



The Little Ouseburn Village Hall Listening Exercise

is an opportunity for all residents, of all ages in
Little Ouseburn, Kirby Hall and Thorpe Underwood
to influence your local community

What matters to this community?

Independent Review
October-December 2020

Background to the LOVE Project

Message from Edward Pearson, Chairman, Little Ouseburn Village Hall Trustees

Dear resident,

Many people in our villages took time and trouble to reply to the questionnaire which the Little Ouseburn Hall's Trustees sent out in 2019, when we were anxious to know what you thought about the Village Hall, and how improvements might be made both to the building and in the range of activities in it.

Now we are hoping that you will once again let us have your views. This time we need to gather information about your thoughts and feelings about living in this part of North Yorkshire, and how the Village Hall may, or may not, make a contribution to your quality of life.

Why do we need this? Simply because the plans we have for the Hall's future are heavily dependent on attracting substantial grants, and on being assured that major investment will be justifiable. So we are looking for evidence which will tell us, as clearly as possible, if our plans truly reflect your needs, as opposed to our own preferences and prejudices!

This exercise is likely to spread over several months and this website is one of the tools we hope you will use to engage and keep up to date.

I do hope you will find time to answer our various questions, and I thank you for your help.

Edward Pearson
Chairman, Little Ouseburn Village Hall Trustees

(Issued October 2020)



https://youtu.be/3Krzw_HL0ZE

Recap

The next few slides summarise the findings and key messages arising from the Little Ouseburn Village Hall Consultation completed in January 2019.

What the 2019 consultation revealed

Definite interest in 20 activities

Number of responses indicating an outright “Yes” as an interest in the suggested activities	
Fundraising Events	58%
Local History	49%
Live Music	48%
Yoga	47%
Cinema Club	45%
Coffee Mornings	43%
Wine Tasting Club	41%
Gardening Club	38%
Cookery Classes	38%
Keep Fit	38%
Pilates	34%
Dance Lessons	29%
Photography	25%
Lectures	23%
Children’s Activities	23%
Senior Citizen’s Group	22%
Computer & Phone Tutorials	22%
Foreign Languages	20%
Off road parking at night	18%
Drama	18%

Including milder interest in activities

Number of responses where both “Yes” and “Maybe” were given as an interest in the suggested activities	
Live Music	85%
Cinema Club	80%
Fundraising Events	78%
Local History	78%
Yoga	72%
Coffee Mornings	68%
Lectures	68%
Wine Tasting Club	67%
Cookery Classes	66%
Dance Lessons	64%
Gardening Club	63%
Keep Fit	62%
Pilates	60%
Foreign Languages	50%
Photography	43%
Computer and Phone Tutorials	39%
Drama	38%
Children’s Activities	38%
Senior Citizens’ Group	33%
Off Road Parking at Night	27%

What the 2019 consultation revealed

12 alternative ideas for activities and uses for the Little Ouseburn Village Hall

1. Bridge or Whist events
2. Badminton
3. Therapies or massage
4. Transformation into a Gastro Pub
5. Stamp Collecting
6. Horse Racing
7. Book Club, Free Library
8. Quizzes
9. Art Classes
10. The establishment of a local trading currency
11. Art Classes
12. Rural Arts Plays

Summary Analysis by Trustees

“The response to the survey suggestions of activities is encouraging. Several of the suggested activities are potentially easy to organise and offer, some less so.

It is also interesting to know that where responders were asked to indicate where they may be able to provide assistance through their experience and /or expertise there were several matches with those activities offered by both the survey and suggestions offered:

- Wine Tasting
- Contacts who run children’s groups
- Horticultural issues
- Marketing and social media
- Fitness Instructor
- Computer & mobile phone tutorials
- Bridge evenings
- Handicrafts

What the 2019 consultation revealed

Meeting / training room?

The provision of other facilities

- A question posed by the survey sought to gain an understanding from the responders whether they thought that the provision of a number of facilities such as a meeting/training room for 12/15 people, internet access or office space would be useful to them.
- **Only 10% responded positively to one or more of these ideas.**

Residents organising activities?

Willingness of villagers to take on the organisation of new group activities at the Hall

- ‘This area of survey received a lukewarm response with only 15% of responders expressing a willingness to take on any start up role for new activities, however within these small numbers came offers to run a wine tasting club, mobile phone/computing classes, a pop up café, a treasure hunt and bridge evenings.’

What the 2019 consultation revealed

Resident sentiments about the Village Hall

- With the exception of one responder, who was unsure, **all** expressed an enthusiasm to see the Hall thrive and be continued and strengthen in the future.
- Their views recognised the desire for the community to gather together and for the hall to be the active focal point.
- 49 responders gave open comments

“It is a critical resource...”

“Yes it’s important to keep it but only if the community supports it and that is not usually the case...”

“If we lose it, we lose it forever. It is important to keep the village community going...”

“Yes retain it. I found the Hall very helpful as a newcomer to LO. People have been friendly and welcoming...”

What the 2019 consultation revealed

Fit-out and appearance

“The hall requires serious maintenance and improvement if it is to be a viable and sustainable resource for the village...”

“The kitchen and hall interior need a professional makeover...”

“It needs a new user friendly and aesthetically pleasing layout, particularly the kitchen...”



What the 2019 consultation revealed

Trustee Summary

The survey response was most encouraging – not only in the number of responses that were submitted but also from the ideas and support that were evidenced. The most predominant message that came across was the strong affection felt for the Village Hall that is held in the villages and the recognition that it must not be allowed to decline and potentially lose its ability to sustain itself

Key Messages

1. There is a need to develop more activities to offer the community, a community that is expressing a willingness to come together.
2. The Hall is not as attractive as it could be and this is perhaps not encouraging the community to use the hall as a resource for their own private use or indeed to attract them to events already taking place.
3. The décor, appearance and current functionality of the Hall is potentially a disincentive for it to be used as a venue for those outside the immediate community.

What happened next?

- The information supplied by those who responded was closely examined by the Trustees and used to formulate a strategy for the Hall and to prioritise spend and activity
- Trustees would create and explore options for funding an appropriate development plan
- Trustees would communicate the development process and funding to the community that the Village Hall serves
- Plans were commissioned and Trustees invited residents to come and discuss them at their 2019 AGM where c10 residents attended



Is this the community's vision?

- Trustees were concerned, owing to the low turnout at their AGM to see the plans and drawings that perhaps the development plan was not the community's vision after all
- Prior to therefore embarking on any major fund-raising mission (as in its entirety the plan would cost c £400-£500,000), Trustees wanted to come back out to the village in 2020 with a listening exercise

- A community engagement approach was agreed and a local company (Skyblue Research) was commissioned to help design questions and collect views that would help Trustees understand what matters to the community
- From that understanding, it might be possible to develop propositions for the community to then decide together on an appropriate future for the village hall if it is fulfil its purpose as a community resource to the benefit of residents in the Parish

2020 Community Engagement

The remainder of this presentation communicates the results from the October-December 2020 Little Ouseburn Village Hall Listening Exercise – or as we have come to know it – the LOVE Project.

The LOVE Project



Little Ouseburn Village Hall Listening Exercise

[Home](#) [Welcome](#) [Get involved: Every voice counts!](#) [Development Ideas](#) [Memory Lane](#) [Contact us](#)

Get involved: Every voice counts!

[Read more](#)

Welcome

Why we want everyone to be part of the listening exercise. Please see our short film.

[Read more](#)

Memory Lane

We have a fascinating history and we'd LOVE to hear your stories and see your pictures.

[Read more](#)

Development Ideas

Here are the results of the 2019 consultation with ideas and drawings. What do you think?

[Read more](#)

Contact us

Want to get more involved between now and Spring 2021? We'd LOVE to hear from you!

[Read more](#)

LOVE Project Essentials

Aims: Phase 1 (Sept-Dec 2020)

- To encourage residents of all ages in the Parish to express what matters in their lives
- To understand what they love about living in the Parish and what they love doing *with a view on whether there is enough to do for everyone*
- To connect with residents' stories, memories and feelings about the village hall and the local community when it has been at its very best
- To explore the level of social connectedness and belonging residents feel to their community
- To understand residents' talents, skills, strengths (assets)
- To explore where there is energy in the community and any willingness to help others or get involved in social action in future
- To better understand sentiments about the Village Hall, its quality of welcome and whether it has the potential to improve people's lives

Aims: Phase 2 (Jan-April 2021)

- To continue the conversation with residents in order to help make a decision together about the most appropriate future of the Little Ouseburn Village Hall

Community Response



The main vehicle for collating views was via a community booklet which was safely hand-delivered to 142 properties in Little Ouseburn, Thorpe Underwood and Kirby Hall between 31st of October and 3rd of November 2020

The booklet was also available to complete online. Weekly LOVE Project content, 'nudges' and reminders were sent to all those on the Village email system and Little Ouseburn Village News Facebook Group

Community Response



The local postman advised that c 10 properties were unoccupied suggesting that the household drop was more realistically c 130 in total that could respond if they chose to. All research of this nature is of course voluntary.

The booklet was very detailed.

- 16 pages of A4 (compared to a couple of pages in 2019)
- 50 questions of which 38 were open, inviting qualitative comments. Only 12 were closed (tick box) options
- Any response to an inquiry of this depth should be interpreted as being an indication of commitment to the community or wishing to be heard
- Online survey completion data suggests some people took up to an hour in their lives to engage with the process
- Involving different members of the household in a collective response also took time and energy.

Community Response



Response Flow

The first response was received on Tuesday 3rd of November. The last response included in this analysis was received on Friday 11th of December just ahead of the Sunday 13th December prize draw deadline. The response flow was steady and incremental unlike the normal distribution of a self-completion process which usually sees an initial burst at the start and just prior to deadline.

The hope that this exercise might act as a useful lockdown reflective activity appears to have been realised if we consider the steady flow of responses from the people of different ages and circumstances that decided to take part.

Individuals in the same household could take part together or separately but interrogation of the survey classification data suggests that most households completed one booklet only. Those most likely to return individual booklets were Trustees who advocated this method.

Responses

- 42 booklets were returned (24%-32% of occupied properties taking part (see notes))
- The number of adults in these households = **86**
- Number of young people and children in these households = 19 (see notes)
- Total population in these responding households: maximum **105** equivalent to around **40% of population** if old Census data is used as the guide (264 people resident in 2011)

Is this a good response?

- The market research industry standard for self-completion methods is 5%-10%.
- A benchmark supplied by Locality is 16% (Source: NYCC Stronger Communities).
- This booklet was long, detailed and required qualitative reflective input not short tick box response so anything above the rates quoted above should be regarded as positive.
- 68 households completed a short mostly tick box survey in 2019 hand-delivered and collected by the Trustees; obviously this method was unavailable in 2020 owing to Covid-19 restrictions meaning the 2020 exercise was entirely voluntary.



Participants were aged 6 to 90!

They have expressed themselves in words, pictures, memories and stories.

Colouring in Competition



Amelia 6/10/15




Make it whatever makes you happy!

Why not draw yourself into the picture, perhaps with friends, or family members or pets and add some things you like

“Here is a picture from 6 year old Amelia for the colouring competition.

She thinks the Village Hall should be for everyone, including her dog Frank.

And that it should have a purple and blue roof, obviously.” 



Village Farm



The village school



The Methodist chapel



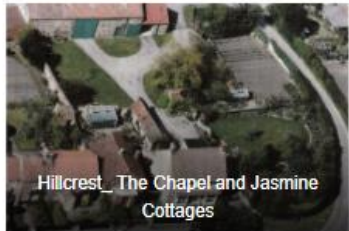
Mount Pleasant Cottages at the B6265 junction



Main Street at Back Lane



Horses along Main Street



Hillcrest, The Chapel and Jasmine Cottages



Hillcrest House



Farm and land behind Hillcrest



Approaching Little Ouseburn from the east



Village Farm

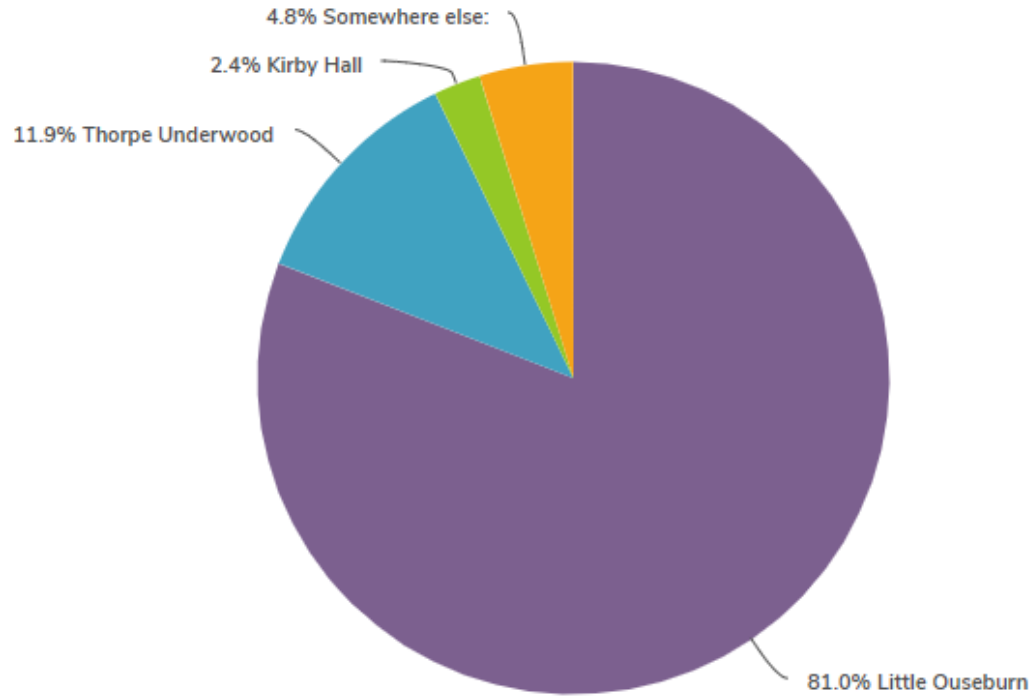


Vicarage and Broadlands Farm

“At 90 years of age I count my blessings.”

Who took part?

Where do you live in the Parish?



Little Ouseburn: 34
Thorpe Underwood: 5
Kirby Hall: 1
Somewhere else: 2
Total: 42

How long have you lived in the Parish?

Time	No.	%
Up to 1 year	3	7%
1-5 years	3	7%
5-10 years	6	14%
10-20 years	9	21%
20-30 years	13	31%
30-40 years	6	14%
> 40 years	2	5%

Total:42

Who took part?

Other insights shared by respondents

Circumstances and context	
Active, married couples	Older resident aware of limited service and support for their generation
People leading busy lives	Outgoing couple
Busy professionals, time limited but keen to gather if it's made easy	Professionals, economically active, with teenagers
Employed adult with teenager at college	Retired individuals and couples
People with family caring responsibilities (parents / grandchildren)	Self employed
Family, work and hobby 'jugglers'	Semi-retired
Healthy, retirees	Teenagers keen to have somewhere to meet or be active (gym)
Living out on a limb of the village, a bit isolated but grateful	Transitioning from full time work
Married, middle aged, healthy and young at heart	Very time-limited, very demanding job
Young adult, newcomer to the village	Young female keen to engage with community life
Older resident tired of getting in the car for everything	Young male adult with little for him to do in the village

Total:20

How many people live in your household?

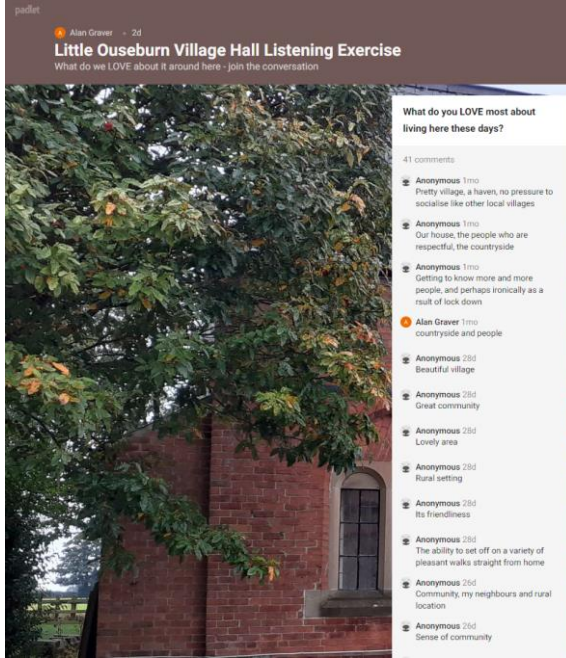
Household composition	No.	%
1 adult household	5	12%
2 adult household	23	55%
3 person adult household	2	5%
4 person adult household	2	5%
Family household: 1 adult & 1 child	0	0%
Family household: 1 adult & 2 children	1	2%
Family household: 2 adults & 1 child	1	2%
Family household: 2 adults & 2 children	5	12%
Family household: 2 adults & 3 children	1	2%
Family household: 3 adults & 1 child	1	2%
Family household: 3 adults & 2 children	1	2%

Total:42

2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at what residents said they loved about living in the area, what they were most proud of and when their happiest times have been in the Parish.

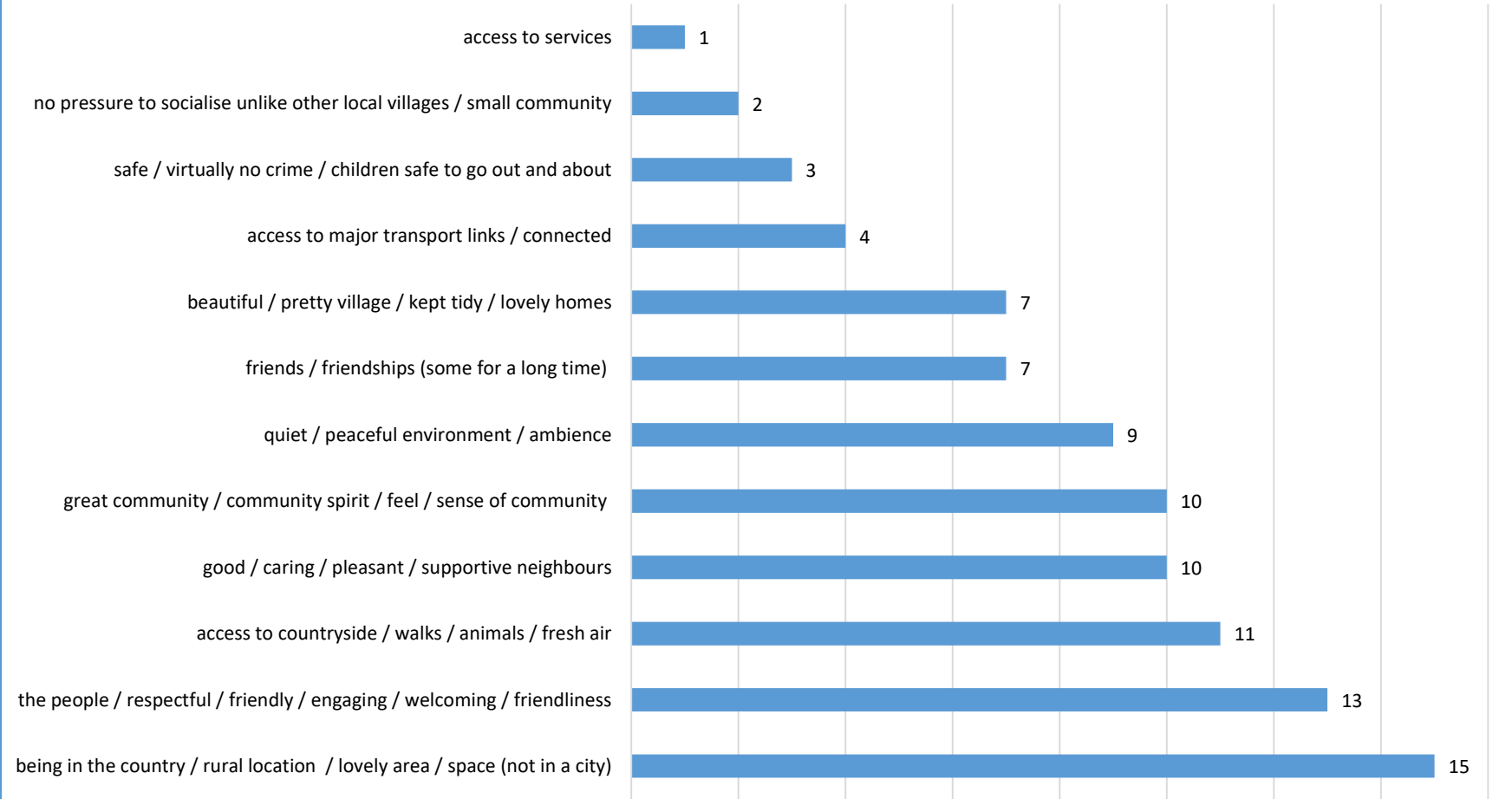
LOVE Living in the Area



“The fact we can walk down the street and know people and the majority are friendly and engaging. The beauty of the changing seasons in our village.”

“Sense of community. People look out for one another.”

What do you LOVE most about living here these days?



“The fact I can walk down village and recognise other people so feel less isolated than when I lived in town.”

LOVE Living in the Area

“Communication and village spirit during lockdown.”

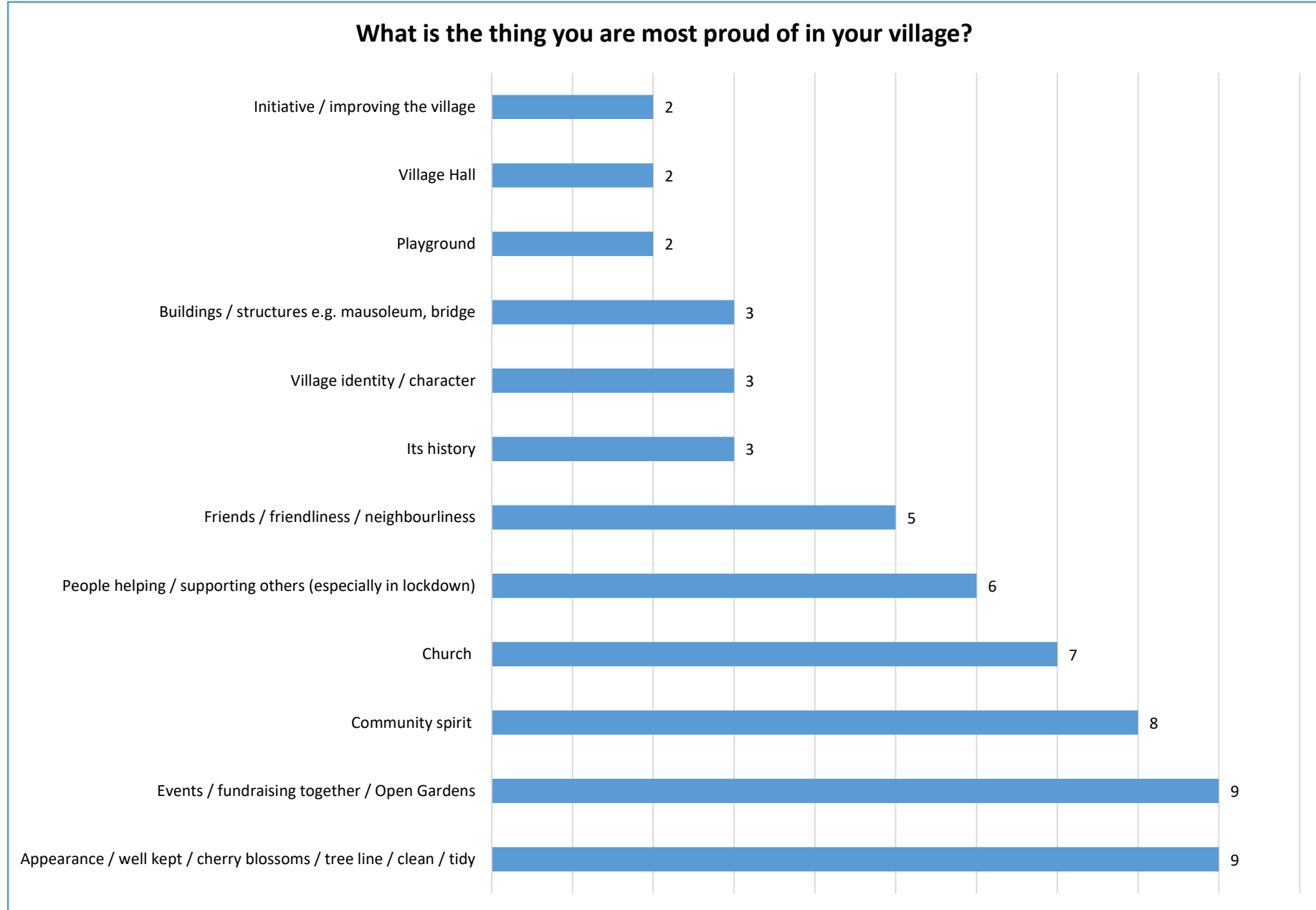
“People keep up to date and move on for the community e.g. new playground, this Project.”

“Friendly people coming together for events.”

“The fact that you know there is someone you can ask to help you out in an emergency.”

“The way the village pulls together for Open Gardens.”

“It is still a village and not been absorbed into a conurbation.”



LOVE Living in the Area

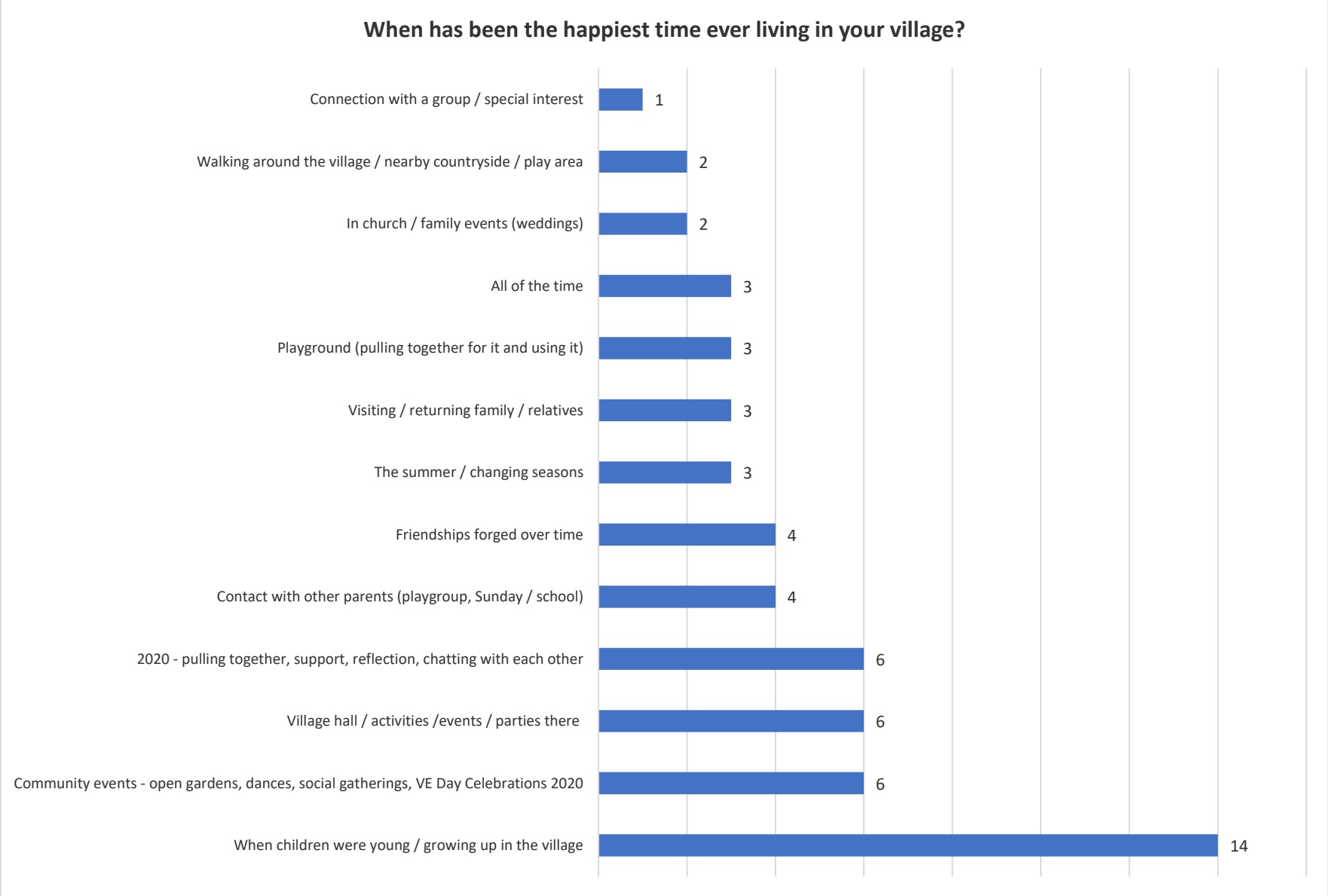
“When my family were young children and all the animals we adopted.”

“Strangely, chatting to fellow villagers, over the fence, during lockdown - happy crazy, strange times.”

“Thorpe Underwood summer get togethers.”

“Village hall gatherings. Friday night once a month gave a sense of belonging.”

“When my son was a child and I had a lot of contact with other parents, whether through playgroup, Sunday school or school.”



2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at social connectedness in the Parish. It explores moments when the Parish has been at its very best, residents' sense of belonging, whether there is a need to address social isolation and loneliness and how that might be done. It also reflects on what has been missed and discovered through the pandemic times of 2020.

LOVE Connections



When the
community has
been at its very
best

Uplifting stories and memories were shared

“It happens at Open Gardens when the hall is full of people who appreciate the village and what has been done to make it a good day with good food, company and an evening celebrating its success at the end of it.”

“In 2019, a visitor said to me 'I live in a village, we have nothing like this, you don't know how lucky you are.'”

“During the Covid-19 pandemic really has highlighted the coming together of the community with caring and help for each other.”

“People have volunteered to help others e.g. with collecting prescriptions.”

“The Boxing Day floods.”

“When you get to my age there is a temptation to say everything was better in the past, a syndrome I try to avoid, but I do think the village misses its leaders like Frances Addy and Hellier Hibbs.”

Uplifting stories and memories were shared

“On the day we moved here 3 people knocked on our door and said welcome to the village.”

“When the playgroup and toddler group was running.”

“When there were celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Wedding we had a sports day at the playground then food at the hall.”

“Summer BBQ each year when the children were young.”

“When we had a yearly show in the field at the end of the village.”

“Wine tasting evenings and quiz nights are brilliant and really good fun.”

Sense of belonging

How strongly do you feel you belong to the community across the Parish?

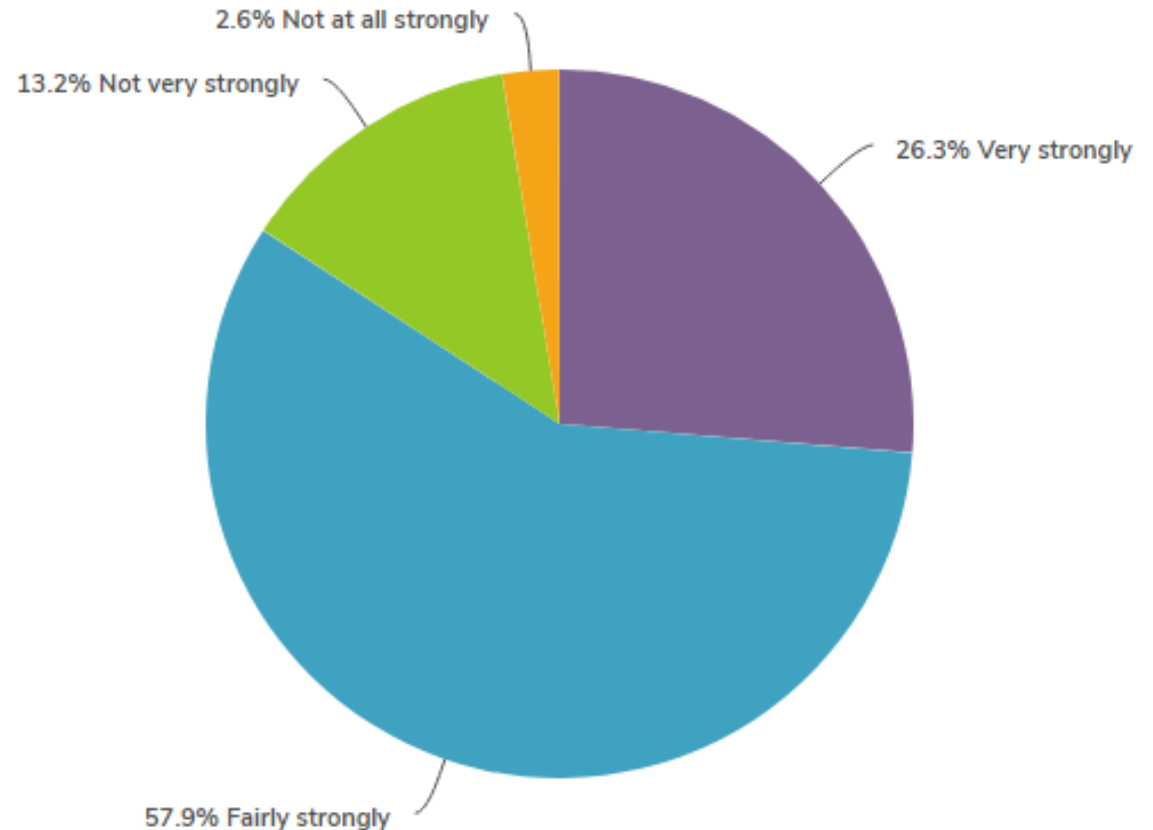
83% (of 38 respondents) feel very strongly or fairly strongly that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood if defined as the Parish.

At national level the equivalent figure is 63% (Source: Community Life Survey 2019/20)

However, this means 17% (6/38 respondents) do not feel this same sense of belonging.

“The events of recent times have been cliquey and cold.”

“People on lower incomes feel very disadvantaged and marginalised and so many people are well heeled and loudly middle class.”



Social connectedness

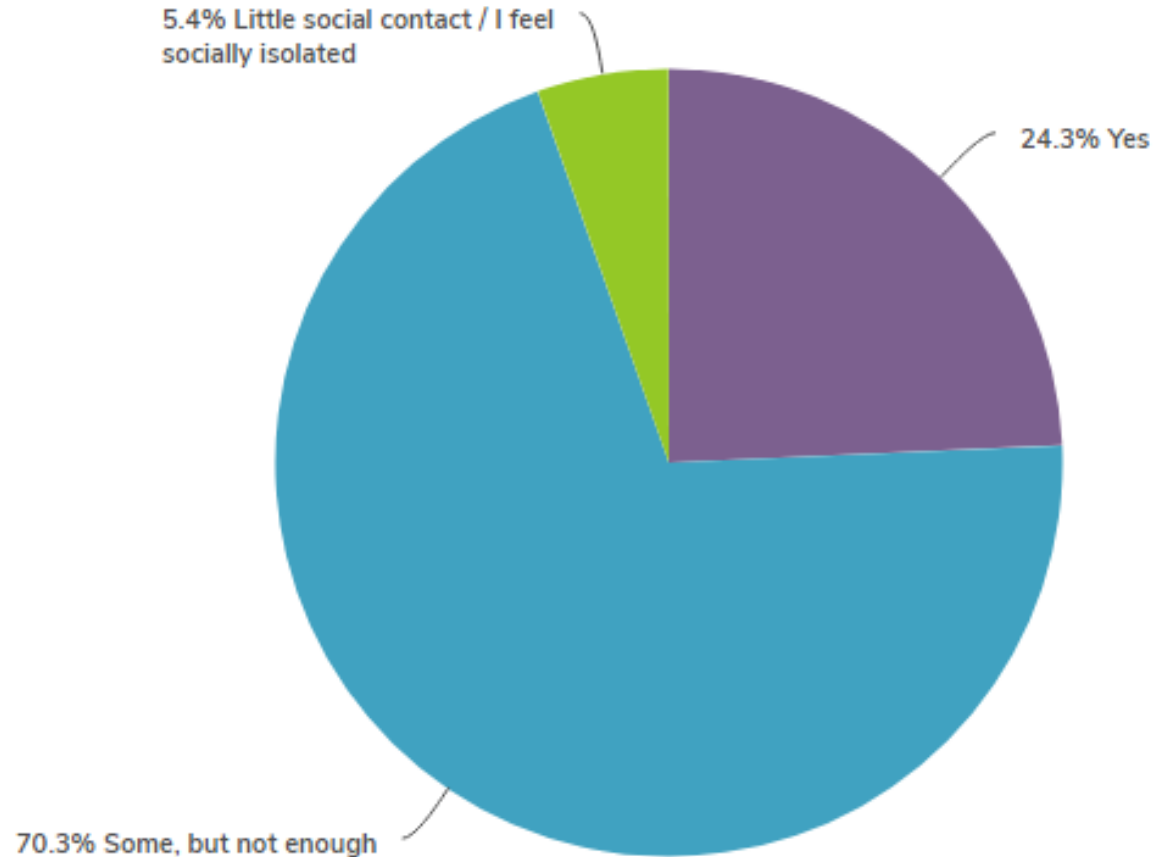
Do you have as much social contact with people you like?

24% (of 37 respondents) feel they have enough social contact they would like (compared to 46% nationally)

The majority (70%) said they had some social contact, but not enough (compared to 15% nationally)

Just over 5% feel socially isolated (6% nationally)

This suggests there is an opportunity for the Parish to increase social connections in future.



Loneliness

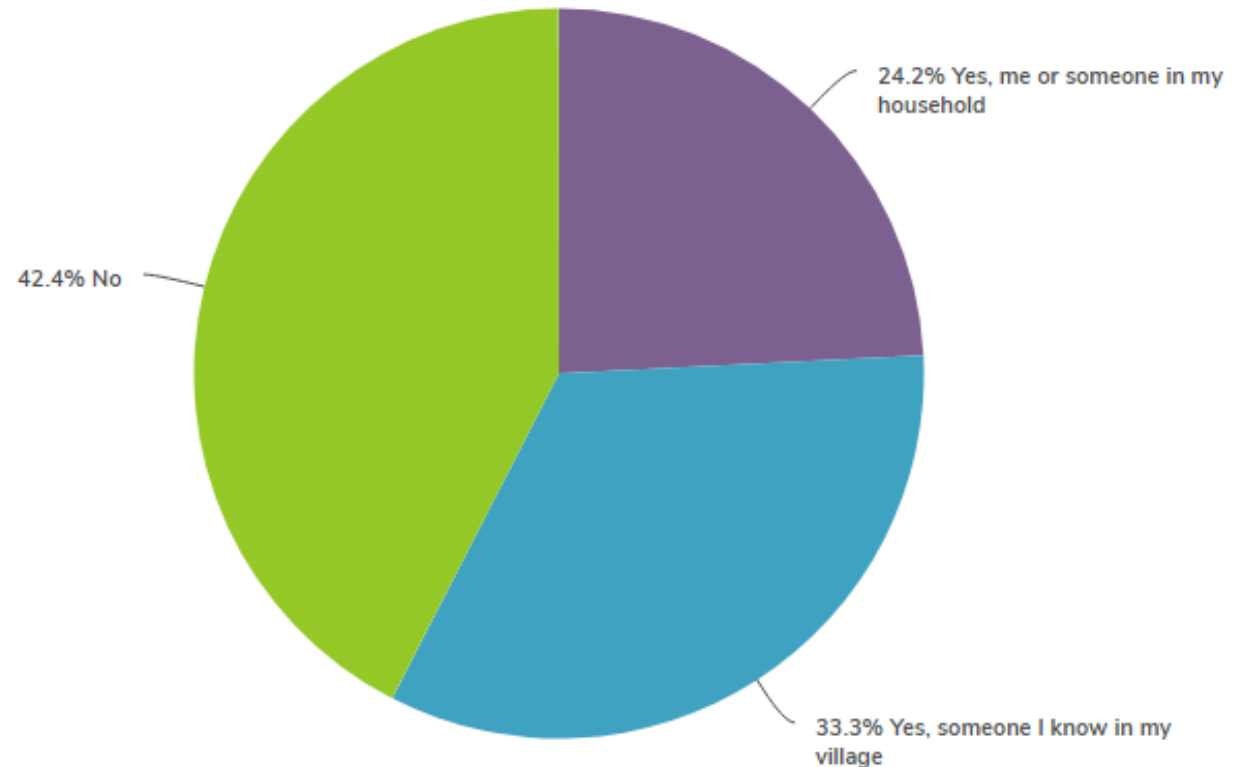
Are you, or is someone in the village a bit lonely because of what's going on?

33% (of 33 respondents) say they know someone who is lonely in their village.

A further 24% say that someone in their household (which could be themselves of course) is lonely

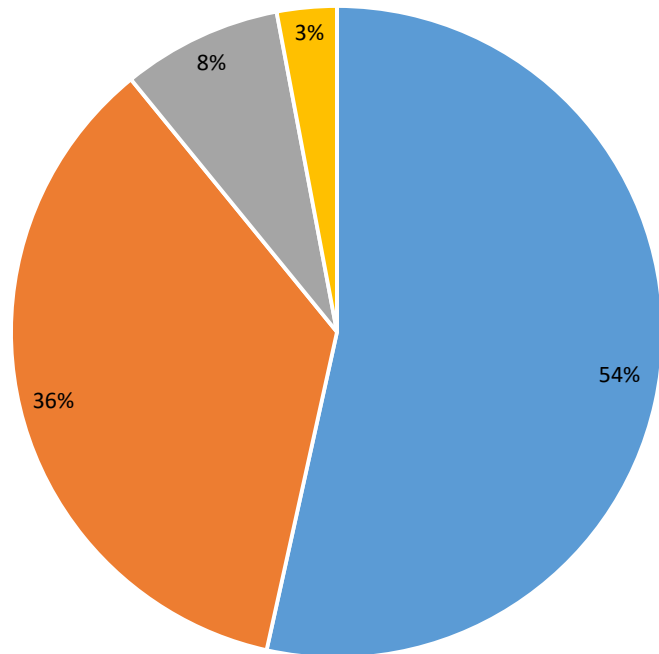
Levels of 'chronic loneliness' were 5% pre-Covid-19. Loneliness affects people of all ages, disproportionately those who are young, who live alone, who are carers, have a limiting health or mental condition and who are unemployed, living in rented accommodation or face other challenging situations in their lives.

The Parish may have discovered a need to work together to reduce loneliness in future which means improving the quality of relationships not just the frequency of contact with one another.



Local people can change the area

When people in this area get involved in their local community they really can change the way that their area is run



■ Definitely agree ■ Tend to agree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Definitely disagree

9 in 10 respondents to this listening exercise believe that when they undertake social action that can affect the way the Parish is run. If true, this is a strong asset on which the area can build and improve.

National survey questions, whilst not precisely the same, provide some contrast:

- Extent to which people agree people in their neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood (59% definitely / tend to agree)
- Proportion of people who definitely agree or tend to agree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area (27%)

Ideas to address social isolation and loneliness in Little Ouseburn Parish

How to keep connecting and looking out for each other in 2021 and beyond		
A 'check up on your neighbour' scheme?	Emails	Social evenings / card games
An active community centre	Encourage people to form WhatsApp groups (if they are able) to keep in touch	The bar was also good.
Befriending	Events	
Carers group	Explore technology to have a remote movie night?	The coffee mornings were a really good idea but again they were not well supported
Coffee morning? All very hard with Covid.	Have a monthly get together in the village hall.	The online quiz is a good thing
Regular, say monthly round-up of news, information and maybe occasions we could associate safely.	I genuinely think a monthly or bi monthly coffee event would be very helpful to those alone and elderly when it is allowed.	The village email system set up already is a really good idea and fliers
Continue the Friday gatherings	Organised regular sessions where you know you can go and see people	Visit new arrivals
Continue with cinema evenings	Persuade people to be members of the community rather than just live here	Walks
Could we have a village book swap or something similar?	Really tricky. Dog walkers meet up? Coffee morning?	Regular opportunities to meet (book swap events - evening/afternoon)
Dementia group	Zoom quiz was a great idea	Connect, look out for each other

30 ideas for addressing these social challenges were offered, but a small core of residents (4) felt that this would be extremely difficult during lockdown situations. Imagination, safely applied, is key.

Covid-19 times

Tough times, missing some things....

"Getting together with friends"

"I have missed the Friday night drinks in the village hall."

"Open Gardens, quiz night, BBQ / winter meal, film nights."

"Not sure there was very much going on in the village before lockdown? "

31 respondents

Strange times, some positives....

"We have done a lot more walking and running in the local area than we used to."

"Self reliance, spending time with a limited number of people."

"The volunteer network on the village email."

Self improvement, online activities, zoom!

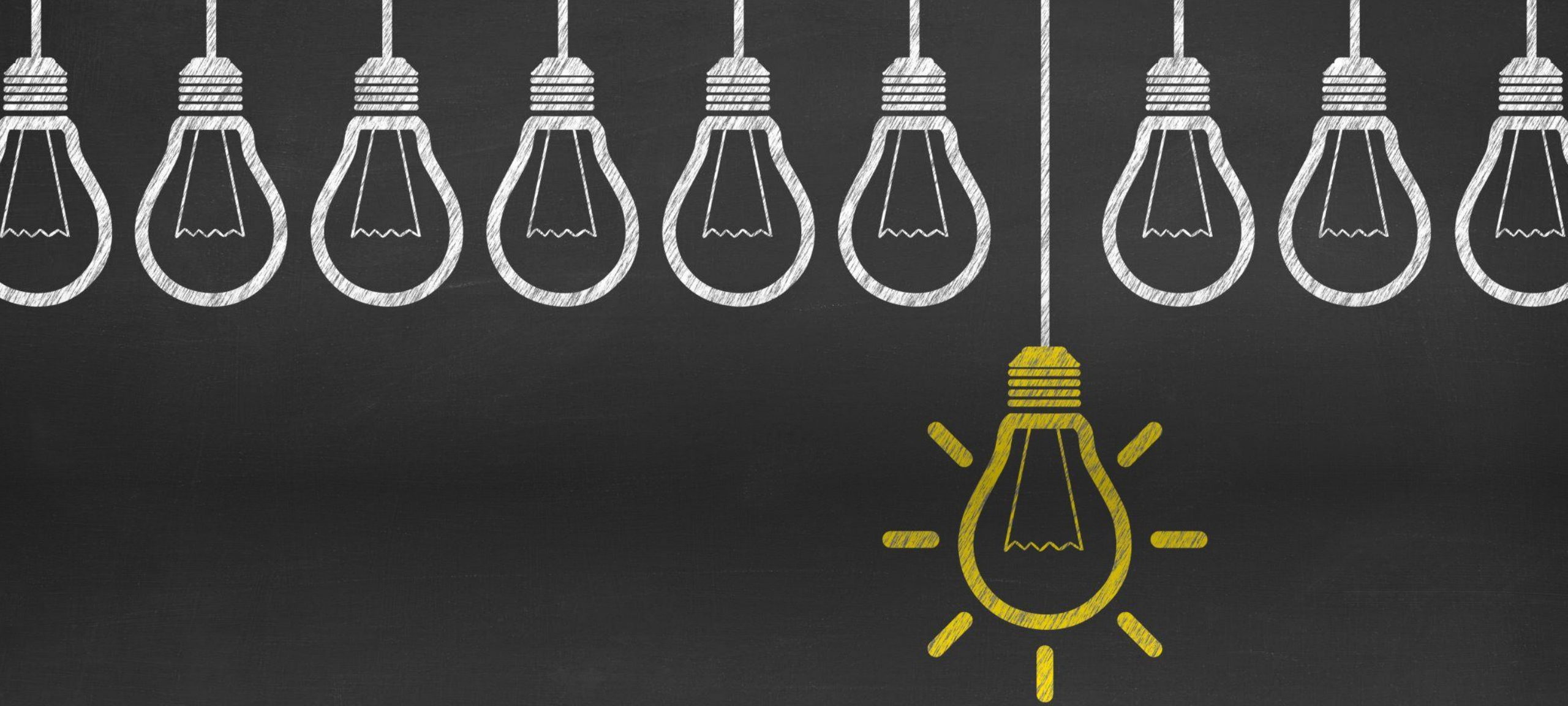
"All the connecting we did during Covid-19 looking out for each other."

"Meeting friends at the park."

25 respondents

2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at assets i.e. residents' strengths, gifts, talents and whether they would be willing to show someone else how to do or learn about them. Through an understanding of what social action (including volunteering) that residents have taken or might consider in future, this helps build a picture of the latent energy in the Parish.



Residents' strengths, talents, gifts...

3 activities you do the best?

Most mentioned talents	
Walking (self, with others, dog)	14
Baking and / or cooking	11
Gardening	7
Reading	6
Family role / caring	4
Crafts / sewing	4



3 activities you do the best?



Further talents amongst residents

DIY	3
Drinking (coffee / wine)	3
Computers / IT / digital / gadgets	3
Talking and listening	3
Thinking / analysis / learning	3
Exercise / fitness	3
Public speaking / presentation / communication	3
Running / triathlon	3
Socialising	3
Travel / days out / visits	3

Less common talents and gifts	
Marketing	2
Buying and selling	2
Racquet sports (table /tennis)	2
Writing	2
Design	1
Farming	1
Being a good friend	1
Golf	1
Helping others / volunteering	1
Mentoring	1
Military history	1
Model railways	1
Negotiating	1
Painting	1
Riding	1
Stamp collecting	1
Swimming	1
Tennis	1
Teach meditation	1
Cycling	1
Working	1

3 activities you do the best?



Willing to show someone else?

Already show others

10 residents with 19 talents between them say they show others:-

1. Analysis and research
2. Baking and / or cooking
3. Care giving
4. Craft
5. DIY
6. Drinking wine
7. Farming
8. Gardening
9. Helping others
10. Listening
11. Marketing
12. Mentoring
13. Negotiating
14. Reading
15. Running
16. Socialising
17. Use the Internet etc to communicate with others
18. Walking
19. Writing

Yes, but need support to build confidence

A further 10 residents could share (17) further talents:-

1. Walking
2. Cooking
3. Sewing
4. Computer science, gadgets
5. Tennis
6. Golf
7. DIY
8. Reading
9. Running
10. Public speaking
11. Swimming
12. Military history
13. Travel
14. Model railways
15. Table tennis
16. Talking
17. Stamp collecting

Willing to show someone else?

14 respondents with talents but don't think they would be willing to show someone else how to do one of them or learn about their gift:-

Perhaps with the right encouragement and environment – all are potentially helpful and useful to others?	
Being a Mum	Looking after children
Buying	Marketing
Cooking	Painting
Cycling	Park visits / family days out
Designing	Reading
DIY	Riding
Drinking (!)	Selling
Exercise	Talking
Gardening	Walking / taking dog out
How to be a good friend	Working
Learning about education practice	Writing

Use whatever gift you have received to serve others. 1 Peter 4:10



When cross-referred to the response to this question we find that almost everyone with a talent or gift **would consider volunteering or contributing to organising activity at the Village Hall if it was suitably welcoming and suited the needs of the activity**

16/38 (42%) definitely agree

17/38 (45%) tend to agree

Total: **33 potential volunteers** if the conditions are right, and the welcome and support are appropriate.

Some know what volunteering they could do

“Running a book swap evening/afternoon” (talent: learning about education practice)

“Happy to organise / help at a coffee morning, gift fair, event.” (talents: being a Mum, taking the dog out, exercise)

“*My family member* could be persuaded to teach bridge.”

“I would be happy to transport people there who needed it for events.” (talents: walking, cooking, reading)

“Organising a class or activity; helping with social events.” (talents: stamp collecting, computers, software, gadgets, public speaking)

“Open Gardens; bar helper in pub nights and film nights; book club / exchange events.” (talents: making cakes, presenting)

“I used to help run the mother and toddler group which was held at the hall. I'd be happy to help/ make tea etc on a rota if a new one was formed. Also I loved the craft days at the village hall. It would be lovely to resume the wreath making workshop and other seasonal crafts.” (talents: being a Mum)

Some know what volunteering they could do

“Other commitments allowing I would consider helping with befriending, coffee mornings or a carer group.” (talents: “can’t think of any!”)

“Arts and craft Children/ pre school groups.”

“Village New Year's Eve Party.”

“Computing activities (teenager)”

“Lamp post orienteering / treasure hunt - like events.” (talent: running)

“I'd help with a mother and toddler group because I benefitted from using one when my children were small I'd also help with other functions if I were able.” (talents: cooking, walking, talking)

“Setting up wine tasting / gardening clubs .” (talents: none listed)

Fund raiser activities with help on catering and other aspects.

Some want to help but don't know what or how exactly

"I would offer help in whatever way I could, taking into consideration my age and physical ability." (talents: gardening, cooking, painting)

"Anything to do with food!" (talents: cooking, walking, sewing)

"Would help to support others who might have a subject speciality and were going to put on an activity." (talents: mentoring, negotiating, analysis)

"Already volunteer with Open Gardens and support other activities, happy to help anywhere." (talents: farming, helping others)

"Not sure!" (talents: reading, writing and care giving)

"Someone to organise so I can turn up and help." (talents: gardening, crafts, internet / communication)

"Happy to get involved in anything and everything."

"We would consider volunteering to support activities as we have in the past." (talents: gardening, walking, reading)

Some fear they will end up leading or doing everything

“I do volunteer and help the village with the church but the issue is that so few others will help and therefore all of the jobs fall onto a few people which then discourages us to volunteer for too much as don't have enough time.”
(talents: walking / dog, socialising)

“I would rather just help and assist others. Pub evenings, open gardens.”
(talents: talking, walking, drinking)

“Themed events. For this to happen you just need to have a fun, enthusiastic committee all like minded with a common goal - to bring the community together.” (talents: walking, cooking, DIY)

“Would be good to see some more life here and appreciate a few do an awful lot, so thank you Hazel, Sarah John and Rowena and others we don't know.”

Volunteering in the last 12 months

26 respondents had done some formal or informal volunteering

Volunteering in different contexts:-

- Charity shop
- Soup kitchen
- Book club
- Samaritans
- National Trust Library Refugee charity
- Cricket club
- Parkrun helper
- Village Hall
- Ripon Community House

Governance roles:-

- Village Hall Trustee
- School Governor / committee
- Church committee
- York Theatre Royal
- Little Ouseburn Playground committee
- Parish Councillor

Volunteering in the last 12 months

26 respondents had done some formal or informal volunteering

Specialist / domain specific volunteering:-

- Cycling coaching
- Business mentoring
- Youth development
- Guided meditation

Caring roles:-

- Caring for parents and children (2)
- Caring for neighbours' pets

Supporting others in need:-

- Covid deliveries / collections (6)
- Shopping for neighbours (vulnerable)

Contributing in the Parish / local area:-

- Helping with Open Gardens (3)
- Organising social events
- Helping with the church
- Helping at the children's school
- Helping out at Film Night
- Tree planting

2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at residents' interests, aspirations and thoughts on connecting with others through an existing or new activity, group or club available locally.



Most ideas
can be
related to
the 5 Ways
to Wellbeing

Is there
anything you
wish you were
better at?

Way to Wellbeing	Demand	Could the Village Hall meet these wishes?
Active	10	Yoga (2), personal fitness (2), gym classes, table tennis, mobility (getting up and down), exercising, fitness, golf
Learn	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts & Crafts (6): painting, drawing, crafts, sewing, flower arranging Practical skills (5): DIY and gardening (2) Food-related (4): cake decorating, cooking (2), baking Languages (2) IT / 'Apple stuff' / technology (2)
Connect	(All)	All the above ideas potentially connect people if done in groups. In addition, 3 residents wish to be able to sing better and play bridge to a higher standard
Take Notice	3	(3) photography, stargazing, bird recognition
Give	-	-

28 respondents with 36 suggestions

Is there anything you used to do but don't any more and miss it?

Way to Wellbeing	Demand	Could the Village Hall provide the things people miss?
Active	18	yoga (3), walking, swimming (2), badminton (2), table tennis, pilates (2), mountaineering, dancing (2), cricket, gardening, circuit training, exercise, gym
Learn	2	IT, languages
Connect	9	singing (2), playing bridge (2), playing in orchestra, church bell ringing, going to the football, going to gigs, children at home
Take Notice	4	reading, floristry, drawing, photography (2)
Give	-	-

31 respondents with 33 suggestions

Is there anything you wanted to try but never got the chance?

Way to Wellbeing	Demand	Could the Village Hall provide activities that people have always wanted to try?
Active	9	Yoga (2), boules, skateboarding, cricket, dance classes, horse riding, pilates, spin class
Learn	14	Arts and crafts (11): pottery (4), jewellery making, drawing, painting, flower arranging, knitting, oil painting, various Language (1) Ancestry (1) Play a musical instrument (1)
Connect	2	Bell ringing, visit more art galleries and museums/virtual tours/films
Take Notice	1	Photography
Give	-	-

17 respondents with 26 suggestions

Is there anything you want to do that you can't already do somewhere else locally?

Way to Wellbeing	Demand	Could the Village Hall provide activities that people say they can't already do somewhere else locally?
Active	5	Dog agility/training (2) Keep fit class, badminton, orienteering
Learn	7	Arts and crafts:) pottery, 'various' Lectures – history, art, design Language (French) Gardening club Philosophy Life drawing
Connect	-	-
Take Notice	1	Photography
Give	1	Social cause / help for less fortunate

11 respondents with 14 suggestions

Summary by the 5 Ways to Wellbeing

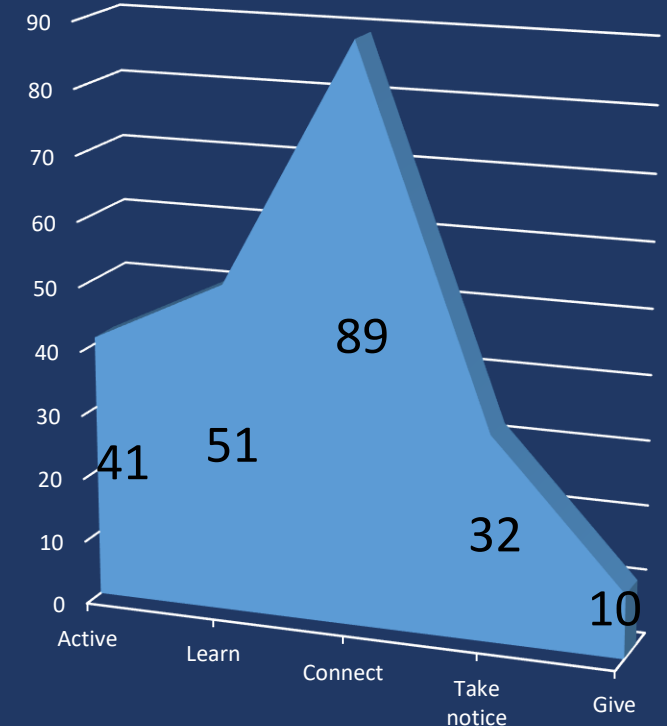
	Wish you were better at	Use to do but don't anymore and miss it	Wanted to try but never got the chance	Want to do that you can't already do somewhere else locally
Active	10	18	9	5
Learn	20	2	14	7
Connect	All	9	2	0
Take Notice	3	4	1	1
Give	0	0	0	1

If the Village Hall is a about being a community resource that meets local residents' needs and preferences, these insights can be helpful. There is a clear mission around 'active', 'learn' and 'connect' (because many of the learning and physical activity ideas require group interaction); and a niche perhaps to explore mindful pastimes to a lesser extent.

If you wanted to start a activity, group or club or join an existing one locally what would it be?

- This was a very popular question.
- 36 respondents provided at least one suggestion and sometimes many more (up to 18 ideas in one case). **89 suggestions were made.**
- This reaffirms the latent demand and desire for human connection, learning and feeling a sense of belonging to others with a similar interest.
- The long list of suggestions also provides potential solutions to address the earlier finding that 70% feel they have some, but not enough social contact and a further 5% feel socially isolated.
- **Can the Village Hall play a part in meeting needs through regular activities that at the same time address these deeper social challenges?**

If all the ideas residents had for joining a new or existing club, activity or group came to fruition these wellbeing emphases might be achieved (n=36 residents, 89 ideas)



If you wanted to start a activity, group or club or join an existing one locally what would it be?

“Stamp collecting, but I suspect not that popular, so I'll say pottery.”

“Starting a new hobby e.g. sewing or improving gardening skills.”

“Would like to join film club.”

“Afternoon tea - not just over 65s but young mums or anyone who needs company. Could be morning coffee and chat.”

“Something fitness related / something with social interaction.”

“dance, exercise...ideally on the weekend as we work during the week.”

The 10 most mentioned activities, clubs or groups that residents might join locally are:-

- Yoga / pilates (9)
- Gardening (8)
- Exercise / Keep Fit (7)
- Baking / cookery (5)
- Art club (4)
- Walking-related (3)
- Sewing (3)
- Dance classes (2)
- Crafts (unspecified) (2)
- Pottery (2)

If you wanted to start a activity, group or club or join an existing one locally what would it be?

Diverse preferences			
Art Philosophy	Dog day care	Model railway	Socialising
Bingo	Drawing	Orienteering Circuit training	Stamp collecting
Bird watching	Duke of Edinburgh awards (for teens)	Painting	Table tennis
Book club	Film club	Play-reading / drama group	Themed nights
Book swaps	History (local) subjects or nature related	Pre school playgroup	Toddler group
Bridge	Horology	Pub / café	Walking football
Carers group	ipad courses - advanced	Quiz night	Wildlife photography
Chess	Jumble sales	Reading / book club	Wine tasting
Children's activities	Knitting	Running club	Wreath making workshop / seasonal crafts
Cinema club	Language class	Scouts	Writer's group / circle
Coffee morning / afternoon tea	Live music	Short rambles	Young Farmers club

2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at residents' views about the choice of activities available in the community and whether there is enough to satisfy different people.

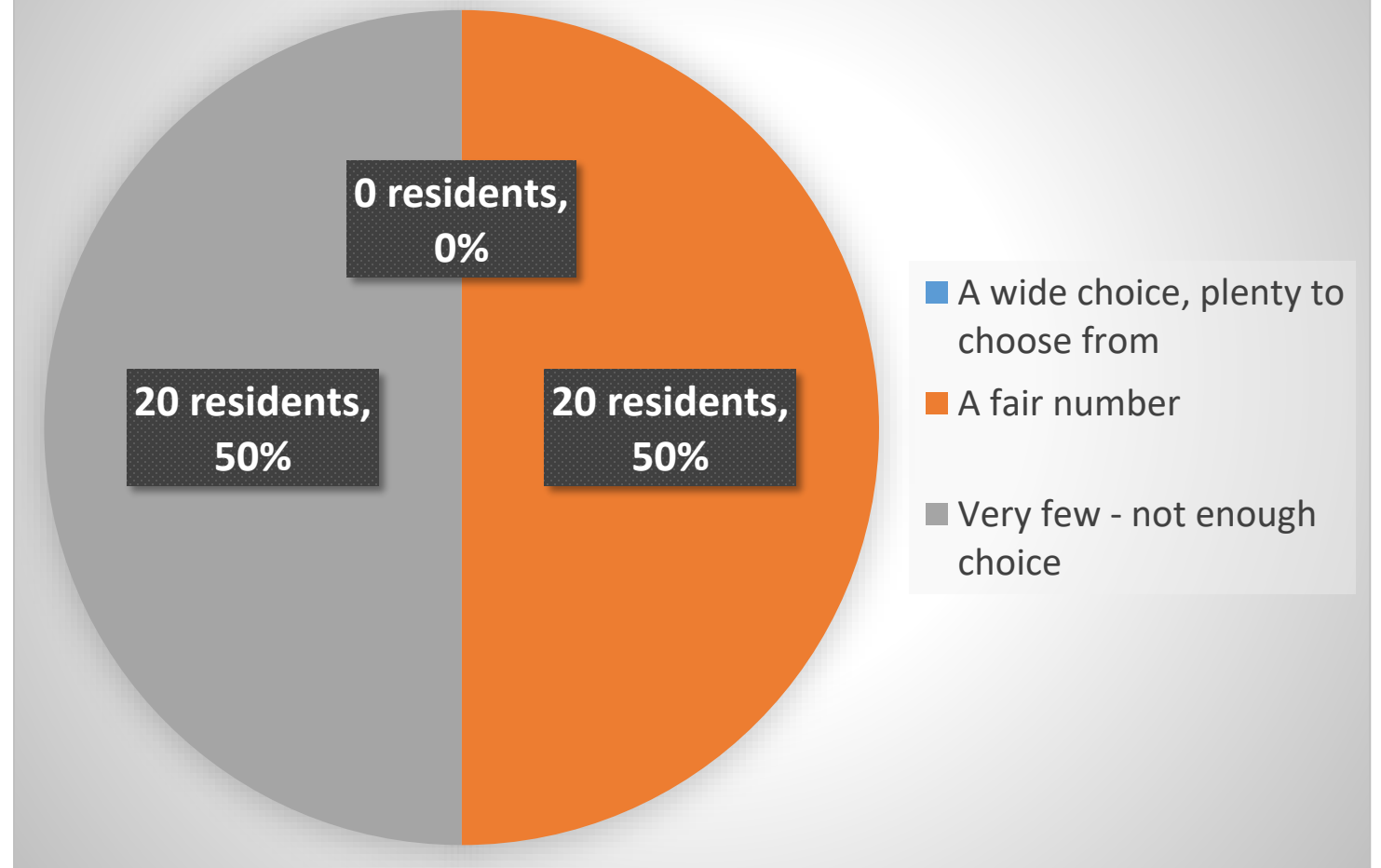
Local choice

In your local area is there a choice of activities that interest you and that you can easily get to and afford?

No one felt there was a wide choice or plenty of activities to choose from

Half of the respondents feel there is a fair number and half feel there are very few activities and not enough choice.

Choice of activities



In your local area is there a choice of activities that interest you and that you can easily get to and afford?

Many respondents struggled to answer this question, often writing in the margins or free text box that they weren't really sure what was going on and whether different people's needs or situations were catered for.

The results are startlingly clear, however, that overall there is not enough choice locally that interest residents or that they can afford.

Transport does not appear to be an issue certainly in respect of being a barrier to help them get to the Little Ouseburn Village Hall – one person in the sample said this had been the case.

	Yes there's enough	No, not enough	Respondents
People living with a physical or mental disability	0%	100%	16
People who may feel lonely	4%	96%	23
People with lower incomes	6%	94%	16
Teenagers	11%	89%	27
People living alone	13%	87%	23
Older people	14%	86%	22
People new to the area	16%	84%	25
Young adults	17%	83%	29
Carers	17%	83%	18
Single people	25%	75%	20
People who have retired	27%	73%	22
Young children	30%	70%	23
Infants and toddlers	36%	64%	25
Couples	40%	60%	25
Parents / grandparents	41%	59%	22
Families	42%	58%	24
People who work some / all of the time	44%	56%	25
People with higher incomes	50%	50%	14

Residents have ideas about what else could be done locally to encourage more opportunities and connection – examples only below

People living with a physical or mental disability

Respondents were uncertain if people had limiting conditions in the Parish; but if yes, they felt the village hall and thoroughfares needed to be far more accessible.

Support networks, social events and making sure the Village Hall was known to, and aware of, services that these individuals may be working with in Boroughbridge, Thirsk, Harrogate, York and Ripon were suggested.

People who may feel lonely

Support networks, regular coffee mornings, use of the Village Hall to help those who are feeling isolated, a book exchange and a volunteer system for phoning individuals were suggested.

People on lower incomes

This evoked emotive responses from some who feel marginalised and disadvantaged to those who felt the gentrified village meant there were possibly low numbers of people with lower incomes. One suggested more affordable activities whilst another suggested local events already seem affordable. Inexpensive social functions and affordable village hall hire were mentioned.

Residents have ideas about what else could be done locally to encourage more opportunities and connection – examples only below

Teenagers

“I’m not sure how many teenagers live locally.”

“Too few teenagers and most are too focused on school work to undertake activities.”

One respondent suggested a youth club whilst another reported that there are lots of youth clubs around but you need travel which can be difficult. Skyblue learned that a virtual youth club has been available in Great Ouseburn and that North Yorkshire Youth are enthusiastic to provide support should it ever be welcomed. A teenage film night joining the Little Ouseburn and Great Ouseburn villages was suggested, along with other activities that could be available in the village hall such as table tennis. A few teenagers whose voices came through the community booklet responses were after slightly more exciting activities around virtual reality gaming and hover boards. The best solution here would be empower the teenagers in the Parish or villages to design local solutions that would appeal to them.

People living alone

Ceilidh evenings, folk events, support group/social events, book club, lunch clubs, craft days and lectures were suggested.

Older people

Coffee and cake gatherings, social events, support networks, bridge club and regular opportunities to meet. One respondent felt there was also a need to:

“Overcome the reluctance of people to mix.”

People new to the area – many ideas for this category

“There used to be an introduction pack with local information about the village, the services (Waste collection etc), events in the village, local tradesmen and the like. Could do with reinstating.”

Other ideas included regular welcome receptions, talks and webinars on history, amenities, activities, introductions to others, ‘Parish News’ delivery, six monthly or annual welcome meeting for new residents, village email system, welcome pack and chat with a resident, a buddy system so new arrivals are visited.

“Very hard to get to know people here.”

“Frances Addy used to do a great welcome letter.”

Residents have ideas about what else could be done locally to encourage more opportunities and connection – examples only below

Young adults

Presentation by local government and national government elected officials, debates, properly and skilfully facilitated.

“Most young adults go to local towns for activities, transport dependent.”

Table tennis / activities at the village hall and evening classes were all suggested.

Carers

A support network, respite support from neighbours, a dedicated local Carers Group, maybe a day centre to give carers a break – were all suggested. Again, it is important to connect in with other services e.g. in Boroughbridge and see if there is any ‘outreach’ potential for having respite, connecting activities in Little Ouseburn Village Hall.

Single people

Respondents immediately thought ‘pub’.

“The Hall used as a pub as the new one in Branton Green is a bit far away. But the village hall is a bit bleak for this purpose and would need some treatment.”

“The new pub in Great Ouseburn hopefully will be a useful local.”

And any events “that require participation.”

Residents have ideas about what else could be done locally to encourage more opportunities and connection – examples only below

Young children

“A Kids club - but don't call it that!”

Art, sport, anything that brings them together, plenty of walks, cycling, play, Brownies, Scouts, and a meeting place for young families to enjoy socialising and learning

“A lot is provided via local school.”

Infants and toddlers

“The preschool that used to be in the Village Hall was great with a newborn. It's a shame we don't still have something that allows parents and families to meet up and get to know one another.”

Suggestions include: musical groups, a book/ toy swap, baby yoga, support groups for parents, Young Mums meet up in the Village Hall, mother and toddler group, playgroup/ nursery, weekend craft days for children, sales of second hand children's 'stuff'.

“Playgroup closure stopped local connections for new families.” (but) “The playground is excellent.”

One respondent suggested holding a focus group to see what parents might appreciate.

Couples

Suggestions include a 'pub', more social events and functions at the Village Hall.

“Maybe a mini festival or small horticultural show”.

People who have retired

A pub substitute / social pub, events like local history, dancing for fitness, talks, table tennis, exercise social, walking group, bridge link with U3A, over 60s club, learning opportunities...both academic and practical and lunch clubs were all suggested.

“Most access activities away from village.”

Residents have ideas about what else could be done locally to encourage more opportunities and connection – examples only below

Families

Summer picnics, sports day in the playground, more get togethers, games nights, clubs, outdoor organised events, Parkrun more locally, fun activities to share with other families... Crafts, cooking, walks, and treasure hunts.

“Families tend to move to local towns for the activities. The sports fields in Great Ouseburn, Whixley, Green Hammerton provide centre for activities.”

Parents / grandparents

Evening dances and activities for extended families along with social occasions for all generations were suggested. Ideas for ‘families’ were relevant to this category too.

People who work some / all of the time

Suggestions include: a better developed website and digital connections; social evenings in the hall, evening classes, fitness activities, walking groups, activities to encourage meeting neighbours and weekend events (preferred). There are also barriers to overcome:

“Little or nothing seems to happen, I know Covid restrictions have stopped things, but I also think people don’t engage such as yoga sessions last year.”

“Need people to actually want to leave their homes after the working day commute.”

“The problem is actually feeling able to join in.”

“Need more to bring community together, but needs new people to participate, not just those who are always there.”

People with higher incomes

No ideas were suggested rather social comment:

“There is a risk that they self isolate (socially and not Covid!)”

“Higher income generally do not mix.”

2020 Community Engagement

The next section looks at residents' thoughts about Little Ouseburn Village Hall in relation to other local venues. They were asked how welcoming it is and their ideas for things that could happen indoors and outdoors there.

Residents were encouraged to think about anything that the space could do to improve their own lives, indeed the lives and spirit of the whole community.

Village Hall awareness and interest in its development plans

40 out of 41 respondents said they had been in the village hall before (98%)

Are you aware of the plans for the development of the Village Hall which were derived from the earlier 2019 consultation exercise?

- **27/41 respondents (66%) said yes**

Would you be interested to learn more about these plans

- **27/41 respondents (66%) said yes**

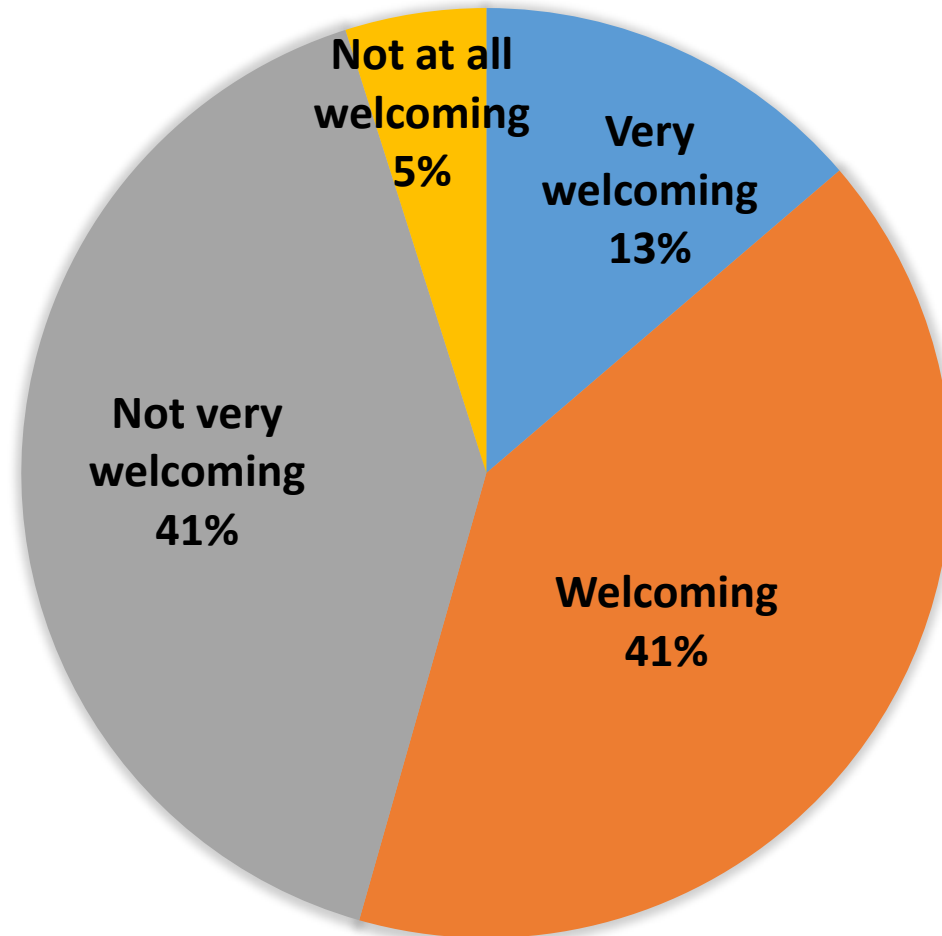
This includes 12 people who had not previously been aware of the Plans, and 15 who were aware. Only 2 people who were not aware of the Plans did not wish to know more about them.

More generally 32/41 respondents (78%) would like to be kept informed of this Project.

**How welcoming do you
feel the Village Hall is in
general?**

**54% think it is very /
welcoming**

**46% think it is not at all
or not very welcoming**



The link between 'welcome' and 'energy'

"I would consider volunteering or contributing to organising activity at the Village Hall if it was suitably welcoming and suited the needs of the activity."



16/38 definitely agree (42%)

17/38 tend to agree (45%)

Total: 33/38 with potential
energy to contribute

Is there anything that turns you off about the Village Hall that means you don't use it as much as you might, or would never consider using it in future?

(24 respondents)

- It's not an attractive place to be
- If there was a shop / coffee bar / pub on premises. Get tired of always having to drive!
- A very gloomy Victorian pile of little architectural merit which MIGHT benefit from major refurbishment and extensive external renovation
- No, except time and availability of reasons to go
- It can be cold sometimes, so perhaps a better heating system that is more economical could be used?
- Probably won't use it except occasionally as we live in Thorpe Underwood and don't go out at night very much
- Price to hire
- Don't know what's on, need an up to date notice board
- It's so cold :(
- Needs upgrading (toilets. Kitchen, hall and more comfortable seating!)
- Too old fashioned for private functions
- It is a corridor to get in so feel like channel end into the back and can't get out
- It is a little dated
- It is usually the same people at any village hall events and very few younger residents
- Needs upgrade / renovation
- The long walk on dark footpaths
- It's cold and unwelcoming
- The parking. We have used the village hall for children's parties / adult social and it's lovely but the chain across isn't very community-spirited.
- Don't like the chained car park? Never had that before. Looks Uninviting
- The kitchen is a bit limited.
- Would be great to have a green outside area for gatherings and BBQs
- More of a community garden to go sit, gather, meet up
- Currently it feels a bit rundown inside, a shame as it is a beautiful building.
- I remember it when I was new to the village I felt like a real outsider first time I went in - I didn't know anyone and it was very daunting!
- It is small
- It doesn't feel like a hub of the community
- The configuration of the internal space
- Kitchen needs a complete revamp.
- Damp and cold atmosphere
- Feels rather tired, not welcoming

Ideas for making the village hall as welcoming as possible (32 respondents)

"Leave the door open and let people go in. They'll find their own activities."

"Could we become a proper social club like the one in Green Hammerton?"

"Link in with other organisations such as walking/cycling clubs to make it a stop over place."

"Space to provide permanent eating / drinking / meeting / activity."

"Honesty box for drinks and snacks."

"Persuade more people to invest in it."

"Be more ambitious with colours."

"A robust programme of regular events and more for young people."

"More social seating, few sofas, good for cinema club or coffee mornings."

"Spruce up inside, make sure it is warm for events."

"Better lighting outside in the winter."

"Improved decoration, heating, facilities, bit more cheery"

"We showed up to one event and did not really feel welcome so never went again."


"Take the chain away that prevents car park being used... it's a community resource!"

Ideas for making the village hall as welcoming as possible

Most popular suggestions	
Redecorate (ambitious / vibrant colours)	8
Remove parking barrier	7
Upgrade / modernise kitchen and resources for catering	6
General updating / 'facelift'	5
Major refurbishment and external renovation	5
Regular relevant events / more activities	4
Soft chairs / sofas / comfortable seating	3
Improve outside space / re-landscape	3
Plants / flowers outside and inside	3
Removal of old playgroup notice boards and replace with welcome notices	3
Heating	3

Ideas for making the village hall as welcoming as possible

Further suggestions	
More comfortable lounge area (to recreate pub atmosphere / social club)	2
Modernise toilets	2
Village Hall website/info about what's going on	2
Be 'Open'	1
Magazines / newspapers	1
Free books	1
Peace and quiet	1
Flexible space	1
Space to provide permanent eating / drinking / meeting / activity	1
Employed professional warden / licensee	1
Space for doctor's clinic / surgery / hairdresser	1



Ideas for making the village hall as welcoming as possible

Further suggestions	
Dedicated reliable Wi-Fi	1
Honesty Box	1
TV	1
Change the entrance	1
Link in with other organisations	1
Make it more eco-friendly	1
Somewhere to store coats	1
A reception area with comfortable furniture	1
Increase the number of young people events	1
Better outside lighting	1
Smaller gatherings	1
Fairy lights around the door	1

Given that there are other village halls in the wider area, how do you think Little Ouseburn Village Hall could be distinctive so all the halls offer something different to improve local lives?

“It is very distinctive already and nothing should be done to modernise it - it would ruin its appeal.”

“Not too big; lovely view at the back if space updated.”

“It is unique and very characterful. These attributes should be exploited to provide a cosy welcoming community space.”



"Its architecture sets it apart."

“Little Ouseburn Village Hall isn't too large so can be cosy and welcoming.”

“We need a heart of the community that brings us together.”

Little Ouseburn Village Hall distinctiveness so that all local halls offer something different to improve local lives? The outdoor space and grounds

“The grounds of the Hall maybe look like they could use a tidy up. I haven't been inside. Maybe we could have a day of volunteers doing the grounds in the spring?”

“Outdoor spaceadd a BBQ and outdoor furniture?”

“Not too big; lovely view at the back if space updated.”

“The history and character of the building has a lot to offer and if improved / modernised would stand out from the rest”

“A community garden / patio; a coffee area during the day; a BBQ area for gatherings or private hire. Change the layout.”

Little Ouseburn Village Hall distinctiveness so that all local halls offer something different to improve local lives? How the Hall connects and engages people

“Veg garden, regular coffee mornings and befriending of elderly residents.”

“Open it up to residents to use on a more regular basis e.g. a monthly sub to then use it for such things as families going in on their own to practice roller skating or play games.”

“Veg garden, regular coffee mornings and befriending of elderly residents.”

“Make it more a community centre.”

“Regular timetable of events.”

Little Ouseburn Village Hall distinctiveness so that all local halls offer something different to improve local lives? How the Hall connects and engages people

“It is a similar size to the one in Marton cum Grafton, which is in regular use, whereas ours is not. Partly due to make up of residents, but needs locals to hold events.”

“Aldborough Village Hall is always booked up but I don't know why that is.”

“Great Ouseburn Hall is very large and often used for sports so doesn't feel like a place to relax.”

“It doesn't need to offer something different as such - just something would be nice. Class teachers and sports people would use it like other halls and just schedule more classes on different days.”

“Despite its purpose it aesthetically doesn't feel like a hub of the community, rarely open, no drop in, no cafe, no library / resource facilities, no art space etc.”

Little Ouseburn Village Hall distinctiveness so that all local halls offer something different to improve local lives? Indoor space

“Cafe would be great.”

“Somewhere that feels like a cosy lounge as others are halls with stages, but it needs to be DIFFERENT not try to be a smaller version of the same.”

“There's a much larger, better equipped village hall in Great Ouseburn, we can't compete with, which has no charm whatsoever.”

“Could it offer office space to local businesses and this feel more alive Monday to Friday?”

“Could be less like a Hall, more welcoming with flexible space perhaps it becomes a workspace where people can hire space or co work space out of town with parking - perfect!”

What one thing could improve your quality of life or wellbeing if the Village Hall was different?

- A robust programme of regular events
- Being able to look forward to something social happening with people I know - such as a quiz night, cheese and wine etc
- Bring and buy sales
- Doing more leisure activities
- Exercise and socialising
- Having a space to access socially more regularly either for play groups, family activities, games nights etc
- I think we would go out more if there was more going on in the Village Hall
- If it was more of a drop in centre but I appreciate that wouldn't be possible due to manning.
- Maybe a more regular event e.g. monthly coffee morning or drinks after work on a Friday weekend when it was the 'Village Arms'!
- If more modern:-updated toilet and kitchen facilities, better decoration then it could be used for a variety of functions and events linked to church, the village generally and anyone looking for a venue to hire.
- It could be a regular open meeting space used by residents not just as a fund raising venue to keep it open
- If it was warm
- It would be good to see it used for more social events for older residents or used for coffee mornings etc.
- It would also be nice if the parking was opened up to locals dropping children for school bus and / or occasional parking. This used to be a possibility but it feels very petty to have the chain across.
- Meeting up with friends
- More community social activities
- If more modern:-updated toilet and kitchen facilities, better decoration then it could be used for a variety of functions and events linked to church, the village generally and anyone looking for a venue to hire.
- It could be a regular open meeting space used by residents not just as a fund raising venue to keep it open
- If it was warm
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What one thing could improve your quality of life or wellbeing if the Village Hall was different?

- It would also be nice if the parking was opened up to locals dropping children for school bus and / or occasional parking. This used to be a possibility but it feels very petty to have the chain across.
- Meeting up with friends
- More community social activities
- More open access to residents and to have an area that is a games room in the hall with ping pong and a pool table to improve its usage
- More opportunity to get together with other villagers - to meet, socialise
- More social events for all ages
- More sport / fitness events
- More welcoming, less cliquey. Some people make a little effort with newcomers but not a lot.
- Opportunities to socialise
- Regular evening pub
- Regular events, clubs
- Social gathering
- Social interaction / community spirit / knowing your neighbours (3 things)!
- Somewhere to socialise. Cafe?
- The ability to affordably hire the village hall for parties
- The Village Hall did offer a range of activities; open gardens, quiz, BBQ, meals, film night, mosaic class. I went to all of the above and would go again.
- To have a central hub in the village would be great. At the moment there is nowhere for people to gather. It would bring people together socially.
- We would just like to see the Village Hall being open and being used
- Weekly social events (somewhere to go on a Friday night - just to catch up with fellow villagers e.g. pub night)
- Weekly social gatherings with bar and food; all taking our turns on the provision / manning
- Would have some community exercise classes or local cycle rides and walks / hikes.

The main improvement would be around personal wellbeing by connecting with others.

What if anything, would encourage you to more regularly use the Village Hall in future?

35 respondents

- A better set up for parties e.g. a few sofas for social seating
- A proper coffee machine
- Some gym equipment
- A basket ball hoop
- A robust programme of regular events all these activities - open gardens, quiz, BBQ, meals, film night, mosaic class. I would go again
- Any fundraising event for the church
- Any kind of evening class or social event
- Availability and locality
- Coffee and cakes
- Events - pub nights, book club, film nights, local history, BBQs

- Events, clubs, quiz nights, theme nights, craft days, gigs i.e. more village events
- Family orientated group activity - adult learning; skill demonstrations
- I attend most events, so better catering facilities
- If I had free time I'd love to attend events If it wasn't so cold and more things were organised
- Comfy seating, sound baffling needed as echoes dreadfully which hinders conversation
- If there was a shop / coffee bar / pub on premises
- Get tired of always having to drive!
- If there were a better environment. It looks a bit "Dad's Army" at the moment
- If there were different classes / activities going on
- Keep fit / classes, workshops / crafts, fundraising

What if anything, would encourage you to more regularly use the Village Hall in future?

35 respondents

- Meeting and enjoying the company of local friends and learning new things
- More activities and reasons to go More events and a nicer more open feel.
- Chain across makes it feel inaccessible.
- More going on
- More regular events for families in the hall.
- Have an information point in it with local walks to buy.
- Over 60 exercise social evenings
- Programme of social events
- Refurbishment in terms of: the entrance, toilets, kitchen, decor of the hall (small and large room)
- Slightly more modern look inside. Would be nice if there were e.g. photos of it in its heyday as a school inside to look at
- A more regular event e.g. quiz night 2-3 times per year

- Support from more residents rather than just the small core who regularly do everything
- Updated facilities
- Varied events at times appropriate for family life when kids go to bed before 8pm!
- Weekend cafe
- Well planed FUN events social/fitness or learning
- Wine tasting club
- Gardening club
- Wine tastings
- Bridge club
- Yoga / Pilates
- Private hire for friends gatherings
- Outside BBQ area

LOVE Doing things

Connect

(e.g. live music, cinema club, coffee mornings, wine tasting club, parties, celebrations)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

Active

(e.g. yoga, keep fit, pilates, dance lessons)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

Give

(e.g. fundraising events, volunteering)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

Learn

(e.g. local history, lectures, cookery classes, IT / digital skills)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

Take Notice

(e.g. mindfulness, a pursuit like photography, gardening club, something 'nature'-related)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

Work

Where do you work now (if relevant)?

Play

(e.g. adults: social clubs, games, chess, jigsaws or: parents and toddlers play)

Where do you go for this kind of activity now?

CONNECT
 e.g. live music,
 cinema club, coffee
 mornings, wine
 tasting club, parties,
 celebrations – all
 mentioned in the
 2019 consultation



Number of responses where both "Yes" and "Maybe" were given as an interest in the suggested activities

Live Music	85%
Cinema Club	80%
Fundraising Events	78%
Local History	78%
Yoga	72%
Coffee Mornings	68%
Lectures	68%
Wine Tasting Club	67%
Cookery Classes	66%
Dance Lessons	64%
Gardening Club	63%
Keep Fit	62%
Pilates	60%
Foreign Languages	50%
Photography	43%
Computer and Phone Tutorials	39%
Drama	38%
Children's Activities	38%
Senior Citizens' Group	33%
Off Road Parking at Night	27%

- 25 residents imagined 26 different 'connect' activities in the Village Hall
- The most popular suggestions were:

12	8	8	7	7
cinema club / films / sporting events footage	café: coffee mornings / afternoons / cakes / tearoom (summer) / pitstop for cyclists / meals	wine tasting / club	live music (e.g. jazz / blues / folk nights)	parties, celebrations

- 3 suggestions attracting more than 1 response were: quiz (3), BBQ (2), playgroup/playschool (2)
- 18 singular suggestions were: open gardens; table tennis; bridge; visiting speakers; cookery; meeting space for residents; low cost housing; "repair shop" where people can exchange skills and little jobs; dance lessons; pottery club; stamp collecting or collecting generally; job rehabilitation; beetle drive and yoga (reminding us that some of the 'active' ideas are also things that 'connect' too)

ACTIVE
e.g. yoga, keep fit,
pilates, dance
lessons – all
mentioned in the
2019 consultation



Number of responses where both "Yes" and "Maybe" were given as an interest in the suggested activities

Live Music	85%
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Drama	38%
Children's Activities	38%
Senior Citizens' Group	33%
Off Road Parking at Night	27%

- 23 residents imagined 13 different 'active' experiences in the Village Hall
- The most popular suggestions were:

11	10	8	5
yoga	dance lessons (modern dance / 'Strictly' dance / kids dance)	keep fit / fit steps (different age groups)	pilates

Other suggestions included the Hall acting like a gym (2); slimming; (active) music sessions / karaoke; table tennis; kids sport; basketball (hoop); exercise equipment; gymnastics; and spinning class.

GIVE

e.g. fundraising and volunteering

- 22 residents could see how the Village Hall might act as a location for fundraising, giving and volunteering activity
- Examples included raising funds for campaigns (e.g. Cancer), to book swaps, jumble/table top sales, a lending library, night litter picking, gardening and maintenance of the hall, craft and gift fairs, wreath making charity morning, bring and buy fairs, supper clubs and Open Gardens.
- Some people who said they worked full time said time – rather than interest – would limit their ability to get involved in this kind of Parish activity.
- More innovative examples of ‘giving’ included MacMillan escape rooms and games night (online in lockdown). Some mentioned various school-led activities that they support too.

TAKE NOTICE

e.g. mindfulness, photography, gardening, something nature-related

- 15 residents could see how the Village Hall might act as a location for fundraising, giving and volunteering activity

“I believe this is a good niche and not catered for in the area.”

- Examples included birdwatching meets (2), walking, photography (3) gardening club (3), cultivating the garden as a village allotment, meditation (2), mindfulness (2), outdoor mini vegetable patches for families to sponsor with the Hall, garden photography, star gazing, environmental activities and local area walks.

“Would absolutely love photography lessons”

- Some people who said they worked full time said time – rather than interest – would limit their ability to get involved in this kind of Parish activity.

“The environment is a big focus today, we all need to do our bit. Brings everyone together.”

- Given how much residents appreciate their location, its rural setting and the countryside, perhaps the Village Hall can develop local walks with social gatherings linked to that pursuit (varied itineraries).



- 22 residents imagined 13 different ‘learn’ experiences in the Village Hall
- The most popular suggestions were:

10	6	5	4
local / history	talks / lectures	IT / digital skills (different ages and abilities)	cookery classes (different ages and abilities)

Number of responses where both “Yes” and “Maybe” were given as an interest in the suggested activities

Live Music	85%
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Fundraising Events	78%
Local History	78%
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Drama	38%
Children’s Activities	38%
Senior Citizens’ Group	33%
Off Road Parking at Night	27%

Other suggestions included pottery; stamp collecting; gardening; young farmers / future farmers; literature; photography; language(s); general interest get togethers. Residents mention they access online learning and access talks mostly in Boroughbridge and Harrogate.

“IT / digital skills - I would love it!”

“I would enjoy anything to do with cooking. The Hall did have a cooking demonstration and cake decorating evening which were great fun.”

WORK

- Ideas for using the Village Hall to support people who work from 7 residents include:
 - Office 'cubes' / space for rent / hire
 - Hot desking / 'hot office' upstairs
 - Rent out rooms for meetings
 - Consulting rooms e.g. for a psycho-therapist
 - Job rehabilitation co-operation
 - Problem solving
 - Skills exchange (HR advice for book-keeping [time credit system])
 - Paid parking spaces
 - Leadership development consultancy
- 15 residents responding to this question said they worked from home (8), or usually Leeds, York, Bradford, Kirk Hammerton, Harrogate and London.

"I'm not sure those in this area would use Hall in preference to working from home or local venue like Aldwark Hotel."



PLAY

(e.g. adults: social clubs, games, chess, jigsaws or: parents and toddlers play)

“There is little play in our lives these days - too busy! Good question!”

- 16 residents could imagine the Hall being used for ‘play including:- darts, shove ha’penny, bar skittles, playgroups, table tennis club, social events for people who are retired, bridge, exhibitions, library / book swap, monthly games evenings (e.g. Bingo Night, horse racing night), themed nights and beetle drive evenings.

“A dementia cafe, social group would be good.”


“A meeting space outside - a bit like a school's friendship bench. . If people got used to just meeting for a chat they might take ownership.”


“A club for older residents who may be lonely. This would be great for the elderly in the village. Also the toddler group is really missed.”

People can ‘play’ at home or they typically go to friends’ houses, parents often have their contact through local schools but some simply said they don’t ‘play’ as much as they would like and the Village Hall could perhaps help remedy this. There are many connections between ideas here and those presented for ‘connect’, and together they help form a picture of how Little Ouseburn Village Hall could improve life in the community.

Next Steps



 North Yorkshire
County Council

 Harrogate
BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Little Ouseburn Village Hall Listening Exercise has been supported with grants from NYCC Stronger Communities and Harrogate Borough Council.

Need support?


If you are self-isolating or unable to get out your local Community Support Organisation is here to support you.

To get in touch with Boroughbridge Community Care Call: 01423 324504

Please return your booklet in the FREEPOST envelope provided as soon as possible. No stamp needed, it's free to send back.

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Skyblue Research
41 Wetherby Road, York
YO26 5BU



Spinning Tool

Would you like to be kept informed about this project

32/39 respondents (82%)

Would you be interested to learn more about the development plans (from 2019)?

27/41 respondents (66%)

Would you like to take part in a virtual (zoom)_ focus group with other residents as part of this project?

17/32 respondents (57%)

Summary: key messages

- Around a third of the Parish spent valuable time contributing to this deep and detailed community listening exercise; from aged 6 to 90.
- Residents love where they live; and are proud of events or moments where the community has come together to support and celebrate.
- There is agreement that there is not enough to do locally, despite residents having individual aspirations to self-improve, recapture things they used to do, try for the first time or can't access locally
- The most popular question was about wanting to start a new activity, group or club or joining an existing one suggesting a latent demand for a more exciting, regular programme of experiences at the Hall

Summary: key messages

- Residents are not entirely sure, but think that certain types of people are at particular disadvantage or lack of opportunity to connect and engage, and the inference is that the Village Hall should seek to address this
- An example would be in how the Hall could help address social isolation and loneliness in the Parish through appropriate social interaction
- Many residents do or have volunteered, and there is evidence of latent energy and willingness to volunteer or contribute to Parish improvement and Village Hall organising / supporting IF the Hall is suitably welcoming and suited to the needs of the activity
- Nearly 1 in 2 find the Village Hall very / unwelcoming and some identify a range of turn-offs that mean they wouldn't use it as they might. Ideas for improving the welcome and future use of the Village Hall are infrastructural.
- By this, we mean not only **building structure** ('facelift' – 'renovation' – 're-landscaping outside'); but also **people structure** (how the Village Hall supports residents to contribute, how it behaves) and **social structure** (how the Village Hall is truly inclusive, engaging and appeals 'to all').

Summary: key messages

- Many of the ideas coming forward from residents about improving the Village Hall appear to be around the kitchen, toilets, heating in the building, more ambitious use of colour and better social seating. These ideas should perhaps be compared to the 2019 Development Plans which may be more ambitious than is required by residents at this time?
- Residents are as interested in what the Village Hall does outside as well as inside and some activities could generate local support e.g. someone with skills willing to improve the entrance door; organise a community garden.
- Not everyone in the Parish feels they belong. If the Village Hall can increase this sense of belonging amongst more residents, it will more likely take root in people's hearts, improving their wellbeing and overall quality of life.
- Residents appear to have appreciated this opportunity to have been listened to, and there is sufficient demand to warrant further follow up (Phase 2) between the New year and Spring of 2021 to continue this community conversation, in order that a set of options for the Village Hall can be tested and agreed.