



supporting people &
sustaining communities

Thornton Community Survey Results

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Thornton Community Survey

1) Introduction

This Survey was undertaken as part of the Thornton Community Development Project with the aim of providing valuable evidence to help direct future support and development for Thornton and local organisations serving the community.

This report will be made publicly available for the benefit of residents, local organisations and statutory bodies including Bagworth & Thornton Parish Council, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council.

2) Survey Methodology

This Survey was developed by the RCC with some input from key organisations and individuals in the community. The final version of the Survey (see Appendix 1) and the basis of this report, was available for every household. The Survey was 10 sides of A4 in length including the instructions, guidance notes providing further background and context.

Surveys were delivered to households in the area during February 2020 by the RCC and included an envelope into which the completed printed Surveys could be enclosed, sealed and returned to the Thornton Village Shop which acted as a local drop off point. In addition, the Survey was also available for people to complete online onto our software system. The RCC uploaded any completed hard copy Surveys returned onto the same software system to enable analysis of all the data.

3) Summary

LIVING IN THORNTON

The majority of respondent's rate living in Thornton as either good or excellent. The top five things they LIKE about Thornton village are the reservoir, its countryside rural setting with the National Forest, the community spirit, friendly people and its rural location with good access to towns & motorways.

The top five things they DISLIKE about Thornton village are the parking & traffic on Main St, parking & traffic in relation to the Reservoir, public transport, facilities & Services/Amenities and parking/congestion in relation to the school.

THORNTON FACILITIES

The most visited/used facilities in the village on a daily or weekly basis are the reservoir and Thornton shop. The least visited/used facilities by respondents are Cross Hills Baptist Church, the Playgroup/child minding, Thornton Primary School and the MUGA.

In terms of meeting the current needs of Thornton village, Thornton reservoir and Thornton shop were rated as Good, closely followed by the Bricklayers Arms and Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre. Although Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall and the Recreation Ground were rated as mostly Adequate, a high proportion of respondents also rated these as Good. Those facilities rated as in need of improvement were the recreation ground, closely followed by Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall, The Thornton Club, Thornton reservoir, Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre and the MUGA.

When respondents were asked for further comments/suggestions, the top five areas were the reservoir, Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall, the recreation ground, Thornton Primary School and Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Survey respondents rated The Herald as being Good as a source of news and information within Thornton, followed by the Village Link (Church/Chapel magazine).

The Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) Bulletin and Flyers were rated as adequate, although the HBBC Borough Bulletin was also rated as in need of improvement along with the Parish Council Noticeboard and Thornton Community Centre Noticeboard.

In terms of websites, FaceBook Thornton Village was rated as Good, followed by nextdoor.com and the Thornton Village website.

The top five areas suggested for improvement are the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Bulletin, notice boards, general access to publicity, Parish Council noticeboard & website and the promotion and updating of current websites.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Only a minority of respondents rated the community spirit in Thornton as being poor, with the majority rating it as 4 on a scale of 1 to 5.

The top five suggestions for improving community spirit are having more community activities and events, ensuring that all areas of the village are included, having more community activities and events for young people, having information on community events more widely available and to have more people willing to give up their time and volunteer.

INCLUSION

The majority of respondents indicated that they felt included within the village community. Of those indicating that they did not, the following key actions were suggested to help them feel more included including having a broader range of activities for different demographics. To ensure communication and publicity of community events and activities. To use venues other than a pub or a school. To avoid cliques in groups and having entertainment & activity for social inclusion in Thornton to avoid travelling to other venues outside the village with poor public transport.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME FOR THORNTON

Respondents identified Gardening, Pet care and Transport as the top three support services they would look to use if a Good Neighbour Scheme was established in Thornton, while those interested in helping to set up such a scheme identified the Collection of shopping, help with Transport and Befriending as the top three support services they might be able to help with.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Respondents identified the following social events as being attended by their household in order of popularity, Thornton Community Centre Fundraising Events, Markfield and Thornton Theatre Group Performances, The Village Seniors Christmas Party, The Thornton Club Events, Friends of Thornton Primary School Fundraising Events and Nosh and Natter.

The option for respondents to choose the Friends of St Peter's fundraising events as a social event that their household might attend was included in the paper version of the Survey, but due to an error, was not included in the online version, therefore it was not possible to include in the total analysis. But, based on the responses from just the paper version of the Survey, we can say that out of 63 responses, 41 identified that members of their household attended the Friends of St Peter's fundraising social events.

THORNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

The majority of respondents indicated that they did not attend any of the activities currently available at the Community Centre. Of those that did, the two most popular activities that members of their household attended were Yoga classes and the Markfield & Thornton Theatre Group.

The top four activities that respondents would like to see at the Centre included fitness classes, evening activities or classes, talks and sports.

A total of 21 respondents indicated that they would be interested in supporting the Community Centre.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

All three suggestions put forward by children and young people during the Mobile Youth Bus sessions as to what they would like to see developed, were supported in the Survey, with the Youth/Activity Club at Thornton Community Centre being the most popular.

YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THORNTON

The majority of respondents indicated that what they most valued about Thornton, and what they would want their village to become in the next 15 years included, retaining a village identity, to have no more housing development apart from housing for younger people, to retain a sense of community, to maintain and invest in facilities and services, to have a further shop or café, to have a more sustainable environment, improved parking for the reservoir, improvements to evening activities for adults & children, better public transport and affordable broadband.

ANYTHING ELSE

When asked to describe any other community issues and opportunities that respondents felt were important in helping to direct future support and development for Thornton and local organisations serving the community, the following subject areas were recorded in order of popularity. Traffic & Transport, Environment, The Reservoir, Shops/Businesses, Housing, Investment, Working together, Community Events/Activities, Thornton Community Centre, Footpaths, Village identity and St Pater's Church.

4) Results

Presentation of the results

This report includes charts which describe the results of the household Survey.

Any percentages shown are calculated as a proportion of the number of respondents to the Survey as a whole.

This report summarises the responses to the open text questions. A sample of the comments is also included to illustrate the points being made. Key words from these written comments are shown in italics. A full list of these written comments which have been categorised, are available in a separate word document.

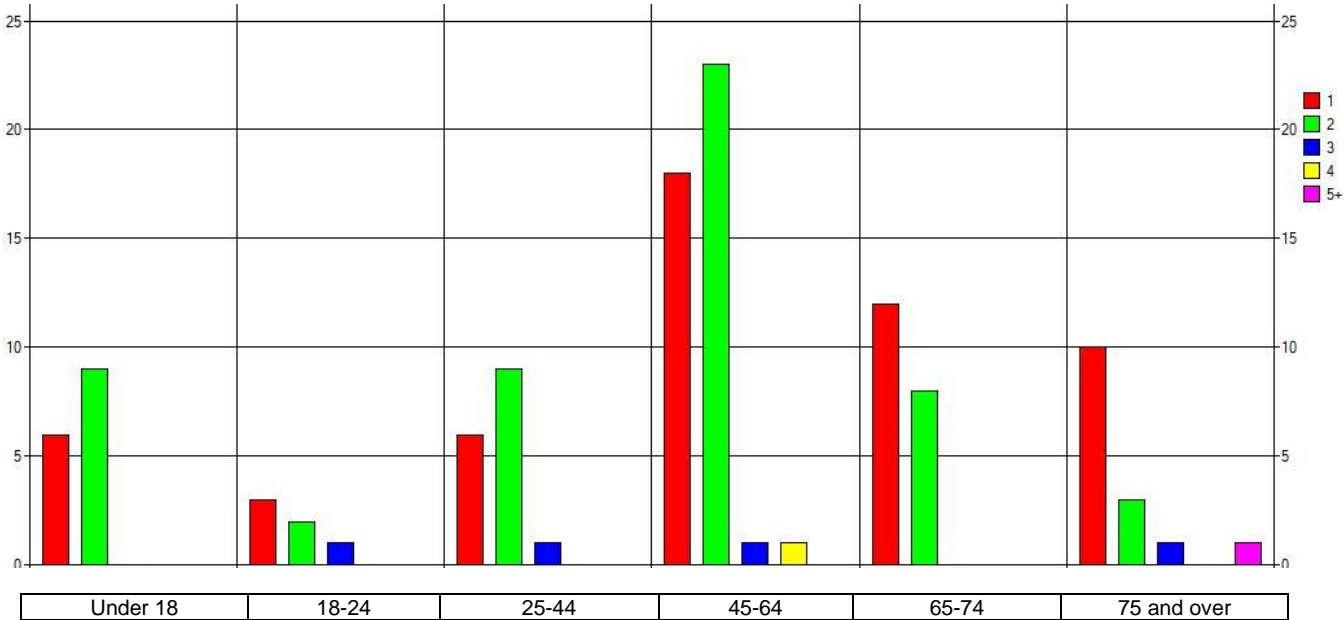
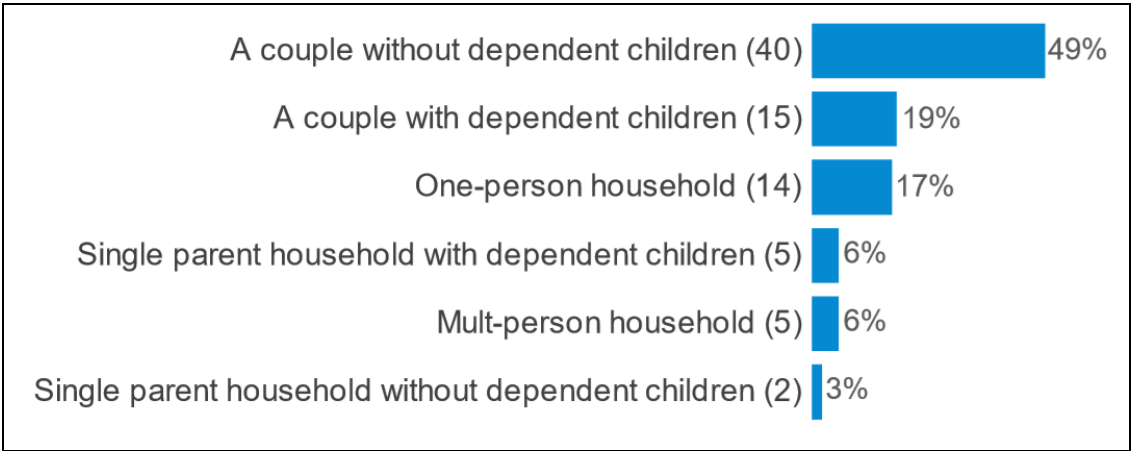
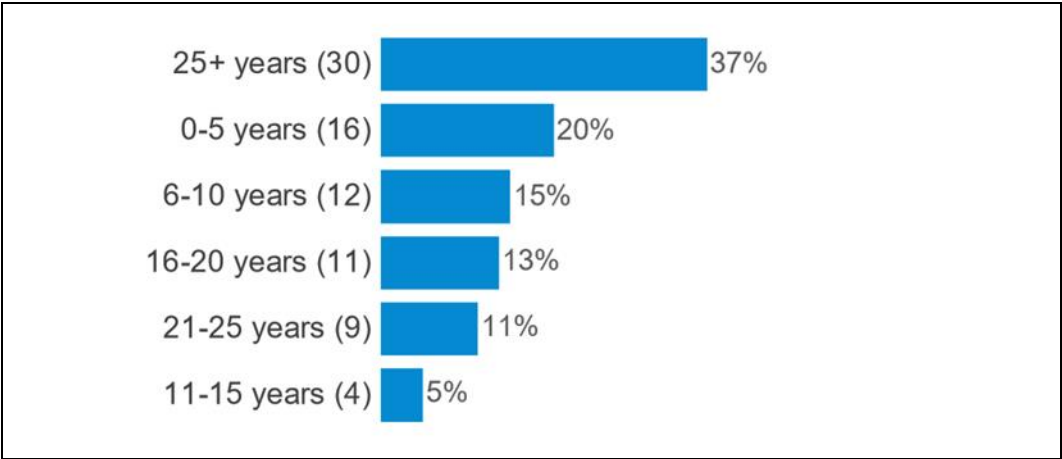
Response to the Survey

The total number of completed household Surveys received and submitted onto the software system was 86. The 2011 census gives 415 dwellings in Thornton village. Therefore, based on these figures this equates to a 21% response rate of the Surveys distributed.

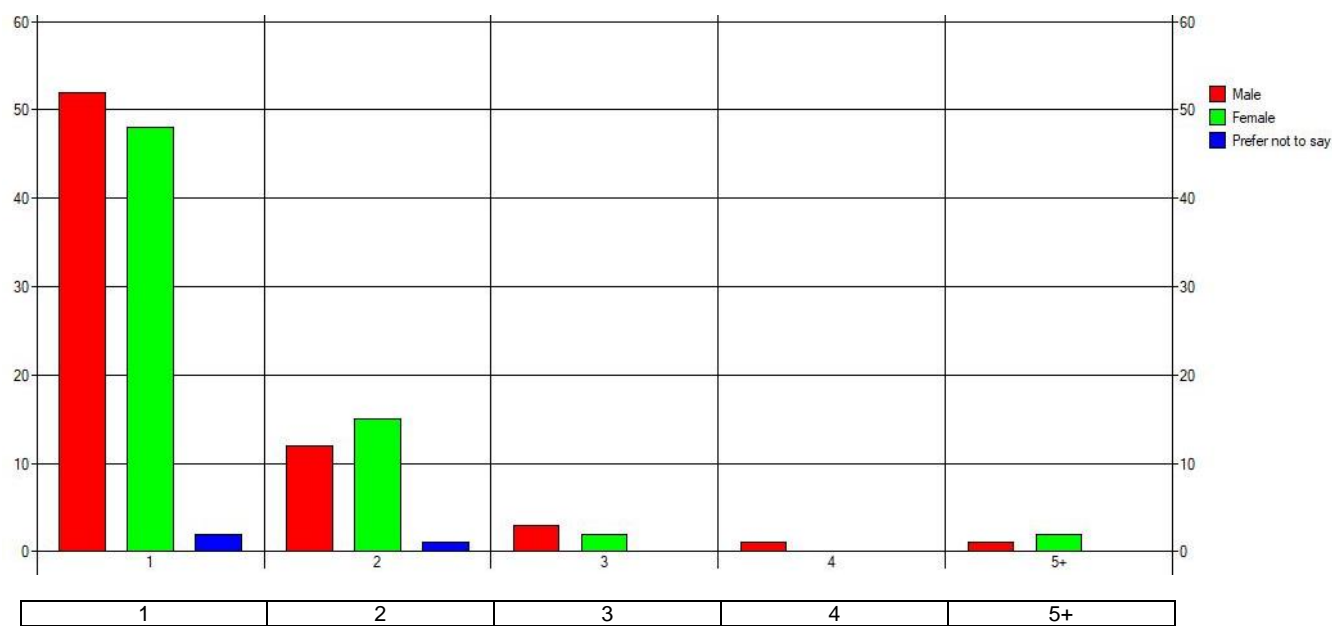
The following Post Code areas within Thornton were represented:

LE671AH	Main Street, Thornton	LE67 1AY	Beech Drive, Thornton
LE67 1AW	Hawthorne Drive, Thornton	LE67 1BS	The Orchards, Thornton
LE67 1AG	Main Street, Thornton	LE67 1BZ	Warwick Close, Thornton
LE67 1AJ	Main Street, Thornton	LE67 1AB	Geary's Close, Thornton
LE67 1AE	Highfields, Thornton	LE67 1AF	Main Street, Thornton
LE67 1AD	Highfields, Thornton	LE67 1AP	Merrylees Road, Thornton
LE671AU	Oakwood Close, Thornton	LE67 1AR	Reservoir Road, Thornton
LE67 1AX	St Peters Drive, Thornton	LE67 1BY	Sharps Close, Thornton

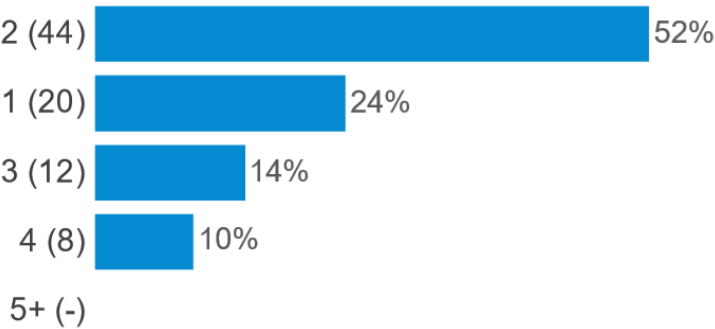
The majority of respondents had lived in the village for more than 25 years, were couples without dependent children and currently in the 45-64 age bracket.



In relation to the gender of those responding, there were slightly more males (69) than females (67) although this was only by 3, giving a near equal balance.

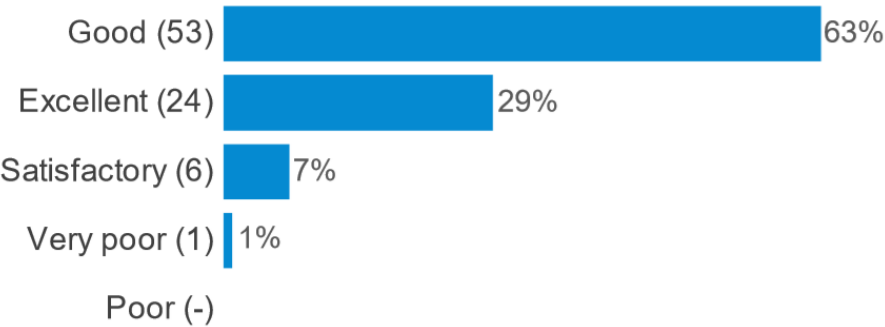


Q1
When asked how many people in the household were reflected in their responses, the majority of respondents (52%) selected the views of ‘2’ people that were reflected in the Survey.



LIVING IN THORNTON

Q2
How do you rate living in Thornton? *Please tick the appropriate box.*



(92%) of respondents rated living in Thornton as either good or excellent.

Q3

When asked to write up to three things that they **LIKE** about Thornton village, a total of 83 responses were received, which have been categorised below in order of popularity:

Reservoir

- Thornton Reservoir
- The reservoir of course

Countryside/Rural setting/National Forest

- Surrounded by beautiful countryside
- Being part of the national Forest

Community Spirit

- There is a strong feeling of community
- When trouble occurs, there is always support

Friendly

- People talk to one another in the street
- Everyone seems friendly having moved from the city this was lacking in the past

Location/Access

- The rural location
- The close proximity of towns & motorways

Walks

- The numerous walks local to the village
- The beautiful and ambient walks

Peaceful

- Relatively peaceful
- Quietness and peace

Corner Shop

- The corner shop and post office
- The post office/shop has flexible opening times

A Village atmosphere

- The relaxed pace of life
- Not too big therefore preserving village atmosphere

The bricklayers Arms

- Bricklayers arms - beer garden
- Nice pub

Views

- Countryside views
- Beautiful view of the reservoir

Amenities/Services

- Reasonable amenities for a small village
- Has some valuable amenities (community centre, shop, bus, school, church, pub)

Community Centre

- Community Centre-good meeting place
- Community Centre led activities

The Thornton Club

- Thornton Club (a good music venue)
- 'The club' for social times

Low crime

- Generally, very little anti-social behaviour

- Safe neighbourhood

Community size

- The size of the village is just about right
- Living in a small community

Churches

- Beautiful Church
- Churches

Garden centre

- The garden centre
- Nursery (plants)

Neighbours

- Friendly neighbours
- Nice neighbours

School

- The village primary school
- Good school

Wildlife

- The wildlife

Events

- That they try to put something on for the villagers every month
- Lots of community activities

Park

- The park

Bagworth Heath

- Bagworth Heath

Woods

- The woods

History

- The history

Q4

When asked to write up to three things that they **DISLIKE** about Thornton village, a total of 83 responses were received, which have been categorised below in order of popularity:

Parking/traffic – Main St/Village

- Serious parking issues on Main St
- Dangerous lack of resident-specific parking on main street

Parking/ traffic/ Reservoir

- Parking difficulties especially along Reservoir Rd
- The unimaginable increase in visitor numbers to the reservoir that results in parking problems

Public Transport

- Poor public transport connections. Particularly for young people without cars to enable trips to Leicester, Loughborough etc
- Health isolation due to practically no public transport links to local GPs, hospitals, dentists etc

Facilities & Services/Amenities

- Local medical centre in Markfield at full capacity

- Some community areas need improvement

Parking School/congestion

- Hawthorne + Beach drive school pick up + parking dangerous no school car park
- Street parking school time traffic

Dog Mess

- Lack of dog collection / waste bins
- The dog poo not picked up near community centre and children's play area and fields

Litter

- Litter around the reservoir, beer cans etc
- General litter

Local environment/image

- The lack of planting/flowers through the village
- No village sign with logo

Speeding traffic

- Speed of traffic through the village and across the dam
- Cars driving too fast down Main Street

Lack of Shops

- No shop to buy good quality fresh fruit and veg
- Not enough shops, no takeaway food available

Traffic congestion

- Traffic congestion on Main Street
- On road parking congestion issues

Traffic/volume

- The level of traffic
- Really busy roads

Footpaths/pavements

- The poor state of the footpaths and puddles in the road gutters so cars etc splash pedestrians
- Public footpaths around the edge of the village are not maintained

Housing/development

- House prices - lack of affordable accommodation for young people. starter homes
- Fear of further development

Lack of facilities for young people

- The lack of facilities for young people
- Not enough to do for 12+ age

The Thornton Club

- Thornton club very run down
- The club which is an eyesore

Visitors

- Too many outsiders
- Inconsiderate visitors

Inclusion/Community Spirit

- No community feel
- Not being included

Reservoir Inn closure

- The closure of the reservoir restaurant and resulting loss of local employment opportunities
- That the reservoir pub is still unoccupied

Streetlights low

- Night street lighting St peters drive
- Streetlights go out at 12 (darkness)

Light Pollution

- Light pollution from the business parks
- Light pollution across the reservoir from Farm

Crime & Safety

- Lack of security
- Not really a massive police presence

Location/access/snow

- Cut off in bad weather
- In winter, very difficult to get in or out if snowy etc. My fault for living here!

Roads infrastructure

- Poor roads, surface water on roads on Main Street, school children keep crossing road to avoid being splashed
- Roads and drains need attention

HGV's

- The main road is not suitable for large vehicles
- Increase of HGV traffic

Bricklayers Arms Pub

- Unfriendly Bricklayers Arms

Neighbours

- The neighbours

Diversity

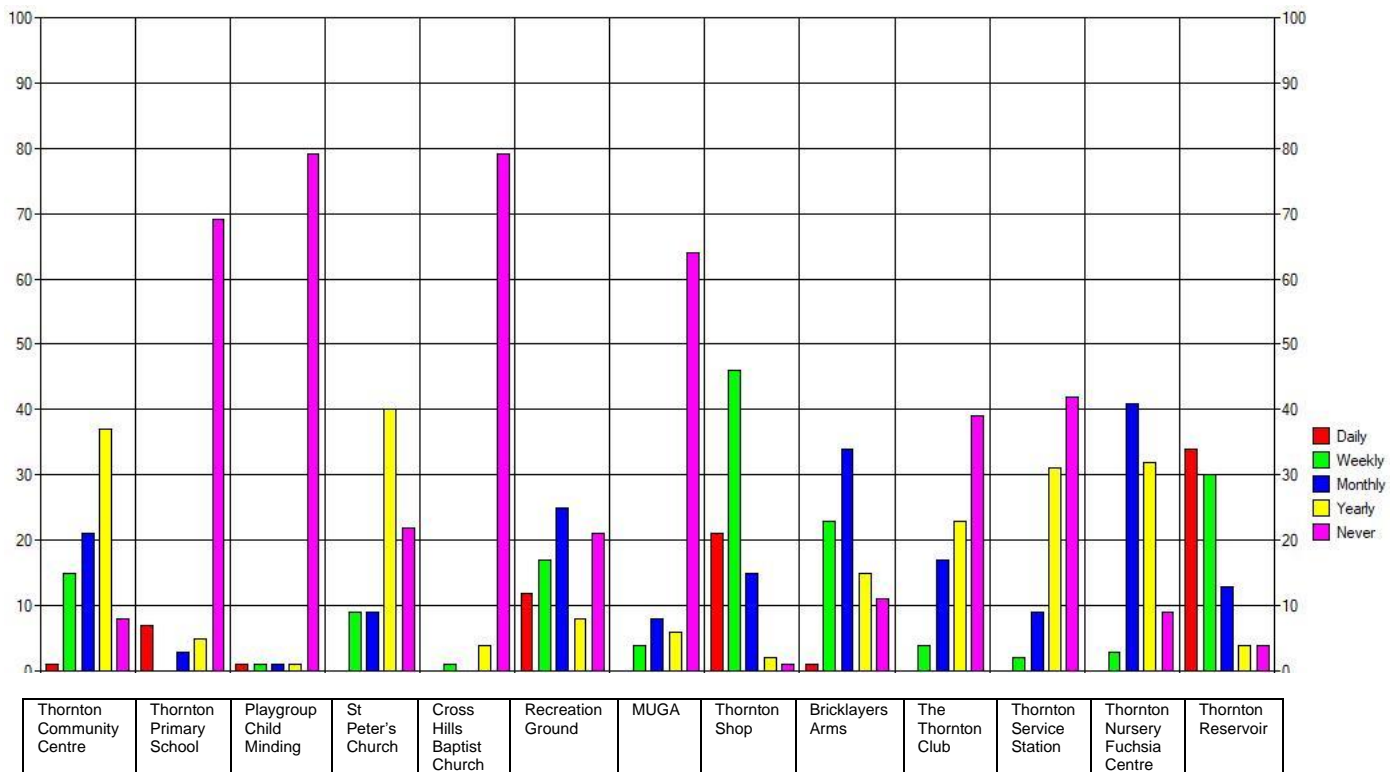
- Ethnic & cultural diversity which is not reflective of the rest of the country

Lack of village management

THORNTON FACILITIES

Q5

How often do you visit/use the following facilities in the village?



Respondents indicated that the most visited/used facility in the village on a daily basis is the reservoir followed by Thornton shop. The shop is also the most used/visited facility on a weekly basis followed by Thornton reservoir.

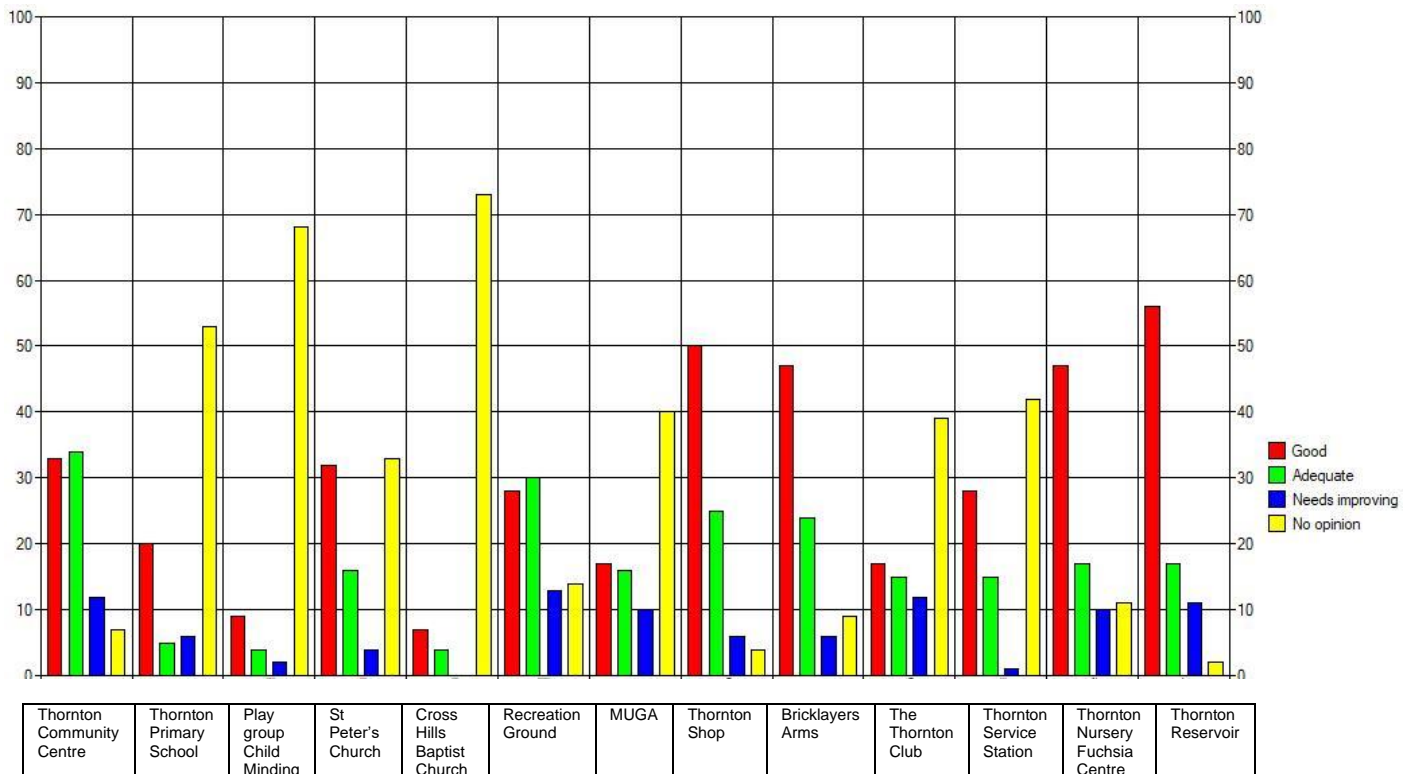
The most visited/used facility on a monthly basis is the Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre followed by the Bricklayers Arms pub. The majority of respondents indicated that they visited/used St. Peter's Church on a yearly basis followed closely by Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall.

The least visited/used facilities by respondents is Cross Hills Baptist Church, the Playgroup/child minding, Thornton Primary School and the MUGA, which is reflective of the demographics of those responding to the survey.

Please note: The option for respondents to choose the Thornton Lodge and its fishing activity was not included in the Survey. This was not intentional and was an oversight on our part. Therefore, it has not been included in the above analysis.

Q6

How do you rate the following facilities in terms of meeting the current needs of Thornton village?



Thornton reservoir and Thornton shop were rated as Good, closely followed by the Bricklayers Arms and Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre. Although Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall and the Recreation Ground were rated as mostly Adequate, a high proportion of respondents also rated these as Good. Those facilities rated as in need of improvement were the Recreation Ground, closely followed by Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall, The Thornton Club, Thornton reservoir, Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre and the MUGA.

When respondents were asked what improvements they felt were needed, if any, the following key suggestions (highlighted in bold) were put forward, a selection of which are shown below in order of popularity:

Reservoir

- Thornton Reservoir - very popular at weekends and public holidays which creates problems with parking and traffic. Some form of parking regulation is required.
- A little coffee shop in the reservoir

Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall

- Better use could be made of the large grassed area at the rear of the community centre, possibly a seating area - picnic benches where residents could meet or the many walkers/cyclists who come through the village could spend time
- Modernise Community Centre (i.e. like Bagworth)

Recreation Ground

- Adult outdoor exercise area
- The facilities aren't very good for the children in the recreation ground, the large slide was removed and never replaced

Thornton Primary School

- I understand the Primary School is close to capacity and provision should be made to increase the capacity before any future housing developments are considered
- School, discouragement of car drop off, or positive encouragement of walking to school for health benefit and traffic safety

Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre

- Nurseries to be modernised improved café at the nursery
- Thornton Nurseries could be cleaner, more variety and better facilities

Thornton Shop

- Fresh produce at the shop
- Shop needs more support and variety

Thornton Club

- The Thornton could do with a makeover everything is a little tired and needs freshening up
- Thornton club needs refurbished

MUGA

- MUGA - not big enough for football
- The fencing around the Muga has gaps in it and the gates are poor

The Bricklayers Arms

- The Bricklayers Arms needs modernising
- The Bricklayers arms is great, but the playground could do with a bit of TLC

Medical & Dental Services

- Access to medical & dental services needs to be improved as everyone in Thornton needs to travel to the surrounding villages to use services that I believe are also oversubscribed

St Peter's Church

- Roof of Church

Tipsy Fisherman

- Tipsy Fisherman site needs overhaul/regeneration

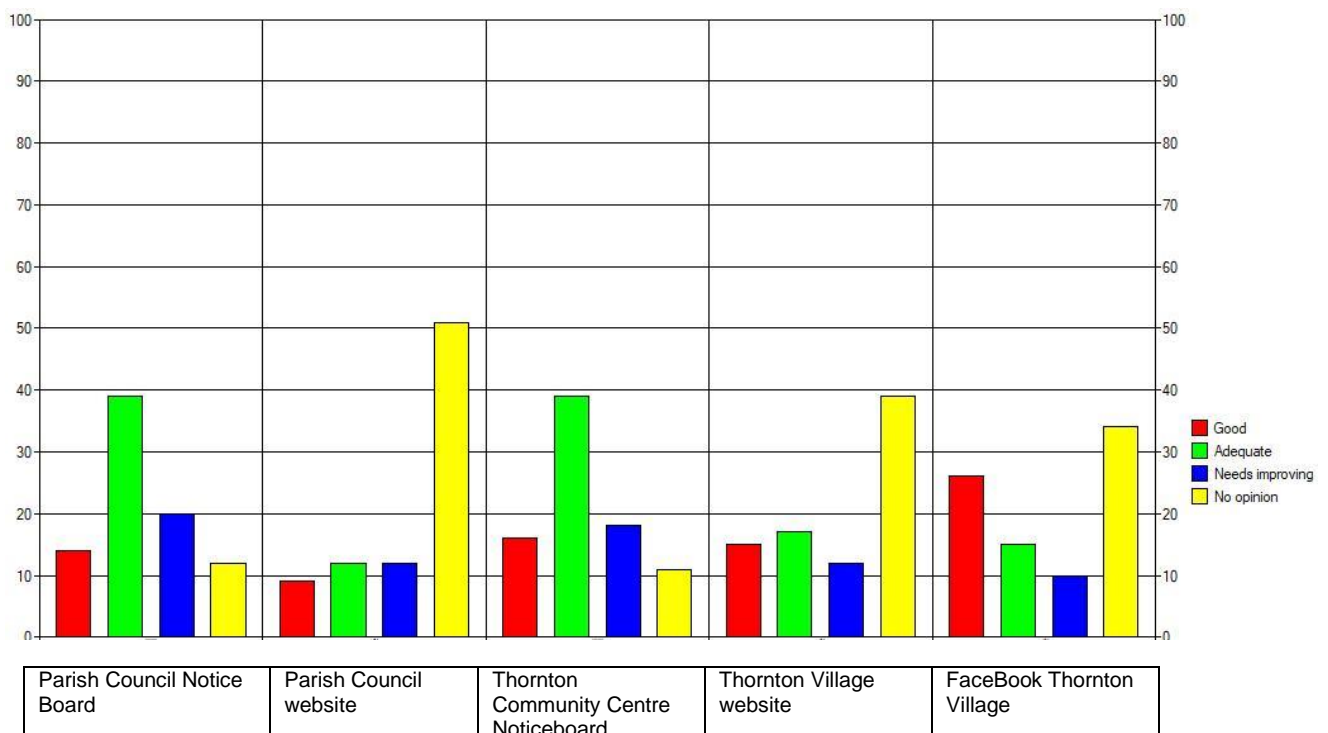
Pubs

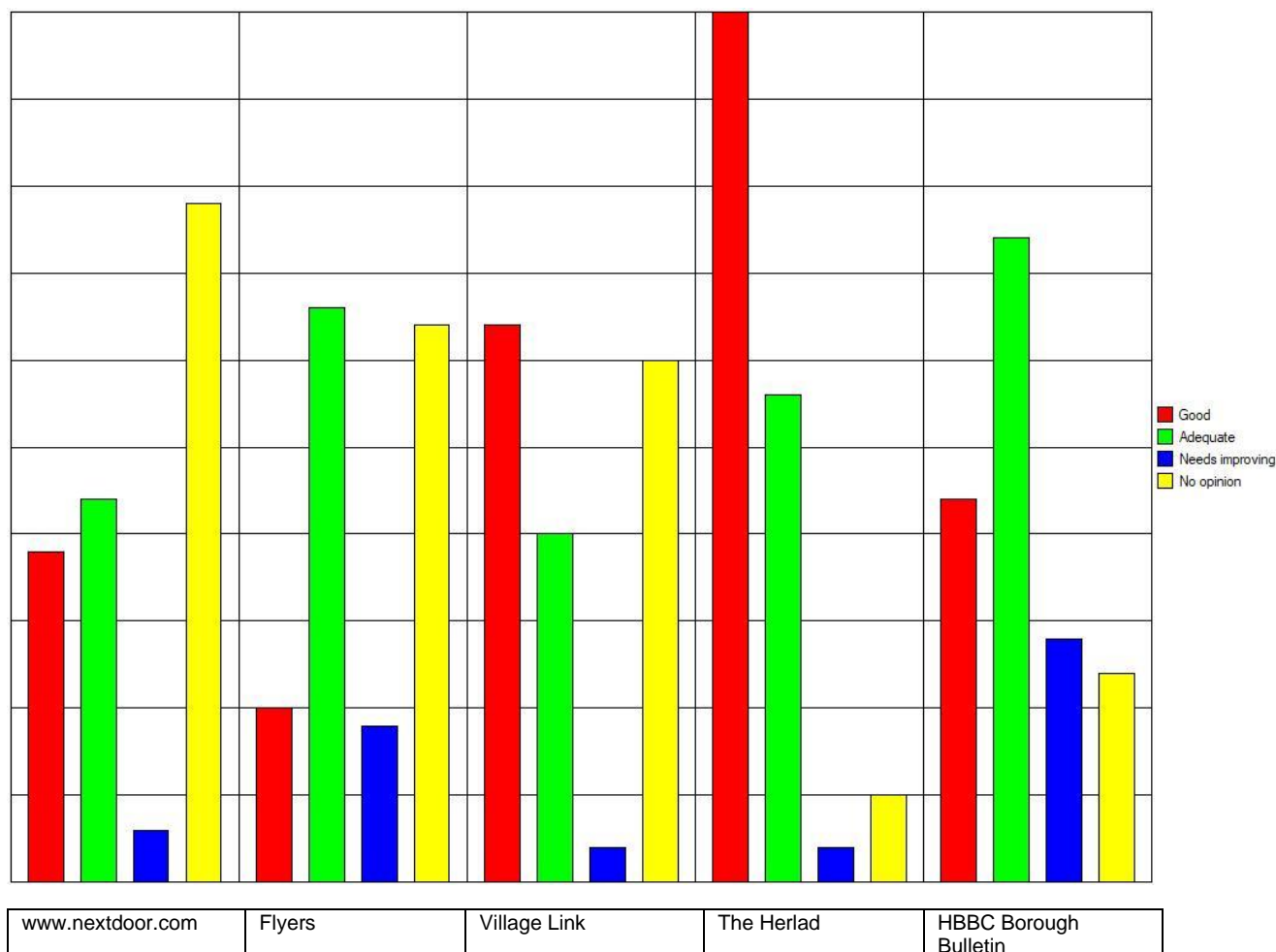
- Be nice for another pub to open

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Q7

How would you rate the following news and information sources within Thornton?





Survey respondents rated The Herald as being Good as a source of news and information within Thornton, followed by the Village Link (Church/Chapel magazine). The Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) Bulletin and Flyers were rated as adequate.

The Parish Council Noticeboard, Thornton Community Centre Noticeboard and the HBBC Borough Bulletin were rated as in need of improvement.

In terms of websites, FaceBook Thornton Village was rated as Good, followed by nextdoor.com and the Thornton Village website.

When asked what improvements they felt were needed, if any, the following key suggestions (highlighted in bold) were put forward, a selection of which are shown below in order of popularity:

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Bulletin

- HBBC Bulletin has no relevance, too Hinckley focused
- Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Bulletin irrelevant to Thornton area.

Notice Boards General

- New, brighter, modern notice boards required throughout the village
- Everything is small

Access

- Making sure ALL houses receive the communications. I'm doing this survey online because there wasn't a written one delivered to my house.
- Awareness of some of these sources needs improving, need updating more regularly

Parish Council Noticeboard & Website

- Parish Council website should be kept up to date. Minutes generally 1 - 2 months late. Other announcements e.g. Regent Road closure notice posted after the due date

- Notice Boards-Just random notices without any clarity of parish council activity

Websites

- Websites need updating and becoming more user friendly, would also be improved by providing more information on them
- I only know about nextdoor.com Websites need advertising on noticeboards

Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall

- Better signage depicting the location of the Community centre
- New notice board needed (Thornton CC)

Facebook Thornton Village

- Facebook Group needs to accept people onto it!

The Herald

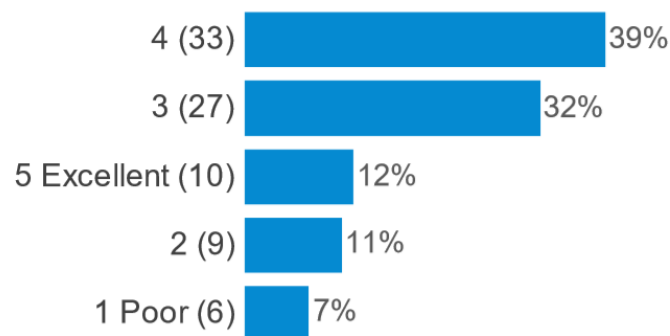
- Herald-Markfield bias is perhaps understandable

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Q8

How do you rate the Community Spirit in Thornton village?

Please let us know on a scale of 1-5 where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent



Only a minority of respondents 7% rated the Community Spirit in Thornton as being poor, with the majority rating it as 4 on a scale of 1 to 5.

When asked how the Community Spirit in the village could be improved, the following key suggestions (highlighted in bold) were put forward, and are shown in order of popularity:

Community Events/Activities

- More village events - i.e. cinema night? Talks?
- Christmas lights
- More community events
- Consultation with village to gauge type and time of community activities so more people get involved.
- Yearly events would help bring the community together Sam started the scarecrow festival but there should be more village yearly events such as fete's and bbq's and discos
- The recent scarecrow festival was an excellent example of good community spirit.
- There used to be a firework display with the Leicester mercury, this has gone downhill.
- Neighbourhood community watch schemes. Street parties (i.e. summer BBQ, Barn Dance)
- More people need to get involved in village activities.
- To feel the spirit, you have to join in. There are plenty of organisations to join

Inclusion

- More inclusion for all villagers not just those on Main St & Hawthorn Drive areas
- Include those in centre of village
- What about at the end of Merrylees road
- Some folk need to recognise that just because most of us don't have relatives buried in the church yard this doesn't make us foreigners!

Young People

- Need to get younger people involved in community activities and events, and to become interested in becoming trustees of the Community centre and Parish councillors.
- The lack of any sports teams & facilities for young people is detrimental to Community Spirit
- Perhaps more events for teenagers, maybe an evening coffee shop with wifi

Information

- More info on village activities e.g. clubs etc.
- Information more widely available, not just of Facebook page.
- Too many media forms in use - harmonise. Reliance of Facebook by some people is counterproductive. We choose not to use it.

Volunteering

- Could be more people willing to give up their time
- More people becoming involved in things e.g. Scarecrow Festival and Bonfire Night

Cohesion

- There are many good groups within the village, but it sometimes feels there is a lack of cohesion

General

- A sad reflection of national attitudes not easily remedied by a few individual's unselfish acts of kindness
- Somehow, we need to support each other in preventing litter/dog poo bags etc. Inconsiderate parking and to encourage joint endeavours in snow clearance. The village feels "unloved" when walking along main street.
- The older village people are so lovely, and the spirit is still there even though we don't include ourselves.
- People in the village are great

INCLUSION

Q9

Do you or members of your household feel included within the village community?



The majority of respondents indicated that they felt included within the village community. Of those indicating that they did not, the following comments were recorded on what actions they thought could be taken to help them feel more included:

Age Group/activities

- My partner and I moved to the village a year ago, we are both in the 26-30 category. there are a small amount of communal activities for our age group that does not include going to the pub.

- There is very little of older teens to 20-year olds. Activities seem to be focussed on children/families and older people.
- Within neighbours and immediate vicinity, yes. But within wider village, no. As before, a broader range of activities reflective of village demographic to encourage people to engage with likeminded groups and individuals.
- Get with the programme, it's not the 1950s anymore! We need affordable housing to attract a younger and more diverse population to shake up.

Facilities/activities

- Public transport - cafes, cinemas, theatres, restaurants, sports facilities, bars, general entertainment & activity for social inclusion don't exist in Thornton so residents are obliged to travel elsewhere if these are things that they value. But without evening (or even daytime to many places) that isn't possible.

Communication

- Unsure of community events happen throughout the year
- we do not get any flyers or magazines or flyers

Venues

- Events that are not at a pub or the school.

Clique

- yes and no, we attend a lot of things but sometimes feel there is a real clique amongst older members of the village

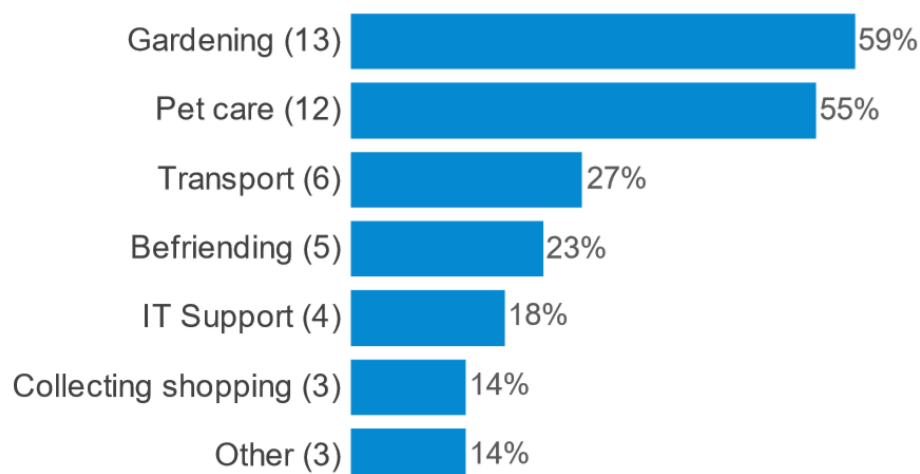
Other

- we work all the times so it's hard to include ourselves in the community.
- We could do more. We certainly did used to contribute to primary school PSA/Governors, Scouts etc. More than now.
- We don't feel that we need to be more included. We are quite content as we are.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME FOR THORNTON

Q10

If you would be interested in USING the services of a Good Neighbour Scheme. Please specify what support services you or a member of your household might want to use:

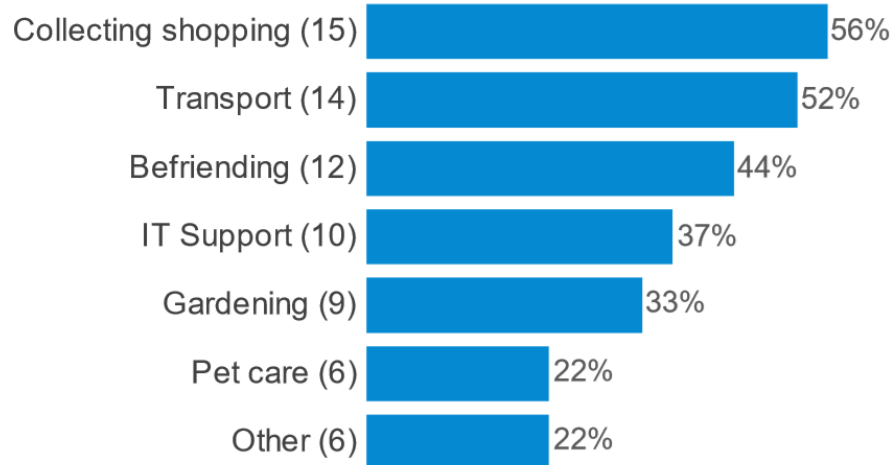


Other

- Childcare
- Don't have spare time at the moment
- Happily, walk someone else's dog.
- I'm fine at the present but may need help in the future

Q11

If you would be interested in **HELPING** to set up a Good Neighbour Scheme. Please specify what support services you or a member of your household might be able to help with:



Other

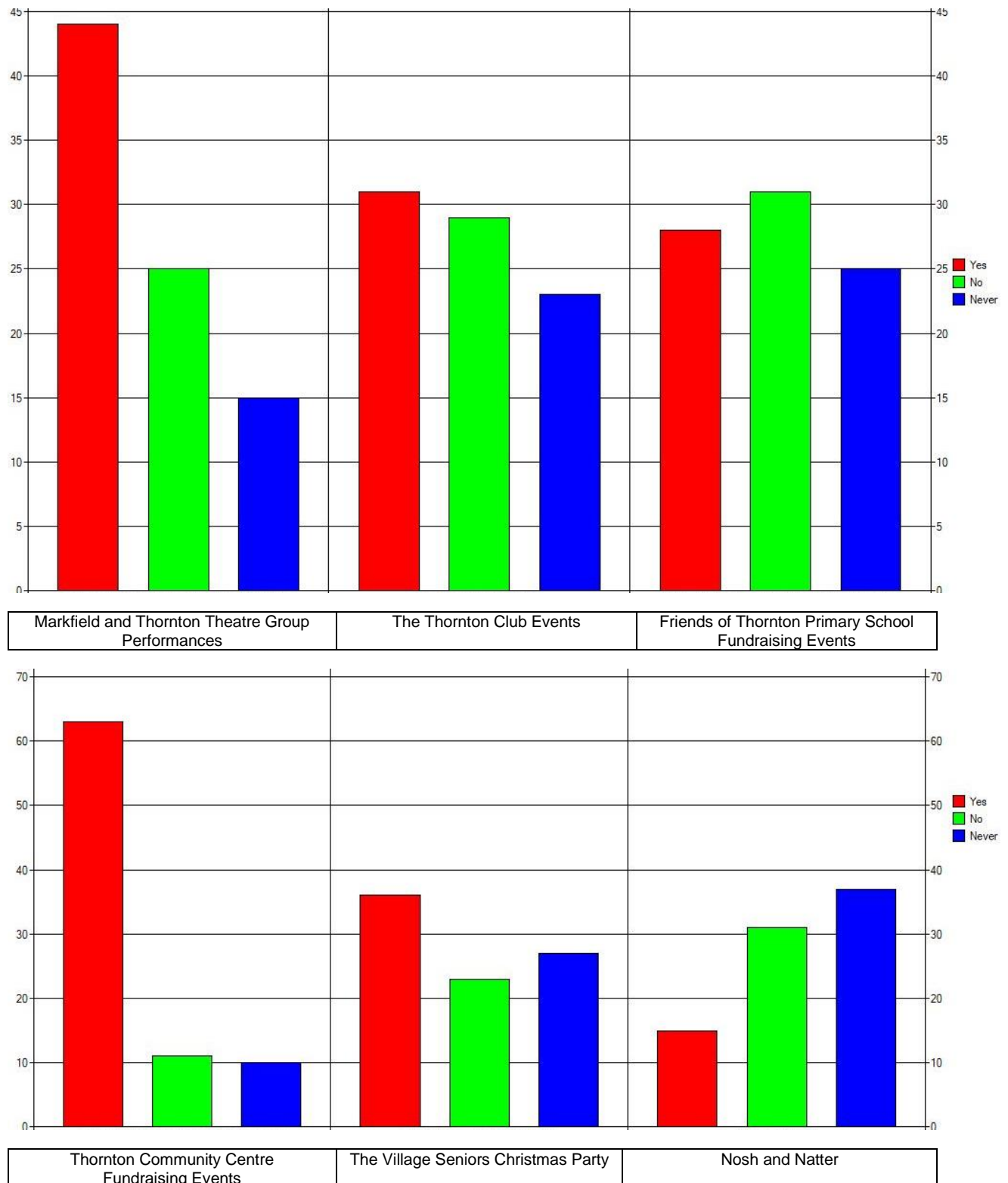
- Simple DIY fixes e.g. lightbulbs, fuses, tap washers
- Don't have spare time at the moment
- 'popping in' for a cuppa
- Small jobs around the house
- We feel we could do more but feel limited by time availability and health issues. It feels a bit abstract but maybe easier to engage once started.
- Unfortunately, we already support a number of people. Should this change, we will get in touch via email.
- Sorry not computer literate.
- Phone screen repairs.

Respondents identified Gardening, Pet care and Transport as the top three support services they would look to use if a Good Neighbour Scheme was established in Thornton, while those interested in helping to set up such a scheme identified the Collection of shopping, help with Transport and Befriending as the top three support services they might be able to help with.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Q12

Do you or members of your household attend any of the following social events in Thornton?

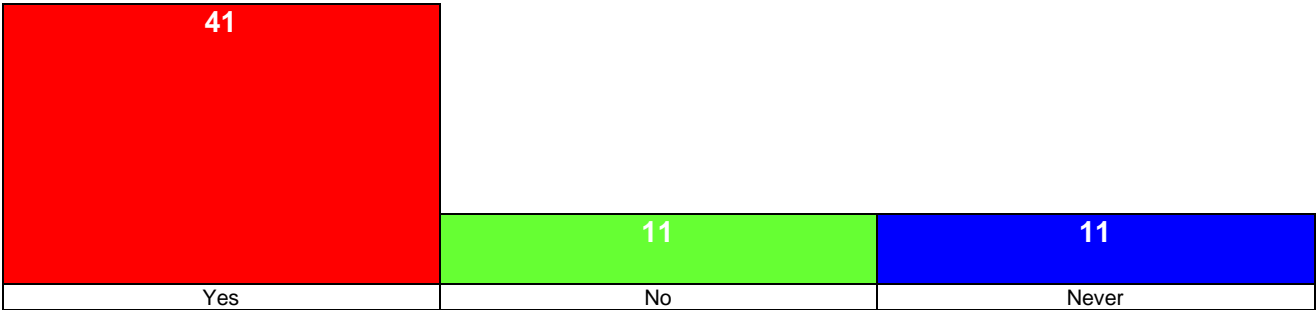


Respondents identified the following social events as being attended by their household in order of popularity:

- Thornton Community Centre Fundraising Events
- Markfield and Thornton Theatre Group Performances
- The Village Seniors Christmas Party
- The Thornton Club Events
- Friends of Thornton Primary School Fundraising Events
- Nosh and Natter

Please note: The option for respondents to choose the Friends of St Peter’s fundraising events as a social event that their household might attend was included in the paper version of the Survey, but due to an error, was not included in the online version, therefore it was not possible to include in the above analysis. But, based on the responses from just the paper version of the Survey, we can say that out of 63 responses, 41 identified that members of their household attend Friends of St Peter’s fundraising social events.

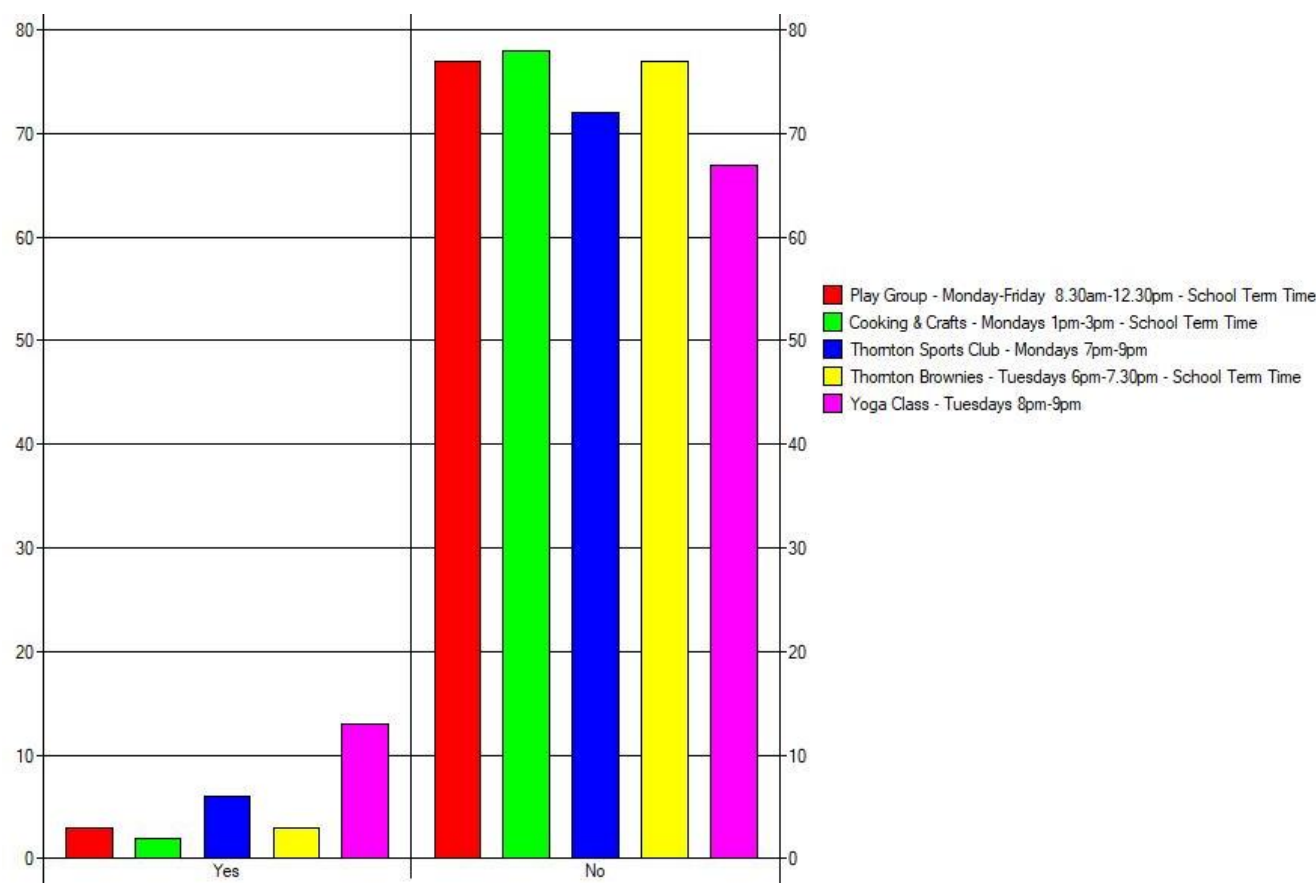
Friends of St Peter’s fundraising events:

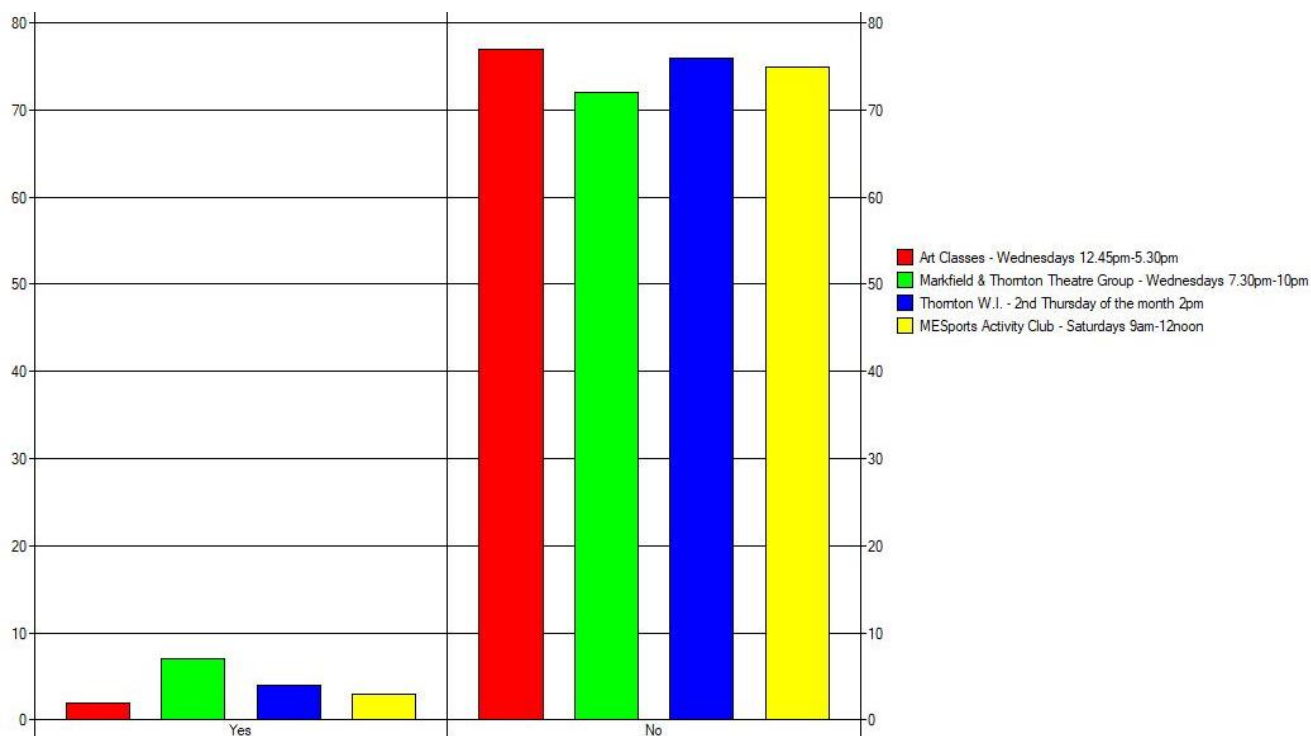


THORNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Q13

Do you or members of your household attend any of the following activities at the centre?





The majority of respondents indicated that they did not attend any of the activities currently available at the community centre. Of those that did, the two most popular activities that members of their household attended were Yoga classes and the Markfield & Thornton Theatre Group.

When asked if there were any other activities that they would like to see at the Centre, the following suggestions were recorded:

Fitness

More fitness classes
 Pilates Live music
 Pilates Adult
 Exercise classes for adults
 More exercises
 Seated Yoga/Exercise classes during the day.
 Line dancing in the afternoon

Evening Activities

More evening exercise classes
 Evening activities such as a book club or writing group
 More activities outside of the working day or for children.

Classes/Talks

Talks on local history and nature

Sports

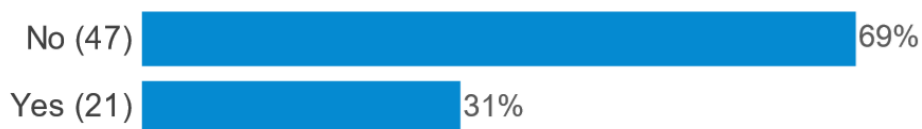
Kurling in the evening
 Plan to go to the Sports Club.

Other

Crafts
 Meditation classes during the day.
 Cubs and Scouts.
 We attended many of the above when our children were younger, and they have been very valuable in their upbringing.
 We supported this centre when family were younger.

Q14

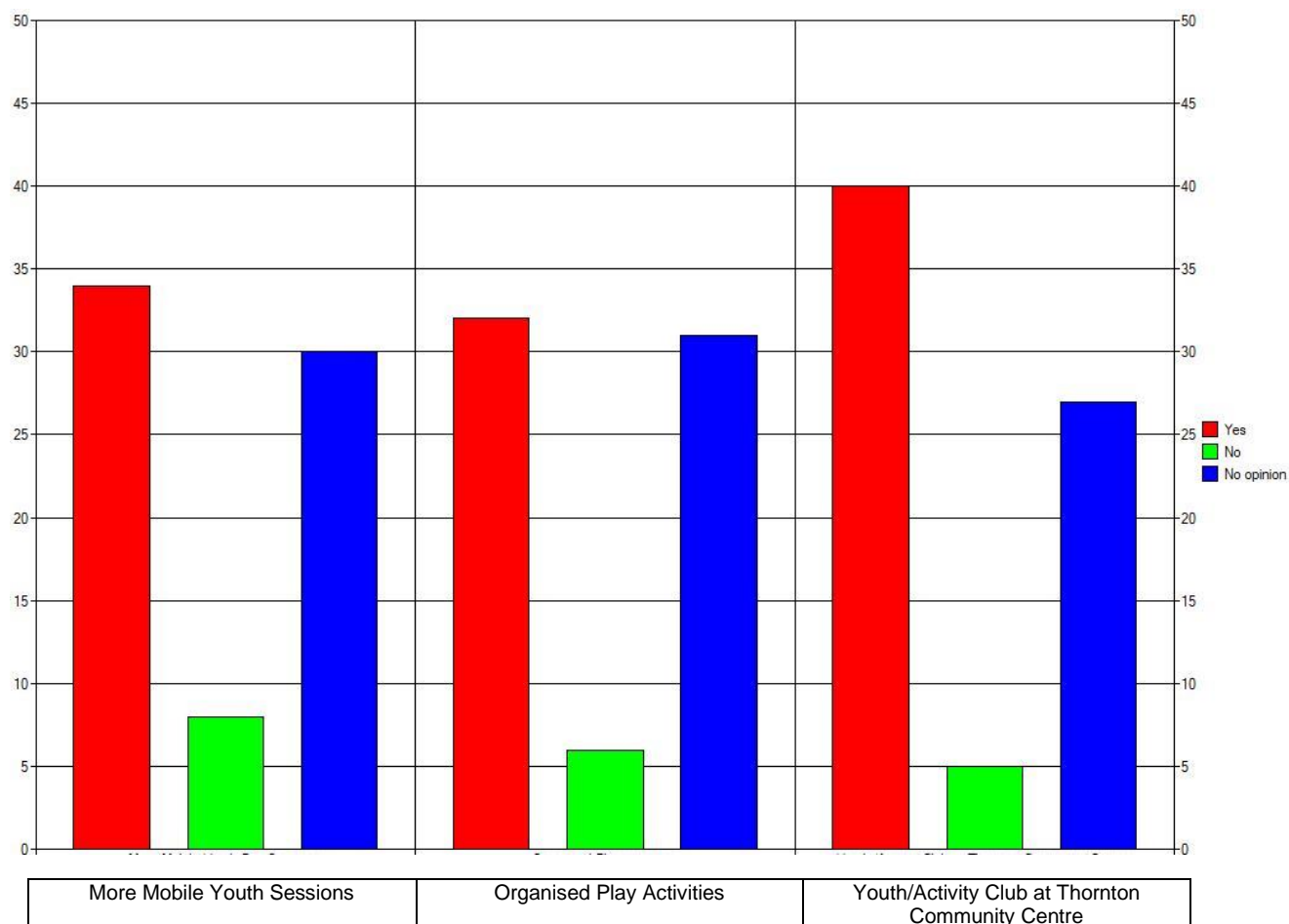
Would you or a member of your household be interested in supporting the Community Centre?



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Q15

Would you or members of your household support any of the following suggestions?



All three suggestions put forward by children and young people during the Mobile Youth Bus sessions were supported in the Survey, with a Youth/Activity Club at Thornton Community Centre as the most popular.

When asked for any other ideas or suggestions, the following were recorded:

- As said previously, I think sports teams would be ideal for all ages. There is a lovely football pitch at the bottom of the Recreation Ground, but it has been allowed to fall into disrepair with one goal having been overrun by the hedge. Such a pity.
- 'Support' yes, 'do' no.
- Great idea to have such sessions/clubs
- Youth club and activities for ALL age ranges teenagers in particular
- Day trips
- Early evening coffee shop for teenagers

- Our "Children" are now too old, but in times past, such opportunities would have been valuable.
- Not relevant for our household. However, any activity in the community centre should be appropriately managed so not to impact residents in close proximity to the centre.
- Open Mic Nights.
- All the ideas above are good ones, but we are not well enough to support them. Sorry.
- Thornton bus was causing me a lot of disruption with footballs coming into my garden.

Q16

There is interest from some residents to try and set up something more sustainable for children & young people in Thornton. Would you or a member of your household be interested in getting involved?



YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THORNTON

Q17

When asked to describe what it was that they most value about Thornton, and what they would want their village to become in the next 15 years. the following suggestions were recorded and are shown in order of popularity:

Village

- Small village community.
- Keep the village small
- Remain a warm village
- I would like the village to stay more or less as it is.
- I like that Thornton has its own identity and would like this to continue.
- To retain its rural 'feel' and village lifestyle/diversity
- Remain a village with no further developments
- A nice place to live, lovely beauty spot, friendly villagers. Not too different to today
- I value that Thornton is a small rural village with a lot of green spaces
- Thornton needs to remain a separate village so green spaces must be maintained between Thornton and neighbouring villages.
- To remain a distinct village with bus, school and shop.
- The size of the village is at capacity so no further development
- The three main issues I listed earlier need to be addressed as Thornton is a lovely village and hopefully, will be in fifteen years' time.
- Continue to be a thriving community that families can continue to live in (generations) despite housing costs.
- Village life and community spirit. To preserve both in the next 15 years by limiting over development
- There's not a lot wrong with the village and we would not like to see change for the sake of it.
- Stay as a village but move with the times.
- Want the village to become connected and outward looking.
- No longer a village

Housing/Development

- If any houses built, they should be social and for first time buyers
- Allow opportunities for younger people to stay in the village through affordable housing opportunities
- I would like to see the Reservoir PH replaced with a small number of self-contained bungalows or flats for the elderly. And/or derelict farmland at the Stanton end of the village used for a small residential complex for the elderly. Thornton has a high number of elderly people who may wish to downsize but cannot do so without leaving the village.
- Happy to accept more sustainable housing if this is agreed within a Neighbourhood Plan. Maybe 30-50 units with emphasis on affordable with priority for local younger people.
- Whilst I appreciate the need for housing, I truly believe that the infrastructure should be put into place before any further developments are permitted.
- Thornton needs to retain a village type community with little or no further house building.
- We probably won't be living here in 15 years but would not want the fields to be used for building housing estates.
- No more developments on green belt
- No more houses and please limit the development
- No more building
- Protected from inappropriate development
- We would like it to stay the size it is today and do not want to see any housing development.
- The village is not over developed as some of the surrounding villages are. Hopefully this will continue, and we can be protected from the encroaching business parks.
- Everyone loves the village now and would be a shame for huge modern housing developments to be built
- If we can continue to avoid over development of housing that would be great.
- I enjoy the peace and quiet of living in Thornton and would like there to be no further housing built in the village, the school would be unable to sustain further development

People/Community

- Value most – friendships
- Value the community spirit.
- The sense of community is really nice.
- To stay as it is with nice positive people
- I most value the sense of community in Thornton people help and support each other.
- A community spirited village, where you do not have to worry about the people who live in the area, and all people in the village have respect for the village amenities and community involvement
- We feel Thornton is a happy safe place to live and we would like it to stay that way
- A strong community that works together putting on events for all ages and everyone in the village.
- To remain a village with a strong community feel.
- Friendly atmosphere
- I'd like to see the community centre, school church pubs all working together for the greater good of the village.
- Stronger community feel
- Hopefully boost civic pride in Thornton
- I would like to see more community involvement in a more inclusive spirit
- Essential to continue the mixed demographics to allow the village to thrive as a community.

Facilities & Services/investment

- To have immediate access to excellent local healthcare and amenities
- Reasonable level of local services

- Well maintained
- Maintaining and improving faculties.
- Having access to vital local facilities
- A safe clean environment for my children to grow up in with good schools
- Would like village to receive investment to ensure it's maintained to a high standard
- To have an excellent primary school and community centre at the heart of the village.
- Maybe improved parking facilities for visitors.
- We feel that tennis courts would be a great addition to the community centre.
- Floral displays. Villages nearby all have floral displays and Christmas lights.

Shops/Businesses

- Possibly a further village shop could be introduced not necessarily a grocery shop but maybe a general purpose (hardware etc) would be welcome.
- Would like a nice café / farm shop
- A cafe to help reduce loneliness and isolation for local residents.
- Return of fish and chip van outside of working hours.
- The reopening of the restaurant would be good for the village
- Don't lose the reservoir pub
- It would be nice if the other pub in the village was up and running again. It would be a shame to lose it to more housing.
- I hope vacant pub gets taken over and can be used again

Environment

- More sustainable village with local energy needs being met with solar or wind power
- Possibly a community garden for village people to work in and use the produce.
- Most value Thornton's proximity to open spaces.
- We value the countryside location with great local walks
- Being surrounded by beautiful countryside and the National Forest. Enjoying the wildlife that this attracts
- Quietness generally, reservoir, national forest
- Peace and quiet. Nice long walks.
- A cleaner tidier place that villagers have some pride in

Reservoir

- I value the reservoir and walks around the village.
- Pleasing development of the reservoir area as an attraction to bring more people to Thornton
- Improved parking at reservoir to avoid impacting on village
- Severn Trent to provide a suitable car park, off the dam.
- Better parking for the reservoir leading to less congestion and pollution around the village.
- Better footpaths and drainage around reservoir

Activities

- Improvements to evening activities for adults & children would be welcome
- Activities focusing on health & wellbeing

Public Transport

- We need better public transport to neighbouring villages, perhaps via an Uber type model.
- Great public transport connections

Broadband

- Affordable IT/broadband

Car park

- A village car park would be desirable

Location

- Rural location, close to M1 and within easy reach of Leicester.

ANYTHING ELSE

Q18

When asked to describe any other community issues and opportunities that they felt were important in helping to direct future support and development for Thornton and local organisations serving the community, the following were recorded and are shown in order of popularity:

Traffic & Transport

- To improve the traffic congestion issues around the primary school at drop off/pick up times.
- Parking around school is so dangerous.
- More parking restrictions, even residents park outside my own home/mandatory to use own drive if you have one
- The parking really does need to be addressed before there is a serious incident and someone is really hurt, we have experienced having to walk on the road because cars are parked on the paths which is totally unacceptable
- I feel that the parking around the reservoir should be improved, double red lines at the top of the reservoir hill and parts of main street to avoid the appalling parking from people visiting the reservoir.
- Although up for review, the parking along the reservoir wall, how can people even think its a suitable place to park. Needs double yellows
- Double yellow lines need to be put along the dam road and traffic calming measures. The latter are also needed through the village
- Main issue is the parking. During good weather and major holidays parking around the reservoir and the roads in the village is becoming increasingly congested and at times dangerous. Emergency vehicles would find it difficult to access the village.
- Parking outside Clovelly House School, Merrylees Road, blind bend and in front of public footpath. Accident in the making.
- Buses that go to Charnwood School use Thornton as a rat run. Buses out through the village not stopping to pick up any children in the village. This is despite there being a weight restriction on these roads. If they are not loading/unloading, they should not drive through. they should go through Markfield. This also applies to HGV's particularly articulated lorries that are increasingly doing the same thing. For me this is an accident waiting to happen. The pavements are less than a metre wide in some parts and have to step onto the road. I feel that any improvement in this area would be great for the village.
- Better bus services

Environment

- Unacceptable amounts of litter and dog mess makes it a more depressing place to look at
- Dog owners from the village still have no conception of the damage their pet 'Fido' has on livestock and wildlife and still don't pick up their pets' crap, or if they do, they hang bag on hedge.
- Rubbish thrown from cars along all the verges heading into and out of the village.

- Thornton is a lovely rural village blighted by the crap people throw from their cars. Volunteer litter pickers or if everyone cleared their own verges etc weekly, monthly and more rubbish bins.
- There is no tenancy enforcement looking at the state of the gardens in Highfields and the rubbish in front gardens just doesn't seem to be addressed at all.
- There are many households who have multiple drivers have makeshift "drives" and cause mess and chew up the grass verges
- Improve the management of local allotment gardens to ensure retained for growing food/sustainable living
- A district heating system fuelled by carbon neutral, locally sourced, seasoned fuel wood.
- It would be good to have more nature and wildlife conservation in the area, and improved recycling facilities in the area (such as a drop off point for current plastics & multi-layer packaging not recycled by the council). The surrounding roads are also subject to high levels of littering and fly tipping which I would love to see reduced! I would love for us to become a more sustainable village.
- Fly tipping in surrounding areas is a real problem

Reservoir

- I believe the reservoir should look into a carpark using the filter beds site
- A car parking charge is required at the reservoir car park. It is vital that this car park is NOT enlarged as this would add to the problems.
- Signage to take litter home and bottles etc in reservoir.
- Thornton reservoir has reached its visitor carrying capacity. Management needs to take place to reduce the negative impact this is having.

Shops/Businesses

- Local businesses "on wheels" Pop man, Fish and chips. Butchers, Fresh fish etc.
- Takeaways (understand this is tricky!)
- We would like to see the old Reservoir Inn brought back into use, rather than redeveloped. This might be by providing incentives in business rates to bring it back into use. This would provide competition in the village and help get more people out of their houses in the evening. This is the only negative we have regarding the lack of support for safe social events by villagers.

Housing

- Thornton shouldn't be allowed to get any larger. No more housing developments should be allowed as the village infrastructure cannot sustain it and the road system has too much traffic now without further congestion from new houses.
- To continue to fend off any housing developments so Thornton remains a village

Investment

- Being on the periphery of Hinckley Bosworth - sometimes feels like were forgotten re public realm spend/maintenance i.e. green space, community centre investment, footpaths, road maintenance
- To ensure the needs of the village continue to be met continued investment in the community centre is required.

Working together

- It would be great to see everyone in the village consistently working together to provide a Full range of services local authority and volunteers putting on fund raising events to help the elderly, the environment, the young. Promoting Sports, arts, environment.
- The "Pub as the Hub" idea, where a local facility provides a wide range of services. This reduces everyone's carbon footprint

Events/Activities

- Events and activities should reflect the residents of the village.
- Neighbourhood watch. Swap Shop

Thornton Community Centre

- Thornton Community Centre trust should be more representative of the village and its wants and needs.

Footpaths

- Footpaths - The amount of people that think they can just go where they want. Need more educating on countryside code.

Identity

- it would be good to establish more of a village identity new road signs, as in neighbouring villages, would be appreciated and help the village feel valued.

St Peters Church

- The Friends of St Peters is a good organisation that, as well as supporting the maintenance of the village church, holds regular well-attended social events.

5) APPENDIX 1 – The Survey



Thornton Household Community Survey

This printed Survey can be completed and returned to the collection point detailed below. It can also be completed online at: <http://www.ruralcc.org.uk/surveys/>. You may find it easier and faster to complete the Survey online rather than using the paper version.

If you have any difficulty in completing the Survey or if you need this in larger print, please Tel: 01455 856317 or email neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk

To return your printed Survey, please place in the A4 envelope provided and return to the collection box at the Thornton Corner Shop by **Monday 2nd March 2020**. Thank you.

Why this Survey is taking place

This Survey is taking place as part of the Thornton Community Development Project which is being supported by the Rural Community Council (RCC) Leicestershire & Rutland and will provide valuable evidence to help direct future support and development for Thornton and local organisations serving the community.

The Survey is focussed on community issues and opportunities to help identify what people in Thornton village consider to be their collective assets and strengths and the things that they would like to see happen, or changed, in their community.

What we will do with this information

The results of this Survey will be collated into a short report and made publicly available for the benefit of residents, local organisations and statutory bodies including Bagworth & Thornton Parish Council, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council.

**Your views are important, and we would encourage
you to complete this Survey and return it by
Monday 2nd March 2020**

Thank you

Q1. Firstly, the views of how many people in the household are reflected in your responses? (e.g. if just yourself please tick the first box. If others have contributed, please tick the appropriate box.)

1	2	3	4	5+

LIVING IN THORNTON:

Q2. How do you rate living in Thornton village? Please tick the appropriate box

Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very poor

Q3. Please write up to three things you LIKE about Thornton village

1.
2.
3.

Q4. Please write up to three things you DISLIKE about Thornton village

1.
2.
3.

THORNTON FACILITIES:

Q5. How often do you visit/use the following facilities in the village?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	Never
Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall					
Thornton Primary School					
Playgroup/Child Minding					
St Peter's Church					
Cross Hills Baptist Church					
Recreation Ground					
Muga (Multi use games area)					
Thornton shop					
The Bricklayers Arms					
The Thornton Club					
Thornton Service Station					
Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre					
Thornton Reservoir					

Q6. How do you rate the following facilities in terms of meeting the current needs of Thornton village? Please tick one box on each row.

	Good	Adequate	Needs improving	No opinion
Thornton Community Centre & Sports Hall				
Thornton Primary School				
Playgroup/Child Minding				
St Peter's Church				
Cross Hills Baptist Church				
Recreation Ground				
Muga (Multi use games area)				
Thornton Shop				
The Bricklayers Arms				
The Thornton Club				
Thornton Service Station				
Thornton Nurseries & Fuchsia Centre				
Thornton Reservoir				

Please let us know what improvements to these facilities you feel are needed, if any:

ACCESS TO INFORMATION:

Q7. How would you rate the following news and information sources within Thornton?
Please tick one box on each row.

	Good	Adequate	Needs improving	No opinion
Parish Council Notice Board				
Parish Council Website				
Thornton Community Centre Notice Board				
Thornton Village Website				
Facebook Thornton Village				
The neighbourhood/community website www.nextdoor.com				
Flyers				
Village Link (Church/Chapel magazine)				
The Herald				
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Bulletin				

Please let us know what improvements you feel are needed, if any:

COMMUNITY SPIRIT:

(Community Spirit - a feeling of involvement in and concern for one's local community)

Q8. How do you rate the Community Spirit in Thornton village?

Please let us know on a scale of 1 – 5 where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent

1	2	3	4	5
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If you think the Community Spirit in Thornton village could be improved, please let us know your ideas.

INCLUSION:

Q9. Do you or members of your household feel included within the village community?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If No, please describe how and what actions you think could be taken to help you feel more included

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME FOR THORNTON:

Whilst we know that there is already a strong network of informal help and support between neighbours within the village, we think that a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' could help to strengthen this and ensure that everyone has access to a consistent and reliable source of help and support as and when it is needed.

A Good Neighbour Scheme is a community-led project that links neighbours who require a particular task doing for them with local volunteers willing to help. Not only is it a great way of meeting new people in your community, but also helps everyone to feel more connected with their neighbours.

How Does it Work?

People contact the scheme and requests are co-ordinated by a group of volunteers. Types of support can include befriending, transport, IT and everyday tasks such as changing a lightbulb.

It is a simple, easy to run scheme. All that would be needed are some volunteers from the community to get involved. Examples of some active Good Neighbour Schemes include:

Desford	Thurcaston & Cropston	Woodhouse Eaves	Sharnford
Markfield	Billesdon	Whissendine	Barrow Upon Soar
Sapcote	Sheepy Magna	Croft	Rothley

Q10. If you would be interested in using the services of a Good Neighbour Scheme. Please specify what support services you or a member of your household might want to use: Please tick as appropriate:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	Collecting shopping
<input type="checkbox"/>	Befriending	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pet Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other		

If other (Please specify below)

Q11. If you would be interested in helping to set up a Good Neighbour Scheme. Please specify what support services you or a member of your household might be able to help with: Please tick as appropriate:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	Collecting shopping
<input type="checkbox"/>	Befriending	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pet Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other		

If other (Please specify below)

If you have ticked that you are interested in helping to set up a Good Neighbour Scheme or would like further information, please email neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk and we will be in touch.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

Q12. Do you or members of your household attend any of the following social events in Thornton?

	Yes	No	Never
Markfield and Thornton Theatre Group performances			
The Thornton Club events			
Friends of Thornton Primary School fundraising events			
Friends of St Peter's fundraising events			
Thornton Community Centre fundraising events			
The Village Seniors' Christmas Party			
Nosh and Natter			

THORNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE:

Thornton Community Centre is a trust and is managed by volunteer trustees who are mainly drawn from local organisations. The Centre is financed by the profits from fund-raising activities, room hire and support from the Parish Council.

Q13. Do you or members of your household attend any of the following activities at the Centre?

	Yes	No
Play Group – Monday – Friday 8.30am-12.30pm School Term		
Cooking & Crafts – Mondays 1pm-3pm School Term		
Thornton Sports Club - Mondays 7pm-9pm		
Thornton Brownies – Tuesdays 6pm-7.30pm School Term		
Yoga Class – Tuesdays 8pm-9pm		
Art Classes – Wednesdays 12.45pm-5.30pm		
Markfield and Thornton Theatre Group – Wednesdays 7.30pm-10pm		
Thornton W.I. – 2nd Thursday of the month 2pm		
ME Sports Activity Club - Saturdays 9am – 12noon		

Please let us know if there are any other activities you would like to see at the centre.

Q14. Would you or a member of your household be interested in supporting the Community Centre?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If you have ticked Yes, please email neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk and we will be in touch.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE:

Between June and August last year, we arranged for a Mobile Youth Bus to visit Thornton. This programme was well received and identified that there were a number of children and young people aged between 5 -17 willing to engage in activities both at the Oakwood Close Car Park and in the grounds of the Community Centre.

A number of parents gave feedback that they were keen for such activities for children & young people to be developed in Thornton. Young people were also asked to complete a short survey during the Mobile Youth Bus sessions, the top three suggestions of what they would like to see are listed below.

Q15. Would you or members of your household support any of the following suggestions

	Yes	No	No opinion
More Mobile Youth Bus sessions			
Organised Play activities			
Youth/Activity Club at Thornton Community Centre			

If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please describe below.

There is interest from some residents to try and set up something more sustainable for children and young people in Thornton.

Q16. Would you or a member of your household be interested in getting involved?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If you have ticked Yes, please email neighbourhoodplanning@ruralcc.org.uk and we will be in touch.

YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THORNTON VILLAGE:

Q17. Focussing on the future, please describe below, what you most value about Thornton, and what you want your Village to become in the next 15 years.

ANYTHING ELSE?

Q18. Please use this space to tell us about any other community issues and opportunities that you feel are important in helping to direct future support and development for Thornton and local organisations serving the community.

Your privacy is very important to the RCC. The data you supply will be kept confidential. We will only hold the data you supply in this Survey for the purposes of producing a report and not for any other purpose. The data will only be retained until the report is completed. It will then be destroyed.

A full copy of the RCC's General Privacy Notice is available on request or on our website: <http://www.ruralcc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/RCC-Web-privacy-policy.pdf>

Finally, we would appreciate it if you would please tell us a little about yourself by completing the 'About You' section. This information is optional, but it will allow us to demonstrate that we have gained the views of a cross section of Thornton village.

ABOUT YOU:

Q19. Post Code?

Q20. How long have you lived in the village?

0-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16-20 years	21-25 years	25+ years

Q21. Which of the following best describes the household which you live in? Please tick the relevant one.

<input type="checkbox"/>	One-person household	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single parent household with dependent children
<input type="checkbox"/>	A couple with dependent children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single parent household without dependent children
<input type="checkbox"/>	A couple without dependent children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-person household

Q22. What age bracket are you? (If you are responding as a household please indicate how many are in the following age brackets)

	1	2	3	4	5+
Under 18					
18-24					
25-44					
45-64					
65-74					
75 and over					

Q23. What gender are you? (If you are responding as a household please indicate the gender for each individual.)

	1	2	3	4	5+
Male					
Female					
Prefer not to say					

Thank you for completing this Survey.

The closing date is **Monday 2nd March 2020**



Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland)

Charity No. 1077645 Company No. 3665974

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