

Berwick St James Village Meeting



Tuesday 23rd November 2021
Reading room and online at 7:00pm

Berwick St James Village meeting

Agenda – Tuesday 23rd November 2021

1. **Welcome**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**
3. **Matters arising**
4. **Summary of accounts and village percept - Vote**
5. **Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote**
6. **Update on village climate change survey**
7. **New Road signs on road to Winterbourne Stoke**
8. **Village Marquee**
9. **Village website**
10. **Jubilee Street Party**
11. **Any other business**
12. **Date of next meeting**

Apologies from

- Henry Colthurst
- Carolyn MacDougall
- Greville Bibby
- Jane Rowe

Berwick St James Parish Meeting Accounts 2021-2022

		<u>Precept</u>	<u>Community Fund</u>	<u>A303 Fund</u>
1 April 2021	<u>Balance as at 1 April 2021</u>	1,656	1,544	615
25 April 2021	Wiltshire Council -precept	2,000		
28 May 2021	Sale of playground equipment	227		
28 June 2021	Community First (Insurance)	(208)		
3 June 2021	Wiltshire Association of Local Councils	(67)		
1 June 2019	Graveyard Maintenance (further £200 to spend)	(300)		
3 June 2021	GDPR	(35)		
30 June 2021	Reading Room	(500)		
22 June 2021	Marquee Hire (Colthurst)		45	
10 August 2021	Party/Village Auction		6,421	
	Salvation Army (misc payments)	40		
30 August 2021	Marquee Hire (Bibby)	70		
20 September 2021	Marquee/BBQ hire (Gairdner)	-	45	-
4 October 2021	Marquee hire (Executors Mrs A Emmerson)	75		
11 October 2021	Calor Gas reimbursement (Hiscocks)	(22)		
15 October 2021	Marquee bags		(93)	
15 October 2021	Electricity for defibrillator reimbursment (M Wood)	(25)		
15 October 2021	Licence fee for Container (P Stephenson)	(25)		
15 October 2021	Wine for village meeting (S Humphreys)		(21)	
	<u>Balance as at 20 November 2021</u>	<u>2,886</u>	<u>7,941</u>	<u>615</u>

Village Precept - Vote

- To keep the village precept level unchanged at £2000.00 for 2022/23

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Proposals for distribution of funds

- St James Church - £2000
- Reading Room - £2000
- Labour costs to install new all-weather cricket pitch - £1620
- Balance to remain in Community Fund

Proposals for distribution of funds.

- St James Church - £2000

The church is requesting £2000 to help towards the huge expenses of keeping the church alive and maintaining an 800 year old grade 1 listed building.

Every 5 years the church is inspected by a church architect and this was carried out in October. Unsurprisingly this has revealed urgent work that needs to be carried out. The first of these is the need for a new vertical access ladder with a cage to gain access to the bell tower which is essential for maintenance – This is a matter of Health and safety. Estimates for this so far are in excess of £3500, and further quotes are being sought. The current ladder is an old wooden ladder with rot and wood worm in it with no safety whatsoever. The other major work needing attention is the removal of cement which is probably at least 50 years old, on the low level stonework round the church and has to be replaced with lime mortar. The cement is causing degradation of the stone work and should never have been put there in the first place. An estimate is that it will take a craftsman at least 3 weeks of work to sort out so the cost of that at a minimum say of £150 a day for 15 days work will be £2250, in all probability more.

St James Church Page 2

The effect of carrying out these works alone will at a minimum reduce the fabric fund from £25,000 to below £20,000. It is likely that when we see the architects report (estimated 2 months from the date of his visit) there will be further items requiring attention. From the fabric fund is also paid the insurance premium for the building and that is £2215 a year.

Over and above that the cost of maintaining the fabric of the church we have to find £7085 for the quota which is paid direct to the Diocese which comes out of the general fund. Next year this is rising by 5% to £7,439. With less money from church collections in the past 2 years due to COVID this is becoming increasingly difficult to pay, not to mention the routine upkeep of the church such as oil for the boiler, boiler maintenance, electricity, fire extinguisher annual tests etc etc. The church has been very dependent upon the monies raised from village events in order to keep solvent. This in recent years has been around £2000.

It is with huge thanks to many in the village who make a personal contribution to the church that we are able to keep the church going.

Attached are the church accounts for 2021 up to the end of October.

Berwick St James PCC - 2021 Report & Accounts at end October and commentary					
Roof and Fabric					
Brought forward		27,000.00			
Grants/Legacies (inc Furness Trust)				Insurance	2,215.88
Cycle Ride/Teas/Magazine				Repairs	
Dividends/interest		2.30		Various	
Gift aid standing orders		670.00			
Total		672.30		Total	2,215.88
Result for year		-1,543.58			
Transfer from General					
Carried forward		25,456.42			
General					
Brought forward		9,301.91			
Collections		1,291.00		Quota	7,085.00
Gift aid standing orders		3,790.00		Electricity/oil	86.65
Village/donations				Rectory expenses	210.03
Parochial fees		955.00		Maintenance	976.70
Tax refund		2,081.12		Miscellaneous	
Total		8,117.12		Total	8,358.38
Result for year		-241.26			
Transfer to Fabric					
Carried forward		9,060.65			
Balance Sheet					
Assets				Liabilities	
Lloyds ac 00665048		4,875.00			
Deposits		32,000.00		NIL	

Proposals for distribution of funds.

- Reading Room - £2000

The Reading Room committee are asking for £2,000 from the village fund to keep our funds healthy after we have had the thatch roof replaced and in anticipation of other works which we will have to attend to very soon. The nature of the fabric the Reading Room means it will often require attention, but the room has improved as a building in recent years with the damp proofing of the walls and most recently the new flooring and a safer entrance with the moving of the front door.

Our funds at the moment are: -

£8,000 savings account

£15,032.62 current a/c.

Within the current account is the money for the thatch made up from £4250 recently received grant, £4250 matched to grant, plus £2500 contingency = £11,000. Leaving £4032.62.

Reading Room Page 2

Expenses

£8,500.00 for thatch. (To be done in January) But we think it could end up being substantially more as the thatch has recently deteriorated so much that water is now coming into the hall and loo area. £2500 contingency has been allocated but this is likely to be an underestimate.

Probable new tin or tile roof for the lobby area (Estimated £1,500), and investigations regarding leaks.

Expenditure on the following will be needed very soon. Prices are not known yet.

Roadside cob wall will need attention.

Re decorating the interior.

Looking into Loop system, microphone and therefore repairs to rear speakers as requested.

Reading Room Page 3

Total annual costs are £1040.

(Village hall association £50.00

Insurance £359

Fire extinguisher certificate £31

Water £100

Electricity £500)

Our annual income is comprised of

£500 precept money (if the village vote for this)

The committee's fundraising efforts (Christmas bazaar approx. £300 and sometimes fete)

We are starting to get a small income again after covid from new yoga sessions and some talks. Amounts unknown at the moment.

Reading Room Treasurer's Report April 1st 2020 – March 31st 2021

Income

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Yoga	524.00	429.00	332.00	400.00	
Rent Rm/ Equip	366.00	159.00	350.00	200.00	80.00
Films	262.00	120.00		90.00	
Lectures	235.00	450.00	535.00	475.00	
Christmas Fair	551.29	447.05	432.36	558.97	
Fete	1,250.00	1,600.00	1,000.00	455.00	
Precept	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Donations	20.00	10.00	50.00	31.00	
Market Stall/Art Grant			22.02		8.00
Extra		175.00		12.00	
Total	3,708.29	3,890.05	3,221.38	2,721.97	10,588.00

Expenditure

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Electricity	243.67	238.37	268.59	286.78	573.27
Water	58.04	60.07	61.06	61.06	
Insurance	427.49	444.68	405.04	412.26	394.70
Repairs		500.00	627.84	9,501.58	3,622.00
New Equipment	188.83		143.86	119.00	
Licences	101.30	104.34	231.06	49.20	26.00
Extras	37.00	150.00	104.40	188.91	
Total	1,056.33	1,497.46	1,841.85	10,618.79	4,615.97

Profit

2016 / 17	2,651.96
2017 / 18	2,392.59
2018 / 19	1,379.53
2019 / 20	-7,896.82
2020 / 21	5,972.03
Cash in Bank	10,685.39
Cash in Res Acc	8,000
Cash Held	43.28

Proposals for distribution of funds.

- Cricket Pitch - £1620

I write to request that the next village meeting consider giving up to £1,620 towards the labour costs of a new all weather cricket pitch. I attach a formal quotation to that effect.

The last Village v Pub match was attended by something like 100 people of all ages from the village and vicinity – whether playing, having picnics, talking or just enjoying a wonderful afternoon. This village is so lucky – we have a wonderful old church, a pub, a farm shop and a reading room. So there is something for the religious, the regular, the foodie and the book worm. But there is not so much for the sports minded. I believe that such upgrade of the pitch will appeal not just to another section of the village but also to the young, whether at heart or in body, or both.

The cricket club itself charges no subscription but only a match fee for those who play. At present cash in the bank held by the cricket club totals approximately £290. There are no major projects planned for the next 12 months other than the hoped for replacement of the all weather cricket pitch costing a total of approximately £3,000.

Proposals for distribution of funds.

- Cricket Pitch - £1620

That hugely enjoyable Village v Pub event raised £1,300 which will cover the expected cost of materials within that figure of £3,000. A further £1,620, most of it already matched by takings from the event, is needed to pay for labour costs to prepare and lay the pitch professionally which seems sensible to ensure that the pitch can last for as many years as possible for the enjoyment of all.

As I understand it, the cricket pitch is an asset of the village kindly donated by the Street family rather than something of use to the cricket club alone. Any donation should be viewed on that basis. It will enhance village life for the benefit of all. I hope very much that the village meeting will support this request from the sums raised at the auction.

Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote 1

£2000 to go to the St James Church

Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote 2

£2000 to go to the Reading Room

Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote 3

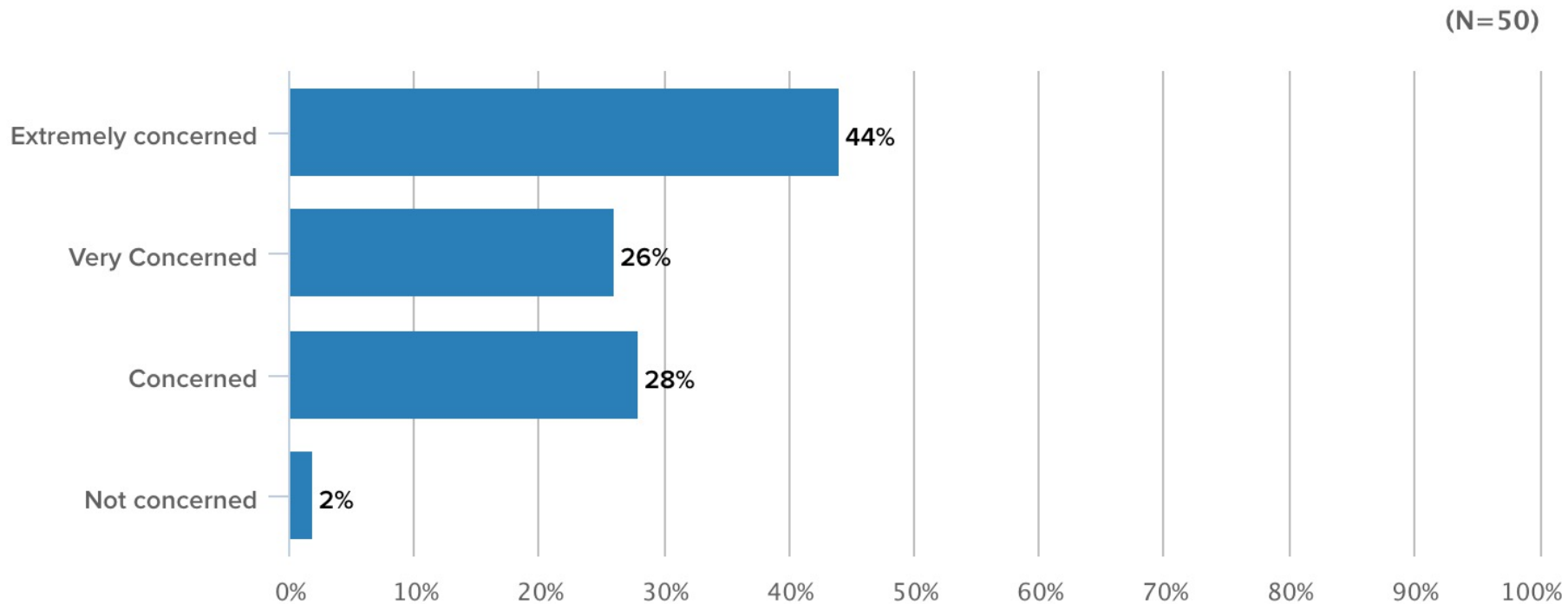
£1620 to go towards Cricket Pitch upgrade

Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote 4

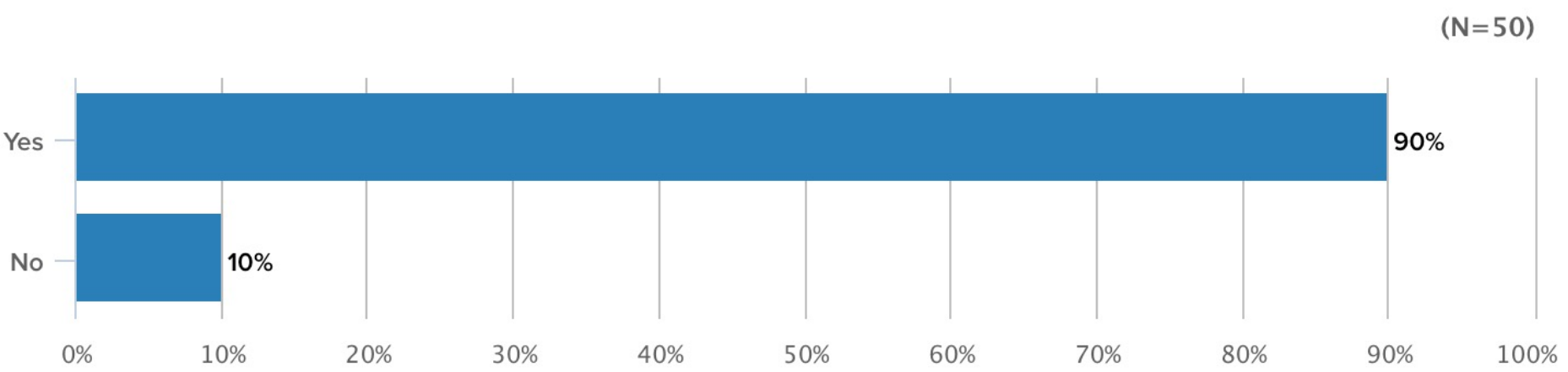
Balance from party £801
to remain in the Community Fund
leaving a balance of £2321

Berwick Climate Change Survey 2021

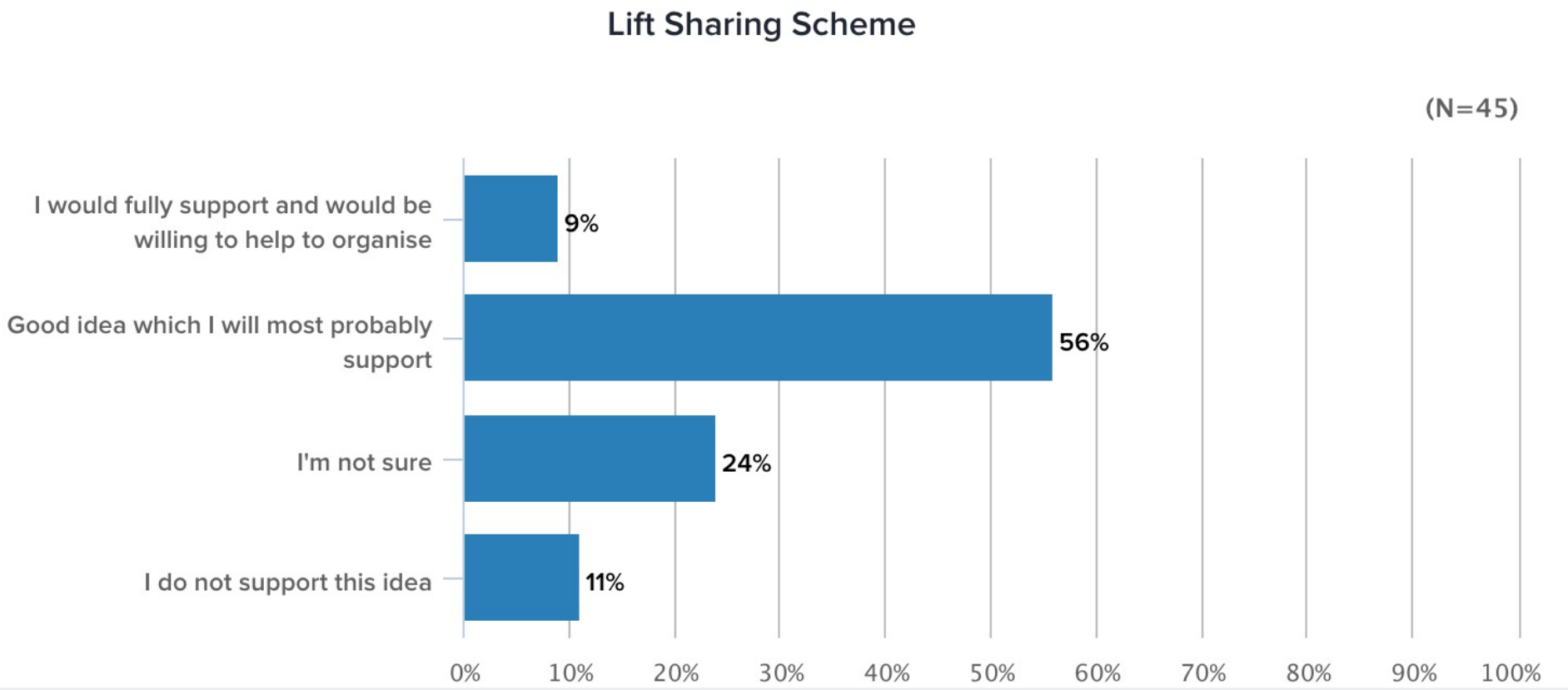
How concerned are you about climate change and its impact on biodiversity?



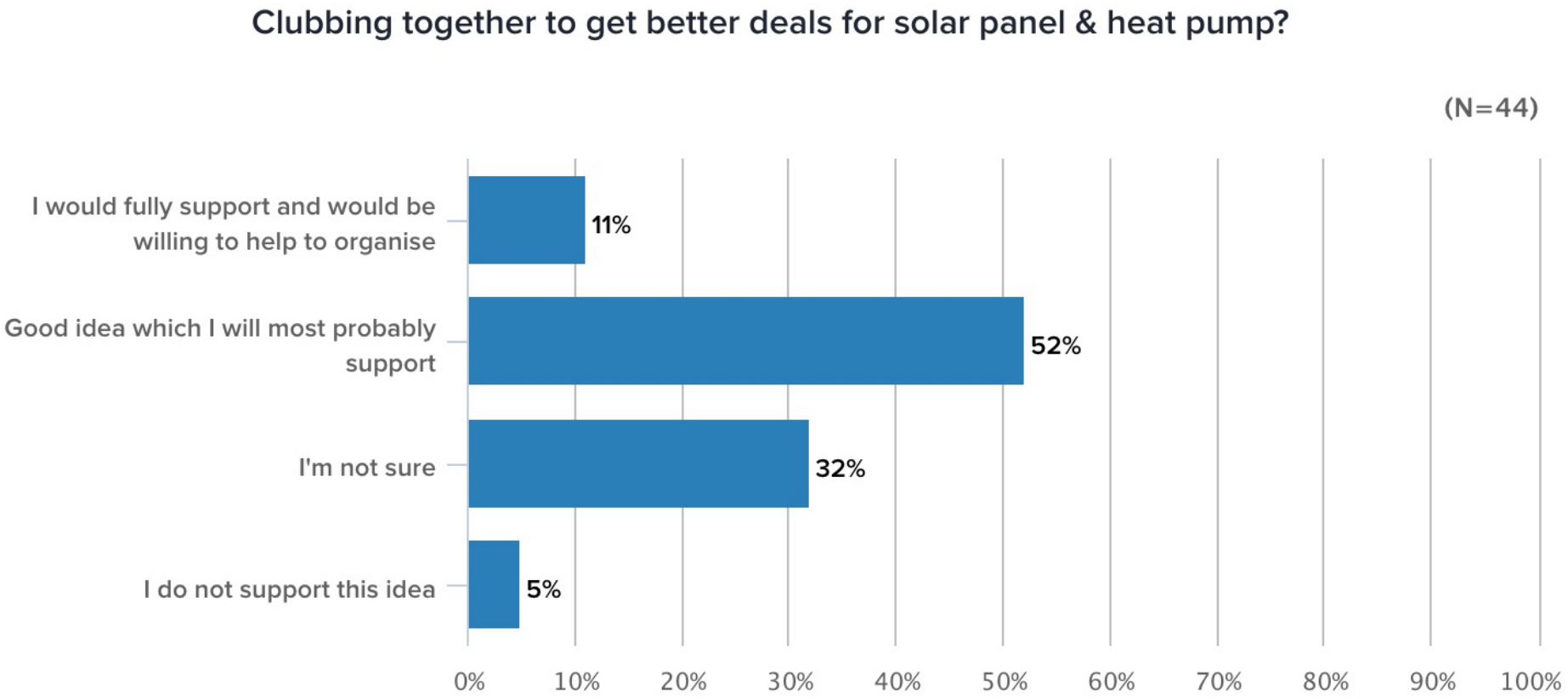
Do you think that the village should explore ways in which we can work together to reduce our carbon emissions and promote biodiversity?



A number of interesting ideas have already been suggested for the village. Please could you help us by indicating which, if any, of the following initiatives would you support?

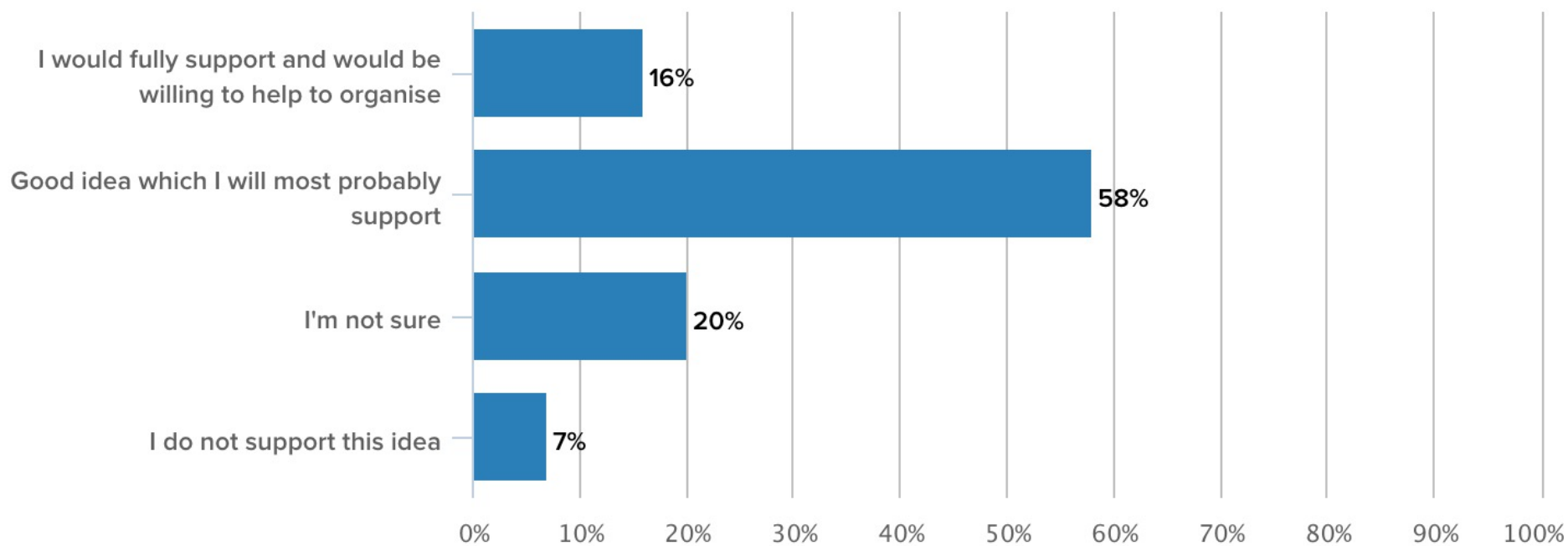


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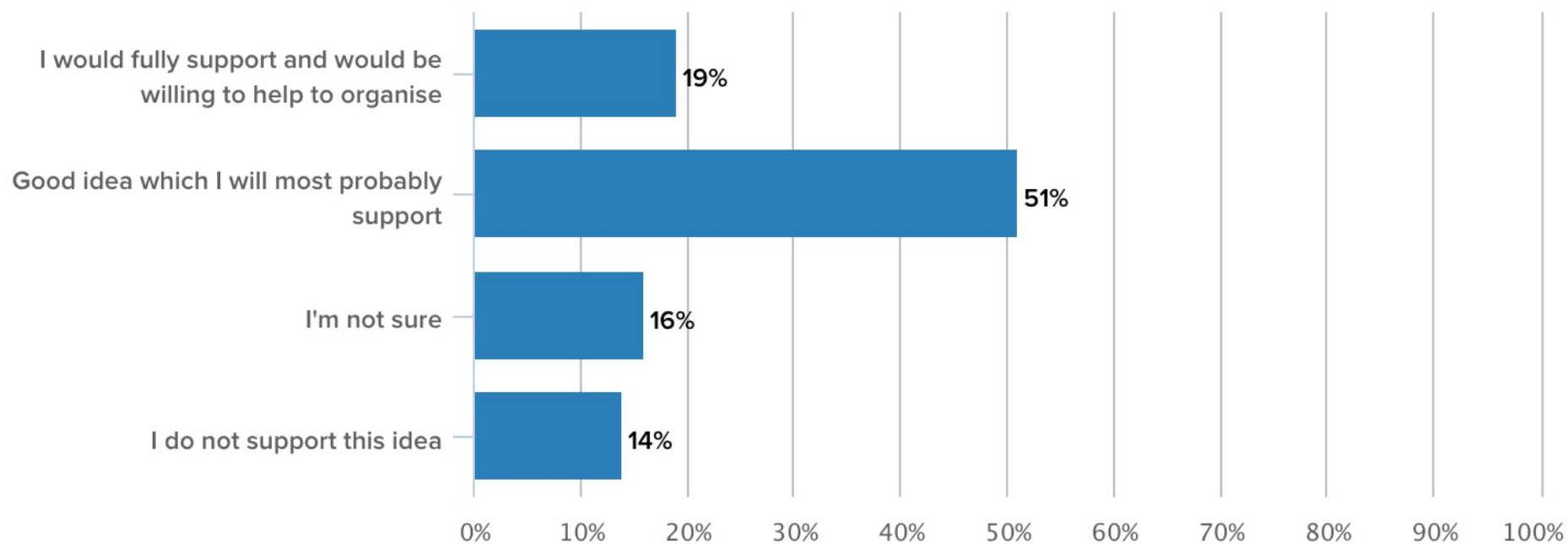
Interesting films or talks about the environment in the Reading Room

(N=45)



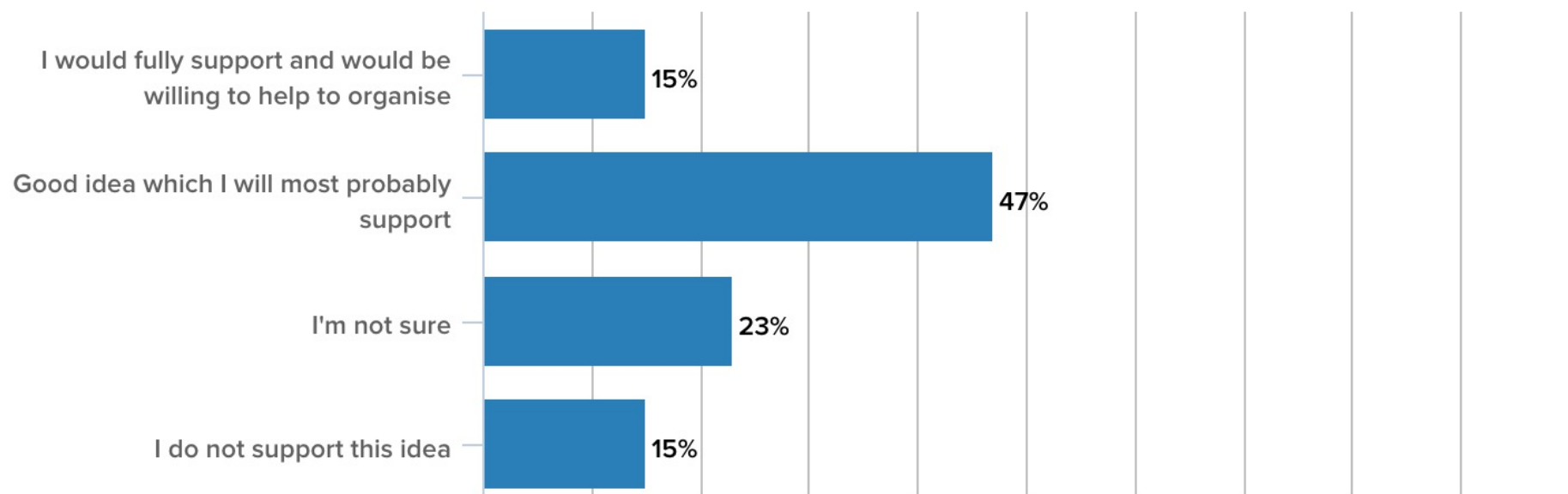
looking into installing car charger in the village

(N=43)



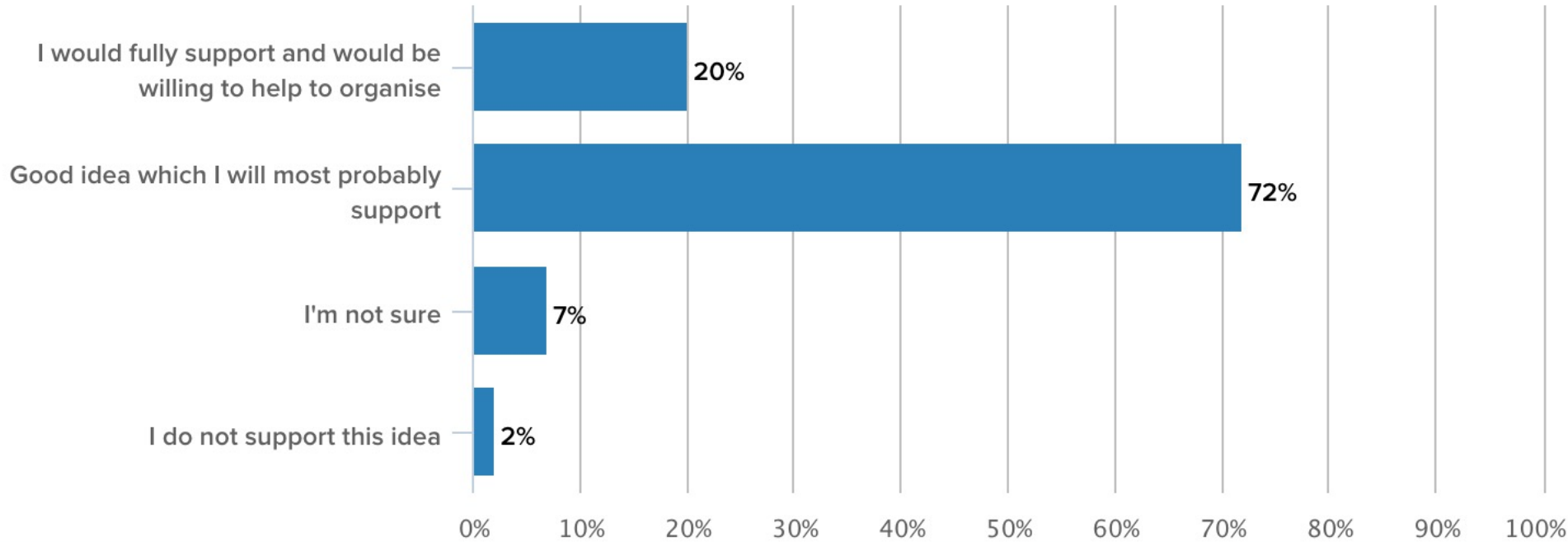
Start a village share scheme where items such as tools can be lent out to avoid 'stuff' being bought for occasional use

(N=47)



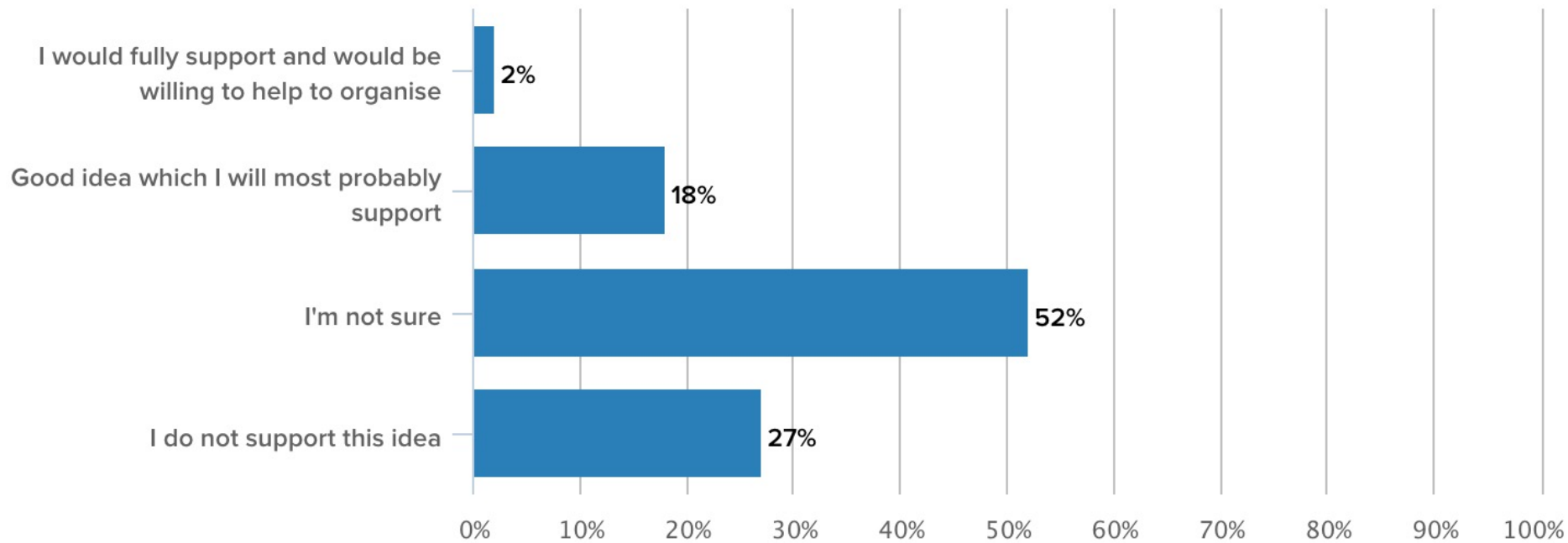
Regular village litter picking days.

(N=46)



Electric car or bicycle sharing scheme

(N=44)



Survey – Other comments

I am not sure that a lift sharing scheme would work in a village where many are retired. It works best where people share their journey to work where the journeys are similar and regular. It does not work as well for sporadic and occasional journeys.

D) Installing a car charger when villagers would probably be able to charge their own cars at home would seem to be an unnecessary expense for the village. Maybe the Boot would provide one for its customers. E) We have leant tools over the years and they have been broken so that is why I do not support this scheme.

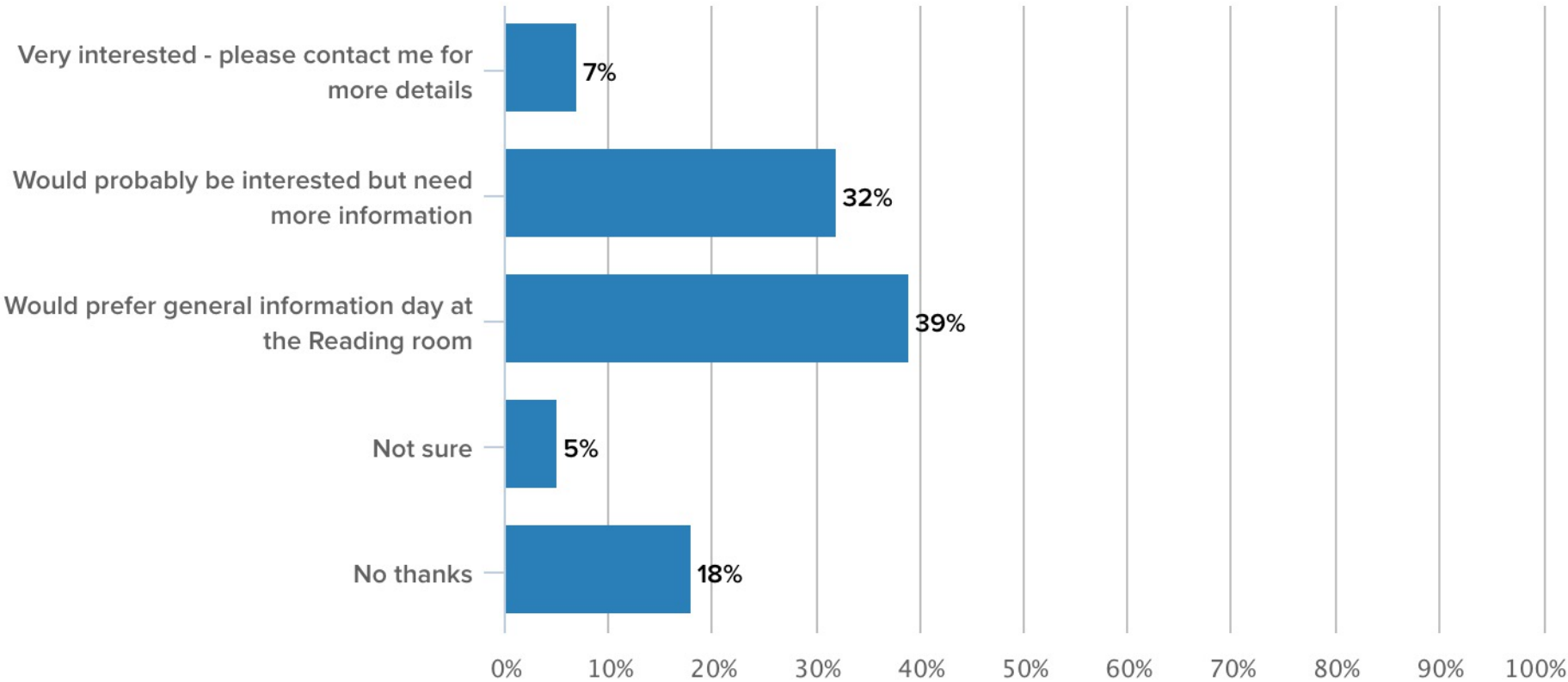
In practice I am not convinced that a number of well meaning "bulk purchase" ideas for material capital expenditure work well. Different people will have different timings in mind. Perhaps the better way forward would be to see if the village can get some sort of introductory commission for successful referrals in respect of "green" projects which individual villagers may choose to buy.

We are all on a journey so I think education of ideas, practical solutions is key.

A number of people in the village would be willing to provide informal advice/information on a one-to-one basis about how to reduce your carbon footprint. If you would like to take up this opportunity, please let us know which of the following you would be interested in?

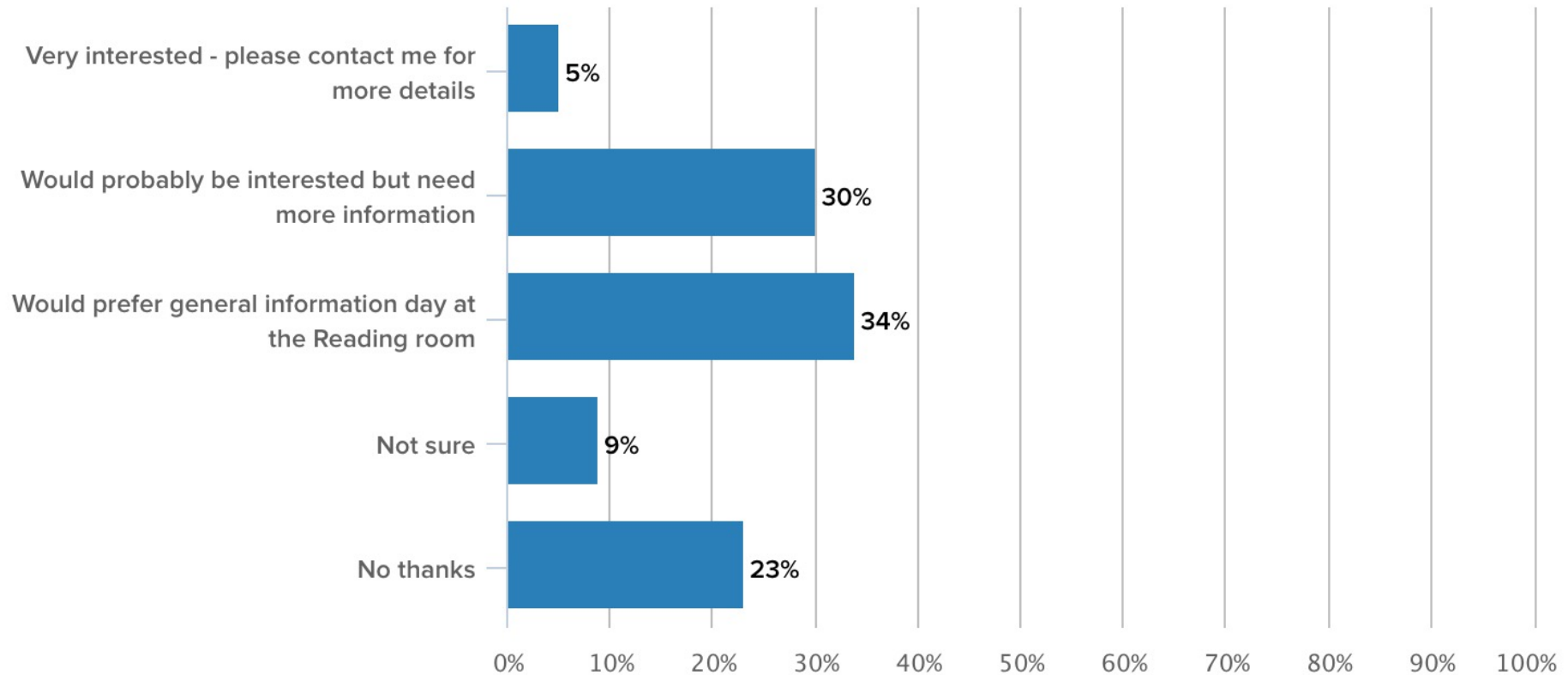
Simple measures around your home

(N=44)



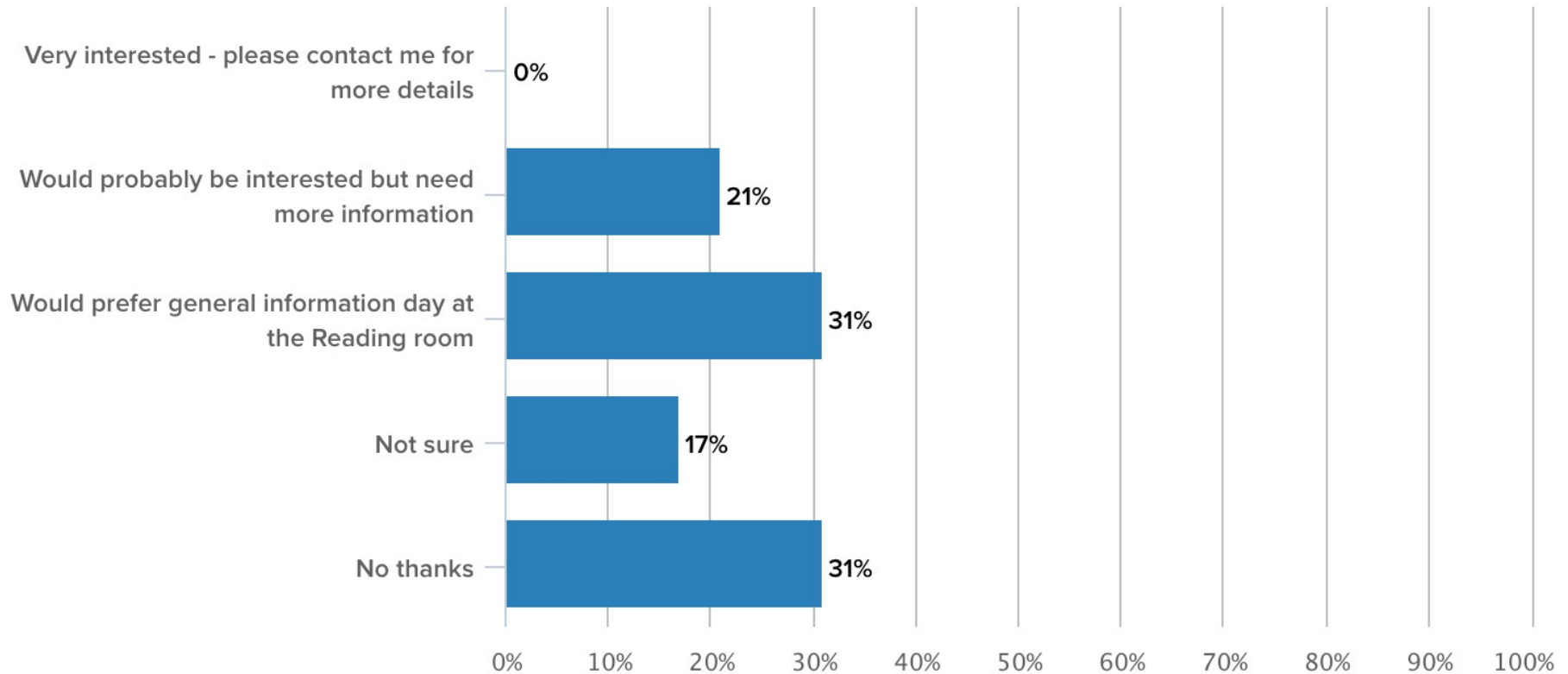
Greener ways to heat and power your home (EG Heat pumps)

(N=44)



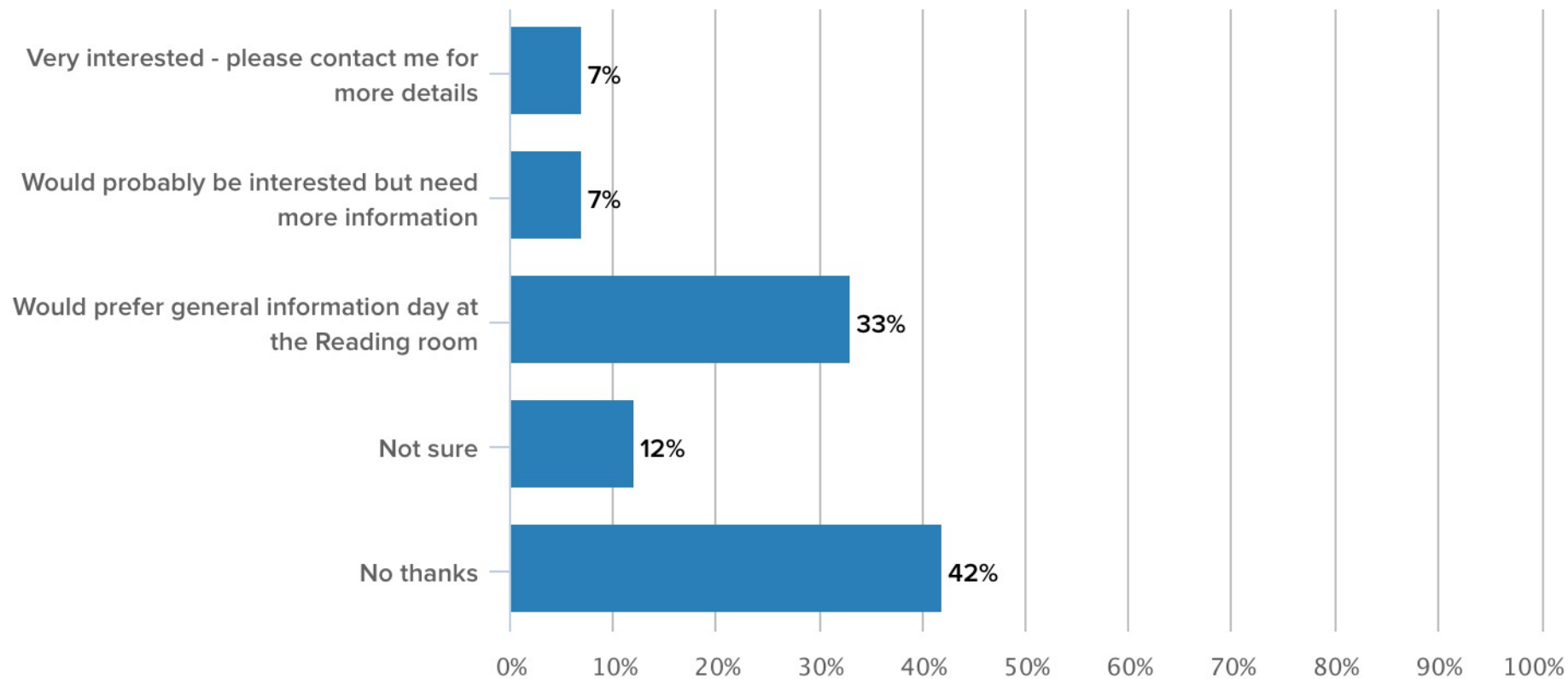
Solar Panels

(N=42)



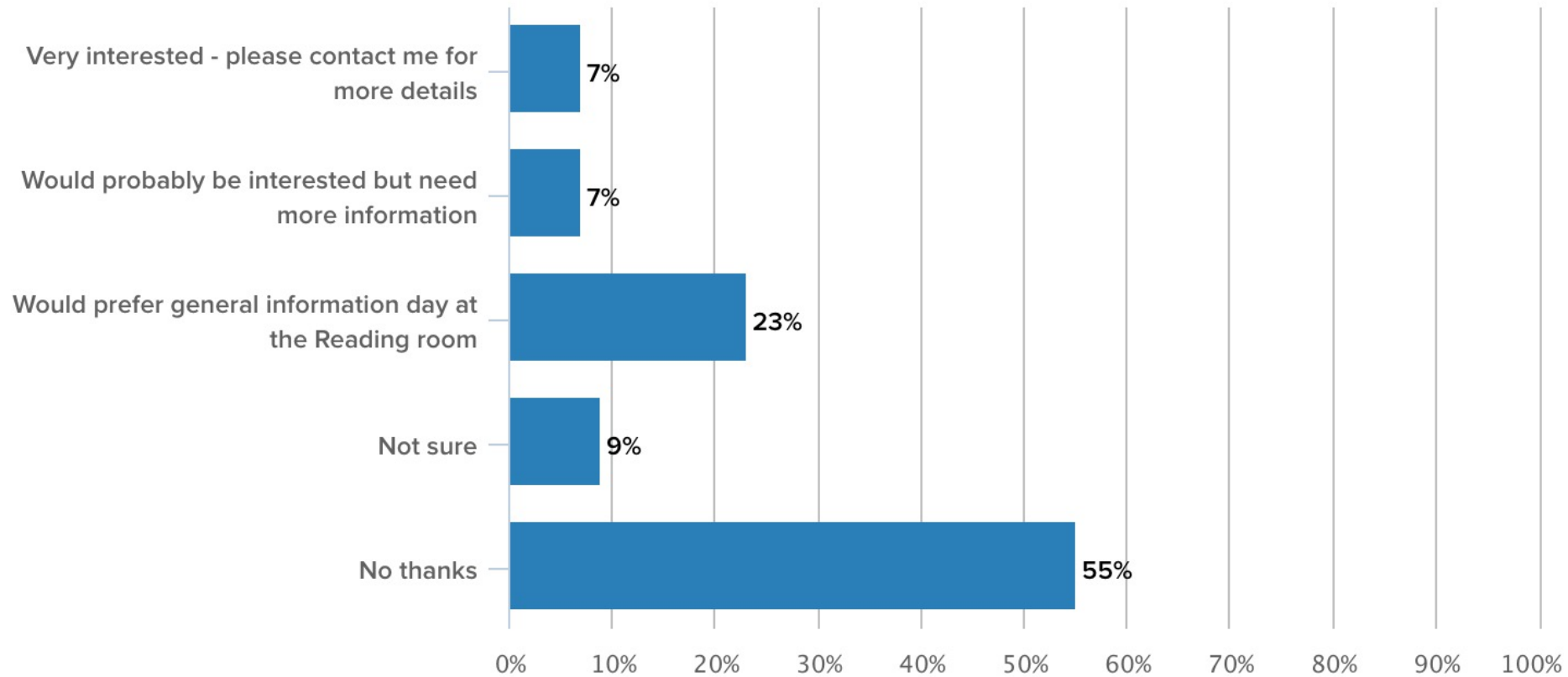
Lifestyle choices (diet, travel etc)

(N=43)



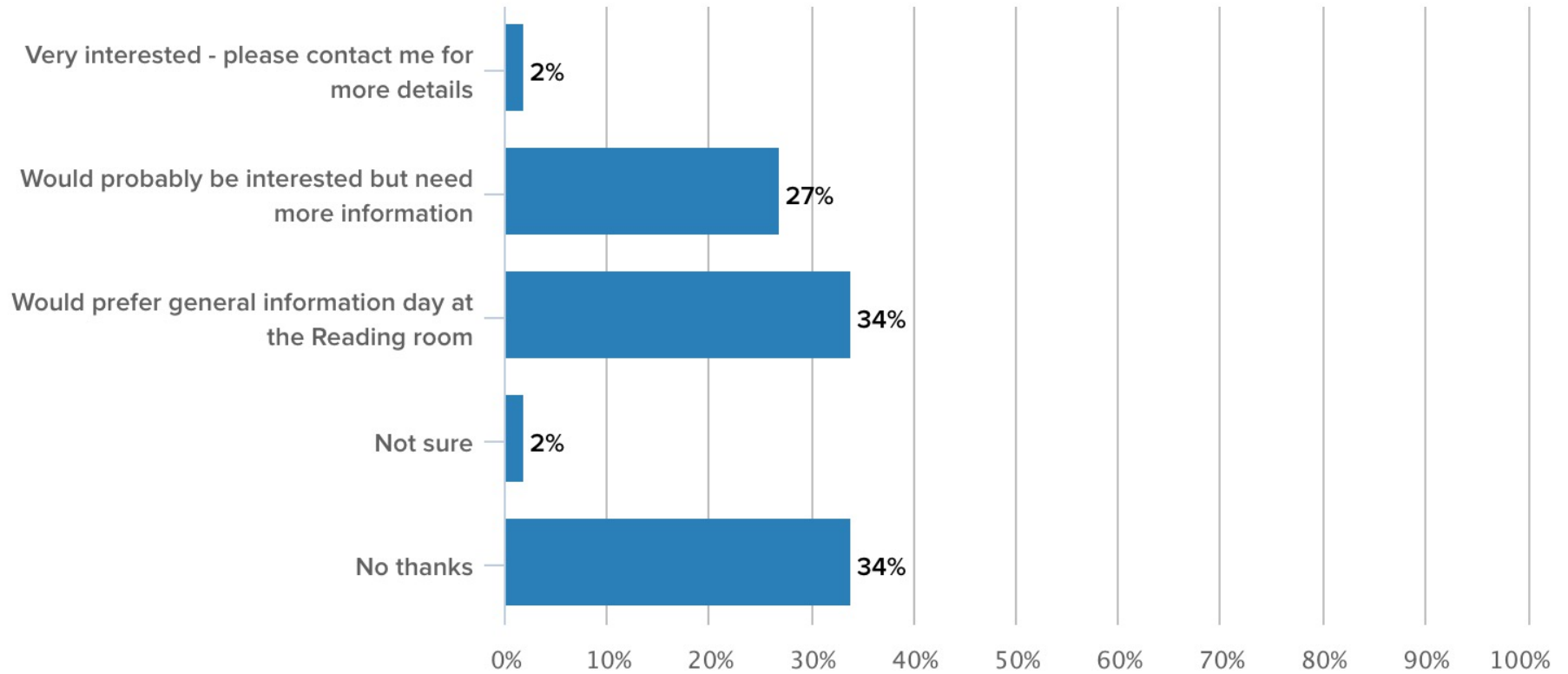
Financial investing information to tackle climate change (Not Financial advice)

(N=44)



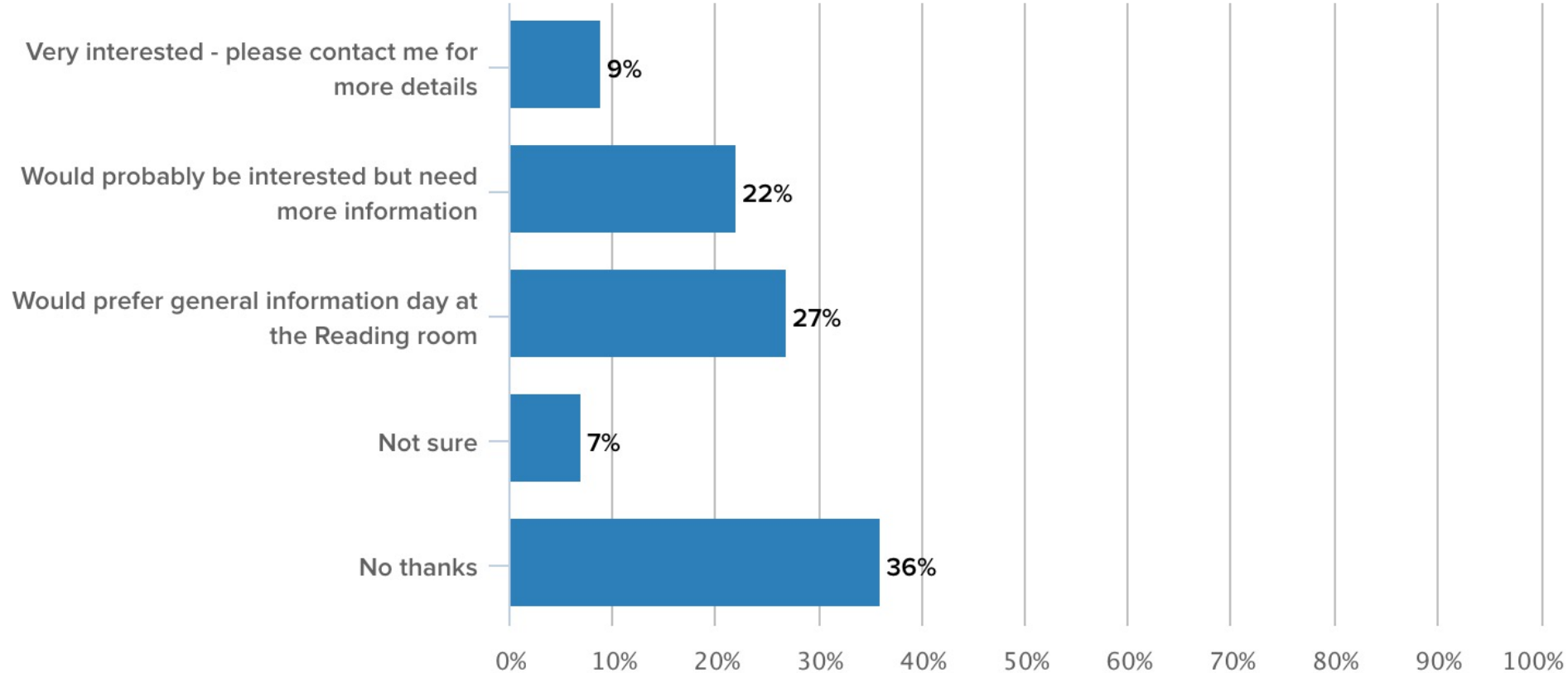
Electric cars

(N=44)



Insulating your home

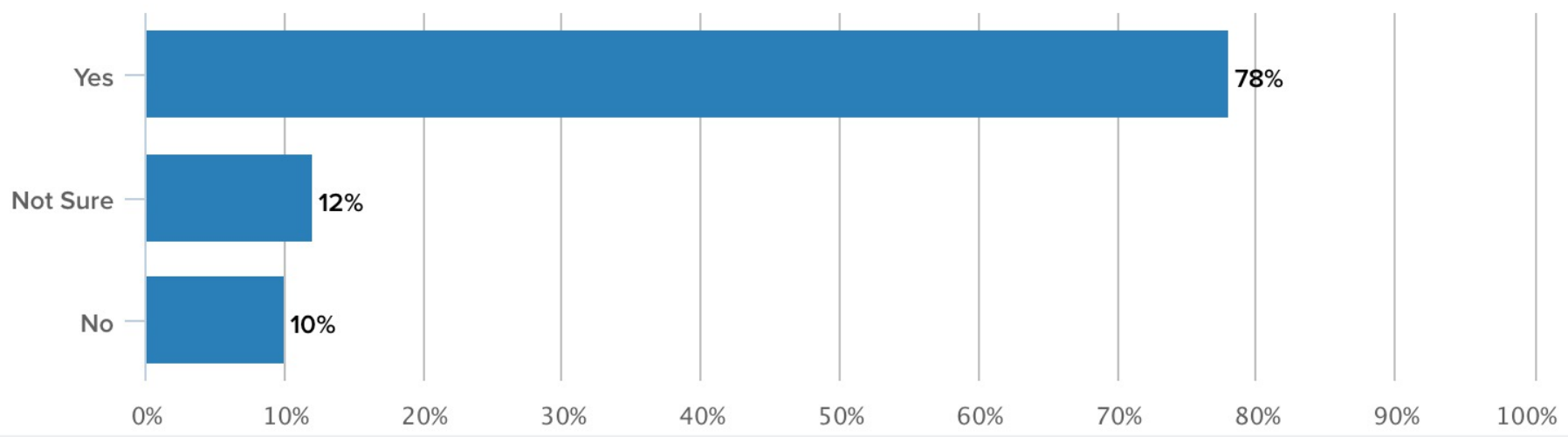
(N=45)



Wild flowers verges can encourage biodiversity and are increasingly replacing mown grass verges. We would find it helpful to know your views on whether Berwick should have more wild flower verges.

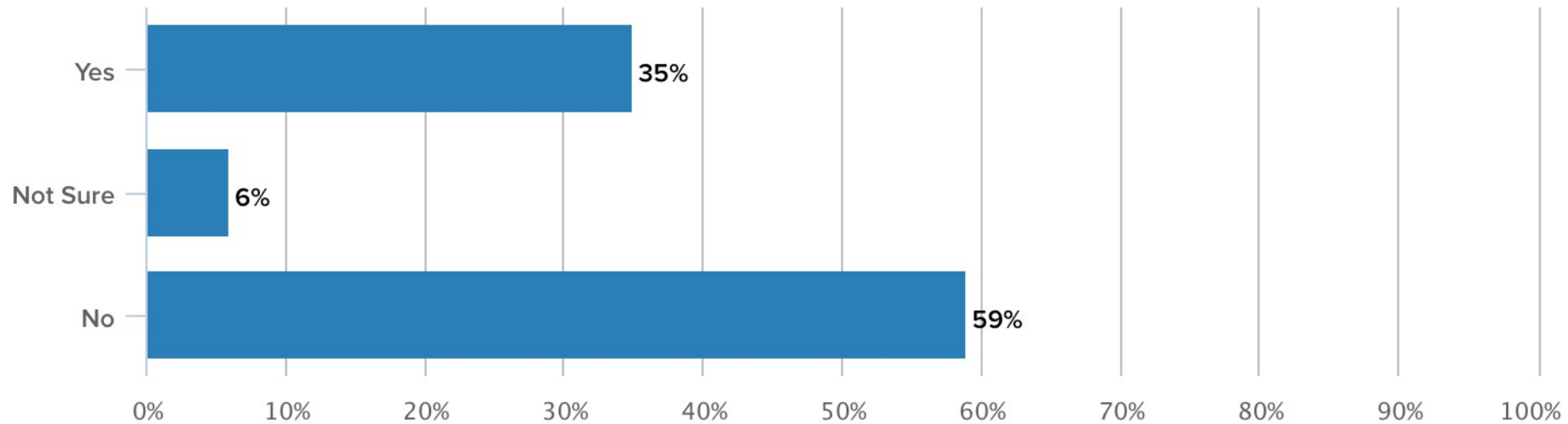
Do you support the idea of having a coordinated approach to promoting wild flower verges in Berwick St James?

(N=49)



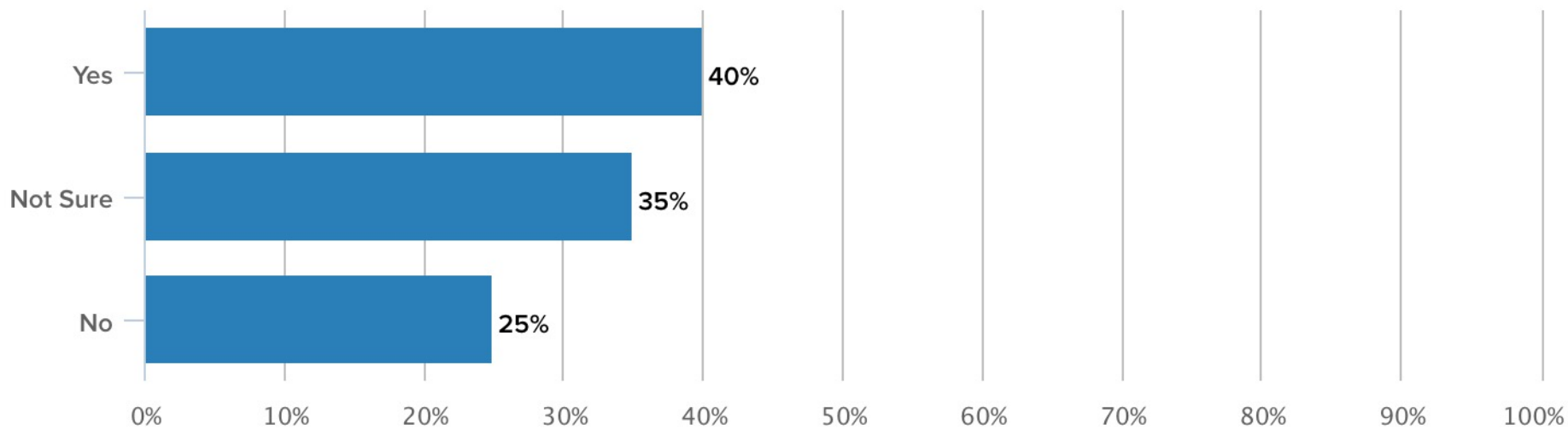
Do you own a property that borders the road and could be involved in such a scheme?

(N=49)



Would you like to be involved in such a scheme?

(N=48)



Survey – Other comments

Verges represent one of the **best places for restoring wildflowers** currently available.

The fact that they are linear is a positive advantage. But they must be protected from superfluous or premature cutting and mowing.

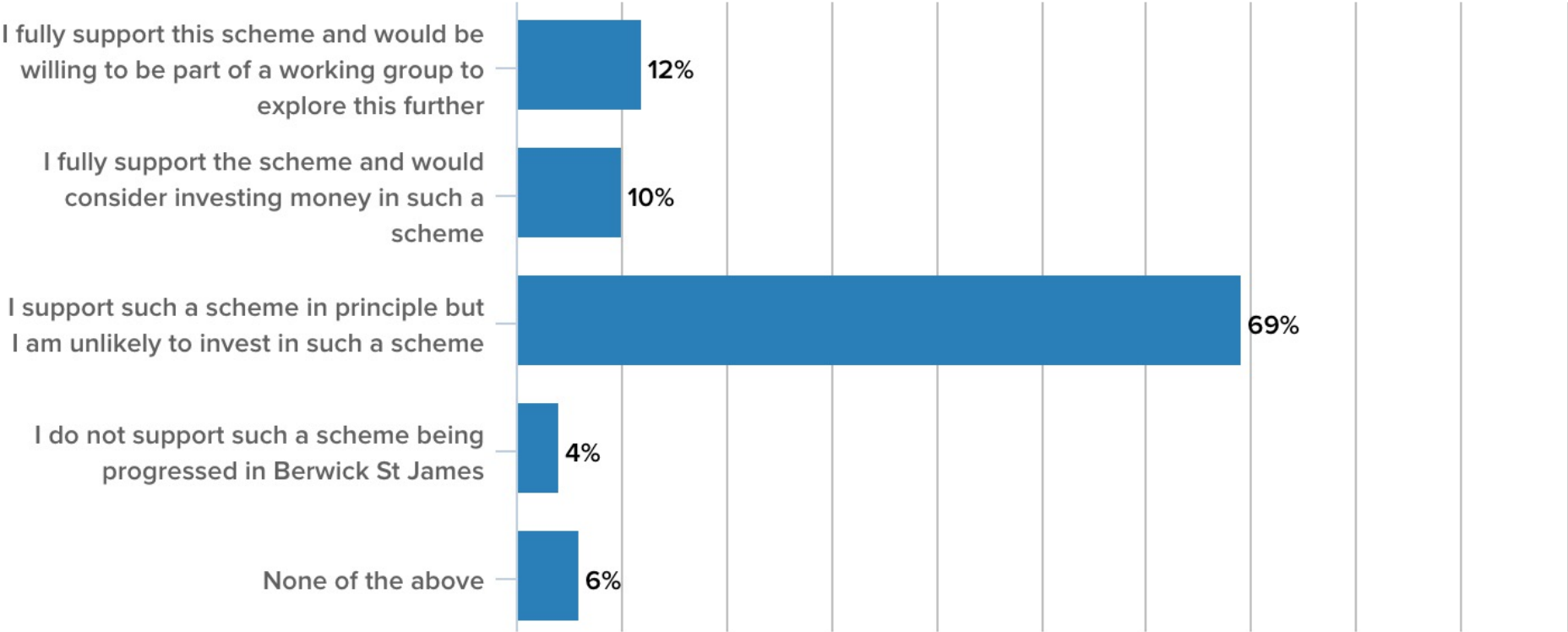
Any verges left to become wild **must not hinder views for road users** when pulling out of junctions or blind corners

Fully support but **would need help** to manage our verges.

In addition to the limited number of verges we have, the 'wild' area at **the back of the churchyard could also be properly managed** as a wildflower area. At the moment this is an area of wasteland with as far as I can see nothing but thuggish grasses dominating. Many churchyards are havens for wildlife but this does require proper management. It would be lovely to see an insect 'hotel' in the churchyard too. I imagine there must be information on this within church circles.

Some communities have started their own community energy generation schemes where solar panels are owned by the community group and are placed on buildings such as churches or schools. These schemes require a lot of work to get started but can provide clean energy for the community. Please could you indicate your level support for such a scheme to be explored.

(N=51)



Survey – Other comments

If we could use the **church roof that would be a wonderful** way to give an old building an extra relevance today. The problem may lie with its Grade 1 status although much of the roof is relatively hidden.. new with a new old

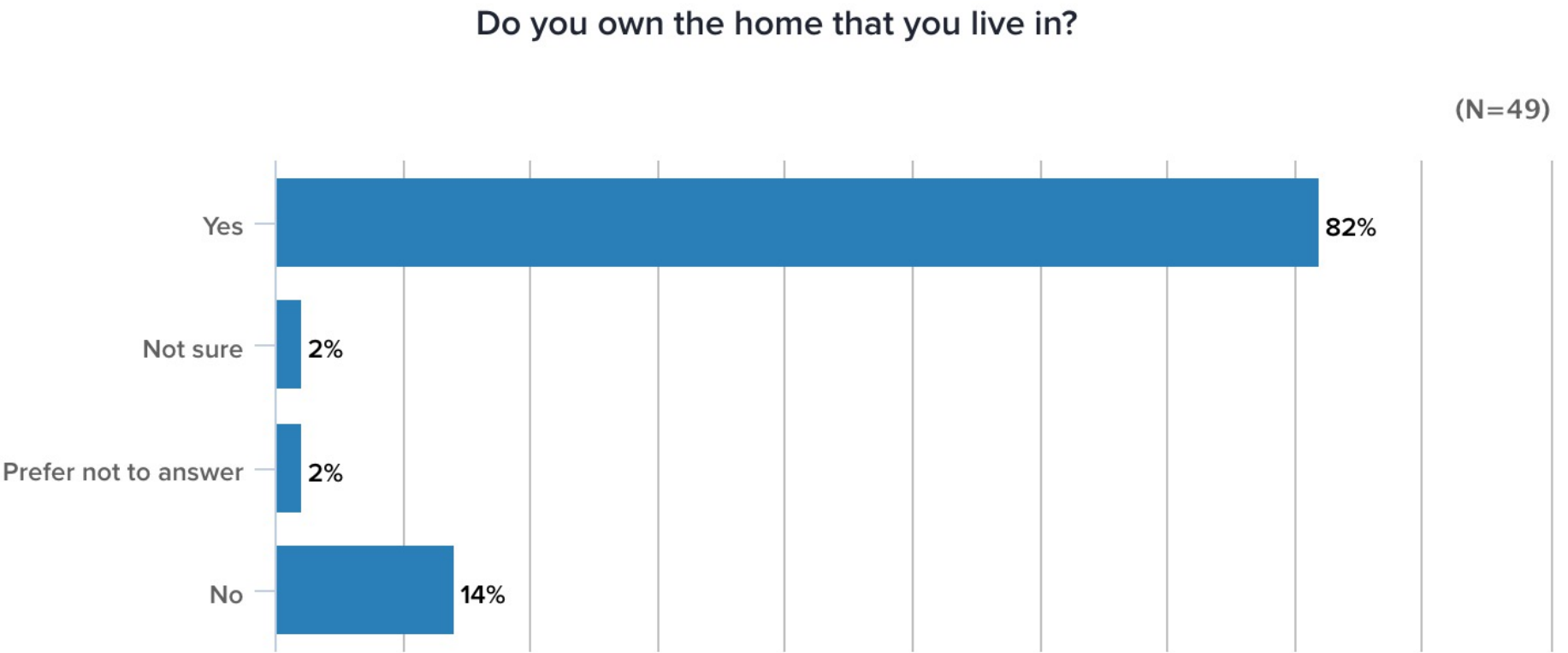
what about **hydro power?**

Community GSHP
(Ground Source Heat Pump)

The village has a number of potential assets that could be utilised, i.e roof space on the church, or area around the church, the river - either water-source heat pump or water turbine. additional projects such as community shared heat or energy generation may need collaboration between local businesses/landowners./investors

It may be that this **village is too small to make such a scheme worthwhile** of the effort and savings involved.

In order to help us understand the results of the survey and the potential to reduce carbon emissions, we are asking you if you own or rent the house that you live in as this may impact on your ability to make significant changes to your home such as changing the heating systems etc.



Survey – Other comments

It would be good as a village if we could all **commit to using our bus service more**. Only if we all use it can we then lobby for an improved service. Many villagers must be in possession of bus passes so it would be great to see the buses better used.

I would find it helpful if Berwick residents who have successfully taken measures to **insulate their homes share information about who they used and how much it costs**, whether there is financial support available etc. I am in principle for taking action to make houses more energy-efficient but it would be a much easier problem to tackle if we had Berwick residents recommending builders and providing more information about the process.

Information is king. Enlightening individuals as to best ideas that probably don't cost money but which could greatly help the environment should be promoted over and above a co-operative approach.

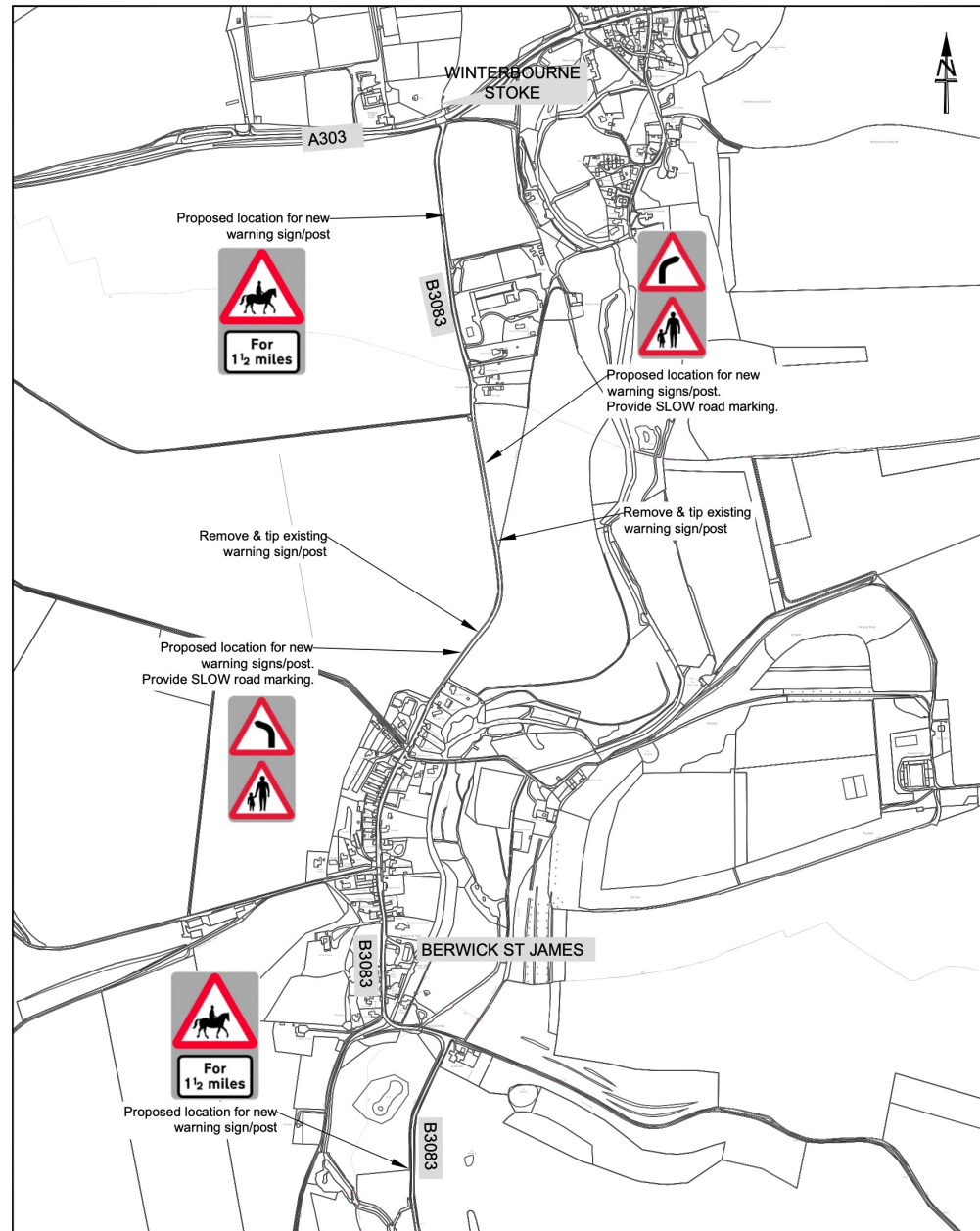
Reduce the use of bright lights outside on walls as it confuses bats and moths.
Reduce use of pesticides in gardens.
Leave it to natural predators

Better use of existing services and products offered locally such as Farm shop, local food producers, local clubs etc. Investigate potential for consider the affects of river pollution by local sewage treatment plants and also outdated private septic tank systems into the SSSI River Till

Survey – What next?

- Information/education
 - 2040 Film Show and discussion (January?)
 - Work towards open day in reading Room (February?)
 - People who asked for one-to-one advice will be contacted
- Wild Flower Verges
 - 19 people expressed desire to be part of a coordinated scheme
 - Volunteer coordinators will make contact
- Other initiatives
 - Volunteers to progress most ideas came forward in the survey (not for car/bike sharing scheme)
 - Christian will speak with people willing to coordinate to discuss way ahead

New Road signs on road to Winterbourne Stoke



MARQUEE ORIGINAL 4X8 M PVC, WHITE

Product number PT18462

The elegantly designed and classic marquee in durable quality with a PVC cover, galvanised steel frame, and large Georgian style windows, provides a beautiful inflow of light. The innovative Double Velcro Windstop prevents draught inside the marquee.



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MEMBERS' PRICE

£508.44

Price incl. VAT



-5%

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Home The Parish ▾ Climate Change
The History of Art ▾ The Boot Inn ▾
A303 ROAD SCHEME ▾ Planning Track

HUGOFOX HOME > COMMUNITY > BERWICK

Home

Update Wednesday 10 November

Dear All,

As per our last E mail, we will be holding the meeting again be a 'hybrid' type over Zoom.

One of the main purposes of this meeting is the village party which was held on 31st £6376.27. We have received three proposals as follows:

- St James Church - £2000
- Reading Room - £2000
- Labour costs to install new all-weather cricket pitch - £1620.00

It will be proposed that the balance should remain in the Berwick Community Fund. We intend to send out more detailed information about each proposal with the finalised agenda closer to the date of the meeting.

The precept for the village will also be discussed and decided upon at this meeting. **We will propose that it remain unchanged at £2000.00 per year.**

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neil.macdougall@me.com

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Berwick St James Village Meeting
Salisbury, Wiltshire
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1 miles ▾

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Berwick St James Parish <team@hugofox.com>

Update: 1 event

To: Neil MacDougall <neil.macdougall@me.com>

Inbox - iCloud 10:26



Berwick St James Parish

new match found for **Berwick St James Parish Events**



Pre-Raphaelites, The Legacy & Art for Art's sake

Berwick St James, Salisbury, Wiltshire

£5.00

This evening we will discuss the period after 1860, when Rossetti became the pre-eminent member of the Pre-Raphaelites, his relationship ...

25 Nov 21

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Jubilee Street Party – Sunday 5th June

Looking for volunteers to help organise

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11. Any other business
12. Date of next meeting

Any other business

Berwick-St-James Art Appreciation

The Pre-Raphaelites, The Legacy & Art for Art's Sake



Thursday 25th November at 7.30pm
with entry from 7.10

The Reading Room Berwick St James

This evening we will discuss the period after 1860, when Rossetti became the pre-eminent member of the Pre-Raphaelites, his relationship with Whistler, the Aesthetic Movement and 'Art for Art's Sake'.

Glass of wine, beer, or soft drinks on entry. £5 donation to the Reading Room Fund.
For further information: Berwick-St-James Village website, contact Brian Armstrong
on 01722 790647, or brianarm100@hotmail.com

Christmas Coffee Morning

Reading Room Berwick St James



from 10.30am.

Saturday 4th December.
Free Tea and Coffee.

The Reading Room will be open for donations
3 – 4pm Friday 3rd December.

Raffle and Tombola Prizes can also be handed in at Berwick Farm Shop.

Raffle, Tombola, Cake and Produce Stall with Christmas Bulbs

Christmas Stall with Village Cards

Ellie O'Neill Cards & Gifts. Jane Rowe cards.

Nicky chstreet@btinternet.com 790309 The Dairy House.

Berwick St James Village meeting

Agenda – Tuesday 23rd November 2021

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Summary of accounts and village percept - Vote
5. Proposals for distribution of funds. - Vote
6. Update on village climate change survey
7. New Road signs on road to Winterbourne Stoke
8. Village Marquee
9. Village website
10. Jubilee Street Party
11. Any other business
12. Date of next meeting – March 2022