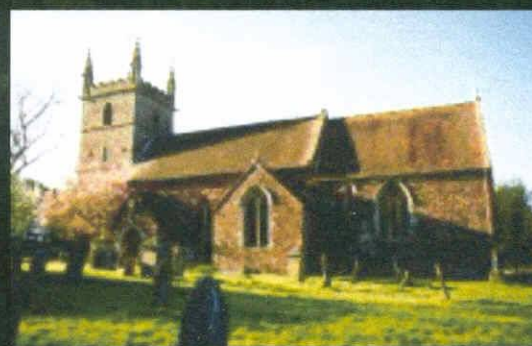


# Longhope Parish Plan 2005



# LONGHOPE PARISH PLAN

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## 1. AN INTRODUCTION



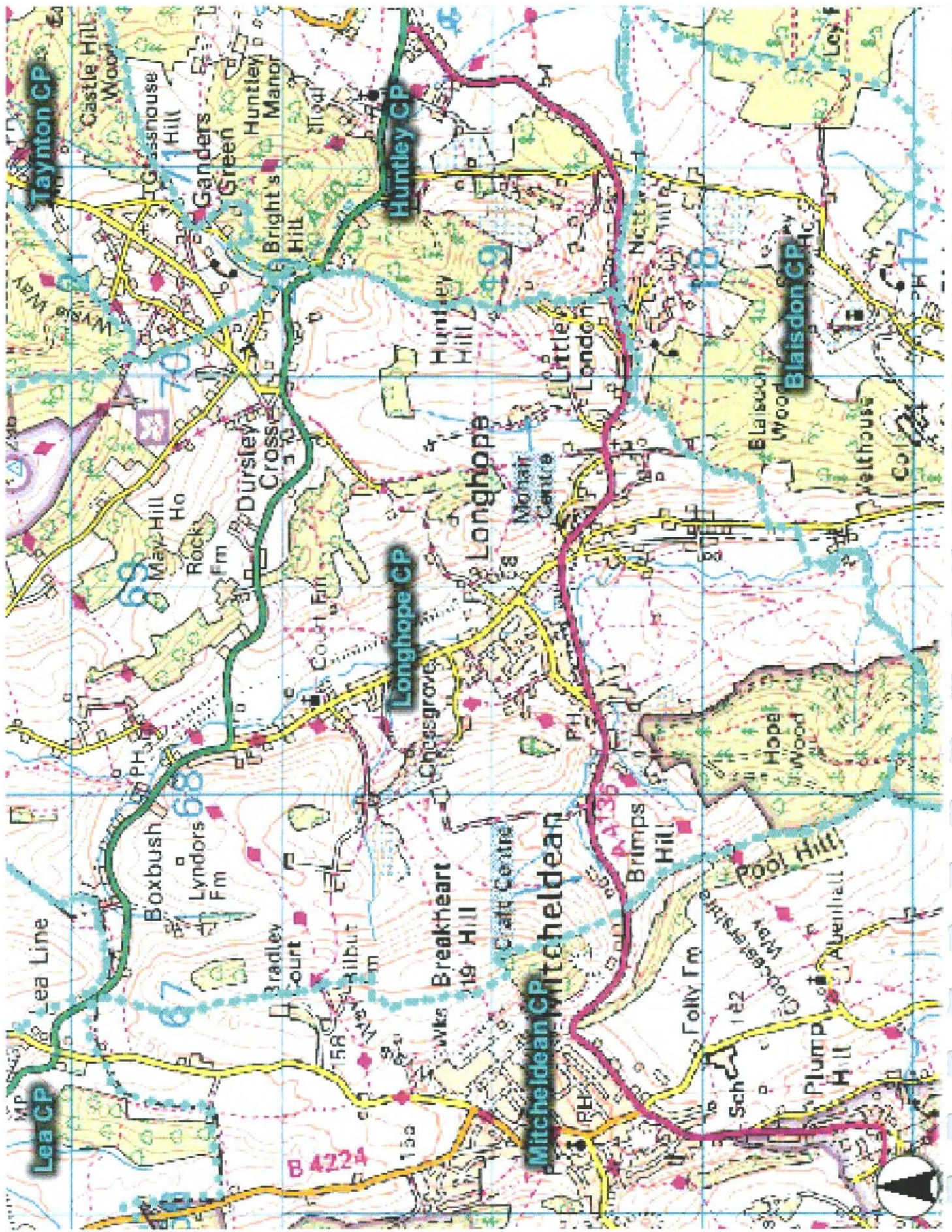
The Domesday Book referred to the Manor of Hope as in the Westbury Hundred and the parish as possessing four ox-drawn ploughs. It is likely that Court Farm was the site of the medieval manor house. This complex together with the adjacent church is the geographical centre of the parish if not the present Longhope village itself.

A Roman road ran straight from Gloucester to the place that later became Little London. This road zigzagged down the hill and it is assumed that it then followed the alignment of Church Road through the Conservation Area, towards Ariconium near to Ross. From the old road ancient 'hollow ways', including the lanes of Hobbs, Chessgrove, Napping, School and Coplars, lead to the hills on each side of the valley to fields, woods and farmsteads which still today give the landscape backcloth to the village.

Longhope Brook was once a major source of power to the settlement. A furnace for smelting iron ore from the Forest of Dean using waterpower for the machinery is reported to have existed in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century not far from the Church. A considerable quantity of slag has been found in the orchard east of the church and there are reported to be fragments of stonewall projecting in this area, which may indicate the relocation of the furnace buildings. In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, a tannery was created on Church Road using waterpower, and later steam-power, which used the natural resources of the coppice from the woods on the hillsides. This site is still a centre for commerce and provides a local employment base.

The first edition Ordnance Survey Maps indicate a sporadic straggle of buildings arranged in a linear form alongside the main roads through the village. Around the junction of Old Monmouth Road and Church Road, there was a nucleus of properties, but to the north there were large gaps between the buildings. In the Post War years there has been a dramatic increase in the number of houses built in Longhope and the village has expanded and infilling has taken place. The main through roads now bypass the village, although the traffic on the realigned A4136 still affects parts of the Conservation Area.







## 2. THE APPRAISAL



### 2.1 THE LAST APPRAISAL

In 1990, prompted by Councillors Liz Boait and Joy Henbest, a committee was formed to undertake a Village Appraisal. The appraisal's purpose was to identify and report what residents saw as the most important aspects of the parish and its life. The report was to serve as a comprehensive guide to planners, developers, councillors and community-minded villagers where actions would affect Longhope. The committee members delivered and collected the questionnaires from every household in the parish. Their efforts were rewarded with an amazing response rate of 74%. The resulting report was published and distributed in 1991.

### 2.2 HOW THE APPRAISAL WAS CONDUCTED

A grant was given by the Countryside Agency to enable Longhope to write a Parish Plan. Parish Plans are intended to encourage rural communities to have a greater say in the future of their parishes. A Steering Committee was formed and they set about the process of consultation. The first was a public meeting, where residents were asked to set out their thoughts in a simple chart:



## **STRENGTHS**

Post Office and local shop  
Three Public Houses  
Good Recreation Ground and Village Hall  
Small businesses  
Countryside - footpaths  
Recycling  
Good age range of population  
School and Church  
Local clubs  
Location/environment

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

New School  
Training schemes for school leavers  
Support local businesses  
Creation of Youth Café  
Affordable new housing  
Improve recreation/play facilities  
Improve parking  
New comers to village

## **WEAKNESSES**

Weak Police presence  
Affordable Housing  
Public Transport  
Village Hall needs refurbishment  
More amenities for elderly people  
More amenities for young people  
No centre to the village  
Children's play area  
Road safety and parking  
Lack of local employment

## **THREATS**

Loss of traditional village life  
Rising house prices  
Risk of becoming dormitory  
Village used as cut through  
Inappropriate development  
Loss of local industry  
Vandalism  
Diminishing local employment

## **2.3 HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE**

Next a questionnaire was drafted and in September 2003, it was delivered to every household in the Parish. Of the 613 households, 234 replied, providing a response rate of 38%. A summary of these results was produced in the form of a leaflet; this was also delivered to each parish household.

The responses to the questionnaire proved valuable in providing a 'snap shot' of the community's perception of life in the parish. The Steering Committee began drafting the Parish Plan, but more consultation was needed.

## **2.4 FINAL CONSULTATION**

The final consultation took place at the village fete. The draft Parish Plan was displayed and residents of the parish were encouraged to put forward further suggestions.

## **2.5 THE FINAL DOCUMENT 2005 - 2015**

The final draft of the Parish Plan will be printed and distributed to key agencies and authorities such as the District and County Council. A copy of the Parish Plan is available for public inspection at the Post Office, at Mitcheldean Library or by contacting the Parish Clerk – Linda Tetlow on 01594 824946.

### 3. COMMUNITY STRATEGY



#### 3.1 COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2004-14

Gloucestershire County Council have based their strategy around the following themes:

A thriving economy  
Living life to the full  
A safe county

Learning and opportunity for all  
A better environment  
Thriving communities



#### 3.2 COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2004-09

**Health and Leisure** – aims to improve the health of the community, tackle inequalities in health, develop and promote enjoyment of leisure activities.

**Crime and community safety** – aims to reduce crime and the fear of crime, increasing community safety and quality of life.

**Lifelong Education and learning** – by providing support so that people can learn and develop their skills throughout their lives.

**Environment** – to protect and enhance what is special about our natural and built environment to create a sustainable landscape, rich in wildlife for the benefit of future generations.

**Business economy and tourism** – to develop and support a prosperous economy and promote sustainable tourism.

**Arts** – to create an environment where creativity and distinction in the arts are encouraged.

**Housing** – ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home.

**Access to services** – to improve transport within the district and enable better access to services for all.



### **3.3 HOW DO WE FIT IN?**

The strategies at County and District level are intended as a framework. Our Parish Plan seeks to link positively within the framework and support the broader aspirations.

### **3.4 LONGHOPE PARISH PLAN COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- Reduce the fear of crime within the community, by working with the Police to tackle local crime
- Support appropriate employment opportunities and local businesses within the parish
- Protect against discrimination of individuals
- Engage positively with the community when tackling their concerns
- Promote opportunities for life long learning
- Support and encourage local clubs and activities
- Provision of sport and leisure opportunities for all
- Support existing amenities and encourage new facilities
- Support voluntary workers such as meals on wheels

### **3.5 COMMUNITY HEALTH**

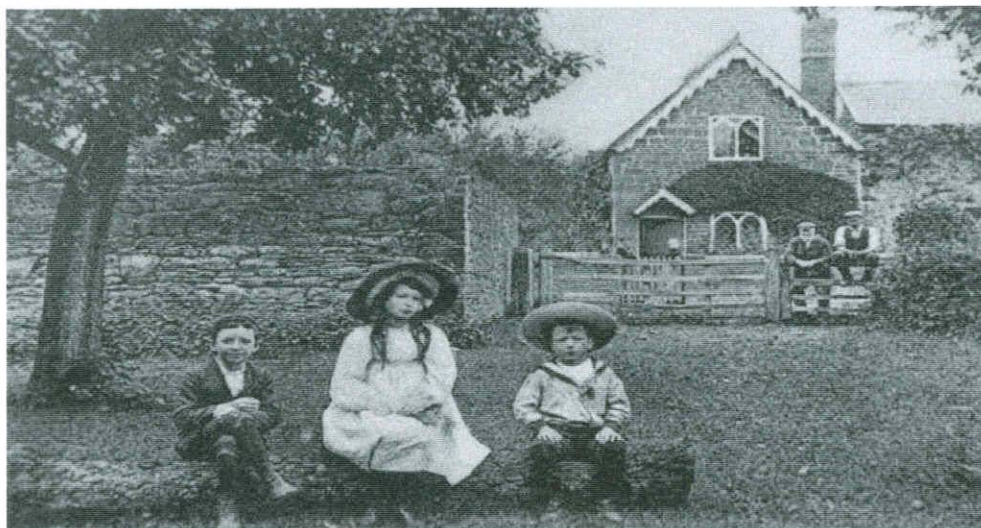
West Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust (PCT) covers Gloucester, Forest of Dean and part of Tewkesbury – a population of approximately 223,000.

The nearest doctor's surgery to the parish is at Mitcheldean. There are buses to Mitcheldean and surgery staff will endeavour to arrange appointments in accordance with bus timetables. The surgery visited both village halls at Longhope and Huntley this winter to give flu vaccinations. Mitcheldean also has a chemist, which upon request can deliver prescriptions to Longhope Post Office.

With a population of over 300 over the age of 65, effective health care services are essential. The Parish Council must consult with the PCT to ensure that the health of the community is of the highest standard.

## 4. POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD

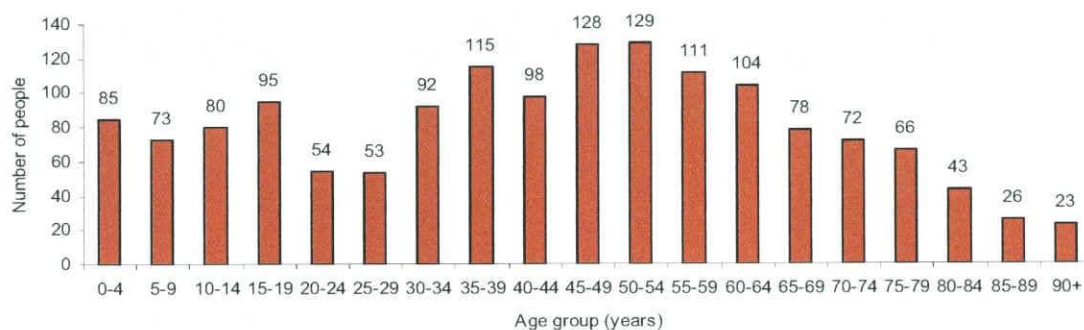
### 4.1 POPULATION SINCE 1900



	Population	Dwellings
1901	663	220
1951	1051	322
1991	1500	550

### 4.1 2001 CENSUS

The population of Longhope parish according the 2001 Census is 1525 people living in 613 homes. The Census also provides a breakdown of the age of population:



Based upon a total population and 613 properties, the average population per household is 2.49.



## 4.2 INDEX OF DEPRIVATION

Blaisdon and Longhope ward is 4083<sup>rd</sup> out of a total of 8414 wards in England (where 1 is the most deprived), indicating that the ward is in the top 52% of least deprived wards in England.

*Data from Gloucestershire County Council.*

## 4.4 HOUSE PRICES (number of sales):

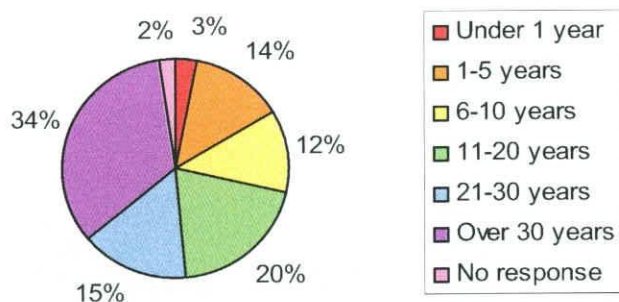
	Jan 2005	Jan-March 04	Oct-Dec 03
Detached	<b>£279,493</b> (8)	<b>£279,250</b> (10)	<b>£228,750</b> (4)
Semi-detached	<b>£131,862</b> (4)	<b>£121,999</b> (8)	<b>£122,856</b> (8)
Terraced	<b>£127,200</b> (5)	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>

*Data from the Land Registry for properties from GL17 0 postcode area.*

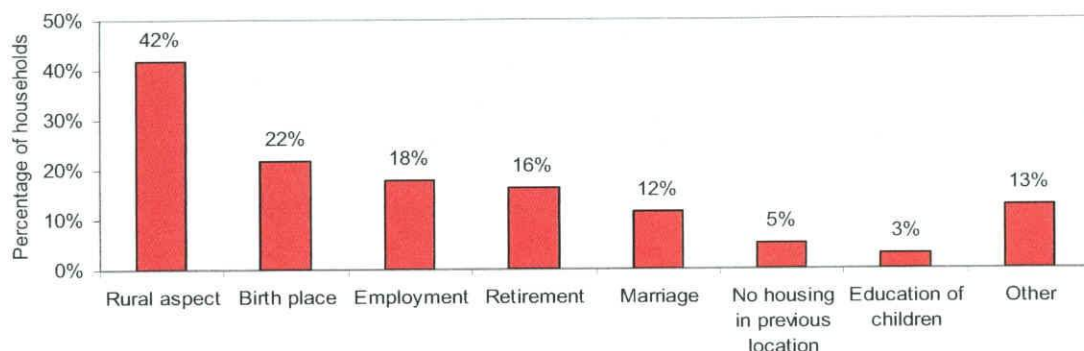


## 4.5 WHAT YOU TOLD US

The Parish Plan questionnaire (of 234 household replies) showed that around 7 in 10 of the households (69%) indicated that their family has lived in the parish for over 10 years, while the families of approximately a third of the households have lived in Longhope for over 30 years. 7 households (3%) have lived in the parish for under a year.



The survey revealed that nearly half of resident's chose to live in Longhope because of the 'rural aspect'.



#### 4.6 COMMENT

If we compare the population figures in 1991 to the latest Census we can see that the population has remained almost static. However, the trend indicates that the same population are living in a greater number of dwellings, giving a lower number of people per household.

The latest information from the Land Registry shows that the average house price in the parish (based on 17 sales) is £199,964. These high prices indicate that the parish is currently a desirable place to live. House prices are discussed further in chapter 5 Planning & Development.

#### 4.7 ACTIONS

Use census information to monitor population trends so that essential services are adequate for all ages.



## 5. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



### 5.1 WHAT WAS SAID IN 1991

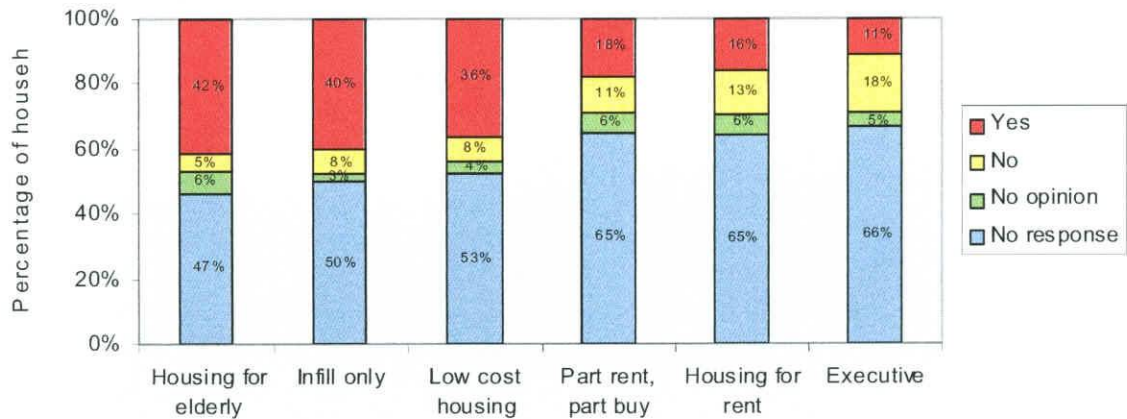
The 1991 appraisal concluded that the majority of residents were in favour of low cost housing for young people, and there was strong support for the conversion of redundant buildings. Sheltered housing for the elderly was considered a priority and 85% of respondents were against any form of large-scale development.

### 5.2 WHAT YOU TOLD US

The survey told us that 93% of residents own their own home.

	Percentage of households	Number of households
Privately owned	93%	217
Privately rented	3%	7
Housing Association rented	3%	7
Other (mobile/park home)	1%	2
Other (unspecified)	0.5%	1

We asked what type of housing should be built in the parish in the future?



Many commented that they strongly supported the idea of sheltered accommodation within the parish. Most agreed that 'brown field' should be earmarked for building regenerated in preference to green field sites. There was little support for the provision of more executive homes in the parish.

### 5.3 WHAT THE DISTRICT COUNCIL SAYS ABOUT US

#### AN EXTRACT FROM CHAPTER 14 OF THE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

26.5 Longhope is a large village with a range of services and employment. The attractive countryside around the village forms a general constraint to development beyond the Defined Settlement Boundary. Further expansion of the village into the surrounding high quality and attractive landscape will be resisted.

26.6 The strategy allocates a site of 0.98 hectares for the development of housing and amenity open space. The site is capable of accommodating approximately 15 new dwellings, including a proportion of houses to meet local (affordable) needs. Development of this site will be supported in addition to opportunities for the development of small groups and single dwellings within the settlement boundary.

26.7 A large part of the village was designated as Conservation Area in March 1990 and will continue to be protected by specific Plan policies. Particular attention will be paid to proposals for development within this area. It may be necessary to submit archaeological appraisals with development proposals.

26.8 There are several employment sites in Longhope, which offer potential for additional job opportunities arising from intensification or redevelopment. These sites make a significant environmental impact upon the village both through their location and the use of heavy goods vehicles. Future development will be restricted within the boundaries of the sites. Proposals for further employment development will be supported where there are accompanying environmental improvements.

26.10 A number of important Open Areas have been identified. These include the recreation ground, churchyard, an open area of amenity value between Church



Road and the Wend and a prominent open area alongside the A4136. These areas will be protected from development to ensure that they continue to provide for local amenity and contribute to the form and setting of the village.



#### Housing Allocation - Rectory Meadow and School Lane

##### **RF. Longhope 1**

**0.98 hectares of land between School Lane and Rectory Meadow will be allocated for the provision of approximately 15 new dwellings by new build and conversion and to include 0.5 hectares of open space. The development will be required to:**

- 1. Provide vehicular access from School Lane and Rectory Meadow.**
- 2. Provide improved off street parking for the residents of Rectory Meadow.**
- 3. Provide for strategic landscaping to the southern and western boundaries, and within the site, incorporating existing trees, hedgerows and other landscape features where appropriate.**
- 4. Provide safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling links to local services.**
- 5. Provide for an appropriate number of affordable housing units.**
- 6. Provide an appropriate contribution to educational provision for the prospective occupiers of the site.**
- 7. Provide an appropriate contribution to the provision or enhancement of community facilities.**

26.11 The Plan will support proposals, which bring forward a development, which secures a mix of dwelling sizes. The Forest of Dean District Council will seek to negotiate an appropriate number of affordable housing units to meet local need for housing over the Plan period. The allocation includes the site of Longhope Primary School, which will provide the opportunity for redevelopment following the recent relocation of the school to a site within the centre of the village.



26.12 The site is open in nature and whilst forming part of the open countryside is well contained by the rising contour of the land to the northwest, by existing hedgerows, and by existing development. Longhope is within the ridges and valleys landscape as described in the Landscape Character Assessment, which has been published as supplementary guidance. The layout and design of new development should complement the characteristics of this landscape. It should also take into account the characteristics identified in the Conservation Area Assessment and propose a design suitable for that area. Careful consideration should be given to enhance the setting of the development.

26.13 Elsewhere within the Defined Settlement Boundary there are likely to be only limited opportunities for further residential development. The Plan will restrict development to small groups and single dwellings only, reflecting the compact nature of the core of the village and other areas of a more spacious appearance and settled character, which should remain largely undisturbed.

26.14 Longhope's Conservation Area is not uniform in character and there are certain areas exhibiting special characteristics. Around the centre of the village a fairly tight form of development has evolved, with the stone boundary walls adding to the sense of enclosure. Other parts of the village have a more open and spacious development pattern created by the arrangement of detached dwellings, private gardens, small orchards and agricultural enclosures. In the southeastern extremity of the Conservation Area, a scatter of dwellings served by a narrow and steep lane ascends the side of the hill, providing attractive views from the western approach. Any proposals for development within the Conservation Area will be expected to compliment the established character of the settlement.



The village's estate in progress

#### **5.4 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY**

A Housing Needs Survey was conducted in May 2004 to which 168 households responded. The survey has demonstrated a need for 'affordable housing'. By implementing the proposed redevelopment of the Longhope school site this need can be addressed. This will ensure that younger members of the community will have the opportunity to remain in the parish. The survey also highlighted the need for people to register their housing need with the local authority. The problem stems from the fact that young people are unable to afford current house prices, so simply move away. If a 'need' is not registered with the local authority then it will be more difficult to change housing policy.

Also highlighted by the survey was the need to provide 'sheltered accommodation' within the parish. There are several retirement homes in the area, but no provision for independent living. This must be taken into account in future community development.



## 5.5 COMMENT

As in 1991, it seems parishioners remain concerned about the lack of affordable and sheltered housing. Similarly, opinions also reflect that the parish has sufficient 'executive type homes'.

The latest figures from the Land Registry show that the average house price is £199,964. High prices together with a lack of properties on the market are making it increasingly difficult for young people to remain in the parish. The District Council has made provision in the local plan that new developments should comprise of 40% affordable housing. Another alternative to rising costs is 'part buy schemes' offered by some housing associations.

Within the parish there are care homes for the elderly however, there is currently no provision for people to live independently. If sheltered accommodation was provided it would perhaps free up more family sized properties, whilst allowing long-term residents to remain in the parish.

It is important that when considering suitable designs for future development that the Parish Council should consider building materials that compliment the rural character of the parish. Consideration should also be given to parking facilities; in a rural community it is not unusual for a family to own two or more cars. The new school for example has had a negative impact because of the lack of parking. Although there is a 7 tonne weight limit on Church Road, many large vehicles need access to service the industrial estate. Delivery times often conflict with school times, causing congestion and inconvenience to neighbours. This illustrates the need to assess the impact of future development on the highway with regard to increased turning movements.

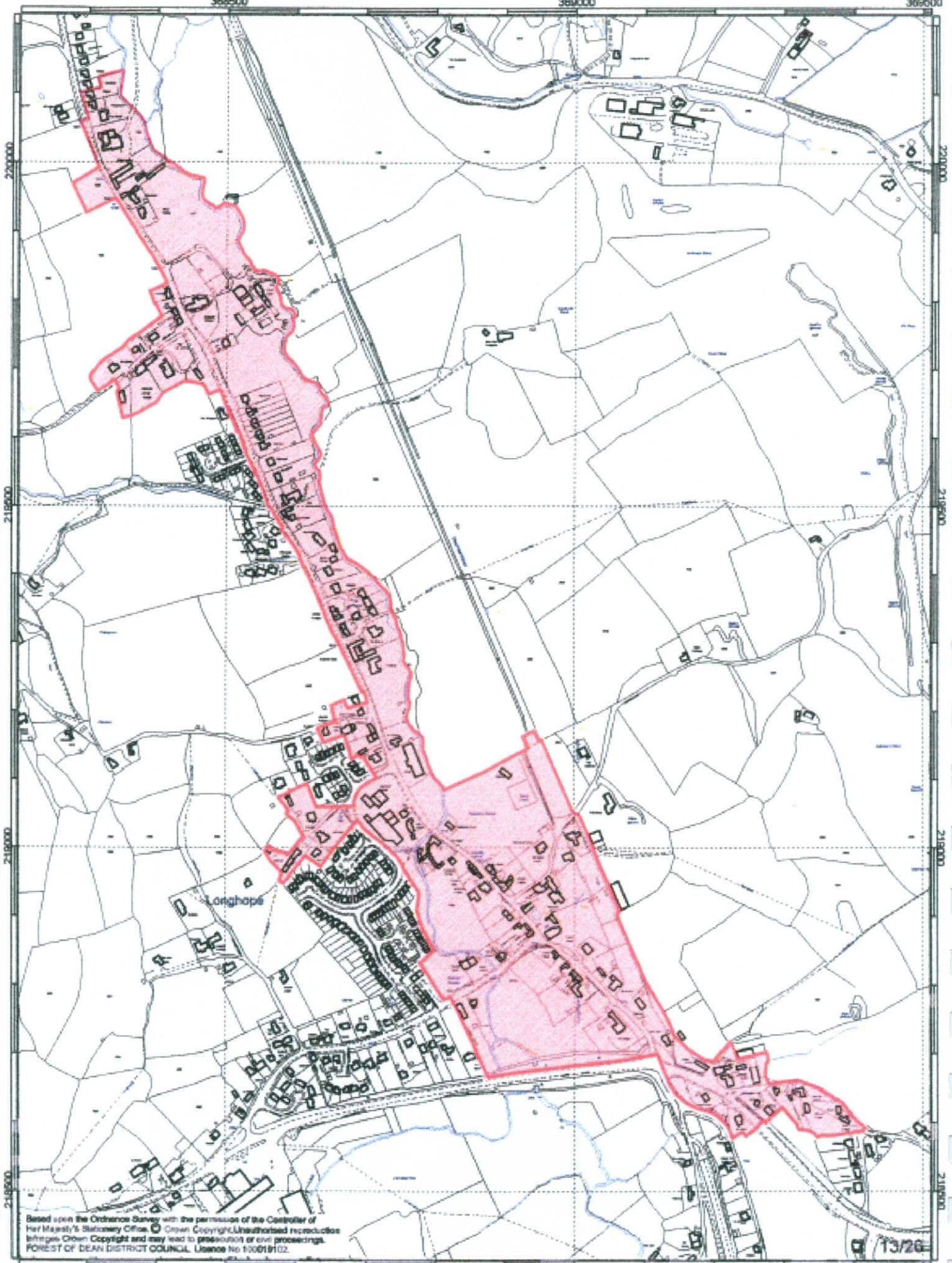


## 5.6 ACTIONS

- To preserve the heritage and rural character of the Parish
- Protect against inappropriate development
- Buildings materials should be in keeping with the rural character
- Affordable housing must be reserved for the young people of the parish
- Parish Council to write Village Design Statement as a priority
- Use the Planning process to improve village amenities
- Telecommunications masts to be sited away from residential areas
- Restrict light pollution of the countryside
- Ensure future development provides for the needs of the community
- Investigate the viability of providing sheltered housing for the elderly
- Monitor development compliance through enforcement
- Encourage people to register with the local authority for housing needs
- Parish Council to consider carefully parking and highway access on new developments
- Signs and advertising that does not detract from the natural and built environment







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# CONSERVATION AREA - LONGHOPE

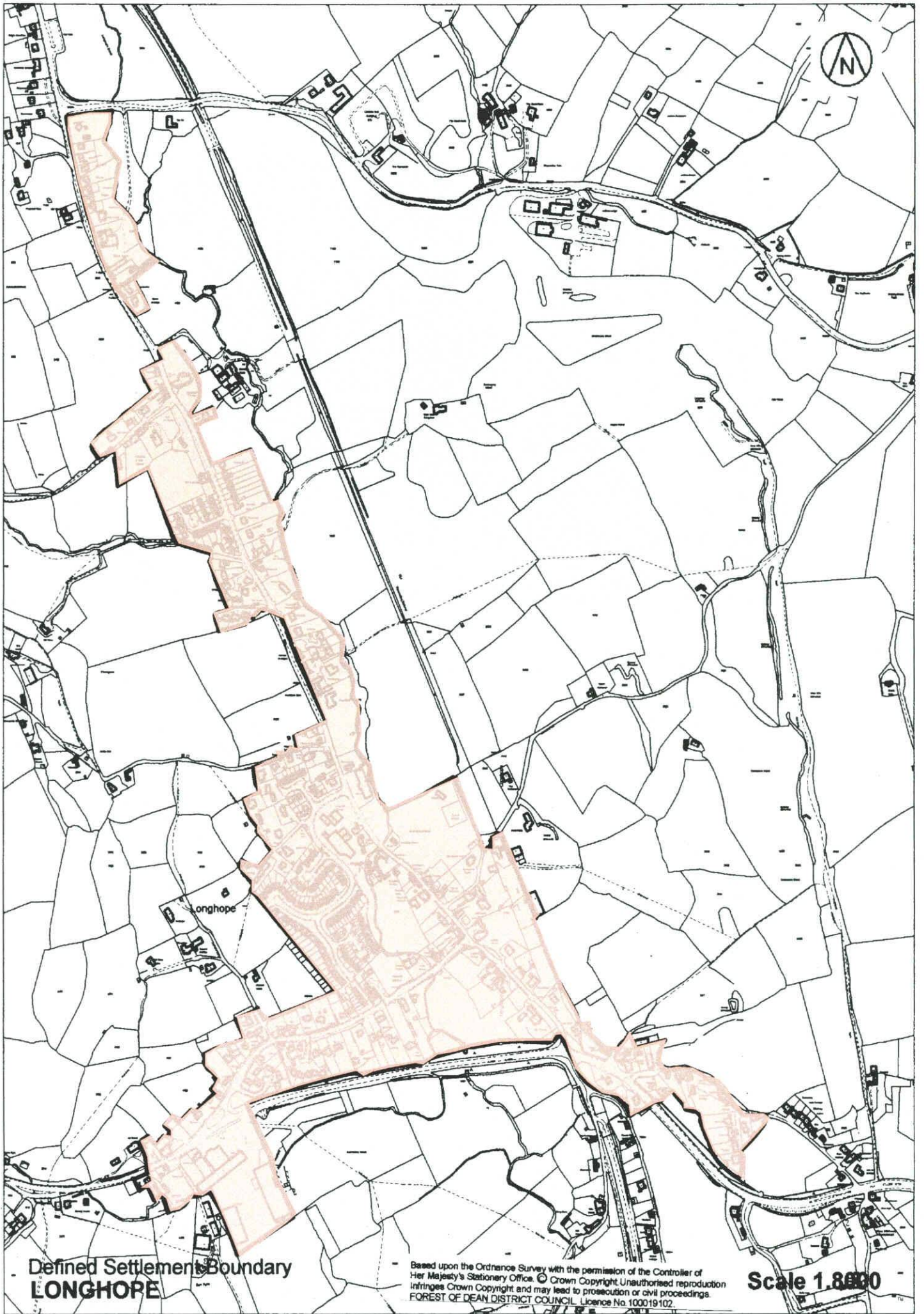
S.D.HANNABY, Head of Planning Services, Council Offices, Coleford, Glos.

Scale 1.7000

Date Designated 15.03.90.

Amended 19.04.01.





Defined Settlement Boundary  
**LONGHOPE**

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## 6. EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY

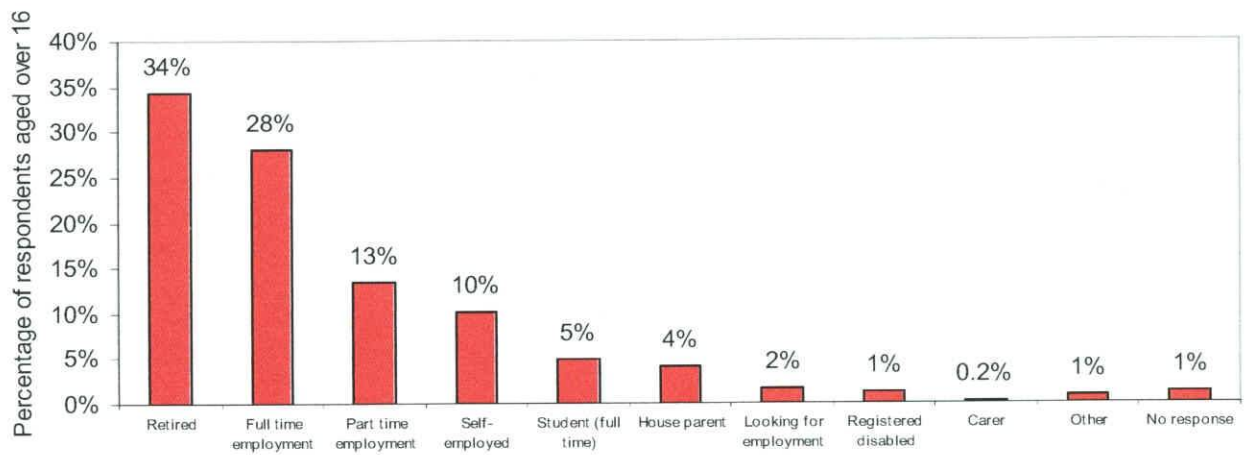


### 6.1 WHAT WAS SAID IN 1991?

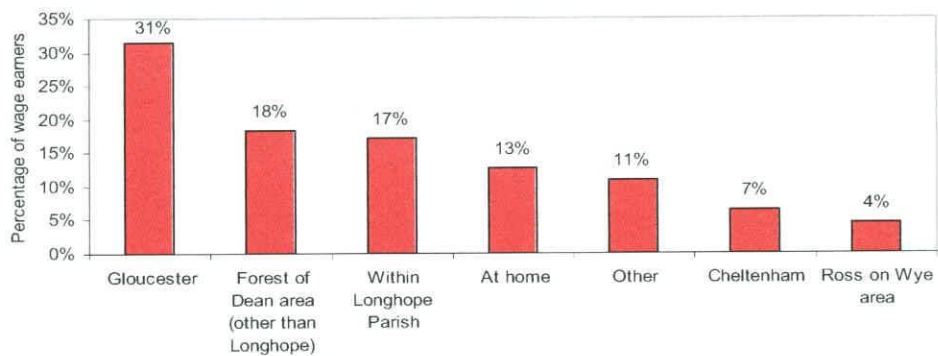
The survey conducted in 1991 concluded that industrial development was seen as important. Some 38% of residents favoured positioning new industry alongside the existing, although 37% said they would prefer no more industry in the village at all.

### 6.2 WHAT YOU TOLD US

The questionnaire asked households to indicate the number of people in the household over 16 years of age belonging to the following groups:



Longhope Industrial Estate





*Where people travel to their place of employment*

Whilst the replies to the questionnaire do not represent the entire population, it does provide an interesting 'snapshot'. From the above results, 71% of the community work outside the Parish, so the threat of becoming 'dormitory' must be recognised. However, on the positive side the number of people employed and working from Longhope amounts to 30%. It is hoped that by supporting local businesses and the enabling of Broadband there will be further opportunity to work from home in the future.

The survey asked how many households run a business from the parish. The response was 27 businesses; the following represent those who do not employ anyone:

Agricultural	Builder
Consultancy	Domestic appliance repair
Farming	Haulage
Landscape Gardener/Milkman	Ltd Co – Technical writing & training
Management/training consultancy	Marketing
Painter & decorator	Plumbing and heating
Post Office	Property development & letting
Wood sculpture	

The businesses in the table below provided details of the number of employees:

	Employees		
	Total	From Longhope	% From Longhope
Nursing home	30	12	40%
Transport warehousing etc.	132	9	7%
Industrial estate	33	7	21%
(Not specified)	(Not specified)	6	?
Farming/craft centre	6	5	83%
Childcare	Will employ 5-6	4 so far	67% or 80%
Residential home for elderly	16	4	25%
Supply of staff	40+	2	Max. 5%
Forestry	6	2	33%
Clock/watch/jewellery repairs	1	1*	100%
Agriculture & consulting	2	0	0%
Haulage	12	(Not specified)	0%?



### **6.3 COMMENT**

There are a large number of businesses within the parish, which provide vital employment to the community. The future success of the parish and survival of its amenities are essential in building a sustainable economy. Appropriate employment initiatives, especially for the young are essential if the parish is to retain its vibrancy and a population balance.

Business Link has an office at Vantage Business Park, it is part government funded, and offers help and advice to new and existing businesses. There is also the Longhope Businessman's Association.

### **6.4 ACTIONS**

- Support and encourage local business and trades people
- Encourage local business to start training initiatives
- Increase number of people working from home via Broadband



## **7. ENVIRONMENT**



### **7.1 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

Longhope, as its name implies is a long enclosed valley. Many of the houses in the village itself are located along the valley floor. Land throughout the parish is predominately agricultural, with many areas of important woodland habitat. There are three Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the parish. May Hill was enclosed by an act of Parliament in 1873. May Hill stands 973 feet above sea level, the National Trust purchased it in 1935. A Conservation Area designated in April 2001 protects much of Longhope (See 5.7). The District Council's Character Appraisal was published in April 2001. It confirms that there are a number of buildings that are important both architecturally and historically.

### **7.2 WHAT WAS SAID IN 1991?**

Most residents were keen to observe and protect local wildlife and habitat. The questionnaire confirmed that the appearance of the parish was of particular importance to the community. Some 65% of respondents were in favour of new woods, ponds and local nature reserves. An even greater number were concerned about pollution of streams and other forms of damage to the countryside.

### **7.3 LITTER & GRAFITTI**

You told us through the Parish Plan questionnaire that litter is perceived as a problem. It is not only unsightly, but represents a health hazard to the community as well as to wildlife. The problem is not confined to the areas of housing; it is a common sight in hedgerows and verges along the main roads. Road sweeping and litter picking are essential services, and we as a parish must ensure that these services are maintained and improved in the future. However, the greatest responsibility for litter rests with the

community itself. We must promote a culture of responsibility and take pride in our environment.

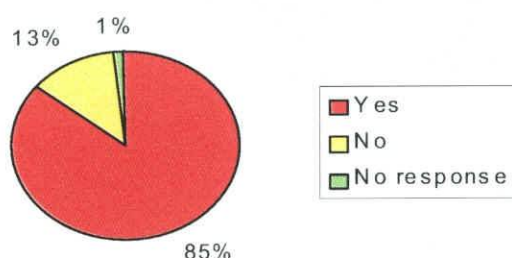
Graffiti has also been highlighted as a problem, particularly in the bus shelter on the Latchen. Graffiti is not only unsightly but time consuming to remove. The bus shelters are maintained by the Parish Council therefore, any vandalism or graffiti must be paid for from the public purse. In the longer term, litter and graffiti make an area less desirable to live in. Again much of the responsibility for eradicating this problem must lie with the community itself.

'Fly tipping' is on the increase, if you see an incident report it to the Police or, the District Council or, the Parish Council.

'Dog fouling' was of particular concern on the Recreation Ground where children play. This needs to be addressed by fencing the play area and providing a 'dog waste bin'. There is no byelaw excluding dogs therefore, owners must be encouraged to be responsible.

## 7.4 RECYCLING

*The survey asked householders if they use the current recycling facilities*



*Residents were also asked if there were any additional facilities that could be provided.*

	Percentage Of households	Number of households	Details where given
Plastic	20%	47	<input type="checkbox"/> We appreciate there are difficulties
Cardboard	8%	19	
Clothes	6%	14	<input type="checkbox"/> Disposal of serviceable clothing
Shoes	2%	4	
Plastic bags	2%	4	
Foil	1%	2	<input type="checkbox"/> e.g. milk bottle tops
Tins/cans	1%	2	
Oil, paint etc.	1%	2	<input type="checkbox"/> Facility for paint/oil half used cans & other toxic.
Glossy paper	0.5%	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Junk mail, shiny brochures, shopping catalogues.
Rags	0.5%	1	



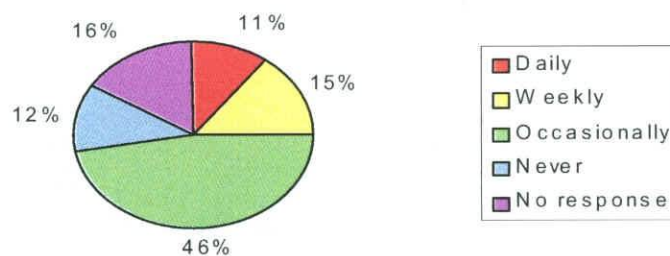
The kerbside collections provided by the District Council have proved popular although some people commented that the collections should be weekly not fortnightly. The current system operates collection of 'green boxes' for glass, tins and newspapers on week one. The following week 'green wheelies' are collected containing 'green garden waste'. Now that the Recycling Centre in Longhope has been removed, the nearest recycling facility is in Mitcheldean. The community must support recycling initiatives to ensure a sustainable future. It has been noted that the 'green boxes' when emptied are extremely lightweight and are easily blown around. The wheelie bins on the pavement can also pose a hazard to pedestrians.

The County Council have launched an initiative aimed at reducing waste going into landfill sites. One of these aims is to encourage mums to choose reusable nappies. In Gloucestershire alone 69,000 disposable nappies are thrown away each year. It takes 500 years for a single nappy to biodegrade. Reusable nappies are kind to the environment and can save parents up to £500 on the first baby. More information and a trial pack is available on tel: 01242 604312.

## 7.5 FOOTPATHS

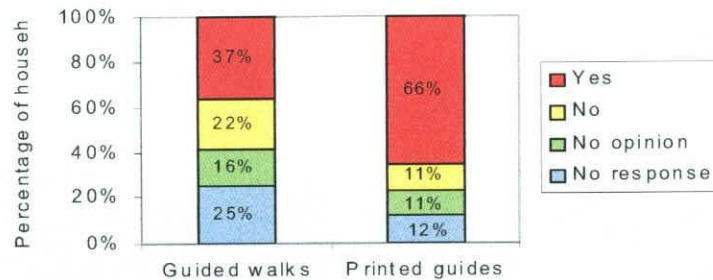


The survey indicated that the rural footpaths are very popular. We asked how often do you use the recognised footpaths within the parish?



The network of paths across the Parish provides an infinite variety of walks through open fields and secluded woodlands. It is vital to the character of the parish that these paths continue to be maintained as accessible public rights of way.

*We asked residents would they support either of the following:*



It is hoped that funding can be secured to provide a comprehensive map of parish walks. This could be sited on the Recreation Ground and could include historical points of interest. This would be a valuable local resource as well as encouraging tourism.

## 7.6 STREETLIGHTING

The Crime & Disorder Act of 1998 states that local councils have a duty to ensure adequate street lighting. Areas that are poorly lit can be attractive to incidents of criminal activity. However, light pollution must be balanced against the parish's rural character.

## 7.7 HEDGES AND TREES

Trees within the Conservation Area are protected by Section 211 of the 1990 Planning Act (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas). The District Council is responsible for enforcement of the act, and permission may be needed before works commence.

Trees and hedges can cause a nuisance if allowed to overhang pavements or obscure access, signs or lighting. Even roots can be invasive, causing damage to pavements, sewers and water inspection points. Residents must ensure that trees and hedges are maintained so that problems do not arise.

## 7.8 TOURISM



Hart's Barn Craft Centre



The Forest of Dean receives 2 million visitors a year. Tourism is worth an estimated £40 million pounds per annum and employs approximately 2,000 people. Longhope has an interesting history as well as being an attractive village. In terms of tourism the parish has not been proactive in encouraging visitors. The parish has 3 public houses to offer, several Bed and Breakfast establishments as well as Hart's Barn Craft Centre. We should look to support these local businesses and establish ways in which they can promote themselves.

## 7.9 POLLUTION



Primary responsibility falls to the Environment Agency. The District Council plays a prominent role in monitoring and controlling pollutants such as smoke, grit, dust, odours and noise. They enforce Pollution Control Regulations (EPA 1991) and the Planning system compliment these controls by regulating location of development and the after use of the land.



## 7.10 ACTIONS

- Parish Council must ensure that the District Council maintains and improves its services.
- Promote a culture of responsibility to eradicate litter and discourage vandalism
- To conserve, protect and manage the wildlife and fauna of the parish
- Fence the play equipment on the Recreation Ground and provide a 'dog waste' bin to encourage responsible ownership.
- Promote recycling initiatives within the community.
- Promote the District Plan's policies to encourage walking and cycling.
- Support for forms of sustainable energy for a greener future.
- Improve tourist information and promote local businesses
- A beautiful landscape preserved for future generations
- A balance between the needs of the community against sustainable tourism
- A community that cares about the natural as well as the built environment



*The Lake and picnic area at Hart's Barn Craft Centre*



## 8. COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES

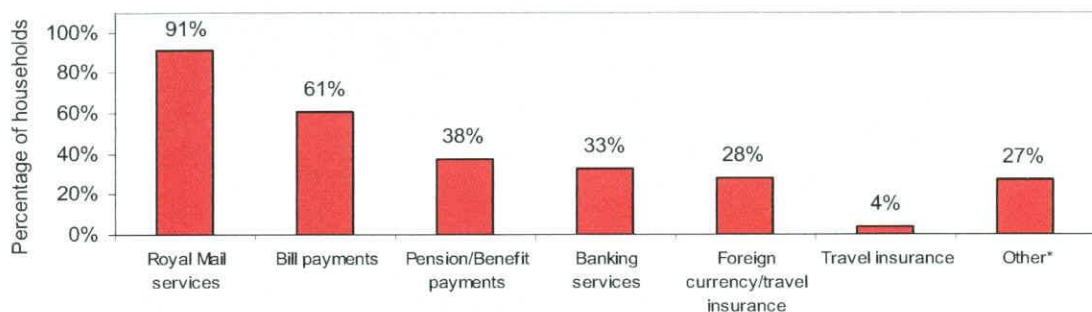
### 8.1 WHAT HAPPENED IN 1991

The 1991 survey concluded that the Latchen Rooms were in need of urgent repairs. It was recognised that a good village hall is essential for the social life of the village. The survey revealed that the majority of residents were in favour of refurbishing the Latchen Rooms in preference to a new building. The 1991 survey revealed that the Recreation Ground was well used and villagers were generally satisfied with its appearance.

### 8.2 POST OFFICE



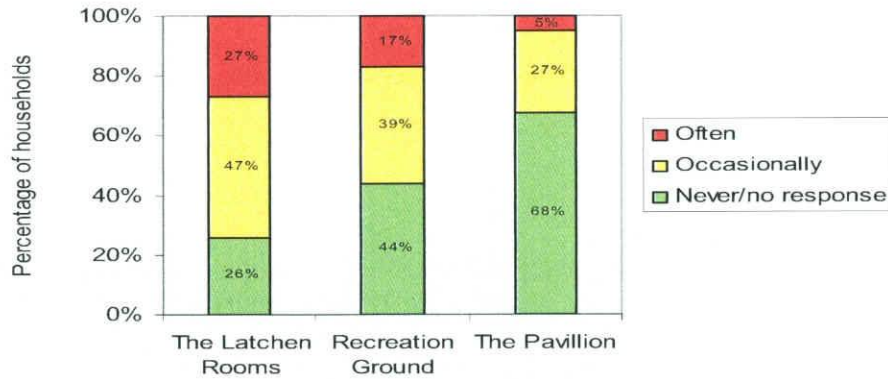
The Survey asked, what do you use Longhope village post office for?



The survey also asked the community how important it is to retain the Post Office in Longhope. Some 231 responses or 99% concluded that it is "very important to retain the Post Office. It was also highlighted that the Post Office provides a valuable source of disseminating local information and events.

### 8.3 COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

The questionnaire asked how often residents use the various community buildings. The chart shows that the most popular is the Latchen Rooms.



#### LATCHEN ROOMS

The Latchen Rooms were a gift to the village in 1906 and is a registered charity; it is run by a committee and is self-supporting. The Latchen provides accommodation to the local Play group, as well as providing a venue many local clubs including Mother and toddler group, the Women's Institute, Gardening Club, Evergreens, Tai-chi, Drama club and the Parish Council. The Latchen may be hired for children's parties and often plays host to local fund raising and social events.





The questionnaire asked if it were feasible, would your household support the refurbishment of the Latchen or, a new community building?



A committee was formed to raise the appropriate funds and manage the refurbishments. Plans were unveiled at the summer fete 2004, and the committee are now pressing ahead with raising funds.

### THE PAVILION



Last year the Pavilion was decorated and a new patio area added. The Pavilion provides changing rooms and showers for the Football and Tennis Clubs.

The Youth Café also meets every other week at the Pavilion, and is well supported by local teenagers.

The Youth Club is run with the help of Teens in Crisis. It is hoped enough adult helpers can be found to insure the club's survival.

### THE RECREATION GROUND

The Recreation ground is run by the Recreation Ground Management Committee, which meets bi-monthly. Funds for its up-keep are raised by the Tennis and Football Club subscriptions as well as a donation raised by the annual fete. The Recreation ground is a valuable community green space. The Play equipment currently sited at the top of the ground is to be relocated (subject to Planning consent) to the front of the recreation ground. A package of improvements is planned, including safety matting for the play equipment and a fence to contain the area. These improvements will mean that the area is accessible all year round as well as being a safer environment from a Health and Safety prospective. In response to the Parish Plan questionnaire a 'dog waste' bin will

be located on the Recreation Ground and responsible pet ownership will be encouraged. A local clinical waste company will empty the bin once a week. It is hoped that the District Council may provide this service within the next few years.

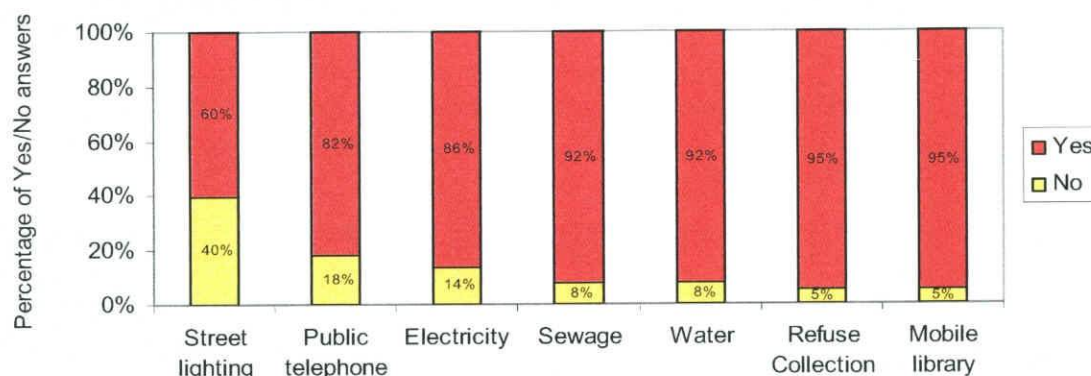
In the longer term the boundary fence must be replaced.

The Recreation Ground is a valuable green space for the whole community.



#### 8.4 SERVICES

The survey asked residents if they are satisfied with the services provided within the parish. The chart shows those who ticked yes or no and the items are listed in descending order of dissatisfaction.



A telephone mast is situated on Huntley Hill and provides coverage for mobile phones however; reception is dependent upon individual service providers.

The survey conducted in 1991 revealed that resident's were not satisfied with television and radio reception. These problems have now been overcome by the technological advancement of satellite television and digital radio.

To comply with the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998 (section 17) the local Council has a duty to provide adequate street lighting. Lighting is vital if we are to discourage crime however, a balance must be adhered to prevent excessive light pollution within the conservation area.



## **8.5 COMMUNICATION**

The questionnaire responses showed that 52% of households have a computer with an Internet connection. Of these replies, 73% were interested in Broadband.

In March 2004 a campaign group was formed to bring Broadband to the Parish. The telephone exchange covers; Huntley, Blaisdon, Longhope and May Hill. Residents responded enthusiastically and by late April we were within 10% of the target trigger set by BT. Then BT announced that because of the demand for Broadband that 99.6% of exchanges will be enabled by summer 2005. In January 2005 the exchange was enabled. The campaign group would like to express there thanks to all the residents who supported Broadband. This will provide valuable opportunities for business users as well as those working from home.

## **8.6 NOTICEBOARDS**

The Survey asked how people find out about local information and events. The most popular was the parish notice boards, followed jointly by the Church Parish News and local papers. The notice boards at May Hill and Little London are to be replaced as well as the one at the Latchen, which is not large enough to accommodate much of the statutory notices that must be displayed by the Parish Council.

## **8.7 ALLOTMENTS**

The Parish Council provides 14 allotments; only 2 of these are currently vacant. The allotments represent excellent value for a nominal rent of £10.00 per annum. Growing your own vegetables has become very popular in recent times, with many urban areas having waiting lists for allotments. The only foreseeable problem is that the escalating cost of water bills is far outstripping the income from the allotments. This must be monitored over the coming year.



## 8.8 COMMENTS

It can be concluded that the village amenities are well supported by residents; these amenities will play an important role in safe guarding the parish as a vibrant community. The refurbishment of the Latchen Rooms will provide an opportunity to extend the building and make provision for new activities. Similarly, the planned improvements to the Recreation Ground will benefit the whole community.



## 8.9 ACTION PLANS

- Support local post office and shop
- Achieve refurbishment of Latchen Rooms to improve facilities
- Support Youth Café
- Relocation of play equipment, install safety matting and fence play area
- Purchase and install 'dog waste bin' and arrange for waste collection
- Erect new fence at front of Recreation Ground
- Consultation to propose plaque for Recreation Ground memorial
- Prioritise the replacement of parish notice boards and action
- An active and well supported village hall offering modern facilities



## 9. CRIME & SAFETY

### 9.1 GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY



Gloucestershire Constabulary is broken down into 3 divisions: We are included in the 'Forest & Gloucester'. These are broken down into smaller areas; Longhope is served by 'North Forest'

The introduction of Mobile Police Stations or 'Bobby Bus' as we know them, is part of Gloucestershire Constabulary's strategy to improve the quality of rural policing. The vehicles say the Police; enable officers to provide advice, reassurance to reduce the fear of crime, and a means by which residents can report crime and non-emergency incidents.

### 9.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF RURAL POLICING

Reduce crime and fear of crime, providing reassurance in rural areas, to develop trust and to work in partnership with rural communities and their local representatives. To increase contact between police officers and members of the public.

To improve methods of communication between the Constabulary and people living in rural areas, providing a highly visible police presence on a regular basis, making it easier for people in rural communities to contact us.

To provide people who live and work in rural Gloucestershire with access to the same services and information available in urban areas.



- The Bobby Bus visits on a monthly basis, the date and time is advertised on the Post Office notice board and local newspapers.
- Longhope has 21 active Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, the co-ordinator is David Owen of Courtfield, Church Road, Longhope.



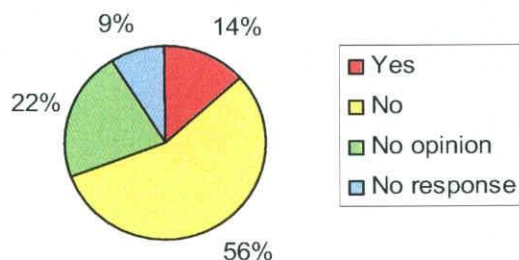
**PC ROGER HALL OUR RURAL BEAT OFFICER; BASED AT CINDERFORD**

**CRIME STOPPERS Tel: 0800 555 111**

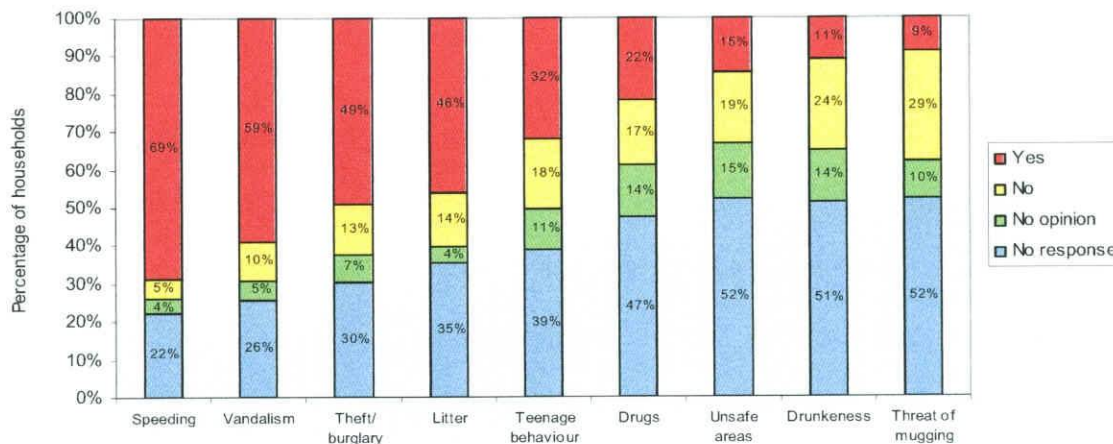
**NON-EMERGENCY Tel: 0845 090 1234**

### 9.3 WHAT YOU TOLD US

Our survey asked 'Are you satisfied with the Police coverage of Longhope Parish?'



The questionnaire asked 'which of the following crimes or antisocial behaviour concern you in Longhope?' The following chart displays the results in descending order of concern.



Crime and disorder figures for Longhope remain relatively low however, the perception of crime shows this to be of great concern.



## 9.4 COMMENT

### POLICE REPORTED CRIME FIGURES - PARISH OF LONGHOPE

Crime	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
Burglary (dwelling)	3	4	6
Burglary (non dwelling)	5	15	10
Robbery	1	1	0
Theft	11	10	7
Theft from m/vehicle	13	0	0
Theft of m/vehicle	3	1	0
Theft of pedal cycle	2	0	0
Assaults	12	13	4
Criminal damage	18	14	4
Arson	1	1	0
Drugs	1	1	0
Sexual offences	1	0	0
Others	1	3	2
TOTAL	72	63	33
DETECTION RATE	28.36%	41.18%	

\* Figures 2004-2005 represent figures up to 31 January 2005 therefore, detection rate not yet available.

- **ALL CRIMES MUST BE REPORTED**

- So that the Police have an accurate record of crime in the Parish.

## 9.5 ACTIONS

- Parish Council to work with Police to reduce crime and restore community confidence.
- Parish Council to liaise with authorities to insure that street lighting is operational.
- Strongly support anyone wanting to start a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
- Disseminate advice to residents from the Police on how to prevent crime.
- Promote Crimestoppers as a way of reducing crime.
- Support the Bobby Bus and other local Police initiatives.
- Promote safe cycling through Cycling Proficiency Scheme.
- Parish Council will work with the District Council to raise awareness of crime and safety issues through strategic bodies such as the Community Safety Partnership.

## 10. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

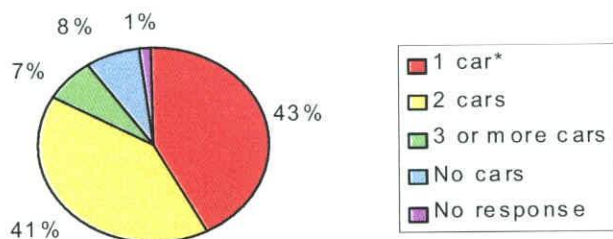


### 10.1 WHAT HAPPENED IN 1991

In 1991 there were two schools in the Parish, the survey highlighted the fact that both schools suffered from inadequate access. 82% of residents were in favour of introducing a 7.5 tonne weight limit on Church Road except for access. Other black spots highlighted were the junctions at Royal Spring, Velthouse Lane, Old Hill and the Slad. Many expressed their concerns about the speed and volume of traffic on the A4136 and the A40.

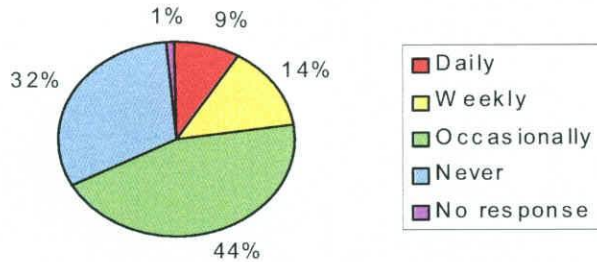
### 10.2 WHAT YOU TOLD US

The Parish Plan questionnaire shows that over 90% of the households have regular use of a car with 8% (19 households) who do not. Most of those with regular use of a car have either one car or two cars. The proportions of one-car and two-car households are similar.





We asked residents how often they used the local bus service?

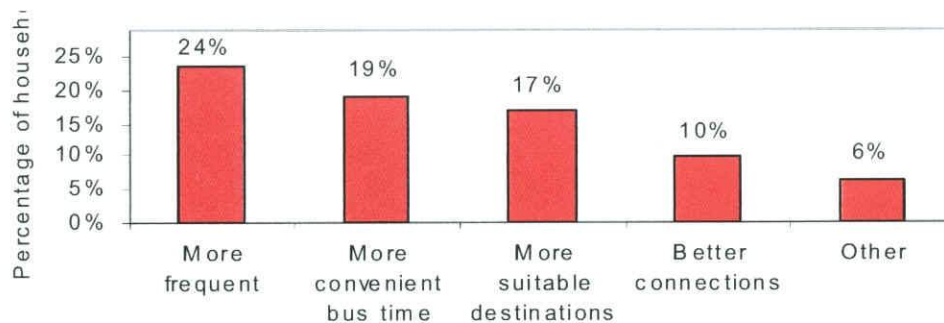


The pie chart gives the answers by person. The pie represents all 570 household members and shows that 45% of the household members use the bus service. Most of these use it occasionally with a total of 13% using it either daily or weekly.

We asked residents their reasons for using the bus service;

	Percentage of households	Number of households
Shopping	45%	106
Leisure	31%	73
Work	9%	20
Education	9%	21
Other	7%	16

The survey asked how the bus service could be improved?



We asked would you be interested in using a new 'Dial a Ride' service into Newent?



As a result of this support, the service is now up and running and places may be pre-booked by contacting Dial a Ride.

We asked residents are you generally satisfied with the general state of the roads and pavements within the parish? Just over half the respondents were 'not satisfied'. Roads and pavements are the responsibility of the Highway Authority.

### 10.3 COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2006-2011

The Government has given permission to Gloucestershire County Council to borrow £17.5 million to spend on transport. The County Council is currently drafting the next Local Transport Plan. The following is a summary of the key proposals for 'West of Severn':

- Investigate options for dealing with lorry traffic
- Improve bus services within market towns
- Develop community transport provision
- Develop safe routes to school
- Develop Park & Ride services on the approach to Gloucester

It is hoped the plan will alleviate the congestion on the Gloucester approaches, and focus on the provision of more effective public transport.

### 10.4 COMMENTS

As a rural community transport is a significant issue. We know the damage that cars do to the environment but the car is forgiven as a necessary evil. The survey shows that the local bus service is vital to those without transport. Residents indicated that the service could be improved by making services more frequent. Obviously the providers of the bus service must be convinced that more frequent services would remain profitable. The County Council's Local Plan hopes to purchase buses for community transport, which will be 'demand responsive'. The Parish Council can make a difference by liaising with the local authority, making sure the parish's needs are met.

The appraisal in 1991 highlighted residents concerns over speed and volume of traffic on the A4136 and A40. The latest appraisal shows that people still have the same concerns. The A40 is due to be de-trunked in June 2005, this means responsibility will be transferred to the County Council. The latest traffic information shows that the A40 carries 14,100 vehicles per day, and of these 66.66% of vehicles peel off at Huntley and continue on the A4136.



Although the A4136 is a single carriage highway, it has become a primary route for heavy goods vehicles and commuters in and out of the Forest of Dean. The road has a poor history for accidents despite the 50 mph speed limit. A hard standing has been laid at Little London to allow a mobile speed camera to operate. The latest figures show that 68.9% of vehicles are travelling in excess of the 40 mph speed limit.

The County Council has plans to make safety improvements to A4136. The first of these will be to improve visibility at the junction of Royal Spring. This will also include a vehicle-activated sign on the A4136 as an additional traffic calming measure. Works are due to start early in 2006 (final approval pending).



## 10.5 ACTION PLAN

- Ensure inconsiderate parking does not impact adversely on the highway or pedestrians
- Reduce the adverse impact of vehicles on village environment
- Promote safe cycling and pedestrian routes
- Encourage and support voluntary transport services
- Work towards better bus services/routes/timetables
- Support County Council Local Transport Plan
- Support Police initiatives in reducing speed throughout the parish
- Support highways in traffic calming measures
- Support road safety awareness and education campaigns

## 11. EDUCATION

### 11.1 WHAT WAS SAID IN 1991?

There were two primary schools within the parish at this time, and the appraisal noted that discussions had been taking place for the last twenty years about building a new school. At this time a site had been set-aside at Pound Orchard at the Latchen.

### 11.2 PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

The survey confirmed the following pre-school children attend the following:

	No. of households with children at establishment	Total number of children attending (from these households)
Mothers & toddlers	9	9
Playgroup	2	2
Pippins Pre-school	4	4
<i>Any of the above</i>	12	15
Hope Brook Primary	19	25



When asked 83% of parents confirmed that they were satisfied with the pre-school establishments in the parish. The majority of parents who use facilities outside the parish said that this choice related to their employment.

	No. of households with children at establishment		
	A Outside parish	B Within parish	
Nursery	7	4 (Pinnins)	36%
Toddler Group	4	9 (Mothers &	90%*
Playgroup	2	2	50%
Primary School	4	19 (Hope Brook)	83%



### 11.3 PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION



#### **Hope Brook Church of England Primary School.**

The new school can accommodate 120 pupils in 4 classes and opened on 23 June 2003. The school was the amalgamation of Hope's Hill Community Primary School and Longhope Church of England School.

### 11.4 SECONDARY EDUCATION

31 of the households who responded to the survey have one or more child at a secondary school. 65% of these households have one or more child at Dene Magna.

There are 44 children attending a secondary school among the 31 households. Around 60% of these children attend Dene Magna.

	Households with children at establishment		Number of children attending (from these households)	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Dene Magna	20	65%	27	61%
Newent Community school	5	16%	8	18%
Other	8	26%	9	20%
<i>Total</i>	<i>31*</i>		<i>44</i>	

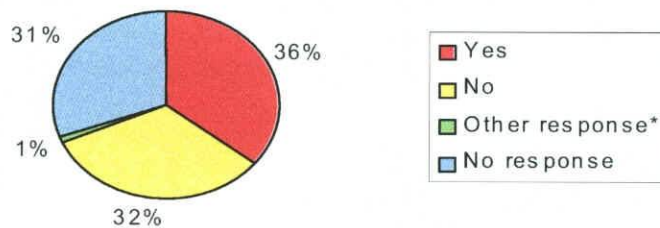
(\*The total number of households is 31 not 33 because two households have a child at more than one secondary school.)

### 11.5 CHURCH

The church runs 'Friday Club' during term time for junior school age children. The club's activities are craft based and is well supported by the children of the parish. The church has recently introduced a new club on Sunday called Discoverers.

## 11.6 ADULT EDUCATION

The survey asked would residents like to have adult education classes in the parish:



The most popular suggestion was computer/IT (17); Languages (14); Keep fit (9); Crafts (9); Yoga (7); Art (5); Indoor swimming pool (3); Pottery (3); Local history (3); Badminton (2); Cookery (2); Health eating/lifestyle (2); Line dancing (2); Aerobics; Bowls; Dancing Lessons; Debating; Diet club; DIY; First Aid; Floristry; Holistic care options; Industrial Archaeology; Local wildlife; Monthly film show; More non-vocational subjects in daytime; More relevant courses e.g. 'Life skills'; Organised visits to concerts/theatre; Pilates (evenings); Play reading; Salsa; Summer School; Wine tasting.

## 11.7 COMMENTS

Having a school with a good reputation is extremely important in the long term. It helps to attract young families into the parish, ensuring that the parish remains vibrant.

The survey revealed that residents were keen to participate in adult education classes. Such events could take place in the Latchen Rooms or at Hope Brook school, which is to be used as a 'community building'. Because the survey was strictly confidential it is impossible to know who was interested in which class. But by publishing the results it is hoped that some classes may be viable and that volunteers will come forward to organise them.

## 11.8 ACTIONS

- Support voluntary groups that benefit the community
- Encourage and promote life long learning
- Promote the 'safe route to school' initiative
- Support new clubs particularly sports based leisure



## 12. OUR VISION

The ability to disseminate information to parishioners is vital in achieving a vibrant community. The difficulties we face are accentuated by the fact that the population of our parish is widely dispersed. The parish must look to the future and grasp opportunities such as the Internet. The provision of local information forms the hub for promoting village activities and will safeguard the community's future.

The publication of our Parish Plan is not the end of the process but rather the beginning. It is the opportunity to shape our community into the next decade. The Parish Plan is a living document that must respond to the changing needs of the community. It will be the responsibility of the Parish Council to:

- Commit resources so that the Parish Plan can be delivered
- Take responsibility for managing projects
- Promoting and co-ordinating voluntary work on Parish Plan projects
- Negotiating with organisations to secure appropriate funding
- Encouraging the community to raise funds for projects that will benefit everyone



The Parish Plan belongs to the community therefore; it is the community that must measure its success.

## LONGHOPE PARISH PLAN

### PROJECT TIMELINE

Project	By whom	Priority
Purchase dog waste bin and arrange waste collection	Recreation Ground Committee	High
Fence play equipment on Recreation Ground	Recreation Ground Committee	High
Install safety matting in play area	Recreation Ground Committee	Medium/High
Repairs to Pavilion	Recreation Ground Committee	Medium
Replacement of front fence on Recreation Ground	Recreation Ground Committee	Low
Clean out ditch on Recreation Ground	Recreation Ground Committee	Medium
Provide notice board showing parish walks and local history	To be arranged	Low
Extension and refurbishment of Latchen Rooms	Latchen Rooms Committee	On going
Provide more litter bins	Parish Council	Medium
Replace parish notice boards	Parish Council	Low
Parish Council newsletter	Parish Council	Low
Set up Parish Council website	Parish Council	Low
Write Village design statement	Parish Council	Medium
Implement Parish Council 'surgeries' for residents	Parish Council	Medium
Fundraising for the above improvements	Whole community	On going

### SUSTAINING PROJECTS IN THE LONGER TERM

- Funding must be reviewed and new sources explored
- Identify the need to keep people motivated and the wider community informed
- Be prepared to review and adapt as circumstances change
- Encourage creative thinking and enthusiasm



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The Countryside Agency  
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council  
Longhope Parish Plan Steering Committee  
Longhope Parish Council  
Longhope Post Office  
John Eastwood of Huntley Parish Council  
Mr Close – Post Card collector; contact tel: 01594 842507  
PC Roger Hall – Rural Beat Officer  
Forest of Dean District Council  
Gloucestershire County Council  
Longhope Village Website

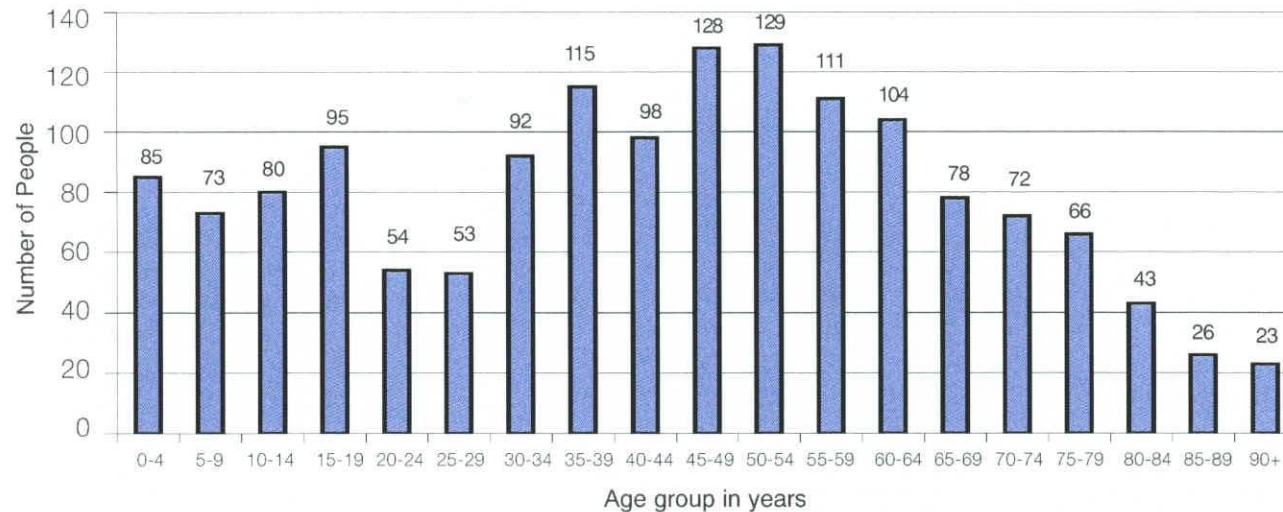
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Telephone 01452 731705



## HOUSEHOLD

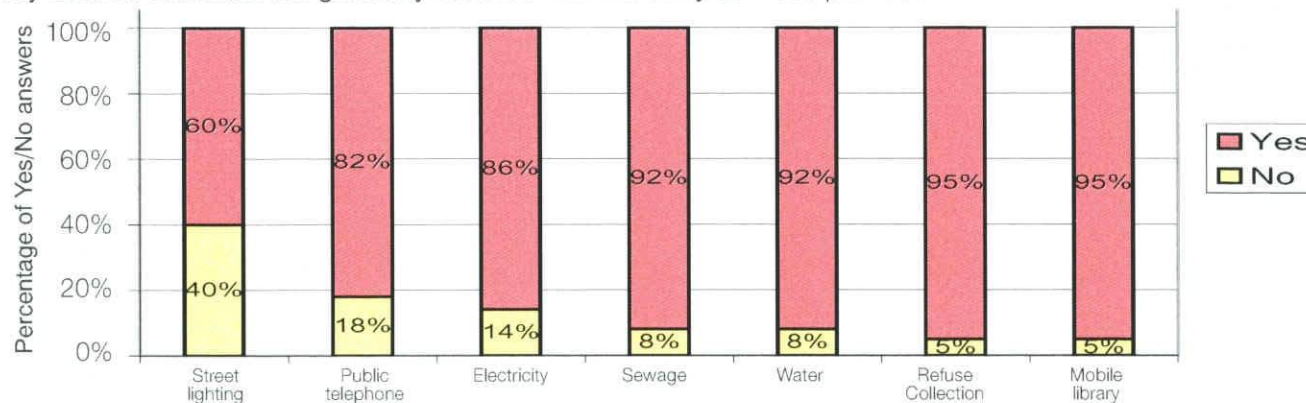


To provide a more accurate picture, the chart above is taken from the 2001 Census.

The survey replies showed that 69% of families have lived in the Parish over 10 years furthermore, 34% of these have lived in the Parish over 30 years. Of the respondents, 42% said they moved to the Parish because of the 'rural aspect' and 22% were born here.

## ENVIRONMENT

The survey asked if residents are generally satisfied with the utility services provided.



The survey concluded that Parish footpaths are very popular, 72% of residents using them. 66% of replies supported the idea of a printed guide to Parish Walks.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Longhope Parish Council, Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, The Countryside Agency, Parish Plan Committee.  
 This leaflet was designed by Michelle Pickering, published by the Parish Plan, printed by HB Digital Printing Ltd and financed by a grant from the Countryside Agency.

# LONGHOPE PARISH PLAN

## QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

A questionnaire was distributed to 613 households in the Parish of Longhope. Of these 234 questionnaires were returned representing 570 people or 38% of the population. This leaflet represents a summary of replies, as well as information from the Census and the latest crime figures.

## CRIME

### POLICE REPORTED CRIME FIGURES - PARISH OF LONGHOPE

Crime	2002-03	2002-04
Burglary (dwelling)	3	4
Burglary (non dwelling)	5	15
Robbery	1	1
Theft	11	10
Theft from m/vehicle	13	0
Theft of m/vehicle	3	1
Theft of Pedal Cycle	2	0
Assaults	12	13
Criminal Damage	18	14
Arson	1	1
Drugs	1	1
Sexual Offences	1	0
Others	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>DETECTION RATE</b>	<b>28.36%</b>	<b>41.18%</b>

The survey revealed that speeding, vandalism, theft/burglary and litter are of the most concern to the community. 56% of households indicated that they were not satisfied with Police coverage and 6% said that they had not reported crimes committed.

- **ALL CRIMES MUST BE REPORTED** so that the Police have an accurate record of crime in the Parish.
- The Bobby Bus visits on a monthly basis, the date and time is advertised on the Post Office notice board.
- **CRIME STOPPERS - Tel 0800 555 111**



## HOUSING

Householders confirmed that 93% own their own homes, whilst only 6% rent. We asked what type of housing should be provided in the future?

(respondents were able to pick several options in this category)

- 42% wanted more housing for the elderly
- 40% said development should be restricted to 'infill only'
- 36% of replies supported the need for 'low cost housing'.

These results have prompted the Parish Council to ask Gloucestershire Community Council to conduct a Housing Needs Survey, the results of which will be published shortly.

## EMPLOYMENT

The survey revealed that 34% of the population are retired, 28% are in full time employment, with 13% working part time and 10% self employed.

Of the employed population, 31% work in Gloucester, 35% work in the Forest of Dean (including Longhope) and of these 13% work from home. We received a response from 27 businesses within the Parish, employing some 290 people, of these at least 52 live in the Parish.

## TRANSPORT

The survey concluded that 90% of households own at least 1 car and that 8% have no access to a vehicle.

The local bus services are used by 45% of residents, the majority of whom use the bus service for shopping. The top suggestion by passengers was that they would like to see more frequent buses and a more convenient time table.

## HIGHWAYS

Over half of the respondents said that they are not satisfied with the general state of repair of roads and pavements. Many indicated specific areas in need of urgent repair. This has been brought to the attention of the Highways Agency by the Parish Council.

## POST OFFICE

A massive 98% of households use the Post Office and 99% thought it "very important" as a Parish amenity. It appears that the most popular of it's services is for purchasing Road Tax. It was also highlighted that the Post Office provides a valuable means of disseminating local information.

## BROADBAND

The questionnaire showed great support for the introduction of Broadband. In March a campaign group was formed to bring Broadband to the Parish. The telephone exchange actually covers; Huntley, Blaisdon, Longhope and May Hill. Residents responded enthusiastically and by late April we were within 10% of the target trigger set by BT. Then BT announced that because of the demand for Broadband that 99.6% of exchanges will be enabled by summer 2005. BT have confirmed that because of our campaign the exchange will be enabled by **August 2004**. The campaign group would like to express their thanks to all the residents who supported Broadband.

## PARISH COUNCIL

The questionnaire asked the community how the Parish Council funds should be spent. The most frequent response was pavements, followed by street lighting, children's play area, facilities for young people and traffic calming. All these topics will be prioritised and reported to the appropriate agencies.

The Parish Council is committed to implementing the Parish Plan. The final consultation will be at Longhope Village Fete on Saturday 3 July 2004. The Parish Plan will be based upon what the community want for the future of Longhope Parish.

## WORSHIP

85% of residents who replied attend a place of worship, 61% attending All Saints Church, 7% attend Zion Church and 17% at other churches. Many respondents made suggestions for improvement, these will be passed on.

## EDUCATION

Respondents were generally satisfied with the provision of Pre-school facilities, with Mother and Toddler Playgroup and Pippins all well attended. Many made positive comments about the new primary school building, but parking remains an issue. The survey revealed that most senior school children within the Parish attend Dene Magna, with 'other schools category' coming in ahead of Newent Community School.

The survey revealed that 36% of households expressed an interest in adult education classes. The most popular suggestions were classes in computers, languages, keep fit, crafts and Yoga. Suitable venues for these activities include the Latchen Rooms and Hope Brook Primary School, but will be dependent upon people coming forward to organise the events.

## SOCIAL AND LEISURE

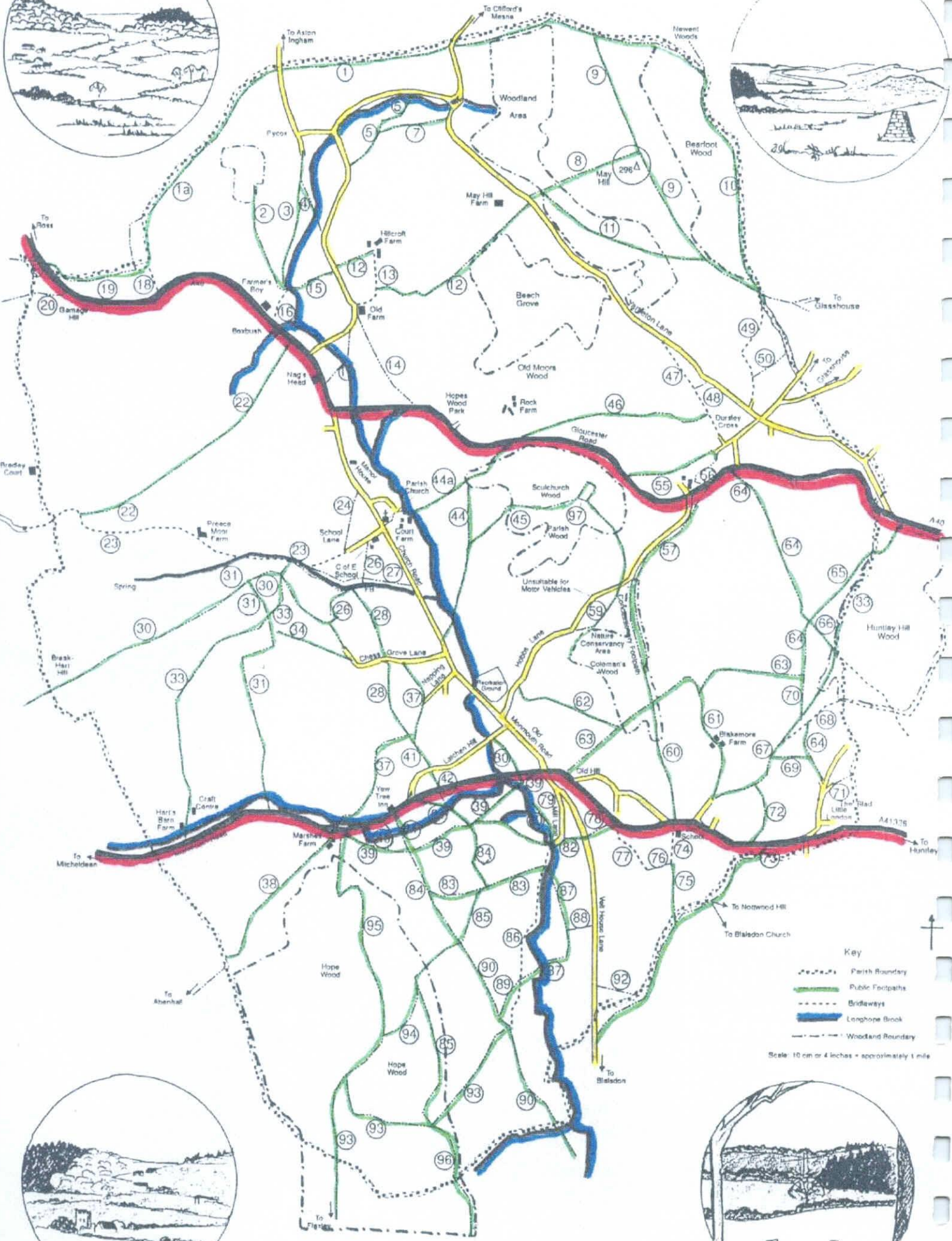
The Latchen Rooms was the most popular of Parish facilities, used by 74% of the responding households. Top activities are Gardening Club, Womens Institute and the British Legion.

The survey showed that 63% wanted the Latchen Rooms refurbished, in preference to a new community building. The top suggestions for new Latchen Room facilities were to provide a bar and committee room. A committee has been formed to manage refurbishments and secure the appropriate funds. Initial building works have started and the plans will be displayed at the Fete in July.

The survey asked, how do residents find out about community events?

78% made the Parish notice boards the winner followed by the Parish Church News and local newspapers joint second.

# LONGHOPE PARISH BRIDLEWAY AND FOOTPATH MAP



- Key**
- Parish Boundary
  - Public Footpaths
  - Bridleways
  - Longhope Brook
  - Woodland Boundary

Scale: 10 cm or 4 inches = approximately 1 mile

