



PARKSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLANNING

SURVEY REPORT
AUGUST 2004

Compiled by BRC

(Bradford Resource Centre & Community Statistics Project)

Working in Partnership for a Brighter Future

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Findings Summary

The survey has met its objectives in identifying how the residents of Parkside view their estate. The resident's feedback has been largely positive and contains several useful suggestions of how the neighbourhood could be improved.

The findings indicate that people are generally happy living on the estate. This is supported by the numerous comments regarding good neighbours and the sense of community within the area. Most of the respondents who took part in the survey are owner-occupiers and have been living in the area for most of their lives. Many of the respondents also commented on having friends and family in the area. Consequently only a handful of the people stated that they had intentions to move.

The main causes of concern amongst the residents were issues regarding road safety, crime and anti social behaviour particularly in relation to joyriding by young people. A number of the respondents stated that they felt that the anti-social behaviour displayed by the youth on the estate was due to the lack of facilities and social activities available to young people. Suggestions to tackle this problem included creating a safe play area, away from the roads and setting up a youth club at the local community centre.

The issue of safety in general appeared to be a prominent theme when the residents were asked what improvements they would like to see on the estate. The most favoured choices were more police presence, better lighting, a neighbourhood watch scheme and CCTV. The majority of respondents stated that they felt safe in their homes. However over a quarter of the respondents said that they felt unsafe on the estate especially at night.

Over half the respondents stated that they would like to become more involved in the residents association and the same number were interested in attending focus groups relating to issues on the estate.

Introduction

Parkside Residents Association (PRA) is made up of an active group of residents who are keen to see their neighbourhood improve. The association was set up by local residents in 1996 with the aim of putting pressure on Bradford Council to carry out home improvements. The group has a constitution, a bank account and a committee made up of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary as well as signed up Committee members. All positions on the committee are voluntary and the association does not employ members.

The PRA represents all the residents of Parkside Estate, which is situated in West Bowling, Bradford 5. It is on the south side of the city in West Yorkshire. The estate comprises of approximately 400 houses, which are mainly three bedrooms semi-detached. The estate was built in the mid 50's to deal with the demands for greater social housing. The PRA also work with the residents of the neighbouring homes owned by the Bradford and Northern Housing Association. These 28 houses were built in the 1990's between Parkside Estate and Bowling Cemetery. Today, residents who have purchased their housing under the Conservative Government's 'right to buy' scheme largely occupy the estate. Only around 130 properties remain under council control at present.

The estate has one shop, which was closed during the period of the survey due to the property changing hands on the open market. Local amenities include a community centre, a scatter of small convenience shops and a private hire station. There are two supermarkets, a Post Office and other small convenience shops and social clubs within a 1-mile radius. The estate is served by a regular bus service, which terminates at one end of the estate and travels through the area to the city centre. The estate is on the edge of the motorway network and sport and park facilities are within easy reach.

The PRA have organised a whole range of functions, activities and meetings since the birth of the organisation. Currently the PRA have regular meetings including quarterly Open meetings and an AGM as well as monthly committee meetings. A quarterly newsletter delivered door to door informs residents of what is happening on the estate and promotes forth-coming functions and events. These include annual clean up, family coach trips, holiday sporting activities and well as local news.



Annual Clean Up - August 2003:
Residents and workers from the Cleansing
Department help to clear up garden and
household waste.

Methodology

This survey was funded by Bradford Vision, through the Neighbourhood Action Planning initiative offering support to local community groups wanting to establish community need within their neighbourhoods.

The survey was carried out door to door using a detailed questionnaire. The researchers comprised of 6 individuals who were given information and training at a 3-hour session run by teacher/trainer and the chair of the PRA.

In total, 65 homes from across the estate took part in the survey.

In addition to the survey, two focus groups were held at the local community centre. The first was on Youth Issues and was attended by 4 local residents and 2 facilitators. The second was on Crime Issues and was attended by 5 local residents and 1 facilitator. The focus groups lasted 2 hours and participants were paid £10 to cover their expenses.



Survey Training Session - Winter 2004:

Yassar Taj, Chair of the Parkside Residents Association with TReCC worker Kirsty Martin and volunteer resident Matthew.

Statistical Analysis

One of the tools available via the Community Statistics Project (funded by ERDF) is the Maps and Stats Programme. This enables you to select any area within the Bradford District boundaries and obtain detailed statistical information from sources such as the census.

We have used the Maps and Stats programme to draw the Parkside area. The results are explained below. Most of the results are drawn from the 2001 census, the rest from different sources all of which are explained in the accompanying notes.

According to Maps and Stats the total number of households in Parkside is 412. (The slight discrepancy from the PTA figures is due to small changes on the estate since the census). This means that the survey was of 15% of the total number of households, which is an adequate size for a survey. This survey is, however, more heavily weighted to the older age range, as 40% of those surveyed were over 64. In Parkside generally, this age range accounts for only 9.4 %. The lower age range of 5-15 year olds is, on the other hand, very underrepresented- the survey only having 3% of its number in that range whereas Parkside itself has 30% of its population in this age range.

In other ways the survey is a good representation of the Population in Parkside. It has a nearly accurate spread of ethnic minorities and the range of employment statistics is close to the whole community's profile too.

General analysis of Parkside Estate

The statistics that are available are tabulated in the appendix. They provide a comparison between the Parkside area (called the "selected area") and Bradford as a whole. It also in some cases allows for a comparison between both, and the whole of England and Wales, and for the selected area in 1991.

As a word of warning, please note that the statistics are from different sources, and produced at different times. The census statistics are the most recent and produced in 2001.

All these tables need careful consideration, especially the employment table from the 2001 census. These are not straight percentages of population, but rather an analysis of 2 groups aged between 16 and 74: economically active people (those in work or seeking work) and economically inactive.

Similarly, other tables take a portion of the population and then do percentages of that portion. It is very easy to look at the tables quickly and assume that they are talking about the population as a whole and get a very distorted picture.

Significant deviations from figures for Bradford district

The most significant deviation is in the health domain. The Standardised Mortality Rate is considerably higher than that for the rest of Bradford. This could be a statistical anomaly due to the fact of a hospital or old people's home in the area. Otherwise, this needs further investigation, and possibly has implications for activities and resources in the area.

To look at age ranges, there are statistically a lower proportion of people over the age of 65- 9.3% to Bradford area's 14.4%. Similarly, there is a much higher number of young people in the age range 5-15- 22.3% to Bradford's 16.3%. Both these statistics have implications for any planning of resources in the area.

The carer statistics show some interesting results too. In Parkside, there are a higher proportion of people in a household who have a long term limiting illness (this includes age related illness)- 46.6. %, compared to Bradford's 36.4%. The percentage of people providing unpaid care is almost exactly the same as the rest of Bradford (10% to 10.3%, 120 people in the Parkside area) but the percentage of people who provide more than 50 hours a week unpaid care is much higher in Parkside –38.9% to 21.9%. This translates into 47 people. Again, these have funding and spending implications.

There are other variations, but these are the most significant in terms of the survey.

Results Section

The following section contains the findings of the survey. The results are presented under the sections outlined in the questionnaire.

The data collated from section two of the questionnaire could not be analysed due to a large number of respondents misinterpreting the questions. It is therefore not covered under the following section. The information in question 2 related to households, but as most of the questions that followed were about the individual respondent, the survey has not been affected by its omission.

The survey results are as follows:

Section 1: About Yourself

a)

Gender	Number of Respondents
Female	41
Male	21
Not answered / Not clear	3
Total	65

b)

Age	Number of Respondents
12-16	2
17-25	6
26-39	14
40-59	16
60-74	17
75+	9
Not answered	1
Total	65

c)

Ethnicity	Number of Respondents
Asian	10
Black	6
Dual Heritage	2
White	44
Other	2
Not Answered	1
Total	65

Section 3: Employment, skills and qualifications

Some respondents have selected more than one category in answer to their employment status.

a)

Employment Status	Number of Respondents
Employed	23
Unemployed	7
Seeking employment	2
On Benefits	3
Retired	21
Student	3
Housewife	9
Househusband	0
Carer	3
Housebound	0
Disabled	4
Other	2

b) Please tell us about any skills or qualifications you have?

29 respondents commented on the skills and qualifications they had. 14 of the 29 referred to academic qualifications such as GCSE's, A-Levels, NVQ's and degree courses. Other responses included typing skills, textiles, woodcarving, car mechanics, stone masonry, brick laying and childcare.

c) *If any of the following classes or courses were available would you be interested in taking part?*

Courses	Yes	No	Not Answered / Not Clear
IT e.g. Word Processing Internet	11	20	34
Academic Qualifications e.g. GCSE'S, A-Levels	2	23	40
English for speakers of other languages	1	21	43
Basic Food Hygiene	3	22	40
First Aid	7	19	39
Reading/Writing	3	20	42
Arts/Crafts	3	19	43
Childcare	8	19	38
Community Work	13	17	35
Other	4	15	46

Section 4: Type of Property / Ownership

a) *Please describe the ownership and type of property you live in.*

Type of Property	Number of Respondents
Bungalow	1
House	58
Not answered	6
Total	65

This question also asked the number of bedrooms within the property. However a large proportion of the sample ticked or left the question blank.

b)

Ownership	Number of Respondents
BCHT (Bradford Community Housing Trust) Tenant	16
Housing Association	7
Owner Occupier	37
Private Rented	1
Not Answered/Not Clear	4
Total	65

c) *How long have you lived on the estate?*

Length of Residency	Number of Respondents
Under 1 year	3
1-3 years	10
4-8 years	8
9-15 years	5
16-20 years	3
20+ years	34
Not Answered	2
Total	65

d) *Do you have any intentions to move from the estate?*

Intentions To Move	Number of Respondents
Yes	3
No	53
Maybe	7
Not Answered	2
Total	65

e) *How would you rate the condition / state of repair of your housing?*

The above question asked respondents to rate the condition of their housing in relation to windows, kitchen, bathroom, fencing, garden, heating, ventilations and roof. The results are listed below:

Fencing

20 respondents rated very good – good.
4 respondents rated average.
21 respondents rated poor – very poor.
20 respondents did not answer.

Garden

22 respondents rated as very good – good.
11 respondents rated as average.
7 respondents rated as poor – very poor.
25 respondents did not answer.

Heating

35 respondents rated as very good – good.
6 respondents rated as average.
2 respondents rated as poor – very poor.
22 respondents did not answer.

Kitchen

26 respondents rated as very good – good.
13 respondents rated as average.
5 respondents rated as poor – very poor.
21 respondents did not answer.

Bathroom

22 respondents rated as very good – good.
15 respondents rated as average.
7 respondents rated as poor-very poor.
21 respondents did not answer.

Roof

30 respondents rated as very good – good.
8 respondents rated as average.
2 respondents rated as poor – very poor.
25 respondents did not answer.

Ventilation

2 respondents stated they were not aware of the condition.
31 respondents rated as very good – good.
8 respondents rated as average.
1 respondent rated as poor – very poor.
23 respondents did not answer.

Windows

36 respondents rated as very good – good.

9 respondents rated as average.

1 respondent rated as poor- very poor.

19 respondents did not answer.

A large proportion of the sample did not answer all the questions in the above section. The majority of people, who did offer an answer, rated the condition of their housing as good – very good.

Section 5: Transport / Road Safety

a) *Does anyone in your household own a car or van?*

Own a Car / Van?	Number of Respondents
Yes	31
No	31
Not Answered	3
Total	65

b) *Do you have any problems parking your car?*

Of the 31 respondents who have a car or van, 9 stated that they had problems in parking, 3 respondents did not give a clear answer and 19 stated they had not experienced any difficulties.

c) *Do you use public transport?*

55 of the 65 respondents taking part in the survey said that they used public transport. 5 stated that they did not use public transport. 4 did not answer.

d) *If yes what form of public / alternative transport do you use?*

In answer to this question, many respondents have ticked more than one form of transport.

50 respondents said they used the bus, 31 respondents said they used taxi and 2 respondents said they used an access bus.

e) *In general how would you rate the provision of public transport services in your area?*

Bus

27 respondents rated as good – very good.
15 respondents rated as average.
16 respondents rated as poor- very poor.
7 respondents did not answer.

Taxi

28 respondents rated as good – very good.
8 respondents rated as average.
1 respondent rated as poor – very poor.
28 respondents did not answer.

Access Bus

5 respondents rated as good – very good.
1 respondent rated as average.
59 respondents did not answer.

f) *Have you experienced any problems regarding road safety on your estate?*

36 respondents stated that they had experienced problems concerning road safety.
11 said they had not encountered any problems. 18 respondents did not answer.

21 respondents cited the problem of joy riding by youth in the area, particularly at night. 8 respondents specifically mentioned joy riding in relation to motorbikes and quad bikes.

5 respondents commented on speed bumps being an ineffective deterrent to speeding, as well as damaging to vehicles.

5 respondents stated that the roads were very busy and dangerous for children who often play in the streets.

3 respondents mentioned difficulties in parking, inflicted through inconsiderate parking by others.

1 respondent expressed concern over bad drivers in general.

Section 6: Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

a) *Have you or a member of your family been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?*

Victim of Crime?	Number of Respondents
No	51
Yes	11
Not Answered/Not Clear	3
Total	65

b) Was the crime reported to the police?

Of the 11 respondents who said that they had been a victim of crime, 10 stated that they had reported the crime.

The survey asked respondents to expand on why they had chosen not to report a crime and also if they had reported a crime, what action had been taken and were they satisfied by the police response.

The respondent who chose not to report the crime did not give a reason for his decision.

9 of the 10 respondents who had been a victim of crime and reported it commented on the action the police had taken. Most of these respondents did not put forward any strong views, comments included “found car but don’t know if they found who did it” and “Spoke to boy responsible.” However a couple of people did suggest that they were unsatisfied with the response received. One respondent said, “don’t come soon enough. Don’t report it any more” and another stated that that the police failed to take any action.

Section 7: Community Involvement

a) Do you use the community centre on Avenue Road?

29 respondents said that they used the Community Centre on Avenue Road. 34 said they did not and 2 respondents did not answer.

b) If no, why not?

Why Not use Avenue Road Centre?	Number of Respondents
Finding time	18
Lack of information	6
Lack of interest	6
Not answered	5

Why Not use Avenue Road Centre?	Number of Respondents
Not applicable	28
Other commitments	1
Too Far to Travel	1

c) Do you use the community centre on Parkside Road?

20 respondents stated that they used the community centre on Parkside Road. 43 said they did not and 2 respondents did not answer.

d) If no, why not?

Why Not Use Parkside Rd Centre?	Number of Respondents
Finding time	16
Lack of information	3
Lack of interest	11
Lack of self-confidence	2
Not answered	12
Not applicable	18
Other commitments	1
Too Far to Travel	2

e) Are you aware of the residents association?

36 respondents stated that they were aware of the residents association. 28 said they were not aware and 1 person did not answer.

f) Have you or your family ever been involved in the residents association?

17 respondents stated that they or their family have been involved in the residents association. 43 respondents said that they had not and 5 respondents did not answer.

Of the 17 people who said that they or their families had been involved in the residents association, 16 said that they were involved in open meetings, 4 said that they were involved in clean ups, 3 said they had been on trips with the residents association and 1 stated that it was for an alternative reason.

(In answer to the above question respondents often ticked more than one option)

g) *How safe do you feel in your home?*

In response to the above question respondents were asked to rate how safe they felt in their homes.

27 people said that they felt very safe – safe.

32 people said they felt fairly safe.

5 people said they felt unsafe – very unsafe.

1 person did not answer clearly.

Those who claimed that they felt unsafe were asked to explain why. Only 4 respondents chose to elaborate. The explanations given were, youth in woodland, problems with drugs, no alarms and kids throwing stones / eggs at houses.

h) *How safe do you feel on the estate outside your home?*

Respondents were asked to rate how safe they felt on the estate.

17 people said they felt very safe – safe.

21 people said they felt fairly safe.

17 people said they felt unsafe- very unsafe.

10 people did not answer.

5 respondents commented on why they felt unsafe on the estate. Reasons were gangs on street, drug dealing and kids throwing stones and eggs at houses.

i) *How safe do you feel during the day and during the night on your estate?*

Respondents were asked to rate as above.

30 people said that they felt very safe – safe during the day.

26 people said they felt fairly safe.

5 people said they felt unsafe – very unsafe.

4 people did not answer.

17 people said they felt very safe – safe during the night.

21 people said they felt fairly safe.

18 people said that they felt unsafe – very unsafe.

9 people did not answer.

2 respondents gave explanations for why they felt unsafe at night. These were lack of lighting and cars mounting pavements. Another respondent said that he would not feel safe going to the shop alone at night.

j) *What do you think could be done to improve safety or reduce crime on the estate?*

Improvements	Number of respondents
Maintenance of Snickets	9
Better Lighting	30
Traffic Calming	11
Better security	18
Estate Warden	17
Police Presence	44
Neighbourhood Watch Schemes	27
Better Parking	7
Other	12

Other suggestions to improve safety and reduce crime included the installation of CCTV, a park / play area for children, more work with young people by religious bodies and the widening of roads.

k) *In general what would make you get more involved in attending residents meetings and using the community centre?*

Provision	Number of respondents
Provision of Childcare	9
Night Classes	7
Better Information	16
Help with language	1
Help with Reading / Writing	2
Going with a friend	7
Transport Provision for Elderly/Disabled	14

l) When there is a specific issue, which directly affects you and your estate, in which manner do you prefer to be consulted about it?

The most popular method of contact amongst the respondents was newsletter, 48 people selected this option. 14 people choose public meetings in the evening, 8 choose public meetings during the day, 13 choose formal letters, 6 choose social evenings and 4 opted to be informed via telephone.

Section 8: Additional Questions

a) Having CCTV can out crime.

61 respondents agreed with the statement above. 4 respondents did not comment.

b) Are you aware of the 'Dob in a Dealer' initiative?

42 respondents claimed that they were aware of the initiative, 22 stated that they were not aware and 1 respondent did not answer.

c) Is dog fouling an issue?

35 respondents said that dog fouling was an issue, 29 said it wasn't an issue and 1 respondent did not answer.

d) Would you benefit from a mobile library service?

30 respondents thought that would benefit from a mobile library service, 33 thought they would not and 2 did not offer an opinion.

e) If a tool library were available would you use it?

31 respondents said that would use a tool library if available, 31 said they would not and 3 did not answer.

f) Would you use picnic facilities if they were available in the woodland area around Yorkshire Building Society?

32 respondents stated that they would use the picnic facilities if available, 31 stated that they would not and 2 did not answer.

g) *Would you like to be involved in recycling schemes?*

50 respondents wanted to be involved in recycling schemes, 14 did not want to be involved and 2 did not answer.

Section 9: General/Summary

a) *What are the 3 main things you like about living on the estate?*

58 respondents answered this question – 23 gave 3 responses. Others gave 1, 2 or more than 3 responses. The popular factors about living in this area can be grouped as follows:

Neighbours and sense of community

Responses included good neighbours (18 responses), know neighbours (2 responses), people are friendly (4 responses), friends (3 responses). Other comments were “good community”, “look out for each other” and “good company”.

Peaceful

16 respondents said that the area was quiet, including in summer and October to April. One response was “solitude”.

Access to facilities

9 respondents said they were close to local amenities (shops, schools, church, town). One mentioned the community centre, another mentioned the kids youth clubs, and one respondent was close to work.

Home environment

5 respondents liked their own houses, while 3 liked the position of their homes and one liked the size. 3 respondents were happy with their garden/seating areas.

Wider environment

4 respondents enjoyed the view of the woodlands and one mentioned the open spaces. Other comments were “cultural environment”, “small and convenient”. 3 respondents described the area as clean.

Transport issues

6 respondents felt that transport and transport links were good. The estate itself has good parking (2 responses), is away from main roads (2 responses) and has no traffic (1 response).

Community sustainability

There were several comments about contentment and commitment to this area. These included “know the area/familiar” (2 responses), “no trouble”, “lived here a long time”, “been brought up here”, “just love it”, “pleasant”, “ideal estate”, “suits lifestyle”. 8 respondents said that they lived close to their families, suggesting that this is a community where people have put down roots. (This is echoed by responses to Q4 c) and d), where 34 respondents have lived on the estate for over 20 years, and 53 respondents have no plans to move away.)

Community safety

3 respondents spoke of feeling safe in the area.

b) *What do you consider to be the 3 main problems on the estate?*

60 people made comments in relation to this question. Again either 3 or fewer responses were made. 6 people said “none”, left this question blank or were unclear in their answers. The findings can be summarised as follows:

Crime/anti-social behaviour

This was a prominent theme, specifically young people’s behaviour including loitering (21 responses), joyriding, especially motorbikes and quad bikes (18 responses), general crime including vandalism (12 responses), drug dealing/use (7 responses), Youth crime (2 responses) and burglary (2 responses). 5 respondents mentioned noise, especially loud music at night, while 4 respondents said they had experienced problems with neighbours, one said there was a lack of police presence and 2 complained that their gardens were used as a shortcut.

Environment

Comments made related to: litter/tipping (6 responses), poor lighting (7 responses), lack of cleanliness (4 responses), dogs/dog mess (6 responses), rats, lack of flowers, fencing/lack of fencing to play area (2 responses) and hazards.

Traffic

6 respondents mentioned cars/motor problems, unsafe drivers and 4 said there were problems parking.

Facilities

2 responses cited a lack of facilities, e.g. shops, while 2 mentioned the bus shelter removal as problematic.

Other comments made related to Bowling Park School, and the condition of properties, with focus on bathrooms and kitchens (3 responses).

c) *What 3 main things could be done to improve the estate?*

Security/crime reduction

Suggestions were visible police presence (16 responses), wardens (5 responses), CCTV (11 responses), neighbourhood watch, anti-social orders (2 responses), stop joyriding, move out drug addicts, stop people playing music day and night, stop vandalism, stop children throwing things at houses.

Environment/housing

Comments included cleanup (5 responses), more/better lighting (11 responses), improve properties (kitchens and bathrooms) (3 responses), get rid of verges, use of wasteland, more bins (2 responses), repair pavements (3 responses), fencing/gates (6 responses), gardens (3 responses), more tidiness (3 responses), stray dogs removal, better selection of tenants.

Facilities

Respondents wanted a shopping area (2 responses), more things going on, play area for kids (7 responses), facilities for children/youth club (6 responses) and a mobile library.

Traffic

Better parking facilities (2 responses) and speed bumps were suggested.

Sense of community

Community spirit, and people looking out for each was also remarked upon in this section.

Other comments included “communist unions out” and “less council tax”. 2 respondents were unable to identify any improvements.

Section 10: A Way Forward

a) *Would you be interested in attending a focus group?*

40 people were interested in attending a focus group, 23 were not and 1 did not answer.

b) *Would you like to support the residents association?*

41 people stated that were interested in supporting the residents association, 18 said they were not, 2 did not offer a clear response and 3 did not answer.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The survey has fulfilled its intended aims in finding out how the residents of Parkside feel about the area and their suggestions for how the estate can be improved. There are many ideas as to how to improve the estate. These are fully expressed in the results in question 9.

In addition this section also incorporates some recommendations, which may prove useful as a way forward or for future research.

In general, the findings suggest that people are happy living at Parkside. There seems to be a strong sense of community and a commitment to looking after one another. 82% of people had no intention to move. Only 17% have been victims of crime.

The main concerns amongst the residents of Parkside appears to be issues relating to road safety, anti- social behaviour and crime predominantly in relation to young people, nearly half of the respondents commented on this being a problem.

There are a few points to be made about the sample. Firstly it was heavily weighted towards the older age range. As one of the objectives of the survey was to get ideas of participation and resource allocation, then it would be wise to address the short fall of younger ideas especially considering the demography of the area. Only 2 of the participants were in this younger age range, and many of the perceived problems, especially around road safety, are seen as their responsibility. It is therefore necessary to involve them more in the consultation. It also has implications for the reports findings. The concerns expressed and solutions provided by the respondents will be weighted towards the over 64s. It is possible that the concerns are not shared by the younger end of the age range and that the solutions will not be popular. This does not negate the findings but it does mean that further consultation should be considered.

Secondly, the information from the Community Statistics Project shows 120 carers, 47 with heavy responsibilities on the estate, yet only 3 participated in the survey. These can be a hidden group and need to be considered.

A more detailed analysis is presented below headed by the most prominent themes from the survey results.

Housing and The Environment

57% of those surveyed were owner-occupiers, and 25% are BCHA tenants with a further 10% in housing association properties. This roughly reflects the overall makeup of the Parkside area. Most had lived in Parkside for over 20 years and some lived near their families suggesting a well-settled community. Most suggested that the community and neighbours were the good points of living in the area. As was initially stated, most people have no intention to move.

Many respondents didn't answer the question on the state of their houses, but of those that did, most were happy with them.

In the comments made about the good points about the area, many people say that there is a good community feel to the area- good neighbours, friendly people- that it had good facilities, and that it was peaceful. This directly contradicts those who say

it is plagued by noisy joy riders, or those who play loud music, but perhaps these are problems on particular parts of the estate.

Half of the people surveyed would use the picnic tables, and a massive 77% would be involved in a recycling scheme.

Community Centres and Their Use

Both community centres on Parkside Road and Avenue Road are used, but by less than half the respondents. Parkside centre is particularly poorly used, by only one third of people in the survey. The most commonly cited reason for not using the centres was lack of time. This could be hiding many things: childcare (though most didn't claim this as a problem), caring responsibilities or inconvenient opening times. Importantly, a number of people said they didn't have enough information about the community centre on Avenue Road. The issues regarding a lack of information about the centres could be addressed through the introduction of a leaflet or newsletter. It may also be useful to change the times of existing classes or activities to see if it attracts more people.

In a related question (question 3), most popular suggestions for courses were IT and community work. There are enough people in each group to run a class already and so recruitment shouldn't be a problem. In question 7, where it was asked what would help people attend the community centres, 25% wanted better information, 22% wanted transport for the elderly and disabled, and 14% wanted childcare provision.

Transport

Although approximately half the respondents have a car within their household 55 of the 65 respondents taking part in the survey used public transport. The majority who use public transport think it average to very good. However, 29% thought that the buses were very poor.

Of those who had a car, the majority had no problems in parking. 2 people mentioned that better parking would improve the estate

The one main concern with transport and road safety, however, was joyriding.

In question 5, 55% of respondents had experienced problems with road safety. Most of these were comments relating to joyriding by young people.

Many suggestions were made to tackle this problem, the most popular of which were a visible police presence and CCTV. It was also suggested that problems concerning youth were due to the lack of facilities for young people in the area. More activities aimed at youth, based at the local community centres may be a solution.

Safety

When questioned about safety in their homes, 42% felt safe or very safe and a further 49% felt fairly safe. Only 7% felt unsafe.

A different picture emerges when looking at safety outside the home. During the day, again 7% feel unsafe. This rises to 27% at night.

People's proposals for improving this were mostly related to a visible police presence and more lighting, and 41% were in favour of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. An overwhelming 94% of people wanted CCTV.

Other Issues

The Residents Association was popular, with 63% of respondents wanting to support it. Oddly, when asked how they would want to be informed, 73% wanted to receive a newsletter! Obviously, there are people who prefer to be kept informed but are not interested in actively going to meetings. It would probably not be practical to consult people by phone however as a mere 6% favoured that method of communication. A social evening was not popular either, with only 9% of respondents in favour of it. It should also be noted that evening public meetings were more popular than those during the day.

61%- 40 people – wanted to attend focus groups. Since conducting this survey two focus groups have taken place with the residents of Parkside.

(Details can be found in the appendix)

Future Aims

Parkside Residents Association are now planning to set up 4 priority groups to deal with key issues in the area. These include Youth Inclusion, Health and Social, Housing and Environment and Crime, Safety and Security. The priority groups will be organised and led by residents in the area and funded through Bradford Vision.

By effectively utilising the information gained from this survey and continuing partnership work with local organisations and agencies, Parkside Residents Association hopes to achieve greater community commitment and cohesion and ultimately create a progressive and vibrant place in which to live.

Appendix

Survey Questions

1. ABOUT YOURSELF.

A] Sex. Male Female

B] Which of these age groups do you fall into? (Please tick)

Age. Under 5 5-11 12-16 17-25

26-39 40-59 60-74 75+

C] Which of these ethnic groups best describes you? (Please tick)

White Black Asian Dual heritage Other

2. ABOUT YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

Excluding yourself, how many people within your household fall into each category?
(write a number in each box).

a) Sex. Male Female

b) Age.

Under 5 5-11 12-16 17-25

26-39 40-59 60-74 75+

c) Ethnicity.

White Black Asian Dual heritage Other

3.EMPLOYMENT, SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Which of the following best describes your employment status? (Please tick all that apply).

a) Unemployed House Wife
Student Carer
Employed House Husband
Seeking Employment Housebound
On Benefits Disabled
Retired Other

b) Please tell us about any skills or qualifications you have.

.....

c) If any of the following classes or courses were available would you be interested in taking part? (Please tick as appropriate and state anything else you may be interested in)

	Yes	No
I.T e.g. Word Processing Internet		
Academic Qualifications e.g. G.C.S.E's , A'LEVELS		
English for speakers of other languages		
Basic Food Hygiene		
First Aid		
Reading/Writing		
Arts/Crafts		
Childcare		
Community Work		
Other (Please State).....		

4. TYPE OF PROPERTY / OWNERSHIP

Please describe the ownership and type of property you live in. (Please tick).

a) Type.

B) Ownership.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| House | () | BCHT Tenant | () |
| Bungalow | () | Owner Occupier | () |
| No of Bedrooms | () | Private Rented | () |
| | | Housing Association Tenant | () |

c) How long have you lived on the estate? (Please tick)

Under 1 Year () 1-3 Years () 4-8 Years ()

9-15 Years () 16-20 Years () 20+ Years ()

d) Do you have any intentions to move from the estate? (Please tick).

Yes No Maybe Unsure

e) How would you rate the condition / state of repair of your housing?
(Please tick as appropriate).

	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Windows					
Kitchen					
Bathroom					
Fencing/ Boundary walls					
Garden					
Heating					
Ventilation					
Roof					
Other (please state).....					

5. TRANSPORT / ROAD SAFETY.

a) Does anyone in your household own a car or van?

Yes No No. of cars/and/or vans.....

b) Do you have any problems parking your car?

Yes No

c) Do you use public transport?

Yes No

d) If yes, what form of public / alternative transport do you use?

Bus Taxi Access Bus Other

e) In general how would you rate the provision of public transport services in your area? (Please tick as appropriate).

	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
Buses						
Taxi						
Access Bus						
Other						

f) Have you experienced any problems regarding road safety on your estate?
Please describe

.....

6. CRIME AND ANTI – SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

a) Have you or any member of your family been a victim of crime in the last 12 months? Yes () No ()

b) Was the crime reported to the police? Yes () No ()

If no, why not?

.....

If yes, what form of action was taken?.....

.....

d) If yes, could you comment on the police response to the problem

.....

7) COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

a) Do you use the community Centre on Avenue Road?

Yes No

What do you use the centre for?.....

b) If no, why not?

Lack of Interest Lack of Information

Finding Time Childcare Problems

Lack of Self-confidence Too Far to Travel

Other Commitments (Please state)

.....

c) Do you use the Community Centre on Parkside Road?

Yes No

What do you use the centre for?.....

d) If no, why not?

Lack of Interest Lack of information

Finding Time Childcare Problems

Lack of Self-confidence Too Far to Travel

Other Commitments (Please state)

.....

e) Are you aware of the Residents Association in your area?

Yes No

Have you or your family ever been involved with the Residents Association?

Yes No

If Yes, what activities have you been involved in?

Trips Clean up

Open meetings Other.....

f) If no, why not? (Please tick all that apply).

Lack of interest Lack of information

Finding time Childcare problems

Lack of self-confidence Too far to travel

Other commitments (Please state).....

g) How safe do you feel in your home? (please tick)

Very safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If you do feel unsafe please describe why

.....

h) How safe do you feel on the estate outside your home? (Please tick).

Very Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If you do feel unsafe please describe why

.....

i) How safe do you feel during the day and during the night on your estate?

Day

Night

Very Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>

Again, please describe why.....

j) What do you think could be done to improve safety / reduce crime on the estate? (Please tick all that apply).

Maintenance of snickets	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic calming	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better security Measures (e.g. better locks, alarms, etc).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estate warden	<input type="checkbox"/>
More visible police presence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood Watch Schemes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better car parking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	
(Please state).....	

k) In general what would make get more involved in attending resident meetings and using the community centre? (Please tick all that apply).

- Provision of childcare
- Night classes
- Better information
- Help with language
- Help with reading / writing
- Going with a friend
- Transport provision for Elderly / Disabled
- Other (Please state).....

l) When there is a specific issue, which directly affects you and your estate, in which manner do you prefer to be consulted about it? (Please tick all that apply).

- Newsletters
- Public Meetings Eve
- Day
- Formal Letters
- Social Evenings
- Telephone call
- Other (Please state)
-

8] ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

a) Having CCTV can cut crime

In favour Object

b) Are you aware of the 'Dob in a Dealer' initiative?

Yes No

c) Is dog fouling an issue?

Yes No

d) Would you benefit from a mobile library service?

Yes No

e) If a tool library were available would you use it?

Yes No

f) Would you use picnic facilities if they were available in the woodland area around Yorkshire Building society?

Yes () No ()

g) Would you like to be involved in recycling schemes?

Yes () No ()

9] GENERAL / SUMMARY.

a) What are the 3 main things you like about living on the estate?

1.
2.
3.

b) What do you consider to be the 3 main problems on the estate?

1.
2.
3.

c) What 3 main things could be done to improve the estate?

1.
2.
3.

10] A WAY FORWARD.

a) Would you be interested in attending a one off focus group?

Yes () No ()

b) Would you like to support the residents association?

Yes () No ()

Youth Focus Group

Present: Representative from West Bowling Youth Initiative, representative from TreCC, two representatives from Parkside Community Centre and three residents.

1) What are the key issues affecting the young people of Parkside?

Lack of facilities (motorbikes and quads are a big problem there is no where to ride them)

Safety

Crime

Drugs

Bad gardens/fencing so small children can't play safely

Lack of community cohesion

Anti-social behaviour

Values that they learn at home

Rubbish (left around, so they mess with it)

Lack of education and skills for employment

2) What do young people want?

Play Area

After school clubs

Motor project (BMEP in Holmewood, could transport people there)

Work Experience programmes

Vocational training

MONEY!

3) How do we get young people involved?

Make agencies known, hold a big event to advertise what's available

Offer incentives (drinks/snacks)

Make things informal

Set up a youth forum

Hold a youth club at Avenue Road

Detached youth workers on the estate

4) What is at Avenue Road Already?

Playgroup, Tuesday and Thursday

Crèches, Monday am and Wednesday pm

Parent and Toddler Group, Wednesday and Friday am

Music classes

Tai Chi

THERE IS NO YOUTH CLUB

5) What is available in the area?

Youth Club at WBPP, Mon and Fri Age 13-19

WBYI 17-25yrs Employment Creation, Sport and Leisure, Confidence Building

Sure Start 0-4yrs
Community Development Section
Commit – I.T skills

6) Are people aware of the provision?

No, things are not advertised well enough
Some don't go to WBPP because they have experienced aggression, racism, and territorialism

7) What can we do?

Find funding to get a youth worker based at Avenue Road
Hold Youth club at Avenue Road
Re-start Bonfire Night Celebrations
Local Radio Advertising
Fun Day

Crime and Safety Focus Group

Present: Five local residents.

1) What type of crime have you experienced?

Garden theft
Anti-social behaviour
Fly tipping / litter dropping
Burglary
Criminal damage
Drugs
Joy riding

2) What is crime in the community?

Respondents gave the same answers as listed above.

3) How can crime be combated?

Solutions were similar to those included in the survey. These were more police presence, Neighbourhood watch scheme, CCTV and Neighbourhood Wardens.

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Sure Start West Bowling
Tenants and Residents Community Cohesion
Tenant Involvement Section for West City Housing Trust
West Bowling Peoples' Partnership
West Bowling Youth Initiative
West Central Housing Officer for BCHT
Yorkshire Building Society
Youth Service

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