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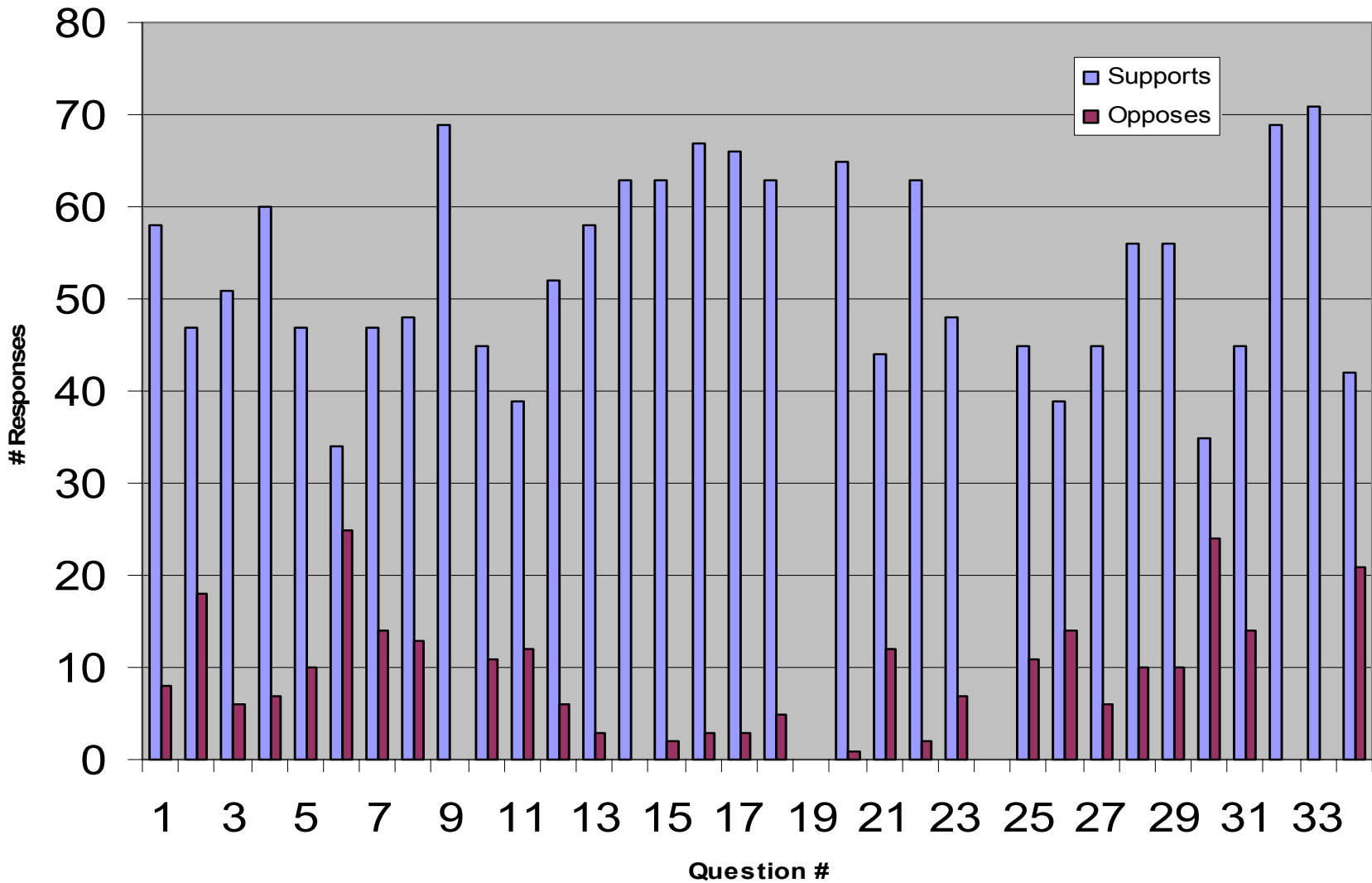
# DIPTFORD PARISH

Questionnaire Findings

June-July 2005

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# Overview



# Q1: Refuse Collection; segregation of waste for recycling

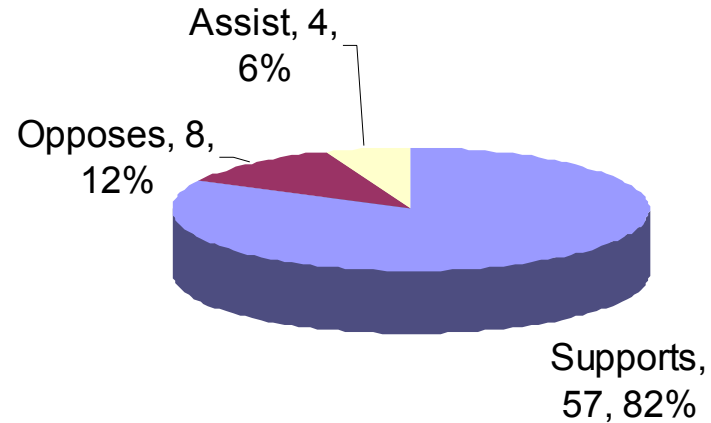
## COMMENTS:

*“The question is superfluous, its happening!”*

*“I do not want 3 bins – recycling bins are available in South Brent”*

*“We already recycle our own waste and prefer doing this to having lots of council containers”*

*“Collection of plastics and paper would be especially valuable as facilities for this in Totnes are scarce”*



*“No room for the bins for collection”*

*“...concerned about success bearing in mind 2 weeks of household waste accrues before collection”*

## Q2: Recycling; Provision of glass waste collection bins within the parish

### COMMENTS:

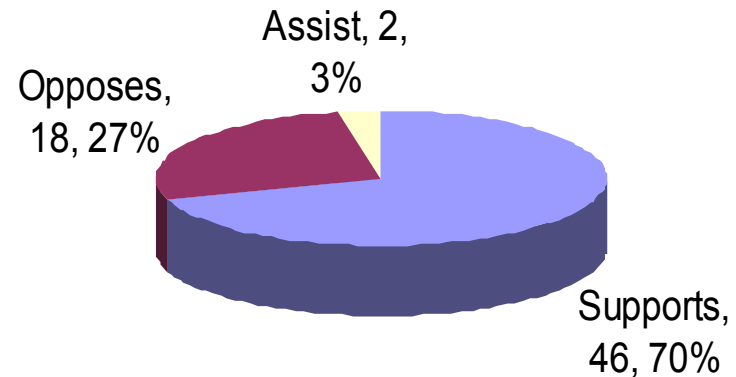
*“There are a lot of glass recycling bins within easy reach of Diptford”*

*“Its SHDC’s responsibility – there are adequate facilities locally....”*

*“The bottle bank at Avon Inn seems perfectly adequate”*

*“Previous proposed sites were not acceptable and no other sites readily come to mind....”*

*“We are happy with the current facilities”*



*“Not necessary....am happy to take glass back to where it came from..”*

*“Site would lead to broken glass and become an eyesore...”*

## Q3: Composting

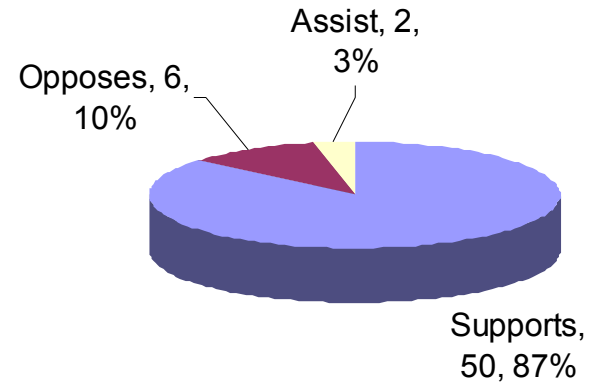
### COMMENTS:

*“No storage facilities while awaiting collection!”*

*“...many problems in other areas with composting areas becoming rubbish dumps,...managed regional centres would be acceptable”*

*“In a parish like Diptford home composting could and should be universal”*

*“...certain measures do need to be imposed for disposal of general household waste”*



*“My garden is too small for a compost bin, but would like to be part of a communal composting facility”*

## Q4: Litter; provision of litter bins, skips etc.

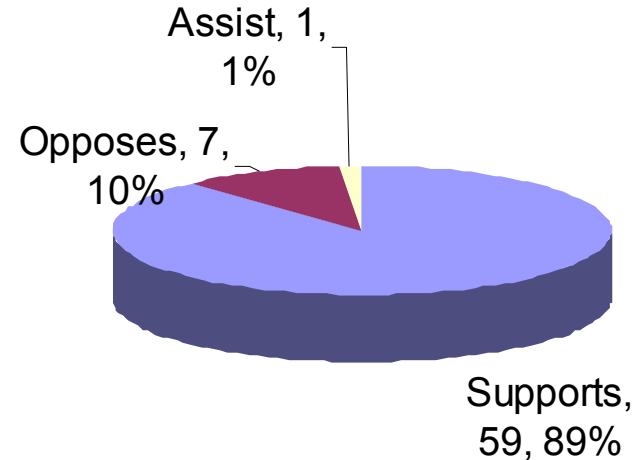
### COMMENTS:

*“Litter is a problem, dogs mess is a disgrace and getting worse. The provision of skips is an excellent idea & much appreciated”*

*“Support monitoring the situation....too many litter bins could give a suburban feel, which would be undesirable”*

*“Need to consider frequent emptying and careful siting of dog litter bins”*

*“Litter bins are an effective way of creating littered areas”*



*“residents should take personal responsibility for this”*

*“Dog litter bins would be useful”*

*“Are dog litter bins really a priority matter?”*

## Q5: Traffic Management: Additional measures to increase road safety within the village

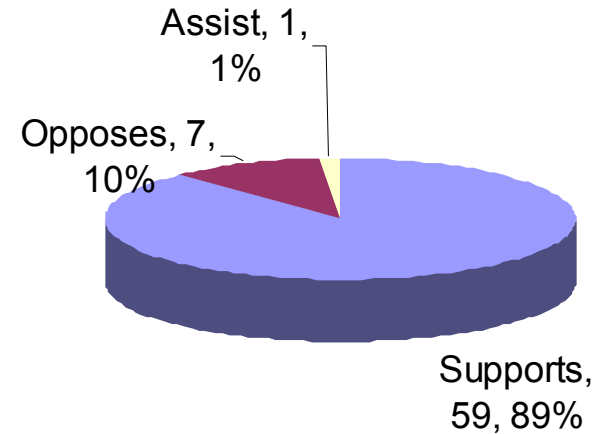
### COMMENTS:

*“At peak times we need more visits by the police” “Random police check to enforce...”*

*“20mph restriction has had no impact and our own community is equally to blame, not just through traffic.....”*

*“We should guard against filling the village with signs, road humps do not work...”*

*“Speed humps, flashing lights, anything garish – emphatically NO!”*



*“Absolutely no need for ‘other’ measures”*

*“The corner at the top of the hill coming in to Diptford is very dangerous....would a mirror help here?”*

*“....should be an ‘Access Only’ village to stop the ‘Rat Run’.....plus automatic neon-speed indicators.....illuminated ‘Children Crossing’ signs AM and PM”*

## Q6: Parking; tighter police enforcement of parking restrictions

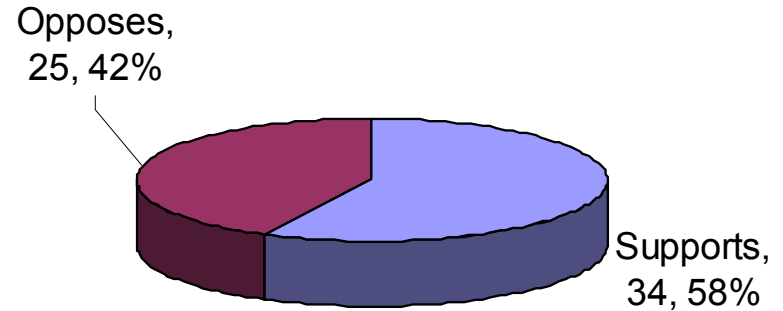
### COMMENTS:

*"I strongly dispute the charge of dangerous parking..."*

*"This will cause more stress to parents. The less state intervention the better!"*

*"Not the answer"      "Not practical"*

*"On road calming is proven as the best traffic calming device...."*



*"Does not address the issues of inappropriate through traffic and lack of parking facilities"*

*"Consideration for other road users is key.."*

*"Need to enforce existing restrictions.."*

# Q7: Parking; provision of suitable off road parking

## COMMENTS:

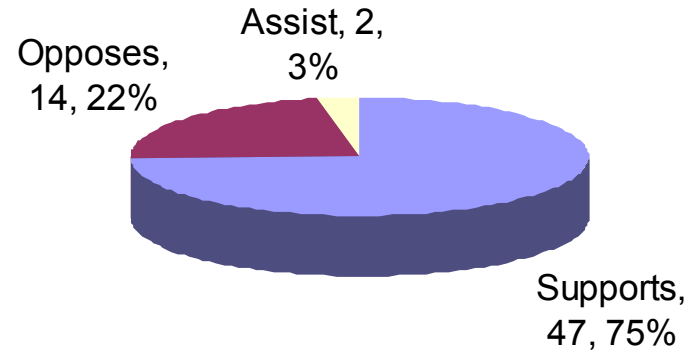
*“Not convinced it is necessary”*

*“Instead of accommodating traffic we should avoid attracting it....”*

*“There is no requirement for off-road parking”*

*“....would cause noise, pollution and disruption to nearby residents”*

*“....would create more problems in terms of parents trying to gain access..”*



*“I don’t perceive parking to be an issue except for the school run, which is a problem for the school to sort out, maybe by better traffic calming measures and more parking in Church Park Close. Devon C.C. policy is to encourage environmentally friendly measures and I support this”*

## Q8: Parking; increased subsidised school transport

### COMMENTS:

*“..would do nothing to address the issues of obstruction, danger to pedestrians and pollution etc”*

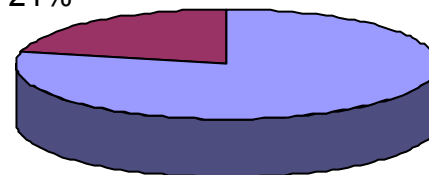
*“Not a priority”*

*“..should be subsidised by parents”*

*“Our village school is not a suitable facility to serve a wide area of motorised pupils”*

*“Not appropriate for school purposes”*

Opposes,  
13, 21%



Supports,  
48, 79%

*“Would agree in increase in un-subsidised school transport”*

*“Parents should be encouraged to car scheme”*

*“...at what cost to the community?..”*

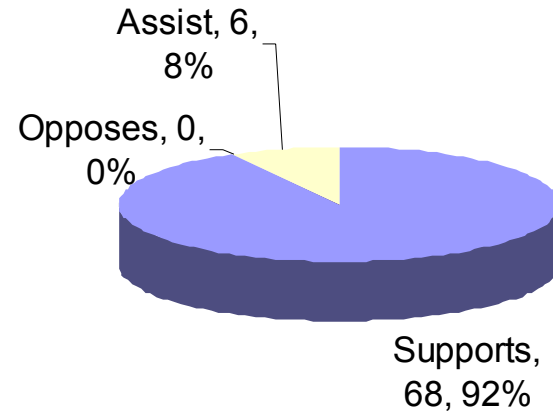
## Q9: Car Scheme

### COMMENTS:

*“In a long history we have avoided definition of journey purpose. This is a recent bureaucratic development and should be avoided as it cannot be controlled”*

*“I think this is a very good scheme”*

*“An essential and much appreciated community service...”*



*“An important link in the community but not all are aware of the facility”*

*“Updated Diptford directory needed for all households”*

*“Appropriate rural transport subsidy is required by political intervention at the highest level...”*

# Q10: Electricity; provision of underground supply lines

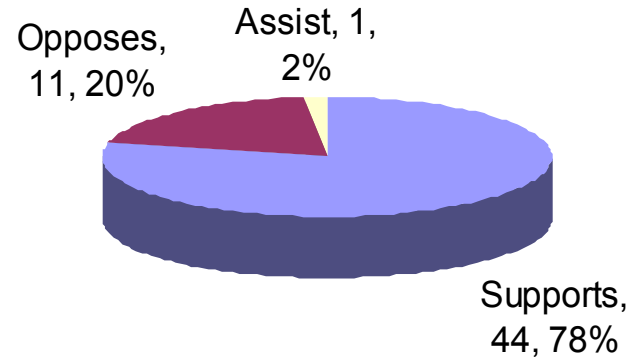
## Comments:

*“Overhead lines are in use across the country in rural areas...why is Diptford so precious?”*

*“Who would pay? Are there not more pressing issues”*

*“Imagine to expensive”*

*“Oppose unless residents willing to pay costs”*



*“Why not ask the supplier for solar energy instead”*

*“Not sure it would be worth the inconvenience it would cause”*

# Q11: Gas; development of community account for mains gas provision

## Comments:

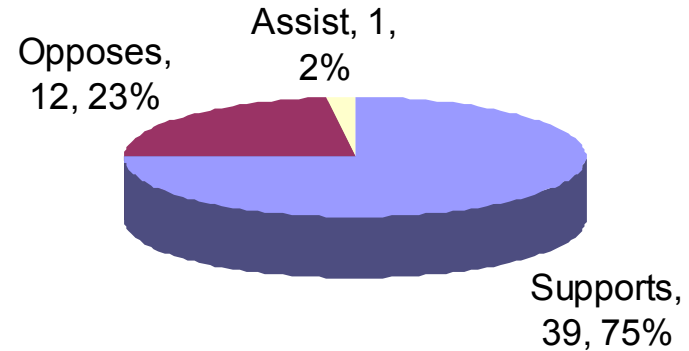
*"I doubt the viability of such a scheme"*

*"Not strictly necessary..."*

*"Don't have any gas appliances"*

*"If people want it, let them get bottles"*

*"How environmentally friendly is gas/oil?.....Gas to run out by 2040....."*



## Q12: Oil; Development of a community account for supply

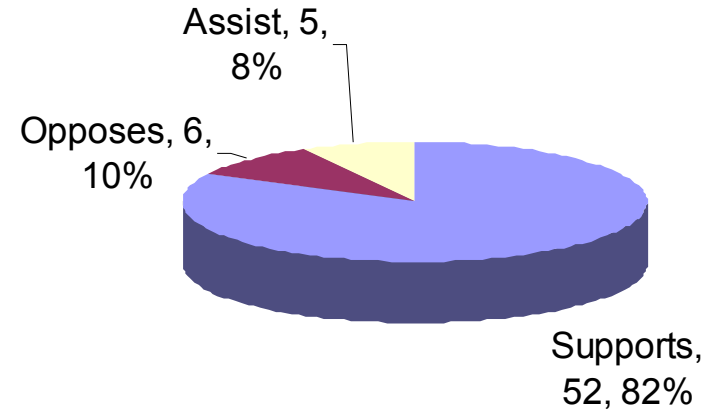
### COMMENTS:

*“More environmentally cleaner and renewable sources required..”*

*“Not a priority – We knew there was no oil supply when we chose to live here”*

*“Brilliant idea!”*

*“Not sure how it would work but anything which helps reduce cost is a good idea”*



*“This would be a good idea if it worked”*

# Q13: Neighbourhood Watch reintroduction

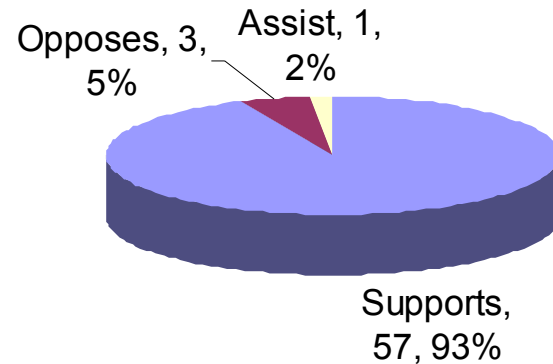
## COMMENTS:

*“Question value – such schemes always lose momentum. Better to encourage good neighbourliness which already exists”*

*“Provided it is more than sticking up further notices”*

*“I would be happy to be involved in this”*

*“I would not consider this a priority”*



“Scheme first started in 1986 and ran it with 4 volunteers for many years. Initial enthusiasm waned and unless local crime escalates it is doubtful if reintroduction would prove successful”

“A co-ordinator would be helpful. We are vulnerable in the village but do very little about it”

## Q14: Parish Plan publication

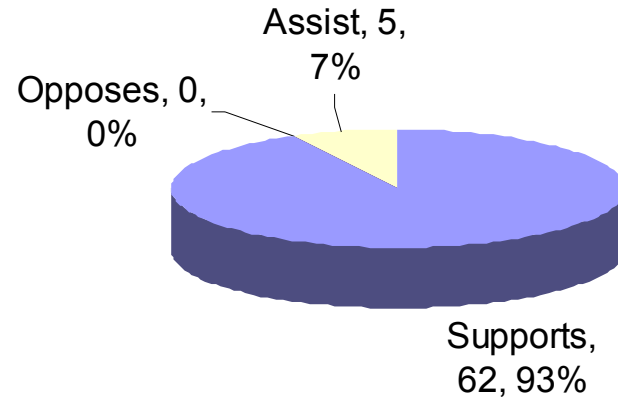
### COMMENTS:

*“If I can make a contribution I would be happy to do so”*

*“The Council must remember that it represents all parishioners not just the majority”*

*“It is important that this is as representational as possible”*

*“I think this is a good idea to allow people living in the area the opportunity to have their say”*



## Q15: Website maintenance

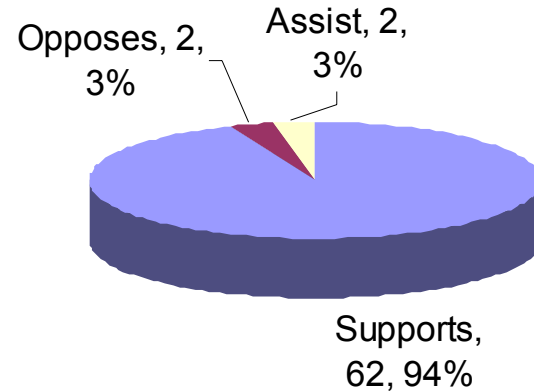
### COMMENTS:

*“Care is needed in selecting information for inclusion so as not to attract undesirable attention to the village”*

*“Good addition to parish facilities and partly as a result of Parish Plan process. Excellent start – very useful to all...”*

*“Wonderful!”*

*“Details of local services would be helpful”*



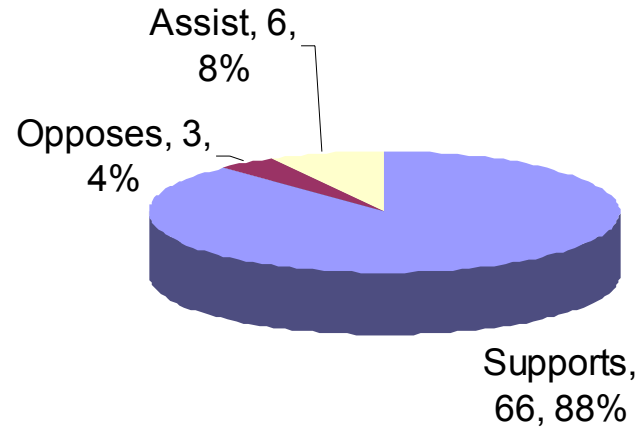
## Q16: Community Self Help Plan

### COMMENTS:

*“What has happened to previous information that might need to be updated by the Parish Council? Who holds this? Will it be made public?”*

*“I am also part of the Devon C.C. emergency cascade”*

*“This would be excellent and a plan should be made for all eventualities”*



## Q17: Domestic Emergency; listing of local trades who can provide an urgent response in event of a major problem in the home

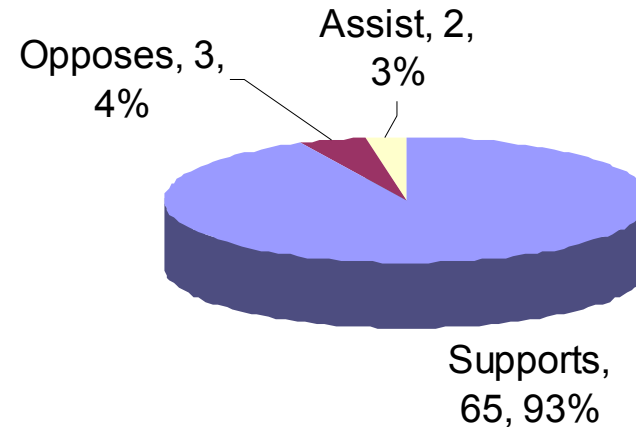
### COMMENTS:

*“WI used to produced a similar fact sheet....”*

*“Question need – would need regular updating”*

*“Useful for new residents in the area”*

*“We should strongly encourage competent local professionals”*



*“Very necessary – could be supported by sponsorship”*

## Q18: Neighbourhood Support; creation of a register of local volunteers to assist in a range of local emergencies and or problems

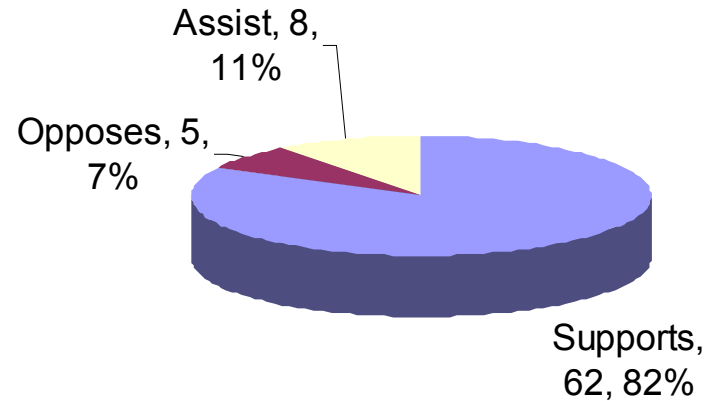
### COMMENTS:

*“An excellent idea”*

*“These things used to occur informally. In a village with a lot of newcomers many with useful skills & resources to offer, it seems a great idea...”*

*“The website could help if the information is kept up to date”*

*“Same idea of village self-help as car scheme & there should be a link with this as often transport may be required”*



*“Think this could be a waste of time and effort, but could the ‘Diptford Directory’ be updated?”*

*“Legal implications of those on official directory as to those giving neighbourhood support...”*

## Q19:Parish News – communications

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**Below is the breakdown from the 88 replies analysed.**

**53 – Current methods are totally adequate.**

**25 – A free to all publication should be available.**

**17 – Additional Notice boards should be facilitated.**

## Q20: Public Phones; resistance to removal of Gara Bridge pay-phone

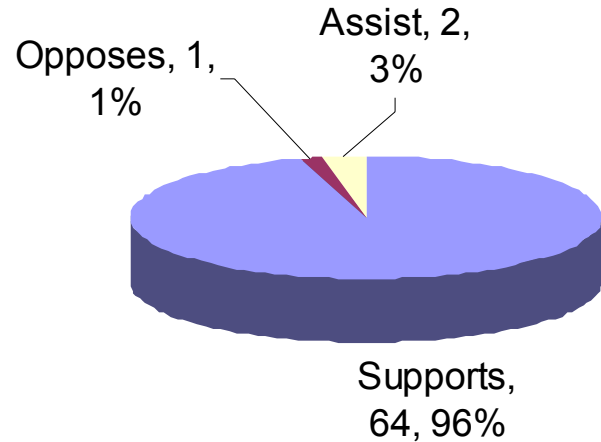
### COMMENTS:

*“Re telephone at Gara Bridge – seek support from North Huish Parish Council, if this telephone goes there is no other in that area..”*

*“Very important to keep this facility open”*

*“Could be vital in case of medical emergency”*

*“Otherwise end up having to consider more mobile phone masts”*



## Q21: Mobile Phones; siting of mobile phone masts

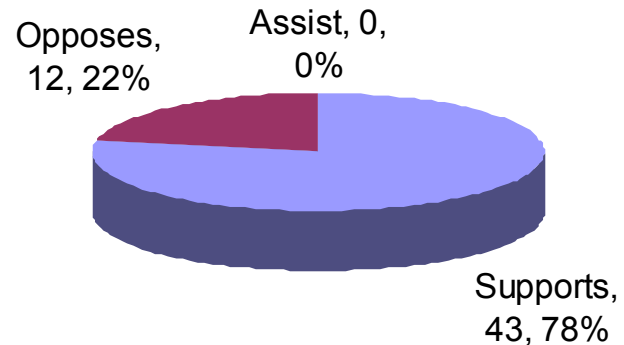
### COMMENTS:

*“I would prefer to have an efficient service, we have so many ugly road signs, power cables etc.. I don't think one more is a problem”*

*“I would be concerned over health implications which so far have not been fully researched”*

*“No masts”*

*“It is vital we have blanket mobile coverage and surely ‘tree’ masts could be used as in rail communications?”*



*“Permitted development limits may allow masts up to 15m on land adjoining the AONB, masts can be disguised and/or incorporated within buildings to minimise visual impact”*

*“Not only are these unsightly but also potentially a health hazard, particularly given the proximity of the school”*

## Q22: Broadband; formation of pressure group to pursue the improvement of services as a priority

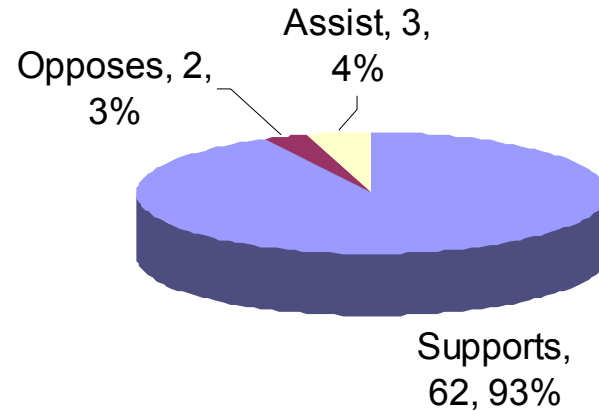
### COMMENTS:

*“Helpful, and for some working from home a necessity”*

*“Already frequently in contact with BT over this!”*

*“Implications for home-based businesses”*

*“Increasingly needed”*



*“Cost..”*

## Q23: Village Computer facility & web access; provision of communal computer access

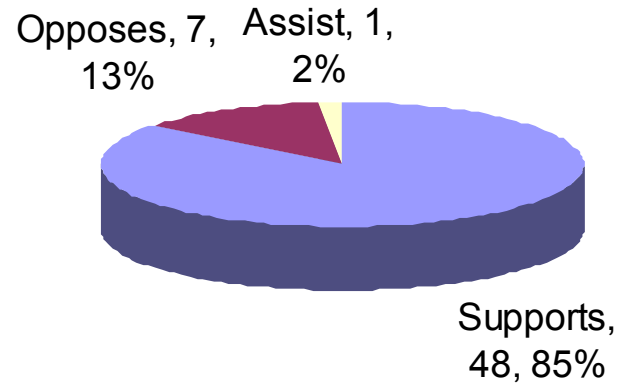
### COMMENTS:

*“The school should affect a change and allow adults into the computer suite”*

*“This could encourage greater use of the village hall”*

*“Why? Difficult to support without more info...”*

*“What is proposed for siting, financing, controlling?”*



*“Not sure about level of use as most homes now have at least one computer...”*

## **Q24: Diptford Primary School – ‘support’**

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**Below is the breakdown from the 88 replies analysed.**

**72 – we should do all possible to support the school.**

**4 – the school should be for Diptford resident children only.**

**5 – the Parish should leave the future of the school to the L.E.A.**

## Q25: Local Business; support for farmers to supplement their incomes through diversification

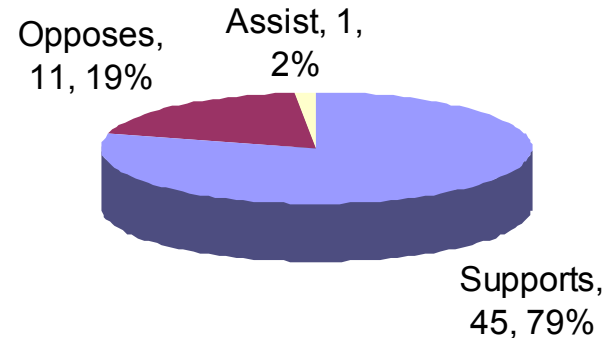
### COMMENTS:

*“Farmers incomes are nothing to do with Parishioners”*

*“Not in any way possible. Would open a real can of worms (R.E. planning etc.)”*

*“Why single out farmers for support”*

*“Depends entirely on the nature of any diversification”*



*“There must be some limits! The farmers have their own lobby and the Council must not be seen to favour one group”*

## Q26: Local Business; should do everything possible to facilitate the generation of new business within the parish

### COMMENTS:

*“Cost...”*

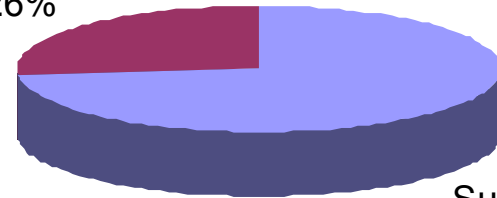
*“We are essentially a residential community”*

*“A Diptford industrial estate!?!....”*

*“Access roads unsuitable”*

*“Against the generation of additional traffic/building. The Parish is a very precious example of non-urbanised living and is vulnerable to being irreversibly spoilt”*

Opposes,  
14, 26%



Supports,  
39, 74%

*“Not a priority”*

*“....depends on the type of business. Should not use local tax to fund this”*

## Q27:Local Business; should do all we can to facilitate home working within the parish

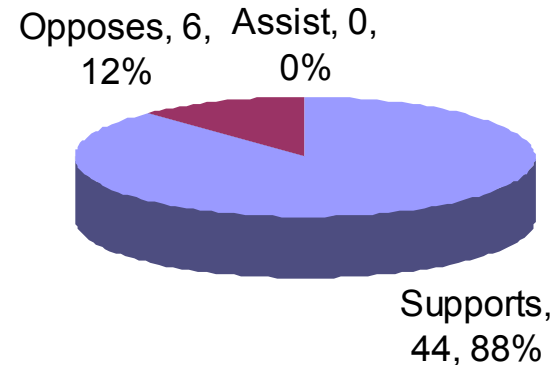
### COMMENTS:

*“Both my husband and I work from home”*

*“Access to broadband and telephone coverage important for this”*

*“Allow to evolve rather than actively promote”*

*“Not a priority”*



*“With reservations...e.g. would be opposed to such possibilities as siting of noisy workshops adjacent to property boundaries”*

*“Don’t know if this is relevant for the parish”*

## Q28:Parish Hall; should additional or enhanced facilities be considered for the Parish Hall?

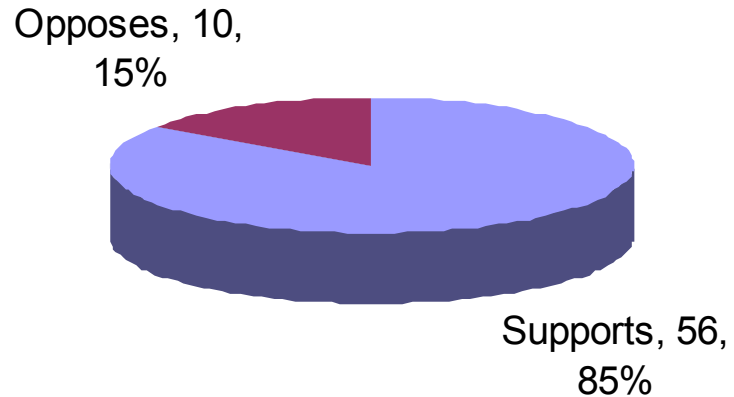
### COMMENTS:

*“Size and facilities of village hall are adequate”*

*“Current facilities seem to be underused. What are the limitations?...do numbers justify the improvements?”*

*“Ample facilities exist in surrounding area...”*

*“Strongly oppose any attempt to site a pub within the parish boundaries”*



## Q29: New Building; Building of affordable housing for local people should be facilitated within the parish

### COMMENTS:

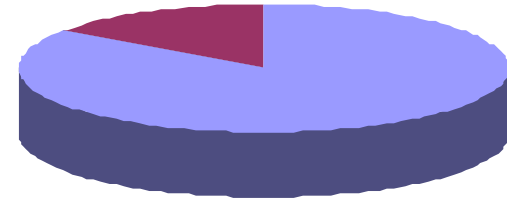
*“not suitable in an Area of outstanding natural beauty”*

*“A rural area such as Diptford would not attract young FTBs....”*

*“...I would strongly oppose anything that detracts from the beautiful setting that Diptford has....plus traffic considerations are important...”*

*“....not exclusively for local people. The Council should not decide who lives in Diptford”*

Opposes,  
10, 15%



Supports,  
56, 85%

*“There are far more sustainable locations for affordable housing provision in the area...”*

# Q30: New Building; Building of additional standard housing should be supported within the parish

## COMMENTS:

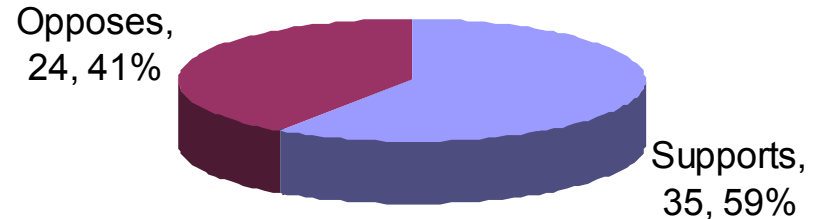
*“Area of outstanding natural beauty”*

*“Access roads are not suitable”*

*“I think this would be too expensive for local people”*

*“No building for buildings sake”*

*“Building affordable housing should take priority...”*



*“Leave this to the District Council”*

*“...would be a mistake to actively encourage this...”*

*“The needs of the AONB should be considered. Diptford has already suffered from inappropriate development”*

# Q31: New Building; Building of standard & affordable housing should be supported within the village

## COMMENTS:

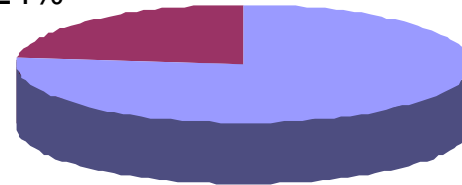
*“Area of outstanding natural beauty”*

*“...should be provided within the parish, but outside the village infrastructure, which is already under strain”*

*“Leave this to the District Council”*

*“...would be a mistake to actively encourage this...”*

Opposes,  
14, 24%



Supports,  
45, 76%

*“I believe any further development is unsustainable in terms of both the environment, access, infrastructure and employment opportunities”*

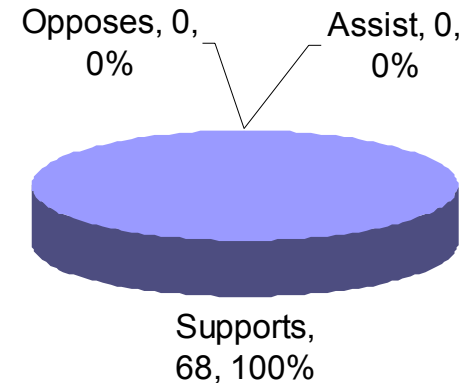
## Q32: Amenities Playing Fields: ongoing support for this parish facility

### COMMENTS:

*“A fantastic facility, beautifully maintained. Lots of village houses only have small gardens so the space is very useful to young families and the school”*

*“Public playing fields are essential facilities for any community”*

*“It is important that this facility survives....”*



*“Could do more with facility for the younger age group (toddler/pre-school)”*

*“Having a separate stand alone Amenities Trust is preferable to a Council run organisation”*

## Q33: Rights of Way; production and publication of a map listing all rights of way

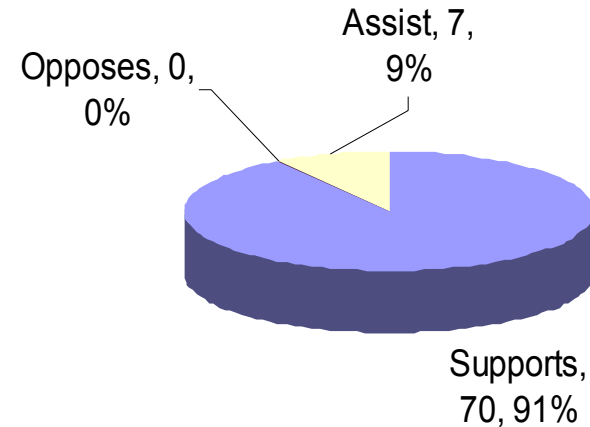
### COMMENTS:

*“Map a fine idea as long as it is clear which are rights of way...!”*

*“Very important, there are so few off road places to walk”*

*“Would love to know where the rights of way are, as a dog owner I constantly leave the village to walk my dog”*

*“An important issue.... We are fortunate to have Sue ..... commitment to this”*



*“....useful for promoting tourism also”*

*“I thought such plans already existed?”*

## Q34: Tourism Support: promotion and support for tourism in the parish

### COMMENTS:

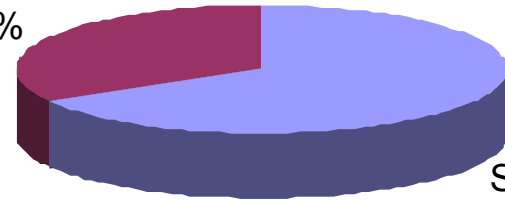
*“Keep them moving down A38 to Cornwall, otherwise will need more space for ice-cream sellers!”*

*“....specifically encouraging visitors to Diptford would be of what value?”*

*“...some of us actually enjoy the peace and quiet and relative tranquillity of our village”*

*“....should be done and paid for by the businesses involved”*

Opposes,  
21, 33%



Supports,  
42, 67%

*“Tourism happens naturally and other than B&Bs there is no need for promotion”*

*“Is already excessive ‘casual traffic’....”*

*“Why do we need tourists?”*