Read Parish Council Plan
Survey 2012
Results and Analysis

Cllr Sam Bruce, May 2012
About the Survey

Aims
• Ask residents their opinions about living in Read to help the Council to create an informed Parish Plan
• Encourage more residents to get involved with the Parish Council and Village affairs

Survey Questions
✓ Focused on Parish Council roles and responsibilities
✓ Quantative and qualitative questions
✓ Distributed by Cllrs and Clerk to 595 houses in Read
✓ Consultation ran from 19th March to 1st May (6 weeks)

Next Steps
➢ Thank residents and invite them to see the results
➢ Read Parish Council to discuss and set priorities for Read Parish Plan
Results

Gains:
✓ Informed residents about their Parish Council
✓ Informed residents about Read facilities
✓ 120 questionnaires returned (20% return).
✓ >¼ respondents left comments

Representative number of people are interested in their village, and care enough to leave comments

Presentation:
Illustrative results by question; number of people expressing opinion, then, key issues summarised from comments.

More detail in full report for analysis by Parish Council to inform Parish Plan.
1. HOUSING. Are you happy with housing availability in Read?

- Yes: 81.7%
- No: 10.8%
- Not sure: 5.8%
- See letter: 0.8%
- No answer: 0.8%
1b. Key themes about housing availability

- Need more elderly housing: 3
- Want to preserve rural nature of village: 12
- Need more affordable housing: 6
- Village lacks supporting infrastructure: 3
- No need for more housing: 6
- Want more housing: 5
2. TRAFFIC. Does your household feel that preventing parking on yellow lines, parking on pavements, and speeding in Read should be more rigorously enforced?

- Yes: 70.8%
- No: 16.7%
- Not sure: 9.2%
- No answer: 3.3%
2b. TRAFFIC. Key themes from comments about enforcement of traffic regulations

- Enforcement: 15
- Junctions: 10
- Parking: 18
- Sand bins: 3
- School entrance/Straits Lane: 1
- Speeding: 6
- Yellow lines: 7
- Crossing/roundabout: 1

Total comments: 67
3. PUBLIC TRANSPORT. If members of your household use buses that serve Read, are you satisfied with the service (routes, timetable, cost, reliability, bus stop location, easy access)?

- Yes: 51.7%
- Not sure: 20.0%
- No: 15.8%
- 12.5%
- No answer: 20.0%
3b. Key themes about bus services through Read

![Pie chart showing themes about bus services through Read]

- **Timetable**: 14
- **Routes**: 8
- **Bus Stop**: 4
- **Reliability**: 2
- **Cost**: 8

Legend:
- Blue: Timetable
- Red: Routes
- Green: Bus Stop
- Purple: Reliability
- Cyan: Cost
4. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND. If members of your household use the Read and Simonstone Children's playground, do you feel it meets the needs of:
4.i. Children (aged 3-14)? 4.ii. Young People (aged 15-20)? 4.iii. Adults (accompanying parents/visitors)?
4b. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND. Comments on meeting the needs of:
4.i. Children (aged 3-14)? 4.ii. Young People (aged 15-20)? 4.iii. Adults (accompanying parents/visitors)?

Key issues:

• **Equipment** – not maintained properly (including dog fouling), old and tatty, not suitable for older children, area not large enough, need more seating, outdoor gym

• Need for **meeting place with shelter** for older children, separate from equipment for younger children

• Need for **toilets**

• Need for **cycle track and skate park**
5. PLAYING FIELD AND KICK-AROUND AREA. If members of your household use the playing field/kick-around area (near the Cricket Club and allotments), are you happy with the current provision?

- Yes: 52.5%
- No: 21.7%
- Not sure: 16.7%
- No answer: 9.2%

[Pie chart showing the distribution of responses]
5b. Comments about the Kick-around area

Key issues:

- Didn’t realise that this was available to everyone – not just the football club.
- Desire for more spaces for children to play ball games – from the top half of the village.
- Pitch is poor condition (gets boggy), kick-around area neglected (boggy, and cars drive over it), request for seating.
6. CAR PARK. Does your household/visitors use the Village Car Park (by the children's playground)?

- Yes: 19.2%
- No: 65.0%
- Not sure: 15.0%
- No answer: 0.8%
6b. Car park. Please comment on any improvement you would like to see (e.g. Lighting, space, signage, maintenance)

Key issues:

• Maintenance (eg pot holes).
• Use, and signage (‘didn’t know this was a village car park’, ‘create space marking’, ‘signage to direct vehicles’. ‘vehicles block access’, ‘people don’t use’)
• Ok (no problems)
• Lighting
7. OPPORTUNITIES TO HOLD COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN READ. Are members of your household satisfied with the community opportunities in Read? (Cricket Club, United Reform Church Hall, Playground, playing field and kick-around area, Bowling Green, Allotments, Read Library, Read and Simonstone Constitutional Club)

- Yes: 70.8%
- No: 10.0%
- Not sure: 7.5%
- No answer: 11.7%
7b. Comments on the community opportunities in Read

Key issues

• Want dedicated village centre to bring community together and provide more exciting range of activities for all ages in the village
• Want more information about what is happening in the village
• Make use of existing facilities and maintain them better (allotments, kick-around area)
• Library staff excellent – but want longer opening hours
8. PROPOSAL FOR A BRIDLE PATH (FOR HORSE RIDERS, CYCLISTS AND WALKERS). Would you like the Parish Council to approach local landowners for permission to open bridleways (to allow access to horse riders, cyclists and walkers)?
8b. PROPOSAL FOR A BRIDLE PATH (FOR HORSE RIDERS, CYCLISTS AND WALKERS). Would you like the Parish Council to approach local landowners for permission to open bridleways (to allow access to horse riders, cyclists and walkers)? Suggest routes

**Key comments:**

- Manage existing areas (rubbish, horse fouling on roads, control dogs in fields with livestock, mountain bike damage?)
- Welcome opportunity to cycle and ride off busy roads

**Suggested routes:**

- Old railway track from Simonstone across Martholme Viaduct link up with Padiham Greenway
- Across fields from Read to Read Old Bridge
- Read to Sabden to Clitheroe
- Access woods at top of Higher Trapp Lane (gates locked)
- Grounds of Read Hall
- Padiham to Great Harwood
9. MARTHOLME VIADUCT. Would you like the Parish Council* to continue to press Lancashire County Council for a creation order to link the footpath 11 Dunkirk Farm Lance across the Martholme Viaduct to the Lancashire Cycle Way? (*details given)
9. MARTHOLME VIADUCT. Would you like the Parish Council* to continue to press Lancashire County Council for a creation order to link the footpath 11 Dunkirk Farm Lance across the Martholme Viaduct to the Lancashire Cycle Way? (*details given)

**Key issues:**

- Want to use for horse riders, cyclists, walkers. Walk enjoyed in past

- Frustration that this issue ongoing for so long - really wanted - just do it!

- Uncertain if PC should spend money on this - rather than village hall. Uncertain if likely in recession.
10. DOG FOULING. Dog fouling is a nuisance and a health hazard. The parish Council provides 6 dog bins and Ribble Valley Borough Council provides 2 bins. The Dog Warden Service fines offenders. Do you think that regulations area enforced adequately?
10b. Do you think that regulations area enforced adequately?

Key comments:

- Dog bins are excellent facility – if only everyone used them, perhaps provide more?

- Never seen dog warden. need more enforcement - wardens, residents, school children signs by school and church path, CCTV

- Mixed views about whether increased or declined over years.

Location of bad areas:

- By Read School, Straits Lane, Church path, public footpaths, bridle paths, access roads, Whalley Road (dog bins please), next to bins, short fields cut through by school straits Lane, allotments, path between garage and Straits Lane, back streets.

- Responsible owners angered by those who don't pick up/leave in bags on walls, teach owners not to foul non-grazed lanes, walk off-leads.

Cause is irresponsible owners – difficult to enforce. Suggestions for enforcing:

- Proactive and reactive public awareness campaign (and shaming)

- ‘Don’t walk off leash, don’t leave bags, educate children owners, signs up on footpaths, school children make signs for church path, seriously fine offenders’
11 ARE THERE ENOUGH INDOOR FACILITIES** IN READ FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES?  

(**The United Reform Church, Read St John Church, Read St John's C of E School, The Cricket Club, and The Constitutional Club are all available for public use)

- No answer: 14.2%
- Yes: 51.7%
- No: 21.7%
- Not sure: 12.5%
11b Are there enough indoor facilities in Read for community activities? Please comment.

Key issues

About existing facilities
• Poor quality, or could make more use of existing facilities, including information

What activities we'd like
• Table tennis, pool and darts, dancing, youth club, cinema night, family walks, allotment shop/box delivery, baby groups

What facilities we'd like
• Modern facility for whole community, especially young people, central hub for community to encourage community spirit
Summary:

- Playground for children aged 3-14yrs
- Indoor facilities in Read for community activities
- Bus service for Read
- Use of playing ground and kick-around area
- Young people use of playground
- Adults' needs at playground
- Dog fouling
- Opportunities to hold community activities in Read
- Traffic regulations
- Car park
- Viaduct

Percentages:

- Viaduct: 83.30%
- Housing: 81.70%
- Traffic regulations: 70.80%
- Opportunities to hold community activities in Read: 70.80%
- Bridle path: 65.80%
- Car park: 65%
- Adults' needs at playground: 60.80%
- Dog fouling: 60%
- Young people use of playground: 55.80%
- Use of playing ground and kick-around area: 52.50%
- Bus service for Read: 51.70%
- Indoor facilities in Read for community activities: 51.70%
- Playground for children aged 3-14yrs: 49.20%
# Next steps

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>June:</th>
<th>Thank respondents</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Publicise findings</td>
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<td>Assimilate findings</td>
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<td>July and August:</td>
<td>Sub-committee to draft a Parish Plan</td>
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<td>September:</td>
<td>Hold Open meeting to consult residents on draft Parish Plan</td>
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<td>October:</td>
<td>Finalise Parish Plan</td>
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