

Kirby Misperton



Parish Plan

Kirby Misperton Parish Council started the process of producing a Parish Plan in 2014. A Parish Plan is a public document that identifies the needs of the local community. It provides evidence of those needs for decision makers and can also be used to support funding bids for local projects.

A questionnaire was delivered to all households in the village during February 2014 and the results were presented at a Parish Meeting held the following July.

This document is based on the results of that first questionnaire. It represents a snapshot of residents' views at that time. At some point in the future we will want to update the Parish Plan, to build on what we have started, and so your feedback on this first attempt would be appreciated.

R Paul Wicks

Chairman, Kirby Misperton Parish Council



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Kirby Misperton Parish Plan

The Civil Parish of Kirby Misperton is approximately 4 miles from the town of Pickering, 8 miles from the town of Malton and 25 miles from the City of York. Roads leading into and out of the village are Kirby Misperton Road which leads from the Beansheaf junction on the A169 between Malton and Pickering approximately 1½ miles from the centre of the village, Habton Road which goes to the village Great Habton and Barugh Lane leading to the hamlet of Little Barugh.



Flamingoland lies within the Parish occupying land which comprising the grounds of Kirby Misperton Hall, the old Rectory, Home Farm, Glebe Farm and Low Barn Farm. There is a residential village consisting of static caravans and a holiday village with a Costcutters store

The church of St Laurence's also serves Barughs Ambo, Great and Little Habton and Ryton.

Other services with the village include the Methodist Chapel, Village Hall, Post Office, hotel and pub (the Ashfield) and the Coach House pub within the grounds of Flamingoland.

Kirby Misperton is within the areas served by North Yorkshire County Council and Ryedale District Council.

Approximately 200 questionnaires were printed and distributed to residents, local businesses and landowners, Flamingoland employees and residents of Kirby Misperton Road (in the Civil Parish of Pickering). Copies of the questionnaire could also be downloaded from the Parish Council website.

Topics covered within the questionnaire included Housing, Transport, Roads and Highways, The Local Environment, Crime and Antisocial Behaviour, Local Services and Facilities, Village Hall and Community Events, and Communications.

We received 52 responses, all of which were from residents, which is a 25% response rate. Comparing the 'personal' section to the last census survey in 2011 we believe the responses we received are fairly representative.

Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number, totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Unless otherwise stated the percentage is based of the number questionnaires returned (52), not the number that responded to a particular question.





Section 1: The Village

A breakdown by employment and age was sought to enable Parish council recommendations to be appropriate for the residents of the village

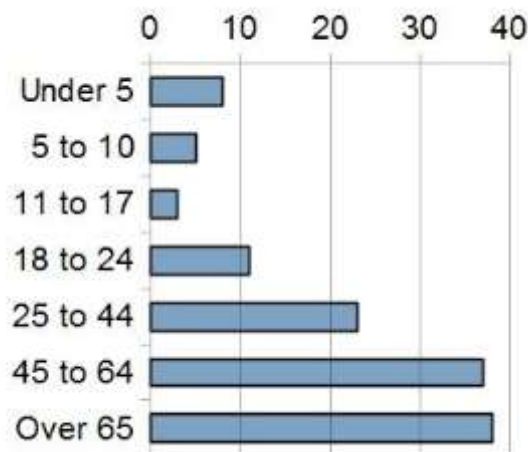
1.1 Employment

A quarter of respondents were retired. Sixty percent of employed residents worked outside the village.

1.2 Age Spread of Respondents

The questionnaire was answered solely by residents of the village. The age breakdown showed a village predominantly occupied by people over the age of 45.

This breakdown will influence the requirements of the village and its development.



1.3 Schools and school transport

The sample for households with school children was small, however all had received places at their preferred choice of school. From the small sample about half travelled to school by car and half by school bus.

1.4 Household Heating

72% of the households used mains gas for heating.





Section 2: Housing

The Parish Council is consulted on planning applications. The council needs to be able to justify any objections or comments it makes on planning applications. When we refer to housing being in keeping with the local character of the area we need to be able to define clearly what that local character is, and the Parish Plan will help provide evidence for this.

10% of respondents said Kirby Misperton needed more housing. Respondents were against larger developments or developments of 5-10 houses, but generally in favour of, or else had no opinion on, infill developments.

79% of respondents said it was either important or very important that future developments were in keeping with the character of the village. 2% (1 person) felt this was not important, while the remainder either had no opinion or did not answer the question.



You said ...

In Keeping with the Village:

- A variety of individual styles
- Old brick or stone with slate or Pantile roofing
- Cottages – terraced and detached
- Traditional
- In line with other housing
- Low roof lines, traditional windows
- Small/reasonable-sized gardens

Not in keeping:

- Estate or town suburb style housing
- Modern red or yellow bricks
- Flats
- Large developments

Action

We will refer to responses in the plan when responding to planning applications .



Section 3: Public Transport

There did not seem to be any huge dissatisfaction with bus services, although 50% of respondents rarely or never used the local bus service. Of those that did use the service, leisure and shopping were the two most frequent reasons for using the bus. However this does not mean that there aren't people in the village who rely on the service, for example 14% of respondents used the service several times a week and 23% of people who used the service used it to travel to work.



Action

We will respond to any surveys or consultations on public transport pointing out that there are individuals who rely on bus services.

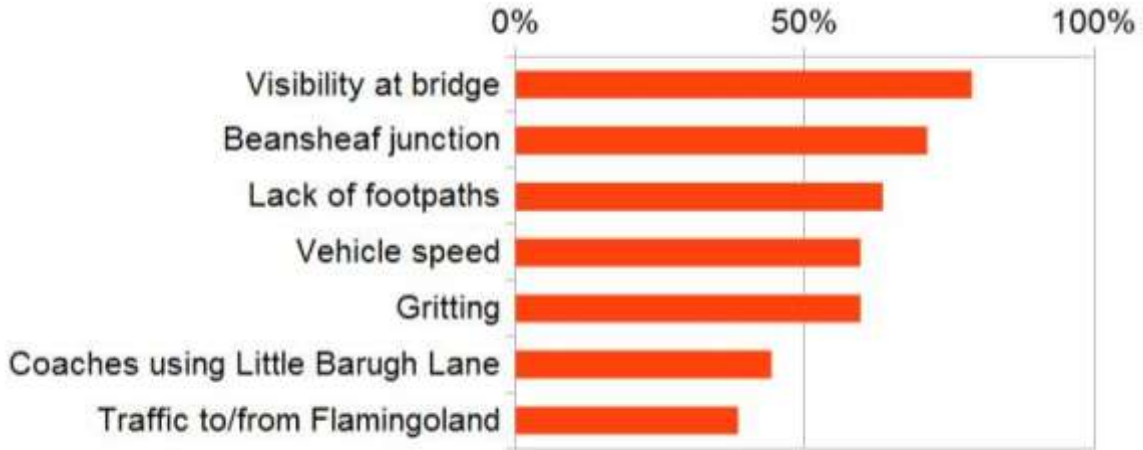


Section 4: Roads and Highways

Respondents expressed concern about a range of issues relating to the roads and highways within the village.

4.1 Road Network

Issues raised concerning the road network within the parish included the following:



You said ...

Build up of traffic at the end of the day at the junction on to the A169 (in the period that Flamingoland is open). Should have a mini roundabout or traffic lights at peak times.

No warning of the bridge over beck - should be 'Give Way' to one side. Vehicles going too fast, especially around parked cars - accidents caused. Dangerous busy junction with high speed vehicles travelling - traffic lights. Gritting of roundabouts and bridge not being done caused many hazards to school children waiting for bus and accidents on the bridge.

The road between Kirby Misperton and Little Barugh is a disgrace for cars never mind coaches. In winter it's like driving up a stream, in summer a series of potholes.

Action:

We will continue to put pressure on the North Yorkshire Highways Authority for improvements in all these areas.

4.2 Parking

The majority of respondents said they were not aware of problems with the parking of vehicles in the village. However there were suggestions for restrictions from 27% of respondents, particularly near the chapel and in cul-de-sacs.

4.3 Footpaths

Concern about the absence of or state of existing footpaths was raised by a number of residents.



You said ...

Footpath (opposite Church) House "Chestnut" very dirty road not good. Rain water - car drive fast, water splash footpath.

A footpath through a field to Habton has been blocked for a long time. Walking on Habton Rd is hazardous as speeding is common place.

It is a shame that there are no footpaths on any of the roads out of the village - makes going for a walk unsafe.

The footpath next to Flamingo Land entrance opposite the caravan park needs cleaning of leaves and debris so you can use it and not walk on the road.

4.4 Bridleways and Cycle Routes

Respondents would like to see more cycle friendly routes in the area (60%) and maps/ leaflets showing local walks (77%)

Action:

We will work with the relevant county council departments (Rights of Way, Sport and Leisure, Health Services, Highways) to develop cycle friendly routes and get maps produced.

4.5 Street Lighting

Respondents were presented with a range of options regarding the provision of street lighting within the village.

	Response
All street lights in the village should be on during hours of darkness	18 (35%)
Street lights on side roads should be switched off between midnight and 6am to save electricity and cut down light pollution	15 (29%)
All street lights in the village should be switched off between midnight and 6am to save on electricity and cut down on light	16 (31%)
Other option (please provide details) "We live in Orchard Close and have no council lighting."	1 (2%)

Opinion regarding the timing of the street lights was evenly divided between the 3 options.

Action:

We will consult the statement on NYCC website regarding switching off of street lighting. We will then liaise with Highways Authority on possibility of switching off lights in side streets at night then consult with residents in individual streets.



Section 5: The Local Environment

Information was sought to enable the views of residents with regard to the handling of refuse, in the forms of litter and waste collection and to obtain suggestions to improve the general appearance of the village.

5.1 Litter

Over half the respondents felt there was a problem with litter in the village. The biggest areas of concern were the area around the bus stop and roundabout and the main road and grass verges on the road out to the A169. The roads to Little Barugh and Habton are also mentioned. Litter relating to Flamingoland visitors is mentioned either directly or in reference to 'in season'. A couple of people mention litter thrown from vehicles. Hardings Yard, leaves on the pavements and dog litter were also commented on.

More frequent cleaning by the Local Authority, more bins and the enforcement of fines seemed to be the most popular solutions.



You said ...

Extra bin at the bus stop plus a sign

Lids for recycling bins

Daily (or more!) cleaning by Flamingoland (it's 99% caused by their visitors).

Action:

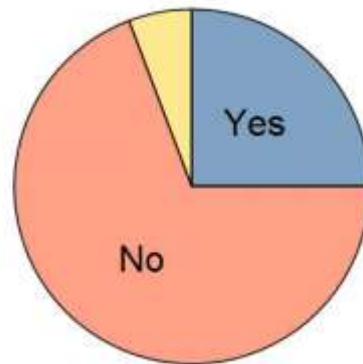
Work with Flamingoland and Ryedale District Council on ways to tackle litter on approaches to village.

Pass suggestion of lids/nets for recycling boxes on to Ryedale District Council.

5.2 Waste and Recycling

Most people who responded did not have any problems with the frequency and methods for waste and recycling collections, however about a quarter of respondents registered some dissatisfaction.

Yes	13	25%
No	36	69%
Not answered	3	6%



For the 25% who had a problem with waste collections, nearly half of them

cited the (proposed) charge for garden waste collections being a problem and about a quarter mentioned the lack of garden waste collections in winter as a problem.

Also mentioned were blue bags blowing away, bins left in middle of driveway, no recycling for food packaging, need for more frequent collections of household waste (1) or recycling (1) and no rebate on council tax for private collection.

Action:

Keep a close eye on any increase in flytipping, especially on private land, to ensure the policy of charging for garden waste collections does not have a detrimental effect for local residents.

5.3 Improvements to the Appearance of the Village

A number of options to improve the appearance of the village were suggested along with the opportunity for alternatives to be put forward.

The greatest concerns were about keeping vegetation in various locations under control., especially the roundabout and around the village signs at the entrances to the village.

More frequent cutting of grass areas	14	27%
Planting flowers in appropriate roadside positions	20	38%
Keeping grass and weeds around 'Kirby Misperton' signs cut back	32	62%
Replanting of the roundabout	22	42%
Other	7	13%
Other (suggestions)	11	21%



You said ...

Attention to the cemetery footpath

Information notices about area on entrances to village

Keep KM signs freshly painted, clean and unobstructed

Action:

Continue with the annual working party to maintain the roundabout.

Investigate the timing of the grass cutting, especially around the village signs and try to arrange cutting more frequently if necessary.

5.4 Drains and Sewers

Reports of problems with the drains and sewers in the village are often brought to the Parish Council. Further information about the problems, locations and impact was sought.

Smells from gullies	19	37%
Smells from sewerage works	13	25%
Flooding from gullies or drains	17	33%
Flooding from surface water	15	29%

In addition a large number of comments were made, indicating that this was of great concern to the villagers.

Locations identified as causing problems included:

- Main street—water bubbles up from the gullies during heavy rain
- By the roundabout
- The corner by the Church
- Near the Ashfield Hotel
- The approach to the village
- The corner of Shire Grove.

It is noted that these problems are in the lower half of the village.

Action:

We will work with the appropriate authorities to remedy the problems as they occur.

5.5 Kirby Misperton Gas Well

The questionnaire, upon which this document is based, was circulated before Third Energy announced its intention to seek permission to test for extracting gas using hydraulic fracturing.

76% of questionnaires received expressed a concern about operations at the gas well. 50% of these responses were expressing concern about the possibility of hydraulic fracturing being carried out at this site. Traffic movement was the next area of concern.



Section 6: Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

Most people did not have concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour, however two people said they were very concerned and eight said they had some concerns.

There were five comments, one that seems to be a peaceful village, three referring to seasonal problems from visitors to the village and Flamingoland, and one on noise and inappropriate behaviour from 'one or two families'.





Section 7: Communications and Facilities

7.1 Broadband

85% of people use broadband, of which 45% said the speed was not sufficient for their current and future needs.

7.2 Mobile Phones

88% of residents use a mobile phone or other device which uses the mobile phone network. Of these individuals, 61% said that the service was inadequate.

7.3 Mobile Phone Masts

Most people had no opinion about phone masts in the village, 31% felt we needed more, 23% felt we had enough. No one said we had too many.

We didn't specifically ask about concerns regarding any health risks associated with mobile phones, but the responses would imply that at least for those that answered the questionnaire this is not a concern (or that any concerns are outweighed by the benefits).

7.4 Phone Box

There were a small number of responses (17%) that said that having a public telephone in the village was important

Action:

Broadband: Ensure the local community is kept informed on superfast broadband for North Yorkshire.

Mobile Phone: No action.

Phone Box: No action required at present. However, if there are moves to remove the box, put forward the case for it to remain.

7.5 Postal Services

Currently the Post Office is open from 9am to 2pm Monday and Tuesday each week. Deliveries take place about lunch time Monday to Saturday inclusively. There is a post collection from the post box on Main Street each evening at 4pm, Monday to Friday. The Saturday collection is at 12:45pm.

Two thirds of people responding use the village post office. 10% of respondents said they needed better access to Post Office services

To the question Do you have any problems accessing services provided by the Post Office?

We received the following replies:

I am able to access all the services I need at the village Post Office	23	44%
I am able to access the services I need at other Post Offices or online	10	19%
I need better access to the services provided by the Post Office	5	10%
I do not use the Post Office	8	15%
Not answered	6	12%

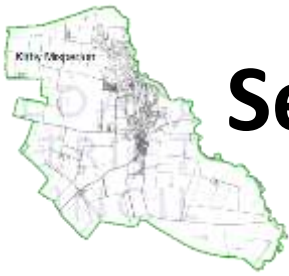
Postal deliveries too late in the day and when no one is in, general deliveries to the wrong address and drivers being unable to find a delivery address were all problems experienced by over half the respondents.

7.6 Village Shop

56% would find a shop in the village convenient for basic provisions, while a further 10% would use a shop more frequently for most groceries.

7.7 Library Service

The majority of respondents (69%) do not feel a library service in the village would be of benefit to them.



Section 8: Village Hall and Community Events

8.1 Village Hall

The present village hall was built in 1991. It offers facilities for local groups or private hire eg mother and toddlers, indoor bowls and room hire for groups of up to 200 people. There is a children’s play area, grass activity area and a substantial car park. It is the only amenity of this kind in the village.

The majority of respondents use the village hall. Frequency of use varies from less than once a month to weekly. Types of use include:

		Out of 35	Out of 52
Wedding or private function	18	51%	35%
Church fair	17	49%	33%
Quiz	15	43%	29%
Bingo	14	40%	27%
Carol service	12	34%	23%
Parish Council	10	29%	19%
Exercise class	9	26%	17%
Mums and tots	8	23%	15%
Theatre	7	20%	13%
Talks	7	20%	13%
Youth club	6	17%	12%
Bowls	3	9%	6%
Other	10	29%	19%

Action:
We will support the village hall in its activities where possible.

8.2 Sports Facilities

The only sports facilities are based at the village hall. Indoor sports facilities include short mat, bowls, non-competitive badminton, table tennis, basketball and 5 a side football. There are no outdoor sports facilities.

The responses received indicate there is little interest in sports, either in the village or away from the village.

Do you or any members of your family use the play or sports facilities at the Village Hall?

Yes	15	29%
No	34	65%
Not answered	3	6%

Do you use sports facilities not located in the village?

Yes	16	31%
No	31	60%
Not answered	5	10%

If the Village Hall had better sports facilities would you use them?

Yes	13	25%
No	28	54%
Not answered	11	21%

There was an interest expressed in badminton, tennis, netball, table tennis, football, archery, fencing, gym and circuit training.

Action:

Pass the results of the questionnaire to the village hall management committee for their consideration.



Section 9: Communications about Local Services

When questioned about the effectiveness of communications, 50% of respondents felt they were not sufficiently informed about local services provided by the district and county councils.

The preferred communication methods are broadly paper-based.

How do you prefer to be kept informed (tick all that apply)?

Leaflets (through letterbox)	39	75%
Village notice board	13	25%
Parish Council website	4	8%
Monthly village newsletter	41	79%
Relevant authorities' websites	2	4%
Social media	2	4%
Local newspaper	12	23%
Other	1	2%

The majority of respondents are able to report problems with local services.

Yes	31	60%
No	16	31%
Not answered	5	10%

Action:
Ensure preferences are taken into account when communicating with residents.

9.3 Local Involvement

We received the following responses to a request for suggestions to improve involvement in the local community.

- They either join in or don't!
- It's an individual decision they either will or wont
- Village shop
- Volunteer and don't be put off by the old ones.
- There a quite a few things all villagers can join in, but not many people join in. Maybe a fresh pair of eyes with new suggestions may help. I have been made to feel welcome most of the time I've been here and really appreciate the village and its occupiers.
- There are several events each month at he village hall but not many people attend. Exercise classes fail as village support is small. Village hall tries to provide social events and not just fund raise. Village Hall needs support to survive.
- Include everyone not just selected few.
- Welcome pack for new residents. More events for younger people who need to be encouraged to be part of village and welcomed.
- It is up to the community to make the effort if they wish to join in, you have to be prepared to meet half way.
- Join in to village events.
- How about a welcome pack? perhaps containing a map of the village.
- Everyone joins in.