
~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~



**Groby And Field Head
Community Project Parish Plan
~ The Report ~
October 2005
And Beyond**



Groby Old Hall

Produced with assistance of The Rural Community Council and The Countryside Agency



**You Are Invited To A Presentation Of The Parish Plan Report
At Which Budgets £50 Prize Draw Voucher Will Be Drawn
Venue - Groby Village Hall
Thursday 27th October 2005 at 7.30pm - Everyone Welcome**

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Introduction	Page 2
Children And Youth	Page 3
You	Page 4
Traffic And Transport	Page 4
Traffic And Transport	Page 5
Road Safety	Page 6
Road Safety	Page 7
Community And Environment	Page 8
Community And Environment	Page 9
Law And Order	Page 10
Law And Order	Page 11
Leisure And Recreation	Page 12
Leisure And Recreation	Page 13
Communication And Information	Page 14
Public Buildings	Page 15
Funding	Page 16
Summary	Page 16
Action Plan	Page 17
Action Plan	Page 18
Action Plan	Page 19
Notes	Page 20

We have done our up most to present as true as possible a summary of the parish plan project in this document. If the answer to the question you are looking for is not featured in this document then please visit the parish plan web site at www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html where all the data returned to us is displayed. If you find any errors please accept our apologies.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Welcome

The Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan Committee presents to you the Parish Plan report.

We hope you find it interesting and informative, encouraging you to look at the future of the village we all live in and how that future can be improved for everyone, making what you say is a great place to live even better.

Many people have contributed to the consultation on which this report has been based. Initiated by Groby Parish Council and taken forward independently through the parish plan committee under the chairmanship of Martin Cartwright, a Groby resident and business owner (Appliancehome Ltd). The project was completed with help and advice by Hannah Ferguson from the Rural Community Council (Leicestershire and Rutland) and the Countryside Agency who provided us with a grant for data-input and stationery costs involved. The entire Parish Plan committee member's are village residents who gave a massive amount of their time; effort and knowledge to produce the parish plan over the last eighteen months completely free of charge.

Equal importance was the considerable amount of time residents gave to forming the questions that needed to be asked. Martin did this by visiting Groby's Churches, Age Concern, Scouts and at all Groby's Schools he spoke to every child, every class and most other local organisations, far to many to mention.

This consultation process formulated the extensive parish plan questionnaires for both the adults and children and youth of the village. The children and youth questionnaire comprised of 53 questions, with 263 questionnaires being returned. The adult questionnaire consisted of 102 questions, with 1132 questionnaires returned.

The percentage returned for Groby and Field Head was very similar. Approximately 46% of Groby's households and 45% of Field Head's households returned their completed questionnaires.

The following 16 pages contain an analysis of the information, with the action plan being on pages 17 - 19 This is an abbreviated version as we actually got back 1395 questionnaires, with 125,000 words written by residents, containing some 1.4 million characters. Were we to provide the complete information to everyone in paper format this report would be over 800 pages. The information provided has been condensed and in most cases the top three options or suggestions being featured. Some percentage figures have been rounded off. For more comprehensive details of the results the whole raw data is available online by visiting the parish plan project web site at www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html or in paper format at Groby Parish Council Office (rear of Village Hall, Groby). The Library can access the online data for anyone not having a computer.

Parish Plan – Why Do It?

There are a number of reasons for producing a parish plan, the most significant is that it gives the residents of the parish the opportunity not just to have a say about the future of Groby and Field Head, but to be actively involved with it. The parish plan will help villagers and the local councils improve and develop the village over the next 15 years in a way that the people who live in it have said that they wish it to be.

How Did We Do It?

The parish plan committee visited most local organisations, all the schools in Groby and held a public meeting in September 2004 at the Village Hall. This was to identify the issues both good and bad in Groby and Field Head and resulted in the production of the adult and children / youth questionnaires, one of each delivered to every address. From the returned questionnaires all the data was inputted into a database and the responses analysed, resulting in this parish plan report presented to you. As everyone grows older you have different needs. What you require as a young schoolchild is different from your needs as an adult, and then as a pensioner, this report identifies that fact. The report and conclusions (including the Action Plan statement) have been provided to every residential address, Groby Parish Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, the Highways agency and any other organisation that may have an interest in our parish. The parish plan committee has now delivered what it promised at the outset of the project, it is now up to everyone to embrace its findings and act on them!

For example: residents said that litter was a problem in the village, however if people did not drop litter in the first place then this issue would not have arisen. The report highlighted the need for more litterbins to be provided. The responsibility to provide these rests with Groby Parish and everyone to use them!

In short we all have a responsibility to look after and maintain our village if we want to get the most out of it. It's up to you now, because as the parish plan committee we do no more.

This report will help insure that available funds are spent on the appropriate projects. And help you and the local councils to be more successful in any grant applications applied for to improve the parish. Enjoy!

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Children And Youth Consultation

The parish plan committee realised how long the project would take to implement, being a time span of up to 15 years, this will make the 5 year olds now twenty at the end. Those 17 and above were treated as adults. Martin spent a whole week in the local schools, with every primary school class given a twenty-minute presentation on the parish plan and how it could improve the village for them, both now and in the future. At the High school and College we presented the parish plan and consulted with them at assemblies. The level of time, effort and participation carried out with the school children by Martin was most unusual for a parish plan process, resulting in a higher percentage of returns.

The youths, particularly those accused of anti social behaviour by hanging around the streets at night, required a totally different approach. Martin achieved this by going out on duty with Pc Kelly Groby's beat officer, one Friday night, patrolling the village and attending every incident. Information gained by this helped to compile the youth section of the questionnaire. You will have read earlier in this report that we had the largest response of returned children and youth questionnaires from the 15 and 16 year olds.

In the consultation with the schools Martin asked the children to provide drawings of the village, a couple of which are shown below. The parish plan committee wish to thank the school children for all the pictures.

“ The Park “ by Treena



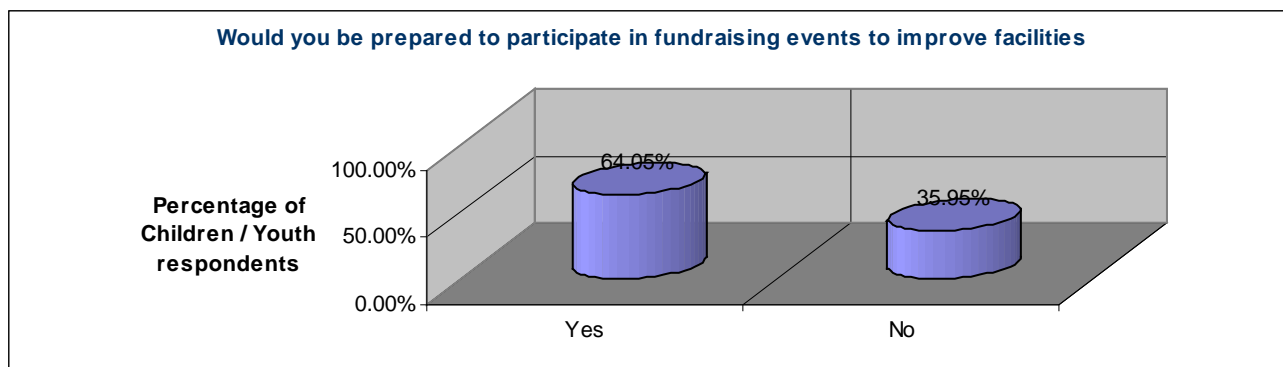
“ Groby Pool “ by Tom



Facilities

When asked what facilities they would like to be provided many were put forward, the most popular being a Youth Club run by themselves for themselves with responsible adults present but located at a location that will not cause a nuisance for residents. A Swimming pool, Skate Park and improved sports facilities were also high on the list. Numerous times we were told that extra facilities were needed to give the children and youths something to do. One suggestion was for a Table Tennis Club, which we already have in Groby, but not well supported by the children of the village?

We asked the children and youth to if they would be prepared to participate in fund raising events to help provide the requirements. As you can see from the graph below the majority said yes, a totally opposite response to the adults when asked the same question



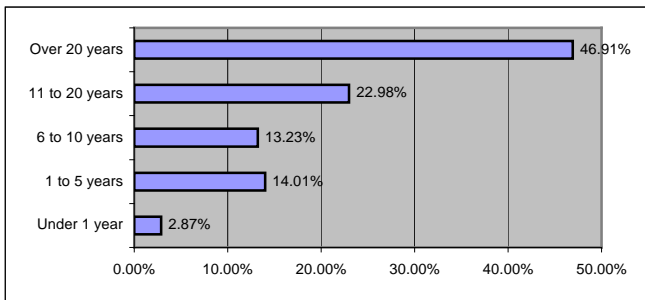
Schools

Respondents feel we have very good schools in Groby with no improvements suggested; all are rated very highly in the league tables. Budgens took great interest in the parish plan project and gave a donation of £500.00 to Lady Jane Grey primary school to help stock the School Library with new books.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

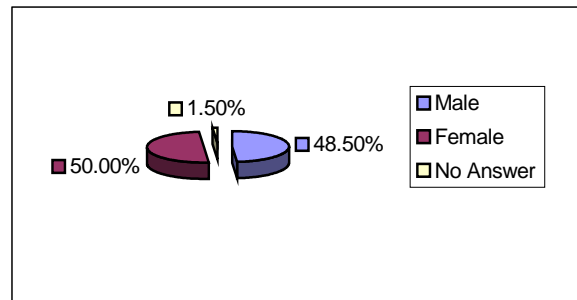
Adults

How Long Have You Lived In Groby or Field Head?



Children / Youth

Are You Male or Female?



Adults

As 46% of residents returned their questionnaires this makes our survey the most comprehensive to date. The most positive thing we discovered from the parish plan is that basically we are all very happy where we live. This is because residents look after their properties, have easy access to the countryside and road network, while being relatively low in crime. As you can see from the graph above once people settle here it usually lasts a long time, represented by the number of residents that have lived here for 20 years or more.

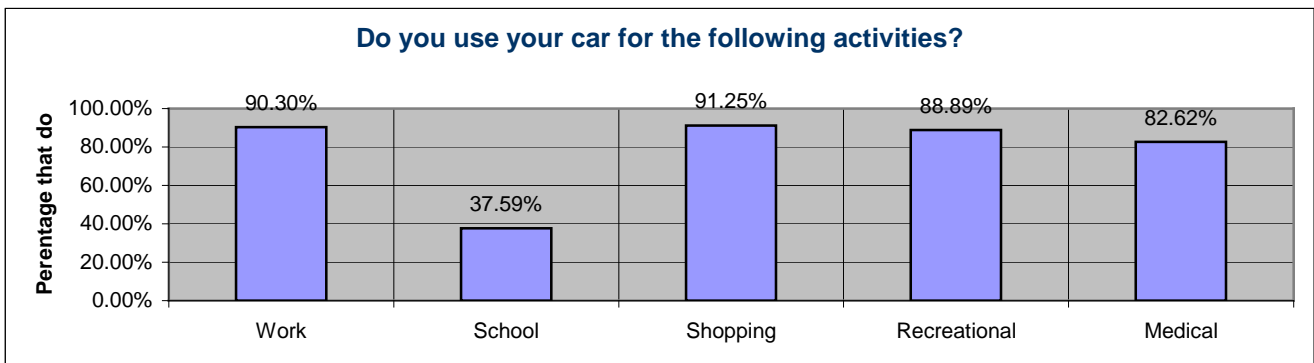
Children And Youths

Of the children and youths that returned the questionnaire 50% were Female and 48.5% were Male, the other 1.5% chose not to tell us their gender. The specific age group we had the most response from were the 15 and 16 year olds. Martin received feedback from the youths while accompanying Pc Kelly on a routine Friday evening patrol around the village. Completing this exercise with Pc Kelly has clearly worked, given the positive results from this section of the community. The parish plan project would like to thank Pc Kelly and Leicestershire Police for their assistance.

~ Traffic And Transport ~

Over 92% of residents have the use of a car and 48% have more than one car. Other forms of transport used in the village are motorbike, bicycle, private bus, public bus and taxi. Some school children are taken to school in their parents or friend's car while the majority (67%) walk to school. Cycling was not an option for 74% of residents, as they did not have access to a bike, travelled too far for work or felt that the roads are unsafe for cyclists.

Do you use your car for the following activities?



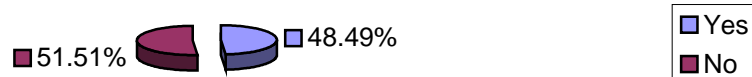
All age groups felt that some of our roads are unsafe, especially the A50, Ratby Road, Laundon Way, Pym Ley Lane and the centre of the village. They felt that better car parking; traffic calming, lighting and pelican crossings would help to ease the problem. Presently 47% of road users have difficulty entering or exiting the village by the A50 roundabout, especially during rush hour. Three quarters of residents felt that the speed limit should be reduced to twenty miles per hour outside all our schools and colleges.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Parking

Nearly 50% found difficulty parking either at home or in the centre of the village. Availability of parking spaces in the village during daytime hours is a big problem both for the disabled and residents living away from the centre of the village wishing to use the facilities and people living around the industrial estate. The main cause of the problem being insufficient business parking for the industrial estate, leaving residents and visitors to Groby having difficulty accessing the shops and facilities. Many side roads off the centre of the village are badly affected with cars being parked all day by workers.

Do you ever experience problems parking at home or in the village?



Bus Service

Residents mainly use the bus service for shopping and work. Younger residents make use of the bus service for school and travel outside the parish. Much criticism was made of the recent termination of both bus stops and the cancellation of popular routes. On one bus service you have to travel past Groby into Glenfield, then cross a busy dual carriageway in order to return to Groby a situation that many were not happy about. Sadly, not all residents of the parish are currently able to access the village centre by public transport.

Additional Bus Services

Requests have been made for a service that will link the local villages, Glenfield, Ratby, Kirby Muxloe and Anstey etc without going into Leicester city centre each time. Additional services were requested to locations such as Beaumont Leys and Fosse Park.

Some residents requested a better early morning and evening service be provided and some would like improvements to Bank Holiday and the Sunday service. Many residents (both children and adults) felt that if the fares charged were cheaper it would encourage everyone to use the buses more often.

Bus Stops And Shelters

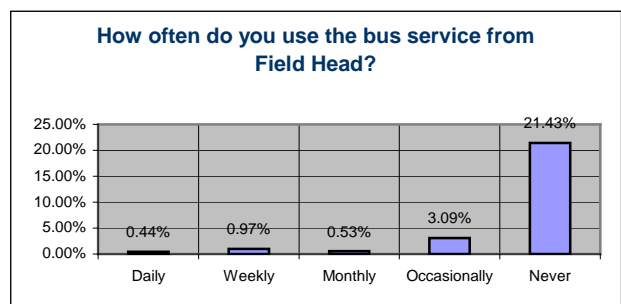
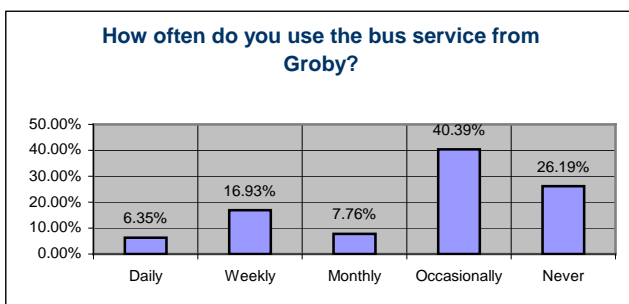
The bus shelters are generally liked and more would be appreciated, especially on Laundon Way outside Budgens and on Lawnwood Road. The bus shelter at Field Head was felt to be in a dangerous position. The design of the shelters at Field Head was described as poor as they give little protection from the wind and rain at one of the highest points in Leicestershire. Various additional stops have been requested for example, Bradgate Hill, Pymm Ley Lane and Sacheverall Way.

However, equally as many felt we had enough bus shelters, expressing "please no more bus shelters!"

Timetable And Bus Information

Better information of bus times and routes was requested. Some residents complained that the electronic signs do not work accurately enough. However those who prefer the electronic signs felt that this service should be extended to all bus stops as soon as possible!

Some residents asked when the planned park and ride scheme would start operating? (We don't know).



The graph's above, shows the difference between the use of buses by Groby and Field Head residents.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Feeling Safe

We are happy to report that most of us feel safe around our village (including children and youths) during the day, while walking around the village, to and from school and whilst using our cars.

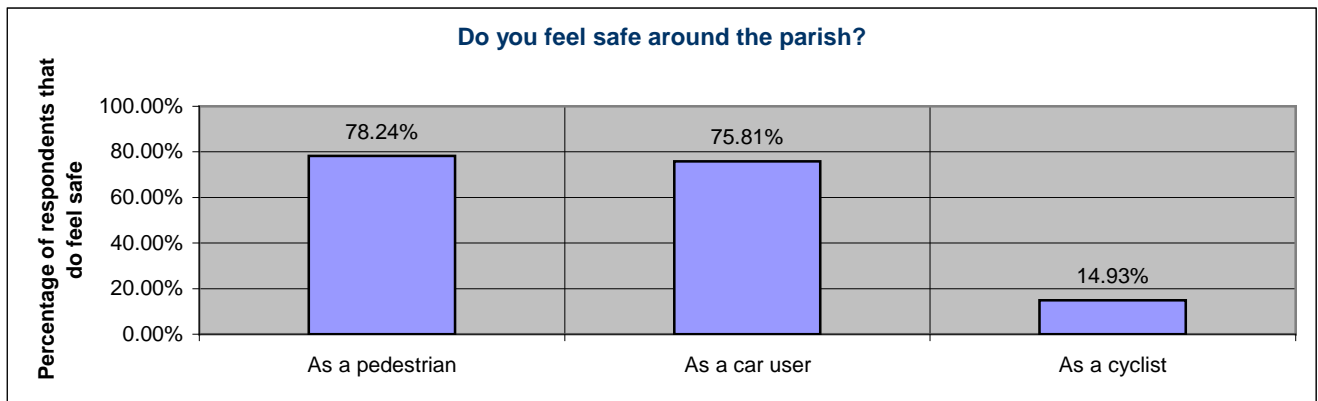
However this becomes a different story at nights because of youths hanging around the streets in large groups, intimidating residents.

This issue will be covered in the Law and Order section of the report (see page 8 and 9).

Only one group felt unsafe on the roads during the days, these were the cyclists.

Cycle users said that motorists give very little respect for their safety.

If the parish is to encourage cycling the issue of cycle users safety needs to be addressed.



Speeding

Many of us would like to see the speed limit outside the schools reduced to 20mph. The main school with a problem being Elizabeth Woodville, as the road around there gets very busy at the start and ending of the school day. This has been made worst since Arriva used Glebe Road as a bus route in both directions. We already have speed humps outside Brookville High School and Groby Community College, which helps restrict speeding in these areas. As the roads are very narrow around Martinshaw School it can be difficult to speed, but the narrowness of the roads creates completely different road safety problems!

In Groby only 33% think there is a constant problem with speeding through the village, which is good to know. However 57% think there is sometimes a problem with speeding. Only 10% thought there was never a problem with speeding in Groby.

The residents of Field Head report a much larger problem on the A50 due to constant speeding traffic, meaning they have to take their lives in their hands when trying to cross the A50. Residents said they have been in need of a pedestrian crossing and speed limit reduction at Field Head for many years now.

Improvements

There were a number of suggestions to improve roadways, paths and lighting in the village.

Improved parking is desired for the village, which would be hard to find due to there being little free space available. Some respondents would like to see more traffic calming through and around the village.

Residents living in the village centre have serious problems parking near to their homes due to the industrial estate workers parking.

Cyclists

A number of people would like to see cycle locking points and more cycle lanes around the village.

School Travel

We are lucky to have such a good selection of schools well located in the village, meaning most of the young are able to walk to school, 67% of them said they did. In our survey only 16% said they are driven to school by parents or friends. Options rarely used were bike, taxi and public bus.

Groby Community College has many buses every day these are for children that live outside the village but within the Community College catchment area. These buses are not reflected in the Groby parish plan report, as the questionnaire only went to households living in Groby and Field Head.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

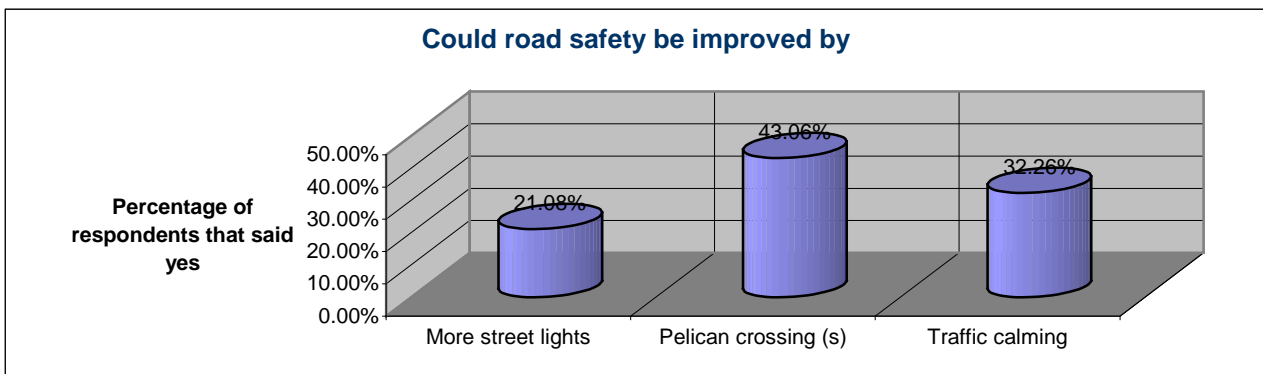
Pelican Crossings

People would like to have Pelican Crossings in the village centre, but where?

The choice for Groby would be between the Post Office and Village Hall, between the Co-op store to the Stamford Arms or across Ratby Road to the Newsagents and shops being the three most popular choices. In Field Head the requirements were across the A50 linking both parts of the community across one of busiest roads in Leicestershire. If only one crossing could be provided in Groby the most popular location would be in the centre of the village where it would be of benefit to the majority of residents. Majority of Field Heads residents said a Pelican Crossing was badly needed on the A50.

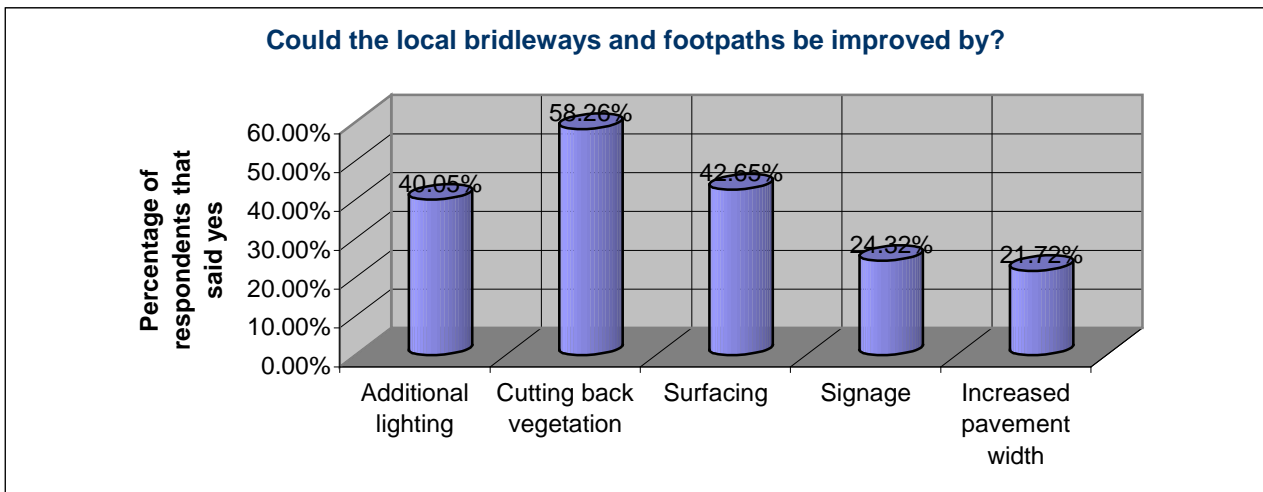
Road Safety

We asked if road safety could be improved by adding more street lights, pelican crossings or traffic calming. The graph below illustrates your comments, 21% favouring more street lights, 43% requesting pelican crossings, and 32% asking for more traffic calming in and around the village.



Walking

For pedestrians there are some suggestions for improving walking conditions along the public footpaths and bridleways in the village. Cutting back vegetation was the most popular suggestion given.



As you can see 40% would like additional lighting, 58% of you thought that the vegetation should be cut back along the bridleways and pavements, while 43% would like the pavements resurfacing. Improved signage came in at 24% with increased width of the pavements at 22%.

Field Head Road Safety Issue

In the consultation we were told that residents living on the service roads on the A50 at Field Head had great difficulty entering or exiting the service roads so we asked this question to see if it was the case! Of the replies we got back 47.03% said that they did have trouble and 52.97% said that they did not.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Youth

Half the youth respondents feel there are not enough activities for them locally' with 64% expressing that they would be prepared to join in fundraising events to improve this.

We asked the children where they think they may be working when they have finished their education. Very few think they will work in Groby. The majority think they will probably work within a 10-mile radius of Groby and would like to remain living in the parish when they leave home, although quite a few weren't sure they would be able to afford to do so.

We asked " what do you feel are the five most important things that would improve Groby and Field Head " The most popular answers were

- Improved sports facilities both indoor and outdoor, especially a swimming pool.
- Improved parks with more facilities for activities such as BMX track, Skate park and play equipment.
- A café or Internet café with a safe place for teenagers to meet, run by themselves for themselves with responsible adults present. Critically located where they will not cause a nuisance to residents.
- An increased Police presence with better communication between the youths and the Police.
- More litter bins.
- More dog waste bins.

How Could You Help?

Volunteers are needed to look at organising local youths to get involved in fundraising events, to improve facilities specifically for young people in the village.

What Residents Feel About Groby And Field Head

Majority of the residents felt that Groby and Field Head were both nice places to live.

Residents enjoy the good access to the countryside, living near Groby Pool, lovely gardens and open spaces, fantastic road network and low crime rates. Also mentioned were good schools, its heritage and a friendly community spirit most of the time!

Litter And Dog Fouling

Litter is seen as a big problem especially around the shops and schools, with residents asking for more litterbins. Many felt dog fouling is a problem and would like increased enforcement against dog owners. The majority wanted designated areas for dog walkers plus some dog free areas and more dog waste bins.

Recycling And Waste Collection

Regarding the new recycling system just over half were satisfied with the new waste system.

The majority felt they now recycled more of their household waste than they used to. Of those who weren't happy with the new system most wanted a return to a weekly black bin collection service especially in the summer months, expressing real concern that two weeks was far too long for rubbish to be left in the bin. However, at the time the parish plan questionnaire was produced (Easter 2005), residents had not experienced summer collections under the new system. As to improvements with the current system overwhelmingly residents requested that facilities be provided to recycle plastics and cardboard from their homes be introduced as soon as possible. This subject has its admirers and critics but what can't be ignored is the many people that felt the council tax had gone up this year by quite a lot of money, whilst the waste collection service had been halved with the recent introduction of fortnightly collections, leaving residents commenting that they are paying more for less, and are very dissatisfied with this situation.

Environment

We asked if Groby and Field Head needs more housing, a resounding 96% said no (although 69% then said they would like more affordable housing). Most people want more leisure facilities especially for the children and youths of the village. Just over 57% don't want any more shops with 95% saying absolutely no more industry.

Most people feel Groby is a village rather than a suburb or town and that it is traffic noise from the A46, A50 and M1 being the worst problem. Some concern was expressed to light and air pollution.

People have a mixed reaction to local businesses; they feel that they provide local employment and support for the shops, but also lead to traffic congestion and parking problems.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Facilities

The most used local facilities were the shops, Post office, Groby pool, and Library. Next came Martinshaw woods, Village Hall, Churches, Community College and Stamford Arms. Least used were the Scout Hut and Forest Rise Community Centre.

The facilities people feel they would most use if available were in order of popularity. A café, indoor sports facilities, more pubs (specifically family friendly with eating facilities in the evenings), leisure centre with swimming pool and youth club.

Over half thought the Scout Hut would be used more if additional activities were provided. Most respondents were enthusiastic about supporting a regular meeting to discuss village issues' with the majority feeling that this should be held quarterly.

People on the whole were satisfied with facilities for pre school children. Children up to the age of nine felt their needs were catered for, with children over nine saying that their needs defiantly were not.

Most people were satisfied with Groby church cemetery, highlighted by 74% of residents saying no improvements were needed. The new Groby cemetery scored higher with 92%, saying that no improvements were needed there.

From those suggesting improvements, the only major comment was that the original church cemetery looks very neglected and requires tidying up, urgently.

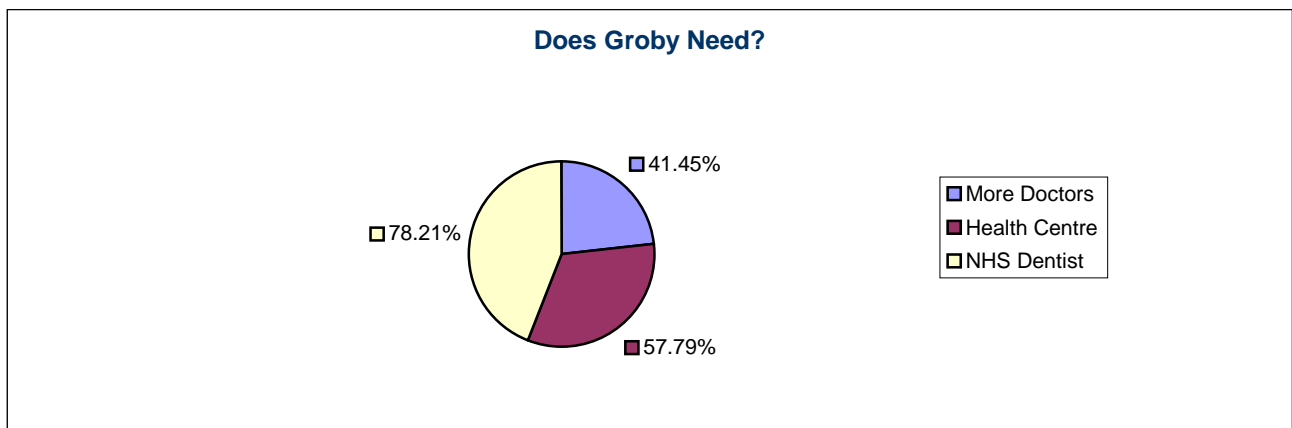
The churches together in Groby helped enormously with this project for which we are very grateful.

Health Providers

Nearly 85% said they would support a scheme to help the elderly and disabled in the village.

The elderly specifically asked for help with gardening (87%), collecting prescriptions (32%) and help with shopping (27%)

A small majority (52%) felt their medical needs were catered for locally, although most would like an NHS Dentist, followed by a Health Centre and more Doctors.



Specific Requests

There did not appear to be great enthusiasm for providing a picnic area, although 31% would use it regularly in the summer months, 33% thought they would use it rarely and 31% said they would never use it.

The respondents were fairly equally divided on if the village should have a War Memorial, with 51.77% saying no and 48.23% yes. Of those who wanted a war memorial they felt the best place to site it was in the village centre, by the Library, or on the grass area alongside Barclays bank.

Only 39% felt the village needed public toilets, 61% did not. The best place to site these was again the village centre but with big concerns if toilets were to be provided at the nuisance that these could possibly cause!

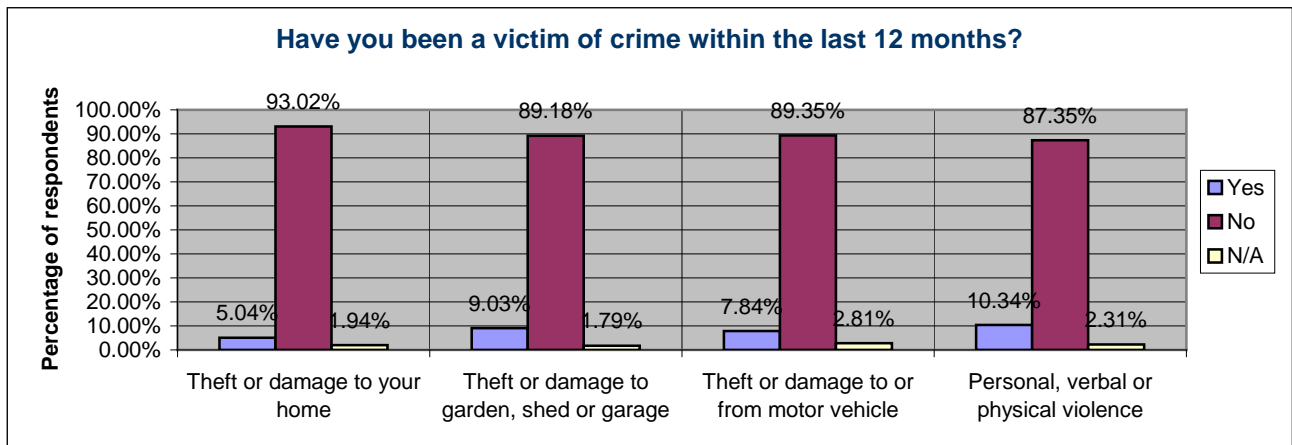
Finally, does Groby require a Sports Pavilion 50.24% said yes we needed one and 49.76% said we did not.

With regard to where should the Sports Pavilion be located, the most popular suggestions were Castell / Marina Park, Groby Community College or by the Scout Hut. All the locations suggested to the specific requests are displayed on the parish plan web site at www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

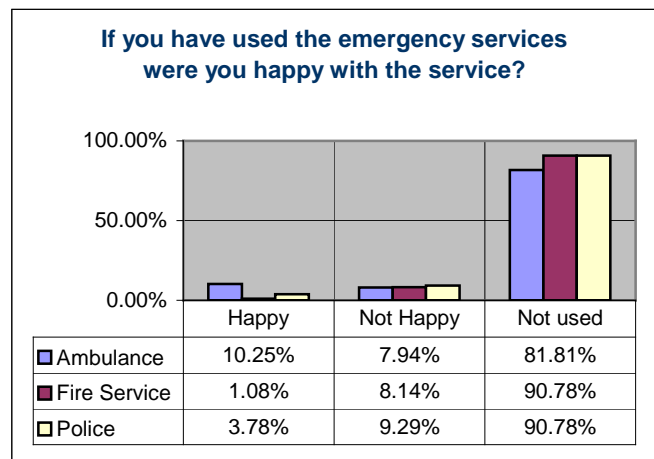
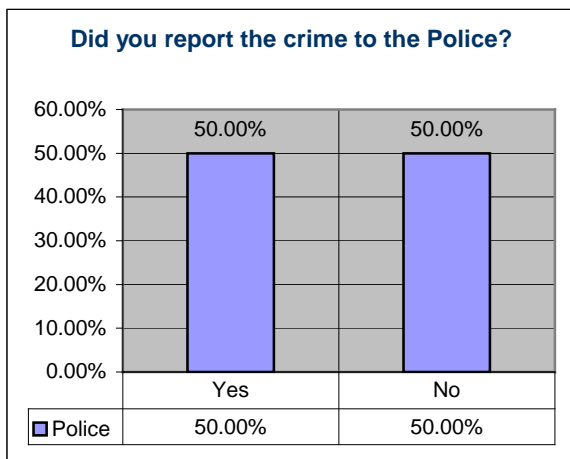
Crime Statistics

We asked have you or your family been a victim of crime within the village in the last 12 months?



Our statistics show that in the last 12 months 5% have been affected by theft or damage to their homes 93% have not. 9% have experienced theft or damage to gardens shed or garages, 89% have not. 8% have had theft or damage to their motor vehicles, 87% have not. Majority answered not applicable to the question regarding theft or damage to business premises leaving 10% affected by personal, verbal or physical violence 87% had not. In every case the vast majority had not been affected by the crimes listed.

It must be stressed these are not the official crime figures for Groby and Field Head, as not all residents returned the parish plan questionnaires and of those that did not everyone answered this question. However, we are also able to reveal that while 50% did report the crime or offence to the Police exactly half did not. This means due to the lack of reporting crime to the Police, the official crime figures don't tell the full story too.



Emergency Services

Villagers that have used the emergency services recently say they are happy with the Ambulance and Fire service response times. Police scored very highly with serious incidents requiring 999 calls, but not at all well on responding to less minor crime.

We are delighted to be able to report that all the emergency services have not been required very often in Groby and Field Head in the last 12 months as the graph right shows.

Victims Of Crime

It is very pleasing to see that the numbers of residents that have been victims of crime is so low in Groby and Field Head, well below the national average. However those people affected by crime find this truly upsetting; they're being no such thing as a victimless crime! Claims on insurance companies push the premiums up for everyone, whilst remembering the fear of crime can be just as bad, especially for the elderly.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Your Safety

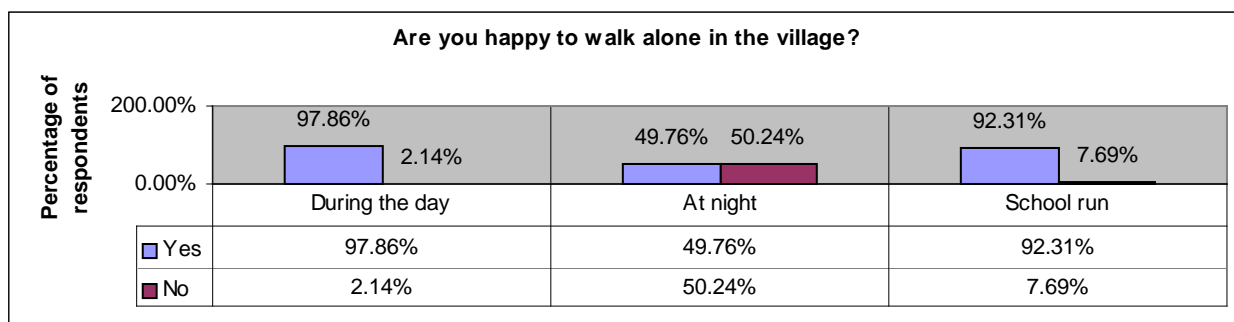
We are pleased to say that most people find our village a safe and quiet place to live.

A great many people have moved here specifically for a quieter and safer lifestyle.

Many of you said in question three " What attracted you to move to Groby or Field Head? " was that the low crime rate was featured as being a major factor in your decision to choose to move to the parish.

There's not too much crime committed in our village and many of the young people are very polite and decent, nice people to know. A few youths often spoil the perception of the vast majority of the youths in the village.

The chart below tells us how many of us felt safe and at what times of the day. It also tells us that some people felt unsafe at night when it is dark, due to anti-social behaviour by some youths hanging around on the streets, intimidating particularly the elderly and females of the village.



Free Crime Prevention Advice

There is free crime prevention advice available for everyone in the parish. However 64% are not aware of this service being available.

Also many villagers (55%) do not know that we have a Policeman with special responsibilities for Groby.

We do have an excellent beat officer in Groby, his name is Pc Kelly based at New Parks Police station.

Field Head is part of Markfields Police area.

Neighbourhood Watch Groups

Groby and Field Head have very active Neighbourhood Watch groups. Many of you have expressed a wish to be part of Neighbourhood Watch. We were unable to pass your details on, as the questionnaire was anonymous, but if you are still interested please get in touch with the Groby Secretary Martin Cartwright or the Field Head Secretary John Gutteridge. Either groups secretary would be delighted to hear from you.

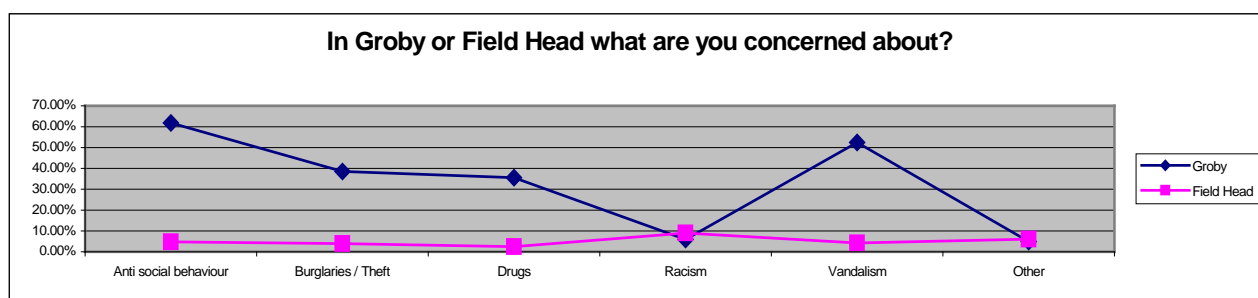
Youths And The Police

Of the young, 73% would like to have better communication between the police and themselves within the village. The majority would like a greater Police presence to be seen in the village and as many as 52% would like to have more information on drink and drugs education.

It's nice to see a large proportion of the young are thinking of the safety of themselves and others within the village. Marc Overton, manager of Budgens is concerned that the recent fire at the store was initially blamed on the local youths. He is keen to point out this was not the case.

Identified Concerns

The main concerns in Groby are anti-social behaviour (74%), burglaries or theft (46%), drugs (43%), vandalism (63%) and racism (7%). Field Head was much less concerned than Groby in all the categories.



~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

History And Heritage

Over 80% of residents are interested in our village history but only four percent belong to the Groby Heritage Group. Slightly more belong to the Village Society at 8%. It was very surprising to see so many expressing an interest in the history of Groby, with so few being involved in the local groups. The Groby Directory web site holds a lot of information about the heritage and history of Groby and is used by many people worldwide looking for information about where their relatives who live or have lived here in the past.

We have many active groups in the parish varying from the Allotments Society, Age Concern, Women's Institute, Groby Players, Wine Circle and Neighbourhood Watch to name just a few. Many residents take part in a wide variety of leisure and recreational activities in and outside the Village.

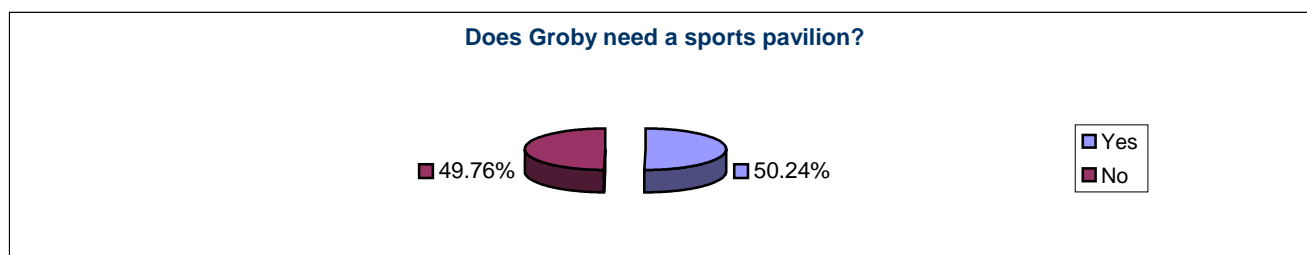
Activity	In Groby or Field Head	Outside The Parish	Never
Allotments	5.95%	0.69%	46.98%
Badminton	0.69%	6.74%	44.50%
Bowls	0.00%	4.86%	47.37%
Bridge Club	0.00%	1.29%	48.76%
Cricket	0.59%	3.87%	46.48%
Cycling	21.11%	17.54%	33.10%
Dancing	3.37%	14.47%	39.54%
Fishing	3.77%	5.55%	45.00%
Football	4.16%	11.00%	42.12%
Golf	0.59%	16.25%	40.54%
Gym / Keep fit / Aerobics	7.23%	26.56%	33.70%
Hockey	0.50%	1.09%	48.07%
Horse Riding	0.40%	4.26%	46.58%
Rugby	0.40%	5.45%	45.39%
Shooting / Rifle Club	0.59%	2.28%	47.47%
Snooker	1.88%	5.45%	44.90%
Squash	0.00%	5.25%	46.48%
Swimming	1.49%	46.18%	25.47%
Table Tennis	1.59%	2.48%	46.78%
Tennis	2.28%	5.85%	42.91%
Walking	57.48%	51.73%	12.19%
Yoga	2.48%	4.36%	44.40%

Sports And Sports Facilities

Though many residents play sport, 37% felt the sports facilities are poor and only four residents felt that the parish provided excellent facilities for sport. Significantly 61% took part in activities that were not available in the village such as Bowls, Golf and Swimming. The cost does not put off the majority of residents from taking part in local activities, but 11% felt the availability of a crèche would be useful.

Should Groby Have A Sports Pavilion?

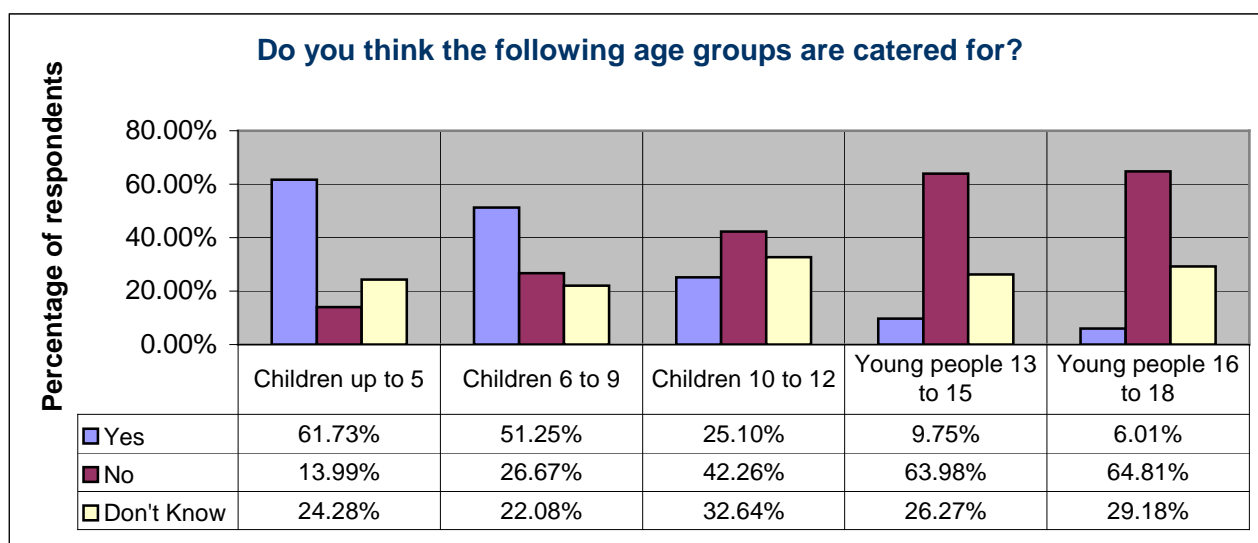
Just over 50% felt that Groby should have a Sports Pavilion the rest said no, with only nine residents overall in favour of it. We also asked if the majority said we needed a Sports Pavilion where should it be located? Seventy one wanted it on Castell Playing Field, fifty four stated Marina Drive / Stamford Drive Playing Fields and forty two opted for it being positioned at Groby Community College.



~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Facilities For Children And Youths

We asked the children and youths if they thought specific age groups were catered for within Groby and Field Head?



Youth Activities

When asked what activities the children and youths would like to participate in? The answers were to have snacks and drinks, being able to sit and chat, play indoor sports and computer games and watch TV. Only 31% are aware that there is already a number of Youth Clubs in the village and only 5% attended the Groby Community College Youth Club. Reasons for not attending were suggested as no suitable activities for them, problems with other children, lack of transport to get there or that they are simply not allowed to go by their parents.

Suggestions for improved activities at the Youth Club are trips out, swimming and outdoor activities such as Rugby and Basketball. Seventy-two residents would be prepared to help with running activities for children and youths of the village.

Youth Meeting Place

The youths of the village would like a meeting place with the most popular locations being Castell Park, The Village Hall and the Community College, with sixty five percent wishing to run it themselves.

Suggested opening times are after school, evenings, weekends and bank holidays with a possible addition of a Saturday morning club.

Sporting Facilities

Sporting facilities that the younger generation would like to have are a Leisure Centre, Swimming Pool, Skate Board Park, BMX track and all weather courts, for Football and Basketball.

Shelters for just sitting and talking with more play equipment for all age groups in all the parks were also requested.

Main Hobbies

In Groby and Field Head our children's main hobbies are Football, Rugby, Dancing, Horse Riding, Cycling, Computer Games, Music, BMX, Skate Boarding and playing with friends.

Adult Education

Adult educational courses are mainly taken at Groby Community College, Wellington Street Adult Education Centre, Desford College, New Parks and Beaumont Leys.

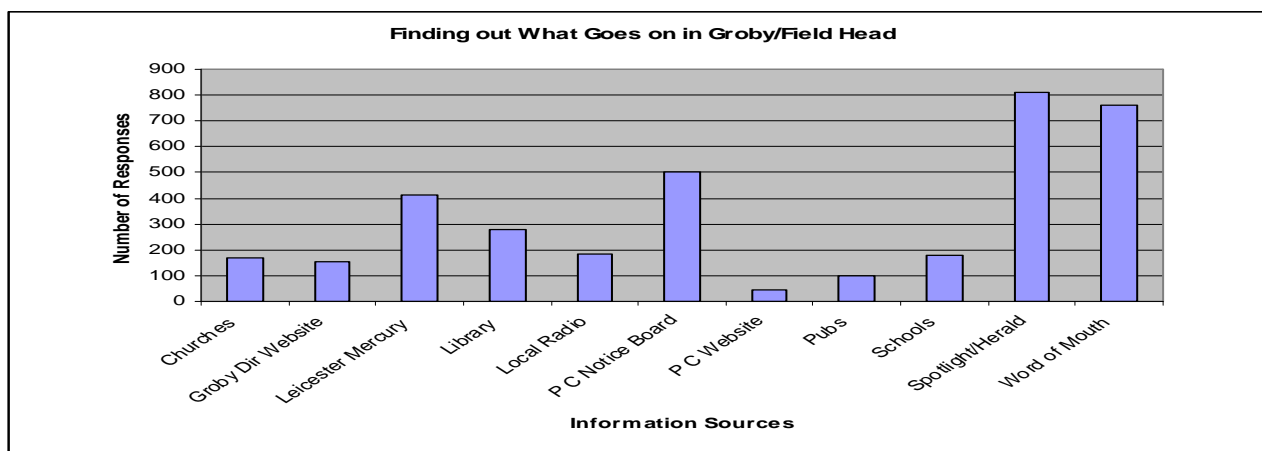
Vocational courses are mostly computers and languages, but a large variety of other subjects are also studied. Non-vocational courses range from Art, Belly Dancing, Photography, Pilates, Salsa Dancing and Tai Chi to name a few.

There were a few comments about the cost of courses at Groby Community College and also cancellation of courses due to lack of support.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Awareness Of News And Events

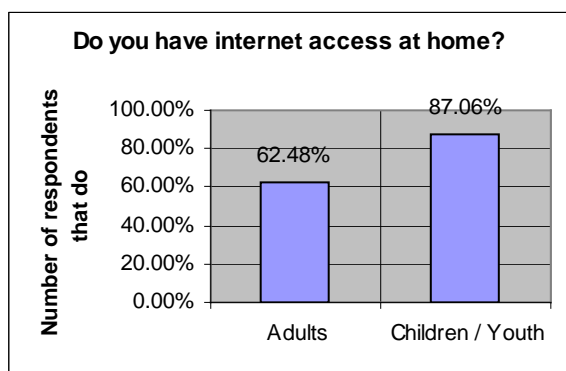
Of Groby and Field Head residents 64% said that they are sufficiently aware of news and events locally. The following bar chart shows the answers received on how residents find out about what's going on in the village.



The results above show that the main source of information is the Spotlight magazine, followed by word of mouth and the Parish Council notice boards. The introduction of the Spotlight was developed from feedback taken from the public meeting held eleven months ago in the Village Hall to launch the parish plan project. It was recognised very early on that Groby and Field Head would benefit from a local news and information magazine to replace the Groby Flyer. The Spotlight has already improved the communication link, quickly establishing itself as the number one information medium for news and events for local residents. It was encouraging to see that 58% of responses from the youth questionnaire stated that they have seen the Spotlight magazine making it appealing to both the adults and the children and youths in the village. It was also apparent that many residents (64%) would have benefited from a welcome pack when they moved to the village. Perhaps this is something that could be produced by a local organisation?

Internet Access At Home

We asked adults and youths "do you have internet access at home?" The following bar chart shows the comparison between the youths and adults who do have Internet access. The youth questionnaire reveals that 87% have Net access compared to 62% of the adults that responded.



The table below shows the local web site frequency use by both the adults and children / youth of the village

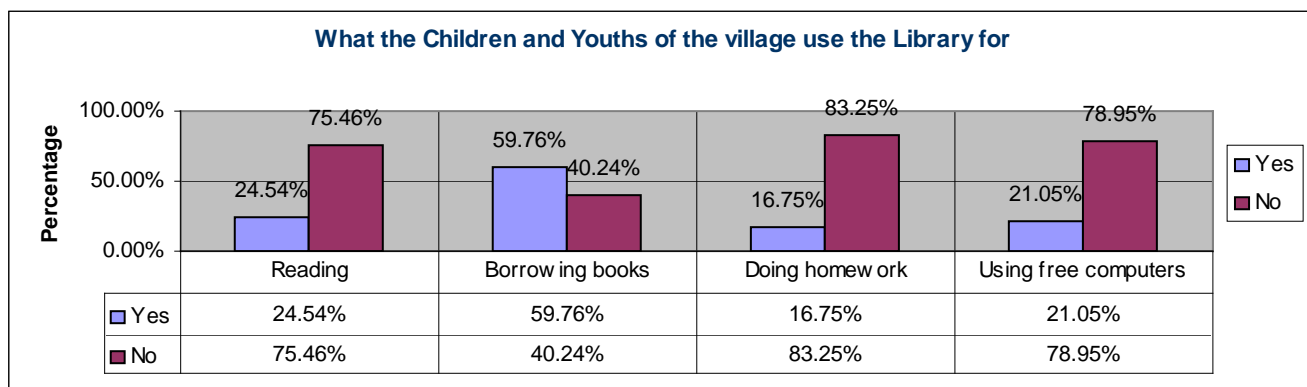
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	Never
Parish Council					
Adults	0.11%	1.59%	8.80%	11.56%	77.94%
Children	0.00%	0.00%	3.02%	7.76%	89.22%
Groby Directory					
Adults	0.22%	2.59%	15.55%	17.06%	64.58%
Children	0.00%	1.71%	5.13%	14.10%	79.06%

The table above right shows how often the adults of the village use the two Groby web sites. The Parish Council's web site is mainly used to obtain information regarding council meetings and minutes. Residents expressed that the parish council site could contain more information! The award winning Groby Directory web site is the main source for local news and events. The site is full of information about Groby for people living all over the world. It is much used as a source of information for those interested in genealogy or have friends or family still living in the area - the Groby Directory guest book proves this fact. Children and youths use both the web sites far less than the adults. However, with the highest overall figure being 17% it is sad to see the effort put into these web sites is little used by residents.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Library

Children and youths were asked what they used the Library for and if it could be improved? Borrowing books was the most popular answer but many also used it for reading, doing homework and for using the free computers that have Broadband Internet access. Some felt no improvements were needed. However, the main suggestions we received were for more books with books being replaced more frequently. More computers, longer and wider opening hours and CD, DVD and Magazine hire. The teenagers said the Library's image needed to be improved, as it was not seen as a cool place to visit!



We also asked the adults how often they used the Library with 1% using it daily, 16% weekly, 36% monthly, 19% yearly, and 27% said they never used it. We also asked the adults how could the library be improved. Their answers expressed a far bigger concern than the children with regard to the opening hours, with an overwhelming number asking for later opening times due to being at work in the day. Again more books and computers, with a faster turn-around of books being the most popular other suggestions. A similar number of adults to children actually said no improvements were needed at all and that they were happy with the current service.

Village Hall

Just 32% of adults said they used the Village Hall yearly and 35% said never, suggesting that many adults rarely use the Village Hall. We asked the children and youths the same questions, with 75% saying no and 25% answering yes to using the Village Hall.

Although many people stated that they do not use the Village Hall it is a popular venue. We know that a lot of groups meet and hold events at the Village Hall, including the Groby Players amateur dramatics that put on a show usually twice a year.

Maybe all these events need better publicity through the Spotlight or Groby Directory web site, which is free for local groups to advertise their events.

Recently the Village Hall has been much improved with new décor and double glazed windows.

Scout Hut

We asked Children did they use the Scout hut? (88%) did not, only 12% do? Of the adults (89%) never use the Scout Hut and 11% do. A small majority of the adults felt the Scout Hut could be used for other purposes. We asked the adults what activities it could be used for, with a youth club being the most popular suggestion followed by parties / private hire and for the whole community to make use of it.

All the suggestions are on the parish plan web site. When Martin Cartwright visited the Scout Hut as part of the consultation process it was full of local youths, both females and males who may have been on the streets, had this facility not been provided.

Community College (outside school hours)

At present 44% of children and youths use the community college outside school hours and 56% do not.

We asked the adults if they took part in adult education in the village of which 14% do and 86% do not.

There is a huge program of both sporting events and adult education classes taking place every year at the community college, now better publicised due to coverage in the Spotlight. Hopefully if we asked the same question in the future these rates of participation might well increase. Most adults taking part in courses outside Groby felt that if the same facility was on offer locally they would make use of it.

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

In life, if we wish to improve our homes or lifestyle it usually means a lot of hard work and inevitably spending some money! Consulting the village on how to improve it was always going to involve suggestions for facilities such as a Leisure centre. These cost millions of pounds to provide and are just not available within the current funding on offer to Groby and Field Head. To give a clear indication of what residents could do to improve the funding situation we asked two very simple questions.

Would you be prepared to participate in fundraising events to improve village facilities?

We received 998 answers to this question with 440 saying **YES** and 558 answering **NO**

The parish plan committee was delighted and surprised at this answer, as more people said yes than we expected. However, it still leaves the majority answering no whilst considering it was only a tick box on a questionnaire in theory at this point and not a direct request. We hope that those who ticked yes will be happy to deliver on their promises.

Would you be prepared to pay extra on your council tax to specifically fund the requirements?

Some 1038 homes answered this question with 347 saying **YES** and 691 answering **NO**

This was not so much of a surprise with the majority electing not to pay extra for improvements to Groby. Many comments were added to this; indeed we did not have a comments box but a massive amount of resident's added information to this question. Basically there is a mistrust of the local authorities with wasting money and taking too much in council tax! Others said that they would not use the facilities provided so should not be expected to contribute to them. Whilst we gained a massive amount of information from these questions (with all the data being on the parish plan web site) you must understand that positive changes cost money and there is not really the willpower to provide this at present. We need to look at the communication between villagers and the councils if we are ever going to change this fact. The parish plan aim is to improve your life but we have no funds to be able to do this. You will see changes to Groby due to the parish plan, but these will be based on the willpower of residents to achieve the changes and funds available. Given your answers to these two vital questions, be realistic in what you expect the parish plan project to provide.

~ Summary ~

The most important fact gained from the whole parish plan project is that people are very happy with where they live. We had the largest response to the question on what attracted you to move here, with 1016 homes giving their positive individual reasons. The parish plan web site has listed every one of them, on some 27 pages, a fascinating read. All of our volunteers (of which there were many) delivering the questionnaires and leaflets said the standard of residents front gardens in Groby and Field Head was quite spectacular, making the parish a delightful place for anyone to see. A very low crime rate, excellent schools, and access to the countryside and a fantastic road network, all given as the best reasons for living in Groby and Field Head. Outside of Groby the parish is seen as being a place that many would wish to live, given the chance. On the down side families are becoming fragmented, as the children of today are unable to remain in the village when leaving home, because of house prices. As Children are our future (as will be their children) we tried so hard to identify their needs by visiting all the schools and Martin went out on patrol with Pc Kelly one Friday night to communicate with the youths. Their biggest request is for a youth club, run by themselves, for themselves located where they will not cause a nuisance to residents. Over the next three pages is the Parish Plan Action Report, basically an extensive wish list as to what needs to be changed to improve the village. This is the largest consultation ever carried out in the history of Groby and Field Head and will be used by the powers that be, when decisions are made to make such improvements within the funding available. You will never please all of the people all of the time, so in this report we have used the top three options or suggestions, with regard to popularity. All the complete information returned to us is shown on the parish plan web site at www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html Groby Library can access the online data free for anyone not having access to a computer or the internet.

For everyone that returned their questionnaires their answers have been reflected in the parish plan project. The Parish Plan Committee and I would like to thank everyone for making the parish plan project a success.

Martin Cartwright – Chairman Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~

Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan Committee

Martin Cartwright – Chairman

Kathy Hammond – Secretary

Susan Cartwright

Helen Disley

Diana Kennard

Helen Lindsay

Councillor Reg Dickson – Groby Parish Council Representative

The Parish Plan Committee Would Also Like To Thank

Ron Brandon, Jean Collins, and Eric Holloway all of whom helped with part of the project

Delivering Parish Plan Leaflets And Questionnaires

Mike Brewer

Peter Batty

Phillipa Brown

Martin Cartwright

Ian Clarke

Helen Disley

Pam Forgham

Kathy Hammond

Owen Hedges

Peter Holyland

Helen Lindsay

Helen Lock

Eric Mantle

Linda Pitcher

Bernard Porter

Mike Pratt

Janet Smith

Ken Ward

Tom & Diana Kennard

Mrs Etchells

Mrs Riley

Mr Bartlett

Mr And Mrs Earl

Mr And Mrs Lomas

Entering The Returned Questionnaires Data On To A Computer Database

Phillipa Brown

Martin Cartwright

Sarah Harvey

Shelley Jones

Diana Kennard

Helen Lindsay

George Secker

Nigel Studd

Graham Winder

Rural Community Council, Leicestershire And Rutland

Hannah Ferguson

Other Organisations

Groby Parish Council

Hinckley And Bosworth Borough Council

Leicestershire County Council

Churches Together In Groby

Leicestershire Police and Pc Kelly, Groby's Beat Officer

Groby's Schools, Appliancehome Limited, Budgens Groby, Spotlight And Most Other Parish Organisations

~ Groby Parish Plan The Report October 2005 And Beyond ~



Editor

Martin Cartwright – Chairman Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan
Maverick House
10 Pine Tree Avenue
Groby
Leicester
LE6 0EQ

Telephone: 07850 707050

E-mail: parishplan@appliancehome.co.uk

Web site: www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html

Published By

The Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan Committee

Printed By

RS Print
Sheene Road
Gorse Hill Industrial Estate
Beaumont Leys
Leicester
LE4 1BF
Telephone 0116 2330043

© Copyright 2005

© Copyright 2005 Groby And Field Head community Project Parish Plan
Reproduction of pages, images or information contained in this document and not bearing the heading ' Groby
And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan ' or in some other form acknowledging the source is
prohibited in any format.

© Groby Parish Plan Logo Subject To Copyright 2005 – Martin Cartwright, Groby

Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan – The Parish Plan Report October 2005

© 2005 Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan - Chairman Martin Cartwright. **Electronic Copy Page 19**

~ Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan – Action Plan October 2005 ~

Issue	Action Points	Who Could Fix It?	Priority
1 - Q.25	Traffic And Transport Children & Youths felt Groby would benefit by having - better car parking, cycle locking points, cycle paths, more footpaths, more street lights, pelican crossings, and traffic calming	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Highways agency	High
2 – Q.20	Adults felt Groby would benefit by having - better car parking, cycle locking points, cycle paths, more footpaths, pelican crossings, and traffic calming	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Highways agency	High
3 – Q.9	Adults said that they experienced parking problems in Groby, especially in the centre of the village	Parish council, Borough council, Druck, County council, Highways agency, Villagers	High
4 – Q.27	Children & Youths said they would use the bus service more if the cost was reduced and timetable improved with better reliability	Arriva, County council	High
5 – Q.14	Adults said to use the bus service more the cost should be reduced with better reliability and timetable. The reinstatement of bus routes and stops that have been removed or cancelled	Arriva, County council	High
6 – Q.19	Road Safety Adults said there is a problem with speeding traffic in the village and on the A50 at Field Head	Parish council, Borough council, Police, Highways agency	High
7 – Q.22	Adults said that pavements could be improved by cutting back vegetation, resurfacing, and better lighting	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Highways agency	Medium
8 – Q.25	Adults and Children said there was an immediate need for a pelican crossing from the Post Office to Village Hall, across Ratby Road at the shops and across the A50 at Field Head	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Highways agency	High
9 – Q.27	The speed limit should be reduced outside all Groby's schools to 20 MPH	Highways agency	High
10 – Q.46	Community And Environment Children and Youths of the parish felt there was a litter problem around the schools, shops, open spaces, village centre and the A50 at Field Head	Parish Council, Borough council, County council, Villagers	High
11 – Q.30	Adults felt there was a litter problem around the schools, shops, open spaces, village centre and the A50 at Field Head	Parish Council, Borough council, County council, Villagers	High
12 – Q.33	Villagers said there should be designated areas for dog walkers, and dog free areas	Parish council, Villagers	Medium
13 – Q.34	Everyone felt dog fouling was a problem with better enforcement for offenders needed	Parish council, Villagers	High
14 – Q.35	Everyone felt the Parish would be improved if more litterbins and dog bins were provided	Parish council, Borough council	High
15 – Q.39	Residents said there was an urgent need to be able to recycle plastics and cardboard	Borough council	High
16 – Q.40	To improve the waste collection system majority asked for a return to weekly collections for the black bins, especially in the summer months. Or one week brown two weeks black cycle	Borough council	High
17 – Q.42	Groby and Field Head should be protected from further housing and Industrial development	Parish council, Borough council	High
18 – Q.44	Major roads cause noise pollution to residents living in Groby and Field Head and should be resurfaced wherever possible with low noise road surfacing in future	Highways agency	High
19 – Q.46	Adults and Children felt there was a lack of community spirit at times in Groby and Field Head	Villagers	Medium

~ Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan – Action Plan October 2005 ~

Issue	Action Points	Who Could Fix It?	Priority
20 – Q.14	Leisure And Recreation Children asked for better facilities with the 3 most popular being youth club with Internet access, equipment for older teens in the parks and an all weather pitch. Requesting these are run by themselves, for themselves with responsible adults present	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Local businesses, Local organizations	High
21 – Q.51	Adults asked for more facilities to be provided with the 3 most popular being café, Indoor sports activities, and another pub but with families in mind and eating facilities at night	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Local businesses	High
22 – Q.53	Both the adults and children felt the Scout hut could be used for other activities	73 rd Leicestershire Scout group	Medium
23 – Q.8	Children and Youths said they were not aware that there are already youth clubs in the village and 95% of Children and Youths do not make use of the facilities that the youth clubs offer	Groby Youth clubs	Medium
24 – Q.11	We asked what they would like to be able to do at the youth clubs, the 3 most popular answers were, play indoor sports & games, have snacks & drinks and chat with friends	Groby Youth clubs	Medium
25 – Q.18	Half of all the children and youths said they would use a Saturday club	Local organizations, Councils	Medium
26 – Q.5	Children up to 9 years of age felt their needs were catered for in Groby, while over 9 year olds felt their needs were defiantly not catered for	Education authority, Parish council, Borough council, County council, Villagers, Organizations	High
27 – Q.90	Everyone felt that sports facilities provided in the village were very poor	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Villagers	High
28 – Q.98	Narrow majority only 8 votes in it, but the majority said that Groby needs a sports pavilion. As to where to put it, all suggested locations are available on the project web site	Parish council, Borough council, County council, Villagers	High
29 – Q.32	75% of children and youths said they did not use the Village Hall, with many expressing there are not enough activities for them	Groby Village Hall committee	Low
30 – Q.35	90% of children and youths don't use the Community College outside schools hours	Groby community college	Low
31 – Q.73	Law And Order Very few residents have been victims of crime, but expressed concern at the potential for burglaries or thefts, anti-social behaviour and vandalism	Police, Neighbourhood watch, Parish council, Villagers	Medium
32 – Q.74	Residents were not aware that there is a Police officer dedicated to Groby & Field Head	Local Police	Low
33 – Q.74	Residents were not aware that there is free crime prevention advice available to them from the local Police, and Groby and Field Head Neighbourhood Watch groups	Local Police, Groby Neighbourhood Watch	Low
34 – Q.75	Many residents said they would like to join the local Neighbourhood Watch branch	Groby Neighbourhood Watch	Medium
35 – Q.42	Adults and children would like to see a greater Police presence in the village	Local Police	High
36 – Q.42	Children and youths would like to have better communication with the local Police	Local Police, Schools	High
37 – Q.25	Adults and children expect stricter speed enforcement from Police in the village & on the A50	Local Police	High
38 – Q.70	Service Providers 93% of residents have been inconvenienced by regular electricity cuts in Groby & Field Head	Electricity board, Central networks	High

~ Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan – Action Plan October 2005 ~

Issue	Action Points	Who Could Fix It?	Priority
39 – Q79	<u>Communication And Information</u> The spotlight has improved the information of local events in the village to residents, but still not everyone is aware of village events and activities	Parish council, Groby Directory, Villagers, Organisations	Medium
40 – Q81	Many residents said they would have benefited from a welcome pack containing local information and contact details when they moved to the village	Parish council, Villagers, Organisations	Medium
41 – Q.55	Villagers requested quarterly meetings be set up to discuss village issues	Parish council, Village Hall Committee, Villagers	High
42 – Q.82	Majority of residents have Internet access at home, but very few use the local web sites www.groby.com and www.grobydirectory.co.uk on a regular basis	Parish council, Grobydirectory web master	Medium
43 – Q.85	The history and heritage of Groby is important to many residents, but very few belong to either of the local groups, The Heritage Society and The Village Society	The Heritage Society, the Village Society	Low
43 – Q.61	Majority of people said they would support a scheme to help the elderly or disabled in Groby	Villagers	High
45 Q.103	Many residents said that the Parish council and Borough council were not listening to them	Parish council, Borough council	High
46 – Q.96	<u>Adult Education</u> Adults taking classes outside of Groby would do so within the village, if it was available	Education authority, College	Medium
47 – Q.64	<u>Medical</u> Groby needs more doctors	Health authority	Medium
48 – Q.64	Groby needs a health centre	Health authority	High
49 – Q.64	Groby needs an NHS dentist	Health authority	High
50 – Q.50	<u>Future Housing Requirements For Village Children</u> Majority of Groby's children said they would like to live in Groby when they leave home however, only 27 thought that they would be able to afford to do so when the time came	Parish council, Borough council, County council	High
51 – Q.49	<u>Future Employment For Village Children</u> Majority of Groby's and Field Head's children said that their future employment after education would not be in Groby or Field Head	Local business's	Low
52 – Q.66	<u>War Memorial</u> We asked did Groby need a War memorial? The majority said No, but was a very close vote. If one was to be provided many locations were suggested, all are shown on the website	Parish council	Medium
53 – Q.68	<u>Public Toilets</u> We asked did Groby need Public Toilets to be provided? 60.6% of the adults said no to this question	Parish council	Not Needed
54 Q100	<u>Funding</u> Majority did not wish to participate in fundraising or pay extra council tax to provide facilities	Everyone should be aware of this	High

