

My Community Questionnaire - Fishtoft Results

100 paper copies of the questionnaire were given to one of the Fishtoft parish councillors who with the help of 2 volunteers from the parish took the questionnaires to residents home in various areas in the parish of Fishtoft and completed the questionnaire with residents face to face between December 2018 and January 2019. There was also an option to complete the questionnaire at a later date and a prepaid envelope for posting was given out or online if the resident preferred this option.

38 surveys were received.

Headline Results

- The majority of respondents used a number of local services in the area, these included shops, village Hall, post office and many others (see Q1)
- The majority of respondents rely on word of mouth/friends/neighbours to find out what is happening in the local area.
- 92% of respondents own a car
- 13% of respondents do not have access to the internet
- 27% of respondents felt they lack companionship (either, sometimes, often or always)
- 42% of respondents are over 65 years of age

Results

Q1. Do you use local services in your area?

The majority of respondents use local services in the area, a full detailed list of those services given is below: -

1.	No x 7
2.	Shop/s x 17
3.	Village Hall x 8
4.	Church x 5
5.	Forget me not club
6.	Gardening club x 2
7.	Swimming in Boston
8.	Farm shop x 2
9.	Co op x 3
10.	Hairdressers
11.	Butchers
12.	Post Office
13.	Garden Centre
14.	Attend and Older persons club in another area
15.	Hall for walking group
16.	Hall (in town) for indoor games
17.	One stop Shop – Eastwood Road
18.	Beesons Butchers – Eastwood Road
19.	St. Guthlacs Church – worship and events

n*= number of respondents

20.	St. Nicholas Church – events
21.	Johnson's x 2
22.	I use facilities because I can drive
23.	No shops too expensive, as a parent of three children i have little free time to engage in local activities although my children attend scouts
24.	Buses and Train
25.	Taxi
26.	Fish and Chip shop
27.	Chemist
28.	Doctors
29.	Over 70 club
30.	Community Choir
31.	Walk
32.	Park
33.	Playing field
34.	Yes but the nearest shop is quarter of a mile away and we need car to get there. Occasionally use church
35.	Spar
36.	We use Co op and one stop stores that's in our parish. Our pavilion unfortunately does not get used too much during the day usually evenings. The playing field is a great asset to our village and the play areas is always used especially during the school holidays . People love having family picnics which is lovely to see.
37.	Fuel station
38.	We occasionally visit church and attend the service
39.	Spar Priory road
40	Yes we use local shop occasionally but we have transport as others in village don't which I feel is very bad for them. village hall sometimes.

No, if not please specify what stops you from using/accessing them (tick all that apply)

10 responses were received:-

	n*	%
Caring responsibilities	1	10%
Cost	1	10%
Don't know	0	0
Have nobody to go with	0	0
Have issues	1	10%
Lack transport	2	20%
No time	2	20%
Not interested	3	30%

14 other comments were received, see a breakdown below, for a full list see appendix 1: -

- Lack of transport x 4
- Miscellaneous x 4
- No need x 1
- Not sure what is available x 4
- Shop in town x 1

n*= number of respondents

Q2. How do you find out about what is happening in your local area?

73 comments were received, a breakdown is below (for a full list see appendix 1).

- Church x 6
- Newspaper/Newsletter x 17
- Other x 7
- Posters/leaflets x 6
- Social Media/Internet x 15
- Unsure x 2
- Word of mouth/friends/family x 20

Q3. How would you like to be informed about what is happening in your local area in the future?

43 comments were received, a breakdown is below (for a full list of comments see appendix 1).

- Newspaper/Newsletter x 15
- Other x 12
- Social Media/Internet x 16

Q4. What activities would you like to see and take part in your community?

43 comments were received, a breakdown is below, for a full list see appendix 1.

- Coffee mornings x 4
- Nothing x 8
- Other x 9
- Social clubs x 15
- Sports x 7

Q5. What methods of transport do you currently use? (tick all that apply)

92% of the total of respondents to the survey own a car with 21% using public transport.

	n*
Bicycle	14
Community transport	0
Family and friends	3
Motorcycle	2
Own car	35
Public transport	8
Walk	21

5 other comments were received:-

n*= number of respondents

- Cant drive – no bus, rely on family to drive me to shops etc
- Local transport when possible, but Bus Service finishes early afternoon, Big shop use car, cant manage lots of shopping on bus
- Walk to work, cycling for pleasure, car for longer trips
- As a widow I rarely use public transport or taxis as I am afraid to travel alone especially in Boston Borough Council
- I feel from talking to people the bus service could be more reliable or frequent for those going to work, morning some have to rely on this service for employment

Q6 Do you have access to the Internet?

87% of respondents have access to the internet.

	n*	%
Yes	33	87%
No	5	13%

Q7. Do you want to learn more about how to use the internet?

6% of respondents would be interested in learning more about how to use the internet.

	n*	%
Yes	2	6%
No	33	94%

Q8. Do you feel that you lack companionship

57% of respondents do not feel that they lack companionship, with 3% feeling they 'always' lack companionship.

	n*	% (multiple responses)
Always	1	3%
Often	2	5%
Sometimes	7	19%
Rarely	6	16%
Never	21	57%

20 other comments were recieved:-

- Am self sufficient - am an artist so spend time on my hobby. Involved my self with charity work (BBC Children In need etc)
- At my age am happy to be at home which is shared with family
- Have family in are so don't feel isolated or lonely
- Varied, so do things together, but without wife would feel lonely and be glad of a social club.
- Married so do most things with partner but without partner would probably be lonely and be glad of a few social activities where i could meet other people
- Husband and wife do everything together - don't feel the need for any other company

n*= number of respondents

- The answers given reflect the fact that we are a couple (companionship), have the use of a car (self funded), have the mobility and health to access public transport and take part in activities which endurance exercise
- I live in a small close where we tend to look out for each other - but not for social activities. Disappointed the local bus service finishes about 3pm each day which restricts my use. Would suggest changing timetable to hourly instead of 1/2 hourly and running later in the day.
- Go out to work each day
- I am very saddened that there is an expectation for older people to use a computer, i consider myself to have reasonable intelligence but do not wish to possess a computer. Upset at the proposed closure of M&S in Boston this is a blow for older people
- Not a lot of things suitable for ladies without transport. No W.IT. No ladies craft Groups
- Fishtoft is a difficult and diverse parish and i feel its not easy to get people to mix and attend events. I also feel that to live in a rural/semi, rural area you need to be fit, healthy, a driver and sufficient money to have quality of life. Out of town supermarkets make it difficult for older/disabled people and M&S moving out of Boston is dreadful for so many people and out of town shopping also adds to the cost.
- No social community locally
- Communication, bus service, train services are all poor, Bus services stops at night and taxi prove too expensive.
- Internet very poor speed
- We would like a small local shop in the fishtoft village
- It would be nice to have small parish newsletter perhaps supported by local business placing adverts. i know Sibsey and Wrangle do one, listing all activities and also advertising local services
- A small shop in the village would be an asset
- Fishtoft definitely needs a shop rather than having to get a bus or drive 1.5 miles to the nearest town
- I feel some people don't go out a lot these days and prefer the comfort of their own home. Fishtoft could really do with a small shop, understand thee was once opposite the RedCow. I feel if you were purchasing a home in the village it would need to be because you wanted to special live here not because of facilities because really there are not any, to get these you need Transport. No use to people without really.

Q10 How old are you?

60% of respondents were 55 and over. With 5% of respondents being under 24 years and younger.

	n*	% (multiple responses)
Under 18	0	0
18-24	2	5%
25-34	3	8%
35-44	2	5%
45-54	8	21%
55-64	7	18%

n*= number of respondents

65 and over	16	42%
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Miscellaneous

1.	Caring sometimes restricts attending
2.	Through social media and village notice board
3.	No
4.	We do not have a village shop or many facilities available

Lack of public transport

1.	Live in very rural area so no public transport
2.	As a none driver I do feel cut off and isolated, unable to drive through epilepsy
3.	Lack of transport is an issue and i am dependent on friends and family for shopping and social activities
4.	Not sure of the local services other than bus service but don't need that at the moment

No need

1.	No need of the local services that i am aware of e.g bus services
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Not sure what is available

1.	Don't know of any activities going on that I might be interested in.
2.	Do not know about anything local – recently moved into area.
3.	None available
4.	None available that I know of

Shop in town

1.	Shop in town, don't use church
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Q2. How do you find out about what is happening in your local area?

Church

1.	Church x 4
2.	church newsletter
3.	younger Church Magazine

Newspaper/Newsletter

1.	Paper x 14
2.	Newsletter – used to have a church newsletter, now ceased
3.	Local Press
4.	Reading Boston Standard,

Other

1.	Dont bother, not interested like my own company
2.	Parish Council updates
3.	Don't know
4.	Any means
5.	Work
6.	Local radio
7.	Local clubs – lady's club, gardening club, swimming – Geoff Moulder

Posters/Leaflets/notice boards

1.	Posters x 2
2.	leaflets in library
3.	notice board
4.	leaflets through door
5.	Relay on local noticeboard to see what if anything is going on

Social Media/Internet

1.	Facebook, Social Media x 9
2.	Internet x 4
3.	Internet - 'keeping fishtoft safe'
4.	People who are on the websites usually join together in any case of emergency in the village if needed

Unsure

1.	No clue
2.	Don't know how to find out

Word of mouth/Friends/Family

1.	Word of mouth x 11
2.	Family and friends x 4
3.	Gossip x 2
4.	Neighbours x 2
5.	Next door
6.	usually walking the dogs on the field

Q3. How would you like to be informed about what is happening in your local area in the?

Newspaper/Newsletter

1.	Newsletter x 7
2.	Bulletin
3.	Newspaper x 4
4.	Magazine
5.	Has to be local papers
6.	parish e - magazine

Other

1.	Not interested in social activities
2.	Does much happen that is worth knowing about.
3.	As above as I do not think email should replace good old fashioned poster notice boards, newspaper etc.. whilst I do not use a P.C. I don't think the assumption should be made that everyone does and should.
4.	Leaflet through the door
5.	Coffee mornings, more for the children
6.	door to door
7.	Borough Council could be more involved
8.	Notice board is ok, so long as its up to date. Maybe parish newsletter whcih could be delivered and pay small charge for?
9.	Think the above covers a lot of community things think its down to the individual to make efforts to find out about cut what's going on locally 'you get out, what you put in' really
10.	Post
11.	Church
12.	Word of mouth

Posters/Leaflets/notice boards

1.	Posters x 2
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Social Media/Internet

1.	Social media
2.	Internet x 3
3.	Text x 2
4.	Email x 4
5.	Facebook x 3
6.	A local magazine via email would be amazing!
7.	I think the village facebook works well for us bit not for people who do not have access to internet, maybe more information could go on local radio

8.	Perhaps via email
9.	A dedicated site on the internet

Q4. What activities would you like to see and take part in your community?

Coffee mornings

1.	Coffee mornings.
2.	Maybe coffee mornings
3.	More coffee morning to use pavilion
4.	Coffee morning and better use of Rochford Tower Hall.

Nothing

1.	Not interested at 82
2.	Not interested
3.	Not interested in any particular activities
4.	Got family so not currently interested in local activities
5.	Nothing in particular
6.	We are satisfied with what is available
7.	None at the moment
8.	None in particular

Other

1.	Because i lead an insular life i honestly don't know. I am involved with caring for a parent and grandchild so not easy to get involved.
2.	More things geared for older people who do seem to be forgotten.
3.	All dog walkers behaving responsibly
4.	Possibly more family based activiites
5.	Any that take my interest. Not know of any activities taking place
6.	Voluntary rubbish call out
7.	Village Fete/show - local food stands, classic cars, machinery, Local entertainers, etc. More Activities in village halls - such as entertainers etc. More activities in village halls - such as entertainers, talks, video /film etc..
8.	Dog activities
9.	Music concerts

Social clubs

1.	Arts – Culture, Charity
2.	Gardener club
3.	Bowling alley
4.	Social clubs
5.	(Social activities) Dancing - anything to do with seeing people
6.	Cultural activities, arts, music, festivals more keep fit...
7.	Drama Theatre
8.	Book club
9.	not sure really, craft and arts would be an idea
10.	Bingo
11.	Knit and natter.

12.	Tuition to learn to play cards, walking groups. Supper clubs with speakers, Art and activity groups for adults who are carers and their partners.
13.	family social events in church hall,
14.	Social meetings. Organised outings
15.	craft related sessions in the pavillion would be nice, bring the community together, however alot of people work during the day. There is community fundraising done in the area already by local people

Sports

1.	Keep fit
2.	Sport
3.	Healthy activities - keep fit, yoga etc,
4.	More sports awareness on the field
5.	more sport
6.	cricket club
7.	walking group