

4.8 Second home owner views.

The arrival of a large estate of second home owners over the past 10 years at Lower Mill has resulted in changes. As reported elsewhere in this plan the second home owners now have voting rights in local elections. The Parish Plan core group did discuss the involvement of the second home owners in the development of the plan with the Parish council and this resulted in a mandate to include the second home owners in the consultation part of the Parish Plan and report their opinions in the resultant documents.

The questionnaire was circulated to the second home owners via the Lower Mill Estate email list and there was a 20% response rate, which is high for this type of exercise. Their responses are covered in Appendix E item 1.2. In order to gauge their opinions in contrast to those of the permanent residents GRCC computed the 50% plus opinions of the permanent residents, the second home owners and then the combined the opinions.

What was most interesting was the high degree of correlation in these 3 sets of opinions, this being detailed below. In some ways the entire parish is of the same opinion on quite a range of matters.



Picture 4.8: Lower Mill Estate from the Air

Comment [pw1]:

Somerford Keynes and Shorncote Parish Plan Questionnaire 2012
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SUMMARY

For each of the three datasets, answers given by over 50% of respondents relating either to potential new developments, actions they would support, facilities they would use, amenities they value, or things they are dissatisfied with are summarised below. All percentages are out of the total number of respondents in each dataset.

A. PERMANENT RESIDENTS (% OF 114)

- **86%** -support the continuation of the settlement protection zones
- **82%** - dissatisfied with mobile phone reception
- **82%** - would use a shop in the parish; **74%** - a village shop is an acceptable new development
- **67%-82%** value the following as part of the fabric of the community: **82%** walks/footpaths; **78%** church; **77%** village hall; **72%** pub; **67%** country parks
- **77%** - either strongly disagree (**68%**) or disagree (**9%**) that more holiday homes should be given planning permission
- **75%** - would use a Post Office in the parish
- **63%** - dissatisfied with broadband; **59%** - would like fibre broadband
- **57%** - Andy Bus service is an essential part of our village life; **51%** - our household does not use the Andy bus service but we see it as important to other households
- **54%** - dissatisfied with road maintenance
- **54%**- would like access to a swimming pool located on the Lower Mill Estate; **52%** would like access to a shop on the Lower Mill Estate
- **52%** - no more permanent housing is needed in the parish

B. Lower Mill Estate(LME) SECOND HOME OWNERS (% of 51)

- **65%-98%** value the following as part of the fabric of the community: **98%** Walks/footpaths; **96%** pub; **84%** cycleways; **78%** country parks; **65%** village hall
- **92%** -dissatisfied with mobile phone reception
- **92%**- a village shop is acceptable new development; **90%** would use a shop in the parish
- **78%** - support the continuation of the protection zones
- **69%-75%** - would be happy for permanent residents of Somerford Keynes and Shorncote to access the following on LME if accessible without entering the main estate: **75%** shop; **71%** café; **69%** restaurant
- **71%** - do not feel as well informed as they would like to be about what's happening in Somerford Keynes and Shorncote
- **69%** - management of footpaths, bridleways, rights of way and cycle paths needs to be improved
- **62%** - either strongly disagree (**37%**) or disagree (**25%**) that more holiday homes should be given planning permission
- **61%** - think conversion of redundant buildings should be permitted in the parish
- **59%** - more cycle paths are needed in the parish and surrounding areas
- **57%** - would use a Post Office in the parish
- **55%** - small scale sustainable business is an acceptable new development
- **55%** - dissatisfied with broadband; **51%** would like fibre broadband

C. ALL RESPONDENTS (% OF 165)

- **59%-87%** value the following as part of the fabric of the community: **87%** walks/footpaths; **79%** pub; **73%** village hall; **70%** country parks; **68%** church; **59%** cycleways
- **85%** - dissatisfied with mobile phone reception
- **84%** -support the continuation of the settlement protection zones
- **84%** - would use a shop in the parish; **79%** - a village shop is acceptable development
- **72%** - either strongly disagree (**58%**) or disagree (**14%**) that more holiday homes should be given planning permission
- **69%** - would use a Post Office in the parish
- **61%** - dissatisfied with broadband; **56%** would like fibre broadband