

**Oxton Village Plan Survey, March 14<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> 2011**  
**"Headline" report**

- **432 Oxton residents completed a questionnaire** - 376 adults and 56 children – **84%** of the 515 questionnaires delivered. Actually, that was 86% of the adult questionnaires delivered, 62% of the 12-15 year old's and 70% of the 5-11 year old's delivered.
- **208 households responded** from the 263 households found in the village – **79%** of households in Oxton, and 89% of the 234 who received a questionnaire.

Because some households were not at home or refused questionnaires, we will not know the population of Oxton or its composition by age and gender until the census results are available. And for that reason, we do not know the exact response rate among resident individuals aged 5-and-over in the village.

But those who accepted and returned the household questionnaire reported the age and gender of 493 people, as follows:

age group	FEMALE TOTAL	MALE TOTAL	TOTAL	% total
0-4	10	8	18	4%
5-11	28	17	45	9%
12-15	8	13	21	4%
16-24	21	22	43	9%
25-49	70	75	145	29%
50-64	63	65	128	26%
65-74	29	25	54	11%
75 &+	26	13	39	8%
TOTAL	255	238	493	100%

If we compare those percentages with the available census data on the population of 546 from 2001 we see that Oxton may be getting younger:

age group	Census 2001	Village Survey 2011
0-4	5%	4%
5-15	11%	13%
16-24	6%	9%
25-64	58%	55%
65-74	9%	11%
75 or over	11%	8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

A greatly welcomed outcome of the survey has been the number of you who volunteered to help with village events, activities and developments. 102/376 adults and 15/56 children offered to help in some way which is absolutely BRILLIANT for a village the size of Oxton.

We will be following up those offers hopefully during May/June, when we have fully understood which of the many projects suggested are the most important and to help put together the individual action plans for the Village Plan.

We need to read and understand everything you wrote (rather than just counting the boxes ticked) and do a more in-depth analysis of what the village told us and what that means, but knowing that you are eager to know the basics, here are some headline results. More in-depth analysis will follow, especially from the under-16's questionnaires, where pictures and words need to be understood in a way that just takes longer to do, and where the headline answers give rise to further questions and cross-analysis. All results are given as a % (rounded to the nearest 1%) of respondents answering the question and/or their number.

1. **Length of Residence in Oxton:**

- a. 31% of Oxton residents have been here 25 years or more
- b. 25% for 5 years or less

2. **Ownership of home:** 19% of households live in rented homes

3. **Crime** – 26 people reported 45 experiences of crime in Oxton in the last 12 months (mainly Burglary and Theft 10 each, Vandalism 9)

4. **Business** done from Oxton

- a. Business run from home: 18% of households do
- b. Of the 124 individual users of Oxton Post Office for business, 83 work in Oxton or both in and outside Oxton

5. **Improvements, Importance of and Satisfaction with village features.**

- a. In response to the question "What would make Oxton a better place to live", one under-16 wrote "I don't know, I really like it here" and another "I like Oxton the way it is, It's a nice small happy village".
- b. Over 16's were slightly more critical as you see below, in rank order of % considering very or fairly important:

	<u>very+fairly important</u>	<u>very+fairly satisfied</u>
i. Safety and security	<b>99%</b>	89%
ii. Well maintained village	<b>99%</b>	97%
iii. Rural location	<b>96%</b>	97%
iv. Controlling the volume and speed of traffic	93%	<b>55%</b>
v. Local walks and footpaths	91%	84%
vi. Community feeling	89%	78%
vii. Facilities for children and young people	88%	<b>51%</b>
viii. Public transport	86%	<b>23%</b>
ix. Facilities for adults	84%	61%

6. **Public Transport:** The greatest dissatisfaction is with Public Transport, with 30% very dissatisfied and another 29% fairly dissatisfied. This needs much more analysis of the problems revealed and the possible uptake of changes suggested.

- a. Later we asked "Excluding the school bus services, how often do you use the bus service(s) for the following purposes?" to which 84% replied "never" for shopping and social purposes and 93%-95% said "never" for work, medical/hospital and other.

b. This is despite the fact that the following ratings were given good or very good (as % of those expressing an opinion):

	good or very good	poor or very poor
i. Routing	8%	87%
ii. Cost	19%	25%
iii. Reliability/punctuality	18%	35%
iv. Frequency	4%	86%

c. "If available, what bus service from Oxtton would you use regularly" produced the same rank order as "Would you be more likely to use the locally run, monthly minibus (Oxtton Flyer) if its destination were...?" as follows:

If available, what bus service from Oxtton would you use regularly?	Count	Would you be more likely to use the locally run, Monthly minibus service (Oxtton Flyer) if its destination were	Count
Commuter/limited stop service to Nottingham	153	Nottingham	97
None	132		
More frequent service to Southwell	110		
Shuttle to Calverton	109	Calverton	50
More frequent service to Newark	58		
Shopper service to Arnold	54	Arnold	44
Shopper service to Bingham	13	Bingham	18

But a monthly service has less interest than a more regular one.

d. Even more flexible options were even less interesting!:

If available, which, if any, of the following alternatives would you use?

	%	Count
i. Car sharing	11%	40
ii. Community owned minibus	11%	39
iii. Volunteer car scheme*	6%	21
iv. None of the above	79%	284

7. **Controlling the volume and speed of traffic** through the village was considered very important but rated poorly.

a. A later question gave us the list of deterrents which we would support to address the issue:

	%	Count
i. Flashing speed indicators	61%	219
ii. Local access only signs	57%	207
iii. 20mph speed limits	48%	174
iv. Warning signs	34%	124
v. Speed humps	24%	86
vi. Chicanes	18%	66
vii. One way restrictions	18%	66
viii. None of these	8%	29

b. 210 of you listed dangerous junctions or pedestrian crossing places to be improved. Places mentioned by 10 or more people (78% of all mentions) were:

Junction/stretch of road	mentions
i. Forest Road / bypass A6097	72
ii. Blind Lane/Main St, Main St-Forest Rd-Green Dragon, Post Office	48
iii. New Road / Main Street	37
iv. Water Splash, New Road/Sandy Lane/Water Lane, cut through	27
v. Sandy Lane / Southwell Rd	22
vi. Bridge Inn - Main St / Epperstone Road	19
vii. Main St-bend outside school/church	15
viii. Water Lane / Main Street at Bridge Inn	13
ix. Blind lane	11
x. Old Epperstone Rd / Southwell Rd	11

8. **Village facilities**, bringing together the answers to the several questions in this area:

a. New Facilities –

- i. 31% of households would use Sports training
- ii. 22% would use an Adventure Playground area
- iii. 13% a Youth Club
- iv. 5% a pre-school group

b. 2 children came up with 6 improvements each, but in total 38 suggestions were made, 106 times. The most often repeated were:

- i. new play park, more places to play, specific games & facilities there 27
- ii. more shops, bigger shop, small shops, sweet shop 8
- iii. better football field with goalposts, nets, lines, 5-a-side, fewer mole hills 6
- iv. tennis court 5
- v. sport club, sports facilities, all-weather playing surface (tennis, football) 5
- vi. youth club, scouts, more like pathfinders 4
- vii. more cycle routes, cycle track to other local villages avoiding road 4

but there were also some potentially interesting suggestions made by 1 child each:

- nature trail
- adventure trail
- duck pond
- village tree house
- access to woods
- environmental projects run by children
- another duck sign the other side of the splash

c. One child summarised the good and the difficult about small village life, writing "I wish I had a school bus to take me to Halam. I wish I had more friends in Oxtton to play football and rugby. Everyone is really friendly"

d. Adults rated the village facilities we have for importance and their use of the facilities:

	<u>important</u>	<u>use</u>
i. Oxtton Post Office	91%	53%
ii. The Village Shop	90%	53%
iii. The Village Hall	87%	39%
iv. Playground by the Village Hall	82%	28%
v. The Church	82%	26%
vi. Pleasure ground	73%	33%
vii. The Old Bridge Inn	69%	40%
viii. Cricket ground	66%	5%
ix. Football field	56%	14%
x. The Green Dragon	47%	20%

e. Would you use the following facilities if made available in the village?

	<u>number</u>
i. Tea Rooms	165
ii. Sale of local produce	165
iii. Picnic tables on the recreation area	132
iv. Gymnasium	124
v. Community shop	103
vi. More allotments	40
vii. Internet 'café'	18
viii. Other	15

f. The Village Hall

- i. is "used" once a week or more by 8% of us, and once or twice a year by 47%. 25% never go there.
- ii. Has sufficient facilities in the view of 87% of us.

9. **Post Office** is used by 90% for personal matters and by 30% for business, and not used at all by 12%.

a. Reason for using Post Office, in numbers reporting use

	<u>Ever using</u>
i. Buying stamps	295
ii. Sending parcels	275
iii. Sending recorded mail	230
iv. Post Office parcel collection	150
v. Withdrawing cash	92
vi. Other parcel courier collection	82
vii. Paying bills	73
viii. Paying to another bank	53
ix. Post Office Bank or National Savings	46
x. Collecting pension	33
xi. Other	25

b. Reason for using Shop:

	<u>% using</u>
i. Newspapers or magazines	64%
ii. Milk, butter, cheese or eggs	63%
iii. Bread or cakes	56%
iv. Crisps or sweets	38%
v. Greetings cards	31%
vi. Fruit & vegetables	29%
vii. Tickets for local events	25%
viii. Cold meat or bacon	24%
ix. Household goods	20%
x. Social chat & information	18%
xi. Filled rolls	15%
xii. Dry cleaning	15%
xiii. None of the above	14%
xiv. Advertising and promotion	12%
xv. Prescription collection service	9%
xvi. Plants	4%
xvii. Regular shopping order	1%
xviii. Delivered shopping order	1%

c. What would make you use the Shop more:

	<u>%</u>	<u>number</u>
i. Wider range of existing items	35%	125
ii. Later or extended opening hours	29%	105
iii. None of these	29%	104
iv. Coffee shop and meeting area	26%	94
v. Lottery	24%	88
vi. Local or craft products	23%	83
vii. Different items than those currently sold	17%	62
viii. Sale of alcohol	17%	62
ix. Foreign Currency	16%	57
x. Photocopying and/or laminating	13%	47
xi. Computer and internet facilities	3%	11

## 10. Parish Council

- 46% are Totally or Quite satisfied with the way the PC spends its budget. But 51% don't know how it is spent. Perhaps there is a job to be done here?
- 60% believe the PC's first priority should be to minimise its spending and keep the Council tax low
- 48% feel the PC publicises its decisions very well or well, but, of the balance, the largest portion is the 28% who have no opinion.

**11. Environment & Conservation** - Environmental matters are obviously valued as 94-96% of adults responded to these questions

a. The features you most want to conserve are:

<u>Feature</u>	<u>% wishing to conserve</u>
i. Green spaces in the village	89%
ii. Water splash on Sandy Lane	78%
iii. Water Lane stream	73%
iv. Windmill Hill	71%
v. Iron Age Settlement	46%
vi. Beanford Lane and its toads	42%
vii. Forge and petrol pump	39%
viii. Burial Mounds	33%
ix. Roundabout	18%

b. 27% (96 individuals) are concerned about flooding to their property. We need to look more closely at these answers to be sure that the Parish Council understands where the worried people are.

c. There was some enthusiasm for new environmental initiatives, but the comments require closer examination than we have so far had time for, as many commented that they would support a wind turbine if it benefited the village. The top 3 were:

i. More planters and flowers	53%
ii. More circular walks from the village	50%
iii. A village green	44%

**12. Communications**

a. It may not surprise you to find out how we all find out what is happening:

i. Dover Beck	89%
ii. Word of mouth/telephone/pub	52%
iii. Post Office/shop	38%
iv. Village notice board	33%
v. Local free press	14%
vi. Email	6%
vii. Parish Council website	2%

b. Read by 94% of us, the Doverbeck monthly magazine must do an excellent job:

i. the Doverbeck is valued for the following:

1. Village news	93%
2. Information about events	88%
3. Advertising	48%
4. Articles	39%
5. Church information	34%

ii. Of those who don't read the Doverbeck, the largest group don't because they don't receive it – we will work out where these copies are missing and let Frances Wheatley know.

c. Clearly, the new website – [www.myoxton.org.uk](http://www.myoxton.org.uk) – will be widely used as we seem to be covering (or trying to cover!) all the sections important to you, which are:

i. What's on (events and activities)	66%
ii. Local maps and plans (walks and places to visit)	53%
iii. About Oxtos (history, photos)	51%
iv. Local businesses, traders and facilities	49%
v. Travel and transport (bus timetables, road reports, car pooling)	46%
vi. Village Hall (calendar, bookings)	34%
vii. Local people with support/skills to offer	32%
viii. News and weather	25%
ix. Parish and District Councils	24%
x. Church matters	22%
xi. Dover Beck current and archive copies	22%
xii. Would not use the Oxtos website	21%

- d. Broadband and its adequacy:-
  - i. 74% of households have broadband
  - ii. 60% find broadband speed adequate for their personal needs
  - iii. 52% find broadband speed inadequate for their business needs
  - iv. 23% of households do not have access to the internet
- e. Mobile telephone:- 45% of us have problems with reception at home – we need to look closely at the surveys to identify the networks and areas of the village, because the surprise to these 45% of us may be that 55% do not have problems!

**13. Village events** were treated separately in the survey from “Leisure Activities” (below), but are very similar and compete with each other for our time and interest.

- a. Which of the following village events have you attended in the last 2 years:

i. Bonfire	65%
ii. Church services and events	44%
iii. Duck Race	44%
iv. Open Gardens	31%
v. Pantomime	27%
vi. Christmas tree lighting	26%
vii. Social committee events	24%
viii. None	17%

- b. If they were organised, what other events would you like to see in Oxton? Of the 36 suggestions, the top groups are (number suggesting):

i. fete/ summer festival/ street-village party/BBQ/picnic/fun fair	20
ii. film	12
iii. music	10
iv. theatre/plays/show/poetry	7

Putting together all 36 ideas with the volunteers who have come forward, hopefully we will get a number of these off the ground.

### 14. Leisure Activities

- a. Walking and participating in committees are the 2 most common Oxton leisure activities:

Do you take part in any of these activities in the village at least once a month?

	Response %	Response Count
i. None	49%	177
ii. Local walks	38%	137
iii. Cycling	7%	25
iv. Pilates	5%	16
v. WI	4%	14
vi. Village Plan Group	4%	13
vii. Social Committee	3%	12
viii. Badminton	3%	10
ix. Parish Council	3%	9
x. Village Hall Committee	3%	9
xi. Fundraising Committee	3%	9
xii. Church Choir	2%	8
xiii. Shooting	2%	8
xiv. Darts	2%	6
xv. Cricket Club	1%	5
xvi. Ballroom dancing	1%	4
xvii. Amateur dramatics	1%	4
xviii. Hand Bells	1%	3
xix. Church bells	1%	3

We have yet to look at the 26 “Other” responses.

b. The under-16s leave Oxton for their social or leisure activities:- only 2/16 answering the question attend in Oxton, 11/16 go elsewhere. They were interested in some of the list of potential youth activities that we had developed in the consultation phase:

i. Cookery Club	38%	6
ii. Drama club	38%	6
iii. Arts and Crafts	31%	5
iv. Field Games e.g. rounders/basketball	25%	4
v. Film Nights	25%	4
vi. Games Nights e.g. table tennis/badminton	25%	4
vii. None of these	25%	4
viii. Music Club/lessons	19%	3
ix. Computer Club	13%	2
x. Dance	13%	2
xi. Duke of Edinburgh Award	13%	2
xii. Chess Club	6%	1
xiii. Book Club	0%	0
xiv. Scouts or Guides	0%	0

c. Given the above, the enthusiasm shown by 212 of you for some new potential activities and for organising them is very encouraging:

<u>Potential New Activity</u>	<u>Interested attendees</u>	<u>Interested organisers</u>
i. Film nights	94% 136	15
ii. Exercise classes	93% 94	6
iii. Walking group	90% 73	9
iv. Lending library/book exchange	87% 61	14
v. Football club	87% 33	8

We need to look at the "other" responses and to get activity planning started by the interested organisers, but it does look like there will soon be Film Nights and Exercise Classes!

d. Also there is majority support for a Sports Area and for improving Play Space facilities (both questions were answered by 359 people and skipped by only 19)

Would you be in favour of a sports area (perhaps all weather) being provided on part of the recreation field?

Yes	59%	210
No	13%	45
No opinion	29%	104

Are you in favour of improving the playspace facilities in the village to benefit a wider age range of children?

Yes	69%	246
No	6%	22
No opinion	25%	91

**15. The Church** - As we learned from the question on importance and use of village facilities, The Church clearly has a grip on the affections of many of us (important to 86%), but is considered important for many reasons, as follows:

i. As an historic building	66%	237
ii. Baptisms, weddings and funerals	46%	166
iii. Festivals such as Easter, Harvest and Christmas	44%	159
iv. The churchyard	42%	151
v. A quiet and spiritual place to sit, think and/or pray	23%	82
vi. Sunday worship	19%	69
vii. For musical and other social events	16%	56
viii. Not important	15%	55
ix. Sunday school or religious instruction	10%	36
x. Other	2%	8



**16. Housing** - Lack of affordable accommodation was reported by 6 households as leading a member of their household to leave Oxton in the last 5 years. 4 of these families have been in the village 25 years or more.

a. Nevertheless, 152 of us (actually a low response in this survey) believe there is a need for more housing in certain categories:

- i. More housing for young people 94
- ii. More housing for the elderly 56
- iii. More family housing 46
- iv. More housing for the disabled 22

b. While 50% (178) of us want to see the total number of homes remain the same over the next 10 years, 37% (134) want some increase.

c. And any such development would be acceptable (or not!) to 341 of you in the following ways:

i. None	26%	87
ii. Conversion of redundant buildings	62%	212
iii. Single dwellings along existing lanes and roads	19%	66
iv. In filling between existing housing	18%	61
v. Small groups of 6 or fewer new dwellings	18%	61
vi. Larger housing estate	2%	5

## 17. Health and Social Care

The survey did produce several responses from people who have difficulty with reaching health and social destinations and would appreciate help, as follows:

Do you have any difficulty getting to any of the following?

	answered question	359	skipped question	19
1. Doctors			19	
2. Chemists for prescriptions			15	
3. Dentist			12	
4. Health Centre			9	
5. Chiropodist			6	
6. Vet			3	
7. Day Centre			2	
8. None of these			335	

I could be helped on a daily basis if:

	answered question	359	skipped question	19
1. I had help with the garden				6
2. I was able to call upon a community voluntary car scheme				5
3. Someone checked that I am all right				4
4. I was able to visit a day centre for lunch				2
5. I was given extra help by social services				2
6. Someone I know called to do shopping				1
7. I received meals on wheels				0
8. None of these				344
9. Other (please specify)				14

If you are a carer, would you appreciate help in Oxton from the any of the following:

	answered question	23	skipped question	355
1. Carer respite to give me a break now and again				4
2. A self help group to support carers				1
3. Help with shopping, gardening				1
4. Neighbourhood sitting scheme for respite care				1
5. A health visitor				0
6. I already receive adequate help				17

These needs are important and we as a Community must address them irrespective of the Village Plan's programmes.

## 18. Volunteers

As mentioned above, the survey produced an exceptionally motivating number of volunteers and who provided contact information, for all the areas listed, as follows:

### Number of adult volunteers willing to offer time or expertise to help with

Conservation and the environment	32
New village activities	26
Children's play facilities	21
Community shop/village facilities	21
Support for older people and carers	21
Road safety	18
Volunteer car scheme or minibus	16
Sports facilities	14
Crime prevention	13
Developing the village website	6
Other specified:	
Photographs	1
Small Lending Library	1
help set up a Clay Pigeon Shoot	1
Art Club	1

### Number of child volunteers wanting to help with

sporting activities	10
Developing the website	7
social activities	6
Other	4
Helping the elderly	3

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The above is what it is possible to understand as of Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011, Now we will spend more time comparing answers to different questions and looking at the answers to the open questions. This will take a little longer, but we hope to report back before end June.

The most up-to-date information (and probably the most complete) will always be on the Oxton Village website, [www.myoxton.org.uk](http://www.myoxton.org.uk), but we will ask the Doverbeck to publish the findings also.

Data extracted by Tom Heinersdorff from answers from a) questionnaires entered directly online by respondents and b) questionnaires originally completed on paper and entered online by volunteers.