



# Ravenfield Community Plan 2022 - 2026

Ravenfield Parish Council

Summary of Ravenfield Parish Council Questionnaire 2022

# INTRODUCTION

In September 2022 Ravenfield Parish Council produced a community questionnaire. The aim of the questionnaire was to collect the ideas, suggestions, and concerns of every parishioner on matters of importance to them. The results of the questionnaire would help Ravenfield Parish Council to set priorities and form a community action plan for the next four years.

The questionnaire was made accessible online, and was also published on the Parish Council website. Links to the online questionnaire were published on Facebook, on posters within the Parish, and as a front page article of the Annual Parish Council Newsletter.

A copy was hand delivered to every household in the Parish, inserted in the Annual Parish Council newsletter.

Questionnaires were printed and left in the Parish Hall, The Cavalier pub and Ravenfield Stores.

Collection points were advertised and made available inside the Parish Hall, The Cavalier pub and Ravenfield Stores.

The questionnaire response date was 4 November 2022.

# OUR PARISH

The parish of Ravenfield comprises of  
1281 households,  
and is home to 2247 electors

## RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

- In total 112 questionnaires were completed.
- 110 respondents were over 18 years old and 2 were under 18 years old.
- 1330 questionnaires were printed.
- 72 paper copies were returned, and 40 completed the questionnaire online.

5.4%

*of printed  
questionnaires were  
returned*

5% *of Ravenfield electors*

8.7% *of Ravenfield households  
completed the questionnaire*

64% *returned a paper copy*

36% *accessed the online version*

98% *of questionnaires were  
completed by over 18 years old.*

# LIVING IN RAVENFIELD

The majority of the respondents were satisfied with the services and facilities in Ravenfield, with only 10% expressing their dissatisfaction.

An encouraging result from the questionnaire was that people commented that they feel Ravenfield is a friendly and safe place to live, with a good community feel. People like the location of Ravenfield, it's close proximity to motorway access, and access to the countryside.

The majority of respondents commented that they least liked the “**speeding traffic**” in Ravenfield, particularly on Braithwell Road and Hollings Lane, and also the “**new housing development**” on Moor Lane South (situated in the boundary of Bramley), commenting of the foreseeable problems surrounding increase in traffic, and access to local amenities (schools, doctors etc).



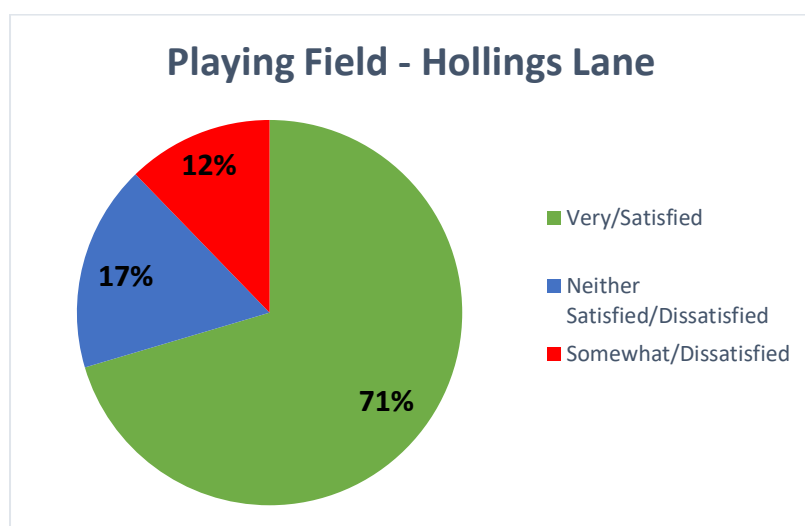
# LOCAL FACILITIES

The questionnaire detailed the list of services and facilities currently supported by the Parish Council, and asked how satisfied parishioners were with these.

## Playing Fields – Hollings Lane

The playing fields are not owned by the Parish Council, however the Parish Council are responsible for the cost of paying the rates, insuring and maintenance of the field. The field is the home ground for Ravenfield Rangers JFC, and often used to host outdoor events. The field is popular area within Ravenfield.

Overall, the data collected indicated that the majority of respondents are satisfied with the playing fields. 14 respondents either left this section blank, or marked that the question was not applicable/do not use.



There were no suggestions of how Hollings Lane Playing Field may be improved. Although respondents did comment:

- Dog poo on the playing field
- Off road bikes access the field

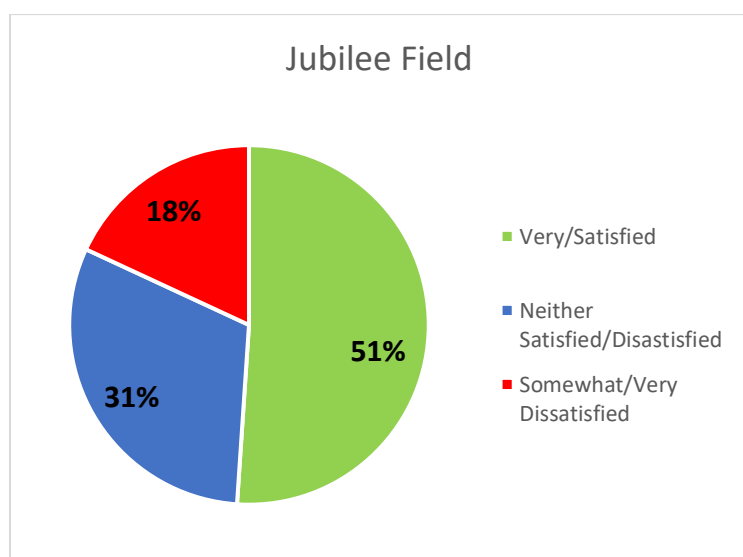


## Jubilee Field

Situated off Kinglsey Drive, Barberry Way and Osborne Close, Jubilee field is Parish Council owned land. The Parish Council insure and maintain the land. The land is currently left as an open space, and used by children, and popular with dog walkers. The land has been known to become heavily saturated in wet weather. Recent works to repair broken drainage may reduce this issue in the future.

18 respondents either left this section blank, or marked that the question was not applicable/do not use.

Those that did complete this section indicated that approximately 50% are happy with Jubilee Field.



Respondents added comment that they would like to see the following:

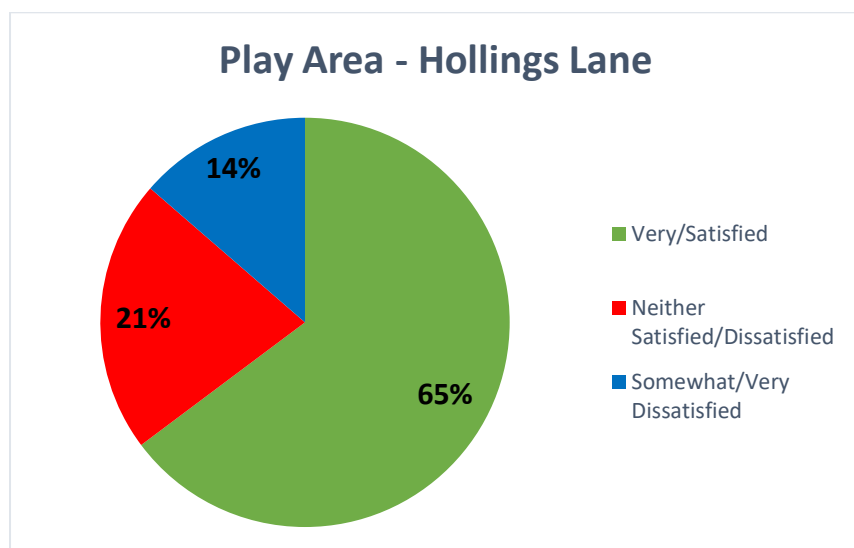
- Play area
- Keep fit equipment
- Wild flowers
- Skate Park
- Benches
- Path around the perimeter
- Better drainage
- Improve the surface, uneven with holes
- Reduce the height of the trees



## Children's Play Area – Hollings Lane

Within the grounds of Hollings Lane Playing Field, the play area is a popular feature within Ravenfield, and heavily used. The play equipment is for younger aged children of suggested ages of 2 – 10 years old. The Parish Council own and maintain the play area and the equipment.

24 respondents did not provide their views. The majority of respondents are Very Satisfied or Satisfied with the Play Area. Those which felt Somewhat or Very Dissatisfied, added comment at the end of the questionnaire;



Respondents' comments and suggestions in relation to the Play Area at Hollings Lane:

- More play equipment for older children
- Separate play area for older children
- Needs updating
- There are no swings



## Parish Hall

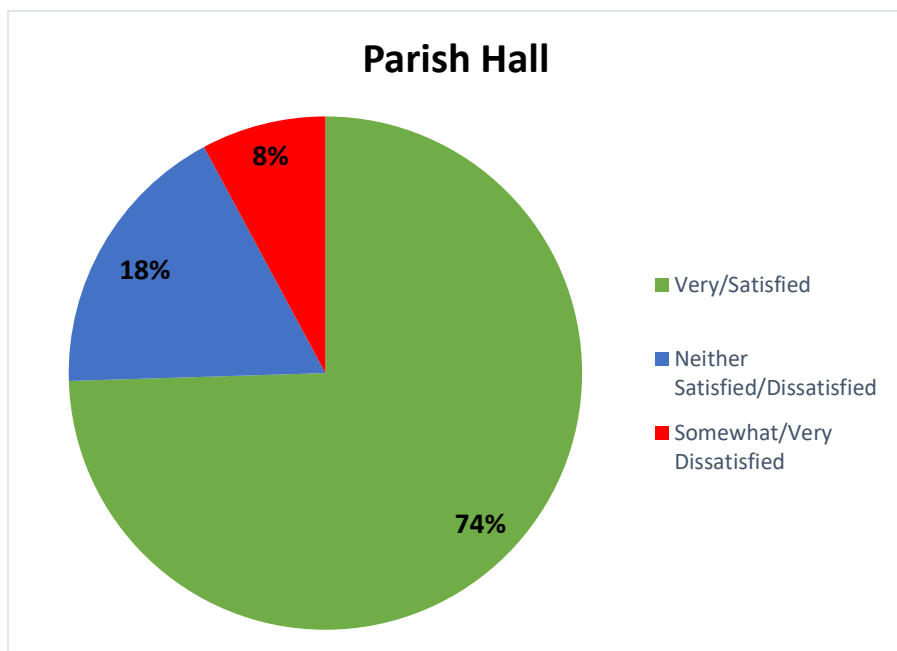
Is situated on Birchwood Drive. Recently extended, the Hall has a fully equipped kitchen, large main room, small meeting room and a book swap library.



The Hall is owned by the Parish Council, and subsidises community groups. The Hall is heavily used throughout the week, and available for private hire on weekends and ad hoc days/evenings.

Overall, the data collected indicated that the majority of respondents are satisfied with the Parish Hall. Only 10 respondents either left this section blank, or marked that the question was not applicable/do not use.

Respondents that were Somewhat or Very Dissatisfied did not add any comments at the end of the questionnaire to indicate how the Parish Council could better improve this facility.

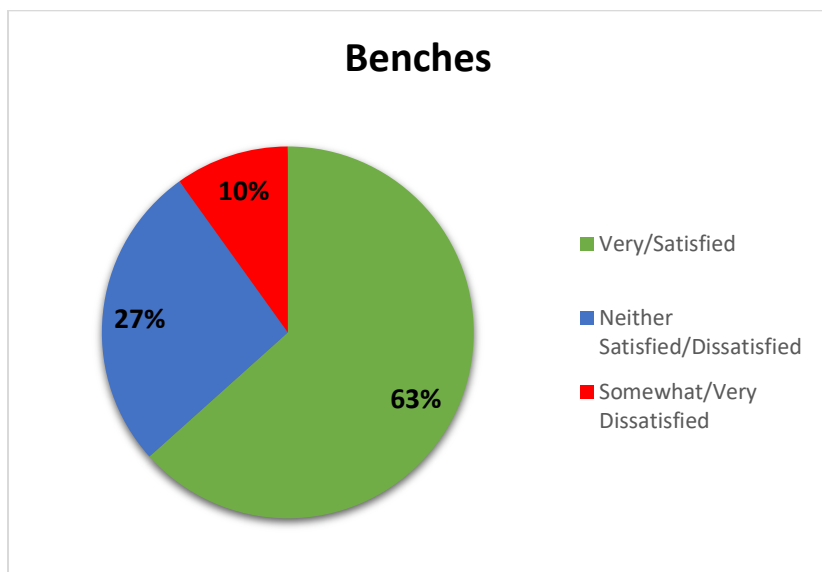


Respondents commented that they would like to see the following held at the Parish Hall:

- Keep fit classes
- More clubs for young children

## Benches

The Parish Council own and are responsible for three benches, which are located; Outside the shopping Centre, mid way on Braithwell Road, and Moor Lane South.



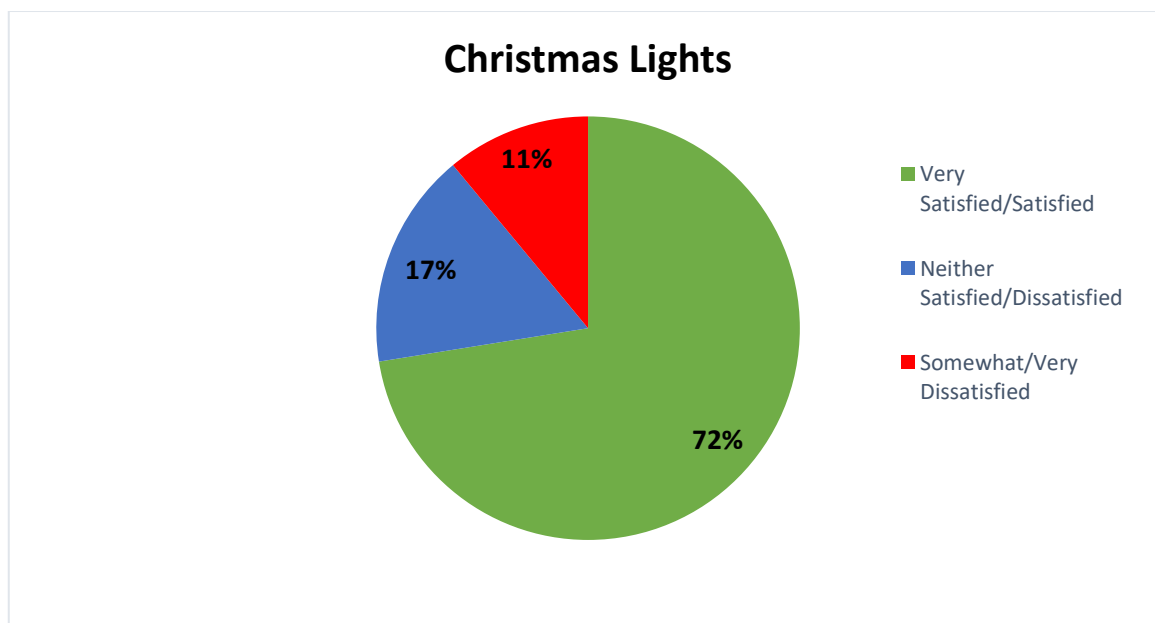
There were 6 requests for additional benches to be placed in Ravenfield, with suggested areas of:

- Hollings Lane
- Jubilee Field
- In the Woods
- Throughout the village, to allow elderly people to walk and have rest points
- Onto fields, to sit and enjoy the views

## Christmas Lights

Christmas lights were first introduced to the street lighting columns in 2021. The Parish Council used monies received from the Community Infrastructure Levy to install the required instruct and selected a third party contractor to hire motifs, install and dismantle the lights. In 2021 there were 5 street light motifs. In 2022 the Parish Council increased the number to 8, marking each corner of the Ravenfield Crossroads.

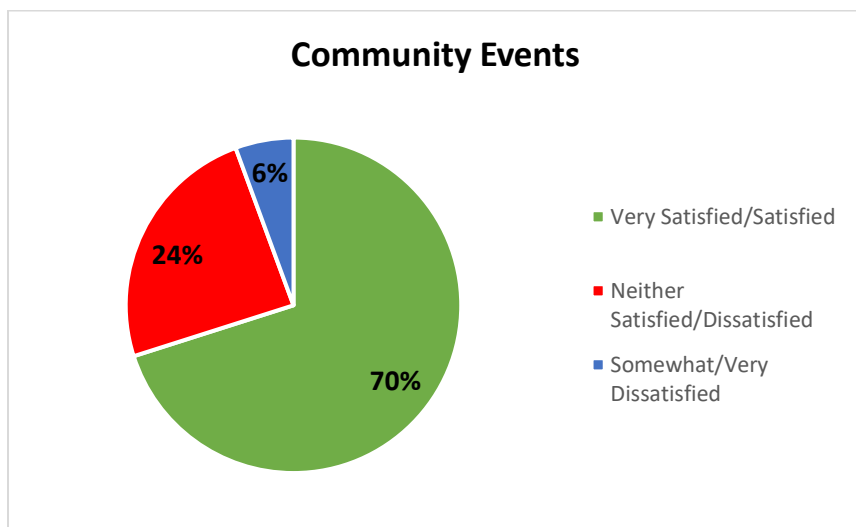
Only 3 respondents did not answer this question. No comments or suggestions were received.



## Community Events

The Parish Council are not always responsible for the events which are held in Ravenfield, but do assist where possible in supporting these.

The data collected from the questionnaire indicates that the majority of respondents are happy with the community events held in Ravenfield.



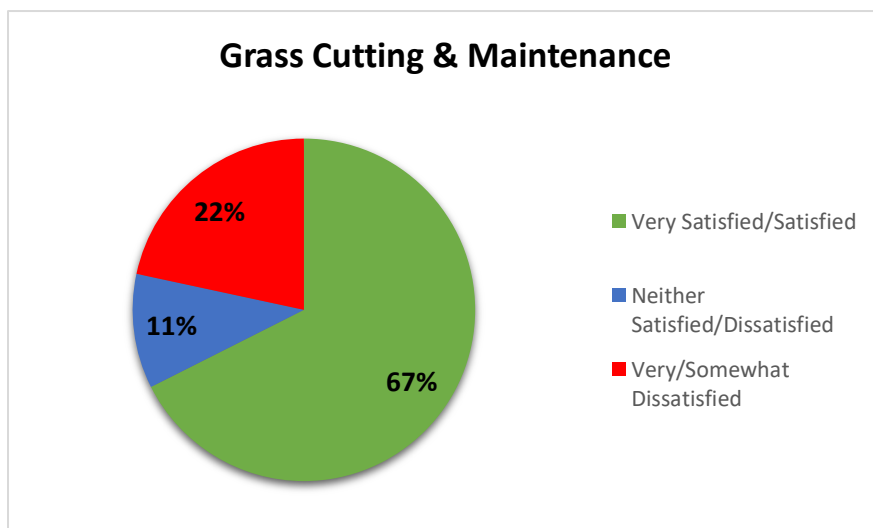
Under the comments section of the questionnaire, respondents did reference Community Events:

- Request that more events take place.
- More events on the fields.
- Better notification of events.

## Grass Cutting & Maintenance

The Parish Council are responsible for the grass maintenance of:  
Hollings Lane Playing Field and Jubilee Field.

A three year contract is in place with Rotherham MBC Grounds Maintenance, commencing April 2021.



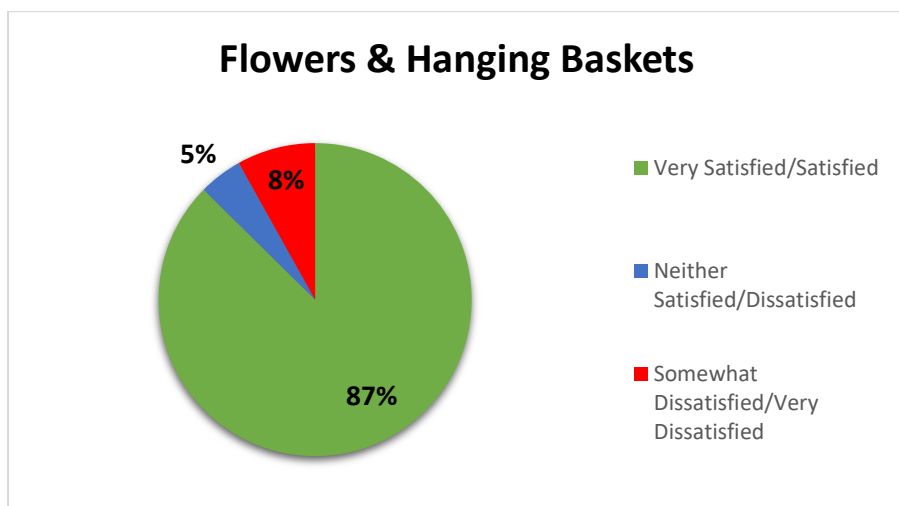
One comment received that the grass should be cut and more general maintenance to keep Ravenfield looking clean and tidy

Grass verge cutting and weeds were highlighted by 4 respondents

## Flowers and Hanging Baskets

There are 50 hanging baskets spread across Moor Lane North, Moor Lane South, Hollings Lane and Braithwell Road. Planters outside the Parish Hall, and the Parish Council maintain the flower bed at the Millennium Sign/War Memorial on Moor Lane North.

Ravenfield Community Gardening group maintain the flowerbed at the Crossroads, with a donation from the Parish Council towards purchase of bulbs/flowers.



There were two comments in relation to this section, in which a request for help towards flower costs in Old Ravenfield.

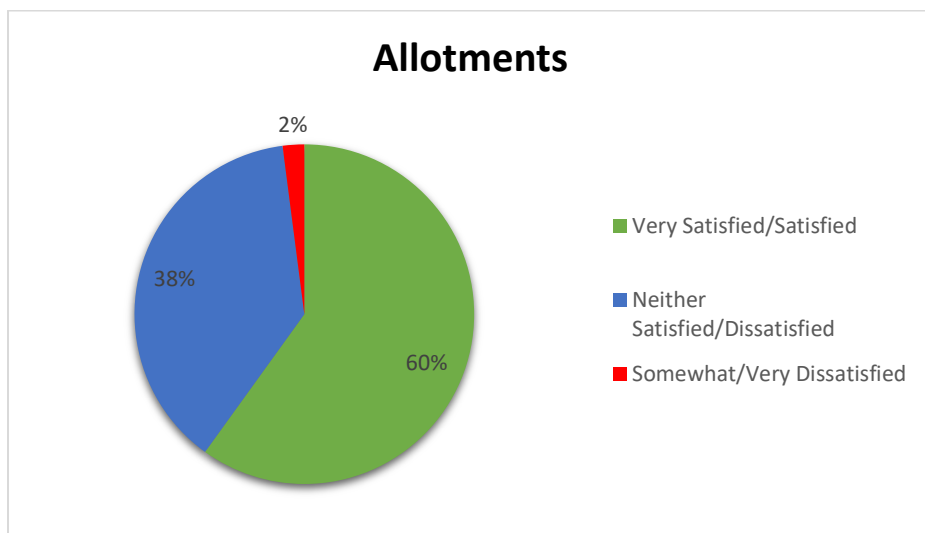
The Parish Council have in the past contributed to such costs, but no request of donation has been formally submitted in recent years.

## Allotments

Only recently established in 2021, Ravenfield Allotments are now managed by the Ravenfield Allotment Society. The allotment grounds are located off Hollings Lane, adjacent the playing field.

The land became overgrown when the last allotments became unused. In 2021 with the aid of volunteers and grant funding, the land was brought back to life and is now a successful allotment, with 14 plots.

39 respondents did not answer this question.



Only one respondent commented on this section, suggesting a car park on the quarry path be made available to allotment holders, to save on carrying everything down there.

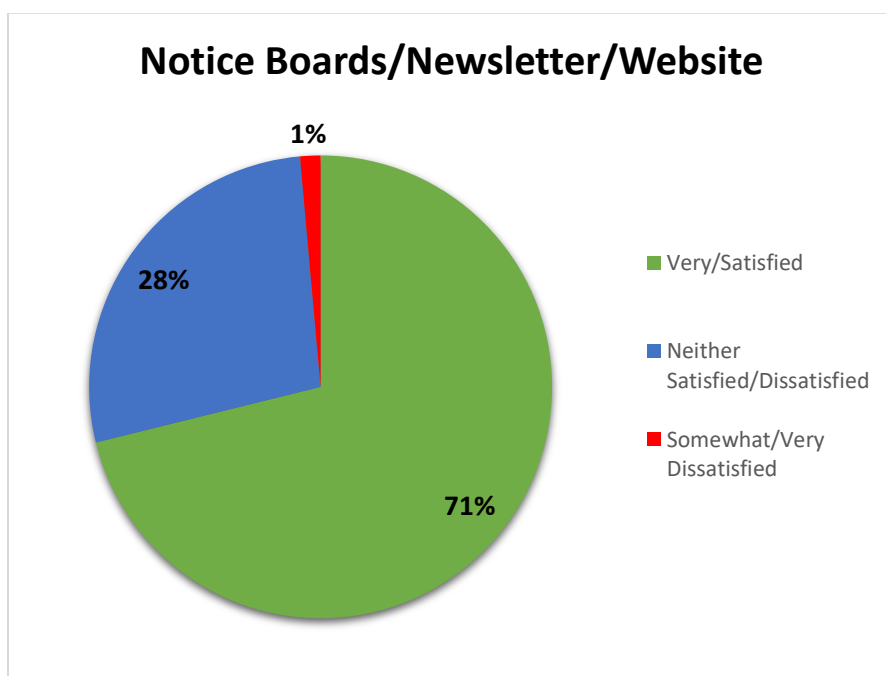
## Notice Boards/Newsletters/Website

There are two notice boards within Ravenfield. One is located outside the shopping centre on Braithwell Road, and one at the bus stop on Main Street in Old Ravenfield.

Newsletters are published annually, and distributed to every household.

The Parish Council website is managed by Rotherham MBC.

Overall respondents are happy with these services, with only 5 respondents failing to answer this section.

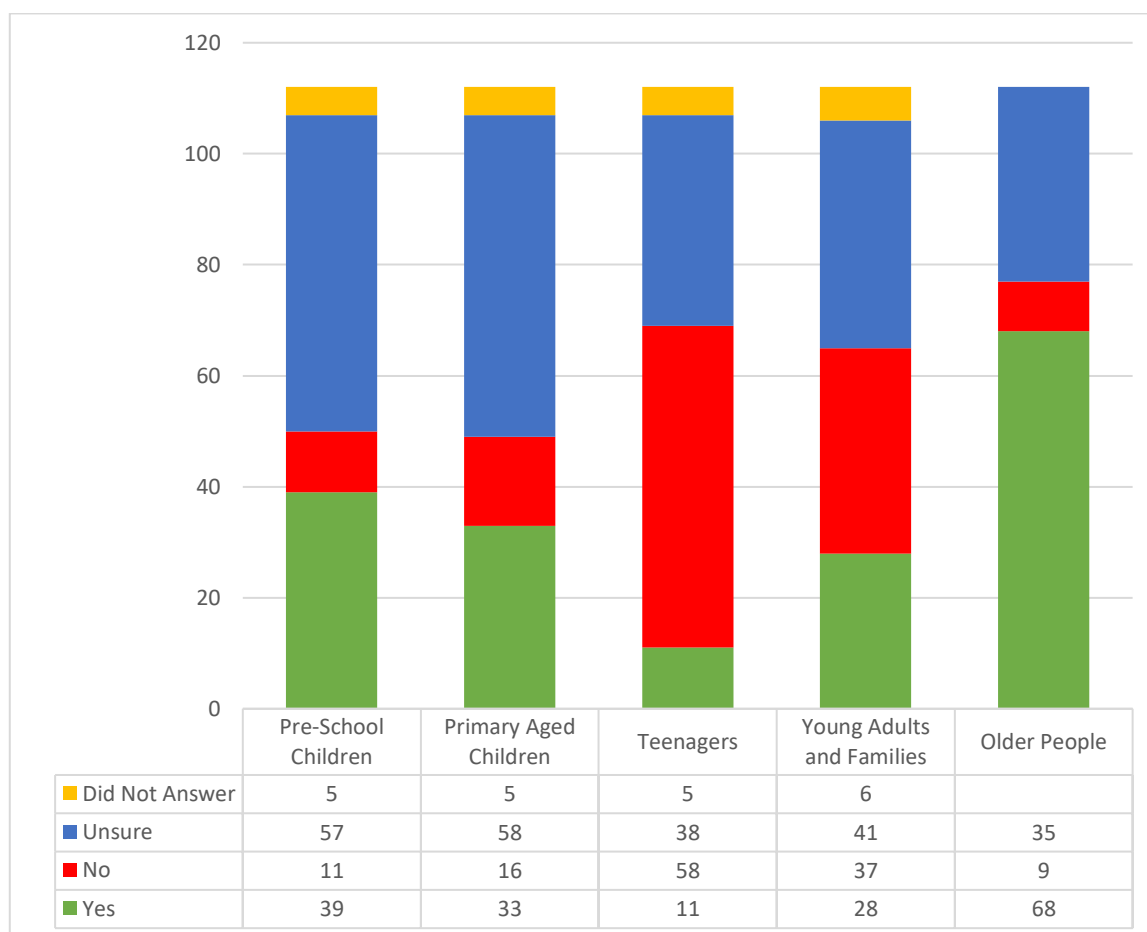


Only 1% of respondents were dissatisfied in this section.

The comment raised was that the notice boards should be updated.

Comment was also made that the newsletter is “excellent”.

Do you think that there are sufficient facilities for the following age groups in Ravenfield?



If we pay attention to the Yes/No answers, we can see that the data indicates that parishioners feel that there are **insufficient** facilities for Teenagers and Young Adults and Families.

*84% - of respondent  
Insufficient facilities for  
Teenagers*

*57% - of respondents  
Insufficient facilities for  
Young Adults/Families*

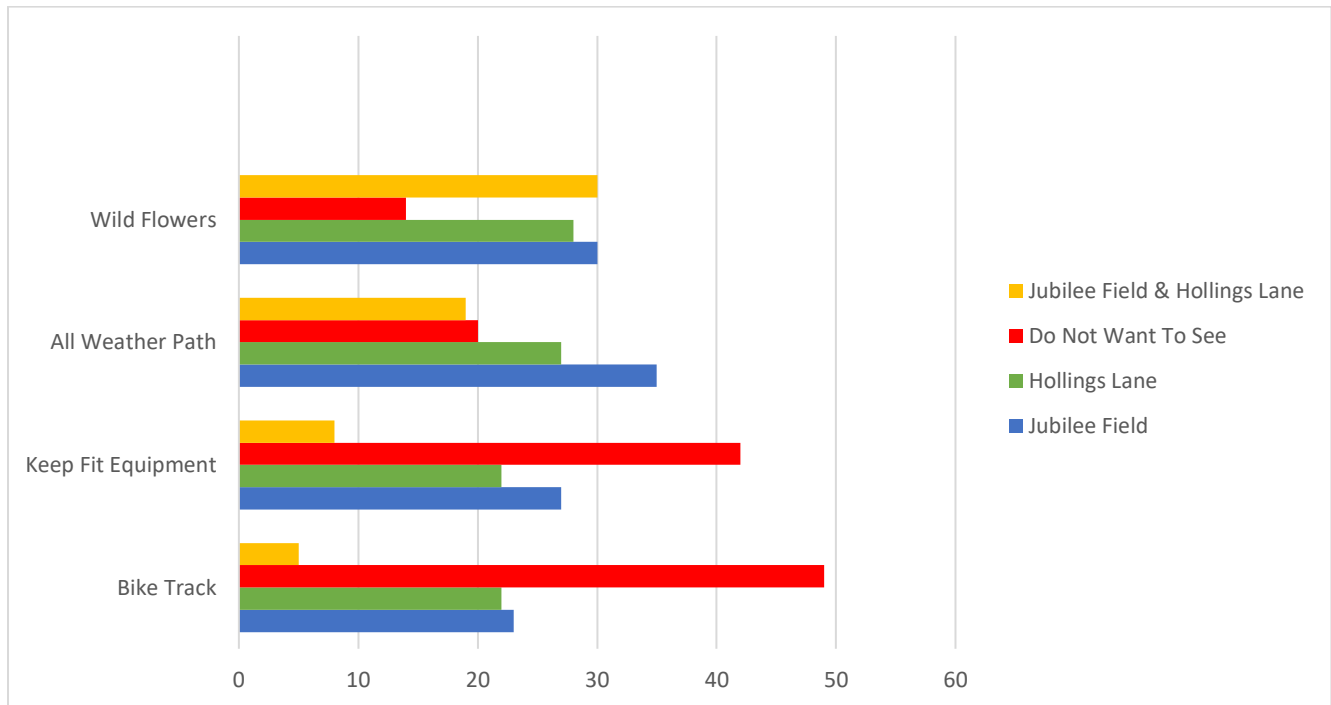
In addition to the data collected from the questionnaire, the Council also received a document prepared by an eight year old resident of Ravenfield, which included a list of things that she would like to see on Jubilee Field. The list included:

Benches, play area with swings, zipline, bug House, wild grass that dogs and people can walk through, skate park, long slide in playground, climbing net and CCTV in the playground.

Would you like to see any of the following facilities in Ravenfield, and if so, your preference where best located.

The Council has over the past four years received requests to consider implementing new facilities, which consists of: Bike Track, Keep Fit Equipment, All Weather Path, and planting of Wild Flowers.

The questionnaire was an opportunity to obtain residents views.



The above graph draws the eye to there being a greater number of responses against keep fit equipment and a bike track. Collating the data from in favor (regardless of location) and do not want to see, breaks down the results in order of:

**86%** in favor of wild flowers

**80%** in favor of an all-weather path

**54%** in favor of keep fit equipment

**50%** in favor of a Bike Track

## Are there any other facilities you would like to see?

A number of written suggestions were received, however many outside of the Council's area of remit with requests including more GP appointments, Dentist, Bus Services, Bus Shelters, Cycle Lanes.

From the responses received is a list of facilities that the Council is able to consider:

- Goal Posts to play football
- Play Area provisions for 8–12-year-olds
- Skate Park
- Something for teenagers
- Swings for adults
- Fruit trees that people can pick
- Picnic area
- More dog waste bins around Hollings Lane
- More benches
- Traffic calming measures

The average household precept contribution is £45.00 a year. Would you be willing to increase your council tax contributions to assist with improving services/facilities?

The results are displayed in the graph below:



Although a strong line against any increase in council tax is identified, more than 50% would agree to increasing their contribution by £1.00 - £3.00 a year.

A £3.00 a year rise in council tax on a Band D property, could potentially increase the Parish Council precept by approximately £3000.

# Traffic & Transport

## Parking

The Parish Council asked residents if they thought parking was an issue in Ravenfield.



Below is a list of areas more than one respondent listed there being parking issue:

- Hollings Lane Playing Fields/Play Area
- Moor Lane North - Primary School
- The Shopping Centre
- Spencer Drive
- Allot Close

### Known problems:

**Hollings Lane** - when events take place (including football matches), parking is often a problem, with cars double parking, and causing difficulty for residents to access their driveways.

**Moor Lane North, Primary School** – school drop off and pick up times are the problematic times of days. Parked cars on the road are a hazard and cause congestion.

**The Shopping Centre** – the landlord has recently introduced marked parking bays to encourage better parking in the area. The space is limited and private land, owned by the landlord of the shops.

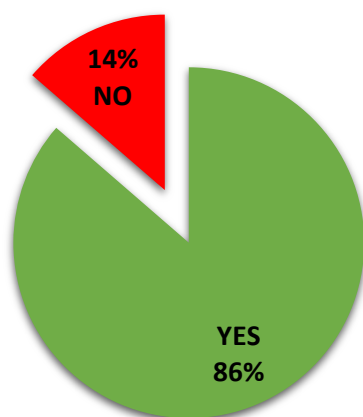
**Allot Close** – residents have brought issues to the Parish Council in the past, as a number of carers attend more than one property on this road, and each carer parks their vehicle on the road for a number of hours while working.

## Speeding

The questionnaire asked residents if they thought speeding was an issue in Ravenfield.

The results indicate that the majority of respondents consider speeding to be an issue.

### Do you consider speeding an issue in Ravenfield?



Below is a list of areas more than one respondent listed as there being a parking issue:

- Braithwell Road
- Hollings Lane
- Moor Lane South
- Moor Lane North
- Spencer Drive

### Known problems:

**Braithwell Road (1)** and **Hollings Lane (2)**, **Moor Lane South (3)** and **Moor Lane North (4)** – all of these four roads run on a long stretch, allowing vehicles to pick speed up. If the crossroads lights are on green this further permits acceleration.

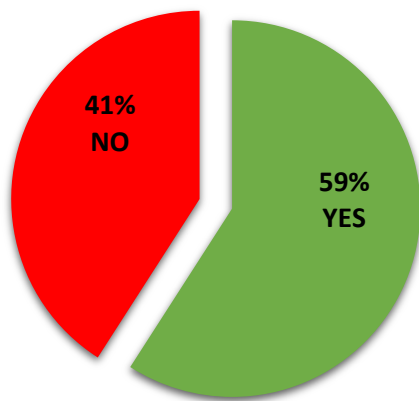
**Spencer Drive (5)** is reported as being a “rat run”, as vehicles cut out the crossroads and make their way from Moor Lane South onto Hollings Lane.



## Traffic

The questionnaire asked residents if they thought traffic congestion was an issue in Ravenfield.

### Do you consider traffic congestion to be an issue in Ravenfield?



Below is a list of areas more than one respondent listed as there being a parking issue:

- Moor Lane North – outside the primary school
- Moor Lane South/Brook Lane – Bramley Mini Roundabout
- Ravenfield Crossroads
- Hollings Lane (Double Parked vehicles)
- Braithwell Road

Respondents gave the worst times of congestions as peak times, 8am – 9:30am, and 4:00pm – 6:00pm.

The issues around Moor Lane North, outside Ravenfield Primary Academy are predominantly at school start and finish times. (8:30am – 9:00am and again at 3:00pm – 3:30pm).

Respondents added additional comments that the mini roundabout on Brook Lane , leading towards Bramley will only become a bigger problem as the new housing development progresses.

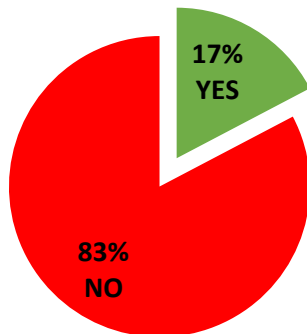


## Public Transport

The questionnaire asked residents if they thought public transport services were adequate in Ravenfield.

53% of respondents - Do not use public transport - and unable to comment.

**Do you feel that the current public transport services within Ravenfield are adequate?**



Respondents commented that the reason public transports were inadequate was because:

- There are no direct buses to Wickerlsey
- There are no buses on a Sunday
- Buses stop running early evening

Respondents went into further detail, explaining the difficulties they face trying to get to hospital appointments in Rotherham, GP appointments in Wickerlsey. Children/teenagers cannot go anywhere independently, and the school bus timetable to Maltby Academy is limited, which makes it difficult for sixth form students to get to school.

# Thank you

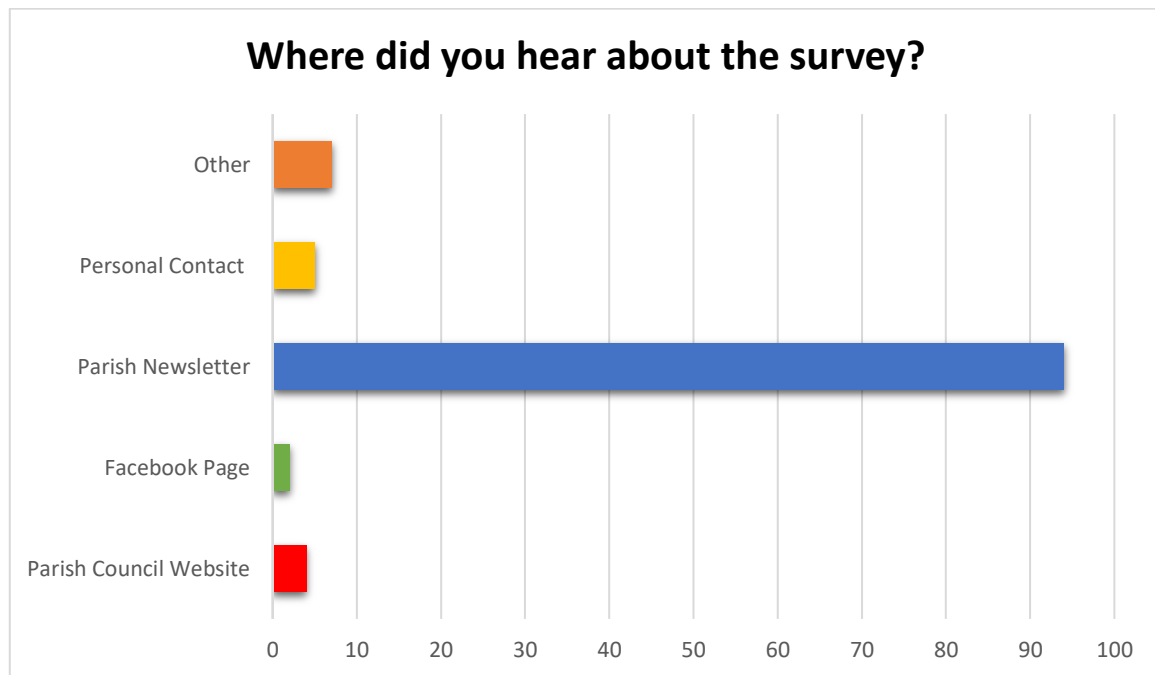
The closing section of the questionnaire thanked those that had taken the time to complete the questionnaire, and provided the opportunity for respondents to list up to three issues in the Parish that they would like the Parish Council to work towards. 1 being the most important.

There were many suggestions, of which some the Parish Council would be unable to deliver as it exceeds the remit of a Parish Council. From the many suggestions the most repeated were:



## Where did you hear about the survey?

We asked respondents to indicate where they heard about the survey.



The results show that 84% of respondents heard about the survey in the Parish Newsletter.

Advertising on social media platform Facebook, and on the Parish Council website had not captured the attention we thought it may.

## Next Steps

The number of returned questionnaires was disappointing.

The data collected has highlighted what is important to residents, indicating what parishioners would like to see and their main concerns/issues within Ravenfield.

An action plan will be prepared as a basis on which the Parish Council will make decisions and set its priorities and budget for the next four years.