

Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan

Aims, Vision and Objectives Consultation



AIMS & VISION
Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan

help needed...
Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Resident,

Enclosed is your copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan Vision for Hurst Green Parish to 2030. It has been developed based on resident feedback and discusses how you have had your say. The plan will be transformed. If you would like to comment further on these aims, vision or objectives, please complete the consultation at the back of this booklet. **Now it's time to turn vision into reality.**

We'd like to setup a number of volunteer groups to bring people together to take forward specific parts of the 2030 vision.

So if you'd be interested in volunteering, perhaps helping by:

- Donating your time or skills to deliver an area of the vision you're passionate about...
- Developing a new nature reserve at Long Field a significant upgrade...
- Donating the idea of building newly owned affordable homes...
- Donating an upgrade to the sporting facilities at Drove's field...

Then we'd like to hear from you. There's no minimum time commitment and absolutely no pressure. It's about bringing like-minded people together who are passionate about making things better for our community.

Together we hope to succeed where other communities have failed. So if you are interested, please contact Steve, Andrew or Elaine.

You can find out more, and register your interest in volunteering, as well as signing up to our newsletter on our website at: www.hurstgreen2030.uk

Finally, thanks to everyone who contributed to the creation of this draft vision.

Cliv Steve Wright
Cliv Andrew Brown
Elaine Ralph

RESIDENT CONSULTATION

Introduction

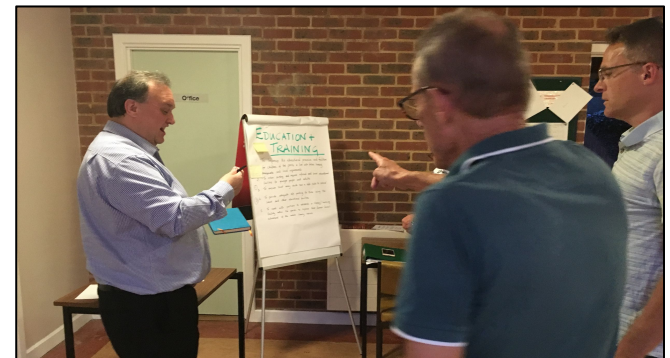
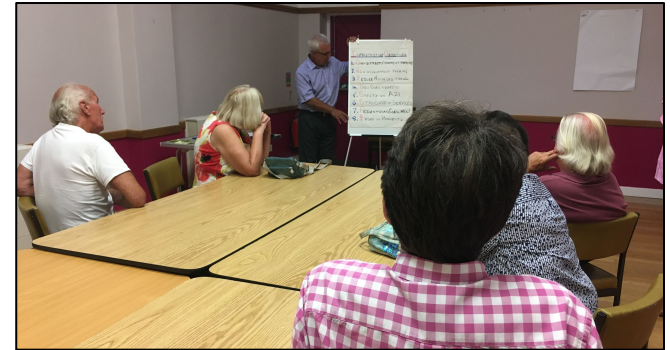
The creation of the Aims, Vision and Objectives for the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan used the following local evidence as inputs:

- Evidence #1 – Residents comments received at the Neighbourhood Plan kick-off public events
- Evidence #2 – Residents comments received on the A21 school route
- Evidence #34 – Residents comments received during the Neighbourhood Plan housing demand survey
- Evidence #35 – Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan local housing demand survey
- Evidence #36 – Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan local car parking survey and residents comments
- Evidence #37 – Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan local tourism survey and residents comments

Using the feedback gathered from these evidence documents and a number of public engagement events held throughout 2018 and 2019, a workshop with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was facilitated by our external advisor which enabled the creation of draft aims and a vision for the plan

These drafts were subsequently refined and prioritised by the community at public engagement events held in July 2019, and also via an electronic survey which was widely promoted on social media and the Neighbourhood Plan website.

In the autumn of 2019, a further extended consultation on the aims, vision and objectives was undertaken which saw every household in the parish receive a printed booklet containing the result of 18 months development of the draft aims, vision and objectives. This exercise generated several additional responses, which were taken into consideration in producing the final aims, vision and objectives for the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan.





Aims, Vision and Objectives Consultation
Response to Principle Consultation Process

Aims prioritisation

131 residents took part in the prioritisation of the aims.

Proposed Aim	Scores from 131 residents	
Protect against inappropriate and speculative development and to provide greater control over how Hurst Green should be developed in the future;	247	
Improve public safety and reduce the harmful impact of road traffic, while providing sufficient parking for the community;	261	Note 1
Develop local planning policies for Hurst Green which development proposals need to adhere to;	197	
Create an environment that encourages residents to live active, social, meaningful lives that promote good health and well-being;	185	
Bring forward action on facilities and improvements, which are needed by the village; and the hamlets of Silver Hill and Swiftsden;	169	Note 2
To improve the visual appearance and overall perception of the village as a place where people want to live, work and visit.	173	
Enhance our existing, and create new open green spaces and improve access to the countryside;	149	
To increase business, retail and tourism opportunities to encourage local employment, and grow the local economy.	152	Note 3
Conserve and enhance the built and historic environment and improve the general street scene around the parish.	128	

Notes

Note 1: Steering Group decision to demote by 1 position given the focus of Neighbourhood Planning and closeness of scoring.

Note 2: Steering Group decision to prioritise based on wider feedback and that the given score was only 4 points lower than next aim.

Note 3: Steering Group decision to prioritise based on wider feedback and that the given score was only 3 points lower than next aim.

New objectives added

New Business, Economy and Tourism objectives

- Seek to upgrade and maintain sufficient communication networks, and high-speed internet facilities in the village to support the changing nature of employment including an increase in home-working and flexible work spaces.
- Encourage and support the ongoing maintenance of public areas, footpaths, renovation and repair of shop fronts, damaged fences, business signage and notices to further enhance the overall presentation of the village for the benefit of residents, visitors and tourists alike.
- To ensure that all advertising notices are appropriate and do not detract from the AONB by seeking to define an Area of Special Control of Advertisements within the parish.

New Education objectives

- To promote adequate safe car, cycle and disabled parking for those using the school and other educational facilities.

New Sport and Leisure objectives

- Enhancing the existing Drewett's Field sporting and recreation facilities by creating a multi-use all-weather sports area, levelling and improving the existing football pitch, uncovering and repairing the lost tennis courts, installing an outdoor gym, a bike path and an outdoor grass amphitheatre for use by drama groups such as Comedy Capers.
- To investigate the level of interest and possibility of a site for an outdoor bowling green and an associated bowling club.
- Installing public map boards at key locations throughout the parish that show where our public spaces, facilities and key walking routes are located.

New objectives added

New Infrastructure objectives

- Review the current provision for, and enforcement of disabled blue-badge parking throughout the parish.
- Introduce vehicle weight limits on all rural roads in the Parish – to avoid HGV's or large vehicles using roads that are unsuitable for them.
- Seek to establish a Doctor's surgery and pharmacy.
- Seek to establish a Dentist's surgery.
- Seek a solution to redirect the excess spring water from flowing down the Bodiam Road.
- To seek to provide locations and the installation of public-access defibrillators in openly accessible (unlocked) cabinets across the parish.
- Seek a solution to the low water pressure often experienced in some parts of the parish.
- Create and install new village signs in Hurst Green, Swiftsden and Silver Hill.



Aims, Vision and Objectives Consultation
Extended Consultation Responses

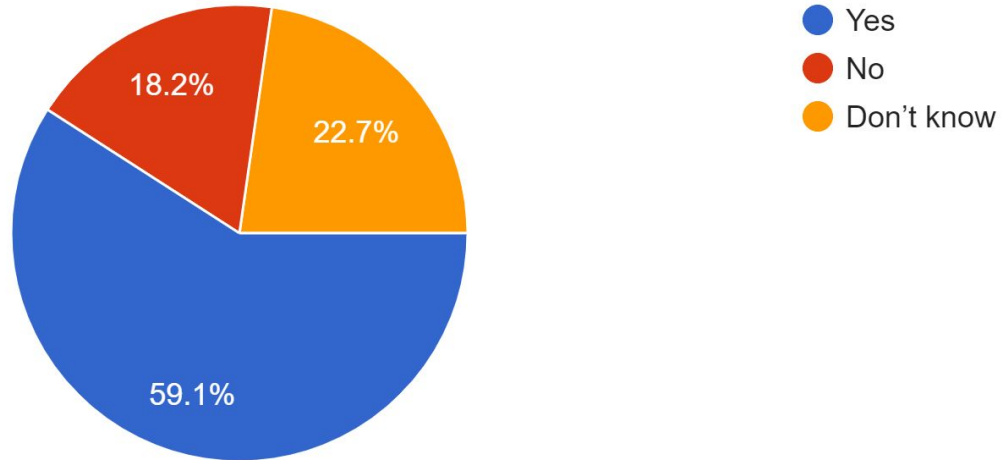
In an effort to get as specific a picture as possible, please tell us where you currently live?

22 responses



Q2) Do you think the proposed aims are achievable?

22 responses

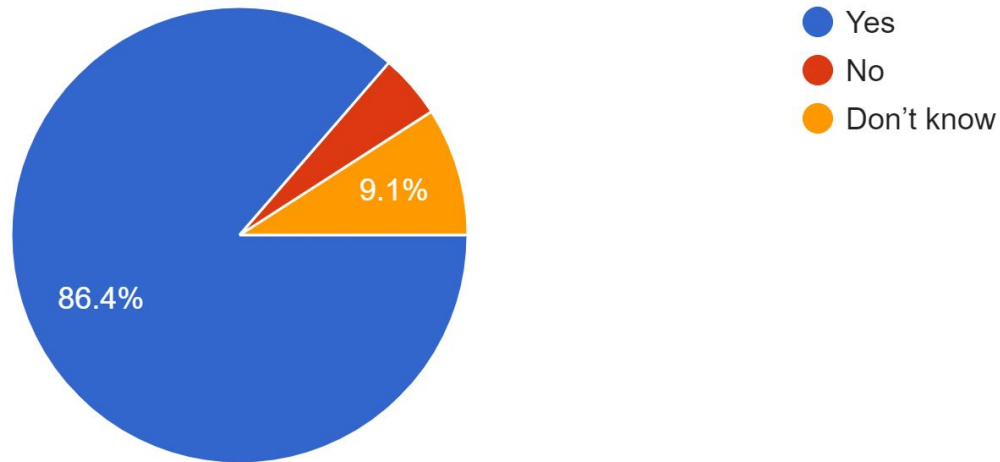


Q3) What is missing or needs changing?

1. More emphasis on lobbying for a bypass.
2. Housing that's for people of the village.
3. The point is that the plans will create more traffic! the A21 and A265 especially are abysmal, huge lorries, motorbikes galore! Very noisy and dangerous, traffic calming is needed.
4. Hurst Green is a village. The aim of this is to convert it into part of a conurbation.
5. Nothing needs changing, but they [are] desires! Why not!
6. Need [more] public participation and support.
7. In the long term with the village dedicated to achieving it. Somehow enthusiasm has to be created and sustained.
8. Surely one aim would be a much needed bypass.

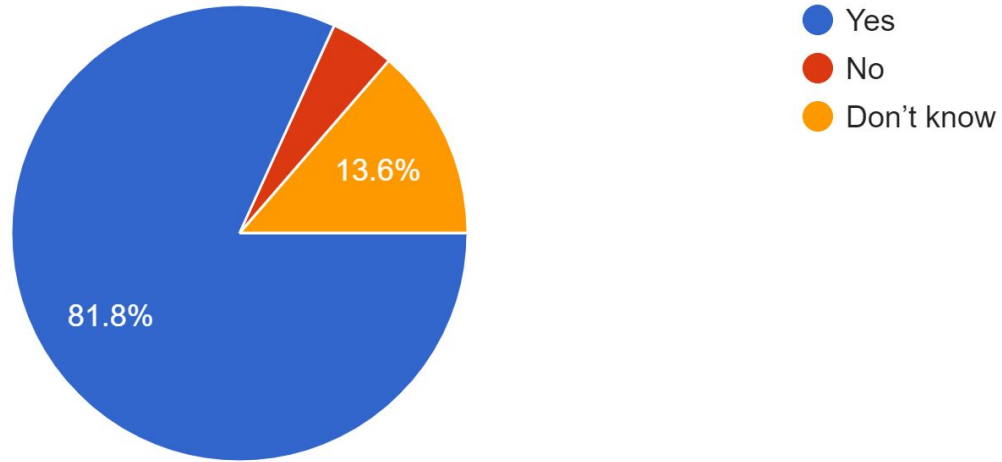
Q4) Do you agree with the Health and happiness part of the proposed vision?

22 responses



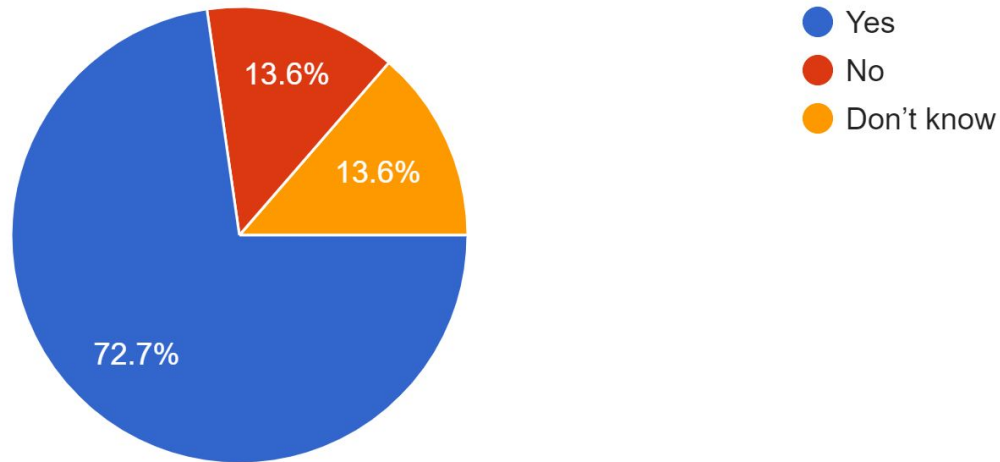
Q5) Do you agree with the Travel and Transport part of the proposed vision?

22 responses



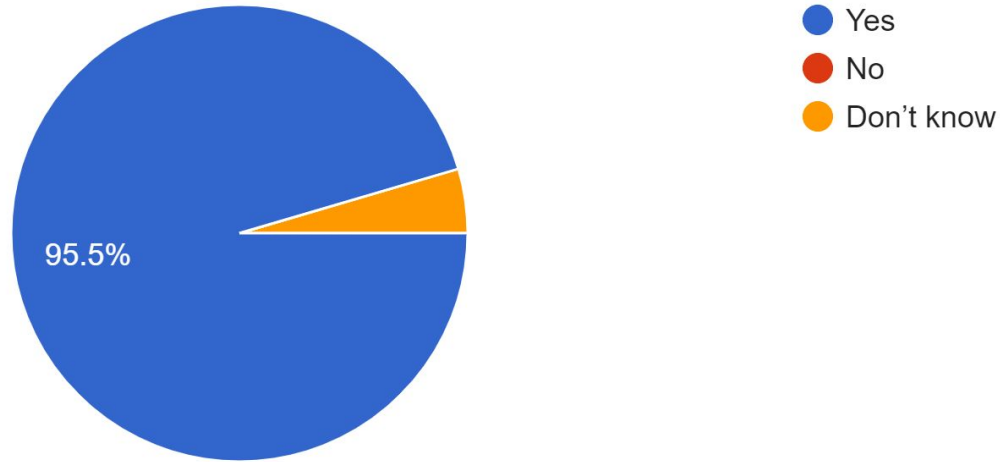
Q6) Do you agree with the Business, Economy & Tourism part of the proposed vision?

22 responses



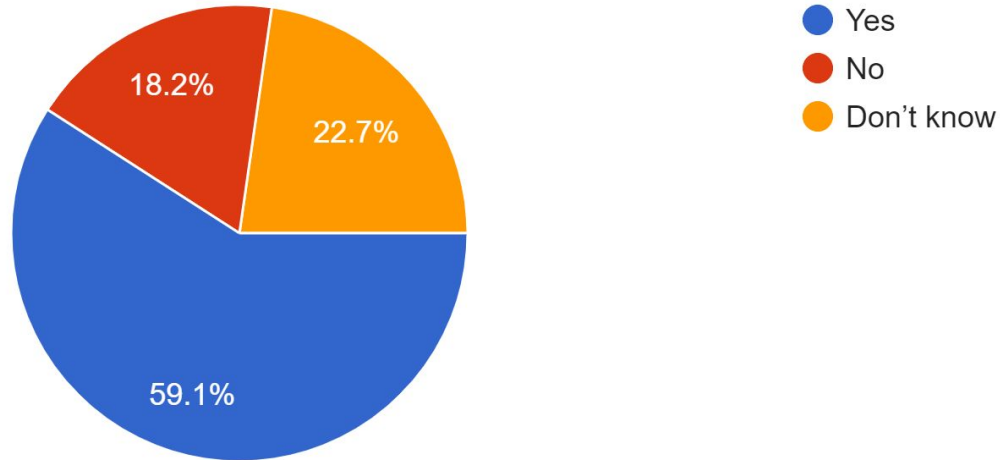
Q7) Do you agree with the Land and Nature part of the proposed vision?

22 responses



Q8) Do you think the proposed vision is achievable?

22 responses

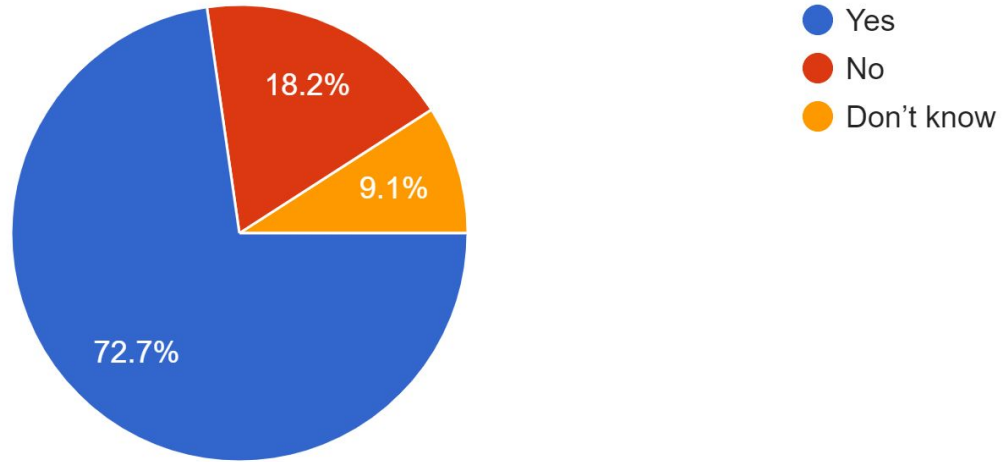


Q9) What is missing or needs changing?

1. No chance of a bypass.
2. You'll make this village too congested. At the least it would have to be noisier.
3. Nothing needs changing, but they [are] desires. Why not!
4. Fantastic ideas. Especially the development of the footpath system which is free and a natural way to achieve fitness and good mental health.

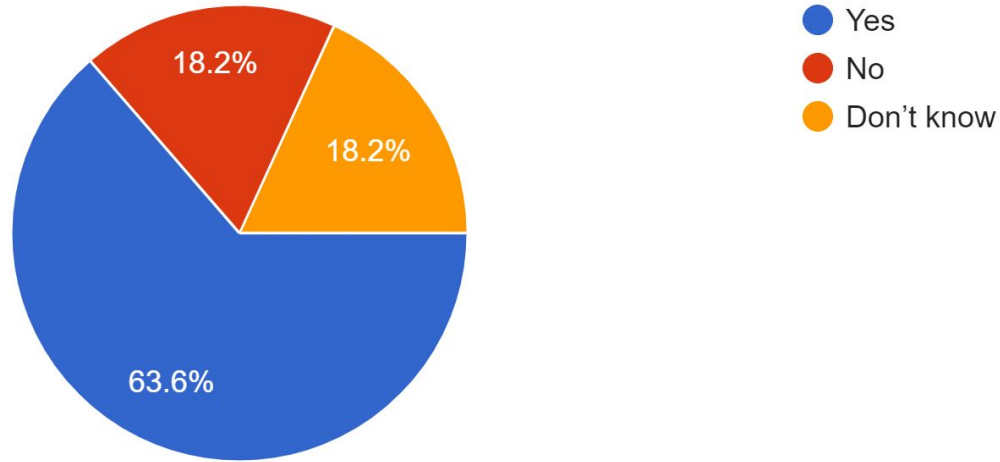
Q10) Do you agree with the proposed Sport & Leisure objectives?

22 responses



Q11) Do you think these proposed objectives are achievable?

22 responses

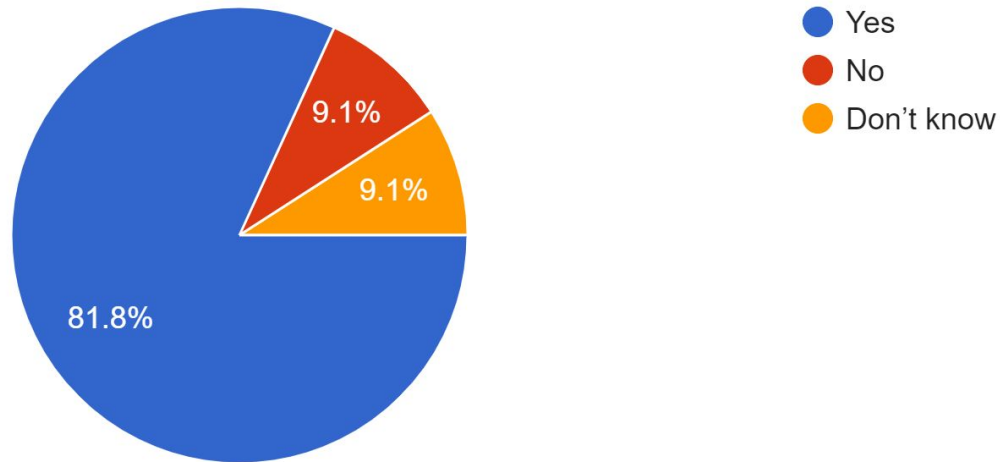


Q12) What is missing or needs changing?

1. The fact it will create more traffic.
2. Where do you get the water?
3. We don't need local sport. Leave that to the towns.
4. Item 7, what about a footpath all the way to Etchingam station? More people would choose to walk if guaranteed a safe route, to include cycling.
5. There is a lot of emphasis on open spaces and sport, but no proposals for those unable to participate in outdoor activities e.g. the elderly and immobile.

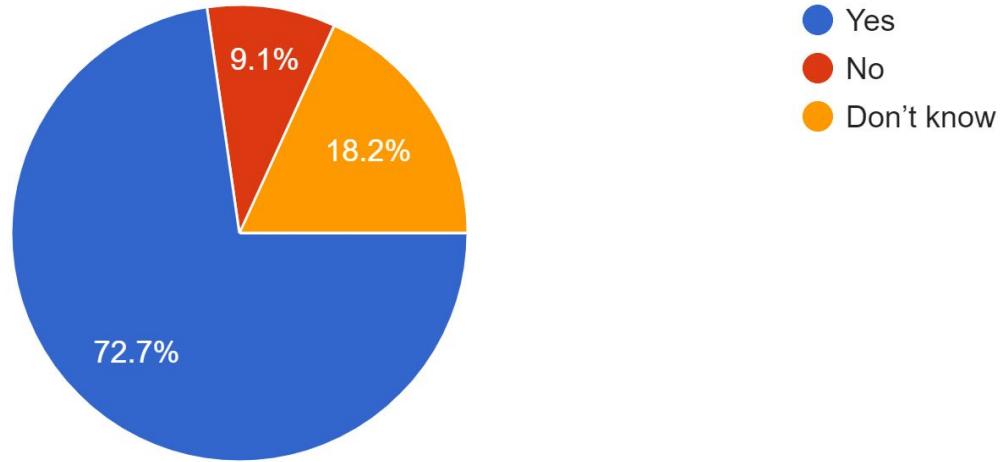
Q13) Do you agree with the proposed Education and Training objectives?

22 responses



Q14) Do you think these proposed objectives are achievable?

22 responses

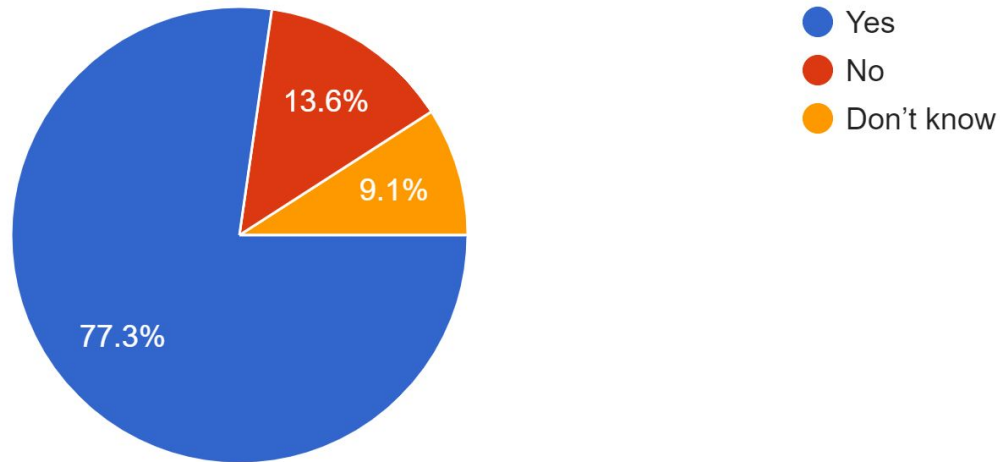


Q15) What is missing or needs changing?

1. How about facilities for older people!
2. This is a village. Don't turn it into something more.
3. A safe walking route / cycling / scooter route to school is more important than increased parking. It ties in with the sports and leisure aims, and it is 'greener' (reducing car use).

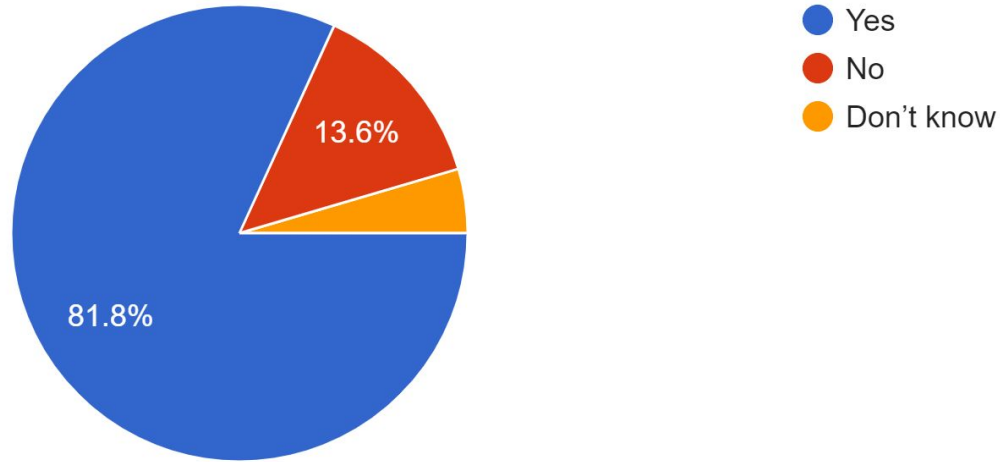
Q16) Do you agree with the proposed Housing & Environment objectives?

22 responses



Q17) Do you think these proposed objectives are achievable?

22 responses

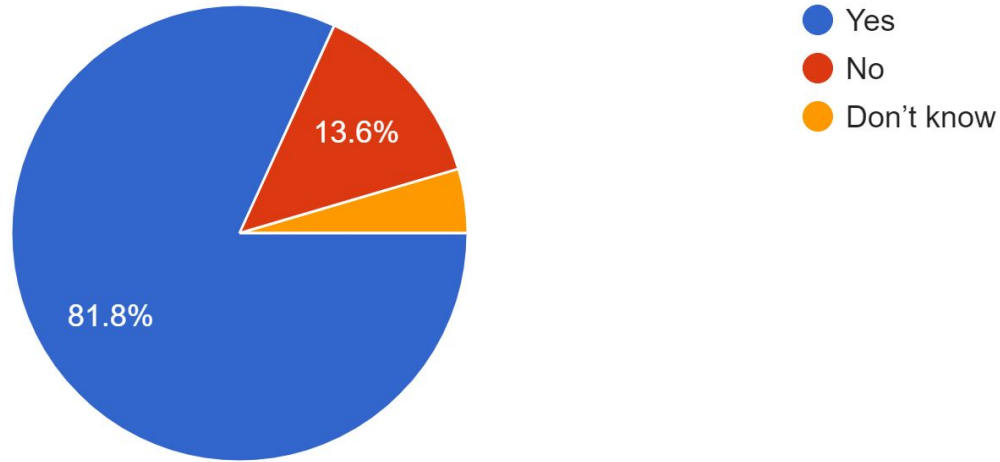


Q18) What is missing or needs changing?

1. Stop pushing young villagers out from where they have lived [here] their whole lives, any housing [that] becomes available goes to people from the towns.
2. Water [and] traffic noise.
3. There is enough housing here. More would increase congestion and noise.
4. No mention of the the climate change and sustainable energy act 2006, *Defra*.
5. Can we guarantee that all affordable housing is for local people?
6. With the new houses we need to keep housing density down, this is a village in the countryside, not a town or city!

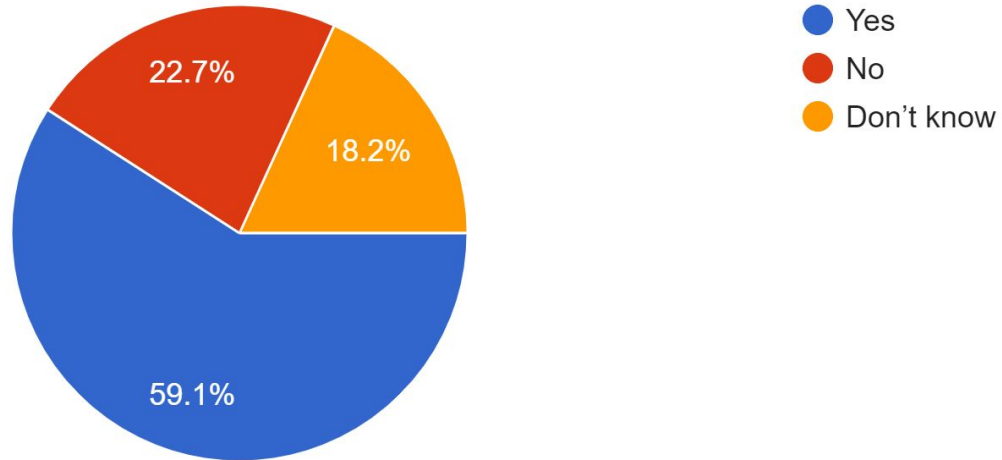
Q19) Do you agree with the proposed Business, Economy & Tourism objectives?

22 responses



Q20) Do you think these proposed objectives are achievable?

22 responses

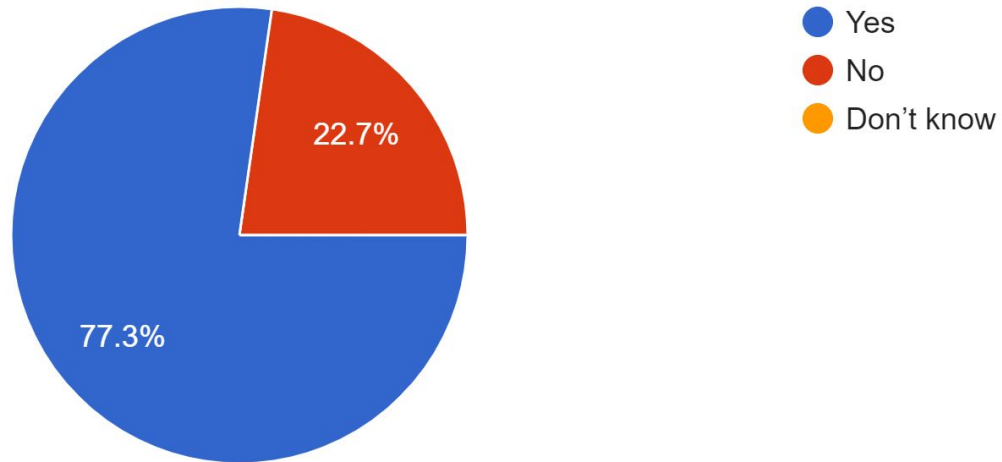


Q21) What is missing or needs changing?

1. Get rid of the road that runs through the village and use the money for a bypass.
2. I want my partner to live here in peace. You offer the opposite.
3. Yes, if the Parish Council is open in its attitude to proposed new businesses.
4. If you propose to support the return of a community shop, why did you not support the one that we had and subsequently closed?

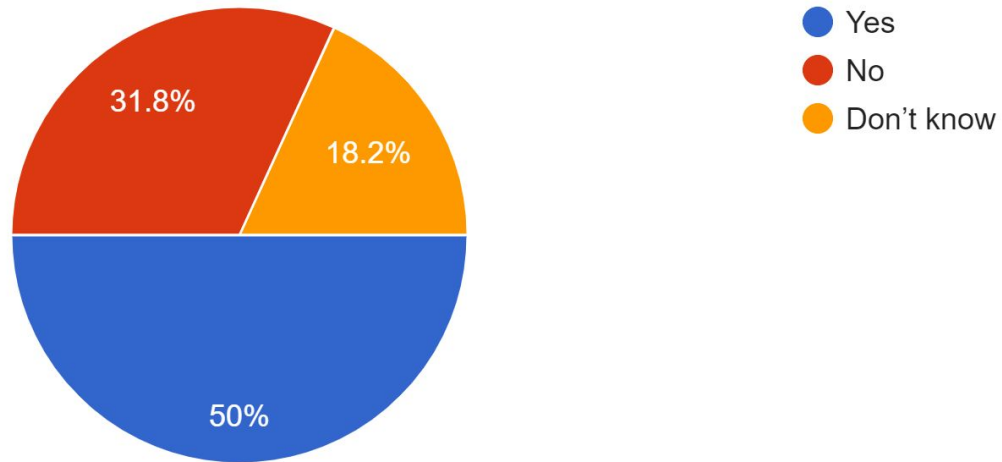
Q22) Do you agree with the proposed Infrastructure objectives?

22 responses



Q23) Do you think these proposed objectives are achievable?

22 responses



Q24) What is missing or needs changing?

1. As before, build a bypass.
2. Already answered.
3. Infrastructure objectives: Significant finances required.
4. To promote a bypass will harm other areas. Better to aim for paths behind the houses that line the A21 through the village. Include cycle paths. Pointless to put in any buildings on fields in the sport and leisure plans as it will be vandalised.
5. We need a bypass.

Additional Comments (page 1 of 2)

1. I think that the proposed roundabouts at Coopers Corner and Station Road will cause traffic to build up through the village and cause excessive pollution and possible gridlock at peak times as well as more accidents due to driver getting frustrated.
2. Far more importance should be attached to the elimination of heavy speeding through Hurst Green. The noise, pollution and vibration is destroying property and causing suffering to the residents living along the A21 through Hurst Green.
3. Happy to support the development of Burgh Wood as a volunteer.
4. Very supportive of proposed roundabout at Coopers Corner and Station Road. Litter, happy to volunteer. Appreciate the effort put in by local residents to produce this plan, though concerned at its ambition and likelihood to achieve all. Perhaps solve the short term wishes first!
5. Very much agree with a good housing mix of good quality and in keeping with the area. There is clearly a need locally for anything between 2 - 5 bedroom homes.
6. We would like to see something more concrete on stopping people parking on pavements.
7. Of course, and above all, a "by-pass".
8. To promote a bypass will trash a huge swathe of beautiful countryside, harming wildlife in the process.
9. Great ideas.
10. Bit ambitious?
11. How much will it cost? especially for [the] environment, nature, wildlife?
12. You should add plant wildlife meadows.
13. Quote from Defra 2006: "climate change the most serious challenge facing the world, can only be tackled if we all take action now. The intergovernmental panel on climate change reported... evidence for climate change caused by human activity is stronger than ever... Parish and Town Councils, the first tier of government can play a substantial role... to reduce the risks of climate change."
14. In essence Parish Councils can promote and support community initiatives to reduce emissions etc. Possible changes: Low energy bulbs, street lighting powered by wind-chargers. Solar power, Wind power, Biomass.
15. Insulation. How is village hall insulated?

Additional Comments (page 2 of 2)

16. A tree warden.
17. This is great community initiative.
18. We attended the public meeting, was really good to see parish councillors Brown and Wright and other members of the neighbourhood plan steering group being so passionate about improving the village. Would have been good to see other councillors at the events, presume they are all supportive too?
19. I live very near to A21 Coopers Corner, and I feel very strongly that a roundabout at Coopers Corner is urgent as first job as this Coopers Corner causes so many accidents and is a deadly corner and feel worried for my family. Thanks [name supplied].
20. All of your proposals sound ideal for Hurst Green. For me personally a roundabout at Coopers Corner is a priority. A pavement along A229 from Coopers Corner would make it safer for residents who have to walk along this road, maybe just a short way.
21. My main concern is the need for a roundabout at Coopers Corner as this is absolutely deadly trying to pull onto the A21. I think this is one of the first things needed.
22. Like everyone else, desperate for a bypass. Putting that one side we like all the proposals. Parking is a nightmare and parking on the pavements and blocking pedestrians is unacceptable.
23. We would like to see better bus services including a Sunday service again.
24. Regards housing, the village needs high quality family friendly properties as well as affordable [homes].
25. All in all, the document is very positive.
26. Depends on Highways England actually caring about our community and safety, can't believe the road surface is already worn less than a year after they attempted to relay it and how fast the cars and lorries travel through the village.
27. Coopers Corner was always dangerous and in the last year, perhaps all the extra traffic coming from the new homes in Hastings and Bexhill - it has become deadly trying to turn from/on to the A229. Don't East Sussex County Council and Highways England care about safety at all!
28. The proposals look very good on paper and describe an idyllic village we would all like to live in, but has affordability been investigated?