

A PREFACE

1 Introduction

The parish of Barton, 742 hectares (1,834 acres), consists mainly of a small compact village, three miles south-west of Cambridge, situated on the A603. Eighty-three percent of houses are owner occupied with some belonging to the local council including two clusters of warden-controlled bungalows for the older people. There are also seven bungalows for retired gardeners on the edge of the village managed by Perennial – Gardener’s Royal Benevolent Society. No immediate plans for major development in Barton are contained in S Cambs. Local Plan¹.

The population, 799 in 2001², has some younger families but consists largely of older people and a very small ethnic minority. There are approximately 9% of 0-10 year olds, 10% of 11-18, 44% of 19-59 and 38% over 60 years of age. A third of respondents work in Cambridge, 15% work at home, while at least 18% work further away within Cambridgeshire or beyond with 25% not in paid employment.

In the centre of the village there are a Post Office-cum-general store, shoe shop and hairdressers. Close by are a public house, a small Church of England primary school, village hall, playgroup building and the parish church of St Peter. Also in the central area of the village is a Baptist Church and a barns conversion complex of various small businesses. On the A603 are a garage, petrol station with shop and another public house. There is a recreation ground off High Street with a children’s play area, bowling green, tennis courts and football pitch. A doctor’s surgery and secondary school are in the neighbouring village of Comberton, two miles to the west of Barton.

History

A Saxon village was established in Barton on the line of the Roman Road called Akeman Street. The Domesday survey indicated a population of 31. Agriculture was the only industry for the village apart from coprolite mining in the 1860-70’s. Land was nearly all owned by colleges and one family, the Martins. New housing for Cambridge commuters led to growth between 1930-70, when Barton’s population reached 923 in 1971³ and has since slowly declined. St Peter’s Church dates back to the 12C but the style of the present building is pure 14C. Bird’s Farm, originally a late medieval hall, is the earliest surviving house in the village. Just south of the parish is the University Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory.

2 Why a Parish Plan?

Barton faces many challenges over the next few years on issues such as development, transport, crime and amenities. Members of the Parish Council attended presentations in 2002 on the Government’s Rural white paper, November 2000, entitled “Our Countryside

The Future” launching the concept of parish plans. Its official announcement came in July 2001, as a new initiative to help create a vibrant countryside for the future, to identify key facilities and services, to set out problems that need to be tackled and demonstrate how its distinctive character and features can be preserved. The preparation of a parish plan is one of the criteria needed to meet the new ‘Quality Parish Council Status.’ Parish councils with this status will get priority over those without when applying for grants. Therefore your parish council called a public meeting in February 2003 to explore the possibility of taking up this government initiative. Following the interest shown, a steering group was formed to implement the writing of a parish plan. A parish plan would be a general view by residents of how Barton might develop and what should be preserved over the next ten years. Such a plan supported by the village community would have a greater impact than the views of the parish council alone on issues such as transport, housing, local services and the environment.

3 The Survey

A survey was conducted to find out the views of the residents. A public meeting will be held to discuss the results outlined in this report. An action plan will be drawn up which will be used by the parish council in conjunction with local authorities. The plan will be reviewed periodically.

Plans proposed for action by the Parish Council will only happen if there is full involvement from the village community. This report partly serves to encourage people to come forward and help in its implementation.

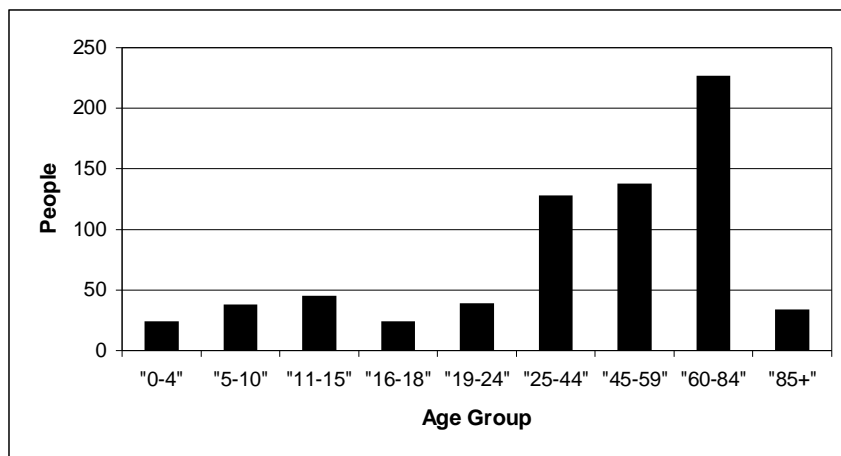
Key Events

Jan. 14	2003	Registration of intent sent to the Countryside Agency.
Feb.15		Open meeting (43 attended).
Mar. 12		First meeting of the steering group.
July 10		Countryside Agency agreed a grant of £4492.50
mid Nov.		Questionnaire issued.
Jan.	2004	Questionnaires collected from 77% of Barton households.
Mar. 4		Steering group see the results of the questionnaires and analysis by Cambridge Analytical.
May		Preliminary Barton Parish Plan summary issued with May’s Barton parish magazine.
June		Sub-committee prepares Report and Draft Action Plan
July 14		Consultation with SCDC officers
pre Sept.7		Submit revised Report and Draft Action Plan to the Parish Council
late Sept.		Printing & distribution of Report & Draft Action Plan to villagers
Oct.		Discussion of Draft Action Plan at an Open meeting.

B RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

4 Households

There is a trend towards an older population with 58% of villagers over 45 years of age. The number of people in various age groups is illustrated in the following bar chart.



There are 360 households in the parish. We live mainly in owner-occupied homes, 83%. A further 13.5% of property is rented which includes sheltered accommodation (32 houses), shared ownership and a group of 7 bungalows owned by Perennial – Gardener’s Royal Benevolent Society. Less than 10% of houses were built before 1800, with 27% built between 1901-50. The village more than doubled in size between 1951-90 with 57% of the present houses being built during these years. There have been very few houses built since 1970.

The responses from 281 households showed 17 wishing for alternative accommodation in Barton. Most of these respondents are constrained by lack of suitable properties to buy or accommodation in local authority or housing associations.

5 Education

Background

Barton CE (Voluntary Aided) Primary School, situated in the heart of the village, has also been the primary school for Grantchester since the closure of the school in that village in 1981. Pupils are also welcomed from other surrounding villages. At the time of the survey there were 88 pupils on the roll divided into four classes. Building work was

completed in early 2004 which provided a new classroom and other improved facilities allowing the removal of a mobile classroom which had been on site for more than 20 years.

At secondary age most children attend Comberton Village College, but a few go to St Bede's Inter-Church Comprehensive School in Cambridge or to private education.

The number of children living in Barton in full time education now and predicted in 5 years are:

	Now	Next 5 years
Playgroup and nursery	14	21
Primary school	36	26
Secondary school	41	30
Sixth-form college and regional college	15	35

As well as the above there are 24 people at university, 14 on work related training courses and 32 who attend adult education classes.

6 People

Background

This section of the questionnaire shows what the population structure is and whether there are significant trends that will affect the balance of the community in the future. We also asked what people disliked about Barton to determine the significant aspects.

What the Survey Told Us

- The population has decreased by 13% over the past 30 years to its current 799². There is a trend towards an older population with 38% over 60 and 13% under 16 years of age. The female percentage is 52 and the male 48.
- Of 24 households that moved into Barton in the year ending November 2003 only 10 brought children under 19 years of age. By far the largest age group of newcomers to the village were in the 24-44 age range.
- The community is fairly static with 49% having lived in Barton for over 16 years, and a further 27% over 6 years.
- The main reasons given for moving to Barton in order were:
 - work in the area;
 - love of the country/village life;
 - personal ties;
 - and availability of housing.

- Written comments emphasized the primary importance of location for access to Cambridge or convenience for travel. Particular houses or cottages were major attractions with also a liking for village life and a country area.
- Once settled in Barton people liked its proximity to Cambridge and the small size of the village. Written comments suggested that the countryside and shops were most liked with also the school and community rated highly. Many people are attracted to Barton for work reasons and stay because they like the village and surrounding countryside.
- Of 591 respondents 219 commented on their dislikes. The chief dislike, 40%, was too fast and too much traffic, particularly on the A603, but for a third of youngsters it was lack of things to do in Barton. Other dislikes mentioned were poor bus services, 6%, the bad state of the footpaths/pavements, 4 %, no mains gas supply, 3%, noise from traffic, 3%, and noise from Burwash Manor farm, 2% (the last mostly by people living in New Road/Kings Grove).

Help needed

Please will anyone who has ideas for youth and child activities contact the Parish Council.

7 Development

Background

The village is surrounded by the Cambridgeshire Green Belt and by medium quality agricultural land. There are two conservation areas, one around the village green (Conkers triangle) and a second centred around The Leys. The village has three Grade II*, and 19 Grade II listed historical buildings⁴. There are 351 houses in Barton⁵ with about 30 retail premises and service industries.

Barton has been identified as a Group village. This means that residential development up to a maximum scheme size of eight dwellings will be permitted within the village framework, subject to the criteria set out in policy SE4⁶ and other policies of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan¹. Those areas which are not protected by the Green Belt on the southern side of New Road must be protected from development¹.

This section sought views on future development in the parish. Is development required and what type and mix of housing and businesses would be acceptable?

What the Survey Told Us

- Of respondents, 37% thought that there is sufficient publicity given to planning applications that affect Barton, 29% that there was not and 35% had no opinion.

- On implementation of the planning system 43% of respondents were satisfied, 14% dissatisfied and 43% had no opinion.
- There was strong support that Barton should still be a separate village in ten years time together with significant support for the conservation areas and features to be maintained.
- Modest housing development would be acceptable such as single dwellings in controlled locations, conversion of redundant buildings and small groups of less than ten houses. But 90 people thought there should be no new houses.
- The greatest preference for new housing was for owner occupied houses with some provision for low cost housing. Other needs supported were:
 - housing for restricted sale to local people,
 - sheltered housing and
 - a local authority housing association.
- Opinion is equally divided whether new homes should be detached houses, semi-detached houses, cottages or bungalows. The results suggest that a mixture of types would be preferred. Also 62 respondents see a need for specially adapted homes.
- Protecting the Green Belt around the village and keeping the conservation areas were each supported by 94% of respondents.
- There is no strong enthusiasm for any type of new or extended business development in the village – 62% against and 24% for with 14% don't know.
- A wide age range of people wanted local employment opportunities in Barton:

25-44 years	14 people
45-59 ..	13 ..
60-84 ..	11 ..

Did you know?

There is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Hey Hill, which includes a Roman barrow, 260m south west of Lord's Bridge, where Wimpole Road, the Roman road to Cambridge, crosses the Bourn Brook marked as a tumulus on the O.S map. Its mound survives as a substantial earthwork of oval shape approximately 23m long with a width of 8m and a height of 2m. A partial excavation revealed the stone coffin of a young woman. Such Roman barrows are rare nationally⁷.

Hey Hill Roman barrow is situated in an area of great archaeological activity with an Iron Age inhumation interment, wheelmade pottery, a firedog and slave chain having been discovered within 100m of the barrow.

8 Transport

Background

The A603 is a busy road, particularly at peak times. A survey showed 7574 traffic movements in a 12 hour period on the Wimpole Road just west of the Haslingfield Road junction on a Wednesday in 2002⁸. Traffic from Haslingfield and New Roads will add significantly to this amount going into Cambridge. Two bus services operate through Barton. Stagecoach runs the 118/119 service to Comberton and beyond on the B1046. One morning bus (118) goes via Long Road sixth-form college, Addenbrooke's, and Hills Road sixth-form college into Cambridge and one afternoon bus comes back via these places. Whippet Coaches run the 175/177 service on the A603 going to Great Eversden. Tesco also run a bus on Tuesday mornings to their store at Bar Hill. There are cycle paths to Comberton/Toft and into Cambridge.

What the survey told us

- A third of parishioners work in Cambridge, 15% work at home, 1.6% elsewhere in Barton, while at least 18% work further away within Cambridgeshire or beyond with 25% not in paid employment. Three percent travel to London to work.
- For work, training or study half the villagers travelled by car, 11.5% went by cycle and 8% caught a bus.
- About 40% of villagers use the bus service, mostly the 118/19, at some stage -
46 people use the bus everyday
97 people use it once or twice a week
287 people use it occasionally.
- The majority rated the bus service as good or reasonable -
57% were happy with the route
38% hours and frequency
59% bus stop locations
21% expressed concern about access for the disabled.
- The 'Park and Ride' service is used occasionally by 547 people; 93 use it once or twice a week, only 3 people use it daily. There was general satisfaction with many aspects of the service with again some comment about improving the facilities for the disabled. Suggestions included alternative routes, evening services, extra stops along existing routes, eg, the catholic church in Cambridge and the railway station.
- To reduce car usage 296 people suggested better bus services, 169 better cycle paths, 79 better footpaths and over 79 for better routes for non-car use and 101 for

safer routes for non-car users. In contrast, 107 people said that nothing would help them to reduce use of the car!

- There were 262 written comments about the nuisance of parked cars. By far the most comments, 169, expressed concern over parking in High Street. Concern was also noted during term time at 'drop-off' and 'pick-up' times of parked cars on New Road, and in School Lane, 31 and 40 comments respectively. Other areas of concern were Cambridge Road (all day parking), the large lay-by on the A603 and the small lay-by outside the White Horse public house (restricting the view from High Street).
- The area where walkers and cyclists often feel in most danger from fast moving traffic is on all of the A603 and High Street, around 40%, followed by New Road and Comberton Road, 32%, and Haslingfield Road, 25%.
- Of 542 respondents 373 wanted lower speed limits, 249 wanted a wider area of speed limits and 248 wanted interactive speed signs. There was also support for more road warning signs, 123 responses, speed cameras, 179, and with some support for roundabouts, 76. From 106 text responses speed bumps, 22 responses, were a popular suggestion particularly on High Street but traffic calming measures were suggested for almost all roads. Other suggestions were:
 - one way system through High Street,
 - 20mph speed limit on School Lane and High Street,
 - no lorries in High Street,
 - a gate at each end of High Street,
 - and a bypass.
- Pedestrian crossings were requested by 243 respondents, an inter-village cycle path by 194, more footpaths by 141, and more pavements by 104.
- In contrast a majority of cyclists, 64%, felt that they could cycle in safety through Barton. The lack of continuous cycle paths on the two major roads is also of great concern.

9 Environment

Background

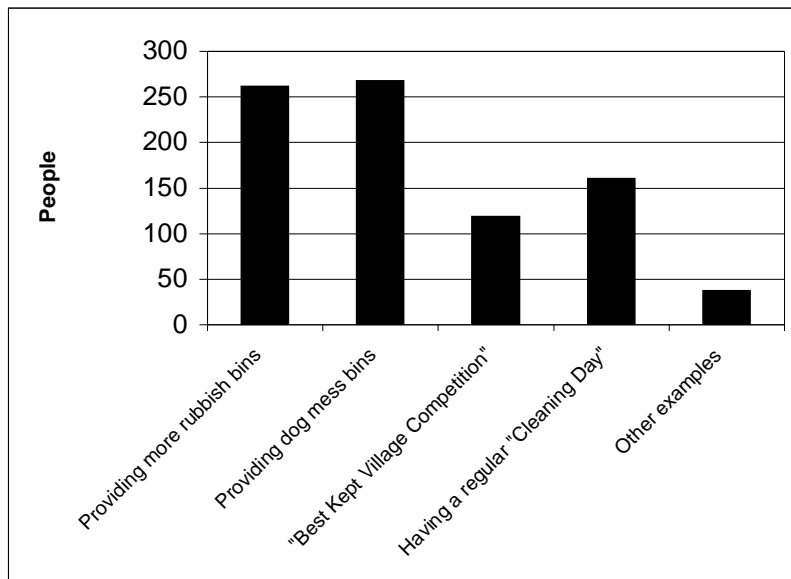
Barton is a rural parish with the village set in an agricultural landscape although it has close proximity to Cambridge. The village belongs to the Parish Paths Partnership in conjunction with the County Council. This monitors and maintains the rights of way network throughout the parish. A new path through Haggis farm, which continues by the M11 slip road, was completed in 2003. Barton has 9 rights of way divided into byway, bridleways and footpaths. In addition farmers kindly allow us five permissive ways.

Two recent environmental developments are the Countryside Restoration Trust and the Arbory Trust Burial Ground which should improve biodiversity.

The questions were aimed at finding out how important the environment was to the villagers and which features were valued. Suggestions for possible improvements were also sought.

What the Survey Told Us

- The countryside is important to 97% of respondents.
- The Green Belt, trees, pond area, footpaths, the recreation ground/Leys and access to the countryside were particularly valued. Also valued were the woods and grass verges and to a lesser extent the Bourn brook.
- Reduction of traffic speed, planting more trees and repairing/resurfacing footpaths were suggested ways of improving our environment. Some people thought we should provide more litterbins but two thirds of respondents did not consider litter to be a problem in the village. Cutting the grass verges after the wild flowers have seeded was proposed.
- Of respondents, 135, would like to see more street lighting, 344 environmental street lighting and 24 less street lighting.
- Traffic noise was the most significant disturbance, 224 comments, with dog mess second, 144. Other annoyances were aircraft flying low or doing aerobatics. Noise from loud music and the rifle range were also noted. Bonfires, light pollution, bell ringing and horse dung were also mentioned.
- The bar chart below illustrates how respondents thought Barton should be kept clean and tidy.



Did you know?

Barton WI have produced a booklet on local walks which is available from Conkers store. The National Hedgelaying competition was held in Barton along New Road and at Burwash Manor Farm in October 2003. In years past The Leys was used as the Archery Butts of the parish.

10 Local Services

Background

As a small village Barton is well served with a variety of shops and services. These include Conkers store/Post Office, Wallis and Sons garage/shop, Burwash Manor Barns and various other businesses on the A603. A number of people offer specialist services⁹. At present the village has no mains gas supply, 'cable' or allotments but 'Broadband' has recently been made available.

The village hall is well used. Both Anglican and Baptist churches are active in the parish; members of St Peter's Church produce the parish magazine ten times a year. The two public houses are popular and many clubs/organizations flourish in the village. Two local authority sheltered housing areas have a warden living nearby. A community beat police officer serves Barton and 10 other parishes¹⁰.

What the Survey Told Us

- The Post Office-cum-shop is used by 96% of respondents, the garage by 78%, public houses by 56% and other businesses by 52%. The village hall is used by 46% of respondents, and the mobile library by 11%.
- Facilities and improvements requested ranged from more children and young peoples' activities on the recreation ground to better shopping, eating facilities, and the re-establishing of a doctors surgery. Other suggestions were: multiplex cinema, swimming pool, ice rink, a McDonald's and a casino. A number of other suggestions for improvement recorded under this section will be dealt with later under their appropriate sections, eg, sport.
- Twenty-nine people reported some difficulty in getting to various medical services.
- Of respondents, 123, were unaware of the voluntary-car scheme that is designed to assist with transport to local health services.
- There were 67 people who said that they would use an allotment in the village if available.

Did you know?

A community car scheme, run by volunteers, drives those without transport to the doctor's surgery, hospital and other medical services¹⁰. A small charge is made for each journey.

11 Religion

Background

There are two churches in Barton. The Anglican parish church of St Peter is in the centre of the village, the Baptist church nearby in High Street. The questions were designed to find out how many people value the churches, how many worship outside the village and whether anything would encourage more people to attend the churches in Barton.

What the Survey Told Us

- Many respondents, 28%, attended a place of worship in Barton, 19% went elsewhere and 58% did not attend a place of worship anywhere. Some respondents may attend more than one place of worship.
- A large proportion of respondents, 72%, value St Peter's church as a historic building and 52% value the churches as focal points for the community.
- The Barton churches were also valued for the following:
special family occasions e.g. weddings and funerals, 64%,

festival services, 55%,
special events, eg, concerts, flower festivals, exhibitions, 47%,
baptisms, 41%,
and the leaving of St Peter's church open during the day for private prayer,
33%.

Did you know?

St Peter's Church is currently part of a group of three parishes, Barton, Coton and Dry Drayton, with the priest-in-charge living in Coton. The earliest record of a church in Barton was in 1270 but the village was mentioned three times in the Domesday Book so it is likely there was a building long before this date. The present church is 14C and has several recently restored 13C wall paintings. It costs £2650 a year just to keep St Peter's church open. This figure includes lighting, heating, insurance, maintenance of the churchyard, minor repairs and some church requisites; it does not include the cost of ministry or major repairs. The Baptist church, established in the late 19C, is led by an elder-in-charge and is part of a cluster group of parishes comprising Barton, Comberton, Harston, Gamlingay and Melbourn.

12 Sport

Background

There are facilities on the recreation ground for football, tennis, bowls and rugby together with a children's play area maintained by the Parish Council. A sports pavilion erected in 1938 is now in a poor state of repair. There is a snooker club adjacent to the village hall.

What the Survey Told Us

- The facilities on the recreation ground are used by 45% of respondents occasionally including 11% on a weekly basis.
- Little interest was shown in new types of coaching.
- Nearly 40% use the children's play area at some time.
- Many additional facilities were suggested, in order of popularity – skateboarding, swimming pool, gym, badminton and martial arts together with many others but with little support.
- Although 60% of respondents thought a new sports pavilion would be of benefit to Barton only 24% indicated that they would use it.
- Many suggestions were made for facilities that a new pavilion should have, eg, changing rooms, showers, toilets and kitchen. Some thought that a pavilion

should be available for more general use but some concern was expressed about cost. Many sports facilities mentioned were available in Comberton or Cambridge.

13 Clubs, Societies and Events

Background

There are many clubs and groups in the village such as the WI, the Barton Gardeners, Drama Group and Scouts. The main venue for most of these groups is the village hall. This has recently had a new kitchen, a disabled toilet and a loop system for the hard of hearing installed. The village day in July is the main event of the year. These groups and events help to bring about a sense of community in the village. We wanted to know which clubs, societies and events are most highly valued and explore any other ideas for communal activities.

What the Survey Told Us

- The percentages of respondents unaware of the many clubs and societies were the following: Friendship Club 47, Snooker Club 39, Cubs and Scouts 26, Lunch Club 24, Drama Group 18, Gardeners 15 and the WI 14.
- Most requests for new club/activities were: Youth Club, 15, Live music of various sorts, 6, New ground (presumably a recreation ground) with a lot of facilities, 5, and Brownies/Guides, 4. Since this survey was conducted Guides has moved back to meeting in Barton on Monday evenings.
- Many people, 239, showed interest in attending village events. The village day was by far the most popular event. Other popular occasions were Drama Group productions, coffee mornings, church, school and social events, sales, fairs, all fund raising efforts and village group meetings. The hedge laying competition was also appreciated. New suggestions were: a firework display, ceilidh, car boot sale and lectures on local issues.

Views of 5-11 year olds

An extra survey of 5-11 year olds living in Barton was conducted at the primary school in July 2004.

37 children replied.

NB we realise that some others are in private education.

They were asked to name five favourite activities, by far the most popular was swimming, 19 replies, followed equally by painting/drawing and football (13). Reading was high on the list (10), as were tennis (8), playing at the swings (7), cycling (7) and cricket (6). The above also featured largely in answers to the question "Which activities could be carried out in Barton? When asked what could be provided in Barton - not everyone responded - 7 mentioned improved play equipment, 6 a pool, 5 a skateboard ramp and 4 a better library. There were 2 requests for nicer toilets and a slower speed limit.

14 Parish Council

Background

Barton Parish Council is the local level of Government. It consists of nine elected councillors who normally serve for a four year period. There is also a paid part time clerk. The public are welcome to attend its monthly meetings and may ask questions or make comments during the first ten minutes.

The Parish Council is responsible for a limited range of matters. The main ones are:

- being consulted on planning applications,
- maintenance of the recreation ground and The Leys,
- maintenance of 'street furniture' such as bus shelters, seats, notice boards and litter bins,
- supervision of cutting of grass verges within the village¹¹,
- supervision of field footpaths and bridleways¹¹
- and liaison with District (South Cambs.) and County departments responsible for highway matters, lighting, refuse collection and many other services.

What the Survey Told Us

- Over half of respondents were unaware that they are welcome to attend parish council meetings.
- Nearly 40% did not know of the Annual Parish meeting although 83% were aware of the parish council notice board outside Conkers.
- A large number of people wanted the date, time, place and agenda of parish council meetings to be advertised in the parish magazine.
- Thirty-four per cent of respondents said that they would be more likely to attend meetings if they were better 'publicized', eg, in the parish magazine or if items on the agenda were of more interest to them.
- The duties and responsibilities of the parish council were not known by 57% of respondents.

15 Crime

Background

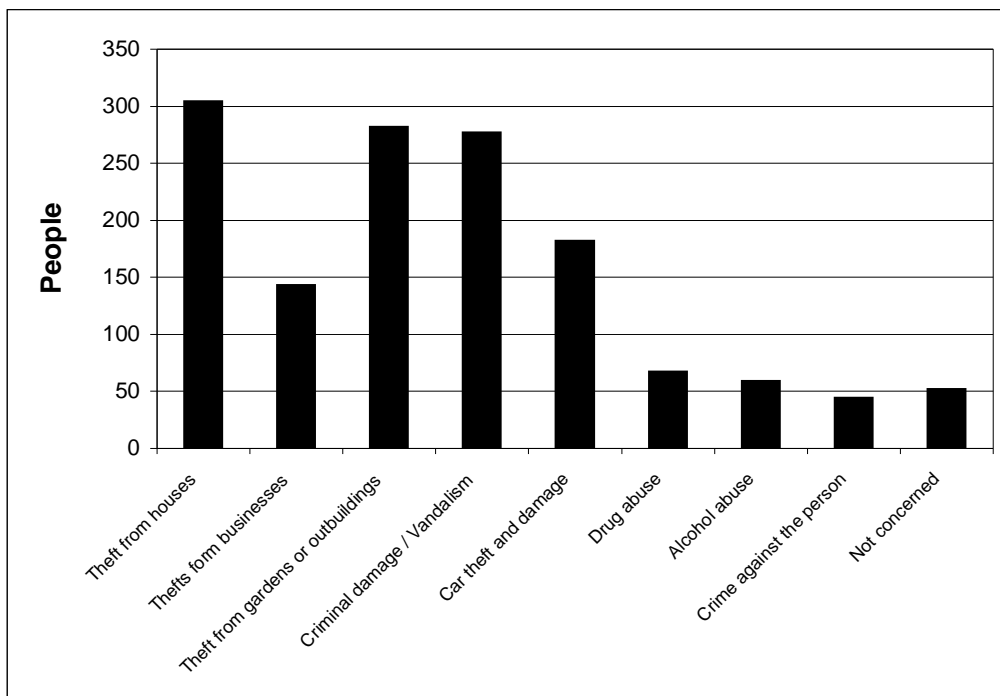
Barton is a low crime area according to the constabulary.

Between 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2004 the following crimes were recorded¹².

Burglary Dwelling	1
Burglary Non Dwelling	2
Criminal Damage Dwelling	1
Criminal Damage Non Dwelling	2
Theft of motor vehicle	2
Theft from motor vehicle	5

What the Survey Told Us

- The following bar chart illustrates which crimes and anti-social behaviour is perceived to need attention in Barton.



- 283 people wanted a greater police presence and/or a village special constable.
- A similar number, 281, felt more activities for youngsters would help reduce crime.
- 234 people felt that more contact between the police and people would be beneficial.

- Eighty-nine respondents were unaware of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Did you know?

Since the survey a new Neighbourhood Watch coordinator has been appointed¹⁰.

16 Information and Communication

Background

The main sources of information in the village are the parish notice boards and magazine. The questions asked how residents got information about what was on, how organisers wished to advertise events and how widely the Internet was used. Questions were also included about the parish magazine.

What the Survey Told Us

- The majority of respondents, 474, used the magazine as their source of information, a further 366 looked at the parish notice boards and 332 respondents got information by 'word of mouth.'
- Organizers publicise events on the parish notice boards and in the magazine, 7% and 68%, respectively.
- The parish magazine is found useful by 89% of respondents but 8% never read it.
- Suggested items for the parish magazine were:
 - small advertisements, 369 responses,
 - leisure and sports news, 299 responses,
 - letters, 264 responses,
 - and other comments but with little support, 32 responses.
- Of 547 respondents 380 have access to the Internet at home and 199 at work. Interest was shown by 51% in Broadband that has now become available.
- A large majority of respondents thought the following should be included on a village website when it becomes available:
 - bus timetables,
 - news of village events,
 - church service times,
 - news about organizations,
 - shop opening times,
 - rubbish collection days,
 - Comberton surgery times,
 - and the Parish Council meeting minutes.

17 Other Comments

Most of the comments raised here have been covered already in earlier parts. In this section specifically were expressed a considerable desire for a mains gas supply, a request for more adequate rubbish collections and an extra street light in Church Lane.

C LOOKING FORWARD

18 *Short-term plans* (envisaged two-three year)

People (section 6)

- Reduce traffic speed.
- Review the facilities for young people.
- Repair the bad state of the footpaths.
- Improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Development (section 7)

- Ensure better publicity is given to planning applications and decisions.

Transport (section 8)

- Continue to press for improvement to the New Road –A603 road junction.
- Improve the surface on the cycle path into Cambridge.
- Review the problem of car parking in High Street.
- Continue to review the requirement for people to cross the road safely.
- Continue to review provision for extension of cycle routes in Barton where appropriate, eg, the White Horse to the Leys.

Environment (section 9)

- Continue to postpone cutting the grass verges until after the wild flowers have seeded.

Local Services (section 10)

- Progress provision of allotments.

Sport (section 12)

- Attempt setting up a working party, drawn from users of the recreation ground, to explore the feasibility of a new sports pavilion and its subsequent maintenance.

Parish Council (section 12)

- Advertise dates, times, place and agenda of parish council meetings in the parish magazine.
- Invite the local police officer to the Annual Parish meeting

Clubs, Societies and Events (section 13)

- Hold an open meeting for young people to express their views on out of school activities. (Clubs, Societies and Events)

Other Comments (section 17)

- Re-check the possibility of mains gas.

Long-term plans

Any developments should bear in mind the ageing population and the need to attract more young families to keep Barton a dynamic village.

People (section 6)

- Consult with the relevant authorities to encourage the building of some low cost housing.
- Build affordable houses with possibly some form of restriction to prevent their development into larger, and potentially more expensive houses.
- Houses to suit older people, eg, sheltered accommodation.

Development (section 7)

- Ensure that the Parish Council and residents work together to keep Barton a separate village in ten years time.

Transport (section 8)

- Improve traffic movement on High Street.
- Improve the bus services, eg, have an evening service.
- Lobby to extend the 'Park and Ride' service to include an evening service.

Environment (section 9)

- Continue to protect the Green Belt around the village and the conservation areas within it.
- Keep the character of the village.
- Replace any street lighting with environmental lighting.

Information and Communication (section 16)

- Developing and maintain a village web site.

References

- 1 S Cambs. Local Plan, Part 2, Adopted Feb. 2004; www.scambs.gov.uk under villages p 19.
- 2 Census 2001
- 3 Census 1971
- 4 Department of Culture, Media and Sport
- 5 Electoral Roll 2001
- 6 Policy SE4 concerned with changing from employment use to non-employment use.
- 7 English Heritage Monument Number 33349
- 8 Cambridgeshire County Council, Traffic Department
- 9 See WI list, 2004, of services in Barton
- 10 See Barton Parish Magazine for contact details
- 11 As an agency for the County Council
- 12 Cambridgeshire Constabulary