

# COMMUNITY SURVEY

Parish Councils can play a vital role in acting on behalf of the communities they represent, promoting the interests of their people and providing services and amenities to improve quality of life and local environment.

Middleton by Wirksworth Parish Council is responsible for the management and enhancement of a variety of local spaces; it makes representations to support community and residents views on planning applications; it can provide funding to local charities and organisations; it can bring the community together by arranging events and seasonal enhancements such as the Christmas trees; it maintains the village defibrillators, the war memorial, the noticeboards and the public benches and seating areas. The Parish Council can organise new initiatives and undertake new projects to promote and serve the interests and concerns of the community and to improve the facilities and quality of life within the village.

Whilst Derbyshire Dales District Council and Derbyshire County Council are the main authorities responsible for matters such as housing, highways and infrastructure, local communities such as ours can influence decisions and the Parish Council can assist the community in making its views heard.

The Parish Council has a limited amount of funds each year – the precept which is collected through council tax - with which to fulfil its legal obligations and to improve the community it serves. Sometimes, grants may be available which will enable particular projects to be progressed, and funds can also be raised via events and community activities.

The Parish Council has an annual Parish Plan for each Municipal Year detailing the aims, ethos and objectives of the Parish Council. It is believed that the Parish Plan will benefit from the creation of a longer-term Village Action Plan, to enable mid-long term planning for up to a five year period. The Parish Council believes it is important, when taking decisions on the Village Action Plan priorities, that the views of our residents and other stakeholders are taken into account.

The survey has been prepared to enable all residents and organisations living and working within and for the benefit of our community to express their views and ideas on the topics that matter most to them.

By completing this survey, you will help us to ensure we deliver the enhancements our community wants most and improve the services we as a Parish Council provide to our community. Your input is crucial in shaping the future of our Parish.

We would like as many people within the village as possible to answer the survey. We are keen to know what matters to both our adult and younger populations, whether you are a long term resident or a newcomer! Please answer the following questions with as much detail as possible and do use the space at the end to highlight anything we haven't specifically asked. All questions are optional, so please omit any question you prefer not to answer.

Surveys can be completed online from the link on the parish council website or by completing a paper copy. If you would like to request a paper copy, please email the clerk at [clerk@middletonbywirksworth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@middletonbywirksworth-pc.gov.uk) or a copy can be collected from The Nelson.

We ask that all survey responses are returned by no later than Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024. When we have analysed the results we will provide a summary to residents and use this as the basis for a plan of future actions and initiatives for our Parish.