

BROWN EDGE VILLAGE SURVEY

October 2014

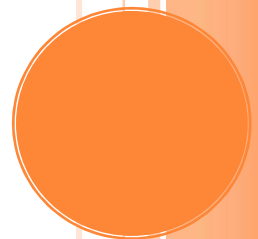
SENSORY GARDEN, BROWN EDGE.

SUMMER 2014



Linda Lea

10/6/2014



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October 2014

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FOREWORD

This survey was carried out in order that the results would define the life style and views of the residents of the Brown Edge area in order to assist the Parish Council in making decisions regarding matters which would come before it in the not too distant future relating to Staffordshire Moorlands District Councils Core Strategy and the way in which the village is to be taken forward in the coming years.

Over 1200 questionnaires were delivered to the households in the Brown Edge area during the summer of 2014. The following pages are the results gleaned from over 300 replies which were received. This document read alongside the updated Parish Plan, which was completed during the summer of 2013, gives a good overall picture of the village and its strengths and weaknesses.

Both of these documents will be uploaded onto the Brown Edge Parish Website. My thanks go to those members of Brown Edge Action Group and residents of the village who assisted in the completion of this project.

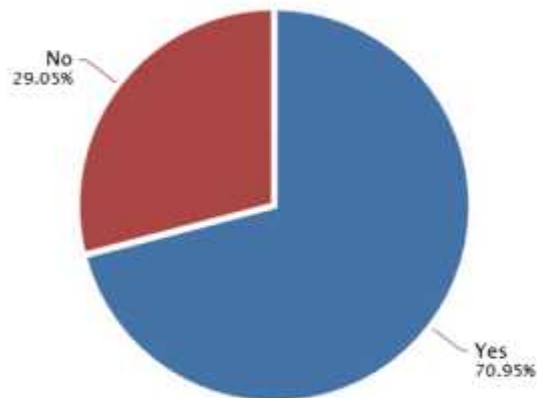
Linda Lea

Brown Edge Parish Council.
November 2014.

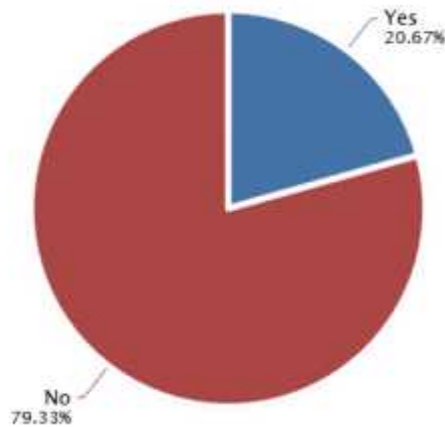
QUESTION 1: HOW OLD ARE YOU?

Under 18	3.30%
18-30	4.95%
31-45	14.84%
45-65	30.22%
65 & over	57.69%
Total	100.0 %

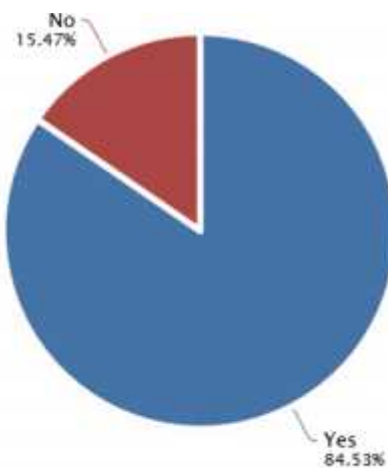
QUESTION 2: IS THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE VILLAGE SUFFICIENT TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS?



QUESTION 3: DO YOU FEEL THAT THE EXISTING ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE BROWN EDGE AREA WILL ACCOMMODATE AN INCREASE IN HOUSING AND BUSINESS PROPERTIES?



QUESTION 4: DRIVING WITHIN THE PARISH DO YOU EXPERIENCE CONGESTION OR POINTS WHERE 2 CARS CANNOT PASS SIMULTANEOUSLY?



QUESTION 5: IF YES WHEN & WHERE ARE THE PROBLEMS?

Most common answers here included:

- Sandy Lane (30%)
- Willfield Lane (28%)
- St Anne's Vale - the school at drop off & pick up times was especially mentioned by numerous participants' for example (27%)
 - 'Willfield Lane. St Anne's Vale and New Lane at school opening and closing times'
 - 'Area around the school St Annes vale by parents dropping off children'
 - 'Church Rd/Sytch Rd as more traffic travelling to and from the school now and if more children go to school the traffic will cause danger'
 - 'Inconsiderate parking around schools, Willfield Lane, Woodhouse Lane, Tongue Lane, Parking on hatching of crossing'
- Church Rd (13%)
- High Lane (12.5%)
- Woodhouse Lane (8.8%)
- Hough Hill (8.1%)
- Chapel Lane (4.4%)
- Keith's was also mentioned – in relation to the problems caused by parked cars
- Sytch Road - again in relation to parents travelling to and from the school e.g. 'Sytch Rd into High lane when children are going to and from school'
- Notable comments include
- 'Older area of village i.e. from Sandy Lane, St Anne's Vale to Church and School, lanes at Hill Top, Fiddlers Bank etc.'
- 'Every road in the village is blocked with parked cars & vans'
- 'Cars and vans parked all over the village add to the problem of narrow lanes.'

QUESTION 6: IT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED THAT THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN THE VILLAGE IS A CONTINUAL HAZARD. WHAT ALTERATIONS OR IMPROVEMENTS DO YOU FEEL WOULD IMPROVE THE SITUATION?

Suggestions here included:

- Pelican crossing
- Better signs
- Speed bumps in high lane near to the shops
- Rumble strips to slow down the traffic
- Flashing light day & night
- Light coloured paint on the fences and walls in the area particularly on the side opposite the newsagents.
- Warning signs in Breech Lane before the bend
- Move from the corner/Move away from the bend in the road /Move nearer the Post Office
- Inform people to cross correctly
- Speed camera
- Lights to control the crossing
- Traffic lights
- More prominent road signs before & after the crossing
- Speed reduced to 10-15 miles an hour/Slow traffic down on the approach to the crossing
- 20mph flashing signs from Willfield lane to Breach Rd
- Pedestrian crossing with lights
- Double yellow lines in region of crossing
- Speed cameras in Breach Road
- Traffic calming measures to reduce speed through village.
- Stopping irresponsible motorists parking and making hazards.
- Reduction in speed particularly from Endon. More signs approaching zebra crossings
- Stop parking outside terrace, paper shop, hairdressers & Keith's
- Double white lines in centre of road. Double yellow lines outside Keith's. Parking for disabled vehicles only on front of supermarket.
- Pelican crossing moved further away from corner
- Speed ramp where Zebra crossing is and double lines from the post office to Keith's on both sides
- Lower speed limit before the crossing round the bend
- More off road parking
- NONE. The issues are people crossing away from the crossing and parking in High Lane
- None. Completely adequate for the village
- No problem - people don't use it as they should

Most common answers included:

1. Move it - 20%
2. Pelican crossing – 18%
3. Traffic lights – 15%
4. Reducing speed - 12%

QUESTION 10: AT THE PRESENT TIME DO YOU FEEL THE SCHOOL FACILITIES AT ST ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ARE

Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	
7.5	6.88	59.38	14.38	11.88	100%

QUESTION 11: PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER

Answers here included:

- The number of pupils on the register exceeds the capacity for the school
- The school at present appears to be fully subscribed. More pupils, more demand on both school facilities and the road infrastructure.
- Classroom and play areas too small
- Old and oversubscribed
- I have 2 children, one aged 5 and one aged 2. I cannot get my year old into St Anne's even though I moved to the village in January 2014
- Obligated to use portable classrooms
- 20 years ago there were problems with the classrooms
- Still using a portacabin for a classroom and the toilets are in the main building
- Inadequate buildings & classroom sizes
- Unable to comment. Existing traffic congestion around the school makes it hazardous enough, particularly for children walking to school.
- Any increase in housing infra-structure and won't cope, no room for expansion if needed
- Needs to be bigger to cope with expected demand for places
- Good reputation
- New school required, fantastic staff, poor building
- Child attended school and class size adequate at the time
- Class rooms not too big so teachers can educate properly

- For circa 30% of respondents the question was apparently not relevant as they had no experience of the school.

QUESTION 12: DO YOU FEEL THE FACILITIES AT ENDON HIGH SCHOOL ARE ...

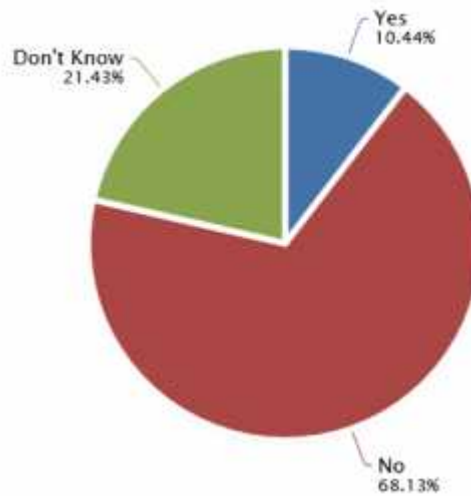
Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	
1.29	3.23	72.9	16.77	5.81	100%

QUESTION 13: PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.

Answers included:

- Pupils exceed numbers for the school
- Increase in numbers of pupils and demand for the school
- Good reputation
- Space was tight and staff always having to think of new ways to create space
- My child there is enjoying school & doing very well
- No room to expand within existing site
- No experience, although it's popularity as an achieving school meant it has always been up to capacity
- Have grandchildren there, facilities seem to work at the present time
- Wont cope with extra students in future
- Development of the site required, very dated
- Have worked at the school & seen how it has been improved in recent years
- Facilities adequate at the moment for the number of students.
- Both my children went to the school & then it was suitable
- Could not cope with any further increase in pupils from Brown Edge.
- The current register exceeds the D of E capacity figures
- has no issues at present, but does have to use mobile classrooms at present
- adequate for catchment area pupils at this time
- Although again c 32% of respondents declared they were unable to comment

QUESTION 14: DO YOU FEEL THE FACILITIES AT ST ANNE’S PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE THE INCREASE IN NUMBERS



QUESTION 15: DO YOU FEEL THE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES MEET THE NEEDS OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	
49.71	12.57	25.71	10.86	1.14	100%

QUESTION 16: IF AVERAGE OR POOR PLEASE STATE WHAT YOU FEEL IS NEEDED

Doctor	31.1%
Chemist	27.7%
Pharmacy	10.8%
Dentist	8.7%
Surgery	7.4%
Clinic	6.7%

Other suggestions also included: Mobile pharmacy to help senior citizens, that existing surgeries work longer hours or provide a late opening or Saturday morning to accommodate full time working people. Most answers criticized the existing state of facilities in the village, especially for elderly citizens or those with limited transport. Several answers did praise the work of the First Responders.

QUESTION 17: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HEALTH CENTRES HAVE YOU USED?

Bentilee	8.00%
Hanley	14.86%
Shelton	11.43%
Leek	25.14%
Cheadle	2.29%
Basford	25.71%
Stoke	7.43%
Cobridge	49.14%
Smallthorne	42.86%
Other, please specify	36.57%
Total	100.0 %

35.57% said they had used 'other' centres, most commonly the Haywood, although others also included Packmoor, Bradely, Abbey Hulton, Tunstall and Burslem

QUESTION 18: THE LOCATION OF YOUR FAMILIES' GP.

Norton	41.9%
Endon	27.07
Bradeley	17.2
Baddeley Green	6.62
Smallthorne	4.41
Cobridge	2.2
Abbey Hulton	1.6

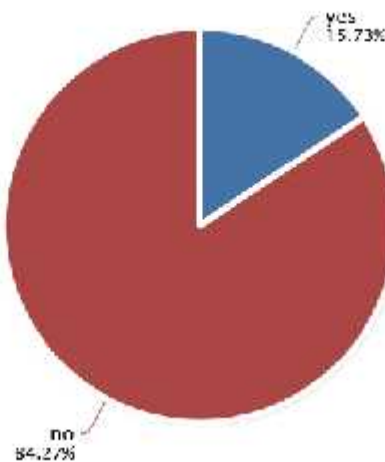
Milton	1.1
Goldenhill	1.1
Smallthorne/Stockton Brook	0.5%

QUESTION 19: WHICH IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES/FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE DEVELOPED

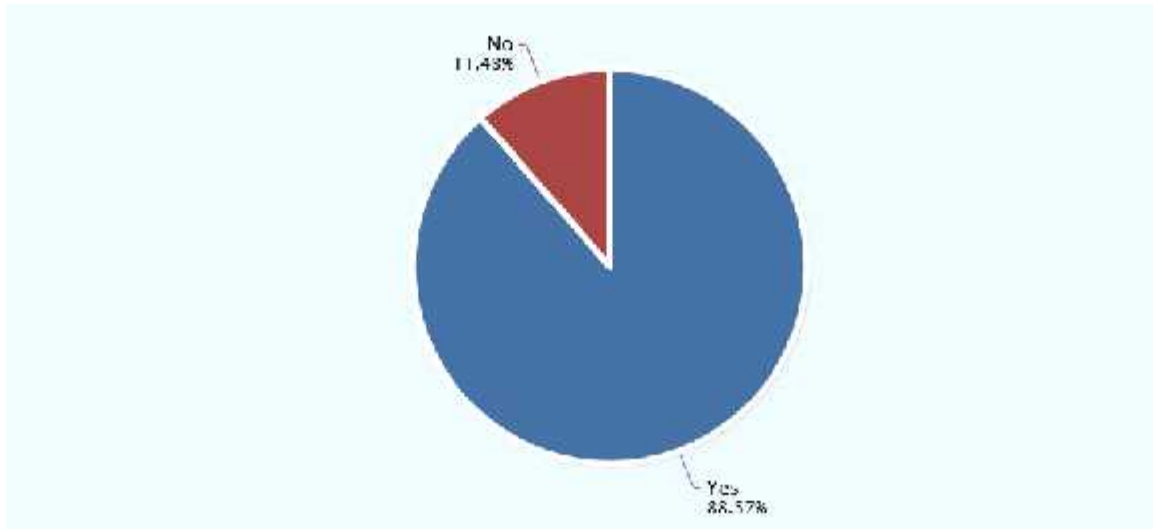
Doctor	51.12
Dentist	27.53
Pharmacy	66.29
Sports field	33.71
Bridleways	19.1
Footpaths	33.15
Youth community activities	40.45
Other	19.66

Other included: cycle paths, purpose built play group, bowling green and tennis court, cash point, late shop, Day time club for retired people, computer classes, grass verges and hedge cut, allotment, car parking, toilet facilities and a permanent police office.

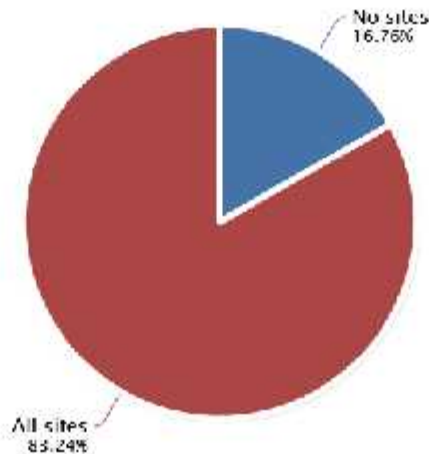
QUESTION 20: SHOULD SOME GREEN BELT DEVELOPMENT BE ALLOWED?



QUESTION 21: SHOULD DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN SPACES WITHIN THE VILLAGE CURTILAGE BE PROTECTED?



QUESTION 22: ARE THERE SITES OUTSIDE THE CURRENT BOUNDARY THAT SHOULD BE PROTECTED FROM DEVELOPMENT?



QUESTION 23: IF THERE IS TO BE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREEN BELT AROUND THE VILLAGE WHERE DO YOU FEEL SUCH A DEVELOPMENT COULD BE SITED?

The most common answers included:	
Don't know	10.1%
None	8.69%
Willfield Lane	7.97
Breach Road	5.7
Broad Lane	5.7
Hough Hill	5.1

There were many varied answers/suggestions including:

- Smithy Farm, Hough Hill
 - Hilltop along with road improvements & proposed pavements
 - Behind Fairfield Ave
 - In Stoke on Trent, Norton Green or Ball Green
 - First allow all of those who have made past plans for houses in the area of the village be allowed. Then use all of the brown field sites i.e. field off Carlton Ave, also any bad land.
 - Smithy farm land at Hill TOP Neglected field between Top Pub and Marshes Hill.
-
- North side of the main road and Broad Lane
 - South East of village centre. BE032 BE041 E043

- Land adjacent to Newfold Farm Woodhouse Lane. SMDC Ref No BE056
- The B5051 provides the best road infrastructure to support development. Land to the north of the B5051 to the back of the garden nursery would be the best place, on the principle of estate housing has already been introduced at this location to the south. A bus stop would help also. Better design quality could also be achieved because remediation issues would be minimal

- Woodhouse Lane opposite Overland Dr, Willfield Lane, Hill Top, High Lane, Breach. Also infill sites with parking off road, all the above have good road access

Other answers expressed concern at the prospect of development:

- NONE - there are plenty of other sites to develop without destroying greenbelt
- None I would suggest there is space for new houses in many other areas
- Nowhere - we need carports not houses!!
- There should be no development
- No extra houses should be built on Green belt our schools and roads could not take any more. It is a village that is why I moved here, to a smaller friendlier place

QUESTION 24: IS SUFFICIENT SUPPORT BEING GIVEN FOR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE VILLAGE?

Yes	No	Don't Know	Other	
57.47	22.99	17.82	24.14	100%

Other included various suggestions/observations:

- Encourage/support small businesses in the parish
- Best ask current businesses
- Save the post office
- Bring in other services/ improve village amenities e.g. Doctors, Chemist
- Supporting cottage type industries
- Make small loans available
- Creating bespoke retail units on the Holly Bush site
- Encourage overnight parking for motor homes
- Improving internet/broadband

- Improved signage to improve awareness of small businesses
- Commercial property is not encouraged by SMDC
- Petrol garage

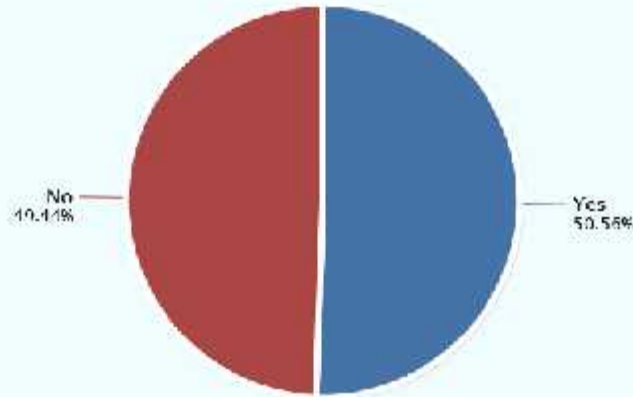
QUESTION 25: WHICH KIND OF HOUSING SHOULD BE PRIORITISED?

starter homes	47.46%
Social housing	5.65%
Family homes	28.81%
Houses to rent	11.30%
Flats to rent	7.34%
apartments	3.95%
Bungalows	29.94%
Sheltered housing	11.30%
Don't know	24.29%
Total	100.0 %

QUESTION 26: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE HOLLY BUSH AND ITS CAR PARK BEING REGISTERED AS A COMMUNITY ASSET?

Stongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	
2.26	2.26	9.6	25.99	59.89	100%

QUESTION 27: SHOULD BROWN EDGE INVEST IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CAR PARK AND TOILET FACILITIES?



QUESTION 28: HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY LOCALIZED FLOODING?

Yes	16.86%
No	83.14%

Respondents who had experienced flooding mentioned:

- Woodhouse Lane
- Bottom of Brick Bank
- Breach Road
- Sandy Lane
- Meadow Rd
- Hough Hill
- St Anne's Vale
- Moss Hill
- Willfield Lane

QUESTION 29: HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE & RETAIN ITS CHARACTER AND SETTING?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree 2.00	Neither Agree or Disagree	Support	Strongly Support	Total
Do you?	0.00%	0.56%	2.26%	11.30%	85.88%	100%

QUESTION 30: DO YOU THINK THAT DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON ONE PARTICULAR SITE OR ALLOCATED OVER A NUMBER OF SMALLER SITES?

