

*CANNOCK WOOD*

*PARISH COUNCIL*

- Neighbourhood Questionnaire  
Summery 2018
  
- Neighbourhood Plan  
Update

## What is a Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

A Neighbourhood Plan, puts in place planning policies for a neighbourhood area to guide future development. A NP is about the use of development land and may contain vision and aims. The policy can propose improvements in facilities, infrastructure and allocate specific schemes. It can deal with social (inc. crime) economic and environmental issues. The Plan can be as complex as the authors wish to make it.

If successfully implemented a NP gives far more weight than some other local documents, full explanation of NP can be found on [www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood).

During the later months of 2017, your Parish Council started exploring the advantages and disadvantages of a Neighbourhood Plan is a nationally encouraged plan prepared locally by a committee of volunteer's to prepare and present a document stating the aims of the community in areas of Housing, Social Wellbeing, Infrastructure and Security, although not restricted to these main points. A NP can cover a wide range of local aspects as well. The NP forms a strategic part of the local plan, which is prepared by Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC).

Cannock Wood Parish Councilors have attended various presentations held by other local councils, Longdon & Burntwood in particular, along with, attending National Sponsored Seminars. Initially CWPC felt that as Cannock Wood (CW) has very close borders and has protection under the Green Belt and ANOB, that a NP would not be a particular advantage and would absorb a lot of time and importantly a large proportion of the Presept (Annual Budget).

Over the past few months it has become more apparent that pressure on local councils to provide housing to fulfill the National Housing Crises, has indirectly created pressure on land and land availability close to our village border to be considered for re-development. This land is controlled by other councils and authorities, this has caused concern and therefore, it was decided that a NP would assist in protecting the village. In June 2018, every household received a guideline questionnaire, produced by central government, asking a range of simple questions. Unfortunately, due to time restraints, this questionnaire did not provide explanation as to its purpose, but information was provided through the CW website and explained on the 'Next Door Neighbour' web page.

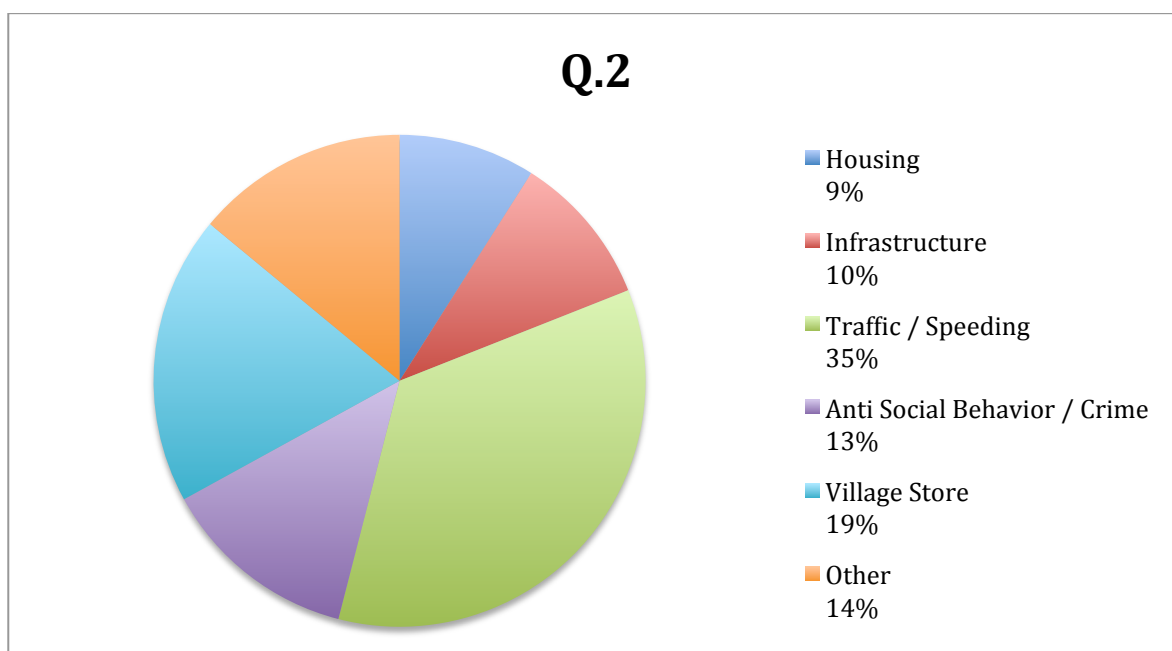
To proceed forward, on any NP a consensus of 54% of the village population had to provide a response to the questionnaire. I am pleased to advise that the 54% was exceeded. All questionnaires were reviewed by CWPC and the Clerk grouped the questionnaires into main headings. Most responses followed a similar pattern of respondent's concerns.

The Clerk grouped the responses into categories:-

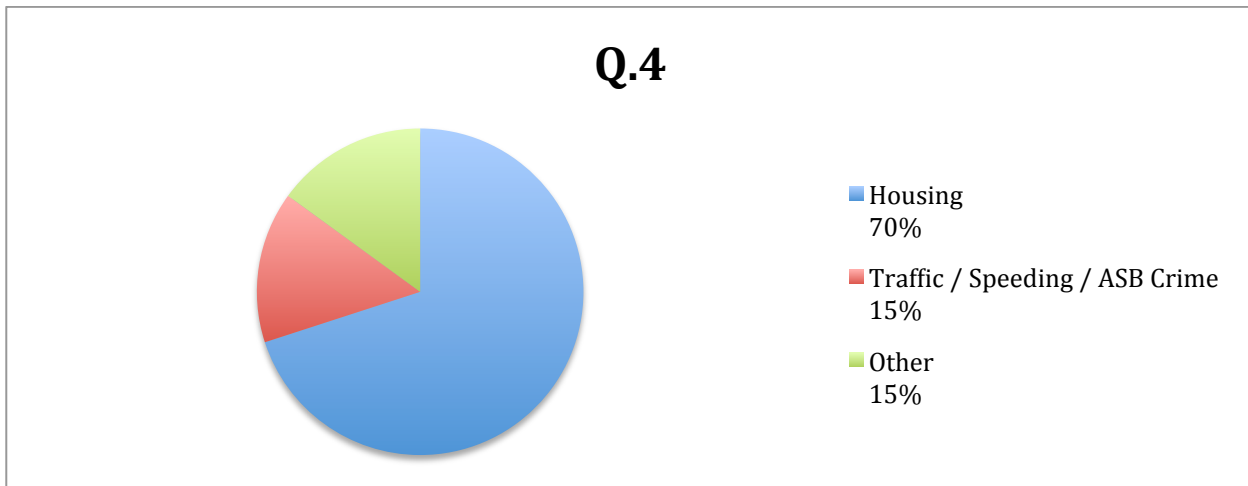
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Traffic / Speeding / ASB
- Anti Social Behavior / Crime
- Village Store / Social Event
- Other

From the responses the following Pie Charts were produced reflecting the results

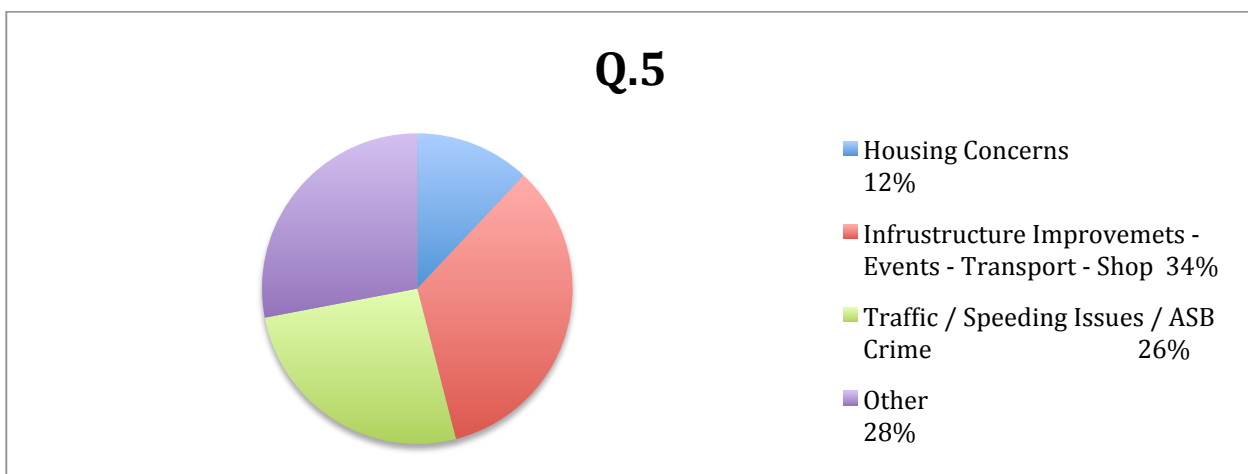
### Question 2: What is bad about the Village?



**Question 4: What issues affect Cannock Wood, now and in the future?**



**Question 5: What changes would you like to see?**



The above is a generalized grouping of residents comments. Not every comment could be categorized.

Having analyzed the results, it was clear that the majority of the residents have concerns over the village, now and for the future.

Now CWPC has had time to absorb the NP information and the results of the village questionnaire, we feel that the village should initiate a NP. The NP is not a 5 minute task, there are a number of milestones that need to be achieved before the plan goes to examination and then to consultation. It is envisaged, that if the NP is kept to key areas, and the relevant committee keep to a strict timetable then we could have a workable document within 18-24 months. There are grants available to cover large parts of the document production costs. CWPC will endeavor to appoint consultants who deliver value for money, should we proceed.

Progressing forward a NP ultimately is a result of the answers received through the CWPC questionnaire. To produce a NP that reflects the results of the questionnaire and the wishes of the community now and in the future, the village will require volunteers to sit on the various sub-committees dealing with key areas as mentioned previously. Without committee members the NP cannot be put into action as it is not CWPC's authority to form a NP committee, it has to be residents from the community, supported by CWPC.

There has been a lot of worthy discussions on the 'Next Door Neighbour' website and through the questionnaire. Now is the time to shape the future of Cannock Wood Village

At the bottom of this page is a reply slip. Would all persons who wish to sit on the NP Committee, please fill in the slip in full and return to The Village Hall letter box by the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

I hope this letter has been informative and shows that CWPC has been acting in the parish's best interest of the parish over the last 12 months, and all councilors encourage you to volunteer for the NP committee.

**TO: The Clerk, Cannock Wood Parish Council**

I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to offer my services

implementing a Neighbourhood Plan for The Village.

**My contact details are:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or**

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Your details will be held confidentially by the Clerk under the CPR rules*