#### WELCOME!

A Parish Plan is based on a survey carried out by and for the local community. Through community consultation it aims to identify local needs, problems, threats, strengths and opportunities. It is a means of taking stock of the community, creating a framework and foundation of awareness on which to base future community action and help ensure that the Parish Council represents the wishes of local people.

A Parish Plan action plan provides a defined list of community priorities.

A Parish Plan can highlight innovative projects which may need help from other agencies.

Parish Planning encourages partnership working.

Parish Plans are a tool to complement and inform local planning policies - although they cannot override adopted planning policy.

The Parish Plan will be regularly reviewed to monitor progress and to update it as required. During the time of compiling the plan some ideas and action to address issues has been initiated and these matters will be included in the remit.

The Parish Council fully supports the Parish Plan as a means of strengthening relationships with the community and will make every effort to assist in achieving the objectives of the plan.

The Parish Plan will be given to Durham County Council, appropriate voluntary groups and businesses to help develop community links and explore mutual benefits.

We thank all residents who completed and returned questionnaires. None of this could have happened without this local input from residents of the parish, but very special thanks must go to all members of the Steering Group for their enormous amount of hard work and the time they have given throughout the project. There were 666 responses from 3,777 questionnaires distributed – a 17.6% response rate.

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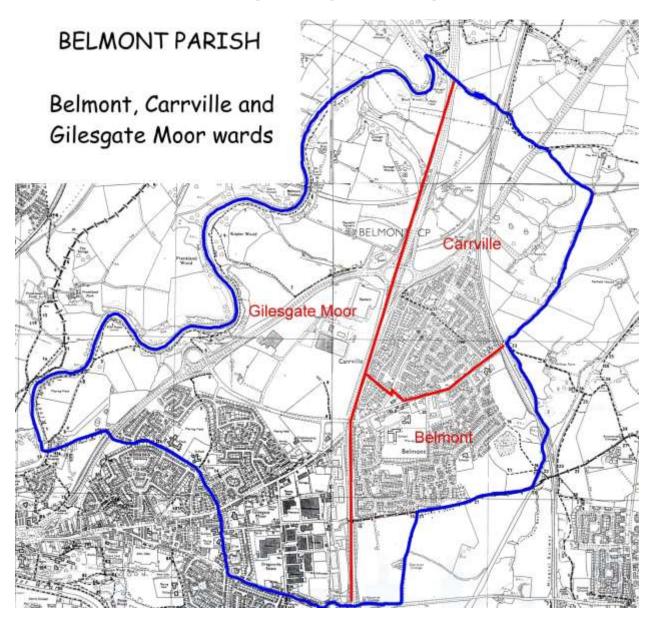
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# BELMONT PARISH PLAN

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# **MAP**

HERE IS A MAP OF THE PARISH.



Where do YOU live?

Which Parish Council Ward do you live in?

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#### A TRIP THROUGH TIME

Imagine a family taking a walk at the beginning of the 20th century through our Parish. Would our family recognise the area today? What changes would they see? They would have walked through a mostly rural landscape and would have seen evidence of industry. Mining, railways and iron works all major employers of labour and the reason why people were drawn to this area. Housing was often of a colliery terrace nature, concentrated on main roads and surrounded by fields.

Most of this part of Durham was rural before the suburbs started to swallow up agricultural land. However in 1900 there was considerable industrial presence in the area. New mines were sunk and old ones closed, and this added to the precarious nature of a miner's employment in the 19th century.

These included, Kepier Colliery (situated few yards North of Sunderland Road) Grange Colliery (now a caravan park near A1M junction 62), Kepier Grange Colliery (situated in what is now Belmont Industrial Estate), and Broomside Colliery which closed in 1890. But the most important industrial works by far was the Grange Iron



Works, which in its heyday was the most important industrial establishment in the neighbourhood of Durham. By 1916 it would be receiving orders from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, China, Brazil, India and other parts of the world.

We start at the crossroads in Gilesgate Moor. Here is the Hare and Hounds public house. Today this is a Veterinary Surgery and in 1900 our family would have seen the Grange Foundry Inn, only recently demolished, walked past a street named Bell's Villa and seen more open fields and countryside. North of Sunderland Road was High Grange Farm. 'Grange' is the mediaeval word for an outlying farm or granary. In the 1960s this land was sold to William Leech and he built a housing estate named High Grange Estate.

Walking through Gilesgate Moor the family would have open countryside on their left and a row of houses where Marshall Terrace is today. On to the

#### BELMONT PARISH PLAN

Traveller's Rest and on the opposite side a row called Eden Villa. We continue on past the Forester's Arms, Alma Place and into Belmont and

Carrville. Between High Grange and Moor End Belmont, today we have a Retail Park, Moorfield Park and a bridge over the A1M motorway. What would our 1900 family have made of these transport links – in 1900 a car would have been a rare sight and the railway, horses, carts and walking was the way to get around. A large area of farmland,



south of Sunderland Road near Renny's Lane was called Ravens Flatt. Flatts were medieval field divisions and today much of this is occupied by the Dragonville Industrial estate.





We enter Belmont at the descriptively named Moor End. This is the end of Gilesgate Moor and we see the handsome Church of St Mary Magdalene consecrated in 1857, designed by William Butterfield and a listed building. Richard Pemberton of Belmont Hall gave the land for the church. Industrial development meant that a new parish was needed and in 1852 Belmont Parish was formed from St Giles.



Blue House which we still see today opposite the church, now a block of shops was a farm and today near the church we see the War Memorial. This commemorates those who gave their lives in World War 1 and World War 2 and more recent conflicts. The churchyard also has graves of World War 1 soldiers as well as those who died in pit accidents. The Memorial was originally sited in the churchyard but was moved in 2009 to its present position. Of course in 1900 there would have been no War Memorial – the conflicts of the 20th Century were still to come.



The west side of Carrville High Street was occupied by terraced streets with

open fields behind them. Plans show allotments behind the High Street which miners kept to supplement their incomes. Broomside Lane had a number of short rows of houses again with open field around them. The Vicarage and school were also in Broomside. The education act of 1870 saw the first state school open



in here. Three teachers taught up to 200 children. However their attendance was a problem as some families could not afford to send their children to school. In 1900 a water supply arrived at the school. Children would have to wait until 1913 for the installation of water closets for girls. The boys had to wait until 1922.

Nonconformists also had their own places of worship in the area. There was a Wesleyan Methodist chapel in Bainbridge Street and a Primitive Methodist Chapel at 40 High Street. During the Methodist Revival in the 19th century the Wesleyan Methodists built new premises on the High Street. This building served them for 120 years and in 2004 a new church was completed.



#### **BELMONT PARISH PLAN**

At the end of the High street our family would have walked on to Belmont Railway Station, which by 1900 was only handling goods and opposite would have looked at the prosperous estate of Belmont Hall after which the station was named.

Many of the inhabitants of Belmont worked on the railways in 1900 and three major lines ran through the area. Belmont Station was opened in 1844

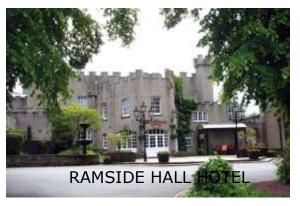
at the junction of the 'old main line' and the short branch line into Durham at Gilesgate. Incredibly as it may seem today all passengers to and from the City were required to change trains at Belmont as all main line trains bypassed the city. By 1900 there were no passenger trains as this was closed in 1857 when the station and viaduct at



Durham were built, although Durham would not be on the main line until 1871. Belmont station closed in 1966 and all the property has been demolished. Today our family would see in this area, the Park and Ride Site which opened in December 2005 and provides a convenient link with the shops and attractions in the city.

In 1820 Thomas Pemberton demolished an old hall and built a new home

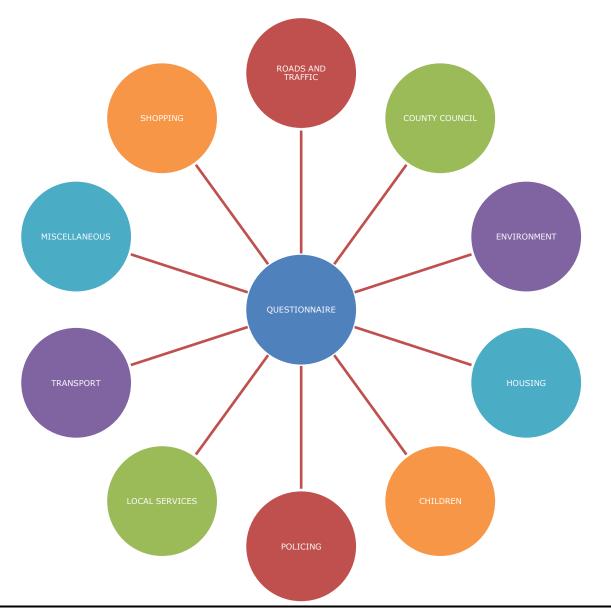
which he called Belmont Hall. In 1900 John S G Pemberton lived there. He was MP for Sunderland where the family had many connections. In the 1960s when the family sold the estate it reverted to its original name of Ramside Hall. When the Parish of Belmont was formed in 1852 from Pittington and Gilesgate Parish, and the church was built on land



donated from the Pemberton estate the area took the name Belmont.

# **RESULTS OF THE SURVEY**

THIS SECTION SHOWS THE ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS FROM COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES.



The questionnaire contained the main sections shown in this diagram. Each of the sections is examined in turn.

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# **IN A NUTSHELL**

IN THIS SECTION WE SUMMARISE THE OUTCOMES OF THE SURVEY.

#### **ROADS AND TRAFFIC**

# Adequacy of roads.

The road network inadequately meets the demands of the traffic generated by the retail parks.

Carrville High Street is very congested.

#### Maintenance of roads

Roads are badly maintained

and in a very poor state of repair across the whole of the parish. Potholes were mentioned in about 30% of responses.

# Congestion

The school was the main area of concern.

# **Parking** (High Street & Marshall Terrace)

All of the comments indicate that it is considered to be a problem area.

#### **Commercial Traffic**

Lorries and buses transporting pupils to Belmont Community School.

Lorries and delivery vehicles using short cuts to reach destinations.

# **Pedestrian Crossings**

More crossings required.

# **Speeding Vehicles**

The two main roads causing concern with speeding vehicles are Broomside Lane and Carrville High Street.

There is also concern in respect of particular named estate roads.



#### **COUNTY COUNCIL**

# **County Council Services**

Library well used and excellent.

Residents' opinion ignored.

Street cleaning not carried out often enough.

More attention during winter months.



#### **Rubbish Collection**

Most people satisfied with service, however service could be improved.

# Recycling

Recycling bins required to replace inadequate bags and boxes Recycling should be weekly.

Avoid leaving a mess and replace receptacles in curtilage.

Whilst some thought this was a good or excellent Service, others are cynical about the whole recycling exercise and real benefit to the environment.

# Street Cleaning

Quality of street cleaning was a concern, the timing of street cleaning (before rubbish collection) was specifically referred to.

# **Grass Cutting**

The mess left behind because grass cuttings is not collected by the machines combined with a poor standard of finish, some areas overcut and other areas shaved bare.

# **Footpaths & Pavements**

Only one person stated that the pavements were in a good condition. All other comments had complaints.

# Cost cutting preferences

Most of the comments on the economy really didn't relate to Belmont Parish but to wider issues.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

# **Environmental Issues**

All of these areas are covered more fully in other parts of the questionnaire.

# **Preservation of Green Spaces**



The comments here were very comprehensive; - leave our green spaces alone.

#### Litter

Most of the comments concerned litter dropped at lunchtimes by schoolchildren.

Most felt that the problem of fast food outlets contributed to the litter.

Litter is noticed by a lot of people in the village and they would like to see a pro-active approach taken to solving the problem.

# **Dog Fouling**

Almost all comments thought there was a problem of some kind.

# **Street Lighting**

Typically comments of concern referred to lights being off, lights being on during the day, too light, too dark or lights being obscured.

Other comments were complimentary both in terms of the level of lighting and the promptness of repair when required.

# Litter picking

Cheveley Park shops, the school campus and the route between the school and Tesco were identified as problem areas.

# Parking (Residential Areas)

Of all the comments, only 3 didn't complain about some aspect of parking in the Parish.

#### HOUSING

# **Affordable Housing**

Split was almost exactly 50/50 for and against. Neither wanted to see flats built. Several comments about the number of empty flats and houses.

# PICKERING COURT

# Do we need more Housing?

The majority said "No".

# If yes what kind?

No One was in favour of more flats or Social housing.

#### **CHILDREN**

#### Children in household

Majority of respondents were households without children.

#### Schools attended

Majority went to school in the parish.

# **Travel to School**

Most walked to school.

#### **POLICING**

#### Crime & safety/policing

Concern about a lack of police visibility and youths gathering at Cheveley Park shops.

#### Feel safe

In the overall numerical survey, 91% of people indicated that they felt safe in Belmont Parish. However 130 comments written expressed some concerns.

#### **LOCAL SERVICES**

#### **Parish Council services**

The community is not sure what the Parish Council does or what powers it has.

# **Health service provision**

Comments on Health Service were extremely positive.

#### Services used

All services used by respondents.

#### Services to be available

Low response - most respondents were satisfied with the services available.

#### **TRANSPORT**

#### **Bus services**

A quarter of the responses referred to unreliable and late running services.

#### **Reopening Leamside Line**

Comments ranged from "definitely for" to "definitely against".

# LEAMSIDE LINE

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Education & Training**

There was very little response to this section

#### **Recreation & leisure facilities**

Lack of facilities for all age groups. Mentally disabled people are not valued.

Library facilities are excellent.

# **SHOPPING**

# **Shopping Facilities**

Most comments concentrated on the state of the shops rather than the actual facilities.

Post Office required in Gilesgate Moor.

# Which areas used

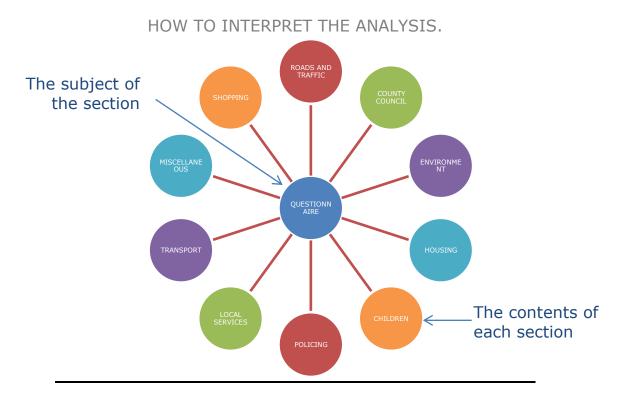
Comments on shops and services covered in other sections.

# Items unable to purchase locally

Butchery products.

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# **UNDERSTANDING THE INFORMATION**



Each section starts with a graphic, which shows, at a glance, the contents of that part of the plan. The contents are colour coded to make ongoing reference easier.

Tables provide an analysis of the answers for each part of the survey.

HEADING					
Response Key Issues Comment					
Pie chart showing the level of	Main matters of	<b>Number</b> of			
satisfaction/concern/importance and	concern arising from the	answers			
the number of people at each level.	answers.	received for			
		each			
		matter of			
		concern.			

**Summary** of comments received.

Please note that number of people in Response is higher than the number of people making Comments.

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# **ROADS AND TRAFFIC**



ADEQUACY OF ROADS				
	Respons	e	Key Issues	Comments
ac 15		Extremely	Dragon Lane	6
26 13	26 15	important	Carrville High Street	5
		Very important	Retail Parks	3
102			Zebra crossings	3
	237	Significant	Dropped kerbs	1
193		<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	General	42

The majority of comments were very general in nature but the theme was the inadequacy of the road network to meet the demands of the traffic generated by the retail parks.

These general comments included references to pot holes etc which are covered elsewhere under road maintenance.

At Dragon Lane the specific comments were regarding the mini roundabout at the Tesco entrance.

Carrville High Street is considered to be very congested due to parked cars and heavy vehicles using the route as a short cut to the motorway/A690.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS				
Respons	Response		Comments	
	■ Very	Potholes	44	
	satisfied	Poor re-instatement	16	
16 59 113	<ul><li>Reasonably well satisfied</li><li>Satisfied</li></ul>	Generally poor surfaces	94	
221	<ul><li>Not particularly satisfied</li><li>Very dissatisfied</li></ul>			

The general theme is that the roads are badly maintained and in a very poor state of repair across the whole of the parish. Potholes were specifically mentioned in about 30% of the comments but the general comments regarding poor and uneven surfaces should be added. Poor re-instatement was cited as a cause together with winter damage and general wear and tear due to the increased traffic visiting the greatly expanded retail parks.

and to the character of the ground of the gr				
CONGESTION				
	■ Extremely	Miscellaneous and general	58	
	concerned	School	51	
50	■ Very	Tesco/Dragon	37	
131	concerned	Lane/Dragonville		
137	■ Concerned	Carrville/Carrville high St	24	
95		Buckinghamshire Road	20	
		Belmont	16	
137	■Not			
	particularly			
	concerned			

Clearly the school was the main area of concern. Virtually all of the comments under school were about Belmont Campus but there were a couple about St Thomas More. There were also comments about the school in the headings for Buckinghamshire Road and Belmont. However these also referred to traffic at various junctions and not just congestion at the school. The Miscellaneous and General heading included general comments about traffic in the parish and in Durham without necessarily being specific about a particular place or where a place was only mentioned once such as Kepier Crescent or Birkdale Gardens.

Other places of concern mentioned were: - Broomside Lane, High Grange and Cheveley park.

PARKING (High Street & Marshall Terrace)					
Respo	onse	Key Issues	Comments		
	Extremely	High street specifically	43		
	concerned  Very concerned	Marshall Terrace specifical	ly 11		
54		Broomside Lane junction	7		
	■ Concerned	Pedestrian crossing	12		
141		General	68		
89	■ Not particularly				
129	concerned				
	Not at all concerned				

All of the comments on this very specific topic indicate that it is considered to be a problem area. Many respondents believed the number of parked vehicles on Carrville High Street exceeded the number of people resident in the area.

Comments were recorded from respondents stating they were drivers.

Parking on both sides of Carrville High Street was identified as a particular problem for pedestrians (attempting to cross the road), drivers (visibility re other vehicles and pedestrians) and bus drivers (the available road width is insufficient for a bus to pass other vehicles).

COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC				
	■ Extremely	Estates	30	
	concerned	Schools	11	
49 90	■ Very concerned	Dragon Lane (Tesco)	9	
194 88	■ Concerned	Carrville High Street	31	
	■ Not particularly concerned			
	Not at all concerned			

Comments referred to lorries (including delivery vehicles) and buses (mainly transporting pupils to Belmont Community School as well as Lorries and delivery vehicles using short cuts including Carrville High Street, to reach destinations in Belmont parish and elsewhere.

There were also comments about inconsiderate parking of commercial vehicles.

Suggested solutions included a 20 M.P.H. speed limit on estate roads and prohibiting commercial vehicles using Carrville High Street.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS			
Respo	nse	Key Issues	Comments
	■ Extremely	Carrville High Street	32
	concerned	Broomside Lane	25
	■ Very	Sunderland Rd/Marshall	10
61 74	concerned	Terrace	
62	Concerned	Dragonville Lane/Retail	3
		park	
217	■Not	More dropped Kerbs	23
132	particularly	Others	21
	concerned Not at all		
	concerned		

Only 9 people commented that they thought existing crossings were adequate. All others felt there was a problem. For the top 4 sections above all comments asked for one or more crossing at those locations

SPEEDING VEHICLES				
25	■ Extremely	Broomside Lane	50	
	concerned	Estate Roads	43	
84	Very concerned	Carrville High Street	33	
195		Cheveley Park / The Links	14	
	Concerned	Willowtree Avenue / Moor	12	
132		Crescent		
124	Not particularly concerned	Wantage Road	6	
	Not at all concerned			

It is evident that the two main roads causing concern with speeding vehicles are Broomside Lane and Carrville High Street.

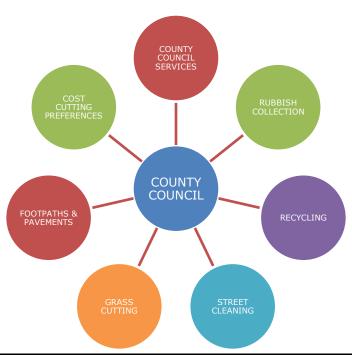
However, it is also clear that that there is concern in respect of particular named estate roads such as Cheveley Park, The Links, Willowtree Avenue, Moor Crescent and Wantage Road.

In addition, within the total number of 214 comments received, there were various other named roads in lower numbers and also comments concerning particular junctions or particular places.

Also, various comments referred to the problems on "estate roads" in general.

Finally, many of the comments received suggested possible causes and possible solutions.

# **COUNTY COUNCIL**



COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES			
Resp	onse	<b>Key Issues</b>	Comments
		Excellent	1
	Extremely	Good	4
24 <sub>¬12</sub>	important	Value for money	3
	■ Very important	State of roads	3
127 198		Library	3
	Significant	General	22
	Of slight importance		
	Unimportant		

Library well used and excellent although one comment said it is not mentioned.

Residents have been asked for their opinions in the past but they have been ignored.

Street cleaning not carried out often enough. More attention needed during winter months to roads.

Most stated weekly bin collection was satisfactory. Others appreciated having a chance to recycle.

Rubbish Collection				
Respons	е	Key Issues	Comments	
15 18	■ Very satisfied	Bins should be collected fortnightly	26	
70 150 328	<ul><li>Reasonably well satisfied</li><li>Satisfied</li></ul>	Bins left anywhere after emptying	17	
		Service Good/excellent	14	
	■Not	Spilled litter left after collection	12	
	particularly satisfied	General Comments	12	

Although most people seemed happy enough with the service, many felt that it could be improved.

With recycling, a lot of people felt that either a smaller bin would do for general waste or that it could be collected fortnightly but that the recycling bag should be changed for a better stronger container and this should continue to be collected weekly. Other concerns were that there was too much waste left scattered after collections and not cleaned up and that the bins were not put back properly and left blocking roads, pavements and drives.

A few people commented that the collection of garden waste should start earlier be more frequent also that large items should be removed free of charge.



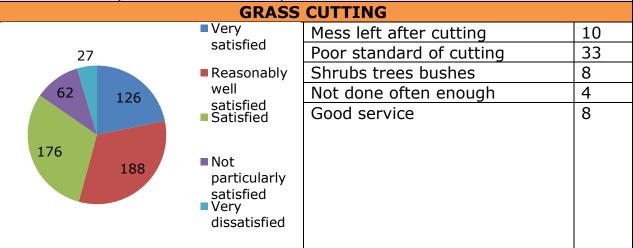
The main areas of comment were that recycling bins were required to replace inadequate bags and boxes; recycling should be weekly; cleansing operatives should be more careful to avoid leaving a mess and replace receptacles in curtilage.

Whilst some thought this was a good or excellent Service, others are cynical about the whole recycling exercise and real benefit to the environment.

STREET CLEANING					
Response		Key Issues	Comments		
	■ Very satisfied	Inadequate (and similar)	32		
		Timing	12		
30 121	■ Reasonably	Inefficient (mechanical)	6		
86 121	well satisfied	General	28		
	■ Satisfied				
157 187	Not particularly satisfied				
	■ Very dissatisfied				

Although the quality of street cleaning solicited most comment, the timing of street cleaning (before rubbish collection) was specifically referred to by some 20% of respondents. Two comments referred to inadequate cleaning because of parked cars.

The inefficiency of the mechanical process was also commented on.



The overriding theme was the mess left behind because grass cuttings are not collected by the machines combined with a poor standard of finish, some areas overcut and other areas shaved bare.

There were comments regarding the neglect of trees bushes and shrubs which detracted from the overall appearance of the area and indicated that long grass at junctions reduced visibility for car drivers.

Some comments were complimentary and thought the service was good.

FOOTPATHS & PAVEMENTS				
Re	esponse	2	Key Issues	Comments
27		■ Very satisfied	Poor Condition and State of Repair	74
62	126	Reasonably well satisfied	Overgrown and Dirty	35
	120	■ Satisfied	Blocked by Cars	21
176		= Satisfied	General	20
170	188	<ul><li>Not particularly satisfied</li><li>Very dissatisfied</li></ul>		

Only one person stated that the pavements were in a good condition. All other comments had complaints of one kind or another. The heading of "Poor condition and state of repair" contained complaints about uneven pavements whether tarmac or paving slabs. It also contained complaints of being poorly repaired and maintained and of being unsafe for the elderly and people with poor eyesight. The "Overgrown and Dirty" complaints included comments about dog-fouling, overhanging branches, overgrown verges and weeds growing through the pavements and of dirt being left behind by street cleaning equipment. The "Blocked by Cars" comments mainly referred to safety issues but also to damage to footpaths. All areas of the Parish were referred to.

10.01.00.001	Teleffed to				
COST CUTTII	NG PREFERENCES				
	General comments on	33			
	economy				
No statistical analysis was done for this heading.	Flower beds/Grass	17			
	cutting				
	No cuts	15			
	Don't Know	14			
	Public Officials jobs and	8			
	expenses				
	Cut bin collections to	8			
	fortnightly				

Most of the comments on the economy really didn't relate to Belmont Parish but to wider issues. In the "don't know" section many comments wanted to see what options came out of the Parish survey. The most common single area mentioned was the landscaping department. There were 2 comments on the Library, one to close it and one to save it.

# **ENVIRONMENT**



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES				
Response		Key Issues	Comments	
	■ Extremely	Litter	11	
	important <ul><li>Very important</li></ul>	Green Areas	7	
	■ Significant	Dog fouling	5	
		Parking	2	
	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	Various	16	

All of these areas are covered more fully in other parts of the questionnaire which probably accounts for the small number of comments under this heading. Amongst those mentioned in "Various" were traffic congestion pollution, the Academy, Cheveley Park shops and undeveloped building sites.

PRESERVATION OF GREEN SPACES				
Respons	е	Key Issues	Comments	
	■ Extremely	For protecting all Green Spaces	57	
important  Very important  Significant	Against protecting all Green spaces	0		
	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>			

The comments here were very comprehensive; - leave our green spaces alone. Almost all of the comments were of a general nature but amongst areas mentioned were; - Belmont Park, Broomside Park, Aykley Heads and Belmont Scrambles. One person did suggest that a road and bridge should be built between Framwellgate Moor and Belmont.

LITTER (IS LITTER A PROBLEM?)				
		Cheveley Park/High	210	
		Street shops		
378	■ Yes ■ No	Other areas e.g. Retail Park, Renny's Lane	120	

Most of the comments concerned litter dropped at lunchtimes by schoolchildren.

Over one third of comments received have the words, 'school', 'lunchtimes' 'children'. People felt that lunchtimes were a problem as this was when most of the litter was dropped by school children. Particular hotspots were Cheveley Park shop and Blue House. Other areas mentioned were Bell's fish shop Gilesgate, Tesco, Willowtree Avenue and Renny's Lane.

Most of those who commented felt that the problem of fast food outlets contributed to the litter problem e.g. fast food packaging which is dropped in the street. Litter is noticed by a lot of people in the village and they would like to see a pro-active approach taken to solving the problem.

DOG FOULING (IS IT A PROBLEM?)				
Response		<b>Key Issues</b>	Comments	
-		The Scrambles	15	
		Renny's Lane	11	
274 Yes • No		Broomside Lane	11	
	es	Willowtree Avenue	10	
	lo.	(Lane)		
	Moorfield	6		
		Kepier	5	
		·		

Almost all comments thought there was a problem of some kind. Only 21 comments thought that there wasn't a problem or that it was much improved.

49% of all the returned surveys think that dog fouling is a serious problem. It seems that it is a widespread problem and most locations that have an open piece of grass land seem to get mentioned.

There is a strong feeling that enforcement of the law is required, 20 comments that 'fines' should be imposed on offenders. Also comments that dog wardens are never seen.

STREET LIGHTING				
40 21	■ Very satisfied TOP FOUR AREAS OF COI		CERN	
96 208	<ul><li>Reasonably well satisfied</li><li>Satisfied</li></ul>	Broomside Lane	8	
		Cheveley Park	3	
		High Grange Estate	2	
		A690 Slip Road	2	
215	<ul><li>Not particularly satisfied</li><li>Very dissatisfied</li></ul>			

Of the 50 comments received on street lighting only 20 named particular places for concern, as shown above, the other five being Maureen Terrace/Grange House, Willowtree Shops, Gilesgate Primary School, Church View and Brackendale Road, with one comment received for each.

Typically comments of concern referred to lights being off, lights being on during the day, too light, too dark or lights being obscured.

Other comments were complimentary both in terms of the level of lighting and the promptness of repair when required.

LITTER PICKING				
Respo	Response		Comments	
	Very satisfied	LITTER LOCATIONS		
	<ul><li>Reasonably well satisfied</li><li>Satisfied</li></ul>	Cheveley Park Shops	17	
58 40		Belmont Schools	5	
		campus		
147		Renny's Lane (school	10	
175	<ul><li>Not particularly satisfied</li><li>Very dissatisfied</li></ul>	route to Tesco)		
2.0	_			

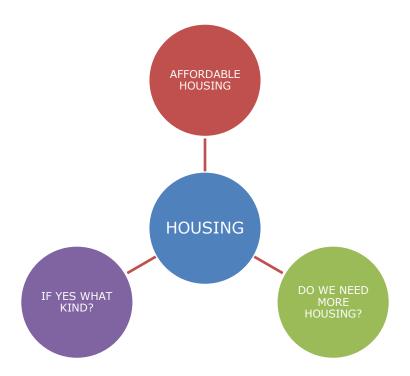
The areas around Cheveley Park shops, the school campus and the route between the school and Tesco were identified as problem areas.

PARKING (Residential Areas)				
	Extremely	Parking on Footpaths	75	
	concerned  Very concerned	Parking at Schools	39	
		People not using their	27	
	■ Concerned	Drives/Garages		
		Obstructive/Illegal Road	22	
	■ Not particularly	parking		
	concerned	Specific roads mentioned	32	
	■ Not at all	(various)		
	concerned	General parking	31	
		comments		

Although there were 200 comments returned, some of these commented on more than one problem hence the total of 226 areas of concern. Of all the comments, only 3 didn't complain about some aspect of parking in the Parish. Parking on pavements and footpaths was by far the most contentious particularly when many people had driveways and garages which they weren't using. Most of the comments did not name a specific road or street but of those mentioned the most common were Broomside Lane, Buckinghamshire Road and Devonshire Road. Further the same concerns were spread throughout all areas of the Parish. This was also true of School parking problems and almost all schools were named.

One other area of real concern was on-road parking, legally and illegally. Again this was in many areas of the Parish and was felt at best to be inconsiderate and worst dangerous.

# **HOUSING**



AFFORDABLE HOUSING			
Respons	ie .	Key Issues	Comments
	<ul><li>Extremely important</li><li>Very important</li><li>Significant</li></ul>	Against more	23
		For more	18
96 111		Maybe	3
		Don't know	2
89		Don't care	1
152	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	General comment	13

Split was almost exactly 50/50.

There was one other theme which was common to both those for and against and that was neither wanted to see flats built. There were also several comments about the number of empty flats and houses currently in the Parish.

# **BELMONT PARISH PLAN**

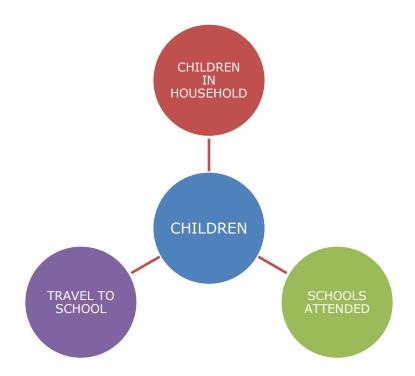
DO WE NEED MORE HOUSING?				
Response	Key Issues	Comments		
	No	32		
	Yes	13		
129 Yes No	Don't Know	5		

The majority answered "no". Of those who commented, those against more housing outnumbered those for by more than two to one.

IF YES WHAT KIND?				
■ Executive	Starter (affordable)	4		
Homes Starter Homes Private Housing Social Housing Rented	Social (including Bungalows)	3		
	Private	2		
	Executive	0		
	Rented	0		
	Mixture	4		
	<ul><li>Executive</li><li>Homes</li><li>Starter</li><li>Homes</li><li>Private</li><li>Housing</li><li>Social</li><li>Housing</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Executive</li> <li>Homes</li> <li>Starter</li> <li>Homes</li> <li>Private</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Social</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Starter (affordable)</li> <li>Private (affordable)</li> <li>Private (affordable)</li> <li>Executive (affordable)</li> <li>Private (affordable)</li></ul>		

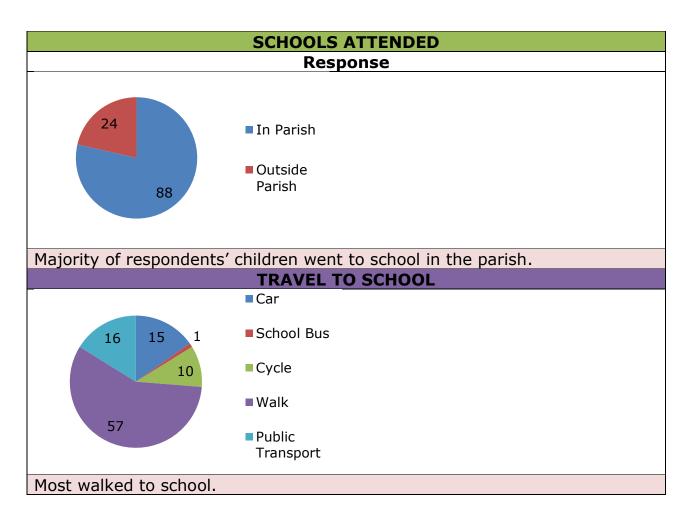
Noone was in favour of more flats not even those in favour of Social housing.

# **CHILDREN**



CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD				
Response		Key Issues	Comments	
	■Aged under	Households without children	480	
34 22	5	Households with children	106	
	■Age 5 – 17 years			
95	Over 17 years			
Sizeable majority of respondents were households without children.				

# **BELMONT PARISH PLAN**



### **POLICING**



CRIME & SAFETY/POLICING				
Respo	nse	Key Issues	Comments	
10_13	■ Extremely	Police visibility	25	
43 10 13	important	Youths/Anti-social	18	
	■ Very important ■ Significant	behaviour		
116		Litter/Vandalism	7	
110	= Significant	General comments on	12	
392	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	law and order		

All the comments in this section expressed a concern that could be broken into two main categories, namely a lack of police visibility, and youths gathering at Cheveley Park shops especially on a weekend.

The comments on litter and vandalism are covered more fully in other sections of the questionnaire and the general comments are not specific to Belmont.

No one said that the services were adequate or that policing was good.

FEEL SAFE				
Response	е	Key Issues	Comments	
53		Feel Safe	4	
	<b>- - - - - - - - - -</b>	Feel Safe with	117	
	■ Feel safe	reservations		
	-5	Did not Feel Safe	12	
513	Do not feel safe	General comments	6	
	Sale	More visible Policing	76	
		CCTV cameras	7	
		Youths at shops	24	
		Youths in general	18	
		Shopping area in general	12	
		Speeding Traffic	8	
		Poor street lighting	6	

In the overall numerical survey where 560 people ticked a box as to how safe they felt, 91% of people indicated that they felt safe in Belmont Parish. However in the 130 comments written by those people they took the opportunity to express some concerns. For the most part they still felt safe and the degree of reservation varied from slight to quite serious. The serious concerns were in the main in the shopping areas especially at night. Of the suggestions to improve the situation easily the most popular was more visible Policing with 76 comments. Better street lighting and CCTV cameras were also mentioned.

# **LOCAL SERVICES**



PARISH COUNCIL SERVICES				
Respon	se	Key Issues	Comments	
	■ Evtromoly	Very good/very satisfied	6	
	<ul><li>Extremely important</li></ul>	Would like some	8	
	■ Very	improvement		
	important ■ Significant	Not sure about services offered	11	
	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>			

The main issue with local services is that part of the community is not sure what the Parish Council does or what powers it has. Parts of the community are also unclear where the County Council provision takes over. Many people are very satisfied with the services they have.

HEALTH SERVICE PROVISION				
Respo	nse	Key Issues	Comments	
16 21 56 166 311	<ul> <li>Extremely important</li> <li>Very important</li> <li>Significant</li> <li>Of slight importance</li> <li>Unimportant</li> </ul>	Very good/very satisfied Would like some improvement Not sure about services offered	16 9	
	■ Unimportant			

Comments on Health Service were extremely positive. People are very satisfied with the level of Health Service provision - 16 out of 26 comments rated this good or better. People were mainly concerned with changes to bus services to the local hospital and would like another dental surgery.

Overall the Health Service Provision in the Parish is valued by residents.

SERVICES USED		
	MOST COMMONLY I	MENTIONED
No numerical analysis.	Post Office	85
	Library	66
	Hair Dressers	37
	Doctor	30
	Newsagents	24

All services are used by respondents at some time or other, including bus services and garage servicing and repairs.

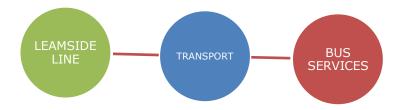
A community pub would be desirable.

SERVICES TO BE AVAILABLE		
	WANTED	
No numerical analysis.	Butcher	9
	Restaurant	4
	Coffee Shop	4
	Post Office (Gilesgate)	4
	Satisfied as we are	18
	General	42

The response to this question was lower than average (79 respondents, average 90) but near to the median (75). Most respondents were satisfied with the services available. Butcher headed the list (and there have been several enquiries asking if one of the two new shops currently under construction in Carrville High Street is to be a butchers) and a restaurant/coffee shop came a close second (one has now opened at Cheveley Park Shopping precinct).

The recent closure of the Post Office in Gilesgate probably resulted in respondents stating that a Post Office should be available in Gilesgate.

### **TRANSPORT**



BUS SERVICES (ARE THEY ADEQUATE?)				
Respons	е	Key Issues	Comments	
	_	DESTINATIONS REFEI	RRED TO	
		Newcastle	17	
127		Metro Centre	5	
127	■Yes	University Hospital of	10	
	■ No	North Durham (Dryburn)		
399		Tesco/Cheveley Park	18	
		estate/Durham		

A short time before the survey the one early morning and evening service to Newcastle was replaced by a more frequent (4 per day) service and this was reflected in appreciative comments from some respondents. The suggestion that larger buses should be used has now been implemented.

An improved service to Gateshead Metro Centre was requested – some services only run during school holidays).

Since the survey was undertaken Arriva services 60, 61 and 62 which served the Cheveley Park estate and Tesco have been replaced by Go North East services and reliability seems to have improved.

A quarter of the responses referred to unreliable and late running services.

Note – There have been significant changes to bus services through the parish during the past year.

SHOULD LEAMSIDE LANE RAILWAY LINE REOPEN?				
	Key Issues	Comments		
	Generally For	14		
	Generally Against	5		
■Yes ■No	Generally Uncertain	12		
	■Yes	Generally For Generally Against Generally Uncertain		

Comments received ranged from "definitely for" to "definitely against". Various comments "for" included provisos such as links to Metro rail link, Newcastle, Sunderland, Washington, Metro Centre, Airport and Universities. Comments "against" included reasons of cost and also suggestions that the line should be transformed for use by walkers and cyclists.

Within those comments of "uncertainty" were questions relating to costs and some generally stating "don't know/not sure".

Within this group there were some who were unaware that the line existed. Some other comments were uncommitted or neutral, however, others were keen to know more, with some suggesting that road traffic congestion may be reduced

# **MISCELLANEOUS**



EDUCATION & TRAINING				
Respon	ise	Key Issues	Comments	
	■ Evtromoly	Anti-Academy comments	5	
20	Extremely important	More adult education	2	
58 36	■ Very important	courses needed		
174	■ Significant	Mother and toddler	1	
127	- Significant	groups needed		
	Of slight	General (keep up school	11	
164	importance <ul><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	standards)		

There was very little response to this section. The main concern was that the schools must be supported and standards maintained. Particular points mentioned were as above. No one wrote in favour of the Academy.

RECREATION & LEISURE FACILITIES				
Respo	nse	Key Issues	Comments	
23	■ Extremely	General comments	16	
	important	Teenagers	8	
69 83	■ Very	Children	6	
	important ■ Significant	Toddlers	2	
201 190	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>			

Most comments highlighted the lack of facilities for all age groups. There is no cinema, gym or sports centre. Disabled people are not valued. Library facilities are excellent.

### **SHOPPING**



	SHOPPING FACILITIES				
Respoi	nse	Key Issues	Comments		
15	■ Extremely	Good	5		
	important	Bad	2		
50 127	■ Very	Adequate	3		
	important Significant	Could be improved	10		
185	= Significant	Need for local shops	7		
197	<ul><li>Of slight importance</li><li>Unimportant</li></ul>	General	19		

Most comments in this section concentrated on the state of the shops rather than the actual facilities. Almost all the comments in "General" were about the cleanliness or the appearance of both Cheveley Park and Blue House shops. Almost all the comments were about the smaller local shops and Tesco was only mentioned on 6 occasions. There were also some comments that a Post office was required in Gilesgate Moor.

WHICH AREAS USED				
Response		Key Issues	Comments	
91	Gen rrville High reet eveley Park rail park agon Lane tail Park rrshall rrace erburn Road	't use local shops eral comments about oping	4 5	

There were many ticked box options in this section which were extensively completed. Comments on shops and services were covered in other sections and mainly commented on there.

MAIN SERVICES REQUIRED				
No numerical analysis.	Independent butcher/meat products	41		
	No more services required	19		
	Good quality	10		
	greengrocer/fruit/veg			
	Fish monger service	6		
	Shoe shop	6		
	Others	61		

Most of the other services mentioned had only 1 or 2 comments. Amongst those mentioned were: - alternative supermarkets, a furniture store (not beds) and a bakery.

### **PRIORITIES**

### IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER.

### **Promote Parish Council role and responsibilities**

Significant ignorance of Parish Council function

**Parking** (Housing estates, Carrville High Street, Marshall Terrace, School entrance)

Inconsiderate parking on pavements, preventing use of drop kerbs, on grassed areas

Parking in Carrville High Street and Marshall Terrace resulting in congestion

Parents dropping-off and picking-up schoolchildren in Buckinghamshire Road

### **Speeding vehicles**

20m.p.h. limit on all housing estates

# **Identity** (of parish communities)

Promote community identities – Belmont, Carrville and Gilesgate Moor

(Views expressed were that there could be no parish identity because of geographical separation Belmont/Carrville and Gilesgate Moor)

Benefits resulting from community identity could include pride in community resulting in less vandalism, litter, etc.

### Litter

Numerous locations identified, many associated with school pupils

Sponsored bins (e.g. provided by BSCAC) could encourage use

Work with school to identify locations (routes from shops) and check state of bins

# **Dog fouling**

Neighbourhood Warden's role

Need to identify and prosecute irresponsible dog-owners

Ways in which residents can deal with dog faeces

# **Keep Green spaces**

Particularly in relation to housing developments

Within and peripheral to the parish

# **Police visibility**

Not necessarily on foot

Not necessarily daily

# **IMPLEMENTATION**

ORGANISATION	TASK	OUTCOME	LINK PERSON	CONTACT
	Liaise with	Communication (emails, etc.) on general matters.	Chairman of Working Group	
	Parish Council	Report to Council ¼ ly.	Ken Holroyd	
		Promote Parish Council role and responsibilities	Chairman of Working Group	
		Traffic	Margaret Pattinson	
	Oversee	Identity of parish communities	John Moore & David Salkeld	
Parish Plan	on-going	Litter	Robin & Jill Coates	
working Party	issues arising out of Parish Plan	Dog fouling	Barbara Howarth & Robin Chapman	Pauline Walker & G. McArdle (DCC Warden Team Leader)
		Preservation of Green Spaces	Ken Neat & Glen March	
		Police visibility	Peter Weightman	
	Review Parish Plan	½ yearly?	Parish Plan Working Party	
	Liaise with Parish	Communication (emails, etc.) on general matters.	Parish Clerk	
	Plan working group	Receive and act on ¼ ly report from Working Party.	Chairman of Parish Council	
Parish Council	grace	Promote Parish Council role and responsibilities	Barbara Howarth	
	Tako	Traffic	Les Thomson	
	Take forward	Identity of parish communities	Barbara Howarth	
	on-going issues.	Litter	Eric Mavin	
	.55465.	Dog fouling	Ken Holroyd	G. McArdle
		Preservation of	Christopher	
	-	Green Spaces	Pattinson Les Thomson	
		Police visibility	LES HIUHISUH	

BELMONT PARISH PLAN	
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# **Belmont Parish Council**

[Belmont, Carrville and Gilesgate Moor]





# Parish Plan Questionnaire

This questionnaire is about what you think of the parish. The aim is to find out your views on issues that affect you. It will provide important information which can be used for future improvements in the parish. Belmont Parish Council has initiated this appraisal process and is working with residents and pupil representatives of Belmont and Gilesgate Secondary Schools with help from Durham Rural Community Council to complete a Parish Plan. Most of the work is being carried out by volunteers from the local community and a grant has been obtained to help cover some of the costs.

A separate questionnaire, compiled by representatives of Belmont and Gilesgate Secondary School Councils, is available for Young People.

- 1. How important are the following issues to you? Please consider only the facilities <u>within</u> the parish. Please rate:
- 1 (Extremely important), 2 (Very important), 3 (Significant), 4 (of slight importance) to 5 (Unimportant).

	Rate	Please summarise any concerns
	(1 –5)	
Affordable housing		
Crime & Safety/Policing		
Environmental issues		
Education & Training		
County Council services		
Parish Council services		
Shopping facilities		

# BELMONT PARISH PLAN Health Service provision Recreation & Leisure facilities Adequacy of roads Preservation of green spaces Is there a litter problem in the parish? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ 2. If Yes, what is the problem, where does it occur and what do you think could be done about it? Is there a dog-fouling problem in the parish? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ 3. If Yes, what is the problem, where does it occur and what do you think could be done about it? Do you feel safe living in the parish? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ What could be done to make Belmont parish a safer place? Should there be any more housing in the parish? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ If there is more housing in the parish what type should it be:-Executive Homes Starter Homes Private Housing Social Housing Rented Accommodation $\square$ ? **Children and Young People** Some questions about number and ages of children living at home. How many children live in your household? If None please $\checkmark$ the box an go to next section $\Box$ Under statutory schools age (5) $\square$ of school age $\square$ over statutory school leaving age (17)

How many of these children attend school within the parish  $\square$  outside the parish  $\square$ ?

How do your children usually travel to school?

Car School bus Cycle Walk Public Transport

7.

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Shopping in Belmont					
9. Does your family regularly purchase goods from shops at Blue House Farm  Carrville High Street  Cheveley Park  Durham City Retail Park  Dragon Lane Retail Park  Marshall Terrace  Sherburn Road (between Dragon Lane and Sherburn Road Ends)  Tesco  Willowtree Avenue					
10. Are there any items you would li so? Please list	ke to be a	ble to purchase locally but are unable to do			
Services in Belmont (which have retail-t	type premi	ises)			
11. What services do you use which	are locate	d within the parish?			
12 What other services would you l	ike to be a	vailable in the parish?			
Public Transport					
	13. Are bus services within the parish adequate? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ What improvements would you like to see				
14. Would you like to see the Leams	ide Railwa	y line reopened? Yes 🔲 No 🔲			
Public Services					
15. How satisfied are you with the following public services in the parish? Please rate: 1 (Very satisfied), 2 (Reasonably well satisfied), 3 (Satisfied), 4 (Not particularly satisfied) to 5 (Very dissatisfied).					
Public Services	Public Services Rate Please summarise any concerns (1 –5)				
Rubbish collection	, -,				
Recycling					

Street lighting	
Street cleaning	
Grass cutting	
Footpaths and Pavements	
Maintenance of roads	
Litter picking	

# Traffic

- 16. What traffic problems within the parish concern you? Please rate:
- 1 (Extremely concerned), 2 (Very concerned), 3 (Concerned), 4 (Not particularly concerned) to 5 (Not at all concerned).

	Rate (1 –5)	Please summarise any concerns
Congestion		
Parking (Carrville High Street and Marshall Terrace)		
Parking in residential areas		
Commercial traffic		
Pedestrian crossings and other facilities (drop kerbs, etc.)		

BELMONT PARISH PLAN	
Speeding vehicles	
17. Belmont Parish Council plans to include the co- identified in the Parish Plan in future budgets. If t cut?	•

### OPTIONAL Your details

We are happy to accept completed questionnaires which do not identify the respondent. If you include contact details it will help us to identify specific areas where problems exist and get in touch with you should we require further clarification or more detail. Personal information will not be passed to third parties.

Name	
Address	
	Telephone
I would like to help with the analy	sis of questionnaires and the development of the Parish Pla
(Please ✓) □	

ADDITIONAL SURVEY FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM BELMONT PARISH OFFICE OR BELMONT LIBRARY.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORMS BY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER IN THE FREEPOST ENVELOPE (ALL QUESTIONNAIRES CAN BE RETURNED IN THE SAME ENVELOPE).

Thank you for helping with the Belmont Parish Plan

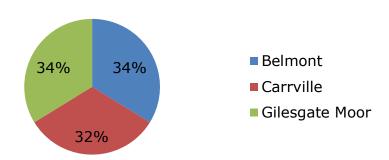
Printed b Graphic Print, Front Street, Craghead, Stanley DH9 6DS. Published and promoted by K. Holroyd on behalf of Belmont Parish Council, Council Offices, Sunderland Road, Gilesgate Moor, Durham, DH1 2LL.

BELMONT PARISH PLAN	
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### YOUTH SURVEY

At the time of publication of the Parish Plan, full analysis of the Youth Survey was, for various reasons, incomplete and in order not to delay publication, whilst also appreciating the importance of achieving a proper and comprehensive analysis of the Survey, it was decided that it should be included at a later date as an Addendum to the Plan.

# Where pupils live



The Steering Group is extremely grateful to all those pupils who took time to complete the Survey Questionnaire and include genuine comments, concerns and requirements and we wish to assure you that your contributions are not only very much appreciated but are also vitally important to the future well-being of our Parish.

Thank you for your efforts and we intend to publish the Addendum by the close of the Autumn term.

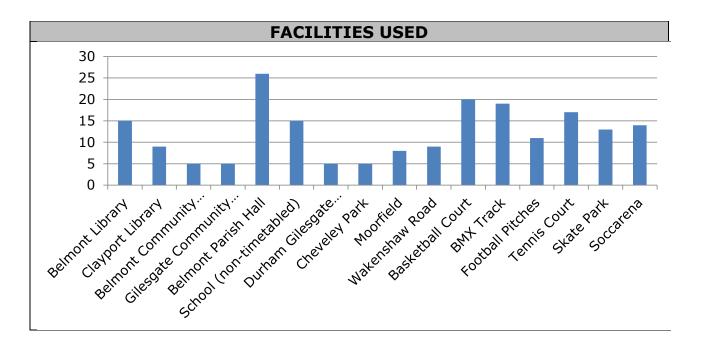
# **SUMMARY OF (SELECTED) RESULTS**

ACTIVITIES				
Respons	se	Activity	Number	
■ Boxing		Boxing	2	
	_	Football	11	
	■ Football	Cricket	2	
2 2		Swimming	6	
	■ Cricket	Dance	10	
10		Duke of Edinburgh	2	
	Swimming	Award		
6 2	■ Dance			
	■ Duke of Edinburgh Award			
_		ISPORT		
Response		Comments	Number	
	■Bus frequency	Bus frequency	51/77	
	satisfactory	satisfactory		
52 51	■Knew bus times	Knew Bus times	37/55	
		Knew Bus stops	52/66	
37	■Knew bus stops			
T				

# Improvements

- regularity, lower prices, faster journey times, improved frequency
- especially evenings and Sundays
- more courteous drivers.

SAFETY					
Response	<b>e</b>	Comments	Number		
	■Felt safe	Felt safe in parish	61		
A (very) few concerned					
Dagners		LIKES	Ni. mak a s		
Response	<u> </u>	Comments Nothing to do	Number 27		
		Nothing to do Feel unsafe	6		
	■ Nothing to do	Too far to travel	22		
22 27	■ Feel unsafe	100 fai to travei	22		
	Teer unsale				
6	■Too far to travel				
	LI	KES			
Response		Comments	Number		
	-	Ease of getting to friends	42		
12	■ Ease of getting to friends	Feeling safe	26		
12		Clubs and Activities	12		
	Feeling safe				
26 42	■Clubs and				
	Activities				
	DRUGS/	ALCOHOL			
Response		Comments	Number		
	Concerned about threat	Concerned about threat	49		



### STEERING GROUP

### **MEMBERS**

(Past and present)

Mr & Mrs L.R. Barnes

Mr Robin Chapman\*

Mr & Mrs Robin & Jill Coates\*

Jenny Cockburn

Mr G Greenwell

Mr Ken Hazelwood

Mrs Audrey Hinds

Cllr Ken Holroyd\* (Chairman)

Mr & Mrs Brian & Ann Howard

Cllr Barbara Howarth\*

Mr & Mrs Anthony & Nivian Hyland\*

Mr Ben Leck

Mr Glen March\*

Dr Pat McKone

Mr John Moore\*

Cllr & Mrs Christopher and Margaret Pattinson\*

Mr R.A. Rickaby

Cllr Milly Robinson\*

Mr David Salkeld\*

Mrs Joy Savage

Mr S.W. Thompson

Cllr Les Thomson\*

Cllr Arthur Walker\*

Mr A.J. Walker

Daniel Walker

Barner Warker

Mr Michael Watson

Mr Peter Weightman\*

\* Present

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Welcome!** Introduction by Councillor Barbara Howarth, Chairman Belmont Parish Council.

# A Trip Through Time by Margaret Pattinson

Source Material

www.keystothepast

www.porthistory.talktalk.net

www.stmarymagdalenebelmont.org.uk

www.carrvillemethodist.org

Old Durham Ordnance Survey map 1895 Durham City East

**Durham Times** 

From the Durham Miner project

Jane Hatcher 'Belmont a short history'

Frank Williamson 'Gilesgate Moor, Belmont and Carrville – a coal mining

History

British History Online - Parishes St Giles

Kelly's Directory 1902

Thanks also to Belmont library for access to their local history files

**Photography** by David Salkeld

**Old Postcards** by Peter Weightman

Questionnaires and spreadsheets by Ken Holroyd

**Edited and Published** by Christopher Pattinson

BELMONT PARISH PLAN	
	Page <b>64</b> of <b>65</b>

### **FEEDBACK**

Thank you for taking the time and effort to read our Parish Plan and hope that you found it informative.

# Feedback is always very welcome!

Please submit your comments headed "Parish Plan"

• In writing to the Parish Office -

Council Offices
Belmont Community Centre
Sunderland Road
Gilesgate Moor
Durham
DH1 2LL

• Or by email -

belmontpc@btconnect.com

We look forward to hearing from you.