

BRAMLEY Parish Plan

Shaping Bramley's Future



Cover drawing by **Emmi Anderson**, aged 9

Parish Plan identity and printing by
Pierrot Print and Design Limited

Published June 2010

2010

BRAMLEY Parish Plan

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introduction

■ More than three thousand people live or work in Bramley Civil Parish which covers a much wider area than Bramley village. This Parish Plan is based on the feedback from a survey of all the people who live or work in the parish and is an account of what they want Bramley Parish to look like, what they want it to invest in and how they want it to change over the coming years. Parish Plans have official status and must be consulted by authorities when taking decisions about a parish. Copies of the plan will be filed with all relevant local and national authorities for their reference in decision making.

A questionnaire was distributed in Autumn 2009 to be completed by any person in Bramley Parish aged over 14. 1247 people completed paper or online questionnaires which asked three questions and invited comments about 43 aspects of village life grouped under 11 broad categories. The questionnaire also invited opinions about three major projects affecting the village.

The eleven categories were;

- Transport and traffic
- Communications

- Crime, Policing and Antisocial Behaviour
- Facilities for Young People and Children
- Housing
- Health and Community Services
- Voluntary and Community Services
- Environment and Sustainability
- Commercial and Other Services
- Business and Employment
- Local Government

The three questions asked about each category were;

- How important is this aspect?
- How well does Bramley do?
- What are the issues and what should be done?

The three major projects affecting the village were;

- Re-opening the Wey - Arun Canal
- Dunsfold New Town
- Re-opening the railway line

The response rate was pretty good for a survey of this kind - around half.

Roads, traffic and mobile phone services were identified as the most important problems to most respondents.

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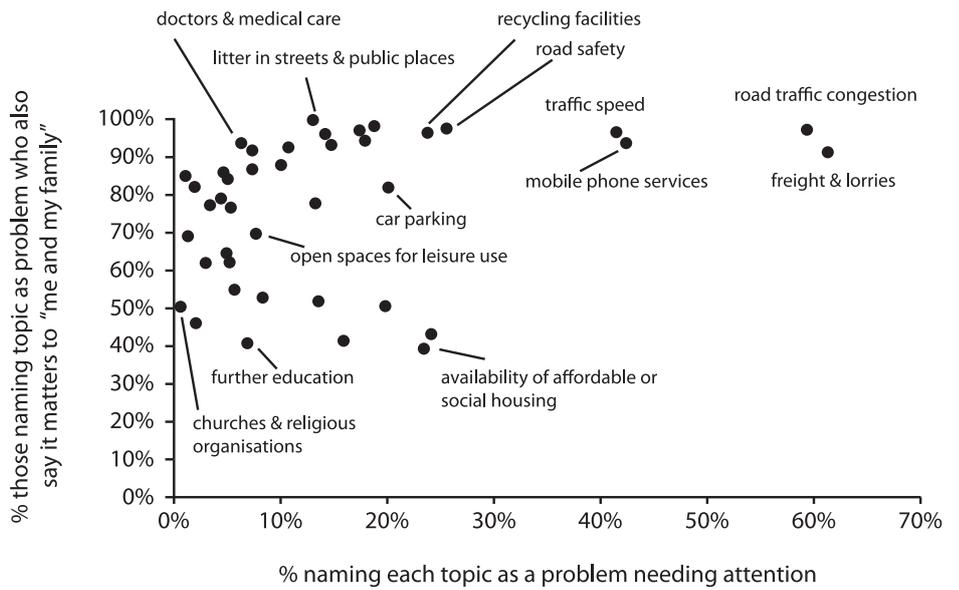


Figure 1: Chart showing the relative importance of identified problems

The survey makes a very strong case that Bramley needs a solution to its traffic and congestion issues.

Inadequate mobile phone coverage is the second priority but respondents stated that new masts must be sensitively sited and shared by operators.



production of the plan

■ Production of this Parish Plan began in the summer of 2009 when a Steering Group was set up.

The Plan is based on feedback from a questionnaire sent to all households in autumn 2009. The questions were designed to address issues of local concern, as identified in preliminary enquiries. The questionnaire results were analysed, partly by a professional market research consultant and partly by the Steering Group, and the results have been communicated to residents and to Bramley Parish Council, which is the elected tier of local government that commissioned the creation of the Parish Plan.

The recommendations in this document have been adopted as actions by the Parish Council. They are incorporated in a separate Implementation Plan that the Parish Council has also adopted. Many

actions are the responsibility of other bodies, but in all cases the Parish Council has a role in monitoring the local effects of the actions and policies of the other bodies, and in making the views of residents known to those responsible. The Implementation Plan is a living document that will be regularly reviewed and updated in Parish Council meetings. The latest version of the Implementation Plan will be available to residents from the Parish Office or from the Bramley Parish Council website.

Copies of this Plan will be sent to all households in the Parish, and to others who wish to be informed. It will also be available for download from the Bramley Parish website www.bramleyparish.co.uk. The raw data from the survey and the statistical analyses will be available on request to bona fide enquirers via the Parish Council.

transport and traffic

■ Transport and traffic were the most commonly identified problems in responses to the survey. Analysis of the underlying issues and problems shows a number of linkages.

Freight and Lorries are considered a problem by 6 out of 10 survey participants. Lorries are a very visible part of the volume of traffic that afflicts Bramley and the perceived speed of lorries is high, raising concerns about safety for pedestrians on the narrow pavements and the 'shaking' of houses and unacceptable levels of noise and vibration.

There are frequent references to Cranleigh Freight Services in this context. Although there are only a very few criticisms of their

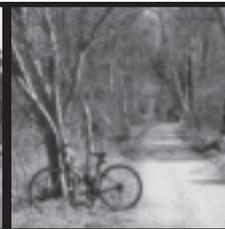
drivers (and there is some praise) it is a matter of general regret that the company's location requires its vehicles to use the A281.

Traffic speed is cited as a problem by 4 out of 10 respondents. Most of these remarks are about the A281 but there is a good deal of concern about traffic speeds in Station Road and, less often, in Barton Road/Linersh Wood, Snowdenham Lane and Foxborough Hill Road.

Road traffic congestion, which is a problem for 6 out of 10, is largely a rush hour issue. It affects the High Street and A281 (particularly north bound traffic arriving at the south of the village) and the roundabout at the junction of the A281, Station Road and

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Snowdenham Lane. It is also a function of the sheer volume of traffic that passes through Bramley but respondents often see the St Catherine's school run as causing much of the problem.

Most comments about *car parking*, a problem for a fifth of respondents, relate to selfish or careless parking too close to road junctions: Station Road/A281, Barton Road/Station Road, Windrush Close/High Street and Station Road/Hall Road. Illegal parking at these locations obstructs sight lines and is therefore a road safety issue. In Station Road the narrowing of the road caused by this parking exacerbates the risk of accidents. The limited parking outside Nisa and Robertsons is also a concern for many, partly because its use by delivery lorries can obstruct the main highway, causing congestion; but also because motorists back out on to the road, thus presenting risks to road safety. A small minority find the library car park to be congested with business users who park all day. Some of this group would like limited duration parking to be enforced.

Public transport was praised by a quarter of respondents but 1 in 8 people considered it to be a problem. Residents to the south of the village (from Birtley Road to Smithbrook) complain about the very limited service that they receive. There are also a number of complaints about the unreliability of the first bus in the morning into Guildford which does not always run. Other complaints are that the Guildford buses do not go to the railway station, so our public transport is not 'joined up', and there is only a very limited service to Godalming which is

where the supermarkets and the sixth form college are located. A few people suggest that Bramley would benefit from more frequent but smaller buses ('Hoppas'). It is argued that infrequent running of largely empty buses which cause congestion in narrow roads does not make sense. There is also concern that cessation of the Pegasus school bus service will increase the volume of traffic at peak times.

Road safety is a concern of a quarter of survey participants. At least a fifth of respondents want more pedestrian crossings. At present there is only one set of pedestrian lights on the A281 through the whole of Bramley parish.

Other issues mentioned by small numbers included damage to road surfaces caused by heavy traffic (the survey was carried out before the winter of 2009/10 and Surrey's achievement in topping the national pothole league table) and risks to road safety caused by uncut roadside verges which obstruct sight lines.

Recommendations; We need a campaign to get Surrey County Council to produce and maintain a coordinated strategy to deal with Bramley's traffic and transport issues. The strategy should have long term elements and shorter term actions.

There are four key areas in which Bramley residents request action:

1. Managing traffic volume, particularly of large vehicles
2. Managing traffic speed
3. St Catherine's 'school run'
4. Parking



communications

■ Coverage of news and issues by local media and availability of local information

More than three quarters of all respondents said that both the coverage of news and issues by local media and the availability of local information were important to them or others. One third of respondents felt that the coverage and availability were a strength for Bramley and one third felt they were not too bad, but could be better. Very few flagged coverage as a problem.

A few people commented on the Surrey Advertiser coverage of Bramley. Of those equal numbers reported it good and bad.

Of the comments on local news/information coverage nearly half praised the Bramley Update email service. A few asked for a regular paper newsletter, but none suggested how it should be funded. A similar number asked for the Parish Magazine news coverage to include more civil parish news and activities.

Recommendation; Publicise the availability of the Bramley Update service more to those with email. Ensure the Bramley Parish Council website is up to date and comprehensive. Upgrade the content and frequency of the Bramley Village Society newsletter to be a monthly service, including Parish Council news and distributed across the parish by Royal Mail, if financially viable.

Broadband Services

Broadband services were flagged as important by a very large majority of respondents. A fifth of the respondents cited broadband services as a strength for Bramley, a similar number flagged broadband as a problem needing attention and a third of respondents reported that broadband services were not too bad but could be better.

Most comments complained of slow speeds, often well below the maximum rates sold by the broadband vendors. The few comments on good broadband are from premises within half a mile of the exchange. Outlying districts are particularly poor.

Recommendation; Fast and reliable broadband services are vital, particularly for people working in the parish. The Parish Council should maintain pressure on service providers to make Bramley a priority area for upgrading to next generation services.

Mobile Phone Services

A very large majority of respondents flagged mobile phone services as important to them or others. Few respondents cited mobile phone services as a strength for Bramley. Nearly half said it is a problem area needing attention and a quarter said that it was not too bad but could be better.

Almost all comments complained of inadequate coverage for mobile phones across the parish. This was cited as a particular problem for people working in the parish. Twice as many people requested new masts as those who said they wanted no new masts. Many people said that they wanted existing masts shared between service providers, consideration given to new technologies for transmission and any new masts to be well sited (away from habitation and not spoiling scenic views).

Recommendation; Parish Council to ask mobile phone service providers to work together on a scheme to give wide coverage for all residents and businesses in the parish with the minimum construction of new masts, which will need to be sited sensitively yet effectively.



crime policing and antisocial behaviour

■ *Crime and Antisocial Behaviour*

Whilst there is concern about crime and anti-social behaviour in the village only a third of respondents commented on those issues.

The consensus of those who commented was that there is a lot of low level crime and too many graffiti about the village. Of those who commented many of them have issues with the groups of young people who hang about the village in the specific areas of the railway station, the Eastwood Road playground, Robertson's park, the park off Chestnut Road and also at the BP station. People are upset by bad language and verbal abuse and a small proportion of respondents felt the behaviour was intimidating enough for them to feel threatened and fearful.

There were specific complaints about daytime bonfires, and about poor parking and congestion in residential roads like Eastwood Road which could prevent emergency services from gaining access. Dog fouling also raised some disgruntlement.

Graffiti appear a lot in people's assessments of antisocial behaviour. Suggestions to help with this include the use of anti-graffiti paint and the opportunity for those who do the 'crime' to clean it up whenever possible. There was significant property vandalism reported which is not overly area specific but occurs more in those areas that back on to open and unobserved land. Overall vandalism and burglary is perceived to be on the increase and viewed as something that needs to be addressed speedily.

Unacceptable noise levels in residential areas were reported where parties ran late into the night but the main causes for concern were around the social club, along Station Road and outside the pubs

after closing time. Some complaints included the occasional racing of cars along the roads towards Cranleigh.

Many of those who commented recognised that there are few facilities for the younger adults and teenagers of the village to attend. Many suggested a variety of ways to try and include the youth into village life more successfully. It may be necessary to encourage some members of the village to be more tolerant of the changing lifestyles of younger people, and of those less fortunate than themselves financially or socially. Some of the complaints about the poor social behaviour came from within the very areas in which it is most prevalent.

Recommendations; As there is strong association in residents' minds between young people and the low-level crime and antisocial behaviour that they fear and experience, our recommendations are for more constructive and interesting facilities for young people coupled with improved neighbourhood watch and police presence in affected areas of the parish.

Police Activity

Only a quarter of respondents commented on Police Activity. Of those who commented roughly two thirds want a greater police presence. There were a significant number of people who have never seen a police presence in the village. A smaller group felt that police presence was 'OK' or had personally positive experiences in dealing with an incident.

There is a clear underlying feeling that there is little point in contacting the police, particularly in the more rural communities, as they are either slow to respond, elusive or being deployed to town based incidents. Most of the responses also requested a greater presence after dark and at pub closing times, with a specific eye on licensing hours. There is a clear

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feeling of disappointment in the effectiveness of the force as a whole. Some people also feel strongly that there is a lack of law enforcement for criminal behaviours - either because of lack of interest or through lack of support. These sentiments may well be allayed by a greater presence and visibility in the community both in the village and outlying areas. Parking enforcements were requested particularly in the area around Edencroft and the Business Park. Suggestions for increased and more effective street lighting, better clearance of alleyways, CCTV as well as continued neighbourhood watch schemes were prominent.

The communication between the police and the community appears to be somewhat sporadic with some areas receiving more up to date information than others. This could be down to a trend towards more concentrated efforts in more vulnerable areas but may also simply be coincidence. With a greater presence and possibly a local centre this would be naturally more efficient. Some

residents were even unsure how to contact the police when needed. Introduction of neighbourhood watch systems and more local street-based involvement in maintaining community safety and awareness were seen as a positive move where possible.

Some responses raised the concern of feeling safe walking about the village, particularly after dark, coupled again with the overall request for a higher police profile. Many were unsure if the village had a new Policeman dedicated to the community after the loss of PC Soulsby. The clear feeling of being severely let down was more prominent in the Chestnut Road, Windrush Close and Birtley Road areas.

Recommendations; Increased presence and contact with local police is paramount in reducing both actual crime/antisocial behaviour and public fear. Evening beats around pub and club closing times would alleviate particular concerns.

facilities for young people and children

■ Three quarters of respondents said that facilities for young people and children mattered more to others than to them or their own family. This is probably the result of having a high proportion of older people and prosperous households in Bramley, who either do not have school age children or have the resources to keep their offspring busy. On the issues of nurseries and pre-schools, primary and secondary schools and further education, the split was fairly even between those finding these aspects a 'strength for Bramley' or 'don't know'. Less than one in ten respondents felt these issues were a problem area.

A quarter of respondents felt play and activity areas 'could be better' and a similar number felt that youth clubs and organisations were a 'problem area needing attention'. One in ten commented on the perceived lack of activities and facilities for older children/teenagers. Around one in ten comments said the play areas in Bramley should be improved.



Comments were made expressing support for the work of the local state infant school but others expressed concern at the lack of choice of state secondary schools for Bramley children.

A small number commented on a lack of communication about what services for young people are on offer in Bramley Parish.

Recommendations;

1. Bramley Parish Council, Bramley Village Society, local police and other agencies, led by the views of young people, explore the possibilities of local activities for older children and teenagers, either through after school

activities, a youth club, skateboard park, sports activities or other.

2. The Waverley Borough Council-owned play area at Chestnut Way was fully updated for younger children in 2008/9. However, Bramley Parish Council should make further request to Waverley BC to look at how older children and teenagers could be serviced by the available space in this location. Bramley Parish Council could also review the play equipment in the Eastwood Road play area with a view to updating.
3. Improve communication about what play facilities already exist within the parish.

housing

■ The range of property types/sizes available in the parish is either a problem needing attention or could be better for one in three people, whereas a quarter feel it is a strength. A significant group commented on the unaffordable cost of property in the area.

Two fifths of those who commented said the availability of social or affordable housing could be better. Most indicated that the major limiting factors on building new social or affordable housing was the inadequate local infrastructure, particularly roads, and the shortage of suitable sites.

Recommendations;

1. Planning authorities to give priority to development of affordable housing in Bramley
2. Waverley to approve no substantial housing developments until a significant improvement has been made in the road system.
3. The Parish Council should continue to press Surrey County Council to produce a priced and dated plan to improve the infrastructure - particularly roads.
4. The Parish Council should press Waverley to include an improvement in the infrastructure, or a financial contribution to such improvement, as a condition on all planning approvals.



health and community services

■ *Doctors and medical care*

Half of all respondents thought that medical care was a strength for Bramley whilst just under a third thought that it was an area that needed improvement. Of those that made some comment around half made positive comments and half had some concerns. One in ten were unhappy with the quality of service from Womersley Surgery (mostly around the administration of appointments), some considered that a GP service in Bramley itself would be beneficial and a number wanted better 'out-of-hours' service. A few expressed concern that other services (eg physiotherapy) were not available on the NHS locally.

Recommendations; Publicity for the Friends of Womersley Surgery to help to create better understanding of the services available. The Parish Council should encourage dialogue with the Surgery regarding out-of-hours services and improved administration of appointments.

Dentists and dental care

One third of respondents felt that dentistry was a local strength but a third felt it could be better or needed attention. Of those that commented one third made supportive comments and two-thirds expressed concerns. Of these nearly all were complaining of the lack of NHS dentistry in Bramley.

Recommendations; Investigation of recently-established Mobile NHS Dentistry Units.

Other Healthcare

The chemists in Bramley and Shalford had mixed responses – some favourable, some concerned about the long-term viability of this facility in Bramley.

Recommendations; Publicity on the availability of services locally combined with transport assistance.

Support for the Elderly

This topic got a low response with a fifth considering elderly care to be a strength for Bramley and just under a fifth considering it could be better or needed attention. Of those making comments half were positive and half had concerns, citing particularly problems of access to care services for the elderly. It is probable that most respondents just did not know what was available or what was needed and tended to express an overall view on care services.

Recommendations; Improved publicity on local care services in concert with the Primary Care Trust. Bramley Parish Council to actively support Blunden Court and the Four Villages Day Centre.

Mental Healthcare

Insignificant response with any comments being equally divided between positive and negative. Very few people had any knowledge of mental care and most comments were lumped together as a generality on the overall care.

Recommendations; Encourage the Primary Care Trust to promote awareness of support available locally.



voluntary and community services

■ Churches

Responses were generally very positive about churches, but the near-absence of teenagers in congregations was noted. St Thomas More has a predictably low profile as there is no resident priest. Only one respondent lacked a church of his denomination.

Voluntary Organisations, Club and Societies

The overwhelming responses were

1. A lack of available information with most people looking to the Bramley Village Society as the perceived source of information rather than the Parish Council.

2. The lack of provision for young people although the main cry comes not from the young but from the over 30s including a significant proportion seeking not the good of the young but for them to be kept off the streets.

It was reassuring to see how reactions were generally positive. The Church, the Village Society (particularly the bonfire and the fete) received common approval. The only significant criticisms were of exclusivity and the lack of provision for young people. A number were critical of the social club.

Suggestions for improvement (apart from the need for greater information and more volunteers) were few.

environment and sustainability

■ Lighting

Slightly under one third of respondents see lighting as a strength, a little over one third as an area for improvement. One in eight saw it as a problem.

Of those leaving comments, well under one-tenth saw the lighting as 'about right' for a rural village. But while some residents want to see the stars, nine-tenths of respondents wanted better street lighting in the more populated areas. This is a localised issue. Eastwood Road and Station Road in the east of the village, and Birtley Road and Birtley Rise in the south along the A281 were singled out by many residents as being poor.

Recommendations; Undertake specific surveys of residents in Eastwood Road, Birtley Road, Station Road and Linersh Wood working with Residents' Associations where they exist to identify whether there is majority support for additional lighting.

Litter

While littering is not the biggest issue in Bramley (just over one-tenth see it as a problem), almost half think littering should be reduced. One third think the lack of litter is a strength.

Littering received some of the most trenchant comments with some strongly held views. Almost all the comments identified the main roads and pavements in Bramley as the problem areas; the A281 in the village and the area outside the Petrol Station, Station Road and the High Street. Dog fouling along the Downslink is also identified as a problem, but by a small number.

Recommendations; The Parish Council should investigate the cost of paying a part-time person out of the precept for a couple of hours a week or fortnight to pick up litter. The petrol station, shops and businesses should be asked to be vigilant about litter and cleaning up outside their premises. Occasional litter picking sessions should be advertised for local residents.

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Household Waste

While only a fifth of respondents felt household waste collections were a problem, four-tenths felt this was an area for improvement. Under one third felt this was a strength.

Substantially under one tenth believe that the shift to fortnightly collections is positive environmentally. Fortnightly collections are seen by nine-tenths of people as at best an inconvenience and at worst a health hazard, particularly in the summer. The return to weekly collections is expressed in similar terms in all these comments: "weekly collections should be reinstated," "fortnightly collections are unacceptable." Families expressed particular concern.

Recommendation; Make clear to Waverley Borough Council the desire for a return to weekly collections of household waste, particularly stressing the impact on families in the summer.

Recycling

One quarter of respondents see recycling as a strength, the same proportion think it a problem and four-tenths think Bramley could do better.

Interestingly, not a single comment is anti-recycling: every comment is from someone who wants to do more. As with household waste collections, the comments were uniform. Almost all comments focus on the desire for recycling of cardboard and full recycling of plastics to be available. Under a third mention the desire for a cardboard recycling bank in Bramley and over two thirds want kerbside collection. Against this a small number of comments highlight the issue of having so many recycling boxes.

A small number of comments were made about refuse collectors being fussy about where bins were placed, and a number about Nanhurst being too far away.

It is clear that there is a positive groundswell of opinion about recycling and where there is dissatisfaction it is that so little is taken.

Recommendations; Reconsider a cardboard recycling bank in Bramley village. Work with Waverley Borough Council to identify ways in which all recyclable plastic could be collected, and whether kerbside cardboard recycling could be introduced. Consider a range of parish schemes to work with local shopkeepers to use paper rather than plastic bags, 'specials' on low-energy bulbs etc..

Open Spaces

With under a tenth of respondents thinking the availability of open spaces to be a problem, this is not a major issue for Bramley.

The views on the Downlink are universally positive and a clear long-term goal for Bramley must be to protect the Downlink for leisure use. A very small number of comments asked for more spaces for youth and highlighted that some of the open spaces such as Gosden Common are some distance from the centre of the village.

A stronger message from some of the comments is that some people do not have a clear view of the range of open spaces that are available.

Recommendations; Ensure long-term protection of the Downlink and existing open spaces for leisure use. Inform and publicise all the open public spaces that exist within the parish.



commercial and other services

■ *Shopping*

Some four-tenths of respondents felt shopping was a strength and an equal proportion that there was room for improvement, but just one-tenth felt that shopping facilities were a problem.

Of those that made comments, just under one third were positive about the availability of shopping, while just over one third made referencing to the number of closed shops and the associated problems relating to parking, rent and rates. A fifth of comments highlighted the loss of shops such as greengrocer, baker, butcher and hardware. We note that each and every one of these had been trading in the village but had closed through lack of support.

Recommendations; Encourage landlords to review their rental structures in the current climate and see if rent-free periods are available for new businesses. Approach Waverley Borough Council about significant reductions in business rates for a 1 to 2 year period.

Post Office and Other Services

Over half of all respondents felt this area was a strength. Only one in twenty felt

that it was a problem area. Of the very small number of comments about this topic, four-fifths were positive, particularly in support of the Post Office. The lack of a banking facility received very few comments; just 1 in a 100 respondents. An even smaller minority highlighted the lack of a laundrette, optician or other services.

Restaurants

Nearly two-thirds of respondents felt restaurants and pubs were a strength for Bramley. A minority flagged the need for a coffee shop/tea room/meeting place that particularly welcomed mothers and children.

Recommendation; Approach the Bramley Café, Hollyhocks, the church rooms and other central locations to see if they could provide a coffee shop/tea room/meeting place for mothers and children.

Library

The library was seen as a strength for Bramley by over three-quarters of respondents. Only a tenth felt there was room for improvement, and less than 1 in a 100 felt the library facility or service to be a problem.



business and employment

■ *Volume of commercial and business activity.*

Well over half the respondents felt that they either didn't know or felt it was not important enough to comment. About an eighth felt it was a strength, whilst double that felt we could do better.

Approximately a quarter of those who made comments said they were generally happy with the current situation, though about a tenth wanted more businesses.

Local Employment opportunities

Three fifths of respondents said local employment was not important to

them. Nearly one in ten thought it was a strength, balanced by the same number who thought it was a problem. The most significant comments were around lack of knowledge. It was felt that some form of central listing of Vacancies and Training Opportunities would be helpful. A central Business voice within the village was desperately needed particularly for teenagers.

Recommendations; Parish Council establish a close working relationship with the association of Bramley businesses. Through that relationship encourage more local employment, particularly of teenagers.

■ *Effectiveness of Parish Council and Communication*

Of those who commented the majority stated that a good job was being done by the Parish Council. A third felt that the Council needs to be more visible while some indicated that they had little knowledge of the Council. There was also the opinion that the Council should have more influence on the decisions of Waverley Borough Council.

Much emphasis was put on the need for improved communication.

Recommendations;

1. Residents need to be made more aware of the existing channels of communication.
2. The council website as a source of information should be further promoted and information available in locations used by many people such as the post office, library, village hall.
3. The uptake of the Bramley Update email should be encouraged by all possible means.

local government



major projects

■ *Re-opening the Wey & Arun Canal*

Two thirds of respondents were broadly in favour of re-opening the Wey & Arun Canal. The other third of respondents were evenly divided between 'undecided', 'broadly against' and 'don't have enough information to comment'.

Most people commenting on the proposal to re-open the Wey and Arun canal expressed enthusiasm for the scheme and felt that it would add a valuable amenity for the parish. A significant minority expressed concerns about the impact that the canal would have on adjoining properties, particularly with regard to privacy and security. Some people commented that the re-opening was not a priority for expenditure of public money.

Recommendation; The re-opening of the canal should remain a privately funded project but the local councils should take an active interest in influencing proposals from the Canal Trust to provide an amenity for the parish that addresses the concerns, particularly of the residents near the proposed canal route.

Dunsfold New Town

Between the time when the Parish Plan questionnaire was printed and when most people responded to it, planning permission for the proposed housing development at Dunsfold was rejected. However the comments in response to this question will provide valuable input to Parish, Borough and County planners for similar proposals they might receive in future.

Three quarters of respondents were broadly against the scheme. One tenth of respondents were broadly in favour of it.

Almost all of the comments cited the inadequacy of the road system as the reason to reject such a large scale

development in Dunsfold. Some people agreed that more houses, particularly affordable houses, were needed in the area but felt that a long term well planned improvement in the road system was essential before proceeding with building the houses. A few people were very critical that the proposed scheme at Dunsfold was not ecological or long term sustainable, but simply designed to profit the developer.

Recommendation; Surrey County Council to develop and publish a long term road improvement strategy and to implement it before any significant house construction scheme like Dunsfold is approved for the area.

Re-opening the railway line

Somewhat under half of the respondents were broadly in favour of re-opening the railway line and a third of respondents were broadly against it.

Some people saw the re-opening of the railway line as a good way to reduce traffic through the village but a similar number felt that the noise and the parking problems it would introduce in the village would outweigh the benefit. A similar number of people said that they did not believe that the line would prove economic and would not be able to provide a good enough service to be useful. There was strong opposition to the railway being opened if it resulted in the bridle-path to Guildford and to Cranleigh being lost or spoilt. Those who were keen on the railway stated that the service would need to be regular, frequent and cheap for them to use it.

Recommendation; Local authorities should ensure all environmental issues, including parking, the real impact on local traffic and the loss of the valued green path along the old trackway, are addressed with residents before any re-opening of the railway.



Back cover drawing by **Josie Wakefield**, aged 9