

mobilise



Iwade Parish Council

Ambitions for Iwade – Community Survey Results

A Report by Mobilise Public Ltd

May 2013

Introduction

As part of the Localism Live Pilot, Iwade Parish Council is creating a 10 Point Plan setting out ambitions for Iwade. The aim of this 10 Point Plan is to focus the attention of all partners: the Parish Council, Borough and County Councils, Police, Church, Schools and others on a set of shared priorities for Iwade.

To inform this 10 Point Plan, Iwade Parish Council asked residents in the village to complete a survey. Residents were asked to put forward their suggestions, needs and aspirations for Iwade village.

The aim of this report is to collate the results from the resident survey highlighting the key areas raised by residents through the survey.

Iwade Context

Iwade is a small village in the borough of Swale, Kent. It has a population of 3,087. Iwade has an active Parish Council, and local facilities include a church, a health centre, primary school, village pub and a number of shops.

Methodology

Survey Content

The survey document gives a brief overview of the Iwade Localism Live Pilot Scheme, and asks residents what they believe are the needs and aspirations for Iwade Village. Residents were told in the introductory text that this could cover issues such as community facilities which includes new hall and the medical centre; highways and transport; housing needs and planning; the environment and climate change; access to information and services; provision for young people and the elderly, crime and safety, education and training, and employment.

The survey asked residents for their name, contact details and age range. Residents were also asked to list their needs and aspirations for Iwade village in order of priority (1-12). The deadline for returning the survey (19th April 2013) was clearly stated.

Survey Distribution

The survey was distributed in the monthly Parish Council newsletter as a separate document. This method meant it was delivered to every household in Iwade. It was also available to download on the Parish Council website (<http://www.iwadevillage.co.uk/councils.aspx>). It was advertised through the Iwade village social media accounts and online forums.

There were 3 collection points where residents were able to return completed surveys; the local pharmacy, the Woolpack Inn and at the Parish Clerk's house (Lynda Fisher). 52 surveys were completed and returned.

Collating Results

Data from each survey was inputted into a database. The data inputted included how each suggestion was prioritised by the resident and the age range of the person completing the survey.

The priorities were scored for each survey. Top priorities, listed as 1 on a survey, were given a score of 12, the second highest received 11. The lowest received 1. This system meant that, when collating results, the areas that residents felt were of priority, would have the highest scores.

Each suggestion listed by residents was inputted into the database. Although this survey was qualitative in its nature, suggestions were similar enough that we were able to code the answers for quantitative analysis. The following codes were used:

	Code
Parking Problems	A
Speed Limit & Speed Problems in the Village	B
Lorries in the Village	C
Road Maintenance & Suggestions for Road Improvement	D
No More Housing Developments	E
New Village Hall	F
More General Activities in the Village	G
Concerns About the Health Centre	H
Dog Mess	I
Litter & Village Cleanliness	J
Policing	K
Buses & Public Transport	L
Desire for Recreation Space / Sports Centre	M
Street Lighting	N
Youth Activities	O
Elderly Activities	P
More Shops, Restaurants, Pubs, Cafes etc.	Q
Plants in the Village	R
Desire for Dentist	S
School Capacity	T
Concerns About Crime	U
Traffic Congestion	V
Other (Various Different Suggestions)	W

Some residents gave answers that could be included in 2 code areas. For example:

'School places! More traffic in a congested area!'

This comment falls under two code categories. To overcome this, comments like these were categorised twice. They were given the same score in each category.

The inputted data was then added up and explained in two different tables. One table shows the amount of times residents mentioned specific subjects (according to the classification above). The other explains

what topics residents considered to be a high priority for the Parish Council to consider in their 10 Point Plan. The results are explained in the following section.

*Note: The 'other' category is not included in the final results and discussion section of this report, as suggestions in this area could not be grouped due to the variety of suggestions made / topics raised.

Results

This section will look at the results of the survey. It includes tables and charts to demonstrate results.

Tables

1.) Rated By Priority Score

	Code	Amount of Times Mentioned	*Priority Score
1	E	38	404
2	F	26	274
3	A	25	215
4	G	31	188
5	D	20	169
6	H	17	165
7	Q	21	151
8	B	14	117
9	L	13	105
10	O	12	97
11	I	11	93
12	J	11	88
13	P	8	77
14	T	10	75
15	M	9	61
16	C	6	59
17	R	9	53
18	K	6	51
19	U	5	49
20	N	6	45
21	S	6	37
22	V	3	23
	W	42	266

2.) Rated by Amount of Times Mentioned

		Code	*Amount of Times Mentioned	Priority
1	No More Housing Developments	E	38	404
2	More General Activities in the Village	G	31	188
3	New Village Hall	F	26	274
4	Parking Problems	A	25	215
5	More Shops, Restaurants, Pubs, Cafes etc.	Q	21	151
6	Road Maintenance & Suggestions for Road Improvement	D	20	169
7	Concerns About the Health Centre	H	17	165
8	Speed Limit & Speed Problems in the Village	B	14	117
9	Buses & Public Transport	L	13	105
10	Youth Activities	O	12	97
11	Dog Mess	I	11	93
12	Litter & Village Cleanliness	J	11	88
13	School Capacity	T	10	75
14	Desire for Recreation Space / Sports Centre	M	9	61
15	Plants in the Village	R	9	53
16	Elderly Activities	P	8	77
17	Lorries in the Village	C	6	59
18	Policing	K	6	51
19	Street Lighting	N	6	45
20	Desire for Dentist	S	6	37
21	Concerns About Crime	U	5	49
22	Traffic Congestion	V	3	23
Other (Various Different Suggestions)		W	42	266

3.) Number of Surveys Completed by Each Age Group

Age Range	Number of surveys completed
0-10	0
11-20	0
21-30	1
31-40	13
41-50	6
51-60	6
61-70	16
71-80	6
81-99	2
Age not listed	2

Chart 1:

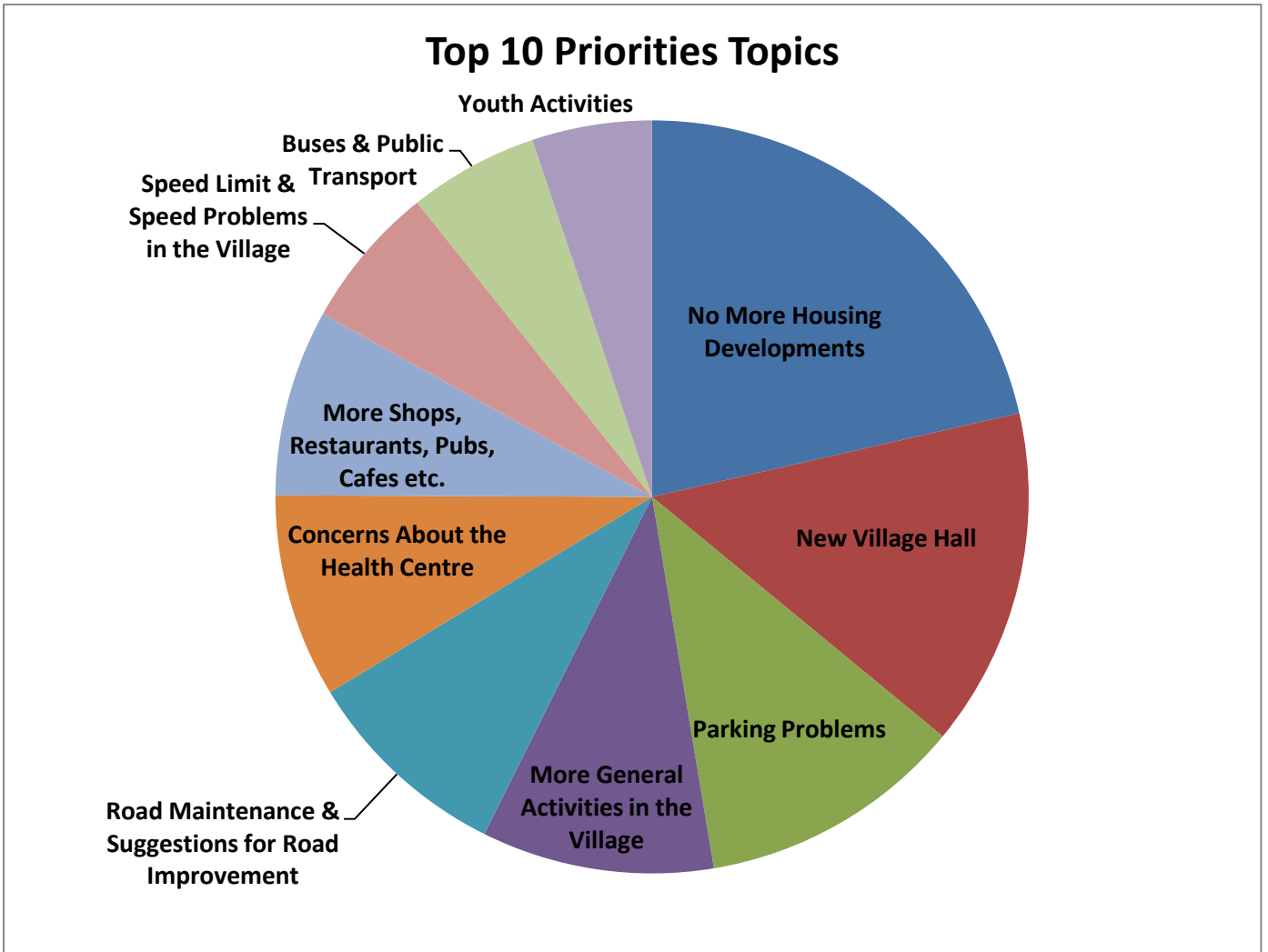
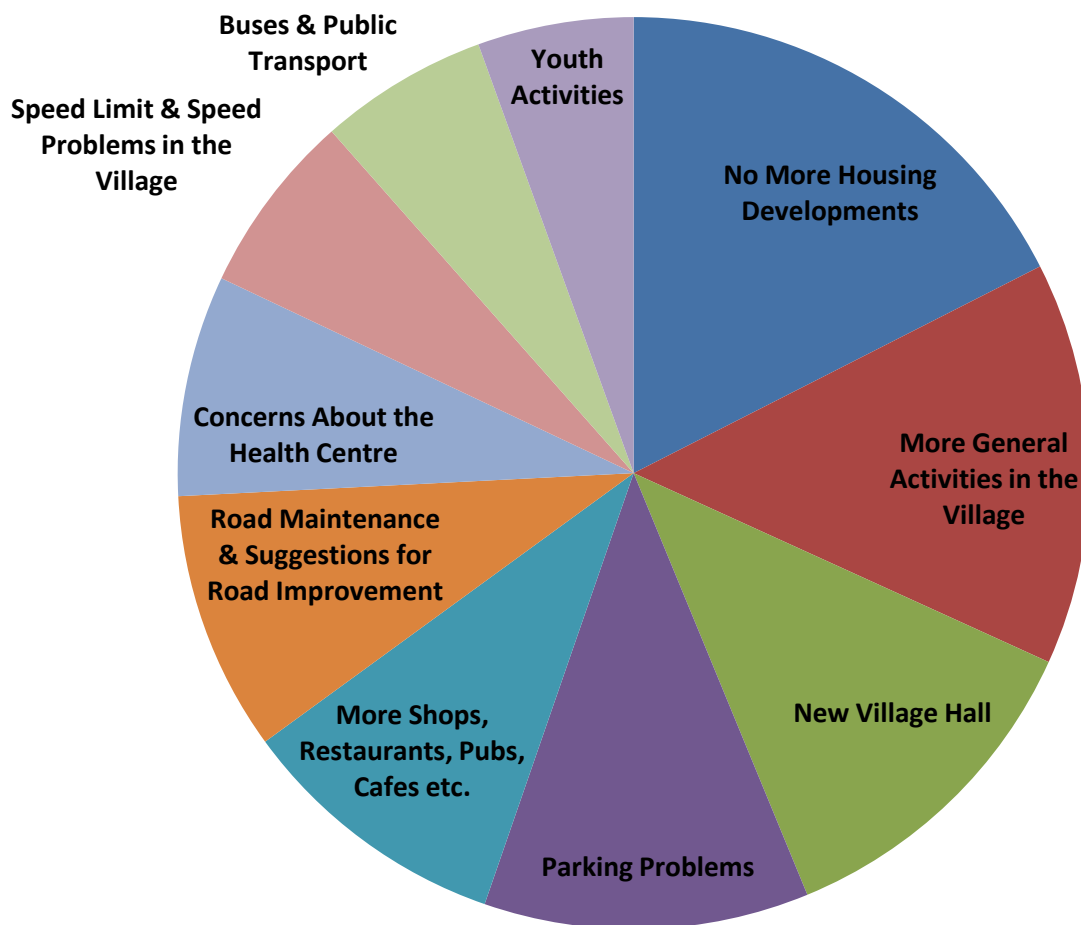


Chart 2:

Top 10 Most Mentioned Topics



Discussion

This section explores and explains the results section in greater detail. It breaks down and analyses subject areas in greater detail.

It is clear from the tables and pie charts in the results section that the top ten subject areas are the same giving a clear indication by score and by frequency of mentions what the 10 most important issues are to the community who took part in the survey. They just feature in a slightly different order depending on if we concentrate on the most mentioned or the most prioritised.

The following sections will examine the top ten subject areas and key suggestions made by residents.

No More Housing Developments

The issue of housing developments was mentioned 38 times. All comments on this subject were against anymore housing developments. Comments Include:

“No further housing developments – insufficient infrastructure.”

“Too many new houses.”

“No more houses - our village will be gone!”

3 residents who mentioned this topic suggested that there should be no further housing developments unless further facilities are available. However 35 residents simply expressed concern at the number of new houses and ask for no more housing developments.

The New Village Hall

The new village hall was mentioned 26 times. 16 people said they outright wanted a new village hall. 1 person stated that they wanted to “keep the village hall”. No one said outright they were opposed to building a new village hall. 6 people were concerned with the location of the new hall and 4 people made suggestions for capacity / the use of the village hall. Suggestions included:

“Evening courses at the village Hall.”

“Village hall needs rooms available for various groups during the day.”

“Less restrictions around outdoor facilities at the village hall being used - use without entertainment licence.”

Parking Problems

Residents were clear that they would like more parking in Iwade. Significant concerns were raised about cars parked on pavements and narrow roads. Comments included:

“Anti-social parking!”

“Stop vehicles parking on pavement”

Activities

Residents who completed the survey would like to see more activities in Iwade. They highlighted the need for the expansion of activities for all ages.

General activities suggestions included:

- Drama group
- Dance class
- Model (aeroplane) clubs
- I.T classes
- Art
- Language
- Training and education
- Exercise clubs
- Allotments
- Nature education
- Garden club
- Cycle club
- Walking groups
- Wider range of church activities
- Running / jogging club

Road Maintenance & Suggestions for Road Improvement

This topic was mentioned 20 times. Opinions on road maintenance and improvement were very general and no overall theme emerged. Residents requested for the roads and pathways around Iwade to be maintained better. Comments included:

“Resurface roads.”

“Better roads and pavements.”

2 residents highlighted the need for a pedestrian crossing:

“Zebra crossing in school lane & lights by post office.”

“Pedestrian crossing near the bend at the junction of Grovehurst Road & Sheppey Way”

2 residents also mentioned the need for double yellow lines outside the school:

“Double yellow lines on both sides of the road outside the school.”

“Double yellow lines on school lane.”

Health

Residents who completed the survey were concerned about health care in Iwade. Some residents felt that the doctor's surgery cannot cope with the expansion of the village. Comments included:

"Iwade medical centre just cannot cope."

"Better running medical centre."

"More permanent doctors at medical centre / more appointments."

"Online appointment booking system at Health Centre."

General suggestions and concerns raised included the need for the health centre to be better managed, and that appointments were not readily available. Residents who mentioned this area, felt generally healthcare facilities needed to be improved.

Shops, Pubs and Restaurants

Residents would like to see more shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants in Iwade. Suggestions included:

"Another pub."

"Fish and chip shop."

"More shops."

"Coffee shop."

Residents would like to see empty shop units in the village utilised. Comments included:

"Empty shop to be utilised."

"Encourage businesses to fill empty units in the village centre."

Speed Limit & Speed Problems in the Village

This area was mentioned 14 times. 6 residents suggested a 20mph speed restriction through the village, while a number of others just expressed concern at speeding. Comments included:

"20mph speed limit."

"Speed bumps."

"Slow traffic down between medical centre and Grovehurst road."

"Lower speed restrictions in School lane."

Lorries in the village: Another key concern was large lorries passing through the village. 5 residents suggested weight / width restrictions for lorries passing through Iwade.

Less mentioned / prioritised areas included traffic congestion around the school and road / path maintenance.

Buses & Public Transport

Residents who mentioned this area tended to request more buses or more frequent buses. They requested more buses in general, and more buses to and from Sittingbourne, Maidstone and Sheppey. Comments include:

“Improved public transport to Sitting Bourne and Shepper.”

“More frequent buses to Sitting Bourne.”

“More buses.”

“Public transport - better links.”

Youth Activities

Some residents felt that there needed to be improved provisions for the young people in the village.

“Provision for the post 12 is limited.”

“Provision for young people.”

Suggestions Included:

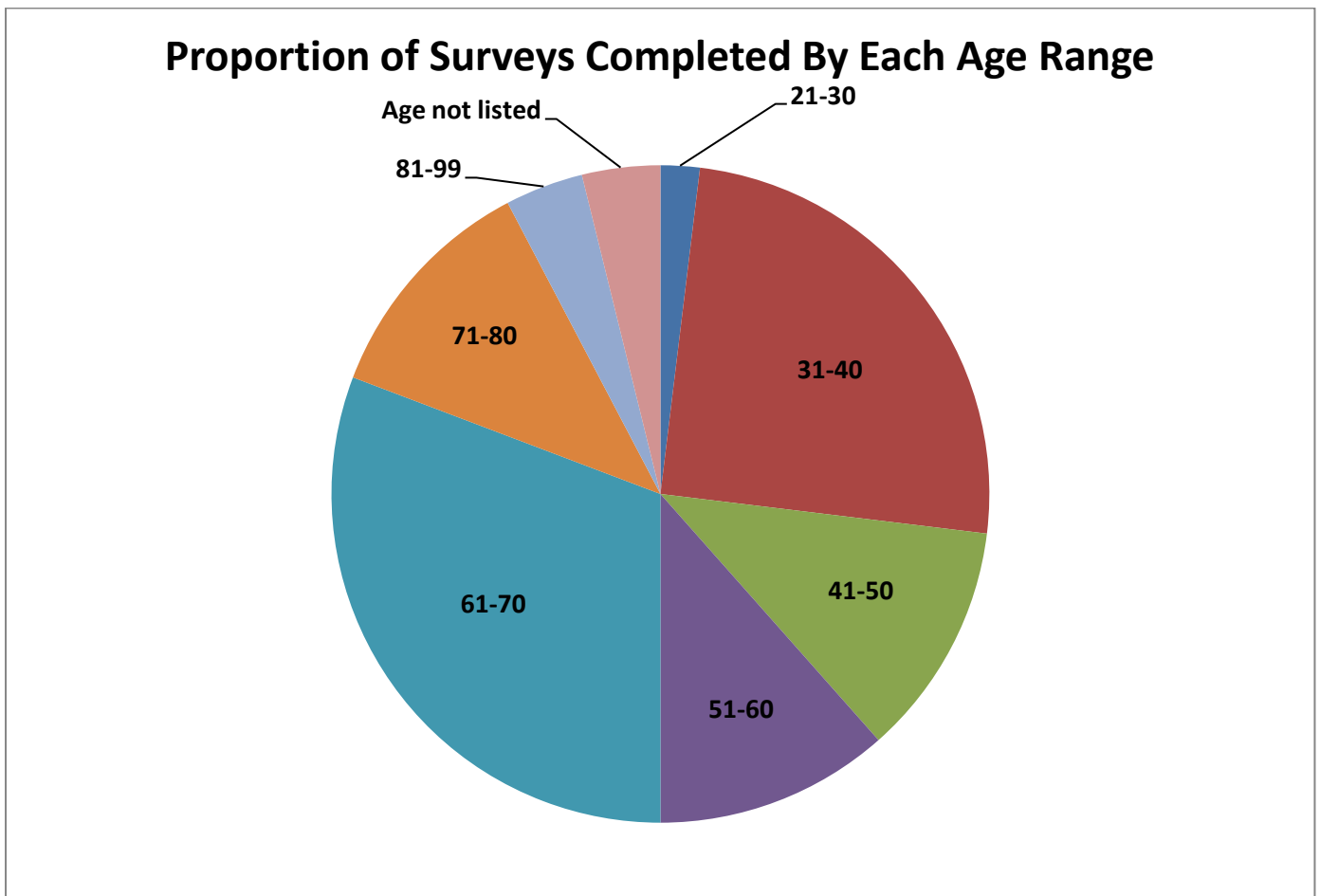
“Village hall discos - under 16's.”

“Youth club for older children.”

“Could elderly / disabled residents be able to apply for village support? E.g. Once a month a group of volunteers could cut their grass and trim their plants ect. Not sure would help with this but if it was all managed well it could link to 3 (a suggestion of a youth club for older children) as young people could gain experience and show commitment.”

Limitations of Survey

Limited Age Range



As shown in the pie chart above, a high proportion of surveys were completed by residents aged between 61 – 70 and 31 – 40. Yet no surveys were completed by those aged under 21.

Because of the large response from particular age groups and a limited response from other age groups, we were unable to effectively compare the priorities in different age groups and would recommend further consultation work with those age groups underrepresented, in particular the under 21s.

Couples and Households Completing Surveys

Furthermore, issues arise as some surveys were completed by couples and families, not individuals. This confused the results, as various ages were circled on one sheet. For more accurate results in the future, it needs to be made clear on the survey itself that it is one survey per person.

Appendix – Raw Comments by Theme

Parking:

More parking
Stop vehicles parking on pavement
Parking problems at school times
Parking - need better controls around village centre and school
Car park near village centre
Problems with parking - vehicles parking on pavements
Vehicles parking on narrow roads - unsafe
Stop people parking on green areas & access into estates
Vehicles parking on the pavements
Vehicles parking on narrow roads - safety
Fines for vehicles parking on pavements
Anti-social parking!
Parking on pavements
Parking - problems on narrow road
Continued vigilance to tackle parking issues
Parking on footpaths stopped
Continued vigilance to tackle parking issues
Extend parking into some of the ground behind the Wool pack
Stop parking on pavements and verges
More parking spaces
Vehicles parking on pavement
Existing developers should provide more car parking
Better parking facilities for residents
Parking - new development to have sensible road width, blocking paths
roads police to prosecute persistent offending, lesser of 2 evils
increase parking space behind health centre by taking up some of the proposed green space.
Would also improve potential confidentiality. Remove long term parking option from the village centre and road to playground on the park

Speed Restrictions:

20 mph limit
20mph speed limit
Speed camera on ferry road
20 mph limit
20 mph speed limit
Speed bumps
20 mph
Slow traffic down between medical centre and grovehurst road
20 mph limit in the village
Stop speeding Mums on school run
Speeding traffic
Speed limits through Grovenhurst to Milton
Lower speed restrictions in School lane
Speed bumps - warning sign

Lorries in the Village:

- Weight restrictions on lorries entering the village
- Width restriction for lorries in the village
- Stop large vehicles using the road through the village
- Width restrictions of vehicles entering village
- Increase in heavy goods vehicles in the village
- Vehicle width restrictions through the village

Road Maintenance & Suggestions for Road Improvement:

- Resurface roads
- Road maintenance -regular
- Redouble / resurface the roads / paths
- Traffic priority system when entering village / give way to oncoming traffic
- Roundabouts need cleaning
- Priority signs at all traffic calming areas
- Roads repaired and road markings renewed
- Road layout up to the new builds by the old park on school lane
- Open up roads - do away with the chicanes and put in speed ramps
- Double yellow lines on both sides of the road outside the school
- Meaningful traffic management with prioritised traffic flows
- Zebra crossing in school lane & lights by post office
- Priority signs at all traffic calming areas
- Pedestrian crossing near the bend at the junction of Grovehurst Road & Sheppey Way
- Better roads and pavements
- Double yellow lines on school lane
- Road inconsistent in chi-canes on Sheppy Way
- Brick areas in new roads not suitable for purpose
- Get rid of traffic calming and put speed bumps instead
- Zebra crossing - school lane

No more housing developments:

- No more housing developments
- No more houses being built
- No more houses
- No more houses
- No more houses
- No more houses
- No more houses
- No more houses to be built
- No more houses to be built
- No more houses to be built
- Too many houses
- No more houses
- No more housing developments

No more housing developments
No more houses
No more housing developments
No more houses
No more housing
No more houses
No more house building
Stop building houses in Iwade, enough is enough
Stop building houses in Iwade or it will be a city
No more new building of houses
No more houses to be built
No more house building
Complete block on further major development of housing
No more houses - our village will be gone!
Limit any further housing
No more houses
No more housing developments
No more houses
Too many new houses
No further housing developments - insufficient infrastructure
No more housing expansion plans for the village
No more housing than currently planned, unless proper infrastructure provided
Housing and planning
Overcrowding of houses
Additional housing - must be limited until further facilities are available

New Village Hall:

New village hall
New village hall
Bigger village hall
New village hall
New village hall
New village hall
New village hall
New village hall
Keep village hall where it is
New village hall
New village hall
New village hall
Keep village hall
Keep the village hall
Need to know position of the new village hall
Village hall should stay where it is
Do not build new village hall on existing play area, why not build it by the doctors surgery on A249 for easy access and parking can be shared with the doctors surgery as existing parking is too small
New village hall with cafe and sports facilities
Village hall to stay on the same site
New hall to cater for all ages

Provision for a new village hall with a capacity of 100 but extending when necessary to 250 plus at least 2 smaller rooms for 50 & 20

New village hall

Village hall needs rooms available for various groups during the day

New village hall to have facilities for youth clubs

New village hall

Suitable location for village hall

Village Hall - Resolve outstanding issues and build new hall. By trying to satisfy everyone it would be irresponsible to lose potential funding and donations and consequently the loss of approx £1,000,000 capital asset

Activities:

Allotments for children

Village activities - drama groups, model clubs, dance class

Children's activities - tennis, football

Nature education - about local area

More trade and craft events

Environmental projects - Community environmental activities, involve wildlife groups, create a biodiversity action plan for area behind Vaughan Drive

Sports teams - more netball, cricket, athletics

Less restrictions around outdoor facilities village hall being used - use without entertainment licence

Education and training

Interest groups and adult education groups (skills training)

Theatre / drama group / pantomime

More activities clubs for all age groups

More community activities

Football - no where for young people / children to play anymore

IT lessons to encourage all residents to access internet

Community volunteer scheme to support vulnerable or one person households

Organise and advertise events that involve the whole community

Community centre catering for residents elderly, all ages, disabled etc.

Community activities for all ages

A garden club

Historical society

wine and wisdom

Education and training

Exercise classes for adults

Walking groups for all ages

Evening courses at Village Hall

Wider range of church activities

Activity classes - keep fit / dance / art / language / poetry

Cycle club

Running / jogging clubs

Anti bullying groups - include internet abuse

Medical Centre:

Doctors surgery needs sorting out
Medical centre
More permanent doctors at medical centre / more appointments
Online appointment booking system at Health Centre
Iwade - Medical Centre
Bigger car park for medical centre
Iwade medical centre just cannot cope
Improved medical centre
Better running medical centre
Medical centre is important / worried about its future
Better doctors service
Enhancement of doctors surgery
Medical centre not able to cope
More doctors needed at health centre
Medical provision
Improvements to medical centre
Health Centre - consistency readily access to doctors as was the case 5 years ago

dog mess:

Dog owners pick up mess
Enclosed dog play area
Less dog poo
Dog poo on path
Problem with dog mess
Dog mess - owners need to be picking up after their dogs
More poo bins for dog mess
Dog walking areas
Initiative to prevent dog fouling
Dog mess
Dogs club - socialise, tackle problems with dogs mess

Litter:

Less litter
Litter cleaning team
Keep the village cleaner
Litter in hedgerow to left of Colson drive
Litter
Bins outside cost cutter
More litter bins
Initiative to prevent fly tipping
Initiative to prevent Littering
Vandalism and Litter - more aggressive action by the authorities
Voluntary litter picking

Policing:

- Walking police officer on the beat
- crime and safety
- Community officer
- More police patrols to prevent crime
- Visible policing
- More evening patrols by police

Bus & Transport:

- Public transport - better links
- Better bus links
- More buses / more frequent buses
- More buses
- More frequent buses to Sitting Bourne
- Buses - indicators about how long the bus will be
- Better public transport directly to major shopping and entertainment venues
- A bus service that goes into Bluewater occ
- Improved public transport to Sitting Bourne and Shepper
- More buses
- Transport
- Shuttle bus to Sitting Bourne Street
- Night time bus service to and from Maidstone

Desire for Recreation Space / Sports Centre:

- Outdoor fitness area
- Recreation area for children - tennis, football
- Water park
- Swale more useable for recreation
- Recreation field - especially for football
- new sports centre
- More sporting facilities
- Open public space for recreational purposes for everyone
- Gym or fitness centre

Street lighting:

- Street Lighting
- Street lighting
- Street lighting
- Better street lighting
- Street lighting
- Street lighting improvement

Youth activities:

Youth Disco
Youth club for older children
Volunteer support for elderly residents - cut grass, trim plants - gain young people experience
More activities for older children (10+)
Somewhere for teens to 'hang out'
Provision for young people - recreation / learning
Youth provision - drop in / meeting place
Some sort entertainment for teens
Better facilities for youth (YMCA etc)
Provision for young people
Provisions for post 12 is limited
Village hall discos - under 16's

Elderly activities:

More provisions for the elderly
Provision for elderly people to meet
Elderly meeting group
More accommodation for the elderly
Regular daytime meetings and outings for over 50's
A social club for the elderly (including exercise)
Pilates / yoga classes for older people
Coffee mornings for the over 60's

More Shops, Restaurants, Pubs, Cafes etc.

More shops, restaurants
Coffee shop in new village hall - meet and greet Sundays
Another pub
Coffee shop
cafe/ meeting place for all
Cafe
More shops
Better utilization of shopping area
Fish and chip shop
Fish and chip shop
Chinese take away
More shops
Empty shop unit to be utilised
Empty shop to be utilised
Fill empty shop in the centre of the village
Encourage businesses to fill empty units in the village centre
Another shopping area by medical centre for new houses
Empty shop to be filled
Baker / coffee shop - Londis is too expensive

Chinese take away
Monthly car boot fairs

Plants in the Village:

Environment - improving landscape - flowers every household donate £20 annually
Orchards - retaining these
More plants & old oaks covered in ivy - need to be removed
More trees and open spaces
Communal shrub areas needs to be maintained
Trees overgrown from stream to gardens
Trees to be trimmed back in the stream
Shrubs and flower beds not maintained
Garden hedges over grown onto paths

Dentist Practice:

Dental practice
Dentist
Access to dental services
A dentist
Dentist
Local dentist

Local Schools:

Do not make school bigger
Better school facilities
Bigger school
School bigger - cannot cope with expansion in village
Increase capacity of Iwade School
Every child in Iwade to have a space at Iwade school
Every child to have a space at Iwade school
Another Primary school (more houses = more children)
Secondary school
School places

Crime:

Surveillance cameras - safety, law enforcement
Neighbourhood watch schemes on every road
Increase in burglaries
Increase in crime
Crime and safety

Traffic:

Traffic problems outside the school in morning and afternoon
Concern about the increase of traffic on already busy school lane, once new houses are occupied
More traffic in congested areas

Other answers:

Fence around the pond - more secure
Better links to countryside from housing
More land for general use - not football pitches
Barn near church to belong to Parish Council
Teach kids road safety
More grit bins
Keep the website- great idea - maybe a children's / teens section
Reapply for Kent village of the year
Family Centre
Delivery parcel central collection and drop off point
Best kept gardens - awards?
Stream - to be maintained better
Utilise public buildings to all their potential
Public toilet
Country park
Space limited in the Church yard - concerned
Pavilion in the sports field
Salt bins in the old part of Iwade
Turn barn into meeting hall
Promote better marking of local footpaths
Use forums / social media to promote events in the village
Keep traffic signage to a minimum necessary to avoid sign clutter
Funding to help develop a community area on the allotments
More widespread local consultation - not everyone has / wants access to Facebook / internet
Get adverts off of Iwade does Facebook
More flat open public spaces
Pollution monitoring (Ridham Dook area)
Foul smell from compost plant at Ridham dock area
More picnic benches in Woodpecker Park
Employment
Information/services/employment/climate when we can afford them
A veterinary surgery
The alleyway at the back of the stream either needs to be blocked of or gated
A petrol station
IPC - Meeting minutes generally issued too late to be meaningful. My old village issued draft minutes soon after meeting. The official minutes were then achieved
Handrails on the bridge near Coleshall Cottages
More protection on nature sites
Recycle bins for clothes / shoes
Allotments sponsored by town hall - volunteers train / teach others

Church / town hall to be utilised more
Local radio station