

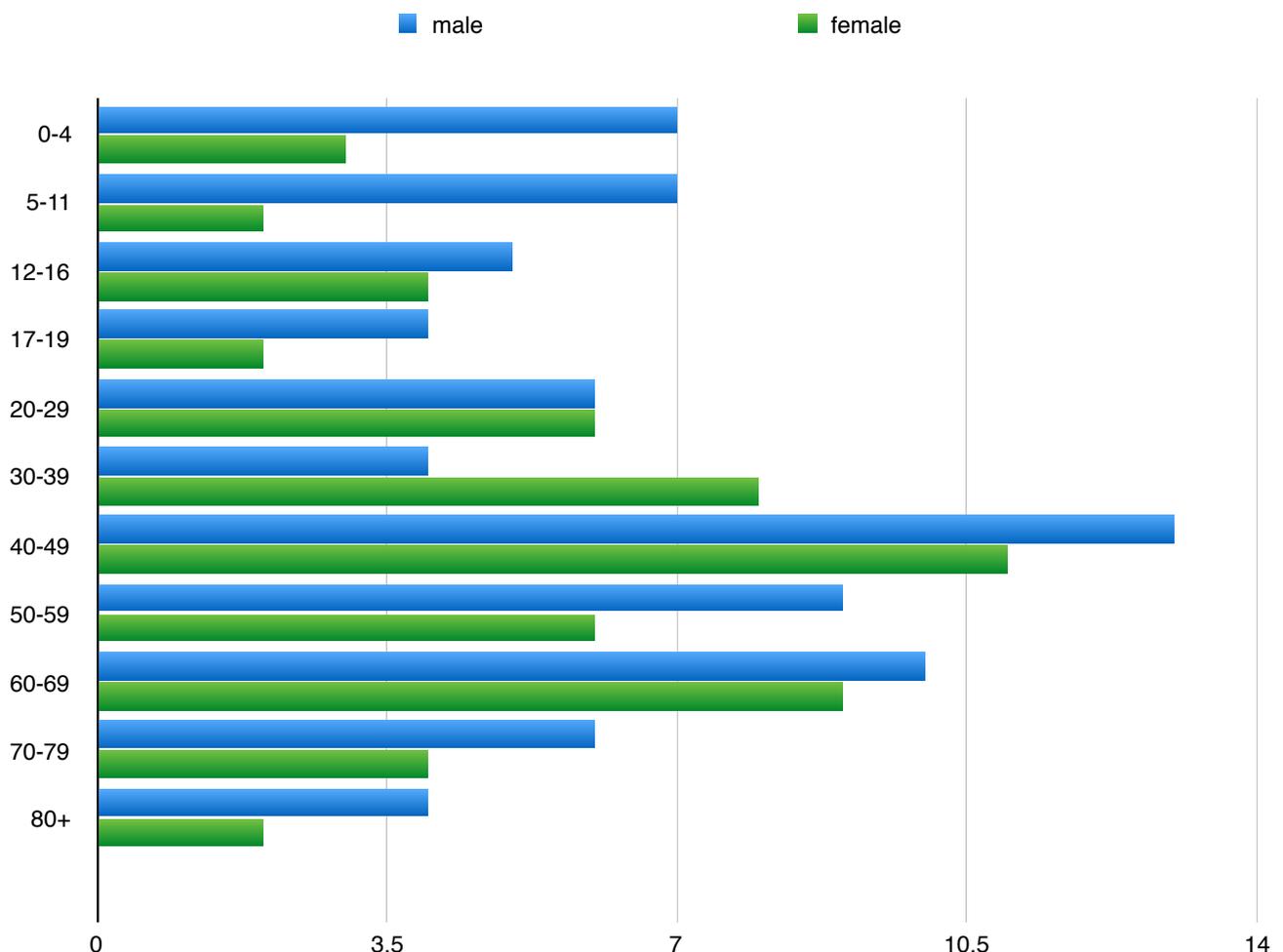
A Community Plan for Lutton and Papley East Northamptonshire



Lutton is a small village in the East Northamptonshire countryside, it is close to the county border with Cambridgeshire. A linear development with only 62 houses in the two communities, five farms and a church, one of the farms is situated in Lutton's linked hamlet of Papley. The hamlet of Papley was once a larger community but it fell foul of the enclosures in the 1500s

The village of Lutton is mentioned in the Domesday Book, where it is called Liditone or Luditone. Once upon a time there were pubs, a shop and a school, all long gone and now redeveloped as housing. Nicknamed Mucky Lutton due to the lack of tarmac on the road, a brook that frequently flooded and several farms. Lutton Farm still had milking cows until the milk quotas introduced in the mid 80s made that uneconomical. The local farms now concentrate on arable crops, soft fruit, sheep, reindeer, pigs and an interesting range of birdlife.

Current population is 154 people, below is a breakdown of the ages and gender of those that returned their forms. (Apologise for silly scale do not know how to change it.)



Our data shows that we have 37 residents who are either too young for school, at school or other further education. 39 residents either work in the village or are no longer employed, this means that a large segment of Lutton residents spend most of their time in the village, thus the Parish Council need to examine the village amenities.

Occupation

under school age	12
in education	25
seeking work	2
long term sick	0
not working or retired	24
employed in the village	15
employed elsewhere	54

How long have you lived in Lutton

less than 1 year	4
1-5 years	9
6-10 years	9
11-20 years	2
over 20	23

the questionnaire asked each household how long they have lived in the village most people have lived here over 5 years and more importantly 42 households said that they hoped to remain in the village for the next 5 years.

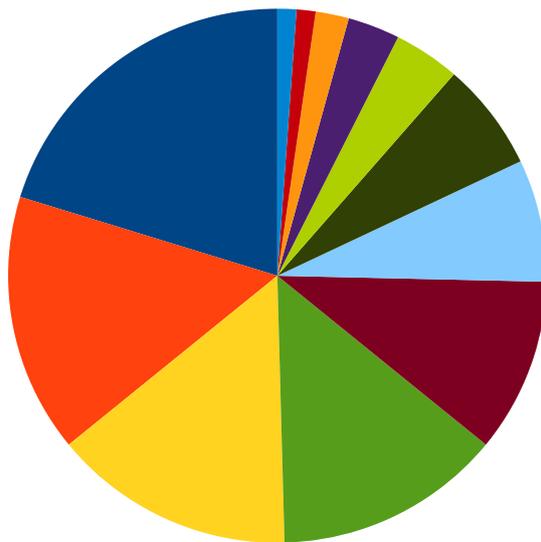
This is a village of animal lovers, 15 households have at least 1 dog, 5 of us have 1 or more cats and 10 of us have both cats and dogs. 4 households have horses and 5 keep poultry. 3 garden ponds but only 2 families have small mammals.

Only a few more people rent their home than own it, 47% of the community own their home. The largest landlord in the village is Spire Homes, 13 properties, with Milton Estates a close second, only 10 properties but several of these are farms and the accompanying land. Several properties are let by private landlords.

The questionnaire went on to ask residents to give a general idea of what was a cause for concern in the village, this was the response

Question 9

Do you consider any of the following to be a problem in the village, please add in any other concerns.



- Access to internet
- Lack of play area
- Speeding
- Parking
- Drains
- Dog fouling
- Security lighting
- State of roads
- State of pavements
- Noise pollution
- Litter
- Verges

Access to internet	71
Lack of play area	55
Speeding	51
Parking	48
Drains	37
Dog Fouling	26
Security lighting	23
State of roads	14
State of pavements	11
Noise pollution	7
Litter	4
Verges	4

Question 9

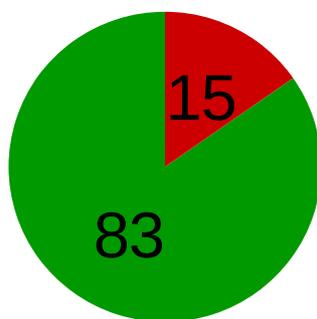
Do you consider any of the following to be a problem in the village, please add in any other concerns.

No village shop or mobile library
Condition of public footpaths, overgrown nettles / brambles in entry
Added 'cats' to Dog Fouling
Mud on the roads
Cat fouling
Dogs and cats
Speeding- Tractors & School Bus
Ppl driving in drives over kerbs.
Play area taken away, car park put in.
Vehicles blocking footpaths, access
Never seen a road sweeper
Cat fouling
Parking on village footpaths
Lack of a pavement outside Lutton Farm
Men in Lycra with loud voices
Sometimes hear machinery at night

So the two main areas of concern are the lack of an affordable internet access in the village and no suitable play area in the village. These items were dealt with in more detail in following questions.

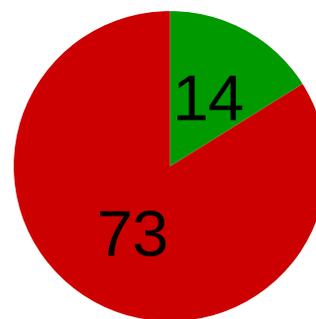
Questions 23 & 24 - Internet

Question 23 - Do you have an internet connection?



■ Yes ■ No

Question 24 - Do you want a connection or would you prefer a faster connection?



■ Yes ■ No

There is now a provider of fast internet in the village Everything Telecoms Ltd, but this provider costs £40 + VAT per month, so not a low budget option. The Parish Council will continue to regularly contact BT open space, to enquire when the line will be upgraded to fibre optic cable, which would enable more competition thus hopefully lower prices.

With the improved internet there is now the possibility of a village website, this idea was look on favourably by most people as a few people said that they were unaware of what was happening in the village, a couple of people have offered help to set up a page. The minutes and agendas for the Parish Council and Village Hall meetings could be displayed on the new website.

The Parish Council have been investigating playing field options for a while now and once the Lutton Relief in Need Charity decided that their field was no longer suitable have been negotiating with Milton Estates about renting some land from them. In February 2017 a lease was signed to rent the land between the Village Hall and 1 The Old School, this is the proposed sight of the new playing field, there will need to be a Change of Use Planning Application to East Northamptonshire County Council as well as considerable work on the land before it can be used as a play area. Hopefully a Playing Field Action Group will soon exist, they will be able to aid the Parish Council apply for grants and apply for the planning permission, then commission the work necessary.

When the playing field is created this would be the perfect location for a village notice board, where posters etc could be displayed.

Question 13 - The village lacks a suitable playing field. If one is created would you use it? Please indicate how many children might use it.

	Children under 5	Children between 5 & 10	Children over 10
My children	17	10	15
Visiting grandchildren	15	2	1
How many of these grandchildren live in the village	4	0	0
Other visitors	19	33	11

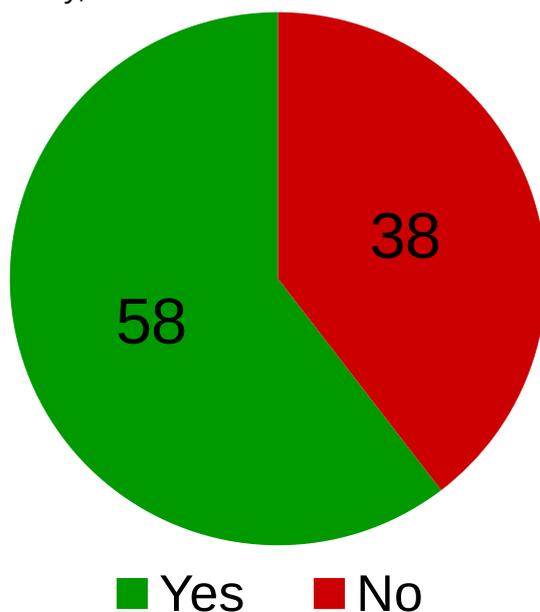
- 7 people offered to be involved in creating a playing field

There was a comment about Spire Homes replacing the old green with a car park, this land was passed to Spire Homes when the housing association was created. Children seldom played on it, especially ball games as most parents were anxious about the proximity of the road.

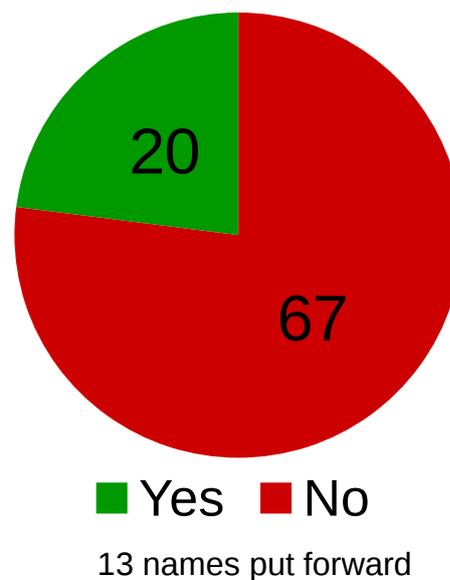
The land on the road to Papley, known as the playing field was considered by the Lutton Relief in Need Charity (LRNC) to be unsuitable to continue as a playing field due to it's remoteness and that there is a power line passing over it. There have been a variety of trees planted there and over the years hawthorn has self seeded. It is hoped that this can be used as a local nature area, possibly somewhere to go for a picnic. Hopefully local plants can continue to flourish on this piece of land, several people have expressed interest in being involved in the care for this land, hopefully a few work days will be planned the future.

Question 14 – Nature Reserve

Are you aware that there is a small nature reserve owned by the village charity, Lutton Relief in Need?



Would you be interested in helping to improve the biodiversity of this little park?



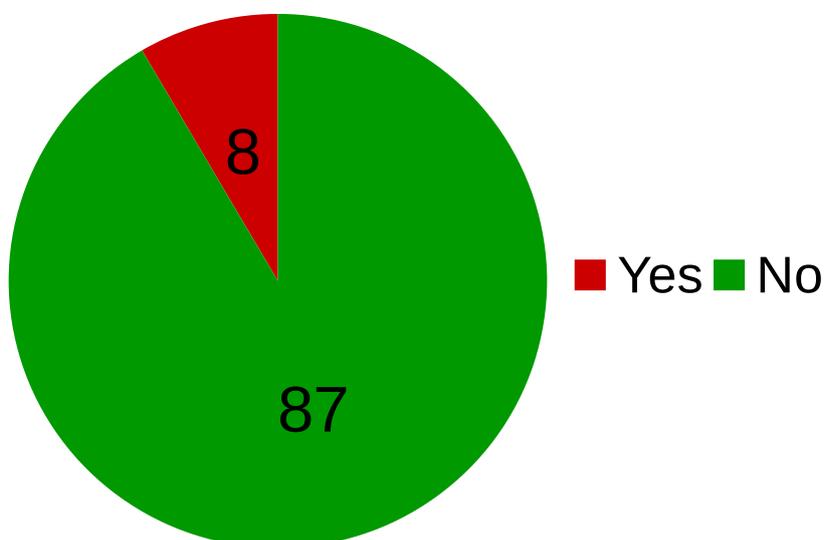
Some people thought that a few flowers on the verges would enhance the village and most villages in the area do have flower beds, this will be discussed at the open Parish Council meeting, so please attend if you are interested in improving the look of the village.

Only a few people expressed an interest in renting an allotment at the moment there are not enough people to form a society to rent the entire field. however this will be reviewed each year by the LRNC who own the field

The next area of concern is the speed that vehicles travel through the village. For many years there was no speed limit in the village the 30 mile an hour zone was only introduced in 2011. The Parish Council had been requesting a 30 m.p.h. limit since 1999 and are now attempting to have a 40 m.p.h. zone on the approach to the village, so far the local council have rejected our requests. This is an ongoing debate. There is little the Parish Council can do regarding the speeding, whilst we were trying to get the 30 m.p.h. zone established there was in 2008 a speed recorder positioned in the village for a while. The data showed that vehicles were not speeding, however speed limit at the time was 60 m.p.h. but there was traffic in excess of 30 m.p.h. When and if a neighbourhood watch is formed this might be an area that they can tackle.

The Parish Council have similarly been attempting to have the pavement extended throughout the village, from Woodbine Farm to the Papley Road junction and from Milton Terrace to Lutton Farm. This has been an ongoing debate since 2001! It was hoped that when the pavements were repaired in 2004 that they might be extended. The council responded saying that the verges are not wide enough to incorporate a path.

Question 35 - Do you have a problem finding somewhere to park your vehicles?



Although several residents were concerned about inconsiderate parking in the village, most residents have access to off street parking.

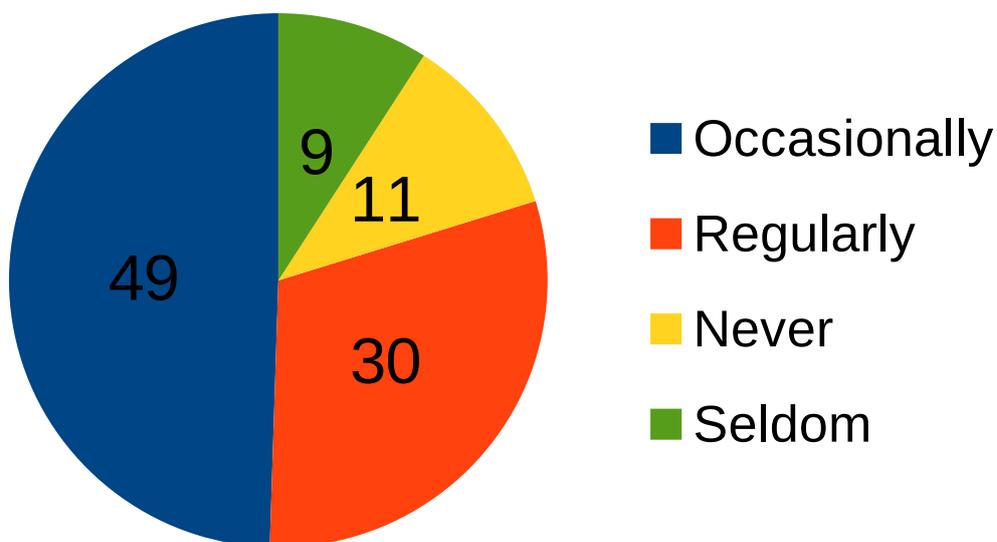
If you have off road parking could you please use it thus leaving the lay-by for those without available parking and for visitors. If you have to park in the road could you ensure that you are not obstructing the pavement and are not covering a drain. As there is little lighting in the village please ensure that your vehicle is visible to oncoming traffic. Thank you for your help with this.

The next concern is dog and cat fouling, this is unhygienic and unpleasant, the bin by the telephone box has been approved for animal waste so please clean up after your pet and you may dispose of it there. The Parish Council will enquire about situating a similar bin near the Papley Road junction. Not so easy to monitor the village cats as they tend to roam freely.

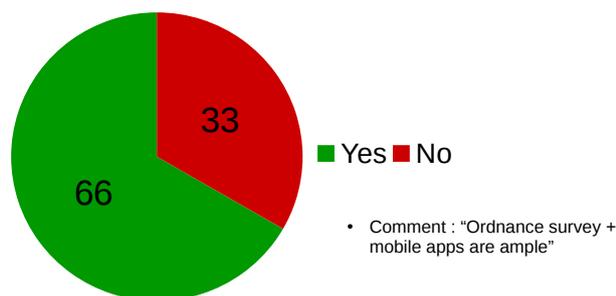
In the last couple of months the roads have been swept and the drains cleaned. The Parish Council have been liaising with the County Council and East Northamptonshire Council and will continue to monitor the cleaning. There has also been considerable repair to the local road network.

I don't think we can do anything about the lycra clad visitors to the village!

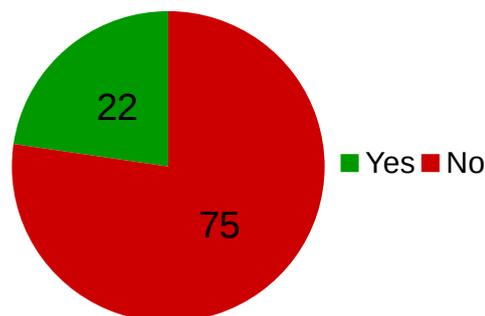
Question 10 - Do you walk the surrounding footpaths



Question 11 - If a map of the village paths was produced do you think you would use the pathways more



Question 12 - Would you be interested in joining a local walking group?



While we are commenting on exercise, most of the residents have walked the local foot paths and a few would be interested in a local walking group. The Parish Council will attempt to produce a local map and talk to land owners about creating a circular walk.

The community buildings in the village are the church and the village hall. Everyone who returned the questionnaire knew about the monthly pub night and most people knew about the coffee morning, The majority of people had attended a function, either a community or private, in the hall.

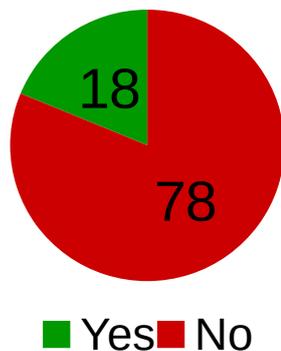
Several people suggested classes that they would like to see being run there and the Village Hall Committee, (VHC), will invite more detailed plans of these at their next AGM. However the committee is not able to run these activities without increased support from the community. Showing films might require a change to the current entertainment license held by the VHC. When the playing field is established the VHC will consider providing a bench at the playing field side of the hall.

The Church of St Peters had been visited by most people who responded to the questionnaire and they expect to attend services in the future though mainly the religious festivals such as Christmas and Easter, there is now a regular family service, once a month on the first Sunday at 4pm refreshments will be served.

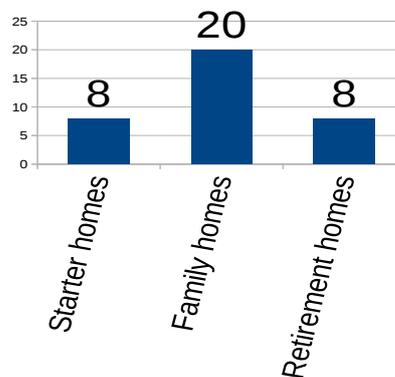
Several people were concerned about the children playing at the entrance to the church yard and on the road nearby, when the playing field is established this should end.

Questions 46 & 47 - Housing

Question 46 - Is there a need for more housing in the village?



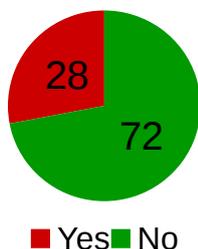
Question 47 - If you feel there is a need, what type of development would be appropriate?



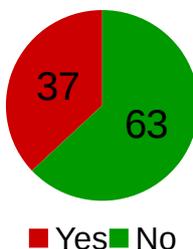
So most people see no need for further development in the village, this information will be helpful to the Parish Council if there are any further planning applications,

Questions 41, 42 & 43

Question 41 - Have you been a victim of local crime in the last 5 years?



Question 42 - Do you ever feel unsafe in the village?



Question 43 - If you do feel unsafe, what would help to change this?

Answer - Almost entirely Street Lighting

The Parish council will liaise with our community policeman to set up a neighbourhood watch group which will probably be a webpage and email contact list. Street lighting will be discussed at the next open Parish Council meeting.

So Village targets for the next five years are

1. Establish a playing field (Mr G Raby)
2. Create a webpage (Mr C Cowdery)
3. Draw up a map of footpaths and maintenance of same (Mr C Cowdery)
4. New dog waste bin on Papley Road (Mrs C Walsh)
5. Establish a group to care for nature reserve and verges (Mrs C Walsh)
6. Re-establish the neighbourhood watch group (Mrs C Walsh)

The name in brackets refers to the Parish Councillor who will organise these projects.