

Response Rate:

Every household received a paper questionnaire; residents had the option of completing and returning this paper version, or completing an online version.

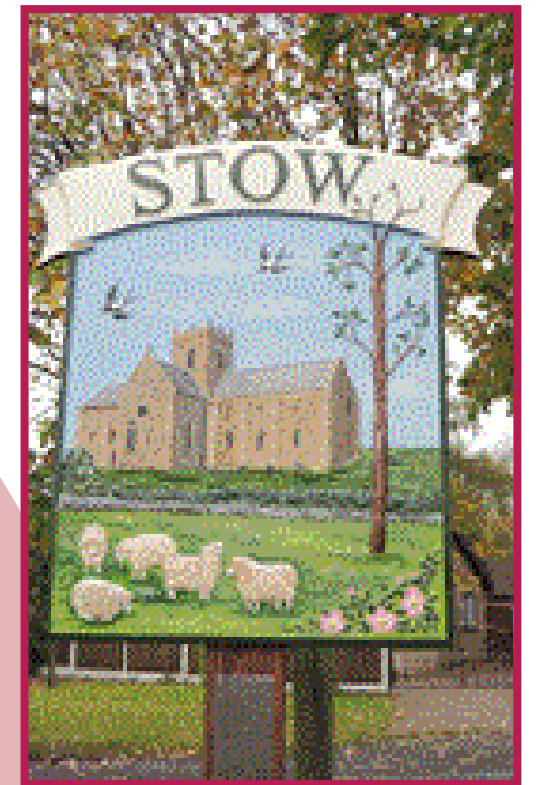
The questionnaire was delivered and publicised as two versions, one for households in the parish of Sturton by Stow and one for households in the parish of Stow.

The survey response rates were as follows:

Sturton by Stow – 29.3%

Stow – 27.74%

We would like to thank everyone who participated, your comments are invaluable in moving the Sturton and Stow Neighbourhood Plan forward.



Question 5.

Have you been affected by localised flooding?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	69.43%	134
Yes	30.57%	59
If 'Yes' state the location		66

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	84.31%	43
Yes	15.69%	8
If 'Yes' state the location		13

Bransby	St. Hughes Terrace
Church Road	Stow Road
Fleets Road	Thorpe Lane
High Street	Tillbridge Road
Mill Lane	Twitchell



Conclusions and Recommendations

In the parish of Sturton by Stow, the questionnaire was delivered to a number of settlements within the parish. On analysis of the results, respondents' views showed little difference between all areas.

Respondents have also responded to the questionnaire as a whole (including commenting on local facilities, etc., outside of their own settlement and parish).

The broad conclusions that can be drawn from this consultation are:

Our Parish

Over 45% of respondents have lived in their parish for over 20 years.

In both parishes, respondents value the rural atmosphere and easy access to surrounding countryside as reasons for living in their parish. Suitable housing was also a top choice for respondents.

When asked to give other reasons, respondents also identified key reasons such as:

- Easy access to larger towns and cities such as Saxilby and Lincoln.
- Village life.
- Family connections.
- Choice of housing.
- Local business.

Local Environment

Respondents in both parishes view the protection of trees, woodlands, hedges and countryside and flooding as important or the most important issues

When asked for other ideas, of most concern to respondents are littering, sewerage and pollution.

Flooding is seen as an issue in both parishes with respondents in Bransby, Sturton by Stow, Westwoods and Stow being affected the most. Although overall respondents have reported a higher issue in Sturton by Stow rather than Stow.

When asked, respondents gave the following reasons for flooding:

- Drainage.
- Development.
- Dykes and ditches.
- Sewerage.
- General ideas such as heavy rainfall and no barriers.



Safer Community

In both parishes dog fouling and litter were identified as the main issues.

Respondents gave the following as further issues:

- Volume of traffic.
- Speeding traffic.
- Inconsiderate and inadequate parking.
- Poorly maintained roads and pavements.
- Dangerous junctions.
- Parked cars.
- Safe places to cross the road.

Housing

Over 54% of respondents across the two parishes agreed that there should be no more than the 15% housing growth designated in the Central Lincolnshire Plan.

When asked where new development could happen, two thirds of respondents agreed that conversion of existing buildings and brownfield sites were the preferred options.

Homes for sale on the open market and the development of affordable homes were the preferred choice of respondents.

3 bed and 2 bed properties were the most popular choices for style of housing in the parish of Sturton by Stow and 2 bed properties and Period/traditional styles were most popular in Stow.

Over 88% of respondents agreed that any new development should respect the local character, landscape and heritage of the parishes.

The factors highlighted as most important to respondents in considering development are green spaces, and protection and enhancement of the existing natural and historic environmental assets. It is pertinent to point out that the margins between all the considerations listed in the questionnaire were small.

Around a third of respondents across the two parishes identified they may have a housing need in the next five years. A variety of reasons were given.

Community

In the parish of Sturton by Stow, the most used community facilities are the shop and green spaces, in Stow green spaces and the post office were the most used.

Comments by all respondents also identified the local café as a popular facility.

Additional or improved Health care facilities received the highest rating from respondents in both parishes. With a public house/restaurant a close second in the parish of Sturton by Stow and more open spaces a close second in Stow.

Communication

In both parishes the parish news booklet and word of mouth were the most popular ways of communication. Village notice boards, posters and flyers were also valued.

Overall respondents felt that existing sources of communication could be improved.

Employment

Across both parishes respondents felt there was a need to encourage more employment and would welcome opportunities such as incubation units for start-up businesses, the social care sector and leisure and recreation.

Business

Just over two thirds of businesses employ staff, with an equal split employing 5 or less and 11 - 20 staff.

When asked about the benefits of running a business in the parishes, respondents identified the following key areas:

- Good community support.
- Location and access.
- Good transport.

Detrimental aspects for the location of business included:

- Finding staff.
- Lack of passing trade.
- Lack of some community facilities.
- Crime.
- No access to fast broadband.
- Transport links.

Just over 50% of businesses have identified that they will need additional space within the next 10 years with 50 - 100 square meters being the most popular choice. Two businesses have identified they need additional space of over 500 square meters. On further analysis these are farming businesses based in Stow.

Poor mobile signal and poor access to superfast broadband are seen as the highest factors that could impede on the achievement of business development plans.

When asked for ideas on additional services or infrastructure improvements better parking, an upgrade to the local electricity grid and access issues were identified as most important.

Recommendations

The age breakdown of respondents to the household questionnaire should be a factor when considering the responses made throughout the questionnaire.

Feedback to residents, businesses and young people on the main results of the survey should take place as soon as possible using a variety of social media and traditional forms of communication. This should be done alongside the feedback event planned in March.

A summary of the salient points of the Central Lincolnshire Plan should be communicated to the community in particular:

- Excerpts from the vision.
- The level and distribution of growth for each parish and how they have been identified in the Plan.
- What this means for each parish in development of the Neighbourhood Plan including compliance with the legislation.

It will be important to demonstrate how the development of the Sturton and Stow Neighbourhood Plan can influence positive growth that secures the future of the parish through the development of a vision, objectives and policies that have been produced by the community.

The feedback event will be an excellent platform to begin this process.

This consultation recorded some common opinions on what people value about the parishes of Sturton by Stow and Stow, that can assist in the formulation of a vision for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Ensure the whole community continues to have its say on the evolution of the Neighbourhood Plan. At each stage, the community should be consulted and provided with the opportunity to feedback in a meaningful way. It is advised that local businesses be invited to add to the feedback received from those who have responded to the questionnaire.

