



# **MUDFORD PARISH COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY OUTCOMES**

**Annual Parish Meeting  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

# **Content**

- 1. Recap on Community Assembly**
- 2. Outcomes – Community Priorities**
- 3. Action Plans (Top5)**
- 4. Next steps - survey**



MUDFORD PARISH  
COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY  
WELCOME

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March**  
**20 residents**  
**Excellent participation**  
**Clear outcomes**

# Community Assemblies

- A structured way for a group of people to **discuss issues or make decisions collectively**, so that all voices are heard and valued equally, and no one person or group dominates the discussion.
- A type of **participatory democracy**.
- An opportunity for diverse experiences, needs, opinions, feelings to be **shared, and respected**.
- A space where people can find **common ground**.



# **The Assembly Discussion**

## **Question 1.**

**What do we think are the main priorities for this community, for now, and the near future, to enable quality of life for all parishioners?**

**(including why they are important)**

# Community Priorities

**Footpaths Walking Access**

**Village Hall Amenities**

**Housing Development**

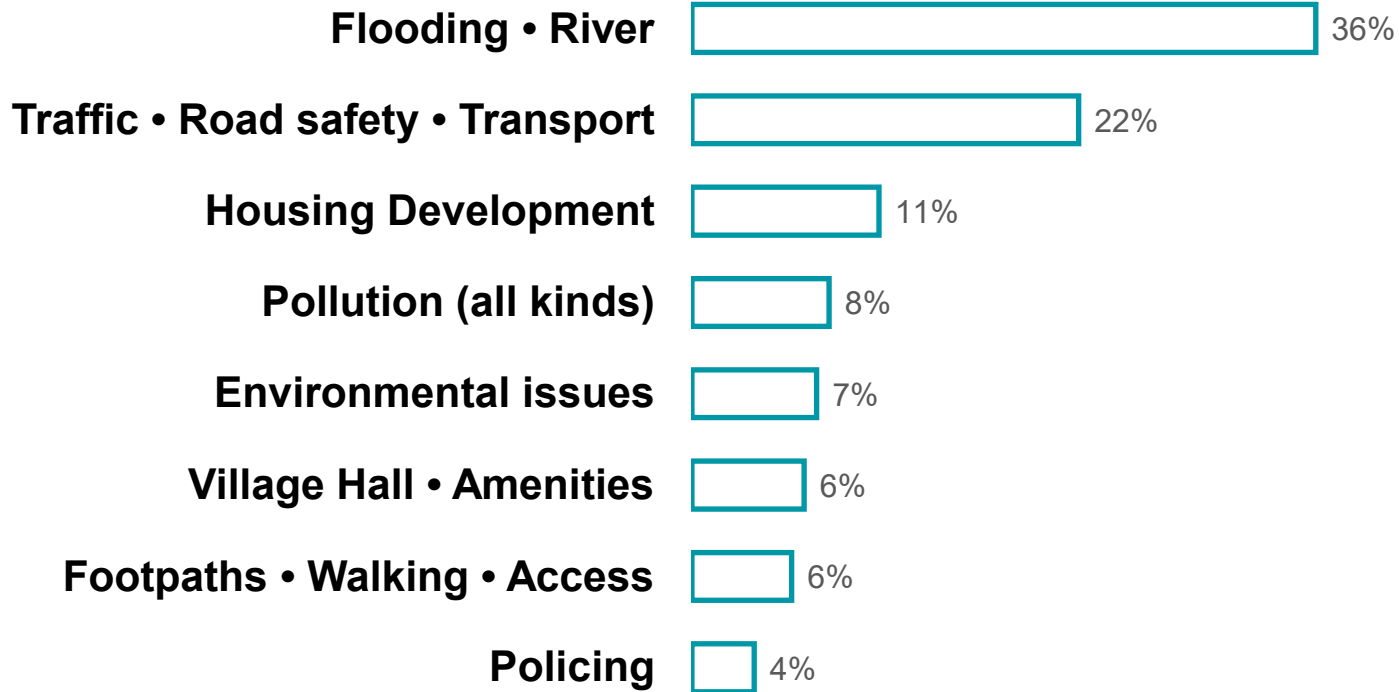
**Flooding River**

**Traffic Road Safety Transport**

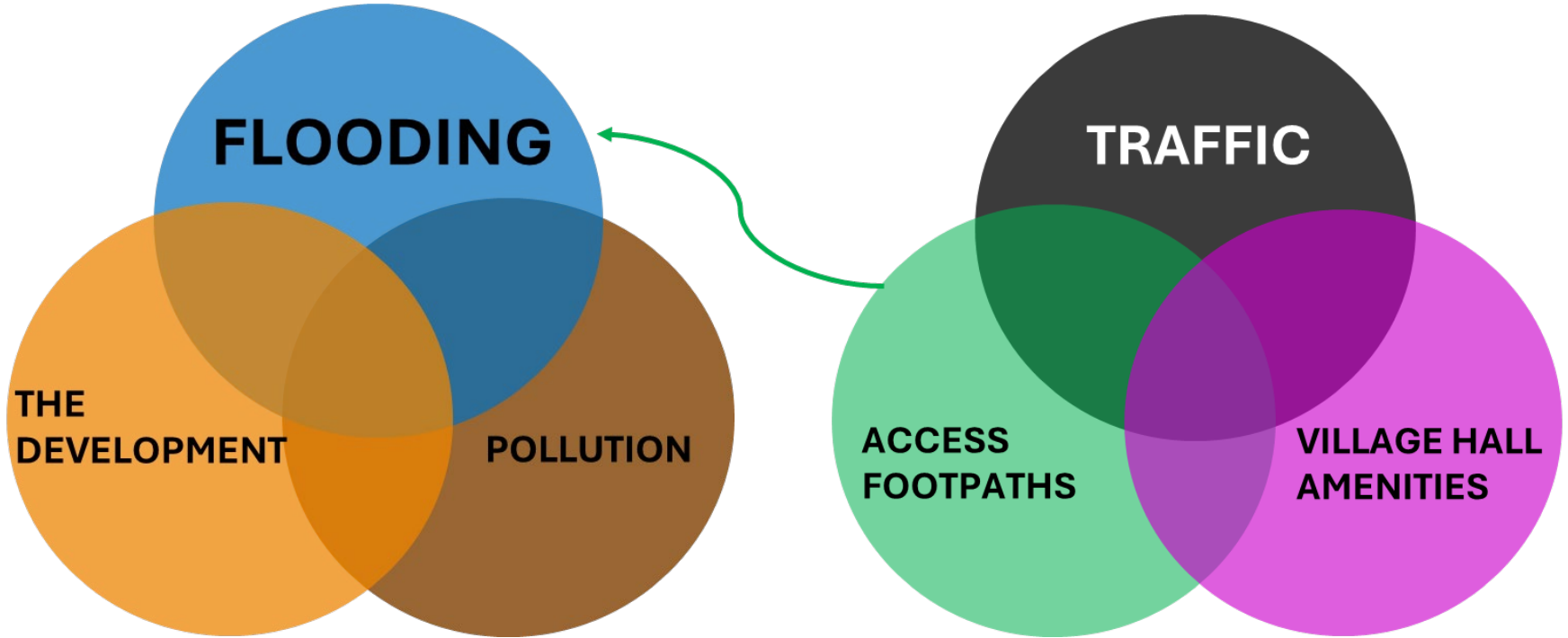
**Environmental Issues**

**Policing Pollution**

# Mudford Community Priorities



# Interconnected Priorities



# 1. Flooding

**Development = worse**

**Infrastructure Drains Bridge Ditches**

**Action Community Resilience**

# **Flooding River**

**Blocked Access Isolation**

**Stress Impact Risk**

**Wildlife Concerns**

**Enviro Concerns**

# Flooding – community experience

*“Lots of stress from fear of getting cut off”*

*“My house is only a whisker away from the flooding area”*

*“The flooding - we couldn't believe it when we saw water flooding off the fields”*

*“Flooding is not just the problem of the flooded community”*

*“Blocked drains need maintenance”*

*“Older people being 'left behind'. Carers can't get in. Buses are stopped.”*

*“The community is not being heard with the flood risk”*

*“The flood group has brought us together as a community”*

*“We need more community engagement and resilience”*

# 2. Traffic, Road Safety, Transport

Roadcrossing

Speed Dangerous Risks

Speed Measures

Beyond The Village

Pavement Parking

# Traffic Road Safety Transport

Road Maintenance

Volume Noise

Speed Control

20 mph

Public Transport

Safety Measures

Potholes

# Traffic, Road Safety, Transport – community experience

*“Zebra crossing is a danger - traffic just ignores it. Requires proper pedestrian crossing”*

*“There are heavy lorries all along the lanes”*

*“Traffic calming is a challenge due to linear road and gradient”*

*“Potholes”*

*“Speed of traffic. Too Fast. Near Misses”*

*“Cars park on pavement causing great difficulty for pedestrians often walking in the road”*

*“Lack of sustainable transport option - buses irregular”*

*“I would like main road to be 20mph and ‘pinch points’, this helps in other villages”*

*“Would like the camera to work and ‘bricks’ to throw at speeding cars like in Canada”*

# 3. Housing Development

**Access To Info**

## **Housing Development**

**Affect On Parish**

**Fill Empty Homes**

**Somerset Council**

**Revise Planning**

**Planning Authority**

**Need Homes**

# Housing Development – community experience

*“We've never been against housing development; we have young people who need housing. We just want reasonable housing that doesn't cause flooding”*

*“It's about profit and money they just want to build these huge development that will affect the flooding”*

*“The council (Somerset County), hasn't listened to us. There is no listening!!”*

*“No sewerage infrastructure for the new proposed developments”*

*“planners are ignoring highways issues resulting from proposed large developments”*

*“Bloor to revise their planning submission*

*“PC needs to know they still have the support to continue to challenge the developments”*

# 4. Pollution

**Impact**

**Health Flooding Stress**

**Monitoring Action**

**Wessex Water Responsible**

**Pollution**  
**Sewage**

# Pollution – community experience

*“They [Wessex Water] used to come and clear up sewerage spoilage on the road, but no more.”*

*“Sewerage spills. We've been monitoring for some time. [Wessex Water] pumping station just down on the corner.”*

*“We interrogate the Wessex Water data on sewerage spills all the time”*

*“Pollution - noise, air quality, litter”*

*“When it floods they just release the sewerage”*

*“My family are farmers and their farmer neighbour was prosecuted and fined for pollution, but apparently it's OK to let human waste spill into people's gardens”*

*“Improve sewerage capacity”*

# 5. Village Hall, Amenities, Access

A word cloud of amenities and access points for a Village Hall. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'Amenities' and 'Village Hall' being the largest and most prominent. Other words include 'Maintenance', 'Support', 'Access', 'Information Access', 'Increase Engagement', 'Footpaths Walking', and 'Defibulator'. The colors of the words vary, including green, blue, purple, red, and orange.

Maintenance  
Support Access  
**Amenities**  
**Village Hall**  
Information Access Increase Engagement  
Footpaths Walking  
Defibulator

# Hall, Amenities, Access – community experience

*“Physical accessibility e.g. parked cars on way to village hall, risk to mobility scooters”*

*“Access to community events due to full car park”*

*“Our concern is that the wider community within the village do not engage”*

*“Secondary glazing / roof will be requiring attention”*

*“Needs to be supported with needs beyond village hall ability”*

*“Information, not everyone is online or has computer”*

*“Consider venues other than village hall e.g. Old people's complex”*

*“Defibulator: How to use it? Need more information”*

## 6. Environmental Issues

**Public Health**

**Environmental Issues**

**Nature**

# Environmental issues – community experience

*“Effluence from water works -  
Wessex Water”*

*“Public health”*

*“Ecological care”*

*“Dog fouling in community  
field and play areas”*

*“Need more trees (and shade)”*

*“Protect wildlife”*

# 7. Policing

**Local Presence Contact**

**Policing**

**Community Effort**

# Policing – community experience

*“Links to fly tipping”*

*“Is there a local  
Neighbourhood Watch?”*

*“We used to have a PCSO”*

*“Better contact. Phone number  
but difficult to get answer”*

# Community Assembly Action Plans



# **The Assembly Plan**

## **Question 2.**

**For your top 3 priorities, how can the Parish Council and the Community meet these priorities / make these improvements? Including what is needed to achieve them.**

# Mudford Community Top Priorities

1

## FLOOD

Every group identified flooding amongst their top3, for 2 groups it was their No.1

2

## TRAFFIC

3/4 groups identified road safety and traffic as top3, for 2 groups it was their No.1

3

## DEVELOPMENT

3/4 groups identified the housing plan as top3, but no group said it was their No.1

# Also Priorities

4

**VILLAGE HALL**

Top3 priority for 1 group

4

**ENVIRONMENT**

Top3 priority for 1 group

# 1. Flood Action Plan

## 1. River Management and Infrastructure

- Clear / maintain drains
- Desilt the bridge / unblock bridge arch
- Fix leaky dams
- Beaver project
- Reinstate the ditch
- Ask farmers to adopt flood prevention methods (contour ploughing, swales)

## 2. Engage Authorities

### Environment Agency

- Request to advise on river management and desilting (and dredging)

### Somerset Council

- Research government money available for flood risks and apply to access it

## 3. Parish Council and Community Action

- Actively engage community support
- Encourage residents to contact Somerset Council to express concerns/opinions
- More (flood) surveys
- Explore community transport e.g. in flood events
- Contact agencies e.g. Yeovil Rivers and Community Trust for support

## 4. Action on Sewage

### Wessex Water

- Community to put pressure on Wessex Water to stop effluent discharge
- Assess anthrax threat from sewage spills

# 2. Traffic & Road Safety Action Plan

## 1. Road Safety Measures

- Reinstate speed cameras
- Traffic-calming schemes e.g. chicanes, speedbumps, pedestrian crossing
- Visual measures e.g. signage, road-markings
- Stunts e.g. pretend lollipop person, pretend brick-throwing
- Address pavement parking

## 2. Speed Limit

- 20mph – push firmly for this with Highways
- Provide Somerset Council with our speed data
- Give data to Police, and seek a dedicated responsible officer

## 3. Cooperation

- Liaise with Marston and Queen Camel PCs to address speed and HGV issues
- Lobby the Police & Crime Commissioner for support and action from local police
- Engage media to highlight issues, create pressure
- Remind Parish residents about speeding

## 4. Traffic Weight and Volume

- Reduce heavy vehicles
- Continue to scrutinise planning application / development for impact on traffic

# 3. Housing Development Action Plan

## 1. Advocacy

- MPC to advocate community concerns to those with influence, and feed back to residents
- Increase engagement with MP Sarah Dyke
- Ask Sarah Dyke to engage Yeovil MP Adam Dance, to increase his interest and support us
- Further scrutiny of development plan
- Review action-plan post-Judicial Review

## 2. Parish Housing Needs

- Negotiate with Somerset Council (backed by MP) for Section 106 funds\*
- Government financial support for affordable housing
- Right-size new homes that meet need and affordability
- Use brownfield sites for smaller homes

## 3. Expansion Risk and Flood Impact

- Protect against potential 'in-fill' development, and absorption of Mudford into Yeovil
- Insist planning accounts for drainage and run-off (clay doesn't soakaway)

## 4. Wider Community Engagement

- Efforts to engage and listen to young people
- Encourage younger people to be more active in community matters
- Awaken village from apathy
- Turn worry into action

# 4a. Village Hall Action Plan

- PC to look at grants towards secondary glazing (approx. £10k) and roof maintenance
- Explore car park expansion
- Improve access to enable more people to visit hall (see Road Safety Action Plan)

# 4b. Environment Action Plan

- Reinstate plan for trees + more trees
- Develop conservation plan
- Educate younger generation about conservation + consequences of not acting
- Church going-green
- Pressure Wessex Water to stop sewage discharge (links to Flooding)



# Next Steps

# Community Survey

- Conducted on behalf of Mudford PC by CLOUT LTD, an independent research company
- Based on the Assembly outcomes and Parish Council focus areas
- All households will be invited to participate, with options for:
  - Online
  - On Paper
  - On paper assisted (in-person or by phone)
- Distributed between 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> June 2026
- To be completed /collected by 30<sup>th</sup> June
- Survey Report expected mid-September
- Outcomes will shape Mudford Parish Community Plan





**Thank you!**