

MEPAL COMMUNITY-LED PLAN 2018

REPORT

THE Chairman, Secretary and Committee of the Community-Led Plan would like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who took the time to complete the two questionnaires that were circulated last year. The results of both surveys have been collated, analyzed and passed on to the Parish Council and all the village groups who took part in the survey.

In order to save on paper and printing costs, what follows is an abbreviated summary of the findings from the surveys. If you would like to see the full results, they can be viewed on-line on the Parish Council website, www.mepalparish.org.uk/mepal-community-led-plan, or alternatively at the next village get together, details of which can be found at the end of this report. 'Hard-copies' will be kept at the shop and Village Hall or can be obtained from our Secretary.

By necessity what follows is merely a "taster" and we strongly recommend that you avail yourself of the full reports.

Roger Taylor, Chairman – Mepal Community-Led Plan Steering Group

Questionnaire 1 - The Traffic Survey.

The total numbers of cars owned by villagers who responded to the survey is 515, 112 households have 1 car and 136 two. The average wait time to leave the village is 0 to 5 minutes with 102 respondents reporting between 5 to 10 minutes. The majority leave via the A142 towards Sutton, with the Witcham road being the next most popular.

The most popular times for leaving the village are after 0900 and between 0700 and 0800. The return time most favoured is between 1700 and 1800.

The main cause for concern was the junction with the A142. 123 households voted for traffic lights to be installed, 147 felt that a roundabout was the way to proceed. This result has been passed on to the Parish Council with a request that it is promulgated to the relevant authorities. **Unfortunately, we have been preceded by the Highways Agency / County Council who have seen fit to install extra bollards etc at the village entrance. Hopefully this will reduce the accident toll although it is unlikely to help with exit from the village.**

217 households stated that they would support speed cameras on the A142 and 210 were in support of improved signage etc. to control speed in the village.

N.B. Subsequent to the survey the Parish Council have installed a portable speed indication sign in the village which is, on occasion moved to Witcham road.

129 households said that they would use an improved bus service, however 130 said they would not.

139 households stated that there were parking issues in the village, with Brangehill Lane and outside the Village Hall being highlighted as problem areas.

N.B. In conjunction with the Parish Council, The Village Hall committee have acted on this and fixed ‘No Parking’ signs on the fence facing the road. The persons responsible for causing an issue on Brangehill Lane have stopped parking in such a way as to cause an obstruction.

Questionnaire 2 - The Main (General) Survey

228 households completed this survey, representing 52.9% of the village. The demographic make-up of those households who took part is as follows:-

MALE	
0 to 4	7
5 to 10	20
11 to 15	12
15 to 18	10
18 to 30	18
30 to 49	59
50 to 65	54
66 to 80	61
80+	24
FEMALE	
0 to 4	11
5 to 10	8
11 to 15	12
15 to 18	2
18 to 30	18
30 to 49	61
50 to 65	56
66 to 80	68
80+	18

192 properties are privately owned with a further 23 being Housing Association homes. Of those, 16 stated that their home met their needs. 43 Mepal residents/households are currently considering leaving the village.

200 households stated that Mepal People newsletter was their favoured way of getting information about the Parish Council activities, 116 know who their Parish Councillors are, and 118 stated that their preferred method of contact is by e-mail.

Volunteering results are as below

VILLAGE LITTER PICKS	65
WOODLAND CLEARING	35
MAINTAINING FOOTPATHS	24
PARISH COUNCILLOR	3
PLAY AREA ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER	6
LILIBET WOOD ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER	0
UPDATING & MANAGING THE WHOLE OR CERTAIN PAGES OF THE WEBSITE	2
COMMUNITY FIRST AID/FIRST RESPONDER GROUP	13
COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP	17

The Health and Wellbeing results are shown below

Apart from football, what other sports and fitness opportunities would you like to see in Mepal?

TASTER SESSIONS FOR HOCKEY, NETBALL OR RUGBY ON RECREATION FIELD	28
OPEN AIR GYM EQUIPMENT ON RECREATION FIELD	51
VILLAGE 'TRIM TRAIL' AT SITES AROUND THE VILLAGE	27
ALL WEATHER SURFACE INCORPORATING FOOTBALL 5 A SIDE, TENNIS, NETBALL ON REC. FIELD	39
BOWLING ON THE RECREATION FIELD	24
FITNESS SESSIONS FOR ALL AGES IN THE VILLAGE HALL	49
FITNESS SESSIONS FOR OVER 55'S IN THE VILLAGE HALL	55
INDOOR SPORTS E.G. CARPET BOWLS IN THE VILLAGE HALL	54
SKATEPARK ON RECREATION FIELD	35

If possible, what Health Professional consultations would you like to see offered in the village?

DOCTOR	126
NURSE/PRACTIONER	99
MIDWIFE	18
HEALTH VISITOR	36
CHIROPDIST	73

83 households supported keeping the Village Hall as it is, 33 would like to see a new village hall built on the recreation field, 48 supported the idea of extending the Pavilion to create a new village hall and 47 supported the idea of the present Village Hall being converted to provide additional housing under the Community Land Trust scheme.

138 households said that their broadband speed was acceptable in contrast to 58 who felt it wasn't. 177 felt that the village cemetery should be maintained by the Parish Council against 23 who disagreed.

The members of the
Mepal Community-Led Plan Steering Group
would like to thank you for taking the time to complete the
Traffic and General village questionnaires.

We feel it has been a very effective exercise with many
interesting points and suggestions to make Mepal a better
place to live coming from it.

***BUT, to make it truly worthwhile, the village now
needs your help!***

Many of you have indicated a willingness to volunteer to help
with certain areas of village life e.g. maintenance; others would
like to see new social activities and a great number would like
to see large village events happening in Mepal.

SO, are you ready to make things happen?

If you want to learn more about the present village groups, if
you want to get involved in new projects or if you are just
interested in the results of the surveys then please come to:-

The Community-Led Plan ‘Village Get-Together’!

**On Sunday 10 March 2019
any time between 2.30pm and 4.30pm
at Mepal Village Hall**

FREE REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE!

If you are interested but can't make this date, you can view the results
on the Parish Council website on

www.mepalparish.org.uk/mepal-community-led-plan.

Alternatively, hard copies will be held at Mepal Post Office Stores and
the Village Hall or available from our Secretary, phone 778141