

Kemerton Parish Plan



March 2010

KEMERTON PARISH PLAN

Summary

The purpose of the Parish Plan is to inform the local community, Parish Council and Local District Council of the wishes of the people of Kemerton. The Parish Council requested volunteers to establish a committee responsible for creating a Parish Plan. Once the Steering Committee was formed, it was agreed that the opinion of the village was required and this would be obtained through the distribution of a questionnaire. The response rate of the questionnaire was 58%, which is high and very encouraging.

The village of Kemerton is thought to be a beautiful place to live in, with a good community at the heart of a village with relatively good facilities. The villagers' main areas of concern relate to changes that could result in the loss of the natural beauty, the village shops, pub and churches.

The Action Plan proposes actions to address the key concerns identified by the questionnaire. This Action Plan should be addressed by the Parish Council and they should seek methods to facilitate implementation of the proposed actions. The District Council have indicated to the Committee that funds are more likely to be made available for projects if they are included in the Action Plan.

A joint meeting was held between the Steering Committee and the Parish Council on 28th January 2010 to agree the final version of the draft plan which would be then be presented to the Parish Council on 9th March and to a specially called meeting of all Kemerton residents on 11 March.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE INITIATIVE

1.1.1. In line with a Government initiative on Community Planning, Kemerton Parish Council decided early in September 2008, that there should be a Parish Plan, produced by local residents, which would take account of the community's vision for the future and address matters of the greatest concern to the residents. To start the process the Council called for volunteers to form a Steering Committee with the objective of finding out what those wishes, and fears, were and to help the Council to formulate a Parish Plan.

1.2 THE PARISH

1.2.1. Kemerton is a village of some 192 dwellings housing 393 residents as at the last census in April 2001. The village lies to the south of Bredon Hill in the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



1.2.2. There is a village shop, a pub, a family butcher and two churches, one Anglican and one Roman Catholic. A village school no longer exists but a Primary school operates in nearby Overbury. There is a middle school in Ashton-under-Hill and a secondary school in Evesham, both accessible by school bus.

1.3 STEERING COMMITTEE

1.3.1. A Steering Committee was formed of the following residents:

Chairman:	Richard Crompton
Secretary:	Toby Coombes
Members:	Ben Ford
	Sally King
	Lys Hemsted
	Janice James
	George Workman

1.4 APPROACH TO THE PLAN

1.4.1. There were no councillors on the committee, but Mr Adrian Darby, Chairman of the Parish Council, did address the committee at one of its early meetings on future housing plans as visualised in the emerging South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy and the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy.. The committee also received a visit from Mr Andy Ford, Wychavon District Council, to discuss funding (no longer available from Government resources) and the process of producing, and the importance, of the Parish Plan.

1.4.2. The Steering Committee, meeting for the first time on 30th March 2009 in the Victoria Hall, decided that the best approach would be to circulate a tick-box style questionnaire to each household in the village calling for views on various aspects of village life. Answers were to be anonymous and, if sufficient replies were received, the results could be regarded as representative of the general wishes of the community as a whole and form the basis for a Parish Plan. The questionnaire would be broken down into the following sections:

Your Household - numbers of occupants, cars and parking
Transport - how occupants get around.
Traffic - views on traffic problems
Crime - what crime worries people and what to do about it.
Leisure Activities - what facilities are used/required
Services - how people value the various services and utilities.
Planning and Environment - views on future developments
And Finally - a space to write views on village life.

1.5 PROGRAMME

1.5.1. An outline programme was agreed as follows:

April 2009	Assemble material for the questionnaire.
May 2009	Draft questionnaire
June 2009	Finalise questionnaire, print and deliver.
June 2009	Stand at Village Fair to publicise Village Plan
July 2009	Questionnaires returned, data summarised.
August 2009	Results analysed and report drafted.
September 2009	Draft Report finalised and issued to Parish Council. Public Consultation Report finalised and adopted by Parish Council

1.6 RESULTS

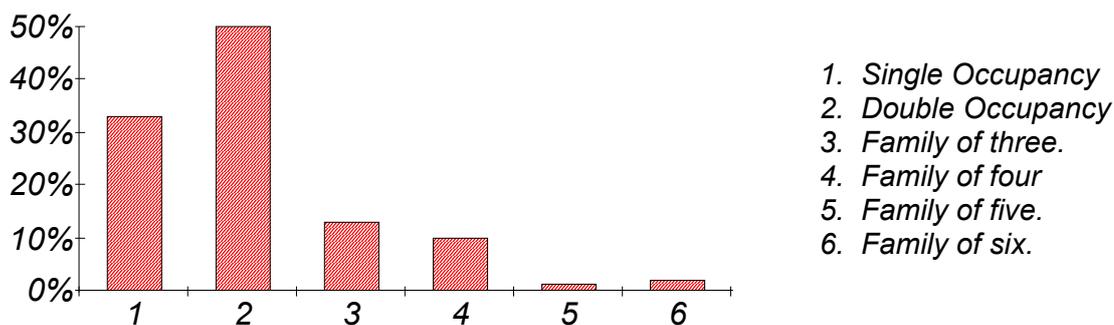
1.6.1. Of the 188 questionnaires delivered, 109 completed copies were received back. The advice from Mr Andy Ford was that a 58% return was an excellent response. The committee then set about correlating the results to obtain a cross-section of resident's views from which it is hoped a feasible set of proposals for a Parish Plan can be drawn up and presented to the Parish Council for their consideration.

1.6.2. A general analysis of the replies to each section of the questionnaire, taking into account tick-box answers and supplementary comments, was then carried out by the committee. The answers to the tick-box questions are summarised in the form of percentages of the total number of replies received and are attached as an appendix to this report.

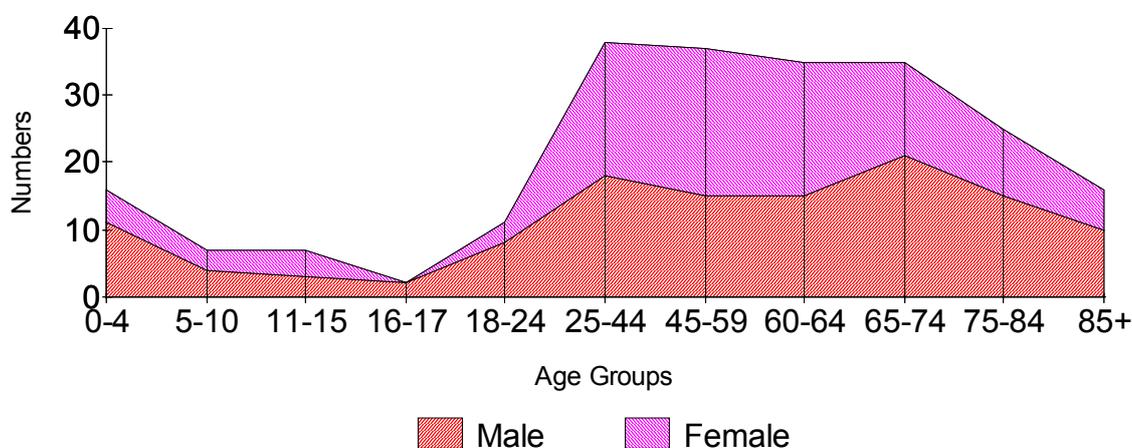
2.0 QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY

2.1 YOUR HOUSEHOLD

Question 1. The total number of people, including children, living in the 109 houses for which questionnaires were returned amounted to 229. The breakdown of numbers in each household, as illustrated in the chart below, showed that 33% of houses had single occupancy, 50% housed a couple and only the remaining 17% contained families of 3 or upwards.



Question 2. The breakdown by age and sex is shown graphically below. A marked absence of teen-aged children is evident, but an influx of 0-4 year olds is likely to fill that trough in ten years or so:



Question 3. 11% of respondents have lived in the village all their lives. 1% were newcomers, otherwise 20% have been in Kemerton for 1-5 years, 17% 6-15 years, 18% 16-25 years, 9% 26-30 years and 22% more than 31 years.

Question 4. 39% of respondents travel out of the village each day.

Question 5. There is an average of 1.58 cars per household. Based on there being 192 houses in the village, this would indicate a total of 303 cars to be accommodated.

Question 6. Of these cars, 26% are said to be garaged, 64% are kept on driveways and the remainder are parked on the road.

Question 7. 61% of respondents live in Upper Kemerton and 39% in Lower Kemerton.

2.2. TRANSPORT

Question 8. The car or van is the most common method of transport with 68% of respondents using a car or van to get to work, training or study. This is followed by a variety of transport uses, with 10% walking, 6% using the bus, 5% cycling, 4% using the school bus, 2% using a motorbike and 2% using the train.

Question 9. There was not a big response to this question but, of the total number of respondents, those who recorded difficulty in accessing the various services were hospital 8%, doctor 5%, dispensary 4%, dentist 4%, optician 4% and chiropodist 1%.

Question 10. The bus service is used by 11% of respondents on a weekly basis, 3% monthly and 12% occasionally.

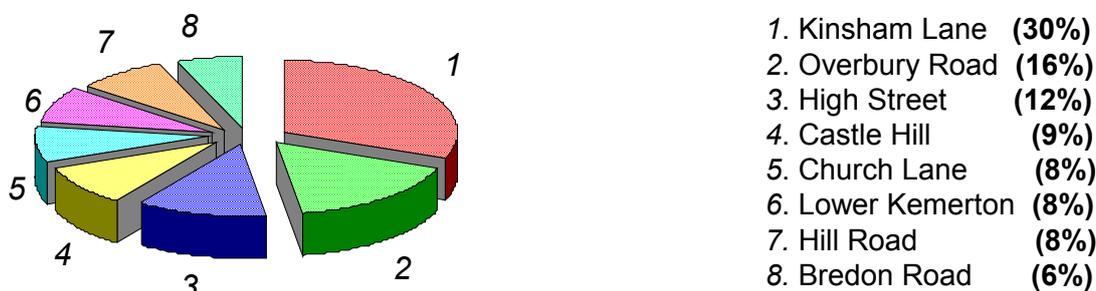
Question 11. Of those who own cars, 38% of respondents would be willing to take part in a voluntary transport service within the village.

2.3. TRAFFIC

Question 12. 72% of respondents agreed that traffic speed through the centre of the village should be better controlled.

Question 13. 50% thought there was a problem with speeding elsewhere in the village.

Question 14. The breakdown of areas other than the High Street where respondents complained of speeding were :



Question 15. The safety of pavements for people with disabilities, wheelchairs or prams was described as poor by 51% of respondents, acceptable by 25%, unacceptable by 12% and good by 10%.

Question 16. Of those who identified the pavements as poor or unacceptable, 23% said the problem was opposite the shop due to cars parked on the pavement. This was followed by the High Street (outside Pear Tree Cottage) 12%, opposite the village hall and cross (due to hedges) 10%, Castle Hill (up to Hill Road) 6%, High Street (paving and tree roots) 6%, Kemerton to Overbury 4%, Bayliss Road 4%, and opposite the village hall and cross (poor paving) 4%. 27% of respondents also said the pavements in the village were generally too narrow and 2% said they were poorly lit.

Question 17. 75% of those who responded said they felt safe crossing the High Street.

Question 18. 72% said there is a problem with parking in the village.

2.3. TRAFFIC (cont)

Question 19. Of the 72% of respondents that said there was a problem with parking in the village, the two main areas identified as problems were outside the village hall (47%) and outside the village shop (34%). Other areas identified were Jobs Lane and Old Post Office Lane (6%), Church Lane (3%) and Kinsham Lane/High Street junction (2%). Various other locations such as Hill Road, Bayliss Road and Castle Hill summit also got a mention.

2.4. CRIME

Question 20. Burglary/Theft is by far the biggest crime-related concern in the village with 55% of respondents raising it as an issue. This is supported by 73% of respondents agreeing to a suggestion of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. The other main concern is the fouling of pavements with 27%, then vandalism with 8% and mugging, drunkenness and drug abuse all with less than 2%.

Question 21. 73% of respondents would like to see a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in their part of the village.

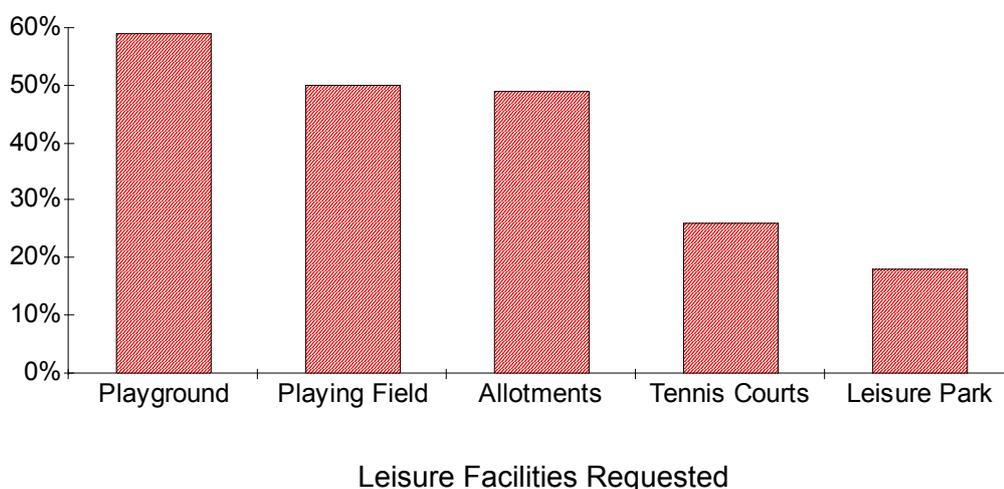
Question 22. Although 73% of respondents agreed to the implementation of a neighbourhood watch scheme only 59% said they would be willing to participate.

Question 23. Only 34% of respondents were aware of the name of the village policeman or the community support officer and only 31% knew how to contact them.

Question 24. 49% of respondents believed that arranging a weekly fixed time and location to meet the village policeman/community support officer was a good idea.

2.5 LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Question 25. Having a village children's playground was deemed the most popular request by 59% of respondents. Allotments were considered a good idea by 49% and a village playing field by 50%, Tennis courts and a general leisure park were favoured by 26% and 18% respectively:



2.5 LEISURE ACTIVITIES (cont)

Question 26. 34% of respondents said they would be willing to assist in the supervision of any playground or sports facility in the village.

Question 27. Additional activities suggested were, among others, a theatre club, table tennis, cycle safety, dance lessons, daytime socials, coffee mornings, walking groups, Pilates, yoga, a *boules* pitch, a wine club and bird watching.

Question 28. 42% of respondents said that they would like to see more use of Victoria Hall.

Question 29. Suggestions for more use of Victoria Hall covered most those mentioned in additional leisure activities above, plus a range of events such as more quizzes, craft sales, dinner club, drama groups, youth club - in fact, anything designed to bring the village together as a community. Parking was acknowledged as a problem for the hall and one respondent went as far as to suggest a new village hall, sited more appropriately, where sports and playground facilities could be provided nearby. Several respondents complained of the high cost of hiring the hall (cf. Overbury Hall) and suggested that prices should be reduced for use by local groups.

Question 30. With regard to footpaths and walks around the village, 77% of respondents said they used them and 60% thought they were well signposted. 50% felt that a map should be displayed in the centre of the village and 58% thought that a map should be made available for purchase. Only 37% of respondents regarded them as adequately maintained, whilst 30% did not.

2.6 SERVICES

Question 31. Respondents' usage of the various services in the village is shown in the following table:

	Frequently	Occasionally
The village shop	70%	26%
The village post office	72%	25%
The village butcher	14%	40%
The village pub	6%	66%
Kemerton Playschool	9%	3%
Either of the village churches	25%	45%

12% of respondents said they used the Playschool for their children but this seems high in relation to the number of children in the age bracket of 0-4 in the village.

Question 32. The Post Office was shown to be used by respondents for a variety of purposes:

Postal services	96%
Vehicle tax, TV licence/service bills	77%
Pensions/allowances	14%
Information leaflets	32%
Giro Banking/Saving Certificates	25%
Other Services	44%

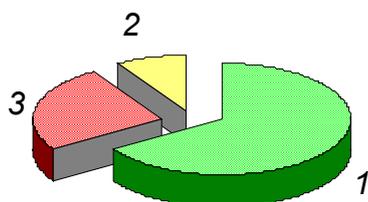
2.6 SERVICES (cont)

Question 33. Services listed below were rated by respondents as follows:

	Good	Reasonable	Poor
Electricity	27%	44%	27%
Gas	82%	12%	0%
Water	77%	19%	1%
Refuse collection	61%	28%	7%
Street cleaning	38%	41%	12%
Surface water drainage	11%	31%	54%
Snow clearance	6%	28%	34%

Question 34. 75% of respondents have access to the internet.

Question 35 Of respondents who have internet, 66% have Broadband.



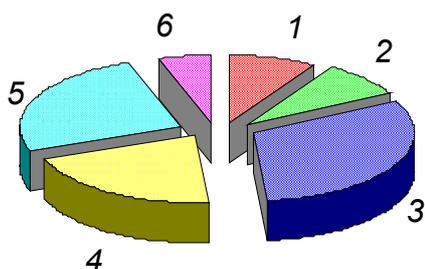
- 1. Internet with Broadband (66%)
- 2. Dial Internet (9%)
- 3. No Internet (25%)

Question 36. 54% of the respondents who have broadband were not satisfied with the speed.

2.7 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Question 37. With 64% of respondents against the construction of new housing in Kemerton, any development within the village will have to contend with strong opposition.

Question 38. The following chart shows the percentage breakdown of the types of housing respondents felt should be built if Kemerton has to accept some new housing:

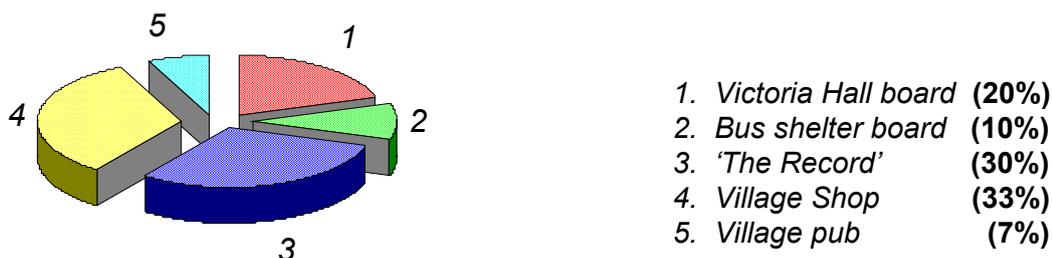


- 1. Local Authority rented (9%)
- 2. Private rented (8%)
- 3. Owner occupied (32%)
- 4. Sale to locals only (21%)
- 5. Affordable Housing (25%)
- 6. Shared ownership (5%)

2.8 COMMUNICATIONS

Question 39. The notice board outside Victoria Hall is used to disseminate information, but only 15% of respondents admitted reading it regularly and 21% read it once a month.

Question 40. The village magazine (The Record) and the village shop are the most popular sources of information among respondents. The breakdown of where they generally receive news of what is going on in Kemerton is shown as follows:



Question 41. Only 47% of respondents have ever attended a Parish Council meeting.

Question 42. 84% of respondents know the names of some of the Parish Councillors.

Question 43. Just under a quarter of respondents said that they would be willing to serve on the Parish Council.

Question 44. There was some negative feedback on the way the Parish Council keeps residents informed of the plans and activities of the Council. 9% of respondents believe it does it very well, 45% say it is quite good, while 35% say it is not very good. There have also been several comments on the lack of Parish Council elections.



3.0 PROPOSALS

3.0.1. Taking account of the answers to the Questionnaire, the Steering Committee puts forward the following proposals for consideration, and action where appropriate, by the Parish Council:

3.1 TRANSPORT

3.1.1. As 38% of respondents with cars are willing to take part in a voluntary transport service, a co-ordinator needs to be found to set up a voluntary transport service in the village. A scheme should be organised and widely publicised whereby those needing transport to the hospital, doctor appointments, dispensaries and so forth need only ring a coordinator to book transport .

3.1.2. To encourage people to walk more the Council should ensure that pavements in the village are maintained in good condition and that parking on them where passage for prams or invalid buggies is impeded should be discouraged in any way possible.

3.2 TRAFFIC

3.2.1. The speed of traffic, not only through the centre of the village, but also at other places identified in the questionnaire, must be better controlled and ways to achieve this should be discussed with the Highways Authority, the police and any other appropriate department to ensure a satisfactory solution. Signs, road markings, speed bumps and other such devices may impair the beauty of the village, but the safety of its residents must be regarded as paramount.

3.2.2. The problems created by parking in several places in the village, but in particular outside Victoria Hall, the shop and the pub in the High Street, attract a general complaint from 72% of respondents. True, maybe, that parking in the High Street helps to slow traffic down but it serves also to increase the risk of injury to pedestrians and cyclists. This problem should be addressed as a matter of priority and, as with 3.2.1 above, advice sought from others such as police and qualified traffic engineers from the Highways Authority.

3.3 CRIME

3.3.1. Setting up a neighbourhood watch scheme, or schemes, should be discussed with the Community Support Officer and a suitable coordinator chosen. Advice to residents on security matters and protection of their property should be included in the scheme.

3.2. To satisfy those complaining of fouling of pavements by dogs, the number, and siting of dog bins should be reviewed and increased if necessary.

3.3. A regular time and place for residents to meet the Community Support Officer should be arranged. For this scheme to work the details should be publicised as widely as possible.

3.4 LEISURE ACTIVITIES

3.4.1. A children's playground, allotments and a village playing field all featured highly in the wishes of those answering the questionnaire with 34% saying they would be willing to help supervise a playground or sports facility. The Council should look for possible sites for all of these activities. If the feasibility of any of them is established, a general village meeting should be arranged to solicit views on proposals and call for volunteers to run the facilities. Committees to set up and supervise each facility would be desirable.

3.4.2. The Council should commission a map of the village to show footpaths, and any other items of interest to a walker, and arrange sale of them through the village shop, pub or any other appropriate outlet. A map for general display somewhere in the centre of the village should also be considered. The footpaths themselves need to be checked regularly to ensure their good condition. 37% of respondents regarded them as adequately maintained.

3.4.3. 42% of respondents said they would like to see more use made of Victoria Hall, The Hall Committee should be approached to see if they could encourage more social events along the lines mentioned in the Leisure Activities section of the Questionnaire Summary. Any form of activity that brings the community together should be considered. Sub-committees could be formed where necessary. The Hall Committee should also be asked to review their hire rates in the light of criticism received from respondents.

3.5 SERVICES

3.5.1. Many residents expressed anxiety over the possibility that the shop/post office might close. Lack of parking in the vicinity of the shop is a problem, and any improvement in this would assist the shop and enhance its trade.

3.5.2. Similar worries were expressed over the loss of the pub and the Council should resist any application for change of use of both this and the shop. Villagers should be encouraged to use these amenities to maintain their viability.

3.5.3. Surface water drainage was the most criticised of the services with 54% of respondents rating it as 'poor'. The Council must continue to seek improvement in the maintenance of culverts and ditches.

3.5.4. Frequent power failures were another cause of discontent. The Council should write to the supplier expressing dissatisfaction over these power cuts, stressing in particular the dangers these present to the elderly in mid-winter through loss of heating systems. Residents should be encouraged to do likewise to reinforce the Council's position.

3.5.5. A written request should be made to the appropriate authority to request improvement to the speed of the Broadband.

3.5.6 As 34% of respondents expressed anxiety over poor snow clearance, a village contingency plan should be drawn up to cope with any heavy snowfall.

3.6 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

3.6.1. The questionnaire found that a large number of respondents do not wish to have any new housing in the village. The finding is backed up by the level of support for a petition circulated in December 2009, which called for Kemerton's classification under the Joint Core Strategy to be revised, because it "is not a sustainable location for a significant number of new dwellings". The organisers visited every home in the village and obtained responses from 163 households. 98% of responses were in support of the petition. Any new development will have to contend with strong opposition to any development.

3.6.2. The Parish Council shall ensure that the village is kept informed regarding any potential development within the boundary, or close to, the village. By adopting this strategy the opinions of the village, whether in support or opposition, can be coordinated and effective in assuring that the decision reflects the wishes of the majority likely to be effected by any such development.

3.7 COMMUNICATION

3.7.1. Three quarters of the village have access to the internet and the Council should consider this as a method for disseminating information. A village website would be an asset in this respect and a volunteer should be sought, preferably a Council member, to set this up.

3.7.2. The notice board outside Victoria Hall is hardly ever read by residents, mainly due to its position. Unless anyone is going to the hall they seldom walk by there. Consideration should be given to re-siting the board, or making another one, in the vicinity of the shop. The cleanliness of the bus shelter has been criticized by some respondents and this may discourage residents from reading the existing notice board in there.

3.7.3. The Parish Council should publicise, by all means possible, the plans and activities they are proposing on a bi-annual basis, and should encourage villagers to attend council meetings, in particular the Annual Parish Meeting.

3.7.4. The Parish Council should respond to villagers' concern regarding the lack of elected Councillors.



Kemerton Parish Action Plan

ISSUE	ACTION REQUIRED	BY WHOM	PRIORITY
<p>3.1 TRANSPORT</p> <p>3.1.1. A scheme should be organised and widely publicised whereby those requiring transport need only ring a coordinator to book transport.</p> <p>3.1.2. Pavements in the village should be maintained in good condition.</p>	<p>Call for volunteers to run the facility through a public meeting and/or by advertising in the Record and Village Notice Board. Appoint a coordinator and ensure the contact details are widely publicised.</p> <p>Similarly appoint a Pavement Warden to identify and report through PC sections of pavement in need of repair.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>DC</p>	<p>M</p> <p>H</p>
<p>3.2 TRAFFIC</p> <p>3.2.1. The speed of traffic within the village, and in particular in the High Street, needs to be better controlled.</p> <p>3.2.2. There are dangers created by parking in several places in the village.</p>	<p>Ways to achieve this should be discussed by PC with the Highways Authority, the police and any other appropriate department.</p> <p>As for 3.2.1. above</p>	<p>WHD</p> <p>WHD</p>	<p>H</p> <p>H</p>
<p>3.3 CRIME</p> <p>3.3.1. Setting up a neighbourhood watch scheme.</p> <p>3.3.2. Unacceptable fouling of pavements and footpaths by dogs.</p> <p>3.3.3. Liaison between the public and the police</p>	<p>Appoint a Coordinator to liaise with police and call for volunteers to run a watch scheme as in 3.1.1. above.</p> <p>The number and siting of dog bins should be reviewed and the number of bins increased if necessary.</p> <p>A regular time and place for residents to meet the Community Support Officer should be arranged.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>H</p> <p>L</p> <p>L</p>

<p>3.4 LEISURE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>3.4.1. A children’s playground, allotments and a village playing field should be established in the village.</p> <p>3.4.2. A map of the village to show footpaths, and any other items of interest to a walker, should be available.</p> <p>3.4.3. 42% of respondents said they would like to see more use made of Victoria Hall.</p>	<p>The Parish Council to investigate the feasibility of providing these facilities</p> <p>A map of the local area should be produced and arrangements made for sale of them through the village shops, pub or any other appropriate outlet.</p> <p>Ideas for communal activities, and for volunteers to run them, should be solicited from villagers by whatever means available.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>All Residents/ VHC</p>	<p>M</p> <p>M</p> <p>M</p>
<p>3.5 SERVICES</p> <p>3.5.1. Many residents expressed anxiety that the shop/post office might be closed.</p> <p>3.5.2. Worries were expressed over possible loss of the pub.</p> <p>3.5.3. Surface water drainage was criticised and rated poor.</p> <p>3.5.4. Frequent power failures were another cause of discontent.</p> <p>3.5.5. Slow broadband speeds.</p>	<p>Residents should be encouraged to use the shops and post office to ensure their continued viability.</p> <p>Residents should be encouraged to support their local pub to ensure it remains open and any application for change of use strongly opposed.</p> <p>A survey should be carried out to coordinate the overall drainage of surface water within the village as a whole and all systems maintained regularly.</p> <p>PC should encourage villagers to complain to their suppliers if there are excessive failures.</p> <p>PC should encourage residents to complain to their Internet Service Providers about the poor Broadband speeds experienced in the village.</p>	<p>All Residents</p> <p>All Residents</p> <p>DC/Land Owners</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>H</p> <p>M</p> <p>H</p> <p>M</p> <p>M</p>

<p>3.6 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>3.6.1. The villagers currently living in Kemerton do not wish to have Central Government's targets imposed upon them.</p> <p>3.6.2. Fears of inappropriate design of any new houses built within the village..</p>	<p>Every effort should be made to get Kemerton re-classified to a Category 3 settlement in the SWJCS and any proposed housing development strongly resisted</p> <p>The Parish Council shall initiate the production of a Village Design Statement and ensure that the village is kept informed regarding any planning policy within the boundary of, or close to, the village.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>H</p> <p>H</p>
<p>3.7 COMMUNICATION</p> <p>3.7.1. The methods for publicising information on village activities should be improved.</p> <p>3.7.2. Position of the village notice board.</p> <p>3.7.3. Keeping villagers informed of the Parish Council's activities.</p> <p>3.7.4. Composition of the Parish Council</p>	<p>Given that some 75% of households have an internet connection, consideration should be given to finding a volunteer to set up a village website.</p> <p>The village notice board should be moved to near the bus stop or shop to ensure more people read the notices.</p> <p>Parish Councillors should publicise as broadly as possible the plans and activities they are proposing.</p> <p>Vacancies on the Council should be widely publicised to ensure fair elections.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>H</p> <p>H</p> <p>H</p> <p>H</p>

Abbreviations: PC Parish Council H High
DC Wychavon District Council M Medium
VHC Victoria Hall Committee L Low
WHD Worcestershire Highways Department
SWJCS South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 The Steering Committee has had an excellent response to its questionnaire. This has enabled it to identify a number of widely-held concerns and put forward proposals which are representative of village opinion. The village is perceived as a very pleasant environment in which to live and as having a good community spirit. The villagers wish to ensure that this atmosphere is maintained and welcomes actions taken perhaps to enhance it. They are also committed to opposing any influences that would be to the detriment of the community.

5.2. The Parish Council should address the traffic and transportation issues in the village. With some coordination from the Parish Council, several of these issues could be dealt with by the villagers themselves. The problems with traffic should be addressed by the District Council and the appropriate authority.

5.3. Whilst crime is not a major problem, a neighbourhood watch scheme would be well supported by the community.

5.4. The villagers have requested that some forms of leisure activities should be made available in Kemerton. With careful consideration, cooperation from the District Council, local landowners and grants, where possible, these aspirations could be fulfilled. The proposals would require active involvement and commitment from the villagers in addition to assistance and financial support from the District Council or other external bodies.

5.5. There is anxiety regarding the possible loss of the village shop and pub. Ease of access is an important factor in their viability and measures to improve this should be addressed by the Parish Council as a matter of urgency. With regard to the infrastructure in Kemerton, more maintenance is required and the Parish Council should assist in pursuing this issue.

5.6. There would be considerable resistance to any development that might cause the loss of the village's unique charm and character. The Parish Council should ensure that it listens to public opinion and takes an active role in objecting to any proposals of further development within, or close to, the parish boundary..

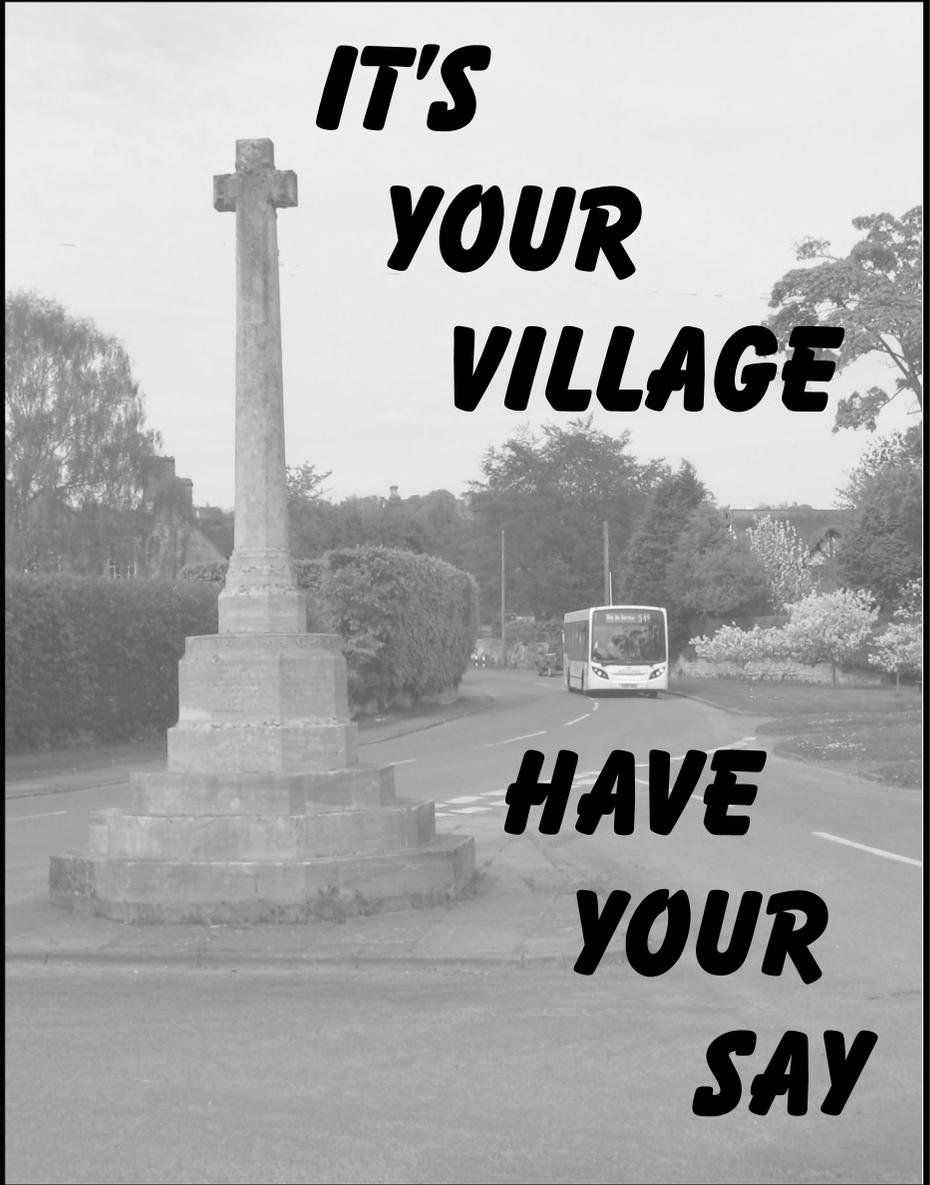
5.7. The current methods of the Parish Council's communications within the village should also be reviewed. As many of the villagers have internet access, this could be a very effective way of disseminating information. The perception within the village is that the Parish Council could improve its methods of keeping villagers informed of its activities. The Parish Council should also address the concern regarding Council elections and how the Parish Plan Committee was formed.



**KEMERTON VILLAGE PLAN
QUESTIONNAIRE**

***IT'S
YOUR
VILLAGE***

***HAVE
YOUR
SAY***



Questionnaire

Why?

This questionnaire is part of a national programme of village appraisals to identify what the people who live or work in a community think are the priorities for their villages. It has been put together by a volunteer steering committee with a view to producing a final Village Plan. The plan will reflect the actions that you, the residents, think are needed to maintain, and hopefully enhance, the future character of Kemerton. The plan will then be submitted to the Parish Council for them to look for ways and means of fulfilling your wishes.

How?

The questionnaire should be filled in by one person in each household reflecting the views of any other occupants, giving multiple answers where applicable, so that you give a 'household view'. If any of the questions are not relevant to you or the household, just ignore them and move on.

When?

Please complete the questionnaire by Sunday 12th July, place it in the envelope provided and hand it into the Village Shop. If you are unable to get to the village shop, please ring George Workman on 01386 725705 who will arrange for your completed questionnaire to be collected

And then?

All your completed questionnaires will be handled confidentially and, after all the information has been analysed, will be destroyed. If you would like more information, please contact:

Richard Crompton on 725239
or Ben Ford on 725452

Your Household

1. How many people, including children, normally live in your household?
(Number)

2. Please break down number by age and sex:

	Male (Number)	Female (Number)		Male (Number)	Female (Number)
0-4	45-59	.....	.....
5-10	60-64	.....	.....
11-15	65-74	.....	.....
16-17	75-84	.....	.....
18-24	85+	.....	.....
25-44			

3. How long have you lived in the village? (Tick box)

Less than a year	<input type="checkbox"/>	26 - 30 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 - 5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	31+ years	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 - 15 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	Always	<input type="checkbox"/>
16 - 25 years	<input type="checkbox"/>		

4. How many in your household travel daily out of Kemerton?(Number)

5. How many cars/vans are regularly kept at the house?(Number)

6. Of these how many are parked regularly:

In a garage?(Number)

In a driveway?(Number)

On the road?(Number)

7. In which part of Kemerton do you live? (Tick box)

Upper Kemerton (North of High Street)

Lower Kemerton (South of High Street)

Transport

8.. What is your main means of transport to work, training or study? (Tick one box or more if appropriate):

Car/Van Motorbike Public bus Private/School bus Train
Walking Taxi Bicycle

9. Do you have difficulty in getting to any of the following? (Tick more than one box if applicable):

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Hospital	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chiropodist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doctor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dentist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dispensary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Optician	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Approximately, how often do you use the public bus service? (Tick one box)

Weekly Monthly Sometimes Never

11. If you have a car would you be willing to take part in a voluntary transport service?

Yes No No car

Traffic

12. Do you think traffic speed through the village centre should be better controlled?

Yes No

13. Do you think there is a problem with speeding traffic elsewhere in the village?

Yes No

14. If 'yes' say where: (Specify):

:

15. How safe do you think the pavements are for people with disabilities, wheelchairs or prams? (Tick one box)

Good Acceptable Poor Unacceptable

16. If poor or unacceptable, specify where and why (continue on back page if necessary):

17. Do you feel safe crossing the High Street?

Yes No

18. Is there a problem with parking in the village?:

Yes No

19. If 'Yes' to parking problems, specify where: (continue on back page if necessary):

Crime

20. Which, if any, of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Kemerton?

	Yes	No
Burglary/Theft	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mugging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vandalism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drunkenness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fouling of pavements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Would you like to see a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your part of the village?

Yes No

22. Would you be willing to participate?

Yes No

23. Do you know the name of the village Policeman/Community Support Officer?

Yes No

And would you know how to contact him?

Yes No

24. Do you think he should to be present each week at a fixed point and time in the village so that you could approach him with any matters you feel concern the police?

Yes No

Leisure Activities

25. Would you like to see any of the any of the following facilities made available with in the village?(Tick one box or more if appropriate):

Allotments	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing Field	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Playground	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis Courts	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Leisure park	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

26. Would you be prepared to assist in the supervision of any playground or sports facility in the village?

Yes No

27. What additional activities would you like to take part in, or what other facilities for sport would you like to see in Kemerton: (Specify)

28. Would you like to see more use made of the Victoria Hall?

Yes No No opinion

29. If so, how? (Specify):

30. There are many footpaths and walks in and around the village (Tick boxes as appropriate):

	Yes	No	No opinion
Do you use them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are they well sign posted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Should a map be displayed in village centre?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Should a leaflet be available to purchase?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are they adequately maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Services

31. How often do you use: (Tick boxes as appropriate)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Never
The village shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The village post office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The village butcher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The village pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kemerton Playschool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Either of the village churches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

32. If you use the village post office, please say for what: (Tick boxes as appropriate)

	Yes	No
Postal services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pensions/allowances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Giro bank/saving certificates etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle tax, TV licence/service bills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information leaflets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

33. How do you rate the following services:(Tick boxes as appropriate)

	Good	Reasonable	Poor	No opinion
Electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refuse collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street cleaning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface water drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snow clearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

34. Do you have access to the internet ? Yes No
35. Do you have Broadband ? Yes No
36. If so, are you satisfied with the speed ? Yes No N/A

Planning and Environment

37. Wychavon needs to find sites in villages for about 1000 new houses over the next twenty years. Do you think any of these should be in Kemerton ?

Yes No

38. If Kemerton has to accept some of these houses, what do you think the additional accommodation should it be?: (Tick one or more boxes)

Local authority rented Private rented Owner occupied
 Sale to locals only Affordable housing Shared ownership
 Other (Specify):

39. Approximately how often do you read the notice board outside Victoria Hall ?

Weekly Once a month Occasionally Never

40. Where do you usually get news of what is happening in Kemerton? (Tick one or more boxes):

	Yes	No
Notice board outside Victoria Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notice board in bus shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village magazine (The Record)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village Shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village Pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

41. Have you ever attended a Parish Council meeting ?

Yes No

42. Do you know the names of any of your Parish Councillors ?

Yes No

43. Would you want to serve on the Parish Council ?

Yes No

44. How well does the Parish Council keep the villagers informed of its activities and future plans ?

Very well Quite well Not very well No opinion

And finally:

45. What do you like best about living in Kemerton?

46. What concerns you most about the future of Kemerton?

In the space below, please provide any other comments that you think may assist the Steering Committee in the completion of the Kemerton Village Plan:

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED
QUESTIONNAIRE BY 12th JULY**

Thank you for taking the trouble to fill in this questionnaire. If you have indicated during the course of answering the questions that you may have more to offer in the way of suggestions or that you would like to assist the community in some way then please contact :

Sally King on 01386 725620

SUMMARY OF RETURNS**YOUR HOUSEHOLD**

1. How many people, including children, normally live in your household?

Occupancy Breakdown:	33 x 1 person
	50 x 2 persons
	13 x 3 persons
	10 x 4 persons
	1 x 5 persons
	2 x 6 persons

Total: 229 in 109 homes

2. Please break down number by age and sex:

	Male (Number)	Female (Number)
0-4	11	5
5-10	4	3
11-15	3	4
16-17	2	0
18-24	8	3
25-44	18	20
45-59	15	22
60-64	15	20
65-74	21	14
75-84	15	10
85+	10	6
Totals:	122	107
		229

3. How long have you lived in the village?

Less than a year	1	(1%)
1 - 5 years	22	(20%)
6 - 15 years	19	(17%)
16 - 25 years	21	(18%)
26 - 30 years	10	(9%)
31+ years	24	(22%)
Always	12	(11%)

4. How many in your household travel daily out of Kemerton? 88 Total
5. How many cars/vans are regularly kept at the house? 172 Total

YOUR HOUSEHOLD (CONT)

6. Of these how many are parked regularly:

In a garage?	44	(26%)
In a driveway?	110	(64%)
On the road?	18	(10%)

7. In which part of Kemerton do you live?

Upper Kemerton (North of High Street)	67	(61%)
Lower Kemerton (South of High Street)	42	(39%)

TRANSPORT

8. What is your main means of transport to work, training or study?

Car/Van	68%
Motorbike	2%
Public bus	6%
Private/School bus	4%
Train	2%
Walking	10%
Taxi	0%
Bicycle	5%

9. Do you have difficulty in getting to any of the following?

	Yes
Hospital	8%
Chiropodist	1%
Doctor	5%
Dentist	4%
Dispensary	4%
Optician	4%

10. Approximately, how often do you use the public bus service?

Weekly	11%
Monthly	3%
Sometimes	12%

11. If you have a car would you be willing to take part in a voluntary transport service?

Yes	38%
-----	------------

TRAFFIC

12. Do you think traffic speed through the village centre should be better controlled?

Yes **72%**

13. Do you think there is a problem with speeding traffic elsewhere in the village?

Yes **50%**

14. If you believe speeding is a problem in the village specify where:

Location:	Kinsham Lane	18	30%
	Kemerton to Overbury	10	16%
	High Street	8	14%
	Church Lane	5	8%
	Lower Kemerton	5	8%
	Castle Hill	6	9%
	Hill Road	5	8%
	Kemerton to Westmancote	4	7%
	Total:	61	

15. How safe do you think the pavements are for people with disabilities, wheelchairs or prams?

Good	10%
Acceptable	25%
Poor	51%
Unacceptable	12%

16. If you believe pavements are poor or unacceptable, specify where and why

Location:	Opposite shop (due to parked cars)	11	23%
	Opposite village hall + cross (hedges)	5	10%
	High Street (outside Pear Tree Cottage)	6	12%
	Castle Hill (up to Hill Road)	3	7%
	High Street (paving and tree roots)	3	7%
	Kemerton to Overbury	2	4%
	Bayliss Road	2	4%
	Opposite village hall + cross (poor paving)	2	4%

There were also 2 general comments:

Generally too narrow	13	27%
Pavements are poorly lit	1	2%
Total:	48	

17. Do you feel safe crossing the High Street?

Yes **75%**

TRAFFIC (CONT)

18. Is there a problem with parking in the village?

Yes **72%**

19. If you believe parking is a problem in the village, specify where:

Location:

Outside village hall	47%
Outside village shop	34%
Jobs Lane/Old Post Office Lane	6%
Church Lane	3%
Kinsham Lane/High Street Junction	2%
Home Farm	1%
Hill Lane	1%
St Benets Church	1%
Bayliss Road	1%
Outside the village pub	1%
By the War memorial	1%
Cherry Tree Cottage	1%
Castle Hill (top)	1%

CRIME

20. Which, if any, of the following crimes and anti-social behaviour concern you in Kemerton?

Burglary/Theft	55%
Drunkenness	2%
Mugging	1%
Drug Abuse	0%
Vandalism	8%
Fouling of pavements	27%

21. Would you like to see a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your part of the village?

Yes **73%**

22. Would you be willing to participate?

Yes **59%**

23. Do you know the name of the village Policeman/Community Support Officer?

Yes **34%**

CRIME (CONT)

23. (cont) Would you know how to contact him?

Yes **31%**

24. Do you think he should to be present each week at a fixed point and time in the village so that you could approach him with any matters you feel concern the police?

Yes **49%**

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

25. Would you like to see any of the any of the following facilities made available within the village?

	Yes
Allotments	49%
Playing Field	50%
Children's Playground	59%
General Leisure park	18%
Tennis Courts	26%

26. Would you be prepared to assist in the supervision of any playground or sports facility in the village?

Yes **34%**

27. What additional facilities should be provided in Kemerton? The following is a list of suggestions by respondents:

SOCIAL:

- Coffee mornings
- Facilities for teenagers (youth club/other activities)
- Village hall suppers
- Wine club
- Children's play group
- Social events
- Parties
- Mothers union
- Bridge/bingo club
- Lunch club
- Music evenings
- Quiz night
- Local events
- Community club

LEISURE ACTIVITIES (CONT)

THEATRE AND DRAMA:

- Dance
- Theatre club
- Film shows
- Drama club

CRAFTS AND ARTS:

- Craft mornings/evenings
- Craft sales

OUTDOORS:

- Bird Watching
- Village walking group

SPORT:

- Pilates/yoga
- Ball pitch
- Table tennis
- Family cycle track
- Golf course
- Swimming pool
- Go Karting
- Boule area
- Cycle safety area
- Badminton

28. Would you like to see more use made of Victoria Hall

Yes **42%**

29. If so, how? (Answers combined into question 27).

30. There are many footpaths and walks in and around the village?

	Yes	No
Do you use them?	77%	15%
Are they well sign posted?	60%	15%
Should a map be displayed in village centre?	50%	21%
Should a leaflet be available to purchase?	58%	15%
Are they adequately maintained	37%	30%

SERVICES

31. How often do you use:

	Frequently	Occasionally
The village shop	70%	26%
The village post office	72%	25%
The village butcher	14%	40%
The village pub	6%	66%
Kemerton Playschool	9%	3%
Either of the village churches	25%	45%

32. If you use the village post office, please say for what:

Postal services	96%
Vehicle tax, TV licence/service bills	77%
Pensions/allowances	14%
Information leaflets	32%
Giro bank/saving certificates etc	25%
Other services	44%

33. How do you rate the following services:

	Good	Reasonable	Poor
Electricity	27%	44%	27%
Gas	82%	12%	0%
Water	77%	19%	1%
Refuse collection	61%	28%	7%
Street cleaning	38%	41%	12%
Surface water drainage	11%	31%	54%
Snow clearance	6%	28%	34%

34. Do you have access to the internet ?

Yes **75%**

35. Do you have Broadband?

Yes **66%**

36. If so, are you satisfied with the speed?

No **54%**

PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

37. Wychavon needs to find sites in villages for about 1000 new houses over the next twenty years. Do you think any of these should be in Kemerton ?

Yes **36%**
No **64%**

PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT (cont)

38. If Kemerton has to accept some of these houses, what do you think the additional accommodation should it be?

Local authority rented	9%
Private rented	8%
Owner occupied	32%
Sale to locals only	21%
Affordable housing	25%
Shared ownership	5%

COMMUNICATION

39. Approximately how often do you read the notice board outside Victoria Hall?

Weekly	15%
Once a month	21%
Occasionally	49%

40. Where do you usually get news of what is happening in Kemerton?

Notice board outside Victoria Hall	20%
Notice board in bus shelter	10%
Village magazine (The Record)	30%
Village Shop	33%
Village Pub	7%

41. Have you ever attended a Parish Council meeting?

Yes	47%
-----	------------

42. Do you know the names of any of your Parish Councillors?

Yes	84%
-----	------------

43. Would you want to serve on the Parish Council?

Yes	22%
-----	------------

44. How well does the Parish Council keep the villagers informed of its activities and future plans?

Very well	9%
Quite well	45%
Not very well	35%
No opinion	11%

OTHER COMMENTS

45. What are the best things about living in Kemerton?

Rural location	24%
Community spirit	15%
Friendliness	13%
Peace and quiet	12%
Village amenities	7%
Access to motorway (location)	6%
Access to Bredon hill	5%
Area of outstanding natural beauty	5%
Unspoilt village	3%
Local walks	3%
Safe environment	2%
Wildlife	1%
Conservation area	1%
Local playgroup	1%
Young families	1%
No street lighting	1%
Lack of development	1%
The orchards	1%

46. What concerns you most about the future of Kemerton?

Low quality new development	25%
Loss of post office/shop	13%
Loss of pub	12%
Too many cars	6%
Lack of affordable housing	6%
Loss of character	6%
Too few buses	4%
Need for recreational facilities	3%
Ageing community	3%
Change	3%
Bonfires	2%
Crime	2%
Lack of character in pub	2%
Poor road repairs/maintenance	2%
Second homes	1%
Children's facilities (lack of)	1%
Loss of Area of Natural Beauty	1%
Speeding	1%
Loss of village hall	1%
Loss of church	1%
Surface water flooding	1%
Lack of new housing	1%
Slow broadband	1%
Street lighting	1%
Tourist features	1%
Gloucester postcode in Worcestershire	1%
Power cuts (electricity)	1%

