Alconbury Local Plan

Residents' Survey 2023

Results

About the survey

- This document presents the findings of a residents' survey to inform the Alconbury Neighbourhood Plan – which will define the aspirations and needs of residents and businesses within the area, so that local planning authorities can take the democratic wishes of the village into account

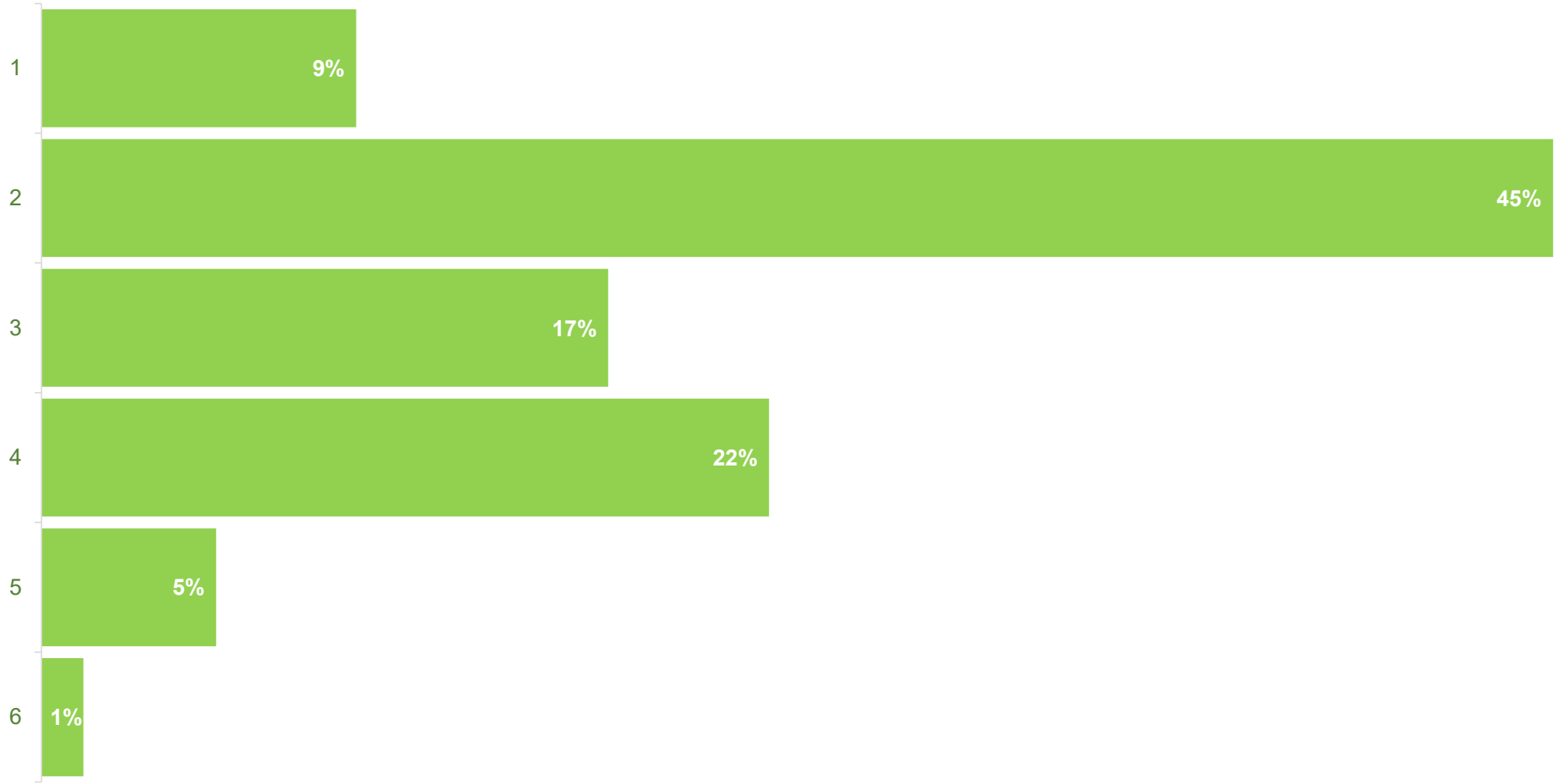
- Timeframe: the survey was active in mid-2023 and closed on 21st July 2023

- The survey included 73 questions around eight topic areas: Households, Built Environment, Business, Vehicles, Buses, Natural Environment, Community, and Flooding

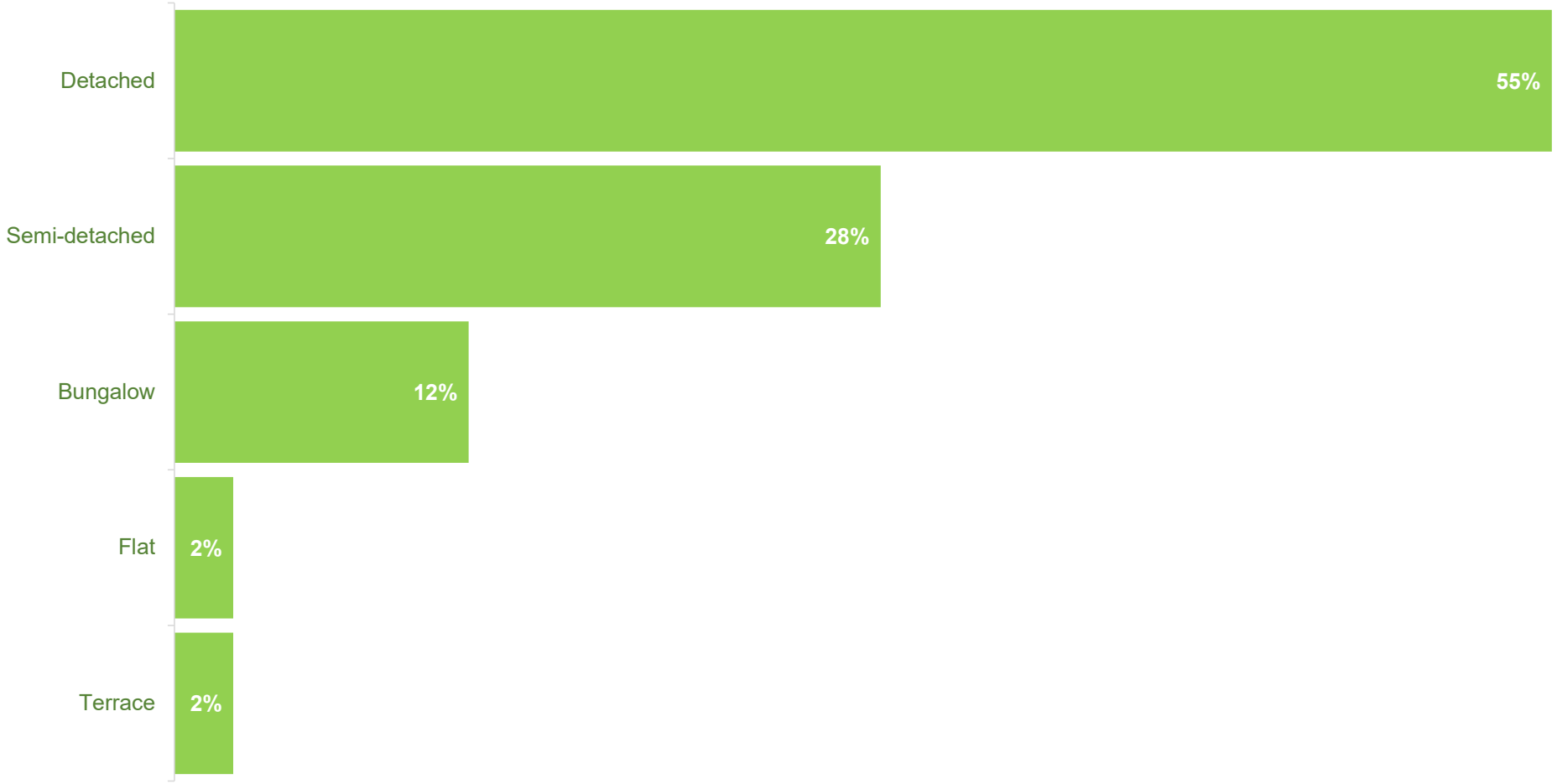
- 212 people responded

Households

Q1: How many people reside in your dwelling?

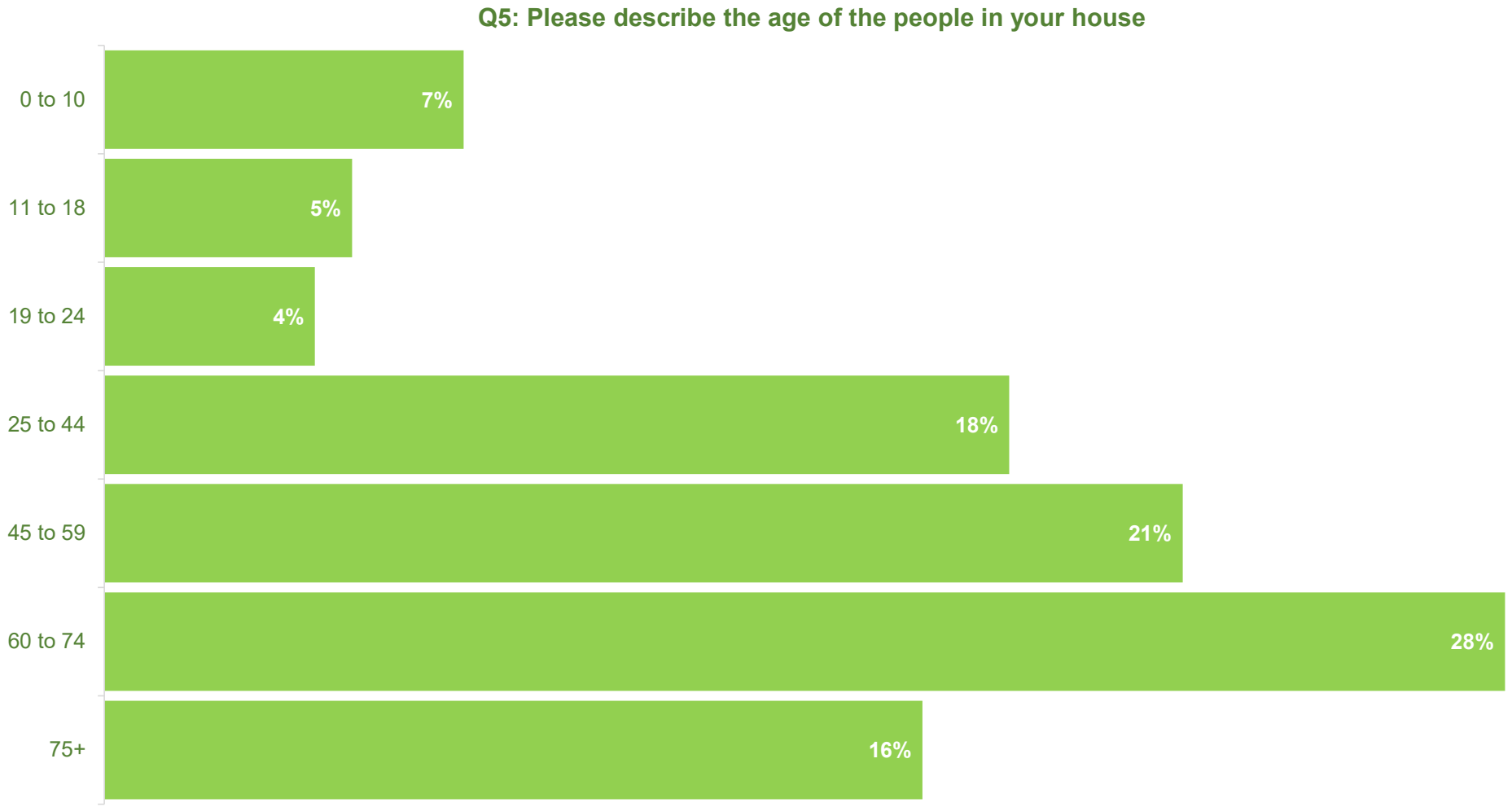


Q2: Please describe your dwelling

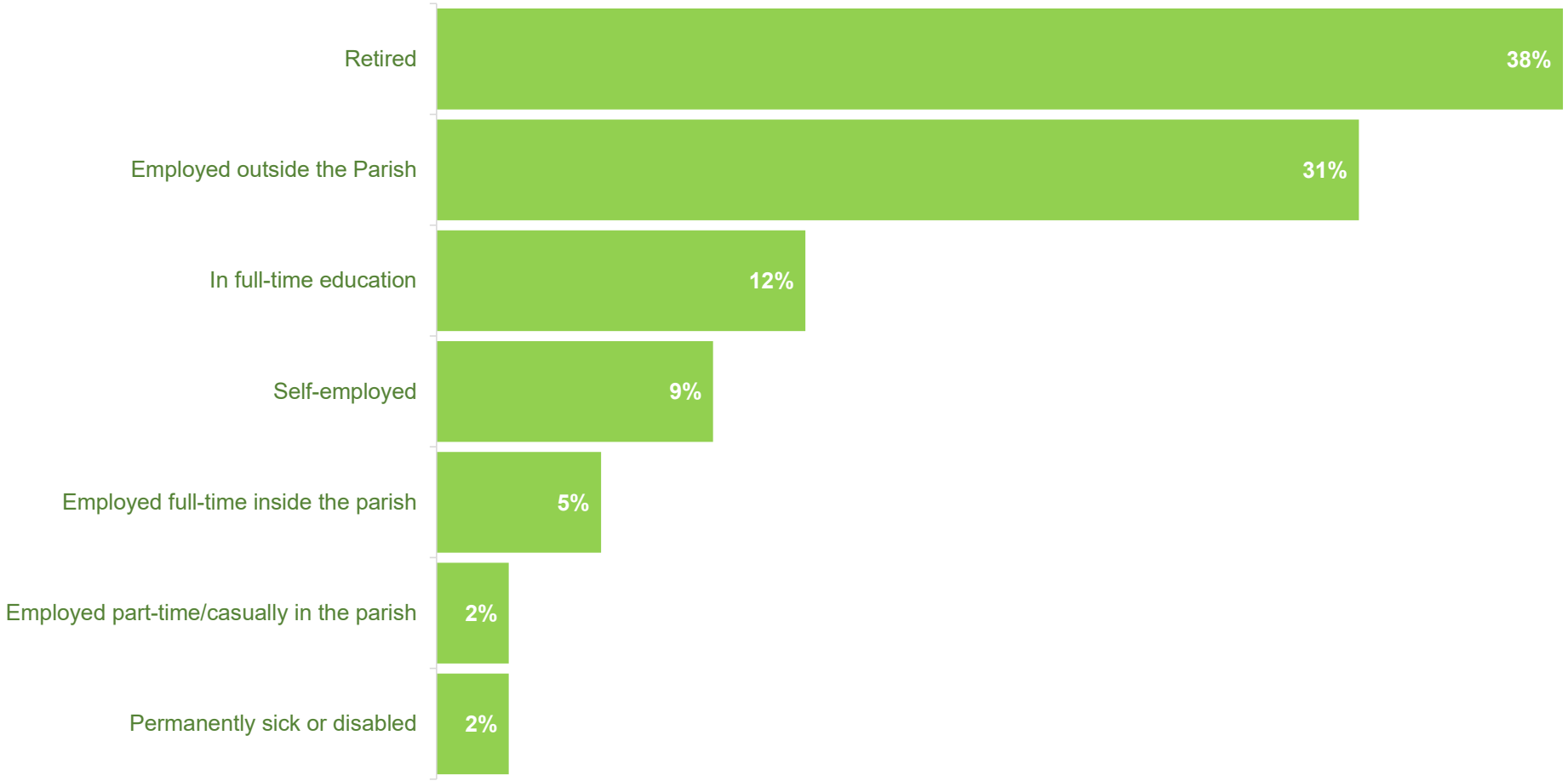


Q3: Please describe the tenure of your dwelling

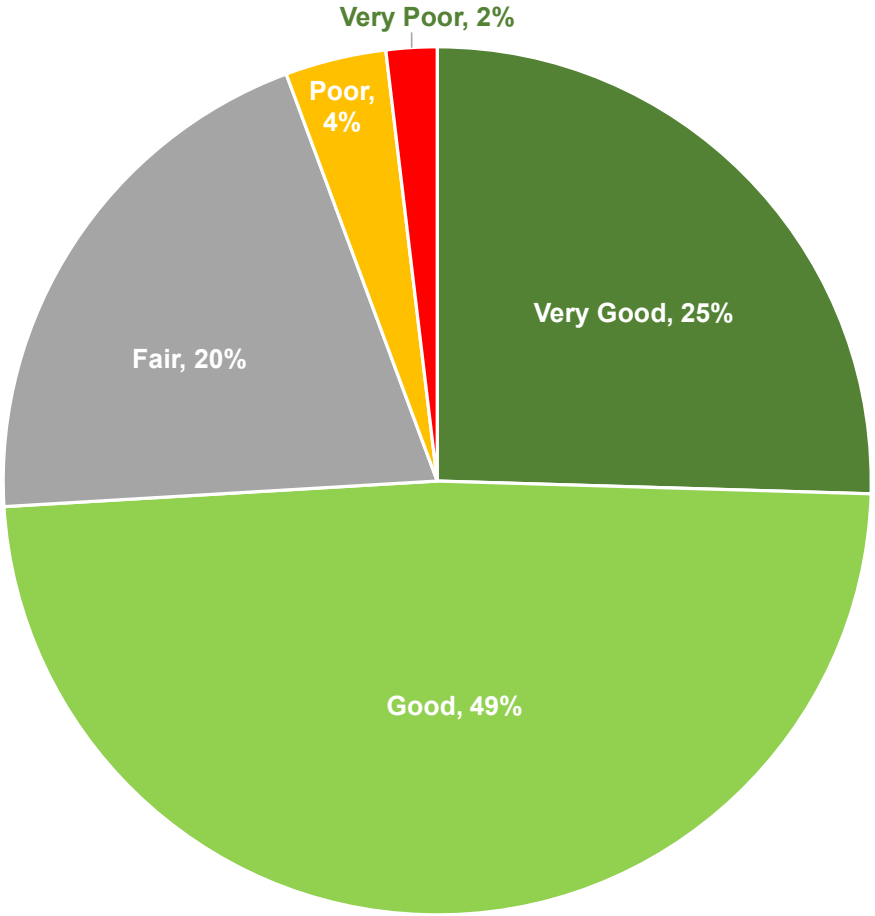
Q4: What is the main form of heating in your home?


Q5: Please describe the age of the people in your house
0 to 10
7%
11 to 18
5%
19 to 24
4%
25 to 44
18%
45 to 59
21%
60 to 74
28%
75+
16%

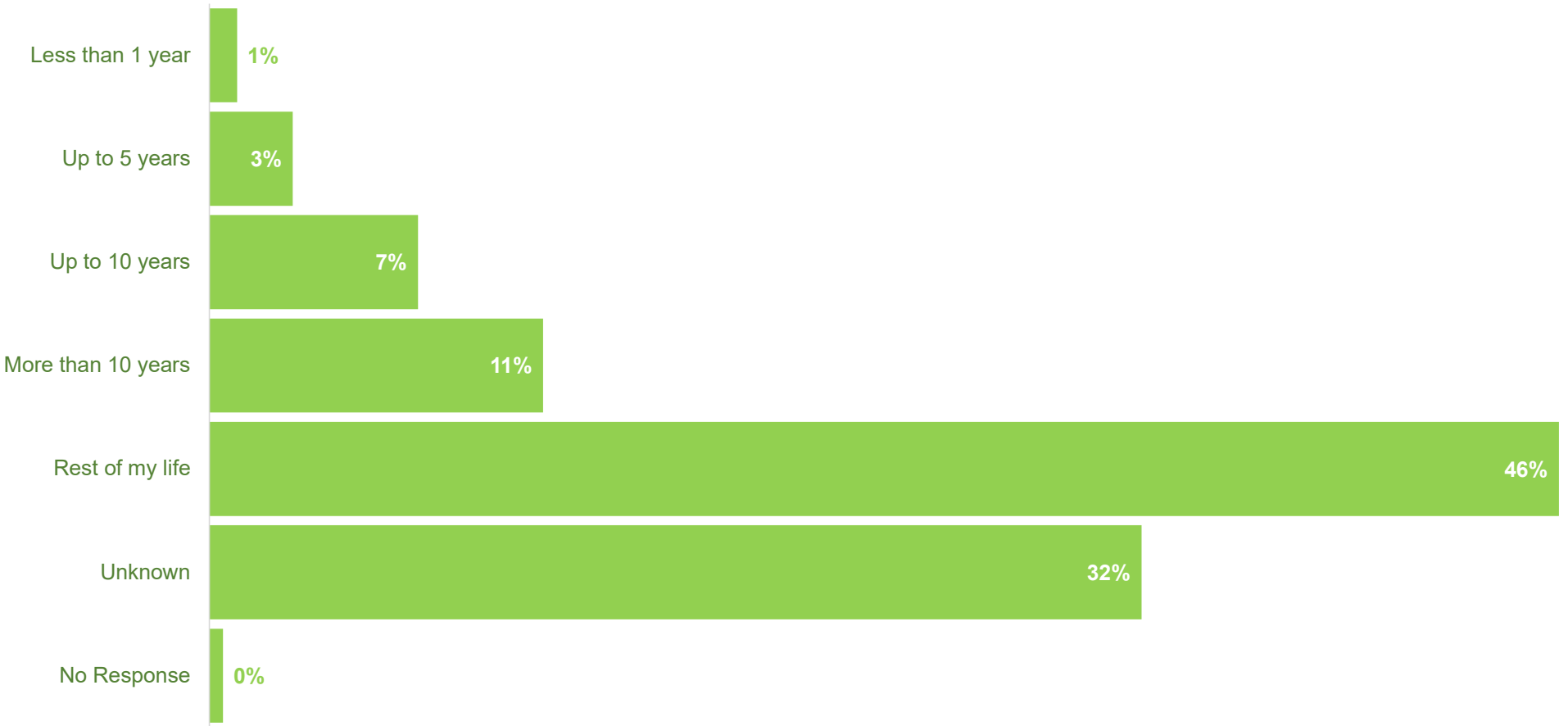
Q6: Please indicate the number of people in your household who are…



Q7: How would you describe the health of people in your household?

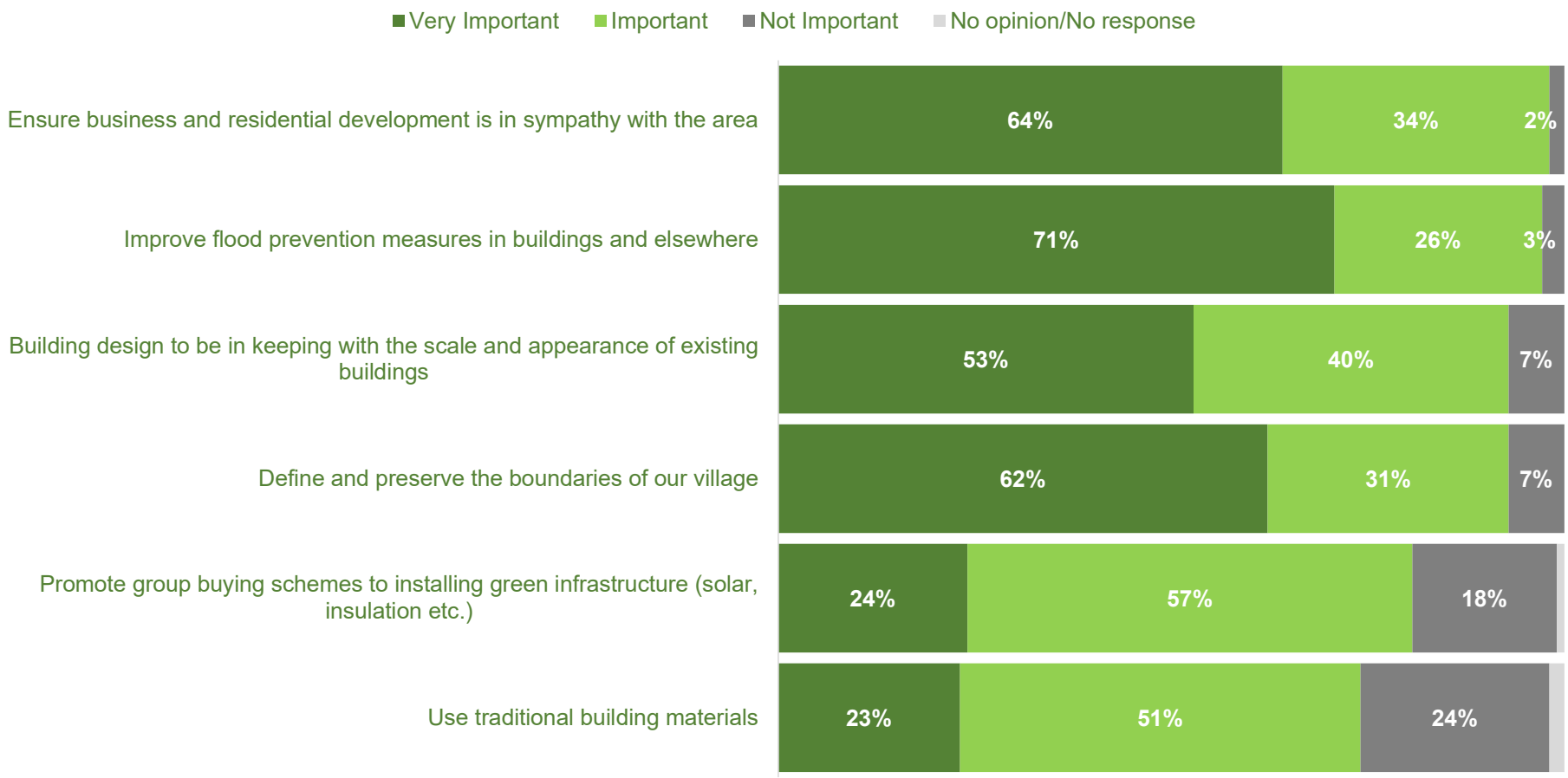


Q8: How long do members of your household intend to remain in the parish?

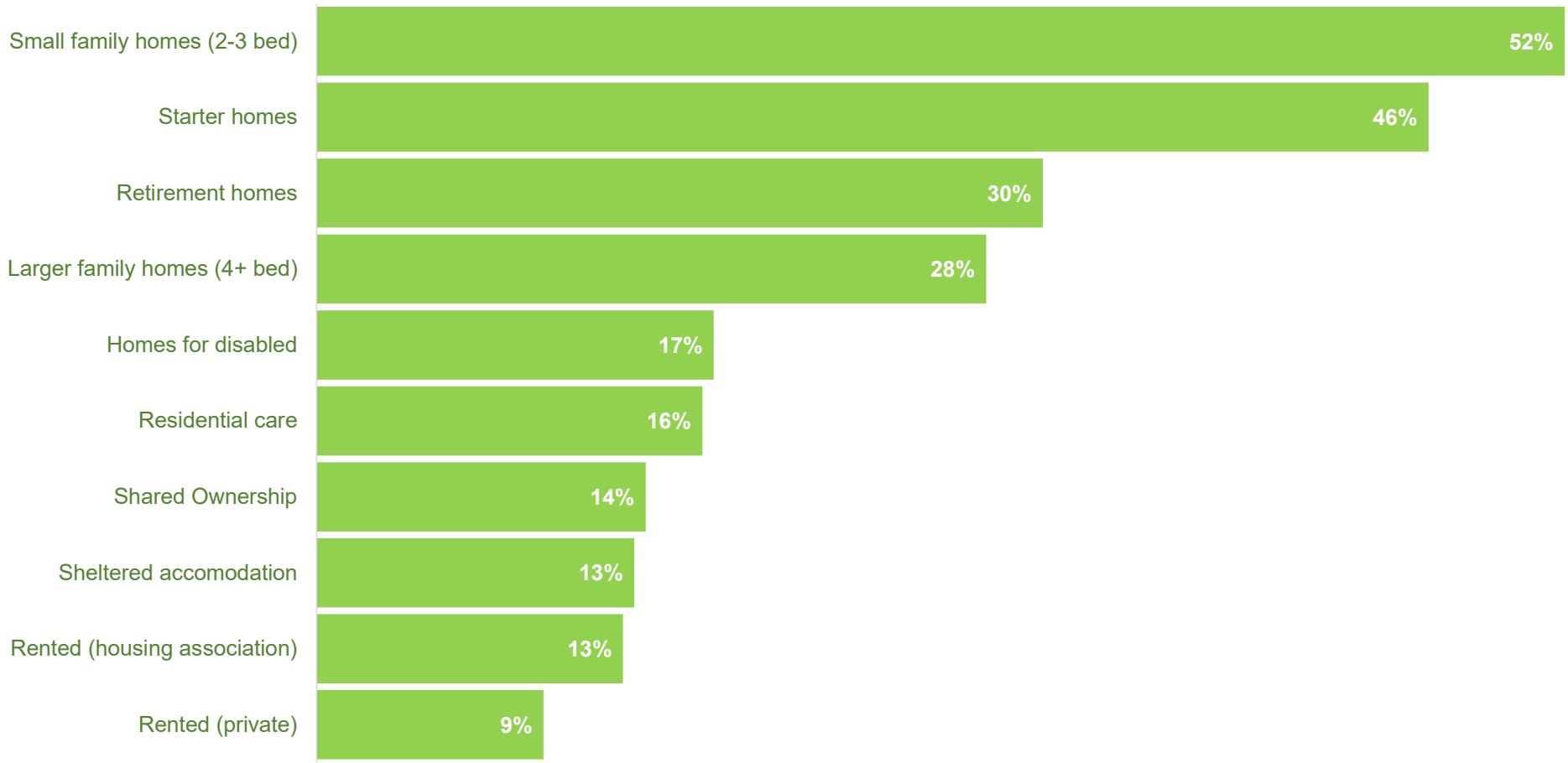


Built Environment

Q9: How important do you feel the following are in protecting the quality of the existing built environment?

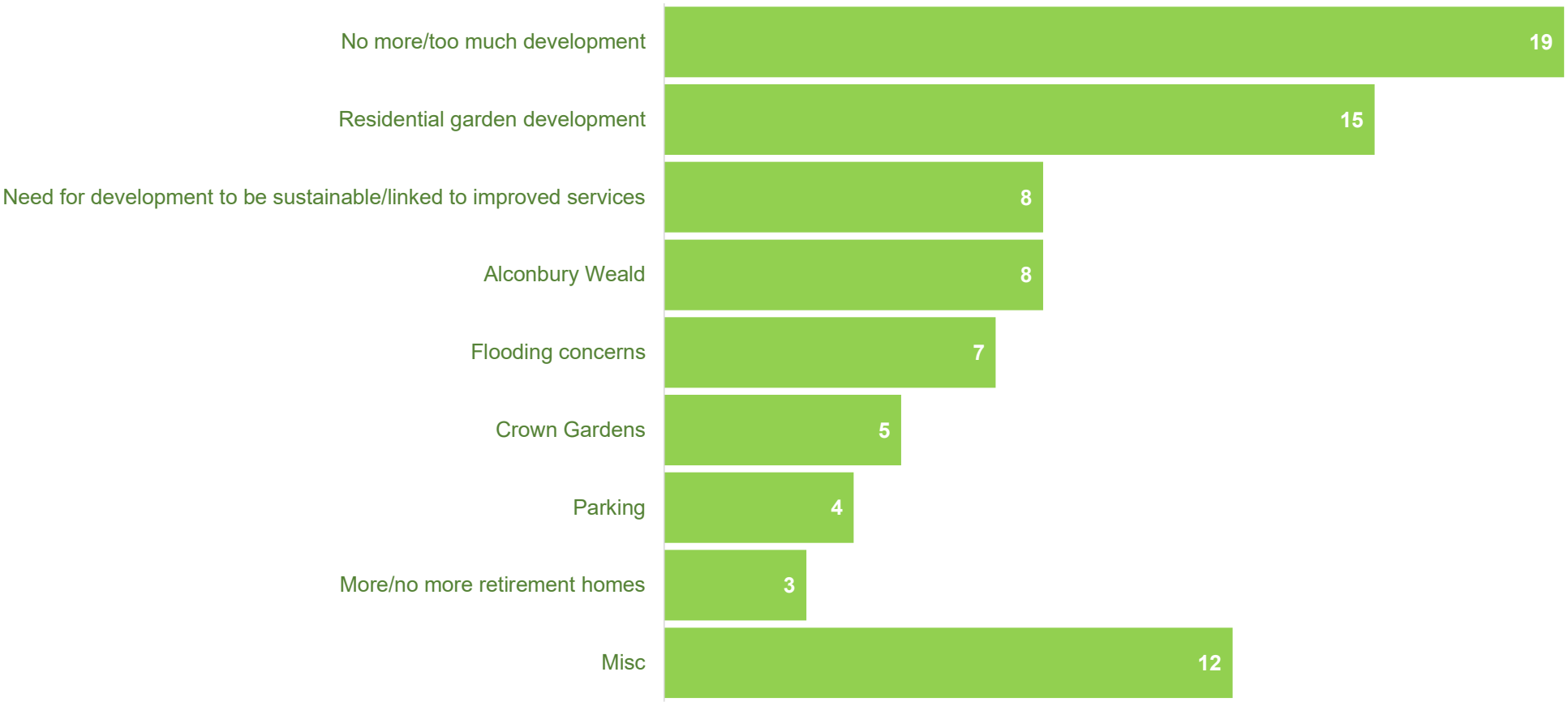


Q10: If the village increases in size, what types of housing would you prefer to see in the parish?



Q11: Do you agree with allowing development in residential gardens?

Built Environment Comments: Themes



Comments about ‘no more/too much development’

“Our concern about increasing the number of homes in the village is mainly due to wanting to maintain the village boundary and concerns about having the infrastructure to support more homes.”

“The topography of Alconbury will not support large numbers of new build houses. The road network is for small villages and the Alconbury Brook is a significant factor against new builds.”

“Alconbury is a mature village and should be allowed to maintain itself without having massive amounts of development, which would change the character and scale of the village. Housing in gardens should be on a case by case basis.”

“The village size is at its maximum. Focus should now be on maintaining and improving green spaces, woodland and meadowland.”

“Our infrastructure cannot take any more! Our doctors and school are not equipped for more people. 'Village life' is exactly what Alconbury is all about! Community and its friends and neighbours!”

Comments about ‘residential garden development’

“Q11 does depend on what type of development. If it's to add homes suitable for older people to downsize or starter homes that’s a benefit to the village that’s great.”

“As long as it fits in, meets planning permission and isn't on the flooding areas.”

“Personally I would not want to see Alconbury & Alconbury Weston become linked by infill building. I think there are some properties with large gardens where infill building on a small scale would be acceptable especially if it catered for the groups indicated in Q10.”

“If an additional house(s) could be built in a large back garden and wasn't detrimental to the surrounding neighbourhood - that should be allowed.”

“Agree with building in gardens if they are big enough.”

Comments about ‘sustainable development/improved local services’

“I/we would like to attract people to live in Alconbury and then to stay in Alconbury. We need to make available, appropriate 'next' housing and build accordingly to satisfy need. Infrastructure and services will then also need to be looked at, at the same time (in advance of decisions). Some awful planning applications have been passed, which have split a cohesive environment (look at the Acre). This needs to stop, as it affects other homes, is not supportable and very insular in nature.”

“Housing across the spectrum must be provided to meet demands of local & regional population. Any development should include developer investment in existing local community facilities.”

“So as not to overstretch infrastructure and provision of basic facilities eg school, surgery, pharmacy.”

“Only up to a point where it affects things like doctors, schools etc more housing needs the infrastructure too.”

Comments about ‘Alconbury Weald’

“If more housing is to be built local services must increase to handle it. Since Alconbury Weald has started growing the village doctors seems to have gone down massively as they are advised to use it. Waiting times are terrible and it feels capacity hasn’t increased to meet the extra demand and therefore the existing villages are the ones suffering.”

“There are lots of opportunities and space for businesses at Alconbury Weald. It would be unnecessary to develop Alconbury when there is already space available.”

“The village does not need to increase in size especially with so many unsold houses in Alconbury Weald. Neither the doctors nor the school/pre-school have the capacity.”

“A14 upgrade and building on Alconbury Weald has had a disastrous affect on our property and lives. HGVs on the B1043 constantly shake the house. The fencing has now changed the direction of the noise. For some reason CCC has re-marked the B1043 with double white lines so now the HGVs travelling south hit the 5 drains up to the roundabout. The noise and tremors and sometimes unbearable.”

Comments about ‘flooding’

“I do not believe there is a way of protecting house from the full force of the brook in flood (very few anyway). Money should be spent on helping affected households recover more quickly ie reserves for skips and manpower to help clear ruined carpets/furniture etc.”

“I agree with small residential developments as long as it does not effect the possibility of increase to flooding. Large scale development however could impact this and ruin the village feel.”

“Development on flood plain should not be allowed as this pushes problems further along water courses.”

Comments about ‘Crown Gardens’

“If the village increases in size I don't expect that we would get much say. Crown Gardens is a prime example. Should have been turned into a nursing home/sheltered housing for the elderly.”

“Crown Gardens - wrong location for this facility, many residents appear unsuited to village life. Would like to see it closed for short term problem residents and rented out to long term tenants. Villagers should not have to put up with the issues it currently generates re noise, drugs and alcohol, personal abuse. Not a dumping ground for housing problems.”

Comments about ‘parking’

“I do not want to see any more houses in the village. The school is full, parking and cars are a problem as it is. People can't walk from parts of the village to go to school now so make it any bigger and the parking will get worse. An accident waiting to happen.”

“Parking is becoming a bit of a problem. Many new houses park on road, those without driveways park on road. Speed limit needs lowering to ensure safety of pedestrians.”

“The only problem with further dwellings come cars. Manor Lane has become very congested at times with cars.”

Comments about ‘retirement homes’

“No more retirement homes.”

“Retirement homes could free up properties for those residents who do not want to leave the village and in so doing free up housing. Managing larger properties is a challenge but allowing residents to stay in their communities.”

“Bungalows for older residents.”

‘Miscellaneous’ Comments

“We need to encourage young families into the village and the homes need to be affordable.”

“It's important to have a well-balanced community with different ages and social backgrounds.”

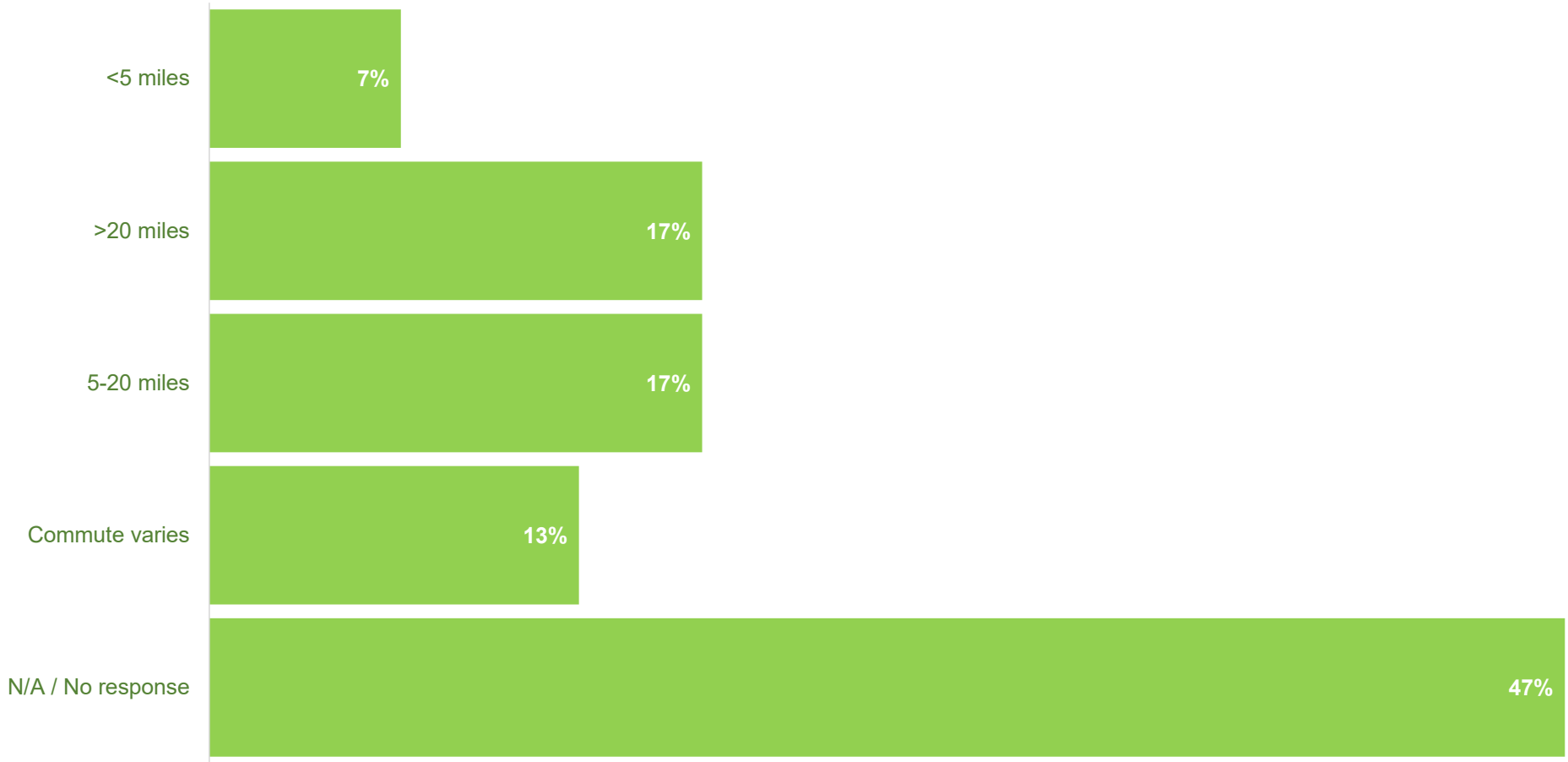
“Every home should be designed with accessibility in mind and catered for.”

“Few options for people to downsize and stay in the village.”

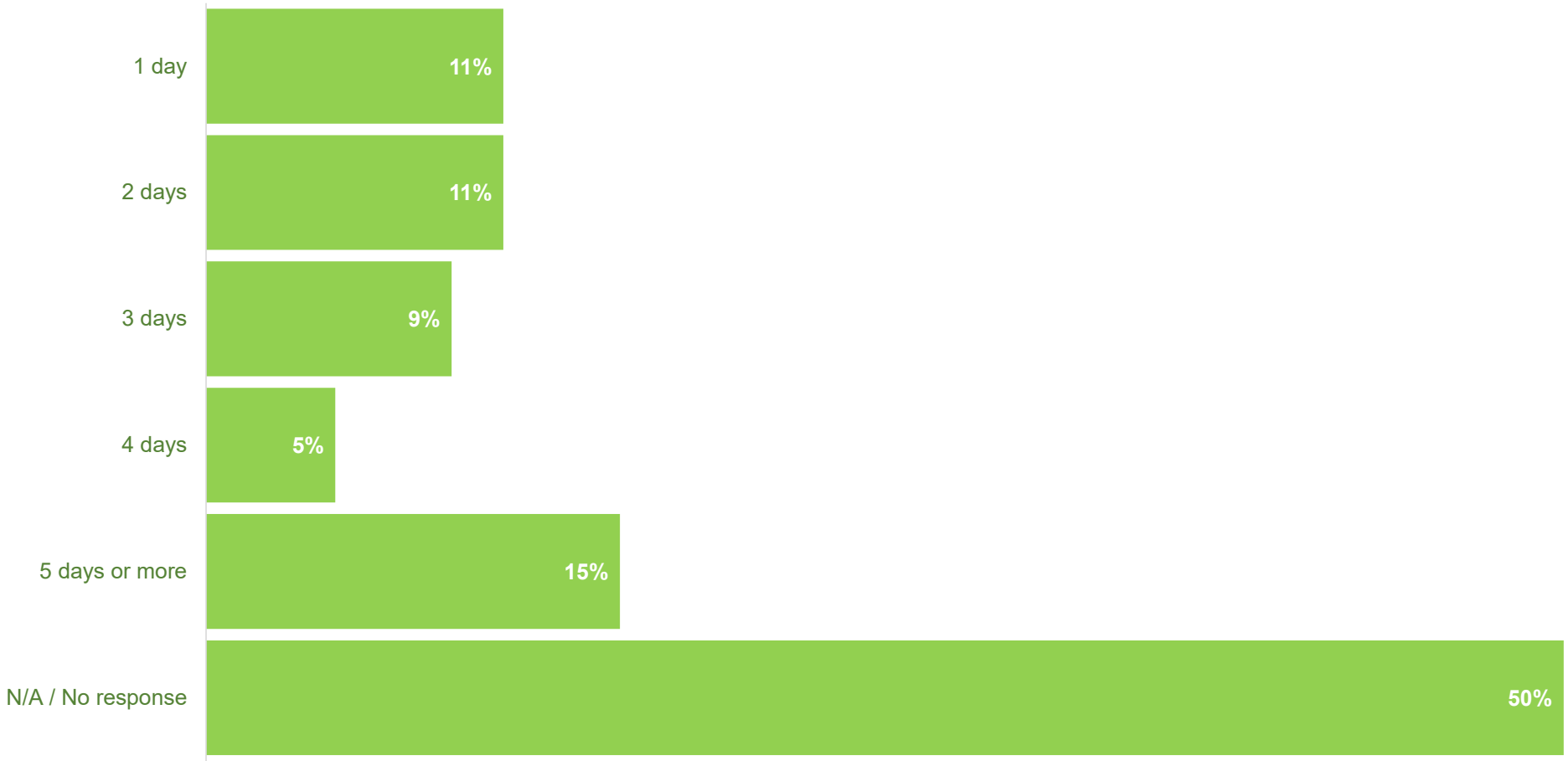
“Alconbury is a wonderful village and so are the people. Very friendly. It has everything, great doctors surgery, shop, school, church and pub.”

Business

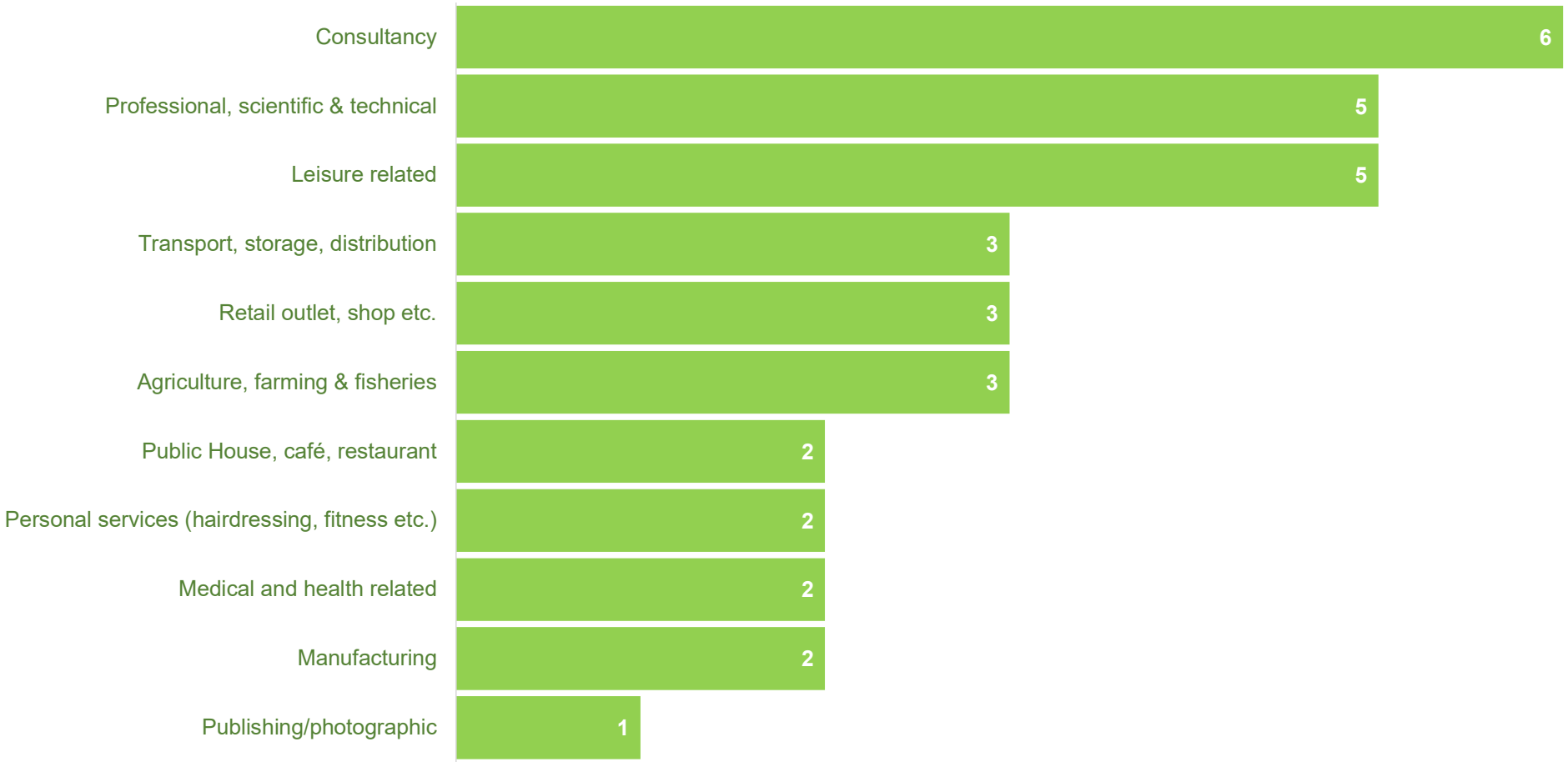
Q12: If members of your family work outside the Parish, how far do they commute?

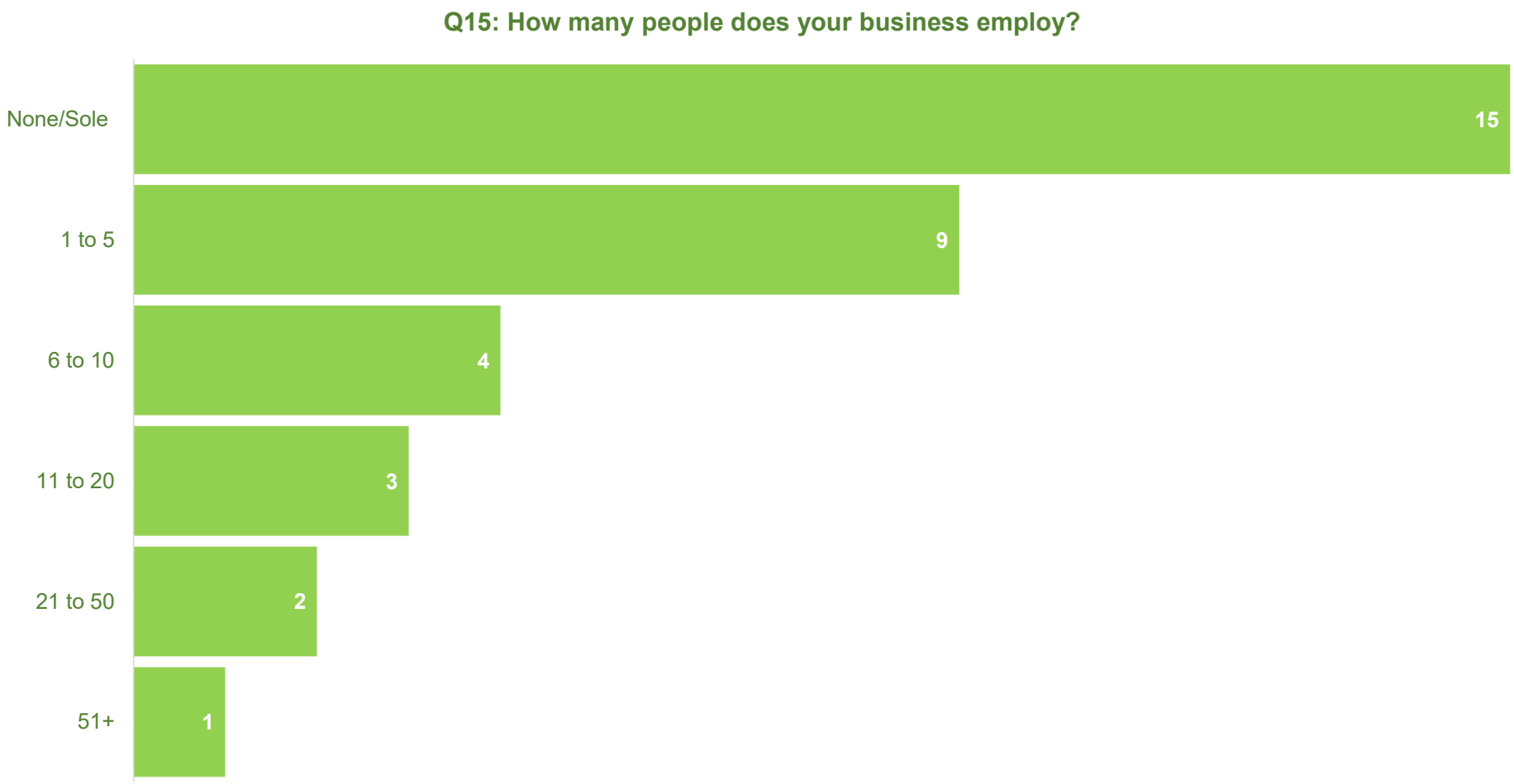


Q13: How many days might members of your family be away from the parish?

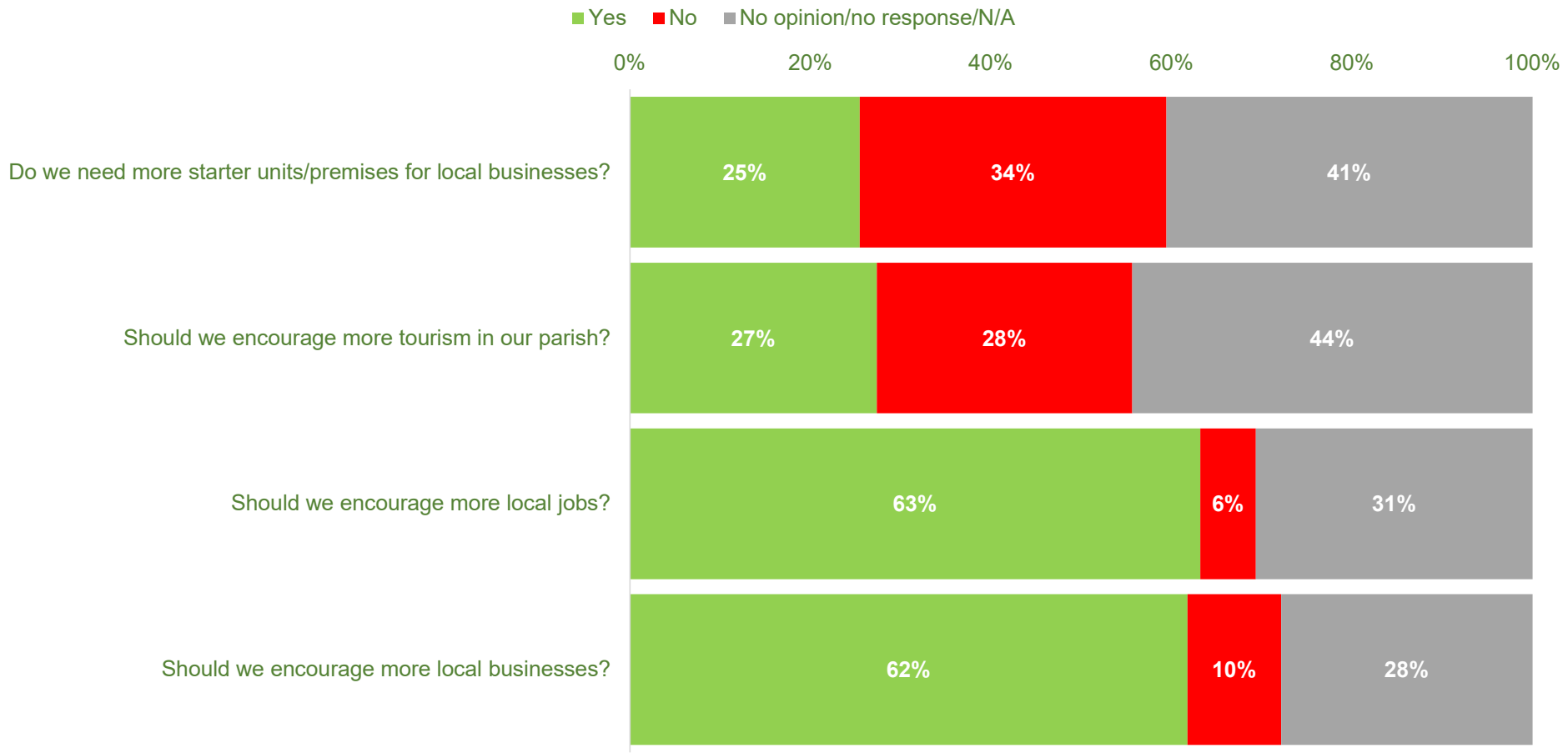


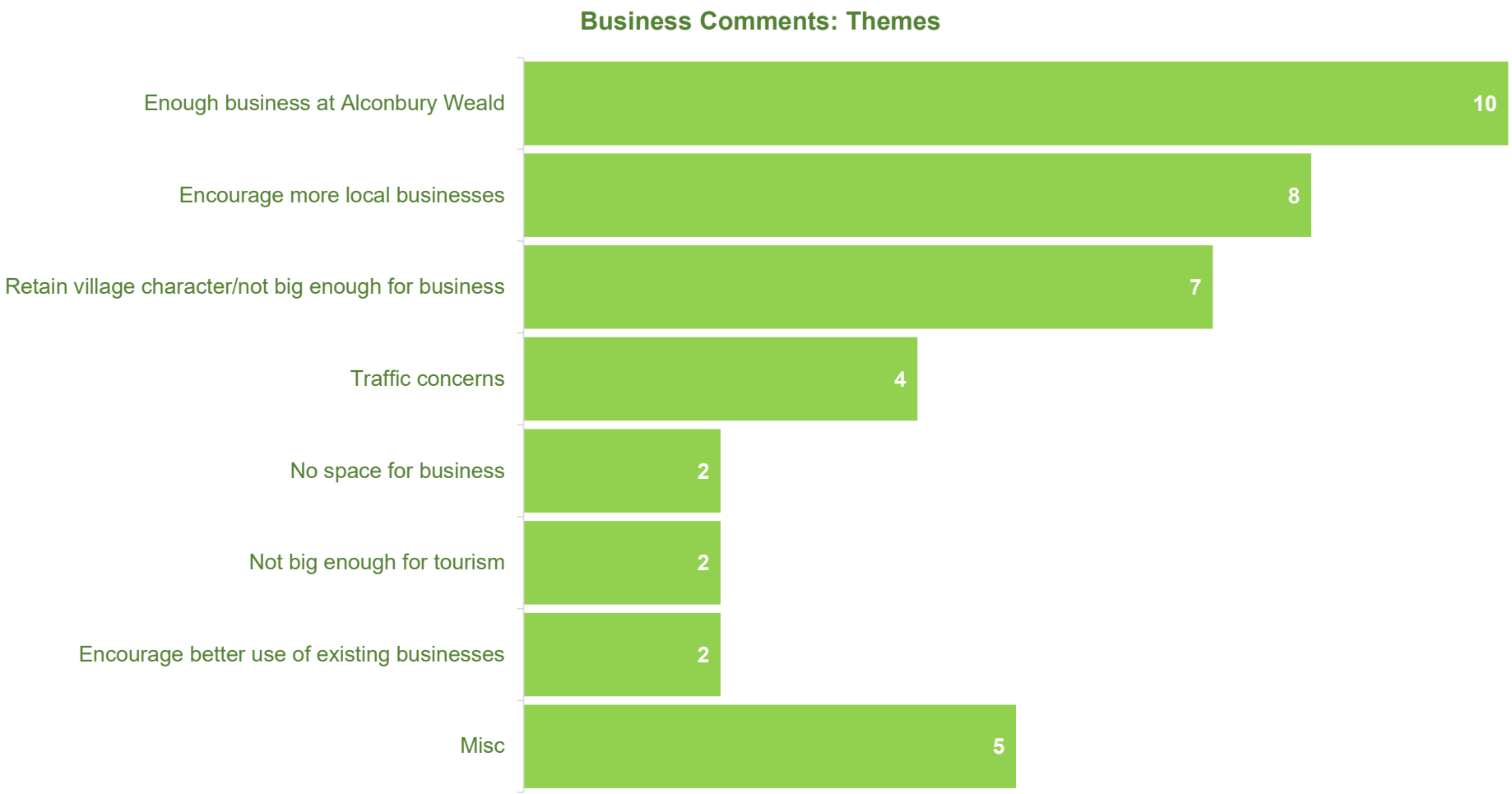
Q14: If you own a business, which best describes it?




Q15: How many people does your business employ?
None/Sole
15
1 to 5
9
6 to 10
4
11 to 20
3
21 to 50
2
51+
1

Q16-19: Opinions on business expansion




Business Comments: Themes
Enough business at Alconbury Weald
10
Encourage more local businesses
8
Retain village character/not big enough for business
7
Traffic concerns
4
No space for business
2
Not big enough for tourism
2
Encourage better use of existing businesses
2
Misc
5

Comments about ‘enough business at Alconbury Weald’

“I don't believe that we need more; we have Alconbury Weald close by with more land to expand any such schemes.”

“Alconbury Weald covers all of these - not necessary within the village.”

“There isn't a need for businesses within the parish when we are so close to Alconbury Weald where appropriate infrastructure already exist.”

Comments about ‘encouraging more local businesses’

“Yes to businesses like independent shops e.g. cafe, craft shop, farm shop.”

“Encourage local business to grow and improve - such as the shop did. Allow catering groups better access (food trucks etc., like we've had) but not push them out as 'not posh enough', which happened before.”

“Support local business first over travelling ones. Hall hire, equipment use, advertising.”

Comments about ‘retaining village character’

“New businesses would require infrastructure changes. This would adversely affect the character of the village.”

“Alconbury is a rural village and is not geared up to support businesses /industries - There are better places locally e.g. Alconbury Weald/Huntingdon.”

“No wish to convert 'village' to 'small town' status particularly with dynamic development of neighbour Alconbury Weald.”

Comments about ‘traffic concerns’

“Not if it means more traffic through the village. We have plenty of business development next door on the Weald. We do not need more concrete/hard surfaces replacing permeable areas. We certainly do not need any businesses that involve deliveries/collection by HGVs.”

“We are residential - there are enough large lorries about breaking up our roads as it is.”

“Smaller business - no more HGV's.”

Other Comments

“The Manor Pub is an excellent venue and people should be encouraged to use it from within and without the parish. The same is true of the Memorial Hall and the social club. Both offer good activities for local residents and those from outside the village.”

“Where? (in response to whether we need added businesses/jobs)”

“The locals should use existing businesses more.”

“No big units in or around the village.”

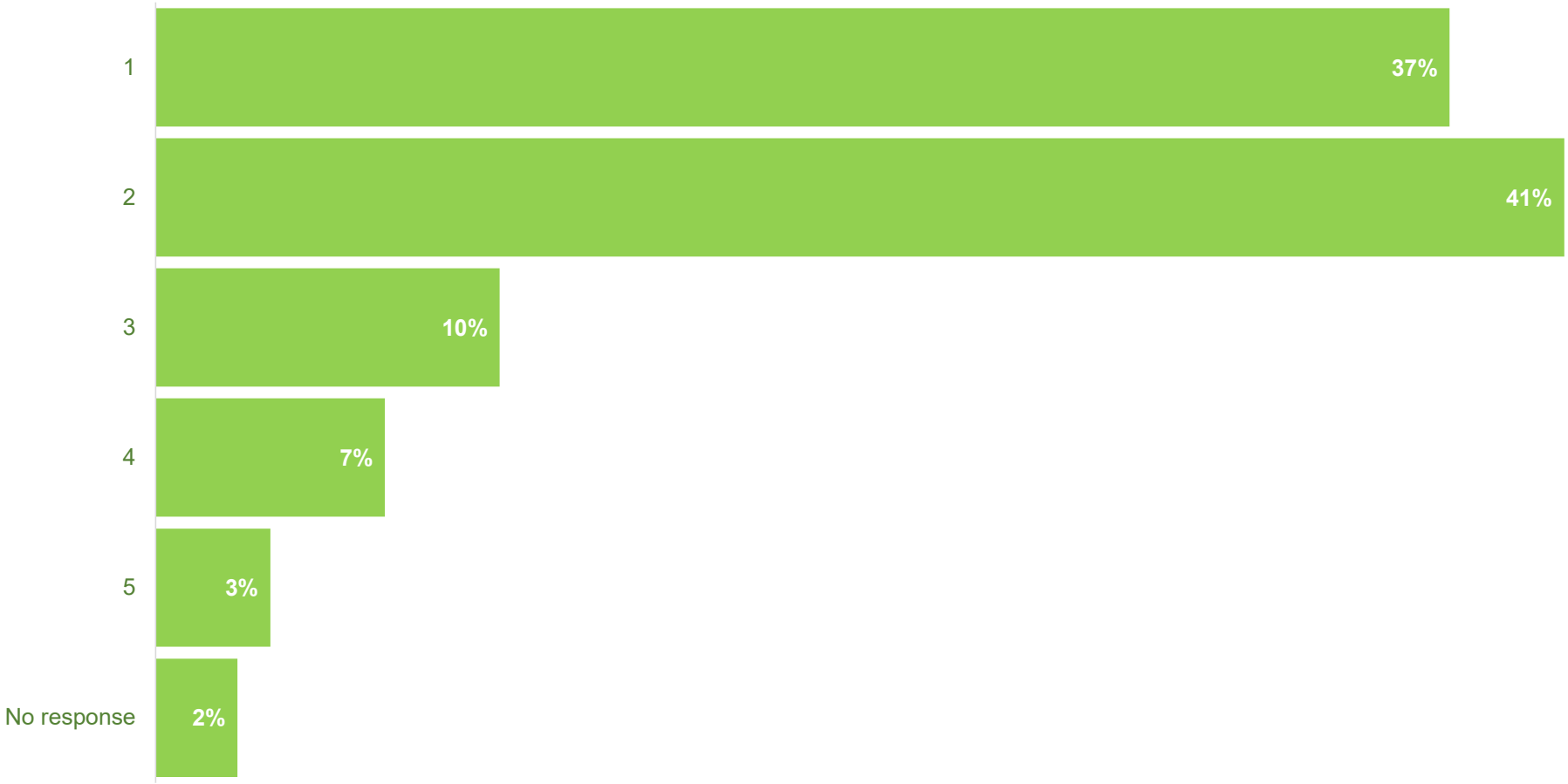
“I cannot see that Alconbury is large enough to encourage tourism.”

“It's all about balance and what the community can cope with.”

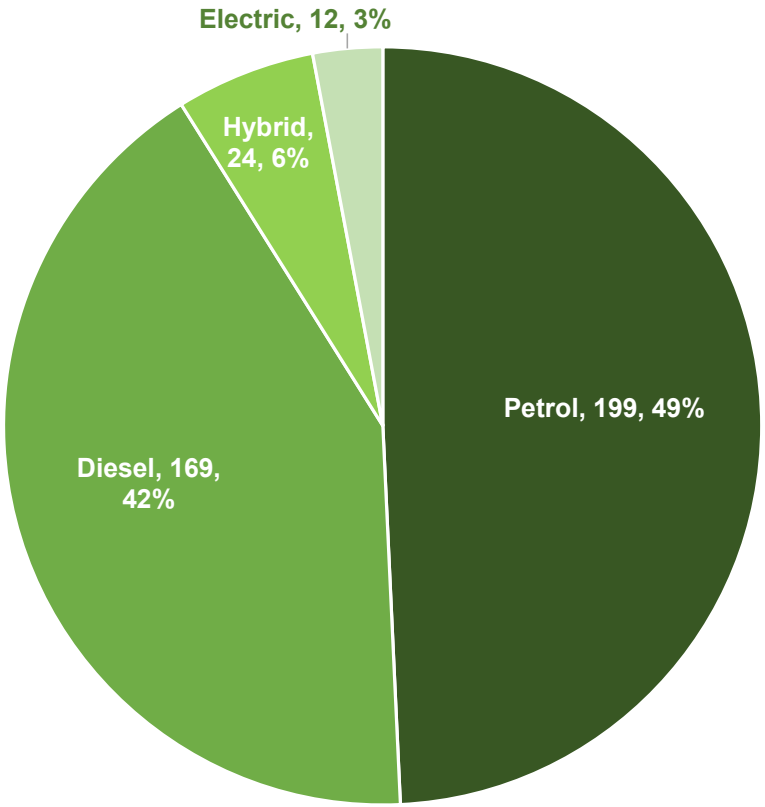
“There is no parking facility for tourism.”

Vehicles

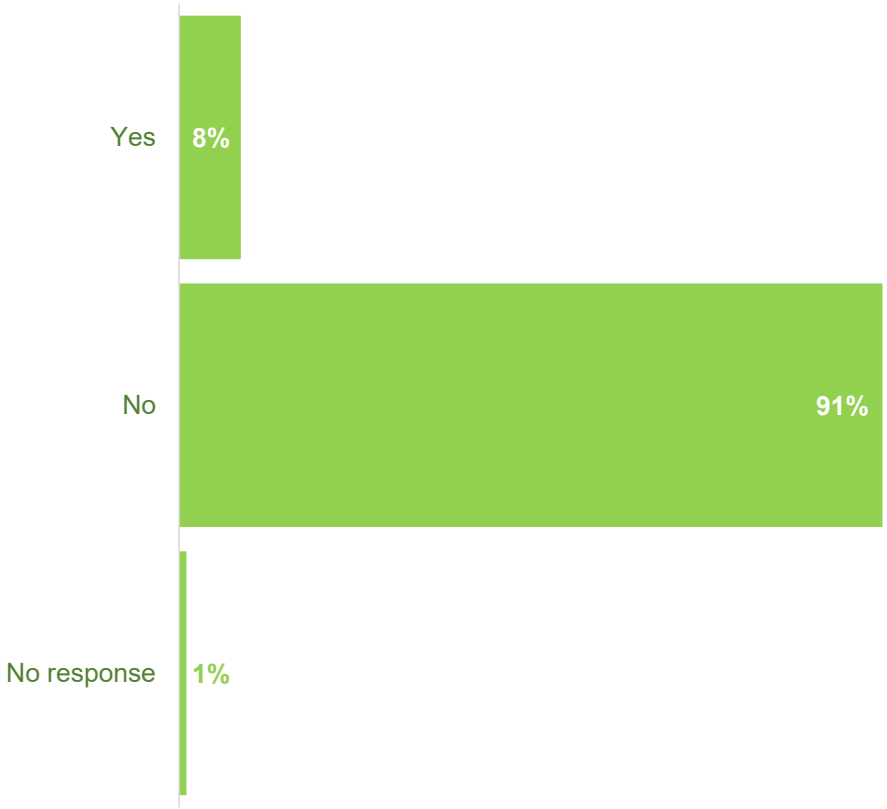
Q20: How many vehicles do you have in your household?



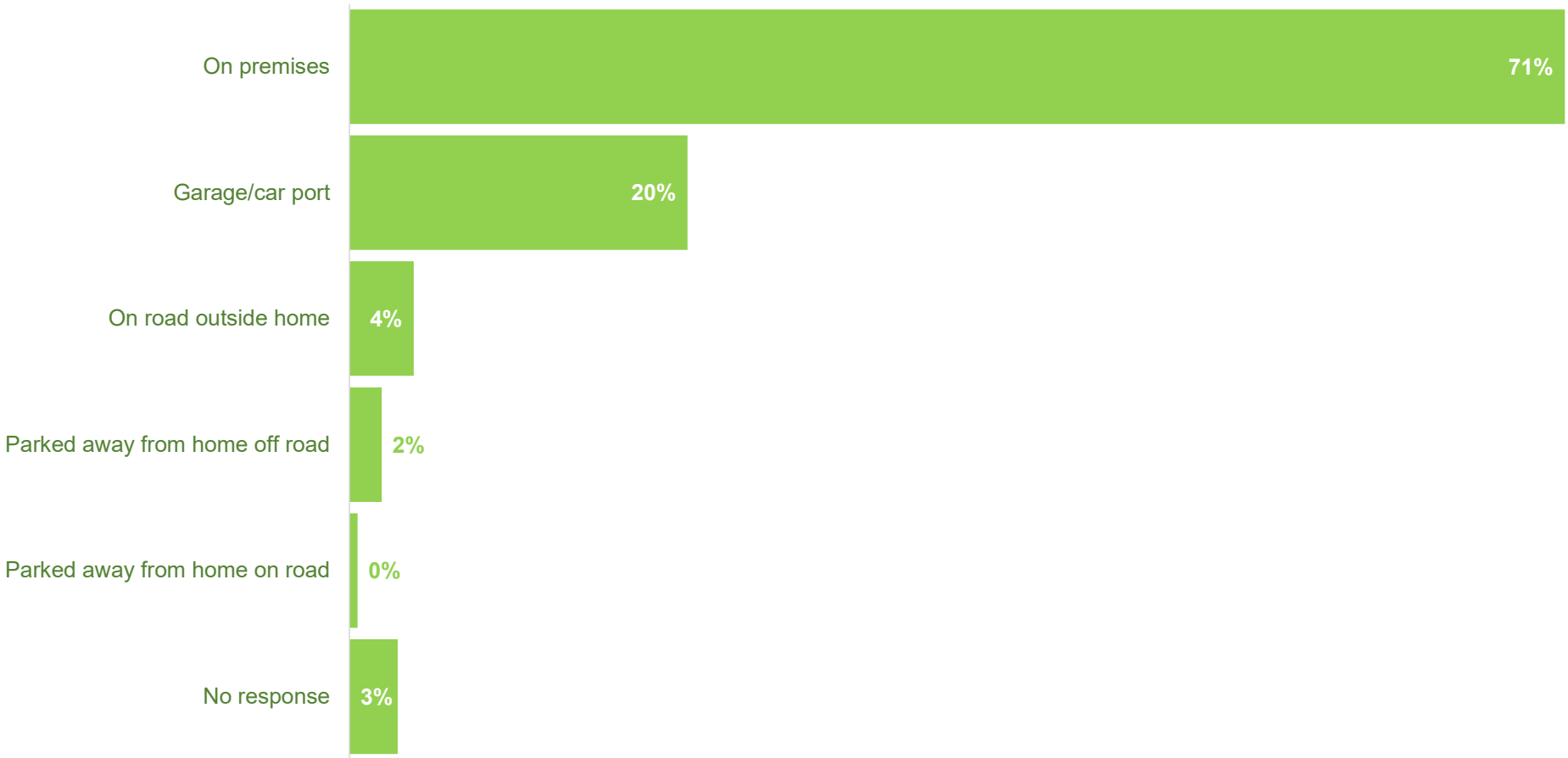
Q21: What number of each type of vehicle do you have?

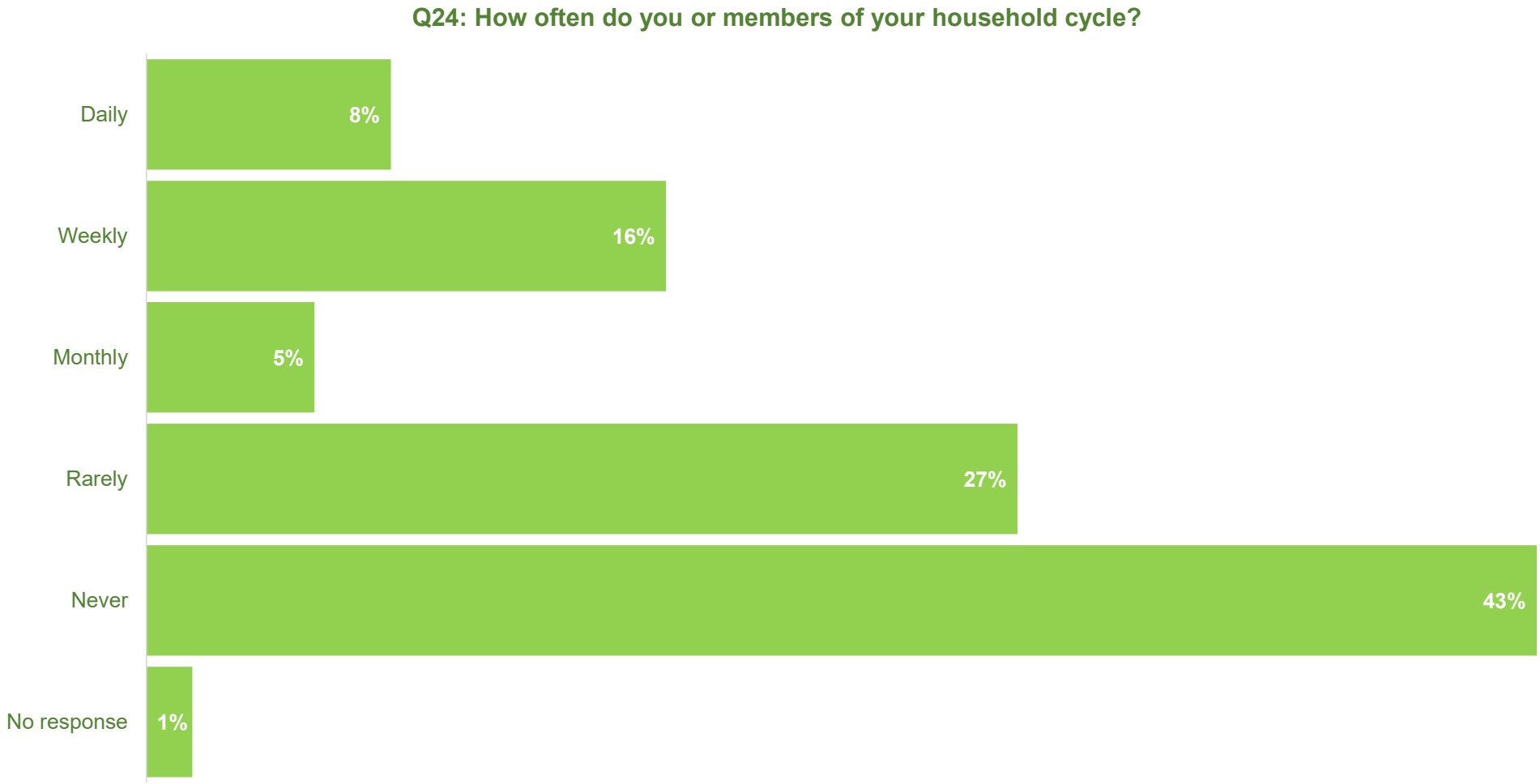


Q22: Do you have an electric car charging point?

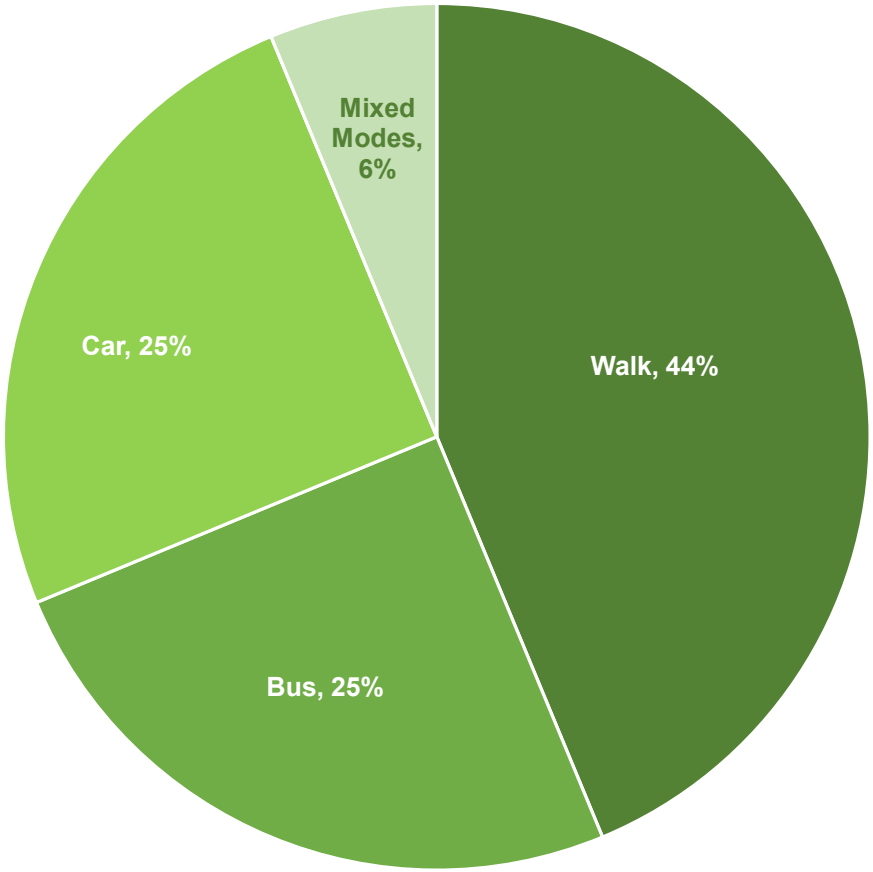


Q23: Where are your vehicles kept?



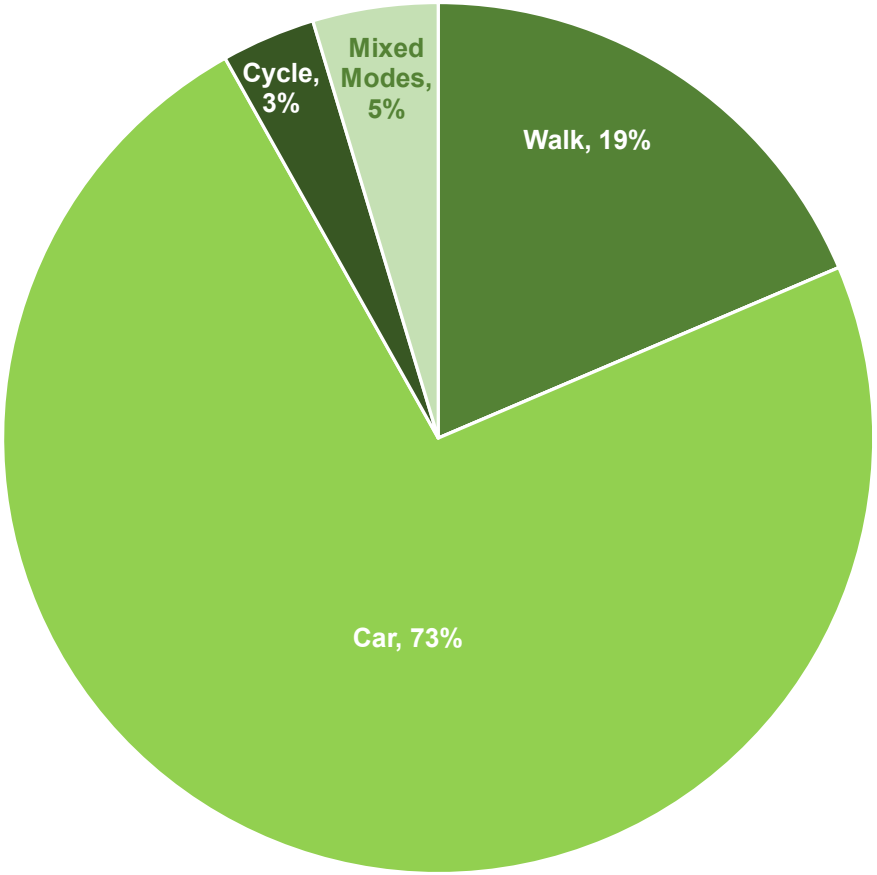

Q24: How often do you or members of your household cycle?
Daily
8%
Weekly
16%
Monthly
5%
Rarely
27%
Never
43%
No response
1%

Q25: How do any dependents get to school?



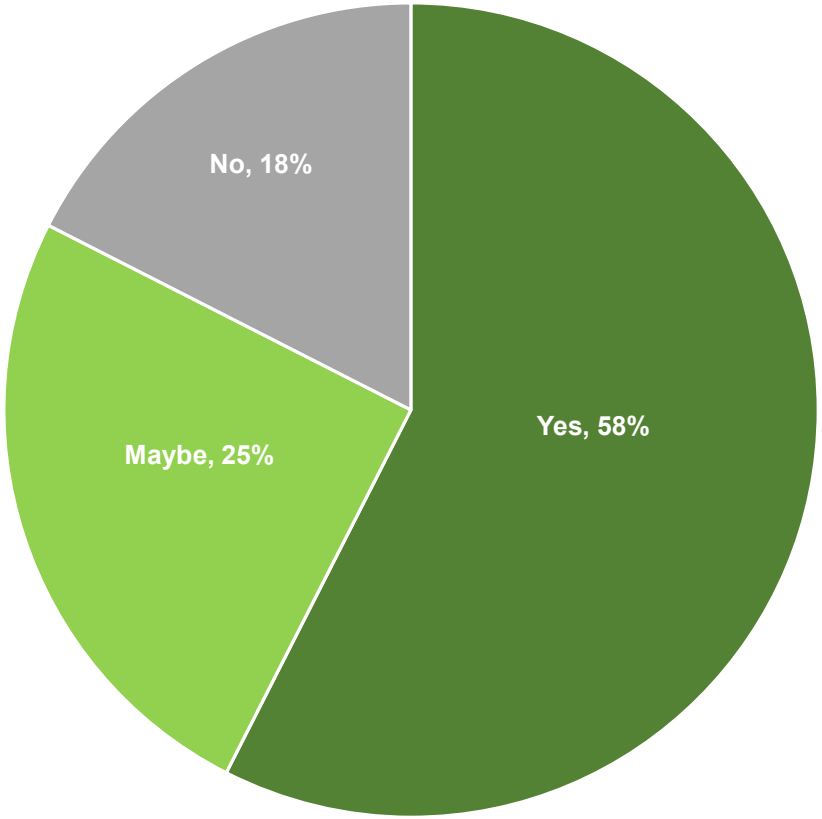
32 respondents provided an answer to this question other than N/A

Q26: How do any dependents get to leisure activities?



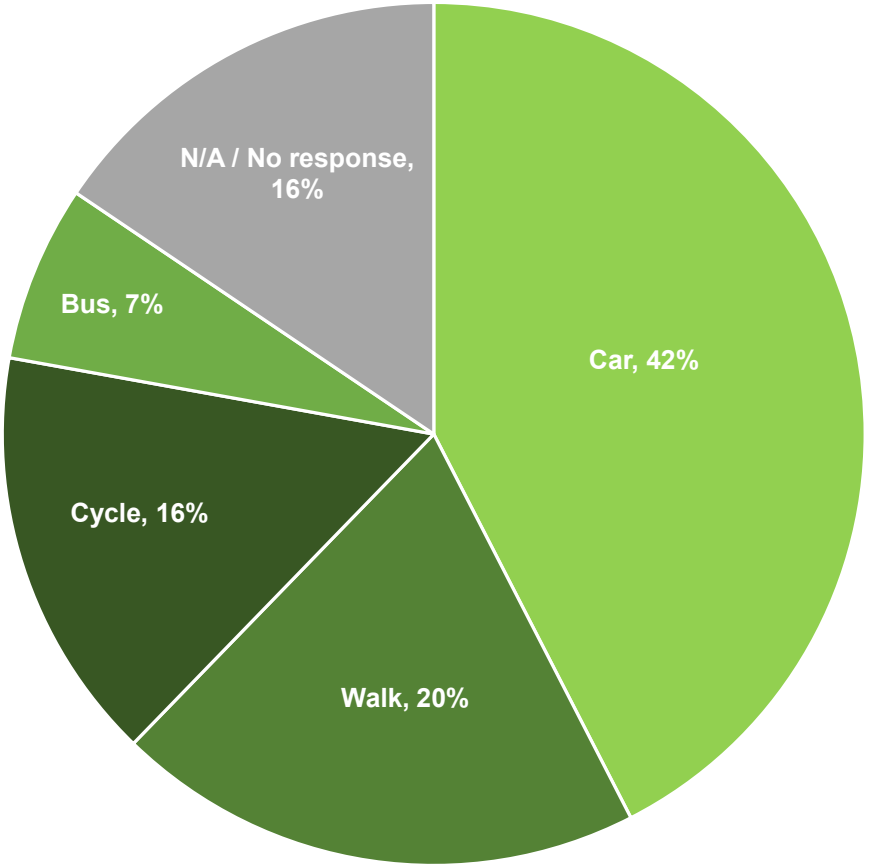
86 respondents provided an answer to this question other than N/A

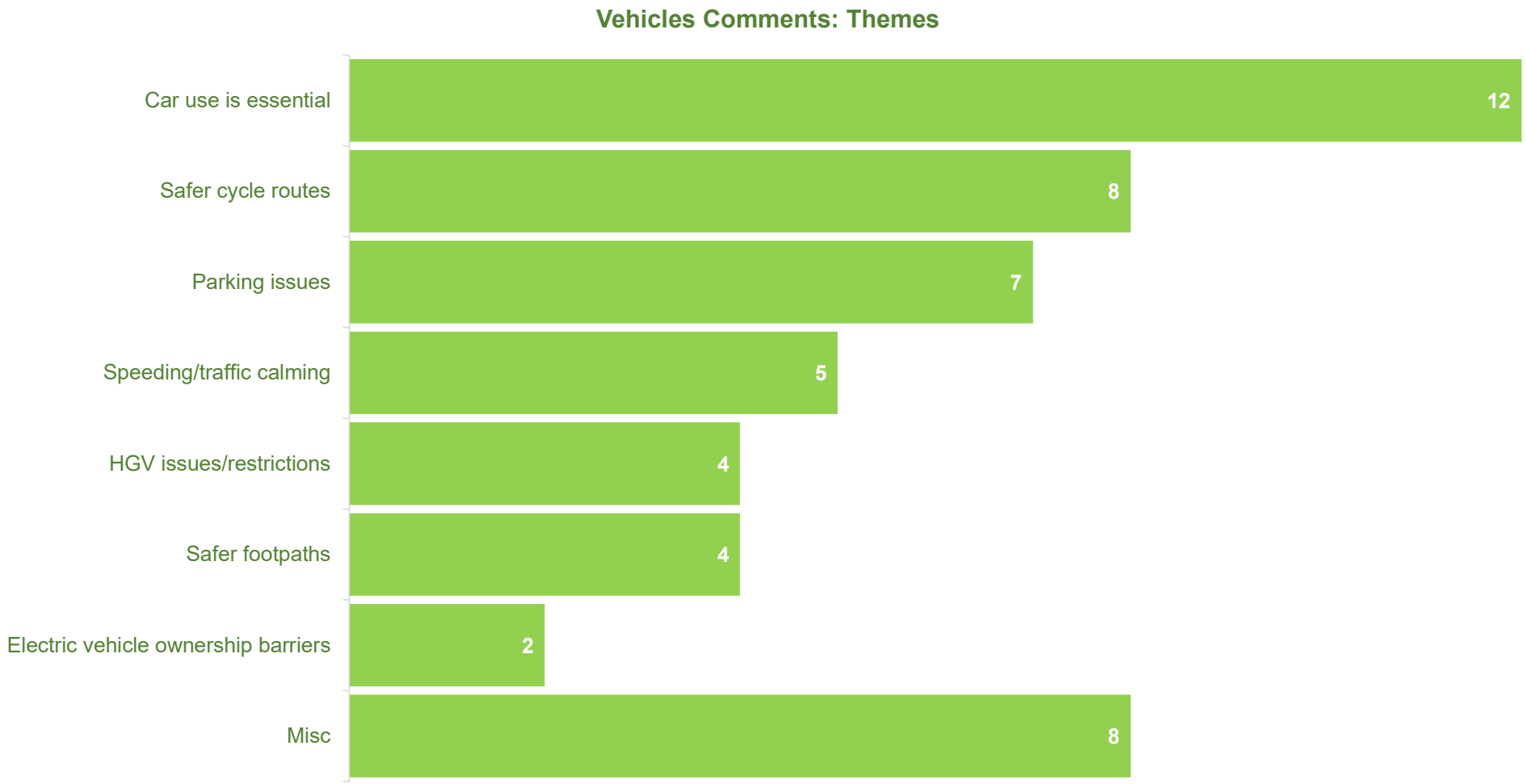
Q27: Would you encourage them to cycle if tracks were safer?



120 respondents provided an answer to this question other than N/A

Q28: How would YOU prefer to travel to leisure activities?




Vehicles Comments: Themes
Car use is essential
12
Safer cycle routes
8
Parking issues
7
Speeding/traffic calming
5
HGV issues/restrictions
4
Safer footpaths
4
Electric vehicle ownership barriers
2
Misc
8

Comments about ‘car use being essential’

“Most leisure activities are too far away to walk or cycle. The same for jobs so driving/car ownership is essential.”

“There are no swimming pool, tennis etc. in village so we need a car to get everywhere.”

“Use car as wife has serious health problems.”

“Leisure centres are too far away or no bus route.”

Comments about ‘safer cycle routes’

“I tried cycling but found it dangerous due to lack of cycle paths.”

“Very dangerous on roads around the village. If safe routes, would definitely cycle more.”

“Need safe path from Great North Road to new cycle path off A1 roundabout/animal lab…Need more cycleways to be created away from roads.”

“Cycle lanes being linked up would be nice.”

Comments about 'parking issues'

"Parking in the village around school times needs addressing. The way parents park makes it unsafe for those that walk or cycle to school."

"Too much congestion outside shop. Accident waiting to happen with inappropriate parking in High Street, Chapel Street. Where is Disabled Parking for shop?"

"Parking - vehicles are frequently using paths for parking, some obstructing the footpath so pedestrians have to walk on the road. Vehicles (particularly vans) are often parked on double yellow lines outside 2B Rusts Lane and obstructing the footpath."

Comments about 'speeding/traffic calming'

"There are too many instances of speeding, mostly on the Great North Road. The local speedwatch group should be supported by the PC by asking the police to actually prosecute the worst offenders. Someone WILL be seriously hurt or worse."

"Action needs to be taken to…address speeding along the Great North Road between Alconbury Weston and Alconbury. Average speed cameras etc. only a matter of time before a person is hit - child/adult etc. Animals are already killed."

"Speed limit changes near the school (from shop to Hall, and in residential areas) could be beneficial."

Other Comments

“Am reluctant to 'go electric' in the absence of local battery charging provision.”

“Action needs to be taken to enforce the HGV restrictions in the village.”

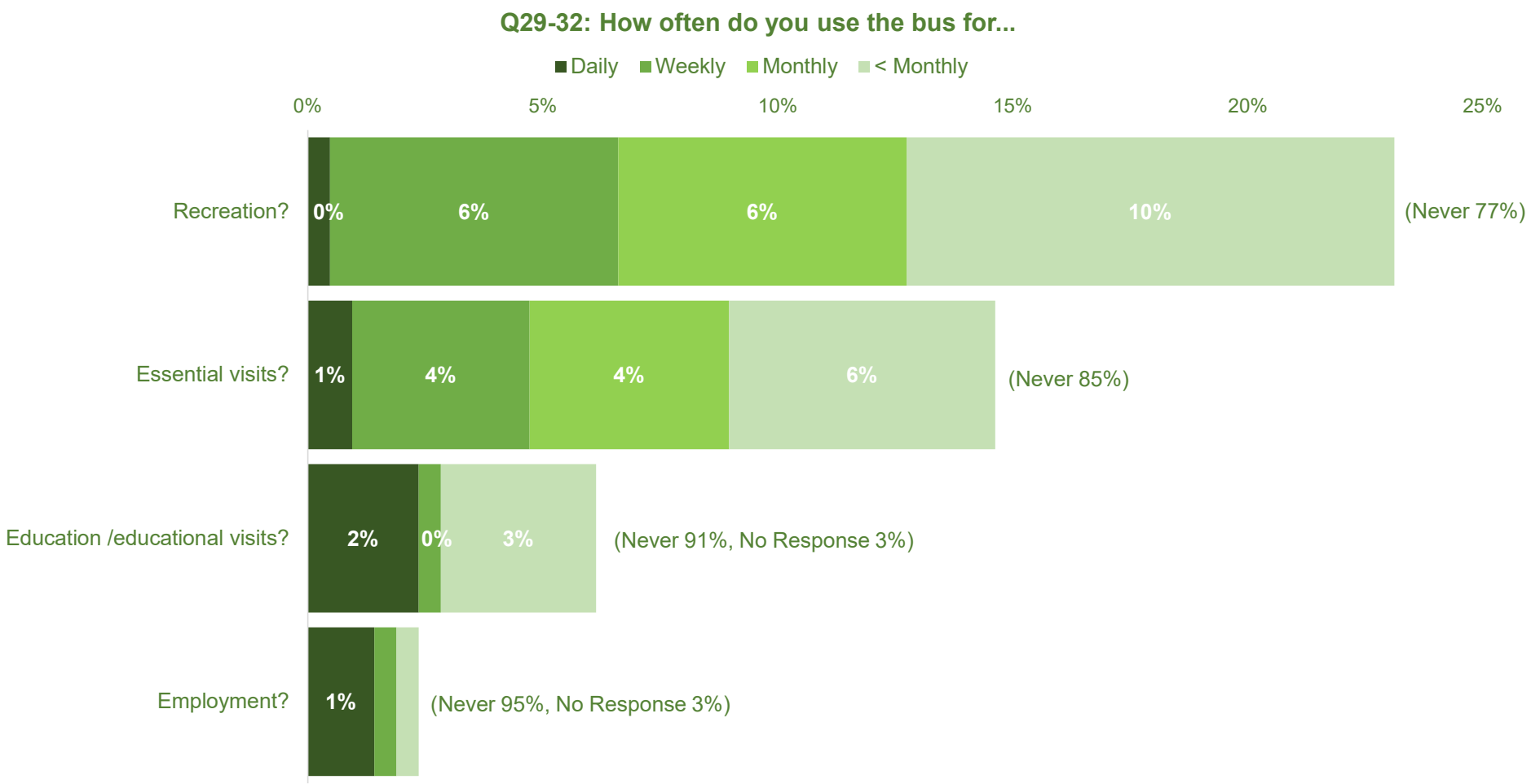
“Noise levels from A1 have increased significantly. Can the parish council ask the highways agency/CCC to look into this in order to somehow decrease the noise affecting the villagers?”

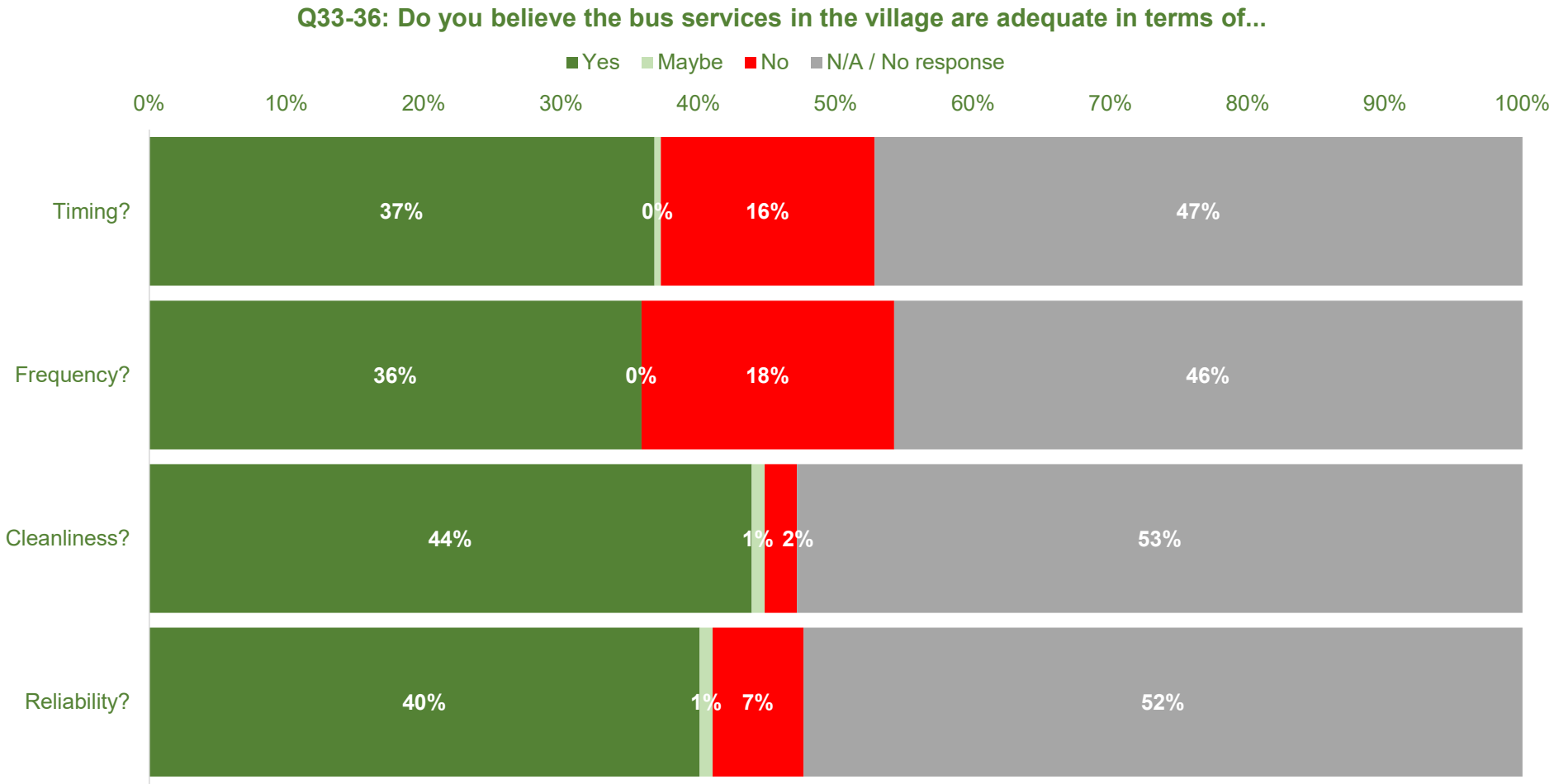
“Why does the cycle path beside the A1 finish on a busy roundabout with no footpath provision?”

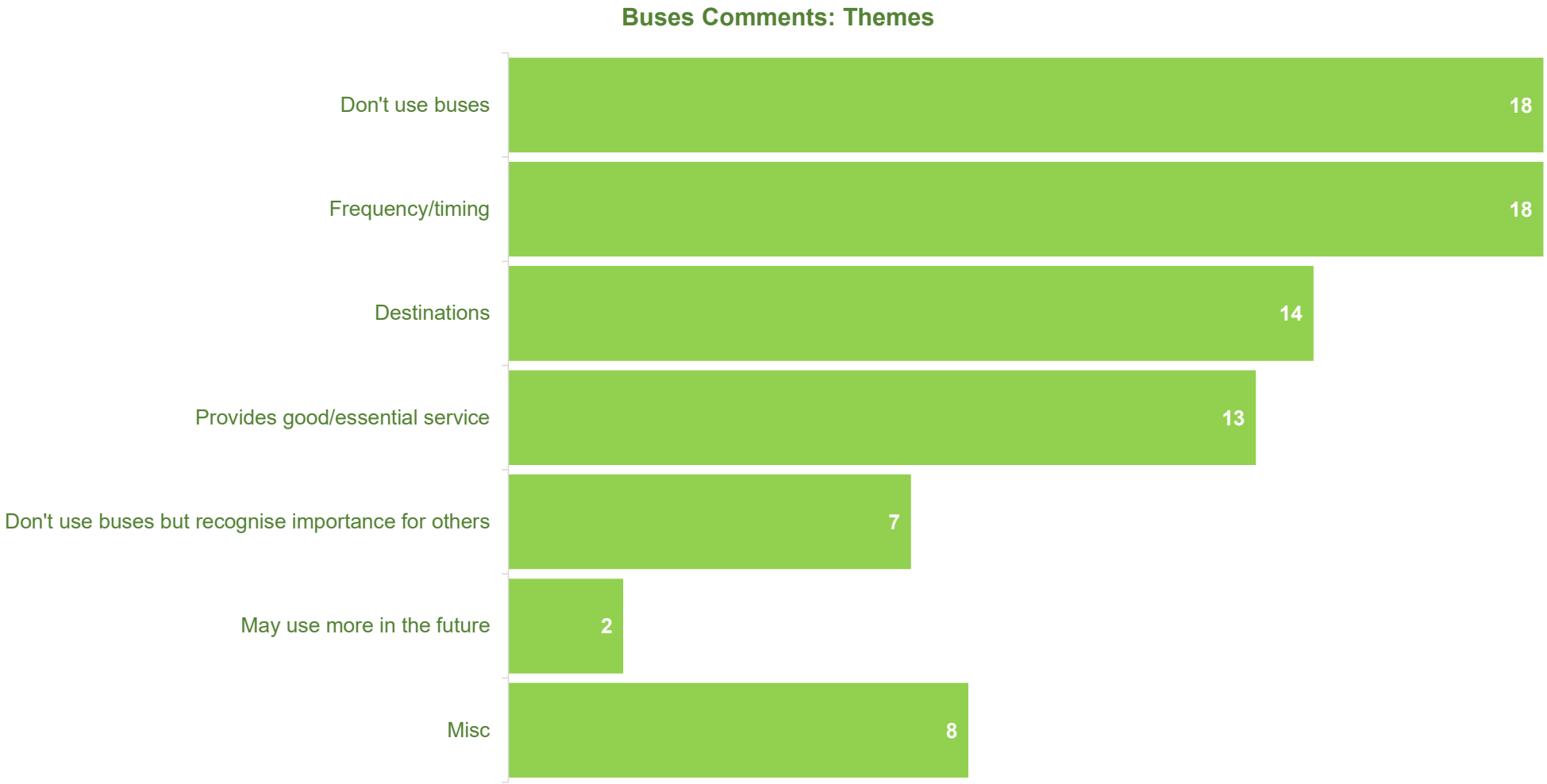
“Need footpaths to be maintained (currently totally ignored and overgrown).”

“HGV vehicles - we still have heavy vehicles using the bridge in Alconbury. We also still suffer from these lorries doing 3 point turns on both sides of the bridge and damaging the roads and curbs.”

Buses


Q29-32: How often do you use the bus for...
Daily
Weekly
Monthly
< Monthly
0%
5%
10%
15%
20%
25%
Recreation?
0%
6%
6%
10%
(Never 77%)
Essential visits?
1%
4%
4%
6%
(Never 85%)
Education /educational visits?
2%
0%
3%
(Never 91%, No Response 3%)
Employment?
1%
(Never 95%, No Response 3%)


Q33-36: Do you believe the bus services in the village are adequate in terms of...
Yes
Maybe
No
N/A / No response
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Timing?
37%
0%
16%
47%
Frequency?
36%
0%
18%
46%
Cleanliness?
44%
1%
2%
53%
Reliability?
40%
1%
7%
52%


Buses Comments: Themes
Don't use buses
18
Frequency/timing
18
Destinations
14
Provides good/essential service
13
Don't use buses but recognise importance for others
7
May use more in the future
2
Misc
8

Comments about ‘don’t use buses’

“In 30 years living in Alconbury I have never used the bus!”

“Not a habitual user whilst still mobile and able to drive.”

“Never use bus as no stops near our home.”

“Other than the school bus to Sawtry High School, we have never taken the public bus.”

Comments about ‘frequency/timing’

“Have to walk to Weald to get P'boro bus. Buses to village do not run late enough especially at weekends. New Ting service was great but hard to book these days.”

“Need to start in village much earlier, finish much later, be more frequent and better value. To be of use need to offer cheaper/quicker option locally than driving and parking or become no benefit to those who can drive.”

“We would use the bus if it was more frequent ie every 15 minutes, and had more direct routes to Huntingdon, Cambridge and Peterborough.”

Comments about ‘destinations’

“The bus coming into village is a good service, although only going to Huntingdon is not adequate. The bus can go onto the Weald & Oxmoor but cannot come into Alconbury & Weston. You have to walk up to Weald if you want to go to Peterborough or to go onto Cambridge.”

“More bus services that allow one to travel further than to Huntingdon required.”

“There are no buses to anywhere except Huntingdon. The bus service to Peterborough has been withdrawn - we did use that one.”

“Would like direct service to Peterborough and Cambridge.”

Comments about ‘providing a good/essential service’

“Need to keep bus services through village to meet needs of elderly.”

“I recently used the AW1 bus and it was on time and immaculately clean.”

“Wouldn't want to lose the bus service. Increases independence.”

“The Bus service from Dews are doing a fantastic job and are reasonably priced.”

Other Comments

“The speed is a real issue -- weight of buses coming through at below 30mph shakes and vibrates our property PLUS our neighbours’ behind. Dews are unconcerned, their drivers comply with the speed limits - it should be reduced to 20mph around the village.”

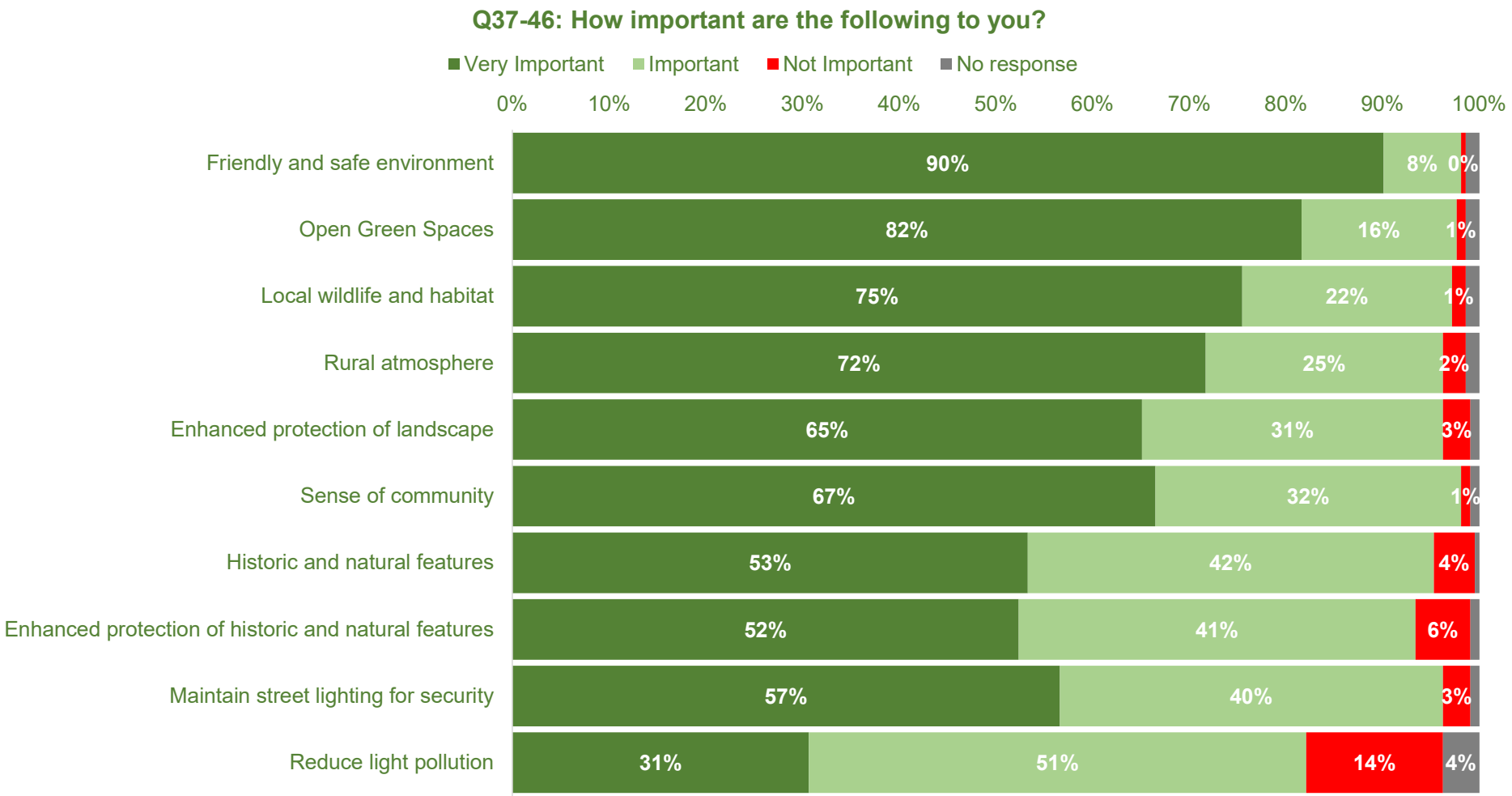
“Bus journeys require a large level of pre-planning and makes journeys more difficult, complicated, especially when travelling with someone who is disabled. Difficult options for different journeys makes the whole thing too complicated.”

“We should use the bus or lose it. I have never seen more than a couple of people on it! A service for morning and evening work commuters.”

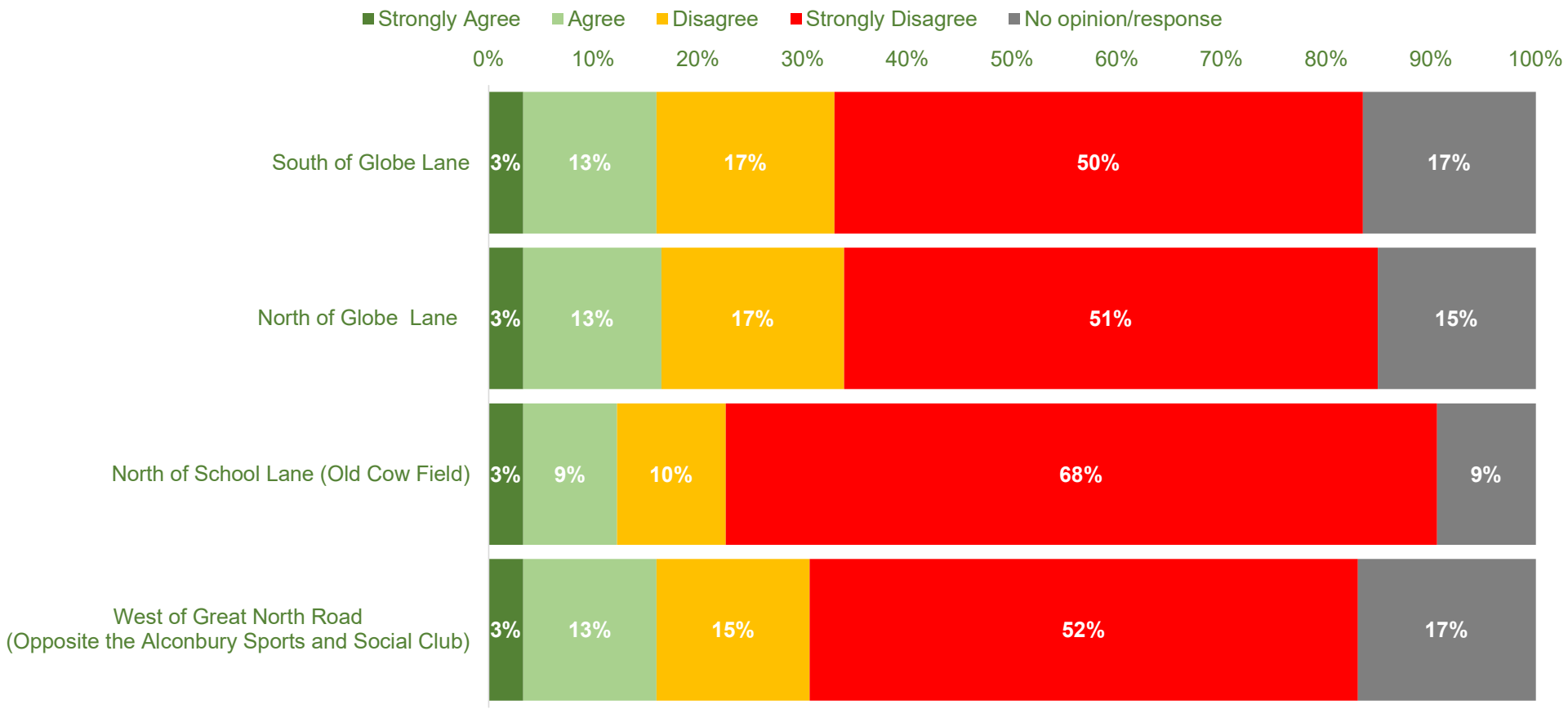
“I am fortunate to be able to drive but in years to come a reliable frequent bus service may be my only way to go out to do my shopping etc.”

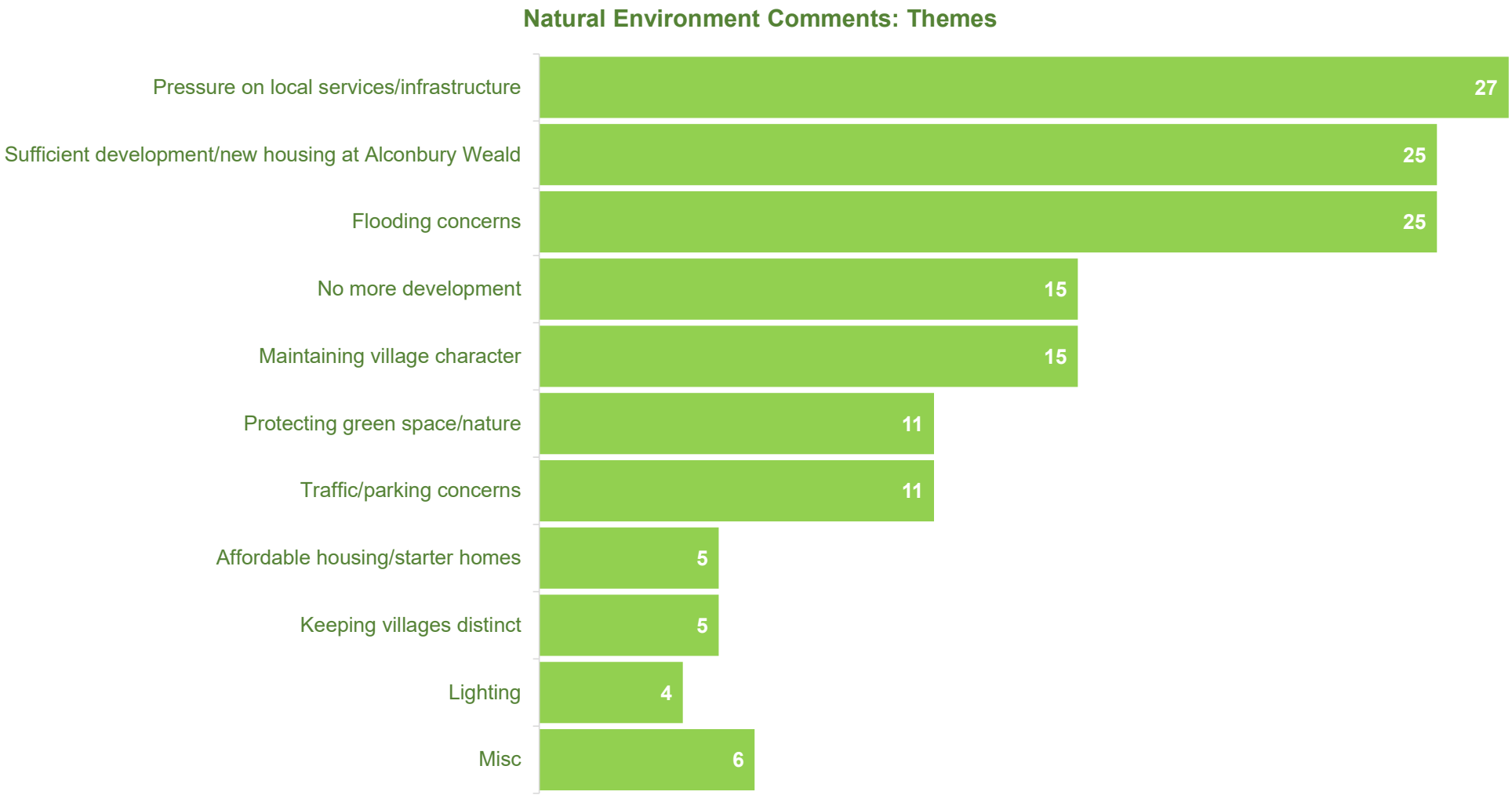
“Now that there is a regular bus, we would consider using the service on a regular basis.”

Natural Environment


Q37-46: How important are the following to you?
Very Important
Important
Not Important
No response
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Friendly and safe environment
90%
8%
0%
Open Green Spaces
82%
16%
1%
Local wildlife and habitat
75%
22%
1%
Rural atmosphere
72%
25%
2%
Enhanced protection of landscape
65%
31%
3%
Sense of community
67%
32%
1%
Historic and natural features
53%
42%
4%
Enhanced protection of historic and natural features
52%
41%
6%
Maintain street lighting for security
57%
40%
3%
Reduce light pollution
31%
51%
14%
4%

Q47-50: Do you agree we should we allow new housing estates to be built on fields around the village?




Natural Environment Comments: Themes
Pressure on local services/infrastructure
27
Sufficient development/new housing at Alconbury Weald
25
Flooding concerns
25
No more development
15
Maintaining village character
15
Protecting green space/nature
11
Traffic/parking concerns
11
Affordable housing/starter homes
5
Keeping villages distinct
5
Lighting
4
Misc
6

Comments about ‘pressure on local services/infrastructure’

“Our infrastructure in/out Alconbury can't take anymore traffic. You have to wait 2/3 weeks to see a doctor now as they are over stretched and the school is at capacity without any room to expand. Where exactly are these extra people going to go?!”

“New housing has to be supported by other infrastructure - retail, roads, transport, leisure. Just building housing isn't enough!”

“There aren’t enough services, i.e. surgery/schools, to support additional housing estates.”

“No development without infrastructure first.”

Comments about ‘sufficient development at Alconbury Weald’

“No new housing estates should be allowed. The Weald development more than covers any future needs.”

“I don’t see why extra houses in the village are needed with so many being built on Alconbury Weald. A village loses its appeal if it gets too big.”

“Personally I think the Alconburys have done enough housebuilding (Alconbury Weald). 20 years ago we moved to a VILLAGE not to end up living in a town!!! The councils cannot manage to maintain what these have. It will be worse with more houses/ roads etc.”

Comments about ‘flooding concerns’

“We do NOT need floods or more traffic! Any new estate development will destroy natural absorbent surfaces and increase water run-off into the brook.”

“I have not answered these questions as I am not aware how development on these fields could affect/worsen the very significant issue of flooding in Alconbury and Alconbury Weston. If that development would negatively impact the issue then I strongly disagree to all 4 sites being built on.”

“Flooding of the High Street, Memorial Hall and Surgery proves that any new housing development must not increase risk of flooding during heavy rainfall.”

Comments about ‘no more development’

“Alconbury village should not get any bigger. There is a big development at the Weald and it is getting bigger - the affordable housing needs to be in place there as well.”

“We do not believe that any large new housing estates should be built in or around Alconbury. The villages could not support them.”

“There are enough houses in Alconbury already. Keep growing in size and we will loose our identity.”

“The old Cow field should not be built on…The Globe lane is not adequate to support any housing development and again, Cock Brook would be overwhelmed.”

Comments about ‘maintaining village character’

“The type of estate is the important part. The estate should be limited to 20-30 houses to keep the eclectic nature of a village.”

“In my opinion the village has reached capacity and further development would be detrimental if the village feel is to be continued.”

“Any new housing must respect and be complementary to the character of Alconbury as a village. The landscape and visual impact is vital to be considered.”

“We feel that any of these developments would destroy the feel of our village and community.”

Comments about ‘protecting green space/nature’

“I believe new housing estates should only be built on brown land where possible. It is important we keep unspoilt green land for farming and nature.”

“Existing green spaces and agricultural land are part of the character of the village. Further building would add to the strain on existing infrastructure and on the problems with flooding.”

“Preserve the open field. Aim to repopulate the brook with ducks like we used to have. They brought much joy to adults and children.”

“There are plenty of brownfield areas to build on in Peterborough or Huntingdon or Cambridge. Put wildlife and rural life ahead of greedy development.”

Comments about ‘traffic/parking concerns’

“During school drop off Manor lane traffic is awful, Cars parked everywhere and fast cars whizzing down the lane. This would increase to a point it would be dangerous.”

“Before further housing is considered the council need to solve the problem of parking around the school. People dropping off children park with complete disregard to local residents and the Highway Code. Blocking off the area in front of the school only makes things worse.”

“Only agree to further village developments if they are car free.”

Comments about ‘affordable/starter homes’

“…no small starter homes seem to built except flats. It is all too expensive for 1st time buyers. Build small 1 bedroom houses.”

“Need good housing and flats for the young who stay in Alconbury.”

“…if more building goes ahead then more affordable bungalows are needed which would help free up other housing stock.”

Comments about ‘keeping villages distinct’

“…it is important for the two villages to maintain their individuality; I therefore strongly disagree with them gradually being linked by developments 4 & 2.”

“The 2 villages Alconbury and Alconbury Weston should retain their individual character and not be linked through housing development.”

“1, 2, 4 would lead to the eventual joining up with Alconbury Weston - the villages should be kept distinct.”

Other Comments

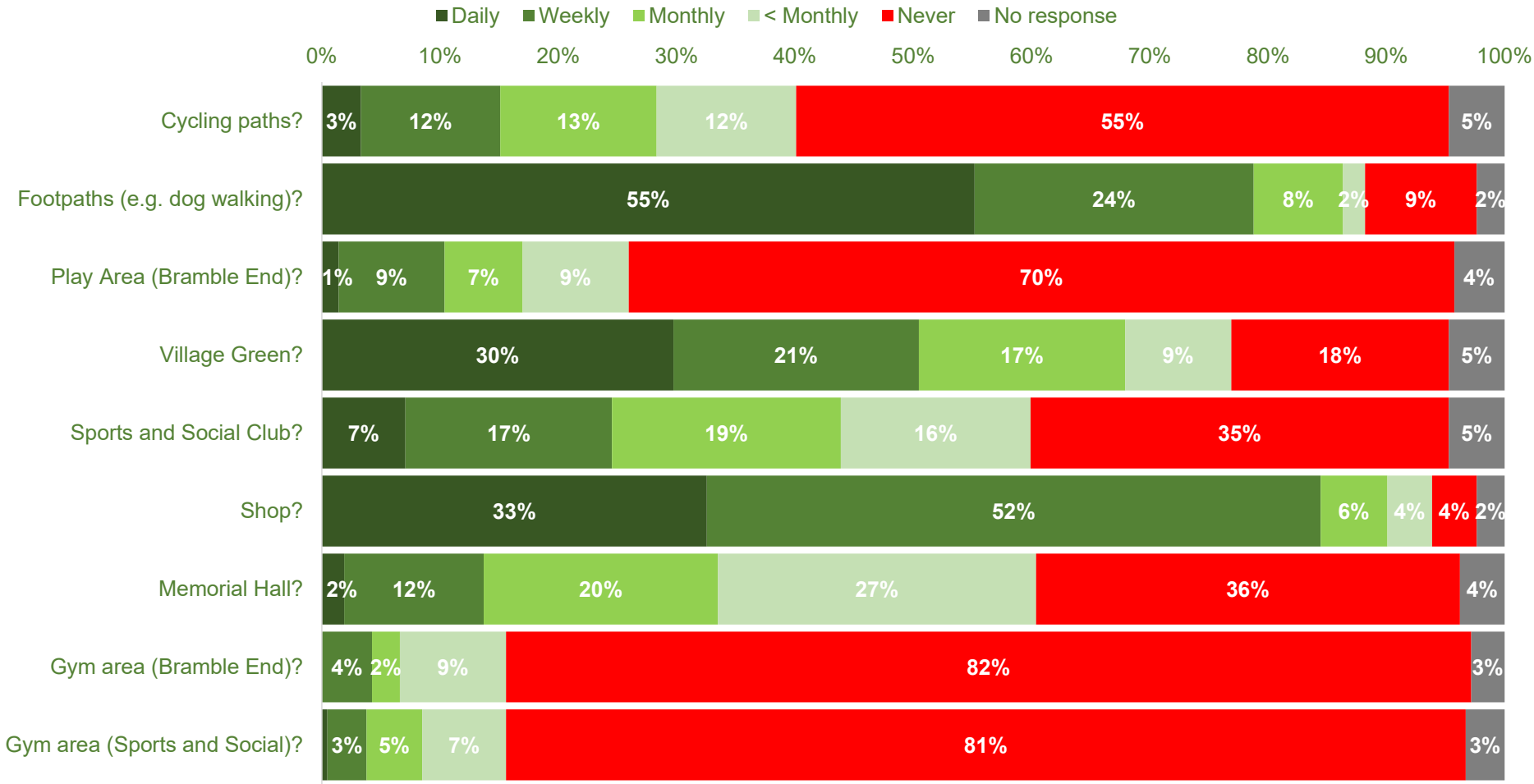
“The current housing estate at location 1 already suffers with anti social behavior; further expanding in areas 1/2 could increase the disruption to the residents of that area greatly. Isn't location 3 on a steep hill so surely unsuitable?”

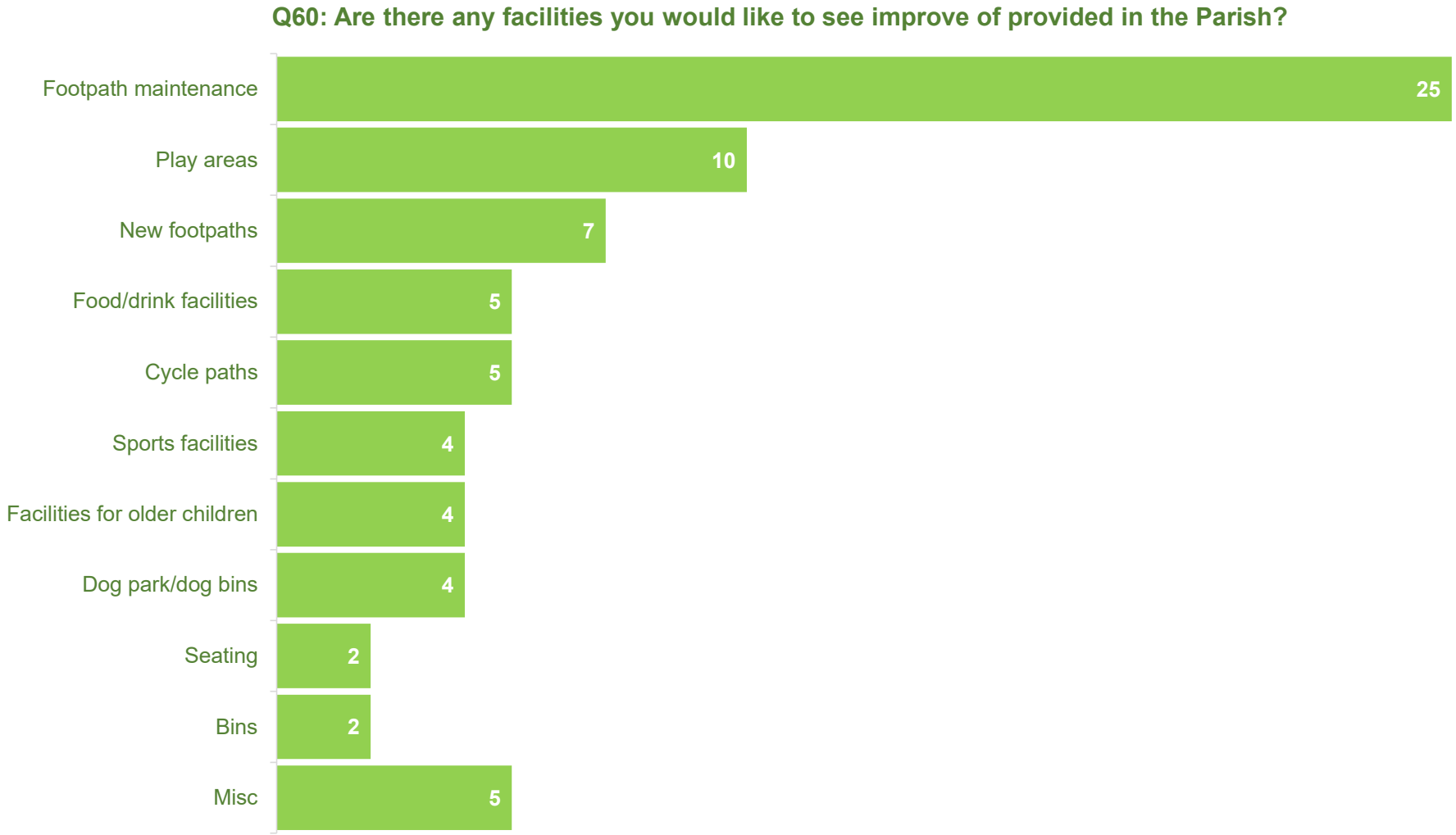
“No opinion to all until size of any development made public along with development of other village needs with more residents in the village.”

“Not currently reducing light pollution with glow from Weald warehousing.”

Community

Q51-59: How often do members of your household use...




Q60: Are there any facilities you would like to see improve of provided in the Parish?
Footpath maintenance
25
Play areas
10
New footpaths
7
Food/drink facilities
5
Cycle paths
5
Sports facilities
4
Facilities for older children
4
Dog park/dog bins
4
Seating
2
Bins
2
Misc
5

Comments about ‘footpath maintenance’

“Footpaths in a poor state in many areas and often only on one side of the road meaning that rough patches cant be avoided and you need to cross over the road too many times on a short journey which isn't ideal for children or those less mobile.”

“Some footpaths very overgrown in the summer making them impassable for the elderly or whose health makes them unsteady. They are entitled to be able to use those paths all year round but the farmers seem to have to be shamed into clearing them.”

“Village footpaths should be safe to walk; currently they are overgrown and hanging trees and brambles at chest height.”

Comments about ‘play areas’

“Bramble End play area requires modernisation.”

“Play area at bramble end too dirty to use - bird poo. It needs to be maintained.”

“S&S club park is in need of maintenance - broken bits are dangerous.”

“Play area at ASSC very dated but very well used.”

“Children's playground could be improved/updated.”

Other Comments

"The playground facilities are all for very small children. The equipment does not cater for children as they get older."

"Would like a dog walking/exercise space. Never see any adults use either sets of gym areas, just children/teenagers playing on it. This was a complete waste of money."

"Path / cycle path exiting the village up Gt Nth Rd up the hill to the roundabout to connect to the new footpath to Brampton."

"More cycle paths needed."

"A really nice coffee and cake house café would be very nice."

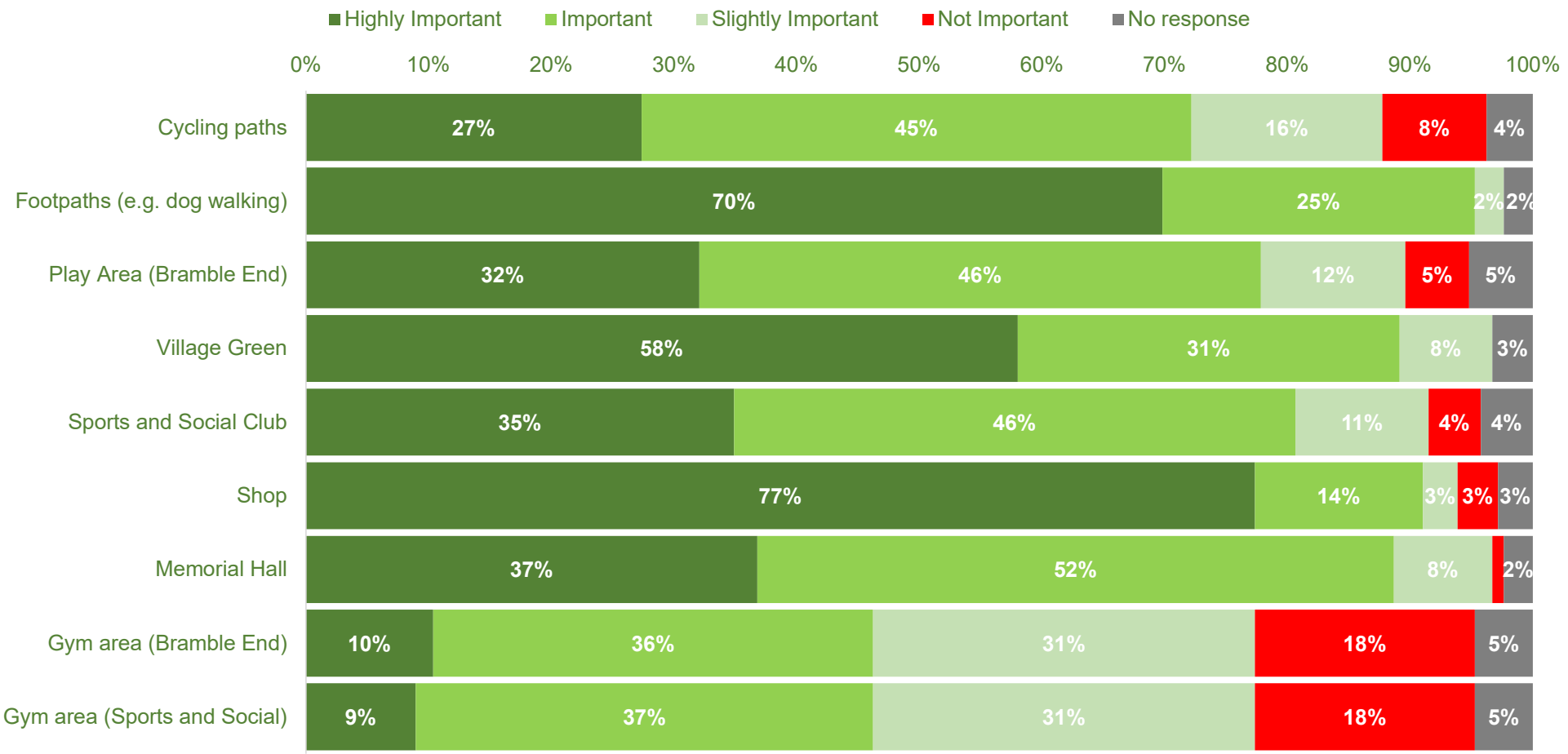
"More seating around village."

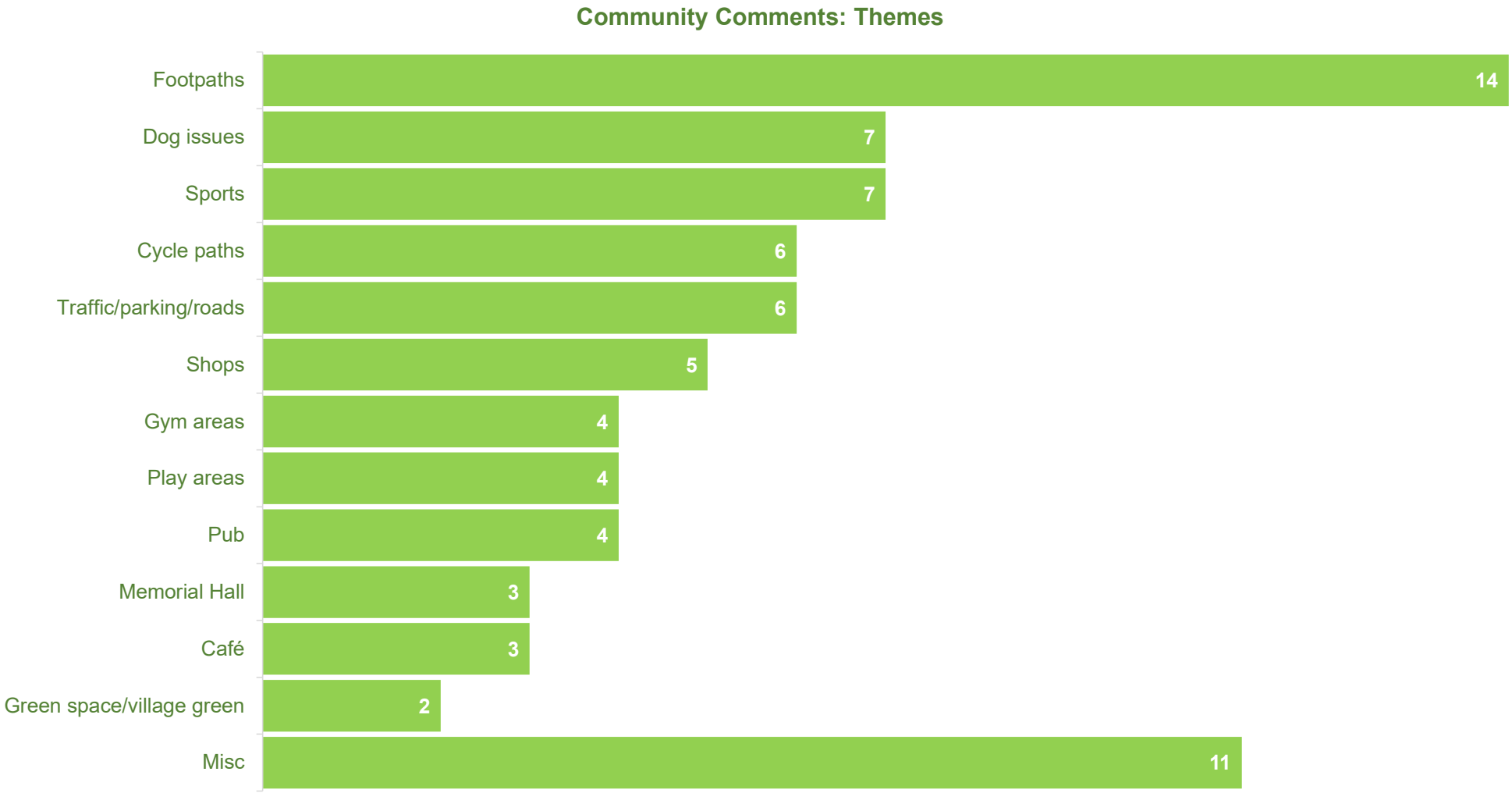
"Tennis court at sports and social as there was many years ago."

"It would be good to see the provision of a youth club."

"More of a nice walking route to the Weald other than the main road."

Q61-69: To assist the Parish Council meet the future needs of the community, please rank the facilities:




Community Comments: Themes
Footpaths
14
Dog issues
7
Sports
7
Cycle paths
6
Traffic/parking/roads
6
Shops
5
Gym areas
4
Play areas
4
Pub
4
Memorial Hall
3
Café
3
Green space/village green
2
Misc
11

Comments about ‘footpaths’

“Our footpaths are overgrown to the point many are impassable at least one point! All responsible landowners and the HDC/CCC should comply with the requirements to keep these clear at all times of the year. The present situation is a disgrace, and numerous complaints to CCC have effectively been brushed aside, largely due to the fact we are no longer have a responsible rights of way officer.”

“Accessibility of footpaths could be improved, they often become very overgrown. We would also love to see a safe cycle/walking path from the edge of the village to the new path that leads to Brampton Hut. It is dangerous to take our children up the hill to the roundabout and across it to access this path.”

Comments about ‘dog issues’

“Footpaths are not just for dogs. Some footpaths should be no dogs. Dogs should be on a lead and pick up poo ALWAYS. Dogs should not run in farmer's crops. Loose dogs are intimidating. Everyone should have a dog licence.”

“We need to sort out the dog mess we constantly have in our village. There appears to be no enforcement or any penalties.”

“I would like to feel safe from dogs when I'm out walking.”

Comments about ‘sports’

“Tennis courts, bowls green, skateboard area for youngsters, running track, netball court. There is a gym on the Weald so no need for one in the village.”

“I would like to see more fitness groups for evenings and weekends and advertised rather than mid-day groups which target stay at home mums/non-working.”

“The sports and social club should be more focused on other activities which don't just promote football.”

“Keep facilities like the hall and the astro turf prices affordable so they get more use…Support ASSC.”

Comments about ‘cycle paths’

“I feel cycle paths and footballs also play areas are important to encourage people to get out and see our beautiful area, enjoy the fresh air. Also in this day and age it's good for health and mental well being.”

“Cycle paths connecting the village to other areas. Safe pedestrian/cycle route to the Weald.”

“…cycling and running in the village are difficult due to lack of facilities.”

“More dedicated cycle paths to Brampton/ Huntingdon area.”

Other Comments

“I would also rank our village pub, the Manor, as highly important as a community & social facility. It attracts visitors to the village which surely is good for the local economy. It also provides employment for local people, especially the young.”

“A farm shop selling fresh variety of vegetables and salads would be great - or even popup x1/week. Bring back a butchers shop/ popup x1/week. A cafe/ social hub just for a few mornings/evenings a week.”

“Bramble End gym area was a waste of money and pointless when put in. One at S&S club viable but should be operated by club.”

“The play area at Bramble End needs a revamp with more variety of equipment, more sensory and natural.”

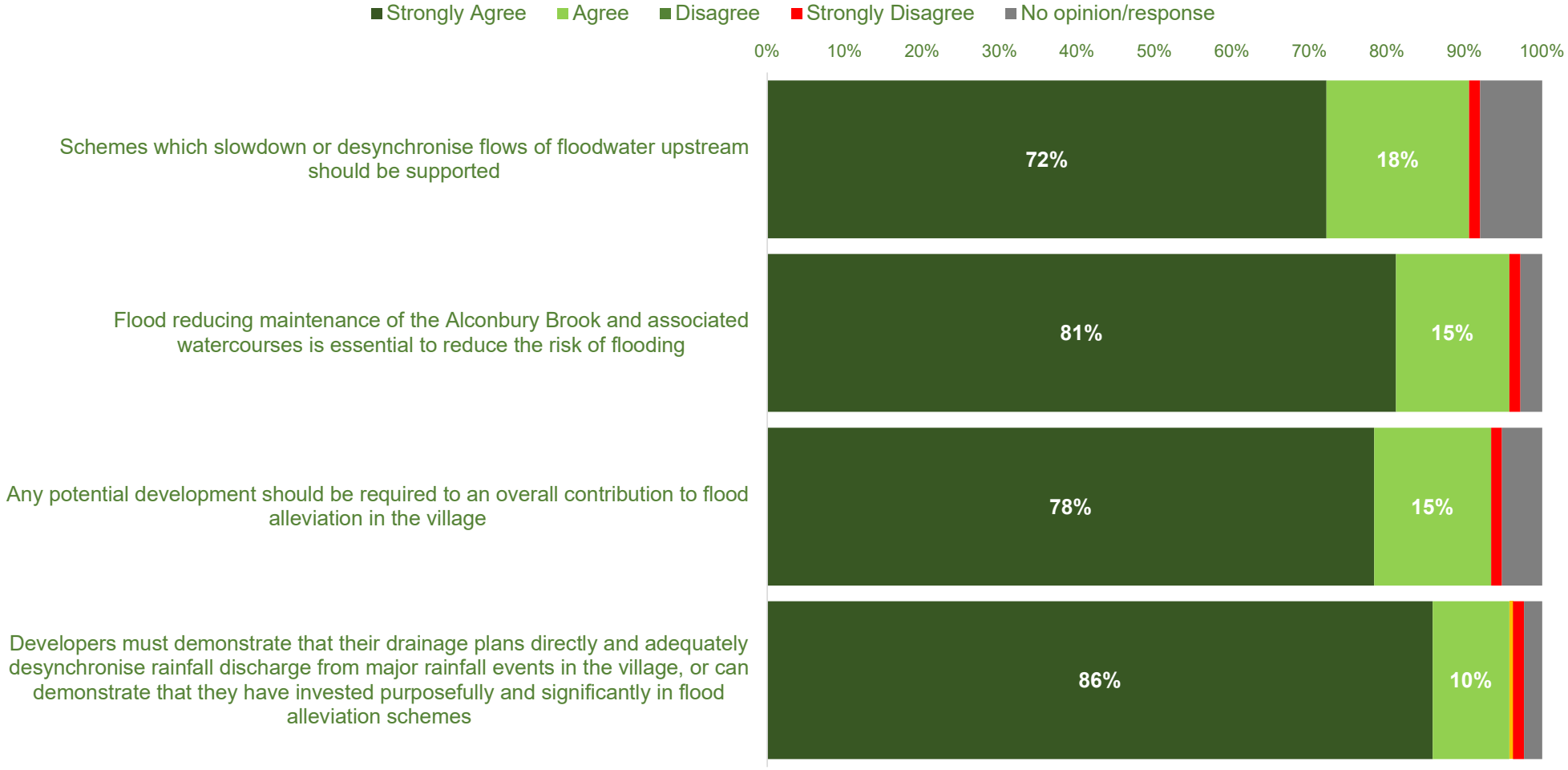
“More could be done to stop cars, vans daily blocking/parking on footpaths (Manor Lane).”

“I see very little information about the Memorial Hall, it does not seem to be particularly well utilised.”

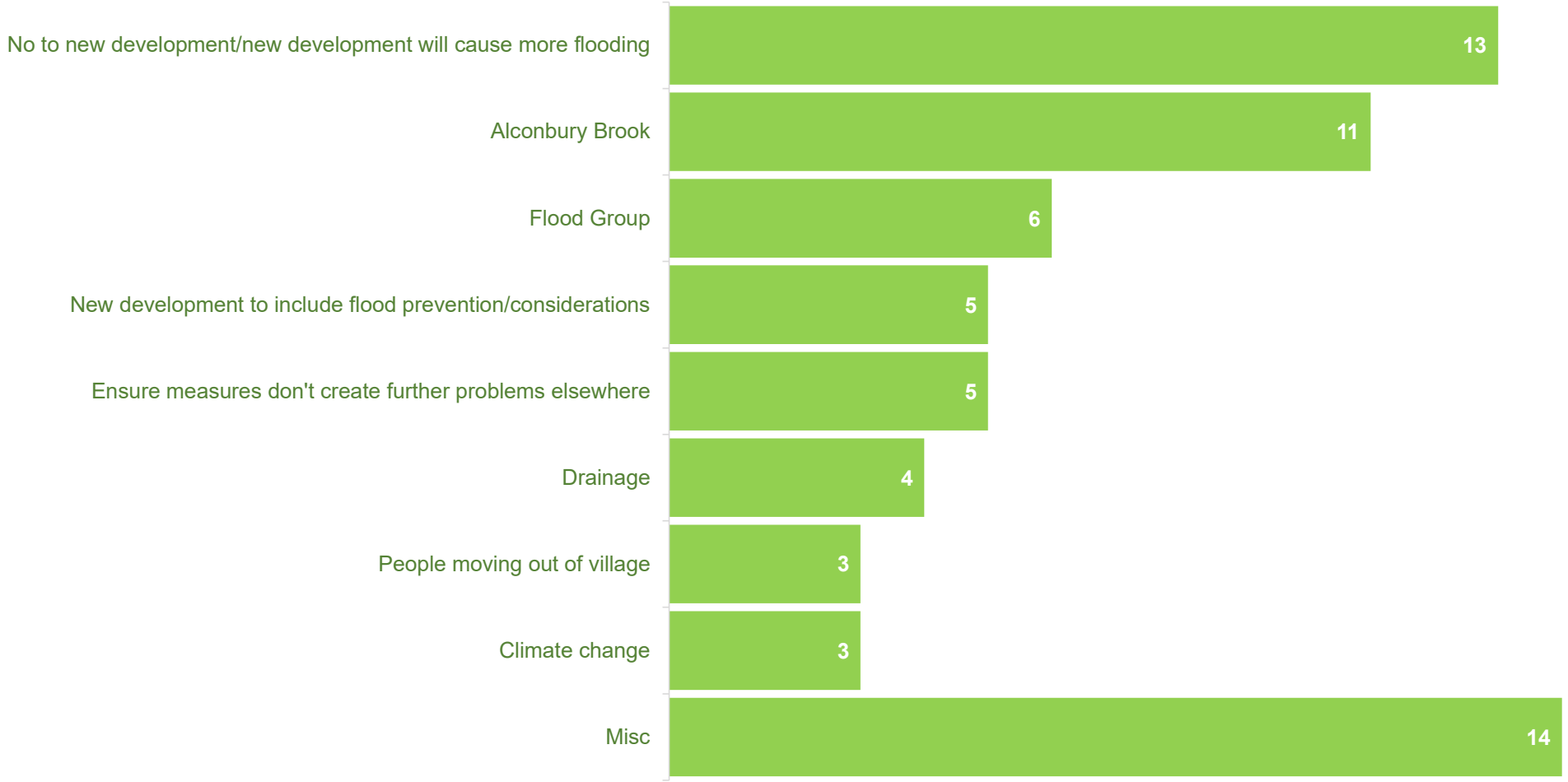
“We have lived in Alconbury for many years and love living here. But I think it is big enough now, as the services cannot cope, you can't get a doctors appointment, parking at the shop and school is very dangerous and someone is going to get hurt.”

Flooding

Q70-73: To What Extent Do You Agree With The Following?



Flooding Comments: Themes



Comments about ‘new development causing more flooding’

“Better if NO development. No new development should be allowed around the village as it will, for sure, contribute to flooding.”

“Whilst I strongly agree with all above I am strongly against any new developments surrounding the village. New developments should be kept to the Weald or beyond.”

“Do not approve major development in and around the village, as these only add to the flooding issue. Alleviation schemes will not cope with further development.”

“…fields need to be retained to allow the rain water to soak in. Any further development would surely encourage flooding.”

Comments about ‘Alconbury Brook’

“Anglian Water need to do much more regarding the brook water flows during storm conditions.”

“Considering the effects of extreme weather conditions becoming the norm due to climate change, planning for flood protection along the Alconbury Brook is vital.”

“Alconbury Brook - keeping clear of majority of waterway essential. Currently hardly looks like a brook/river. Surely basic dredging necessary - probably costly but so is flood damage.”

“Brook needs clearing of silt and debris and all plants including roots. Needs mechanically digging out and widening.”

Comments about ‘Flood Group’

“I think the flood group is doing an excellent job overall and the PC should whole-heartedly support it. They have demonstrated that the EA has been working on incorrect data in its flood severity model.”

“Flooding remains a clear and present danger to Alconbury. Land use, distant new builds and climate change will continue to threaten Alconbury with flooding. The Flood Group should be given all possible support to help tackle this.”

“Thank you to the flood group for their hard work.”

Comments about ‘new development to include flood prevention/considerations’

“Developers must be forced to fully incorporate storage, usage and discharge of water better.”

“This is one of the most important considerations for the village plan. Any development both in the village and up stream must be assessed in terms of impact.”

“No building should be granted the go ahead without looking at all the services and all ramifications. Developers should be automatically made to contribute to upscaling and then maintenance.”

“If development is allowed and causes flooding there should be a permanent fund created by the builders to pay for all future damage.”

Other Comments

“With global warming, without action, increasing numbers of people will move away from the areas near the Brook, due to the devastation of repeatedly being flooded.”

“There seems little attention to keeping the drains clear, where there are any. Also a trend of people tarmacking their drives means the water has nowhere to go. There are big and small things that could be done to minimise flooding.”

“As long as it doesn't push problem further down the water course.”

“I have been flooded three times. I am concerned that many in this village may not consider flood protection important because it doesn't affect them.”

“Pt 73 is pointless as it only covers that area. It just pushes the flooding problem elsewhere. Common sense - concrete over an area, that water needs to go somewhere. HDC flooding plan states we are all responsible for protecting our properties from flooding. Where do we stand, when planning agrees to further building?”

“This is vital as so many properties were affected during the flood 2020.”