**MURTON PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**Questionnaire Analysis 1A:**

**Households in the village**

**Introduction**

There are two main settlements in the Parish, one, the village, and the other along the southern edge of the Parish (Hull Road, Cavendish Grove, Tranby Avenue, Redbarn Drive, Meam Close and Moins Court), the village having 139 dwellings and second settlement having 119.

A reasonable 34 village households (or 25%) responded to the initial questionnaire but the southern periphery response was very disappointing. So, it was decided to split the feedback into the two areas, questionnaires 1A for the village and 1B for the southern periphery, repeating 1B later in the year to encourage a better response.

Both questionnaires were identical and designed to facilitate the freest feedback. The questions asked simply for ‘three things that make living in the Parish attractive to you’ and ‘three things that you find disappointing for you in the Parish and which you think can be improved’.

This report covers the village response – the southern periphery feedback can be found in Questionnaire Anaysis 1B..

**An overview of the answers from households in the village**

Below is a summary of the wide-range of responses to the open questions.

**QUESTION ONE: ‘Three things that make living in the Parish attractive to you’**

*PLEASE NOTE: Respondents came up with their own phrases instead of being asked to agree or disagree with set statements. This means that in the results below if, say, 60% had said “we like the trees”, it did not mean that 40% do not like the trees.*

Four themes emerged:

1. **Setting**

**79%** enjoyed **‘a quiet rural village’**, **‘an agricultural environment’**, **‘a village atmosphere’**, **‘rural character’** and **‘rural setting’**. Several commented on the value of the conservation area and that **‘there had not been over-development’**. One cited living in an **‘attractive, unspoilt and traditional village’**. And another stated that the village **‘does not feel like a commuter village’** especially having the Farming Museum and Livestock Centre.

1. **Community**

**50%** commented on **‘friendliness’**, **‘a strong community spirit’**, **‘wonderful neighbours’** or **‘an active community’**.

1. **Convenience**

**74%** considered it to be a **very good location for rail and road (A64) connections**, and referred to the advantages of living in a village that was so close to the city.

1. **Facilities**

**29%** commented on the **benefit of having a local pub**, although several were worried that it might be closed.

**QUESTION 2: ‘Three things that you find disappointing for you in the Parish and which you think can be improved’**

Five themes emerged:

1. **Traffic**

**71%** complained of the **speed and density of traffic** through the lanes and the centre of the village. One response noted that the **‘traffic speeds were dangerous’** and several identified HGVs using the lanes and not abiding by the weight restrictions.

1. **Footpaths**

**29%** were concerned about the **state of the footpaths**, exacerbated by the fast traffic (particularly the poor state of the footpath alongside Murton Way leading to Osbaldwick which is severely restricted because of the hedges growing over it). Several commented to on the **lack of a footpath** along Murton Lane from the village to the Stamford Bridge Road to enable residents to walk to the Farming Museum and the Livestock Centre.

1. **Bus service**

**38%** commented on the **infrequent bus service** from York and felt that this was a significant downside to living in the village.

1. **Facilities**

**15%** were unhappy there were **no facilities for children** (for example a playground) in the village. Others commented on the **potential loss of the pub**, 2 commenting on the lack of support, which with the views of others who saw the pub as a positive asset (above), indicates the importance of the pub in the life of the village. 3 households pointed out that there were there were **no social activity centres** in the village and **no post office or shop**.

3 households commented on the **poor broadband service**.

1. **Anti-social behaviour**

**20%** mentioned **rubbish and tipping**, one response citing **pavement parking**, and two mentioned **dog fouling**.

1. **Drainage**

**18%** felt that the **drainage should be improved** with frequent bouts of standing water in the roads of the low-lying village.