

# **Suckley Parish Survey 2012 – The results**

This document provides the output from the recent Parish Survey. Both it and the raw data from which it has been generated will be made available online on the Parish Council website in the section marked “Consultation Papers”. Follow the link to Suckley from:  
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish/>

A hardcopy version of this document will be placed in the noticeboard at Suckley Post Office until November 15<sup>th</sup>. Individuals may also obtain a hardcopy on request to the Parish Clerk, Mrs Diana Taylor. Requestors MUST provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the request. Mrs Taylor’s contact details are shown in both the Suckley Newsletter and The Sphere parochial magazine.

The purpose of the survey was to provide input to the Community Plan, a required document for any future applications for external funding by either the Parish Council or other organisations such as local clubs or facilities. The results will also inform any allocation of funds made available to the Parish Council.

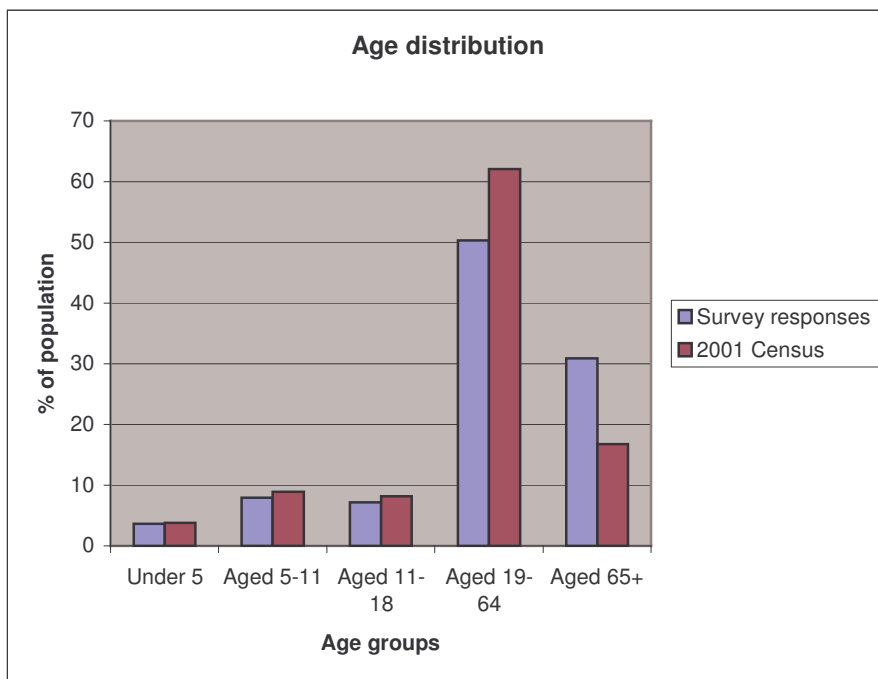
The results are documented in the following sections:

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The Parish Council’s interpretation of the results will be provided in a separate document which will be made available in the same ways as this one. Both results and interpretation will be presented at a public meeting , the date of which will be announced using The Sphere, Suckley Newsletter, the Parish Council website and by notice at Suckley Post Office.

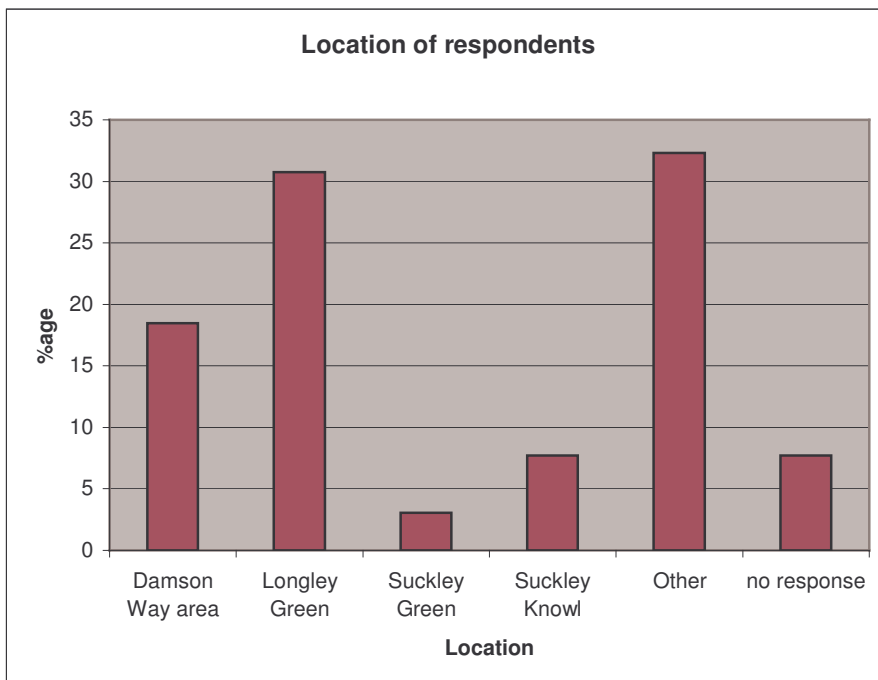
## 1) Forms completed, demographics & location of respondents

280 forms were issued. Every household in Suckley Parish received one, plus around 50 premises just over the boundary (e.g. on the Herefordshire side of Birchwood Lane). 65 forms were returned (23%) of which 63 provided demographic information about the household. From those forms, the age profiles of respondents were as shown in the table below.



The 2001 census is the latest information available at parish level: that for the 2011 census will not be available until late 2013 at which point the representation data will be rechecked.

Respondents' gave their locations as shown in the following table:



## **2) Importance of Facilities & Services (questions 4/5)**

Question 4 asked respondents to rate the relative importance of facilities. Question 5 to similarly rate the usefulness of services available in the Parish. Ratings for individual items are shown in Appendices 1 & 2, but summary tables are provided here for ease of comparison. Firstly, the percentage of households who rated a facility “vital” or a service “very useful”.

	%age of households rating item vital or very useful	%age of households with under 18s rating item vital or very useful	%age of households with over 65s rating item vital or very useful
PO & Shop	72	69	62
Suckley Newsletter	45	46	59
Footpaths	38	46	34
Village Pubs	37	38	34
Good Neighbour Scheme	35	31	48
The Sphere	35	31	34
Village Hall	29	23	28
School	29	54	31
Bottle Banks	25	38	28
Church	20	23	28
Village Map	18	0	24
Mobile Library	17	8	31
Pre-school	12	38	7
Local Societies	11	8	10
Playing Fields	9	15	14
Other Facilities	6	0	7
Other Services	2	0	0

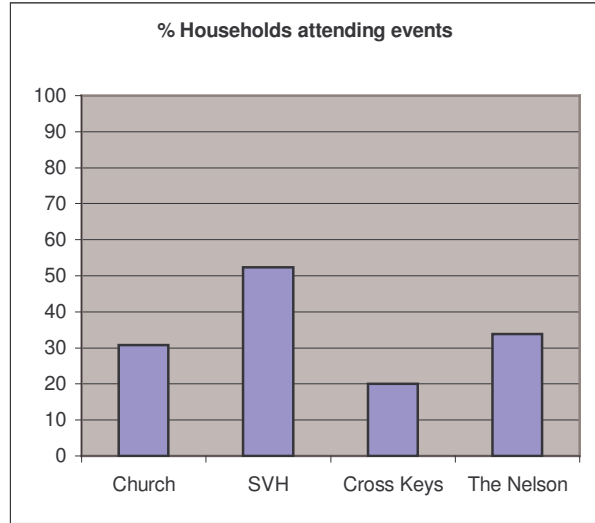
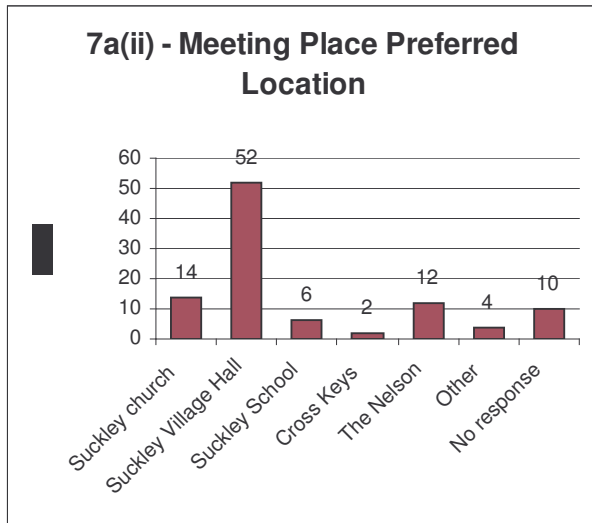
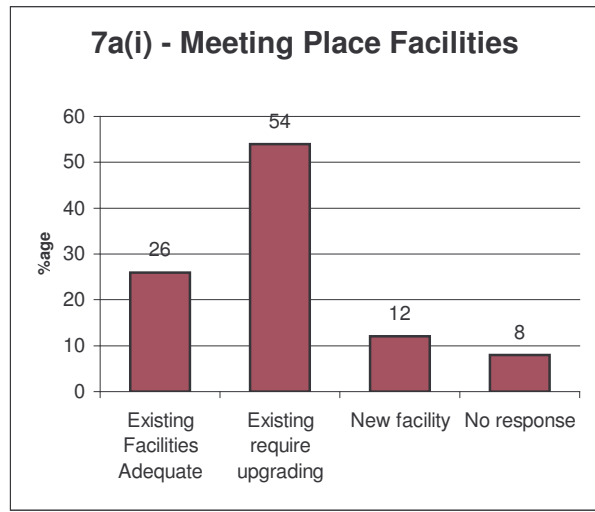
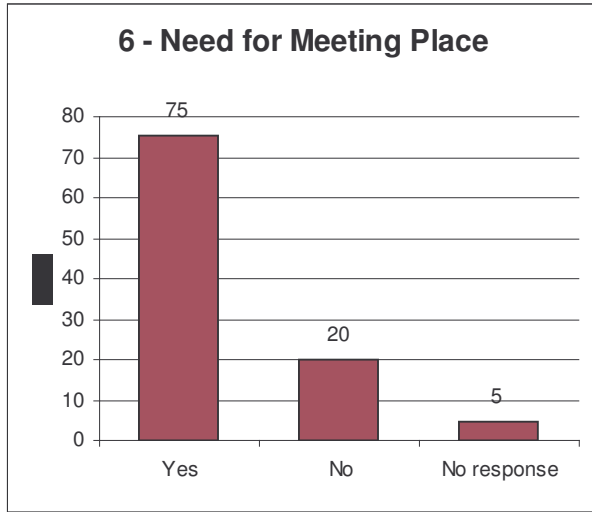
The following table shows the results when criteria are broadened to both “vital” & “important” (question 4) and “very useful” & “useful” (question 5):

	%age of households rating item vital/ important or very useful/ useful	%age of households with under 18s rating item vital/ important or very useful/ useful	%age of households with over 65s rating item vital/ important or very useful/ useful
Suckley Newsletter	98	100	100
PO & Shop	97	100	97
The Sphere	88	92	86
Footpaths	86	92	86
Village Hall	82	77	83
Village Pubs	82	92	72
Bottle Banks	82	77	90
Good Neighbour Scheme	77	69	86
Local Societies	71	77	79
Church	68	77	66
Playing Fields	63	85	62
Village Map	58	69	59
Mobile Library	57	62	66
School	54	85	55
Pre-school	38	69	45
Other Facilities	6	0	7
Other Services	2	0	0

**3) Public Meeting Place – Need, location & type**

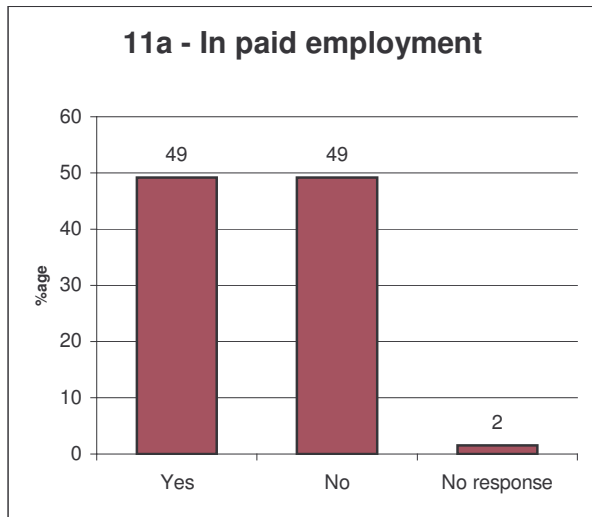
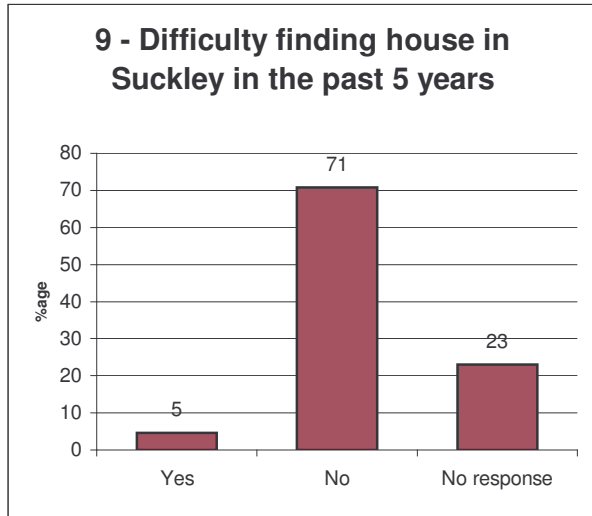
Questions 6-8 requested respondents views on the need for a public meeting place in Suckley and (if yes) where it should be and what sort of facility was required. Those answering “no” to the need for a public meeting place were asked to state why they did not believe one was required. Finally, question 8 asked respondents to state whether they had attended an event at various village social locations during the previous 6 months:

The tables below show the results to the various questions:

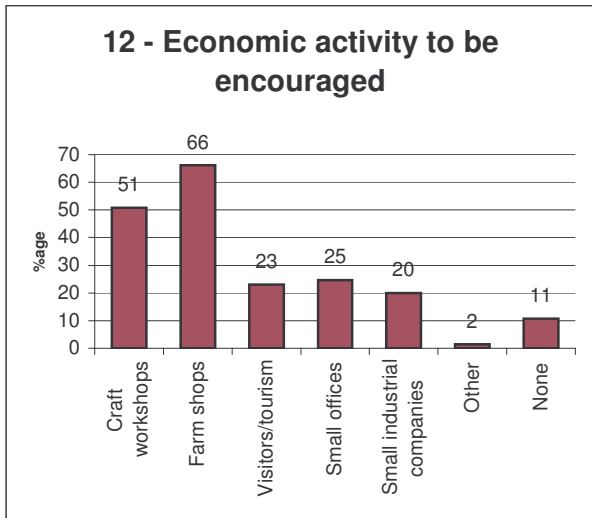


#### 4) Housing, Employment & Shopping

Questions 9/10 concerned availability of housing in the parish and the perceived need for more. Questions 11-13 asked for details of household employment status, where those employed worked and where households shopped. The results were as follows:



Respondents answers to “other” places of employment were all different and varied in distance from Martley to London, the majority being 20 miles or more from Suckley.



Only one “other” economic activity was suggested: a garden centre. Two other shopping locations were identified: Bromyard (4 households) and Kidderminster (1 household).

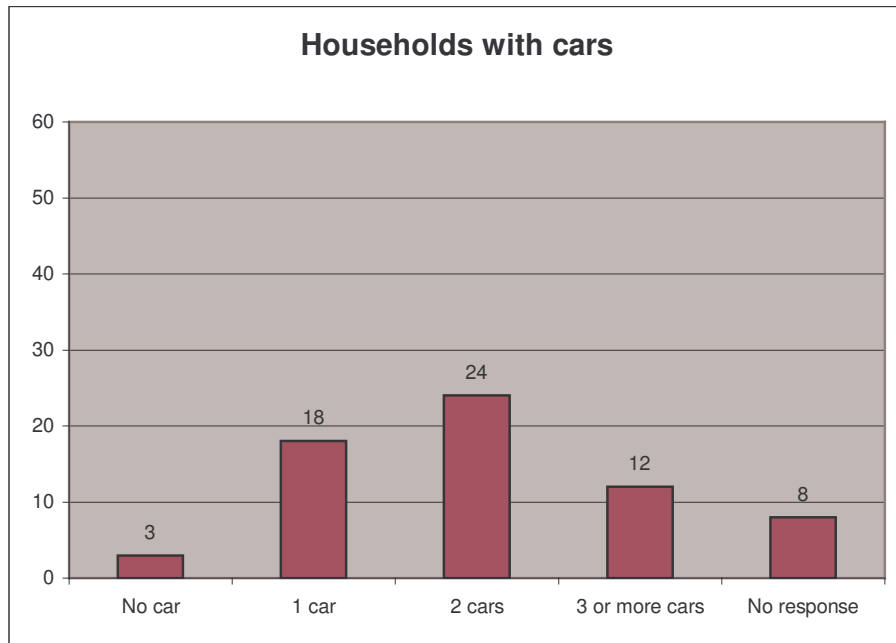
Question 13 specifically requested respondents tick one box only, but several ticked more than one. Where more than one box was ticked, a “no response” was recorded.

## 5) Cars & Public Transport

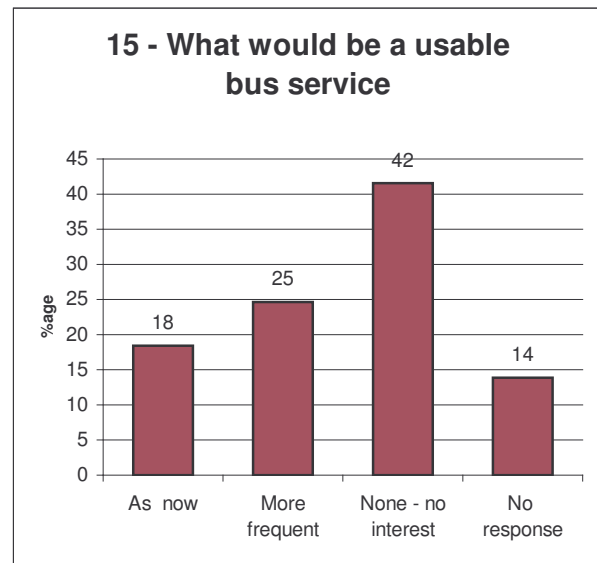
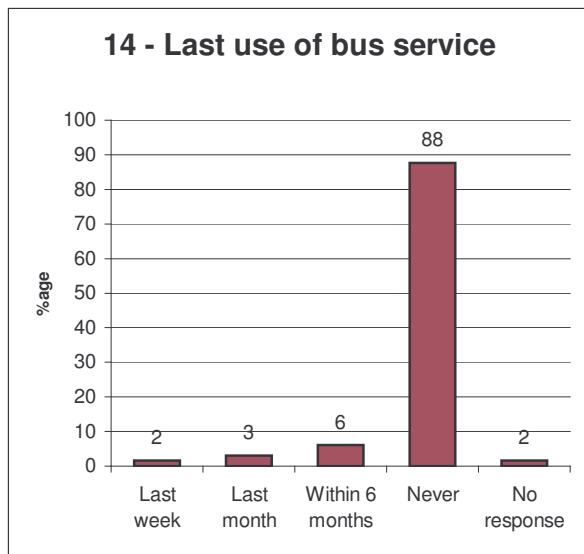
Of the 65 households responding to question 3, 57 gave information about the number of cars available to their household. The total number of cars reported available was 103, against an over-18 population for the same households of 101 or a total population (all ages) of 139.

The households reporting no car available to them represented 4 adults from 101 or 4% of the adult population.

The table shows the distribution of cars by household reported:



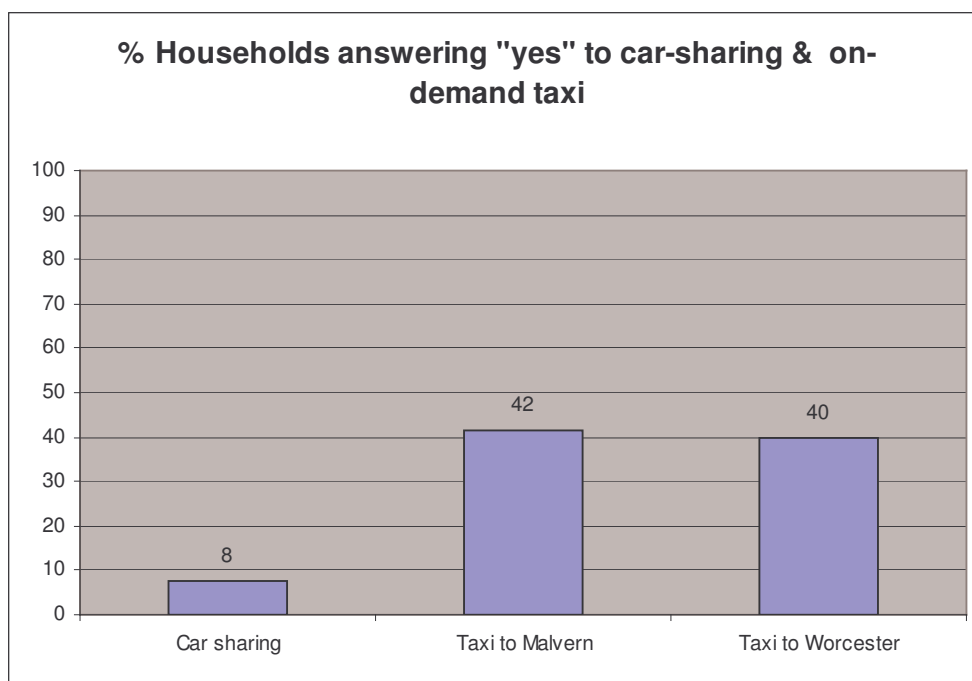
Questions 14 & 15 requested details of use of the existing bus services (3-5 per day to Worcester and 1 per week to Malvern) and what service would be required to make it usable/useful to respondents.



Where a more frequent service than now was selected, respondents were asked to supply a desired frequency. The responses received were:

- Hourly (destination unspecified) – 2 households
- Hourly to Malvern – 1
- 6-10 buses per day (destination unspecified) – 2
- Every 2 hours
- 2 each way for am, back for pm
- Better timings evening & late afternoon
- More direct to Malvern & Worcester
- To Worcester to service school terms
- Bus to Bromyard
- Maybe smaller, more frequent

Questions 16 & 17 asked if alternatives to the bus services would be of interest. The following table shows the percentages of households which answered “yes” to each item suggested.





## **6) Provision of Council Tax Support**

Question 18 asked “should money be provided from your Parish Council tax to assist, improve these facilities/services?”. The table shows the percentage of households which answered \*yes” for each item. Facilities or services that currently receive support from Suckley Parish’s portion of the annual council tax bill are shown **bold**.

	%age all households "yes"	%age households with under-18s "yes"	%age households with over-65s "yes"
Question 18 - Parish council tax support			
<b>PO &amp; shop</b>	69	62	76
Footpaths/ bridleways	66	62	66
Suckley newsletter	60	46	69
Village Hall	57	46	55
Broadband	57	77	41
Recycling facilities	55	69	55
Bus services/ community taxi	52	38	52
The Sphere	51	46	59
<b>Playing fields</b>	45	54	48
<b>Good neighbour scheme</b>	45	38	55
Children's facilities	40	69	31
School	38	62	28
Church	37	54	38
<b>Village Pubs</b>	31	46	21
Mobile library service	29	15	38
Village map	28	23	24
Pre-school	26	38	28
New village social/ meeting facility	26	38	21
<b>Quarry site @ Longley Green</b>	22	15	28
Other	11	0	10
Car sharing	6	0	14

Six “other” responses were received with indication that parish council tax should support the item. These were (in order of receipt):

- Roads (2 responses – no further detail)
- Roads/ grit/ hedges
- Maintain/ improve linesman services
- Leigh Brook flood prevention
- Street rangers/ police beat officer

To further clarify priorities, question 19 asked respondents to identify their top 3 priorities from the same list as used in question 18. These were collated and ranked simply by giving the 1<sup>st</sup> choice 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice 2 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice 1 point. Using that system, the results are as shown in the table on the next page:

Question 19 - Top 3 for parish council tax support	Score all households	Score households with under-18s	Score households with over-65s
<b>PO &amp; shop</b>	74	10	37
Broadband	52	12	22
Footpaths/ bridleways	36	4	15
Village Hall	27	5	11
Bus services/ community taxi	25	3	10
Children's facilities	14	6	4
Church	14	4	10
<b>Village Pubs</b>	11	4	3
School	9	4	2
New village social/ meeting facility	9	5	3
Suckley newsletter	8	0	5
<b>Playing fields</b>	8	4	3
Other	7	0	3
Recycling facilities	6	0	5
Pre-school	5	2	3
Mobile library service	4	0	4
<b>Good neighbour scheme</b>	1	0	1
The Sphere	1	0	0
<b>Quarry site @ Longley Green</b>	1	0	0
Car sharing	0	0	0
Village map	0	0	0

## **7) Additional Comments**

Question 20 offered respondents the chance to list one item not otherwise listed that would make Suckley a better place in which to live. 22 of the 65 responses made a comment and these are listed in the order the responses were received. The comments are unedited except in one instance where the comment specifically identifies the respondent's house.

- Wider, faster roads to/from Worcester
- Lower speed limits through village and enforcement
- Restrict access by HGVs
- Stop HGVs driving all the way through the village
- More trees planted
- Move apple store nearer main road to reduce use of narrow lanes by very large lorries
- Good Neighbour Scheme
- Need to encourage community spirit: build on this year's fete. Village sports teams/ quiz teams/ skittles teams etc
- Because of the geographical spread nature of Suckley community spirit is difficult. There is a need for a "something" to stimulate such.
- A traffic mirror on the crossroads at the White House and any other dangerous junctions.
- The lengthsman should clean more drains and gully ways not the same week after week.
- The jubilee celebrations were good: could a village/school fete of some sort be done annually?
- Maintain roads & verges better to improve safety (verges cut back to improve visibility at junctions, drainage ditches maintained, fill potholes)
- Prevention of flooding of Leigh Brook in Longley Green
- Policing - crime & antisocial behaviour!! Especially in social housing area!!
- Stricter traffic control especially in Longley Green area
- Lower speed limits & wider coverage of speed limits
- Improve the roads and road drains
- Footpath linking Stocks Cross to Village Shop
- 30mph speed limit extended north of Holloways. Speed of traffic is lethal.
- Better & more extensive speed control.
- Children's play area in Longley Green

A further box was provided following question 20 for respondents to provide any additional comments about the parish's future development. 15 comments were received. These are again listed in the order received and are unedited.

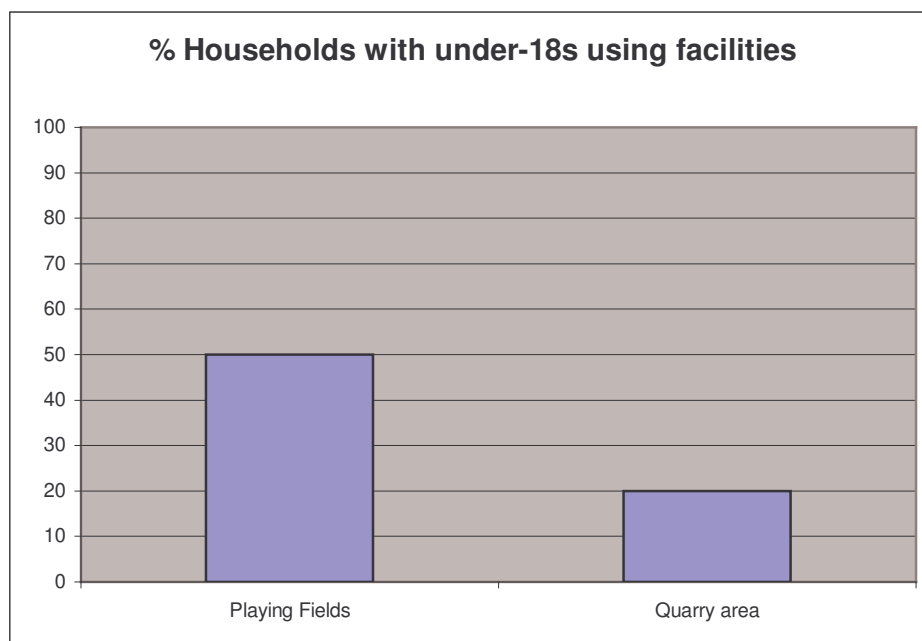
- Reduce Parish Council tax
- Do we need Sphere&Newsletter? Bus times are unsuitable
- I would like to see the road to the church more tidy when funerals take place
- Suckley is very fortunate to have still a church, school, post office, village hall plus public houses and Suckley residents must do our best to keep such facilities. Without such a village declines
- Continuation of weekly refuse collections and definitely no wheely bins.
- The parish council could add money towards transport for children wishing to attend The Chase high school
- Restrict planning developments to preserve rural area.
- Suckley is a great place to live, but because the population is so scattered it is VITAL to ensure the survival of village amenities where people meet each other from the cradle to the grave, hatch, match & dispatch and of course the PO/shop.

- Speeding cars, juggernauts are spoiling & eroding grass verges and the quality of life of people living in the village as well as causing danger on the roads on the Knightwick Road in particular. 9500 vehicles were speeding in one month. This is a serious crime.
- Neighbourhood watch scheme or officer. No further development. Mobile shop/ groceries as well.
- I have 4 children and the playing fields equipment is very poor and rusty. I don't like taking my 9 & 3 year olds to play on them. It needs a massive revamp.
- Leave the pews in the church where they are. Use the village hall if you need more classrooms.
- I do not wish for any further housing, it would spoil parish - only personal development not commercial developments supporting council housing requirements. Quarry needs seating facilities
- It would be so useful if we could tax the car at Suckley PO
- Need a place teenagers can go to with Wifi etc. Coffee morning once a week for the elderly. "Flix in the Stix" for social evenings

## 8) Children's questions

Questions 20-23 were solely for children's input (i.e. those under 18). 13 responses were received from households that stated they contained children. Responses to these questions from households without children were discarded.

Question 20 asked if children used the public facilities at the playing fields and Longley Green quarry. The table below shows the percentage of the 13 households with under-18s using each facility:

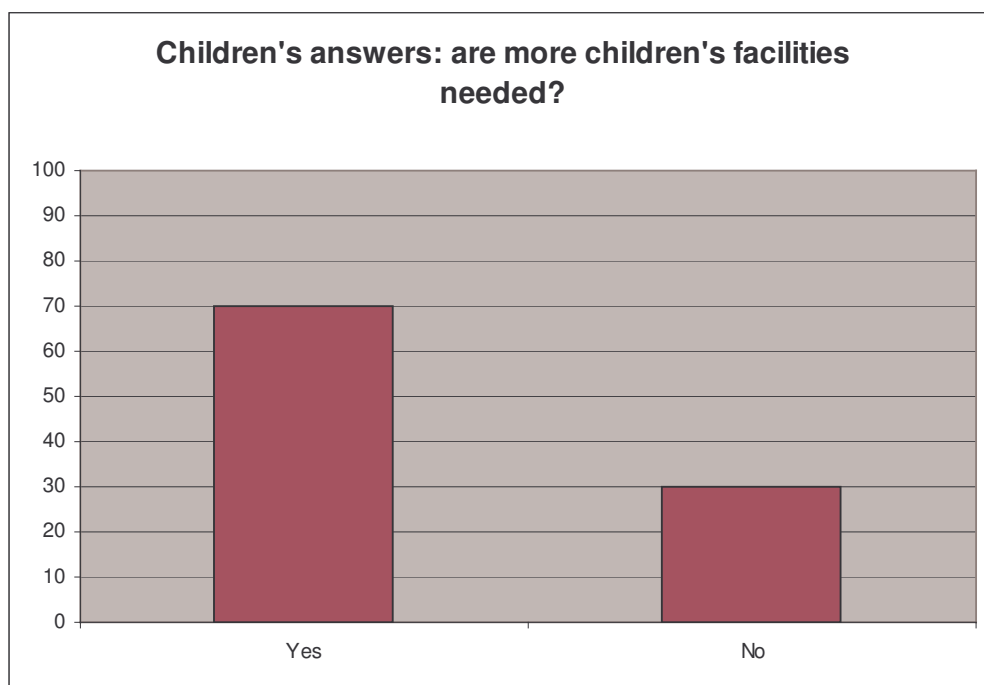


Question 21 asked for reasons why either facility was not used. Nine responses were received: they are listed in the order received and unedited, but, for clarity, the location for which a "no" was received has been *added in italics*.

- No need - use garden (*both locations*)
- Too young to walk that far (*both locations*)
- Didn't know that it was public (*quarry*)
- Didn't know it was public (*quarry*)
- Not safe (*both locations*)
- See answer in freeform text input. We do use the Quarry on nice days. (\*) (*quarry*)
- Not aware that there is anything to play with (at quarry). (*quarry*)
- 20a) Climbing equipment good for children (used it when I was little) 20b) never heard of it (*both locations*)
- 20b) Too far away Need more play equipment on playing fields (*quarry*)
- Because there is nothing at the Quarry and Suckley Playing Fields are too far and we use the playing fields at school. (*both locations*)

(\*) – the answer referred to in this comment was "I have 4 children and the playing fields equipment is very poor and rusty. I don't like taking my 9 & 3 year olds to play on them. It needs a massive revamp."

Question 22 asked children whether more – or better – facilities for children were needed in Suckley. If the answer to this was “yes”, children were asked to state the top 3 items and where they should be. The response to question 22 is shown below:

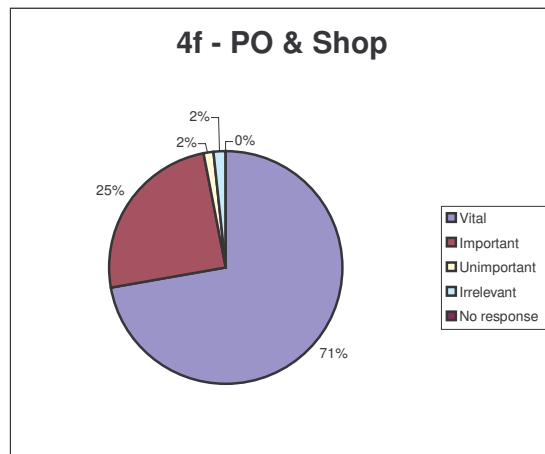
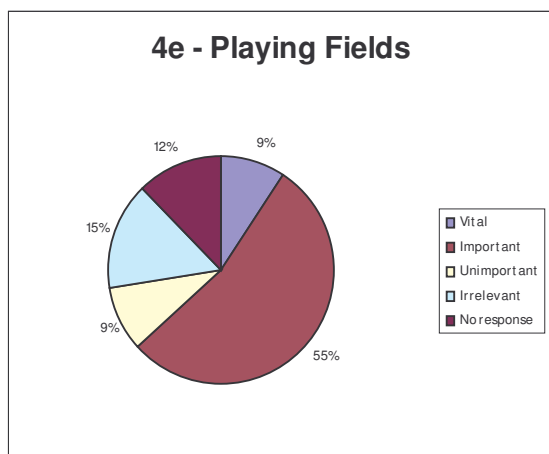
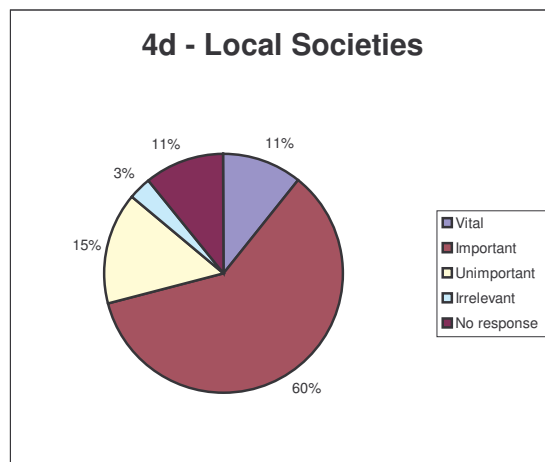
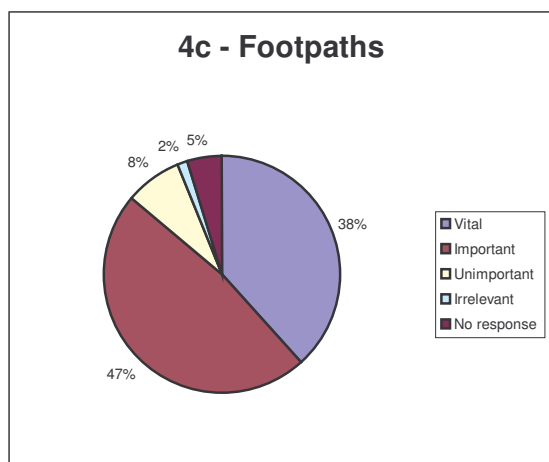
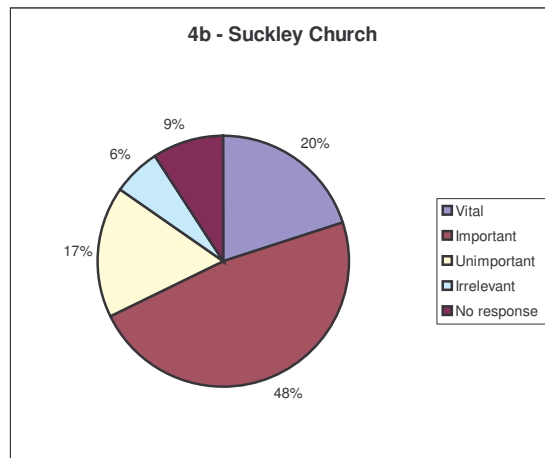
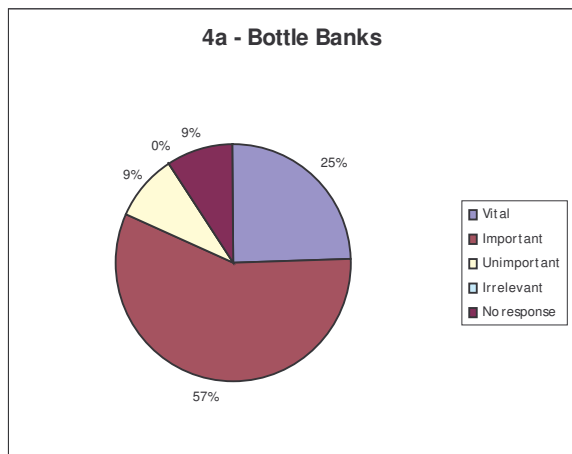


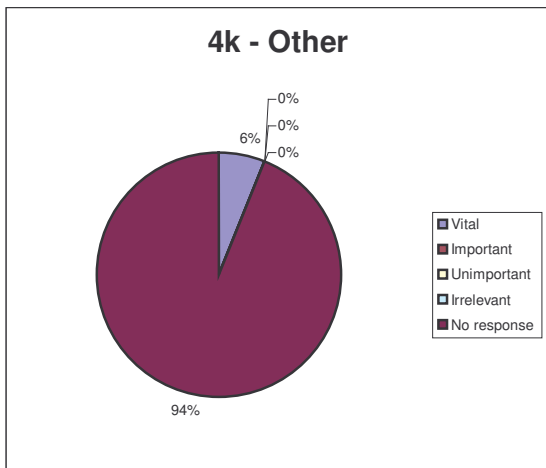
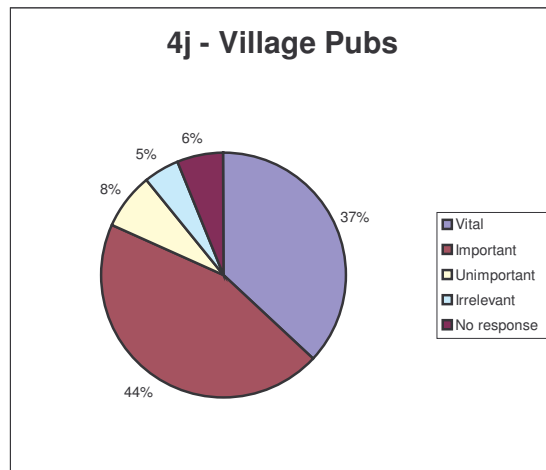
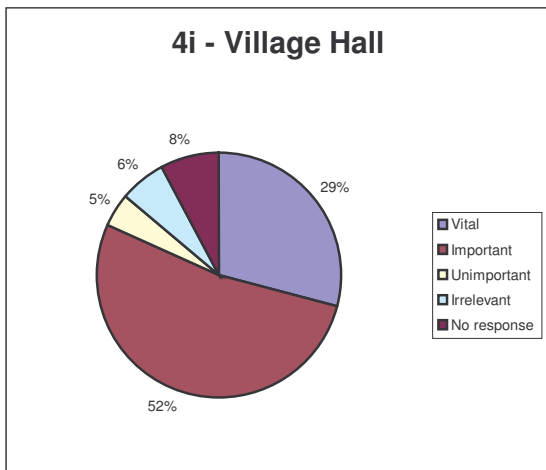
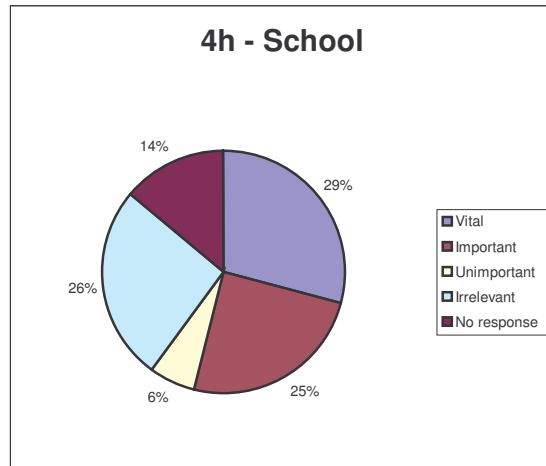
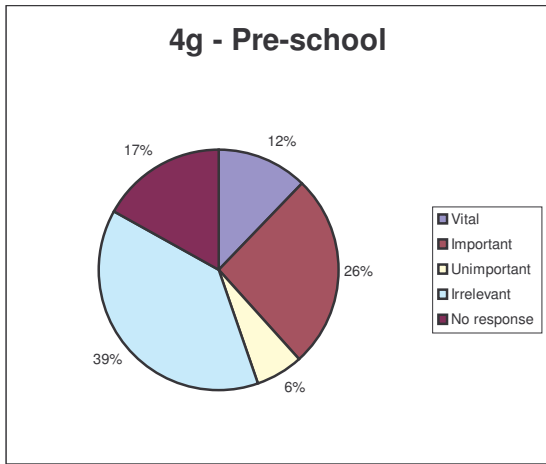
Responses to question 23 were as follows, shown in the order received and unedited:

- Adventure playground, zip wires, ladders. Don't mind where.
- More playing equipment
- What facilities are there for children in Suckley “nothing”. A new park would be wonderful.
- Better climbing frame. Swings, general play equipment. Currently we have to visit Malvern or Bishops Frome to go to the park & have fun.
- Re-do tennis court/ football pitch
- Play equipment on playing fields
- Adventure playground- quarry

## Appendix 1: Individual results for questions 4

Question 4 – “How important to your household are the following parish facilities (please tick one box per facility)?”





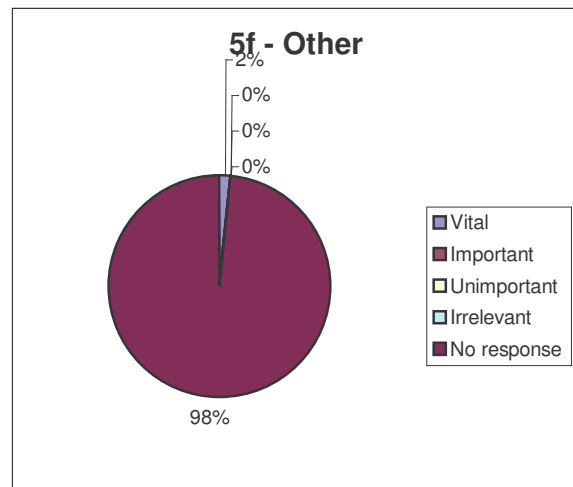
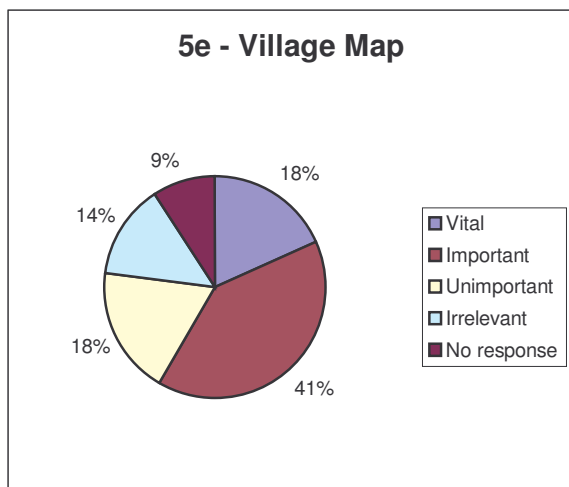
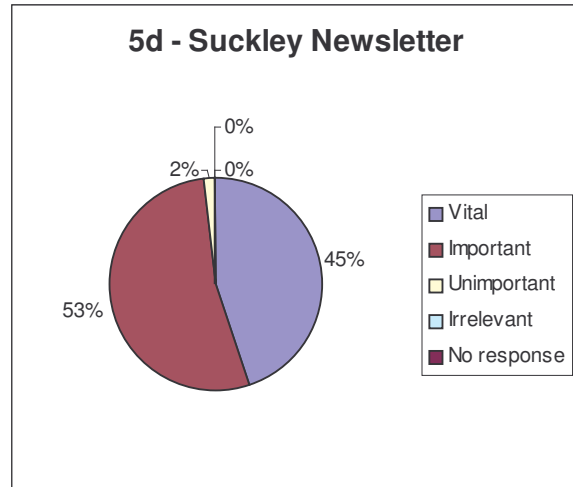
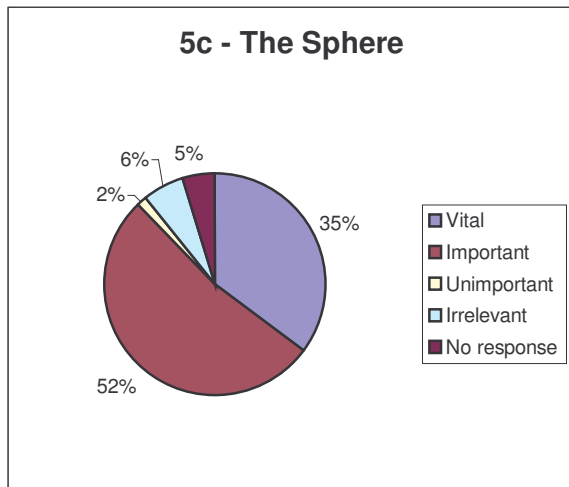
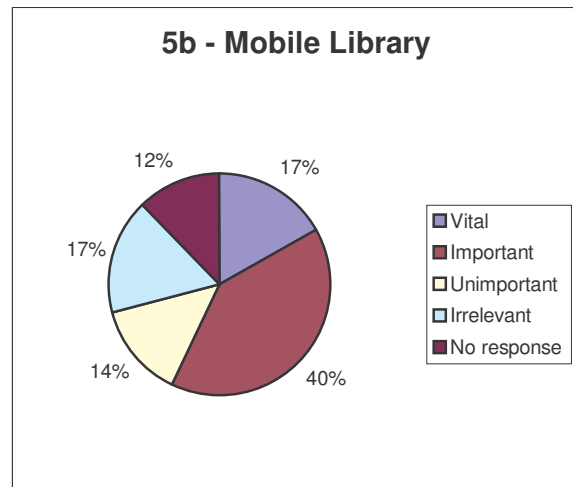
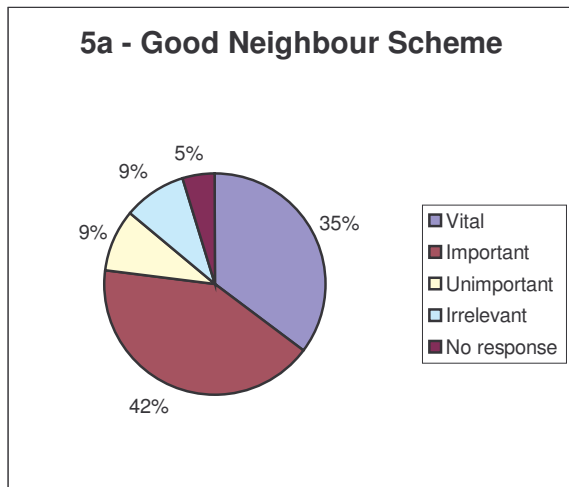
4 respondents marked “other” facilities as vital. As stated by the respondents, they were:

1. Parish lengthsman
2. Roads without potholes
3. Postal delivery, refuse garden waste collection, milkman, newspapers, App Car service
4. Full salt boxes



## Appendix 2: Individual results for questions 5

Question 5 – “How useful are the following services (please tick one box per service)?”

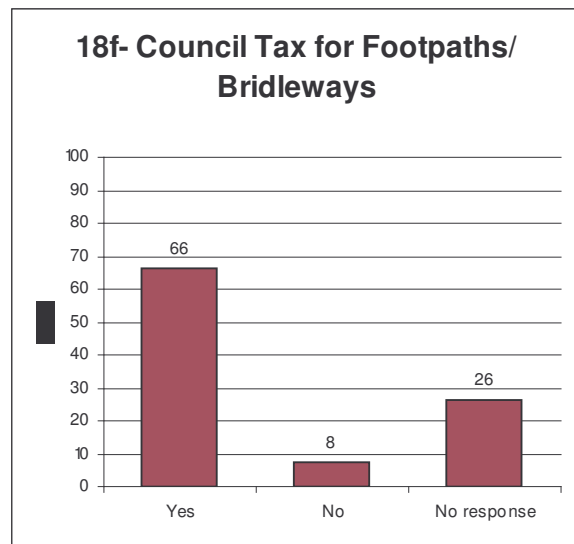
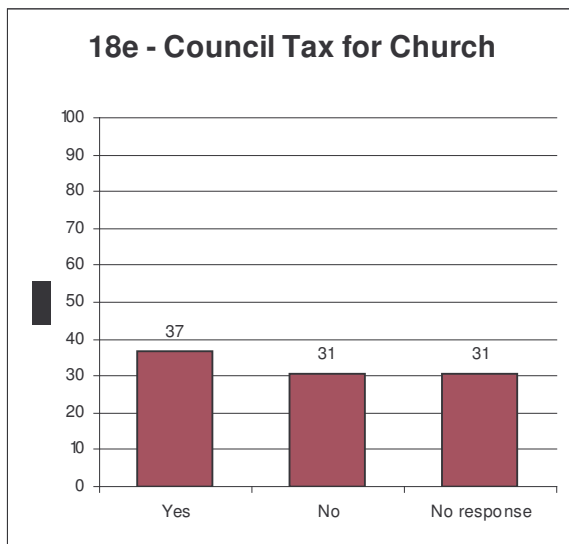
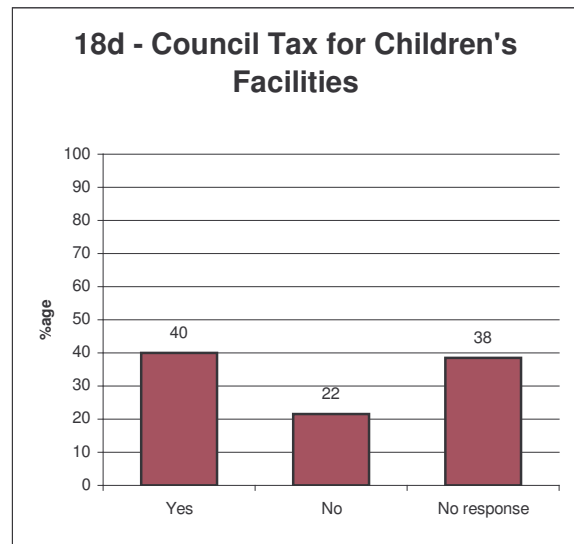
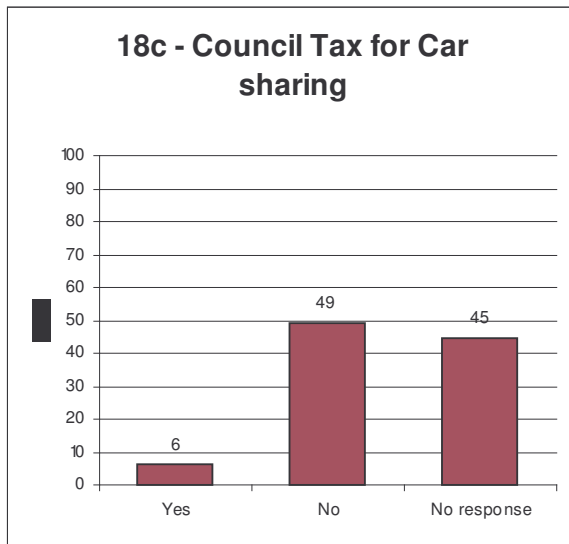
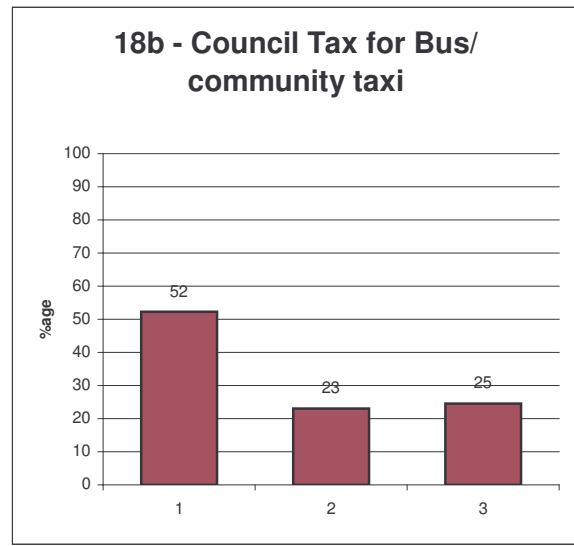
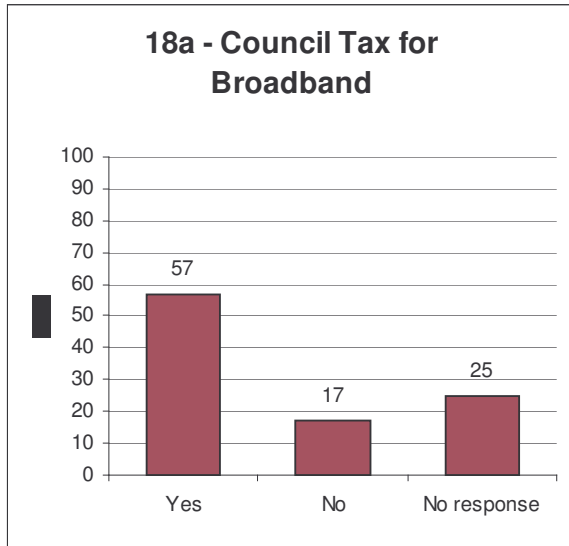


1 respondent marked an “other” service as vital. That was:

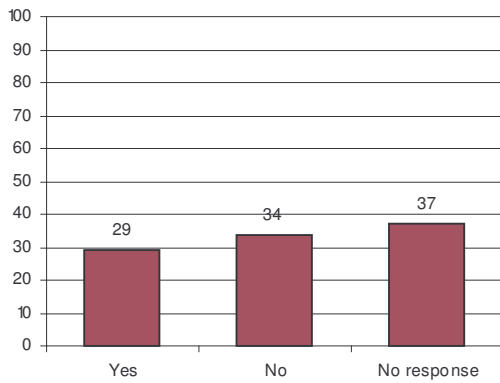
- Notices advertising parish events

**Appendix 3 – Individual results for Question 18**

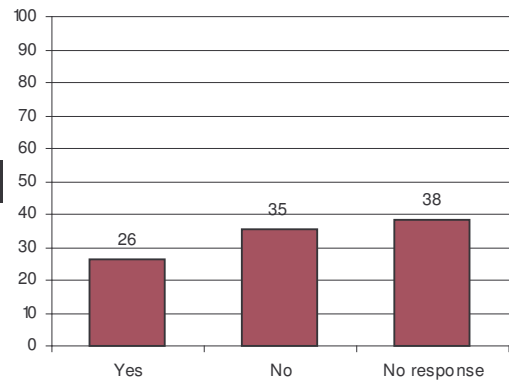
Question 18 – “Should money be provided from your Parish Council Tax to assist, improve or develop these facilities/ services?”



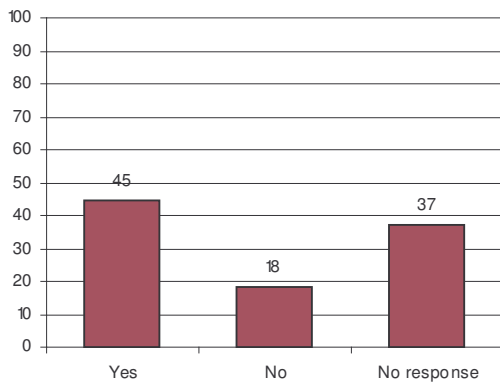
### 18g - Council Tax for Mobile Library



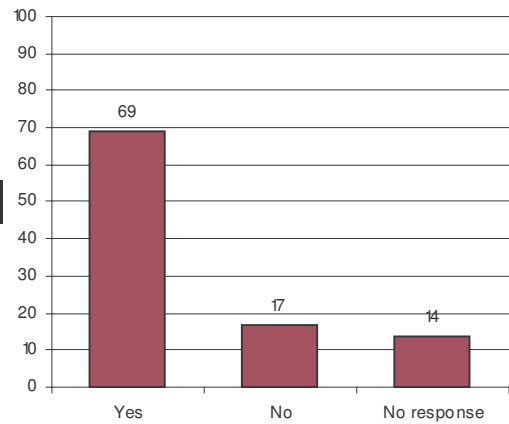
### 18h - Council Tax for New Social/ Meeting Facility



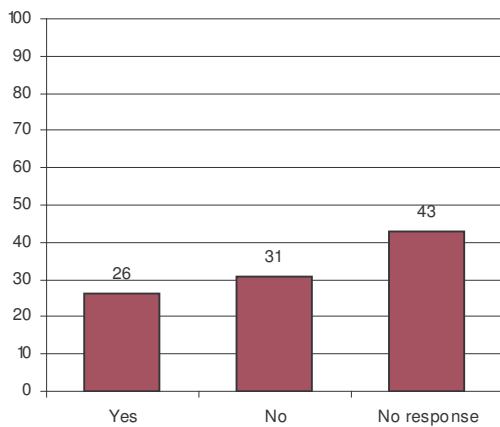
### 18i - Council Tax for Playing Fields



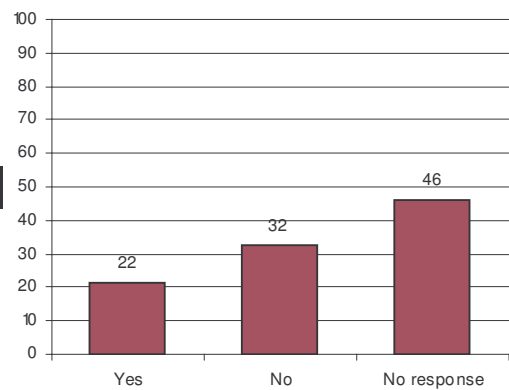
### 18j - Council Tax for PO/ Shop



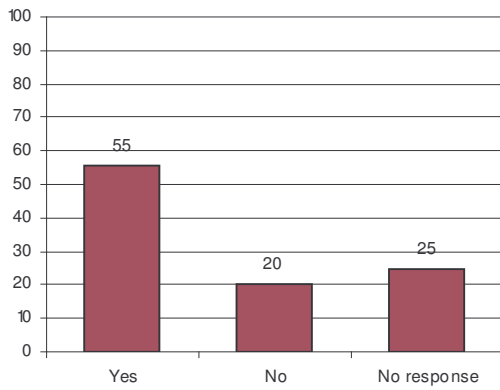
### 18k - Council Tax for Pre-School



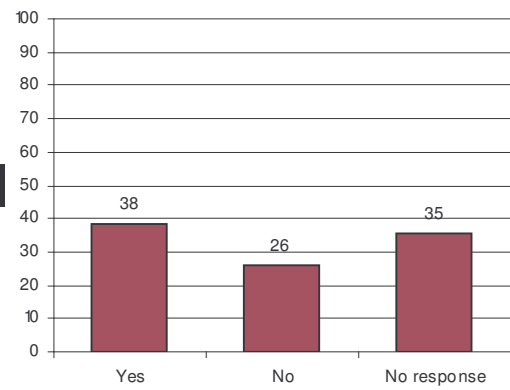
### 18l - Council Tax for Longley Green quarry



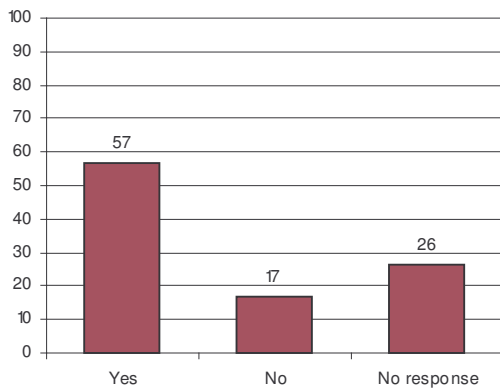
### 18m - Council Tax for Recycling Facilities



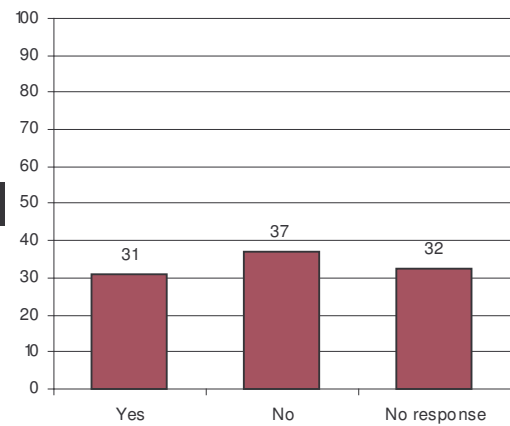
### 18n - Council Tax for Suckley School



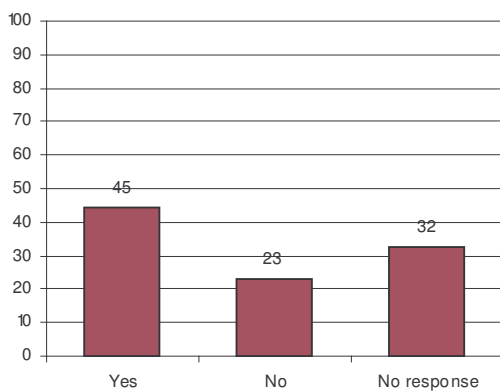
### 18o - Council Tax for Suckley Village Hall



### 18p - Council Tax for Village Pubs



### 18q - Council Tax for Good Neighbour Scheme



### 18r - Council Tax for The Sphere

