



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

The LOVE Project



Little Ouseburn Village Hall Listening Exercise

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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.



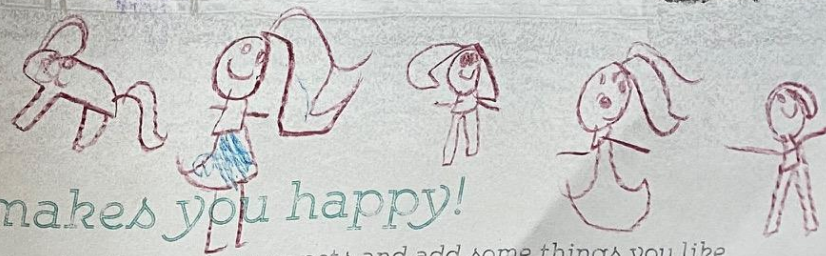
Participants were aged 6 to 90!

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

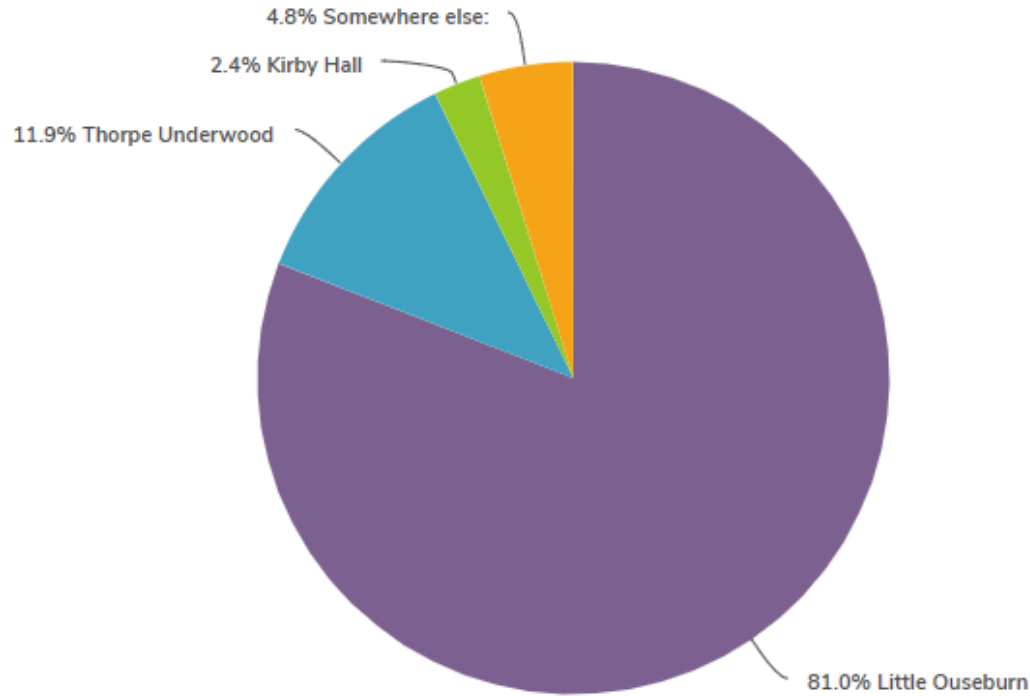
“Here is a picture from 6 year old Amelia for the colouring competition.

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

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

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

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.

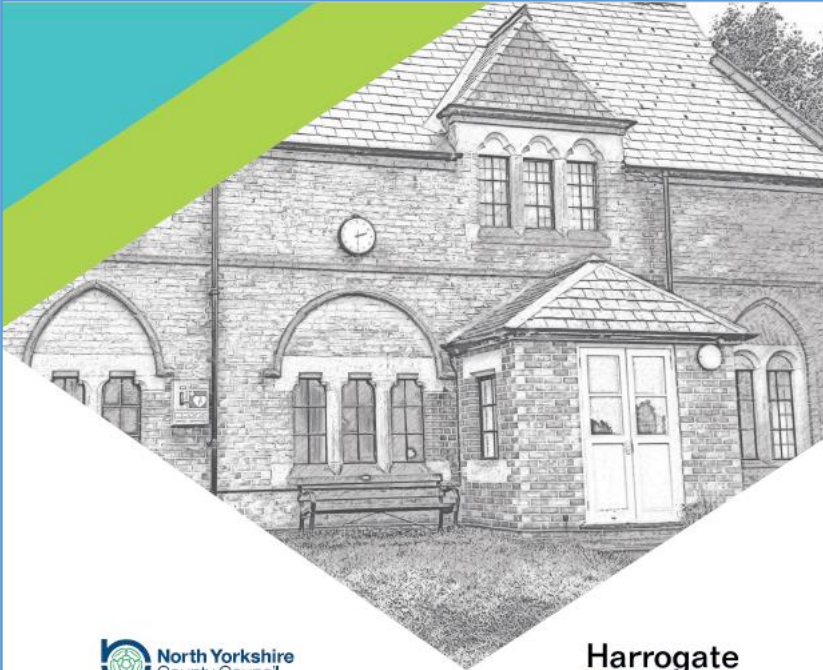
Summary: key messages


- 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.

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.

Lost your envelope, no problem. Just use any envelope and write this address on it:

Freepost RRLK-LTHZ-JYCE
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%)