



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.