



St. Andrews Community Survey

A survey of the community
surrounding and comprising
St. Andrew's Parish, Ipswich

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Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
2	Executive Summary.....	3
3	Proposals and Recommendations.....	3
5	Discussion Points.....	4
5.1	Noise / Quiet.....	4
5.2	Parenting Course.....	4
5.3	Youth Activities.....	4
5.4	General.....	4
6	Methodology.....	5
7	Responses to the Questionnaire.....	5
7.1	Age of Respondent.....	5
7.2	Length of Residency.....	5
7.3	How many adults live in your home.....	6
7.4	School Age of Children.....	6
7.5	The best aspects of the Parish.....	7
7.6	The worst aspects of the Parish.....	8
7.7	St. Andrew's Current Activities.....	9
7.8	St. Andrew's future ideas.....	10
7.9	Future Ideas.....	11
8	Thanks.....	12
9	Appendix 1 - Map of St. Andrew's Parish	13

1 Introduction

- 1 Following a bequest to St. Andrew's Church, two Community Link Workers were appointed to work within the parish of St Andrew's, and also the surrounding community. It was quickly realised that a real understanding of the people and the neighbourhood was required to ensure that the work was focused to actual needs. The Community Link Workers conducted a survey by interviewing over 100 people. This report presents the findings of the survey.
- 2 It should be noted the vast majority of the interviewees are not members of St. Andrew's, although some already have a link through one or more of our current activities.
- 3 St. Andrew's parish is situated on the East side of Ipswich. The parish contains a mixture of older terraced housing and more modern semi-detached housing. A large new estate has been constructed on the east side, separated by a ring road running through the parish. There is a large comprehensive school and two primary schools in the parish. Within the vicinity are the main general and psychiatric hospitals for the town, Appendix 1 is a map showing the boundary of the parish.

2 Executive Summary

- 4 This report states the results of the survey and draws conclusions that can be identified at this time. It states the facts and opinions as expressed by the respondents.
- 5 This report is intended to be shared with other agencies, both statutory and voluntary, and to supplement the information that is available on the community in the parish of St. Andrew's.
- 6 It may be possible to draw further conclusions at a later date, with the benefit of further information or research.
- 7 It is apparent from both the willingness of the community to take part in the survey, and also from the responses that St. Andrew's is a respected and valued part of the community.
- 8 As well as support for the current activities there does appear to be a consistent request for some form of exercise and well being activity.

3 Proposals and Recommendations

4

- R1 Recommendation - Check for the areas of Quiet / Noise**
 - See Paragraph 9
- R2 Consider re-running the Parenting Course**
 - See Paragraph 10
- R3 Consider Youth Activities in response to the suggestion that St. Andrew's could do more.**
 - See Paragraph 11

9 R4 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Health and Fitness Activities

- See Paragraph 13

R5 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Bereavement Counselling

- See Paragraph 13

R6 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Debt Counselling

- See Paragraph 13

5 Discussion Points

5.1 Noise / Quiet

- 10 Amongst the comments in response to the question on what do residents like about the area, three commented on the "Quiet". However, when asked about what residents didn't like, eight responses identified the "Noise". While different people may have differing interpretations on the perception of quiet and noise, there is also the opportunity to interpret that the 'Noise' may not be a problem over the whole area of the parish, but may be localised. Alternatively, there may be local areas of 'quiet'. It may be appropriate to look again at the addresses that identified "Noise" or "Quiet" to identify if there is a geographic correlation.

R1 Check for the areas of Quiet / Noise

5.2 Parenting Course

- 11 A total of four respondents indicated a desire for a Parenting course. This represents 10% of the sample who indicated that they have children (40).

R2 Consider re-running the Parenting Course

5.3 Youth Activities

- 12 With 10% of respondents suggesting that St. Andrew's do more in the way of Youth Activities there is evidently a need to consider what this response means.

R3 Consider Youth Activities in response to the suggestion that St. Andrew's could do more.

5.4 General

- 13 Local residents clearly think very highly of the schools in the area. They are also complimentary about other local services and amenities. In contrast the survey highlights problem areas of traffic, street parking and to a lesser extent anti-social behaviour by groups of teenagers.
- 14 Many of those interviewed approved of what the church is already doing especially in our youth activities. However, in response to some of our suggestions the most popular suggestions for new ideas were for Health and Fitness activities and Bereavement Counselling services. The charts within the report show more detail on all of these matters.

R4 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Health and Fitness Activities

R5 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Bereavement Counselling

R6 Consider how St. Andrew's could provide Debt Counselling

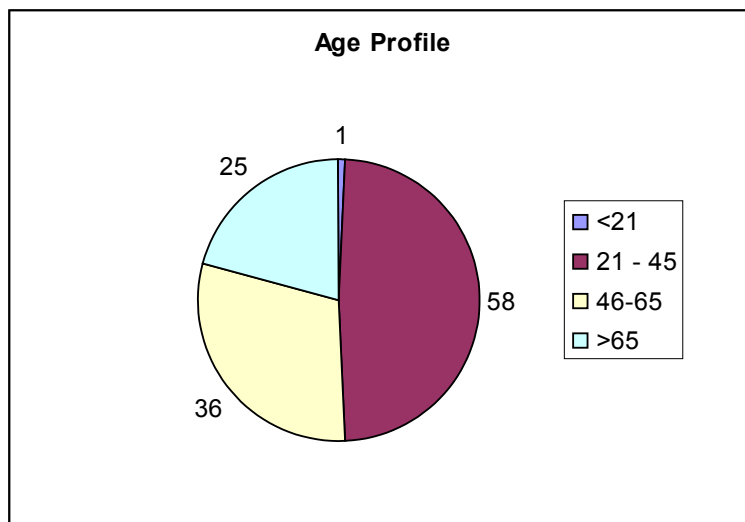
6 Methodology

- 15 A total of 107 interviews were conducted. This is regarded as a statistically valid sample for the purposes of this report.
- 16 Respondents were assured that their replies would be kept confidential, but the final results would be published, and made available to anyone who had an interest.
- 17 A small number of respondents declined to answer all of the questions. Where this occurred, the answers that they gave were included, where appropriate.
- 18 Respondents were also invited to make comments in addition to selecting from a pre-defined range of answers.
- 19

7 Responses to the Questionnaire

7.1 Age of Respondent

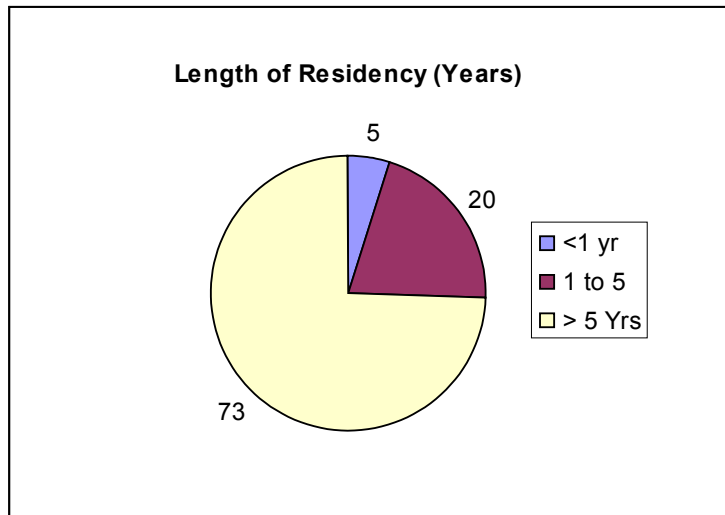
- 20 The survey question asked people to enter themselves in one of the age categories shown in the chart below.
- 21



- 22 The Age profile chart indicates that the population of the community is predominately in the age range of 21 to 46, with approximately 1/4 of the population being over retirement age.
- 23 Responses to the survey were sought predominantly from adults of working age. The unrepresentative number (1) of Under-21's is a consequence of this intention and is not an indication that there is a small number of Under-21's.

7.2 Length of Residency

- 24 The survey asked how long respondents had lived at there present address?
- 25 The following chart shows that approximately three out of four respondents have lived in the parish for over 5 years.

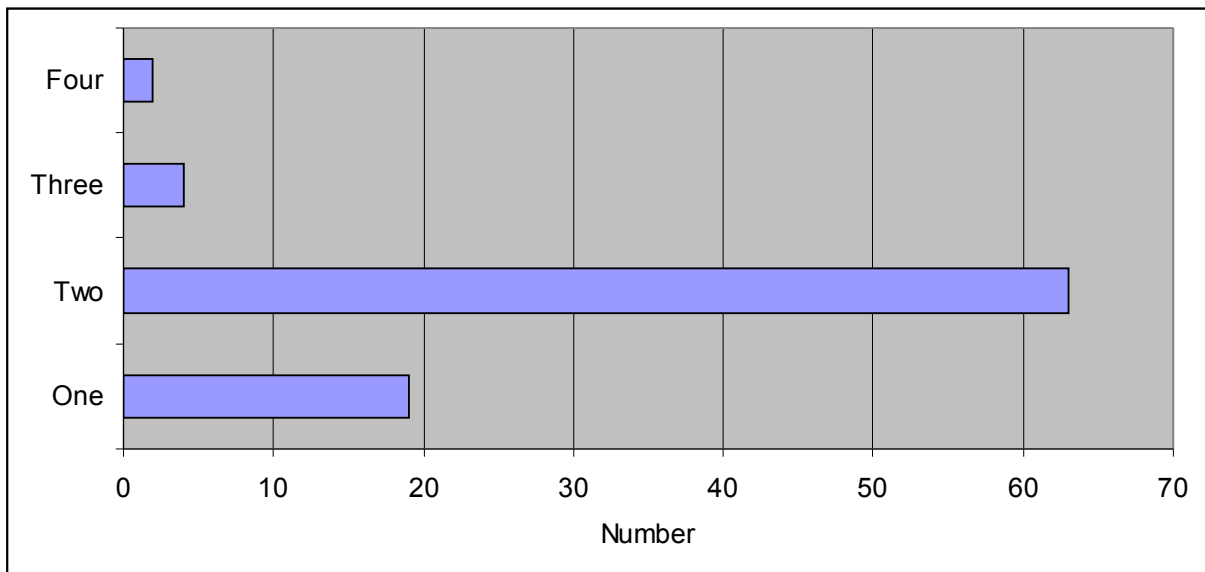


26

27 Additionally, 13 respondents reported having lived here for more than 30 years.

7.3 How many adults live in your home

28 The Survey asked how many adults live in each home? The following chart shows the results.

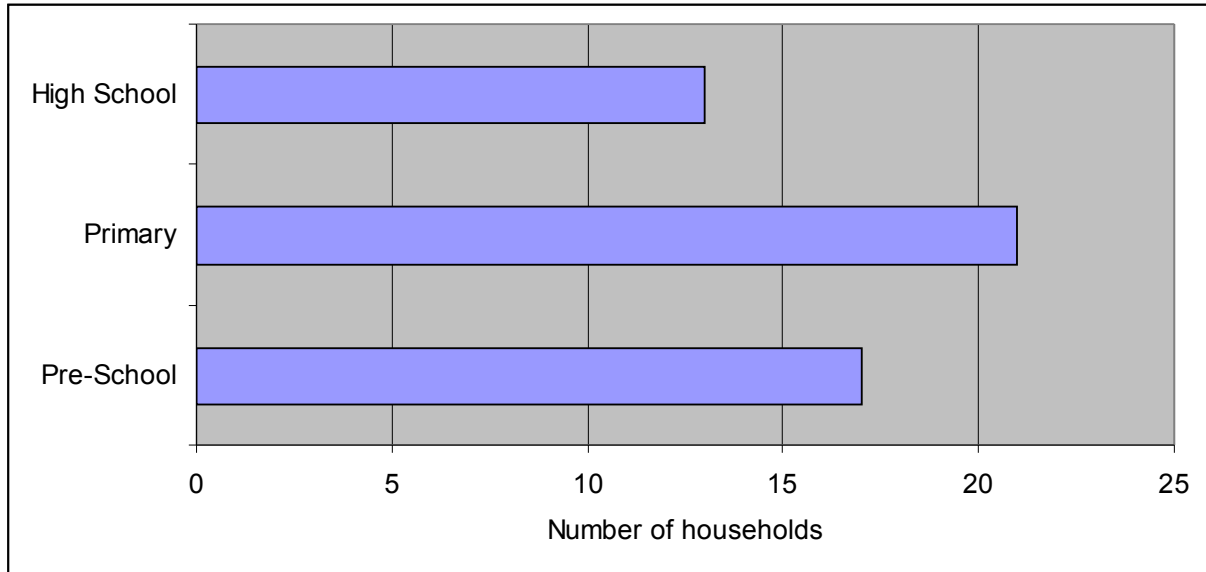


29 The questionnaire did not ask for any explanation of the relationship of the adults.

7.4 School Age of Children

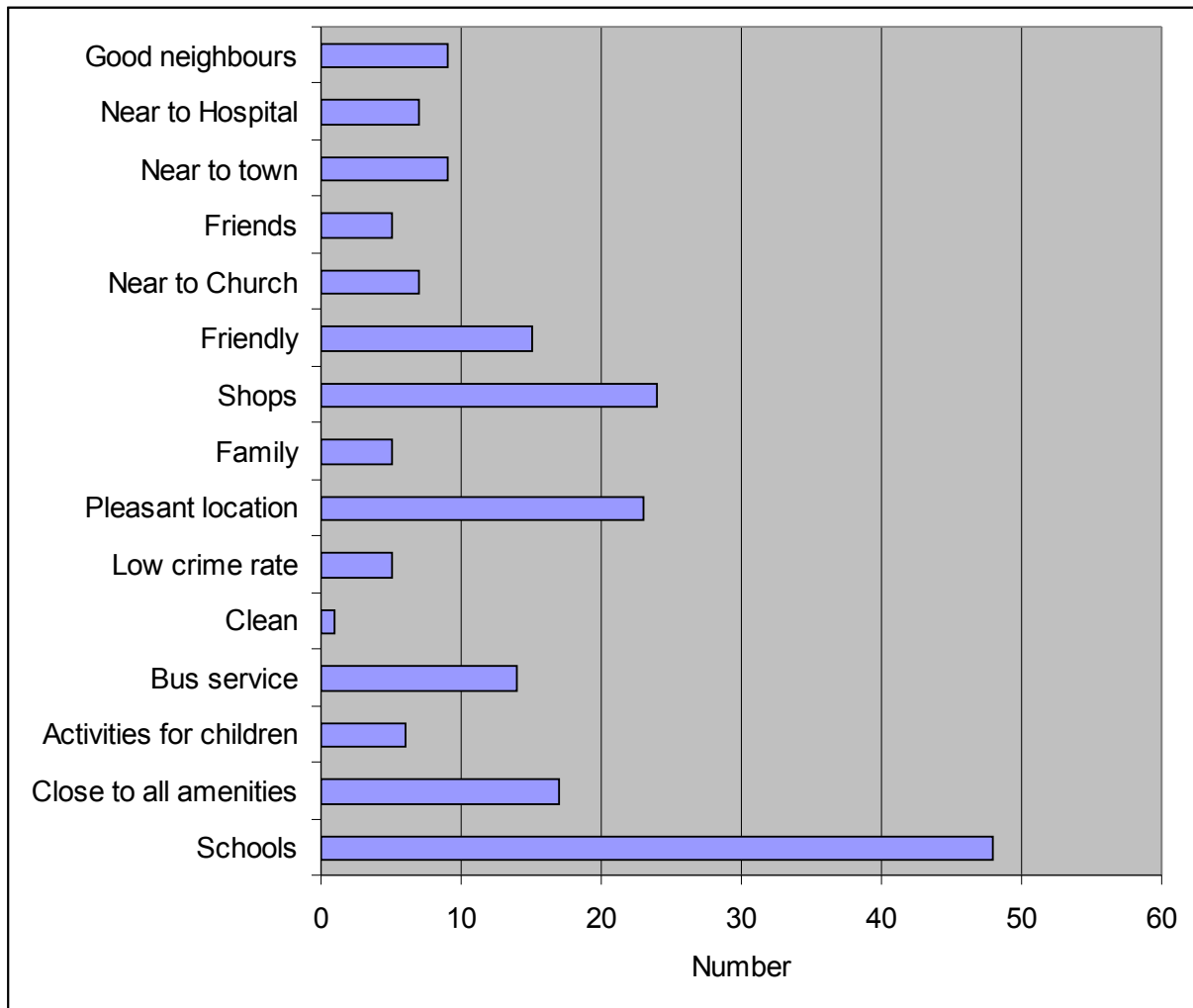
30 The survey asked what schools were attended by children of the household?

31 It is important to appreciate that these numbers are households with children of this age. If a household has children in more than one category, they will be counted, once in each one that is appropriate.



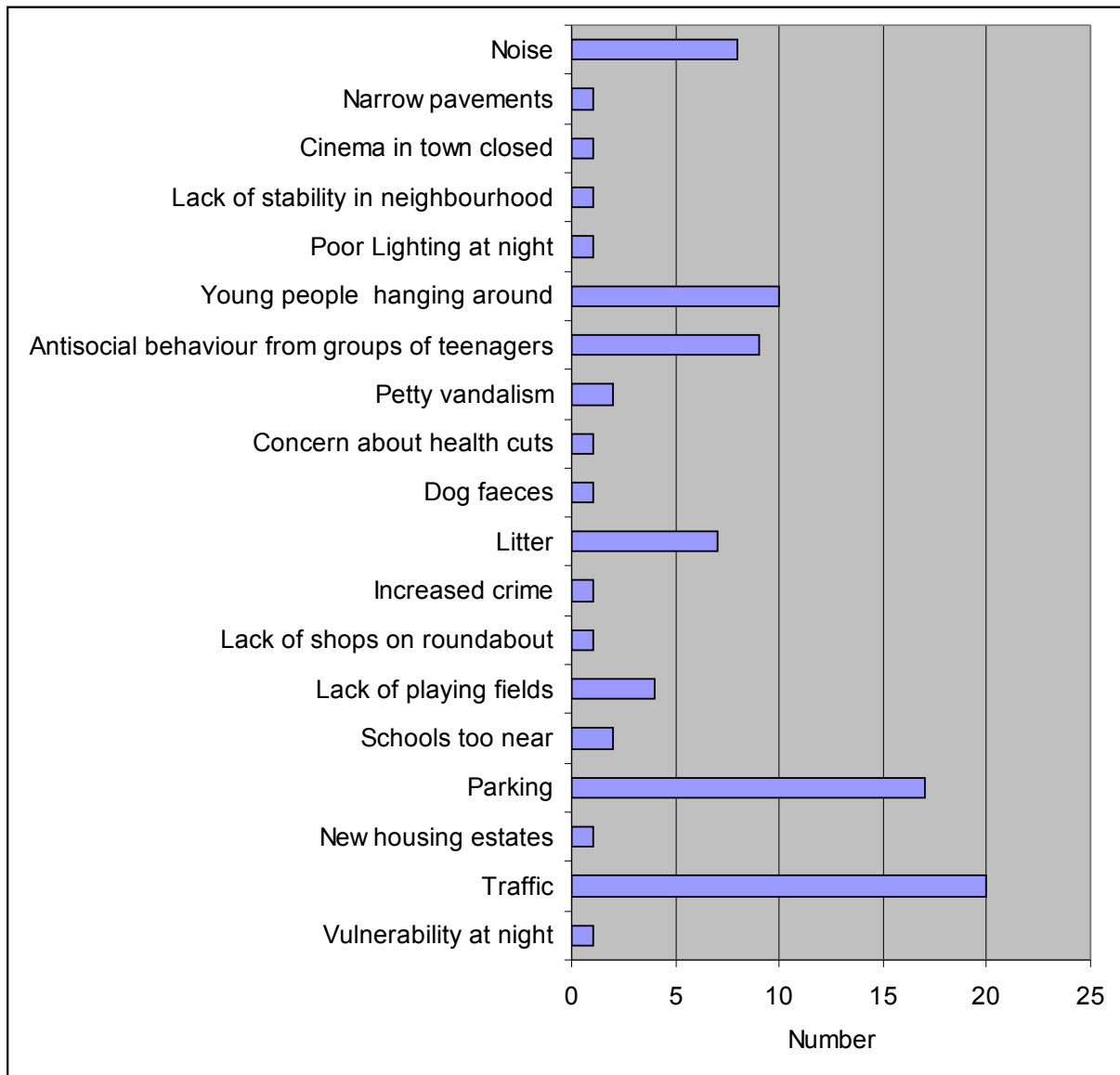
7.5 The best aspects of the Parish

- 32 The survey asked what are the best things about living in this community?
- 33 The top three appreciated aspects are the schools, shops and a 'Pleasant Location'. Residents also appear to be happy with access to services and amenities including the bus service.
- 34 Several respondents commented that they appreciated the "quiet", the close proximity of the Post Office, the parks and evening classes at the school.



7.6 The worst aspects of the Parish

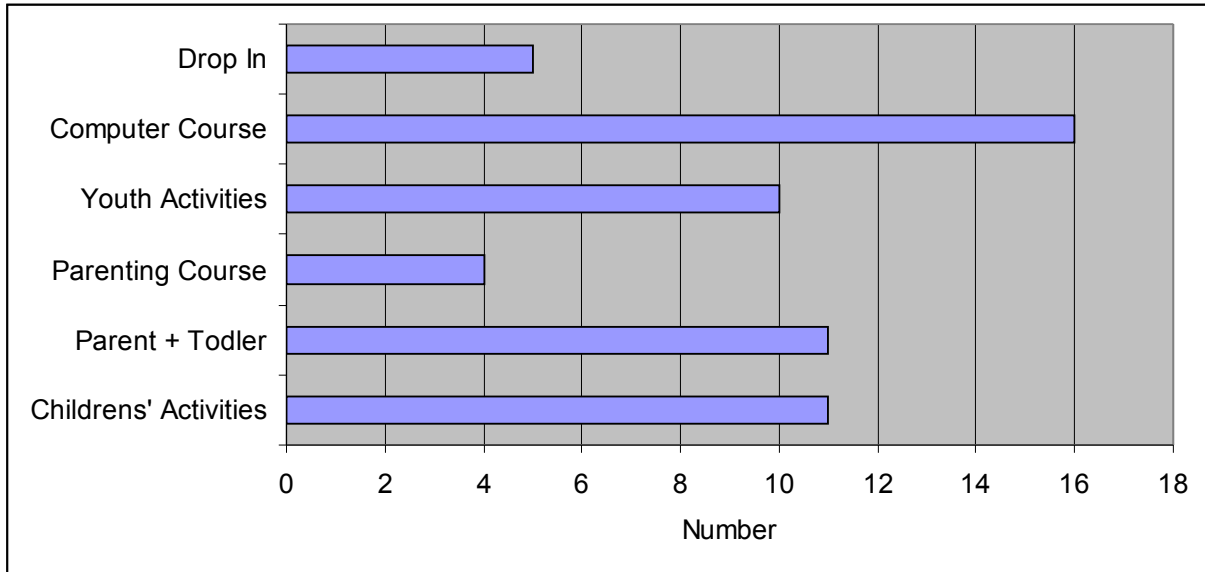
- 35 The survey asked what are the worst things about living in this community?
- 36 The chart, reproduced on the next page, has six clearly identifiable topics that are causes for concern. "Traffic" and "Parking" were each identified as the top two, followed by "Young people hanging around" and "Anti-social behaviour from groups of teenagers". Noise and Litter were the last two significant issues.
- 37 Much of the area is of relatively small terraced housing from early in the 20th century, and as such neither they nor the streets were designed for modern car ownership and traffic levels. Several comments emphasised that this problem was at its worst around the beginning and end of the school day as so many people bring children to school by car. Indeed our church car park is a main dropping off point for children attending the primary school next door. For example to access Copleston High school by car, the most common entry is via residential side roads.



38 During 2005 some local streets were covered by a police dispersal order for groups of young people to address this issue. Although this may appear to be a strong response it is fair to say the problem locally has been improving.

7.7 St. Andrew's Current Activities

- 39 The survey asked what activities does St. Andrew's have that you are interested in?
- 40 St. Andrew's has an extensive programme of activities aimed at a wide age-range of people extending from play and learning activities for pre-school children and their mums to the chance for a quiet chat and lunch for our retired friends. The survey asked which activities were of interest to the respondents.
- 41 The following chart indicates the responses.

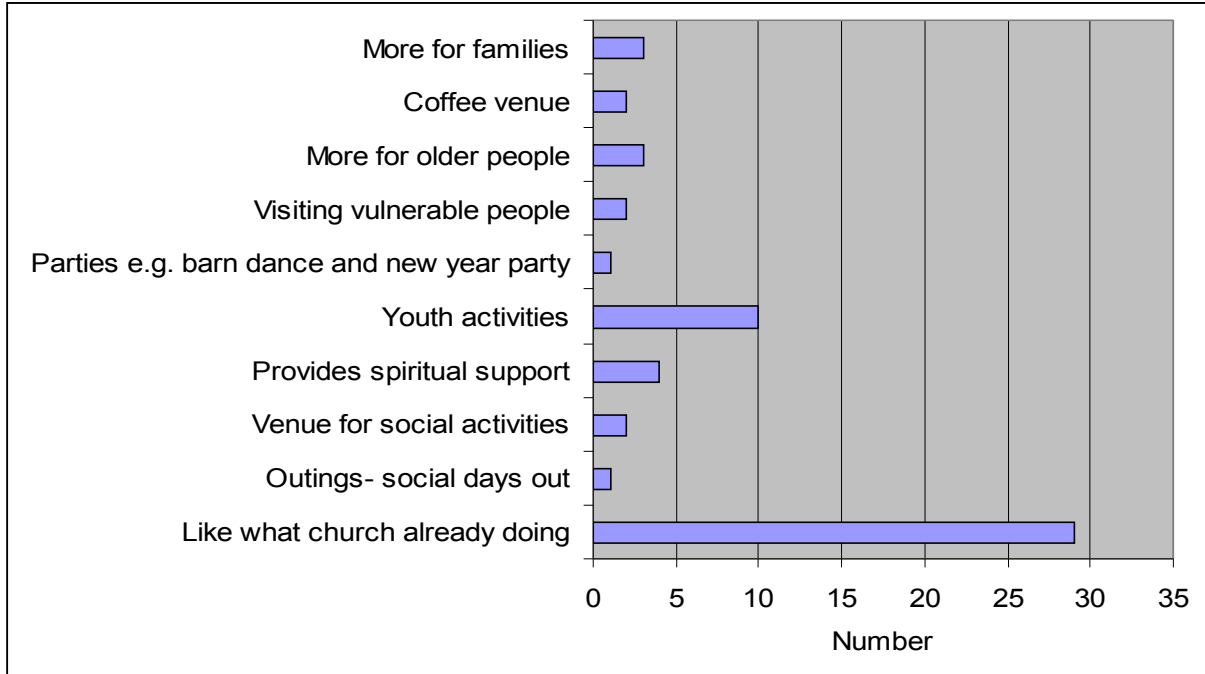


42 The computer course was last run in Spring 2005 and was oversubscribed. It is intended to run another one when resources allow.

7.8 St. Andrew's future ideas

43 The survey offered a range of other ideas and asked if the respondent would be interested?

44 The responses to this question are summarised in the chart below.

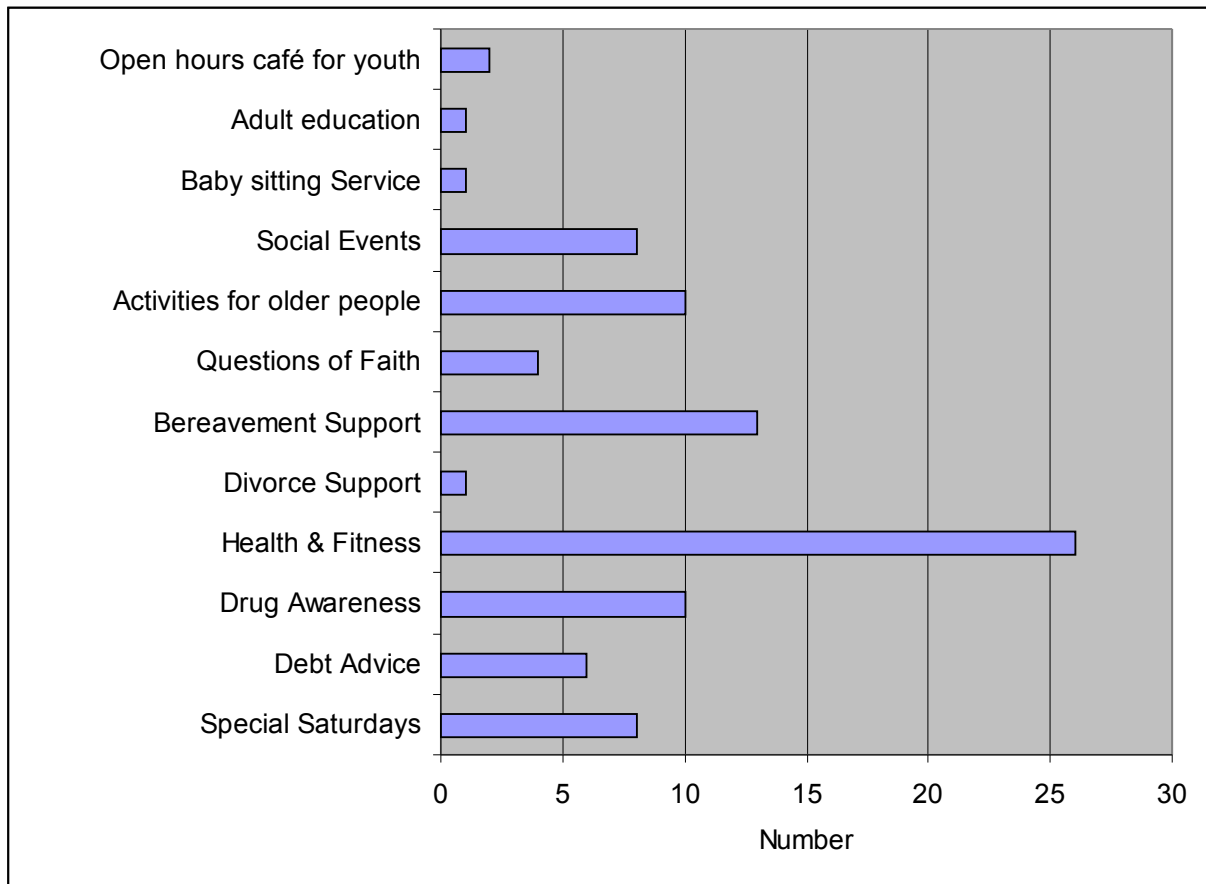


45 It is encouraging to see that many people like what the Church is already doing. There was particular enthusiasm about our annual summer fair open day. We also have a weekly 'drop-in' lunch for older people, and various midweek activity groups for children. We have maintained a youth worker based at the church for several years, which also seems to be reflected positively in these responses.

- 46 One in ten of the respondents listed youth activities as something that St. Andrew's could be involved with. However, including Scouts, Guides there are youth activities on four night of the week.
- 47 As well as selecting items from the prepared list, respondents made the following comments:-
- ❖ Talks/discussion evening
 - ❖ Women's groups
 - ❖ Dance/hip-hop classes.
 - ❖ Keep fit for older people, Fitness class, / general fitness , aerobics [daytime], aerobics for older people, keep fit.
 - ❖ Advice on eating / weight, healthy eating and diet Also men's breakfasts
 - ❖ Alcohol awareness
 - ❖ Managing stress
 - ❖ Support in times of crisis.
 - ❖ Bereaved helping others, follow up after funerals
- 48 An initial response might be to consider providing a some form of 'Exercise Club' which could include 'Well Being' topics, such as nutrition, stress, etc. The timing of the event would be crucial in meeting the need. For example, is there a need for something during the school day, in the evening, or both?

7.9 Future Ideas

- 49 We sought suggestions for new activities which would be of benefit to our community, and received the responses shown in the next chart.
- 50 The most popular request was for a regular health and fitness activity. About a quarter of those surveyed would like this. There was also strong interest in bereavement or counselling support, as well as a significant interest in drug awareness opportunities and the suggestion of providing an opportunity, on Saturdays, for activities for Dads and their children.



8 Thanks

- 51 The PCC of St. Andrew's wishes to record it's thanks to Liz Cade and Dawn Gillett, the Community Link Workers, for their time and energy in conducting the surveys that this report is based on.
- 52 We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking those who responded to the survey.

