

Chale Parish Plan Questionnaire

March 2017

PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE 2017

In March 2005 Chale produced a Parish Plan that sought to “set out a vision for the community” as a result of the responses to a questionnaire distributed amongst the village. In 2008 a ‘Chale Village Design Statement’ was produced after another questionnaire, workshops and events in the village. By 2016 the Parish Council felt that it was time for a revisit to the villagers to see if opinions and needs had changed over the years.

Whilst the 2017 questionnaire was based in part on the 2005 version, retaining some questions for direct comparison, questions were added or removed to reflect the changes in the village in the intervening years.

Every house in the village received a questionnaire during the first week of March 2017 and spare questionnaires and boxes for completed questionnaires were available at the shop, Wight Mouse, Church and Garage. Villagers were given until 31st March to return their completed forms. The questionnaire was 3 double sided sheets with a mix of closed and open questions.

There were a total of 95 completed questionnaires, one other was rejected as it had nothing completed after Q.4b and one completed questionnaire was returned after the data had been analysed. This compares to 124 valid questionnaires returned in the 2005 exercise - however, in 2005 there were return visits made to collect questionnaires which would have increased response rate. In 2017 use was made of social media by means of the Chale Village Facebook page, and the “Chale Mail” in explaining the purposes of the survey and reminding people to return their completed questionnaires. 321 questionnaires were delivered/taken. Thus 97 completed which equates to 30% response rate, which, for a self-completion questionnaire is a high response rate. One person went as far as adding “thank you for giving us this opportunity” which balanced nicely against the respondent who said that the worst thing about living in Chale was “asking stupid questions like this”!.

It should be born in mind that this is not a survey in terms of what constitutes a fully *representative* survey in Market Research terms - whilst one questionnaire was dropped at each house more than one questionnaire could be completed within a household (indeed several questionnaires were said to be representative of the views of more than one householder). As respondents were self-selecting there may be a bias towards those with the strongest views. However, given the financial constraints on this exercise, the results are still valid in that they are the views of those who are interested enough in the future of Chale Village to respond. The 2005 survey results were claimed to be a “statistically significant sample” however, it should be borne in mind that such a low sample size then and now means that applying significant tests without a solid sampling methodology should not be attempted.

When looking at the results, most questions will add up to the base size as a missed response was coded as "No Opinion". The questions on knowledge of the Parish Council were not to be completed by anyone who was or had been a Parish Councillor and there were a few questionnaires where age and sex were not completed.

Who Completed the Survey

The majority of respondents were in the age group 65-74. This is older than the largest age group in the area in Niton, Whitwell and Chale of 55-64 (*Ward profile data: Chale, Niton & Whitwell March 2013*). There were no respondents under the age of 25.

Most live in a 2 person household with no children under 18 although households with children appear to be under-represented in this survey with only 26 children identified.

57% of respondents were female, 43% were male.

In 2005 52% of respondents had access to the Internet, in 2017 this rises to 90%.

In 2005 87% of households had a motor vehicle, in 2017 this rises to 96%. In 2017 an additional question asked those without access to a car if they had friends or relatives who could give them a lift if they needed it. Only 2 people without a car had no access to a lift.

Only 24% of people regularly use the number 6 bus service although 48% said that they would use the bus more frequently/at all if there was a service in the evening.

What is the BEST thing about living in Chale?

Without a doubt it is the area we live in; "unspoilt", ANOB, "fresh air" were some of the comments about the landscape made by over half the respondents. After this it is the remoteness and "quiet" cited by over a third closely followed by the community and people. This reflects the 2008 questionnaire results where the "nice quiet countryside and rural living" was the main attraction of Chale..

In 2017 one person wrote " *I have only been a resident for 6 months ... but absolutely love living here and feel like I belong somewhere special*". Another wrote " *I love Chale as it is ... don't want it to change*".

What is the WORST thing about living in Chale?

Clear 'winner' is the bus service mentioned by 31% followed by speeding traffic/busy roads mentioned by 24% (this was an issue in 2008). 12% said the lack of access to Whale Chine and the beach.

One person wrote about what Chale had lost since they lived here " *3 pubs, 2 Doctor's surgeries, 3 chapels, 1 butcher, 1 Scout hall, 1 school. We must work hard to hang onto what we have, we must save our village community for our grandchildren*".

Understanding of the Parish Council

83 people answered this question, anyone who is, or had ever been, a parish councillor were asked not to complete this part. Unfortunately the PC did not fare well on this, when, with a score of 5 for completely understanding what the PC does for Chale, the average score was just over 3. Even worse was knowing who all the councillors are with a score of 2.42. But worst of all was the score for having a sense of involvement in the decision-making in the community with a score of only 2.05.

What is Important to Chale?

A list of things that are in the village were asked to be scored from 1 = Not At All Important to 4=Very Important. Most things scored an average of 3 or more. Especially important were the post office at 3.84 and the shop at 3.83. The least important was Chale Day with an average score of 2.44. The 2008 survey also found the Post Office, shop, church and pub amongst the top five features of the village.

Housing and buildings in the Village

When asked about the different types of housing that could be built in the village, there were a few people wanted more housing in the village but, when it came to the follow up question as to what form it should take, chose the option "Don't want any new housing"! Most popular possible new housing was affordable privately owned housing to buy or rent although these scored an average of 1.34 and 1.21 respectively where a score of 1 = No Change From Present and 2= A Few of These. Least popular type of new housing was flats. New housing estates were only chosen by 5% possibly still echoing the Spanners development.

If new housing were to be built over half (59%) said that they should be built amongst existing housing, only 5% said as new housing estate. Over a third said that they did not want any new housing.

Aside from housing how did people feel about other types of building in the village? With a score of 1= Not At All Keen, to 4= Very Keen, there was not much enthusiasm for anything! Craft units scored the highest at 2.13. "More shops" had a score of 1.57 with a desire for a butcher, baker or farm shop.

Tourism in the area

Again using a score of Not At All Keen = 1 and Very Keen = 4, respondents were asked about various possible types of tourist attractions in Chale. Clear winners are for having a nature reserve (2.54 average) and cycleways (2.55). Hotels and touring caravan parks were not at all popular.

Someone noted that "*Chale should be attracting the seasonal visitors with local crafts, arts ... Why should all the tourists use Chale as a thoroughfare between Blackgang and the Pearl Farm?*" Another said "*Access to the beach is so important to attract summer trade*".

Changing Speed Limits?

Given that people had mentioned busy roads and speeding traffic as being the worst thing about living in Chale there was not much call for a reduction in speed to 20mph either in those areas currently 30mph or across the whole village (scoring 1.79 and 1.62 on average just coming into the Not Very Keen response). Most popular with an average score approaching Quite Keen (2.46) was a 30mph limit across the whole village.

Community Projects in Chale?

A list of possible community projects was offered to villagers. Most received little support, hardly scoring much above 'bad idea' but a clear winner at a score of 1.84 (where 2= Good Idea) was the beach access from Whale Chine. Whale Chine got a further 5 mentions at Q.10 under 'other' community projects.

There was some interest in evening classes being held in Chale and it appears that languages and crafts would be the most popular. A mention was made of a Petanque pits being something that would be great for the village. Several people mentioned that there should be something for children/teens to do and could we have at least temporary changing rooms on the recreation ground so that more use could be made of it.

There was a suggestion of a 'Pride in Chale' award for keeping domestic and business frontages tidy. Backing up this idea were 2 complaints about states of gardens in the village!

Which words Describe Chale?

Sadly 19% believe that the village is 'divided' - there were mentions of a division between Chale and Chale Green. Indeed one respondent said that the questions "*may be seen as biased*" and a "*them and us attitude*" as they "*only cover Chale (and) not Chale Green*". Another suggested 'Chale' signs at all entrance points to the village so that Chale Green is (seen to be) part of Chale. 3% also labelled the village as 'unfriendly'. The division was highlighted in comments at the end of the questionnaire by one resident who said "*Unfortunately I feel there is a large divide in the village due to the stigma that precedes the housing estate and its residents. Because of this I feel that people are less inclined to volunteer and be involved as fear of being judged etc. which may occur and has on several occasions in the past*".

On the positive side 92% agreed with the description of Chale as 'peaceful', 85% 'quiet' and 79% 'friendly' or 'relaxed'..

In conclusion it appears that most people are happy living in Chale valuing the facilities that the village has and the area it sits in. There is little call for change, although residents but would be even happier with a better bus service, quieter roads and access to Whale Chine.

July 2017.

CHALE PARISH COUNCIL PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE 2017

Q.1a What, if anything, do you think is the BEST thing about living in Chale today?

Countryside/ANOB/Rural/Unspoilt/Views/Sea/Walks/Fresh air/Location	51	54%
Remote/Quiet/Peace(full)/Not too crowded	35	37%
Community/Friendly/Vibrant/Safe/Diverse/Willing to help people	30	32%
Pub	12	13%
Shop	12	13%
Sky at night/Dark skies	9	9%
Accessibility of amenities/Newport	5	5%
Pride taken in village/Typical English village/Clean	5	5%
Wildlife/being able to hear the birds	2	2%
Other	10	11%
Base = 95		

Q.1b And what, if anything, do you think is the WORST thing about living in Chale today?

Bus service/No late buses	29	31%
Busy road/Speeding traffic	23	24%
No access to Whale Chine/beach	11	12%
Poor broadband	7	7%
Lack of footpaths	4	4%
No school	4	4%
Outsiders view of Spanners/Spanners	3	3%
No Doctors surgery	2	2%
Lack of car parking spaces/parking on green	2	2%
Inadequate community gathering places	2	2%
Irresponsible dog owners/Barking dogs	2	2%
Other	17	18%
Base = 95		

Q.2 Here are some opposing views about Chale Parish Council, for each pair please tick one box which is closest to what you feel. Please note if you are, or ever have been a Chale Parish Councillor please do not answer this question!

	5	4	3	2	1	
I understand what the Parish Council does for Chale			3.16			I have no idea what the Parish Council does for Chale
I know who all of the Parish Councillors are				2.42		I have no idea who any of the Parish Councillors are
I feel involved in the decision-making that goes on in my community				2.05		I do not feel involved in the decision-making that goes on in my community

Base = 83

Q.3 How important or unimportant is it to you personally that Chale should keep the following?
Please tick one box for each item.

	Not at all important 1	Not very important 2	No opinion/ Don't know 0	Quite important 3	Very important 4
Village shop					3.83
Post office					3.84
Filling station/ garage				3.14	
Pub				3.36	
Parish Church				3.19	
W.I. Hall				2.97	
Chale Day		2.44			
Chale Mail				3.14	
Chale Show				3.14	

Base = 95

Q.4a Firstly, thinking about housing and the different types of housing that could be built in the village. How much would you like to see the following? Please tick one box for each item.

	No change from present 1	A few of these 2	A lot of these 3	No opinion/ Don't know 0
Affordable privately owned housing to rent	1.21			
Affordable privately owned housing to buy	1.34			
General/Private housing to rent or buy	1.20			
Housing Association houses to rent	1.13			
Flats to rent or buy	0.86			
Self build housing	1.36			
Mobile homes to rent or buy	0.89			
Sheltered homes for the elderly	1.41			

Base = 95

Q.4b If any new housing were to be built in the village what form should it ideally take?

As a new housing estate	5%
Built amongst existing housing	59%
A mobile home park	1%
None of these/Don't want any new housing	37%

Base = 95

Now thinking about businesses and shops in Chale

Q.5a How keen or not you are in seeing the following in Chale. Please tick one box for each item

	Not at all keen 1	Not very keen 2	No opinion/ Don't know 0	Quite keen 3	Very keen 4
More shops		1.57			
Workshops		1.61			
Small business units		1.74			
Offices	1.21				
Craft units e.g. pottery		2.13			

Base = 95

Q.5b If you ticked 'quite keen' or 'very keen' for 'more shops' – what type of shops would like to have?

Butcher 5
Baker 5
Farm shop 4

Thinking now about tourism in the area

Q.6 How keen or not are you in seeing Chale have the following? Please tick one box for each item

	Not at all keen 1	Not very keen 2	No opinion/ Don't know 0	Quite keen 3	Very keen 4
Self catering/Bed & breakfast accommodation		1.99			
Hotels	1.42				
Touring Caravan park	1.43				
Camping site		1.67			
Bicycle hire		2.23			
A museum/Heritage centre		2.13			
A nature reserve				2.54	
Cycleways				2.55	

Base = 95

Now thinking about transport in Chale

Q.7a Have you a car or other motor vehicle available in your household to get out and about in?

Yes No
 Base = 95

If No – do you have family or friends/neighbours who will give you a lift when you need it?

Yes No
 Base = 4

Q.7b Do you regularly use the No.6 bus service?

Yes No
 Base = 95

Q.7c Would you use the bus more frequently/at all if there was a service in the evening?

Yes No
 Base = 95

There has been a suggestion that the island could have 20 mile an hour speed limits in some areas

Q.8 How do you feel about the following suggestions for Chale? Please tick one box for each item.

	Not at all keen 1	Not very keen 2	No opinion/ Don't know 0	Quite keen 3	Very keen 4
30mph speed limit across the whole village				2.46	
Speed limit in those areas currently 30mph lowered to 20mph		1.79			
20mph speed limit across the whole village		1.62			

Base = 95

Q.9a Below is a list of projects that other people have suggested for Chale, for each one please tick whether you think it is a good idea and worth doing or a bad idea and not worth doing.

	Good idea 2	Bad idea 1	No opinion/ Don't know 0
Allotments		1.33	
Beach access from Chale (Whale Chine)	1.84		
Car sharing scheme		0.95	
Community composting area		1.22	
Community farm		0.95	
Community minibus		1.19	
Community orchard		1.07	
Evening classes		1.21	
(New) Meeting place for residents		0.94	
Nursery facilities		0.97	

Theatre/cinema at the church or WI hall		1.20	
Village football team		1.13	
Village taxi		1.25	
Wildflower meadow at Stroud Green		1.20	

Base = 95

Q.9b If you said you are interested in evening classes – what subjects are you interested in?

Languages 17 mentions
Crafts 14
IT 9
Keep Fit 5
Gardening 5
Painting 4
Cooking 4

Base = 57

Q.10 Do you think there are any other community funded projects that would be worth doing?

Whale Chine 5 mentions

Q.11 Please tick any of the following words which you think describe Chale and write in any other words that you think are appropriate.

Divided	19%	Quiet	85%
Friendly	79%	Relaxed	79%
Historic	46%	Safe	80%
Isolated	33%	Strong community	39%
Peaceful	92%	Unfriendly	3%
Pretty	63%	Unsafe	0%

Base = 95

Is there anything on this questionnaire that does not cover how you feel about/what you want for Chale?

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To help us analyse the results of this survey please tell us a bit about yourself...

Q.A Are you **male** 43% **female** 57%
 Base = 92

Q.B Age last birthday

Under 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
0	0	4 (5%)	5 (6%)	13 (15%)	25 (28%)	32 (36%)	9 (10%)

Base = 88

Q.C Do you have regular access to the internet (this can be on your phone, at your home, place of work, or somewhere else)?

Yes 90% No 10%
 Base = 93

Q.D How many adults are there living in your household aged 18 and over?

1	2	3	4	5+
9	74	9	1	

Base = 93, average household size = 2.03

Q.E How many children aged under 18 years are there in your household?

0	1	2	3	4	5+
	6	5	2	1	

If you have children in your household how do they get to school/college?
 Please tick all that apply

Free bus	Free taxi	Private car	Some other way	Not in FT education
8	0	9	2	7