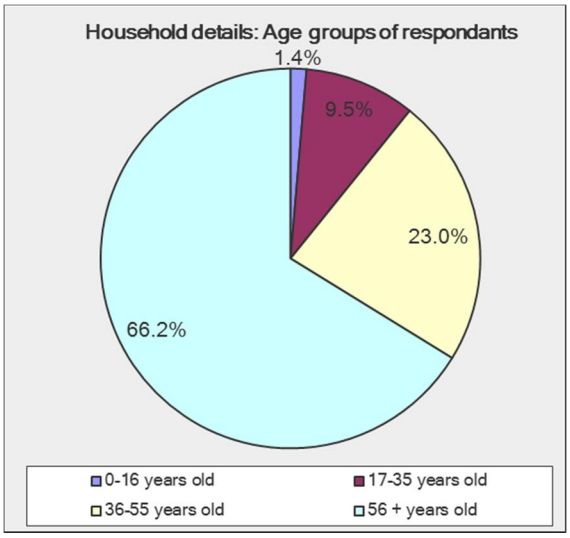
Thurgarton Neighbourhood Plan Survey Results June 2016

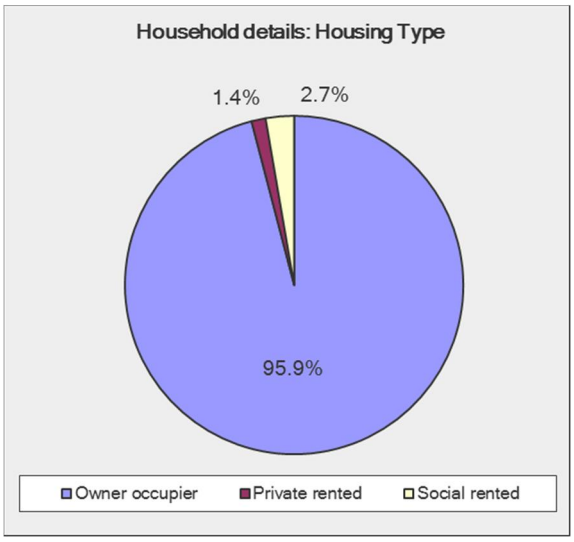
In June 2016 a survey was carried out in support of the Thurgarton Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is a community led planning document which will form part of the Development Plan for the district. The plan covers a number of land use related matters for the parish.

The June 2016 survey sought to test parishioners views on the work carried out to date by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and provide evidence in support of, or against the policies proposed in the said plan. The questions covered the areas of: Housing, Employment, Environment and Heritage and Community Facilities, the results of which are as follows:

Household details:

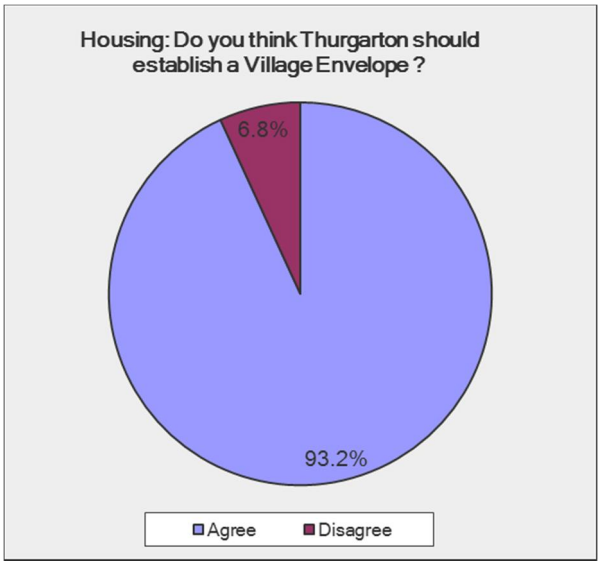
In total there were 74 respondents to the survey covering all age ranges within the community providing a good cross section of views.

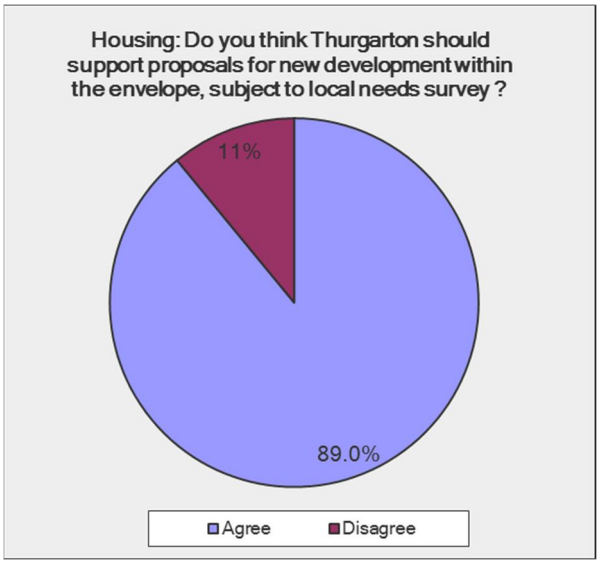




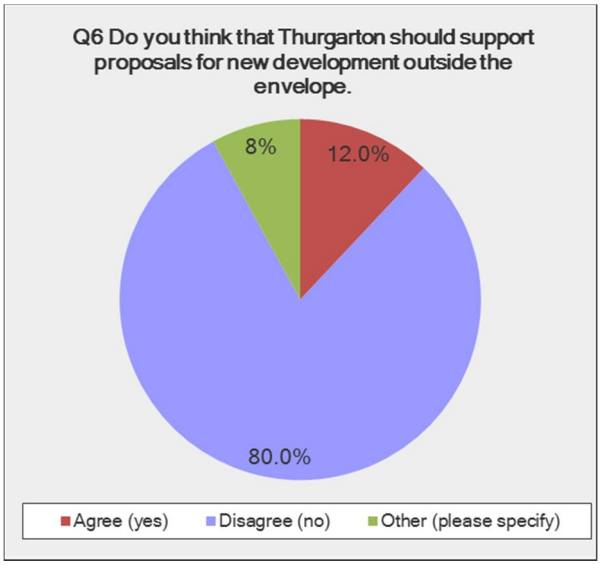
Housing:

The main question in the housing section was to seek the communities view on where additional housing should take place within the village. The question sought to understand people's views on a village envelope. The majority of the respondents agreed to the establishment of a village envelope and for any housing within this area to be supported by a local needs survey.



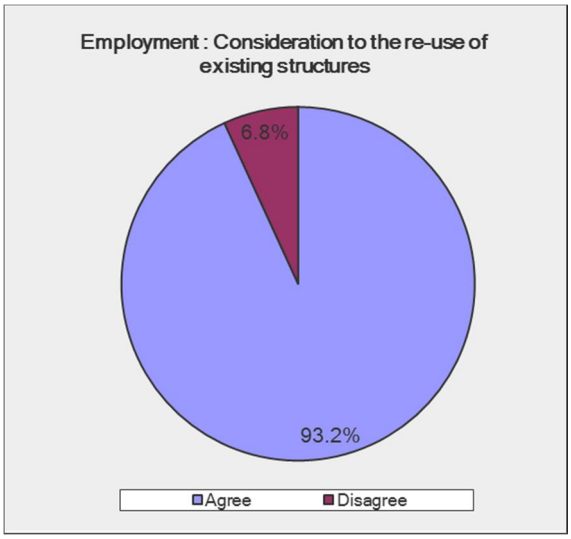


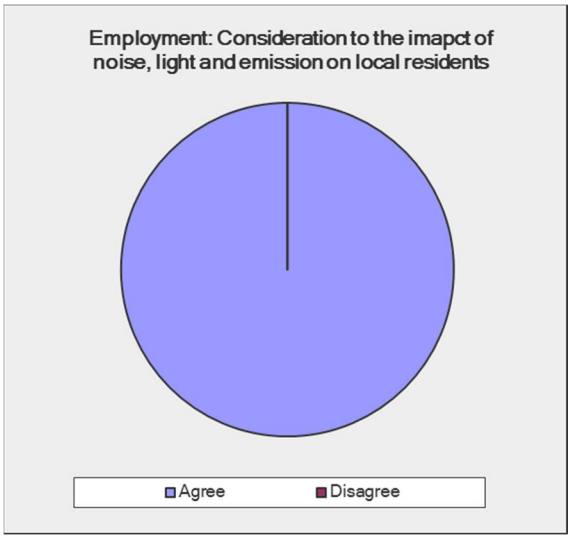
With regards to supporting development outside the village envelope this was not supported in the survey. Feedback showed that this was due to the consequential impact on the character and identity of the village and the desires of the parishioners to preserve its countryside and heritage.



Employment:

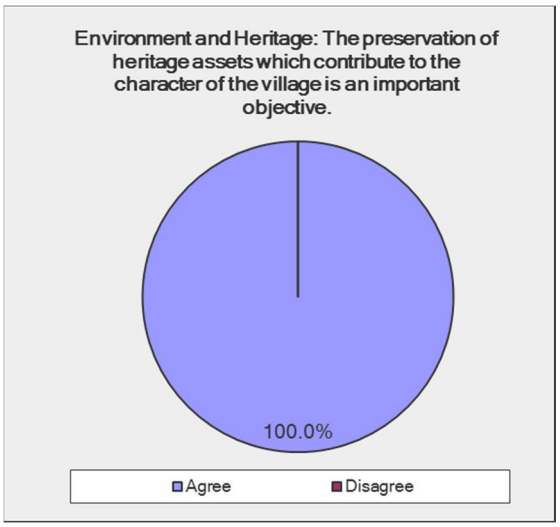
The questions asked in the employment section related the reuse of old structures and the views on the impact of activities on the local environment. It was agreed by the majority of respondents that consideration should be given to the reuse of existing structures in the first instance, and also that any activities should demonstrate consideration to the environment and the local residents.





Environment and Heritage:

The environment and heritage section sought to verify the communities' views on the heritage assets within the village as an objective. To this end it was a unanimous response. It then went on to explore both the physical aspects of the village that were believed to be heritage assets and areas that could be designated areas of natural or ecological value for protection.



Heritage Assets:

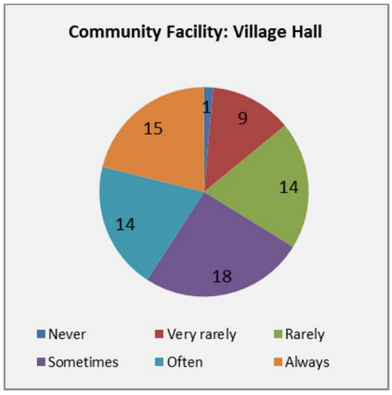
- War Memorial,
- Red Lion Pub,
- Telephone Box,
- Methodist Church,
- Listed buildings,
- Village Hall
- Cricket Pitch,
- Railway Station,
- Sheep wash,
- St Peter's Church,
- Allotments,

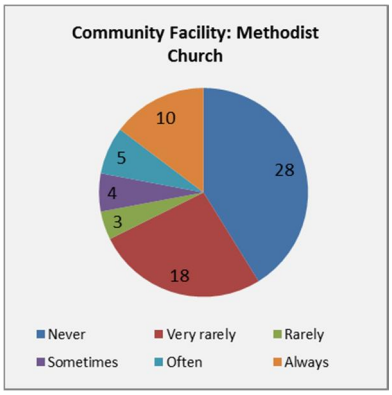
Areas of natural or ecological value:

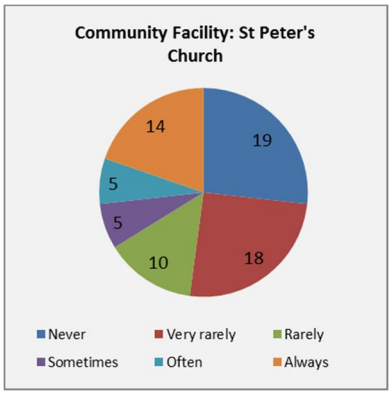
- Beck Street,
- The lakes surrounding the village,
- Open space,
- Bridleways and footpaths,
- The ridge and furrow field , between Southwell Rd and Bleasby Rd,
- Land behind the Village Hall

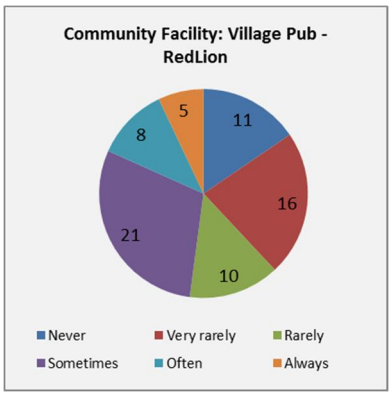
Community Facilities:

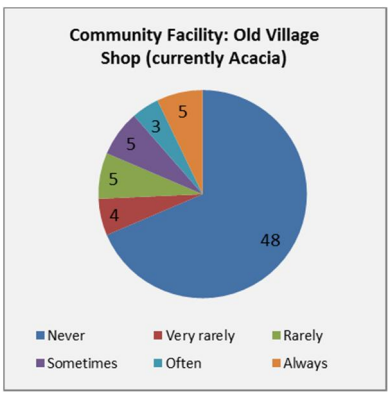
The last question to be asked was about the community facilities that the village has. In the survey there were twelve facilities identified with various amount of usage as follows. Please note that these results are only the usage of the respondents.

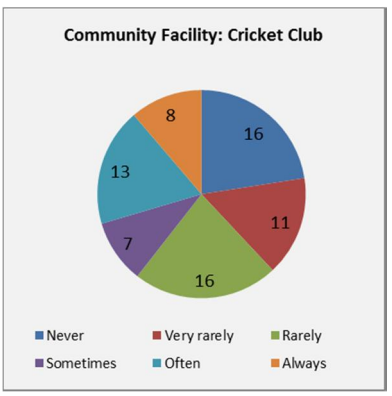


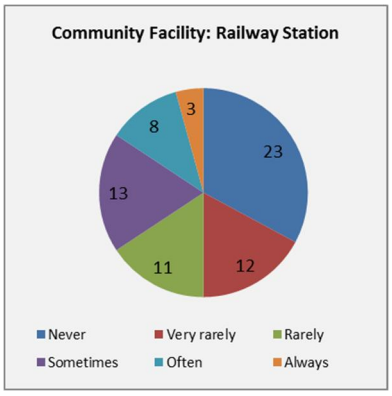


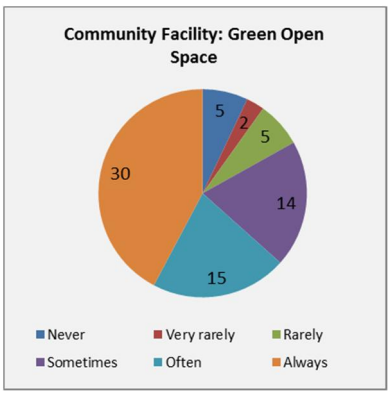


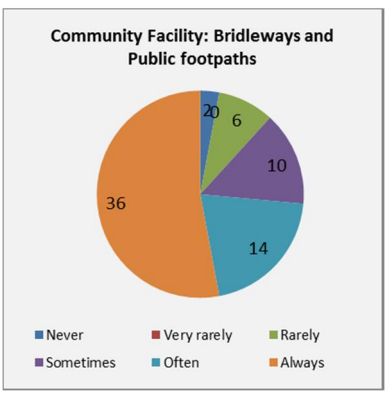


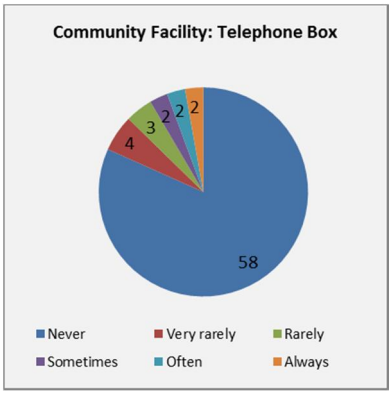


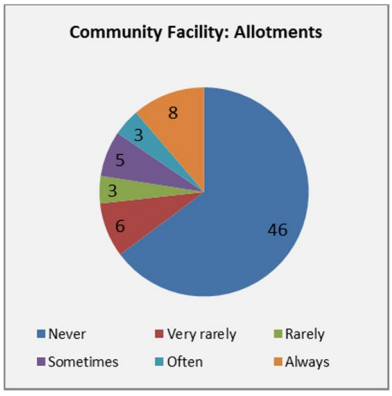




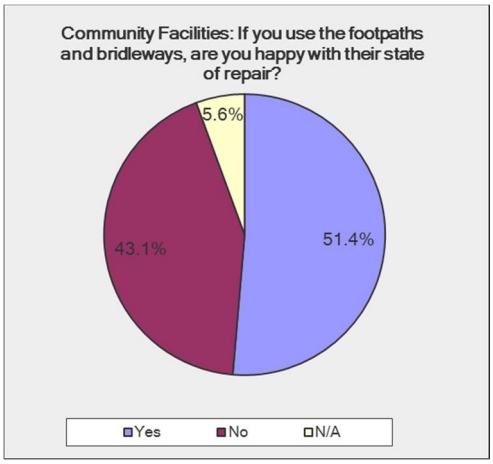








All facilities are used to some degree or otherwise according to the respondents. The final question was about the state of repair of the footpaths and bridleways. It is of note that over 94% of respondents use these but are very much split in their views on the state of their repair.



Conclusion:

The survey results have provided valuable feedback to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Through the evidence gathered, the policies have been tested. Any modifications or clarifications will be followed up on and the Neighbourhood Plan document updated accordingly to reflect the majority views of the community.

David Lewis