Missendens Community Board
Research into the Needs of Youth and Community
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MAY
Misbourne Area Youth

MISBOURNE AREA YOUTH

Buckinghamshire Council

Missendens
Research into the
Needs of Youth and Community

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1.0 Introduction

In April 2022 Buckinghamshire Council's – Missendens Community Board awarded a grant to Misbourne Area Youth to fund research into the needs of youth and the community within the Missendens area. Since then data has been gathered through surveys, interviews and speaking to the public at organised community events. In addition, 300 on-line responses were received. Individual interviews formed a significant part of the findings. The data collected is summarised in this report.

1.1 Summary of Findings

- There are many organisations in the area that serve the needs of its young people as well as those who travel from outside of the main area in order to attend clubs and use their services.

- It is clear from the surveys that some people who have lived in the area for 5 years or more are not aware of all the services available.

- Many of the young people who completed the survey attend the Misbourne School in Great Missenden with approximately half of those who responded being involved with clubs linked to the secondary school.

- The research was supported by local community leaders and we were able to run focus groups and hold individual interviews. Overall, there is a feeling that more should be provided, particularly for older young people (teenagers). There are more organised activities for primary school aged young people and the local parks and open spaces are more geared towards these younger children.

- Initial surveys focused on activities that young people physically attend. However, It became clear early on that there was a need to also ask young people how else they spend their free time, as technology and the global pandemic have changed the landscape for our youth. Young people spend a significant amount of their time using mobile phones and computer devices. This has led us to consider how we meet their needs going forward.

- For young people to develop their 'in person' social skills, safe spaces are required that allow them to meet. These need to be welcoming, affordable and accessible. For many, socialising takes place at school or online playing games or on social media. This is a new norm and fulfilling for many.

- A number of local activity providers are extremely successful at attracting young people and parents, eg. Prestwood Colts & Girls Football club, Scouts, Guides, Abbey Gym Club, Chiltern Dance Academy. Most rely on parents to transport them to the venue related to the activity. Many youth organisations have goals to informally help their followers to develop, grow and link into the community. However, for the majority this is a secondary objective after their specific primary activity`1. If young people no longer access face-to-face groups, online services may need to be developed to help them engage, meet positive role models and grow.

1.2 How the Research was Conducted

The overarching aim of this research is to encapsulate a wide spectrum of opinions and insights, employing various data sources to ensure the utmost accuracy and depth in our findings.

Qualitative research, as the backbone of this study, aims to transcend mere facts and figures. It delves deep into the intricacies of lived experiences, striving to unearth the meanings and narratives that shape our community's reality. Rather than reducing our findings to statistical metrics, qualitative research allows us to embrace the richness of individual voices and identify recurring themes that resonate throughout the area.

This research represents a collective endeavour, where every member of the community had the opportunity to share their thoughts, views, and opinions. It is with great responsibility that Misbourne Area Youth (MAY) and Buckinghamshire Council take on the role of presenting these diverse perspectives and findings. Our mission is not only to document these voices, but also to inspire and facilitate positive outcomes, steering our community towards a future that aligns with its collective vision.

The research data was gathered using 5 methods over a period of 12 months:

1. Opportunities were presented at five community events within the local area, enabling the public to express their opinions and actively engage in the research process.

2. 300 survey responses were received through three online surveys. The surveys were shared at public events, on the local radio (Wycombe Sound), local newspapers (The Source) and online via the MAY website (mayouth.org.uk).

3. Interviews were conducted with prominent community figures, including community leaders, council members and law enforcement personnel.

4. Focus groups gathered community members to exchange their views and understanding of the issues, further delving into the findings and providing additional insights.

5. To gather responses and raise awareness of the research, we advocated for the needs of young people through local radio broadcasts and newspaper publications.

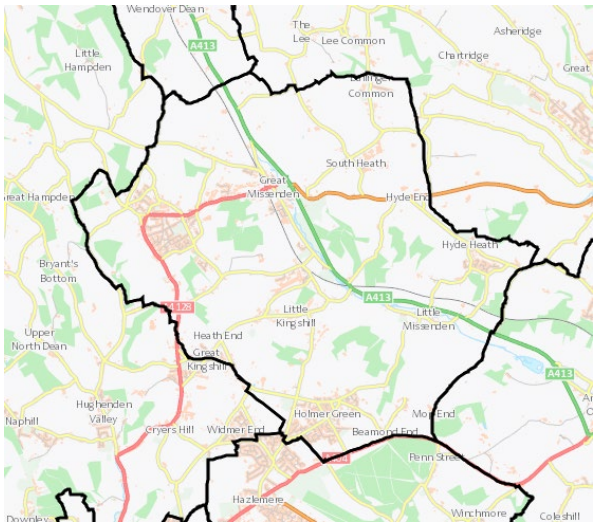
Throughout every event, focus group session and interview, we diligently documented notes and quotes. The quotes included in this document are considered indicative of the prevailing themes. In the section entitled 'Views Shared by the Community,' anonymous quotes are aggregated, while young people's perspectives are presented separately in their own section. To establish their validity, the 'Identified Needs' have undergone assessment and ranking by both young people and other members of the community.

1.3 Community Profile

The Buckinghamshire Council's Missenden Community Board website provides the following information:

- Board members
- Priorities
- Working groups
- Funding
- How to get involved

Use the QR code of the website URL below to visit.
https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/improving-your-local-community/missendens-community-board/



https://buckscouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=f5f3574a321f4d12928101ef4b19271e

The website links to an interactive map showing the ward and community board areas. The map shown includes the place names within the Missendens Community Board.

The Missendens Community Board has published a variety of statistics relating to the area it covers (with benchmarks) including age distribution, number of schools, children in poverty, disability, life expectancy and other trends. This report is available at the following link:
https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s9254/Missendens%20CB%20Profile%203.pdf

It is important to note that in the Board's catchment area Prestwood is the largest centre of population, but with less amenities that smaller centres, e.g. Great Missenden has the train station, skate park, secondary school and library.

1.4 Census data for Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire Census data (2021) collated by Kate Nichols (Young person)
Source: Office of National Statistics. https://www.ons.gov.uk

Population statistics

Statistic	Buckinghamshire	England	Observation
Entire population	553,100 (Female – 282,700) (Male – 270,300)	56,489,800 (Female – 28,833,500) (Male – 27,656,300)	Buckinghamshire has similar male / female averages to England
Young people Age 10-19	67,600 12.22%)	6,432,000 11.39%	The number of young people in Buckinghamshire is above average.
Population density: Number of residents per square kilometre	353	395	The population density is approximately 1/8th (12.5%) lower than the England average.
Number of households with at least 1 usual resident	220,300	24,782,800	Buckinghamshire makes up around 1% of households in England.

Young peoples well-being measures (16-19)

Personal well-being:

Life satisfaction – no short-term change, no long-term change
(2019-20: 31.4% very high, 52.9% high, 12.7% medium, 3.1% low)

Worthwhile – no short-term change, no long-term change
(2019-20: 31.8%, very high, 48.7% high, 15.0% medium, 4.5% low)

Happiness – no short-term change, no long-term change
(2019-20: 36.4% very high., 41.7% high, 15.2% medium, 6.8% low)

Anxiety – no short-term change, no long-term change
(2019-20: 21.1% high, 16.3% medium, 23.3% low, 39.3% very low)

Where we live:
% personal crime – 26.4% and 11.7% in 2012)

Felt safe walking alone after dark – no short-term change, long-term increase.
(2019-20: 80.1% - 72.5% in 2012)

Belonged to the neighbourhood – short-term decrease, no long-term change.
(2017-18: 14.0% strongly agrees, 33.6% agree, 38.1% neither, 9.3% disagree, 5.0% strongly disagree)

1.5 An Overview of the Missendens Area

The Missendens area includes Great Missenden, Prestwood, Holmer Green and smaller surrounding villages and hamlets and is characterised by a mix of rural and suburban communities. The area is known for its picturesque countryside, parts being in the Chilterns AONB. Here are some key demographic aspects:

1. **Population:** The population of the Missendens area is relatively small compared to larger towns and cities in Buckinghamshire. It is primarily a residential area with a mix of retirees, local workers and commuters

2. **Age Distribution:** Although the age distribution in the Missendens area includes residents of all age groups, made up of families, working professionals, retirees and a significant number of young people, it is weighted towards the elderly. The exact distribution may vary from town to town and village to village.

3**. Ethnicity:** Buckinghamshire, including the Missendens area, is known for its diverse population. While the majority of residents are of White British ethnicity, there is also a growing ethnic diversity due to immigration and suburbanisation.

4. **Education**: Education standards are generally high in Buckinghamshire. The Missendens area is served by several primary, junior, combined schools, and in secondary education, by grammar schools that are out of area, and upper schools within the area. Great Missenden, in particular, is home to The Misbourne School, a popular upper school. As a result of the selection procedure, there is a profound impact on families, friendship groups and often the self-confidence of young people.

5. **Employment**: Employment opportunities within the Missendens area are limited with many residents commuting to nearby towns, like High Wycombe, Aylesbury, or London for work. The local economy employs some residents in local businesses, including shops, restaurants, healthcare services. The impact of home working on the young people of the area is real, but has not been explored here.

6. **Housing**: Housing in the Missendens area consists of a mix of all kinds of housing (owner occupier and rented - both privately and through social housing) and is indicative of significant diversity of wealth, roles and background. Housing is expensive and in recent times a relative lack of new affordable housing stock for younger people has impacted on the age profile of the area.

7. **Transportation**: The state of transportation links in the area can be divided into local and trans-local. The latter served by the Chiltern Railways line providing direct train services to Aylesbury and to London Marylebone, with its link to the underground network. These run along main artery routes - making them a popular choice for commuters. However, there is still a high dependence on the car. Local public transportation is a different picture with limited bus services between villages and time restricted timetables. This, along with the impact of lack of street lighting, the poor state of the roads and pathways makes getting around the area by either bicycle or foot both difficult and dangerous.

8. **Community and Lifestyle**: The Missendens area has close-knit communities within it, but these tend to make for a fragmented whole where there are significant gaps. There is a lack of infrastructure generally, but particularly for young people in some areas – Prestwood being a prime example. There are various community events, activities, websites and a local newspaper – The Source for HP16 - which aim to bridge some of the gaps, but a lack of strategic thinking and investment means that a well-integrated community feel is lacking. It is known for its beautiful countryside, including the Chiltern Hills, which offer opportunities for outdoor activities and leisure for those who are able or wanting to take advantage of it.

Visit the Office for National Statistics website (ONS) for the latest census reports, local government statistics for statistics gathered after September 2021. https://www.ons.gov.uk

1.6 Context

The context of this research is that the experience of young people at this time has been profoundly affected by a number of changes and challenges which have impacted on all of them, resulting in a positive response from some but, as would be true of any impact, some relatively neutral responses and, for many, has resulted in real harm. This not only affects the contents of the research, but also the willingness and confidence of many to respond to it. Hence, whilst multiple requests were made to thousands of young people through schools, organisations and social media, the response rate was indicative of this harm. The specific factors that are recognised to have created this situation include:

1) **The Covid pandemic** which has had a profound impact on young people in terms of their education, wellbeing, relationships and activities.

2) **Communication devices** - Online has been declared to be essential and 'good' by those in education, yet the amount of screen time admitted by most young people is declared to be harmful by children's psychologists (and most adults!)

3) **Educational establishments** are trying to do more-and-more (teach, mentor, pastor, discipline, feed, create opportunities) without the resources or continuity of provision that are needed to meet the specific needs of every young person. Some young people love school, others are forced to go despite fears and anxiety (recent truancy data confirms this).

4) **Lack of investment in infrastructure for young people**. When funding for youth workers was withdrawn by the government in 2012 the impact was both immediate and long term. Over the years

voluntary bodies and charities have done their best whilst finding that the supply of youth workers has dried up. The places young people can meet have been eroded through lack of investment and youth work has become primarily delivered in single objective organisations, eg. sport, arts, uniformed.

5) **The dynamics of family and community life have changed**, creating uncertainties about identity, security and confidence.

Community Safety - During an interview with PCSO Chris Hinkley-Ging, Thames Valley Police Community Team, the following insights were shared:

- *"The biggest factor affecting young people is isolation and lack of social skills".*
- Since the onset of the pandemic, there has been a notable increase in the number of young people staying at home.
- Crime rates in the Missendens area are considerably lower when compared to national averages and the incidence of reported crimes is relatively infrequent.
- In the last 12 months, all reported crimes were far less than the national average. As an example, there were 45 instances of anti-social behaviour, 16 reported burglaries, and 15 incidents related to drug offences. Importantly, there is a trend indicating that young individuals are not frequently carrying knives. Additionally, the report indicated 12 cases of shoplifting and 41 incidents of criminal damage.
- With regard to young people, online safety is becoming a significant issue. In many cases, young people are more computer savvy than their parents and parental controls are often lapsing.
- It is unlikely that young people will move away from using mobile phones, but perhaps there is something positive that we can provide online for them.

  In the past, role models were more like community heroes. More recently, role models are famous, living lives of millionaires or appear in shows like Love Island, Big Brother or similar reality shows.

One of the results of all these changes and challenges is that many young people spend most of their time alone in their bedroom relating to their peer group through mobile devices. This research cannot easily reach all these young people.

2.0 Views the Community Shared

2.1 Views from Teenagers

Results from the surveys from the Misbourne School

The Misbourne school provided 128 responses from teenagers via an online survey. The results gathered details of device screen time, time lived in the area, after school clubs attended and ideas for new activities and resources. The most popular themes and ideas are listed below.

Popular activities attended:

- Football
- Netball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Scouts
- Arts
- Dance
- Gym
- Climbing

What new activities would you like to see?

[Most young people were not sure or did not complete this question]

- A wider range of clubs
- A supervised space
- Basketball
- Dance
- Teenage support groups
- Swimming
- Field trips
- Board games club
- Music clubs

Quotes from young people.

- “We have a pool table in our after-school club and lots of people enjoy that. We also have a breakfast club”.
- “We should have a face-book page where people can share ideas”.
- “It would be good to have a nearby swimming pool”.
- “Nearly all my friends enjoy playing computer games like Fortnite. We can do this from our own computers”.
- “I feel like most people my age don’t have much to do until they are 18 and can then go to the pub”.
- “We need to think of other activities that cater for people that don’t want to drink”.
- “I think that most people go home after school. You can’t just go to the park in the winter times because it is too cold”.
- “Money-wise, most people who are under 16 will not have a job and may not have money to come to Costa after school”.
- “I wish we had a skate park because I love skating. I also find that more people are getting into this. It’s come back and is popular now. It would be great for them to have somewhere to go. We have a skate park in Great Missenden, but it is a little run down”.

We interviewed a young person from the Primary School Council in Prestwood and they explained how positive the council was in terms of participation. The council enables young people to share their own ideas and help develop activities in the school like new play equipment.

2.2 Living in the Missendens

About the area
Residents in the Missendens area express their gratitude for certain aspects, including the presence of parks, local clubs, and a sense of community safety. However, their aspirations include the desire for increased activities catering for older youth, improved lighting, and a greater feeling of safety when venturing outside to enjoy these facilities during the evening hours.

Issues facing young people:
- There are not many places to meet friends and socialise outside of school.
- Open spaces, particularly in Prestwood, provide equipment more designed towards younger people.
- Since the pandemic, most young people spend time socialising online
- Transport is an issue for young people unless their parents are able to take them to clubs and social activities.

Places to go
- There are some excellent new facilities in the towns surrounding the Missendens, including the Amersham Lifestyle Centre
- There is a skatepark in Great Missenden that is not heavily used. It requires some repair. The park itself is good, but it is not very near where most young people live.
- The school provides after school activities that benefit a significant number of young people.
- Larger towns including High Wycombe and Aylesbury provide cinemas, shopping, swimming and other sports and recreation.

Diversity
- The diversity in the Missenden area, including its ethnic and cultural diversity, can vary. Buckinghamshire as a whole is known for its diverse population, with people from various ethnic backgrounds and nationalities.
- The level of diversity in any specific area within Buckinghamshire, including Great Missenden, can depend on several factors, including its proximity to larger towns and cities, employment opportunities, and historical settlement patterns. Some areas may have a more diverse population, while others may have a more homogeneous demographic composition.

Transport
- **Train Services:** Great Missenden is served by the Chiltern Line providing a service to Aylesbury and London Marylebone, offering a convenient commute for residents who work or travel to London.
- **Bus Services:** Buses are available in and around Great Missenden, connecting it to some neighbouring villages and towns in Buckinghamshire. These often provide access to other transportation hubs and destinations within the region.
- **Local Transport:** Great Missenden is relatively small, and many amenities, schools, and services are within walking distance for residents. However, the lack of lighting and poor maintenance of pathways makes walking and cycling difficult and dangerous after dark. Public transport within the area, other than on the main arteries is non-existent in the evenings and on Sundays hence reliance on private cars is high. For longer journeys or commuting to nearby towns, the train, bus services are the primary means of public transportation, whilst the car remains the most prevalent form of transport.
- **Young people:** Young people mostly rely on parents to transport them to activities in the area. Although many young people do walk or cycle to school, this becomes problematic in the winter time owing to the lack of lit, safe pathways. Most activities outside of the school provision are not in walking distance. Those who are dependent on school transport are not therefore easily able to participate in after school clubs and activities without having to make alternative arrangements to get home. This further limits their ability to engage with ‘in-person’ events.

Concerns relating to young people and the community

- There is a lack of a central hub for young people to meet and socialise.
- Young people go to different secondary schools so it would be good to have a place for them to meet their local friends.
- We need to give our young people more life skill training.
- We need sports and arts facilities available to young people at a nominal cost. It should not be free, but it should be affordable.
- We need to help young people find independence.
- More proper jobs are needed for young people.
- I think there should be more for the young people to do as they are mostly just playing computer games.
- To be brutally honest, I think that drugs are a big part of youth culture. I was lucky not to get involved, but lots of people get peer pressure to experiment. There needs to be more support on this. You get a few lessons at school saying that 'Drugs are bad'. We need more than that because telling a young person not to do something can make them want to do it more.
- So many people wish they had more friends or might want to distract themselves from things at home. When you have a group of welcoming friends, everything is better. We need clubs that can welcome new people and help them fit in.
- Computer games can be good in the right setting, but war games aren't always the best.

Quotes relating to mental health and the pandemic.

- "I have noticed that a lot of my younger friends are dealing with depression and anxiety and general mental health issues".
- "Because of lockdown, it has stunted their mental growth in a sense and they have become more anxious. People suffer from social anxiety and they lack social interaction because of lockdown".
- "Having a place for young people to meet will help people come out of their shell, have support and a community".

Quotes about transport from the interviews

- "Organisations like the Chiltern Foundation offer minibus hire".
- "The transport could be improved generally".
- "There is no bus to Wycombe before 9:30am".

Hopes for the future

- Local businesses should be providing more work experience for youth and paid work.
- It would be nice for young people to have mentors, for example adults showing young people skills and interests. This is a way that the community can get involved.
- When I was younger, the PTA of one of the schools realised that there weren't many places for young people to go locally, so they raised funds to build and run a two-storey building for young people. A school gym-style hall and tuck shop downstairs and table tennis, pool tables and seating area upstairs. They sometime did dance/drama activities and games and sports club activities in the hall plus a monthly disco aimed at age 11-15 year olds. It was open several nights a week and you paid a nominal amount to go. This was in an outer London area, a half hour bus ride from the nearest large town and with decent bus links. It would be nice to have something similar in the Missendens Area.
- We need places where young people are safe
- If we had a building, we could have a club during the week to enable young people to attend. The building could also be used for people to try new things like art, or similar lessons.
- I heard there was a library around here and I have wondered if this could become a social place for young people. I know libraries can be quiet, but perhaps it could be used. Maybe it will help the library and the young people?

2.3 Young people and Activities

Most individuals believe that secondary school-aged youth require additional opportunities for engagement. The consensus is that children up to the age of 11 have access to sufficient activities. However, there are significant shortcomings in the available options for young people as they transition to secondary school age.

Existing facilities

Activity attended	Responses
Football	10.26%
Music	10.26%
Basketball	7.70%
Netball	7.70%
None	7.70%
Scouts	7.70%
Swimming	6.44%
Guides	3.84%
Art	2.56%
Climbing	2.56%
Cricket	2.56%
Dance	2.56%
Dog walking group	2.56%
Golf	2.56%
Karate	2.56%
Air Cadets	1.28%
Amersham gym	1.28%
Ballet	1.28%
Cadets	1.28%
Community volunteering	1.28%
Horse Riding	1.28%
Judo	1.28%
Leisure centre	1.28%
Park run	1.28%
Pony club	1.28%
Revision after school	1.28%
Rock climbing club	1.28%
Roller-skating	1.28%
Rugby	1.28%
Tennis	1.28%
Tutoring	1.28%

Ideas for new activities

These have been collated and grouped. Many people had the same ideas for activities and many of these already exist in the area, but may not be accessible or affordable.

Afterschool clubs other than sports and music
Art club with teaching, good resources and supplies
Badminton
Board games club
Climbing wall
Cycle club
Dancing
Fitness club
Football and football for girls
Gym
Horse related activities
More field trips
Netball and training
Public speaking classes
Swimming club / swimming team
Teenager support groups e.g dog walking, animals or walking
Textiles and design
Trampoline club

Quotes from interviews

- “At youth clubs young people can find others with the same interests”.
- “Computer games can be good in the right setting, but war games aren’t always the best”.
- “Computer games can be good when you are socialising too. You can bond over games and make friends and enemies!”
- “When it comes to bullying, social media is quite a thing. Spending too long on social media isn’t good for me”.
- “Social media could be used to reach young people with positive things. Lots of young people are online but this sort of thing needs to be monitored”.
- “I’m not a book reader, but I really think having a safe space in the library would be good for young people”.
- “Lots of people do sports after school. Having after school clubs give young people an option. We need clubs with variety so that more people can be welcomed. Trying new things can open people’s minds”.
- “Money wise, most people who are under 16 will not have a job and may not have money to come to Costa Coffee after school”.

2.4 New and Existing Activities

The prevailing sentiment is that there is a need for more activities to engage secondary school-aged young people. It is generally believed that those up to the age of 11 have ample options available to them, but notable gaps exist in the offerings for youth as they progress into secondary school age.

At the focus group, it was considered that organisations should have a forum or event where they can publicise what they have to offer. This could link in with existing public events and organisations would be able to meet parents and young people to share what they have to offer.

A helpful list of organisations and community links can be found at the Prestwood Village Association website: https://prestwoodva.org.uk/business-directory/

2.5 Education and Schools

In the Missendens area, teenagers who go to secondary school face different challenges compared to some in other places. The selection system creates an environment that inspires and motivates some (in both grammar and upper schools) but in others can engender various negative emotions: fear of failure, hopelessness, pride, anger etc. Many of these young people have attended nearby primary schools where they have developed friendships that are not sustainable when in different secondary schools.

It's important to note that in the UK, on average students travel about 2 kilometres to their secondary schools, but in the Missendens area, it's more like 5 kilometres, which means the local youth have to travel further, yet without the transportation links that would best facilitate this. The Misbourne School offers some after school activities, but this creates more transportation difficulties. There aren't many places to go for learning or socialising after school hours.

Furthermore, those young people who attend private or grammar schools have even further to travel, and the friendship circles they develop can mean travelling as far as 40miles to visit a friend. This has an effect on relationships after primary school age and therefore the educational system can be viewed as divisive.

2.6 What could be Improved in a Year?

Within the span of a year, notable enhancements can be achieved with a modest allocation of funding, bolstered by support and resources. This research report aims to serve as an inspiration for local organisations, encouraging them to seek funding opportunities for the purpose of establishing sustainable activities in the times ahead.

Recommendations:

1. Provide a space accessible to young people where they can find creative things to do.
2. Create online resources including podcasts and videos for young people that are educational and engaging.
3. Promote the idea of a lifestyle centre in the area that is similar to the new centre in Amersham.
4. Encourage a forum for youth leaders in the area to meet and share ideas and resources.
5. Publicise existing activities and services available to young people.

2.7 Vision for the Future

The community has been talking about its biggest problems and suggesting some long-term solutions. While fixing these issues within a year might not be possible, we can work together as a community and with various groups to solve them in the future. The section below highlights 5 identified needs. These are discussed in the podcast available at the following link.

PODCAST



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3w1hSmVQCU

3.0 Identified Needs

Thoroughly examining and assessing the outcomes has pinpointed 5 distinct needs. It's important to note that these are not presented in a hierarchical order of importance.

Need 1 - Space for young people to meet

Provide a space accessible to young people where they can find creative things to do. Many of the young people identified that there was no space where they could 'be'. Amersham Lifestyle Centre was put forward as an example of what was meant by this. This is clearly not appropriate or achievable in the Missendens area. However it is possible to envisage a solution. This possibility will be proposed in a later paper (so that potential stakeholders can be approached).

Need 2 - Online opportunities
Create online resources including podcasts and videos for young people that are both educational and engaging. There are local people with skills and resources who could be approached within a planned programme.

Need 3 - Community hub in the future
Promote the idea of a lifestyle-type centre locally that is similar to the new centre in Amersham.
See no. 1

Need 4 - Collaboration amongst organisations
Encourage a forum for youth leaders to meet and share ideas and resources. The engagement of youth leaders in a positive and syncretistic way could be encouraged and thereby made helpful to young people by simply making sure that the organisations which deliver activities understand the needs and diaries of the young people they serve.

Need 5 – Publicity
Publicise existing activities and services available to young people. A community information fair will help publicise and promote activities and services.

3.1 Evaluation of Identified Needs

A podcast has been created which can be listened to online at the following link. The Misbourne Area Youth website also have a webpage dedicated to the survey results. mayouth.org.uk/needs

PODCAST

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94WVVIQK-lw

3.2 Conclusion

Many young individuals are spending a lot of their time socializing online, which can be beneficial in some ways. However, it is equally important to offer opportunities for them to gather and interact with their local community in person, and/or to take advantage of their on-line/screen time to develop skills which will benefit them as they move into further education, employment and adulthood.

There are many exciting development ideas available, but achieving them requires different groups to work together. They need to combine their knowledge, resources and locations and jointly seek funding to back long-lasting and environmentally friendly projects.

Creating a youth and community steering committee could bring significant benefits to the community. Such a committee's purpose would be to initiate and drive future projects for young people. It should be composed of local leaders and community members who have commitment as well as deep understanding of the unique needs of our area.

4.0 Appendices

4.1 Interview Questions

A number of general questions were asked in the focus groups and interviews including:

- How long have you lived in the area?
- What would you celebrate about the area?
- Are there enough activities for young people?
- What activities and services are you aware of that young people use?
- What would you like to see developed in the near future?
- How much time do you spend on mobile phones or computer devices?
- If we had the resources available, what should be put in place for young people in the future?

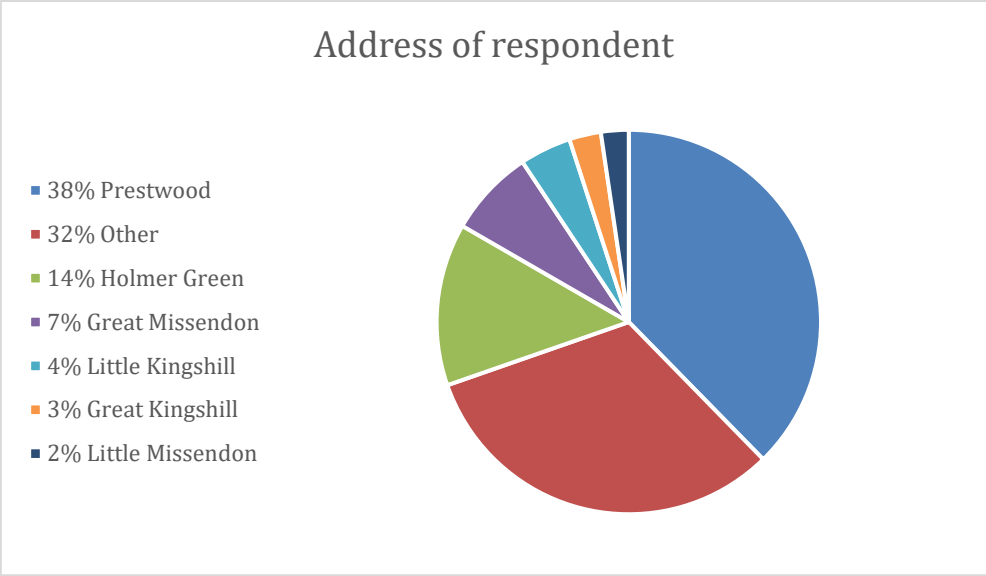
4.2 Questionnaire Results

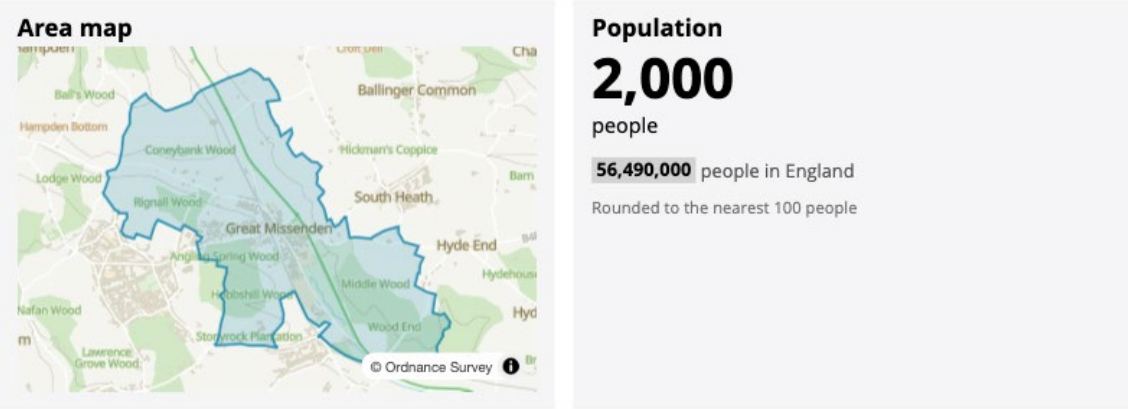
The summary of results from questionnaires and online surveys

Survey results were collected over the year in person and also using online surveys at events.
The chart shows where the 300+ responses were collected. Not every person answered every question, so responses have been shown as a percentage in most instances.

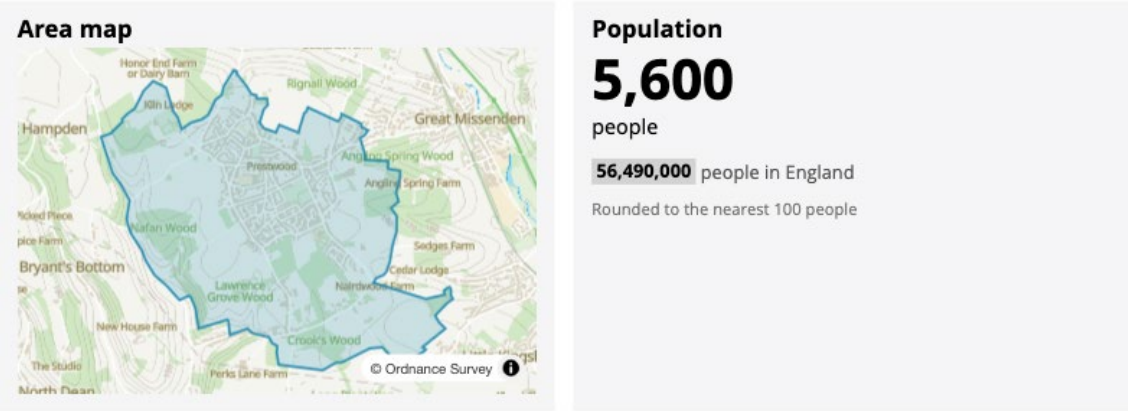
Responses to questionnaires by area:

A higher percentage of residents from Prestwood completed online surveys rather than questionnaires at events. It is important to note that a higher percentage of residents live in Prestwood compared to other villages listed below.





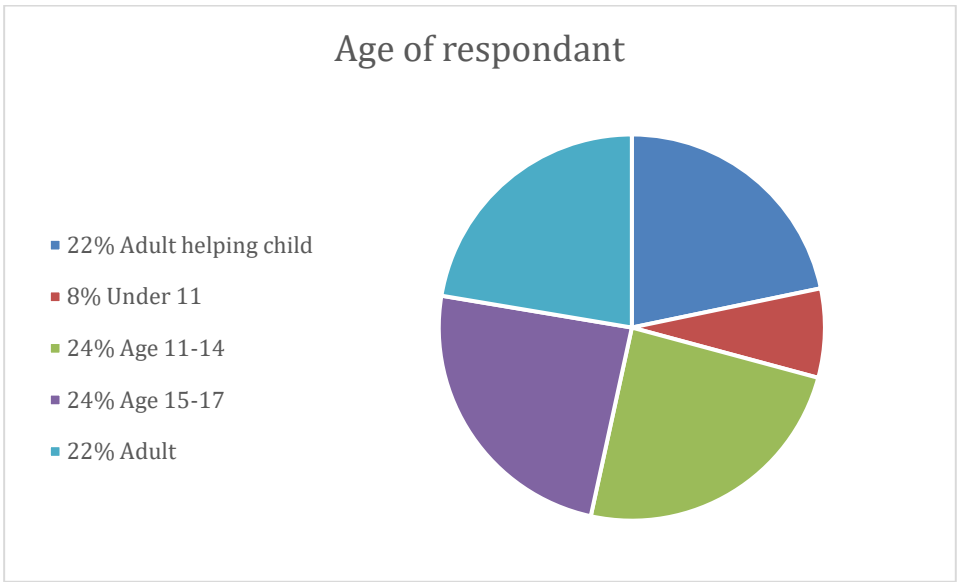
Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

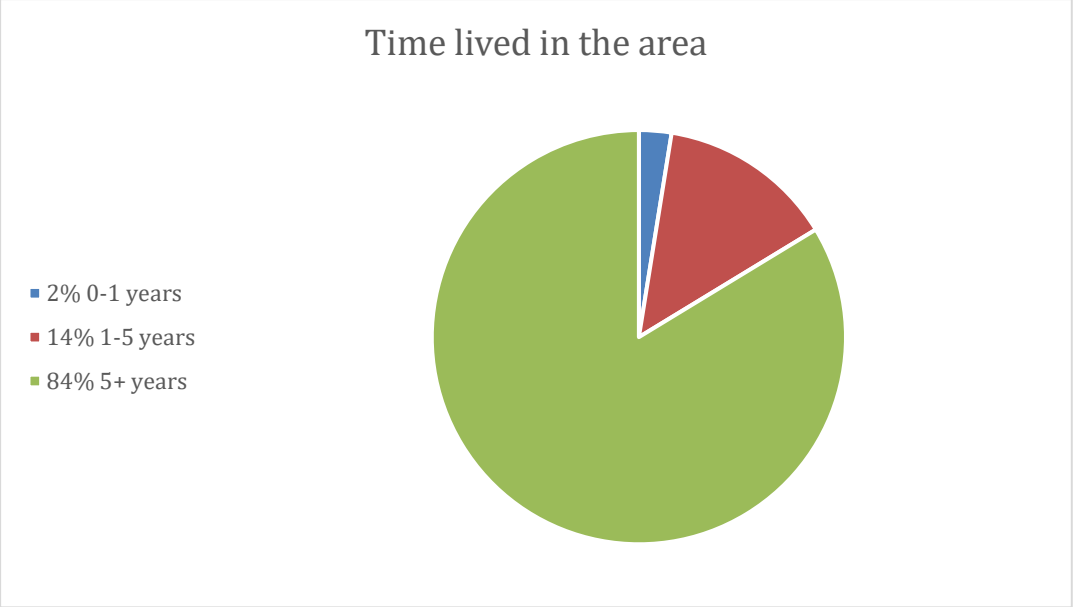
Responses by age:

Young people, up to the age of 18, completed 64% of the questionnaires and surveys. Some adults helped young people complete surveys and this statistic is included below.
12.2% of the population are aged between 10 and 19. This is slightly higher than the average in Buckinghamshire and the rest of England (11%)



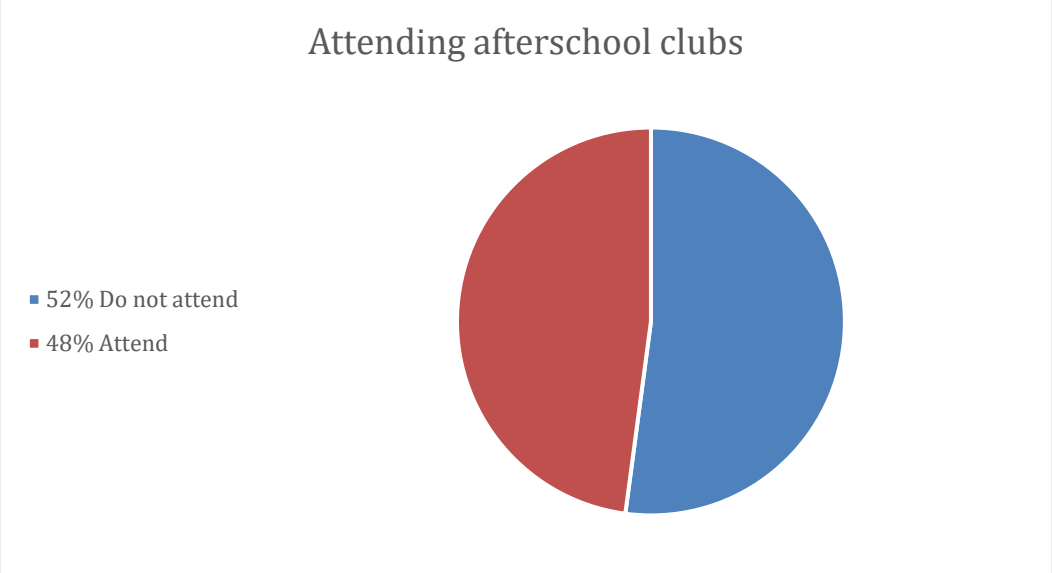
Length of time responders have lived in the area:

Almost all the responses came from people who have lived in the area for 5 or more years.



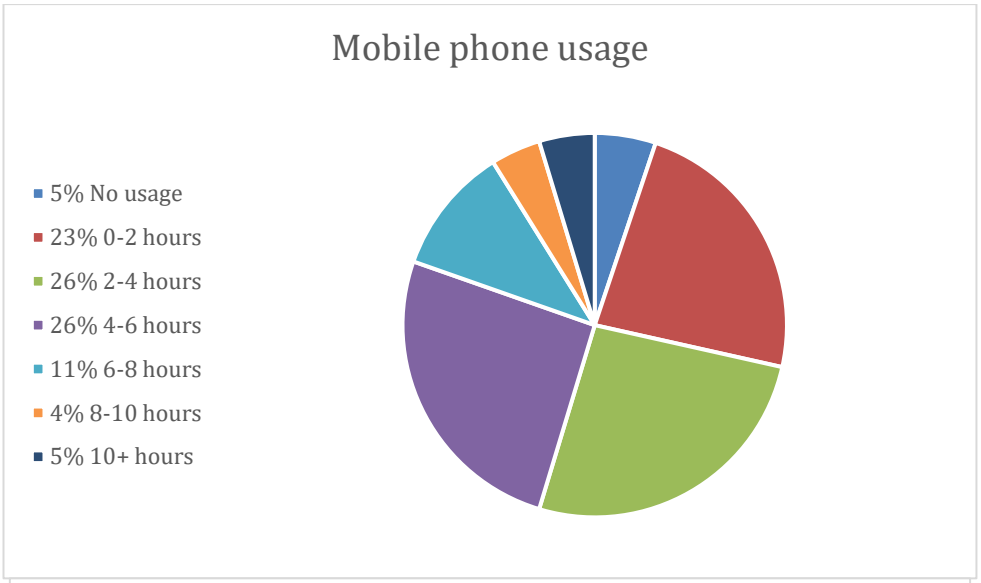
Attending after school clubs:

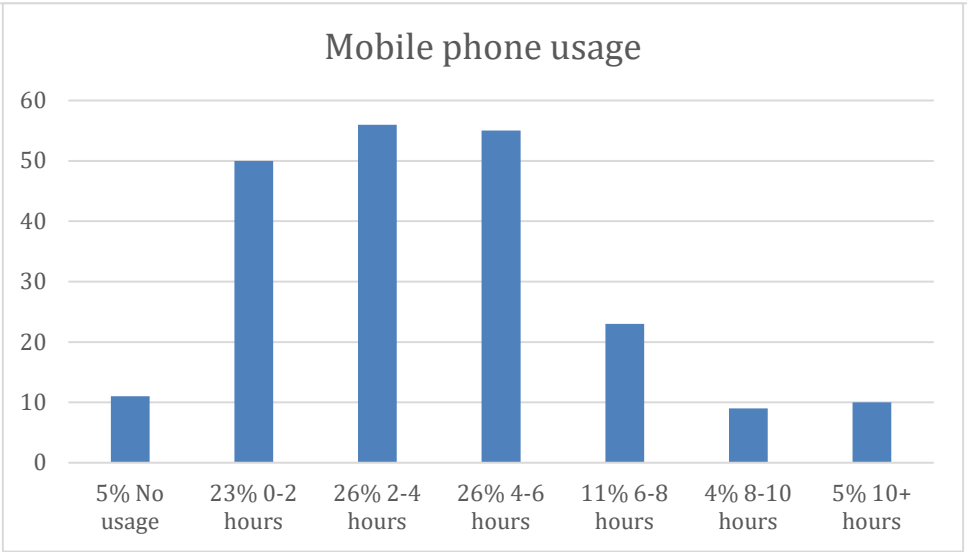
From 128 responses from the Misbourne school, almost half of the students attend after school clubs.



Mobile phone usage:

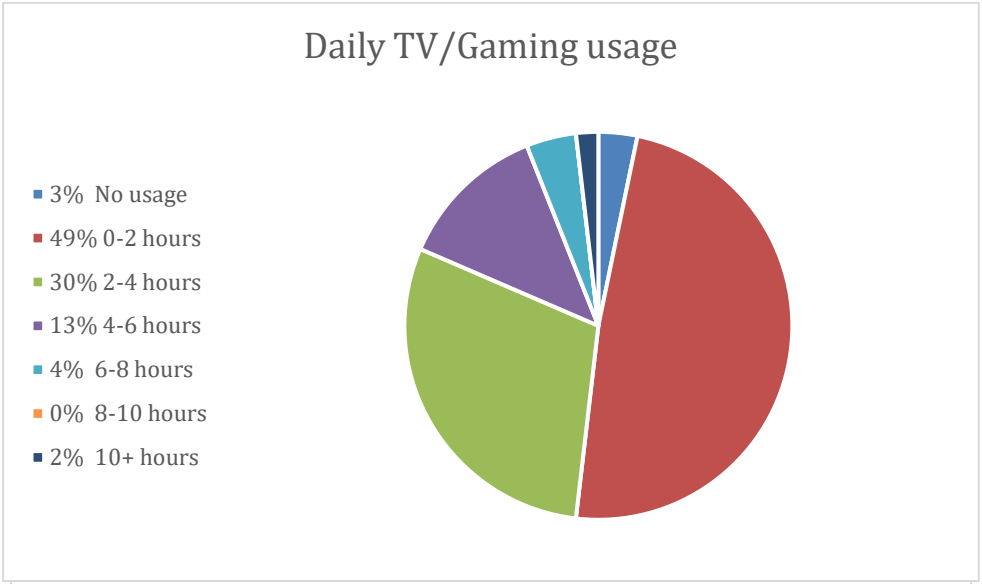
Most young people use their mobile phones on average for 4 hours per day. The amount of screen time per day for individuals can vary widely, and it depends on their age, lifestyle, and personal preferences. However, it's not uncommon for them to spend several hours each day on their mobile phones and watching TV.

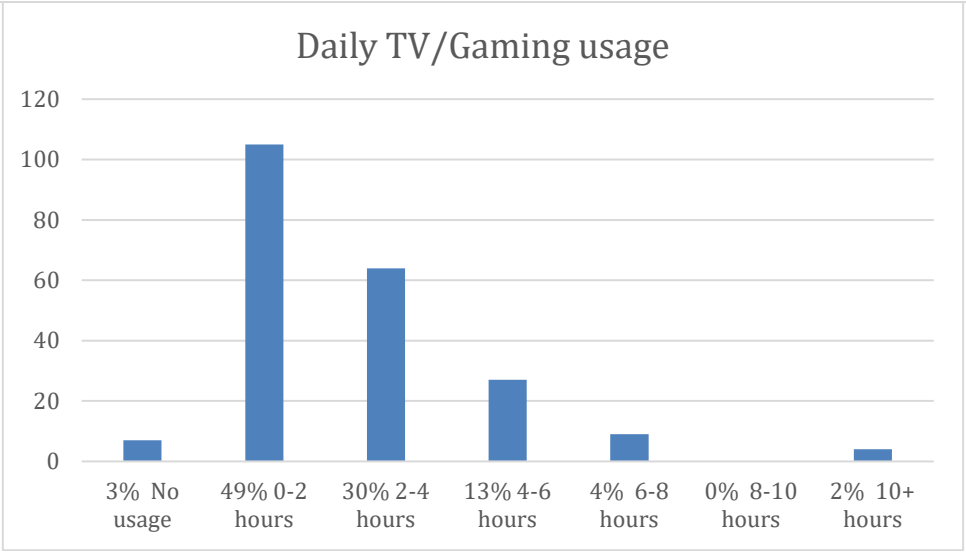




TV and gaming usage:

Alongside mobile phone usage, young people also spend time watching TV and playing computer games.





4.3 Special Thanks

Misbourne Area Youth would like to thank the Missendens Community Board and Buckinghamshire Council for funding the research and enabling the surveys, study and report to take place. Community leaders attended various meetings and focus groups to consider the results and provide a wealth of insight.

Councillor Mimi Harker OBE gave us the opportunity to share the research project on the local Wycombe Sound Radio. This inspired the idea of having podcasts for young people and provide them with a positive resource online. Professional radio and podcast training was offered to our team which enabled the research to become more diverse.

4.4 Contributors and Supporters

Name	Role
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Chris Davy	May Safeguarding Officer
Roger & Mo Evans	Abbey Gym Club
Martin Everitt	Prestwood Scouts
Mimi Harker OBE	Bucks Councillor, Vice Chair Missendens Community Board
Deiniol Heywood	Rector Holy Trinity Church Prestwood
Chris Hinkley-Ging	PCSO Thames Valley Police Community Safety Team
Beryl Marston	MAY Volunteer
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Dave Rollins	Youth Café
Barbara Rowett	MAY Secretary
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Malcolm Stockdale	Prestwood Sports & Leisure Association
Sheena Stockdale	MAY Volunteer

4.5 Links to community websites

Great Missendon Village Association - https://www.greatmissendenva.com/
Holmer Green Village Association - https://www.holmergreenvillagesociety.co.uk/
Prestwood Village Association - https://prestwoodva.org.uk/

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