

SURVEY RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The survey was carried out between July 29th and October 5th 2021, with questionnaires delivered to 600 households. 278 questionnaires were completed (102 hard copies and 176 online), a response rate of 46.3% of homes.

Section 1. HOUSING

There are 600 homes in the Parish. 17% have 2 or fewer bedrooms, 35% have 3 bedrooms, 44% have 4 or more bedrooms. A third of all homes are bungalows. 62 homes are let at affordable rents (80% or less of the going rate for Caythorpe).

1. Are new homes needed? 269 responses

Yes	147	54.7%
No	122	45.4%

2. If yes, what new homes are needed? Tick all that apply. 154 responses

More 2 bed homes	83	53.9%
More 3 bed homes	79	51.3%
More homes with 4 or more bedrooms	16	10.4%
More bungalows	38	24.7%
Apartments	12	7.8%
Sheltered housing with warden	30	19.5%
Affordable rented homes (Council or Housing association)	63	40.9%
Affordable homes to buy	109	70.8%

3. What planning applications should be permitted? (subject to planning rules)

Tick all that apply. 254 responses

Extensions/upgrades to existing homes	234	92.1%
Infill housing on land/gardens in the villages	107	42.1%
Infill housing with no off-road parking	18	7.1%
New housing estate with no affordable homes ⁺	15	5.9%
New housing estate with affordable homes ⁺	81	31.9%

4. + If yes, where should they be built

Only 96 respondents in Q3 suggested that new housing developments were necessary as part of a future housing strategy. Of the relatively small number of people responding to the question of where new housing developments should be located, nearly a half (27) suggested the field adjacent to Back Lane. Other sites were put forward (see below), each of being supported by no more than three respondents. Nine respondents made rather more vague suggestions along the lines of 'wherever land is available'.

Back Lane	27
Playing field	3
Glebe Field	2
Field in Frieston	3
Field adjacent to church	3
Multiple(Back Lane, nr allotments, Frieston field)	2
Field adjacent to Love Lane	3
Wherever land available to villages	9
Land by allotments	1

Sherwood Rise	1
No idea	3

5. Would you support South Kesteven District Council in improving/extending council housing on land they already own? 263 responses

Yes	190	72.2%
No	75	28.5%

6. How many households do you know of that are looking for affordable rented homes in Caythorpe? 202 responses

None	169	83.6%
1-3 households	26	12.9%
More than 3	7	3.5%

7. Should new building work be carbon neutral? 263 responses

Yes	227	86.3%
No	36	13.7%

HOUSING SURVEY SUMMARY

Slightly less than half (45%) of respondents do not want any more housing built in the parish. Of the 55% who think more housing is needed, the majority are of the opinion that more 2 and 3 bedroomed homes and affordable homes (both rented and for sale) are required. Only 10 % think more large houses (4 or more bedrooms) are needed. 32% would support a new housing estate of affordable homes. Of those who offered a suggestion as to where these could be built, most favoured Back Lane as a possible site. There was wide agreement that any new housing should be carbon neutral.

Section 2. PARKING and ELECTRIC CARS

New petrol and diesel cars will be banned from 2030.

8. Is parking a problem in the village? 271 responses.

Yes	202	74.5%
No	69	25.5%

9. Do we need a public car park? 269 responses.

Yes	124	46.1%
No	145	53.9%

10. If yes, where? 113 responses

New site on Back Lane	40
Playing field	26
Extension to Back Lane layby	8
Empty site on South Parade	3
Other (suggested by less than 3 people)	15

11. Should charging points for electric cars be installed in the village? 267 responses.

Yes	178	66.7
No	89	33.3

12. If yes, how many charging points? 149 respondents.

About half of the survey participants made suggestions about the number of charging points required for electric cars. As can be seen most people suggested between 1-5 charging points. A significant minority suggested 10 or more charging points, one or two even indicating 100+, but several found making a fixed estimate hard to determine. As and when more electric vehicles appear on the roads it should become

easier to gauge what number of community charging points will be necessary, along with their charging specifications. As the results of the next question show, only around 7% of homes have no off-street parking, so most could have a charging point installed if necessary.

Charging points Respondents

1-2	37
3-5	58
6-9	12
10+	32
Difficult to determine	10

13. How many cars can park off-road at your home? 270 responses

Nearly everyone replied to this question. 84% of respondents were able to park at least two cars off-road at their home, but 7% said that no cars could park off-road and a further 8% were able to park only one car off-road at their home. This means that around one in seven households are unable to park any or only one car off-road at their address.

No. of cars	No. of homes	% of homes
0	20	7.4
1	22	8.1
2	51	18.9
3	60	22.2
4	57	21.1
5 or more	53	19.6
non-numeric	7	2.6

14. How many cars must park on-street at your home? 258 responses.

Slightly fewer people responded to this question than the previous one but the results point in the same direction. In 83% of cases it was reported that no cars needed to park on-street at the home address, with 7% saying that one car had to park on the road and a further 8% indicating that two or more cars had to do so.

No of cars	No. of Homes	% of homes
0	215	83.3
1	19	7.4
2	8	3.1
3 or more	14	5.4
non-numeric	2	0.8

15. What off-road parking is needed for new homes? 272 responses.

It is not essential	14	5.2%
At least one per home	81	29.8%
At least two per home	160	58.8%
At least one per bedroom	19	7.0%

PARKING and ELECTRIC CARS SUMMARY

Despite 75% of respondents agreeing that parking is a problem in Caythorpe, 54% did not think that a public car park is necessary. The minority that favoured a car park mostly thought that it should be located on Back Lane or the playing field.

Public access charging points for electric cars were supported by 67% of respondents, but there was no real consensus on the number required. Around 7% said they had no off-road parking, which could be around 40 houses in the villages lacking the opportunity to charge an electric car at home.

Around 15% of homes have less than 2 parking places and had to park some vehicles on the road. 59% of respondents said that new housing should have at least 2 off-road parking places.

Section 3. TRANSPORT

16. How do you travel beyond the villages? Tick all that apply. 273 responses

Answer Choices	To work or school	To shop	To hospital	Leisure trips
Car or van, sole use	114 (41.8%)	193 (70.7%)	160 (58.6%)	201 (73.6%)
Car or van, shared use	43 (15.8%)	83 (30.4%)	59 (21.6%)	105 (38.5%)
Bus	35 (12.8%)	57 (20.9%)	21 (7.7%)	50 (18.3%)
Call Connect	4 (1.5%)	3 (1.1%)	3 (1.1%)	3 (1.1%)
Motorcycle or scooter	5 (1.8%)	5 (1.8%)	2 (0.7%)	15 (5.5%)
Bicycle	9 (3.3%)	21 (7.7%)	1 (0.4%)	48 (17.6%)
Lifts from others	21 (7.7%)	15 (5.5%)	19 (7.0%)	48 (17.6%)
On foot	36 (13.2%)	104 (38.1%)	2 (0.7%)	67 (24.5%)
Mobility scooter	1 (0.4%)	4 (1.5%)	1 (0.4%)	5 (1.8%)
Taxi	4 (1.5%)	3 (1.1%)	10 (3.7%)	32 (11.7%)

17. Which one of the above do you use most often? 246 responses.

Bicycle	1	0.4%
Bus	11	4.5%
Call connect	1	0.4%
Car or van	218	88.6%
Walking	15	6.1%

18.What is your opinion of the bus service? 247 responses

	Good	Neither good nor poor	Poor	Response Total
Frequency of buses	166 (69.2%)	60 (25.0%)	14 (5.8%)	240
Times of first buses	132 (60.8%)	74 (34.1%)	11 (5.1%)	217
Times of last buses	53 (24.8%)	72 (33.6%)	89 (41.6%)	214
Reliability of service	134 (59.0%)	81 (35.7%)	12 (5.3%)	227
Value for money of fares	67 (31.2%)	90 (41.9%)	58 (27.0%)	215
Number of bus shelters	121 (52.8%)	89 (38.9%)	19 (8.3%)	229

19. Are there any bus routes other than Lincoln to Grantham that you would use if available? 160 responses, 123 offered suggestions, 118 skipped this question.

	number	% of 278
none or did not answer	155	55.8
Destination Nottingham	6	2.2
Destination Sleaford	78	28.1
Destination Newark	93	33.5
Other destinations	7	2.5

20. To help pedestrians and people with impaired mobility, do we need more ramps/dropped kerbs at junctions? 245 responses.

Yes	117	47.8%
No	128	52.2%

21. If yes, where? 89 responses

There were both general and specific suggestions. Among the former, 40 people highlighted the need for more dropped kerbs by services like the GP surgery, Spar Shop and pubs and a further 15 simply said '*where they are needed*'. There were suggestions from 3 people for dropped kerbs at the entrance to Kings Hill, with a further 3 suggesting opposite the church. 11 people said that most or all road junctions should have dropped kerbs. 14 people made 'other' varied suggestions and 3 more said they did not know what to suggest.

TRANSPORT SUMMARY

The vast majority of respondents rely on cars for their transport needs. Around 20% use the bus at least some of the time but only 4.5% use it most often. Only 13% use buses to get to work, possibly because the times of the first and last buses are unsuitable for many workers. 38% go on foot for shopping, presumably to the Spar, but it seems cars are used for shopping further afield. 56% did not want any additional bus routes, but the remainder would like access to Sleaford, Newark or both by bus. Call Connect and taxis are rarely used. Motorcycles are used more for recreation than for practical purposes.

The majority did not consider that more dropped kerbs are needed, and there were varied opinions from the remainder as to where they should be sited.

Section 4. DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

22. How good is your mobile signal? Tick one. 272 responses.

Very good	45	16.54%
Usually good	126	46.32%
Sometimes poor	71	26.10%
Very poor	30	11.03%

23. Would you support more phone masts in the parish? 262 responses

Yes	164	62.60%
No	98	37.40%

24. How do you rate your broadband speed and reliability? 268 responses.

	Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Poor
Download speed	29 (10.82%)	109 (40.67%)	95 (35.45%)	35 (13.06%)
Reliability	25 (9.43%)	89 (33.58%)	99 (37.36%)	52 (19.62%)

25. If you use broadband for business in the parish, how does the quality of service affect you? 162 responses.

Aids my business	Doesn't affect me	Impairs my business
33 (20.4%)	104 (64.2%)	25 (15.4%)

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY SUMMARY

Only 17% of respondents get good, reliable mobile phone reception, and 63% would support more masts. Similarly only around 10% of respondents rated their broadband service as excellent for both speed and reliability. The results indicate that connectivity is quite variable within the parish, and that most people cannot fully rely on these services.

Section 5. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE

26. Green Spaces. Which of the following would you like to see protected? Tick all that apply. 265 responses.

Small green by St Vincent's Church*	248	93.58%
St Vincent's church yard	244	92.08%
Sports field/children's play area	255	96.23%
The Glebe field (off Waterloo Road)	143	53.96%
Diocese triangle of land by allotments	170	64.15%
Frieston Green*	236	89.06%
Frieston Lakes**	204	76.98%

* Listed as of historic importance by LCC

** Listed as a local wildlife site under SKDC local plan policy EN2

The school field is protected by Sports England

27. Any other sites within or close to the villages? (Please add). 72 responses.

Within the villages there are small areas of grass and trees, mostly at road junctions. 28 responses mentioned one or more of these sites. There were 18 responses that identified various fields adjacent to the built-up area, including along Back Lane. An area with remnants of ridge-and furrow cultivation near Millfield Cres. was mentioned twice, as was the area known as Cragg's Farm, an open space between Church Lane and Chapel Lane.

28. Landscape and the countryside. Tick all that apply. 270 responses.

Is the rural character of the parish important to you?	254	94.07%
Are the countryside and views important to you?	258	95.56%
Should we plant more trees in the parish?	198	73.33%
Should we have an area for nature within the villages?	178	65.93%
Do you use the local public footpaths?	241	89.26%
Are the footpaths well maintained/easy to use?	140	51.85%

29. Do you have any suggestions for improving how we look after or use the countryside around us? 121 responses.

There were many different suggestions about how best to look after the surrounding countryside. Top of the list was improved footpath and stile maintenance.

	Times suggested
Better footpath and stile maintenance	40
Litter	22
Protection of verges, hedges and wildlife	18
More green spaces for wildlife and leisure	11
Better footpath signage	11
More waste/dog poo bins	11
Countryside code education	8
Improve accessibility-kissing gates, not stiles	7
Better maintenance of hedges and green spaces	5
Dedicated cycle paths	1

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

The rural character of the parish is important to almost all respondents. There is a desire to minimise any changes that would increase the area under development or reduce the value of the land to nature and

wildlife. Even small green spaces within the villages should be preserved. 66% are in favour of creating a nature reserve or similar facility within the immediate area of the villages.

Respondents were critical of the maintenance of footpaths that allow access to the countryside, and some were critical of landowners for not keeping them clear. Several mentioned the difficulty the less agile and large dogs have in getting over stiles. There were suggestions that the parish residents could do more to improve the state of the paths.

Section 6. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

30. Are the Conservation Areas important to the character of the villages? 269 responses.

Yes	260	96.7%
No	9	3.4%

31. Should infill building within, or visible from, the Conservation Areas, be allowed? 268 responses

Yes	11	4.1%
Yes if it blends with existing buildings	180	67.2%
No	77	28.7%

32. Should historic features be preserved at all costs? 261 responses

Yes	199	76.3%
No	62	23.8%

SUMMARY

Almost all respondents felt that the conservation areas were vital to the character of Caythorpe and Frieston, and three quarters of respondents said that the historic features should be preserved at all costs. There was recognition, however, that there would probably be a demand for infill construction in or close to the conservation areas, and this was acceptable to 2/3 of respondents, provided that it was compatible with existing buildings.

Section 7. THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

33. Village Hall. There are several options for the future of the village hall. Please place them in order of preference. 265 responses.

A weighted average was calculated for each (3 points for a first choice, 2 for second, 1 for third), and the number of first choices counted. The results were:

Options	1 st choice	Percent	weighted average
Keep the hall as it is, with maintenance and improvements as necessary.	75	28.3%	522
Make the hall carbon neutral: solar panels, air source heat pumps and battery storage. (Payback time about 20yrs)	63	23.8%	504
Aim to build a new hall with a car park if land and finance become available in the future.	127	48%	563

34. Child Care (Tick if Yes) 188 responses

	Yes		No	
	Number	%	Number	%
Do we need a day nursery in the village?	127	67.6%	61	32.4%
Would you use it?	21	13.4%	136	86.2%
If yes, for how many children?*	See below.			

*This question was interpreted in 2 ways:

If we need a day nursery, for how many children? Answers ranged from 10 – 40.

If you would use it, for how many children? Answers totalled 18 children.

35 . Facilities in Caythorpe. Which of the following do you believe are important to the parish and to you? Please tick all that apply. 268 responses.

Facility	To the Parish		To me	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Primary school	257	95.9%	53	19.8%
Pre-school	249	92.9%	34	12.7%
Children's centre	208	77.6%	27	10.1%
GP surgery	245	91.4%	238	88.8%
Spar shop	245	91.4%	233	86.9%
Post Office in Spar Shop	242	90.3%	231	86.2%
Hairdresser	196	73.1%	80	29.9%
Village Hall	256	95.5%	145	54.1%
Playing Field	251	93.7%	174	64.9%
Children's play area at playing field	249	92.9%	110	41.0%
Sports and social club (pavilion)	234	87.3%	89	33.2%
Pubs	240	89.6%	191	71.3%
St Vincent's Church	249	92.9%	106	39.6%
Burial ground	247	92.2%	86	32.1%
Allotments	239	89.2%	39	14.6%
Travelling library	204	76.1%	33	12.3%
News and Views	231	86.2%	166	61.9%
Woodward's Garage	223	83.2%	151	56.3%
Care Home	218	81.3%	26	9.7%
Charisma Home Care Services	169	63.1%	20	7.5%

36. Please list any other facilities you think are important. 58 responses.

Answers fell into 3 groups:

A. Facilities that we already have that were not on the list above.

	No of times mentioned
Fish and chip van	10
Fresh fish delivery van	7
Butcher delivery	4
Defibrillators	3
Bus service	3
Public phone box	2

B. Non-business facilities that we lack, mentioned by more than 1 person.

	No of times mentioned
More youth clubs and activities	7
Non-prescription items for sale in GP pharmacy	3

C. New businesses that respondents wish to have. These responses have been amalgamated with Q38.

THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT SUMMARY

Caythorpe has a good selection of facilities. Three stood out as important both to the parish as a whole and also to the individuals who responded: the GP surgery, the Spar shop and the Post Office within it. The most valued facility, however, was the primary school at 96%, even though only 20% of respondents felt it is important to them personally.

The village lacks a nursery for the youngest children. Of the 188 who answered the question, around 2/3 thought that one was necessary.

Regarding the village hall, the majority of respondents would opt for a new village hall on a site large enough to include a car park. Second choice would be to maintain the current hall, but fewer than 1/4 favoured making alterations to make it carbon neutral.

Section 8. BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

About 300 people work in Caythorpe and Frieston Parish.

38. Job opportunities. 209 responses.

	Yes		No	
	Number	%	Number	%
Are there enough job opportunities in the parish?	80	42.1%	110	57.9%
Are there enough job opportunities in nearby towns?	129	65.5%	68	34.5%
Is it easy to commute to work outside the parish?	144	70.2%	61	29.8%

39. What new businesses would you like to see in the parish? 96 responses.

96 people made suggestions (some more than one) about new local businesses they would like to see. The question seems to have been interpreted largely in terms of shops and retail rather than the wider panoply of enterprises and infrastructure. For example, 30 people favoured a café/deli, 23 a bakery, 13 takeaway food (ethnic and other), 13 a butchers shop, 8 a fish and chip shop, and 2 a craft centre. A further 11 spoke of the need for a farm shop or of the importance of being able to get hold of locally grown fruit and vegetables. 'Others' (14) included individuals with a range of preferences including a vet, chiropractor, optician, podiatrist, gift/novelty shop and even a supermarket!

Light industrial or starter units were suggested by 11 people, these particular ideas sometimes linked to growing job opportunities for younger people.

SUMMARY OF BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

Although the majority of respondents think there are not enough job opportunities in the parish, there seem to be enough in the surrounding area. About 1/3 would like to see more businesses, mostly retail, and mostly food. The biggest demand was for a cafe/coffee shop.

40. AND FINALLY: If there was one change you could make in the parish, what would it be? 135 responses.

Responses can be grouped into a series of categories (figures in brackets refer to the number of comments for each theme).

Parking and congestion (18) continues to be seen as problematic, especially in the High Street. The following were typical statements:

- *More parking - High St is crazy.*
- *Better off-road car parking and restricted parking on High Street to allow buses and emergency vehicles easy access.*
- *Survey to establish how much on street parking is caused by commercial vehicles displacing private vehicles which could use off street spaces and causing obstructions, and introduce permit scheme.*

Reduction of speeding traffic and movement of heavy vehicles (17) both along the A607 and through the villages was expressed as a concern. The implication is that this would need to be followed up by enforcement. Some typical comments:

- *Reduce speeding traffic through Frieston. Reduce heavy traffic through Frieston.*
- *Reduce speed limit on A607 between the junction of Hough Rd, Frieston, and crossroads at the northern point of the parish.*
- *Traffic management (required) along Caythorpe High Street.*
- *Enforcement of the restrictions on heavy vehicles using Waterloo Road.*

Green/environmental propositions (14) were favoured to promote and preserve conservation. Some people simply made general statements about the community adopting eco-friendly policies and practices, whilst others had more specific suggestions like creating a nature park for everyone to enjoy, 're-wilding' areas to promote species diversity, ensuring that green spaces were not sold off to developers and improving access to the countryside. For example:

- *Create a nature park where people with little outside space could just sit and enjoy the natural world.*
- *Enforce conservation status, i.e. stop cutting down trees and removing hedges.*
- *improved footpaths, and management of green space.*
- *Embrace eco-friendly living.*
- *Some more 'wild' areas adjacent to the village edge rather than huge monoculture fields.*

More community events (13) at the village hall or playing field were called for. For some people these were linked to ideas about diversity, including culturally significant events like carol singing. For others there were pleas about having more activities (other than football and cricket) for youngsters and about giving younger people more of a voice in what they would like to see and control. For example:

- *Coming together at Christmas. Carol singing round the village.*
- *Maybe a better voice for the younger generations.*
- *Youth club - a place for teenagers to meet.*

Road improvements (10) were a concern with pothole repairs and rough road surfaces being persistent. There was some frustration that fixing these problems lay outside the parish council's sphere of responsibility.

- *Fix the roads, they are a disgrace and dangerous.*
- *Road repair budget to be transferred from LCC to the parish council.*
- *Repair sunken drain or whatever it is on the right when you come into Frieston. It's been an eyesore for well over a year.*

A new village hall on a new site (9) was proposed that was future-proofed, with some people suggesting integrated parking to remove congestion in the central part of Caythorpe. A new site was seen as opening up opportunities for an additional or alternative playing field or green space. Typical comments follow:

- *Sell the village hall! It's in the wrong place with poor design, facilities and access. It would fetch £500k with a developer - plenty to build a multi-purpose village/sports hall.*

- *Brand new village hall on a new site with dedicated parking, built to carbon-neutral specs. Important that it can cater for up to 150 people for bigger events/activities, with say two meeting rooms.*
- *I would move the village hall, social club and playing field into a combined area.*

More and diverse shops and facilities (8) were called for to make the central part of the village more of a hub. Suggestions included a craft shop/centre, café, bakery and larger premises to expand the provisions available.

Better public transport (6) was expressed in terms of an expanded service to Sleaford and Newark and also some local re-routing using Old Lincoln Road so as to reduce High Street congestion.

Closure of the recycling centre (6) was associated with removing unpleasant smells and noisy traffic.

Affordable homes (5) received some further support.

Other proposals received no more than three comments each but encompassed diverse issues like having cleaner air, more local job opportunities, reduced littering, better play equipment for children, an integrated playing field and social club committee, and more church services. There were several 'extraneous' suggestions that were either 'beyond the pale' like demolishing parts of the village or way beyond the powers of the parish council, like reducing council tax.

THE SURVEY POPULATION

Gender Male: 46% Female 54%

Age group. Tick one box.

	% this survey	% 2011 census
Aged under 18 years	5.8	5.4*
18-24	3.1	6.3
25-44	15.3	23.1
45-64	35.3	36.2
65 or over	40.6	28.9

*15-18 years

How long have you lived in the parish? 253 usable* responses. Average 19.2 years

How long have you lived in your present home? 255 usable* responses. Average 16.3 years

* 4 respondents answered '20+ years' and one 'All my life'

On the whole, do you like living here? 260 responses

Yes: 259. No: 1.