

# PARISH PLAN



2017 / 27

## **KINWARTON PARISH**

Kinwarton is a village in the valley of the river Alne to the north east of the market town of Alcester (see maps). Most of the original village no longer exists but eastern expansion from the town of Alcester means that a proportion of Alcester now lies within the parish boundary. The parish covers an area of approximately 470 acres and had a total population of 1,082 at the 2011 census. However, this number will have markedly increased by the building of the Pastures development of 119 new homes.

The road from Alcester to Henley-in-Arden runs through the middle of the parish. A branch road leads off to the church of St. Mary the Virgin, rectory building, Glebe farm and a 14<sup>th</sup> Century dovecote now held by the National Trust (see front cover).

There are no amenities such as public houses or a post office within the parish and the village hall is shared with the adjacent village of Great Alne where it is located.

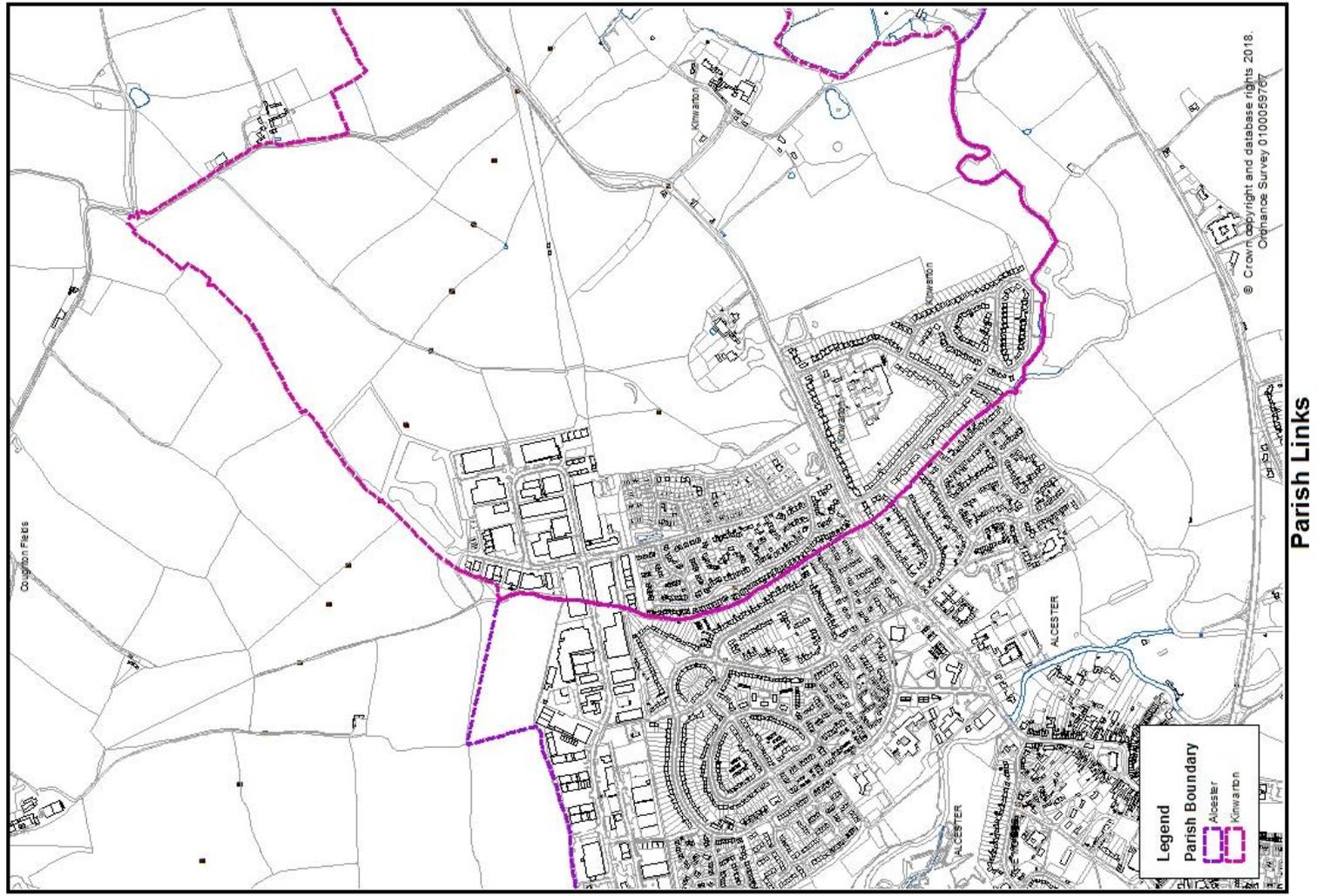
Kinwarton extends from Throckmorton Road and Seymour Road across to the river Alne with much of it consisting of Green Belt Land.

The following residential areas are within in the parish of Kinwarton along with a few outlying homes:

St. Mary's Road, Winchcombe Road, Throckmorton Road, Riddell Close, Haselor Close, Barlich Way, Gerard Road, Captain's Hill, Seymour Road, Fenwick Close, Wain Close, Horton Close, Devonish Close, Purton Close, Rufford Close, Kinnersley Road, Wakefield Way, Glebe Road, Fisher Road, Boehm Drive and Kinwarton Close.

A section of the Arden Forest Industrial Estate is also within the parish.

Map showing Alcester and Kinwarton Parish Boundaries

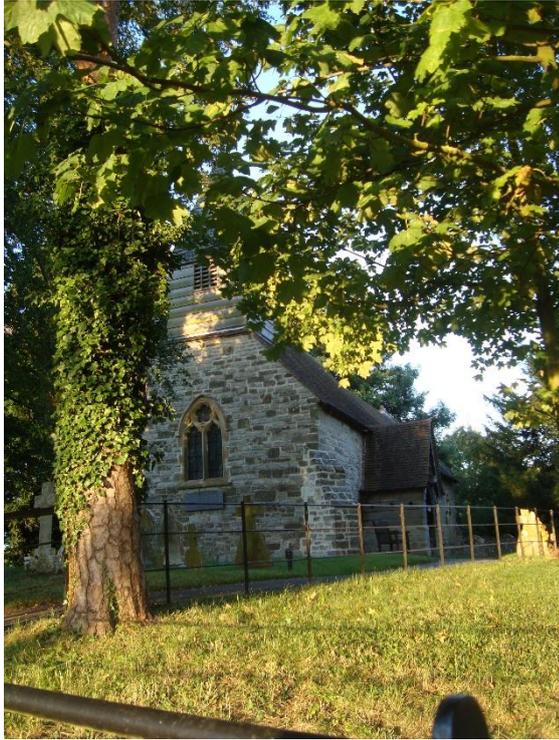


Map of Kinwarton Parish



Kinwarton Parish

## **PARISH PLAN**



***St Mary the Virgin Church***

This Parish Plan is the result of many hours of work undertaken by a small Steering Group and the goodwill of the residents who took the trouble to complete the questionnaire that was hand delivered, by Parish Council members, to every household in Kinwarton over a two week period in June 2016 and then subsequently collected by hand, again by Parish Council members during July 2016. We believe that it represents the views, values and aspirations of the residents of Kinwarton.

Based on the findings of the questionnaire, and a Public Meeting held in April 2017, this final document has been produced and includes a prioritised list of actions required to address the issues raised by the residents. The Action Plan will be regularly reviewed by the Steering Group and the Parish Council will report on its progress each year at its AGM.

In 2016, Kinwarton Parish Council undertook the task of developing a Parish Plan. A Parish Plan is a document that is adopted by a District Council as a means of reflecting the views of residents within a parish. The plan describes the current state of the parish and details the way residents wish to see it develop in the future. The plan covers a wide spectrum of issues that can impact on those living within the parish.

In order to develop the plan, a small Steering Group was established who after seeking advice and looking at several plans from other parishes produced a questionnaire that sought information from its residents. Everyone above the age of 11 years who lived in the parish of Kinwarton was eligible to complete the questionnaire.

The completed questionnaires were anonymous and there was no way of knowing who filled them in once the forms had been collected and the data extracted.

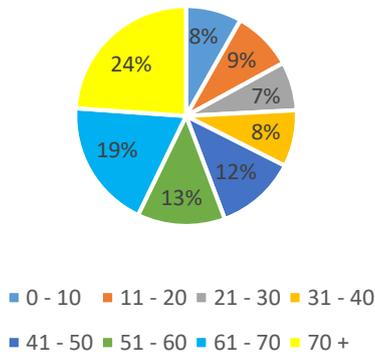
There was a good response from residents with 295 of the 612 households completing the questionnaire, 48% of the households within the parish.

A total of 548 residents completed the questionnaire.

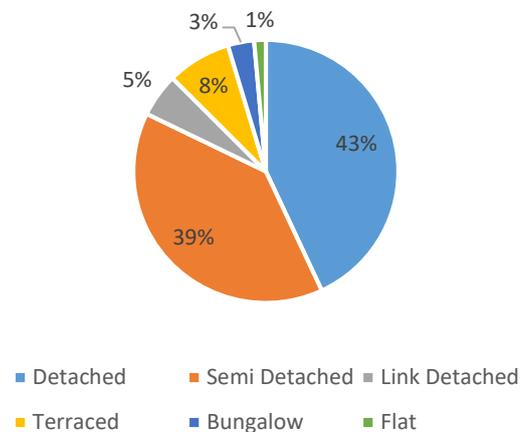
## DEMOGRAPH

A high proportion of residents were over the age of 61 (43%), with only 17% being under the age of 20.

### Age Groups



### Property Type



Whether this truly reflects the age distribution within the Parish cannot be established from the data. However, it appears that the older residents were more likely to complete the questionnaire compared to the younger people living in the Parish.

The majority (83%) of respondents live in either detached or semi-detached / linked detached houses of 3 or 4 bedrooms.

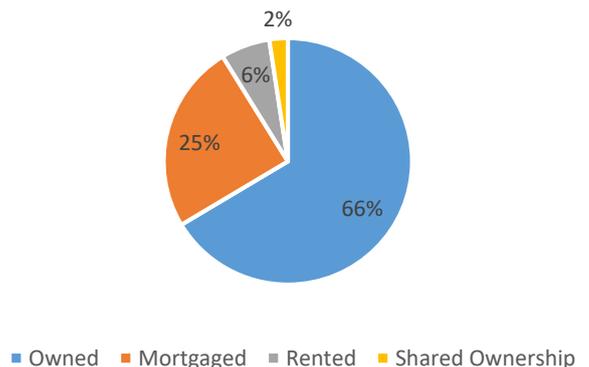
The actual figures for detached or semi-detached / linked detached houses in the Parish is 70%. The difference is taken up by a higher proportion of Flats of 16%. Unfortunately, very few of the flat occupants completed the questionnaire.

The majority of respondents (56%) own their own property with only 21% having a mortgage and 5% living in rented accommodation.

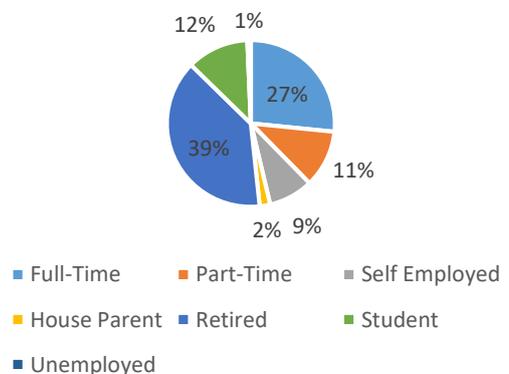
A high proportion (39%) of respondents had retired, 47% were in either full or part-time employment, 12% were students and 1% were unemployed.

4% of respondents did not have a vehicle whilst over half had 2 vehicles or more at the property.

### Property Ownership



### Employment



**PARISH FACILITIES**

A breakdown of the usage of Parish facilities showed that maintaining access to Public areas and the Heart of England Way footpath, that traverses across the Parish, is a high priority. The Memorial Hall is regularly used by both clubs and classes, including art, keep fit, dance and film as well as by the local WI.

66% of respondents use the HoEW footpath and half use the recreation ground in St.Mary's Road. The Pastures development also has a Public Open Space with a children's play area.

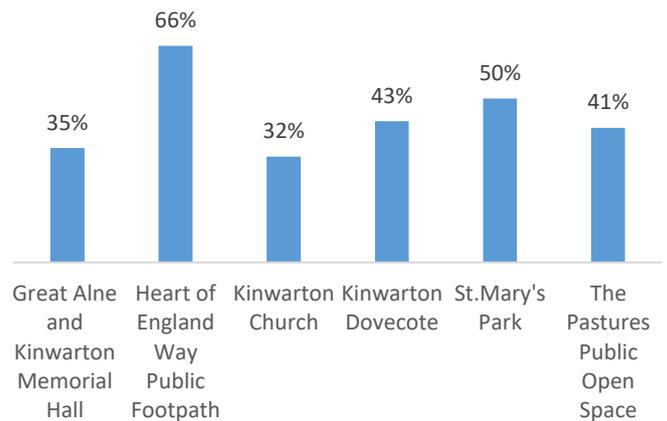


***Great Alne and Kinwarton Memorial Hall***

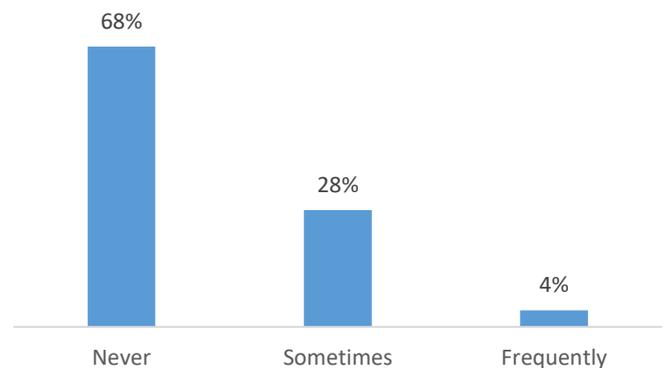


***The Recreation Ground St. Mary's Road***

**Parish Facilities Usage**



**Bus Service Usage**



The only Bus Service that comes through the parish is the X19 operated by Stagecoach that runs from Redditch to Stratford. This was only frequently used by 4% of respondents. The lack of interest in public transport may reflect the fact that very few households do not have their own car. Notwithstanding the above, comments were received about the poor bus services in the local area.

**REFUSE AND RECYCLING**

The waste and recycle bin usage by the respondents was high in all cases.

96% of respondents were satisfied with recycling service as it stands with collection on a 'weekly rotation' basis.

79% of respondents use the Burton Farm Recycle Centre at Bishopton on the outskirts of Stratford. This is an extremely useful facility as it can accept most household items for recycling and is open virtually every day throughout the year.

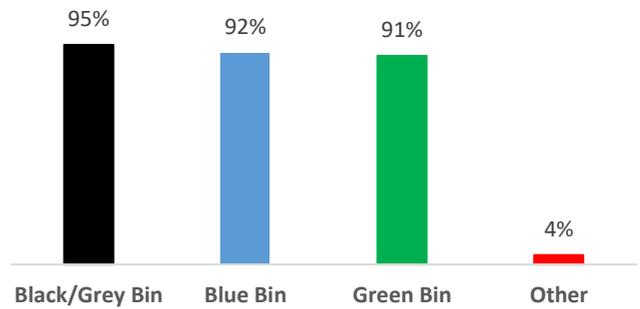
There were 79 dogs recorded in the questionnaire. Dog owners' awareness of Dog Bins provided by the Parish Council at various locations was good but there was room for improvement.

Usage of the Dog Bins at various locations was lower than expected in particular in Seymour Road.

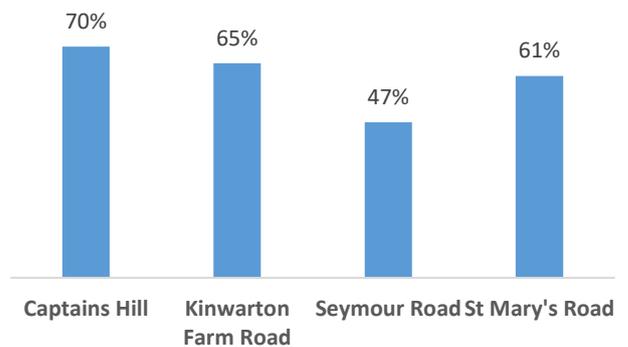
A number of comments were made about the incidence of Dog Fouling and the need for more Dog Bins.

**Action: Introduce more signage and where necessary provide more dog bins**

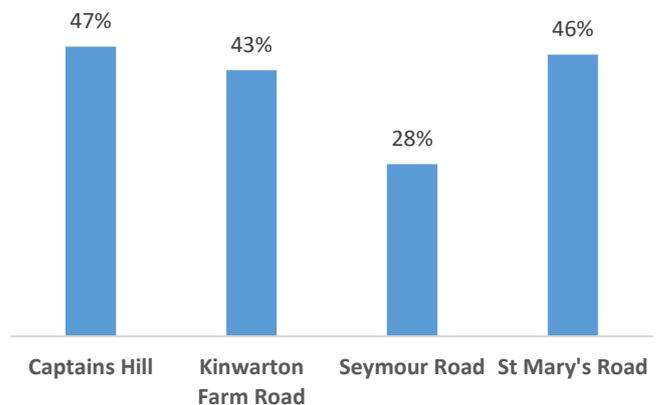
**Recycling Bin Usage**



**Dog Owners Awareness of Dog Bins**



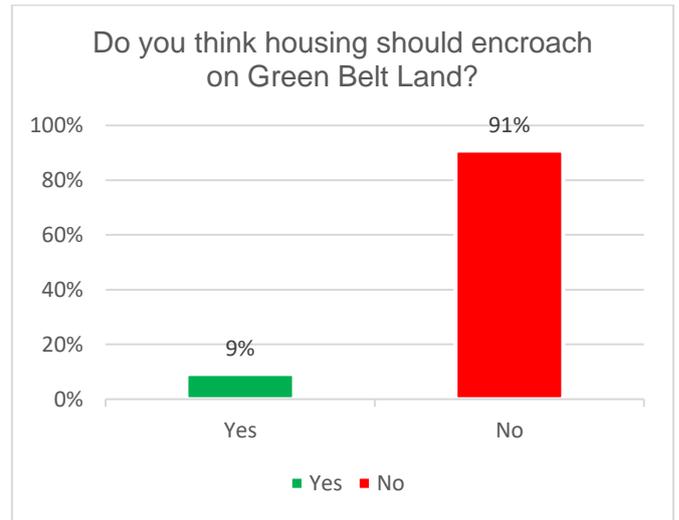
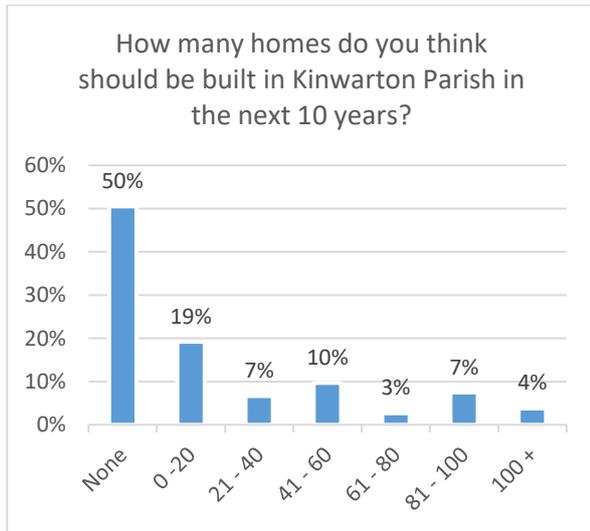
**Dog Owners Usage of Dog Bins**



**HOUSING**

When asked how many homes should be built in Kinwarton Parish in the next 10 years 50% of respondents said none, and only 11% wanted 80 or more.

In respect to the building of houses on Green Belt Land a very high proportion (88%) were against such developments with only 9% in favour.

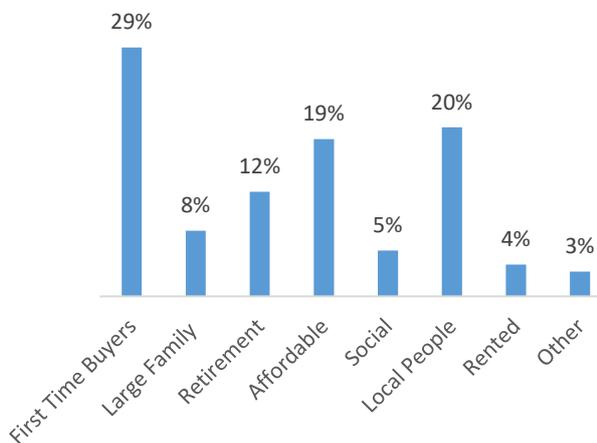


When asked what type of housing they would like to see built in the Parish, 29% wanted homes for first time buyers and 20% wanted homes for local people.

Many of the comments back centred on the lack of infrastructure and local facilities to support any further housing expansion.



What type of new housing would you like to see built in Kinwarton Parish?

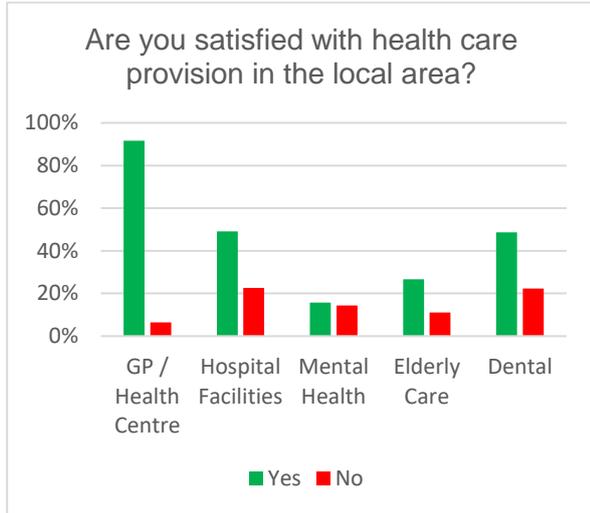


***Pastures Development***

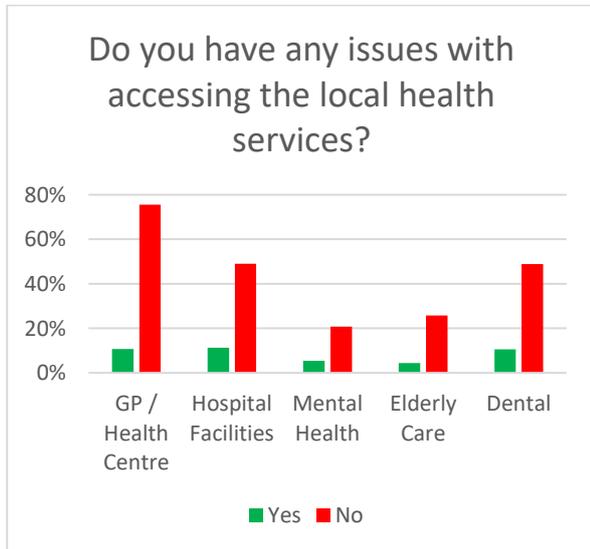
The Pastures development has increased the number of households in the Parish from 493 to 612 or an increase of 24%.

**HEALTH**

92% of respondents who were satisfied with GP and Health Centre. The only negative comments were about the ease of making appointments. Other areas fared not as well particularly in Mental and Elderly Care provision.

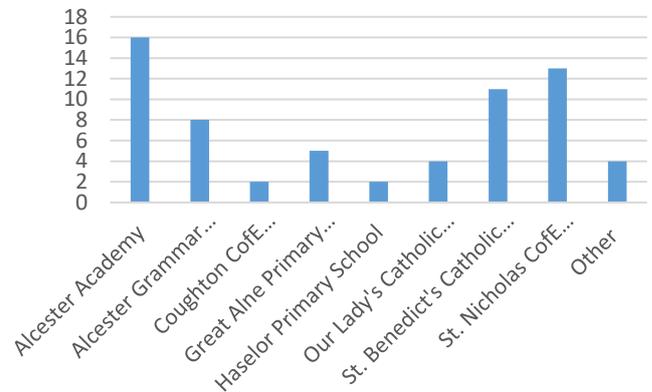


Overall, there did not appear to be too many issues accessing any of the service although there were a few comments regarding the lack of transport to hospitals such as Warwick and Coventry.



**EDUCATION**

**Local School Attendance**



65 Students were documented in the results of the questionnaire. These students attend schools in Alcester and the surrounding area.

The only school within the Parish is the Alcester Academy secondary school that educates both boys and girls aged between 11 and 16.



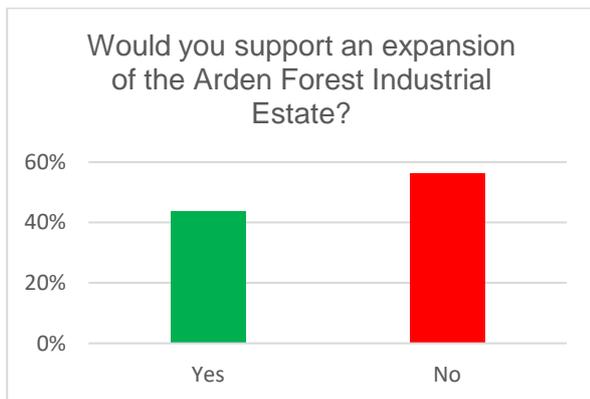
**Alcester Academy**

**BUSINESS**

There are more than 50 businesses and a few shops operating within the Parish, the majority on the Arden Forest Industrial Estate. These offer a wide range of services and manufacturing. They also provide a large number of jobs.



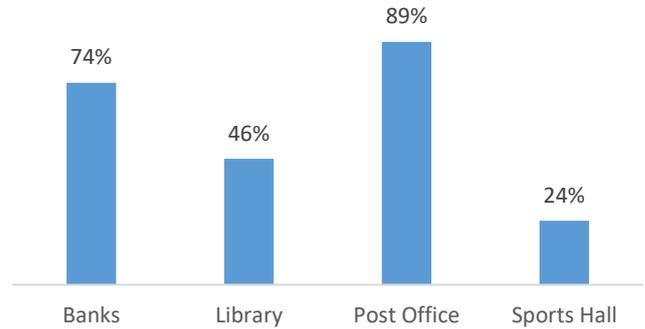
A high percentage of respondents use businesses on the Industrial Estate and 40% would support its expansion particularly if this meant more jobs for local people. However, over 50% of respondents were against expansion.



There were a number of adverse comments relating to noise coming from the Industrial Estate, particularly at weekends and traffic congestion resulting in parking on the pavements.

Many of the respondent use the local facilities within Alcester, 89% use the Post Office, 74% the Banks, 46% the Library and 24% the Sports Hall.

Do you use the local facilities within Alcester?



**ENVIRONMENT**

Most of the Parish consists of open land with the River Alne bordering its eastern edge. Some of the land is low lying and floods during times of heavy rainfall.

There is only one farm (Glebe Farm) and most of the farmland in the Parish is managed by non-resident farmers.

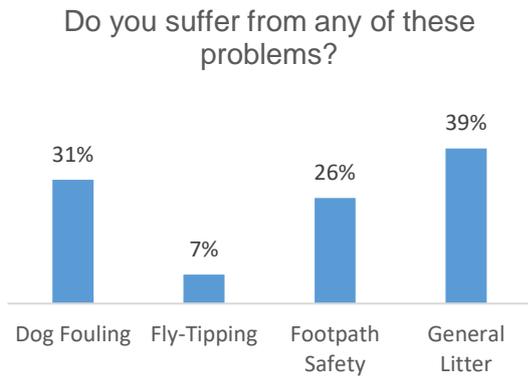
There is a network of footpaths within the Parish that are well maintained and signposted.



It was reassuring that the majority of respondents thought that the general appearance of the Parish was either satisfactory (41%) or good (58%).

In respect to parks and green/open areas, 99% of respondents thought that it was important that these were maintained.

Problems with dog fouling and litter were highlighted as areas for improvement.



There were a number of comments made regarding the problems of hedgerows encroaching onto the footpaths making it difficult to walk along without having to move too close to the road.

**Action: Cut hedgerows and trees back to boundaries.**

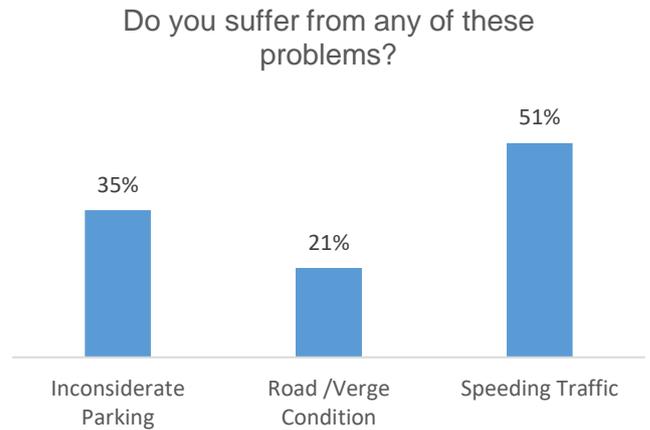


**TRAFFIC**

This was an issue with many of the respondents judging by the number of comments received. The high incidence of people parking on pavements, in particular outside Alcester Academy and at road junctions was raised. In addition, speeding

traffic along Kinwarton Farm road and Captains Hill was highlighted.

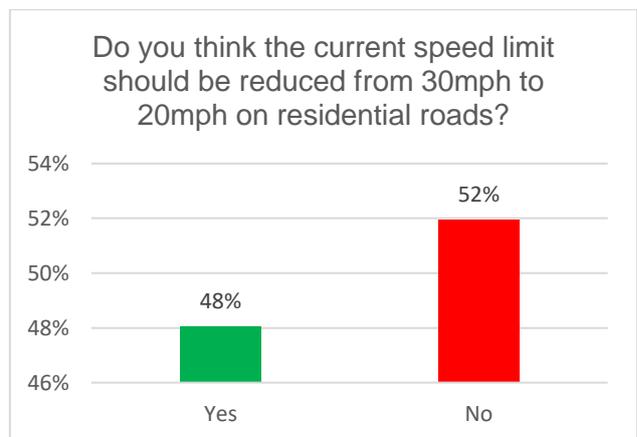
**Action: Advise school authority of parishioners' concerns and encourage drivers to park more courteously and safely**



In respect to how overcome the problem of speeding, 50% of respondents supported the introduction of traffic calming measures whilst 50% were against.

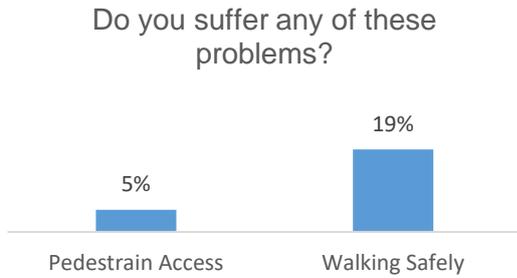
**Action: Introduction of traffic calming measures**

A similar picture emerged when asked the question of reducing the speed limit from 30 to 20 mph on residential roads.



**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

5% of respondents had issues with pedestrian access along the footpaths within the Parish. Walking safely was highlighted, mainly relating back to the problems of cars parking on pavements and the encroachment of hedgerows.



Pedestrian access towards Alcester town was also highlighted as an issue particularly due to the speeding traffic along Kinwarton Farm Road.

There were also a number of comments received about the poor state of the footpath to Great Alne along certain sections.

**Action: Make good or replace section of footpath.**



98% of respondents thought that the current level of street lighting was either reasonable or good. A number of the lamp-posts within the area are made from concrete. There is

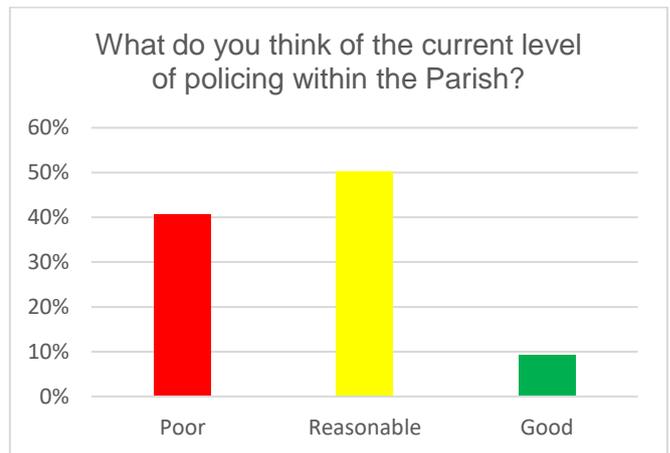
already a programme in place for their replacement with modern LED lighting.



**Action: Have a rolling programme of street lighting replacement**

**POLICING**

9% of respondents thought that the current level of policing within the Parish was good, with 41% saying it was poor. The lack of visibility of policing within the Parish was highlighted.



**Action: Undertake discussions with local police regarding policing within the Parish**

A high percentage of respondents said that they would support a local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Such a scheme already operates within the Parish.

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

4% of respondents did not know that they reside within the Parish of Kinwarton.

89% of respondents were aware of the Parish Noticeboards located on St.Mary's Road, Seymour Road and the junction of Throckmorton Road and Kinwarton Road.



However, only 26% of respondents were aware that there was a Parish website offering local information and details of Parish Meetings.

## **CONCLUSION**

This Parish Plan, inclusive of the Action List, offers a path by which the whole community of Kinwarton can move forward over the next ten years. It will provide a 'voice' in influencing decisions that will be made in the future both at local and district levels.

The main body of the document provides feedback on the results of the questionnaire whilst the Action Plan highlights issues that need to be considered and addressed by parishioners, Parish Council, Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council.

It will be the responsibility of the Parish Council to monitor the implementation and progress of the actions raised in the Action Plan, especially those highlighted as being of high priority.

## **ACTION PLAN**

An analysis of the results of the questionnaire indicate that the following actions be taken by parishioners, Parish Council, Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council:

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>AIMS</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PARTNERS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>
Speeding traffic along Kinwarton Farm Road and Captains Hill	To improve driving behaviour	Introduction of traffic calming measures	Warwickshire County Council	High	Short Term
Traffic safety issue junction of Throckmorton Road and Kinwarton Road – trees blocking vision	Improve visibility along Kinwarton Road/Captains Hill	Removal or cutting back of trees	Warwickshire County Council	High	Short Term
Encroachment of hedgerows onto footpaths impairing their use particularly on Kinwarton Road and Kinwarton Farm Road	To improve safety and use of the footpath	Cut hedgerows and trees back to boundaries	Parish Council	High	Short Term
Improve Street Lighting	To replace old and outdated street lighting in the Parish	Have a rolling programme of street lighting replacement	Parish Council	High	Long Term
Inconsiderate parking associated with school traffic around Alcester Academy	To improve driving behaviour and road safety and protect quality of life of residents	Advise school authority of parishioners concerns and encourage drivers to park more courteously and safely	Warwickshire County Council Parish Council Parishioners	Medium	Short Term
Poor repair of footpath along stretch near to Coughton Fields Lane	To improve safety and use of the footpath	Make good or replace section of footpath	Warwickshire County Council	Medium	Short Term
Dog Fouling	Reduce or eliminate dog fouling	Introduce more signage and where necessary provide more dog bins	Parish Council	Medium	Long Term
Lack of police presence in the Parish	To improve police presence in the Parish	Undertake discussions with local police regarding policing within the Parish	Parish Council Warwickshire Police	Low	Long Term