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# Walton Parish Plan



**2007**



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## Overview

This Parish Plan for Walton has been compiled and produced by Walton Community Group. The information presented within the Plan has been gathered from local children, young people and adults in 2005 and reflects their views in terms of living in the Parish.

Walton Parish Plan evidences the views of local people in terms of what assets, services, support and activities they would like to see either improved or developed within the Parish in the future.

The feedback from the questionnaires and the consultation events highlighted the following issues as being high priority:

- More social clubs/activities for children, young people and adults, evening classes, extend hall
- Village shop
- Improve play park
- Promote tourism
- Improve bus service
- Restrict housing
- Stop cars speeding



Walton Parish Plan has been designed to reflect the headings used in the Questionnaire, and has also included at the end of each section a brief outline of a suggested Action Plan.

Compiling and producing the Parish Plan is only the first stage – implementing some of the suggestions/ideas is the second and probably most challenging stage. Walton Community Group was formed with a specific remit to produce the Parish Plan. Once the Plan has been produced, Walton Community Group will be dissolved, it will not have any responsibility for implementing the proposals and suggestions put forward by the community and outlined in the Action Plans.

### The Way Forward

The Parish Plan will provide the Parish Council with a useful tool in terms of ensuring that future plans and decisions represent their electorate, as some of the issues highlighted will come under the jurisdiction of the Parish Council.

Some of the issues identified however, will not fall to the Parish Council. If they are to be realised a new ‘community partnership’ would need to be established. This ‘partnership’ would require a membership that represented everyone’s interests within the community, have a commitment to develop and support local community projects and be governed by a document that would enable it to draw down funding from local and national Charitable Trusts and Foundations, Lottery etc..



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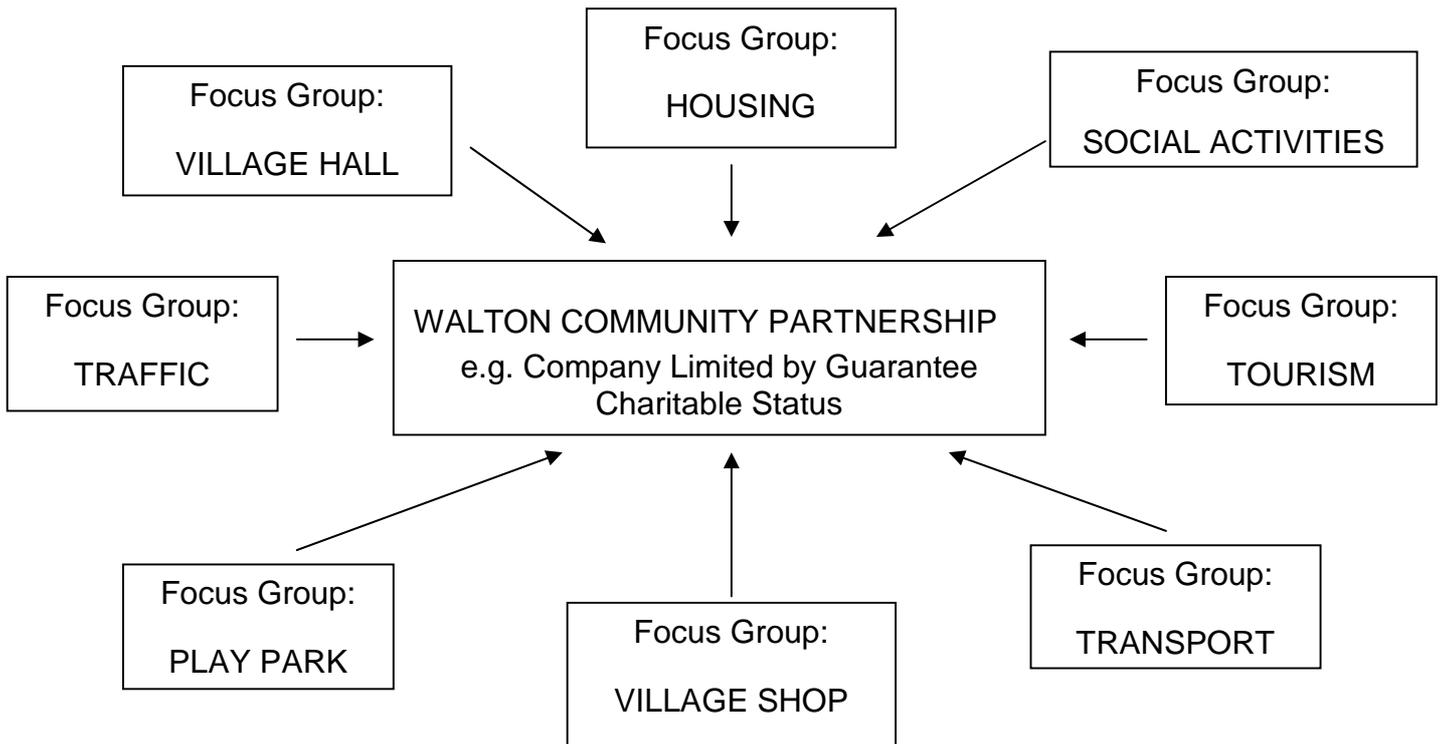


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Focus groups could then be set up to look at specific issues/projects identified from the Parish Plan. Different people would be involved in different focus groups subject to their own particular interests. It would be the responsibility of these groups to develop detailed action plans/feasibility studies, to feedback to the 'community partnership' whose role it would be to endorse the projects and apply for funding.



This is the type of partnership that has evolved from the Cumwhitton Parish Plan, which has already been successful in securing funding to realise some of the needs identified in their Parish Plan i.e. setting up a Youth Club, producing a comprehensive newsletter and securing some land to develop a children's park.

The last task for Walton Community Group will be to facilitate a public meeting to consider the findings of the Parish Plan, and to discuss the options and contemplate the way forward.





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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The information presented in the Parish Plan has been collated and compiled by Walton Community Group.

### **Walton Community Group:**

**Chair:** John Smith  
**Secretary:** Rhian Davies  
**Treasurer:** Steve Reynolds  
**Committee:** Fiona Evans  
 John Evans  
 Susan Fullelove  
 Tony Harden  
 Jane Smith



Thank you to Pam Cronin and Helen Armstrong who were involved initially in the Group

### **Parishioners**

The production of the Plan would not have been possible without the collaboration, co-operation and enthusiasm of the children, young people and adults living within the Parish. Parishioners contributed both through completing the questionnaire and by supporting the events that Walton Community Group hosted. Thank you to everyone who participated in this process and contributed his or her thoughts and ideas.

### **Walton business' and organisations**

The Village Hall Committee, the Centurion Inn and the Parish Council who provided venues and/or support for the events and Parish Plan Update sessions also supported developing the Walton Parish Plan.

### **Outside agencies**

Walton Community Group also received valuable support and guidance from the following outside agencies during the formation of this Parish Plan:

- \* Carlisle City Council
- \* Cumbria County Council
- \* Voluntary Action Cumbria
- \* Tullie House

And supported by DEFRA



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## ***INTRODUCTION TO PARISH PLANS***

In **November 2000** the Government's Rural White Paper 'Our Countryside – The Future' launched the concept of Parish Plans and outlined their purpose which was to:

- set out a vision of what is important
- find how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future
- identify key facilities and services
- set out the problems that need to be tackled and
- demonstrate how distinctive character and features can be preserved

Parish Plans have no formal status (as yet) but they can be used to influence a wide range of organisations that provide services and funding to rural communities.

Walton Community Group was formed to produce a Parish Plan to highlight local needs and aspirations, with a view to developing and implementing local projects/services to improve the quality of rural life.

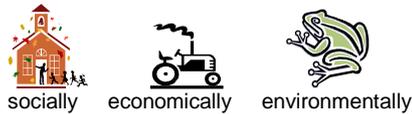
## ***BACKGROUND TO WALTON PARISH PLAN***

In **May 2004** a number of parishioners asked the Parish Council if Walton Parish was to be involved with creating a Parish Plan along the lines of the ones being created by many other parishes throughout Cumbria. The Parish Council responded by calling a public meeting in **June 2004**, which was attended by around 30 people. At this meeting people were asked to volunteer to form a new independent group to develop a Parish Plan and Walton Community Group (WCG) was formed.

The role of Walton Community Group was to raise awareness of the purpose of Parish Plans, to carry out an audit of existing services, and to design a questionnaire to send out to all households in the parish to ascertain the views, needs and aspirations of local people. Once all the information had been collated it was the responsibility of WCG to use the information to write and publish a Parish Plan for Walton.

In **August 2004** WCG submitted a successful funding bid to Cumbria County Council to meet the costs of producing a Parish Plan.

On **September 18 2004** a Parish Plan update session was held at the Centurion Inn. This was well attended and gave people the opportunity to see the progress made by the group and a chance to exchange their views with the committee members.



On **November 5 2004** another update session was held in the Village Hall to encourage people to talk to WCG committee members and to pass on their opinions and ideas to be included in the questionnaire.

A Newsletter sent out at **Christmas 2004** updated parishioners on the group's progress and again invited views and ideas.

In **February 2005** WCG organised a successful children's activity day in partnership with Tullie House and a Pie and Pea supper – in addition to providing a progress report on the development of the Parish Plan Questionnaire.

In **May 2005** the Parish Plan questionnaire was printed and distributed to all households within the Parish. In addition to the main questionnaire, WCG also enclosed a questionnaire specifically for children of primary school age (4 to 11 years).

In **June 2005** a drop-in session was held in the Village Hall to give young people aged 11 to 18 years the opportunity to have their say about living in the Parish.



In **August 2005** WCG produced another newsletter, thanking people for their support and advertising the Parish update session to be held in September.

The response to the questionnaire was over twice the national average for questionnaire returns (national statistics web site), and on **September 4 2005** WCG organised a Parish Plan update session (and cream tea) in the Village Hall, to give people an opportunity to look at the information gathered from the questionnaires. The afternoon also provided a final opportunity for people to highlight

their personal views in terms of potential areas for improvement and/or development within the Parish to be included in the Parish Plan. The afternoon proved to be a huge success, with over 60 parishioners coming to the Hall to share their ideas and thoughts.

All the information from the questionnaires and the Parish Update sessions has been used to develop the Parish Plan.





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## **THE PARISH**

The Parish of Walton lies on the north side of the river Irthing, between the rivulets Kingwater and Cambeck, and is bounded on the north by Kirklington and Stapleton, on the east by Lanercost, on the south by Brampton and on the west by Irthington.

The parish is rural; the main industry is agricultural and related businesses. In recent years the tourism generated by the Hadrian's Wall Walk has seen an increase in Bed & Breakfast business, particularly in the south of the parish. Increasingly those who live in the parish are retired or work outside the parish.

Although the population of the parish has remained fairly stable over the last 20 years the age profile of the Parish residents has risen over recent years. The majority of the population live within the village of Walton.

The village developed slowly remaining largely unchanged over the years until the building of Woodleigh in the mid 1970's, and then White House in the 1990's. The majority of the dwellings are owner occupied detached houses and over 50% of households have 2 or more cars.

The village of Walton is three miles north of Brampton, and ten miles from Carlisle. Like many other villages that lie along the route of Hadrian's Wall, its name is characteristic, and bears testimony to its relationship with the Roman Wall.

The church of St Mary stands in the centre of the village across the green from the Village hall and until recently there was a primitive Methodist Church erected in 1858, the same year as the building of the village school which closed in 1970 and which is now used as the village hall. The Centurion Inn to the south of the village is over 200 years old and also houses the post office. Sadly the village shop and garage closed several years ago.

Thriving groups within the Parish includes the Parish Council, the W.I., the Village Hall committee, Parents and Toddlers and the Monday Club.

Walton has one of the prettiest village greens in the county. In 1887 fifteen lime trees were planted in the centre of the Village to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

Walton Moss is now a site of Scientific Interest, a rare example of a raised peat bog and is where and is where various flower and fauna are monitored.



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## **WALTON CHRONOLOGY AD71 to 2007**

71	Romans arrive. Stanegate forts
122-30	Roman wall built and Camboglanna Fort.
368	Scots and Picts invade.
410	Romans leave.
590	Kentigern in the area.
600-700	Walton founded.
850-950	Preaching cross erected
1060	Enoch, parson of Walton
1066	Battle of Hastings
1086	Swainsteads mentioned in the Domesday book
1092	Annexation from Scotland to England
1133	Diocese of Carlisle founded
1166	Foundation of Lanercost
1175	Thomas the Parson of Walton
1286	Border wars begin
1297	Scots raid
1380	Robert le Chester, Parson
1386	Canons from Lanercost minister to Walton
1538	Dissolution of Lanercost
1544	Christopher Walker first vicar
1570	Border battle at Hellbeck
1598	Walton raided
1603	James I becomes King. End of Reiving
1611	Whitehill built
1627	New Chalice for church
1684	First church registration
1680-90	Orchard House built
1731	New bell made for church. Now in hall
1767	Value of the vicars living increased
1760-90	Sandysike, Castlesteads and High Rigg built
1780-1800	Black Bull built (now the Centurion)
1801	William Hutton walks the wall.
1811	New Church built
1812	Holly Garth built by Revd Ireland
1839	New parsonage
1851	Revd Smith shoots William Armstrong
1858	Methodist chapel built
1859/60	New School built
1869	Present church built
1884/98	Bridges at Dovecote and Walton Mill
1887	Lime Trees planted for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee
1902	Reading room opened
1909	Clock added to school
1930's	Electricity and piped water
1970	School closes, becomes Village Hall
1970's	New houses at Woodleigh
1990's	Shop and petrol station close – Post office moved to Centurion Inn
2002	Wall Walk National Trail established



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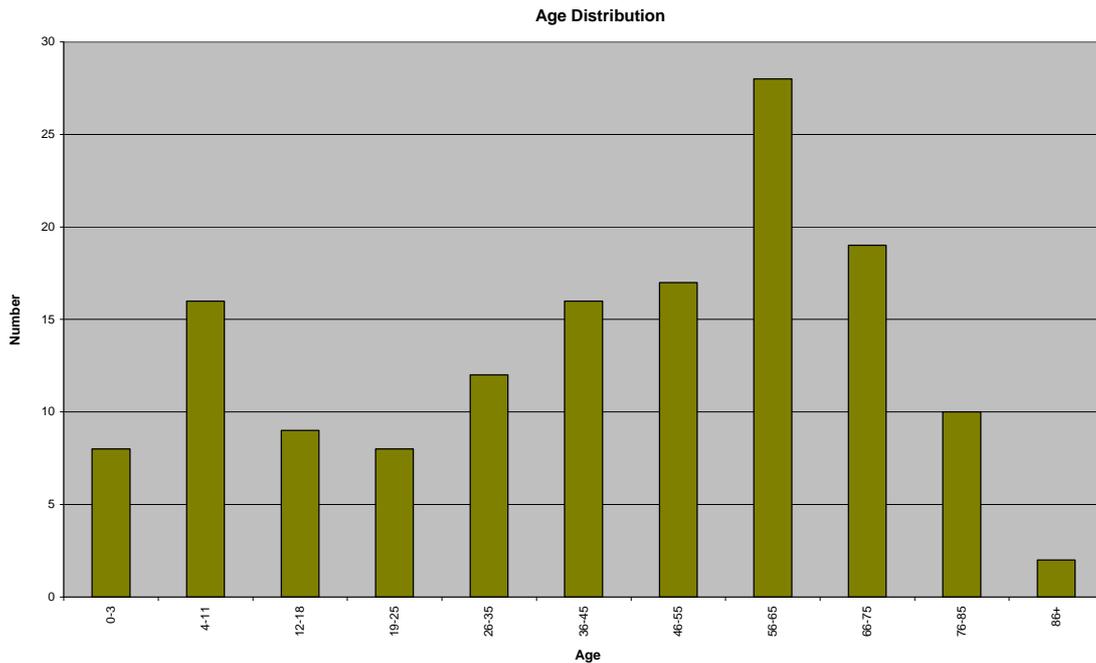


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## INFORMATION FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaires were not limited to one per household and in some cases several people from the same household responded.

The age distribution of those completing the questionnaire is given below and is a likely distribution of those living in the Parish.



The questionnaire gave a list of ideas gained from previous consultations and asked people to say whether they thought they were a good idea or not. The response is shown on the next page.

The main points in this graph were separated into different sections and the responses are detailed in the following pages.





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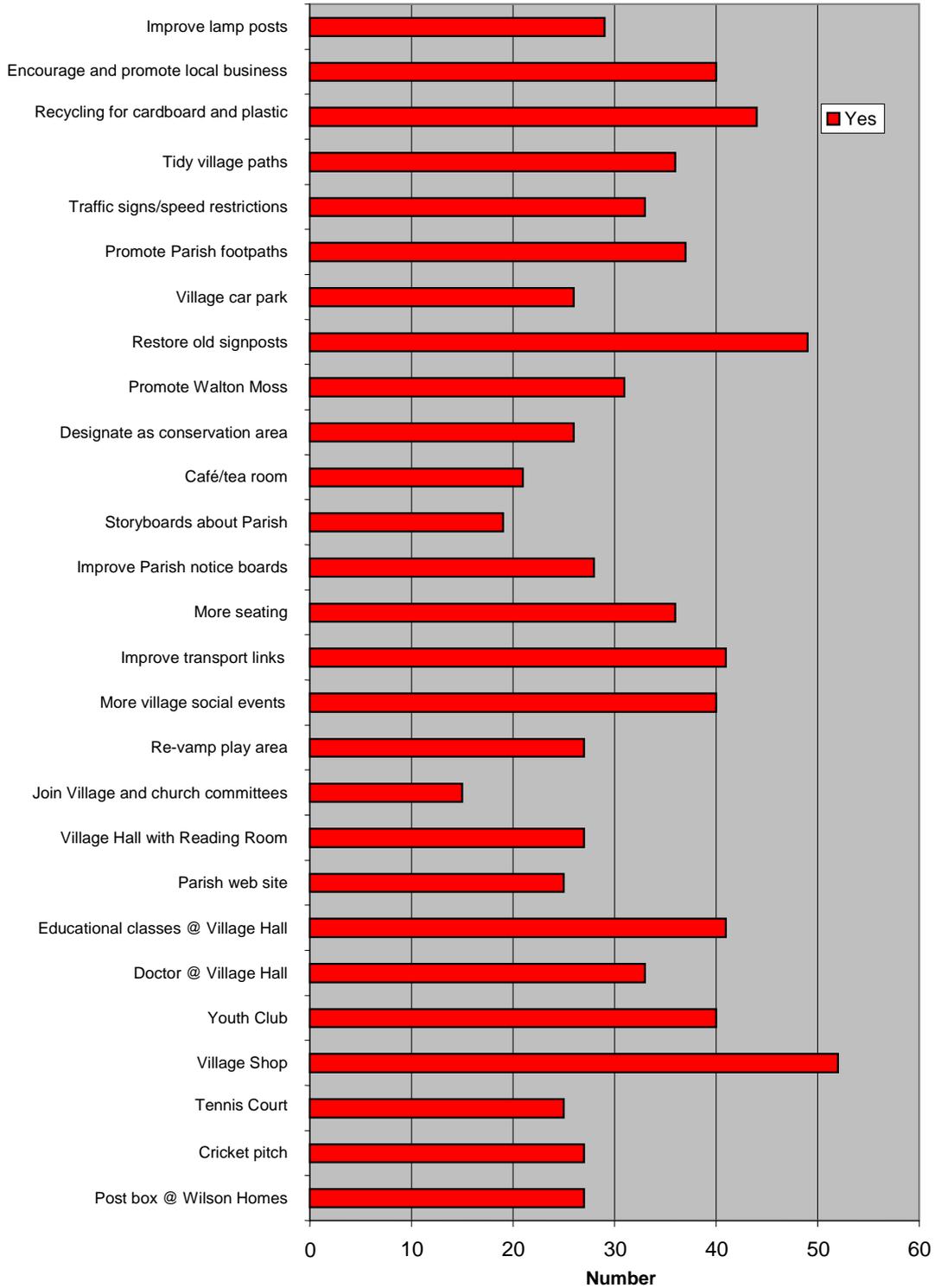


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### Good idea?





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## Services and Activities

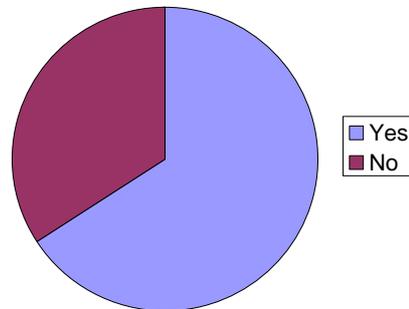
The Parish has a number of active groups who regularly meet in the Parish:

- Church Committee
- Darts/Dominoes Team
- Parent and Toddler Group
- Parish Council
- Village Hall Committee
- Walton Community Group
- Walton Good Companions
- Women’s Institute
- Young Farmers

While a lot of people knew that these groups met on a regular basis it was thought that in general the groups needed to publicise their meetings. It was felt that some of the groups were exclusive and not community friendly although publicising any meetings would make each group more accessible to new people.

In general people thought that there was good community spirit in the Parish and the main reasons people were not involved in community activities were lack of time and/or information.

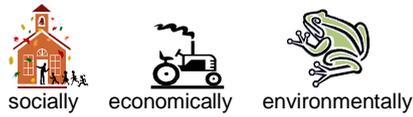
Is there good community spirit?



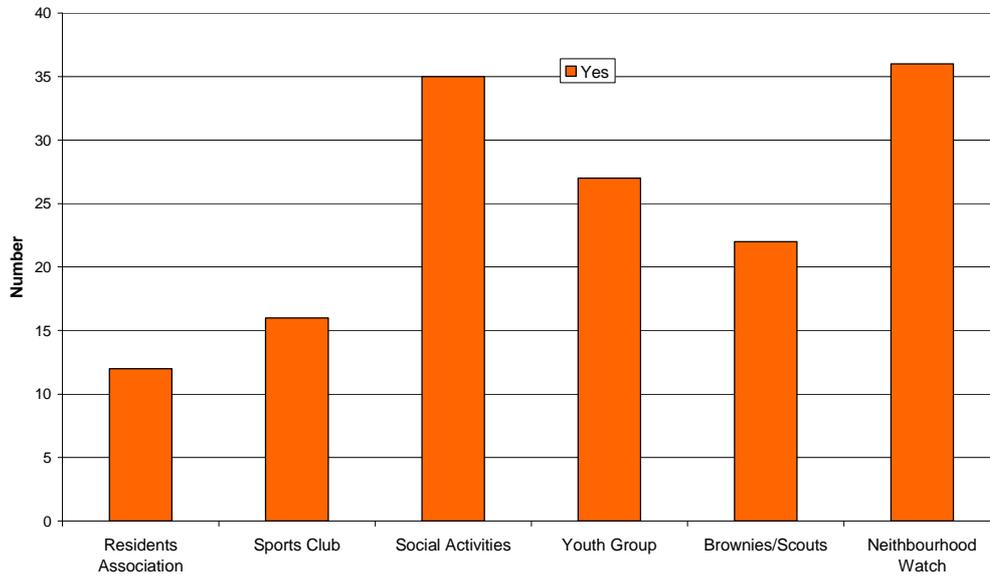
Ways to publicise events in the Parish were discussed in the Section Parish Information and Communication, although a newsletter with information about each of these groups would be a good way to inform all the parish about the their activities.

There was a lot of interest in new groups being set up as the figure on the next page shows. The most popular ideas were Neighbourhood Watch some form of social activities and a Youth Group\*. While social activities are not really a group it was very popular and seen as a way of getting people together and maintaining the community spirit within the Parish.

*\* In the summer of 2006 an attempt was made to form a Youth Club in the Parish, funding was not an issue and there was interest from neighbouring Parish; in the end there was not enough interest or commitment.*



**Are you interested in the following groups being set up?**



The following services are available in the Parish:

- Centurion Inn
- Church
- Delivery of Milk and Newspapers
- Mobile Library
- Mobile Police
- Post Office
- Rural Wheels
- Service Bus

Of these, the only ones that are used extensively are the Centurion, the Church and the Post Office. It was generally felt that the times that some of these services were provided made them not easily accessible for some of the Parish. It would be useful to better inform people as to when these services are available and provide information about the service they offer.





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## Action Plan - Services and Activities

<i>Task</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Potential Partners</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>More social activities</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* <i>Community Partnership</i> * <i>Village Hall Committee</i> * <i>Local businesses</i> * <i>Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Youth Club<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* <i>Young people</i> * <i>Community Partnership</i> * <i>Village Hall Committee</i> * <i>Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</i> * <i>Adjacent parishes</i> * <i>Carlisle City Council</i> * <i>Cumbria County Council</i> * <i>Connexions</i> * <i>Cumbria Youth Alliance</i> * <i>Young Farmers</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Neighbourhood Watch<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	* <i>Community Partnership</i> * <i>Walton Parish Council</i> * <i>Police</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Set up Children's Club</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* <i>Community Partnership</i> * <i>Children</i> * <i>Village Hall Committee</i> * <i>Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</i> * <i>City Council</i>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Parish Newsletter</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* <i>Parish Council</i> * <i>Community Partnership</i> * <i>Existing groups</i> * <i>Local business'</i> * <i>Church</i> * <i>Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</i>	<i>Medium</i>

<sup>1</sup> See footnote on page 8

<sup>2</sup> Neighbourhood Watch is already operating in the Parish





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## Environment

Walton has a spacious environment with clean air, open vistas and well maintained greens and trees.



The parishioners think it is a good place to live and bring up children although it can be busy with traffic at times.

Of the children and young people who contributed, 90% said they liked the park and the village greens, including the nature reserve. Also 90% said they liked Walton because it was quiet. One of the main concerns for children and young people was that they did not like the fast cars going through the village.

Walton is a working village and not too sanitised, but improvements suggested include:

- Some buildings could be tidied up
- Village car park
- Community activities
- Footpath improvements and guides/maps
- Storyboards telling the history of the parish
- Public toilet
- Public seating (*several have since been strategically positioned around the village by the Parish Council*)
- Traffic speed suppression



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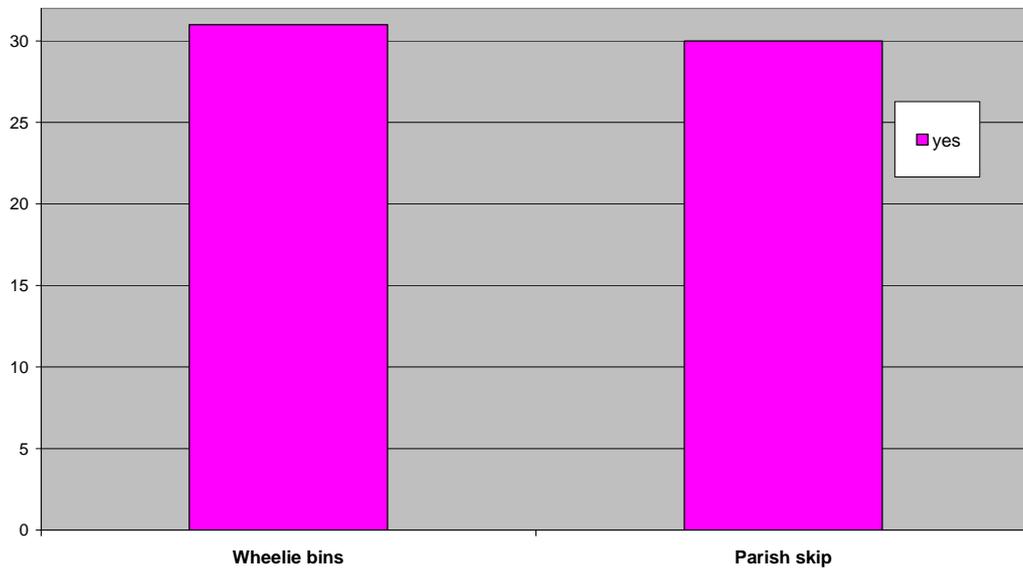


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The main concerns of the parishioners were road safety and dog fouling followed by the lack of public transport and vehicle parking.

The recycling facilities available in the Parish (green box, bottle bank, can bank, garden refuse bin and paper bank) are well used with those used by the Reading Room returning a small revenue to the Parish Council. It was identified that recycling could be improved with facilities. The use of wheelie bins and a Parish skip were popular ideas.

Do you want/would you use?





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## Action Plan – Environment

<i>Task</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Potential Partners</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Recycling facilities for cardboard, plastic and clothes</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>* City Council * Local businesses * Environmental agencies</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Wheelie bins</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>* City Council</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Parish skip</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>* City Council</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Village car park<sup>3</sup></i>	<i>Focus Group</i>	<i>* Parish Council * City Council * County Council</i>	<i>Med</i>
<i>Storyboards / history of the parish</i>	<i>Focus Group</i>	<i>* Parish Council * Hadrian's Wall Partnership * Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc. * East Cumbria Countryside Project</i>	<i>Med</i>
<i>Mark the footpaths clearly and provide maps and guides</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<i>* Parish Council * City Council * East Cumbria Countryside Project * Cumbria County Council * Farming community</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Public toilet</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>* City Council * County Council * Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Reduce the speed through the village and on other roads</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>* City Council * County Council * Police</i>	<i>Med</i>

<sup>3</sup> Already identified by the Parish Council





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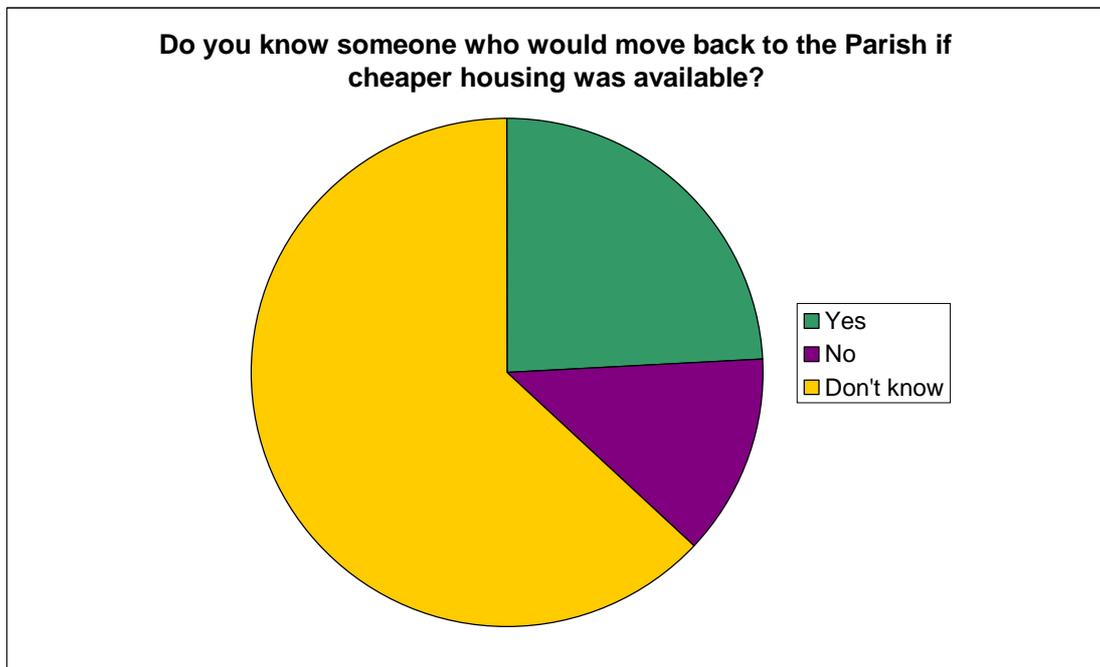


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## Housing

The majority of the properties in the Parish are detached (70%) compared to the national average of 25% (2001 census). Although in recent years there have not been many houses coming up for sale in the Parish, of those responding to the questionnaire, 29% of households knew people who have moved away because housing is too expensive. The questionnaire also showed that 6% of respondents have to live with their family for the same reason.

It was not clear if people would move back to the Parish if cheaper housing was available, as 63% of respondents said 'they 'did not know'.



The comments written in the questionnaire highlighted that housing was an issue for people although there was about an equal split between people who said they were and were not concerned about new houses being built in the Parish. Of those concerned the main concerns were:

- there were no low cost housing for young people,
- any new housing should be built in the village but not to extend the village boundary and
- new housing should not affect the character of the village and to preserve the village greens.



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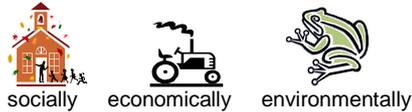


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## Action Plan - Housing

Task	Action	Potential Partners	Priority
Undertake housing survey re: the impact of new build in Parish	Focus Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* City Council</li> <li>* Cumbria Rural Housing Trust</li> <li>* Carlisle Housing Association</li> </ul>	Low





## Leisure, Social and Recreational Activities

When asked if there were enough facilities/services in the Parish for the elderly there was about an even number of yes and no responses. However, there were a lot of responses suggesting that people did not know what was available. This response links with the Section on Parish Information and Communication.

The main concern for the elderly was the lack of transport and the fact that a village shop would be a definite advantage and reduce the need to travel for basic shopping.

A similar question was asked for children and young people splitting them into three age groups:

- *0-4 year old:* most people thought there were not enough facilities.
- *5-12 year old:* about two thirds thought there were enough facilities.
- *13-18 year old:* the majority thought there were enough facilities.

This contradicts the responses when children and young people were asked the same question as the majority of children and young people felt there was not much to do for their age group in the Parish.

There were a lot of people who thought that a youth club (see footnote on page 8) would be a good idea, this agrees with the responses in the Section on Services and Activities. Whether this should be brownies/cubs, young farmers or a separate youth club was questioned but they all have the same general idea and are worth looking into. Other ideas include sporting activities that would require new facilities, both indoor and outdoor, an adventure playground and activity days such as Parish fetes.

In reality, there are limited activities and clubs in the Parish for children and young people. There is a parent and toddler group for 0-4 years, four days of summer play schemes run by Carlisle City Council for 5-12 years, and a young farmers club (limited information about Walton YFC, YFC regional office recommended Brampton YFC).

Facilities for children and young people to access within the village include a play park, football pitch, village greens and the nature reserve. When asked how they spend their free time, the majority said they preferred to be outside, playing on the football pitch. 55% of children said they liked to ride their bike and go swimming.

The majority of young people want a youth club (see footnote on page 8) and a football club. However, they realise there is not enough young people in the Parish to make this viable. They suggested joining up with another village to achieve this idea. Recently Connexions Cumbria organised a meeting to



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discuss the possibility of setting up a youth club for the villages of Hethersgill, Walton and Smithfield. We would recommend the local community to support this idea to benefit its young people.

The majority of children and young people agreed that the Play Park needs improving. The main ideas for improvement included having a see saw, climbing frame and generally more things to play on. The comment made by one girl summarises the general feeling:

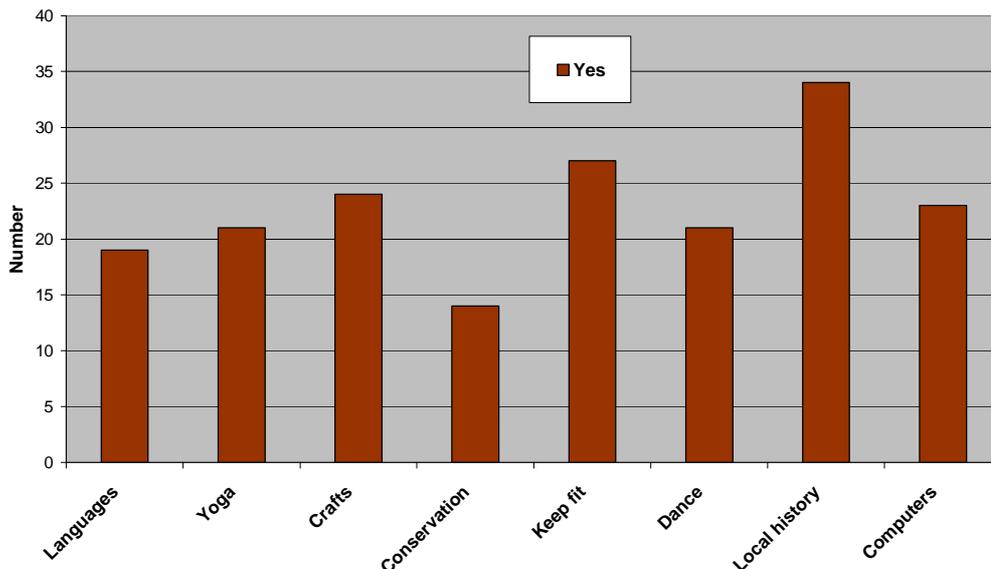
*"I think the Play Park is good, but not great! This is because it only has three play things, if you were a child who visited it regularly it would become quite uninteresting just playing on the same things over & over again. I suggest more play things are added."*

Other forms of social event or recreational activity are education classes. A number of different classes were suggested and people asked if they would be interested in them.

Of all the classes offered the majority had as many 'no' responses as 'yes' responses. However, it is the number of interested people that should be used as a guide as they will be the ones attending.

The most popular class was 'local history' followed by 'keep fit'. It is interesting that the section on conservation shows that people are interested in conservation issues but are not interested in attending an education class on conservation.

Would you attend these classes?



Looking at more social events, there was a good response in favour of some type of social activity. The majority were of the opinion that one or more of the



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options suggested (dances, discos, quiz nights fetes, pie and pea suppers) would be good, although other ideas are just as likely to be popular. One response summed up the general feeling: *'It's not so much what the activity is – it is more important to feel included and welcome'*.





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## Action Plan - Leisure, Social and Recreational Activities

Task	Action	Potential Partners	Priority
Parish Newsletter	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Local groups and business'</li> <li>* Church</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	Medium
Set up Children's Club	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Village hall committee</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> <li>* City Council</li> </ul>	Medium
Set up Youth Group	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Young people</li> <li>* Village Hall Committee</li> <li>* Adjacent parishes</li> <li>* City Council</li> <li>* County Council</li> </ul>	High
See footnote on page 8			
Improve play area	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Children and young people</li> <li>* Community</li> <li>* Local Schools</li> <li>* Local Councils</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
More social events of all types for all ages	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Village Hall Committee</li> <li>* Local businesses</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Education classes	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Village Hall Committee</li> <li>* Cumbria LEA</li> </ul>	Low
Village shop	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Local business'</li> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Village Retail Services Association</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Improve public transport	Parish Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Community Partnership</li> <li>* Community</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> <li>* Stagecoach</li> </ul>	High



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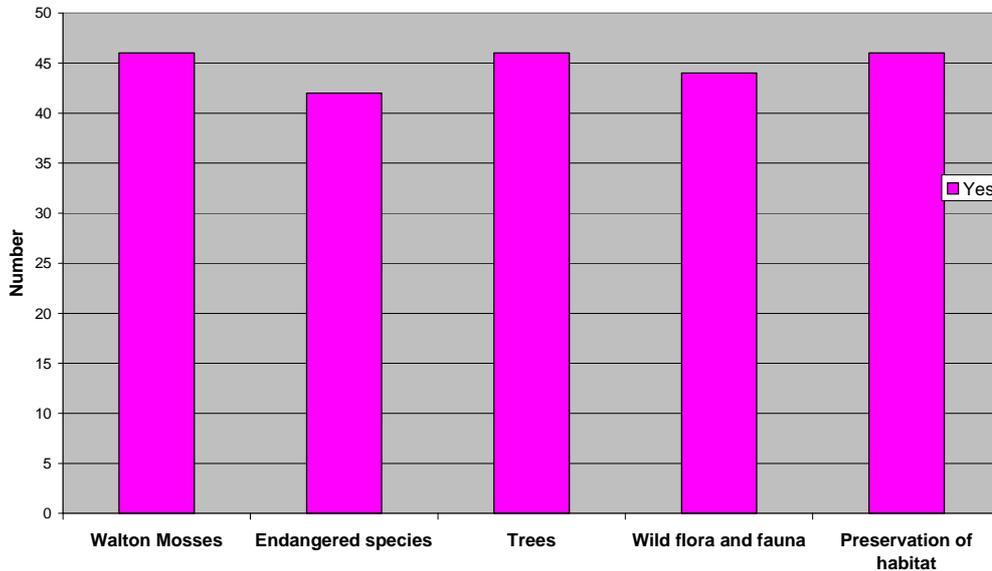
## Conservation, History and Tourism

The majority of the responses were interested in the conservation of the environment in the Parish, namely

- Walton mosses
- Wild flora & fauna
- Endangered species
- Preservation of habitat
- Trees

There was interest shown in getting the Cumbria Wildlife Trust to involve the young people of the Parish in their work.

Are you interested in the following conservation issues?



In terms of the history of the Parish over 95% of respondents thought that the



history and heritage of the Parish were important subjects and should be researched, promoted and safeguarded. Many people knew little of the history of the Parish and many agreed that more information offered to all including visitors/tourists would make the Parish a more memorable. A local

history education class was a popular idea, see Section on Leisure, Social and Recreational Activities.





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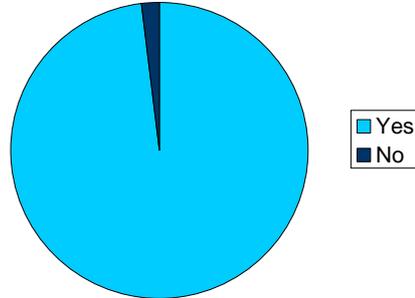
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Almost all respondents thought that visitors to the Parish were a good thing and that they should be actively encouraged. Some however had reservations about the village being 'overrun with walkers'.

Are visitors a good thing?



Any increase in visitors/tourists would mean changes to the Parish; on the positive side it may create jobs; and bring in revenue for local businesses, however on the negative side, there may be an increase in litter, traffic and noise and possibly an increase in crime. Would toilets and parking facilities be needed, although they may be detrimental to the look of the village?

Having an information board or leaflets etc. was generally thought to be a good thing not only for visitors/tourists but for Parishioners too, see Section on Communication.





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## Action Plan - Conservation, History and Tourism

<i>Task</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Potential Partners</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Consider setting up education classes esp. local history</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Community Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Village Hall Committee</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria LEA</i></li> </ul>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Promote the village to increase visitor numbers</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Community Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Local businesses</i></li> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria Tourist Board</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall National Trail</i></li> <li>* <i>East Cumbria Countryside Project</i></li> <li>* <i>County Council</i></li> </ul>	<i>High</i>
<i>Provide more information about the Parish such as leaflets or postcards</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Community Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Local businesses</i></li> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria Tourist Board</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i></li> </ul>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Make storyboards telling the history of the parish</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Local businesses</i></li> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria Tourist Board</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall National Trail</i></li> <li>* <i>County Council</i></li> </ul>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Increase number of notice boards</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</i></li> </ul>	<i>Medium</i>
<i>Provide a village car park</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Local businesses</i></li> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria Tourist Board</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall National Trail</i></li> <li>* <i>County Council</i></li> </ul>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Mark the footpaths clearly and provide maps and guides</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>City Council</i></li> <li>* <i>East Cumbria Countryside Project</i></li> <li>* <i>County Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Farming community</i></li> </ul>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Provide a public toilet</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Local businesses</i></li> <li>* <i>Parish Council</i></li> <li>* <i>Cumbria Tourist Board</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall Partnership</i></li> <li>* <i>Hadrian's Wall National Trail</i></li> <li>* <i>County Council</i></li> </ul>	<i>Low</i>



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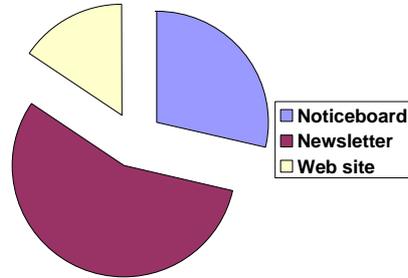


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## Parish Information/Communication

The single most popular way to keep people informed was a Parish newsletter. This would require people to write it, fund it and also to deliver it. Even a quarterly newsletter would require a number of people to contribute to it on a regular basis.

What is the best way to keep people informed?



A notice board is currently present in the Parish although it was suggested that this notice board is too small.

Two thirds of respondents have access to and use the internet. Therefore a considerable number of households in the village do not have access to the internet. This rules out a web site as an effective means of communicating to the Parish as a whole.

It was noted that one way to improve communication would be to get groups to talk to each other and cooperate in publicising events. This idea could be linked into a Parish Newsletter with each existing group talking it in turns to prepare one.





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## Action Plan - Parish Information/Communication

<i>Task</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Potential Partners</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Parish Newsletter</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* Parish Council * Other groups in the Parish * Local Businesses * Church	<i>High</i>
<i>Develop community website</i>	<i>Focus group</i>	* Brampton Business Centre * Charitable Trusts & Foundations, Lottery etc.	<i>Low</i>
<i>Increase size of notice board</i>	<i>Parish Council</i>	* Charitable Trusts & Foundations, Lottery etc.	<i>High</i>





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## Likes & Dislikes and How Would You Spend Money on the Parish?

The general view was that most people liked living in the Parish because it is a quiet, peaceful, friendly Parish set in the countryside with open greens. People move into the area because it has the above qualities.

Individuals have their own pet hates as is true in all walks of life. The main disquiet is the fact that people have to leave the village for most services. For the elderly this is a particular difficulty with the lack of public transport. Having a village shop would make a difference.

There are three general areas where people would spend money to improve the Parish:

**Travel and transport** – This can be split into improving both roads & safety on roads and public transport. Improving roads and road safety would include removing hedges, enlarging verges, adding cattle grids, stopping heavy traffic and adding a car park to the village. Improving public transport would involve a regular bus service to Brampton or the development of a Community Bus.

**Fund a village shop** – This is very popular and ideas range from a community shop owned by the community for the community to incorporating a shop with a tea room

**Improve existing facilities** – The most popular way to spend money would be to improve the children’s play area. Maintenance of the village greens and possibly the addition of flower beds and more trees were popular, this ties into what people like about the Parish. Enlarging and improving the village hall was also popular with the possibility of incorporating a tea room and a shop. Enlarging the village hall would help with setting up clubs and education classes.

Children and young people were asked a similar question, but it was phrased “If you were in charge of Walton, what would you change?”

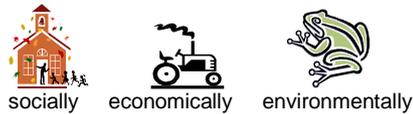
The main ideas suggested by children and young people were;

- Have a village shop
- Improve the play park
- Have more clubs and activities for children and young people

Young people commented;

- Improve public transport; a regular bus service to either Carlisle or Brampton

The lack of public transport was an issue for young people. They felt not having access to regular public transport prevented them from visiting friends and obtaining part-time work.



## Action Plan - How Would You Spend Money on the Parish?

Task	Action	Potential Partners	Priority
Village shop	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Local business'</li> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Village Retail Services Association</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Improve road safety, incl. village car park, slow traffic down, etc	Parish Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Police</li> <li>* County Council</li> <li>* City Council</li> </ul>	High
Improve public transport	Parish Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Bus companies</li> <li>* Rural Wheels</li> <li>* Hadrian's bus company</li> <li>* Local business'</li> <li>* North Cumbria Community Transport Group</li> </ul>	Medium
Improve play area	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Children &amp; young people</li> <li>* Community</li> <li>* Local schools</li> <li>* City Council</li> <li>* County Council</li> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Maintain and preserve village green and develop nature reserve	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* East Cumbria Countryside Project</li> <li>* British Trust for Conservation Volunteers</li> <li>* Cumbria Biodiversity Project</li> <li>* English Nature</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Extend Village Hall and improve Reading Room to allow use	Focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Existing community groups</li> <li>* Village Hall Committee</li> <li>* City Council</li> <li>* Parish Council</li> <li>* Charitable Trusts &amp; Foundations, Lottery etc.</li> </ul>	High
Restore old signposts <sup>5</sup>	Parish Council		Low

<sup>5</sup> Already started with signposts within the Parish.



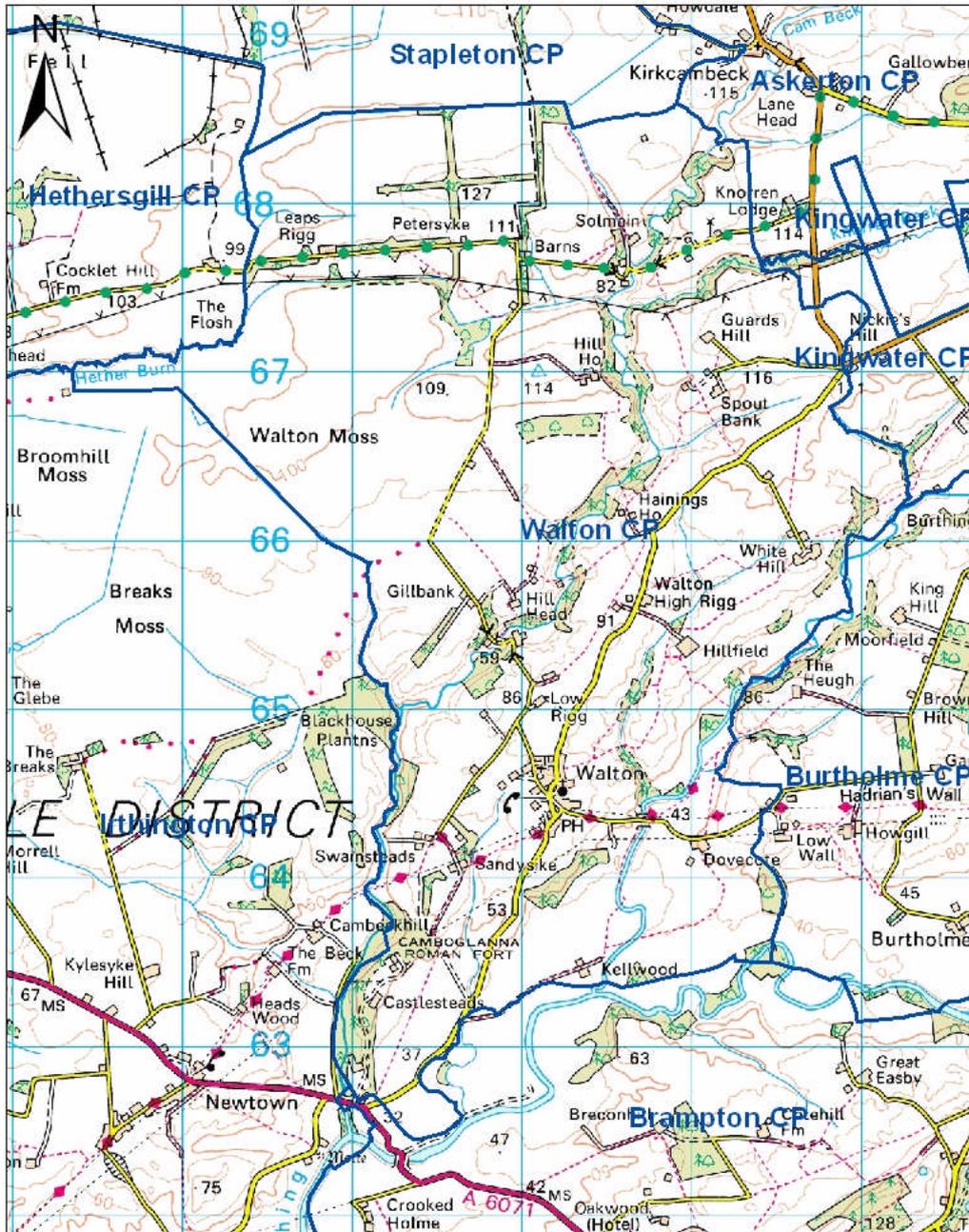
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Walton Parish

CARLISLE  
CITY COUNCIL

Civic Centre  
Rickergate  
Carlisle  
CA3 8QG



[www.carlisle.gov.uk](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk)

Scale: 1:35000  
Date: 29/03/06

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# Walton Community Group 2007