

Housing Needs Survey Results

These results are an amalgam of responses from Bawdsey and Alderton. 150 were delivered in Bawdsey and 28 were completed and returned. 210 surveys were delivered to homes in Alderton – 42 were completed and returned. This represented approximately 20% return.

The key results are as follows. A spreadsheet is available of responses from individual villages and combined results.

- 71% of respondents thought an affordable housing scheme was needed
- 26% would object to such a scheme
- 89% of respondents had their main home in Bawdsey or Alderton
- The average length of time respondents had lived in the area was 19 years
- The typical household was that of a couple (55%) with families with children amounting to 17%
- Households with one person under 60 yrs old made up 8% and older person household 16%
- 10% had family members move away because they could not find a suitable home locally with the same percentage wanting to return to the village
- 14% anticipated moving away in the next 5 years, with 34% thinking it could be a possibility. The first figure was made up of those anticipating downsizing or wanting to set up home independently. When those figures were combined, 21% wanted to stay in the area with 20% wanting to move away
- Data from subsequent questions revealed that the factors dictating decisions to move were mainly related to older age with respondents wishing to move to smaller accommodation, (14%) be nearer a family member (3%) or wishing to avail of better facilities, medical and shops. However, moving to be closer to employment was also a factor in a small number of cases. (3%) 11% mentioned wanting to set up home independently. Other factors mentioned for moving were the windfarm, flooding being nearer a hospital and places with more activities.
- The type of accommodation needed was family home (9 %) starter home (9%), Flat (1%) bungalow/single storey (12 %) and retirement housing (10%)
- The tenure being sought was 20% wishing to buy on the open market, 7% wishing to rent from a housing association, 1% renting from private landlord and 3% shared ownership

The survey gives a snapshot of views from Bawdsey—which includes Shingle Street- and Alderton. Although it is not comprehensive and many responses were nuanced, it will help inform council decisions on planning. A comment sheet is also available.

Jenny Webb, Bawdsey Parish Clerk

Joy Andrews, Alderton Parish Clerk