

VVLP007176 NW

Waberthwaite and Corney PARISH PLAN

December 2004



Acknowledgements

Waberthwaite and Corney Parish Council thank the following organisations and people for their help, support and contributions to the production of this Plan:

Countryside Agency and Voluntary Action Cumbria: for guidance and funding.

Office for National Statistics: for permission to use Census data (*Table 1*).

The Neighbourhood Forum: for their contribution to funding.

Copeland Community Development Officer: for his interest and support and funding of the public launch.

The many individuals within and outside the Parish who gave advice on the Questionnaire, filled it in, or helped with its distribution; and those who contributed to, commented on, or made suggestions for the many early drafts of both the Plan and the Questionnaire.

Introduction

The purpose of this Plan is to identify the concerns and ambitions of Parish residents and, based on those, to formulate policies which can link into the plans of other organisations, provide a focus for future Council business and define the manner in which it is carried out.

The Plan has been taken through its necessary stages by a steering group of the Parish Council who assessed the local support for a Parish Plan, prepared bids for funding from the Countryside Agency and Neighbourhood Forum, produced and circulated a Local Questionnaire, gathered it in, arranged for data collation and analysis, liaised with external organisations, held discussions within the community, formulated policies on the basis of the findings, and presented the Plan for endorsement by the Council as a whole.

In producing the Plan members of the steering group have attended discussions, presentations and consultations with: Cumbria County Council, Copeland Borough Council, West Cumbria Partnership, West Cumbria Primary Care Trust, Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria and Copeland Neighbourhood Development Officer, Copeland Community Safety Officer, the Police and the Countryside Agency - all of whom have afforded good advice or background information which has been invaluable, and some of whom have provided essential funding.

Finally, my thanks go out to the parishioners of Waberthwaite and Corney for their support in responding to the Questionnaire, to the school for canvassing opinions from its pupils, and to the individuals who offered suggestions and issues not covered by the Questionnaire. This is their Plan, without their input the Plan could not exist.

NORMAN SOUTHWARD

Chairman

Waberthwaite and Corney Parish Council

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Appendix 1: List of Parish Council Powers

Summary of Policies and Proposals

Housing

- H1** Support for development.
- H2** Size and location of development.
- H3** Affordable housing.

Crime and Policing

- P1** Neighbourhood watch scheme
- P2** Relationship with the Police
- P3** Police visibility

Transport

- T1** Representation on transport groups
- T2** Support for transport initiatives

Services and Communications

- S1** Broadband

Leisure and Social Contact

- L1** Community Centre

Youth

- Y1** Initiatives and facilities for young people

Roads and Road Safety

- R1** De-trunking
- R2** Pedestrian road safety
- R3** Motorist road safety
- R4** Road maintenance
- R5** Maintenance of footpaths and bridleways
- R6** Cycle ways
- R7** County class roads

Environment

- E1** Valuing the environment
- E2** Representation on the Ravenglass Coastal Partnership
- E3** Separating waste

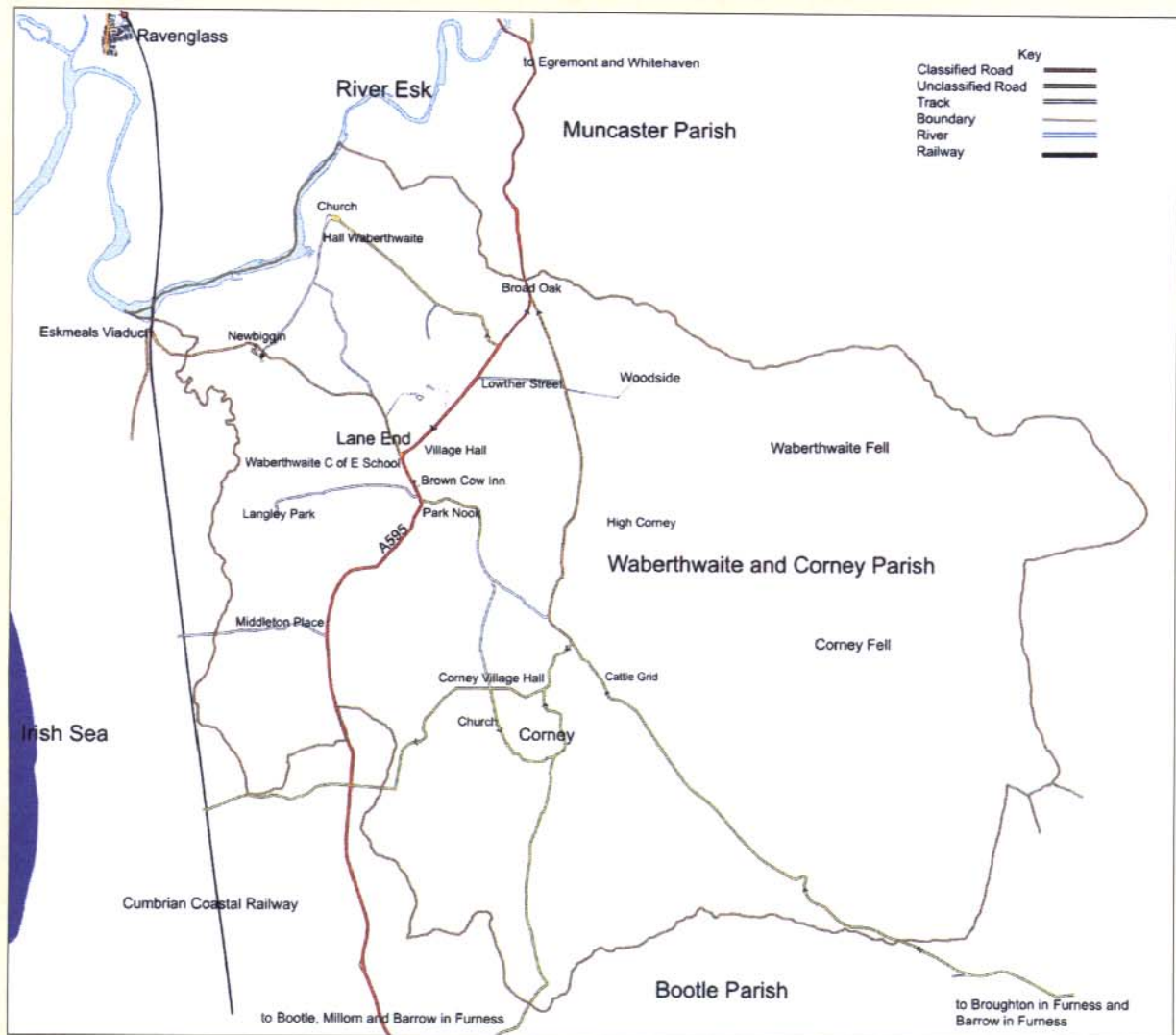
Delivering the plan

- D1** Implementation of action plan
- D2** Other Planning Authorities

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Map of Waberthwaite and Corney Parish



Chapter 1: The Parish Description and Character

- 1.1 Waberthwaite and Corney Parish in the Copeland District of Cumbria is a small rural Parish covering an area of 2506 hectares. Situated entirely within the Lake District National Park, it lists among its assets an old granite quarry which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); the Esk estuary which is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), a designation for areas of European importance; a 900 year-old church and the remains of an Anglian cross of similar period. On the fells to the east of the Parish lies Barnscar, an area where Iron Age and Bronze Age remains indicate the long period of settlement in the area.
- 1.2 From the eastern boundary which traverses the peaks of Buckbarrow, Burn Moor, Whitfell and Fox Crag, the land sweeps down Waberthwaite and Corney Fells to the western boundary along Eskmeals Pool not far from the sea. The northern boundary follows Rowantree Gill, Samgarth Beck, and Broadoak Beck to the tidal south and east median of the River Esk. The southern boundary is formed by Kinmont Beck, with head waters on the slopes of Buckbarrow.
- 1.3 The landscape is pleasantly varied and there are footpaths and bridleways giving access to fells, woods, estuary, marsh, lowland meadow, and grazing land. Wildlife includes fox, badger, deer and a variety of birds.
- 1.4 **Statistics.** Official census figures for 1991 and 2001 are shown in Table 1. Other statistics quoted come from a Local Questionnaire circulated within the Parish. Returns were received from 50% of occupied households, representing 40% of the Parish population. All areas of the Parish and all age groups were represented in the returns (*Figures 1 and 2*).
- 1.5 **Population.** The population is 274 and has not changed between the 1991 and 2001 census, but the age profile has changed in a way which indicates an aging population (*Table 1*). The population density is classified as 'super-sparse' (*Table 1*). Much of the population is contained in some 10 very small and scattered hamlets and the rest in individual farmsteads. All are too small to provide a wide range of services, though the largest, Lane End, does have a shop with a Post Office and is the location of the Village Hall and school, and could therefore be considered as a village centre.
- 1.6 **Services.** The Parish is generally well provided with mains services, though some houses still have no mains water and there is no mains sewage in the Parish. The Parish has managed to retain two churches, its school, a Post Office, a pub and local shop.

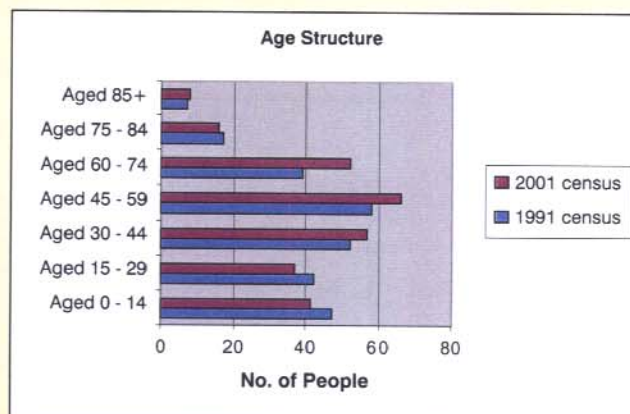
Table 1: 1991 and 2001 Census Statistics

POPULATION

Population in 1991	274
Population in 2001	274
Population change	0

POPULATION DENSITY

Area (hectares)	2506
Persons per hectare	0.11
Sparsity banding	Super sparse
Cumbria persons per hectare	0.7
Cumbria sparsity banding	Sparse



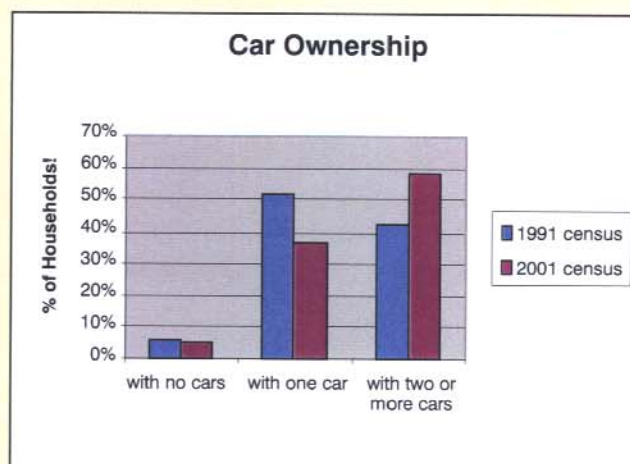
CAR OWNERSHIP

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH CARS

1991 census	98
2001 census	101

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH:

No cars (decrease)	-1
One car (decrease)	-14
Two or more cars (increase)	+18



HOUSEHOLD DETAILS

Total number of dwellings 1991	112
Total number of dwellings 2001	112

HOUSE TYPES (2001)

Detached	66
Semi-detached	24
Terraced	20
Other	2
Caravans	0
Purpose-built flats	0

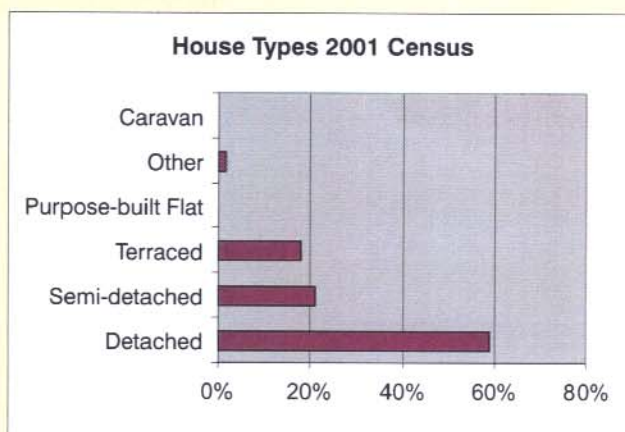


Figure 1

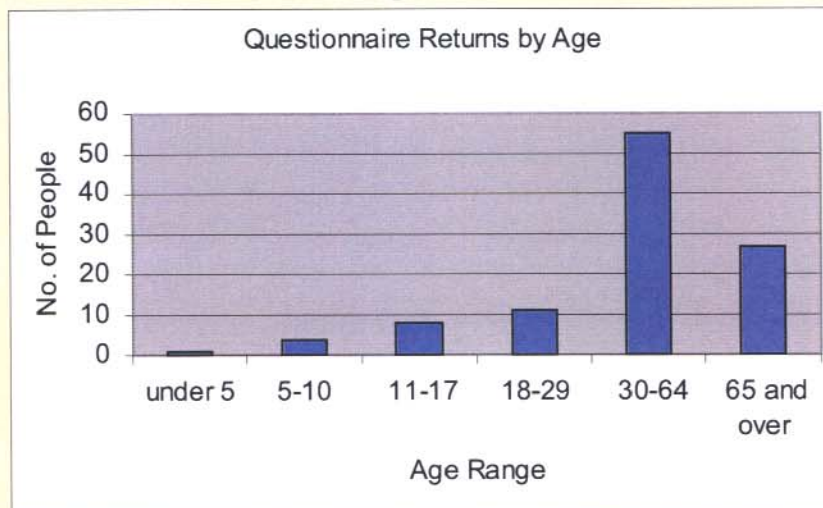
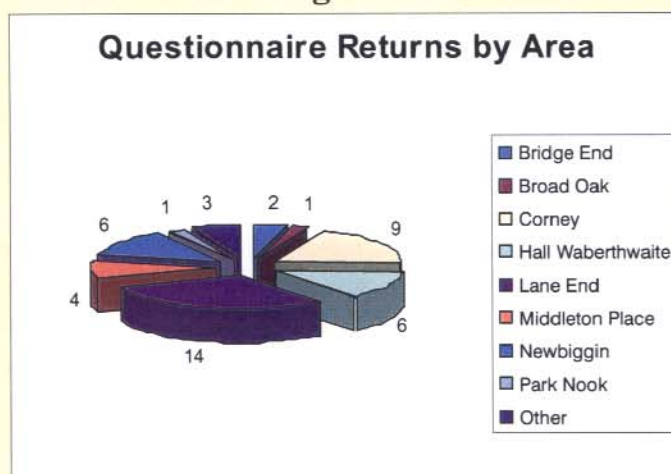


Figure 2



- 1.7 Employment.** The Local Questionnaire showed a wide range of occupations. Retirement predominates at 30%. Agriculture (farming and forestry) is still the major economically active occupation (*Figure 3*). The majority of people (74%) in economically active occupations work within the Parish itself or in neighbouring parishes (*Figure 4*). In addition to agriculture, employment is currently provided locally by the pub, the shop and Post Office, owners of holiday cottages, a small engineering company and a sausage factory, all within the Parish, and the gun range at Eskmeals and Muncaster Castle in the neighbouring parishes of Bootle and Muncaster.

Figure 3

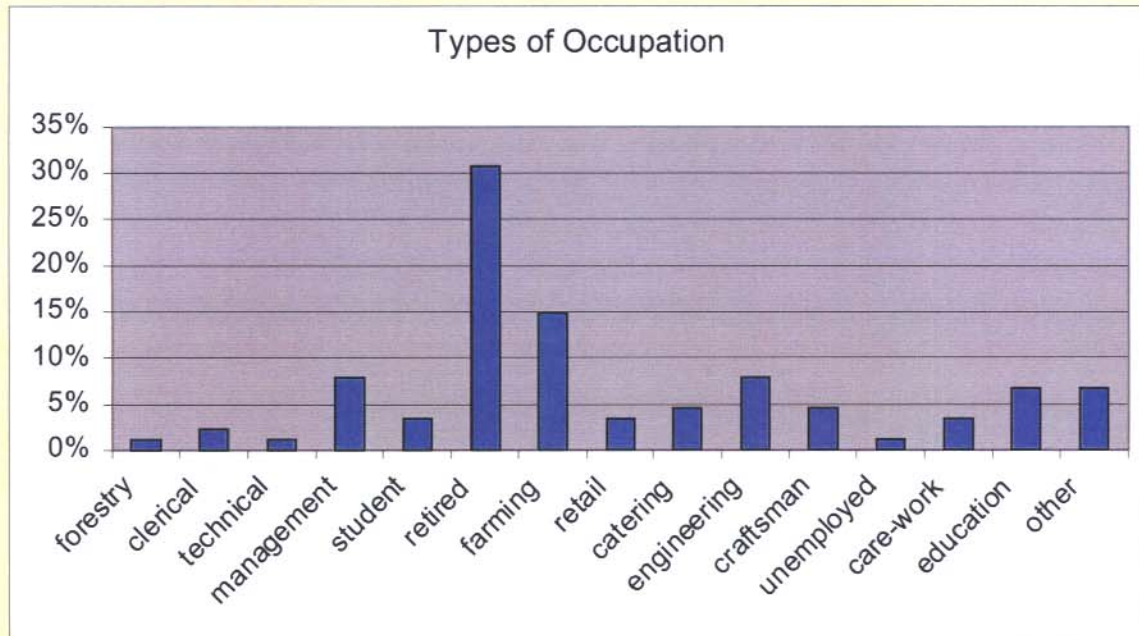
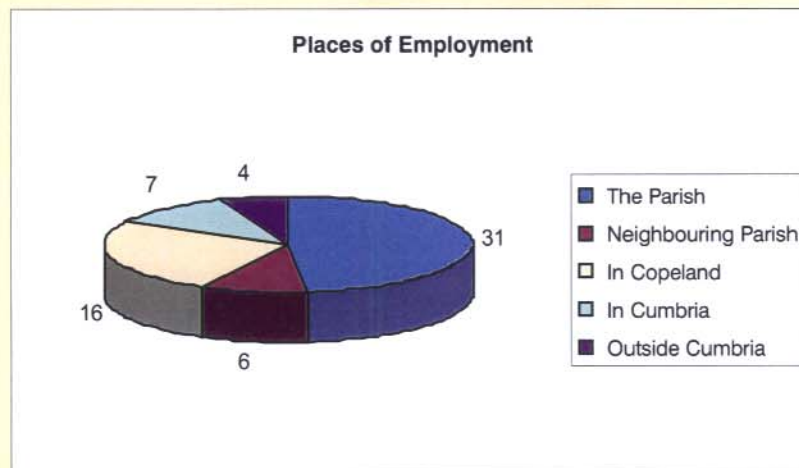


Figure 4



Chapter 2: Housing

- 2.1 There are 112 dwellings in the Parish, two or three of these are holiday cottages providing some economic benefit to the Parish, four or five are second homes, occupied for only a short term in each year. In the past 30 years there have been 6 new houses built in the Parish and a similar number of old buildings refurbished or converted to houses.
- 2.2 Support for an increase in housing stock was expressed by 83% of respondents. The majority of these prefer moderate development (no more than 6 houses) or very limited development to meet local need (*Figure 5*). Preferred locations are the edges of existing settlements or in-filling (*Figure 6*). Preference for the edges of existing settlements is twice that for infilling. This is probably due the fact that infilling is not a practicable proposition in many settlements.

Figure 5

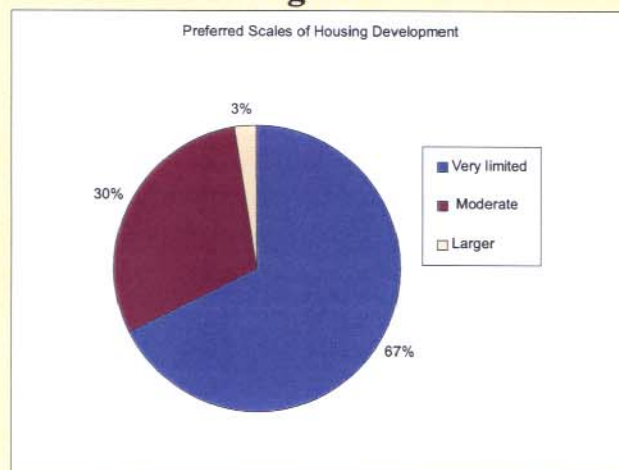
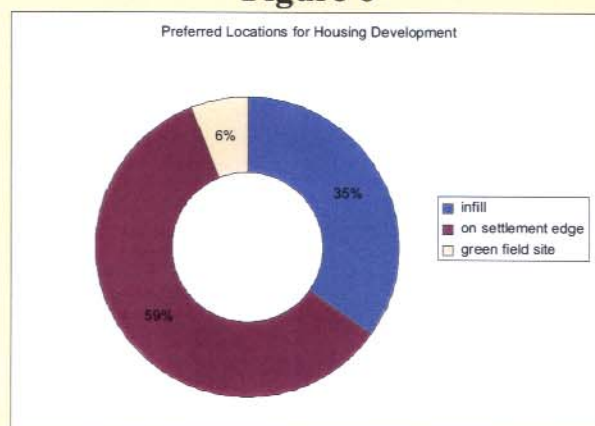


Figure 6



- 2.3 Starter homes and affordable housing featured strongly in the replies, and sheltered accommodation and rented accommodation were also represented (*Figure 8*). Privately

owned or housing association houses were preferred to other types (Figure 7), and where 'no preference' was indicated it was because either private or housing association housing was acceptable. There was little enthusiasm for large developments, 'executive' houses, or building on green field sites.

Figure 7

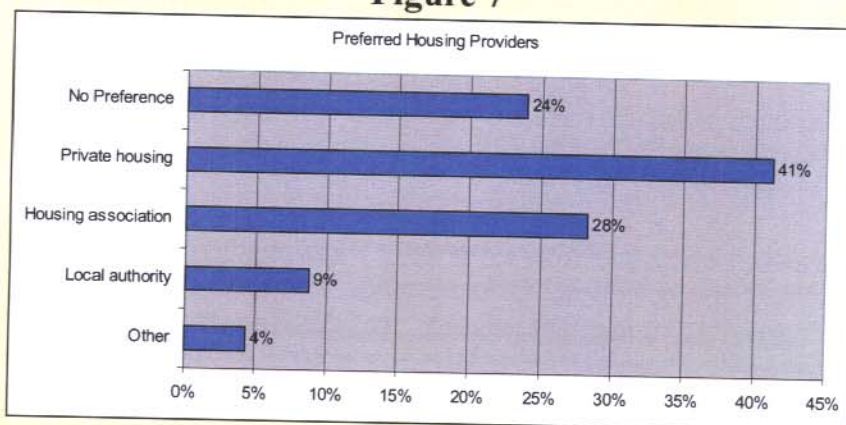
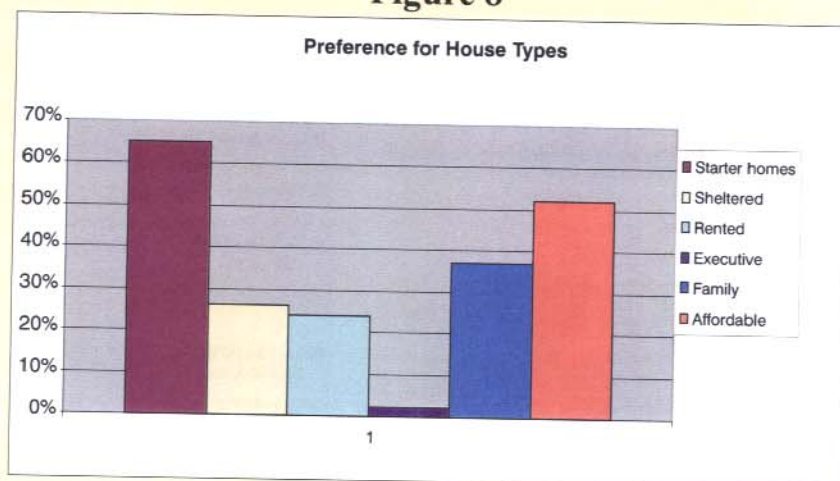


Figure 8



2.4 Policies and Proposals

- H1** The Parish Council will, as a principle, support planning applications for private and Housing Association residential developments within the Parish when asked to respond to consultations by the Lake District National Park Authority.
- H2** The Parish Council will continue to scrutinise planning applications and will look favourably on those which comply with the expressed preferences of the majority for limited or moderate development satisfying local need at locations in or on the edge of existing settlements and moderate development.
- H3** The Parish Council will continue to liaise with the LDNPA and Three Castles Housing Association over providing affordable housing in the area of Lane End.

Chapter 3: Crime and Policing

- 3.1 Policing of the Parish falls within the remit of the Police Station at Whitehaven. There is also a Police Station at Millom, which is open most days from 9.00am to 5.00pm. It is mainly manned by civilian staff. There is no permanent Police staff presence there. Police presence in the Parish is provided by a mobile patrol vehicle from Whitehaven which passes through the Parish twice a day, once on outward and once on return journeys between Whitehaven and Millom.
- 3.2 The great majority of homes have not experienced crime in the recent past. Only 8.7% of the responding households had their home, property or car suffer at the hands of criminals in the year previous. All but one of these crimes was reported to the Police.
- 3.3 Most households give highest priority to timely emergency response from the Police, with detection of burglary, detection of violent crime, and local crime prevention all being of equal second priority (*Figure 9*). A majority are satisfied with the service received from the Police (*Figure 10*). However a significant minority (40%) are not. Although Police visibility is seen as third level priority (*Figure 9*), the reasons expressed for lack of satisfaction with the Police service were almost entirely associated with lack of Police visibility, with some concerns over confidence in timely response to emergency calls.

Figure 9

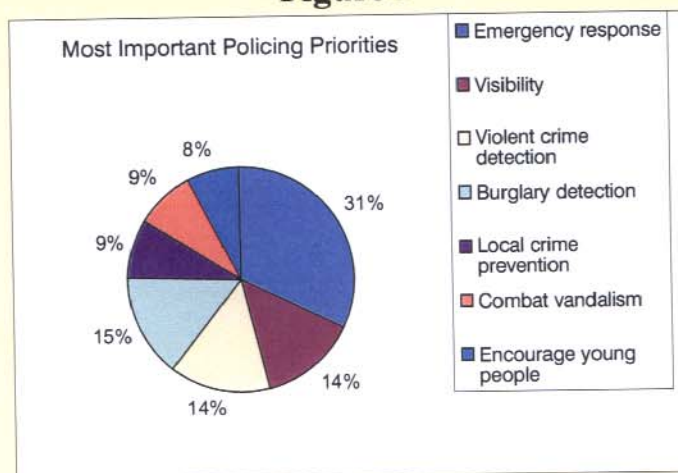
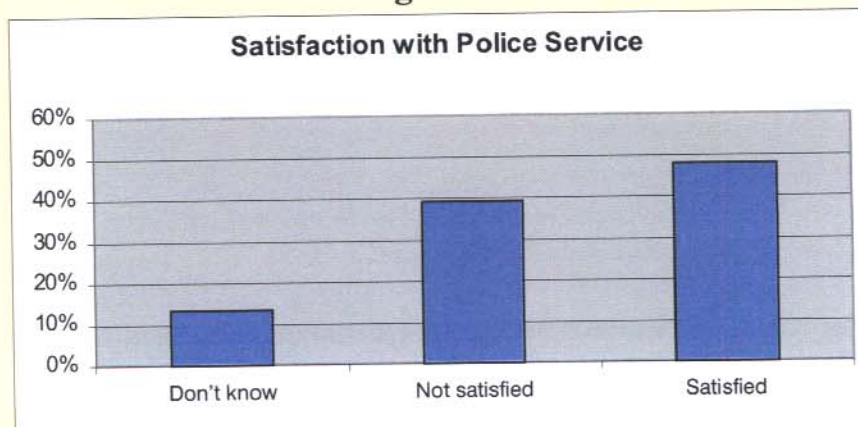


Figure 10



3.4 Though the crime rate is low compared with other parts of the county and few of the residents have personal experience as victims of crime, the low visibility of Policing, perceived low clear-up rate of those crimes that have occurred, and uncertainty about Police response to emergency calls engenders a general concern about security.

3.5 The Parish has a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. The level of awareness within the Parish regarding the scheme is low, but the interest in joining such a scheme is high. Only 15% of respondents stated that they would not join a scheme, 44% didn't know whether they were interested or not, and 41% expressed an interest in joining.

3.6 **Policies and Proposals**

P1 The Parish Council will raise the profile of the Neighbourhood Watch within the Parish by explaining its aims, relationship with Police and ways of working, and will promote a recruiting drive.

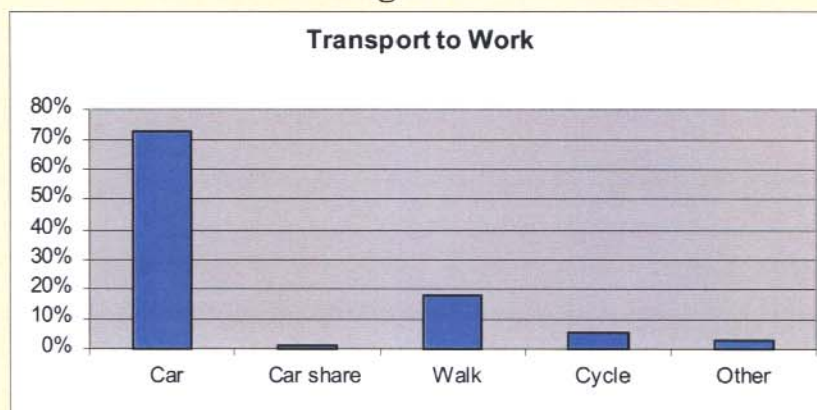
P2 The Parish Council will seek to improve dialogue and promote better understanding between the Police and the Parish.

P3 The Parish Council will encourage the Police to establish a higher visibility in the Parish.

Chapter 4: Transport

- 4.1 The Cumbria Coastal Rail Line is accessible via stations at Ravenglass and Bootle 4-5 miles distant from the Parish. Eskmeals 'halt', the nearest access to the Railway, was closed some 30 years ago. There is one bus service each Sunday (the X6), which passes through the Parish on its run between Millom and Whitehaven (and return), at times which are not convenient to users. The bus frequently fails to stop in parts of the Parish 'for Health and Safety reasons'. The Muncaster Microbus, run by local volunteers, provides a service to Whitehaven on Tuesdays and Thursdays at times convenient to users, and also services the after school clubs at the primary school. Very few people (15%) expressed satisfaction with public transport.
- 4.2 A minority of people (23%) are able to walk or cycle to work. The majority (74%) use or share cars. There are no public transport options for people wishing to get to work within or outside the Parish.

Figure 11



- 4.3 While 96% of people in the Parish have access to their own transport, 76% are concerned that their continued residence in the Parish is dependent on their ability to drive and to continue to have access to their own car. Enforced dependence on the car and absence of public transport is a continual theme and appears in subsequent chapters, particularly the chapters on services, leisure and youth.
- 4.4 Cycling is a popular leisure activity, as illustrated by the fact that the number of respondents who occasionally or regularly use bicycles (51%) far exceeds the number who use cycles for getting to work (5%). The majority of respondents (54%) felt that the local roads don't afford safe and enjoyable cycling and 57% expressed the wish to have more off-road cycle ways. The provision of cycle ways is dealt with in Chapter 8 (Roads and Road Safety).

4.5 Policies and Proposals

- T1** The Parish Council will continue to maintain its representation on the Ravenglass Basin Transport Group and will seek representation on the Copeland Rail Users' Group.
- T2** The Parish Council will support local and area projects and initiatives which increase the availability of low cost personal transport within the area, reduce dependence on the private motorcar and enable better access to services.

Chapter 5: Services and Communications

- 5.1 All dwellings in the Parish are connected to mains electricity, some are not on mains water, and there is no mains sewerage in the Parish. Until recently the mains water supply was extremely unreliable in certain areas of the Parish, but this situation has now been remedied by replacement of part of the old asbestos pipe line which served those areas, and burst regularly, with a new main. A gas pipeline from Barrow to Sellafield passes through the Parish, but it is a high pressure supply unsuitable for domestic use. The low pressure supply laid at the same time as the high pressure supply terminates near Silecroft to the south and Ravenglass to the north. There is therefore no domestic gas supply between Bootle and Ravenglass. The Fire Brigade service is provided by the volunteers based at Bootle where a fire engine is stationed.
- 5.2 There was generally high satisfaction with the telephone service. Broadband is not available in the Parish. A majority (54%) of respondents have access to the internet and 35% showed interest in having Broadband.
- 5.3 The Parish has a public house, Post Office, shop, two churches and a school. There is a small supermarket and a butcher at Bootle, some 5 miles distant, and larger shopping centres at Millom, 12 miles south, and Egremont 16 miles north. The nearest medical practice is at Bootle.
- 5.4 The majority of respondents (74%) were satisfied with the local retail facilities. There was some acknowledgement of the limited range that can be offered by the local shops at Waberthwaite and Bootle, which increases dependence on the car in the absence of public transport. Dependence on the car is also an issue affecting access to health care.
- 5.5 Nearly all respondents (93%) use the doctors' surgery at Bootle, some of these occasionally use Broughton or Seascale as an alternative. The majority (83%) experience no difficulties in getting to the surgery, but many express concerns that this access is entirely dependent on their ability to own and drive a car, and see difficulties in the future. For 17% of the respondents these difficulties are already upon them. This issue is covered under transport.
- 5.6 The nearest dentists, at Seascale and Millom, are used by 33% of respondents. The remainder travel further afield to variety of places in the north, east and south of the county (*Figure 12*). The diversity of places in which dental treatment is sought may be related to patients' places of work, or the availability of NHS dentists. A similar diversity is seen with patients requiring an optician or chiropodist, though the bias for nearer practices is greater (*Figures 13 and 14*).

Figure 12

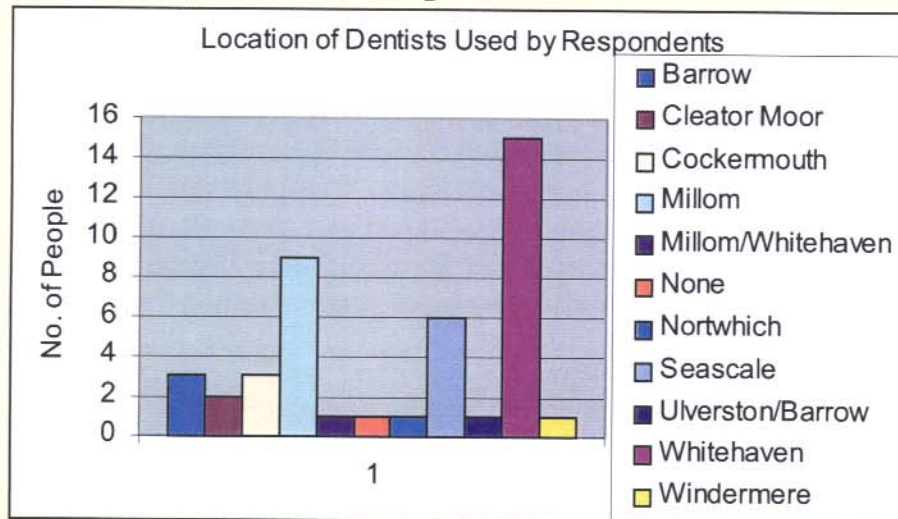


Figure 13

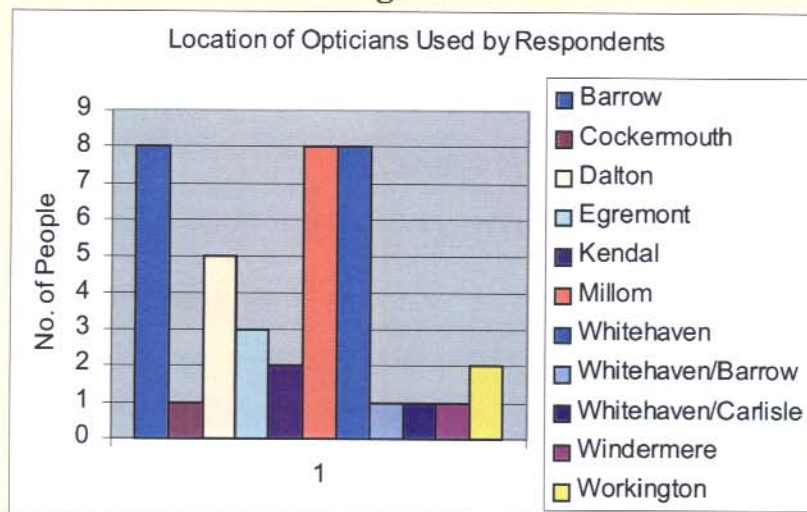
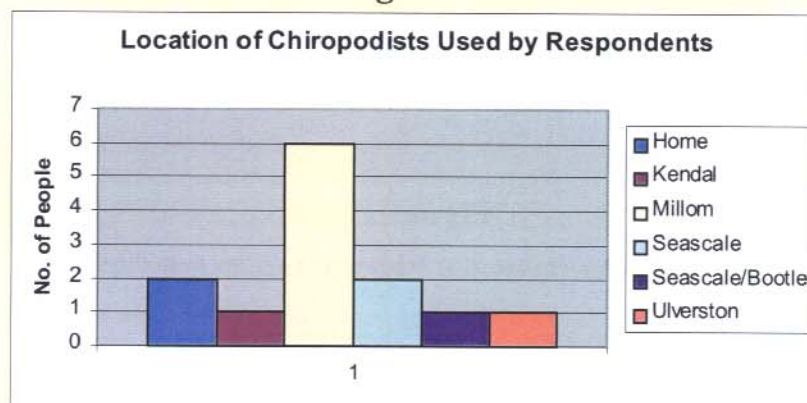


Figure 14



5.7 Policies and Proposals

S1 The Parish Council will investigate options for getting Broadband into the area.

Chapter 6: Leisure and Social Contact

- 6.1 Leisure activities revolve around activities in the village hall, the school, the pub and social contacts at home. The Parish has a Women's Institute and a Gardening Club which are active all year round, after-school clubs for primary school children during school term time and a wrestling club for youngsters during the winter. There are also a number of darts and dominoes teams centred on the pub, and a bowling club at Bootle. Adult Education courses run from the Millom Adult Education Centre are held in the Village Hall during the autumn and winter, and there are occasional performances from travelling theatre groups.
- 6.2 When asked about groups for whom access to leisure facilities may present special problems a majority (63%) were satisfied with facilities for the over 60s but no other group was seen as being particularly well-catered for (*Figure 15*). There was dissatisfaction with facilities for school children, pre-school children, mothers with young children and the disabled. There was marked dissatisfaction with the provision for teenagers (82% of respondents did not think there were adequate facilities), a theme which is repeated in Chapter 7 (Youth).
- 6.3 A reasonable number of people were prepared to support activities, but few wished to be involved in the day-to-day running of them (*Figure 16*).

Figure 15

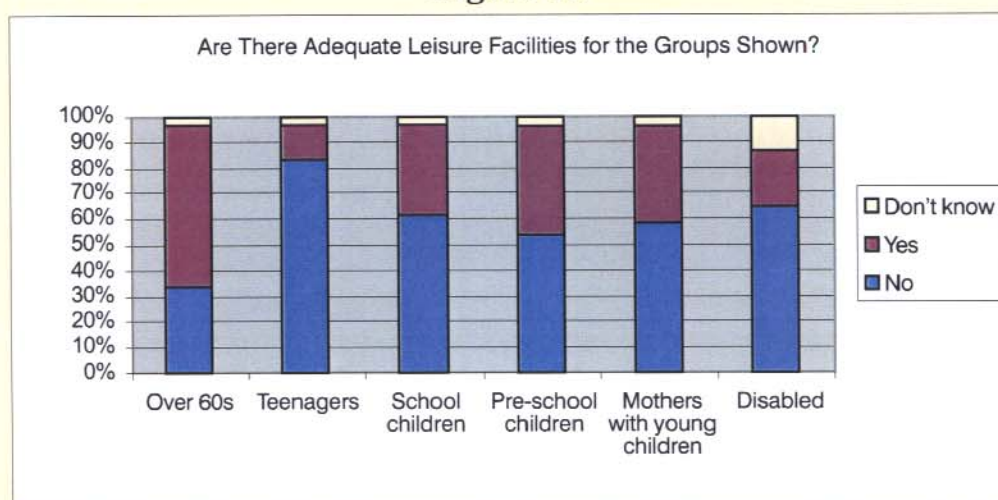
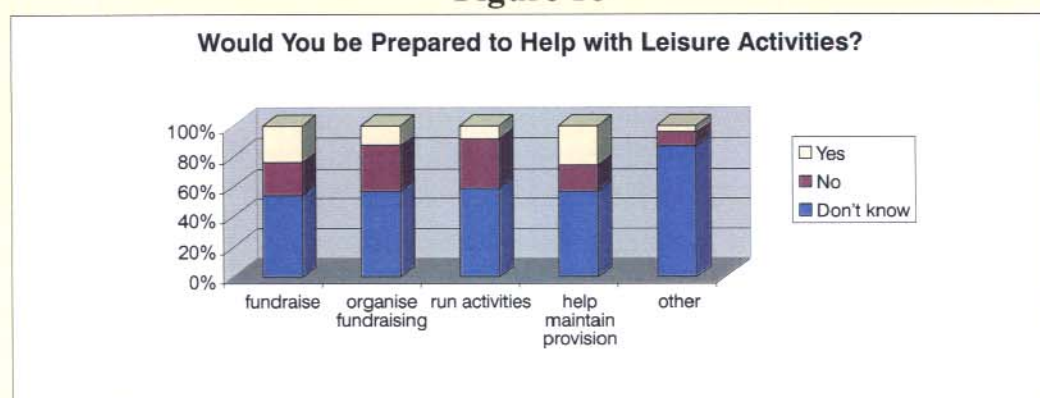


Figure 16



6.4 One resident has remarked that outside school times the school is under-utilised as a resource and has suggested that some thought should be given to the feasibility of using it as a Community Centre. This idea is developed further in Chapter 7 (Youth).

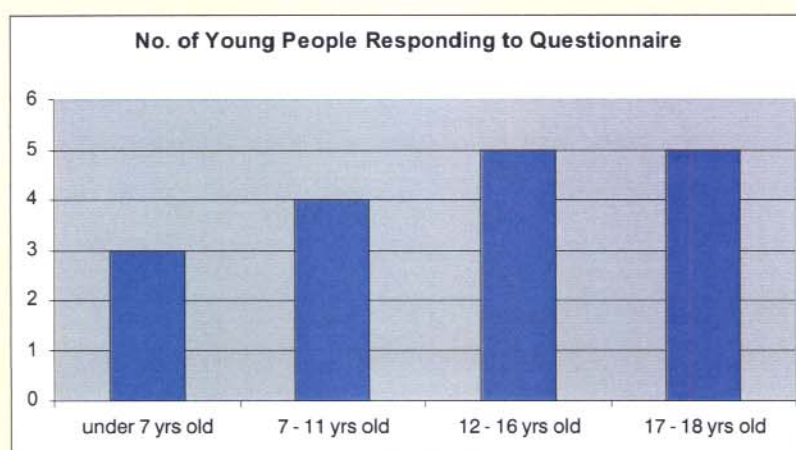
6.5 **Policies and Proposals**

L1 The Parish Council will look into the feasibility of using the school as the venue for a Community Centre.

Chapter: 7 Youth

- 7.1 Replies representing 17 young people were received from 9 households (*Figure 17*). The small numbers are consistent with the low percentage of young people in the Parish.

Figure 17



- 7.2 The range of activities available in the Parish is limited, though options can be increased by travelling outside the Parish. Many of the organised and informal activities take place outside the Parish (*Tables 2 and 3*) and young people rely on their parents to transport them.

Table 2 Organised Youth Activities

Activity	Time of Year	Location
After-school clubs	Winter/Summer	Waberthwaite School
School trips	Winter/Summer	School
Cricket	Summer	Haverigg
Football	Winter/Summer	Haverigg
Toddler group	Summer	Bootle
Wrestling	Winter	Waberthwaite Village Hall
Outings	Summer	Various
Summer club	Summer	School

Table 3 Informal Youth Activities

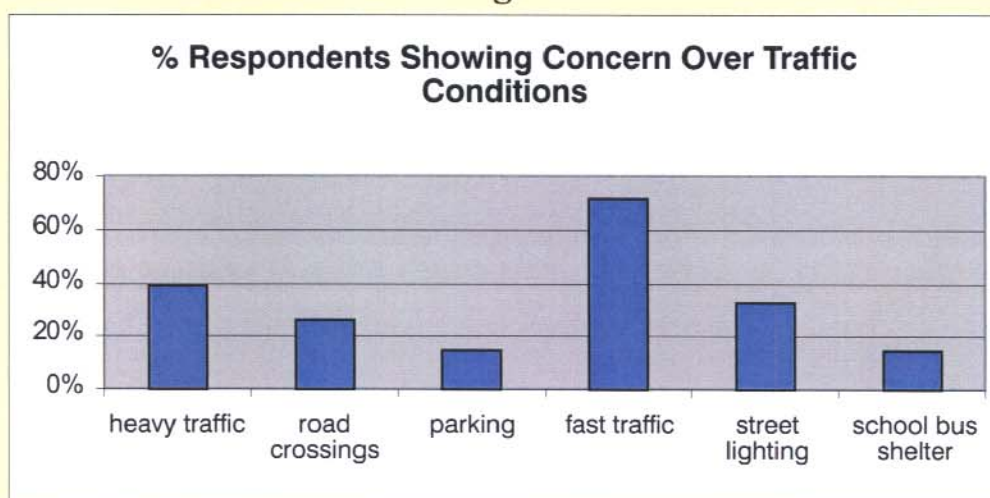
Activity	Time of Year	Location
Meet at friends' houses	Summer/Winter	Millom. Waberthwaite
Beach		Bootle
Meet on school playground after school		Waberthwaite School
Swimming pool		Wellbank
Pub		Millom

- 7.3 A number of respondents pointed out that the low numbers of young people and issues of funding militate against provision of organised activities.
- 7.4 There were many calls for activities for teenagers and young people in the Leisure section of the Questionnaire. Some are outside the scope of local resources (gym, tennis court) others are not possible unless their organisers are prepared to move their current venues to the Parish (Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Scouts), which is most unlikely.
- 7.5 A number of suggestions are worth further investigation, for instance: youth clubs, playing field, teaching of rural skills, ten pin bowling in the Village Hall, a Community Centre, some sort of cinema facilities, swimming lessons. Grants may be available for some of them, but the finding illustrated by Figure 16 in the Chapter 6 (Leisure) must be borne in mind: "A reasonable number of people were prepared to support activities, but few wished to be involved in the day-to-day running of them (*Figure 16*)".
- 7.6 One respondent pointed out that young people are not encouraged to get involved in Parish matters, an observation that has much truth in it. The establishment of a Community Centre, where old and young can meet and take part in activities, could go a long way towards redressing this. Such a centre could also be a venue for some of the suggested activities. The school might make a suitable venue.
- 7.7 **Policies and Proposals**
- Y1** The Parish Council will support in any way it can the establishment of realistic facilities and activities for young people by parishioners who wish to lead them. In addition it will independently investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of activities available to young people in the Parish, and establishing a Community Centre.

Chapter 8: Roads and Road Safety

- 8.1 The Parish is served by the A595 trunk road. There is currently a proposal to de-trunk the A595. This proposal has little support in the Parish, 87% of the people who responded to the Questionnaire were not in favour of de-trunking.
- 8.2 There are a number of unclassified county roads, for which the Maintenance Authority is Cumbria County Council. There are also footpaths and bridleways connecting the scattered settlements and giving access to the estuary, open fell land, and the church. The delegated highway authority for these is the Lake District National Park Authority. There are also some *ratiae tenae* roads which are public highways with vehicular rights but which generally are not maintainable at public expense.
- 8.3 The A595 effectively divides the western half of the Parish from the eastern half. The volume of traffic is heavy and the speed fast. A footpath follows the eastern edge of the road. There is no footpath along the western side. The primary school, bus shelter for secondary school children, Post Office and shop lie on the western side of the road.
- 8.4 Nearly all respondents had concerns about traffic conditions and road safety on the A595 (Figure 18), particularly for pedestrians and children. Two issues were frequently raised in this respect. The first was that children cannot walk to the primary school without running the gauntlet of uncontrolled speeding traffic when crossing from the footpath to the school. Children from the western half of the Parish would have to run the gauntlet twice. The second was that the bus shelter for the secondary school children is incorrectly placed on the west side of the A595, enforcing the children to undertake unnecessary and dangerous crossings of the A595 to catch the bus after sheltering in the bus shelter in inclement weather.

Figure 18

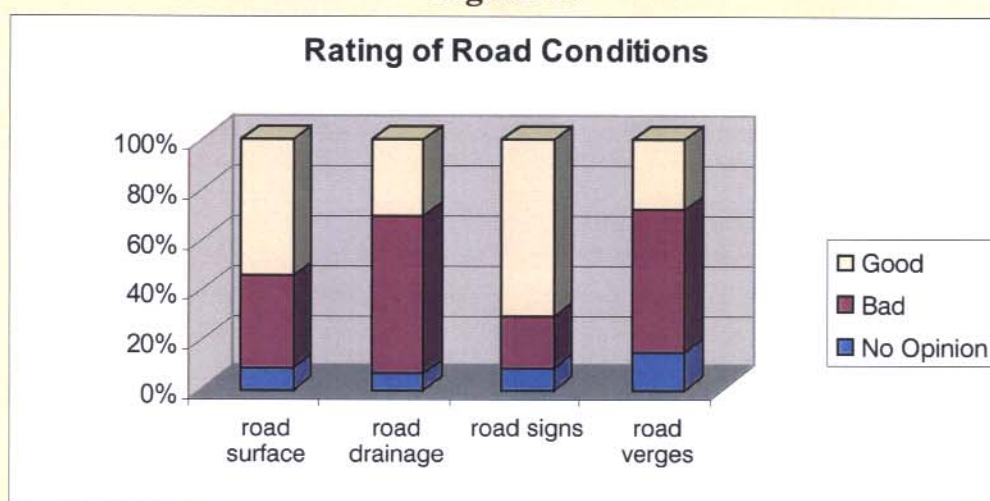


- 8.5 Another frequently raised concern was that drivers coming from the north and turning west into the lanes which lead to Hall Waberthwaite and Middleton Place are vulnerable to fast traffic which tries to overtake them as they turn. Near misses are frequent and actual impacts

involving major damage to vehicles (but as yet no fatalities) average approximately one per year. There are no warnings to traffic approaching these junctions, and road markings and conditions encourage overtaking. Concern was also expressed about the Waberthwaite sign in the south of the Parish, since it blocks the view to the north when accessing the A595 from Langley Park.

- 8.6 There were concerns about the number of signs at Corney road end, the volume and speed of traffic using the Corney Fell road and access to the Corney road when turning into it from the north-bound carriageway of the A595. Visibility of oncoming traffic is poor, and the current road markings are no aid to proper positioning.
- 8.7 Various parts of the Parish felt they would benefit from improved street lighting.
- 8.8 Satisfaction with road maintenance was low, only 30% of respondents found it satisfactory (*Figure 19*) and opinion on the state of footpaths and bridleways was split evenly (50% thought it satisfactory, 50% did not). The majority found the condition of road signs good. There was some concern about the condition of road surfaces but the main concerns were the condition of road drainage and verges.

Figure 19



- 8.9 Many of the footpaths in the Parish follow the routes of tracks which are also used by farm traffic. The passage of farm traffic challenges footpath surfaces. In a recent local project to improve conditions on the *ratiae tenae* road over Brunthills the residents and the LDPNA, facilitated by the Parish Council, were able to work together to achieve considerable improvement in the condition of both the footpath and the road. The Council is currently co-operating with the LDPNA over a 'Tidal Ways' project intended to restore and improve conditions on rights of way subject to tidal inundation, of which there are two in the Parish. The double challenge of farm traffic and periodic inundation by the tide presents particular difficulties for maintaining good surfaces, but it is intended that the measures planned will result in sustainable surfaces suitable for bicycles and wheelchairs.

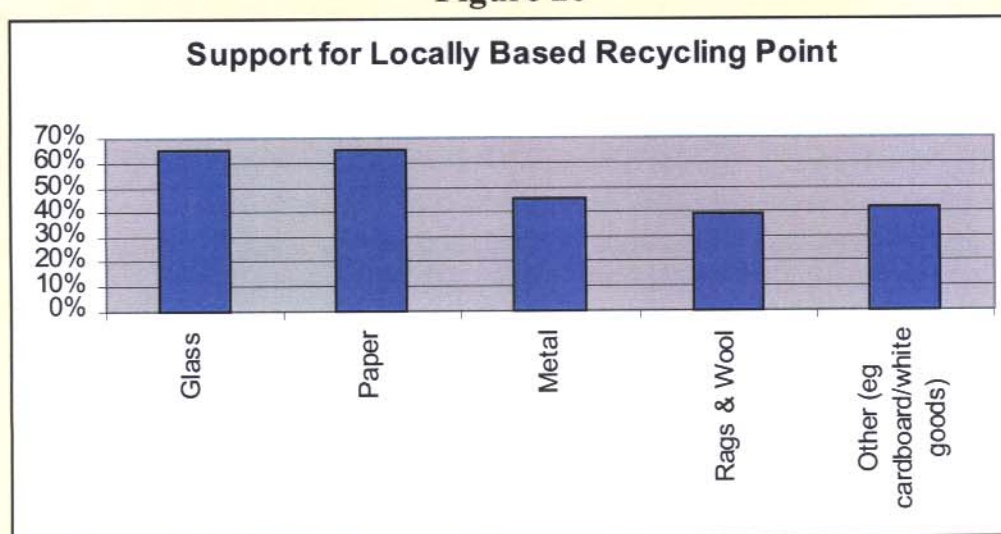
8.10 Policies and Proposals

- R1** The Parish Council will not support the de-trunking of the A595 and will investigate what consultation processes are available so that it may convey the opinion of Parishioners.
- R2** The Parish Council will convey the concerns of residents regarding road safety on the A595. It will do what it can within the limits of its own powers and resources and will also lobby for adequate signage and road markings to control traffic in such a way as to reduce the risk to pedestrians, particularly children.
- R3** The Parish Council will lobby Amey Mouchel (the agents for the A595 trunk road maintenance authority) with a view to them putting measures in place to reduce the risk of traffic accidents on the A595 between Broad Oak and Middleton Place.
- R4** The Parish Council will continue to report deficiencies in road surface, drainage, verges, and roadside furniture to the relevant maintenance authority and lobby for timely remedy of the deficiencies.
- R5** The Parish Council will continue to work with the LDPNA through the National Park Ranger to maintain and improve the condition of footpaths and bridleways.
- R6** The Parish Council will investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of cycle ways available in the Parish.
- R7** The Parish Council will convey the concerns of residents regarding road safety on the Corney Fell road to the County Council and will lobby for measures to reduce both the speed of traffic on the road and the number of signs at Corney road end.

Chapter 9: Environment

- 9.1 This chapter covers recycling, specific environmental assets and problems, and quality of life in the Parish.
- 9.2 Attitudes to recycling were very positive. A majority of households (65%) regularly use recycling facilities, and would support the establishment of a recycling centre in the Parish, particularly for paper and glass (*Figure 19*). Since the survey has been carried out facilities for recycling have been established in the car park of the pub. Nearly all (90%) households who were asked said they were prepared to sort their waste into separate bins.

Figure 20



- 9.3 Households were asked to comment on four specific environmental problems. Less than 5% of respondents expressed concern over traffic noise, stray dogs or dog fouling, but 52% were concerned about litter. Many respondents highlighted that litter thrown from passing cars is common on roadsides throughout the Parish and is particularly an issue on the Corney Fell road. Fly-tipping in the quarry and Shoemire Wood was also seen as an issue. Litter thrown from passing vehicles and fly-tipping are intractable problems and there is little the Parish Council can do except to periodically ask the relevant Authority to remove the rubbish.
- 9.4 Litter is also an issue on the school car park where young people often gather after school hours. The Parish Council is currently arranging to have a litter bin placed there and making arrangements for regular emptying of the bin.
- 9.5 A number of eyesores were identified, all in private ownership and therefore remedy is not within the powers of the Parish, other than to advise landowners of the situation and suggest ways of tackling the issue.
- 9.6 Among the environmental assets identified were the 900-year old church, the remains of an Anglian cross in the churchyard, the old quarry, which is an SSSI, and the estuary of the Esk,

which is part of an SAC. The rural situation and nature of the Parish, the remoteness, and the abundant wildlife were frequently commented upon as assets.

9.7 There was general acknowledgement that the quality of life in the Parish is good, and recognition that the remote rural environment makes a big contribution to that. There were few suggestions as to how the quality of life could be improved (only one-third of households answered this, and the majority of those expressed satisfaction with things as they are). Of the nine improvements suggested four were outside the scope of the Parish Council, and five have been covered in earlier chapters.

9.8 When respondents were asked about their greatest concerns the speed of traffic was mentioned frequently. This has been dealt with in Chapter 7. However, far more concerns were expressed for the future, and these centred around the low numbers of young people in the Parish, and the lack of public transport which led people to doubt their ability to cope with the distance from services and facilities when they became old or infirm.

9.9 The dilemma presented by paragraphs 8.6 and 8.7 has been summarised by two comments in the questionnaire:

“We enjoy living here very much. We think the Parish Council and local Council work very well given the available resources and the difficulties of the geography of the area. We think one of the problems that Waberthwaite will have is of an aging population - there seems to be a lack of younger families with children. Villages that lose their schools seem to die very quickly. Perhaps we should encourage/enable more young people to find affordable housing locally and enjoy the quality of life.”

and:

“Waberthwaite (like much of the Lake District) is a wonderful place to live and bring up a family. Part of the wonderful is that it is remote. Remote from the less pleasant aspects of 21st century living. However it is too remote from many of the advantages of modern life. The difficult ‘trick’ will be to ensure that the attributes are ‘valued’ and cared for while allowing for ‘new’ ideas to create a welcoming, vibrant and active sustainable community. Good luck with that - I will play my part if it can help”.

9.10 **Policies and Proposals**

E1 The Council recognises the value placed on the environment by Parish residents. It has taken this into account in a ‘vision statement’ which is discussed in Chapter 10, and which will be a guiding mantra for the Council.

E2 The Council will maintain its representation on the Ravenglass Coastal Partnership Group, whose aims are to continue to work toward the good conservation of the Special Area of Conservation and to ensure that the area’s special qualities are valued and used by the local community and others.

E3 The Parish Council will approach Copeland Council regarding supplying households in the Parish with facilities to separate their waste into separate bins.

Chapter 10: Sustainability - The Vision of the Future and Key Policies

- 10.1 The Parish Council's vision for Waberthwaite and Corney Parish is that of a secure and sustainable community creating the minimum impact on the environment consistent with the moderate growth required to maintain viability.
- 10.2 A number of things are necessary to support sustainability, and they are all interconnected. Wealth creators can increase the vitality of the local economy. Housing is required for employees. Young people and families must be encouraged to come and stay. Adequate services, communications and transport support the whole.
- 10.3 A number of policies formulated in previous chapters are key to the above; the Parish Council have attempted to identify them below:
- 10.4 **Key Policies**
- H1** The Parish Council will, as a principle, support planning applications for private and Housing Association residential developments within the Parish when asked to respond to consultations by the Lake District National Park Authority.
- H3** The Parish Council will continue to liaise with the LDNPA and Three Castles Housing Association over providing affordable housing in the Parish.
- S1** The Parish Council will investigate options for getting Broadband into the area.
- T2** The Parish Council will support local and area projects and initiatives which increase the availability of low cost personal transport within the area, reduce dependence on the private motorcar and enable greater access to services.
- R1** The Parish Council will not support the de-trunking of the A595 and will investigate what consultation processes are available so that it may convey the opinion of parishioners.
- Y1** The Parish Council will support in any way it can the establishment of realistic facilities and activities for young people by parishioners who wish to lead them. In addition it will independently investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of activities available to young people in the Parish.
- E1** The Council recognises the value placed on the environment by Parish residents. It has taken this into account in a 'vision statement' which is discussed in Chapter10, and which will be a guiding mantra for the Council.

Chapter 11: Delivering the Policies

- 11.1 Both the area in which the Parish lies and the topics covered in this report are covered by a number of existing plans. It is an increasing requirement of Government that Planners take account of Local Plans when formulating their policies and plans. It is essential to the success of the Parish Plan that they do so. Bringing the Parish Plan to the attention of relevant Authorities, and resolving potential conflict between local requirements and the big picture is therefore a key facilitator in delivering the Plan.
- 11.2 Many of the policies and proposals lie within the powers of the Parish Council itself, (Appendix 1). Not all of these powers are matched by adequate resources, but with the support and enthusiasm of the Parish itself we can start to make strides towards the improvements and the vision which the policies and proposals seek to achieve. An Action Plan has been produced to aid this (Chapter 12).
- 11.4 **Policies and Proposals**
- D1** The Parish Council will lead implementation of the action plan, and ensure regular review of the plan, and amendment as necessary. It will nominate individuals from the council or from volunteers within the community to lead implementation of each policy.
- D2** The Parish Council will investigate and identify the routes and mechanisms by which the Parish Plan can be brought to the attention of other Planning Authorities. The Council will undertake to encourage such Planning Authorities to take the findings and policies of the Parish Plan into consideration during their planning processes.

Chapter 12: Action Plan

- 12.1 The Action Plan is shown in tabular form in the following pages. It is offered as a 'live' plan which can be regularly reviewed and amended as circumstances and events develop.
- 12.2 Timescales are shown in the plan. Where it has been possible to do so, specific target dates have been set. Where it has not been possible to set specific target dates (for example because the start or completion of a particular action is dependent on the timescales of other organisations, or on the unpredictable outcome of necessary pre-cursor actions) the priority of the action has been indicated by showing the timescales as short-, medium-, or long term. These terms are not in any sense precise, but as a 'rule of thumb' they may be taken to mean: 0-6months (short term), 6-12 months (medium term) and greater than 1 year (long term).

Action Plan

Policy	Actions	Timescales
Key Enablers		
D1 The Parish Council will lead implementation of the action plan, and ensure regular review of the Plan, and amendment as necessary. It will nominate individuals from the Council or from volunteers within the community to lead implementation of each policy.	Produce an action plan (this document)	
	Identify and nominate Councillors or volunteers from the community to lead implementation of each of the policies	Dec 2004 - March 2005
	Make delivery of this action plan and progress/situation reports a standing agenda item at Council meetings	With immediate effect
	Report progress to the Parish via the Parish Council newsletter	As appropriate
D2 The Parish Council will investigate and identify the routes and mechanisms by which the Parish Plan can be brought to the attention of other Planning Authorities. The Council will undertake to encourage such Planning Authorities take the findings and policies of the Parish Plan into consideration during their planning processes	Invite key Planning Authority reps and other stakeholders to the Parish Plan launch meeting.	Jan 2005
	Nominee to link in to the Countryside Agencies work on integration of Parish Plans into the plans of local councils and Strategic Partnership	Medium to long term
Key Policies:		
H1 The Parish Council will, as a principle, support planning applications for private and Housing Association residential developments within the Parish when asked to respond to consultations by the Lake District National Park Authority	None required. This principle will be applied whenever planning applications are submitted to the Council.	With immediate effect
H3 The Parish Council will continue to liaise with the LDNPA and Three Castles Housing Association over providing affordable housing in the Parish.	Review negotiations to date and identify outstanding issues.	By Jan 2005
	Plan the next steps required to resolve the issues	By Feb 2005
	Nominee to take the Plan to a conclusion	Medium term
S1 The Parish Council will investigate options for getting Broadband into the area.	Nominee to contact Cumbria ICT Broadband Initiative to confirm that Waberthwaite is included in the plans to introduce Broadband, and identify the likely date it will be available.	By Jan 2005

Policy	Actions	Timescales
T2 The Parish Council will support local and area projects and initiatives which increase the availability of low cost personal transport within the area, reduce dependence on the private motorcar and enable better access to services.	Maintain representation the on Ravenglass Basin Transport Group and seek representation on the Rail Users' Group (see T1).	With immediate effect
	Council to review projects and initiatives to identify any which meet the requirements of T2 .	In the medium term
	Offer support to preferred schemes. Support could include funding from the Parish Transport Grant.	Medium to long term
R1 The Parish Council will not support the de-trunking of the A595 and will investigate what consultation processes are available so that it may convey the opinion of Parishioners	Parish Clerk to contact Cumbria County Council to determine the current position and what consultation processes are in place.	By Dec 2004
Y1 The Parish Council will support in any way it can the establishment of realistic facilities and activities for young people by parishioners who wish to lead them. In addition it will independently investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of activities available to young people in the Parish and establishing a Community Centre.	Nominee to make him/herself available as a point of contact for ideas and initiatives which can benefit youth, and seek individuals prepared to lead and help with initiatives	From Jan 2005
	Nominee to investigate feasibility of ideas already raised in responses to the Local Questionnaire	Short to medium term
	Nominee to investigate what organisations are prepared to help develop activities for young people (Connexions, Cumbria Youth Alliance, Mobex, Duke of Edinburgh Scheme and John Muir awards?), and what funding is available for the youth projects	In the medium term
	Nominee to investigate the feasibility of setting up a Community Centre and investigate possible venues.	In the medium term
E1 The Council recognises the value placed on the environment by Parish residents. It has taken this into account in a 'vision statement' which is discussed in Chapter10, and which will be a guiding mantra for the Council	No action necessary. This principle will be applied as a benchmark to all Council business	With immediate effect
Other Policies and Proposals		
H2 The Parish Council will continue to scrutinise planning applications and will look favourably on those which comply with the expressed preferences of the majority for limited or moderate development satisfying local need at locations in or on the edge of existing settlements.	None required. This principle will be applied whenever planning applications are submitted to the Council.	With immediate effect

Policy	Actions	Timescales
P1 The Parish Council will raise the profile of the Neighbourhood Watch within the Parish by explaining its aims, relationship with Police and ways of working.	Ask Neighbourhood Watch representative to produce an information communication for circulation. Include invitation to join, and explanation of how to do it, in the information communication.	By June 2005
P2 The Parish Council will seek to improve dialogue and promote better understanding between the Police and the Parish.	Nominee to contact the Community Police Officer at Whitehaven and obtain information about Police Liaison Committees.	Short term
	Parish Clerk invite a Police representative to attend Council meetings on 6-monthly basis	From Jan 2005
P3 The Parish Council will encourage the Police establish a higher visibility in the Parish.	Raise issue with Community Police Officer	Short term
	Make Police visibility an agenda item when Police attend Council meeting.	From Jan 2005
T1 The Parish Council will continue to maintain its representation on the Ravenglass basin transport group and will seek representation on the Copeland Rail Users' Group.	Included as an action under T2	See T2
L1 The Parish Council will look into the feasibility of using the school as the venue for a community centre	Included as an action under Y1	See Y1
R2 The Parish Council will convey the concerns of residents regarding road safety on the A595. It will do what it can within the limits of its own powers and resources and will also lobby for adequate signage and road markings to control traffic in such as a way as to reduce the risk to pedestrians, particularly children.	Move bus shelter from eastern side of A595 to the western side	In the short term
	Hold further discussions with Amey Mouchel	In the medium and long term
R3 The Parish Council will lobby Amey Mouchel (the agents for the A595 trunk road maintenance authority) with a view to them putting measures in place to reduce the risk of traffic accidents on the A595 between Broad Oak and Middleton Place	Council to seek feedback from discussions with Amey Mouchel and assess the commitment of the Maintenance Authority to the suggestions made to date.	In the sort term
R4 The Parish Council will continue to report deficiencies in road surface, drainage, verges, and roadside furniture to the relevant maintenance authority and lobby for timely remedy of the deficiencies.	No action required, already part of normal business.	With immediate effect

Policy	Actions	Timescales
R5 The Parish Council will continue to work with the National Park Ranger to maintain and improve the condition of footpaths and bridleways, and will have as a priority the improvement of the number of bridleways that can be used for cycling.	Council to maintain reports to the Ranger when footpath/bridleway conditions require it.	With immediate effect
	Council to continue support for the Tidal Routes Project.	With immediate effect
	Council to ensure routes in the 'Tidal Routes' Project can be used by bicycles	With immediate effect
R6 The Parish Council will investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of cycle ways available in the Parish.	Nominee to initiate discussions with LDNPA on possible routes for cycle ways, and establish links with Sus-trans through the Millom and Haverigg Economic Development Partnership.	In the medium term
R7 The Parish Council will convey the concerns of residents regarding road safety on the Corney Fell road to the County Council and will lobby for measures to reduce both the speed of traffic on the road and the number of signs at Corney road end	Council to ensure that residents opinions are brought to the attention of the Lake District Transport Strategy by ensuring that they are captured in Council's response to the South Copeland area Action Plan Consultation document	With immediate effect
E2 The Council will maintain its representation on the Ravenglass Coastal Partnership Group, whose aims are to continue to work toward the good conservation of the Special Area of Conservation and to ensure that the area's special qualities are valued and used by the local community and others	No Action required. Representation is in place.	With immediate effect
E3 The Parish Council will approach Copeland Council regarding supplying households in the Parish with facilities to separate their waste into separate bins	Parish Clerk to write to Copeland Council emphasising the interest in recycling in the Parish and requesting them to set up a two-bin system in the Parish.	In the short term

APPENDIX 1:

List of Parish Council Powers

(this is not an exhaustive list)

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Allotments	Duty to provide allotments. Power to improve and adapt land for allotments, and to let grazing rights	Small Holding & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23,26, and 42
Baths and washhouses	Power to provide public baths and washhouses	Public Health Act 1936, ss. 221, 222, 223 and 227
Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria	Power to acquire and maintain Power to provide Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries	Open Spaces Act 1906, Ss 9 and 10; Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1 Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6)
Bus shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953, s. 4
Bye-laws	Power to make bye-laws in regard to pleasure grounds Cycle parks Baths and washhouses Open spaces and burial grounds Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(7) Public Health Act 1936, s.223 Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15 Public Health Act 1936, s.198
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2
Closed churchyards	Powers as to maintenance	Local Government Act 1972, s.215
Common pastures	Powers in relation to providing common pasture	Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.34
Conference facilities	Power to provide and encourage the use of facilities	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Community centres	Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or recreational objectives	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
Crime prevention	Powers to install and maintain equipment and establish and maintain a scheme for detection or prevention of crime	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds and ditches	Public Health Act 1936, s.260

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Entertainment and the arts	Provision of entertainment and support of the arts	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
Gifts	Power to accept	Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Highways	Power to maintain footpaths and bridle-ways Power to light roads and public places Provision of litter bins Powers to provide parking places for bicycles and motor-cycles, and other vehicles Power to enter into agreement as to dedication and widening Power to provide roadside seats and shelters Consent of parish council required for ending maintenance of highway at public expense, or for stopping up or diversion of highway Power to complain to highway authority as to unlawful stopping up or obstruction of highway or unlawful encroachment on roadside wastes Power to provide traffic signs and other objects or devices warning of danger Power to plant trees and lay out grass verges etc. and to maintain them	Highways Act 1980, ss.43,50 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301 Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss.57,63 Highways Act 1980, ss.30,72 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1 Highways Act 1980, ss.47,116 Highways Act 1980, s.1 30 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1 984, s.72 Highways Act 1980, s.96
Investments	Power to participate in schemes of collective investment	Trustee Investments Act 1961 , s.11
Land	Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of Power to accept gifts of land	Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Litter	Provision of receptacles	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6
Lotteries	Powers to promote	Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976,s.7
Mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Powers to provide mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1936, s.1 98
Open spaces	Power to acquire land and maintain	Public Health Act 1875, s.1 64 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Parish documents	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972, s.226
Telecommunications facilities	Power to pay public telecommunications operators any loss sustained providing telecommunication facilities	Telecommunications Act 1 984, s.97

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Public conveniences	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1936, s.87
Recreation	Power to acquire land for or to provide public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps Provision of boating pools	(see Local Government Act 1972, Sched.14para.27) Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 s.44 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19 Public Health Act 1961, s.54
Town and country planning	Right to be notified of planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched.1, para. 8
Tourism	Power to encourage visitors and provide conference and other facilities	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Traffic calming	Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Highways Act 1980, S.274A
Transport	Powers in relation to car-sharing schemes, taxi fare concessions and information about transport Powers to make grants for bus services	Local Government and Rating Act 1997,s.26,28 and 29 Transport Act 1985, S.106A
War memorials	Power to maintain, repair, protect and alter war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948,s.1 33
Water supply	Power to utilise well, spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water from them	Public Health Act 1936,s.1 25