

# Renewable Energy, Environment, Open Spaces & Public Rights of Way

## Renewable energy

A majority in favour (65%) of solar panels on roofs, and from comments that they should be a requirement of new build.

>50% against wind turbines and/or wind farms

A larger proportion (36%) in favour of hydroelectric power than against (34%). This had the largest response with no opinion (30)

Other sources of energy mentioned were: GSHP, Energy from waste (composting)

## Flooding

Greater than 90% found all measures identified for reducing flood risk as important. Clear concern throughout Parish about flooding.

Measures to reduce flood risk, based on comments included:

- not allowing development on flood plains,
- maintenance of water courses/drainage ditches etc should be encouraged,
- no new development unless drainage system conformed adequate or upgraded.

## Street Lighting

The majority considered that switching off street lights heightened security and safety risk.

The majority of respondees thought that switching off street lights would reduce light pollution.

The comments reflected a general support for switching off lights late at night but also concern about the risk of an increase in crime.

## Open Spaces

The analysis of statistics on use of open spaces is influenced by the fact that the data are for the whole parish rather than by community. This makes it hard to evaluate usage.

Very strong support (>86%) for protecting open spaces within the Parish

Mixed opinions about Sheepy Glade although 92% considered it important and 1.3% not important

A greater proportion considered the protection of current open spaces (96%) to be more important than providing new open space (44%)

## Leisure activities

More than 59% do keep fit (running, walking etc) at least once a week and 65% enjoy the views at least once a week.

Several comments were made about the absence of a play area in Sibson

All facilities and opportunities identified were considered important (>82%)

Comments suggested more exercise classes in Sheepy/Sibson, fishing, adult outdoor gym equipment, changing rooms at Sheepy Playing Field, printed guides of footpaths/walks, joining up of paths, better placed seating, dog bins in Sheepy Parva (top end)

## **Rural characteristics**

All views considered important and should be protected. Percentages reflected location within the Parish with lower values in those areas further away from Sheepy. This reflects the population distribution.

There were many comments expressing the value and importance of protecting the area along 15-19 Meadow Close, the path to the church, as an open space and the ecology etc.

Lots of suggestions for views that people valued – 50 comments and on rural characteristics – 37 comments

Strong support for protecting existing (93%), and establishing additional, wildlife areas (76%)

## **Public Rights of Way**

All footpaths considered important (>69%). Higher responses reflected the population distribution within the Parish.

63 comments that included: concerns about fly-tipping, damage caused by 4 x 4s (BOTAT) and wanting ban, concerns about access to T15(?) at Atholl House and generally about upkeep by landowners, request for footpath/cycleway from Sibson to Wellsborough, route maps and guides

## **Young Persons questionnaire**

The top four things that young people considered important and used were: Footpaths and bridleways (64%), Broadband/Internet (78%), Sheepy Playing Fields (59%) and mobile phone network (52%).

56% indicated that they would like to stay in the area when they were an adult and that there needed to be more/better facilities for play, leisure and sport (52%).

A wide-range of additional facilities were identified, with the following displaying prominence:

- Parks (possibly Sibson – would need checking)
- High Sped Broadband/better connection – very widely supported
- Improved/better sports facilities/activities, e.g. multi-sports court
- Shop/Post Office
- Cycle track
- Youth club

- Better transport links to/from villages