



Dorstone Parish Plan 2008

Questionnaire Report

**Herefordshire Council Research Team
December 2008**

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If you need help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please contact Michael Brown on 01432 260 495 or michaelbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk

Introduction

This document reports on the residents' questionnaires for the Dorstone Parish Plan. At the beginning of September 2008, adult and youth questionnaires were delivered to all households in Dorstone Parish – around 160 households. A period of around three weeks was allowed for questionnaire returns. Responses were obtained from 227 adults and 45 young people, in 136 households. In terms of households, this gives a response rate of around 85% which is an excellent response, considerably higher than is normally achieved in parish plans.

Presentation of results

Results are presented as percentages, to the nearest whole number. Charts are included where it is considered that they help in the visualisation of the results. All comments made in freetext boxes in the survey are included in full. These have been anonymised where references to specific or identifiable persons were made. Where comments have been anonymised, this is signified by [text in square brackets].

The “sample base”, referred to hereafter as the “base”, is the number from which the percentages are calculated. The base used is variable. In most cases, percentages are calculated as the proportion of valid responses to each question, i.e. excluding those who did not answer the question from the sample base. The exception is where respondents were asked to tick from a list of options that did not include a way of saying “no” or “none of these”. In these cases, all survey respondents was the most appropriate base to use.

The inclusion or exclusion of “no opinion” answers from the sample base depends on the context of the question. Where respondents were asked whether or not they supported a proposal, the “no opinion” answers were included, in order to avoid giving a false impression of the strength of support or opposition to a proposal, where few respondents had given a view. In cases where the “no opinion” was used to indicate insufficient knowledge to form a judgement of a service (e.g. through having no experience of the service), they were excluded.

Adult Questionnaire

Housing / Business

Questions 1 to 6 were to be answered by one adult per household only.

Question 1. Is your property in Dorstone your main residence?

Property in Dorstone is main residence	
Yes	99%
No	1%
Base	133

Question 2. How many people live in your household?

Number of people in household	
<i>Male:</i>	
One male	75
Two males	23
Three males	7
Four males	3
Total number of males	154
<i>Female</i>	
One female	91
Two females	22
Three females	8
Four females	3
Total number of females	171
<i>Whole household</i>	
One person	32
Two people	58
Three people	12
Four people	15
Five people	15
Six people	1
Total persons	325

Question 3. What are their ages?

Ages of household members	
0 to 5	4%
5 to 10	6%
11 to 17	9%
18 to 24	6%
25 to 29	3%
30 to 44	12%
45 to 59	26%
60 to 74	19%
75 to 84	8%
85 plus	6%
Base ¹	231

Question 4. Your dwelling is

Tenure	
Privately rented	7%
Provided as part of your employment	0%
Rented from a Housing Association	1%
Owned by you	83%
Shared ownership	5%
Other	4%
Base	131

Question 5. Do you, or a member of your household, run a business from this address or within the parish?

Run a business in the Parish	
Yes	32%
No	68%
Base	135

Future Housing Needs

Question 6. Are you, any individual in your household or entire household likely to NEED alternative accommodation within the next five years?

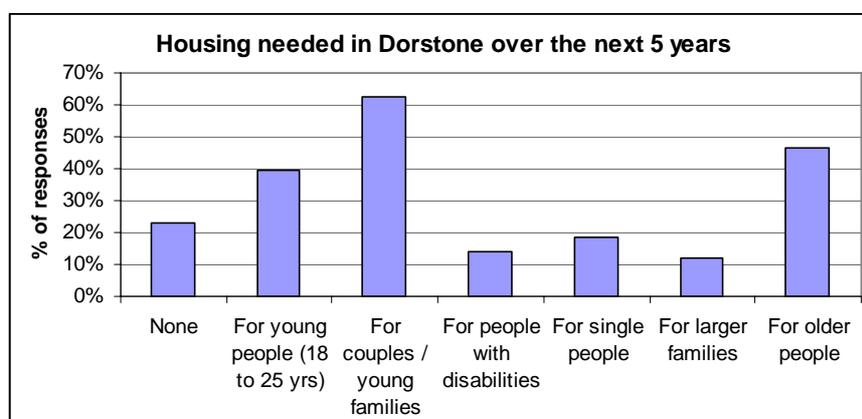
Need alternative accommodation	
Yes	9%
No	55%
Possibly	23%
Don't know	13%
Base	132

¹ Base is the number of people for whom this question was answered, not the number of households

Questions from this point onwards were to be answered separately by all residents aged 18 or over.

Question 7. What kind of housing will Dorstone need in the next five years?

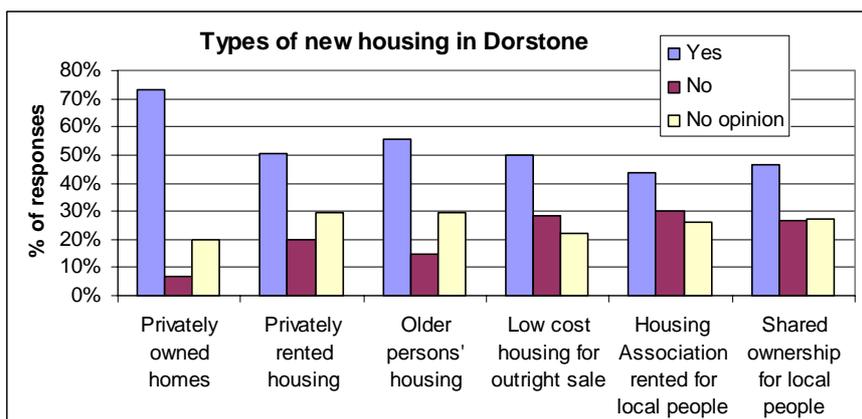
Housing needed in Dorstone over the next 5 years	
None	23%
For young people (18 to 25 yrs)	39%
For couples / young families	63%
For people with disabilities	14%
For single people	19%
For larger families	12%
For older people	46%
Base	203



Respondents identified a need for housing for couples and young families, for older people, and for younger people.

Question 8. What types of new housing should there be in Dorstone Parish?

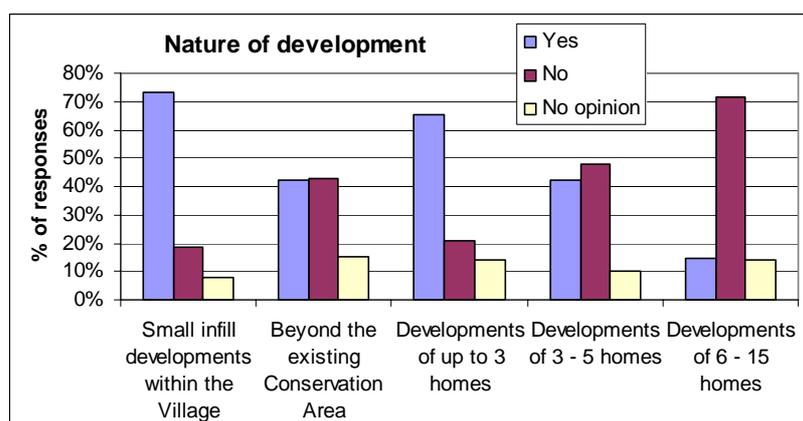
Types of new housing in Dorstone				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
Privately owned homes	73%	7%	20%	156
Privately rented housing	50%	20%	30%	145
Older persons' housing	56%	15%	29%	153
Low cost housing for outright sale	50%	28%	22%	153
Housing Association rented for local people	44%	30%	26%	149
Shared ownership for local people	46%	27%	27%	147



Support was greater than opposition for all types of new housing. The strongest support was seen for privately owned homes, where almost three quarters of responses were in favour.

Question 9. If new homes are to be built, they should be

Nature of development				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
Small infill developments within the Village	73%	19%	8%	175
Beyond the existing Conservation Area	42%	43%	15%	164
Developments of up to 3 homes	65%	21%	14%	141
Developments of 3 - 5 homes	42%	48%	10%	138
Developments of 6 - 15 homes	15%	72%	14%	137



There was strong support for small infill developments within the village, with just under three quarters of responses being positive. Almost two thirds of responses indicated support for developments of up to 3 homes. Support and opposition were roughly equal for development beyond the existing conservation area, and for developments of 3 – 5 homes. There was strong opposition to developments of between 6 and 15 homes (72% opposed).

Other ideas

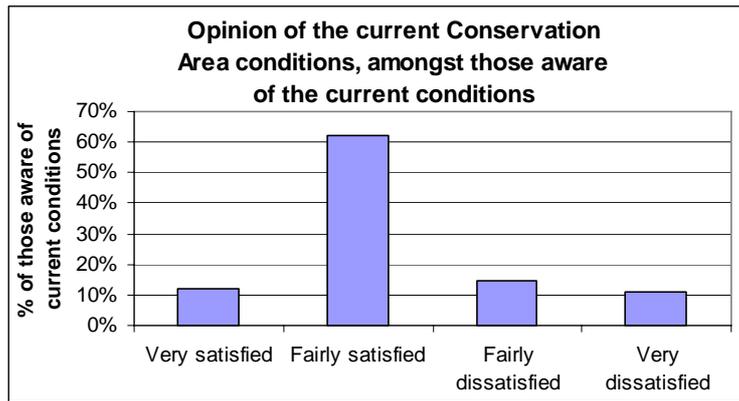
Able to build one's own home on land belonging to themselves.
Barn conversions.
Conversion of farm buildings
Depends greatly on style and quality of development. Certainly should not be too much development! The village might lose its feeling of entity and charm.
I feel people with land with development potential should be allowed to apply for development.
If younger people wish to stay in the area housing is either limited or too costly. The only groups of people able to stay in the area are older or wealthier. Is there really any incentive for young people to stay in the area? At the moment there appears to be an ageing population within the parish, which will only continue if there is no more development.
Individual homes
Maintain present patterns
Mixture of all types.
More housing means more traffic. I have lived here 5 years, I chose to move here because of what it is now.
Perhaps a few houses in areas like The Bage or alongside existing farms, etc. The village centre is fairly crowded already.
Single plots
The [local development] proves that the notion of "conservation area" is a nonsense.
The lack of amenities which limit any possible future developments
There is no point building houses of any sort in a village which has very limited facilities.
Where local families' needs are within the farming and other long-term stable occupations with own land for planning.

Planning and Conservation

Question 10. What is your opinion of the current Conservation Area conditions within the village of Dorstone?

Opinion of the current Conservation Area conditions		
	Amongst all responses to the question	Those aware of the current conditions
Not aware of current conservation conditions	52%	
Very satisfied	5%	12%
Fairly satisfied	25%	62%
Fairly dissatisfied	6%	15%
Very dissatisfied	4%	11%
No opinion	9%	
Base	208	82 ²

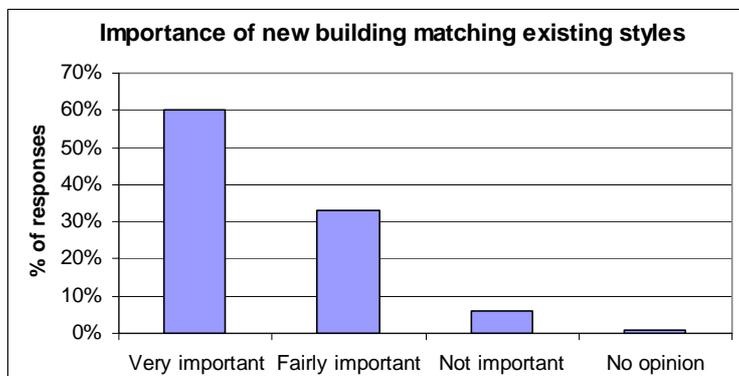
² Excludes "no opinion" and "not aware of current conservation conditions" responses



Amongst those who answered the question, more than half were unaware of the current conservation conditions. Amongst those who were aware of the current conditions and had an opinion, 74% were satisfied, compared to 26% dissatisfied.

Question 11. How important do you think it is for any new building development to match the existing styles of surrounding buildings?

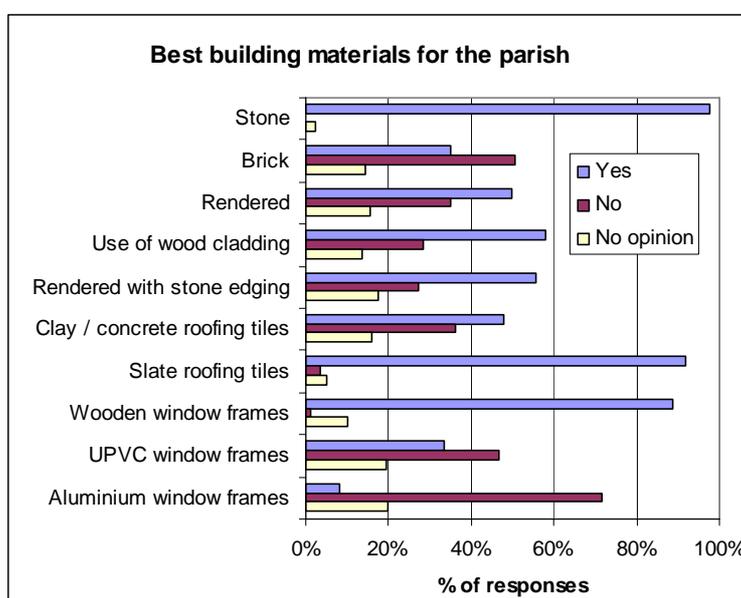
Importance of new building matching existing styles	
Very important	60%
Fairly important	33%
Not important	6%
No opinion	1%
Base	216



60% of respondents thought it was very important that new building matched existing styles, and 33% thought it was fairly important.

Question 12. Which of the following building materials would look best in the parish?

Best building materials for the parish				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
Stone	98%	0%	2%	212
Brick	35%	51%	14%	152
Rendered	50%	35%	15%	149
Use of wood cladding	58%	28%	14%	155
Rendered with stone edging	55%	27%	17%	155
Clay / concrete roofing tiles	48%	36%	16%	144
Slate roofing tiles	92%	3%	5%	180
Wooden window frames	89%	1%	10%	179
UPVC window frames	34%	47%	20%	158
Aluminium window frames	8%	72%	20%	145



Support was strongest for stone (98% in favour), slate roofing tiles (92%) and wooden window frames (89%). Opposition was stronger than support for aluminium window frames (72% opposed), brick (51% opposed) and UPVC window frames (47% opposed).

Other building features which are important

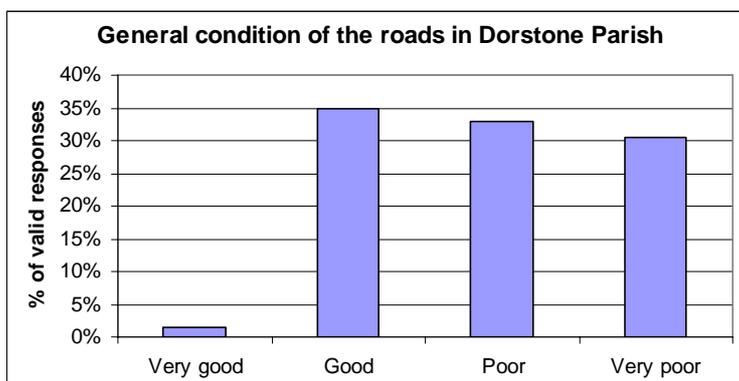
Adequate off-road parking for any new houses.
All new build, conversion and extension plans should be subject to having solar tiles included.
All the above are already present & could be used again with discretion. Screening of ugly oil storage tanks. It is the quality of any future development which is important.
Bradstone tiles that resemble stone tiles, or those that resemble welsh slate are acceptable.

Buildings which don't overpower their neighbours. Overly large houses tend to dominate small neighbouring cottages.
Choice of materials should depend on location.
Colour of brick (i.e. fitting in with other local / older brick colour). Also don't see the harm in eco-friendly building i.e. straw bale or small geodome type building.
Conservation area conditions better if enforced.
Conservation Area conditions would be better if enforced.
Depends where in the parish the new houses are.
Good design & quality materials. Use of oak / hardwood. Glass. Imagination - we should not have to build uniform stone cottages. Good modern design could continue the process of evolvement.
Height, style.
Homogeneity not important, variety of styles and materials, quality of design and construction is imperative.
House not too big for the size of the plot.
I don't mind rendered buildings as long as they are a sensible colour when painted.
I think it is extremely important that houses should be aesthetically pleasing (especially low-cost housing). Nothing degrades a village more than "tatty" housing. Haven't enough technical knowledge to know how.
No to white UPVC frames yes to "wood effect" UPVC frames.
Plots with large gardens to attract families with children.
Properties such as barn conversions tie in with the surrounding area. A little thought into building materials goes a long way.
Relationship / closeness to road (should be set back). Minimum distances between detached houses / minimum plot size = 1/8 acre.
Scale & landscaping
Scale of building must be in keeping with surrounding / neighbouring properties.
Scale. Very important that QUALITY should predominate. Yes to UPVC window frames - a pity, but they're practical!
Slate roof tiles - depends on location of dwelling. Terraced houses of sensitive design are preferable to detached houses set narrowly apart. Very important to match the traditional buildings, not those of lesser character.
Solar panels.
Solar panels.
Sufficient car parking for any new development.
The new houses with wood cladding look terrible.
The village needs a mixture of styles in keeping with present buildings - sympathetic to local area. Cannot expect stone everywhere as it is costly to build, which means cheaper homes are priced out. Cheap doesn't mean tacky!
There are too many different styles of housing that Planning have allowed. To follow one style of building.
There is no "standard" in Dorstone.
Wood cladding only on older property, barns etc
Wood is sustainable and long lasting from a renewable source.
Yes to wood effect UPVC frames.

Traffic

Question 13. What is your opinion of the general condition of the roads within Dorstone Parish?

General condition of the roads in Dorstone Parish	
Very good	1%
Good	35%
Poor	33%
Very poor	31%
Base ³	206



36% of those who had an opinion thought that the condition of the roads was good or very good in the parish, while 64% thought they were poor or very poor.

If answering “poor” or “very poor”, please specify location.

1) Uneven surface and poor drainage allows water to stand on B4348 to Peterchurch. 2) Dorstone Hill needs trees trimming towards bottom and white lines renewing.
All of Dorstone parish
All of the roads! I keep damaging my vehicle it costs me a fortune to keep repairing it!! The B4348 in particular it's very poor.
ALL ROADS - pot holes, poor surface, poor drainage.
All roads in Parish
All tar and chipped surfaces.
Along the B4348 around the village. Lots of flooding and run-off from the fields.
Along all minor roads around the parish - Scar Lane, Scotland Bank Lane etc etc.
Arthur's Stone Lane, Scar Lane.
B4348 - Hay to Hereford. The roads are appalling and are in desperate need of a lot of repair work. Wear and tear on cars is far in excess of what it should be as a result of potholes and bad surfaces.
B4348 Bage to Llanafon
B4348 condition is inadequate and in places continually very bad.
B4348 Dorstone to Hay-on-Wye. Pitt road from Dorstone to Common Bach.

³ Excludes “no opinion” responses

B4348 from Peterchurch to village sign - potholes badly patched and regular standing water and flooding. Junction with Dorstone Hill / B4348 - gravel everywhere, poor edges to roads. Dorstone Hill - water has washed out sides, leaving deep ruts. Exposed drain grid edges are dangerous.
B4348 Hay to Hereford - unsatisfactory.
B4348 which passes through Dorstone and Peterchurch is generally in very poor condition.
B4348.
B4348.
B4348.
Back road to Peterchurch. Main road to Hay.
Bage / Sydcombe
Bage Road
Bage Road. Dorstone to Peterchurch main road, back road.
Bend west of church.
But some lanes have broken verges and potholes. B4348 badly re-instated where service trenches dug.
By roads Mynyddbrydd. Flooding by Clum Farm due to ditches never being cleared out. Parish Council informed but no action over 12 months! Also all down Kiln water running all time - will be very dangerous when icy weather. (towards Archenfield)
By Roads Mynyddbrydd
Central village as a result of the new water mains.
Cleaning maintenance of ditches is poor. Dorstone Hill road is poor quality surface and dangerous.
Common Bach Road
Country lanes and main road to Hay-on-Wye. Potholes and edges of road crumbling.
Dorstone Hill - erosion round drain covers & inadequate surfaces on passing bays.
Dorstone Hill
Dorstone Hill - narrow, badly maintained.
Dorstone Hill / Pentre Lane, Scar Lane, Arthurs Stone Lane, Mynyddbrith-Bell Corner-B4348 junction needs repair.
Dorstone Hill, Mynyddbrith, Dorstone to Snodhill, Bage
Dorstone Hill, The Gannels.
Dorstone Hill.
Dorstone Hill.
Dorstone Hill.
Dorstone Hill. Dorstone - Peterchurch.
Dorstone to Mynyddbrith.
Dorstone to the Bage all roads in Parish
Dorstone to The Bage very uneven and prone to flooding.
Dorstone to the Bage.
Dorstone village to Bell corner.
Especially over Dorstone Hill to Bredwardine, a main artery for traffic. I think almost everyone who uses it has tales to tell. Personally I could have tipped my car over in the rain at night when reversing for somebody. I only stopped it by opening the door and thus preventing it tipping. Another passing place is needed at the most crucial point and more general upkeep, i.e. debris, and possibly salting in winter. Why is that not possible? I have written off a car due to black ice on the road.
Everywhere, but especially Dorstone Hill.
Everywhere.
Except Pitt Lane above Pitt Farm when run-off breaks up the road surface.

Gannels Pitch and road to Cusop. Common Bach Road.
Gannok Pitch, Pitt Road, Peterchurch back road.
General breakdown in road surface. NB Bottom of Dorstone Hill and B4348 between Dorstone and the Bage. Water on the road even with small amount of rain.
Generally, but especially Dorstone Hill.
Good except where the road is breaking up with a pothole developing at the Mynyddbrith 4 way junction by Dore View.
Having lived here for 20 years, I find this question trivial!! The state of the roads from Hay to Allensmore - Kingstone - Clehonger - Hereford is a total disgrace.
In general OK. Different signs at each end of Dorstone Hill are no help. Heavy traffic should be restricted.
It is not a particular location that is the problem, but the quality of any road repairs undertaken. Small / medium potholes are poorly repaired.
Just drive around the outskirts of village.
Lanes from village
Many pot holes and rough areas. Drains not cleaned so a lot of standing water.
Most of the way from The Bage to Peterchurch.
Mynyddbrith Road, Pont-y-weston Road, Pitt Road
Nearly all unclassified roads are disgusting. Drains unblocked BEFORE repairs needs to be a priority.
Need repairing more often - holes stay for too long.
Not wide enough, overhanging trees, potholes.
Notable Bage / Scotland Bank to Sydcombe.
Pitt Road, main road, Brownsa Lane, the vast majority are in awful condition.
Pitt Road
Pitt Road as far as Green Road which I travel on a regular basis.
Pont-y-Weston
Pont-Y-Weston / Mynyddbrith
Poor between the Bage and Dorstone and drainage poor.
Poor patching by pipeline below Gannols Pitch.
Pot holes everywhere and very uneven surfaces due to repair work over the years. If you drive a tractor on the roads you discover how rough they really are.
Pot holes fill with rain which splashes house.
Pot holes, poor surfaces.
Road out of village towards the road.
Scar Lane
Scar Lane is always flooded at the bottom and riddled with potholes.
Scar Lane, Bage - Dorstone
Scar Lane, Arthur's Stone Lane.
Scar Lane, the Bage to Dorstone
Scar Lane.
Scar Lane.
Scar Lane.
Scar Lane.
Small lanes are in dire need of repair / re-surfacing.
Surface not too bad but drainage is poor.
The B4348 from The Bage all the way to Dorstone (poor). Scar Lane all the way from bottom to top (very poor).
The Bage to Dorstone.
The Bage, Dorstone Hill (very poor) Mynydd Brith

The fabric of the roads is being continually eroded by heavy vehicles. Council Highways Dept seems to ignore the need to keep constant oversight and preventative action to avoid, for example, pot holes.
The main B4348 Dorstone to Bage and Scar Lane.
The main Hay to Hereford road (via Hardwick) Dorstone / Peterchurch B4348 is horrendous. No amount of 'patches' of tarmac the council choose to distribute so sparsely will improve this. It needs to be re-surfaced.
The Pitt Road from Dorstone to Common Bach B4348 to Hay-on-Wye.
The road surface locally is the cheapest option, it is not proper tarmacadam.
The road up Scar Lane is particularly "rocky". Our car doesn't enjoy that area much.
The roads generally are inferior to other parts of the country. Lanes in Dorstone, Common Bach, etc., are very poor.
Tight bends by Court House, generally roads in Dorstone are in poor condition.
Too many potholes.
Top layer along B4348 with potholes and flooding. At Crossways to beyond Westbrook.
Try cycling around the parish - the roads are very rough.
Variable - road to Common Bach is poor and often badly patched.

Question 14. Are there any traffic problems or safety issues within Dorstone Parish?

Traffic problems or safety issues	
Yes	65%
No	21%
No opinion	14%
Base	213

Almost two thirds of respondents thought that there were traffic problems or safety issues in Dorstone Parish.

If you have ticked "yes" please identify the location and the type of traffic problem / road safety issue involved. Please give suggestions for its solution.

1) Speed of some drivers 2) Size of many private and business vehicles including lorry and farm vehicles. Should imagine not much to be done as regards 2), and not sure what sensibly could be done re 1), maybe put Jeremy Clarkson on trial or restrict him to a bicycle!
1) Speed of traffic on B4348 in parish. 2) Speed through village and on minor roads. 3) Speed on both sides of Dorstone Hill. Solution: 50mph restriction from Peterchurch to Dorstone; 30mph restriction in parish; 20mph on Dorstone Hill.
a) Excessive speed on main road. b) Use of main road by heavy traffic (may have increased because of sat. nav. directions). Solutions: 1) Speed limit of 30mph. 2) Discuss possible restrictions on use of road with highways authority.
Access to the playing field.
Agricultural vehicles travel too fast through the village. 20mph speed limit required.

B4348 at The Bage. Planning permission has been granted for 8 houses with minimum of 24 cars at the junction of Scar Lane, which is a dangerous corner already even though residents have brought this issue to the Planning Department's attention. There needs to be at least 30mph speed limit imposed now.
B4348 excessive speed on bends at Crossways and church. Lorries using Dorstone Hill as a short cut in spite of notice "unsuitable for HGV's".
B4348 from church to Bridge Cottage, Mynyddbrith Road, Pontyweston road and Pitt Road
B4348 heavy lorries, large agricultural vehicles, noisy boy racers.
B4348 past playing field and church - no speed limit to slow lorries and other traffic. Playing field to church MUST have proper crossing and footways. Very dangerous. Needs 40 mile limit and crossing. B4348 junction with Dorstone Hill - white lines worn away and no proper warning of junction. Needs RED roadmarking. Crossways / B4348 - no white lines on re-surfaced area, so traffic creeps to wrong side. Also, water flows back and forth across road as far as left turn into village centre - very dangerous at night and esp. if frosty
B4348 through the Bage to Dorstone. Speed and overtaking. Slow down and calming measures needed. There are a lot of hidden entrances onto the B4348.
Bad bends near the church really need attention.
Bends around the church area.
Build up areas - traffic travelling far too fast.
Buses and cars go too fast through the village. Due to no pavements, locals with children have to walk on the road which is quite dangerous. Signs may help.
Buses go way to fast
Buses go way to fast
Cars and tractors too fast - speed limit imposed with signs.
Crossing from the village to the playing field.
Crossing from village to playing field - traffic too high speed when children may be crossing. Flashing sign to warn motorists to slow down.
Crossway turn, Bage turning.
Dorstone Corners
Dorstone Hill - only lorries delivering to properties on the hill should be allowed. I have noted Tarmac lorries which park overnight in Peterchurch, broken down mobile library van and many others. The turning into Arthur's Stone Lane - poor visibility. Vehicles with trailer cannot / will not reverse. Junction between B4348 Bell corner and Mynyddbrith Lane is unclear who has precedence. Most traffic comes to or from The Bage into village Pandy Inn road.
Entry / Exit Dorstone Hill on to main road. Poor road surface Dorstone Hill. Dead trees - Dorstone Hill.
Exit from Bage / Sydcombe.
Exit from Bage Court / Pool very dangerous particularly for holiday homes and those unused to the condition of the road. Further development here i.e. Bage Court / Sydcombe will increase traffic making an exit here some 10x and surely result in an accident.
Exit from Dorstone Hill on to B4348. Exit from Scar Lane on to B4348.
Exit from Scar Lane and Sydcome Lane - very restricted vision. Junction with Arthur's Stone Lane and Dorstone Hill - restricted vision. Junction of B4348 and Dorstone Hill - restricted vision, especially from Peterchurch direction.
Exit / entrance to Scar Lane at The Bage. Poor sighting, cannot see on coming traffic. Speed of traffic through The Bage.
Farm traffic does appear to race through the village. The odd car races up the road. Definitely a 30mph limit through the village and past playing field.
Fast vehicles, especially large ones, through the village centre.

General speed of traffic throughout the village.
General speeding - esp through the village. Lack of road safety signs on B4348. I would prefer to see road markings as opposed to more signs.
Heavy traffic using Dorstone Hill - sides of roads with deep gullies in places possible damage to cars if having to pull over for other vehicles.
Hedge at the church. Loss of view. Suggest take out the hedge and leave the stone wall.
Ice from ditches overflowing in winter
In general OK. Different signs at each end of Dorstone Hill are no help. Heavy traffic should be restricted.
Insufficient passing places on one track roads. Consider 20mph speed limit on one track roads.
Junction of Scar Lane with B4348. 30mph speed limit.
Junction of Scar Lane with B4348. Warning signs and perhaps other traffic calming measures.
Lack of pavement through bad bends at church and crossways, no speed limits.
Lack of road men to keep drain open for surface water, so causing flooding problem when driving through.
Living outside the village makes these speed issues difficult to answer.
Lower speed limits needed in keeping with the conditions of the roads (bad visibility, bends, etc.) as well as the lack of footways and agricultural traffic.
Main road, fast traffic, esp. junction at foot of Dorstone Hill. Cars speed up to get them up the hill, but there is no foot path for pedestrians, very dangerous indeed.
Narrow corners by church and narrow road at Crossways. Could be widened as dotted line (sketch plan attached to questionnaire). Church corners should have been bypassed before playing field was done.
Need Children at Play signs. Speed of traffic through main village road is too high (Pandy Inn / shop road to Gorings). Width of B4348 is a plus as it slows traffic, but better signage would help. Need better visibility, so cut back edge at bottom of Dorstone Hill Road / Crossways.
No speed limit through village. No speed limit along main road by playing field and Dore View.
No speed limit through village. - Traffic light or one way system around church bends
On B4348. Bad traffic bends around the church particularly relating access from houses on to the bends and for pedestrians as there are no pavements.
Overall lack of pavements/walkways.
Pedestrian pavement around the church.
Pedestrian pavement on main road around church.
People driving at speed through the village - dangerous for young and elderly people walking on the road.
Peterchurch - Dorstone Crossways very fast traffic. Needs 30mph from Wilmaston.
Pitt Road - can't see what's coming over bump in road by Sunnyside.
Planning permission has been granted for development in The Bage of eight houses with a minimum of 24 cars all of which will join the B4348 on a dangerous corner. Accidents are bound to happen and the Planning authority will have to accept some responsibility.
Respondent has drawn a sketch map to indicate where he / she thinks speed limit signs should be erected.
Road side ditches are frequently unmarked and covered over with undergrowth. such as on Dorstone Hill.
Roads within village, particularly that which runs through past village green. Cars drive too quickly. Need signs and sleeping policemen.

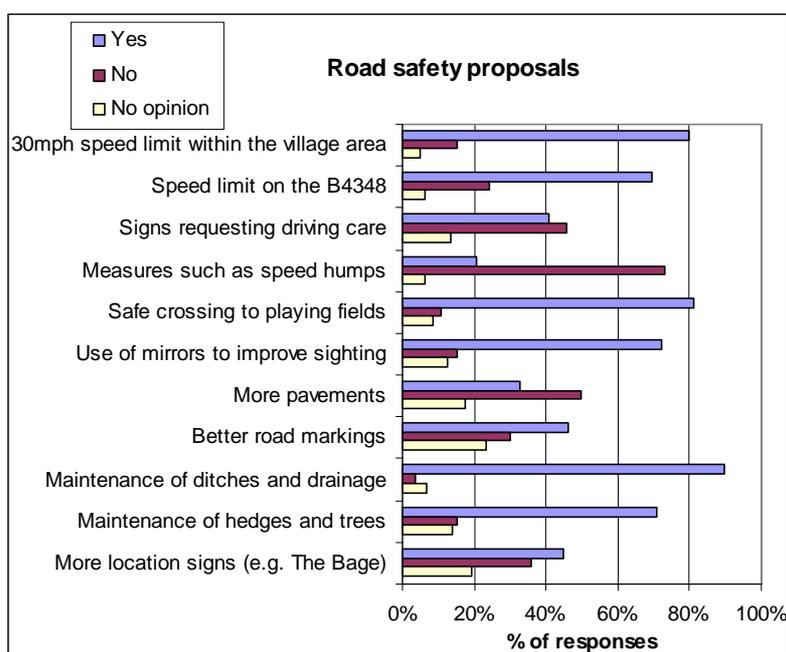
Running water down the roads will be ice in the winter
Sharp bend into village from Peterchurch direction preceded by narrowness of road can be awkward and possibly dangerous, e.g. when a wide vehicle is approaching, there is no room for two vehicles to pass each other. Perhaps should be more warning and mirrors.
Size and speed of traffic on the main road and through village! Speed limited to 30mph.
Some drivers drive too fast on narrow country roads with blind bends.
Some safety issues from tractors driving at excessive speed from time to time.
Speed - especially that of farm vehicles.
Speed and size of vehicles through village and past Green.
Speed between Peterchurch and Dorstone main road. Speed through village, speed up Gannock Pitch both for horse riders. Dorstone to The Bage. All risk of car accidents.
Speed is becoming an increasingly worrying problem within the village, back roads and Mynydd Brith Road.
Speed limit through village centre.
Speed linked with poor visibility on bend at the Bage by Scar Lane and Sidcombe Lane is dangerous. Crossways visibility on bend dangerous.
Speed of farm traffic on narrow roads can be alarming.
Speed of tractors on west side of village and drivers using CB's or mobile phones while driving.
Speed of traffic through The Bage. Junction Scar lane with B4348.
Speed of traffic through the village e.g. village green, village hall.
Speed of traffic through the village.
Speed of traffic through the village. Racing on main road within Parish.
Speed of traffic too high, many walkers and bikers who have to take to the ditch when meeting large fast vehicles.
Speed on B4348. No pavement near playing field.
Speed on narrow lanes not enough passing places.
Speed restrictions should be introduced and regularly policed.
Speed through Dorstone, no calming devices e.g. humps, staggered right of way like at Kingstone. Lack of pavements in certain areas of the village.
Speed.
Speed. 30mph restriction on entering the village. Mirror for blind corners from Arthur's [Stone] Lane to Dorstone Hill.
Speed restriction essential, have almost been in accident myself last spring.
Speeding 4x4's driven by people who have moved into the area and the occasional local tractor / trailer who struggle to stop at the speeds they travel and lunatic "white van" delivery drivers who think they are on a speed track.
Speeding on B4348 and through village is a problem and should be tackled. North side of Dorstone Hill requires more maintenance of passing places and road surface.
Speeding through village on B4348 particularly past the village playing field. Speed restrictions & signs to protect parents & children crossing from village to playing field would help as would the provision of better footpaths.
Speeding through village. Should be carefully handled so we do not have a lot of unattractive signs etc. Contacting local businesses (utilising tractors / trailers) to request encouragement of staff to maintain lower speeds.
Speeding traffic through the village, main road to Hay also has problems with speeding traffic. Speed limit needed in village. Safe crossing urgently needed across main road to playing field.
Speeding traffic, large lorries.

Speeding within the village. We need a 30 or 20mph limit.
Speeding, narrow space for pedestrians.
Speeding. 20mph speed limit for village. More signs - possibly those giving a digital read out of speed.
Spreading tractors in Dorstone village.
State of surface on B4348. Corner of B4348 at church and bottom of Dorstone Hill. Heavy traffic using Dorstone Hill. Heavy farm traffic using Middlewood.
The bends by the church.
The fabric of the roads is being continually eroded by heavy vehicles. Council Highways Dept seems to ignore the need to keep constant oversight and preventative action to avoid, for example, pot holes.
The narrow bends around the church (B4348). My [relation] has had an accident in her car with someone coming round the corner too fast in the middle of the road. I frequently drive along this road and there are far too many narrow misses and too many very large vehicles on this bit of the road. Last week I had to reverse into one of the drives so a large lorry could round the corner. a) A by-pass! b) traffic lights at either end c) speed bumps as in Kingstone.
The sharp corner at the bottom of Dorstone Hill at least needs a mirror.
There are many "blind" entrances, access roads and corners within the village. The danger is that seemingly the road through the village is straight not taking into account these entrances. Late night / early morning cars speed through the village. Size of lorries too big for village roads.
There are no speed limit signs on entering the village. Caution children playing. Caution horses.
There are no speed restrictions in village; ramps. Speed restriction signs.
There are too many very big lorries going around the corner by the church on the B4348. Often there is a deadlock. Could there be a limit placed on the size of vehicle allowed?
There is no specific speed so it's not safe for the young children about.
There should be reminder signs which light up and warn approaching vehicles that they are exceeding 30mph - these should be positioned on the main road (B4348) at Peterchurch end and Hay-on-Wye end.
Too fast potato lorries. Suggest one way route for these vehicles.
Too many large lorries.
Tractors going too fast in centre of village - negotiate to restrict speed,
Tractors servicing potato warehouse drive too fast through village centre. They also drive over villagers' front gardens when passing one another. Force tractors to use main road and ban them from village centre. This inconsideration and danger to pedestrians and children has increased in the last few years and will probably continue to do so. A slight diversion will not prevent them trading.
Tractors speed through the village. Vans speed through the village. Humps and fines. Sharp bends in B4348 at foot of Dorstone Hill. Mirrors.
Tractors too fast to be able to stop safely for pedestrians / other road users. Large tractors ride up borders since they are too large to allow for traffic in opposite direction to pass.
Tractors with heavy loads driving too fast through the centre of the village. Also other traffic. Speed bumps are a simple solution.
Traffic is too fast along the Goring Yard to Pandy road. 30mph limit required with speed activated "slow down" signs. There are many walkers, cyclists and children using this road. Poor pedestrian protection crossing from the church to the playing field. A footpath from the end of the cemetery footpath to the playing field along the playing field side of the road would help.
Traffic moves too fast approaching the church on B4348 to and from Hay.

Traffic moves too fast through the village.
Traffic should be advised to slow through village - both main road & lanes.
Traffic speed (esp tractors) past the Post Office.
Traffic speed along B4348 Bage to Dorstone.
Traffic speed through Dorstone.
Traffic speeding through the village generally. Light up sign telling drivers what their speed is. Introduce speed limit.
Traffic too fast along Chapel Lane & by the Pandy. Could do with speed bumps
Traffic too fast through village and shop bends on main road. Tractors and 4x4s seem to be main culprits. Junction at Sultan of Gannols, village and main road all traffic.
Traffic travels quite fast on main road. Sometimes too fast on road through village.
Turning from P.H. road into Dorstone village - new hedge obscures view. A mirror is needed, or the hedge taken out.
Vehicles speeding through the village such as tractors and farm vehicles.
Vehicles tend to travel too fast along Chapel Lane & the road running past the Pandy. The staggered crossing from the land past the church onto the playing fields is dangerous.
Vehicles too fast through village and playing field. Needs speeds humps or speed limit.
Vehicles travelling too fast with poor visibility through the village. Maybe a sign with a request to drive carefully as there are elderly and children residing here.
We need a speed limit through village. Crossing to playing fields - very dangerous, perhaps traffic light system around Church Bends
Western side of village - speed of tractors. Drivers of tractors using mobile phones or CB radios while driving.

Question 15. What actions would you support to make the Parish roads safer?

Road safety proposals				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
30mph speed limit within the village area	80%	15%	5%	189
Speed limit on the B4348 (within the Parish)	70%	24%	6%	181
Signs requesting driving care instead of speed limit	41%	46%	13%	157
Speed restriction measures such as speed humps	21%	73%	6%	170
Safe crossing to playing fields across B4348	81%	11%	8%	189
Use of mirrors to improve sighting on blind accesses	72%	15%	12%	169
More pavements	33%	50%	17%	161
Better road markings	46%	30%	23%	149
Improved maintenance of ditches and drainage	90%	4%	7%	221
Improved maintenance of roadside hedges and trees	71%	15%	14%	178
More location signs (e.g. The Bage)	45%	36%	19%	165



The strongest support was seen for improved maintenance of ditches and drains (90% in favour), a safe crossing to the playing fields (81%), and a 30mph speed limit within the village area (80%). There was strong opposition to speed humps (73% opposed, 21% in favour). Opposition was also stronger than support with regard to proposals for more pavements and signs requesting driving care instead of a speed limit.

Please give details (especially locations) relating to the “yes” boxes you have ticked.

1) Speed limits as shown [on sketch map]. 2) Illuminating slow signs in village before village centre both ways. 3) Illuminating slow signs on B4348 on entering parish from Peterchurch. 4) Illuminating slow signs by village from Hay. 5) Mirrors at bottom of Dorstone Hill.
1. Mirror on blind access from Pitt road turning into village. 2. Improve maintenance of ditches and drainage in Pitt Road. 3. Improved maintenance of roadside hedges and trees in Pitt Road.
1. Use of mirrors. Ditches and drainage on Pitt Road 3. Improved maintenance of roadside hedges and trees on Pitt Road from Dorstone to Common Bach.
20mph speed limit in village. B4348 speed limit 30mph and special signs on approach to bends by church which are so treacherous.
30mph Dorstone Hill to The Bell. Safe crossing to playing fields. Speed restrictions, better signs, mirrors and road markings in village. Improved drainage maintenance whole parish to prevent flooding. Improved maintenance of roadside hedges and trees throughout parish.
30mph minimum in Dorstone village, signs on B4348. "Slow children playing" sign at playing field possibly a safer crossing especially once playing field facilities are improved. Possibly a designated crossing / flashing slow signs etc.
30mph or caution on entering village, speed limits on approaching bends on B4348.
30mph speed limit from the Bell Turn to the Sycamore and Bridge Cottage.
a) Need signs which illuminate to show actual speed, as by Eardisley church - very effective and NO fine! b) ditches and drainage - very poor on Dorstone Hill - constant water erosion means surface is uneven, lots of loose gravel and mud. Crossways on B4348 very poor drainage and B4348 towards Peterchurch. Lots of standing water between village centre and The Bage. NEED MORE PASSING BAYS. c) Hedges and Trees - overhanging hedges through village centre (even in mid-Sept). Trees overhanging by pub. Overhanging trees on Dorstone Hill impede vision of on-coming vehicles and throw large amounts of debris on road. Trees cut down are not removed. d) Signage at Bredwardine end of Dorstone Hill is very poor - no sign at all if approaching from Red Lion side. Dorstone end of Dorstone Hill - no signage or warning.
Add pavement from church to playing fields entrance for safer crossing. "Slow" markings in road B4348 going into both ends of corners by church / signs as particularly on nasty corners by church.
All ditches. All roadside hedges, railings etc (Bell Turn).
At least 6 months ago we reported that the land between the road and the ditch (Arthur's Stone Lane / Dorstone Hill junction) had washed away - some workmen arrived and put up some bollards which are still there. It's a joke and hardly worth reporting other defects. [Respondent has drawn a sketch map].
B4348
B4348 Bridge Cottage junction - mirrors. B4348 generally needs better maintenance. Bypass needed via Llanafon to Bage.
B4348 Dorstone Hill mirrors at junction as at B4348 Bridge Cottage junction. Bypass of village needed via old railway line or Spoon Lane.
B4348 from Little Llanafon to Dore View is extremely dangerous. A speed limit would not affect the speed addicts in private cars who use the road from Lower Crossways, round the corner by Bridge Cottage and the junction with the C road up to the Great House junction as a race track! The Highways Agency needs to be consulted, especially about the church corner - existing warning signs are more often ignored than heeded.
Back roads are more of a problem for all of the above than village.

Bell Turn off is an unusual junction with people crossing from the main road up the Mynydd Brith Road risking being in collision with cars exiting the village and vice versa. Additionally vehicles coming from The Bage turning right often cut the corner and could collide with vehicles driving down the Mynydd Brith Road. There COULD have been accidents on this junction. Vehicles do excessive speeds coming down the back road to Cusop and along the Mynydd Brith Road which is in most part barely passable by two vehicles in opposite directions. Horse riders are particularly vulnerable
Bends by the church.
Better road markings - as entering village from Snodhill & near Bell Farm. Ditches – unblock / clear all drains, particularly along main road / junction with Dorstone Hill.
'Blind Summit' sign needed on B4348 as Willaston & danger of flooding signs. Mini-roundabout at Bell Corner would improve safety.
Both: signs and speed limit. There used to be white lines in the middle of the road on the bend by the church but these were not repainted after road resurfacing. They should be reinstated.
Cars speed round playing fields very dangerous. Limits needed.
Common Bach turn mirrors. Pitt Road drainage.
Cut the sides of the roads, would make them a lot safer. Clean out the ditches as many of the smaller roads have water running down them.
Ditches and drains virtually everywhere.
Ditches drainage Dorstone Hill over hanging trees.
Ditches maintained to minimise water on roads continued dredging to the stream.
Dore View - hedging needs to be cut back off pavement. 40mph Bage to church.
Dorstone Hill needs its hedges and trees carefully maintained to improve safety.
Dorstone Hill.
Dorstone is a wonderful village to walk around. The main road is very fast although they have to slow down for the sharp corners. It is very dangerous crossing over to the playing fields. Maybe pavements would help so you are off the road. Speed limits need to be seen through the village.
Double bend from Pump House to playing field requires "care" sign. One way system for tractors using B4348 and lane past Post Office / Pandy seems to be a good idea esp between August and November. Traffic counting scheme was worthless at that time of farming year. Youths (under age) are riding motorised vehicles (bikes) on public roads and could be a danger to other road users and themselves.
Driving care sign or bumps - Chapel lane
Flooding occurs at bottom of Scar Lane. Flooding occurs along B4348 between The Bage and Dorstone village.
From Pandy Inn to Gorings warehouse very dangerous with speeding tractors. Trying to cross B4348 to the playing fields is very dangerous.
From playing field to old railway crossing.
Having signs warning that young children may be about so driving carefully.
Hedges and trees going up Dorstone Hill from village on right hand side need attention. Mirror required, Arthur's Stone Lane / Dorstone Hill junction. Speed calming on B4348 on entry to village.
How are location signs supposed to make the roads safer? Can't do more than 30mph through the village so signs / speed limits are a total waste of money which could be spent on the village hall which is not fit for purpose. When was the last accident in Dorstone? To justify speed limits there must be a justified need. Due to the low traffic volume and road bends etc there is no need to waste money on these needless additions!

I don't know how speed on B4348 can be cut, but it needs it on both sides of the village.
I would reduce speed limit to 20mph within the village.
Improved ditches and drainage Pitt Road (Common Bach)
Improved maintenance of ditches, etc., to aid drainage during flash floods, especially on road between The Bage farm and the village.
Joining the main road from the playing fields.
Keep the growth cut down on junction to Dorstone at Doreview. Coming from Hay - turning to village very hard to see traffic coming towards you.
Locations are all obvious. Avoid clutter of signage. Humps needed - resist protests that potatoes will spill! Mirror at T-junction to Arthur's Stone. Very blind exit!
Lower limits on area from and including Llanavon and The Bage. Signs requesting motorists to drive carefully, careful maintenance of hedges at entrance to and exits from village.
Mainly along the B4348.
Mini roundabout at Bell corner. At Willaston (in Parish) not just a hump bridge sign, needs something like 'Blind Summit'. Really dangerous re: flooding and speeding.
Mirror at access to B4348 from the bottom of Dorstone Hill. Extend footpath from churchyard path to a new safe crossing to the playing field.
Mirrors at exit from Scar Lane - turning on to road towards Hay. Maintenance of ditches - constant drainage issues at bottom of Scar Lane.
Mirrors could be helpful at the junction B4348 with Dorstone Hill. A zebra crossing possibly across the B4348 to playing fields.
Mirrors on 3-way junction at Dore View end of village joining main road. Pavements through village feel very unsafe with 2yr old walking. Children at play signs by playing field. Speed limit along main road as children catching school bus and play area.
More pavements - in places, maybe
More pavements from Dorstone Hill to the playing fields. Better road markings from Dorstone Hill to the playing fields.
More pavements probably impracticable.
Need mirrors more on blind corners like the corner of the road coming down from Arthur's Stone Road (Dorstone Hill), where it hits the B4348. Drainage is needed on the road that you take up Dorstone Hill when coming from Hay (Scar Lane).
Needs to be some instruction to slow down entering bad bends by church and up to Crossways.
No speed humps. Not a village excessively full of unnecessary signs. Pavements would force traffic to slow since roads would become narrower, also forcing tractors to slow down.
Notice of dangerous corner as you approach the church on B4348, also the corner of Appletree Cottage
On all approach roads to the village. Mark a zebra crossing with appropriate warnings on the B4348. Bottom of Dorstone Hill. General measure.
On B4348 around church.
On the B4348 between Bell Turn and other side of village at Crossways - a speed limit of 30mph or at least 40mph should be imposed. Ditches and drainage on road to Bage could be improved to prevent flooding.
One speed limit along B4348 to minimize extra road "furniture". Mirrors would help on Z bend by church on B4348. Flooding on B4348 at Bage.
Overhanging trees around church corners.
Pavement around the church.
Pavement on B4348.
People coming to the area say Dorstone is poorly signposted

People coming to the area say Dorstone is poorly Signposted.
Possibly less than 30mph from Goring Farm passed Pandy Inn along by Bell House. Currently no signs for children or animals in village. Should be something by playing fields. B4348 - bus also travelling too fast along this road.
Question about mirrors: "surely this is an issue for private residents"
Re speed limit on B4348 - selected areas
Road through the village needs to be 20mph. B4348 needs 30mph speed limit. Very dangerous crossing B4348 to playing fields.
"S" bends of B4348. Pavements / designated walkways along village area. (Lack of lighting at night is an issue).
Scar Lane floods always - some form of working drainage must be provided.
Sign indicating hidden exit at Bage.
Sometimes hedges obscure the view when turning into village from B4348 at bell turn.
Speed bumps along corners by Church/playing field. Speed limit could be 20mph, lots of children & dogs about.
Speed bumps could be considered for some areas but they are very difficult for injured passengers on route to hospital or for those suffering back pain and agricultural vehicles are not designed to accommodate speed bumps causing damage.
Speed bumps needed near playing fields.
Speed humps on entry and exits to village safe crossings to playing field. Cameras if possible on B4348.
Speed humps on road past Pandy Inn and Post Office.
Speed humps through village centre, although these are sometimes noisy for residents.
Speed humps through village. Also lighting up signs of speed indication which often makes cars slow down.
Speed indicator devices on roadside. Flashing 'Slow down' or 'Care needed' sign. Improvements on both crossways Bend & Church bends - possible or traffic light, pedestrian crossing to playing field, - improvements to footpath by church.
Speed indicator devices on roadside. Improvements on Church Bend / traffic light system? Pedestrian crossing to playing fields. Improvement to footpath by church leading to playing fields/
Speed limit by the playing field.
Speed limit on Dorstone Hill. Flashing speed reminders. Mirrors at junction at end of village towards Hay. Maintain hedge along B4348 along graveyard. Maintain ditches and drains along Spoon Lane.
Speed limit through the Bage and around the village of Dorstone. Speed humps are really a last resort if all other measures fail. Road walking around the parish is quite dangerous, therefore more walking pathways where possible would be good.
Speed limits as specified. Mirrors as specified - access from Dorstone Village sight lines sometimes obscured on to Hay Road by vegetation.
Speed need to be reduced, especially through The Bage. Run-off, drains and ditches are not maintained to the same standard as they were, for example, 5 years ago. As a consequence there is more standing water than there used to be.
Speed restriction on main Goring to Pandy road. Mirrors might help at the bottom of Dorstone Hill / Crossways. Better road markings - need better warning at B4348 chicane. Need more main road signage.
The B4348 is becoming increasingly busy from as early as 7am and as a resident living on the bad bends I feel that I am taking my life in my hands every time I venture out of my drive whether by car or on foot, and need to cross the road twice to reach the church. On windy days it is impossible to hear approaching traffic. On Sundays motorbikes can be a problem.

The Bage
The Bage!!! Use of mirrors needed at the Bage badly!
The roads are not wide enough to accommodate pavement.
There are too many signs on the roads today making our countryside look awful. Why can't more information be painted on the roads instead?
This question is not relevant to "making parish roads safer". 1-7 would only increase cost to local parishioners and are not relevant as there have been no safety issues since I have lived here (over 45 years).
Through the centre of the village. Better irrigation of fields.
Traffic has to be slow to allow for the bends. It would not be possible to put in pavements.
Traffic is driving closer to the hedge down Bage road and pushing the hedge into the ditch. Sign at the Bage.
Traffic NEEDS to be slowed when approaching the narrows and first left hand bend from Peterchurch direction. Large vehicles occupy centre of road when travelling towards Peterchurch and visibility from opposite direction is very limited due to high banks. Speed humps NOT the answer, traffic would hit them initially at fairly high speed. Choke point unsatisfactory - might cause congestion at busy times, and not slow traffic when quiet. Rumble strips would cause nuisance to nearby properties.
Trim hedges in the village. This would contribute to road safety.
Use of mirror when entering from Dorstone Hill on to B4358 essential. If you walk through the village from one end to the other you have to walk in the road. It is very scary when huge tractors & other farm vehicles come speeding past you.
Use of mirrors at Crossways bend! Pavements - through village.
Vehicles travel very fast on straight stretch of B4348 beside Dore View development. "S" bend in village on B4348 would benefit from mirrors for visibility.
We have far too many road signs as it is and more can only be a distraction. The main requirement for safety is to improve the road surface on the B4348. Most of it is a disgrace.
With no school, shop or post office or serious employment available in the close vicinity why encourage housing which will inevitably lead to more transport in a carbon conscious age?

Other actions needed

a) Parish Council has neglected doing anything about traffic speeds on B4348 by church or in village - have not even applied for free speed check boxes where strips are placed across the road. b) Parish Council has not fulfilled its safety obligations to parishioners by investigating and providing a safe crossing point from church to playing fields. c) Clearer and larger signs to indicate way to village centre from B4348 at both ends of village centre.
Clean road signs occasionally!! Cut away the hedge growth which obscures the sign.
Drainage in most of the parish needs addressing with the larger quantities of rainfall we have now.
Improved maintenance of ditches and drainage help with increased rainfall (e.g. on road to Bage, on road to Snodhill).
Passing place just over top of Dorstone Hill. My car has been damaged because of reversing on to huge rock.
Police to clamp down on Boy Racers along B4348.

Rather than speed limit actions work to make the roads look less suitable for driving quickly along. Softer edges, more plants, more curves, emphasis on pedestrian interaction.

The Lengthsman Scheme has been an excellent innovation and could be extended to continue improvements and maintenance of ditches and drainage. Expenditure in this area is money well spent (traffic).

Transport

Question 16. What is your main means of transport for travel to

Main means of transport									
	On foot	Cycle	Bus	Taxi	Dial a Ride	Own car	Lift in car	Motorbike	Base
College	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	67%	10%	0%	21
Employment	9%	1%	2%	0%	0%	88%	5%	2%	103
Leisure activities	12%	6%	5%	0%	1%	91%	7%	2%	180
Medical / dental	0%	1%	3%	0%	3%	95%	5%	1%	193
School run	0%	0%	25%	0%	0%	80%	2%	0%	51
Shopping	0%	0%	5%	0%	1%	95%	6%	0%	202

Respondents' own car was the dominant mode of transport for travelling to all the locations mentioned. The bus was the main means of transport for 33% when travelling to college and for 25% for school.

Question 17. Are the school and college bus services efficient?

School and college bus services efficient	
Yes	67%
No	33%
Base ⁴	55

Around two thirds of those with an opinion thought that the school and college bus services were efficient.

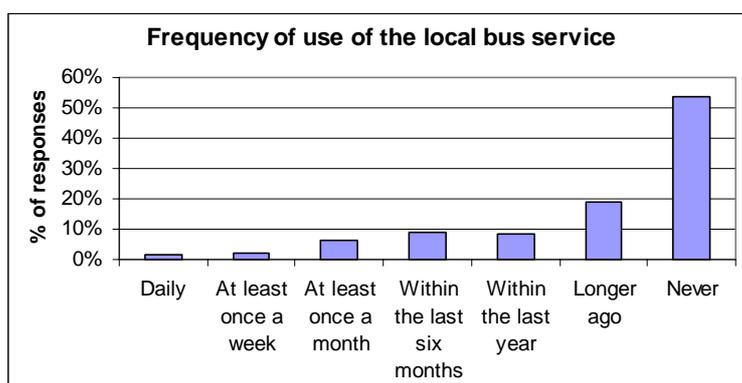
⁴ Excludes "no opinion" responses

If “no”, how could they be improved?

2 buses to college in the morning yet only one return service at 4:45 in the evening. The morning buses are so full students have to stand which is unacceptable, but they only supply one bus in the evening.
Bus services are the most expensive I know.
Children standing in aisles - put on another bus.
College buses to Hereford are often very cramped and are very expensive for a very uncomfortable ride. Not enough buses.
Extra bus needed at peak times
Far too expensive.
If it was more regular and cheaper.
Less expensive and to run on time (bus sometimes comes early).
More buses for college students.
More buses in mornings and evenings.
More frequent service. Stricter adherence to timetable.
More frequent, not enough space on college bus in mornings, many have to stand.
More of them at peak times i.e. 7:27am
More regular services.
My child (8 years old) is on the bus for 45 minutes to get to a school 3 miles away. She visits Clifford before she gets to Peterchurch.
Need a more frequent service.
Not enough seats on college bus in the mornings, for example, on 8th September (2008) 31 students had to stand all the way to Hereford.
School "yes", college "no".
School bus - yes. College bus - no, expensive and infrequent.
The school bus to Fairfield is OK but the service to Hereford colleges could be more frequent.
There should be a college bus strictly for college only because these students have nowhere to sit and can stand for the entire 15 mile journey.
They don't cater for everyone.
Very!

Question 18. How frequently do you use the local bus services?

Frequency of use of the local bus service	
Daily	1%
At least once a week	2%
At least once a month	7%
Within the last six months	9%
Within the last year	8%
Longer ago	19%
Never	54%
Base	214



28% of respondents had used the local bus service at least once within the last year. 54% had never used it.

If “never” please say why

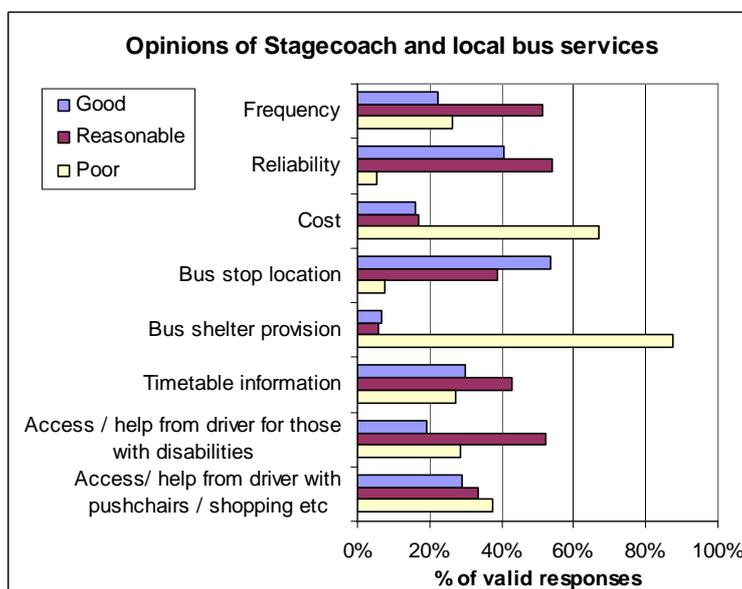
Although for the area it is a good service, not for the varied times I travel.
Always doing 2 or 3 jobs, never in one place.
Always use own car.
Always use the car
Because it is not convenient!
Because it's over crowded in peak times.
Because we manage with one car.
Bus does not fit working hours, not convenient for food shopping either.
Bus does not go to work location.
Bus stops too far away from my home.
Cannot afford the time taken to get anywhere.
Can't get to the bus stop.
Car
Car
Car
Car is more flexible regarding timing and more convenient for carrying goods.
Car is required to bring home heavy / bulky shopping.
Car owner.
Car.
Cost and reliability.
Decided to use bus to Hereford for London train. It was more expensive for one adult / one child than parking in station and very inconvenient - waiting etc.

Disabled.
Does not run at convenient times.
Don't go where I need to go.
Expensive and infrequent, and takes way too long
Expensive and infrequent.
Family shopping not practical. Inconvenient times / cost.
Far too expensive! (and unreliable)
Have a car - much more accessible and two years of going to college by bus is more than enough!
Have own car and travel at times when no bus service.
Haven't needed to.
Haven't yet applied for bus pass.
I have a car!
I live 2 miles from bus stop – up / down steep hill.
I live nearly 2 miles from the nearest bus stop.
I live off the bus route.
I live over 1 mile from the nearest bus stop.
I need to use my car to get to the bus stop.
I use my car.
I used to use it daily, but now I've finished college I would avoid getting the bus.
I work in Dorstone.
Inconvenient time and it is expensive.
Inconvenient times.
Inconvenient timetable.
It is expensive and takes much longer than by car.
Live 1 mile out of village. Normally only go to Hereford or Hay to shop, otherwise drive further afield (but these are not entirely good excuses!)
Live too far from village
More convenient to use own car while this is possible.
More convenient with children using own car.
My daughter drives.
My home is too far from the bus stop.
Nearest bus stop approx 1 mile away, I have three children, cost.
Never needed to
Never needed to use the bus.
No evening services to smaller villages.
No obvious benefit to using.
Non exist.
Not a convenient timetable.
Not as convenient as own car
Not convenient
Not convenient to our schedules
Not convenient.
Not practical for me given location of work.
Not sure of timetable; intend to use bus a lot when 60+
Not yet, but I will.
One bus every 2hrs is not an effective transport method, smaller buses more frequently.
Own car
Own car too convenient.
Own car.
Own transport.
Own vehicles mainly used for business purposes.

Poor sight.
Service is infrequent.
The opportunity has never arisen.
The service is limited making it unviable if you have an appointment.
They are terrible - long journeys and very expensive!
Times not convenient, not able to board the bus (high step) seats not suitable.
Times not good for employment. Have own car.
Times not suitable.
Timetable does not suit, i.e. 5 minute shop in Peterchurch but a 3hr round trip!!!
Timetable not helpful and I have to use my car to get to the bus stop! - nowhere to park.
Too expensive and very slow.
Too expensive, cheaper to drive with 2 children
Too infrequent and expensive.
Too infrequent.
Too slow to get to Hereford compared with car. Infrequent, esp. if appointment times in city are important.
Too slow, wrong lines, no late service.
Use car - I live 1 mile from the road.
Use car with 2 children under 3.
Use car.
Use car.
Use our own car.
Use own car as we are quite a way from Dorstone village.
Use own car.
Use own car.
Use own car.
Use own transport as more convenient.
We use a car.
Whilst at college.
Work is in Brecon - nearest bus stop 3 miles from home.
Works transport.
Wrong times, too expensive. I need too much flexibility - children, multiple destinations.

Question 19. How do you rate the Stagecoach and Local bus services for each of the following?

Opinions of Stagecoach and local bus services				
	Good	Reasonable	Poor	Base ⁵
Frequency	23%	51%	26%	111
Reliability	41%	54%	5%	96
Cost	16%	17%	67%	82
Bus stop location	53%	39%	8%	103
Bus shelter provision	7%	6%	88%	89
Timetable information	30%	43%	27%	103
Access / help from driver for those with disabilities	19%	52%	29%	21
Access/ help from driver with pushchairs / shopping etc	29%	33%	38%	24



The aspect of local bus services considered to be most positive was bus stop location, where 53% of those with an opinion thought it was good and 8% thought it was poor. The most negative aspects were thought to be bus shelter provision (88% poor, 7% good) and cost (67% poor, 16% good).

⁵ Excludes “no opinion” responses

Further comments

A later bus from Hereford would be good.
As I can!
Bus fares are too expensive.
Bus service is vital - although I don't use it both children use it daily for school.
Bus shelter provision - none
Children use it: vital.
Cost good because of free pass.
Don't use stagecoach.
Drivers very arrogant!!!
Frequency to Hay might be increased. Survey required.
Great service, costly for infrequent use, don't lose it though, looks well used!
I bought a timetable and a while later got it out, waited for the bus and after 1 hour's wait went back home, rang to ask what had happened - timetable had changed!
I can't walk to the bus stop.
I don't know the present cost but it would not affect me as I have a bus pass.
I would use buses more often if an evening service was available and if connections to other towns / villages were available. Our service does not allow for late shopping, eating out or going to anywhere in the county apart from Hereford.
Internet should be used for bus time tables
Lack of bus services from Hereford during evening forces one to use their own transport.
Never use it.
No bus shelter in Dorstone.
No changes will be made to timetable but a later bus from Hereford would be so useful for theatre, shopping, etc.
No comment - never use it.
No timetable available when required.
Rarely use the bus
Some drivers are very helpful, others are not helpful at all.
Speed issues through village.
There are too little buses, so it means it is cramped and it would be useful to have a bus after 6 o'clock pm.
They drive too fast and are ignorant
They drive too fast and are ignorant
Too expensive
Unable to comment, do not use the service.
When I requested a timetable from the council I was told they had run out!
Where are the bus shelters
Where is the bus shelter in the village centre, or timetable?
With the current emphasis on reducing CO2 emissions, a cheaper, more reliable service might mean more people use the services to commute to work.
Would use the service if slightly more frequent.

Question 20. Would you use a rail service if the station at Pontrilas was re-opened?

Would use rail service from Pontrilas	
Yes	39%
No	23%
Don't know	38%
Base	215

39% of respondents would use a rail service if Pontrilas station was re-opened.

Question 21. How do you rate car parking facilities within Dorstone Village?

Car parking facilities within the village	
Good	36%
Reasonable	56%
Poor	9%
Base	218

36% of respondents thought that car parking facilities in the village were good, while 9% thought they were poor.

How could they be improved?

Better use of space and layout at Dorstone playing field car park
Cannot be improved due to restriction of buildings.
Car park in village centre is hideous and it's right in the heart of the village. Some kind of landscaping?
Car parking facilities are adequate for current needs.
Church needs proper parking area - most suitable would be playing field, and improvement by main gate.
Don't know.
Don't waste money on new parking spaces.
Every home should have off road parking which must be used.
I don't think there are any more public car parking spaces needed in Dorstone.
Marking spaces by P.O. so people park better!
More by church.
More of them
More parking at back of pub.
Need better parking for large events at village hall.
Need bigger parking areas.
Need for a new car park.
No further parking is required - proposed expenditure on additional parking is not needed.
No idea, other than land being acquired
No improvement needed.
No real need.
Only on account of the general use of stores' car park.
Other than acquiring land, don't know.
There is an argument to say that increased parking provision encourages cars.

We have more than adequate parking in the village
With the current shop / post office car park space outside.

Question 22. Any further comments on public transport / car parking arrangements for Dorstone Parish?

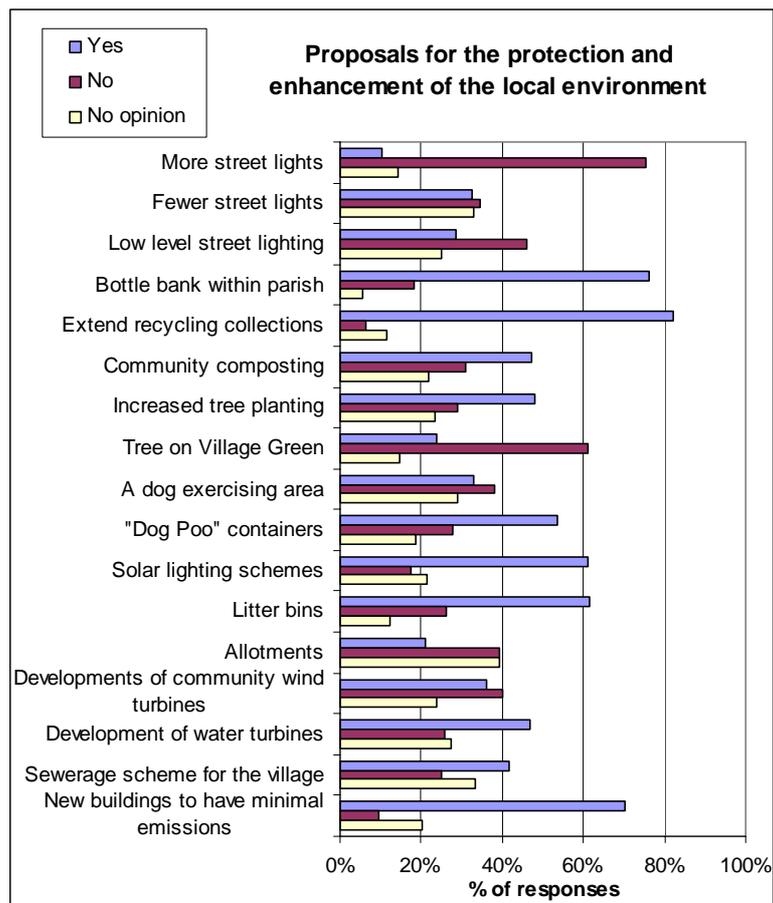
A direct bus for employed people, i.e. non-stop leaving 8am (ish), back 5.30pm. Or a car share scheme.
A more frequent bus service might encourage more people to use it.
a) A designated tarmacked car park on playing field entrance - this would assist walkers / church / playing fields for more activities. PROPER CROSSING. b) The village centre car park is really only for the shop. Why is the pub car park not signed properly? and is under-used?
Additional parking not really necessary.
Another required for those using Post Office car park and going to the Pandy Inn.
Dial-a-Ride is brilliant.
Do we need the Brook Cottages area improving or could the money be better spent.
For those who can't drive it is very difficult to go out in Hereford and go to the cinema or stay out later than 6. There can also be about a 2 hour gap before the next bus which makes it difficult for college students when they finish as they have to wait around for hours.
Further car parking not needed.
Get the church to tarmac over existing field until needed for church reasons.
I would like to use public transport to visit Kington, Weobley, Leominster etc and return home on the same day.
If pub expands / village hall usage increases then not enough parking. But who wants tarmac everywhere?
Is it justified to have any more parking? In the last 22yrs it has only ever been an issue when the church has a big wedding or funeral, so not justified.
It would be difficult to provide public parking facilities. Most people use the large parking area opposite Pandy which is privately owned by the Village Shop Association which does not object to public use if not abused.
Maybe a smaller more frequent bus? at quieter times.
More frequent buses and a bus service later in the day, i.e. after 6 p.m.
Restrict car ownership to those households with off road parking.
Said enough!
The car parking belongs to the shop. The parish should acknowledge this and pay upkeep.
The only car park is private. It belongs to the village shop. That's not a tenable facility for the village and parish.
There is not much parking for village hall but there are few options to change / improve this.
Village Hall parking is used by residents on a regular basis. When Hall is in use for a function parking should be limited to those using the Hall.

Environment

Question 23. Do you think the following should be done to protect and / or enhance the local environment within and around Dorstone Parish?

Proposals for the protection and enhancement of the local environment				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
More street lights	10%	75%	14%	191
Fewer street lights	33%	34%	33%	160
Low level street lighting	29%	46%	25%	171
Bottle bank within parish	76%	18%	5%	203
Extend recycling collections of plastic / paper to whole parish	82%	6%	11%	209
Community composting	47%	31%	22%	178
Increased tree planting	48%	29%	23%	184
Tree on Village Green	24%	61%	15%	196
A dog exercising area	33%	38%	29%	186
"Dog Poo" containers	54%	28%	19%	194
Solar lighting schemes e.g. for street lights / village hall	61%	17%	22%	185
Litter bins	62%	26%	12%	188
Allotments	21%	39%	39%	180
Developments of 1 or 2 community owned wind turbines	36%	40%	24%	193
Development of water turbines along local rivers	47%	26%	27%	182
Sewerage scheme for the village in place of septic tanks	42%	25%	33%	192
All new and renovated buildings to have minimal carbon emissions	70%	10%	20%	187

The proposals with the greatest support were extended recycling collections of plastic and paper to cover the whole parish (82% in favour), a bottle bank within the parish (76%) and for all new and renovated buildings to have minimal carbon emissions (70%). The strongest opposition was seen with regard to having more street lights (75% opposed, 10% in favour), and a tree on the village green (61% opposed, 24% in favour).



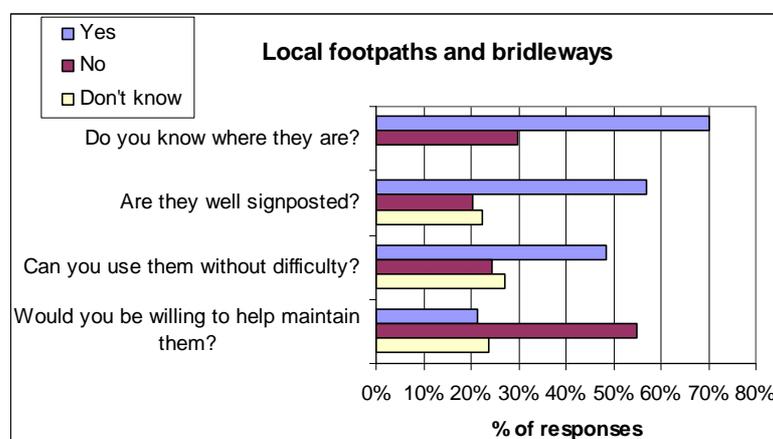
Other suggestions

a) Tree on village Green would spoil it - the grass would gradually die and the leaves would create debris, blocking drains and have to be cleared up. b) Dog poo container needed by village hall.
Care should be taken that money and effort not spent on schemes that are of marginal benefit. Would rather see efforts concentrated on a scheme with major benefits such as a sewage works.
Chip heating boilers
Community shop.
Composting and bottle bank depend upon where sited and how often emptied.
Definitely NO to wind turbines.
Dog poo containers - someone has to empty them, litter bins - will encourage litter being dumped
I have seen community wind turbines in another county which has not proved viable and can be noisy.
Is solar lighting effective AND fit in with NO MORE STREET LIGHTING
Litter bins become over-full and create more rubbish and mess.
No more street lights. Dog poo containers if discreet and well collected. Sewerage scheme if no cost to establish.
Positive encouragement for local small green schemes (e.g. solar panels, small wind turbines, etc.)
Provision of skips several times a year for larger items of rubbish that cannot be recycled.
Regarding litter bins. Would they be used? And who would empty them? We (my

husband and I) are self-appointed "litter pickers" on our corner. Car owners who park in the space near our field throw crisp packets, bottles over.
Safe cycling paths.
Solar lighting for village hall - yes, if discreet. Solar street lights - no. Litter bins - yes, if discreet. Water turbines - yes, if realistic. Sewerage system - yes, if extensive. Other suggestions: Budget for Flowers; Action to revive the village water well - why did it run dry?
Support for individual owned wind turbines.
Toilet facilities at playing fields.
Trial water turbine in Panty Western Brook.
Would have chosen "maybe" instead of "yes" for questions about wind and water turbines if given the choice.
Would they be kept tidy and by whom?

Question 24. Local footpaths and bridleways

Local footpaths and bridleways				
	Yes	No	Don't know	Base
Do you know where they are?	70%	30%		205
Are they well signposted?	57%	21%	23%	200
Can you use them without difficulty?	48%	24%	27%	196
Would you be willing to help maintain them?	21%	55%	24%	197



70% of respondents knew where the local footpaths and bridleways are, 57% thought they were well signposted, and 48% could use them without difficulty. 42 people said they would be willing to help maintain them.

Question 25. Would you like to see the development of cycle and walking paths up and down the Valley?

Like to see cycle and walking paths developed	
Yes	58%
No	20%
No opinion	22%
Base	213

58% of respondents said they would like to see cycle and walking paths developed along the valley.

Question 26. Would you support the introduction of “Quiet Lanes” in Dorstone Parish?

“Quiet Lanes” is a Countryside Agency initiative using minor rural roads, which have been treated appropriately to enable shared use by cyclists, walkers, horse riders and motorised users.

Support “Quiet Lanes” in Dorstone	
Yes	49%
No	26%
No opinion	25%
Base	204

Around half of respondents would support the introduction of “Quiet Lanes” in Dorstone, while around a quarter would be opposed to the idea.

Question 27. How else do you think the environment of Dorstone Parish could be improved?

Better care of non-residential spaces.
Better roads, they need re-surfacing.
Car share schemes for travel to Hay-on-Wye?
Check footpath outside Snodhill Hall. Reduce traffic.
Community schemes to commence re care of village.
Encouraging owners to clean up after their dogs.
Hardcore area.
I believe we should be careful that any "improvements" do not spoil the rural aspect of the village.
I think it is pretty good as it is.
I think the environment of Dorstone is near perfect and the fact that it is somewhat behind the times is a major part of its attraction.
Leave it alone as much as possible.
Leave it as it is, it is lovely and that is why we live here, it is rural not urban
Local behaving like locals used to, not newcomers trying to bully people that have lived here all their life.
More concern with the environment when building new houses. Loss of mature trees is important – replanting.

More planters and hanging baskets to make the village more colourful (Village in bloom competition).
More sunshine!
New village signs that say "Welcome to Dorstone".
No bonfires in the Summer months
OK, very good as it is. No Significant Changes required
Open the disused railway line for walkers and riders.
Post office / shop improved.
Reduce traffic.
Slow down the tractors through the village.
Some bridleways are signed, others are not. Some have easy access others do not.
Speed of vehicles a priority!
Speed restrictions around village
Speed restrictions through village & church bends
Step up policing of constant dog fouling. Bins are not needed, take it home. Regular offenders.
Stop selling gardens for housing development.
Strengthen conservation. Extend it. No more industrial size metal barns. Paint existing metal roofs. Strict control of appearance of infill housing. Monitor hedge trimming. Some hedges massacred.
Village shop please.
Village shop. Landscape C/P.
Waste recycling area but built out of sight so it is not an eyesore.
We really should tap into solar, wind and water.
You cannot mix walkers / riders with motors. Use common sense and the knowledge of the countryside - we are not in a city!

Question 28. Has your property been affected by flooding in the past 5 years?

Affected by flooding in the past 5 years	
Yes	15%
No	85%
Base	220

If "Yes", what was damaged?

Damage by flooding	
Fabric of house	0%
Vehicles	0%
Garage or outhouse	21%
Carpets & Furniture	0%
Garden	71%
Other	32%
Base ⁶	34

Three respondents wrote in an "other" answer. All three stated "Cellar".

⁶ Base is those who said "yes" to the first part of Q28

Communications

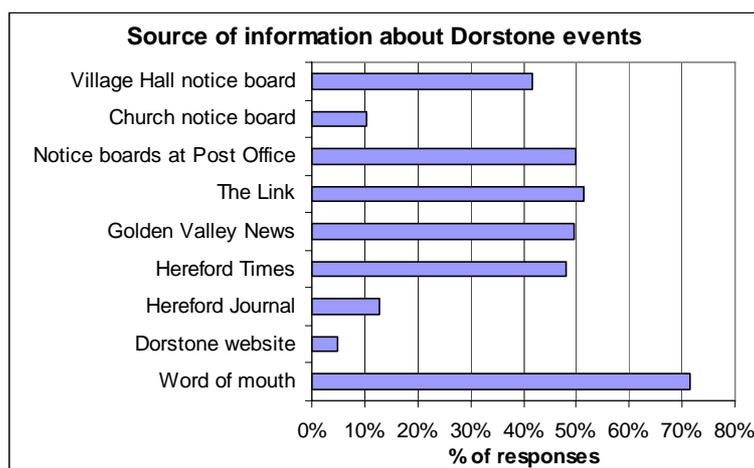
Question 29. Is the amount of information available about what's going on in Dorstone

Amount of information about Dorstone events	
Good	24%
Reasonable	57%
Poor	10%
No opinion	9%
Base	207

Around a quarter of respondents thought the amount of information available was good, while a further 57% thought it was reasonable. 10% thought it was poor.

Question 30. Where do you usually get information about events taking place in Dorstone?

Source of information about Dorstone events	
Village Hall notice board	42%
Church notice board	10%
Notice boards at Post Office	50%
The Link	51%
Golden Valley News	50%
Hereford Times	48%
Hereford Journal	13%
Dorstone website	5%
Word of mouth	71%
Base	220



The most commonly used source of information about events in Dorstone was word of mouth, used by 71% of those who answered the question. The Link, the Post Office notice boards, the Golden Valley News and Hereford Times were all used by around half of respondents.

Any other ways?

Pandy Inn.
Pandy Inn.
Post Office, Pandy Inn.
Posters pinned to wooden door at Snodhill.
These publications do not always have contact details of the event organisers.
What web site?
Why not use Hereford Times for publishing council minutes and parish information. Usually only "Flicks" are reported.

Question 31. Would you be interested in receiving a twice-yearly newsletter explaining the work of the Parish Council?

Like to receive newsletter	
Yes	65%
No	20%
No opinion	16%
Base	215

Almost two thirds of respondents would like to receive a newsletter, while 20% would not.

Three respondents made a written comment relating to the newsletter in the space after Q30:

Newsletter delivered with this questionnaire very poor. All that information should be displayed.
No more expense please.
The newsletter delivered with this questionnaire was very poor and said nothing about what has actually been done.

Question 32. If you are a newcomer to the Parish over the past 3 years (a) Did you receive an Information Welcome Pack from the Parish Council?

Received Welcome Pack	
Yes	44%
No	51%
Don't remember	5%
Base	55

Around half of newcomers said that they had not received an Information Welcome Pack.

(b) Did you find it useful?

Found the Welcome Pack useful	
Yes	82%
No	18%
Base	28

82% of those who received the Welcome Pack found it useful.

Question 33. The Internet

The Internet			
	Yes	No	Base
(a) Do you have access to the Internet at home?	80%	20%	217
(b) If "Yes", do you have broadband?	78%	22%	172
(c) If "Yes", is the speed sufficient for your needs?	53%	47%	149
(d) If "No" to (b), would you like broadband?	92%	8%	36

80% of respondents had access to the Internet at home, and of those who had access, 78% had broadband. Amongst those with broadband, just over half thought the speed was sufficient. Amongst those who had the Internet but not broadband, 92% would like broadband.

Question 34. Have you accessed Dorstone Community Website?

Accessed Dorstone Community Website	
Yes	22%
No	78%
Base	192

22% of respondents had accessed Dorstone Community Website.

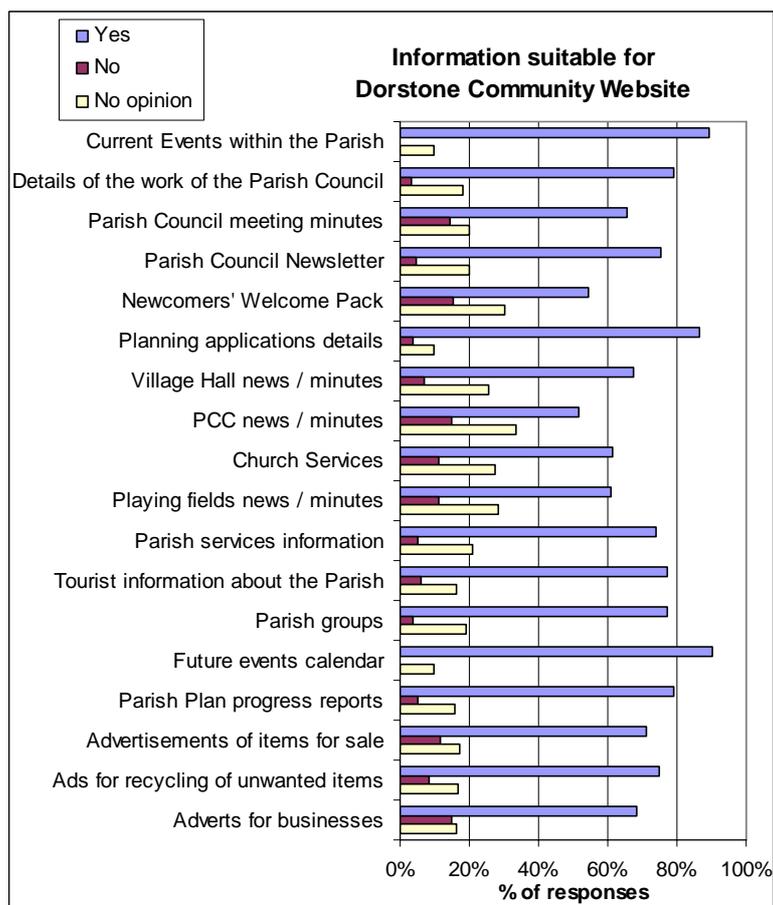
Any comments?

All organisations need to contribute, especially Parish Council.
Did not know the website existed!
Didn't know about it.
Didn't know it existed.
Didn't know they had one.
Do not have home internet but if did, would want broadband.
Do not have internet but would want broadband if I did.
Excellent presentation - use a lot to see what is on.
It's ok but old fashioned. More interactive pages would be good.
It's ok but old fashioned. More interactive pages would be good.
More information about events needed
Needs developing with other groups & more hyperlinks.
Needs to be better advertised. Parish council needs to get on with finishing it so it's useful.
No home internet but would like broadband.

Simply wonderful!
The website was not available when I tried.
Very good so far - people need to be encouraged to use it. Why is there still no info from Parish Council?
Very basic.
Wasn't aware there was a website
Website good but needs more info.
Why no council info? Why no events info?
Will browse it asap.

Question 35. Which of the following types of information would you like to see on the Dorstone Community Website?

Information suitable for Dorstone Community Website				
	Yes	No	No opinion	Base
Current Events within the Parish	90%	1%	10%	162
Details of the work of the Parish Council	79%	3%	18%	156
Parish Council meeting minutes	66%	14%	20%	145
Parish Council Newsletter	75%	5%	20%	151
Parish Council Newcomers' Welcome Pack	54%	16%	30%	129
Planning applications details	86%	4%	10%	155
Village Hall news / minutes	68%	7%	25%	142
Parochial Church Council news / minutes	52%	15%	33%	135
Church Services	62%	11%	27%	143
Playing fields news / minutes	61%	11%	28%	135
Parish services information	74%	5%	21%	142
Tourist information about the Parish	77%	6%	16%	146
Parish groups e.g. WI / Young Farmers / Bowls	77%	4%	19%	140
Future events calendar	90%	0%	10%	157
Parish Plan progress reports	79%	5%	16%	138
Advertisements of items for sale	71%	12%	17%	153
Advertisements for recycling of unwanted items	75%	8%	17%	154
Adverts for businesses	68%	15%	16%	146



At least half of respondents were in favour of all the items on the list appearing on the website. The strongest support was for current events and a future events calendar (each with 90% thinking they should appear on the website), and planning application details (86%).

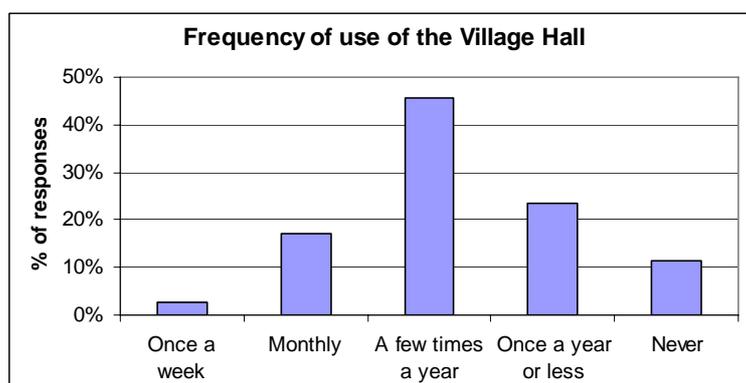
Other suggestions

Bus timetable. Village hall and playing fields - yes to news, no to minutes.
Bus timetables
Chapel services.
Parish Council newsletter should be on - with just a few copies on noticeboard - saves money.
Re adverts for businesses - i.e. accommodation
Ways we can help each other.

Parish Facilities and Leisure

Question 36. In general how often do you use the Village Hall?

Frequency of use of the Village Hall	
Once a week	3%
Monthly	17%
A few times a year	45%
Once a year or less	23%
Never	11%
Base	222



65% of respondents use the Village Hall at least a few times a year. 11% never use it.

Question 37. How do you rate the facilities in the Village Hall?

Facilities in the Village Hall	
Good	43%
Reasonable	49%
Poor	9%
Base ⁷	188

43% of respondents thought the Village Hall facilities were good, while 9% thought they were poor.

⁷ Excludes "no opinion" responses

What additional facilities would you suggest?

A better kitchen, ideally a new village hall.
a) Needs present facilities updating - new kitchen, new heating, new furniture, sound-proofing under floor, etc, new lavs. But is it wise to think of this when it is rented? Also time restrictions and parking problems make use complicated. Too small to be cost effective.
Able to enjoy use later in the evenings.
Additional car parking.
Better kitchen layout.
Better kitchen, lighting, chairs and acoustics.
Better overhead lighting which is ghastly at the moment.
Comfortable chairs - better heating
Complete refurbishment.
Decent cleaner - toilets & hall always dirty.
Heating.
I would remove the large mural and replace it with photographs of village views and residents past and present.
Improve the kitchen.
Improved heating; large noticeboard; more decoration - pictures etc. May be groups who use it e.g. W.I. could provide pictures.
Improved security.
Improved sound proofing / acoustics. Better & more efficient heating. Better licensing hours. Improve storage facilities.
It is really too small.
Kitchen updated. Chairs and tables replaced with those which are more comfortable and store more easily - see Clifford and Vowchurch and Moccas.
Major refurbishment required as a minimum. Could consider lottery grant to provide a modern hall with adequate parking. The obvious location is a replacement for the poor facilities on the playing field
More comfy chairs for "Flicks in the Sticks". Better lighting that suits a variety of moods / events.
Needs general overhaul e.g. kitchen and sound proof
New hall, decent sound system, bigger space, projector.
New village hall in the playing field.
None. Seems good to me.
Opportunity to use late at night.
Phone for emergencies. Better chairs.
Provision of more technical options, e.g. sound system, improved kitchen facilities.
Re-decorate & improve lighting
Sell hall. Apply for lottery grant. Re-siting on edge of village including parking. Failing that gut the building (as in Vowchurch) and bring facilities into 21st century (with better seats). Currently cold and grim.
Sell the village hall, use funds to make church a community hall for all!
The heating is not sufficient in winter for mums & tots group. Cleaning of the hall could be improved. Better storage for table & chairs.
Updating, better seating, improved kitchen facilities, better decor - less institutional colour palette.
Village Hall needs refurbishment, better heating and more controllable lighting.

Question 38. What would encourage you to make more use of the Village Hall?

Ways to encourage more use of Village Hall	
More clubs - regular activities	40%
More local events	52%
Not interested	25%
Base	163

52% would use the Village Hall more if there were more local events; 40% would use it more if there were more clubs or regular activities.

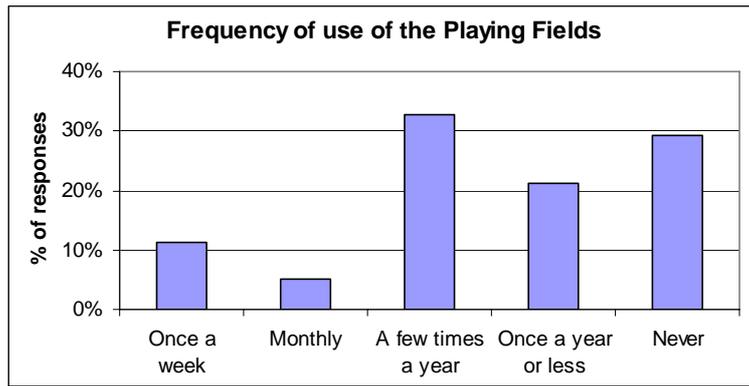
Other suggestions

A big clear sign saying what's on this week.
A new location
Bands.
Being able to use late at night.
Better facilities.
Educational classes.
Extended hours.
Happy how I use it.
I can't understand why it isn't used more. It used to be such a happy place. Perhaps it is the cost.
I think VH is used frequently relative to other villages. Well done!
Less restriction on time and noise.
Line dancing classes.
New hall, decent sound system, bigger space, projector
Nothing, unless Q37 addressed
The hall is not inviting - it is smelly and down at heel. Good events can't be held as it is so small and numbers won't cover costs.

Another issue was raised by a number of respondents, which was of a potentially sensitive nature and not considered appropriate for inclusion in a public report. Details of this issue have been provided to the steering group.

Question 39. How often do you use the Playing Fields?

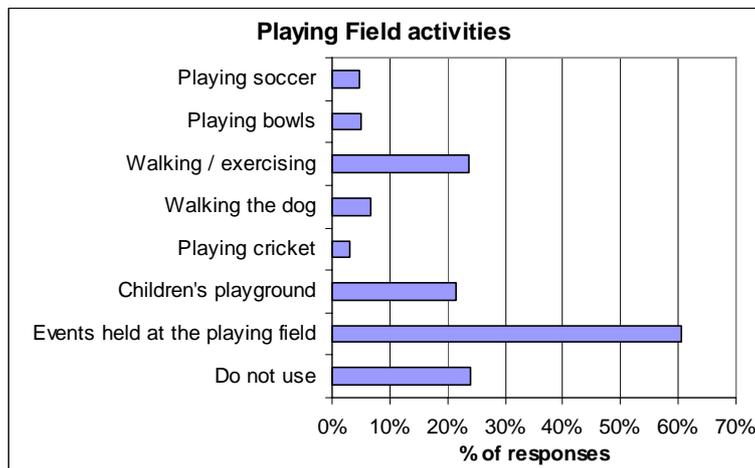
Frequency of use of the Playing Fields	
Once a week	11%
Monthly	5%
A few times a year	33%
Once a year or less	21%
Never	29%
Base	211



49% of respondents use the Playing Fields at least a few times a year. 29% never use them.

Question 40. What activity do you use the Playing Field facilities for?

Playing Field activities	
Playing soccer	5%
Playing bowls	5%
Walking / exercising	24%
Walking the dog	7%
Playing cricket	3%
Children's playground	22%
Events held at the playing field	61%
Do not use	24%
Base	195



By far the most common reason for using the Playing Fields was to attend specific events (61% of respondents). 24% use it to walk or exercise, and 22% to visit the children's playground.

Question 41. If your family uses the children’s playground please indicate your view of the facilities.

Facilities at the children’s playground	
Good	9%
Reasonable	43%
Poor	47%
Base ⁸	74

9% of those who had used the children’s playground thought the facilities were good, compared to 47% who thought they were poor.

Question 42. Are there any other changes / new facilities that you would like to see provided at the Playing Fields?

A club house.
a) Proper car park for open use. b) More village events - plant day is great! c) Why not build a new village hall on the site?
All weather tennis court.
An area for exercising dogs.
Basketball court and tennis courts
Basketball hoops would be great
Better parking - drainage on field. Flood lighting.
Cricket nets, tennis court.
Cycling.
Dog walking is not permitted on playing fields, do not seek to change this.
Dog walking on the playing fields is currently banned.
Get rid of weeds on children's play area. Update the equipment.
Improve the Pavilion
Improved / enlarged children’s playing area. Tennis court. Improved indoor facilities / badminton / meeting.
Linked to using the church as a base for community - new kitchen - leave toilets at playing fields.
Litter bins
Make it dog proof.
More children's play facilities (Have you seen Ewyas Harold's?)
More seating. By the way, dog walking is not allowed on the playing fields.
NB Dog walking is not allowed in the playing fields, except on the footpath. Additional facility = swings
New play area equipment, litter bins - policing of dog walkers / fouling.
New play equipment i.e. climbing frame, swings, a slide that doesn't wobble! Litter bins.
Provision of tennis courts.
Q.40 lists "dog walking". I was under the impression dog walking was banned from the playing fields.
Re Q.40: Walking the dog on the playing fields is prohibited! A new village hall.
Recycling facilities could be provided.
Swings and better facilities for the very young.
Swings for children’s play area

⁸ Excludes “no opinion” responses

Swings for younger / older children. The slide to be fixed seems very unsafe, quite wobbly.
Tennis court
Tennis court / indoor playing facility; wild flowers near the brook.
Tennis court for village. Children's playground to have more facilities.
Tennis court please!
Tennis court, basketball hoop.
Tennis court, fitness circuit, climbing frames for all ages of children, duck pond, swings, slides, etc.
Tennis court.
Tennis court.
Tennis court. Dog exercising area beyond footpath - retrieving footballs. Clear undergrowth closer to river to extend area available.
Tennis courts would be good; improved playing area.
Tennis courts? Good idea.
Tennis?
Tidying up playground. Tennis courts.
Use for cycling.
Yes, more people to help with what is there and then move forward. Q.39 Have helped and used playing field since started, but it needs more support with practical helpers, i.e. fund raising and general looking after. Q.41 On-going job to abide by changing rules and cost to maintain it, need more parents to show more interest in helping to get what they would like to see.

Question 43. Which activities would you take part in if they were provided in Dorstone?

Activities would take part in if provided in Dorstone		
	Take Part	Help Organise
Art Classes	18%	4
Badminton	18%	6
Boules (Pétanque)	13%	0
Bridge	2%	0
Choir	13%	3
Computing Classes	16%	4
Dancing - Salsa / Ballroom / Latin / Modern	22%	1
Drama	5%	2
Gardening Club	19%	5
Keep Fit	28%	3
Language Classes	11%	1
Music Society	10%	3
Natural History Society	15%	1
Photography	16%	2
Rambling Club	10%	1
Tennis	19%	6
Whist Drives	6%	0
Yoga	18%	5
Volunteers' group to visit housebound residents	9%	5
Base ⁹	228	

The most popular suggestions were keep fit and dancing.

Languages specified

Languages specified	
<i>To take part:</i>	
French	9
Spanish	7
German	2
Italian	1
<i>To help organise:</i>	
Indonesian	1

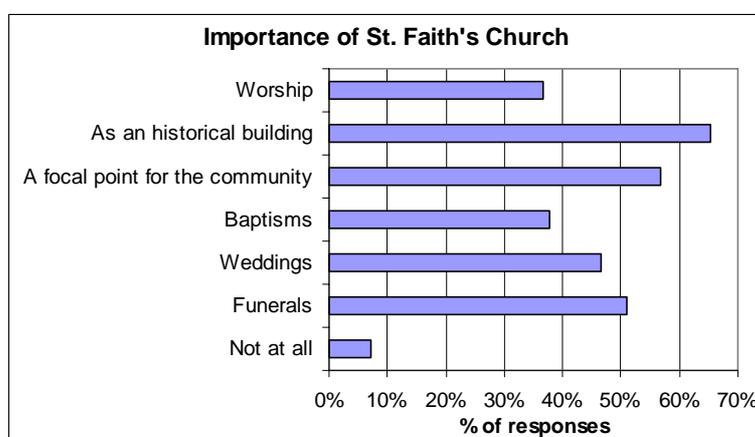
⁹ Base is all survey respondents

Any other activities

Archery, Shooting
Basketball
Book club (reading group).
Children's clubs.
Clubs / activities for children.
Complimentary health group.
Country dancing.
Golf
Gospel choir, kick boxing.
I think most of these are good ideas, but I don't have the time to participate.
Line dancing.
Music events, visiting drama events (Arts Alive), possibly help organize.
Not interested in any.
Showing films.
Table tennis. (Take part and help organise).
Yoga: Pilates.
Youth club - would take part and help organise.
Youth Club opening September 2008 - suggest a member of YC young person sits on parish plan committee (voice of Y.P).

Question 44. Is St. Faith's Church important to you for any of the following reasons?

Importance of St. Faith's Church	
Worship	37%
As an historical building	65%
A focal point for the community	57%
Baptisms	38%
Weddings	47%
Funerals	51%
Not at all	7%
Base	210



Just under two thirds of respondents said that St. Faith's was important to them as a historical building, and 57% as a focal point for the community.

Important for other reasons

Christmas services.
Good for others but not me as a non-Christian.
Nativity and Christmas focus.
Nativity.
Nativity.

Question 45. Would you like to see the church building become more of a community facility?

Like to see church become more of a community facility	
Yes	45%
No	22%
No opinion	33%
Base	210

45% of respondents would like to see the church building become more of a community facility, compared to 22% who would not like to.

Question 46. What events would you support there?

All
All
All sorts, music, drama.
All.
Any local event, community groups etc.
Art / Craft, Local History
Arts & crafts exhibition, concerts, etc.
Cheese & Wine events. Music events.
Choir evenings
Christmas events
CHURCH AS A FACILITY: As long as the changes did not effect the integrity of the building.
Classical music events, lectures.
Clubs / activities for children. Social events.
Community activities.
Concerts
Concerts / Fundraisers
Concerts and drama.
Concerts etc.
Concerts etc.
Concerts, farmers markets, meetings.
Concerts, dinners, meetings, clubs
Concerts, drama productions, talks.
Concerts, exhibitions, some types of social gathering.
Concerts, fetes.
Concerts, musical events, etc.
Concerts, musical events.
Concerts, plays etc.

Concerts, plays.
Concerts, plays.
Concerts.
Concerts.
Concerts.
Concerts.
Drama, social, sport.
High quality musical events.
Hold all the events that the present hall is too small for.
It lacks basic facilities.
Local celebrations.
Local meetings, entertainment, etc.
Many different things, music especially.
More Family services
Most
Most.
Music
Music and events.
Music events
Music events.
Music nights.
Music recitals.
Music, drama.
Music, readings.
Musical
Musical events
Musical events and fundraising.
Musical events.
Musical events.
Musical ones, choirs, orchestras.
Musical, theatre
Musical, theatrical.
Musical.
None
None.
Not able to support presumably but would think exhibitions, talks and certain meetings would be acceptable.
Plays and concerts.
REGULAR children's services, with education through singing, drama, games and fun.
Rock opera.
Shows, music, drama.
Theatre / concert hall.

Question 47. What additional facilities might the church need to make this possible?

A toilet
A lavatory.
Adequate heating, toilet and washing facilities.
Area for refreshments and suitable seating arrangements.
Better lighting facilities and sound system
Chairs
Depending on improvements to village hall / playing fields. I envisage a conflict of interests
Flexible seating
Flexible seating.
Get rid of pews, put in decent chairs.
Group of volunteers, a sign for St. Faith on roadside advertising events to public.
Kitchen - remove some pews to make room for dancing - badminton - choirs - anything and everything? Playgroups.
Kitchen & toilets
Kitchen and toilet facilities.
Kitchen and toilets.
Kitchen, toilets, comfortable seating.
Kitchen, toilets.
More flexible seating arrangements, areas for displays, toilet
More pews
Movable seats.
PA system.
Parking.
Parking.
Refreshment area update.
Removal of pews - and toilets,
Small kitchen, lavatories, chairs (more flexible than pews), lighting, car parking at playing field.
Space for movement / kitchen facilities.
Staging.
Staging / lighting / PA
Toilet and kitchen.
Toilet facilities
Toilet facilities
Toilet facilities
Toilet facilities and updated kitchen. Possibly removal of SOME pews to give more flexibility of use.
Toilet facilities.
Toilet facilities.
Toilet facilities; flexible seating; proper catering facilities; spot lights; padded seating!
Toilets
Toilets and kitchen
Toilets and kitchen and carparking

Toilets and an improved kitchen.
Toilets, better kitchen facilities.
Toilets, Flexible seating & display equipment.
Toilets, kitchen facilities.
Toilets, kitchen.
Toilets, parking.
Toilets, proper kitchen facilities.
Toilets.
Toilets.
Toilets.
Toilets.
Upright piano.

Question 48. Are the current times for Church Services convenient for you?

Service times convenient	
Yes	78%
No	22%
Base ¹⁰	67

More than three quarters of those who had an opinion found the service times to be convenient.

Other suggested times

10am
11am - 11:30pm.
11am 6pm Evensong
6:30am or 10:00am
Discontinue 8am service. Service at 10.30 instead of 9.30. Evensong in Summer
Evening service.
Evensong to be 'Family Service' 4pm(ish) would be good for families.
Family service in afternoon.
Later so we have time to get all ready as 2 young children.
More evening services welcome
Variable times.

Question 49. Would you be willing to help provide financial and practical help to maintain the Church and Churchyard?

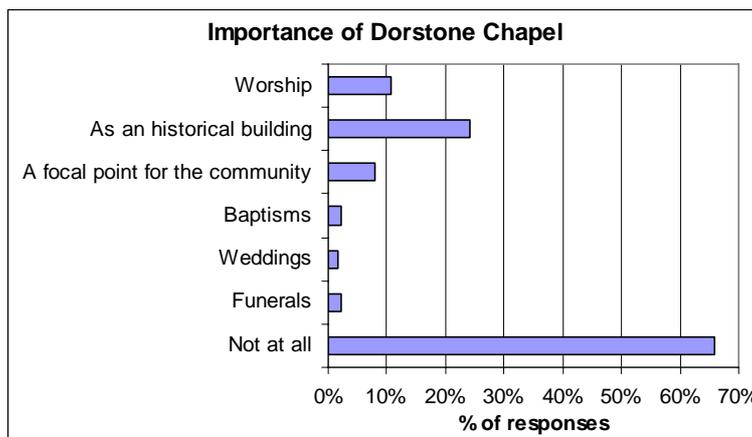
Willing to help maintain Church and Churchyard	
Yes	46%
No	54%
Base	173

46% of respondents would be willing to help maintain the Church and Churchyard.

¹⁰ Excludes "no opinion" responses

Question 50. Is Dorstone Chapel important to you for any of the following reasons?

Importance of Dorstone Chapel	
Worship	11%
As an historical building	24%
A focal point for the community	8%
Baptisms	2%
Weddings	2%
Funerals	2%
Not at all	66%
Base	187



24% of respondents saw Dorstone Chapel as being important as a historical building. 11% said it was important for worship.

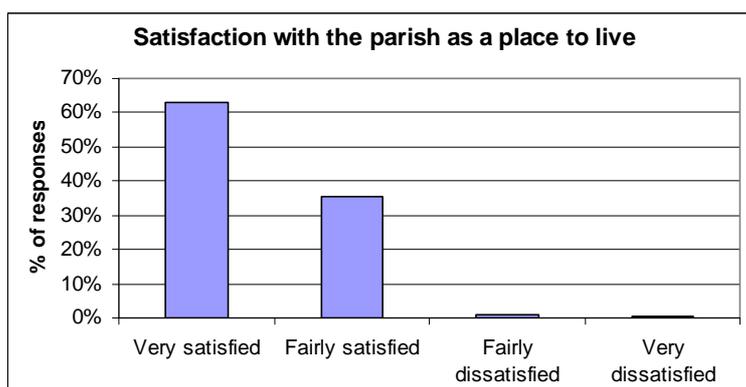
Important for other reasons

Could be used for meetings / clubs
I do not know anyone who uses it so I'm not qualified to comment.
It will be important to others.

Parish Services

Question 51. How satisfied are you with your parish as a place to live?

Satisfaction with the parish as a place to live	
Very satisfied	63%
Fairly satisfied	36%
Fairly dissatisfied	1%
Very dissatisfied	*% ¹¹
Base	211



Almost all respondents (99%) were satisfied with their parish as a place to live.

Comments

Greatly regret the loss of our Post Office.
I would be if there were a few more basic requirements, e.g. a shop or a communal meeting place in the village centre.
Love living here at the moment.
Not for elderly if you don't drive
Sorry to be losing the Post Office and shop some years ago.
Wonderful community of friendly helpful people.

Question 52. Are you aware of the Meredith Maddy Trust?

(A village charity)

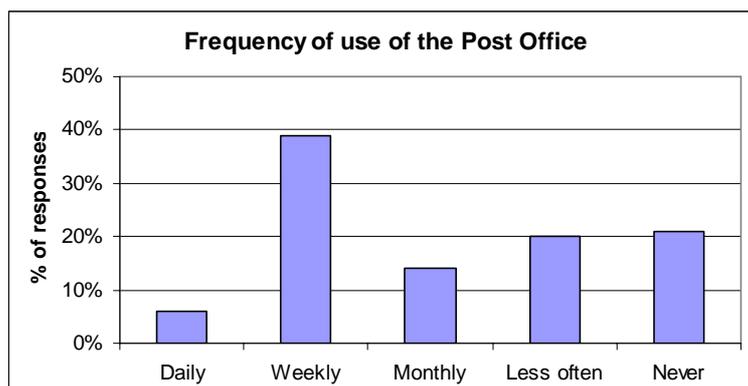
Aware of the Meredith Maddy Trust	
Yes	62%
No	38%
Base	215

62% of respondents were aware of the Meredith Maddy Trust.

¹¹ “*%” refers to a score of less than 0.5% that would otherwise have been rounded to zero.

Question 53. How often do you use the Post Office?

Frequency of use of the Post Office	
Daily	6%
Weekly	39%
Monthly	14%
Less often	20%
Never	21%
Base	214



59% of respondents use the Post Office at least monthly. 21% never use it.

Question 54. If the Post Office were to close, how would this affect you?

A definite inconvenience and more so as I get older.
A lot.
A very necessary part of the village – much needed.
Adversely
Another nail in the coffin of village life.
Badly, I would have to drive to Peterchurch.
Banking facilities / meeting place
Car journeys to Peterchurch two or three times a week.
Cost of travelling to alternative PO.
Currently not at all.
Extra miles to Peterchurch and lack of meeting friends!
For me an inconvenience. Disastrous for others.
Further to travel to a P.O.
GREATLY – I collect my pension and find it useful to pay bills, etc., without having to travel to Hay.
Having to travel to the next village.
I can travel to Peterchurch by car. Others cannot and will have to rely on others to help.
I didn't know it was open. Where are the opening times advertised?
I don't drive so getting pension posting parcels, paying bills buying stamps would be very difficult.
I strongly believe the Post Office is an essential part of the village.
I think this is a little late for comment.
I use it for business, so would have to use car more.
I use it to pay in cheques buy stamps etc and catch up with what's going on.

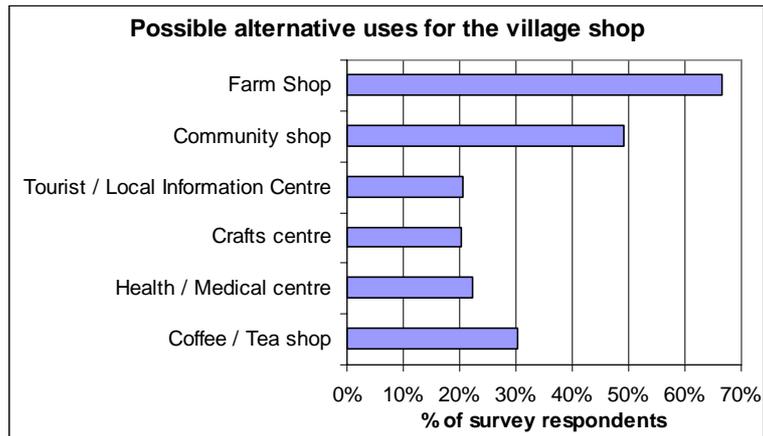
I will have to travel to Hay or Peterchurch in order to access cash or post a parcel.
I would have to travel by car to Peterchurch or Hay, using unnecessary petrol. The Post Office is VERY important to the community as a whole and would be greatly missed.
I would have to travel to post letters etc.
I would increase my carbon footprint!
I would loose contact with the village completely.
I would use it if it opened longer.
I would use it more frequently but often it is closed when I need it!
I would use Peterchurch
I would use Peterchurch PO
I would use Peterchurch.
I would use the car and supermarket more often to pay bills and buy stamps.
I would have to drive to Peterchurch or Hay.
I'd have to go to Hay or Peterchurch.
I'd travel to somewhere with a Post Office.
In many ways but mainly because I bank with Giro and without my own transport it will be very difficult for me to withdraw money. Posting parcels will also be a problem.
Inconvenience of having to travel further to use the Post Office. One less friendly place to pop into in the village.
Inconvenient as I would not easily travel elsewhere.
Inconvenient having to travel to Peterchurch. A loss to the community.
Increased costs in petrol / time / carbon footprint
Increasingly, as I get older and especially when I am no longer able to drive.
It is a focal point for the village community.
It is the focus of village life, a point of communication with other villages.
It is very convenient and important to the village community so it would be greatly missed.
It will be a great shame but not a major impact for me.
It will close. We don't like it but will have to manage.
It would be a great loss if you are elderly and if do not drive and depend on it for cash & posting
It would be a great loss as a focal point and for the facilities it offers.
It would be a loss for the village and awful for older residents.
It would be a struggle to collect my pension.
It would be disappointing.
It would mean driving some distance to another – is that environmentally friendly?
It wouldn't really
It wouldn't.
It wouldn't.
It wouldn't.
It's never open anyway!
Lack of social input, village word of mouth, access to pension, cash, etc.
Little personal impact but still a loss of amenity within the village.
Loss of convenience.
Loss of services, worry for older parishioners, loss of focal point in village.
Loss of social contact and transaction facility, esp. Christmas posting.
Loss of time / increased travel costs
Minimally
More time in the queue at Peterchurch or Hay; less local info.
More time, miles, fuel and carbon emissions to travel to Hay or Peterchurch. Loss of opportunity for chance encounters with other villagers.

Unable to use postal services (post letters and parcels) buy newspapers and Link in the village where I live.
Use P.O. at Peterchurch.
Very much
Very much
Very much
Will have to drive to an alternative PO.
Will have to drive to Hay-on-Wye or Peterchurch.
Will need to travel to post letters and parcels - buy newspapers and Link magazine etc.
Will no longer be able to withdraw money, buy postage stamps and post parcels. Also in Dorstone it is the only place where we can buy greetings cards.
Working full time, not able to use, so would not affect me.
Would affect older generation and me as I got older
Would have to travel further.
Would have to travel further.
Would have to travel to Hay-on-Wye or Peterchurch Post Office.
Would not affect me personally, but strongly believe every effort should be made to preserve service.
Would not affect me.
Would not affect me.
Would not, all services can be done on line.
Would use Peterchurch / internet
Yes
Yes
Yes.

Question 55. If the current shop premises were to become vacant, which of the following would you use?

Possible alternative uses for the village shop	
Farm Shop	67%
Community shop	49%
Tourist / Local Information Centre	21%
Crafts centre	20%
Health / Medical centre	22%
Coffee / Tea shop	30%
Base ¹²	228

¹² Base is all survey respondents



The most popular options were a farm shop (supported by 67% of respondents) and a community shop (49% of respondents).

Other suggestions

A combination of the above with emphasis on local village produce would be great.
A mix of all these things would be good.
Cake shop.
Chiropodist.
Combination of these.
Community centre.
Community facility for all kinds of information, as a 'drop-in' centre, book exchange, quick chat, and newspaper collection.
Good village stores
Goods exchange, newspapers, local business centre for residents: internet, copier, scanner, etc.
Hair salon.
Loss of a community focal point in the village (meeting people, info).
Newsagent
None of the above are viable businesses for the shop location.
Possible combination of the two.
Shop would be more used if it had windows. The building is very low calibre and lets down the village.
Small business premises / units
The village needs a shop as a focal point as well as a convenience otherwise the building is pointless.
These premises (as a shop) can never be viable unless accommodation is provided as part of the deal.
Viable business.
Whatever would work.
Would need to combine these to make full use of building.

Question 56. (a) Would you support a community oil purchase scheme, which might provide more competitive prices through bulk purchase?

Support community oil purchase scheme	
Yes	64%
No	13%
No opinion	22%
Base	202

64% of respondents were in favour of a community oil purchase scheme.

(b) Would you be prepared to help organise such as scheme?

Prepared to help organise such a scheme	
Yes	19%
No	81%
Base	163

31 people would be prepared to help organise a community oil purchase scheme.

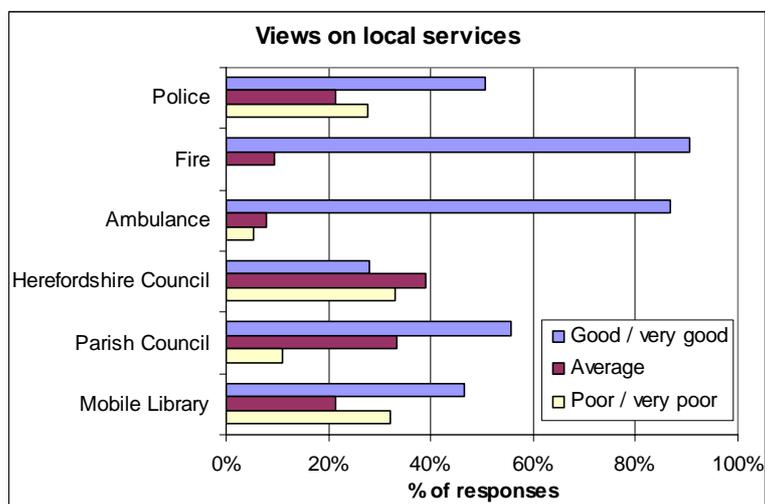
Question 57. Do you have any other suggestions for using community bulk purchase?

Access for large lorries is impossible.
Bird food, logs, bags of compost in spring.
Birdseed, vegetable garden seeds and plants, animal feeds, office supplies, potatoes.
Box vegetable scheme?
Bulk delivery lorries cannot access many rural properties' drive ways.
Compost and other gardening supplies.
Compost.
Diesel / petrol (arrangement with Locks and Clyro). Try electricity and water deal for whole village.
Electricity? Broadband or wi-fi
Firewood, coal.
Firewood.
Firewood.
Fruit & veg?
Petrol and diesel.
Potatoes.
Rice and pulses.
Septic tank services until the Parish council sort out mains sewage.
Why just oil? Why not LPG too?
Why not LPG as well as oil?

Other Issues

Question 58. If you have used any of the following, which cover Dorstone Parish, during the last two years, how would you rate the service?

Views on local services						
	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Base
Police	20%	31%	22%	20%	8%	65
Fire	47%	44%	9%	0%	0%	32
Ambulance	53%	34%	8%	5%	0%	38
Herefordshire Council	10%	18%	39%	23%	10%	82
Parish Council	13%	43%	33%	5%	6%	63
Mobile Library	18%	29%	21%	29%	4%	28



The services seen as being the best were fire (91% good or very good) and ambulance (87% good or very good). The services seen as being the worst were Herefordshire Council (28% good / very good, 33% poor / very poor) and the mobile library (46% good / very good, 32% poor / very poor).

Question 59. If you have rated any of the services as “poor” or “very poor”, have you any suggestions for improvements?

Police
A local police service in Peterchurch / Hereford. Not a call centre in Timbuktu!
Complain - re police
HQ is slow!
Insufficient control of speed on B4348.
It would help if staff actually knew their responsibilities.
Lack of follow-up after reporting a burglary.
Lack of follow-up to report of break in.
Local 24Hr police cover needed. Call centre somewhere in Midlands is useless
More frequently visible, and more understanding of local problems.
No follow up on a reported burglary incident.
No follow up on report of a break-in. Let public know what is going on.
Timescales

Ambulance
Ambulance took a long time to arrive, but this is a consequence of where we live!!

Herefordshire Council
Complaints seem to sink into a "black hole" - we need to know what AND when something will be done.
Herefordshire Council could remember it has responsibilities for the countryside as well as urban areas.
Herefordshire Council is hopeless.
I applied for a bus pass (over 60's). It took a month to arrive and they had run out of timetables. They sent a questionnaire to ask how good their service was BEFORE I got the bus pass!
I find them very hard to communicate with.
Improve recycling provision.
More competent and honest
More frequently visible, and more understanding of local problems.
The council needs to support the requirements of the area.
The council should do what the voters want not what central government says.
Too much paperwork & bureaucracy
Trying to obtain an over 60s bus pass took 3 weeks and they had run out of timetables.

Parish Council
Better quality staff - decent councillors - ours is hopeless
Call for resignation of councillors and get new ones and new Clerk.
Parish Council appears to be a talk shop only, having no "teeth".
Parish Council is not friendly. Too insular / old fashioned. Not real world. Think they run the village.
Parish Council: I never knew it existed because they don't do anything to improve our area!
Parish Council - what do they do? Two recent planning applications near me - no one came to ask my opinion. No information from Parish Council.

Mobile library
Change books in stock more often. More efficient system for producing requested books.
Changes to the mobile library service have made it more confusing.
Library van serves library service not villagers outside immediate village green, and odd times make difficulties for those on it.
Service was taken away from The Bage 2 years ago.
The library van coming once a month as previously
Timescales

Question 60. Would you support the introduction of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Dorstone?

Support Neighbourhood Watch	
Yes	77%
No	17%
Would help	6%
Base	179

83% of respondents supported the idea of a Neighbourhood Watch (“yes” plus “would help”).

Question 61. Would you support the introduction of a Farm Watch Scheme in Dorstone?

Support Farm Watch	
Yes	72%
No	23%
Would help	5%
Base	160

77% of respondents supported the idea of a Farm Watch (“yes” plus “would help”).

Question 62. Are you concerned about the impact of possible changes in the provision of both primary and secondary schools for Dorstone Parish?

Concerned about possible changes to school provision	
Very concerned	53%
Concerned	38%
Not concerned	9%
Base ¹³	140

91% of those who had an opinion were concerned to some extent about possible changes to school provision in the parish.

¹³ Excludes “no opinion” responses

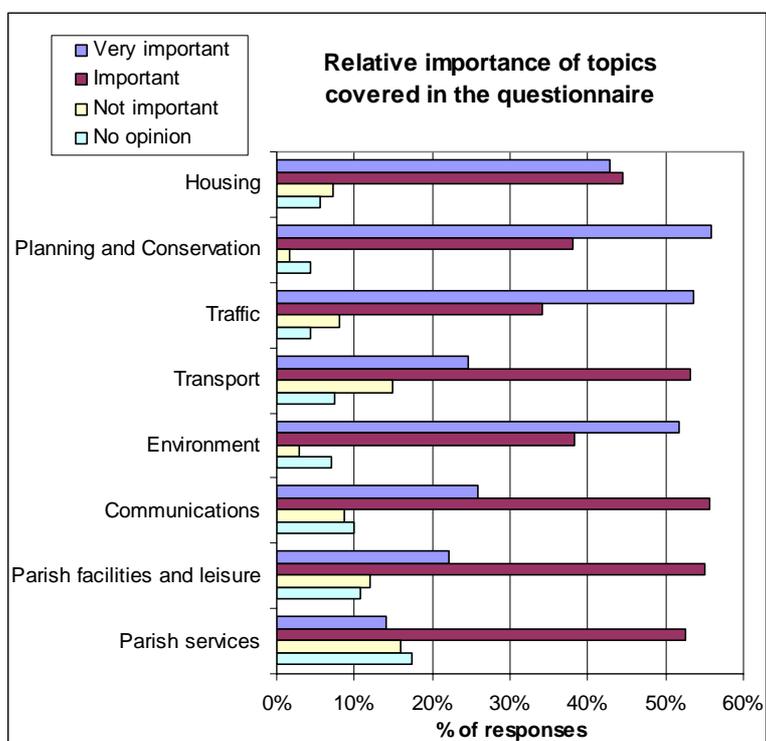
Any comments

Following January's incidents very concerned that Fairfield will disappear.
Government plans to dismantle a very effective local education system is based on dubious population projection.
Keep Fairfield open.
Keep local schools open otherwise young families will move away.
Main reason for moving here.
Need to keep local schools.
Primary school needs new buildings. Why not put it on Fairfield campus to make easy links for parents, staff and children? To close Fairfield would be insane as it has a unique atmosphere and splendid results.
Small schools in rural areas not only achieve very good results, but are vital to those who live in these areas.
Support Fairfield's continued existence.
The government, in its quest for value for money, has forgotten the value of small ALWAYS = good.
The loss of Fairfield would be a blow to our community.
Without local schools families would not seek to reside in the village which would result in an elderly community.

Importance of topics surveyed / Other issues

Question 63. Which of the following topics / issues covered in this survey do you rate as the most important?

Relative importance of topics covered in the questionnaire					
	Very important	Important	Not important	No opinion	Base
Housing	43%	45%	7%	5%	182
Planning and Conservation	56%	38%	2%	4%	186
Traffic	54%	34%	8%	4%	185
Transport	25%	53%	15%	7%	162
Environment	52%	38%	3%	7%	172
Communications	26%	56%	9%	10%	151
Parish facilities and leisure	22%	55%	12%	11%	158
Parish services	14%	53%	16%	17%	156



The topics which were considered most important were planning and conservation (56% very important), traffic (54% very important) and environment (52% very important).

Question 64. What other comments do you wish to add that may not have been covered in this survey?

We are particularly interested in any suggestions for improving the quality of life of all residents in Dorstone Parish

A few open-air events on the Green or the playing field.
An accessible opportunity to meet friends occasionally for tea / coffee / newspapers / gossip! - a village shop!!
And thank you for all your hard work and apologies to the village hall committee who work so hard.
Attitudes of people coming into the area. Hypocritical attitudes towards locals. People are quite happy to move into newly built homes and then force criticism upon others when they wish to build. Local people want to stay in the area, however it appears that the more affluent come in with their own attitudes and try to push them on to our community. They should move to the area for what it is and NOT what they want to turn it into.
Continue to work together to identify and provide events that bring the WHOLE community together.
Could we have some respite from the continual noise of building works, which has been almost non-stop over the past 5 / 6 years?
Council should help when it comes to keeping the main road clear of trees overhanging. Very expensive for residents.
Do not widen the roads.
Examine the possibility of putting one or more mobile phone masts on top of the church tower. This would provide a useful rental income for the benefit of Dorstone a cure a mobile phone 'black spot'.
Faster internet connection.
Here is a wonderful, peaceful, quiet, safe, not too much light pollution. I'm not sure how you could improve it.
Housing determined on an ad hoc basis as it is wholly impossible to predict. Relaxed planning policy would be beneficial to allow local people to build / extend.
I do not feel qualified to comment on this as I am very satisfied with the quality of my life and cannot speak for others.
I have been connected with Dorstone on and off for 25 years and in part of that time travelled extensively abroad. I can think of few places nicer than Dorstone. My worry is that in the name of safety all this will be ruined by flashing speed cameras and other modern rubbish that has completely defaced many other villages.
I would like to see more housing available for young single and married people.
I would not like to see any more storage buildings at [local farms].
It is of great concern the increased number of powerful exterior lights during the winter months left on for many hours. This light pollution adversely affects wildlife and corrupts the natural beauty of the countryside.
Link with surrounding parishes – possibly gain economies of scale. Grater use of school facilities (especially Peterchurch School) for clubs & sporting activity.
More facilities / activities for the children, i.e. clubs, Brownies, summer clubs.
More facilities / activities for children, where does tourism fit in. Small business help & home workers etc.
Need ONE committed and effective group which brings together the running of village hall, playing fields and church. Parish Council does very little to improve parish.
No more developments getting like Peterchurch
No significant changes or improvements are necessary.

Poor broadband speeds; very poor digital services (signals); very poor mobile phone signals; no Freeview signal; poor analogue TV signal.
Poor broadband speeds; very poor mobile phone signals; no digital radio signal; no Freeview signal.
Poor planning consideration in [recent local housing development].
Q.63 Housing, planning & conservation, traffic and transport - these are governed by authorities greater than remit of this document and so it will have no impact on those who make decisions.
Quality of life is already very good.
Restrictions on farm development.
Small groups should not be allowed to dictate or stand in the way of progress.
Support for existing and new businesses - grants etc. Keep village pub open - as important as the church or village hall as a focal point for the community.
The money and time spent on this questionnaire is absolutely ridiculous!
Too much building in an area that doesn't require it and will spoil the beauty of the area.
Tractors to slow down on Sundays to keep noise down.
Very concerned about closure of P.O. Would like to see some sort of shop / centre in village premises.
We should continue to build on the same scale as in recent years otherwise the integrity and charm of the village will be lost.
When the Parish votes on a Planning Application I would like to see that backed up by the town council.

Question 65. Please tick which of the following describes you.

Gender	
Male	43%
Female	57%
Base	155

Age	
18 to 24	5%
25 to 29	3%
30 to 44	16%
45 to 59	28%
60 to 74	32%
75 plus	15%
Base	213

Question 66. How long have you lived in Dorstone Parish?

Length of residence in Dorstone	
Less than 2 years	7%
2 - 5 years	22%
6 - 10 years	9%
11 - 25 years	33%
26 - 50 years	20%
Over 50 years	9%
Base	216

Question 67. How would you describe yourself?

Employment status	
Employed full time	21%
Employed part time	6%
Self-employed	23%
Semi-retired	5%
Retired	33%
In full time or part time education	2%
Unemployed and available for work	0%
Unwaged	7%
Other	2%
Base	217

Other employment status

Three respondents wrote "self employed and semi-retired".

Youth Questionnaire

Question 1. Are you:

Gender	
Male	48%
Female	52%
Base	44

Question 2. Which age group are you in?

Age	
4 to 6	16%
7 to 11	33%
12 to 15	22%
16 to 17	29%
Base	45

Question 3. Are you:

Education and employment	
At school	73%
At college	27%
Employed	0%
Other	0%
Base	45

School location	
Peterchurch	59%
Clifford	16%
Much Dewchurch	9%
Hereford	6%
Lucton	3%
Madley	3%
Wrekin College	3%
Base	32

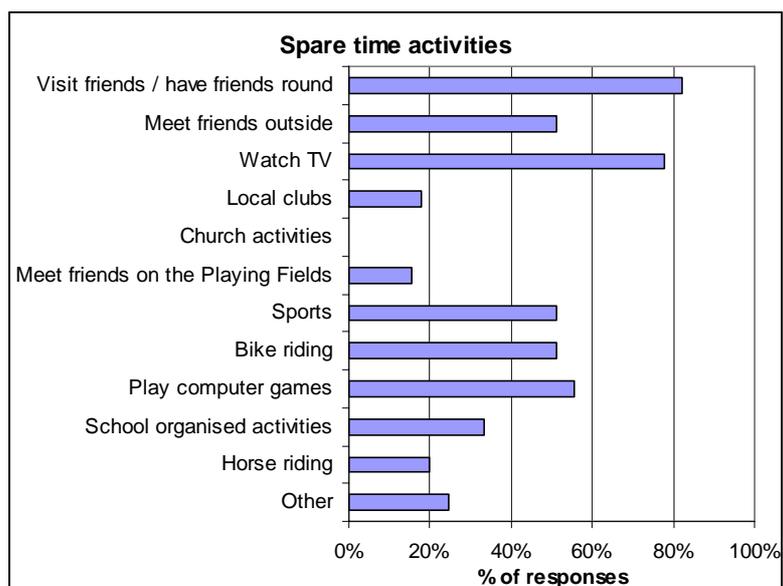
College attended	
Hereford Sixth Form	73%
Hereford Technical College	9%
Hereford unspecified	9%
Holme Lacy	9%
Base	11

Method of transport to school	
Bus / school bus	57%
Car	30%
Bus / car	7%
Board	7%
Base	30

Method of transport to college	
Bus	80%
Bus / car	20%
Base	10

Question 4. What do you do in your spare time?

Spare time activities	
Visit friends / have friends round	82%
Meet friends outside	51%
Watch TV	78%
Local clubs e.g. Brownies, Scouts	18%
Church activities e.g. Sunday School	0%
Meet friends on the Playing Fields	16%
Sports e.g. football, rugby etc	51%
Bike riding	51%
Play computer games	56%
School organised activities	33%
Horse riding	20%
Other	24%
Base	45



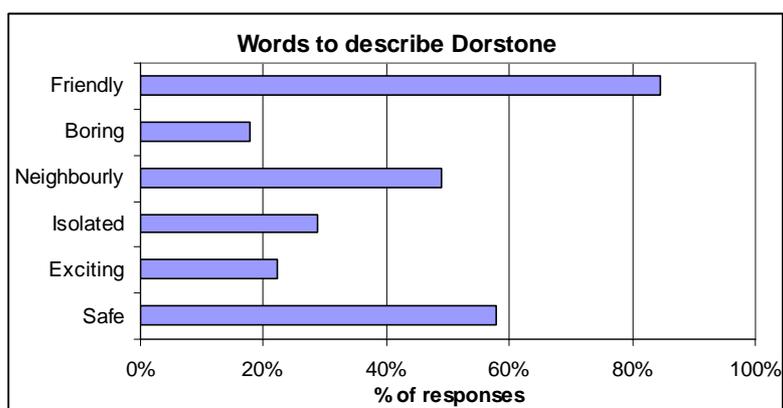
The most popular activities were visiting friends and watching TV, selected by 82% and 78% of respondents respectively.

Other activities mentioned

Army Cadets, Hay-on-Wye.
Body boarding.
Farming.
Karate.
Modelling, gaming.
Swimming, going for walks.
Tree climbing.
Walking the dog.
Young Farmers club.
Young Farmers Club.

Question 5. Which words best describe Dorstone?

Words to describe Dorstone	
Friendly	84%
Boring	18%
Neighbourly	49%
Isolated	29%
Exciting	22%
Safe	58%
Base	45



84% of respondents thought Dorstone was friendly, and 58% thought it was safe.

Please tell us why you chose these

Because Dorstone is all of these things.
Because I always feel safe. Because I have lots of friends.
Because I am excited about living in such a friendly exciting village.
Because it's a beautiful village.
Because neighbours are very kind and friendly.
Because people are nice.
Because there are plenty of people to talk to and they are all really friendly. I feel safe here because there aren't many cars.
Because there's not much to do.
Because this is the way it is. Not a boring community fun and safe.
Boring - there aren't enough activities in the village, but DYC is introducing soon. Neighbourly - it is easy to have a good relationship with neighbours. Friendly - everybody in the village is kind and cheerful people are usually in talkative mood.
Dorstone is friendly, neighbourly, safe and exciting. I think that all the people are friendly and I feel safe when I go for walks.
Everyone is friendly. Everyone says "hello" to each other. Sometimes things get boring - the playground and field should be improved as should the film choice.
Everyone knows each other and everyone looks out for each other.
Everyone knows each other and you feel sort of a community of friends.
Exciting tractors going by. Friendly and neighbourly because I know people's names and they wave and smile.
Friendly - people are often in their houses so you have a nice time. Exciting - when you just move house to it it looks very nice. Safe - there is grass to walk on when walking along the road. Neighbourly - lots of friendly people and it's very welcoming.
I know lots of people in the village, people help each other out - pet feeding, baby sitting etc.
I think Dorstone is safe because there are not many people which makes it friendly and neighbourly.
Isolated: small, on its own, few buses to visit other places. Safe: I feel safe waking around on my own.
It is very out in the wilds but it is a very friendly and snug little village and I love it (wouldn't change where it is for the world).
It's a small community with not many young people so there's not much to do.
Most people in the village are friendly. It is a compact and small village which is nice.
Not a lot of activities around here. Becoming a village that elderly people retreat to to retire.
Nothing to do for children or teenagers.
Older generation.
People say "hello"
Quiet friendly people.
The people in the village are all very nice but I'm a long way from my friends etc.
We have a big playing field with very little on it for children my age.

Question 6. What do you like best about living in Dorstone?

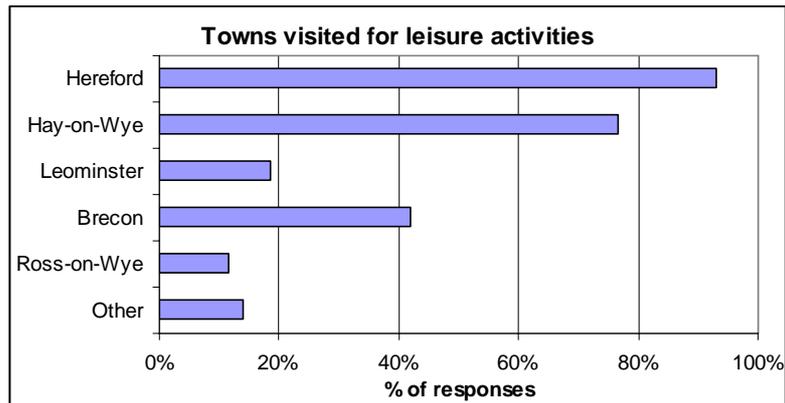
All the free quiet space.
Because it is peaceful. It is in the countryside.
Being in the country and fresh air.
Countryside
Countryside, nature.
Good view, nice places to walk.
Having lots of friends in Dorstone.
I feel quite safe.
I know all the people.
It is a good place for getting about like going for bike rides, playing football and going for walks.
It is very friendly.
It's a clean beautiful village; friends live near.
It's got clean air and trees. The bus service is very efficient.
It's quiet and nice countryside.
It's quiet but still close to Hereford and Hay.
It's such a pretty village, especially the village green.
Local friends. Easy bus to catch.
Lots of friends. Lots of space. It's calm.
Lots of stuff to do if you like a quiet life.
Peacefulness.
People are friendly, events like Christmas Play / Pudding Party.
Playing fields.
Playing fields.
Playing fields.
Playing field where you can play football, cricket, golf.
Playing outside and gardening. Mobile library. The fields and the woods.
Quiet calm, it's good when you spend all day in a crazy Hereford you can come home to a pretty place.
Quiet, easy to get to.
That everyone is so friendly.
The crime rate is very low.
The friendly communal atmosphere.
The kindness of the village people.
The lovely green playing field.
The Pandy Inn.
The Pandy.
The walks and the friendly community.
There's cricket club.
Tranquillity.
Walking dog.
We have nice neighbours.
Young Farmers; Peaceful; Fresh air; countryside.

Question 7. What do you like least about living in Dorstone?

Always having to travel to school or to friends' houses.
Because there are lots of fast cars.
Cars drive too fast.
Cars too fast
Danger! Bends.
Friends.
Having to drive everywhere.
Isolation.
Lack of facilities.
Most of my friends live far away e.g. Ludlow. The post office closing.
No activities.
No nets on the goals!!! No activities to participate in.
No play area that is safe.
No shop.
Not enough people of my age.
Not many activities for young people.
Not much happens in the facilities we have: hall and playing field.
Not much to do.
Not that much to do.
People going fast in cars.
Some of the cars going too fast.
The fact is it costs a small fortune to travel, get the bus.
The fast traffic.
The play equipment in the sports field because it is not exciting.
The playing fields aren't used to its full standard; we could have a bike track, tennis court and the cricket pitch should be roped off.
There are not very many things in the playground.
There aren't many children.
There is not a very good playground.
There isn't much to do at the playing fields.
There's not a lot to do.
There's not many young people.
Too far from family and friends.
Too isolated.
Tractors going too fast.
Well it was that there wasn't enough for youngsters but now the Dorstone Youth Club every month at the village hall should change this

Question 8. Do you travel to any of the following towns for leisure activities?

Towns visited for leisure activities	
Hereford	93%
Hay-on-Wye	77%
Leominster	19%
Brecon	42%
Ross-on-Wye	12%
Other	14%
Base	43



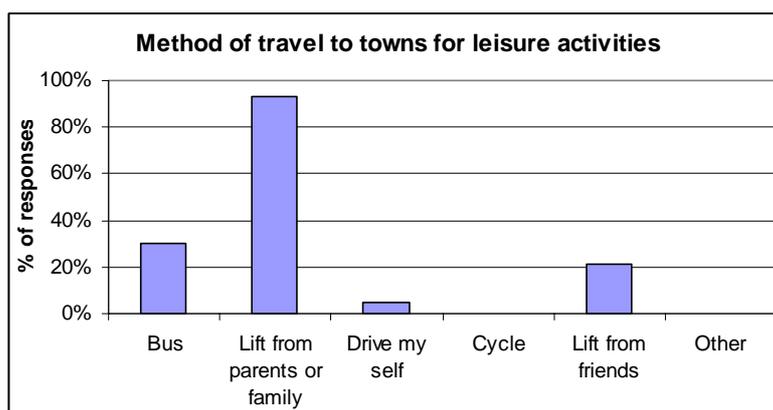
93% of respondents visited Hereford for leisure activities, and 77% visited Hay-on-Wye.

Other towns mentioned

Bridgend, Worcester.
Cardiff.
Cardiff.
Football clubs in Longtown, Wellington.
Kington, Kingstone.
Talgarth, Clifford, Tregoyd.

Question 9. When you travel to the places above, how do you get there?

Method of travel to towns for leisure activities	
Bus	30%
Lift from parents or family	93%
Drive my self	5%
Cycle	0%
Lift from friends	21%
Other	0%
Base	43



The most common way of getting to towns for leisure activities was to get a lift from parents or family.

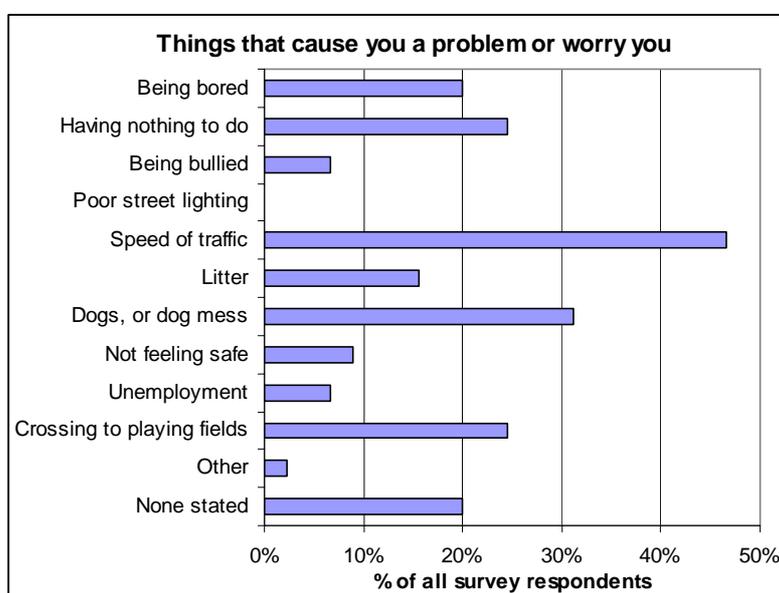
Question 10. When you go to any of these places, why do you go there?

Because more things to do; shopping.
Because there is something to do there.
Cinema, restaurants, cricket, tennis, 10-pin bowling.
Cinema, swimming, shopping, bowling.
Clubs and activities i.e. tennis, music lessons etc.
Eat out, see things / places, swimming, movies / dramas, shopping, see my grandma.
For shopping and meals. Cardiff for ice skating.
Funzies, play sport.
Go to play parks and soft play areas.
Hereford - Saturdays - Courtyard. Hay-on-Wye - swimming, tennis now and then.
Hereford - shopping, friends. Hay - swimming. Talgarth - swimming lessons. Tregoy's - horse riding. Clifford - friends.
I go there when I am swimming with Dad. To have fun and to learn things like driving. I also go to the cinema.
I go to Hay just to have fun or to have an ice cream.
It's good fun and lots to do.
Lads Club football, Courtyard classes, see my grandparents, see friends.
Leisure activity.
Lots of shops.
Occasionally we will go with our parents, may be to shop, swim or play cricket.
Other activities. More exciting. Hobbies.

Shopping
Shopping, ballet.
Shopping, cinema.
Shopping, cinema.
Shopping, meeting friends.
Sport clubs, Hat Festival, cinemas, swimming.
Sport.
Sport.
Swimming, cinema, friends.
Swimming, shopping.
Swimming, shopping.
Swimming.
Tennis, friends.
To buy food, swim, meet friends.
To do sports like football, swimming.
To go swimming, meet up with friends.
To have fun swimming; play cricket and shopping.
To meet friends, to go shopping, go to the cinema, go rowing, swimming, play tennis.
To see friends, shop, work.
To see my mum and to attend an exercise class.
We go there for shopping and swimming and ice skating and the cinema.
We go there just to have some fresh air and get out of the house or to shop for food or clothes.
Because more things to do; shopping.

Question 11. Do any of the following cause you a problem, or worry you?

Things that cause you a problem or worry you	
Being bored	20%
Having nothing to do	24%
Being bullied	7%
Poor street lighting	0%
Speed of traffic	47%
Litter	16%
Dogs, or dog mess	31%
Not feeling safe	9%
Unemployment	7%
Crossing to playing fields	24%
Other	2%
None stated	20%
Base ¹⁴	45



Almost half of all survey respondents thought there was a problem with speeding traffic, and 31% with dogs or dog mess. 20% of survey respondents did not have a problem with any of the items in the list.

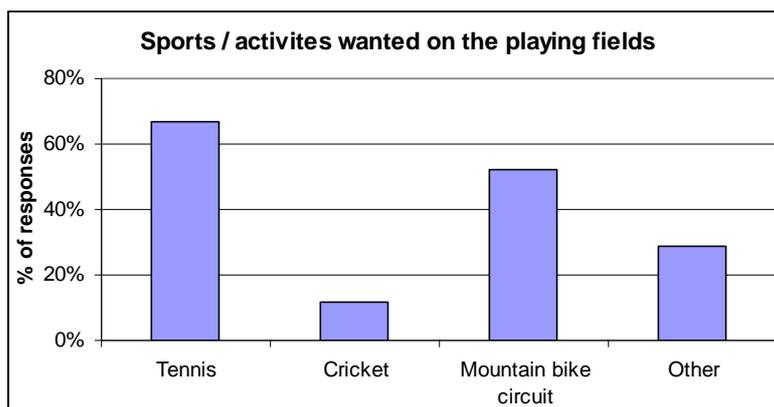
Other things that cause you a problem or worry you

One respondent wrote “tractors”.

¹⁴ Base is all survey respondents

Question 12. What sports / activities would you like to have on the playing fields?

Sports / activities wanted on the playing fields	
Tennis	67%
Cricket	12%
Mountain bike circuit	52%
Other	29%
Base	42



Tennis was the most popular option, with around two thirds of respondents selecting it. Around half of respondents selected a mountain bike circuit.

Other sports / activities mentioned

A putting green.
Basket ball
Club house.
Football, Rounders, girls changing facilities.
Football.
Golf, putting green.
Improve the children's play area there are lots of stinging nettles and no roundabouts.
New play area with adventure climbing frame and zip wire.
Putting green, golf driving net.
Rugby.
Running track.

Question 13. If you use the children's playground, what equipment would make it more fun?

A roundabout and other new things because some of the equipment is broken or does not work well.
A roundabout from recommendations.
As above.
Bigger swings.
Climbing frame - adventure play area. Spring rocking animals.
Climbing frames, swings, roundabouts.
Fix the slide, some swings, monkey bars.
Fix the slide; Swings / tyre swing.
Monkey bars, double swing.
Monkey bars.
Monkey bars.
Monkey bars.
More swings - regular ones, not tyres.
More swings, more varied height monkey bars.
Swing set.
Swings and a roundabout.
Swings, climbing frame.
Swings, monkey bars.
Swings.
Swings.
Swings.
Swings.
The swingy thing and slide.
To fix the climb rope in the play area.
Trampoline.
Witches hat.
Zip wire.

Question 14. Did you know there is to be a new Youth Club meeting at the Village Hall?

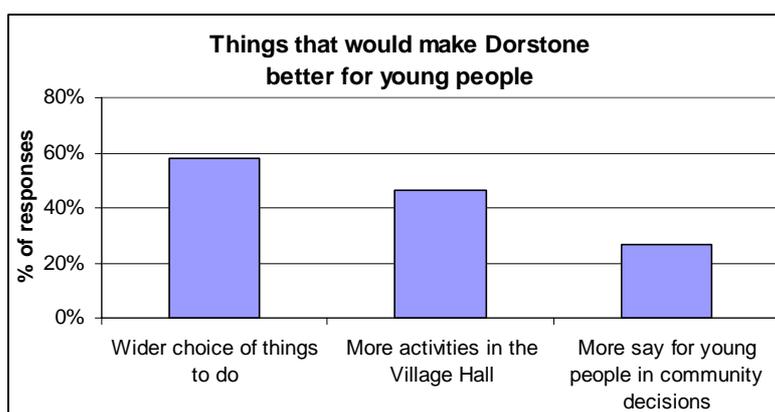
Know about Youth Club	
Yes	66%
No	34%
Base	44

Will you use it?

Will use Youth Club	
Yes	60%
No	40%
Base	40

Question 15. What do you think would make Dorstone better for young people?

Things that would make Dorstone better for young people	
Wider choice of things to do	58%
More activities in the Village Hall	47%
More say for young people in community decisions	27%
Base ¹⁵	45



A wider choice of things to do was the most commonly selected item, by 58% of all survey respondents, followed by more activities in the Village Hall (47%).

Wider choice of things to do: Suggestions

Better park; more stuff in the shop; special places for kids.
BMX track
Business opportunities for young people.
Clubs, days out etc.
Dance club.
Gaming activities e.g. snooker, table tennis.
Golf facilities on playing fields.
Have activities on the playing fields.
More activities.
More space to ride bikes off the road.
More sporting activities, tennis
More sports facilities at the playing fields e.g. tennis nets / courts.
Mountain bike jumps and track.
Mountain bike jumps / circuit; better play park.
Sporting activities e.g. tennis.
Sports clubs, organised events / fun days, sports teams,
Tennis
Tennis court.
Youth football team; badminton; tennis.

¹⁵ Base is all survey respondents

More activities in the Village Hall: Suggestions

A lot more films for children (especially in cold months). Let the village know and help decide the films for "Flicks"
Dance groups and classes.
Dance / ballet club, Brownies.
Discos, events, crafts etc.
"Flicks in the Sticks", 'arty' things e.g. felt making workshops.
Fun meetings.
Monthly disco; talent shows; quiz evening / bingo.
More "Flicks in the Sticks" films for children.
More activities
More children's films. Give us a chance to choose the films.
More clubs like drama and dance.
More sports - rugby, football, tennis, hockey.
Ping-pong club.
Ping-pong table.

More say for young people in community decisions: Suggestions

A young person to join the Parish Plan Committee.
Anything: the only thing I've ever had a say in is whether I wanted a youth club.
Ask everyone's opinion before doing anything.
Children's community page on web site - via Youth Club? We need to tackle speed on the roads. Once a year session with local children and Parish Council meeting.
More activities.
We want certain things for the village that adults don't.

Other ideas

A safer crossing to the playing fields.
Better mobile phone reception.
Goal nets up even when no men's game in progress.
Improved playing field equipment.
Join together hall / church / playing fields.
More animals.
Reduce speed on roads.
We had a rounders game involving people in the village, on the playing fields. We should have more sports meetings like this, but with other sports. Football, rounders are best.