

Offwell Parish Plan



2010 - 2020

OFFWELL PARISH PLAN 2010-2020



Offa's Well

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We would like to acknowledge the assistance given to us by the people of Offwell.

Photographs by Clive Baker, Frank Hayes, Mike Hounsome and Tony Rowe.

The photograph on the front cover was supplied by EDDC Department of Environmental Health



This Parish Plan is the result of many hours work by a small team of volunteers and of the time and goodwill of the people who took the trouble to attend the 'post-it' sessions and to complete the questionnaire. We believe that it truly represents the opinions and aspirations of the residents of Offwell.

There may be a few contentious issues but, by and large, there is general agreement on most aspects of the plan.

We hope that it has identified what is good in the Parish, and what therefore should be preserved, and what needs to be done to improve our environment.

The Parish Plan Team
October 2010

What is a Parish Plan?

A Parish Plan is a document describing the current state of the Parish and detailing the way in which residents wish to see it develop over the next ten years. Once adopted by the Parish Council and East Devon District Council it will inform decision making, planning and development. It will also put Offwell in a better position to attract funders for Parish projects as they usually expect detailed 'needs assessments'. Hopefully, this might play a part in the Local Development Framework Report to the Government in 2011.

A questionnaire was sent out in the autumn of 2009 with a view to producing a Parish Plan in 2010. The questionnaire was sent to all 171 households in the Parish and 135 of them were filled in, i.e. 79% return rate. This is a very high percentage and ensures that the results are truly representative of the residents as a whole. The analysis of the questionnaires formed the basis of this Parish Plan.

Who compiled the questions?

A Steering Group of seven members took advice from the Community Council for Devon. They looked at several plans from other parishes and they held 'post-it' sessions where Offwell residents could propose their own questions. The Steering Group were: Gill Baker, Mike Craythorne, Dawn Furze, the late Gill Graham, Carol Hayes, Mike Hounsome and Terry Roberts.

Who filled-in the questionnaire?

Every person over the age of 11 years who lived in the Parish of Offwell was asked to take part. One questionnaire was used for each household, with each member adding their own answers under 'Person 1', 'Person 2' etc.

The questionnaires were anonymous and there was no way of knowing who filled them in once the forms had been collected and the data extracted.

There were small but significant differences in the questionnaire responses between older and younger people and between those who live within the village and those who live in the wider Parish. These two factors are related in that more older, retired incomers live within the village whereas more younger, working, local people live outside. The former are more numerous so the overall percentages of responses may under-represent the views of the wider Parish.



Offwell Village, viewed from the south

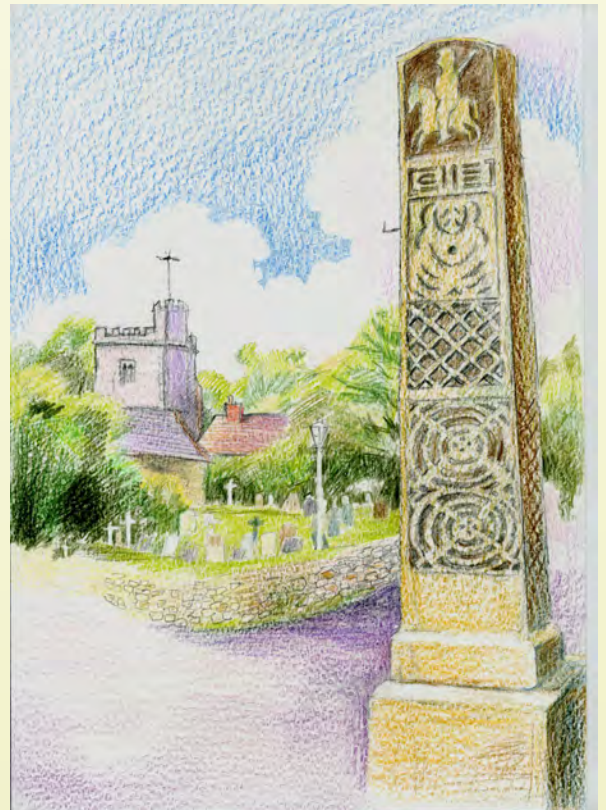
Location

Offwell is a small Devon Parish of about 2,250 acres (about 900 hectares) in the East Devon Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB). It is bisected by the A35 about 3 miles East-South-East of Honiton and 6 miles West-North-West of Axminster. The village of Offwell lies at the top of a valley of woods and pasture and is about 8 miles from the sea at Lyme Bay. The nearest sea-side resorts are Sidmouth, Branscombe, Beer and Seaton. The nearest large towns are Exeter (16 miles) and Taunton (22 miles).

The Coplestons

The history of Offwell is closely bound to the Copleston family, who were Rectors of Offwell from 1773 to 1954 and their imprint on the village can be widely seen. Bishop Edward Copleston (later Bishop of Llandaff) built the village school in 1840 - it is one of the oldest in the West Country. He is also responsible for the building of various other significant buildings including Offwell House, The Old Rectory, The Tower, the Vestry and the stone cover and pump for the Well, known as Offas Well, which stands in the middle of the village and from which the village takes its name.

The Copleston Cross, also erected in 1840, stands beside the village school; it is a replica of the original 10th Century cross which stands in the village of Copplestone near Crediton (the Copleston family spell their name differently from the name of the village of Copplestone).



Copleston Cross (Clive Baker)



Offa's Well (Clive Baker)

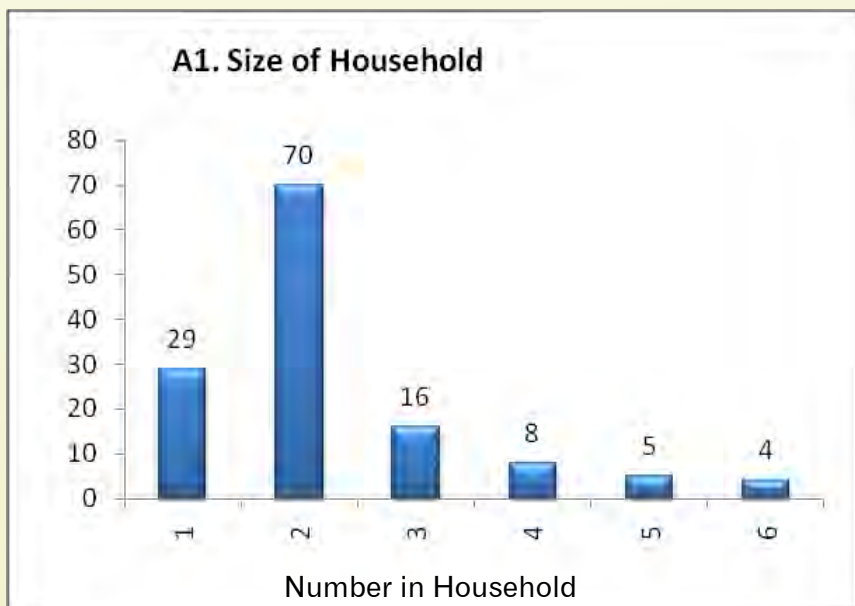
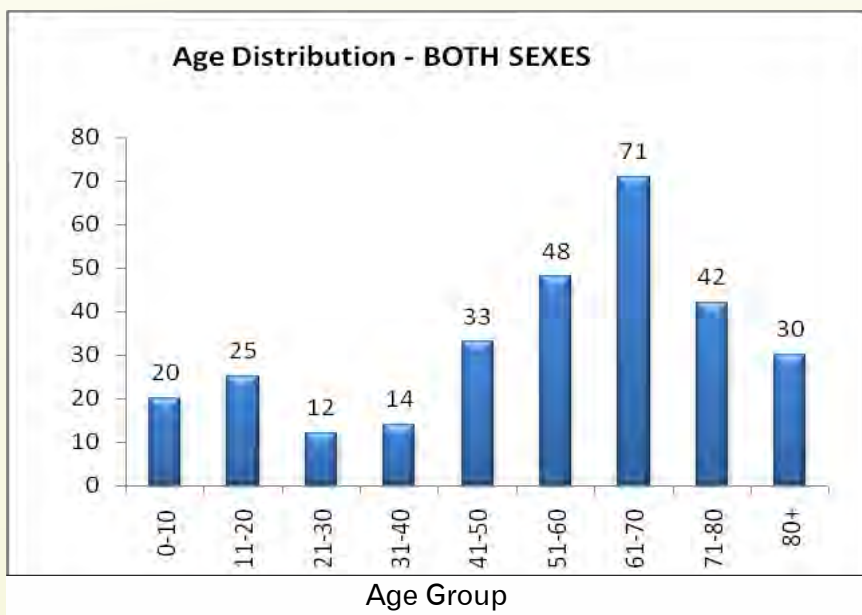
Offwell Parish has a beautiful old church (c.1200), a Voluntary Aided church primary school, a sports field and children's play area, a social club, a large village hall, a Post Point and a community shop. The wider Parish has a garage/petrol station and shop, two plant nurseries, the East Devon Business Park and Mount Pleasant Workshops as well as nine farms and several holiday lets. For better or worse, it has no pub - that closed before WW2.

The average age of all the residents of the Parish is 58 years, compared with the national average of 38 years.

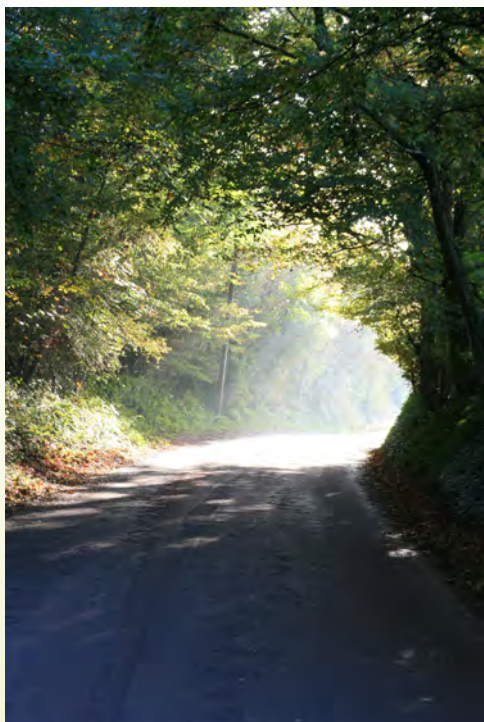
Residents within the village are, on average, older (60) than those living in the wider Parish outside the village (55).

Nearly half (49%) of residents are over 60 years of age and 10% of them live by themselves with 52% of all the people living with one other person.

76% of households have no children of school age, but there are 37 school children living in the Parish.



It is clear, then, that Offwell has a population considerably older than average.



The great majority of residents (89%) think that Offwell has a good or reasonable appearance and most people value its beautiful and peaceful environment. Very few people consider that they suffer from environmental pollution. Offwell won the Best Kept Village award in 2008 and was runner up in 2009. In 2010 the Glanvill Cup was awarded to Offwell as the village scoring the highest number of points in East Devon in the Small Village category of the Best Kept Village competition.

There is an average of 1.7 cars per household and only 6% of households do not have a car. The majority of houses are detached and more than 40% of the houses are owned outright with about 30% being mortgaged; there is little rented accommodation.

The picture emerges, therefore, of a beautiful, peaceful Parish of predominantly mature people contented with their lot.

BUSINESS

There are nine farms (see page 8), two plant nurseries, several holiday lets, a garage/petrol station (with shop), a Community Shop, the East Devon Business Park and the Mount Pleasant workshops within the Parish. There are also several small businesses run from homes. These businesses are vital to the life of the Parish.

About 32% of residents never shop in Offwell and a further 24% shop only about once a month. Those who do shop in the village cite environmental reasons, support for local businesses and the preservation of village life. About 20% valued the social contact when shopping. Older people and those living within the village are more likely to use the Village Shop.

53% of respondents were not in favour or failed to answer when asked if they would like a café/meeting place as opposed to 47% who did. Of those, 17% favoured siting it in the village shop, 17% the social club and 7% the church.



Offwell Community Shop & Post Point

RECYCLING

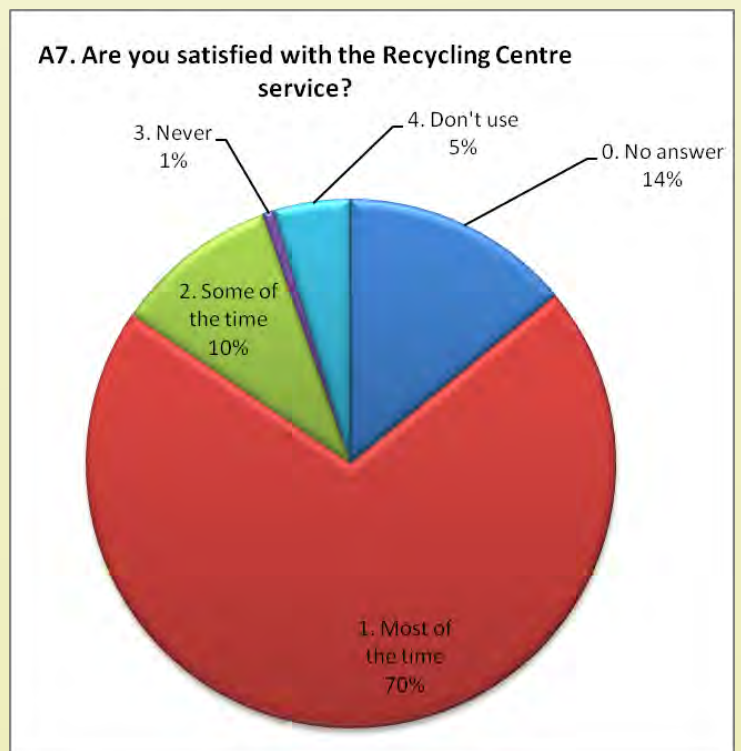
Only 11% of people don't recycle or failed to answer the question.

More than 70% of people used the Green Box system and over 70% used the Sutton Barton Recycling Centre.

There is a high level of satisfaction with the Recycling Centre, with about 80% of people saying that they were happy with the service 'most' or 'some' of the time.

In the 'comments' section there were 58 praising the service and 36 pointing out problems or suggesting improvements.

Overall, it seems that Offwellians value the service and would like it to continue.



EDUCATION

Offwell Primary School has consistently scored highly in OFSTED reports, obtaining straight Grade 1s ('*exceptionally & consistently high*') in 2008. Most of the pupils do not live in the Parish and have to be transported to and fro.

76% of Offwell households have no school age children. The number of school age children recorded in the autumn of 2009 as resident in the Parish was 37. Only 7% of households (11 children) have primary age children who attend Offwell village school. It seems that Offwell Primary School is more than adequate for the needs of the Parish.

When asked if they would like to see more involvement in Parish activities by school children 49% (138) of respondents didn't answer the question. Those who did would mainly like to see children involved in the Village Fete, Woodland Centre, Bonfire Night, Flower Show, etc.

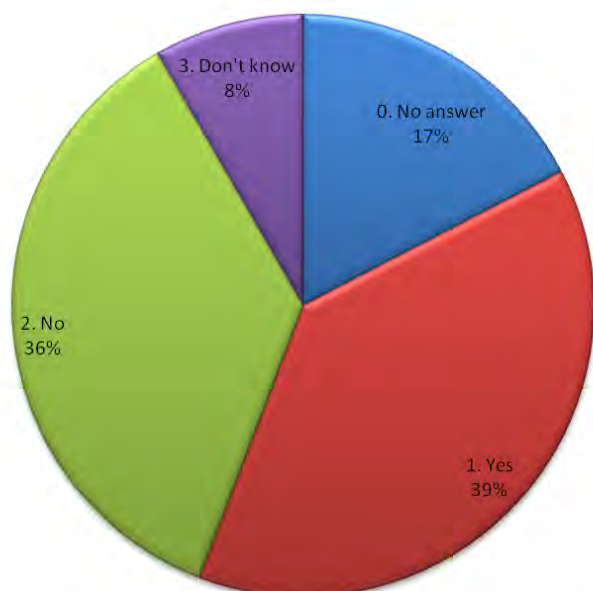


Offwell Church of England Primary School



Photo by permission of Offwell Primary School

C3. Do you have concerns regarding parking and/or traffic associated with the school?



39% of respondents had concerns regarding parking/traffic associated with the school, with speeding and inconsiderate driving and parking being seen as the main problems. Fifty-seven respondents cited speeding whilst 48 had concerns about inconsiderate and discourteous behaviour. This question also highlighted concerns over safe parking and access for emergency vehicles.

ENVIRONMENT

The most valued aspect of the Parish, unsurprisingly for a Parish in an AONB, is the “beautiful peaceful environment” followed by friendliness and community spirit. The Village Hall complex, St Mary’s Church and the Shop/Post Point were also highly valued. Other aspects which were valued ranged from the Social Club, variety of social activities, the hay-cart, garage and the library van.



Dullimoor

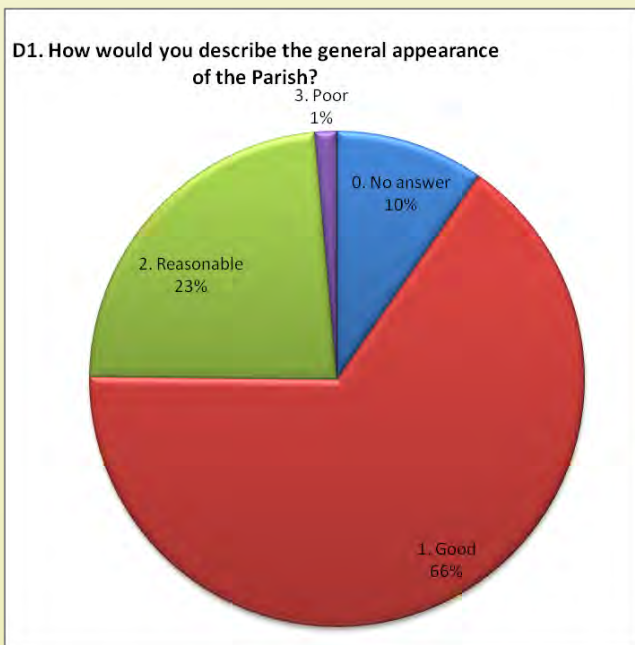


Offwell Brook

65% of parishioners did not suffer from any environmental pollution but 13% were troubled by aircraft noise and a further 10% by traffic noise. More people outside the village suffered from noise from aircraft while those within the village reported more of the other pollutants such as traffic noise, light pollution and noise from people.

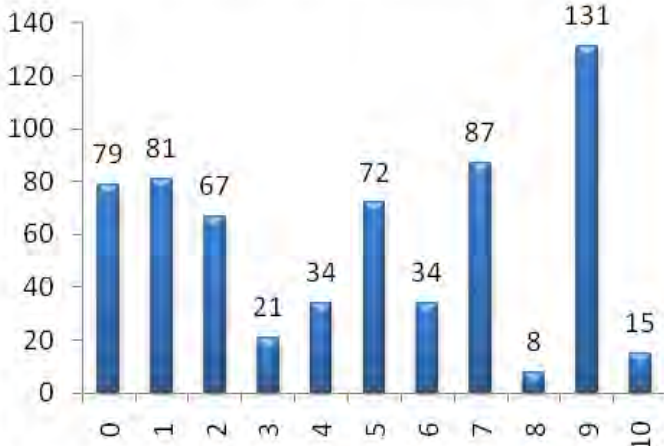
Energy saving & waste reduction was considered important by 81% with only 2% indicating otherwise; 4% were unsure and 13% did not answer. Younger people were much more concerned about this topic.

When asked if a Travellers site should be established in Offwell 73% said no, 6% yes, 12% were unsure and 9% did not reply. Young people and those living outside the village were more in favour of such a site.



It is reassuring that 66% of respondents felt the general appearance of the Parish to be good; 23% felt it looked reasonable and only 1% thought it poor – 10% had no opinion. People under the age of 45 were more likely to think that it was ‘good’ and people over 45 were more likely to think that it was ‘reasonable’. Young people saw fewer problems than older people.

D4. Are any of these a problem?



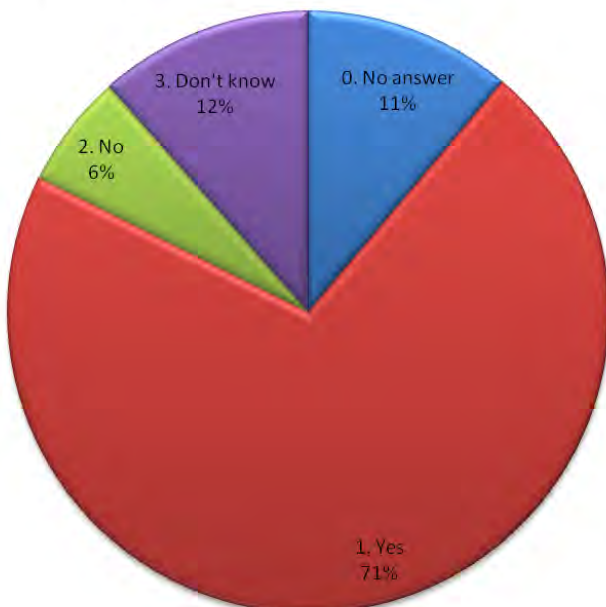
0. No Problems	79	28.4%
1. Walking safely	81	29.1%
2. Dog fouling	67	24.1%
3. Fly-tipping	21	7.6%
4. General litter	34	12.2%
5. Large lorries	72	25.9%
6. Lack of parking space	34	12.2%
7. Inconsiderate parking	87	31.3%
8. School buses	8	2.9%
9. Speeding traffic	131	47.1%
10. Other	15	5.4%

Though the Woodland Education Centre is not owned by the Parish it is felt to be an integral part of Offwell with 71% of respondents declaring it to be an asset and only 6% saying that it was not. Over 20% of people felt that pedestrian and vehicular access to the Centre should be improved. 60% of people felt that it should be supported by public authorities with 11% saying that it should not.

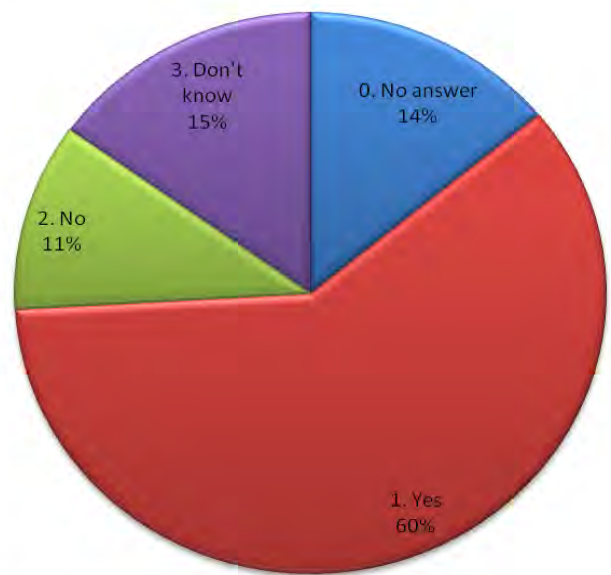


The Princess Royal visiting the Offwell Woodland Education Centre in 2005

D8. Do you believe that the Woodland Education Centre is a valuable Parish asset?

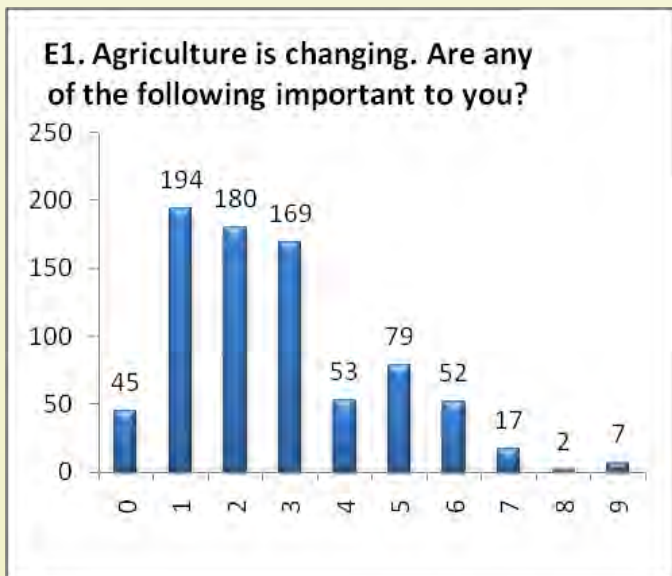
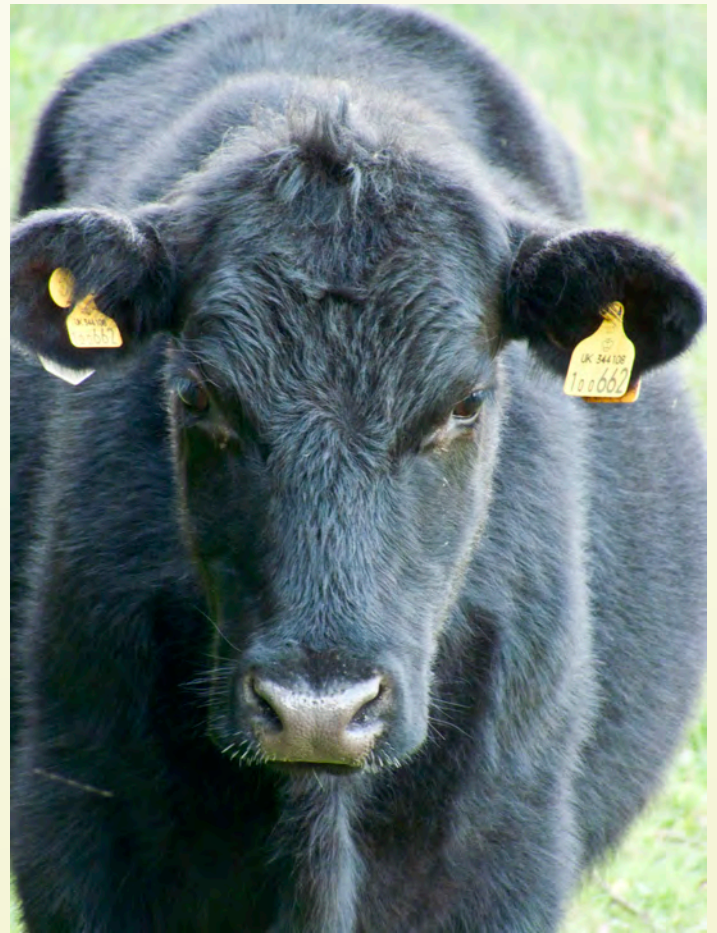


D10. Should the Woodland Education Centre receive support from public authorities?

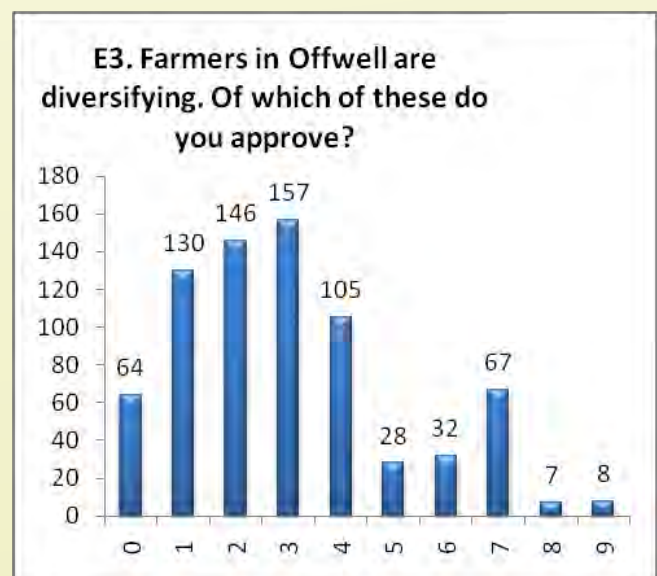


FARMING

There are nine farms presently active in the Offwell Parish, predominantly milking herds but naturally reared beef, pork, chicken and lamb are becoming increasingly popular with local residents and visitors to the region alike. This is an important and growing area of farm production in East Devon together with the move towards farmhouse self catering and B&Bs. Tourism is the fifth largest industry in the UK and Devon is growing as one of the most important areas to visit for country and seaside pursuits, holiday accommodation and excellent food and restaurants. Its designation as an AONB recognises the importance of the landscape in making the area a desirable tourist destination.



0. No answer	45	16.2%
1. Retain existing farmland	194	69.8%
2. Managing the countryside	180	64.7%
3. Local food production	169	60.8%
4. Farmers market	53	19.1%
5. Reduction in food miles	79	28.4%
6. Small-holdings	52	18.7%
7. Farm Cooperatives	17	6.1%
8. None of these	2	0.7%
9. Other	7	2.5%



0. No answer	64	23.0%
1. Food retailing	130	46.8%
2. Farm shops/restaurants	146	52.5%
3. B&B/Self Catering	157	56.5%
4. Craft workshops	105	37.8%
5. Business centres	28	10.1%
6. Commercial recycling	32	11.5%
7. Barn conversions	67	24.1%
8. None of these	7	2.5%
9. Other	8	2.9%

Over 50% of respondents approved of farmers' diversifying into farm shops, restaurants, B&B and self catering. Food retailing outlets were popular with 47% and craft workshops with 38%. Barn conversions had 24% support while business centres and commercial recycling were an unpopular choice with only 10% in favour of each. These overall figures disguise the fact that there was a difference between those who live in the village and those who live outside: those within the village are more supportive of food production, farm shops and B&B while those outside were more supportive of business centres, recycling and barn conversions.



70% of respondents want our existing farmland to be retained while 65% want farmers to continue managing the countryside. Over 70% of respondents shop mainly at supermarkets but over 43% also shop at the village shop and over 34% at local farm shops. The village shop was used more by older people and those living within the village.

HEALTH

With quite a large elderly population in Offwell who require, or may need, several different health services it was gratifying to note that 84% of respondents did not experience any access difficulties.

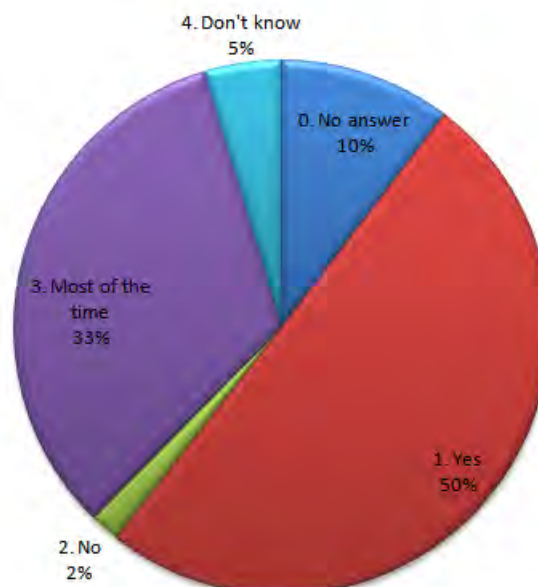
Nevertheless, 10% of respondents did experience difficulties with area/regional hospitals, 6% had access problems with the local hospitals, 8% with accessing a dentist and 7% with accessing Honiton Surgery.

While 83% of respondents were satisfied with Honiton General Practice all or most of the time 33% wished to see a weekly half-day Satellite Surgery conducted by a doctor or practice nurse.



Honiton Group Practice

F3. Are you satisfied with the services provided by Honiton Group Practice?



The Parish

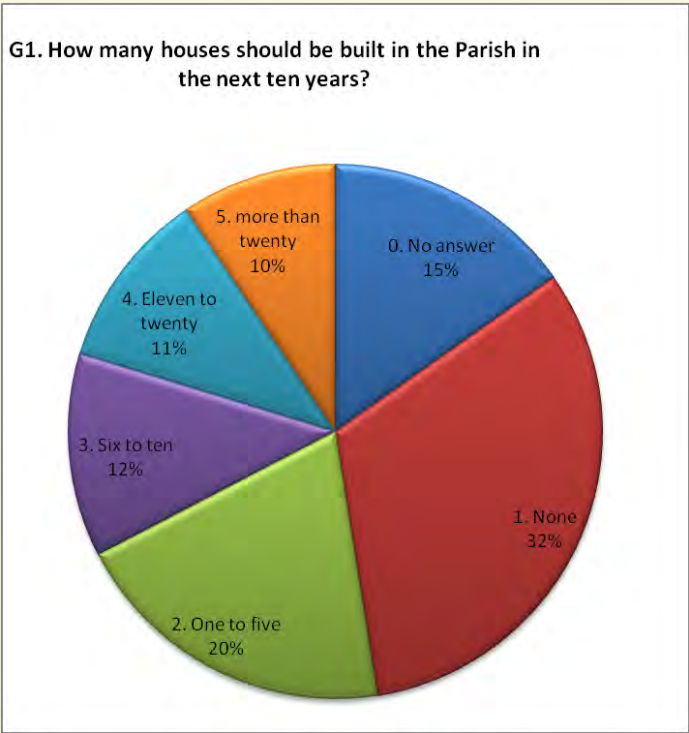


of Offwell



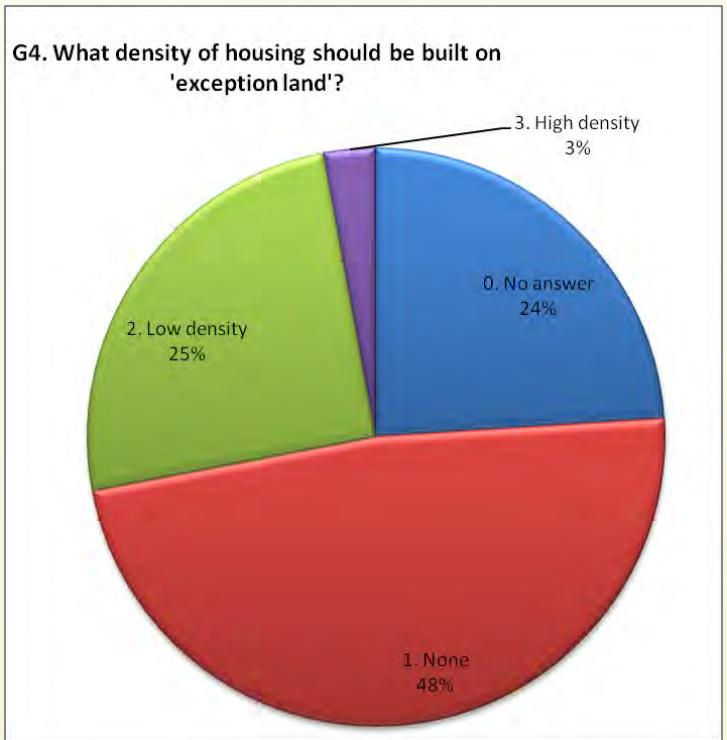
HOUSING

The building of houses in an AONB can be a contentious issue. When asked how many houses should be built in the Parish in the next ten years 32% of respondents said none, 53% said up to five, 33% up to ten, 21% up to twenty and 10% more than 20.

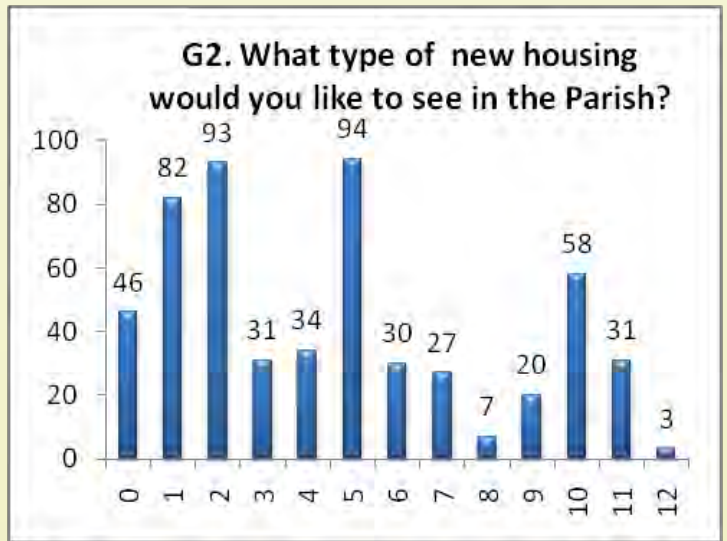


When asked what type of new housing they would like to see, nearly 34% wanted homes for local people and 34% wanted homes for young people. Nearly 30% wanted no new housing at all.

The general consensus appeared to be that while many wanted housing for young people there were concerns that the parish infrastructure could not support further development and that it may threaten the integrity of the village. Respondents were keen to maintain the character of the village and protect its historic centre.



Almost half (48%) of respondents wanted no building on exception land with 25% prepared to accept low density and 24% not answering. Building on agricultural land in an AONB is, quite rightly, strictly controlled.

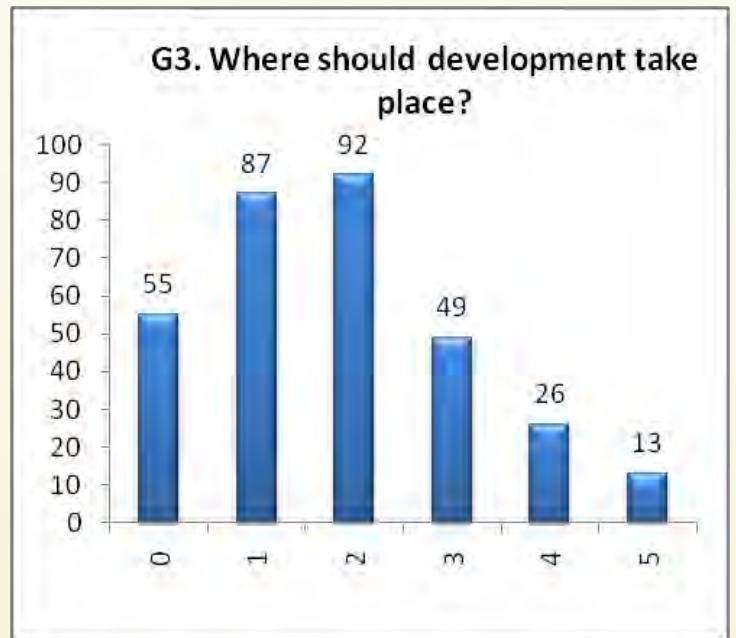


0. No answer	46	16.5%
1. None	82	29.5%
2. Young people	93	33.5%
3. Large families	31	11.2%
4. Elderly	34	12.2%
5. Local people	94	33.8%
6. Low income	30	10.8%
7. Rental	27	9.7%
8. Holiday	7	2.5%
9. Social (Council)	20	7.2%
10. Affordable	58	20.9%
11. Open Market	31	11.2%
12. Other	3	1.1%

The most popular sites for any building would be infill in the village or near the A35. Younger people and those living outside the village were more in favour of house building than were older people and those living in the village.

When asked if respondents were likely to need sheltered housing in the parish within the next ten years only 4% answered 'yes'.

Offwell has a wide variety of building styles, from the really old (14th Century) to the fairly modern. The more traditional buildings are usually of Flint/Chert with brick quoins; they were originally thatched but most now have tile or slate roofs.



0. No answer	55	19.8%
1. No development	87	31.3%
2. In-fill in the village	92	33.1%
3. Along the A35	49	17.6%
4. Agricultural land	26	9.4%
5. Other	13	4.7%



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Residents who are elderly and/or with disabilities are frequently isolated and dependent on family and friends to take them shopping, on hospital visits and social outings. Only 29% of respondents said they would use a frequent bus service between Offwell and Honiton, with almost 50% saying they would not use the service. Only 22% would use a fast Friday bus service between Offwell and Exeter with nearly 50% saying they would not use the service.

This apparent lack of interest in public transport may reflect the fact that only 6% of households do not have their own car and that Offwell is a caring community where there is no shortage of residents willing and able to offer transport and other help to needy neighbours.



The last Bus!

When asked whether the present public transport provisions catered adequately for those with a disability 43% of respondents said they didn't know.

As to be expected, older people and those living within the village were more concerned about these problems than were younger people.

PARISH SERVICES

Within the Parish there is a regular circulation of the Newsletter and Church Link. The Parish Council Agenda and Minutes are posted on the notice board. However 32% of people wanted more Neighbourhood Watch information, 22% felt they did not receive sufficient information about Parish Council activities, 16% wanted more information on local community activities, and 7% wanted more church information.

Only twenty residents (7%) use the Mobile Library Service, of whom ten (4%) felt it carried a sufficient range. Of these twenty, sixteen were female.

8% of respondents said that they would use voluntary transport (i.e. a car) to Honiton or Axminster and 64% said that they would not. 10% said that they would offer such transport while 52% said they would not.



Offwell Parish Noticeboard

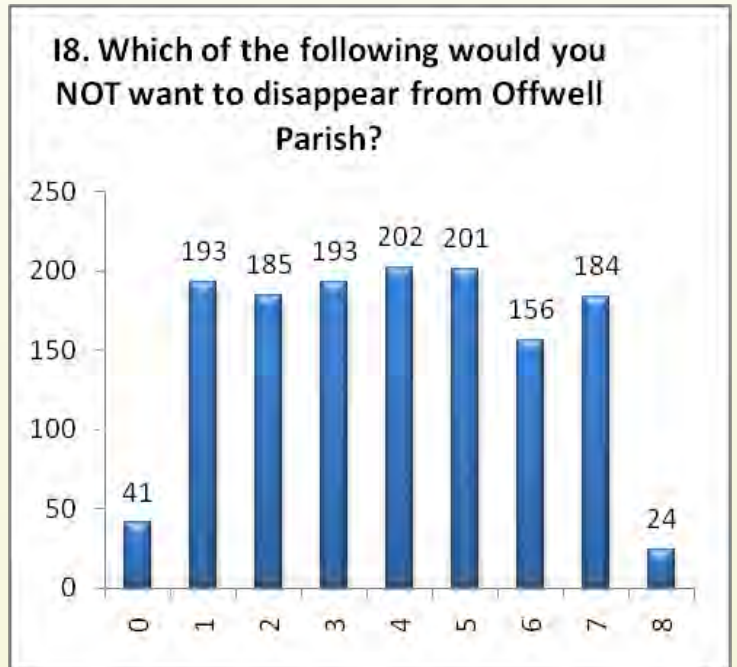


Mobile Library



Offwell Village Hall and Sports & Social Club

About 70% of people wanted to retain the Woodland Education Centre, the Community Shop and Post Point, the Village Hall, the Recreation Ground, the Children's Play Area and the Social Club.



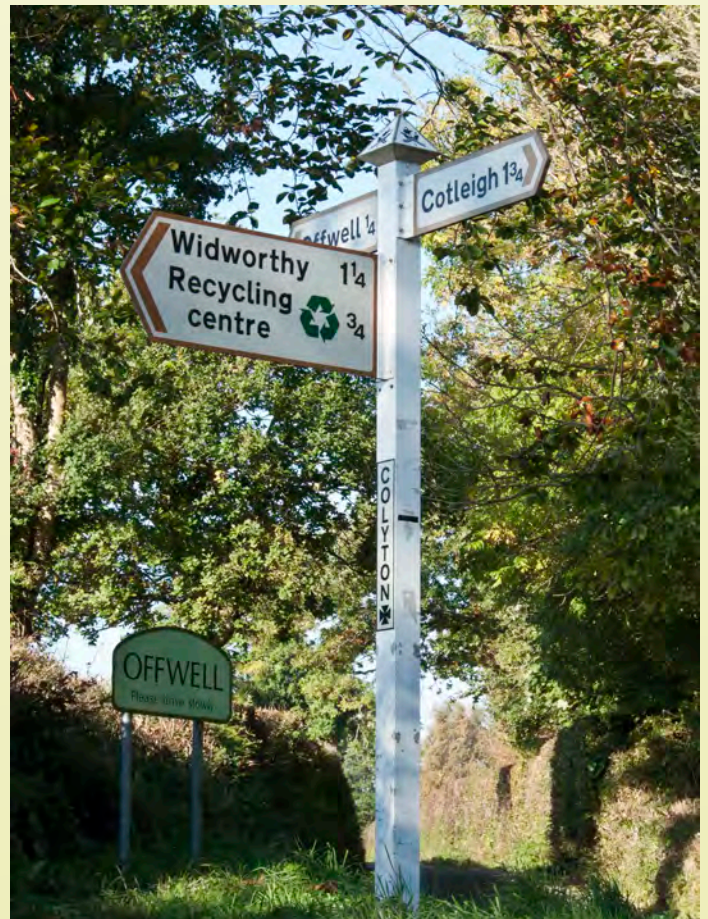
0. No answer	41	14.7%
1. Woodland Education Centre	193	69.4%
2. Community Shop	185	66.5%
3. Community Post Point	193	69.4%
4. Village Hall	202	72.7%
5. Recreation Ground	201	72.3%
6. Social Club	156	56.1%
7. Children's Play Area	184	66.2%
8. Other	24	8.6%



Offwell Social Club

There were several new amenities suggested – the most popular being a pub!

62% felt that road signage round the Parish is adequate though twelve residents felt the directional signs to the Recycling Centre should be improved. Several residents felt signs were often obstructed by hedge and plant growth.



POLICING

With a village school at its centre, a football club with players from outside Offwell and a 'short cut' to the recycling centre through the village from the A35 it is no surprise that respondents who live within the village feel they suffer from non-resident drivers hastening to collect children, attend football matches and dispose of their garden waste. For this reason the main crime and safety concerns were with regard to speeding traffic, mentioned by 45% of respondents with 31% mentioning road safety.



Devon & Cornwall Police
Building safer communities together

Devon and Cornwall has the 4th lowest crime rate in England and Wales

The police carried out speed checks in the village on two occasions in 2009 and found all traffic to be well within the 30 m.p.h. limit but the volume of cars and the perception of 'haste' is still of great concern and inconvenience to many. Most people (58%) want the speed limit within the village reduced to 20 m.p.h.

21% of respondents were concerned at the lack of police presence in the village but 40% had no crime concerns at all.

What are the main issues that you feel the police should concentrate their efforts on in Offwell Parish?

- 31 speeding/road safety
- 16 more frequent visible police patrols (1 outside village)
- 10 burglary/security of personal property
- 7 inconsiderate/dangerous parking
- 4 security of garden and agricultural machinery e.g. Farm Watch.
- 4 home visits re security
- 3 car parking around the school
- 2 dog fouling
- 2 good response time
- 2 unmarked police car with speed camera at school times
- 2 theft
- 2 personal safety
- 2 Neighbourhood Watch
- 1 keeping in touch/regular contact
- 1 work with school children
- 1 should keep a low profile until needed
- 1 minimum turnover of personnel
- 1 safety of the elderly
- 1 better control of children on roads
- 1 telephone number for local police
- 1 fly tipping on A35
- 1 drugs
- 1 advise tractor drivers regarding use of mobile phones while driving

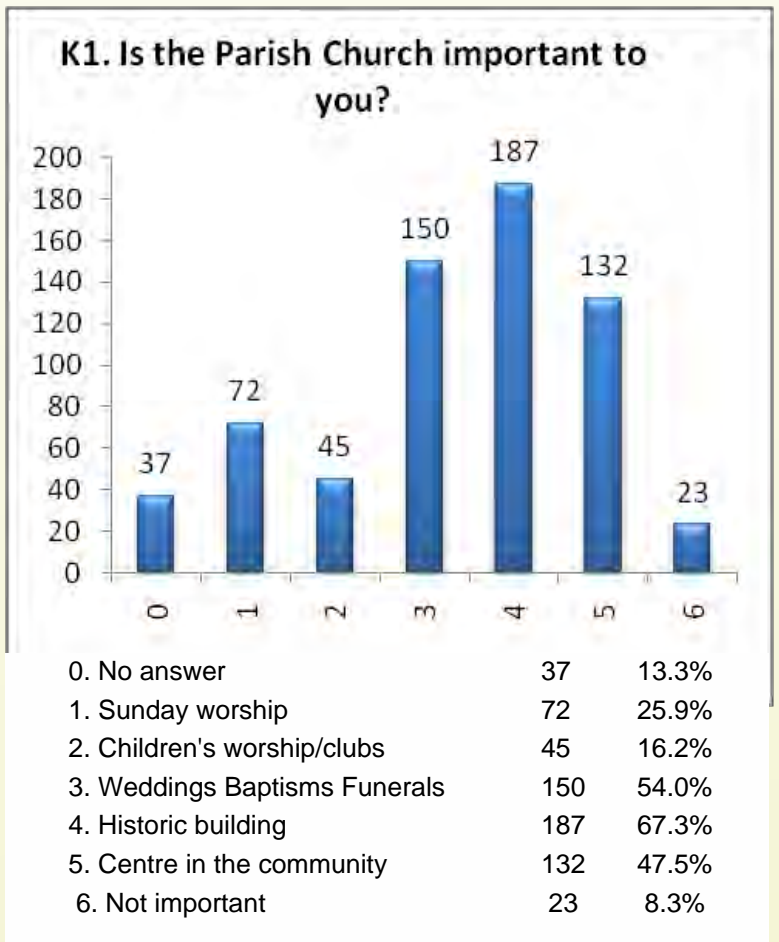


Almost 50% of respondents were unaware of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NWS) with 13% saying that the system didn't work. Although the quarterly village newsletter contains a section on policing and Neighbourhood Watch issues and encourages villagers to join the community messaging scheme (open to all) it would appear that people expect NWS to be something that is done for them rather than a community awareness scheme that involves their proactive participation. Those people living outside the centre of the village feel that NWS cannot work for them and, surprisingly, only four respondents mentioned security of garden and agricultural machinery as one of their major concerns.

THE CHURCH

As with many Parish churches in Devon congregations are falling and the Common Fund and upkeep of Grade 1 buildings, such as St. Mary's, are heavy burdens for many Parochial Church Councils. Nevertheless, only 8% of respondents felt that the church was not important to them. 67% acknowledged its value as an historic building; 54% wanted the Church for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

48% felt the Church was important as the centre of the community while only 26% mentioned Sunday worship. This dichotomy between worshippers and non-worshippers is perhaps indicative of a real tension in 21st century society. Although the church has declined in importance for most people, many still see and value it as a unifying symbol within the village.



St Mary's Church, Offwell



Steps to the Lych Gate

When people were asked if they would like to see the Church used for other functions 25% said 'yes', 25% said 'no' and the remaining 50% either didn't know or didn't respond at all. The activities mentioned by those who answered 'yes' to 'other functions' ranged from musical events and school lessons to mums & toddler groups and jumble sales.

TRAFFIC AND ROADS

Traffic and roads are by far the most concerning issues for most Offwell residents.

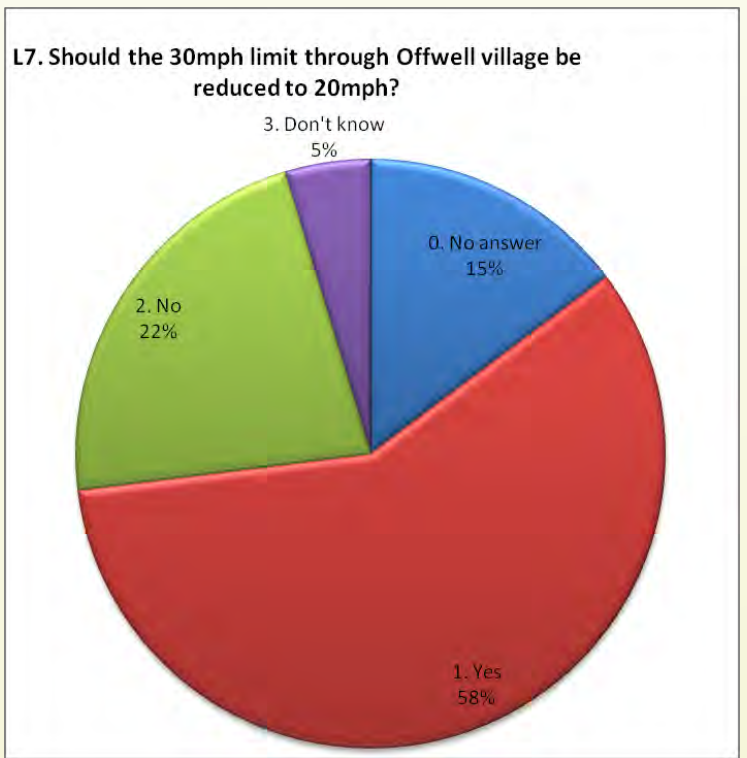
While 41% of people were quite satisfied with the general state of the Parish roads and verges, 45% were dissatisfied or extremely dissatisfied. (This survey was carried out before the 2010 pothole epidemic!)



When asked whether the present traffic arrangements in Offwell Parish were conducive to pedestrian safety nearly 50% said 'no' with under 25% saying 'yes'. 44% of respondents felt there was a need for traffic calming/speed enforcement measures through Offwell village, while 32% felt there was no need. Of those who wanted calming measures introduced the overwhelming majority wanted a reduction in the speed limit. 58% wanted the 30mph limit through Offwell village reduced to 20mph (with 22% against).



Junction of Ramsden Lane and the A35



Nearly 50% of respondents wanted a 40mph speed limit on the A35 through Offwell Parish and 60% wanted a passing lane on the north side of the A35 opposite Ramsden Lane (13% said 'no'). When asked if a pedestrian path should be provided on the south side of the A35 between Ramsden and Featherbed Lanes 67% said 'yes' with only 8% saying 'no'.

ACTIONS

An analysis of the results from the questionnaire indicate that the following actions be taken by parishioners, the Parish Council, East Devon District Council and Devon County Council:

ISSUE	AIMS	ACTION	PARTNERS	PRIORITY	TIME SCALE
Inconsiderate driving behaviour associated with school traffic	To improve driving behaviour and road safety and protect the quality of life of residents	Advise school authorities of parishioner concerns and seek practical improvements in driving behaviour	Parish Council	High	Short term
Speeding traffic through narrow village lanes	To improve signage and lower speed limit to 20mph through village	Lobby for a 20mph speed limit	Parish Council Devon County Council	High	Short term
Discourteous and unsafe use of Village Hall car park and village roads	To improve driving behaviour	Promote measures to encourage users to drive and park more courteously and safely	Parish Council Village Hall & Recreation Ground Charity	High	Short term
Traffic safety issues at the junction of Ramsden Lane and A35	To improve road safety at the Ramsden Lane junction	Lobby for a passing place at Ramsden Lane junction	Parish Council Devon County Council	High	Long term
Lack of a pedestrian path along the A35 between Ramsden and Fern Lanes	To improve pedestrian safety between Ramsden and Fern Lanes	Lobby for a pedestrian path between Ramsden and Fern Lanes	Parish Council East Devon District Council Devon County Council	High	Long term
Poor condition of local roads and verges	To improve road safety and prevent damage to banks and verges	Restrict the number of large vehicles using narrow lanes and improve the condition of local roads	Parish Council Devon County Council	Medium	Long term
Poor road signage to the Recycling Centre on A35	To improve road signs to the Recycling Centre directing traffic away from the village	Investigate and encourage improvements to all road signs around and through the village	Parish Council Devon County Council	Medium	Long term
Limiting new housing stock to a maximum of five houses	To protect the visual character of the parish	Request that East Devon District Council incorporate Parish Plan Policies into any current or future planning policies	Parish Council East Devon District Council	High	Long term
Imposing local occupancy ties on any new dwellings	To ensure adequate housing for local needs	Request that East Devon District Council incorporate Parish Plan Policies into any current or future planning policies	Parish Council East Devon District Council	High	Long term
Infrastructure to be upgraded before any new houses built in the Parish	To ensure the Parish infrastructure can support new housing that fits in with and does not compromise	Request that East Devon District Council incorporate Parish Plan Policies into any current or future planning policies	Parish Council East Devon District Council	High	Long term

ISSUE	AIMS	ACTION	PARTNERS	PRIORITY	TIME SCALE
Any new housing to be sited within the village or close by the A35, not on agricultural or exception land	To ensure any development within the Parish will preserve its beauty and peacefulness and not encroach on its green spaces	Request that East Devon District Council incorporate Parish Plan Policies into any current or future planning policies	Parish Council East Devon District Council	High	Long term
Lack of police presence in the parish	To improve police presence in the parish	Undertake discussions with Devon and Cornwall Police regarding policing in the parish	Parish Council Devon & Cornwall Police	Low	Long term
Recognise farming as a major activity within the Parish	To support development of craft, tourism and food related diversification	Investigate better ways to disseminate information within the farming community	Parish Council	Low	Long term
Recognise the important role played by the Woodland Education Centre	Ensure its long term existence	Explore new funding streams and encourage long term voluntary help	East Devon District Council	Medium	Long term
Sustainability of Parish businesses	Nurture and sustain local business and local employment in so far as any development does not adversely affect the beauty and tranquillity of the Parish	Request that EDDC incorporates Parish Plan Policies into any current or future planning policies	Parish Council East Devon District Council	High	Long term
Reliance on private cars due to lack of public transport	To create and maintain a list of people prepared to offer local transport to those who need to access vital services	Parish Council to organise a contact list for accessing by residents and local services	Parish Council	High	Short term

The following actions arise out of the answers to the questionnaire but they do not lend themselves to any specific, timed, actions. Nevertheless, the Parish Council should bear them in mind when making decisions that might affect them:

- Parish Council to continue to support community activities.
- Parish Council and other organisations to investigate better ways to disseminate information.
- Recognise that the Church is important to the Parish and act accordingly.
- Actively maintain the good appearance of the Parish.
- Support the activities of the School and encourage greater integration with Parish groups.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Offwell Parish Council:

clerk@offwell.eastdevon.gov.uk

7 Southcombe Terrace, Axmouth, EX12 4AT; Tel: 01297-24337

East Devon District Council:

<http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/>

Council Offices, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8HL; Tel: 01395-571-515

Devon County Council:

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/>

County Hall, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4QD; Tel: 0845-155-1004

Devon & Cornwall Police:

<http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/>

Honiton Police Station, High Street, Honiton, East Devon, Devon, EX14 1LH

Tel: 0845-277-7444

Offwell Primary School:

<http://www.offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk/>

Offwell, Honiton, Devon EX14 9SA; Tel: 01404-831-417

St Mary's Church:

Church Wardens, Offwell, Honiton, EX14 9SB; Tel: 01404-831-583 or 549

Offwell Recreation Ground & Village Hall Charity:

Bookings Secretary; Tel: 01404-831-547

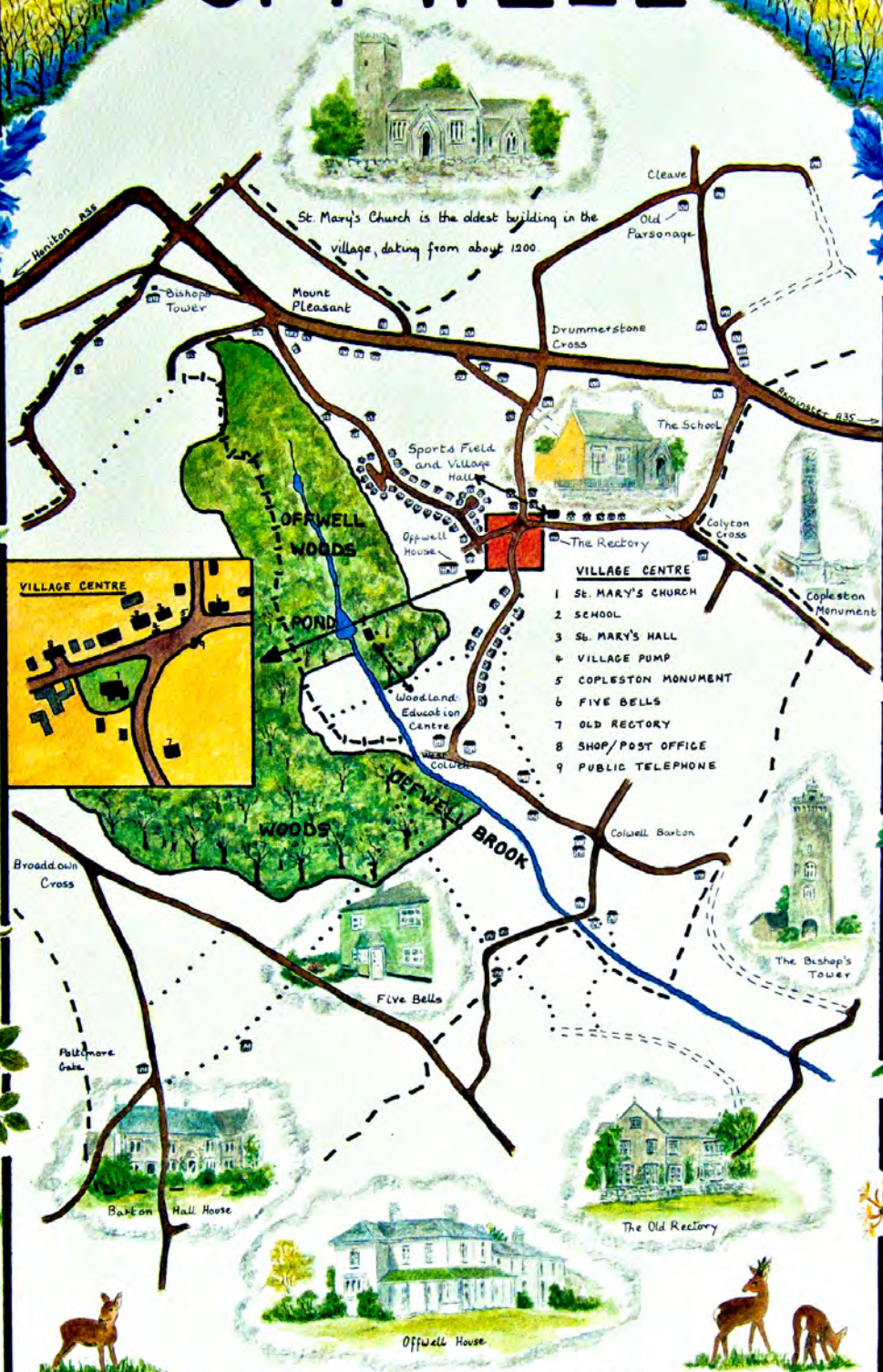
Offwell Community Shop:

Recreation Ground, Offwell, Honiton, Devon, EX14 9SA; tel: 01404-831-121

Care Direct (Health & Social Care for Adults):

www.devon.gov.uk/socialcare; Tel: 0845-155-1007

THE PARISH OF OFFWELL



Offwell, Oppa's Well, named after a Saxon Chief, is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The site of the well is now marked by the village pump, sadly no longer in working order. It was built by the Very Rev Edward Copleston in 1830, who was Bishop of Llandaff. Offwell, providing an unbroken sequence of Rectors of built Offwell House (1828), the village school (1840), the Five Bells Inn is no more and has been a private house since 1931. The the local football team plays.

is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The site of the well is now marked by the village pump, sadly no longer in working order. It was built by the Very Rev Edward Copleston in 1830, who was Bishop of Llandaff. Coplestons have figured prominently in the life of the Church from 1773 to 1954. Edward Copleston Old Rectory (1845), and the Bishop's Tower (1843). an eye on his See at Llandaff!

Parish Boundary - - - - - Footpath Bridleway - - - - -