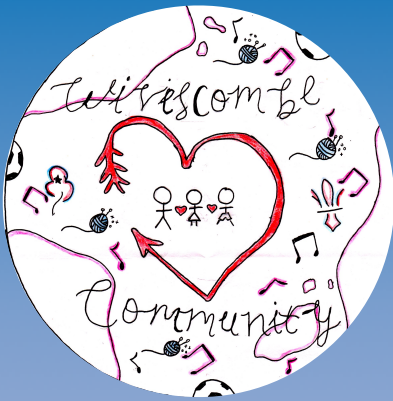


Wiveliscombe Town Council



Community Plan Consultation Report 2022



Introduction

Governments, both national and local, have a habit of deciding what the people they represent want. With major changes coming to Somerset's Local Government structure, Wivey Town Council thought that a better approach would be to find out what matters to Wivey folk, what improvements they would like to see and also what the all important younger generation feel about their Town.

So we decided to prepare this Community Plan which involved extensive consultation with the Community and, after a tendering process, appointed Moorvale Creative CIC to carry out this task.

We must emphasise that the Town Council has both limited powers and finance. Much of what you said you wanted will have to be carried out by other Councils or voluntary bodies but the Town Council can use the results of this survey to show that we have demonstrated what local people want when trying to convince others about the need for action.

Thank you to all those who helped prepare the consultation questionnaire in it's early stages and share widely. Thank you to all who responded to the survey to enable the Plan to be prepared.

Peter Berman

Chair Wiveliscombe Town Council Community Plan Group

This final Community Plan Consultation Report has been split into 10 different sections for ease of sharing digitally.

All sections are publicly available and easily recognisable by colour:

- 1. Intro, Background & Demographics**
- 2. Traffic, Parking & Transport + Appendix 2**
- 3. Environment + Appendix 3**
- 4. Community Organisations, Leisure Activities, Services & Support + Appendix 4**
- 5. Health + Appendix 5**
- 6. Connectivity + Appendix 6**
- 7. Local Businesses & Shops + Appendix 7**
- 8. Safety & Security + Appendix 8**
- 9. Housing + Appendix 9**
- 10. Young People + Appendix 10**
- 11. Appendix 11 - Additional Comments**

A Community Plan for Wiveliscombe

A Community Plan (sometimes called a Parish Plan) is a broad picture of a local area including current population demographic; housing; local services; environmental projects; groups; organisations etc along with desires and aspirations - used to develop a shared understanding of the features of our community. It's an opportunity for members of the community to state their views and provide information regarding how they feel about where they live. These have been used for many years. Some will remember that a community consultation was carried out about 18 years ago which, in part, led to the establishment of Wiveliscombe Area Partnership and the joining of the 10 Parishes.

As there hadn't been any sort of systematic update or overall consultation with residents of Wiveliscombe Parish since then, Wiveliscombe Town Council decided that this consultation was overdue.

By finding out residents views the Town Council is able to set a series of 'actions' for themselves, or for other groups and organisations to support. The idea being that over time many of these 'actions' can be delivered for the benefit of everyone locally.

Process

In February 2022 the Town Council invited representatives from local groups and organisations to meet and start the process. Most welcomed this opportunity and agreed to share the consultation questionnaire amongst their members. Some acted as guinea pigs to trial the questionnaire - for which WTC are very grateful.

On 12th March the consultation was launched online and with paper copies being made available. Due to some concerns a shorter online version was made available along with separate sections also available.

From the outset it was decided to create a separate questionnaire aimed at younger members of our community. Kingsmead worked with Moorvale Creative to come up with a digital questionnaire. Kingsmead then shared with their students. The response rate was fantastic.

In May 2022 the survey closed. The responses shared in the results sections are lifted from the completed questionnaires. However, this document is intended as a start and will become a living document to be added to over time.

Location

Wiveliscombe - Wivey as it's known locally - is a small town nestled into the edge of the Brendon Hills that lead on up to Exmoor. The whole Parish includes the main urban area along with smaller settlements of Ford to the north east, Langley Marsh and Maundown to the north west and Nunnington to the South, plus a pattern of smaller isolated farms and small groupings.

The total population in 2011, according to census data was 2893 with 1254 households. These figures will have risen slightly since this time due to 2 new housing developments adding approximately 100 additional houses to May 2022. Being 12 miles from the County Town of Taunton and 8 miles from the larger shopping centre of Wellington, Wivey acts as a rural centre for many surrounding parishes. For this reason shops, pubs, local businesses, social, art and sports groups all thrive

Like all historic towns, the problems of an older infrastructure - narrow roads, lack of parking, mobile signal, broadband - impact on residents and visitors alike. Then there are wider issues of health services, the environment & combatting climate change, safety & security, new housing developments, activities for the young and older residents - all of which residents and visitors have opinions about. On the positive side Wivey has a wonderful community spirit with many different organisations, groups, clubs and activities for residents and visitors to participate in.

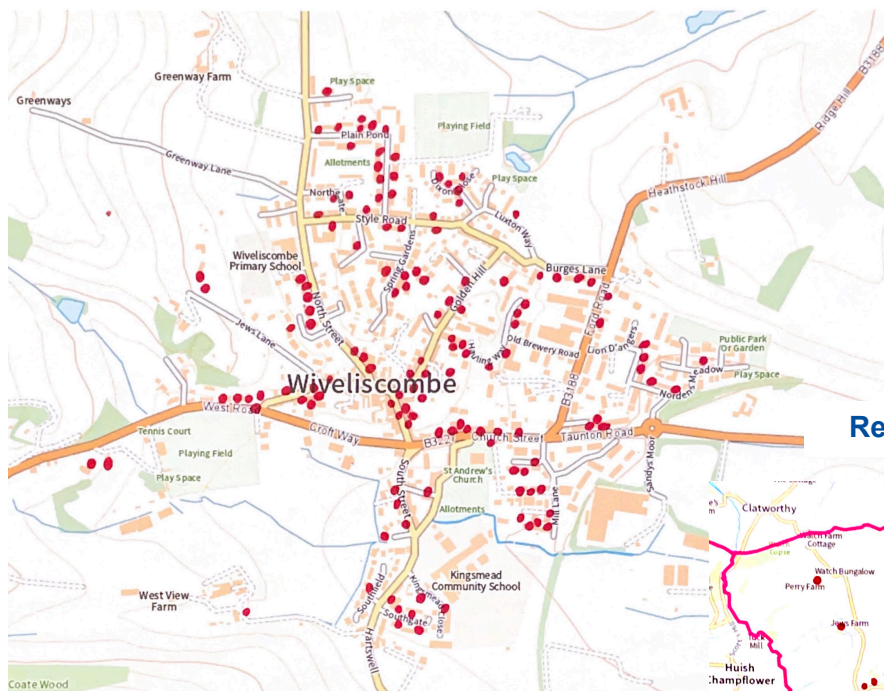
This consultation is a snapshot of Wiveliscombe in 2022 and suggestions for improvements.

1. Demographics

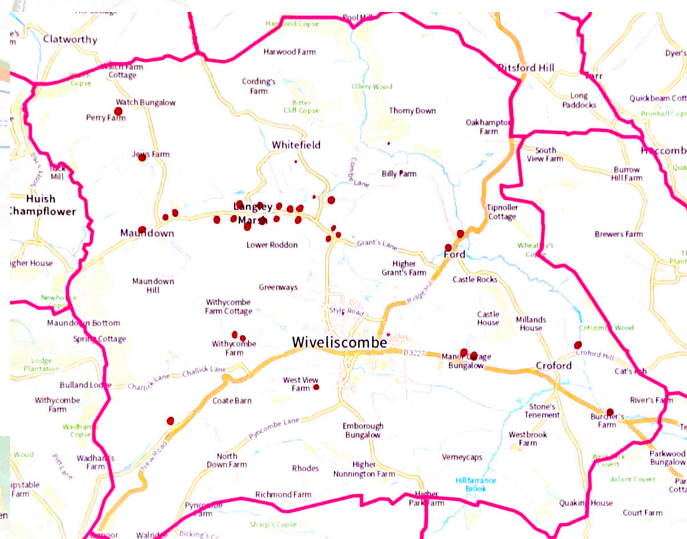
214 Wiveliscombe households, about 20% of total households in the Parish, responded by completing one of the consultation questionnaires. This amounted to 450 residents along with over 50 from outside the parish. A further 155 young people completed a survey designed specifically for their age group. This gives an overall response rate of 21%. **The following information relates only to the main survey results. The results from the young people's survey are reported separately in section 10*

As would be expected, the majority of respondents live in the town - distribution was across the urban area. Langley Marsh is well represented. Other rural parts of the Parish are also represented. Red dots indicate household responses by postcode. 9 Households did not state where they lived.

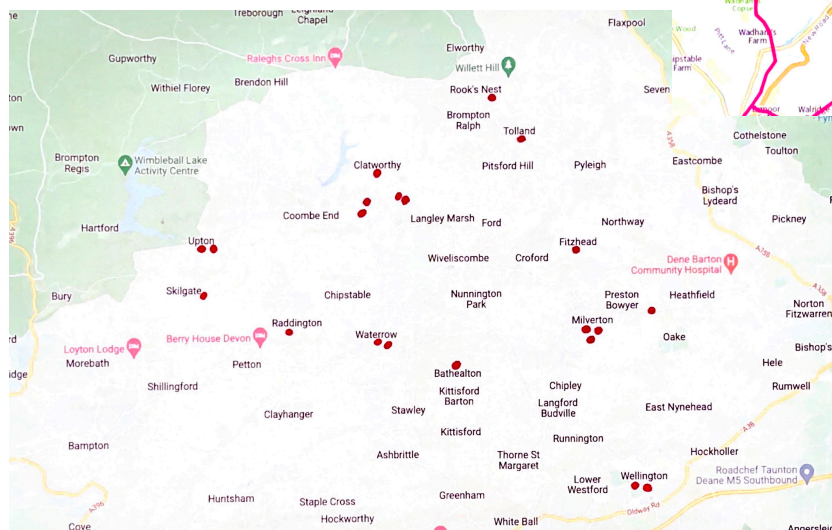
Respondents from Wiveliscombe



Respondents from wider parish



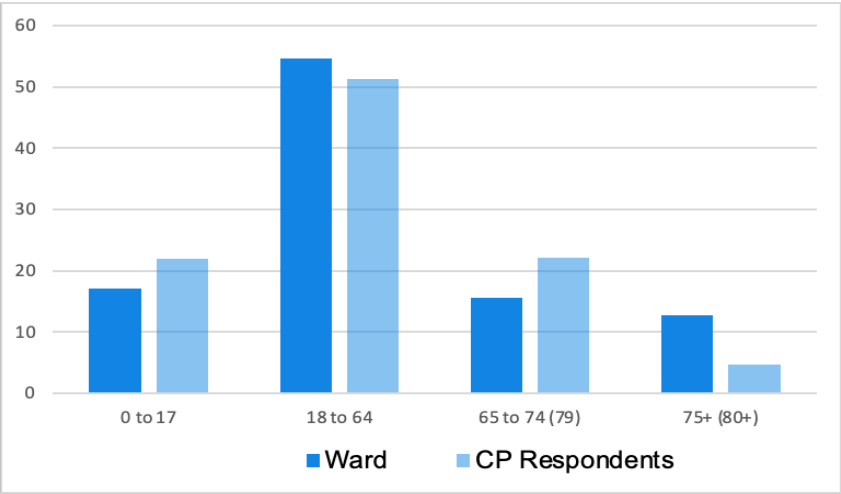
Respondents from outside Wiveliscombe



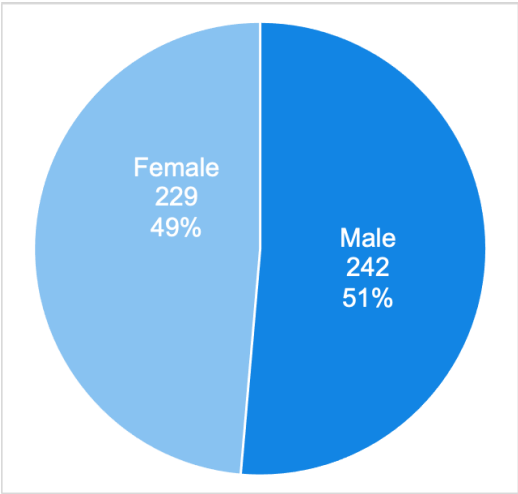
Note - these maps do not include responses from young people completing the YP

To ensure a balance of responses from different demographics questions were asked about age, sex, employment/student status and household income brackets. It's clear from the results that respondents came from a mix of demographic indicators that closely match the ward data. However, it does appear that retired people responded in greater numbers than their demographic percentage rates.

Respondents by age (as percentage)

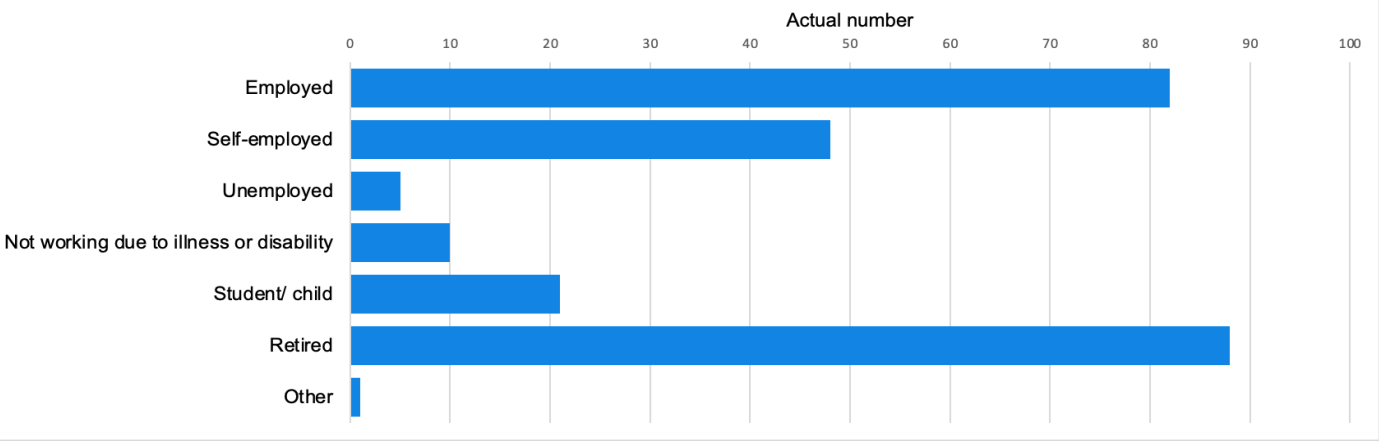


Respondents by sex

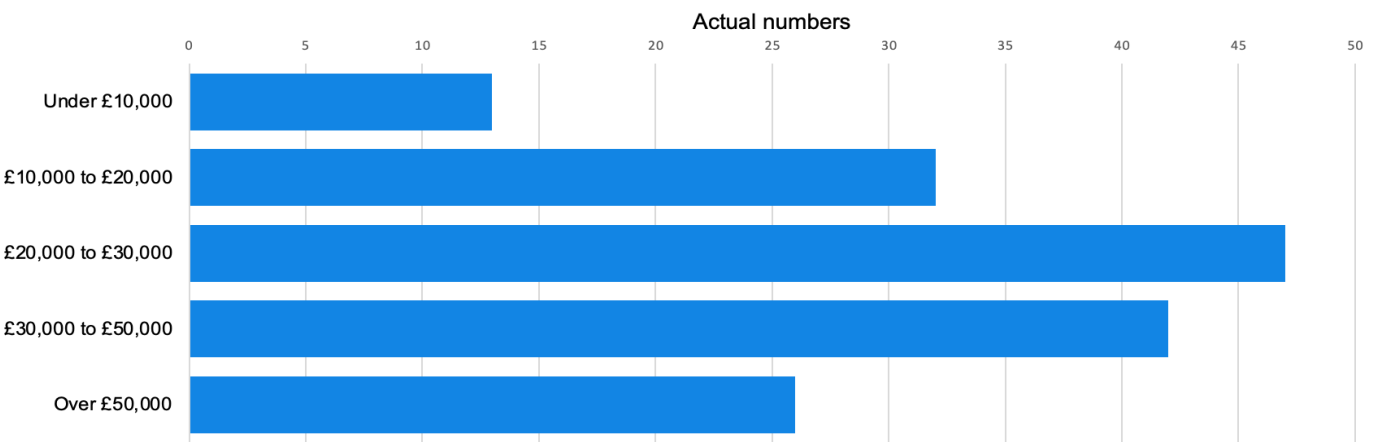


Note - Ward data is lifted from Somerset Intelligence website. This is the Wiveliscombe and District ward for District Council elections and as such covers Wiveliscombe and several surrounding rural parishes.

Respondents by employment status



Total Household Annual Income



Action 1. Demographics

1.1 Ensure in all follow up surveys a balance of demographics where necessary

See section 10.1 Young People Demographics for additional actions 10.1.1 & 10.1.2

Wiveliscombe Town Council



Community Plan Consultation Report 2022



**Thank you for your help in gathering this information about
Wiveliscombe Community.**

**Digital Copies of all sections of the full report are available on
Wiveliscombe Town Council Website
<https://wiveliscombetowncouncil.com>**

**If you require any further information or wish to make comment,
observations or offer your support for any project please contact:**

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**Wiveliscombe Town Council Community Plan 2022 was carried out by
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