Parish Plan for Wraxall and Failand

2009 – 2019

"..towards maintaining a safe, sustainable, scenic and friendly rural community"

produced by local residents
initiated by Wraxall and Failand Parish Council
funded by Quartet Community Foundations

publication of plan sponsored by

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June 2009

Dear Resident of Wraxall and Failand

The Parish Council has much pleasure in providing you with a household copy of the Wraxall and Failand Parish Plan 2009 - 2019.

The Parish Plan was formally launched at the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 21st April 2009 at the Sawmill, Tyntesfield.

This is your plan. We have attempted to incorporate in it all the feedback we received from across the parish since the spring of 2007. Through consultation sessions, meetings and the questionnaire you have told us what you like, what you wish to change and what you like to see improved, to enhance our quality of life in the future.

This is "Bottom up Planning" at work. The plan will be passed to North Somerset Council and to all other interested parties.

Whilst the Parish Council has overall responsibility for implementing the plan, everyone has and opportunity to contribute to its success by joining one of the implementation groups or pursuing a particular single issue interest.

We hope you will enjoy it and find it interesting reading. If you decide to get involved please contact either me or the Clerk listed above.

Finally thank you to all who have made this possible by their active involvement or their silent contribution through the questionnaire. A particular thank you goes to the Chairman of the Steering Committee, Doug MacMillan, for his leadership, direction and drive without which this Parish Plan's present position would not have been achieved.

This is your Parish Plan and you and your Parish Council are responsible for its implementation.

Yours Sincerely

Chris Ambrose
Chairman: Wraxall and Failand Parish Council

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(Front and Rear cover Noah's Ark Farm looking westwards toward the Severn Bridges – reproduced by permission of Noah's Ark Farm)

(This background photo is looking NW from Wraxall to Wraxall Church and West Hill)

1. Executive Summary

- This, the first Parish Plan for Wraxall and Failand, was compiled voluntarily by the residents of the parish, and marks the end of the first stage of the process of gathering together the opinions and wishes of the people who live and work in the parish. With over 50% of households responding, it provides a statistically accurate summary of our views. A Draft Action Plan at the end details what needs to happen next in the delivery stage when it is hoped that we can realise some of our wishes or at least influence some of the concerns we have raised. The delivery stage will be progressed by individual interest groups with the backing of the Parish Council. The Parish Plan developed from April 2007 to May 2009, was presented to the residents of Wraxall and Failand at public meetings and accepted in principle by the Parish Council in May 2009.

- An introduction is provided in Section 2 on the purpose of the plans, why we are doing one and what will happen to it. Section 3 describes the Wraxall and Failand parish, Section 4 shows where we are situated, Section 5 describes how we went about developing the plan, and Section 6 is a summary of the key findings from the questionnaire replies. Detailed summaries of the responses by subject matter are in Section 7, the way ahead focusing on the top six issues is described in Section 8, and acknowledgements are in Section 9. The key issues to be considered are in the draft action plan at Section 10.

- The clear message coming through in the responses in the 1,400 questionnaires returned is of a local population who like living in Wraxall and Failand, intend to stay here and have a strong appreciation of the unspoilt countryside. Also liked is the relative peace and quiet, absence of crime, friendliness of the area and the access to amenities and good schools not too far away. The national statistics reproduced in section 3 shows that the area is in the top 30% of the least deprived areas in the country by most measures. We have therefore captured our joint vision as **"towards maintaining a safe, sustainable, scenic and friendly rural community".** The concerns expressed by residents largely relate to possible new developments and how these might spoil the area, such as the potential housing development adjacent to Failand, the encroachment of Bristol and Nailsea, the possible south Bristol link road around Wraxall, the increasing traffic and the threat of unsuitable business developments.

- Every reasonable effort possible was made to ensure that this plan is a true representation of the views of all residents, groups and businesses in the parish by ensuring that everyone was made aware of its development and had the opportunity to influence it through public meetings, consultations, the web site, and responding to the questionnaire. The return of the questionnaires was made as easy as possible, by delivering them to all households by hand, distributing reminders, providing pre paid return addressed envelopes, specially set up collection boxes, a help line and an online web site questionnaire return facility.

- With the parish covering such a wide geographical area, it was recognised that averaging out responses would mask the local differences of opinions, on such topics as access to shops, household collections, public transport, traffic, and access to schools. Although all responses were anonymous, where relevant they have been subdivided into the 6 geographical areas defined in the questionnaires. Other conclusions have been divided into male or female, or age groups using the database we used for the analysis.

- For those who wish to get into the detail behind this plan, the questionnaires used, the detailed data analysis and the answers to the open questions are all available on the web site www.wraxallandfailand.org . Also on the web site are the presentations used at the Annual Public Meetings and the Public Consultation events, the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee, the responsibilities of the Parish Council, the programme showing the time over which we developed the plan and how the plan was funded.

2. The Background to the first Parish Plan

- Parish Plans originated from a “Rural White paper” in 2000, and were further developed by the Countryside Commission. The original target was for 1,000 communities to produce a Parish Plan by 2004. Following a government reorganisation the responsibilities for Parish Plans passed to the Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The process is now well established in most parts of the country including here in North Somerset.

- In 2006, on the election of a new chairman of Wraxall and Failand Parish Council, it was recognised that the Parish Council (PC) was for the most part reactive and not proactive. The PC agreed that a survey was needed of what the residents and the various communities thought of their Parish now and what they liked and disliked, wanted retained, removed, preserved or changed.

- The PC agreed to apply for funding to Quartet Community Foundation to undertake a Parish Plan which should provide a detailed picture of the views of the community and what potential outcomes were desired. The application for funding was successful.

WRAXALL & FAILAND PARISH PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE

- The PC agreed to the establishment of a Parish Plan Steering Committee and issued terms of reference. The Steering Committee was established in April 2007, and organised a number of consultation meetings with the community and with a selection of user groups. Regular reports were provided to the PC. The Steering Group listened to the residents concerns, established key issues and compiled a questionnaire that addressed most areas raised as concerns for our community.

- Questionnaires were produced in a sectional form for households, individuals, young people and businesses and set out in such away that the results could readily be analysed and interpreted. It was distributed to all households; returns were received, correlated and sent for external independent analysis and local interpretation.

- Following this a series of statements was produced by the Steering Committee of the way the parish is viewed now, and flags up wishes, desires and actions for the future. A separate particularised “Action Plan” will follow which will be a dynamic document constantly updated as items are undertaken and new items added.

- The Parish Plan will be forwarded to North Somerset Council who will use the output from it to inform and input to their future policies and it will assist in the running and decision making of our Parish Council.

3. Introduction to Wraxall and Failand

- Wraxall and Failand are two geographically separate communities. Wraxall has a long history and was the dominant centre for centuries, at one time including the parishes of Nailsea and Flax Bourton. It has had a secular Parish Council since 1894 when the first councillors were elected and the first meeting took place on the 14th December that year. Previously the Parish Council had been controlled by the landowners and the church.

- Failand is comparatively new being sub divided into Lower Failand and Failand. The two communities straddle the Failand Ridge with Failand to the north and Wraxall to the south. The area is rich in history having been home to many distinguished families, including the Gibbs family, Robert Vaughan and Sir Edward Fry. It also has many historic listed buildings such as Tyntesfield, Belmont House, Failand House, Birdcombe Court, The Old Rectory, Wraxall Court and Wraxall House. The largest estate is Tyntesfield now owned by the National Trust, which falls in the parish of Wraxall.

- The Cross Tree site in Wraxall is but one example of local history dating back to 1291, standing in the area where village markets and fairs were held and the village stocks were situated.

- **Wraxall** has a 12th Century church; All Saints and a Church of England Voluntary Contribution primary school. This also serves the children of Failand. It also comprises a Budgen's Service Station including shop and two pubs, the Battle Axes and The Old Barn and the Wraxall House Hotel. It also houses Vetco Gray an underwater technology company and Coldharbour Systems an IT specialist company. A recent addition is the new Children's Hospice S W in the grounds of Charlton Farm, adjacent to The Downs School and The Granary, a care home run by Shaw Healthcare for Alzheimer and Dementia patients. Wraxall Village Association provides a social centre for the village.

- **Failand** has an 18th Century church; St Bartholomew's, a cricket club, village hall, village shop and post office, the Failand Inn, a car showroom Auto Scudera and Castacrete a concrete materials supplier. Failand village hall serves as a focus for community activities.

The Wraxall Cross Tree

Wraxall Church

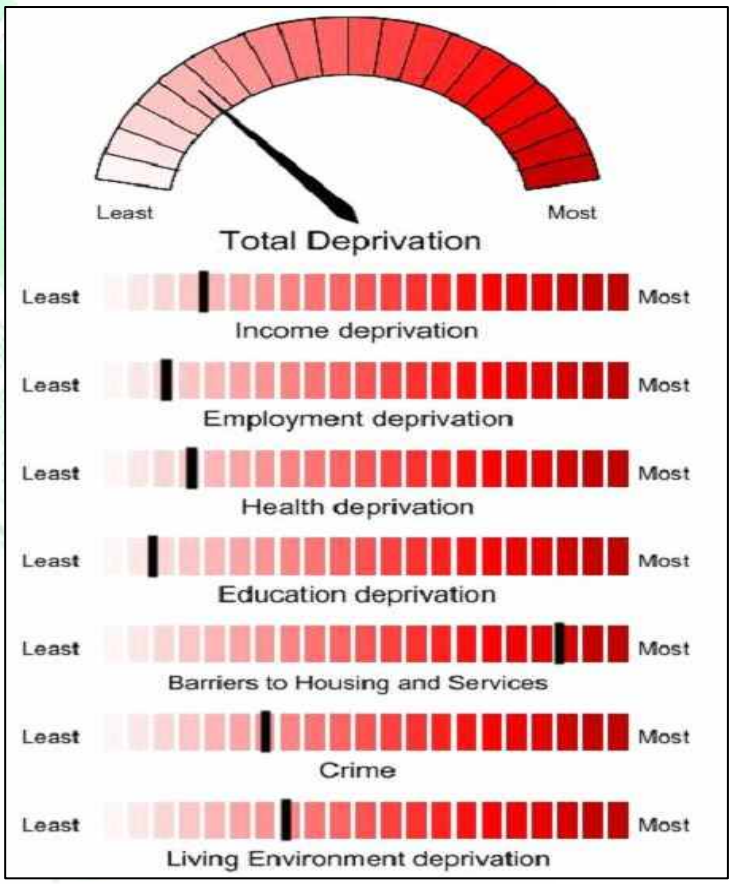
Failand Church

- The landscape for both communities is dominated by about 10 farms in largely unspoilt countryside. Each area has a dominant housing development. The area is crossed east to west by the B3128, the "Top Road" and the B3130, the "Lower Road". These are connected by three north to south lanes, which are used as "rat runs", by commuters to access the M5 motorway, Bristol International Airport, Nailsea or Bristol, all of which are within a 10 mile radius.

- The businesses mentioned, together with the farms, are the only employers within the parish, other than home working. The community is a mix of well-established families and more recent arrivals. Many commute to Bristol, Bath, Weston-super-Mare and London for their work and travel outside the parish for leisure activities, shopping and health care.

- The special character of the area has, for the most part, been retained but is under pressure. In 2008/2009 there were 953 households giving a total population of nearly 3000. The issues perceived by the PC, prior to the Parish Plan findings, to affect the parish covered planning, traffic, road maintenance, litter, fly tipping, lack of affordable housing and public transport. Other issues are identified in the Parish Plan.

Statistics about Wraxall & Failand



- By most indicators Wraxall and Failand as recorded in recent national statistics is in one of the least deprived areas in England, being in the bottom third (for deprivation). The data is taken from the Office of National Statistics survey[1], updated by the University of Oxford in December 2007, and looked at the relative deprivation in England, divided into 32,482 areas (124 in North Somerset) each of about 1,000 to 1,500 households, called Super Output Areas (SOAs).

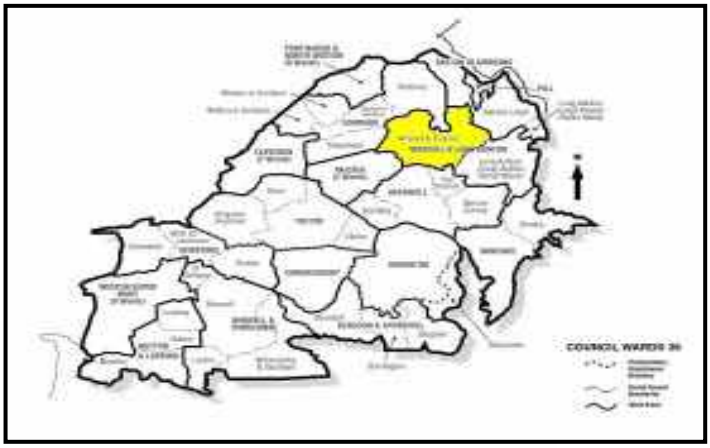
- Seven indicators were used to reach a "Total Deprivation Index". The indicators with their relative weightings were Income (22.5%), Employment (22.5%), (Poor) Health and Disability (13.5%), Education, Skills and Training (13.5%), Barriers to Housing & Services (9.3%), Crime & Disorder (9.3%), and Living Environment (9.3%).

- In all but one indicator Wraxall and Failand parish is awarded a "least deprived" score compared with the other 32,481 areas in the country. The exception is the "Barriers to Housing and Services" indicator which is a measure of affordable housing and distances to amenities such as schools, GP, post offices and supermarkets.

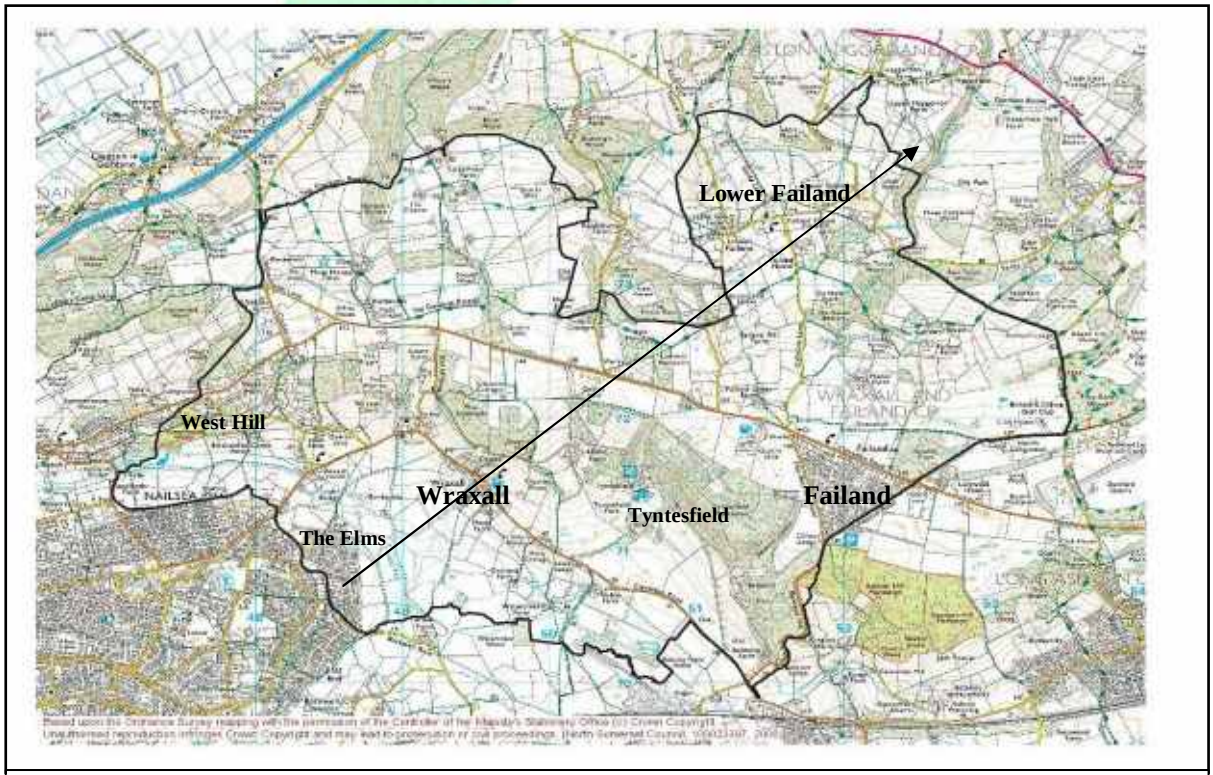
[1] Sources: Communities and Local Government; Office for National Statistics; Valuation Office Agency. The data is taken from the Indices of Deprivation 2007. Reproduced under the terms of the "Click Use licence C 2009000808" dated 7/4/09

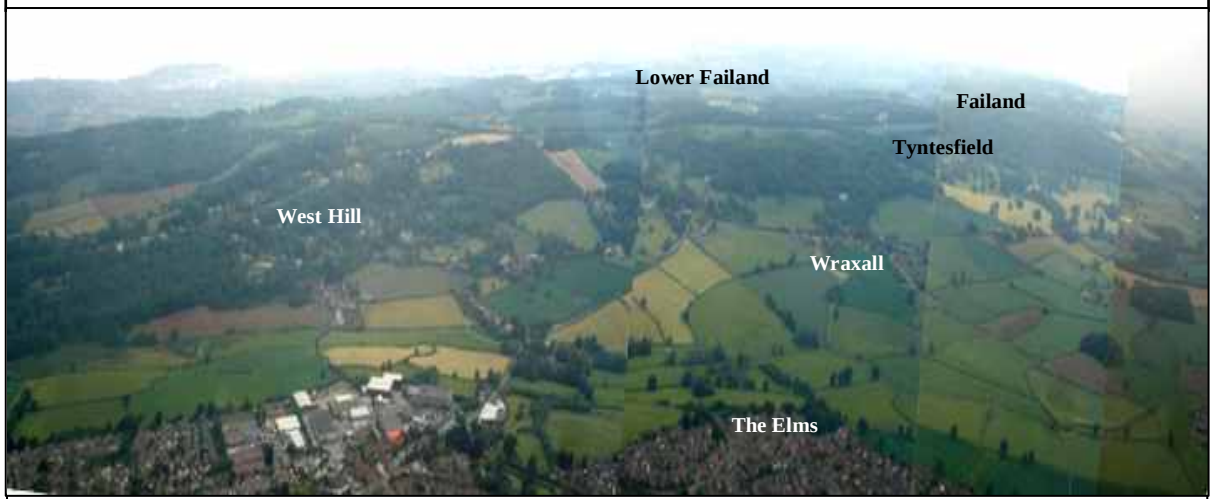
4. Where we are

- The Parish of Wraxall and Failand is situated in the Wraxall and Long Ashton ward, which is in North Somerset District Council. It borders onto eight other Parish Councils, Portbury, Clapton in Gordano, Tickenham, Backwell, Flax Bourton, Long Ashton, Abbots Leigh and Easton-in-Gordano, and one Town Council, Nailsea. At its closest it is 5 miles south west of Bristol and 10 miles North East of Weston-super-Mare.



- This map shows the parish area, with an aerial picture below looking NE from The Elms.





Looking North East towards Wraxall and Failand from 1500 feet

5. How this plan was put together

- The Parish Plan was publicly announced at the Annual Public meeting on the 20th April 2007. The Steering Committee of local volunteers was formed on 24th April 2007. The first task was to make the people of the parish aware of the plan and find out what were the key issues of concern, and what the aspirations were for the future so that a questionnaire could address these. Flyers were posted in all 953 houses in the Parish in August 2007 to coincide with local newspaper articles publicising the plan and the consultation evenings on 20th and 27th September 2007.

- Over 140 people attended the public consultation evenings held at the Failand Village Hall and the Battle Axes. Interviews were also conducted with many organisations, such as schools, churches, clubs, businesses, and interest and sports groups. Stands were manned at the Wraxall village fete and the North Somerset County Show.

- The questionnaires were developed and posted through every household door in the parish in July 2008, with an enclosed free prepaid return envelope which could be returned through a Royal Mail post box or in one of 3 mail boxes set up by the Steering Committee especially. Reminders were distributed around the parish on lamp posts, and notices posted through every door, extending the return date to 10th August 2008. This reminder raised the return rate from 35% to 50%.

- A web site was set up to allow downloading of questionnaires and the posting of completed ones. A contact address was also provided on line and regular information updates posted.

- Responses were received from 473 households, representing about a 50% return. In addition there were 847 individual responses and 99 Young People responses. All responses were anonymous. With 1,400 questionnaires and potentially 200 tick boxes to be filled in on each questionnaire, there were over 200,000 pieces of data to be analysed.

- Use was therefore made of a questionnaire data analysis company, Group Sigma, to enable objective analysis of the data, by area, age, sex etc. The data, now held on a data base, can be revisited if more analysis is required in the future. The Open question responses were recorded and analysed by the Steering Committee.

- The draft Parish Plan was presented to the PC on 10th March 2009 for their agreement in principle, and presented to the parish residents on 5th and 7th May 2009 at public meetings, attended by over 120 people. All data is now recorded and available on the web site at www.wraxallandfailand.org

Material used to Develop Plan

6. Summary of Results

- This summary highlights the key issues set out in detail in section 7 of the plan. Each of the parts of section 7 has been subdivided into four headings; The Current situation, Issues raised, Vision for the future, and Action plan. 473 households including 847 adults and 99 young people responded to the questionnaires, representing a commendable 50% return by households. The returns were split 51% female and 49% male. Of the responses about 45% were from Wraxall and The Elms, 37% from Failand, 12% from the West Hill & Tower House Lane, 6% from Lower Failand, 2% from Tyntesfield and Belmont, 1% from Charlton Farm and Moat House Farm reflecting the relative numbers in these geographical areas.

- **What we like is "Our Rural Life Style"** A continuing theme brought out in responses to many questions was an overwhelming desire for the area to remain unspoilt, rural and agricultural, with people liking their countryside and wanting it preserved, which is probably why people have chosen to live here. A high proportion of residents expressed what they liked about the parish as "peace and quiet", "village lifestyle", "like walking", "free from crime", "good neighbours" and "convenient for access to amenities". The same theme came through on questions about what people liked doing in their leisure time with responses such as walking and cycling. It was also reflected in questions about the need for more and better maintained footpaths. If people could, they would prefer to walk to school or work, but often found this not possible at the moment. The same theme was apparent in the types of businesses that people would support in the parish, such as agriculture, garden centres and sports facilities. Considerations that were important in any future development were wildlife protection and reduction of traffic noise.

Walking in Sandy Lane towards Failand Church

- **What we don't like is – "Changes that affect our rural peace and quiet"** What people least liked about living in the parish were those things that affected or might affect the rural peace and quiet with comments such as "threat of Link Road", "too much traffic" and "too much development". Other concerns were "poor public transport" and "dangerous road junctions". These opinions depended on the part of the parish in which people lived.

- **Household Services** Specific household issues that the survey brought out were the lack of mains gas, broadband and mains sewerage especially at Failand. More recyclable plastics collections were also wanted.

- **Planning and Development** Four key planning issue were highlighted in the questionnaire:
  - The Regional Spatial Study (RSS), Option D which could potentially allow 900 houses to be built near Failand was unanimously opposed.
  - The possible link road outlined in the Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study, which would affect the southern part of the parish, was also opposed by most of the parish, especially those in Wraxall, The Elms and Tower House lane areas. On the other hand some residents, particularly in Failand were in favour of the link road.
  - The general declining condition and loss of village feel of Wraxall village due to the speed of traffic, lack of facilities and dangerous road conditions was a real concern.

- The boundary change to incorporate the Elms into Nailsea was also opposed by the majority of residents especially those living on the Elms.

- **Health**. People were generally content that they had adequate healthcare available and doctors available locally, if not actually practicing in the parish. There was a high degree of concern that there were no NHS dentists available.

- **Employment** In August 2008 when the survey was conducted, 29% of people were content that there were sufficient employment opportunities and 27% thought there were not. This view may have changed in the light of the economic climate of 2009. The types of businesses people would be content to be increased were agriculture, gardening, leisure, pubs and restaurants. People did not want any more quarrying or construction.

- **Traffic and Road Safety** Over development of the parish were continuing themes, and its effects on traffic and road safety. Well-known traffic accident black spots such as the top and bottom of Wraxall Hill, Portbury Lane, Charlton Farm/Downs School were all highlighted as dangerous junctions. Traffic speed was a concern on the "lower road" through Wraxall Village and Wraxall School, and the "top road" through Failand and across the top of Wraxall Hill. Between 30% and 50% of people said they used public transport regularly but there was a high degree of concern over the transport standards, whether it went when and where people wanted and the cost of fares.

- **Sports and Leisure** People most enjoy walking, cycling, keep fit and gardening activities. There was a wish to have more cycle and footpaths generally with paths going to Bristol, around Tyntesfield, and linking Failand to Wraxall and Nailsea. There was also a strong wish to see more events such as show jumping and country crafts at the North Somerset showground.

- **Housing** 94% of people said that they would be likely to remain in the parish in the next 5 years. In August 2008 only 6% of respondents had difficulty in getting the housing that they wanted. Some said houses were too expensive, some that they were too small, and for some too large. Warden protected housing was highlighted as necessary for the elderly.

- **Crime and Safety** Encouragingly 98% of people, including the young, thought Wraxall and Failand a safe place to live. This reflected Avon and Somerset police statistics which show that the parish is relatively crime free compared with neighbouring parishes. However, people would still like to see more community support officers on the street.

- **Young People** The parents and guardians of young children were in the main content with play facilities at the Elms but at The Grove they considered the play equipment must be improved. People in Failand with small children would also like a play area there. Young people showed that they preferred to play at their own or at friends houses. 58% did not have much difficulty in moving around the parish or getting to school and college, except for those living in Failand. The favoured places for shopping were Nailsea, Bristol and Cribbs Causeway with 55% of young people also wanting more local shops.

- **Sustainability** 54% of people thought that more could be done locally to encourage green sustainability issues.

- **Community and Local Government** Only 30% of people knew who their Wraxall and Failand parish councillors were, and even less their North Somerset District councillors. Suggestions were made on how information could be better imparted to residents on local issues, such as leaflets, journals and newsletters or a web site.

- **Businesses** Most businesses said that they intended to stay in the area in the foreseeable future with many wishing to expand.

7.1 Household Services

The current situation

The facts

- Wraxall and Failand have 953 households spread over a wide geographical area with centres of residences at Failand, Wraxall village and The Elms. Other houses are more spread out on West Hill and at Lower Failand. The areas are joined by farms and with Tyntesfield estate in the centre of the parish. Most houses are detached, with a few terraced houses in Wraxall Village. All areas have mains electricity and mains water, but there are regional variations in mains sewerage, mains gas, broadband internet connections and recycling collections.

Household Information

- Households were asked where in the parish of Wraxall & Failand they lived to determine if there were regional reasons for different provisions of services. 50% (or 473) of all households responded, 45% live in the Wraxall & The Elms, 2% on the Tyntesfield and Belmont estates, 36% in Failand, 5.5% in Lower Failand, 1% on Charlton & Moat House Farms and 10% in the West Hill & Tower House Lane area (see Figure 1.1). This reflects the population distributions of the parish.

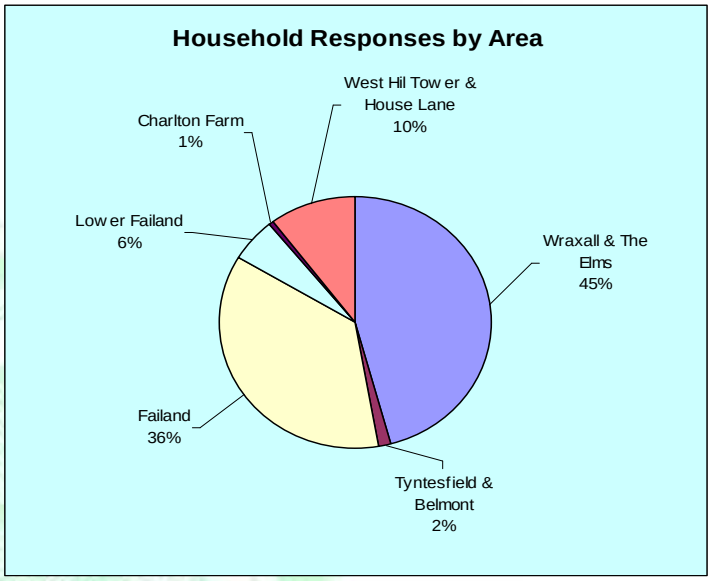


Figure 1.1

Issues raised

The opinions

- **Services** - Households were asked about the services they have access to and which they would like:
  - **Mains Gas**: 158 out of 363 households or approximately 43% of all households that responded said that they were already connected to mains gas; the majority of these were in Wraxall & the Elms, although The Grove does not have mains gas. 209 households or 57% of those that responded would like to be connected to mains gas. In particular there is a strong demand at Failand with 120 households indicating they would like a connection to mains gas as would those living at The Grove.

  - **Mains Sewerage**: 404 households responded to this question showing that 90% are already connected to mains sewerage system. The area where there is most demand is in Lower Failand where 14 households and 10 in Tower House Lane indicated they would like to be connected.

  - **Broadband**: 382 households responded, with 300, or 78% being already connected to broadband. The areas that most wished to have broadband were Wraxall & The Elms (and more likely in Wraxall) where 27 households, and in Failand where 44 households wished to be connected. The issue it is understood in Failand is a lack of capacity on the Long Ashton exchange which requires upgrading. Residents of The Elms, Wraxall and Failand also expressed an interest in cable TV being made available.

- **Collections**: Concerning households collections the views on current and desired services and the frequency were:

  - **Green Box Collection**: 87% of households in the whole parish already take advantage of the green box collection service, 22% would like the frequency of collection increased to weekly, however the majority, 69% felt that the current fortnightly service was sufficient.

  - **Garden Waste Collection Bag**: 83% of households stated they already use this service. 15% would like the collection frequency increased to weekly but again the majority, 73% felt the current fortnightly collection was sufficient.

  - **Charity Clothes Collection**: 27% of households stated that they already used this service, a further 82, 18% of households indicated they would like to be included in the collection round. The majority that use the service, 83 households, felt that the current monthly collection was appropriate.

- The residents of Tyntesfield & Belmont and Charlton & Moat House Farms also wished to be included in the collection rounds for Green Box, Garden Waste and Charity Clothes.

- Households were asked about the collection of other materials such as cardboard, paper, glass, tin, clothes, and non recyclable waste, which service they currently have and any additional services they would like. For cardboard, paper and tin collections it appears that the community is well served with 77% of households taking advantage of the service. Most people, however, would like plastics collections. The notable exception again is the homes on Tyntesfield & Belmont estates and Charlton & Moat House Farms, who wish to be included in the collection rounds.

Vision for the future

- Maintenance and extension of green collection services initiative throughout the parish.

- Mains Gas, Mains Sewerage and Broadband to be made available at Failand and Wraxall, The Grove

- The full range of door to door collections to be made available to all in the parish such as collections of recyclable plastics including bottles and containers. This also includes collection of charity clothes from doors and big items like fridges and furniture.

- An investigation into whether there is a case for cable TV to be made available on The Elms, Wraxall The Grove and Failand.

Action plan

- Interested parties including the PC and those primarily from the Failand area to continue to pursue the issue of Mains Gas, Sewerage and Broadband at Failand with the appropriate charities, utilities, local services organisations, and service providers.

- The same group to contact the various collection authorities and organisations to determine if collections can be extended in range of items and area.

7.2 Planning and Development

The current situation

The facts

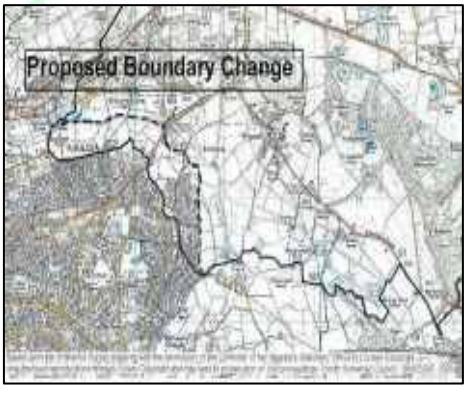
- Four main issues covered in the questionnaire, and which came out of the consultation events were:

- **A Link Road** recommended by the Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study[2]. This would connect the M5 at junction 20, skirt around the South of Tickenham, North of Nailsea and South of Wraxall village across agricultural land joining the A370 at the Long Ashton by-pass near Flax Bourton.

- **Housing Development near Failand** -The draft Regional Spatial Strategy for South West Bristol sets out a requirement for an urban extension to the South West of Bristol of 9,000 homes. The core strategy identified 4 possible options all of which will have some impact on the local area. Option D, proposes development around existing settlements and would have a direct impact on Failand. It is understood that the developer has recently won an appeal which means he does not have to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). We also expect that the developer will soon make a Planning Application so it seems clear that it is necessary to put together whatever arguments we can against the proposal so that we are ready to object to the application well within the period for comments.

- **The Future of Wraxall** There was a strong feeling that as presently constituted, Wraxall is a village that is disconnected due to its layout, the road, the traffic congestion and speed, lack of shops and loss of village feel.

- **Boundary change** An issue raised was the proposal by Nailsea Town Council to include the Elms in Nailsea district. The idea will not now be taken further by North Somerset Council, in view of the high degree of opposition from the residents of The Elms through an organised petition, and the representation of our views by our parish and district councillors



- Other issues raised were to seek the general views of residents about any future developments in the parish in view of the continued increase in traffic, and pressure for housing in the area.

[2] www.gos.gov.uk/gosw/transport/regtransstrat/gbsts/

Issues raised

The opinions

The Possible Link Road
Wraxall and Tickenham Bypass (A370 to M5)

- There was a substantial majority 55% (447) across the parish against the link road (see figure 2.1) especially amongst those living in Wraxall, The Elms, (figure 2.2) and also in Tyntesfield and Belmont and West Hill. 269 were in favour of the road with the majority, 152, of those living in Failand (figure 2.3), presumably because it is seen as removing traffic cutting through Failand to and from the M5 junction at Portbury.

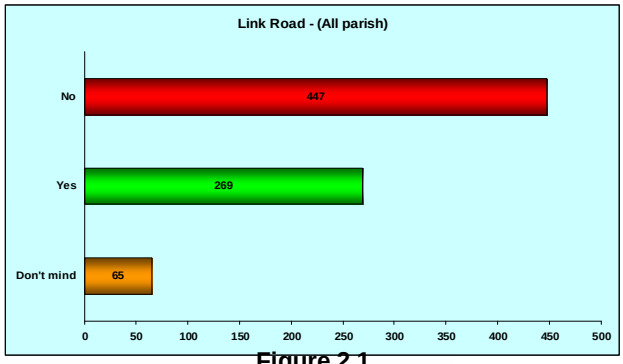


Figure 2.1

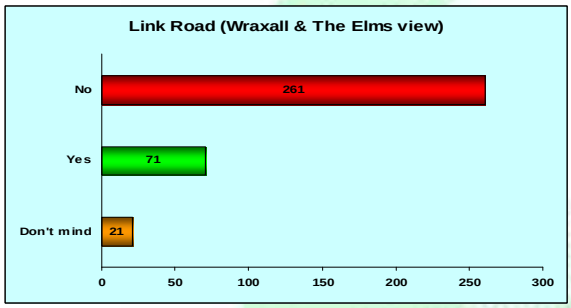


Figure 2.2

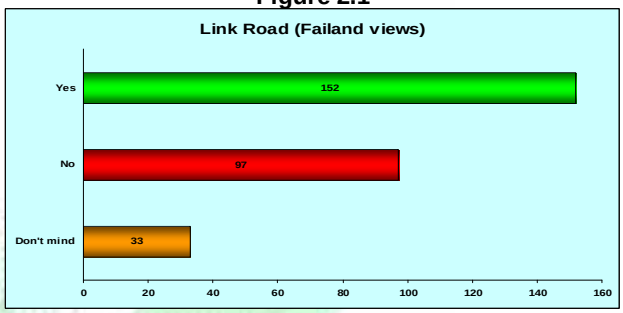


Figure 2.3

Housing Development near Failand

- There was a very substantial majority of 82% of those that responded across the parish against the proposal in the Regional Spatial Study for south west Bristol, for additional housing development adjacent to Failand (534 against, 117 in favour). (figure 2.4)

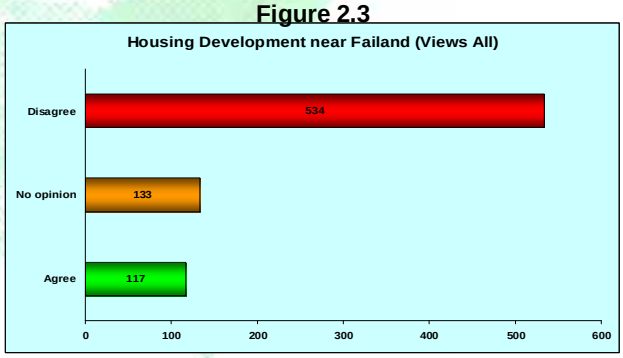


Figure 2.4

- Opinion within Failand itself was almost unanimously against the proposal with 92% of those that responded against. (figure 2.5)

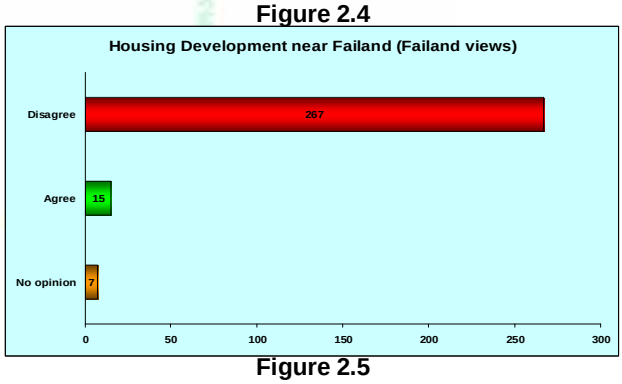


Figure 2.5

Future of Wraxall Village

- The responses to the questions about Wraxall village revealed a number of significant concerns. These can be summarised, from figure 2.6, as follows:
  - o Traffic speeds along the B3130 (particularly at the junction with Wraxall Hill) leading to proposals for:
    - Pavement/cycleway along the road.
    - Pedestrian crossing or traffic lights near the school.
    - Traffic calming.
  - o Lack of a local shop.

o Need to ensure the future of the Primary School.
o Support for the new Cross Tree Centre at the church.

The numbers of responses for and against various improvements is shown below

Boundary Change

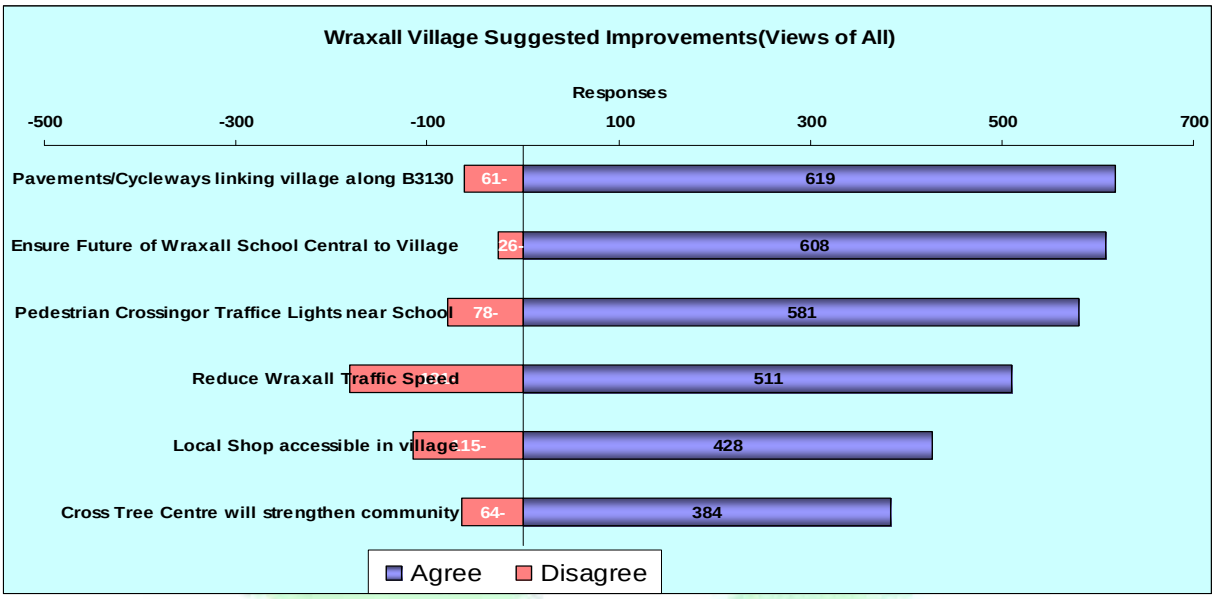


Figure 2.6

- On the fourth major planning issue, 58% of the respondents did not want the boundary change to include The Elms in Nailsea. This increased to 75% of those living on The Elms and Wraxall. Since this survey and following a successful awareness campaign by local residents of The Elms, it is understood that North Somerset District Council is not going to pursue this idea raised by Nailsea Town Council.

General opinions on development in the parish

Site Meeting on The Elms-2006

- The key issues for residents of Wraxall and Failand in any developments in the parish, shown in figure 2.7, were that wildlife must be protected, traffic minimised, noise levels reduced, and infill development resisted. There was some wish for a Post Office again in Wraxall, and more affordable housing, but there was little enthusiasm for farmers markets in Failand or Wraxall.

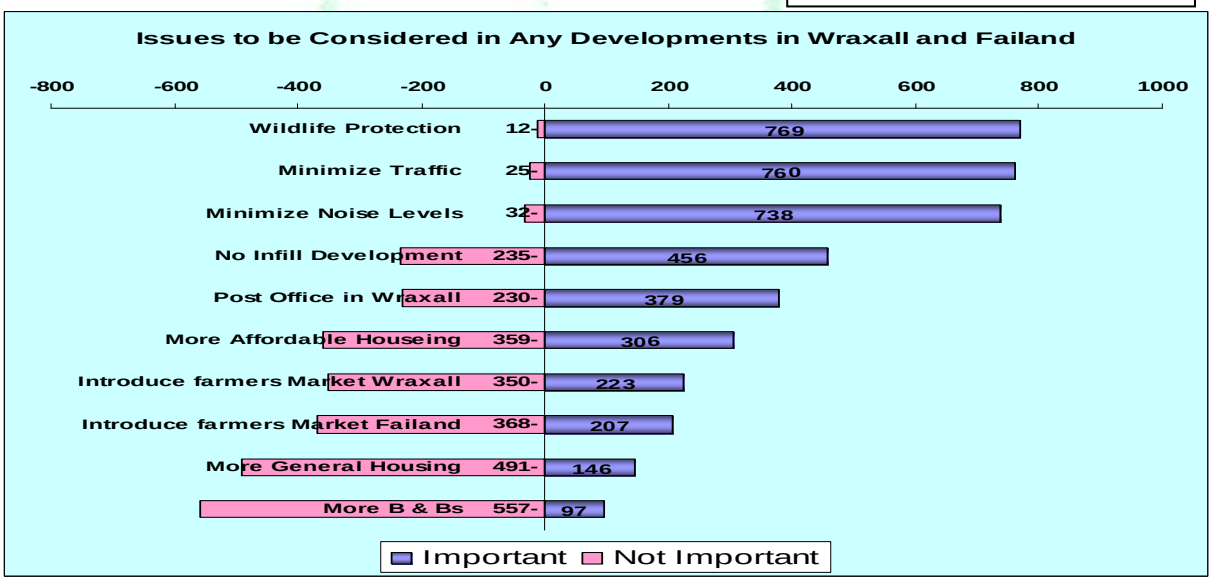
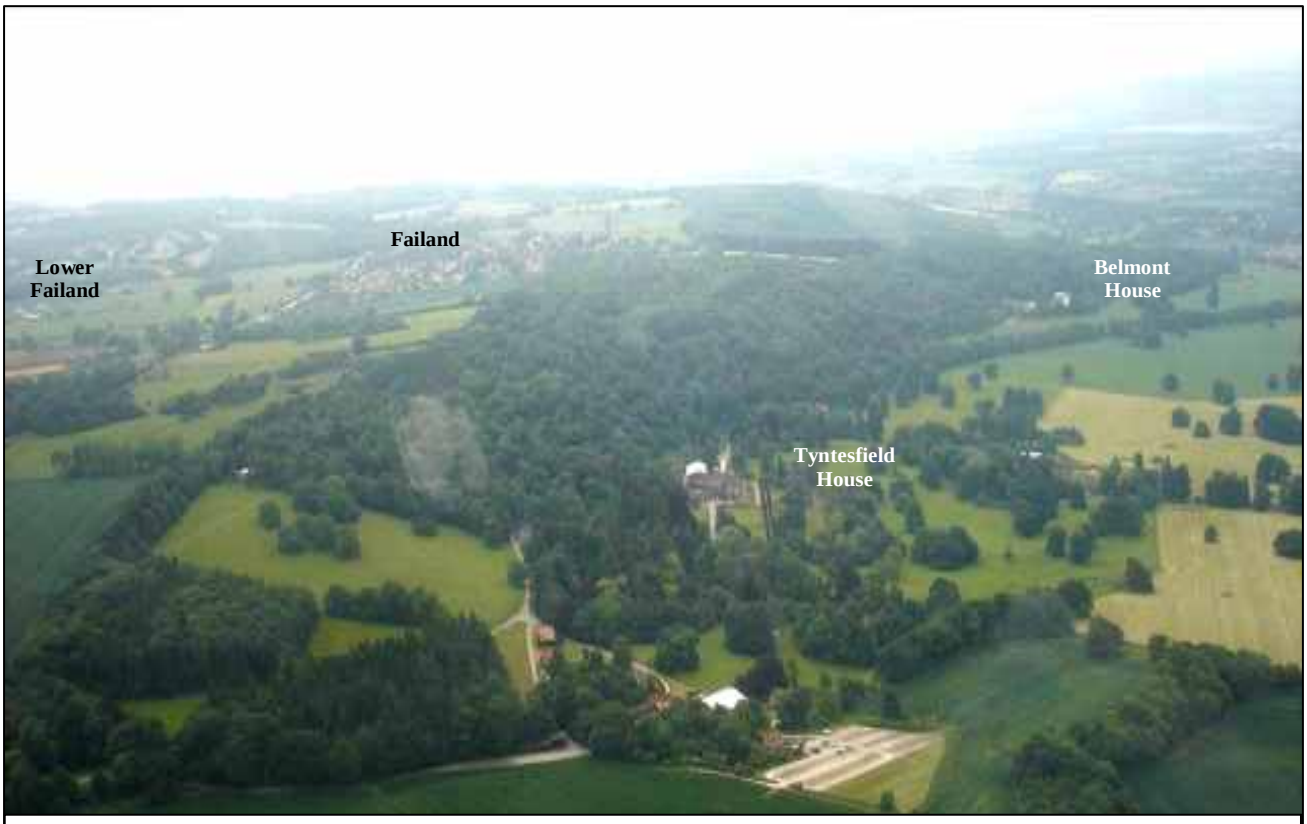


Figure 2.7



Tyntesfield looking east towards Failand

Vision for the future

- A resolution for the link road weighing up the pros and cons which is in the best interests of the Wraxall and Failand residents, working with similar groups in Flax Bourton, Long Ashton and Tickenham.

- A resolution for the housing development for in particular the people of Failand, again working together with other interest groups also affected such as Long Ashton.

- A Wraxall Village that meets the wishes of the majority of the residents, and in particular represents those most closely affected. The solution should drastically reduce the dominance of the road. It must bring the two ends of the village together. It must give the village sufficient critical mass to support a shop or shops and ensure the future of the Primary School and the pub.

Action plan

- A **Link Road Working Group** to be set up, and join other groups to do the necessary research on the Link Road, focussing on whether the road is needed and the environmental and capital costs but to take no further action unless the proposal is brought forward.

- Separate **Wraxall and Failand Development Working Groups** to be formed to work with other groups like “Hands off Long Ashton” (HOLA) to address the alternative strategies for Wraxall and Failand and represent the position of the residents of both areas on the interlinked issues of the link road, Wraxall Village community and housing proposal for Failand. These groups to work together.

7.3 Health

The current situation

The facts

- The general health of the parish as measured by the Health and Disability Indices, put Wraxall and Failand in the best 10% to 15%. Being near to Bristol most residents have access to hospitals within 30 minutes at BRI, Frenchay and Southmead, or Weston General.
- There are no doctors or dentistal practices in Wraxall and Failand with residents either having to travel to Nailsea, Backwell, Bristol, Clevedon or Portishead.
- There are two major specialist medical care facilities in the parish both having opened in recent years. Charlton Farm Children's Hospice, is run by Children's Hospice South West at Charlton Farm, Wraxall and opened in 2007.
- The Granary run by Shaw Healthcare for Alzheimer and Dementia patients in Lodge Lane, Wraxall opened in 2008.

Children's Hospice SW

The Granary, Shaw Healthcare

Issues raised

The opinions

- The majority of people (82%) thought that adequate Healthcare is provided in or outside the area. A small percentage (16%) did not think so. Of those 16%, most thought that there should be access to NHS dentists in the parish.
- On the priority for there being a Doctors Surgery in the parish only 34 % though it should be high priority and 48% thought it a low priority. On the same question of the need for a Dentist in the parish, 30% thought this a high priority and 53% a low priority.
- By far the largest number of comments on what was lacking in healthcare provision in the parish was the lack of a NHS dentist. When asked to comment on what is missing as regards health facilities, 107 of the 799 people that answered this question, thought that provision of this was a significant deficit.

Vision for the future

- Availability of a NHS dental service to residents in the parish if possible.

Action plan

- PC to look into the possibility of an NHS dentist being made available in or near the parish.

7.4 Employment

The current situation

The facts

- The Employment indices used in the national survey takes into account unemployment benefit, disablement allowance, incapacity benefit and registrations on new deal. Wraxall and Failand are in the best 10% nationally for employment by that measure in December 2007.

- In the parish of Wraxall and Failand there are only a few businesses that employ people. These include VetcoGray, an underwater technology company, Coldharbour systems, a software systems company; Castactete a supplier of specialist concrete based building materials.

- Other employers that mainly employ casual part time labour include Budgens garage, Auto Scudera a car showroom, and the three pubs, Failand Inn, The New Battle Axes and The Old Barn as well as Failand Post Office and Bristol and Clifton Golf Club.

- There are also the specialist healthcare workers at Charlton Farm Children's Hospice and The Granary care home and leisure industries such as Tyntesfield, and Noah's Ark Zoo farm as well as the ten farms in the parish who employ farm workers.

- Finally there are the two schools, Wraxall and The Downs that employ teaching and teaching assistants and support staff.

Vetco Gray

Coldharbour systems

Castacrete

Budgens Garage

Auto Scudera

Post Office at Failand

Issues raised

The opinions

- In August 2008, 29% the people answering the question thought there were adequate employment opportunities in or near Wraxall and Failand. 27% thought there were not.

- On asked whether there could be more employment opportunities inside the parish, 25% of the remainder said yes and 28% said no and 47% was non-committal. Of those that said yes opinion, was equally divided between full and part time.

- The types of business that residents of Wraxall and Failand wished to see more of in Wraxall and Failand shown in figure 4.1, were rural activities such as agriculture, gardening and also leisure, tourism, pubs/restaurant, retail and hotels/guest houses. Quarrying and construction were the businesses people would like to see less of in the parish. The

following chart shows the numbers of people who think there should be more, less or should stay the same for different types of business.

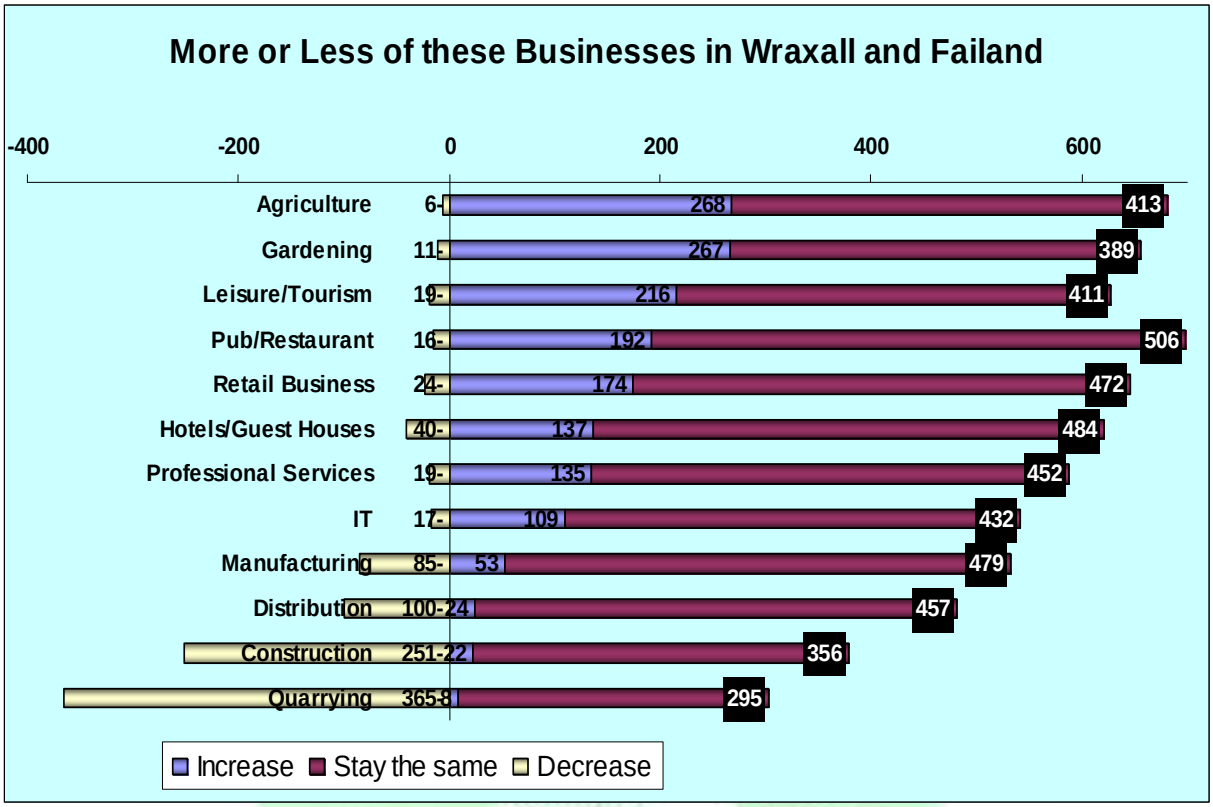


Figure 4.1

- 31% of replies thought there should be a business forum set up for the parish, 23% thought there should not be, and 45% expressed no opinion.

Vision for the future

- Continuing opportunities for a wide range of employments within commuting distance of Wraxall and Failand.
- More thriving future businesses which do not impinge on the rural character of the area, with the preferred businesses being in the agriculture, gardening, tourism, leisure, restaurant/pub and retail.
- No increase in quarrying, and construction businesses in the parish.

Action Plan

- Recommend to the Parish Council that a **Business Forum** be set up.
- Ensure that the wishes of the residents of Wraxall and Failand are taken into account by the Parish Council when future planning applications are considered for new businesses in the parish

7.5 Transport and Road Safety

The current situation

The facts

- The main traffic routes through the parish are the two east-west routes comprising Clevedon Road, the "Top Road" B3128 through Failand on the Failand Ridge, and the "Lower Road" B3130 through Wraxall along the bottom of the Land Yeo river valley. The lower road is also called Clevedon Road at the Nailsea and Flax Bourton ends, and becomes Bristol Road through Wraxall. Both roads are becoming increasingly busy as commuter routes to and from Bristol and to and from Bristol airport, and for connecting South Bristol to the M5. Three steep hill lanes interconnect these roads. Wraxall Hill, Belmont Hill (B3129) and Tower House Lane.

- **Transport -** Rail Public Transport is provide by trains from Nailsea and Backwell stations north to Bristol (about half hourly in the day) then London (hourly outside the rush hour), to Wales or the Midlands and North, or South towards Weston-Super-Mare and the South West.

Bus passing Wraxall

- Buses operated by First Group interconnect Failand with Clevedon and Bristol (about hourly in the day), and Wraxall with Clevedon, Nailsea and Bristol (about half hourly). The Elms is also served by more frequent buses from Nailsea. No buses directly link Wraxall and Failand.

- **Road Safety -** At the public meetings held in 2008 there was more concern expressed about traffic and safety than any other topic. The main concerns expressed were around traffic speed and dangerous junctions in a rural area with country lanes.

- The current Wraxall and Failand "Black Spots" for road traffic accidents involving personal injury and damage as shown by the Avon and Somerset Police in figure 5.1, are the Top and Bottom of Wraxall Hill and at Failand on Clevedon Rd. The next most dangerous areas are Belmont Hill, the B3130 through Wraxall and Beggar Bush Lane junction in Failand.

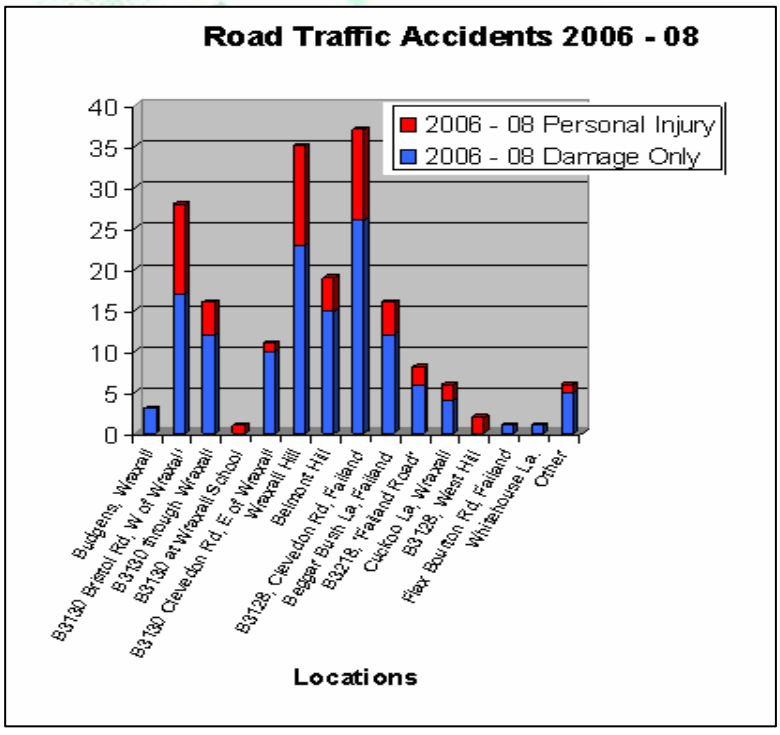


Figure 5.1

Issues raised

The opinions

Traffic Speed danger areas

Wraxall School

Wraxall Village

Clevedon Road, Failand

Clevedon Road past Wraxall Hill

Flax Bourton Road

Belmont Hill

Lodge Lane

Weston Road

Wraxall Hill

- Traffic speed and road safety were the dominant concerns for the majority of those surveyed. There is significant concern about traffic speed across the parish as shown in the charts below, and pictured alongside, and in figure 5.2.
- The worst 10 roads for traffic speeding are shown below, with the B 3130 past Wraxall School being considered the worst traffic danger area with 75% (567 out of 753) of those that know or use the road having concerns about the traffic speed. This was highlighted by the Head of the school where parents are encouraged to park in the church car park on Wraxall Hill and use the manned crossing outside the school and are advised to avoid walking, even on the pavement, past the school.
- This was closely followed by the same road through Wraxall where 500 out of 748 or 67% have concerns about the traffic speed through Wraxall village.
- The B3128 at Failand, followed by the top of Wraxall Hill are the next most serious areas of concern about speeding, then the roads through Failand, Flax Bourton Road, and Belmont Hill.
- Another rat run for speeding traffic was identified was Lodge Lane where it passes the Elms towards the A370. Several comments were also made about the need to have better speed enforcement.
- There was also concern about speeding on Weston Road at Failand, and on Wraxall Hill.
- The residents of the Tower House Lane area also had concerns about Tower house Lane being used as a rat run

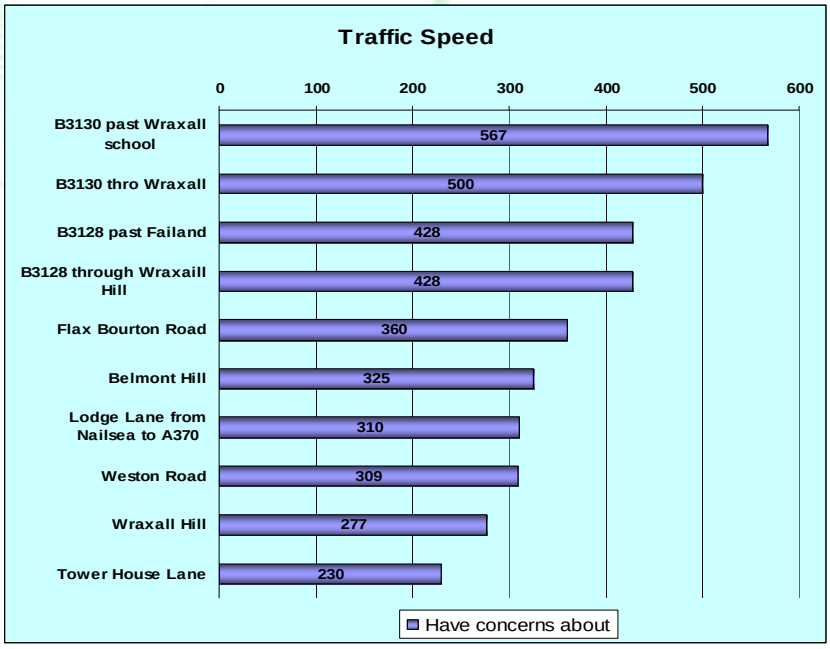


Figure 5.2

Least Favourite Junctions

Top of Wraxall Hill

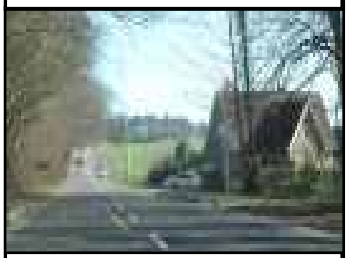
Portbury Lane with B3128

Bottom of Wraxall Hill

Downs Sch, Charlton Farm

Horse Race Lane B3128

Car Park, Belmont Road



Tyntesfield B3128

- 91% of people, or 705 out of 776, that knew or used the junction at the top of Wraxall Hill with the B3128 had concerns about this intersection, see figure 5.3. The Avon and Somerset accident statistics bear out this concern. (23 accidents, 12 involving injury in the last three years)
- 57% (400) had concerns about the junction at the top of Portbury Lane with the B3128, and 54% had concerns about the Horse Race Lane junction with the B3128.
- 46% (346) had concerns about the lower end of Wraxall Hill junction with the B3130. Other junctions in descending order of concern were, Charlton Farm/Downs School with B3128, Horse Race Lane with B3128, Belmont Road Car Park with B3129. Tyntesfield with B3128, and with B3130, Oxhouse Lane with B3128. Residents also raised concerns about the entrance to The Grove in Wraxall, off the B3130.
- In addition to these junctions some expressed concerns about the Tower House Lane junction (top and bottom) and the need for hedges to be cut back. Others suggested traffic lights at the top of Wraxall Hill as a solution.
- At the consultation meetings in May 2009 residents also raised the issue of the dangerous junctions at White House Lane and Cuckoo lane near West Hill.
- In summary all the junctions on both the top and lower roads, which do not have traffic lights were generally regarded as posing a road safety hazard.

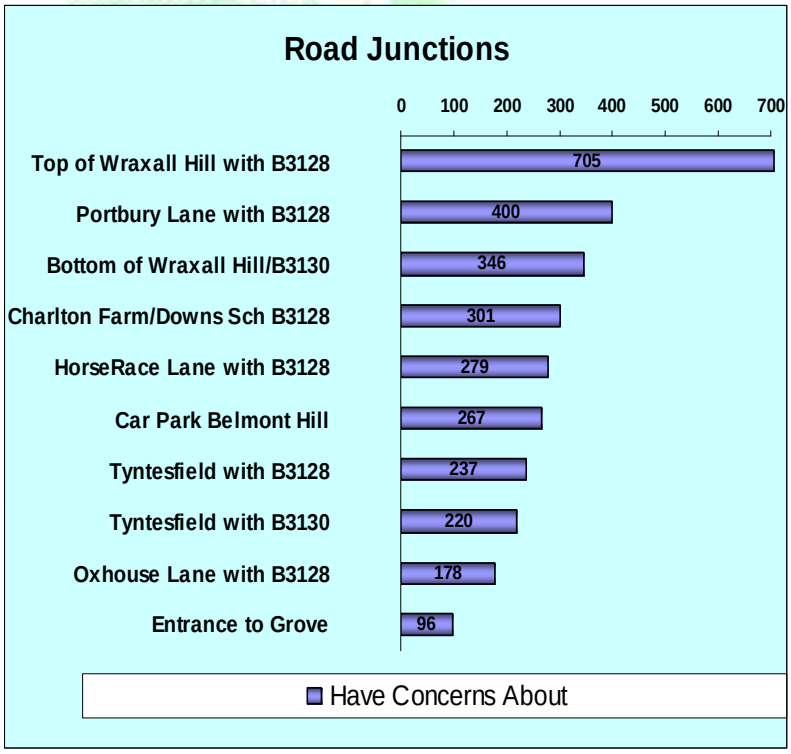


Figure 5.3

Public Transport

- Nearly half (44%) of residents (353) across the parish who replied use public transport, of which 36% (296) use buses and 18% (148) use trains. (see figure 5.4)

- It was noticeable, but expected, that the usage of buses and trains was closely linked to where people lived, proximity to public transport, frequency and reliability of the service. The adjacent chart shows that a slightly higher proportion (45%) of those living on the Elms and Wraxall used public transport, both buses and trains, than do those resident in Failand, where trains and buses were used much less frequently (21%). There may also be a correlation with age where the average age of those responding in Failand is between 10 and 20 years older than those in Wraxall and The Elms.

- 30% (or 217) of those who responded would prefer to travel to work, if they worked locally, by walking, see figure 5.5. 23% (167) would prefer to use a car, 19% (138) were in favour of public transport and 14% (105) would prefer to cycle.

- In response to what residents thought of the standard of public transport, 66% were satisfied, 57% were satisfied with the price, 59% were satisfied it went when they wanted and 71% were satisfied it went where they wanted. (see figure 5.6)

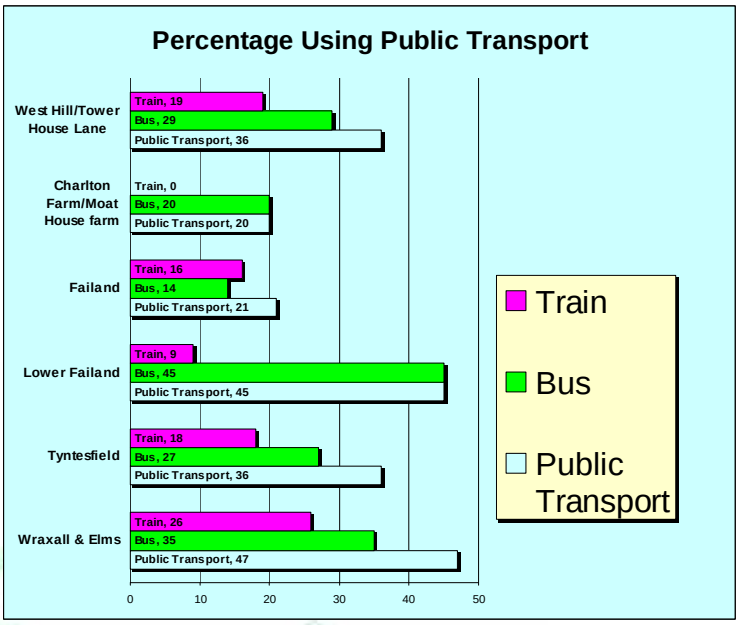


Figure 5.4

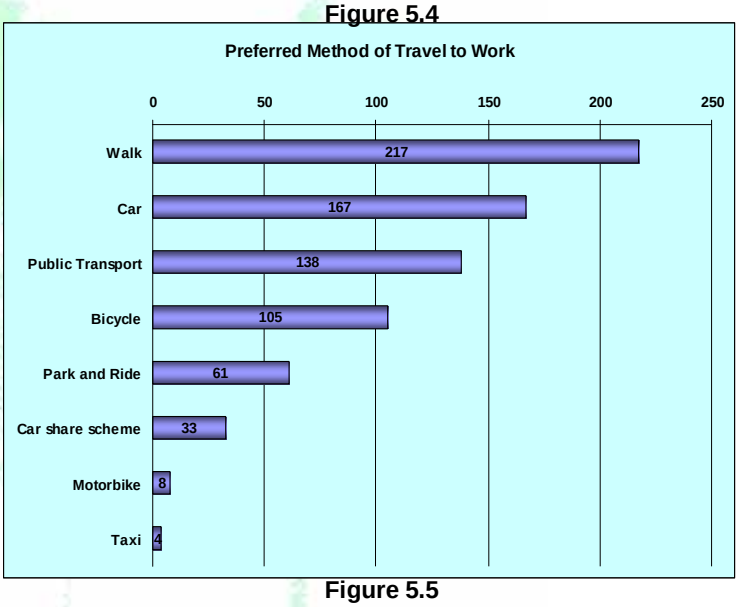


Figure 5.5

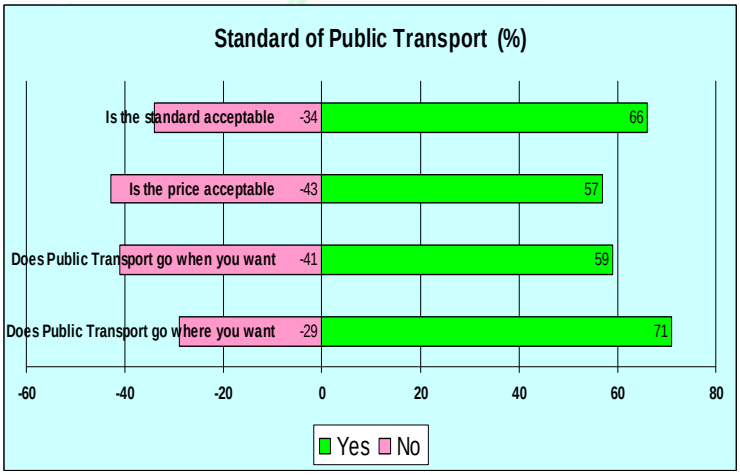


Figure 5.6

- It was recognised that there were strong reasons why some people did not use public transport at all, including it not going where they wanted, when they wanted, fares being too high or standards not being acceptable. About half of those would use public transport if all these concerns were addressed. There were also those who would not use public transport ever as they always used a car. (see figure 5.7)

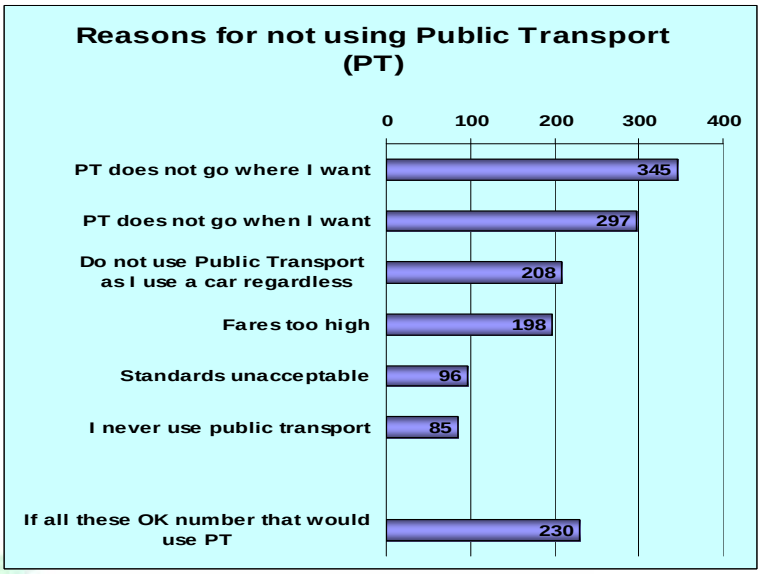


Figure 5.7

Future Developments

- When considering any new development in the parish, the transport and rights of way factors that people considered most important were rated in order, cycle paths and footpaths, traffic calming, and designated Green Lanes (under 15 mph). (see figure 5.8)

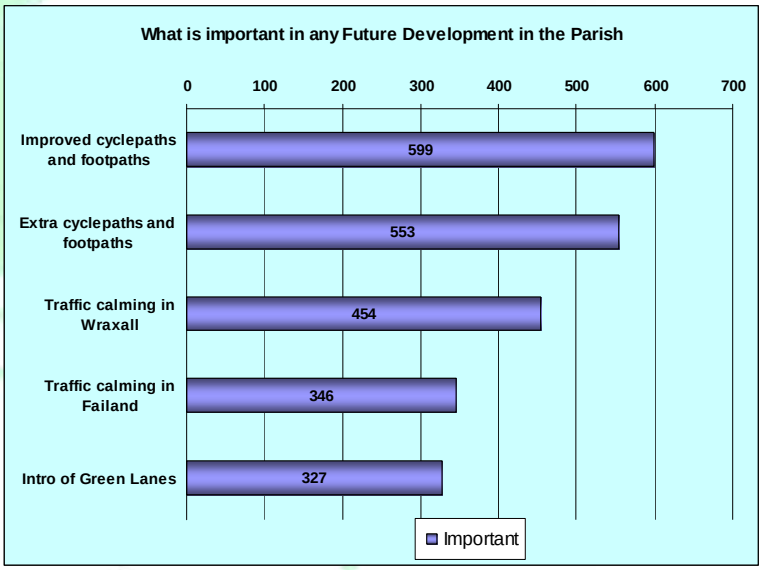


Figure 5.8

Vision for the future

- Traffic calming and road safety measures to be implemented which reduce the number and severity of road traffic incidents within the parish.
- Faster more frequent and affordable public transport that serves the entire parish.
- Improved facility for people to walk to work.

Action plan

- A **Road Safety Working Group** to be set up to lobby for solutions to improve road safety by speed reduction and junction layouts in areas of concern, particularly the B3130 outside Wraxall school and through Wraxall and the B3128 through Failand and past the top of Wraxall Hill.
- Interested parties examine the possible improvements to public transport in discussion with the local council and transport providers, representing the views of those who do not have a good service at the moment.

The Parish of W

Wraxall *is known to date from Roman times and before. It was recorded in the Doomsday survey of 1086 when it was worth £10, had two mills, land for 26 ploughs and 66 inhabitants. The name Wraxall is said to mean "a nook of land frequented by Buzzards"*

Charlton Farm *is the home of the Childrens Hospice South West and opened in October 2007.*

The Downs School *founded in 1859, moved from Clifton Downs to the countryside at Charlton House in 1927.*

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm *began in 1998 at* ***Moat House Farm.*** *As well as a working farm it is now home to Giraffes, Rhinos, Zebras and Tigers.*

All Saint Church *dates from Norman times, circa 1150AD. The Parish of Wraxall originally included Nailsea and Flax Bourton.*

Wraxall Manor House Hotel *a listed former manor house owned over the years by many local landowners.*

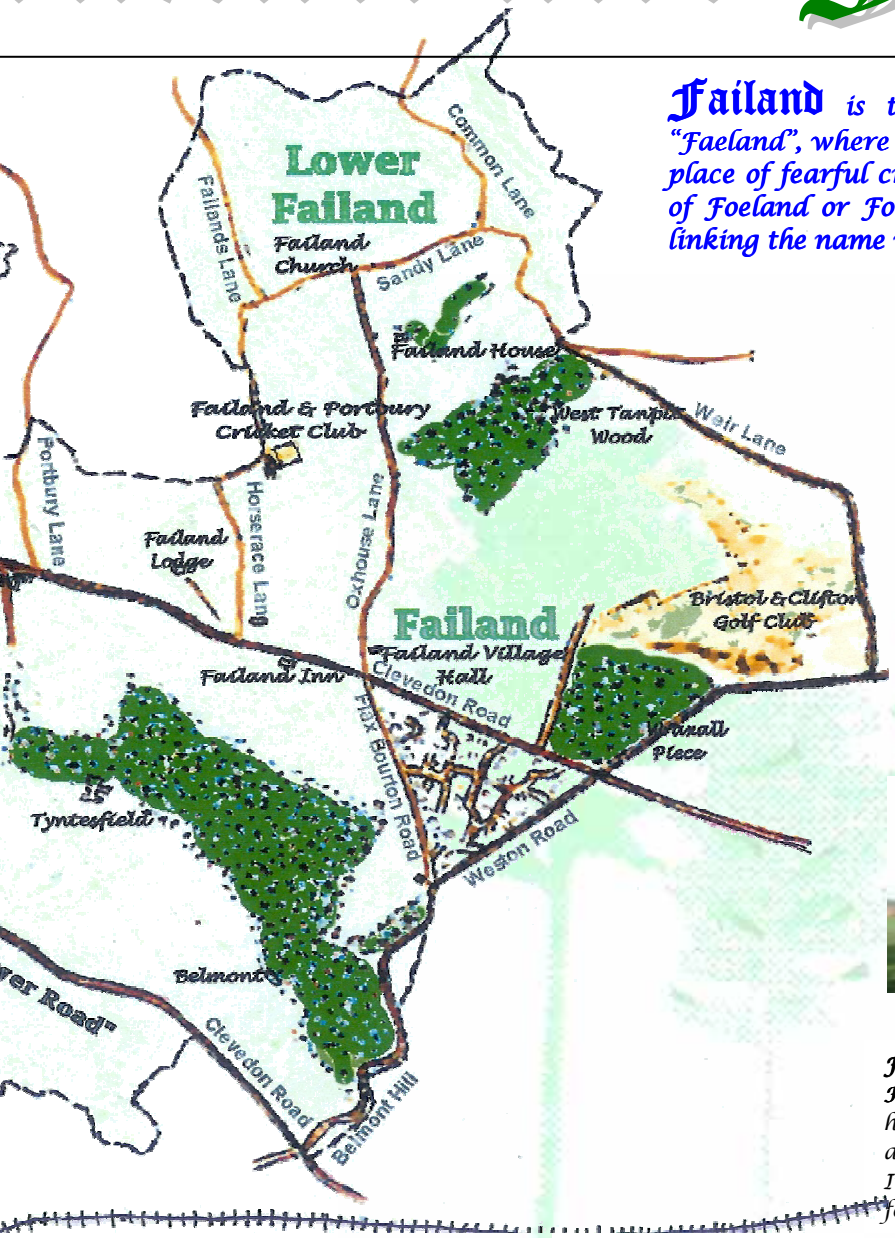
Wraxall Primary School *moved to the current building funded by Anthony Gibbs in 1863, then as a girls and infants school. It became a junior mixed in 1938.*

The Cross *point Wraxall when we held. A st post were*

The Old Barn *a converted barn opened ten years ago as a real ale pub popular with rugby fans.*

The New Battle Axe, *formerly the* ***Battleaxes Hotel,*** *was built by the Gibbs family for the workers to eat and drink as part of the Tyntesfield estate. The Battleaxes is the Gibbs family crest.*

raxall and Failand



Failand *is thought to come the Norman spelling of "Faeland", where "fae" meant supernatural creature, hence "a place of fearful creatures". Other spellings in the middle ages of Foeland or Foiland have lead to an alternative meaning linking the name with magic and fairies, hence "fairyland".*

St Bartholomew's Church *was built in 1887 by Richard Vaughan, at Lower Failand in the belief that the new Bristol-Clevedon road would be passing that way.*

Failand & Portbury Cricket Club *was founded in 1894 in Horse Race Lane.*

Bristol & Clifton Golf Club *was established in 1891 with annual subscription was one guinea.*

Failand Village Hall *is a modern hall for local clubs and groups to meet. It can also be hired for private events.*

Tree *was the focal activities in ating back to 1290 ely markets were cks and whipping lso nearby.*

Belmont House *is a privately owned Grade II listed house built in 1750's by William Turner a local merchant. Belmont horse trials are held here annually.*

Failand Post Office, *village store and off-licence is the only store in Failand providing an essential service*

Tyntesfield House *is a historic Victorian country house owned by the National Trust. William Gibbs bought Tyntes Place, a Regency house in 1843 and rebuilt it in a neo-gothic style.*

The Failand Inn *is an old Victorian coaching inn. It was formerly in Oxhouse Lane.*

7.6 Sport and Leisure

The current situation

The facts

- There are many facilities in the Parish to enable people to undertake sport and leisure activities including Tyntesfield House, Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, Failand Village Hall and Wraxall Village Club. In the parish there are sports clubs at Bristol and Clifton Golf Club and Failand & Portbury Cricket Club. Until recently there was a meeting place in Wraxall at The Grove, but this has recently been demolished and turned into a car park.

Tyntesfield

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Failand Village Hall

Wraxall Village Club

Bristol & Clifton Golf Club

Failand & Portbury Cricket Club

- There are several social groups associated with the church including the Wraxall Mother's Unions. There are also separate Wraxall and Failand branches of The Women's Institute and various interest groups that meet at the Failand Village Hall including The Failand Society, Failand Drama Club and The Failander's Club

- The parish has three pubs, The Failand Inn, The New Battle Axes and The Old Barn, and a hotel, The Wraxall House Hotel. It also has a new centre for the community, The Cross Tree Centre beside Wraxall Church.

Failand Inn

New Battle Axes

The Old Barn

Wraxall House Hotel

The Cross Tree Centre

- There are also many outdoor areas where people can enjoy the countryside and the various areas where people can walk, ride and exercise dogs. Some of these are Tyntesfield Estate, Failand Estate, Wraxall Piece, The Elms Fields, and West Tanpit Wood. The long distance path The Gordano Round also goes through the parish.

Tyntesfield Estate

Wraxall Piece

Failand Estate

West Tanpit Wood

The Elms Fields

North Somerset Show Ground

Issues raised

The opinions

- In addition to the above areas and facilities many residents would like there to be more outdoor play areas and a significant number would like a swimming pool. Respondents were equally divided on whether they thought rights of way were maintained adequately, (33% were satisfied, 33% dissatisfied, and 33% expressed no opinion).

- If rights of way were improved, between 10 and 50 said they might use the most popular routes daily, and between 50 and 100 would use them weekly and around 100 monthly. The most popular new route including, foot paths, cycle paths and bridleways, wanted was through and to Tyntesfield, followed by a cycle route linking Failand, Long Ashton, Abbots Leigh and Tickenham, then a footpath and cycle way through Wraxall to Bristol followed by footpaths and cycle paths between Wraxall and The Elms. (see figure 6.1)

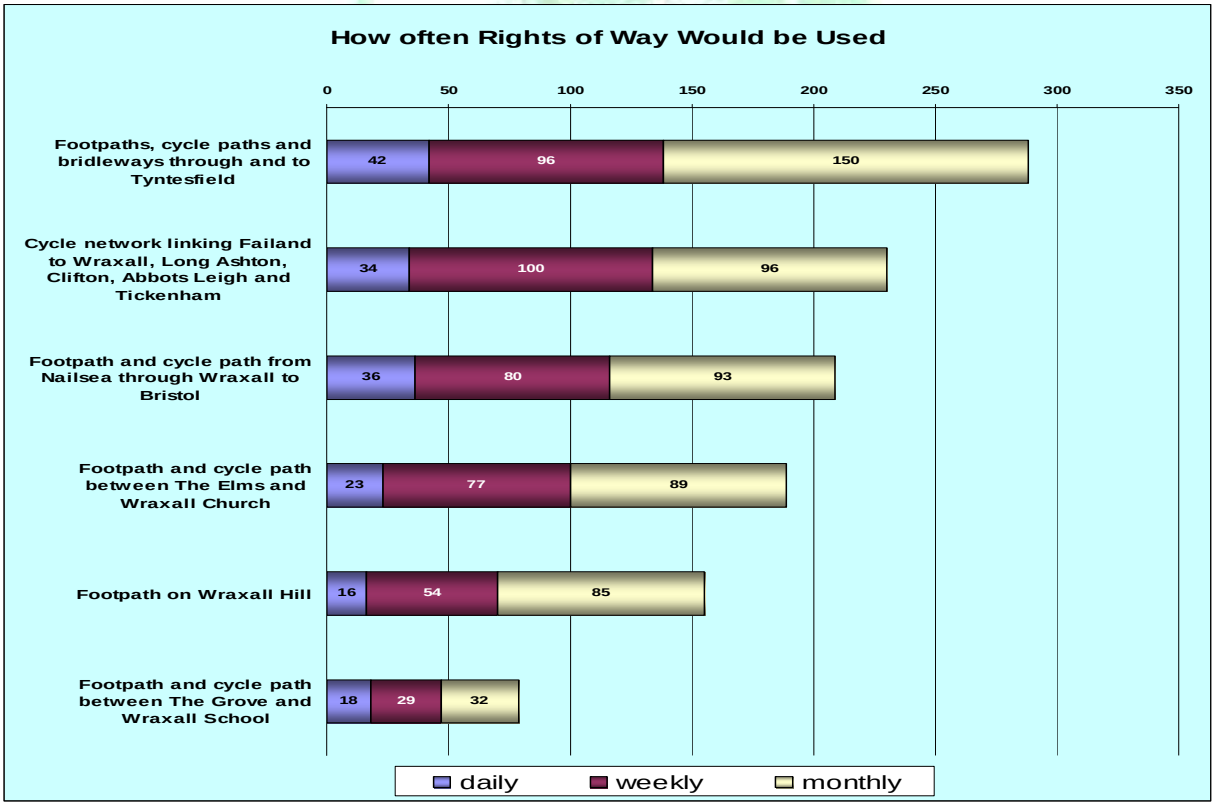


Figure 6.1

- A relevant comment about rights of way, showing a paradox of living in the countryside, was
  "I moved to the countryside because I thought I could gain a healthier lifestyle and would be able to walk everywhere with my children. In fact I use the car more now. I was better off living in Bristol".

- The North Somerset Showground was regarded as a popular facility with 44% of people responding wanting more events to be held there. Horse Shows and Craft and country fairs were the most popular events wanted.

- In response to a wide ranging list of activities that people are interested in pursuing in the parish, outdoor and fitness activities were of greatest interest with Walking, Keep Fit, Biking, Gardening, and Nature Conservancy the most popular. (see figure 6.2)

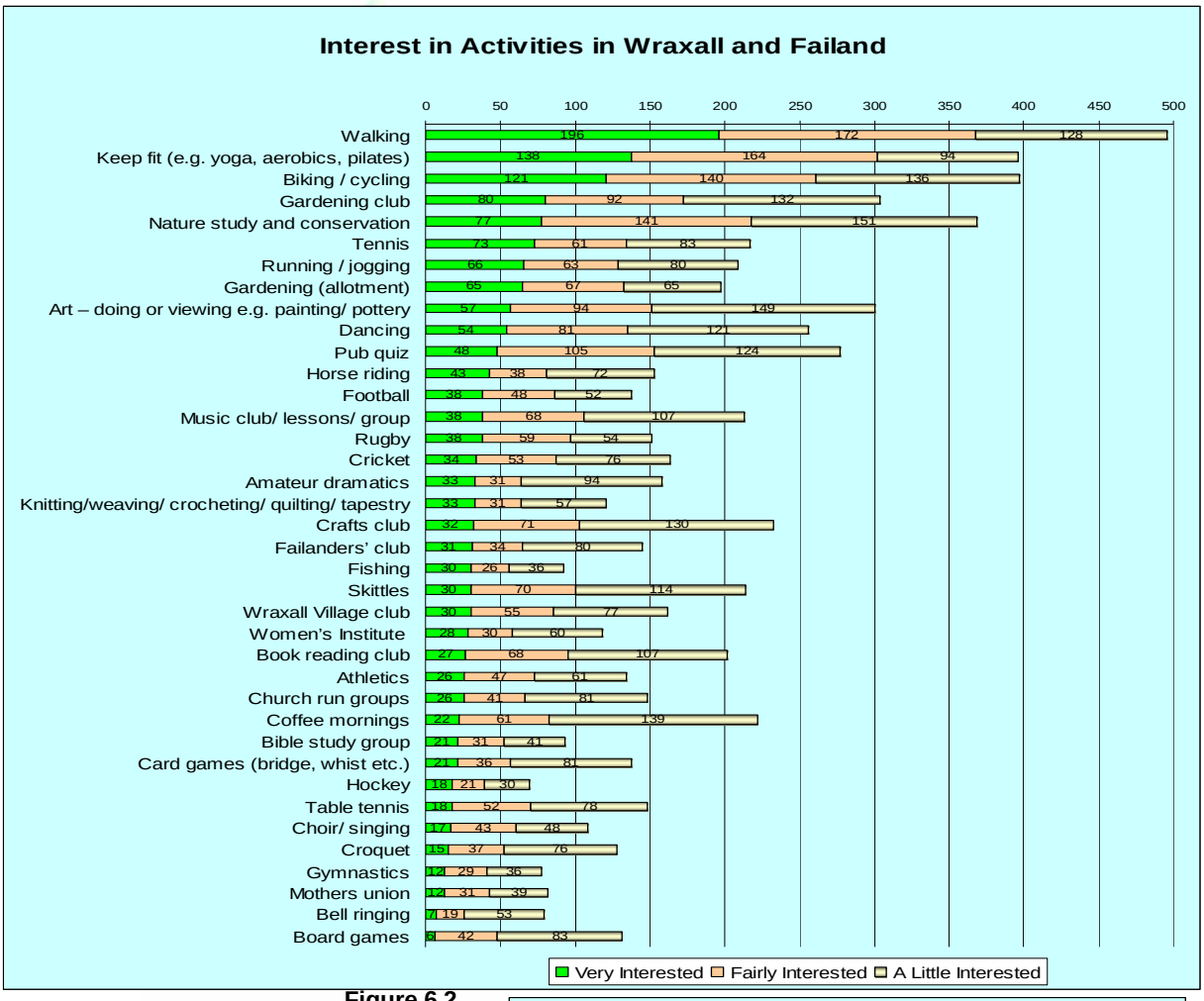


Figure 6.2

- Concerning courses or activities that could be run in the parish in the future that would be supported, Computing, Gardening, Languages, Cookery Conservation, and Photography were the most popular. (see figure 6.3)

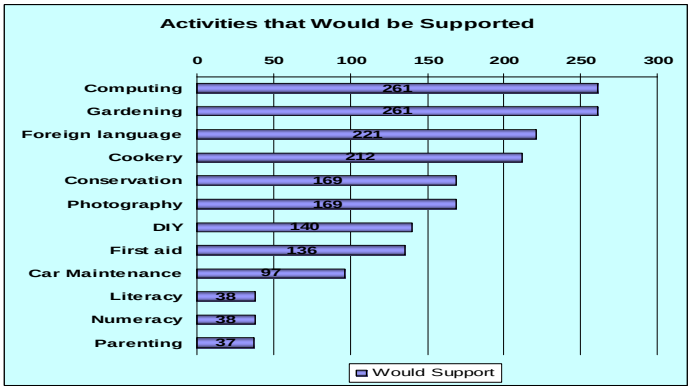


Figure 6.3

Vision for the future

- A parish in which there continues to be an ever wider range of facilities, events and activities run by groups to cater for a broad range of interests but which do not impinge on and have sympathy with the rural nature of the parish.

- Rights of Way, including footpaths, cycle paths and bridle ways that are continued to be extended maintained and improved throughout the parish.

Action plan

- Publicise widely the range of interests that there is within the parish to existing activity groups, to determine if there is any interest in people enlarging existing activity groups or setting up new ones.

- A **Rights of Way Working Group** to be formed to address the needs of the parish for new, and better maintained Rights of Way, including, pavements, foot paths, cycle ways and paths, bridle ways, and to liaise with existing groups like Sustran.

7.7 Housing

The current situation

The facts

- There are approximately 953 dwellings in Wraxall and Failand. Most are detached and many have gardens. There are some areas, such as Wraxall Village which have flats. There is also some social housing and assisted houses in the parish. There are few single storey houses for the elderly.

- The four main concentrations of houses, and accounting for most of the population of Wraxall and Failand are The Elms, a new executive estate built from 1995 to 2000, Failand, (60 acres), Wraxall Village and Tower House Lane/West Hill.

The Elms , Wraxall

Issues raised

The opinions

- About 94% of respondents, 740 people, thought that they would be likely to remain in Wraxall or Failand for the next 5 years and at the time of the questionnaire (August 2008), 94% of respondents also said they had no difficulty in getting the house they needed.

- Only 6% of the respondents to the questionnaire (47 people) had any difficulty getting the housing they needed. However, this still represents a housing need for perhaps as many as 47 houses (an earlier Parish Council survey only identified 29 housing requirements which may correlate to the 47 people). Of the 6% who had some difficulty, the major reasons were a shortage of houses to buy and a shortage of small bungalows. (see figure 7.1)

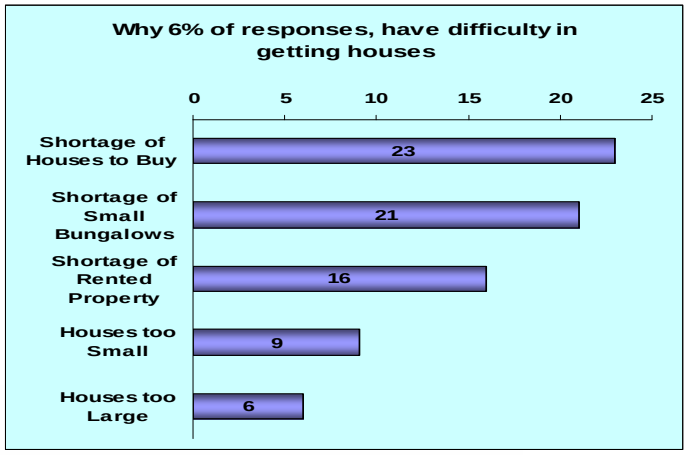


Figure 7.1

- Concerning the houses for the elderly, about 23% of respondents thought that there were insufficient adequate houses for the elderly, citing the lack of warden protected houses and small bungalows as the main reason.

- Households that rent their homes were asked if they had difficulty in obtaining satisfactory repairs to their property. Of the 473 households that responded to the questionnaire, 58 rent their home. 81% of those that responded were satisfied with the repairs to their home, 19% were not satisfied.

- 14% (112) were interested in or knew someone who was interested in affordable housing and 84% (687), were not interested or knew no one who was.

Vision for the future

- A parish that has a range of housing provision to maintain a balanced community.
- Maintenance of the existing housing
- More housing for elderly with warden assisted houses and more small bungalows.
- No infilling between houses.
- More housing that residents can afford.

Action plan

- The Parish Council to look at the provision for housing in the future in the parish, coordinated with Wraxall and Failand potential developments.
- Ensure that the Wraxall and Failand development Working Groups take housing needs into account in their deliberations.

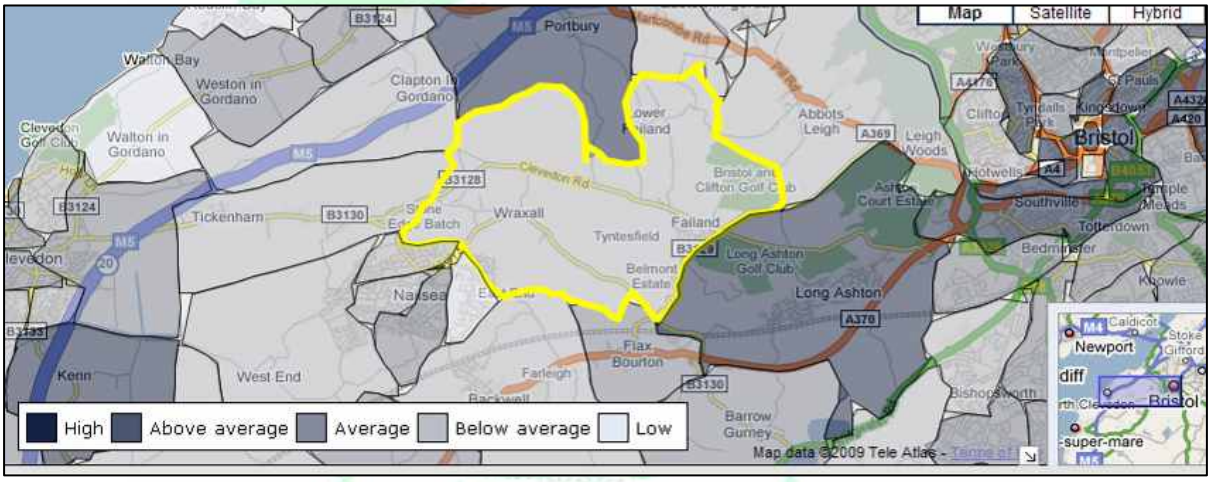
7.8 Crime and Public Safety

The current situation

The facts

- The parish policing is provided by one beat within the Nailsea neighbourhood area in the North Somerset District of Avon & Somerset Police. One police constable (Neighbourhood Beat Manager) and one Police Community Support Officer looks after the policing services, based at Nailsea Police Station, and are allocated to this beat.

- The crime rate in Wraxall and Failand is low in relation to the district average. Graphs of reported crimes are reported on the Avon & Somerset Police website. Screen shots of the most recent information are shown below.



- Wraxall and Failand is in a Low crime area as shown by the map above. The adjacent bar chart, figure 8.1, shows the number of reported offences on the Failand and Wraxall beat, by month for the past two years. This shows a lower rate of about 5 to 10 offences per month and is lower than that for the previous year.

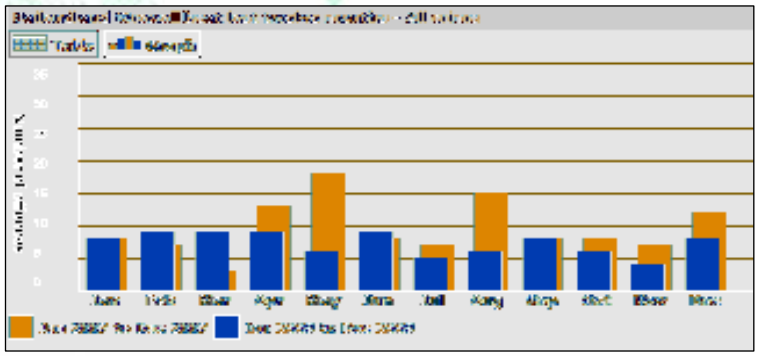


Figure 8.1

- The crime detection rate has been steadily improving since 2001/2002 and now stands at about 27%. (see figure 8.2)

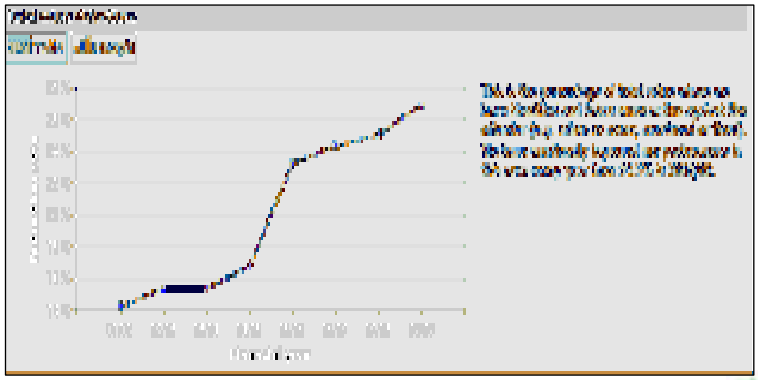


Figure 8.2

***Issues* raised**

The opinions

- In relation to crime and safety, whilst the overwhelming majority thought that Wraxall & Failand was a safe place to live, with 51% feeling it was safe, and 47% feeling it was acceptably safe. About one third, or 29 respondents, thought that there should be an improvement in safety with the main suggestion that there should be more community support officers on patrol. (see figure 8.3)

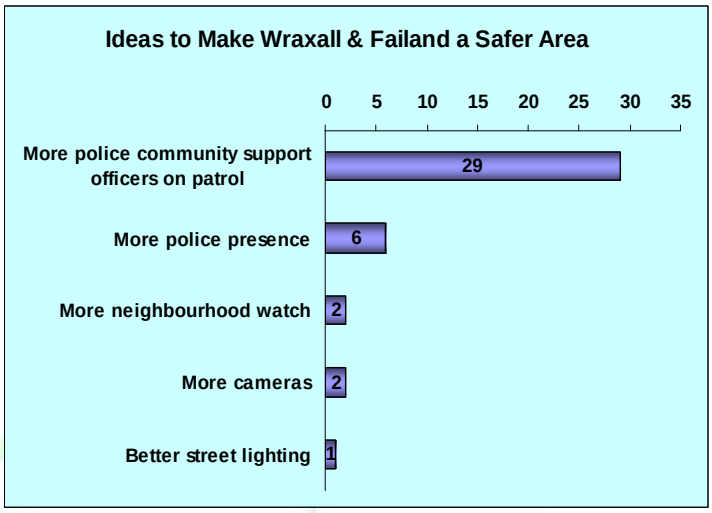


Figure 8.3

Vision for the future

- Maintain a relatively low crime area parish where people of all ages are safe and feel safe.
- Continued improvement in crime reduction and detection rates in Wraxall and Failand

Action Plan

- Consider with the police how to communicate on Crime and Public Safety within the parish that would be best for the parish to assist the community support officers, thus allowing police resources to be re-allocated to be more closely matched to local needs.

7.9 Young Children (under 10)

The current situation

The facts

- **Schools -** There are two schools in the parish of Wraxall and Failand. Wraxall CE VC primary school was founded in 1801 and moved to the present site in 1863. It is a mixed school for ages 4 to 11, has about 100 pupils and is regularly over subscribed. The Ofsted reports stated that the school is "high achieving". It has strong associations with Wraxall parish church.

- The Downs School is a fee paying private pre-prep and prep school for ages 4 to 13. It was founded in 1864 in Bristol and moved to Charlton House in 60 acres of parkland in 1927. It is a mixed school of 240 pupils (159 boys, 80 girls).

Wraxall CE Primary School

The Downs School

- **Play Areas -** There are two play areas in the parish, one adjacent to The Elms which was built at the time of the building of the Elms estate. It has a range of play apparatus including roundabouts, slides and swings.

The Elms Play Area

- The other play area in the parish is in the fields in Wraxall at the end of The Grove, built for the residents by the parish council in 2000. The area has some fenced off swings and a small football pitch

The Grove Play Area

Issues raised

The opinions

- **Schools -** The parents or guardians of 92 children of pre school age responded to the questionnaire. All supported a non fee paying pre school if one were available in the parish.

- Wraxall School continues to be very popular although few of the pupils live in the Wraxall and Failand parish, as parents of children that attend make a positive choice to come to the school from outside the parish.

- The adjacent chart, figure 9.1, shows the reasons given by 78 parents or carers for choosing schools for children under 11, outside the parish. Educational standards, convenience, following siblings, facilities and unable to get into local school rated highest. 58 of the 78 replies were from residents of The Elms and Wraxall.

- On the means of getting to school, either primary or secondary, most of those responding would prefer to walk, but what was preventing this was the lack of pavements and paths (see figure 9.2). The big issues for Wraxall School are the road, parking and traffic speed.

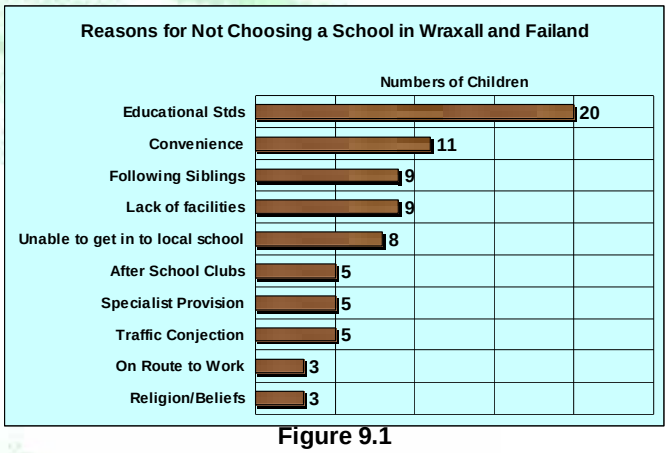


Figure 9.1

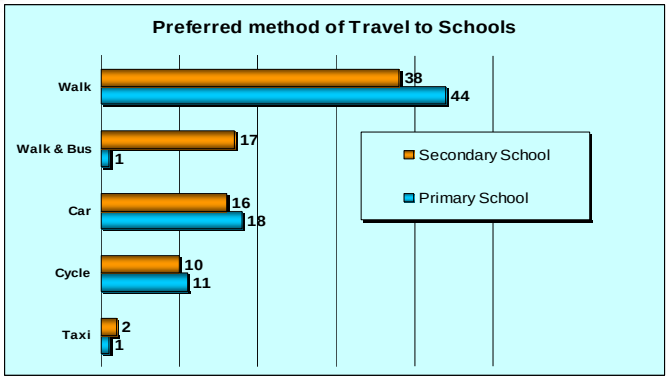


Figure 9.2

- **Play Areas -** On the subject of playgrounds at The Elms and The Grove, 96% of people who responded were aware of the Elms and 54% used it, and 44% were aware of The Grove play area but only 12% used it. (see figure 9.3)

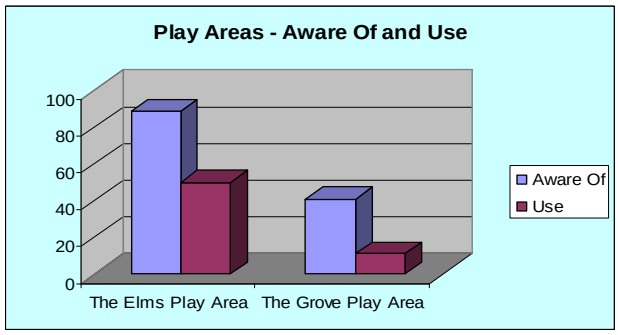


Figure 9.3

- Concerning the condition of the play areas at the Elms and the Grove, accessibility, security, parking and control of dogs was to the satisfaction of about 75% of those who responded. The biggest area of concern was about The Grove where 30% of respondents, considered the play equipment in need of improvement. (see figure 9.4)

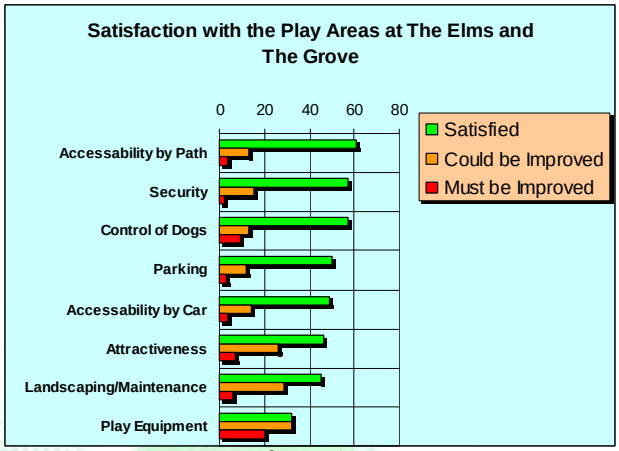


Figure 9.4

- If these playgrounds were improved 70% of all replies across all areas said they would use the Elms, whereas only 50% would use The Grove, indicating that people are more likely to use playgrounds locally rather than travel a great distance. 37% of people, of which nearly half were from Failand, also said they would use a play area if there were one in Failand. Understandably few people from The Elms and Wraxall expressed an opinion.

- Concerning young people under 11, the facilities that they would use, if they were introduced in the parish showed 85% in favour of outdoor play courts if provided, closely followed by indoor play spaces and football and athletics facilities. (see figure 9.5)

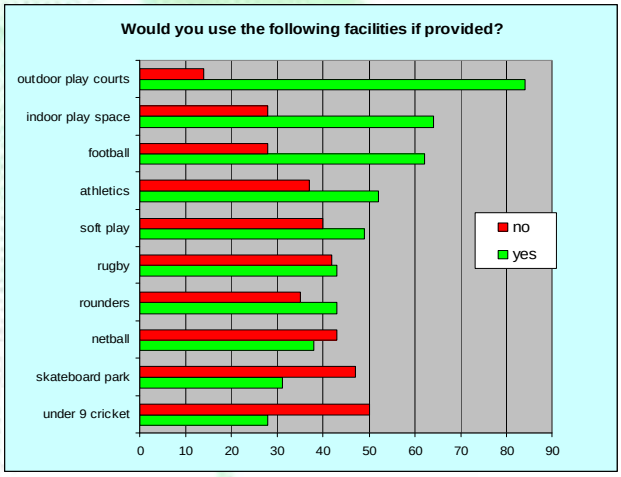


Figure 9.5

Vision for the future

- All children of pre-school age would like access to non fee paying pre-school.
- Provide more paths and pavements to allow more children to walk to school.
- All areas should have nearby access to a well-equipped play area including Failand and If demand is sufficient provide outdoor and indoor courts for the young.
- Ensure the existing play areas, especially The Grove, have an improved variety of equipment, all properly maintained.

Action plan

- Set up a **Young Children's Working Group** to examine the feasibility of improving the play facilities for very young children in the parish, with those at Wraxall and Failand a priority.

7.10 Young People (10 to 15)

The current situation

The facts

- The majority of young people aged 10 to 15 in Wraxall and Failand live in the Wraxall and The Elms areas. The secondary schools that cater for young people in the area are Nailsea, Backwell and St Katherine's at Pill. There are also several private schools within travelling distance in Bristol. There is also a sixth form college at Weston–Super-Mare and City of Bristol College in Bristol.
- Within the parish itself there is little organised for young people although there is much to do in Bristol and various clubs in Nailsea.
- Shopping for young people is either in Bristol, Cribbs Causeway and Nailsea, Weston-super- Mare or Clevedon with buses or trains serving Bristol and Weston–Super-Mare. Local cinemas are at Clevedon, Weston, Bristol, Cribbs Causeway and Hartcliffe.

Issues raised

The opinions

- 99 young people responded to the survey. Most lived on The Elms or at Failand, 70% living on the Elms and 18% at Failand. (see figure 10.1)
- Those responding were 53% boys and 47% girls. The age ranges were 42 in the Under 10, 26 in the 11 to 13 ages, and 26 in the 14 to15 age group.
- It was encouraging that 95% of young people felt safe in the parish of Wraxall and Failand regardless of the area in which they live.
- The most popular activities undertaken by all young people in their free time in Wraxall and Failand are sports, hanging out with friends, computer internet and walking and cycling. (see figure 10.2)

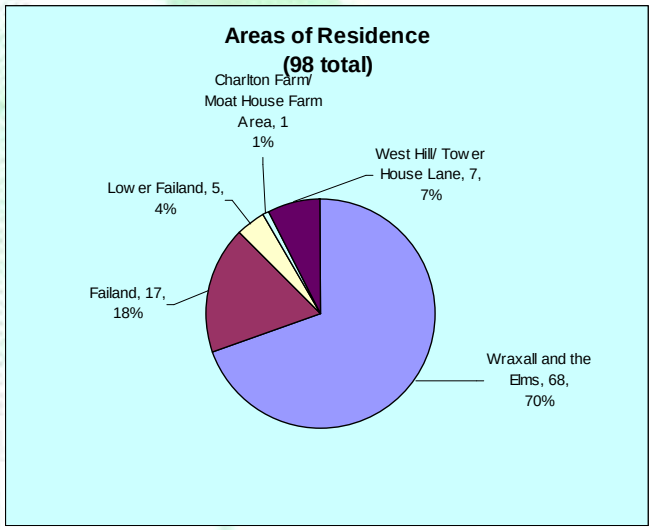


Figure 10.1

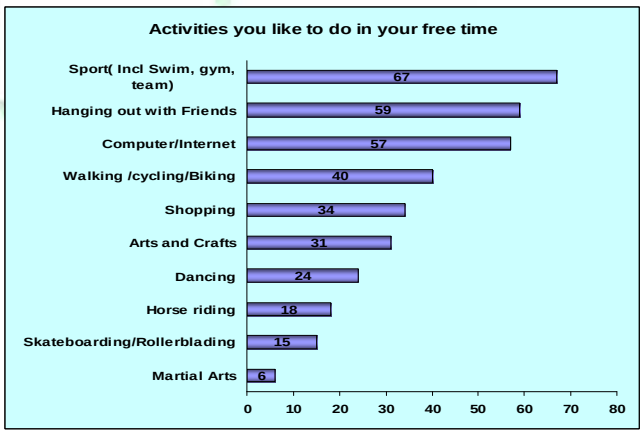


Figure 10.2

- **What we like to do now -** The most popular activities amongst boys currently are sports and computers (see figure 10.3), and amongst girls are shopping, hanging out with friends and sport. (see figure 10.4)

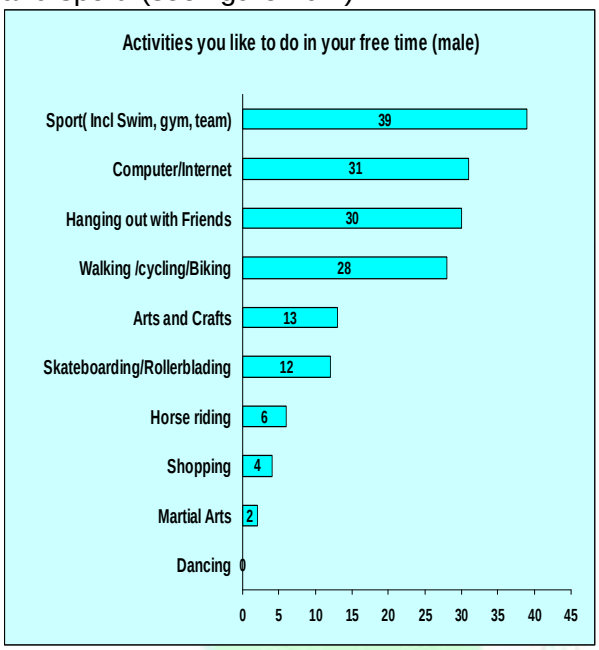


Figure 10.3

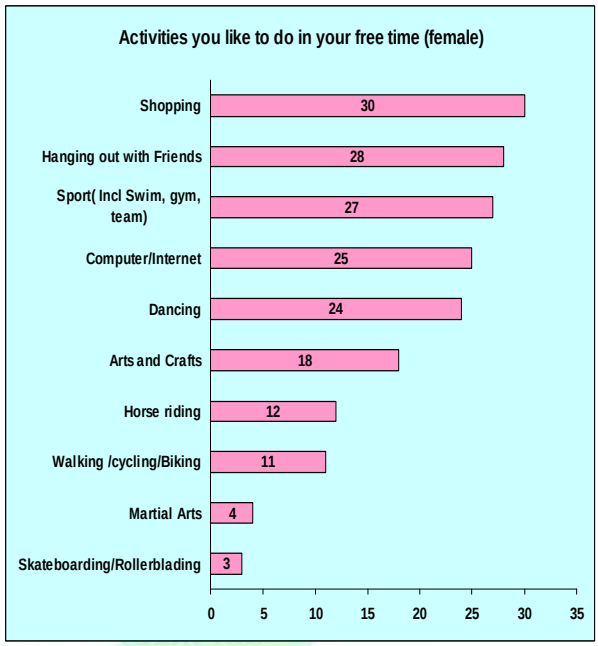


Figure 10.4

- **What we would like to Do in the Future –** Activities that boys would like to do most in the future are Football, Rugby, Badminton, gymnastics (see figure 10.5), and girls would most like to do Dancing, Horse riding, Martial arts and skateboarding. (see figure 10.6)

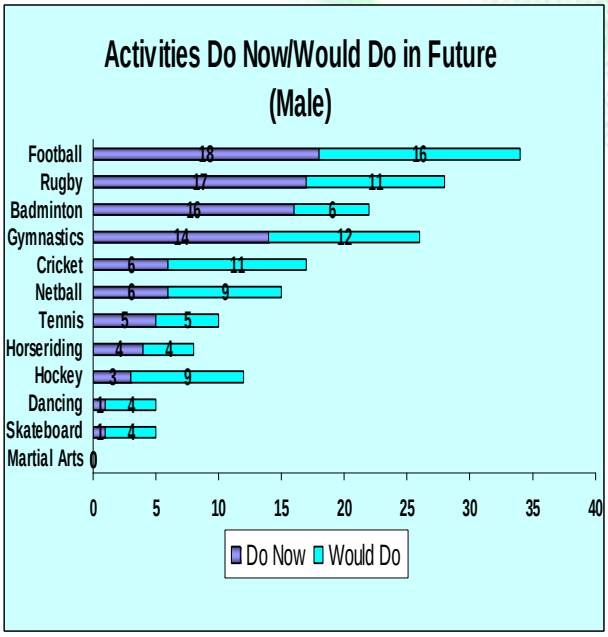


Figure 10.5

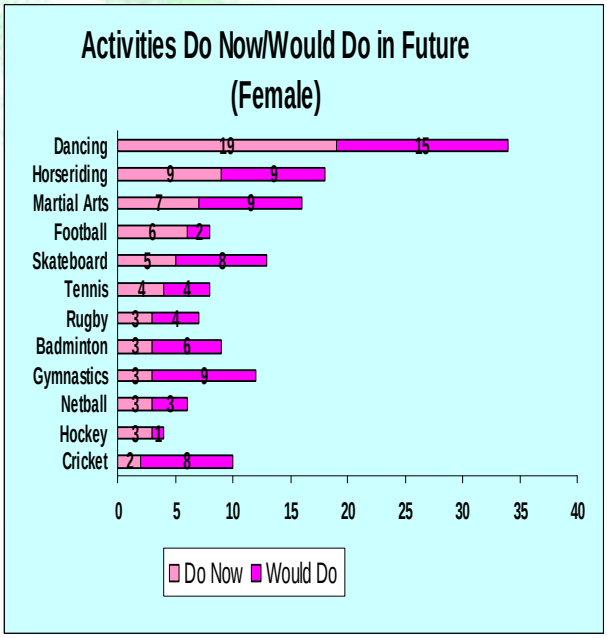


Figure 10.6

- **Clubs –** Only a small proportion 11 out of 99, or 11% of young people in Wraxall and Failand belong to clubs. The clubs that young people, boys and girls, would most like to have are tennis, football, cycling, music club, athletics, dancing and keep fit.

- Amongst boys football, cricket, cycling, tennis and rugby are the most popular clubs that they would like to have. (see figure 10.7)

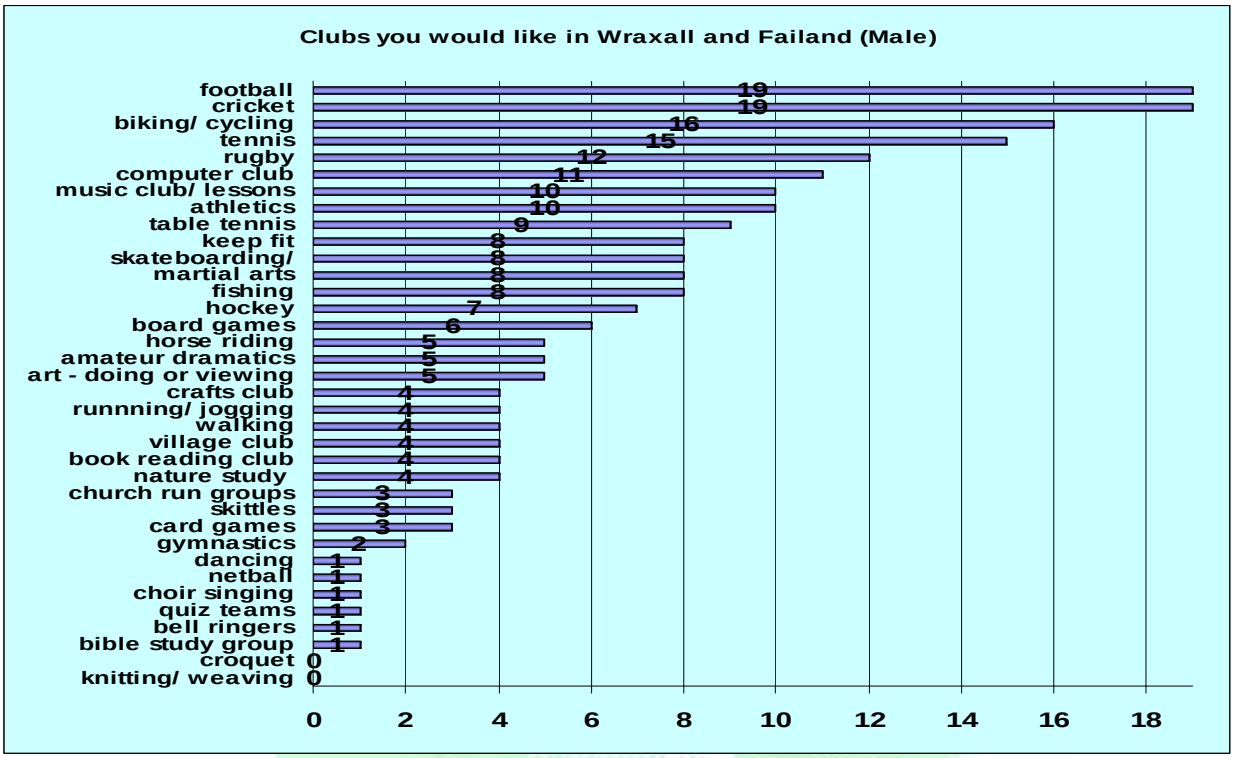


Figure 10.7

- Amongst girls the most popular clubs they would like to have are dancing, crafts, horse riding, amateur dramatics and music clubs. (see figure 10.8)

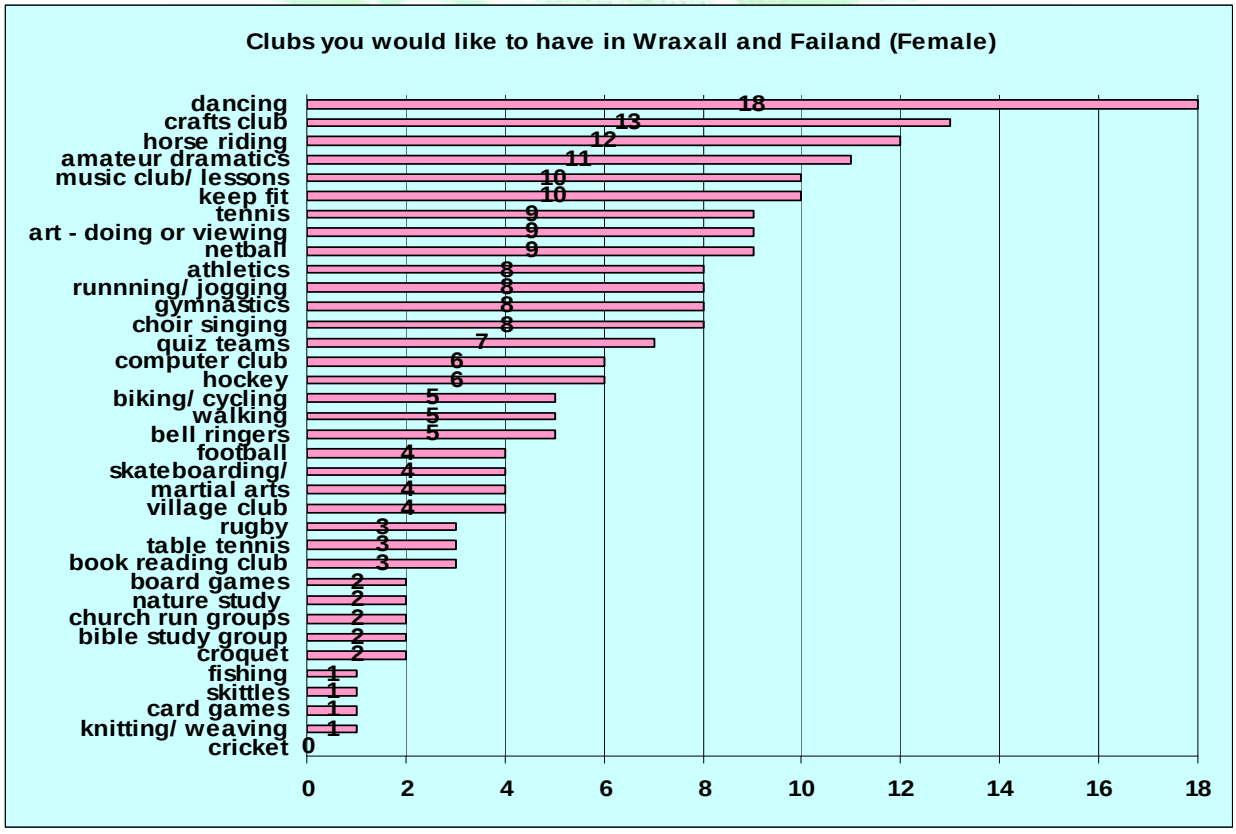


Figure 10.8

- Most (73%) of the young people of Wraxall and Failand like to play at their own or friends houses, then followed by 43% who also play in Nailsea. Other popular areas are in Bristol, in streets near home and play areas. Encouragingly 61% said that there is nothing preventing them playing where they want. Some said parents, others said grown ups but a common reason preventing this was poor transport and roads that are too dangerous.

- **Travelling -** On the question of travel around or in and out of Wraxall and Failand, 56% found it easy, whilst 44% found it difficult. A larger proportion of those living in Wraxall and The Elms found travelling easier, than did those living elsewhere in the parish. (see figure 10.9). Again poor transport and lack of suitable cycle paths were the main reasons. One response from a severely disable young person reminded us that wheelchair access was very difficult around the parish as was getting on and off buses and trains.

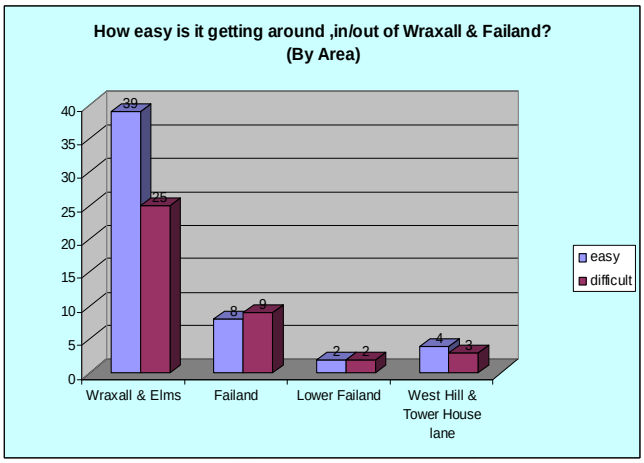


Figure 10.9

- The majority of young people (61%) travel to school by car, followed by 21% who walk. The remainder cycle or go by bus.

- **Shopping -** The most popular places amongst young people for shopping are Nailsea and Cribbs Causeway. This is almost equally split between boys and girls. This was closely followed by Bristol then Online, Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon and Portishead. (see figure 10.10)

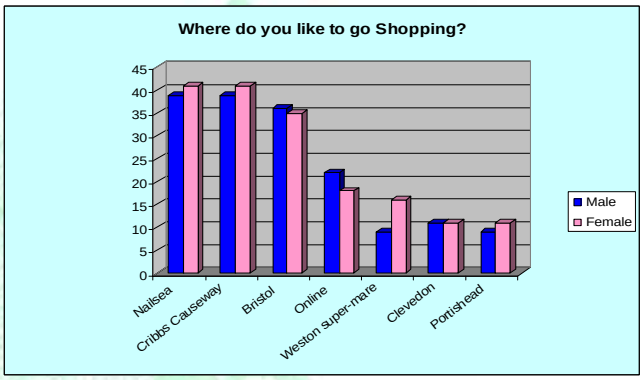


Figure 10.10

- When asked whether young people wanted more shops near to where they lived there was a roughly similar positive and negative response. (see figure 10.11)

- The types of shops that young people would like in the parish ranged from the most popular being a corner shop, village store, convenience store in Wraxall, to a sports shop, fashion shop and fast food shops. One suggestion was for more cafes for young people such as in the Failand Post Office.

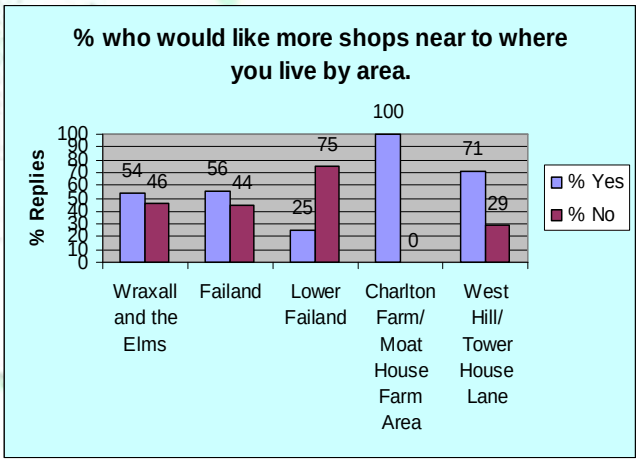


Figure 10.11

- **What Young People liked most about living in the parish -** By far the most popular (78%) reason that our young people liked living here is the “open countryside”, “peace and quiet”, “countryside in which to walk and play” and “walking the dog”. This was followed by comments like “lots of friends nearby”, “nice people”, “feel safe”, “near to Bristol”, “not too much traffic”, “village feel to Failand”, and “good woods for biking”. This belies the stereotype of the youth of today only being interested in action, shops and clubbing.

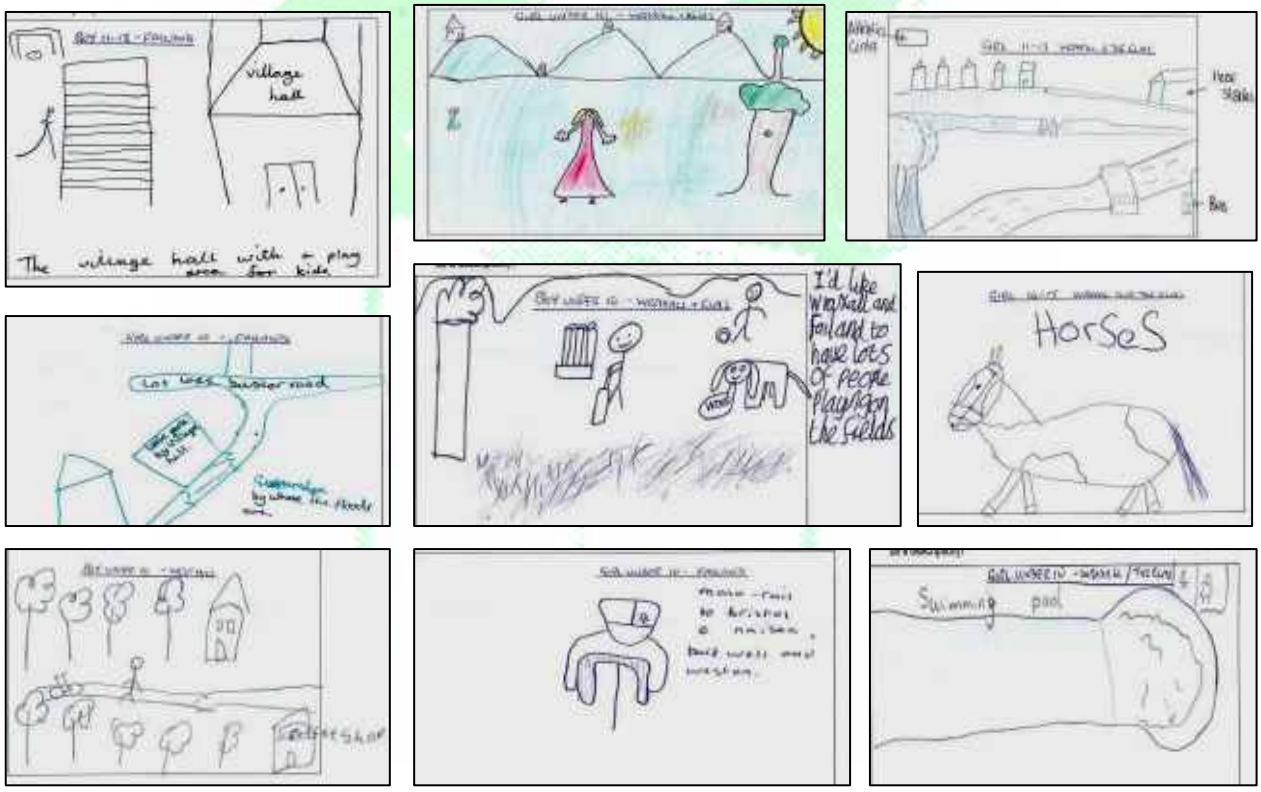
- **What Young People least liked least** - The biggest single criticism of our area by 14% of responses was about “not enough for young people to do”, followed by the “difficulty of getting around”, especially from those living in Failand and Lower Failand. There were many

comments from Failand young people that there were "not enough cycle paths", "no pavements", "no friends living locally", "public transport unreliable, so have to go in parents car everywhere", "no centre for young people to play" , "nothing ever happens", "need a big play area near the village hall" and "the Grove play area needs to be improved". This perhaps shows that our young people would rather have reliable transport services and not have to rely on parents providing a taxi service. Two young people also mentioned the weather (any suggestions about what we can do about this please?).

- **What we would like for the future –** The most popular comment about what our young people would like in the future was for the area to stay unspoilt, (10% of responses). There was a common wish for more play areas, more shops, more play groups, a play park, and better bus services. One particularly perceptive comment from a 13 year old in Failand is worth recording verbatim, (must be a future town planner?), as it summarised many of the comments

> *"Keep the main roads for good access in and out and hence provide better bus services, to Bristol, and Nailsea. Keep traffic off the lanes so we can cycle safely, and keep the small village character as having lots of people means we do not know each other, fewer people means we do. Provide somewhere for young people to meet near the village hall and use the fields for walking and exercising"*

- 9 young people also drew pictures of how they would like to see Wraxall and Failand in the future.



Vision for the future

- A parish where our young people can continue to feel safe to play
- Adequate transport around and in and out of the areas.
- Sufficient amenities that are of interest and used by our young people

Action plan

- Publicise the areas of interest of young people to see if there are existing or new groups that can be set up.

7.11 Sustainability

The current situation

The facts

- Sustainability is defined as making the right choices to secure a future that is fairer, where we can all live within our environmental limits. It is influenced by the UK Strategy for Sustainable Development.[3]
- Climate change is one of the biggest challenges we face today. Parish councils have the opportunity to play a part in encouraging awareness and mitigating the actions that contribute to climate change. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Act 2006 gives principal councils specific powers to tackle climate change. They can promote renewable energy generation and energy efficiency.[4]
- Public transport, recycling waste and planning decisions can be influenced by sustainable policies.

Issues raised

The opinions

- Recycling is addressed under the Household section. There is already a high use of recycling collections/ facilities, although those currently not served by a collection wish to be included.
- The majority thought more encouragement should be given by the Local Authority and Parish Council to composting biodegradable food products and encouraging more green behaviour.
- Public transport is addressed under the Transport and Road Safety section. The majority of people considered additional cycle paths and footpaths and the introduction of Green Lanes (these would have a speed limit of 15 mph and priority would be given to walkers, cyclists and horse-riders) to be important contributors.

Vision for the future

- District and Parish Councils to set an example with policy, strategy and implementation of sustainable issues.
- District and Parish Councils will include sustainability when making recommendations with planning applications
- Residents should be able to make informed choices by being aware of energy efficiency and grants and schemes.

Action Plan

- Parish Council to assess policies and strategies for sustainability.
- Parish Council to seek to reduce the environmental impact of planning decisions.
- Parish Energy Champion to be appointed to determine actions on climate change which best suit the community.
- Establish a **Sustainability Forum**, which could monitor waste, cycling, public transport within the area and make recommendations.

[3] Securing the future - delivering UK sustainable development strategy dated March 2005 available at http://www.defra.gov.uk/sustainable/government/publications/uk-strategy/documents/SecFut_complete.pdf

[4] 'Ways to tackle climate change' dated 2007 available at http://www.nalc.gov.uk/Publications/Booklets_and_Resources.aspx

7.12 Community and Local Government

The current position

The facts

- The foundation of local democracy is the Parish Council. There were 8 uncontested and therefore elected and 3 co-opted councillors for Wraxall & Failand at the last elections held on 3rd May 2007. Councillors give their time and expertise freely to consider planning applications and the day to day issues as they arise they get involved in specific projects, and they act as advocates on community matters. They represent approximately 3,000 residents in two distinct communities.
- The Parish Council has the legal power to take action but currently has few duties and thus has greater freedom to choose what action to take. It can play a vital part in representing the interests of the community and improving the quality of life and local environment. It can influence other decision-makers and can, in many cases, deliver services to meet local needs. The Government is encouraging Parish Councils to deliver more services and play a greater part in their communities.
- Tasks which the Parish Council undertake include providing a local view on crime, community safety, planning applications, highways and transportation, housing, street lighting, litter, playing fields, memorials, seats and shelters and public rights of way.
- The Parish Council raises money by the precept and spends it on a range of good works and staff salaries.
- The Parish Council meets in public session every month. Some information about parish council business is published on the website www.wraxallandfailand.org.uk/ and may also be found in:
    - The Parish Magazine, published monthly and available from Failand Post Office and the Churches;
    - The Failand Hall Broadsheet, delivered bi-monthly to houses in Failand.
    - Notice Boards located around the parish.

Parish Council Notice board at Failand Church

- The parish lies within the unitary authority of North Somerset Council. There are two district councillors elected from the parish out of a total of 63 councillors for the district to represent the views of local people. District Councillors are involved in key planning applications e.g. development of unused land on the Elms estate.
- North Somerset Council provides the majority of public services within North Somerset and works with other neighbouring local authorities or the South West Regional Assembly for the benefit of the region.

Issues raised

The opinions

- Only one third of those questioned knew who their parish councillors were; less than a quarter knew who their district councillors were.
- The majority questioned (over 60%) did not know whether the Wraxall & Failand parish councillors did a good job although most of the remainder (29%) thought that they did. Over 65% thought that the Parish Council should hold polls on important issues. The majority questioned (over 65%) did not know whether the North Somerset Councillors did a good job; most of the remainder (16%) thought that they did.
- Of those that expressed an opinion a slim majority (31%) were satisfied with the current level of information exchanged within the parish. Although many did not express an opinion on this; there is a lot of interest in what is happening locally. Leaflets, newsletters, information at village focal points and the website were the most popular ways in which people wanted to receive information. (see figure 12.1)

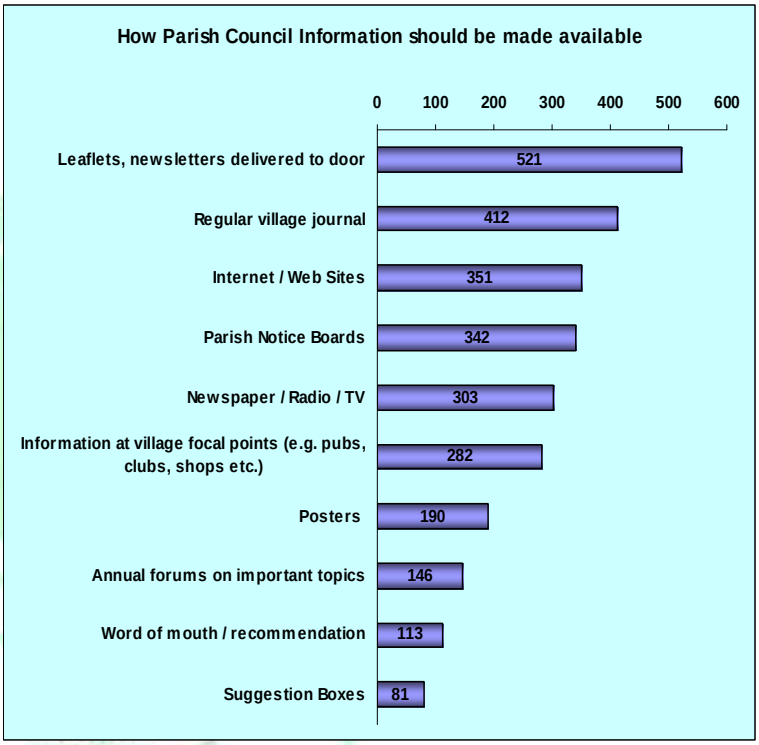


Figure 12.1

Vision for the future

- The majority of people can identify with their parish and district councillors and become more involved with local politics
- The majority of people understand what role of the parish council, what powers are available to it and how to influence policy and what is done within the parish.
- Polls to be held on important issues
- Communication on parish matters is improved using popular forms of communication.

Action plan

- Publish the email address for contacting the Parish Council
- Develop website to add more information, e.g. names of councillors
- Publish a summary of the role and powers of a Parish Council and procedures for raising issues on the website and on notice-boards.
- Parish and district councillors to determine how they can raise their profile within the community.

- Parish and district councillors to use appropriate media to communicate with the community.

7.13 Businesses

The current position

The facts

- In the parish of Wraxall and Failand there are only a few businesses that employ people. These include Vetco Gray, , Coldharbour Systems,; Castacrete. Other companies that mainly employ casual part time labour include Budgens garage, Auto Scudera a car showroom, and the three pubs, Failand Inn, The New Battle Axes and The Old Barn as well as Failand post office and Bristol and Clifton Golf Club. Outside the boundary is Tarmac who employ over 100 people who live locally.

Establishments Contacted

Manufacturing / Offices:
Vetcogray
Coldharbour Syatems
Castacrete Concrete
Tarmac

Retail outlets:
Failand Post Office
Budgens
Auto Scudera
Hill Side Nurseries

Leisure:
Noahs Ark Farm
Tyntesfield House
Bristol & Clifton GC
Failand & Portbury Cricket Club
Battle Axes
Wraxall House Hotel
Failand Inn
The Barn
Forestry Commission (management of woodland footpaths)

Education:
Wraxall CE School
Downs School
Charlton Nursery

Care Homes
Charlton Farm Hospice
The Granary , Shaw HealthCare

Farms (NB some may be residential houses):
Lower Failand Farm
Failand House Farm
Manor Farm
Failand Farm
Failand Lodge Farm
Gable Farm
Watercress Farm
Orchard Farm
Hazel Farm
Birdcombe Court Farm
Ham Farm

Issues raised

The opinions

- 10 businesses or organisations employing people located in the parish responded to questionnaires. 3 of the Businesses are located in the Wraxall and The Elms area, 3 in the Lower Failand area, 2 in the Charlton Farm/Moat house area and 2 in the West Hill/Tower House lane area. Tarmac from outside our area employ many people Tarmac on the outskirts of the parish boundaries in Long Ashton and Flax Bourton directly employ approximately 150 people from the local area.

- The spread of businesses and educational institutions responding were manufacturing, Leisure, Gardening, carpentry, Horticulture and Hotel/Guest House, education, retail, manufacturing and distribution. 5 businesses employed 3 or less people, 1 employed between 11 and 20, 3 employed between 20 and 50 and 1 employed over 100.

- One business in the leisure industry, found staff locally relatively easy, whereas 7 companies found it difficult mainly because the skills that they needed were not available locally, people can earn more in Bristol, travelling to work was too difficult, or the area was too expensive for staff to live.

- Encouragingly 7 of the businesses believed they would continue to operate in the area in the next 5 years, only one stating that it did not know. 5 businesses expected to expand in the next 5 to 10 years, 3 would stay the same, and 1 said it would close down. 3 found it difficult to find premises in the parish but 2 found it not too bad. 1 company would like help in securing premises, preferably small flexible rent premises, but 5 were content where they were so had no need. Tarmac whilst recognising the unpopularity of quarrying commented that local schools visit their quarries to learn about the processes and the biodiversity and conservation work undertaken.

Vision for the future

- A parish in which there are businesses that are in harmony with the rural nature of the area, and in which residents can find local employment.

Action plan

- Propose that the PC to set up a **Business Forum**

8. The Next Steps

- This Plan was presented to the Parish Council in April and May 2009 for its endorsement and was formally presented to the residents of Wraxall and Failand at the Annual Public Meeting on 22nd April at the Tyntesfield Sawmills, and on the 5th and 7th May 2009 at two public consultation meetings, at Wraxall and Failand. At these meetings attended by over 120 people support was gathered from residents to join specific Working Groups on key areas of their interest.

- The Steering Committee concluded from this first stage of the process that there were 6 key areas that should be taken forward in the next stage by specific interest groups as these were repeatedly brought out as issues in the views expressed in the responses. The 6 areas (not in priority order) are:
    - **Rights of Way Working Group**
    - **Link Road (Wraxall Bypass) Working Group**
    - **Failand Housing Working Group (joining with other groups)**
    - **Wraxall Village Working Group**
    - **Road Safety Working Group**
    - **Young People and Children's Working Group**

- Whilst there are issues in other areas, such as public transport, health, housing, employment and crime and safety, it was considered that the evidence presented could be taken on by the parish council and used to influence future decisions, or could be taken on by individuals as single issue concerns.

- It is proposed that these 6 working or interest groups draw up specific action plans in May and these are published in draft at Section 10 to this Parish Plan, and on the web site. These action plans should be developed and updated as living documents.

- It is proposed that the Parish Council appoint a coordinator to support the working groups and coordinate and monitor their work. It is believed by the Parish Plan Steering Committee that this linkage in to the Council is essential to provide credibility to the Working Groups.

- A key task of the Working Groups as well as making progress on issues of concern will be to continue to seek sponsorship, with the Parish Council, for specific actions. The PC has ring fenced £5,000 from the parish precept for 2009/10 to kick start some of the initial actions. It was found by the Steering Committee members that organisations like Quartet, Bristol Airport, Argos, and HBOS were much more likely to provide additional funds if they were seen to be for specific tangible causes, such as playgrounds, that could be seen to be visibly benefiting the community.

- It is regarded by the Steering Group as essential that enthusiastic volunteers join the specific groups, and where possible experts are co-opted to add subject matter knowledge and expertise. If this does not happen then progress will not be made and things may stay the same and the expectation generated by this Parish Plan will not be realised.

- It is intended that, subject to the PC agreement this Plan should be distributed to all houses in the parish and that full versions, including additional supporting material, be provided to Councillors and deposited in the local libraries and with North Somerset Council. Full versions of the Parish Plan, and all the supporting analysis will be made available on the web site www.wraxallandfailand.org

9. Acknowledgements

- The following Steering Committee and co-opted members have contributed to the development of the Parish Plan. Although there has been a considerable turnover of members, all contributions have been most welcome. This large number of people (22) has been very important to ensure that the views and interpretation of the data is from as wide a representation as possible. The committee met 22 times in 2 years and contacted the organisations listed and all households in the parish. Key dates are shown below.

Steering Committee

Doug MacMillan -Chair
Jon Thompson-Treasurer
Chris Ambrose
Chris Hunter
Heidi Hunter Cope
Nicki O'Connor
Hugh Pratt
David Robinson
Peter Sapsed
Tom Sage
Peterjon Smyth
Adam Sutch
Jane Hadler
Sara Boulton
Danny Groves
Alex MacMillan
Anne Mills
Barry Moran
Ian Malpas
Nick Pitt
Lindsey Melarakas
John Chapman

Key dates

Steering Committee Formed	Apr 07
Public Consultation	Apr 07 -Sept 07
Questionnaire Development	Oct 07 – Jul 08
Questionnaire Response	Aug 08– Sept 08
Questionnaire Analysis	Oct 08 – Feb 09
Report Compilation	Mar 09 – Apr 09
Report Consultation	May 09
Report Distributed	June 09

Steering Committee Meetings

2007

11th April – Training
20th April APM
24th April – SC 1 (Inaugural)
22 May – SC 2
26th June – SC 3
24th July - SC 4
21st Aug – SC 5
20th Sept – Failand Public Meeting
27th Sept – Wraxall Public Meeting
16th Oct – SC 6
8th Nov – SC 7
13th Dec – SC 8

2008

22nd Jan – SC 9
13th Mar – SC 10
3rd April – SC 11
22nd April – APM
29th May – SC 12
12th June – SC 13
24th June – SC 14
3rd July – SC 15
14th Aug – SC 16
22nd Sept – SC 17
21st Oct – SC 18

2009

12th Feb – SC 19
5th Mar – SC 20
21st April – APM
23rd April – SC 21
5th May – Failand Public Meeting
7th May - Wraxall Public Meeting
14th May – SC 22 (Last)

Establishments Contacted

Manufacturing / Offices:
Vetcogray
Coldharbour (Software Co)
Castacrete Concrete Products
Tarmac

Retail outlets:

Failand Post Office
Budgens
Auto Scudera
Hill Side Nurseries

Leisure:

Noahs Ark Farm
Tyntesfield House
Bristol & Clifton GC
Failand & Portbury Cricket Club
Battle Axes
Wraxall House Hotel
Failand Inn
The Barn
Forestry Commission (management of woodland footpaths)

Education:
Wraxall CE School
Downs School
Charlton Nursery

Care Homes:
Charlton Farm Hospice
The Granary , Shaw HealthCare
Farms (some may be residential)

Lower Failand Farm
Failand House Farm
Manor Farm
Failand Farm
Failand Lodge Farm
Gable Farm
Watercress Farm
Orchard Farm
Hazel Farm
Birdcombe Court Farm
Ham Farm

Organisations

Wraxall All Saints Church
St Batholomews Church
Mothers Union
WI Failand
WI Wraxall
Wraxall Village Club
Failand Village Hall
Failand Mother and Toddlers Group
Failanders Club,
Drama Circle,
Society Millennium Group
Failand Art Club

- Many organisations have given their services free of charge, including **The Battle Axes** for allowing us to hold many committee meetings there, **Vetco Gray** for some questionnaire photocopying, **TARMAC, Noah's Ark Farm** and **The National Trust** for providing funds to publish the plan. Thanks also to Alex MacMillan for setting up the web site free of charge. The photographs used have been kindly provided by Tom Sage and Doug MacMillan and the sponsors.
- The expenditure on this plan has been £6,895 including delivery to each household. This includes £1,565 or £1.64 per household, from the precept. (i.e. £1,565 / 953 houses):

Activity Phase	Expenditure	Source of Funding	Grant
Public Consultation	£741	Grant from Quartet	£2,780
Questionnaire Compilation	£2,174	Sponsorship from Tarmac	£2,000
Questionnaire Analysis	£1,897	W&F PC allowance	£1,565
Consultation & Report	£2,081	Hugh Pratt donation	£200
		Noahs Ark Farm donation	£200
		National Trust donation	£150
Totals	**£6,895**		**£6,895**

10. The Wraxall and Failand Parish Plan Draft Action Plan - 2009

Aim	Action	Partners	Timescale	Priority
Household				
Provide mains services to all the parish	PC to continue to pursue the issue of Mains Gas, Sewerage and Broadband at Failand, and The Grove with the appropriate local services organisations, and service providers.	Utilities and NSC	5-10 years	Medium
Provide full recycling collection services to the parish	PC to contact the various collection authorities, charities and organisations to determine if collections can be extended in range of items and area.	Charities and NSC	0-5 years	Medium
Planning and Development				
Examine the case for and against a link road including its utility and sympathy with the environment	A **Link Road Working Group** to be set up, and join other groups to do the necessary research on the Link Road, focussing on whether the road is needed and the environmental and capital costs .	Join other neighbouring lobby groups	0-5 years	High
Restore the village of Wraxall to a working village	**Wraxall Village Working Group** to be formed to address the strategy for Wraxall and represent the position of the residents of the area on the interlinked issues of the link road, and housing proposal for Failand. These groups to work together to ensure development of Wraxall can restore the village atmosphere	PC and NSC and other lobby groups	0-5 years	High
Prevent unwanted housing development adjacent to Failand	**Failand Development Working Group** to be formed to work with other groups like "Hands off Long Ashton" (HOLA) to address the strategies for Failand and represent the position of the residents on the interlinked issues of the link road, Wraxall Village community. These groups to work together.	PC and NSC and other lobby groups	0-5 years	High
Health				
Provide free dentist service for the parish	PC to look into the possibility of an NHS dentist being made available in or near the parish.	NHS, PCT	0-5 years	Low
Employment				
Improve communication between business and PC	Recommend to the Parish Council that a Business Forum be set up	Business and PC	0-5 years	Low
Ensure better informed planning decisions	Ensure that the wishes of the residents of Wraxall and Failand are taken into account by the Parish Council when future planning applications are considered for new businesses in the parish			Low
Transport and Road Safety				
Improve road safety in Wraxall and Failand	A **Road Safety Working Group** to be set up to propose solutions to improve road safety by speed reduction and past junctions in areas of concern, particularly the B3130 outside Wraxall school and through Wraxall and the B3128 through Failand and past the top of Wraxall Hill.	PC and NSC	0-5 years	High
Improve Public Transport services	PC to continue to investigate possible improvements to public transport, with NSC and First Bus by representing the views of those who do not have a good service to enable an improved service for all.	PC, NSC and Bus company	0-5 years	Medium
Sport and Leisure				
Provide of a wider spread of Activities for all	PC to publicise widely the range of interests that there is within the parish to current activity groups to determine if there is any interest in people enlarging existing activity groups of setting up new ones.	Local Groups	0-5 years	Low
Improve and Extend the network of Rights of Way	A **Rights of Way Working Group** to be formed to address the needs of the parish for new, and better maintained Rights of Way, including, pavements, foot paths, cycle ways and paths, bridle ways, and to liaise with groups like Sustran.	NSC, rambling orgs & Sustran	0-5 years	High

Aim	Action	Partners	Timescale	Priority
Housing				
Improve the provision of suitable and affordable housing	Parish Council to ensure NSC area are aware of the specific housing needs in the future in the parish, in particular warden protected houses and small bungalows, coordinated with Wraxall and Failand potential developments.	NSC and housing associations and builders	5-10 years	Low
Improve planning decisions	Ensure that other Working Groups to take these results into account in their thinking on new developments	PC	0-5 years	Medium
Crime and Safety				
Improve policing and reduction further in crime	PC to determine with the police whether there would be any likelihood of further policing in the parish taking into account the relatively low crime area thus allowing police resources to be re-allocated to be more closely matched to local needs.	Avon and Somerset police	0-5 years	Low
Young Children				
Improve play facilities for the young and in all areas	Set up a **Young Children's & Peoples Working Group** to examine the feasibility, costing and timescales of improving the play facilities for young children in the parish, especially at The Grove, and a new facility at Failand	NSC	0-5 years	High
Young Peoples				
Improved facilities for teenagers in the Parish	PC to publicise the areas of interest of young people to see if there are existing or new groups that can be set up.	Youth Charity groups, young people	0-5 years	Low
Sustainability				
Increase the priority in the parish on sustainable issues	Parish Council to assess policies and strategies for sustainability.	PC	0-5 years	Low
	Parish Council to seek to reduce the environmental impact of planning decisions.			Low
	Parish Energy Champion to be appointed to determine actions on climate change which best suit the community.			Low
	PC to decide if it is worth establishing a Sustainability Champion, which could monitor waste, recycling, public transport within the area and make recommendations.			Low
Community & Local Government				
Improve two way information flow between public and PC	Publish the email address for contacting the Parish Council	PC	0-5 years	Low
	Develop website to add more information, e.g. names of councillors			Low
	Publish a summary of the role and powers of a Parish Council and procedures for raising issues on the website and on notice-boards.			Low
	Parish and district councillors to determine how they can raise their profile within the community.			Low
	Parish and district councillors to use appropriate media to communicate with the community.			Low
Businesses				
Ensure we have a parish in which there are businesses that are in harmony with the rural area	Propose that the PC sets up a Business Forum	Local business and PC	0-5 years	Low

WITH KIND THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS, WHOSE DONATIONS HAVE FUNDED THE PRINTING OF YOUR COPY OF THIS PARISH PLAN

L to R - Paul Hopkins (TARMAC Ltd) presenting a cheque to Doug MacMillan, (Steering Committee Chairman) and Chris Ambrose (Chairman W & F Parish Council)

Durnford Quarry adjoins the Ashton Court Estate and is located to the north of Long Ashton just across the Wraxall and Failand parish boundary. Historical records show that the quarry has been operating since before 1880 and has achieved production levels of aggregate in excess of one million tonnes per annum; aggregate which is used to produce sized dry stone, asphalt and concrete predominantly serving the local market. In recent years aggregate recycling has also been introduced and currently the site produced some 75,000 tonnes per annum of secondary aggregates.

There is now less than three million tonnes of stone at the quarry. To extract these remaining reserves a further period of time is needed and a planning application to increase the time allowed for extraction is being prepared.

Tarmac has been working closely with the Ashton Court Estate, who will become the landowners on completion of quarrying, to consider the long term end use of the site to create a land form which offers the greatest potential and beneficial after use for the local community and visitors to the Estate. To achieve this, it is proposed to revise the currently approved restoration scheme to partially infill the quarry using locally sourced inert restoration materials from ground and site development works.

Tarmac and Ashton Court Estate are keen to secure the views of the local community about the proposals and potential after uses of the site and you can participate by attending the public consultation event or alternatively email your views to us at durnford.quarry@tarmac.co.uk .

Where to Find Us

Northbound: M5 J20, Clevedon B3130, B3130, B3128

Southbound: M5 J19, middle lane for A369, first right to Portbury onto Portbury Lane, follow road all way, then turn right on to B3128

From Airport: A38, Barrow Gurney B3130 to B3128

By Bus: X7 (hourly) Bristol to Clevedon, stops at Farm Entrance

Opening Times

Open Saturday 7th February to Saturday 7th November 2009. Closed during the winter.

Open Monday to Saturday every week of the season. Closed all Sundays.

10.30am - 5.00pm

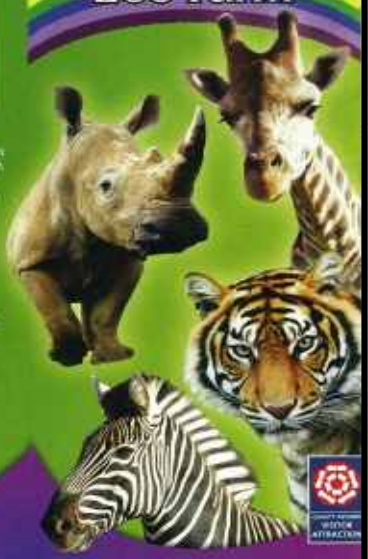
Wheelchair access.
Sorry no dogs allowed except guide dogs.

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm
Clevedon Road, Wraxall, Bristol
North Somerset BS48 1PG

Telephone: 01275 852806
Fax: 01275 857060

Website: www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk
Email: info@noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm



North Somerset's Award Winning Zoo

Minutes From M5, J19 or J20

www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk

Prices for 2009

Child (Under 2 years)	FREE
Child (2-16 years)	£8.50
Adult	£10.50
Concession	£9.50
Family (2+2)	£35.00
Family (1+3)	£33.00
Small Groups (10-24)	£7.00
Large Groups (25-100)	£6.00
Very Large Groups (100+)	£5.00
Keeper Experience	£80.00
Adoptions	£35.00
Corporate Sponsorship	contact

Season Tickets

Save money with Season Tickets to Noah's Ark if you plan to visit 5 or more times during the season. Ideal for families that want to pop up after school to play. Before tea!

School Trips

Educational Workshops
There is a variety of workshops to choose from which follow the National Curriculum. Each workshop is fun, interactive and focuses on a 'hands-on approach featuring live animals'. Please see the website for details.

Free Animal Show
Discover interesting facts about animals and the farming industry, featuring live animals and an opportunity to bottle feed the lambs.

Free Coach Parking
Spacious on site free car park with reserved spaces for coaches and disabled visitors. Free entry and a hot drink for coach drivers.

Keeper Talks
Enjoy our daily keeper talks and find out exciting facts on your favourite animals.

Huge Undercover Picnic Areas
Whatever the weather, you are guaranteed a great day out with our ample picnic areas and huge playgrounds both indoors and outdoors.

Please phone **01275 852806** or visit **www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk** to book.

Calendar 2009

Valentines Day and National Marriage Week
14th- 20th February

National Nest Box Day
Saturday 21st February

Mother's Day Celebrations
Saturday 21st March

Easter Festivities
10th - 13th April

May Day Mayhem
Monday 4th May

National Wildlife Day
Saturday 6th June

Noah's Ark 10th Anniversary Party
Saturday 25th July

Reptile Week
27th July - 8th August

Harvest Festival and Send a Cow
Saturday 19th September

World Animal Day
Saturday 3rd October

Pumpkin Day
Saturday 31st October

Christmas Nativity Plays
5th, 12th, 19th December: 2.30pm and 4pm

Daily Events

11:00 - Animal Show & Bottle-feed Lambs
12:00 - Tractor Rides (All day, £1 per person)
1:00 - Reptile Experience
2:00 - Lamb Race (Saturdays & school holidays)
2:30 - Birds of Prey Flying Display
3:00 - Meerkat and Porcupine Feeding
3:30 - Bottle-feed Lambs or Animal Show (Saturdays & school holidays)

Events, times and animals correct at publication. Management reserve the right to change events, animals or times.

Tyntesfield

THE NATIONAL TRUST

Wraxall, North Somerset, BS48 1NX

Be inspired by Tyntesfield, a spectacular Victorian house and gardens. Enjoy watching the estate evolve as it is restored in public view....

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- Free access to beautiful woodland walks
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Contact us on 01275 461900 or e-mail tyntesfield@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/tyntesfield

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