

creating change in Devon

Catalyst



AVONWICK AND NORTH HUISH COMMUNITY HALL PROJECT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT

March 2015

Produced by: David Kinross, Senior Project Advisor, DCT.

tel 01392 248919 email catalyst@devoncommunities.org.uk

www.devoncommunities.org.uk

Catalyst, Devon Communities Together, First Floor, 3 & 4 Cranmere Court,
Lustleigh Close, Matford Business Park, Exeter EX2 8PW



**This document is available in large print
and alternative formats upon request.
Please ring 01392 248919**

Catalyst is the in-house consultancy service run by Devon Communities Together

tel 01392 248919 email catalyst@devoncommunities.org.uk www.devoncommunities.org.uk

**Catalyst, Devon Communities Together, First Floor, 3 & 4 Cranmere Court,
Lustleigh Close, Matford Business Park, Exeter EX2 8PW**



CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. Background & Context	1
2. Aims of the Consultation	3
3. Methodology & Time-Frame	4
4. Questions, Results and Analysis	6
5. Conclusions	18
6. Appendices	20

1. BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

The Parish of North Huish is situated in South Devon between Dartmoor and the sea within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It consists of the villages of North Huish and Avonwick as well as the hamlets of California Cross, Gara Bridge, Lupridge, Charford and Horsebrook.

In 2015 there are approximately 245 households and over 470 residents in the parish of North Huish.

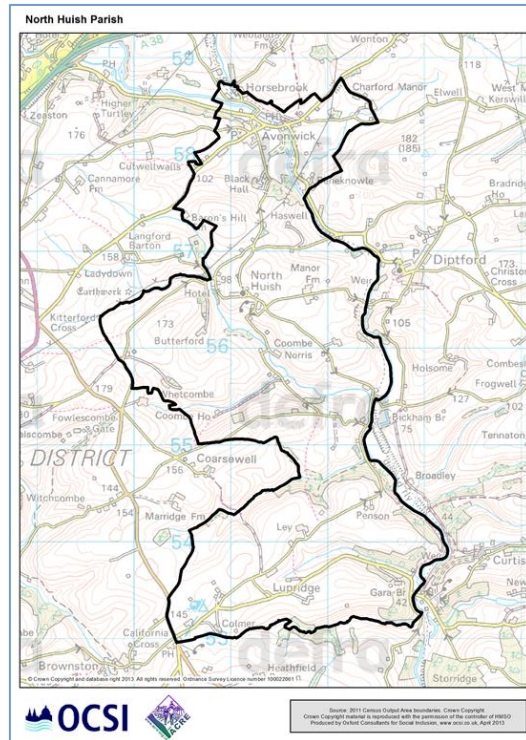
Avonwick is the largest village in the Parish, and has grown in size over the last few years with two new housing developments. The village contains one of only a few proprietary chapels remaining in the country, a restaurant, pub, one of the oldest lawn tennis clubs in the world, a garage, children's play park and a small shop.

Land for a new community hall was provided by the developer of the latest block of new housing as part of their planning consent. Subsequently a community initiative has sprung up to take the project forward. It is against this backdrop and context that a small group started this project to establish a new hall in order to fully cater for the growing local community's needs and aspirations both in the short and long term future.

Representatives from the committee attended a training event led by Devon Communities Together. This helped the committee to assess the size of the challenge posed by the current funding environment and prompted them to enlist the assistance of Devon Communities Together to provide an objective and professional approach to the task ahead.

Assisted and led by Devon Communities Together a plan was developed to engage and consult more fully with the community in order to further establish a shared community vision and the necessary evidence of need in preparation for applications for funding to the Big Lottery's 'Reaching Communities Buildings' programme.

This work has now been completed and is presented in this report.



2. AIMS OF THE CONSULTATION

1. To ensure that the project will meet the genuine needs and aspirations of the local community. This in turn will help to ensure the design/specification and business plan for the proposed hall is reflective of the community's wishes.
2. To engage with the wider community to build support for the project. This would include soliciting offers of in-kind voluntary support for making the project happen and to help shape and provide provision in the proposed hall.
3. To gather evidence in support of and hence to improve the chances of success when submitting a funding application to the Big Lottery's Reaching Communities Buildings programme.

3. METHODOLOGY & TIME-FRAME

The Survey was carried out by means of a questionnaire hand delivered by volunteers to practically every household within the parish of North Huish. The questionnaire was then collected, where possible, by the same volunteers about 2 weeks later. Devon Communities Together also set up an online facility for completing the questionnaire.

To ensure the coverage of as many households as possible a list of addresses within the parish were obtained from the District Council.

Devon Communities Together provided significant advice for this process and prepared drafts of the questionnaire for approval by the Project Steering Committee before printing and delivering the questionnaires to the committee for distribution and collection. Completed forms were taken by Devon Communities Together for analysis and the writing of this report.

The collection of forms by hand was used to maximise the response rate, as return levels are typically low (below 45% response rate) in most surveys of this nature. The higher the response rate the more representative the sample becomes. Any rate approaching or exceeding 50% would be considered statistically significant and a reliable indication of the views of the whole population.

The 294 people who responded to the Survey (including 14 who used the online facility) represent approximately 62% of the current population, an exceptionally high and very valid representative sample.

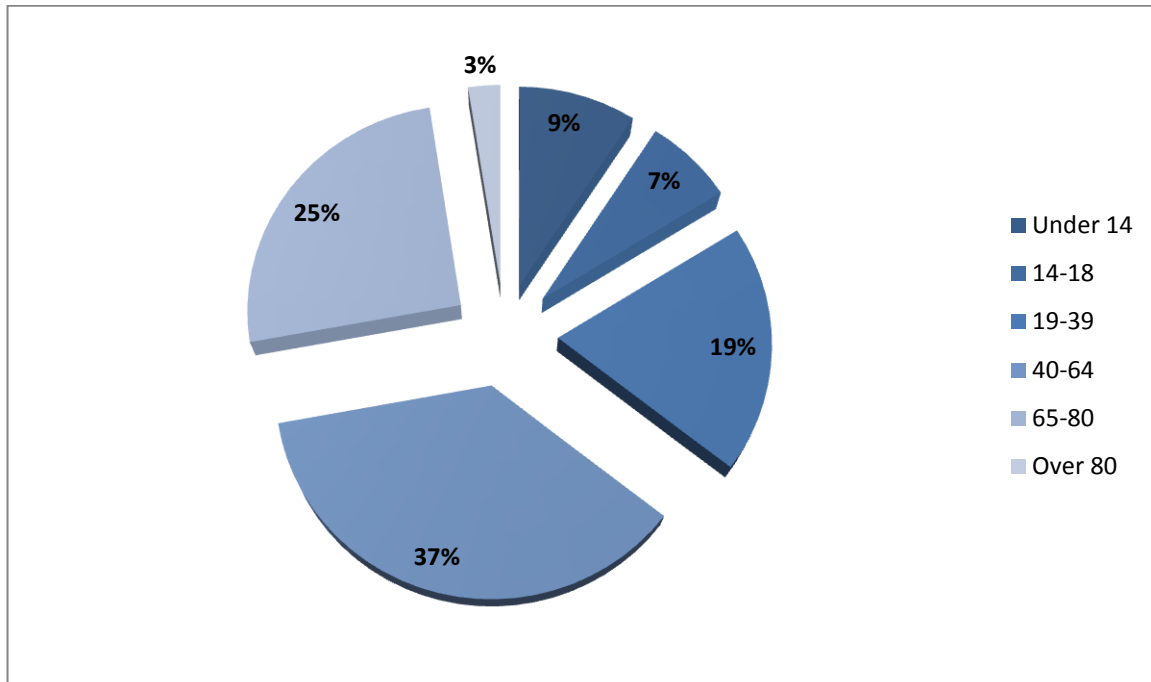
Below is a timeline of activities and events associated with the Project.

Date	Activity	Result
June 2014	A community consultation event was organised in the local pub garden with speakers from Devon Communities Together and the nearby hall in Rattery followed by discussions and feedback.	Around 50 local residents attended, discussed the Parish hall, reviewed the initial plans and provided the committee with useful direction to develop the project. See Appendix 1 for the outcomes of the consultation event.
Sep 2014	A Community Apple Pie Fair was held on the proposed hall site to engage the community and promote the project. The event was organised and led by the committee to better engage with this audience and identify their views.	450 people including 100 children attended this special celebration and consultation event See Appendix 2 for the feedback from the Community Apple Pie Fair.
Jan 2015	A household questionnaire survey was designed to allow up to 5 people per household to firstly identify which age range they belong to, and secondly to express their personal views.	See Appendix 3 for a copy of the final household questionnaire.
Feb 2015	230 survey forms were distributed throughout the Parish and to be either collected in person or delivered back to the community shop. A web based form was also available.	294 people completed the survey. This provided the committee with both a statistical and anecdotal evidence base that delivers a very valid representative sample of the total population of the Parish.
April 2015	Feedback the results of the consultation analysis to a community meeting, and results to be published on the Community Website	This will help to continue the community involvement and dialogue in the developing project.
Next Steps	The findings from the consultation work will be used to develop the business plan, design features and strengthen the funding bids.	Better informed bid development with stronger chances of success.

4. QUESTIONS, RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Question 1. What age group do each of you belong to?

Summary Results:



284 answered

10 skipped

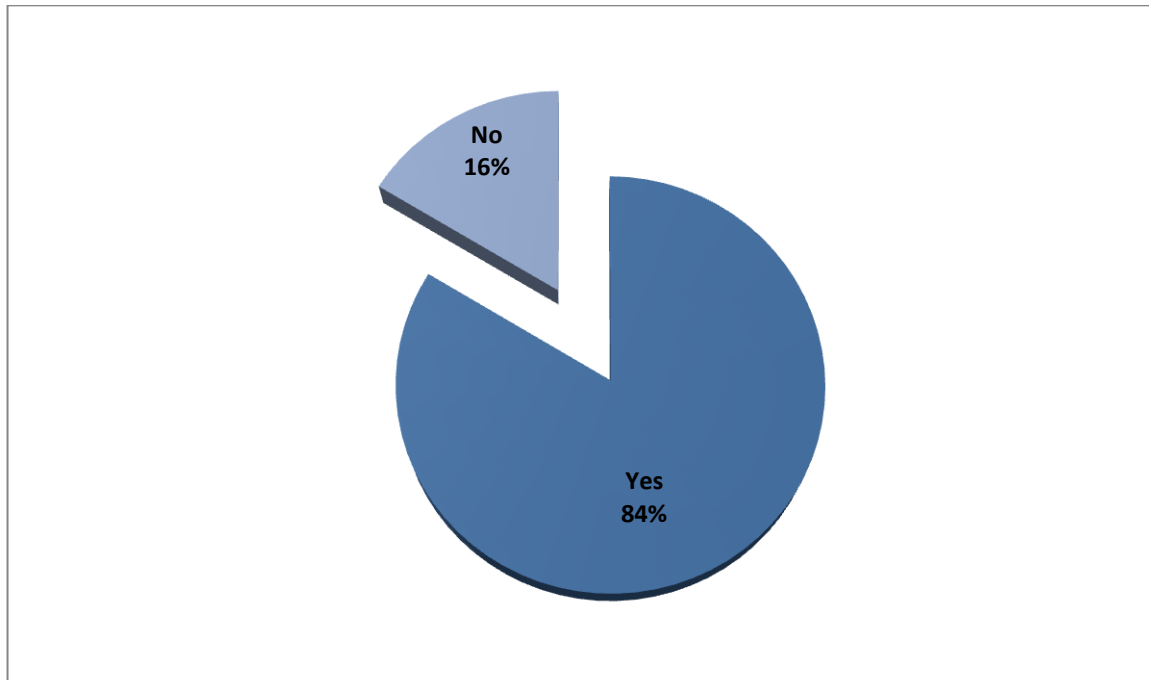
These results are consistent with the known demographic profile of the Parish* and confirm that the results are a reasonable representative sample of the population. Note the even spread of age ranges, and in particular the largest proportion from the 40-64 age range probably reflecting the families residing in the newer properties in Avonwick.

*Oxford Consultancy for Social Inclusion (OSCI) North Huish community profile 2013



Question 2. Do you support the project for a new community hall?

Results:



280 answered

14 skipped

The 294 people who responded to the Survey (including 14 who used the online facility) represent approximately 62% of the current population, an exceptionally high and very valid representative sample.

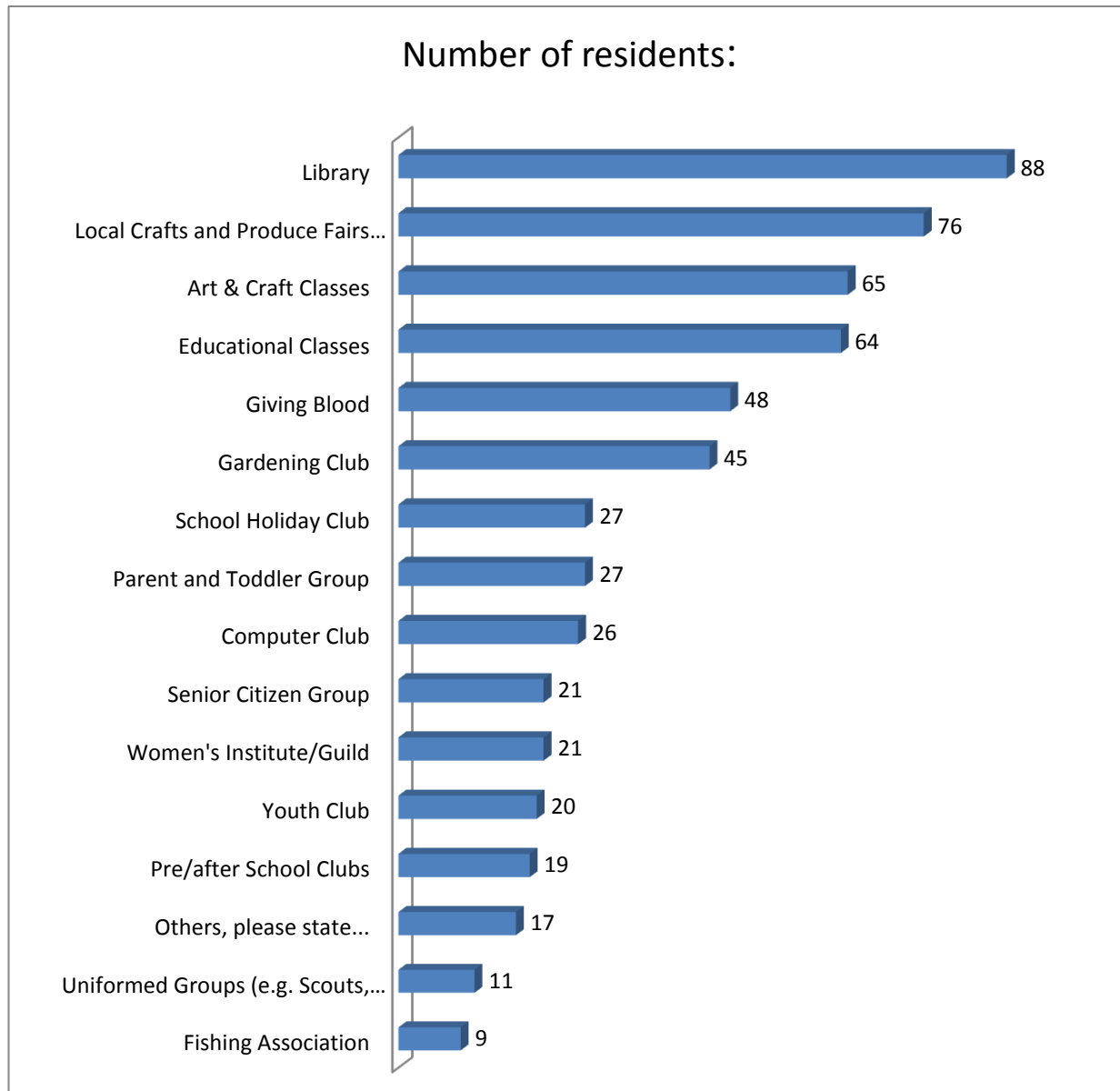
There was overwhelming support for a new community hall with 84% of respondents reacting positively to the initiative. This is a clear endorsement by the community and now gives the project group a clear mandate to move forward with their plans.

The analysis also shows that there is a small percentage of the community not yet convinced of the proposal, and their interests and concerns need to be considered as the project develops.

Question 3. GROUPS and ACTIVITIES

Please indicate if you would be interested in Joining, helping to Form, or are already Members of the following activities

Results:



178 answered

116 skipped

178 respondents expressed an interest in joining or helping to form a range of activities. The most popular of which was library provision, followed by local craft and produce fairs, possibly influenced by the very successful Apple Pie Fair in September. Demand for educational and arts and crafts courses was also high.

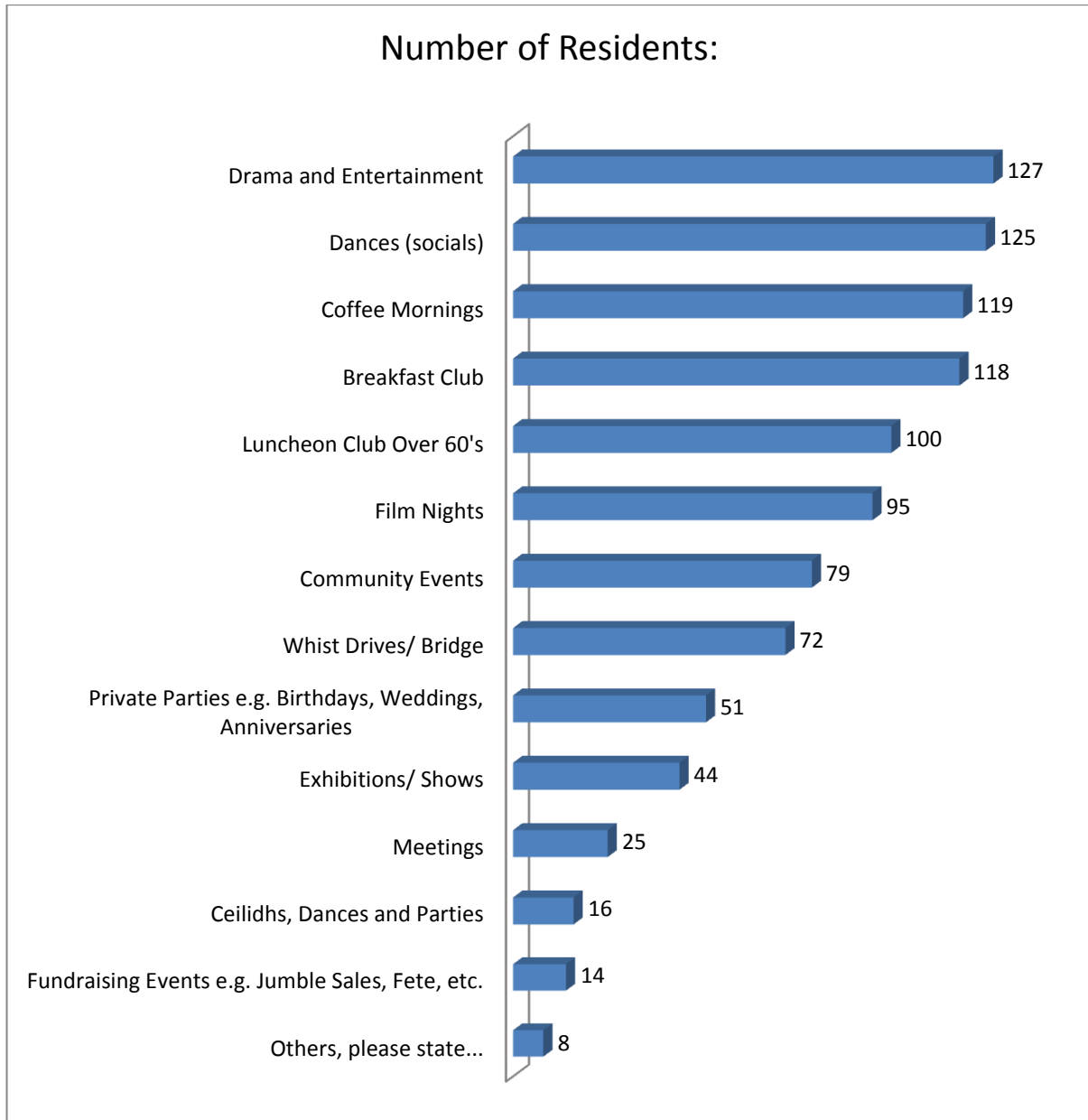
It would appear that there is also significant interest in a range of other activities, and alternative proposals, that would contribute to having an active and well used hall.

Those that indicated a willingness to establish new clubs will be central to these ambitions becoming a reality. This will involve the Project group following up on these offers with support and guidance.

Question 4. EVENTS and CELEBRATIONS

Please indicate if members of your household would be interested in attending/using the hall for any of the following events and celebrations

Results:



212 answered

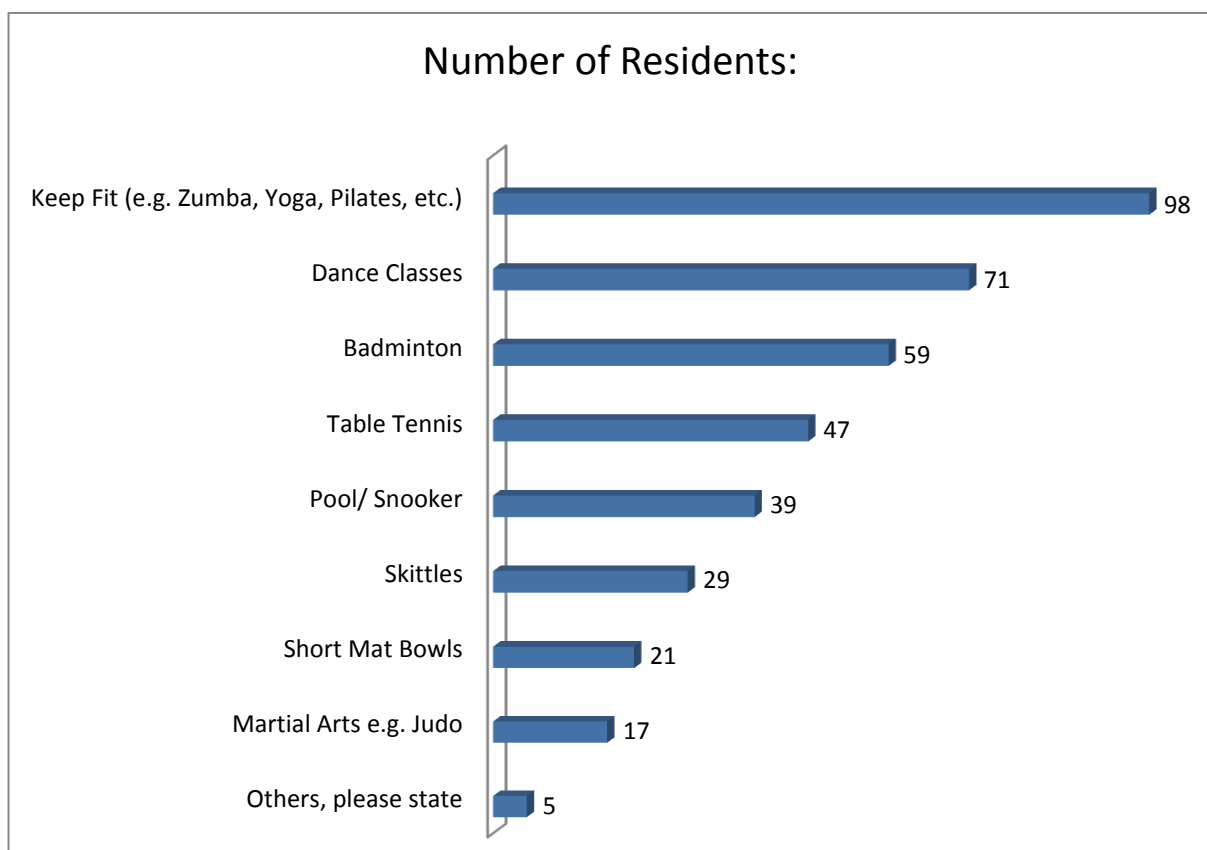
82 skipped

It would seem that the residents of North Huish Parish are keen to hold a range of social activities in the proposed hall. Lead amongst them is Drama which will potentially have implications for the design and facilities in the hall. The high interest in cafes, lunch and breakfast clubs would also indicate a need for suitable catering and kitchen facilities.

Question 5. SPORTS and DANCE

Please indicate if members of your household would be interested in attending/using the hall for any of the following sports activities

Results:



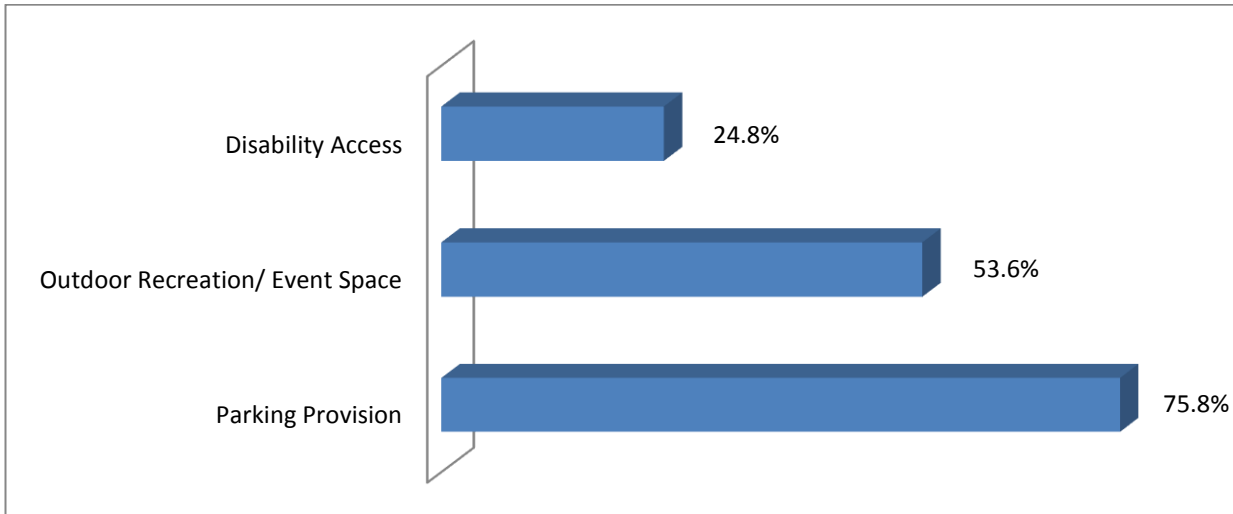
160 answered

134 skipped

There is a slightly lower interest in Sports and dance activities, however by far the most popular was keep fit classes closely followed by dance. Badminton had significant interest which may potentially be a consideration for the dimensions of the hall.

Question 6. Please indicate if members of your household would want the following EXTERIOR SITE facilities

Results:



153 answered

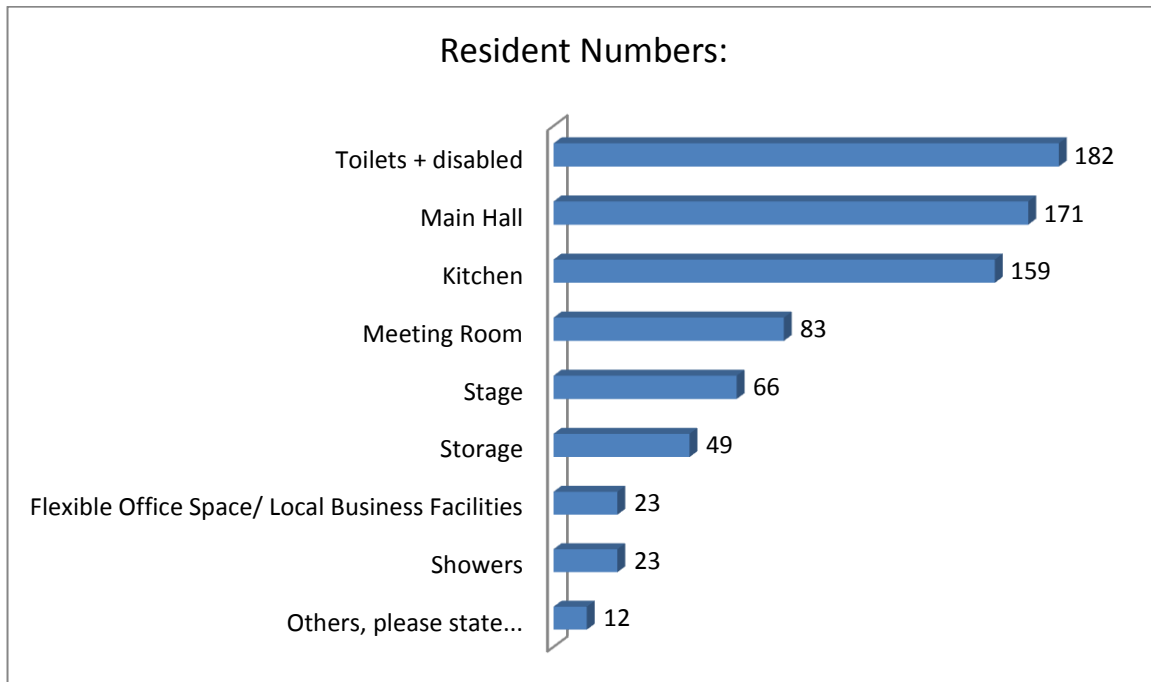
141 skipped

There was strong feedback on the importance of an adequate and appropriate car park to both sustain the hall and minimise any disruption to the village. The project group will need to consider this aspect seriously given the current land available. The outdoor event space was also popular again building on the success of the Apple Pie Fair.



Question 7. Please indicate if members of your household would want the following INTERIOR facilities

Summary Results:



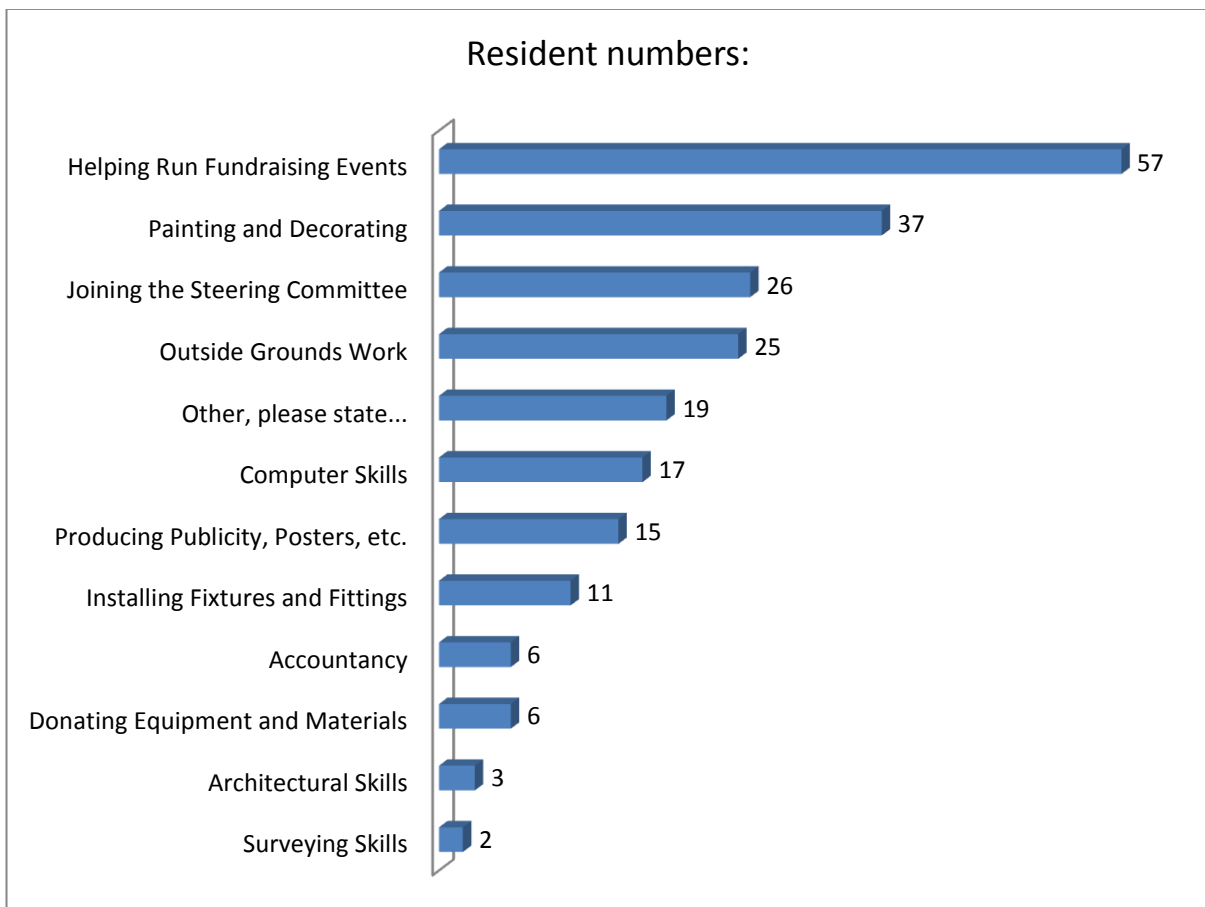
197 answered

97 skipped

The interest in the key indoor requirement reflect the earlier questions related to the activities potentially taking place in the hall, and include the key features found in many halls.

Question 8. Would you be willing to contribute your time and skills to the new hall :

Summary Results:



89 answered

205 skipped

89 people responded to the call to arms to help in the development of the hall project, some offering a range of skills and experience. This community engagement and support bodes well for the project, and the more that are actively engaged the greater the likelihood of the project securing funding and establishing a sustainable hall.

The project team need to actively nurture and engage with these volunteers as the project evolves.



Question 9. E-newsletter

Would you like to receive the Community Website's E-newsletter?

Summary Results:

65 residents signed up for the E-newsletter

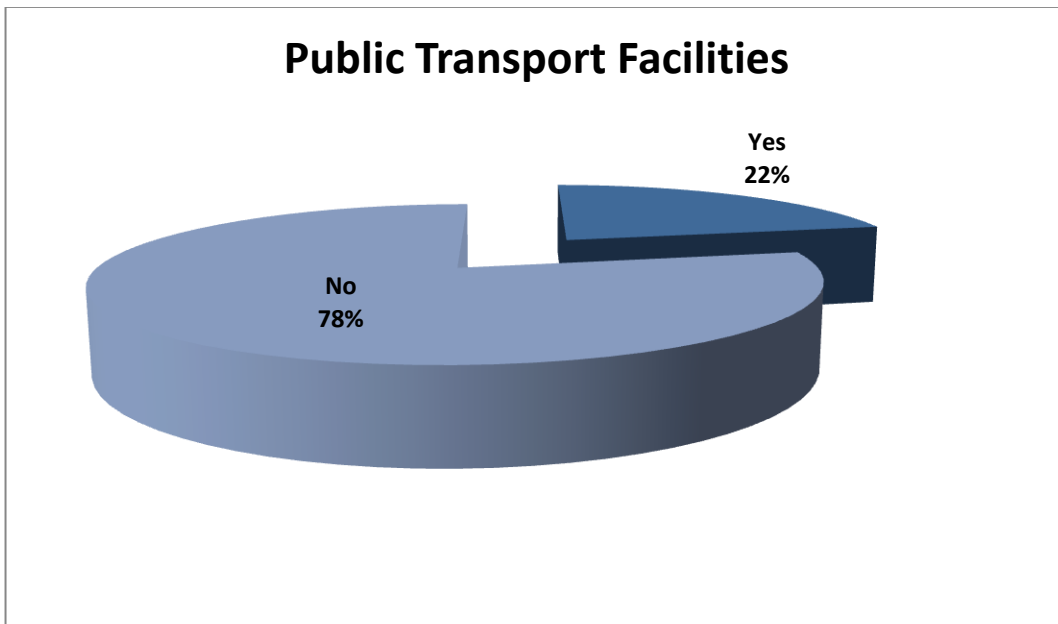
This strong signup will hopefully continue as the project develops ensuring that the community is kept informed and engaged.

128 answered

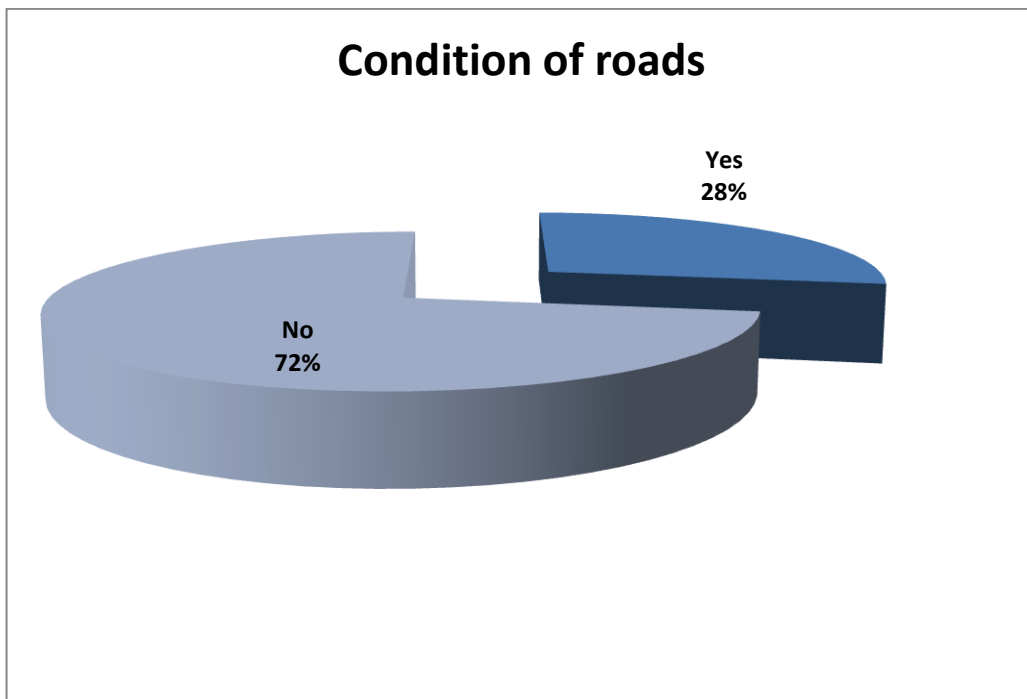
166 skipped

Question 10. Responses to Parish Council questions

Are your needs being met in the parish in terms of Public transport facilities?



Are your needs being met in the parish in terms of the condition of the roads?



180 answered

114 skipped

This feedback together with related comments has been passed on to the Parish Council.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Have the aims of the consultation process been achieved?

Aim 1 - To ensure that the project will meet the genuine needs and aspirations of the local community. This in turn will help to ensure the design/specification and business plan for the proposed hall is reflective of the community's wishes.

An up to date and representative sample of the whole community's needs and aspirations has been recorded - with 294 people from across all age ranges, participating in the consultation survey process.

This has provided vital insights into the different needs and wishes of the community. These features are described in detail earlier in the report.

The overwhelming support for a new community hall gives a clear endorsement by the community and provides the project group a clear mandate to move forward with the task of planning a new Community Hall.

Aim 2 - To engage with the wider community to build support for the project. This would include soliciting offers of in-kind voluntary support for making the project happen and to help shape and provide provision in the proposed Community Hall.

89 people in the community have offered to give their practical skills and experience to help drive this project forward. Furthermore the two community open events that previously took place last year have helped the project team to engage directly with a broad cross section of the community.

A large contact list of supporters has been built up through this process which has empowered the project group to have strong ongoing community dialogue.

In summary there is a great body of local support and belief in this project. The project group is in a strong position to tap into this and move forward towards success!

Aim 3 - To gather evidence in support of, and hence to improve the chances of success when submitting, a funding application to the Big Lottery's Reaching Communities Buildings programme.

The result of this consultation has provided clear evidence for the need and interest in a new community hall in the community of North Huish Parish. When asked the question 'Do you support the project for a new community hall? , **84%** of the people who answered, said "yes".

The survey has also indicated many ways in which this new facility could make a positive and significant difference to the lives of the local people. The results of this consultation show that the potential impact and outcomes of the proposed hall development reflect the programme aims of the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Buildings fund. These are:

- People having better chances in life, with better access to training and development to improve their life skills
- Stronger communities with more active citizens working together to tackle their problems
- Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy
- Healthier and more active people and communities.



6. Appendices

Appendix 1 Outcomes of the June 2014 consultation event

Appendix 2 Feedback from the September 2014 Community Apple Pie Fair

Appendix 3 Copy of Avonwick and North Huish Community Survey

Appendix 4 Oxford Consultancy for Social Inclusion (OSCI) North Huish community profile 2013

Appendix 5 Detailed Survey data

Appendix 1. Public Consultation Evening, 18th June 2014

<p>Events Hire out for weddings/birthdays Film nights Community events Harvest lunch Exhibitions Barn dances Village pantomime Coffee mornings Village show including dog show Village panto Kids parties Craft fairs Breakfast club for charities Craft fairs</p>	<p>Sports, Fitness and dance Pilates Badminton Exercise classes Yoga Tai chi Martial arts Keep fit classes Zumba Short mat bowls Badminton Badminton Short mat bowls</p>	<p>Clubs and Activities Book club Craft club Horticulture club Film club Evening classes Amateur dramatics IT instruction Drama club Spanish classes Avon fishing Association Talks and presentations (Eden project/Plymouth uni research)</p>
<p>Arts and crafts Art group Local arts and crafts Art classes/life drawing Knitting club Art classes</p>	<p>Design and build Meeting/office space with super-fast broadband Internet connection Solar panels Work hub would be useful Exercise machines to generate power A big roof for solar panels Small room for smaller interest groups A climbing wall</p>	<p>Children and young people Kids clubs Scouts and guides Cubs and brownies After school club Cubs and scouts Toddler group Playgroup School holiday activities After school club/activities</p>
<p>Other Statutory provision/services Giving blood Library Cinema Cinema Library</p>	<p>Concerns Parking on road is not feasible Running costs No parking facilities for a village hall If hall is to be viable it will need parking</p>	<p>Concerns Where will village hall users park? Money to maintain it? Will cost of running the hall increase the precept?</p>
<p>All sorts of interest and social groups would germinate and blossom if there was a space to be</p>	<p>Would be good to meet other people from Avonwick</p>	<p>But the village needs to 'consolidate' with no more development apart from a village hall. No more housing/development</p>

I'd love to use the hall	Higher Moor residents need to meet each other	We have no 'Community' in Avonwick. We have lots of people - build a community centre and build a community.
Perhaps building could be of a temp structure to be affordable and quieter	Only moved here a couple of weeks ago but really pleased to see many at the meeting. Think the hall is a great idea!	I think a village hall would help to bring the community together- so yes
This is a good example of the possibility to meet being positive	A village hall encourages community events and diversity of experiences	Yes to a community space next to the pub. Somewhere to meet but not a burden on the community. A negotiated space to be available to all.
Like the idea of a community space. Important to have but can't we somehow use the buildings we do have? For example much cheaper extension on the pub would provide community space whilst also helping to keep another community asset going.	People would rather stay in and watch TV and drink cheap beer. No parking facilities for a village hall.	What about running costs? Raising money and paying to maintain it.
It should be North Huish and Avonwick not the other way around	Via email We both feel that a hall would be a strong asset for the local community particularly now that the village has effectively doubled in size.	Will we be consulted on the design of the village hall?

Appendix 2. Community Apple Pie Fair, 21st September 2014

<p>Events Children's Parties Hire for celebrations Jumble sales Yearly garden/craft show Yearly car boot/table top sale Food and music festival Concerts Talks/demos Pantomime Once a year acting club-we have a week to create a play Coffee mornings Ceilidhs</p>	<p>Design and build Space for meetings/classes Look at Harberton and use similar design and build a stage Use the village Multi-purpose rooms Kitchen facilities Sky TV for Football</p>	<p>Apple Pie Fair event Great idea to bring everyone together like today Bouncy castle</p>
<p>Arts and crafts Art workshops Craft workshops</p>	<p>Clubs and Activities Whist drive Youth Club and Community Clubs Beetle drive Book club would be very nice but you have a month to read the book Great idea for clubs and societies</p>	<p>Sports, Fitness and dance Zimba Classes Pilates Classes Yoga for all ages Pilates Thai chi Activities for the retired French dance classes/evenings</p>
<p>Food and Drink Gluten/Dairy free cooking classes/demo's Charity pop up food evenings eg. Thai, French, Fish</p>	<p>Children and young people Toddler group Playgroup Nursery/toddler group Saturday morning boot camp Film club for children sat/Sun am I think film club for kids idea-rocks!</p>	<p>Other Community Library Rent field for dog walking and kids football-each house to contribute</p>

Appendix 3.

Avonwick and North Huish Community Hall Project



Community Survey **Your views matter**

The Community Hall Project Committee, made up of local residents, would like to hear your views on the building of a new Community Hall in the Parish. Land is available for the new hall next to the Play Park in Avonwick.

This Committee organised two Public Consultations last year, one in June and the Apple Pie Fair in September. We are now in a position to take the project further thanks to the Big Lottery Fund which has provided £10,000 for us to carry out a Feasibility Study. This survey is the first part of the Study which we are carrying out with the help of Devon Communities Together (formerly Community Council of Devon).

The response to this survey will establish if there is positive support to proceed with building a new community hall. Should a new hall build be something which would be welcomed, your answers and views will be essential in informing and helping to make a strong case for successful grant applications.

We would encourage the youngsters of your household to get involved too. Please include a separate A4 sheet for each child with their drawings, ideas and opinions as to what facilities they would like to have in a hall, and what activities they would like to do. (Please put the age of the child on the paper).

How to complete the Survey

Please take a few minutes to fill in this survey with your household/family members – each member should keep to the same letter throughout, i.e. whoever fills in as ‘Person A’ in question 1, will answer as ‘person A’ throughout. If your household has more than 5 then please complete a second survey sheet.

You do not need to give your name, but if you want to help the Project in any way you can give your contact details at the end of the survey, or contact us separately. If you would prefer to complete your survey **online** you can do so at:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/AvonwickAndNorthHuish

If you do respond online please let the survey collectors know and give them any youngsters drawings/ideas sheets.

Your completed survey/drawings will be collected in person by a project volunteer on between and . If you won't be at home at this time please place the completed survey form in a plastic bag outside your front door for the volunteers to collect.

Thank you for your help

Avonwick & North Huish Community Hall Project Committee

If you need assistance completing the survey or want the survey form in large print please contact the project secretary on (01364) 73653.

1. What age group do each of you belong to?
person only]

[Tick one box per

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Under 14 yrs					
14 - 18 yrs					
19 - 39 yrs					
40 - 64 yrs					
65 - 80 yrs					
Over 80 yrs					

2. Do you support the project for a new community hall?

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Yes					
No					
Comment?					

3. GROUPS and ACTIVITIES

Please indicate if you would be interested in **Joining**, helping to **Form**, or are already **Members** of the following activities by putting a **J** (join), **F** (form) or **M** (member) in each activity:

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Women's Institute/ Guild					
Youth Club					
Uniformed Groups (e.g. Scouts, Cubs etc.)					
Local Crafts and Produce Fairs and Markets					
Pre/after school clubs					
Parent and Toddler Group					
School holiday club					
Senior Citizen Group					
Educational Classes					
Art & craft classes					
Gardening Club					
Fishing Association					
Computer Club					
Library					
Giving blood					
Others, please state...					

4. EVENTS and CELEBRATIONS

Please indicate if members of your household would be interested in attending/using the hall for any of the following events and celebrations

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Drama and Entertainment					
Dances (socials)					
Coffee mornings					
Breakfast club					
Luncheon club over 60s					
Film nights					
Community events					
Whist Drives / Bridge					
Private parties e.g. birthdays, Weddings, anniversaries.					
Exhibitions/shows					
Meetings					
Ceilidhs, Dances and Parties					
Fundraising events e.g. jumble sales, fete etc.					
Others, please state...					

5. SPORTS and DANCE

Please indicate if members of your household would be interested in attending/using the hall for any of the following sports activities

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Table tennis					
Short Mat bowls					
Pool/snooker					
Skittles					
Martial arts e.g. judo					
Keep fit (e.g. Zumba, Yoga, Pilates etc.)					
Dance Classes					
Badminton					
Others, please state...					

6. Please indicate if members of your household would want the following EXTERIOR SITE facilities

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Parking provision					
Outdoor recreation/event space					
Disability Access					
Others, please state...					

7. Please indicate if members of your household would want the following INTERIOR facilities

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Main Hall					
Meeting room					
Kitchen					
Toilets + disabled					
Showers					
Storage					
Flexible office space / local business facilities					
Stage					
Others, please state...					

8. Would you be willing to contribute your time and skills to the new hall by:

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Helping run fundraising events					
Joining the steering committee					
Painting and decorating					
Outside grounds work					
Installing fixtures and fittings					
Donating equipment and materials					
Producing publicity, posters etc.					
Computer Skills					
Architectural skills					
Surveying skills					
Accountancy					
Other, please state					

**9. The North Huish Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to ask:
Are your needs being met in the parish in terms of: (please answer yes or no)**

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E
Public Transport Facilities					
Condition of Roads					
Other?/please state					

Thank you for your time. Survey responses, once collected, will be sent to the Devon Communities Together for analysis. Once the analysis has been completed the results will be published and a feedback event held.

Please, if you have offered to help in any way do fill in your contact details below, **and** what you are willing to help with in question 8 above, so we can keep in touch. **Thank you.**

Name(s).....

Address.....

Telephone.....

.....

Email(s).....

.....

Would you like to receive the Community Website's e-newsletter? YES / NO

If yes please provide your email address above

Help is needed now for the Community Hall Project.

The project committee are currently looking to recruit additional committee members, a treasurer and members for an events sub-committee (to organise this year's community events). Would you be interested in helping? **YES / NO** If yes, please write your contact details above or contact the Secretary (see below) and we will be in touch.

Avonwick and North Huish Community Hall Project Committee members are currently:

Chairman: Paul Tyler, Treasurer: Liz Rider, Secretary: Lisette Granados, District Councillor Rob



LOTTERY FUNDED

Project Contact Details

Lisette Granados, AHNCHP, Hawthorn Cottage, 4 Aune Close, Avonwick South Brent, Devon TQ10 9LZ Tel: (01364) 73653 email:

info@avonwicknorthhuish.co.uk
www.avonwicknorthhuish.co.uk



Appendix 4 Oxford Consultancy for Social Inclusion (OSCI) North Huish community
profile 2013

Appendix 5 Detailed Survey data