



SONNING COMMON COMMUNITY PLAN

Making your village a better place

SONNING COMMON COMMUNITY PLAN SURVEY

YOUR RESPONSE

Introduction

Thanks to an extraordinarily high response from residents to the Sonning Common Community Plan questionnaire we now have a clear idea of what we all want in our village.

A remarkable 78 per cent of households returned the survey, distributed to 1,800 homes by volunteers in February 2010.

This leaflet gives an overall picture of the views expressed by the people of Sonning Common on key issues including parking, road safety, housing and the general village environment.

A more detailed analysis - available to residents on request - will be provided for the information of South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), the police and other major bodies.

These survey results will provide the necessary input to help Sonning Common Parish Council, local groups, organisations and individuals to shape the future of our village in line with the wishes of its residents.



About You

Of the respondents to the Sonning Common Community Plan survey:

- * 60 per cent were women; 40 per cent were men
- * 40 per cent were aged over 65 and were retired
- * 70 per cent of households contained no children under 16
- * nearly 50 per cent of people had lived in the village for more than 20 years
- * fewer than half of the respondents were in full or part-time work

Your top priorities for action were:

IMPROVING

- * **THE VILLAGE CENTRE/ENVIRONMENT**
(20 per cent)
- * **PARKING**
(15 per cent)
- * **PAVEMENTS AND PATHWAYS**
(12 per cent)

&

- * **CONTROLLING HOUSING**
(11 per cent)
- * **INCREASING POLICING**
(11 per cent)

An artist's impression of what a re-modelled village centre could look like



What You Said ...

VILLAGE CENTRE

- * 82 per cent of you believe the village centre needs to be re-modelled
- * a clear majority of you want to keep the raised flower-beds
- * 70 per cent of you say, 'plant some trees'
- * at least half of you want the public toilets to be opened
- * 35 per cent of you want more frequent road repairs

PARKING

- * 91 per cent of you do not want to pay for parking
- * 68 per cent of you favour a ban on parking in Wood Lane
- * 34 per cent of you want enforced parking restrictions



ROAD SAFETY

- * a quarter of you believe Wood Lane is hazardous; along with Peppard Road (20 per cent); Grove Road (17 per cent); and Kennylands Road (16 per cent)
- * 68 per cent of you want a zebra crossing, preferably on Wood Lane near the shops
- * 55 per cent of you want footpaths in Reades Lane

HOUSING

- * 81 per cent of you favour small housing developments on a number of sites
- * two-thirds of you believe 40 per cent of any new homes should be affordable

LAW AND ORDER

- * 54 per cent of you believe policing levels are poor or inadequate
- * fewer than 20 per cent of you have been the victims of crime in the last three years
- * 45 per cent of households are in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme; a further 22 per cent are keen to join it

Your top priorities for police action are:

- * inconsiderate parking (26 per cent)
- * vandalism (19 per cent)
- * anti-social behaviour (15 per cent)

What Happens Now?

Partly, it's down to all of us. The Sonning Common Community Plan survey has shown us what people's priorities are for improving the village in the future.

The community plan team will ensure the relevant authorities - parish, district and county councils, police - get to hear about what we want in our village. In turn, those authorities will have to take into account our views as they develop our area.

But it's down to local groups organisations and individuals to keep up the pressure. If you wish to take up an issue stemming from this report, the community plan team would be happy to help and advise you. Please contact Sara Capaldi on 0118 972 4395 or saracapaldi@sky.com

This leaflet was produced by the Sonning Common Community Plan team: Sara Capaldi, Faith Lusted, Anne Symons, Lisa Rees, Patricia Selby, Robert Matthews, Chrissie Phillips-Tilbury, Douglas Kedge and Ros Varnes

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