were collected