



Priddy Community Review 2022-23

Executive Summary

Background

The Parish Council is in the fortunate position of having a reasonable sum of money not tied to operational costs which we wish to use for the benefit of the parishioners. To do this, we must have a clear idea of what is important to the parishioners and that is why we worked with “Smart Communities” – <https://smartcommunities.online/>- (at no cost to the Council) to do a survey in December 2022.

The results of this survey will be used to help us prioritise where the funds will be used and where we should concentrate our efforts as we put together a longer-term Parish Plan. They will also provide supporting data when we bid for grants and engage with other governmental and non-governmental agencies (including the new Somerset Unitary Authority). Whilst the powers of the Parish Council are limited, data is important in helping us to influence and work with other bodies.

We received 102, responses, from within the Parish (and a further 6 responses from outside the parish), which, we estimate, represents 16% of the population or 40%-50% of households.

This document provides an analysis of the survey responses, with a detailed breakdown in subsequent sections.

Supported by



Methodology

In September 2023 Parish Council called for members of the public to join the Community Survey Steering Group to formulate the survey and take the process through analysis and the Community Review and Action Plan. The group consisted of two members of the Parish Council and three residents of the parish, with the Clerk providing support. Throughout the process, SMART Communities provided guidance and managed the survey, analysis and action plan format. The survey went live at the end of November 2022 and was open for a month until the end of December. Parishioners were informed through the Pew magazine, Facebook, and the Council's email bulletin as well as on noticeboards and at prominent facilities around the parish as well as being invited to input face to face at a public meeting.

Analysis of the data started in January 2023 and formed the basis of the Community Review Document. It summarised the findings and indicates how the parish will act upon the feedback received through the survey. From this the Action Plan was developed through the Steering Group, this is a living document, in that we will be updating it regularly. This may result in further consultation on specific projects and some actions are already being implemented. This document, the Executive summary, provides an overview of the process and summarises the findings and areas for development within the Parish of Priddy. We chose 8 topics to focus the review on; Communication, Housing, Children and Young people, Climate, Community Facilities, Traffic, Transport and Travel, Retired and Older People and Health and Wellbeing. The rationale for choosing these topics was as follows:

1. **Communication:** to understand the best means of communication of events and parish projects to residents;
2. **Housing:** to receive an overview of housing need and preferences within the parish;
3. **Children and Young people:** to gain an understanding of where facilities may be improved;
4. **Climate:** to survey local enthusiasm for supporting the environment's sustainability and support for renewable energy initiatives;
5. **Community Facilities:** to discover where residents may feel there is room for improvement of local facilities;
6. **Traffic, Transport and Travel:** to ensure that the Parish Council's areas of concern on traffic issues were in line with the community's concerns and to build up evidence of need for improved public transport and rights of way;
7. **Retired and Older People:** To understand the needs of older people within the parish;
8. **Health and Wellbeing:** to understand where health and wellbeing facilities or projects may be welcomed.

Key Points

- The survey suggests that many people move to Priddy and stay, attracted by the environment and the community. There is a general desire to preserve the look and feel of Priddy, from conserving the wildlife to keeping the traditional look of housing.
- There is clear interest in sustainability and caring for the environment. For example, a significant number want to plant more trees and create wildflower areas and verges; just over 50% expressed interest in a wind turbine or solar farm.
- There is some concern with the impact of traffic on the community – 64% highlighting speeding. There is a general desire for better services, especially public transport (36%).
- Just over 40% answered a question on facilities for children / young people. Of these, 65% wanted a play area.
- Nearly 90% responded to the questions on housing. Of those, 59% want some affordable housing for locals and 46% want housing to be low carbon / “eco-friendly”, further reflecting the concern for the environment. 74% of respondents want housing to be in keeping with traditional styles (these two objectives are not mutually exclusive).
- There is enthusiasm for local events including bonfire night (69% of all respondents), a village fete (66%) and the Folk Festival (61%).
- Social Media – mainly village Facebook group – (72% of all respondents) and the PEW Parish magazine (51%) are the main ways people hear what is going on in the parish, but people would like to know more, and the Parish Council could do more to communicate (e.g. by improving the website).



What happens next?

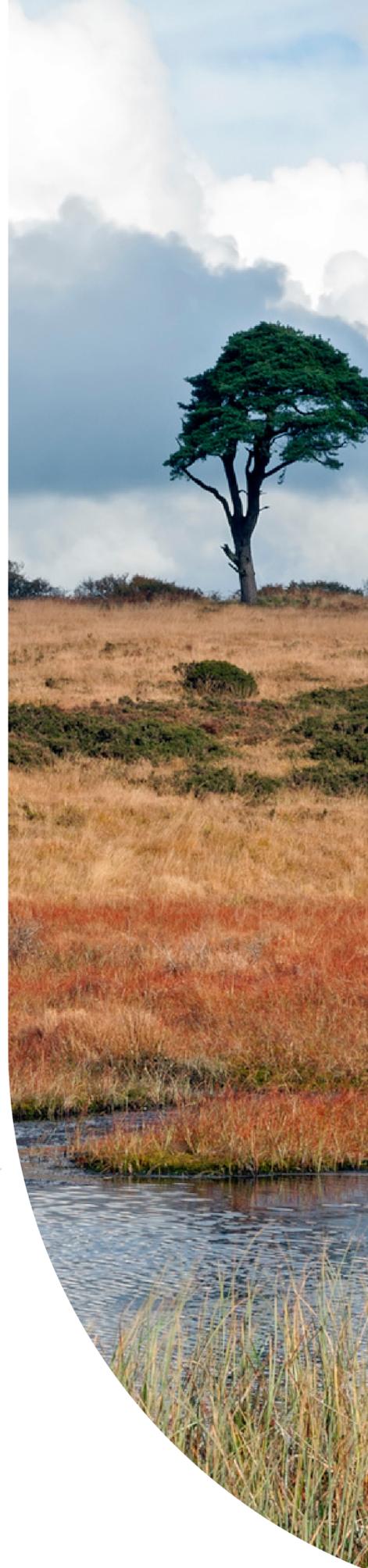
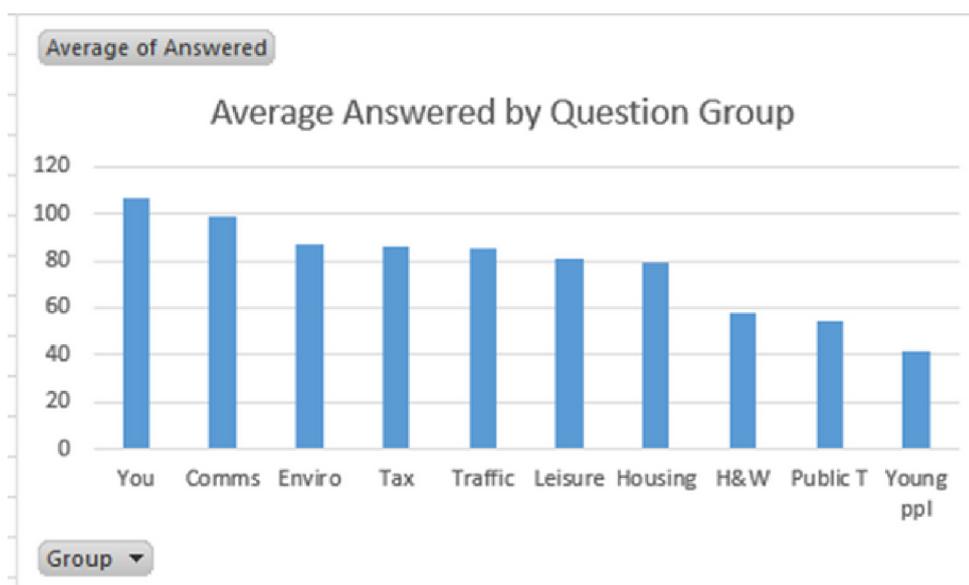
The Executive Summary will be published on the Parish Council website (priddyparish.org), shared with local organisations who have an impact on Priddy, and will be used as the basis for some discussions at the 2023 Parish Meeting.

The findings identified in the Community Review form the basis of the Action Plan, will be used by the Parish Council to help formulate a longer-term Parish Plan and to support applications for funding for projects supported by the residents of Priddy. We will engage with various organisations such as Highways to discuss the findings and seek out partnerships to deliver some of the actions.

How the parish responded

Communications received most response, with environment, tax, traffic, leisure and housing also being of keen interest to respondents.

The three groups with least responses, Health & Wellbeing, Public Transport and Young People all being target audiences.



Privacy Statement

Analysis was conducted by Smart Communities Ltd part of the Community Council for Somerset (CCS) Group. Data was captured for legitimate and contractual purposes. Information was collected and analysed in accordance with Smart Communities Ltd role as a Data Controller and Data Processor. Hard copies of consultation surveys are kept for the duration of the consultation period and destroyed after the final report is signed off by the commissioner of the survey.

Digital copies are retained for 12 months and deleted after this period. Any personal data that is captured is anonymised with the report and held securely for the purposes of analysis.

No data will be published which can identify an individual without their consent. If you have provided contact details to offer help this data is shared with Priddy Parish Community Review Steering Group. If you have only entered your details to take part in the prize draw and you win, your data is shared with Priddy Parish Plan Steering Group. If you would like to find out more about how we use your data or want to see a copy of the information about you that we hold, please contact info@somersetccc.org.uk or call 01823 331222. Protecting your Personal Data is important, and we fully comply and adhere to the Principles of Data Protection set out in our Data Protection / Privacy Policy visit: <https://smartcommunities.online/smart-policies/>

Community Review

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