



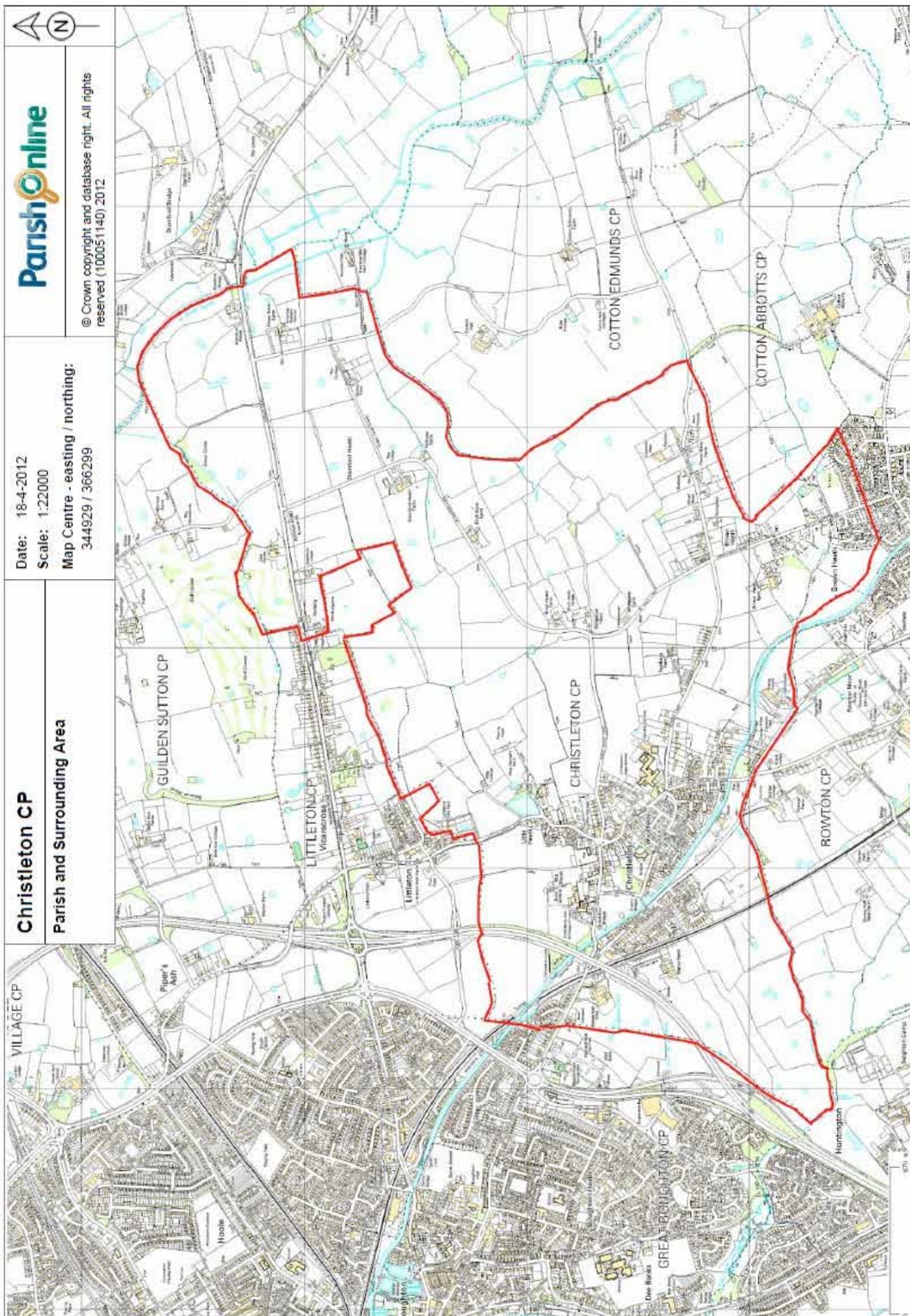
# Christleton Community Plan

A vision for the future

2012



# Christleton Parish Boundary





## **Preface**

In the autumn of 2009 Christleton Parish Council decided to raise awareness of the background to parish plans and the benefits that can arise from them. The aim was to attract sufficient interest from villagers to form a small working group from across the community, with guidance and support from Cheshire Community Action. This working group attracted sufficient support to run a 'Drop-in Session' and a 'Presentation Evening' at the Primary School in May 2010. All residents, businesses and organisations were invited and, after viewing various displays and hearing a number of presentations, there was almost unanimous support for creating a parish plan for Christleton. A Steering Group was formed, a grant application was made and work began on the 'Christleton Community Plan'. The Council has followed the progress of the Plan with interest; four councillors served on the Steering Group and reported back to the Parish Council meetings on a monthly basis.

Christleton Parish Council has always been keen to make sure that the finished Plan is an independent document that will reflect the views and aspirations of the whole community. We hope that the Christleton Community Plan will guide the development of village life over the next few years and trust that it will be monitored closely over that time to ensure that the views of the community are taken into account by those charged with the implementation of the Plan.

Recent changes in planning law mean that we hope that Christleton Community Plan may also be an excellent starting point for a Neighbourhood Plan for Christleton. We would encourage you to read this Plan and to take an active interest in its outcomes.

The Steering Group has worked extremely hard to produce this Plan. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them sincerely for all their hard work and commitment and also to gratefully acknowledge the valuable contributions made to the process by various other organisations in our village.

**Sue Mallows**  
**Chair**  
**Christleton Parish Council**

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<sup>a</sup> Any superscripted number in the text identifies a reference document the details of which are given on page 26.



## Executive Summary

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**1.** The Parish Council raised awareness of Parish Plans and their benefits in 2009. Following a series of meetings and discussions it was evident that there was enough interest in the village to establish a Steering Group and seek grant funding for the project.

**2.** The Steering Group carried out extensive consultation with residents, businesses, clubs, groups and societies within the village over a two year period. The consultation comprised open meetings, presentations, stands at public events together with pilot and detailed questionnaires. The return rate for the residential and business surveys were 37% and 73% respectively.

**3.** The survey showed that once settled in the village, residents have little inclination to move away, over half of them being here for longer than 21 years. As a consequence of this, about a third of the village was now above 64 years of age. Approximately a fifth of residents had lived in the village for less than five years. Many residents had strong family links within the village.

**4.** Over 80% of residents returned a score of eight or better on the ten point "happiness" scale. Just over a third of these returned a perfect score of 10.

**5.** The reasons for moving into the village included its appearance, good housing, good access to the trunk road system allowing easy commuting, with work and schools nearby. Some of the stated benefits of living in the village included easy access to the footpath network, countryside and canal and the combination of proximity to Chester and separation from it by green space. The best features of the village were identified as its general location, the Pit, the canal, pleasant environment and the countryside.

**6.** As expected most of the concerns raised by residents were traffic related (speed, parking, rat running and noise). Other concerns raised included inconsiderate dog owners, litter, inadequate street lighting in some parts of the village and inadequate provision of some services and facilities.

**7.** Some of the key issues identified included improving communications, maintaining the green belt around the village, improving wildlife habitats, minimising 'urbanisation' while reducing the impact of traffic volumes and speed and ensuring that sporting and recreational activity for all ages are available in the community.

**8.** The Action Plan aims to address the issues raised through the efforts of villagers and other key partners such as Cheshire West and Chester Council, the Primary and High Schools, the Law College and mobile phone providers.

**9.** Major activities are likely to centre on the following projects

- review of communications within the village to include web sites, published information and social media options
- production of a comprehensive village guide
- investigation of traffic calming proposals including village gateways, introduction of 20mph speed limit, chicanes and changing the priorities etc at the High School cross road
- development of a Neighbourhood Plan
- development of a strategy to encourage greater level of social responsibility
- development of a strategy to minimise dog fouling and litter

**10.** The preparation of the Community Plan has allowed the development of a stronger understanding of what residents like and dislike about the village in which they live or work and where changes could be made.

**11.** After reviewing this Plan, it is hoped that individuals or groups of like-minded villagers will volunteer to move the Action Plan forward.



## Action Plan

This table is a summary of the actions emerging from the Community Plan. Some actions occur in several parts of the plan and others are combined before they appear in the table; numbers are assigned for clarity. Timescales are dependent on funding and support but, for example, it is expected that a 'High' priority and 'Short' timescale action would take about 6 to 12 months to complete. Priorities and timescales may also change as further feedback is received and additional information becomes available. Progress will be reviewed every 12 to 18 months.

| No                                      | Action  | Priority | Time-scale | Key partners                        |
|---|---|----------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Amenities, Events and Activities</b> |   |          |            |                                     |
| 1                                       | Establish with service providers what plans there are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase broadband speed and capacity</li> <li>• Improve the coverage of mobile phone reception (Paragraph 37)</li> </ul>  | High     | Medium     | CWaC, fixed, mobile phone providers |
| 2                                       | Survey parents of primary school age children within the village to determine whether there is sufficient demand for additional facilities, activity groups, clubs and sporting activities for this age group. If demand is identified, develop a plan for the provision of appropriate facilities with their support (Paragraph 44).   | Low      | Medium     | PC, CPS                             |
| 3                                       | Survey teenagers to determine whether there is sufficient demand for sport and other facilities, activity groups or clubs. If demand is identified, develop a plan for the provision of appropriate facilities with their support (Paragraph 46 and 72).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC, CHS                             |
| 4                                       | Provide a forum for young people to contribute to decisions that affect them in the village (Paragraphs 47 and 195).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC, CHS                             |
| 5                                       | Explore the need for facilities and activities for those over 65 (social club, cafe, outings etc) through survey and consultation. If there is a demand, examine the options to meet it (Paragraph 52).   | Low      | Medium     | PC                                  |
| 6                                       | Publish a comprehensive guide to improve awareness of services, amenities and activities that are available within the village to include for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile library timetable; pharmacy delivery services for prescriptions; availability of sporting activities - swimming, bowling, football, cricket etc.; location plan of all public green spaces, footpaths, permissive paths and bridleways</li> </ul> Ensure that existing and new residents have access to a copy (Paragraphs 49, 58, 64, 70, 71, 75, 77, 100, 117, 118 and 196). | Medium   | Medium     | PC, CHS                             |
| 7                                       | Explore with the Post Office the feasibility of providing some counter services within the village (Paragraphs 50 and 149).   | High     | Short      | Post Office                         |
| 8                                       | Investigate the feasibility of installing a cash machine within the centre of the village (Paragraphs 65 and 150).  | High     | Short      | ATM providers                       |

| No                             | Action  | Priority | Time-scale | Key partners                    |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 9                              | Explore with educational establishments the options for using their facilities for educational, vocational and leisure activities for the benefit of the wider community (Paragraphs 82 and 197).   | Low      | Medium     | PC, College                     |
| 10                             | Parish Council to review how it communicates with, and listens to, the concerns of residents within the village. Consideration to be given to 'surgeries' and other open meetings (Paragraph 86).   | High     | Short      | PC                              |
| 11                             | Parish Council to explore the needs of those living near parish boundaries and determine whether these should be met by boundary rationalisation (Paragraph 87).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC                              |
| 12                             | Establish a working group to improve communications within the village, (to include use of newsletters, notice boards, social media and web sites) and take into account the requirements of clubs and groups (Paragraph 94 and 196).   | High     | Short      | PC                              |
| <b>Our Village Environment</b> |   |          |            |                                 |
| 13                             | Prepare strategies to minimise dog fouling and litter (Paragraph 98).   | High     | Short      | PC                              |
| 14                             | Consider the future of Capesthorne Road Play Area (Paragraph 101).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC                              |
| 15                             | Investigate possible extensions to the public and permissive footpath network (Paragraph 104).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC                              |
| 16                             | Increase the number of seats around the village and along the canal (Paragraph 105).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC                              |
| 17                             | Investigate options to mitigate noise (including any statutory noise insulation) to reduce the impact of road traffic noise within the parish boundaries (Paragraph 108).   | High     | Short      | PC, CWaC                        |
| 18                             | Develop a strategy to encourage a greater level of social responsibility through a good neighbourhood support scheme (Paragraph 109).   | High     | Short      | PC,                             |
| 19                             | Establish working groups to determine how suggested environmental initiatives (e.g. proposed wildlife corridors, protected area around the Pit) could be taken forward (Paragraph 112).   | Medium   | Medium     | PC                              |
| 20                             | Establish a working group under the Parish Council, involving a cross section of village residents, to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. The plan should include, amongst other planning matters, housing need, retention of the green belt, possible extension to the conservation area, the area of green spaces and woodland and designated wildlife corridors as part of the Green Network (Paragraph 123). | High     | Short      | PC, CWaC                        |
| 21                             | Support the continued development of the Home Watch Scheme in the village and ensure that all residents are aware of their local Home Watch Co-ordinator (Paragraph 137).   | High     | Short      | Home Watch Co-ordinator, Police |
| 22                             | Establish whether the village could become a "no cold calling" area (Paragraph 138).  | High     | Short      | Police                          |
| 23                             | Investigate areas where existing street lighting could be improved (removing vegetation etc.) and where additional lighting could be provided without causing excessive light pollution. Report conclusions to Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC - Paragraphs 36 and 139).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC, CWaC                        |
| Continued on next page.        |   |          |            |                                 |



| No                           | Action   | Priority | Time-scale | Key partners  |
|------------------------------|--|----------|------------|---|
| <b>Traffic and Transport</b> |  |          |            |   |
| 24                           | Examine the feasibility of improving bus services, shelters and stops (Paragraph 146).   | Medium   | Medium     | PC  |
| 25                           | Develop an action plan for the improvement and maintenance of pavements and footpaths in the village and along the canal, taking account of the needs of those with impaired mobility as part of an overall strategy for roads and traffic management (Paragraphs 39 and 155). | Medium   | Medium     | PC, CWaC Canal & River Trust (formerly British Waterways) |
| 26                           | Provide feedback to CWaC on roads and pavements that are in need of maintenance and establish a mechanism for routine reporting (Paragraph 158).   | High     | Medium     | CWaC, PC  |
| 27                           | Investigate traffic calming proposals including village gateways, introduction of 20mph speed limit, chicanes and changing priorities etc at the Christleton High School junction (Paragraph 169).   | High     | Short      | PC, CWaC  |
| 28                           | Establish a working group, including representatives of all interested parties, to develop an integrated strategy covering roads, traffic management, parking and pavements across the whole village (Paragraphs 159 and 167).   | High     | Long       | PC  |
| 29                           | Explore with the Bridge Club ways to reduce car parking, such as avoiding afternoon sessions in term time (Paragraph 168).   | High     | Short      | Bridge Club, PC   |
| <b>Business</b>              |  |          |            |   |
| 30                           | Ensure that the needs of the business community are explored with regards to parking, broadband speeds, etc. (Paragraph 188).  | Medium   | Medium     | PC, local businesses                                      |
| 31                           | Examine the potential for a business directory and a business forum (Paragraph 189).   | Medium   | Medium     | PC, local businesses                                      |





## Introduction

**1.** Parish Plans were introduced in the November 2000 'Rural White Paper' which set out Government plans for the countryside.

**2.** Public consultation for the Plan began in 2009 at the instigation of the Parish Council with advertising in the A41 and Parish Magazines, Drop-in Days and displays at local open events. Volunteers were sought from within the Parish to form a Steering Group. Grants of £100 from the Parish Council and £600 from the Fête Committee were made towards the funding of the Plan. A further grant application was made to, and received from, Cheshire Community Action (CAA) for a total of £3000. A full Project Diary is given in Appendix I.

**3.** A Steering Group of residents and Councillors from the Parish was formed in July 2010 to bring together the ideas and views of residents (Appendix II). A pilot questionnaire was developed from comments and ideas put forward at open meetings and this was circulated to a sample of households. Feedback from this pilot was used to compile the final questionnaire which was printed and circulated to all households in the Parish during September 2011. Separate questionnaires were developed and distributed to local businesses (August 2011) and other clubs and groups within the village for their views (March 2012).

**4.** Children at Christleton Primary School were asked for their views and a focus group was set up at the High School to test opinion among older children.

**5.** All survey data and comments were compiled in spreadsheets for analysis. The results from this analysis were considered by four separate topic-based working groups who then prepared draft conclusions and possible actions.

**6.** The Steering Group developed these conclusions and possible actions into the Community Plan and draft Action Plan. The draft Action Plan was tested amongst residents at three separate public venues. The first draft was displayed at the Parish Council's Open Morning in April and at the Country Market in the village centre. Each of these venues attracted over one hundred residents. The responses from these sessions were reviewed and a revised draft

Action Plan displayed at the next Country Market, again attracting around one hundred residents. This draft was also published on the village website. Every home was leafleted to ensure that all residents had an opportunity to see and comment on the draft Action Plan. In general the responses were very favourable and the comments received remained consistent with the overall feedback received to the various questionnaires. The various shades of opinion are summarised in the text of the community Plan and the detailed data for each question are incorporated in appendices III, VI and VII.

**7.** The draft Community Plan was made available to CCA and Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) for comment.



## Our Village

**8.** Christleton village is situated two and a half miles south east of Chester and surrounded by agricultural land. It was mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) as being a 'parcel' of Robert the Norman Baron of Malpas and probably possessed a church. In 1215, Robert Parson of Christleton was recorded as Rector.

**9.** The village has had a varied existence, notably it was largely burned to the ground by Royalist forces in the Civil War. The Old Hall, reputed to be the oldest building in the village, dates from about 1605.

**10.** The eighteenth century saw the Manor of Christleton purchased by Thomas Brook Wood (1701) and Christleton Hall, now the College of Law, built by Thomas Ince (1750). At this time seventeen people in Christleton were eligible to vote in the Parliamentary elections. St James' Church was rebuilt in the 19th century preserving the original tower (circa 1490). The recorded population at this time was 651 within an agricultural community.

**11.** Christleton has benefited in the past from the generosity of local families who acquired and donated parcels of land for the village; for example The King George's playing fields and the fields of the John Sellers' Educational Trust.

**12.** The 20th century saw rapid changes, with two World Wars taking many young men from the village. Along with the development of new farming methods there was a move away from agriculture causing the steady decline of working farms, the last working farm moving from the village centre in the 1970s. The loss of many businesses and the steady decline of local services in the village have left only one general store, the Christleton Institute and

two hairdressers. Other more widely used facilities such as Christleton High School (CHS), Christleton Primary School (CPS), The College of Law, Nursing Home, four Public Houses, Dentist, Sports Centre, Cricket and Football Clubs and Bridge Club serve the wider Chester area.

**13.** Christleton is bounded on three sides by the A41, A51 and A55 trunk roads and separated from neighbouring villages by farmland. The Shropshire Union Canal runs through the parish.

**14.** Today there are approximately 900<sup>1</sup> houses within the village with a population of 2095<sup>2</sup>. Easy access to the motorway network has attracted many new families and different enterprises into the village. Christleton has won the Community Pride (Best Kept Village) Competition many times over the years, most recently in 2011.

**15.** The range of employment within the village is varied, including education, agriculture, small industrial activities and professional services. The largest employer is CHS which has 148 employees and an intake of 1300 pupils. This is followed by the College of Law which has 48 employees and 300 students and the CPS which has 24 employees and 200 pupils. The level of unemployment is very low.

**16.** Christleton has become a magnet to people from the Chester area and beyond who want to use the facilities of the two schools which once had a local catchment area but now accept children from further afield. The environmental attractions, particularly the play area and Pit around Little Heath, the Village Green, the canal and a good footpath network have brought added pressures to the village particularly large traffic volumes, parking and speeding which cause concern to residents. The Parish Hall, Methodist Hall, Cricket Pavilion and Cheshire View are some of the venues available for functions and accommodate a variety of clubs and activities.

**17.** Christleton is seen as a pleasant place to live and residents are reluctant to move away.

**18.** More detailed information on the history of Christleton is available in the following:

- Christleton: a Brief Sketch of its History, Guest -Williams A.A. June 1950
- Christleton: The History of a Cheshire Village, Local History Group 1979
- Christleton 2000 years of History, Cummings D et al July 2000
- The Parish of Christleton (two DVD set), Christleton Local History Group 2012.





## Findings of the Surveys

**19.** This section of the Plan presents the results from the residential, business and clubs and groups surveys. The individual questionnaires and more detailed results are set out in Appendices III, VI and VII covering residential, business and clubs and groups surveys respectively. Confidentiality of the information collected in these surveys is maintained throughout this Plan.

**20.** The numerical information from the residential survey is expressed as a percentage of the total number of people living in the households that responded where it relates to the household data. Elsewhere in the Plan, the percentages relate to the number of returned questionnaires (368).

**21.** Information on the number of residents who chose not to answer any question is given in Appendix III but will not be set out in the main body of the Plan. These numbers may be important when trying to judge the strength of opinion on specific issues.

**22.** It should be noted that where the resident could make a number of choices in any question, the percentages refer to the number of residents that selected a given choice and the total number of returned questionnaires. In these cases the percentages if added together will exceed 100.

**23.** In this plan the words “resident” and “population” means those people who participated in the survey. No attempt has been made to adjust the data to represent the total population of the village.

**24.** Where similar actions arise in several sub sections they are combined in the Action Plan to avoid unnecessary repetition. When actions are combined and taken forward to the Action Plan they bear a suitable reference number shown in brackets.

### Household Information

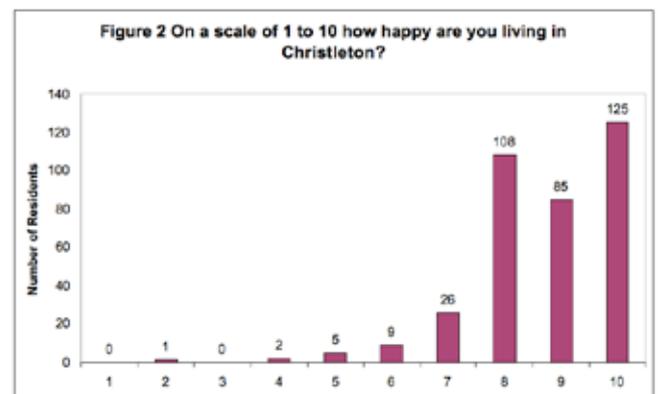
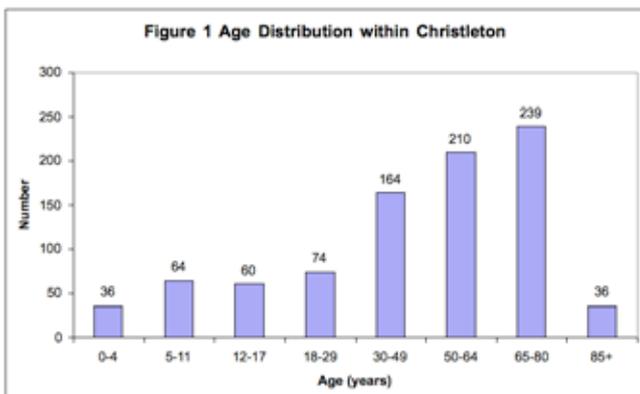
**25.** A total of 975<sup>3</sup> questionnaires were delivered to every dwelling within or near the boundary of Christleton Parish and 368 forms were collected from 365 households (due to some households being shared occupancy etc), giving a return rate of 37%.

**26.** The age profile graph (Figure 1) shows that over half of the survey population was above 50 years of age. This population profile in Christleton is consistent with data provided by CCA<sup>4</sup> (Appendix IV). Retired people accounted for 299 (32%) of the population. It is also clear that people who come to Christleton are reluctant to move away, resulting in a trend towards an older population (Paragraph 28). Only 160 (18%) residents were below 18 years, despite the presence of two schools.

**27.** Almost 200 (21%<sup>5</sup>) residents travel more than five miles to work or their place of education. Another 148 (16%) travel up to five miles from Christleton, so the village is regarded as well-placed for commuting, both within the Chester area and beyond.

**28.** Over half of all residents (190; 52%<sup>6</sup>) have lived in Christleton for more than 21 years and more than a third (132; 36%) for over 30 years. Only 59 residents (17%) have lived here for less than five years. This indicates a stable and permanent population with little desire to leave.

**29.** The reasons for moving to Christleton were many and varied but the appearance of the village was a significant factor for many people (199; 54%). Ease of commuting (134; 36%), nearby work (113; 31%) and the schools (128; 35%) also appealed to many. Good housing was also seen as important (119; 32%); this finding was supported by the many comments in the questionnaire. For many, strong family connections (98; 27%) were important as a reason for coming to the village and 73 (20%) of these say they still have family members living elsewhere in the village. Some families go back several generations and five residents mentioned being born in the village.



**30.** Some residents also commented favourably on the sense of community and identity, the ambience of the village and surrounding countryside as well as pleasant houses and gardens.

**31.** Figure 2 shows that 318 residents returned a score of 8 or better when asked how happy they were in the village. Just over a third of these returned a perfect score of 10. Nobody claimed to be very unhappy, but 8 residents (2%) gave a score of 5 or less. It may be concluded that Christleton has considerable appeal.

### Amenities, Events and Activities

#### *Quality of local services (Q8)*

**32.** Residents are generally very happy with the quality of local services, with more than 65% rating electricity, gas, refuse-collection, water and postal deliveries as either 'good' or 'excellent'.

**33.** Mobile phone reception seems to depend on the network provider and nearly a quarter (78; 21%) claimed poor reception, with no '3G' reception in some areas of the village. Internet/broadband services range from 'satisfactory' to 'good' (63%), but a significant number (65; 18%) rated it 'poor'.

**34.** Television reception was 'satisfactory' to 'good' (71%), although 31 (8%) claim poor reception. Street lighting was also 'satisfactory' to 'good' (77%), but with a few local difficulties that need further investigation.

**35.** The biggest single area of concern related to snow clearance and lack of gritting. Nearly a hundred people (29%) claimed that side roads and footpaths are never cleared or gritted and rate the service 'poor'. Given the older age profile of the population in Christleton, it is to be expected that snow and ice will cause serious concern and risk of injury.

#### Actions

**36.** Pursue the issue of adequacy of street lighting in the village. Report specific comments to CWaC (part of Action 23).

**37.** Establish with service providers what plans there are to:

- Increase broadband speed and capacity
- Improve the coverage of mobile phone reception (Action 1)

#### *Improvements for disabled people (Q9)*

**38.** Residents who commented on facilities and improvements for those with impaired mobility focussed mainly on the problems of access, the condition and maintenance of pavements and footpaths, difficulty of crossing busy roads and the need for improvements to bus services.

#### Action

**39.** Establish an action plan for the improvement and maintenance of pavements and footpaths in the village, with particular emphasis on the needs of those with impaired mobility, as part of an overall strategy for roads and traffic management (part of Action 25).





## **Development of Services and Facilities (Q10)**

**40.** Questions on improvements or development of services and facilities within the village were divided into four age groups. The comments received are summarised below and further detail is given in Appendix III.

### **Children (up to 12 years)**

**41.** Most comments related to the need for open spaces for children to play in free from restrictions, the new playground in King George's Fields and clubs or activities for children before and after school.

**42.** The new playground in King George's Fields was praised for being attractive, but there is concern at the loss of the previous facilities, especially sufficient swings for infants and concern at the safety of the rock structure, without sufficient safeguards for young children.

**43.** There was interest in facilities for children before school (e.g. a breakfast club) and after school, as well as some form of youth club for younger children, as well as a nursery.

### **Action**

**44.** Survey parents of primary school age children within the village to determine whether there is sufficient demand for additional facilities, activity groups, clubs and sporting activities for this age group. If demand is identified develop a plan for the provision of appropriate facilities with their support (Action 2).

### **Young People (13 to 17 years)**

**45.** There was considerable interest in a youth club, or other facilities for teenagers to meet and relax and perhaps a need for more, or better, sports facilities for this age group.

### **Actions**

**46.** Survey teenagers within the village to determine whether there is sufficient demand for sport and other facilities, activity groups or clubs. If demand is identified develop a plan for the provision of appropriate facilities with their support (Action 3).

**47.** Provide a forum for young people to contribute to decisions that affect them in the village (Action 4).

### **Adults (18 to 64 years)**

**48.** Comments for this age group broadly supported responses to other questions, such as the reinstatement of the Post Office, improvements to bus services and sports facilities and action to improve roads and pavements. Some requests related to services which seem to exist already, such as dry cleaning (Village Store) and a Library (weekly mobile library), which suggests a need for better information on local services.

### **Actions**

**49.** Publish a Guide to improve awareness of all services and facilities existing in Christleton (part of Action 6).

**50.** Explore with the Post Office the feasibility of providing some counter services within the village (Action 7)

### **Adults (over 65)**

**51.** The comments for this group also largely support the responses to other questions, including disappointment at the loss of the Post Office, concerns over safety on the roads and pavements and the need for adequate bus



shelters and bus services. There was a demand for activities and opportunities to meet and socialise with others.

### Action

**52.** Explore the need for facilities and activities for those over 65 (social club, cafe, outings etc) through survey and consultation. If there is a demand examine the options to meet it (Action 5).

### Use of Village Facilities (Q11)

**53.** If daily and weekly visits were grouped together the most popular places to visit were the canal towpath (201; 55%) and other footpaths (162; 44%). People liked to walk, cycle, use push chairs and walk dogs and Christleton has a very well-used network of paths. The Pit was also very popular recording 200 (54%) weekly visits.

**54.** The Village Store was used by 57 (15%) residents daily and 156 (42%) on a weekly basis, which makes it the most popular facility overall. The Parish Hall was used on a monthly (25; 10%) or occasional basis (200; 54%). The Sports Centre received 65 (18%) weekly visits, slightly fewer than the public houses (71; 19%) but more than the churches (48; 13%).

**55.** The most used places in the village are post boxes, with 258 (70%) residents using one at least monthly. This may indicate where village information boards should be placed.

**56.** Few residents (17; 5%) visit the Mobile Library on a weekly/monthly basis, yet some comments suggest they were seeking a library service in the village.

**57.** Only four residents (1%) claimed to use the Bridge Club in the centre of the village on either a weekly or monthly basis.



### Action

**58.** Publish a comprehensive guide to improve awareness of services, amenities and activities that are available within the village to include for example:

- Mobile library timetable; pharmacy delivery services for prescriptions; availability of sporting activities - swimming, bowling, football, cricket etc.; location plan of all public green spaces, footpaths, permissive paths and bridleways

Ensure that existing and new residents have access to a copy (Action 6)

### Importance of New Facilities (Q12)

**59.** Residents were asked to rank what other facilities they would like to see in the village<sup>7</sup>. The closure of post office services in Christleton was clearly a major loss to residents. The majority of residents (276; 75%) rated a Post Office as very important. The nearest Post Offices are now in Waverton, Guilden Sutton and Great Boughton.

**60.** There was keen interest in improved walking and cycling routes (171; 46% consider this very important). An appreciable number of residents would like to have a surgery (141; 38%) and pharmacy (153; 42%) in the village. Some comments suggest that residents may not be aware that a few local pharmacies will deliver to people's homes. A cash machine was considered very important by 126 residents (34%).

**61.** Some residents (83; 23%) considered a coffee shop or cafe to be very important, which echoed comments from older residents who want a place to meet. It was pointed out, however, in other comments that the Ring O' Bells serves coffee and teas are served during summer weekends at the Methodist Church.

**62.** Around a third (117; 32%) considered a better selection of shops to be very important. Others, however, observed that such shops are available nearby in Great Boughton and Waverton and that too much retail activity would lead to Christleton losing its charm. Others suggested that the Village Store could develop new services.



**63.** There was little interest in introducing public toilets in Christleton and limited enthusiasm for developing additional recycling facilities.

#### **Actions**

**64.** Identify which pharmacies will deliver and ensure that these are included in a comprehensive guide to the village (part of Action 6).

**65.** Investigate the feasibility of installing a cash machine, within the centre of the village (Action 8).

#### **Venues (Q13)**

**66.** The best attended venue was the Parish Hall when considering monthly and occasional visits together (262; 71%). St James' Church receives a similar number of visits (234; 64%) when compared on the same basis. Otherwise the number of monthly and occasional visits for the CHS, CPS, Cheshire View and Methodist Church fell between 180 (49%) and 213 (58%).

#### **Sport or Physical Activity (Q14)**

**67.** Just over a third of residents (134; 36%) were involved in some form of sport or physical activity (Appendix III). Swimming is the most popular activity, with 57 residents involved. Other activities mentioned at the Christleton Sports Centre (CSC) were the gym, badminton, netball, keep fit, physical education, tennis and squash.

**68.** Residents like walking, mostly on the paths around the village. Football was an important interest, either on the two school fields or at King George's Fields. Cycling on roads, the towpath and country lanes and running, including the annual Fun Run, were also popular. Other activities included Zumba at the Parish Hall, cricket at the Cricket Club, dancing at the Parish Hall, bowls at Cheshire View and snooker at the Institute.



**69.** It was evident from some comments that not everyone knows about the sports, activities and facilities available in the village (e.g. bowls at Cheshire View).

#### **Actions**

**70.** A Village Guide and better promotion of all sports, point of contact, cost, etc. (part of Action 6)

**71.** Clarify availability of swimming, costs and make people aware (part of Action 6).

**72.** Further work to investigate whether there is sufficient sport for younger age groups (part of Action 2).

#### **Suggested Sporting Activities (Q15)**

**73.** Bowling and tennis were mentioned 13 and 12 times respectively as sporting activities that residents would like to see introduced. Bowling is available at Cheshire View, which suggests that better information is required. The comments on tennis indicated that existing facilities (CSC) could be improved and a tennis club needs to be established. Keep fit, yoga and tai chi sessions were also mentioned several times.

**74.** Some residents seem to believe that there is enough sport in Christleton and any more activity would harm the village, with increasing traffic if more people come from outside the village.

#### **Action**

**75.** A Village Guide and better promotion of all sports, point of contact, cost, etc. (part of Action 6)

### **Non Physical Activity (Q16)**

**76.** Just over a third of residents were involved in some form of non-physical activity (142; 39%). The most frequently mentioned were the Women's Institute, Wednesday Group, church-related activities, Local History Group and Gardening Club. Many other groups were also very active, including for example Scouts, Beavers, Guides, Rainbows and Toddlers' group. It is unclear whether everyone knows about all these activities within the village and better publicity is warranted. The Fête and Village Show are annual events which receive good support.

#### **Action**

**77.** Ensure that all in the Village and new residents are informed in a Guide about the various activities, venues and point of contact (part of Action 6).

### **Suggested Non Physical Activities (Q17)**

**78.** Many non physical activities were suggested, although none in great numbers. Several activities already exist in Christleton in some form or other; including bowls, a book club, University of the Third Age (U3A), bingo, quiz nights, a library, walking groups and talks and lectures, yet all these were requested. Other people said that they do not know what is available and that there is no clear and complete guide to what goes on in Christleton.

**79.** Several suggested day or evening classes, perhaps run in conjunction with the CHS. Topics raised include computing, crafts, art, U3A activities and languages. Various people mentioned bird watching and aspects of natural history, although there is no club as such to attract such people.

**80.** Amateur dramatics, a theatre group or club and a choir (presumably not necessarily church-based, since that exists already) were also mentioned.

**81.** A theme running through some comments was the need to get to meet people, socialise, do things together and 'have a hot pot evening'. Residents had differing ideas about the nature of these opportunities.

#### **Action**

**82.** Explore with educational establishments the options for using their facilities for educational, vocational and leisure activities for the benefit of the wider community (Action 9).

### **Parish and Borough Councils (Q18 & 19)**

**83.** Residents were asked to rate the performance of the Parish Council. Less than 20% of residents considered that the Parish Council publicises its activities, decisions, local information and policies well. There were a number of comments about how this could be improved including a newsletter (paper and email), an improved and updated website and improved access to the notice boards.

**84.** A number of residents who live near the Parish boundary with Waverton and Great Boughton commented that they were not really part of Christleton. They said that they hear very little of what goes on in the village and that the Parish Council shows very little interest in them. Some residents believe the Parish Council is not accountable and were unclear about what they do and what procedures they follow.

**85.** Approximately half (176; 48%) of all residents had met a Parish Councillor. A smaller number (117, 32%) had met a CWaC Councillor. To improve this contact, residents suggested that councillors should introduce open meetings or surgeries and take steps to introduce themselves to local residents (and not just at election time).

#### **Actions**

**86.** Parish Council to review how it communicates with, and listens to the concerns of residents within the village. Consideration to be given to 'surgeries' and other open meetings (Action 10).

**87.** Parish Council to explore the needs of those living near parish boundaries and determine whether these should be met by boundary rationalisation (Action 11).





## **Communication (Q20 to 25)**

**88.** Residents use a number of methods to find out about events and activities in the village. The A41 magazine was most widely used (332; 90%). Other widely used sources of information included word of mouth, local papers and the parish magazine. The church (94; 26%) and the village web site (88; 24%) were the least used. Other useful sources of information were local schools, banners and flyers.

**89.** A majority of residents (218, 59%) would like to see a village newsletter providing specific information about Christleton and a number of these were willing to contribute to it. Others observed that the village should make better use of existing channels of communications such as websites, email and free social and networking media.

**90.** A majority of residents (218, 59%) would like to see information boards and local maps introduced to the village. A variety of locations for such boards were also suggested. The Pit, the centre of the village/Parish Hall/St James and the canal were the favoured places. There was particular emphasis on the need for information points by the canal.

**91.** Many residents (118, 32%) indicated that they were well informed about events, clubs and groups in the village but a larger proportion (157, 46%) said that advertising could be improved. Notice boards, newsletters/magazines and websites were among the popular suggestions to achieve this. Several comments were made regarding the need for some sort of information pack for new residents to the village.

**92.** A majority of residents had access to the internet at home and/or at work but a significant number (60, 15%) had no access. Many of those with

internet access wanted improvement in speeds currently available.

**93.** A significant minority of residents (130; 35%) had never accessed the village website ([www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk)). Other residents accessed the site 'occasionally' (97; 26%) or 'rarely' (75; 20%).

### **Action**

**94.** Establish a working group to improve communications within the village, (to include use of newsletters, notice boards, social media and web sites) and requirements of clubs and groups (Action 12).

## **Our Village Environment**

### **Best Features of Christleton (Q26)**

**95.** Residents were so enthusiastic when selecting the 'best feature of living in Christleton' that many selected more than the five required. The ranking of the best five features using only the correct number of choices was General Location (190; 52%), the Pit (185; 50%), the Canal (180; 49%), Pleasant Environment (174; 47%) and Countryside (142; 39%). A table of these rankings is given in Appendix III.

**96.** Other features included good access to transport, a country village within walking distance of Chester, the new play area (King George's Fields), the public houses, the Village Green and wildlife.

### **Perception of Problems (Q27)**

**97.** Residents confirmed that there were two main problem areas within the village namely traffic (316; 86%, which is examined later starting at Paragraph 140) and dog fouling (218; 59%). Litter was not seen as a problem by a small majority of residents (156; 42%) whereas 131 residents (36%) considered it was. The consen-

sus view was that there were no significant problems in the village with graffiti, vandalism, anti social behaviour or crime.

### **Action**

**98.** Prepare strategies to minimise dog fouling and litter (Action 13).

## **Green Spaces (Q28)**

**99.** Green spaces in Christleton were clearly popular given the high response rate (between 81% and 95%) but only a fifth of residents knew of, or used, all the areas. The best known green spaces were the Village Green (210; 57%) King George's Fields (162; 44%) and its play area (153; 42%). A large number of residents were unaware of the Capesthorpe Road play area (163; 53%) and Little Heath Common (137; 45%). In general the number of residents using the green spaces was about half of those who knew about them. The exception to this was the Capesthorpe Road play area where the usage was very low (14; 5%).

### **Actions**

**100.** Prepare location plan of all public green spaces within the parish (part of Action 6).

**101.** Consider the future of Capesthorpe Road Play Area (Action 14).

## **Additional Features (Q29)**

**102.** Between a third and a quarter of all residents did not express any views on whether new or additional features were required in the village which makes it difficult to interpret some responses. It was evident that there was support for extending the conservation area (53%), increasing the number of dog bins (59%), providing more green spaces (60%), public

and permissive paths (57%), seating around the village (55% - including the canal) and woodland areas (64%). There was no appetite for either commercial or domestic wind turbines.

**103.** There was a wide range of other suggested features including cycle ways, footpaths with linked routes, the use of gates rather than stiles, canal side seating and play areas for older children.

### Actions

**104.** Investigate possible extensions to the public and permissive footpath network (Action 15).

**105.** Increase the number of seats around the village and along the canal (Action 16).

### Noise (Q30)

**106.** The majority of residents (223; 61%) did not consider noise to be an issue in the village although a significant number did (132; 36%).

**107.** The identified noise sources were largely transport related (156) which subdivided into road traffic (152) in the

village and on the trunk roads around it. The remainder concerned the playing of loud music in cars travelling through the village. Non transport related noise sources included outdoor parties late at night (7), public houses and the Institute (5) and schools (5).

### Actions

**108.** Investigate options to mitigate noise (including any statutory noise insulation) to reduce the impact of road traffic noise within the parish boundaries (Action 17).

**109.** Develop a strategy to encourage a greater level of social responsibility through a good neighbourhood support scheme (Action 18).

### Environmental Initiatives (Q31)

**110.** There were 59 suggested environmental initiatives covering a wide range of opinions. These suggestions split into two groups, namely traffic (27%) and non-traffic (73%) matters. Comments relating to traffic speed and parking are taken into account in the traffic and transport section (starting at Paragraph 140).

**111.** The majority of the non-traffic initiatives can be categorised into one of four groups as set out below.

### Carbon neutral initiatives

Recycling, composting, community green energy, reducing the carbon footprint within the Parish boundary, shared wheelie bins (to reduce numbers) and a solar powered toilet (King George's Fields).

### Ecology

Wildlife corridors, nature reserve, tree preservation, guided nature walks, tidy up Styal Footpath, open up the mere in Birch Heath Lane, keep/extend hedgerows, turn un-used areas into woodland, remove/replace damaged trees and start an enviro-club for children.

### Planning

Tighter controls on green belt, village design and material specification, wildlife "buffer" zones.

### Good Neighbour

community vegetable garden, skill transfer exchange (barter system), road adoption by individuals/companies to keep them clean, remove litter, respect for and tidy gardens, walk to school, control of dog fouling and reduction of light pollution.

### Action

**112.** Establish working groups to determine how suggested environmental initiatives (e.g. a proposed wildlife corridor, protected area around the Pit) could be taken forward (Action 19).





### **Public Rights of Way (Q32 and Q33)**

**113.** Public Rights of Way (PROW) such as the canal and footpaths are used daily or weekly by about 60% of residents. This usage falls to 36% and 13% for cycle ways and bridleways respectively. The bridleways are never used by 35% (129) of all residents.

**114.** Comments suggested a need to add/replace canal seats and to develop cycle ways that do not use the public highway. Other comments on the need for roadside pavements are considered in Paragraphs 156 and 161.

**115.** The canal towpath was considered to be well maintained by 193 residents (52%). Other PROW (bridleways, cycle ways and footpaths) achieved a similar score at the “average” maintenance level.

**116.** Comments on signage were extremely mixed. The most common views suggest that signage is generally good or satisfactory but could be improved. Improvements in the destination information would be helpful together with local mapping. Some residents thought there were too many signs.

### **Actions**

**117.** Develop a better understanding of who can use bridleways and identify their locations (part of Action 6).

**118.** Prepare a plan showing the location of all PROW within the parish (part of Action 6).

### **Planning Policy Documents (Q34)**

**119.** A large number of residents (155; 42%) did not express a view on the need, or otherwise, for planning or related policy documents. An equivalent number (150; 41%) were in favour

of developing such documents while the remainder (35; 10%) were against it.

**120.** From the large number of comments on the planning and related policy question there were evidently a wide range of views and concerns. There was broad consistency in many of the comments made by those in favour of developing such policies. The reasons given included meeting local needs and providing a measure of control. Local knowledge and development of the policies would help to ensure that they were not imposed on the village. It was important to maintain the quality of the village which necessarily would require the protection of the green belt, the community and the environment.

**121.** Those who did not wish to develop such policies expressed their views from a completely different perspective suggesting it was too complicated, should be left alone or was a matter for the Parish Council (in the context of Cheshire West and Chester Council policies).

**122.** Some of those without an opinion also expressed concerns that

development of such policies may not be representative of the views of the village and allow vested interests to dominate the process. The advantages or disadvantages of such policies were also unclear.

### **Action**

**123.** Establish a working group under the Parish Council, involving a cross section of village residents, to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. The plan should include, amongst other planning matters, housing need, retention of the green belt, possible extension to the conservation area, the area of green spaces and woodland and designated wildlife corridors as part of the Green Network (Action 20).

### **Affordable/Sheltered Housing and Downsizing (Q35 and Q36)**

**124.** Most of the residents (261; 71%) did not envisage a need for affordable housing for a family member within the next five years. This requirement was anticipated by 34 (9%) of residents. The remainder (50; 14%) did not know whether this was a likely need.



**125.** Where a need for affordable housing was identified the reasons given included getting on the property ladder, staying in the village and living near family.

**126.** Those who did not see a need for such housing did not want more building in the village. Others expressed the view that such housing could be accommodated elsewhere (e.g. White Lane or in Saughton).

**127.** Most of the residents (238; 65%) did not envisage a need for sheltered housing for a family member within the next five years. This requirement was anticipated by 23 residents (6%). The remainder (77; 21%) did not know whether this was a likely need.

**128.** Where a need for sheltered housing was identified the reasons given included providing for an elderly family member to stay in the area or retirement accommodation.

**129.** Concerns were expressed about the difficulty of obtaining sheltered accommodation even when it was available within the village.

**130.** Most of the residents (244; 66%) did not envisage a need for downsizing their property within the next five years. This need was anticipated by 41 residents (11%). The remainder (69; 19%) did not know whether this was a likely need.

**131.** Residents identified property requirements as small 2/3 bedroom houses, bungalows and retirement accommodation.

**132.** Concerns about affordability of such property within Christleton may result in some residents moving away from the village.



### ***Home Watch and Security (Q37 and Q38)***

**133.** The majority of the residents (198; 54%) said they lived in an area covered by a Home Watch Scheme. A number of these residents (11), however, were unsure whether the scheme was still active while others considered it to be ineffective and a further 14 did not know if Home Watch existed in their street. The remainder (131; 36%) did not believe they were covered by such a scheme. Nineteen residents would be interested in participating in the establishment of Home Watch.

**134.** The vast majority of the residents (361; 98%) reported that they felt safe in their own houses during the day time although this figure decreased slightly to 359 at night time. As might be expected, the majority of residents (343; 93%) felt safe in the village in the day time but this figure fell to 274 (82%) at night time.

**135.** Residents identified a number of reasons for feeling less safe particularly at different times of the day. These included daytime motorists (speed and rat-running) and their disregard

of pedestrians. At night-time the reasons were more about the lack of street lighting and pavements, uneven pavements and speeding traffic.

**136.** By far the most commonly cited reason for feeling less safe in the village was the lack of adequate street lighting and visible policing.

### **Actions**

**137.** Support the continued development of the Home Watch Scheme in the village and ensure that all residents are aware of their local Home Watch Co-ordinator (Action 21).

**138.** Establish whether the village could become a “no cold calling” area (Action 22).

**139.** Investigate areas where existing street lighting could be improved (removing vegetation etc.) and where additional lighting could be provided without causing excessive light pollution. Report conclusions to CWaC (Action 23).



## Traffic and Transport

### Travelling to Chester (Q39)

**140.** Most residents use a car when travelling to Chester, with at least 208 (57%) visiting on a daily or weekly basis. Around 29 (8%) go to Chester in someone else's car, mostly weekly. The car was the favoured mode of transport. Only 21 (6%) residents never use a car. A further 20% drive and use Park & Ride at least weekly, although there may be an overlap with those people who use their own car.

**141.** At least 87 (23%) residents use the bus daily or weekly, plus a few who use Dial-a-Ride. Around 32 (9%) walk and 25 (7%) walk and use Park & Ride at least once a week. Cycling was also important for 36 (10%) residents and two people use motor bikes.

### Bus Services (Q40)

**142.** Only 84 (23%) residents said they were regular bus users, although more than three quarters (219; 76%) claimed to have used the bus at some time. This may explain the very large number of comments about the bus services, the great majority of which were negative.

**143.** Bus routes were considered good by 78 (21%) of regular users. A similar number (71; 19%) said the bus service was good value for money, which was to be expected given the large number of people entitled to a free pass and several expressed appreciation for this benefit.

**144.** Other aspects of the bus service were considered less favourably with only between 29 (13%) and 65 (18%) residents praising bus shelters, reliability and timetables/convenience. Although a third rated the service as fair, a significant number (57; 15%) considered bus shelters and bus stops poor (especially by the Village Green) and 70 residents (19%) said the timetables were poor.

**145.** If bus stops were improved (i.e. covered shelters), arrival times more reliable, with some services more frequent (particularly in the evening) then many more would use the bus. As driving and parking in Chester become increasingly difficult, the need for a quality bus service increases.

### Action

**146.** Examine the feasibility of improving bus services, shelters and stops (Action 24).

### Access to Services (Q41)

**147.** Most residents did not have difficulties accessing medical and other services, because they were car owners. Some (22) however commented that without access to a car reaching these services would be very difficult. Around 315 residents (85%) said they have no problems accessing the required services. About 33 residents (10%) noted difficulty in accessing some services.

**148.** A quarter of residents (93) said they had difficulty reaching a Post Office. Accessing a bank or cash machine was also cited as a difficulty for some residents (47). There are post offices near the village (Waverton, Guilden Sutton and Great Boughton) but there is an argument for introducing some form of postal and cash services in Christleton, to meet the needs of those without transport.

### Actions

**149.** Explore with the Post Office the feasibility of providing some counter services within the village (Action 7).

**150.** Investigate the feasibility of installing a cash machine within the centre of the village (Action 8).

### Impaired Mobility Access (Q42)

**151.** Most residents (181; 49%) considered that access for those with impaired mobility, wheelchair and pushchair users around the village was 'reasonable' with up to 63 residents (17%) considering it to be 'good'. These percentages should be viewed with caution as the number of people routinely using wheelchairs, pushchairs and similar vehicles is small.

**152.** Accordingly, those residents who said that the situation for those with impaired mobility (35) and wheelchair users (46) was 'poor' are more significant than the low numbers might suggest. This was also supported by the additional comments.

**153.** Many of the problems reported were simply inconsiderate behaviour (e.g. parked cars blocking access), while others concerned the condition and status of footpaths. The needs of those with impaired mobility highlight a situation which affects everyone and need to be considered as part of any strategy to improve all pedestrian movement around Christleton.

**154.** The canal area presents special problems for those with impaired mobility and any action plan relating to the canal area should take account of access to the towpath.

### Action

**155.** Develop an action plan for the improvement and maintenance of pavements and footpaths in the village and along the canal, taking account of the needs of those with impaired mobility as part of an overall strategy for roads and traffic management (Action 25).

### Road and Pavement Quality (Q43)

**156.** Many residents (209; 57%), said the condition of roads and pavements were 'reasonable'. Far fewer considered roads to be either 'good' (52; 14%), or 'poor' (88; 24%). The condition of pavements was a little better, with 91 (25%) residents saying 'good' against 52 (14%) 'poor'. There were many negative comments on the state of road and pavement surfaces. Roads requiring attention included Little Heath Road, Pepper Street, Birch Heath Lane and Faulkner Lane.

**157.** There is little doubt that deterioration of road surfaces has been aggravated by recent severe winters and budget constraints. Patching potholes was not seen as a solution and more effective action is required if safety is not to be compromised.

### Actions

**158.** Provide feedback to CWaC on roads and pavements that are in need of maintenance and establish a mechanism for routine reporting (Action 26).

**159.** Establish a working group, including representatives of all interested parties, to develop an integrated strategy covering roads, traffic management, parking and pavements across the whole village (Action 28).

**160.** A few years ago the Village Traffic Action Group carried out a substantial amount of work to understand the traffic problems within the central village. The main concerns identified by the 2008 Traffic Survey<sup>8</sup> were speeding, pedestrian safety and parking at various places in the village aggravated by a large number of vehicles using Christleton as a short cut. In conjunction with the Parish Council, the group used the results of the survey to develop a set of traffic proposals<sup>9</sup>.



**161.** The views of residents on these proposed solutions were canvassed in the survey (Questions 44 to 53 inclusive). It should be noted that the following percentages do not add up to 100% because the number of residents who did not express a view are not shown. This information is given in Appendix III.

The proposal to change the priority and layout of the junction of Quarry Lane, Village Road, Rowton Bridge Road and Plough Lane was supported by 200 (54%) residents. This proposal was not supported by 87 (24%) residents.

The proposal to provide a pavement on Rowton Bridge Road was supported by 165 (45%) residents. The proposal was not supported by 141 (39%) residents.

The proposal for a reduction of the speed limit (to say 20mph) from the Pit to the village centre was widely supported by 264 (72%) residents. The proposal was not supported by just 75 (20%) residents.

The proposal for the introduction of pedestrian crossings in the village

was supported by 119 (32%) residents. The proposal was not supported by 217 (59%) residents.

The proposal for the introduction of features to control traffic speed on individual streets was not supported except, possibly, for the installation of interactive speed indicators by 172 (47%) residents. This proposal was not supported by 121 (33%) residents. The majority of the comments were clearly against 'urbanisation' and residents did not want more signage, yellow lines or humps; there was a wish to keep the village sign free while reducing the speed limit to 20mph.

Although the majority of residents (207; 56%) were concerned about parking in the village, a larger number (250; 68%) concurred with the view that clearing all parked cars from the village would increase speeds and "rat running".

The majority of residents (249; 68%) also believed more should be done to reduce cut-through traffic volumes. There was only minority support for either the closure of Rowton Bridge Road (62; 17%) or a ban on right hand turns from the A41 into Rowton Bridge Road (129; 35%).



**162.** As most residents provided post-code information it was possible to sub-divide the above responses into smaller areas. This analysis would indicate whether the views held were general, throughout the village, or just in certain areas. To facilitate this, the Parish was divided into eight post-code areas as shown in Appendix V. This analysis, as might be expected, showed some grouping of concerns (e.g. the provision of a pavement along Rowton Bridge Road) by those most affected. In most cases however the views expressed were similar whether analysed across the village or by post-code areas.

**163.** Whilst this analysis was interesting, the large number of villagers who did not participate in the survey does make it difficult to interpret the results. This can be illustrated by examining “the pavement on Rowton Bridge Road” example in more detail. The postcode area comprised Rowton Bridge Road, Plough Lane, Badgers Close and Skips Lane which includes 93 properties with a return rate of 57% (or 53 properties). From the returned questionnaires 58% were in favour of the pavement, 32% were against it and 11% did not express an opinion. This apparent majority of 58% falls to 35% when expressed as a fraction of the number of properties in the post-code area.

**164.** The analysis by postcode area does show that 50% or more of residents were in favour of speed indicators and speed cushions in the Rake Lane postcode area. The Village Road postcode area had the highest support for closing Rowton Bridge Road and a ban on the right hand turn from the A41 at 29% and 49% respectively. Even in this postcode area they remain a minority even without considering those who did not participate in the survey.

**165.** There were a large number of comments on actions that might be taken to reduce congestion and parking in the village. Many of the comments were duplicated in answer to a number of different questions. To avoid repetition, traffic and parking issues within the village are considered under the following:-

- Christleton High School
- Primary School
- Bridge Club
- Cut-through traffic
- Parking

**166.** The comments concerning traffic arising from the survey were varied and some, if implemented, would result in a level of ‘urbanisation’ (double yellow lines, more signage etc.) that many in the village say they do not want as noted in Paragraph 161. The most frequent comments and suggestions (some of which have been introduced previously) are summarised below:

### Christleton High School

- Provide an area on the school grounds for parents to drive in, drop off pupils and exit the school.
- Have a new entrance to the school from Rake Lane or Birch Heath Lane thus avoiding traffic using Village Road.
- Have designated drop off areas allowing pupils to walk into school from the edge of the village.
- Have footpaths from Rake Lane or Birch Heath Lane into the school grounds.
- Encourage car sharing.
- Encourage more use of school buses.

### Christleton Primary School

- Provide an area on the school grounds for parents to drive in, drop off pupils and exit the school.
- Encourage parents to use “one way system” when dropping off and picking up.
- Encourage car sharing.



## Action

**167.** Explore the practicality of the above suggestions with CHS and CPS (part of Action 28).

### Bridge Club

- Encourage members to car share where possible.
- Encourage members to park in the church car park.
- Ask the club not to hold afternoon sessions if possible during term time.

## Action

**168.** Explore with the Bridge Club ways to reduce car parking, such as avoiding afternoon sessions in term time (Action 29).

### Cut-through Traffic

- Build gateways on all roads into the village so that it is evident you are in a built up area.
- Reduce the speed limit to 20mph throughout the village not just on Village Road.
- Put in chicanes or give priority areas through the village to slow traffic.

### Parking on Village Road

- Ask the Ring O' Bells to allow parking in the daytime, possibly on a pay and display basis.
- Create a village car park on land on the edge of the village centre.
- Make more parking bays along Village Road possibly by reducing the width of the pavement or the areas of grass.
- Have time limited parking on Village Road.

## Action

**169.** Investigate traffic calming proposals including village gateways, introduction of 20mph speed limit, chicanes and changing priorities etc at the CHS junction (Action 27).



### Businesses

**170.** The completed questionnaire was returned by 41 of the 56 businesses within Christleton giving a return rate of 73%. The village is host to a surprisingly wide variety of businesses ranging from hotel and brewery groups to sole-traders. A significant majority of businesses are in the service industries.

**171.** The average number of employees in each business was 18, although this is distorted by the five largest employers who each employ over 40 people. A large minority (18) of businesses in the village employ four people or fewer.

**172.** The College of Law, CHS and CPS between them employ 259 (36%) of the total. The three largest businesses in the hospitality sector employ a further 127 (18%) individuals. Approximately twice as many women are employed as men. This may be accounted for by the nature of the businesses and the availability of part time roles.

**173.** The degree of satisfaction with the village as a location for a business may be inferred by the fact that 68% reported that they had been established here for over 10 years. Over 40% of respondents reported that their business was located in Christleton because it was a long-established existing business, there are suitable business premises available or they operate from their own home. Less frequent responses were the geographical location of Christleton and the availability of a local customer base.

**174.** On a scale of one to ten, 36 businesses (87%) rated their 'happiness' with Christleton as a location with a value of 8 or above. The main reasons cited were:

- Location - good access to major routes and Chester (18).
- Customer base - demographic, affluent area, schools, churches (weddings etc), the College of Law, all providing customers (15).
- Environment - a pleasant village in a rural location with the advantages of good pubs and the canal (11).



**175.** The provision of services such as good mobile phone reception, broadband services, postal services were considered highly significant. Hence the business community would support actions to improve these services. Respondents would also like to see improvements in the appearance of the village, including action on litter and fly tipping.

**176.** Businesses with a 'happiness' score of 7 or less, expressed concerns about school parking, on-street parking in the centre of the village, crime and the lack of an adequate or convenient bus service to the railway station as having an impact on their satisfaction levels.

**177.** A significant number of respondents (25; 61%) reported some crime or anti-social behaviour. The incidents ranged from armed robbery and theft of valuable machinery to minor vandalism and nuisance. The incidents seemed to have increased in the last year, but the small sample size casts doubt on the reliability of this conclusion.

**178.** Approximately 20% of employees live in the village and of these almost half (43) walk to work whilst the majority of the remainder use the car. About 40% of employees live between two and five miles away with the remainder living over five miles away. The vast majority of both these groups commute by car. Significantly only 12 individuals cycled to work and only seven use public transport compared with a total of 51 pedestrians and 324 car users.

**179.** Over three-quarters of respondents reported that they have sufficient on-site parking spaces for staff and visitors including accessible parking spaces. Businesses lacking sufficient on-site parking relied on street parking, including the 'toast rack' for all requirements or for over-spill.



**180.** Problems created by on-street parking, especially at the start and end of the school day, were a recurrent theme.

**181.** A small majority of businesses reported drawing their customer base mainly from the village and surrounding area. Whilst the majority of businesses were seeking to increase their customer bases in and around Christleton, others were clearly seeking customers from outside the area or were already operating at, or close to, full capacity.

**182.** The methods used for promoting and advertising businesses were obviously dependent on the type of product and services offered. It was interesting to note that a quarter of the businesses reported no promotion or a single method. Over half the businesses were using internet sites for promotional purposes. Print media including the A41 magazine, the Parish Magazine and other local/regional press were also well utilised together with sponsorship, display advertising, shop fascia and street signage. Individual businesses reported the use of marketing events, business newsletters/flyers and city agents.

**183.** Whilst the majority would

welcome some form of business directory several suggested that it would need to be free. Some suggested that this could be implemented by creating an online directory or links on the website.

**184.** A small majority did not believe there were other ways to promote their businesses locally but suggestions made by the remaining businesses included relaxing planning constraints to permit improved signage, business notice boards, use of local website and print media and utilisation of a national agency to promote local businesses.

**185.** Two thirds of respondents claimed that they could expand and still remain within Christleton. One would require larger premises, whilst several (3) envisaged issues with planning consent.

**186.** There was little enthusiasm for increasing the number of businesses in the village with over half the respondents expressing no opinion. Several of those who agreed that the village could do more did not believe it would be appropriate to do so; parking and traffic were again highlighted as issues within the village. Similarly the majority were either negative or neutral on the possibility of developing other locations for small business units.

**187.** Some respondents highlighted the possible synergies between businesses if there was more communication and co-operation within the business community. Only 25% (10) were supportive of the creation of a business forum or network in the village but those who were enthusiastic suggested that there would be advantages in holding informal monthly meetings. One business offered to host meetings.

**To quote from one respondent - “we love being a central part of the community and would encourage businesses to get together in Christleton.”**

### Actions

**188.** Ensure that the needs of the business community are explored with regards to parking; broadband speeds etc. (Action 30).

**189.** Examine the potential for a business directory and a business forum (Action 31).

### Clubs, Groups and Societies

**190.** It is clear that Christleton is well provided with groups and clubs for a range of activities. There is evidence (Paragraph 90) that people do not always know what clubs exist, or who to contact, but there seems no shortage of choice.

**191.** As part of the survey, various clubs, groups and societies were asked about the venues they use, how they advertise, whether membership is growing and any issues of particular concern. The results of this survey are presented in Appendix VII.

**192.** In general, all meeting venues were considered to be good or excellent and the most commonly mentioned were the Parish Hall,

The Methodist Hall and the recently refurbished Scout Hut. There are some concerns about parking at the Scout Hut (busy A41 and too little space) and in connection with the Bridge Club in the congested village centre.

**193.** Membership of most groups is ‘holding steady’, but many said there was a need to continually attract younger people to several clubs and groups which organise events, such as the Fête. Most clubs would welcome more awareness and promotion suggesting a notice board dedicated to village groups and activities, perhaps a regular newsletter and more effective use of the website.

**194.** One group suggested that young people should have a bigger say in matters to do with the village.

### Actions

**195.** Some form of representation for young people to make their views known and provide input to matters affecting young people in the village (part of Action 4).

**196.** Improved use of media for clubs and groups in the village, including use of Notice Boards, a regular newsletter and better use of the website (part of Action 12).

**197.** Explore with educational establishments the options for using their facilities for educational, vocational and leisure activities for the benefit of the wider community (Action 9).

### School Participation

#### Christleton Primary School

**198.** The children were asked to record what they liked about Christleton village and also what they would like to change or improve. They liked their school, the new park, and the Pit - ‘You see lots of nature and it’s a good place to fish and feed the ducks’.

**199.** The area they did not like and wanted to improve was the footpath (The Styal Footpath) near the school as they did not feel safe walking through it on their way to school. They did not like fast traffic, loud motorbikes on the canal tow path and several mentioned difficulties crossing roads.

**200.** Improvements they would like to see included a bird watch by the Pit, a nature trail, more places to sit down, more organised ‘sporting or activity events’ and bigger pavements. Several suggestions for improvements focussed on traffic and included help with crossing the road by the Ring O’ Bells and the Pit; and reducing the numbers of ‘noisy cars’ as they walked to school.





## Christleton High School

**201.** A short focus group was held in July 2011 with 11-14 year olds who live in Christleton. They were asked what they like about the village and what they would like to improve.

**202.** The main points were improved facilities, greater provision of activities for them and traffic and transport concerns.

**203.** Improved facilities included:

- A better playground as the new one was for small children, want zip wires, proper swings etc.
- The bike park (Josh's Jumps) in Vicars Cross is very good
- Improve local shop (s)
- Build an Astroturf Pitch in the village; when asked for a show of hands, the majority use them outside the village or would use in the village
- Improve the cricket pavilion
- Have a proper library that they can access
- More litter bins

**204.** Improved activities included:

- More sports – rugby, 5-a-side football, fishing, canoeing, games consoles
- A youth club where we can do things we cannot do at home; snooker, table tennis
- More organised events for us to take part in (sports etc.)

**205.** Concerns and suggestions relating to Traffic and Transport included:

- We do feel safe in the village, even after dark in the winter, except for speeding vehicles
- Create a cycle path to the school
- Slow the traffic down on Birch Heath Lane
- Stop vehicles parking by the Village Shop, as it is dangerous to cross.

## Highest Priority

**206.** At the end of the questionnaire residents were asked what their top priority would be for improving the quality of life in Christleton. There were 245 observations. Traffic and road safety issues were the highest priority, with 38% of all comments. This was followed by the need to maintain the pleasant environment of the village, to keep the village as it is and to ensure that the green belt is maintained around the village, with strict controls on further development (18%). It was notable that 4% of residents were very happy with the village the way it is now and did not want any change, but there were fears of 'creeping urbanisation' affecting the village.

**207.** Another theme was the range of suggestions about the importance of community spirit and community events to the life of the village (12%). The return of the Post Office and the introduction of a wider range of shops - was considered important. There was some concern about the way that Christleton is 'managed' and some residents expressed a desire to have more say over the matters that affect them (4%). The CHS is seen by some to be a major issue in the village due to its size and growing impact (3%).

**208.** A summary of these comments is given in Appendix III (Question 54)

## And Finally

**209.** Residents were finally asked for any other comments. Most responses related to issues already well recorded, such as traffic, road safety, better communication, litter, dog mess and buses. It was gratifying that a number of residents praised and supported the survey and Community Plan initiative, feeling it was an important step forward for the village. Others made it clear that they loved the village and it was a very happy place in which to live.

**210.** One view, which perhaps does not come out from the survey so clearly, was expressed by some residents away from the centre of the village. Many who live close to the parish boundary with Waverton do not feel part of the village of Christleton and some feel that the further a resident lives from the village centre, the less their opinions are considered. This is a view also held by those who live across the A41, who feel cut off from the heart of the village. Despite the odd shape of the parish boundary, which results in this fragmentation of Christleton, it is clear that residents near the parish boundaries do want to be listened to and have their concerns taken into account.

**211.** Other points worthy of more discussion are:

- In a time of severe financial constraint, we should set up and promote working groups to get things done ourselves, rather than expect funding from or action by agencies elsewhere;
- Maybe there is a need for a true community centre for the village, because facilities are fragmented;
- Most people came to the village because they were attracted to it and any changes need to be thought through very carefully; changes should be able to evolve naturally rather than forced through by small groups with their own agendas without taking the whole village into account.

**212.** This survey and Plan is the first major attempt to listen to everyone in the village of Christleton and should be used as a springboard for actions which will benefit the whole village.

**213.** A summary of these comments is given in Appendix III (Question 55).

## The Way Forward

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**214.** The preparation of the Community Plan has enabled the Steering Group to develop a good understanding of what residents and the wider community like and dislike about Christleton and where changes could be made. It is to be expected that not all residents agree on how the village should progress during the next few years but on many aspects there is a broad consensus.

**215.** From the views expressed during the open meetings, in the questionnaire and during the consultation process, an Action Plan has been developed which will provide a framework that will allow the Community Plan to move forward into the implementation stage.

**216.** A summary of the Christleton Community Plan will be delivered to every home and business in the parish of Christleton. Copies will be available for people who have an interest in the actions, but live just outside the parish boundary (e.g. Littleton and Rowton). The full Plan will be available to all on the village website and printed copies will be distributed to key organisations, agencies, schools, etc.

**217.** After the official launch of the Plan, a Lead Implementation Group will be set up, comprising representatives from the village including Parish Councillors. These representatives may not be the same as those on the Steering Group which prepared the Plan. A successful implementation stage will require the help and support of the community to undertake the identified actions to the benefit of the whole village.

**218.** After reviewing the Community Plan the Steering Group hopes that individuals or groups of like-minded villagers will volunteer to set-up new groups to undertake one, or more,

of the actions in the Plan. As will be seen in the Action Plan, the village is looking for better information and communication and hence immediate priority has been given to ensuring that everyone is kept informed of the way forward and the outcome of the various actions. Actions relating to the website, a village guide and a possible newsletter will be investigated, to ensure that everyone is informed.

**219.** The Community Plan needs to be a dynamic document which will be reviewed at 12 to 18 month intervals, to monitor progress and take account of changing priorities.

**220.** So the village needs you! For further information contact any of the following:

- Richard Bennett (Chair)  
richard.bennett@btinternet.com
- Sue Mallows (Vice Chair)  
suejmallows@gmail.com
- Sue Thwaite (Clerk to the Parish Council)  
christletonpc@hotmail.com



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## References

<sup>1</sup> Precept collected from 890 properties as at 2010

<sup>2</sup> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion, Cheshire Community Action (2011) Parish Profile for Christleton Final Report v1.1 March

<sup>3</sup> Approximately 75 questionnaires were delivered to properties adjacent to but just outside the parish boundary.

<sup>4</sup> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion, Cheshire Community Action (2011) Parish Profile for Christleton Final Report v1.1 March.

<sup>5</sup> This percentage is calculated from the total number of people living in the household.

<sup>6</sup> This percentage is calculated from the number of questionnaires returned (368)

<sup>7</sup> Ranking was on a five point scale from 1 (not important) to 5 (very important).

<sup>8</sup> Details are available on the Traffic Action Group page on [www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk).

<sup>9</sup> Details are available on the Parish Council/Traffic Policies page on [www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk).

## Glossary

| Abbreviation |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| CCA          | Cheshire Community Action   |
| CHS          | Christleton High School     |
| CPS          | Christleton Primary School  |
| CSC          | Christleton Sports Centre   |
| CWaC         | Cheshire West and Chester   |
| PROW         | Public Rights of Way        |
| U3A          | University of the Third Age |

## Acknowledgements

The Community Plan Steering Group would like to thank everyone who has been involved with the production of the Plan. In particular the Steering Group would like to thank all residents and business representatives for completing the questionnaires, attending the various open meetings and consultation events. Without these valuable contributions this Plan would not have been completed.

The Steering Group would also like to thank Brio Leisure for permission to take photographs inside the Christleton Sports Centre.

The photographs used in this plan are reproduced with the kind permission of David Cummings, Malcolm Pratt and Geoff Butt.

The Steering Group would also like to thank the following for their support

- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Cheshire Community Action
- Christleton Parish Council
- Christleton Fête Committee
- Christleton Primary School
- Christleton High School
- The College of Law



## Appendices

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## Appendix I - Project Diary

The Steering Group meetings were held monthly from 5 July 2010. Working Groups met fortnightly and when required during critical periods weekly.

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 2009          | Parish Council – first discussions  |
| 2010          |   |
| January/April | Three informal group meetings at Ring O’ Bells  |
|               | Initial contact with Cheshire Community Action  |
|               | Starter Grant awarded £250.   |
| March         | Advertisements in A41 and St James’ Magazine.   |
| April         | Stand at Parish Council Open Morning  |
| May           | Afternoon drop-in session and evening presentation at Christleton Primary School; survey for initial feedback |
|               | Interim Steering Group meeting  |
| June          | Stand at Village Fête   |
|               | Donation from village Fête Committee  |
| July          | First official plan meeting (22 attending)  |
|               | Declarations of interest, potential Steering Group members  |
|               | Skills audit carried out  |
|               | Meeting with consultant Martin Stockley re traffic and general issues   |
| August        | ‘Launch’ meeting (Name/Steering Group/Constitution, etc.)   |
|               | Letters of Support from key people  |
|               | Approach to neighbouring parishes about possible cooperation  |
| September     | Preparation of funding application  |
|               | Pilot survey form issued  |
|               | Design of swan logo and poster  |
| November      | CCA grant application submitted   |
| 2011          |   |
| January       | Set up Working Groups to develop questions  |
|               | Funding approved  |
| March         | Draft business survey   |
| April         | Stand and consultation at Parish Open Morning   |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| June      | Feedback from Primary School children                            |
|           | Stand at Village Fête  |
|           | Second donation from Fête Committee                              |
| July      | Presentation to Women's Institute                                |
| August    | Business survey questionnaire agreed                             |
|           | Residential survey questionnaire agreed                          |
| September | Business survey questionnaire distributed                        |
|           | Survey responses completed                                       |
| October   | Main residential survey questionnaire distributed                |
|           | Survey responses completed                                       |
| December  | Prize Draw at the Institute                                      |
|           | Meeting with CWaC re implications of Neighbourhood Plans         |
|           | Analysis of business survey responses                            |
| 2012      |  |
| January   | Analysis of main survey responses                                |
| February  | Presentation workshop with Martin Stockley, Urban Consultant     |
| March     | Working Groups draft plan sections weekly sessions               |
|           | Design and layout of plan  |
| March     | Summary of Comments  |
|           | Survey of Groups, Clubs & Societies                              |
| April     | First full draft of plan   |
|           | Stand for consultation on the Action Plan at Parish open morning |
|           | Consultation on the Action Plan at Country Market                |
|           | Photographs selected   |
| May       | Final stages of the drafting of full version of plan and summary |
|           | Second consultation on the Action Plan at Country Market         |
| August    | Plan and summary to printers                                     |
| September | Formal presentation to Parish Council and Village                |
|           | Summary delivered to all homes in village                        |
|           | Make arrangements for setting up Implementation Group            |



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## Appendix II - Steering Group Members

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Core Team from July 2010 to August 2012 |            |
| Richard Bennett                         | Chair      |
| Sue Mallows                             | Vice-Chair |
| Victoria Pritchard                      | Secretary  |
| Pauline Pratt                           | Treasurer  |
|   |            |
| Wendy Bell                              |            |
| Janet Brown                             |            |
| Pamela Evans                            |            |
| Jane Pickering                          |            |
| Malcolm Pratt                           | Editor     |
| Susan Robson                            |            |
|   |            |
| with valuable contributions from:       |            |
| Geoff Butt                              |            |
| Hems de Winter                          |            |
| Karen Wilson                            |            |

## Appendix III - Christleton Residential Survey Results

Questionnaires were returned from 365 (37%) properties with additional questionnaires from three of properties giving an individual rather than family view. As a consequence the percentages given in the following tables were calculated from the total number of questionnaires (368) returned unless otherwise stated. It should be noted that where the resident could make a number of choices (e.g. question 5) the percentages quoted relate to the number of residents that selected a given choice and the total number of returned questionnaires. In these cases the percentages if added together will exceed 100.

### Section A Information on your household

| Q1 What is total number of people by gender, including children that live in your household? |           |                   |           |
|--|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Number of Males  | 420 (46%) | Number of Females | 485 (54%) |

| Q2 Which age range do they fall into? |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Age range                             | 0-4 | 05-11 | 12-17 | 18-29 | 30-49 | 50-64 | 65-84 | 85+ |
| Number                                | 36  | 64    | 60    | 74    | 164   | 210   | 239   | 36  |
| %                                     | 4   | 7     | 7     | 8     | 19    | 24    | 27    | 4   |

| Q3 (a) How far away is the main place of work, school, college etc for each person in your household? (Please indicate the number falling within each distance category). |                    |                        |                   |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| At home   | Within Christleton | 2 to 5 miles           | More than 5 miles |
| 66 (7%) <sup>1</sup>  | 138 (15%)          | 148 (16%)              | 195 (21%)         |
| (b) If members of your household are not working or in education are they   |                    |                        |                   |
| Retired   | Unemployed         | Other (please specify) |                   |
| 299 (32%)   | 10 (1%)            | 68 (7%)                |                   |

| Q4 How many years have you lived in Christleton? |          |          |          |          |              |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Less than 1                                      | 1- 5     | 6-10     | 11-20    | 21- 30   | More than 30 |
| 13 (4%)  | 46 (13%) | 43 (12%) | 69 (19%) | 58 (16%) | 132 (36%)    |

<sup>1</sup> percentage based on the number of people



| Q5 What was the main reason(s) why you or your household originally came to Christleton? (tick more than one box if necessary) |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Family connections   | 98 (27%) <sup>2</sup> |
| Schools for children   | 128 (35%)             |
| Work nearby  | 113 (31%)             |
| Newly married  | 35 (10%)              |
| Pleasant village appearance  | 199 (54%)             |
| Good housing   | 119 (32%)             |
| Easy for commuting   | 134 (36%)             |
| Other (please specify) 68 (18%)  |                       |

| Q6 Do you have any family members living in the village (apart from those who live with you at the same address)? |              |                   |
|---|--------------|-------------------|
| Yes 73 (20%)  | No 288 (78%) | Nil return 7 (2%) |

| Q7 On a scale of 1 to 10 how happy are you living in Christleton? |           |           |           |           |            |            |              |             |              |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1   | 2         | 3         | 4         | 5         | 6          | 7          | 8            | 9           | 10           |
| 0<br>(0%)   | 1<br>(0%) | 0<br>(0%) | 2<br>(1%) | 5<br>(1%) | 9<br>(2%)  | 26<br>(7%) | 108<br>(29%) | 85<br>(23%) | 125<br>(34%) |
| Nil return 7 (2%)   |           |           |           |           |            |            |              |             |              |
| Very unhappy  |           |           |           |           | Very happy |            |              |             |              |

<sup>2</sup> percentage based on the number of questionnaires returned

**Section B – Amenities, Events and Activities**

| Q8 Do you have any comments about the quality of the following? |           |           |              |          |            |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|----------|------------|
|   | Excellent | Good      | Satisfactory | Poor     | Nil Return |
| Electricity services  | 84 (23%)  | 173 (47%) | 77 (21%)     | 13 (4%)  | 21 (6%)    |
| Gas services  | 98 (27%)  | 174 (47%) | 59 (16%)     | 6 (2%)   | 31 (8%)    |
| Mobile phone reception  | 30 (8%)   | 112 (30%) | 118 (32%)    | 78 (21%) | 30 (8%)    |
| Postal delivery service in Christleton                          | 73 (20%)  | 168 (46%) | 89 (24%)     | 24 (7%)  | 14 (4%)    |
| Refuse collection services                                      | 99 (27%)  | 192 (52%) | 54 (15%)     | 11 (3%)  | 12 (3%)    |
| Snow clearance/gritting   | 19 (5%)   | 80 (22%)  | 144 (42%)    | 99 (29%) | 26 (7%)    |
| Speed of internet services                                      | 13 (4%)   | 104 (28%) | 125 (34%)    | 65 (18%) | 61 (17%)   |
| Street lighting   | 29 (8%)   | 153 (42%) | 129 (35%)    | 39 (11%) | 18 (5%)    |
| TV reception  | 54 (15%)  | 173 (47%) | 90 (24%)     | 31 (8%)  | 20 (5%)    |
| Water service   | 72 (20%)  | 191 (52%) | 75 (20%)     | 9 (2%)   | 21 (6%)    |
| Any other comments or suggestions: 68                           |           |           |              |          |            |

| Q9 If you have a disability, are there any improvements, services or facilities you would like to see introduced or improved? |   |
|---|---|
| Comments relating to problems of disabled access and the condition of pavements:  |   |
| Pavements require improvements  | 6 |
| Roads difficult to cross without crossings, cars too fast   | 5 |
| Keep footpaths clean and vegetation trimmed back  | 4 |
| Better bus services and shelters  | 4 |
| Cars parked on pavements and blocking access  | 3 |
| More snow clearance and gritting on paths   | 2 |



Q10 What improvements or developments would you like to see in the provision of services and facilities for the following age categories in Christleton?

**Children (up to 12)**

Most comments relate to the need for open spaces for children to play in free of restrictions, the new playground in King George's Fields and clubs or activities for children before and after school.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Clubs, before and after school, youth clubs | 12 |
| Access to and use of open spaces            | 12 |
| Playground in King George's Fields          | 12 |
| Sport facilities, cycle tracks, rowing      | 11 |
| Traffic management, better parking          | 8  |
| The use of the Primary School fields        | 3  |
| Misc: toilets by playground, wider footpath | 3  |
| Better information, e.g. on swimming pool   | 2  |
| Nursery                                     | 2  |

**Teenagers (13 to 17)**

From the comments most interest would be for a youth club, or other facilities for teenagers to meet and chill out and perhaps a need for more or better sports facilities for this age group. It should be noted that many of these comments were probably made by adults and their views of what teenagers want.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Youth club or similar places to meet   | 32 |
| More and better sport facilities       | 9  |
| Cycle tracks, paths, BMX, skateboard   | 5  |
| Less traffic by school, better parking | 4  |
| Disco, music, dance related            | 3  |
| Better buses and transport             | 3  |

**Adults (up to 65)**

Comments from adults up to age 65 almost entirely support responses to other questions, such as reinstatement of the post office, bus services, sport facilities, action on roads and pavements and improvements to local services, such as faster broadband.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Post office needed                       | 14 |
| More shops                               | 14 |
| Sports facilities, bowling, tai chi, etc | 7  |
| Courses, classes, lectures               | 6  |
| Traffic management, lighting             | 5  |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Fast internet, better guides   | 5  |
| Drama group, dances  | 4  |
| Coffee shop  | 4  |
| Better bus services  | 4  |
| Better paths, pavements  | 3  |
| Opportunities to socialise; get involved   | 3  |
| Library  | 3  |
| Everything is OK   | 3  |
| ATM  | 2  |
| <b>Adults (above 65)</b>   |    |
| Comments largely support the responses to other questions, including the disappointment at the loss of the village Post Office, concern at safety on the roads and pavements and the need for adequate bus shelters and bus services |    |
| Post Office required   | 19 |
| Bus shelters and better bus services   | 18 |
| Club, cafe, place for elderly to meet  | 11 |
| Pharmacy and GP surgery  | 9  |
| Traffic speed to be controlled   | 5  |
| Cars not to block pavements, access  | 3  |
| More understanding of older people's needs   | 3  |
| Courses, computing, etc  | 3  |
| More seating   | 2  |
| Swimming for disabled and cheaper at CSC   | 2  |
| Outings, opportunity to socialise  | 2  |
| Affordable housing to downsize   | 2  |
| Community Library  | 2  |



| Q11 Which of the following do you visit or make use of within the village? |          |           |          |              |           |            |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Daily    | Weekly    | Monthly  | Occasionally | Never     | Nil Return |
| Bridge Club  | 1 (0%)   | 3 (1%)    | 0 (0%)   | 6 (2%)       | 290 (79%) | 68 (18%)   |
| Bus stops  | 25 (7%)  | 59 (16%)  | 21 (6%)  | 114 (31%)    | 62 (17%)  | 87 (24%)   |
| Canal/towpath  | 65 (18%) | 136 (37%) | 36 (10%) | 90 (24%)     | 19 (5%)   | 22 (6%)    |
| Car parks  | 3 (1%)   | 26 (12%)  | 15 (7%)  | 94 (43%)     | 81 (37%)  | 149(40%)   |
| Cheshire View  | 0 (0%)   | 3 (1%)    | 10 (3%)  | 203 (55%)    | 128 (35%) | 24 (7%)    |
| Children's play area   | 3 (1%)   | 34 (9%)   | 32 (9%)  | 104 (28%)    | 144 (39%) | 51 (14%)   |
| Churches   | 1 (0%)   | 48 (13%)  | 29 (8%)  | 181 (49%)    | 76 (21%)  | 33 (9%)    |
| Cricket/Football Club  | 2 (1%)   | 8 (2%)    | 4 (1%)   | 100 (27%)    | 216 (59%) | 38 (10%)   |
| Dentist  | 0 (0%)   | 1 (0%)    | 7 (2%)   | 85 (23%)     | 228 (62%) | 47 (13%)   |
| Footpaths/rights of way  | 70 (19%) | 92 (25%)  | 49 (13%) | 95 (26%)     | 22 (6%)   | 40 (11%)   |
| Hairdresser/ Barber  | 0 (0%)   | 2 (1%)    | 86 (23%) | 73 (20%)     | 172 (47%) | 35 (10%)   |
| Mobile library   | 0 (0%)   | 9 (2%)    | 8 (2%)   | 70 (19%)     | 233 (63%) | 48 (13%)   |
| Parish Hall  | 1 (0%)   | 26 (7%)   | 35 (10%) | 200 (54%)    | 71 (19%)  | 35 (10%)   |
| Playing fields   | 5 (1%)   | 35 (10%)  | 25 (7%)  | 99 (27%)     | 152 (41%) | 52 (14%)   |
| Post boxes   | 23 (6%)  | 173 (47%) | 62 (17%) | 81 (22%)     | 13 (4%)   | 16 (4%)    |
| Public benches   | 4 (1%)   | 21 (6%)   | 30 (6%)  | 161 (50%)    | 103 (32%) | 49 (13%)   |
| Public houses  | 4 (1%)   | 71 (19%)  | 76 (21%) | 162 (44%)    | 24 (7%)   | 31 (8%)    |
| Schools  | 63 (20%) | 6 (2%)    | 3 (1%)   | 43 (14%)     | 195 (63%) | 58 (16%)   |
| Scout hut  | 8 (2%)   | 21 (6%)   | 1 (0%)   | 32 (9%)      | 241 (65%) | 65 (18%)   |
| Sports Centre  | 4 (1%)   | 65 (18%)  | 17 (5%)  | 79 (21%)     | 145 (39%) | 58 (16%)   |
| The Pit (the pond)   | 23 (6%)  | 75 (20%)  | 57 (15%) | 163 (44%)    | 26 (7%)   | 24 (7%)    |
| Village Store  | 57 (15%) | 156 (42%) | 41 (11%) | 80 (22%)     | 19 (5%)   | 15 (4%)    |
| Village Institute  | 2 (1%)   | 25 (7%)   | 12 (3%)  | 98 (27%)     | 201 (55%) | 30 (8%)    |
| Please add any omissions below. 10   |          |           |          |              |           |            |

| Q12 Please rank each item on a scale of 1 to 5 which of the following you would like to see introduced into the village? |               |          |          |          |                |            |
|--|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|------------|
|  | Not Important |          |          |          | Very important | Nil Return |
|  | 1             | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5              |            |
| Cash machine   | 111 (30%)     | 34 (9%)  | 62 (17%) | 55 (15%) | 71 (19%)       | 35 (10%)   |
| Coffee shop/café   | 118 (32%)     | 49 (13%) | 75 (20%) | 51 (14%) | 32 (9%)        | 43 (12%)   |
| GP Surgery   | 60 (16%)      | 49 (13%) | 72 (20%) | 67 (18%) | 74 (20%)       | 46 (13%)   |
| Pharmacy   | 57 (15%)      | 47 (13%) | 75 (20%) | 74 (20%) | 79 (21%)       | 36 (10%)   |
| Post office  | 13 (4%)       | 16 (4%)  | 42 (11%) | 67 (18%) | 209 (57%)      | 21 (6%)    |
| Public toilets   | 171 (46%)     | 44 (12%) | 58 (16%) | 22 (6%)  | 24 (7%)        | 49 (13%)   |
| Recycling facilities   | 108 (29%)     | 47 (13%) | 78 (21%) | 47 (13%) | 34 (9%)        | 54 (15%)   |
| Walking/cycling routes   | 44 (12%)      | 26 (7%)  | 82 (22%) | 78 (21%) | 93 (25%)       | 45 (12%)   |
| Wider choice of shops  | 78 (21%)      | 47 (13%) | 89 (24%) | 47 (13%) | 70 (19%)       | 37 (10%)   |
| Please add any omissions below. 37   |               |          |          |          |                |            |

| Q13 Have you ever attended events or meetings at any of the following venues? |        |         |          |              |           |            |
|---|--------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------|------------|
|   | Daily  | Weekly  | Monthly  | Occasionally | Never     | Nil Return |
| Cheshire View   | 0 (0%) | 3 (1%)  | 10 (3%)  | 203 (55%)    | 128 (35%) | 24 (7%)    |
| College of Law  | 1 (0%) | 1 (0%)  | 0 (0%)   | 58 (16%)     | 268 (73%) | 40 (11%)   |
| Football/Cricket Club   | 2 (1%) | 8 (2%)  | 4 (1%)   | 100 (27%)    | 216 (59%) | 38 (10%)   |
| High School   | 9 (2%) | 6 (2%)  | 17 (5%)  | 178 (48%)    | 125 (34%) | 33 (9%)    |
| Methodist Church  | 0 (0%) | 14 (4%) | 23 (6%)  | 157 (43%)    | 146 (40%) | 28 (8%)    |
| Parish Hall   | 1 (0%) | 13 (4%) | 43 (12%) | 219 (60%)    | 67 (18%)  | 25 (7%)    |
| Primary School  | 9 (2%) | 6 (2%)  | 25 (7%)  | 153 (42%)    | 136 (37%) | 39 (11%)   |
| St James Church   | 1 (0%) | 31 (8%) | 26 (8%)  | 208 (57%)    | 78 (21%)  | 24 (7%)    |
| Village Institute   | 2 (1%) | 25 (7%) | 12 (3%)  | 98 (27%)     | 201 (55%) | 30 (8%)    |
| Please add any omissions below. 10  |        |         |          |              |           |            |



| Q14 Do you participate in any physical/sporting activities within the village?                              |              |   |
|---|--------------|---|
| Yes 134 (36%)   | No 226 (63%) | Nil return 8 (2%)   |
| If you answered "Yes" please identify which activities you are involved in and where they take place below. |              |   |
| What activities   | Number       | Where do they take place                                    |
| Swimming  | 57           | Christleton Sports Centre, Rowton Hall/Mercure (4)          |
| Gym, Circuit Training   | 27           | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Walking   | 22           | Footpaths, Canal Towpath, Christleton Walking Group         |
| Football  | 21           | School fields (CHS/CPS), King George's Fields, AFC Waverton |
| Cycling   | 17           | Roads, Towpath, Lanes                                       |
| Badminton   | 13           | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Running, Jogging, Fun Run   | 10           | Tow path, Footpaths, Lanes, Waverton Fun Run                |
| Zumba   | 8            | Parish Hall   |
| Netball   | 6            | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Cricket   | 6            | Christleton Cricket Club                                    |
| Dancing   | 5            | Parish Hall   |
| Bowls   | 5            | Cheshire View, summer only                                  |
| Snooker   | 4            | Institute   |
| Keep Fit, PE  | 4            | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Tennis  | 3            | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Triathlon   | 2            |   |
| Squash  | 2            | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Bell-ringing  | 2            | St James' Church  |
| Aqua aerobics   | 1            | Christleton Sports Centre                                   |
| Rugby   | 1            | College of Law  |
| Horse Riding  | 1            |   |
| Fishing   | 1            | Pit   |
| Darts   | 1            | Plough Pub  |
| Canoeing  | 1            |   |

| Q15 What physical/sporting related facilities, clubs, events and activities would you like to see introduced in the village? |    |
|--|----|
| Bowls, Bowling Green   | 13 |
| Tennis, tennis club  | 12 |
| Keep fit (esp. over 65's)  | 9  |
| Yoga, tai chi  | 7  |
| Golf, golf range   | 4  |
| Cycle paths, cycling   | 4  |

| Q16 Do you participate in any non-sporting activities within the village?                                   |              |                          |
|---|--------------|--------------------------|
| Yes 142 (39%)   | No 205 (56%) | Nil return 21 (6%)       |
| If you answered "Yes" please identify which activities you are involved in and where they take place below. |              |                          |
| What activities   | Number       | Where do they take place |
| Women's Institute   | 21           | Parish Hall              |
| Church-going and Church-related   | 18           | Churches                 |
| Wednesday group and fund-raising  | 15           | Parish Hall, homes       |
| Local History Group   | 15           | Primary School           |
| Gardening Club  | 15           | Methodist Hall           |
| Village Show  | 13           | Parish Hall              |
| Fête Support, Fête Committee  | 13           | CPS, Institute           |
| Book Club   | 9            | Members' homes           |
| Brownies  | 8            | Methodist Hall           |
| Pit Group   | 8            | The Pit                  |
| Quiz events   | 6            | Institute                |
| Charity events, Hospice, etc  | 5            | Various                  |
| Toddlers Group  | 5            | Parish Hall              |
| Bingo   | 4            | Institute                |
| Bridge Club   | 4            | Deva Bridge Club         |
| Guides  | 4            | Scout Hut                |
| Continued on next page  |              |                          |



|                                |   |                  |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Village Teas                   | 4 | Methodist Hall   |
| Flower Arranging Club          | 4 | Parish Hall      |
| Parish Council Meetings        | 4 | Methodist Hall   |
| Bell ringing                   | 4 | St James' Church |
| Church Choir practice          | 3 | St James' Church |
| Bird Watching, natural history | 3 |                  |
| Assistance at Primary school   | 2 | Primary School   |
| Beavers                        | 2 | Scout Hut        |
| Dances, disco                  | 2 |                  |
| Community Plan                 | 2 | Members' homes   |
| Traffic Action Group           | 2 | Methodist Hall   |
| University of 3rd Age          | 2 | Homes            |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Q17 What non-sporting related facilities, clubs, events and activities would you like to see introduced in the village? |   |
| Day or evening classes (languages, IT, crafts, etc)   | 5 |
| Day time activity centre, cafe, tea dances  | 4 |
| Country Market, Christmas market  | 3 |
| Theatre Group, club, amateur dramatics  | 3 |
| Allotments  | 2 |
| Art classes, exhibition space   | 2 |

| Q18 On a scale of 1 to 5 how well does the Parish Council publicise its activities etc? |          |          |           |          |           |            |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
|   | Poor     |          |           |          | Excellent | Nil Return |
|   | 1        | 2        | 3         | 4        | 5         |            |
| Activities  | 76 (21%) | 74 (20%) | 120 (33%) | 41 (11%) | 18 (5%)   | 39 (11%)   |
| Decisions   | 78 (21%) | 85 (23%) | 108 (29%) | 35 (10%) | 18 (5%)   | 44 (12%)   |
| Local information   | 75 (20%) | 82 (22%) | 111 (30%) | 46 (13%) | 17 (5%)   | 37 (10%)   |
| Policies  | 86 (23%) | 90 (24%) | 101 (27%) | 28 (8%)  | 14 (4%)   | 49 (13%)   |
| Any other comments. 68  |          |          |           |          |           |            |

| Q19 Have you met any of your councillors?  |               |              |                    |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Parish Council   | Yes 176 (48%) | No 182 (49%) | Nil Return 10 (3%) |
| Local Council (CWaC)   | Yes 117 (32%) | No 223 (61%) | Nil Return 28 (3%) |
| If you answered "No" and would you like the opportunity to meet them. Please indicate how this could be achieved below. 49 |               |              |                    |

| Q20 How do you find out information about events, activities and facilities in Christleton? |           |
|---|-----------|
| A41 Magazine  | 332 (90%) |
| Christleton Web Site  | 88 (24%)  |
| Church  | 94 (26%)  |
| Local papers  | 221 (60%) |
| Parish magazine   | 223 (61%) |
| Parish notice boards  | 126 (34%) |
| Shop window posters   | 211 (54%) |
| Word of mouth   | 268 (73%) |
| None of these   | 6 (2%)    |

| Q21 Would you like to have a Newsletter providing specific information on Christleton, local events etc? |              |                    |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Yes 218 (59%)  | No 120 (33%) | Nil return 30 (8%) |
| If you answered "Yes" please indicate whether you would like to contribute to the Newsletter? 141        |              |                    |



|   |              |                     |
|---|--------------|---------------------|
| Q22 Would you like to see information boards and local maps introduced to the village to inform visitors of local history, services, facilities and places of interest? |              |                     |
| Yes 218 (59%)   | No 115 (31%) | Nil return 35 (10%) |
| If you answered "Yes" please indicate the priority sites for this information below. 172  |              |                     |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Q23 Do you feel that information about events, groups and clubs could be advertised better in the village? |           |
| Already well informed  | 118 (32%) |
| No   | 31 (8%)   |
| Not interested   | 35 (10%)  |
| Yes  | 157 (43%) |
| Nil return   | 27 (7%)   |
| If you selected "Yes" please specify how this might be achieved below. 126                                 |           |
| If you selected "not interested" please say what would make you interested below. 4                        |           |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Q24 Do you have access to the internet (tick more than one as appropriate)? |           |
| No  | 68 (18%)  |
| Yes, at work  | 119 (32%) |
| Yes, at home  | 283 (77%) |
| Nil return  | 11 (3%)   |
| Any other comments: 26  |           |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Q25 Do you ever access the Village website (www.Christleton.org.uk)? |           |
| Do not know where to find it   | 26 (7%)   |
| Never  | 130 (35%) |
| Not interested   | 7 (2%)    |
| Rarely   | 75 (20%)  |
| Yes, weekly  | 10 (3%)   |
| Yes, monthly   | 15(4%)    |
| Yes, occasionally  | 97 (26%)  |
| Nil return   | 8 (2%)    |
| Any other comments: 53   |           |

**Section C - Our Village Environment**

| Q26 Please select the best five features of living in Christleton? |                            |                   |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
|  | All data                   | 5 or less choices |
| Canal  | 219 (60%) [3] <sup>3</sup> | 180 (49%) [3]     |
| Community spirit   | 103 (28%)                  | 87 (24%)          |
| Countryside  | 179 (49%) [5]              | 142 (39%) [5]     |
| General location   | 225 (61%) [2]              | 190 (52%) [1]     |
| Green spaces separating us from other villages                     | 175 (48%)                  | 137 (37%)         |
| Hedgerows  | 40 (11%)                   | 14 (4%)           |
| Legion Meadow  | 30 (8%)                    | 13 (4%)           |
| Natural beauty   | 98 (27%)                   | 68 (18%)          |
| Old world charm  | 96 (26%)                   | 67(18%)           |
| Peace and quiet  | 114 (31%)                  | 94 (26%)          |
| Picture post card appearance                                       | 85 (24%)                   | 60 (16%)          |
| Pleasant environment   | 208 (57%) [4]              | 174 (47%) [4]     |
| Public footpath/rights of way network                              | 111 (30%)                  | 76 (21%)          |
| The Pit (the pond)   | 226 (61%) [1]              | 185 (50%) [2]     |
| Trees  | 83 (23%)                   | 53 (14%)          |
| Nil return   | 4 (1%)                     |                   |
| Any other suggestions: 32  |                            |                   |

| Q27 Do you think that Christleton has a problem with any of the following? |           |           |            |            |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
|  | Yes       | No        | Don't know | Nil Return |
| Anti social behaviour  | 44 (12%)  | 158 (43%) | 101 (82%)  | 65 (18%)   |
| Crime  | 37 (10%)  | 150 (41%) | 105 (29%)  | 76 (21%)   |
| Dog fouling  | 218 (59%) | 64 (17%)  | 0 (0%)     | 86 (23%)   |
| Graffiti   | 13 (4%)   | 232 (63%) | 46 (13%)   | 77 (21%)   |
| Continued on next page   |           |           |            |            |

<sup>3</sup>position (first to fifth) shown on square brackets i.e. [1]



|                           |           |           |          |          |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Litter                    | 131 (36%) | 156 (42%) | 25 (7%)  | 56 (15%) |
| Traffic                   | 316 (86%) | 25 (7%)   | 8 (2%)   | 19 (5%)  |
| Vandalism                 | 20(5%)    | 172 (47%) | 93 (25%) | 83 (23%) |
| Any other suggestions: 63 |           |           |          |          |

| Q28 Are you aware of the following green spaces and do you use them?               |           |          |           |            |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
|  | Yes       | and use  | No        | Nil Return |
| Birch Heath Common   | 150 (41%) | 72 (20%) | 110 (30%) | 36 (10%)   |
| Capesthorne Road Play Area   | 133 (36%) | 14 (4%)  | 163 (44%) | 58 (16%)   |
| King George's Fields   | 162 (44%) | 76 (21%) | 89 (24%)  | 41 (11%)   |
| King George's Play Area  | 153 (42%) | 94 (26%) | 84 (23%)  | 37 (10%)   |
| Legion Meadow  | 146 (40%) | 81 (22%) | 99 (27%)  | 42 (11%)   |
| Little Heath Common  | 107 (29%) | 56 (15%) | 137 (37%) | 68 (18%)   |
| Village Green  | 210 (57%) | 98 (27%) | 41 (11%)  | 19 (5%)    |
| If you use other areas in the village that are not listed above please identify:33 |           |          |           |            |

| Q29 Would you like to see any, or more, of the following in Christleton? |           |           |            |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|
|  | Yes       | No        | Nil Return |
| Allotments   | 130 (35%) | 146 (40%) | 92 (25%)   |
| Bridleways   | 87 (24%)  | 154 (42%) | 127 (35%)  |
| Children's playgrounds   | 78 (21%)  | 180 (49%) | 110 (30%)  |
| Community solar panels   | 86 (23%)  | 168 (46%) | 114 (31%)  |
| Conservation area  | 195 (53%) | 79 (21%)  | 94 (26%)   |
| Cycle ways   | 181 (49%) | 94 (26%)  | 93 (25%)   |
| Dog bins   | 218 (59%) | 64 (17%)  | 86 (23%)   |
| Farmland   | 153 (42%) | 89 (24%)  | 126 (34%)  |
| Flowerbeds at the gateways to the village                                | 255 (69%) | 53 (14%)  | 60 (16%)   |

|                             |           |           |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hedgerows                   | 193 (52%) | 59 (16%)  | 116 (32%) |
| Open green spaces           | 221 (60%) | 41 (11%)  | 106 (29%) |
| Public and permissive paths | 209 (57%) | 52 (14%)  | 107 (29%) |
| Seating around the village  | 202 (55%) | 80 (22%)  | 86 (23%)  |
| Shared gardens              | 51 (14%)  | 177 (48%) | 140 (38%) |
| Solar panels (domestic)     | 105 (29%) | 153 (42%) | 110 (30%) |
| Stiles and gates            | 137 (37%) | 112 (30%) | 119 (32%) |
| Wind turbines (commercial)  | 26 (7%)   | 258 (70%) | 84 (23%)  |
| Wind turbines (domestic)    | 42 (11%)  | 233 (63%) | 93 (25%)  |
| Woodland areas              | 237 (64%) | 37 (10%)  | 94 (26%)  |
| Any other suggestions. 24   |           |           |           |

|  |             |                    |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| Q30 Do you think that noise is an issue? |             |                    |
| Yes 132 (36%)                            | No 223(61%) | Nil return 13 (3%) |
| Any other suggestions. 24                |             |                    |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Q31 Are there any environmental initiatives you would like to see in Christleton? |    |
| Comments received: 59   |    |
| Traffic management issues (see Section D)   | 16 |
| More community recycling, shared bins, composting                                 | 9  |
| Carbon neutral, green energy village initiatives                                  | 6  |
| Nature reserves, bird boxes, wildlife corridors                                   | 3  |
| Community vegetable plots   | 2  |



| Q32 How often do you use these Public Rights of Way? |          |           |          |               |           |            |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|---------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Daily    | Weekly    | Monthly  | Occasion-ally | Never     | Nil Return |
| Bridleways   | 5 (1%)   | 43 (15%)  | 24 (7%)  | 87 (24%)      | 129 (35%) | 80 (22%)   |
| Canal towpath  | 72 (20%) | 137 (37%) | 44 (12%) | 83 (23%)      | 19 (5%)   | 13 (4%)    |
| Cycleways and paths                                  | 48 (13%) | 86 (23%)  | 41 (11%) | 71 (19%)      | 59 (16%)  | 63 (17%)   |
| Public Footpaths                                     | 95 (26%) | 116 (32%) | 33 (9%)  | 81 (22%)      | 19 (5%)   | 24 (7%)    |
| Please add any omissions below. 5                    |          |           |          |               |           |            |

| Q33 If you use these Rights of Way how well do you feel they are maintained?          |           |           |         |            |
|---|-----------|-----------|---------|------------|
|   | Well      | Average   | Poorly  | Nil Return |
| Bridleways  | 53 (14%)  | 97 (26%)  | 9 (2%)  | 209 (57%)  |
| Canal towpath   | 193 (52%) | 119 (32%) | 19 (6%) | 37 (10%)   |
| Cycleways and paths   | 96 (26%)  | 144 (39%) | 12 (3%) | 116 (32%)  |
| Public Footpaths  | 116 (32%) | 170 (46%) | 30 (8%) | 52 (14%)   |
| Do you have any observations on the quality of the signage to these Rights of Way? 45 |           |           |         |            |

| Q34 Do you think Christleton should develop its own planning or related policy documents to benefit the community? |             |                      |                    |
|--|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Yes 150 (41%)  | No 35 (10%) | Don't know 155 (42%) | Nil return 28 (8%) |
| Please explain why: 118  |             |                      |                    |

| Q35 Do you or members of your family anticipate a requirement for affordable or sheltered housing in the village now or within the next 5 years? |             |              |                     |                    |
|--|-------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Affordable housing   | Yes 34 (9%) | No 261 (71%) | Don't know 50 (14%) | Nil Return 23 (6%) |
| Sheltered housing  | Yes 23 (6%) | No 238 (65%) | Don't know 77 (21%) | Nil Return 30 (8%) |
| If you have answered "Yes" to this question please indicate your likely need: 38   |             |              |                     |                    |

Q36 Do you or members of your family anticipate a requirement for down sizing your property in the village now or within the next 5 years?

|              |              |                     |                    |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Yes 41 (11%) | No 244 (66%) | Don't know 69 (19%) | Nil Return 14 (4%) |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|

If you have answered "Yes" to this question please indicate your likely need: 31

Q37 Is there a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in your part of Christleton?

|               |              |                     |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Yes 198 (54%) | No 131 (36%) | Nil Return 39 (11%) |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------|

If you answered "No" would you like to participate in setting up a scheme in your part of Christleton? If so please indicate below. 70

Q38 In terms of personal safety do you feel safe in the following areas?

|                                       |               |             |                    |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|
| In your house during the day          | Yes 361 (98%) | No 2 (1%)   | Nil Return 5 (1%)  |
| In your house at night                | Yes 359 (98%) | No 4 (1%)   | Nil Return 5 (1%)  |
| Walking in the village during the day | Yes 343 (93%) | No 16 (4%)  | Nil Return 9 (2%)  |
| Walking in the village at night       | Yes 274 (74%) | No 60 (16%) | Nil Return 34 (9%) |

If you answered "No" please explain what you think needs to be done to alleviate this concern below. 64



## Section D - Traffic and Transport

| Q39 When you go to Chester, how do you normally travel? |          |           |          |              |           |            |
|---|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|------------|
|   | Daily    | Weekly    | Monthly  | Occasionally | Never     | Nil Return |
| Bus   | 25 (7%)  | 59 (16%)  | 21 (6%)  | 114 (31%)    | 62 (17%)  | 84 (24%)   |
| Car (in someone else's vehicle)                         | 3 (1%)   | 26 (7%)   | 15 (4%)  | 94 (26%)     | 81 (22%)  | 149 (40%)  |
| Car (your own)  | 53 (14%) | 155 (42%) | 27 (7%)  | 48 (13%)     | 21 (6%)   | 64 (17%)   |
| Cycle   | 9 (2%)   | 27 (7%)   | 19 (5%)  | 58 (16%)     | 133 (36%) | 122 (33%)  |
| Drive and Park and Ride                                 | 6 (2%)   | 69 (19%)  | 37 (10%) | 105 (29%)    | 71 (19%)  | 80 (22%)   |
| PlusBus (Dial- a-Ride)                                  | 0 (0%)   | 2 (1%)    | 2 (1%)   | 4 (1%)       | 209 (57%) | 151 (41%)  |
| Taxi  | 2 (1%)   | 21 (6%)   | 24 (7%)  | 142 (39%)    | 67 (18%)  | 112 (30%)  |
| Walk  | 7 (2%)   | 25 (7%)   | 19 (5%)  | 122 (33%)    | 82 (22%)  | 113 (31%)  |
| Walk and Park and Ride                                  | 5 (1%)   | 20 (5%)   | 16 (4%)  | 99 (27%)     | 117 (32%) | 111 (30%)  |
| Please add any omissions below. 11                      |          |           |          |              |           |            |

| Q40 If you use bus services, please indicate how you rate the following |          |           |          |            |
|---|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
|   | Poor     | Fair      | Good     | Nil Return |
| Bus shelters and stops  | 57 (15%) | 120 (33%) | 54 (15%) | 137 (37%)  |
| Reliability   | 36 (10%) | 124 (34%) | 65 (18%) | 143 (39%)  |
| Routes  | 25 (7%)  | 114 (31%) | 78 (21%) | 151 (41%)  |
| Timetable (convenience)   | 70 (19%) | 102 (28%) | 49 (13%) | 147 (40%)  |
| Value for money   | 49 (13%) | 84 (23%)  | 71 (19%) | 164 (45%)  |
| Any other comments on the bus services? 84                              |          |           |          |            |

| Q41 Do you have any difficulties in getting to the following? |          |           |            |
|---|----------|-----------|------------|
|   | Yes      | No        | Nil Return |
| Bank/cash machine   | 47 (13%) | 294 (80%) | 27 (7%)    |
| Bus stop  | 14 (4%)  | 321 (87%) | 33 (9%)    |
| Dentist   | 22 (6%)  | 317 (86%) | 29 (8%)    |
| Doctor  | 37 (10%) | 308 (84%) | 23 (6%)    |

|                                    |          |           |         |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Hospital                           | 34 (9%)  | 308 (84%) | 26 (7%) |
| Pharmacy                           | 33 (9%)  | 310 (84%) | 25 (7%) |
| Post office                        | 93 (25%) | 255 (69%) | 20 (5%) |
| Railway station                    | 33 (9%)  | 305 (83%) | 30 (8%) |
| Shops                              | 23 (6%)  | 316 (86%) | 29 (8%) |
| Please add any omissions below. 44 |          |           |         |

|  |          |            |          |            |
|--|----------|------------|----------|------------|
| Q42 How suitable is Christleton for people with disabilities and those with pushchairs or wheelchairs? |          |            |          |            |
|  | Good     | Reasonable | Poor     | Nil Return |
| Disabilities   | 46 (13%) | 181 (49%)  | 35 (10%) | 106 (29%)  |
| Push chairs  | 63 (17%) | 193 (52%)  | 22 (6%)  | 90 (24%)   |
| Wheel chairs   | 45 (12%) | 167 (45%)  | 46 (13%) | 110 (30%)  |
| Any other comments: 66   |          |            |          |            |

|   |          |            |          |            |
|---|----------|------------|----------|------------|
| Q43 Are you happy with the condition and state of the maintenance of pavements and roads in the parish? |          |            |          |            |
|   | Good     | Reasonable | Poor     | Nil Return |
| Pavements   | 91 (25%) | 209 (57%)  | 51 (14%) | 17 (5%)    |
| Roads   | 52 (14%) | 209 (57%)  | 88 (24%) | 19 (5%)    |
| If you answered "poor" please indicate where these problems exist below. 99                             |          |            |          |            |

|   |             |                     |
|---|-------------|---------------------|
| Q44 Would a change in priority, road layout and/or a reduction of speed improve vehicle and pedestrian safety at the cross roads of Village Road and Quarry Lane (by the High School - see the plan on the back of the covering letter) |             |                     |
| Yes 200 (54%)   | No 87 (24%) | Nil Return 81 (22%) |
| Do you have any views on the changes required?  |             |                     |
| Reduce speed limit to 20mph   | 54          |                     |
| Mini roundabout   | 13          |                     |
| One way system  | 11          |                     |
| Traffic lights and pedestrian crossing  | 8           |                     |
| Yellow lines restriction at school times  | 7           |                     |
| Change the angle of the corner  | 6           |                     |
| Priority signs  | 5           |                     |



|  |              |                     |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Q45 Is a pavement needed from the High School along Rowton Bridge Road even if the reduction of road width restricts traffic?                |              |                     |
| Yes 165 (45%)  | No 142 (39%) | Nil Return 61 (17%) |
| If you have answered "Yes" please set out your views on the changes required or how traffic should be managed if the road is narrowed below. |              |                     |
| One way system   | 32           |                     |
| Chicanes and road narrows signs  | 26           |                     |
| Put in a pavement with kerbs   | 9            |                     |
| Change the road colour to indicate narrow path   | 8            |                     |
| Traffic lights   | 8            |                     |
| One way system using Sandrock Road   | 5            |                     |
| No change  | 4            |                     |
| Speed restriction  | 4            |                     |
| Speed restriction  | 4            |                     |
| Always was dangerous   | 3            |                     |
| Make Pepper Street bridge entry only and Rowton Bridge exit only   | 2            |                     |
| Only a problem in school hours   | 2            |                     |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Q46 Do you have any suggestions which would reduce traffic congestion and parking around the High School? |    |
| Please set out your suggestions below.  |    |
| Yellow lines around school  | 38 |
| Park and drop off on school grounds   | 23 |
| Designated drop off points  | 20 |
| Make the children walk to school  | 17 |
| Traffic warden  | 9  |
| Give incentives for walking, cycling or using buses   | 7  |
| Entrance to school from Birch Heath Lane  | 7  |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| One way system at school times | 7 |
| More use of school buses       | 7 |
| Car share scheme               | 5 |
| Not a problem                  | 4 |
| No parking at school times     | 4 |

|   |              |                    |
|---|--------------|--------------------|
| Q47 Is on-street parking in the village of concern to you?          |              |                    |
| Yes 207 (56%)   | No 131 (36%) | Nil Return 30 (8%) |
| If you answered "Yes" go to Question 48 otherwise go to Question 49 |              |                    |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Q48 What suggestions do you have to reduce on-street parking in the village? |    |
| Please set out your suggestions and where they should be applied below.      |    |
| Yellow lines   | 65 |
| Parking restricted to one side of the street at certain times                | 27 |
| Use Ring O' Bells, Church, Parish Hall and Law College car parks             | 27 |
| Make a village car park  | 19 |
| Close or ban members of the Bridge Club parking on the street                | 16 |
| No change  | 13 |
| More parking bays  | 6  |
| Chicanes giving priority out of the village                                  | 3  |
| Make the pavement narrower at the shop                                       | 2  |
| People working in the village should not park in the centre                  | 2  |
| No yellow lines  | 2  |
| Speed humps  | 2  |
| Only have school children from the catchment area                            | 2  |



|   |             |                    |
|---|-------------|--------------------|
| Q49 Do you think the traffic should be slowed down (say 20 mph) along Little Heath Road from the Pit to village centre? |             |                    |
| Yes 264 (72%)   | No 75 (20%) | Nil Return 29 (8%) |
| If you answer "Yes" please indicate how this could be best achieved below.  |             |                    |
| Speed indicator signs   | 57          |                    |
| Speed humps or bumps  | 47          |                    |
| Enforcement   | 18          |                    |
| Village gateways  | 16          |                    |
| Broaden the area to the whole village   | 14          |                    |

|  |              |                    |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Q50 Do you think pedestrian crossing(s) should be introduced within the village?   |              |                    |
| Yes 119 (32%)  | No 217 (59%) | Nil Return 32 (9%) |
| If you answer "Yes" please indicate where any crossing(s) should be located below. |              |                    |
| High School  | 45           |                    |
| Shop   | 29           |                    |
| The Square   | 14           |                    |
| The Pit  | 13           |                    |
| Village Green/ Nursing Home  | 11           |                    |
| Primary School   | 8            |                    |
| The toast rack   | 4            |                    |

|  |           |           |            |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Q51 Would you be prepared to have the following measures used on your street if they are effective in controlling traffic speed? |           |           |            |
|  | Yes       | No        | Nil Return |
| Illuminated interactive speed indicators   | 172 (47%) | 121 (33%) | 75 (20%)   |
| Speed cushions (2 metre square raised areas)   | 108 (29%) | 179 (49%) | 81 (22%)   |
| Speed humps (full road width humps)  | 113 (31%) | 187 (51%) | 68 (18%)   |
| Chicanes or built-out gateways at entrances to 30 mph limits   | 116 (32%) | 168 (46%) | 84 (23%)   |

| Do you have any other views on measures that would reduce speeds in the village? Please set out your views below. Q51 continued |    |
|---|----|
| No traffic calming measures needed in the village   | 10 |
| Speed cameras   | 10 |
| Reduce the speed limit in the village to 20mph  | 10 |
| Police speed checks   | 7  |
| Reduce speed limit on outskirts of village to 30mph   | 7  |
| Flashing speed signs and rumble strips  | 4  |
| Remove pavements to make it more 'continental'  | 2  |
| Chicanes  | 2  |
| Gateways  | 2  |

| Q52 The survey suggested that clearing all parked vehicles would increase the volume of cut-through traffic and speeds through the village. |           |           |            |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|
|   | Yes       | No        | Nil Return |
| Do you agree with this view?  | 250 (68%) | 76 (21%)  | 42 (11%)   |
| Should more be done to reduce cut-through (i.e. 'rat-runs') through the village?  | 249 (68%) | 60 (16%)  | 59 (16%)   |
| Would closing Rowton Bridge Road canal bridge to all traffic be a benefit?  | 62 (17%)  | 254 (69%) | 52 (13%)   |
| Would you support a ban on right turns into Rowton Bridge Road from the A41?  | 129 (35%) | 191 (52%) | 48 (13%)   |
| Do you have any other suggestions that would reduce cut-through (or rat running) within the village? Please set out your views below.       |           |           |            |
| Reduce the speed to 20mph   | 24        |           |            |
| One way system  | 10        |           |            |
| Traffic calming   | 6         |           |            |
| Speed humps   | 4         |           |            |
| Chicanes  | 3         |           |            |
| No answer rat running happens everywhere  | 2         |           |            |
| Increase the waiting time on traffic lights on Rowton Bridge  | 2         |           |            |



| Q53 Are there any other traffic issues which are of concern to you? If you have views on the ways to deal with them please set them out below. |    |
|--|----|
| Parking in the village   | 16 |
| Speed on Brown Heath Road and its junction with Plough Lane  | 13 |
| Speed of traffic on the A41 should be enforced   | 12 |
| Speed in general   | 10 |
| Speed on Quarry Lane   | 5  |
| Introduce one way system   | 5  |
| Speed on Stamford Lane and Cotton Lane   | 5  |
| Install traffic lights at Pepper Street bridge   | 4  |
| Parking at the nursing home  | 2  |
| Speed on Birch Heath Lane  | 2  |
| Speed on Plough Lane   | 2  |

| Q54 Please tell us your top priority for improving and/or maintaining the quality of life in Christleton? |          |
|---|----------|
| Comments received - 245:  |          |
| Must take action on traffic, parking and road safety  | 93 (38%) |
| Pleasant environment, keep as is, preserve green belt, no more development                                | 44 (18%) |
| Community Spirit, Community events  | 29 (12%) |
| Reintroduce postal services, more shops   | 12 (5%)  |
| Very happy with village, Keep it as it is   | 11 (4%)  |
| Improve the way the village is managed  | 10 (4%)  |
| Reduce dog mess   | 8 (3%)   |
| No further expansion of the High School   | 8 (3%)   |

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Prevent further creeping urbanisation      | 5 (2%)  |
| Reduce litter                              | 5 (2%)  |
| Closure of Bridge Club                     | 4 (2%)  |
| Guide to village and better communications | 4 (2%)  |
| Other priorities                           | 12 (5%) |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Q55 Please add any other comment you may have below?        |    |
| Comments received - 96:                                     |    |
| Action on traffic, parking and road safety                  | 19 |
| Praise and support for the survey and Community Plan        | 9  |
| Very happy with village, lovely place to live               | 9  |
| Concerns about facilities for young people                  | 8  |
| Feel more part of Waverton, rather than Christleton village | 7  |
| Litter and dog mess   | 5  |
| Christleton High School, current development and behaviour  | 4  |
| Bus services  | 3  |
| Better information in the village, keeping people informed  | 3  |



## Appendix IV - Christleton Profile

The total number of people responding to the main survey in September 2011 was 905 based on a return of 365 forms. The breakdown was very similar to the most recent estimates of population for the village in 2008<sup>4</sup>

| Who lives in Christleton? |              |      |                   |      |
|---------------------------|--------------|------|-------------------|------|
|                           | ONS mid-2008 |      | Survey Residents* |      |
|                           | Number       | %    | Number            | %    |
| All people                | 2095         |      | 905*              |      |
| Males                     | 1000         | 47.7 | 420               | 46.0 |
| Females                   | 1095         | 52.3 | 485               | 54.0 |
| Age 0-17                  | 405          | 19.3 | 160               | 17.6 |
| 18-64                     | 1140         | 54.4 | 448               | 49.5 |
| 65+                       | 555          | 26.5 | 275               | 30.0 |

\*Total responding to the main Community Plan Survey

| Type of Dwelling and Tenure (Census 2001) |             |    |          |            |
|---|-------------|----|----------|------------|
|   | Christleton |    | Cheshire | North West |
|   | Number      | %  | %        | %          |
| All households                            | 860         |    |          |            |
| Detached                                  | 365         | 42 | 35       | 19         |
| Semi-detached                             | 355         | 41 | 36       | 38         |
| Terraced                                  | 130         | 15 | 22       | 33         |
| Flat                                      | 40          | 5  | 10       | 15         |

<sup>4</sup> These figures are based on data taken from the Census in 2001 and the Office for National Statistics (mid year 2008). Published by OCSI and Cheshire Community Action (CCA), March 2011

|                | Christleton |    | Cheshire | North West |
|----------------|-------------|----|----------|------------|
|                | Number      | %  | %        | %          |
| Owner occupied | 730         | 85 | 77       | 69         |
| Social rented  | 55          | 6  | 15       | 20         |
| Private rented | 45          | 5  | 6        | 8          |
| Other          | 30          | 4  | 3        | 3          |

| Households with no car or van (Census 2001) |             |    |          |            |
|---|-------------|----|----------|------------|
|   | Christleton |    | Cheshire | North West |
|   | Number      | %  | %        | %          |
| No vehicle                                  | 110         | 13 | 19       | 30         |

| Out of Work in Christleton (DWP 2009) |             |     |          |            |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----|----------|------------|
|                                       | Christleton |     | Cheshire | North West |
|                                       | Number      | %   | %        | %          |
| Jobseekers (JSA)                      | 15          | 1.5 | 3.3      | 4.60       |
| Incapacity claims                     | 25          | 2   | 5.2      | 8.20       |
| Workless benefit                      | 40          | 3.7 | 8.5      | 12.80      |



## Appendix V - Postcode Areas

| Road             | returns in survey | postcode group | Road               | returns in survey | postcode group |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Greystone Road   | CH3 5QY           | 1              | Bush Road          | CH3 7BW           | 5              |
| Toll Bar Road    | CH3 5QU           | 1              | Bythom Close       | CH3 7BN           | 5              |
| Toll Bar Road    | CH3 5QX           | 1              | Hawthorn Road      | CH3 7BL           | 5              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 5QD           | 1              | Home Close         | CH3 7BJ           | 5              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 5QE           | 1              | Quarry Lane        | CH3 7AY           | 5              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 5QS           | 1              | Rowan Park         | CH3 7AZ           | 5              |
| Bridge Drive     | CH3 6AW           | 2              | Sandrock Road      | CH3 7BH           | 5              |
| Durban Avenue    | CH3 6AL           | 2              | Badgers Close      | CH3 7BR           | 6              |
| Haslin Crescent  | CH3 6AN           | 2              | Plough Lane        | CH3 7BA           | 6              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 6AE           | 2              | Plough Lane        | CH3 7BB           | 6              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 6AF           | 2              | Rowton Bridge Road | CH3 7BD           | 6              |
| Whitchurch Road  | CH3 6AG           | 2              | Rowton Bridge Road | CH3 7BQ           | 6              |
| White Lane       | CH3 6AH           | 2              | Skips Lane         | CH3 7BE           | 6              |
| White Lane       | CH3 6AJ           | 2              | Skips Lane         | CH3 7BU           | 6              |
| White Lane       | CH3 6AQ           | 2              | Brown Heath Road   | CH3 7PN           | 7              |
| Birch Heath Lane | CH3 7AP           | 3              | Brown Heath Road   | CH3 7PW           | 7              |

| Road                           | returns in survey | postcode group | Road                | returns in survey | postcode group |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Bricky Lane                    |                   | 3              | Green Lane          | CH3 7QB           | 7              |
| Church Walks                   | CH3 7AF           | 3              | Platts Lane         | CH3 7PG           | 7              |
| Little Heath                   | CH3 7AN           | 3              | Plough Lane         | CH3 7PT           | 7              |
| Little Heath Road <sup>5</sup> | CH3 7AH           | 3              | Plough Lane         | CH3 7PU           | 7              |
| Little Mere                    | CH3 7AA           | 3              | Rake Lane           | CH3 7PR           | 7              |
| The Park                       | CH3 7AR           | 3              | Stamford Lane       | CH3 7QD           | 7              |
| The Square                     | CH3 7AW           | 3              | Capesthorne Road    | CH3 7GA           | 8              |
| Faulkners Lane                 |                   | 4              | Greenfield Crescent | CH3 7NH           | 8              |
| Pepper Street                  | CH3 7AG           | 4              | Greenfield Crescent | CH3 7NQ           | 8              |
| Village Road                   |                   | 4              | Greenfield Road     | CH3 7NE           | 8              |
| Village Road                   | CH3 7AS           | 4              | Greenfield Road     | CH3 7NF           | 8              |
| Village Road                   |                   | 4              | Greenfield Road     | CH3 7NG           | 8              |
| Windmill Lane                  | CH3 7BS           | 4              | Sheraton Road       | CH3 7GB           | 8              |
| Woodfields                     | CH3 7AU           | 4              |                     |                   |                |
| Woodfields                     | CH3 7AX           | 4              |                     |                   |                |

<sup>5</sup> Some postcodes within the parish were combined with an adjacent codes to maintain confidentiality of residents



## Appendix VI - Business Survey Results

Questionnaires were returned from 41 out of 56 businesses but not all respondents answered all the questions. For many of the questions respondents were able to tick more than one item.

| Q1 How many employees do you have? |          |          |         |          |               |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Less than 5                        | 05/10/12 | 01/11/20 | 21 - 50 | 51 - 100 | More than 100 |
| 18                                 | 3        | 3        | 6       | 2        | 1             |
|                                    |          |          |         |          |               |
| Total employees                    | 702      | Male     | 242     | Female   | 460           |

| Q2 When was your business established in Christleton? |                |           |            |                  |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------|------------|------------------|-----------------|
|   | Less than 1 yr | 1 – 5 yrs | 6 – 10 yrs | More than 10 yrs | Total responses |
| Number  | 2              | 7         | 4          | 28               | 41              |
| Percentage  | 5              | 17        | 10         | 68               | 100             |

| Q3 Why is your business located in Christleton? (Tick as many as apply) |    |                   |
|---|----|-------------------|
|   |    | Percentage (n=41) |
| A long-established existing business                                    | 17 | 42                |
| Based in your home  | 18 | 44                |
| Geographical location of Christleton                                    | 7  | 17                |
| Local customer base   | 8  | 20                |
| Suitable business premises  | 17 | 41                |

| Q4 On a scale of 1 to 10 how happy are you with your business in Christleton? |             |       |       |          |                 |
|---|-------------|-------|-------|----------|-----------------|
|   | Less than 2 | 2 – 4 | 5 – 7 | 08/10/12 | Total responses |
| Number  | 1           | 0     | 4     | 36       | 41              |
| Percentage  | 2           | 0     | 9     | 89       | 100             |

| Q5 Does Christleton offer any special advantages for your business? |    |                   |
|---|----|-------------------|
|   |    | Percentage (n=41) |
| Location  | 18 | 44                |
| Customer base   | 15 | 37                |
| Environment   | 11 | 27                |
| Other   | 2  | 5                 |

| Q6 On a scale of 1 to 5 how important are the following aspects of Christleton to your business? (where 1= little importance and 5 = great importance) |    |   |    |    |    |
|--|----|---|----|----|----|
|  | 1  | 2 | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| Traffic (congestion, parking, speed, etc.)   | 7  | 3 | 9  | 6  | 3  |
| Roads (condition, noise, poor access, etc.)  | 7  | 2 | 12 | 9  | 5  |
| Recycling, waste collection  | 5  | 6 | 6  | 5  | 11 |
| Mobile phone reception, broadband services   | 1  | 0 | 5  | 9  | 20 |
| Postal services  | 2  | 2 | 4  | 11 | 16 |
| Public transport (bus services, etc.)  | 7  | 3 | 13 | 5  | 9  |
| Shortage of appropriate business premises  | 16 | 7 | 4  | 1  | 4  |
| Poor appearance, litter, fly-tipping, etc  | 0  | 3 | 10 | 5  | 15 |

| Q7 Has your business experienced any crime or anti-social behaviour? |                |           |                 |
|--|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
|  | Less than 1 yr | 1 – 3 yrs | More than 3 yrs |
| Break in/theft   | 7              |           | 6               |
| Nuisance   | 3              |           |                 |
| Damage to property/vandalism   |                | 2         |                 |
| Other  | 1              | 5         | 1               |



Q8 Do you know (approximately) how far your employees travel from their home to your office, yard or other work base and by what means?

|                    | Walk | Cycle | Motorbike | Car | Bus | Rail | Total |
|--------------------|------|-------|-----------|-----|-----|------|-------|
| Within Christleton | 43   | 2     | 3         | 35  | 0   | 0    | 83    |
| 2 – 5 miles        | 8    | 9     | 3         | 143 | 2   | 3    | 168   |
| More than 5 miles  | 0    | 1     | 2         | 146 | 2   | 0    | 151   |
| Total              | 51   | 12    | 8         | 324 | 4   | 3    | 402   |

Q9 Do you have adequate on-site parking spaces for the following?

|          | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| Staff    | 30  | 7  |
| Visitors | 30  | 8  |
| Disabled | 25  | 7  |

Q10 Is your customer base mainly from the village and surrounding area?

| Yes | 18 | No | 23 |
|-----|----|----|----|
|-----|----|----|----|

Q11 Are you seeking to increase your customer base in and around Christleton?

| Yes | 27 | No | 10 |
|-----|----|----|----|
|-----|----|----|----|

Q12 Do you employ any form of local marketing and promotion? (Tick all that apply)

|  |    | Percentage (n=41) |
|--|----|-------------------|
| Advertising in A41 and/or Parish Magazine  | 20 | 49                |
| Display advertising                        | 7  | 17                |
| Internet sites                             | 24 | 59                |
| Other local/regional press, e.g. Chronicle | 17 | 41                |
| Shop fascia/street signage                 | 7  | 17                |
| Sponsorship, e.g. Fête                     | 13 | 32                |
| Other local                                | 8  | 20                |

Q13 Are there other ways you feel your business could be promoted locally?

|     |    |    |    |            |   |
|-----|----|----|----|------------|---|
| Yes | 14 | No | 17 | No opinion | 8 |
|-----|----|----|----|------------|---|

Q14 Would you support some form of local business directory?

|     |    |    |   |            |    |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|
| Yes | 20 | No | 7 | No opinion | 10 |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|

Q15 Would you like to see a local business forum or network?

|     |    |    |   |            |    |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|
| Yes | 11 | No | 3 | No opinion | 25 |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|

Q16 If your business grew bigger would you be able to stay in Christleton?

|     |    |    |   |            |   |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|---|
| Yes | 27 | No | 4 | No opinion | 6 |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|---|

Q17 Could Christleton be taking more action to encourage businesses in future?

|     |    |    |   |            |    |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|
| Yes | 12 | No | 2 | No opinion | 21 |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|

Q18 Should Christleton consider developing other locations for small business units

|     |    |    |   |            |    |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|
| Yes | 11 | No | 9 | No opinion | 16 |
|-----|----|----|---|------------|----|

Q19 Are there any other issues, which you feel, should be addressed in the Community Plan, from your organisations point of view?

Respondents highlighted the possible synergies between businesses if there was more communication and co-operation within the business community

Q20 Are there specific ways in which your business can support the village?

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Provision of training        | 9  |
| Provision of facilities      | 13 |
| Provision of work experience | 18 |
| Sponsorship of events        | 18 |
| Other                        | 13 |



## Appendix VII- Clubs, Groups and Societies Survey Results

Number of returns: 17

As one return covered the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers the total number of groups replying to the survey was 20.

|                              |                            |  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Venues:                      | Most commonly used venues: | Christleton Parish Hall, Methodist Hall, Scout Hut |
|                              | Other meeting places:      | Homes, Institute, Bridge Club, Primary School      |
| Type of Organisation:        | Registered Charity         | 6  |
|                              | Club, society              | 4  |
|                              | Voluntary Group            | 7  |
| Quality of premises:         | Excellent                  | 8  |
|                              | Good                       | 8  |
|                              | Adequate                   | 1  |
| Ownership                    | Pay fee/rent               | 12   |
|                              | Owned:                     | 2  |
| Happy with premises          | Yes                        | 16   |
|                              | No                         | 1  |
| Parking problems             | Yes                        | 4 (Scout Hut, Parish Hall, Bridge Club)            |
|                              | No                         | 13   |
| Members mostly from Village: | Yes                        | 15   |
|                              | No                         | 2  |

|                                 |                 |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Membership                      | Holding steady  | 13   |
|                                 | Growing         | 2  |
|                                 | Falling         | 2  |
| Advertising:                    | St James' Mag   | 9  |
|                                 | Village Website | 9  |
|                                 | Posters         | 8  |
|                                 | A41             | 8  |
|                                 | Village Shop    | 7  |
|                                 | Word Mouth      | 3  |
|                                 | Local Press     | 2  |
| Need for better information?    | Yes             | 10 (Newsletter for residents, Information pack, Notice board, website) |
|                                 | No              | 3  |
|                                 | No Opinion      | 4  |
| Information pack for newcomers? | Yes             | 14   |
|                                 | No Opinion      | 3  |

