



## **Ennerdale and Kinniside Community Led Plan**

### **Results of questionnaire**

#### Introduction

The Planning Group, which is responsible for developing the Community Led Plan, distributed a questionnaire to all households in the parish, a total of 165, in April 2016. 69 households returned completed questionnaires, a response rate of 42%. 3 of these questionnaires were returned electronically.

The responses have been collated into a spreadsheet and Word document, which are available on the Parish Council website, and this is a report of the responses. Percentages are expressed as a percentage of 69.

#### Value of features in the parish

Not surprisingly, the highest valued features were the lake, rivers and surrounding fells (99% valued these highly), and the village and scattered houses (88% valued these highly). Other features were mostly divided between high and medium importance, reflecting individual standpoints.

#### Housing development

39% of respondents thought that the parish could cope with up to 12 additional houses, while 25% thought up to 6, and 23% thought up to 20. Respondents' preference was for affordable homes (77%), and family homes (83%).

#### Flooding

6 homes had flooded in the last 10 years, mostly from Croasdale Beck.

Many respondents said that the road from the village to Wath Brow flooded in a number of places. Other roads that flooded were: between the Shepherds Arms and the school; going out of the village towards Low Stowbank; from How Hall to Croasdale, and to Beckfoot.

#### Roads and traffic

83% of respondents thought that there should be a 20mph speed limit in the village, and 86% a 40mph speed limit between the village and Kirkland.

51% of respondents did not think that Cold Fell Road drivers were more considerate since the introduction of the 40mph speed limit. 22% thought drivers were more considerate, and 28% did not know.

There were comments on roads and traffic from 58 respondents. Many complained about the volume of Sellafeld traffic, and the lack of consideration of these drivers, during their 'rush hours', from Kirkland, through the village of Ennerdale Bridge, and on Cold Fell Road. Several respondents were unsure if slower speed limits would have much effect, unless they could be enforced.

There were a few comments about the poor state of roads, and damage to vehicles caused by the speed bumps.

### Walking from Bridge Park to Forestry Houses

55% of respondents walked along this stretch of road and thought that there should be a footpath, while 13% who walked this stretch did not think that there should be a footpath.

### 217 bus service and community transport

88% of respondents never used the bus. Only 8 respondents used the bus: 2 once/month and 6 less than monthly. Those who did not use the bus had their own transport. Only 2 respondents did not have their own transport, but, if community transport was available, one respondent would use it every week. 15 people said they were interested in being a volunteer driver, and 5 more said that they would be available in the future.

8 people commented that they thought some sort of community transport scheme was a good idea. 3 people asked if it could fetch children to and from the Keswick School bus at Kirkland, (as the bus does not come to Ennerdale Bridge because of Sellafield traffic).

### Circular footpath

A circular footpath from the village centre would be popular, with 68% saying that they would use the path once or more each week. Path lengths of 1-2 miles and 4 miles would be most suitable, but as many as 43% would also use a 6 mile path. Access would be needed for pushchairs (9), wheelchairs (3) and a mobility scooter.

### Community based activities

The most popular of the suggested activities were: film club, keep fit club, walking club, and book club. Other interests were yoga, pilates, tai chi, art club, photography club.

### Phone and broadband

16 respondents living outside the village centre had ongoing problems with their landline.

Responses confirmed poor mobile phone service in the parish: 45% could not get a signal anywhere they wanted to use their phone, and 43% could get a signal in only a few places.

Broadband was important: very important to 87% and fairly important to 12%. Provision of broadband was: landline 87%, mobile 3%, satellite 13% (2 respondents ticked more than one method). Only one respondent did not have broadband.

47 respondents provided download speeds. For landline broadband service, download speeds for 8 respondents (4 of whom gave addresses at least 1.5 miles from the BT cabinet) were less than 1 Mbs. 30 respondents had speeds of 1-6 Mbs, with most of these around 2-3 Mbs. For satellite broadband service, 2 respondents had speeds of 18-22 Mbs, while 3 had speeds of 8-12 Mbs.

### Local businesses

Local business owners were asked if there were any areas where the Parish Council might be able to help the functioning of their business. There were 20 responses: several respondents said that faster broadband was important; mobile coverage should be improved, as should landline reliability. Other issues raised were: flooding of roads; better gritting of roads; broken signs; more signs; circular walks for visitors; local 'taxi service' for visitors to and from village.

### Independent living and volunteer help

No-one reported any problems with independent living. One respondent without their own transport observed that it would take as long to travel to the village, if services were offered there, as to Cleator Moor.

15 people were interested in volunteering to help residents to continue to live independently in their own homes.

6 said that they were unable to volunteer at present (due to work or other commitments), but would be interested at some time in the future.

### Litter

42 respondents listed places where litter was a problem. These were roadside verges around the parish, and a few off road footpaths. Several respondents were unimpressed by dog owners who left dog poo bags on fences and trees.

### Parish Council website

70% had never visited the PC website, with 48% not knowing it existed. 25% visited the website several times a year, and 4% once or more a month.

A majority of respondents would find it useful if the website had a diary of events, a directory of businesses located in the parish, and a facility to sign up for news by e-mail.

### Radioactive waste storage

Respondents were asked if it would be acceptable to construct a geological disposal facility (GDF) under land within the parish boundary, if (A) the geology was shown to be safe; (B) if surface facilities were outside the national park; and (C) if all spoil was excavated through the tunnel entrance. 30-33% agreed with A, B and C; while 59-64% disagreed with A, B and C.

65% thought that a GDF should not be constructed under land within the parish boundary, while 30% disagreed with this position. Fewer respondents - 41% - did not think that a GDF should be constructed anywhere in west Cumbria, while 42% disagreed with this position.

### Developing the plan

The purpose of the questionnaire was to enable the Planning Group to find out residents' views and to collect information on a range of topics, which would feed into the Community Led Plan. From the questionnaire responses, the main issues to be taken forward in the plan are: campaigning for lower speed limits in the village, and up to Kirkland; finding a solution to Sellafield traffic problems; establishing circular footpaths from village centre; investigating the feasibility of a footpath from Bridge Park to Forestry Houses; reviewing the bus service and investigating alternatives; dealing with the litter problem; and dealing with flooding on the roads.

The responses provided views on additional housing, valued features in the parish, siting of a GDF, which will enable the Parish Council to represent residents' views if it is consulted on any proposals relating to these topics.

Not all of the written comments have been included in this report, but they will be taken into account in the planning process.

If the Planning Group comes across any 'gaps' while working on the plan, the group will arrange further consultation.

### Updates on the planning process

Updates will be posted on the Parish Council website, [www.eandkpc.co.uk](http://www.eandkpc.co.uk), including the draft plan which we will welcome feedback on from the community. Hard copies of the draft plan will also be placed in community venues including the pubs, school, the Church and The Gather. The final version of the plan will be distributed to all households, as well as being posted on the website.

Some respondents provided an e-mail address, to receive news on the plan and other parish news. If you have not provided your e-mail, but would like to be included on the mailing list, please e-mail [plan@eandkpc.co.uk](mailto:plan@eandkpc.co.uk).

For further information on the Community Led Plan please ring Bridget Johns on 01946 862036 or e-mail [plan@eandkpc.co.uk](mailto:plan@eandkpc.co.uk).