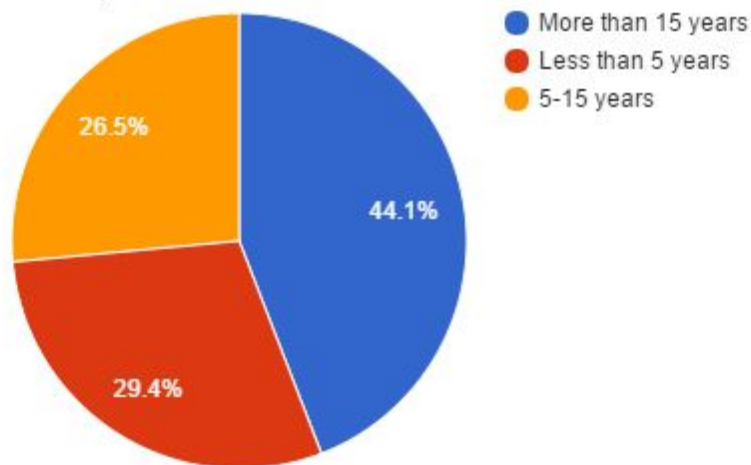


Gamlingay Neighbourhood Plan Face to Face Survey results

Who filled it in?

We had 68 responses to the Face to Face survey at the Village Show. The majority of people (44%) who talked to us have lived in the Parish more than 15 years, with roughly the same number having lived here 5-15 years (27%) and less than 5 years (29%).

How long have you lived in Gamlingay (including the Cinques, Little Heath and the Heath)?



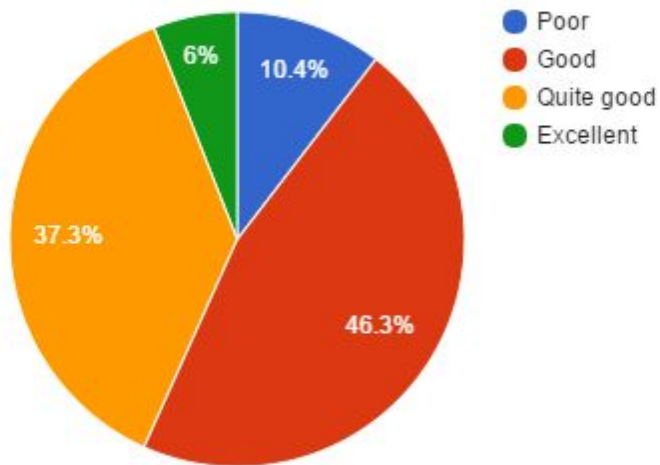
How do you rate Gamlingay and how should we develop its infrastructure?

We asked residents to rate Gamlingay's facilities on scale of Excellent, Good, Quite Good and Poor. We also asked residents if we would need more of the same facilities with or without new housing being built in the Parish.

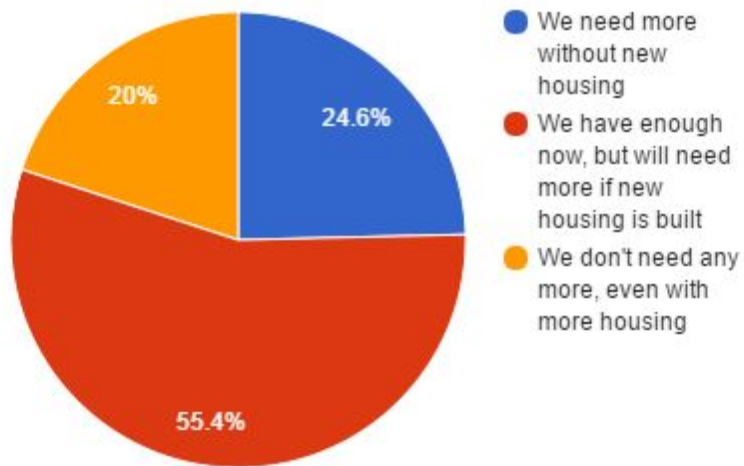
Local shops and services

The majority of residents think that Gamlingay's shops are good or quite good. 6% think the shops are excellent, but at the other end of the scale 10% think our shops are poor. 25% of people think we need more shops and 55% think we will need more shops when new houses are built and people move to the village.

How do you rate Gamlingay's shops?



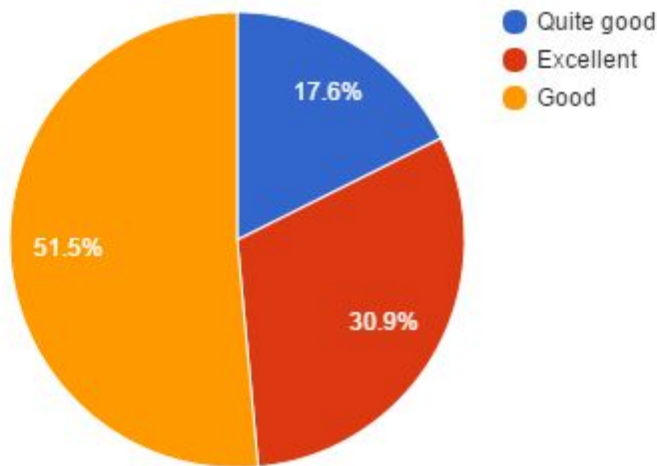
How should we develop Gamlingay's local shops?



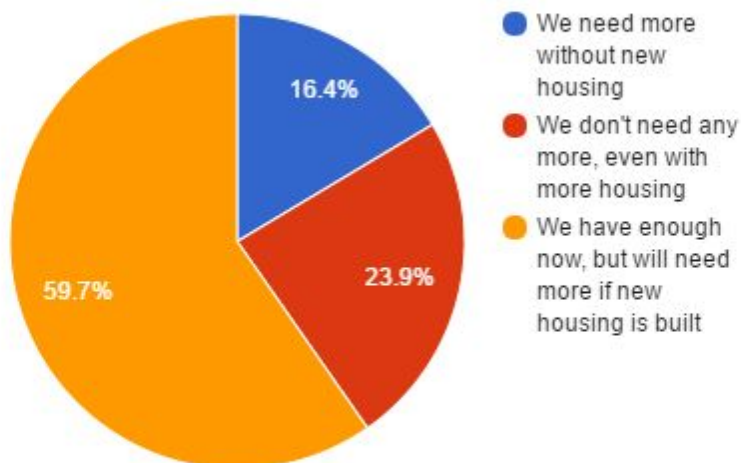
Community facilities

Gamlingay's community facilities scored well. 83% of people rated them good or excellent. 60% of residents think that we have enough facilities now, but will need more if new housing is built. Although almost a quarter of those asked (24%) say that we don't need any more even if new housing is built.

How do you rate Gamlingay's community facilities?



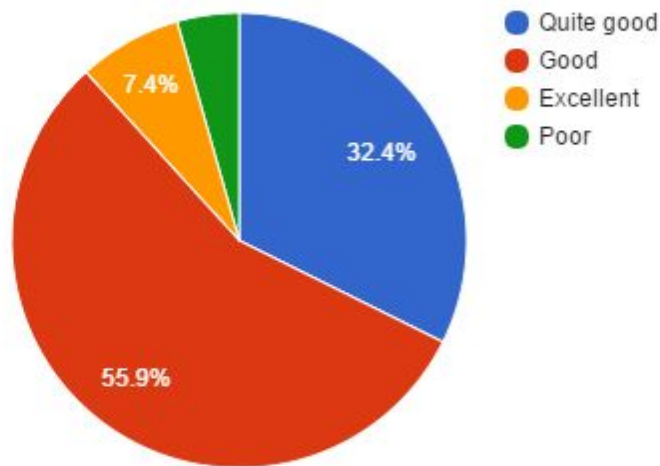
How should we develop Gamlingay's community facilities?



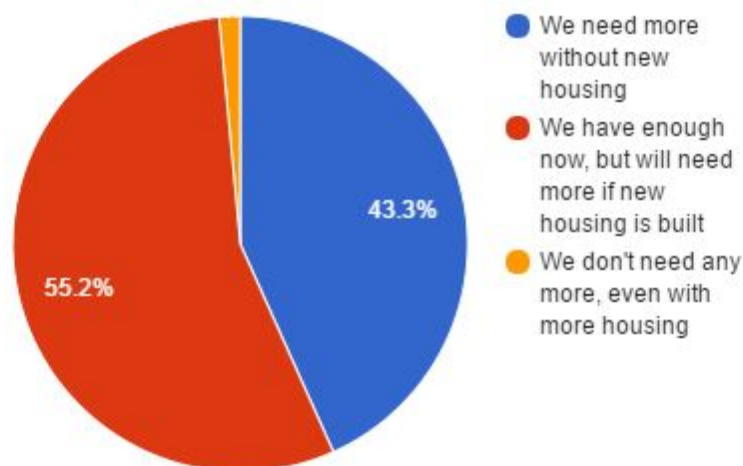
Health services

Most people think that the health services in the Parish are good (56%) or quite good (32%). Nevertheless, the general view is also that we need more - 55% of people say we will need more health services if new housing is built and a substantial 43% think we need more health services even without new families moving to the village. Among the comments we received were the observations that we don't have a dentist in the Parish and that Greensands' Surgery caters to people living outside the Parish too (e.g. in Hatley or the Gransdens).

How do you rate Gamlingay's health facilities (doctors, dentists)?



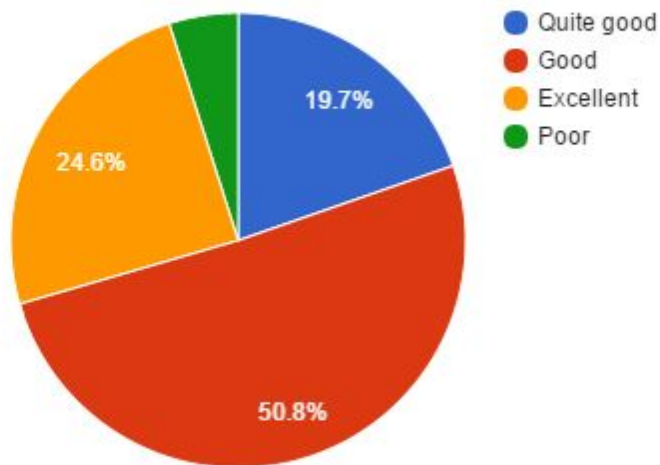
How should we develop Gamlingay's health facilities (doctors, dentists)?



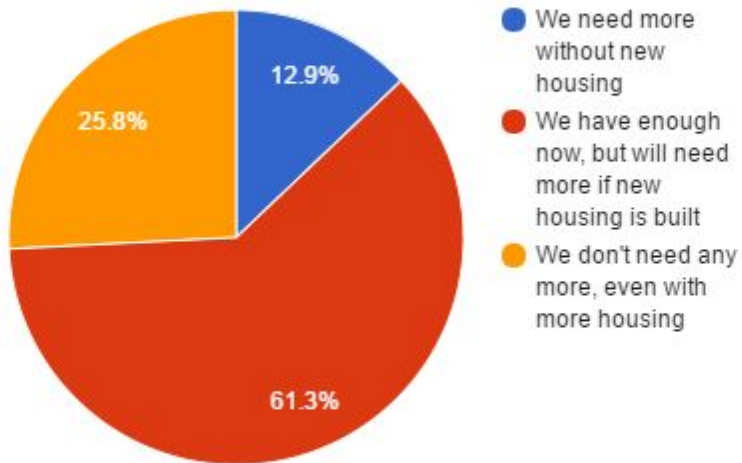
Local schools

It is an understatement to say that this is a controversial issue in Gamlingay. The Face to Face survey asked these questions on the basis that education is an important service and if new people move to the village educational needs may change. The Neighbourhood Plan can identify that need and safeguard sites - but it cannot influence the provision of education in Gamlingay. The future of the First School and the Village College have been decided already through the appropriate channels. With that caveat in place, the results show that three quarters of residents think the schools in Gamlingay are good or excellent. Almost two thirds of respondents agree that more school places may be needed if new housing is built and the number of young families in the village increases. In light of the decision above, the Neighbourhood Plan could identify the need for expansion of the First School. Given that we would be moving from two schools to one, we would also need to make the link with protecting the vacated school site and the need identified below to provide more parks and play areas as the village grows.

How do you rate Gamlingay's schools?



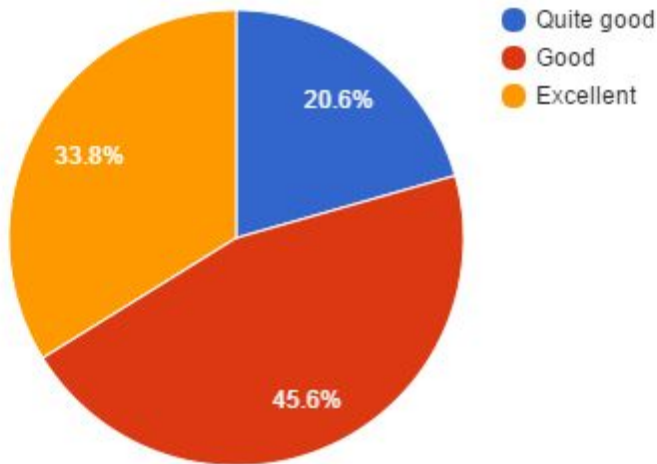
How should we develop Gamlingay's local schools?



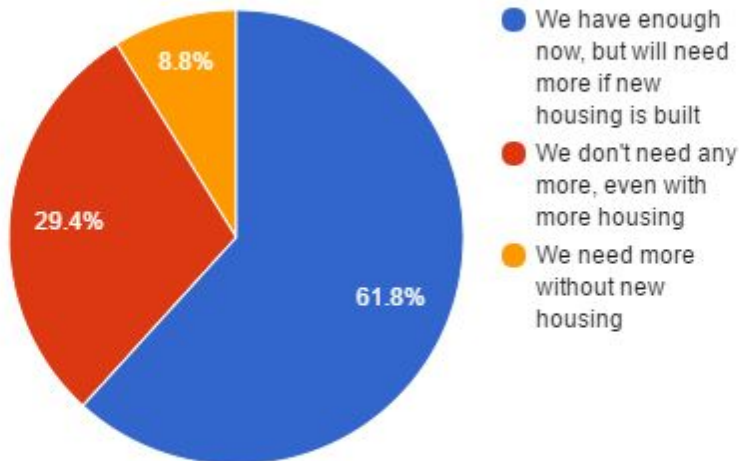
Parks and play areas

The majority of people (79%) agreed that Gamlingay's parks and play areas are good or excellent. However, almost two thirds think that we will need more green spaces if new housing is built. 9% feel that we need more without new housing being built.

How do you rate Gamlingay's parks and play areas



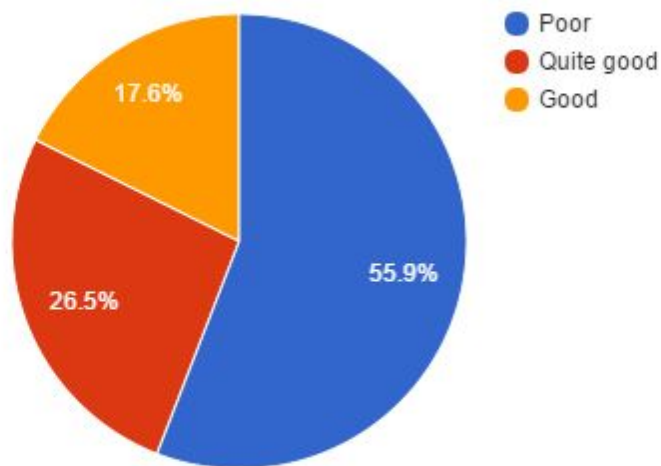
How should we develop Gamlingay's parks and play areas?



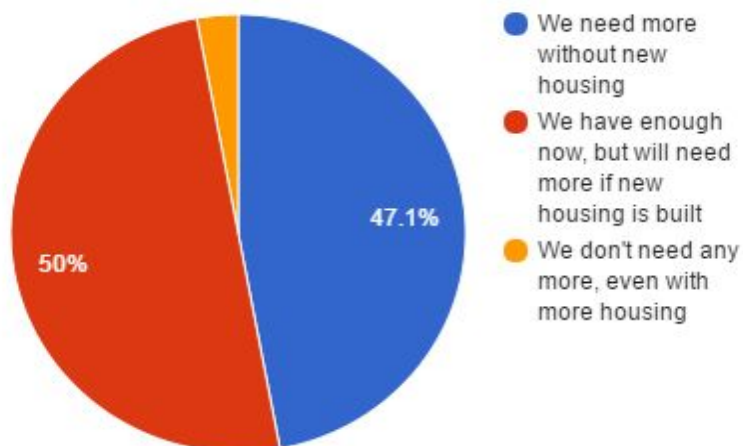
Traffic, parking and road capacity

Over half (56%) of respondents think that traffic is poor in Gamlingay. Even so, 27% think it is quite good and 18% think it is good. This may reflect the time of day and parts of village that people live in and are travelling through. Closely related to traffic are the number of cars parked on the village's roads - especially on Church Street! When asked how future parking should be accommodated, half of the people questioned think that we have enough parking now, but we will need more if new houses are built in the village. This was followed closely by 47% of people who think that we need more space to park cars now - an almost equal split. A majority of people think we need more road space now (45%) or when new housing is built (29%). 26% of people think we have enough road capacity now.

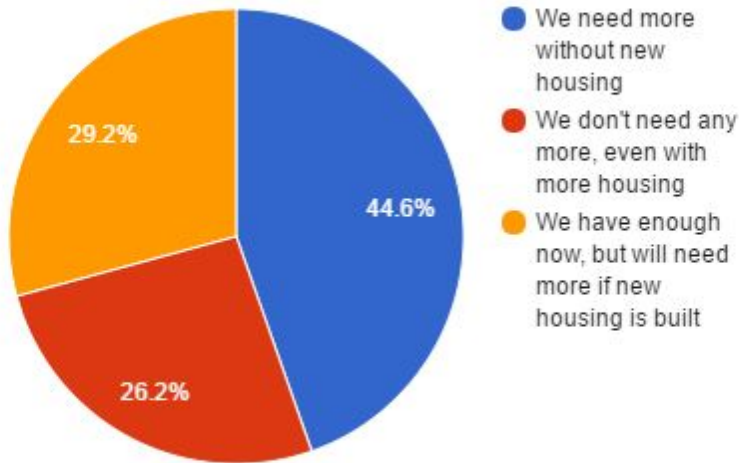
How do you rate traffic in Gamlingay?



How should we develop parking in Gamlingay?



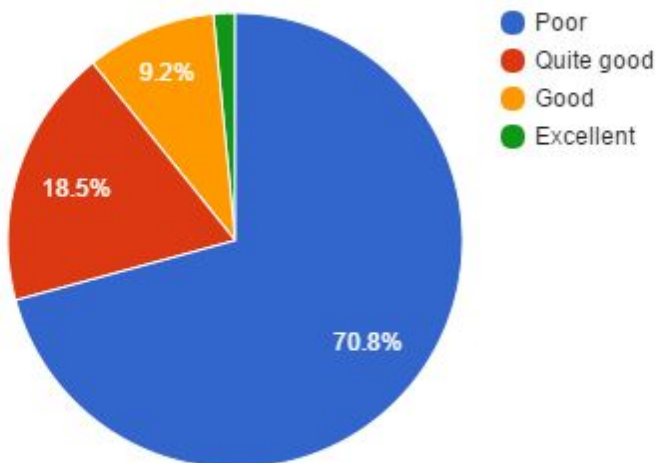
Should we develop Gamlingay's road capacity?



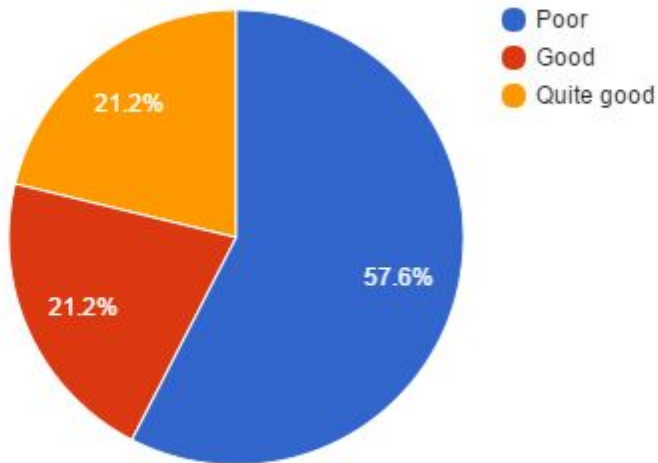
Public transport

A substantial 71% of those asked thought bus connections to and from Gamlingay are poor. 19% think they are quite good and 9% good. If you rely on a bus to catch a train you may agree with the 58% of people asked who think train connections are poor too. The 42% of people who think train connections are good or quite good may well have access to a car. 68% of people think we need better bus services now. The remainder think that bus services need to improve if more people move to the village.

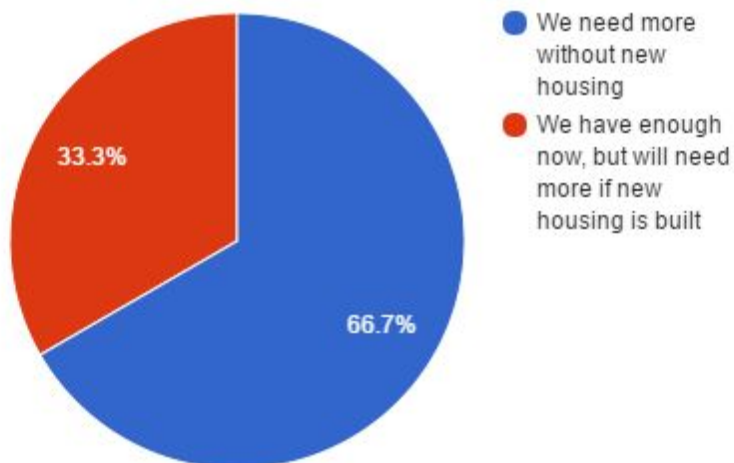
How do you rate bus connections in Gamlingay?



How do you rate train connections from Gamlingay?



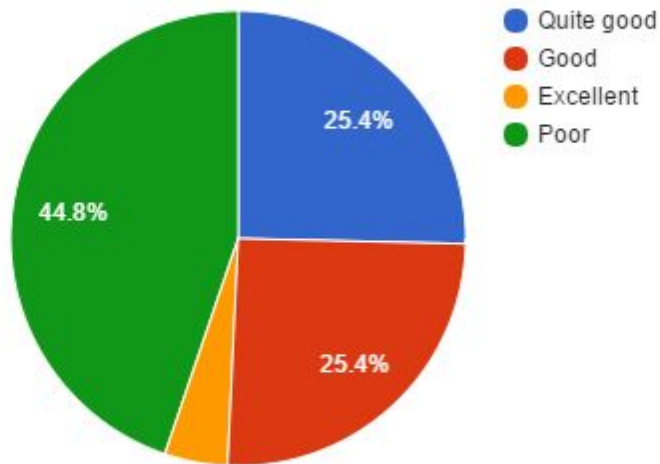
How should we develop bus/minibus services in Gamlingay?



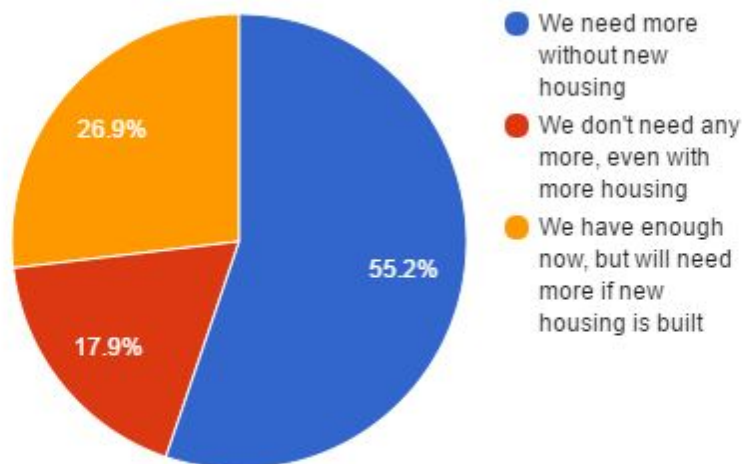
Mobile and broadband communications

The majority of people (45%) think that broadband and mobile reception in Gamlingay is poor. Just over half think it is quite good or good (51% total). 55% want to see better broadband regardless even if no new housing is built compared to 65% who say we need better mobile reception.

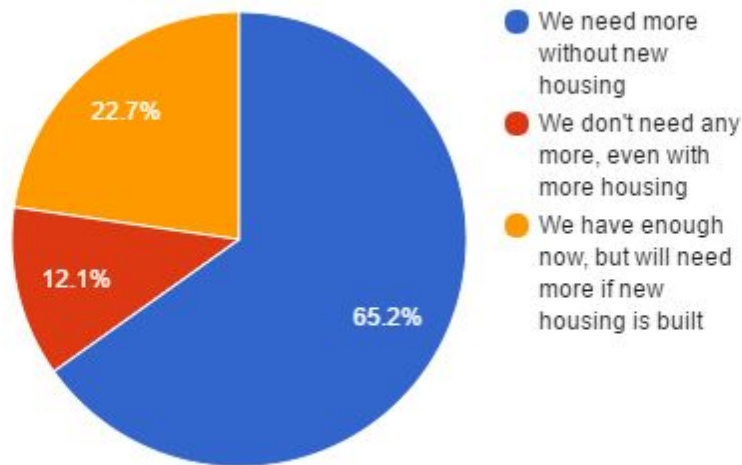
How do you rate mobile/broadband communications in Gamlingay?



Do we need better broadband in Gamlingay?



Do we need better mobile reception in Gamlingay?

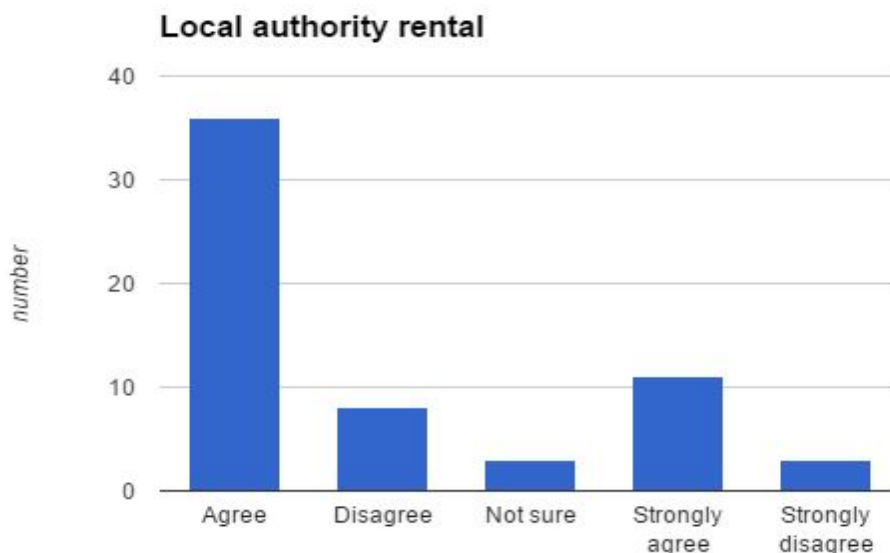


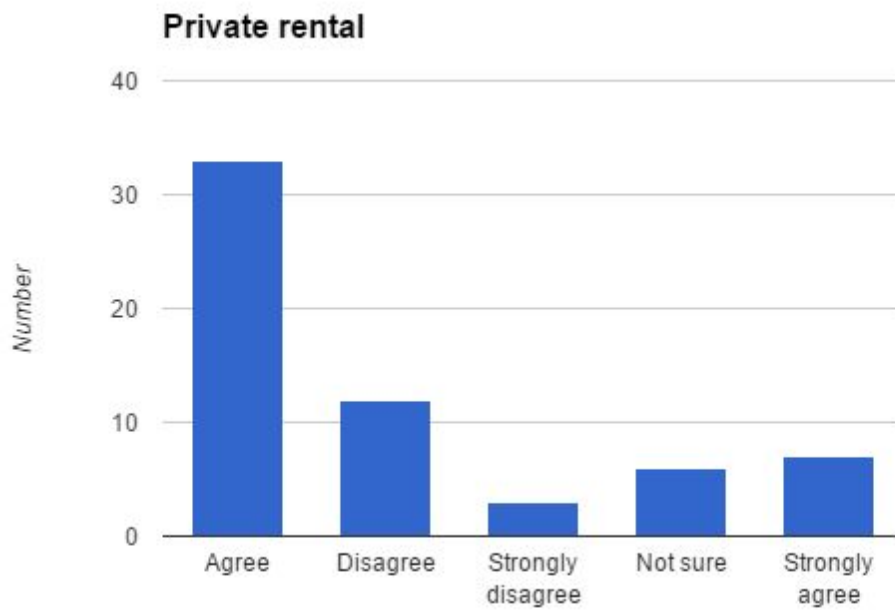
Housing types

The following question looked at the type of housing residents think we need if/when new houses are built. A range of housing types were proposed and respondents were asked to say how strongly they agreed or disagreed with the proposal - and were given the option to say if they were not sure.

Rented housing

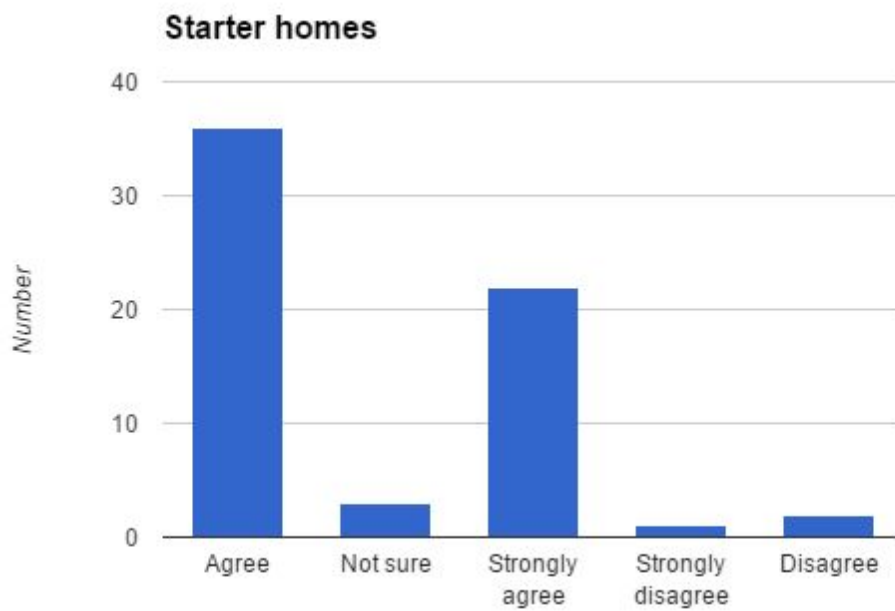
People agree and strongly agree with the need for affordable homes in the Parish. Local authority or housing association rental is preferred over private rental, but both receive support.

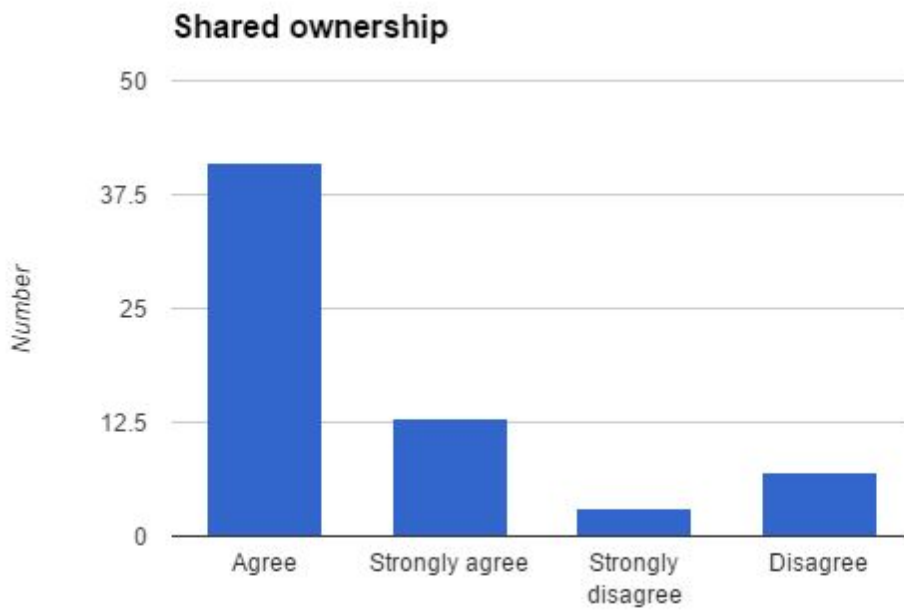




Affordable homes

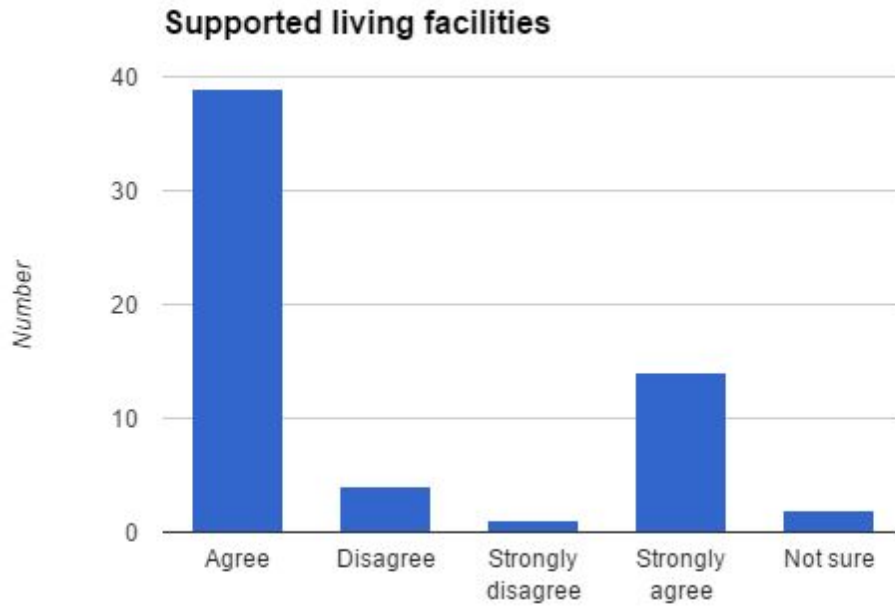
The majority of people asked agree and strongly agree with the need for starter homes, followed closely by shared ownership.





Supported living facilities

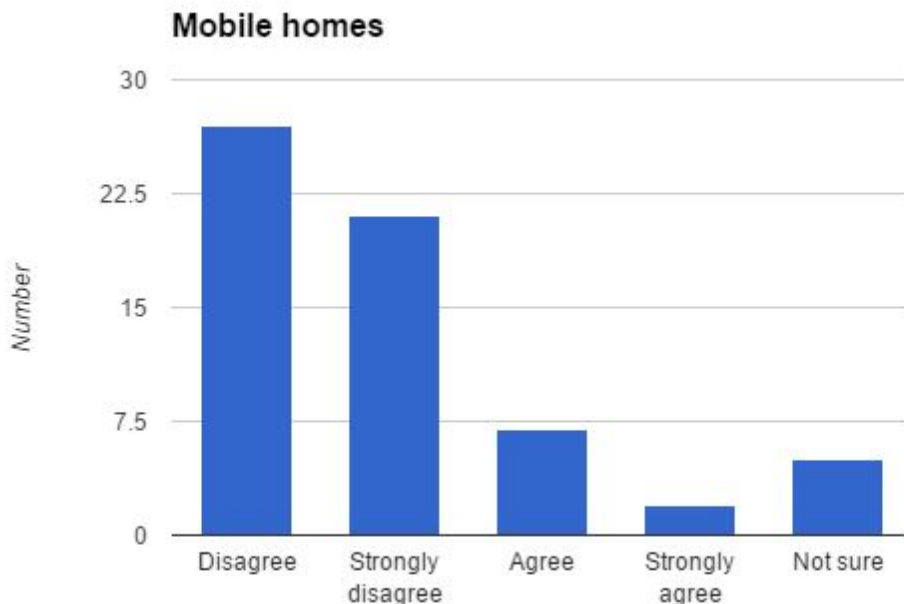
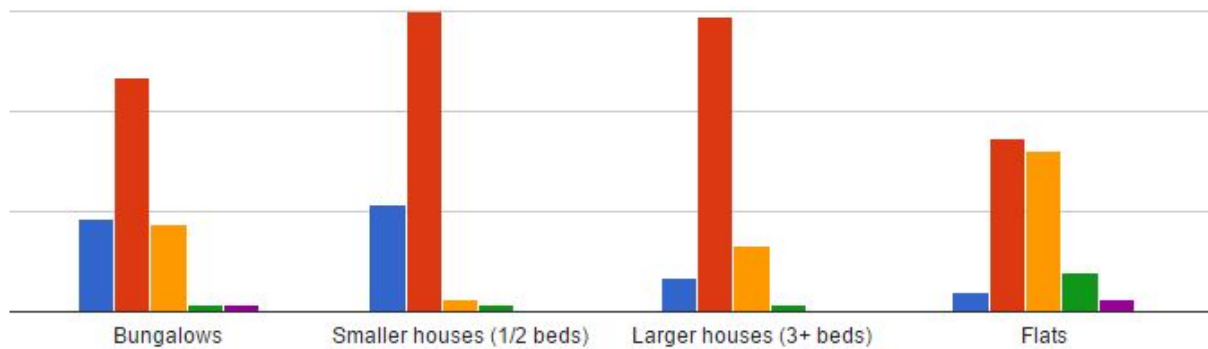
There is also strong agreement for supported living facilities in Gamlingay.



What size/type of housing?

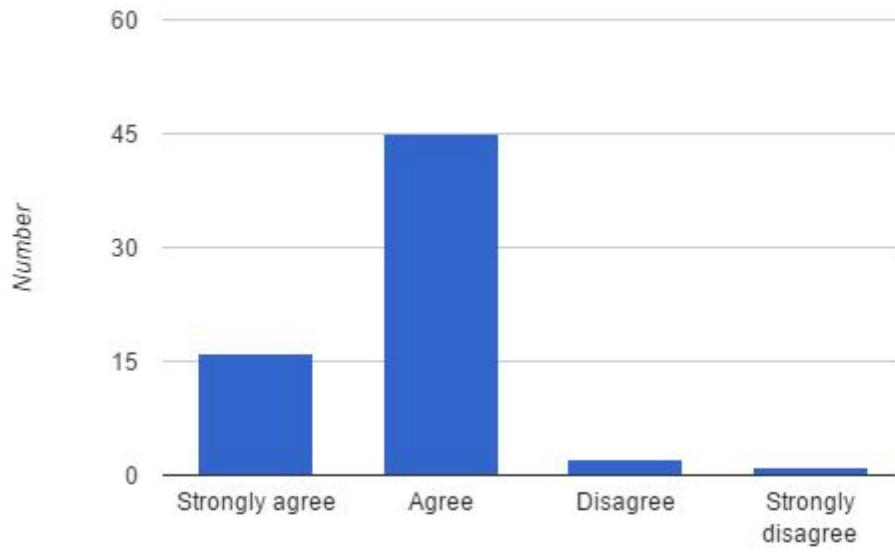
The screenshot below shows some of the results side by side (unfortunately reproducing this using Google Sheets proved too much of a challenge!) and reveals that size of homes people want in order of preference (blue = strongly agree, red = agree, yellow = disagree, green = strongly disagree and purple = not sure). Top of the list is smaller homes, followed by larger houses, bungalows and flats. In this grouping flats were the least popular; almost an equal number of people agree and disagree - but the number of people who strongly disagreed is greater than those who strongly agree. We also asked about mobile homes because there are quite a few already in the Parish. These were the least popular type of house.

The bar charts below give the results for each housing type.

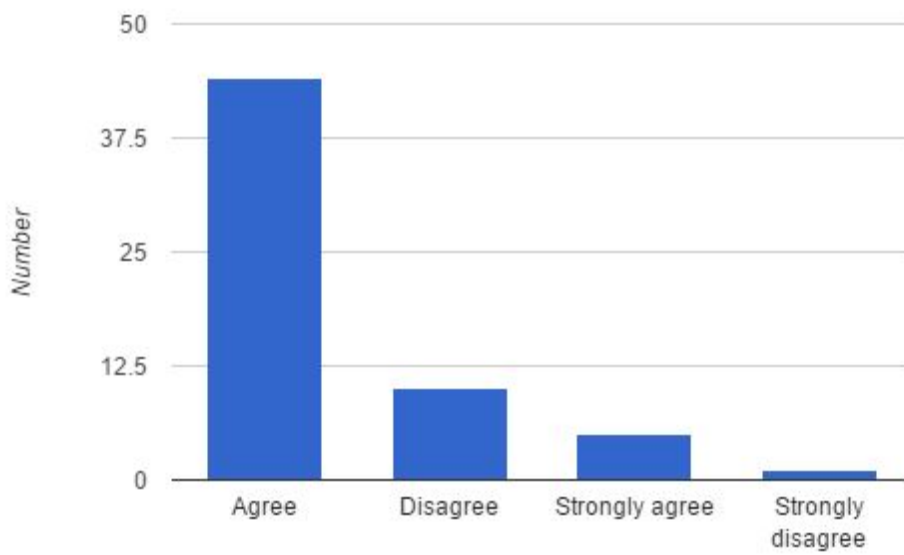


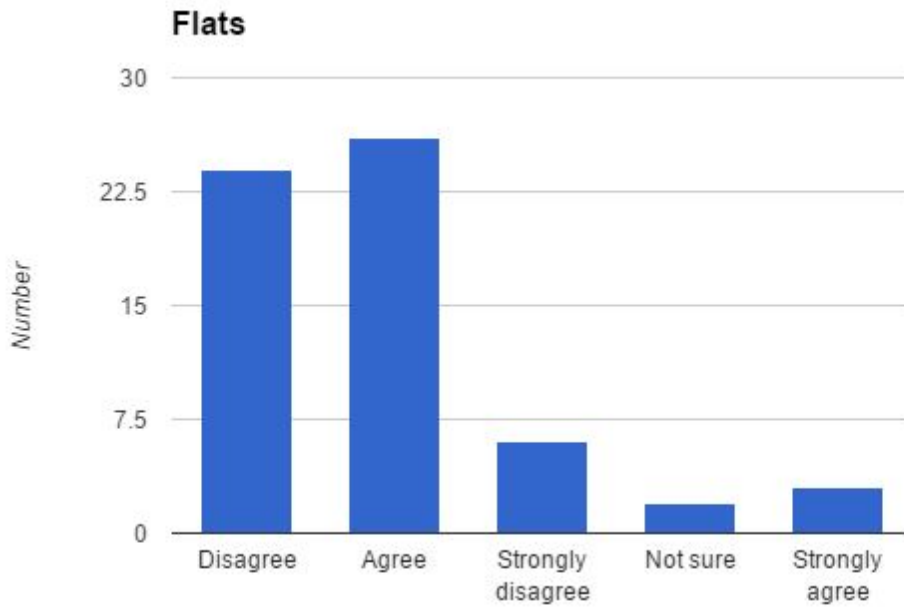
The majority of people disagree or strongly disagree with building more mobile homes in the Parish.

Smaller houses 1/2 bedrooms



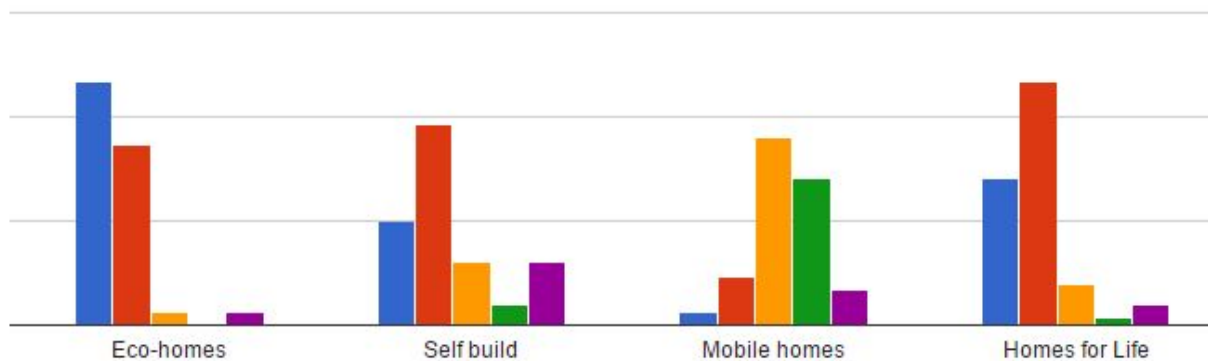
Larger houses 3+ bedrooms





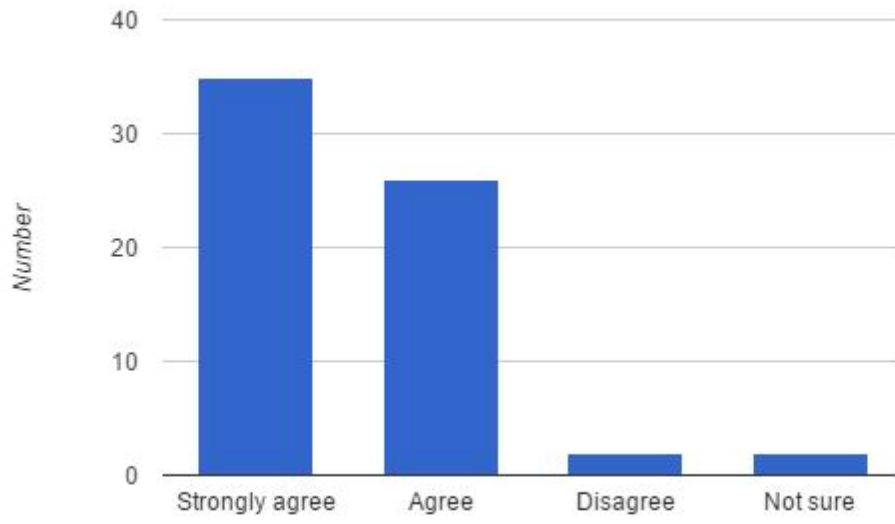
Housing standards and self build

With the exception of the mobile homes, the charts below show what people at the Village Show thought of housing standards. There was very strong support for mobile homes and for Homes for Life (houses that can be adapted to changing needs across their lifetime). Self build had the greatest number of 'not sure' responses, but still proved popular. The following charts give the individual responses for each.

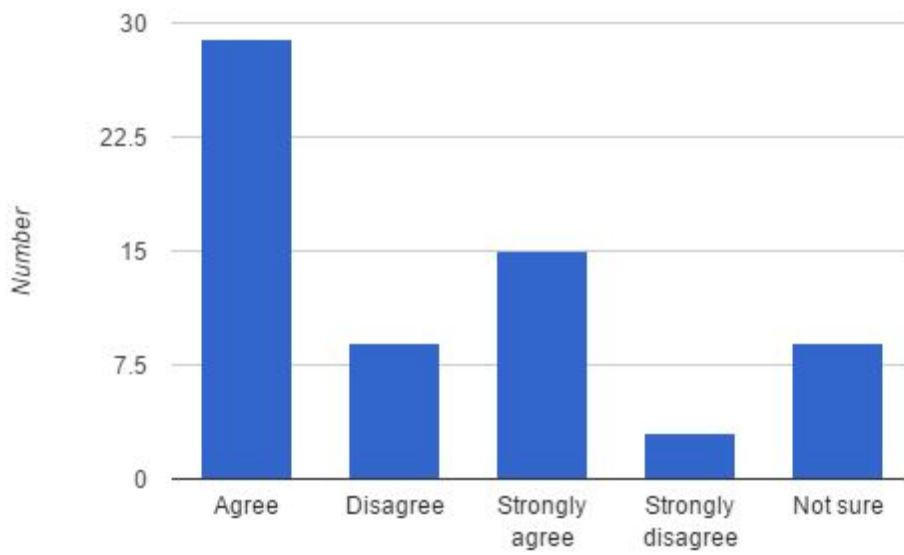


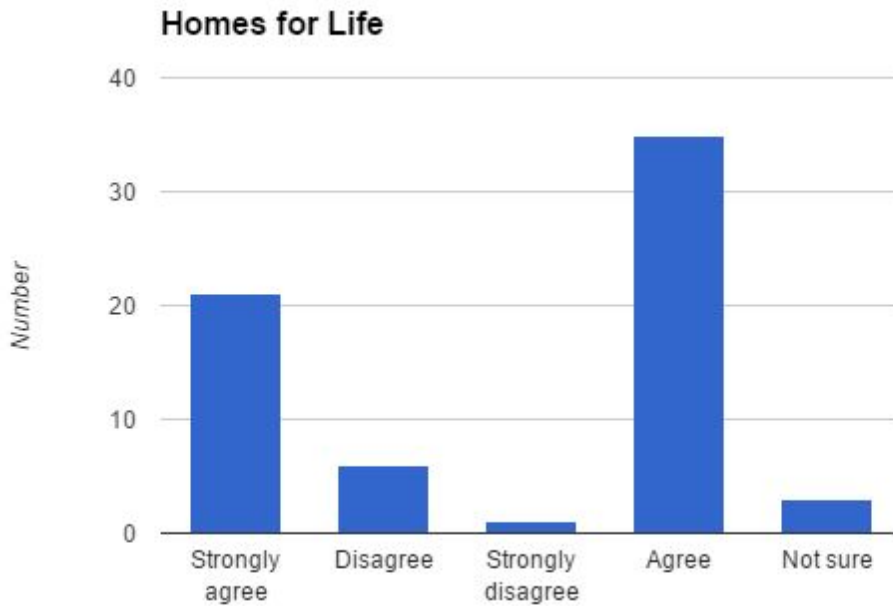
Blue = strongly agree, red = agree, yellow = disagree, green = strongly disagree, purple = not sure

Eco-homes



Self build

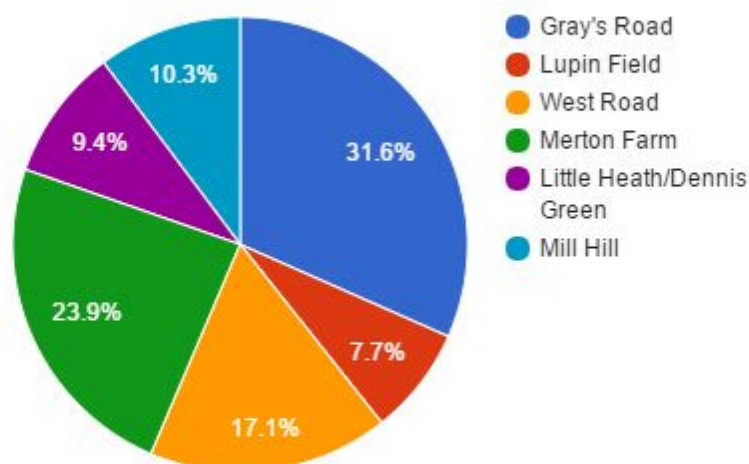




Housing sites

In the past year 6 proposed housing development sites have been put before the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. We asked people at the Village Show to rank them in order of preference. Gray's Road (near Gamlingay Wood) and Merton Farm are the two most popular sites. The Neighbourhood Plan might not actually designate sites for development because this requires the use of an appropriate appraisal process which may be beyond our ability to deliver. But knowing people's preference provides useful information for the Plan anyway.

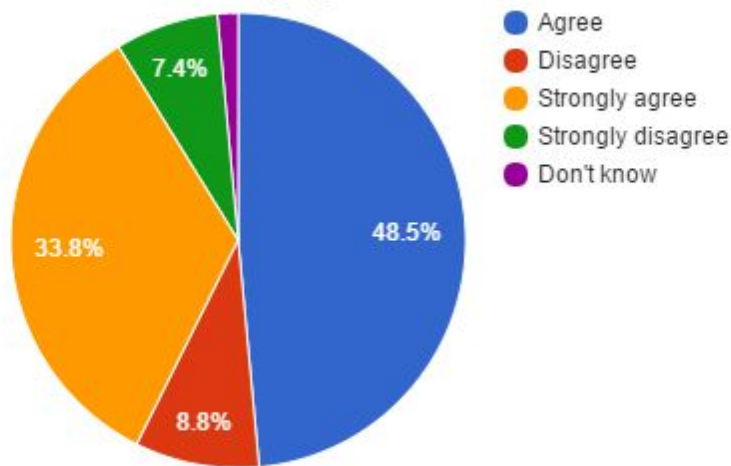
Future housing development in order of preference



Setting aside land for employment

We asked people whether or not they supported setting land aside for local employment. This is important because the alternative is that Gamlingay becomes a dormitory village where everyone commutes to work outside the village. It would also have an impact, for example, on the Parish's ability to keep its local fire station because in cases of emergency retained firefighters have to be able to reach the station within five minutes of receiving the alert. Encouragingly, 82% of people agree (48%) or strongly agree (34%) that the Neighbourhood Plan should set aside land for employment.

Thinking about employment in Gamlingay over the next 20 years, do you believe we should set land aside for employment?



Environmental issues

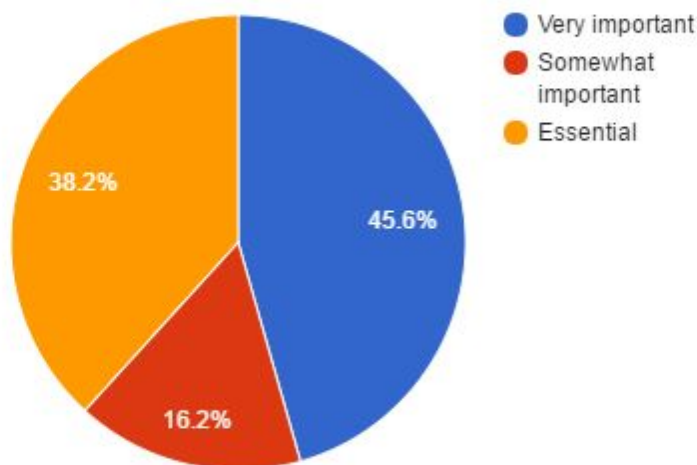
The last section of the Face to Face survey asked respondents to rate the importance of environmental issues in the Parish.

Green spaces

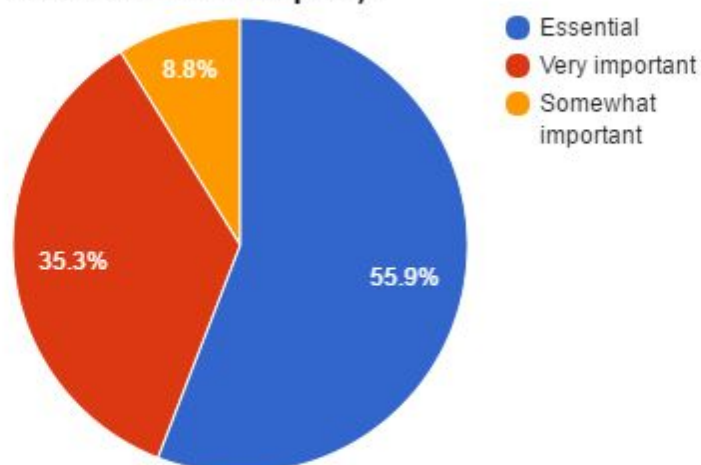
The future development of the village and wider Parish offers both opportunities and threats. There are opportunities to secure developer contributions, for example, to add to green spaces in the village. 84% of the people asked think it is essential (38%) or very important (46%) to keep and add to green spaces in the village.

Unfortunately, building more houses poses a threat to the open countryside around the village and risks changing the character of the village. This is something that people realise - 56% think it is essential to protect the open countryside around the village and 35% say it is very important (total 91%).

How important is keeping and adding to green spaces in the village?



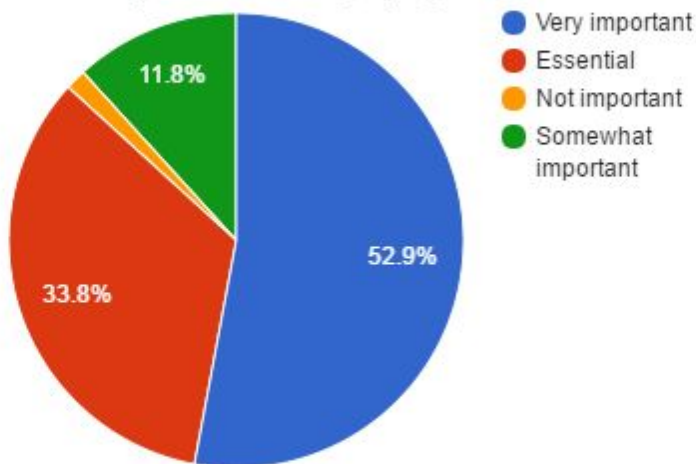
How important is protecting the open countryside around the village (e.g. between the Heath and the Cinques)?



Investing in footpaths, cycleways and bridleways

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Gamlingay Environment Action Group are interested in making Gamlingay village and the wider Parish a safer place to walk, cycle and ride a horse. We asked for people's opinions on the use of developer contributions to improve footpaths, cycleways and bridleways inside the village and further afield (e.g. to Potton). In general the preference is to invest in improving infrastructure in the village - 34% think it essential and 53% very important - compared to outside the village. But, there is still strong support for investment in improving links for walking, cycling and riding further afield; 25% say it is essential and 43% that it is very important (the remainder say it is 'somewhat important'.

How important is that new housing should provide and support footpaths, cycleways and bridleways in the village (e.g. to the Farm Sho...



How important is it that new housing should provide and support footpaths, cycleways and bridleways outside the village (e.g. to Potton)?

