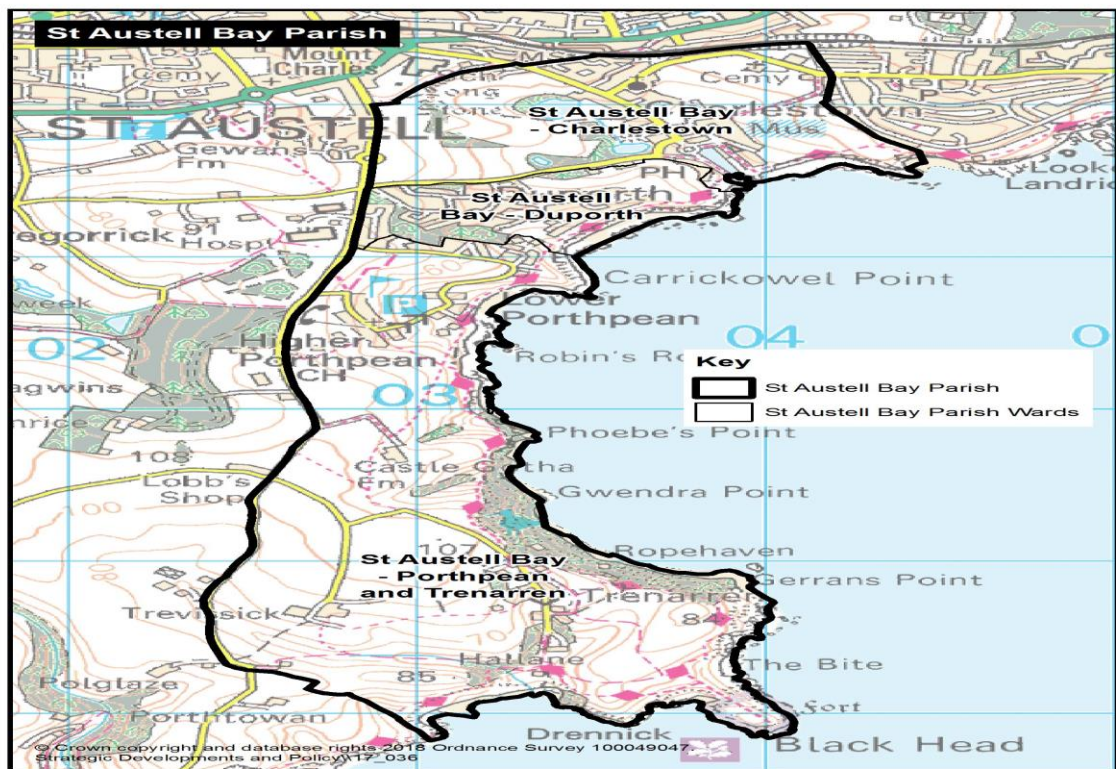


# St Austell Bay Parish Council Neighbourhood Development Plan



# St Austell Bay Neighbourhood Development Plan

## 1. Introduction

During the Summer of 2018, St Austell Bay Parish Council sent a questionnaire by post to all 780 households within its parish explaining the purpose of creating a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parish and asking householders to complete it. An on-line version was also available for residents and a postal reminder was sent to all householders encouraging them to return the questionnaire. Annex A contains the questionnaire.

The St Austell Bay Neighbourhood Development Plan Residents' Questionnaire provided the opportunity for householders to give their views on key issues.

A Neighbourhood Development Plan sets out planning policies for the neighbourhood area, in this case St Austell Bay Parish.

- These policies are used in helping to decide whether to approve planning applications
- It is written by people who live in the parish, not the Local Planning Authority
- It is a powerful tool to ensure the community gets the right type of development, in the right place
- It can help to protect green spaces and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
- It can also help to protect conservation and heritage areas
- Once adopted by Cornwall Council, it has legal force

In total 780 questionnaires were sent initially to householders by post and the response rate, including on-line, was 342 responses, representing 44% of all households.

The questionnaire covered seven key themes:

1. Seeking **data on the number of people in each household**, their ages and their employment status. In this section the issues relating to disability access were also explored.
2. **Housing**, including whether this was a permanent residence, current and future housing needs.
3. **Employment** including what improvements could be made to help local employment.
4. **Transport and traffic** which explored traffic issues and whether respondents would support more parking restrictions and a seasonal parking scheme.
5. The **Facilities and Leisure** section sought views on current facilities and what improvements would be welcomed and used.
6. The **landscape, environment and heritage** section sought views on the role of tourism and the historic Charlestown harbour, the preservation of green spaces, woodlands and footpaths.
7. The final section examined **renewable energy** including whether wind turbines, solar energy **and mobile phone masts** should be supported by the parish.

In total there were 42 questions and an 'other section' that gave people an opportunity to raise issues of concern that were not covered by the questionnaire. The questionnaire was also available via a link from the parish council website, [www.staustellbay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.staustellbay-pc.gov.uk), and used the SmartSurvey questionnaire tool under licence.

All questionnaires received by post were manually entered online into the SmartSurvey tool to enable data analysis and graphs to be produced. All free text answers were also entered into SmartSurvey to ensure that all responses were in one place for easier review and all personal data entered on page 15 of the questionnaire was destroyed. Such actions were considered necessary to ensure that the views expressed in the questionnaires could be accurately reported and followed data protection protocols under the GDPR. You can view the results online at [www.staustellbayndp.org.uk](http://www.staustellbayndp.org.uk)

To complement the householders' questionnaire, business owners within the parish were also contacted to seek their views through a business questionnaire (Annex B) and the two schools in the parish were also contacted and asked to complete a pupil questionnaire (Annex C). This was done in July and October 2018.

## 2. The Questionnaire

### Demographics and Employment

The first section of the questionnaire sought data on the number of people in each household, their ages and their employment status. It also sought views on facilities and access for people with all types of disability. Such information on the demographics of the parish enabled a picture to emerge of the current and future needs of householders for education, local employment, leisure and housing needs.

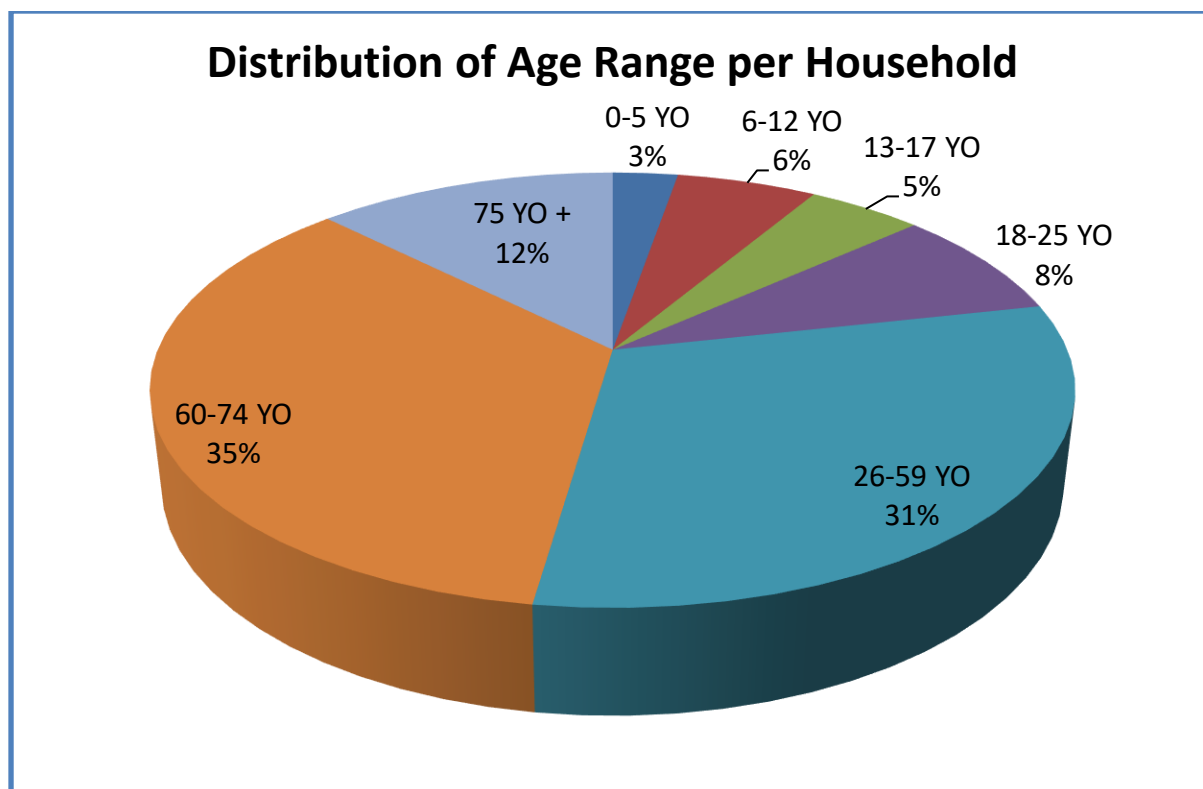
Altogether there were responses from 342 households and this represented 478 people. Of these:

- 41 were between the ages of 0 and 12 years old and 226 were over the age of 60
- 62 were between the ages of 13 and 25 and 147 were between the ages of 26 and 59

Such results from the questionnaire would suggest that St Austell Bay has an ageing, elderly population, with a much smaller working population.

**1. ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD How many people in each age group live in your household?**

| Age Range     | Number of People in Household in each age group |            |          | Total      | % of Total    |
|---------------|---|------------|----------|------------|---------------|
|               | 1   | 2          | 3        |            |               |
| 0-5 YO        | 11  | 2          | 0        | 13         | 2.7%          |
| 6-12 YO       | 18  | 9          | 1        | 28         | 5.9%          |
| 13-17 YO      | 21  | 2          | 0        | 23         | 4.8%          |
| 18-25 YO      | 26  | 12         | 1        | 39         | 8.2%          |
| 26-59 YO      | 56  | 90         | 1        | 147        | 30.8%         |
| 60-74 YO      | 81  | 86         | 1        | 168        | 35.1%         |
| 75 YO +       | 37  | 22         | 1        | 60         | 12.6%         |
|               |   |            |          |            |               |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>250</b>                                      | <b>223</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>478</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |



The 2011 census showed a total of 642 properties, meaning that there has been an increase of 21.5% in the number of households in the intervening 7 years.

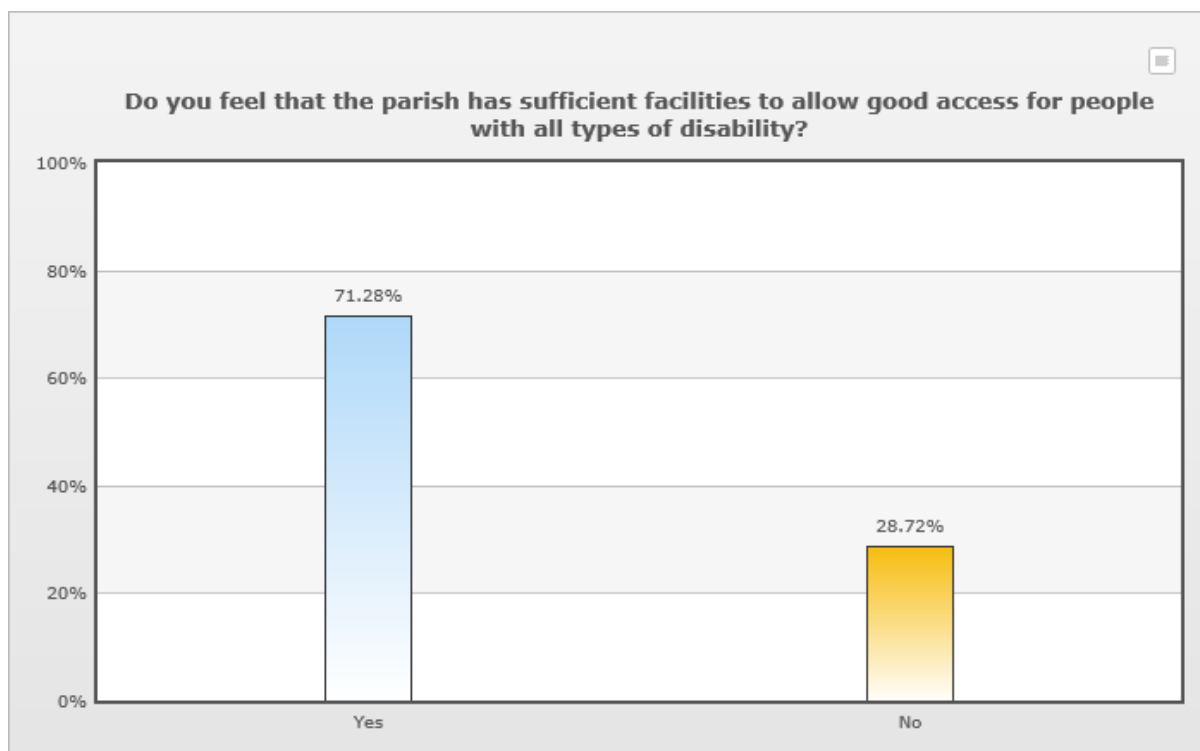
Of the adults represented in the survey, 50 were working full-time in the parish and a further 24 had seasonal jobs in it. 104 adults had full-time work outside of the parish and 38 had seasonal work outside of the parish. 33 worked from home, and 5 were seeking work.

There were 185 responses from people who had retired, making them the largest group, more than full-time employed people in the parish. There were only 17 students represented in the questionnaire.

#### Question 4

Do you feel that the parish has sufficient facilities to allow good access for people with all types of disability?

296 responses were received, with 46 householders not answering this question. While 71% of responses considered that no improvements were necessary, 29% considered this was not the case and there were 68 comments.



Of those commenting, some of those people identified themselves with a disability, and key comments included:

- seeking easier access to the beaches for those with limited mobility
- needing more ramps to aid access to shops and restaurants
- the lack of blue badge spaces in Charlestown -and hearing loops in restaurants
- needing a dedicated toilet, more -public seats and a zebra crossing in Charlestown
- The Parish Council, working with the business community, residents who consider themselves disabled and a Disability Charity, should conduct an access and inclusion audit of St Austell Bay Parish.

Question 5 asked for the postcode of respondents and there were 342 responses.

A review of the postcodes shows that we had a good geographic spread of responses throughout the parish.

## HOUSING

Having established the demographics of the parish it was important to gather information about the current housing stock and whether it was a primary residence or used as a second home. Such information helpfully informs the need for future school, healthcare, employment and leisure needs but in particular, the future housing needs of the local resident population. A key



element of this section was asking if current residents, who lived in the parish but did not own property, could actually afford to buy in the parish.

This section of the questionnaire also sought views on where any future housing should and should not be built, the types of housing and building materials that should be used and whether 'industrial' units should be built in the parish.





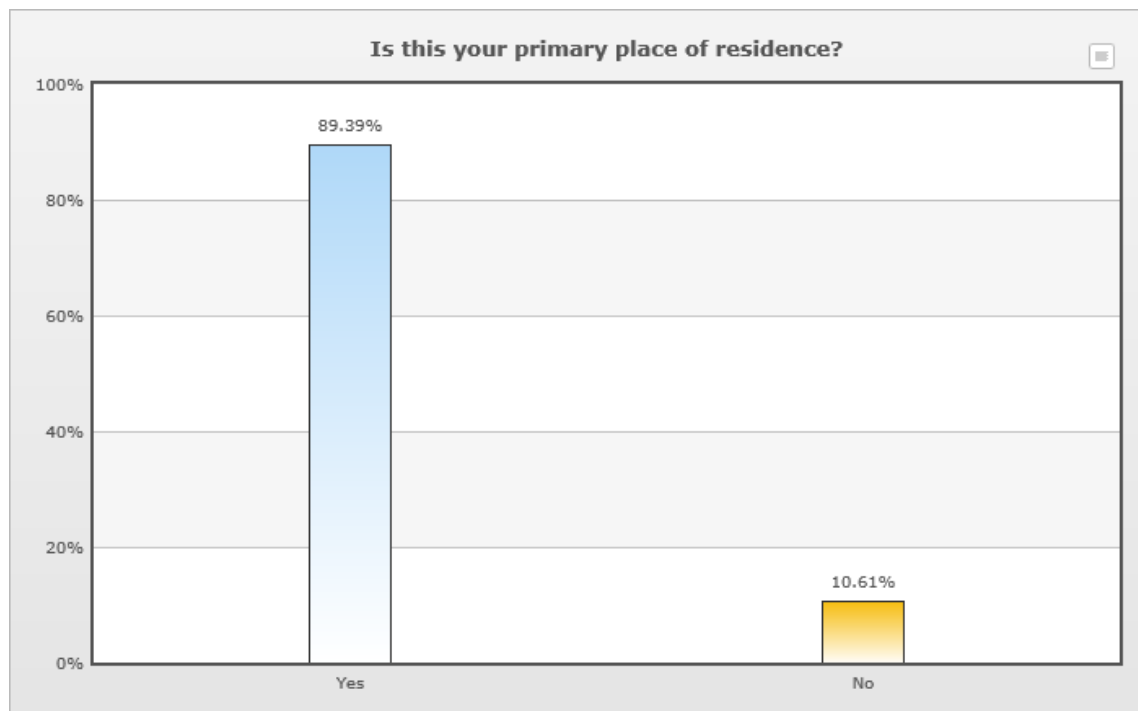
Question 6 sought to establish whether this was the primary household residence,

Based on 332 responses, 89.39% stated that this was their primary place of residence. However, figures obtained from [nomisweb.co.uk](http://nomisweb.co.uk) show at the last census the parish had a very high figure of 31.8% of dwellings with no usual residents – the Cornwall average figure is 11.2% This bears out our impression that many owners of holiday or second homes did not complete the residents' questionnaire.



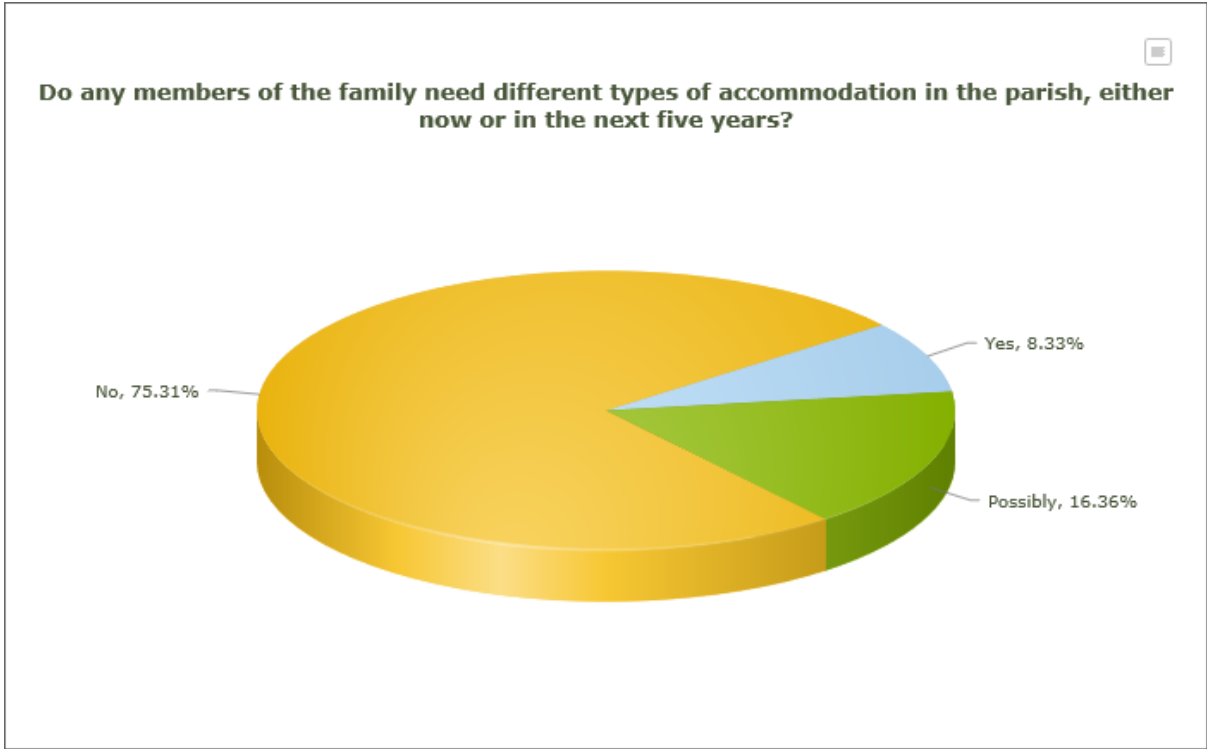


Such a result for St Austell Bay parish may reflect the attractiveness of the parish, with second homes and holiday lets. It could also mean that at certain times of the year, outside of holiday periods, the parish may have a high percentage of its houses empty.



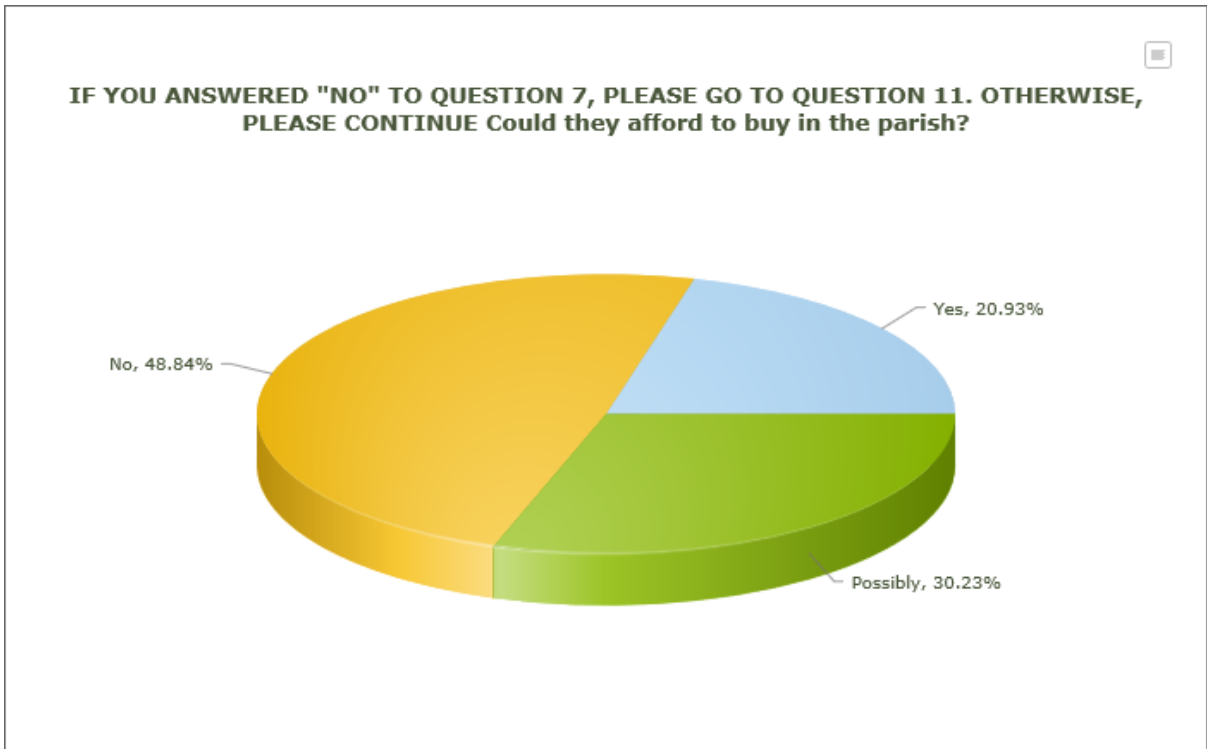
**Question 7 asked if any members of the family needed different types of accommodation in the parish, either now or in the next five years**

Of the 324 responses to the question, 75% (244) stated no. Of the rest, 8.3% (27) answered yes with the remainder, 1(53), answering possibly. The latter two groups i.e. "yes" and "possibly", were asked to respond to questions 8, 9 and 10, whilst the vast majority that answered "no" were directed to question 11.

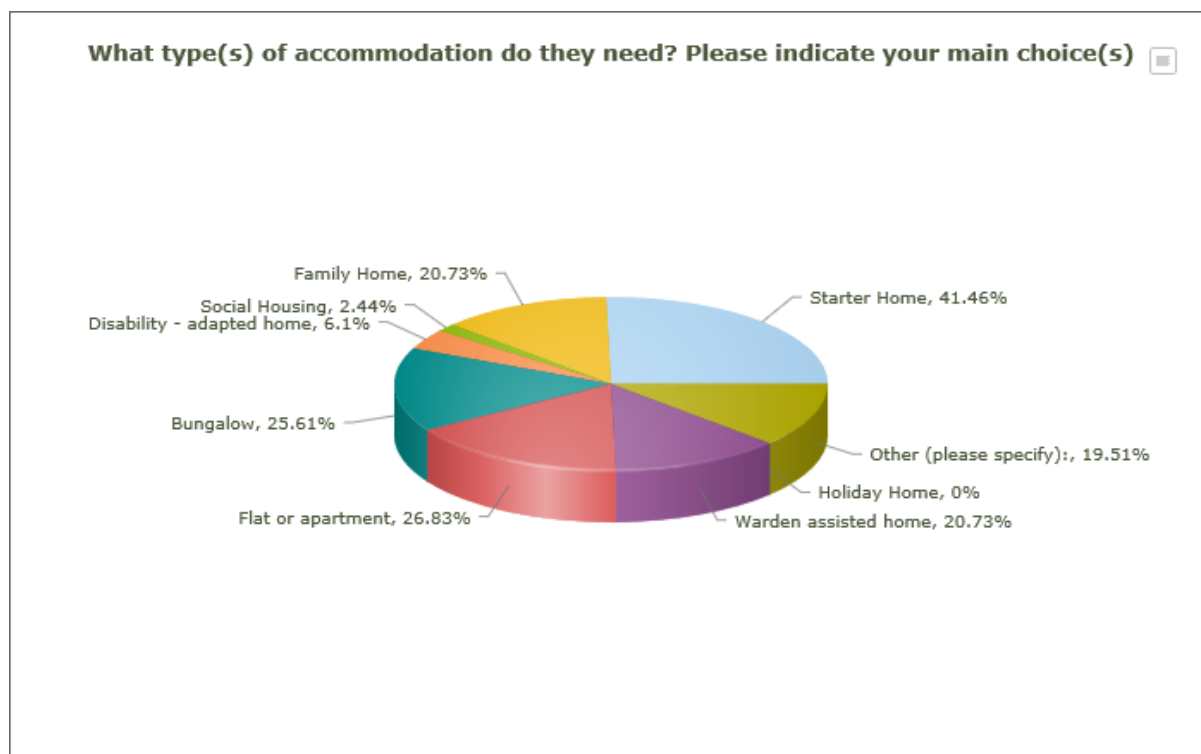


**Question 8 asked if members of the household could afford to buy in the parish?**

This question was answered by 86 households, with 256 households not answering this question.



**Question 9** was answered by 83 households and not responded to by 259 and asked if household members could afford to rent on the open market. The types of future accommodation needs are shown below, whether to buy or rent.



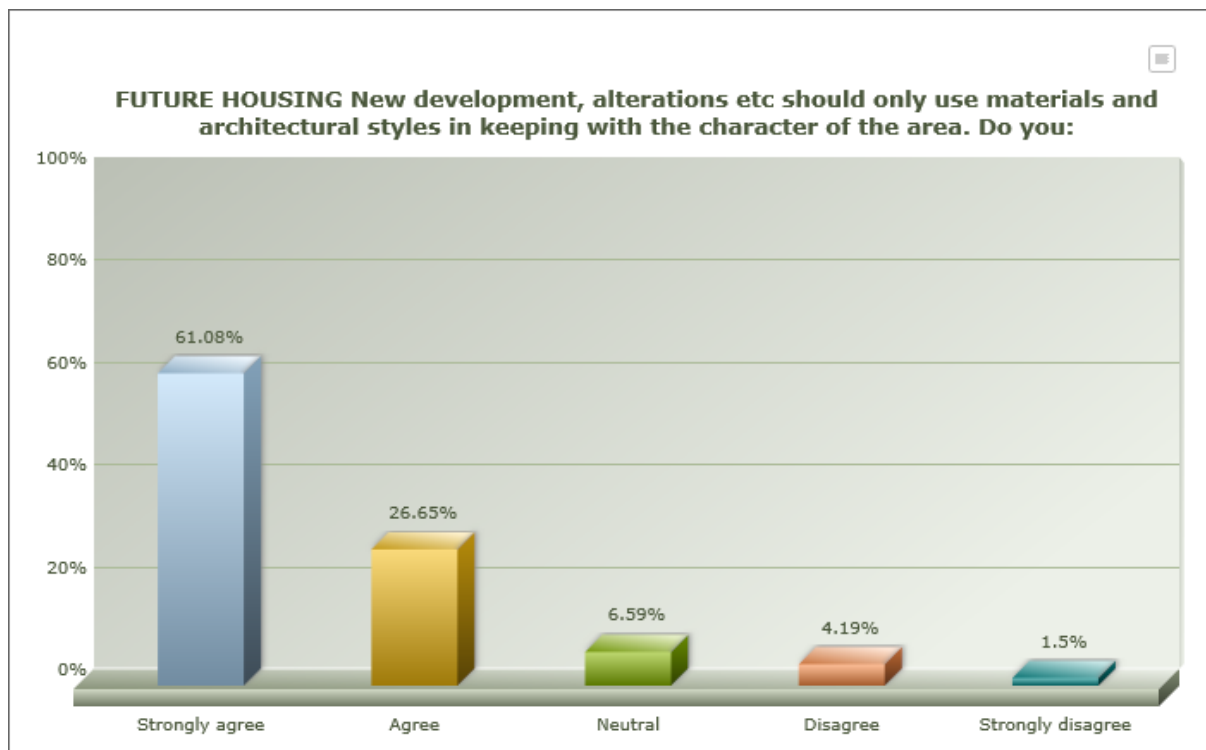
The future housing needs may be a direct result of an ageing parish population with over 50% of respondents wanting warden-assisted housing, bungalows or disability/adapted homes. Of the “other” category (16 responses), all bar 3 quoted residential/care home.

|   |                           |  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|---|---------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Starter Home              |  | 41.46%           | 34             |
| 2 | Family Home               |  | 20.73%           | 17             |
| 3 | Social Housing            |  | 2.44%            | 2              |
| 4 | Disability - adapted home |  | 6.10%            | 5              |
| 5 | Bungalow                  |  | 25.61%           | 21             |
| 6 | Flat or apartment         |  | 26.83%           | 22             |
| 7 | Warden assisted home      |  | 20.73%           | 17             |
| 8 | Holiday Home              |  | 0.00%            | 0              |
| 9 | Other (please specify):   |  | 19.51%           | 16             |
|   |                           |  | answered         | 82             |
|   |                           |  | skipped          | 260            |

**Question 11** sought views on affordable homes asking if new affordable housing, tailored and guaranteed to meet the long-term housing needs of local people, should be the first priority for any new housing? Of the 336 responses to this question,

71.43% (240) answered “yes”; 20.24% (68) answered “no”; with the remaining 8.33% (25) answering “don’t know”. This question was not answered by 6 households.

**Question 12** sought views on future housing, asking if new developments, alterations etc, should only use materials and architectural styles in keeping with the character of the area?



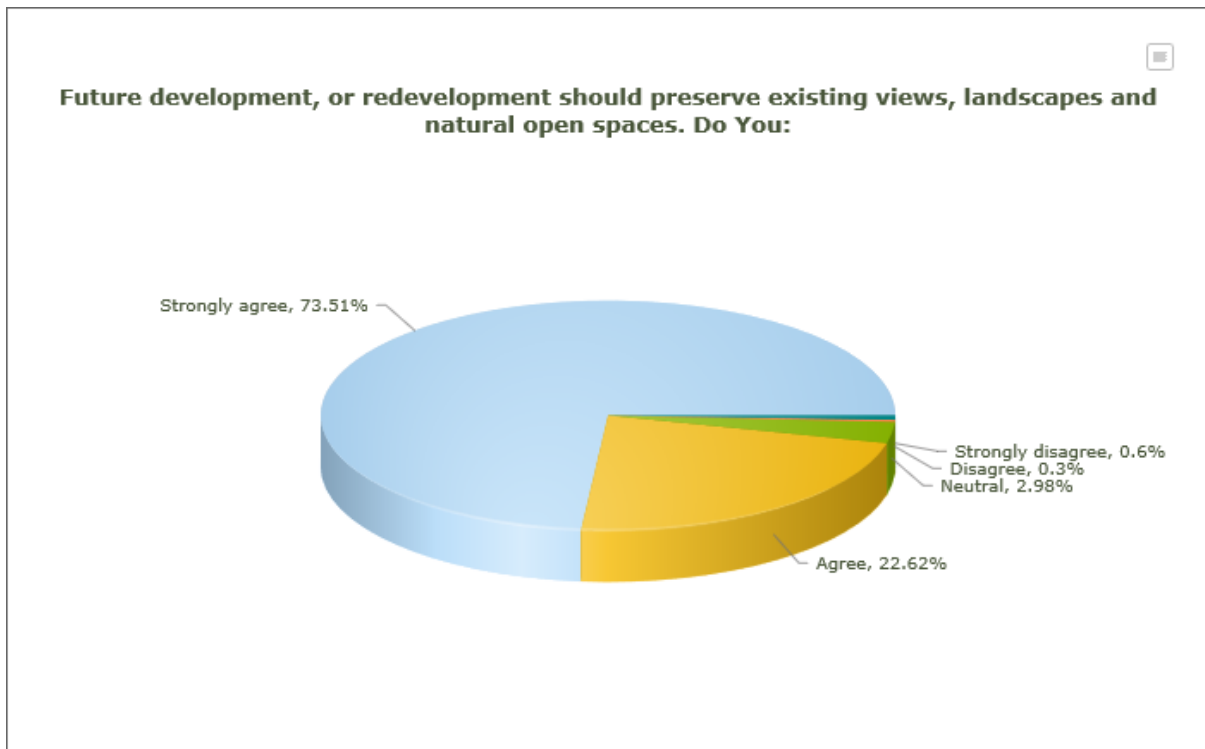
As is shown in the graph above, almost 88% of all respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with this statement, with 6% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing with it.

**Question 13** asked if future development or redevelopment should preserve existing views, landscapes and natural open spaces?





| Future development, or redevelopment should preserve existing views, landscapes and natural open spaces. Do You: |                   |  |                     |                   |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
|  |                   |  | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Total |
| 1  | Strongly agree    |  | 73.51%              | 247               |
| 2  | Agree             |  | 22.62%              | 76                |
| 3  | Neutral           |  | 2.98%               | 10                |
| 4  | Disagree          |  | 0.30%               | 1                 |
| 5  | Strongly disagree |  | 0.60%               | 2                 |



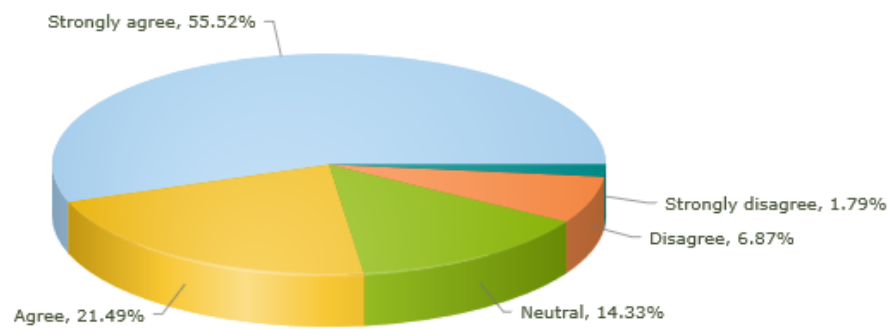
This was answered by 336 respondents, with only 6 not answering the question. Over 96% either strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.

**Question 14** asked if any future development or redevelopment should not increase the current housing density.

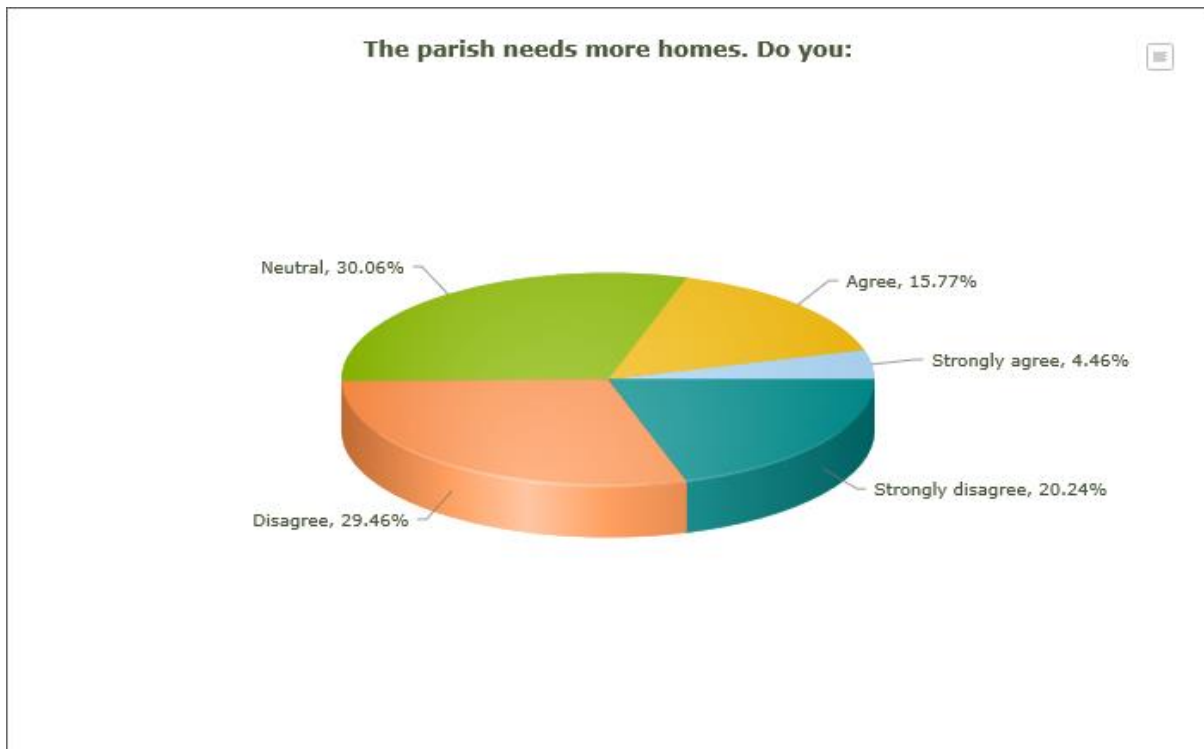
- 55.52% (186) of respondents “strongly agreed” with this statement.
- 21.49% (72) of respondents “agreed” with this statement.
- 14.33% (48) of respondents were “neutral” to this statement.
- 6.87% (23) of respondents “disagreed” with this statement.
- 1.79% (6) of respondents “strongly disagreed” with this statement.



**Any future development or redevelopment should not increase the current housing density.  
Do you:**



Question 15 asked if the parish needs more homes.



- **4.46% (15) of respondents “strongly agreed” with this statement.**
- **15.77% (55) of respondents “agreed” with this statement.**
- **30.06% (101) of respondents were “neutral” to this statement.**
- **29.46% (99) of respondents “disagreed” with this statement.**
- **20.24% (68) of respondents “strongly disagreed” with this statement.**

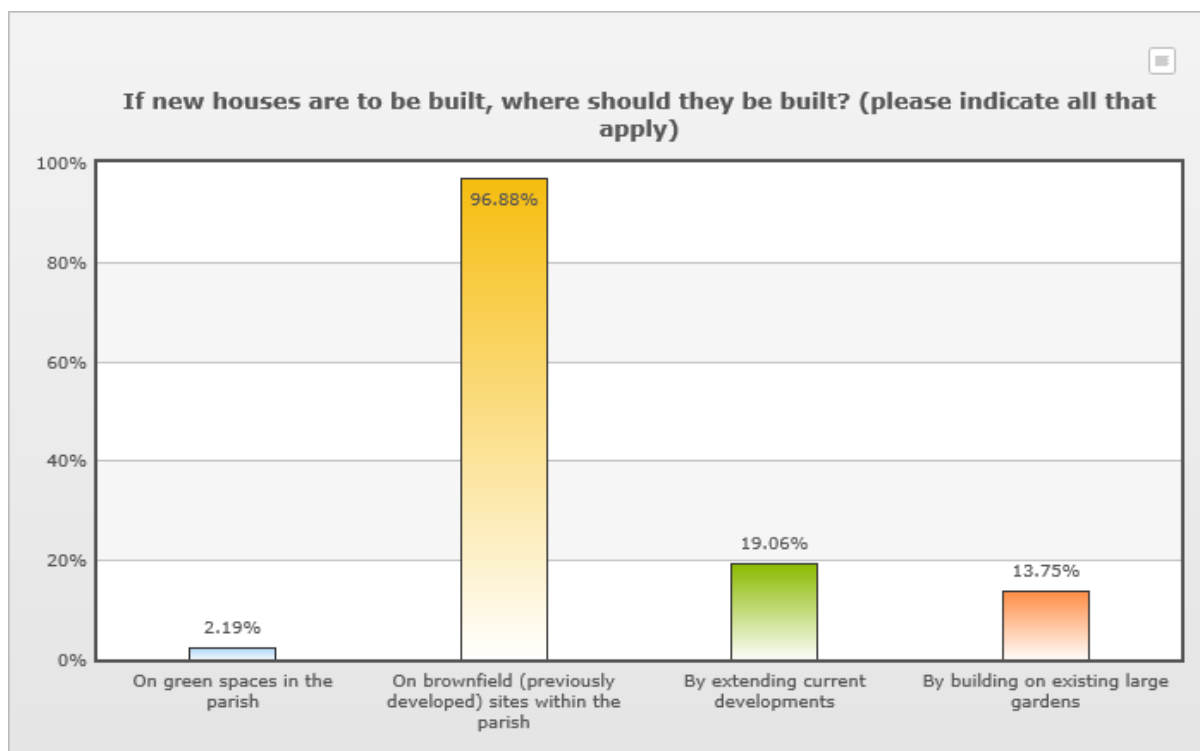
**Question 16 asked if new houses are to be built, where should they be built?**

The questionnaire provided an opportunity to suggest more than one category and offered four choices, see graph below.

- 2.19% (7) of respondents stated on “green open spaces” in the parish.
- 96.88% (310) of respondents stated on “brownfield (previously developed) sites” within the parish.
- 19.06% (61) of respondents stated “by extending current developments”.
- 13.75% (44) of respondents stated “by building on existing large gardens”.

The parish has currently only 2 brownfield sites i.e. previously developed land that may be available for building appropriate new buildings.





**Question 17** asked if there were any other comments on housing in the parish?

The key response to this question was that the current infrastructure, especially the road system, was considered inadequate. Respondents also strongly felt that the increasing demand on the health service and schools, which cannot cope with the current resident population, would be exacerbated and that any new housing developments should be strongly opposed.

Views also expressed included:

- support for the building of more affordable homes for local people.
- that there were too many holiday homes and possibly empty houses which should be reused.
- that all new builds need their own parking spaces, ideally two each.

## Employment

Having established the working status of respondents, this section sought to establish their views on future employment developments within the parish.

**Question 18** sought views on what improvements could be made to help local employment

The responses recognised that tourism was the major employer in the parish, with the seasonal nature of such work, often reported to be at the minimum wage, meaning that local people often financially struggle. Any efforts to promote

Charlestown as an all year round destination would be welcomed by many but not at the price of undermining the historic charm of Charlestown.

It was also recognised that widening employment opportunities could benefit the residents of the parish by providing higher paid, more permanent employment perhaps by:

- encouraging technology companies to relocate to the parish
- encouraging new business ventures to locate in the parish
- developing training schemes for local people
- creating a parish business network to promote the parish
- promoting water sports

**Question 19** asked if householders would welcome any of the following being located within the parish?

|                        | Yes            | No             | Don't know    | Response Total |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Light industrial units | 37.0%<br>(114) | 50.3%<br>(155) | 12.7%<br>(39) | 308            |
| Office units           | 54.8%<br>(170) | 34.8%<br>(108) | 10.3%<br>(32) | 310            |
| Workshop/studio space  | 73.3%<br>(241) | 19.5%<br>(64)  | 7.3%<br>(24)  | 329            |
|                        |                |                | answered      | 333            |
|                        |                |                | skipped       | 9              |

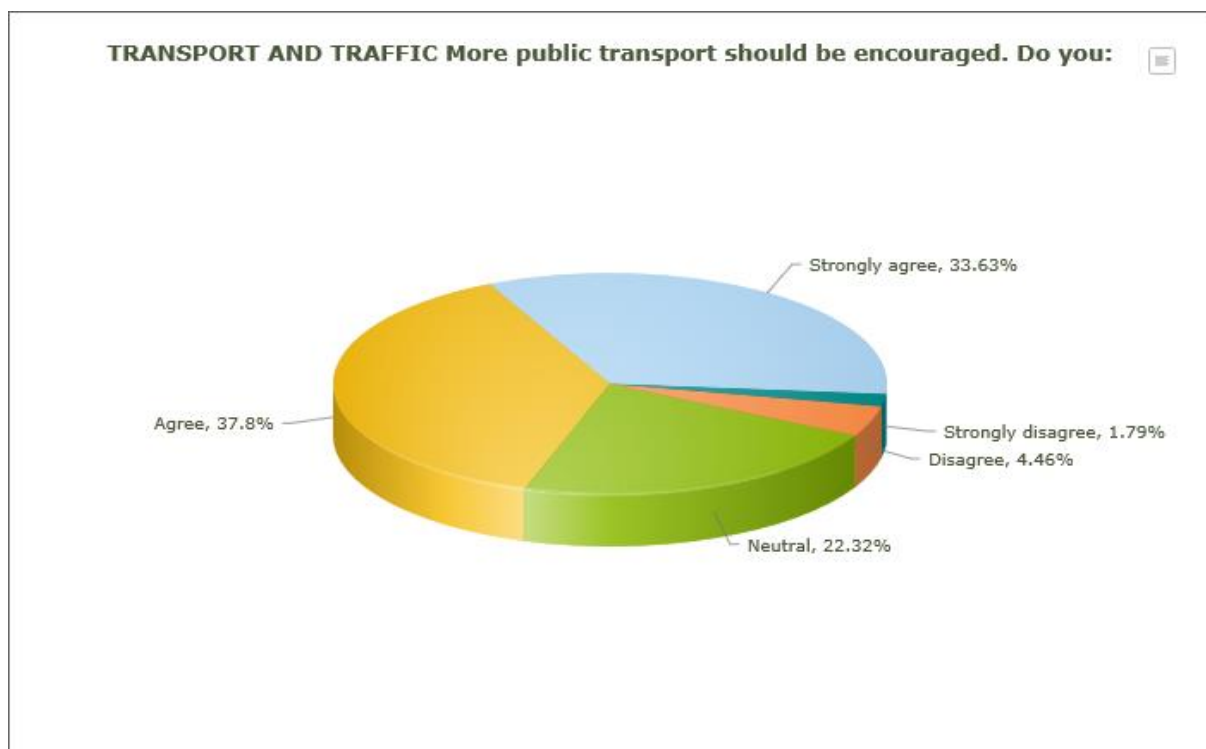
In this questionnaire response workshop/studio space was the most popular response, with light industrial units being the least popular.

## Transport and Traffic

This section sought to establish views on the road infrastructure and safety of roads within the parish, with especial focus on parking.

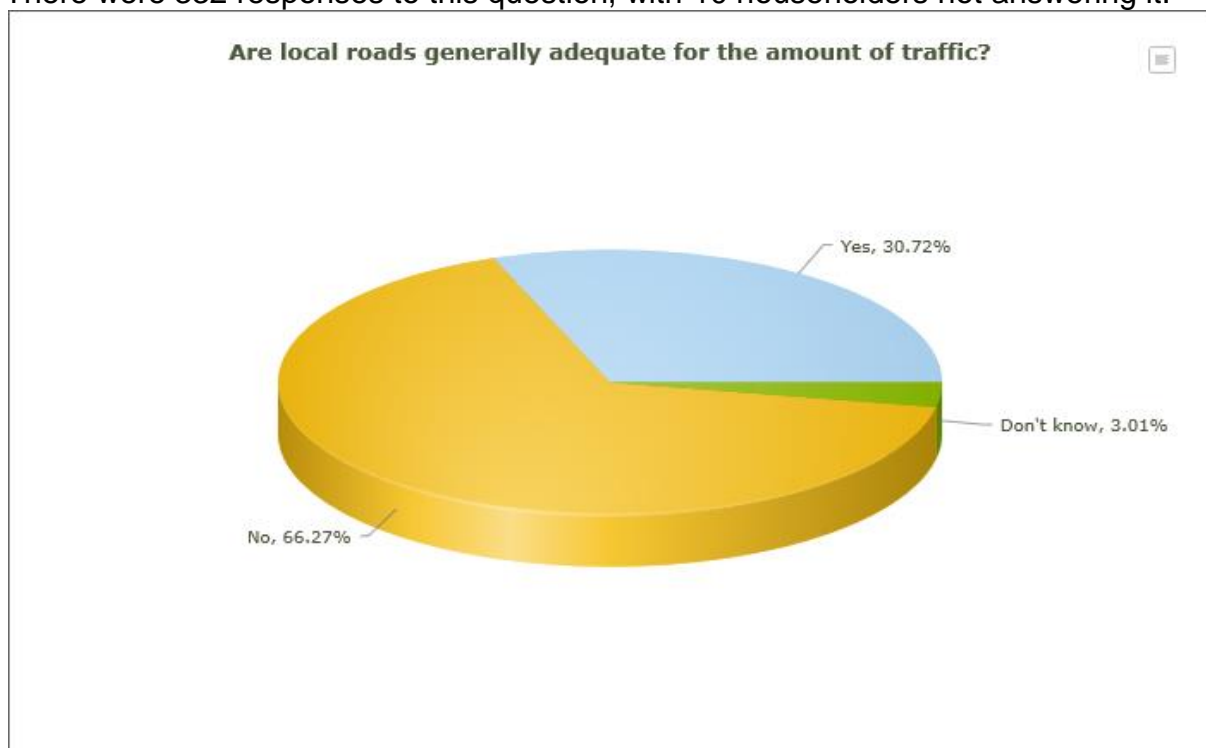


**Question 20** sought views on whether more public transport should be encouraged and there were 336 responses to this question, with 6 householders not answering it.



Responses indicate a strong preference in favour of encouraging the use of public transport

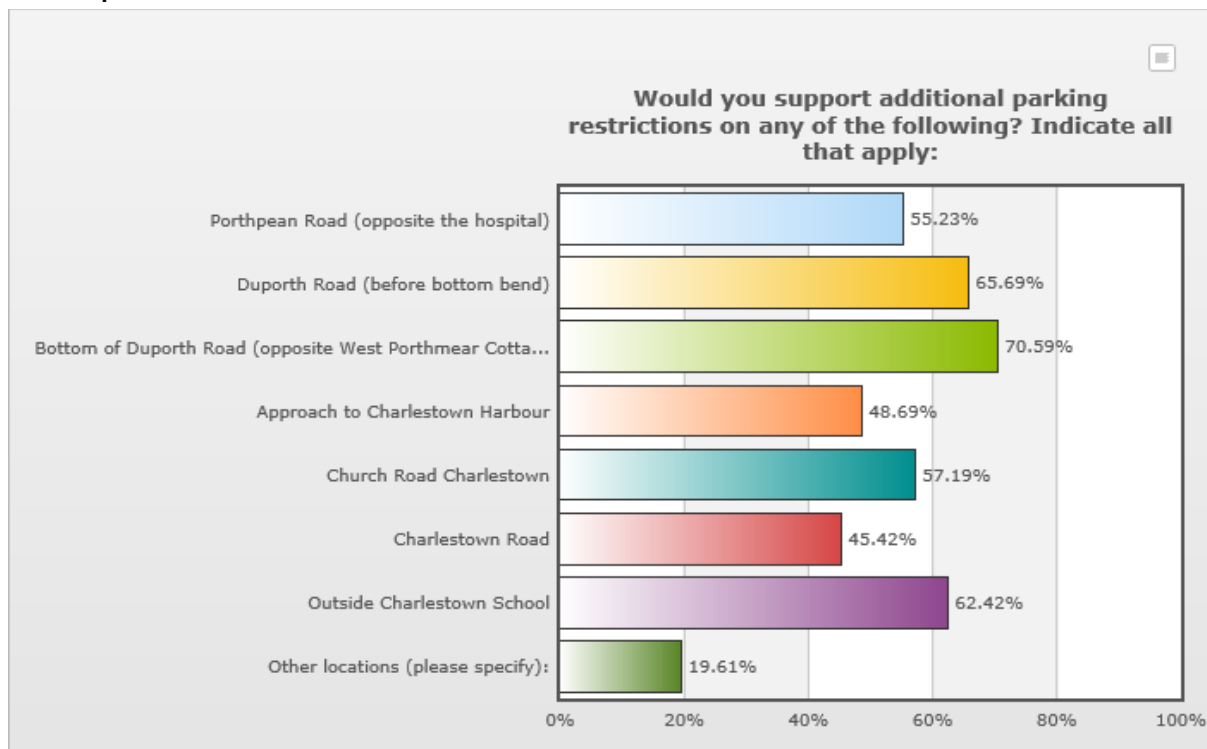
**Question 21** asked if local roads are generally adequate for the amount of traffic? There were 332 responses to this question, with 10 householders not answering it.



The current road network is considered by over 66% of respondents to be at or above capacity

**Question 22** asked if respondents would support additional parking restrictions on the named roads shown below, and was answered by 336 householders.

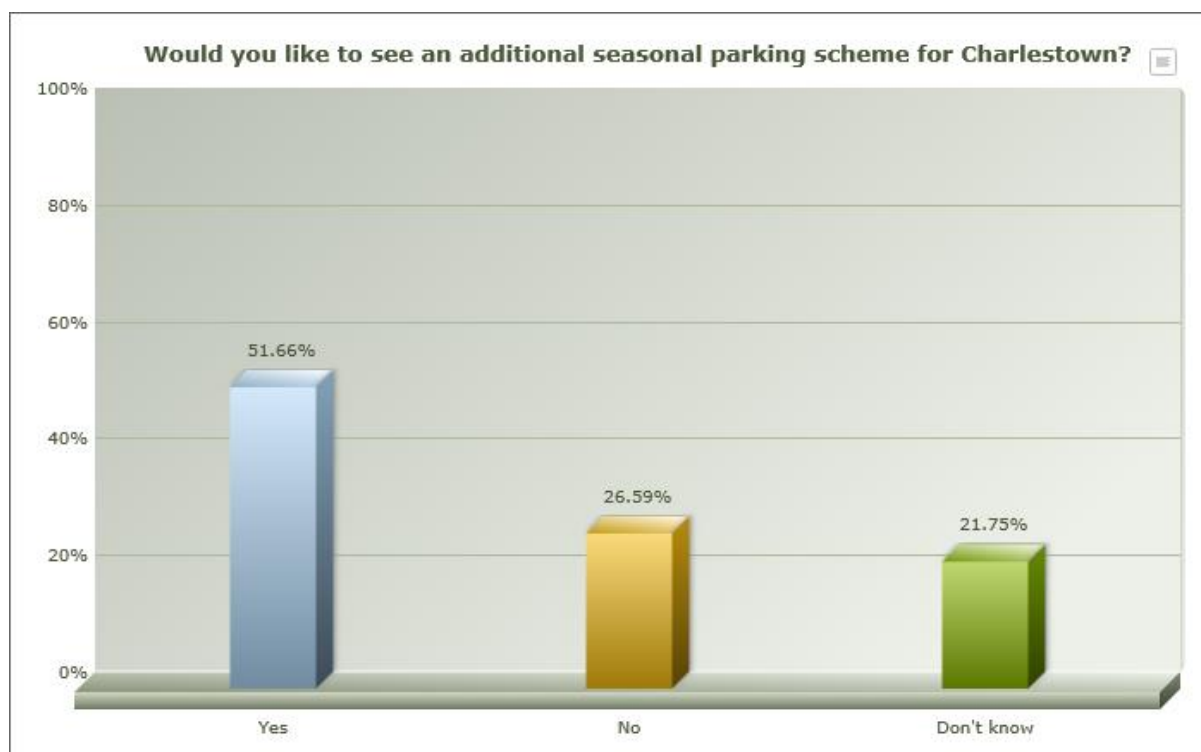




There is strong support for parking restrictions in all the areas specified except for the approach to Charlestown harbour and Charlestown Road.

In the 'Other' section, the most frequently suggested problem areas were those which parish residents encounter when entering or leaving the parish - outside Penrice School at both the Charlestown Road and Porthpean Road sites. Multiple mentions were also made of issues in the two new estates (Foundry Park in Charlestown and the new Duporth estate); the section of Porthpean Road adjacent to the Tregorrack Park development, and Porthpean Beach Road. (Full details can be viewed in Annex D.)

**Question 23** asked if respondents would like to see an additional seasonal parking scheme for Charlestown? Of the 331 responses, 171 said 'yes' (51.66%) 88 selected 'no' (26.59%) and 72 did not know (21.75%)



Responses showed a small majority in favour of additional seasonal parking

**Question 24** asked if there were any other comments on transport, infrastructure and road safety.

Consistently, responses showed that there was considerable frustration with the road system, which was viewed as inadequate and at times dangerous, especially with the high influx of tourists.

There was a perception that there was no enforcement of parking restrictions or speed limits and that new housing developments in Duporth and Foundry Park had only exacerbated the problem.



There were high levels of support for more parking restrictions, especially in the vicinity of the two schools. Suggestions included:

- a mirror or traffic lights on the bend on Duporth road on the approach to Charlestown, and improving pedestrian safety by creating a pavement throughout its length
- issuing resident parking permits and creating more parking spaces for visitors.
- asking Cornwall Council to make safety improvements at the junction of Bay View Road
- placing speed restriction signs, and traffic-calming measures throughout the parish
- asking for Manor View Road to have access for cars, not just buses.
- Church Road having traffic-calming measures
- seeking the repair of parish roads and the repair of the privately-owned Quay Road.
- requesting a zebra crossing or pedestrian-controlled lights in Charlestown

It would seem prudent to take a strategic approach to parking restrictions and improving the transport infrastructure to ensure there are no unintended consequences to any actions i.e. curbing parking in one area is likely to cause a problem further down the road. A traffic survey will now be undertaken to gain further evidence of the problems, with a view to advising on solutions. Any further development must not intensify these problems.



## LANDSCAPE, ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

This section contained a number of questions designed to elicit opinions on the natural environment of the parish, which is coastal and rural, as well as on the World Heritage Site of Charlestown harbour and its surroundings.



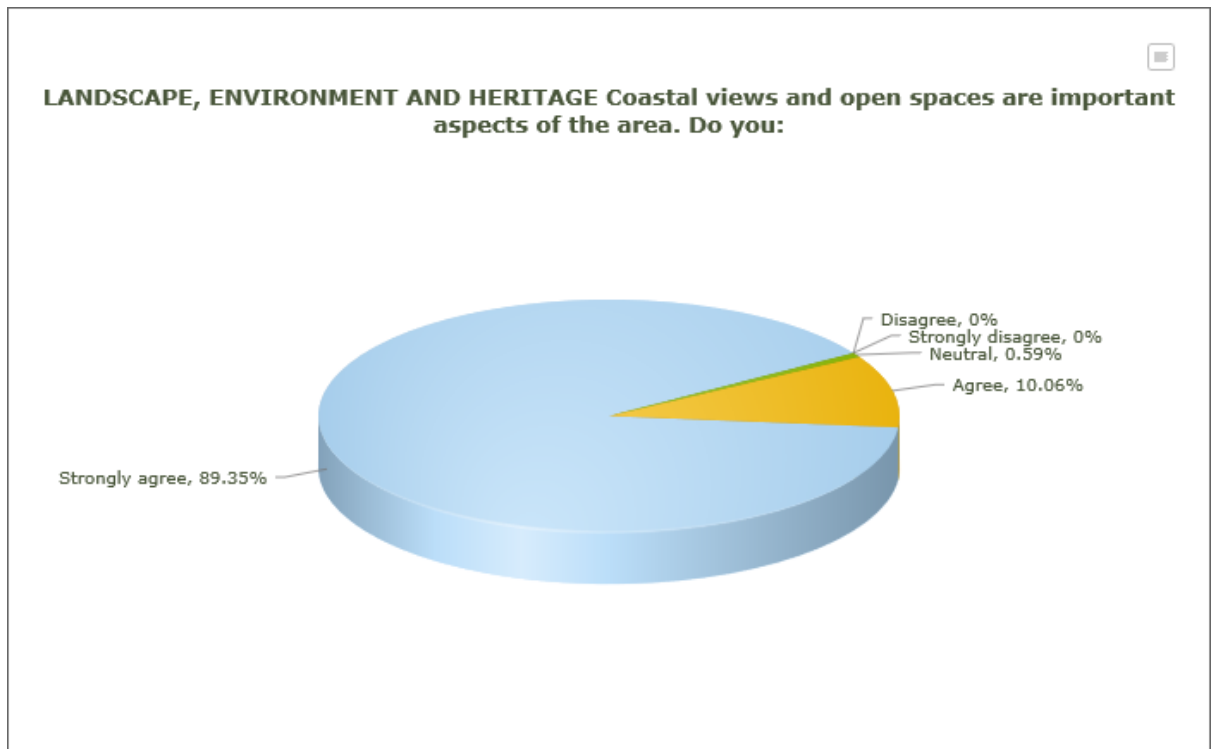




Residents were asked to respond to the statements in this section on a 5 point scale, from 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree', with 'neutral' in the middle

**Question 25 asked if coastal views and open spaces were important aspects of the area.**

- Of the 338 responses to this question, 302 strongly agreed (89.35%)
- 34 agreed (10.06%)
- 2 responses were neutral and none disagreed or strongly disagreed



There is a very clear mandate to preserve coastal views and open spaces – 99.41%

**Question 26** asked if it is important to preserve the character of Charlestown Harbour.





There were 338 responses to this question and 297 of them strongly agreed ((87.87%), 37 agreed with the statement (10.95%) **and** 3 responses were neutral and one disagreed – none strongly disagreed.

Charlestown is part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Sites. The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site is a series of 10 Areas comprising the distinctive patterns of buildings, monuments and sites which together form the coherent series of distinctive cultural landscapes created by the industrialisation of hard rock mining processes, in the period 1700 to 1914

# WHS Background

## Where is it?

### World Heritage Site Areas

- (A1) St Just Mining District
- (A2) The Port of Hayle
- (A3) Tregonning and Gwinnear Mining Districts (A3i) with Trewavas (A3iii)
- (A4) Wendron Mining District
- (A5) Camborne and Redruth Mining District (A5i) with Wheal Pevor (A5ii) and Portreath Harbour (A5iii)
- (A6) Gwennap Mining District (A6i) with Devoran and Perran (A6ii) and Kennall Vale (A6iii)
- (A7) St Agnes Mining District
- (A8) The Luxulyan Valley (A8i) and Charlestown (A8ii)
- (A9) Caradon Mining District
- (A10) Tamar Valley Mining District (A10i) with Tavistock (A10ii)

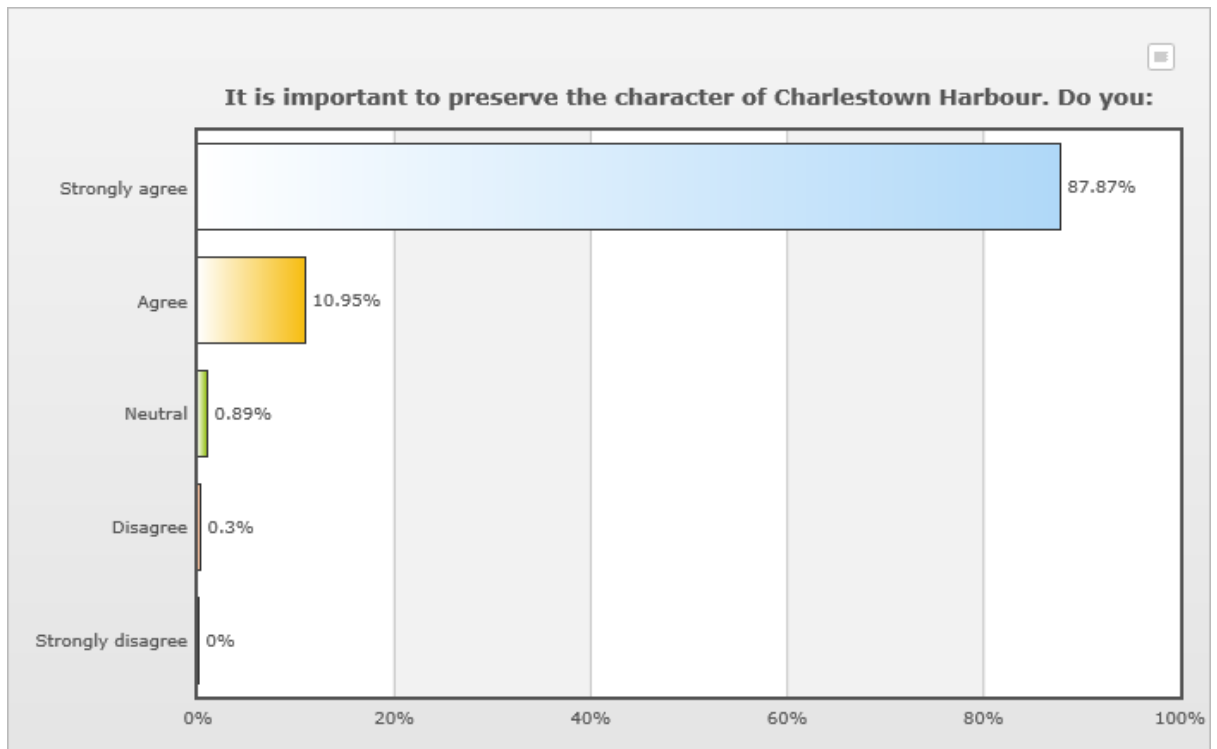
Date of Inscription: 2006  
 Inscription Criteria: (ii) (iii) (iv)  
 Property: 19,710 hectares  
 World Heritage Ref: 1215  
 Location: NS0 8 10 W5 23 1  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1215>



The granting of World Heritage status to the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape in 2006 recognised the international importance of our mining culture, and the impact that the transfer of that culture had on the development of the modern, global, mining economy, and through it the world we live in today

This recognition brings with it the responsibility to ensure that the Site is cared for in a way that is consistent with the World Heritage Convention (1972)

There were 338 responses to this question and 297 of them strongly agreed ((87.87%), 37 agreed with the statement (10.95%) **and** 3 responses were neutral and one disagreed – none strongly



The residents' overwhelming wish is to preserve the character of the harbour – 98.82% - and preserve this WHS.

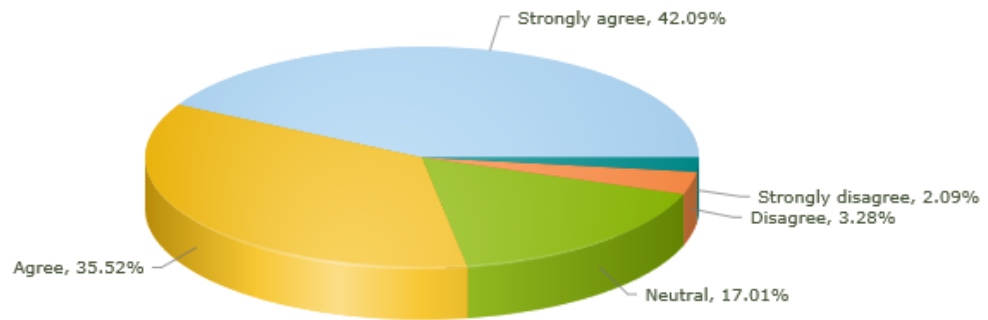
**Question 27** asked if we should seek to develop more tourist attractions in **Charlestown** and 337 responses to this question were received, with 7 householders not responding.

Residents are reasonably evenly divided on this issue. 33.53% agreed – 25.82 were neutral - with the small majority of 40.65 against.

**Question 28** asked if we should restrict the amount of signage/advertising within the World Heritage Site of Charlestown and there were 335 responses to this question

Over 75% of the respondents felt we should restrict the amount of signage within the World Heritage Site

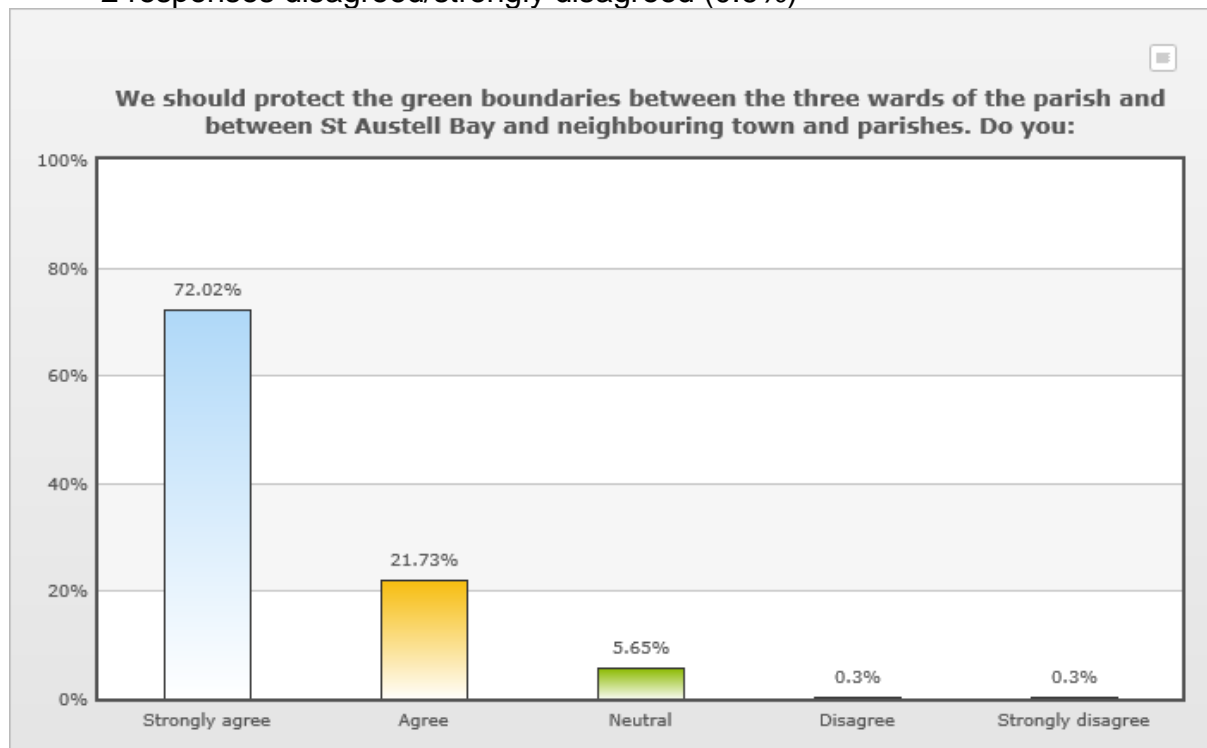
**We should restrict the amount of signage/advertising within the World Heritage Site of Charlestown. Do you:**





**Question 29** asked if we should protect the green boundaries between the three wards of the parish and between St Austell Bay and neighbouring town and parishes.

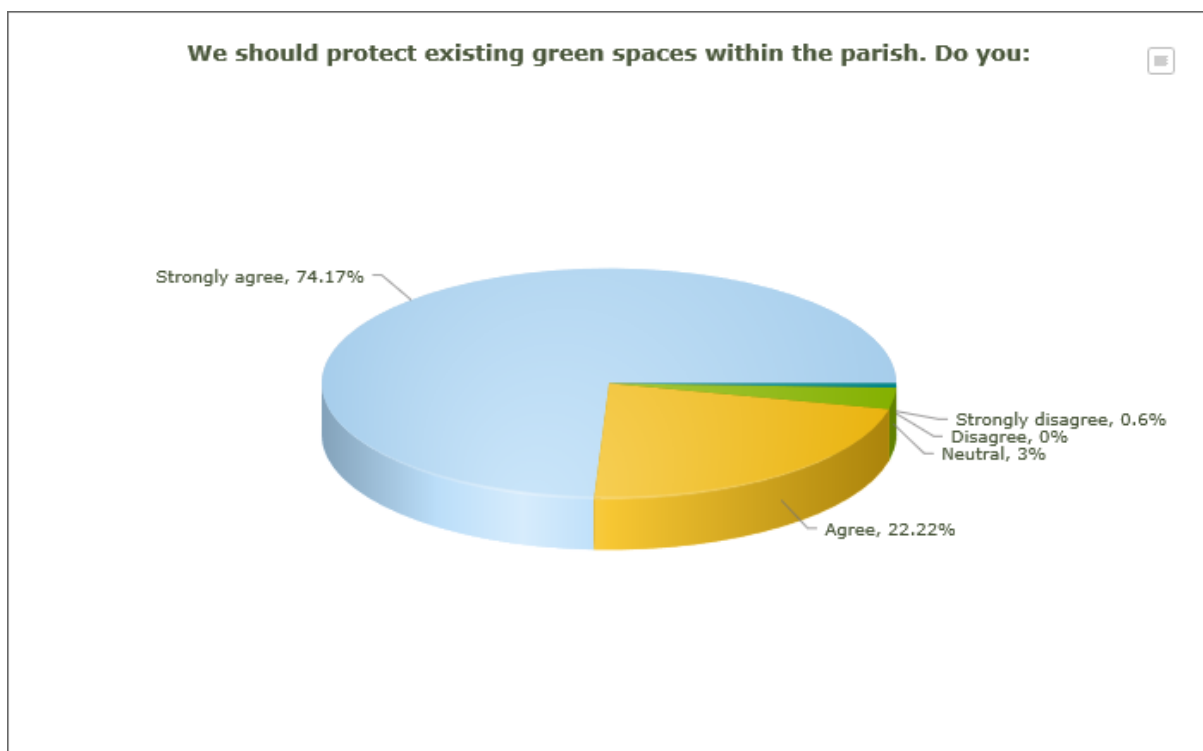
- 336 responses were received
- 72.02% strongly agreed (242 responses)
- 21.73% agreed (73 responses)
- 19 were neutral (5.65%)
- 2 responses disagreed/strongly disagreed (0.6%)



94% strongly agreed or agreed that it was important to protect the green boundaries between wards and neighbouring settlements.

**Question 30** asked if we should protect existing green spaces within the parish.

- There were 330 responses to this question
- 247 respondents strongly agreed (74.17%)
- 74 agreed (22.22%)
- 10 were neutral (3%)
- No-one selected 'disagree' and only 2 selected 'strongly disagree' – a combined total of 0.60%



96% of respondents agreed we should protect the green spaces within the parish



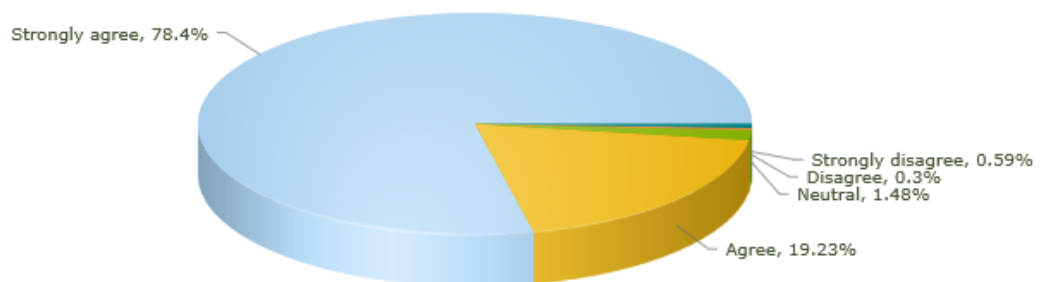
**Question 31** asked if it is important to preserve the current woodland areas in the parish.

- 265 respondents strongly agreed (78.40%)
- 65 agreed (19.23%)

- 5 were neutral (1.40%)
- 3 either disagreed or strongly disagreed – a total of 0.89%



**It is important to preserve the current woodland areas in the parish. Do you:**

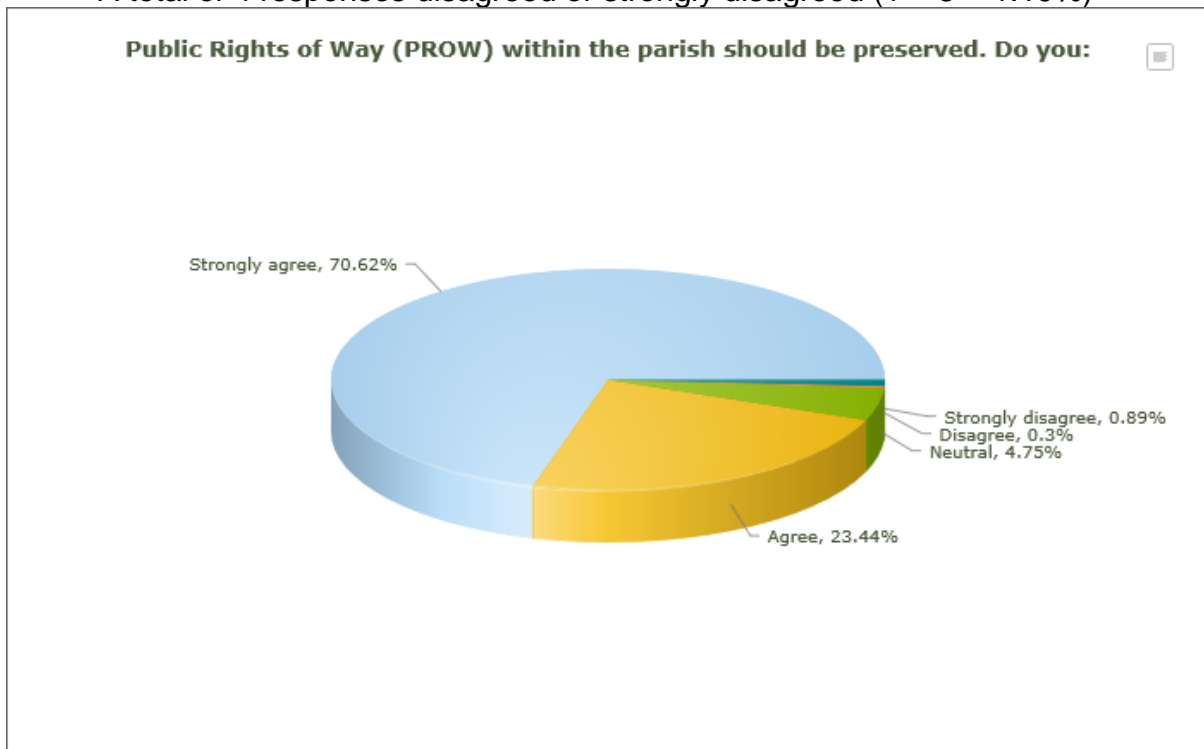


98 % of respondents felt we should preserve current woodland areas in the parish.

**Question 32 asked if Public Rights of Way (PROW) within the parish should be preserved.**

In total 337 responses were received, with 5 householders omitting this question.

- 238 strongly agreed (70.62%)
- 79 agreed (23.44%)
- 16 responses were neutral (4.75%)
- A total of 4 responses disagreed or strongly disagreed (1 + 3 = 1.19%)



A clear majority (94.06%) voted to preserve PROW in the parish

**Question 33** asked if there were any other comments on landscape, environment and heritage. There was a clear commitment to protecting Charlestown and its World Heritage status harbour from insensitive development. However, views were also expressed that the harbour tells little to visitors about its clay heritage and some modest developments could enhance the historical nature of the site and increase the tourist footprint. The harbour site itself also came in for criticism, as it was considered that it and Quay Road could be tidied up.

Further comments included:

- having more litter and dog bins
- preserving, vigorously, green spaces and trees around Charlestown
- concerns over further development on Duporth Road
- the threat of tin mining in the bay
- concerns that hedges and verges were poorly maintained and Japanese knotweed problems needed resolving.
- enforcing signage issues in Charlestown.



## FACILITIES AND LEISURE

In this section, respondents were invited to comment on existing facilities as well as those they would like to see. The selected ideas derived from responses obtained during community engagement drop-in sessions and surveys.

### **Question 34 asked in addition to the current shops and Post Office facilities, which of the following would you use if available?**

The majority of respondents (between 70 and over 80%) would use additional Post Office facilities, a village store, greengrocer and a farmers' market/farm stall.

Currently there is a Post Office facility in the Pattern Hall, Charlestown. It provides most of the usual Post Office services and is open for two mornings a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 1pm – there are no plans to increase the service as it is currently under-used. There are no Post Office facilities in Duporth or Porthean and Trenarren wards – the nearest one is in Holmbush on the outskirts of St Austell in the proximity of the Tesco supermarket.

Since the questionnaire was sent out, a delicatessen has opened in the Square Sail Yard in Charlestown. It is open on a daily basis from 9.30am to 5.30pm selling a variety of products including bread, milk, pasties, biscuits and cheese. There are no village stores in Duporth or Porthpean and Trenarren.

The survey results show a very high interest in having a greengrocer and farmers' market in the parish.

### **Question 35 asked which of the following amenities would you use if available.**

Parishioners were asked about a variety of amenities. The majority indicated that they would not use additional children's play areas, with less than 27% in favour. There is currently only one children's play area in the parish situated in the Charlestown Regatta Field. It is useful to note that dogs are not allowed in this field and the play area is currently quite limited and in need of refurbishment, though improvements are scheduled to be done by Cornwall Council

There was little interest in the provision of allotments, with under a quarter of respondents indicating that they would use one if available. However, if 10 parishioners request them, the parish council is obliged to consider the request. There are currently no allotments in the parish and the parish council has previously tried to find a suitable site, with no success.

A communal garden provided a more enthusiastic response, although less than half actually wanted to use such an amenity.

There was little support (approximately 30%) for either fixed outdoor fitness equipment or a free sports pitch. Charlestown School has a sports pitch facility with floodlights although it is subject to hire charges. The nearest leisure centre is at the Rugby Club, which provides indoor gym and other fitness-related facilities.

While the majority of respondents overall (over 60%) did not support a community meeting room in Duporth, Duporth residents were in favour.

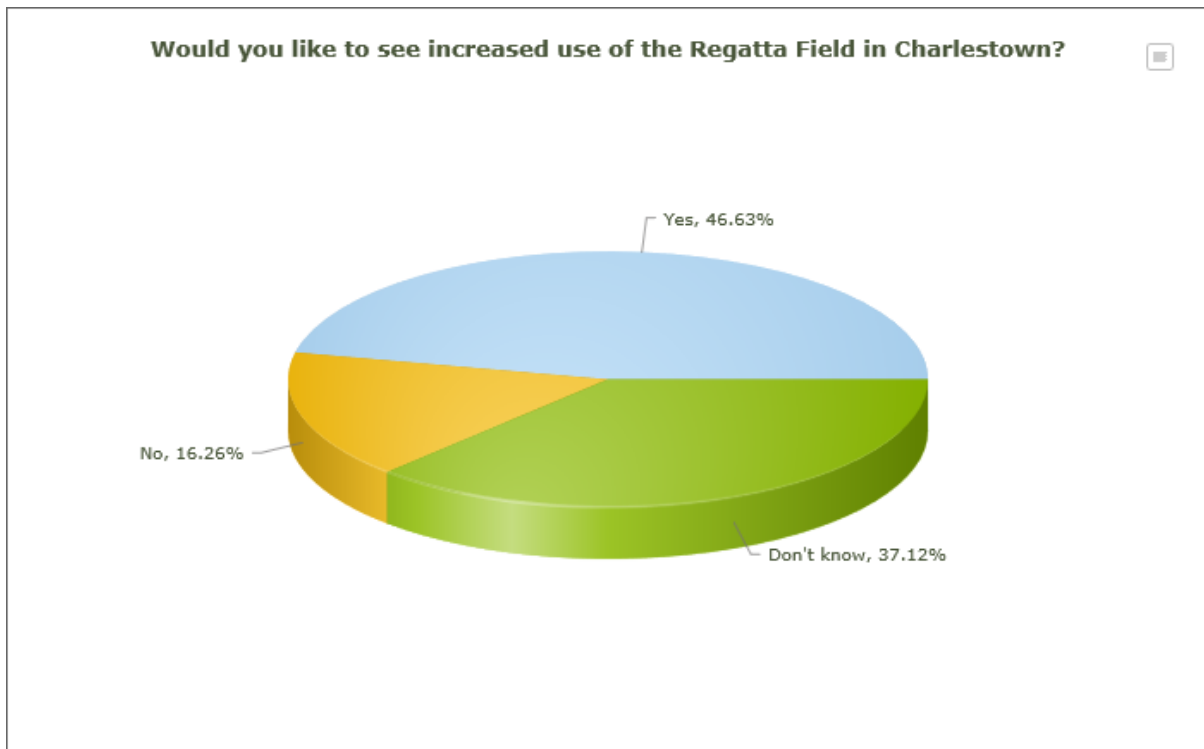
**Question 36** asked if parishioners would like to see increased use made of the Regatta Field in Charlestown. Currently it has a small children's play area and its most extensive use is during Charlestown Regatta Week. Dogs are banned in this field. There was strong support for making more use of the field (over 46%); a small number of respondents were not in favour.

This was the most popular 'open response', with 130 written responses and 326 responses to the set questionnaire questions. The Regatta Field was clearly viewed as an excellent but underused local facility. Residents of St Austell Bay would welcome:

- More play equipment for children and static exercise equipment for adults
- More social events including live music, food festivals, craft fairs, Christmas and farmers' markets, plays, beer festivals
- Extra benches would be appreciated, to enable it to be used as a picnic destination, and public toilets would be appreciated.
- A dog friendly area
- An area that could be used for ball games and team sports.

Finally, a number of residents expressed a view that it could be used as a seasonal parking solution to traffic congestion in Charlestown in the summer months.





## RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTION

Reduction in carbon omissions is an important part of Government policy, and any future planning needs to consider energy reduction. Consequently, this section asked views on different types of energy, and also on mobile phone masts.

**Question 38** sought views on wind turbines. Approximately a quarter of all responses were neutral on questions about wind turbines. The three questions sought respondents' views on whether they should be allowed in the parish at all, whether there should be restrictions imposed and how people felt about allowing them under a certain height.

There was very little support for wind turbines at all in the parish – the majority of respondents, over 67%, either disagreed or strongly disagreed with allowing them even if below a certain height. Most (over 51%) agreed that there should be restrictions on building them.

**Question 39** sought views on solar energy: there were two sections in this category – **commercial and domestic**. **The commercial aspect asked about solar fields – are they acceptable anywhere or only where they are well hidden.**

| 39.1. Commercial solar fields are acceptable anywhere |                   |  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|---|-------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1   | Strongly agree    |  | 3.6%             | 11             |
| 2   | Agree             |  | 10.4%            | 32             |
| 3   | Neutral           |  | 14.6%            | 45             |
| 4   | Disagree          |  | 37.7%            | 116            |
| 5   | Strongly disagree |  | 33.8%            | 104            |
|   |                   |  | answered         | 308            |

| 39.2. Commercial solar fields are acceptable when well hidden |                   |  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|---|-------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1   | Strongly agree    |  | 22.5%            | 73             |
| 2   | Agree             |  | 48.1%            | 156            |
| 3   | Neutral           |  | 16.7%            | 54             |
| 4   | Disagree          |  | 7.4%             | 24             |
| 5   | Strongly disagree |  | 5.2%             | 17             |
|   |                   |  | answered         | 324            |

| 39.3. Domestic solar panels are acceptable anywhere |                   |  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|---|-------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1   | Strongly agree    |  | 13.7%            | 43             |
| 2   | Agree             |  | 15.9%            | 50             |
| 3   | Neutral           |  | 18.1%            | 57             |
| 4   | Disagree          |  | 29.8%            | 94             |
| 5   | Strongly disagree |  | 22.5%            | 71             |
|   |                   |  | answered         | 315            |

| 39.4. Domestic solar panels are acceptable on roofs only |                   |  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|--|-------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1  | Strongly agree    |  | 17.6%            | 56             |
| 2  | Agree             |  | 35.8%            | 114            |
| 3  | Neutral           |  | 25.2%            | 80             |
| 4  | Disagree          |  | 15.4%            | 49             |
| 5  | Strongly disagree |  | 6.0%             | 19             |
|  |                   |  | answered         | 318            |

The majority (over 70%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with having them anywhere in the parish. The same high response (over 70%) strongly agreed or agreed that they are not acceptable even when well hidden.

The domestic aspect asked if solar panels were acceptable anywhere or on roofs only. There was a more even spread of responses in the domestic section – approximately half of the answers disagreed or strongly disagreed that they were

acceptable anywhere. On the other hand, however, over half of respondents thought they were acceptable on roofs only.

**Question 40** asked about mobile phone masts. Three questions were asked – are they acceptable where the signal needs to be improved, are they acceptable when well hidden or should they be disallowed completely.

| 40. Mobile phone masts   |                |                |               |                |                   |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
|  | Strongly agree | Agree          | Neutral       | Disagree       | Strongly disagree | Response Total |
| Mobile phone masts are acceptable where needed to boost signal in the parish | 24.7%<br>(76)  | 39.6%<br>(122) | 13.0%<br>(40) | 15.3%<br>(47)  | 7.5%<br>(23)      | 308            |
| Mobile phone masts are acceptable when well hidden                           | 34.8%<br>(110) | 48.1%<br>(152) | 10.1%<br>(32) | 3.5%<br>(11)   | 3.5%<br>(11)      | 316            |
| No mobile phone masts should be allowed within the parish                    | 6.7%<br>(19)   | 7.1%<br>(20)   | 22.0%<br>(62) | 38.7%<br>(109) | 25.5%<br>(72)     | 282            |
|  |                |                |               |                | answered          | 338            |
|  |                |                |               |                | skipped           | 4              |

The majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they are acceptable where there is a need to boost signal and the majority agreed that they were acceptable when well hidden. There was very little disagreement with either of these questions. The majority also disagreed or strongly disagreed that they should not be allowed in the parish. These responses reflect the fact that the mobile signal is very poor in some areas – this is not good for business or other industries such as tourism and leisure.

**Question 41** simply asked if energy utilising St Austell Bay should be explored – nearly 70% were in favour, almost 20% against with only just over 12% saying “Don’t know.”

