

Laverstock and Ford Communities Neighbourhood Plan

Residents' survey: analysis of responses from Laverstock

January 2020

Background: a brief update on the parish neighbourhood plan

- In September 2017 the Parish Council agreed to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan
- Aim to take advantage of Government legislation giving parish councils more influence over future development in their area, especially location of new housing
- Small group has been working on the preparation of this plan
- Gathering residents' views is key part of the process

Residents' survey undertaken in September 2019

- Paper version distributed to every household in parish (4,000+) - freepost envelope to help maximise response
- Online version also available
- 552 completed questionnaires from parish as whole - three quarters via paper version
- 227 responses from Laverstock residents
- Many thanks to all who completed a questionnaire

Response rate in Laverstock well above parish average

*responses as % of
total households in
community

Community	Households (%)	Responses	Responses (%)	Response rate* (%)
Parish	100	552	100	13
Bishopdown Fm/ Hampton Pk	30	151	27	12
Laverstock	27	227	41	20
Ford	4	66	12	37
Old Sarum/ Longhedge	39	105	19	7

Responses skewed towards 60+ age group - two thirds of total responses, but just under half of Laverstock population

* Responses as
percentage of
Population

Age group	Responses	Responses (%)	Population (%)	Response rate %*
18+	225	100	100	10
18-30	5	2	13	2
31-44	17	8	17	5
45-59	54	24	23	11
60+	149	66	47	14

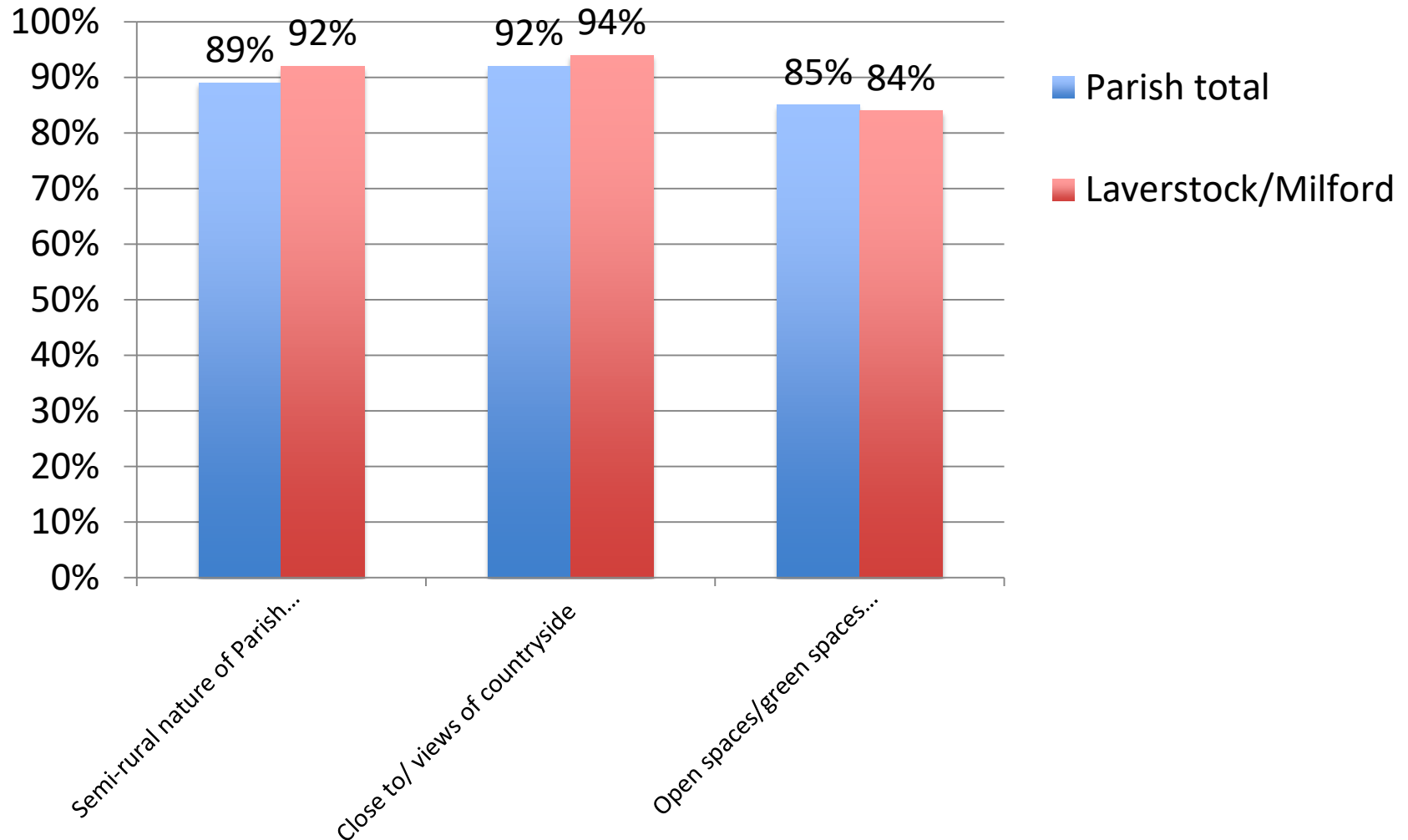
Majority of respondents were long standing (10+ years) residents

Analysis of responses

- Parish and its setting

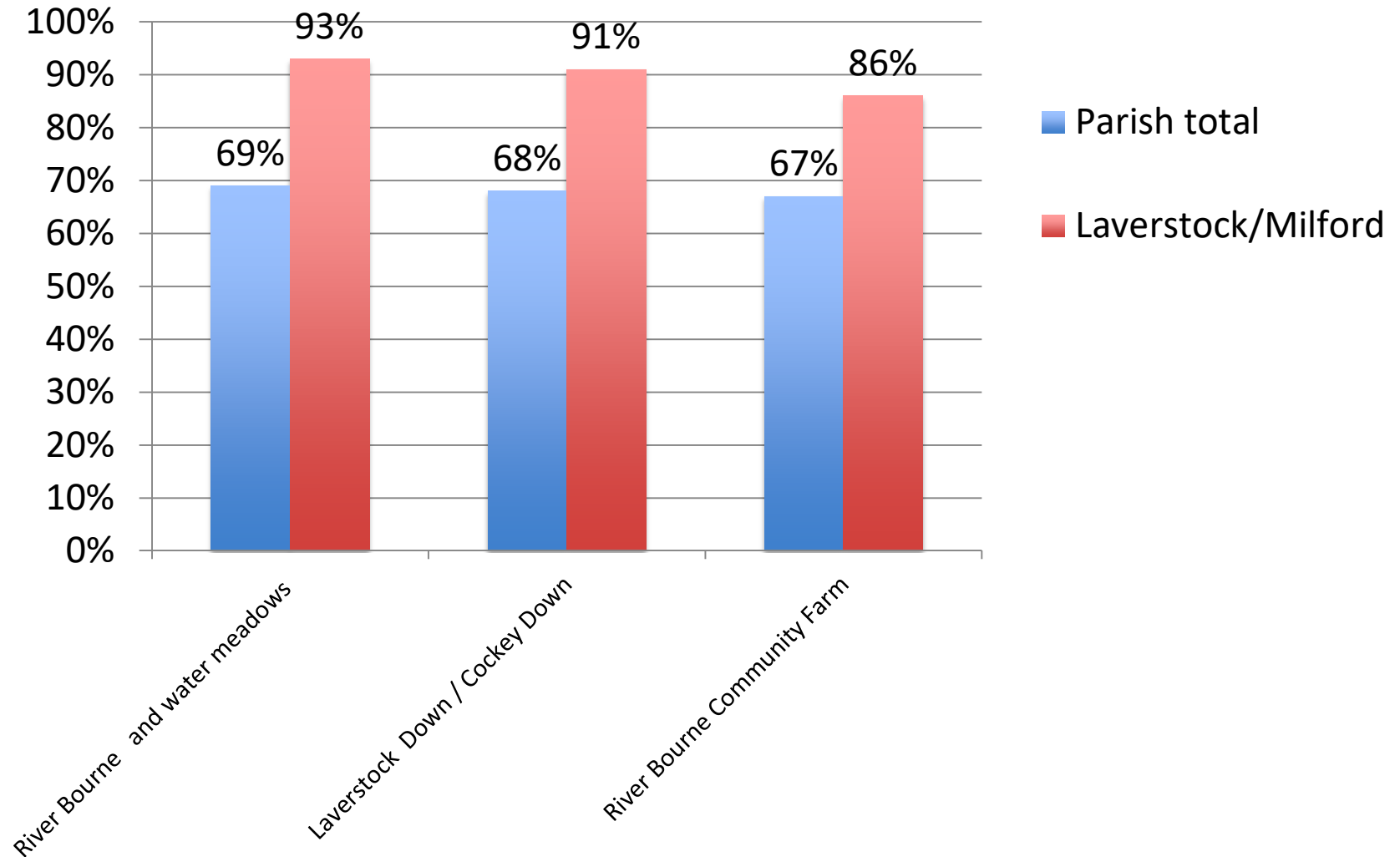
Parish setting valued by overwhelming majority of respondents across all communities – ratings similar to parish as whole

Responses to question: which of the following do you value?



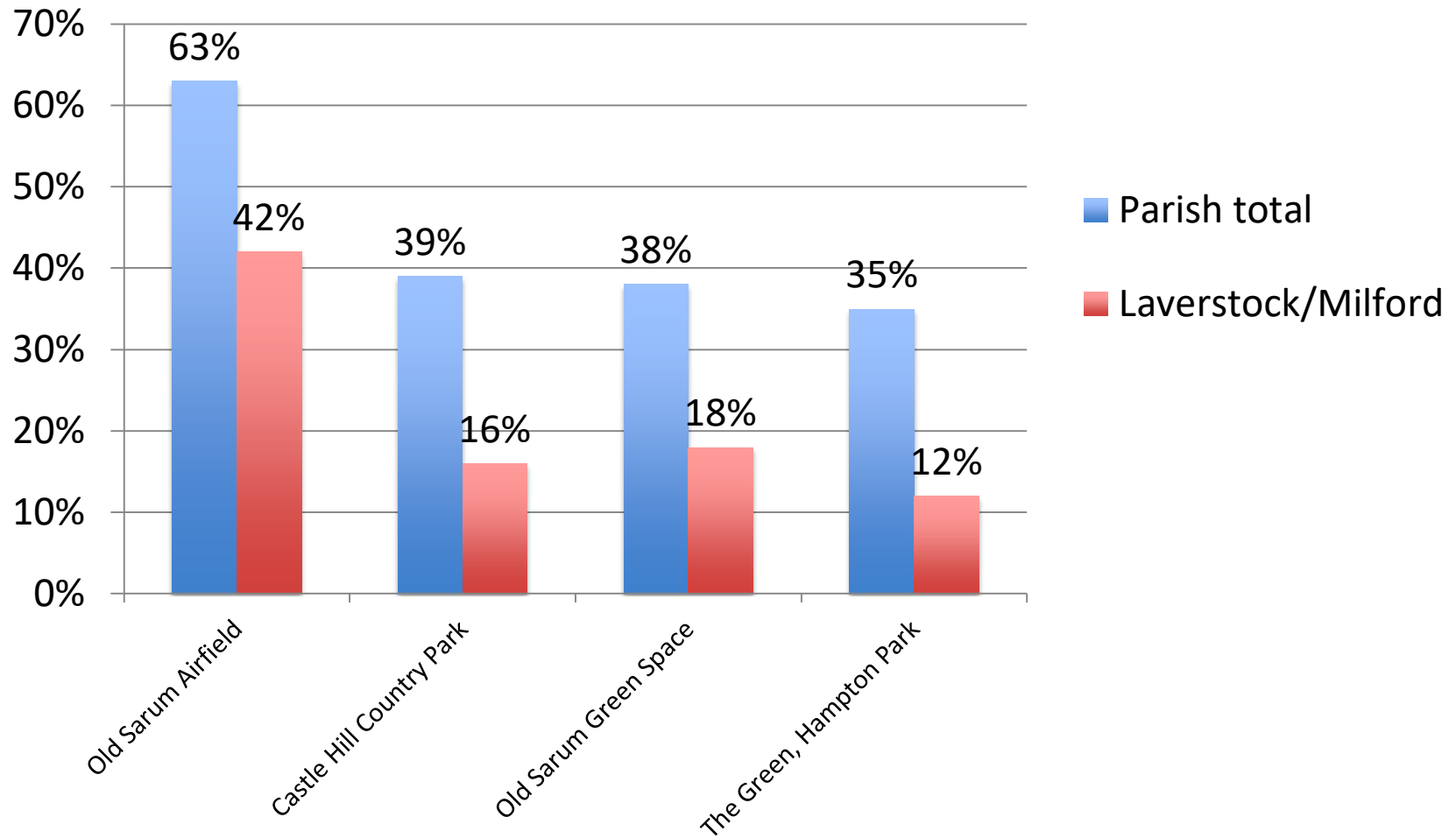
Major individual local green spaces especially valued by Laverstock respondents

Responses to question: which of the following do you value?



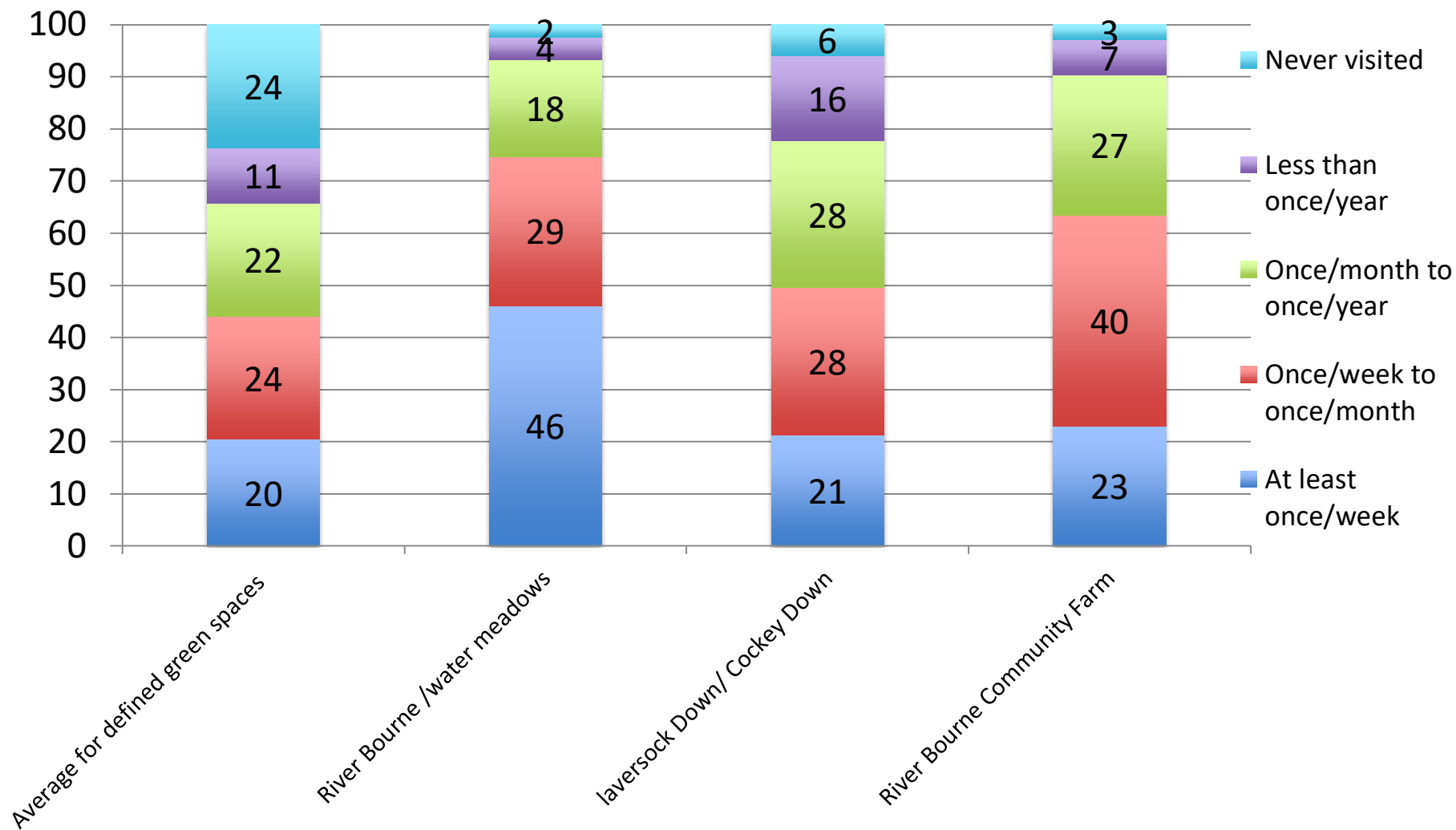
But other, more distant green spaces have limited appeal

Responses to question: which of the following do you value?



Majority of Laverstock respondents claim to visit the major parish green spaces at least once a year

Frequency of visit (%)



Multiple reasons for visiting parish green spaces - for relaxation, exercise, scenery and wild life/flowers are most popular

Reasons for visit (% mentions by respondents)

	All green spaces
Get out in the fresh/relaxation	66
To get some exercise/keep fit	58
Attractive scenery/views	56
Like to see the birds/wildlife/wildflowers	49
Somewhere to take the children	29
Dog walking	24
Visit the cafe	16

Reasons for visit are similar to those of respondents in rest of parish

Analysis of responses

- Parish and its setting
- Local amenities

Higher levels of satisfaction with most local amenities among respondents from Laverstock – slightly above ratings in parish as whole

	Whole Parish			Laverstock
	Good/ adequate	Poor/ not available but required	Good/ adequate	Poor/ not available but required
Primary schools	94	3	96	1
Community centre/village hall/Pavilion	90	9	96	3
Secondary schools	85	8	95	2
Convenience store	87	12	90	9
Playparks	85	12	82	15
Residential care homes	77	14	82	12
Sports facilities	60	33	65	27
Nurseries	70	22	65	22

But at least half respondents concerned about lack of availability of local post office, pharmacy and surgery

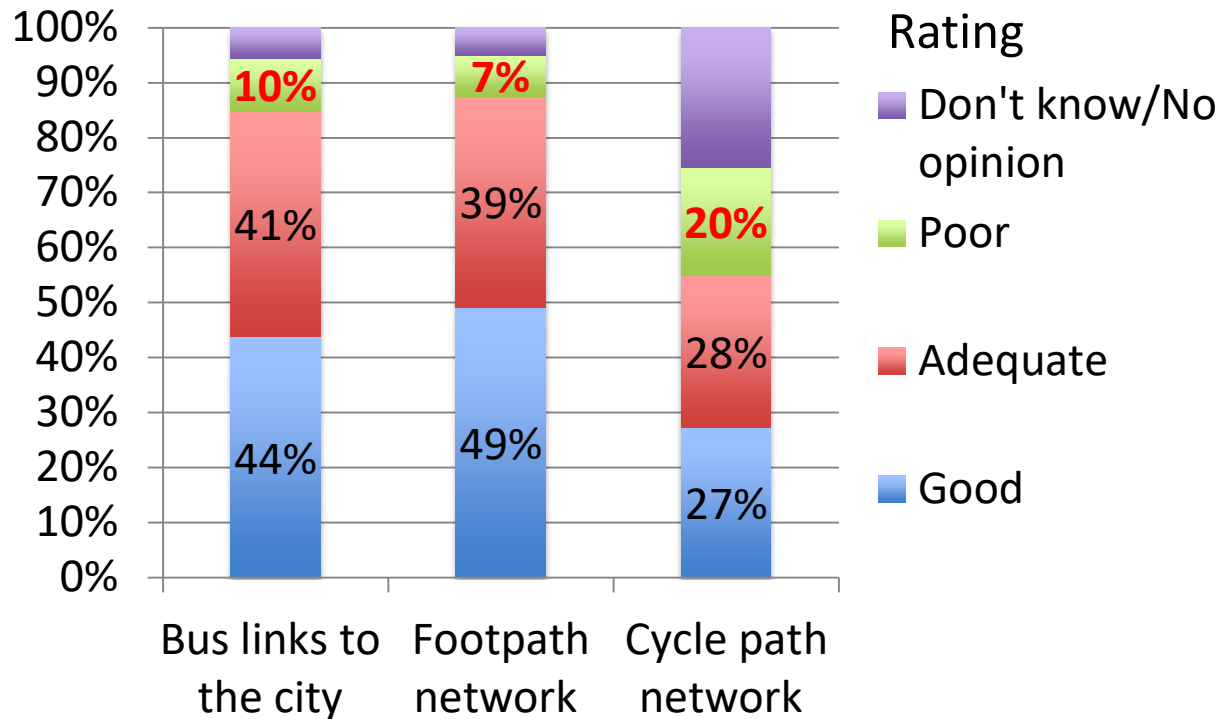
	Whole Parish		Laverstock		
	Good/ adequate	Poor/ not available but required	Good/ adequate	Poor/ not available but required	
Post Office	31	63	16	78	
Pharmacy	48	42	31	52	
Surgery	48	42	29	50	62% (60+)
Dentist	40	39	24	45	65% (60+)
Local employment opportunities	52	38	51	37	45% (households with children)
Vet	53	23	34	30	

Analysis of responses

- Parish and its setting
- Local amenities
- **Movement**

Bus links to city and footpath network generally rated good/adequate

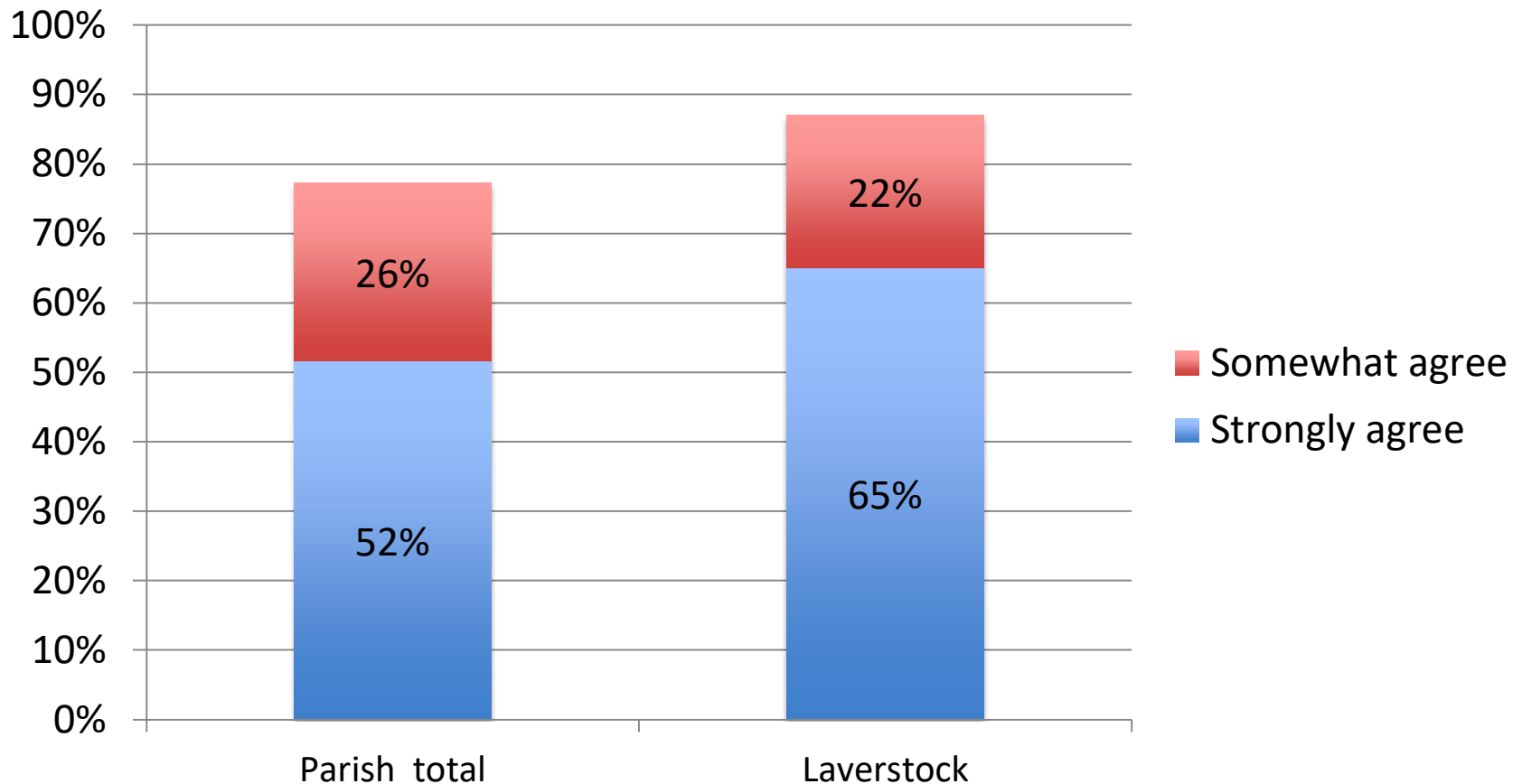
All respondents



But cycle path network rated poor by over third of respondents under 60

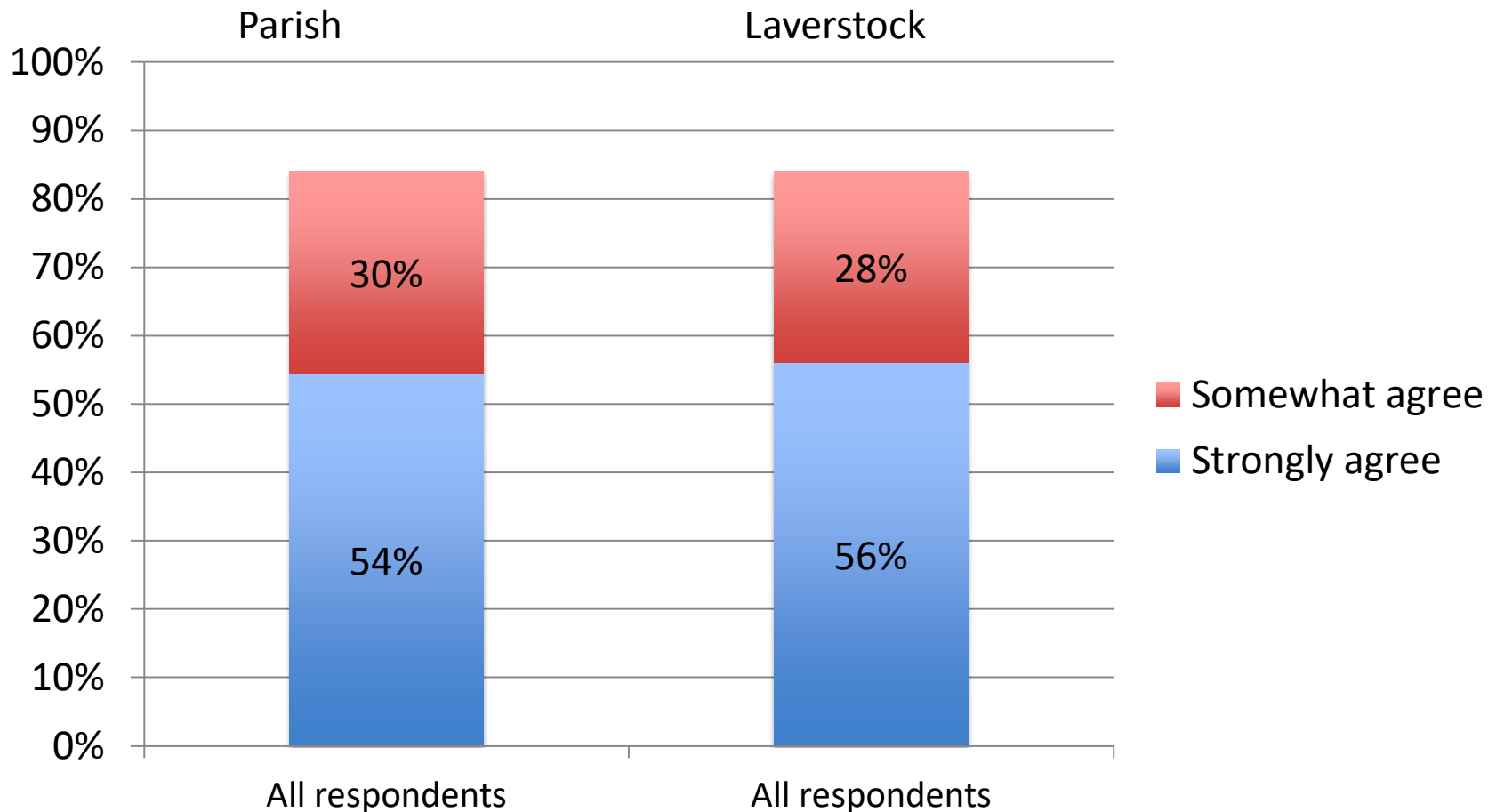
Widespread concern about traffic volumes – greater than in rest of parish

Percentage of respondents agreeing that there is too much traffic especially on narrow roads



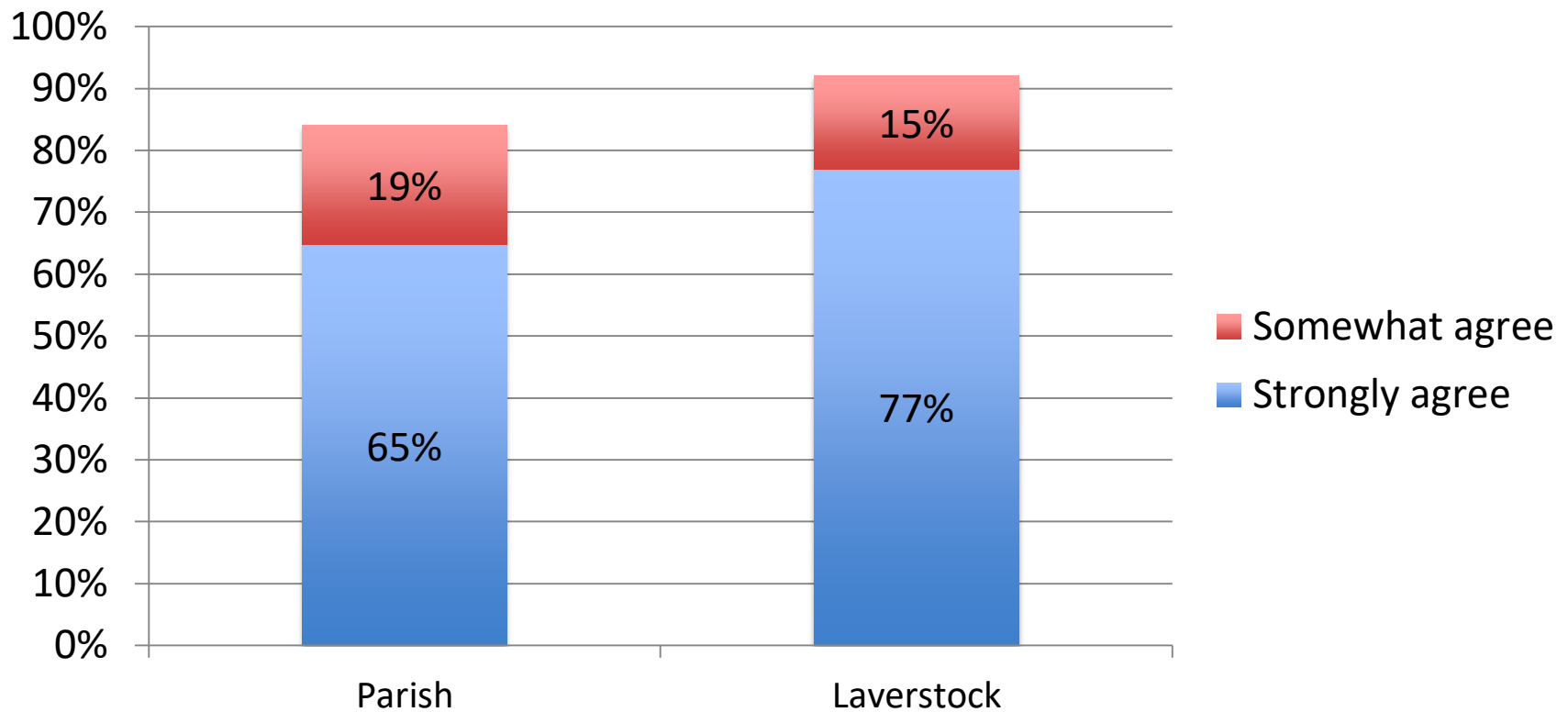
..and with speeding traffic - similar to rest of parish

Percentage of respondents concerned about speeding traffic



...and with dangerous/inconsiderate parking— even greater than in parish as whole

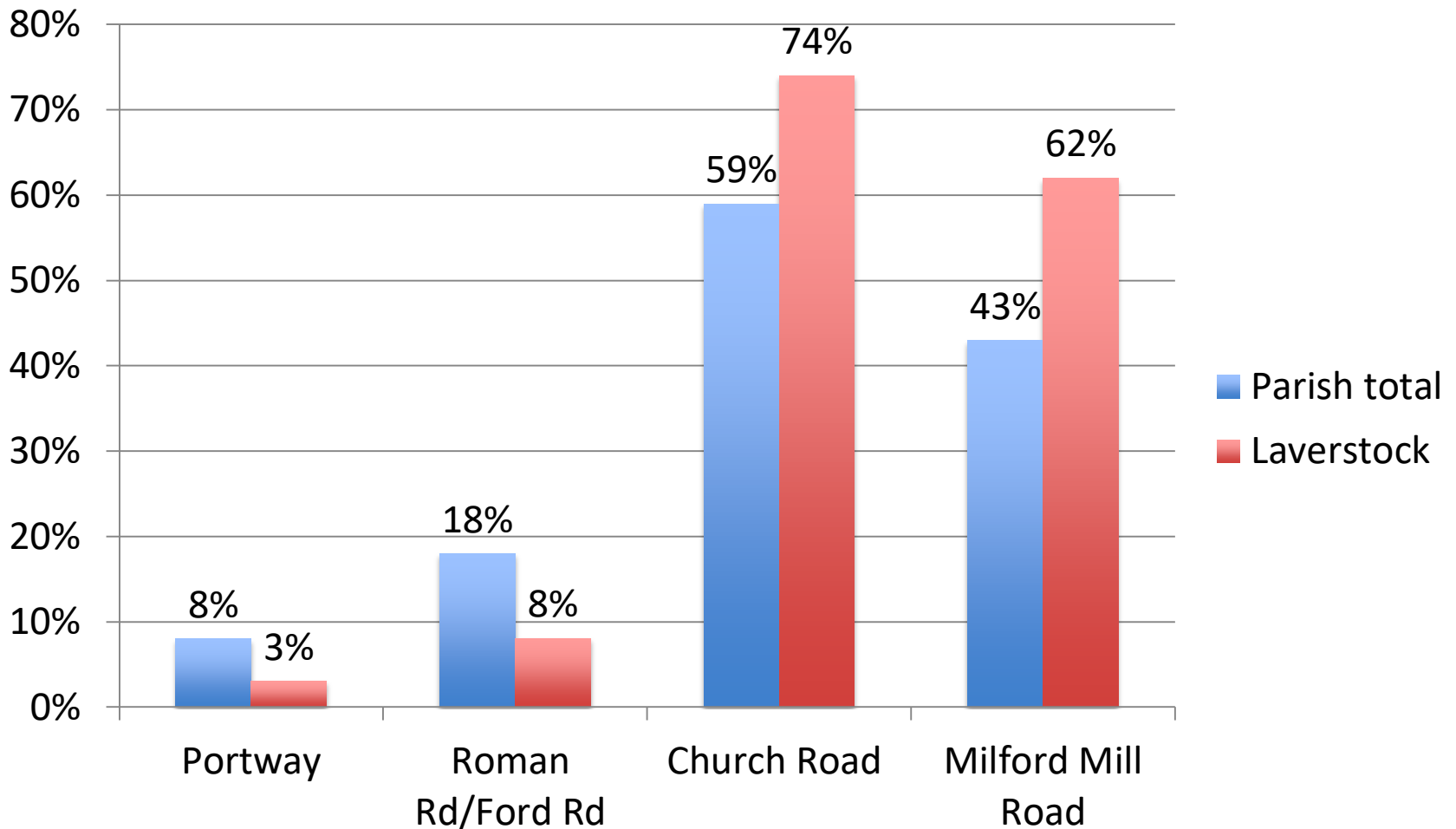
Percentage of respondents concerned about dangerous/inconsiderate parking especially near schools



Problem especially near school and on local bus routes

Church Road and Milford Mill Road were rated “frequently/almost always a problem” by majority of Laverstock respondents

Per cent “almost always/ frequently a problem”



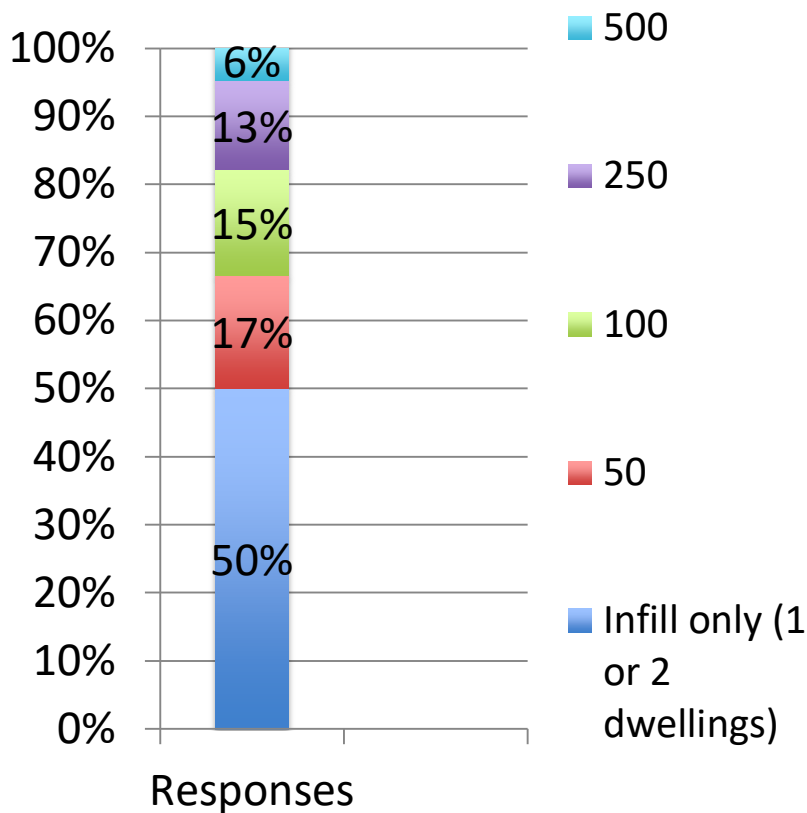
Analysis of responses

- Parish and its setting
- Local amenities
- Movement
- Future development

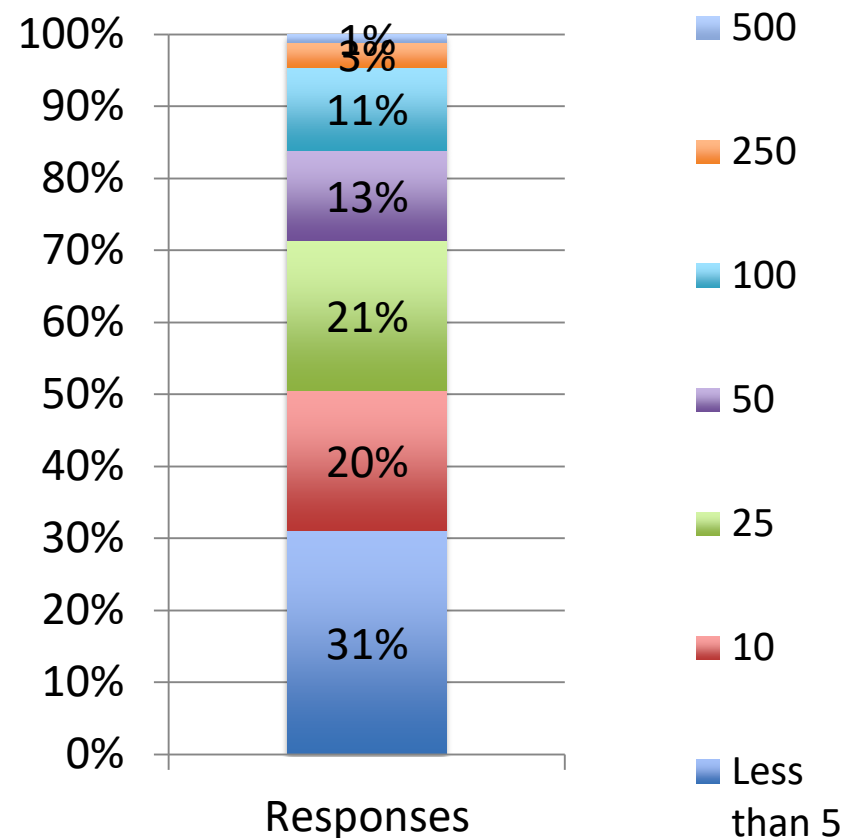
Strong support for very limited housing development to 2036

Respondents expressing an opinion

Maximum no of houses to be built



Max no of houses on any one site



Similar pattern to responses for parish as whole

Majority support for most statements, especially those aimed at maintaining the semi-rural character of the parish

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree
Water meadows should be protected	94%	5%
The balance between developed land, agricultural land, and P.O.S. should always ensure that the semi-rural character of the parish is maintained	91%	7%
Any development within the parish should have low impact on the visual character of the landscape	84%	12%
Any land already designated for development should be used in preference to developing green space	78%	16%
Community owned open spaces should be protected	71%	14%
Any development in Laverstock, Milford and Ford should be limited to infill	67%	16%
Any development should not harm the historic setting of the Airfield Conservation Area	64%	20%
Old Sarum and Longhedge should remain separate from Salisbury city	48%	19%
Land designated for commercial use in Longhedge and Old Sarum should be developed as such	42%	33%

Results similar to parish as whole - very little disagreement expressed with any statement

More limited support for energy generation/ conservation statements, but majority strongly agree with zero net energy usage and electric charging points for new builds

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree
Any future buildings should be designed for zero net energy usage	52%	33%
All future houses/offices should have an electric vehicle charging facility	52%	31%
Solar panel farms should be permitted	31%	41%
Wind turbines should be permitted	23%	26%
More commercial buildings should be built to allow more local people to work closer to home	13%	35%

Weakest support for more commercial building to allow local people to work closer to home, but more than quarter of respondents neutral . Little strong disagreement with any statement

Analysis of responses

- Parish and its setting
- Local amenities
- Movement
- Future development
- Respondents' additional comments

Additional comments : many different topics mentioned -
road system issues and opposition to further development
received most mentions

	Parish	Laverstock
Responses	275	100
ROAD SYSTEM - ISSUES	23%	28%
MORE DEVELOPMENT – NEGATIVE	26%	26%
PARKING - ISSUES	15%	20%
SEMI-RURAL/RURAL ASPECT - PROTECT	12%	17%
GREENSPACES - PROTECT	17%	17%
LOCAL AMENITIES - ISSUES	17%	14%
FOOTPATHS - ISSUES	15%	13%
TRAFFIC SPEEDS - ISSUES	12%	12%

Summary - responses

- 227 completed questionnaires - 20% response rate
- Responses heavily skewed towards views of long-standing residents in 60+ age group
- Younger residents, households with children under-represented

So need to take care in interpreting 'top line' results

Summary - setting and local amenities

- Respondents value semi-rural location of parish and its green spaces
- Majority of respondents claim to visit one or more of the green spaces at least once a year
- Local amenities were generally related good or adequate, but widespread local concerns about lack of local post office, pharmacy and surgery

Summary - movement

- Majority concerned about traffic volumes, speeding and dangerous/inconsiderate parking – greater than in parish as whole
- Majority of respondents rated Church Road and Milford Mill Road as frequently/almost always a problem
- Bus links to the city and the footpath network were generally rated good or adequate
- But significant minority of respondents under 60 regarded the cycle path network as poor

Summary - as with parish as whole, strong agreement with the following statements which could form the basis of planning policies

- Water meadows should be protected
- Community owned open spaces should be protected
- Old Sarum and Longhedge should remain a separate from Salisbury city
- Any development in Laverstock, Milford and Ford should be limited to infill
- Any development within the parish should have low impact on the visual character of the landscape
- Any development should not harm the historic setting of the Airfield Conservation Area
- Any land already designated for development should be used in preference to developing green space
- The balance between developed land, agricultural land, and P.O.S. should always ensure that the semi-rural character of the parish is maintained

Generally more lukewarm support for energy conservation and generation statements, but generally little strong disagreement

- Majority 'strongly agreed' that
 - Any future buildings should be designed for zero net energy usage
 - All future houses/offices should have an electric vehicle charging facility
- More limited support for
 - Solar panel farms
 - Wind turbines
- Very limited support for constructing more commercial buildings to allow more local people to work closer to home