

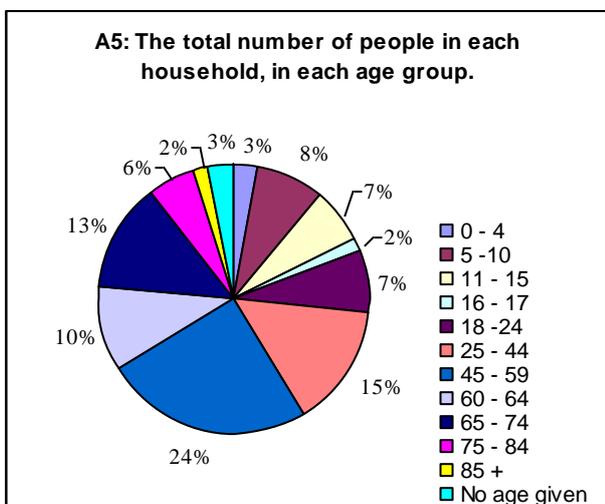
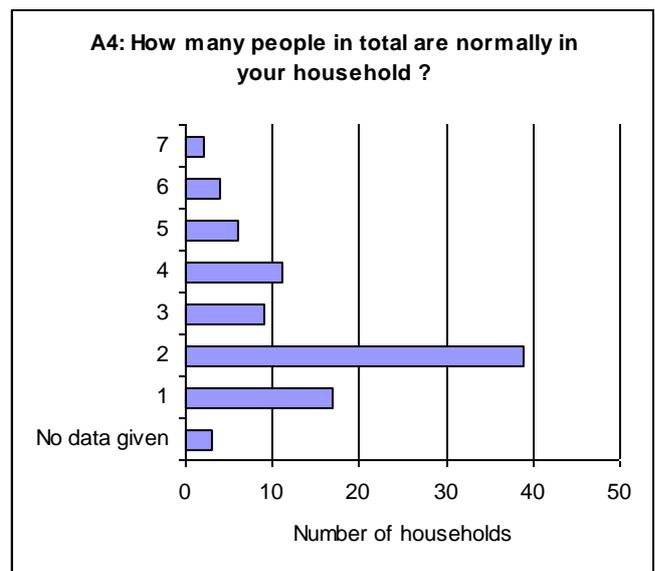
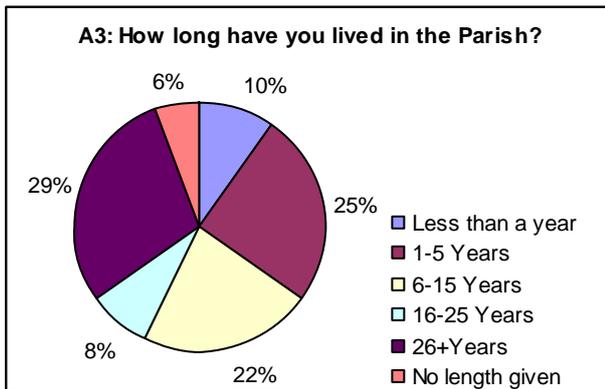
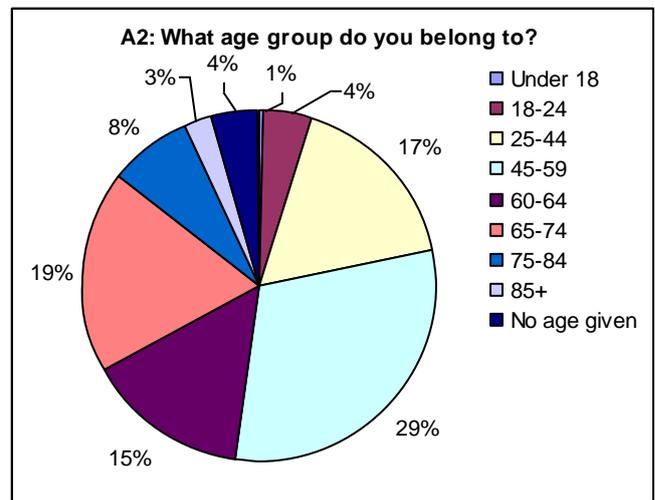
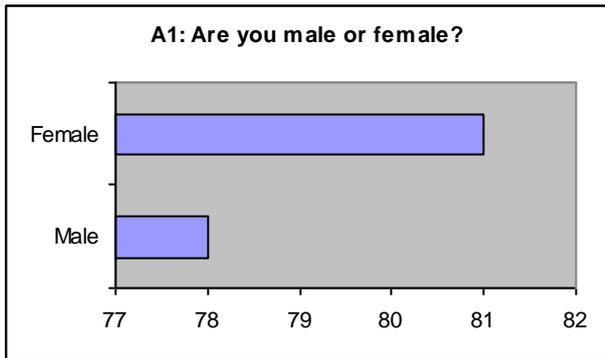
Analysis of Adult Questionnaires and Key Opinions raised from the Parish Plan

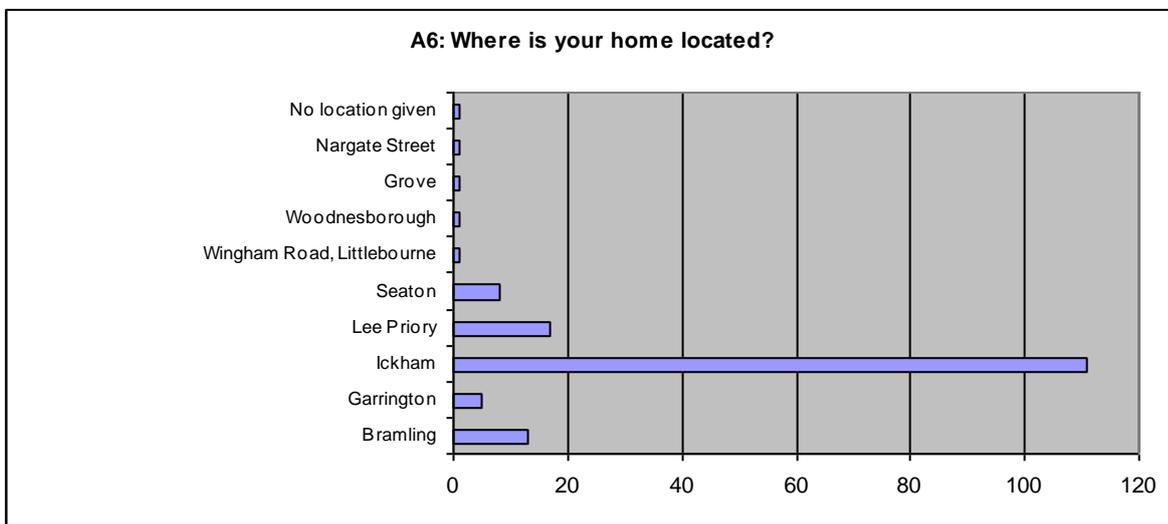
The results from the Parish Plan are outlined below. These are the main details and issues that have come forward and it is these issues that will be followed up.

It must be stressed that the recommendations represent the stated wishes of the parishioners. Their implementation may have legal and practical ramifications, or may be unrealistic. Almost all will require funding and, in some cases, an extended time frame. Regardless of this the Committee, and other groups formed to assist them, will pursue the recommendations to the best of their ability.

The actions listed against each issue are also initial thoughts. Once working groups are set up for each major problem area they will look in depth at the issue and may use additional or alternative solutions.

A: General Information





This initial section was aimed purely at seeing who responded to the survey so that we could ensure that we had an even response across all the range of Ickham & Well residents. The results show that this was achieved and gives a good indication of who we all are and how we live.

B: Transport and Highways

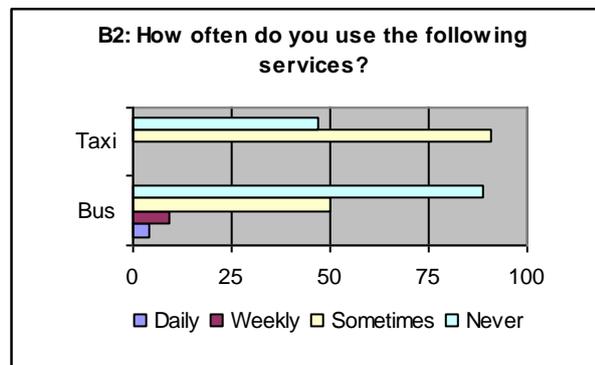
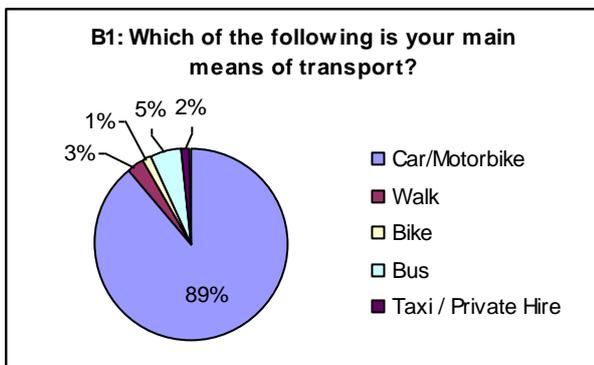
This was a key section to the questionnaire and identified the big issues affecting the Parish and especially Bramling. While there is some variation in how people would react to the various problems it is their identification of the issues that gives us the direction that is required.

Opportunity 1 - Means of transport

The majority of residents (89%) travel by car while only 5% travel by bus. However, many people feel that an improved bus service would benefit the village of Ickham.

Action:

The Parish Plan Committee is to approach the Parish Council to discuss next steps. A Roads Action Group is to be set up and will have this as an action to pursue.



B3	If you would like to see any improvements in the public transport services, please give your suggestions: Selection of responses:	Totals
	More buses	45
	Shelters at the bus stop in Bramling	1
	Bramling has an excellent bus service now but time keeping needs to be improved.	1
	Shuttle buses linking villages and communities not on main routes to bus and train services.	1
	Ensure school buses are big enough to take the number of passengers.	1
	An improved service would enhance options for all of us for the future	1

“For a small community, Ickham is really not too badly served by public transport (to Canterbury at least).”

Opportunity 2 – Parking

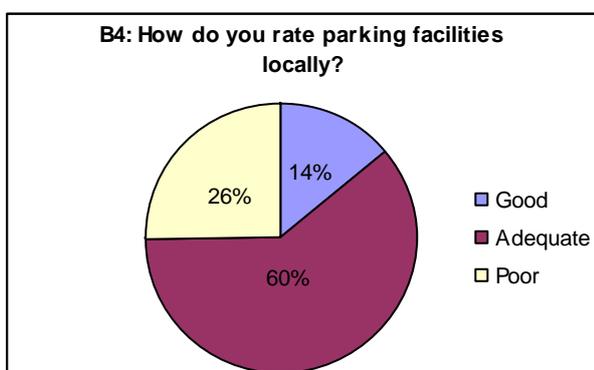
Most people in the Parish feel that parking provision is good or adequate (86%). However, problems with inconsiderate parking were highlighted outside the Duke William.

Action:

A meeting has occurred between the Duke William and the Parish Plan Committee to discuss all issues raised in the plan that relate to the Duke William. Any further measures that the publicans have not already implemented are being discussed.

In addition, a solution to having the car park of Forge House properly utilised is being sought. The car park is either filled by cars that belong to visitors to Ickham and not residents, or made so secure that residents no longer park there.

A further option includes finding or building parking areas around Ickham, for instance by the Village Hall, in order to provide additional off street parking for villagers and visitors.



“There is always somewhere to park, but it seems people aren't willing to walk for 60 seconds down the road.”

“Cannot really make any improvements - perhaps people should not own more cars than they have parking space for!”

“We have to live with the congestion when the pub is busy.”

“As a farmer, in busy times we can't get to our destination due to cars making the road too narrow - less than 9½ft.”

B5	Where would you like any improvements in parking to be made? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	The Street - around the pub	24
	The Street	11
	The Street - around bend next to new village green	5
	None required / nowhere	6
	If in Ickham village, <u>not</u> by using the village green.	5
	Parking at village hall	4
	More off street parking. Why do the people in the council flats park on The Street and leave the large car park to the rear empty?	2
	Tricky... I wouldn't like to lose the village field or any of Treasury field but a pub car park would be a big help. Can't think where though!	2

Opportunity 3 – Speeding

Speeding is perceived as a problem especially on the A257, through The Street and at bends in Ickham. The majority of residents (77%) felt that there are danger areas which require improvement in the Parish. The A257 caused most concern and of all the issues in the Parish Plan this is the most important and the one that poses a real risk to the lives of parishioners.

Many favoured reducing the speed limits but people were also concerned about the increasing number of road signs and the impact this has on the appearance of the parish.

Residents also perceive problems along The Street particularly on the bend by Rectory Cottage, outside the Duke William and at the junction with School Lane. Solutions suggested include reducing the speed limit; preventing parking on the bend / encouraging parking to slow traffic; dedicated parking spaces for the pub; and cutting back hedges.

The Parish Council is very concerned about this and has been working with Canterbury City Council to find a solution. This is a slow process and additional emphasis from a Parish Plan working group could be valuable. The key solution is to reduce the speed limit in and around Bramling to 40mph. This was agreed by the City Council in a meeting in March 2009 after the Parish Council, Brian Staley and Bramling residents all spoke of their concerns.

This was followed up with a visit and promises from the highways group at Canterbury City Council. Follow up action has yet to be seen as we are waiting for a county wide roads survey to be completed, a delay that we are also questioning. Our County Councillor, Michael Northey, also promised some funding for electronic speed warning signs and this has now been cleared and is moving forward.

For other areas of the Parish the preferred solution was to reduce speed limits to 20mph in villages (85% were very keen or keen) and 40mph on main roads (73% very keen / keen). The Quiet Lanes Scheme was also popular (78% very keen / keen) although it was pointed out that it might not be applicable to the Parish.

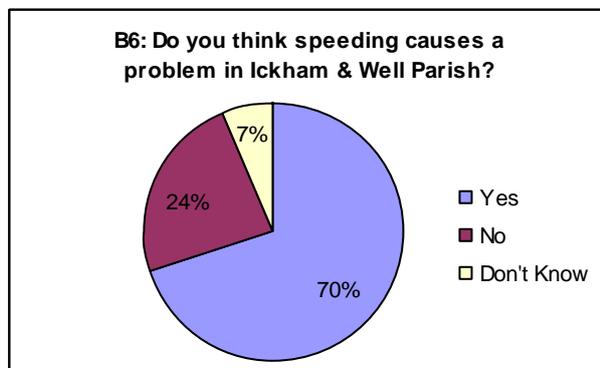
Some proposals such as width restrictions, village gates, signs and pavements through the villages produced divided opinions. Other solutions such as rumble strips (75% against or not keen), speed cameras (76% against / not keen), streetlights in the villages (69% against / not keen), yellow lines in the villages (87% against / not keen) and sleeping policemen (71% against / not keen) were not favoured.

There was concern that any proposed solutions should not damage the rural nature of the Parish.

Action:

The key issue is the speed of vehicles through Bramling and this would be the main action for the Roads Action Group to act upon. Such a group would help and assist Ickham & Well PC to liaise with Littlebourne PC, KCC and the Police. Their aim would be an enforced speed restriction to 40mph and the fitting of signage and safety equipment that would help implement this.

The Quiet Lanes Scheme would be studied in order to investigate suitability.



“Not sure how you will ever slow people down. They do not take any notice of speed restrictions.”

B7	If yes, do you have any suggestions for improvements for reducing speed of traffic? (Please include details of location). Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Reduced Speed limit – A257, Wickham Lane, Nargate Street	35
	Speed bumps	27
	Villages - 20mph limit	20
	Make speed limit signs more prominent.	8
	Width restrictions / pinch points / chicanes	7
	Speed limit 30mph painted on the road / 'Slow' painted on road	6
	Traffic calming measures	6
	Install 'village gates' at start of all speed restriction areas.	5
	No speed bumps	4
	Speed cameras	4
	Park more cars in street	4
	A notice entering Ickham “please drive carefully”	3

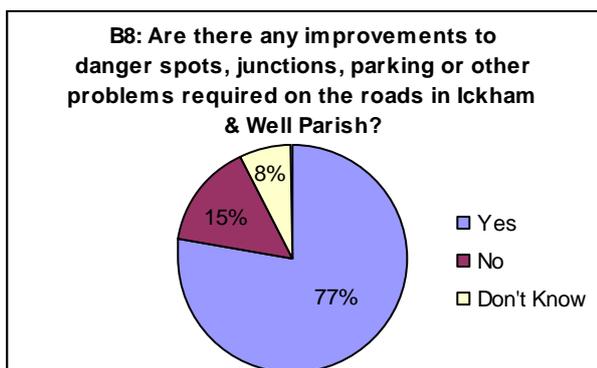
White strips across the road	3
Make The Street a 'Quiet Lane'.	2
One way only for Drill Lane to prevent potential collisions	2
Warning sign on blind bend.	2
Sign recognition that there is a "pedestrian school run"	2

Opportunity 4 – Potholes

Potholes concerned 71% of residents; verges and hedges not cut back concerned 56%; inconsiderate parking concerned 52% and inadequate footpaths concerned 32% of residents.

Action:

All residents should report potholes to Highways Agency and the Parish Council.

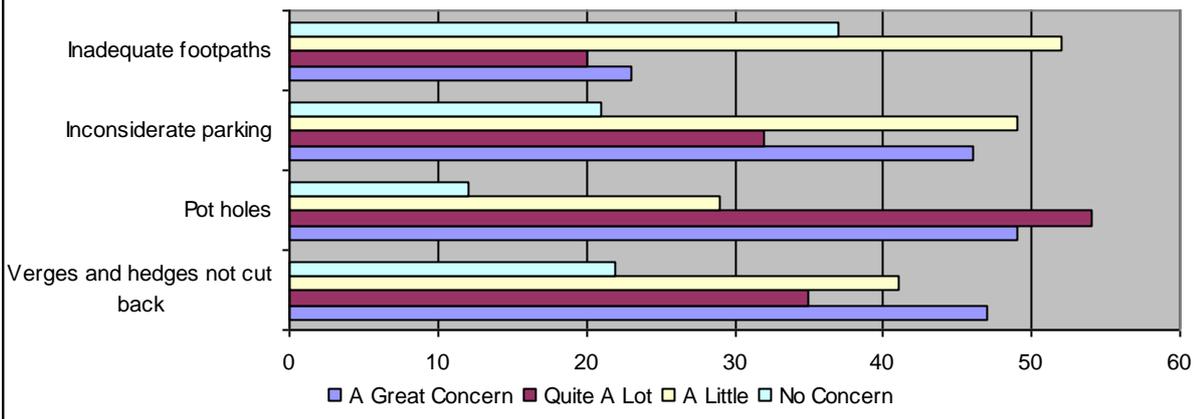


"We can always find so called potential danger points, but are they seriously dangerous?"

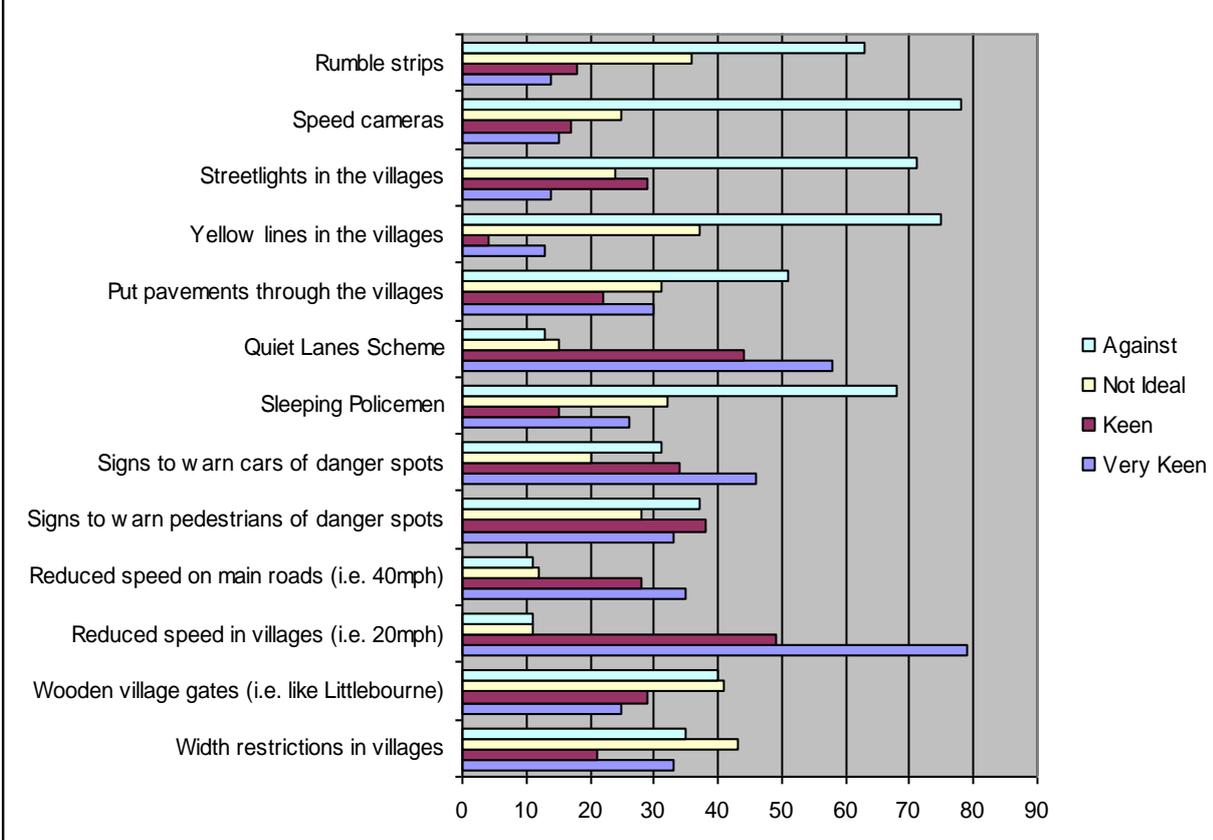
B9	If you answered YES to question B8, where is the problem area and what improvements are required? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	A257 / Cherville Lane junction - improved sight lines / warning signs / reduced speed	30
	A257 speed reduced	29
	The Street / Rectory Cottage bend - stop parking on bend, warning signs, reduced speed, mirrors, double yellow lines	25
	Outside Duke William - angled marked bays, dedicated spaces for pub parking	23
	Drill Lane - junctions, road markings, speed, bend	15
	The Street - bend by New Place - reduce speed, warning sign, hedge cut back	9
	The Street / School Lane - hedges cut back, mirrors	5
	Speed limit - 20mph	5
	School Lane - speeding	4
	A257 Haywain bend - slow traffic down	4

"The Street / Rectory Cottage bend - parking on the bend, as that forces traffic to slow down."

B10: The following concerns were recently expressed by residents. How much of a concern are they to you?



B11: If a traffic problem exists, which of the following solutions do you favour?



“Quiet Lanes Scheme is not relevant as roads (in Ickham) would not qualify.”

“Quiet Lanes on the face of it sounds attractive but in practice is probably impossible to implement. Signs could be put up but we have too many of those already and it could not be policed. Baye Lane is a good local example. It is used by an increasing number of cars, by many walkers, prams, dogs and horses but it is important that it remains as it is in its natural country lane state.”

“The County Council has already been approached on several of these suggestions and will not do any of them. They will not allow a sign to go up for the children walking to Wickhambreaux School.”

B11	If a traffic problem exists, what other solutions do you favour? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	It is difficult to know what to do that will not spoil the nature of the village: lots of signs, street lights and pavements, yellow lines and speed cameras, we might as well be in a suburb.	15
	A257 - 50mph	3

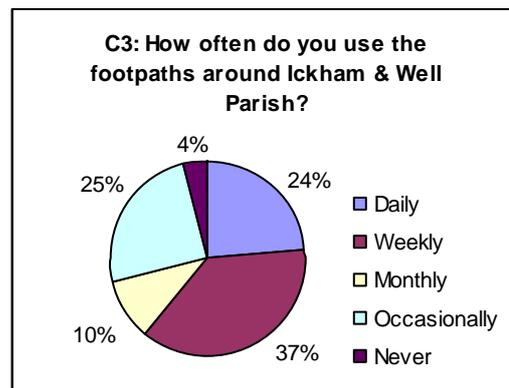
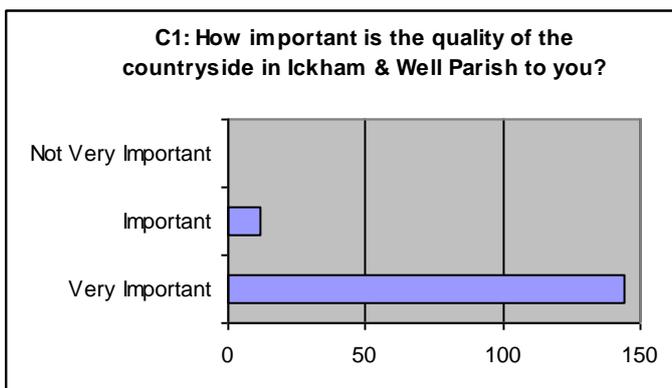
B: Traffic and Highways Action Plan

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Reduce speed limit on A257	Ickham & Well PC to liaise with Littlebourne PC and with KCC & Police	KCC / Police	Brian Staley	Support the PC and monitor the situation.
Reduce speed limit in villages			Paul Claxton	
Filling in potholes	Report potholes to Highways	Everyone	Parish Council	Publicise hotline for reporting potholes
Quiet Lanes Scheme	Investigate suitability	KCC Highways	CPRE	Liaise with CPRE

A comprehensive Traffic Report covering the findings of the Questionnaire; photographic evidence of the state of our roads, road signs, pavements, hedges, etc.; solutions used elsewhere and possible solutions for Ickham & Well Parish has kindly been prepared by Vicky Halls and is available on the Parish website at www.ickham-parish.org.uk

C: Environment

Everyone felt that the quality of the countryside in Ickham and Well is important and 92% thought it is very important.

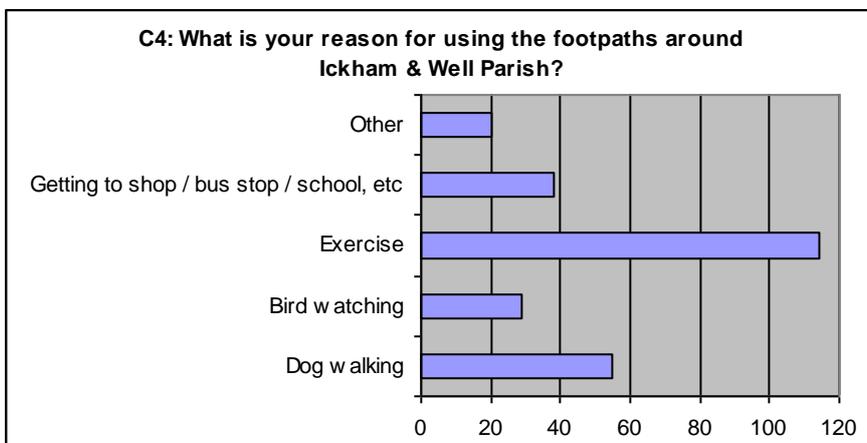
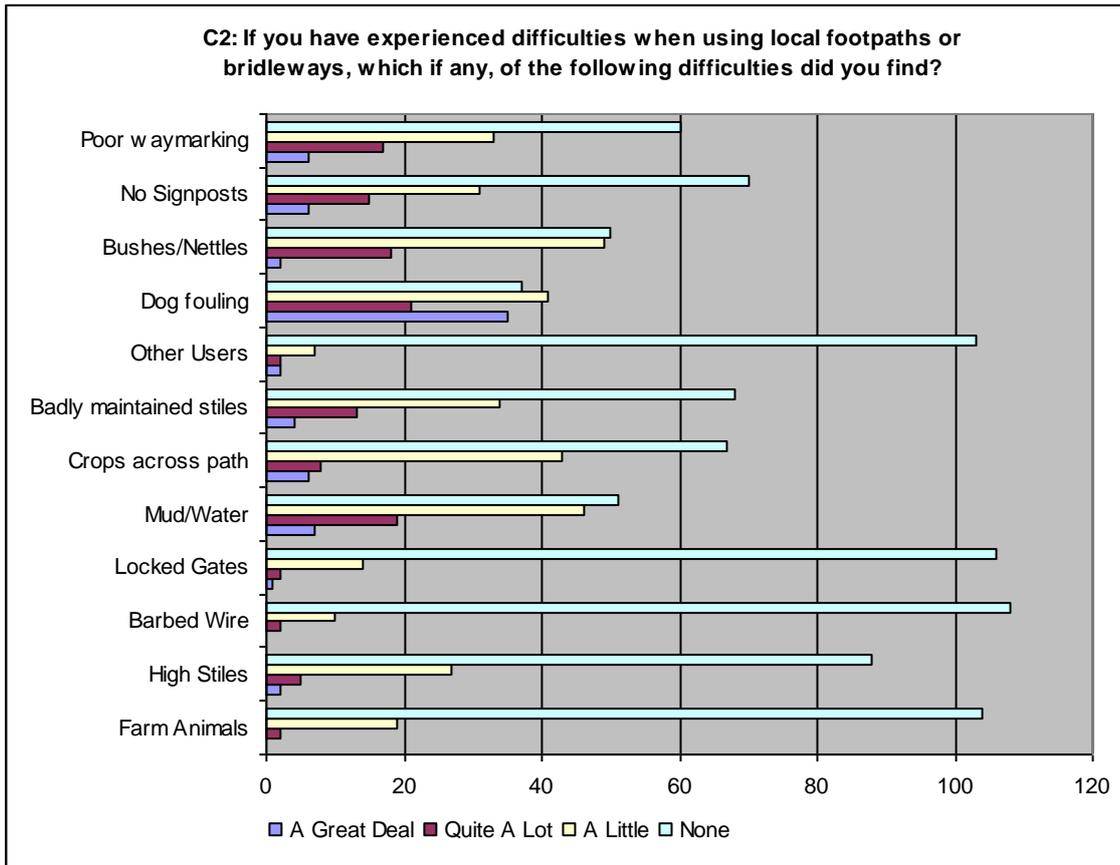


Opportunity 5 - Footpaths

Most people have little or no problems using footpaths but when problems were encountered, the most common were dog fouling; mud and water; bushes and nettles; poor way marking; no signposts; badly maintained stiles and crops across paths. Most people use the footpaths for exercise or for dog walking.

Action:

The Environment Action Group will coordinate and liaise with the relevant people for the maintenance of footpaths. The provision of dog waste bins and bags is already being discussed with the Parish Council. These have to be placed where the cleaning contractors can easily access them for emptying and, although this limits where they can go, it is a sensible restriction. A dog waste bin for Seaton will now not go ahead as the residents do not feel it is required.



"Farmers should be thanked for the way they keep them (footpaths) accessible for use."

C4	What other reasons do you have for using the footpaths around Ickham & Well Parish? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Just for enjoyment of being outside!	4
	For the pleasure of walking	3
	Visiting other residents in the Parish and local villages.	2
	Intend to use every day when retired.	2

Opportunity 6 - Protection and enhancement of the local environment

Preferred ideas to help protect and enhance the local environment of Ickham & Well Parish include: improve the maintenance of the Lesser Stour / minimise water abstraction; reduce littering / more litter collection; preserve the character of the village and more tree planting.

Action:

These options will be considered by the action group in conjunction with the Parish Council and the Conservation Society.

C5	What do you think should be done to help protect and enhance the local environment of Ickham & Well Parish? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Less littering / more litter collection.	10
	Improve maintenance of Lesser Stour / minimise water abstraction	10
	Restrict / minimise development / no more house building	9
	Preserve character of the village	8
	Plant more trees – generally / new village green	7
	All footpaths clearly sign -posted and well maintained / improve footpaths	6
	Better weed control along footpaths and roads	4
	Less spraying	3
	Avoid street lighting / minimise light pollution	3
	Wild flower meadow	3

“The Conservation Society has actively worked towards the environmental well-being of these parishes, often with noticeable effect: involving planning issues; public inquiries over borehole abstraction and river flows; gravel extraction in the Seaton Marshes; rubbish clearance and litter sweeps; footpaths; field path walking and tree planting.”

“Happy that it is working farmland and therefore there has to be some compromise.”

“Maybe a Parish nature warden.”

“Communicate any worries politely and sympathetically to local farmers but not at a time of maximum workload or pressure from weather.”

Opportunity 7 - Playground facilities

The provision of children’s playground facilities in the Parish was generally thought to be adequate (36%) but 29% thought it was poor.

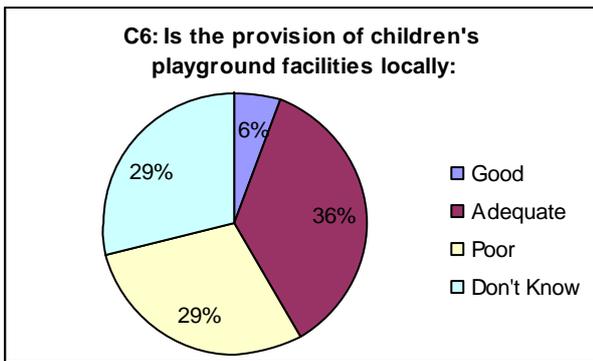
There were conflicting views on the playground in Seaton next to Wickhambreaux – some think it is attractive; used by the school and properly equipped as a playground; is close by; is good, whilst others think it requires adult supervision to get there; is too far for children from Ickham; could do with updating; lacks apparatus and the swings are out of use. A number of people felt that playground facilities in Ickham would be useful and suggested locating them on the new village green.

It was pointed out that Bramling also has no playground facilities.

Action:

The provision of playground equipment in the villages is, curiously, one of the most divisive issues in the Plan. Those with young children very much want additional resources that they can use. Those without children feel that there is enough green space around the villages for children to play in, and that most families also have gardens, and therefore a playground is not required.

Plans for new equipment and facilities will be considered by the Environment Action Group and, with sufficient local support, implemented. Liaison with Ickham & Well and Littlebourne Parish Councils can also be made, to improve and link complementary services.



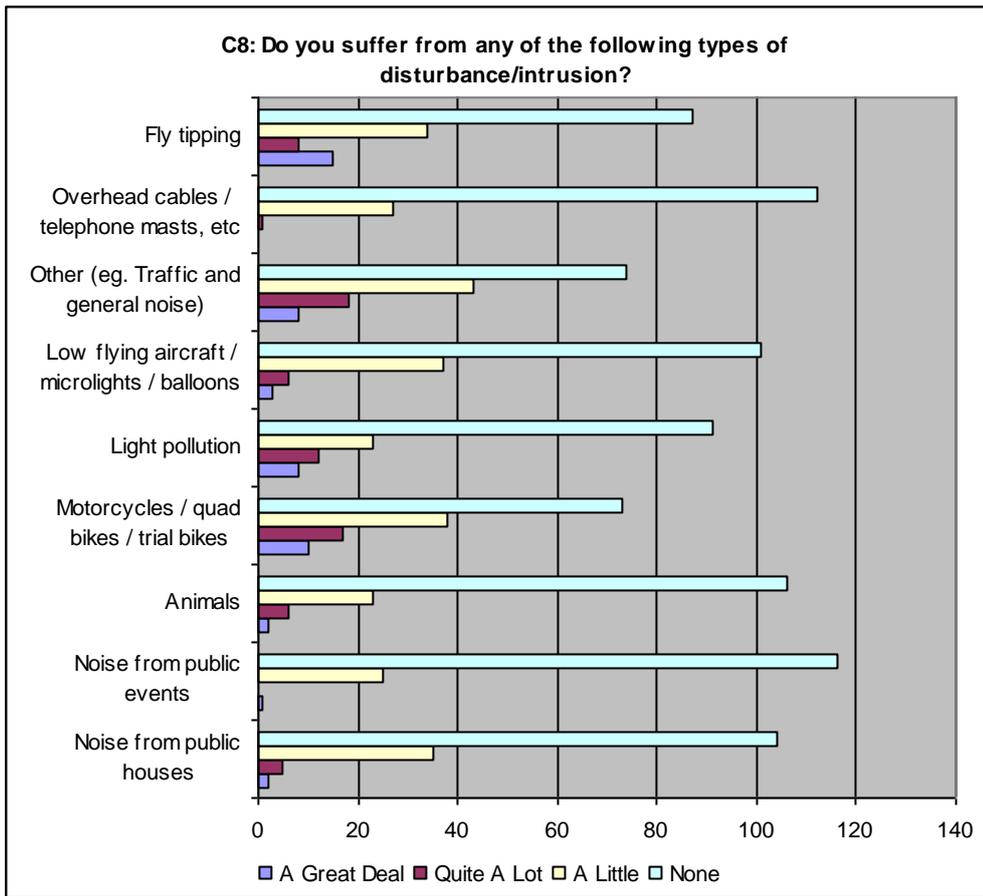
“Do local children need playground equipment if they can get out and enjoy the countryside with their friends and family?”

C7	If you have any comments on question C6 please add them here: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Playground in Wickhambreaux - requires adult supervision to get there / is too far for children from Ickham / could do with updating / lacks apparatus / swings out of use	11
	Playground in Wickhambreaux - is attractive, used by the school and properly equipped as a playground / is close by / is good	7
	It would be good to have playground facilities in Ickham	5
	Bramling has zero.	3
	Something on the picnic area in Ickham	3

Disturbance and intrusion

Most people do not suffer from any disturbances or feelings of intrusions but there are some problems with traffic and general noise; motorcycles and trial bikes; fly tipping and light pollution.

Other forms of nuisance mentioned were speeding; specific noise issues from car horns and barking dogs; and problems with Duke William customers with unsympathetic parking, urinating against the Black Barns and smoking outside the front of the pub. Improvements in these areas will be studied by the Environment Action Group.

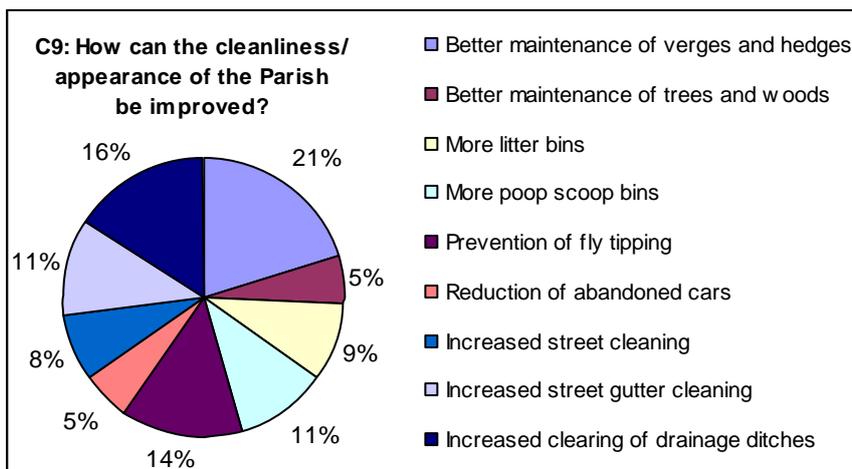


C8	Do you suffer from any other types of disturbance / intrusion? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Speeding / inconsiderate driving	26
	Security / exterior lights on late into the night / shining across fields	10
	Dogs barking	8
	Duke William customers / unsympathetic parking / urinating against the Black Barns / smoking outside the front of the pub	7
	Use of car horns	6
	Baye Lane seems to have an occasional problem with rats.	2
	Poorly controlled dogs on footpaths	2

Opportunity 8 - Improving the cleanliness and appearance of the Parish

The preferred solutions for improving the cleanliness and appearance of the Parish were better maintenance of verges and hedges (20%), increased cleaning of drainage ditches (16%) and prevention of fly tipping (14%).

Other suggestions proposed were to re-lay the footpaths and roads, fill in the potholes, clean the village pond and cut down some of the large trees in the middle of the village.



Action:

The Environment Action Group will take up these issues with the Parish Council and consider a 'Community Environmental Group' to take on tasks that cannot be done by the Council

“Personally I don’t feel that Ickham is vulnerable to any of the above. I can’t speak for the other areas of the Parish though.”

“It’s the country, so over-maintenance and suburbanisation is not to be encouraged!”

C9	How can the cleanliness / appearance of the Parish be improved? Other suggestions: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Re-lay footpaths and roads - fill in potholes.	3
	Cleaning of village pond	3
	Cut down some of the large trees in the middle of the village.	3
	Encourage pride in village appearance by photographic exhibition.	2
	Cleaning of street signs.	2

“Hold a village Clean-up Day?”

Local farming practices

Opportunity 9 - Spraying

General feeling for farmers who work in the Parish was very supportive with 95% of respondents saying that farmers had to make a living and therefore couldn’t be excessively controlled. Concerns were raised about the negative impact that some farming methods can have on parishioners.

A large proportion (79%) would like to be advised when spraying is to occur and 63% felt that farming should be more organic.

Action:

The committee have approached various farmers about spraying and asked them to notify residents when spraying is to happen. There are several difficulties with this and our farmers state that they are being considerate and using caution, an opinion that is now largely supported by parishioners as well.

Any possible improvements to a system of notification will be discussed between the Environment Action Group and local farmers.

Opportunity 10 – Polytunnels

In recent months, polytunnels have become a bigger issue for the village of Ickham. At the time of the questionnaire less than half of respondents were against polytunnels per se (41% strongly agreed or agreed). The majority, however, were concerned about the mess generated by farming practices (69% strongly agreed or agreed).

This was reflected in the numerous negative comments about the practice of farming with polytunnels: they are an eyesore; cause plastic debris around the village; are poorly maintained; generate filthy roads; are a blot on the landscape when not properly maintained or kept under control and noise from chilling/packing shed is ongoing and insidious.

Some felt there were environmental issues to be considered: are an environmental disgrace; the plastic discards should be recycled; intensive - irrigation, pesticides, so greater residues; environmental pollution when plastic disposed of; rather not have out of season fruit and vegetables than polytunnels; should be a better colour.

Others felt controls were necessary: their closeness to houses and their number needs controlling; need a national/local policy about polytunnels; if I had to look at them out of my window I would be against polytunnels; currently not affected by the noise from polytunnels, but can appreciate that they are noise-intrusive and unattractive; I am not against polytunnels, but 'rules' need to be made clear on their

maintenance etc; don't mind a small number, obviously they detract from the countryside but, the regulation or otherwise of polytunnels could only be dealt with by central government.

Concerns were also raised about safety and transportation: lorries too big for Ickham and farm mini buses need to slow down and respect local residents first and foremost.

Those that were not against polytunnels said: polytunnels are a fact of agricultural life; I don't like out of season fruit and vegetables and wish there wasn't a need for them - but farmers have to make a living.

However in the summer of 2009 (after the questionnaires were completed), more polytunnels were erected even closer to resident's homes. Residents also became aware that planning permission was needed and had not been sought.

This, together with the sale of 406 acres of Church land, which posed a threat of greater polytunnel development around Ickham, galvanised a group of residents to form the Ickham Resident's Action Committee (IRAC) to fight such developments. IRAC has the support of over 180 residents in and around the parish.

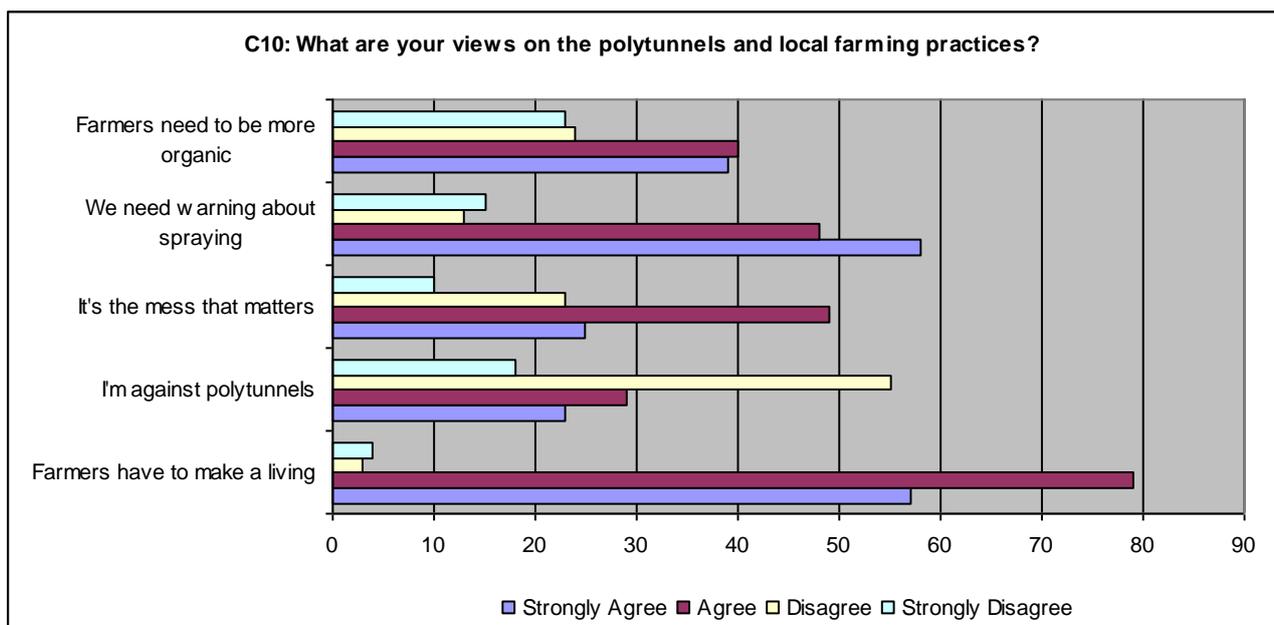
IRAC supports farmers and the rights and needs of fruit farmers to use polytunnels, provided they are in locations which are already well screened by mature hedging, are well away from houses and specifically not in or near Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Conservation Areas. IRAC has proposed a compromise to remove the 6 blocks of polytunnels closest to houses.

This shows how quickly change can occur in the light of new developments and that we need a strong system in place to regulate all types of development.

However, overall there is great support for our local farmers and 95% agreed that farmers have to make a living.

Action:

With the Parish Council being well aware of the polytunnel issue, and the formation of the campaign group IRAC, action is already being taken. The main issues about polytunnels are being very well coordinated by these groups and it only remains for the Environment Action Group to act upon the 'housekeeping' issues of preventing mess, maintenance and road cleaning. This will be done in consultation with the Parish Council, farmers and IRAC and will include clearing litter up at source and providing litterbins.



"I don't like out of season fruit and veg and wish there wasn't a need for them - but farmers have to make a living."

“Whilst the local farmers are of the view that how they farm is their own business, spraying is clearly an issue for us all as we are all affected. They have to make a living and we have a right to breathe clean air.”

C10	What are your views on the polytunnels and local farming practices? Other comments: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Polytunnels - eyesore; cause plastic debris around village; are poorly maintained; generate filthy roads; their closeness to houses needs controlling; are an environmental disgrace	16
	It's not the polytunnels - it's the intensive food production aspects - lorries that are too big for Ickham, food production plants going 24 hours a day.	4
	Obviously they detract from the countryside but, the regulation or otherwise of polytunnels could only be dealt with by central government	4
	100% support for farmers	3
	Polytunnels are a fact of agricultural life.	2
	Farm transportation (mini buses) needs to slow down and respect local residents.	2
	Farming has enough restrictions and to impose on this level is unrealistic and intrusive on a difficult time for farmers in this area.	2
	Farmers need to work and operate as they need, to make their business viable, however they would be advised to refrain from using noisy vehicles before 7am and from using excessive sized lorries in the village, if they wish to keep the locals on side.	2

Opportunity 11 - The ‘New Village Green’

The proposals for the New Village Green generated more negative comments than positive. Residents clearly did not want the green used for a car park (75% against), swimming pool (74% against), part used for a pavement (61% against) or cricket / golf practice nets (52% against). Only 31% of residents wanted the green left as it is.

Opinion was more divided on its use for allotments, multi sports court, tennis court and use for a market. More favoured proposals were to improve the current picnic area (62% great / good idea), provide a children’s play park (59% great / good idea), have an orchard with a picnic area (58% great / good idea).

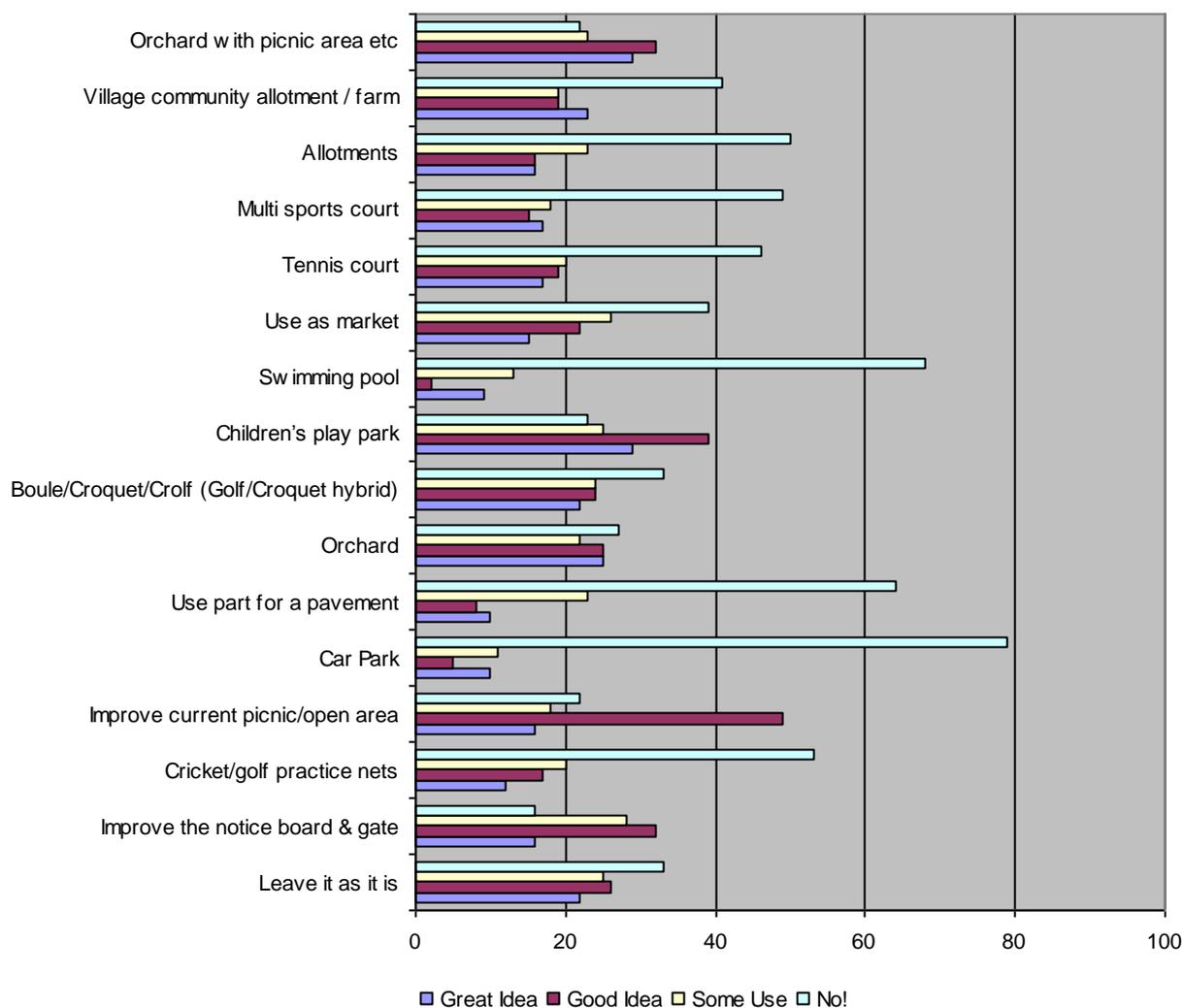
Some residents were unaware that this area belongs to the Parish and several noted that the locked gate was uninviting. There was concern that all the proposed suggestions have enormous financial / planning implications, prohibitive maintenance costs or are simply not practical.

Action:

From the questionnaire the direction to take is to improve the New Village Green. The favoured option is to plant a village orchard with a picnic area and some children’s play equipment. A vegetable plot for children is also a possibility.

With a little more consultation with parishioners the Environment Action Group, in conjunction with Ickham & Well Parish Council will create and advertise a plan for the space. This will be carried out in an open meeting in January 2010 with the preferred and costed option being passed to the Parish Council for their consideration.

C11: In Ickham the 'New Village Green' next to Ickham Court Farm is there to benefit the Parish. What would you like it to be used for?



"Change padlocking arrangement (on the gate to the green) - makes it look like it's not meant to be used."

C11	In Ickham the 'New Village Green' (not the Church Green) next to Ickham Court Farm is there to benefit the Parish. What would you like it to be used for?	Totals
	Selection of common responses:	
	All the suggestions have enormous financial/planning implications, not to mention prohibitive maintenance costs or are simply not practical	7
	Orchard	5
	Part as car park / some controlled parking parallel to The Street.	4
	No parking outside the gates	3
	Trees (cedrus libaris)	3
	Picnic area	3
	Some play equipment for children	3
	Allotments would not incur further traffic in Ickham and would also serve residents with badly needed resources.	2
	It is too close to houses for added noise, such as balls being hit around.	2

4 people said: *"Unaware that this land was of benefit to the Parish."*
 3 people said: *"Never seen it used and the gate is always shut."*

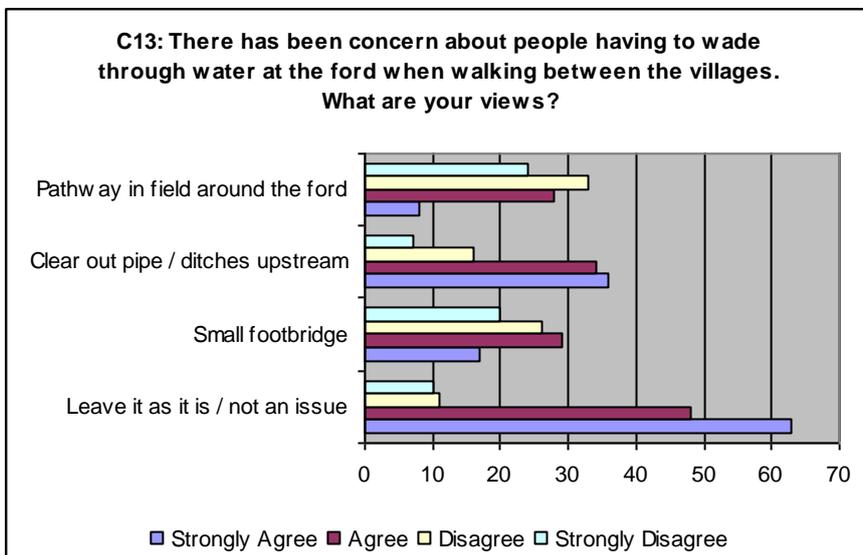
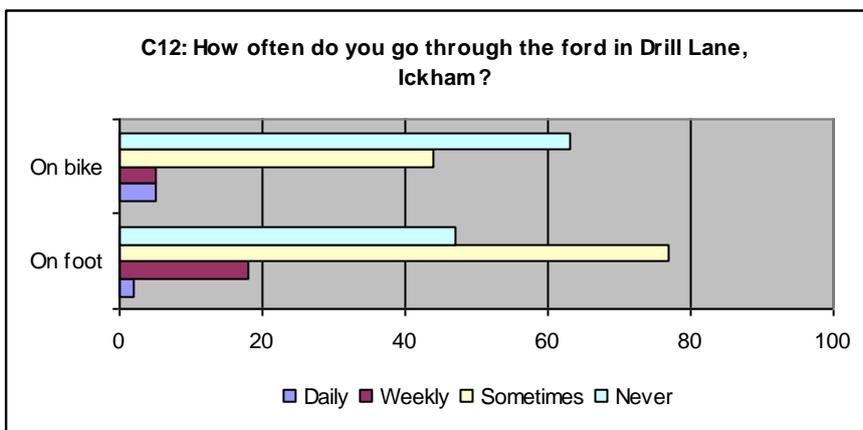
Opportunity 12 - The Ford in Drill Lane

Only a small proportion of residents go through the ford on foot (14% daily / weekly) or by bike (7% daily / weekly) on a regular basis.

The question regarding residents' views on concern about people having to wade through the ford was difficult to analyse as some residents had ticked one option whilst others had ticked two. Many people felt that the ford should be left as it is but equally there was a clear desire for the ditches to be cleared. Half the residents who responded felt there should be a small footbridge but only 38% favoured a path around the ford. It was pointed out that a pedestrian walkway was considered during construction but it would have been too expensive.

Actions:

The Environment Action Group, in conjunction with the Parish Council, is to set out a structure for drainage ditch clearance and contact the relevant authorities and individuals. Options such as paths and footbridges can be costed and be considered for viability.



C13	There has been concern about people having to wade through water at the ford when walking between the villages. Other suggestions: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	It doesn't run all the time. It is hardly deep when it does.	5
	Stepping stones	4
	Wear boots	3

"A pedestrian walkway was considered during construction but was too expensive."

C: Environment Action Plan

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Prevent dog fouling of footpaths	Provide poop bags and bins	Canterbury City Council	Parish Council / Parish Plan Committee	Suggest positions for bins. Organise provision of bins
Provide playground equipment	Liaise with Ickham & Well & Littlebourne PCs	Ickham & Well & Littlebourne PCs	Parish Plan Committee	Obtain funding
Prevent mess generated by polytunnels	Provide litter bins	Farmers / CCC	Conservation Society	Encourage removal of litter
	Clear litter up at source	Farmers / farm workers	Parish Council / Parish Plan Committee	
Notify residents when spraying is to happen	Organise system of notification	Farmers / Parish Plan Committee	Ickham website	Improve communications with the farming community
Improve the New Village Green	Plant an orchard / improve the picnic area / provide children's play equipment / make a vegetable plot for children	Ickham & Well PC	Parish Plan Committee / Ickham residents	Donate a fruit tree / hold a design competition / buy play equipment / organise insurance / organise funding / consult neighbours / improve the entrance

D: Village Hall

Most residents (81%) have never booked the Village Hall for an event. The Hall is used for Parish Council meetings, public events and meetings, as a polling station and for local society events. The most popular private use for the Hall is for parties and family events, such as christenings, weddings and wakes. Unsurprisingly, Hall funds are restricted by a lack of bookings and anything to encourage further bookings would be fully supported by the Parish Council.

Some residents (9%) have never been to the Village Hall, but nearly half (48%) go there once or twice a year, while most of the rest (37%) go to several events during the year and a few use the hall every month.

Various suggestions were made at the Parish Plan launch for what the Hall could be used for and these ideas and others were put to parishioners in the questionnaire.

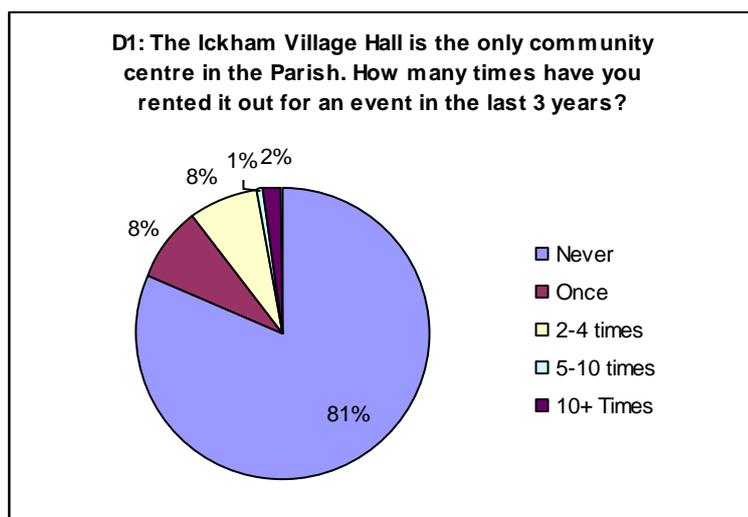
The most popular suggestions were: nursery / kindergarten / crèche (90% very keen or keen) and farmers' market (90%). The next most popular were: dance classes (89% very keen or keen); monthly produce exchange (87%); flower and produce show (85%); over 60's club (85%); first aid classes (84%); painting

classes (84%); amateur dramatics (83%); arts and crafts classes (82%); barn dance (81%); language classes (80%) and computer classes (80%).

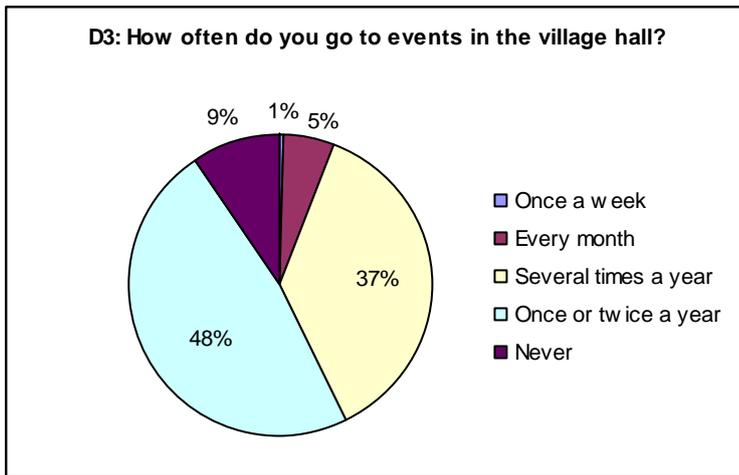
Not quite such popular suggestions were: film club (79%); choir (79%); youth club (78%); photography (78%); flower arranging (77%); after school club (77%); bring & buy (76%); Tai chi (72%); bridge classes (71%); folk music (69%); training venue (68%) and American supper (65%).

Suggestions producing a more divided response were: shop (59% very keen or keen), bakery (58%) and tea-room (55%). The only suggestion that produced a largely negative response (55% not keen or against) was for use for car boot / table sales. The only other suggestions proposed were for local history and similar talks, sports activities and yoga.

Since the meeting Scottish and English Country Dancing sessions have been organised by the Parish Plan Committee and a choir is also underway.



D2	What events have you rented the Village Hall for?	Totals
	Parties including birthday parties & children's parties	21
	Christening	4
	Conservation Society social evenings and AGMs	3
	Wake	2
	Jazz dance club	2
	Wedding	1
	Village events and meetings (not included in above)	1
	Morris dancing practices	1
	Evening dance classes	1
	Rehearsal for music event	1
	Gatherings - miscellaneous	1
	As a member of a society	1
	Auction and Skittles	1
	Quiz night	1
	Parish Plan launch.	1



“The Village Hall committee would be glad for any useful suggestions for additional activities.”

Opportunity 13 - The Village Hall windows need covering for talks, films, etc.

Action:

The Village Hall Management Committee received a grant for fitting black out blinds in the hall and this has been completed. This will enable better presentations and hopefully a film club.

Opportunity 14 – More events need to be organised at the Hall

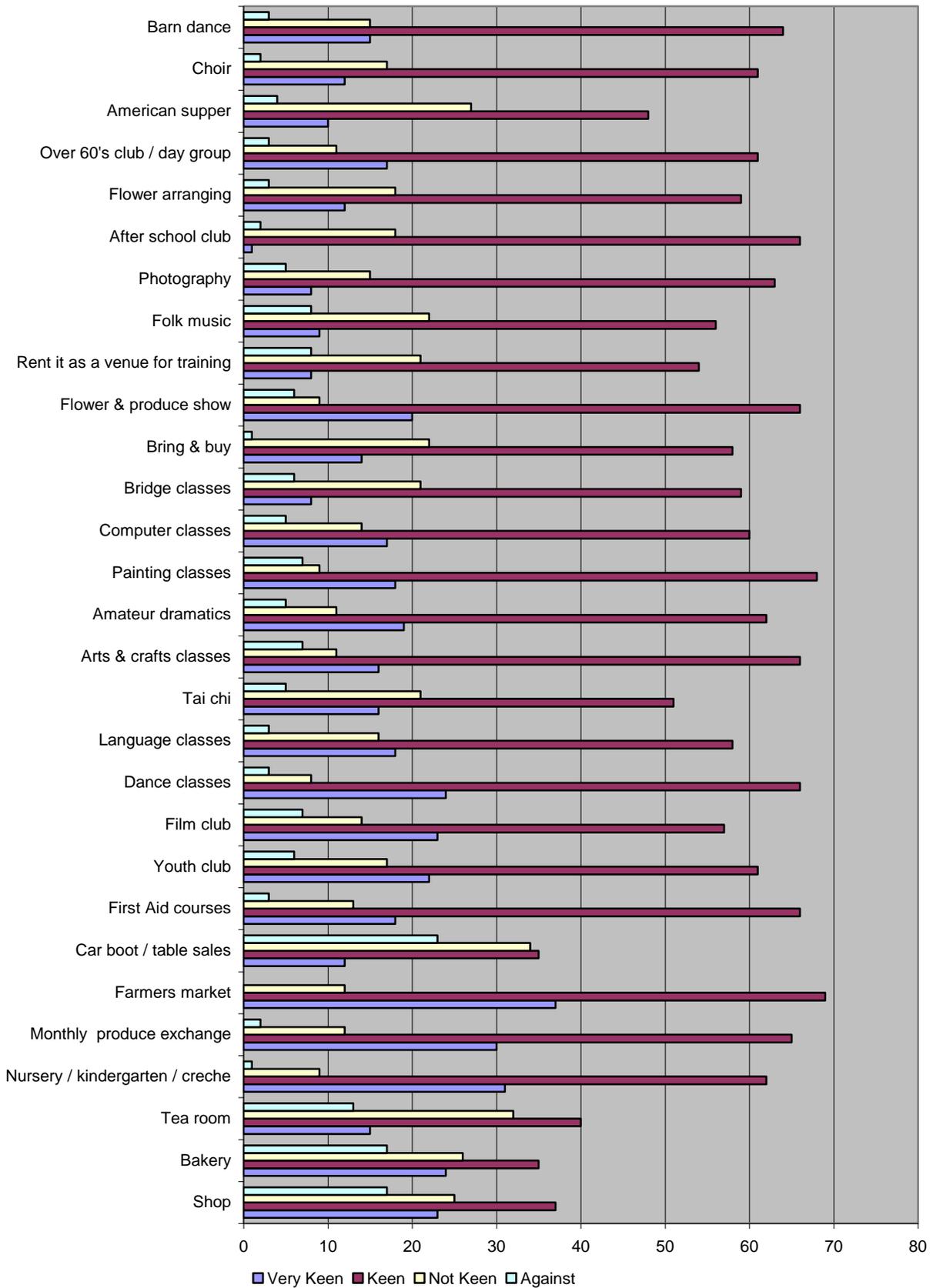
Although there is clear support for continued use of the Village Hall, it was pointed out by several people that all activities require someone who is prepared to run or organise them. It was also pointed out that a car park would be useful.

Action:

The Parish Plan Committee will discuss how to encourage and promote events in the Village Hall. With their other responsibilities neither committee want to be responsible for running a programme of events so volunteers are being sought.

Improving the parking at the Village Hall is one of the tasks that could be considered by the Roads Action Group.

D4: What would you like to see the Village Hall used for?



D4	What would you like to see the Village Hall used for? Other suggestions: Selection of common responses:	Totals
----	---	--------

	Local history & similar talks	2
	Sport activity!	2
	Yoga	2

"Teenagers have very few facilities in the village."

D4	What would you like to see the Village Hall used for? Selection of other comments:	
	Any use of the Hall is a good thing	13
	All are fine uses but require someone to run / organise them.	9
	Parking an issue - needs a car park and sign	5

"Clearly there are opportunities for improvement, e.g. curtains, better lighting and the stage requires rethinking."

"Useful to know a flexible space exists for various functions"

D: Village Hall

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Hall windows need covering for talks, films, etc.	Fit blackout blinds / curtains	Village Hall committee	Conservation Society	Help raise money
Events at the hall	Organise events	Volunteers	Parish Plan Committee	Send details of suggested events / those interested to organisers
	Promote events	Village Hall committee / Parish Plan Committee	Ickham website	Send out e-mails / flyers to all those interested
First aid course	Organise course	Parish Plan Committee		

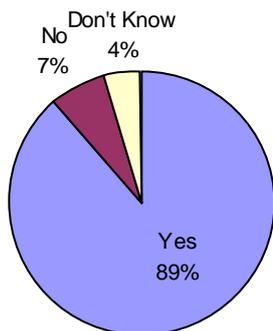
E: St John's Church

Information collected through the Parish Plan Questionnaire showed that the role of the Church, and the building itself, is cherished by those living in the Parish yet interest in attending regular services is limited.

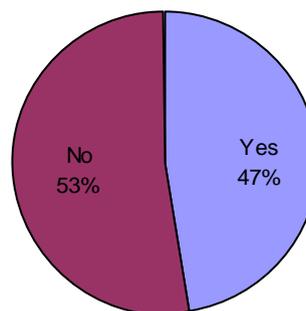
The Parochial Church Council has received all the data and comments and will respond accordingly.

N.B. It should have been made clear in the Parish Plan Questionnaire that questions E1 to E8 were posed by the Parochial Church Council and not by the Parish Plan Committee.

E1: Do you think it's important that there continue to be a functioning Church of England in Ickham ?



E3: If you think the Church could/should do more, would you be willing to help?



E2	In your opinion, are there ways in which the Church could do more to promote village life and help families, e.g. by working with children or by visiting (in cases of sickness, loneliness, etc.). Please comment: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Visiting sick / lonely / elderly and newcomers	13
	Family service	10
	Local vicar needs a higher profile / to be more friendly and accessible	5
	Involve church in village events	4
	Being more child friendly	4
	Sunday school	3
	Playgroup operating from the church	3
	A social events area/ history of the village's location combining walks and other local parishes and their history.	3
	Lay community increase support and promote village cohesion in a non-secular way	2
	Involve schools to hold assemblies and events like prize giving in the church.	2
	More regular services	2
	Help for people to get to church	2
	Possibly more contact with all levels of the community	2

"The rector does his best to do this."

"Open days for newcomers."

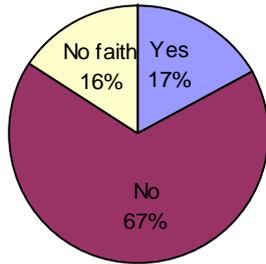
*"Depends on how you see the Church:
is it about God or social work? What is its function in the 21st century?"*

"Less formal and try out more participative events, such as the open air Carol service in Dec 2008"

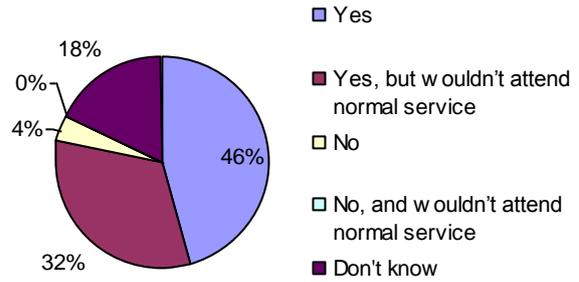
"Are there enough children to produce any child orientated functions in the church?"

E3	If you think the Church could / should do more, would you be willing to help?	Yes	52
		No	58

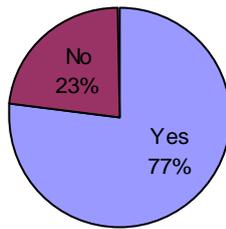
E4: Are you a member of a church or worshipping community other than Church of England?



E5: Do you feel welcome in Ickham Church?



E6: Would it matter to you personally if Ickham Church were to close?



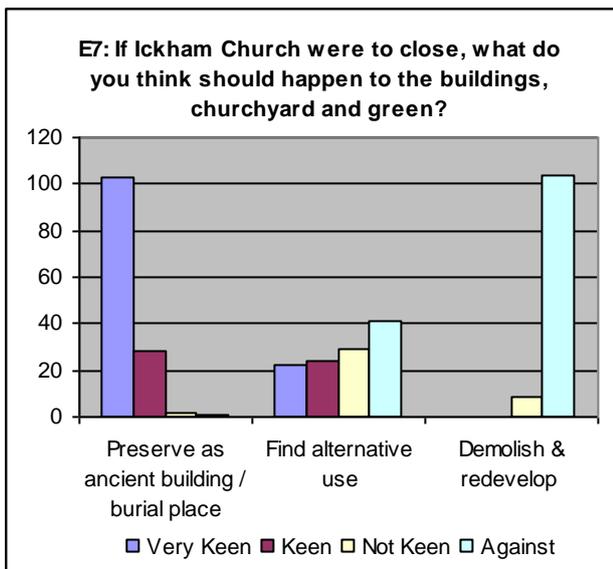
E6	Why would it matter to you personally if Ickham Church were to close? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Central point / part of village community	33
	Focal point of village.	12
	Sense of tradition and continuity in presence	9
	Part of social fabric of community	8
	Historical significance	8
	Lovely building	6
	Special place in family - baptisms, christenings, etc.	6
	Quiet place for peace and reflection	4
	Need a place to celebrate births, marriages and deaths.	4
	Diminish quality of life / community spirit	3
	Church gives life in village	2
	It takes much energy and creativity to generate interest. Other parishes have done it by being available and outgoing and it always ends up a cyclical level of enthusiasm.	2
	Churches shouldn't be closed and turned into houses	2
	Loss of this community would leave Ickham with nothing save the pub.	2

"A community needs a church, no matter how small the congregation."

"(The Church) Has a lot to offer if it is aimed at families and a younger audience."

E6	Why would it not matter to you personally if Ickham Church were to close? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Other denomination / No faith	4
	2 thriving churches within very easy reach.	4
	Never been in the church	2
	It's an under used building and could be put to a better use	2

"(The Church is a) huge responsibility for such a small community."



E7	If Ickham Church were to close, what do you think should happen to the buildings, churchyard and green? Other suggestions: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Combine preservation of heritage with a use for the community / Use as social gathering centre in place of village hall if both buildings can no longer be sustained	4
	Churches can be adapted for wider community use, but it has to be carefully done if the essential purpose is not to be lost	2
	The green could be used for various events in the summer months.	2

*“Church, nothing else.” “It is important to keep Ickham Church in active use.”
 “Not to be even thought about.” “Can’t imagine. It would be devastating to close the church.”
 “I have members of my family buried there and intend to be buried there myself”.*

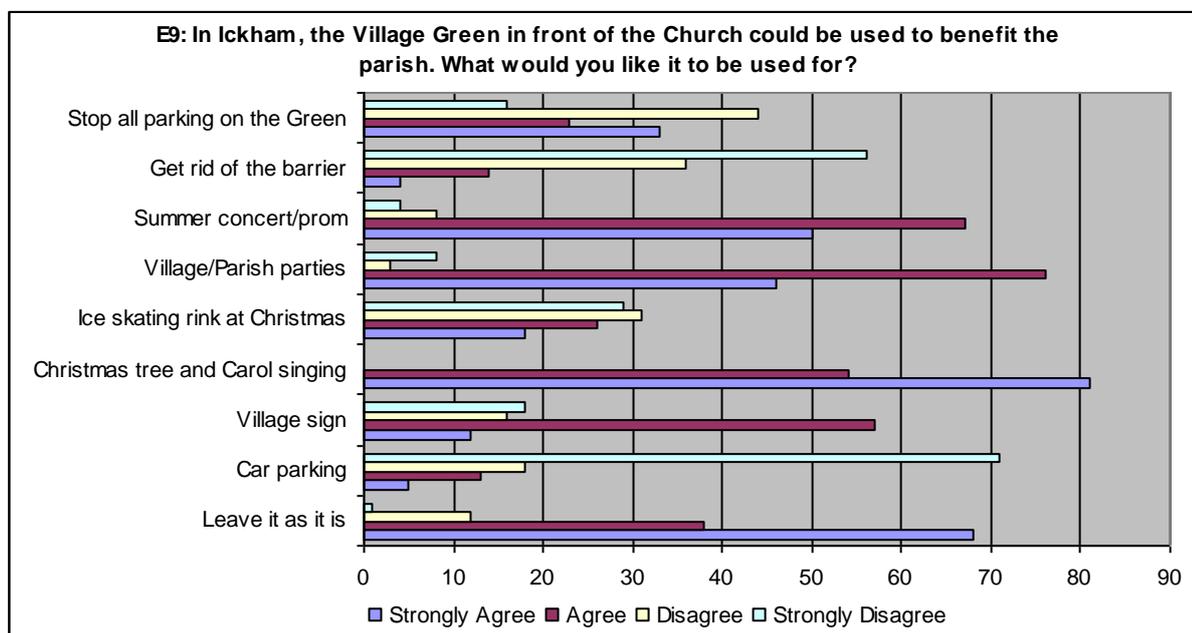
*“Mediaeval churches are hardly ever demolished.
 Some have been converted for residential use, but I think this is inappropriate.”
 “It is a grade 1 listed building. The churchyard is holy ground,
 and the green in front I believe is Council owned.”*

“The church and green are important as landscape, beauty and open space in the village!”

E8	Would you like to see the Church building and green made available for more social purposes, and what would you like to see happen in the Church? (e.g. events, clubs, meetings etc). Please comment here:	Totals
	A concert venue	10
	Community events	7
	Social events	6
	Fairs (harvest, spring, Christmas)	5
	Goodies on the green	5
	Meetings	4
	Talks	3
	Flower festival	3
	Yes	7
	Yes, but surely the village hall provides a better space/environment for many of these activities.	8
	Anything that is proposed by way of use in the church will impinge on the village hall’s territory.	4
	No	4
	No, it is important as a calm and peaceful place and space.	3
	The green can already be used for social events.	3
Use it more as the Village hall and green	3	

“Being large and cold and having neither running water nor toilets the church is not really suitable for many activities as it is.”

“No - I like the church as it is - a place for contemplation. I like the green for its simplicity as a green space.”



E9	In Ickham, the Village Green in front of the Church could be used to benefit the Parish. What would you like it to be used for? Suggestions: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Parking only for disabled attending services	11
	Use 2-3m wide strip adjacent to The Street to allow parking perpendicular to roadway to increase available parking space / front section for local parking.	8
	Important visual contribution to the setting of the church and as the centre of this linear village is a welcome space between buildings	3
	A gentle space is required.	3
	Let's be different from other villages.	3

Other suggestions: Easter egg hunt, harvest festival, summer festival, farmers market, outdoor sales, plant sales, French style 'Vide Grenier' (flea market) and croquet lawn or bowls.

Comments and Conclusions:

Village Sign:

Of those who agreed with the idea of a village sign, 59 residents felt it should go on the village green and 21 of those specified that it should be near the road. Another group of residents (16) felt that there should be signs on each of the roads into the village, while others specified a particular road or place. Some people disagreed with the idea.

Suggestions for what an Ickham village sign should depict included the church, farming, oast houses, village history and the people of Ickham. It was suggested that a design competition should be held for a village sign. In the follow up meeting there was however very limited support for a sign on the green so focus will be on the signs as you enter the village.

E10	If a village sign were to be erected where should it go? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	On the village green (church green)	36
	- near the road.	21
	- in front of the church.	2

	One on each of the incoming roads into the village	16
	Junction of Nargate/Drill Lane	6
	Should be in the centre of the village.	3
	By the pond.	3
	The world is littered with excess signage. Please leave it.	2

*“KCC road signs tell us where Ickham is, there is no need for anything else.
Fancy signs as at Littlebourne are a waste of time and money.”*

E10	If a village sign were to be erected what should it depict?	Totals	
	Selection of common responses:		
	Church		10
	Farming - Fields, hops, oasts, fruit trees, a farmer...		9
	Oast houses		7
	Village history		6
	More rural style village name sign required		3
	Should be ordinary Ickham village sign		3
	Depicting Ickham		2
	People/us		2
	Research - treasury name		2
	Have a design competition.		2
	Don't know		10
	Not needed.		6

E: St John's Church & Village Sign

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Helping St John's Church to survive	Encourage more use of the church and the church green	Parochial Church Council (PCC) / Ickham residents	PCC / everyone	Support activities in the church and on the church green
Providing a village sign	Hold a design competition	Parish Plan Committee		

F: Crime, Safety And Anti-Social Behaviour

When considering crime and anti-social behaviour in the Parish the issue of most concern was speeding with 78% of residents being greatly concerned or quite concerned.

Other issues had mixed responses with theft from gardens and other land concerning 45% of residents; theft from other buildings (not homes) concerning 41%; theft from homes concerning 39% and vandalism including graffiti and littering concerning 38%.

Issues of least concern were garden bonfires (12%); mugging and other threatening behaviour (17%); drunkenness, rowdiness and foul language (28%) and trespass (29%).

Individuals were concerned about particular issues such as crop spraying at weekends, noisy pumps, selfish parking, motorbikes, fly tipping and fireworks.

In general it appears that there is little perceived crime or anti-social behaviour in the Parish apart from speeding, which we considered earlier. Parishioners are reminded that they should report suspicious

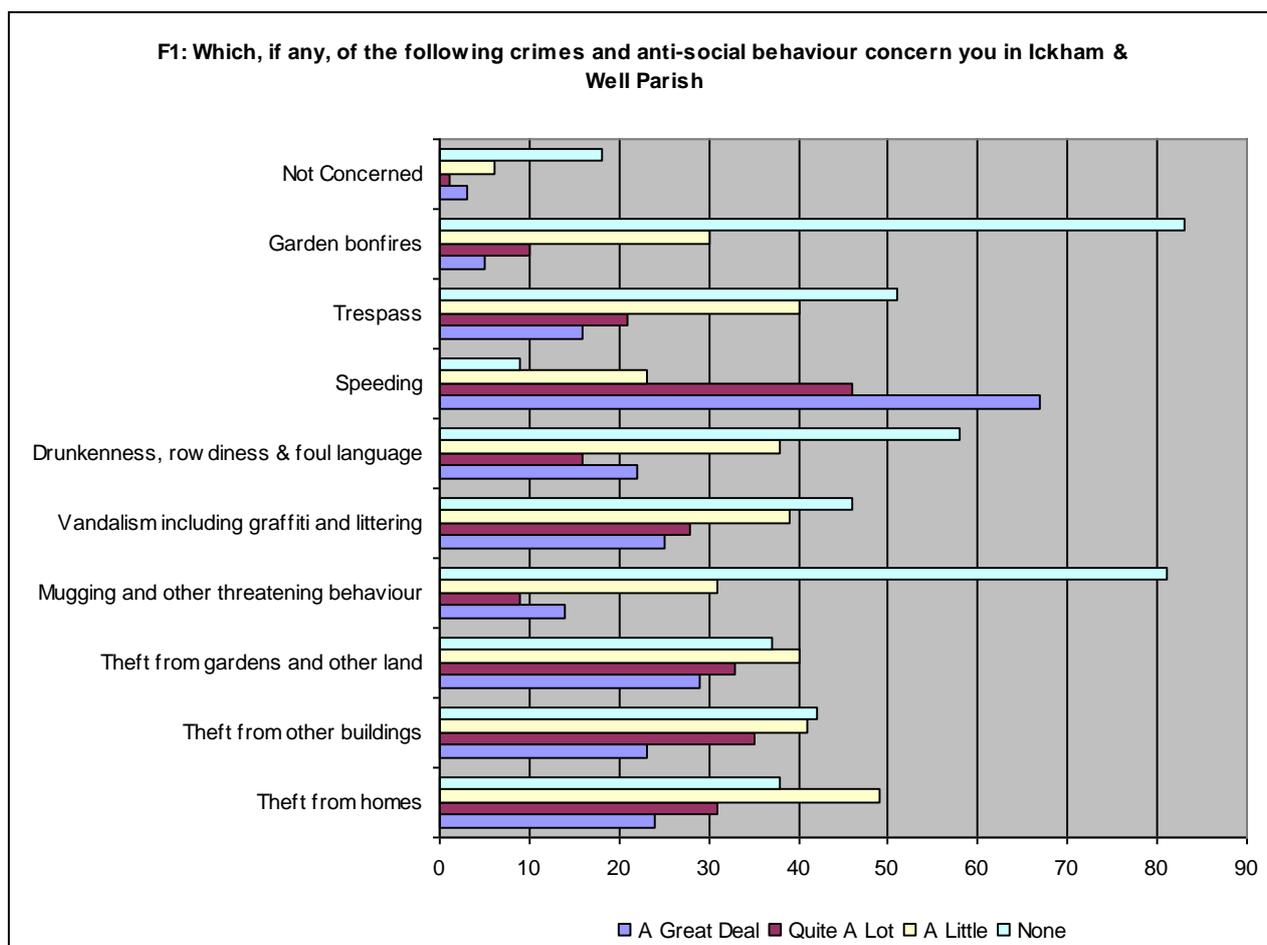
behaviour or incidents to the Police/PCSO immediately and if they are concerned they can also gain security advice from the police.

Police Coverage

Residents were split on their perception of the police coverage of the Parish with 50% believing that it was poor, 45% believing it was adequate and 5% believing it was good. However, this may be a reflection of the low levels of crime.

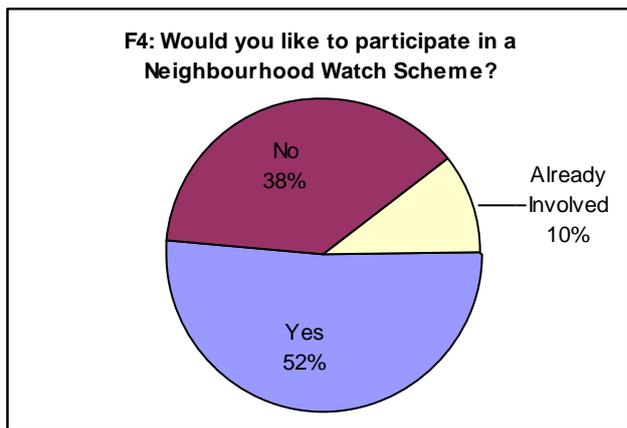
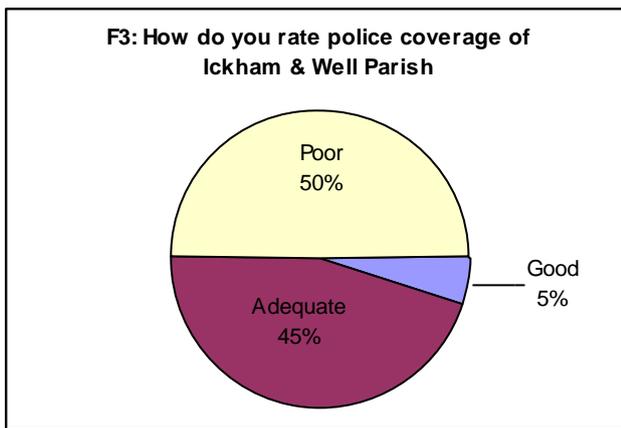
Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Residents were also split on their wish to participate in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Interestingly, 10% reported that they were already involved in such schemes although the Parish Plan Committee is not aware of any formal schemes in the area. There is no immediate plan to start a scheme but if residents are interested in starting a scheme the committee will put them in touch with others who have shown an interest.



F1	What other crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Ickham & Well Parish? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Crop spraying - particularly weekends and bank holidays.	1
	Noise from pumps in river.	1
	Selfish parking	1
	Noisy motorbikes, especially on Sundays in adjacent field.	1
	Fly-tipping	1
	Noise nuisance from fireworks	1

F2	Which, if any, of the above have you suffered from in Ickham & Well Parish in the last 12 months? Please give further details:	Totals
	Thefts from homes:	
	Theft and graffiti twice	2
	Theft and damage of property	1
	Thefts from other buildings:	
	Theft from a garden shed. Police not interested enough to visit, just issued a crime number.	3
	Thefts from gardens and other land:	
	No thefts in the past 12 months, but have suffered thefts from garden prior to that.	1
	Theft of fuel	4
	Vandalism including graffiti and littering:	
	Vandalism - generally	9
	Vandalism with mud thrown at our house.	1
	Vegetable garden vandalised and mains water left running 24 hours.	2
	Vandalism - Have had tomato ketchup and mince spread all over our cars when we used to park on the road in School Lane.	2
	Litter - especially cans, bottles (alcohol) and fast food wrappings i.e.. MacDonald's thrown into the garden.	2
	Litter - School Lane	2
	Litter - outside the pub.	2
	Fly tipping	5
	Drunkenness, rowdiness and foul language:	
	Drunkenness and foul language.	8
	Occasional pub rowdiness	2
	Speeding:	
	Speeding - generally	38
	Speeding - specifically in The Street / round bends / School Lane / Seaton - Ickham	6
	Trespass:	
	Trespassing on a weekly basis, particularly in the summer	3
	Trespassers coming on to the property and urinating, drunks from the pub urinating and vomiting up the side of the property	1
	Cars turning in private courtyard.	2
	Garden bonfires:	
	Bonfires - generally	11
	Bonfires - specifically: smell at inconsiderate times of the day / farm bonfire / during day / weekends	6
	Other:	
	Joy riding on crops	3
	Poaching and hare coursing	2
	Walking where no footpaths	1
	Spraying	1
	Pump noise into the night	1
	Fireworks too loud and too late at night	1
	Occasional traffic noise and large vehicles	1
	Mainly cars	1
	Alarms going off	1
	None	14



F: Crime, Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Reduce speeding in the Parish	See Section B			
Reduce theft from gardens and other buildings	Report suspicious behaviour or incidents to the Police / PCSO	Those concerned	Police / PCSOs	Encourage liaison with Police and community officers
	Increase security / Increase awareness of problems	Everyone	Police / PCSOs	Publicise warnings / police bulletins of criminal activity on website
Set up Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	Liaise with those already involved in informal schemes	Interested residents	Police / PCSOs	Liaison with interested groups. Publicise on website

G: Housing and Local Development

Although present Planning Policy allows minor development only in Ickham, it was decided that residents should be asked what development would be acceptable to them in the Parish.

Residents stated that they would accept the following types of development: conversion of redundant buildings (86% strongly in favour or in favour); affordable housing for local needs (65%) and single dwellings (56%). However, 60% of residents were against or strongly against small groups of less than 10 houses, while 89% were against or strongly against larger groups of houses.

Most residents (76%) were strongly in favour or in favour of no development at all. Residents also commented that any development should be in keeping with the village layout, building density and character.

Type of housing required in Ickham & Well

Around half of all residents felt unable to say what types of additional housing are needed in the Parish. Residents thought there is a need for additional housing as follows:

- subsidised rental homes for local people (31% strong need or some need / 30% no need)
- owner occupied (30% need / 29% no need)
- sheltered housing (28% need / 25% no need)
- housing for people with disabilities (28% need / 24% no need)
- subsidised sale to local people (27% need / 33% no need)
- housing authority rented (24% need / 35% no need)
- private rented (19% need / 33% no need)
- shared ownership (18% need / 32% no need)
- by employment (12% need / 36% no need)

Generally less than 15% of residents feel there is a strong need for any type of additional housing, although 16% feel there is a strong need for subsidised rental homes for local people.

Location of additional housing

Residents mainly used this section to expand on the need or lack of need for additional housing rather than proposing locations. The general consensus was that it is very difficult to see if or where any further development could be accommodated without detriment to the village.

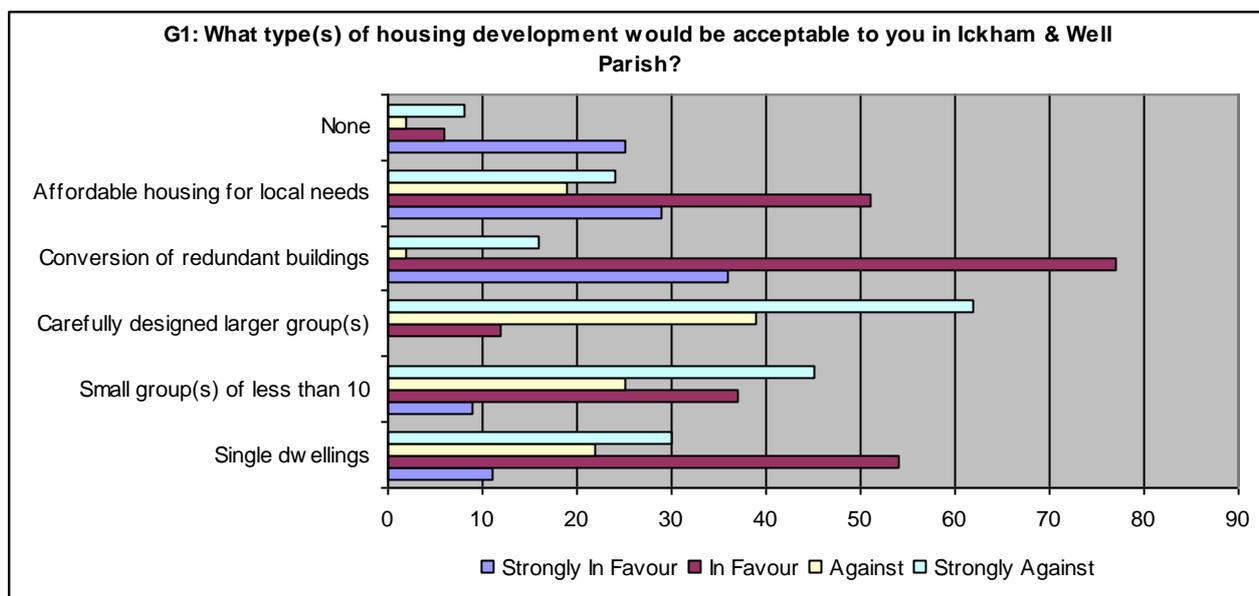
Public services

A significant proportion (39-63%) of all residents felt unable to comment on whether public services would be able to cope with any further development in the Parish, except in the case of roads (only 15% didn't know) and medical facilities (26% didn't know).

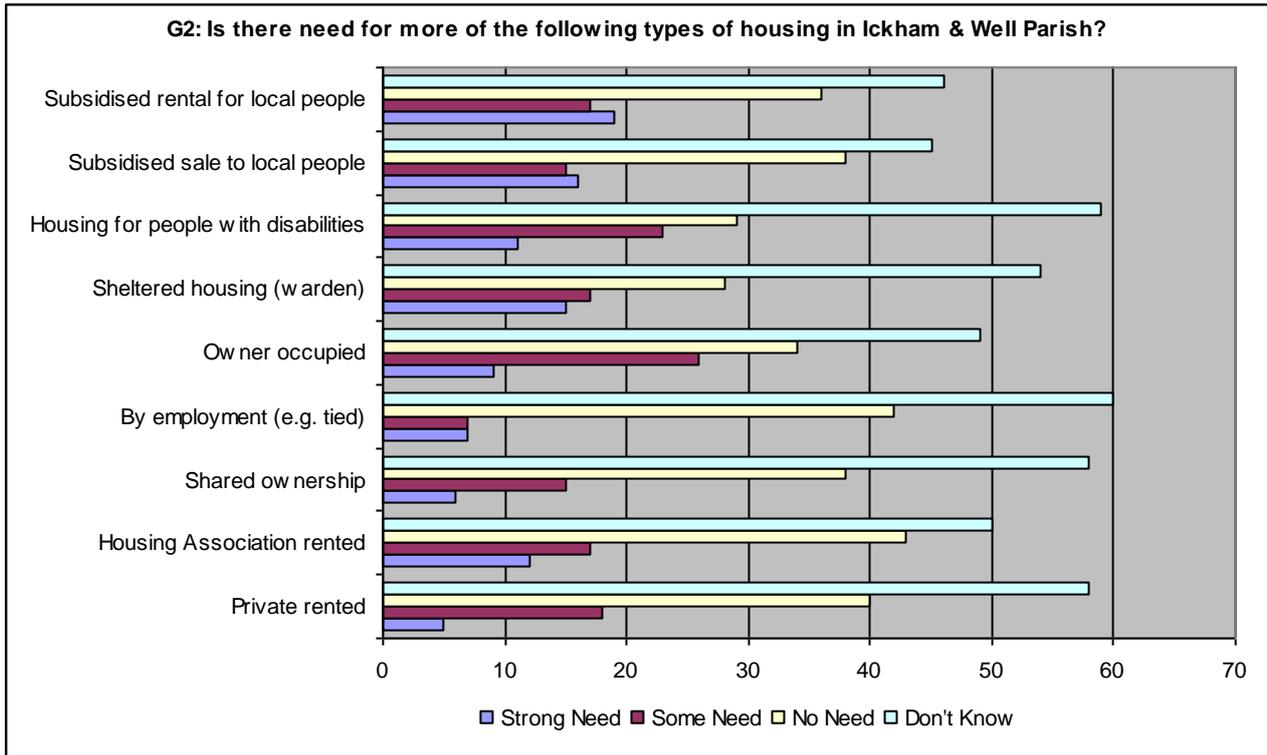
Only a small proportion (3-6%) felt that public services would be able to cope very well, except in the case of roads where less than 1% felt that the roads would cope with any future development.

Residents felt that some public services would cope reasonably well: electricity (31% very well or well / 8% poor); and gas (31% very well or well / 6% poor). Other services had a more mixed reaction: schools (30% very well or well / 31% poor) and water (22% very well or well / 28% poor).

Residents felt that the remaining services would have trouble coping: medical facilities (27% very well or well / 47% poor); drainage (19% very well or well / 36% poor) and roads (16% very well or well / 69% poor).



G1	What other type(s) of housing development would be acceptable to you in Ickham & Well?	Totals
	Selection of common responses:	
	Any development should be in keeping with the village layout, building density and character.	5
	Affordable housing - encourage young families. There are too many 'executive' style houses. Wingham and Littlebourne both have shared equity housing.	5



“Planning Policy H9 para 2.58 on housing for local needs in the countryside and para 2.56 of CCC District Local Plan (first review) - states minor development only in Ickham.”

N.B. Planning Policy in Canterbury is under review at present.

“Affordable housing - for whom! Is there evidence of need? Such locals as remain appear to have local authority housing or rented accommodation or their own houses.”

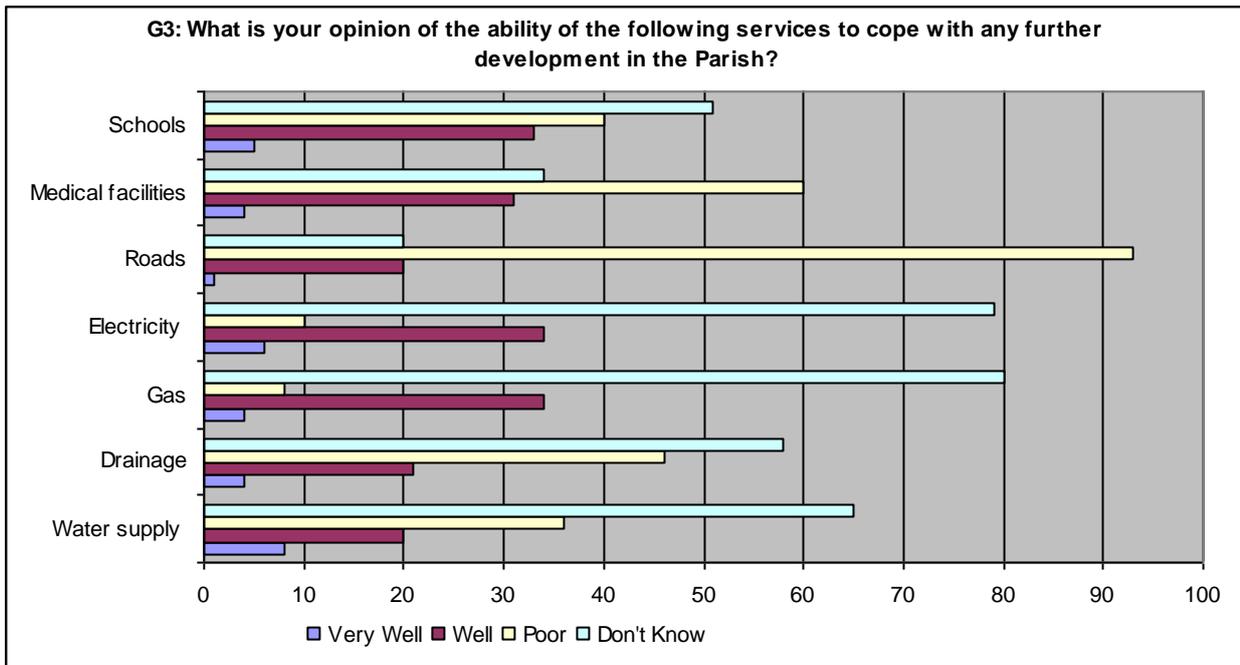
“Be flexible and consider development on individual grounds - the nature of the Village could change if development for profit took place.”

G2	Where is there a need for more housing in Ickham & Well? Selection of positive common responses:	Totals
	Local families	5
	Ickham needs young families	4

“Small properties for first time buyers - but you will never get that in Ickham, the properties are too expensive.”

G2	Where is there a need for more housing in Ickham & Well? Selection of negative common responses:	Totals
	I don't want to see any more development / Not in Ickham!	4
	It would be a mistake to extend Ickham out along any of the perimeter lanes	2
	There isn't a need / The "need" probably resides with the landowners/builders who wish to create a need and therefore a profit.	2

“Very difficult to see if or where any further development could be accommodated without detriment to the village.”



G3	Other comments on the ability of public services to cope with any further development in the Parish? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	4 burst water mains in the last 5 years in Bramling on the A257	3
	Parking everywhere is getting worse - there are too many cars	3
	All appear adequate at present except for the water supply and roads.	2
	Water supply in the south east is over stretched and getting worse.	2
	Sewage overflows into gardens because of poor maintenance (4" drains inadequate)	2
	Answers to all the above depend on nature and size of development	2

Opportunity 15 - The land between the concrete track off Drill Lane and houses on The Street, Ickham

Although there are no current plans to change the use of this land, there is concern in Ickham about its future and residents were asked for their views on six proposed uses, which had been put forward at the Parish Plan launch.

Most residents (92%) would oppose any sale of the land due to fears of development while 85% favour retaining the land as farmland. A large number (79%) would like to see the farm buildings on or adjacent to this land repaired.

Reactions were more mixed on the other options with 55% in favour of creating village or school allotments, 51% opposed to selling the land to adjacent homeowners and 60% opposed to using it as parking for the houses on The Street.

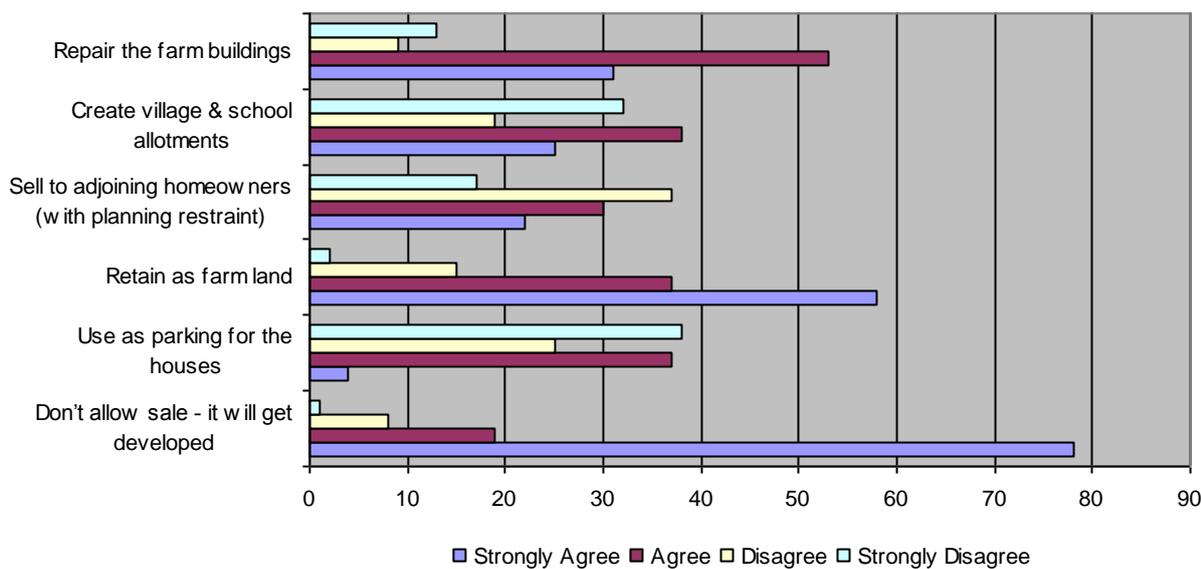
Other suggestions for the land included modest housing development, construction of garages, a cricket ground, fitness hall and amenities for the village but all stressed that it should be well designed and in keeping with the village.

Action:

For preventing development on the land behind The Street all those with concerns should highlight these to Ickham & Well Parish Council and their City Councillor. The Parish Council will then inform CCC and KCC where necessary.

For repairing the farm buildings on Treasury Field comments and concerns should be passed to the Environment Action Group who will discuss opportunities and suggestions with the land owner/farmer.

G4: In Ickham, the land between the houses on The Street and the concrete track coming off Drill Lane is owned by the Church Commissioners. What are your views about this land?



G4	In Ickham, the land between the houses on the Street and the concrete track coming off Drill Lane is owned by the Church Commissioners. If you live in Ickham, what other views do you have about this land? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	You can't prevent a sale	5
	If you were looking for a site for some modest development, say 3 or 4 affordable houses if the need were to be established, then perhaps they might be fitted in inconspicuously in the vicinity of the 'concrete road' but only if the feel and appearance complied with the character of a workaday village	5
	Sell it to the property owners so they can extend their gardens and have rear access. / I would love to purchase a plot at the back of our garden and have access to park our car with a garage or just open parking, with no buildings	4
	Redevelop farm buildings	3
	No development	3
	Cricket ground	2

"Why can't it be left as it is?"

"Some development to improve general amenity and solve other (parking?) problems in village."

"What happens to the area needs to be non-contentious and something that is imaginative and beneficial to the village community."

Opportunity 16 - Preventing any further development either within or around the villages

Whilst acknowledging that the Parish needs affordable housing and a balanced population, there was concern at excessive and unsuited development in the area.

Action:

Residents concerns regarding development should be passed to Ickham & Well Parish Council and their City Councillor. The Parish Council will then inform CCC and KCC where necessary. The Parish Plan Committee and Ickham & Well Residents Action Committee (IRAC) would also be interested in opinions and concerns.

G5	If you have any other concerns about planning issues anywhere in the Parish, please state them here: Selection of common responses:	Totals
	Please don't build - leave Ickham alone to be peaceful and to be the countryside hamlet it is and was. / Ickham is a small rural village, let's keep it that way. / Enough development in Ickham already. / No more large houses on small plots of land (like the one opposite Treasury View)	5
	Villages need a balance of old and young and different types of people.	3
	Ickham needs affordable housing.	3
	Greater PC awareness of planning procedures and restraints.	2

"I'm concerned that Canterbury City Council doesn't bother to notify immediate neighbours of planning applications. It seems sticking a notice on a lamppost more than 50 metres away is sufficient in their view."

"I am concerned that the land between Heelaway and Littlebourne bridge should not become built up. It should remain as open country (except for the packing shed already existing)."

*"Vested interests, use of unsympathetic architecture.
However, reasonable alterations and choices should be approved"*

G: Housing and Local Development

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Residents concerns regarding development to be passed on to policy makers	Pass information to Ickham & Well PC, City Councillor, CCC & KCC	Parish Plan Committee, Ickham & Well Residents Action Committee (IRAC)	Everyone	Be aware of all planning applications made in the Parish
Prevent development on the land behind The Street	Forward concerns to Ickham & Well PC, City Councillor, CCC & KCC	Parish Plan Committee	Everyone	Be aware of all planning applications made in the Parish
Repair the farm buildings on Treasury Field	Forward the suggestion to the land owner / farmer	Parish Plan Committee		

H: Information and Communication

The most useful means of communication in the Parish are "Church and Village" (86% very useful or useful) and flyers (also 86% very useful or useful). These were closely followed by word of mouth (83% very useful or useful) and then by the village notice board (71% very useful or useful).

Slightly fewer residents used the Kent Messenger newspaper and the website (52% and 50% very useful or useful), while only 37% found Littlebourne Post Office very useful or useful.

The mobile library was least used for finding out about events in the Parish (60% never used it).

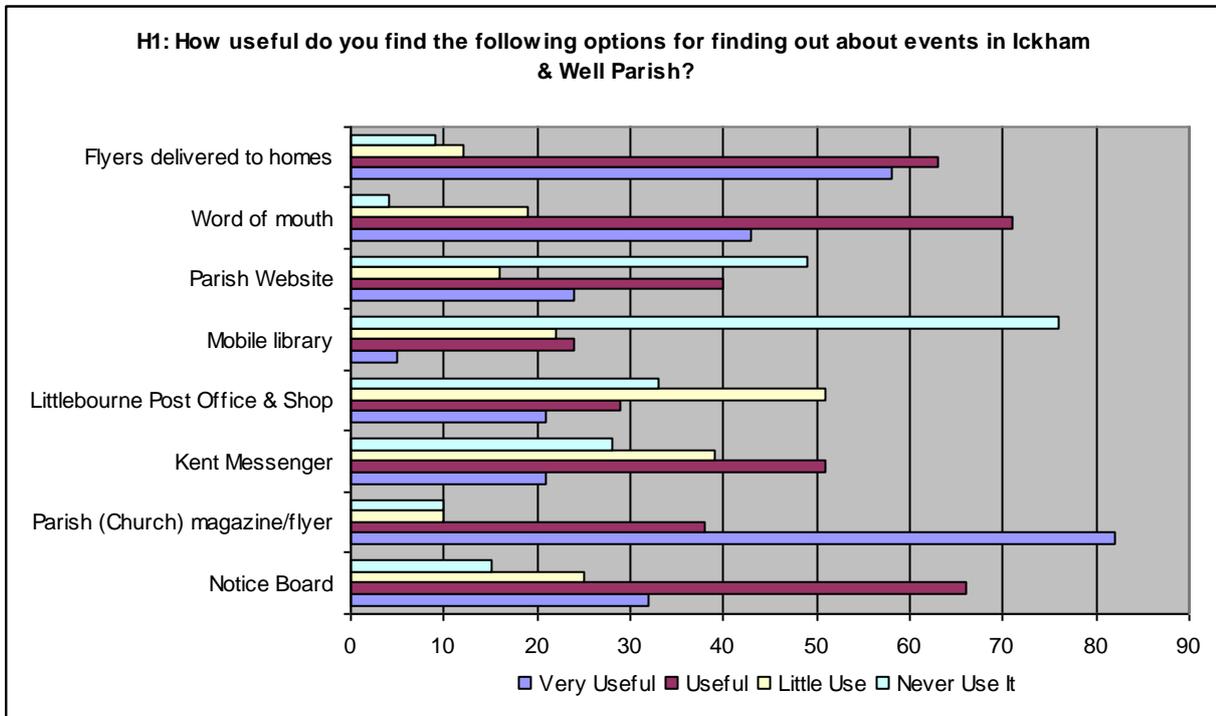
The Parish Plan website

The most popular suggestions for inclusion on the website were: to publicise local walks and places of interest (92% very useful or useful); a page for local businesses to advertise (90% very useful or useful); "Church & Village" (88% very useful or useful); a regular newsletter (88% very useful or useful); to publicise when farmers are spraying (85% very useful or useful); a letters page / message board (78% very useful or useful).

useful); local wildlife seen / bird watching group (77% very useful or useful); and local stories (76% very useful or useful).

Suggestions producing mixed responses were: cricket newsletter (59% very useful or useful); photo contests (52% very useful or useful); and recipes (49% very useful or useful).

The only suggestion that was not popular was poetry (28% very useful or useful). Few people objected to the website (20% of only 39 respondents).



Opportunity 17 - Ickham Village Notice board glass fogged up

Action:

The glass has been replaced by the Parish Council

Opportunity 18 - Increase distribution of “Church & Village”

Action:

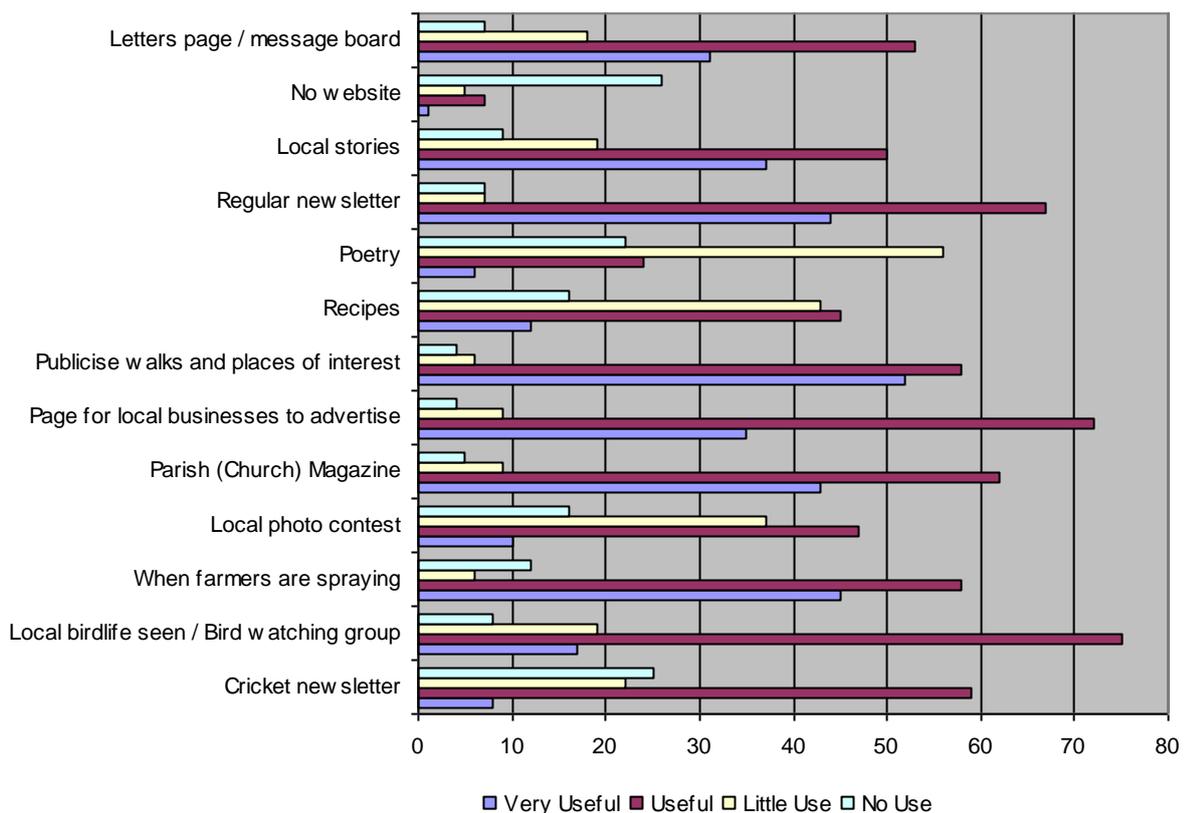
The Parish Plan Committee are discussing with the editor about extending distribution to Bramling, Garrington and possibly Lee Priory. Having a supply of the “Church & Village” at the Haywain will also be discussed.

Opportunity 19 - Expand the website

Action:

The Parish Plan Committee will place additional sections and information on the website.

H2: As Ickham & Well Parish Website has been created as an additional means of communication. What would you like to see on it?



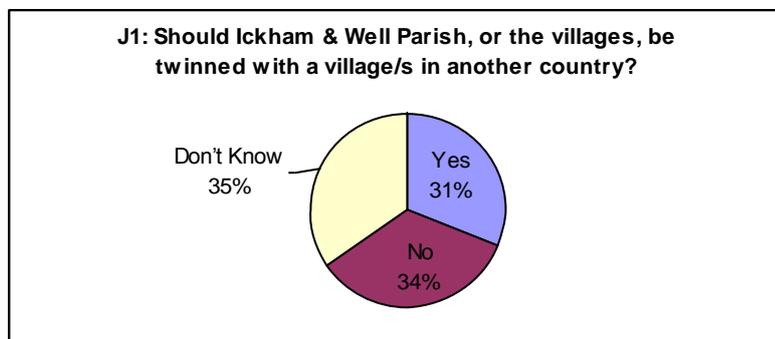
H: Information and Communication

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Notice board glass fogged up	Replace notice board glass - done	Parish Council		
Increase distribution of "Church & Village"	Extend distribution to Bramling, Garrington and possibly Lee Priory. Supply at Haywain.	"Church & Village" editor / distributors	Parish Plan Committee	Brennan Dwyer to discuss with Geraldine Wyant
Additional sections / information on website	Expand website	Megan Taylor	Parish Plan Committee / anyone with interesting articles / information to post on website	Encourage residents to e-mail interesting material to website

J: The Future of Ickham & Well Parish

Twining

Although there were only slightly fewer in favour of twinning (31%) than were against the idea (34%), the largest majority was undecided (35%). Therefore, there is not enough support to follow up this proposal.



J1	Where would you choose for Ickham & Well Parish, or the villages, be twinned with a village/s in another country? Selection of positive common responses:	Totals
	France – Nord Pas de Calais / Burgundy	29
	Belgium – Boitsfort, Brussels	4
	Italy - Tuscany	4
	Netherlands	3
	Spain	2
	Portugal	2
	Barbados	2

“Happy either way, but why doesn't the village sponsor a charity project, or get more into Ickham Uganda?”

J1	Where would you choose for Ickham & Well Parish, or the villages, be twinned with a village/s in another country? Selection of negative common responses:	Totals
	Not sure of the benefits and purpose of twinning.	7
	It is a good idea but through experience in other areas the community is too small to sustain an active 'twinning' after the initial twinning procedures.	3
	Twinning is jobs for the boys (and Girls) and costs us money!	2
	I wouldn't. It is just a bun fight for councillors. / A jolly for someone??	2

Other proposals

A slight majority of residents (57% strong need or some need) felt there was a requirement for a cricket ground. However, it was pointed out that Wickham & Stodmarsh Cricket Club is committed to Goodnestone ground for the next 5 years.

The majority of residents (61% little need or no need) felt there was no need to install spotlights to illuminate the church and it was pointed out that spotlights would add to general light pollution.

The majority of residents felt there was some need to have a road sign cleaning rota although this was felt to be low priority and the responsibility of Highways. The committee will ask the Parish Council to contact the Highways dept. at KCC.

Other suggestions included cleaning out the pond; recycling bins; litter picking; and clearing the ditches. These will be considered by the Environment Action Group.

Opportunity 20 – St John's, Ickham, church wall

An overwhelming majority (93% strong need or some need) felt that the Ickham Church wall requires repair.

Action:

The Parish Plan Committee is currently working on a plan with the Parochial Church Council to get the wall repaired.

Concerns about the future

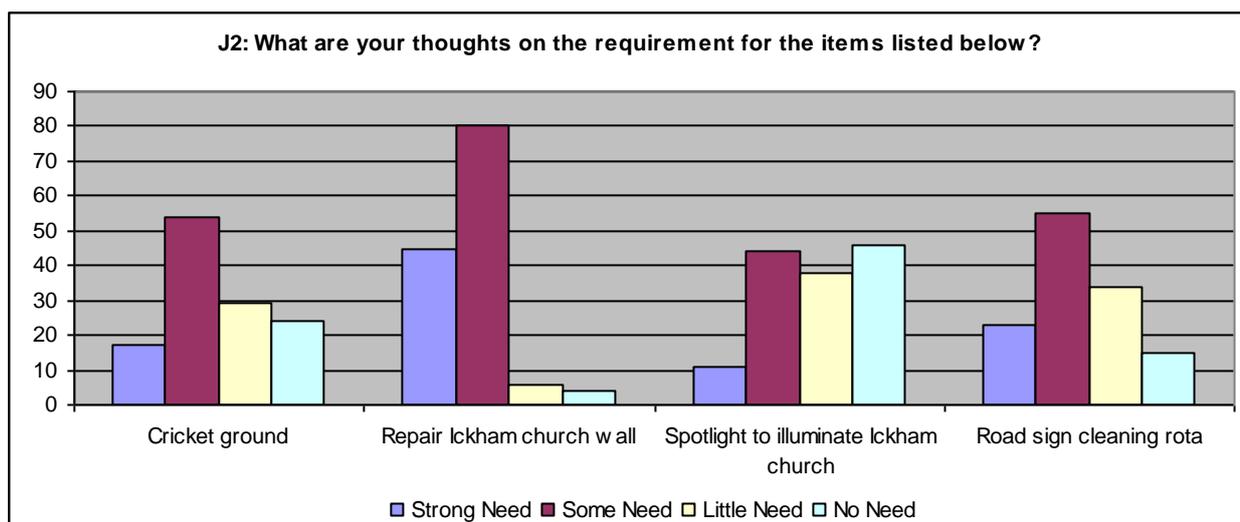
The constant threat of development was the greatest concern for 89% of residents (44% strong and 45% some concern). While the lack of a village shop concerned 74% of residents (31% strong and 43% some concern).

The lack of local parks for children concerned 69% of residents (24% strong and 45% some concern) while the lack of parking concerned 67% of residents (16% strong and 51% some concern).

Having too few buses concerned 66% of residents (23% strong and 43% some concern) and poor village signage concerned 56% of residents (12% strong and 44% some concern).

Light pollution was generally felt to be less of a problem with only 50% registering concern though a large proportion (19% of the total) felt it to be a strong concern.

Other concerns included large trees overhanging properties; Highways and other improvements, which could ruin the rural nature of the Parish; more buses causing problems for pedestrians; large lorries servicing the farms; and the lack of allotments. The Environment Action Group will consider these.

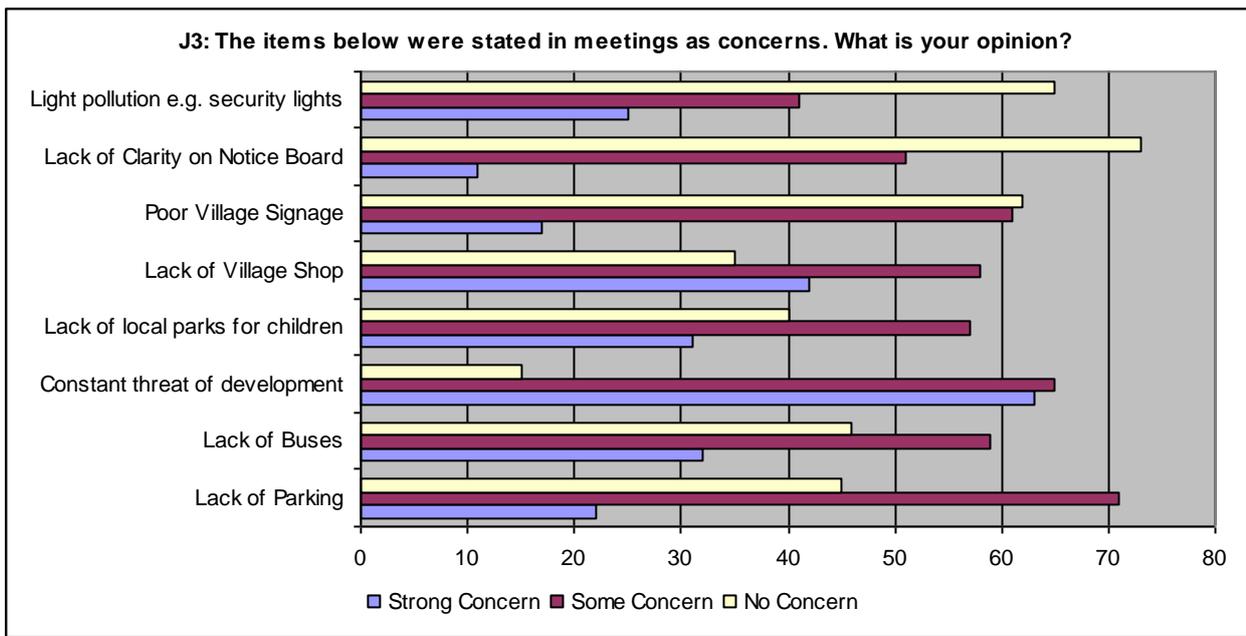


“Road sign cleaning rota is a very low priority.” “Road signs should be cleaned by Kent Highways.”

“Spotlight has been suggested before (rejected by the PC).” “Please don’t add to light pollution with church spotlight.”

“Careful repair to Seaton end of Churchyard wall and clearance of undergrowth on the pathway needed.”

J2	What are your thoughts on other requirements for the Parish?	Totals
	Selection of responses:	
	The pond to be cleaned once per year to remove duckweed	3
	How about some recycling bins?	1
	More litter picking	1
	Rota to clean out the ditches and Little Stour (in partnership with Littlebourne & Wickhambreaux)	1



“Switch lights off after 11 pm to reduce light pollution.”

J3	What other concerns do you have?	Totals
	Selection of responses:	
	Large trees over houses e.g. Sean Barrett and the Old Shop	3
	The attraction of Ickham is the way it is now - signage, streetlights, pavements, yellow lines will take away the rural atmosphere...	2
	Worry that more buses would create a safety issue due to lack of pavements.	2
	Speed of cars through the lanes and village.	1
	Huge lorries to Mansfield tractor shed and other farms.	1
	Lack of allotments	1

“Change is part of evolution and it cannot be stopped but it must be carefully and strictly controlled if the good effect of previous generations is not to be lost. As William Morris so wisely said ‘We are only caretakers for those that come after us’. Here in this Parish do not try to bring the town to the countryside.”

“Would not like major changes. We live in a rural village, if people want street lights, speed bumps, telling farmers when to spray etc they should live in a town with all the facilities they require.”

“Not to give in to pressure for development. Preserve the unique character of an ancient village.”

“Gentle encouragement of the friendly atmosphere.”

“It’s delightful - that’s why we moved here. Peace and quiet and lovely countryside.”

“Also like to take opportunity to congratulate the Planning team for having put this questionnaire together: it covers very many of our concerns in a fair and objective manner.”

Enhancing the Parish

Most people wanted the Parish to remain as it is. Suggested improvements included more, better footpaths / cycle ways; more trees and hedges; more buses; less traffic; more affordable family housing; a proper village pond; more wildflower meadows; more organic farming; flower boxes in the summer; and a host of other suggestions.

J4	What would enhance Ickham & Well Parish?	Totals
	Selection of common responses:	

Leave it as it is / Leave us alone! / Nice as it is / Why change what we have! / Do not believe it needs enhancing / If it was left as a rural farming village	9
More/improved footpaths / More all weather cycleways	5
A village shop	4
More trees. / Restoration of hedges where they have been removed / More native hedgerows	3
Better public transport.	3
Less traffic.	3
Affordable housing for families	3
A nice village sign	3
A proper village pond	3
Wild flower meadows	3
Organic farming on fields along stream	3
Flower tubs and boxes during summer.	3
Play area	2
Pre-school	2
Fewer parked cars on road	2
Pavements	2
Travelling grocery shop	2
Tidying up the village pond(s)	2
Clear up	2
Regular weekly litter clearance	2
Better maintenance of council properties	2
The sense of community is important and we should all work on that.	2
Conservation officer from CCC to visit and make suggestions	2

Opportunity 21 - Village Sign

Of those who agreed with the idea of a village sign, 59 residents felt it should go on the village green and 21 of those specified that it should be near the road. Another group of residents (16) felt that there should be signs on each of the roads into the village, while others specified a particular road or place. Some people disagreed with the idea.

Suggestions for what an Ickham village sign should depict included the church, farming, oast houses, village history and the people of Ickham. It was suggested that a design competition should be held for a village sign.

Opportunity 22 – Requirement for a Village Shop

Action:

Many villagers in Bramling and Ickham would like a village shop. With the Ickham shop closing many years ago, and a new independent shop probably not being economically viable, it was found that many village communities have very successful shops in village pubs. The committee will approach the Duke William and Haywain with ideas about stocking certain items and building this up

Opportunity 23 – Clean up and improve the pond

Action:

The Parish Council actually maintains the pond and has it regularly cleaned. The Conservation Society are however interested in helping and the Parish Plan Committee will co-ordinate the two groups with the aim of improving the attractiveness and usefulness of the pond. There are however several factors which limit the usefulness of the pond and great efforts have already been made by the Friends of Ickham and Parish Council to get the pond to the condition it's in now.

Opportunity 24 – Involving the elderly

Action:

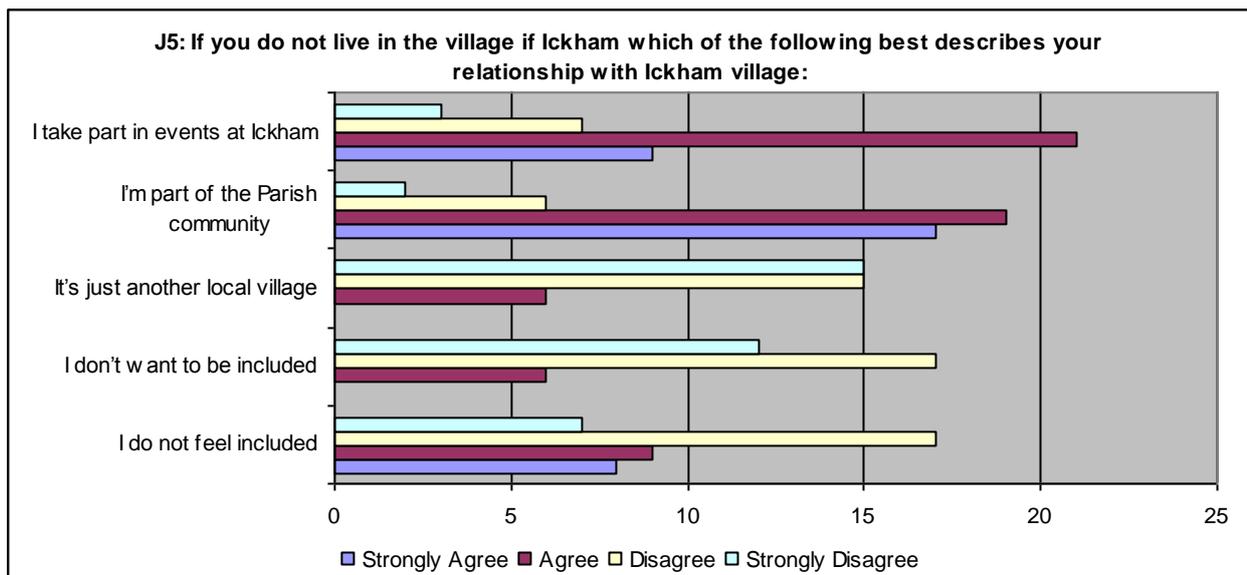
There are many in the villages that look after elderly neighbours but there is nothing organised on a local level. The committee have organised a bi-monthly lunch club for the elderly and will discuss this further with the WRVS, the local pubs and other local organisations. Littlebourne has also introduced a monthly seniors' coffee afternoon to which all Ickham & Well seniors are invited to.

Relationship of other settlements to Ickham Village

Of those who live outside Ickham village the majority (83%) disagreed that Ickham is 'just another village' (41.7% strongly disagreed, 41.7% disagreed) and no one strongly agreed with the statement. The majority (83%) disagreed with the statement that they "did not want to be included" (34% strongly disagreed, 49% disagreed) and no one strongly agreed.

The majority of respondents (82%) felt they were part of the Parish community (39% strongly agreed and 43% agreed) and 75% took part in events in Ickham (22.5% strongly agreed, 52.5% agreed). A smaller majority (58%) disagreed with the statement that they "did not feel included" (17% strongly disagreed, 41% disagreed).

In other words, residents of Bramling, Garrington, Lee Priory and Seaton generally feel that they are included in Ickham, they want to be included, they take part in village events, Ickham is not 'just another village' and they are part of the community.



"Question too ambiguous."

J5	If you do not live in the village of Ickham, what other views do you have about your relationship with Ickham village:	Totals
	I find the people of Ickham very friendly	3
	Not a very good question. Many people I think feel strongly that they can take part if they want to. Many feel that they want to be themselves and belong occasionally.	2
	At Seaton we do not consider ourselves to be anything other than part of Ickham	2
	Working full time I have limited time for inclusion	2

"Ickham is a commuter village for Canterbury and London and I cannot see that trend being reversed, especially when the high-speed trains arrive. However it would be good if it could retain an identity as, say, Wye, near Ashford, has managed to do. More community activities and more mutual understanding between farmers and other residents might help forge more of a community identity and spirit, which is perhaps not currently very noticeable."

"In our experience significant change in the village and Parish have not preserved or enhanced the delectable character that it once had. For instance: changes in farming practice, even perhaps if inevitable; the shop becomes a house; new housing generally - the farm sites, the glebe and along School Lane; multiple car ownership and too many impetuous drivers. Changes of this kind do not help, so what else can you do but resist change?"

"Would not like major changes. We live in a rural village, if people want streetlights, speed bumps,

Suggested changes for next 5 years

Most people did not want change or any development in the Parish. The suggested changes that did arise included better footpaths; more village activities; speed reductions and tackling the problems of the A257; better public transport; fewer lorries; more allotments; and more facilities for the young and old.

J6	All communities change over time in response to the changing expectations and lifestyles of their residents and to local, regional and national pressures. What changes would you like to see take place in Ickham & Well Parish over the next five years? Selection of common responses:	Totals
	None / I do not want the character of the village changed	15
	Keep as a village / rural	6
	No more/further development	5
	Better footpaths	5
	More activities for the whole village.	5
	Little or no change required - Ickham is great as it is.	4
	Tackle speeding. / Speed limits reduced and traffic calming on all roads entering Ickham and Bramling.	4
	Ickham & Well PC to address the problems of the A257 in Bramling	4
	Improvement in the public transport system	4
	Allotments for local residents in the village.	4
	If the village is to retain its charm, any development will have to be closely controlled	3
	Better road surfaces	3
	Better cycle paths	3
	More people walking, using bikes & public transport.	3
	More facilities for children and teenagers.	3
	Plant black poplars - a native on the water meadows. Etc.	3
	Ideally keep it as it is, build the already good community feel	2
	Traffic calming / control	2
	Increased use of the Church / Hall as a growing base for wider activities	2
	Strong sense of community would improve the life styles of all inhabitants.	2
	More facilities for older population - mobile shop.	2
	No more massive refrigeration lorries driving down School Lane!	2

J: The Future of Ickham & Well Parish

What needs doing?	What can be done?	Who can do it?	Who can help?	How can we help?
Repair the church wall	Clear undergrowth, cut back trees and rebuild damaged sections of wall	Parochial Church Council (PCC)	Parish Plan Committee, volunteers	Obtain funding, quotations from builders and permission to fell trees.
Road sign cleaning	Notify Highways Dept.	Residents, Ickham	Ickham & Well	Publicise contact details

		& Well Parish Council	PC	
Mitigate the threat of development	Notify concerns to: Land owners, Parish Council, Canterbury City Council (CCC), Kent County Council (KCC)	Individual residents Ickham & Well PC, Ickham & Well Residents Action Committee (IRAC)	KCC, CCC, Ickham & Well PC, IRAC	Work with Ickham PC and IRAC
Start a shop in the village	Suggest having some basic items for sale in the pubs	Duke William, The Haywain	Parish Plan Committee	Publicise shop facilities
Enhance the village amenities	Improve play equipment at Seaton	Ickham & Well PC, Wickhambreaux PC	Parish Plan Committee	Obtain funding
	Improve the New Village Green	Ickham & Well PC	Parish Plan Committee / Ickham residents	See Section C
	Clean up the village pond	Volunteers, Ickham & Well PC	Conservation Society	Organise events
	Improve footpaths	Landowners, CCC	Ickham & Well PC	Propose improvements
	Litter and weed clearing	Residents, volunteers	Conservation Society	Organise events
Address concerns regarding parking on The Street	Discuss problems with Ickham & Well PC, CCC & Highways	Highways	Ickham & Well PC, Parish Plan Committee	Propose scheme to improve parking
Address concerns regarding speeding and traffic	See Section B			
Improve the bus service	Suggest improvements to local bus company.	Local bus company		
	Support community bus scheme.			

Hold more village events	Organise events in Village Hall, on the church green and in the village	Parish Plan Committee, local clubs & societies, individuals	Local residents	Organise and support local events
	Set up a lunch club for elderly residents	Duke William	Brennan Dwyer	
Keep the Parish rural with the village and hamlets	Work together to maintain the Parish and settlements	Residents, IRAC, Friends of Ickham, Conservation Society, Ickham & Well PC, CCC and KCC	Everyone	Support our local community and let the authorities know that we want to maintain our way of life.