

Putley Neighbourhood Development Plan

Residents' questionnaire survey

Results report

DJN Planning Limited

January 2017

For Putley NDP Steering Group

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1. Introduction

Putley is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (ND Plan) for the area covered by the parish. A Neighbourhood Area was designated in February 2016 and a Steering Group was established to carry out the work.

To help inform the ND Plan, a residents' questionnaire survey was undertaken in November 2016 to seek views on a range of matters including housing, the economy, the local environment and community services. The questionnaire took account of discussions and issues raised at two Open Meetings held in September 2016.

This report sets out the results of the survey. The report:

- Includes a summary of the main findings (section 2).
- outlines the survey methodology, describes the overall response to the survey, and how the results have been presented in this report (section 3).
- sets out on a question-by-question basis the response to the questionnaire, dealing with:
 - a vision for Putley - question 1
 - housing – questions 2 to 6
 - traffic, transport and access - questions 7 and 8
 - jobs and the local economy - questions 9 to 13
 - protecting our environment - questions 14 to 19
 - community services - questions 20 and 21
 - information provided about the respondents to the survey (questions 22 to 26).
 - have we missed anything? - a final chance to comment on anything not covered in the questions.

A copy of the questionnaire is available separately.

This report has been independently prepared for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group by Dr. D.J. Nicholson.

January 2017

2. Summary of results

The survey was undertaken in November 2016 and achieved a response rate of 64.5%.

A vision for Putley

- There was support for the draft vision with comments on social, economic and environmental aspects. Issues were raised around the provision of housing and employment to meet the needs of the younger generation, public services and infrastructure, farming and business, and tourism.

Housing

- The preference was for new housing to be provided through building conversions, individual infill dwellings or smaller developments, rather than a larger scheme.
- Homes with 2 or 3 bedrooms were favoured over larger properties. There was support for environmentally efficient, self-build and live/work housing. The least favoured form of new homes was social housing.
- Comments suggested Putley Green and Putley Common as locations suitable for new housing, with several sites being identified. More generally, new dwellings would be best sited alongside existing properties and clusters of housing. The environs of Putley Church was identified as a location where housing should not be built, amongst others.
- New housing was generally accepted as a way of helping to meet local needs, including for smaller/starter homes to provide more affordable accommodation for families and younger people. This was part of a wider concern to achieve a more balanced demographic.

Traffic, transport and access

- Top priority for improvement was road, hedge, ditch and drain maintenance, followed by the upkeep of footways and bridleways.
- Road safety for all users was also an area for improvement.
- Comments emphasised issues around excessive traffic speed, including a need for traffic calming, and maintenance including selective hedgerow trimming. Opposing views were expressed about the use made of the narrow lanes by goods vehicles and farm machinery.

Jobs and the local economy

- Favoured types of employment were agriculture, forestry, food and drink production and processing, livery and tourism, reflecting the rural nature of the area and existing activities.
- Light industry, storage and distribution and intensive livestock units were less favoured.
- Improvements to broadband and communications were recognised as a pre-condition to effective home working and to encouraging small businesses in the area.
- Home working and live/work should be provided for in the ND Plan, as should the conversion of rural buildings for business uses.

- Comments supported small-scale economic activity, especially that based on adding value to land-based products, with calls for adverse impacts such as traffic to be considered.

Protecting our environment

- Responses placed emphasis on ensuring that traffic from new development was compatible with local roads, that development should be in keeping with its surroundings and avoid creating noise and light pollution.
- The most important way to protect the environment was to safeguard the character of the landscape.
- Many local features and attributes were identified for protection. Replies also pointed to the diverse range of landscapes and habitats represented in the Plan area.
- Most respondents had not suffered from flooding, with reported problems stemming from road or field run-off.
- Solar panels and air/ground source heat pumps were favoured as renewable energy sources with little support for wind turbines (particularly for larger-scale wind farms) or solar farms.
- Comments covered a range of environmental issues such as woodland and hedgerow management, water extraction and flooding.

Community Services

- The most important community service in meeting the current and future needs of the community was viewed as broadband; the least important as the part-time Post Office service.
- Comments on the need for improvement to community services focused on broadband and mobile phone reception. Along with calls for a local shop, there was also mention of the need for a variety of cultural and leisure facilities. Others saw a need for improvements to the Parish Hall and the playground at Putley Green.

Information about you

- Compared to 2011 Census data for the Neighbourhood Area, females were slightly over-represented in responses.
- Younger age-groups were under-represented against the 2011 Census, with older age-groups being over-represented. The 45-59 age group accounted for 41% of responses whilst making up 31% of the usual resident population aged 16 and over.
- Almost two-thirds of respondents had lived in the Area for 10 years or longer.
- On economic activity, self-employed and retired respondents were over-represented when compared to Census 2011 information.

Final chance to comment

- Comments to this final question raised a variety of issues including housing development, the planning status of Putley as a main focus village, the involvement of the business and farming sections of the community in the ND Plan and a range of other topics.

3. Survey method, response and presentation of results

Method and response

The Steering Group developed the questionnaire to provide evidence for the preparation of the ND Plan. Account was taken of issues raised at the Open Meetings in September 2016, and regard was also had to work on the Putley Parish Plan in 2009. Key themes were identified for the survey around housing; traffic, transport and access; jobs and the local economy; the environment; and community services.

The questionnaire pack included a 'wrap around' sheet which featured a covering letter, completion and return instructions, 'frequently asked questions' explaining the background to the survey and to the Neighbourhood Plan process more generally, and a map of the Neighbourhood Area. A Prize Draw was used to encourage response and a draw form was included for this purpose.

The questionnaire pack was hand-delivered to 197 residents in the Area in November 2016 by members of the Steering Group. All residents aged 16 and over were invited to participate in the survey. Completed questionnaires were hand-collected (with return visits being made as necessary), or otherwise returned to a member of the Steering Group. Draw forms were also collected at this stage; they were kept separate from completed questionnaires to ensure anonymity. Overall, 127 completed questionnaires were collected, a response rate of 64.5%. The number of responses represents 61.6% of residents of the Neighbourhood Area aged 16 and over at the time of the 2011 Census (206).

Presentation of the results

This report analyses the responses to each of the questions. A variety of open and closed questions were used in the questionnaire. For the latter, the responses per option category are given, with percentages based on the number of completed questionnaires (127). This aids comparison of results overall and across questions by utilising a consistent base. Each table confirms the percentage base. Percentages are rounded to whole numbers. Table rows are presented here in the same order as in the questions. Note that respondents did not necessarily provide answers to all row options in the closed questions.

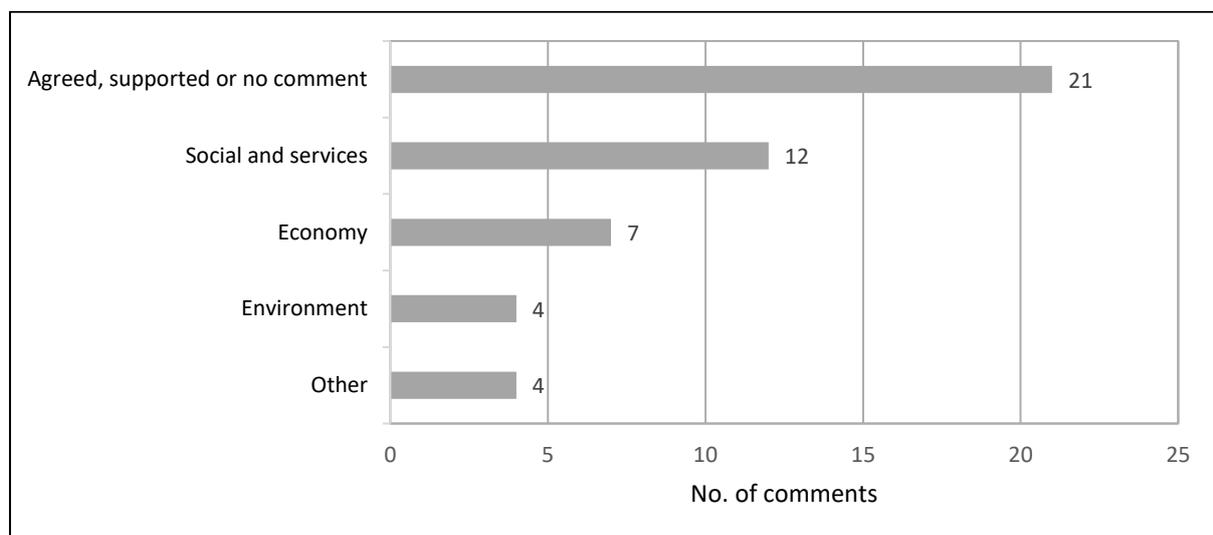
Responses to the open questions invited free-write comments. These have been summarised thematically to identify the key topics raised. Individual responses may raise more than one topic in replying to an open question. For this reason, the total number of comments made to an open question is likely to exceed the number replying. A full set of all the comments made is also available (see accompanying Comment Listings report).

A vision for Putley

The draft vision for Putley set out in the questionnaire was:

- A thriving local community meeting the needs of all ages for housing and other services;
- A place where the next generation would want to raise their children;
- A location which supports farming enterprises and other small businesses, providing local employment; and
- A tranquil rural parish whose landscape, wildlife and historic heritage is protected and sustainably managed.

Q1: Do you have any comments on this draft vision for the future of Putley? This is your chance to tell us.



- There were 45 responses to this free-write question (35% of all respondents).
- Many agreed with the draft vision or had no comment to make (21 comments).
- Comments on social aspects raised issues around the provision of housing to meet the needs of the younger generation, as well as aspects of services, public transport and broadband. Typical comments included: “What is required, in my opinion, is a forward-looking community ... not a ‘land time forget’ rural parish”; Putley should be a “place that welcomes a broader mix of people more in line with the country as a whole on grounds of race, age and religion”.
- On economy, comments sought more recognition of the need for employment for young people, more emphasis on farming and business, and that tourism be allowed to flourish. One respondent thought that “There is not enough about the vibrancy of this being a working parish – third bullet is too flat”.
- On the environment, there was limited comment with most agreeing with the draft vision. One comment queried the focus on tranquillity and historic heritage and suggested an alternative wording with elements of locality, diversity and flexibility.

Housing

Q2: How would you like to see new homes provided in Putley? Please tick one box in each row.

	Yes		No		No opinion	
By converting redundant buildings, such as barns	105	83%	9	7%	3	2%
By sub-dividing larger houses	59	46%	37	29%	20	16%
As individual new houses between existing dwellings	68	54%	33	26%	12	9%
Through the development of several new houses on a site within or adjacent to clusters of existing housing	63	50%	44	35%	12	9%
As a larger housing development	1	1%	104	82%	6	5%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

- This question was answered by all respondents.
- The question sought opinion as to how new homes should be provided, and was prefaced by an explanation of the minimum housing requirements in the Plan area arising from Herefordshire Council's Local Plan Core Strategy and of existing strategic planning policies.
- The most favoured option was to provide new housing through building conversions, supported by 83% of respondents with correspondingly low levels of opposition or 'no opinion' (7% and 2% respectively).
- The next most favoured option was for individual new homes to be provided between existing dwellings (54% in support), closely followed by the development of several houses on a site close to existing dwellings (50%). There was more opposition to the latter option – 35% against, compared to 26% for the 'individual dwellings' option.
- Sub-division of housing to form smaller units, such as at Putley Court, was supported by 46%.
- Least favoured was the option of a larger housing development, with 82% against such an approach and only one respondent in favour.

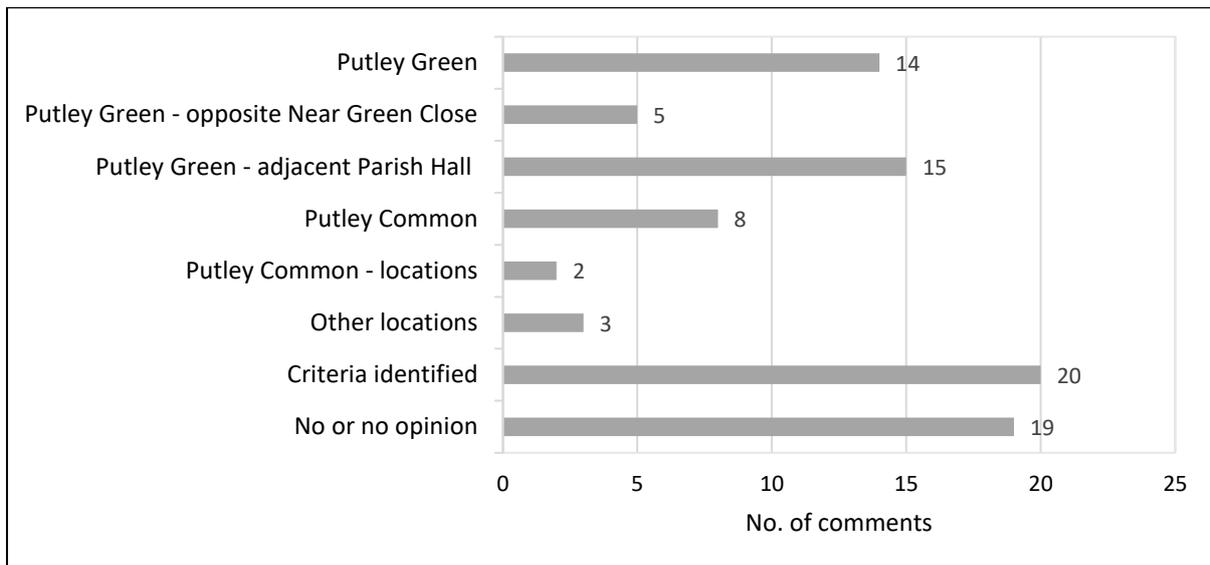
Q3: What type of new homes would you like to see? Please tick one box in each row.

	Yes		No		No opinion	
Starter homes (2 bedrooms)	89	70%	15	12%	11	9%
Family homes (3 bedrooms)	96	76%	10	8%	10	8%
Larger family homes (4 or more bedrooms)	46	36%	53	42%	17	13%
Adaptable or easy access homes, such as bungalows	62	49%	35	28%	16	13%
Supported/sheltered accommodation for older people	40	31%	52	41%	21	17%
Social housing	28	22%	71	56%	14	11%
Private rented housing	39	31%	43	34%	22	17%
Opportunities for self-build	92	72%	12	9%	8	6%
Live/work – homes with workshops	84	66%	16	12%	12	9%
Dwellings built to high environmental standards	86	68%	12	9%	17	13%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

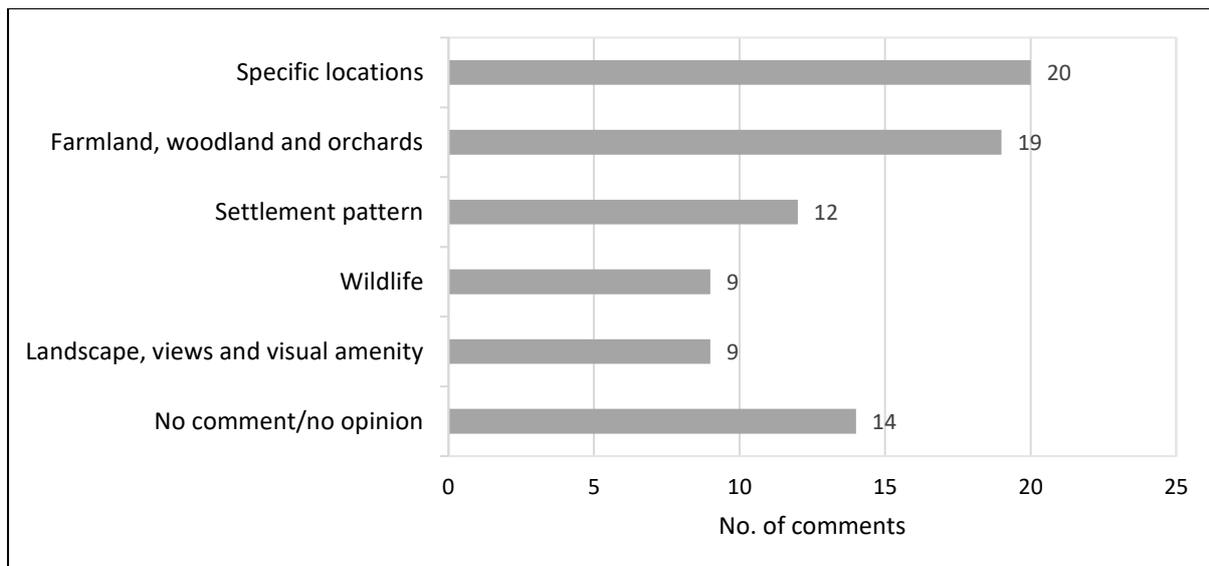
- This question was answered by 125 respondents (98%).
- Relatively smaller houses were favoured over larger properties. Homes with 2 or 3 bedrooms were sought by 70% and 76% of respondents respectively, with few against this format. In contrast, larger homes of 4 or more bedrooms were supported by only 36%, with more being opposed (42%).
- Significant support was recorded for self-build opportunities (72%), environmentally efficient housing (68%) and live/work dwellings (66%), with correspondingly low levels of opposition.
- Housing aimed at meeting the needs of an older demographic attracted a more ambivalent response. Dwellings designed to be adaptable or as enabling easy access, such as bungalows, were favoured by 48% of respondents, but opposed by over a quarter. Sheltered accommodation was opposed by 41%, with 31% in favour; this option attracted the joint highest level of 'no opinion' at 17%.
- Opinion was split on rented housing provided through private landlords, with similar numbers for and against.
- The least favoured form of new housing was for social housing, with over half of respondents opposed (56%) and only 22% in support. These figures are the highest and lowest in their respective categories.

Q4: Are there any specific locations you think are suitable for new homes in Putley? If so, where and why?



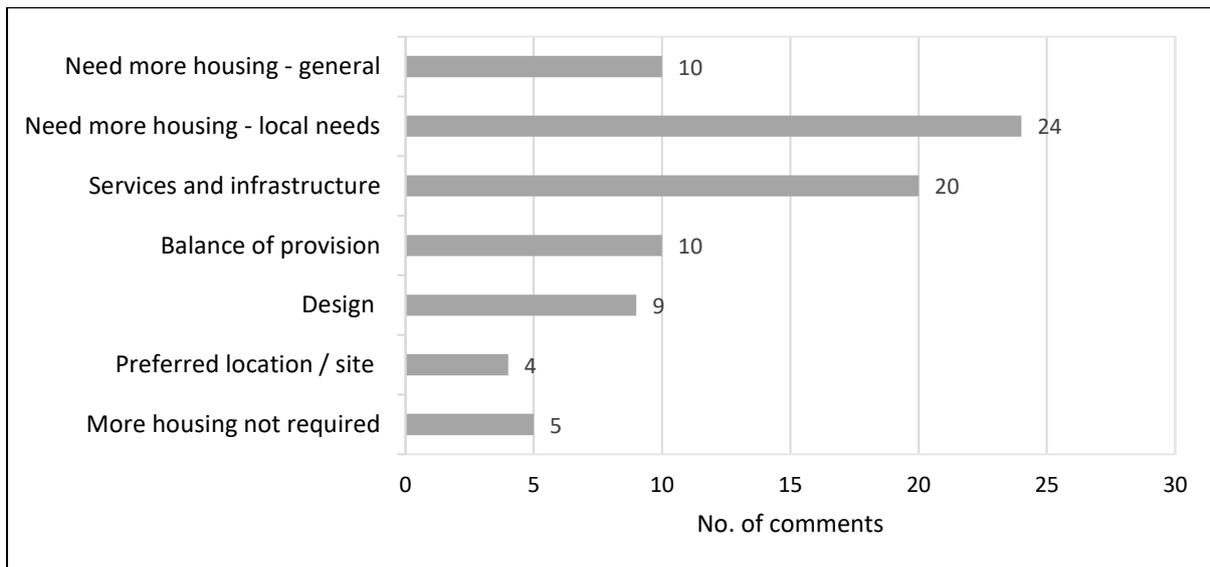
- There were 68 responses to this free-write question (54% of all respondents).
- Responses pointed to Putley Green (14 comments) or Putley Common (8) as being suitable locations for new homes, reflecting the existing housing areas and clusters of dwellings.
- At Putley Green, two opportunities were suggested. The most frequently mentioned (15 comments) was on land adjacent to the village hall; this would “centralise the village”. One respondent wondered whether there was potential to “re-configure the layout of the Parish Hall and car park in conjunction with a small cluster of new housing”. The other opportunity was opposite Near Green Close, to “keep all the houses together” (5).
- At Putley Common, locations at Lazy Acre were identified.
- Away from Putley Green and Common, other locations were suggested to the south of Rose Cottage (2 comments) and at Pool End.
- Other respondents answered the question in general terms by identifying criteria for suitable locations. There was support for siting new dwellings adjacent to existing individual dwellings or to clusters of housing, using such opportunities as “disused farmland and orchards, disused large gardens and paddocks attached to larger properties” as well as redundant farm buildings. Others highlighted the need to consider the availability of services such as drainage or transport.

Q5: Are there any specific locations where houses should not be built? If so, where and why?



- There were 73 responses to this free-write question (57% of all respondents).
- Several specific locations were identified where houses should not be built. In descending order these were: Putley Church and environs (11 comments); Putley Common (6); rear of the Parish Hall (2); road from Hereford Road to top of hill into village (1); and flood risk area at brook/Kynaston Road (1).
- Other comments pointed to the importance of avoiding development on productive areas, so that building does “not have a negative impact on livelihoods”. This was seen to include “arable land, good grassland and orchards that are in production” as well as woodland.
- In respect of settlement pattern, some pointed to the need to avoid ribbon development and to ensure new building was in keeping and not out of place or in isolated locations away from the village. Others cautioned that infill could “encroach on valuable green spaces between houses”; and that new properties should not be built near older properties, which tended to either stand alone or be part of small clusters.
- The need to avoid detrimentally impacting wildlife through the loss of habitats such as traditional orchards and woodland was raised in 9 comments.
- There were also concerns to protect the landscape and its distinctive character; to retain open views; and to avoid development which would harm the visual amenity and outlook enjoyed by existing residents.

Q6: Do you have any other comments on housing, including housing need? This is your chance to tell us.



- There were 66 responses to this free-write question (52% of all respondents).
- Comments generally supported or accepted the need for more housing, subject to various conditions and requirements.
- Many wanted new housing to be provided to meet a range of local needs – especially for smaller, starter homes, which would be more affordable and so help provide accommodation for families and younger people: “new homes suitable for young families are needed”. Housing for older people and those who work in farming was also required. In short, housing should be aimed at “young families, older families and ... farming related workers”.
- Mention was made of the potential for part rent/part buy housing in meeting the housing needs of young people.
- Others pointed to concerns about the ability of local services and infrastructure to deal with new development. The scope for new building would be limited unless services could be improved in tandem.
- The need to work towards a better balance of housing provision underpinned a range of comments. One respondent observed “at present we have many large houses and a lot of social housing. We need more in between those extremes”. Others (but not all) felt that Putley did not need any more social housing.
- As to design, respondents pointed to the need to maintain the architectural diversity of housing; to provide housing to high environmental standards; and to provide properties with good-sized gardens.
- In addition to those locations identified in responses to Q4, a further opportunity was referred to at Putley Green Fruit Farm as having scope for a group of houses including starter homes.

Traffic, transport and access

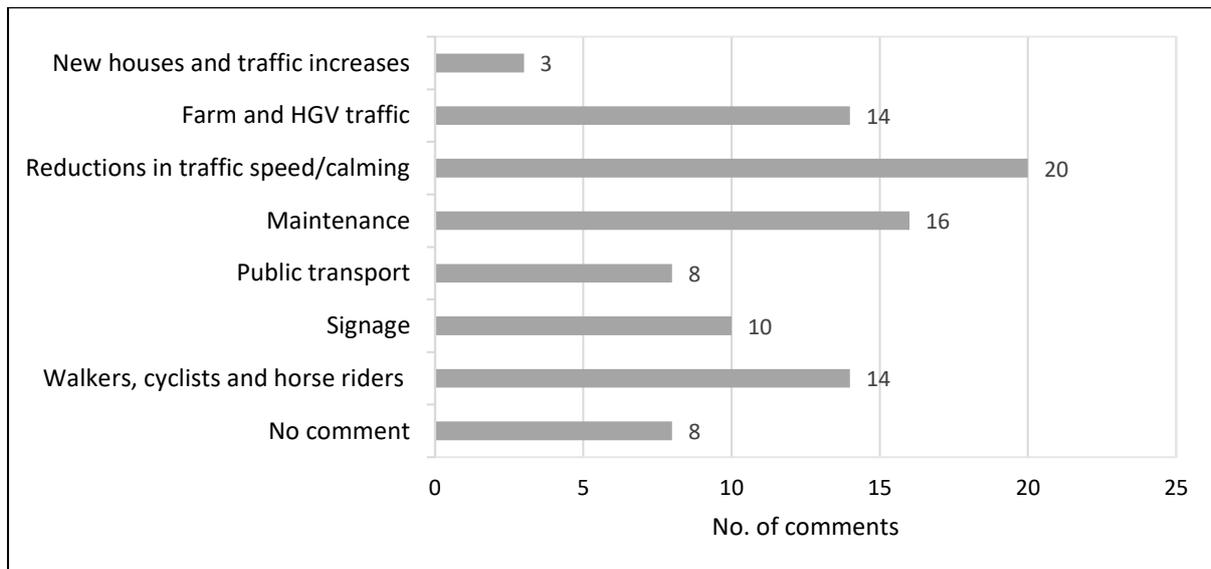
Q7: How important to you are improvements to the following? Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important		Fairly unimportant		Fairly important		Very important	
Road safety, for all users	7	6%	8	6%	25	20%	81	64%
Schemes to “calm” traffic, including speed reduction	24	19%	22	17%	29	23%	46	36%
Facilities for walkers	15	12%	19	15%	46	36%	32	25%
Facilities for cyclists	21	17%	26	20%	46	36%	18	14%
Facilities for horse riders	16	13%	17	13%	44	35%	41	32%
Road maintenance	0	0%	2	2%	21	17%	99	78%
Maintenance of hedges, ditches and drains	1	1%	2	2%	21	17%	100	79%
Footpath and bridleway maintenance	4	3%	7	6%	39	31%	69	54%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

- This question was answered by all respondents.
- Almost all respondents rated improvements to road, hedge, ditch and drain maintenance as very or fairly important. These two options had the highest very important scores, at 78% and 79% respectively, and no respondents thought road maintenance to be not important.
- Footpath and bridleway maintenance was also seen as warranting improvement, but to a lesser degree; 85% of respondents saw this as very or fairly important.
- Maintenance was closely followed by improvements to road safety, for all users, as a priority for many – 84% of respondents saw this as very or fairly important.
- In line with this, improvements to proactive interventions in the form of traffic calming measures were generally supported, although over a third of respondents saw these as not important or fairly unimportant.
- In terms of improvements to facilities for the various types of vulnerable road users canvassed in the question, those for horse riders were seen as very or fairly important by 67%, followed by walkers (61%) and then cyclists (50%). Over a third of respondents thought improvements for cyclists to be not important or fairly unimportant, compared to just over a quarter for horse riders and walkers.

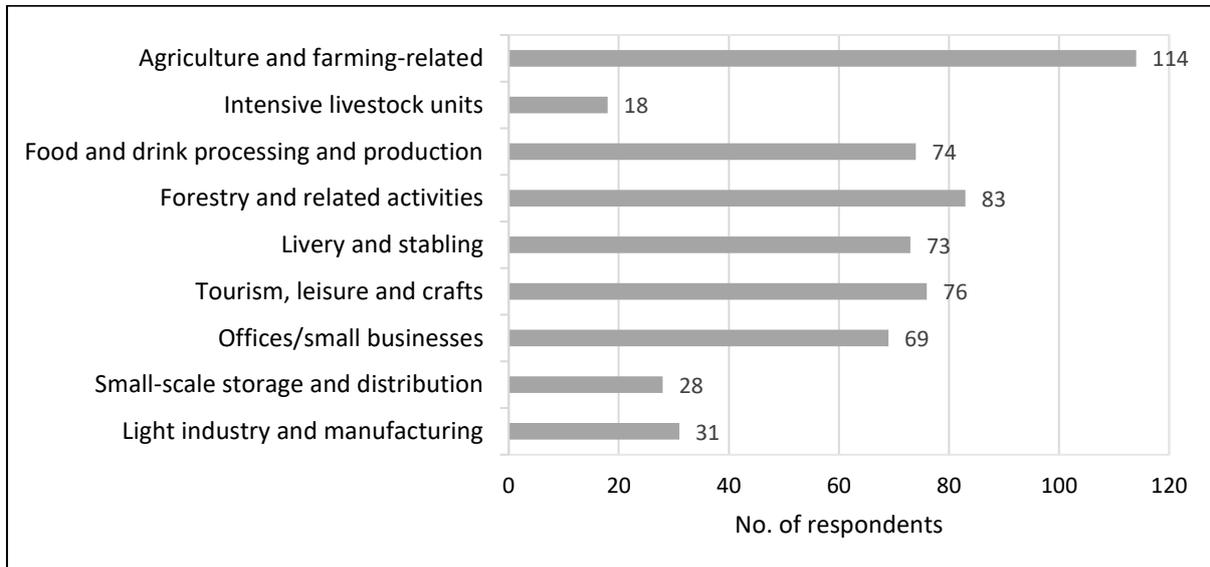
Q8: Do you have any other comments on traffic, transport and access? This is your chance to tell us.



- There were 68 responses to this free-write question (54% of all respondents).
- Most comments were on issues linked to excessive traffic speed and the need for ‘calming’, reflecting the emphasis on this topic in replies to Q7: “traffic needs to be calmed as some drivers go too fast for country roads”.
- Maintenance concerns in respect of road surfaces, hedges, drainage and passing places also attracted many comments, again in line with replies to Q7. There were several calls for more selective hedge trimming, to keep junctions and sightlines clear whilst avoiding blanket trimming elsewhere. This would husband financial resources and retain wildlife habitat.
- Opposing views were expressed about the use made of the narrow lanes by goods vehicles and farm machinery. Some wanted to see a reduction in such usage, finding the highway network unsuitable (7 comments out of 14). Others pointed out that businesses do require the transport of goods (also 7 comments). A representative view was that “it is essential for farm traffic and traffic associated with farm diversification to be accommodated ... part of Putley being a working parish”.
- The 14 comments on walkers, cyclist and horse riders focussed on the need for improvements to walking and cycling facilities, including a suggestion for a new bridleway.
- On signage, many wanted to see fewer or less obtrusive road signs. There were two calls for signs to slow traffic on the approach to the riding school.
- Comments on public transport sought improvements: “bus services should be restored and their use actively encouraged”.
- Finally, several comments warned of the increase in local traffic that would stem from housing development.

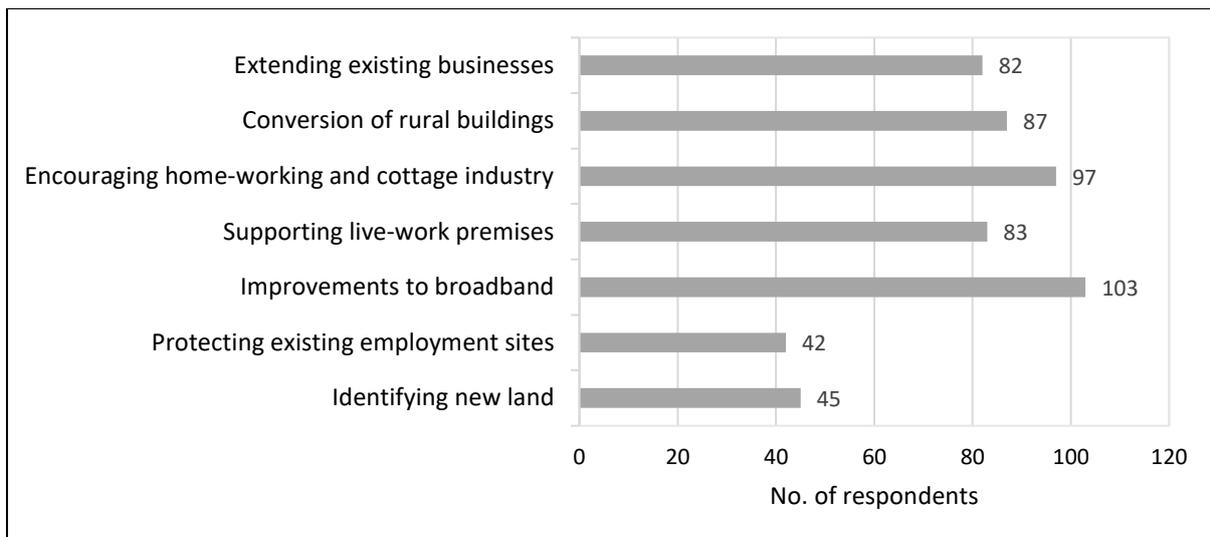
Jobs and the local economy

Q9: What types of employment should the ND Plan encourage? Please tick all that apply.



- This question was answered by 122 respondents (96% of all respondents).
- Agriculture was the most favoured type of employment, in line with the rural nature of the area (90% of respondents overall).
- Forestry, food and drink, livery and tourism were also seen as sectors to be encouraged by between 65% and 57% of respondents, again reflecting the countryside location and existing economic activities.
- Whilst offices and small businesses were favoured by 54%, light industry and manufacturing together with storage and distribution received less support (24% and 22% respectively).
- Intensive livestock units received the lowest level of support (14%).

Q10: How should the ND Plan provide for jobs and the local economy? Please tick all that apply.



- This question was answered by 122 respondents (96% of all respondents).
- Most thought that the Plan should seek improvements to the provision of broadband, no doubt recognising its importance to business development generally (81% of all respondents).
- Home-working was supported by 76% of respondents.
- Other popular options in providing for the local economy were to convert rural buildings for business purposes (69%); to provide live-work premises (65%); and to extend existing businesses (also 65%).
- There was less support for the identification of new employment land (35%) or for the protection of existing employment sites (33%).

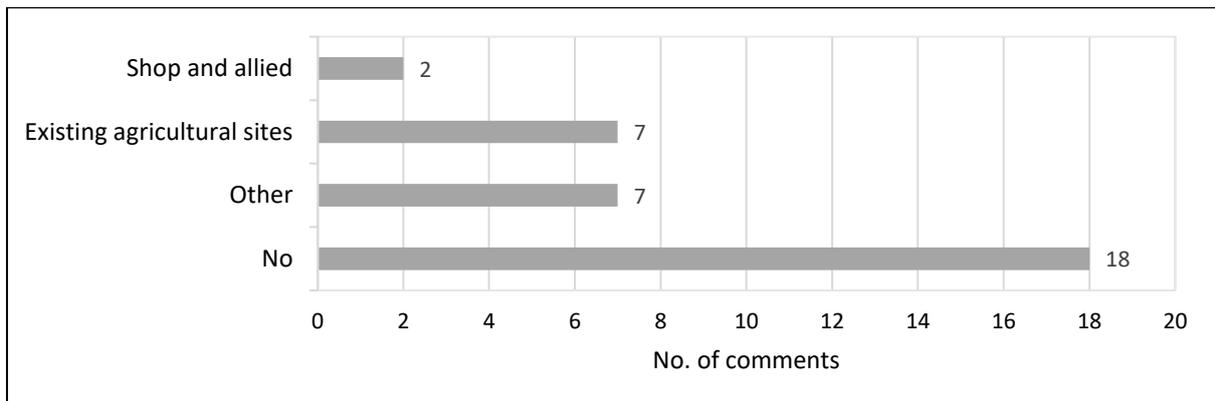
Q11: Would you like to see improved or additional provision of facilities for tourists? Please tick one box in each row.

	Yes		No		No opinion	
Facilities for walkers e.g. promotion of Herefordshire Trail, local circular walks or better signed footpaths	84	66%	9	7%	17	13%
Facilities for cyclists	55	43%	29	23%	29	23%
Facilities for horse riders	69	54%	25	20%	21	16%
Camping sites	38	30%	47	37%	22	17%
Use of property for short-term holiday letting	59	46%	27	21%	29	23%
Further promotion of local events	63	50%	7	6%	30	24%
No further provision for tourists needed	25	20%	30	24%	41	32%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

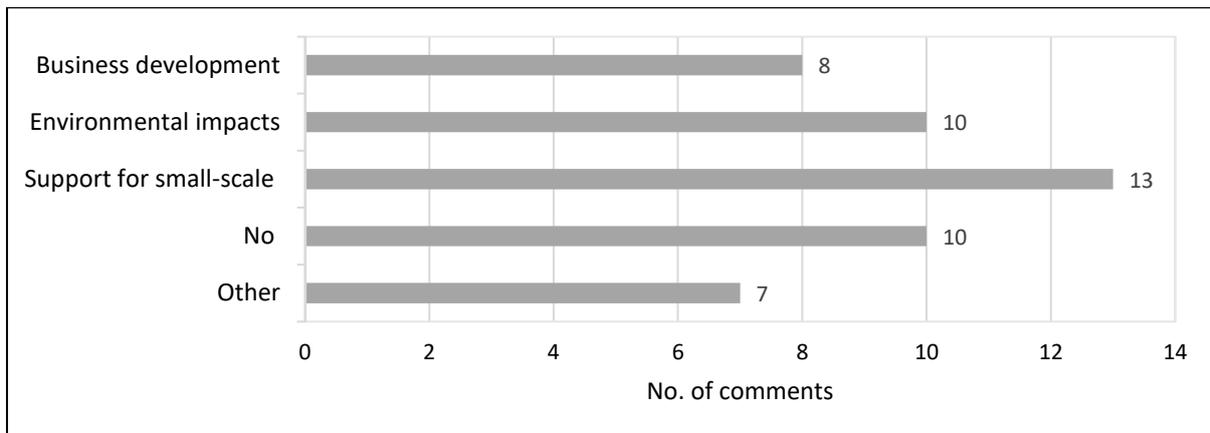
- This question was answered by all respondents.
- Most respondents took a positive view of further provision for tourists. Only 20% thought that no further provision was needed (although 32% had no opinion); and the various forms of provision that were canvassed were supported by between a third and two-thirds of respondents.
- The clear favourite was for further provision for walkers – with 66% in support and relatively low levels of opposition or ‘no opinion’.
- Facilities for horse riders and for local events were supported by a majority of respondents overall (54% and 50%), followed by further holiday lets (46%) and more facilities for cyclists (43%). The preference to offer support to walkers and horse riders above cyclists reflects the responses to Q7.
- The least favoured form of provision was for camping sites, with less than a third in favour and notable opposition. At 37% against, the camping sites option attracted the highest ‘no’ score for this question.

Q12: Are there any specific locations you think suitable for new employment development? If so, where and why?



- There were 34 responses to this free-write question (27% of all respondents).
- The majority of those who responded were unable to identify or suggest any suitable sites for further employment development.
- In line with the emphasis on agriculture seen in responses to Q9, several suggested the use of various existing farmyards and associated buildings.
- Others pointed to the need to protect amenity, countryside, woodland and wildlife habitats, or suggested locations at the Parish Hall and with better main road access.
- There were 2 calls for a village shop/bakery/tea room, with Putley Green and Near Green Close being mentioned as locations.

Q13: Do you have any other comments on jobs and the local economy? This is your chance to tell us.



- There were 45 responses to this free-write question (35% of all respondents).
- The balance of opinion took a positive view of jobs in the Area: “employment is the key to a thriving community and must be encouraged as much as possible”. Comments suggested ways of developing business (8 comments) or offered support for small-scale economic activity (13). Others identified the potential for new economic development to have environmental impacts and called for these to be taken into account (10).
- Many saw small-scale employment as the way forward. A typical comment was that “Putley needs small scale employment to continue to evolve, especially where it is based on adding value to land based products”. The focus would be on such aspects as self-employment, working from home, farm diversification, food and drink production, tourism (including wildlife tourism), and the expansion of existing businesses, supported by improvements to broadband and other facilities and services, such as local meeting places. The present diversity of land use was to be retained: “we need a flexible approach to developing small scale enterprises, such as workshops, food production, vineyards, allotments, tourism and holiday facilities, smallholdings (inc. for rent), any of which may be a route to survival for existing landowners as markets and times change”.
- Comments on business development focussed on the need to encourage and support local enterprise, including calls for businesses and their employees to contribute to the ND Plan.
- Many of the comments on the environmental impact of businesses touched on traffic and the unsuitability of the highway network for HGV use. Others pointed to the environmental benefits of small-scale enterprises such as smallholdings, artisan businesses, crafts and light industry, these being conducive to wildlife by maintaining existing trees and hedgerows, using less or lighter mechanised processes than large scale farming, and minimising commuting.
- Others felt that it was unrealistic for Putley to provide employment: “Putley is what it is and should be protected from forced change by planning”.

Protecting our environment

Q14: Which of the following ways of ensuring that new development respects the environment are important to you? Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important		Fairly unimportant		Fairly important		Very important	
New development to be in keeping with its surroundings	2	2%	5	4%	29	23%	86	68%
New development to make use of local materials	10	8%	21	17%	47	37%	43	34%
New development to make use of materials from sustainable sources	5	4%	12	9%	56	44%	47	37%
New development to exceed government energy efficiency standards	7	6%	22	17%	42	33%	49	39%
New development to include provisions for wildlife	7	6%	19	15%	41	32%	59	46%
New development to avoid noise and light pollution	3	2%	6	5%	23	18%	90	71%
Traffic from new development to be compatible with the local roads	2	2%	0	0%	21	17%	99	78%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

- This question was answered by 126 respondents (99%).
- Almost all wanted to see traffic from new development to be compatible with local roads, with 95% of respondents regarding this as very or fairly important. This option had the highest very important score.
- Similar priority was given to new development being in keeping with its surroundings and to avoiding noise and light pollution - 91% and 89% respectively saw this as very or fairly important.
- The use of materials from sustainable sources was very or fairly important to 81%, and 72% similarly supported energy efficiency ratings in exceedance of current requirements (albeit 17% saw this as fairly unimportant).
- Provision for wildlife was very or fairly important for 78%, but fairly unimportant to 15%.
- The use of local materials was the least favoured option, being not important or fairly unimportant to a quarter (the highest such score).

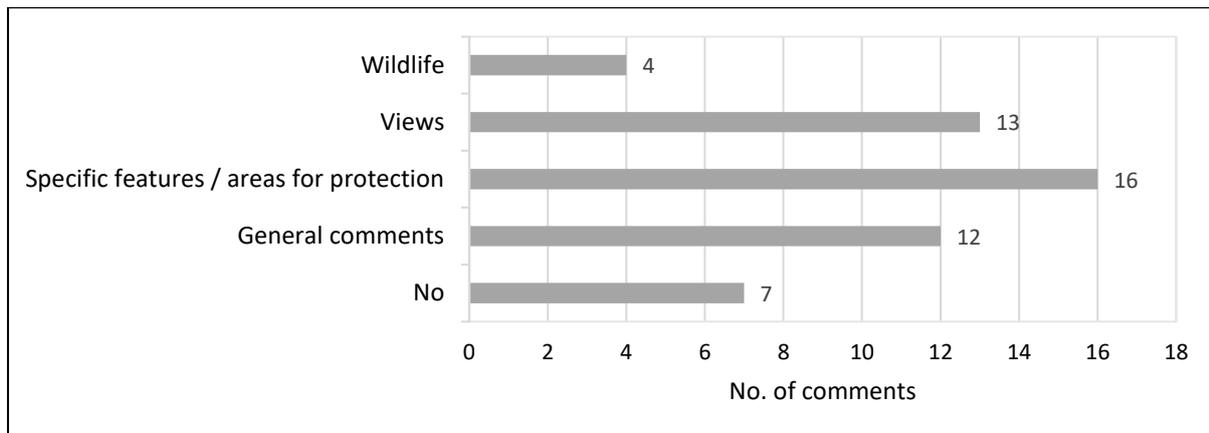
Q15: Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing the local environment are important to you? Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important		Fairly unimportant		Fairly important		Very important	
Protecting important views	1	1%	5	4%	31	24%	73	57%
Protecting the character of the landscape including hedgerows	1	1%	0	0%	29	23%	90	71%
Identifying landscape features for protection, such as trees, woodland, copses and orchards	3	2%	9	7%	32	25%	80	63%
Identifying wildlife habitats for protection, such as ponds and traditional orchards	5	4%	9	7%	32	25%	78	61%
Controlling the extent of polytunnels	9	7%	17	13%	28	22%	67	53%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

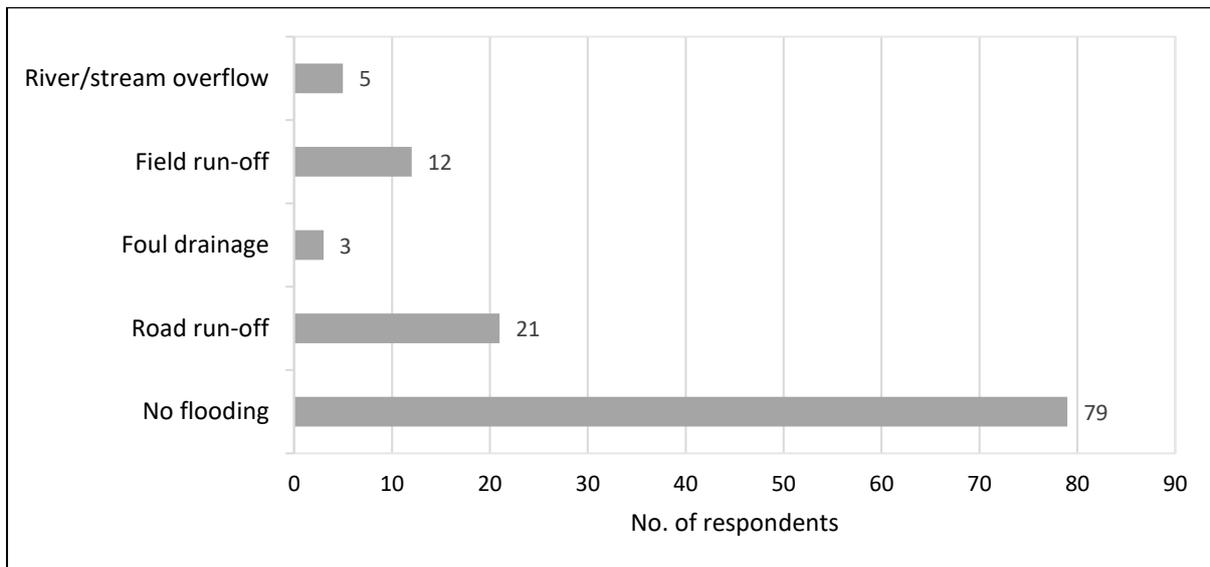
- This question was answered by 125 respondents (98%).
- Of the various options canvassed, protecting the character of the landscape of the area was most favoured. This recorded the highest very important score at 71%, with 94% of respondents finding it to be very or fairly important.
- Reflecting this, 88% ranked identifying landscape features for protection as very or fairly important, whilst 86% similarly supported the identification of wildlife habitats.
- The least favoured option in this question was controlling the extent of polytunnels. Although still thought important by three-quarters of respondents, 20% considered this to be either not important or fairly unimportant, the highest such score.

Q16: If there are any particular local features, views or habitat areas that you think should be protected, please describe them below.



- There were 44 responses to this free-write question (35% of all respondents).
- Specific landscape features and other features of note were identified, including Putley Common (8 comments), Putley Church and environs, including Putley Court (5), Marcle Ridge (5) and Mains Wood/other woodland (5).
- Comments on views referred to long-distance prospects to the Malverns, May Hill and from the western edge of the area across the parish to Ledbury.
- Comments on wildlife referred to habitat corridors and to the need for woodland and orchard management, notably pesticide use, to be conducted with a view to wildlife.
- Wide-ranging general comments identified habitats and landscape features such as hedgerows for protection and appropriate management, with others pointing out that “the beauty of this area is the open views, rolling hills and farming landscape – orchards and grazing fields”.
- The diversity of landscape and habitats taken as a whole was judged important: “the range of mixed habitat – small fields, common land, hedgerows, meadows, traditional orchards, pasture, gardens, extensive mixed woodland – we have here is outstanding”.

Q17: Has your property, land or access suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of any of the following? Please tick all that apply.



- This question was answered by 109 respondents (86%).
- Most confirmed they had not experienced flooding (62% of respondents overall).
- Road and field run-off (17% and 9% of all respondents) were the most frequently mentioned causes of flooding.
- River/stream overflow and problems linked to foul drainage were mentioned by 4% and 2% of respondents.

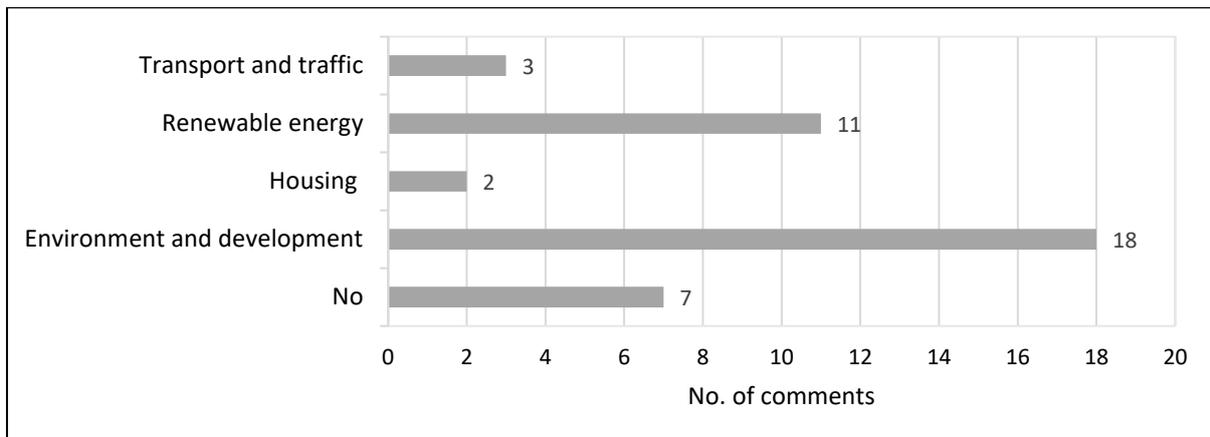
Q18: Which of the following ways of producing local renewable energy should the ND Plan encourage? These could be undertaken on a commercial basis, by private individuals, or operated as community projects. Please tick all that apply.

	Yes		No		No opinion	
Requiring provision to be made within new buildings	70	55%	19	15%	23	18%
Individual wind turbines	33	26%	67	53%	14	11%
Wind farms	14	11%	90	71%	10	8%
Solar panels	94	74%	14	11%	12	9%
Solar farms	37	29%	59	46%	12	9%
Ground source heat pumps	86	68%	8	6%	21	17%
Air source heat pumps	68	54%	11	9%	33	26%
Biomass units	54	43%	25	20%	36	28%
Anaerobic digesters (using waste gas)	35	28%	34	27%	40	31%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

- This question was answered by 124 respondents (98%).
- The most favoured means of producing renewable energy was via solar panels (three-quarters in favour) and ground and air source heart pumps (68% and 54% in favour). However, a quarter of respondents had no opinion on the latter.
- In contrast to the support for solar panels, larger-scale solar farms were favoured by less than a third of respondents, with 46% opposed and few with 'no opinion'. This is consistent with the emphasis placed on protecting the character of the landscape in Q15.
- Over a half of respondents thought provision for renewable energy should be incorporated at the outset in new construction (55%).
- Opinion was more split on biomass and anaerobic digesters, particularly for the latter, and with relatively high levels of 'no opinion'.
- Wind turbines received little support, either as individual structures or larger-scale wind farms. Over a half were opposed to individual turbines, this figure rising to 71% for wind farms. Again, this is in line with respondent views elsewhere on landscape protection.

Q19: Do you have any other comments on the local environment? This is your opportunity to tell us your views on conserving and improving the local environment.



- There were 35 responses to this free-write question (28% of all respondents).
- Many addressed a wide range of aspects of the local environment and the approach that should be taken to allowing and controlling development (18 comments), including:
 - Woodland and hedgerow management
 - New development to be sympathetic to the landscape
 - Water extraction
 - Flooding
 - Sustainable development
- One response under this heading identified that the ND Plan should focus on setting criteria against which any proposed development can be assessed, rather than risk being over-specific by ruling certain uses in or out. This would “provide a framework for decision-making that keeps all options open ... we cannot know now what will be needed in 5 or 10 years time”.
- Taking the opportunity to add further detail to their replies to the previous question, 11 respondents addressed renewable energy. Most expressed qualified reservations, commenting generally on the need to ensure it was appropriate in scale and location – for example, avoiding wind turbines to protect views. One response referred to collective (community) power generation.
- Other issues raised dealt with housing (provision of less expensive property should not be compromised by expensive renewable energy requirements) and with transport and traffic (traffic calming, speed and use of the road network by larger vehicles).

Community Services

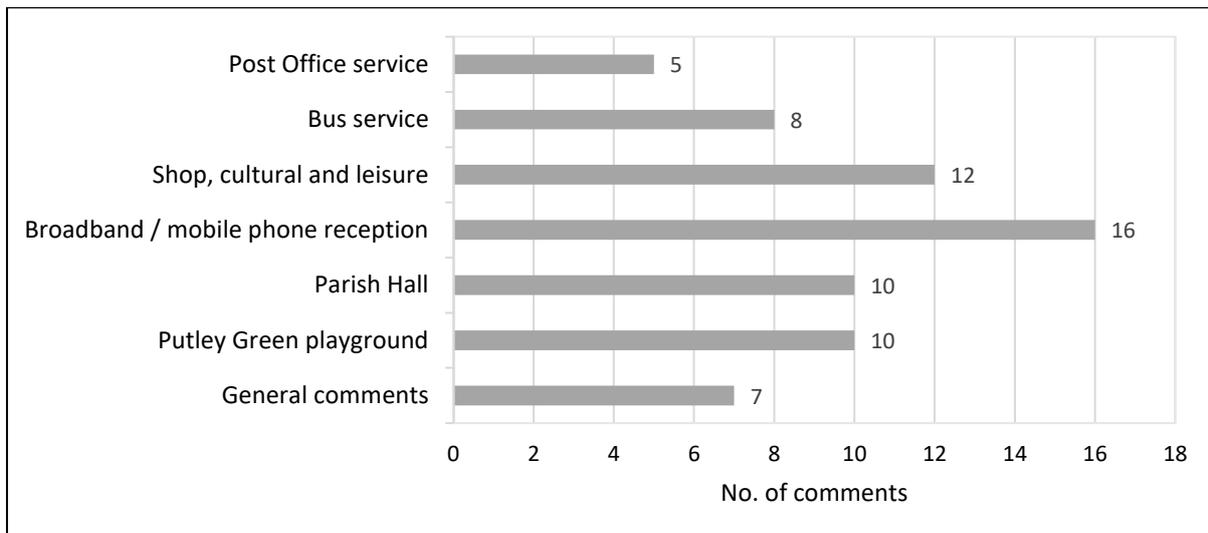
Q20: How important do you think the following facilities, services and amenities are in meeting the current and future needs of the local community? Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important		Fairly unimportant		Fairly important		Very important	
Mobile phone reception	3	2%	7	6%	23	18%	91	72%
Broadband	0	0%	0	0%	19	15%	108	85%
Parish Hall	3	2%	6	5%	35	28%	75	59%
Post Office service	12	9%	30	24%	38	30%	42	33%
“Prancing Pony” pop-up pub	14	11%	11	9%	43	34%	50	39%
Putley Parish Church	5	4%	0	0%	60	47%	52	41%
Local bus services	5	4%	7	6%	47	37%	66	52%
Putley Green playground	8	6%	19	15%	58	46%	36	28%

Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

- This question was answered by 126 respondents (99%).
- Broadband was judged to be essential, to the extent that 100% of respondents saw this as very important (85%) or fairly important (15%).
- Mobile phone reception was ranked as very or fairly important by 90%.
- A group of facilities and services scored between 87% and 89% for these two ratings combined: local bus services (89%), Parish Church (88%) and Parish Hall (87%). Correspondingly few respondents thought these facilities to be not important or fairly unimportant.
- The pop-up pub and the playground were judged to be very or fairly important by 73% and 72% respectively. For the playground, the balance of opinion clearly favoured ‘fairly important’ over ‘very important’. A notable number of respondents saw these two facilities as not important or fairly unimportant – 20% and 21%.
- The Post Office service was regarded as the least essential facility in meeting community needs, with the highest combined score for ‘not important/fairly unimportant’ (33%) and the lowest ‘very/fairly important’ score (63%).

Q21: Do you think that any of the above need to be improved? Are there any other community services you would like to see provided, if possible? Please tell us how this could be achieved.



- There were 52 responses to this free-write question (41% of all respondents).
- Respondents offered further comment on the need for improvement to the various community services listed in the preceding Q20.
- The greatest number of responses was made in respect of the need for improvements to broadband and mobile phone reception, reflecting the priorities identified in Q20. Reference was made to the role of these services in the encouragement of business and jobs.
- A wide range of issues were addressed under the ‘shop, cultural and leisure’ heading. As well as calls for a local shop, mention was also made of a pop-up café, community orchard, allotments, recreational field, and for more community events such as a village fete or rural film evenings e.g. Flicks in the Sticks. One respondent referred to using the church as more of a community facility, in conjunction with the Parish Hall.
- There were 10 comments on the Parish Hall as in need of improvement, including a new roof. One respondent saw the ND Plan as an “opportunity to review Parish Hall – the facility, the layout, the outside area, the car parking. This is a prime land use issue in a prime site”.
- The Putley Green playground also attracted 10 comments, with references to it being under-used and calls for better equipment including swings.
- The bus and Post Office services were generally deemed too limited and infrequent (8 and 5 comments respectively).
- Several wider-ranging comments expressed the view that “local community services are important to a degree to keep Putley united”. More development could support more services such as play activity, part-time shop, social and leisure activities. For other respondents, “all local services need to be accessible and improved. If they don’t exist there will be no community”.

Information about you

Q22: Are you male or female?

	Male		Female	
Questionnaire responses¹	55	43%	67	53%
Census 2011 Putley, usual residents²	123	50%	122	50%

1. Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

2. Percentage base = usual residents (245)

- This question was answered by 122 respondents (96%).
- Females were over-represented in the survey responses compared to the Census 2011 figures for all usual residents. Note the Census data includes under 16s.

Q23: How old are you?

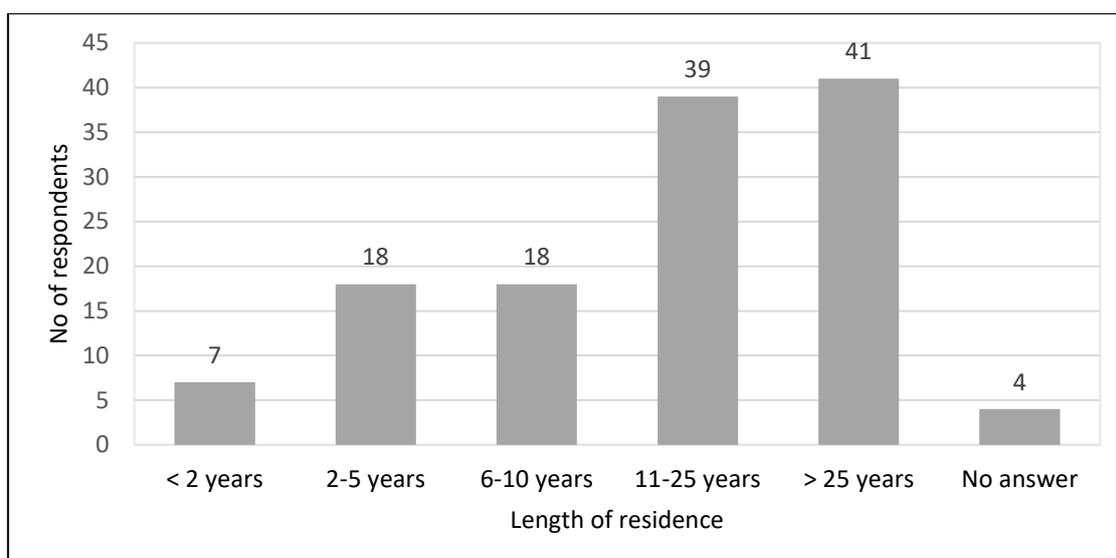
	16-24		25-29		30-44		45-59		60-74		75 and over	
Questionnaire responses¹	4	3%	3	2%	11	9%	52	41%	36	28%	17	13%
Census 2011 Putley, usual residents²	22	11%	5	2%	46	22%	64	31%	50	24%	19	9%

1. Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

2. Percentage base = usual residents from age 16 (206)

- This question was answered by 123 respondents (97%).
- The 16-24 and 30-44 age groups were under-represented in terms of level of response, compared against the Census distribution of population amongst these groups.
- Older age groups (45-59, 60-74 and 75 and over) were over-represented to varying degrees. The 45-59 age group, less than a third of the usual resident population at the time of the Census, accounted for 41% of questionnaire responses.

Q24: How long have you lived in Putley?



Q25: Employment status: please tick all the boxes that best describe you.

	Questionnaire responses ¹		Census 2011, Putley, Economic activity ²	
	No of respondents	Percentage	No of respondents	Percentage
Employed full-time	35	26%	51	27%
Employed part-time	11	9%	28	15%
Self-employed	38	30%	49	26%
Unemployed and available for work	1	1%	4	2%
In full-time education	3	2%	13	7%
Retired	38	30%	27	14%
Looking after home/family	11	9%	7	4%
Long-term sick/disabled	4	3%	4	2%
Other	1	1%	4	2%

1. Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

2. Percentage base = usual residents aged 16 to 74 (187)

- This question was answered by 124 respondents (98%).

Q26: If you are in work, where is your main place of work?

	Questionnaire responses ¹		Putley Parish Plan survey 2006 ²	
Within the parish	28	22%	14	22%
2 miles away or less	4	3%	19	29%
3-9 miles away	12	9%		
10-20 miles away	16	13%	15	23%
More than 20 miles, but still in Herefordshire	7	6%	N/A	
Outside Herefordshire	21	17%	N/A	
Other	7	6%	2	3%

1. Percentage base = 127 (all respondents)

2. Percentage base = 65 respondents to Parish Plan question on place of work.

- This question was answered by 81 respondents (64%). Note that in replies to Q25, 84 respondents described themselves as in employment, and so eligible to answer Q26.
- Where comparable categories are available, data is given from answers to a similar question included in the Putley Parish Plan questionnaire survey, undertaken in 2006.
- Questionnaire answers in the 'other' category included overseas and across the region.

Have we missed anything?

A total of 20 respondents (16% of all respondents) included comments in response to this free-write opportunity to address issues additional to those dealt with in the questionnaire.

Respondents took this opportunity to expand on the various issues which had been broached in earlier questions and on their responses to them.

- Limited and sympathetic housing development should not be a problem – Putley is not remote from leisure/work and other amenities
- Putley's status as a focus village is not mentioned. This should be changed back to agriculture which relieves the housing questions
- Population is getting out of balance – parents of young families themselves raised in Putley have been forced to live elsewhere
- As one becomes older the village becomes more user unfriendly, requiring move into town
- Local businesses including the agricultural economy and change therein should be supported
- More business representation on the Steering Group
- Survey not detailed enough of businesses and farming in Putley. Local businesses and farmers should be further consulted. Views should be sought from other stakeholders such as employees who may not reside in the Area
- Tourism is important
- There should be more bridleways
- Planning decisions are allowing unsympathetic development regardless of wildlife and appearance, which will turn Putley into a shanty town
- Stop drug users congregating in areas where no lighting
- There should be further public community space, such as a community garden or orchard
- Reference to land at "Greytrees" subject to flooding.