



## STILLINGTON AND MARTON PARISH SURVEY 2019

## SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

From a distribution of some 400 survey forms to households, 97 forms were returned. Roughly 60% of these represent those who have lived in the parish for 10 or more years, 25% between 3 and 9 years and 10% less than two years.

**Comments and offers of help for all locations or events will be passed on to the relevant bodies. The responses to the survey will help form a draft Parish Plan on which parishioners will be invited to have a final say before it is adopted by the Parish Council.**

### Village events and activities

Contact details regarding some of the existing activities and events were provided in the November Stillington News and people who expressed a willingness to help have either been contacted or details have been passed to the relevant contact. The following were suggested as possible new activities: Bridge, Crochet for beginners, Cycling, Pilates, Dog friendly walking group, Shorter walking group, School subject help, Kick boxing, Pre-school/toddler group, Self-defence, Youth Club.

*Some of these new activities will need self-help from residents who expressed an interest either making themselves known (possibly via the shop notice board, & / or the newsletter) to arrange to meet & discuss way forward.*

### Village services and facilities

In order of priority, the following were considered important to living in Stillington:

Post Office, Surgery, Shop, Bus service, Village pubs/take-aways, Stillington News, Sense of community, Village events and activities, Neighbourhood Watch, Variety of local walks, Church/Chapel, Sports and Social Club/ Sports facilities, School, Hairdressers.

1. Services and funerals saw the highest attendances at the **churches or chapel**, followed by concerts and cream teas.
2. Most respondents were aware of the **Pastoral Care** group but not all newcomers had received a Welcome Pack. There's a promising number of people wishing to help this group.
3. There was an overwhelming feeling that residents **felt safe or very safe** in the village with only two replies feeling unsafe or very unsafe.
4. Several suggestions as to possible improvements at the **Village Hall and Sports and Social Club** were made including a desire for additional activities, particularly in the evenings, at both locations.
5. Suggestions regarding use of the upstairs **Shop** area, opening hours and stock items were made although several considered the space upstairs too small and other activities could limit shop use.
6. The various **eating establishments** are used by approximately 40% of respondents more than once a month with over 50% using them less frequently.

7. The **Reliance bus service** received good feedback although a request for later bus services was common.
8. There was a general feeling that not enough was known about the **village businesses**, including bed and breakfast accommodation.

### Local matters

Replies re the **Primary School** are being overtaken by events and everything is being done to maintain the village school: the situation not being helped by less children in the catchment area; lack of affordable housing for young families; the education of the children; falling pupil role with parents choosing to take children elsewhere.

Residents were asked whether they considered **speeding, parking or pavements** a serious, minor or a non-issue. The majority considered all three to be a minor rather than a major issue. However, there were 57 individual comments from those who considered the issues to be serious.

### Communications

Whilst some 80% of replies showed satisfaction **with broadband and mobile telephone reception** some 15% were not (e.g. EE mobile is not reliable)  
75% found the **Stillington News** useful; less so the **Village Website**.

### Development

70% would support housing development within the Parish with the majority giving support so long as it was not on a large scale. Detailed comments will be passed on to the Parish Council for consideration.

### Recycling and the environment

**Recycling** feedback was mixed with some being satisfied with the current arrangement and others not. 80% would use a re-fill range at the shop to reduce single-use plastic.

Approximately 50% wished to keep the **village railings** (not on the Village Green) painted with some 35% favouring the natural look and 15% of no opinion.

There were many suggestions for the **Village Green** although 90% wished the Green to remain as it is.

Possible **fracking** was opposed by some 60% of replies, with 10% in favour and 30% of no strong opinion.

### Possible change and improvement

There were a variety of suggestions with the most common being: Getting more people involved in village activities especially newcomers and those who work during the day. There was concern the village is becoming a "retirement" village with a very small number of events and activities for the young, other than sport.

Other suggestions included:

- Solving the traffic issues: speed and HGVs
- Solving the parking problems
- Improving the pavements and roads
- Clearing dog mess
- More spacious shop
- Provision of a café
- Others included: Improved Broadband, Provision of a Petrol Station, Provision of a Skate Park, better Street Lighting. although one wanted the removal of all lighting.