

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN



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**JULY 2004**

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## CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	i
Introduction	iii
Executive Summary	v
1.00 Approach to Project	1
2.00 Village Profile	6
3.00 Crime	13
4.00 Environmental Issues	20
5.00 Health Facilities	31
6.00 Youth	34
7.00 Amenities	43
8.00 Traffic	48
9.00 Communication	55
10.00 Transport	61
11.00 Social Organisations	67
12.00 Education	70
13.00 Businesses	74

14.00	Housing	76
15.00	Sport	80
16.00	Public Services	81
17.00	Tourism	84
18.00	Potential Projects	85
19.00	Appendices	89
20.00	Index	139



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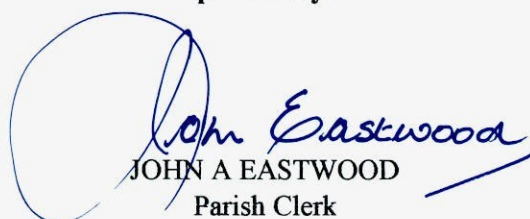
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Huntley Women's Institute  
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Newent Community School

**Huntley Parish Council for their personal support to me as Project Manager & for funding a pilot study.**

  
JOHN A EASTWOOD  
Parish Clerk

Sponsored by:



Project Advisors:



## **INTRODUCTION**

Huntley's Parish Plan has collected the opinions from 41 residents and 18 outside organisations over a 12-month period. Additional information was collected through a Residents' Survey with just over 50% of households responding. Statistics quoted in the Plan are based on the answers received via the Survey. Appendix 28 provides an analysis of the number of households that responded to each question.

The initial meeting of residents, in May 2003, generated a total of 132 ideas for improvements to the village.

On first sight some the recommendations should have been addressed without the need of a Parish Plan, but the fact is that no action has been taken in the past. There are other recommendations that may appear trivial. This maybe the case but the needs have been identified by a group of people who have contributed to the Plan. All the suggested actions were considered to have merit and consequently none were deleted unless, on investigation, they were found to be inappropriate. Others were ultimately combined with other similar suggestions.

Many of the recommendations require further work to convert them into viable action plans. This will be achieved through a number of small project working parties whose prime objective will be to develop and implement each recommendation.

In some cases recommended action may ultimately encompass other associated projects.

The sequence of sections included in the Plan indicates the initial priority given to each generic group. Specific recommendations have each been allocated an overall priority by the Parish Plan Focus Group. The allocated priority identifies the sequence in which the topics should be considered. It does not necessarily indicate their relative importance. The final prioritisation will take into account opportunities as they arise, the ease of implementation, and residents' wishes to be established from a follow up survey of 38 residents who indicated a willingness to participate.

A number of projects were added after the prioritisation exercise. These are included at the end of Section 18.

It is thought unlikely that all recipients of the Plan will wish to read the whole document particularly organisations that have a specific and well defined areas of responsibility. The structure of the Plan allows relevant sections to be extracted and directed to people who can advise and assist with the ultimate implementation of the recommendations.

The report recognises a situation that existed at the end of May 2004. Since that date action has been taken to launch some of the projects identified and, where work is in hand implementation will continue.

### **Projects already implemented**

- Housing needs survey.
- Mini bus service to Newent.
- Mini bus service to Newent Doctors' surgery.
- Repairs to roads.
- Repairs to pavements.
- Street lighting survey.
- Traffic speed survey.
- Formation of a Youth Club.
- Neighbourhood Watch.



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Huntley is an ancient settlement that probably dates back to the Roman period, if not earlier. The current village is largely modern having seen rapid development that started in the early 1960's. It has subsequently become a commuter village with nearly half the working population travelling to Gloucester for work.

The demographic profile of the village indicates that Huntley has an aging population with 55% of residents over the age of 45. At the other end of the spectrum the number of children under the age of 15 has decreased over the past 10 years.

There are over a dozen active organisations in the parish. Their membership is made up largely of older people who have been in resident in the village for some considerable time. This has probably arisen because of the changing social and economic trends where younger working residents, of both sexes, have insufficient time to participate in local activities and events.

The Parish Plan was initiated under the auspices of the Countryside Agency's vital villages programme to address needs of the residents.

The initial concern of the Parish Council was that there would not be sufficient support from residents to make the project viable. Because of this concern the Parish Council funded a pilot study before embarking on a more comprehensive exercise.

Throughout the project there was a core of about 25 people showing a regular and active interest. In addition there were a further 16 or so people who also contributed to the Plan directly through periodic attendance at meetings or through support outside the meetings. This team became known as the Parish Plan Focus Group.

It was disappointing to note that an unexpectedly high number of the people approached in both the District and County Council appeared unaware of existence and objectives of parish plans. However, the valuable contribution made by local government offices and members of other statutory bodies who were approached for advice should not be over looked.

A Residents' Survey, initiated in November 2003, drew an encouraging response. Unfortunately the lowest proportional response came from the 20 – 64 age group and this has tended to skew the findings slightly in favour of the older age groups. Despite this the results tended to confirm the opinion of members of the Parish Plan Focus Group.

A separate survey was conducted to assess teenage opinion with the help of Newent Community School. Responses from young people from other schools were disappointing.

### **Crime**

Crime in Huntley has remained at a fairly constantly low level over the last four years according to figures issued by the Gloucestershire Constabulary, but residents'

perception is that crime is on the increase. It is important to note that the statistics are only able to recognise crimes that are reported. Consequently a reluctance to report incidents dilutes police attention to any problems that may exist.

Just under 50% of households indicated a concern about the level of crime and nearly 75% would like to see an increased police presence in the village.

Residents believe that most anti social behaviour is caused by youths. The survey of teenagers indicated that over half the young people are not concerned about vandalism, litter or graffiti.

The cost of rectifying this anti social behaviour during 2003 / 4 took nearly 12% of the Parish Council's budget. This figure excludes damage to the Village Hall that is funded separately.

Recommended actions to address crime include:

- That all crime must be reported and an incident number obtained from the police. (2).
- Encourage the formation of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. (3).
- Request police help to reduce vandalism. (4).
- Formation of Youth Councils. (48).
- Provision of fire resistant litterbins on the recreation ground. (59).
- Amending the Recreation Ground Rules to prohibit the consumption of alcohol unless it has been purchased from the village hall bar. (61).
- Encourage parents of all teenage girls to purchase a personal alarm for their protection. (79).
- Develop a viable action plan(s) to reduce the level of actual crime in the village. (81).

### **Environmental Issues**

Many residents feel that the image of the village has deteriorated over recent years, the principle reasons being litter and poor maintenance of roads, pavements and weeds.

Reference to Parish Council minutes indicates that litter has been a problem for at least 35 years but no satisfactory solution to this problem has been found. The Parish Plan Focus Group identified 13 potential activities to try and improve the situation.

These are:

- Discourage under age drinking as this contributes to the problem of litter. (5).
- Organise an annual litter 'tidy up'. (12).
- Encourage school children to become litter conscious. (19).
- Introduce rules on fly posting. (20).
- Provide new, (small) litterbins at bus stops. (21).
- Establish Service Contracts with the appropriate local authority or government agencies for the control of weeds and litter. (28).
- Organise a poster competition for children at Huntley School. (41).
- Formation of Youth Councils to encourage responsible attitudes among younger people. (48).
- Install litterbins on recreation ground. (53).
- Organise anti litter campaigns. (56).
- Increase Council Tax specifically to tackle the litter problem. (65).
- Install doggie bins in Byfords Road. (67).
- Provide a litterbin for the lay-by opposite Forest Products. (70).

The majority of residents believe the condition of the A40 is in a generally good condition but the clearance of weeds, verges and gullies lacks attention. The condition of secondary roads has attracted criticism due to worn road surface, pot holes and weeds.

**Recommended action:**

- Identification of roads in need of repair. (6).
- Preparation of a schedule of roads in poor condition and establish a date by which they can be repaired. (13).
- County Council to consult with parish council before undertaking maintenance on roads. (14).

Pavements in the village are showing a similar state of neglect as roads. Many surfaces are breaking up and are becoming trip hazards. The majority of residents are expressing concern.

Recommended action is similar to that require to rectify the poor condition of roads.

- Identification of pavements in need of repair. (6).
- Preparation of a schedule of pavements in poor condition and establish a date by which they can be repaired. (13).
- County Council to consult with Parish Council before undertaking maintenance to pavements. (15).

Huntley has 53 public footpaths in the Parish. Many of those in the centre of the village lead to main roads. The most dangerous situation is encountered where a footpath, used by young school children walking to school, ends in Newent Lane which is a derestricted road without a pavement.

Recommended action:

- Introduce a 30 mph speed limit in Newent Lane. (7).
- To improve the exit onto the B4126 (Newent Lane). (9).

About a third of households have indicated a concern about street lighting. There is a mixture of different types of lighting sometime in the same road that gives different levels of illumination. Other areas lack adequate levels of lighting.

Action recommended:

- Encourage residents and relevant councils to trim trees and bushes that obstruct street lighting. (23).
- Install new streetlights in areas that are inadequately lit. (29).
- The Parish Council should carry out quarterly inspections to identify streetlights that are obscured by trees and bushes. (36).
- Standardise the type of lighting in the village to provide uniformity of light. (57).

The subject of trees in the village is somewhat emotive with opinions varying according to their proximity to residential property. Some trees in the gardens of privately owned properties are overhanging the pavement, partially restricting access and in some cases damaging the pavement surface.

There may be occasions where District Council support for action will be necessary.



Recommended action:

- The District Council should support the Parish Council were local initiatives prove ineffective. (16).
- A member of the Parish Council should carry out quarterly inspections so that problems can be addressed according to circumstances. (36).

Refuse collection and re-cycling initiatives have been well received by almost all households. However there is a safety concern when dustbins, green boxes and garden refuse bins are left in the middle of pavements.

Recommended action:

- Alert Biffa's attention to potential safety hazards of leaving bins / containers on the pavement after they have been emptied. (37).

Many of the proposed actions are aimed at improving the image of the village including tacking litter, graffiti and the volume and speed of traffic.

The Parish Council already organises an annual Garden and an Allotment competitions but these in themselves do not make Huntley an attractive and inviting village.

Two suggestions received are to:

- The erection of more prestigious village sign(s) on the approach(s) to Huntley. (55).
- Plant more bulbs on the grass verges along the A40. (64).

And ultimately:

- To enter the Bledisloe Cup competition. (46).
- To enter the Calor Gas Gloucestershire Village of the Year Competition. (52).

## **Health**

With an aging population health issues will become increasingly important in the future. Until recently the Mitcheldean practice provided a weekly surgery in Huntley but this was withdrawn due to lack of support.

Waiting time for doctors' appointments appears very good when compared to some other areas.

About 10% of households have at least one person with some form of disability

although not all are registered disabled. Consequently some residents are experiencing difficulties with transport to medical facilities.

Current plans by the West Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust are to develop three medical centres for the Forest of Dean and the nearest of these to Huntley is likely to be Cinderford. Although this is further to travel it could make transport for treatment easier. (Surgeries at Mitcheldean and Newent will remain). It is understood that the PCT is also considering a mobile clinic.

During the development and implementation of the PCT plans, recommendations remain at a fairly general level:

- Huntley should provide a member for the PATCH team to ensure awareness of local views. (58).
- Opportunities for a mobile clinic will be supported in principal. (62).

## **Youth**

Huntley lacks adequate facilities for young people. Most of the teenagers travel to Gloucester in order to pursue their leisure activities. As part of the Parish Plan Project a survey was conducted with the help of Newent Community School. This identified in excess of 50 ideas. As a result of this survey a youth club was formed just before the finalisation of the draft Parish Plan.

The survey revealed an overwhelming feeling that young people were ill informed about local issues and a significant proportion expressed an interest in becoming more involved.

Other than having nothing to do in the village, fast traffic on the A40 was second among their concerns.

When asked to list the best things about Huntley the most popular things for boys were the recreation ground and the local garage. The girls tended to have a much broader perception with environment being by far the biggest attraction.

Recommended action:

- Enforcement of speed limits in the village. (1).
- Impose a 30 mph speed limit in Newent Lane. (7).
- Introduction of phased reduction in speed from 50 mph to 40 mph and 30 mph through the village. (27).
- Installation of speed cameras within the 30 mph zone in the village. (47).
- Formation of Youth Council. (48).

- Provide transport to allow teenagers to participate in leisure activities. (63).

### **Amenities**

Many of the village facilities are probably taken for granted.

The original village hall was built in the early 1960's and was later extended in 1976 despite some considerable opposition from local residents. Despite this opposition the village hall is now seen as one of the strengths of the village. The building is now 35 years old and is in urgent need of modernisation and refurbishment. The Village Hall Management Committee lacks the necessary funds to carryout refurbishment or to meet the obligations under current legislation.

The Management Committee sees it's priorities as:

- Installing a new oil tank (which it was understood was being arranged in the autumn of 2003).
- Replacement of windows. (25)
- Provision of a new floor. (43).
- The Focus Group added a suggestion to re-build the hall. (75).

Huntley offers some of the most economical allotment rents in the area. Despite this only 40% of allotments are under cultivation. One of the biggest obstacles to letting more plots is probably due to many untended plots being overgrown through lack of use.

Recommended action:

- Advertise the plots and the rent. (30).
- Offer new allotment holders a plot that has been rotivated. (31).

The recreation ground is generally accepted to be a benefit. The most frequent user of the ground is the local football club but the general condition of the ground is poor particularly in the area of the football pitch. It is also liable to water logging in places during the winter months particularly after periods of heavy rain

Recommended action:

- Survey the drainage problem. (42).
- Carry out work in accordance with the surveyor's recommendations. (42).

- Reseeding the football pitch. (71).

The village has three retail shops. These local shops are considered an important part of the village and there is support for more shops. Additional shops would only be viable if the village increased in size, but 91% of residents oppose any further development in the village.

### **Traffic**

There is concern among residents about the increasing volume of traffic on the A40. A Highways Agency report in 1998 identified the “polluting effect of high traffic, particularly HGV’s with noise, exhaust emissions and vibration issues”.

Approximately 14,000 vehicles a day pass through the village. In the last 30 years there have been two separate studies to assess the feasibility of a by-pass. The last study was carried out in the mid 1990’s but the Highways Agency says they have been unable to establish the reason for the abandonment of the project.

Recommended action:

- Provision of a by-pass to be reconsidered. (72).

The speed of traffic through the village is another cause for concern and despite the introduction of traffic lights, which has had some effect, a third of all traffic still exceeds the speed limit.

The road after the A4136 junction, westbound, is derestricted allowing speeds of up to 60 mph passed a school entrance. The government recommended speed passed schools is 20 mph. There have been 14 accidents in the last two years on this stretch of road. Many of these have resulted from vehicles overtaking slower moving traffic. This places pedestrians, including young children at risk. Unfortunately the Highways Agency considers current ‘restrictions’ to be satisfactory.

There is a public footpath from the school and church over pasture land but this is only usable in fine weather. This path exits onto the derestricted B4216 where there is no footpath. The Diocesan Office, the land owner, is opposed to a hard surface path because it would devalue the land.

Recommended action:

- Establish police strategy for reducing speed. (Added after other projects prioritised).
- Impose a 30 mph speed limit on the B4216 Newent Lane. (7).
- Request the police to video overtaking on the A40 past the A4136 junction. (8).



- Press for some action to limit overtaking on the A40 past the A4136 junction. (10).
- Introduce a phased reduction in speed from 50 mph to 40 mph and 30 mph through the village. (27).
- Install speed cameras within the 30 mph zone in the village. (47).
- Install a traffic island on the A40 near the footpath exit by The Square. (69).

### **Communication**

Dissemination of information in the village has been a problem for many years. It is possible that many people who appear not to participate in parish affairs may not be aware of the activities available. A large amount of information issued by central and local government remains uncirculated because there is currently no established mechanism for doing so. The parish notice board is inadequate because it lacks space to display all the material received. It is also situated where probably no more than a quarter of people in the village see notices because they don't naturally pass the Parish Council's only notice board in the village.

Recommendation:

Additional notice board(s) should be considered, (40).

A significant number of households have indicated that they are interested in parish affairs and over half the residents indicate that they would like more information about Parish Council activities.

Some organisations are resorting to fly posting to publicise events. A considerable number of these notices are not removed after the event.

It is recommended that:

- Rules about fly posting should be introduced. (20).

Huntley has a Church magazine that is published monthly but is not circulated to every household so it is not an ideal source of information for all residents. Local newspapers are only delivered to about a quarter of households, and any organisation wishing to advertise events needs to pay for their insertion.

Recommended action:

- Introduction of monthly newsletter. (32).
- Consider incorporating a parish newsletter with the Church magazine. (68).

According to the Residents Survey more people obtain local information from the village post office than from any other single source. The Post Office only holds a small fraction of local information. With the agreement of the local post master the amount of information could be increased significantly.

Recommended action:

- Compile a Parish Handbook for reference with copies held by various organisations including the post office. (11).
- Provision of more information to the village post office. (17).

The growing awareness of modern technology and its availability presents a number of opportunities. It is estimated that about half the households have access to the Internet thus making it the easiest method of communication to about half the population.

Recommended action:

- Design a village Web site. (66).

Alternatives include becoming part of another village Web site or communication by e-mail.

A number of the village organisations hold regular meetings for their members. This offers another avenue for distributing information economically.

Recommended action:

- Dissemination of information, as far as possible, to selected organisations. (51).

Over the last three years about 10% of properties have changed hand, often bringing new people into the village.

Recommended action:

- Distribute a 'welcome pack' to all new residents. (33).

The mobile library visits the village every two weeks. A number of people claim that they obtain local information from this source but this can only be information issued by the County Council or possibly the District Council. Assuming that this is the case there may be opportunities to add Parish Council information to this source.

Recommended action:

- Provide information for residents to the mobile library service. (74).

## **Transport**

Huntley is fortunate in having a good regular bus service into Gloucester and to Ross on Wye, Mitcheldean, and Cinderford.

As the Parish Plan reaches the final stages of preparation Huntley, and some other Forest villages find themselves in a transitional phase as far as local bus services are concerned. Cottrell's, who have operated services into Gloucester since the 1890's have recently handed over their Huntley / Gloucester services to Stagecoach. While many residents are disappointed about this course of events it does provide an opportunity to rationalise the timetables.

Recommended action:

- Print a consolidated bus timetable and circulate to every household in the village. (22).
- Investigate the re-instatement of a half hourly bus service from Gloucester. (44).
- Investigate possibility of routing some services via the supermarkets. (76).
- Investigate possibility of improving the bus service to Mitcheldean to allow residents easier travel facilities to Mitcheldean surgery. (New opportunity).

The car is the most popular mode of transport.

While work was being carried out with the Parish Plan an opportunity arose to introduce a weekly mini bus service from Huntley to Newent with the help of Newent Dial-a-Ride. This has now been operational for about 12 months.

About a third of the residents in the parish are registered with Newent doctors and following the success of the weekly service a further (on request) service on Tuesdays was introduced specifically to provide transport to the Newent surgery.

About 60% of Huntley teenagers go to school in Newent but unless parents are able to provide transport many of these young people find it difficult to attend after school activities. There may also be a demand for minibus facilities for young people to get to other events.

Recommended action:

- Recruit volunteer minibus driver(s) and utilise community mini buses. (63).

Senior citizens and people with disabilities have expressed difficulty getting to shops either through lack of personal transport or unsuitability of bus routes.

Recommended action:

- Introduce a monthly mini bus service to visit a supermarket. (38).

### **Social Organisations**

The village has about 16 active organisations many of which seem to be low profile. Many new residents do not appreciate their existence. In addition there are six registered charities and one that is unregistered.

Recommended action:

- Details of village organisations should be made more widely available –
  - In the Huntley Handbook. (11).
  - In a new residents' Welcome Pack. (33).
  - In a Local Directory. (50).
  - On the Parish Notice Board, (54)

### **Education**

Huntley's local primary school has a good reputation in the area and caters for most of the children in the village between the ages of 5 and 10. On leaving primary school the majority go to Newent Community School, about 5 miles away, for their secondary education.

The primary school was originally built in 1865 and currently lack adequate space to comfortably accommodate all the pupils.

A significant number of people who responded to the Residents' Survey believed that the local school is an important asset to the village but there was almost no parent participation at Parish Plan Focus Group meetings. A major concern to parents is the volume and speed of traffic on the A40 leading to the school. To overcome this concern, many parents use a public footpath across the fields but this is not usable in adverse weather conditions.

Recommended action:

- Improve the public footpath from the school to Newent Lane. (9).
- Address the dangers from overtaking traffic on the A40. (10).



The provision of child minders and / or nursery education was thought to be potential benefits to the village. These were not explored in any depth by the Focus Group.

Recommended action:

- Investigate the possibility of establishing nursery education in the village. (34).
- Maintain a register of child minders in conjunction with the appropriate local authority. (77).

Further education for adults attracted interest. Popularity of subjects centred on leisure topics rather than those of an academic nature.

Recommended action:

- To establish the true demand for local adult education and arrange course(s) according to demand. (45).

There are three play groups in the village that at present they have adequate facilities. Contact will be maintained to ensure any future needs will not be overlooked.

### **Businesses**

There is a concern among residents that, over time, local shops will disappear from the village. Unfortunately patronage is not at a level to encourage more retail outlets to move into the area.

It has been difficult to establish how many local businesses operate from the village. If self employed people are included the number is possibly as high as 50. The Parish Plan Focus Group would like to see patronage of local businesses encouraged.

The Residents' Survey identified 22 businesses by address but a follow up questionnaire only attracted 9 responses.

Two options exist to help local businesses:

- The inclusion of information into the proposed Parish Handbook. (11).
- The distribution of a local directory that would include information about local businesses to every household. (50).

Additional action includes:

- Offering local businesses support with employment issues.

- The Parish Council to make further attempts to build a business profile and find local advice for businesses in the area.
- All nine businesses that responded to the survey indicated they would be willing to attend a meeting. This is will be scheduled to take place in the near future.

## **Housing**

Fifty years ago Huntley was a small village with just over 100 houses. Development started in the 60's and continued through the 70's. There is strong resistance to further development although currently there is some support for affordable housing and sheltered accommodation. However the Residents Survey showed more people against any further development, than in favour.

Recommended action:

- The need for sheltered accommodation should be recognised. (24).
- Some affordable housing should be made available. (39).
- There should not be any further housing development, other than in fill, within the current building boundary as defined in the 2002 District Local Plan. (73).

## **Sport**

The village is fortunate in having facilities for cricket, football, golf and equestrian activities. Many teenagers have expressed an interest in sport and should be encouraged to join local teams.

Recommendation:

- Investigate opportunities for young people to join sporting organisations. (New opportunity).

## **Public Services**

Generally speaking there is a high level of satisfaction with most of public services, the principle exception being roads and pavements. Green bins and boxes used for garden refuse and re-cycling, whilst welcome, do cause annoyance when they are left on pavements after being emptied.

Huntley doesn't have any mains gas and, although some residents have indicated that they would like to see gas in the village, the cost of making this available is probably prohibitive.

**Recommended action:**

- The refuse collection agency should be requested not to leave green bins / boxes where they become a safety hazard. (37).
- Establish the viability of providing mains gas in the village. (Not prioritised).

**Tourism**

Despite an interesting history there doesn't appear to be any serious attempt to attract visitors to the village. In fact only a third of residents would like to see more visitors.

Some local residents have indicated an interest in organised walks and there is an opportunity to produce some walks leaflets in conjunction with Longhope, an adjacent parish.

**Recommended action:**

- Organise a pilot project and produce three walks leaflets in conjunction with Longhope. (Not prioritised).
- Organise short escorted walks for residents. (Not prioritised).

## **1.00 APPROACH TO PROJECT**

Initial research into the objectives was undertaken with help of the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council's Forest of Dean Rural Adviser in September 2002. After this meeting a project plan and budget was developed and these were discussed with her prior to its presentation to the Parish Council.

From the outset it was unclear how many residents would wish to be involved. A key objective of the plan was to attract maximum interest from the outset and secondly to retain that interest.

An outline plan was presented to the Parish Council in January 2003 with a recommendation that the Council should proceed to launch the project. Although support was forthcoming there was, not unexpectedly, some doubt about the level of interest from the community. Consequently the Parish Council requested a pilot study to test community interest and allocated £100 from Parish funds for this purpose.

A formal presentation was made to Huntley residents at the Annual Parish Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003 where 35 people were present. The prime object of this part of the meeting was to make residents aware of the potential benefits of Parish Plans with particular reference to Huntley.

After the Annual Parish Meeting twelve organisations in the village were approached directly and invited to an initial explanatory meeting. It was felt that the twelve organisations would be able to cascade any information down to their membership so that, through a small group, it would be possible to reach a far greater 'audience'. In addition notices were placed round the village and a circular was distributed with the newspapers with the help of the local shop.

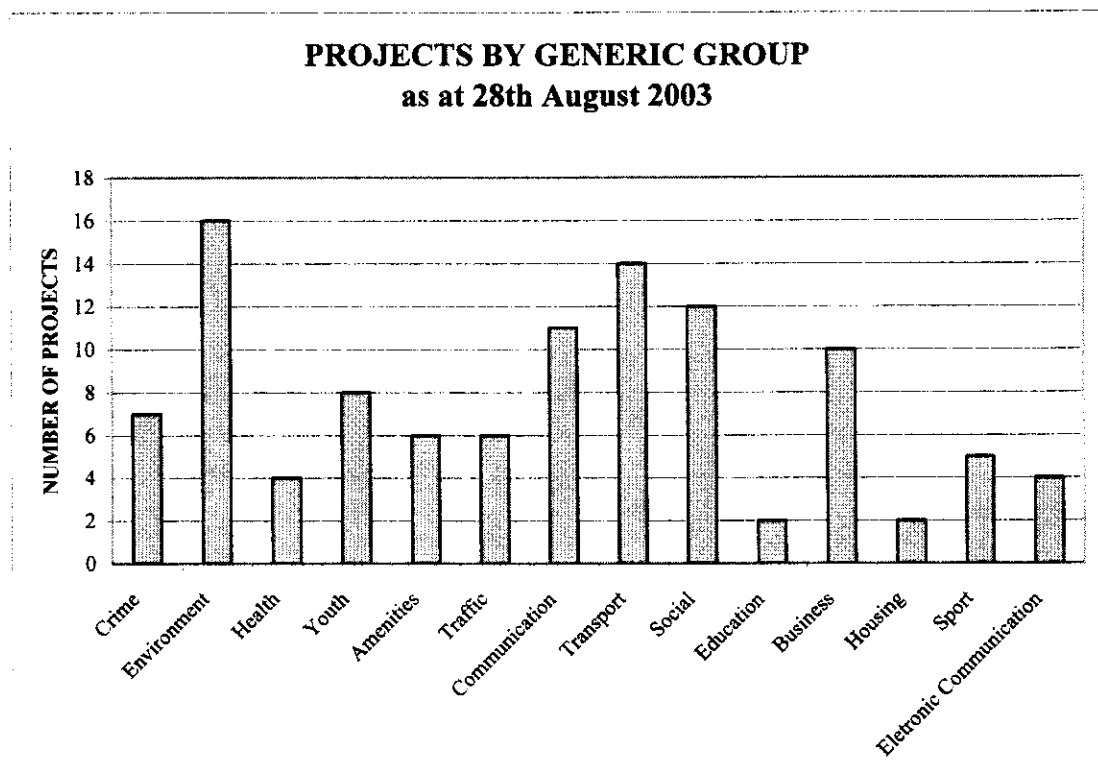
Twenty-three people attended the first meeting and although the prime purpose was to explain in detail the purpose and benefits of Parish Plans, strengths and weaknesses were discussed (Appendix 1) and 132 projects were suggested by the audience for possible inclusion in a Plan.

It was decided that good communication throughout the development of the Parish Project was vital to ensure that all those who had given time to support the Parish Plan should feel involved. After each meeting all people who had attend or who had tendered apologies received a meeting summary.

A second meeting took place and involved 25 residents who prioritised 56 of the most clearly defined topics from the first meeting. Some of the remainder were consolidated into the 56 discussed. This exercise gave a priority sequence for discussion. At this stage it was not necessarily intended to indicate the order of importance.

The third meeting started the development phase of the original ideas. A further 42 topics were added to the list of topics. All the topics identified were sorted into generic group. (Chart 1 below). These groups broadly determined the sequence of sections in this report.

**Chart 1.**



After the third meeting a review of the project showed that all things being equal, and funds being available, most actions could be implemented within 3 to 4 years period. However this review also exposed a lack of longer-term projects. (Chart 2 below).

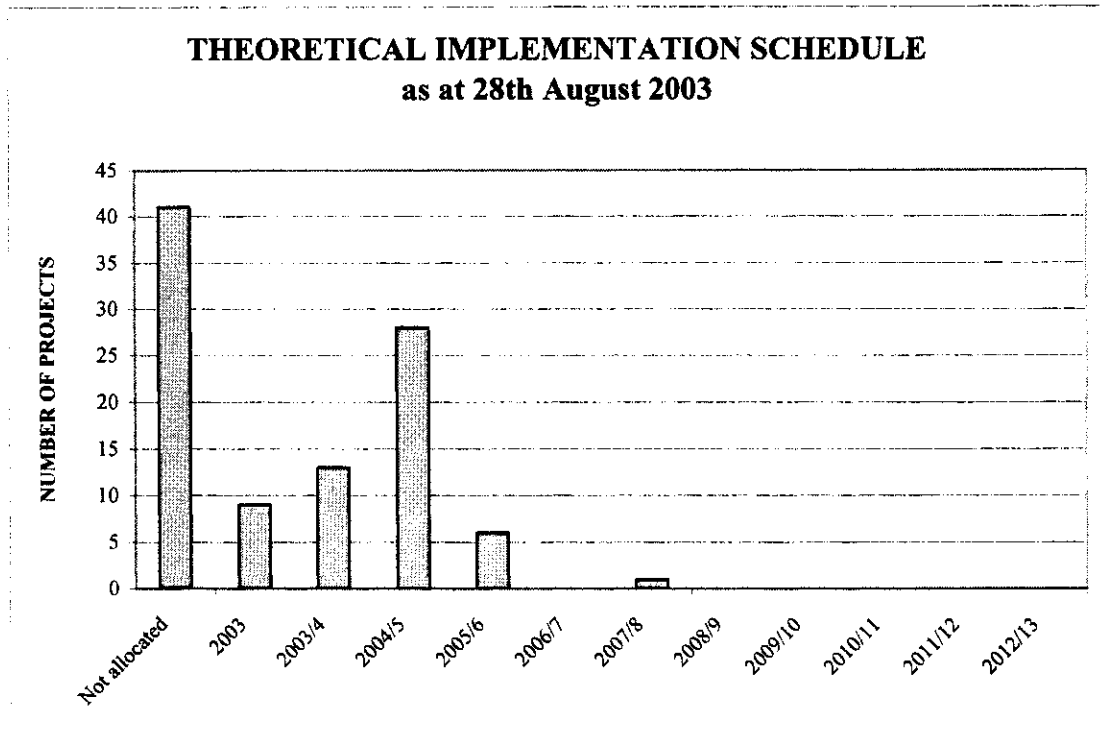
Subsequent meeting discussed and explored opportunities, sometimes with an invited speaker to provide guidance. It also became evident that the highest priority did not always generate the most projects.

By the fifth meeting it had been demonstrated that there was a continuing interest in the project with an average meeting attendance of 25 with a further 10 to 15 other residents maintaining active interest.

A formal resolution was tabled at the Parish Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2003 to proceed with the Project and to submit an application to the Countryside Agency for a grant.

Huntley's application was approved by the Countryside Agency in October 2003. During the intervening period the Parish Council continued to support the project from its own funds.

**Chart 2.**



### **1.01 Residents Survey**

In November 2003 the first of three further questionnaires were delivered to 427 households in the Parish. A total of 218 were returned a response rate of 51.05%. Detailed findings appear under the appropriate section or in the appendix.

The questionnaire was designed to be simple to complete allowing most questions to be answered with a tick. The questions posed were designed not to be non-intrusive. While this approach limited some information collected it was felt important that the highest possible response rate was desirable.

With the exception of outlying areas, all forms were delivered and collected by members of Huntley Mothers' Union with some supplementary help from other people and organisations in the village.

Returned survey forms were compared with the 2001 census population profile to establish if the survey was representative of the Parish as a whole. (Chart 3 below)

While there was a good response from the retired age groups the reaction from those in the 20 – 64 age group was disappointing. This response probably influenced the poor response from teenagers who do not attend Newent Community School. (See Section 6.00)

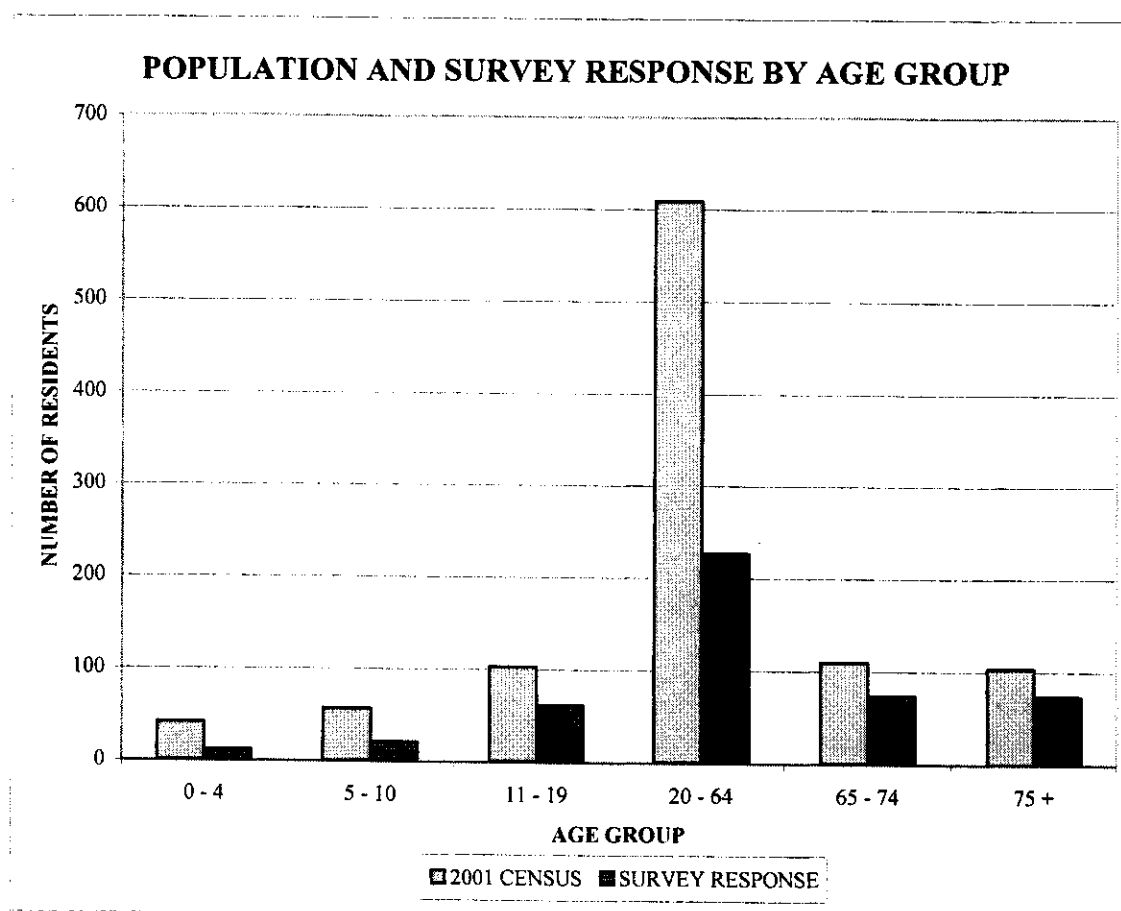
The percentage response by age group is shown in (Appendix 3).

The average age of households that responded was about 46 years compared with the 2001 census, which indicated an average about 3 years younger. (Appendix 4).

Due to the low response from the 20 – 64 age group, many of whom are likely to have children living at home, the average number of people per household is 2.17 compared with 2.41 in the census. (Appendix 4).

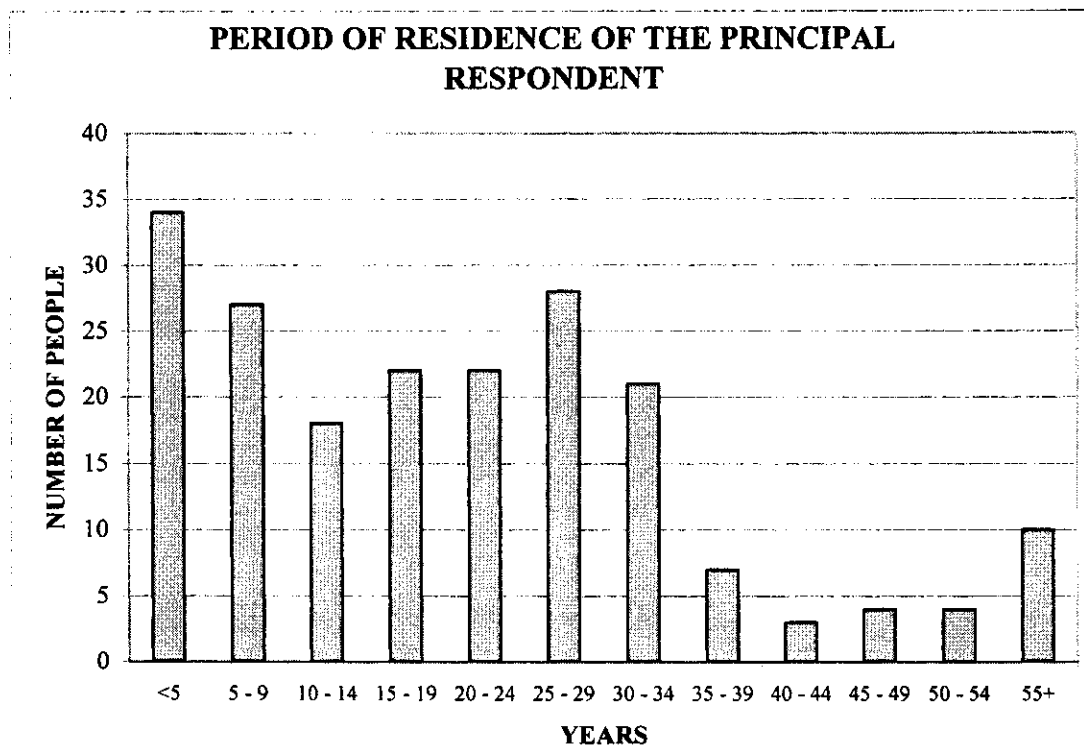
The survey attracted a good cross section opinion from citizens with varying periods of residence that ranged from one month to 82 years!

**Chart 3.**



The response by road showed a wide variation ranging from 12.5% to 100%. Survey forms to areas outside the main village were sent by post with a stamped addressed envelop for a reply. The overall response rate from this particular circulation was 42.85%, which was below the overall average. This could be because these areas do not feel part of the village. (Appendix 5).

**Chart 4.**



### **1.02 Youth Survey**

Following the agreement from the Parish Council to proceed with the Parish Plan, Newent Community School helped conduct a survey of Huntley students in the 11 – 17 age group. A total of 56 questionnaires were completed representing an estimated 54% of the teenage population. The main residents’ survey only produced a further 6 responses making a total response of 60%.

The results from this survey are reviewed in more detail in Section 6.

### **1.03 Business Survey**

It proved difficult to identify all the businesses operating from the village due most of the self employed people choosing not to disclose their names and addresses in the Residents’ Survey. Of the 22 known businesses only 9 responded.

### **1.04 Final survey**

Thirty-eight residents from the original survey indicated that they would be prepared to complete a second questionnaire asking opinions about the final list of projects identified by the Focus Group.



## **2.00 VILLAGE PROFILE**

Huntley is situated on the A40, near the junction with the A4136. It is approximately 8 miles west of Gloucester and 5 miles south of Newent. The village is surrounded by gently sloping fields and orchards, which provide an attractive setting. It grew up at the foot of the Forest escarpment at the junction of two important forest roads, the Gloucester – Ross road and the Gloucester Mitcheldean road, both of which have their origins in the Roman period.

The historic core of the village straddles the A40 with a much larger area of modern housing to the north. To the south the character of development is well established and settled, with an interesting mix of buildings and spaces, which provide an attractive street scene.

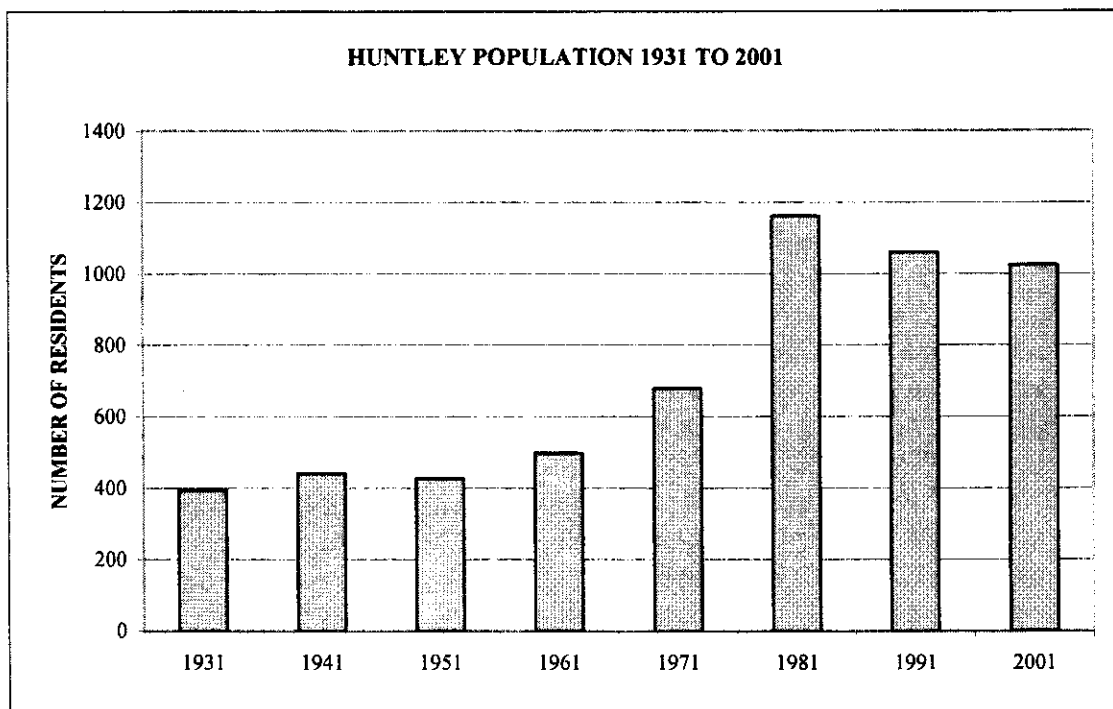
The busy traffic on the A40 causes significant disturbance to the village. The issue is addressed in the Local Transport Plan, which recognises the need for traffic management measures.

Huntley has a good range of services available to the population. There are two shops, a public house and a hairdresser in the village and two garages within a short distance of the settlement. Approximately half a mile from the centre of the village, to the west, are the school and Church both of which are Listed Buildings. In addition within the village settlement boundary there is a village hall, a recreation ground and a private cricket ground, and a golf course that abuts the settlement boundary of the village. The County Council originally identified a possible site for a replacement school off Byfords Road but the number of children in the village has declined over the last 20 years.

Huntley is a predominantly a dormitory settlement with people commuting to employment with 45% of the working population travelling to Gloucester. However some employment is available locally including a producer of timber products to the west and a plant nursery, both substantial local businesses, which adjoin the village. A number of smaller businesses are located outside the defined settlement boundary and provide a further source of local employment. In all 13% of the households that responded to the Survey had at least one member that works in the village

The village was relatively small until the 1960's when Huntley expanded into the surrounding countryside to the north of the village. The Parish population more than doubled with the completion of new housing. Subsequently few additional dwellings have been completed. The population remained fairly static after 1995 at approximately 1050 persons inhabiting about 440 dwellings. There are no outstanding housing commitments in Huntley, although a recent review organised by the Planning Inspector recommended an additional 30 houses that would include some affordable housing.

**Chart 5**



## **2.01 Historical Background**

The origins of the village may date back to Roman times. It has been established that the Roman Road to Monmouth traversed the southern boundary of the parish.

By the time of Edward the Confessor (1042 – 1066) the Parish was recognised and was held by the Archbishop of York.

After the Norman Conquest it was one of a number of Gloucestershire parishes that were granted to William Fitz Baderon and there is a reference to a Church at Huntley from this time. Huntley is mentioned in the Domesday Book as Huntelei. It had 4 (ploughing) teams with 480 acres under cultivation and 2880 acres of woodland. Domesday lists a male population of 11 men of working/fighting age and it would be reasonable to assume that the total population at this time was just over 50 persons.

A mill was constructed between 1270 and 1282 on the southern boundary of the Parish and it became an important landmark for some considerable time. There are records of it in 1770 but it had ceased to exist by 1841.

In 1608 a survey of able bodied men was compiled for Gloucestershire. Huntley listed 46 men as being “able and sufficient in body and fit for HM service in the wars”.

The village was the scene of fighting in 1643 and 1644 during the civil war. In 1643 the Royalists took the parliamentary garrison in Huntley but they were subsequently betrayed and in 1644 the parliamentarians regained control.

By the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century there were 45 houses in the parish and about 240

inhabitants; an average of 5.33 people per household.

By 1717 there was an inn called the White Hart, which is known to have existed until 1743 after which the local inn was called the George. It is not clear if this was merely just a change of name or whether the George was a new building. The George later became the Red Lion.

There was also another inn called the Crown on an adjacent site but its date and origins has not been established.

The roads to Mitcheldean and Ross on Wye were turnpiked in 1726 and the Toll House, which was built c1830 stood at their junction. The tollhouse that operated where the Longhope Road joins the Ross Road and was of sufficient importance to be replaced by a new one in 1881.

By the 1851 there was a population of 244. After that date the population grew steadily. Many changes took place in the 19th century. The common, part of which is now the recreation ground and allotments, was enclosed in 1857 and in 1872 most of the remaining common land on Huntley Hill was also enclosed.

In 1861 the population had risen to 533. The Church was rebuilt in 1863 (except for the Norman tower) by the Rev. Daniel Capper who was rector at the time. He and also built the manor and the school and later, in 1866, he rebuilt the rectory.

Kelly's directory of 1863 noted that there was a daily letter post and twice weekly carrier service to Gloucester. There was also an inn called The Lion and a beer house. The latter was known as the Yew Tree Inn and was in the area where North Road now meets Tibberton Lane.

The original cricket club was founded in 1874.

In 1883 the Huntley Manor estate, which accounted for most of the Parish, was put up for sale in a series of lots. This sale resulted in the splitting up of the manor property. This sale opened the way for change.

A "working man's reading room" was built in 1885 and had a membership of 25 in 1894. This building was demolished about 25 years ago when it was replaced by a modern residential dwelling.

Between 1951 and 1980 a large number of new houses and roads were built in the village.

## **2.02 Buildings more than 100 years old**

A number of old properties dating back to the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and earlier still survive.

- **The Church** was probably in existence before the Norman Conquest and was listed among the possessions of the Benedictine Priory in Monmouth Castle. The Norman tower remains but the original church, which had been in existence since at least 1100 was demolished in 1861 except for the tower.

S S Teulon, the famous architect who was noted for his Decorated Gothic interpretations of earlier church styles, undertook major restoration work. The rebuilding was paid for by Daniel Capper who gave the architect free reign which resulted in the church becoming one of Teulon's most enterprising and original, designs.

The church is currently raising funds for restoration work.

The church bells are very old and still in use. The oldest is dated 1420 and bears the inscription "W.F.I.T.R.B. Bayli of Huntley 1420". These refer to the churchwardens and the Earl of Shrewsbury's bailiff, as Huntley was at one time part of the Earls estate. The fourth bell bears an inscription in Latin "God save noble King James 1616". The tenor bell is dated 1670 and is marked the names of the Church Wardens Joseph WHYE and Thomas DRAPER.

- **Huntley Manor** was built in a French chateau style in 1863. The grounds have a great variety of trees, which were planted by C.P.Ackers, who was Lord of the Manor and had a national reputation as a tree expert and was the author of a standard book on forestry.
- **Huntley Church of England Primary School** was the first purpose built school in the village dating from 1876 and was paid for by Rev. Daniel Capper M.A., J.P. It replaced an earlier school that was situated in Huntley Court. The School is now a listed building.
- **The Black Stone** by the Red Lion Inn is thought to be an ancient forest boundary marker and is one of several in the forest. A number of older residents believe that it may have been a mounting stone but the base appears to be too high for such use. It probably dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century.
- The remains of **Huntley Castle** can be found in the grounds of the manor.
- **The Village Stocks** were originally situated outside a cottage called The Stocks which is situated on the main road. It is unclear whether this was their original location. They were re-sited on the recreation ground in the early 1970's. Huntley's Stocks are believed to be the only remaining set in the Forest of Dean and have recently been restored.

Under an Act of Parliament in 1405 every community was required to maintain stocks for the punishment of offenders. This law remained in force until about 1800.

The responsibility for their up keep rested with the parish officers / petty constables who were answerable to the justices of the peace.

Offenders could be restrained pending appearance before the magistrate for the following reasons:

Trouble making  
Drunkenness  
Blasphemy  
Participating in sport on a Sunday

each being punishable by four hours in the stocks.

Beggars and vagrants, both male and female could be whipped bare back before being returned to their place of origin.

- **Huntley Court** is thought to have been used as a Parliamentary Garrison during the Civil War in 1644. It was the principal property in the village until the manor was built.
- **Turnpike House** was under construction at the time of the 1881 census and replaced an earlier turnpike house. It is situated at the junction where the Monmouth road leaves the A40 (Gloucester to Ross road).
- **The Old Rectory** at Froglands dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It was rebuilt between 1710 and 1720, after original property had burnt down. The Parish Registers were burned in the same fire. The Rev. Abraham Morse and his son Rev. Jackman Morse were part of the first family to live in it. Henry Duke of Kent, who was then patron of the Church, gave £20 towards its construction. Others gave "smaller sums and some timber trees".
- **The Red Lion.** In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the landlord, James Drinkwater was advertising a "Choice old wines & spirits, home brewed beer etc. Well aired beds, good stabling, lock up Coach Houses etc. neat fly and post horses to let". The Red Lion had previously been called the George, and may have been called the White Hart before that (c 1717 – 1743).

### 2.03 Demographic Profile

Over the last decade there has been a small reduction in population of 53 from 1078 declared in the 1991 census. This is a reduction of approximately 5%. Perhaps more significant is the age profile where, in 1991, 47% were in the 45 + age band but by 2001 this ratio had increased to 55%.

Over the same period the younger age group between 5 and 14 years has decreased from 12% to less than 10% of the population.

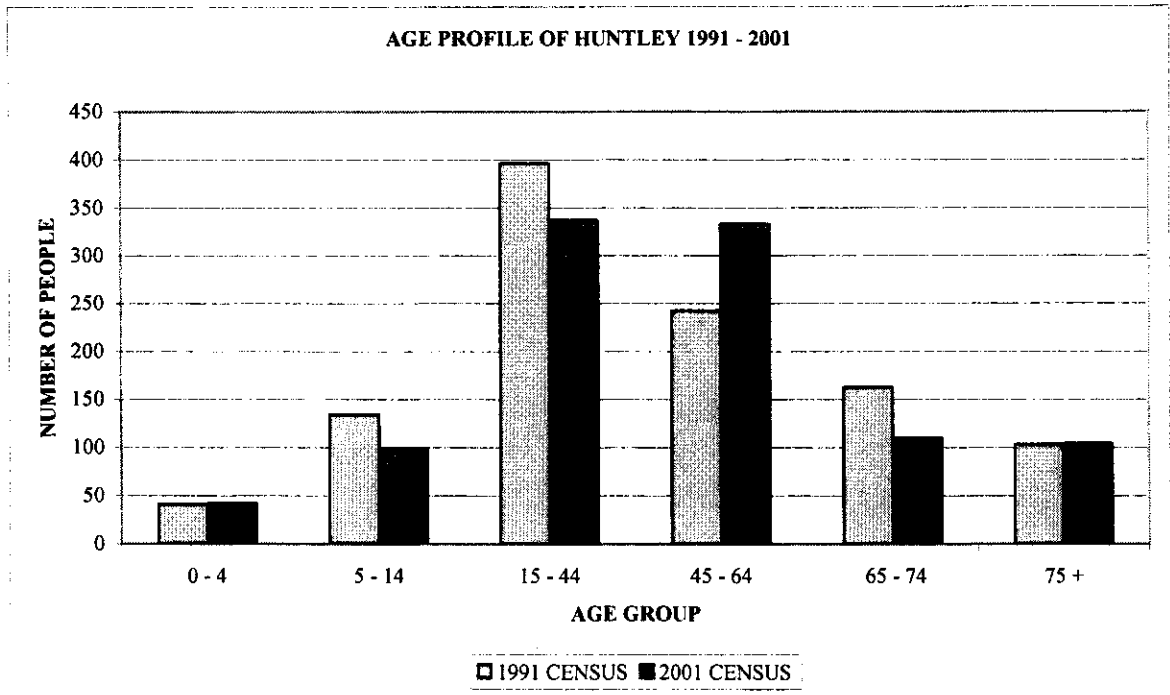
Provisional figures for the Churcham and Huntley Ward indicate that death rates are nearly double the birth rate. This would suggest a continued inflow of new residents.

In the 12-months ending October 2001, 79 properties changed hands while in the following 12-month period the figure was 46. The average number of adults per household remained similar at 1.9 per house, but when children are taken into account

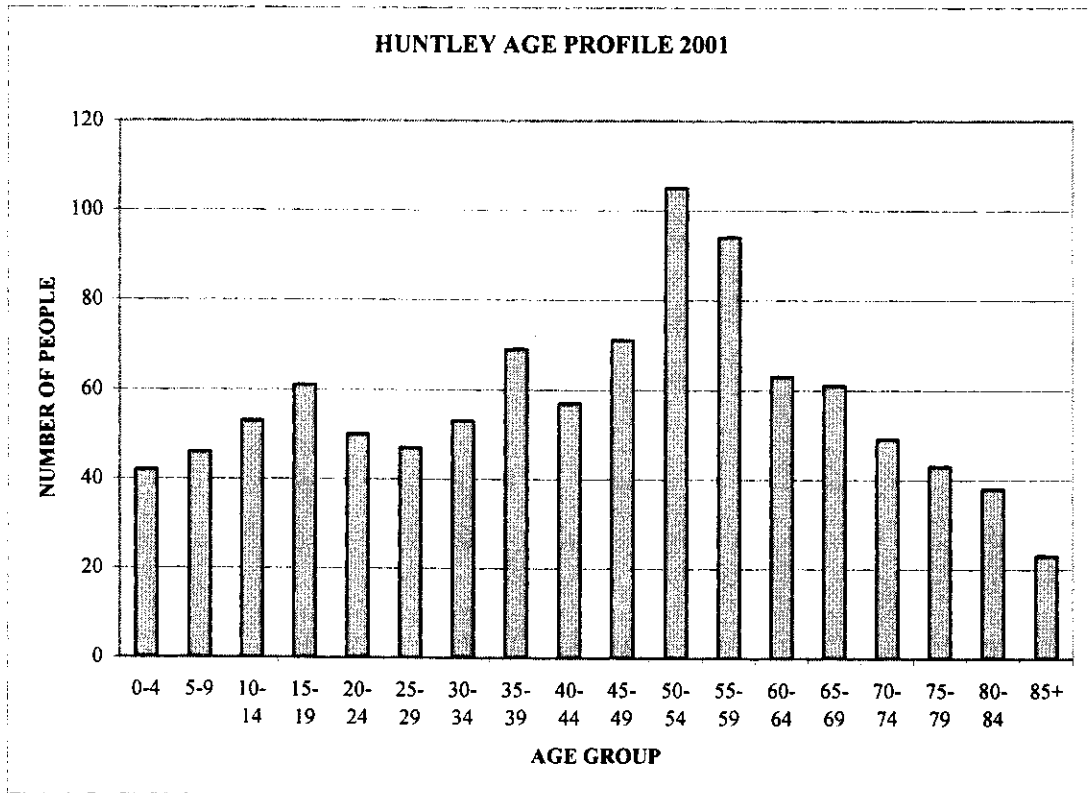
the average number of people per house fell from 2.43 to 2.29.

The current age profile, based on the provisional figures released from the 2001 census, show that 4% of residents are below school age and 16% fall into the age range 5 to 19. The estimate number of people in the working age group of 20 to 60/65 is 57%; and those in the next age group, and for the purpose of this Plan can be considered to have retired, is estimated at 23%.

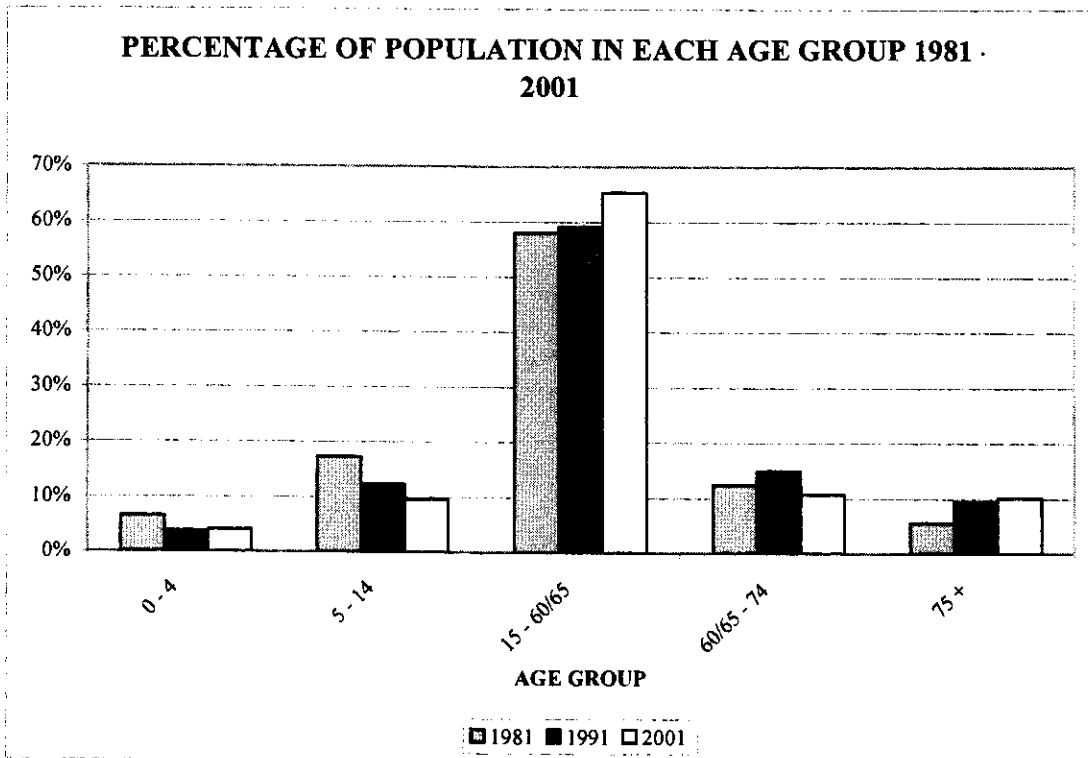
**Chart 6**



**Chart 7**



**Chart 8**



### 3.00 CRIME

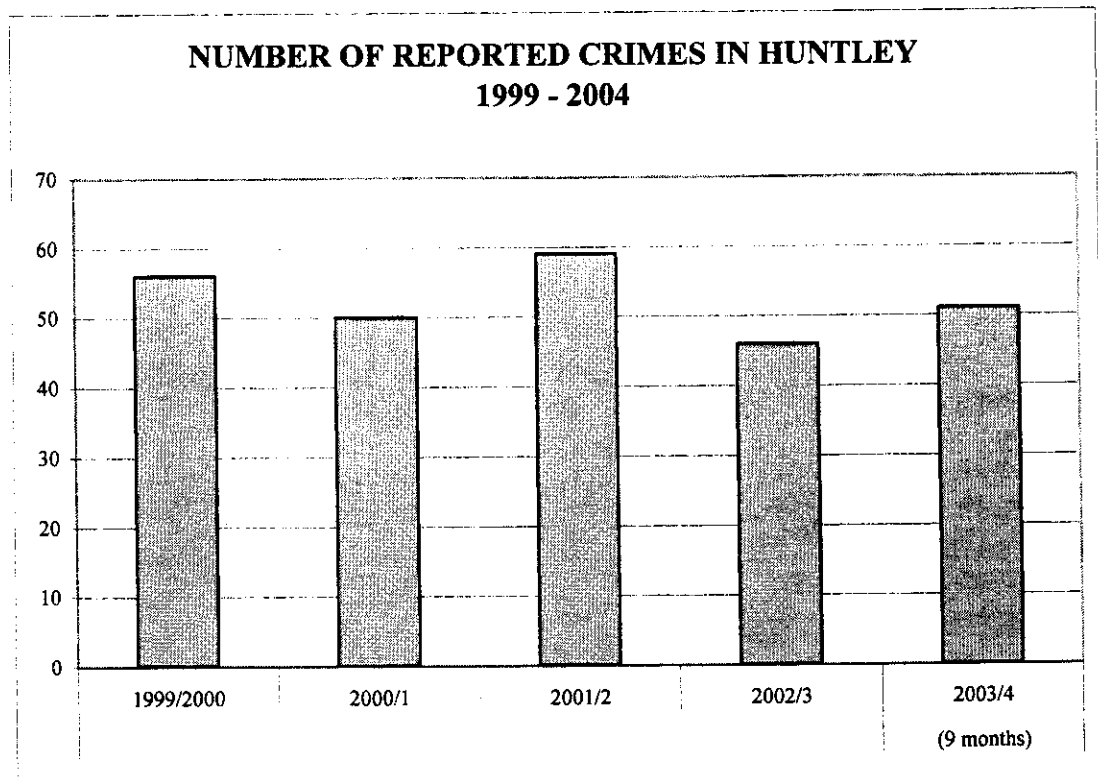
The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires that the police and local authorities, working together with others, to audit and consult on local crime and disorder problems and implement a strategy to address any issues. The Parish Plan recognises that it will be necessary to work with the police to achieve this aim.

The Forest of Dean is a low crime area but Huntley has the fourth highest number of instances of reported crime in the North Forest according to a report issued in December 2003.

There is a belief that crime has increased in recent years. Crime figures issued by the Gloucestershire Constabulary do not support this belief.

The Residents' Survey shows that 42% of households have a concern about the level of crime and 72% would like to see an increased police presence in the village.

**Chart 9**



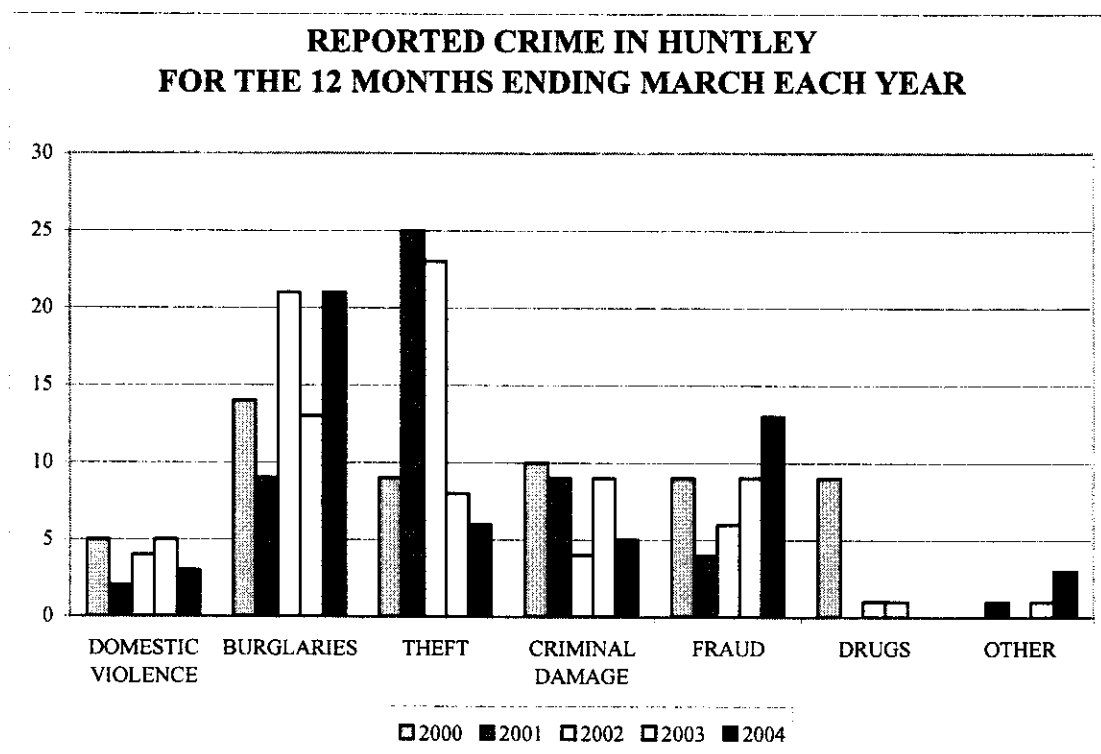
If the current trend continues, reported crime for the 12 months ending March 2004 could reach the highest level since 1999/2000. It is important to note that the statistics are only able to record crimes that are reported. Consequently a reluctance to report incidents dilutes police attention to any problems that may exist.

The greatest variation in crime is among burglaries and theft. Criminal damage, which includes vandalism and graffiti, has remained reasonably constant throughout the five-year period. (Appendix 7). Acts of fraud are more likely to be experienced



by businesses and more specifically by garages with their passing trade.

**Chart 10**



Action needs to be taken according to the nature of crime.

Recommended action:

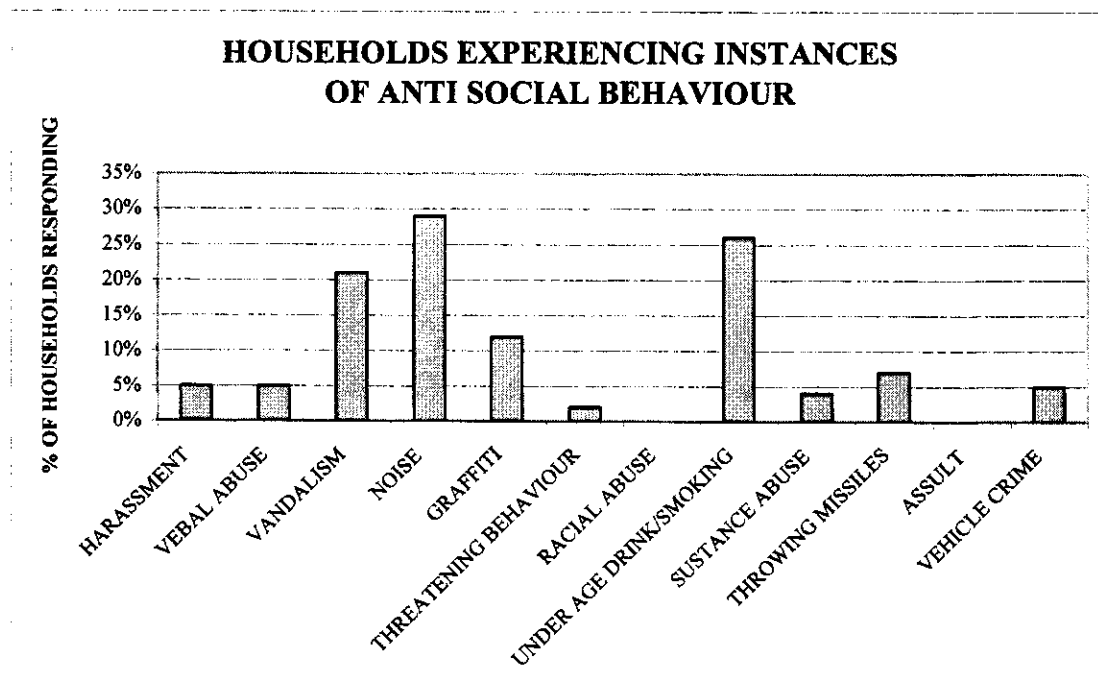
- That all crime must be reported and an incident number obtained from the police. (2).
- Develop a viable action plan(s) to reduce the level of actual crime in the village. (81).

### **3.01 Anti social behaviour**

The Affordable Housing Survey carried out by the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council on behalf of Huntley Parish Council in 2002 included a comment from one resident that, “we are very content living in this village as it stands at present although despair at vandalism to the village hall which is an important resource for the community”.

Residents’ perception is that most anti social behaviour is caused by youths. The survey of teenagers included a question regarding their concern about vandalism, litter and graffiti. The result of the survey indicated that at least half the teenagers were not concerned about these issues. This is a serious worry to the Parish Plan Focus Group because these young people are tomorrow’s young adults, potentially with young families. Furthermore these young people will be adults within the horizon of this Parish Plan.

**Chart 11**



Noise appears to be the largest single problem, however as the survey took place in November and the response may possibly have been influenced by November 5<sup>th</sup>.

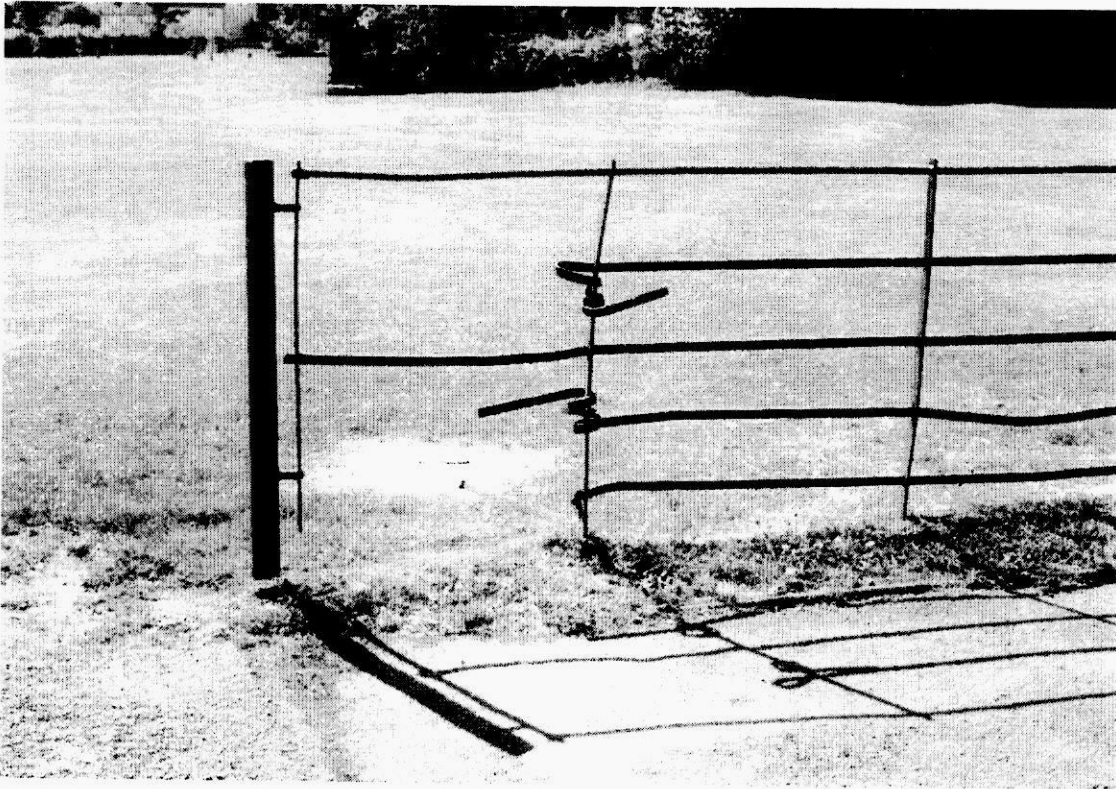
### **3.02 Vandalism**

Vandalism is the second highest problem on the list of priorities considered by the Parish Plan Focus Group.

Residents who have lived in the village for some considerable time cannot recall any major problems in earlier years. However, there was a press report in 1981 highlighting vandalism in the village so this type of incident has been a problem for over 20 years. There were nine incidents of reported criminal damage during the 12-months ending March 2003, double the previous year. This equates to one incident every 5 to 6 weeks. Since 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003 eleven incidents have been observed and reported but only five appear in the North Forest Inspector's Report!

Two major incidents in the first six-months of 2003 cost the Parish Council £720. This represents £1.61 on the Council Tax for each household and is 7.6% of the precept provide by the District Council. This figure does not include damage to trees or to the Village Hall. The latter falls as a burden on the Village Hall Management Committee and can only be recovered through increased hire fees.

Most acts of criminal damage occur round the Village Hall and in the bus shelters. It is firmly believed that almost all vandalism is caused by youths and possibly has a connection with under age drinking. This is difficult to control because it does not take place when more responsible people are in the vicinity.



Damage to fence in Village Hall Car Park

Recommended action:

- That all crime must be reported and an incident number obtained from the police. (2).
- Request police help to reduce vandalism. (4).
- Formation of Youth Councils. (51).

### **3.03 Theft / Burglary**

Theft and burglary rank third in the list of overall topics considered by the Focus Group.

Over the last four years, for which figures are available, the number of incidents ranges from 21 to 44. The year ending March 2003 was the lowest.

It is assumed that all such criminal acts are reported to the police but as always prevention is the most effective way to reduce these figures.

Recommended action:

- To encourage the formation Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. (3).

### 3.04 Graffiti

Graffiti and litter reduce the desirability of a village. Less desirability will result in people leaving the village and property values will inevitably fall in the long term.

Graffiti appears to occur most frequently around the Village Hall and in the bus shelters. Incidents of graffiti, if reported, form part of the criminal damage statistic. As there are no separate crime figures we do not know the true magnitude of this problem. However it was seen by the Parish Plan Focus Group to be of such significance that it was considered to be a separate issue to vandalism.



Graffiti on door to Village Hall

Graffiti has many similarities with vandalism, as it is, by definition, an act of damage to property. Removal can be time consuming and therefore costly.

Again control is difficult, and because of its similarity to vandalism, the potential solutions are the same:

- That all crime must be reported and an incident number obtained from the police. (2).
- Formation of Youth Councils. (48).

### **3.05 Personal Safety**

Issues relating to personal safety were ranked 21 in the early part of the Parish Plan study. Following consultation with the police most ladies, belonging to the Focus Group, now have personal alarms. The item was subsequently deleted from the list of projects. However personal alarms are still available from the police to any person who wishes to purchase one.

Among teenagers about one third of the girls expressed concern about feeling unsafe in the community. About 15% of the boys expressed a similar worry.

Recommended action:

- Parents of all teenage girls should be encouraged to purchase a personal alarm for their protection. (79).

### **3.06 Neighbourhood Watch**

Notices on display in the Oak Way area indicate that Huntley operates a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in this area but this is currently not the case.

One road in the village has recently taken steps to introduce Neighbourhood Watch and with the latest crime statistics indicating an increase in the number of burglaries further extension of this scheme is desirable. The Parish Council has agreed to fund the cost of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

Recommended action:

- Encourage the formation of more Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. (3).

### **3.07 Under Age Drinking**

Every week at least two carried bags full of empty beer cans, vodka (5.4%) bottles and similar items are removed from the recreation ground. (Section 4.01). Alcohol is believed to be purchased from the garage by the 18+ age group and is 'given' to younger people. A by-product of this activity is litter along the A40 and on the recreation ground.

Frequently a small group of youths are seen on the recreation ground in the area from which litter is collected.

There is a strong belief that the consumption of alcohol is a direct contributor to the vandalism and graffiti problems.

In March 1997 the Parish Council wrote to the General Garage drawing the proprietor's attention to the problem of under age drinking, litter along the A40 and on the recreation ground. The garage does display a sign prominently to draw attention to the law on this subject.

Bye Laws are possible but these would require consultation and the agreement with the police. A byelaw, itself, will not necessarily remove the problem and could result in youths drinking elsewhere. As the recreation ground is not common land a byelaw would not be appropriate although Recreation Ground Rules could be amended to prohibit the consumption of alcohol. The effectiveness of this course of action is debatable.

The best solution appears to be to tackle the problem of litter by requesting to the police to monitor the problem of under age drinking.

Proposed courses of action included:

- Formation of Youth Councils. (48).
- Provision of fire resistant litterbins. (59).
- Amending the Recreation Ground Rules to prohibit the consumption of alcohol unless it has been purchased from the village hall bar. (61).

## 4.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The image of the village has deteriorated in recent years and unless some action is taken rural decay could set in within the suggested life for Parish Plans, i.e. 5 to 10 years. There is a feeling that the village is untidy with litter being one of a number of aspects that have been highlighted. Deterioration in the condition of minor roads and pavements adds to this feeling.

### 4.01 Litter

Litter can usually be found on the recreation ground, around the village hall, at bus stops, along the A40 and in the Ross Road lay-by opposite Forest Products. Rubbish is also thrown from cars and lorries passing through the village. There have also been instances of broken bottles being thrown into a field that is normally grazed by sheep, around the village hall and recreation ground.



Typical of litter collected on recreation ground on Sunday mornings.

Litter appears to have been a problem for the Parish Council for over 35 year with the subject appearing periodically on the Parish Council agenda, but the problem never seems to have been satisfactorily addresses or resolved.

Biffa, the Forest of Dean contractor, should empty litterbins every week. Verges are the responsibility of the County Council and should 'as far as possible' be cleared at three monthly intervals.

Vague statements like 'as far as possible' are considered unacceptable. When preparing budgets the respective councils must incorporate the forecast cost of these

activities and therefore somebody should know how frequently these activities should be carried out.

Without a schedule of activities it is difficult to monitor the provision of services that form part of the Council Tax.

A number of residents have offered to organise 'a clean-up'. While this would be welcome by many people it will not solve the basic problem so the results of this activity would be short lived.

Fly posters that are attached to telegraph poles and trees in the village are a cause of further annoyance and constitute another form of litter, particularly when they are not removed after the event.

Recommended action:

- Discourage under age drinking as this contributes to the problem of litter. (5).
- Organise an annual litter 'tidy up'. (12).
- Encourage school children to become litter conscious. (19).
- Introduce rules on fly posting. (20).
- Provide new, (small) litterbins at bus stops. (21).
- Establish Service Contracts with the appropriate local authority or government agencies for the control of weeds and litter. (28).
- Organise a poster competition for children at Huntley School. (41).
- Formation of Youth Councils to encourage responsible attitudes among younger people. (48).
- Install litterbins on recreation ground. (53).
- Organise anti litter campaigns. (56).
- Increase Council Tax specifically to tackle the litter problem. (65).
- Install doggie bins in Byfords Road. (67).
- Provide a litterbin for the lay-by opposite Forest Products. (70).

#### **4.02 Roads**

Although the village has generally good road access with 99% of households believing that this is either important or very important to the village their condition, particularly of minor roads, has deteriorated and repairs are a matter of urgency.



The Residents' Survey showed that 65% of households believed maintenance on the A40 is good or very good. However, 45% are still identifying problems including traffic lights, the condition of pavements and traffic in general. (The traffic lights and traffic issues are covered in Section 8. Traffic).

Despite its good rating as far as maintenance is concerned, the A40 has also attracted the second highest level of concern.

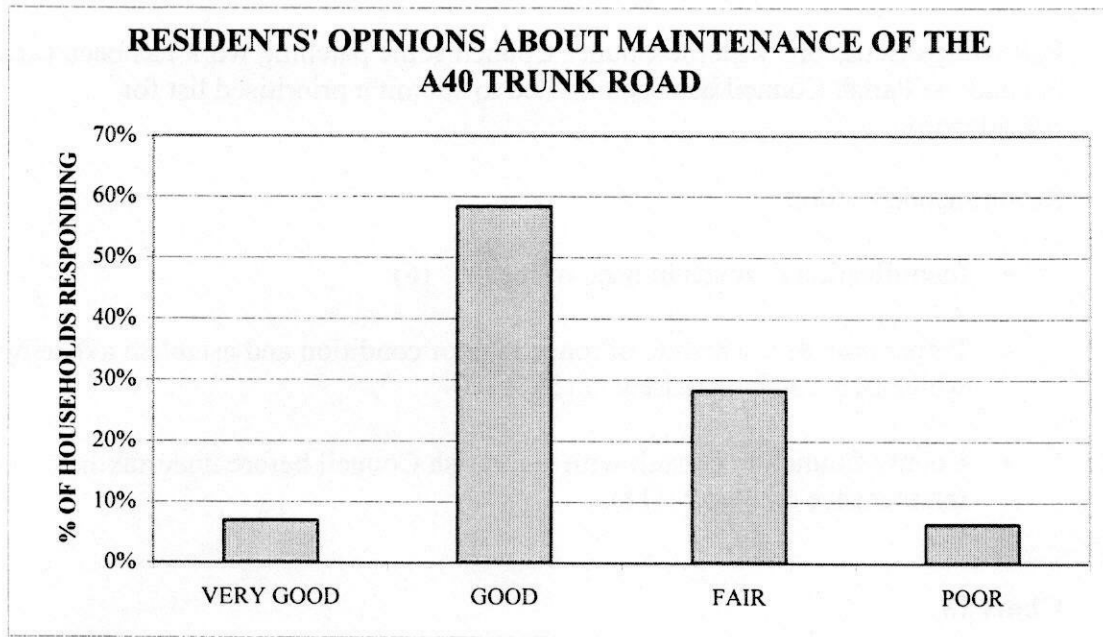
Weed killing and clearance of gullies form part of maintenance activities. The Highways Agency has overall responsibility for the A40 and the County Council has a duty to maintain the other roads in the village.



Weeds growing on the A40

It is understood that the County Council have been allocated insufficient budgets over the last 18 years to adequately attend to maintenance work of secondary roads and they now find that there are numerous roads within the County that need attention.

Chart 12



In the past, roads have been repaired with tar and grit but potholes have remained. This has led to them becoming water traps which freeze during the winter months. Both situations eventually cause further damage to the road surface. The Residents'



Worn out road surface in Sunset Place.

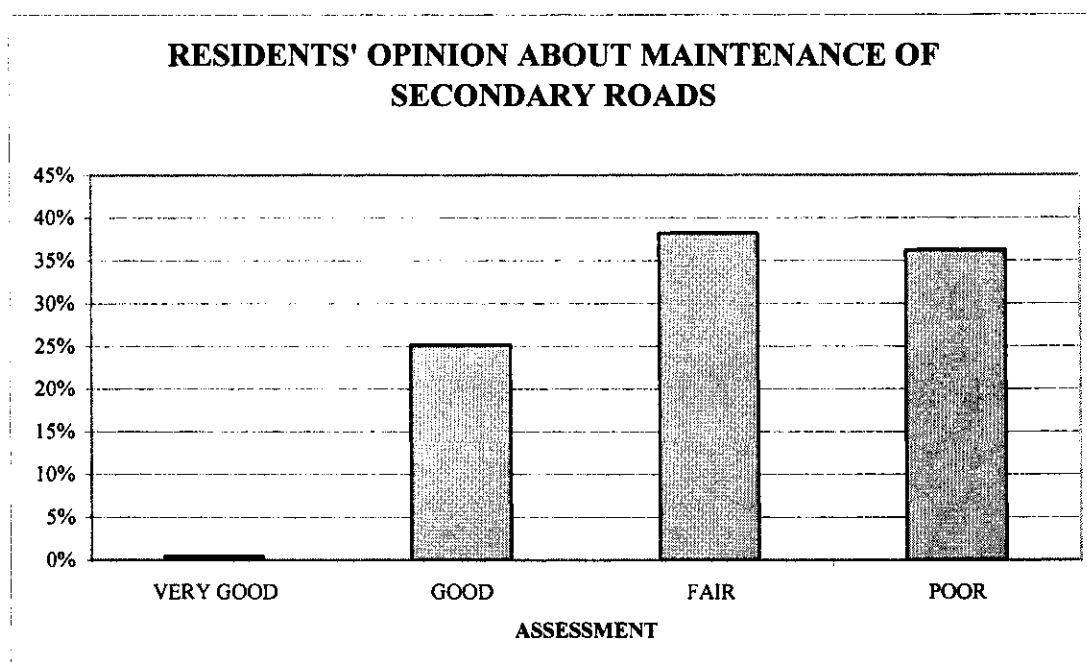
Survey shows that 74% of households believe that the condition of secondary roads are in either fair or poor condition and 37% have indicated concerns. Twelve roads (50%) appear to be particularly bad.

Following discussions with the County Council some patching work has been carried out and the Parish Council has been invited to submit a prioritised list for consideration.

Recommended action:

- Identification of roads in need of repair. (6).
- Preparation of a schedule of roads in poor condition and establish a date by which they can be repaired. (13).
- County Council to consult with the Parish Council before undertaking maintenance on roads. (14).

**Chart 13**



#### **4.03 Pavements**

Pavements in the village are showing a similar neglected condition to the roads. Many pavements in the village are breaking up and are in need of urgent repair, with 67% of households indicating that they believe pavements to be unsatisfactory. In some instances poor maintenance is leading to the formation of puddles in wet weather.

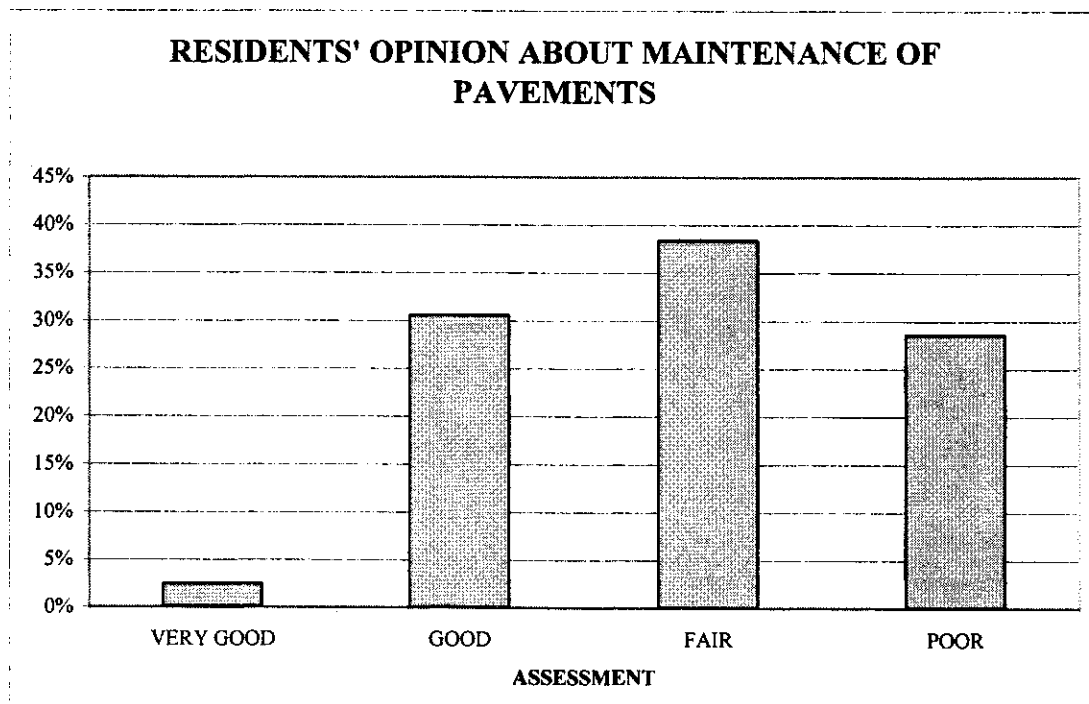


Pavements were the highest area of concern among the households that responded to the survey.



Worn out pavements in Westwick Road

**Chart 14**



The reason for poor maintenance is understood to be the same as for roads. In 2003 a new surface was laid in part of North Road extending into Tibberton Lane but this particular pavement was not the one in the worst condition!

The County Council have proposed a similar course of action to the 'road problem' and have carried out some patching work and have suggested that the Parish Council should submit a prioritised list for consideration.

Recommended action:

- Identification of pavements in need of repair. (6).
- Preparation of a schedule of pavements in poor condition and establish a date by which they can be repaired. (13).
- County Council to consult with Parish Council before undertaking maintenance to pavements. (15).

#### **4.04 Public Footpaths**

A number of the public footpaths in the centre of the parish lead onto busy roads. There is concern that children could step out into oncoming traffic. The most dangerous situation is encountered in Newent Lane where the footpath from the school exists onto a derestricted road and there is no pavement or safety barrier. There are other issues with this particular footpath where visibility for both pedestrians and motorists is severely restricted at the Newent Lane end.

There are other issues with this particular footpath where visibility for both pedestrians and motorists is severely restricted at the Newent Lane end.

The Parish Council have been taking steps to try and minimise the risks. These started in September 2002 and because of lack of response from the owner of the land the County Council Rights of Way Officer became involved but there is still no apparent progress.

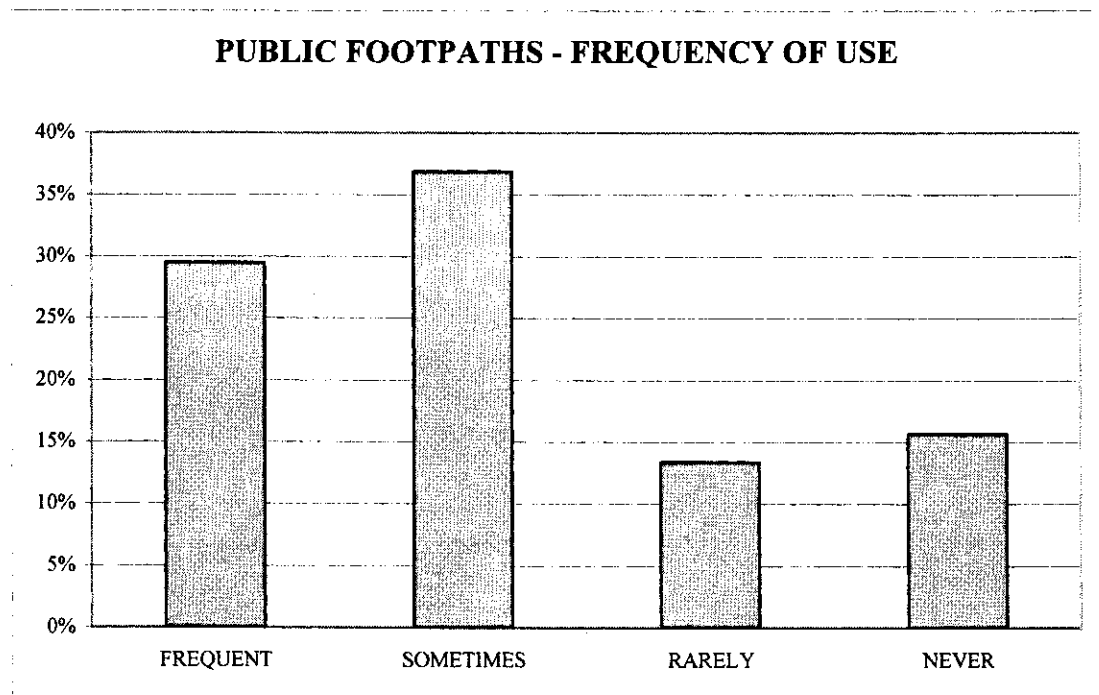
Recommended action:

- Introduce a 30 mph speed limit in Newent Lane. (7).
- To improve the exit onto the B4126 (Newent Lane). (9).

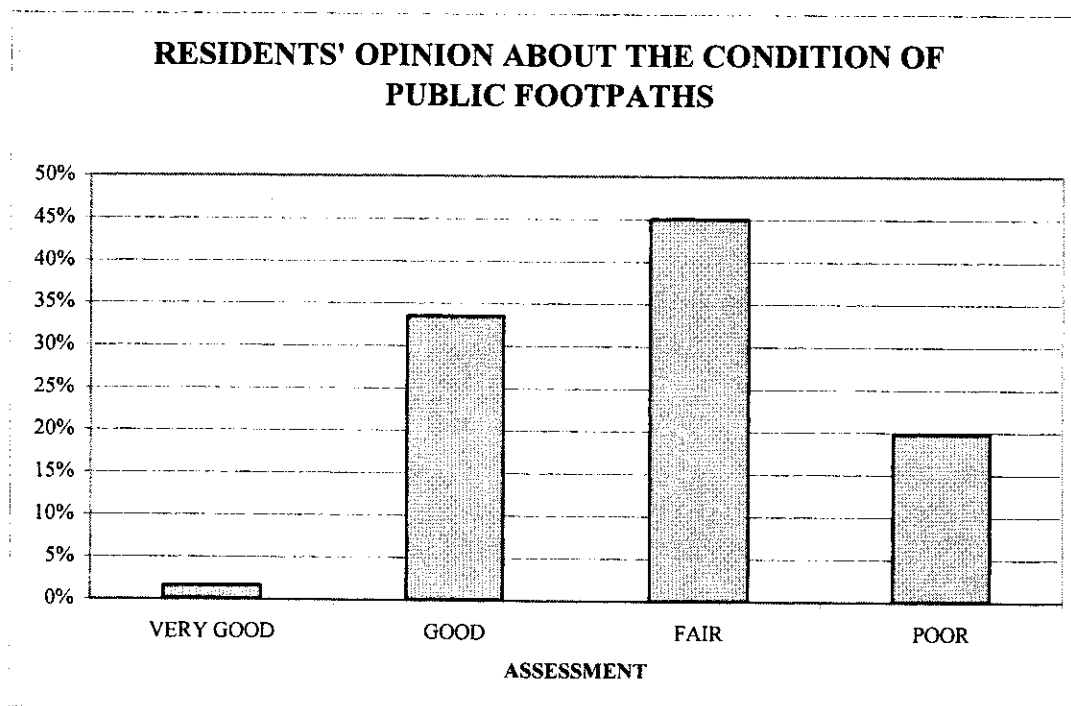
The exit from Pauls Walk on to Oak Way is a further concern.

Huntley boasts a total of 53 footpaths within the Parish boundary. The extent of use of public footpaths was surprisingly high but 67% of households believe they are in need of more maintenance. Knowledge of footpaths was also enlightening with 83% of households claiming awareness. Ninety three percent of people responding to the question believed that public footpaths are important to the village.

**Chart 15**



**Chart 16**



#### **4.05 Street Lighting**

The Residents' Survey showed that 29% of households had concerns about street lighting in general. This figure may be on the low side because the lack of adequate lighting is unlikely to be evident to those who don't, or rarely venture out after dark. A total of 12 roads have been identified where at least one household in four has identified this problem.

Some areas of the village appear to have lighting that is more modern and much brighter than others. Closer inspection reveals that three types of light have been installed, even in the same road. This creates well-lit areas and others in partial shadow.

The pavements and public footpaths in the village are in need of repair. Inadequate or non-existent street lighting created potential hazards for pedestrians.

There are a few areas where trees and bushes within the boundary of private properties are partially obscuring street lighting.

Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (Section 17) local councils have a duty to ensure adequate lighting.

Recommended action:

- Encourage residents and relevant councils to trim trees and bushes that obstruct street lighting. (23).
- Install new streetlights in areas that are inadequately lit. (29).
- The Parish Council should carry out quarterly inspections to identify streetlights that are obscured by trees and bushes. (36).
- Standardise the type of lighting in the village to provide uniformity of light. (57).

#### **4.06 Trees**

Many modern developments are devoid of trees. The impression is that some residents would like to see some of the larger trees felled partly due to their size but also because they drop a significant number of leaves and twigs during the autumn and winter months.

When Oak Way was developed in the late 60's a number of small trees were planted in the verges. Some of these seem to have progressively 'disappeared' over the years.

Currently there are 48 trees that are the responsibility of the Parish Council, six of which are covered by Tree Preservation Order 172.

Opinion about the environmental benefit of trees is likely to depend on a household's proximity to trees and their size. Fourteen percent of households have indicated some concerns about trees. The greatest proportion of concern based on returned survey forms is concentrated on four roads. However, Orchard Way, which has no trees, also attracted some concerns from residents.

Some trees in the gardens of privately owned properties are overhanging pavements and public footpaths, partially restricting access and in some instances are damaging pavements, foot paths and service inspection points for water, sewers and telephones.

Recommended action:

- The District Council should support the Parish Council were local initiatives prove ineffective. (16).
- A member of the Parish Council should carry out quarterly inspections so that problems can be addressed according to circumstances. (36).

#### **4.07 Re-cycling / Refuse Collection**

There were very few concerns about general refuse collection or the collection of garden refuse. The main concerns related to leakage from garden refuse being allowed to spill onto the road during the process of collection.



Empty bins and plastic trays that are used for re-cycled refuse are also left on the pavements and become a safety hazard particularly to any blind people or other disabled residents and to mothers with prams.

There is almost total support for the District Council's re-cycling initiatives with 98% support and 95% of households willing to separate waste into separate categories.

Recommended action:

- Alerting Biffa's attention to potential safety hazards of leaving bins / containers on the pavement after they have been emptied. (37).

#### **4.08 Village image**

In addition to encouraging residents to take a pride in the appearance of their village a number of actions can be encouraged.

Recommended action:

- The erection of a more prestigious village sign(s) on the A40. (55).
- Planting bulbs on the grass verges along the A40. (64).

Once other environmental projects have achieved their objective the Parish Council should enter both best-kept village competitions, viz. Gloucester Village of the Year and the Bledisloe Cup.

The Gloucestershire Village of the Year, sponsored by Calor Gas, looks for a well-balanced, pro-active, caring village, which, irrespective of size has made the best of the opportunities to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all inhabitants. The achievement of this award should be viewed as having achieved the key objectives set out in this Parish Plan.

In the past Huntley has been a regular entrant in the Bledisloe Cup Competition and actually won the Cup in 1988. Unfortunately it frequently failed to win due to problems associated with litter.

The ultimate aim must be to enter:

- The Bledisloe Cup. (46).
- The Calor Gas Gloucestershire Village of the Year. (52).

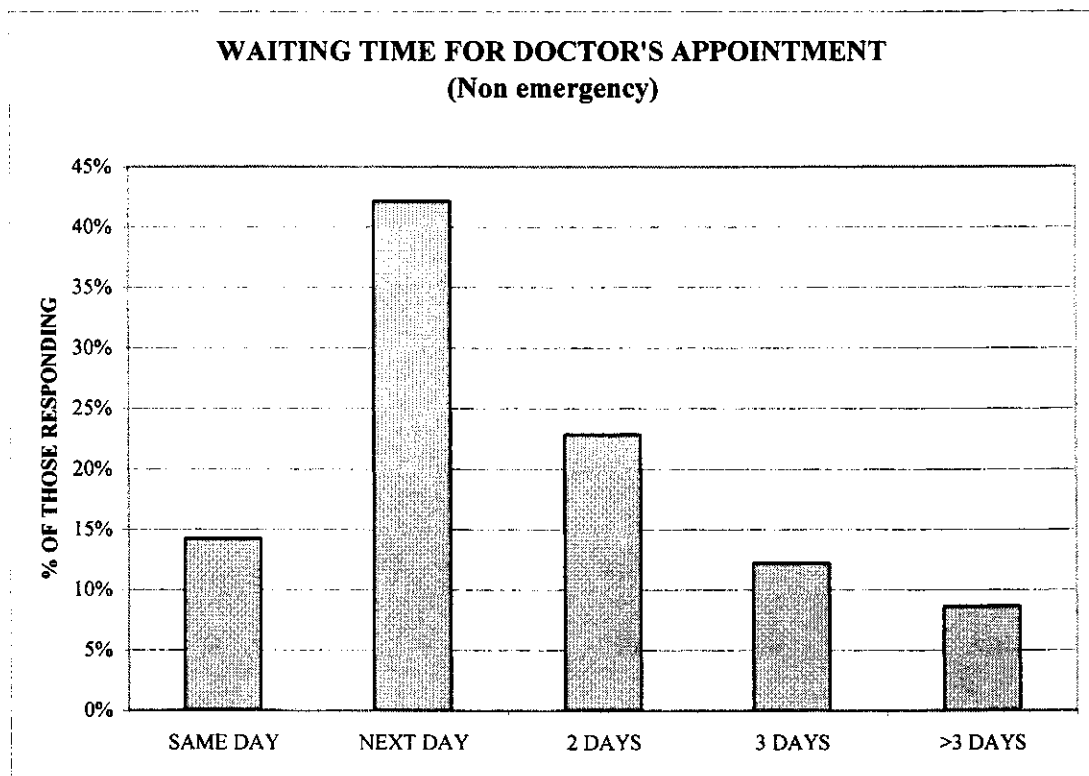
## 5.00 HEALTH

The 2001 Census shows that 23% of the population are over state retirement age. Within this group there are over 50 residents who are age 80 and over. Health facilities are therefore an important factor within the Parish Plan.

The two principal surgeries looking after residents are situated at Mitcheldean and Newent both are approximately equidistant at between 4 and 5 miles respectively. The majority of the population use the Mitcheldean facilities but 15% use Newent. It is understood that a few residents use other surgeries including Westbury on Severn and Highnam.

Waiting time for appointments is very good when compared with some other practices. The Residents' Survey did not attempt to identify which surgery was used but the average waiting time is 1.6 days. Over 50% of patients are seen within 36 hours of making an appointment.

Chart 17



The Mitcheldean surgery, until recently, provided a local service in Huntley Village Hall on Tuesdays although patients were encouraged to attend the main surgery because of the facilities that are available. The number of patients attending the Village Hall varied between 0 and 10. The room used also served as the football referees changing room at weekends, was basic, unwelcoming and did not meet new standard stipulated by the NHS. The footballers' changing room with hard wooden benches and ceramic tiled floor was barely acceptable and its situation means that private conversations between doctor and patient can be overheard.

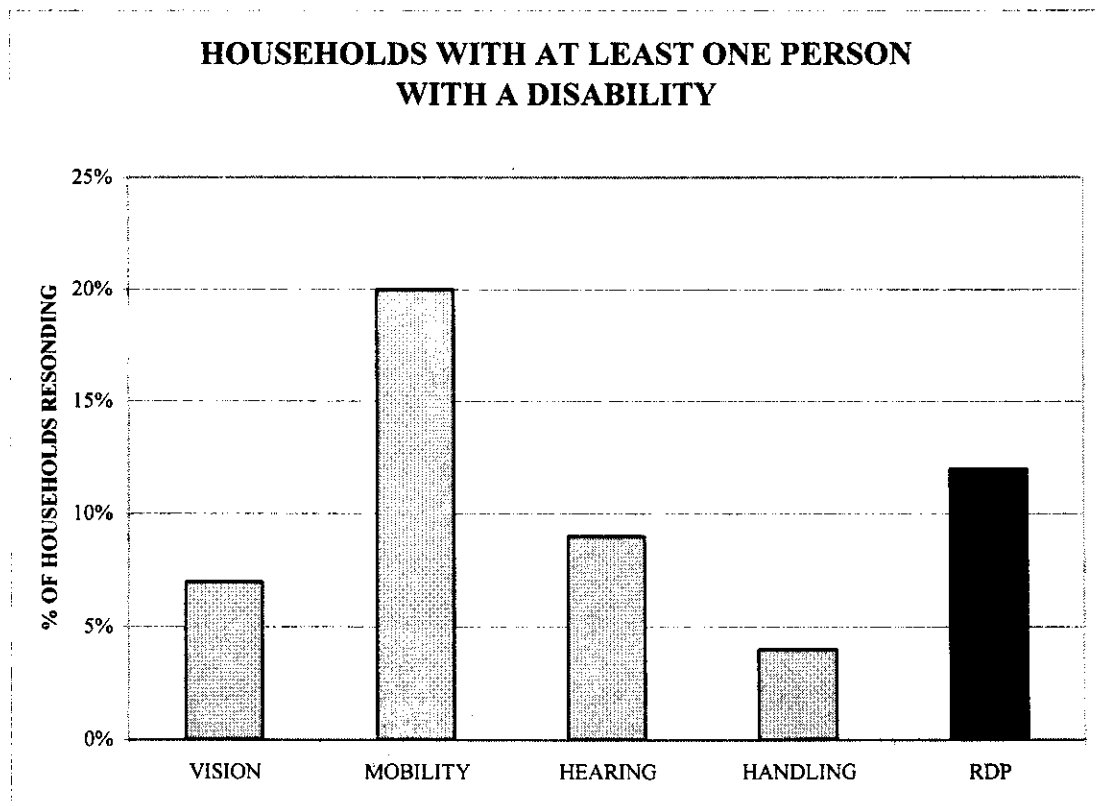
While Mitcheldean is on a bus route with an hourly service, Newent has no such facility. With effect from February 2004 as part of the Parish Plan initiative a weekly Dial-a-Ride service was introduced on Fridays operating on similar eligibility rules to those described in Section 10.03.

The Residents Survey indicated that there are 46 households where at least one member has a disability. Of these half are registered disabled (RDP). In at least 16 of these households there is someone with some form of disability where they experience difficulty with transport to 'medical facilities'. These were:

- Hospital 12
- Doctors Surgery 10
- Chemists 10
- Chiropodists 5
- Opticians 10
- Dentists 10

The 2001 Census indicates that 2% of the Churcham & Huntley Ward residents are in receipt of a Disability Living Allowance. This would indicate that about 20 people in Huntley probably receive this allowance.

**Chart 18**



## **5.01 West Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust**

The West Gloucestershire PCT has an ambitious and innovative programme to modernise the primary care health facilities in West Gloucestershire. They have 4 key objectives, one of which includes an aim "to improve health and wellbeing of local people including staff by understanding their specific needs". It is beyond the scope of the Parish Plan to describe the plans in detail. The topics outlined below are likely to cause at least initial concern among resident albeit probably unfounded.

Current plans are to develop three care centres based on the three major centres of population respectively at Lydney, Coleford and Cinderford. (Surgeries at Mitcheldean, Newent and elsewhere will remain). Out of hours call outs will be progressively taken over by specialist staff according to the nature of the problem and will include a Doctor where appropriate.

During this development the PCT will invite local representation through working parties (PATCH).

The proposed structure summarised does not include a maternity unit in the Forest of Dean. Home births will be encouraged providing there are not likely to be any complications.

Huntley has an aging population, which is likely to grow during the life of this Parish Plan. Potentially this will increase pressure on medical services and transport to these facilities. It is understood that Yorkshire has mobile "clinics". A similar facility for this area may not only be a benefit to Huntley but also to other parishes.

During the early stages of discussion with Huntley's Parish Plan Focus Group there was interest in providing better premises that would not only provide the Doctor with a more acceptable consultation room but could also be used to provide other medical services. A mobile clinic, offering a variety of services, could satisfy these needs.

Recommended action:

- Huntley should provide a member for the PATCH team so that it is able to represent local views. (58).
- Opportunities for a mobile clinic will be supported in principal. (62).

Further recommendations will depend on how the proposed changes in the West Gloucestershire PCT develop and Huntley would wish to support any initiative that was not detrimental to the residents of the Parish.

## **6.00 YOUTH**

The initial proposals to address the needs of teenagers in the village were based on the analysis of a survey of teenagers' opinions. It is estimated that there are approximately 100 young people between the ages of 11 and 19. A total of 62 teenagers responded to the survey. The ratio of girls to boys was slightly higher than the national demographic profile.

It would be interesting to investigate a number of the issues from the questionnaire further but those taking part were promised confidential treatment of their forms. This means that it has not been possible to follow up answers.

The questionnaire was designed to establish seven key issues:

- The plans young people had for the future in respect of jobs or further education.
- Use of transport to get to school and leisure pursuits outside the village.
- How young people spend their leisure time.
- Their opinion of facilities in Huntley.
- Their desire for involvement in local issues.
- Their causes for concern.
- Preferences for facilities if they could be provided.

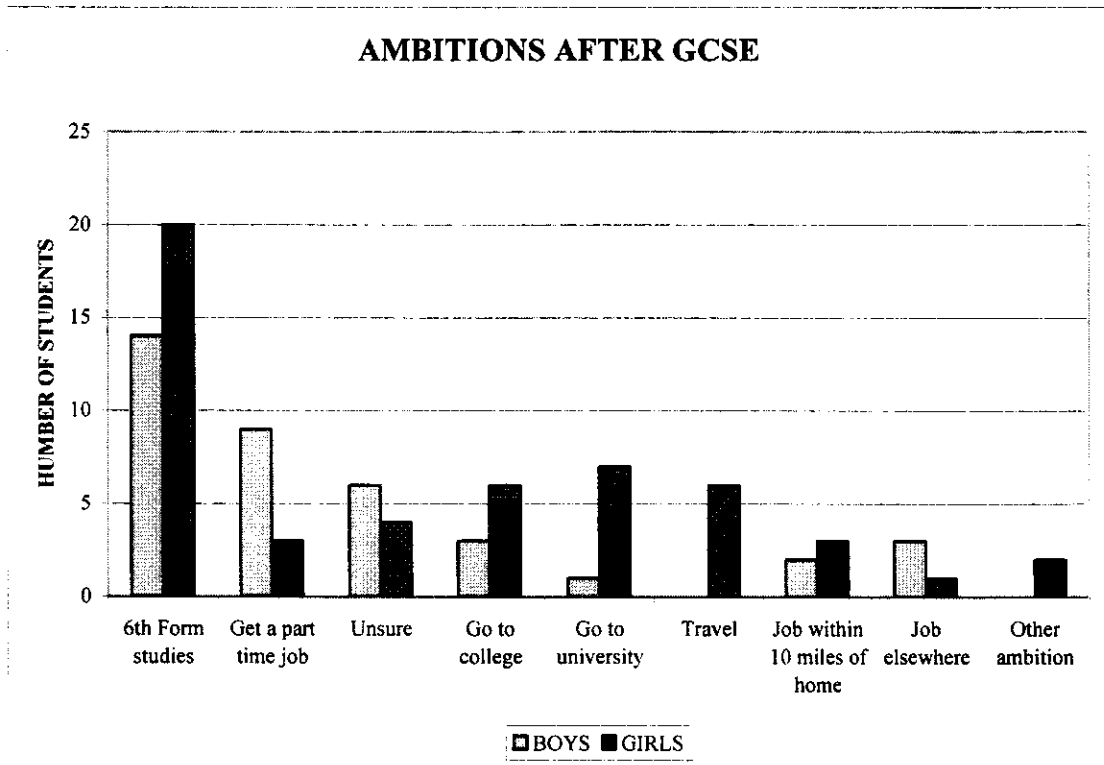
The survey is considered to have been a success. Numerous ideas and comments were collected. These need be reviewed as many ideas are diverse and, according to the survey, some are attracting a limited interest. If these ideas can be shared with others there is a strong possibility that support will increase. Age profiles will be a very important factor in establishing appropriate courses of action.

### **6.01 Ambitions after completing GCSE**

The number of girls wishing to continue with full time education showed a similar situation to the national picture. Ten students were unsure of their future intentions but seven of these were under the age of 14 and it is probably natural that some of the students in this age group would fall into an 'undecided' category.

The analysis also shows that nine boys indicated that they would look for part time work after completing their GCSE's. Four of the nine, who were all aged 15, also indicated that they would either continue with 6<sup>th</sup> form studies or go to college. The other five pupils were all younger.

Chart 19



**6.02 Travel to school and to pursue leisure activities**

Over 90% of teenagers travel to school by bus. All but 1 of the remainder are taken by a parent or their friend's parent.

Chart 20

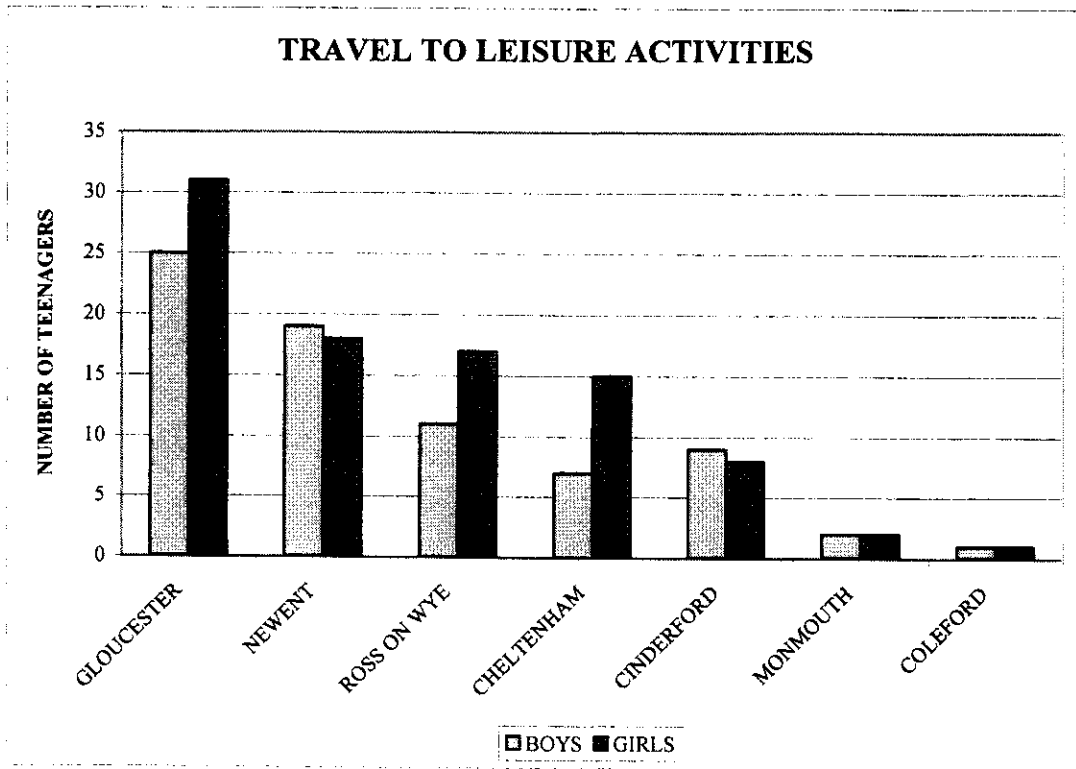
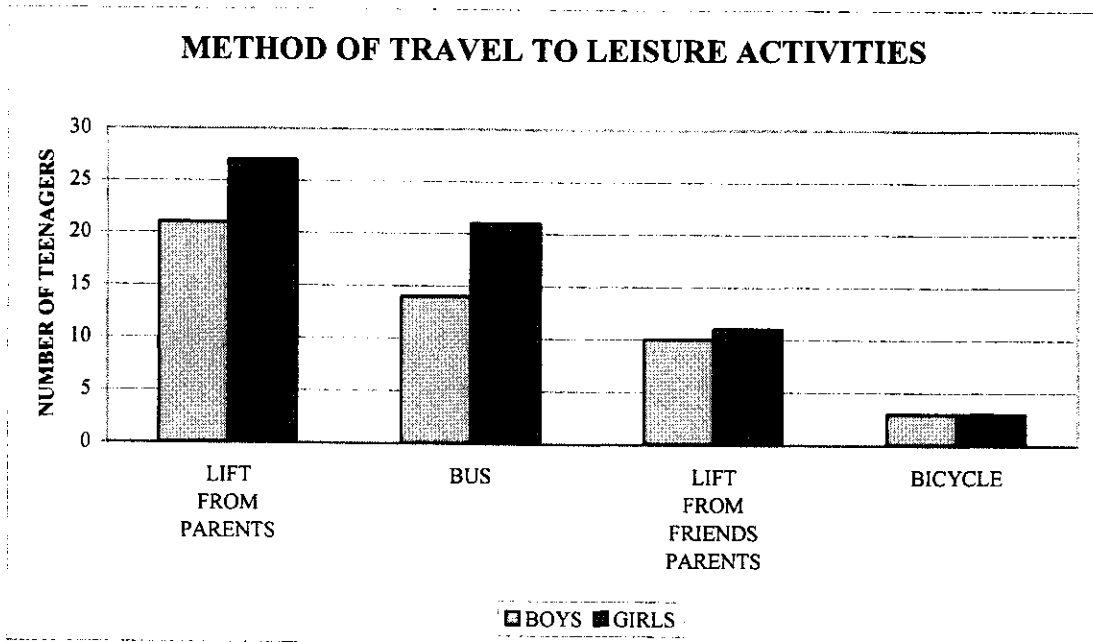


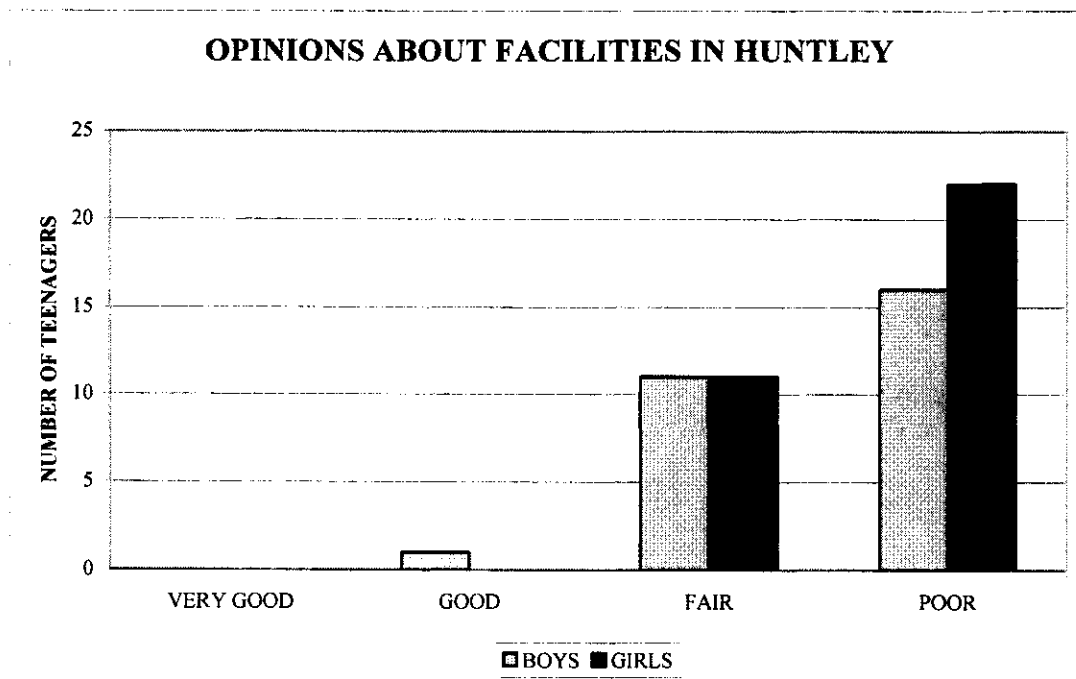
Chart 21



A summary of how the teenagers currently spend their leisure time is included in Appendix 14. There are very limited facilities in Huntley for young people. All but

one person rated Huntley as either poor or fair in this respect, hence the need to travel elsewhere to find activities and other forms of entertainment.

**Chart 22**



Gloucester, eight miles away appears to be the most popular destination with nearly all those responding to the survey saying that they visited the city to find leisure activities. Newent, a market town with a population of about 4,000, was the second choice destination with two thirds of the teenagers visiting the town. Newent has a large Community School, which attracts about half the Huntley teenage population as students, and this may influence this choice of venue, as these young people can then meet their friends outside school hours. Newent also has a youth café, swimming pool and skateboard park.

Ross on Wye, 10 miles away, is ranked third in popularity.

Towns in the Forest of Dean are all less attractive.

The overwhelming majority of teenagers (80%) get lifts from their parents to get to leisure activities. About 60% also team up with their friends' parents as an alternative.

Recommended action:

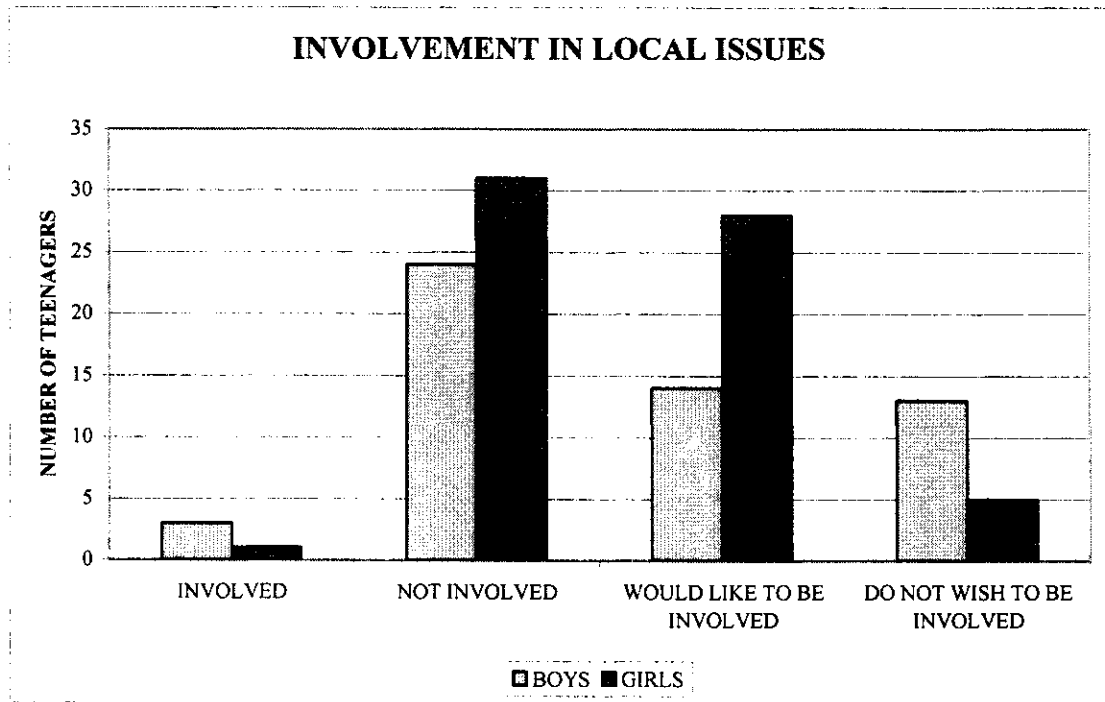
- Provide transport to allow teenagers to participate in leisure activities. (63).



### 6.03 Involvement in local issues

There was an overwhelming feeling (89%) that young people were ill informed or not involved in local issues. However, two thirds expressed a wish to become more involved. The girls showed significantly more interest in local affairs than the boys.

Chart 23



Recommended action:

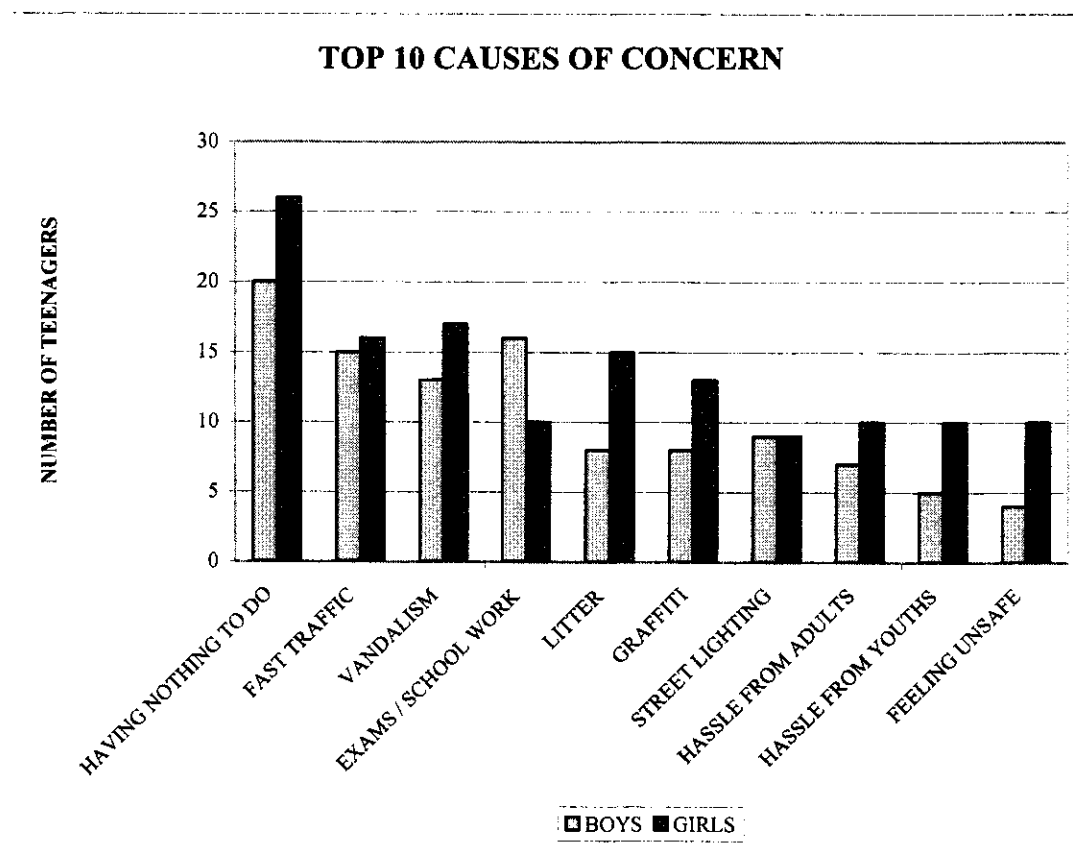
- Formation of Youth Council. (48).

### 6.04 Concerns identified

Overall the major concern was having nothing to do in the village (73%). It was interesting to note that fast traffic on the A40 ranked second among all the concerns. This was closely followed by vandalism. Exams, schoolwork and homework appear to be a greater concern for the boys than girls. In fact the boys rated it their third highest concern. Litter and graffiti, for which many of the teenagers are blamed, was ranked fifth and sixth respectively with girls showing more concern than boys. Harassment by both adults and other teenagers also ranks higher than expected with the girls having greater concern than the boys.

Although the high ranking of anti social behaviour appears encouraging, at least half the teenagers completing the survey did not indicate any concern about litter, graffiti or vandalism.

Chart 24



**Recommended action:**

- Enforcement of speed limits in the village. (1).
- Impose a 30 mph speed limit in Newent Lane. (7).
- Introduction of phased reduction in speed from 50 mph to 40 mph and 30 mph through the village. (27).
- Installation of speed cameras within the 30 mph zone in the village. (47).

**6.05 Suggested activities**

The survey identified over 50 topics that might appeal to the youth of the village.

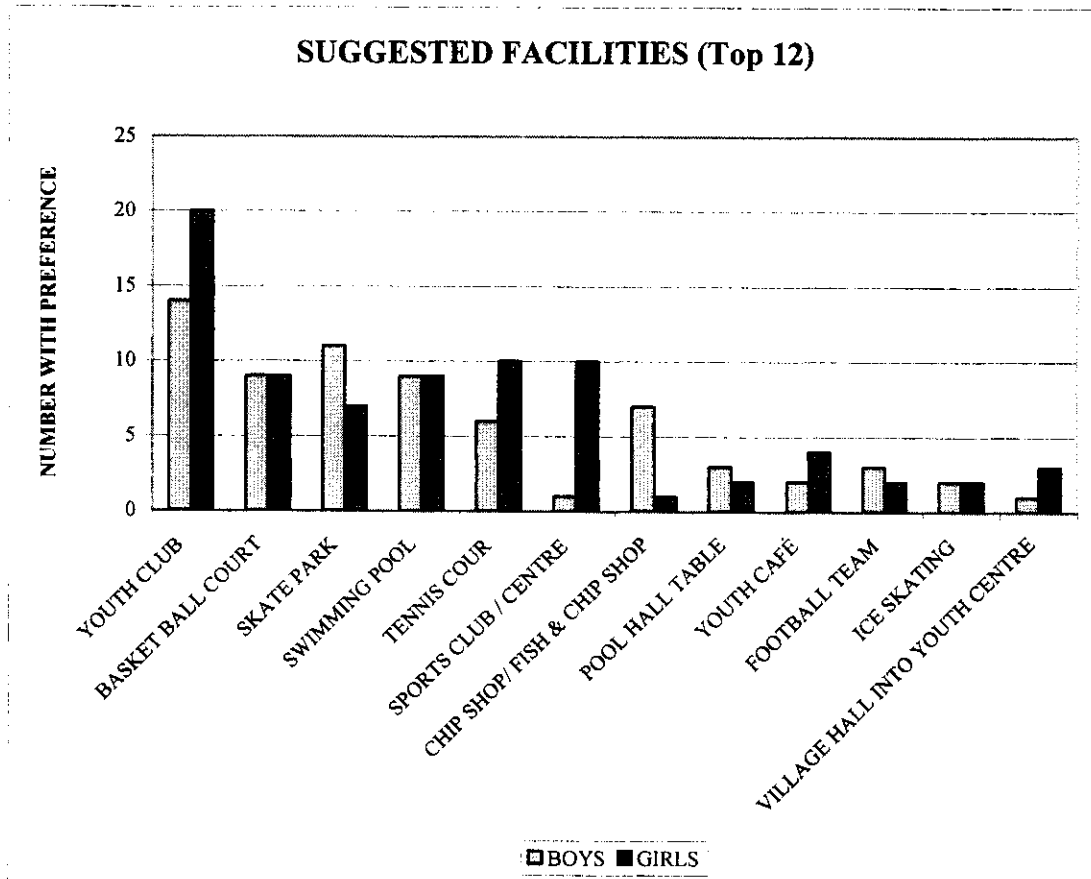
The most popular idea is for a youth club with just over half indicating an interest. One difficulty in forming a youth club is the wide age range of those expressing an interest. The next four suggestions include a basketball court, skate park, swimming pool and a tennis court all having a similar level of overall interest to each other.

The ultimate selection of ideas for further investigation is likely to be heavily influenced by practicality rather than the number of teenagers expressing interest.

There is a possibility that transport could be organised to take people to facilities outside the village if some level of commitment can be established.

Following discussions with Young Gloucestershire and the Prince's Trust it has been decided to move progressively to establish the exact and realistic needs of teenagers that will attract support.

**Chart 25**



Recommended (short-term) action:

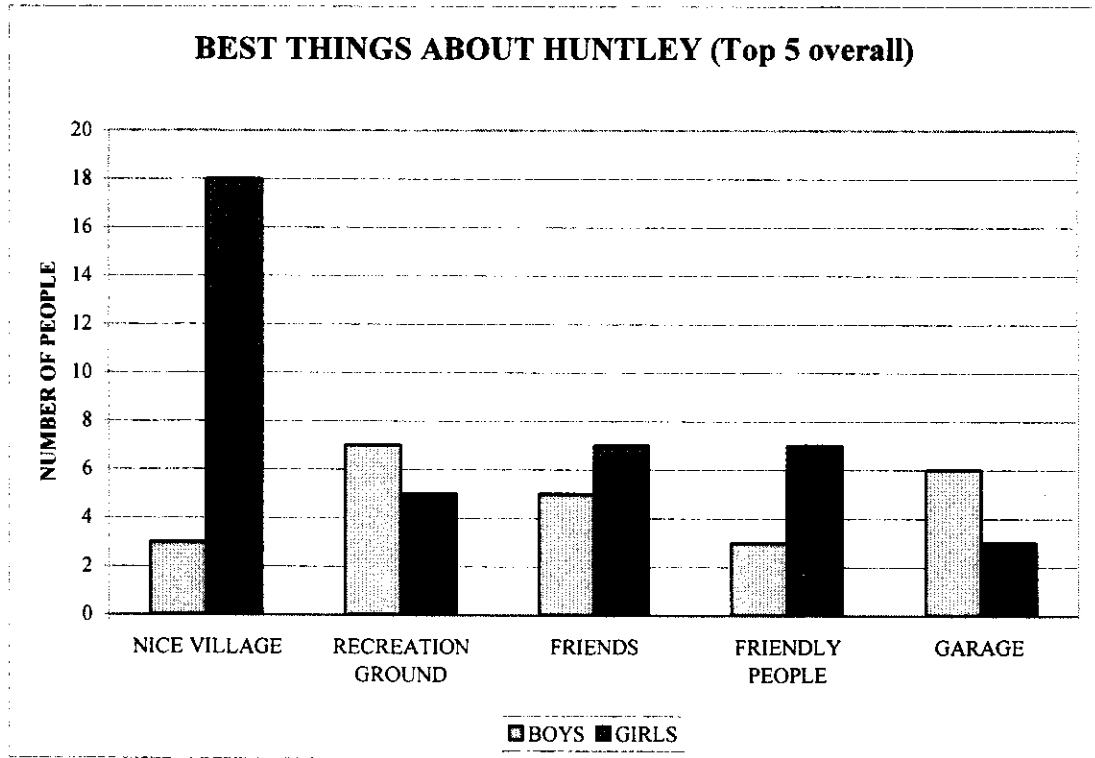
- Organise an initial meeting of teenagers with the help of Young Gloucestershire. (This has already taken place).
- Discuss opportunities for Youth Council. (48).

### 6.06 Best things about Huntley

Opinion among the boys was diverse. The top seven were the recreation ground, garage, friends, cricket ground/club, the Red Lion, football pitch and scouts in that order. Two people separately mentioned the garage because of the video hire facilities. If this is the prime attraction of the garage, the garage would be ranked as the major attraction of the village for the boys!

The girls had a very different perception of the village's attributes. By far the most important features were environmental features, quietness, size, tidiness and cleanliness. Friends and people in general combined to come second in importance. The recreation ground was third.

**Chart 26**

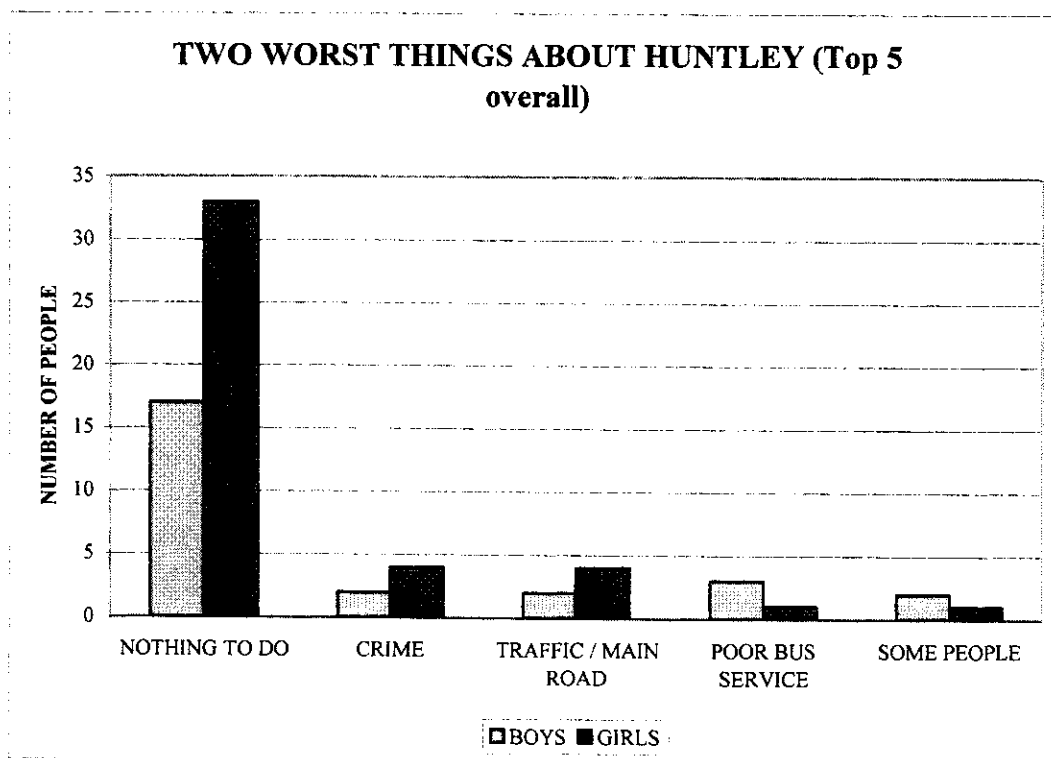


### 6.07 Worse thing about Huntley

Fifty-five out of sixty-two teenagers considered that Huntley has nothing to offer the teenagers.

Resolving this problem must be the principle aims as far as teenagers are concerned.

Chart 27



Recommended action:

- Organise an initial meeting of teenagers with the help of Young Gloucestershire. (This has already taken place).

#### 6.08 What would make Huntley a better place to live?

An attempt to establish what else could be done to improve the village was largely inconclusive. It is interesting to note that while a youth club was by far the most popular idea to improve facilities for the youth of the village, only five people felt it would make Huntley a better place to live. A further interesting observation is that 37 people wished to become more involved in local issues but only two people indicated that the formation of a youth council would be a beneficial asset to the village. This may be due to the fact that little is known about this activity.

## 7.00 AMENITIES

Many of the facilities that Huntley has to offer are probably taken for granted. However the Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Allotments were among the first to be recognised by the Parish Plan Focus Group. Surprisingly the Children's Play area that is used by a lot of young children was not mentioned.

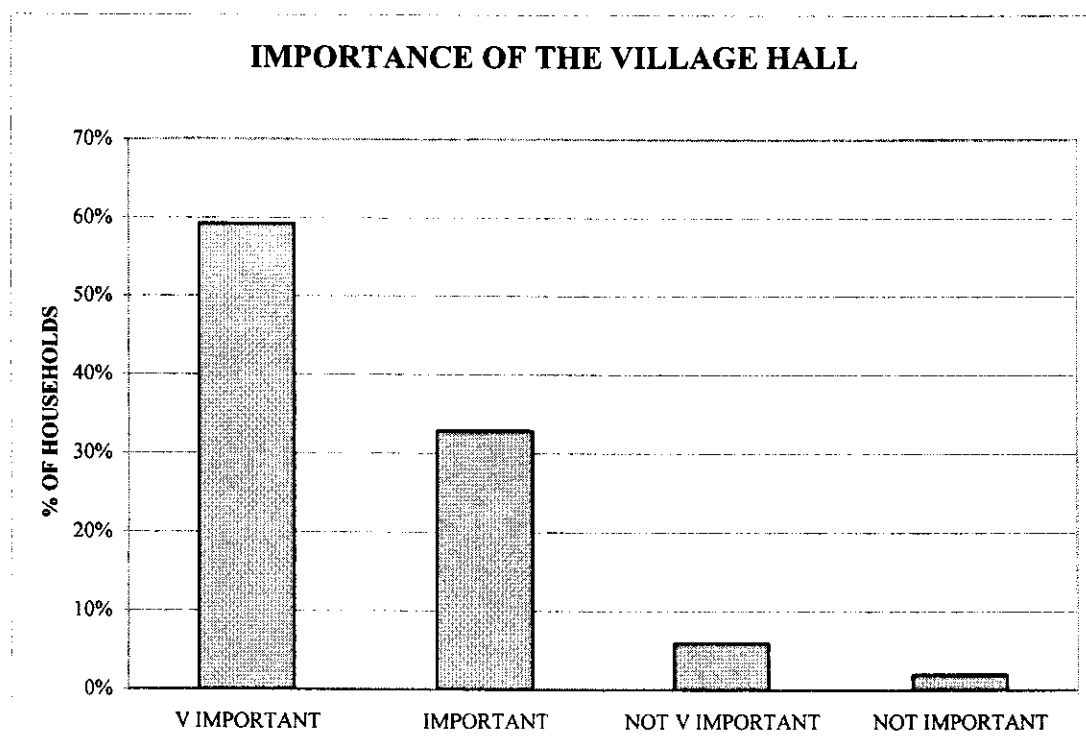
The affordable housing survey identified somebody who believed that there were very few facilities for any age group!

### 7.01 Village Hall

The village hall currently operates as a charity under a management committee that is separate to the Parish Council.

The original village hall was built in the mid 1960's when the population was approximately 600. By 1976 a proposed extension was objected to by about 150 residents on the grounds that £24,000 was required for the purpose, and that there was insufficient social priority. Despite this opposition the village hall is now seen by many to be one of the strengths of the village; 92% of households believe that the village hall is important or very important. The Huntley Parish Plan Focus Group placed it top priority in order of importance for inclusion in the final Plan.

Chart 28



The extension, built in 1976, was designed to meet the needs of the village for a period of 10 to 15 years. This period expired in 1991. We are now 13 years beyond its design life. The original building is now over 35 years old during which time the population of the village has grown from about 600 to 1025.

The village hall is in need of some refurbishment and also work to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Unfortunately it lacks adequate funds to meet both objectives.

At the present time the Village Hall Management Committee has elected to pursue the refurbishment outside the Parish Plan although some discussion has taken place as the final stages of the Parish Plan was being prepared.

Work identified by the Management Committee includes:

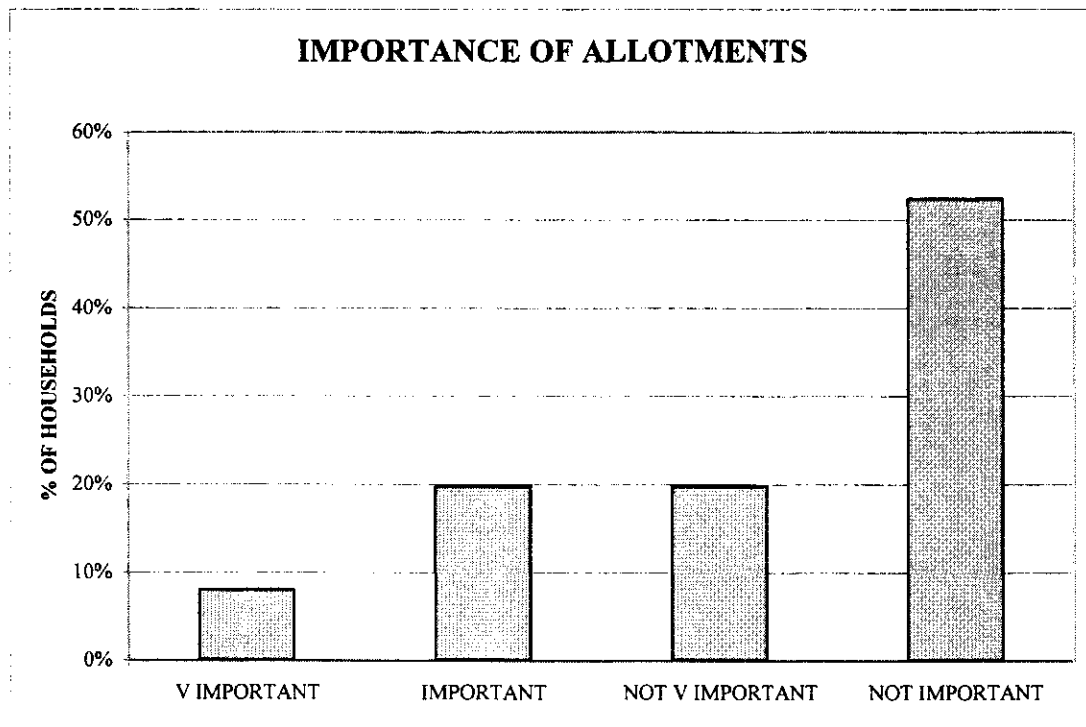
- Installing a new oil tank (which it was understood was being planned for the autumn of 2003).
- Replacement of windows. (25)
- Provision of a new floor. (43).
- The Focus Group added a suggestion to re-build the hall. (75).

There is some concern outside the Village Hall Management Committee that no provisions appear to have been made to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

## **7.02 Allotments**

At the beginning of April 2003 the allotments consisted of 60 half plots that were occupied by 24 individual tenants, a utilisation rate of 40%. Only 52 of households that responded to the Residents' Survey felt that the allotments had some degree of importance. This number suggests that a few households are indicating a perceived importance to the village rather than their own household.

**Chart 29**



Rents are calculated to break even on expenditure so a decrease in tenants will have the effect of increasing the rents for others. The current rent is £8.00 pa per full plot, which is understood to be one of the cheapest in the area.

Overgrown allotments act as a deterrent to new applicants even where first year rent is waived.

All allotments are protected from development or destruction as they are considered to be a resource for the people without enough space to grow their own produce. The Forest of Dean Local Plan also protects allotments as important open spaces. The Forest of Dean District Council has a target not to allow any reduction in number until 2006.

With this situation the only course of action is to encourage people to apply to vacant plots.

Recommended action:

- Advertise plots and the rent. (30).
- Offer new allotment holders a plot that has been rotivated. (31).

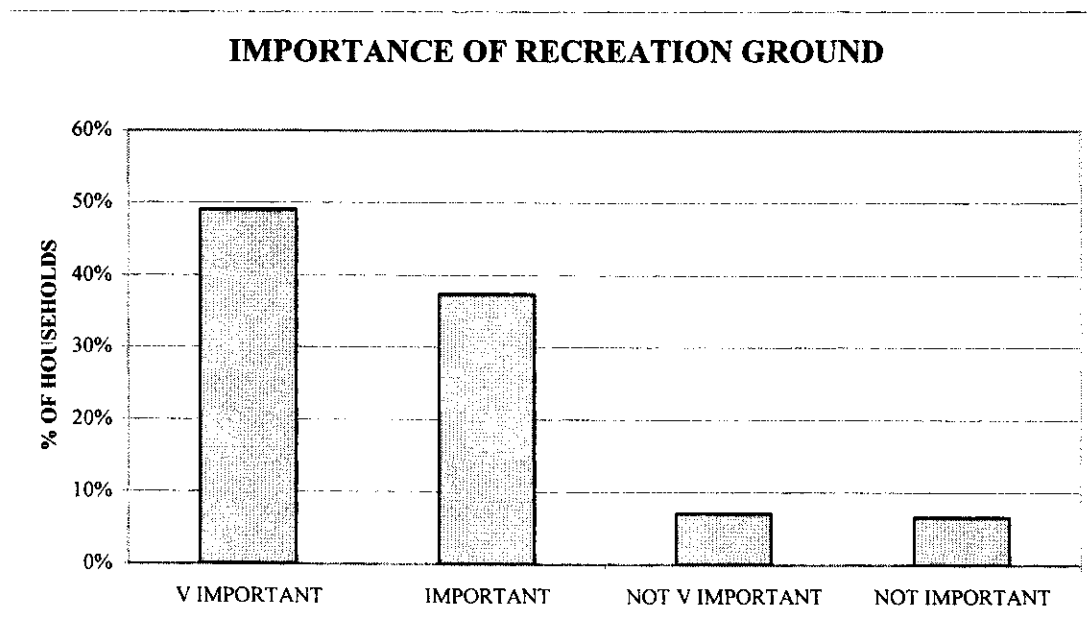
### **7.03 Recreation Ground**

The recreation ground is a charity administered by Huntley Parish Council. It is traversed by two public rights of way. The principal uses are as a place to exercise



dogs and as a football ground by Huntley Football Club, and to a lesser extent by others. Overall 86% of households responding agreed that the recreation ground was important or very important to their household.

**Chart 30**



The area is cut once every two weeks between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> September.

The general condition of the area used as a football pitch is in poor condition and is in need of reseeding. The eastern boundary suffers from water logging following periods of heavy or prolonged rain. This water takes some time to drain away and restricts the use of the football pitch.

Proposed action includes:

- Reseeding the football pitch. (71).
- Carrying out a survey of the drainage problem. (42).
- Taking appropriate action in accordance with the surveyor's recommendations. (42).

Huntley Football Club have indicated that they would be prepared to in participate in getting this work done but have not been formally represented at Parish Plan meetings, despite being invited to participate.

#### **7.04 Local Shops**

The village currently has three shops and two garages / petrol filling stations. One general store and newsagent operates out of the General Garage to the east of the

village centre. The Post Office also acts as a newsagent, and in addition offers a small line of groceries and general items. The third retail outlet is the butchers shop.

The local shops are considered to be an important asset to the village by 93% of households that responded to the survey and believed that they are important or very important. In total 11% of households indicated support for more shops. When asked if the size of the village was important 71% of households believed it was and 91% of households were not in favour of any additional private development. This being the case the economic viability of additional shops is questionable.

An analysis of the importance of local shops and size of the village is included in Appendix 16.

## 8.00 TRAFFIC

Residents' opinions about traffic vary, probably influenced to a large extent by where people live. Topics that have been identified in the Residents' Survey include volume, noise, pollution, speed and the traffic lights. While these principally affect the main A40 trunk road there are other concerns about the B4216 road to Newent.

### 8.01 Volume

Unless otherwise stated the statistics in this section are extracts from two separate studies completed in the last six years. These are WSP Graham A40 Ross on Wye to Gloucester Route Study prepared for the Highways Agency in October 1998 and Gloucestershire Environment Severn Bridge Toll Monitoring Report issued in autumn 1997.

There is concern among residents about the increase in the volume of traffic on the A40. In the last 10 years the number of vehicles passing through the village has increased by nearly 20%.



A40 trunk road through village centre, reproduced by kind permission of Martin Perry

There is a belief that heavy traffic has increased due to the progressive increase in toll charges across the Severn Bridge. This view is supported by the Gloucestershire Environment Study, which revealed road haulage companies do take toll charges into account when preparing quotations and routes. Between 1992 and 1997 HGV traffic increased by 5.4%. No recent figures are available but in 1997 HGV's accounted for just under 14% of traffic. Assuming that this ratio has remained constant an average of nearly 2,000 heavy goods vehicles now pass through Huntley on each weekday.



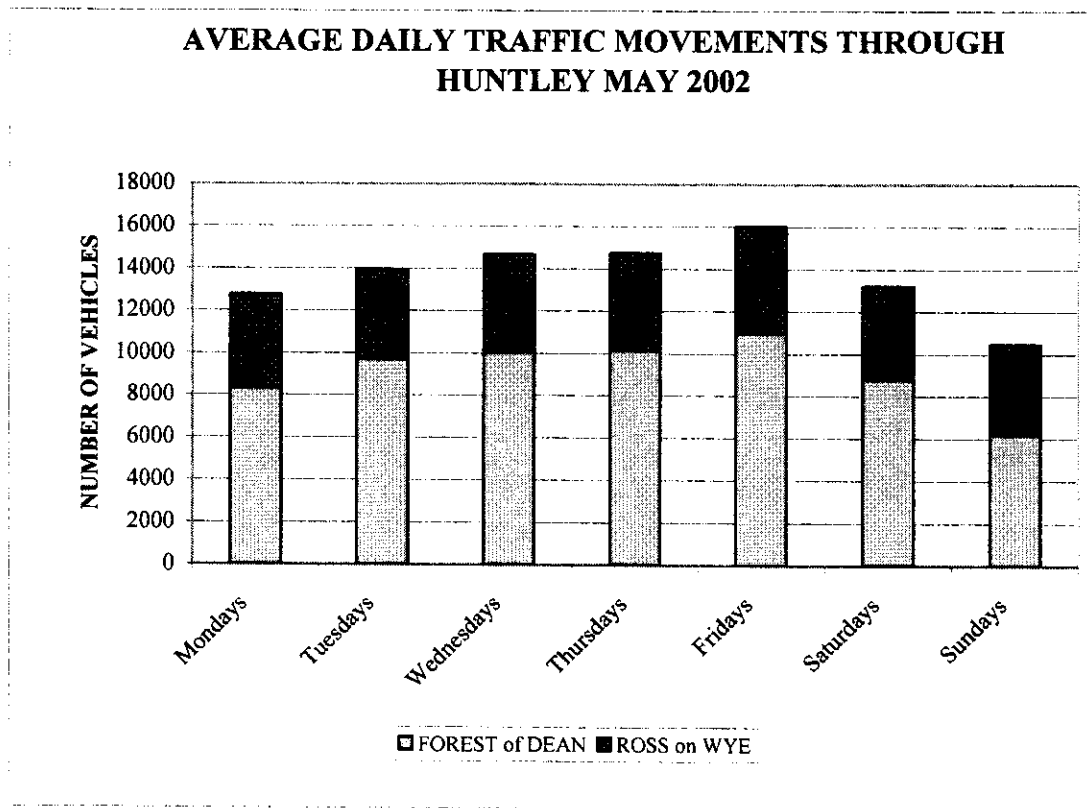
A variety of heavy goods vehicles use the A40, reproduced by kind permission of Oliver Perry

The speed and volume of traffic has been a problem for over 35 years. In fact complaints date back to 1888 when the churchwardens were dealing with a problem of traction engines causing vibrations and pollution!

The most recent statistics available were provided by the Highways Agency in May 2002.

In October 1998 the WSP Graham Ltd., report identified that "...polluting effects of high traffic volumes, particularly HGV's with noise, exhaust emissions and vibrations are major issues." Nothing appears to have been implemented to address this observation.

Chart 31

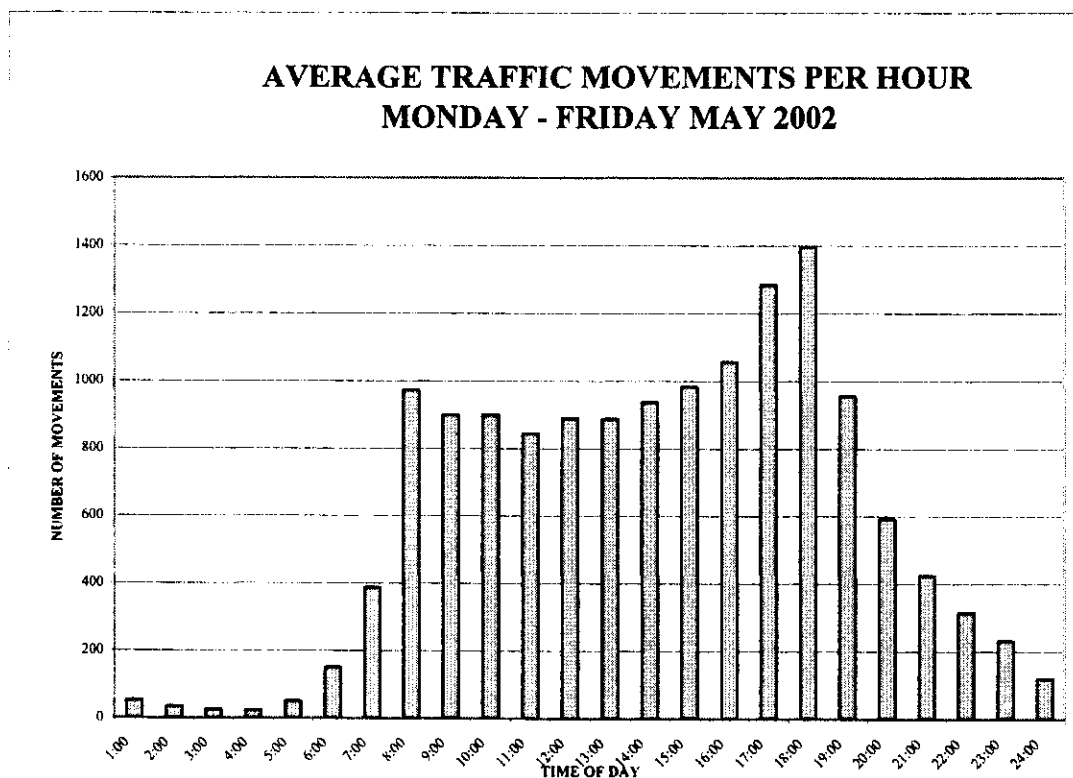


The busiest period occurs between 8.00 am and 7.00 pm when 77% of the average daily volume passes through the village. An average of 7% of traffic (1,009 vehicles), pass through the village at night between 10.00 pm and 7.00 am. At peak times 19.9 vehicles pass through the village every minute. In mid morning the average number of vehicles falls to 14.3 per minute but by mid afternoon this figure increases to 16.3. These figures show that even outside peak times a vehicle passes along the A40 every 4 seconds. Many people living on the main road have complained about disturbed sleep. This problem became a serious basis of annoyance when the new traffic lights were installed causing traffic to stop and then pulling away from the lights. Following rephrasing of the traffic lights in July 2003 the complaints reduced.

The Forest of Dean Corporate Plan raises a problem of inadequate bus services, particularly in the Forest of Dean and anticipates that this will lead to an increase in the number of cars on the road. This could have an effect on the number of vehicles that pass through Huntley.

The Forest of Dean District Council has also advocated improvements to the A4136, which will have its impact on Huntley residents.

Chart 32



The volume of traffic has increased year on year.

Traffic congestion on routes into Gloucester and to the M5 occurs frequently during peak periods. This problem is compounded if accidents occur or in adverse weather conditions. Most eastbound traffic needs to cross the River Severn and there are no convenient alternatives for traffic from Huntley or the north Forest area.

Some motorists find it quicker, and more convenient, to travel to Gloucester via country lanes through Tibberton and Highnam.

Volume, noise and pollution are all interrelated. If volume could be reduced the other two actors will also reduce.

There have been two separate studies in the past 30-years to establish the feasibility of building a by-pass but neither has led to any action. The most recent study was carried out in the mid 1990's but the Highways Agency has been unable to provide any convincing reason why the project was abandoned.

Recommended action:

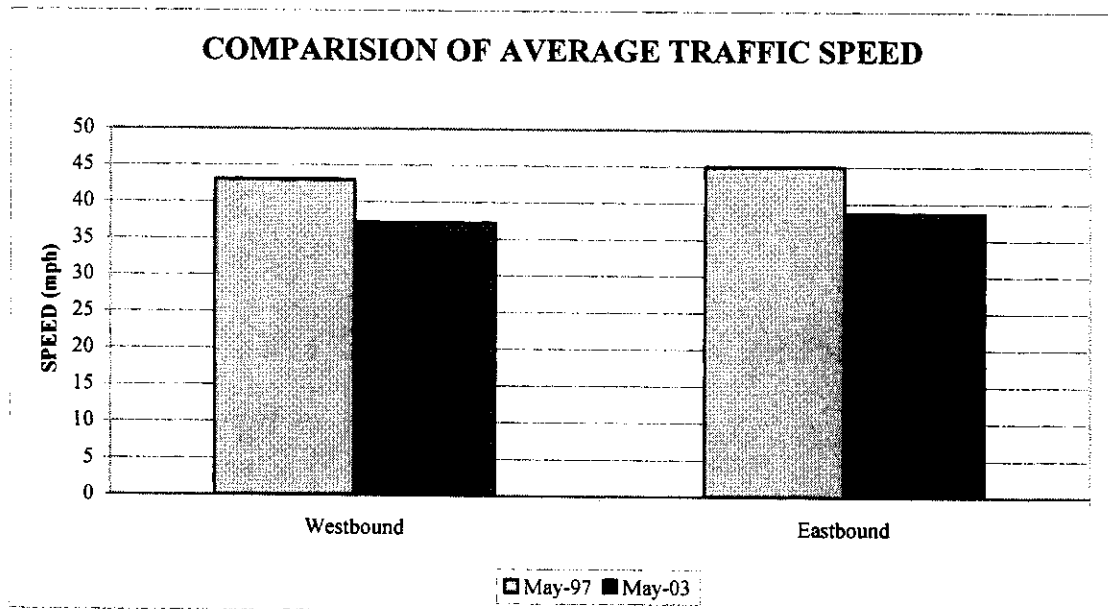
- Provision of a by-pass to be reconsidered. (72).



## 8.02 Speed of Traffic

The speed of traffic on the A40 is a major concern. Prior to the installation of traffic lights there was a 40 mph speed limit through the Village. Part of the justification for installing traffic lights was to introduce a measure of traffic calming.

Chart 33



In order to slow traffic down the speed restriction was reduced by 25% but average traffic speed only reduced by about 14%. (The May 2003 figure relates to midnight to 0600 hours).

The speed of traffic passing through the village has been a cause of concern for many years. The WSP Graham report referred to above also noted that "The speed of traffic in general, is viewed as having safety implications for pedestrians.....". When this report was prepared a speed survey taken 50 meters west of the Red Lion Inn found the average speed of westbound traffic to be 43 mph and 44.5 mph in the opposite direction towards Gloucester. Since the WSP report a 30 mph speed restriction has been implemented and traffic lights have been installed. Although this has reduced the average speed of traffic 36% of all traffic still exceeds the speed limit.

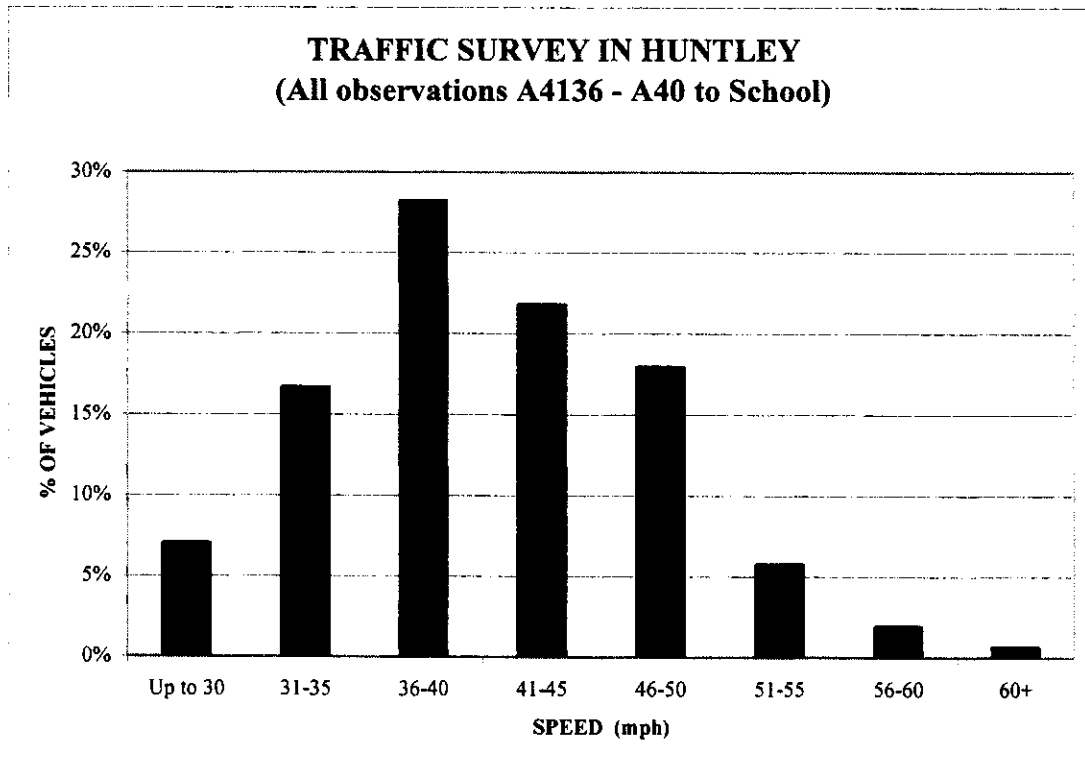
The Youth Survey showed that just over half the teenagers are also concerned about the speed of traffic (Section 6.04).

A study carried out by the Highways Agency in June 2003, covering the period midnight to 0600 hours, recorded average speeds of 38.6 mph. eastbound and just over 37 mph westbound.

A comprehensive speed survey was conducted by the Parish Council, with help from members of the Parish Plan Focus Group, over 7 randomly selected days / times during September and October 2003 logged 1269 vehicles. A summary of the study is included in Appendix 17. A copy of the full report was submitted to the police but no response has been received.

The A40 past the A4136 towards Ross on Wye is derestricted. A request for a 40 mph speed restriction from the A4136 up to the school made in February 1998 has not been implemented. The results of a survey carried out by the Parish council in September 2003, and based on a 49% sample of traffic, shows that less than 1% of traffic exceeds the speed limit on this 900 meters of road.

**Chart 34**



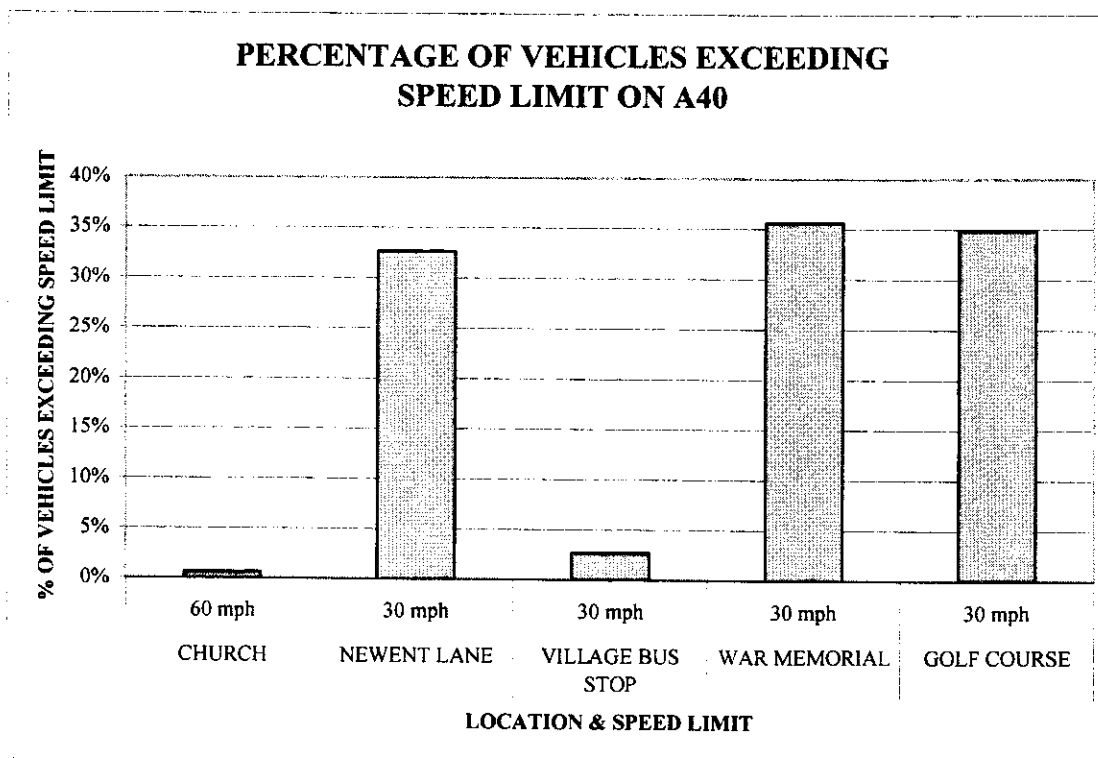
This stretch of road is notorious for overtaking in both directions. Traffic moving in opposite directions competes for the opportunity to overtake with a closing speed in excess of 80 mph. This significant safety problem has been discussed with the Highways Agency and the police but a solution is still awaited.

A further danger can be observed on the B4216 (Newent Lane) leading off the A40, which is derestricted and passes a blind exit from a public footpath used principally by some children from the local school. Both drivers, and children stepping out onto the road, where there is on pavement, are in danger.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires every police force to have a strategy for reducing crime. As speeding is an offence there should be a strategy already in place.



**Chart 35**



Recommended action:

- Establish police strategy for reducing speed of traffic. (New opportunity).
- Impose a 30 mph speed limit on the B4216 Newent Lane. (7).
- Request the police to video overtaking on the A40 past the A4136 junction. (8).
- Press for some action to limit overtaking on the A40 past the A4136 junction. (10).
- Introduce a phased reduction in speed from 50 mph to 40 mph and 30 mph through the village. (27).
- Install speed cameras within the 30 mph zone in the village. (47).
- Install a traffic island on the A40 near the footpath exit near The Square. (69).

### **8.03 Traffic Lights**

The subsequent installation for a pedestrian controlled crossing has received a mixed reception. In July 2003 a comment book left in the Post Office attracted 45 entries. Only 11 comments were positively in favour of the lights.

## 9.00 COMMUNICATION

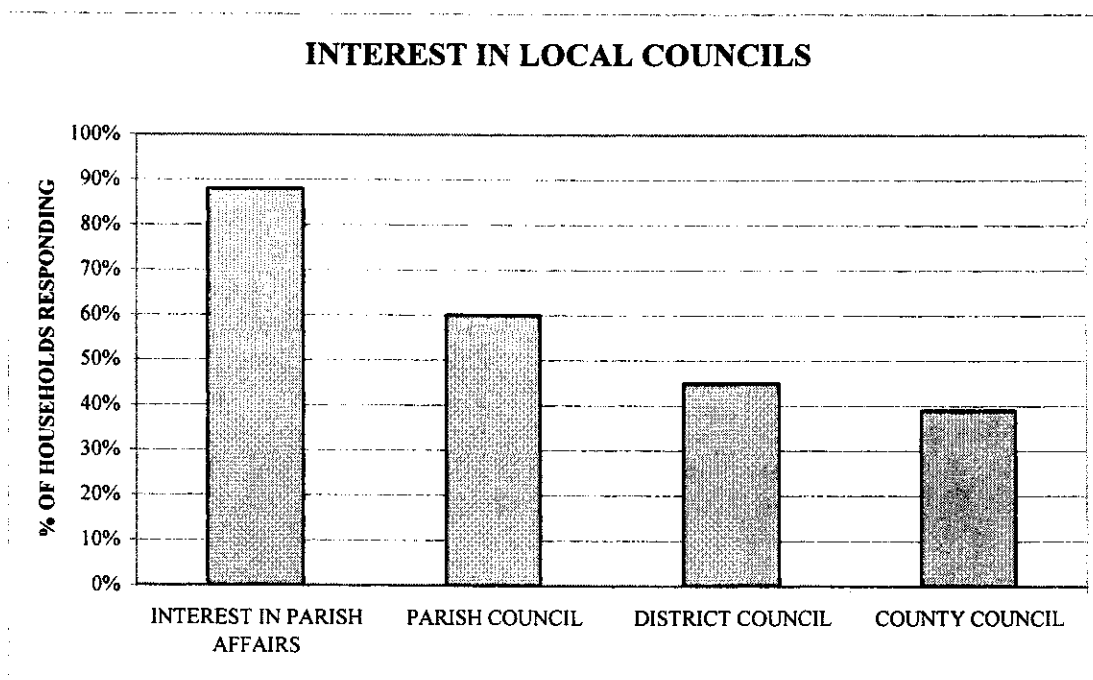
Good communication is essential to every organisation and community. At the initial meeting of the Parish Plan Focus Group problems of poor communication within the village were rated as 7<sup>th</sup> out of 14 groups. Existing facilities are limited but potential avenues for improved communication are available.

Anybody who is involved in the administration of Parish affairs will be aware that, outside the various organisations that exist, there appears to be very little interest in activities within the village. There appears to be an air of apathy. This lack of interest extends to the Annual Parish Meeting, the Annual Allotment and Best Kept Garden Competitions where the latter only attracted five entries in 2003.

### 9.01 Parish Affairs

The Residents' Survey indicated that 88% of households were interested in Parish affairs with 60% also saying they would like more information about the Parish Council's activities. There was slightly less interest in District and County Council activities. A more detailed summary is included in Appendix 18.

Chart 36



### 9.02 Fly Posting

The apparent lack of interest may arise because information about various activities does not reach most of the residents. Currently effective communication is difficult. Some organisations are resorting to fly posting which is, strictly speaking, illegal. (Section 4.01).

Recommended action:

- Introduce rules on fly posting. (21).

### **9.03 Parish Newsletter**

The Parish does not have a newsletter and although a Church Magazine is published every month it mainly concentrates on reports of events that have taken place rather than forthcoming events, and is not delivered to every house. The existing Church Magazine covers the parishes of Churcham, Longhope and May Hill in addition to Huntley. In 1967 the Parish Council considered circulating a six monthly newsheet but this was never launched. It has been suggested that the Church Magazine should be combined with a Parish Council Newsletter but opinion is divided.

Recommended action:

- Introduce a monthly Newsletter. (32).
- Consider incorporating a Parish Newsletter with the Church Magazine. (68).

### **9.04 Parish Notice Boards**

At present there is only one parish notice board. Its size and design does not even permit the display of all the statutory notices. The location is such that the majority of residents are unlikely to pass the notice board regularly.

The maximum number of people who are likely to see the Parish Notice Board is a mere 280 (27% of the population) based on the proximity of the parish notice board to the centres of population. The Residents' Survey indicates that actual number is probably less. As many of people drive past the notice board this situation is not unexpected.

Recommended action:

- Erect additional notice boards. (40).

### **9.05 Local Newspapers**

The number of Newspapers delivered by the Village Shop is approximately 150 each day with a potential adult readership of about 285. Even by inserting notices inside newspapers it is unlikely that any communication to a large proportion of the population is impossible.

The local free newspaper, The Forest Review, which is delivered to every household within the main village on Wednesdays, rarely covers any activities in Huntley and again like most newspapers the tendency is to report on events that have taken place unless advertisements have been inserted. It is not circulated to outlying areas of the

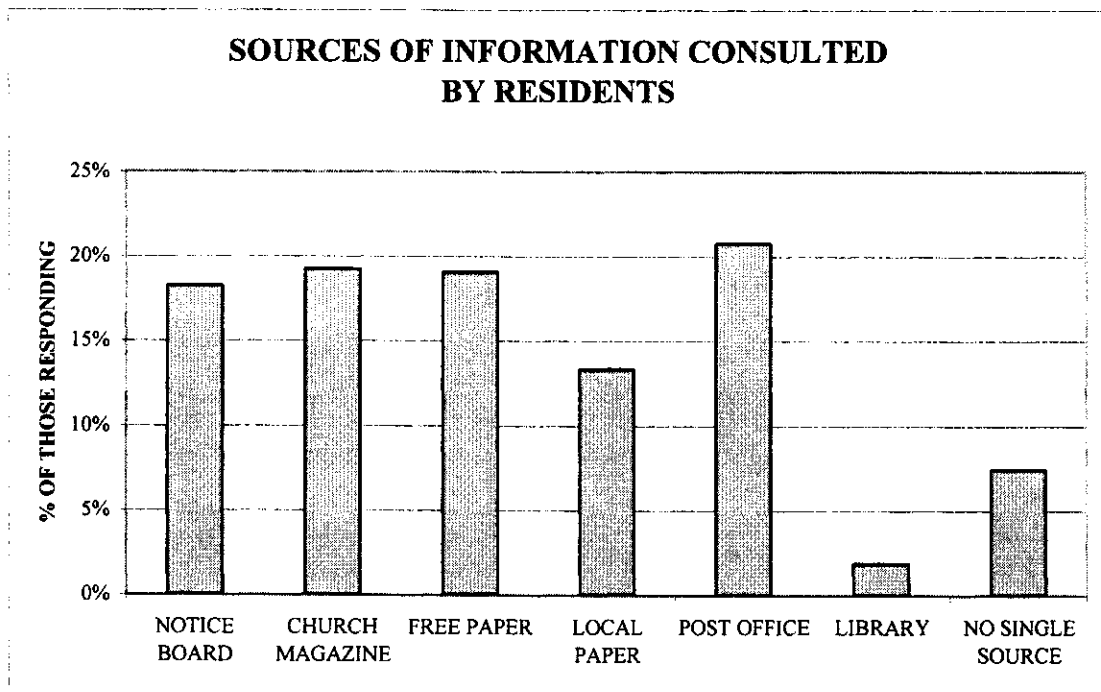
village. In total 115 households (26%) indicated this as a source of local information.

The Forester, and Citizen published in Cinderford, are also circulated in the village but they appear less popular than the free paper with about 80 households consulting these at least one of these papers for local information.

### 9.06 The Post Office

More people obtain local information from the village Post Office than any other single source. The Post Office is considered to be the most important amenity in the village with 98% of households indicating it to be important or very important (Section 13.00) to the village. As this appears to be the most frequently consulted source of information this facility should be developed as far as possible. Unfortunately lack of space will limit some of the potential.

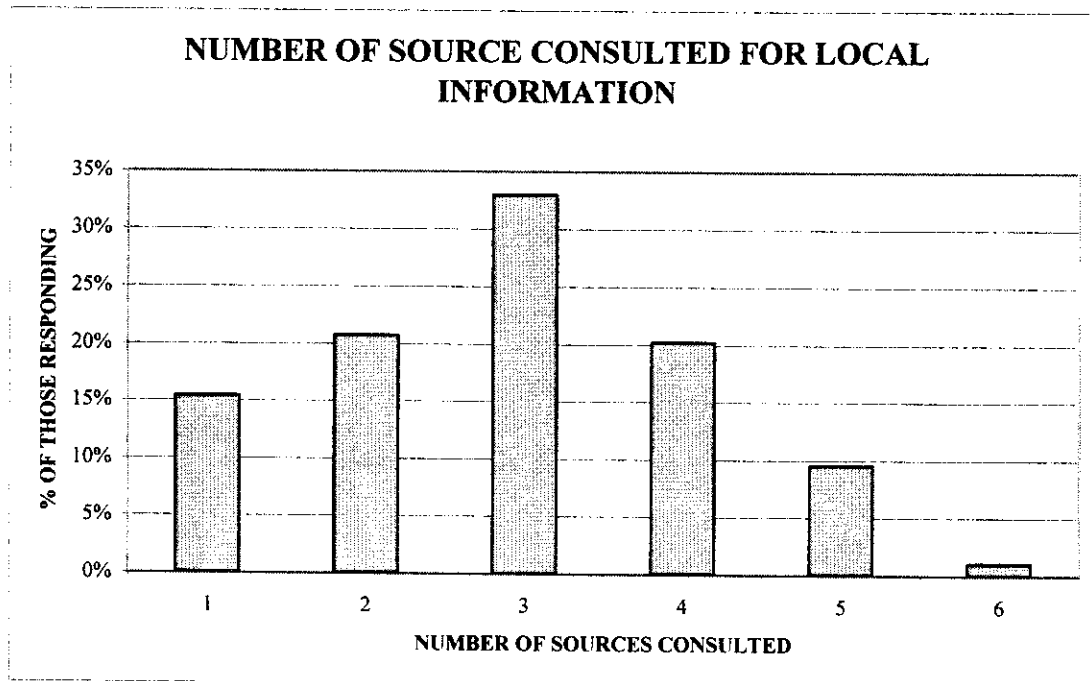
Chart 37



Recommended action:

- Compile a Parish Handbook for reference. (11)
- Provide more information to the Post Office to display, (subject to owners' consent). (17).

**Chart 38**



A more detailed summary of information sources is included in Appendix 19.

### **9.07 Village Web Site and Broadband facilities**

In the short term, Internet facilities would not overcome the problem, as there are only about 200 households with Internet facilities. A Huntley Web Site would not therefore provide a solution in the short term. However even this level would provide the greatest potential 'audience' for disseminated information.

Broadband is not available in the village although this in itself does not present a problem for the majority of residents, however 94 households responding to the residents' survey indicated that they would be interested in this facility. Since the launch of the Parish Plan project one resident has actively stated a registration campaign in conjunction with a resident of Longhope. At the time of drafting the Parish Plan, just under half the required number of interested households have registered an interest with BT.

Recommended action:

- Design a village Web site. (66).

Other opportunities:

- Consider becoming part of another parishes Web site.
- Endeavour to obtain Broadband facilities for the village.

## **9.08 Village Organisations**

Huntley is fortunate in having over a dozen active organisations (Section 11.00) with a total membership in excess of 360, but many members belong to more than one organisation. Cascading information via these channels would in reality probably reach about 130 people, some of whom some may already have been reached via other routes.

Recommended action:

- Dissemination Parish Council information, as far as reasonably possible, to selected organisations in the village. (51).

## **9.09 New Residents**

Over the last three years an average 47 properties change hand every year. This indicates that 100 of the residents probably moved into the village in the previous 12-months. If we are to welcome these new residents into the community steps need to be taken to ensure that they are aware of what the village has to offer so that they learn about local facilities and organisations and become part of the community.

Recommended action:

- Distribute a 'Welcome Pack' to all new residents. (33).

## **9.10 The Future**

Limited communication facilities are not the only reason why people may not be showing interest in village affairs. Over the last 50 years social conditions have changed and are continuing to change. Working wives and mothers are often involved in attending to household activities after work and may not find time to become involved in other activities. Despite the recent introduction of legislation to reduce the working week many people in commerce and industry find themselves working longer days. Huntley also has an ageing population where the over 45 age group has increased from 47% to 55% in the last ten years. Those over retirement age now represent about 23% of the population. The village needs to change and recognise changing lifestyles if it is to become a vibrant community. This will not be achieved overnight but we do need to find a different approach if we are to cultivate greater interest in local affairs. This may be the most significant challenge facing the village, its organisations and the Parish Council.

## **9.11 Mobile Library**

The Gloucestershire mobile library visits the village at fortnightly intervals. Thirty-eight households use the library and 13 people claim to obtain information about local events and issues from this source.

Recommended action:

- Provide more information to the mobile library service. (74).

### **9.12 Information Availability**

These days a great deal of information is made available about local services. The dissemination of this creates another challenge. A number of suggestions to introduce community services, made during the early stages of the Parish Plan development, are already available. Unfortunately because these are published by different organisations they all come separately and understandably also contain information relevant to other parishes, which is of little interest to Huntley residents. The Parish Clerks hold a large amount of information but residents do not recognise this source. Limited facilities in the village means that this information cannot be easily made available.

### **9.13 Local Businesses**

The Parish Plan Focus Group supports a policy of promoting local businesses wherever possible. The businesses should be given an opportunity to advertise their services through a Parish Handbook, a Local Directory and Parish Notice Boards.

Recommended action:

- Compile a Parish Handbook for reference. (11).
- Distribute a Local Directory that would include information about local businesses to every household. (50).

### **9.14 Television**

The Residents' Survey indicated that 32% of households experience problems with TV reception. It appears that some of the problems relate to Channel 5. There is no specific area within the village that appears more troublesome than others. Huntley is known to be a fringe area for the reception of digital TV but in reality reception is generally good and reception of Channel 5 is possible. The purchase of digital TV sets may solve the problems currently being experienced.

## 10.00 TRANSPORT

Nearly two thirds of the households that responded to the survey believed that Huntley has become a commuter village, 18% believed it hadn't and 17% did not express an opinion. Period of residence did not appear to play a significant factor in this view expressed.

Until recently four different bus companies, Cottrells, Stagecoach, George Young's and Dukes Travel, served the village. Between them they offered services to Cinderford, Mitcheldean, Ruardean, Ross on Wye, Hereford, Gloucester and a limited direct service direct to Cheltenham and Coleford. Of the 90% of households that responded to the survey 85% believe that the local bus service was important or very important to the village.

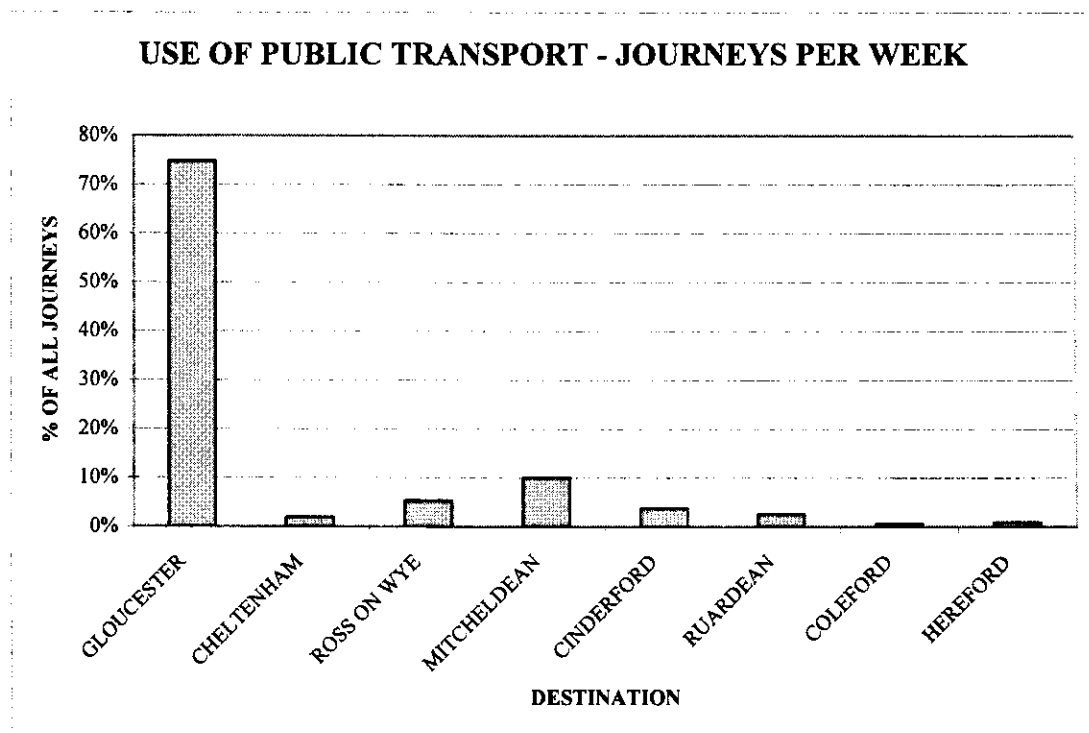
National Express offers direct services to Heathrow Airport and London from Hereford and pick up passengers from Gloucester. Other National Express services also operate from Gloucester.

The two principal railway stations are at Gloucester and Cheltenham. There is a smaller station at Lydney. Most direct services were withdrawn from Gloucester in the autumn of 2003.

There is a small regional airport at Staverton that offers weekly flights to Jersey during the summer months, but otherwise traffic is limited to business flights and private flying. The nearest international airports are at Bristol and Birmingham.

The majority of people who use public transport travel into Gloucester.

**Chart 39**





## 10.01 Buses to / from Gloucester

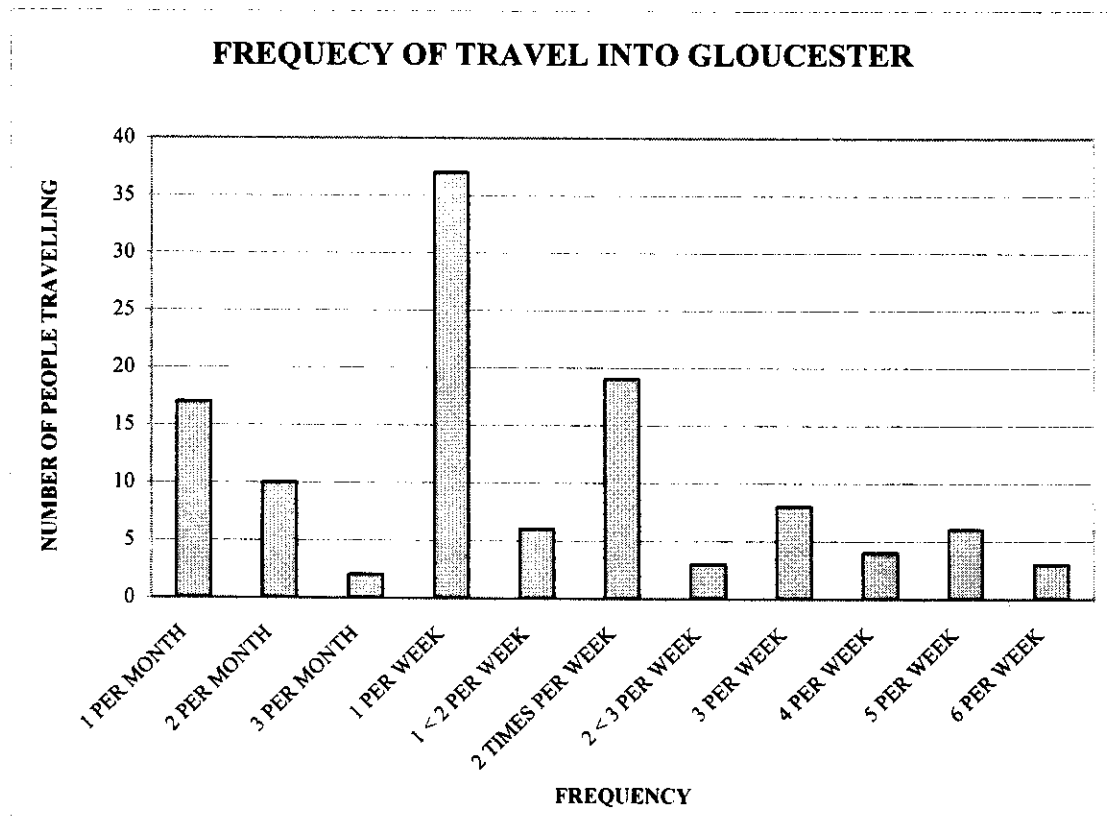
In total there are about 25 buses each day on Mondays to Saturday into Gloucester. The principal services to Gloucester operate at 25 and 44 minutes past the hour, but the return journeys from Gloucester leave on the hour and at five minutes past the hour. This, in effect provides an hourly service that is inconvenient to users. Consideration was given to requesting a change to the timetable but this could have been to the disadvantage to Cottrells who have kept fares low for over 30 years.

There is no consolidated timetable for any services from Huntley leaving passengers to consult four different timetables. This has probably lead to some confusion because, at the initial meeting of the Parish Plan Focus Group, four concerns relating bus services were raised, namely, travel to Mitcheldean for doctors appointments, services to Forest towns, evening services and Sunday services.

On consulting the timetables it transpires that there is an hourly service to Mitcheldean, which continues to either Cinderford and Rurardean, there is a two hourly service in the evening with the last bus leaving Gloucester at 2315 hours; and on Sundays there is a two hourly service that operates between 0913 hours and 1913 hours into Gloucester with reverse journeys between 0805 hours and 1805 hours.

The Residents' Survey indicates that about 113 people regularly use the bus into Gloucester while a further 50 households believe the bus service is either important or very important but who do not actually use the bus regularly.

Chart 40



The Focus Group also identified a potential need for 'shopping specials' to Ross, Gloucester or Newent. The demand for a Newent service has been satisfied, (Section 10.03 below).

There are two supermarkets in Ross and about 20 people travel into Ross on Wye on the hourly service. It has not been established if these journeys are specifically for shopping.

There is only one supermarket in the centre of Gloucester although there are three others within the area. None are on a bus route from Huntley. The nearest supermarket to Huntley is Tesco adjacent to the old cattle market site, ASDA near the railway station and Sainsbury's at Barnwood. The viability of diverting buses via the supermarkets must be a commercial decision. There is nothing in the Residents' Survey that suggests there is a high demand for such a service except perhaps to help disabled travellers (Section 10.05).

Recommended action:

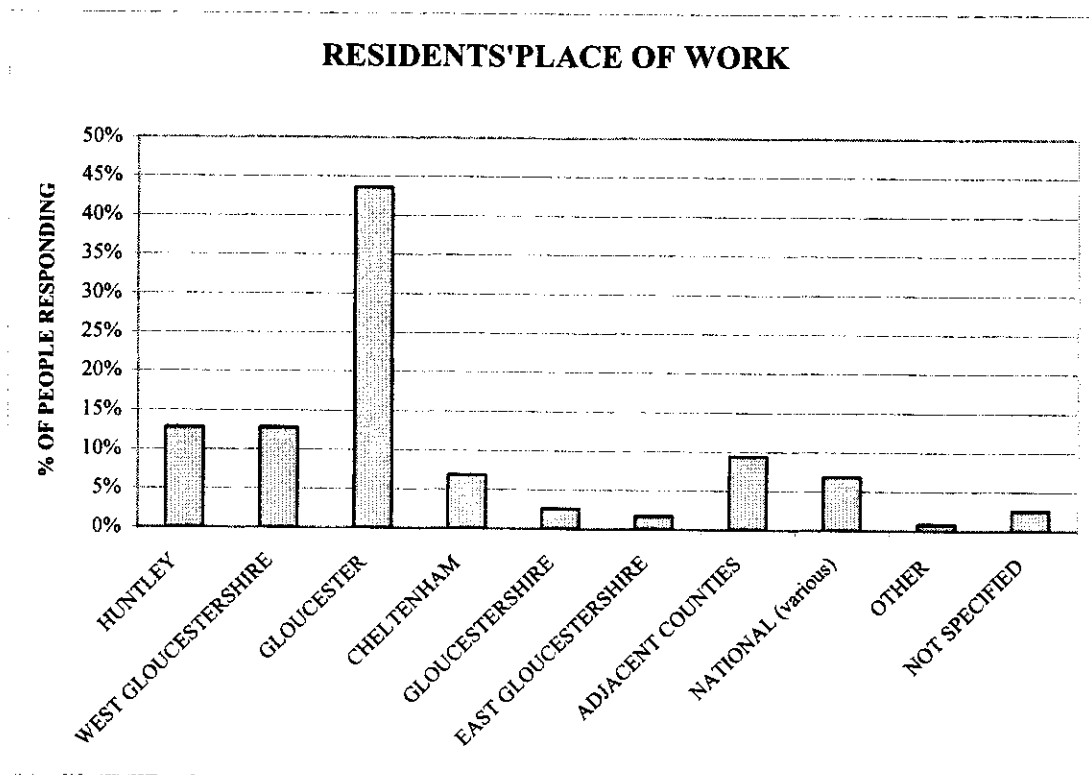
- Publication of a consolidated bus timetable with delivery to every household. (22).
- Investigate the re-instatement of a half hourly bus service from Gloucester. (44).
- Investigation of bus routes being diverted via the supermarkets. (76).
- Investigate possibility of improving the bus service to Mitcheldean to allow residents easier travel facilities to Mitcheldean surgery. (New opportunity).

## **10.02 Travel to work**

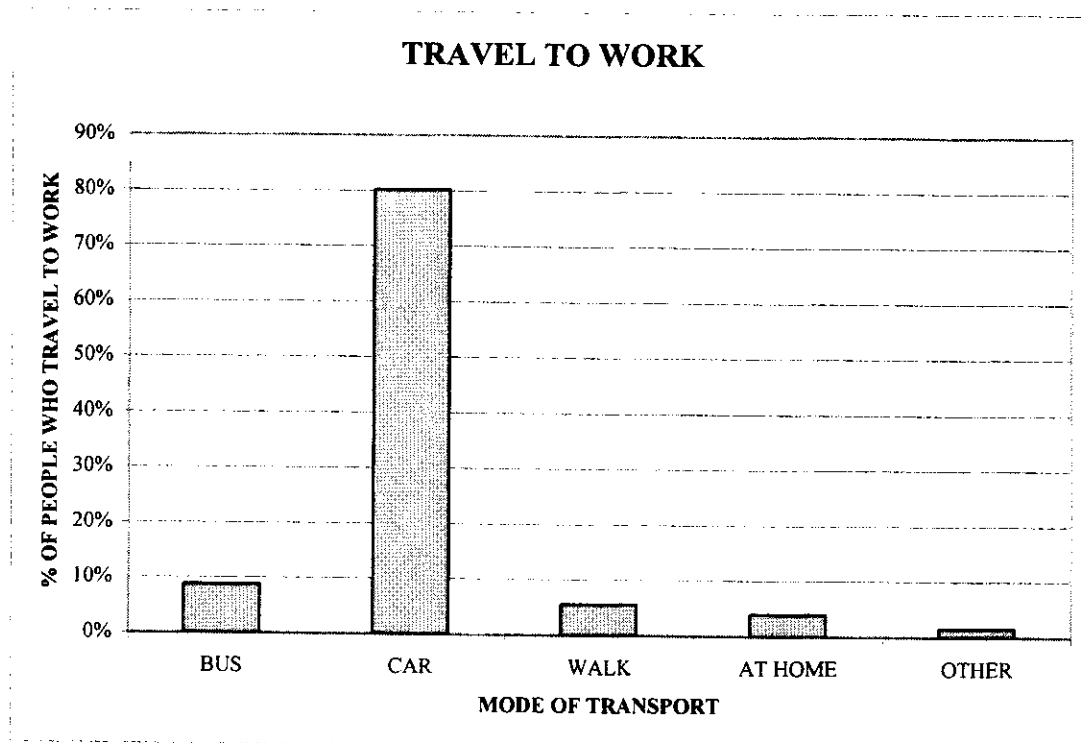
The largest number of journeys each week is by people travelling to work. About 44% travel into Gloucester and 26% work either in Huntley or the Forest of Dean. The remaining 30% work at other locations.

The car is by far the most popular mode of transport which means there maybe about 250 people leaving Huntley each day in cars on their way to work. Only 9% of people travel to work by bus.

**Chart 41**



**Chart 42**



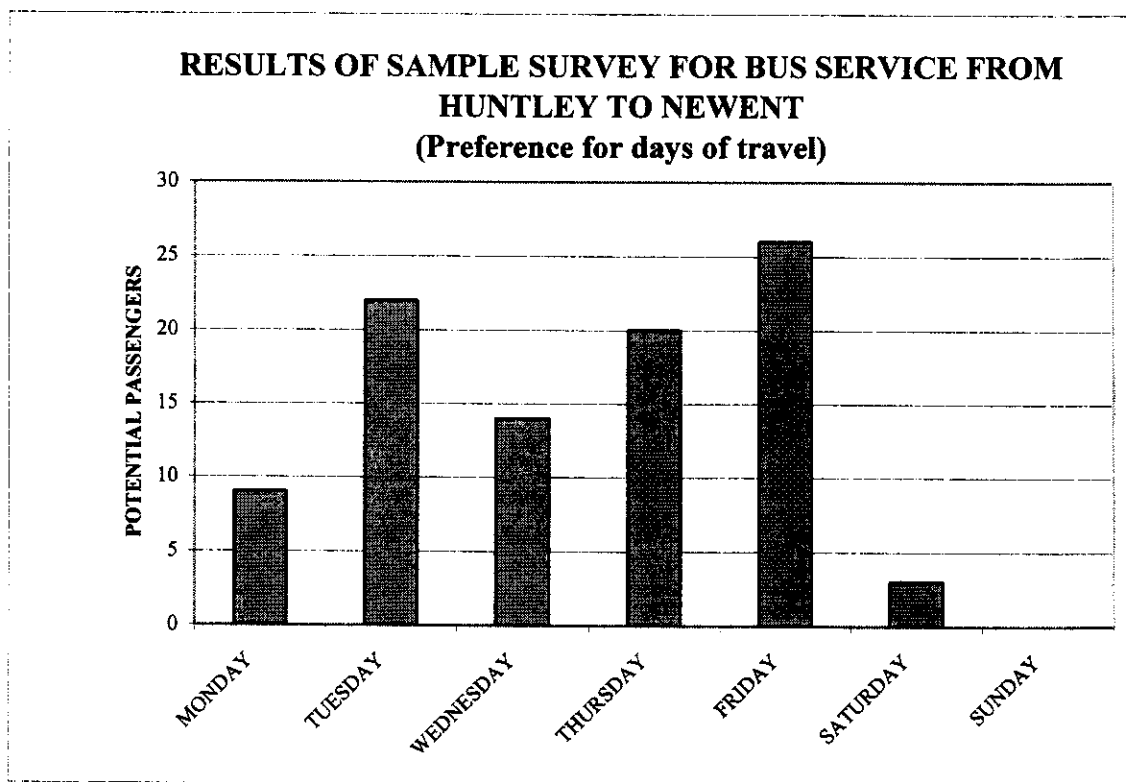
### 10.03 Buses to Newent

Up until July 2003 there was only two buses each week from Huntley to Newent. These operate on Tuesdays and Fridays but there is no return service on either day.

The need for a usable service was identified at the first Parish Plan Focus Group meeting, and although considered to be a low priority requirement, there was a significant level of interest in the possibility in a service because some residents are patients of Newent doctors and others find the town more convenient for shopping. This need was also identified in the Affordable Housing Survey conducted by the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council on behalf of Huntley Parish Council. Newent also offers visitors banks, library, optician, osteopath, travel agent and other services plus a day care centre for the disabled.

Through contact with the Newent Town Initiative an opportunity was identified to provide a weekly service, operated by Newent Dial-a-Ride. A survey was carried out to establish the potential interest in a service. About 100 questionnaires were distributed via four organisations in the village. Thirty-nine forms were returned by the specified date and these are summarised in Appendix 21.

Chart 43



A trial service was introduced on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2003 and this subsequently became permanent Friday service via Taynton and Tibberton. In February 2004 a further service was introduced to cater for patients who wished to visit the Newent doctors' surgery.

#### **10.04 Transport for Youth and after school activities**

Transport for children attending senior schools does not cater for teenagers who wish to participate in after school activities. There are a number of mini buses in the County and these are under utilised in the evening and at weekends. These vehicles are available to approved organisations and could be used, with a volunteer driver, to ferry teenagers to and from events in Gloucester and surrounding towns.

This possibility is considered in Section 6.00.

Recommended action:

- Recruit volunteer drivers who would be prepared to drive mini buses for after school activities (and / or social organisations). (New opportunity).

#### **10.05 Transport for the disabled**

There are 16 household were a least one resident has a disability that makes travelling difficult. Eleven have difficulty getting to shops outside the village.

Recommendation that:

- A monthly mini bus service should be established (if sufficient support) to visit a supermarket. (76).

Further opportunities for disabled people are considered in Section 5.00 and in Appendix 11.

#### **10.06 Taxis**

There is no local taxi service in Huntley. According to Yellow Pages the nearest taxi firms are in Gloucester.

## 11.00 SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS

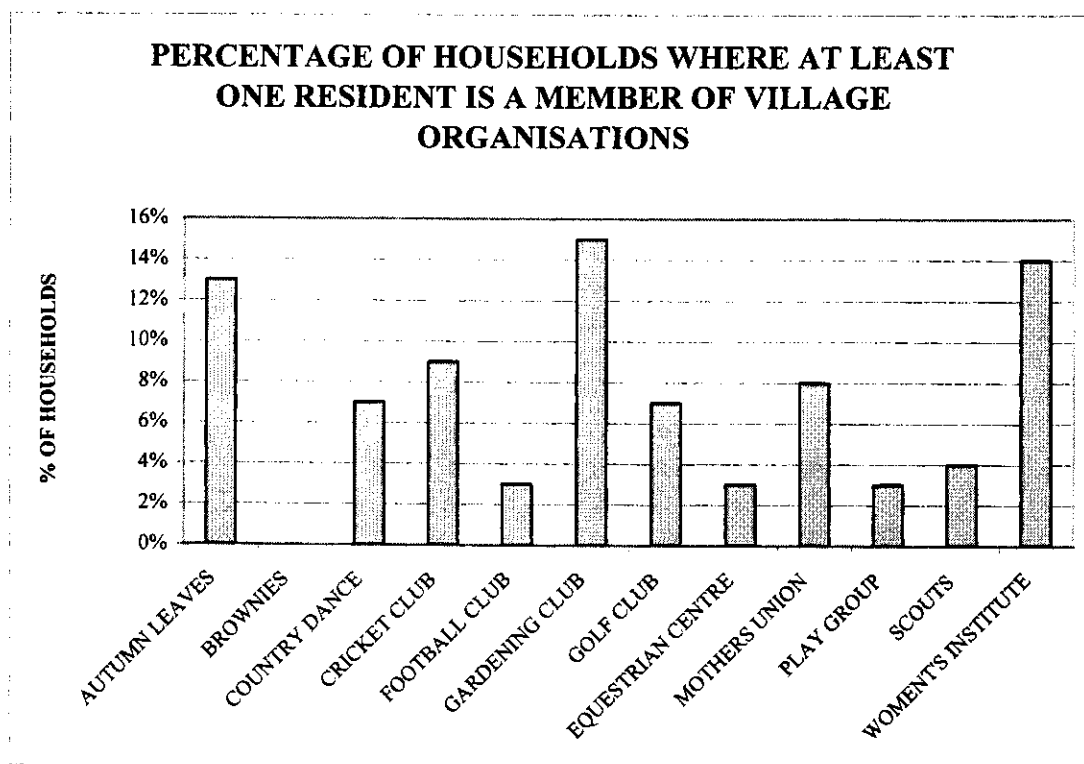
The village is fortunate in having about 15 organisations of which two thirds meet regularly in the village hall.

Most of the organisations appear to operate on a low profile with a few residents pointing out that they experienced some difficulty in initially trying to establish whom to approach with a view to joining.

Unfortunately, although most organisations were invited to participate in the Parish Plan there are only four active groups are directly represented in the focus Group, viz. Autumn Leaves, Brownies, Mothers' Union and Women's Institute. The Football Club and Scouts attended the initial meeting but have not been represented at subsequent meetings.

The Golf Club and the Equestrian Centre operate as commercial enterprises and are included in Section 13 Businesses.

Chart 44



## Recommended action:

- Details of village organisations and contacts should be made available:
  - In the Huntley Handbook. (11).
  - In the new residents' Welcome Pack. (33).
  - On the Parish Notice Board. (54)
  - In the Local Directory. (50).

### 11.01 Church

The Residents' Survey indicated that 66% of households believed the Parish Church was either important or very important. A question relating to church attendance was optional and 208 people indicated 'support' the church of which 135 indicated that they attended a church, and a third of these indicated that they attended regularly.

### 11.02 Huntley Charities

Huntley has six charities registered with the Charity Commission. These are summarised below:

**Hartland's Educational Foundation** was originally founded in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century with objectives to teach two or more children of the village to read and to provide bread for the poor. (The latter activity became part of the Huntley Relief in Need Charity in 1906). Its income and expenditure is currently about £10 per year.

**Huntley Play Group** aims to enhance the development of children and education under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups. In the 12-months ending September 2002 the Group had an income of £7,290 and an expenditure of £8,793.

**Huntley Recreation Ground** is managed by Huntley Parish Council. The objectives are to provide a recreation ground and playing field for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Huntley and the neighbourhood. It currently has an annual expenditure of about £2,000, which is spent on maintenance and upkeep of the area. It obtains a small income through donations given by organisations that use the facilities for organised events. The shortfall is financed from the Council Tax.

**Huntley Relief in Need Charity** is the oldest charity in the village having been founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. It has an interesting but financially difficult history. The charity has a number of financial obligations in addition to providing relief either generally or individually to persons resident in the Parish of Huntley who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress. Its assets are mainly held in Consolidated and War Stock and are valued at about

£1,000. In recent years most of the income has been less than £100 with expenditure at a similar level.

**Huntley School Parent Teacher and Friends Association** operates to advance the education of pupils of the school by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education (not normally provided by the LEA). Income in recent years has averaged a little over £1,600 and expenditure at just under £1,000.

**Huntley Village Hall** was established to provide a village hall for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Huntley and neighbourhood. Average income over the last six years has been £9,250 and expenditure has averaged £8,165.

There is one other 'charity' that is not registered with the Charity Commission that raises money for cancer care. It relies on income generated by various fund raising activities in the village.

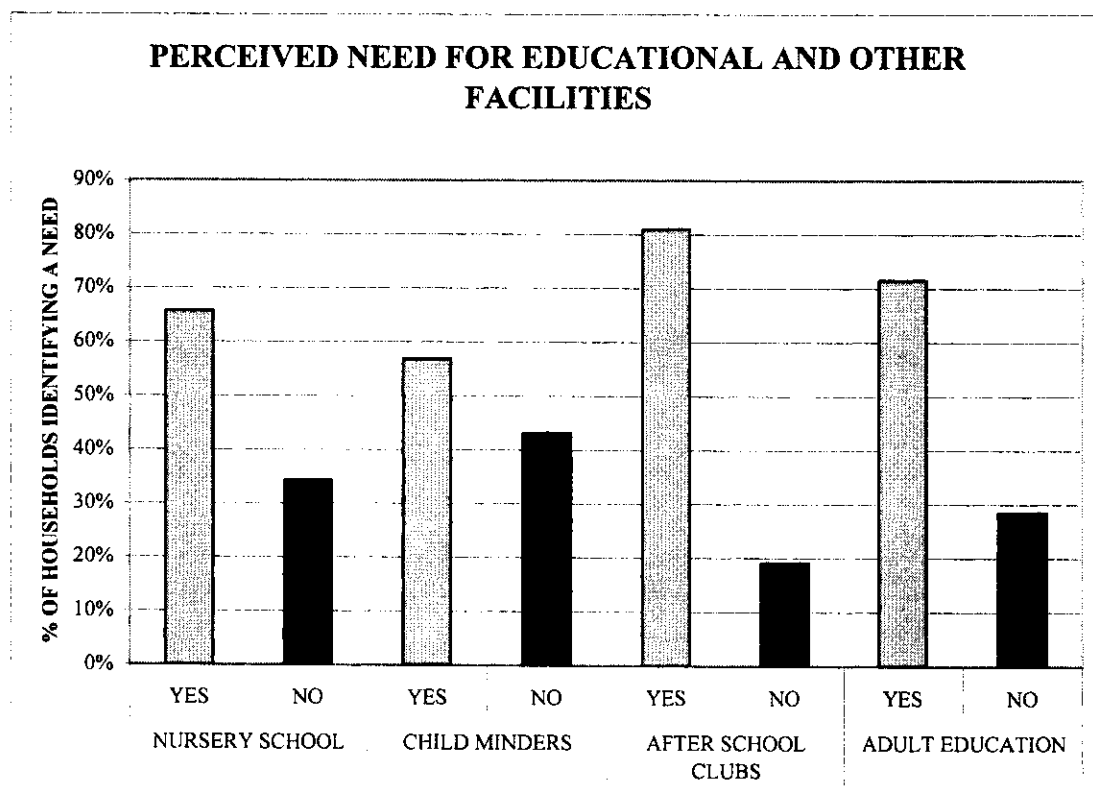


## 12.0 EDUCATION

A school with a good reputation will enhance the profile of a village and will indirectly contribute to the growth of the village.

The Parish Plan considers two separate aspects, education of children and adult education.

**Chart 45**



### 12.01 Children's Education

According to the 2001 Census there were 141 children and young adults, under the age of 20, living in the village. About a third were below school age and are catered for by three separate 'play groups'.

A similar number attend the local primary school and the majority of the teenagers (about 50) attend Newent Community School with smaller numbers attending Dean Magna Community School at Mitcheldean or Ribston Hall High School in Gloucester. A few attend The Crypt, King's and Sir Thomas Rich's also in Gloucester.

As part of the preparation of the Plan, Huntley C of E School was invited to indicate any areas where the Parish Plan might be able to help.

The School Governors indicated a need for a new school building as the current building dates back to 1865 and has to rely on a temporary building in the playground and the school hall in order to accommodate all the children.

A contingency plan for a new school building has existed for at least the last 30 years to cover the anticipated increase in population following the expansion of the village after the housing development between 1960 and 1980. However during the last 20 years the number of children of all ages has fallen by about half. (Appendix 22). So the original perceived demand has not materialised.

The School has two other concerns:

- The public footpath leading from the School to Newent Lane. (9).
- Dangers from overtaking on the A40. (10).

Both these requirements are addressed in Sections 4 and 8 respectively.

The Residents' survey indicated that 78% of those who responded believed that the local school is either important or very important to their household but it is has been very disappointing to find that all the parents with children at the local school, who received two personal invitations via the school to attend the Parish Plan meetings, elected not to attend.

### **12.02 Further Education**

A survey of teenagers indicated that just over half would continue with 6<sup>th</sup> form studies after completing their GCSE's and about a quarter of the remainder had set their sights on either college or university. This latter figure would probably increase once the 6<sup>th</sup> formers have received the results of their A Levels.

### **12.03 Adult Education**

Just under a hundred households expressed an interest in adult education classes. The general opinion from the Parish Plan Focus Group was that subjects with a leisure interest were likely to be most popular.

Potential courses, identified by the Parish Plan Focus Group, include:

- Painting & drawing
- Textile & paper craft
- Calligraphy
- Antique furniture restoration
- Needlecrafts
- Flower arranging
- Wine appreciation
- Keep fit

- Languages
- Singing
- Dance classes
- First aid
- Yoga

Enquiries to date indicate that it will necessary to establish the demand for courses by type. Numbers permitting, local classes could then be established.

Recommended action:

- Establish true demand for local adult education and arrange local courses. (45).

#### **12.04 Nursery School**

A total of 71 households believe that nursery education facilities would be beneficial to the village. The survey indicated that there were 12 children below age of 5 years in 10 households who would possibly take advantage of any facilities provided. With overall response to the survey was just over 50% it is probable that double this number would be attracted to a nursery school i.e. about half of the under 5's.

Recommended action:

- Investigate the possibility of establishing nursery education in the village. (34).

#### **12.05 Child Minders**

Just under 100 households expressed an interest in child minders. From those responding to the survey it appears that there are 8 children in the 0 – 4 age group and 15 in the 5 – 10 age group

Recommended action:

- Maintain a register of child minders in conjunction with the appropriate local authority. (77).

#### **12.06 Play Groups**

There are three playgroups in the village. One of these is a registered charity.

Initial approaches to these groups unfortunately failed to attract any significant interest, but during the later phases these groups were represented at Focus Group meetings.

Currently all the play groups have adequate facilities and equipment. Contact will be maintained with all these groups though the channels to be established as part of

project implementation.

### 13.00 BUSINESSES

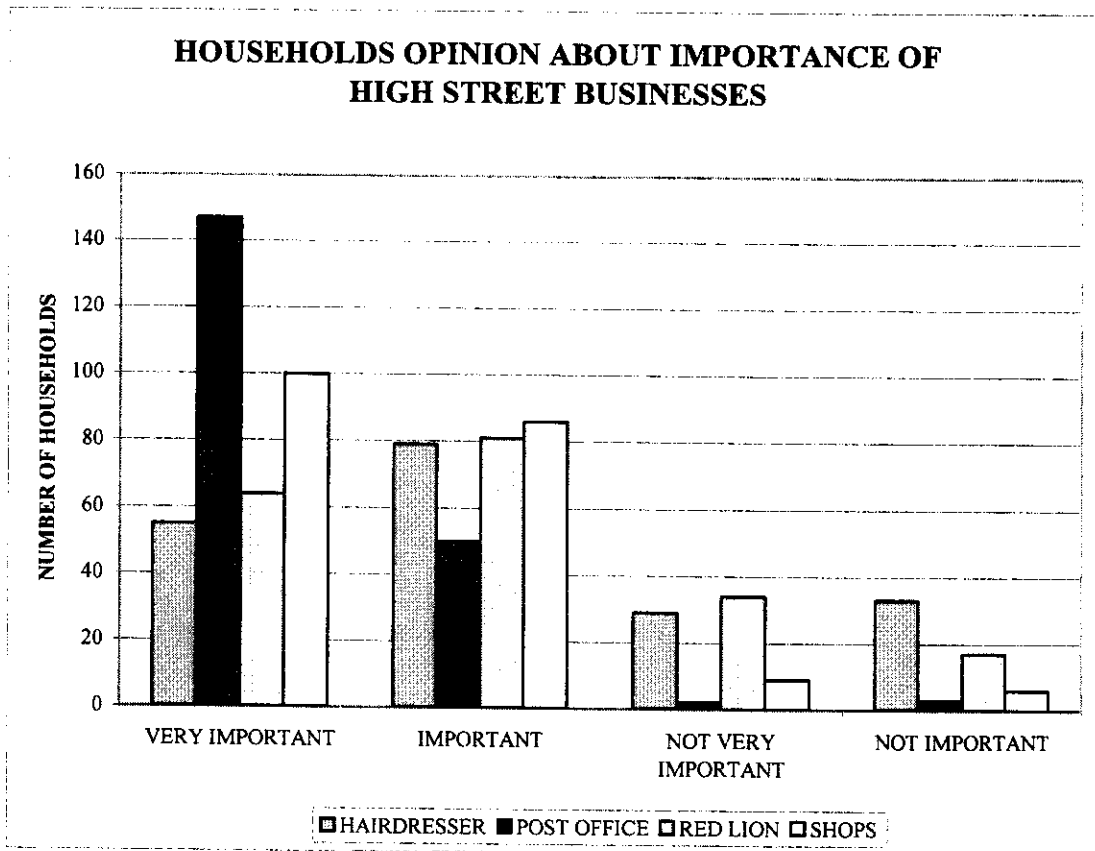
Concern exists among residents that local shops could disappear unless some action is taken. The shops are only one part of the business scene and there are a number of other businesses and self employed people in the village.

While the employment of local labour is unlikely to be a major issue, job losses in any area result in village decay, and as people move away from the area, property prices fall as villages become less attractive. For this reason the Parish Plan Focus Group wishes to encourage local patronage to all businesses in the village.

As far as can be established from the Residents' Survey, and other sources, there are about 50 small businesses associated with Huntley. A supplementary questionnaire was circulated to 22 of these, where addresses are known, but only nine proprietors responded.

The most prominent businesses, for the residents, are the village post office which includes a news agency and a small selection of groceries, two garages one of which also offers newspapers, periodicals, a larger selection of grocery lines and video hire, a butchers that has been trading in the village since at least 1694, the Red Lion and the hairdressers.

**Chart 46**



In order to protect confidentiality the summary that follows must be made in very general terms.

The nine companies that responded jointly employ 30 full time and 44 part-time staff. Five of the companies experience difficulty recruiting suitably qualified staff but three anticipate growth in the next 5 to 10 years.

The number of people employed locally may appear small but assuming they all live locally these 9 firms employ 13.5% of the working age group.

Most companies trade locally or within the county. Huntley occupies a good central location with easy access to other locations including the motorways.

Local retail outlets obviously depend heavily on residents for the majority of their customers and would support more housing developments in the area, contrary to the general opinion of most residents. Companies anticipating expansion feel they may be restricted by lack of space at their current premises.

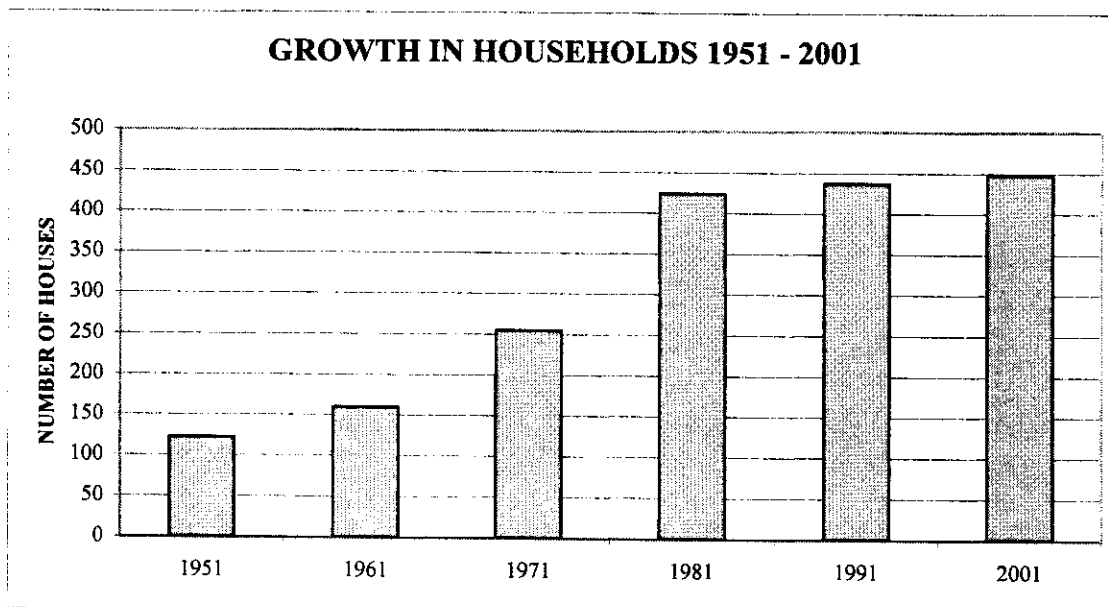
Recommended action:

- Distribute a Local Directory that would include information about local businesses to every household. (50).
- It may be possible to offer local businesses support with employment issues.
- The Parish Council should make further attempts to build a business profile and find local advice for businesses in the area.
- All nine businesses that responded to the survey indicated they would be willing to attend a meeting. This is will be scheduled to take place in the near future.

## 14.00 HOUSING

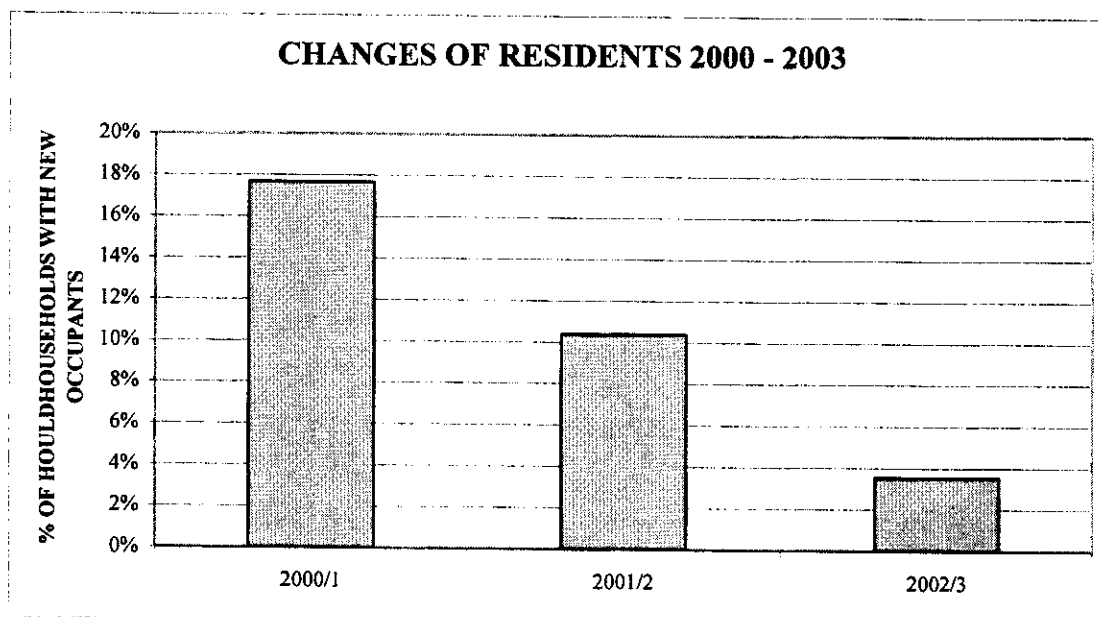
The growth of housing in Huntley increased progressively during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This situation is likely to influence the opinions of the older residents who have seen their village grow from a small community of 122 houses just post war to the current number four times greater with a corresponding increase in population that has resulted in Huntley becoming a commuter village.

Chart 47



Over the last three years there has been a significant slow down in the number of residences changing hands. Whether this is due to overpriced properties, or that the current residents are content with the village is uncertain.

Chart 48



## 14.01 New developments

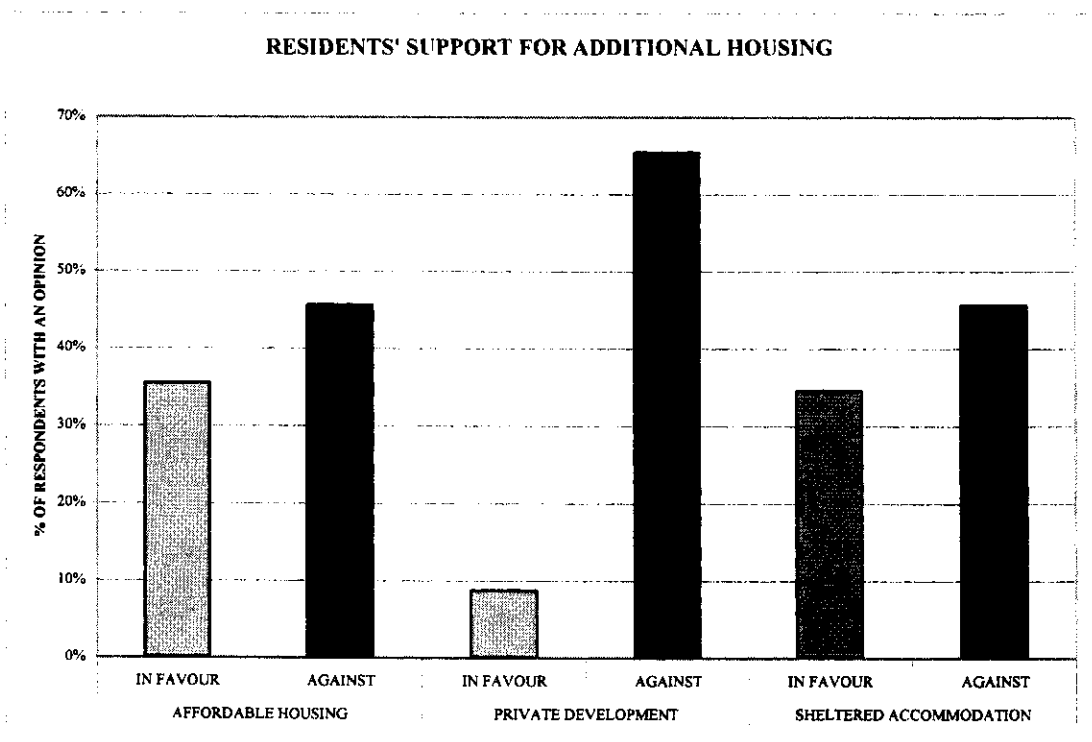
Housing needs are basically three types. Privately owned properties that currently represents about 85% of all households and which change hands on the open market. The other two categories are affordable housing for people with a local connection who find it difficult to afford property in the Parish and sheltered accommodation for the elderly. A comment in the Housing Needs Survey was that “you have to strike a balance between building affordable family homes, and homes at the more expensive end of the market. Probably both are required, but if too many highly expensive houses are built, the village will end up with too many people who just live in the village, and don’t take part in village activities”.

In the Residents Survey there was no large age bias in favour of affordable housing but people above normal retirement age were, not surprisingly, more supportive of sheltered accommodation than those in the younger group. A large majority of households do not support the possibility of further private development in the village.

Recommended actions:

- Private development, other than infill, within the current building boundary as defined in 2002 District Local Plan. (73).

Chart 49





## **14.02 Existing Households**

The following information is based on the Housing Needs Survey conducted on behalf of the Parish Council by the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. (A total of 46.2% of households responded to the questionnaire).

About 89% of households that responded to the survey owned or were buying their own property with most of the remainder in rented property.

The profile of housing indicates that 59% of people live in houses. All but one of the remainder properties were bungalows.

Most properties (79%) have three or more bedrooms.

## **14.03 Sheltered Accommodation**

There has been a small decrease in the number of people who are over normal retirement age in the last 10 years but the 44 – 64 age group has shown an increase of 37% since 1991. Hamlem Close caters for retired people with 14 bungalows currently housing about 18 residents. There are no facilities for a warden in the village. However all these bungalows do have an “on call facility”.

With an aging population the demand for sheltered accommodation could increase.

Housing for retired people was ranked 34 out of 56 topics identified at the initial meeting of the Parish Plan Focus Group but is now ranked at 24.

Recommended action:

- A potential need for sheltered accommodation needs to be recognised. (24).

## **14.04 Affordable Housing**

Most people seeking alternative accommodation wish to move within the next five years with nine out of every ten people wishing to buy. Only a third of these households would be interested in low cost homes. If suitable housing were available seven households would move within twelve months.

The Housing Needs Survey is based on the replies received at the end of 2002. However 243 households failed to return their questionnaire, which could suggest they have no strong opinion and may not consider they have a need for affordable housing. This being the case only 4.2% (19) of households felt a need for low cost home ownership within the next five years. However in terms of the number of people seeking affordable housing 2.5% of the population are in this category.

On the initial priority list, affordable housing was ranked at 46 out of 56 topics.

Of the households that responded to the survey 32 made specific comments in favour of low cost housing. This represents 7.1% of all households in the Parish. This does not mean that other respondents were against affordable housing being built. Only 22

of the replies expressed concerns.

There is an urgent need to encourage younger people to settle in the village. While the average age of the adult population has remained fairly static over the last 20 years the number of children in the village has seen a decline. If this trend continues the future of a local school could be in doubt. (Section 12.01).

Interpretation of the statistics could suggest that the majority of residents are not indicating support for affordable housing but in reality it is considered that there is a risk of the village suffering rural decay. A comment made by one person responding the Housing Needs Survey was that “the village is becoming a commuter village with a growing and aging population. Without children and young families the playgroup, school, cubs, sports teams etc., church and the heart of the village will die”.

Recommended action:

- Some affordable housing should be made available. (39).

## **15.00 SPORT**

There are four sport facilities in the village, cricket, football, golf and equestrian. The two latter organisations are run as businesses. Unfortunately the Cricket Club has not participated in the Parish Plan and the Football Club was only represented at the initial meeting. The Orchard Golf Club has responded to a Business Survey.

### **15.01 Cricket**

The Cricket Club has its own ground on the south side of the village, which it purchased a few years ago with the aid of a grant from Sport England. It is understood that most of the players live outside the village although the Residents' Survey indicates that 21 households have at least one resident who is a member of the Club.

### **15.02 Football**

According to the Residents' Survey very few people from the village are members of the Football Club. Most of the players live outside Huntley.

The Club has an active fixture list with either the first team or reserves using the recreation ground most Saturdays during the season. In addition there is a six-a-side tournament on the last Saturday in May each year, which attracts visitors to the village and brings trade to the village hall and local pubs.

The Football Club has indicated that it is willing to contribute to any costs associated with solving the drainage problem on the recreation ground and to the re-seeding of the area set aside as a football pitch.

Members of the Club, as users of the facilities in Huntley, were invited provide input into the Parish Plan but no suggestions or comments were forthcoming.

### **15.03 Golf**

The Golf Club was established in 1996. Local membership exceeds 17 and many visitors are attracted from further a field.

### **15.04 Equestrian**

The Equestrian Centre operates from Woodend Farm. There are 7 households that use the Centre and 8 teenagers who would like to participate in the sport but do not do so at present.

Recommended action:

- Investigate opportunities for teenagers join sporting organisations.

## **16.00 PUBLIC SERVICES**

This Section looks at the various services provided by local authorities and various statutory bodies including former nationalised industries. In general the Residents' Survey indicates a high level of satisfaction, however there are a few concerns. Some of these issues have been addressed in Section 4 (Environmental Issues).

### **16.01 Telephone**

A total of 14 households indicated they experience problems with their telephones (6%). The Residents Survey does not indicate any specific problem and problems are not restricted to any particular road or service provider. It is possible complaints originate from 'cold-calls', which appear to be increasing nationally.

### **16.02 Mobile Phones**

There is a mobile 'phone mast on Huntley Hill that serves the village. The quality of reception differs according to provider and instances have been experienced where indoor reception differs between the front and rear of the house. The Residents' Survey indicated that 16% of households were unhappy with mobile phone reception.

### **16.03 Water Supply**

One household in twenty appears to experience problems with their water supply but no specific details are available.

### **16.04 Refuse Collection**

The collection of garden and other refuse attracted least complaints of all the public services in the Residents' Survey. Green bins for the collection of bottles and cans are frequently left on the pavement after being emptied where they represent a safety hazard particularly for the elderly, the disabled and parents with prams. In strong winds they are liable to get blown onto the carriageway and can become a danger to vehicles particularly on the A40.

The introduction of bins for garden refuse early in 2003 was a great success and was generally welcomed by all residents. However, these too can become a safety hazard when they are left on the pavements after being emptied.

Recommended action:

- That the District Council should be asked to request BIFFA to be aware of the potential safety hazards caused by leaving empty bins on pavements. (37).

### **16.05 Postal Services**

The general opinion about postal services in the village has always been good but the Residents' Survey indicated that 6% of households experience some difficulties. From supplementary information in the Survey late deliveries may be the principal concern but not every household can expect first delivery in the morning.

### **16.06 Police**

Residents were asked to rate police response based on their experience over the last 12 months. In non-emergency situations about half the households rated their experience as good to excellent.

There were 13 instances where the police responded to emergencies and 85% of households rated performance as good to excellent.

### **16.07 Hospital Transport**

The opinion of the hospital transport service was very complimentary with only one household indicating a poor level of service.

### **16.08 Ambulance Service**

Twenty-five out of twenty-six households considered the ambulance service to be good to excellent.

### **16.09 Fire & Rescue Services**

According to the Residents' survey only eight households found it necessary to call upon the Fire & Rescue Service. All eight households considered the service provide as good to excellent.

### **16.10 Gas Supply**

Huntley does not have access to a supply gas. The survey indicated that 82% of households would like to be connected to a supply. According to Parish Council Minutes an approach was made to British Gas in February 1997. It has not been possible to identify any subsequent entry in the Parish Council Minutes to this item but it is understood that the cost of making a supply available was not economically justified unless residents made a contribution.

The cost of changing equipment would be expensive and unacceptably high for residents.

Recommended action:

- If a genuine demand can be established the possibility of a supply of gas should be investigated again. (Not prioritised).

### **16.11 Maintenance Services**

During the early phases of the preparation of the Parish Plan it was considered that the Parish Council should employ a part time village handyman to carry out small maintenance jobs for elderly or disabled residents. It was subsequently discovered that the Forest of Dean District Council already provides this type of service.

Recommended action:

- Establish details of the maintenance service already available and publicise details. (26).

## **17.00 TOURISM**

Although Huntley has an interesting history dating back to pre Norman times, there is little advertising to attract visitors to the village. Forest Gate offers bed and breakfast accommodation and camping facilities, and the Country Garden Centre is able to offer light snacks in their on site café.

Only a third of households that responded to the Residents' Survey would like to see more tourists attracted to the village.

Members of the Huntley Parish Plan Focus Group have indicated an interest in organised walks and Longhope, an adjacent parish, is considering preparing a Walks booklet in which Huntley has agreed to participate.

Recommended action:

- Pilot exercise to produce three walk leaflets in partnership with Longhope with the ultimate object of a jointly produced booklet of local walks of varying length.
- Organise short escorted walks for residents.

## 18.00 PARISH PLAN PROJECTS

The projects were ranked by the Focus Group to give an indication of the relevant importance to the Group. Opinions expressed in the Residents' Survey will be taken into account as part of the final prioritisation but complexity and cost of implementation is likely to determine the final priority.

A number of other projects were added after the prioritisation exercise had been complete and these have been listed separately at the end of the list.

RANK	PROPOSED ACTION
1	Enforcement of <b>speed restriction in village</b>
2	Encourage <b>reporting of all crime</b> including vandalism
3	Encourage <b>Neighbourhood Watch Schemes</b>
4	Request <b>police help to address vandalism</b>
5	Discourage <b>underage drinking</b>
6	Identify <b>pavements in need of maintenance</b>
7	Impose <b>30 mph speed limit in Newent Lane</b>
8	Police to video <b>overtaking on A40 up to school</b>
9	Improve exit from <b>public footpath onto the B4126</b>
10	Press for action to restrict <b>overtaking on A40 up to School</b>
11	Compile <b>Parish Handbook</b> containing local information
12	Organise an annual <b>litter 'tidy up'</b>
13	Identify <b>roads in need of maintenance &amp; prioritise</b>
14	<b>County Council to consult Parish Council before carrying out maintenance of roads</b>
15	<b>County Council to consult Parish Council before carrying out maintenance of pavements</b>
16	<b>District Council to support Parish Council where local initiatives prove ineffective.</b>
17	Improve <b>information facilities available at the Post Office</b> (subject to owners' agreement)
18	<b>Annual review of Parish Plan</b>
19	Encourage <b>School Children to become litter conscious</b>
20	Formulate <b>rules to control Fly posting</b>
21	New (small) <b>litter bins at bus stops</b>
22	Issue <b>Consolidated bus timetables</b> to every household in the village (Style 2)
23	Encourage residents to <b>trim trees and bushes that obstruct street lighting or overhang</b>
24	Provision of more <b>sheltered accommodation</b>
25	<b>Replace windows in Village Hall</b>
26	Appoint a <b>Village handyman</b>
27	Introduction of <b>phased speed limit 50 - 40 - 30 on the A40</b>
28	Negotiate <b>Service Contracts</b> with local authority or government agencies
29	Installation of <b>additional streetlights</b>
30	Advertise <b>allotments and rents</b>
31	Offer <b>new allotments that have been rotavated</b>
32	Publication of a monthly <b>Parish Newsletter</b>
33	Provide <b>Welcome pack for new residents</b>
34	Investigate possibility of <b>nursery education in village</b>
35	Support for <b>mobile clinic</b>
36	Parish Council to carryout <b>quarterly inspections of trees that obstruct pavements and lights</b>



RANK	PROPOSED ACTION
------	-----------------

- 37 Alert BIFFA staff to **safety hazards caused by leaving bins on pavement**
- 38 Monthly **shoppers bus** to Tesco, Sainsbury's or ASDA for senior citizens and the disabled
- 39 Provision of **affordable housing**
- 40 **Additional Parish Notice Boards**
- 41 **Anti litter poster competition** for school pupils
- 42 Survey **drainage problem on recreation ground**
- 43 **Replace floor in Village Hall**
- 44 Arrange half hourly **bus service from Gloucester**
- 45 Arrange for **adult education** facilities in the village (and or adjacent villages)
- 46 Enter **Bledisloe Cup**
- 47 Install **speed cameras in village**
- 48 Formation of **Youth Council**
- 49 **Parish Council to apply for Quality Status**
- 50 Publish a **Local Directory** to every household
- 51 **Dissemination of information** as far as possible through active village organisations
- 52 Enter **Calor Gas Competition**
- 53 Provide **Litter bin(s)** on recreation ground
- 54 Parish Council to give **publicity to village organisations** on Parish Notice Board
- 55 Erect more prestigious **village signs** on A40 / A4136 / B4216
- 56 Organise **anti litter campaign (Posters)**
- 57 **Standardise type of streetlights**
- 58 Huntley should provide **PATCH representative** for PCT
- 59 Provide fire resistant **litter bin(s)** on recreation ground
- 60 Establish a **Youth Café** as the preliminary stage of providing facilities for youth in the village
- 61 Amend **recreation ground rules to limit alcohol**
- 62 Explore possibility to support the introduction of **mobile clinics**
- 63 Provide **evening transport for teenagers**
- 64 Plant more **flowers/bulbs on grass verges** along the A40
- 65 Increase **Council Tax to pay for litter collection**
- 66 Design a **village Web Site**
- 67 Provide **Doggie bins** in Byfords Road
- 68 **Combine a Parish Newsletter with Church Magazine**
- 69 Install **traffic island** near footpath from The Square to Main Road
- 70 Provide **litter bin opposite Forest Products**
- 71 **Re-seeding of football pitch**
- 72 Request **Village by-pass**
- 73 Support **private housing development** (other than infill)
- 74 Provide **mobile library with information about village activities**
- 75 **Rebuild the Village Hall** and improve facilities
- 76 Re-route public transport via **supermarkets**
- 77 Maintain a **Register of Child Minders** in conjunction with appropriate authority
- 78 Issue **consolidate bus timetable (Style Sheet 1)**
- 79 **Encourage parents of all teenage girls to purchase them personal alarms**
- 80 Provide new (large) **litter bins** at bus stops
- 81 Develop action plans to **reduce the level of actual crime**

*Please note that no suggestion has been deleted from the original 132 topics identified unless the Focus Groups voted unanimously for its deletion. The implementation of some project may ultimately encompass other similar projects.*

#### **OTHER PROJECTS**

Establish police policy for **reducing speed of traffic**  
Improve **bus time table for services to Mitcheldean**  
Recruit **volunteer drivers** for community mini buses  
Identify **opportunities for teenagers to join sporting organisations**  
Establish demand for **mains gas**  
Produce **leaflet of walks** in parish  
Organise **short escorted walks**

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## SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED AT INITIAL MEETING OF THE HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN FOCUS GROUP

### A VISION OF THE FUTURE

At the first meeting residents were asked to indicate how they anticipated the village would develop over the next 10 years. There was a wide interpretation of this request. Some people looked at what they would like to see while others voiced concerns.

- Retention of the butcher's shop
- Community magazine / Newsletter
- Good bus service
- Dial-a-Ride service
- Digital TV reception
- Doctors' Surgery in village with improved facilities
- Encouragement of new businesses to the village
- Broadband internet
- An aging population
- Increased traffic particularly HGV's
- Low crime level
- Lunch Club
- Mains gas
- Pleasant walks
- Facilities for teenagers
- Repairs to pavements
- Repairs to roads
- Repairs to Village Hall
- Transport to Doctors
- Transport to hospital (non emergency)
- Youth group.
- A commuter village
- Maintain existing facilities
- Improve the image of the village

### A VISION OF THE VILLAGE WITHOUT ACTION

- Children unable to afford housing in the village
- Increased crime
- Increased traffic
- Loss of the Post Office
- Rural decay.

## **A VISION OF THE FUTURE WITH ACTION**

- Co-ordinated bus service
- Reduced crime
- Desirable village
- Local shops

## **CURRENT STRENGTHS OF THE VILLAGE**

- Allotments
- Bus service
- Church
- Cricket Club
- Football Club
- Golf Club
- Good road access
- Social groups and organisations
- Hairdresser
- Local shops
- Post Office
- Pub
- recreation ground
- Rural location
- School
- Size of the village
- Strong community spirit
- Village Hall

## **CHANGES FOR THE BETTER**

- Improved cricket pitch
- Green bins
- Traffic lights at the Red Lion cross roads
- Improved village hall

## **CHANGES FOR THE WORSE**

- Residents apathy
- Community spirit
- Condition of minor roads
- Condition of pavements
- Feeling unsafe walking through the village
- Public footpaths overgrown

## **CHANGES FOR THE WORSE (continued)**

- Heavy traffic on the A40
- Image of the village
- Impersonal atmosphere
- Lack of economical housing
- lack of respect for people or property
- Litter and untidy appearance
- No village policemen
- Not covered for digital TV reception
- General lack of interest in village hall
- Vandalism
- Village hall lacks money for statutory improvements
- Young people with nothing to do

## **WHAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED BUT HASN'T**

- Affordable houses
- Better roads
- Broadband Internet facilities
- Digital TV reception
- Electronic communication
- Integration of new people into the village
- Internet link to doctors' consulting room
- More involvement in local issues
- More support for local people
- Shops (and Doctors' surgery) on north side of A40

## **PROBLEMS REQUIRING URGENT ACTION**

- Broadband
- Repairs to pavements
- Repairs to roads
- Speed of traffic on the A40
- Speed restrictions on A40 up to school
- Vandalism
- Volume of traffic on A40
- Young people embraced into the community

## **OTHER AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED**

- Adult education
- Affordable housing

## **OTHER AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED (continued)**

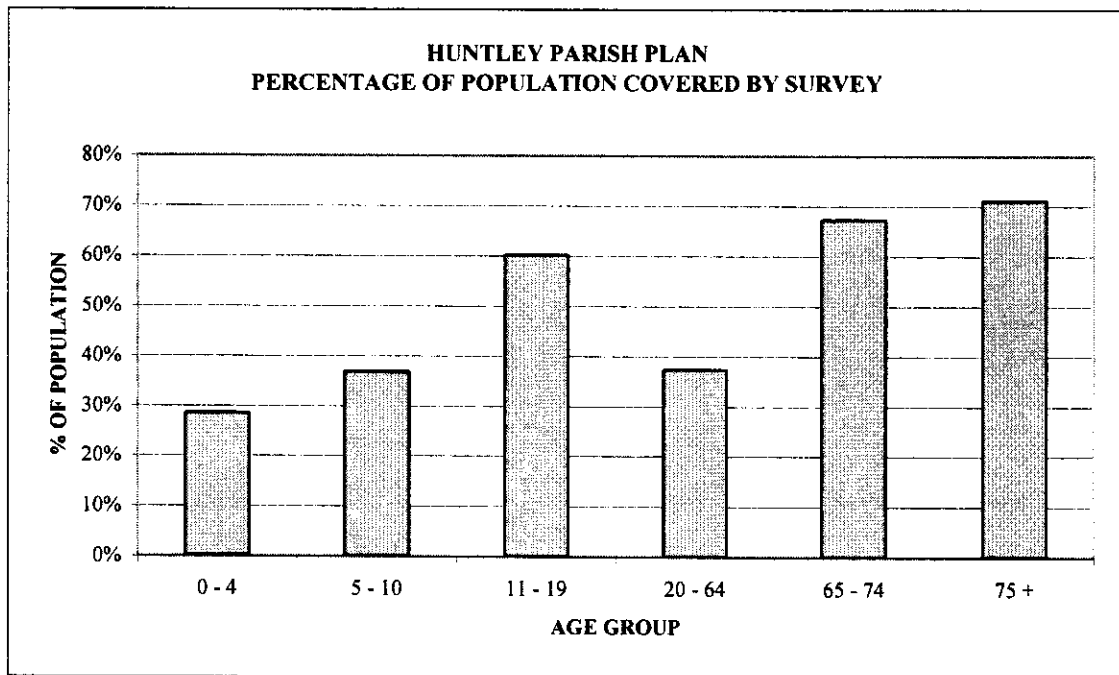
Community magazine  
Compliance with Disability Discrimination Act.  
Doctors' surgery  
Drainage on recreation ground  
Facilities for young people  
Information centre  
Local business directory  
Maintenance of historic buildings including the church  
More rational bus time table  
Notice board  
Reflective clothing for children walking to school  
Speed cameras on traffic lights  
Survey of pensioners' needs  
Transport for after school activities  
Village Web site  
Waste recycling

## INITIAL PRIORITISATION OF TOPICS FOR INCLUSION IN PARISH PLAN

Rank	GROUP / TOPIC	PRIORITY
<b>GROUPS</b>		
1	CRIME	HIGH
2	ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	HIGH
3	HEALTH FACILITIES	HIGH
4	YOUTH	MEDIUM
5	AMENITIES	MEDIUM
6	TRAFFIC	MEDIUM
7	COMMUNICATION	MEDIUM
8	TRANSPORT	LOW
9	SOCIAL ASPECTS	LOW
10	EDUCATION	LOW
11	BUSINESSES	LOW
12	HOUSING	LOW
13	SPORT	LOW
14	ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION	LOW
<b>TOPICS</b>		
1	Village Hall	HIGH
2	Post Office / Shop	HIGH
3	Vandalism	HIGH
4	Bus Service to Gloucester	HIGH
5	Litter	HIGH
6	Theft / Burglary	MEDIUM
7	Speed of traffic on A40	MEDIUM
8	Local Primary School	MEDIUM
9	Bus frequency to / from Gloucester	MEDIUM
10	Newsletter to all residents	MEDIUM
11	Condition of pavements	MEDIUM
12	Condition of minor roads	MEDIUM
13	Doctors' surgery in village	MEDIUM



<b>Rank</b>	<b>GROUP / TOPIC</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
14	Organisations for youths	MEDIUM
15	Volume of traffic on A40	MEDIUM
16	Recreation Ground	MEDIUM
17	Travel to Mitcheldean for Doctors' surgery	MEDIUM
18	Church	MEDIUM
19	Graffiti	MEDIUM
20	Improved Parish Notice Board	MEDIUM
21	Personal Safety	MEDIUM
22	Red Lion	MEDIUM
23	Butchers	MEDIUM
24	Facilities for youth	MEDIUM
25	Organisations for retired	MEDIUM
26	Condition of footpaths	MEDIUM
27	Organisations for younger people	MEDIUM
28	Travel to hospital	LOW
29	Transport to Newent	LOW
30	Cricket Club	LOW
31	Football Club	LOW
32	Parish Handbook	LOW
33	Bus Service to Forest towns	LOW
34	Housing for older people	LOW
35	Bus services in evenings	LOW
36	Noise of traffic on A40	LOW
37	Bus service to Ross	LOW
38	Pollution from traffic	LOW
39	Special transport for shoppers	LOW
40	Organisations for toddlers	LOW
41	Village fetes	LOW
42	Transport to cater for after school activities	LOW
43	Bus services on Sunday	LOW
44	Golf Club	LOW
45	Organisations for mothers	LOW
46	Provision of affordable housing	LOW
47	Bus service to Hereford	LOW
48	Equestrian School	LOW
49	Allotments	LOW
50	Organisations for working people	LOW
51	Adult Education Classes	LOW
52	Local Business Directory	LOW
53	Encouragement of new business into the villa	LOW
54	Broadband facilities	LOW
55	Digital TV	LOW
56	Tourism	LOW



The above chart shows the percentage of each age group who responded to the Survey.

**APPENDIX 4**

**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE  
% OF POPULATION IN EACH AGE GROUP**

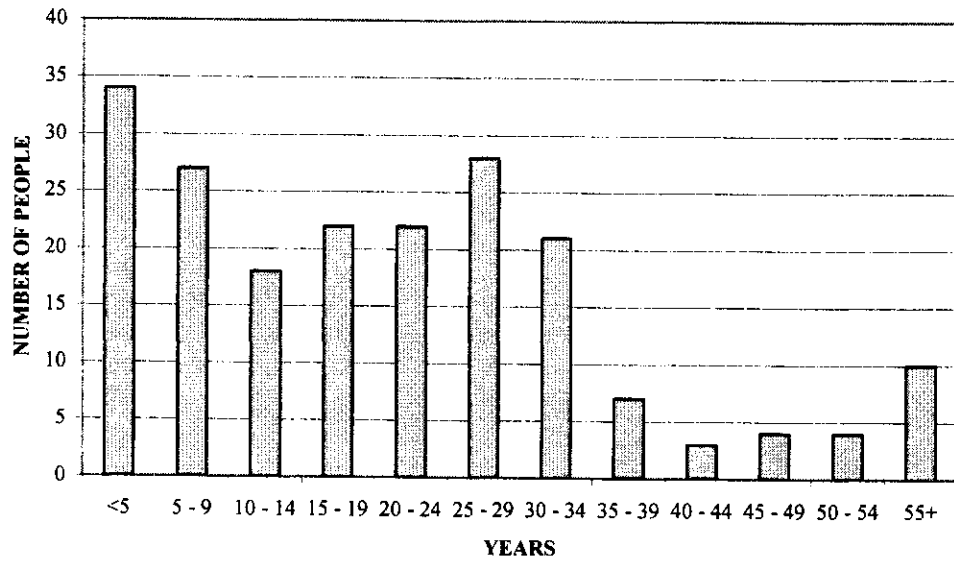
		AGE GROUP						TOTAL	AVERAGE AGE	AVERAGE RESIDENTS PER H'HOLD
		0 - 4	5 - 10	11 - 19	20 - 64	65 - 74	75 +			
2001 CENSUS	%	4.10	5.56	10.05	59.41	10.73	10.15	100.00		
	ACTUAL	42	57	103	609	110	104	1025	42.5	2.41
SURVEY RESPONSE	%	2.55	4.47	13.19	48.30	15.74	15.74	100.00		
	ACTUAL	12	21	62	227	74	74	470	46.2	2.17
VARIANCE	%	-1.54	-1.09	3.14	-11.12	5.01	5.60	0.00		
PERCENTAGE OF AGE GROUP RESPONDING		29%	37%	60%	37%	67%	71%	46%		

## SURVEY RESPONSE BY ROAD

	HOUSEHOLDS	RESPONSES	% RESPONSE
Bramley Drive	4	1	25.00%
Byfords Close	21	5	23.81%
Byfords Road	47	27	57.45%
Elm Grove	10	4	40.00%
Frogmore Road	12	5	41.67%
Grange Court Lane	11	6	54.55%
Hamlen Close	18	10	55.56%
High Street	6	2	33.33%
Hinders Lane	11	8	72.73%
Lambourne Avenue	23	10	43.48%
Longhope Road	8	5	62.50%
Main Road	33	18	54.55%
Newent Lane	8	8	100.00%
Newent Lane outside the village	16	2	12.50%
Newton Close	11	5	45.45%
North Road	18	11	61.11%
Oak Way	66	21	31.82%
Orchard Way	16	6	37.50%
Pauls Walk	10	3	30.00%
Ross Road	16	5	31.25%
Solomon's Tump	3	3	100.00%
Sunset Place	8	8	100.00%
The Square	4	1	25.00%
Tibberton Lane	31	16	51.61%
Westwick Road	16	13	81.25%
Unknown		15	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>51.05%</b>
<b>% OF HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDING</b>		<b>51.05%</b>	
<b>% OF POPULATION REPRESENTED</b>		<b>45.95%</b>	

**APPENDIX 6**

**PERIOD OF RESIDENCE OF THE PRINCIPAL  
RESPONDENT**



**NUMBER OF REPORTED CRIMES IN HUNTLEY  
1999 - 2003**

	1999/2000	2000/1	2001/2	2002/3	2003/4 9 months	AVERAGE (pa)
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>	5	2	4	5	3	4
<b>BURGLARIES</b>	14	9	21	13	21	17
<b>THEFT</b>	9	25	23	8	6	15
<b>CRIMINAL DAMAGE</b>	10	9	4	9	5	8
<b>FRAUD</b>	9	4	6	9	13	9
<b>DRUGS</b>	9	0	1	1	-	3
<b>OTHER</b>	0	1	0	1	3	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>56</b>

## APPENDIX 8

Table 8a

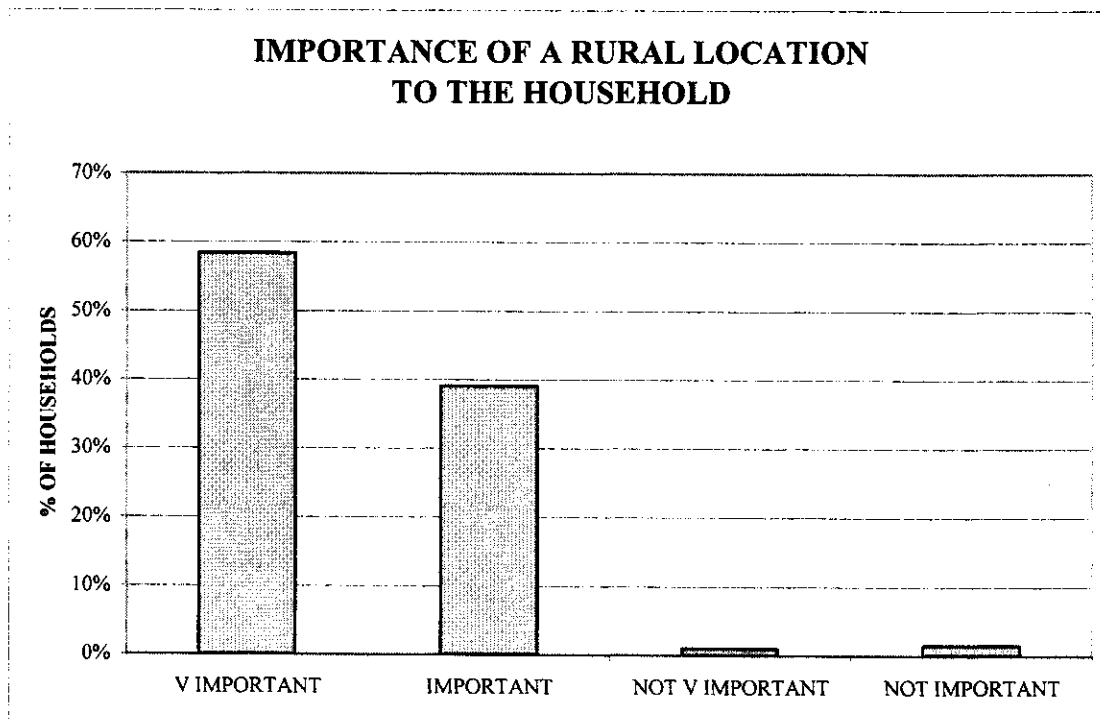
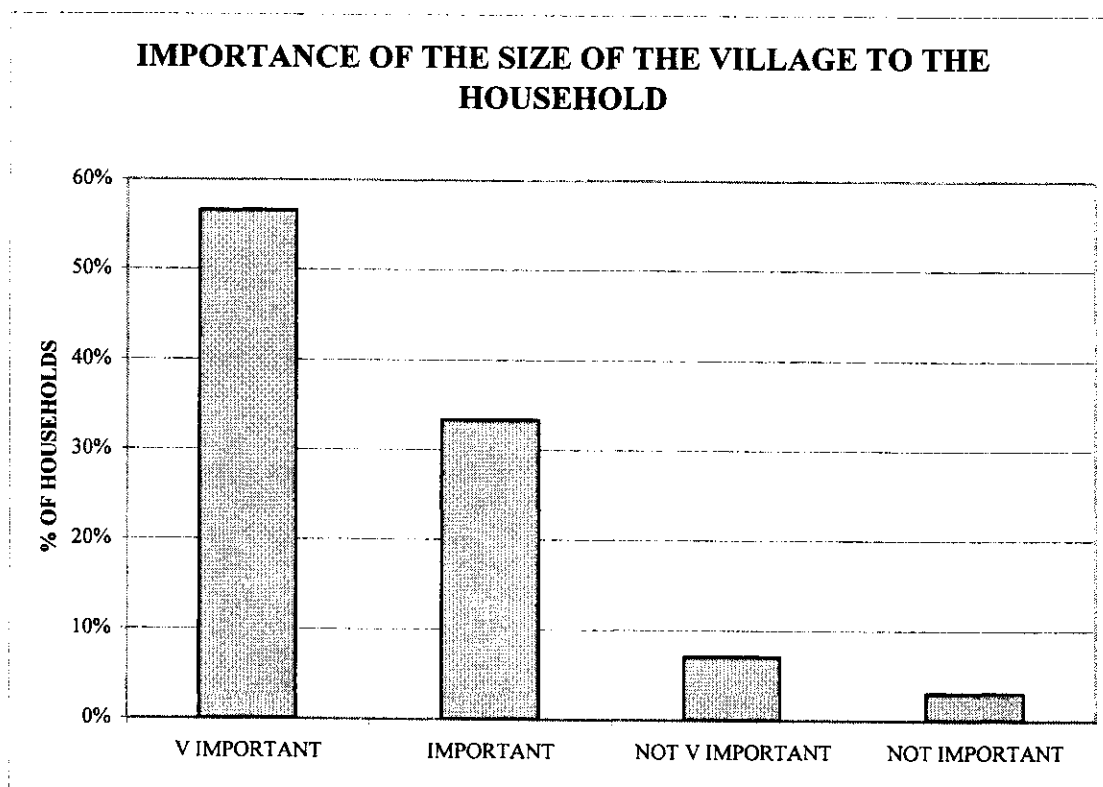
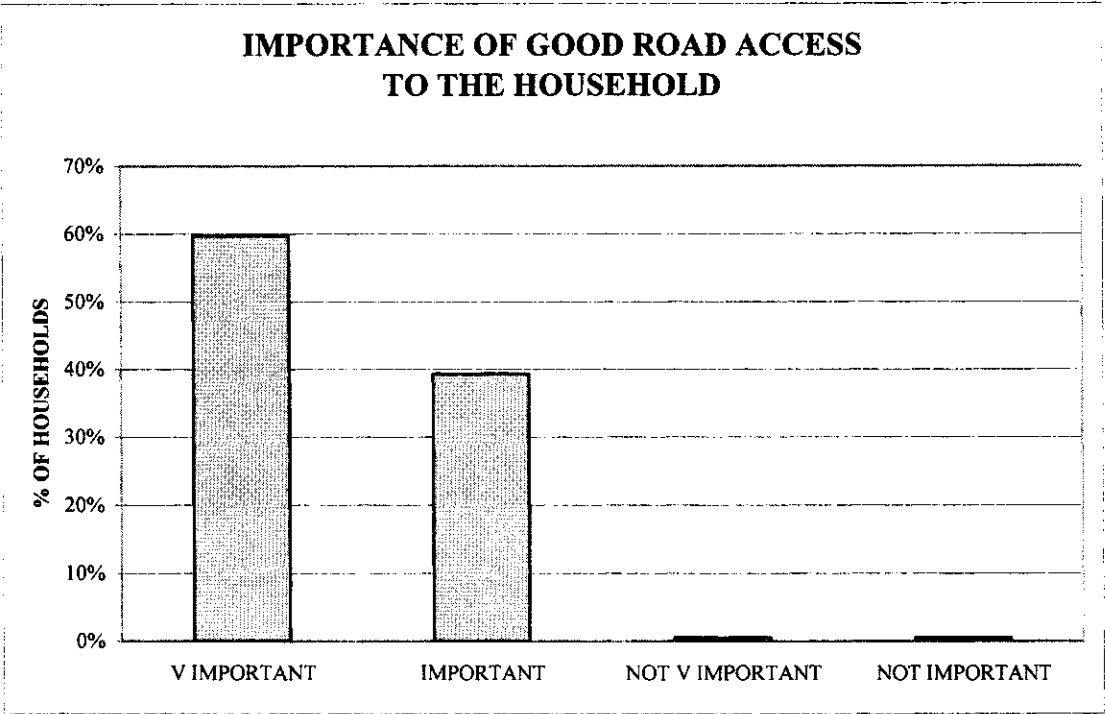


Table 8b







**APPENDIX 10**

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF RESIDENTS FINDING DIFFICULTY  
ATTENDING APPOINTMENTS BY AGE GROUP**

DESTINATION	AGE GROUP						TOTAL WITH POTENTIAL DIFFICULTY
	0 - 4	5 - 10	11 - 19	20 - 64	65 - 74	75+	
HOSPITAL OUT PATIENTS	-	-	-	8	12	25	45
DOCTORS' SURGERY	1	2	2	15	7	19	46
CHEMISTS	1	2	-	17	9	15	44
CHIROPODISTS	-	-	3	7	9	12	31
OPTICIANS	-	-	-	3	7	19	29
DENTIST	-	-	-	9	11	21	41

## TRAVELLING DIFFICULTIES BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

DESTINATION	IMPORTANCE OF BUS SERVICE	NATURE OF DISABILITY				RDP	NUMBER OF ANY TYPE OF DISABILITY
		VISUAL	MOBILITY	HEARING	HANDING		
HOSPITAL	VERY IMPORTANT	4	6	3	1	4	12
	IMPORTANT	1	2	1	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	1	-	-	-	
	NOT STATED	-	1	-	-	-	
DOCTOR	VERY IMPORTANT	3	4	3	1	3	11
	IMPORTANT	2	3	1	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	1	1	1	1	
	NOT STATED	-	1	-	-	-	
CHEMIST	VERY IMPORTANT	2	5	3	1	2	11
	IMPORTANT	1	2	-	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	1	1	1	1	
	NOT STATED	-	1	-	-	-	
CHIROPODIST	VERY IMPORTANT	2	4	2	1	1	5
	IMPORTANT	1	1	-	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT STATED	-	-	-	-	-	

DESTINATION	IMPORTANCE OF BUS SERVICE	NATURE OF DISABILITY				RDP	NUMBER OF ANY TYPE OF DISABILITY
		VISUAL	MOBILITY	HEARING	HANDING		
OFFICIAN	VERY IMPORTANT	2	4	1	1	2	10
	IMPORTANT	2	2	3	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	1	1	1	1	
	NOT STATED	-	1	-	-	-	
DENTIST	VERY IMPORTANT	3	5	3	1	3	10
	IMPORTANT	2	2	2	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT STATED	-	1	-	-	-	
SHOPPING	VERY IMPORTANT	3	6	4	1	4	11
	IMPORTANT	2	2	2	-	-	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	-	-	-	-	-	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	1	1	1	-	
	NOT STATED	-	-	-	-	-	
NO PROBLEMS	VERY IMPORTANT	1	7	5	1	4	30
	IMPORTANT	1	7	2	1	7	
	NOT V. IMPORTANT	2	3	-	2	3	
	NOT IMPORTANT	-	3	-	-	2	
	NOT STATED	1	3	2	1	1	

**DISABILITY BY AGE GROUP AND TYPE OF DISABILITY**

TYPE OF DISABILITY	AGE GROUP				TOTAL
	20 - 64	65 - 74	75+	AGE UNKNOWN	
VISION	1	2	8	-	11
MOBILITY	7	5	24	1	37
HEARING	1	4	10	1	16
HANDLING	2	1	4	-	7
REGISTERED DISABILITY	5	5	13	-	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	16	17	59	2	94
<b>% OF POPULATION WHO RESPONDED TO SURVEY</b>	7%	23%	80%		22%
<b>% OF 2001 POPULATION</b>	3%	15%	57%		9%

This analysis is based on the assumption that the oldest member of the household is likely to be the person suffering with a disability.

**APPENDIX 13**

**YOUTH SURVEY  
SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE**

**TABLE 13a**

	<b>BOYS</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Number of questionnaires completed</b>	28	34	62
<b>Average age of those responding (yrs)</b>	13.4	14.2	13.9

**TABLE 13b**

	<b>AGE</b>							<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16+</b>	
<b>BOYS</b>	2	9	4	3	9	1	-	<b>28</b>
<b>GIRLS</b>	2	5	6	5	8	4	4	<b>34</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	14	10	8	17	5	4	<b>62</b>

## TEENAGERS' SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES

Teenagers were asked how they spent their leisure time and what they would like to do that they don't do now

	CURRENT ACTIVITIES			DESIRED ACTIVITIES		
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
MEET / VISIT FRIENDS	25	29	54	6	-	6
LISTEN TO MUSIC	18	23	41	2	-	2
WATCH TV / VIDEO	22	20	42	3	1	4
INTERNET/ E-MAIL	16	21	37	3	-	3
GAMES CONSUL / COMPUTER	20	8	28	1	2	3
TEAM SPORT	20	8	28	3	4	7
SKATEBOARD (or similar)	12	3	15	3	2	5
INDIVIDUAL SPORTS	11	3	14	3	4	7
SWIMMING	6	7	13	5	10	15
SCHOOL CLUB(S)	7	3	10	1	-	1
YOUTH CLUB	5	4	9	3	5	8
HORSE RIDING	1	5	6	-	8	8
PRACTICE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT	3	5	8	1	3	4
SCOUTS / GUIDES	5	-	5	-	1	1
CHURCH	2	1	3	-	-	-
OTHER	1	5	6	4	4	8

**APPENDIX 15**

**TEENAGERS' CONCERNS**

**Table 15a CONCERNS ABOUT NOTHING TO DO**

	AGE							TOTAL	% HAVING CONCERN
	11	12	13	14	15	16	16+		
<b>BOYS</b>	2	7	3	2	6	-	-	<b>20</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>GIRLS</b>	2	3	5	4	7	2	2	<b>25</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>	

**Table 15b CONCERNS ABOUT FAST TRAFFIC**

	AGE							TOTAL	% HAVING CONCERN
	11	12	13	14	15	16	16+		
<b>BOYS</b>	1	5	4	-	6	-	-	<b>16</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>GIRLS</b>	1	3	2	4	4	1	1	<b>16</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>	

**Table 15c CONCERNS ABOUT VANDALISM**

	AGE							TOTAL	% HAVING CONCERN
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
<b>BOYS</b>	1	2	4	2	3	1	-	<b>13</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>GIRLS</b>	0	4	3	3	3	3	1	<b>17</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	

**Table 15d CONCERNS ABOUT LITTER**

	AGE							TOTAL	% HAVING CONCERN
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
<b>BOYS</b>	1	1	2	0	4	0	0	8	31%
<b>GIRLS</b>	0	2	3	3	3	2	0	13	43%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1	3	5	3	7	2	0	21	

**Table 15e CONCERNS ABOUT GRAFFITI**

	AGE							TOTAL	% HAVING CONCERN
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
<b>BOYS</b>	-	2	3	-	2	1	-	8	31%
<b>GIRLS</b>	1	2	2	3	3	-	-	11	37%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1	4	5	3	5	1	-	19	



LOCAL SHOPS AND SIZE OF VILLAGE

	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	AGE PROFILE			TOTAL	% OF HOUSEHOLDS THAT RESPONDED	% OF PEOPLE THAT RESPONDED
		20 - 64	65 - 74	75+			
HOUSEHOLDS CONSIDERING LOCAL SHOPS TO BE IMPORTANT OR VERY IMPORTANT	186	205	71	60	336	86%	90%
HOUSEHOLDS INDICATING SUPPORT FOR MORE SHOPS	73	72	26	23	121	34%	32%
HOUSEHOLDS WHO EXPRESS DIFFICULTY SHOPPING OUTSIDE VILLAGE	9	11	1	3	15	4%	4%
SIZE OF VILLAGE IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT OR VERY IMPORTANT	178	197	70	55	322	82%	86%
SIZE OF THE VILLAGE IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT OR VERY IMPORTANT BUT WOULD SUPPORT MORE SHOPS	45	45	17	12	74	21%	20%

## TRAFFIC SPEED SURVEY

## SUMMARY OF EASTBOUND TRAFFIC (September - October 2003)

LOCATION/DAY/ DATE/TIME	OBSERVATIONS	ESTIMATED SAMPLE SIZE	MEAN AVERAGE SPEED (mph)	ESTIMATED 85th %TILE GROUP (mph)	% OF TRAFFIC > SPEED LIMIT + 10% + 2 mph
SCHOOL THURSDAY 18-Sep-03 1415 - 1515 hrs	66	53.66%	40.94	46 - 50	0.00%
NEWENT LANE TUESDAY 07-Oct-03 1440 - 1540 hrs	83	23.31%	32.90	36 - 40	24.10%
VILLAGE BUS STOP SUNDAY 28-Sep-03 1125 - 1225 hrs	122	35.06%	22.55	31 - 35	2.46%
WAR MEMORIAL WEDNESDAY 17-Sep-03 1900 - 1950 hrs	98	28.99%	34.84	36 - 40	39.80%
WAR MEMORIAL MONDAY 22-Sep-03 0700 - 0800 hrs	173	69.20%	34.76	36 - 40	37.57%
GOLF COURSE SATURDAY 20-Sep-03 1455 - 1555 hrs	159	35.66%	35.50	41 - 45	43.40%
GOLF COURSE THURSDAY 09-Oct-03 1420 - 1445 hrs	49	32.45%	33.96	36 - 40	26.53%

## TRAFFIC SPEED SURVEY

### SUMMARY OF WESTBOUND TRAFFIC (September - October 2003)

LOCATION/DAY/ DATE/TIME	OBSERVATIONS	ESTIMATED SAMPLE SIZE	MEAN AVERAGE SPEED (mph)	ESTIMATED 85th %TILE GROUP (mph)	% OF TRAFFIC > SPEED LIMIT + 10% + 2 mph
SCHOOL THURSDAY 18-Sep-03 1415 - 1515 hrs	90	45.00%	40.87	46 - 50	1.11%
NEWENT LANE TUESDAY 07-Oct-03 1440 - 1540 hrs	107	23.57%	34.57	36 - 40	39.25%
VILLAGE BUS STOP SUNDAY 28-Sep-03 1125 - 1225 hrs	101	22.90%	21.31	< 30	2.97%
WAR MEMORIAL WEDNESDAY 17-Sep-03 1900 - 1950 hrs	64	14.88%	35.13	41 - 45	37.50%
WAR MEMORIAL MONDAY 22-Sep-03 0700 - 0800 hrs	58	36.71%	33.10	36 - 40	20.69%
GOLF COURSE SATURDAY 20-Sep-03 1455 - 1555 hrs	99	17.87%	33.66	36 - 40	29.29%
GOLF COURSE THURSDAY 09-Oct-03 1420 - 1445 hrs	NO RECORD				

## INTEREST IN LOCAL COUNCIL AND VILLAGE AFFAIRS

	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	NUMBER WILLING TO COMPLETE SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE	NUMBER INTERESTED IN PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES
<b>DECLARED INTEREST IN PARISH AFFAIRS</b>	157	32	85
<b>NO INTEREST IN PARISH AFFAIRS</b>	21	3	3
<b>QUESTION NOT ANSWERED</b>	39	3	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	217	38	92
<b>REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES OF PARISH</b>	92	25	85
<b>NO INTEREST IN PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES</b>	61	8	7
<b>QUESTION NOT ANSWERED</b>	64	5	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	217	38	97
<b>REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES OF DISTRICT</b>	64		
<b>REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES OF COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	55		

## INFORMATION SOURCES CONSULTED BY RESIDENCE

ROAD	SOURCE OF INFORMATION							No. OF FORMS RETURNED
	NOTICE BOARD	CHURCH MAGAZINE	FREE PAPER	LOCAL PAPER	POST OFFICE	LIBRARY	NO SINGLE SOURCE	
BRAMLEY DRIVE	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1
BYFORDS CLOSE	3	4	2	1	4	2	1	5
BYFORDS ROAD	19	17	13	9	21	4	5	27
ELM GROVE	3	2	3	3	4	-	-	4
FROGMORE ROAD	4	5	2	-	3	-	-	5
GRANGE COURT LANE	4	5	3	3	5	1	-	6
HAMLEN CLOSE	5	3	5	4	7	-	-	10
HIGH STREET	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	2
HINDERS LANE	2	1	3	2	1	1	3	8
LAMBOURNE AVENUE	7	4	5	3	5	-	4	10
LONGHOPE ROAD	-	3	1	1	1	-	2	5
MAIN ROAD	6	10	13	10	11	-	3	18
NEWENT LANE	5	9	6	6	5	-	3	10
NEWTON CLOSE	5	3	5	4	4	-	-	5
NORTH ROAD	7	6	7	4	8	-	2	11
NOT KNOWN	4	5	4	2	5	-	2	15
OAK WAY	10	12	13	3	17	3	6	21
ORCHARD WAY	-	6	3	3	3	-	1	6
PAULS WALK	-	-	2	2	3	-	1	3
ROSS ROAD	1	3	1	2	3	-	1	5
SOLOMON'S TUMP	3	3	2	2	3	-	-	3
SUNSET PLACE	6	4	5	3	2	-	1	7
THE SQUARE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TIBBERTON LANE	7	9	6	6	8	2	5	16
WESTWICK ROAD	9	3	9	5	4	-	4	13
NUMBER CONSULTING SOURCE	111	118	115	80	128	13	45	217
% OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDING	51%	54%	53%	37%	59%	6%	21%	

**BUS SERVICES via HUNTLEY BY OPERATOR****DAILY MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

DESTINATION	OPERATOR				TOTAL
	COTTRELL'S **	STAGECOACH	DUKES TRAVEL	GEORGE YOUNGS *	
GLoucester	9	13	3	-	25
ROSS ON WYE	-	11	1	-	12
HEREFORD	-	11	-	-	11
MITCHELDEAN	9	3	1	-	13
CINDERFORD	3	3	1	-	7
DRYBROOK	5	3	1	-	9
RUARDEAN	5	3	1	-	9
COLEFORD	-	-	1	-	1
CHELTENHAM	-	-	1	-	1
<b>TOTAL BY OPERATOR</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>88</b>

\* Buses on Tuesday and Friday only to Gloucester

\*\* This service was taken over by Stagecoach on 31st August 2004 with similar frequen

**BUS SERVICE TO NEWENT**  
**RESULTS OF SURVEY AUGUST 2003**

PREFERRED DAY	PASSENGER DEMAND			MAXIMUM USE BASED ON SURVEY
	WEEKLY	FORTNIGHTLY	MONTHLY	
MONDAY	6	1	2	9
TUESDAY	13	5	4	22
WEDNESDAY	7	4	3	14
THURSDAY	13	7	0	20
FRIDAY	16	7	3	26
SATURDAY	1	1	1	3
SUNDAY	-	-	-	-

## NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN HUNTLEY BY AGE

AGE GROUP	1981	1991	2001	2001 AS % OF 1981
0 - 4	77	41	42	55%
5 - 9	202	134	46	49%
10 - 14 *			53	
15 - 19	n/a	n/a	61	n/a
TOTAL AGED 5 - 14	279	175	141	51%

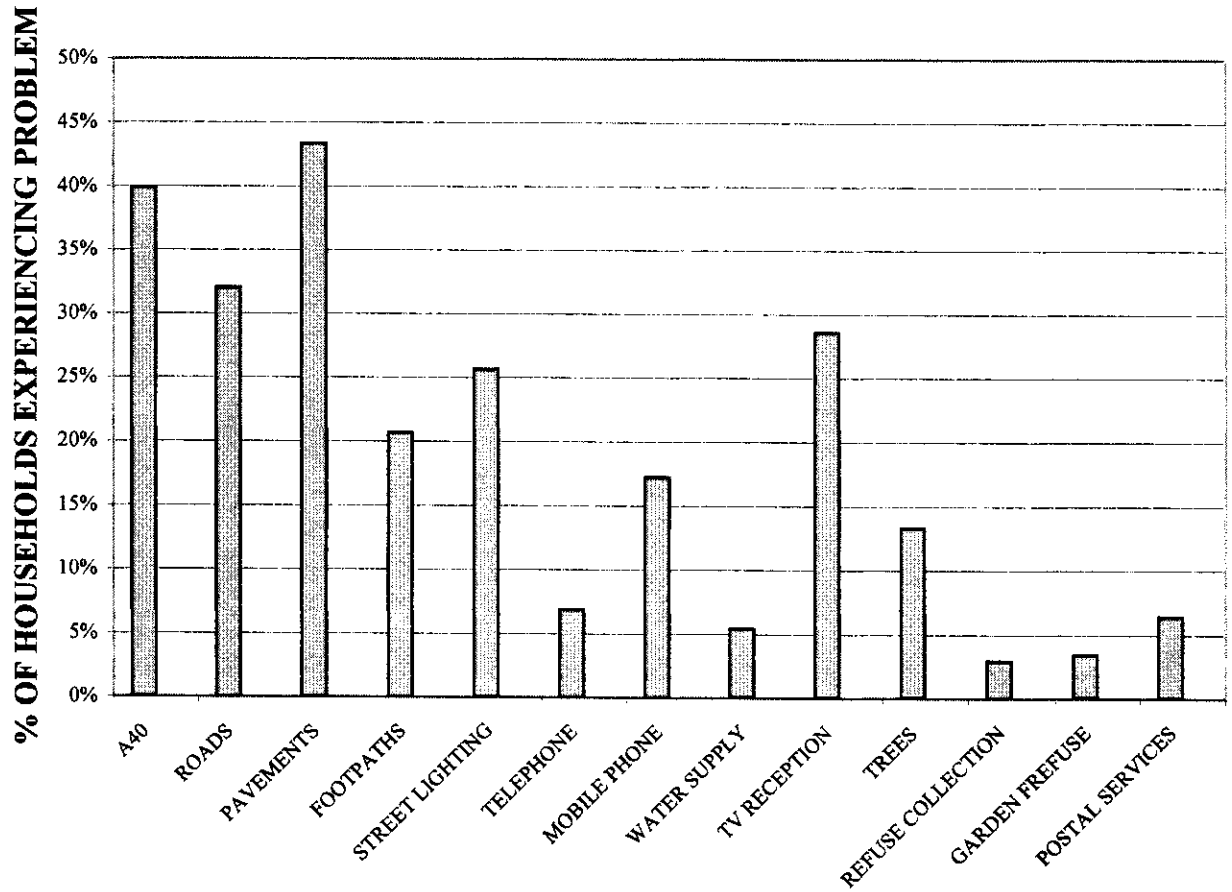
\* Age group on 1981 / 1991 Census is 5 - 15



**SUPPORT FOR NEW HOUSING**

TYPE OF HOUSING		No. OF HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDING	% RESPONDING BY AGE GROUP			OVERALL
			20 - 64	65 - 75	75+	
AFFORDABLE	IN FAVOUR	77	42%	43%	30%	40%
	NOT IN FAVOUR	99	50%	41%	49%	48%
PRIVATE	IN FAVOUR	19	13%	9%	1%	10%
	NOT IN FAVOUR	142	75%	57%	68%	70%
SHELTERED	IN FAVOUR	75	30%	39%	43%	35%
	NOT IN FAVOUR	99	57%	43%	35%	50%

### RESIDENTS' PERCEIVED PROBLEMS

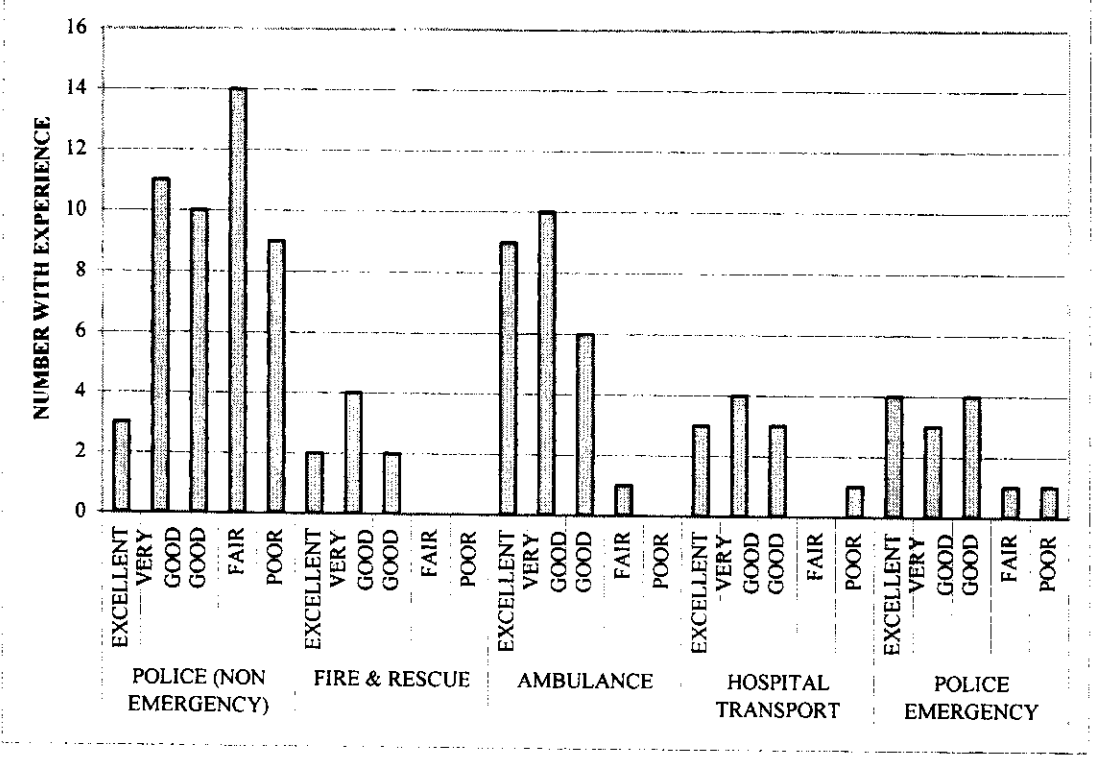


## HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS BY ROAD

ROAD	PROBLEMS												
	A40	ROADS	PAVEMENTS	FOOTPATHS	STREET LIGHTING	TELEPHONE	MOBILE PHONE	WATER SUPPLY	TV RECEPTION	TREES	REFUSE COLLECTION	GARDEN REFUSE	POSTAL SERVICES
BRAMLEY DRIVE	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
BYFORDS CLOSE	-	1	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BYFORDS ROAD	7	1	13	5	6	-	1	-	6	4	1	1	1
ELM GROVE	2	-	4	3	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-
FROGMORE ROAD	-	2	2	1	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-
GRANGE COURT LANE	2	2	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
HAMLEN CLOSE	2	2	2	2	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
HIGH STREET	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
HINDERS LANE	3	6	1	1	2	1	2	2	4	1	1	1	1
LAMBOURNE AVENUE	2	4	2	1	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	1
LONGHOPE ROAD	4	3	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-
MAIN ROAD	14	7	8	2	5	2	5	3	5	2	2	1	1
NEWENT LANE	3	4	3	5	1	1	3	1	5	-	-	-	1
NEWTON CLOSE	3	4	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NORTH ROAD	4	2	-	2	2	1	3	-	4	-	1	-	2
OAK WAY	11	10	14	6	11	2	3	2	6	9	-	-	2
ORCHARD WAY	3	1	3	3	2	2	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
PAULS WALK	2	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-
ROSS ROAD	1	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
SOLOMON'S TUMP	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
SUNSET PLACE	-	4	1	1	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1
THE SQUARE	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TIBBERTON LANE	6	3	8	1	4	-	3	-	5	1	-	1	-
WESTWICK ROAD	6	7	10	3	3	2	4	1	5	-	1	2	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>% OF THOSE RESPONDING</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>6%</b>

Households that failed to declare their post code have been excluded from this analysis

**ASSESSMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES' PERFORMANCE IN 12 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 2003**



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# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

This questionnaire is designed to be easy to complete. If you do not feel you can answer a question please leave it blank. If you wish to add comments please do so.

Please take note that most questions should record the views of the person completing the form but there are a few questions that relate to the household.

When providing answers to the questions please tick one box only on each line that applies unless otherwise stated. If the question does not apply or you have no opinion please leave the boxes blank.

Once completed the survey form should be placed in the envelope provided. It will be collected by a member of our Steering Group in about a week to ten days during the day time. If you are normally out during the day can you please leave the completed questionnaire in the collection box at the Post Office or Margaret's hairdressing. If more convenient they can be returned directly to me. Alternatively if anyone in your household is a member of Autumn Leaves, the Mothers' Union or Women's Institute they can be handed in at the next meeting.

Please accept my thanks for your time and interest completing this survey. Your answers are important to the future of Huntley.

**JOHN A EASTWOOD**  
Huntley Parish Clerk

QUESTION	ANSWERS				
Please enter your post code	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">GL</td> </tr> </table> The Post Code will not identify your house	GL			
GL					
Do you think Huntley has become a commuter village?	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">YES</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	YES	NO		
YES	NO				
How would you rate the maintenance of:					
Pavements	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">VERY GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FAIR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">POOR</td> </tr> </table>	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR		
Public Footpaths	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">VERY GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FAIR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">POOR</td> </tr> </table>	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR		
Secondary Roads	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">VERY GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FAIR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">POOR</td> </tr> </table>	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR		
Main road	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">VERY GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">GOOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FAIR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">POOR</td> </tr> </table>	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR		
Does anybody in your household use public footpaths across the field / through woods?	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">FREQUENTLY</td> <td style="text-align: center;">SOMETIMES</td> <td style="text-align: center;">RARELY</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NEVER</td> </tr> </table>	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	RARELY	NEVER
FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	RARELY	NEVER		
Are you aware of public footpaths in the parish?	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">YES</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	YES	NO		
YES	NO				
Do you think that public footpaths are important?	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">YES</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NO</td> </tr> </table>	YES	NO		
YES	NO				

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

How important are the following amenities to your household?

<b>Allotments</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Bus Service</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Church</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Good road access</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Hairdresser</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Local shops</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Post Office</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Public House</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Recreation ground</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Rural location</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>School</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Size of the village</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
<b>Village Hall</b>	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT

Does Huntley need any of the following?

<b>Nursery School</b>	YES	NO
<b>More registered child minders</b>	YES	NO
<b>After school clubs</b>	YES	NO
<b>Adult education classes</b>	YES	NO
<b>More shops?</b>	YES	NO

Do you think that there is a need for any new housing development?

<b>Affordable houses</b>	YES	NO
<b>Private development</b>	YES	NO
<b>Sheltered Accommodation</b>	YES	NO

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

Do you think the village should have the following facilities?

Broadband internet	YES	NO
Digital TV	YES	NO
Gas supply	YES	NO

Does anybody in your household own a PC?

YES	NO
-----	----

If so, does it have access to the Internet?

YES	NO
-----	----

Would you like to see more tourists attracted to the village?

YES	NO
-----	----

Do you experience any problems with - in the village?

A40	YES	NO
Secondary Roads	YES	NO
Pavements	YES	NO
Public Footpaths	YES	NO
Street lighting	YES	NO
Telephone	YES	NO
Mobile phone reception	YES	NO
Water supply	YES	NO
TV reception	YES	NO
Trees	YES	NO
Refuse collection	YES	NO
Garden refuse	YES	NO
Postal services	YES	NO



# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

How many time a week / month+F236  
does anybody in your household use the  
bus?

<b>Gloucester</b>		per week/month *
<b>Cheltenham</b>		per week/month *
<b>Ross on Wye</b>		per week/month *
<b>Mitcheldean</b>		per week/month *
<b>Cinderford</b>		per week/month *
<b>Ruardean</b>		per week/month *
<b>Coleford</b>		per week/month *
<b>Hereford</b>		per week/month *

\* Please delete as appropriate

Does anybody in your household have  
difficulty getting to:

<b>Hospital out patients</b>	YES	NO
<b>Doctor</b>	YES	NO
<b>Chemists</b>	YES	NO
<b>Chiropodists</b>	YES	NO
<b>Optician</b>	YES	NO
<b>Dentist</b>	YES	NO
<b>Shops outside the village</b>	YES	NO

How long do you usually wait for an  
appointment to see a doctor (non  
emergency)?

SAME DAY	NEXT DAY	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	LONGER THAN 3 DAYS
----------	----------	--------	--------	-----------------------

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

Where do you usually get information about events or issues affecting Huntley?

Parish Notice Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free Paper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local paper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post Office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Library	<input type="checkbox"/>
No satisfactory single source	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please tick all that apply

Does any member of your household belong to any of the following organisations?

Autumn Leaves	YES	NO
Brownies	YES	NO
Country Dance Group	YES	NO
Cricket Club	YES	NO
Football Club	YES	NO
Gardening Club	YES	NO
Golf Club	YES	NO
Equestrian Centre	YES	NO
Huntley Relief in Need of Charity	YES	NO
Mother's Union	YES	NO
Play Group	YES	NO
Scouts	YES	NO
Women's Institute	YES	NO

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

What is your experience of the following in the last 12 months?

Please leave blank where no experience in last 12 months

**Police (non-emergency)**

**Fire & Rescue Service**

**Ambulance Emergency**

**Hospital Transport**

**Police Emergency**

EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR

In the last 12 months have you encountered any of the following incidents of anti social behaviour in the village?

**Harassment**

**Verbal abuse**

**Criminal damage / vandalism**

**Noise**

**Graffiti**

**Threatening behaviour**

**Racial abuse**

**Under age smoking or drinking**

**Substance misuse**

**Throwing missiles**

**Assault**

**Vehicle crimes**

YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO
YES	NO

Do you think police presence in the village should be increased?

YES	NO
-----	----

Are you concerned about the level of crime in Huntley?

YES	NO
-----	----

Do you use the mobile library service?

YES	NO
-----	----

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

Would you be interested in attending meetings with speakers on specific subjects?

Police	YES	NO
Fire & Rescue Service	YES	NO
Health Service	YES	NO
Health & Safety	YES	NO
First aid	YES	NO
Financial affairs for the retired	YES	NO
Others (please specify)		

Would you like more information about the activities of:

Parish Council	YES	NO
District Council	YES	NO
County Council	YES	NO

Do you support waste recycling ?

YES	NO
-----	----

Are you prepared to separate waste into separate types?

YES	NO
-----	----

Do you run your own business?

YES	NO
-----	----

Does anybody in your household have any disability listed that affects their daily life?

Vision	YES	NO
Mobility	YES	NO
Hearing	YES	NO
Handling	YES	NO

Are these people Registered Disabled Persons?

YES	NO
-----	----

If you are working, in which city / town / village do you work?

--

How do you travel to work?

BUS	CAR	M/CYCLE	BICYCLE	WALK
-----	-----	---------	---------	------

Are you interested in Parish affairs?

YES	NO
-----	----

# HUNTLEY PARISH PLAN

## SURVEY OF RESIDENTS' OPINIONS

### OPTIONAL

How many people in your household consider church / chapel to be important?

How often do your family attend a place of worship?

OFTEN	SOMETIMES	NEVER
-------	-----------	-------

If you do not attend regularly what would encourage you to do so?

.....

.....

What discourages you from attending a place of worship?

.....

.....

How many years have you lived in Huntley?

years

Please enter the number of people in your household in each age group

0-4  
5-10  
11-19  
20-64  
65-74  
75+


Please enter the number in each age group

If you have teenagers in your household would they be prepared to complete a teenager questionnaire?

YES	NO
-----	----

**ONCE THE PARISH PLAN HAS BEEN SUBMITTED ALL SURVEY FORMS WILL BE DESTROYED. NAMES AND ADDRESSES WILL ONLY BE USED TO DELIVER FOLLOW UP QUESTIONNAIRES UNLESS YOU HAVE REQUESTED A PERSONAL DISCUSSION.**

Please fill in your name & address if your teenage children are prepared to complete a questionnaire or you would be willing to complete a second questionnaire asking for your opinion on proposals that will be included in the Parish Plan.

Would you like an opportunity to discuss any of your answers on a one-to-one basis?

YES	NO
-----	----

If you would like a one-to-one discussion please enter your name and address above.

## RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003

### (SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

This summary is based on 218 survey forms that were returned by 23rd December 2003, an overall response of 51.05%. The response rate in the table below indicates the percentage of the 218 households that answered the specific question.

<b>AMENITIES</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households considering that the following amenities are important or very important to their household:		
Allotments	28%	86%
Hairdresser	68%	90%
Local Shops	93%	92%
Post Office	98%	93%
Recreation Ground	86%	91%
Red Lion	75%	90%
Village Hall	92%	93%
Household who would like to see more shops in the village.	50%	72%
Households indicating that they believe a GAS supply would be beneficial.	82%	85%
<b>BUSINESS</b>		
		RESPONSE
Estimated number of small businesses operating from residential addresses in the village.	27	89%
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; INFORMATION</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households indicating an interest in <b>BROADBAND</b> facilities.	64%	68%
Households having access to the <b>INTERNET</b> .	88%	53%

**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

**COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION** (continued)

	%	RESPONSE
Households having a <b>PERSONAL COMPUTER</b> .	59%	89%
Households indicating an interest in <b>DIGITAL TV</b> facilities.	69%	70%
Households experiencing difficulties with <b>TV RECEPTION</b> .	32%	89%
Households consulting the under mentioned sources for information about events or issues affecting the village:		
Parish Council Notice Board	18%	87%
Church Magazine	19%	
Free Newspaper	19%	
Post Office	21%	
Households expressing an interest in <b>PARISH AFFAIRS</b> .	88%	82%
Households indicating a desire for more information about <b>COUNCIL</b> activities:		
Parish Council	60%	71%
District Council	45%	65%
County Council	39%	65%
Households indicating they would be interested in attending meetings on the under mentioned topics:		
Police	44%	65%
Fire & Rescue Service	29%	58%
Health Service	29%	59%
Health & Safety	26%	60%
First Aid	36%	59%
Financial Affairs for the retired	25%	60%

**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>CRIME</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Households that have experienced anti social behaviour in 12 months ending November 2003:		
Harassment	5%	70%
Verbal abuse	5%	71%
Criminal damage / vandalism	21%	73%
Noise	29%	76%
Graffiti	12%	73%
Threatening behaviour	2%	71%
Underage smoking or drinking	26%	75%
Substance misuse	4%	70%
Throwing missiles	7%	71%
Vehicle crimes	5%	71%
Households that have a concern about the level of <b>CRIME</b> .	42%	80%
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Households considering that the <b>LOCAL SCHOOL</b> is important or very important to their household:	78%	88%
Households considering there is a need for a <b>NURSERY SCHOOL</b> in the village.	66%	50%
Households that would like some facilities for <b>ADULT EDUCATION</b> .	72%	63%



**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Households indicating that <b>maintenance</b> of the following is good or very good:		
A40	65%	93%
Secondary roads	26%	92%
Pavements	33%	94%
Public footpaths	36%	84%
Households indicating that they experience <b>other problems</b> with the following:		
A40	45%	86%
Secondary roads	37%	85%
Pavements	48%	87%
Public footpaths	25%	81%
Households believing that good <b>ROAD ACCESS</b> is important or very important to the village.	99%	93%
Households believing that Huntley's <b>RURAL LOCATION</b> is an important or very important feature of the village.	97%	91%
Household believing that the <b>SIZE OF THE VILLAGE</b> is important.	90%	91%
Households experiencing problems with <b>STREET LIGHTING</b> .	29%	87%
Households experiencing problems with <b>TREES</b> .	14%	86%
Households supporting <b>RE-CYCLING</b> .	98%	94%
Households that are prepared to <b>SEPARATE REFUSE</b> as part of re-cycling.	95%	94%

**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>HEALTH</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households where at least one person suffers from a <b>disability</b> :		
Sight	7%	78%
Mobility	20%	86%
Hearing	9%	80%
Handling	4%	75%
Households with <b>REGISTERED DISABLED PERSONS</b> .	12%	88%
Average time for people to get a <b>DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT</b> for a non emergency condition.	1.6 Days	91%
Households experiencing <b>travelling difficulty</b> attending appointments:		
Hospital out patients	17%	85%
Doctors	14%	87%
Chemists	14%	84%
Chiropodists	11%	75%
Opticians	11%	85%
Dentists	17%	85%
<b>HOUSING</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households in favour of allowing the development of :		
Affordable housing	35%	81%
Private development	9%	74%
Sheltered accommodation	35%	80%
<b>POPULATION</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households that consider Huntley to be a <b>COMMUTER</b> village	65%	84%

**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>POPULATION</b> (continued)		
	%	RESPONSE
Average period of <b>RESIDENCY</b> (years)	20.5	92%
<b>AVERAGE AGE</b> of households responding to the survey. (years)	48.5	93%
<b>PUBLIC &amp; OTHER SERVICES</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Household indicating they would welcome an increased <b>POLICE PRESENCE</b> in the village.	72%	84%
Households using the <b>MOBILE LIBRARY</b> .	19%	91%
Households experiencing problems with:		
Mobile phone reception	20%	82%
Postal services	7%	91%
Refuse collection	3%	91%
Telephone	8%	87%
Water supply	6%	88%
<b>SOCIAL ASPECTS</b>		
	%	RESPONSE
Households believing there is a need for <b>AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</b> in the village.	81%	58%
Households believing that the <b>CHURCH</b> is important or very important to their household.	76%	89%
Number of people within the household who consider the <b>CHURCH</b> to be important.	208	68%

## RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003

(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>SOCIAL ASPECTS</b> (continued)	%	RESPONSE
Household where at least one member of the family belongs to the following <b>organisations</b> :		
Autumn Leaves	13%	78%
Brownies	0%	72%
Country Dance Group	7%	76%
Cricket Club	9%	73%
Football Club	3%	72%
Gardening Club	15%	80%
Golf Club	7%	73%
Equestrian Centre	3%	73%
Huntley Relief in Need Charity	2%	71%
Mother's Union	8%	76%
Play Group	3%	73%
Scouts	4%	73%
Women's' Institute	14%	79%
<b>TOURISM</b>		
Households that would like to see more <b>TOURISTS</b> attracted to the village.	30%	80%
<b>TRAVEL / TRANSPORT</b>		
Households considering that the <b>BUS SERVICE</b> is important or very important to Huntley.	85%	90%
Three principle destinations for people using the <b>BUS SERVICES</b> :		
Gloucester	75%	52%
Mitcheldean	10%	
Ross on Wye	5%	

**RESIDENTS SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003**  
(SUMMARY OF RESPONSES)

<b>TRAVEL / TRANSPORT</b> (continued)	%	RESPONSE
Households that experience difficulty getting to <b>SHOPS</b> outside the village.	15%	85%
<b>Mode of transport to get to WORK:</b>		
Bus	9%	
Car	80%	
Other	8%	
<b>PLACE OF WORK:</b>		
Huntley	15	
Gloucester	51	
Cheltenham	8	
Other places in Gloucestershire	20	
Locations outside Gloucestershire	20	

# INDEX

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>A40</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
Environmental concerns	21	4.02	
Maintenance of -	21	4.02	
Noise from traffic	48	8.01	
Pollution from traffic	48	8.01	
Speed of traffic	52	8.02	
Traffic lights (Red Lion)	52	8.02	
Traffic on the -	48	8.00	
Volume of traffic	48	8.01	
 <b>A4136</b>			
Improvements to -	48	8.01	
Traffic on the -	52	8.02	
 <b>ADULT EDUCATION</b>			
General	89		1
General	70	12.00	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Potential interest	71	12.03	
 <b>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b>			
General	77	14.01	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Lack of -	89		1
See also <b>HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY</b>			
 <b>AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES</b>			
Transport for -	66	10.04	
 <b>AIRPORTS</b>			
Location of nearest -	61	10.00	
 <b>ALLOTMENTS</b>			
Development of -	44	7.02	
General	44	7.02	
Importance of -	44	7.02	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Letting potential	44	7.02	
Protection from development	44	7.02	
Rents: Calculation of -	44	7.02	
Strengths of village	89		1
 <b>AMBULANCE SERVICE</b>			
General	82	16.08	
Performance of -	121		26

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>AMENITIES</b>			
Allotments	44	7.02	
General	4	7.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Recreation Ground	45	7.03	
Village Hall	43	7.01	
<b>ANTI LITTER CAMPAIGNS</b>			
General	43	4.01	
<b>ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR</b>			
General	14	3.01	
Households experiencing problems	14	3.01	
Types of -	14	3.01	
<b>APPROACH TO PROJECT</b>			
General introduction	1	1.00	
<b>AUTUMN LEAVES</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>B4216</b>			
Speed limit	26	4.04	
Speed of traffic	48	8.00	
<b>BASKET BALL COURT</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>BELDISLOE CUP</b>			
Competition	30	4.08	
<b>BIFFA</b>			
Refuse collection	20	4.01	
Health & safety	29	4.07	
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>			
Airport	61	10.00	
<b>BLACK STONE</b>			
Historic monument	8	2.02	
<b>BRISTOL</b>			
Airport	61	10.00	
<b>BROADBAND</b>			
General	58	9.07	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Lack of facilities	89		1



# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>BROADBAND (continued)</b>			
Urgency of -	89		1
<b>BROWNIES</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>BURGLARIES</b>			
Number of -	16	3.03	
<b>BUS SERVICE</b>			
For shopping	66	10.05	
Frequency of -	62	10.01	
Frequency of travel to Gloucester	62	10.01	
Importance of -			
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
National Express	61	10.00	
Newent transport survey	116		21
Number of buses to key destinations	115		20
Number of services by operator	115		20
Passenger profile by destination	61	10.00	
Patronage of -	62	10.01	
See also <b>MINI BUSES</b>			
See also <b>TRANSPORT</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
Time tables	89		1
Time tables	62	10.01	
To Cheltenham	115		20
To Cinderford	115		20
To Coleford	115		20
To Gloucester	115		20
To Heathrow Airport	61	10.00	
To Hereford	115		20
To Mitcheldean	115		20
To Newent	65	10.03	
To Ross on Wye	115		20
To Ruardean	115		20
Use of -	62	10.01	
<b>BUSINESS SURVEY</b>			
Summary	5	1.03	
<b>BUS SHELTERS</b>			
Vandalism to -	15	3.02	
And litter	20	4.01	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>BUS TIME TABLE</b>			
Consolidation of -	89		1
Consolidation of -	62	10.01	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
<b>BUSINESS DIRECTORY</b>			
General	89		1
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
<b>BUSINESSES</b>			
New	89		1
And housing development	74	13.00	
Butchers	74	13.00	
Expansion plans	74	13.00	
Garages (Filling stations)	74	13.00	
General	74	13.00	
Local employment	74	13.00	
Number of -	74	13.00	
Post Office	74	13.00	
Shops	74	13.00	
Survey of -	74	13.00	
Trading area	74	13.00	
See also <b>LOCAL BUSINESSES</b>			
Relative importance of -	93		2
<b>BUTCHERS</b>			
General	74	13.00	
Initial importance of -	89		1
Relative importance of -	93		2
<b>BY-PASS</b>			
Official reviews of -	48	8.01	
<b>CALOR GAS</b>			
Village of the Year	30	4.08	
<b>CANCER</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
<b>CASTLE</b>			
Existence of -	8	2.02	
<b>CHANGES FOR THE BETTER</b>			
General	89		1
<b>CHANGES FOR THE WORSE</b>			
General	89		1

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>CHARITIES</b>			
Cancer	68	11.02	
Hartland's Educational foundation	68	11.02	
Play Group	68	11.02	
Recreation Ground	43	7.01	
Recreation Ground	68	11.02	
Relief in Need Charity	68	11.02	
School Parent Teacher & Friends Association	68	11.02	
Village Hall	43	7.01	
Village Hall	68	11.02	
<b>CHELTENHAM</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
Trains	61	10.00	
<b>CHEMISTS</b>			
Difficulty visiting -	102		10
General	31	5.00	
Travel difficulties for disabled	103		11
<b>CHILD MINDERS</b>			
Importance of -	72	12.05	
<b>CHILDREN</b>			
Education about litter	20	4.01	
Age profile	117		22
<b>CHILDREN'S EDUCATION</b>			
General	70	12.00	
<b>CHILDREN'S' PLAY AREA</b>			
General	43	7.00	
<b>CHIROPODISTS</b>			
Difficulty visiting -	102		10
<b>CHURCH</b>			
General	68	11.01	
History of -	8	2.02	
Importance of -	68	11.01	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>CHURCH MAGAZINE</b>			
General	56	9.03	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>CHURCHAM</b>			
Church Magazine	56	9.03	
<b>CINDERFORD</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>CITIZEN</b>			
Newspapers	56	9.05	
<b>CLINICS</b>			
Mobile	33	5.01	
<b>COLEFORD</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>			
Availability of information	55	9.00	
Businesses	60	9.13	
Church Magazine	56	9.03	
Fly posting	55	9.02	
Free newspaper	56	9.03	
Future of -	59	9.10	
General	55	9.00	
Information availability	55	9.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Local businesses	60	9.13	
Local newspapers	56	9.05	
Mobile library as a source of information	59	9.11	
Newsletter	56	9.03	
Newspapers	56	9.05	
Notice Boards	56	9.04	
Number of sources of information consulted	57	9.06	
Organisations in village	59	9.08	
Parish affairs	55	9.01	
Parish Newsletter	56	9.03	
Parish Notice Boards	56	9.04	
Post Office as a source of information	57	9.06	
Sources of information	55	9.00	
Sources of information used by residents	114		19
Television	60	9.14	
Village organisations	59	9.08	
Web Site	58	9.07	
With new residents	59	9.09	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>COMMUNITY MAGAZINE</b>			
See <b>NEWSLETTER</b>			
 <b>COMMUNITY SPIRIT</b>			
Changes for the worst	89		1
Strengths of village	89		1
 <b>COMMUTING</b>			
And transport	61	10.00	
General	89		1
 <b>COMPETITIONS</b>			
Bledisloe Cup	30	4.08	
For children	20	4.01	
Village of the Year	30	4.08	
 <b>CONCERNS</b>			
A40	119		24
A40 to school	120		25
By type & road	120		25
Crime	13	3.00	
Garden refuse	19		24
Garden refuse	120		25
Graffiti	38	6.04	
Hassle from adults	38	6.04	
Hassle from youths	38	6.04	
Limited youth facilities	38	6.04	
Litter	38	6.04	
Mobile phones	119		24
Mobile phones	120		25
Of teenagers	38	6.04	
Pavements	119		24
Pavements	120		25
Perceived problems (summary)	119		24
Perceived problems by road	120		25
Personal safety	38	6.04	
Postal services	119		24
Postal services	120		25
Public footpaths	119		24
Public footpaths	120		25
Refuse collection	119		24
Refuse collection	120		25
Requiring urgent action	89		1
Roads	119		24
Roads	120		25
School exams	38	6.04	
School work	38	6.04	
See also <b>RESIDENTS' CONCERNS</b>			

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>CONCERNS (continued)</b>			
Speed of traffic	38	6.04	
Street lighting	38	6.04	
Street lighting	119		24
Street lighting	120		25
Telephones	119		24
Telephones	120		25
Trees	119		24
Trees	120		25
TV reception	119		24
TV reception	120		25
Vandalism	38	6.04	
Water supply	119		24
Water supply	120		25
<b>COTTRELL'S COACHES</b>			
Fares	62	10.01	
General	61	10.00	
<b>COUNCIL TAX</b>			
Impact of crime on -	15	3.02	
Subsidy to recreation ground	68	11.02	
To pay for litter collection	20	4.01	
<b>COUNTRY DANCE GROUP</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>COUNTY COUNCIL</b>			
Interest in Council activities	113		18
Interest in Council activities	55	9.01	
Public footpaths	26	4.04	
Residents' interest in activities of -	113		18
Responsibility for pavements	24	4.03	
Responsibility for roads	21	4.02	
<b>CRICKET CLUB</b>			
General	67	11.00	
General	80	15.01	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>CRICKET PITCH</b>			
Changes for the better	89		1
<b>CRIME</b>			
And teenagers	14	3.01	
Anti social behaviour	14	3.01	
Assault	14	3.01	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>CRIME (continued)</b>			
Burglary	13	3.00	
By type	13	3.00	
Concerns about -	13	3.00	
Crime & Disorder Act 1998	13	3.00	
Crime rates	13	3.00	
Criminal damage	13	3.00	
Domestic violence	13	3.00	
Drugs	13	3.00	
Fraud	13	3.00	
General	13	3.00	
Graffiti	14	3.01	
Graffiti	17	3.04	
Harassment	14	3.01	
Increased police presence	13	3.00	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
Level of -	89		1
Neighbourhood Watch	18	3.06	
Noise	14	3.01	
Personal safety	18	3.05	
Racial abuse	14	3.01	
Reported	99		7
Reported	13	3.00	
Statistics	99		7
Substance abuse	14	3.01	
Theft	13	3.00	
Threatening behaviour	14	3.01	
Throwing missiles	14	3.01	
Under age drinking	14	3.01	
Under age drinking	18	3.07	
Vandalism	14	3.01	
Vehicle crime	14	3.01	
Verbal abuse	14	3.01	
 <b>CRIME &amp; DISORDER ACT 1998</b>			
Crime	13	3.00	
Street lighting	28	4.05	
Traffic	52	8.02	
 <b>CRIMINAL DAMAGE</b>			
General	13	3.00	
 <b>DEAN MAGNA SCHOOL</b>			
General	70	12.00	
 <b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>			
General	10	2.03	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>DENTISTS</b>			
Difficulty visiting -	102		10
General	31	5.00	
Travel difficulties for disabled	103		11
<b>DIAL - A - RIDE</b>			
General	89		1
<b>DIGITAL TV</b>			
Changes for the worst	89		1
Non availability	89		1
Initial prioritisation of problems	93		2
<b>DISABILITY</b>			
By age group and type	105		12
Households with -	31	5.00	
Registered Disabled People	31	5.00	
See also <b>DISABLED RESIDENTS</b>			
<b>DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT 1995</b>			
Village Hall	43	7.01	
<b>DISABLED RESIDENTS</b>			
By age groups and disability	105		12
Number of -	31	5.00	
See also <b>DISABILITY</b>			
Transport for -	103		11
Transport to supermarkets	66	10.05	
Travel to medical appointments	102		10
Travelling difficulties	103		11
Type of disability	105		12
<b>DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>			
Re-cycling	29	4.07	
Requests for more information about actives	113		18
Residents' interest in activities of -	113		18
Residents' interest in activities of -	55	9.01	
<b>DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS</b>			
Transport to -	31	5.00	
Transport to Newent	65	10.03	
Waiting time for -	31	5.00	
<b>DOCTORS' SURGERY</b>			
General	31	5.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Internet link to -	89		1



## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>DOCTORS' SURGERY (continued)</b>			
Wrong location of -	89		1
<b>DOGGIE BINS</b>			
Provision of -	20	4.01	
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>			
Number of incidents	13	3.00	
<b>DRINKING</b>			
Under age	20	4.01	
<b>DRUGS</b>			
Number of incidents	13	3.00	
<b>DUKES TRAVEL</b>			
General	61	10.00	
Number of buses to key destinations	115		20
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Adult education	70	12.00	
Adult education	71	12.03	
After school clubs	70	12.00	
Child minders	70	12.00	
Child minders	72	12.05	
Children	70	12.01	
Further education	71	12.02	
General	70	12.00	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Nursery Schools	70	12.00	
Perceived need of -	70	12.00	
Play Groups	72	12.06	
See also SCHOOLS or ADULT EDUCATION			
<b>ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION</b>			
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>			
Performance of -	121		26
See also under name of service			
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>			
Local	74	13.00	
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Concerns about -	20	4.00	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>ENVIRONMENT (continued)</b>			
General	20	4.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
<b>EQUESTRIAN CENTRE</b>			
General	67	11.00	
General	80	15.04	
Initial prioritisation of importance			2
<b>FIRE &amp; RESCUE SERVICE</b>			
General	82	16.09	
Performance of -	121		26
<b>FLOWERS</b>			
Planting of -	30	4.08	
<b>FLY POSTERS</b>			
And communication	55	9.01	
Environmental impact of -	20	4.01	
<b>FOOTBALL CLUB</b>			
General	67	11.00	
General	80	15.02	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Strengths of village	89		1
Use of recreation ground	45	7.03	
<b>FOOTBALL TEAM</b>			
Youth	39	6.05	
<b>FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT</b>			
Six-a-side competition	80	15.02	
<b>FOOTPATHS</b>			
See <b>PUBLIC FOOTPATHS</b>			
<b>FOREST REVIEW</b>			
Newspapers	56	9.05	
<b>FORESTER, THE</b>			
Newspapers	56	9.05	
<b>FRAUD</b>			
General	13	3.00	
<b>FURTHER EDUCATION</b>			
After GCSE	71	12.02	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>GARAGES</b>			
General	74	13.00	
Video hire	40	6.06	
Video hire	74	13.00	
Youth appeal	40	6.06	
<b>GARDEN REFUSE</b>			
Collection of -	29	4.07	
Concerns about -	29	4.07	
Concerns about -	119		24
General	29	4.07	
<b>GARDENING CLUB</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>GAS SUPPLY</b>			
General	89		1
General	82	16.10	
<b>GEORGE YOUNG</b>			
Number of buses to key destinations	61	10.00	
<b>GLOUCESTER</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
Bus service to -	62	10.01	
Traffic to -	48	8.01	
Trains	61	10.00	
<b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>			
Housing Needs Survey	78	14.02	
<b>GOLF CLUB</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Membership of -	67	11.00	
General	80	15.03	
<b>GRAFFITI</b>			
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
General	17	3.04	
<b>GREEN BINS</b>			
Changes for the better	89		1
<b>GULLIES (Drains)</b>			
Clearance of -	21	4.02	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>HAIRDRESSER</b>			
Importance of -	74	13.00	
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>HAMLEN CLOSE</b>			
Retired peoples' housing	78	14.03	
<b>HARASSMENT</b>			
Number of incidents	14	3.01	
<b>HARTLAND'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
<b>HEALTH FACILITIES</b>			
Care Centres	33	5.01	
Disabled residents	31	5.00	
General	31	5.00	
Huntley village hall	31	5.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Local Surgeries	31	5.00	
Maternity facilities	33	5.01	
Mobile clinics	33	5.01	
Out of hours callout	33	5.01	
PATCH	33	5.01	
Registered Disabled People	31	5.00	
Retired people	31	5.00	
Transport to -	31	5.00	
Village surgery	31	5.00	
Waiting time for doctor's appointments	31	5.00	
West Gloucestershire PCT	33	5.01	
<b>HEREFORD</b>			
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>HGV's</b>			
Volume of -	48	8.01	
<b>HIGHNAM</b>			
Traffic via -	48	8.01	
<b>HIGHWAYS AGENCY</b>			
Responsibilities of -	21	4.02	
<b>HISTORIC BUILDINGS</b>			
List of -	89		1
<b>HOSPITAL TRANSPORT</b>			
Opinion of -	82	16.07	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>HOSPITAL TRANSPORT (continued)</b>			
Out patient appointments	31	5.00	
Performance of -	121		26
Travel difficulties for disabled	31	5.00	
<b>HOUSEHOLDS</b>			
With disabled persons	31	5.00	
<b>HOUSES</b>			
Changes of ownership 2000 - 2003	76	14.00	
Number of households 1951 - 2001	76	14.00	
Support for additional housing	118		23
<b>HOUSING</b>			
Affordable housing	78	14.04	
Changes of occupants	76	14.00	
Existing households	78	14.02	
For young people	78	14.04	
General	76	14.00	
Growth of -	76	14.00	
Housing for the elderly	78	14.03	
Housing Needs Survey	78	14.04	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
New development	77	14.01	
Private development	77	14.01	
Residents' survey	118		23
Residents' survey	77	14.01	
Sheltered accommodation	77	14.01	
<b>HOUSING DEVELOPMENT</b>			
And businesses	74	13.00	
<b>HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY</b>			
Resident's comment	77	14.01	
Summary of results	78	14.02	
<b>HUNTLEY COURT</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
<b>HUNTLEY FOOTBALL CLUB</b>			
See <b>FOOTBALL CLUB</b>			
<b>HUNTLEY MANOR</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
<b>HUNTLEY RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>HUNTLEY SCHOOL</b>			
Importance of -	70	12.01	
Number of children	70	12.01	
Requirements	70	12.01	
<b>ICE SKATING</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>IMAGE OF VILLAGE</b>			
Deterioration of -	20	4.00	
<b>IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE</b>			
Theoretical plan	1	1.00	
<b>INFORMATION</b>			
Availability of -	60	9.12	
Sources of -	114		19
Sources of -	57	9.06	
Sources of local -	55	9.00	
<b>INFORMATION CENTRE</b>			
Need for -	89		1
<b>INTERNET FACILITIES</b>			
Improvement in -	89		1
<b>LEISURE ACTIVITIES</b>			
For teenagers	35	6.02	
For teenagers	107		14
<b>LIBRARY</b>			
See <b>MOBILE LIBRARY</b>			
<b>LIGHTING</b>			
See <b>STREET LIGHTING</b>			
<b>LITTER</b>			
And underage drinking	18	3.07	
Changes for the worst	89		1
General	20	4.01	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
'Spring clean'	20	4.01	
<b>LITTERBINS</b>			
Need for -	20	4.01	
<b>LOCAL AFFAIRS</b>			
Interest in -	55	9.01	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>LOCAL BUSINESSES</b>			
And communication	60	9.13	
General	56	9.05	
<b>LOCAL SHOPS</b>			
See SHOPS			
<b>LONGHOPE</b>			
Church Magazine	56	9.03	
<b>LORRIES</b>			
Volume of -	48	8.01	
<b>LOW COST HOUSING</b>			
See AFFORDABLE HOUSING			
<b>LUNCH CLUB</b>			
Vision of the future	89		1
<b>LYDNEY</b>			
Trains	61	10.00	
<b>MAIN ROAD</b>			
See A40			
<b>MATERNITY FACILITIES</b>			
Future plans	33	5.01	
<b>MAY HILL</b>			
Church Magazine	56	9.03	
<b>MINI BUSES</b>			
Availability of -	66	10.04	
Volunteer drivers	66	10.04	
<b>MITCHELDEAN</b>			
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
Doctors' surgery	31	5.00	
<b>MOBILE LIBRARY</b>			
As a source of information	59	9.11	
<b>MOBILE PHONES</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
Reception		16.02	
<b>MONMOUTH</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>MOTHER'S UNION</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>NATIONAL EXPRESS</b>			
Services to London & elsewhere	61	10.00	
<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b>			
Crime prevention	16	3.03	
Extension of scheme	18	3.06	
<b>NEW RESIDENTS</b>			
Integration of -	89		1
Provision of information for -	59	9.09	
<b>NEWENT</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	65	10.03	
Doctors' surgery	31	5.00	
Shopping and other facilities	65	10.03	
Survey to establish demand	116		21
<b>NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL</b>			
Number of children	70	12.01	
<b>NEWENT DIAL-A-RIDE</b>			
Mini -bus service to Newent	65	10.03	
<b>NEWENT LANE</b>			
Public footpath	26	4.04	
Speed limit	26	4.04	
<b>NEWENT TOWN INITIATIVE</b>			
Bus service to -	65	10.03	
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>			
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Introduction of -	56	9.03	
Need for -	89		1
<b>NEWSPAPERS</b>			
See also <b>LOCAL NEWSPAPERS</b>			
Summary of local -	56	9.05	
<b>NHS</b>			
See <b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE PCT</b>			
<b>NOISE</b>			
Concerns about -	14	3.01	



# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>NOISE (continued)</b>			
From traffic	48	8.01	
<b>NOTICE BOARD</b>			
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Limitations of -	56	9.04	
Need for -	89		1
<b>NURSERY SCHOOLS</b>			
Importance of -	70	12.00	
Potential demand for -	72	12.04	
<b>OAK WAY</b>			
Trees	29	4.06	
<b>OLD BUILDINGS</b>			
Summary of historic -	8	2.02	
<b>OLD RECTORY</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
<b>OPTICIANS</b>			
Travel difficulties for disabled	103		11
Difficulty visiting -	31	5.00	
<b>ORCHARD WAY</b>			
Trees	29	4.06	
<b>ORGANISATIONS</b>			
For retired people	93		2
General	67	11.00	
In the village	59	9.08	
Membership of -	67	11.00	
Residents' interest in speakers on -	68	11.02	
See also under name of organisation			
<b>PARISH AFFAIRS</b>			
Communication of -	55	9.01	
Residents' interest in -	55	9.01	
<b>PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
Interest in -	55	9.01	
Interest in Council activities	113		18
Requests for more information about activities	113		18
Residents' interest in activities of -	113		18
<b>PARISH HANDBOOK</b>			
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>PARISH NEWSLETTER</b>			
See <b>NEWSLETTER</b>			
<b>PARISH NOTICE BOARD</b>			
See <b>NOTICE BOARD</b>			
<b>PARISH PLAN</b>			
Approach to project	1	1.00	
<b>PAVEMENTS</b>			
Along A40	21	4.02	
Changes for the worst	89		1
Concerns about -	119		24
Condition of -	24	4.03	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
Maintenance of -	24	4.03	
Repairs to -	89		1
Street lighting	28	4.05	
Urgency of repair	89		1
<b>PENSIONERS NEEDS</b>			
Survey of -	89		1
<b>PERSONAL SAFETY</b>			
General	18	3.05	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
<b>PERSONAL SECURITY</b>			
Changes for the worst	89		1
<b>PLACE OF WORK</b>			
Mode of transport	63	10.02	
Residents -	63	10.02	
<b>PLAY GROUP</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
General	67	11.00	
Number of -	72	12.06	
<b>POLICE</b>			
General	82	16.06	
Loss of police station	89		1
Performance of -	121		26
Performance of emergency calls	121		26
Performance of non emergency calls	121		26

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>POLLUTION</b>			
From traffic	48	8.01	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
<b>POOL HALL / TABLE</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>POPULATION</b>			
1931 - 2001	6	2.00	
Age profile 1991 - 2001	8	2.03	
Age profile 2001 (Detailed)	8	2.03	
Ageing	89		1
General	8	2.03	
Percentage by age 1981 - 2001	8	2.03	
Period of residence	97		5
<b>POST OFFICE</b>			
As a source of information	57	9.06	
General	74	13.00	
Importance of -	74	13.00	
Initial prioritisation of interest	93		2
Potential loss of -	89		1
See also <b>BUSINESSES</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>POSTAL SERVICES</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
Late deliveries	82	16.05	
<b>POSTER COMPETITION</b>			
For children	20	4.01	
<b>PRINCE'S TRUST</b>			
Assistance from -	39	6.05	
<b>PROBLEMS</b>			
See <b>CONCERNS</b>			
<b>PROJECTS</b>			
By generic group	1	1.00	
Initial list of -	93		2
List of -	85	18.00	
<b>PUBLIC FOOTPATHS</b>			
Awareness of -	26	4.04	
Changes for the worst	89		1
Concerns about -	119		24
Condition of -	26	4.04	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>PUBLIC FOOTPATHS (continued)</b>			
From School	26	4.04	
General	26	4.04	
Importance of -	26	4.04	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
Maintenance of -	26	4.04	
Number of -	26	4.04	
Street lighting	28	4.05	
Use of -	26	4.04	
 <b>PUBLIC HOUSE</b>			
See <b>RED LION INN</b>			
 <b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b>			
Ambulance service	82	16.08	
Fire & Rescue Service	82	16.09	
Gas supply	82	16.10	
General	81	16.00	
General	81	16.00	
Hospital transport	82	16.07	
Mobile phones	81	16.02	
Police	82	16.06	
Postal services	82	16.05	
Refuse collection	81	16.04	
Telephones	81	16.01	
Water supply	81	16.03	
 <b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</b>			
Frequency of travel to Gloucester	62	10.01	
General	61	10.00	
See also <b>BUS SERVICE</b>			
Travel by bus to work	63	10.02	
 <b>RAILWAY STATIONS</b>			
Nearest	61	10.00	
 <b>RECREATION GROUND</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
Drainage problems	89		1
General	45	7.03	
Grass cutting	45	7.03	
Importance of -	45	7.03	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Strengths of village	89		1
Use of -	45	7.03	
Youth appeal	40	6.06	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>RECYCLING</b>			
General	29	4.07	
Waste	89		1
<b>RED LION INN</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
Importance of -	74	13.00	
Importance of -	74	13.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>REFLECTIVE CLOTHING</b>			
For children walking to school	89		1
<b>REFUSE COLLECTION</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
General	29	4.07	
Performance of Biffa	81	16.04	
See also <b>GARDEN REFUSE</b> and <b>RE-CYCLING</b>			
<b>REGISTERED DISABLED PEOPLE</b>			
Number of -	31	5.00	
Travel difficulties	103		11
<b>RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
<b>RENTS</b>			
Allotments	44	7.02	
<b>RESIDENCE</b>			
Period of -	98		6
<b>RESIDENT APATHY</b>			
Changes for the worst	89		1
<b>RESIDENTS</b>			
More involvement in local issues	89		1
More support for -	89		1
<b>RESIDENTS CONCERNS</b>			
A40	120		25
Crime	13	3.00	
Garden refuse	81	16.04	
Litter	20	4.01	
Main road	21	4.02	
Mobile phones	81	16.02	
Pavements	24	4.03	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>RESIDENTS CONCERNS (continued)</b>			
Postal services	82	16.05	
Public footpaths	26	4.04	
Refuse collection	81	16.04	
Secondary roads	21	4.02	
See also <b>CONCERNS</b>			
Street lighting	28	4.05	
Telephones	81	16.01	
Trees	29	4.06	
TV reception	60	9.14	
Water supply	81	16.03	
<b>RESIDENTS SURVEY</b>			
Age profile compared to 2001 census	96		4
Average age of households responding	96		4
Average number of people per household	3	1.01	
Importance of rural location	100		8
Importance of size of village	100		8
Overview	3	1.01	
Percentage of population covered	3	1.01	
Period of residence	98		6
Period of residence of principal respondents	3	1.01	
Questionnaire	3	1.01	
Questionnaire	123		27
Response by age	3	1.01	
Response by age group inc Youth Survey	3	1.01	
Response by age group inc Youth Survey	95		3
Response by road	3	1.01	
Response by road	97		5
Response profile by age group compared with 2001 census	3	1.01	
Response profile by age group compared with 2001 census	96		4
Response rate	3	1.01	
Summary of findings	131		28
Summary of findings	3	1.01	
Views of recommended action	85	18.00	
<b>RIBSTON SCHOOL</b>			
General	70	12.01	
<b>ROAD ACCESS</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>ROADS</b>			
Access to village	21	4.02	
Changes for the worst	89		1
Concerns about -	119		24
Condition of -	21	4.02	
Importance of good access	101		9

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>ROADS (continued)</b>			
Improvement in -	89		1
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
Maintenance of -	21	4.02	
Repairs to -	89		1
Secondary	21	4.02	
See also A40 and SECONDARY ROADS			
See also SECONDARY ROADS			
Traffic on A40	48	8.01	
Traffic on A4136	48	8.01	
Urgency of repair	89		1
<b>ROSS ON WYE</b>			
Attraction for youth leisure	35	6.02	
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>ROSS ROAD</b>			
And litter	20	4.01	
<b>RUARDEAN</b>			
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>SCHOOL</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER &amp; FRIENDS ASSOCIATION</b>			
Charity	68	11.02	
<b>SCHOOLS</b>			
See HUNTLEY SCHOOL and NURSERY SCHOOL			
<b>SCOUTS</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>SECONDARY ROADS</b>			
Concerns about -	21	4.02	
Maintenance of -	21	4.02	
<b>SERVICE CONTRACTS</b>			
Litter -	20	4.01	
Pavements	24	4.03	
Roads	21	4.02	
<b>SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION</b>			
General	78	14.03	
Initial prioritisation of need	93		2
Wardens	78	14.03	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>SHOPPING</b>			
Transport for -	62	10.01	
Travel difficulties for disabled	103		11
<b>SHOPS</b>			
Additional	74	13.00	
And size of village	46	7.04	
Butchers	46	7.04	
Concerns about -	74	13.00	
Demand for more -	110		16
Demand for more -	46	7.04	
Difficulty shopping	103		11
Difficulty visiting -	110		16
Garages (Filling stations)	46	7.04	
General	46	7.04	
Importance of -	46	7.04	
Importance of to households by age groups	110		16
Newsagents	46	7.04	
Petrol filling stations	46	7.04	
Post Office	46	7.04	
Strengths of village	89		1
Wrong location of -	89		1
<b>SIGNS</b>			
For the village	30	4.08	
<b>SIZE OF VILLAGE</b>			
Importance of -	100		8
Residents' views about -	110		16
<b>SKATE PARK</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>SOCIAL ASPECTS</b>			
General	67	11.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
<b>SOCIAL GROUPS</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS</b>			
Autumn Leaves	67	11.00	
Brownies	67	11.00	
Cricket Club	67	11.00	
Equestrian Centre	67	11.00	
Football Club	67	11.00	
General	67	11.00	
Golf Club	67	11.00	



## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS (contined)</b>			
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Mothers' Union	67	11.00	
Scouts	67	11.00	
Women's Institute	67	11.00	
<b>SPEED LIMITS</b>			
General	52	8.02	
<b>SPEED OF TRAFFIC</b>			
East bound at Golf Course	111		17
Eastbound at bus stop	111		17
Eastbound at Golf Course	111		17
Eastbound at Newent Lane	111		17
Eastbound at School	111		17
Eastbound at War Memorial	111		17
Eastbound at War Memorial	111		17
General	52	8.02	
Highways Agency Survey	52	8.02	
Historical problem of -	48	8.01	
Parish Council Survey	52	8.02	
Safety concerns	52	8.02	
Speed cameras	52	8.02	
Summary of eastbound traffic	111		17
Summary of westbound traffic	111		17
Survey summary	48	8.00	
Westbound at bus stop	111		17
Westbound at Golf Course	111		17
Westbound at Newent Lane	111		17
Westbound at School	111		17
Westbound at War Memorial	111		17
Westbound at War Memorial	111		17
Youth Survey	38	6.04	
Youth Survey	52	8.02	
<b>SPORT</b>			
General	80	15.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
<b>SPORTS CLUB</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>STAGECOACH</b>			
Bus service to -	61	10.00	
<b>STOCKS</b>			
Historical summary	8	2.02	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>STREET LIGHTING</b>			
Concerns about -	28	4.05	
Concerns about -	119		24
General	28	4.05	
Lack of -	28	4.05	
Pavements	28	4.05	
Public Footpaths	28	4.05	
Upgrading	28	4.05	
<b>STRENGTHS OF VILLAGE</b>			
General	89		1
<b>SURVEYS</b>			
See BUSINESS SURVEY, RESIDENTS' SURVEY, SPEED			
<b>SWIMMING POOL</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>TAKE-A-WAY FOOD</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>TAXI SERVICE</b>			
Availability of -	66	10.05	
<b>TEENAGERS</b>			
Facilities for -	89		1
Integration into the community	89		1
Lack of facilities	89		1
See also YOUTH			
<b>TELEPHONE</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
General	81	16.01	
See also MOBILE PHONES			
<b>TELEVISION</b>			
Reception	60	9.14	
<b>TENNIS COURT</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>THEFT</b>			
Concerns about -	16	3.03	
<b>THEFT / BURGLARY</b>			
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>TIBBERTON</b>			
Traffic via -	48	8.01	
<b>TIBBERTON LANE</b>			
Pavements	24	4.03	
<b>TOPICS</b>			
For inclusion in the Parish Plan	93		2
<b>TOURISM</b>			
General	84	17.00	
Initial prioritisation of importance			2
Organised escorted walks	84	17.00	
Walks leaflets	84	17.00	
<b>TRAFFIC</b>			
A40 to school	89		1
Average daily movements	48	8.01	
Average hourly movements	48	8.01	
Average speed 1997 & 2003	52	8.02	
Average speeds	111		17
Busy periods	48	8.01	
Changes for the worst	89		1
Congestion	48	8.01	
Danger to children	52	8.02	
Effect of Severn Bridge tolls	48	8.01	
General	48	8.00	
Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV)	48	8.01	
Highways Agency Survey	48	8.01	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
On A40	48	8.01	
Overtaking	52	8.02	
Pollution	48	8.01	
See also <b>SPEED OF TRAFFIC</b>			
Speed of -	89		1
Speed of -	52	8.02	
Speed survey	52	8.02	
Vehicles exceeding speed limit	52	8.02	
Volume of -	89		1
Volume of -	48	8.01	
<b>TRAFFIC LIGHTS</b>			
At Red Lion	54	8.03	
Changes for the better	89		1
Speed cameras on -	89		1
<b>TRAFFIC SURVEY</b>			
See <b>SPEED SURVEY</b>			

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>TRAINS</b>			
General	61	10.00	
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
Cottrell's Coaches	115		20
Difficulty attending medical appointments	102		10
Dukes Travel	115		20
For after school activities	89		1
For shopping	62	10.01	
For the disabled	66	10.05	
For youth activities	66	10.04	
General	61	10.00	
George Young	115		20
Initial prioritisation of importance -	93		2
See also <b>BUS SERVICE</b> and <b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</b>			
Stagecoach	115		20
To Doctors' surgeries	89		1
To hospital	89		1
To school	35	6.02	
To work	63	10.02	
To youth activities	35	6.02	
Use of buses	62	10.01	
<b>TRAVEL</b>			
Difficulties for disabled	31	5.00	
Difficulty travelling to medical facilities	102		10
For disabled residents	103		11
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Method of travel to leisure activities (teenagers)	35	6.02	
Mode of transport to work	63	10.02	
Place of work	63	10.02	
To leisure activities (teenagers)	35	6.02	
<b>TREES</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
General	29	4.06	
Parish Council responsibility	29	4.06	
Preservation orders	29	4.06	
<b>TURNPIKE HOUSE</b>			
Historic building	8	2.02	
<b>TV RECEPTION</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
<b>UNDER AGE DRINKING</b>			
And litter	20	4.01	
Anti social behaviour	14	3.01	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>UNDER AGE DRINKING (continued)</b>			
Control of -	18	3.07	
<b>VANDALISM</b>			
Anti social behaviour	18	3.01	
Attention to -	89		1
Changes for the worst	89		1
Impact on Council Tax	15	3.02	
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
Problems of -	15	3.02	
<b>VERBAL ABUSE</b>			
Anti social behaviour	14	3.01	
<b>VERGES</b>			
Clearance of litter	20	4.01	
Litter on -	20	4.01	
<b>VILLAGE</b>			
History of -	7	2.01	
Image of -	89		1
Image of -	30	4.08	
Importance of size	110		16
Profile of -	6	2.00	
Size of -	89		1
Size of -	110		16
<b>VILLAGE FETE</b>			
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
<b>VILLAGE HALL</b>			
And litter	20	4.01	
Changes for the better	89		1
Charity	68	11.02	
Conversion into youth centre	39	6.05	
Disability Discrimination Act 1995	43	7.01	
Doctors' surgery	31	5.00	
Extension to -	43	7.01	
Floor	43	7.01	
General	43	7.01	
Graffiti	17	3.04	
History	43	7.01	
Importance of -	43	7.01	
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Internet link to Doctors' surgery	33	5.01	
Lack of improvements	89		1
Lack of interest	89		1
Oil tank	43	7.01	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>VILLAGE HALL (continued)</b>			
Refurbishment of -	43	7.01	
Repairs to -	89		1
Strengths of village	89		1
Vandalism to -	15	3.02	
Windows	43	7.01	
<b>VILLAGE IMAGE</b>			
Changes for the worst	89		1
<b>VILLAGE LOCATION</b>			
Strengths of village	89		1
<b>VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS</b>			
See also <b>ORGANISATIONS</b> and <b>SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS</b>			
<b>VILLAGE SIGN</b>			
Erection of -	30	4.08	
<b>VISION OF THE FUTURE</b>			
With a Parish Plan	89		1
Without a Parish Plan	89		1
<b>WALKS</b>			
Tourism leaflets	84	17.00	
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>			
Concerns about -	119		24
General	81	16.03	
<b>WEB SITE</b>			
As an aid to improved communication	58	9.07	
<b>WEEDS</b>			
Clearance of -	21	4.02	
<b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE PCT</b>			
Plans	33	5.01	
<b>WHAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED</b>			
But hasn't	89		1
<b>WOMEN'S INSTITUTE</b>			
General	67	11.00	
<b>WOODEND FARM</b>			
General	80	15.04	

# INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>WORK</b>			
Place of -	63	10.02	
Travel to -	63	10.02	
<b>YOUNG GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b>			
General	39	6.05	
<b>YOUTH</b>			
Ambitions after completing GCSE's	34	6.01	
Best things about Huntley	40	6.06	
Concerns of -	108		15
Concerns of -	38	6.04	
Desirable facilities	42	6.08	
Facilities in Huntley	35	6.02	
General	34	6.00	
Graffiti	108		15
Having nothing to do	108		15
Initial prioritisation of concern about -	93		2
Involvement in local issues	38	6.03	
Leisure activities	107		14
Litter	108		15
Making Huntley a better place to live	42	6.08	
Opinions about facilities in Huntley	35	6.02	
Questionnaire	34	6.00	
Questionnaire objectives	34	6.00	
Response rate to questionnaire	34	6.00	
Spare time activity	107		14
Speed of traffic	108		15
Suggested activities	369	6.05	
Travel to leisure activities	35	6.02	
Travel to local towns	35	6.02	
Travel to school	35	6.02	
Vandalism	108		15
Worst things about Huntley	41	6.07	
Youth Café	39	6.05	
Youth Councils	38	6.03	
Youth Councils	39	6.05	
<b>YOUTH CAFÉ</b>			
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>YOUTH CLUB</b>			
Vision of the future	89		1
Initial prioritisation of importance	93		2
Demand for -	39	6.05	
<b>YOUTH COUNCILS</b>			
Formation of -	20	4.01	

## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	NARRATIVE	APPENDIX
<b>YOUTH FACILITIES</b>			
Initial prioritisation of concern	93		2
<b>YOUTH SURVEY</b>			
By age group	5	1.02	3
Overview	5	1.02	
Response rate	5	1.02	
Questionnaire response	106		13