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Acknowledgements

This Appraisal was set up following a meeting in the parish arranged by the Parish Council.

At this meeting, Mrs Sue Murphy of the Community Council of Devon explained about appraisals. The aim is to find out the views of members of the community about topics of concern, to assess their significance and to make recommendations.

Appraisals have already been carried out in a number of Devon Parishes.

A Committee of interested people was formed with as catholic a composition as possible to represent the three villages and the outlying farms in the parish and also to reflect different ages. The Committee members were:

Mr Ron Bowles	Mr Patrick Martin
Mr Tom Bryans	Mr Malcolm Pascoe
Mrs June Burnapp	Mrs Sylvia Payne
Mr David Compton	Mr John Riggs
Mr Andrew LeGrys	Mrs Elaine Smerdon

We had numerous meetings to decide on the topics for the questionnaire and to draft the questions. Opinions were sought from individuals and groups in the parish.

The Questionnaire was delivered to every house in the parish in December 1998. As calling on 315 houses was beyond the capability of the committee members themselves, a team of Deliverers was co-opted and inveigled to assist. I am most grateful to those individuals who did help us. On some occasions it required several calls to the same house.

The children of Shaugh Prior Primary School, although under the age being considered, were asked about the Appraisal. The consensus of their response is added as an addendum. I am grateful to the Headmistress, Miss C. Pitt who arranged this.

I am grateful to the Parish Council for suggesting this appraisal. Particular thanks are due to Mrs Sue Murphy of the Community Council of Devon who has been arranging appraisals around the County. She has advised and encouraged us and has cajoled us for results. She and the statisticians at Devon County Council advised on the format of the questions, arranged printing of the Questionnaire and analysed the results by computer.

I am grateful to the individual members of the Committee for their many hours of hard work and evenings given up to help formulate the questions which we hope were clear, fair and unambiguous. Particular thanks are due to Mrs E Smerdon and Mrs J Burnapp for their secretarial skills.

Preparation and printing of the Questionnaire and of the Report has to be paid for.

I would like to acknowledge generous financial support received from:

Rural Action for the Environment

Community Regeneration in the South West Partnership (CRISP)

Shaugh Prior Parish Council

Finally but by no means least, I would like to thank those who live in Shaugh Parish who took time and effort to complete the Questionnaire. It is for your benefit that it had been done.

The report consists of a Summary of Results and the Committee's Recommendations. It is now up to the Parish Council and the community to take whatever action is appropriate.

The Appraisal Committee having done its work is now dissolved and will cease to exist. However the members have agreed to meet informally on an annual basis for several years to come to see what the Parish Council and the Community have done or have not done. If appropriate we will cajole activity, and would aim to ensure that our efforts have not been in vain. We do not want the Report to be forgotten and gather dust in a filing cabinet or be consigned to the round one!

Those who offered help or asked for further information when they completed the questionnaire will be contacted.

Patrick Martin

Chairman

General

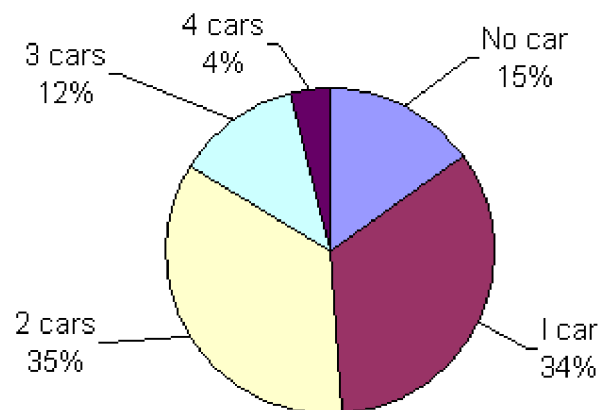
315 Appraisals were delivered to houses in the parish, of these 14 were empty making a net total of 301 houses – 226 houses responded, giving a response of 75%.

For each village the response from everyone aged 11 and over was:

	Occupied houses	Number replied	%	People
Shaugh	91	82	90	195
Wotter	110	73	66	159
Lee Moor	100	71	71	150

Questions 1-5

The household section also gave the breakdown of the number of people in each household, their sex, the number of cars or motorbikes in the household, and also the sex/age breakdown.



There were 353 cars and 9 motorbikes in the 226 homes.

China Clay Extraction

Industrial activity linked to china clay extraction is viewed with concern by most people expressing an opinion, particularly the visual impact on the landscape (75%), air blown dust (74%), loss of the National Park (71%), and tipping of china clay waste (64%). Less concern was expressed about the noise of plant working (54% not concerned), and related health hazards (48% not concerned).

Recommendation: The effect on the health of the Communities should be researched. Further disruption of landscape and the loss of further land to mining should be opposed.

Footpaths and pavements

75% of residents in Lee Moor thought there should be a footpath linking the three villages; in Wotter 60% were in favour; but in Shaugh Prior only 34% wanted such a footpath.

Most people expressed satisfaction with the maintenance of pavements (65%) and footpaths (56%) and that the number of pavements in the villages is adequate (51%); 46% of all respondents think the number of country footpaths is adequate (20% think they are not, and 29% had no opinion)

Recommendations: A roadside footpath should be provided between Lee Moor and Wotter.

A Parish map showing country footpaths should be displayed at Shaugh, Wotter and Lee Moor.

Local problems

Just over half of us (54%) have a problem with surface water on the roads, but we are split 50/50 on whether debris on the roads is a problem; however, slightly more than half of us (56%) do not have a problem with highway maintenance, although 44% of us do.

On the problems of low flying aircraft, although 30% of us found this a concern, 64% did not. On the quality of piped water, 50% had no problem with this, but 41% found it a cause for concern, while the taste did not worry 56% of us, although 35% did find it a problem. However, water discolouration was a problem for 70% of us (though not for 23%).

Fouling by dogs, sheep or horses is not a problem on our own property for 72% of us; in bus shelters and on public footpaths opinion was equally divided between Yes and No. However, of those who gave an opinion, fouling is a problem in children's play areas for 59%, but not elsewhere.

Recommendations: The water authority should take action to ensure that water discolouration does not occur.

Children's play areas should be fenced.

Environmental issues

Trees

There was definite interest on the issue of trees and tree planting. Asked about whether more trees should be planted at selected locations, 36% think this is very important, and a further 38% think it worth doing (327 people altogether). 54% are in favour of commercial tree planting, although 36% were opposed to it). Regarding tree preservation orders being placed on trees on our own property, 67% of us think it is not necessary.

157 people would be prepared to be involved in a tree-planting scheme.

Overhead cables

Although 22% of respondents had no opinion, two thirds of the 446 respondents replying to this question wanted them placed underground.

Crime & Safety

Our greatest concern is crime against cars - 70% of respondents were anxious about this. The next most significant cause for concern was vandalism worrying 57%. Crime at public sites worried one-third, and crime on housing a quarter of respondents.

47% of respondents were already in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme; of the 199 who were not, 62% (123 people) would like to join one.

Asked if there was a need for a greater police presence, 50% of us think this is necessary (although 38% do not). There is a difference here between the villages, with 54% of Shaugh Prior residents thinking it is necessary, 46% in Wotter, and 37% in Lee Moor

Recommendations: Further action should be taken about the feasibility and cost of putting electricity and telephone cables underground.

Extend the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Wotter and set up in Lee Moor, Greater police presence (particularly on foot) needed.

Sports Field

The provision of a nearby sports field for Shaugh School received an overwhelming thumbs-up, with 75% in favour.

Recommendation: A sportsfield for Shaugh School should be provided nearby.

Education

202 people would attend adult education or evening classes if they could be arranged. 122 people want computer classes, 121 want skilled/craft related classes, and 57 want language classes.

30 people feel they have skills they could teach to others.

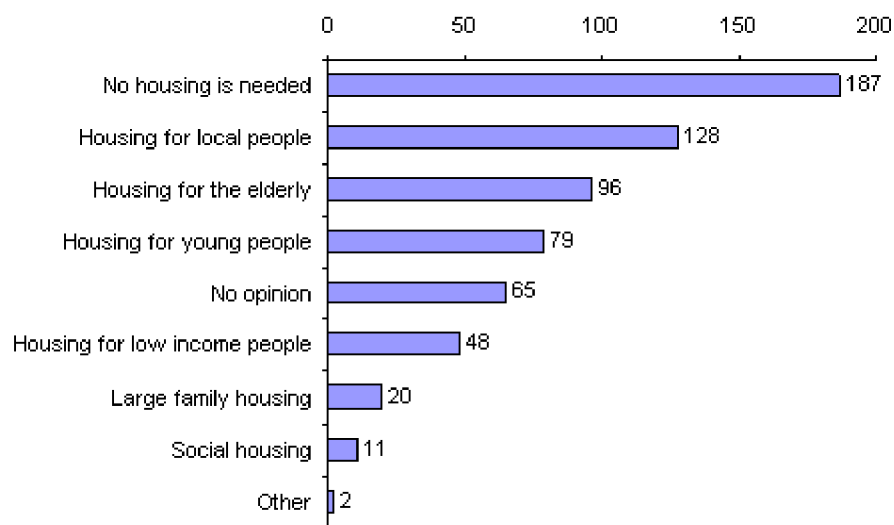
The following subjects have been offered in the community:

Mathematics	Engineering Sciences
Material Sciences	Physics
	Chemistry

Recommendation: A significant number would be interested in evening classes. We recommend that the local adult education centres be informed.

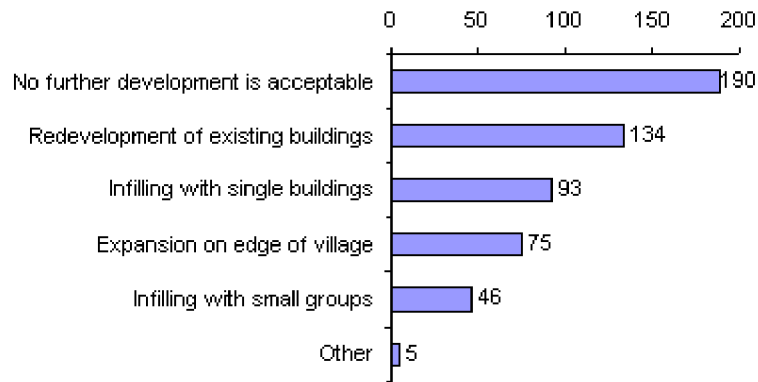
Housing

What kind of housing does the parish need?



Further Housebuilding in the Parish over the next 10 years

56%	want no further houses built
10%	would accept an increase of up to 5 homes
10%	would accept an increase of up to 10 homes



Would further development be acceptable?

If there were to be more development, who would develop it?

57%	Private individuals
23%	Private firms
23%	Local authorities
22%	Housing associations

Asked if there is to be further development within the village, what would be acceptable, 45% feel NO development is acceptable, 32% would accept development of existing buildings and 22% would accept infilling with single buildings. Most of us (57%) want such development to be done by private individuals, rather than by private firms (23%), local authorities (23%) or housing associations (22%), (although the expressed need is for housing for local, young and elderly people).

Information & Communication

An overwhelming 88% of us enjoy reading the Parish Magazine. Most of us use it for a calendar of events (88%), as a telephone directory (85%), for information about Parish Council activities (80%), for communication between the villages (69%) and for crime statistics (65%). 19 people said they would help in the production of the magazine, and 73 will help with distribution

Most of us get our information about what is going on in the parish via the magazine (82%) or word of mouth (76%) less than a third of us use the noticeboards, or the village shop/post office, pub, social club or the church/chapel for information.

Local Government

Asked if you would be prepared to stand for election to the Parish Council, 92% said they would not, and only 8% would stand. This does represent, however, 31 people.

82% approve of the way the Parish Council runs, and also know how to contact the Parish Council. 76 people (17%) however did not know.

Local Facilities

68% were in favour of providing public lavatories at Shaugh Bridge and at Cadover Bridge (32% were opposed). 63% were in favour of renovating lavatories at Lee Moor.

34% of those who expressed an opinion were in favour of more public telephones at selected sites (65% were oppose)

Recommendation: Consideration should be given to the provision of public lavatories at Shaugh and Cadover Bridges.

Shops

79 (18%) people use the existing shop and post office in the parish daily, 124 (28%) weekly and 72 (16%) monthly (i.e. 276 people monthly or more often), 168 (38%) people never use them.

If it were available 194 people would use a shop/post office at Shaugh village monthly or more often (18 daily, 130 weekly and 46 monthly) however, 180 (48%) would not use it. Regarding a shop at Wotter, 143 people in the whole parish would use it monthly or more often (26 daily, 72 weekly and 45 monthly) 214 (60% of the parish) would not use it.

261 people would use a community co-operative shop monthly or more often (39 daily, 161 weekly, 61 monthly). 20 individuals would be prepared to help run it on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.

Recommendation: Consideration be given to set up (possible a community-run) shop/post office at Shaugh and extend facilities at Wotter.

Mail

Asked whether you find mail delivery efficient, this got an unqualified thumbs-up with 93% finding the service efficient.

Asked about additional postal services not available at present, 25% (69 people) would like to have this service, and 125 (57% of those who expressed an opinion) would like a Sunday Collection.

Millennium

Asked about celebrations for the Millennium

44% 186 Are in favour of a beech tree copse at Beatland Corner

45% 190 Would like a community celebration

21% 91 Would like a picnic site at Shaugh Prior

15% 64 Would like a picnic site at the Bowling Green

15% 64 Favour a time capsule site

14% 59 Do not want any celebration

118 People were prepared to contribute time

58 To contribute money

46 Both time and money to a Millennium celebration

48% 202 Were not prepared to contribute either time or money

Recommendation: Recommend a beech tree copse at Beatland Corner and also a celebration to mark the Millennium.

Religion

The church/chapel is of significant importance - for baptisms for 40%, for marriage for 43%, and for funerals for 49%; for general worship it is important for 111 people (26%); It is a focal point of the community for 156 people. However, it is not important to 134 people (32%)

Asked if public money should be used on maintenance:

of church/chapel buildings, 36% said it should

of churchyards 59% said it should

of chapel ground 37% said it should

129 people (30%) did not think public money should be used on such projects

78 people said they were involved with church/chapel activities outside worship.

Asked if church/chapel stimulated interest for young children, or those who expressed an opinion, half thought it did and half did not; 75% thought it did not stimulate young adults, and 72% thought it was not in touch with modern day society.

Although feeling unwelcome if children are noisy, peer pressure, inconvenient service time and unsatisfactory disabled access were not considered reasons for not attending services, 38% of respondents had no religious interest, the content was boring for 16%. However 132 (35%) said nothing put them off attending services.

Recommendation: Public money should be provided to maintain church and chapel grounds.

Community Hall Activities

Half the respondents had no opinion about such activities.

Of those that did,

66% thought the activities were good or reasonable for Primary School children

49% thought the activities were good or reasonable for Secondary School children

39% thought the activities were good or reasonable for Young Adults

43% thought the activities good or reasonable for 21 to 39 year olds

70% thought the activities good or reasonable for aged 40 to 60

91% thought the activities good or reasonable for those over 60

However, 75% (259) do think the community hall is truly for the community.

Asked about facilities in the parish, most of the options listed would be viable, with plenty of people wanting to participate and help run

	Participate	Organise	Total to be involved
Social events	103	54	134
Amateur dramatics / plays	42	43	66
Amateur dramatics / pantomimes	47	52	80
Annual carnival	68	68	108
Photography club / Hobby circle	73	14	75
Arts club	64	22	70
Craft club	79	21	79
Under 18s disco	49	34	58
Youth club drop-in centre	35	47	58
Campanology	21	3	21

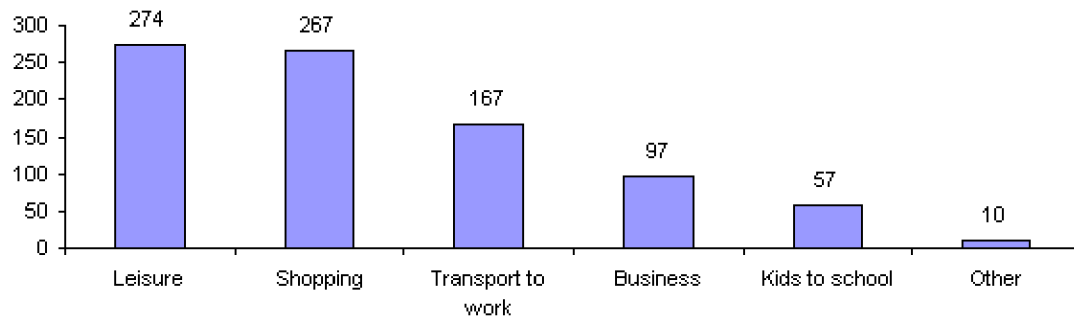
There was little interest in scouts and guides.

Traffic & Transport

Cars

328 people have daytime access to a vehicle, but 102 people do not.

Use of vehicle



Car sharing - 28 people (7%) already do, but 36 more (9%) would take part in a scheme (most people (331, 84%) would not)

Relating to a scheme to take people to and from the doctor's surgery, 54 people (14%) would help drive, and 7 people would like a lift.

Recommendation: Car sharing and also car transport to surgery schemes should be set up.

Buses

77 people use the bus service monthly or more often (8 people use it daily). 272 (62%) never use it.

36 people use the free bus service to the superstores

Asked that if there were more buses at specified periods of a day how often would you use them, the results were:

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less often
Early morning	12	11	13	30
Evening	14	25	22	26
More often during day	16	31	24	41
Sunday/bank holidays	12	16	12	41

86 people who use the bus find the present circular bus route satisfactory, but 87 people do not

107 people would like a bus service with connections at Roborough for Tavistock, and 153 would like a connection at Cornwood for Ivybridge

Recommendation: An improved and more frequent bus service would be used.

Traffic

Of the 395 people who gave an opinion, 80% found speeding traffic a problem in residential areas in the parish, and 80% a problem in rural areas. Most popular measures to reduce the problem were lower speed limits (41%), rumble strips (40%), and additional signs (40%). 36% were in favour of road humps, and traffic calming schemes. Only 20% favoured electronic speed signs

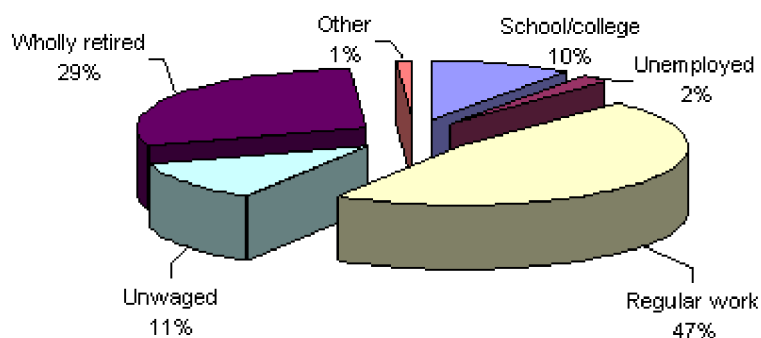
54% of those living in Shaugh Prior and 62% of those "Outside villages" experience problems with Heavy Goods Vehicles; it was less of a problem in Lee Moor (29%) and Wotter (28%).

92% of all respondents thought further restrictions should be imposed - again more strongly favoured by residents in houses outside villages and in Shaugh Prior

Recommendation: The routes for heavy Goods Vehicles should be further restricted.

Employment

of 438 respondents to this section, 10% are at school or college, 2% are unemployed, 47% are in regular work, 11% are unpaid husband/wife, and 29% are retired.



The Appraisal for the Communities of Shaugh Prior Response from the Children of Shaugh Prior School

Environment – Children were evenly split as to whether they thought the China Clay workings spoil their environment (due to the noise and dust) or enhanced it (after reclamation). A majority though that no more land should be lost to further mining.

Footpaths – A majority of the children felt a footpath between the three villages was unnecessary. However, they did feel that the maintenance and number of footpaths within the villages could be improved and that fouling by animals (particularly in bus shelters and playgrounds) was unacceptably high.

Trees – A small number of children believed that there were enough trees in the local area but the majority would be keen to participate in tree planting schemes.

Problems – A small majority believed low flying aircraft to be a problem in the area, a larger number expressed concern at the colour of the local water (often discoloured).

Cables – A very large majority would like to see overhead cables put underground.

Crime – Children were very concerned about crime in the area, particularly for their personal safety and for the level of vandalism they perceived. Many were also concerned about safety of the elderly.

Sports Field – All the children felt that a sports field that the school could use was long overdue!

Housing – All the children believed that the villages were big enough and they did not want to see any more houses built.

Parish Magazine – Few of the children read the magazine – but all felt that they would do so if it contained a children's page. They found out what was going on through word of mouth, notice boards and the shop at Lee Moor.

Facilities – A large majority of children believed that a toilet at Cadover was unnecessary but 2 children would appreciate a public convenience at Lee Moor. An overwhelming majority would like more public telephones.

Approximately 50% believe there should be a shop in Shaugh Prior and Wotter.

Millennium – a Time Capsule was the favoured option to celebrate the new millennium, the planting of beech trees and a community party were also popular options.

Religion – Church or Chapel was important to approximately 50% of the children, but a significant number of these felt it was often 'boring'.

Social Activities – The majority of children attend and enjoy the local Youth Club and would like to see more activities for their age group held within the Parish (including Guides and Scouts). A quarter of the children expressed an interest in bell ringing!