

## **1. Summary**

Analysis of the questionnaire responses from the youth of Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath has identified several underlying issues and concerns. There is a quite widely held belief, 44%, that litter, in many different forms, is something that detracts from what is otherwise a quite pleasant place to live and that by the simple expedient of removing it, the quality of life would be improved.

The majority of responses indicate a good working relationship with the Police but there is a significant number, 25%, who have not spoken with and do not feel able to speak with our Community Police officers, and given that issues surrounding personal safety were identified as a concern several times perhaps this is an area where a renewed approach could be considered. Many suggestions have been offered to help resolve the issue surrounding the regular complaint that 'there's nothing to do' and some of these suggestions could be implemented easily and cheaply as many suitable facilities already exist within the village. Simply providing the facilities however is the easy part but without the infrastructure to support them, by which is meant an active youth council, adult help and support and a dedicated full time youth worker, by organising the various clubs and activities the money invested in the facilities will be wasted. An action plan is contained at Appendix 1 which details the actions identified.

## **2. Introduction**

Parish plans are being written by concerned residents in many parishes across the country. Parish plans are the result of a central government initiative to give local people an opportunity to have a greater influence on their future. Therefore the views of the residents on what are the important issues and priorities facing our community now and over the next ten years are integral to the plan.

To ensure everybody has this opportunity all of the residents of the civil parish of Frampton Cotterell, which includes much of Coalpit Heath, were invited to become part of the process. The information gathering part of the process started with consultations and open days to identify broad areas of concern from which a multi-page questionnaire was developed. At an early stage in the process it was decided that the young people of Frampton Cotterell deserved a voice of their own and therefore a separate questionnaire aimed at the 11 to 16 year old age group was prepared.

The main questionnaire was then distributed to every household in Frampton Cotterell and each was given the opportunity to have the youth questionnaire delivered. The youth questionnaire was also distributed via various local youth groups. The youth questionnaire responses were analysed and from the analysis this report has been produced. This report will then be integrated into the main plan.

Given that this report and the whole consultation process that preceded it has been produced by the Village Action steering group who are all volunteers with no particular political affiliations, but with a simple desire to see the village develop into an even better place to live, it

is believed that this plan will give our Parish councillors, other agencies and local, regional and national government representatives a clear picture of the views of the residents. As purse strings get tightened in the future it is possible that it will become very difficult to obtain funding for projects that have not been identified in the Parish Plan and it will provide an overview of the priorities as determined by the residents.

### **3. Analysis and Discussion**

Many of the questions gave the respondents the opportunity to identify more than one answer therefore the analysis expresses the responses as a % of the total number of responses rather than as a % of the completed questionnaires. For example we received 95 completed returns but for question 1 we had 156 responses, the implication being that some youngsters use more than one method of finding out what's on in Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath. This approach of identifying more than one answer is typical and is used throughout the questionnaire.

When calculating the percentages the answers have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number and in doing so this introduces minor errors which are of no overall significance.

It is recognised that in true statistical terms the survey size is small and the responses may not be representative of a larger group. They are, however, representative of the group who chose to involve themselves and in that sense are representative of a section of our community. No attempt has been made to manipulate the responses in recognition of the sample size and only the data collected has been used.

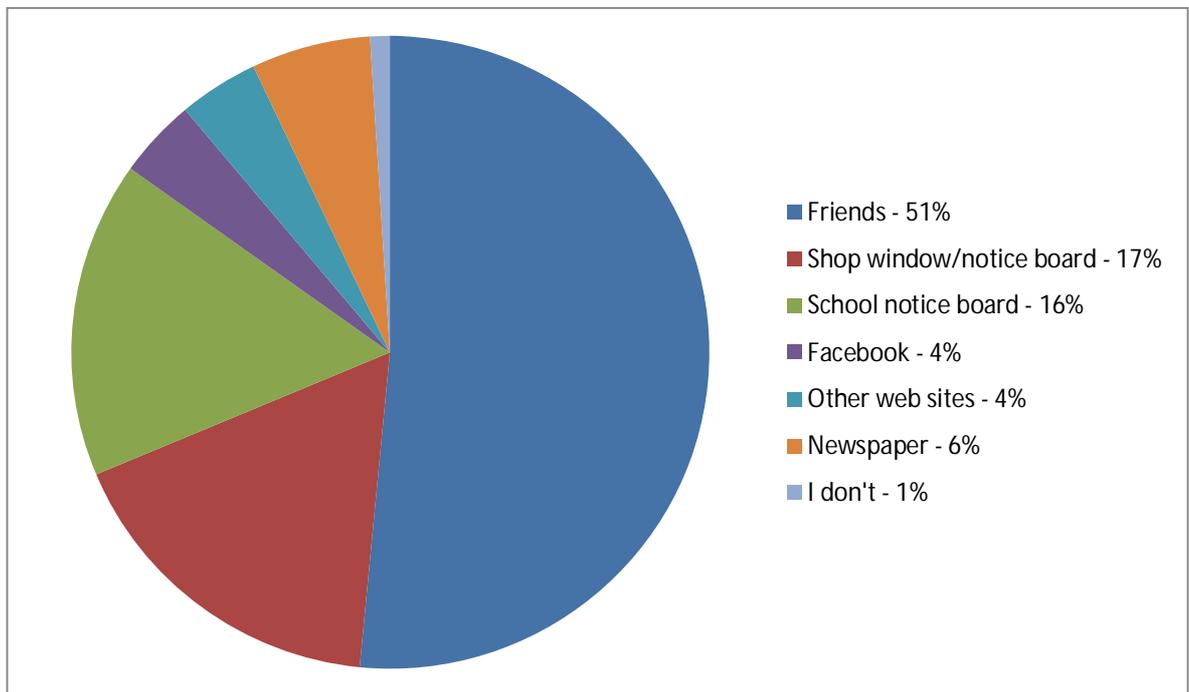
Some questions asked for suggestions from the respondees and as expected a multitude of different suggestions were forthcoming. These responses may be grouped together into similar areas and presented in numerical terms rather than as a percentage. This will then indicate where a viable group could be formed to promote the suggestion further.

Whichever method is used to present any specific result, the associated narrative will clearly identify the methodology.

The layout of this section of the report follows the layout of the original questionnaire and will repeat the original question before proceeding with the analysis and any associated discussion. The discussion of the results is presented in an *italic font* in order that it is clearly separated from the analysis as it is essential to separate fact from opinion.

This report only reflects the opinion of the youth who kindly took the time to complete the questionnaire and return it. We do not know the opinions of the rest.

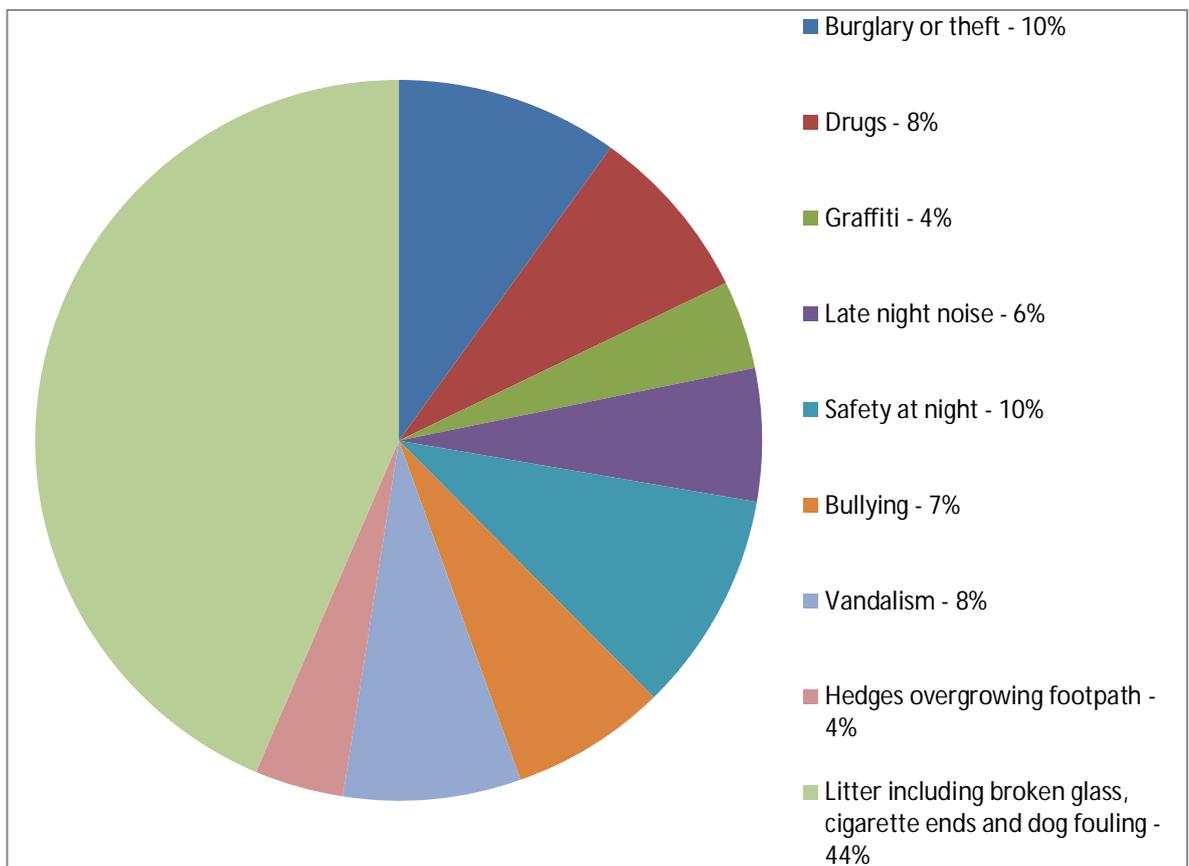
**Question 1. Tick the ways you find out about local activities and facilities.**



The questions offered six different methods, all of which are listed on the chart above, varying from the ancient to the modern. As can be seen from the chart the overwhelming majority, 51%, use the tried and tested route of 'word of mouth', whilst 33% use various notice boards. Only 8% use modern electronic methods through internet based social networking sites.

*From the results it is clear that the older methods of spreading information regarding forthcoming events and activities, word of mouth and notice boards, are the methods favoured by the majority. While this may be a little surprising in this digital age with a multitude of social networking sites, it may not be such a surprise when the age or the respondents is considered as the overwhelming majority were in the 11 to 12 years old age group.*

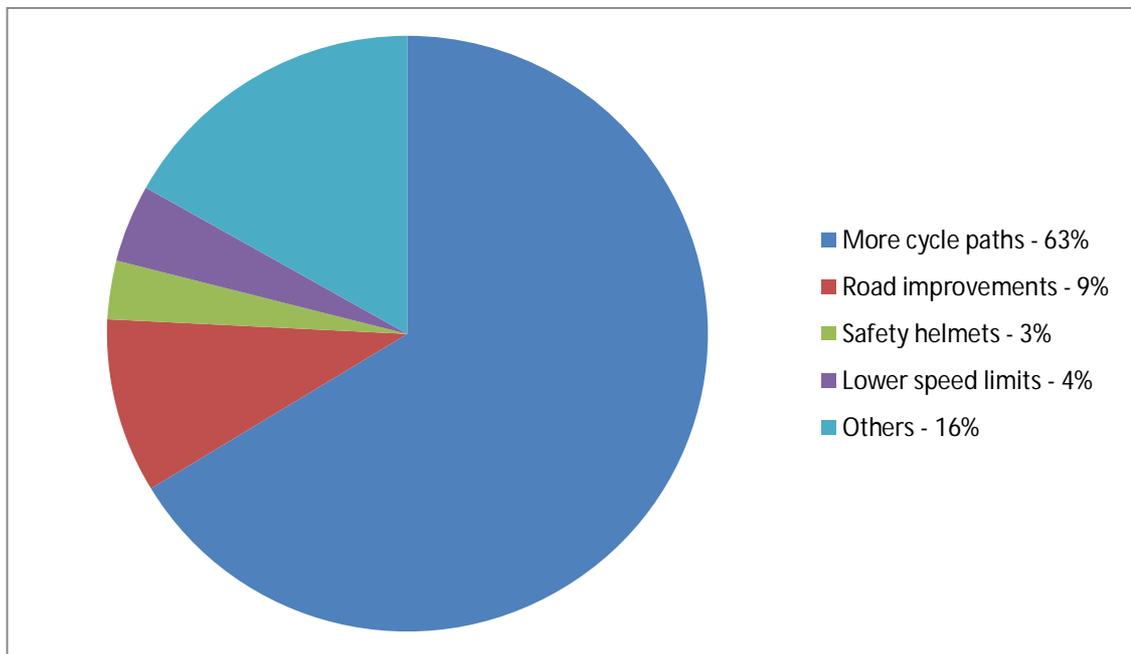
**Question 2. Tick the issues in Frampton & Coalpit Heath that worry or bother you.**



This question offered twelve topics and from the avalanche of response, 398 in total, it is clear many respondents were obviously concerned with multiple issues but no clear problem emerged when the issues are viewed in isolation. However when related issues are grouped together litter, including broken glass, cigarette ends and dog fouling, accounted for a significant majority at 44%.

*Litter in its various forms was a major concern to the youth of the village as the issue was raised many times throughout the questionnaire responses as will be seen as the analysis progresses.*

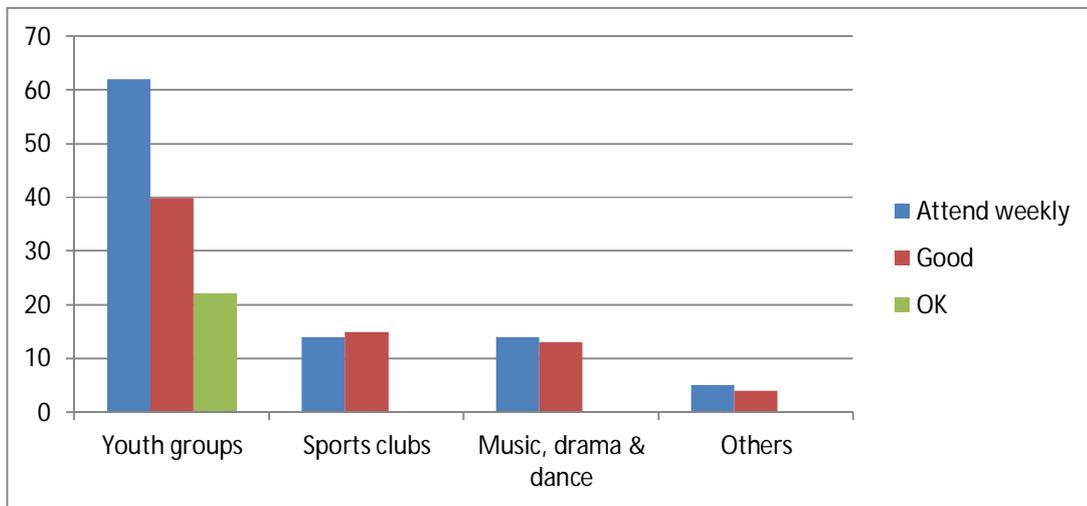
**Question 3. Add your ideas for making cycling safer in Frampton & Coalpit Heath**



Our respondents were asked to identify ways of making cycling safer in Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and the responses were many and varied and ranged from the extreme measure of banning all cars to the more practical measure of mandatory wearing of helmets. All 95 respondents had ideas and grouping those similar ideas together gives a significant majority, 63%, in support of some sort of cycle lane. Other suggestions included more places to park cycles when not in use, better security for parked cycles, better lights, cycle proficiency test and encouragement of younger cyclists in schools.

*Some good ideas for improving cycling safety were provided but most revolved around the need for additional cycle paths and this is something being undertaken in the wider Bristol area by local authorities in cooperation with Sustrans. The results of this survey should be made available to Sustrans in order that they can gauge the strength of opinion in the village.*

**Question 4. List the clubs/activities/youth/sports clubs you go to in Frampton & Coalpit Heath**



This question also asked the youth to identify whether their attendance was weekly or of an occasional nature and to rate the experience as good, OK or bad. Of the 95 completed questionnaires returned a total of 98 responses were received to this question. This resulted in a range of clubs and activities being identified and suggesting that very few of the youth undertook more than one activity or attended more than one club. Of these responses 94 indicated they undertook the activity on a weekly basis.

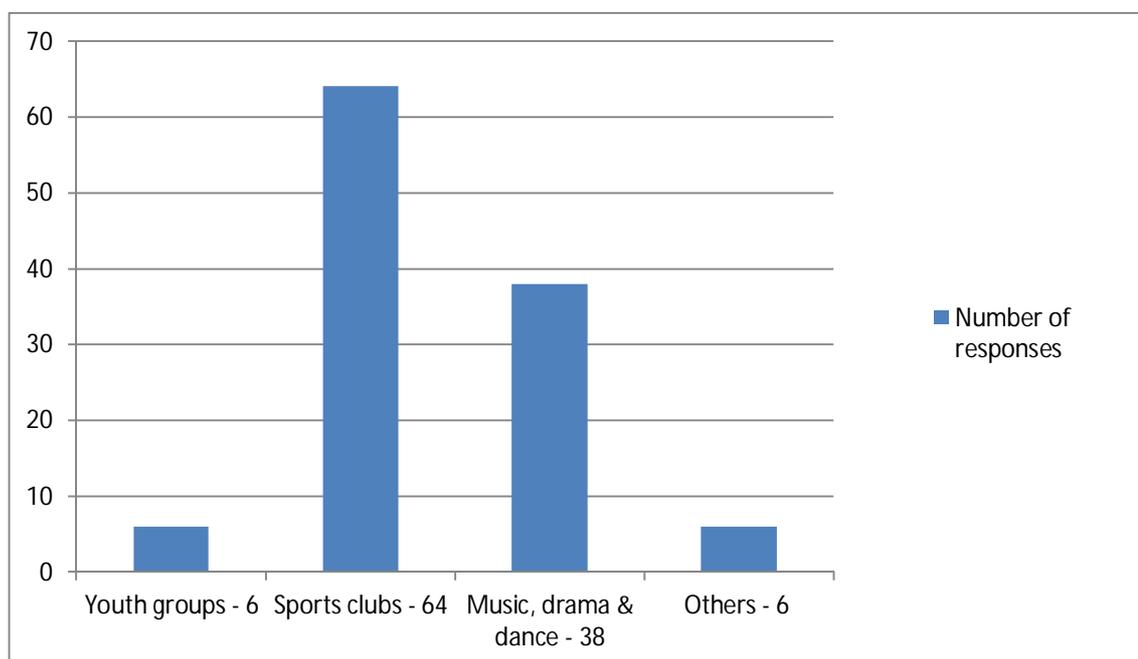
To try and reduce the number of variables in order that a meaningful analysis can be presented, similar activities have been grouped together. In the chart above youth groups include Scouts, Cubs, Guides, Rock Solid, Brownies and Cadet Forces. Sports clubs include Table tennis, Netball, Tennis, Rugby, Football and Cricket. Music and Dance include various instruments and dance classes. Others include sessions with a tutor, school newspaper, churchyard working group, horse riding and gardening club.

Of the 98 responses to this question, 55 of them (58%) came from Scouts, Guides, Explorers and Rock Solid.

Attendees were also asked to rate the activities into good, OK or bad categories and all responses fell into the good or OK categories with none of the popular activities rated as bad. One response rated weekly involvement with the school newspaper as bad.

*Given that the various group leaders were approached and their members asked to participate in the process the spread of answers is not a surprise. The results should be presented to those group leaders in order to inform and encourage them.*

**Question 5. What other clubs/activities do you go to outside Frampton & Coalpit Heath.**



This question was similar to question 4, except that it refers to activities undertaken **outside** Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and a similar grouping is used to show the results. A wide range of activities were identified, with the majority, 56%, being sport related. The biggest single attraction, with 10 participants, was martial arts.

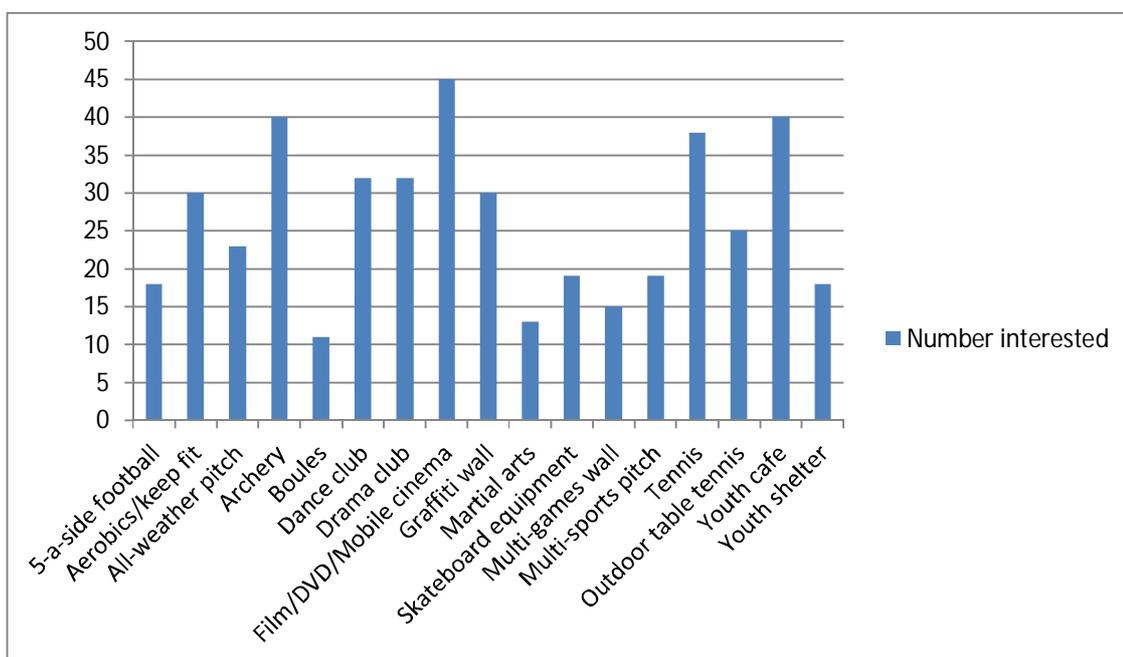
Music, drama and dance, with 38, responses were the largest group outside of sports activities and whilst some of them were not possible to undertake in Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath due to the specialist nature (orchestra members for example) others possibly could.

*Facilities capable of providing a base for many of the activities identified exist in Frampton Cotterell & Coalpit Heath but the club infrastructure necessary to provide the ongoing support does not. Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath do have their fair share of sports groups but Ice Rinks, Swimming Pools, Karting circuits and Golf Courses and are not likely to become available in the foreseeable future.*

*It may be that one of the reasons that some activities are undertaken outside of Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath is simply that the youth are unaware of the activities or the facilities that exist within the village and a simple advertising campaign may be the answer.*

*It also became apparent to members of Village Action that there was no central reference point where a person could find out what actual facilities do exist within the village. A register containing details of rooms or spaces for hire may help any group leader seeking to establish a presence in the village.*

**Question 6. Tick activities you would use if available in Frampton & Coalpit Heath.**



This was a multi choice question where 17 activities were listed and this question attracted a total of 471 responses. Given that 95 questionnaires were returned, it is obvious that most youngsters were keen to try multiple activities. For this question the responses are presented in numerical, rather than percentage, terms as in this way it can be seen where sufficient numbers exist that may form the nucleolus of a viable group.

The data is presented in its raw form as any attempt to group similar activities is likely to be flawed and present an unreal picture.

The most popular activity with 45 responses was Film/DVD/Mobile Cinema closely followed by a Youth Café and Archery both with 40 responses. Tennis was the third most popular activity attracting 38 responses and was closely followed by Dance and Drama both attracting 32 responses. Next came Aerobics/keep fit and a Graffiti/Urban Art wall both attracting 30 responses. The only other activities to attract more than 20 responses were Outdoor Table Tennis with 25 and the All-weather pitch with 23. The remainder of the responses are as shown on the chart.

Other responses not covered on the list provided in the questionnaire included fishing lakes, kyaking, fencing, iceskating, badminton, netball, basketball and pony/horse riding lessons but these were all in a minority with no more than 3 mentions per activity.

*The most popular activity was the Mobile Cinema and whether this required a space to park a large self contained cinema or for a facility in the village to host a picture show with all of the projection and sound equipment provided by the mobile operator is not clear. The facilities to support either approach exist within Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and contact should be made with an operator to advise him of the demand and to encourage him to give Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath a visit. An alternative would be to form a film club where facilities already exist (eg. at Zion Hall and/or Crossbow House Community Association Hall.)*

*Another popular activity was the Youth Cafe with 40 responses and as the basic facilities already exist at various locations in the village this is something that could be investigated further. The differentiation between a Youth Cafe and a Youth Club would need to be made clear and appropriate responsible people selected to move this suggestion forward. Funding for staff would also be required.*

*Archery also attracted 40 responses and whilst sufficient open spaces exist within the village the safety of the participants and other users of the same spaces would be a major concern. Consultation with a Bristol based Archery Club in order to fully understand the implications and to explore the practicality of such a facility in Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath may be the next step.*

*Tennis attracted 38 positive responses and given that two good tennis courts, owned and maintained by the Parish Council, are available at The Park it would seem that this is a facility that could be made readily available at little or no additional cost. The courts are usually locked with keys held by nominated key-holders or by members of Crossbow Tennis Club but during August 2009 the courts were unlocked on a Wednesday afternoon and were available on a free first-come, first-served basis. This approach could be employed again, possibly for a longer period, in this coming summer and perhaps the tennis club could be approached with a view to forming a junior section to promote the sport in the wider community.*

*Dance and Drama were both popular each attracting 32 responses and, without further analysis, it is not clear whether they were the same people with an interest in both or merely coincidental. Whatever the answer, 32 represents a sufficient cohort to make either a dance or drama club a viable concern. Again, facilities exist within the village that have an existing stage and the space to seat 120 guests. Discussions have been held, by Frampton Cotterell & District Community Association, with a view to bringing a dance group, complete with staff to Frampton Cotterell, during the school summer vacation period and this may help to satisfy this demand if it comes to fruition.*

*One suggestion, attracting 12% of the votes, concerning the provision of an all weather playing surface would meet several needs as it could be marked out as a multi-sports pitch enabling 5-a-side football and other sports, to be played. It could also be used for aerobic/keep fit circuit training (6% of the vote) and with appropriate safety measures it could also allow archery ( 9%*

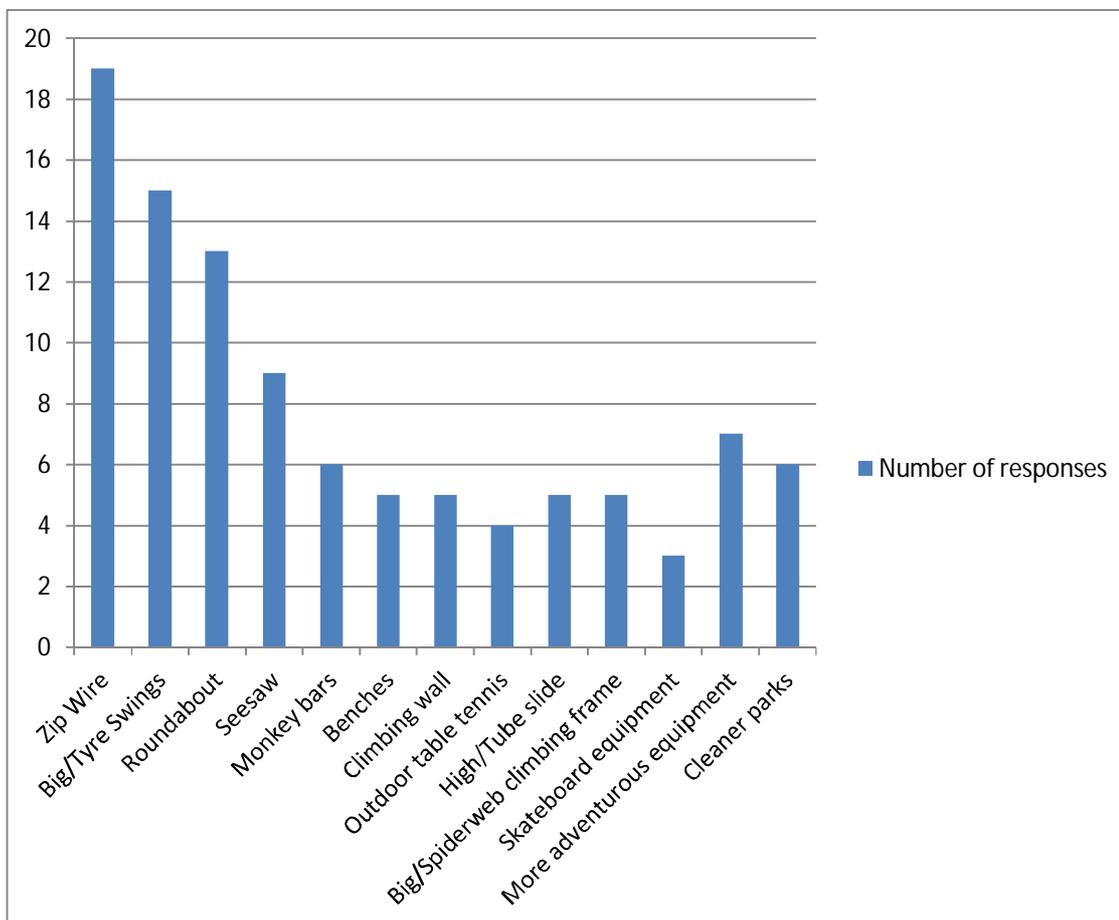
*of the vote) to be provided. Such a facility would be a boon to the community as it would be used by sports groups catering for all ages.*

*The Parish Council owned changing rooms at The Park have a large blank brick wall facing the 'new field' /Court Road and some of the suggestions for a multi-games wall (15), or for a graffiti or urban art wall (30), could be accommodated here. The wall in question is far enough away from local housing for any inconvenience to the population of the area to be minimal. The costs of such a venture would also minimal.*

*For a greater cost the area that currently hosts the overflow car park at The Park could be further developed with the existing reduced size Basketball court being replaced by a full size Basketball/netball court. One end of this area hosts the skate board 'half-pipe' and there is believed to be sufficient space to add some additional skate board items and to create a full size, 100 feet x 50 feet, netball/basketball court and still allow the area to be used as an overflow car park at times of peak demand.*

*Questions 4, 5 and 6 concerned the clubs and activities undertaken and this showed that many youngsters travel to venues outside of the village to undertake activities that are already available, or where facilities exist, in the village. Whilst there may be many reasons for this, one of them could be that they were simply not aware of what is available and a simple advertising campaign could result in reduced travelling and more involvement in village activities. See also the discussion of the responses to question 5.*

**Question 7. List the park equipment you would most like added**

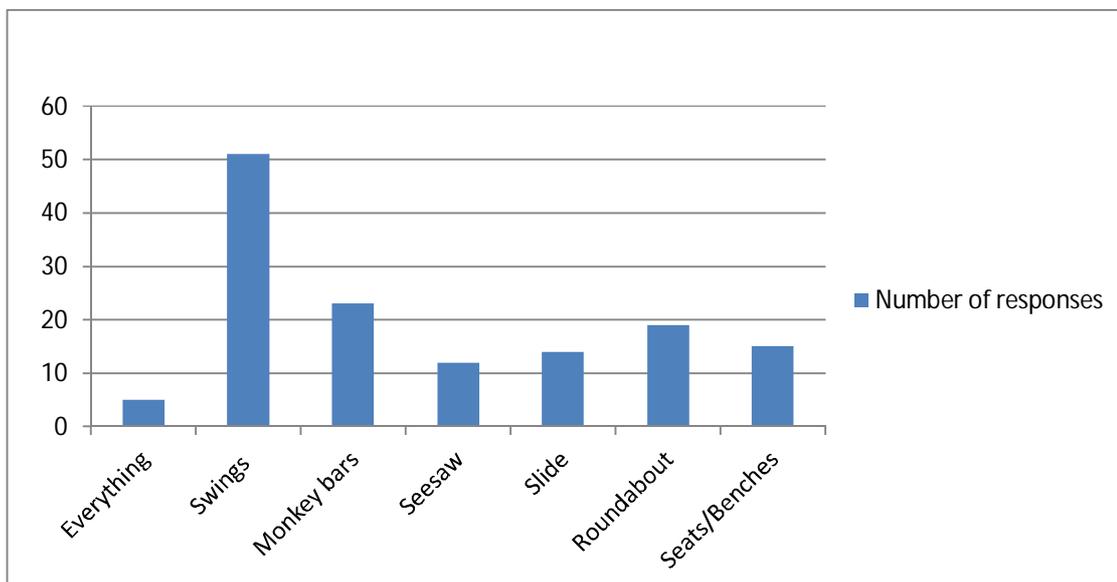


Question 7 asked the youth to identify the additional play equipment they would most like to see made available and, as with other questions of this sort, a range of different responses, 133 in total, were received. For this question the responses are also presented in numerical, rather than percentage, terms.

Other responses included 5-a-side football, football goals, rounders posts, basketball and badminton courts; a huge trampoline and a climbing pole were also suggested. Anything like Kingsgate Park, Yate and outdoor activities like Unity Farm campsite were also requested.

*Both questions 7 and 9 concerned park equipment and any discussion regarding them will follow question 9 (which is taken out of sequence) due the similarity of subject matter.*

**Question 9. List the park equipment you use in Frampton Cotterell.**

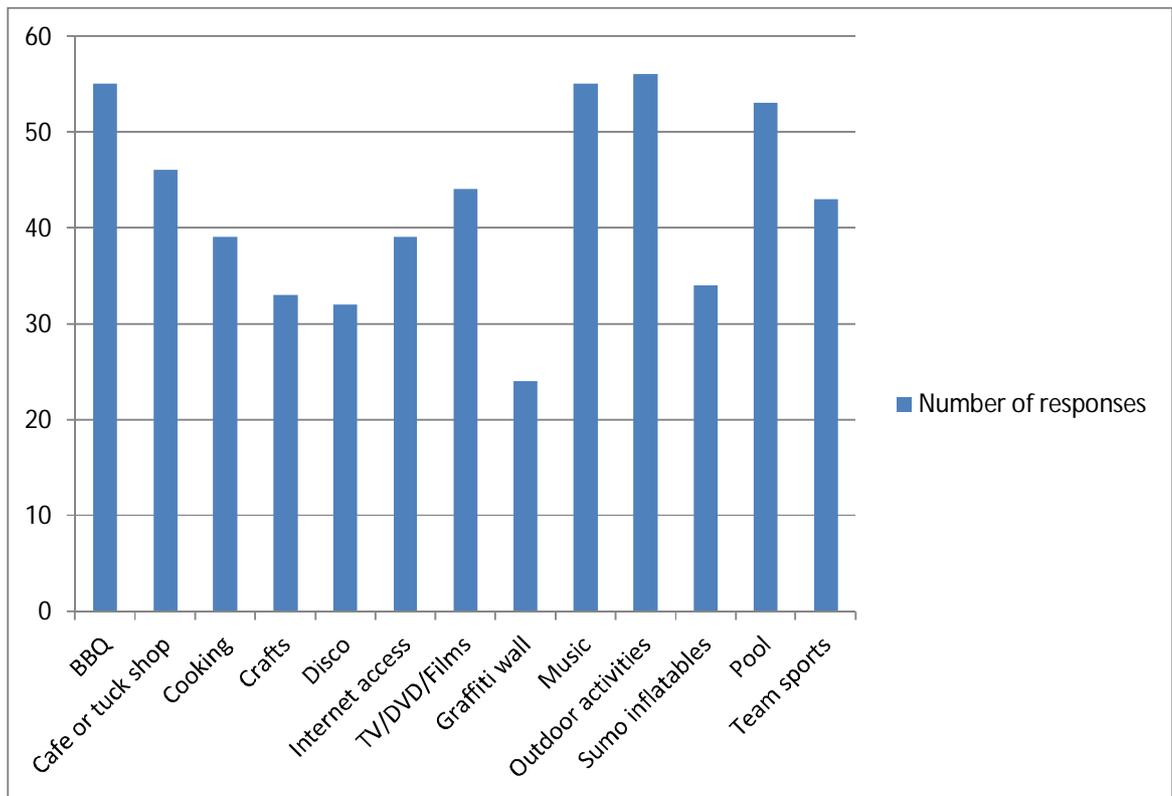


Question 9 asked the youngsters for a list of the park equipment that they use in Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and this question attracted 164 responses and again the data is presented as a series of numerical values rather than in % terms. Only 12 responses admitted to not using any of the facilities but 2 of them were because they were too old. From the remaining responses it can be seen that the swings, with more than twice the number of votes of the second place item, are by far the most popular item.

*Questions 7 and 9 concerned playground equipment and the obvious popularity of the swings may be a result of the perception that they are a little more 'risky' than some of the alternatives and when the suggestions for new equipment are reviewed they show a bias towards a more adventurous playground theme.*

*When considering any new equipment, the safety of the user must be paramount but if the youth do not perceive an element of 'risk' then the equipment will not become popular. Perhaps a big tyre swing, with 15 requests and a zip wire with 19 requests, could be set up (for example, in the trees bordering the River Frome on the edge of the Centenary Field).*

**Question 8. Tick the activities that would attract you to a club.**



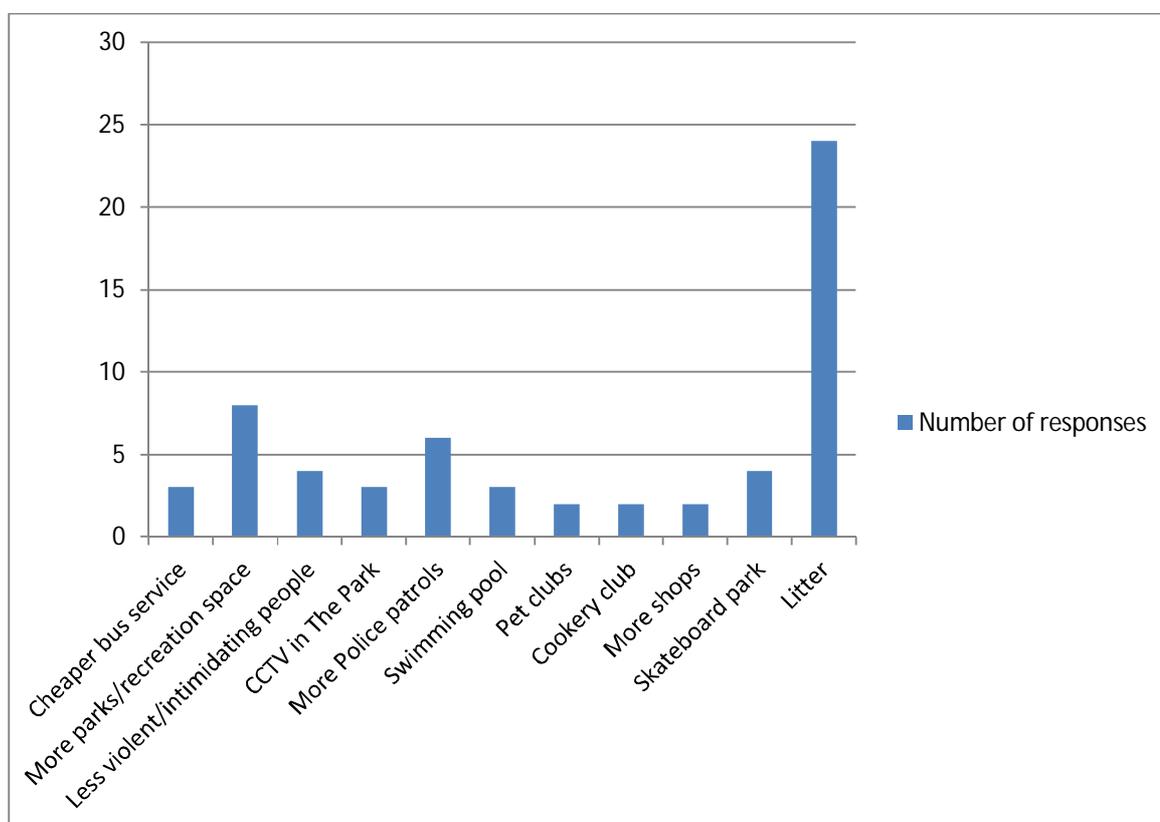
Question 8 was another open response question where youngsters were asked to identify the activities that would attract them to a club and this question attracted a total of 553 responses. Given that 95 questionnaires were returned, it is obvious that most youngsters would be attracted by multiple activities. For this question the responses are presented in numerical, rather than percentage, terms.

Barbeque, 55 responses, and music, also 55 responses, were activities that would attract youngsters to a club but most, 56 responses, would be attracted by outdoor activities. These were closely followed by Pool, an obvious indoor activity, at 53 responses.

*As BBQ is an obvious outdoor activity it seems that there is a desire to be in the open air and that the range of activities on offer should reflect this view. The results of this survey should also be made available to the various youth group leaders in order that they can plan activities accordingly.*

*One suggestion that could be adopted from questions 10 and 11 is the collection of litter and perhaps monthly litter patrols could be undertaken by the youth followed by a BBQ as a 'thank you' for their effort.*

**Question 10. Please add any other ideas you think would make Frampton Cotterell & Coalpit Heath a better place to live.**



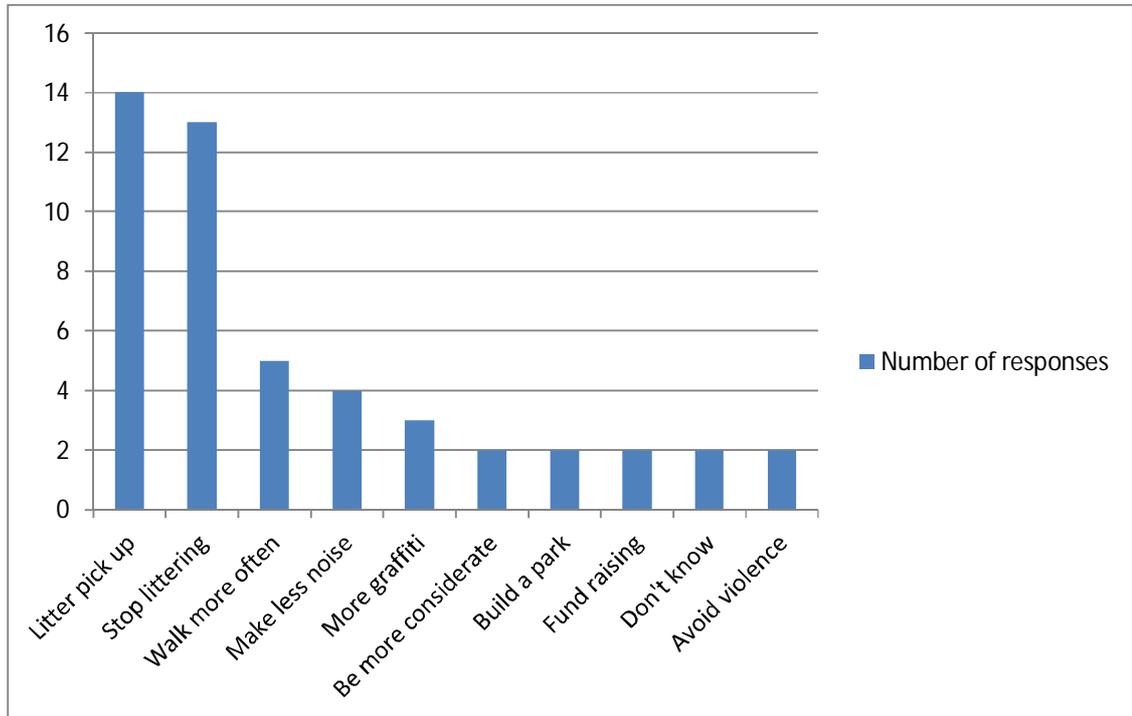
Question 10 asked the youth to come up with ideas that, if implemented, would make Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath a better place to live and the very nature of the question makes analysis and the subsequent presentation of the result a challenge. The suggestions show very little duplication, by which it is meant that each one is different, and any form of graphical presentation that reflected all of the suggestions would not be appropriate, therefore a selection of the responses where some similarity existed have been grouped and are presented.

Litter, including broken glass, cigarette ends and dog mess, is a recurrent theme with 24 responses on the general topic and it seems that our youngsters are concerned by this issue. See also the analysis and discussion surrounding question 2. Another issue over which concern was raised is that of security, in total 13 responses suggested more Police patrols and CCTV in specific areas.

Other suggestions included Community fun days, local lake and nature reserve, speed humps in Woodend Road, public recycling boxes, more clubs and more places for youths to 'just hang out'

*For discussion regarding litter see question 11 and for the suggestion concerning individual security see question 13.*

**Question 11. How could you or your group help improve Frampton & Coalpit Heath?**

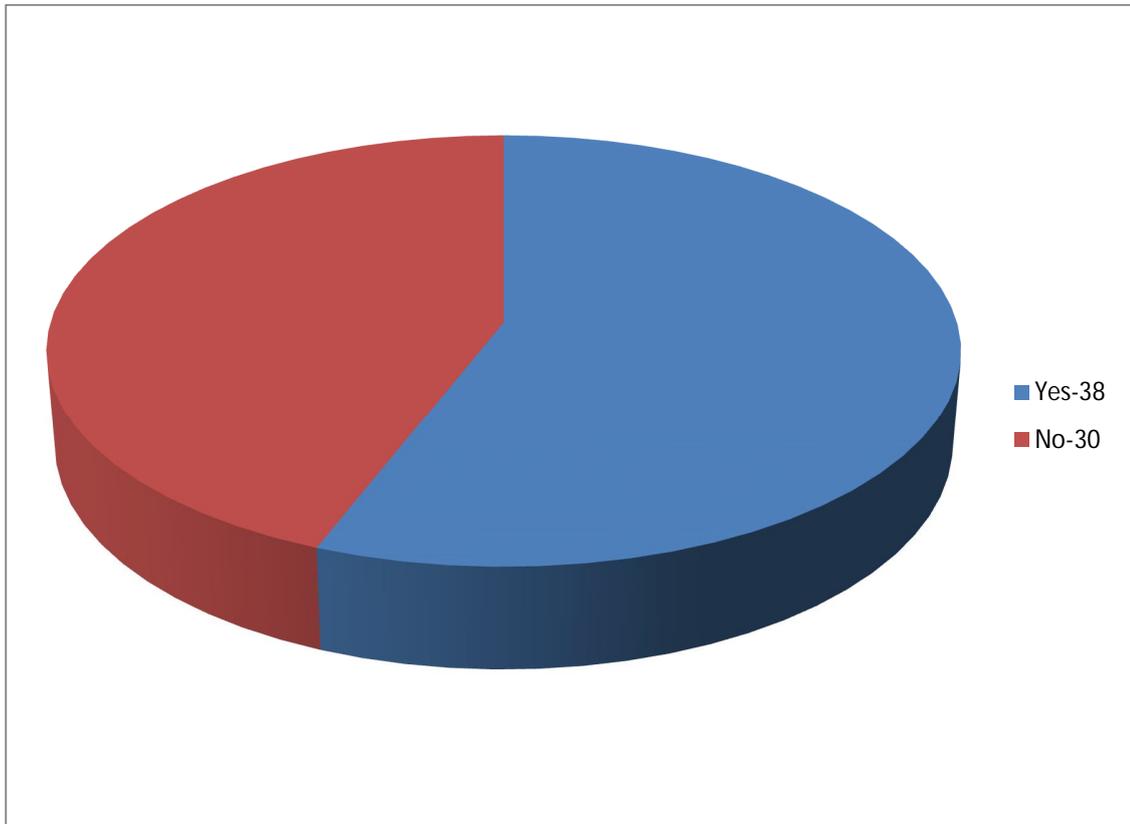


Question 11 asked how individuals or groups could help improve Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and this question only attracted 56 responses and again several recurrent themes surfaced with litter issues dominating.

Other suggestions included greater involvement in local clubs, greater involvement in village activities, creation of a trail in local fields, help with general maintenance activities, cutting hedges and doing nothing to endanger themselves. One comment said 'there's nothing that bad' implying that Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath don't need improvement however it must be said that this was a minority view.

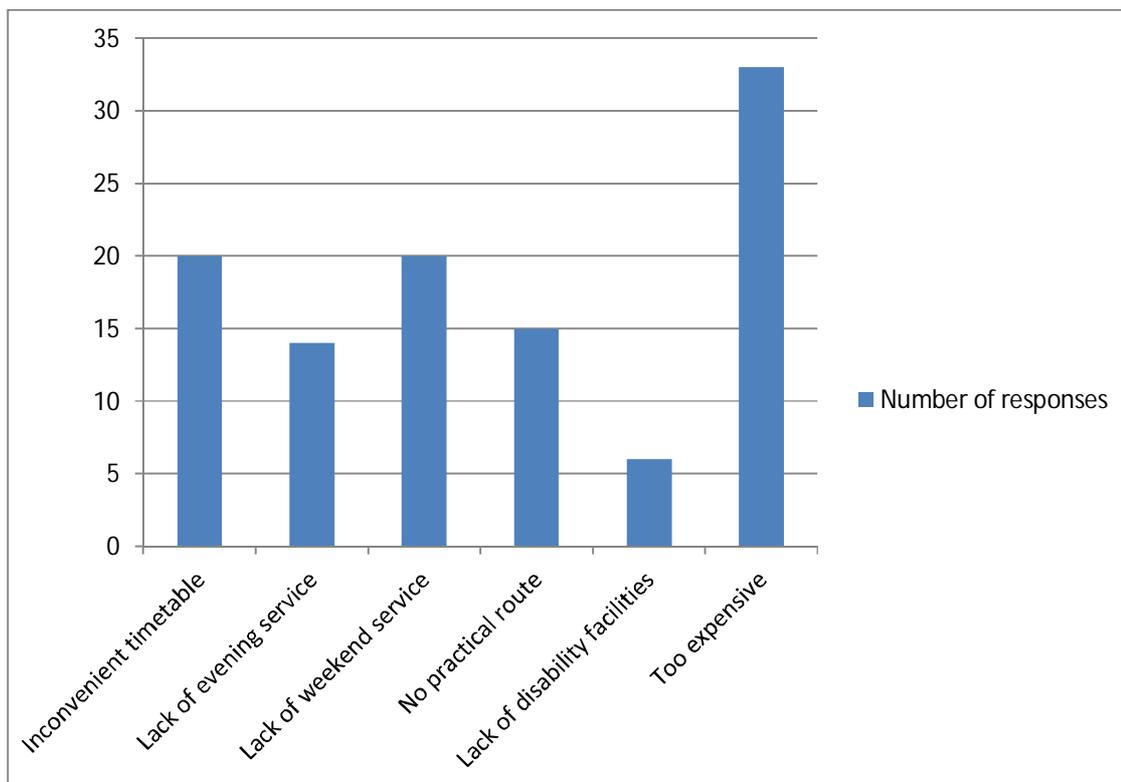
*Litter is one of the recurrent themes identified in this analysis and litter picking was suggested as an activity that could be undertaken to improve the village. Litter picking patrols have been active since 2008 with some success and perhaps a more regular monthly schedule of afternoon or evening patrols between April and October could be arranged with youth participation actively encouraged. See also question 8.*

**Question 12. Do you find the public bus services from Frampton & Coalpit H satisfactory?**



Question 12 asked whether or not the bus service from Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath was satisfactory and of the 68 responses only 56% answered in the affirmative, the balance, 44%, felt that the service was not satisfactory. Supplementary questions then asked for the youth to identify specific reasons why they were unhappy with the service and these responses are addressed overleaf.

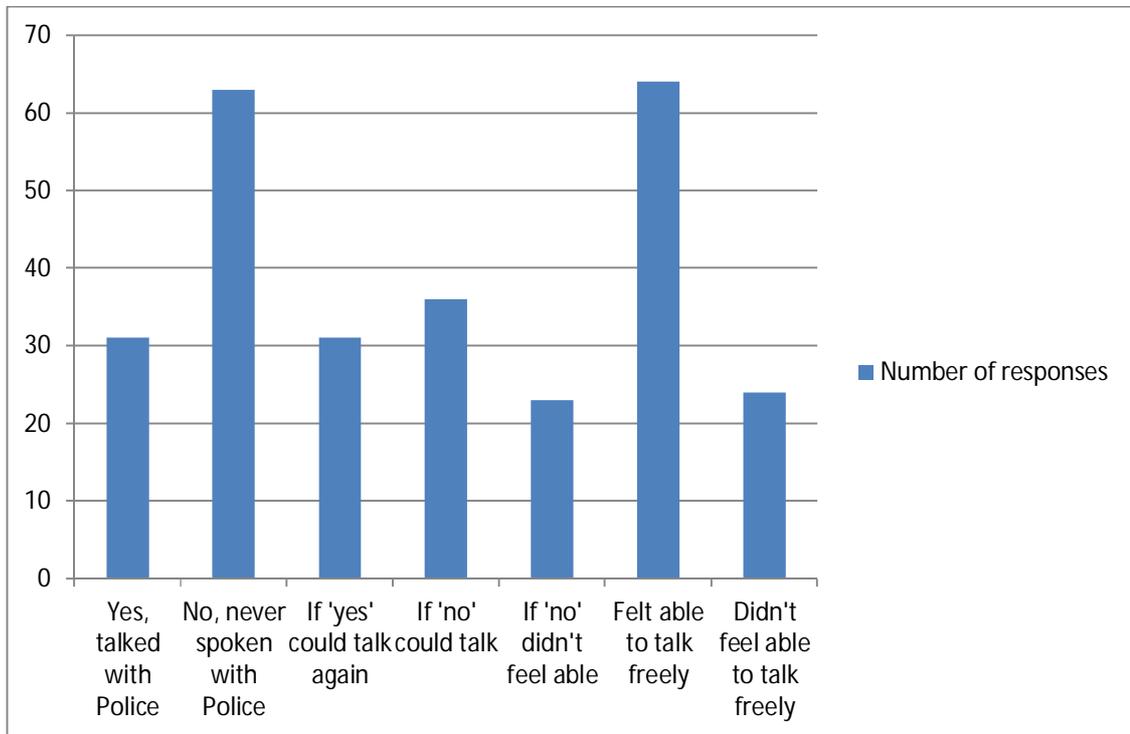
**Question 12. If not, tick the reasons why not. Anything else you think about buses**



The supplementary part of question 12 was for those who did not find the bus service from Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath satisfactory and asked them to select from 6 reasons or to add their own comments. From the responses it would seem that cost was the prime reason why many did not use the bus service as the service was seen as being too expensive by 33 respondees, given that only 30 were unhappy with the service in the first place this shows that cost is an issue. Whilst cost was the prime reason why many youngsters did not use the bus service this was closely followed by timetable issues including a lack of weekend service. Other comments included dirty buses, vehicle breakdown, bad drivers, old school buses and too many passengers.

*In all 108 responses indicated some level of dissatisfaction with the service and for 31% of them it was the issue of cost.*

**Question 13. Have you ever talked to any of our Community Police? Do you feel you could talk freely to one of our Community Police?**

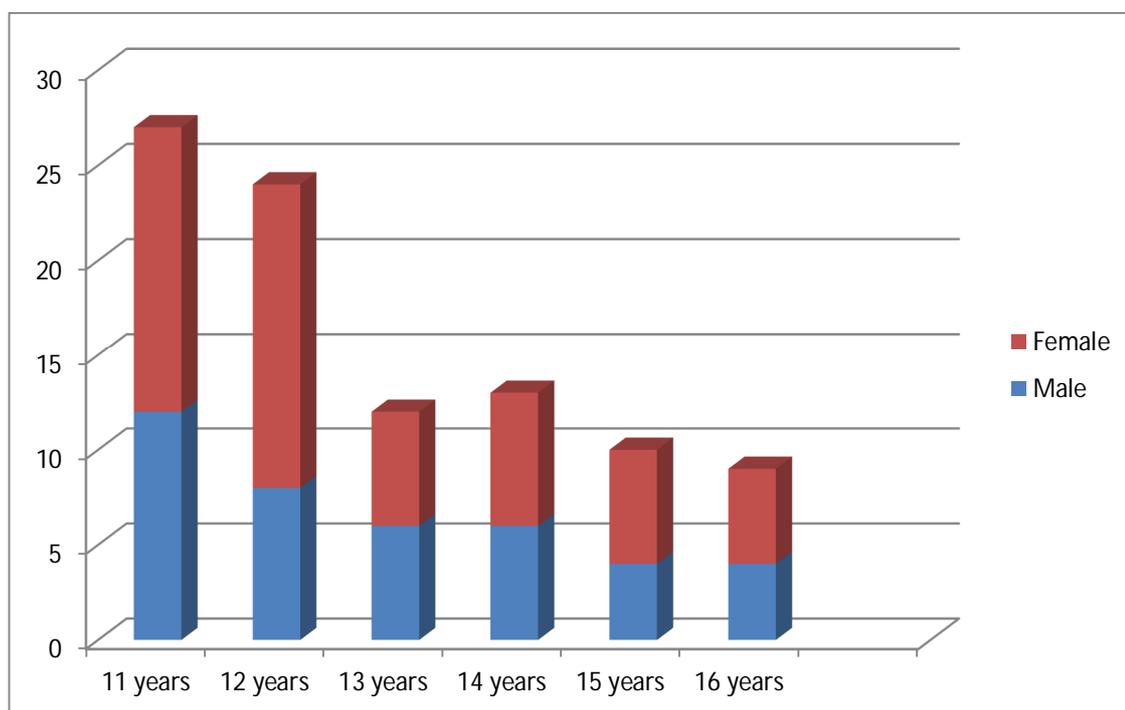


Question 13 dealt with relationships between the youth and the Police and asked whether they had ever spoken to a member of our community police force with a supplementary question asking whether they felt able to talk freely to them. Whilst the vast majority, 67%, had never spoken to a community police officer a similar majority, 71%, felt they could talk freely to them if the need arose and in a way this is encouraging in that the police are seen as approachable by most.

Further analysis revealed that of the 31 who had spoken to the police all felt able to approach them again should the need arise and nobody admitted to being put off by the experience. Of the 63 who had not spoken to them the majority, 36, felt able to approach should the requirement arise only 23 or 25% admitted to not having spoken to a Community Police officer and not feeling able to talk freely.

*The answers suggest that relationships between the majority of the youngsters of Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and the Community Police are generally good but there is no room for complacency as 25% of the youngsters had never spoken with an officer and felt unable to talk freely with an officer. This is something that the Community Police should be made aware of at the same time as the concerns regarding personal safety identified in question 10 are brought to their attention.*

**Question 14. Asked for the age and gender of the respondee to be declared**



Question 14 asked our respondents to identify their age and gender and this showed more girls than boys, 58% and 42% respectively, and it showed a better response from the younger section of our youth.

*This may be a reflection of the way the questionnaires were made available or it may be typical of what is seen in many areas of society where some youngsters withdraw from engagement in the community.*

Supplementary question A asked respondents whether they would be willing to become involved in activities aimed at improving Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and this provided an almost equal split with 46% indicating a willingness to be involved, 50% having no desire too and 4% saying 'possibly'.

Supplementary question B asked about involvement in a Youth Council or committee aimed at improving youth facilities and whilst most were not interested a significant number, 24% with a further 9% undecided, indicated a willingness to be involved.

## 4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The general feeling from the youth of Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath was that whilst the village was not such a bad place to live there are some issues that if properly addressed could turn it into a great place.

An action plan has been formulated, see appendix 1, which contains all of the recommendations arising from the youth questionnaire and identifies those actions that need to be taken and the responsible authority.

The following summary takes a broader view and groups the specific actions under a series of topic headings from which specific objectives will be generated.

**a) Litter in all forms**

This is an issue that the youth identified as an area where they could help improve Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath for the benefit of all. A regular monthly schedule of afternoon or evening patrols between April and October could be undertaken by the youth, in support of the litter patrols organised by Village Action, followed by a BBQ as a 'thank you' for their effort.

**b) Personal safety**

Some of the youth did not feel totally safe within the village and asked for additional security. A significant minority indicated they had no contact with the Community Police and whilst this may be for many reasons, increased visibility during the times when the youth is out and about may help reduce these concerns. These findings should be discussed with the Police and with the Safer Stronger Community Group to identify other actions that could be taken.

**c) Information**

Significant numbers of the youth travel out of the village to undertake activities that already exist within the village or where the facilities to support these activities exist. In many cases this may be as a result of not knowing what exists locally. An asset register should be compiled that provides details of all the rooms or facilities that are available to the community for rent or hire and of all those clubs that currently operate within the village. This register should then be held centrally, perhaps by the Parish Council, and should be available publicly as printed copies and on social networking and other web sites.

**d) Activities**

Many activities have been requested by the youth and many of them could be provided at little or no cost and others will require funding.

Access to the existing tennis courts is easy to arrange at virtually no cost, provision of an urban art wall and a multi games wall again are easy to accommodate within existing facilities but will require minimal funding.

A mobile cinema is possible but will need to be self funding and the cost of such a provision needs to be investigated.

Also needing to be investigated is the provision of a Youth Café and again the facilities exist within the village but this will need adult support.

Any new activities and/or equipment provided should recognise the desire to be more adventurous and again some of this may require adult support.

In fact many of the activities could be undertaken within existing facilities but the big issue is one of adult support from dedicated parents or a paid youth worker, the latter being the preferred, but most expensive option.

**e) Transport**

The provision of additional cycle paths to provide safer cycling was seen by 63% of the youth who responded to the questionnaire as essential and this finding should be discussed with the Parish Council, South Gloucestershire Council and with Sustrans to ensure these views are taken into account when any new cycle path improvements are planned.

The concern over the cost of public transport should be addressed and some concessionary fare structure introduced for the youth of the village. This issue is under review in other parts of the South Gloucestershire area and the council should be advised of these concerns before any decision is made.

**f) Youth involvement**

Of the youth who responded almost half indicated a willingness to be involved in helping with projects that would improve Frampton Cotterell and Coalpit Heath and around a quarter were prepared to serve on a youth council. This willingness should be captured before it evaporates and a youth council convened as a matter of urgency to progress some of the actions identified in the action plan.