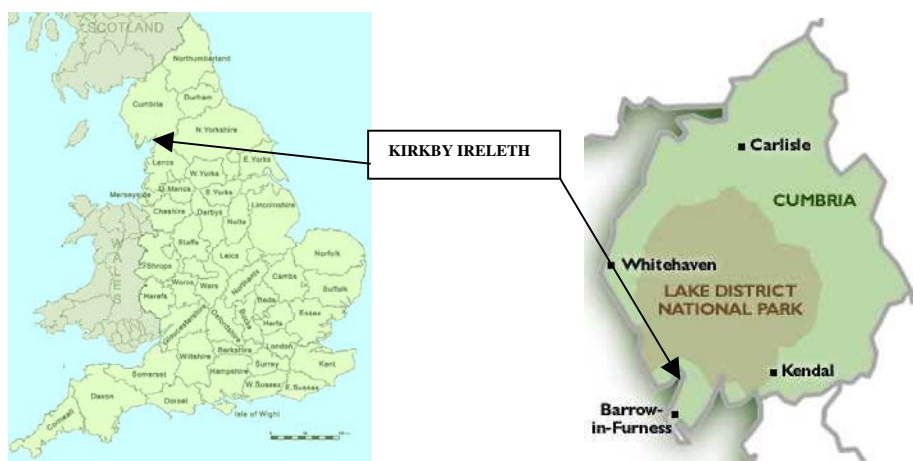


SUMMARY:

The Parish of Kirkby Ireleth is situated on the Furness Peninsula in Cumbria and is made up of a scattered collection of small villages and hamlets. The A595 travels through the Parish taking traffic between Barrow and Grizebeck, where it meets the A5092 trunk road, and continues farther up the West coast to Workington and Whitehaven and beyond. The A5092 eastwards is our closest link to the A590, which it joins at Greenodd.



Kirkby is about 3.9 miles (6.25 kms.) from Dalton-in-Furness and 2.5 miles (4 kms.) from Broughton-in-Furness. The Parish stretches to about 5 miles (8kms.) long and 2 miles (3kms.) wide, from Mere Beck at the southern end to Haverigg Holme, Woodland at the north. Part of the Cumbria Coastal Way cyclepath runs through the village between Askam and Foxfield. Burlington Slate Quarry – at one time renowned as the largest man-made hole in Europe, oversees the village.

The West Coast railway line runs alongside the Parish, almost parallel to the A595 and Kirkby-in-Furness station is located at Sandside. The railway line itself separates Kirkby Ireleth from the sands of the Duddon Estuary on the western side and indeed has some bearing on reducing the incidence of tidal flooding experienced by residents and landowners at Sandside and Head Crag at times of high tide and stormy weather.

The population is about 1250 (Census 2001) in around 575 homes, although 65 of these are second homes, and therefore only occupied occasionally. We also have a static caravan site (Longlands Caravan Site at Croglin, owned by Cavendish Estates) with around 300 caravans at present. The recent expansion of both the static caravan park and the touring caravan park at Low Hall Farm indicates that tourism to the area is increasing.

This is unsurprising as the Parish commands stunning views to the Lake District in the north and sea views to the south. The area is mentioned in the Domesday Book, although we have more information from the 12th Century, when the Abbots of Furness ruled the region. There are remains of a stone circle on the fell side above Beckside and many local names have Viking origins from the 9th and 10th Centuries.

Historically the Parish depended on farming for employment until quarrying and mining began to take precedence. Once rail travel became easier workers began to look towards Barrow and the shipyard and today work in industry far outweighs that in agriculture. Interestingly, 21% of workers work within the village or from home but 55% of employment is within a 20-mile radius, so we have few who travel long distances to their work.

The balance of the population has become weighted towards the middle-aged and above – which is borne out by the falling school roll at Burlington C of E Primary School. At present we have the lowest proportion of 0 – 10 year olds in 100 years; as recently as 1971 we had 160 in this age group – in 2006 we have just 60.

Isolation is seen as a difficulty in such a scattered community and this impacts strongly on both the young and the elderly. The Church magazine, the Kirkby Caller, is very widely read and used to circulate information, as is the St. Cuthbert's annual Kirkby Calendar. Both are delivered free to each house in the Parish.

We have several meetings rooms, a situation which has arisen due to the little pockets of habitation within the Parish. It has to be said, however, that most of these are becoming outdated and in some instances repairs are barely sufficient. Car parking at some venues is a real problem and access for the disabled, very young or very old is inadequate.

Our Questionnaire revealed that young people aged between 11 and 17 have difficulty in finding leisure activities within the confines of the village. Lack of transport and absence of leadership for sports or social interaction featured strongly in comments from this age-group.

Travel by car is essential and most families have more than one vehicle. Public transport is limited and to travel even between some of the hamlets either on foot or on a bicycle is extremely dangerous. Most residents would like to see improvements in the maintenance of the local roads, especially the provision of safe footpaths and cycle ways. Speeding traffic on the A595 is already being monitored, with some calming in place, but remains an issue at busy junctions and at the School particularly.

Although 61% of respondents are in favour of further traffic calming, (speed humps and chicanes being the next steps), there are no records available regarding any improvements data from the existing measures, so on advice from Cumbria Constabulary we are recommending instead improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

The perception that there is little policing is widespread; but the truth is that the crime figures are very low, well beneath the English average. Better communication and increased use of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme might maintain these low levels and alleviate the fear of crime.

Dog fouling and litter are seen as problems within the Parish; both require public education and the provision of more bins. Rubbish collection generally is seen as adequate but facilities for recycling might be improved. Collection of cardboard and plastics, as well as the existing glass, tins and paper, would reduce the requested need for more frequent grey bin emptying.

This is a wonderful place to live; it is beautiful, safe and friendly. It is hoped that by making use of this Parish Plan we can make it even better. 86% of the community took the trouble to fill in the Questionnaire and give their opinions on the issues raised at various public meetings, indicating the value placed upon our Parish by residents.

Most of the community think that the Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council is doing a good job maintaining the structure and amenities of the parish – the Councillors now have a mandate to move forward with Action plans.

The instigation of a separate Annual Parish Meeting would enable the community to discuss issues and inform the KIPC of their views on an ongoing basis. This would also form the ideal forum for monitoring the progress of the Action Plans, with updates from the Task Teams and the Parish Council.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

Foreword

Firstly, thank you to the 439 households who took the time and trouble to complete the Questionnaire. This report is composed entirely of your answers, opinions, thoughts and suggestions. It is obvious from your responses that you love your village; you are justifiably proud of its history, its beauty and its community.

Thank you, too, to the 50 Foot Soldiers who distributed and collected the Questionnaires. Your efforts ensured this high return. And thank you, too, to the little band of ‘tappers’ who programmed in all the responses from the Questionnaire.

Thank you to the Parish Plan Committee, eighteen months and over 2000 voluntary hours later, we have a finished Plan.

And thank you to the Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council and the CGP Kirkby Ireleth Trust Fund who bravely supported us financially. Also we must gratefully acknowledge the support from Voluntary Action Cumbria and the welcome grant from DEFRA.

You may read the Parish Plan and say ‘I could have told them this’. You are quite right – and you **did** tell us all this. Only what you said, in the Questionnaire and at various meetings and events, has been included in the Plan.

No one is telling you anything you don’t already know.

What we have now is written proof of what we enjoy about our Parish, what we want to continue into the future and what you think needs special attention and perhaps some improvement.

By working together with our Parish Council, who have commissioned and supported the production of this Parish Plan, we can make sure that the Kirkby Ireleth Parish can continue to thrive in years to come.

The Action Plan shows the major issues that have been raised and, in conjunction with Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council, South Lakeland District Council, Cumbria County Council and the Lake District National Park, we have suggested ways in which these issues might be tackled.

Some Actions depend on policies already in place with Local Authorities; these will be negotiated and progressed in partnership with these Authorities, led by our Parish Council.

Some Actions depend on effort put in by us. We will have to organise ourselves into committees and work parties to achieve some of the ideas that you have put forward. For these Actions the Parish Plan will help us by proving that the majority of the community want and need the projects – and will enable us to open the doors to major funding to help realise those projects.

Finally, a big thank you to Kirkby History Society, who wrote for us the ‘Potted History of Kirkby’ pages. These interesting historical details about the village can be found at the back of this document.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

Population and Housing

In the 2001 census 1247 people lived in 530 dwellings within Kirkby Ireleth Parish. During the last 100 years the population has decreased by 230 souls, yet the number of dwellings has increased by over 186. We distributed over 550 Questionnaires to individual homes and received 439 replies, which, taking out the 65 holiday homeowners, gives us an 86% return.

The population has remained steady since the 1950s, but it is significant that we now have the lowest proportion of 0-10year olds in the last 100 years. As recently as 1971 there were 160 in this age group – in 2006 we have just 60.

For 93% of households their home in Kirkby is their main residence.

93% of housing meets its owners' needs. Of those that don't, being too small affects twice as many people as being too big.

60 families have relatives who would like to live in the Parish, but are unable to owing to the price of housing. 95 families anticipate a family member will need local accommodation within the next 10 years.

53% of respondents see the need for more housing within the Parish, 46% think there are sufficient houses.

It seems that residents are not averse to controlled and appropriate development in the village. The types of housing suggested by those in favour fall into three distinct categories: starter homes (46%), sheltered housing for the elderly (25%) and family homes (17%).

It is shown that the favoured areas for new houses are in the centre of the village, within easy reach of amenities and transport. This also applies to Grizebeck.

28 respondents considered themselves disabled.

84% of households are satisfied with the healthcare available locally. Comments included difficulty getting to the surgery, as home visits are rare, and the restrictions of limited specialist care available at Furness General Hospital (radiotherapy etc.)

Employment:

50% of men are in full-time employment, 29% are retired and 5% work part-time.

Women are 25% full-time, 19% part-time and 30% retired.

Both only show a 1% unemployment rate.

A surprising 21% of people work within the village (including from home), with 55% working within a 20-mile radius.

Only 12 villagers work at Burlington Slate Quarry.

Industry is the main employment, with 29% of the workers, 14% are professionals (lawyers, doctors or teachers), 11% work in service industries (which includes retail) and 9% work in agriculture or horticulture.

Suggestions for further employment that might be encouraged included small rural businesses and crafts, tourism and leisure, agriculture and horticulture and care services.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY-continued:

Transport and Roads:

41% of families own one car, 35% own two cars – just 2% of households have no car.

With 89% of the respondents having cars it is lucky that 82% park either in a garage or off the road, although 64% of people think that parking is an issue, particularly at the Shop, Doctor's surgery, station and in some of the small hamlets.

The car is by far the most common form of transport – 385 households regularly use their cars.

One of the most serious issues for Parishioners is the A595, which travels through the village from Askam and Ireleth to the junction with the A5092 at Grizebeck. This road has been described as 'substandard' by Cumbria County Council, yet carries all the traffic travelling from Barrow to the West Coast towns. At Dove Ford the road narrows and becomes single track before twisting its way into Grizebeck.

This issue encapsulates a lot of your comments about traffic speed, pedestrian and cyclist safety, road and footpath maintenance and roadside care. We have included in this report a recent traffic study that shows that although daily vehicle traffic volume has remained fairly steady; the percentage of heavy lorries has increased to around 10% (from 5%) since 1993.

61% of people would like to see further traffic calming measures on the A595 throughout the Parish, particularly at the identified danger spots of Four Lane Ends and the School to Marsh Garth stretch of the main road.

61% of respondents feel that the maintenance of our roads and footpaths is inadequate. The poor surface, unsatisfactory repairs, broken down walls and localised flooding all feature in your comments.

60% of residents are concerned about pedestrian safety and would like to see better footpath provision right through the Parish from Merebeck to Beanthwaite! One of our most popular footpaths runs through Beck Fields, and is in need of major upgrading.

53% of residents feel that cyclists are in danger on our roads and would like to see dedicated cycle paths.

61% of households would like to see a footpath/cycleway connecting all the hamlets of the Parish.

Sports Facilities:

21% said 'very good', 41% 'good' and 32% 'adequate'; this reflects the comments of no indoor facilities, no all-weather facilities, few non-grass sports or sports for females. Bearing in mind the present provision of football, cricket, bowls and tennis it was also evident that there is limited opportunity for youth sports for 11-17 year olds.

Sports requested included badminton, netball, hockey, BMX trail, skateboarding, judo and swimming.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY-continued:

Information Access:

This issue showed overwhelming support for the Kirkby Caller and Kirkby Calendar as sources of information – 86% of households use these sources. 73% of you talk about forthcoming events and 50% use posters and notice boards.

Channel 5 remains inaccessible to those without Sky digital T.V. and a Woodland resident notes that Broadband is not available all through the Parish.

Business and Amenities:

52% of people use Moorlands Stores and Post Office ‘often’, with a further 40% popping in ‘occasionally’.

20% of residents use local garages regularly, but another 55% use them ‘occasionally’ – this is an almost identical pattern to the use of local pubs!

50% of parishioners use local churches sometimes, with 15% going ‘often’.

50% of families have milk delivered regularly or ‘occasionally’ whilst 20% of people use the Mobile Library at least ‘occasionally’.

31% of residents use the Internet Shopping facility at least occasionally.

Comments regarding amenities needed include 15% who would like meetings facilities, 9% who would like a take-away food outlet and 5% who would welcome a recycling centre.

61% of people do not want to see an increase in tourist activity, despite some comments that it may benefit the local economy. 25% of respondents asked for no more holiday homes or static caravans.

22% have provided suggestions that we might encourage tourists by producing walking maps, brochures and information (a specialised web site) to promote our village and local facilities.

Utilities and Environment :

92% of respondents answered this question, so we have an accurate picture.

63% thought the water supply ‘good’, 3% ‘poor’ due to low water pressure problems – the rest thought the supply adequate.

53% thought the electricity supply ‘good’, 37% ‘average’ and 5% poor because cuts occur frequently during high winds.

50% think that the refuse collections are ‘good’, 40% ‘average’ and 10% ‘poor’ because of the lack of plastic and cardboard recycling facilities. 40% think that recycling facilities are adequate although 20% would like improved services.

Lighting is seen as 19% ‘good’, 40% adequate and 40% ‘poor’ – although the ‘poor’ rating applied to specific areas, often public areas, and not to generalised lighting.

Roadside care comments included praise for the improvements to verge appearance since the KIPC took over the cutting via a local contractor. Still, 40% consider that lack of maintenance to hedges and banks and the lack of clearing up after hedge cutting remains an issue.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY-continued:

Road drainage and run off control shows real concern by respondents, with only 5% considering arrangements 'good'. 50% think control 'poor' with instances of road flooding on the A595 at Gargreave, Muirlands and Woodland cited. Many comment that the lack of clearing of hedge cuttings blocks the road drains.

Coastal flooding only shows that 2% of parishioners think the arrangements 'good', with 68% 'poor,' stating disappointment at the postponement of the proposed Flood Defences at Sandside as the reason.

Dog fouling is an issue, with 64% of residents finding fouling a problem, although 36% of people thought that it is not important. Regarding the provision of dog-litter bins, 61% thought that bins might improve the situation, 38% thought it would make no difference.

60% of respondents say that they are not satisfied with policing levels within the Parish; 39% are satisfied. People expect a village policeman, and, although crime levels locally are extremely low, perceive there to be a lack of police presence. However, 66% of respondents are satisfied with the Neighbourhood Watch arrangements, with only 5% of people being unaware of a Neighbourhood Watch system in their area.

Households think that the Parish has adequate facilities for the elderly, although 26% think that facilities could be improved – comments included isolation, requests for a day centre, home care support, sheltered housing and improved transport. For the young, 47% think that the Parish lacks facilities – meeting places, lack of clubs, events, youth leaders and transport to nearby towns on Friday and Saturday evenings were all mentioned. The school-age children, to protect them from the elements whilst waiting for the school buses, mention the need for bus shelters.

The question of whether local people would be willing to help with youth activities yielded a very encouraging 51 'possible' leaders.

Use of Local Meetings Facilities:

76% of respondents (348 households) answered the question about use of the four main meeting halls and although only 59 respondents used one venue regularly once a week venues are used by up to 75% of households on occasion.

Of 353 respondents, 58% thought that existing venues were satisfactory, 41% did not. 71 respondents think that that access and/or parking is difficult, 57 think that the venues are outdated, 48 say they are either the wrong size or in the wrong location and 6 commented that the events are not suitable.

Of the 181 households who answered, 81% said that they thought a new Community venue would solve the problems mentioned above, 19% thought it would not help.

97 respondents had suggestions for other facilities for the Parish; 35 mentioned meetings facilities (for clubs etc), 15 wanted more, and better integrated, galas and fetes, 12 asked for indoor sports facilities and 4 the provision of non-field sports.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY-continued:

Finally, parishioners were asked if they felt that the Local Government and Local Authorities were effective. 63% of respondents (263 returns) think that Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council adequately served the community, 43% think that South Lakeland District Council perform adequately, 41% think that the Lake District National Park Authority are satisfactory and 29% for Cumbria County Council.

**These results are all taken from the Questionnaire responses.
The graphs and charts to show how we drew our conclusions for the
Action Plans can all be seen at the back of this report.
A photocopy of any supporting official documents will be included.**

A CD will be available which will hold all the data, including the Excel sheets used to record responses. Minutes from Parish Plan Steering Committee meetings and all financial information will all be held by Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council and may be inspected at any convenient time by contacting the Parish Clerk.

Kirkby Ireleth Parish Plan

Summary of Key Points

Developing The Community:

- Provision to be made towards the building of starter homes.
- The community will do all it can to promote the use of the local school by ensuring appropriate development and facilities to attract young families to Kirkby.
- A new community facility to be pursued as has been demanded by the response of the villagers in the questionnaire.
- To provide adequate facilities/activities to meet the needs of 11 – 17 year olds in the Parish.

Improving The Village:

- The Parish Council to maintain sufficient pressure on CCC and The Highways Department to improve the overall condition of roads, surface drainage, walls, hedges and signage.
- Measures to be taken to reduce the incidence of dog fouling and general litter throughout the Parish.

Improving Existing Village Services & Amenities:

- The Parish Council to promote the need to reduce the impact of coastal flooding on local housing.
- To ensure villagers understand that current crime levels in Kirkby are very low and to ensure that these levels are sustained, or improved.
- To develop a footpath and cycle network linking all major areas of the Parish that is safe and fit for purpose.

Please note that the term ‘Task Team’ used throughout the Action Plan refers to a group of volunteers who would be appointed from the community to further each Action under the leadership of the Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council.

Developing The Community:

Action Plan 1

To increase the availability of affordable housing within the Parish in order to maintain population balance for a healthy and ongoing infrastructure.

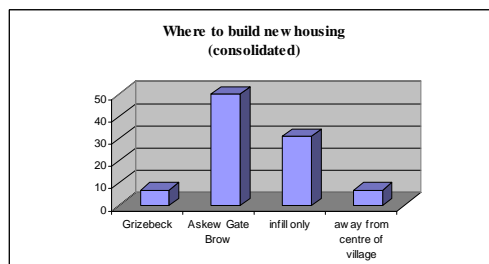
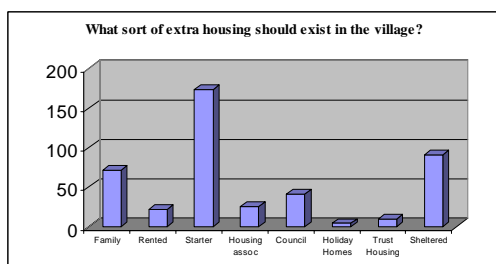
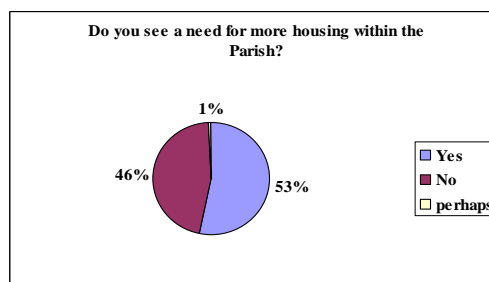
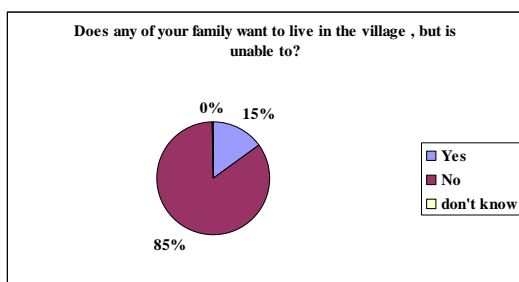
60 families have relatives who would like to live in the Parish but are unable to afford to buy property. A further 95 families identify a possible requirement for starter housing for relatives within the next 10 years.

53% of respondents support the need for controlled housing growth within the Parish, with the most support for starter houses followed by sheltered accommodation so that our frail elderly can remain within the Parish.

The falling roll at Burlington School is evidence that we need to encourage young families to come to, and remain in, the Parish. 97% of respondents consider the continued presence of Burlington School as at least 'important'.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
Conduct a housing needs Survey	Liaise with Cumbria rural housing Source funds Develop plan following needs survey results	Task Team	Mar. '07 or as given by SLDC	Moderate cost £1000-£2000 for survey	Cumbria Rural Housing Trust; SLDC; CCC;	Very high



Developing The Community:

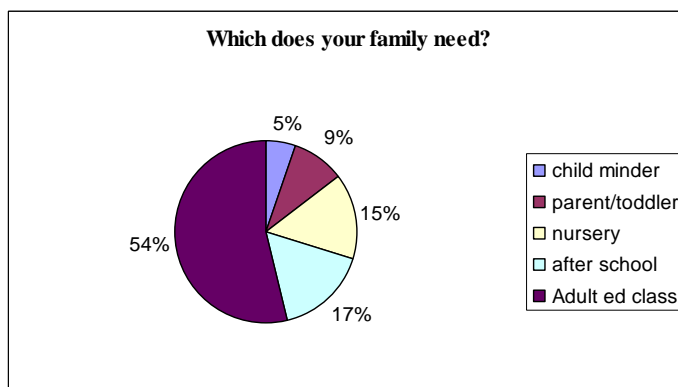
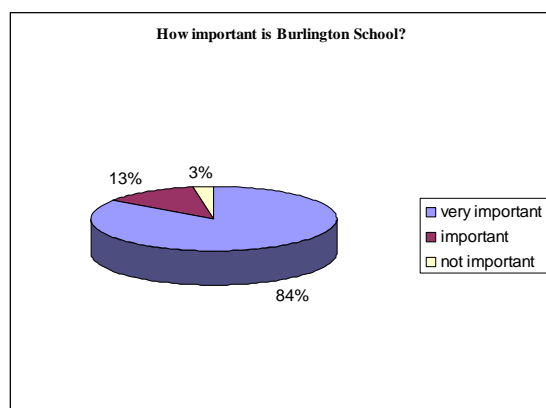
Action Plan 2

To facilitate the ongoing sustainability of Burlington C of E Primary School, through provision of facilities in the village to attract young families.

84% of villagers said that Burlington School is very important to the sustainability of the village; a further 13% said it was important. The school is seen as a community focus, as well as encouraging young families to stay it also reduces travel for children and encourages ties with the villages that can contribute towards the reduction of vandalism.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
Prioritise investments and resources towards this sector of the population	Provide support to task team focused on provision of low cost housing Develop plan in conjunction with the school and other partners for provision nursery facilities Liaise with community for best mix of provisions to attract young families to Kirkby	Task Team	By June '07	Seek funding options with Partners. May need some community volunteer system	SLDC; CCC LEA School Governors	Very high



Developing The Community:

Action Plan 3

To provide a purpose built new community facility to enable better provision of social facilities.

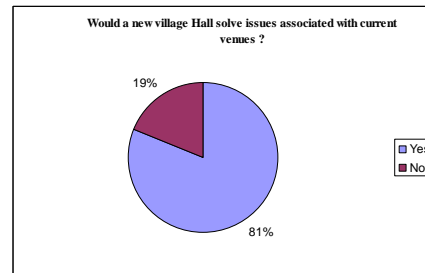
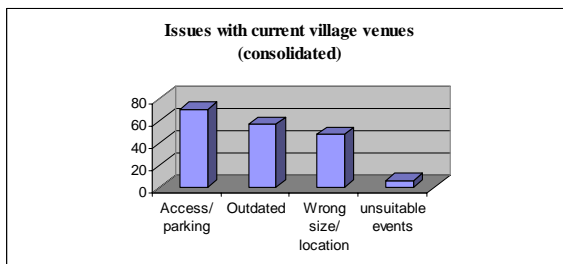
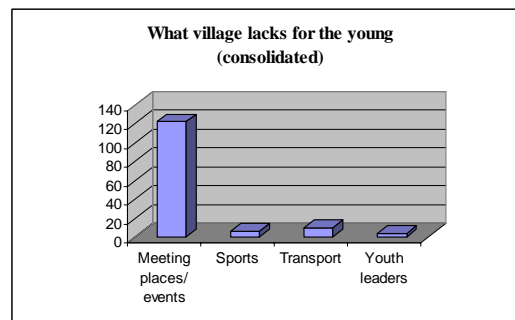
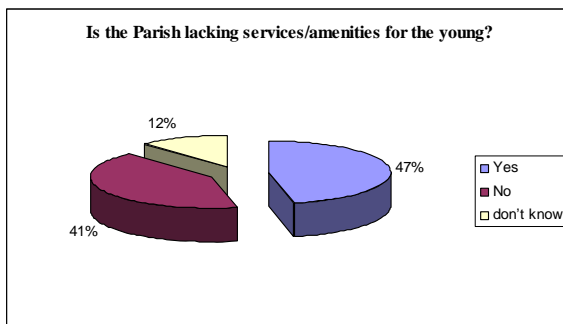
Current village amenities are used by 85% of the community at some time throughout the year; the vast majority identifying that they use one facility occasionally. 15% of the community regularly use at least one facility weekly.

Villagers have noted that they would use the facilities more if they were modern and fit for purpose, with good access and parking. A good quality meeting place for under 18's and the provision of indoor sporting activities was frequently requested with 122 households requesting a meeting place and 27 requests for more indoor sports. Suggestions for the elderly included a day centre where people could meet.

When asked directly if a new community hall would improve the village 147 people said 'yes' and 34 said 'no'.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To select the most viable site, produce a design and business plan	Finalise location. Draw up design brief. Commission architects. Obtain building quotes.	Task Team	Dec. '07	It is likely to cost £500,000	SLDC; CCC; National Lottery Rural grants	High
To raise funds for the facility	Approach local and national agencies and funds providers. Secure funding Promote village fundraising. Selection of builder	Task Team	Dec.09		SLDC; CCC; National Lottery Rural grants	Moderate



Developing The Community:

Action Plan 4

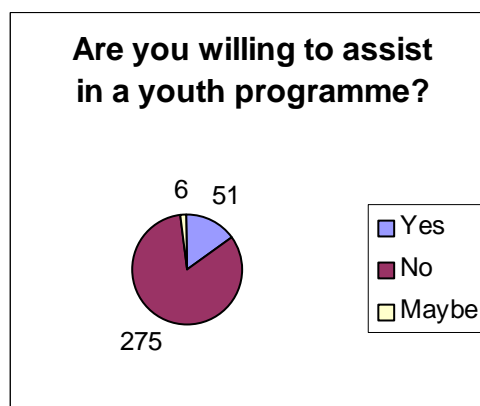
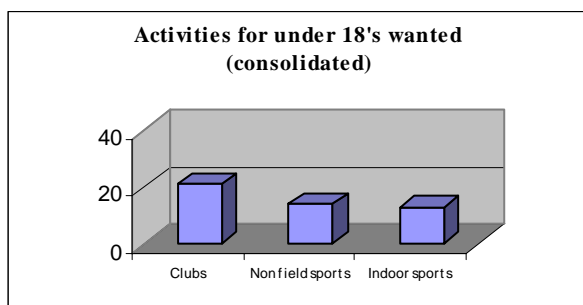
To provide adequate facilities/activities to meet the needs of 11-17 year olds.

The Questionnaire return suggests that the number of 11-17 year olds in the Village is 84 (72 confirmed with a response of 86%). Of these only 4 use the Community Centre either weekly or monthly and only 6 use the Beckside Rooms. Throughout the questionnaire comments relate to requesting 'somewhere for teenagers', 'unsuitable leisure activities' and requests for a range of sports that would satisfy an Olympic squad. Clearly such a range is not practicable for the village - but people are keen to have more and have made this very clear in their responses. This is coupled with a very pleasing 51 respondents saying they would be prepared to play a part in some way of leading youth activities.

The graph below represents responses for Question 46 'If you are under 18, what activities would you like to see?' - this being just one part of the questionnaire where these thoughts were raised.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To identify and start up events that would meet the needs of 11-17 year olds in the village	Identify potential youth leadership team via a public meeting-	Youth Leadership team	Summer 06	Small cost expected. Look for any grants that may support this	Community	High Complete this before moving forward
	Conduct focus group meeting with as many 11-17 year old as possible		Dec 06	Small funding to entice youth to attend-food/entertainment?	KIPC	High
	Develop priority list and plan to go live		Dec 06 /Mar 07	Could use some funds from CGP fund	KIPC	High



Improving The Village:

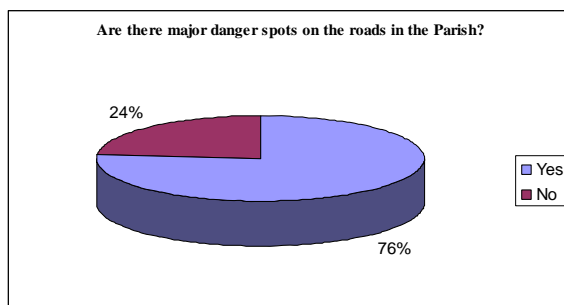
Action Plan 5

To put sustained pressure on CCC Highways Department to improve the overall condition of local roads through more effective maintenance of roads, surface drainage systems, walls, hedges and signage

61% of local residents think that the maintenance of local roads is inadequate. Potholes, eroded edges and walls falling into the road are a risk of accidents and serious injury. Overgrown hedges and verges obscure the vision of motorists and poor cutting regimes leave drains and gullies blocked causing serious flooding problems (see A595 at Gargreave).

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To ensure that road maintenance activities meet the standards laid down for National Highways	Audit the Parish against existing Highways standards	Task Team	Mar. '07	Parish Clerk time Volunteer time for auditing and communications	SLDC; CCC Landowners	High
	Establish a village Task Team to inspect completed work against the standards laid down		Mar. '07			
	Persist in requesting corrective measures		Ongoing			
	Maintain controls to monitor progress and compile evidence from inspections		Ongoing			



Improving The Village:

Action Plan 6

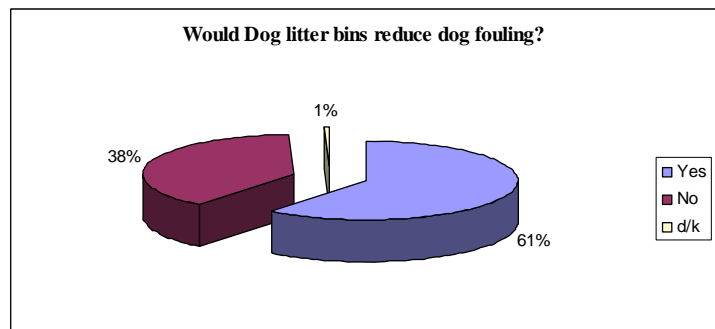
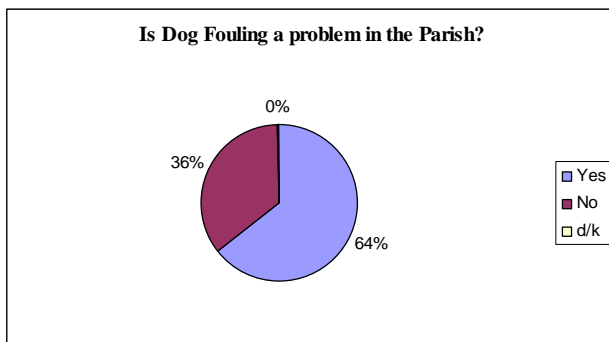
To reduce the quantity of dog mess and general litter within the Parish.

64% of respondents consider dog fouling a public nuisance. It has to be considered that dog fouling can spread serious disease and that children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to infection. The proliferation of litter is unsightly and hazardous to children and animals.

Many respondents talked about litter around the village, with its negative impact on the general environment

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To educate, communicate and if necessary prosecute.	Communicate to the local population the nature of associated health risks	Task Team	Dec. '06	Could consider sponsored litter picks Poster campaign Costs inc. Fluorescent tabards for litter pickers	SLDC; CCC Landowners	High
	Engage with villagers to get approval to request corrective action by offending dog owners.		Dec. '07			
	Commitment to prosecuting offenders		Mar. '07			
	To improve the provision of litter bins to encourage their use. Ensure they are emptied regularly					



Improving Existing Village Services & Amenities:

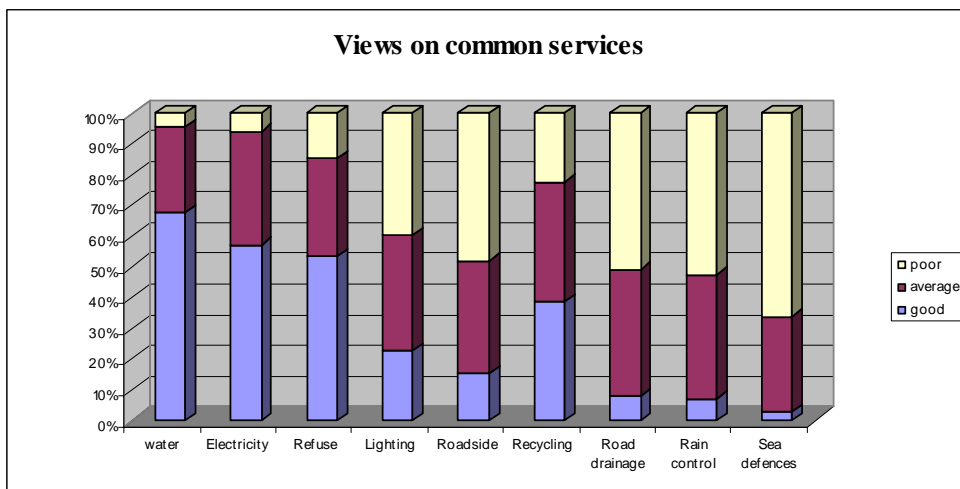
Action Plan 7

To solve the issue of localised coastal flooding.

An overwhelming 209 households said sea defences were poor, another 96 said they were adequate with only 9 households saying they were good. This is a very strong indication of general dissatisfaction with current defences as not all households are directly affected. This issue affects other parishes around the Duddon Estuary as well.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To work with partners and other villages on the estuary to provide an enduring solution to the issue of coastal flooding	Establish consultative network with others around the Duddon Estuary to develop synergies.	Task Team	Mar. '07	This must become part of the local area long term development plan, no quick fixes envisaged	SLDC; CCC; Environment Agency. Landowners. Duddon Estuary focus group	Medium
	Consult with Environment agency to clarify options		Mar. '07			
	Consult with local authorities to clarify options		Mar. '07			
	Collect information on the erosion of the banks at Kirkby Pool		Mar. '07			



Improving Existing Village Services & Amenities:

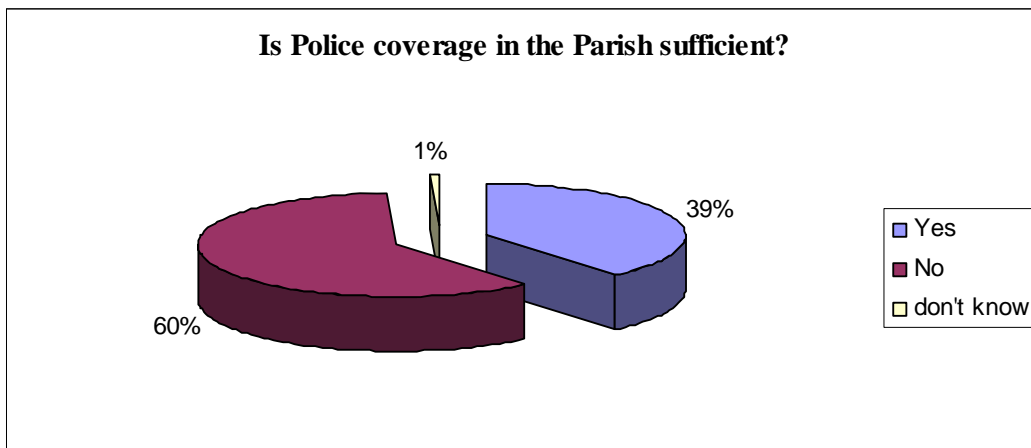
Action Plan 8

To ensure crime rates within the village are well understood by the population, and that the current low level of crime gets no worse.

60% of the population are unhappy about the level of police presence in the village. The police however see Kirkby as a low crime area; hence deployment of their resources tends to be to higher priority areas. A surprising 222 households (66% of respondents) said they were happy with the current Neighbourhood Watch schemes, although 110 households either didn't know there were such schemes or were dissatisfied with them.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisation	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
To provide an ongoing communication of crime in Kirkby, and to regenerate the Neighbourhood watch system.	Monitor ongoing crime statistics on at least an annual basis		Ongoing but initial by Dec. '06			
	Form Neighbourhood Watch teams in all hamlets of the Parish.		Mar. '07			
	Set up ongoing consultative system with the local Policeman/woman.	Task Team	Dec. '06	Small cost for setting up Neighbourhood Watch schemes where there are none.	Cumbria Police	High
	Run communication campaigns on crime statistics in the village		Initial by Dec. '06	Volunteer time		



Improving Existing Village Services & Amenities:

Action Plan 9

To provide a proper network of footpaths and cycle-paths that connects the major hamlets safely.

60% of Parishioners are concerned for pedestrian safety and 61% would like to see a footpath/cycleway connecting all of the major hamlets. It is currently very unwise to try to cycle or walk between many of the main hamlets due to the lack of such facilities and the dangerous road. Many people feel that the community would be improved if such a network existed.

Existing footpaths are in poor condition generally due to lack of maintenance. One of the most used, and consequently most commented on, is Beck Fields footpath, between Soutergate and Beckside.

LEAD ACCOUNTABILITY: Kirkby-Ireleth Parish Council

Actions	Tasks	Lead Organisations	Timescale	Resource	Partners	Priority
Development of a 5-year footpath and cycle way plan.	Survey existing footpaths cycle-ways to establish their existence and condition.	Task Team	Mar. '07	Small cost for setting up Task Teams Volunteer time	Highways CCC; SLDC; Environment Agency; DEFRA;	High
	Develop roll out plan for upgrades/additional routes-use the outputs from KPP questionnaire to help prioritise.		June '07			
	Consult with various stakeholders to establish boundary conditions and to identify opportunities		June '07			

