

Community and Voluntary Organisations Survey

February /March 2020

RESPONSES

76 paper copies were distributed to groups, venues and organisations operating within the Forest Edge South NDP area and including Parkend, Yorkley, Pillowell, Whitecroft, Viney Hill and Oldcroft.

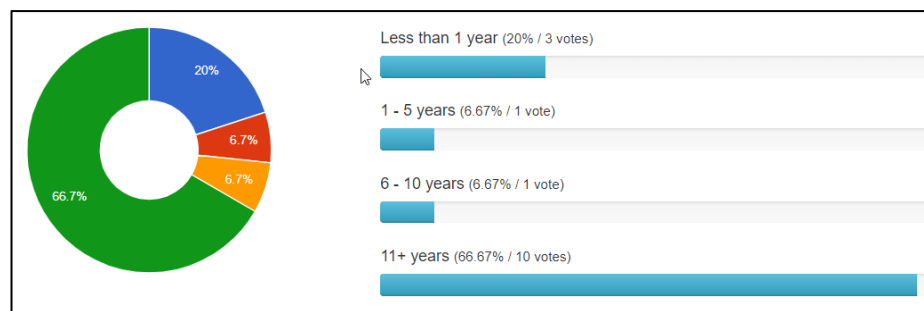
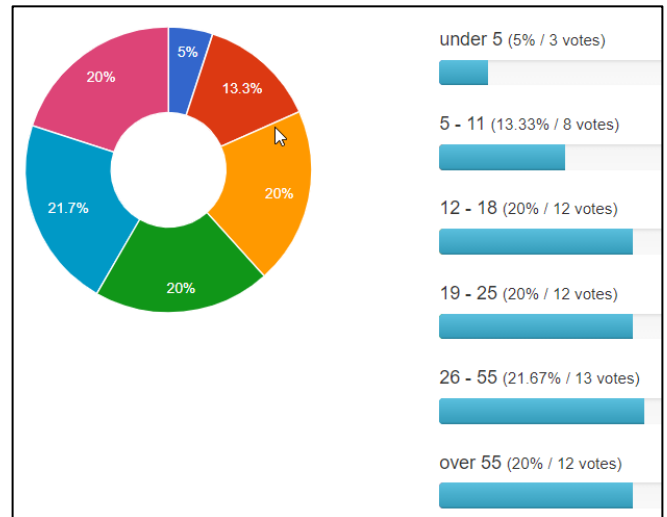
15 completed surveys were received by the cut-off date March 9th 2020 – 12 online and 3 paper copies.

RESULTS

Types of respondent organisations - Social, music, sports, churches, walking, community practical workshops, craft and youth groups

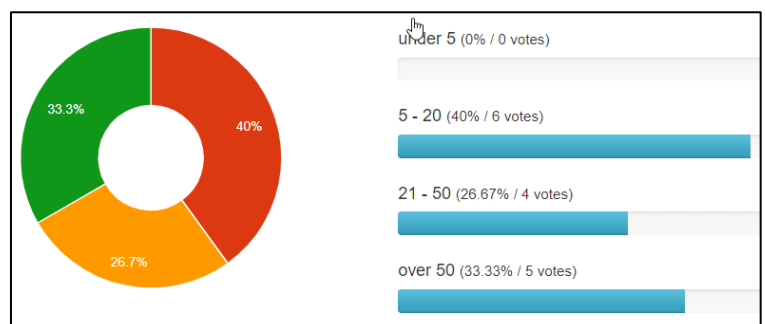
GROUP/ORGANISATION DEMOGRAPHICS

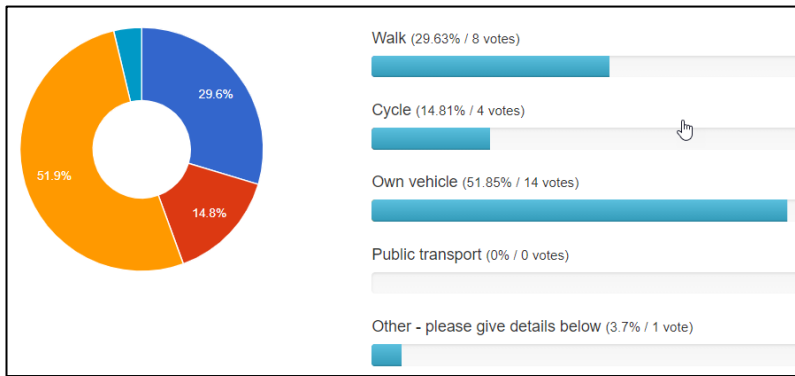
What ages does your group/organisation cater for?



How long have you been established?

How many members / participants do you have?

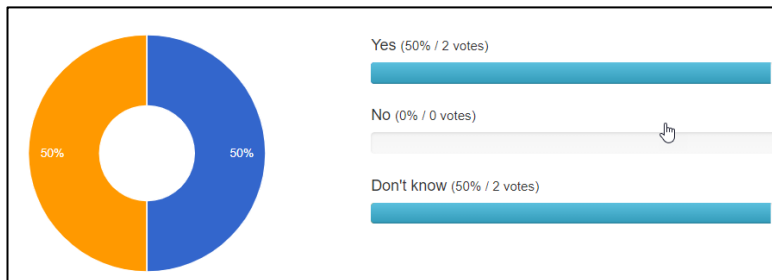
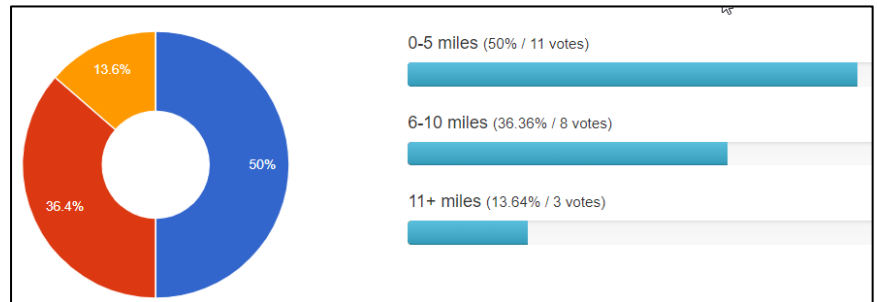




How do your members / participants travel to your meetings?

Other - Mainly brought to meeting in cars by parents and other family members

How far do your members / participants travel to your meetings?



Would the planned multi-use track between Parkend and Lydney benefit your organisation/group?

Comment - We do have several members of our club who live in Lydney and may use the planned multi-use track if it was available.

FUTURE PLANS

Are there any plans to change?

- Not at present
- We have recently started an Under 11 cricket side. We have been running Under 15's and Under 13's for 10+ years
- Change may happen organically but not intentionally
- Do more community minded events
- Always happy to welcome new walkers, but nothing new is planned.
- no - volunteers on committee, may ask others to help organise events for community
- Organic growth
- Currently using a member's private workshop. Looking for a permanent bigger workshop within the Forest of Dean, preferably quite central. We offer a community service to members and the wider community working on many community projects for other voluntary groups and those in need. We therefore need space for a large workshop, equipment and storage.
- Expand the range of activities and storage facilities

What are the reasons for the change?

- The parkrun only started at the end of August 2019. Since then, we have had over 1,400 individuals come to run with us. Some of these are locals who have run many times, but quite a lot are parkrun tourists. We expect the parkrun to increase in popularity locally, but also attract more tourists to the area.

- Interest in junior cricket has grown in recent years.
- Wanting to be a resource to the village
- Currently at capacity for safety reasons as the private workshop is only really big enough for up to 12 people working at a time. We need to be able to offer the service more days a week to reach more people in need. As well as private members we get many enquiries and referrals from all aspects of the Health Service. We also have Adult Education interested in using the service, the local scouts, Youth Support workers and Breathe.
- We want to offer the young people activities and facilities. At the present we are construction a climbing wall and facilities to enable us to offer better storage and drying areas for the equipment after inclement weather. The Group has planning permission to fill in the area in front of the porch which will give us some of the area we require.
- It is a new group and we would like to attract more participants.
- To keep Parkend Band survival.
- It is a new group and we hope it will serve as a catalyst to get more people involved in the village.

OTHER COMMENTS

- If anyone would like more information about us as a player or requiring about playing at an event don't hesitate to contact on 07964417495 or 01594563069
- Scout Groups are managed by an Executive Committee who are elected at an annual meeting. The Uniform Leaders are led by the Group Scout Leader and all are obliged to undertake training appropriate to their role. The members of the Executive are also Charity trustees and every adult in the Group are DBS checked. The Group itself consists of 2 Beaver Colonies who are aged 6 to 8, 2 Cub Packs for aged to 8 to 10 and 3 Scout Troops for the 10 to 14 age group and all the sections are open to both boys and girls. The biggest problem that we experience is that today's society is very busy and as a result we experience recruiting Leaders to enable us to be able to offer a place to every young person who wants to join. On reaching the age of 14 they can continue scouting with one of the 3 Explore Units within the District and during that time they can become young leaders with any of the sections in the group. The Group is the largest in the Royal Forest of Dean District with over 120 young members and during the their time they will undergo training in life skills as well as experiencing camping and other outdoor activities. The young people have the opportunity to attend International Jamborees, one was the world Jamboree which was held in America /Canada last year and of the 35 young people representing Gloucestershire our group had 3 selected and they had to raise £4000 each. This year a Jamboree is being held in Poland and 3 young people have been selected from our Group again they are in the middle of raising £1250 each. During the year we have many other groups of people staying in the lodge and its grounds and enjoying the surrounding forest and its facilities and the planned multi use track between Lydney and Parkend would be welcome Contact Secretary: Brian Wingfield
- We have been searching for premises for the last 2 years with no success. Commercial rent is unaffordable to a voluntary group and to allow it to be accessible to all. We need a bespoke community space, a community asset that can be used by many people.
- The parkrun is free to enter and organised by volunteers.

CONCLUSION

The community is well served by a wide range of established groups and organisations catering for the arts, music and sport. New ones are also adding further choice of activities. More outlets are needed for young people which is something the NDP will be looking to address.

COVID-19

This survey closed just as the pandemic hit the UK. As with many communities the arrival of this coronavirus has devastated all groups, organisations and even the venues where they meet. These unprecedented times have curtailed meetings and opportunities with future plans on hold or maybe even groups closing altogether. For this reason it is important that in the future this sector is revisited with a new survey.