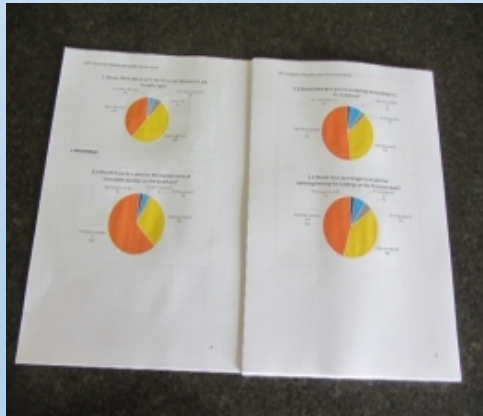




Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan Feedback from Village Survey 10 March 2018

1. Introduction – what have we done since the September 2017 presentation?
2. Summarised issues from the comments in the Survey:
 - The Vision
 - A Environment
 - B Tourism
 - C Transport
 - D Community facilities, leisure and open spaces
 - E Housing
 - F Employment
3. Summary from Housing Needs Assessment Report
4. Summary of meeting with West Dorset District Council
5. Next steps
6. Where to see copies of the results
7. Any questions?

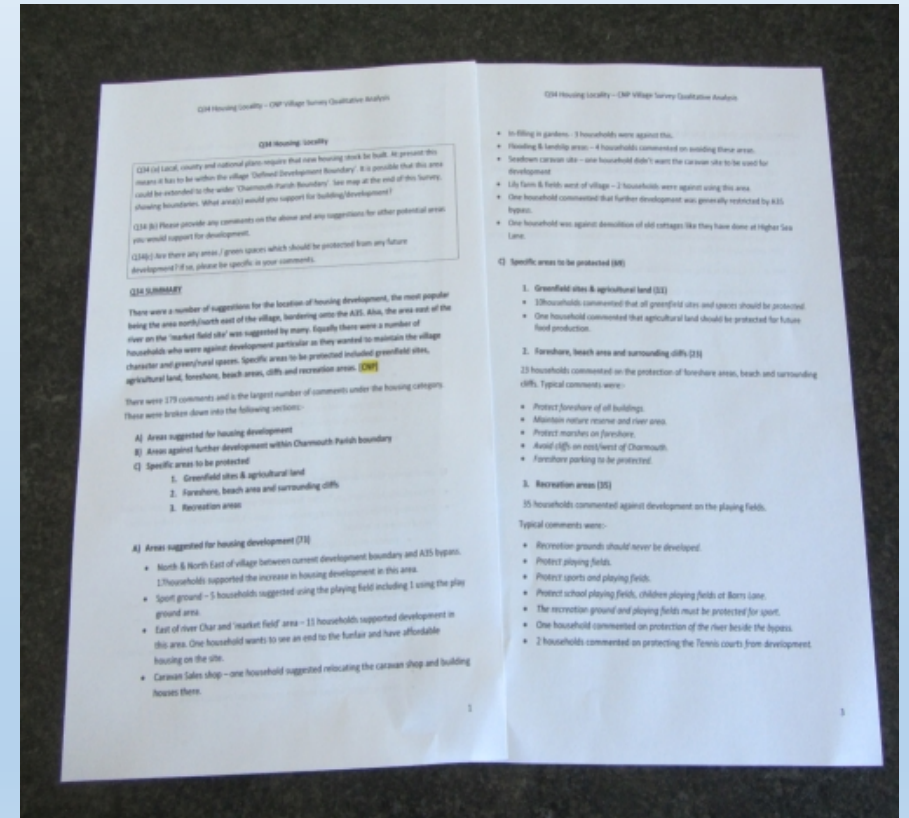
1.1 What have we done since the September 2017 presentation?



- Undertaken very thorough analysis of 2690 comments from the 255 completed surveys; from these we have produced 29 detailed issue reports
- Had specialist help from Jo Witherden, Town Planning consultant – including advice on next steps such as Protection of Assets and Green Spaces
- Had Housing Needs Analysis from AECOM consultants
- Met West Dorset District Council
- Started interviews with Community groups and those who provide services

1.2 Guide to the reports on the comments in the Survey

- The Survey has seven sections
- Each section has 'tick-box' questions and 'open-ended' questions for comments
- A small team of volunteers conducted a thorough analysis of the comments
- The Team scrutinised and organised the comments, and prepared 29 reports
- These are numbered according to the question numbers in the Survey



1.3 Number of comments in each section of the survey

TOPIC	Question	Subject	No. Comments	Total by Topic		
Vision	Q1	Vision	94	94		
Environment	Q2	Sea Defences	16	608		
	Q3	Flooding	5			
	Q4	Wildlife	104			
	Q5	Footpaths	116			
	Q6	Young People Outdoors	120			
	Q8	Pollution	247			
	Tourism	Q11/14/15	Impact, promotion, welcome		136	349
		Q16	Events		113	
Q17		Accommodation	30			
Q18		CHCC	60			
Q19		Fossil Museum	10			
Transport		Q20	Types	78	413	
	Q21	Parking	173			
	Q22	Speeding	117			
	Q23	Mobility	45			
	Facilities	Q24	Shops and Eating	85		746
Q25		Social Amenities	67			
Q26		Beach Area	318			
Q27		Medical Facilities	97			
Q28		Childcare	27			
Q29		Council Tax	44			
Q30		Safety	108			
Housing		Q31/32	Composition	69	369	
		Q33	Style	90		
		Q34	Location	179		
	Q34D	Second Homes/ Holiday Lets	31			
Employment	Q36	Location	78	111		
	Q37	Types	33			
		TOTAL		2690		



1.4 What will happen to the data collected from the Village Survey?

- Many of the responses from the survey will be used as evidence in supporting our policy statements for the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan (CNP)
- Some responses will feed into a 'Village Improvement Projects'
- Some of the issues will be within the remit of Charmouth Parish Council; others may be the responsibility of other organisations, private individuals or teams of volunteers
- Some actions have already been taken since the survey was done

2 The Vision: comments

The Vision

- *To further enhance Charmouth as a friendly, vibrant community*
- *To protect its unique qualities, including its natural beauty, local history and Jurassic coastline*
- *To maintain its ability to be self-sustaining by supporting retail units, local businesses and amenities in the village*
- *To keep its village feel but encourage a small affordable housing development, particularly for families*
- *To continue to attract tourists and visitors and offer good facilities but avoid being over-commercial*
- *To meet the everyday needs of our residents*

94 comments

- Many people strongly appreciate the natural and unspoilt 'charm of Charmouth'; we want to keep it predominantly as it is and not to over-commercialise it
- Generally supportive of additional family dwellings but there are concerns over the size and possible location of a development; also the need to minimise the number of 2nd homes
- Those who were not entirely happy with the draft Vision were concerned about possible negative impact on the village of additional housing
- Need to improve facilities for residents, in particular for families and to create local employment opportunities, but also to enhance facilities for visitors. We need to sympathetically improve facilities at the beach area

90% of respondents in the 'tick-box' section felt the draft Vision is fully or broadly right

A Environment: Climate and Sea Defences



16 comments

- **All but one of these were in favour of managing the effects of sea level rise to some extent, and some suggestions**
- **This backs up the 85% in favour of ‘do something’ found in the numerical analysis**
- **In addition we received 5 comments, generally expressing concern about the prospect of flooding in various ways, and making suggestions**

A Environment and Wildlife



104 comments

- **People are interested in and are keen on the local environment, many comments being positive suggestions; few negative**
- **Wide range of topics with particular interest in community activities; and in more planting especially of flowering plants, both informal and formal, which was also considered an important aspect of the welcome the village offers to visitors**
- **Many comments made here reflect the views made in other questions such as those relating to potential locations for housing and employment – the importance of protecting green spaces**
- **Numerically, over 76% would like wildlife-friendly management of verges and reed beds**

A Environment: Footpaths



116 comments

- **52 on reinstatement of the SW Coastal Path (i.e. to be off-road) indicating its importance to local and visiting walkers; and the currently non-existent path along the east side of the river**
- **33 comments indicate that footpath maintenance was a topic of concern, as was signage with 16 comments**
- **A good range of suggestions were made on various related topics, including possible new paths**

A Environment: Facilities for young people

120 comments



- **Many suggestions made, indicating a high level of interest, particularly in sports activities**
- **Good interest shown in both indoor clubs and improvements to the Recreation Ground**
- **Recognition that volunteers are often needed**

A Environment: Pollution

247 comments



- **Based on the total number of comments on this, one would think Charmouth is a much polluted village!**
- **With dog poo taking over half the total number comments made (132), this appears to be a most serious concern to villagers**
- **Noise and vibration, especially from vehicles, and issues relating to litter were also deemed important, with 33 and 41 comments respectively**
- **An excess of light was also noted, but is to some measure contradicted by responses about too little light as noted the report on Safety**

B Tourism: Promotion, information and welcome facilities



136 comments

- **Views on the impact of tourists vary: a balance between being happy with them and not**
- **Also between encouragement and discouragement of more tourists**
- **A number of points made on why Charmouth is special**
- **Many suggestions about promoting the village and making the village more welcoming**
- **Also for better provision of information within the village**

B Tourism: Events for Tourists

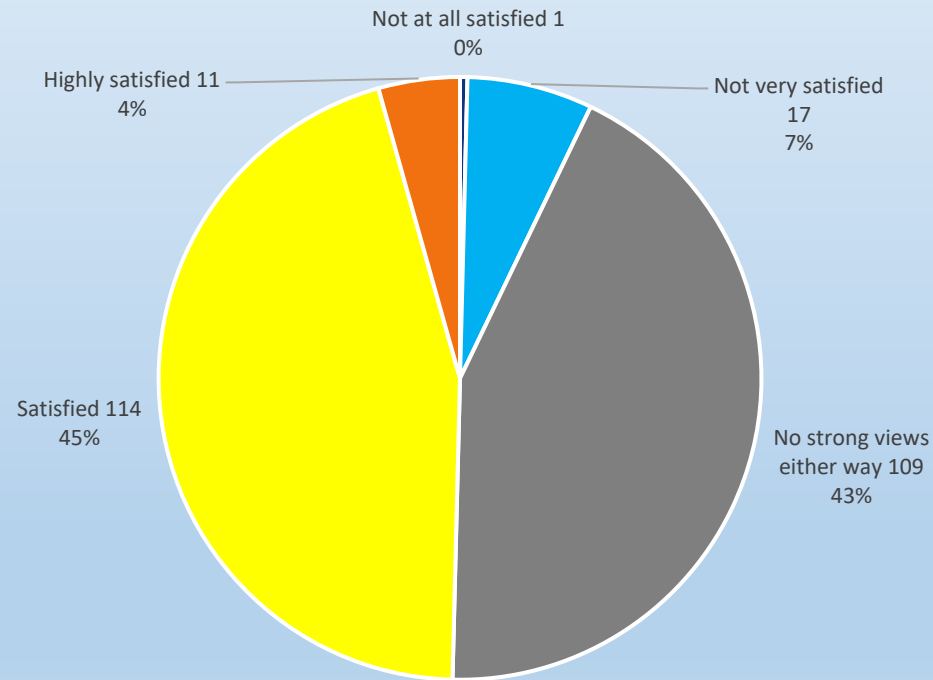
113 comments

- **Very wide range of suggestions for activities and events including: open-air, cultural, fossil-themed events, activities for children, car boot sales and quality food markets**
- **Largest category of event - return of village fete. In the past, included: carnival, dog show, majorettes, craft displays and wildlife interest.... etc.**
- **Appeal of events to residents important; need for local volunteers to organize them**
- **From tick boxes: over half respondents agreed - organize events appealing more to visitors (128)**



B Tourism: Tourist accommodation and its impact on the village

17. How satisfied are you with the holiday parks, B & Bs, guest houses, hotels and holiday rentals and their impact on you and the village?

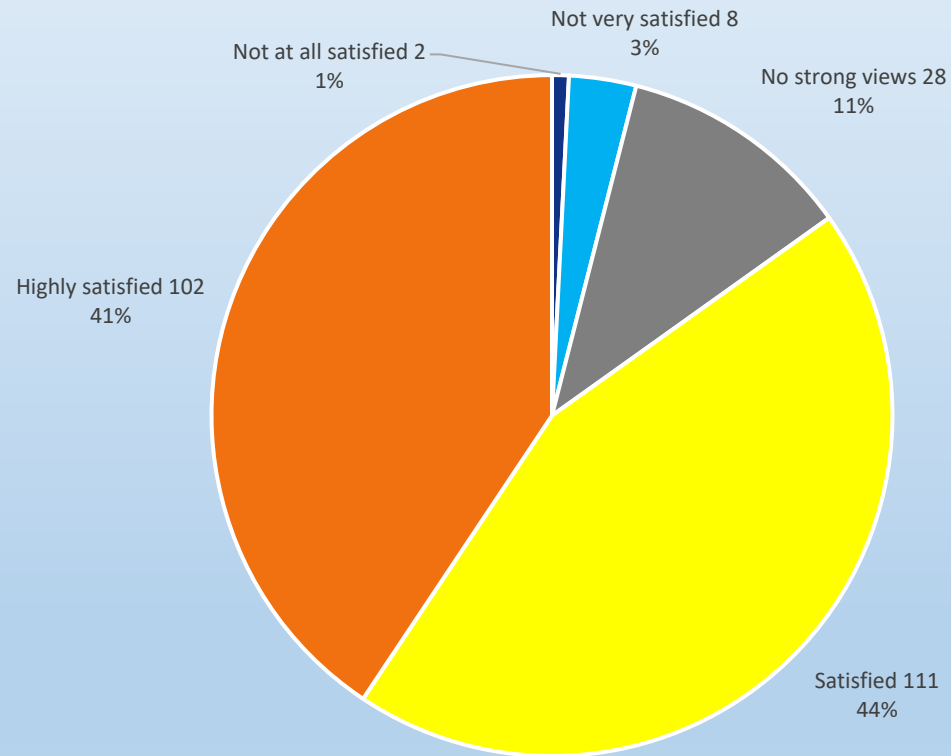


30 comments

- A variety of views on existing accommodation and its impact on the village
- Ten were negative, several implied improvements which could be made
- Nine gave reasons for not wanting any more facilities and only six respondents expressed a desire for additional accommodation

B Tourism: Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre

18. How satisfied are you with the Heritage Centre?



60 comments

- **Majority favourable: CHCC is a valuable asset to the village with knowledgeable staff and helpful, welcoming volunteers**
- **Suggestions provided a variety of ideas about how the CHCC might be improved**
- **Also 10 comments on the possibility of a separate fossil museum, which would suggest that the idea is not a high priority for most people**

C Transport: Types of transport

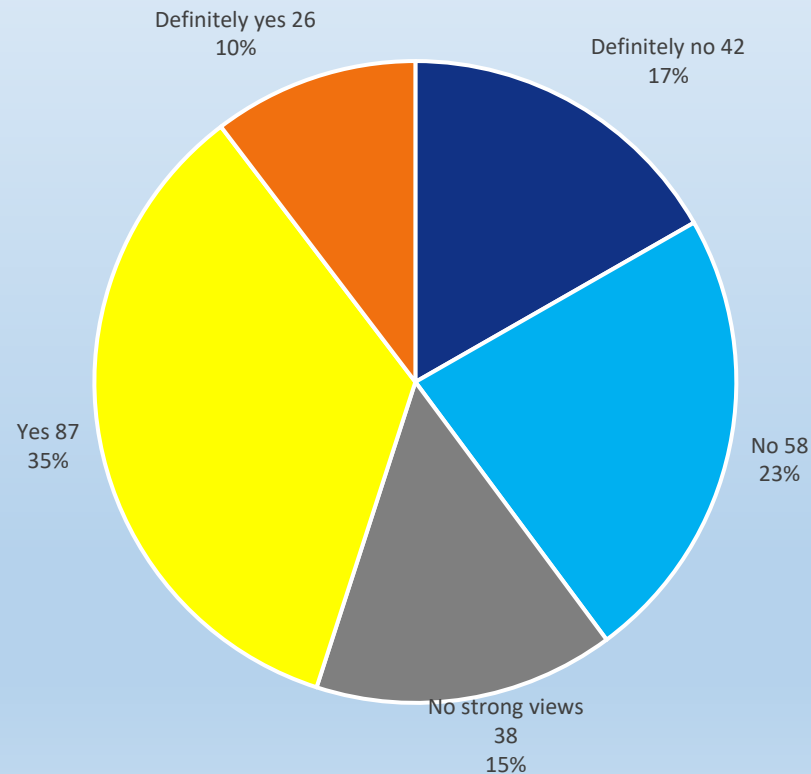


78 comments

- 50 of these about buses, mostly highlighting the need for greater frequency, more routes in and out of the village and the high cost of tickets
- Some ideas worth exploring about working with Lyme Regis to establish a local 'Hopper bus'
- Some innovative suggestions: local shuttle buses/buggy or bike hire/road train to ferry people around the village and encourage visitors to the beach to come into the Street
- Also a small number of comments about the need for more taxi and other forms of transport

C Transport: Parking

21. Do you consider the present parking arrangements to be adequate on the main roads?



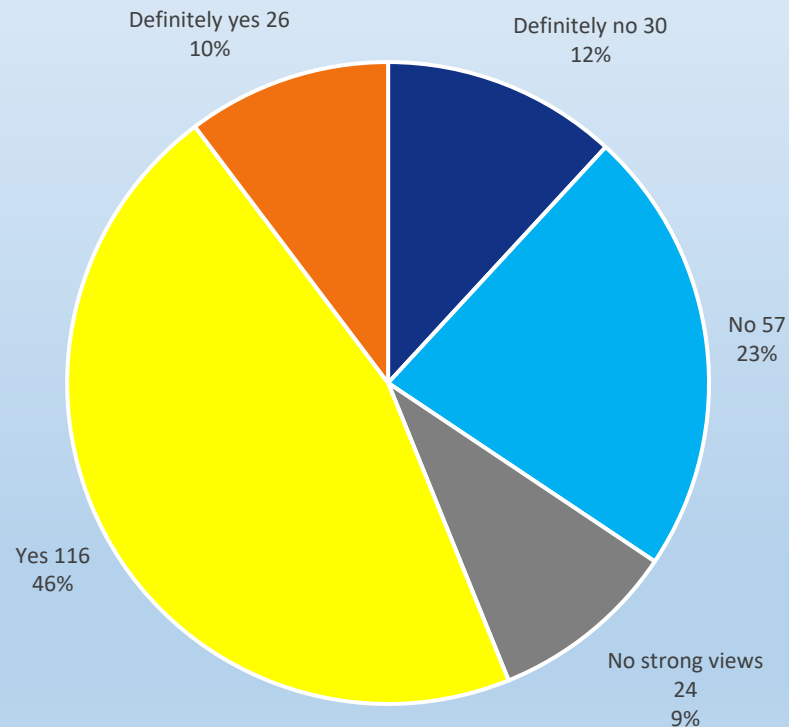
173 comments

- These indicate Charmouth needs more parking, especially in the summer, and that there isn't enough enforcement of parking restrictions
- Certain areas are noted as dangerous
- A restructuring of parking should be considered
- Some suggestions to improve parking are worthy of consideration, including parking permits for residents
- It should be noted that any potential new parking locations/car parks may be in conflict with use of the land for potential new housing

C Transport: Speed restrictions and congestion

117 comments

22. Do you consider the current speed restrictions to be appropriate on the main roads?



- **78 specifically requested a speed reduction to 20 MPH, with 48 of these requesting a blanket speed reduction throughout the village**
- **Smaller numbers requested reducing the limit either on the Street or Lower Sea Lane**
- **Evidently for those affected, there are strong views that speed limits are too high or not effectively enforced**
- **Others suggestions included traffic calming, additional signage or greater enforcement of the current speed restrictions**

C Transport: Mobility, accessibility and road maintenance



45 comments

- **Most asked for kerbs and pavements to be improved, including suggestions for where this is most needed**
- **Also for poor parking to be enforced as this often forces people with visual/mobility issues to move into the road**
- **Dedicated disabled parking spaces, in particular near shops, have been requested**

D Community: Village centre shops and eating facilities

85 comments



- Most people are very happy with the range of shops and services
- Many respondents highlighted a need for more, or better quality, restaurants or cafés
- Also need to support the shops and eating facilities in the winter months in order to keep them; perhaps loyalty cards for residents
- Varied suggestions for additional shops and services, including for fresh fish and more fresh, local food

D Community: Social amenities



67 comments

- **Included varied suggestions for new activities**
- **Village halls could be better used and the park facilities could be updated**
- **Numerical data showed that most respondents are happy with the library and village/community activities, however a high number have no strong views on other facilities**

D Community: Beach amenities

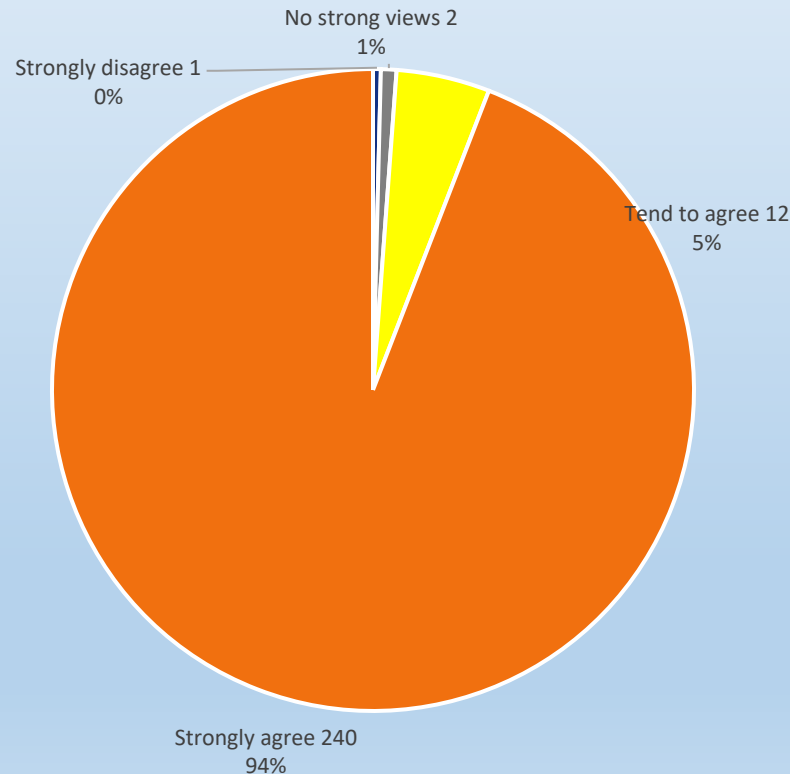
318 comments



- **158 comments specifically highlighted the need to significantly improve eating facilities at the beach area**
- **More comments were made on this one issue than any other in the survey**
- **Numerical results revealed that 58% of respondents are not satisfied with eating/drinking facilities at the beach, while 29% are satisfied**
- **Respondents who commented clearly feel very strongly that the café needs to be improved**
- **Also important to sensitively upgrade the whole beach area; including improving toilet facilities, access to the beach (including for boats), beach signage, and updating shops**
- **A number of interesting suggestions for improving parking at the beach, including a residents' parking scheme**

D Community: Medical facilities

27. Do you agree it is important that the village retains the existing medical practice?

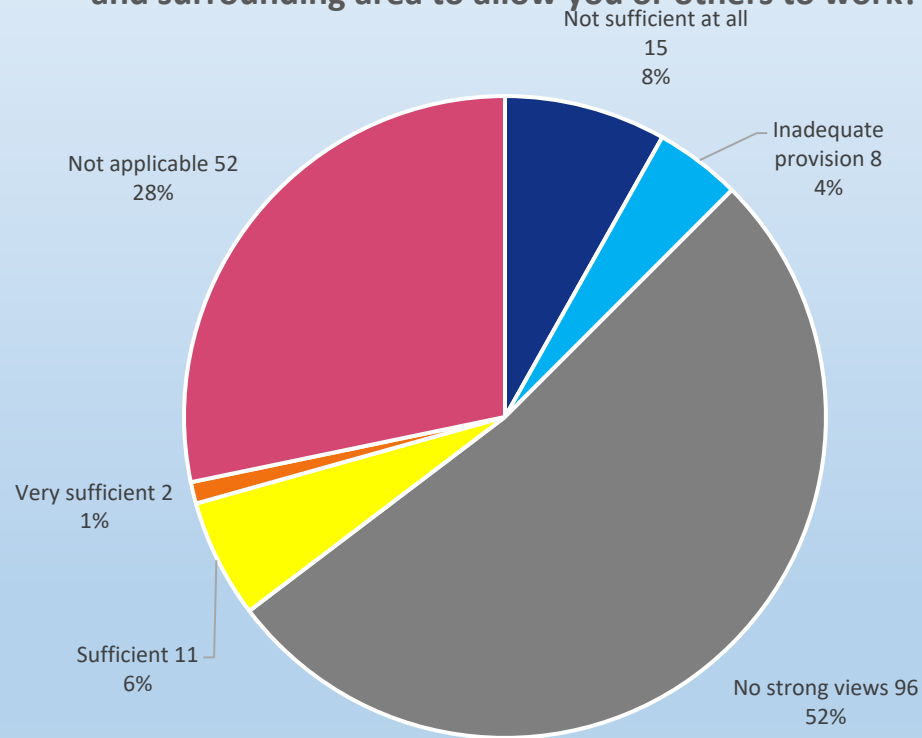


97 comments

- **Strong numerical endorsement to keep the medical practice is echoed in the comments**
- **Some constructive suggestions on how it can be improved, such as to improve the lay-out and increase the number of doctors**
- **Many requests to have a dental practice in the village again**

D Community: Childcare

28. Is there adequate childcare provision in Charmouth and surrounding area to allow you or others to work?

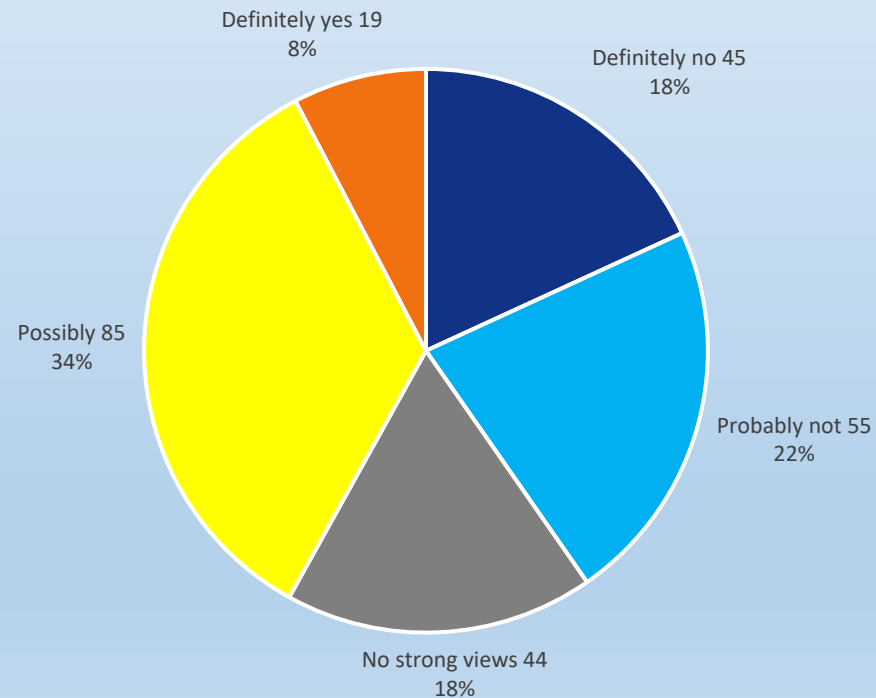


27 comments

- **Childcare is inadequate for those that need it and the cost is high for working parents**
- **A pre-school facility is needed**
- **Some venues in the village could also be used for childcare**

D Community: Council tax

29. Would you pay an additional fee on Council Tax to extend the use of existing facilities (village halls, school, playing fields, etc.) in the village to benefit the whole community



44 comments

- Marginally more said ‘Maybe, with reservations’ (21) than those who said ‘No’ (20) - echoing the numerical returns
- Some comments highlight the need for more information and greater transparency on what Council Tax is used for locally

D Community: Personal safety and crime prevention

The numerical responses indicated that:

- **95% of respondents agree the village is safe, day and night**
- **86% feel the beach is safe (while 6% disagree)**

108 comments

- **Most significant issue: 26 comments indicated that street lighting is inadequate; however in the section on Pollution, 20 commented on an excess of light**
- **More, or better, safety signage on the beach needed but recognition that the beach itself is safe if it is respected**
- **Need to improve beach safety and it was suggested to have a beach warden**

E Housing: Views on additional housing and composition of housing

69 comments



- **Housing clearly an important issue for respondents**
- **Some have raised concerns about possible negative impact of expansion on village life**
- **However, others have expressed support for expansion**
- **Some would like to prevent more holiday and 2nd homes**
- **Many respondents made positive comments about affordable housing for young families/young people**
- **Although only 16% of the people who completed the survey were in the younger age ranges of 18 - 50, nearly 75% of all respondents supported the idea of appropriate and affordable housing for young families, couples, and individuals**

E Housing: Style of housing

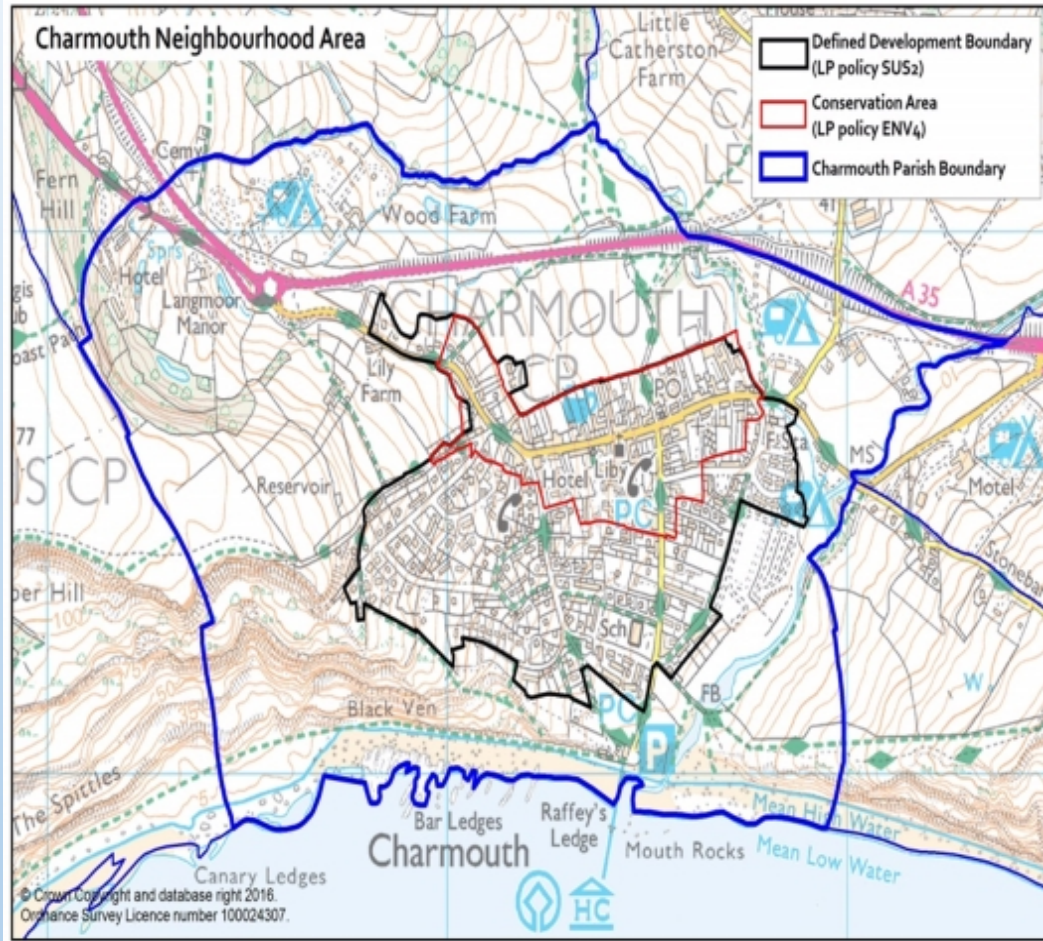


90 comments

- **Some comments were on the ‘village style’ rather than housing style and the importance of maintaining the village character**
- **However there was reasonable support for new properties to fit in/blend with existing properties; diversity was good but needed to retain the village ‘feel’**
- **Moderate support also for ‘eco’ type buildings**
- **Some suggestions on planning improvements were also made**

E Housing: Suggested location of new housing

179 comments



- A number of suggestions for the location of housing development:
 - the most popular being the area north/north east of the village, bordering onto the A35
 - also, the area east of the river on the 'market field site' was suggested by many
- Equally a number are against development in order to maintain village character and green/rural spaces
- Specific areas to be protected included greenfield sites, agricultural land, foreshore, beach areas, cliffs and recreation areas

WDDC did a call for sites for development in 2016 but there was no response

Also sites outside the development boundary were previously considered and found to be unsuitable

One of the key constraints is lack of land for development

E Housing: Second home owners and holiday lets



31 comments

- **Most of these on the negative impact of second homes on attracting young families into the village**
- **Some respondents suggest restrictions on second homes**
- **The numerical report indicated that 164 respondents (out of 243, 67%) feel we have too many second home owners (similar numbers that we should limit them)**

F Employment: Suggested location for new business space and additional types



- **78 comments for location and 33 for types**
- **Support for more creative employment, shops and eateries, IT, educational and tourist information**
- **However, no common theme on where these could be located**
- **A few specific suggestions that could be worth following up on**

3. Summary of Housing Needs Analysis

- **Affordable Housing:** HNA recommends increased provision of affordable/social rent including shared ownership/starter homes
- **What is the demand for smaller dwellings?:** Population trends and rising housing costs indicate a need for more smaller (2-3 bedroom) and affordable homes.
- **Demographic change:** Data highlights the need to ensure that an ageing population is catered for and 'Lifetime Homes' standard is encouraged for all new dwellings
- **Note - future projections:** indicate proportion of over 70's will increase over the plan period. This will exacerbate population trends. Charmouth 25-44 age group reduced by 26% between 2001 - 2011. Age groups between 20 to 49 are expected to decrease by 2031

4. Summary of meeting with West Dorset District Council

- **National Planning Policy Framework:** WDDC advised a draft of this will be available by Easter. This could impact upon Neighbourhood Plans (NHP)
- **Local Plan for West Dorset:** currently under review and will be revised but not 'made' until 2/3 years time, so unlikely to impact upon our NHP
- **Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) screening:** will be required even if there are no allocated sites for development
- **WDDC can provide limited help for our planning process**
- **Charmouth Neighbourhood planning processes:** WDDC advised on importance of ensuring transparency on the website, keeping a programme, maintaining a priority of issues, working to strategic policies of the Local Plan, maintaining a register of all consultations held

5.1 Proposed next steps 2018 and beyond

Activities	Jan 2018	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb	Mar	April
Community consultation meetings on output from Survey, Vision, Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) and general scope of Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)																
Meet with West Dorset District Council (WDDC) to discuss HNA and issues arising from the development of the NHP																
Undertake service provider interviews and map community facilities																
Review additional technical packages required and submit to Locality for funding/support e.g. housing design guidance																
Submit Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening determination to WDDC																
Write policy statements and supporting text for NHP linking to Local Plan and evidence collected																
Carry out additional studies/activities to support NHP e.g. identifying green spaces, protecting specific assets, possible call for sites? creation of maps, etc.																
Identify Projects for 'Village Improvement Projects' that should be included in NHP and discuss with Parish Council and others																
Consultation with Parish Council and community on draft plan																
Amend plan and submit to West Dorset Partnership Authority (6-8 weeks)																
Independent examination (6-8 weeks)																
Publicise and hold Referendum (25-30 days)																
Plan is Made																

Key to colours	Activities by NHP Committee	Community/Parish consultation	Submission to/from Planning Authority	Non NHP issues
-----------------------	------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	-----------------------

5.2 Next steps - call for more volunteers

- More volunteers are needed to help shape the Neighbourhood Planning process
- If you would like to get involved, please contact Sarah Edwards C/o Lisa Tuck in the Parish Council
- Or email us at charmouthernighbourhoodplan@gmail.com
- And also via our website <https://www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk>

6. Where to find information on the survey and the Neighbourhood Plan process

- Copies of the full reports are here today and will be in the Parish Council and the Library (along with the full results of the numerical analysis, the pie charts and statistics)
- They will also be available on the NHP website on:
<https://www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk>

• **THANK YOU!!**

7. Any Questions?

