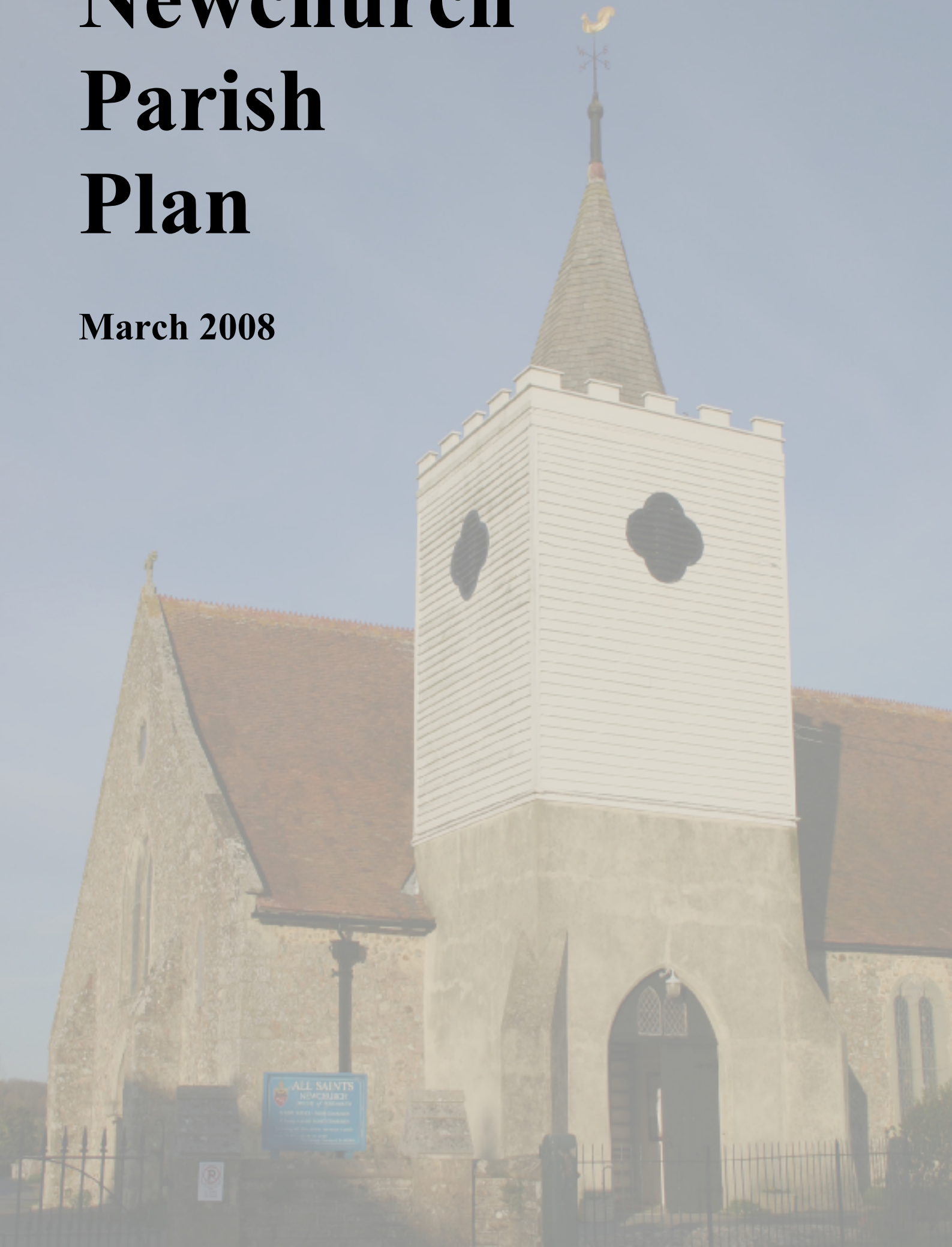


# Newchurch Parish Plan

March 2008





*This is the very Garden of England,  
and we be privileged to work in it as  
Husbandmen....."*

**These words were written by Mr. Anthony Dillington of Knighton Gorges  
in 1574 about the Parish of Newchurch.**





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Acknowledgements.....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Main Findings .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.1 General Views on the Parish .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.2 Housing and Land Use .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2.3 Highways and Transport .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2.4 Recreation and Other Amenities in the Parish .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2.5 Tourism and Other Commercial Activities .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>2.6 Conservation in the Parish .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>3. Long-Term Vision for the Parish – Summary of Conclusions and     Recommendations on Planning Issues .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>4. Shorter-Term Issues - Summary of Conclusions and     Recommendations on a Short-Term Action Plan .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>APPENDIX A: Newchurch Parish and its History .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>APPENDIX B: Description of the Process of Preparing the Parish Plan..</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>APPENDIX C: The Questionnaire and the Detailed Results Obtained ...</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>APPENDIX D: The Final Questionnaire .....</b>	<b>75</b>



## **Acknowledgements**

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First, we would like to thank Newchurch Parish Council and the Newchurch Community Partnership, which both provided financial support, without which the preparation and publication of this Parish Plan would have been impossible.

Secondly, the Isle of Wight Rural Community Council (IWRCC), which provided both financial and practical support for the preparation of the Parish Plan. Particular thanks go to Estelle Thomas who provided enormous support and guided the Steering Committee through its work.

Thirdly, the Isle of Wight Council, a number of officials of which provided support and advice in various forms during the preparation of the plan.

Finally, we would like to thank the residents of Newchurch Parish for their participation in the process, not only in the completion of questionnaires, but also their participation in the consultation process that has led to this Parish Plan document.





# 1. Introduction

The fundamental purpose of this Parish Plan is to provide grass-roots evidence and recommendations to the County Council and other bodies, in the expectation that these will be reflected in policy development and implementation on a wide range of issues, including the planning process. The intention therefore is that the Parish Plan should reflect the views of the people of Newchurch Parish, and set out a vision of the future development of Newchurch Parish that can be used as input to decisions made on a wide range of issues by the County Council and other authorities.

The initiative to prepare a Parish Plan for Newchurch came from Newchurch Parish Council, which has also formally approved this Parish Plan document. Newchurch Parish Council arranged for the necessary funding in conjunction with the IWRCC, to cover costs such as survey expenses, postage and stationery, hall hire fees, and the cost of printing and distributing this Parish Plan document.

However, the responsibility for the preparation of the Parish Plan was then delegated to a Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC) nominated by Newchurch Parish Council following several public meetings. The PPSC consisted of a group of Newchurch Parish residents<sup>1</sup>, working on a voluntary basis, and since it was first constituted in September 2006 this PPSC has held numerous meetings and carried out all the work necessary to finalise this plan. The PPSC then recommended the final draft Parish Plan for approval to Newchurch Parish Council, and the Parish Council formally approved it at its meeting on 21 January 2008.

The work programme followed by the PPSC consisted of a number of strands of work, the intention being that these strands would provide the widest possible collection of views and data for the preparation of the Parish Plan. The main elements of the work were as follows, and each of these elements is described in more detail in Appendix B:

1. a detailed questionnaire on a variety of subjects, that was distributed to every household in the Parish. The response to this questionnaire was much better than had been anticipated, with nearly 450 completed questionnaires being returned, and Appendix C contains a detailed description of the questionnaire methodology and results;
2. consultation letters and meetings with all the main associations and societies in the Parish;
3. consultation letters sent to all the businesses<sup>2</sup> that could be identified in the Parish, in order to ensure that the business perspective could be fully reflected in the Parish Plan;

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<sup>1</sup> The members of the PPSC, in alphabetical order, were: Peggy Brownscombe, Dennis Colenutt, Trudy Draper (Chair, and Newchurch Parish Council Member), Lance Fuller, Mike Hoar (Newchurch Parish Council Member), Brian Mosdell (Isle of Wight Council Member), Graham Peters, Lorraine Shotter; and Sue Turrell. Colin Richards, Chairman of Newchurch Parish Council, also participated in PPSC meetings as an observer.

<sup>2</sup> This included all businesses that could be identified, including farms, the only exception being B&B and holiday flat activities.

4. various meetings held with County Council officials, to enable information to be collected on existing plans and policies for Newchurch Parish and work in hand;
5. a consultation day, held in June 2007 in the Newchurch Community Hall, to present the main findings from the questionnaire, and to invite further comment on a range of issues, including a Planning for Real<sup>3</sup> exercise;
6. further consultation day on the draft findings, held in January 2008, that allowed the public to read the draft plan and its conclusions and recommendations, and make comments.

In addition to the work described above, the PPSC is also undertaking a separate exercise to consult in detail the younger people of Newchurch Parish, and the results of that work will be reported in due course.

With this background there are two important things to emphasise about the contents of this Parish Plan, and in particular about its conclusions and recommendations:

1. The PPSC has tried very hard to ensure the widest possible consultation with people of Newchurch Parish, so that the views expressed can fully reflect the views of the people of Newchurch Parish. We believe that these consultations show that this plan enjoys very wide support among the people of Newchurch parish.



**The June 2007  
Consultation Day**



**Model of parts of the  
parish at the June 2007  
Consultation Day**

2. The entire contents of the Parish Plan, and in particular the conclusions and recommendations, are evidence based; this means that they are solidly founded on the data from analysis of the questionnaire responses, and on the comments and other information collected, rather than simply reflecting the views or interests of the PPSC members.

<sup>3</sup> “Planning for Real” uses a large three-dimensional model of a neighbourhood as a focus for people to put forward and prioritise ideas on how their area can be improved. It is a highly visible, hands-on, community development tool, in which people of all abilities and backgrounds find it easy and enjoyable to participate.

We believe strongly that policy and planning should as far as possible be evidence based, and our expectation now is that the County Council and other authorities give due weight to the contents of this Parish Plan.

This Parish Plan document, by necessity, contains a lot of detailed data and analysis. But we have tried to organise the document in a way that makes it as accessible as possible to as many people as possible.

With this in mind, the Parish Plan is laid out as follows:

- Chapter 2 provided all the main findings, based on the questionnaire and other consultation exercises and data gathering;
- Chapter 3 uses the main findings to present a comprehensive and long-term vision for the future development of Newchurch Parish;
- Chapter 4 brings together all the shorter-term conclusions and recommendations that emerged from the study, in the form of an action plan;
- Other information is provided in five appendices, as follows:
  - Appendix A provides a summary description of Newchurch Parish, and of its history;
  - Appendix B provides a more detailed description of the process followed in the preparation of the Parish Plan;
  - Appendix C provides further detail on the questionnaire and the detailed results obtained; and
  - Appendix D reproduces the main questionnaire that we used to gather the views of Newchurch Parish residents.

In addition to the work reported here, a separate consultation exercise has been developed that is aimed at the young people of the parish. This work is ongoing, and the results will be presented in a separate document in due course.

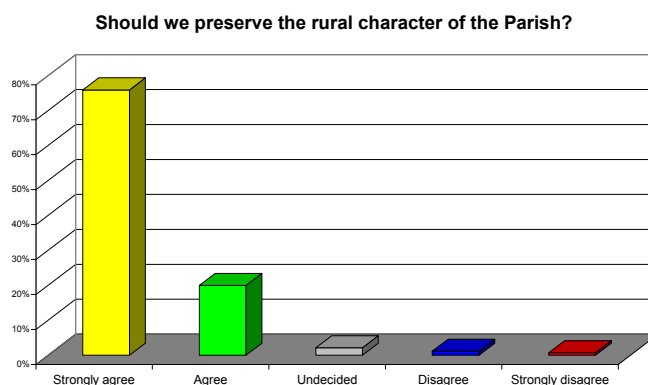
## 2. Main Findings

### 2.1 General Views on the Parish

Our questionnaire asked two initial questions aimed at uncovering peoples' general views about the Parish in which they live.

Newchurch Parish is a predominantly rural area, and one of the initial questions we asked was whether people wanted to preserve that rural character. This question received an answer in 94% of the questionnaires, and the answer given was very clear. People responding were overwhelmingly in favour of preserving the rural character of Newchurch Parish and limiting future development, as the Table 2.1.1 shows.

**Figure 2.1.1**



This finding was reinforced by all the additional written comments that people made; the vast majority of people said in these comments that they live in Newchurch Parish because they like the area and its rural peace, and that is how they want it to stay.

We regard this strong desire to keep things broadly as they are as a very decisive and important finding, and one that needs to be kept in mind throughout this report.

The questionnaire also asked about each of the main settlements within Newchurch Parish, and how people felt about the importance of preserving their individual identities. The overall responses showed strong support for some of the settlements in Newchurch Parish, but relatively little for others. Table 2.1.1 summarises the percentage of all responses that believed that the identities of each of the settlements should be preserved.

We need to interpret these overall results with caution, as they reflect the views of people generally within Newchurch Parish. If we look at how the responses varied according to where people lived we find that, within a settlement, a considerable majority of the people living there believe that its character should be preserved.

**Table 2.1.1**  
**Percentages believing the settlement identities should be preserved**

Settlement	%
Alverstone	69.9
Alverstone Garden Village	54.5
Apse Heath	46.9
Branstone	37.7
Knighton	58.3
Newchurch	79.0
Whiteley Bank	37.3
Winford	46.0

Table 2.1.2 shows the breakdown of responses according to where the respondents lived, and what those people thought about preserving the identity of their *own* settlements.

**Table 2.1.2**  
**Respondents in each settlement, and what they thought about preserving the identities of their own settlements**

Settlement	No of responses from that settlement	% of responses wishing to preserve identity
Alverstone	39	97.4%
Alverstone Garden Village	55	89.1%
Apse Heath	114	72.8%
Branstone	2	100.0%
Knighton	7	100.0%
Newchurch	85	90.6%
Whiteley Bank	16	100.0%
Winford	128	71.9%

No Planning for Real comments were received on this issue, but the questionnaire allowed people to make additional written comments on any matter, and many of these related to issues of housing and land use. These have been analysed by settlement, and the comments on specific areas largely reflected these overall comments, though with different emphasis in different areas:

- **Alverstone Garden Village:** the comments centred around the quiet rural character of the settlement, the beauty of the surrounding woodlands, and the importance of avoiding further development.
- **Alverstone:** in this case the comments focused not only on the quiet rural character of the settlement, and the beauty of the surrounding countryside (including an AONB) but also on the village atmosphere and architecture – here again, there was emphasis on the importance of avoiding further development.

- **Apse Heath:** the nature of this community is rather different, but comments still emphasised the rural character of the settlement, the fact that it had a shop and post office, and the need to avoid further infill development.
- **Branstone:** as this is a very small community, very few comments were received, and though one referred to the rural surroundings, one comment noted that there was not really a character to preserve.
- **Knighton:** this is also a small community, but the comments centred on the quiet rural character of the settlement and the surrounding countryside.
- **Newchurch:** the comments here were an amalgam of those for most of the other communities. They focused not only on the tranquil rural character of the settlement, and the beauty of the surrounding countryside, but also the friendly village atmosphere and the village amenities, including the church, the school, and the pub. Here again there was emphasis on the importance of avoiding further development.
- **Whiteley Bank:** as with Knighton, this is also a small community, and the comments centred on the quiet rural character of the settlement, the beauty of the surrounding countryside, and a significant proportion of them referred specifically to the need to avoid further development.
- **Winford:** as the most developed part of Newchurch Parish, not surprisingly a number of people commented on the gradual change that has already taken place from rural to semi-rural. Nevertheless, these comments reinforced the wish of people to now retain the settlement as it is and a significant number of people emphasised the need to avoid any further development.

These results emphasise that the people living in all of the settlements appreciate their present characters (predominantly their rural characteristics), and wish them to stay that way.

### **Conclusion and Recommendation on a General Long-term Vision for the Parish**

Based on the evidence from our work, we believe it is very clear that the predominant vision of the residents of Newchurch Parish is to maintain the existing rural character of the area.

This is a vision that is shared by substantial majorities of the residents of all the existing settlements, and we have found nothing during our work that would indicate a future vision for Newchurch Parish that diverges from this majority view.

We interpret these findings to mean that, though some *marginal* developments in terms of new housing and commercial activity may be desirable, over the longer term such developments should be on a very limited scale, and only carried out in a way that is consistent with the rural character of Newchurch Parish.

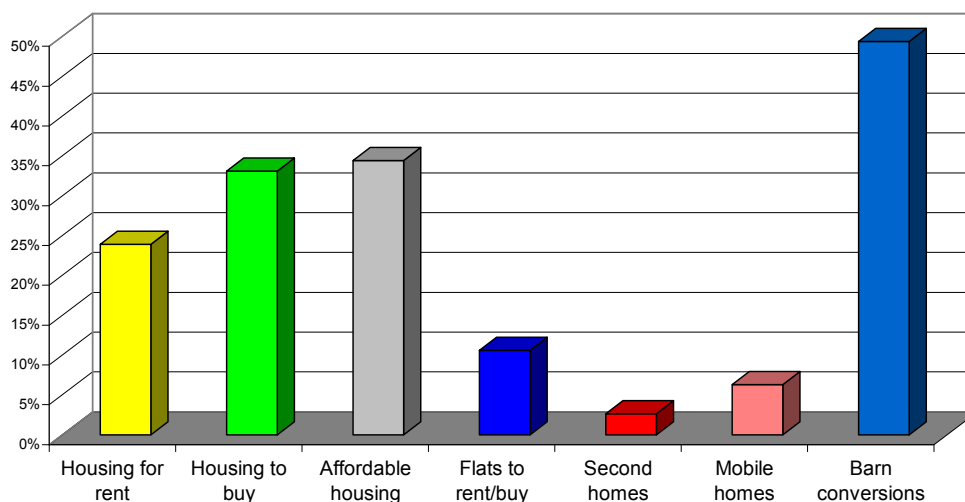
## 2.2 Housing and Land Use

Some areas of Newchurch Parish have seen substantial housing development over the last 30 years, some of it with a degree of controversy with regard to siting and the final outcome in terms of quality of the development and the facilities provided. It has already been seen in the previous section that people generally are opposed to significant development of their own areas. But an important objective of the questionnaire was to find out more generally about peoples' feelings regarding further housing development anywhere in Newchurch Parish, and Questions 3 to 5 dealt with various aspects of this.

Question 3 asked a general question about whether land within Newchurch Parish should be released for various types of housing, and in all cases the view of the majority was “no”, and this is illustrated in Figure 2.2.1.

Figure 2.2.1

### Should we have these types of housing development? Percentages of responses agreeing



It was interesting to note that the weakest opposition was expressed against barn conversions, where 49.4% agreed or strongly agreed that this is acceptable. This is believed to be because barn conversions are seen as making use of existing land and disused buildings, and so do not significantly change the rural character of the area.

After barn conversions, the strongest support – though still relatively limited – was for affordable housing, where 34.4% of responses thought that land should be released for that purpose. A small number of the additional written comments made by respondents reflected the need for affordable housing, with references to enabling children of residents to continue to live close to where they grew up. The level of support shown for housing for purchase and housing for rent was quite similar to that for affordable housing, though slightly lower, and all these results are summarised in Table 2.2.1.

**Table 2.2.1**  
**Responses to the question of whether land should be released for the purposes shown**

<b>Types of Housing</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
Barn conversions	8.6%	40.8%	18.6%	9.6%	22.4%
Affordable Housing	8.7%	25.7%	12.5%	15.5%	37.7%
Housing for purchase	5.1%	28.0%	14.9%	19.4%	32.6%
Housing for rent	4.6%	19.3%	10.9%	22.6%	42.5%

Significantly weaker support was expressed for other forms of housing, as shown in Table 2.2.2.

**Table 2.2.2**  
**Responses to the question of whether land should be released for the purposes shown**

<b>Types of Housing</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
Flats to rent/buy	1.3%	9.3%	11.7%	25.7%	52.0%
Second homes	0.3%	2.4%	4.2%	18.2%	74.9%
Mobile homes	1.6%	4.7%	6.6%	17.8%	69.3%

One of the concerns underlying our questions about housing is that there might be significant local need for additional housing, for example to enable the sons and daughters of established residents of Newchurch Parish to live locally. We therefore asked in question 4 for peoples' views on whether housing development should be restricted to local need only. This question produced a very clear answer – 77.4% of people believed that housing development should be restricted to local need only, with only 14% disagreeing with this proposition. Only a very small number of Planning for Real comments were received on any housing issue, and none related to housing need of any sort. But, as noted above, the additional written comments we received on the questionnaires strongly supported this view.



**The new Winford Estate today**

Some areas of Newchurch Parish have seen substantial housing development over the last 30 years, and the most recent and striking example of this has been the development in the Winford area. Winford has seen substantial development of relatively high-density housing, including flats, and many people consider this development to be out of keeping with the local area.

This development has attracted considerable controversy, both for its scale (in what was a predominantly rural area), and for the almost-total lack of amenities for the new

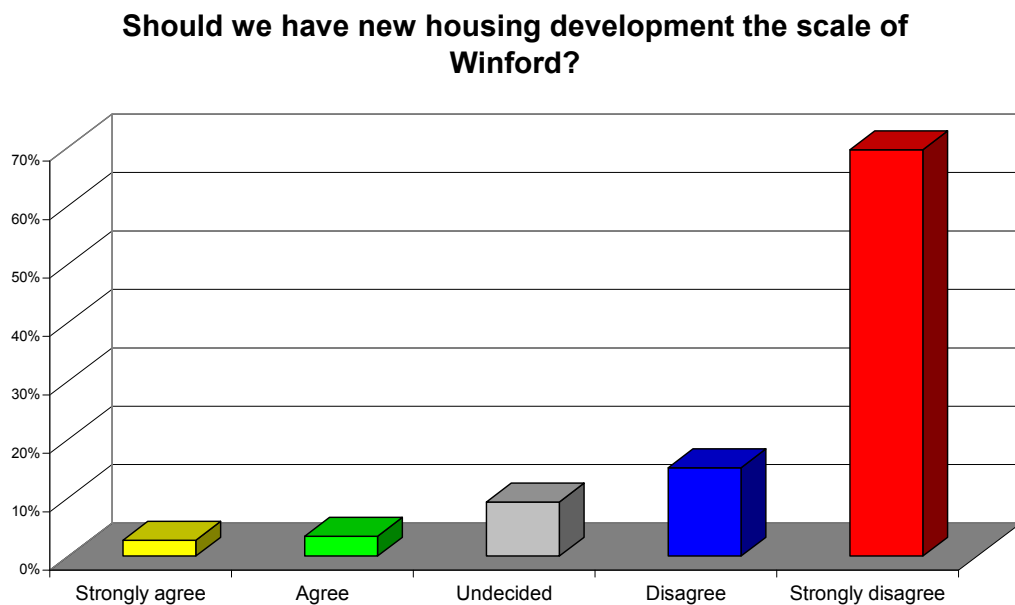


residents. A significant number of the additional comments received related to this lack of amenities, and the fact that people feel let down by the indifference of the authorities to this lack of amenities.

To test opinion on the issue of further major development of this sort, we asked in question 5 about whether people felt that, over the next 10 years, it would be acceptable for there to be another housing development on the scale of Winford. Perhaps not surprisingly in the light of views that are often expressed locally, an overwhelming majority were against the idea of another housing development on the scale of Winford, with 85% of people overall disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. Figure 2.2.2 shows the full results, and these findings are, of course, consistent with the views expressed earlier on retaining the rural character of Newchurch Parish. This opposition to a major development on the scale of Winford was universal across all the eight separate communities. This leads us to conclude that future housing development in Newchurch Parish should as far as possible be limited to serving local need, and that some if it may need to be affordable or social housing. It was not within the scope of our work to carry out a housing needs survey, to determine the need for affordable housing, but we recommend that such a survey should be carried out by the relevant authorities.

No Planning for Real comments were received on this issue of major new development, but a significant number of the additional comments received also underlined the opposition to another Winford type development.

**Figure 2.2.2**



## **Conclusions and Recommendations on Land Use and Housing**

Based on the evidence obtained from our work, we believe it is clear that the vast majority of the people in Newchurch Parish want to see the characters of their own settlements, and of Newchurch Parish as a whole, preserved very much as they are at present.

The general views expressed were that if there were to be additional housing development then it should be:

- limited in extent;
- achieved by small developments integrated into existing settlements; and
- focused on providing affordable housing to rent or buy for people with links to Newchurch Parish.

It was not within the scope of our work to carry out a housing needs survey, to determine the need for affordable housing, but we recommend that such a survey should be carried out by the relevant authorities, so that the genuine need for additional affordable housing in Newchurch Parish can be objectively determined.

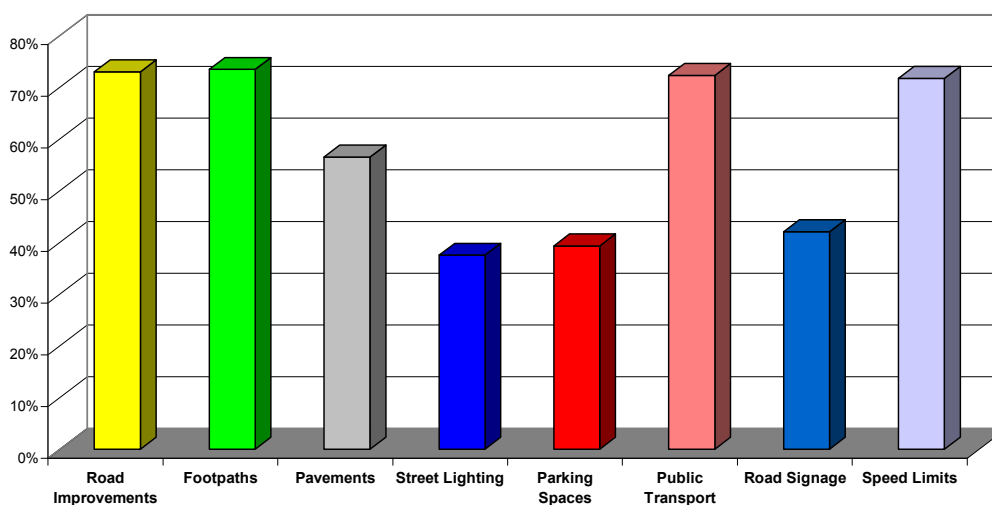
## 2.3 Highways and Transport

Though there are very limited major roads through Newchurch Parish, it is well known that there are several junctions that cause serious and continuing concern to people. Similarly, because Newchurch Parish is a rural area, transport is a key concern for many people, and there is an on-going debate about public transport provision. For these reasons, we felt it important for the questionnaire and other consultation to address a range of highways and transport issues. The highways and transport results from the Planning for Real exercise were quite striking: of almost 150 comments and suggestions received, over half, 79, related to transport and traffic matters. These covered a wide range of issues, and this confirms our view that this is key area of concern for residents.

The section of our questionnaire dealing with highways and transport issues began, in question 11(a), by asking if there should be more of a range of features that are listed below in Figure 2.3.1. The percentages shown in the figure are for Newchurch parish as a whole, and represent the totals for those who strongly agreed or agreed in each case.

Figure 2.3.1

### Should we have more of the following in the Parish? Percentages Agreeing



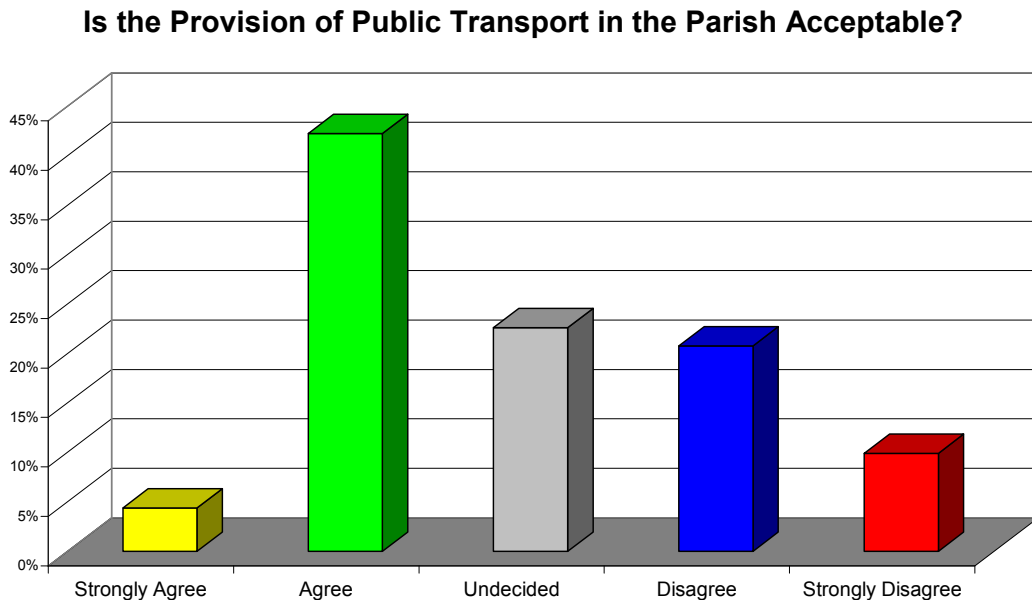
These responses showed some striking results:

- a) **Road Improvements:** 73% of the respondents agreed with the need for improvements, with only 15% disagreeing.
- b) **Footpaths:** 69% agreed with the idea of more footpaths, while 27% disagreed.
- c) **Pavements:** 56% agreed with the need for more pavements while 27% disagreed.
- d) **Street Lighting:** only 37% felt there should be more street lighting, while as many as 45% disagreed.
- e) **Parking Spaces:** 40% agreed with the need for more parking spaces, and 35% disagreed.

- f) **Public Transport:** 72% thought there should be more public transport provided in Newchurch Parish, while only 11% disagreed.
- g) **Road Signage:** opinion here was relatively evenly split, with 41% agreeing and disagreeing.
- h) **Speed Limits:** 72% agreed there should be more speed limits, while only 19% disagreed.

The questionnaire also asked in question 13 if the provision of public transport in Newchurch Parish was acceptable, and Figure 2.3.2 summarises the results in detail. This shows that 47% agreed it was acceptable, and that 31% thought it was not, although it must be noted that the response to this question appears in conflict with the answer given in question 11, where over 70% said we should have more public transport (see Figure 2.3.1).

**Figure 2.3.2**



It is notable that the only comment on public transport that we received from our consultation with businesses expressed the view that they generally considered themselves to be quite well served.

The questionnaire went on to ask in question 14 what would encourage people to use Public Transport more. The most commonly proposed factors are given in the following list:

- a) More regular bus services particularly early and late.
- b) Services from Newchurch Parish to Shanklin.
- c) Cheaper fares particularly for Island residents.
- d) Connections (from Newchurch Parish) with Islandline trains.

- e) More bus shelters and safer places to wait.
- f) If there were still a train service to Newport and Cowes.

The questionnaire then asked for comments and opinions about specific road improvements, asking in question 12 for respondents to name two roads which they would like to see improved. It is significant that a number of respondents expressed the view: “leave the roads alone – we live in the countryside”, while others just suggested that general improvements be carried out to the roads surfaces, or that what was needed was better traffic management (such as traffic calming or traffic lights) rather than better roads. Many people suggested that all that was really required was for regular maintenance to avoid pot holes.



**Potholes are a common sight around the Parish**

Of the responses that suggested specific road improvements, a number of locations stood out in prominence, though none of them would come as any surprise:

1. the largest number of individual comments was about the Apse Heath cross roads, with some specifically suggesting traffic lights;
2. the next largest numbers of individual comments related to both the road junction at Knighton Shute to the Downs Road, and Branstone Cross; and
3. a number of other locations were also mentioned, in particular Hairpin Bend and the Fighting Cocks crossroads.

A frequent comment was exasperation at the County Council for (i) carrying out expensive improvements on some roads (for example Canteen Road) that only served to make the roads faster and more dangerous, while (ii) failing to carry out basic maintenance on other many other roads.



**The Knighton Shute and Downs Rd junction**



**The Newport Rd junction at Apse Heath**



**The Newport Rd junction at Branstone Cross**

Question 19 of the questionnaire identified a number of possible projects within Newchurch Parish on which views were sought, and twelve of these came into the highways and transport category. The projects listed in this question included the four already referred to above as being raised by respondents in question 12. Table 2.3.1 summarises the answers for each of the 12 specific projects.

**Table 2.3.1**  
**Responses to the question about specific road improvement projects**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
Relief road, Scotchells Brook	11.0%	21.8%	38.1%	12.5%	16.5%
Improve junction, Knighton Shute	36.9%	35.0%	16.2%	7.9%	3.9%
Improve junction, Branstone Cross	30.8%	36.9%	16.9%	12.7%	2.7%
Improve junction, Apse Heath	41.2%	29.0%	14.1%	13.6%	2.1%
Improve road, Queenbower to AGV	15.9%	23.1%	20.7%	22.1%	18.3%
Branstone Cross	18.1%	28.4%	16.7%	22.7%	14.1%
Footpath, Apse Heath, Alverstone Road	22.6%	37.8%	17.1%	14.0%	8.6%
Reactive speed signs, Winford	32.9%	32.7%	15.6%	13.0%	5.7%
Pavement, Newchurch village	17.5%	33.9%	27.7%	13.2%	7.7%
Reactive speed signs, Newchurch	30.7%	35.7%	15.0%	11.9%	6.7%
Car park, Alverstone	24.5%	45.2%	14.4%	9.2%	6.8%
Newchurch School Mini-bus	27.9%	43.1%	21.4%	5.2%	2.4%

The questionnaire finally went on to ask about opinions on other aspects within the highways and transport category. Naturally they tend to be specific to the various settlements within Newchurch Parish. It would not be practical to list every comment but it is possible to identify a number of commonly stated opinions for each settlement that are not previously mentioned, and these are listed below.

For each of the settlements, the issues commonly mentioned were as follows:

#### **Alverstone**

- a) **Speed limit of 20mph through village.**
- b) Public transport throughout day.
- c) More footpaths (though some existing ones are rarely used).
- d) If a car park was provided at Alverstone it should not be at the expense of double yellow lines through village.
- e) Repair damaged road surfaces promptly.

#### **Alverstone Garden Village**

- a) Public transport all day.
- b) Relocate electricity pole at Queenbower away from road (has been struck many times by vehicles).
- c) General road improvements and repairs.
- d) Provide parking in Alverstone.

#### **Apse Heath**

- a) Enforcement of speed limits.
- b) Resurfacing of Ventnor Road to Princelett.
- c) Street lighting particularly in Ventnor Road.
- d) Pavement Ventnor Road and Newport Road.

It should be noted that in responses to other parts of the questionnaire strong general

opposition was expressed to additional street lighting.

### **Branstone**

- a) Footpath or pavement Branstone to Apse Heath.
- b) Mini roundabout at Branstone Cross.

### **Knighton**

- a) Improvements to Lower Knighton Lane (widen for free flow of traffic ).
- b) General surface improvements.
- c) Reduction of traffic speeds.
- d) Speed limit on Downs Road approaching Knighton Shute and improved warning signs.

### **Newchurch**

- a) Speed limit of 20mph through village.
- b) Enforcement of speed limits.
- c) Pavements through village where there are currently none.
- d) General improvements to road surfaces.
- e) Improved public transport throughout day.
- f) Clarify road markings.
- g) Removal of traffic bottlenecks ( pinch points ).
- h) Removal of dangerous bend near Mersley Farm.

It should be noted that items a) to d) formed a consistent response from many individuals.

### **Whiteley Bank**

- a) Lower the speed limits in Canteen Road.
- b) Pavement or path alongside Canteen Road.
- c) Improve drainage along Canteen Road.

### **Winford**

- a) Enforcement of speed limits particularly along Alverstone Road.
- b) Footpaths or pavements alongside busy stretches of road.
- c) Improvements to Hairpin Bend.
- d) Maintenance of road surfaces.
- e) Improve vision when exiting Parkway into Alverstone Road and warning signs when approaching Parkway from along Alverstone Road.
- f) Repeat 30mph signs along Alverstone Road.

It is notable that a lack of footpaths or pavements was a common theme in our responses, and this was also a point raised in one of our few comments from businesses.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations on Transport, Roads, and Pedestrian Footways**

Based on the evidence from our work, it is clear that roads issues, and traffic speeds in particular, are important and emotive issues right across Newchurch Parish. Newchurch Parish is a rural area with only a few major roads running through it, and people do not expect to see A-road quality roads throughout Newchurch Parish. Indeed, many express the concern that too many road improvements lead to faster traffic speeds, making the roads more dangerous. At the same time, there is a strong desire to see:

- (i) improvements to road surfaces generally, as in many cases there has been rapid deterioration caused by the impact of higher traffic flows on lightly constructed rural roads, and
- (ii) major improvements at a small number of locations, such as the Knighton Shute - Downs Road junction, and the Apse Heath crossroads.

Indeed, it is clear from our consultations that many people find it difficult to understand why so many years have passed without any significant action at these obvious trouble spots.

Based on the results of our consultation, we also believe that the whole issue of public transport in Newchurch Parish needs to be addressed and long-term decisions made.

With the results from our consultations, we put forward a range of recommendations for action on these highways and transportation matters. We have divided these recommendations into major works, which we anticipate will be costly and so take longer to achieve, and more minor works that we believe could be done relatively quickly. We believe that Newchurch Parish Council and Isle of Wight Council in partnership should pursue both categories as a matter of priority.

### ***Major Action Points***

- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Knighton Shute junction;
- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Branstone Cross junction;
- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Apse Heath junction.
- A general programme of improvements to road surfaces should be carried out throughout Newchurch Parish;
- A detailed review of public transport need should be carried out, with a view to investigating the possibilities for improvements in frequency and pricing.

### ***Minor Action Points***

We have put forward, in the Action Plan in chapter 4, recommendations for a range of other improvements, including a general review of speed limits, with a view to lowering them in key areas, more effective enforcement of limits, and provision of additional pavements or footpaths beside busy stretches of road.



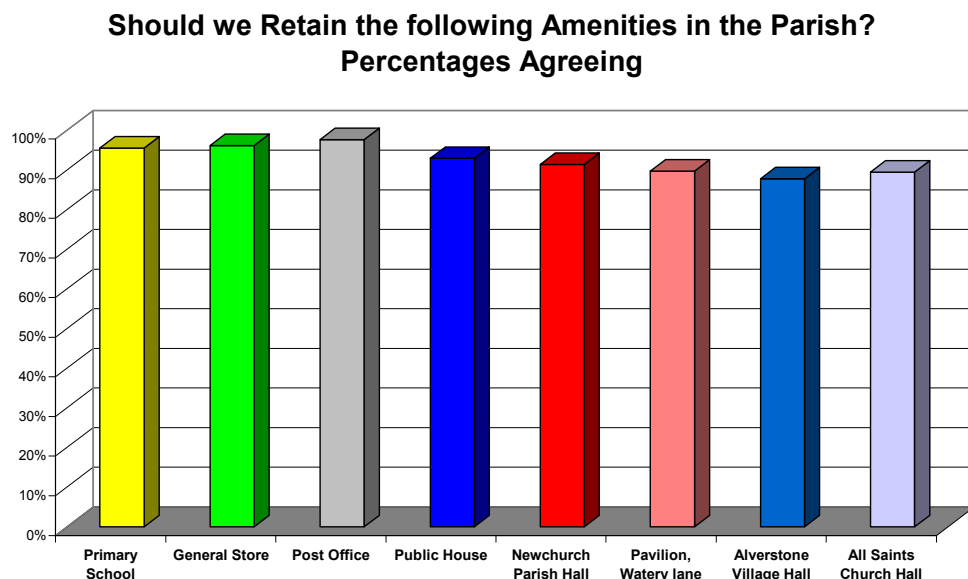
## 2.4 Recreation and Other Amenities in the Parish

As a rural area, Newchurch Parish is inevitably less well provided with recreation and other amenities than would be found in urban areas. We considered that an important area for investigation in Newchurch Parish was that of amenities generally, and in particular recreation and leisure amenities, and so a significant part of our questionnaire was devoted to this. Questions 15 to 17 dealt with a range of amenity issues, while parts of question 19 also asked about specific amenities, and we report on all these below.

### 2.4.1 Existing Amenities in Newchurch Parish

Question 16 of our questionnaire asked about a list of existing general amenities around Newchurch Parish, and whether people agreed that they should be retained. The results showed a very strong level of support for all these amenities, as Figure 2.4.1 shows.

Figure 2.4.1



The lowest level of support expressed for any of these amenities was for Alverstone Village Hall, but at around 88% even that must be regarded as overwhelming.



Alverstone Village Hall



Newchurch Parish Hall



Newchurch Church Hall

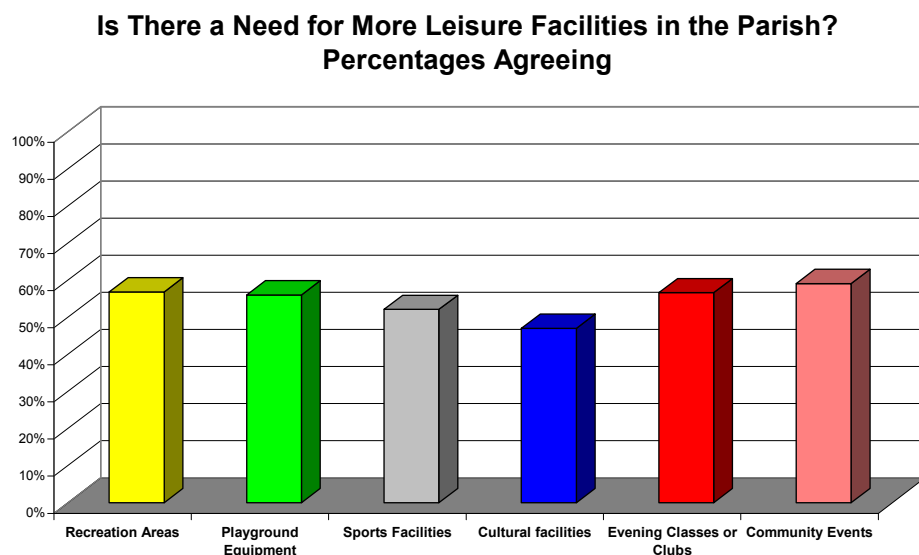
Of particular note are post office facilities, the general store, and the primary school, which had levels of support of 97.7%, 96.2%, and 95.6% respectively. This gives a very clear message about the very great importance that people attach to these facilities. We therefore strongly recommend that this message should be taken on board by the relevant policy makers in their future work.

## 2.4.2 Additional Leisure Facilities

Question 15 asked about people’s participation in clubs or societies in Newchurch Parish, and a rather disappointing 23.1% said that they did participate in this way. On the other hand, this low level of participation is not perhaps surprising, as anecdotal evidence from a number of local organisations suggest they have difficulties from time to time in recruiting new members.

We also asked (in Question 17) whether people felt there was a need for more specific leisure facilities, and Figure 2.4.2 summarises the responses.

**Figure 2.4.2**



What is notable from these figures is that as regards sports facilities and cultural facilities people are fairly equally divided, with only around 50% believing more are required. This perhaps reflects that:



**The Pavilion, Watery Lane**

- there is already provision by the NPS&CA within Newchurch Parish of a sports field and pavilion at Watery Lane, and a public open space at Newchurch Village, as well as other sports facilities (eg a swimming pool and gym) a little further afield; and

- quite a wide range of local clubs and societies are in operation, ranging through an Art Club, two choirs, WI, football clubs, and Astronomical Society.

Despite this relative lack of interest in expanding some types of facilities, the results do show that there is a stronger degree of interest in expanding other types of amenities and activities, in particular recreation areas for children, playground equipment, and community events. The results of the Planning for Real exercise in respect of community facilities and leisure indicated keen interest in improving things. A total of 35 comments out of 150 related to such facilities. Though they covered a wide range of topics, the single largest number of comments were for playground facilities for children.

It is notable from the questionnaire analysis that the views expressed vary significantly by location around Newchurch Parish, reflecting the differing population profiles in the different settlements. The results of responses to this question broken down by settlement are shown in Table 2.4.1.

**Table 2.4.1**  
**The Need for More Leisure Facilities, by Area**

	Recreation Areas	Playground Equipment	Sports Facilities	Cultural Facilities	Evening Classes or Clubs	Community Events
Alverstone	36.1%	44.4%	33.3%	38.9%	48.6%	52.8%
Alverstone Garden Village	41.5%	37.7%	36.5%	33.3%	41.2%	43.1%
Apse Heath	65.7%	60.8%	61.9%	49.4%	69.3%	68.7%
Newchurch	42.6%	51.5%	41.8%	42.2%	52.1%	49.3%
Whiteley Bank	50.0%	40.0%	60.0%	60.0%	53.3%	50.0%
Winford	73.0%	69.9%	61.5%	55.7%	59.1%	66.7%

*Note: Branstone and Knighton have been omitted because of the small sample sizes*

Table 2.4.1 shows very clearly that:

- the expressed need for more recreation areas is very high in Winford and Aps Heath, and that, for example, the levels of need expressed are more than twice as high in Winford than in Alverstone;
- similarly, the expressed need for more playground equipment is significantly higher in Aps Heath and Winford than other areas, though the variation in the percentages is not so wide as in the case of recreation areas;
- this pattern a higher level of expressed need in Winford and Aps Heath is fairly general across all the types of leisure facilities that we asked about, though with smaller differences in many cases.

We believe this finding is a very significant one, and reinforces the long-expressed need for additional facilities in the Winford and Aps Heath areas, which are the areas where the populations of children and young people are concentrated. This finding was also reinforced by the additional written comments that people made on the questionnaires. More than half of all the comments made by the residents of Aps

Heath and Winford were to suggest more facilities for children and young people, in particular pointing to the need for a children’s playground and a youth club.

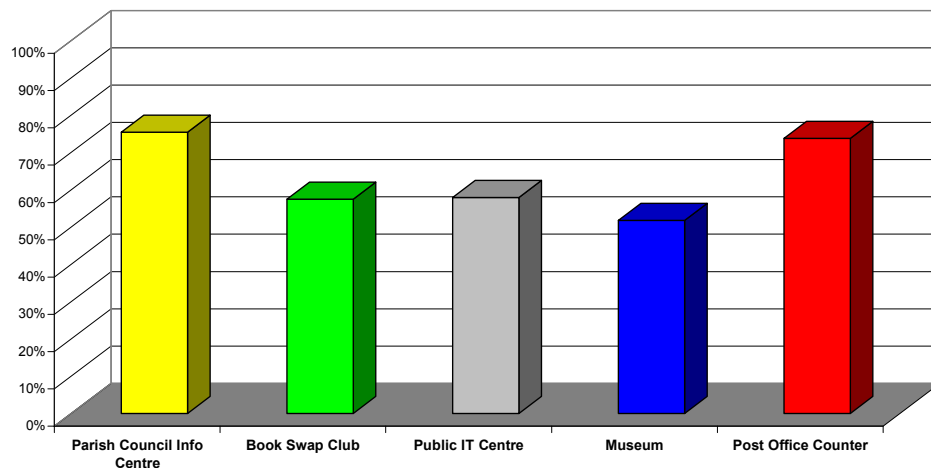
We therefore recommend that the relevant authorities, as a matter of urgency, increase their efforts to make provision for additional recreation and playground facilities in the Winford and Apse Heath area.

### 2.4.3 Other Possible Amenity Developments

We also asked a number of other questions elsewhere in the questionnaire about the development of amenities. For example, we asked about possible development for other uses of the Parish Hall in Newchurch village, and Figure 2.4.3 summarises the responses.

**Figure 2.4.3**

**Should the Parish Hall be Developed into the Following?  
Percentages Agreeing**



These responses showed that there was support for a number of possible uses, in particular as a Parish Council Information Centre, and as a Post Office counter, which were both supported by over 75% of responses. The latter idea has now been taken up on a part-time basis, but we also recommend that Newchurch Parish Council now considers the information centre option. The Parish Hall’s use as a book swap club and an IT centre attracted support of around 58% of responses, and these could also be considered by the Parish Council.

The possibility of a mobile youth club was one of the specific additional leisure amenities that we asked about in question 19. Overall, this was supported only by around 42% of people in Newchurch Parish, though among the residents of Winford and Apse Heath the support was a little higher, at around 50%. Only small numbers of comments were received on amenity issues in the Planning for Real exercise, but it is interesting that provision of a youth club was something that was suggested by a small number of people.

A possible local community minibus and a dedicated school minibus for Newchurch Primary School were two other amenities that we asked about, and overall levels of support for these ideas were 62.6% and 71% respectively. Community transport generally was something that was proposed by a small number of people in the Planning for Real exercise.

The questionnaire results strongly supporting the idea of a school minibus seem a little surprising, given that several buses already bring children to the school, but we nevertheless recommend that the relevant authorities pursue both of these ideas. The level of support for the school minibus idea was at broadly similar levels in most areas of Newchurch Parish, but it is interesting to note from Table 2.4.2 that the strongest levels of support generally come from Winford and Apse Heath, probably reflecting their population profiles and relative isolation and lack of facilities. However, it is also interesting to note Newchurch village's strong support for a school minibus. We believe this reflects the concerns of residents of the village about the traffic congestion that is common at school starting and finishing times, resulting from the large number of parents who drive their children to school. This seems to further support our recommendation that this is an idea that should be pursued; it is clear that it would not only help parents, but also improve the quality of life on Newchurch village residents.

**Table 2.4.2**  
**Percentages of people wanting to see a community minibus, and**  
**a minibus for Newchurch Primary School children**

Settlement	Community Minibus (%)	Newchurch School Minibus (%)
Alverstone	51.3	67.6
Alverstone Garden Village	55.8	69.2
Apse Heath	68.5	76.4
Knighton	42.9	33.3
Newchurch	59.2	72.5
Whiteley Bank	56.2	50.0
Winford	67.5	71.7

*Note: Branstone has been omitted from this table due to the small sample size.*

## **Conclusions and Recommendations on Recreation and Other Amenities in the Parish**

Based on the evidence from our work, we have put forward above a number of conclusions and recommendations; some relate to a longer-term vision for Newchurch Parish, and others are shorter-term action points.

### ***Longer-term Vision for Newchurch Parish***

In the light of the overwhelmingly high levels of support expressed for the following amenities, we strongly recommend that the relevant authorities take this into account when developing policy that might affect their futures:

- the existing post office facilities;
- the general store;
- Newchurch Primary School;
- the Pointer Inn
- Newchurch Parish Hall;
- the Pavilion at Watery Lane;
- All Saints' Church Hall; and
- Alverstone Village Hall.

### ***Short-term Action Points***

In view of the clear desire for a number of additional amenities in Newchurch Parish, we set out in the action plan in chapter 4 a number of items that we believe should be pursued by the relevant authorities in the short to medium term. These include playground and recreation facilities in the Winford and Apse Heath area (which we believe is a matter of urgency), options for a community minibus and a dedicated minibus to serve Newchurch Primary School, and options for alternative uses for the Parish Hall.

## 2.5 Tourism and Other Commercial Activities

As the vast majority of Newchurch Parish is rural in character, there is relatively little existing commercial activity. The main light industrial activity in Newchurch Parish is largely limited to two areas: the Langbridge area of Newchurch village has a small industrial area that has developed in the former produce packing buildings at the site; and the Sandown Airport site, which also has some areas of light industrial activity. Aside from these areas of light industrial activity, other business activity in Newchurch Parish is mostly limited to agriculture, and to tourism related activities.



**The Langbridge Industrial area in Newchurch Village**



**Sandown Airport at Scotchells Brook**

To try to achieve a balanced set of views on the future for commercial activity in Newchurch Parish, we collected evidence in two main ways:

- our questionnaire asked for people's views on a number of aspects of commercial activity, both general and specific; and
- we also contacted all the significant businesses in Newchurch Parish to invite them to give us their views on any issues of concern to them.

The Planning for Real exercise carried out at our June consultation day also offered people the opportunity to comment on commercial issues, though we found that only a handful of relevant comments were received on this subject. These comments related to suggestions for community services, such as a community nursery and gardening services, but other comments received supported the view that people feel the rural nature of the area should be preserved and not given over to commercial activities.

In the rest of this section we report the findings from all these evidence gathering exercises, and present our conclusions.

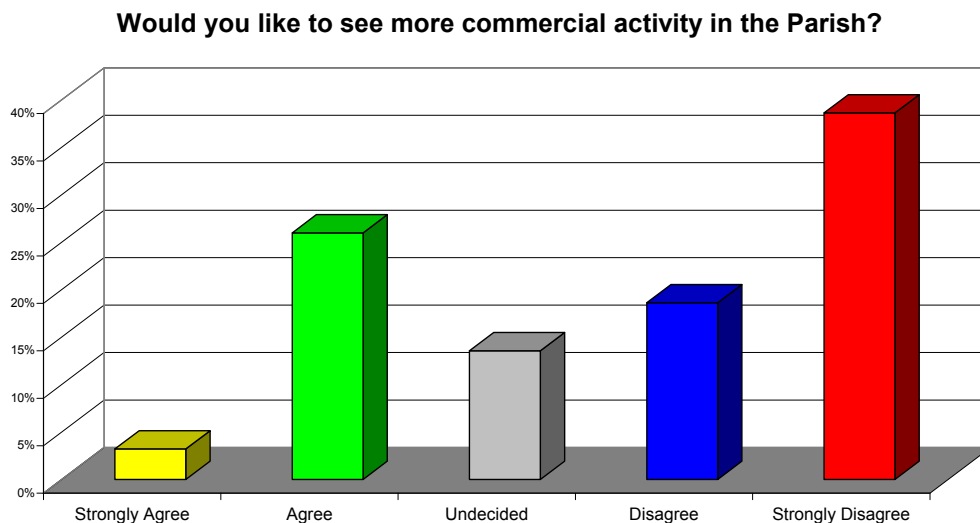
### 2.5.1 Evidence from the Questionnaire

Our questionnaire contained a number of questions about tourism and commercial activity. Questions 6 to 10 asked for views on commercial activity, employment, and tourism, and question 19 asked for views on the Sandown Airport site, which is an important potential area for expansion of a range of commercial activities in the future.

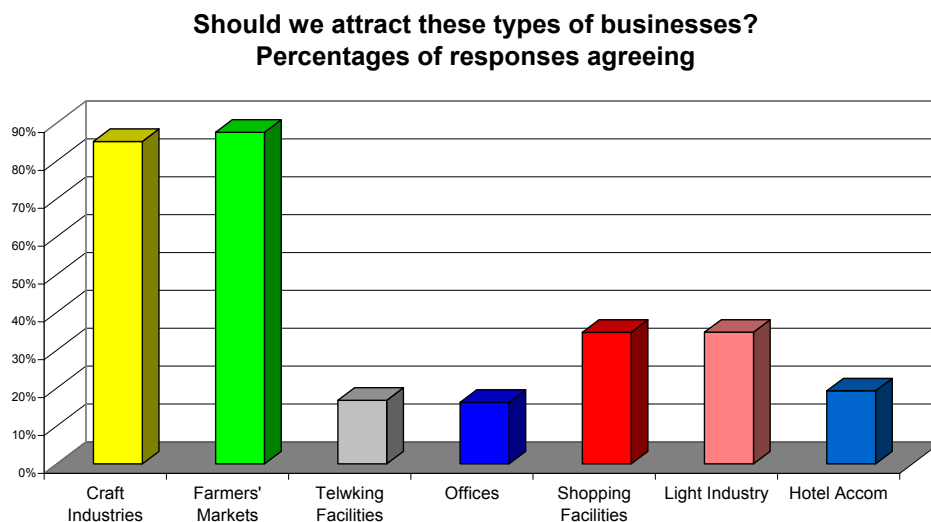
To gauge general opinions, we asked people, in question 7, if they would like to see more commercial activity in Newchurch Parish, and the results are depicted in Figure 2.5.1. This shows that only around 29% of people say they would like to see more commercial activity, while over 57% are against the idea, and the remaining 14% undecided. These results are, of course, fully consistent with the views people expressed on development generally, and the expressed desire to preserve the rural character of Newchurch Parish.

We also asked what type of commercial activity it would be appropriate to attract, and the responses to this reflect the general dislike of commercial activity expressed in the answers to question 7. As shown in Figure 2.5.2, the strongest support is for craft industries and farmers' markets, both at over 80%. In contrast, for all the other types of commercial activity that we asked about the support from respondents was 35% or less.

**Figure 2.5.1**



**Figure 2.5.2**

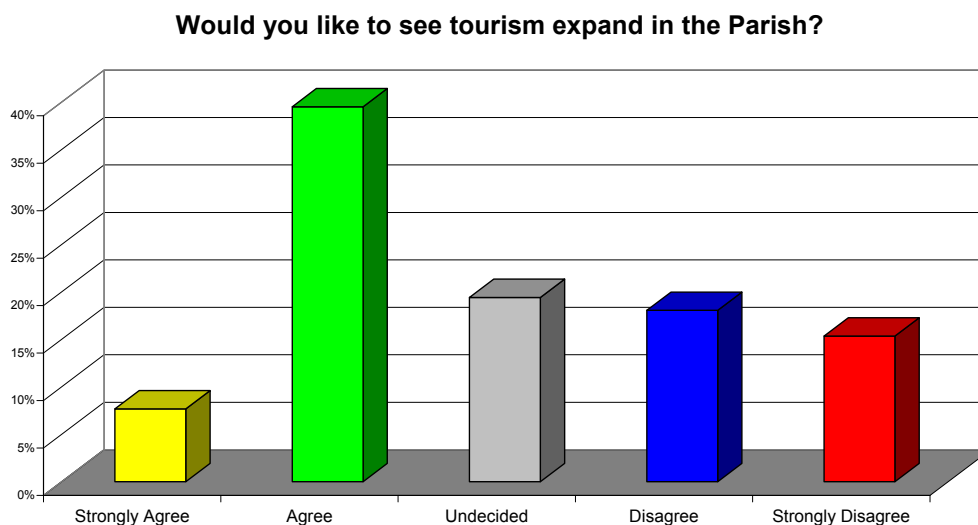




Question 8 of the questionnaire asked for peoples' views on creating job opportunities in Newchurch Parish, focusing on what types of jobs people thought needed to be created. The responses to this question produced a relatively balanced response, with quite strong interest for most types of jobs, except for clerical jobs. It needs to be pointed out that there seems some degree of contradiction between the answers to question 6, indicating that there is quite strong support for more jobs to be created, and the answers to question 7 indicating that most people would not like to see more commercial activity in Newchurch Parish. We believe that the most probable reason for this apparent contradiction is that people would like to see more jobs created for those living in Newchurch Parish, but not at the expense of increase commercial activity within Newchurch Parish.

With regard to tourism activities, we asked people, in question 9, if they would like to see an increase in the level of tourism in Newchurch Parish, and this produced some interesting results, as shown in Figure 2.5.3. Altogether, a little less than half of people said they would like to see it expand, against 33% who would not like to see it expand, and 19% who were undecided.

**Figure 2.5.3**



Finally, we asked in question 10 about the types of tourism-related activities that people would like to see encouraged, listing a range of possible types of activity. The responses to this question are summarised in Table 2.5.1, and this shows very clearly that there is:

- very strong support for types of activities that people see as compatible with the rural character of Newchurch Parish, such as nature trails, adventure trails, and equestrian activities (and to a lesser extent B&Bs and camp sites); and
- very weak support for types of activity, such as hotel accommodation, that people do not see as compatible.

**Table 2.5.1**  
**Should we encourage the following types of tourism activities?**

<b>Types of Activity</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
Shopping Facilities	10.7%	31.3%	17.3%	23.4%	17.3%
B&B Accommodation	14.1%	62.8%	11.1%	4.7%	7.3%
Self-catering units	6.5%	27.4%	15.3%	27.4%	23.3%
Hotel Accommodation	4.9%	22.3%	17.5%	28.6%	26.7%
Camping Sites	8.9%	46.4%	17.0%	13.4%	14.3%
Nature Trails	40.3%	51.7%	2.7%	1.9%	3.4%
Adventure Trails	35.0%	47.1%	7.9%	4.6%	5.4%
Equestrian Activities	24.3%	45.5%	17.9%	6.4%	6.0%

A specific issue with regard to commercial development within Newchurch Parish that has created some controversy in recent years is development at Sandown Airport, and so we asked about this specific issue in question 19. The results from this are summarised in Table 2.5.2.

**Table 2.5.2**  
**Should there be the following types of development at Sandown Airport?**

<b>Types of Development</b>	<b>Agree or Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree or Strongly Disagree</b>
Tourism and Recreation	58.3%	13.6%	28.1%
Industry	33.6%	17.5%	48.9%
Housing	18.0%	16.8%	65.2%
Commercial Aviation	38.1%	17.7%	44.1%

These results show that none of these types of development are supported by a majority of people, except for development for use for tourism and recreation, which is supported by 58.3%. It is interesting to compare these results with the result from question 7, where it was found that only 29% of people expressed support for more commercial activity in Newchurch Parish generally.

Some of the responses relating to development of the airport site for commercial aviation varied quite significantly depending where people live. For example, of the people living in Apse Heath and Alverstone, who are relatively heavily affected by aircraft movements, only 28% and 26% respectively thought the site should be developed for commercial aviation, while in Knighton, whose position means it is relatively less affected by aircraft noise, the percentage rises to 50%.

A quite limited number of the additional comments made by respondents to the questionnaire related to commercial activity, and these can be summarised as follows:

- **AGV:** no comment on any aspect of tourism or commercial development, except to suggest the possibility of a tea room at Alverstone. There were,

however, several adverse comments about the noise from aircraft from the airport and the lack of control of aircraft routing.

- **Alverstone:** emphasised the rural character, with little specific comment on any aspect of tourism or commercial development, except to say there should be no development. There were references to possible in-keeping development of businesses, with a reference to the Isle of Wight Cheese Company. However, here also there were several adverse comments about the noise from aircraft from the airport.
- **Apse Heath:** again emphasised the importance of retaining the rural nature of the area, to avoid development, except for development such as a community centre or health centre, and craft activities, etc. There were, however, a significant number of adverse comments about aircraft noise and the need to avoid further development.
- **Newchurch:** some comments stressed that the pub/restaurant and part-time Post Office should be preserved, and perhaps a shop provided, but otherwise there was emphasis only on preserving the rural nature of the community. There were adverse comments about aircraft from Sandown Airport, and the need to avoid development at the airport.
- **Whiteley Bank:** comments focused on its rural character, and emphasised the need to avoid further development, with a specific reference to the need to avoid development of Sandown Airport.
- **Winford:** peoples' comments here reflected the rural surroundings of the settlement, and the only references to development of any kind were to the fact that, as parts of Winford were now semi-urban it was important to avoid any more moves in that direction, with no more major development and no more in-filling. A number of people commented adversely about development of the airport, and one suggested that on the basis of present aircraft noise all further development of the airport should be stopped and the runway closed.

### 2.5.2 Evidence from the Consultation with Businesses

As noted above, we invited comments from all the major businesses listed as operating within Newchurch Parish. These businesses included agriculture and horticulture, retail activities, light industry, and some tourism activities, such as camp sites. We did not attempt to include B&B or other types of rented holiday accommodation within the consultation.

The results from this consultation exercise were rather disappointing, as only two businesses sent us written comments. These comments dealt with:

- planning issues, the predominant point being from a camp site experiencing planning issues with respect to an adjoining property;
- concern about the absence of a pavement in the road outside the business; and
- a comment on public transport that expressed general satisfaction with the existing provision.

This rather limited response was, of course, disappointing bearing in mind the wide-spread coverage of the consultation letter. However, as these were businesses based in Newchurch Parish we anticipate that the majority of the owners will previously

have had the opportunity to submit comments in the household questionnaire and so may not have wished to comment further. Overall, therefore, we are satisfied that that our responses overall adequately take into account the views of businesses.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations on Tourism and Other Commercial Activities**

Based on the evidence we have collected, we believe that a number of conclusions can be drawn and recommendations made:

- in general, the vast majority of residents would not like to see significant expansion of commercial activity within Newchurch Parish, except for limited expansion in the areas listed below – this is fully consistent with the vision for Newchurch Parish as predominantly rural in character;
- the limited additional commercial activities that would be widely supported are:
  - craft industries;
  - farmers’ market; and
  - limited tourism activities of certain types, such as nature trails, equestrian activities, bed and breakfast accommodation, and camp sites.
- development of commercial aviation at the Sandown Airport site was supported by less than 40% of people generally, and this support was significantly weaker, at under 30%, among those areas that are particularly adversely affected by existing aviation activities. This was a common source of criticism in the additional comments made, and plans to develop airport operations at Sandown Airport came in for particular criticism from a number of the settlements, with none of the comments expressing support;
- in parallel with the criticisms of airport development at Sandown Airport, there was also opposition to new commercial activity development there, though we found that tourism and recreation activities there would be supported by a majority of people.

We do not have any short-term action plan items in this area.

## 2.6 Conservation in the Parish

Newchurch Parish is a predominantly rural area with areas of outstanding beauty, and also has a rich history with a number of historic buildings, as Appendix A illustrates. Though it does not contain any conservation areas, the Isle of Wight Council's Conservation and Design Team have noted that it does have the potential for such a designation.

The team report a total of 40 listed entries for buildings and elements of the built environment assigned to the Parish of Newchurch, and these include individual milestones, a sundial, All Saints Church, and Princelett Farmhouse (a Domesday settlement).

We therefore thought it right that our questionnaire should deal with a range of specific conservation issues. The responses showed that Newchurch Parish's inhabitants not only support the retention of this rural aspect, but also place great emphasis on the principle of conservation and amenity protection.



**The Sundial in  
Newchurch  
Churchyard.**



**The Historic Centre of Newchurch Village.  
All Saints' Church and the Pointer Inn.**

Consistent with that general desire to retain the rural character, we have also found in the more detailed results a strong public recognition that Newchurch Parish's character and quality of life can be further strengthened if all aspects of environmental protection are encouraged. In this section of the report we outline the present situation regarding the specific conservation issues raised, and provide where possible details of known remedial and long term improvement measures already underway. We hope that this environmental update will stimulate further interest and support for the preservation and maintenance of Newchurch Parish's rural heritage and provide necessary input so that the Island Plan will genuinely recognise Newchurch Parish's grassroots concerns.

Question 18 of our questionnaire contained a total of eleven conservation-related questions, ranging from the natural and built environment, and including recycling and pollution issues. We deal with each of these in turn below.

### 2.6.1 The Natural and Built Environment

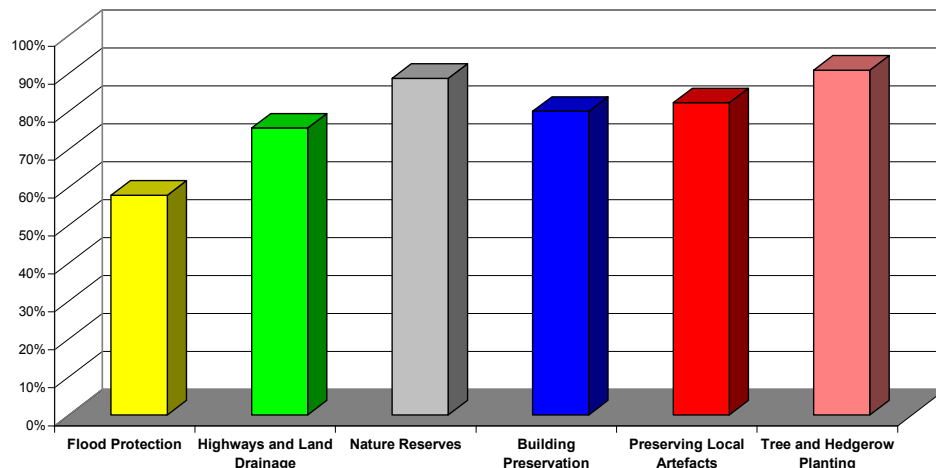
The first six parts of question 18 asked whether more attention should be paid to various aspects of the natural and built environment. It asked about flood protection, highways and land drainage, nature reserves, building preservation, preserving local artefacts, and tree and hedgerow planting, and the percentages agreeing that more attention needs to be paid to each of these are summarised in Figure 2.6.1.

These answers clearly show that large majorities of people think that the natural environment is important, with 88.7% of people thinking that more attention should be paid to nature reserves, and 90.8% to trees and hedgerows. Of next greatest concern to people were preserving local artefacts and building preservation, at 82.2% and 80% respectively.

In the cases of flood protection and highways and land drainage, though the percentages are somewhat lower, there were still substantial majorities of people believing more attention needs to be paid to them.

**Figure 2.6.1**

**Percentages Agreeing More Attention Should be Paid to the Following in the Parish**



The other comments received through the questionnaire generally reflected the view that particular efforts should be made to protect the rural nature of the area, and prevent the gradual degradation of the rural environment through step-by-step development. Many people are concerned that small incremental developments, if not looked at from a wider perspective, can lead to the gradual destruction of an attractive rural environment. We believe it is important this is avoided, and recommend the Isle

of Wight Council as Planning Authority to adopt firm policies to prevent this gradual erosion of the rural environment.

### **2.6.1.1 Flood Protection**

Newchurch Parish has part of the Eastern Yar flood plain within its boundaries, with rising ground to either side. The Yar's passage through Newchurch Parish produces landscapes that are widely admired at Alverstone and Newchurch village, but this has also resulted in localised flooding of properties in the recent past. This flood plain area is an important part of the present conservation efforts within Newchurch Parish, and these efforts need to take account of the threat of global warming and a predicted rise in sea levels, which by 2115 could be some 1200mm above that currently experienced<sup>4</sup>. After passing through these flood plain areas of Newchurch Parish, the Yar drains into Brading Haven. Along the way, the river passes through Yaverland, where there used to be another exit to the sea, so the sea defence systems at both these sites have potentially major influences on Newchurch Parish.

These ongoing and future flooding problems are recognised by both central and local government. The Environment Agency has a local office which carries out day to day monitoring and minor maintenance of water courses on a sub contract basis. They report to the Environment Agency Area Office near Winchester and from there to the regional office and Regional Flood Defence Committee, based at Worthing, which is working with others on the longer-term problems and possible solutions. A great deal of the routine maintenance responsibility and associated expense has been passed to individual landowners, and we no longer see the regular engineering works that used to be undertaken by the River and Water Authority. That Authority has, after several reorganisations, now been subsumed into the Environment Agency, and we understand that the Environment Agency's objective is to carry out maintenance work on a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly-way.

Newchurch Parish is fortunate that a considerable section of this wet and part-wooded land, commencing at Scotchells Brook, is managed by sympathetic and considerate landowners. At their own expense, and utilising various environmental grants, they maintain the wetland amenity and avoid commercial activity within their respective areas. The wooded areas contain willows, alders, ferns, sedges, marsh marigolds and other wetland flora. In the higher and drier areas, such as Hill Farm, Youngwoods Copse, etc, sycamore is being removed and oak, hazel, silver birch, holly and wild cherry are predominant. Red squirrels, woodcock, wood crickets, dormice, white admiral butterflies, woodpeckers, and barn owls can be either heard or seen in these areas.

The area known as Alverstone Mead, which includes some woodland, has been leased by the Wight Nature Fund, and with an enthusiastic volunteer warden and helpers the area is being restored. This includes planting trees and hedgerows with original species, adopting traditional water level controls, often using hand tools and without chemicals. The objective is to return to the habitat and features shown on the tithe map of 1830.

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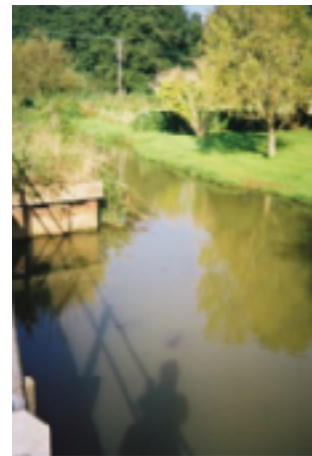
<sup>4</sup> This prediction comes from the Department of Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department of Culture and Local Government (DCLG).

Within Alverstone Mead's area, the water meadows with their old ditch systems are largely Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), with rare and interesting wetland flower species and invertebrates, including thirteen different species of dragonflies. barn owls, herons, and kingfishers hunt the area, and over-wintering waterfowl, snipe, teal and mallard are regular visitors.



**A view of Alverstone Mead Nature Reserve.**

There is no doubt that present conservation efforts are contributing to the support of the indigenous species of flora and fauna, and that the return to the original land uses is encouraging the establishment of rarer plants such as bog bean, marsh cinquefoil etc. The water vole population has stabilised and hares have returned because of the re-establishment of the varied plant species that form their preferred diet.



**Views of the Landscape and Flora at Alverstone.**

Work has been undertaken by the Environment Agency at Alverstone to uncover one of the original arches in order to improve river flow and an adjacent balancing pond created to try and absorb the effect of high river flows. This work revealed the site of an ancient, probably Saxon ford and boat landing area which gives some indication



that flooding is no stranger to the area. Due to lack of adequate storage facilities, many of the more important finds are now in secure storage and may be re-buried to await further research.

The flood risk and water level management within Brading Marsh, which includes Brading Haven and Sandown Bay, is being investigated by the Environment Agency together with the Isle of Wight Council, and these organisations are due to complete the Shoreline Management Plan by 2008. It has to be remembered that two basic options exist for coastal policy:

1. comprehensive protection by massive and expensive civil engineering works; or
2. “managed retreat” in cases where the cost of protection work outweighs the costs of damage and other compensation necessary.

Other agencies such as Defra and EEC offshoots will be involved. Public consultation will take place before final decisions are made as to what course is to be adopted. English Nature, RSPB, and the Environment Agency are all involved because of the slow but radical nature of the environmental change that will occur in any event.

#### **2.6.1.2 Highways and Land Drainage**

Road flooding is a growing problem, partly because of the extreme nature of our recent rainfall levels. The sheer volume of water in such a short space of time can overwhelm the absorption capability of roadside soakaways, which in some areas have become fouled and less effective over the years.

Changes in farming practices have often meant less maintenance to ditches and water courses, which then become overwhelmed with road runoff under storm conditions. Most farmers recognise the field runoff question and plough their land so as to avoid or minimise it. Most of the problem areas are known and are constantly monitored by the Isle of Wight Council’s highway engineers. Nevertheless, additional monies must be found to correct the maintenance deficiencies of the past and to ensure that new development and better arterial and access roads do not aggravate present problems.

#### **2.6.1.3 Nature Reserves**

Much of the nature reserve area within the ward has already been described earlier in this section, when dealing with the flood plain area and flood protection. We are fortunate to have a number of such areas within Newchurch Parish where work continues to preserve and enhance the areas:

- Borthwood Copse is protected and maintained to ensure that the woodland stays in its natural state;
- Hill Copse has been radically overhauled to achieve the same objective in the long term, though the immediate effect has caused considerable local concern;
- The woods at Parsonage are gradually being cleared of sycamore, which is a foreign and very invasive species.
- Winford Plantation remains monitored but untouched except for some minor undergrowth and path clearance.

We believe that it is important to ensure that efforts to maintain and improve the nature reserve areas within Newchurch Parish are properly funded to allow them to be sustained.

#### **2.6.1.4 Building Preservation**

As noted earlier, there are 40 listed entries for buildings and elements of the built environment in Newchurch Parish, including individual milestones, a sundial, and All Saints' Church. Among the buildings of particular note, All Saints' Church and the recently-renovated Alverstone School Hall are both structures that owe a great deal to the support and endeavours of local volunteers. One other site of note is that of Knighton Gorges which was demolished by the notorious Squire Bisset in a fit of pique, so that all that remains are the stone gate posts at the entrance off Knighton Shute. The Gardener's Cottage adjacent to the once wonderful bowling green is unoccupied and disappearing under a cloud of ivy. This building could be a wonderful restoration project for someone if the owner could be located.

#### **2.6.1.5 Preserving Local Artefacts**

Much of the early period of settlement in Newchurch Parish is reasonably well known because of the unearthing of artefacts in the areas known to have been occupied as far back as the Stone Age. In the case of the very historic most sites are recorded but remain buried and intact awaiting further archaeological interest. Other items from past ages were collected and shown by the Roots association and it is hoped that the remains of this collection can be gathered up and put on permanent show in a suitable building.

#### **2.6.1.6 Tree and Hedgerow Planting**

A great deal of tree planting has been undertaken locally by interested landowners, acting in conjunction with national organisations and charities. The Boswell family have been particularly active in this respect, and the Field of Hope and other woodland areas will be a wonderful memorial to their endeavours. Volunteers are replanting native species where possible, though elms with a resistance to the Dutch elm fungal disease have to be imported. Ancient hedgerow lines have been located in certain areas and are being re-established with the planting of native stocks.

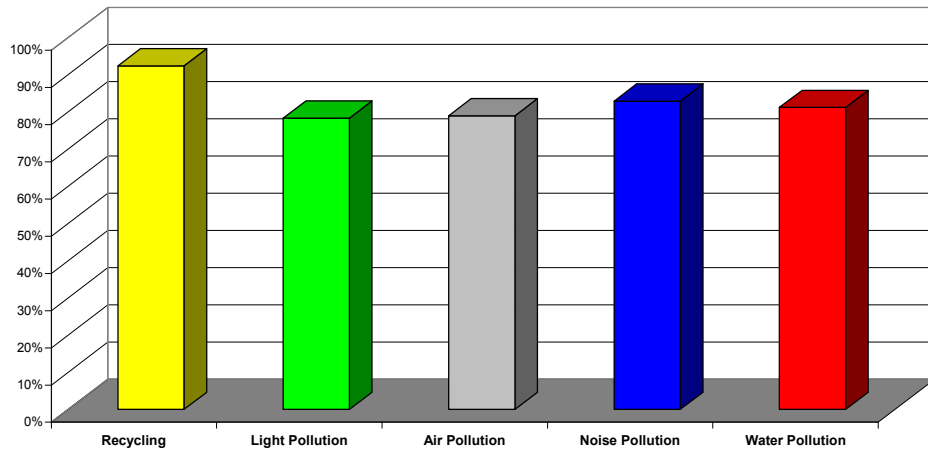
### **2.6.2 Recycling and Pollution**

The second half of question 18 dealt with the issues of recycling and pollution, and asked whether more attention should be paid to these issues. This produced what we believe to be very significant results:

- a very striking level of support of for further efforts on recycling, with over 92% of respondents believing this should be given more attention; and
- high levels of concern about all four aspects of pollution, with over 82% of people believing that noise pollution is of the greatest concern, with water, air, and light pollution close behind, all at over 78%. These results are summarised in Figure 2.6.2.

**Figure 2.6.2**

**Percentages Agreeing More Attention Should be Paid to the Following in the Parish**



Conservation issues received relatively few comments in the Planning for Real Exercise, with those comments received focusing on encouraging wildlife (both flora and fauna) and community gardens, as well as the provision of more litter bins.

Question 19, dealing with a range of projects, had two questions directly relevant to conservation and the environment, and these showed that:

- just over 80% of people believed that more litter bins should be provided; and
- nearly 70% of people believing that organised litter picks should be organised.

In view of these high levels of concern expressed by respondents, we discuss each of the issues below, and propose course of action, both short-term and long-term.

### **2.6.2.1 Recycling**

The overwhelming support for the principle of recycling that was expressed reflects the fact that many residents are already sorting and separating household waste for collection by the Isle of Wight Council's contractor. In addition, recycling containers are located at several points around Newchurch Parish.



**Recycling Containers located at Apse Heath and Newchurch Village.**

However, more needs to be done, and it is to be hoped that the Isle of Wight Council as the lead partner will further capitalise on these express preferences on the part of residents and develop arrangements for additional separation and recycling of waste. We recommend that the Isle of Wight Council act on this data to strengthen its corporate commitment to exceeding central government targets on recycling. A voluntary service organisation, the Footprint Trust is intending to liaise with the Newchurch Parish Council for support in an initiative designed to reduce the carbon footprint of Newchurch Parish in the coming year. This process will involve estimating an opening carbon print, which can then be compared with the closing balance, and this is expected to prove an interesting exercise.

### **2.6.2.2 Light Pollution**

Our results show that light pollution, through development and unsympathetic exterior lighting arrangements, is causing significant concern. It is clear that most residents accept that Newchurch Parish is a rural area, and are therefore happy with dark night skies and the lack of street lighting. The gradual but persistent increase in the effect of local and major developments on the night skies is particularly important because of the well-known and much admired observatory in Watery Lane, operated by the Vectis Astronomical Society (VAS). We believe that, for all planning applications likely to contribute to light pollution of night skies, this generally expressed desire of residents to avoid light pollution, and the views of the VAS, should be given due weight. Similarly, we hope that any proposals to expand the provision of street lighting in Newchurch Parish will take account of these concerns.

### **2.6.2.3 Air and Water Pollution**

The high proportion of responses regarding pollution in all its forms was to be expected. Though beyond this brief an interesting exercise would be investigate the underlying reason amongst the percentage of residents who declared themselves undecided as regards air pollution (this amounted to 15%), or the 5% who disagree with the view expressed by the other 78.9% that this vital element around us requires special attention. Fortunately we live in a society where central government through various national bodies and local authorities have a statutory responsibility to ensure that our environment and its various elements are within reason fit for purpose.

A slightly higher proportion of residents 81.1% felt that greater attention should be given to water pollution with virtually the same percentage of undecided and those in disagreement registering.

### **2.6.2.4 Noise Pollution**

It is perhaps not surprising that the highest level of concern expressed about any form of pollution related to noise pollution. Traffic and other miscellaneous noise disturbance no doubt accounted for part of these concerns. But it also seems clear from comments made in the questionnaires and from responses to a recent planning application that aircraft noise arising from the operations at Sandown Airport accounts for a major part of this concern. We recommend that due account is taken of the strength of these concerns in both the development of planning policy and in dealing with individual planning applications.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations on Conservation**

Based on the evidence from our work, we put forward the following conclusions and recommendations, both for the longer-term vision for Newchurch Parish and for the short-term action plan.

### ***Longer-term Vision for Newchurch Parish***

As Newchurch Parish is predominantly rural, there is widespread concern to protect the rural nature of the area, and prevent the gradual degradation of the rural environment through step-by-step development. We believe it is important this is avoided, and recommend the Isle of Wight Council as planning authority to adopt firm policies to prevent the gradual erosion of the rural environment that can result from a succession of small incremental planning approvals.

We recommend that the Isle of Wight Council and other relevant authorities should make the necessary efforts to sustain adequate maintenance of waterways in Newchurch Parish to minimise the effects of flooding.

We also recommend that these authorities, including Newchurch Parish Council, should encourage the efforts of land owners and various agencies to maintain and develop the natural environment generally and nature reserve areas in particular. We also believe that it is important to ensure that efforts to maintain and improve the nature reserve areas within Newchurch Parish are properly funded to allow them to be sustained.

On highways and land drainage, we recommend that the Isle of Wight Council ensures adequate funding to correct the maintenance deficiencies of the past and to ensure that any new development or road improvements do not aggravate present problems.

In view of the overwhelming support for recycling that was expressed, we recommend that the Isle of Wight Council:

- strengthen its corporate commitment to exceeding central government targets on recycling; and
- makes greater efforts to develop arrangements for additional separation and recycling of waste.

With regard to light pollution, we recommend that:

- in all planning applications likely to contribute to light pollution of night skies, the concerns of residents and the views of the Vectis Astronomical Society should be given due weight by the planning authority; and
- any proposals to expand the provision of street lighting in Newchurch Parish should take account of these concerns and only be permitted where absolutely necessary.

high level of emphasis on noise impact when developing planning policy and when considering planning applications, in particular in relation to Sandown Airport.

***Short-term Action Points***

We have included in our action plan in chapter 4 recommendations that Newchurch Parish Council should work with the Isle of Wight Council and other relevant organisations to provide more litter bins in Newchurch Parish, and to organise litter picks of those rural areas where litter is most commonly deposited.

Finally, with regard to the high levels of concern about noise pollution, we recommend that the Isle of Wight Council as the planning authority should place a

### **3. Long-Term Vision for the Parish – Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations on Planning Issues**

Based on the evidence from our work on this plan, we believe it is very clear that the predominant vision of the residents of Newchurch Parish is to maintain the existing rural character of the area.

This vision is shared by substantial majorities of the residents of all the existing settlements, and we have found nothing during our work that would indicate a future vision for Newchurch Parish that diverges from this majority view.

We interpret these findings to mean that, though some *marginal* developments in terms of new housing and commercial activity may be desirable, over the longer term such developments should be on a very limited scale, and only carried out in a way that is consistent with the rural character of Newchurch Parish.

Elaborating on this general long-term vision, we give below our conclusions on Newchurch Parish's long-term vision in a number of areas of concern.

#### **Housing and Land Use**

Following naturally from the general long-term vision expressed above, we have found that the vast majority of the people in Newchurch Parish want to see the characters of their own settlements, and of Newchurch Parish as a whole, preserved very much as they are at present.

The general view expressed was that, if there were to be significant additional housing development then it should be:

- limited in extent;
- achieved by small developments integrated into existing settlements; and
- focused on providing affordable housing to rent or buy for people with links to Newchurch Parish.

It was not within the scope of our work to carry out a housing needs survey, to determine the need for affordable housing. But we recommend in the action plan in chapter 4 that such a survey should be carried out by the relevant authorities, so that the genuine need for additional affordable housing in Newchurch Parish can be objectively determined.

#### **Highways and Transport**

Based on the evidence from our work, it is clear that roads issues, and traffic speeds in particular, are important and emotive issues right across Newchurch Parish. Newchurch Parish is a rural area with only a few major roads running through it, and people do not expect to see A-road quality roads throughout Newchurch Parish. Indeed, many express the concern that too many road improvements lead to faster

traffic speeds, making the roads more dangerous.

At the same time, there is a strong desire to see:

- (i) improvements to road surfaces generally, as in many cases there has been rapid deterioration caused by the impact of higher traffic flows on lightly constructed rural roads, and
- (ii) major improvements at a small number of locations, such as the Knighton Shute - Downs Road junction, and the Apse Heath crossroads.

Indeed, it is clear from our consultations that many people find it difficult to understand why so many years have passed without any significant action at these obvious trouble spots. Based on the results of our consultation, we also believe that the whole issue of public transport in Newchurch Parish needs to be addressed and some long-term decisions made.

Based on our consultations, we put forward a range of recommendations for action on these highways and transportation matters. We have divided these recommendations into major works, which we anticipate will be costly and so take longer to achieve, and more minor works that we believe could be done relatively quickly. We believe that Newchurch Parish Council and Isle of Wight Council in partnership should pursue both categories as a matter of priority.

The shorter-term action points are listed in the action plan in chapter 4, and the major action points are as follows:

- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Knighton Shute junction;
- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Branstone Cross junction;
- Major safety improvements should be carried out to the Apse Heath junction;
- A general programme of improvements to road surfaces should be carried out throughout Newchurch Parish; and
- A detailed review of public transport need should be carried out, with a view to investigating the possibilities for improvements in frequency and pricing.

### **Recreation and Other Amenities**

Based on the evidence from our work, we have put forward above a number of conclusions and recommendations; some relate to a longer-term vision for Newchurch Parish, and others are action points for more immediate attention.

In the light of the overwhelmingly high levels of support expressed for the following amenities, we strongly recommend that the relevant authorities take this into account when developing policy that might affect their futures:

- the existing post office facilities;
- the general store;
- Newchurch Primary School;
- the Pointer Inn;
- Newchurch Parish Hall;



- the Pavilion at Watery Lane;
- All Saints' Church Hall; and
- Alverstone Village Hall.

In addition, we identified a clear desire for a number of additional amenities in Newchurch Parish, and we set out in the action plan in chapter 4 a number of items that we believe should be pursued by the relevant authorities in the short to medium term. These include playground and recreation facilities in the Winford and Apse Heath area (which we believe is a matter of urgency), options for a community minibus and a dedicated minibus to serve Newchurch Primary School, and options for alternative uses for the Parish Hall.

### **Tourism and Other Commercial Activities**

Based on the evidence we have collected, we believe that a number of conclusions can be drawn and recommendations made:

- in general, the vast majority of residents would not like to see significant expansion of commercial activity within Newchurch Parish, except for limited expansion in the areas listed below – this is fully consistent with the vision for the parish as predominantly rural in character;
- the limited additional commercial activities that would be widely supported are:
  - craft industries;
  - farmers' market; and
  - limited tourism activities of certain types, such as nature trails, equestrian activities, bed and breakfast accommodation, and camp sites.
- development of commercial aviation at the Sandown Airport site was supported by less than 40% of people generally, and this support was significantly weaker, at under 30%, among those areas that are particularly adversely affected by existing aviation activities. This was a common source of criticism in the additional comments made, and plans to develop airport operations at Sandown Airport came in for particular criticism from a number of the settlements, with none of the comments expressing support;
- in parallel with the criticisms of airport development at Sandown Airport, there was also opposition to new commercial activity development there, though we found that tourism and recreation activities there would be supported by a majority of people.

### **Conservation**

Based on the evidence from our work, we put forward the following conclusions and recommendations, both for the longer-term vision for Newchurch Parish and for the short-term action plan.

As Newchurch Parish is predominantly rural, there is widespread concern to protect the rural nature of the area, and prevent the gradual degradation of the rural environment through step-by-step development. We believe it is important this is avoided, and recommend the Isle of Wight Council as planning authority to adopt firm policies to prevent the gradual erosion of the rural environment that can result from a succession of small incremental planning approvals.

We recommend that the Isle of Wight Council and other relevant authorities should make the necessary efforts to sustain adequate maintenance of waterways in Newchurch Parish to minimise the effects of flooding.

We also recommend that these authorities, including Newchurch Parish Council, should encourage the efforts of land owners and various agencies to maintain and develop the natural environment generally and nature reserve areas in particular. We also believe that it is important to ensure that efforts to maintain and improve the nature reserve areas within Newchurch Parish are properly funded to allow them to be sustained.

On highways and land drainage, we recommend that Isle of Wight Council ensures adequate funding to correct the maintenance deficiencies of the past and to ensure that any new development or road improvements do not aggravate present problems.

In view of the overwhelming support for recycling that was expressed, we recommend that the Isle of Wight Council:

- strengthen its corporate commitment to exceeding central government targets on recycling; and
- makes further efforts to develop arrangements for additional separation and recycling of waste.

With regard to light pollution, we recommend that:

- in all planning applications likely to contribute to light pollution of night skies, the concerns of residents and the views of the Vectis Astronomical Society should be given due weight by the planning authority; and
- any proposals to expand the provision of street lighting in Newchurch Parish should take account of these concerns and only be permitted where absolutely essential.

Finally, with regard to the high levels of concern about noise pollution, we recommend that the Isle of Wight Council as the planning authority should place a high level of emphasis on noise impact when developing planning policy and when considering planning applications, in particular in relation to Sandown Airport.

We have also included in our action plan in chapter 4 some recommendations on shorter-term issues that we believe Newchurch Parish Council should pursue with the relevant organisations.

## **4. Shorter-Term Issues – Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations on a Short-Term Action Plan**

The findings presented in chapter 2 included not only major action points and longer-term planning issues but also a number of detailed points of a more immediate nature, such as improvements to recreation facilities, road improvements, and anti-speeding measures. In this chapter we have brought all these shorter-term points together, prioritised them, and developed an action plan for their implementation.

The action plan that we present here is in tabular form, and for each item it specifies:

- the issue identified and the action required;
- the organisation(s) we believe to be responsible for taking the necessary action; and
- a recommended timescale for the required action.

We recommend that Newchurch Parish Council should take ownership of this action plan and take it forward. Where the points are beyond its own competence, it should endeavour to ensure that they are brought to the attention of the relevant organisations, and monitored to ensure that the necessary action is taken.

## Newchurch Parish Short-term Action Plan

Description of the Action Item	Responsible Body	Recommended Timescale
<b>Housing and Land Use</b>		
A housing needs survey, to determine the need for affordable housing, should be carried out by the relevant authorities, so that the genuine need for additional affordable housing in Newchurch Parish can be objectively determined.	Isle of Wight Rural Community Council and Isle of Wight Council	12 months
<b>Highways and Transport</b>		
There should be a general review of speed limits, with a view to the lowering of speed limits in key areas, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knighton;</li> <li>• Canteen Road, towards the junction with Whiteley Bank;</li> <li>• Winford Cross.</li> </ul>	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	12 to 18 months
Imposition of a 20mph limit is necessary in some areas, including: through the centre of Newchurch village and the centre of Alverstone village	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	12 months
The installation of more repeater signs and reactive speed signs (similar to those in Arreton) for Alverstone Road, for Forest Road Winford, and for High Street Newchurch.	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	12 months
Development of a plan for better enforcement of speed limits throughout the Parish, and in particular in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apse Heath</li> <li>• Newchurch village</li> <li>• Alverstone Road, Winford</li> </ul>	Hampshire Police and Isle of Wight Council	12 months

Description of the Action Item	Responsible Body	Recommended Timescale
Renewal of road markings where worn or obscured, including at the Newchurch pinch points	Isle of Wight Council	6 months
Review of traffic calming measures in Newchurch village, with a view to adopting alternative (and more effective) measures, for example two linked sets of traffic lights that halt vehicles if they speed between them.	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	12 to 18 months
Provision of pavements or footpaths beside busy stretches of road particularly Newchurch High Street to Harbors Lake, along Ventnor Road, Apse Heath to its junction with the new Canteen Road footpath, and Canteen Road near the junction with the Godshill/Shanklin Road.	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	36 months
Remedial work to the drainage problem in Canteen Road	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	12 months
Improvements to visibility and warning signs, junction of Parkway and Alverstone Road	Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	18 months
The road-side electricity pole at Alverstone Road, Queen Bower be resited further away from the road's edge, to eliminate any danger to passing cars.	Southern Electric and Isle of Wight Council Highways Department	6 months
<b>Recreation and Other Amenities</b>		
<p>As a matter of urgency, increased efforts should be made to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a community centre in Winford;</li> <li>• additional recreation facilities for children and young people in the Winford and Apse Heath areas, in Newchurch, and at the Watery Lane sports field.</li> </ul> <p>New facilities to be considered could be youth shelters, basket ball courts, tennis courts, skate board facilities, and petanque.</p>	Newchurch Parish Council, Isle of Wight Council , and Newchurch Parish Sports & Community Association.	6 months

<b>Description of the Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Body</b>	<b>Recommended Timescale</b>
Investigate further options for the use of the Parish Hall, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• as a Parish Council Information Centre;</li> <li>• as a book swap club; and</li> <li>• as an IT centre.</li> </ul>	Newchurch Parish Council	12 months
Investigate the possibilities for both a community minibus, and a dedicated minibus to serve Newchurch Primary School.	Newchurch Parish Council and Isle of Wight Council	12 months
Investigate the possibilities for provision of a mobile shop to visit the parish	Newchurch Parish Council	12 months
Investigate the possibilities for provision of a youth club in the Winford/Apse Heath area.	Newchurch Parish Council and Isle of Wight Council	6 months
Investigate the possible provision of a car park at Alverstone for use of people using the cycle way and other nearby areas for recreational purposes.	Newchurch Parish Council and Isle of Wight Council	24 months
Provision of seats and a fitness route in Borthwood Copse be investigated.	Newchurch Parish Council	6 months
<b>Conservation</b>		
Provide more litter bins around Newchurch Parish generally	Newchurch Parish Council and the Isle of Wight Council	6 months
Organise litter picks of those rural areas where litter is most commonly deposited	Newchurch Parish Council	6 months

## **APPENDIX A: NEWCHURCH PARISH AND ITS HISTORY**

The building of the “new” All Saints’ Church around 1087 on the site of an old Saxon church is thought to have given Newchurch its name<sup>5</sup>, but the history of the area stretches back much further than that. Pre-historic flints have been found in the area, and a possible prehistoric site identified on Skinners Hill, but until recently the first evidence of settlements in the Newchurch area was of Roman origin. The recent discovery at Alverstone of a causeway leading to the river appears to be a Roman renewal of an earlier Iron Age construction and was possibly an early ford.

With the breakdown of the Roman Empire and the withdrawal of the Legions, the Isle of Wight was invaded by Germanic tribes, but by the 6<sup>th</sup> century it was settled by the Saxons. Around 700 AD the Saxons were converted to Christianity, and some time before 1066 a church was built where the present one stands. This church became the mother church in the centre of a Parish which at that time stretched from the north coast (the present-day Ryde) to the south coast (the present-day Ventnor).

The period of Saxon rule lasted more than 500 years, and during this time a great deal was done to extend the land used for farming by cutting back much of the ancient woodlands. By the time of the Norman invasion in 1066, vast areas were being farmed within a rigidly hierarchical feudal system; in ascending order were the slaves and serfs, the free landowning peasantry, and above them the lords and noblemen who were often friends of the King and received their estates from him.

The impact of the Norman Conquest was mainly felt by the aristocracy; those who had fought against William lost their lands; but for those who had not the process was more gradual, and it was 1089 before all control of the land passed into “foreign” hands. This transfer of power would have made very little difference to the lower orders, except that they now paid their rents and dues to a Norman overlord.

Manorial courts administered most local affairs. There is evidence to show that from about 1179 the Ecclesiastical Parishes were formed, and the Newchurch Parish that was established appears to have been similar to the Saxon district, running in a north south direction from coast to coast.

By Tudor times the Newchurch Parish Vestry had sufficient work to employ officers and was responsible for implementing the statutory duties imposed by Parliament. Above them were the Justices of the Peace, appointed from the local gentry, their task being to maintain law and order and to oversee the parish officers.

In Victorian times it was recognised that too much power at local level was still invested in the Church of England, and as part of the resulting reforms in 1888 the county councils were formed, including the Isle of Wight Council in 1890. In 1893 a

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<sup>5</sup> In 1726 the south transept was added to the church, and by 1780 sufficient funds were available to build the retaining wall on the Shute. The church’s wooden tower was replaced in 1879.

Bill was introduced into Parliament that became the 1894 Parish Council Act, under which Newchurch Parish Council was formed. Originally the councillors were elected by a show of hands at the annual meeting, unless a poll was called for after their election, and this system lasted until 1946 when the present system was introduced.

Originally stretching from the north to the south coast of the Island, Newchurch Parish's boundaries have been gradually eroded since Victorian times. The rapid development of Ryde and Ventnor in that period resulted in their separation in 1867, and further changes to the boundaries took place over the years. In 1984 Newchurch lost part of Wroxall when the parish boundary was aligned with the Shanklin to Godshill road, but also gained Alverstone from Brading, and the whole of the Sandown Airport site came within the parish.

### **Settlements in Newchurch Parish**

The census of 1085, known by us as the Domesday Book, established that there were seven manors in the Parish: Ashe, Knighton, Branston, Apse, Bathingbourne, Winston, and Wroxall. There is no doubt that each of these would have had a complement of houses for the manors' workers, but as they were constructed of perishable material no trace remains today. However, these would have formed the basis of the settlements we have today, and additionally the village of Newchurch would have grown around the Church. The Domesday Book recorded five mills throughout the Parish, all of which were probably water mills; two were at Knighton and one at Alverstone, the latter of which was still in use until 1955 but today is a private house.

Between 1920 and the start of the second world war some new houses were built in the parish, but it was not until after the second world war that things really began to change. For example, the first houses in Alverstone Garden Village were built in 1923 but it was another 40 years before the development we know today was constructed.

After the second world war, the council built houses at Queens Bower, Langbridge, School Lane Newchurch and Milestone Crescent Newchurch were built. Also during this post-war period, two cottages at the top of Newchurch Shute and a row of old cottages in the High Street at Newchurch were replaced with modern houses, and throughout the parish many other small housing developments took place. However the Town and Country Planning Acts were gradually giving more power to planning authorities, and by 1974 this became evident with the development of the new Winford estate. Despite strenuous local opposition from Newchurch Parish Council (Newchurch Parish Hall was packed for the relevant meeting), and the newly formed Winford residents association, the large development at Winford that we see today was approved by the County Council. It is particularly interesting to note that the original plans included a church, a community hall, and two shops, none of which ever materialised.

The introduction of "structure plans", complete with "village envelopes" was seen in 1977, and these tended to create a shortage of building land in the Parish, and there was a consequential rise in its price. As an example, in 1960 just under a quarter of an acre in Newchurch was sold for £250, sufficient to build two semi-detached



bungalows. At that time an average wage would have been about £500 per annum. Today, a single building plot for a house can cost up to £100,000.

### **Agriculture and other Economic Activity**

Whilst the economy of the parish was largely based on agriculture, there were also other means of earning a living. These other occupations would originally been allied to the manor but over the centuries became independent livings. The millers have already been mentioned, but there were also the blacksmith, the carpenter, and the wheelwright, as well as the masons who built the stone buildings, often with locally quarried stone. Although in Norman times the poor probably built their own houses, which were little more than shacks, gradually over the centuries more specialist builders would have been employed to build houses.

The last blacksmith working in Newchurch (with a smithy on the site of the present-day Anvil House) retired in the 1990s, and the last of a long family line of builders and carpenters retired in the early '80s. The village carpenter was often the undertaker making his own coffins.

By the 15<sup>th</sup> century most of the open fields had largely disappeared, preceding developments in the rest of England by several hundred years. With that came the breakdown of the manorial system of farming, and unfortunately this resulted in depopulation with the land being farmed by fewer people.

Despite all the ensuing hardships, the many small communities of Newchurch Parish survived. With the 16<sup>th</sup> century came Henry VIII, the reformation and the dissolution of the monasteries, with Quarr Abbey being dissolved in 1537. The Abbot of Quarr Abbey became Rector of Newchurch, and by 1548 the Bishopric of Bristol owned the living and probably land within the parish. It is recorded that they leased out Parsonage Farm to George Deacon, and it is likely that other land within the parish which belonged to the Church was eventually either sold or leased out.

The Newchurch Parish registers began in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, and there are many entries that tell us of the lives of Newchurch people. In 1687 Sir Robert Dillington was fined for not burying his father in wool, £2.50 going to the informer, in 1740 300 people from the parish were confirmed and in a memo of Friday night Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> November 1703 a great wind came which blew down many trees and houses. This may well explain why there are few cottages in the area over three hundred years old.

The middle of 18<sup>th</sup> century witnessed a revolution in agriculture as the population expanded, industrial towns grew, the demand for food increased and the war with France in 1793 stopped the import of corn. With the incentive of higher prices, farmers set about improving their land and money was invested in new houses. Model farms were set up, many of which are still standing today albeit converted into dwellings such as at Apse, Wackland, and Knighton.

The original manor or farm houses are much in demand today although largely separated from the land which produced them. A classic example is Bartletts Farm, which today survives as a new development, but which until the early 19<sup>th</sup> century

was a large estate consisting of the land on the east side of Newchurch High Street as far as School Lane and to the top of Skinners Hill.

The first 50 years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century saw an unprecedented rise in economic development throughout Britain, and no doubt this was reflected in Newchurch. Many of the older houses still much in demand today were built during this period and development continued into the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The invention of photography in 1849 preserved an accurate record of the cottages around the church that were still in existence in 1876 but had gone by 1892 when the church hall was built; possibly they were removed in 1888 when the “old” vicarage was built.

There is no doubt that the coming of the railway in 1875 contributed to the development of the parish, as men were now able to live in villages and work elsewhere. The railway also enabled agricultural workers to go into Newport to purchase the food they could not grow themselves, after they were paid on Saturday, which was a big advantage in the days before refrigeration when all meat was fresh.



**The Former Railway Stations at Newchurch Village and Alverstone**

The second half of the 19th century saw more changes in the ownership of the big estates, with land seen as an investment, and much of the parish was owned by two families. Much of Knighton and Langbridge belonged to the Carter estate, and it was Edward Carter who was responsible for converting the cottage at Langbridge, now known as Cedar Cottage, into a recreation and reading room. This was built largely in order to keep the men out of the pub, and daily papers were brought up on the train.

The largest owner in the parish at that time was of course Sir Richard Webster, better known as Lord Alverstone. He was the Island’s M.P. from 1885 to 1900, and then Lord Chief Justice until his retirement in 1913. His estate took in Alverstone, Youngwoods and Borthwood Copses, and a large portion of Apse Heath, Winford, and parts of Newchurch. Most of the houses on the eastern side of Ventnor Road were built by him, (all were provided with pig sties), as well as a number of small farms which at that time provided a living for the tenant and presumably extra rent for the landlord. Lord Alverstone also installed sewage and drinking water systems. In 1898 Newchurch Parish Council was asked to consider connecting to a pipe at Apse Heath crossroads, as Lord Alverstone was installing a reservoir at Apse Reach to supply his tenants with water and would be willing to supply Newchurch as well. Negotiations, conducted through the Rural District Council dragged on for a year, but eventually Newchurch Parish Council became exasperated and negotiated directly with Lord Alverstone and the matter was settled. Water first flowed in 1902, and in

the first year consumption was 329,000 gallons. As far as can be ascertained, the original pipes are still in use today.

Lord Alverstone was also responsible for draining the old Winford Pond, which was piped to Sandown waterworks in a cast iron nine inch main, collecting water en route from branches extending towards the chalk downs. This supplied all of Sandown's water in the winter during the 1920s. Though the system is still in use today, it appears that for some reason the water is merely discharged into the River Yar.

Although he never actually lived in Alverstone, Lord Alverstone built the Grange, which was used as a hunting lodge, several more of the houses, and, in 1898, the Alverstone School house, which today is a popular village hall. Lord Alverstone also owned the Mill in Alverstone, which in 1921 was let with a house and tea garden for £55 per annum (at that time a labourer's wage would have been about 15p per day). The Mill Pond also had boats for hire and this made Alverstone a popular tourist attraction, being only five minutes by train from Sandown.

When, sadly, Lord Alverstone died in 1915, his only son had pre-deceased him, and the estate. "comprising some 1,592 acres and numerous farms, smallholdings, houses and land" was sold, mostly it appears to the existing tenants.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century brought many changes to economic activity in Newchurch, most particularly in agriculture. In the early years of the century there were approximately 26 small farms or market gardens between Knighton and Winford Cross, but by the end of the second world war most had gone. At the same time, population growth was substantial, and one side effect of this was that the All Saints churchyard had almost reached capacity by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. As a result, in 1911 Newchurch Parish Council received consent for the new cemetery behind the churchyard.

Also, all the modern conveniences that we take for granted today came to Newchurch during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, most of them during the post-war period; gas in the 1930s, electricity in 1955, and mains drainage in 1971. Finally, Newchurch village followed Alverstone, and in 1992 street lights were erected in the High Street.

Life in the Parish during the 20<sup>th</sup> century has completely changed for all its residents. For centuries, the horse was the only means of travel, and although the railway started the process of improved travel, the invention of the internal combustion engine marked a big change in village life. Agriculture became mechanised, needing fewer workers; the horse drawn carrier's cart was replaced by the motor bus, and this in its turn has been replaced by the family car.

### **Education in Newchurch**

In 1755 General Bockland gave the land at Langbridge for a school for poor children, this being in response to the 1748 will of William Bowles who left £100 in trust and £500 to buy land for a school. The Langbridge school building still exists today, although it is now two private dwellings.

The Elementary Education Act of 1870 set up a School Board, and the present School was built at that time, for a cost of £1,800, including the land costing £82. On

completion, this new school replaced the Bowles School at Langbridge. The Alverstone School, was built in 1898 by Lord Alverstone, but it did not survive for many years. It closed in 1922 and transferred its pupils to the school at Newchurch.

### **Community Activity in Newchurch**

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the village and the parish was at the centre of most residents' lives, both for work and leisure. Co-operation saw the building of the Chapels at Langbridge in 1845 and at Apse Heath in 1875. Similarly, what is today the present-day church hall was built for the village, and was only later transferred to the Church. The Parish Hall was built by members of the Temperance movement as a meeting place, and in 1949 it was given to Newchurch Parish Council.

During the early 1980's the Newchurch Parish Sports and Community Association (NPS&CA) was established, to coordinate support throughout the Parish. Its development and successful running of the Garlic Festival enabled it to raise considerable funds that funded the building of the Community Hall at the School and the Pavilion at the Watery Lane recreation field, as well as other activities.

## **APPENDIX B: DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE PARISH PLAN**

In this appendix we explain in more detail how we carried out the main activities that formed part of the preparation of the plan. In addition to these main activities, numerous committee and working group meetings were held to discuss plans, carry out activities, and prepare the report. Altogether, we estimate that well over 1,000 hours of voluntary effort went into the preparation of this report.

### **The Main Questionnaire**

A detailed questionnaire was prepared (shown in Appendix D) that covered a variety of subjects that the PPSC thought of interest. This questionnaire and accompanying material, including a reply paid envelope, was distributed to every household in Newchurch Parish by the members of the PPSC. The response to this questionnaire was much better than had been anticipated, with nearly 450 completed questionnaires being returned.

Analysis of the questionnaire replies was a major task, and was also carried out by PPSC members. The tick box responses were coded into Excel spreadsheets to allow analysis and production of results. The other written comments received were entered in an Access database, to facilitate analysis. Appendix C contains a full report of the results from the tick box questions for Newchurch Parish as a whole.

### **Consultation with Parish Associations and Societies**

As a way of ensuring wide consultation, we also thought it important to consult with the many local societies and associations. Consultation letters were therefore sent out to all the main associations and societies in Newchurch Parish, and a number of meetings held, to collect opinions on action points from their perspectives.

### **Consultation with Parish Businesses**

We send consultation letters to a total of 35 businesses<sup>6</sup> that could be identified as being based in Newchurch Parish, in order to ensure that the business perspective could be fully reflected in our findings. The consultation letter explained the purpose of the parish-planning exercise, and asked for views on any matter of concern to them as businesses based in the parish. A reply paid envelope was provided to facilitate the return of comments.

The response to these consultation letters was disappointing, as only two replies were received. Of course, in the majority of cases the proprietors of the businesses would already have had an opportunity to express their views through the questionnaires, so we do not regard this poor response as in any way detracting from the validity of our overall findings.

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<sup>6</sup> This included all businesses that could be identified, including farms, the only exception being B&B and holiday flat activities.

## **Consultation with Young People**

We have tried hard in this report to reflect the interests and needs of children and young people. However, we are conscious that, despite the excellent response to our main questionnaire, the views of young people are probably under represented in the questionnaire results. To address this, a separate consultation exercise has been developed, aimed at young people. This work is ongoing, and the results will be presented in due course in a separate document.

## **Discussions with County Council Officials**

At the outset of the exercise the PPSC considered it important to understand fully what was required from the parish-planning exercise, and to find out what plans already existed for Newchurch Parish within the Isle of Wight Council. Various meetings were therefore held with Isle of Wight Council officials, to enable information to be collected on any existing plans and policies for the Parish, and any work in hand. These included meetings with representatives from the Planning Department and the Highways Department.

## **Public Consultation on Initial Findings**

A consultation day was held on Saturday 16th June 2007, in the Newchurch Community Hall, to present the main initial findings from the questionnaire, and to invite further comment on a range of issues. This event was open for five hours, and was extensively publicised in advance. To help boost attendance further, the day included displays by a number of Parish organisations. We were very pleased that the event was very well supported, and we estimate that almost 300 people attended during the day.

In addition to chart displays and booklets of the main results, we also displayed maps highlighting specific issues to maximise the opportunities for people to comment. The consultation day included a Planning for Real exercise, where people were invited to put comments on a model of the area. This yielded a total of around 150 comments and suggestions, which have been taken into account in the analysis and recommendations.

## **Public Consultation on the Draft Parish Plan**

A further consultation was held on the draft findings on Saturday 12th January 2008 in the Newchurch Community Hall, to present the draft plan and its conclusions and recommendations. This event was extensively publicised in advance, and was well supported, with over 100 people attending. Copies of the full draft plan were available for people to read, and displays were provided with details of results, conclusions, and recommendations. Members of the PPSC were on hand to explain and discuss the draft plan, and opportunities were provided for comments to be made. It is notable that the overwhelming majority of comments were favourable and supportive of the draft plan.

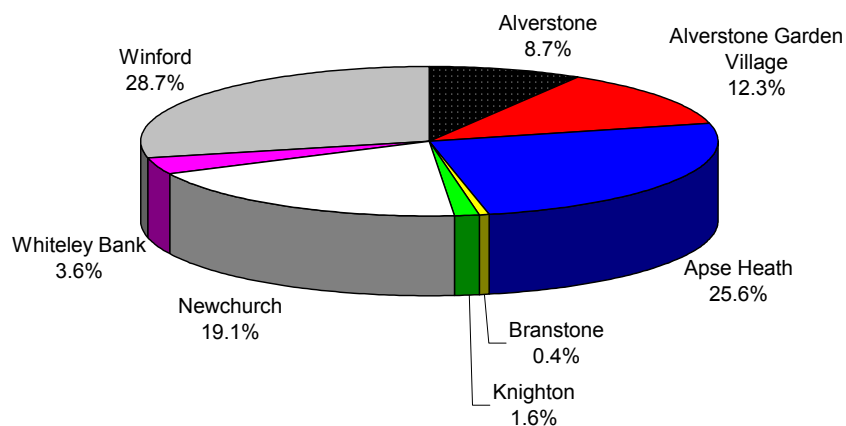
# APPENDIX C: THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND THE DETAILED RESULTS OBTAINED

## The Questionnaire and its Distribution

The questionnaire used for collecting views of residents of Newchurch Parish was compiled based on the PPSC's review of similar questionnaires used elsewhere, modified to reflect the issues and circumstances of Newchurch. The final questionnaire is reproduced in Appendix D, and a copy of this, together with an explanatory cover sheet and a reply-paid envelope, was delivered by members of the PPSC to every household in Newchurch Parish.

From the total of approximately 1,100 questionnaires distributed, a total of 448 usable completed questionnaires were received back and analysed, representing approximately 41% of the questionnaires distributed. Of these returned questionnaires, the geographical breakdown of the respondents was as follows:

### Where in the Parish the Respondents lived



In terms of age, the breakdown of the respondents was as follows:

Under 16	0.2%
Age 16 – 24	0.2%
Age 25 – 34	2.5%
Age 35 – 44	12.9%
Age 45 – 54	18.3%
Age 55 – 64	30.2%
Age 65 – 74	21.0%
Age 75 and over	14.7%

Average household size responding to the questionnaire was found to be 2.2, which is equal to the average for the whole Isle of Wight found in the Ward Profile (WP), but slightly below the average of 2.4 for Newchurch Parish given in the WP. The size distribution of households was as follows:

1 person	20.4%
2 people	55.1%
3 people	11.2%
4 people	8.9%
5 or more people	4.3%

Answers to the question about length of time living in Newchurch Parish showed that a significant proportion of respondents were relatively new arrivals:

Under 5 years	21.6%
5 to 10 years	14.2%
10 to 20 years	25.6%
Over 20 years	38.6%

The following shows the breakdown of the respondents by employment status:

Employed	36.1%
Self-employed	12.2%
Retired	47.4%
In f-t education	1.1%
Other	3.2%

Of all respondents, 90.5% had at least one motor vehicle in the household, and this compares closely with the 89.44% recorded in the WP. Bicycles were owned by 49% of the respondents. Average motor vehicle ownership per household was found to be around 1.5, and the distribution of households by numbers of motor vehicles owned was as follows:

1 motor vehicle	43.1%
2 motor vehicles	45.9%
3 motor vehicles	8.5%
4 or more motor vehicles	2.5%

For those respondents going out to work, the following means of transport were used:

Walking	7.1%
Cycle	8.7%
Bus	4.7%
Car	72.7%
Motorcycle	2.8%
Other	4.0%

We found that 70.5% of the respondents had access to the internet, and 90.4% were readers of the *County Press*.



## Analysis of Aggregate Responses to Questions

Throughout this Parish Plan report we have discussed and made use of the results of the questionnaire in various forms, but in this section we present tables showing the full results of the analysis of all the responses to the main questions where tick-box responses were asked for.

### Question 1: Preserving the Rural Character of the Parish

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
76.0%	20.0%	2.1%	1.2%	0.7%

**No response: 6.3%**

### Question 2: Settlement Identities to be Preserved

The responses to which settlements should have their identities preserved showed strong support for many of the settlements in Newchurch Parish. The following table shows the percentage of all responses that indicated they thought these settlements should have their identities preserved:

<b>2. Should the identities of the existing settlements be preserved?</b>	
<b>Alverstone</b>	<b>69.9%</b>
<b>Alverstone Garden Village</b>	<b>54.5%</b>
<b>Apse Heath</b>	<b>46.9%</b>
<b>Branstone</b>	<b>37.7%</b>
<b>Knighton</b>	<b>58.3%</b>
<b>Newchurch</b>	<b>79.0%</b>
<b>Whiteley Bank</b>	<b>37.3%</b>
<b>Winford</b>	<b>46.0%</b>

### Question 3: Should land be released for development?

The following tables show views on different types of development:

---

<b>3a. Should land be released for development of: Housing for rent?</b>				
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
4.6%	19.3%	10.9%	22.6%	42.5%

---

**No response: 12.3%**

---

<b>3b. Should land be released for development of: Housing to buy?</b>				
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
5.1%	28.0%	14.9%	19.4%	32.6%

---

**No response: 11.4%**

---

<b>3c. Should land be released for development of: Affordable housing?</b>				
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
8.7%	25.7%	12.5%	15.5%	37.7%

---

**No response: 10.5%**

---

**3d. Should land be released for development of:  
Flats to rent/buy?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
1.3%	9.3%	11.7%	25.7%	52.0%

---

**No response: 15.8%**

---

**3e. Should land be released for development of:  
Second homes?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
0.3%	2.4%	4.2%	18.2%	74.9%

---

**No response: 15.4%**

---

**3f. Should land be released for development of:  
Mobile homes?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
1.6%	4.7%	6.6%	17.8%	69.3%

---

**No response: 15.2%**

---

**3g. Should land be released for development of:  
Barn conversions?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
8.6%	40.8%	18.6%	9.6%	22.4%

---

**No response: 11.8%**

**Question 4: Should development be restricted to local need only?**

---

<b>4. Should development be restricted to local needs only?</b>				
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
46.2%	31.2%	8.5%	10.2%	3.9%

---

**No response: 7.1%**

**Question 5: Over the Next 10 Years, should there be a housing development on the scale of Winford?**

---

<b>5. Should there be a new development on the scale of Winford over the next 10 years?</b>				
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
2.7%	3.4%	9.3%	15.1%	69.5%

---

**No response: 1.1%**

**Question 6: What types of jobs would you like to see created in the Parish?**

---

**6a. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Part time?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
18.8%	53.1%	17.1%	4.8%	6.2%

---

**No response: 20.5%**

---

**6b. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Full time?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
23.6%	48.4%	18.1%	3.6%	6.3%

---

**No response: 18.8%**

---

**6c. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Manual?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
18.0%	50.1%	20.1%	4.7%	7.1%

---

**No response: 24.1%**

---

**6d. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Clerical?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
12.1%	36.4%	27.5%	12.5%	11.5%

---

**No response: 31.9%**

---

**6e. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Skilled?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
18.8%	46.2%	21.4%	6.3%	7.4%

---

**No response: 21.9%**

---

**6f. What type of jobs should be created in the Parish:  
Unskilled?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
16.6%	43.5%	25.1%	6.3%	8.5%

---

**No response: 26.1%**

**Question 7: Should there be more commercial activity in the Parish?**

---

**7. Should there be more commercial activity in the area?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
3.2%	26.0%	13.6%	18.6%	38.6%

**No response: 2.9%**

**Question 8: What types of business should be encouraged?**

---

**8a. What type of business should we attract  
Craft Industries?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
25.3%	59.8%	8.1%	2.7%	4.1%

**No response: 33.7%**

---

**8b. What type of business should we attract  
Farmers' Markets?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
30.2%	57.4%	6.9%	2.0%	3.6%

**No response: 32.6%**

---

**8c. What type of business should we attract  
Teleworking?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
3.4%	13.4%	22.7%	27.3%	33.2%

---

**No response: 46.9%**

---

**8d. What type of business should we attract  
Offices?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
3.3%	12.9%	15.4%	29.6%	38.8%

---

**No response: 46.0%**

---

**8e. What type of business should we attract  
Shopping facilities?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
7.3%	27.5%	16.4%	21.4%	27.5%

---

**No response: 41.6%**



---

**8f. What type of business should we attract  
Light industry?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
6.5%	28.3%	17.6%	20.4%	27.2%

**No response: 40.6%**

---

**8g. What type of business should we attract  
Hotel accommodation?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
3.2%	16.1%	21.3%	24.5%	34.9%

**No response: 44.4%**

**Question 9: Do you want to see Tourism in the Parish expand?**

---

**9. Do you want to see tourism in the Parish expand?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
7.7%	39.5%	19.4%	18.1%	15.3%

**No response: 0.9%**

**Question 10: If “Yes” to Q9, what tourism should be encouraged?**

---

**10a. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Shopping facilities?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
10.7%	31.3%	17.3%	23.4%	17.3%

**No response: 52.2%**

---

**10b. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Bed and breakfast accommodation?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
14.1%	62.8%	11.1%	4.7%	7.3%

**No response: 47.1%**

---

**10c. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Self-catering units?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
6.5%	27.4%	15.3%	27.4%	23.3%

**No response: 52.2%**

---

**10d. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Hotel accommodation?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
4.9%	22.3%	17.5%	28.6%	26.7%

---

**No response: 53.8%**

---

**10e. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Camping sites?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
8.9%	46.4%	17.0%	13.4%	14.3%

---

**No response: 49.6%**

---

**10f. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Nature trails?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
40.3%	51.7%	2.7%	1.9%	3.4%

---

**No response: 41.3%**

---

**10g. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Adventure trails?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
35.0%	47.1%	7.9%	4.6%	5.4%

---

**No response: 46.2%**

---

**10h. For more tourism, should we encourage more:  
Equestrian activities?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
24.3%	45.5%	17.9%	6.4%	6.0%

---

**No response: 46.4%**

**Question 11: Do you agree we should have more of the following in the Parish?**

---

**11a (i). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Road improvements?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
41.6%	31.4%	12.4%	9.2%	5.4%

---

**No response: 8.3%**

---

**11a (ii). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Footpaths?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
38.4%	35.0%	12.2%	8.0%	6.3%

---

**No response: 8.3%**

---

**11a (iii). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Pavements?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
29.1%	27.4%	16.3%	16.0%	11.1%

---

**No response: 9.6%**

---

**11a (iv). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Street lighting?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
20.3%	17.2%	17.5%	20.3%	24.7%

---

**No response: 13.2%**

---

**11a (v). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Parking spaces?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
15.8%	23.5%	25.9%	20.6%	14.2%

---

**No response: 15.4%**

---

**11a (vi). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Public transport?**

---

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
29.7%	42.6%	17.1%	7.3%	3.3%

---

**No response: 11.4%**

**11a (vii). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Road signage?**

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
16.9%	25.1%	16.4%	24.6%	16.9%

**No response: 15.6%**

**11a (viii). In the Parish, should we have more:  
Speed limits?**

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
47.0%	24.8%	9.3%	10.0%	8.9%

**No response: 4.9%**

**Question 13: Do you feel that the provision of public transport in the Parish is acceptable?**

**13. Do you feel that Public Transport in the Parish is acceptable?**

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
4.4%	42.3%	22.6%	20.8%	9.9%

**No response: 3.1%**

**Question 15: Do you regularly attend any clubs or societies in the Parish?**

<b>15. Do you regularly attend clubs or societies in the Parish?</b>	
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>23.1%</b>	<b>76.9%</b>

**Question 16: How strongly do you feel about the Parish retaining the following amenities?**

This asked about a total of 8 different amenities, and the results are summarised below.

**16. How strongly do you feel about the Parish retaining the following amenities?**

<b>Amenity</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Primary School</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>General Store</b>	<b>68.0%</b>	<b>28.2%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Post Office</b>	<b>76.4%</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Public House</b>	<b>61.1%</b>	<b>31.9%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>Newchurch Parish Hall</b>	<b>61.4%</b>	<b>30.0%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Pavilion, Watery lane</b>	<b>59.1%</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Alverstone Village Hall</b>	<b>57.4%</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>All Saints Church Hall</b>	<b>56.4%</b>	<b>33.1%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>



**Question 17: Do you agree there is a need for more leisure facilities in the Parish?**

This asked about a total of 6 types of facilities, and the results are summarised below.

**17. Do you agree there is a need for the following leisure facilities?**

<b>Amenity</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Recreation Areas</b>	<b>26.3%</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>Playground Equipment</b>	<b>24.3%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>
<b>Sports Facilities</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>33.7%</b>	<b>28.2%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>Cultural Facilities</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>35.3%</b>	<b>38.6%</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>Evening Classes/Clubs</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>39.9%</b>	<b>33.1%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
<b>Community Events</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>43.0%</b>	<b>32.9%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

**Question 18: Do you think we should pay more attention to the following in the Parish?**

This asked about a total of 11 different aspects of conservation, and the results are summarised below.

**18. Do you think that we should pay more attention to the following in our Parish?**

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Flood Protection</b>	22.1%	35.7%	28.5%	11.2%	2.4%
<b>Highways and Land Drainage</b>	29.3%	46.3%	17.0%	6.4%	1.0%
<b>Nature Reserves</b>	43.7%	45.0%	7.0%	3.5%	0.8%
<b>Building Preservation</b>	27.4%	52.6%	15.4%	3.3%	1.3%
<b>Preserving Local Artefacts</b>	30.5%	51.7%	14.6%	2.3%	0.8%
<b>Tree and Hedgerow Planting</b>	45.5%	45.3%	7.0%	1.7%	0.5%
<b>Recycling</b>	51.7%	40.6%	5.9%	1.5%	0.2%
<b>Pollution, Light</b>	44.5%	33.8%	15.1%	4.9%	1.6%
<b>Pollution, Air</b>	38.6%	40.3%	15.1%	4.7%	1.4%
<b>Pollution, Noise</b>	48.6%	34.3%	12.2%	3.6%	1.3%
<b>Pollution, Water</b>	41.2%	39.9%	14.6%	3.0%	1.3%

### Question 19: What do you about the following projects in the Parish?

This asked about a total of 27 possible projects, and the results are summarised in the following two tables.

<b>19. What do you think about the following project ideas? (Part 1)</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Airport, Tourism &amp; Recreation</b>	20.6%	37.7%	13.6%	8.9%	19.2%
<b>Airport, Industry</b>	7.5%	26.1%	17.5%	19.0%	29.8%
<b>Airport, Housing</b>	4.1%	14.0%	16.8%	27.7%	37.6%
<b>Airport, Commercial Aviation</b>	11.0%	27.1%	17.7%	13.4%	30.7%
<b>Relief Road, Scotchells Brook</b>	11.0%	21.8%	38.1%	12.5%	16.5%
<b>Improve Juntion, Knighton Shute</b>	36.9%	35.0%	16.2%	7.9%	3.9%
<b>Improve Juntion, Branstone Cross</b>	30.8%	36.9%	16.9%	12.7%	2.7%
<b>Improve Junction, Apse Heath</b>	41.2%	29.0%	14.1%	13.6%	2.1%
<b>Road, Queenbower - AGV</b>	15.9%	23.1%	20.7%	22.1%	18.3%
<b>Road, Branstone Cross, Newchurch</b>	18.1%	28.4%	16.7%	22.7%	14.1%
<b>Path, Apse Heath, Alv Road</b>	22.6%	37.8%	17.1%	14.0%	8.6%
<b>Reactive speed signs, Winford</b>	32.9%	32.7%	15.6%	13.0%	5.7%
<b>Pavement, Newchurch</b>	17.5%	33.9%	27.7%	13.2%	7.7%
<b>Reactive speed signs, Newchurch</b>	30.7%	35.7%	15.0%	11.9%	6.7%

<b>19. What do you think about the following project ideas? (Part 2)</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>New Car Park, Alverstone</b>	24.5%	45.2%	14.4%	9.2%	6.8%
<b>Reduce risk of flooding</b>	21.7%	44.9%	25.1%	6.3%	1.9%
<b>Mobile youth club</b>	12.2%	29.4%	36.4%	13.0%	9.0%
<b>More police presence</b>	31.9%	40.3%	19.7%	7.4%	0.7%
<b>Local community mini-bus</b>	18.5%	44.1%	26.5%	8.5%	2.4%
<b>School mini-bus</b>	27.9%	43.1%	21.4%	5.2%	2.4%
<b>Parish Hall to Information point</b>	21.6%	53.8%	20.8%	2.0%	1.8%
<b>Parish Hall to Book Swap Club</b>	14.9%	42.6%	35.4%	4.0%	3.2%
<b>Parish Hall to IT Centre</b>	17.5%	40.3%	31.4%	7.1%	3.7%
<b>Parish Hall to Museum</b>	14.3%	37.5%	35.6%	9.4%	3.2%
<b>Parish Hall to PO Counter</b>	29.8%	43.9%	20.1%	5.0%	1.2%
<b>More Litter bins</b>	37.6%	42.6%	14.4%	5.0%	0.5%
<b>Organised litter picks</b>	27.2%	42.3%	25.0%	4.0%	1.5%

## A. HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Do you think we should preserve the rural character of the Parish and limit development?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Would you like to see the identities of any of the existing settlements preserved? (Tick any which apply.)

Alverstone  Alverstone Garden Village

Apse Heath  Branstone  Knighton

Newchurch  Whiteley Bank  Winford

3. Should land be released for the development of:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Housing to rent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing to buy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable housing (part-ownership)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flats to rent/buy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Second homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile homes (permanent residence)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barn conversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Do you feel the above developments should be restricted to local need only?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Over the next 10 years, would you agree to a new housing development within the Parish on the scale of Winford?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## B. EMPLOYMENT

6. What types of jobs would you like to see created in the Parish?

Part-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clerical	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skilled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unskilled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Would you like to see more commercial activity in the area?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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8. If you agree or strongly agree, what type of business do you think we should attract?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Craft industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmer's community market	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teleworking facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shopping facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Light industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hotel accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## C. TOURISM

9. The parish is very popular with holiday makers, especially in the summer months, do you want to see this tourism expand?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

10. If you have ticked strongly agree or agree, should we encourage additional:

Shopping facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bed and breakfast accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self catering units (including mobile homes, touring caravans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hotel accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camping sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adventure trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equestrian activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## D. TRANSPORT, ROADS AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS

11a. Do you agree that we should have more of the following in the Parish:

Road improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Footpaths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pavements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parking spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speed limits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11b. If you have selected strongly agree or agree to any of the above please detail where you would like these to be:

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

12. Please name two roads which you would like to see improved and state why. (Please consider the implications: improving roads may mean faster traffic!)

.....  
 .....  
 .....

13. Do you feel that the provision of public transport in our Parish is acceptable?

Strongly Agree  
 Agree  
 Undecided  
 Disagree  
 Strongly Disagree

14. What would encourage you to utilise Public Transport more?

.....  
 .....  
 .....

**E. PARISH AMENITIES AND RECREATION**

15. Do you regularly attend any clubs or societies in the Parish?

Yes  No

16. How strongly do you feel about the Parish retaining the following amenities?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Primary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Stores	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public House	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newchurch Parish Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pavilion (Watery Lane)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alverstone Village Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All Saints Church Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. Do you agree there is a need for more leisure facilities in the Parish?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playground equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening classes or clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More community events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please give examples of what type, and where you would like them.

.....  
 .....  
 .....

**F. CONSERVATION**

18. Do you think we should pay more attention to the following in our Parish?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Flood protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Highways and land drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature reserves	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preserving local artefacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tree and hedgerow planting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pollution:					
Light	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

19. All these ideas for projects have been suggested. What do you think?

More development at Sandown Airport					
for: Tourism and Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial Aviation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relief road through Scotchells Brook to Morton Common.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve road junction between the Downs and Knighton Shute.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**19. (Suggested projects cont.)**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Improve road junction at Branstone Cross.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve road junction at Apse Heath mini roundabout.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widen and improve the road from Queenbower to Alverstone Garden Village.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve the road from Branstone Cross, through Newchurch and Knighton Shute to the Downs road.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tarmac path and resite hedgerow on Alverstone Road from Apse Heath mini roundabout	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reactive speed signs at Winford.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pavement from Harbors Lake Lane to Newchurch High Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reactive speed signs Newchurch High Street/Shute.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New car park in Alverstone to facilitate walkers using old railway and nature reserve.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More managed water systems to reduce the risk of flooding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile youth club.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More police presence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local community minibus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employ local minibus to drop off and pick up children from Newchurch Primary School.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop Parish Hall into a local centre for:					
Parish Council Information Point	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Book Swap Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public IT Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Museum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post Office Counter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More litter bins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organised litter picks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If you have any comments or further suggestions for projects please use the space at the end of this questionnaire.**

**G. ABOUT YOURSELF**

To help our analysis, please answer the following:

**Do you live in or nearest to :**

Alverstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alverstone Garden Village	<input type="checkbox"/>
Apse Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Branstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newchurch	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteley Bank	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Knighton	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Winford	<input type="checkbox"/>

**What characteristics of your village/area would you like to preserve?**

.....  
 .....

**How long have you lived in the Parish?**

Under 5 years	5-10 years	10-20 years	Over 20 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**What is your age group?**

Under 16	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	over 75
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Are you:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Employed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Self employed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retired
<input type="checkbox"/>	In full time education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please state).....

	Yes	No
<b>Do you own a motor vehicle?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Do you own a bicycle?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**How do you travel to work?**

Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car	Motorcycle	Other.....
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Where is the nearest town or village to your main place of work?**

.....

**Where is your doctor's surgery (town)?**

.....

<b>Do you have access to the internet?</b>	Yes	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Do you read the County Press?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**H. ABOUT YOUR HOUSEHOLD**

**How many people live in your household? .....**

**How many motor vehicles in your household? .....**

**IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS UNDER 18, AND HAS ANY VIEWS ON WHAT FACILITIES THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THEIR PARISH, PLEASE COMMENT BELOW.**

**Please also use this space to add any projects you would like to see implemented in the Parish or for any other comments you may have.**

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.**

**Please return in the reply paid envelope to 'Newchurch Parish Plan, PO Box 78, Sandown, I.W. PO36 0WZ'.**

**If you have any queries or would like additional copies please contact:**

**Brian Mosdell tel. 864228**

**Graham Peters tel. 403060**



