

# Gunthorpe Parish Plan

# Summary Report

November 2007

## Thank You

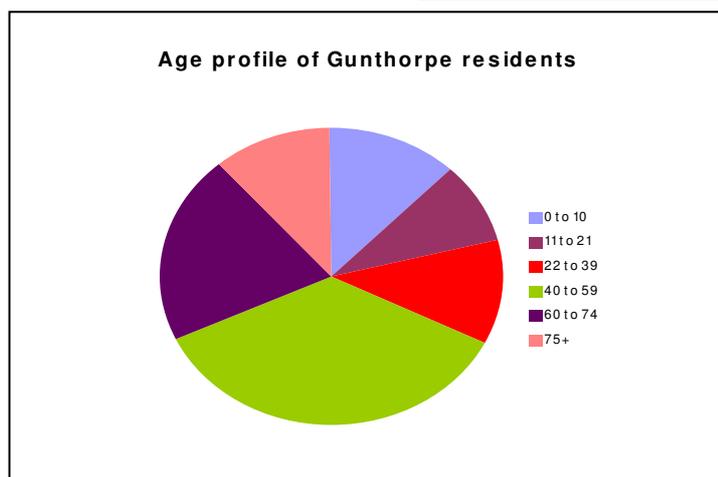
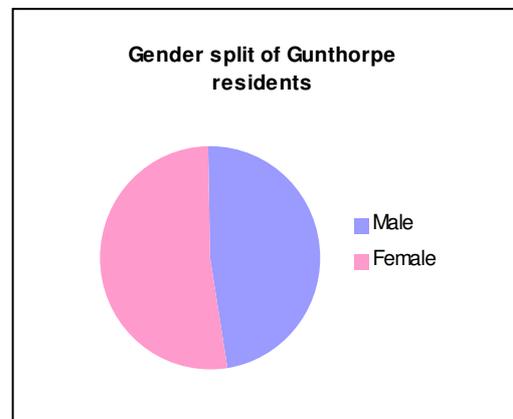
A special thank you goes to all residents of the village who returned the questionnaire distributed during the summer.

The Parish Plan Steering Committee has produced this Summary Report to give a flavour of the analysis of the returned questionnaires. These findings will contribute to the development of the Parish Plan for Gunthorpe, which will set out ideas for the future and will help access funding for projects.

There are details on the back page of the *Community Planning Event* being organised to give you an opportunity to identify and agree priorities. A full document will be produced in the New Year.

In the meantime the Steering Committee has identified that respondents would like to see:

- Improved access to the **A6097** from the north end of Main Street
- A revised plan regarding **flooding** and its implementation
- Renewable **energy and conservation** initiatives
- Improvements at the **riverside**
- A new or improved **village hall/sports pavilion**
- A village **web site**



## Information and Communication

- Communication from the Parish Council was considered to be reasonable or well done by over eight out of ten households.
- The parish magazine, village notice board and local newspapers all play an important part in the communication process.
- The development of **community website** was supported by more than eight out of every ten households and the most popular topics to be included were identified as being local news, bus/train information, village hall events, flood information and local environmental issues.
- Nearly four out of every ten households felt that signage is the best way to publicise public footpaths followed closely by the village website and the village notice board.

## Environment and Conservation

- Nine out of every ten households are in favour of the village researching opportunities for benefiting from potential generation of renewable energy.
- Three quarters felt the village should work towards **carbon neutral status**.
- Six out of every ten households would be in favour of **wind generators** that are appropriately located and sized.
- More than six out of every ten would like to see a **hydro - electric generation facility** benefiting the residents of the village.



- The majority of households said **recycling facilities** for the households and the community should be improved and nearly eight out of every ten were also in favour of a **composting initiative**.
- Nearly nine out every ten households felt that the village should seek funding for researching the feasibility of obtaining **Local Nature Reserve Status**.
- Nearly every household would like to see the improved **maintenance and enhancement of trees** and hedgerows around the village and the creation of '**community woodland**' in appropriate areas.
- **Dog mess** is the biggest concern of households when asked about difficulties with **footpaths and bridleways** - nearly half noted it. Three out of every ten also noted overgrown routes and mud and water as a problem.
- Households are concerned that **roadside drains** are not cleaned on a regular basis.
- There is also a concern about **fly tipping**.

## Riverside

- Six out of every ten households would like to see the **development of the bridleway and footpaths** between the Unicorn and Toll House.



- More than four out of every ten would like to see the **tearoom developed**.
- There are some concerns expressed about **noise from the pubs and car parking**.

## Flooding

- One in ten respondents reported that they had suffered flood damage.
- The need for a **revised scheme of flooding defences** and its implementation was supported by nearly nine out of every ten households.
- There is a high awareness of the work of GEFAG
- A publicity scheme to bring Gunthorpe's flooding plight to the attention of the public was favoured by half of households, however, there is concern that the publicity regarding flooding has had an adverse effect on the village.



## Transport

- Eight out of ten people use their car for shopping on a weekly basis and just over half for work. Seven out of every ten use their car for weekly social activities.
- Most people never use the bus service and about a third had no opinion about the quality of the bus service.
- Very few households car share or are interested in being involved in a car sharing venture.

## Village Roads

- **Speed of traffic and noise** on village roads and by the riverside is of concern to about half of households and some would like to see speed limits of 20mph introduced on village roads.
- Some see **car parking on village roads** as a problem.
- Safety on the **approach road to the bridge** concerned four out of every ten households.

## A6097

- The majority of households want to see **improved access** to the A6097 at the north end of Main Street and **traffic lights** installed.
- **Speed and noise of traffic** concerns a half of households with regards to the A6097.



## Village Hall



- Nine in ten household said they used the village hall and facilities.
- Nearly seven out of every ten households would be willing to participate more in village life and **help raise funds** if a new or redeveloped village hall/sports play facility was progressed. A **play area** was also considered as being important by more than half of the respondents.
- Householders would like to see more **village events** organised

## Church

- Almost every household that returned a questionnaire said the **village church is important** to them for one reason or another

## Services to the Village

- Nearly half of respondents said that the standards of the **police service** are considered poor.
- Over half of respondents said that the electricity supplies were either reasonable or poor.
- Seven out of every ten households said that **street cleaning** was only reasonable or poor.
- Eight out of ten householders say they would like to see the encouragement of a **local retail shop**. Indeed, a half says that they would be willing to pay more for a convenience store.

## Village Life and Leisure



- Leisure facilities for young children, teenagers and young adults are considered to be poor
- Nearly seven out of every ten households said they were a part of Neighbourhood Watch.

- It appears from the returned questionnaires that most households were not affected by anti social issues.
- Three in every ten households are presently involved in village sports, social groups or leisure activities and nearly a quarter of households said they travel to neighbouring areas to participate.
- Most households rated the village's provision of leisure facilities as being adequate or poor.
- Nearly half of households said that they would be prepared in some way to **help enhance or improve the village**.
- Opinions are divided about the encouragement of **tourism** in the village.



## Involvement

- Most households (seven out of every ten) would **not** be willing to help organise the Gunthorpe Gala.
- More than eight out of every ten households have not attended a Council meeting in the past year.