

Youth Survey

42 young people responded

The Issues

1. Lack of a youth club and a safe place to meet within the village
2. Young people believe that there are insufficient activities and clubs available to them locally
3. Basketball nets/posts would be very welcome on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)
4. The bus service needs to be more responsive to their needs – cheaper fares with a frequent and reliable service

We believed it was important that the young people in the village have their say on what they thought of the village.

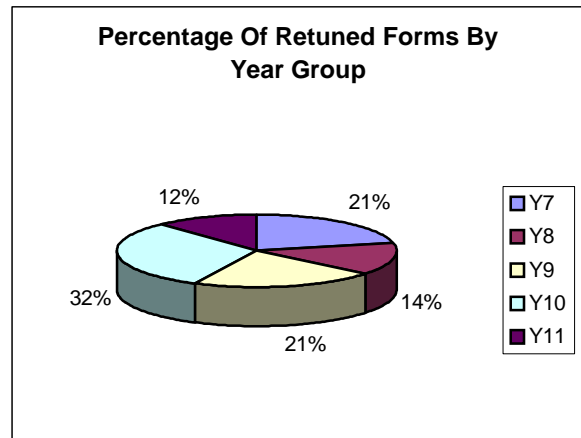
The Youth Survey was targeted at the 11 to 16 year old age group.

In order to reach this age group we sent copies of the questionnaires to following schools which agreed to distribute them to pupils from West Bergholt:

Alderman Blaxill
 Colchester County High School
 Phillip Morant
 St Benedicts
 St Helena
 The Gilberd
 The Royal Grammar School
 The Stanway

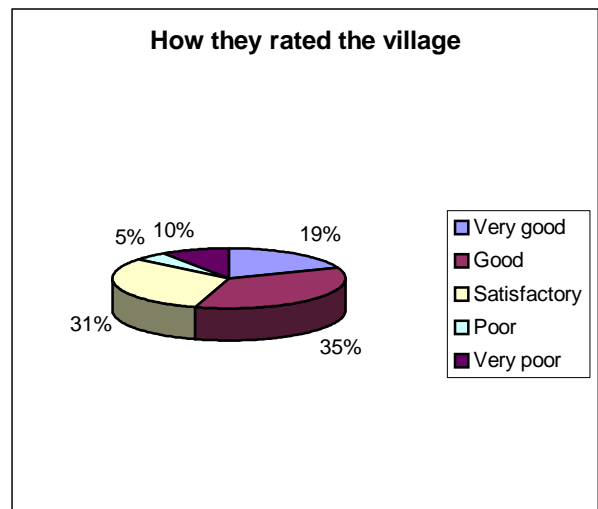
20 girls and 22 boys responded

Percentage Of Returned Forms By Year Group

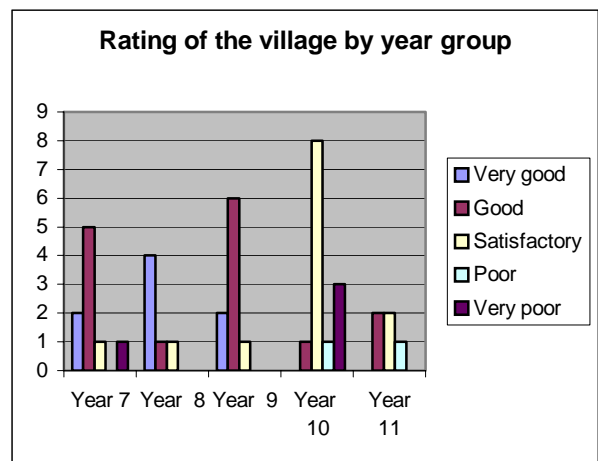


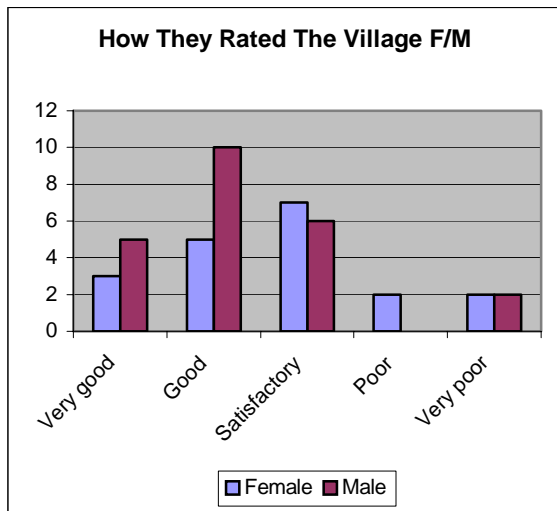
A high proportion of the young people (85%) rated West Bergholt as a very good to satisfactory place to live

How they rated the village



Rating of the village by year group





Existing facilities

84% of young people felt that public transport was very good to satisfactory.

The village is served by only one bus route centre the no. 66 run by FirstBus running between the village and Colchester town.

The bus service was the cause of most comment when asked what they felt most strongly about.

76% of young people stated that the sports facilities were very good to satisfactory.

However responses to Q.5 clearly showed that there was clearly a desire that basketball nets be provided on the village's Multi-Use Games Area.

There were also a number of requests for other sports clubs to be provided in addition to those already provided in the village (see response to Q.5)

Great dissatisfaction was expressed about the lack of provision of a youth club with 64% of young people rating the provision as poor to very poor.

46% of young people were similarly discontent with the provision of meeting places. No safe informal meeting places exist within the village.

Concern was expressed by the young people about the intimidating groups of other young people who congregate around the village shop, the village sign

51% of young people were dissatisfied with the availability of advice on well-being

Improvements in existing facilities

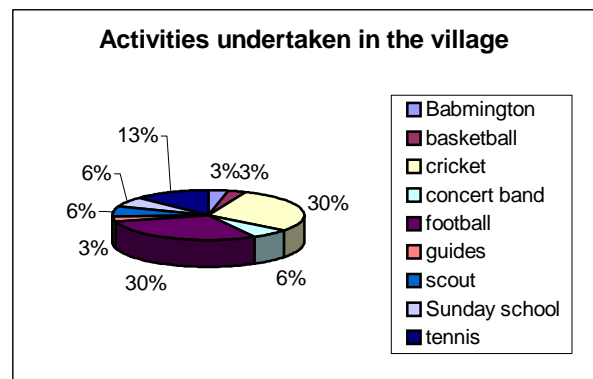
Of the existing facilities the young people most want improved that of a youth club/safe meeting place came top with 41%

33% expressed the view that public transport needed improving with a further 26% wanting improvements of sporting nature i.e more clubs.

Activities

Only 52% of young people were attending a club(s) or activity in the village.

The most popular activities were cricket and football – all male activities except for the one female footballer!



The two main requests for further facilities were

- **Basketball court/posts/club**
- **Youth club/social centre**

Clubs for the following :

- hockey ,
- martial arts
- netball
- rugby
- table tennis

The other facilities requested were:

- indoor swimming pool
- running track
- tennis club to be run better
- skate park
- more benches on the open spaces
- cycle route
- music/dance venue
- more fun activities/social stuff
- somewhere to get drunk

There was a suggestion that Orpen Hall should be the venue for occasional gigs.

A number of respondents mentioned that those clubs which did exist needed to be better advertised.

When asked if there were any issues they felt strongly about the bus service proved to be the main concern.

20% of the young people expressed views on matters such as:

- the unreliability of the service,
- the cost a return to Colchester currently £1.60 for a child fare
- the need for timetables at every stop
- the need to be informed of changes to the service

7% of the respondents wanted a safe place to meet where they would not be intimidated by groups of teenagers.

Concern was also expressed about graffiti in the phone boxes, dog dirt on the pavements and litter.