

Lydbury North Parish Plan Summary of Key Findings from the 2014 Survey

The survey was funded in part by a grant from Shropshire Council. The Parish Council used the services of Shropshire Rural Community Council to assist in the distribution and collection of forms.

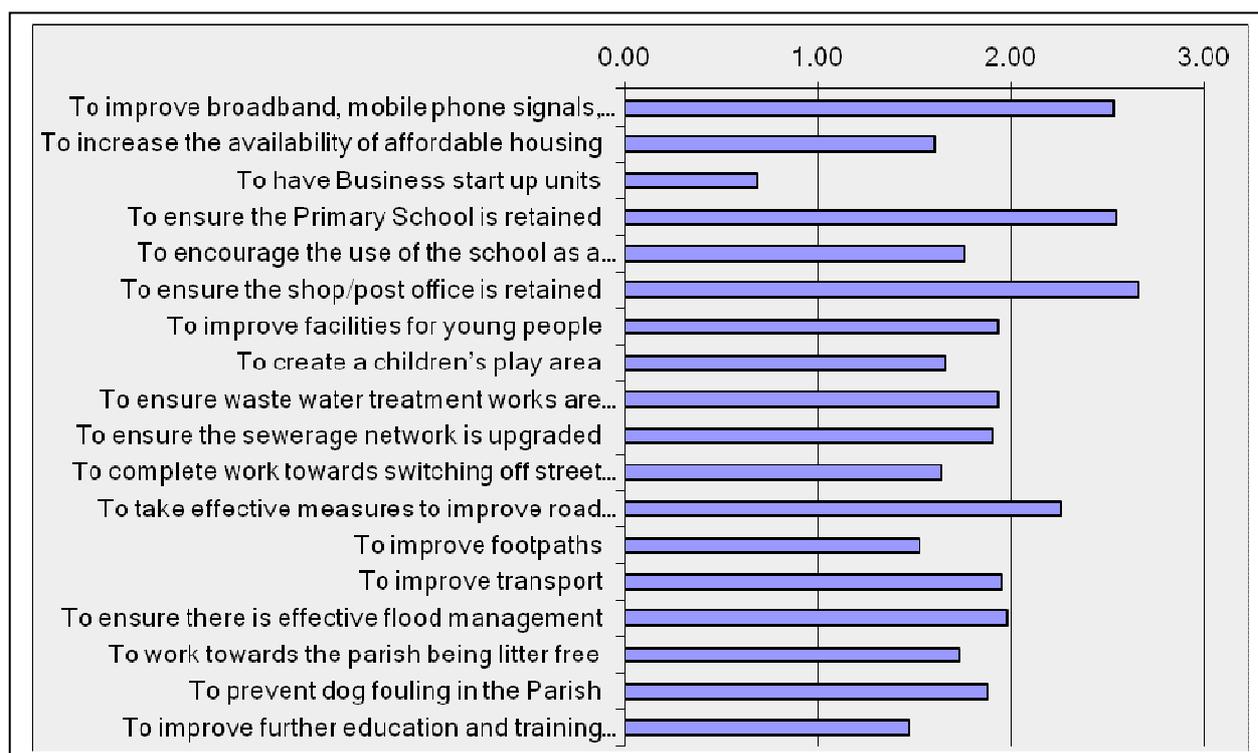
Over 240 forms were sent out to households in the parish in July 2014 and the survey was made available for completion using SurveyMonkey via the Parish Council website (lydburynorth.org). The survey closed in early September 2014.

126 responses were received of which 54 were male and 63 female. 9 did not, or it was not possible to, identify their gender.

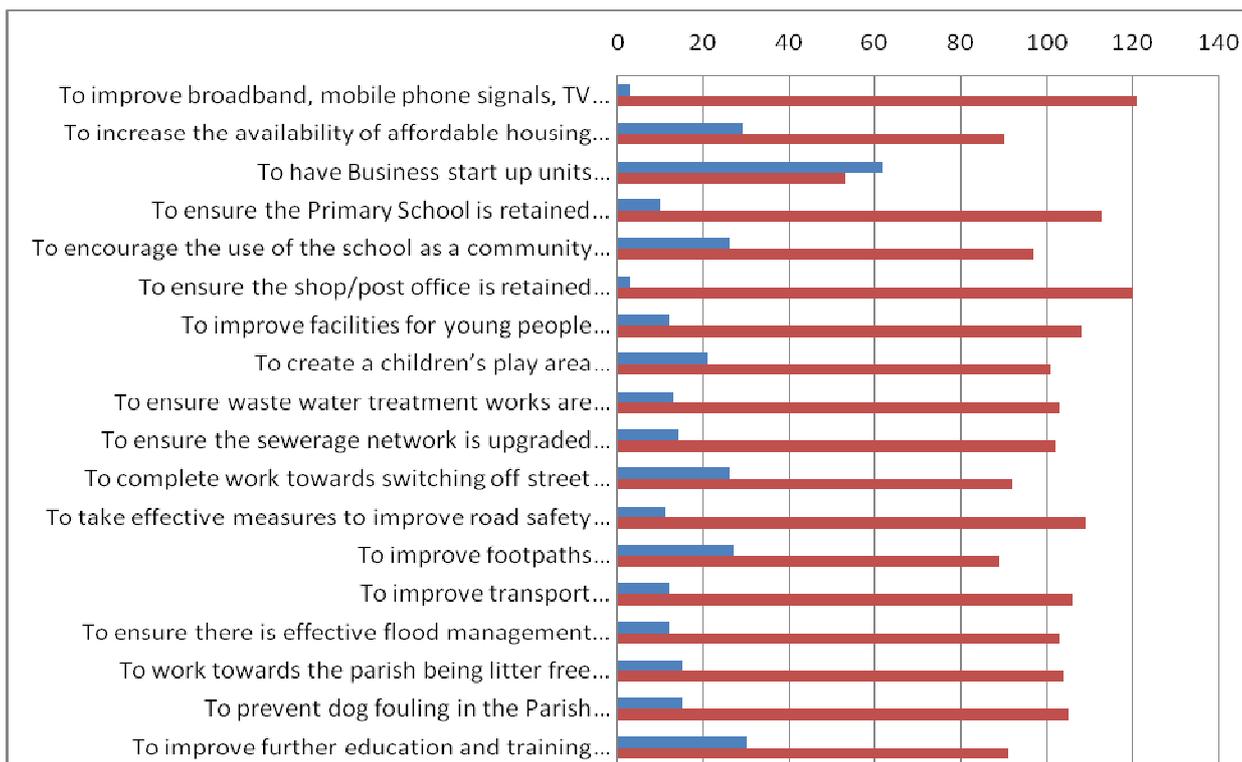
The proportion of responses by age group is shown below together with local population statistics. This shows that the greatest number of returns was received from the 65+ age group which represents twice the proportion in the population whereas the response from younger people (under 15 and 16-24 combined) was five times less than the proportion in the population.

Age	Response Percent	Response Count	Population Structure Percent
Under 15	1.7	2	16.7
16-24	2.5	3	5.3
25-44	6.8	8	18.2
45-64	44.9	53	36.7
65+	44.1	52	22.9

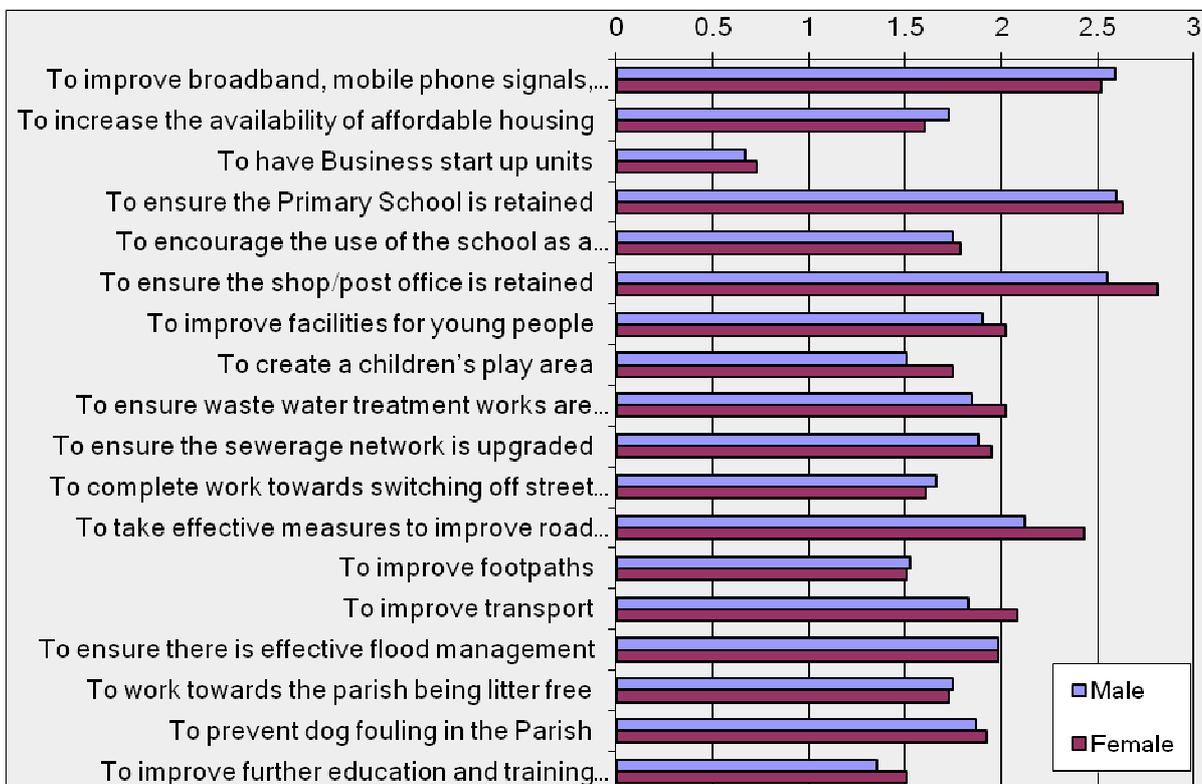
The overall responses to the identified priorities irrespective of age and gender based on a weighted rating scale identifies the key priorities as improving the mobile phone signal, retaining the primary school and shop and improving road safety. Business start up units are seen as being relatively unimportant.



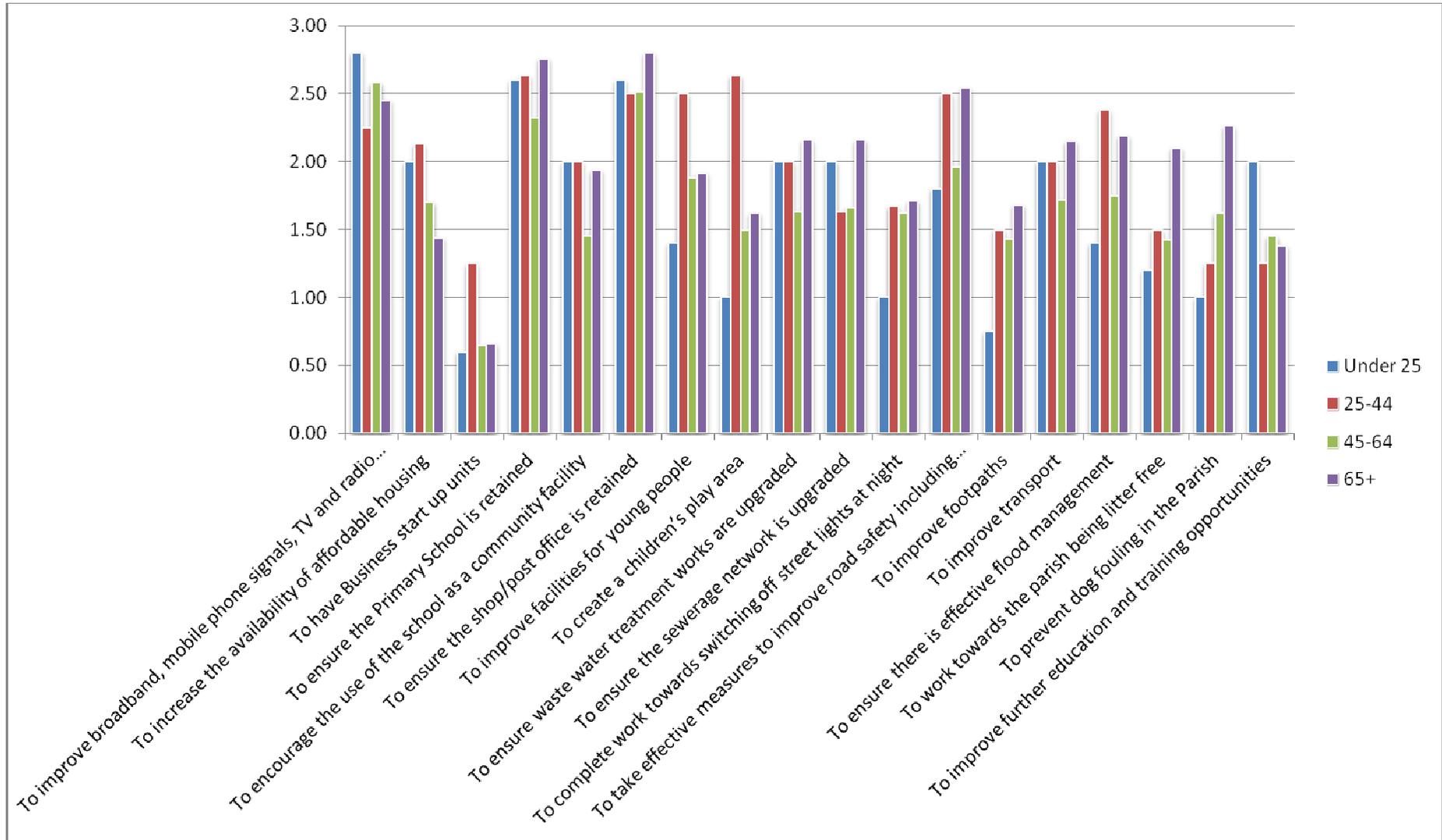
These conclusions are confirmed if the number of responses for important categories are grouped together and compared against the responses for unimportant. However, several priorities become elevated in terms of importance as the result is not ameliorated by the unimportant responses.



The comparative importance of priorities by gender shows that there is relatively little difference between how males and females have prioritised aims.



The comparative importance of priorities by age group has used combined results for under 15 and 16-24 year olds due to the small number of respondents. The results charted below are summarised on the following page by each priority.



Priorities	Comment on difference in responses by age group
To improve broadband, mobile phone signal, TV and radio reception	All age groups see as important
To increase the availability of affordable housing	Under 25 and 25-44 see as quite important, 45-64 and 65+ as less important
To have Business start up units	Holds some importance for 45-64 age range, but of little to no importance for other age groups
To ensure the Primary School is retained	All groups see as very important
To encourage the use of the school as a community facility	All groups see as quite important except for 45-64 year olds who feel it holds less importance
To ensure the shop/post office is retained	All see as very important
To improve facilities for young people	25-44 year olds see this as very important whilst others see it as quite important. Under 25 year olds felt less strongly about this than other age groups
To create a children's play area	As above, but the differences between the different age groups more marked
To ensure waste water treatment works are upgraded	Seen by all groups as quite important
To ensure the sewerage network is upgraded	Seen by all groups as quite important
To complete work towards switching off street lights at night	All groups see as of some importance except under 25 year olds who regard it as less important
To take effective measures to improve road safety including reducing speeding traffic through the villages	Under 25 and 45-64 year olds see as quite important whilst 25-44 and 65+ year olds regard as very important
To improve footpaths	All see as of some importance except under 25s who see this as relatively unimportant
To improve transport	Seen by all groups as quite important
To ensure there is effective flood management	Under 25 and 45-64 year olds see as having some importance whilst 25-44 and 65+ year olds regard this as quite important
To work towards the parish being litter free	65+ see it as very important with other age groups see this as being of some importance
To prevent dog fouling in the Parish	This becomes increasingly important from age group to age group. Under 25's weighted average 1; 25-44 year olds 1.2; 45-64 year olds 1.6 and 65+ 2.3
To improve further education and training opportunities	Under 25's felt this was important whilst the other age groups felt it was less important

56 people made additional comments summarised as follows:

Priorities	Additional comments
To improve broadband, mobile phone signal, TV and radio reception	5 additional comments supporting, particularly broadband and mobile phone signal
To increase the availability of affordable housing	11 additional comments including for and against, spread across the village, need to ensure infrastructure to support in place, 1-2 bedroomed rather than larger housing. 1 comment on empty house on Habershon Close. 2 additional comments suggesting need for a clear housing plan and 1 re high cost of rental property
To have Business start up units	1 supporting
To ensure the Primary School is retained	2 supporting alongside pub, hall, shop and church
To encourage the use of the school as a community facility	2 in support stating need to link to community events for families in/out of parish. 1 against – use hall rather than school
To ensure the shop/post office is retained	1 supporting
To improve facilities for young people	
To create a children's play area	
To ensure waste water treatment works are upgraded	
To ensure the sewerage network is upgraded	
To complete work towards switching off street lights at night	
To take effective measures to improve road safety including reducing speeding traffic through the villages	4 supporting including suggestion for warning signs; 1 against
To improve footpaths	2 supporting 1 of which suggests increasing open access
To improve transport	10 supporting need to improve rural transport and access to local towns, 2 of which relate to improvements to the infrastructure. 4 additional comments on need to improve facilities for cycling
To ensure there is effective flood management	1 in support. 1 re flooding at Acton
To work towards the parish being litter free	1 suggestion that this is the responsibility of individuals
To prevent dog fouling in the Parish	2 in support and 1 suggestion that this is the responsibility of individuals
To improve further education and training opportunities	2 comments to say that this is wider than the parish/responsibility of BCCC
To improve mains water supply	4 comments suggesting the need to improve water quality

To improve communications	3 comments relating to PC and 3 to cooperation between local services/organisations, i.e. pub, shop, hall, church, school and 1 re breaking down barriers between groups of people within the community
Allotments	1 in favour of
Needs of elderly	4 comments
PC to take a more strategic approach	2 comments with 1 proposing a vision for the community, the other around infrastructure and economy, e.g tourism, community safety, elderly services
Garage	1 comment re the need to be sorted
Hall	1 comment re charges to be kept low to improve accessibility and 1 re access for disabled
Maintenance of postal services	1 comment
Maintenance	1 comment re hedges being cut more frequently, 1 re land by bus shelter tidied

A small number of respondents criticised the survey in terms of the Likert scale headings and 1 person felt the Council should not be wasting money on another survey. A small number of people felt the survey was biased towards Lydbury North and did not consider the needs of outlying areas.