

Summary of 2026 Parish Survey Responses

We had almost a 5% response from households

61% of respondents were over 55

42% thought **speeding** was still an issue:

- 9 mentions of Long Lane, especially by the school and Oxford Road crossroads
- 5 mentions of Oxford Road, towards the Hotel
- 4 mentions of B4009 and Long Lane
- Several mentions of speeding traffic on A339 making exit from Donnington Heights dangerous.

63% complained about the **state of footpaths**. Bear in mind this was in June, when hedge and grass growth was at its height.

- 6 complaints about Oxford Road, the lack of footpaths, overgrown hedges and nettles and having to walk in the road with speeding traffic.
- 6 complaints about Shaw Hill, mainly overgrown, but also uneven and badly lit
- 2 complaints about the bridleway by Owen Road Field – fly tipping
- 2 about Shaw Park – belongs to WBC
- Garrison Meadows street lights not working
- No dropped kerbs at Love Lane/Oxford Road junction

Assets

- Most used are Donnington Recreation Ground and dog bins

Events

- Most attended – fête and then beacon lighting

Devolution of Assets

- 58% agree or strongly agree that the Parish Council should take on more assets
- 9% disagree or strongly disagree

Further development – what community benefits do people want?

- Doctors' surgery 79%
- Open Spaces 77%
- Dentists 61%
- Play areas 54%
- Community Centre 52%
- Bus services 48%
- Allotments 40%

92% wanted to protect the **rural character** of the parish

Other Community Events

Lots of ideas here, more litter picks mentioned 3 times, together with other wildlife events such as river cleaning. Other suggestions include concerts, quiz nights, cinema nights, local history talks, art classes, history walks and street parties.

Some of these could be taken up by the Village Hall perhaps?

Newsletter

89% of respondents thought the newsletter contained useful information.

What else could it contain? 6 of 12 said it was good as it is. Others suggested:

- What's on at the Village Hall
- Planning applications

- Feedback on this survey

Village Hall

- 65% don't currently use the village hall
- 21% attend community events
- 17% attend children's parties and family celebrations
- Smaller numbers attend classes, or have been there to vote
- 48% say they are more likely to use the village hall if it is extended
- 93% said additional health and wellbeing activities would be valuable
- 63% said they would attend a community café in the village hall
- 26% would like to see more youth activities
- 45% would like to see more activities for adults, e.g. coffee mornings and hobby/craft activities

Public Green Spaces

- 88% said they are well cared for

Flood risks

- 51% said they were well informed

Environmental projects

- 59% said they had enough information and opportunities to get involved

Litter – is it still a problem and if so, where?

61% responded that it was a problem:

- 8 mentions of Trinity School and the roads/subway around the school
- 8 mentions of Shaw Park/Shaw Recreation Ground (both owned by WBC)
- 4 mentions of the Donnington Heights
- 3 mentions of the path around Vodafone
- 3 mentions of the River Lambourn
- Long Lane and A339 verges also mentioned

Any other comments

These mostly echo things already said about speeding, litter, overgrown footpaths etc. Also asking us to ensure the new school is built.

Summary

Plenty of positive comments about the things the Parish Council has control over:

Newsletter

- It covers most items you would want to see and be aware of
- Fabulous newsletter!
- It's perfect as it is.
- Difficult to say, it is at present very informative
- Already very well done. Helpful and Useful.

General

- I think the parish council has really improved the community activities available.
- I feel the parish council are doing a great job, thank you
- You are doing an excellent job, Thank you! (smiley face)

The main issues relate to West Berkshire Council Highways and Countryside and Environment departments – re speeding, overgrown footpaths and litter in parks which they own (Shaw Recreation Ground and Shaw Park). The Parish Council will need to continue to work with WBC to improve these issues. We can also work with Trinity School on the litter problem, and update our Action Plan accordingly.