

Haydon Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Results of the November 2020 Household Survey

Introduction

Questionnaires for a household survey and separate business survey were delivered to every household and known business in the Parish along with the November 2020 issue of the Haydon News. The survey was also available for completion online. This report sets out the results of the household survey, and also links to the results of the related sections of the business survey. There were 173 responses (a mix of paper and online returns) to the household survey. The Parish Council is delighted at the level of response, which is excellent for a community survey and would like to thank everyone who responded.

Section 1. About you

Q.1 Where in Haydon Parish do you live?

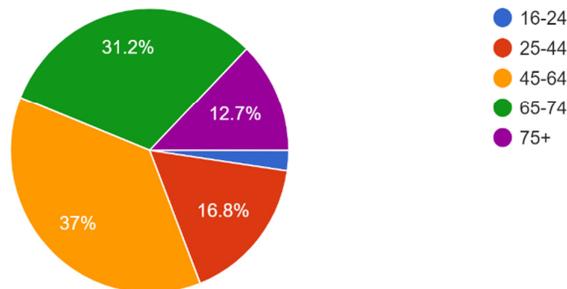
86% of respondents live in Haydon Bridge and 14% in other parts of the Parish.

Q.2 What is your age

The chart below shows the age spread of respondents. Although those responding were slightly skewed to older age groups there was still a wide age spread of respondents, with 56% under the age of 65.

Q2. What is your age? (Select whichever applies)

173 responses



Section 2. About living in Haydon Parish

Summary points

- Generally people feel that Haydon Parish is a great place to live
- By far the biggest area for improvement relates to parking and roads
- The kind of place residents would like Haydon Bridge to be in 10 years time is: friendly; safe; attractive; affordable; tranquil; and accessible

Q.3 What do you like most about living in Haydon Parish?

What people most like about living in the Parish are:

Lovely countryside and wildlife	93%
Local shops and services	81%
Green spaces/walks close to the village	80%
Access to major routes/transport links	72%
Village/community unity of spirit	69%
History and heritage of area	61%
Close to family and friends	42%
Community facilities	34%
Close to place of work	23%

Other factors mentioned by individuals are: The Bridge community library and all it offers, church, Haydon News parish magazine, friendly, born and bred, native, community activities and events, born, excellent shops, peace and quiet, good village schools, newsagent, it's home, train service, friendliness, feeling safe.

Q.4 What could be improved?

The chart below identifies respondents' views on what could be improved by theme and percentage of responses:

Roads, Driving & Parking	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More parking & stricter adherence to parking regulations throughout the parish but many comments specifically about parking & traffic flow on Ratcliffe Road • Damaged road surfaces need improving throughout the parish, particularly on the minor roads and outside HB • Road signs need to be visible & readable • Better speed control and clearer speed limit signs
Shops & services	34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café/coffee shop is a major requirement - could be a community café; could be combined with a bakery or deli • More shops and services needed, especially on south side of river • Greater variety of takeaways and increased food offer • Gym/swimming pool
Community facilities	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better provision for youth: things to do and somewhere to congregate • More awareness of and provision for the needs of an ageing population • Increased range of recycling facilities that should be more centrally located • Better and cheaper community facilities (rooms for hire) • Access to high school facilities out of hours eg tennis courts
General appearance of village	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too much litter everywhere across the parish - riverside; footpaths; roadsides & verges. Village litter pick suggested • More, and better kept planters, and hanging baskets • Dog owners need to be more responsible; clean up dog poo; stop letting dogs foul where children play • Revitalise south side of the old bridge • HB needs to look as smart and tidy as Corbridge
Transport	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better transport links • More frequent and cheaper rail service. More trains stopping at HB

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate and up to date info at bus stops; more buses per hour
Housing & building	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More affordable housing and also supported housing for older people needed • No more house building • Give priority for social housing to local people • Tighter planning controls
Cycling	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure bike rack/store/shelter needed • Safer access to Hexham, Haltwhistle & surrounding villages by bike via designated cycle routes
Footpaths, bridleways and links around the parish	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More/improved footpaths and general access to countryside • Riverside walk joining Haydon Bridge & Haltwhistle • More, safe links to surrounding hamlets
People & community	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sense of unity in the village is important, as is welcoming new people who have moved into the locality • Deterrent needed for youths in cars parking at riverside and at New Alston • Rowdy behaviour outside pubs and general bad behaviour needs to be controlled
Business & employment	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More employment opportunities needed • More business units of varying sizes need to be available but should be located outside the village centre
River and riverbanks	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to river bank • Good walkways needed by the river • Improve the state of the riverbank - litter etc
Tourism	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise profile of village as gateway to some of Northumberland's best visitor attractions • Better facilities for visitors • More engagement with attracting people to the village
Miscellaneous comments	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheme to improve Church Street area by relocating industrial estate and replacing with housing • Most things need improving • Free ice cream!

Q.5 Looking forward 10 years, what kind of place would you like Haydon Parish to become? (please select up to 5)

Friendly	84%
Safe	83%
Attractive	66%
Affordable	48%
Tranquil	42%
Accessible	41%
Traditional	34%
Self sufficient	32%
Vibrant	20%
Unchanged	16%

Section 3. Communication and Broadband access

Summary

- 96% use the internet for social contact; followed by 43% working from home – speed of broadband was a limiting factor for one third of respondents (same level as in the business survey)

Q.6 For what purpose do you use the internet?

The main reasons are:

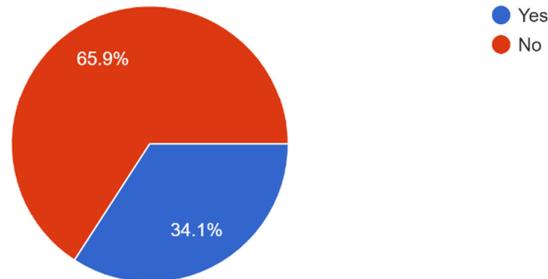
Social contact/family and friends	96%
Working from home	43%
Business	23%

Q.7 Is the speed of your broadband a limiting factor of your internet use?

The chart below shows that speed of broadband is a limiting factor in internet use for just over a third of respondents. This is the same proportion as for the business survey (Q11).

Q7. Is the speed of your broadband a limiting factor of your internet use?

164 responses



Section 4. Employment

Summary

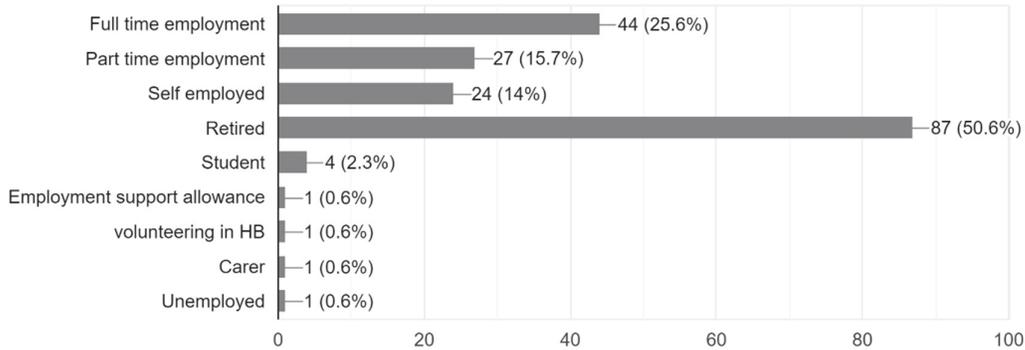
- In terms of employment: 51% are retired; 26% in full-time and 16% in part-time employment. 14% of people in work are self employed. Just over a quarter of people in employment work in the parish, highlighting the importance of the local economy
- There is a high level of support (nearly 71%) for the Neighbourhood Plan seeking to allocate land for different types of business use (similar level of support in the business survey)

Q.8 What is your employment status

The chart below shows that half of respondents are retired, 26% in full-time and 16% in part-time employment, 14% self employed, and 2% students.

Q8. What is your employment status? (Select whichever applies)

172 responses

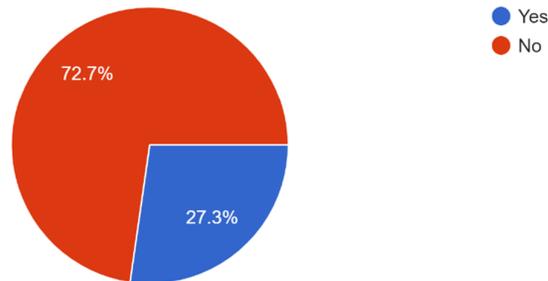


Q.9 If you are in employment do you work in Haydon Parish?

The chart below shows that just over a quarter of respondents who are in employment work in the Parish. The business survey (Q5) also highlights the importance of local business, and therefore local employment opportunities, to the economy of the parish.

Q9. If you are in employment, do you work in Haydon Parish?

88 responses

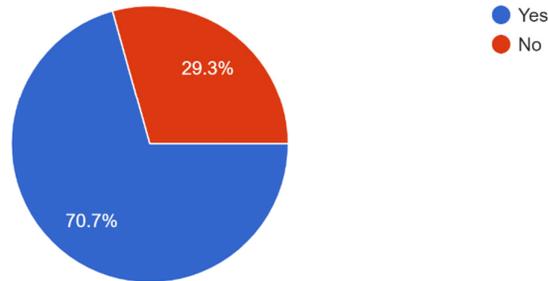


Q.10a Should the Neighbourhood Plan seek to allocate land for business use?

The chart below shows that just over 70% of respondents think that the Neighbourhood Plan should seek to allocate land for business use.

Q10a. Should the neighbourhood plan seek to allocate land for business use?

167 responses



In the business survey responses (Q14), 58% felt the PC should allocate land for business use and 23% had no preference. Only 19% were against the Neighbourhood Plan seeking to allocate land for business use.

Q.10b If yes, should the Neighbourhood Plan seek to allocate land for any of the following business uses?

The highest level of support for seeking to allocate land for business use is:

Shops and retail	66%
Starter units	64%
Tourism	58%
Manufacturing/light industry	47%
Offices	40%

This was a similar response as in the business survey, apart from a higher proportion of respondents in the household survey wanting to see more shops and retail units.

Section 5. Sustainability

Summary

- As a Parish we are very reliant on fossil fuel (more than 70% of households - 58% on oil and 13% on liquid gas). There is a very positive attitude to developing renewable energy, but a big knowledge gap about renewable energy options e.g. air source heat pumps
- There is strong support for other sustainability initiatives, including: community tree planting scheme (including help with planting, and gifting/loaning land) and community orchard; small-holdings and habitat creation projects (e.g. wildlife ponds); and enhancing wildlife corridors
- The riverside area is the most valued area to residents from both wildlife and landscape points of view. Other areas are valued too including Haresby Lonnen; Tony's Patch and Springwood/Threepwood

Q.11 How do you currently heat your home? (select all that apply)

The main ways in which people currently heat their homes are set out below. They show how reliant households in the parish currently are on fossil fuels.

Oil	66%
Solid fuel (wood)	36%
Electric storage	13%
Liquid gas	13%
Coal	9%*
Solar panels	8%
Air source heat pump	3%
Solar thermal	2%
Other electric	2%
Biomass/wood chip	1%
Ground source heat pump	1%

*Coal was missed out as a specific option in the paper version of the household survey due to a technical problem. It is highly likely that the table above underestimates the number of households reliant on coal as at least one form of heating.

Q.12 Taking account of the planned shift away from oil and solid fuel, do you support the development and use of any of the following energy sources on either a domestic or large scale basis in the Parish?

The table below shows that there is a very positive attitude to developing renewable energy both at household and larger scale community level. There is less support for wind turbines, particular larger scale schemes, than for other forms of renewable energy. The survey responses also showed a big knowledge gap about renewable energy options e.g. air source heat pumps.

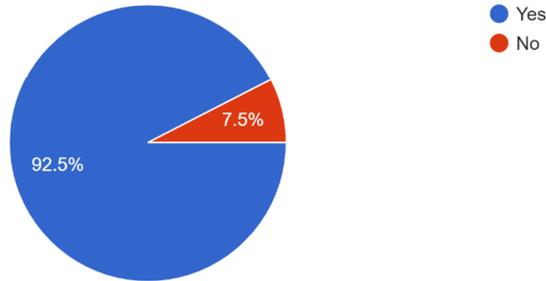
	Support for domestic purposes (Yes / No)	Support for larger scale scheme (Yes / No)
Solar power	Y 95%; N 5%	Y 58%; N 15%
Wind turbines	Y 65%; N 32%	Y 48%; N 37%
Air source heat pumps	Y 86%; N 13%	Y 55%; N 20%
Ground source heat pumps	Y 88%; N 9%	Y 60%; N 15%
Biomass schemes	Y 76%; N 22%	Y 55%; N 26%

Q.13a Would you support the development of a community tree planting scheme to mitigate flooding and support carbon capture?

As the chart below shows, over 90% of respondents would support the development of a community tree planting scheme.

Q13a. Would you support the development of a community tree planting scheme to mitigate flooding and support carbon capture?

173 responses

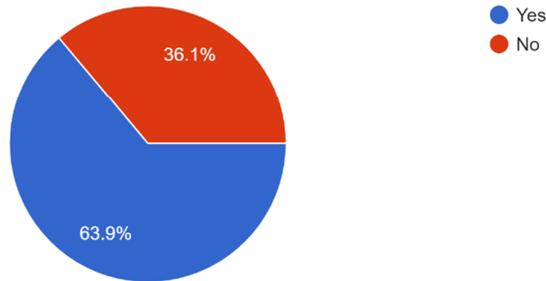


Q.13b If yes, would you be prepared to help with tree planting?

The chart below shows that nearly two-thirds of respondents would be prepared to help with tree planting.

Q13b. If yes, would you be prepared to help with tree planting?

158 responses

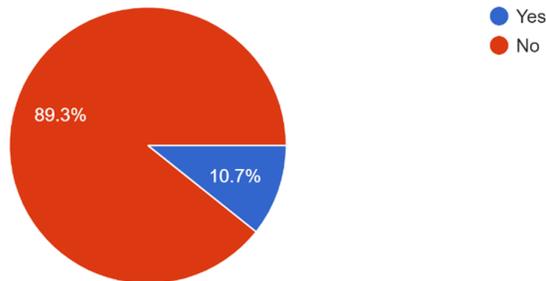


Q.13c Would you be prepared to loan or gift land for tree planting?

Just over 10% of 140 respondents to this question would be prepared to loan or gift land for tree planting.

Q13c. Would you be prepared to loan or gift land for tree planting?

140 responses



Section 7. Community facilities and services

Summary

- All community facilities and services are viewed as important to protect. The top ones selected are: newsagents; GP surgery; pharmacy; post office; garage; community centre/village halls; supermarket; pubs/clubs/restaurants; schools; butchers; library; churches
- By far the biggest gap identified is a café/coffee shop, followed by facilities and services for young people, a Saturday market, an indoor gym (also support for outdoor gym facilities), community learning, and facilities for older people

Q.14 Which of the following community facilities and services are important to protect? (please select up to 10)

There were 173 responses to the question (100% of completed surveys). All community facilities and services in the village are valued. The top ones selected are:

GP Surgery	93% + see below for newsagent*
Pharmacy	92%
Post Office	90%
Garage	79%
Community Centre/village hall	79%
Supermarkets	78%
Pubs/clubs/restaurants	78%
Primary School	76%
Butcher	75%
Library	72%
High School	72%
Churches	58%
Visitor accommodation	54%
Wider retail offer	53%
Nursery/playgroup	51%
Care homes	46%
Takeaways	39%
Newsagent	37%*
Church Halls	20%**

*The newsagent is also highly valued. It scored 64 responses in the online survey alone but was missed out from this question in the paper survey, due to a technical error. If the response in the paper survey had been at the same rate as the online survey it would have top scored with c.99%

**Church Halls scored 34 responses in the online survey alone but was missed out from this question in the paper survey, due to a technical error. If the response in the paper survey had been at the same rate as the online survey they would have come 14th with 53%.

Q.15 Are there any gaps in community facilities and services that you would like to see filled?

Respondents were asked to select all that applied from a list of 10 options developed from earlier community consultations or suggest other ideas. There were 136 responses to the question (78.6% of completed surveys). The options which received more than one response were:

Cafe	76%
Facilities/services for young people	43%
Saturday market	40%
Indoor gym	36%
Community learning	29%
Facilities/services for older people	27%
Facilities/services for children	27%
Outdoor gym equipment	26%
Facilities for adults	25%

By far the biggest gap identified is for a café/coffee shop. Comments on the cafe indicated a range of expectations: as a social space for local people that is not a pub; a place for young people to meet; a place for older people to meet; a facility for visitors and tourists.

Comments on facilities for young people repeatedly emphasised the significant gap in activities for them, and in places for young people to go and to meet outside school.

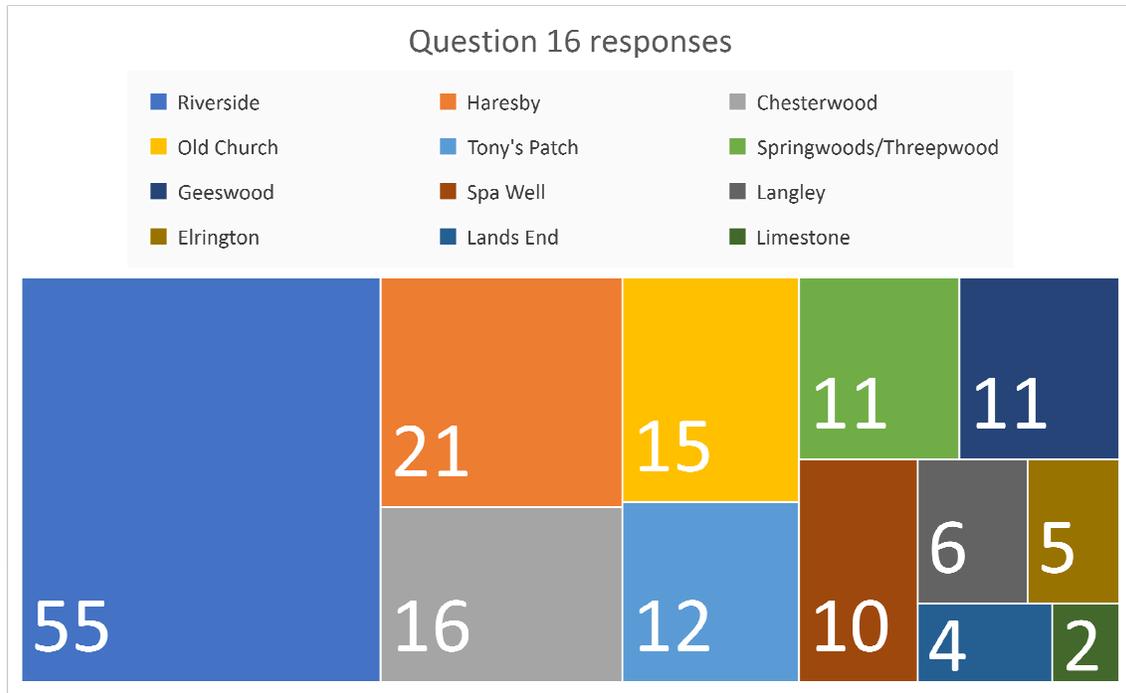
Section 8. Natural environment

Summary

- The riverside area is the most valued area to residents from both wildlife and landscape points of view. Other areas are valued too including Haresby Lonnen; Tony’s Patch and Springwood/Threepwood
- There is strong support for environmental initiatives, including: community orchard (including help with planting, and gifting/loaning land); small-holdings and habitat creation projects (e.g. wildlife ponds); and enhancing wildlife corridors

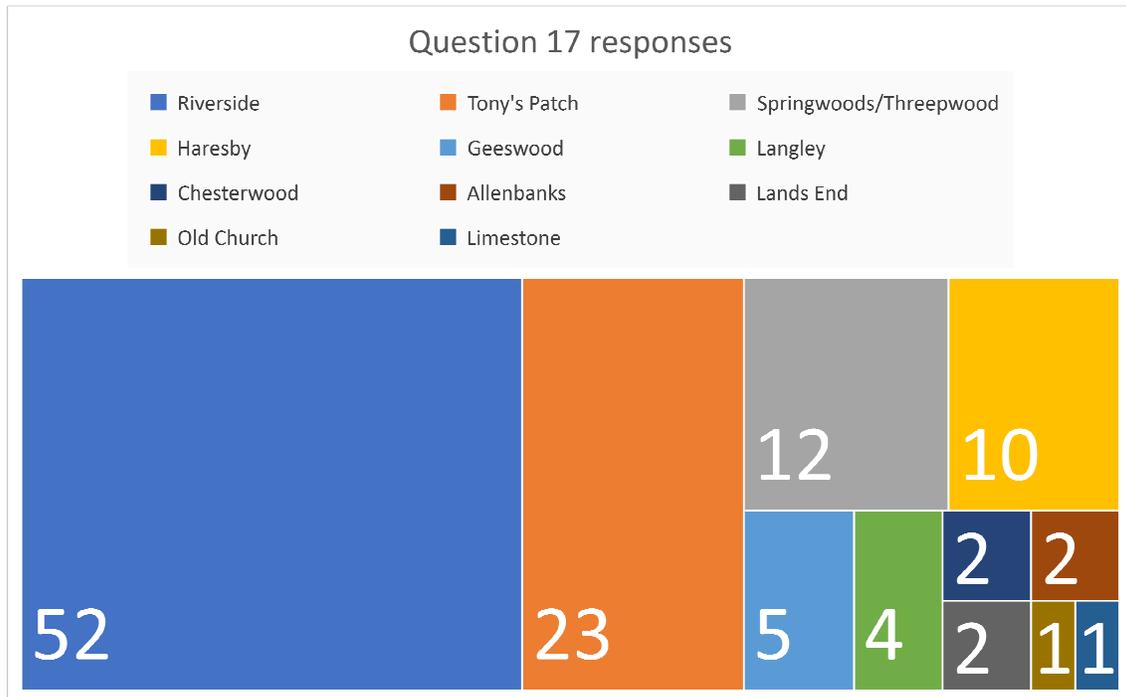
Q.16 Are there areas within the Parish that you particularly value for their landscape characteristics (e.g. lovely views, place to walks, habitat)? Please name each area and say how you use it and why it is important to you.

Below are the landscape features/areas mentioned most frequently in the responses with the riverside being of most value to residents (numbers not percentages).



Q.17 Are there any areas within the Parish that you particularly value for their wildlife? Please name each site and say how it is important for wildlife.

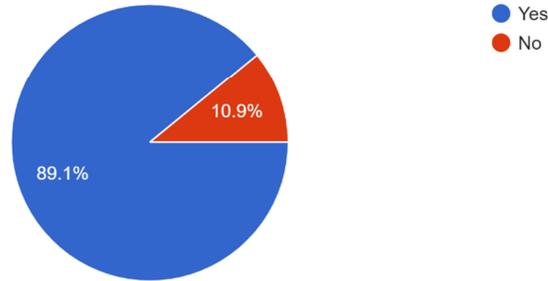
Below are the areas mentioned most frequently as being important to residents for their wildlife value, the riverside being of most value to residents.



Q.18a Would you support the development of community spaces to enhance the natural environment, mitigate the impacts of climate change, support sustainability or provide learning?

As the chart below shows, 89% responded positively.

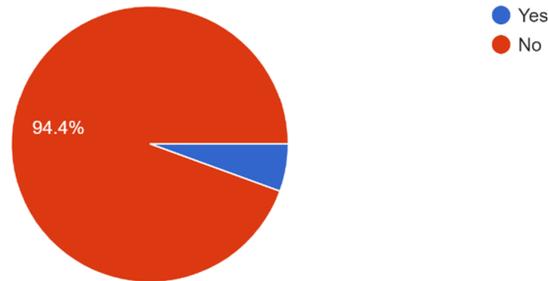
Q18a. Would you support the development of community spaces to enhance the natural environment, mitigate the impacts of climate chang... sustainability or provide learning opportunities?
156 responses



Q.18b If yes, would you be prepared to loan or gift land?

The chart below shows that 5% (7 people) said they have land that they could gift or loan for a project.

Q18b. If yes, do you have land that you could loan or gift to deliver a project?
126 responses



Q. 18c Which types of projects would you support?

As the table below shows there is a high level of interest in supporting the development of a community orchard, smallholdings, and habitat creation projects, and a good number of people who would like to get involved in each.

Type of project	Level of support	Interest in getting involved
Community orchard	85 (68%)	41 (33%)
Smallholding to grow food to sell locally	82 (66%)	35 (28%)
Habitat creation projects e.g. wildlife pond	94 (70%)	45 (34%)

Other suggested projects include:

Community scale deep borehole geothermal
Community scale wind farm
Litter pick
Local Farm Shop
Nature connection - in Geeswood
Volunteer/community nature project group - maintenance of planters, hanging baskets, footpath repair, wild flower planting, woodland management etc
Circular riverside walks
Wildlife corridors through the village
Flower beds and planters for pollinators
Duffy's field nature reserve with trees planted and possibly a small pond
Nature/forest school
Accessible nature area
More play areas for children
Nature reserve
Wildlife/animal rescue.
Creating a willow bandstand or something in the big park?
Herb pots (as in Hexham)
Community purchase some land, (5 - 10) acres which can be used for education purposes, paths for wheelchair users, trees for wildlife
Cycle paths
Tree planting
Wildlife friendly street lighting
Woodland walks.
Use more surplus veg from allotments

Section 9. Mobility and transport

Summary points

- Over two-thirds of residents like Haydon Bridge's good public transport/links to major routes
- The main issues for improvement are: lack of and unsuitable parking; dualling the A69; better cycling routes within the parish and cycling routes to other centres (e.g. Hexham); better train services. 41% said they would like Haydon Bridge to be more accessible – easier for people with limited mobility to get around
- Other initiatives people would like to see are: electric charging points; car sharing; active travel routes (to school/work/service hubs); and better maintenance and accessibility of footpaths, including an 'adopt a footpath scheme'

- **Commuting.** Of those who commute to work outside the parish, most people travelled over 10 miles. A lesser number travelled between 5 and 10 miles, and some people travelled less than 5 miles. Most people commuted by car with rail transport being the next popular. Very few cycled
- **Shopping.** Nearly 90% of respondents shopped within 5 – 10 miles (presumably Hexham). The vast majority, 88%, used a car for shopping trips

Q.19 Road traffic – Would you support any of the following?

The level of support from respondents was:

Additional car parking	81%
Electric charging points	67%
Car sharing	67%

Comments

- 60% of comments related to car parking, predominately on Ratcliffe Road
- 8% of comments in support of car charging points
- Two comments were in support of using bicycles instead of cars
- One comment related to a CPO (compulsory purchase order) on Allendale Railway for a bike path/footpath

Q.20 Is there a need for enhanced public transport?

There is some need identified for more train and buses.

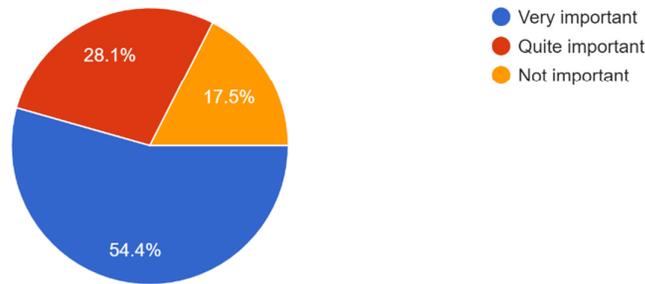
Not a need	31%
More trains	23%
More buses	19%
Public transport is too expensive	8%
Need for north south routes, particularly to Hadrian's Wall	8%

Q21 How important to you are active travel routes? (Routes to school/work/service hubs)

The chart below shows that active travel routes are very or quite important to 83% of respondents.

Q21. How important to you are active travel routes? (Active travel routes are for journeys to school, work, services and transport hubs. It can also include use of electric wheelchairs or mobility scooters)

160 responses



Q.22 Footpaths, byways, bridlepaths. Would you support the following?

As is shown below there is a good level of support for all the ideas in this question. The highest level of support is for the alteration/development of footpaths for use by disabled people or parents with pushchairs

Alteration/development of footpaths for use by disabled people or parents with pushchairs	83%
New links to connect footpaths	68%
Adopt a footpath scheme	47%

Comments are wide ranging:

- Maintenance – most common comment 24%
- Push chair/wheel chair accessible 11%
- Development of circular routes 8%
- Allendale railway as a footpath 8%

Q23 Cycling. Would you support the following?

There is a high level of support for new cycling initiatives:

Development of new cycle paths east and west	88%
Use of cycle routes within the parish	84%
Secure cycle parking in the village	65%
Installation of electric bike charging facilities	43%

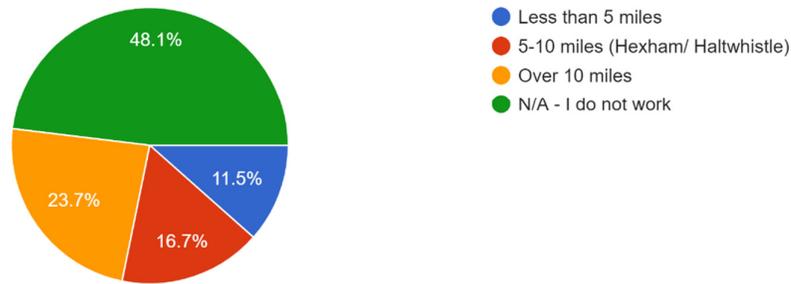
Comments

- Cycle path to Hexham 50%
- Keeping bicycles off footpaths 10%
- Electric bike charging not needed 10%
- Allendale railway as a cycle path 6%

Q.24a How far do you travel to work?

The chart below shows that nearly half of respondents do not travel to work. 28% travel 10 miles or less and 24% over 10 miles.

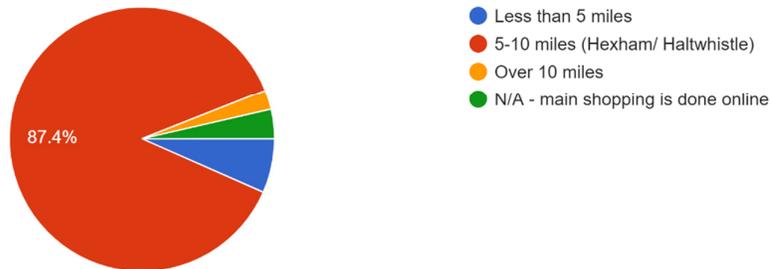
Q24a. How far do you travel to get to work?
156 responses



Q.24b How far do you travel for your main shopping?

The chart below shows that 87% of people responding to the survey travel between 5 and 10 miles to do their shopping. Of the remaining 13% just over half travel less than 5 miles (shop in the village), and a smaller number shop online or over 10 miles away.

Q24b. How far do you travel to do your main shopping?
167 responses



Q.25a What mode of transport do you mainly use to get to work

47% of respondents do not travel to work. When they are removed from the analysis, of those who do travel to work most people travel by car.

Car	64%
Walk	14%
Train	13%
Bicycle	5%
Bus	4%

Q.25b What mode of transport do you mainly use to do your shopping?

Nearly 90% of respondents use their car for shopping. Some people use more than one mode of transport which is why the percentages come to over 100.

Car	88%
Walk	12%
Bus	9%
Train	5%
Bicycle	4%
Online	3%

Next steps:

The key task, which we expect to complete in spring 2021, is to prepare a draft Neighbourhood Plan. This will be based on community feedback, including the findings of this survey and the business survey, and other evidence gathered for the plan. The plan will include both planning policies which will guide future development, and community actions for other issues for which formal planning policies are not required. The Parish Council will consult the community on the draft plan when it is published.