

Meriden Neighbourhood Plan Survey Results 2016

FINAL REPORT

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APPENDICES

- Q1 How do you occupy your present home? - Other
- Q3. Is your home....? Other.
- Q6. If you have answered NO to Q5 above, why are you not able to?
- Q8. If you could like to move is there anything preventing you from moving? Other reasons.
- Q9. Please tell us the reasons for wanting or needing to move.
- Q12. If you were to move elsewhere in Solihull whereabouts would you move to?
- Q16. If you have answered no to Q15, why would you not consider affordable housing?
- Q18. Is there anything preventing them from moving? Other reasons.
- Q19. Please tell us the reasons for them wanting or needing to move?
- Q25. Why would they not consider affordable housing?
- Q30. Are there any locations which you think are suitable for new homes to be built?
- Q31. Are there any locations which you think are not suitable for new homes to be built?
- Q32. The space below is for any other comments you may have about housing.
- Q33. Should existing employment sites be protected from a change of use?
Comments.
- Q35. If you or anyone in your household already works from home please write the type of work in the box below.
- Q37. Please tell us what type of employment they would like.
- Q38. Do you think that any future development in Meriden should be in keeping with their character, heritage and setting within the surrounding countryside?
Comments.
- Q39. Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to protect and enhance the quality of any new buildings by promoting the following? Other.
- Q40. Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to promote the following..... Other.
- Q41. Are there any buildings, places or views which you believe are important to protect?
- Q42. The box below is provided to allow you to make your own comments on protecting the environment.
- Q43. As a Meriden resident, where are you travelling to when you use these forms of transport and for what reasons? For each option you tick, briefly state for what reason.

- Q44. As a Meriden resident, what other forms of transport would you like to use more? For each option you tick, briefly state what it is about Meriden that prevents you doing so.
- Q46. If an improved bus service is needed tell us how it should be improved. Other.
- Q48. If yes, how could traffic flow be improved?
- Q49. If you have mobility issues, what would make it easier for you to get around Meriden?
- Q50. If money was available to invest in infrastructure. Where should this be spent? Please indicate your top three.
- Q51. Which of the following do you think that the Plan should aim to improve? Other.
- Q52. Do you think parking facilities need improving? Please state where you think additional parking might be provided.
- Q53. If facilities for young people need improving say how and where you think this could be achieved.
- Q54. The space below is for you to make any other comments on improving community facilities.

1.0 Introduction

Residents were told that the Localism Act 2011 included an important piece of legislation for local communities: it gives us power to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which, when adopted by a 'community' referendum, will become a legal document and carry significant weight when planning decisions are made, giving you the resident, a voice.

To ensure Meriden's Neighbourhood Development Plan becomes a legal planning requirement, it is essential that it is community led. This means that all residents should be involved to ensure their views are included and form part of the final document.

Therefore a consultation for residents in the form of a questionnaire was produced to obtain views to help decide on the policies that will form part of Meriden's Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The following report shows the results from the questionnaire available to residents to complete.

2.0 Methodology

Stratford-on-Avon District Council, an independent body, carried out the survey on behalf of the Meriden Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group. The survey ran from 28th May to 9th July 2016.

Paper questionnaires were distributed to every household by members of the Steering Group which included a freepost envelope to return their completed survey or to drop off at convenient locations such as Meriden Library, FredAnita and Blitz. Members of the Steering Group were also on hand at Funday Sunday on the Village Green and helped residents fill out the questionnaire on 12th June 2016.

An online version was made available and the public were able to go to Meriden Parish Council's website, click on the link and answer the questionnaire there. The link was also featured on the council's Facebook page.

To incentivise the survey, respondents were invited to enter a prize draw, prizes being supplied by local businesses. The draw will take place by the end of 2016.

342 paper questionnaires were completed, with 28 also filled in online, making a total response of 370 (27.1%).

It was stressed that all the information provided would be processed and analysed by Stratford-on-Avon District Council, who aggregated the responses to create the results' report. This way all responses were guaranteed to be anonymous and not identified to an individual.

The report follows the order of the questionnaire. Charts and tables are used throughout the report to assist the interpretation of the results. In some cases, anomalies appear due to "rounding". The term "base" in the tables and charts refer to the number of responses to a particular question.

3.0 Summary of Results

3.1 Housing

- 85% of the sample owns their property either outright or on a mortgage. A third of those surveyed have lived in Meriden parish for 21 years or more. 42% of the sample lives in detached properties and 24% in semi-detached.
- Four in ten homes included in the survey have three bedrooms.
- Five households said that they were unable to keep their present home warm due to poor insulation.
- Only 3% of residents said they are thinking of moving home now and 67% said they were not likely to want to move during the next 5 years.
- 45% of residents said that they would like to move, but there were no suitable homes available.
- Asked what type of property that they thought they could afford to move to, 55% said a detached house. 24 said they would need a three bedroomed property, with 17 opting for a two-bed.
- 39% of residents said that if they were to move they would prefer to stay in Meriden. 2% said they would move abroad.
- 83% of residents said if they were to move within Meriden they would prefer to be owner occupiers if they could afford it.
- Asked whether they had or would consider affordable housing, 71% of residents said they had not considered it.
- Those completing the survey were asked whether anyone in their household, e.g. son or daughter, relative or friend, were thinking about finding their own home in the next five years. 3% said someone was actively looking to move now and 64% said they were not likely to want to move during the next five years. This related to 33 households.
- 79% of residents (26) said that as they could not afford their own home it was preventing them moving.
- 68% people said they would prefer to move to a semi-detached house and 46% a flat.
- Residents were asked how many bedrooms they would need. 22 said a two bedroomed property, with 10 opting for a three-bed.
- 34% of residents when asked which area they would prefer to move to said elsewhere in the UK and 28% thought they would prefer staying in Meriden.
- They were asked if they would consider affordable housing, 38% said they would consider it, 17% had already considered it and 24% said no.

3.2 Future Housing Developments

- 71% of residents said that they thought that the Neighbourhood Plan should identify land for affordable housing to meet the needs of local people.
- There was almost an even split over thoughts that the Neighbourhood Plan should identify additional land for new housing for sale on the open market.
- If the Plan identifies land for new housing, residents were asked what scale of individual housing development should be given priority between now and 2028. 51% of residents said that between 11 and 25 dwellings should be the scale of individual development that should be given priority, with only 8% thinking it should be over 100 dwellings.
- 58% of residents said that houses sold at market prices should be given priority in new housing, with a close second at 56% specialist accommodation for older persons to buy or rent.

3.3 Employment

- Two-thirds of residents said that existing employment sites should be protected from a change of use.
- 76% of residents said that they felt the Plan should encourage working from home.
- 14% of residents said that someone in their household was likely to want to find employment within the Parish in the next 5 years.

3.4 The Natural Environment and Green Belt

- The majority of residents said that any future development in Meriden should be in keeping with their character, heritage and settings within the surrounding countryside.
- 94% felt that the Neighbourhood Plan should promote design that respects the scale of the existing village. 86% felt that signage, advertising and street furniture should respect the locality. Seven out of ten felt it important to use traditional local building material.
- Looking at other environmental issues, 95% of residents felt that the Neighbourhood Plan should aim to promote the maintenance and improvement of present green space and recreational areas, 89% went for the enhanced protection of historic and natural features, with 88% wanting the enhanced protection of the landscape.

3.5 Transport, Travel and Road Safety

- Residents indicated that 90% use their car and 52% walk when travelling for work, school, etc. Just under half (48%) use the bus.
- Residents were asked what form of transport they would like to use more. 59% said bus, 25% walking, 23% train, 23% bicycle, 12% taxibus, 7% car and 4% mobility vehicle/wheelchair.
- 4% of residents said they catch a bus daily to anywhere from Meriden and 12% a few times a week. A quarter of respondents never use the bus.

- 71% of residents said that providing more frequent services to Solihull would improve the bus service. 53% would like direct services to Balsall Common.
- 59% of residents thought there was a problem with traffic in the neighbourhood area.
- Of the residents that thought there was a problem with traffic, 61% said that traffic flow could be improved with lower speed limits and 54% felt there should be more active policing.

3.6 Infrastructure

- If money was available to invest in infrastructure, residents were asked to rank their top three in order of preference. Broadband was ranked first; mobile telephone was ranked second and the roads third for the areas needing most investment.

3.7 Community Facilities

- Residents were asked what community facilities should the Plan aim to improve. The top three were with 58% nature reserves/green spaces/wildlife habitat, 54% road safety measures and 51% local shops. 47% both felt public transport and parking facilities should look to be improved.
- Residents were asked whether they thought parking facilities needed improving. 58% said yes they did and 42% said they didn't.

3.8 Profile

- Just under three in ten households completing the survey had persons aged 65 to 80, 27% had children under 16, and a quarter had persons in the 40 to 65 age group.
- One in five of those surveyed themselves or someone in their household having an illness or condition they considered to be a disability as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.
- Of the one in five, 66% said they had mobility impairment and 37% a physical impairment.
- 30 respondents have someone in their household who uses a wheelchair or mobility scooter.

4.0 Results

4.1 Housing

85% of the sample owns their property either outright or on a mortgage.

Table 1:

How do you occupy your present home?	%
Own – paying a mortgage	31
Own – outright (no mortgage)	54
Own a share	1
Rent from private landlord	5
Rent from Solihull Council	4
Rent from a housing association	3
Live in a home provided by your employer	0
Living with parents	0
Sharing with friends	0
Other	6
Base: (All Respondents)	(368)

A third of those surveyed have lived in Meriden parish for 21 years or more.

Table 2:

How long have you and your household lived in this home?	%
Under 1 year	5
1 – 2 years	11
3 - 5 years	13
6 - 10 years	12
10 - 20 years	25
21+ years	34
Base: (All Respondents)	(368)

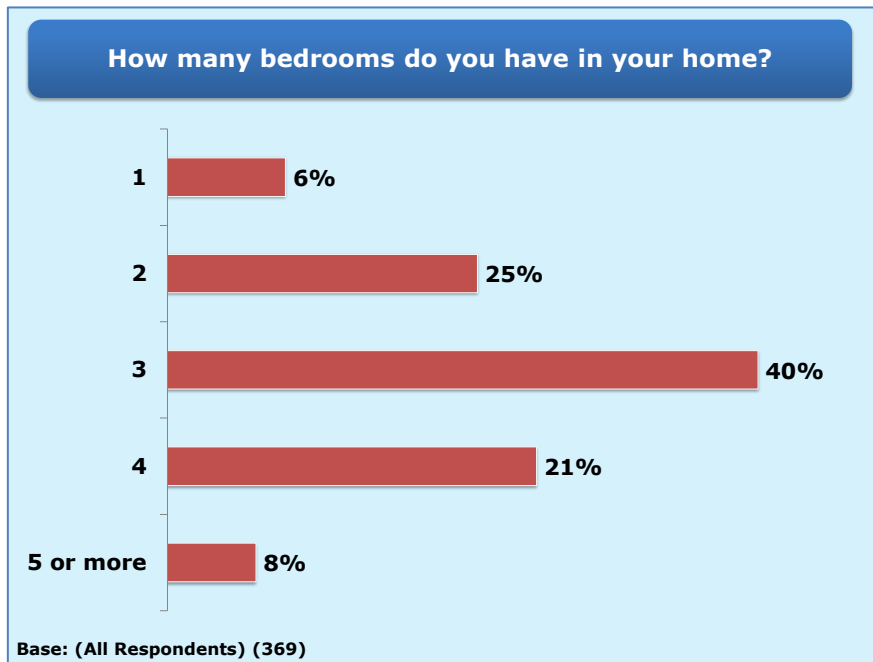
42% of the sample lives in detached properties and 24% in semi-detached.

Table 3:

Is your home?	%
Flat	4
Terraced house	10
Semi-detached house	24
Detached house	42
Bungalow	10
Specialist accommodation for older persons	1
Other	10
Base: (All Respondents)	(369)

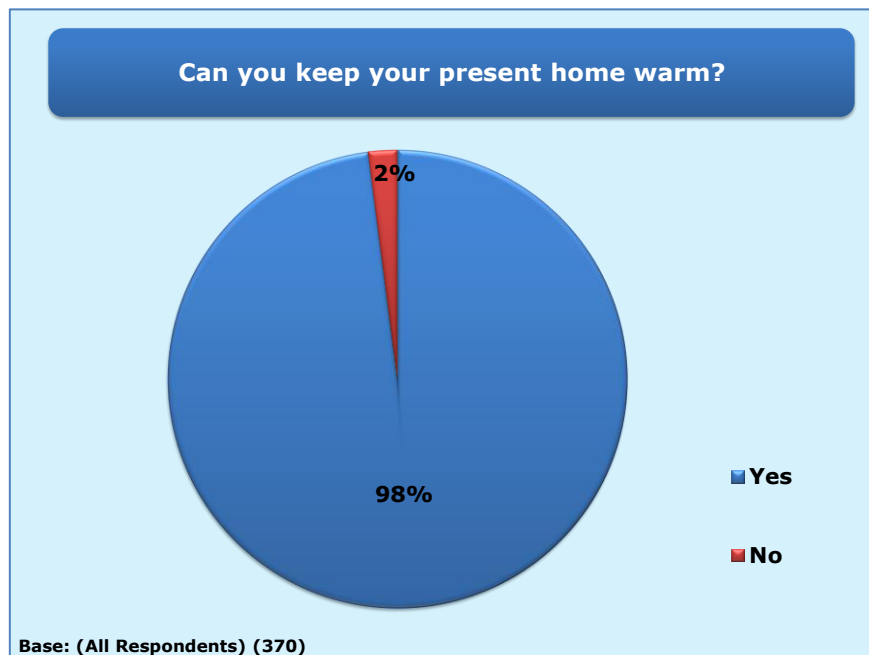
Four in ten homes included in the survey have three bedrooms.

Chart 1:



Only 2% of residents said they could not keep their present home warm.

Chart 2:



Five households said that they were unable to keep their present home warm due to poor insulation.

Table 4:

If you have answered No to Q5 above, why are you not able to?	Nos.
Don't have central heating	4
Don't have double glazing	3
Poor insulation	5
Unable to afford the bills	1
Other	2
Base: (Those that said they can't keep their present home warm)	(11)

Only 3% of residents said they are thinking of moving home now and 67% said they were not likely to want to move during the next 5 years.

Table 5:

Are you thinking about moving home in the next 5 years? Please tick one box only	%
Actively looking to move now	3
Fairly likely to want to move during the next 5 years	14
Not likely to want to move during the next 5 years	67
Don't know	15
Base: (All respondents)	(365)

Those thinking of moving home (actively or fairly likely in the next five years)

45% of residents said that they would like to move, but there were no suitable homes available. 20 residents entered other reasons. These have been included in the appendix.

Table 6:

If you would like to move is there anything preventing you from moving?	%
Suitable home not available	45
Would have to move away from family and friends to find a suitable home	12
Would have to move away from local job or schools to find a suitable home	6
Don't want to rent from the council or a housing association	0
Don't know	14
Other reasons	29
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(51)

Residents were asked their reason for wanting or needing to move and the 58 received have been included in the appendix.

Asked what type of property that they thought they could afford to move to, 55% said a detached house.

Table 7:

What type of property do you think you can AFFORD to move to?	%
Flat	28
Terraced house	22
Semi-detached house	31
Detached house	55
Bungalow	36
Specialist accommodation for older persons	9
Other	0
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(64)

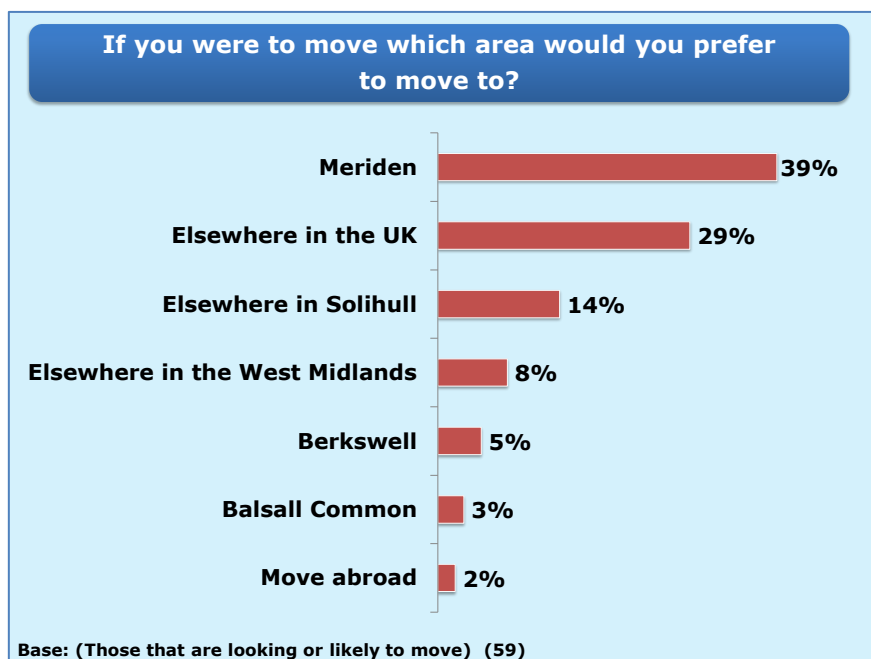
Residents were asked how many bedrooms they would need. 24 said a three bedroomed property, with 17 opting for a two-bed.

Table 8:

How many bedrooms would you need in another home?	Nos.
1	4
2	17
3	24
4	16
5 or more	3
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(64)

39% of residents said that if they were to move they would prefer to stay in Meriden. 2% said they would move abroad.

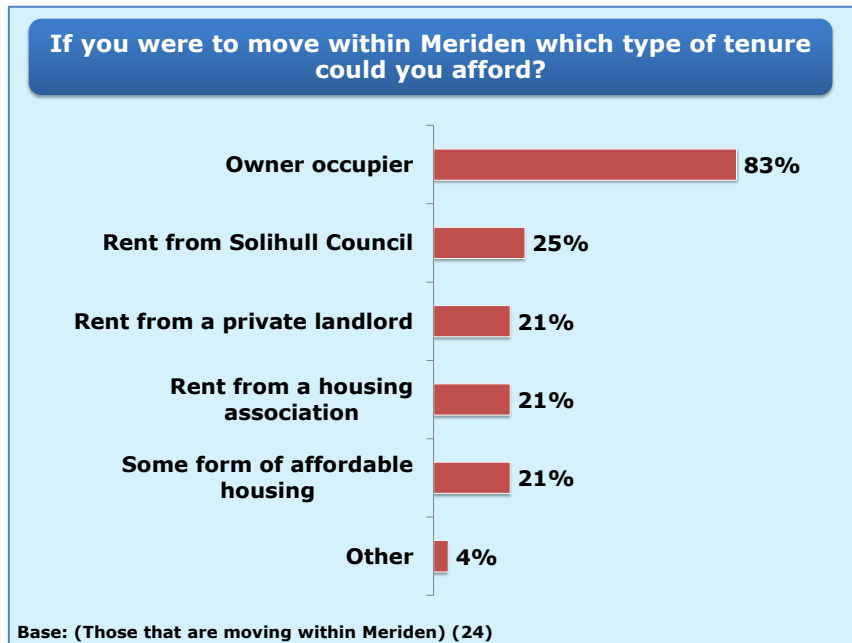
Chart 3:



Six people responded about the preferred tenure type, five saying owner occupier and the other rent from Solihull Council.

83% of residents said if they were to move within Meriden they would prefer to be owner occupiers if they could afford it.

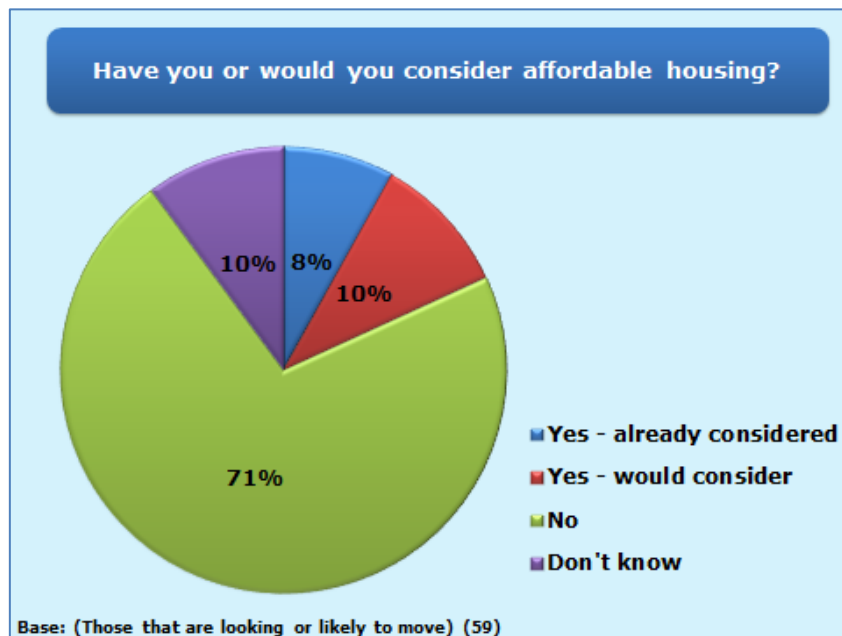
Chart 4:



Asked whether they had or would consider affordable housing, 71% of residents said they had not considered it.

Those that said that they had not considered affordable housing were asked why they would not consider it. 37 comments were received which are included in the appendix.

Chart 5:



Those completing the survey were asked whether anyone in their household, e.g. son or daughter, relative or friend, were thinking about finding their own home in the next five years. 3% said someone was actively looking to move now and 64% said they were not likely to want to move during the next five years.

Table 9:

Is someone in your household thinking about finding their own home in the next 5 years?	%
Actively looking to move now	3
Fairly likely to want to move during the next 5 years	11
Not likely to want to move during the next 5 years	64
Don't know	22
Base: (All Respondents)	(298)

Those where someone in the household, e.g. son or daughter, relative or friend is thinking of moving home (actively or fairly likely in the next five years)

At this point in the survey, attention went to quizzing those households where someone was looking to move now or fairly likely in the next five years. This related to 33 households.

79% of residents (26) said that as they could not afford their own home it was preventing them moving. Seven other comments were received which have been included in the appendix.

Table 10:

Is there anything preventing them from moving?	%
Can't afford own home	79
Suitable home not available	18
Would have to move away from family and friends to find a suitable home	15
Don't want to rent from the council or a housing association	12
Would have to move away from local job or schools to find a suitable home	9
Don't know	3
Other reasons	9
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(33)

Residents were asked to provide reasons for them wanting or needing to move. 34 responses were received. These are all included in the appendix.

68% people said they would prefer to move to a semi-detached house and 46% a flat.

Table 11:

If they were to move what type of property would they prefer to move to?	%
Flat	46
Terraced house	38
Semi-detached house	68
Detached house	24
Bungalow	11
Specialist accommodation for older persons	0
Other	0
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(37)

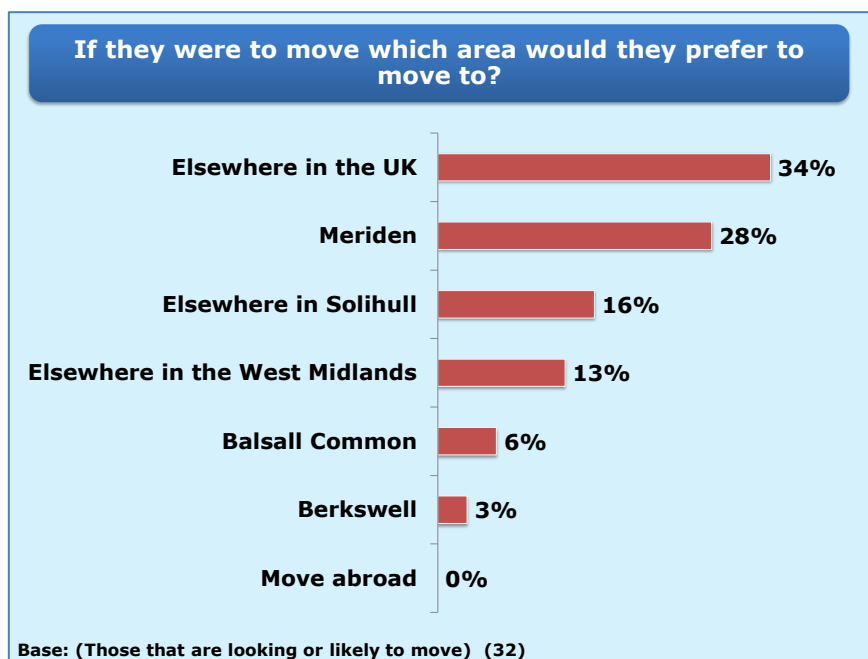
Residents were asked how many bedrooms they would need. 22 said a two bedroomed property, with 10 opting for a three-bed.

Table 12:

How many bedrooms would you need in another home?	Nos.
1	5
2	22
3	10
4	1
Base: (Those that are looking or likely to move)	(38)

34% of residents when asked which area they would prefer to move to said elsewhere in the UK and 28% thought they would prefer staying in Meriden.

Chart 6:

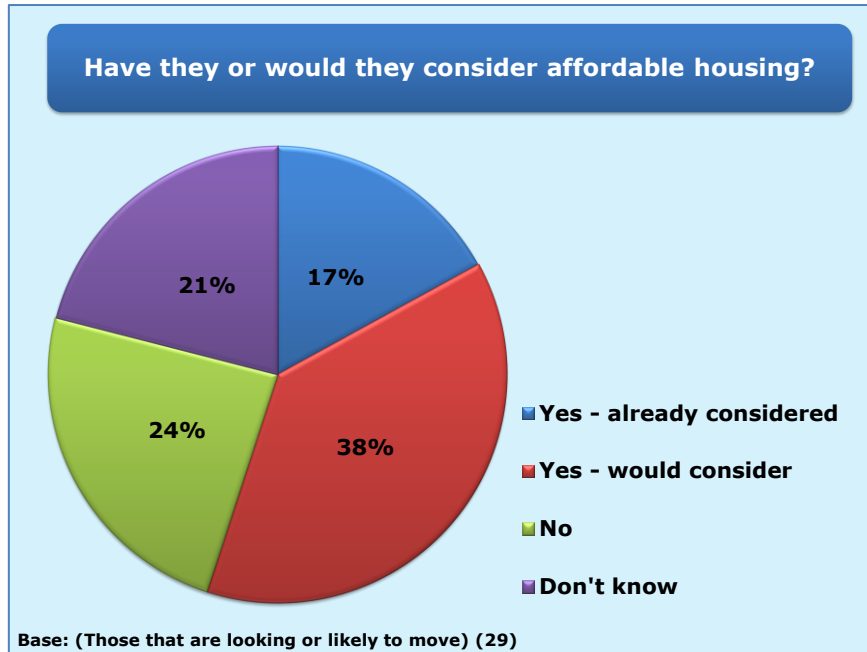


If moving within Meriden, the type of tenure they would prefer – two households said rent from Solihull Council, one rent from a housing association and one another form of affordable housing.

They were asked if they would consider affordable housing, 38% said they would consider it, 17% had already considered it and 24% said no.

Those that said they have not considered affordable housing were asked why not. 6 comments were received and these are included in the appendix.

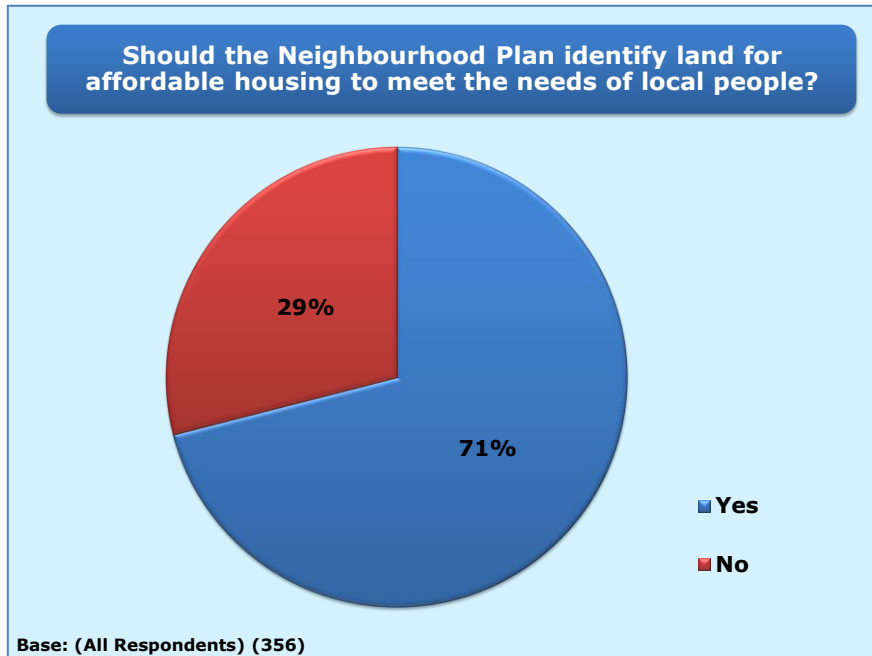
Chart 7:



4.2 Future Housing Developments

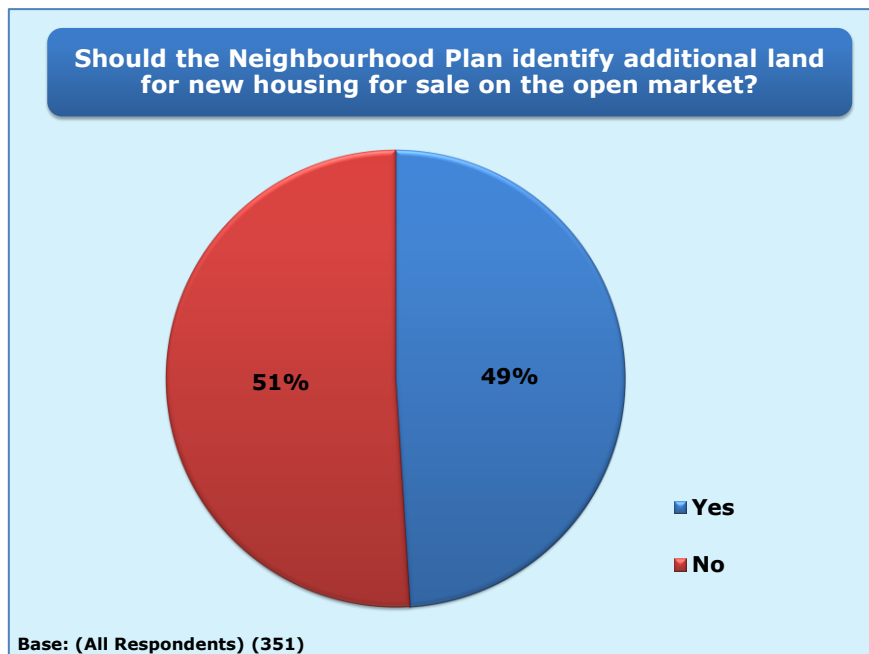
71% of residents said that they thought that the Neighbourhood Plan should identify land for affordable housing to meet the needs of local people.

Chart 8:



There was almost an even split over thoughts that the Neighbourhood Plan should identify additional land for new housing for sale on the open market.

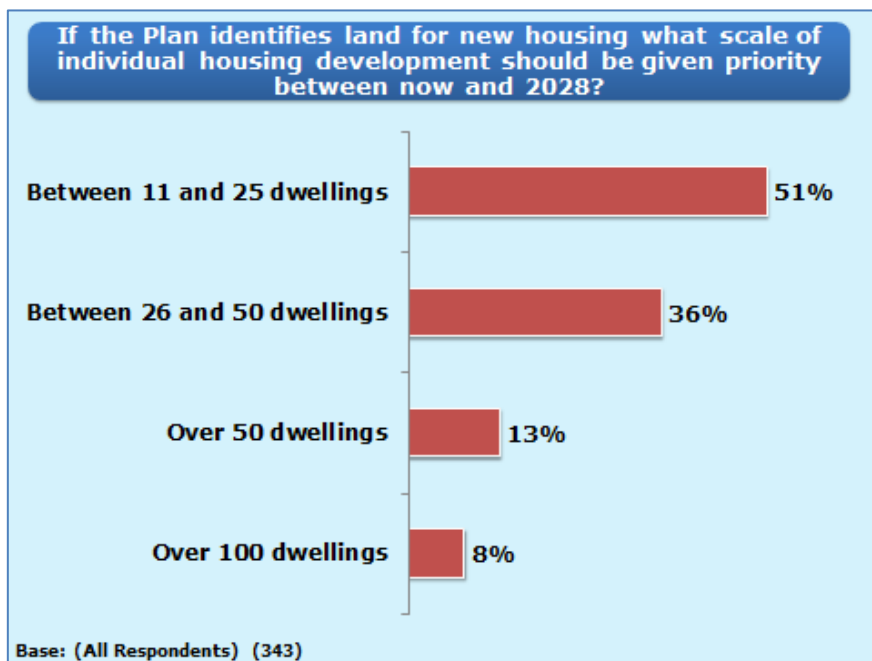
Chart 9:



If the Plan identifies land for new housing, residents were asked what scale of individual housing development should be given priority between now and 2028.

51% of residents said that between 11 and 25 dwellings should be the scale of individual development that should be given priority, with 8% thinking it should be over 100 dwellings.

Chart 10:



58% of residents said that houses sold at market prices should be given priority in new housing, with a close second at 56% specialist accommodation for older persons to buy or rent.

Table 13:

If new housing is to be built what type of homes should be given priority?	%
To be sold at market prices	58
Specialist accommodation for older persons to buy or rent	56
Affordable housing	38
For rent	23
Base: (All Respondents)	(346)

Residents were asked to provide locations which they thought would be suitable for new homes to be built. 163 comments were received. These are included in the appendix. The table below summarises the results. The Birmingham Road Caravan Park and the Birmingham Road Garage site had most mentions.

Table 14:

Are there any locations which you think are suitable for new homes to be built (3 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Birmingham Road Caravan Park	22
Birmingham Road Garage site	19
Any brownfield site	16
Maxstone Lane/Firs	12
Fillongley Road	8
Hampton Lane Quarries, Golf Course	8
Meriden Shirley's Garage	8
Millisons Wood site	4
Any infill	3
Road towards A45	3
Birmingham Road wasteland	3

Residents were also asked what locations they thought would not be suitable and 184 comments were received. These are included in the appendix and summarised below. No building on green belt was the prominent response.

Table 15:

Are there any locations which you think are not suitable for new homes to be built (2 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
All greenbelt land	77
Meriden centre	21
Millisons Wood/Eastern Green	6
Maxstone Lane	4
Behind Manor Hotel	3
Birmingham Road	2
By the Church	2
Fillongley Road	2

121 other comments about housing were received which are listed in full in the appendix. Table 16 includes a summary of the responses. Concerns over the infrastructure were the main concern.

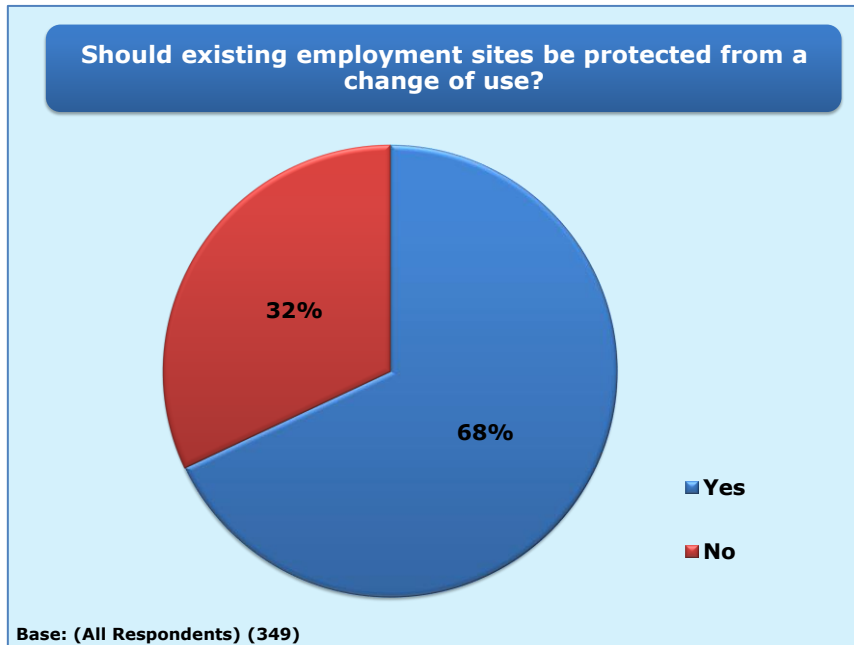
Table 16:

Any other comments on housing (3 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Infrastructure cannot cope	16
Too much housing/No more building	11
More housing required/Variety	10
Affordable housing required	10
Keep Meriden a village	8
Requirements for the older community	7
No building on greenbelt	7
Parking problems	6
Crime increase/Standards dropped	4
Too much traffic	3

4.3 Employment

Two-thirds (68%) of residents said that existing employment sites should be protected from a change of use. 74 comments about a change of use were received and are included in the appendix to this report.

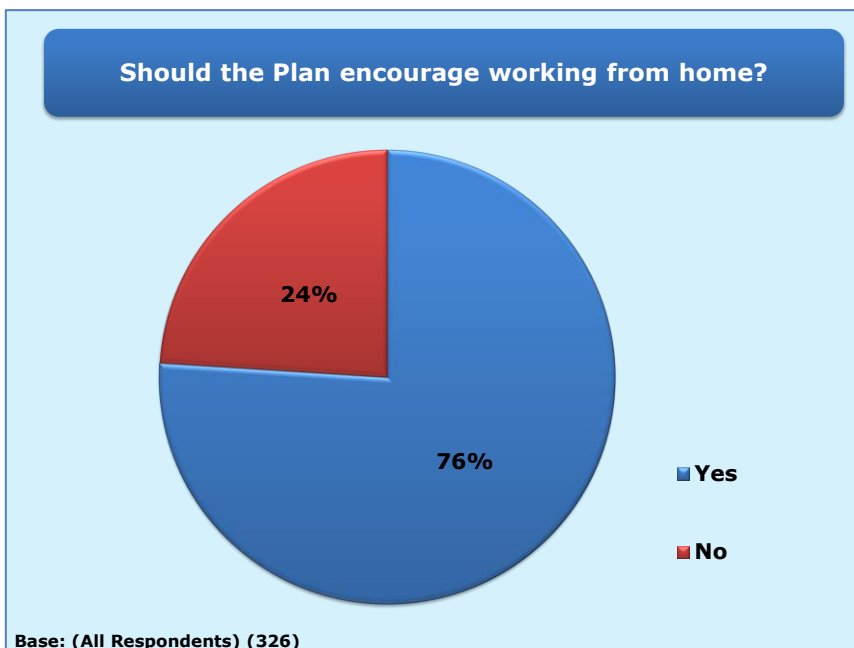
Chart 11:



76% of residents said that they felt the Plan should encourage working from home.

64 residents who work at home provided the type of work they do. These have been included in the appendix.

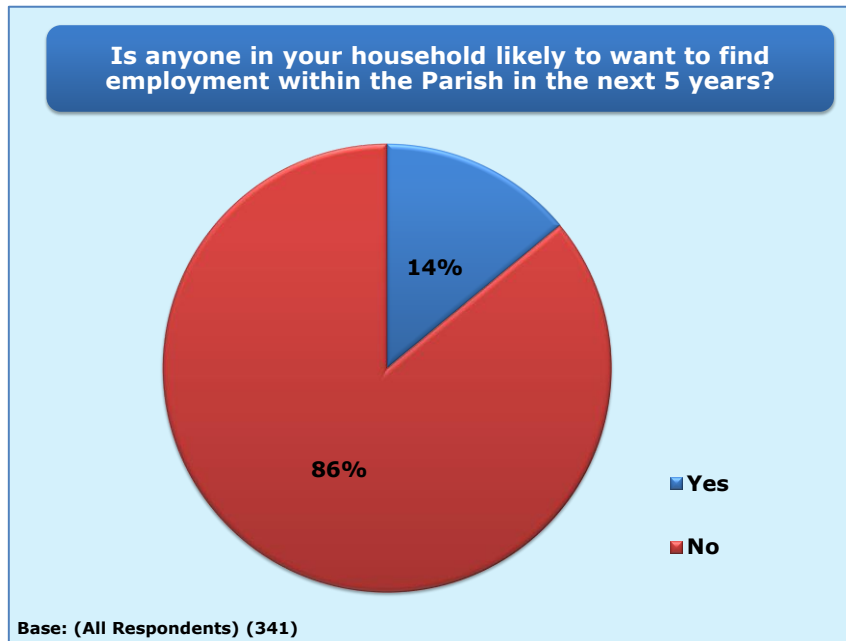
Chart 12:



14% of residents said that someone in their household was likely to want to find employment within the Parish in the next 5 years.

48 people provided comment on what type of employment they would like. These are included in the appendix to this report.

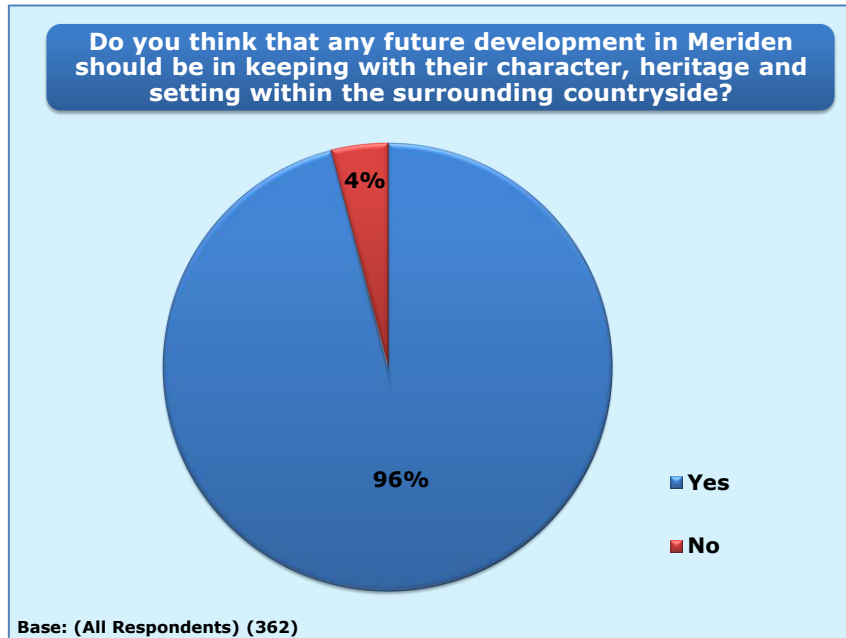
Chart 13:



4.4 The Natural Environment and Green Belt

The majority (96%) of residents said that any future development in Meriden should be in keeping with their character, heritage and settings within the surrounding countryside.

Chart 14:



123 residents provided comment on future development in Meriden and how it affects the character, heritage and setting within the surrounding countryside. These are included in the appendix to this report and summarised in the table below.

Table 17:

Any comments about future development (2 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Keep greenbelt safe	19
Houses in keeping with the area	17
Retain village beauty/status	13
No more development	11
Keep gap between Coventry and Solihull	10
Minimal/small development only	4
Improve infrastructure to cope	3
Houses for older people	2
Build on brownfield sites only	2

Residents were quizzed as to what should be promoted in terms of the Neighbourhood Plan protecting and enhancing the quality of any new buildings.

94% felt that the Neighbourhood Plan should promote design that respects the scale of the existing village. 86% felt that signage, advertising and street furniture should respect the locality. Seven out of ten felt it important to use traditional local building material.

25 residents that indicated other provided comments. These are included in the appendix.

Table 18:

Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to protect and enhance the quality of any new buildings by promoting the following?	%
Design that respects the scale of the existing village	94
Signage, advertising and street furniture that respects the locality	86
Use of traditional local building material	71
Minimum standards for living space in dwellings	63
Traditional styles and scale of shop fronts	63
High levels of energy conservation in new buildings	56
Green space and gardens	42
Other	5
Base: (All Respondents)	(359)

The next question looked at other environmental issues. 95% of residents felt that the Neighbourhood Plan should aim to promote the maintenance and improvement of present green space and recreational areas, 89% went for the enhanced protection of historic and natural features, with 88% wanting the enhanced protection of the landscape.

24 residents that indicated "other" provided comment. These are included in the appendix.

Table 19:

Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to promote the following?	%
Maintain and improve present green space and recreational areas	95
Enhanced protection of historic and natural features	89
Enhanced protection of the landscape	88
Positive management of the varied local wildlife	74
Improved flood prevention measures	62
Better pedestrian and cycle access	59
Other	3
Base: (All Respondents)	(355)

186 residents identified buildings, places or views which they believed are important to protect. These are listed in the appendix and summarised in the table below. Meriden Green with 52 responses and the area around the Church with 39 came out top.

Table 20:

Are there any buildings, places or views which you believe are important to protect? (3 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Meriden Green	52
Area around Church	39
Duck pond	26
Green areas/trees	23
View of farmland/church	19
Historical monument on Green	14
Buildings aged 100 years plus	14
The Bull Inn	12
Millisons Wood	10
Village shops/fronts	10
Village centre	8
Recreation Ground/playing fields	8
Queens Public House	7
Meriden Hall	7
Footpaths/fields public access	5
Meriden Gap	4
Surgery	3
Sports ground	3

67 further comments on protecting the environment were received. These are included in the appendix to this report.

4.5 Transport, Travel and Road Safety

Residents indicated that 90% use their car and 52% walk when travelling for work, school, etc. Just under half (48%) use the bus.

Table 21:

As a Meriden residents, where are you travelling to when you use these forms of transport and for what reason?	%
Car	90
Walking	52
Bus	48
Train	31
Taxibus	12
Bicycle	10
Mobility vehicle/wheelchair	4
Motorbike	3
Other	1
Base: (All Respondents)	(363)

For all options available residents were asked to state for what reason they used this form of transport. 291 comments were received which are included in the appendix to this report. The main responses are summarised in the table below. The top two replies were a car for work (56 responses) and walking to keep fit (53 responses).

Table 22:

As a Meriden resident, where are you travelling to when you use these forms of transport and for what reason (5 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Car – work	56
Walking - keep fit, leisure	53
Work general	27
Shopping general	24
Car – leisure	24
Walking – local shops	21
Car – shopping	20
Train – Birmingham	18
Leisure - general	16
Bus – Solihull	15
Bus – Shopping	14
Bus – leisure	14
Social – general	13
Bus – Birmingham	13
Bus – Coventry	11
Train – London	10
Train – work	9
Car – visiting family	9
Bicycle – leisure	7
Train – shopping	6
School – general	6
Train – leisure	5
Walking – school	5
Car – Solihull	5
Car – for everything	5

Residents were asked what form of transport they would like to use more. 59% said bus, 25% walking, 23% train, 23% bicycle, 12% taxibus, 7% car and 4% mobility vehicle/wheelchair.

Table 23:

As a Meriden resident, what other forms of transport would you like to use more?	%
Bus	59
Walking	25
Train	23
Bicycle	23
Taxibus	12
Car	7
Mobility vehicle/wheelchair	4
Motorbike	0
Other	0
Base: (All Respondents)	(216)

For each option ticked, residents were asked what it is about Meriden that is preventing them from doing so. 133 comments were received. These are included in the appendix to this report and summarised in the table below.

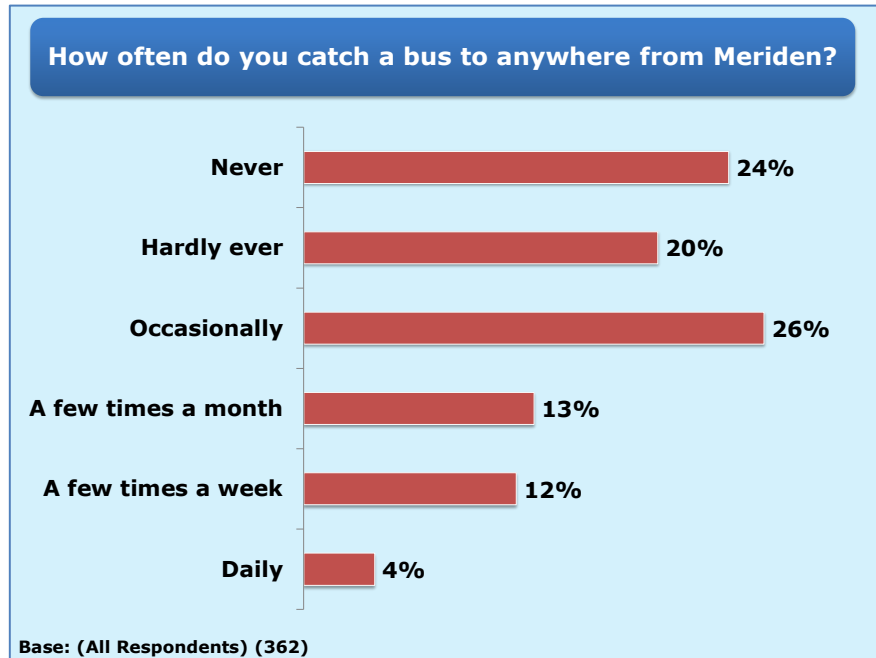
Table 24:

As a Meriden resident, what other forms of transport would you like to use more – for each option briefly state what it is about Meriden that prevents you doing so? (2 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
Bus – access to more areas	15
Bus – running more frequently	13
Bus – improve cycle lanes	10
Bus – more reliable	7
Walking – improve footpaths	5
Speed bumps/traffic calming	5
Train – station	3
Improve roads	3
Train – additional services	2

Residents were asked how often they catch a bus to anywhere from Meriden.

4% of residents said they catch a bus daily to anywhere from Meriden and 12% a few times a week. A quarter of respondents never use the bus.

Chart 15:



71% of residents said that providing more frequent services to Solihull would improve the bus service. Just over half (53%) would like direct services to Balsall Common.

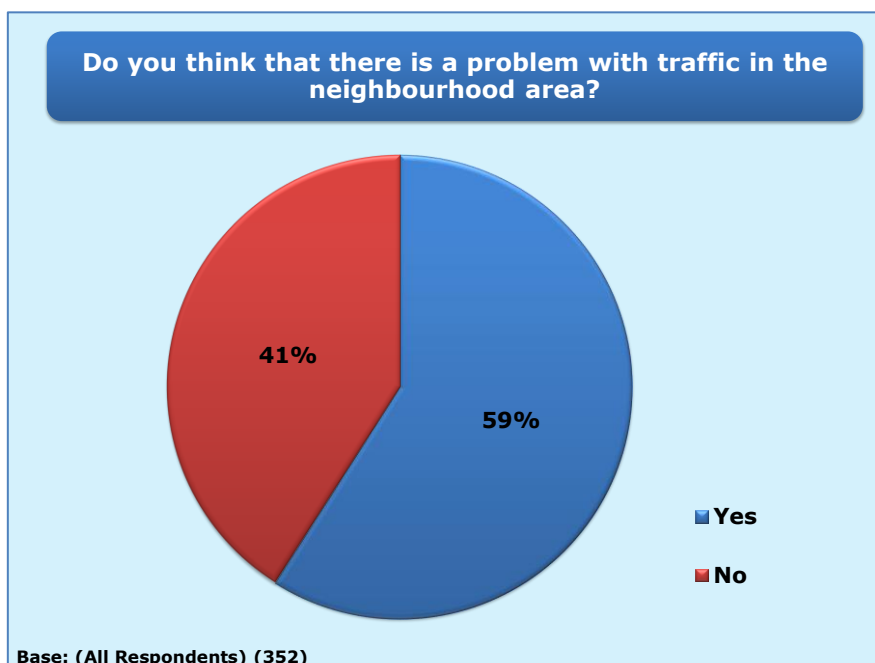
52 residents selected other and provided other reasons how it should be improved. These are included in the appendix to this report.

Table 25:

If an improved bus service is needed tell us how it should be improved.	%
More frequent services to Solihull	71
Direct services to Balsall Common	53
Greater reliability of services	41
Cheaper fares	19
Other	11
Base: (All Respondents)	(262)

59% of residents thought there was a problem with traffic in the neighbourhood area.

Chart 16:



Of the residents that thought there was a problem with traffic, 61% said that traffic flow could be improved with lower speed limits and 54% felt there should be more active policing.

65 residents ticked other and provided their comments, which are included in the appendix to this report.

Table 26:

How could traffic flow be improved?	%
Lower speed limit	61
More active policing	54
Improve parking provision	47
Vehicle activated speed limit reminder signs	46
Rumble strips	26
Chicanes	20
More mini roundabouts at junctions with main roads	9
Realignment of functions	8
Other	17
Base: (Those respondents who think there is a problem with traffic in the neighbourhood area)	(201)

Residents with mobility issues were asked what would make it easier to get around Meriden. 47 comments were received which are included in the appendix.

4.6 Infrastructure

If money was available to invest in infrastructure, residents were asked to rank their top three in order of preference.

Broadband was ranked first; mobile telephone was ranked second and the roads third for the areas needing most investment.

29 residents ticked other and their comments are in the appendix to this report.

Table 27:

If money was available to invest in infrastructure, where should this be spent? Please indicate your top three by writing in 1, 2 and 3 in your order of preference.	Rank
Broadband	1
Mobile phone	2
Roads	3
Pavements	4
Sewerage/Drainage	5
Other	6
Water supply	7
Gas	8
Electricity	9
Base: (All respondents)	(370)

4.7 Community Facilities

Residents were asked what community facilities should the Plan aim to improve. A number of options were given and the top three were with 58% nature reserves/green spaces/wildlife habitat, 54% road safety measures and 51% local shops. 47% both felt public transport and parking facilities should look to be improved.

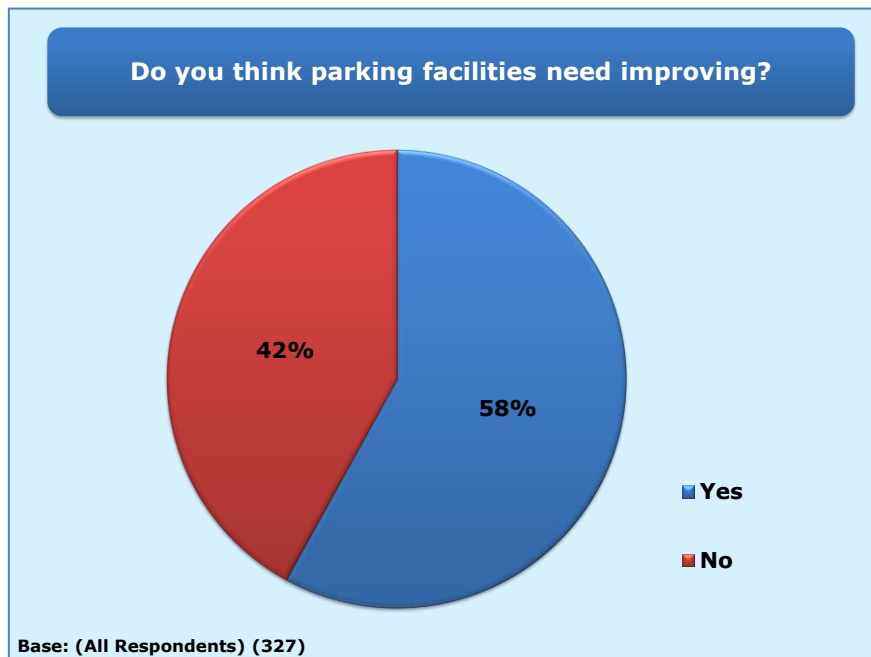
15 selected other and their comments are included in the appendix.

Table 28:

Which of the following do you think that the Plan should aim to improve?	%
Nature reserves/green spaces/wildlife habitat	58
Road safety measures	54
Local shops	51
Public transport	47
Vehicle parking facilities	47
Facilities for older people	40
Public footpaths	39
Historic places and historic buildings	38
Facilities for young people	34
Medical facilities	31
Public library	27
Sports, leisure and recreational facilities	24
Access for people with disabilities	24
Educational facilities	17
Allotments	16
Nursery, pre-school and after school facilities	16
Burial space	15
Other	4
Base: (All Respondents)	(354)

Residents were asked whether they thought parking facilities needed improving. 58% said yes they did and 42% said they didn't.

Chart 17:



Those that said they did were asked to say where they thought additional parking might be provided. 155 comments were received which are included in the appendix. These comments are summarised in the table below, with "by the shops" and "by the Green" the top answers.

Table 29:

Do you think parking facilities need improving? If yes, where might you think this should be provided? (2 or more mentions)	Number of Responses
By the shops	20
By the Green	16
Outside school	6
Stop parking all day	5
More enforcement/Introduce meters	5
Birmingham Road	4
Review and remove double yellow lines by shops	2
Old caravan site	2
Old Shirley's Garage site	2
Alspath Road	2
Fillongley Road	2

Residents were asked how and where they thought facilities for young people need improving. 75 comments were received. These have been included in the appendix to this report.

Any who wished to make any comments on improving community facilities was asked to include them. 48 comments were received which have been included in the appendix.

4.8 Profile

Just under three in ten households (29%) completing the survey had persons aged 65 to 80, 27% had children under 16 and a quarter had those on the 40 to 65 age group.

Table 30:

To which age group do you and those living with you belong?	%
Under 16	27
16 to 25	4
25 to 40	10
40 to 65	25
65 to 80	29
Over 80	5

One in five of those surveyed themselves or someone in their household having an illness or condition they considered to be a disability as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Table 31:

Do you or someone in your household have an illness or condition that is considered a disability?	%
Yes	19
No	81
Base: (All Respondents)	(342)

Of the one in five, 66% said they had a mobility impairment and 37% a physical impairment.

Table 32:

If YES, please let us the nature of their disability	%
Physical impairment	37
Mobility impairment	66
Hearing impairment	22
Visual impairment	17
Learning difficulty	12
Mental health	11
Other	31
Base: (Those with someone in their household with an illness or condition that is considered a disability)	(65)

30 respondents (9%) has someone in their household who uses a wheelchair or mobility scooter.

Table 33:

Does anyone in your household use a wheelchair or mobility scooter?	%
Yes	9
No	91
Base: (All Respondents)	(342)

Appendices

Park home
Park home
Park home
Park, Home
Static home

Q6a - If you have answered NO to Q5 above, why are you not able to?
Heat loss through walls
Living on benefits
Difficult with high cost of gas/electric

Q8a - If you would like to move is there anything preventing you from moving? Other reasons
Will wait until children finish school
Insufficient money
Retirement
Lack of investment in Meriden
Financial situation
Renovating 2nd home
No
Looking after elderly parents in current home
Currently at university and have my rent paid. When I qualify I'm not sure whether I'll be able to afford the rent and council tax
Health problems
Need children to find housing
Haven't looked yet
Saving up for a family home
£
Not ready, want a bigger home
Home of size and characteristics we want aren't in our price range locally
Family complexities
Not yet looking therefore none of the above apply
Relevant employment opportunities
Looking to downsize as retirement beckons

Q9 - Please tell us the reasons for wanting or needing to move?
Will wait until children finish school
Waiting to retire
The rules are ground rent increases every year with no limit
A change of scenery
I'm disabled and can't cope with the area around the park home
Need more space / garden
Want to own our own home
Retirement
Mobility problems, family would need affordable house to accommodate us. Would need to be financially viable for all of us to purchase

Meriden, as part of Solihull, looks tired compared to Solihull, Knowle etc. Lack of investment.
Down sizing
Downsize
House too large for single occupant.
Moving in with partner
Relocate to Oakhampton, not happy with the levels of Muslims taking over Birmingham
Downsizing to smaller property
Bigger house, larger garden
Larger property including land
Move to bungalow required
Meriden is no longer the pleasant rural village it once was
Downsizing
I want to buy rather than rent. Sadly I will never afford a home in Meriden
Itchy Feet
I don't want to move but will probably have to due to finances
Want a smaller home
Downsizing
Get nearer to relatives
The construction of houses on the old recreations ground has ruined the way I feel about my home and the area
Move to live with girlfriend
To downsize
Nearer family
Smaller property required
I want to have a family and I want to raise it in a house and not my current flat
Expecting twins
Not ready, want a bigger home
Growing family so would like more space in house and garden
Downsize
Bigger home & to pay the home buy back - can't afford to stay!
Finding the maintenance of home becoming more difficult as we get older
Want to move to a larger property as an investment before downsizing when I retired. The market appears very flat at the moment, plus I'm looking for a new job, so it will probably be before 2018 before I move
Larger house
Growing family
2 disabled children sharing a room and need their own room
Aging - possibly will be looking to downsize and/or sheltered housing
Employment opportunities
Better property/more potential
Bungalow & garden are too big, we are growing too old to maintain
Proximity to family & open space
Larger home needed
'Retirement' and since new developments i.e. Mulberry Gardens, the area has changed for the worse. The village is riddled with pockets of crime and 'yobs', due to affordable housing

Getting older reduced mobility.
retirement
I work in Warwick; although it isn't the longest commute if somewhere closer became available I would look into it.
Want to live by the sea.
Recycling plant, better schooling for my child and to move away from social housing a few occupants have caused problems in the area I live.
Present garden is large and requires regular maintenance. We already employ someone to mow our lawns every week in the growing season, but I do not know how long I shall be able to do the other work myself.
To be within the catchment for a better primary school
The local school performs poorly & the crime levels aren't satisfactory.

Q12b - If you were to move which area if elsewhere in Solihull?
Allesley Kenilworth
Elmdon - more for your money, otherwise we would stay in Meriden
Hampton-in-Arden
Knowle or Dorridge
My children want to stay in Meriden, but too expensive
Owner occupier
Owner Occupier
Owner Occupier
Owner occupier
Owner occupier
Owner occupier
Owner Occupier
Owner Occupier
Rent from a private landlord; Rent from Solihull Council; Rent from a housing association
Rent from Solihull council, Rent from a housing association, Some form of affordable housing
Stratford upon Avon

Q16 - If you have answered NO to Q15, why would you NOT consider affordable housing?
Others more needy
Would need to sell present home
Want to own a home not rent from the council
Suitable housing would not be available, because, my family consists of daughter, husband and child. They would then have to accommodate and dependant relatives (one disabled and 1 with arthritis, this would mean a family of 5. So we would need to amalgamate both our present homes, to be able to afford to purchase a suitable one
No need
Not necessary
As I own my own property
Not applicable to my situation
I can afford a more expensive property
Too small and densely populated estates, parking

Currently own home and wish to remain that way
Because of the bidding system and the way housing is allocated
Don't require it
Because can afford it!
Would purchase a home of quality in more rural area
We have specific needs being and coming up to retirement
Do not need it
Tend to get rubbish neighbours
I don't need affordable housing
I plan to own my own house
Not required
As I can afford my own property and there is a shortage of affordable housing it would be irresponsible for me to own any
Because you would not own it & we currently have & then you have to leave or pay a lump sum back
I associate affordable housing with living in an area of high density homes (living without space!)
I'm looking to build equity in my next home (hence 3-4 bedroom) and I don't think I would be able to do so with the type of housing mentioned
Don't need to
Do not want to rent
No need - owner occupiers
No need
Deposit & mortgage available
We can easily afford not to move into affordable housing
Currently own home/not first time buyer
Not necessary financially, want to own outright
because I do not need to
I am fortunate to have sufficient assets not to need to consider affordable housing. It would be an abuse of the theory underpinning "affordable housing" for me to do so.
Don't require it
Don't need to

Q18a - Is there anything preventing them from moving? Other reasons
Saving for deposit to buy own home
Cheaper at home
Will move to go to university
Not ready at the moment, but likely to be of an age to move in next 5 years.
Haven't looked yet
Not sure of the direction she wishes to go
Too young at moment

Q19 - Please tell us the reasons for them wanting or needing to move?
Wanting to be independent and move out of family home
Independence
Need a garage / Nearer work / With boyfriend
Set up their own home with partner

To get out of this dreadful situation of ground rent
Independence
Growing to an age where would not wish to still live with parents
Are currently renting but would like to buy their own house but cannot afford to at present.
To be more independent
Do not wish to live with parent
Job relocation
At ages 20 and 22 it will be likely in the next 5 years, however, doubtful they will be able to afford to live close.
Want own space
Unable to afford to buy property in Meriden area
No need to move - just desire to be independent and is therefore saving
Meriden is no longer the pleasant rural village it once was
Mature student - not ready to move until course finished and has a job
Getting older & wanting their own space
To find home within their budget
To start their own families and I want to move
Age
Looking to buy first home
Want to set up own home
To be nearer family
To be independent
Aged 23 years professional
Son would like his own home
Get married and start family
For his own independence
Larger prospects
Growing up
Wishes to become more independent but hasn't got the job she wants or the place on a PGCE she wants
Growing up

Q25 - If the answer to question 24 above is NO, why would they NOT consider affordable housing?

Wish to own independently. Saved deposit and worked hard to finance move and associated costs

Poor quality build (perception)

Affordable housing is still too expensive as over a longer period and prices still inflated

Couldn't afford it

No reason

Haven't considered it yet - too premature - still considering future

Q30 - Are there any locations which you think ARE suitable for new homes to be built?

All locations

Any brown field sites within the village

Any infill
Area around Meriden Archery club
Area between Maxstoke Lane, A45 and Fillongley Road
Balsall Common
Behind industrial park - use brown field sites first
Behind the firs
Believe owners at Porsche garage are seeking to sell - small development could be appropriate
Between the garage site & caravan storage, by the firs Maxstoke lane
Birmingham road - caravan park seems to be abandoned most of the time and there is a site next to it that again doesn't seem to be look after, although it isn't large, it could make a small row of houses. Unsure who owns the fields at the bottom of Maxstoke lane, always very over grown and are quite large spaces (the two fields on the left hand side as you walk through the entrance by the firs.
Birmingham road garage site
Birmingham road waste land - currently underdeveloped
Birmingham Road, Maxstoke Lane
Birmingham Road, north of Village Green as identified in the Parish Plan.
Birmingham Road/site/old garage
Brown field sites
Brown field sites
Brown field sites e.g. Shirley's Garage
Brown field sites where identified.
Brown sites
Brown sites not excessive building on green belt land
brown-belt developments only
Brownfield sites
Brownfield sites - not green belt!!
By the new island on Birmingham Road, lots of wasteland
Can't think of any
Caravan car park, Birmingham Road near Maxstoke Lane Island
Caravan storage land by island
Caravan storage site located near village. Car sales / old garage near Strawberry Bank
Caravan storage site on Birmingham Road
Cornets End Lane
Disused filling station/caravan park, Millisons Wood, Kenilworth Road between Meriden and Balsall Common
Do not know
Don't know
Don't know the area well enough yet
Don't really know the area just moved in
EX garage Birmingham Road (west), Shirley garage
Field junction Church Lane / Main Road
filling in gaps rather than increasing the envelope of the village into the green belt
Fillongley Road from A45 bridge towards Fillongley
Fillongley Road, Berkswell Road

No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No - have you seen Meriden gate? That's one mistake too many
No - the infrastructure can't handle any more houses
No - there have been too many new homes. The school is full; Dr's busy & social housing is a nightmare!!
No we are getting crowded
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None! I am not qualified to make such far reaching and impacting recommendations
None. "Mulberry Gardens and the David Wilson" development has ruined Meriden. Don't you care about existing residents and running Meriden?
North of Mordon, south of A45 behind school
Not aware of any
Not in Meriden
Not in Meriden
Not known
Not local to Meriden
Not too many, Meriden should still be classed as a village not a mini town
Nowhere within 1 mile from the centre of Meriden
Old areas of brown belt
Old garage / caravan storage sites, Birmingham Road. Land at rear of Meriden Gate Development towards A45. Any brownfield site that may be developed
Old garage site - already identified It is an eyesore!! Any development needs to be accessible to public transport links
Old garage site - disused site on Birmingham Road
Old garage site at top of village
Old petrol station off main roundabout
Old petrol station side

On old garage site on Birmingham road
Only on land that is built on now
Porsche garage site next to Strawberry Bank; behind Strawberry Bank & Strawberry fields (to playground); old caravan storage site; Millisons wood factory site; land behind houses on L.H.S Fillongley Road, leaving Meriden; behind Meriden hotel and Old Rockwell unit
Possibly at the back of the Firs and the adjoining field near Maxstoke Lane
Possibly the small area of Wood at the rear of Birmingham Road Millisons Wood
Reclaimed land from sand excavation
Reclaimed Meriden sand and stone ground
Re-claimed quarry land
Redevelopment of existing sites within village / outskirts of village
Road towards A45
Shirley Garage, Main Rd, Meriden
Shirley's garage site & possibly fields behind
Shirley's garage, public house car parks, Maxstoke lane, Hampton lane/Somers road
Showell Lane Meriden
Site of former Eastcote Garden Centre. Not in Meriden but in Solihull
Site of old Meriden garage Birmingham Road + any brownfield sites
Small area behind the Firs on Maxstoke lane; behind the Manor Hotel - extend Leys Lane development; old caravan storage site on Birmingham road
The caravan storage area and the site of the old garage next to it.
The field beyond Merriroys, frontage to Fillongley Road, the abandoned field on Old Road on left
The former Meriden garage (Main Rd). The former caravan sales (B'ham Rd)
The garage area opposite the Kings Arms should do for housing once the owner finally decides to throw the towel in. It's not very productive use of land - although the cars are nice
The old egg packing station next to Meriden primary school on the Fillongley Road
The old garage site as mentioned
The old garage space off Meriden island
The old petrol station which has been vacant for years near island
The old quarry sites, sites on the corridor between us and Hampton in Arden
The site of the former Meriden garage and adjoining caravan site - and nearby field across the roundabout; Shirley's garage, any 'in filling' possible?
The telephone exchange, the old caravan park, fields behind the old Maxstoke Road and the A45 as it's already ruined
The village centre should remain central. Therefore build towards North Warwickshire Golf Course
Towards a45 north and west of the village- this would encourage less "through traffic"
Unattended land on site of caravan storage on the Birmingham Road opposite Hampton Grange, on approach to Meriden it looks unsightly
Waste ground on corner of Maxstoke lane & Birmingham road currently used for caravan storage
Waste ground opposite Hampton Grange.
We agree that the old garage site on the Birmingham Road is a good place for development
We agree with the development of the old garage on the Birmingham Road. Land opposite Bonneville Close at Millison's Wood, between Birmingham Road and A45
we don't need any more homes

We have already had developments on both Leys lane and Maxstoke Lane expanding the village enough

Yes - Birmingham Road. There are caravans parked (they have no licence) next door to above. This land is a disgusting mess, and lets down the entrance to the village

Yes on the land where the old caravan site was, where there is just now derelict land. I'm sure there is more land that's suitable too

Q31 - Are there any locations which you think are NOT suitable for new homes to be built?

All

All farmland surrounding Meriden

all green space/vacant plots within and surrounding Meriden

All greenbelt areas, fields, woods

All greenfield/greenbelt locations

All of Meriden!

Allotments in Leys Lane - anywhere that pushes village boundaries out (e.g. fields off Fillongley Road etc.)

Any

Any currently listed Green Belt sites.

ANY GREEN BELT

Any green belt land

Any green belt, farm land or parks

Any green field designated as green belt

Any Green field location

Any green space

Any surrounding farm land, any green belt - all above needs continued protection

Anywhere designated 'green belt'

Anywhere in Meriden

Anywhere in the current green belt. No link between Allesley and Millisons Wood and then Meriden

Anywhere on the green belt!

Anywhere other than Q30

Anywhere that has not currently been developed, i.e. fields, green belt

Anywhere which comes under the green belt

Anywhere within one mile of Meriden village

Areas with more restricted road access or narrower lanes e.g. Shaft Lane, Bells Lane

Between Meriden and Coventry

Birmingham road between A45 & Hampton Grange

By the church

Can't comment until proposals are identified.

Countryside to the east of the village - keep the Meriden Gap

Current green belt land

Development of sites within the village and outskirts should be considered before new greenfield sites

Ditto

Do not know

Don't know

Don't know the area well enough yet
Don't really know the area just moved in
Farmers' fields at back of Manor Hotel
Farmland
Farmland
Farmland - green belt, nature/tree, reserve areas
Field behind Queens Head pub
Further development in Maxstoke Lane
Further development on Leys Lane
Gap between Millison's Wood & Eastern Green
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt
Green belt - never
Green belt - sports fields. Public open space. Community assets. Sites of special interest
Green belt & small country lanes
Green belt land
Green Belt Land
Green belt land
Green belt land
Green belt land
Green belt land
Green belt land
Green belt land within Meriden
Green belt land/spaces
Green belt needs preserving
Green belt or agricultural land
Green Belt or where garages are on Fillongley Rd
Green belt sites
Green field sites
Green field sites
Green field sites
Green land
Greenbelt
Greenbelt land
Greenfield sites
Homes towards Coventry and Millisons Wood
I don't think any house should be built that expand the border of Meriden
Ideally not within a mile of the centre of the village!

In the area around the village hall & St Laurence's church
Land behind houses R.H.S Fillongley Road, leaving Meriden; Low lying land (prone to flooding) behind Queen's Head & Environs
Large areas of green belt
Large green field sites
Leave our land for improving facilities e.g. school, parking, doctors, bank
Leave the fields as fields - it's far nicer!
Maxstoke Lane
Maxstoke Lane
Maxstoke Lane, as recently developed
Meriden
Meriden / Berkswell
Meriden as the traffic really bad as it is
Meriden Green Belt
Meriden Hall
Meriden is in a green belt area - no more houses
Meriden!
Meriden. Full stop.
Millisons Wood
Millison's Wood
Millisons wood area, a beautiful area used by many people for leisure. The fields should be kept as they are.
Most access roads to the centre of Meriden, apart from those already identified, in order to preserve a little 'village' appeal.
Most of Meriden green belt
no
No
No development on Green Belt.
No further development behind Manor Hotel
No greenbelt development!!
No more building in Meriden
No more of allotments or on the green
No new homes to be built
No new land or green space should be built on.
No. Developers will always find more plots that are and will become available but usually for private sale and not rentable
None
None
Not on ay green belt
Not sure
Not towards Birmingham or Coventry - we NEED the green belt area
Nowhere within a one and half mile of the centre
Old Road, Main Road, Birmingham Road, Meriden
On green belt
On green belt land
Playing field

See above
The area near Queen's head - risk of flooding
the green belt
The green belt - it needs preserving. Meriden is a village, not a suburb
The green belt between Coventry & Solihull
The infrastructure is already at bursting point. Old caravan site/pollys garage on Birmingham road would be a perfect site for a new surgery, likewise: Shirley's garage site
The Meriden locality.
The new park.
Village green
We would not like to see developments on the fields at the back of the Manor Hotel/Queen's Head area, or behind the duck pond/scout hut, or the fields behind Millison's Wood
Would prefer no development areas on open fields
Yes, any green belt fields in the vicinity of the village. The infrastructure is not able to accept, the sewage, flooding and traffic
Yes, green belt locations e.g. Meriden Gap, prevent Coventry and Birmingham urban areas merging

Q32 - The space below is for any other comments you may have about housing.
Over the last 5 years Meriden has seen more than its fair share of housing. Can the infrastructure sustain much more growth?
Need to protect the limited green areas, fields, lanes, natural habitats
Ask the local council
Building of varied homes will enhance the village which will bring more local services to area and businesses which will benefit the village
The recent developments that have been built are sufficient for the time being based upon Meriden's infrastructure
Older community - build bungalows, sheltered housing to free up existing homes
I think small infill sites on green belt could be built on
There is not enough suitable housing, to cope with families who wish to look after their elderly parents. Not enough thought goes into the needs of the elderly and disabled, which could be implemented at the time of build. There should be affordable new homes, with these needs of people incorporated or at least given options
No building should take place on green belt land. No large estates (future ghettos) and with enough parking provision as there is very little public transport in Meriden
With the advent of possible proposed housing by Coventry City Council to the east of Meriden in vast numbers, why is it necessary for Meriden / Millisons Wood to build more?
There is enough housing in Meriden
We have lived in Meriden for 21 years. Since the new construction of the new housing estates, in particular the David Wilson site (old playing field), there has been a marked reduction in village standards amongst the growing population of Meriden. As a result, we believe that Meriden is a considerably less attractive place to live. (Marked increase in criminal activity and in savoury behaviour).
Not in my back yard!
There are plenty of brown belt sites, why not take them. Before long, all we will see is concrete of brick
Green Belt should be Green Belt. No building or land grab allowed. We have done more than necessary to provide new homes in Meriden already, at the detriment to the village / school. Meriden has changed in last few years - it is becoming an extension of

Chelmsley Wood, crime with it as well.
Provision of parking for residents in Meriden is awful. This needs to be sorted before housing is considered and agreed.
Meriden is a lovely little village like to keep it that way
Enough is enough
Why is there lots of building and development on Chelmsley Wood and hardly any in Meriden and surrounding areas to enable people that wish to stay in the area to do so. No one would want to downsize and move to Chelmsley Wood from here
There is not enough affordable housing for young people to be able to purchase, keeping them close to family networks (not social housing or shared ownership) single storey bungalows for senior residents to downsize
The 2 developments mentioned above have expanded the village enough. Anymore & the pressure on schools & doctors facilities will be too great. I moved to Meriden to live in the semi-rural location not to be surrounded by ugly new estates with no greenery
Style of any new houses must be in keeping with villages. Would not support affordable housing that ended up being sold below market value to the occupiers
N/A
No further requirement for additional homes within Meriden
Given the fact that people are living longer I feel use need more sheltered housing for the elderly - which would help free up other low occupancy housing into the market
Keep them affordable. No more 5-6 bedroom houses - we need homes for older people & apartments for young working people
No more houses, we need better parking
I believe the schools, NHS, road network etc. can't handle any more houses, the country is full to bursting point
I do not know Meriden very well, I have only lived here for one month; Porsche garage/Main road
It would be better to create housing which is smaller and more compact instead of overpriced 4 and 5 bedroom houses. Build 2 and 3 bedroom maisonettes to fulfil not from building companies to make huge profits and encourage people to be greedy and take massive mortgages
Meriden is a village and would like to keep it that way. I disagreed with the last development and most of the residents did as well!
Priority to smaller (e.g. 2 bed) houses and bungalows for private ownership
Roughly 25 new homes for 6 years would be sufficient
We cannot lose any more green belt. This is supposed to be and should remain a village
Affordable housing, shared ownership and social housing needed
I did not sit for three years in Eaves Green Lane protecting the green land, which travellers tried to set up, and will not agree for any future development in this area
There has already been too much development in Meriden in recent years which is starting to impact on how busy the village is. Seems to be far too much traffic consistently around village
Need more 2 bed homes for local families to down size
As above. There are already too many new houses. The school can't cope & it should not have to expand as the kids would have even less area to play in. Meriden is a village surrounded by green belt keep it this way!!
It would be nice if people who were born in the village, could afford to buy a house and not have to move away. Also, housing for older people so they can stay in the village and not move out
Only that more is needed
Fields that are being cultivated should not be used for housing. People of the village should be able to walk across fields without having to get into cars
Great care must be made in planning new housing developments to prevent villages

such as Meriden becoming urbanised and losing its rural character
We already have more than adequate housing for the elderly. So called "affordable housing! On the new developments are marketed at high prices than larger existing properties. The village just about maintains its social harmony and really cannot support further building which would impact on school, surgery, traffic. Further development would destroy the community dynamic resulting in the settlement being not that of a town or village. Just look at Balsall Common
A mixture of house types, sizes, prices to cater for all age groups
Developers want to maximise their profits so create areas such as an old playing fields and off Leys Lane. Too many houses on space available - the additional traffic, particularly at busy times, is never given sufficient thought in planning
There is absolutely no way Meriden needs more housing. I have seen a decline in village life since the building of the last 2 estates - crime on increase, school classes size especially in infants currently unacceptable for teaching. Roads are busier without traffic calming or pedestrian crossings in place especially outside the school
I've lived in Meriden for 14 years, I would hate to see the character destroyed by over development
To ensure the village style of Meriden is maintaining no or very little building/housing is required
Small developments help the village keep its identity, and reduces instant pressure on the infrastructure
This survey should be repeated after the public in Meriden have clear knowledge of the green belt sites being promoted
Right to buy should cease, and local authorities should start building L.A rented property again - if RTB continues, every sold property needs to be replaced
I strongly disagree with regards to any new homes being built in Meriden unless it was for sheltered home for the elderly, with the two new developments already here, the local school is not big enough for any more children
We do not think that the services such as school and doctors would cope with any further development in the village; only small developments should be approved
We need to make new housing of all types; the no.1 objective - thousands not hundreds, millions not thousands nationwide
Meriden has a wonderful village community feel and this needs to be maintained. The community takes pride in the village and vicinity and any new housing needs to be controlled in scale (limited) and sympathetic with the rural environment. It also needs to consider the surrounding infrastructure and protect the integrity of the village
Affordable housing should be for local people
I believe that the 2 new estates we have recently had, are enough for a village
There seems to be many new abodes being built in Balsall Common, the next village down
Services, shops & amenities to be in place to support any new housing
If more sheltered housing was built it would probably free up some other housing in the village more appropriate for families
There is plenty of brownfield sites available nearby - why should any more green space be used?
There should always be a plan to provide homes for young people normally forced to move away from the area against their wishes, and, for older people, i.e. bungalows or sheltered accommodation
Crowdsourcing for the planners is not a solution. For avoiding blame/responsibility. Where is the design!
We don't need any more affordable housing in the village. The dynamics of the village and school have changed massively, and not for the better
More houses = more children - what resources are being given to the primary school to cope with the increase? Increased traffic = more speeding along Fillongley Road, by the school!!

Mini 'toy towns' with parking issues and job filled developments don't add to our village. Mulberry Gardens looks like a mini slum already. Do we really want this for our lovely village! Look how the crime rate has increased, not progress I fear.
Inevitable, but local councils should do their utmost to keep new development 'in-keeping' with appearance and local needs, and take into consideration medical facilities, schools and transport.
The infrastructure in Meriden is poor now. More housing will put a strain on roads, school, health and social care services. Parking in the village is a nightmare
Social Housing, anyone who has lived in Meriden 10+ years should be given priority over others from the Borough.
There are no suitable areas for new builds. Especially as the new estates attract undesirables to the area (council)
As a 21 year old who has lived in Meriden all her life, I think it's a shame that I wouldn't be able to stay here, financially it wouldn't be possible as there is no housing that is affordable for someone my age.
it appears that affordable housing in recent developments have been awarded to people coming into the village at the expense of people who are already part of the local community and these people have had to leave the area or make another compromise. If affordable housing is there to keep people in their communities then this is failing on both counts as people coming in are removed from their old community and people who need accommodation in the village to remain in their community are having to leave...
If new houses are built then a new medical centre would be required with easy access for prams and the elderly
As a resident in Darlaston court, parking is getting worse as more flats now have 2 or more vehicles. For 42 flats that number could easily be 70 /80 vehicles with parking provision for only about 30 cars. Future properties must consider suitable parking and adequate transit routes that will not negatively impact on the village. If this means new roads / by passes or road widening as well as an introduction of 20 mph on central routes
The recent build of houses on the old Meriden Park has been a disaster. It has brought people into our community that have no respect for the area or the people living here. Some of the families on the estate have children that have been a disruptive influence on the village and the local secondary school, and it is sometimes unsafe for children to walk or play about the village because of the antisocial behaviour.
Can't comment on Q28 until proposals are identified.
we have had substantial development in the last few years, no further large scale developments should be considered as it will fundamentally change the village, putting strain on an already stretched infrastructure
I feel that the village has gone over an acceptable allocation of new housing.

Q33a - Should existing employment sites e.g. shops, offices etc be protected from a change of use?
If it is not viable to have any use out of brown sites it can be transferred to habitats
Keep Meriden a village
Sometimes change of use justified
With few shops we have complement each other and fit in with our needs
Common sense should prevail, example - the Castlebeck care home site which could have been used for housing with virtually no impact on surrounding area (top of Meriden Hill). Planning status meant no change of use
We are self-sufficient as a village and do not want estate agents, solicitors, or any other business, which will be of no use to the majority of people living in the village. No takeaways - the local chip shop creates enough rubbish as it is!
Loss of jobs
Meriden already has limited resources and cannot afford a reduction in these facilities.

This will be a land grab / stealth way to get building plots.
Why should businesses / shops etc. be targeted for change of use when many have been here for years. Leave them alone
Special circumstances may be considered if brown field site became vacant and this site used for housing development
Depends largely on usage i.e. Tesco Express etc. as this would spoil the balance of the village
We don't need any more 'takeaway' restaurants
Not necessarily
Shops should be allowed to be flexible to meet local needs and demands
Not rigidly protected - apply common sense
Important to keep local amenities & business
A bit late though, in Meriden, they have converted the newsagents into housing!!
The existing sites are adequate for the village
We need to fill our existing row of shops with things people need not all selling the same pointless
Shops are essential for local people especially the elderly
More shops and longer opening hours should be encouraged
I don't want any changes to village life
The need to expand the amount of shops and services provided
Having local shops & amenities helps to maintain the village as a community
If a business does not exist to occupy, why need it as a shop
Protect shops and offices
As far as I am around. these are key for the community
No more fast food etc.
However, within reason to protect the ideology/ambiance/ethos, call it what you will of the village/borough. The suggestion to use the old garage site in Birmingham road is good example of within reason
We need as many shops and people working in and around the village as possible to keep it alive
We need local shops
Not necessarily but if sites remain unoccupied for long periods then a view on possible alternatives should be taken with appropriate consultation
Nothing wrong in shops changing hands, but should not be allowed to be used for office use
Services need to be maintained and prevent rural locations losing them
The office blocks at Millisons Wood are either moth-balled, currently on the market or half empty. An admirable 'brown field' site of houses must be built. If shops are not supported, the freeholders have every right to seek planning in change of use
We need to maintain a central community & give opportunity for local convenient employment for a variety of age groups
There are too many offices so a change of use is worthwhile - however not change of use of shops
I think local resources are very important both for a source of local development and for the amenities they provide
Just depends what the change of use was
No takeaways, maybe restaurant, more grocery shops
Change of use to be considered on a case by case basis. You appear to have ignored the commercial/industrial units in Millisons Wood?
We need all the amenities we have!

There is too much building, people should work from home to protect green spaces
It is important that there is adequate shopping and other facilities. The need for this is increased by the population increase
We should protect current shops and businesses and help them to improve and survive
No more takeaways!
There are generally adequate employment sites for current and immediately projected needs both in Meriden and local areas.
shops should be kept for the local community
The aging population is likely to need local, pedestrian access to the current facilities.
Change of use is often detrimental to nearby residents, Meriden is a rural location within the Green Belt and should be retained as such.
On case by case basis
Any empty unoccupied should be considered to be renovated as dwellings. Cheaper than building more dwellings!
Residential and light commercial along with consumer interest properties should be encouraged, although can be proportionally limited
Yes, it appears that a large shop within the village has already been turned into accommodation. We need to keep the shops/business we have.
With more housing we will need more shops and local amenities so the existing ones should be protected. If business could be attracted to the area, for example by having quality offices that might encourage local employment and reduce commuting and traffic.

Q35 - If you or anyone in your household already works from home please write the type of work in the box below.
3 persons, occasional, different occupations
Administration
Administration / Finance
administration for local authority
Administration/accounting
Beautician/Financial adviser
Carer
Clerical
Client based work/office admin
Consultancy work
Environmental & health advisor in oil industry
Environmental health professional
Financial advisor
I used to, but am now retired
I.T
Information technology
IT
IT
IT consultant
IT project management
Marketing manager
Medical field
Occasionally computer work from home

Office administration
Office work
Office work
On occasion office work
Photographer
Research/admin
Retired
Retired
Sales manager
Self employed
Self-employed consultancy
Self-Employment
Sometimes work from home. Computing.
Voluntary computer work
Yes - general office administration

Q37 - If you have answered "YES" please tell us what type of employment they would like by writing in the box below.
Any
Any retail (Spar only employ family)
At the AO recycling; may want a shop/bar job in next 5 years
Care home assistant
Cleaning / Care
Customer service
Don't know
Farm work, bar/restaurant
I am a nurse and would like to work local - nursing or caring
Manual
No idea! Currently age 14
Not sure of the type yet
Nothing or little available
Office / technical etc
Part time caring role
Part time employment. Admin, service industry, or schools as children get older
Part time work for teenagers
Part time work for teenagers; office/admin work; marketing/communication
part-time work for young teenagers
Personal assistant, office manager, admin
Property maintenance
Son leaves school in 5 years' time
Teaching assistant
Teaching Assistant
Unknown at this time
Unsure will investigate further in 2-3 years
Voluntary / Finance. Children 16+ Hotel work

Q38a - Please write any comments you may have about future development in the box below.

Meriden is a lovely village. Every effort should be made to retain this. Keeping current green belt is essential

Need to encourage Meriden and surrounding area to be proud as a village. Retain, limit new builds. Care more for the habitat before its gone

Only one GP surgery for village

To a certain extent but development should consider changes in demand / ageing population etc.

Land lying between Meriden and Coventry and Meriden and Solihull should not be built upon

We've already commented that we do not think there should be any more development

More small bungalows should be built as many people now living in Meriden are getting older. Meriden now has enough large houses

Yes but not on green belt

If this isn't done the Meriden gap will disappear and we will become one urban sprawl between Birmingham and Coventry. The village will no longer exist

No building should take place on the green belt - only brown field sites should be used. Once it is gone, it is gone

Why destroy or impact the natural environment?

The "Meriden Gap" be it east or west should be protected. If it isn't, Meriden Village will lose its identity.

There has been enough development in Meriden, facilities e.g. doctor's surgery are struggling with the increase of patients.

No additional buildings

It needs to retain its appearance as a semi-rural village. Not to be consumed within Coventry / Solihull conurbation.

Essential

I love Meriden and Meriden should stay as it is.

There should be no future developments allowed.

No green land development

They should be in keeping with the current properties and not look out of character as to spoil the look of the village and surrounding areas

Any development should be sympathetic to existing structures, complementing the historic centre of England

Meriden must remain rural

No building should be allowed to expand into field around the village. This would ruin Meriden

Protection of the green belt is critical

I believe all applications for development should be judged on its merits. If it means that any future development that aims to be greener and conserve energy up refused just because it doesn't look like a 'playschool' house then its poor decision making

Why worry about Meriden's heritage now? Two housing estates later and now it should be on keeping with character and heritage - bit late for that

Preservation of the Green Belt - particularly the Meriden Gap, is very important not only to Meriden but to the surrounding urban areas of Solihull and Coventry

Any plans for future developments should be put to a vote involving the people or local residents concerned

Restricted build so height so it is not to obscure line of sight & views and remain in keeping. No high buildings; preserve trees and woodland

The 60s and 70s architecture is dreadful. It ruined the look of the green & main road, only developments of character need to be introduced

Any green belt we have left should be retained as it is

The green belt around Meriden should be protected
No point - council won't change
Growth is always good, but links to history and style of area need to be considered at all times
I don't want any changes to village life - Meriden is in a green belt area, no more houses or commercial development; Meriden is a special place
More architectural development should reflect/be in keeping with the older properties
It's already been ruined
No more development should be built
The village is currently surrounded by countryside farmland and green belt. This is why people like to live here - we do not wish to become an extension of a sprawling urban development of Birmingham or Coventry
Now modern contemporary housing adds to the environment
As long as they are integrated in the countryside e.g. doesn't stand out like a sore thumb
Buildings should be restricted in terms of size and character, and in keeping with the environment. But there is no more space for building without spoiling the village and green belt
Enough is enough!!
The village is getting far too busy and congested as a result of the 2 new estates built recently
Must blend in, not stick out like a sore thumb (new pavilion)
In the Vale of Aden
We need to keep the village this size and surrounded by green belt; the recycling facilities in the quarry will be a nightmare as that company has been at its site in Northampton (that the environment agency is closing down)
Without doubt it must maintained as stated in Q38
Many people from the towns come to Meriden for cycling, walking etc. We need to protect our countryside from over development
I'm not averse to development in the area, although the quiet village image and surrounding is a great asset. It's what I used to visit Meriden and Berkswell for before I moved here. Therefore any developments should try to keep the impact on these elements to a minimum. However, the existing quarrying is a good example of well concealed developments.
Absolutely agree! Rural areas such as Meriden must have their character and heritage preserved, not lost forever for future generations. Meriden must not be developed into a 'mini-town' such as Balsall Common
The village already has more than adequate provision for the elderly. However, a small care home for village residents might be appropriate in order that those requiring residential care can receive it within the community. Alms houses were a great idea!
We should maintain the village community and not join up with buildings in Birmingham or Coventry - once green belt is lost its lost forever
I understand that we need new housing in the country and in Solihull, but to say that Meriden "has to take its share! is not acceptable, village life is being completely eroded and green belt land feels like when it suits it can be built on. I moved out of the city to live a 'village life' and feel very protective about it. I believe that we need to build from the big towns and cities out, not destroy green space
Meriden should remain a village and not be developed to the same extent as Balsall Common
With the encroaching HS2, it's an uphill battle anyway. If the character changes significantly, personally I would definitely look for a property elsewhere, which would be a real pity as I love Meriden
Meriden should try hard to preserve its 'centre of England' heritage

Sites are being promoted in Meriden to develop houses under the councils 'call for sites' exercise. There are well over 1000 new houses being proposed in green belt areas. Possibly 2000 if you include Meriden quarry and the ongoing need to accommodate Birmingham housing shortfall. Meriden residents need to be empowered to fight inappropriate development

Minimum possible

As I said in the last comment, I really don't know how the local school could cope with anymore developments

Only small developments should be approved

We need wide development but controlled (not prohibited by local residents)

Please see previous comments. Meriden is a village and should not become a town

The green belt needs to be protected - to build on it will destroy the character of the village

Only small pockets of housing, no major scale of house building

Meriden Raid fought long & hard to protect the 'Meriden Gap' & Green belt from inappropriate development. It seems ironic that a plan could be devised that ignores the numerous court cases won by the campaign that established the importance of the 'Meriden Gap'

We are quickly losing green areas now being used by commercial enterprises by expansion which is totally out of keeping with the area

Speculative opportunistic developing with minimum investment yields poor quality & low grade buildings, as witnessed around Meriden

no building on green belt, protecting and maintaining current features in the village e.g. duck pond

Keep Meriden a village

Can the doctors, post office and parking cope with any more development? Is there a proposal to increase police presence with such a rise in population?

Does 'Green Belt' matter anymore?

Keep in mind the village plan and design statement. No multi storey and design fit for a village with adequate parking.

Meriden has already had 2 recent developments and other than the Birmingham Road, north of Village Green site I don't believe any other sites are appropriate. Meriden is a Village and an asset to Solihull as it is.

I would be very disappointed to see high-rise flats, I also think too many estates of closely packed houses are being built.

It would be a major loss to the area if Meriden were to lose its character and identity as a small oasis in the Green Belt between Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull.

Loss of green belt is a one way decision - we never get it back once it is lost. Reduction of green belt should only ever be a last resort...

Should be sympathetic to the ambiance of the village

The mix of rural and urban is what we love about Meriden

Although happy to keep church area the same

this is fundamental

The village should not lose its character or sense of community. Quite how expanding the housing stock and village life can both be balanced is a difficult question. I hope you find a solution.

I would rather that there wasn't any future development, as it is important that the village maintains its historic character and green belt status.

Q39a - Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to protect and enhance the quality of any new buildings by promoting the following? Other

Work to reduce anti-social behaviour within village, dumping, tipping and litter getting out of hand

Adequate car parking

No building on Green Belts.

This village is all about who you know not what you know - jobs are given to people who know people

No more houses

They all reflect upon village life. Put solar panels on new houses, as standard.
Renewable energy³

I won't tick minimum as I don't want buildings that are just minimum

Require solar panels

None

No more housing should be built

Sustainable building practices

Ensure adequate car parking is provided, many super new estates are choked due to lack of this

The rural character must be protected and 'bland developments' be avoided

Avoid opening any large supermarkets nearby as this destroys local shops and communities.

Maintain planting, green spaces etc.

Minimum impact on green belt

Footpaths/cycleways linking any new developments to existing networks

The advertising splashed across the shops is unattractive and should be in character with the village

None of these will happen as contracts will go to Taylor Wimpy, who build 'toy town trash'

Q40a - Should the Neighbourhood Plan aim to promote the following - Other

Litter

Protect Green Belt, no back door planning agreed.

A crossing on Fillongley Rd near shops as often restricted

Again, agree with all there

Improved flood prevention measures definitely near Bulls head

Vehicles continue to speed along the Main road & Leys Lane - they cut through to avoid village centre

Minimise disruption from the recycling plants

Maximise protection of green belt

More improvement in design of roads, no tight corners or islands

Protect wildlife land being used

Desperately need to slow traffic on Fillongley Road

Traffic calming on Fillongley Road (someone will be killed)

Q41 - Are there any buildings, places or views which you believe are important to protect?

The village hall and surgery. The Gulls Head

Old spar shop. Typical of old village now looking tired and in need of care from outside

The main roads should not be used constantly for lorries etc. coming through village,

spoiling our road - safety
None
Historical monuments on the green
Area around St Lawrence's Church, village centre / green area
Anything connected with the St Lawrence Church
Millison's Wood and surrounding fields - minimising pollution and allowing wildlife and plants to flourish naturally
The view of farmland from the church on the hill
The footpaths and fields for public access are a vital lung for the village. The fields behind Strawberry Fields is one place to protect. 2) Meriden Hall 3) The duck pond
Meriden Hall. Meriden Green. The Church and surrounding all the fields that give a picture post card look, which is so important to us and visitors. The duck pond is a special feature and needs to be retained, in good order (this is the responsibility of Solihull Council)
Meriden Green / St Lawrence Church / Duck pond / Recreation Ground
All green belt land
All existing green belt
Meriden Gap
Village green
500 yr. old cross. All buildings over 100 yrs.
Our village shops. The Bull Inn and The Queens Public House
Meriden Green Belt. The village green and all surrounding buildings / all local Green Belt needs to remain if we are to remain a village set in the countryside.
Meriden Green
Church and surrounding areas and views. The Village green
Any place within 1 and a half miles of the centre
Yes 'The Downlands' at the back of Pertemps off the main road also the back of Queens Head Pub and land around Meriden church, Church Lane and Somerswood Caravan Park and Stonebridge Golf Club
St Lawrence's Church / Bulls Head
Meriden duck pond / Millisons Wood / Farmlands / Sports Ground / Schools / Meriden Hall / St Lawrence church / Strawberry bank / Meriden gap / The green / Church Lane conservation area
Village centre and sports ground
The village green / The village pond/war memorial / The church for historical reasons and view / The archery club
The cedars on Fillongley Road are being vandalised by car parking - branches are ripped off when they get in the way
The village green area
Any building of historic value should be protected and also any places or views where this is possible
All historic or community based buildings should be protected or improved
Meriden Green
The village green (inc. monuments), children park
Any green fields and trees are a view
Village green, duck pond, play fields, listed historic buildings/statues
Around church
Area around 'The Green'
SMBC have done Meriden a great dis-service with the tow housing estates; Meriden

needs protecting from SMBC or there will be no fields left and Meriden will no longer be rural
The green and surrounding area, the settlements around the church and the views of the church from Main Road And Berkswell Road - and from Fillongley Road and the footpaths; and the views from Church Lane over the village
Any development in Meriden should always be subject to careful consideration. We all have a duty to maintain its historical background and status
Park and playing fields; the green with memorials; duck pond
St Laurence Church
All areas
Campsites & country walks & ancient buildings & farms
The village green
Fairfield Rise & Alspath Road are a *** nightmare with the Co-op lorries and they drive far too fast and need to be curtailed. Also, parking on the Fillongley Road/shops as often the view to cross the road is affected by illegally parked vehicles visiting the shops or delivering
Views from the church looking down to Main Road area
The green and surrounding properties
The green & the park/pavilion area; the bypass walking routes; the old church
I don't want any changes to Meriden village - no more housing estates or commercial development
Village green, duck pond, local pubs & restaurants, post office, GP surgery
St Lawrence Church, The duck pond, The Green - monuments
Views from & around St Laurence's church
Central green area i.e. the monument
The village green, surrounding fields, church area
Any green belt land
The green, the whole village, surrounding green spaces
All of them
Buildings on the green, open spaces in Alspath road & Fillongley road, view of church from Fillongley road, vice versa and from South village pond, character of Leys lane and pond, tree on roundabout, anything else that makes village character
All!!
The village!!
The area around the church; fields between the Fillongley Road and the Birmingham Road; the village green, the duck pond
All those that I have ticked are important
Green belt, fields
Millison's wood, village green, listed buildings, public footpaths
Village green, around Meriden church
The recreation ground, the village green
Village pond and green
Views of fields, countryside from church
The views across to Birmingham from the hill behind Meriden Hall is beautiful and an asset to the area
The village green & surrounding areas, and the area around the church (St Laurence)
There are numerous - the church area, the village green, the local Post Office, the village pubs and shops, the new sports ground and children's play area. The farmland and woodland surrounding the village. The village needs to be maintained and

protected. Local footpaths and bridgeways. The heritage of Meriden as the centre of England needs to be protected
St Laurence Church and conservation area, the village pool, the village green & conservation area, the entire expanse of agricultural land and woodland which currently encircle the village
The church, cyclist memorial, Millisons wood, the pond, village green
Millisons Wood
The village green, the church on the hill, view of village from church gardens
Church lane & surrounding fields, Millisons wood (the wood) needs better maintenance of woodland, any building of historical importance
Houses, cottages, terraced houses opposite woodland near Bulls Head and opposite shops; Bulls Head and Queens Head pub/eating; the green areas going up Meriden hill along the Main Road and the lane going up the C of E church. Maintain the green areas in the village - Village green, woodland gap, Bulls Head, village pond & surroundings, large trees seen near bottom of Leys lane. Keep the new play park
The green, the pond
The green - front of shops
Meriden green, shop fronts, the flag, outlook to green space, trees
St. Laurence church, Meriden pool, the village green & thatched cottage on Maxstoke lane, tree on roundabout, cyclists memorial
The surrounding fields, pond, the Bull, all the older buildings that add to the character of Meriden. It's a long list!
It is important to protect the size of the village as it will grow too large and become a suburb of Coventry. The planners should respect that this is a village and as such should maintain its green boundaries. Any building should occur on land that has previously been built on i.e. brown sites or gardens
The village green, the church, the green corridor between Meriden and Millisons wood
Green belt - particularly the fields behind proposal by the Arnolds to develop 575 houses (Fillongley/Main Rd)
The planted, tree area on James Dawson drive that protects against road noise and promotes privacy from the main road. Protect the Queen Head pub, the Bulls Head, children's play area and the duck pond. These are centre points of the village which enhances character
Millisons Wood
St Laurence church and churchyard, village green and shopfronts, Meriden duck road, war memorial
Village green & monuments, pond, park, surrounding public footpaths in and around open countryside, all fields
Anything around the church; all old buildings/houses on the green
The views in the village are beautiful and should be kept as they are. The green should be as it is now. The church is important to protect
Meriden green
Village green, war memorial(s), pond, a green horizon perimeter to the village
Millisons Wood & surround fields to maintain a green belt between Meriden/Solihull and Coventry
Protect the church and the views from the church
Meriden hall parkland lake, Morrison's Woods with no more mobile homes on site
Meriden Hall, the view from the church on the hill
The setting around Meriden church should be protected as it has heritage value. As other parts of the village comprise a hotch potch of styles it's difficult to say any in particular should be protected. The village green setting is probably only exception to this.

All approaches to the village should be green and not use the road edge as the boundary. Creating an organic development not a digital, urban environment
Children's play area, duck pond, Millisons wood forest
Local shops and views of local countryside; view of farmland from school field
Village green, library, sports park, Darlaston Row, the 'pool', Meriden Hall, Fillongley Road outlook
View of St Laurence Church & hill, view of fields behind Strawberry Bank, view of woodland to north of Meriden, village green should be protected
Yes my view across the village & rolling hills, which 'Taylor Wimpy' promptly spoilt. Sone forever. It feels as if nothing is sacred anymore
The Green and rural access routes to it.
See list prepared by the Parish Council
The green and the row of village shops, the new park, the sheep field, the Bulls head.
All the older buildings in the village - Meriden Hall and its associated buildings, The Bulls Head and the Queens Head, thatched cottages near The Green, etc.
Meriden Hall and it's grounds.
C of E Church and the views from the church grounds
Local woodlands, in our case, Millisons Wood
The memorial village green, the centre of Meriden
From the church and the duck pond
Yes, all the buildings that have character/age, ie Manor Hotel, Meriden Hall, Stone Cottage, Bulls Head, and local shops
Village Green and Duck Pond
the green and surrounding area the duck pond and surrounding area the school and surrounding area the GP the village hall Eves Green and surrounding area
The Green and shops.
Meriden Hall and its grounds, all green space, and the view from the church at the top of Meriden Hill.

Q42 - The box below is provided to allow you to make your own comments on protecting the environment.
Meriden centre of England, keep it to the village as was. Stop quarry traffic
Quarry / Recycling activity should be limited to Monday - Friday. Recycling activity - impact on the environment should be considered before renewal of contract. Fields behind Strawberry Bank Hotel are unavailable due to recycling waste in air
Heavy lorries should be discouraged from driving through Meriden
Meriden is a village with limited infrastructure/resources and should remain surrounded by countryside, which is part of protecting the environment. Already compromised by new HS2 rail link
Green belt should be protected at all costs, housing should be near adequate public transport particularly trains
Meriden / Millisons Wood would appear to have reached their limit if village status is to be maintained.
Against re-cycling plant at Cornets End Lane. This area would be better used for housing if there has to be any.
The more building allowed, will impact on wildlife and local schools and Green Belt. The school is already oversubscribed in some year groups. Building more houses will impact on this even more. Meriden is not what it was. I used to be proud to live here, but my opinion is changing. It no longer feels like a village, our open spaces are diminishing, crime is on the rise, school is overcrowded and no longer feels like a village school. Stop the building!
Ensure re-cycling plant is appropriate to the areas in both size and concept

The environment should be protected at all times as this is very important as it can't do it for itself, we have to take responsibility
We must protect all green belt around Meriden parish. Currently on all borders development grows with airport expansion, garden city, HS2, A45 windmill development that Coventry CC has removed from green belt protection. Monitoring of quarries, all being extended with recycling operations, being SMBC's preferred site with change of use planning applications
Far too many trees have been cut down recently - they are not diseased but just an inconvenience to the residents
There needs to be better control of dust and other pollution arising from the quarry/waste sites to the SW of the village
Maintain public bridgeways & rights of way
Restrict the movement of lorries through the village except for deliveries
Make Meriden a smoke free zone
I don't want any changes to Meriden village - no more housing estates or commercial development
No unsightly 'wind farms' please
It is important to maintain green space and the village
Maintain rural character of village, protection of woodlands
No more buildings in Meriden
No more development should take place or Meriden will become part of Birmingham/Solihull etc. We need to preserve our beautiful village. If help is needed with flowers/works in the village more obvious requests for help should be made
Public footpaths, no industrial sites
Make it as difficult as possible for motorists to exceed speed limits
Housing development is necessary but must be limited to certain areas within the village e.g. brown sites and not unlimited development in green belt farmland and woodland
Protect the environment we have by not building any more houses!
Maintain the rural environment
Keep any new house builds (especially affordable) for people already living in village prioritise housing for elderly - we do not need more young families from out of the area. No infrastructure in place to support more young families. Protection of green belt land
I fully appreciate that time moves on and accommodate is required by lots of different people. The trick is balancing that with the existing size of Meriden before there is just one huge sprawl between Coventry & Birmingham. Takes a drive down and A45 into Birmingham past the airport that would be the future...
We did not spend 1086 days on a protest camp protecting the green belt only to see it lost on a potentially massive scale. We need to be organised and funded to resist inappropriate development
We recently moved to Meriden for a village community environment. The rural feel promotes a stress free living area
Not our greatest priority, used too often by the 'nimby' brigade
Preventing further expansion of industrial/commercial operations, in what is, primarily, a residential area, e.g. Pettifers Haulage and their increasing levels of HGV traffic through village and narrow lanes. Return quarry land to green belt - the industrial buildings and landscape are not in keeping with the village landscape.
Lots of wildlife in the village is being crowded out by building and businesses not behaving in a quiet and respectful manner
Meriden is not in itself a particularly 'pretty' cottage type village, but it is historical and its position between Birmingham and Coventry should limit the amount of development which takes place in order to protect the gap between the two large cities.
The fields which form part of Meriden Hose 'parkland' (adjacent to Strawberry Bank)

should be protected. I notice the hotel & one or two properties have cut down the hedge which spoils the landscape integrity of the area
There has been in the 60 years I have been here, Wanton destruction, crass design & incompetent planning. I am appalled at the lack of coherent , strategic & positive planning and consider the whole process driven by corruption - self-interest by a bunch of money-grabbing egotists
Most Meriden residents moved here for the village feel. That's gone, never to be recaptured. Truly sad. Not all of us wanted the tiny park as a 'bribe' to build crime ridden estates. I don't go out without my house alarm on and have installed CCTC. Drugs are being sold on Leys Lane. What's being done to protect the existing environment?
One of the growing problems of LITTER and fly tipping. School training to warn of the effect of dropping litter and signage warning of penalties of doing so. Litter bin collections as needs arise.
Shared communications dishes / aerals for multiple dwellings e.g. flats / elderly provision and solar and renewables for the same. Shared resources
The environment in Meriden is important and should be maintained to a high standard for the benefit of those currently living in the village. There should be no more developments as the village will lose it's identity as a village and therefore the size of the village should be left alone.
we should have a referendum on Meriden leaving the UK or becoming Scottish
I am alarmed at the lack of consideration for green space, wildlife habitat and quality of life for residents those wishing to build and capitalise on space in Meriden show and how this lack of consideration is supported by a lack of enforcement from Solihull Council and the Secretary of State in that there is little to no planning enforcement, and recent developments in the grade 2 listed grounds of Meriden Hall resulted in green belt status of this area being totally ignored along with a number of unanimous decisions by the planning committee, the parish council and the opinions of many people in the village. There is too much deforestation, destruction of habitat, and important historic space and retrospective planning development going on in the village (another example was Henry Morrison's cutting down of trees, and the householder next to the duck pond cutting down trees without any subsequent sanctions), with not enough enforcement to discourage it. I would like this plan to actually be taken into account by Solihull Council and the related authorities. I would like to stress that the Parish Council has provided excellent support under difficult circumstances, when the handling of green belt protection has seemed very undemocratic and unfairly weighted in favour of developers, particularly as there is much brownfield space in the village and large amounts of empty business permissive to let. There is no need to build on green belt.

Q43a - As a Meriden resident, where are you travelling to when you use these forms of transport and for what reason, e.g. work, school, other, etc.? For option give reason
All - shopping, local and further away, visitor attractions
all transport needs outside village fulfilled by car
Bus - Coventry & Birmingham; Car - other needs & where no bus, e.g. to Knowle and Balsall Common for social; Walk - local shops
Bus - shopping, concert-going; Train - shopping, concert-going; Walking - shopping, pleasure
Bus - shopping, work, Coventry & Solihull; Car - Shopping, work, Solihull, Gaydon; Bicycle - leisure; Walking - leisure
Bus - Solihull; Mobility scooter - doctors, local shops; Taxi bus - shopping
Bus - to go to town; Walking - to keep fit
Bus - town; Taxi bus - town hospital; Walking - to keep fit
Cannot walk very far

Car - anywhere in UK various reasons. Bus - Solihull, Coventry, Birmingham, shopping, cinema
Car - banking, now we don't have one; Walking - to keep fit
Car - commute; Train - Birmingham & London; Walking - dog
Car - everything; Bus - sometimes to country, Solihull or Birmingham; Walking - pleasure, including dog walking
Car - for work transport; Bus - for travelling around the village
Car - general commute typically 4 days a week; Train - Berkswell or Birmingham international for longer commutes needed (fairly sporadic)
Car - general leisure/visiting family; Bus - shopping/general leisure; Walking - exercise/nature watching
Car - leisure, Bus - access to Birmingham International railway; Train access to Birmingham; Walking - leisure
Car - local shops, work and visiting friends/relatives. Train - Work
Car - local villages, family, social; Bus - Coventry, Birmingham, NEC; Train - Birmingham; Walking - village, rural areas
Car - pleasure & visiting; Walking - exercise
Car - school & work runs (Coventry); Train - work commuting (London)(Birmingham); Walking - village, dog, social
Car - shopping & visiting places not easily accessible by other means; Bus - trips for entertainment/shopping near Birmingham/Coventry; Train - trips to London; Walking - local shopping, exercise, country walks
Car - shopping, leisure
Car - shopping, social; Bus - shopping centres; Walking - social
Car - shopping, socialising; Bus - shopping, eating out etc.; Train - car to Hampton, then shopping etc. in Birmingham
Car - shopping, work, leisure, social; Bus - occasional use to Coventry/rail station/airport; Train - Birmingham, London and further; Bicycle and Walking - exercise and enjoyment; Motorbike - shopping, leisure, social
Car - Shopping. Train - Shopping
Car - Shopping/Visiting places. Bus - Visiting places. Train - not very often
Car - shopping; Bus - hospital
Car - Social and Travel
Car - social, domestic; Bus - social, domestic, hospital; Taxi bus - domestic, hospital; Walking - health, keep fit
Car - Solihull, Fillongley, Lea Marston, Coventry, Balsall Common; Bus - Solihull, Coventry; Walking - local walks in area (waymarked walks)
Car - Solihull, Stratford, visiting friends, various; Bus - Birmingham, NEC; Train - Birmingham
Car - to station, shopping and all other destinations; Bike - to station (Berkswell from Meriden); Train - to work (Birmingham & Milton Keynes; Walking - local shops & leisure
Car - to work in Kettering; Train to work in London
Car - to work, to go out, shopping; Train - further afield; Walk to school, to shops
Car - visits to hospital & shopping
Car - Work
Car - work
Car - work & pleasure. Bus - school & Coventry City Centre. Bicycle - pleasure. Walking - access to local business'
Car - work & pleasure; Train - occasional & work in London; Bus - occasionally to work; Walking - around the village
Car - work & pleasure; Walking - to shops, walking dogs & for pleasure

Car - work and school; Walk - shops and playground
Car - work and shopping; Bicycle - pleasure
Car - work in Nuneaton; Bus/train - Birmingham
Car - work, Bus - to get to Coventry/Solihull/airport, Walking - for exercise on footpaths
Car - work, Coventry, Birmingham, Balsall Common; Bike/walk - Meriden
Car - work, leisure, most other reasons; Bus/Train - Birmingham, shopping, leisure; Cycle - to train station or leisure; Walking - shopping in village, leisure
Car - work, leisure; Taxi bus - leisure; Walking - leisure
Car - Work, shopping etc Train - usually to London Walking - post office or just for pleasure through the fields
Car - Work, shopping Walking - Local amenities
Car - work, shopping, leisure (variety of destinations); Bus - work to Solihull; Walking - shops, leisure
Car - work, shopping; Walk - school; Train - further travel
Car - work, shops; Bus - Solihull, Birmingham facilities (social); Train - Birmingham (social); Taxi - airport; Walking - exercise
Car - work, social & domestic; Train - work & leisure; Walking - for pleasure; Running - fitness
Car - work, supermarket, shops etc.; Walk - work, school; Bus - school, Solihull, Coventry, Birmingham
Car - Work. Bus - Birmingham International. Train - Birmingham. Taxi bus - Genting/Resort World
Car - Work. Bus - Social events. Walking - Pleasure
Car - Work. Walking - Dog
Car - Work/School/Social. Train - Leisure. Bike - Leisure. Walking - School, Doctors, Leisure
Car - Work/Social
Car - work/social outside Meriden; Train - into Birmingham for social/work; Taxi bus - airport; Walk - school run, socialising locally
Car - Work/Social. Bus - Social/Shopping. Train - Social/Shopping. Motorbike - Work/Social. Walking - Fitness
Car - work; Bus - Coventry, Solihull; Walk - pleasure
Car - work; Bus - leisure; Train - leisure; Walking - leisure
Car - work; Bus - shopping; Walking - visiting family & recreation
Car - work; Bus - Solihull
Car - work; Bus - Solihull/Birmingham; Train - Birmingham/London; Walking - around village
Car - work; Bus - Solihull; Walking - pleasure
Car - work; Bus - work- shopping; Train - shopping; Walking - Millisons wood
Car - work; Walk - local activities; Train - work, London
Car - work; walking - recreation
Car and train for work
Car for work and leisure Walk to village centre shops, doctors, village hall
Car or bus to Solihull and Coventry. Use local stations e.g. Hampton-in-Arden and Birmingham International. Walking within the village and local footpaths
Car- personal travel. Walking - Exercise
Car to work. Walking to use village facilities
Car to work; bus to shops; train to city & work
Car -work / Train - work and shopping / Walking - Dog walking and local shopping

Car: Monthly shop to supermarket. Bus: In to village for drink / eating out. Walking: Dog walking.
Commuting to work, social & leisure
Convenience
Difficult to use bus to reach many places
For shopping or visiting friends
I travel by car when travelling with my wife to visit family and friends in other parts of the West Midlands and England. I occasionally travel by bus to and from Coventry, Sheldon and the NEC / Airport / Birmingham International site. I travel to London by train. I travel by motorbike for most journeys on my own. I walk to all locations within the village.
Main reason is for shopping, leisure, doctors and for community meetings, church and visiting
Mainly shopping, visiting relatives
mainly work for car bus for some shopping
Mostly car to work, school and children's activities Walk to Barker Butts rugby club, and to Millisons Wood when walking dog Bus when travelling to Birmingham airport Train when travelling to Birmingham
Our daughter travels to work in her car. The 9000 bus no longer serves the National Motorcycle Museum, shops and hospital appointments
Parking free, free OAP pass
Relaxation, shopping, pleasure, Solihull, Coventry, Birmingham
Shopping
Shopping
Shopping / Leisure
Shopping and entertainment, walking for exercise and pleasure.
Shopping and pleasure
Shopping getting around various places
Shopping in Solihull and Coventry Hospital appointments in Birmingham and Solihull Train station to visit relatives
Shopping, hospital, eye tests, meeting friends
Shopping, socialising, exercise, pleasure
Shopping, Visiting hospital/doctors
Shopping, visiting, socialising etc.
Shopping, volunteering, visiting
Shopping, work, pleasure
Shops
Shops, restaurants, pubs & garden centre
Social
Social & recreational
Social life, visiting
Solihull - church Coventry - shopping
Sporting and leisure pursuits and shopping
Taxi bus - Shopping, hospital
Taxi bus - Solihull, Cannon Park
to Birmingham International railway station
To go local shops - I'm 80 years of age
To shop outside the village - supermarkets and DIY shops

To travel to Coventry for work, and Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry to visit relatives, friends and for leisure.
Transport links unavailable - have to drive
Travel 30 mins to work
Travel to work
Walk - school; Car - to work as long way & varied locations
Walk if close, if too far to walk then car. Always use car for work.
Walking - rambling & making use of rights of way; Bicycle - to doctors, local shops, in and around village
Walking in the open spaces not built up areas. Car use for work, bus to stop congestion.
Walking problems
Work
Work
Work
Work
Work
Work - buses do not go to Leamington Spa within reasonable time
Work and pleasure
Work and recreation, school run
Work and recreation; Note - train is irrelevant as not available in Meriden
Work and social
Work and walk to the shop and pond
Work, doctors, shops
Work, leisure
Work, other
Work, Pleasure
Work, pleasure
Work, School, Recreation
Work, school, recreation
Work, school, walking dogs
Work, Shopping, medical facilities, recreation.
Work, supermarket, school, visiting, holidays
Work, taking children to school, shopping etc.
Work, visiting, shopping, trips
Work/school/social

Q44a - As a Meriden resident, what other forms of transport would you like to use more? For each option you tick, briefly state what it is about Meriden that prevents you doing so.

82 run more often than hourly
82 Solihull bus only one every hour. If under threat, we need taxibus for the aged
900 Bus for access to Coventry doesn't exist!
Better/more frequent bus services - particularly to Balsall Common
Bus - regularity
Bus - unreliable. Bicycle - cycle lanes not good enough. Also pedalling up Meriden Hill. Train - No direct links and have to use car to get to station!

Bus drivers speeding puts me off using the buses, especially the 82 bus
Bus routes do not accommodate own lifestyle. Train requires another form of transport to get to the station
Bus service not adequate, too long before a bus turns up. Then half hour wait, if there are no hold ups or break downs
Bus services NE / SW poor
Bus timetable is limited, 82 stops only to Solihull
Bus tops too far from home to be able to walk to; Walking - no footpaths on Fillongley Road
Bus, the current service is not reliable and can't be used if there are time restraints on travel.
Buses not turning up
Busy road with no cycle lanes
Cars parked on the pavements
Coordinated buses to meet train times in Hampton in Arden / Berkswell
Currently don't qualify for bus pass but if I had pass I would use bus more
Cycle lanes, maintained footpaths - both cases horrendous speed of vehicles in village & surrounding road. Also HGV's roaring and taking up road space
Cycle paths
Doesn't go regularly enough or to concert location
Doesn't prevent
Frequency of Solihull bus and no bus to Balsall common
I have ticked these boxes for the reason that in the future I may not be able to drive
I know Meriden is popular with cyclists but I don't think the village roads are particularly safe - some speed control measures such as speed bumps would help cut speeds down to safer levels
Improved services, especially to Balsall Common
Lack of cycle lanes, more/improved footpaths
Lanes dangerous for walkers, cyclists
Lifestyle
Limited places to reach
More reliable buses
No bus close to home on the Fillongley Road
No cycle paths for safe cycling that I know I live on the outskirts and there is no pavement after the A45 bridge
No service to Solihull on a Sunday (82) and no bus to Coventry for Millison's wood residents
No train station, I have always thought a very small train station would be beneficial to the village as a lot of people don't work in Meriden now as well as young parents that don't drive, and a train is an easier way to access places further afield.
None
None of the above
Not available when I want to use it - evenings and weekends
Not frequent enough, no bus to Balsall Common
Nothing about Meriden
Paths on Fillongley Rd too narrow for kids to cycle on / no cycle lanes anywhere. Traffic too fast to allow cycles on roads for kids.
Roads, both in terms of maintenance (straight mile) as attitude of drivers - speeding
Rural - but that's why we live here!

Safety in lanes, cycle paths needed
Satisfied with present arrangements
School run
Shops, family, meal/drinks, friends
Solihull 82 bus should run every 1/2 hour
Some dedicated cycle paths would be nice
Sometimes dangerous to walk, no pavements, roads too narrow or need repairs
Street lighting in winter on Birmingham road between Meriden and Millisons wood is very poor.
Surrounded by A45 or pot holed roads making cycling dangerous
Taxis are hard to get sometimes; Bus - no Sunday service for No. 82
The bus stops are too far for me to walk to; a mobility vehicle is the only way I could get there
The bus timetable from Birmingham (B'Ham Intl) can be unpredictable, with no stop at Millisons wood, and no service to connect with last train home from Birmingham
The road get very busy and dangerous
The roads are too fast and too busy
Timetable restrictions
To Coventry, Birmingham and airport
Too much traffic through the village makes the pavements and roads dangerous for bikes, walking and driving
Traffic drives too quickly around village especially Fillongley Road - would like children to cycle more but doesn't feel safe; Bus - need a bus to Balsall Common
Traffic speed
Train - access to station at Balsall Common; Taxibus - don't know much about this service
Train would be convenient for Birmingham
Transport availability sufficient
Walking - too far to walk to work; Bicycle - routes to neighbouring villages & towns are unsafe
Would be helpful to have a bus to Berkswell train station

Q46a - If an improved bus service is needed tell us how it should be improved.
Reinstate the bus stop Millison Wood route on to Coventry
Better Nuneaton service
Better services to Millisons Wood e.g. go to Coventry
More routes
900 Service through west to east. (Millisons Wood)
The question should be answered by the people that use it.
Better information on timetables - especially at Birmingham International
We have an excellent bus service
All buses to pick up in Millison's wood
Buses maintaining a safe speed through the village
Drivers slowing down and keeping to the speed limit
No improvement required
Route with stop nearer Becks Lane
900 to come down to Millisons Wood like it used to

Bus drivers drive too fast
Would like to travel direct to Knowle
Bus drivers should drive to speed limits
Real time information
Need of bus to Balsall Common surgery for many people
Regular bus users tell me that frequently timings are bad
Improved Sunday services to Solihull, more links to Nuneaton
Bus service should return to Millisons wood from Birmingham
No Sunday service for No. 82, 900 to service Millsons Wood
Later time in and out of Solihull for night out (Fri/Saturday)
Bus service to university, Kenilworth & Leamington
Evening and Sunday service to/from Solihull
Some means of being informed if Solihull bus is very late or if has been cancelled
Night services from Birmingham - Coventry, late evening services Solihull
Buses to nearest shopping centre r Cannon Park
Quicker services and on time
More frequent
Fine as it is

Q48a - If YES, how could traffic flow be improved? Other
20 mph road hatching and restrictions at key areas, around the shops and school especially
20mph speed limit around the green, Main Road as far as Leys Lane and Fillongley Road beyond school
Better parking for school traffic
But I think any more traffic will to us over the edge any the roads will become a problem.
Current speed limits are fine but not enforced.
Delivery vehicles restricted through built up areas
Don't build any more houses! Encourage walking to school
Drivers speed through Meriden by the duck pond, but unsure how to prevent this
Enforcement of speed limit on Fillongley Road
HGV & weight width limits on roads in and around village
I live opposite the Strawberry Bank - the noise from traffic is loud so investing in acoustic glass
Idiots driving at 30 mph in 50 zones causing hazards
Improve parking facilities
Lower weight limit on lanes and enforced
More parking facilities around Meriden green shops
More policing might deter the local kids from thinking Meriden is a race track
More wardens to catch people who park on double yellow line. Like in Solihull.
Need pedestrian crossing on Fillongley Road (& Main Road near bus stop)
Nobody adheres to speed limit through village especially the buses & travelling down Leys Lane
One way system along Leys Lane, Meriden
Parking at school can be problematic and must be frustrating for residents
Pedestrian crossings

Pelican crossing and speed camera on Fillongley Road to serve School/Nursery & improve safety
Re-route HGV traffic from village green area i.e. quarry vehicles
Showell Lane, like a speed way - we are frightened to walk
Specific speeding problem on Fillongley Road up to school
Speed bumps
Speed bumps, cameras
Speed cameras on Fillongley Road
Speed cameras on Fillongley Road & traffic warden at school
Speed cameras through the village
Speed cameras, bypass.
Speed humps in Fillongley Road between Main Road and the school and the other side of the school
Speed humps needed. Most definitely should introduce traffic calming measures such as rumble strips
Speed humps, block Leys Lane so it is no longer a cut through
Speed limits in the village are frequently ignored and need to be enforced, speed cameras
Stop Fillongley road being a 'bikers' dream
Stop or reduce heavy vehicles using the village as a short cut
Stop residents from across the road from parking in the Meriden shops
The markings on the road leading from main road to Berkswell road encourage drivers to cut the corner
Traffic lights / Pedestrian/Pelican Crossing on Fillongley Road near shops

Q49 - If you have mobility issues, what would make it easier for you to get around Meriden?
By car stop people parking in village shops for more than 30 mins
Clear the paths to and fro
Mother in law finds heavy door at post office difficult to get her pension
Adequate facilities
Restrict parking on side of main road by bus stops and the green by the shops. Install traffic lights by The Bulls Head.
More parking
People not parking on pavement near the shops
Improved footpath maintenance
Decent doctors surgery
Being able to park at the local shops - and disability spaces
My mother-in-law now lives here; better pavements, make all shops accessible
Mobility scooter
Pavements better maintained
Insufficient parking for shops
Improve foot paths
Paths that are level for a possible mobility scooter
Better parking for shops
Dustmen to place wheelie bins back on people's property cannot get past when all over pavements have to ride scooter on roads!! Which is scary
Cycle paths

Drop pavement on the green; opposite Maxstoke come entrance
Better quality dropped curbs
Parking
900 return bus out of Birmingham doesn't go through Millsons Wood
Resist development to keep traffic off the road
Wider pavements, more pedestrian crossings, more thought for slow pedestrians

Q50 - If money was available to invest in infrastructure, where should this be spent? Other
Footpaths, which in some places are very poor
Cycle paths
Flood defences
Rubbish dropped on our beautiful lanes
More Green Belt plans and protection
Parking
Landline phone (often no signal or faulty line)
See Parish plan design statement
HS2
Twenty Plenty's Fillongley Road, Main Road, Leys Lane
Zebra crossing Fillongley Rd by shops
Hampton Road
Flooding from drains on Main road near Bull's head
New surgery & enhanced village hall
Pot holes
Traffic calming on Fillongley Road
Meriden CE primary school
Slower traffic in village

Q51a - Which of the following do you think that the Plan should aim to improve? Other
Litter and dumping
Current allotment provision is appropriate
Millisons Wood has virtually no speed humps, Meriden has one every 40 yards on both sides
Green Belt / Crossing on Fillongley Rd
Floral displays in community areas
Making Meriden a smoke free zone
Very large trees sited close to bungalows need checking for safety
Cannot park by shops
I personally think the village is well provided with the majority of items
Post Office needs to be maintained, postal services are haphazard
Sports facility to have coffee shop or kiosk for Mums to meet

Q52a - Do you think parking facilities need improving? If you have answered "YES" to this question please tell us where you think additional parking might be provided.

To stop people parking for all day, as parking would be easier if there were restrictions on time you can park. Never able to park at shops as people park cars all day

No idea

Around the green

All round shops

Parking could be made easier if sports ground car park was made larger to take extra vehicles

Remove double yellow lines opposite shops

Around the village green

You need to find a way to limit time spent parking at village shops so people going out of the village to work don't park there all day and get public transport / lifts!

Widen the road outside the shops to double parking spaces

Meriden shops. Limit waiting time and enforce it

The more spaces available only get used by people leaving their cars all day and going onto work via bus or train. The pull in on Main Road, by shops, is full by 8.30. It is being used as a car park, so no one shopping has a space

Not so much additional, more management of existing e.g.: Service Rd on Green = parking 1 to 2 hr max

Back of shops. Should be a sign to indicate the parking area in the recreation grounds.

In front of the shops

No right turn into Service Road near shops from Meriden roundabout. Plus double yellow lines covering more of Fillongley Rd. Encouragement to park in the recreational park.

Darlaston Court Gardens

London for all the new planned building plots.

In my road there is no space to park at all. People have to park on verges otherwise road is unpassable. As parking is on the pavement and very limited, streets cannot be cleaned and refuse trucks cannot empty bins. There is space for parking to be created.

I think the green grass outside the shops should be taken up to provide extra parking for shoppers therefore improving business for shop owners and so customers aren't tempted to shop elsewhere because they can't park most times

Birmingham Road towards Coronation Island. Permit parking residents only. Waiting time/parking restrictions on all day parking on Main Road by green

By the school

There should be timed parking outside the shops, and on the main road side of the green - cars are left by bus users all day

Resident parking in centre of village - too many cars are parked all day

On the green

Parking is difficult at the centre shops, visibility of cars coming from the island is poor when leaving the slip road in front of shops due to cars parked on Main Road

The green in Meriden

Parking around village stores

Near the green - on Birmingham Road in place of much of present double yellow lines

Parking at shops in modern village

Very often I need to go round 5 or 6 times before I can park near the shops

Clear the Maxstoke Lane area that is used by dog walkers and use that

Not sure but more required near shops

Outside of the school as it is becoming dangerous & parents park on criss cross/bus area

I am unable to indicate alternative parking; I think the shops attract cars and people living close must struggle to park by their homes. Is there any space behind the shops?
Near the Green for easier access to the shops
School and shops
In the area around the village green
Still trying to think...
Near shops and post office
The green in Meriden
Birmingham Road - before you leave the village
Not on the green
Very congested at times near shops. The old caravan lock up site could be used as a pay and display car park?
If the drivers would use spoers car park, instead of double yellow lines!!
Shop owners should not park outside the shops as it limits public parking
I wish I knew
Improved enforcement of parking time limits
Fairfield Road opposite the Croft Road - road up to green patch by garages. Could take quite a few cars
I cannot think of anywhere other than cars being parked a long way from required facilities
Widen the road at the shops so cars can park diagonally
Somewhere around the green
Near Meriden steps
Near old Shirley's garage
Inadequate around "the green". Curtail all day parking in that area
Don't know
Parking outside flats opposite duck pond dangerous
It can be tight parking near the green but I'd rather have the green than more parking. Doesn't take long to walk to
Village shops
The local shops could do with extra parking and somewhere for the people who run the shops to park. They seem to always park outside their shops which reduces the parking for people trying to use the shops
Especially by the school
That is the problem - where! Only a few shops in Meriden, but sometimes there are no parking spaces available
Existing wide pavement from Lloyds pharmacy to Toms butchers to be narrowed to allow parking at angle; Consider feasibility of something similar opposite duck pond (flats have insufficient parking); old caravan/garage near roundabout to include parking for shops
Road is very narrow for parking by the shops - especially for disabled people. There are no disabled bays
The parking bays outside of the flats in Alspath Road - much of the time people have to park on the pavement whereas much of that pavement is unused by pedestrians so another two or three spaces could probably be authorised
Fillongley Road
Very small village for all the cars we get
Convert green verge on Fillongley Road/Alspath road, by the school
Cannot get parked at the local shops. Salon owner always parked outside so as a customer I cannot get parked. 'Skip' been outside far too long and prevented parking.

Greater use of Sports Centre parking and incorporation of a small car park in ex-Petrol station development in Birmingham Road.
Random double yellow lines throughout village. Needs be reviewed
Reduce parking to 30 minutes adjacent to the Village Green on Main Road, people are parking up and catching the bus and leaving the car all day.
Near the flats next to the Manor hotel - I often have to park on the Bull's Head car park, Waterfall Lane or even outside the shops on the village green when there's a wedding at the hotel. Despite several complaints to the hotel (regarding noise levels at weekends as well as parking), the number of attendees of functions there force me to park elsewhere and then retrieve my car very late at night.
not necessarily additional but the all-day parking of bus commuters on Main Road/ opposite shops
More spaces are needed by the shops you could create a cut in on the green just 5 more spaces would be a help.
Particularly school drop off and pick up. Active policing of illegal parking near shops
Around school at drop off times, and in front of shops on green
With new development and near shops, could be widened?
there needs to be clearer signage for the car park in the park, to encourage people to park there rather than outside people's houses we need to actively prevent people from using the green and surrounding area as a car park for when they go on holiday abroad

Q53 - If facilities for young people need improving say how and where you think this could be achieved?
Don't know
Sports centre
Pretty good already with sports ground, but a youth club perhaps.
Actually use central building for park goers. EG Sell ice creams, drinks during the summer months, allow toilets to be used by park goers. Costa Coffee like Balsall Common. Use pf playing fields for teams should be chargeable.
Not on main roads to allow more building. There is nothing for teens to do.
More access to safe spaces for young people in the village to go to. Youth clubs etc. / internet cafes.
I think the park is adequate enough if parents want to do other activities there are plenty if you travel elsewhere. The village isn't big enough to house everything!!
More social/leisure opportunities out of school, all age groups
Invite local public houses / hotels to develop clubs/discos etc. for youngsters
Millison wood would benefit from a more structured pathway and points of interest to encourage more family usage e.g. bird boxes, bird watching hut, nature trail
N/A
Greater use of the excellent sports ground
Better evening transport/buses t and from Balsall Common and Solihull
Not sure local facilities need improving. Solihull centre has adequate facilities
Clubs
A playgroup Mon - Fri for children up to 3
Netball club/training
Local youth clubs for different ages to get them off the streets - too many kids playing in the street
Improved sport facilities at the park and school, if possible
Mirror existing sports pavilion for teenagers and include local youngsters in planning and development (9+) (Top Juniors Project)
Improve facilities for older children/teenagers at the Sports Park e.g. skate park,

climbing equipment, track. Requirement for recreational area/meeting place at Millison's Wood
More advertising of what is available; village web page/social media
A youth coffee shop
Clubs - social, sports, voluntary services to encourage teenagers to support the elderly in village
At the primary school or the Methodist Hall
It is one thing providing - but what an adult thinks and the young want are quite different
I don't really know how the village hall is utilised, but maybe something there?
No area currently for social interaction
No easy answer to this, but young people need to be involved in the village & respect what is done for the good of the area
Sports classes, outdoor gym for free use
Free sporting activities for children aged 8-16 (maybe as samplers)
There is nothing for them to do in Meriden
Provide what young people want anywhere they want it to be - it's their choice
No more building work
Cafe's, youth clubs, gyms, takeaways
More facilities for teenagers/young adults, indoor facilities for families to use
Facilities for teenagers, e.g. skate park within the existing park, swing etc., for older children. Cycle lanes to encourage children to safely use their bikes
Should improve but I am not an expert in this field
Ask them
I think since the development of the park the children in this village finally have somewhere to go and burn off energy in a fun place, when I was growing up here (I'm 21) we had barely anything to do, so we all became trouble/very bored. Also coming from a home with no drivers before me, I was pretty much stuck here. This puts me back to my earlier point of a train station, buses to Solihull stop very early and Coventry can be more trouble than it's worth, if there had been a train station when I was growing up I know my whole peer group would have had the opportunity of something to do. In saying that, Meriden was always labelled as the "old people's village" so this didn't leave much room for teenagers. I personally would have liked somewhere to be able to sit and chill out, like a hub, I used to hate having to sit on kerbs or hang around the village. I also think the park should be open later, CCTV and very strict rules for the few people that will try and ruin it should be in place but for the majority of people I think it would just be nice to have somewhere to go. I also think a youth club should definitely be started. It's a shame the community centre was turned into housing as that would've been the perfect place for teenagers if it had been refurbished.
Whilst our children are young at the moment, we can't really see what's on offer for teens NOTE: As we can't enter the household numbers on the next page here they are: 2 children under 16 2 adults aged 41-65
More activities at the park. A youth club?
Clubs instead of pubs!!
Need to introduce a place for children to attend and socialise in a safe environment like a social club, something for secondary aged children as the facilities for them in the village now is non-existent. Especially during the winter months.

Q54 - The space below is for you to make any other comments on improving community facilities.

More help for elderly people. As Meriden has a large amount of OAP's living here

No comment

Development of shops / restaurants on the green. Substantial investment in doctors surgery, facilities required

Have already mentioned that there should be one toilet block built. I suffer from bladder trouble and very often need this facility before travelling on public transport, can you help please

Tennis courts - how to book and review pricing (peak/off peak rates) share information - set up website as not always aware of activities and utilisation of facilities

Meriden looks tired compared to Solihull

More daytime classes - dancing, keep fit etc.

Local supermarket should be main chain e.g. M&S, Sainsbury's, Waitrose

Get an active parish council. The current one is useless.

I think there should be more rental property built in Meriden as there is far too little what with people having bought a lot of it. Definitely need more parking in the village outside the shops, can't see the point of having a huge piece of grass taking up all of that space when there is hardly any parking for shoppers and shop workers / owners it's ridiculous!

More support from SMBC to improve services such as litter, refuse collection, collecting grass when mowing verges, improved drainage to eliminate flooding. Better maintenance of Meriden Road. Footpath to Berkswell Road. Re-routing of articulated vehicles using Meriden to access home farm container storage. Decrease of HGV's cutting through Meriden

Heavy vehicles are creating problems with the roads - more pot holes are appearing and the speed they travel on Hampton Lane and Birmingham Road is going to cause an accident; better policing of these roads is required and a stop to the quarry lorries should be considered

Meriden I feel is a last resort for Solihull Council - as I go around I see trees, hedges etc. all cut and tidy but Meriden is left for months to get over-grown, walkways are left without cleaning. Come on Parish council make sure your contractors do the jobs we pay them for

I feel that the community centre has been lost, as the pavilion is only being used for sports and the village hall is too far for some people. There are no other meeting places outside of the village hall. The pavilion should be extended with more meeting space and a bigger kitchen

We do need crossing in Fillongley Road by shops. Also traffic warden etc. to stop yellow line parking

We have a great community and if people are made aware

A bus to Balsall Common would be useful

Very difficult to get appointments at local surgery, 2-3 week wait is common. Out of hours doctor's service is inadequate - have to rely on doctors from the other side of Birmingham. Need for a defibrillator is essential in the village, there to me in Balsall Common. Improved signposting to adjacent areas, many requests from visitors to the village for direction.

The community facilities are all in place and many are run by volunteers. New residents should support these facilities and also volunteer. The joy of living in a rural location is the simpler life it affords. The so-called 'facilities' this survey recommends are more suited to towns and those who seek them would be happier residing in a town

A new community centre - perhaps replacing village hall?

Due to constant pressures on the village, I feel that the Parish council needs to arrange a meeting for the village - it feels that many residents are unaware of the constant pressures on the village with housing and recycling plants etc. threatening our way of

life and greenbelt space. We need a portable defibrillator in the village, more poo bins in village especially Leys lane

I must admit I was a little worried about the leisure facilities, but they seem to have been implemented fairly well. Keeping them up to scratch should be a focus

Maybe to make Meriden a tourist destination therefore ensuring its look and feel for many years - undoubtedly increased pressure to change

Somebody stated that if there is no parking spaces available outside Meriden green shops permission has been given to park in the children's sports and playground over the road - no notices to say this

It would be nice to have some different restaurants and take aways

I think the village is run very well and the parish is doing a good job. Law and order is not too bad but the local villains do seem to set away with periodic burglaries - I don't report anything anymore as the police are clearly not interested. The problem is this runs the risk of people taking the law into their own hands

For us to stay in the village the school needs to improve to a good standard as a minimum

Add non-grass alternative to the playground to prevent it having to close during winter when it becomes too muddy

We need to concentrate on making Meriden a better and safer place for the existing residents to live in rather than trying to expand the village. The facilities we have are not suitable for a greater influx of people and the local school will also suffer if there is an influx of new families. Meriden C of E is currently a pleasant village school and an expanding the village will threaten this. We need to hold onto our village status and stop trying to become something bigger. Balsall Common is a good example of how not to do it as it can't possibly be classed as a village anymore and we should embrace our history and retain our identity rather than ruin it just for the sake of change for changes sake. Improve what we have and stop trying to make Meriden something it's not and doesn't need to be.