



CARMUNNOCK
GLASGOW'S LAST VILLAGE

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THE CARMUNNOCK EXPERIENCE

A COMMUNITY SURVEY

CONDUCTED BY THE CARMUNNOCK COMMUNITY FORUM

CONTENTS



01

INTRODUCTION

02

RESPONDENTS

03

INVOLVEMENT

04

OUR VILLAGE PLACES AND SPACES

05

METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

06

OUR VILLAGE PRIORITIES

07

DISCUSSION

01 INTRODUCTION

CARMUNNOCK COMMUNITY FORUM

The **The Carmunnock Community Forum** was set up to inform and encourage collaborative working across various village societies. The aim is to inspire villagers and our organisations towards building capacity, improving communication, empowering our community and strengthen our presence as 'Glasgow's Last Village' at both a local and national level.

The following survey was conducted as part of an ongoing initiative to help deepen the understanding of what matters to villagers and the wider parish, on how we can all work together to maintain our village status and help keep our community thriving.

METHODOLOGY

It was important to give all villagers an equal opportunity to contribute to the research. To this end, the survey was made available in both electronic and hard copy formats

Electronic access was provided through **carmunnock.org** and our various **Facebook** pages combined. Hard copies were hand delivered to all households and made available in our village store.





02 RESPONDENTS

Respondents were asked to give details of: age, race/ethnicity, length of time lived in Carmunnock to help provide insight into diversity of needs across the population: 90% identified as 35 and above, where 34% are 65 plus, white/Caucasian Scottish/British and 45% have lived in the village for 9 years or less with 55% 10 years plus.

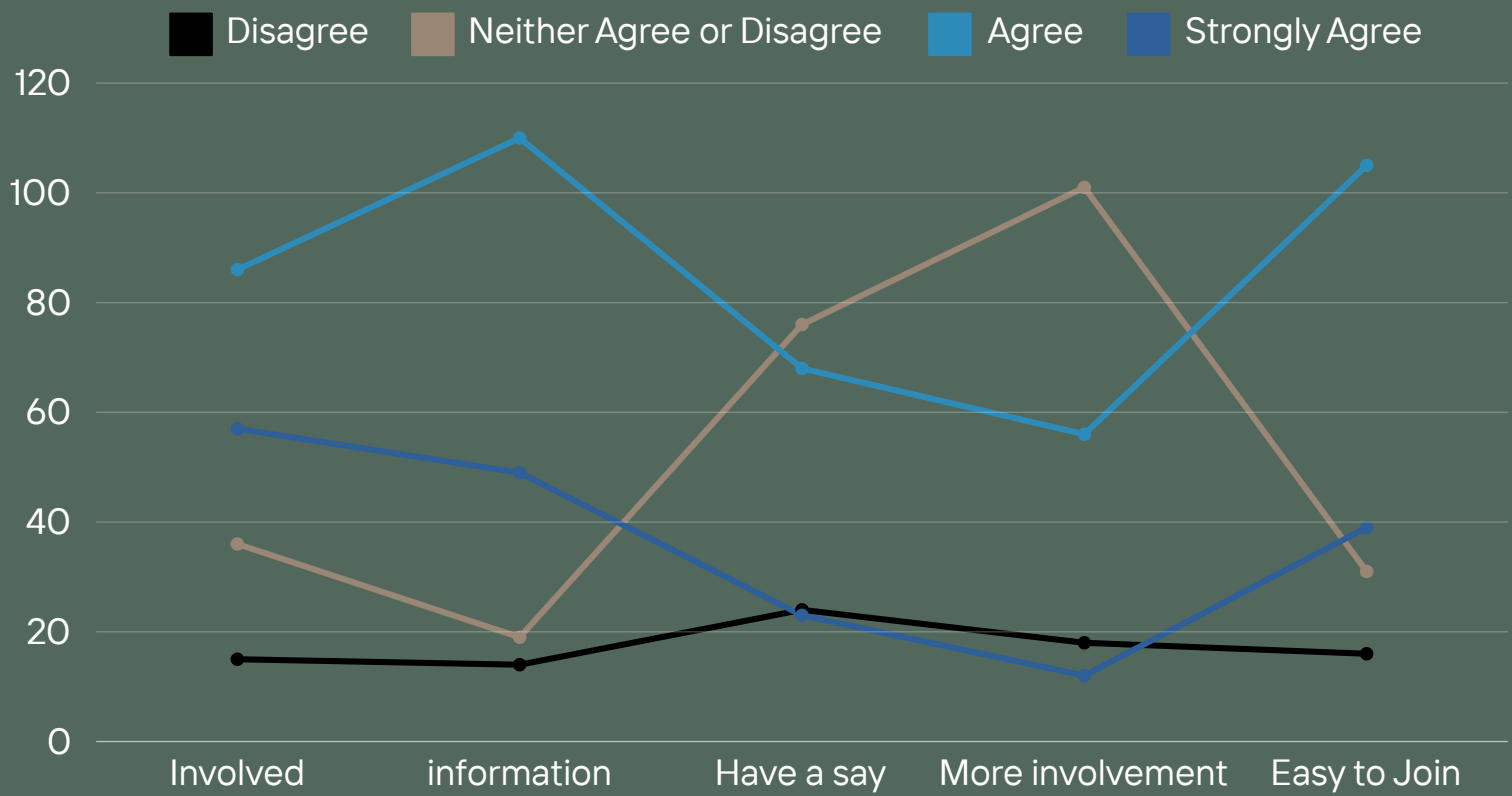
15%

201 RESPONSES

Across both modes of access, the survey was completed and returned by a total of 201 from a population of approximately 1880 across 550 households.

40%

a 40% Increase over previous responses to our survey conducted in 2020.



03 INVOLVEMENT

When Respondents were asked if they **felt involved in village community life** 71% **Agreed or Strongly Agreed** with this statement. 17% **Neither Agree or Disagree** and only 8% **Disagree** with this statement.

When asked if they felt it **easy to get information about community events/activities**, 80% of Respondents again were generally happy with how information disseminates through village life ,citing the village Facebook page as the general source.

When it comes to **having a say** in what happens in the community, Respondents are more non-committal, with 38% giving a **Neither Agree** nor **Disagree** answer, Less people have **Agreed or Strongly Agreed** here too with only 45% answering positively. Although small differences, this question also elicits the most negative response, with 12% **Disagree** with this statement.

When asked if they would like to be **more involved** in community life only 36% **Agree or Strong Agree** and high levels of non-committal were seen here too at 50% **Neither Agree of Disagree** with 9% **Disagree** with this question.

Finally when asked if Respondents **felt it is easy to join community events/activities**, again 72% gave a positive answer, 15% were neutral and only 8% **Disagree**

As in our previous survey in 2020, villagers are generally happy with their level of involvement in village life and feel that both **obtaining information** on what's on and **getting involved** are **easy and welcoming** experiences. When asked if they would like to be more involved, although they would (36%), respondents cited work, family or busy life commitments or being new to the village and still finding out what's available, as the main reasons for not being more involved, this and high or neutral scores for involvement suggest that this is not an area of concern at this stage. Having **more of a say** appears to be an area that could be better improved with only less than half giving a positive answer. Further research on why villagers feel this way could help with a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the less positive scores and the strength of importance of this area.

"I'm involved enough to make me feel part of village life"





OUR SOCIETY MEMBERS

A wide range of societies, clubs and committees are available for all ages across a wide variety of interests.

Many of course are limited to small numbers due to their nature, however memberships are generally in healthy numbers and are thus thriving community hubs in themselves.

To what extent are villagers involved in our community groups? **11%** of respondents are actively involved at present but given the positive results for Involvement this is not of concern. **91** new requests to get more involved were received as apart of this initiative, helping Carmunnock to continue to thrive and grow.

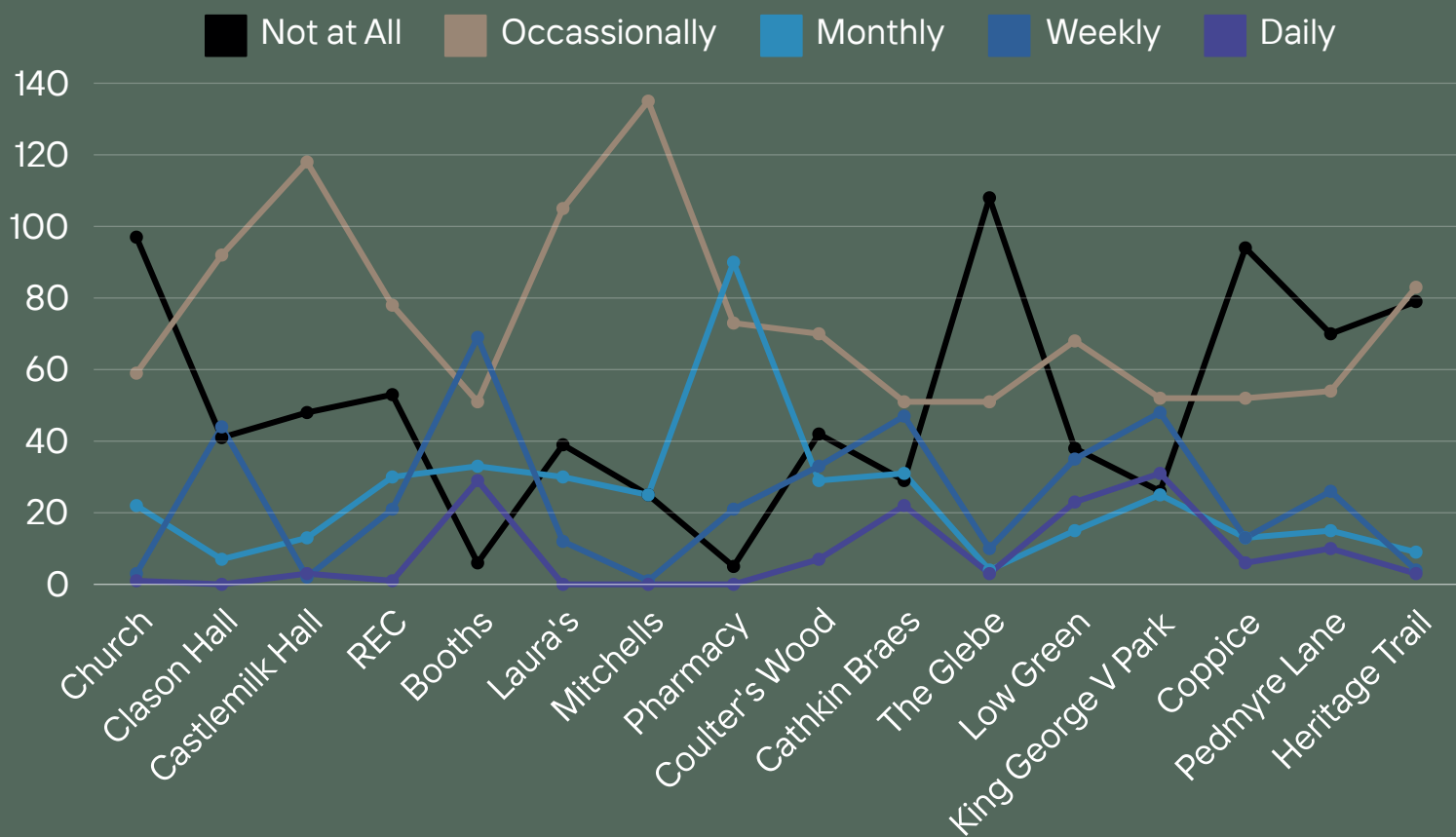
When asked if there were any barriers, out of the 179 people who responded, timing of activities ranked by far the highest (often during the day) when people are busy with children or work. Other reasons given were age and mobility. Little information, Accessibility and a feeling of not feeling welcome/anxious were also mentioned but in much smaller numbers.

Respondents were asked for ideas of other clubs/activities they might like to see and gave similar ideas to responses back in 2020. Here are just a few:

Yoga, Thai Chi, Badminton and Tennis, Family activities or kids' activities e.g. Football, Youth Clubs Running and Walking Groups, Arts and Crafts

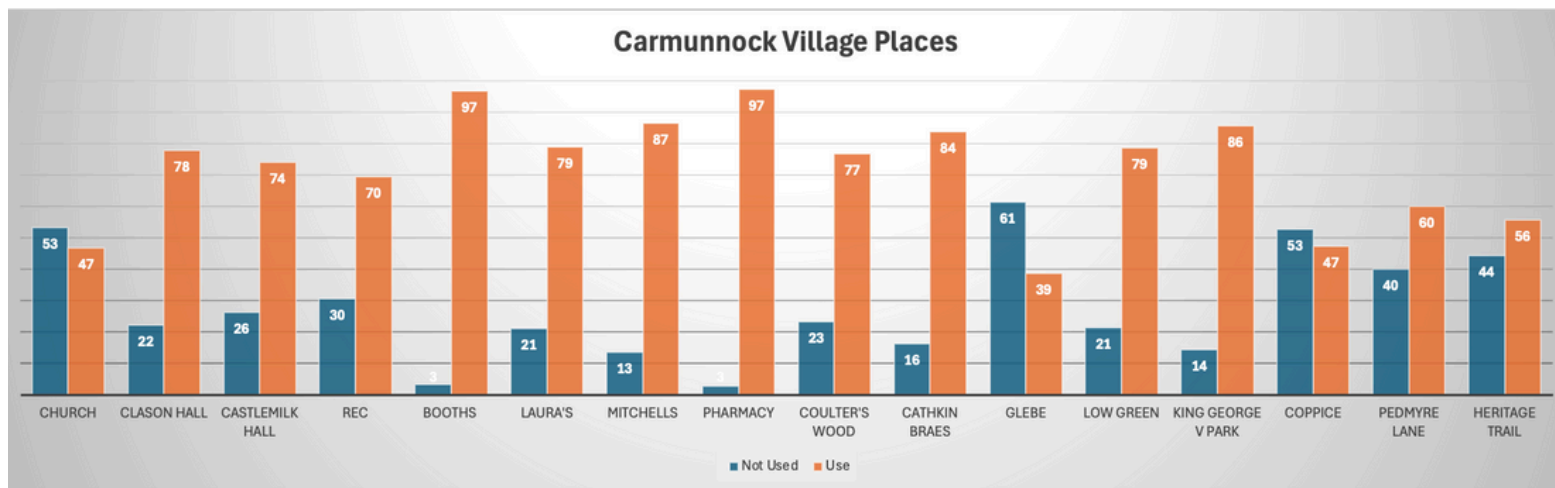
"Participation in village life is accessible if you wish"

Society	Yes	No	I would like to Join
Parish Church	34	145	0
Tea & Chat	17	151	0
REC	80	81	17
Castlemilk Hall Committee	5	161	0
Community Council	4	157	3
Drama Club	13	153	4
Gala Committee	10	150	5
Heritage Society	27	134	6
Horticultural Society	19	136	12
Tiny Tots	12	157	1
Rainbows	8	160	0
Brownies	12	154	0
Nursery	9	155	1
Pilates	12	138	18
Pickleball	17	145	8
Broadway Boogie	9	154	5
Karate	3	159	2
Junior Drama	1	163	1
Book Club	11	152	8
	303	2805	
	16	148	91



04 OUR VILLAGE PLACES AND SPACES

When asked how often respondents used our village **PLACES** most Respondents replied **Occassionally to all**, The Church and our outdoor spaces have the highest number of villagers who **do not** or have never used them, particularly; **The Glebe, The Coppice, Pedmyre Lane and the Heritage Trail**. Our village businesses are used the most regularly where **Monthly** and **Weekly** usage are the most common levels of usage.



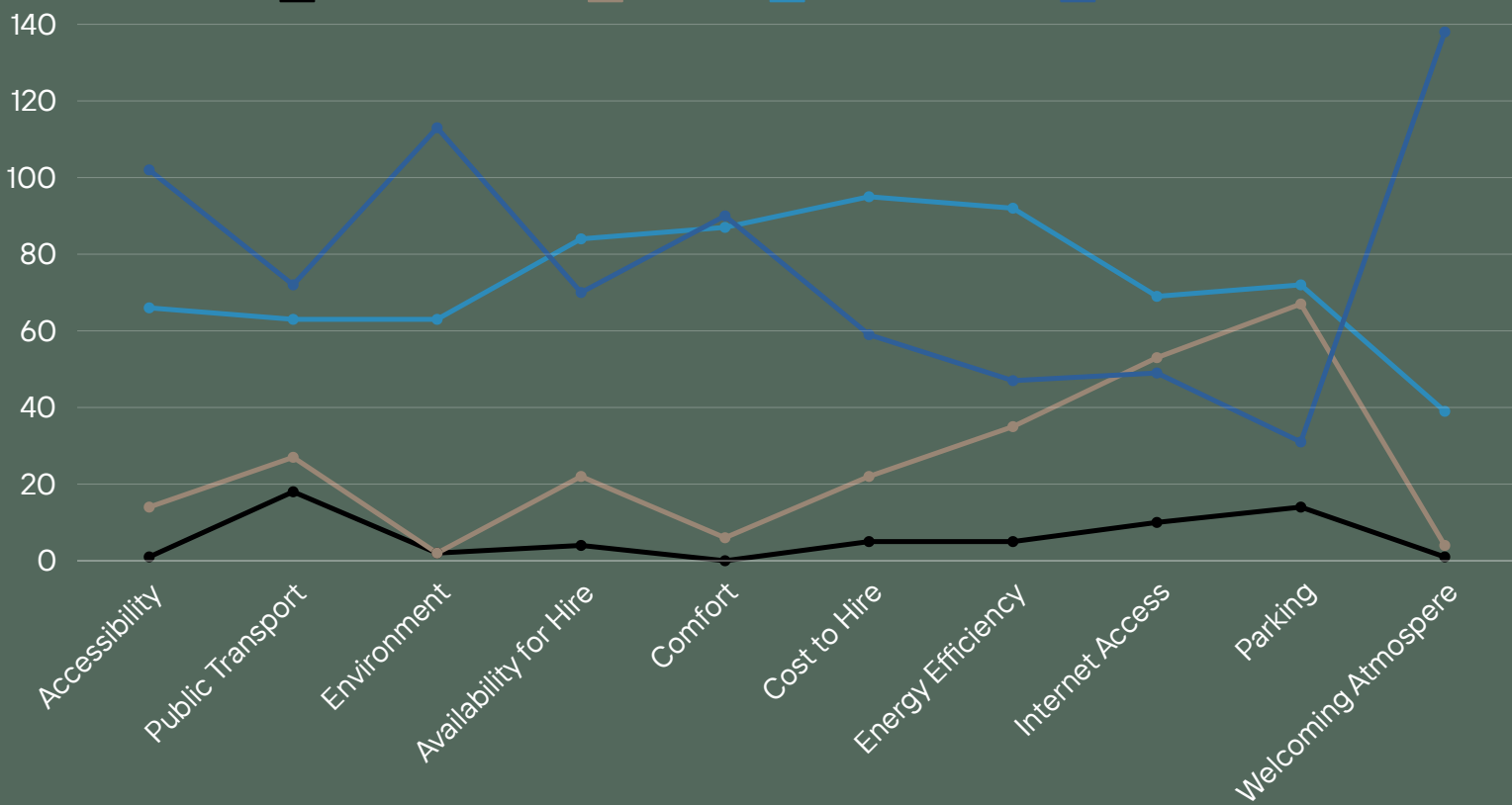
Comparing a simple '**Use** or **have Not Used**' most of our respondents use a wide range of our places and spaces than have never used. However our Church and our outdoor spaces are the places/spaces within the village that have either high or almost equal levels of **Not Used** compared with **Use**. More information behind the responses would be helpful here to understand more fully what is preventing people from using these valuable village areas.

When asked about how our village halls could be improved, similar concerns to 2020 were mentioned around the need for our halls to be refurbished and/or maintained to better standards.

"All are important to the village but all require some refurbishment. Needs substantial funds. Each committee appear proactive and work hard for the village"

"More co-ordination of events would help all the halls"

Not/Unimportant
 Neither
 Quite Important
 Very Important



04 (CONTD.) WHAT'S IMPORTANT?

When asked to consider our community buildings, Respondents were asked to rate how important the above aspects are to them: The most important aspects when considering frequenting or hiring any of our community buildings, **Welcoming Atmosphere, Environment, Accessibility and Comfort** are all ranked amongst the top responses. Aspects that appear to be least important to villagers are: **access to Public Transport and Parking**

To attract more visitors and more involvement from villagers to our buildings, the whole area of how **comfortable** and how **welcoming** the place or space is dominates the choice. **Accessibility** continues to be important.

"A plan for development and maintenance for all the older buildings would help fundraising effort and attract wider support"

Would there be a market for one of the smaller halls/rooms to be used as a quiet place for reading, chatting, playing board games, whist, cards etc., during afternoons especially in winter?"



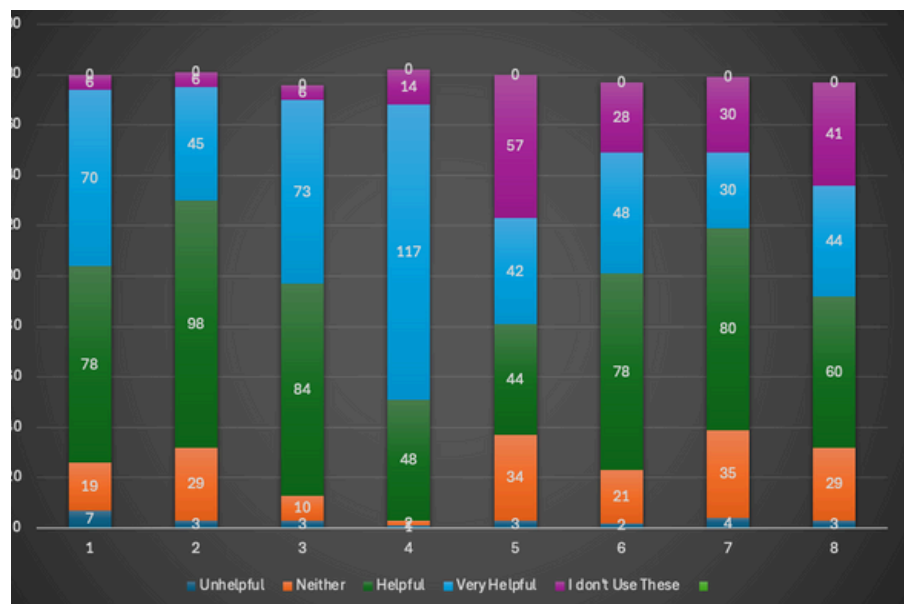
05 METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

"Variety is Key"

A BREAKDOWN

More research to measure the strength of feeling of how effective communication is within the village would help to understand the context of the following results.

The main modes of communication that seem the most helpful for respondents, remain similar to 2020. Firstly the **Facebook Pages** (previously mentioned) with 165 respondents rating this **Very Helpful** or **Helpful**. Secondly is **Word of Mouth** with 148 rating the same. **Posters** and **Letter Drops** have increased since last time whilst the **CCC Newsletter**, **Noticeboard** and **Convenanter** have all decreased. **Carmunnock.org** set up since 2020 and has been received positively.



Perhaps ways of increasing the usefulness of existing modes of communication may be a way to improve the communication within the village (i.e. continue to build content and awareness of carmunnock.org or adding to these existing methods by inventing new ideas.

Many respondents were asked to comment on how our communication could be improved and here are just a few ideas:

Variety in methods is important for diverse needs and preferences within our population.

QR codes linked to **Facebook/Socials** and **carmunnock.org**

Calendar of events published monthly either by **socials**, **mail drop** or **posters** or all (what would help this even further would be to remove any 'old' communications

Reinstate the **Welcome Packs** (as many comments in this section were about being informed of groups and societies)

"It would be helpful to know more about the types of groups/ clubs that exist. There was a few mentioned in this survey which I wasn't aware of. I think for me the best source is the Facebook Group"

Better Public Transport 154

Seasonal Festivals 153

Cultural Heritage 149

Upgrading Facilities 148

Accessibility 141

Improved Communications 140

Traffic Calming 122

Children's Activities 112

ATM Access 92

06 OUR VILLAGE PRIORITIES

When asked to rank how important the above areas of priority have altered since our survey in 2020, findings were similar: **Better Public Transport, Upgrading Facilities, Accessibility and Improved Communication** remain of high importance to respondents. **Traffic Calming** and access to an **ATM** have become less important.

As much work has been carried out from our various societies in preserving and celebrating our **Cultural Heritage**, providing **Children's Activities** and the creation of our **Seasonal Festivals** programme, these have all been added since our last survey.

Although a low priority for using our places and spaces, access to better **Public Transport** specifically bus links to and from City Centre and Glasgow Hospitals has ranked the area of highest importance to respondents. **Cultural Heritage** and **Seasonal Festivals** have joined the areas of highest importance alongside, **Upgrading Facilities, Accessibility and Improved Communication**.

"Number 75 bus picking up and dropping off passengers in Carmunnock before going back down to wait at the Castlemilk terminus"



07 DISCUSSION

Only 15% of the total estimated adult population of Carmunnock were active in responding to this survey (only 2 were under 18). The results therefore must be considered in this context and may not be a full representational of all views within our village population.

We can conclude that very similar to our survey conducted in 2020, of those who responded, most (90% plus) are **satisfied with their level of involvement in the community** but would perhaps like **more of an opportunity to have input into village decision-making**. More research would help a deeper understanding if villagers would like **more of a say** and reasons for why they feel they currently do not. A fuller representation of the population in surveys such as this, should be considered with questions that give a deeper insight, alongside others ideas for how villagers' input could be better achieved.

Our **businesses** are the places most frequented in our village, compared with our **outdoor spaces** and our **church**. Just as before, more information is required to understand why this is the case and a plan of action to be considered

that will increase the usage of all available facilities, both indoors and out.

Specifically looking at the use of our three **village halls, Accessibility** is still very important issue but the main issues for respondents were **Comfort** and **Welcoming Atmosphere**. Many comments expressed the importance of our village halls as assets for our village, all potentially serving a different purpose but conversely a few comments were made around having too many buildings to maintain and perhaps one main village hub should be considered.

Without measuring specifically the strength of feeling of whether respondents are happy or less so with the current **levels of communication**, it is difficult to know if there is an issue with communication. When asked however how things could be improved, **Flexibility** appears to be important, suggesting that a number of different modes of communication is perhaps important to ensure as many villagers are reached as possible. Similar to our survey of 2020, our **Facebook Pages, Word of Mouth** remain the 2 main ways in which people like to be reached. Followed closely in this survey by **Posters** and **Letter Drops**.



07 DISCUSSION (CONTD.)

Methods of communication such as the **Community Council Newsletter**, the **Covenanter** and the **Village Notice Board** are proving less useful since 2020. Perhaps more research should be done to give insight into why this is the case.

In terms of priorities for the village, **Traffic Calming Measures** and access to an **ATM** are no longer as important to respondents as before. Improved **Public Transport**, particularly our bus links to and from Glasgow City Centre and hospitals are now our top priority. **Upgrade of Facilities** and **Accessibility** remain just as important as before, now with the addition of maintaining and improving our **Seasonal Festivals** and preserving our **Cultural Heritage**, both now ranking almost as high.

Societies, in particular the **Carmunnock Community Forum**, **The CCC** and the **Heritage Society**, should take note of these priorities when developing their strategies going forward into 2025 and beyond.

“Thank you very much for organising this survey. I can only imagine the amount of work that must have gone into this. It’s let me have my say on a few things and that is much appreciated. Thank you again”



YOU SAIDWE DID

You Said ...	We Did ...
<p>Improvement in the community's 'Sense of Involvement' in community life and local decision-making</p>	<p>Village organisations now work more closely together and the Carmunnock Community Forum has been created to increase cross society collaboration</p>
	<p>Drama tickets are now sold publically</p>
	<p>Tickets for fuctions e.g. Burns Night etc more widely available</p>
	<p>Weekly and monthly community activities</p>
<p>More knowledge about events and activties and how to get involved. They would benefit from being advertised more widely</p>	<p>www.carmunnock.org created to publicise 'what's on' and how to get involved n the viillage life</p>
<p>Facebook although the main source of information, other sources would be welcome</p>	<p>Number of Facebook groups created for village groups: Carmunnock, Carmunnock Business, Carmunnock Heritage Society, Castlemilk Hall Drama Music/Recreation and Tiny Tots</p>
<p>Improvements to halls to have full accessibility including toilets and general repairs, upgrading and, maintenance to make the environments more inviting</p>	<p>This is a constant focus for the respective committees:Castlemilk and Clason Halls have been repainted and flooring refurbished. Outside areas have also been created or upgraded. Toilets have been replaced and games room has been created in the REC</p>
<p>Disabled people are more able to feel involved in village life</p>	<p>Accessibility has formed a key area of refurbishment plans</p>