

The background is a gradient of blue, transitioning from a darker shade on the left to a lighter shade on the right. On the right side, there are several white lines of varying thicknesses that curve and intersect, creating a sense of movement and connectivity. In the bottom right corner, there is a faint, light-colored graphic of a network or molecular structure, consisting of interconnected nodes and lines, some of which are highlighted in a slightly darker shade.

CATFIELD PARISH SURVEY OVERVIEW 2021

WHO ARE WE?

We are the 30% of our village who completed this survey. To put this into context, the May 2021 Catfield Parish election received a 21.9% turn out. It's great to see how important our views on the village are.

- ▶ 241 Adults
- ▶ 24 Children under 16 years
- ▶ 34% of us are aged between 45-66 and 12 % between 25-44
- ▶ 54 % of us are above 67 years and 56% are mostly Retired
- ▶ 22% of us are in full time employment, 10 % in part time employment and 6% self-employed
- ▶ The remaining 6% of us are unemployed, home makers or students
- ▶ We live mostly around the centre of the village and get around by car, walking, cycling and using the bus
- ▶ Most of us have lived in Catfield less than 25 years with just over a quarter less than 5 years.

WHAT DO WE LIKE ABOUT CATFIELD?

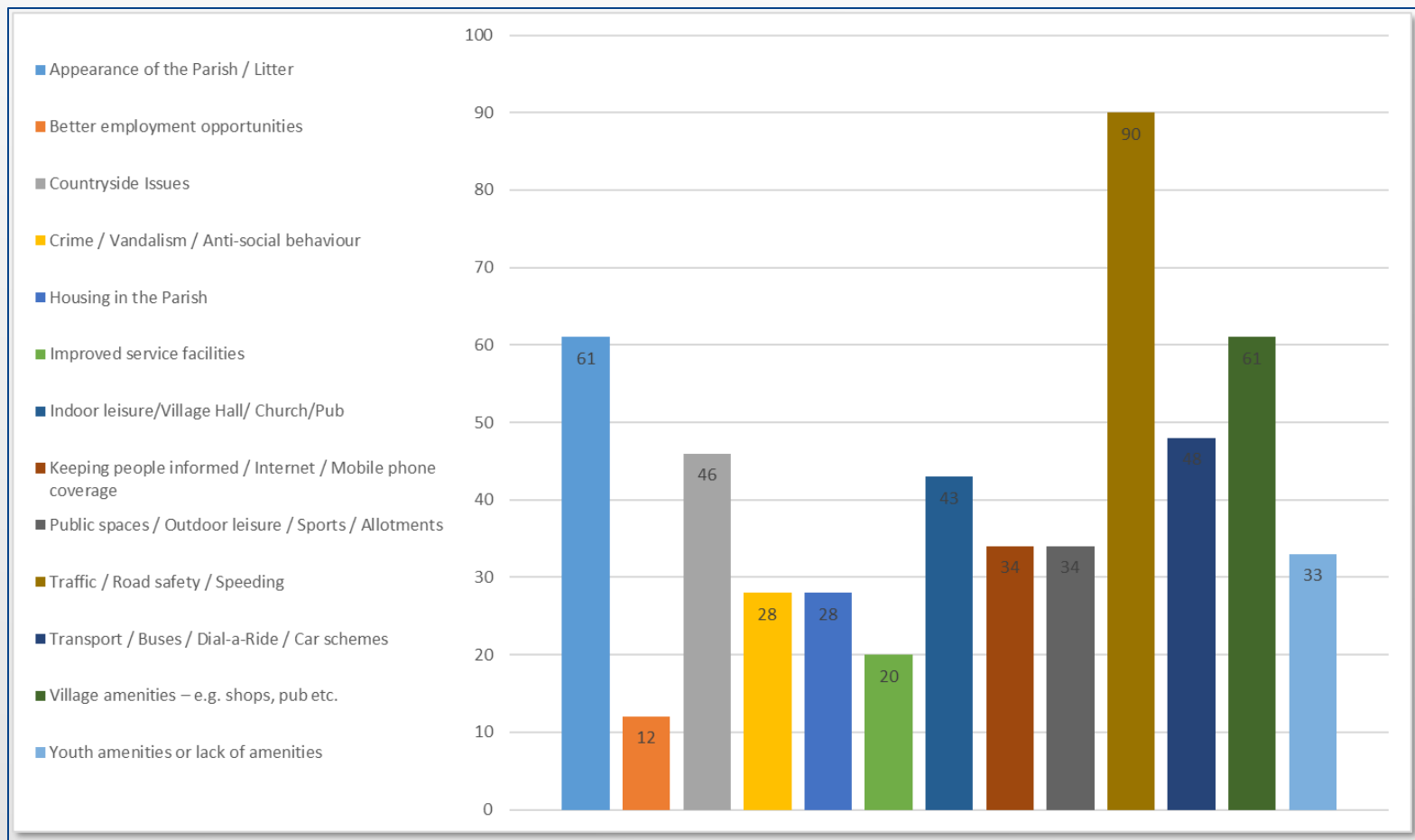
The lovely countryside was at the top of our list followed by the peace and quiet. We also really like the village atmosphere and way of life.

Lower on our list but still very important was the closeness to our family and friends, the fact we have always lived here and our place of work being nearby.

Some of us feel it is a safe place to live with great dog walks and lovely people. Let's not forget that we are also very lucky to have our shop, post office and pub.

The Broads in general, surrounding villages and proximity to the wonderful beaches also gave us reason to like where we live.

Road Safety and road maintenance where highest on our list of what is important to us, but also village amenities and the appearance of the parish.



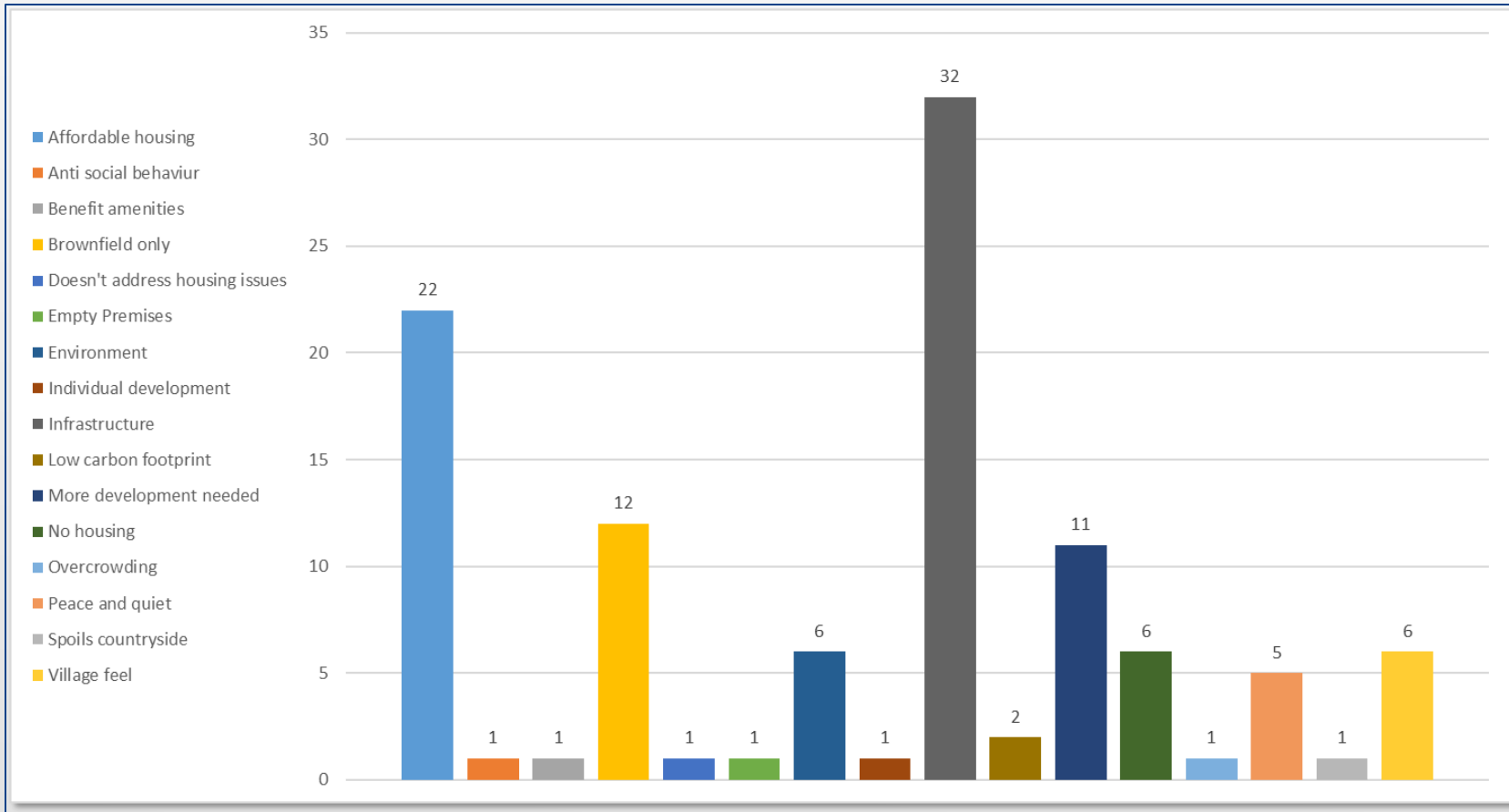
WHAT ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO US?

WHAT WOULD WE LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED?

- ▶ **Road Safety** – Speeding, lighting, volume of traffic, cycle lanes and large vehicles such as lorries and farm traffic
- ▶ **Road Maintenance** – Potholes, hedges, verges, drainage and mud on the road left by farm vehicles
- ▶ **Facilities for the youths** – They have nowhere to go and have the potential to cause anti-social behavior as a result. This may also stop families from moving to the village
- ▶ **Footpaths** - Pedestrian safety especially when it involves young children, the elderly and the disabled
- ▶ **Public transport** - We don't have enough buses or the timings of the buses are not suitable
- ▶ **The industrial area** – It's unsightly and could be improved with screening and housing development
- ▶ Other things included more affordable housing and the village hall.

Less than half of us feel that housing in Catfield is necessary or beneficial, but most of us feel it is just inevitable. Our biggest concern is road safety, infrastructure and the environment and although we don't really want any more development, we understand that affordable housing is needed. But do we know what affordable housing actually means?

106 of us feel that brownfield sites should be prioritised, low carbon impact homes built and only given to local people. An overwhelming 87% don't believe that NNDC will give the homes to local people and 88% believe they will not listen to our opinions. It's not that we aren't informed either, over 50% of us are aware that Catfield is a service village.

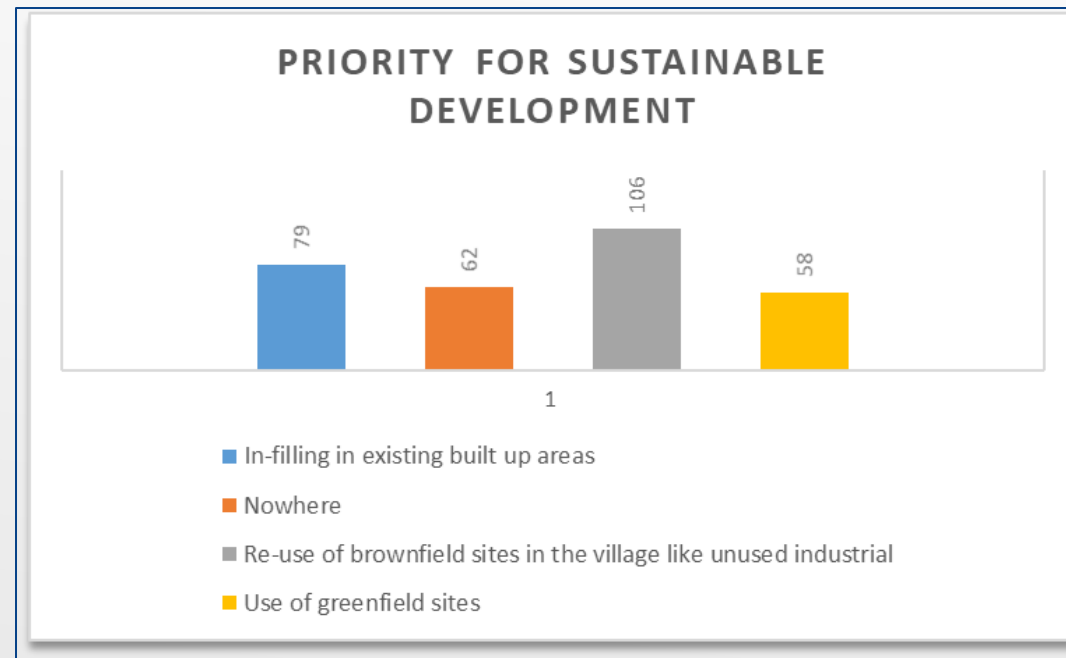


DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING

SO WHERE DO WE THINK THE INEVITABLE HOUSING SHOULD GO?

Out of 134 responses we came up with the following ideas:

- ▶ 22% – Mushroom site
- ▶ 18% – Industrial area
- ▶ 17% – Brownfield sites only
- ▶ 10% – Not in Catfield at all
- ▶ 5% – School lane
- ▶ 4% – Long lane



It's very clear to see that if there is development in Catfield, 57% of us would like to see it on brownfields and the industrial sites. Some of us also mentioned disused and derelict houses that are in the village.

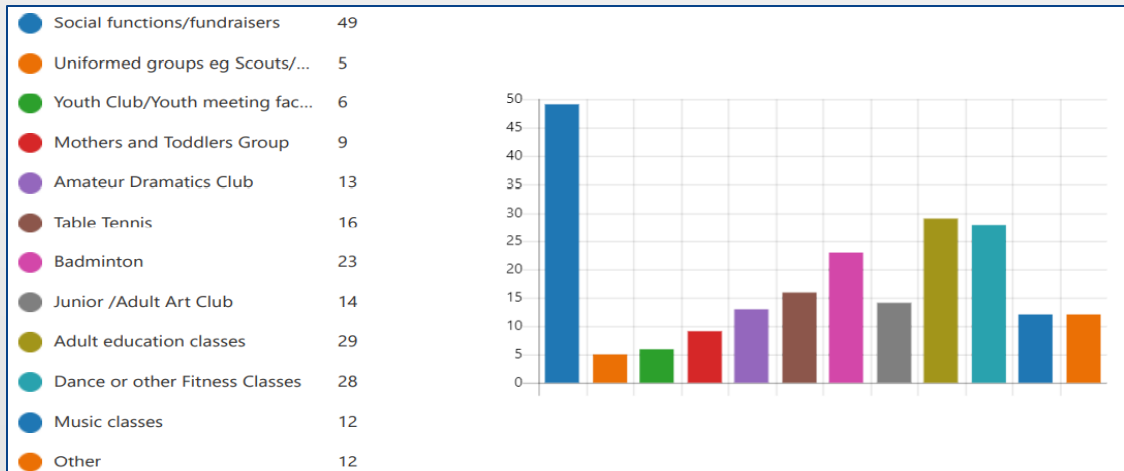
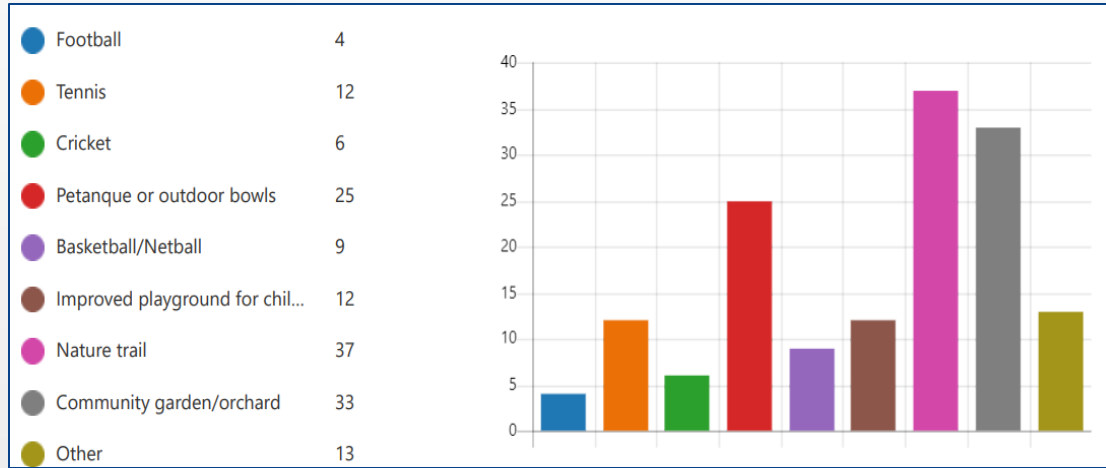
WHAT IS OUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF THE VILLAGE?

- ▶ Out of 118 responses, 54% of us feel that the industrial areas let us down. Some of them are untidy, unkept, environmentally damaging and an eyesore. We understand we need them but feel that they need to be screened off with natural screening and made to be kept in good order.
- ▶ Another 6% mentioned the village entrances including all the cars parked on the green space on new road. Is this still a green space if it's car parking?
- ▶ 5% of us feel that signage at the entrances and around the village are poor or unkept.
- ▶ On a positive note, and withstanding the above we feel that the village is clean, tidy and provides peace and quiet

To improve the way we see the village we have come up with some ideas:

- ▶ Natural screening of industrial areas as above
- ▶ Organised litter picks
- ▶ More litter bins
- ▶ Enforcing fines for dog mess
- ▶ More flowers around the village, leading to us entering the village in bloom awards.

RECREATION AND LEISURE



- ▶ As a village we are quite an active bunch and would like to see more outdoor usable space where we can all gather and enjoy it.
- ▶ We worry that there are not enough footpaths to safely access the football field. The ones we do have we don't feel are well maintained.
- ▶ We would like some nature trails, a community garden or orchard and are rather keen on petanque or bowls
- ▶ When it comes to socialising we are definitely up for it and would like to see more social functions and fundraisers (COVID pending). This is also popular to those who would like to help organise.

Other ideas we have for events and recreation are:

- ▶ Carboot/garages sales
- ▶ Craft events
- ▶ Village Fayre and dog show
- ▶ Community nature projects
- ▶ Music concerts/festivals
- ▶ Allotments
- ▶ And many more

Our villagers feel very strongly about the lack of facilities for the youths. We don't think there is enough for them to do and are concerned they will turn to anti-social behaviour as a result.

We would like them to have better access to the village hall or a purpose built village hall, a youth club and more organised activities.

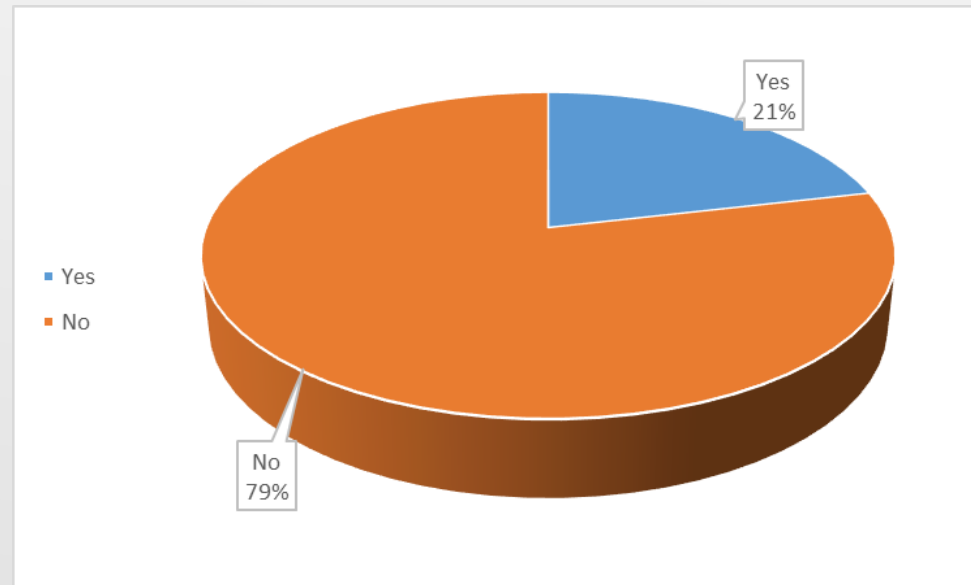
Those of us who asked our under 18's found they wanted the same as us but also much better sports facilities.

But the main word to come from us was that the youth need to be consulted directly. We need to get them involved in developing facilities and activities that interest them. It was even suggested that we involved a youth liaison officer to assist with this.

For the much younger youths we feel that the playground is unsafe, dirty over run with older youths and complaining residents. We feel this needs moving, redesigning or updating. We also feel that disabled facilities should be incorporated.

THE YOUTH OF THE VILLAGE

When asked if we use the playground 79% said no and 21% said yes. The reasons given are mentioned above.



THE VILLAGE HALL

- ▶ Like the industrial estates, the village hall has been mentioned throughout the survey as a part of Catfield that could be improved
- ▶ Only 10% of us use the village hall regularly, while 41% never use it at all. 87% of us have never used it for a private function and almost the same amount of us feel the village would use it more if facilities were further improved
- ▶ Over half of us think we should relocate the village hall and increase its size including parking

