

# Kiltearn Community Council Community Survey

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2014

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# 1 Summary of the Survey and its Findings

This Survey of the residents of the village of Evanton was undertaken by the Kiltlearn Community Council in 2014. The main objective was, through a Questionnaire, to obtain the community's views on what KCC's priority Action Areas for spending should be over the next few years.

The Survey was undertaken in two Phases.

**Phase 1** was carried out in May 2014 with questionnaires delivered to approximately 850 households in the Evanton area. A total of 117 completed questionnaires were returned which represents almost 14% of those surveyed which is a high response rate for a survey of this type. The Group 1 respondents were almost equally divided between male and female, although 74% of the respondents were from in the over 50s age group.

**Phase 2** was carried out between July and October 2014 and 86 questionnaires were completed by Evanton pupils attending Alness, Dingwall and Invergordon academies.

The high rate of returns from the predominantly over 50s in Phase 1 coupled with returns from a high percentage of all the Evanton young people between 13 and 18 yrs means that this Survey is probably the most comprehensive collection of the views of a significant proportion of the village residents in many years, if not ever.

The questionnaire listed eleven Action Areas and respondents were asked to select their top 3 and list these in priority order.

**Investment in New Facilities** was listed as the highest priority for spending in the Village in the future. Young people and older people alike scored this Action Area with the highest number of votes (108).

**Investment in Existing Facilities** closely followed as the second highest priority Action Area with 86 votes, albeit with the highest percentage coming from the older age groups in Group 1.

The third highest priority Action Area was **Facilities for Young People**. Whilst this came as no surprise from the young people in Group 2, it was interesting to note that this area also featured high on the priority areas of the older respondents in Group 1.

In the light of the above, it was no surprise that **Services and Activities for Young People** was also a high priority, but what was more interesting was the high priority given to **New Community Businesses**. More research into why this was listed so highly, amongst young people in particular, would be useful.

As for the specific topics listed amongst the respondents' comments, the extremely high references to the need for a **Railway Stop** in Evanton was a clear reflection of the general level of dissatisfaction with public transport services. This was particularly true amongst young people in Group 2 who made a number of references to the need for Free Bus passes/Better Transport/Community Transport etc.

The lack of places to meet and things to do in the village was a strong theme amongst young people (and older people too). Coupled with the need for better transport services to

neighbouring towns where there are youth clubs and cafes and many of their school friends and classmates will live, further highlights a degree of isolation amongst young people in the village.

Some of the many comments and suggestions from respondents clearly fall out with the remit of the Community Council, with many being the responsibility of the Local Authority and other organisations. They nevertheless reflect people's concerns and should be conveyed to and taken note of by the relevant statutory bodies.

The different age groups not only have different needs but different hopes and aspirations. It is therefore important to look at the priorities of the young people (13-18yrs) separate from those of the elder members of the community (over 50ys).

Obtaining more views of the 19 – 50 yrs age groups should also be an important exercise in the future, as well as obtaining more clarification from some of this Survey's respondents on what underlined their selection of certain Action Areas.

Clearly further analysis and cross-referencing of the data may reveal other correlations and useful results, and should be undertaken. However, this Survey is a useful and valuable starting point in any discussions on future plans for the village.

## 2 Introduction

In February 2014, Kiltarn Community Council decided to carry out a survey of all households within their area.

The primary objective was to obtain the views of the community it represents on how funds under the management of KCC should be best spent and what the Community Council's spending priorities should be over the next few years.

It was felt that the best method of obtaining this information was through a Community Survey with a questionnaire designed to elicit the information the KCC required.

### 2.1 Questionnaire

The final Questionnaire used consisted of a 4 sided leaflet:

**Side One** set out background on the KCC, its aims and role, together with the reasons for the Questionnaire enclosed

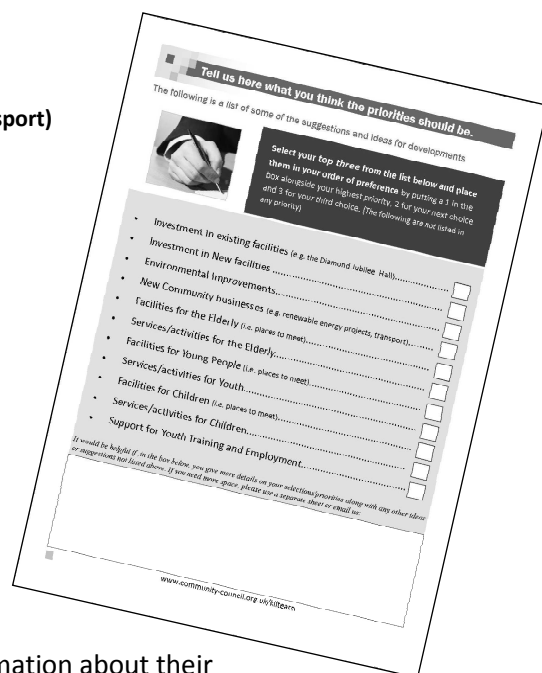
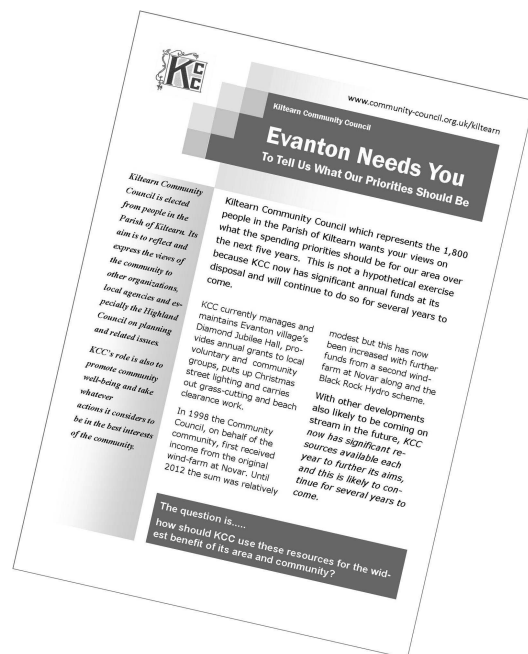
**Side Two** set out a few ideas that had previously been put forward together with some questions to assist those completing the form to think about what priorities should be established

**Side Three** contained a list of eleven broad-based suggestions and ideas for **Action Areas**, each with an accompanying tick box. The Action Area list was as follows:

- **Investment in existing facilities** (e.g. the Diamond Jubilee Hall)
- **Investment in New facilities** (e.g. a new Community Centre)
- **Environmental Improvements**
- **New Community businesses** (e.g. renewable energy projects, transport)
- **Facilities for the Elderly** (i.e. places to meet)
- **Services/activities for the Elderly**
- **Facilities for Young People** (i.e. places to meet)
- **Services/activities for Youth**
- **Facilities for Children** (i.e. places to meet)
- **Services/activities for Children**
- **Support for youth training and employment**

Those completing the questionnaire were asked to select their top 3 from the above list and place them in order of preference. At the foot of this page was a box for people to provide more details on their selection plus any other comments or suggestions.

**Side Four** invited those completing the survey to provide basic information about their



self i.e. whether they are male or female, their age group and finally an optional section for them to enter their name and address if they wished. It was emphasised that providing their personal contact details was not obligatory.

## **2.2 Distribution**

The questionnaire was delivered by volunteers to every household within the KCC area and over 800 properties received leaflets delivered to their door.

Additional copies of the questionnaire were also made available in the Evanton Post Office, the Co-op, Cornerstone Cafe and Scizzors. Questionnaires were also handed out one morning to Evanton school pupils waiting for buses to their Academies in Dingwall, Alness or Invergordon.

It is estimated that a total of approximately 850 leaflets were distributed during the week ending 30th March, and a deadline for the return of completed questionnaires was set for April 16th 2014.

The questionnaire was also put up on the KCC website and people were invited to complete this on-line if they wished.

## **2.3 Initial Appraisal**

People were asked to return all the completed questionnaires to the Post Office where they were collected. The forms were numbered and the data extracted and entered into spreadsheets for analysis.

After analysing the results of the completed questionnaires a preliminary Survey Report was produced for the KCC. This report highlighted the fact that the vast majority of those who had completed the questionnaires were from the over 50 yrs age group. 74% of the questionnaires were completed by those in either the 51-65 yrs age group or the over 65s age group.

Hardly any young people completed the questionnaire and it was clear that whilst there was a high percentage of returns the results could not be viewed as representative of the wider Evanton community. There may be several reasons why young people were not engaged in the initial survey. The likeliest reason was that the overall look and feel of the questionnaire was not sufficiently interesting to grab the attention of the 13 – 18 age group.

Given this disappointing result it was decided we should make a special effort to engage with the Evanton young people and approach the Academies in Dingwall, Alness and Invergordon which were attended by Evanton young people. The Highland Council youth development team kindly agreed to assist and undertake the surveys with the Evanton pupils on behalf of the KCC.

**It was therefore decided to extend the Survey and divide it into two phases as follows:**

**Phase 1** comprised those who responded to the initial surveys distributed around the village and to all the households in April 2014. ***All the respondents in this phase are referred to as Group 1***

**Phase 2** comprised the Evanton young people who attending the local Academies and where a survey exercise was carried out by Highland Council youth development staff on behalf of the KCC. Phase 2 started in July 2014 with the first survey being undertaken at Alness Academy. The school summer holidays interrupted the completion of Phase 2 and the exercise was only completed with

Invergordon and Dingwall academies in October 2014. ***All the respondents in this phase are referred to as Group 2***

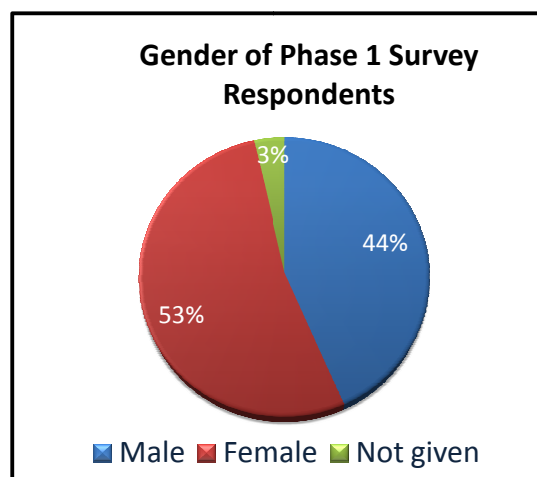
### 3 Group One

#### 3.1 Analysis of Group 1 Respondents

3.1.1 In Phase 1, a total of 117 completed questionnaires were returned. Out of an estimated circulation of 850, this represented a return of almost **14%**. This was extremely encouraging as any return of 10% or more is normally considered a good response for a survey of this kind

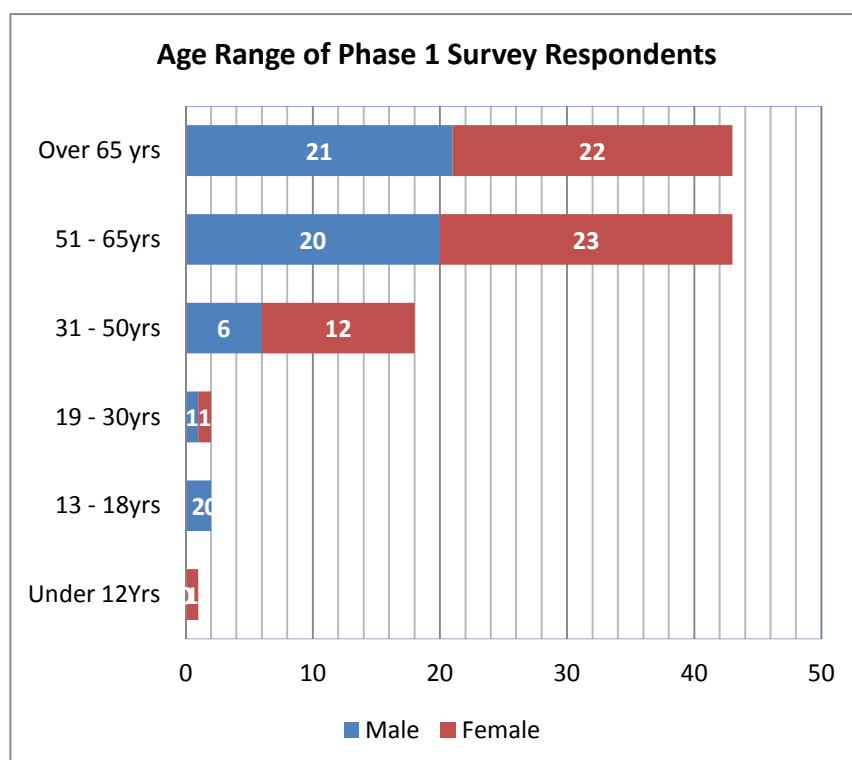
3.1.2 Of the 117 returns, 12 were submitted via the web-based on-line Survey and the remaining 105 completed questionnaires were handed in to the Post Office.

3.1.3 The gender division between the respondents was fairly evenly matched. 50 respondents were male and 61 respondents were female. (4 gave no gender)



3.1.4 Age Range of Respondents

The accompanying graph clearly highlights the fact that the respondents in this Group 1 were predominantly in the over 50s with over 74% falling into this group. These in turn were divided equally between the 51 – 65 yrs category (37%) and the over 65yrs category.





3.1.5 Fifty eight of those who responded also provided their names and contact details which represents just under 50% of all those who responded.

### 3.2 Action Areas

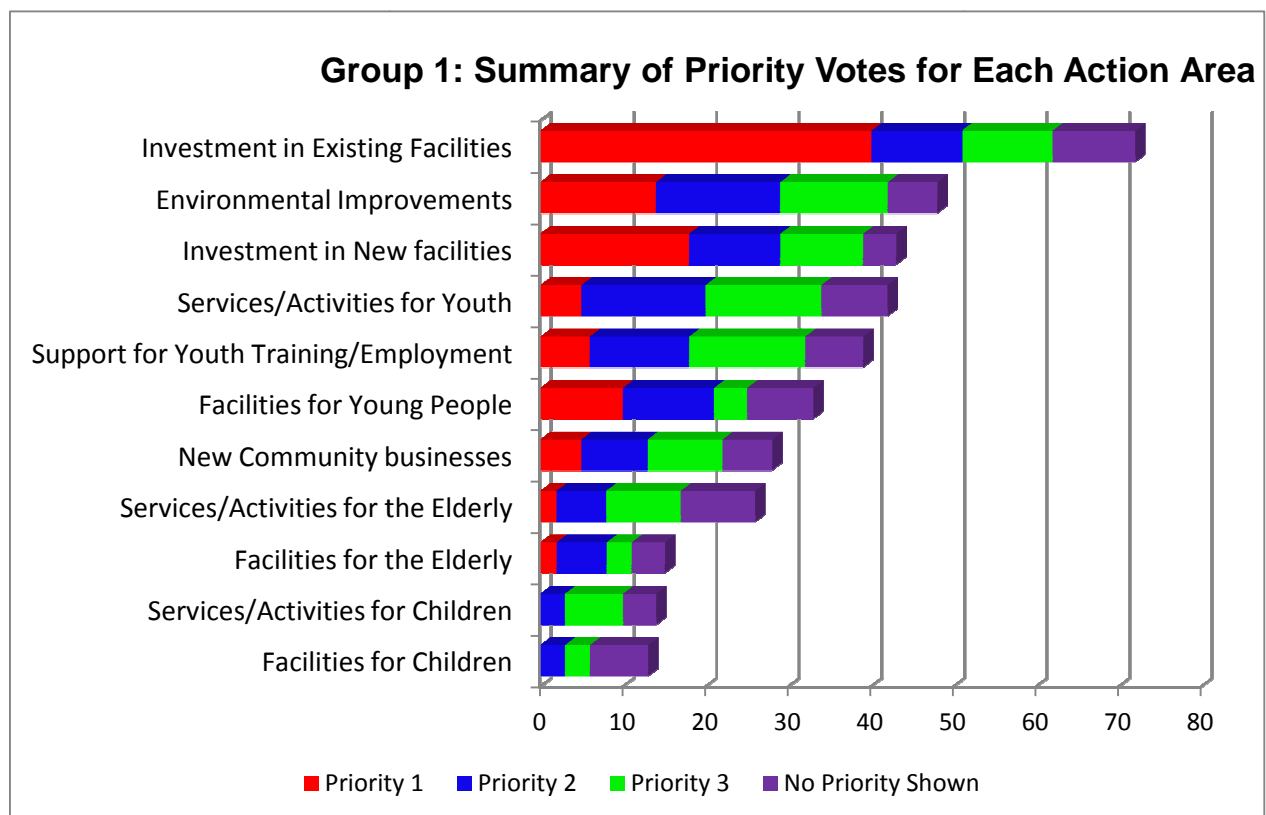
3.2.1 The Questionnaire listed 11 Action Areas and the respondents were asked to number the three they considered to be the highest priority. The graph below shows the total number of votes for each Action area.

3.2.2 Each of the respondents was asked to select 3 of the listed Action areas and rank them 1 to 3, with 1 being the highest priority and 3 the lowest

3.2.3 The top four Action Areas selected by the predominantly over 50s in Group 1 were:

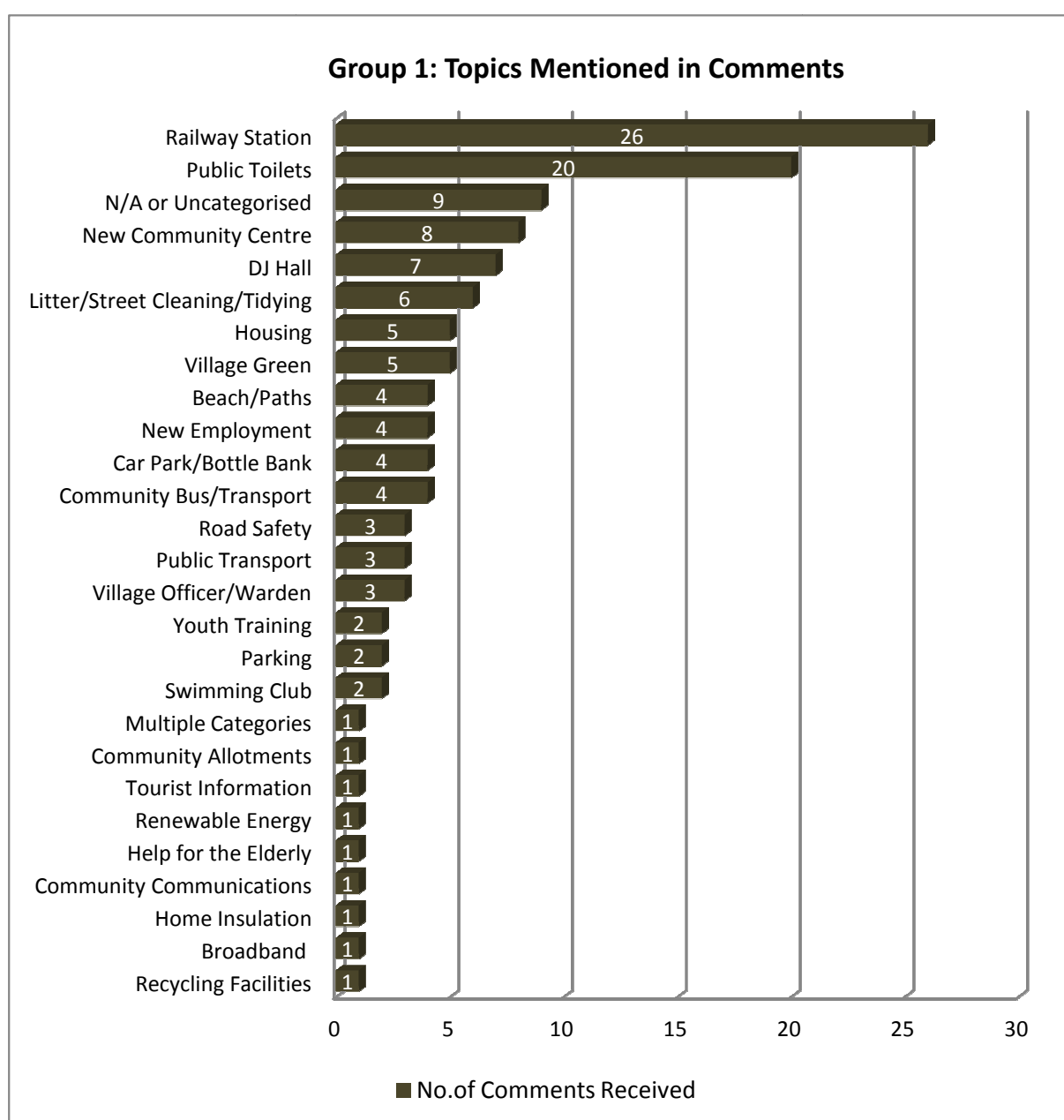
- **Investment in Existing Facilities** 72 (62%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **Environmental Improvements** 48 (41%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **Investment in New facilities** 43 (37%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **Services/Activities for Youth** 42 (36%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3

3.2.4 The graph below shows the total votes cast for each Action Area by Group 1 respondents.



### 3.3 Topics Highlighted in Group 1 Comments

- 3.3.1 The respondents were invited to add any written comments, expanding on their selected Action areas or adding any additional suggestions. Seventy eight of the 117 responded, which represents almost 67% of the total respondents. Again, this is extremely positive. Of these over 40 left what could be described as ‘interesting’ and useful comments, with expanded thoughts and suggestions.
- 3.3.2 The following topics were highlighted or mentioned within the written comments and the following graph shows the number of times a particular topic was referred to.



### **3.4 Extract of Group 1 Comments**

The following are some examples of the comments submitted by Phase 1 respondents:

*"The existing community facilities DJH, Sports Centre, Church Halls, School etc are all past or close to their useful lives. Investment in these is throwing good money after bad. One new centre incorporating all village facilities should be provided using funds from the sale of existing facilities."*

*"We have enough facilities. It is using them more by upgrading and informing people how they can use them more and encouraging craft fairs, markets, boot sales, exercise, dance, learning courses etc....."*

*"A train halt has been talked about for almost 20 years. Nothing has happened so far. Every village between here and Inverness has had a halt restored. Evanton should be next. Use HI-TRANS to push the cause."*

*"Encourage schemes which provide work and life experience - particularly for non-academic people who have difficulty finding a formal apprenticeship. Also make provision for small business start-ups."*

*"Please could someone prioritise the upgrading of the bungalow beside the school (owned by HC) for use by the children and staff. I feel it would be an invaluable asset."*

*"I am definitely for community based renewable energy projects ..... I believe you would have to spend large sums of money to invest in current buildings e.g. DJH. It may well be economically wise to build new eco-friendly. Feel there is a need for youth training and employment within community....."*

*"Investment in DJH. Bring in cinema system and theatre lighting with sound system. Bring the back room into use for hire..... "*

*"A tidy up and decking at the bottle bank area would be appreciated as I can only walk aided by a stick and the ground is wet, muddy and dangerous when frozen. "*

*"A village warden who could maintain the walks ..... "*

*"Lights at the bottle recycling area ....."*

### **3.5 Group 1 Conclusions**

- With 75% of the Survey respondents in Group 1 being over 50yrs old, it was clear that this was not a fair representation of the views of the whole community.
- Notwithstanding this, the very high response rate from this group meant the results certainly represented the views of a significant section of the over 50s in Evanton.
- Amongst the Action Areas the fact that “Investment in Existing Activities” received such high votes might have been partially due to the fact that it was at the top of the list of Action Areas, and people may have initially ticked this before becoming aware that only three areas were to be selected.
- The list of topics extracted from the respondents’ comments was somewhat imprecise, and some of the ‘topics’ could well be combined. For example, references to a Village Officer/Warden could conceivably be collectively linked with Litter Collection and Street Cleaning.
- Some of the many comments and suggestions clearly fall out with the remit of the Community Council, with many being the responsibility of the Local Authority and other organisations, they nevertheless reflect people’s concerns and should be conveyed and taken note of by the relevant statutory bodies.
- Whilst the significant number of references to the need for Evanton Railway Stop might in some part be linked to the fact that a Railway Stop was mentioned as an example in the explanatory background text in the questionnaire, the high number of references may well be a reflection of local people’s concerns about the limited public transport services in the village.
- Likewise, the reference to Public Toilets in the village in the background text might have led people to put this down in their comments. However the need for Public Toilets and a Railway Stop had been mentioned as examples because there had already been a great deal of discussion about these topics within the village and at KCC meetings.
- One interesting outcome to note was the fact that “Services and Facilities for Young People” along with “Youth Training Support” received high scores from this predominantly over 50s age group.
- Notwithstanding the above cautionary comments, it was clear that Phase 1 of the Survey was well received with a much higher than expected response rate and an equally high number of people providing written comments. This indicated that the Survey was suitably compelling, particularly to the over 50s who responded in very significant numbers.

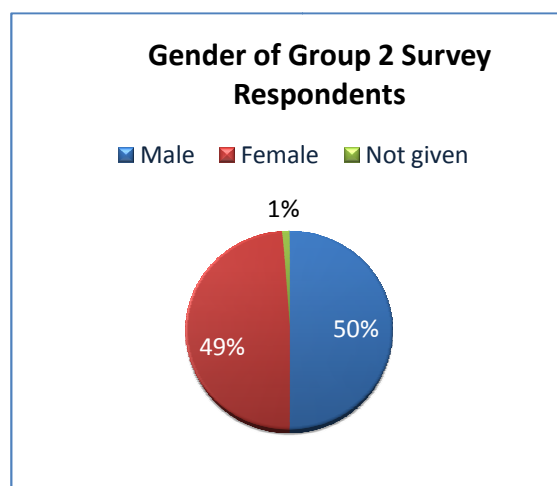
## 4 Group Two

### 4.1 Analysis of Group 2 Respondents

4.1.1 An identical questionnaire to that used in Phase 1 was used in Phase 2 when the pupils from Evanton were brought together for the purpose of undertaking the Survey in each of the three Academies serving Evanton.`

4.1.2 A total of 86 completed questionnaires were received from the three Academies attended by Evanton children and the number completed and returned from each Academy was as follows:

- Dingwall: 38
- Alness: 37
- Invergordon: 11



4.1.3 Of the 86 respondents, forty three were Male and forty two were Female (one respondent did not give their gender), nine were under 12yrs and seventy five (87%) were in the 13-18yrs age group. (two did not list their age)

4.1.4 Over sixty young people (70%) left comments, although these were nothing like as extensive as those left by the predominantly over 50s group in Group 1.

4.1.5 Amongst the respondents in Group 1, fifty eight (67%) left their names and/or contact details.

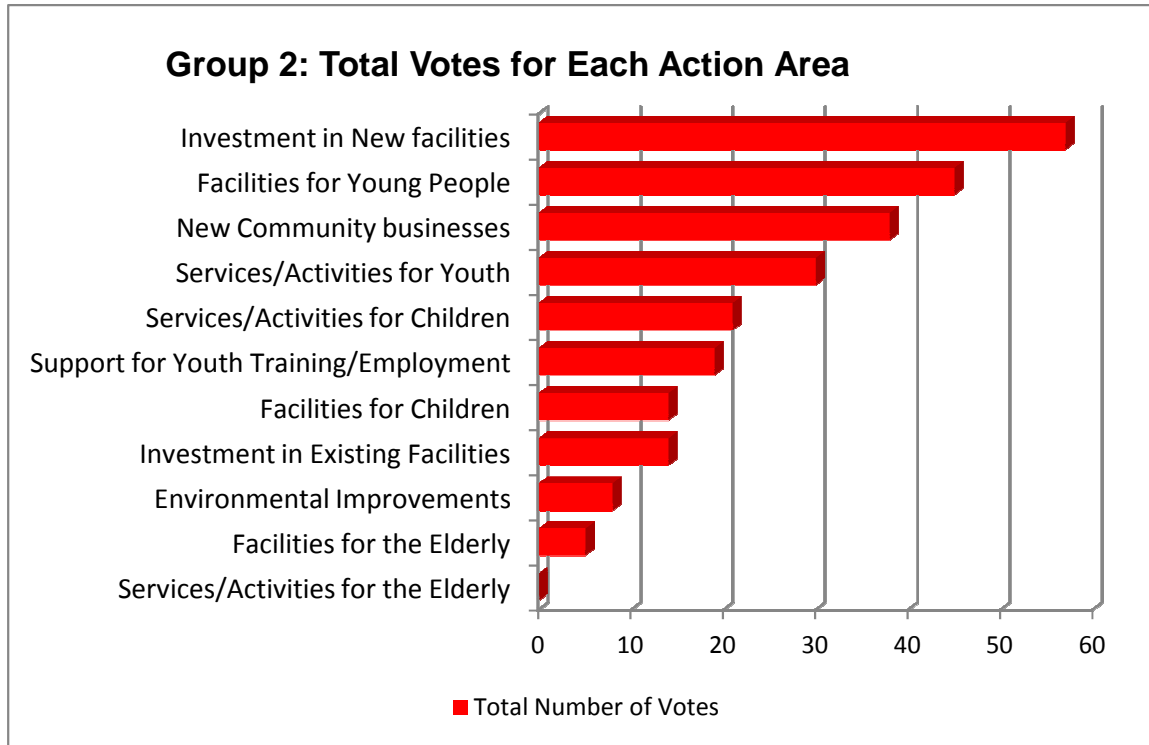
### 4.2 Action Areas

4.2.1 As with Group 1, Group 2 were asked to select three of the listed Action Areas and rank them 1 to 3, with 1 being the highest priority and 3 the lowest.

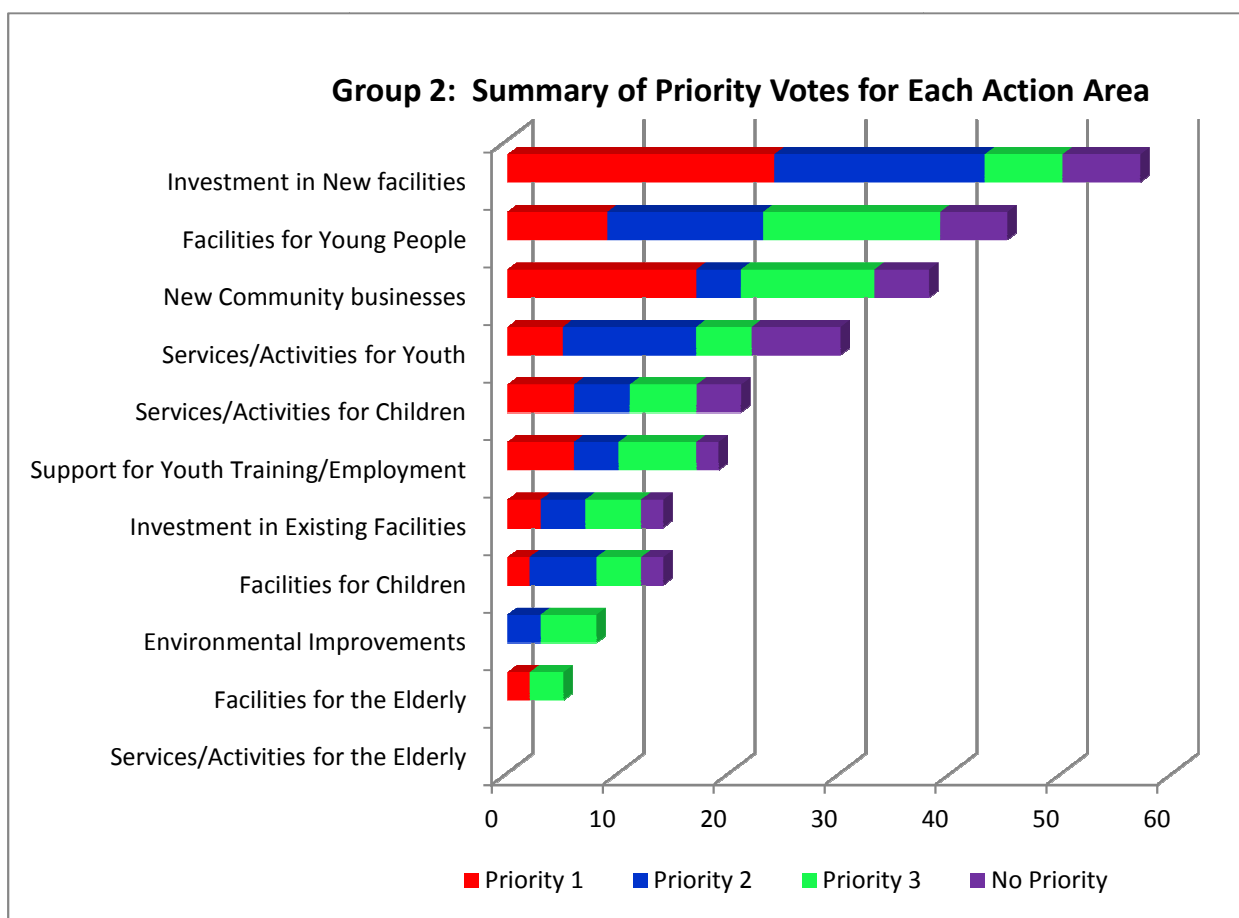
4.2.2 The top four Action Areas selected by the young people in Group 2 were:

- **Investment in New Facilities** 57 (66%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **Facilities for Young People:** 45 (52%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **New Community Businesses** 38 (44%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3
- **Services/Activities for Youth** 30 (35%) rated this Priority 1, 2 or 3

4.2.3 The graph below shows the total number of votes for each Action Area. (The total votes not only include those marked as Priority 1, 2 or 3, but those who omitted to rank their choices but put a mark or cross in the Action Area they considered important.)



4.2.4 The graph below is a summary of the Priorities given to each Action Area.



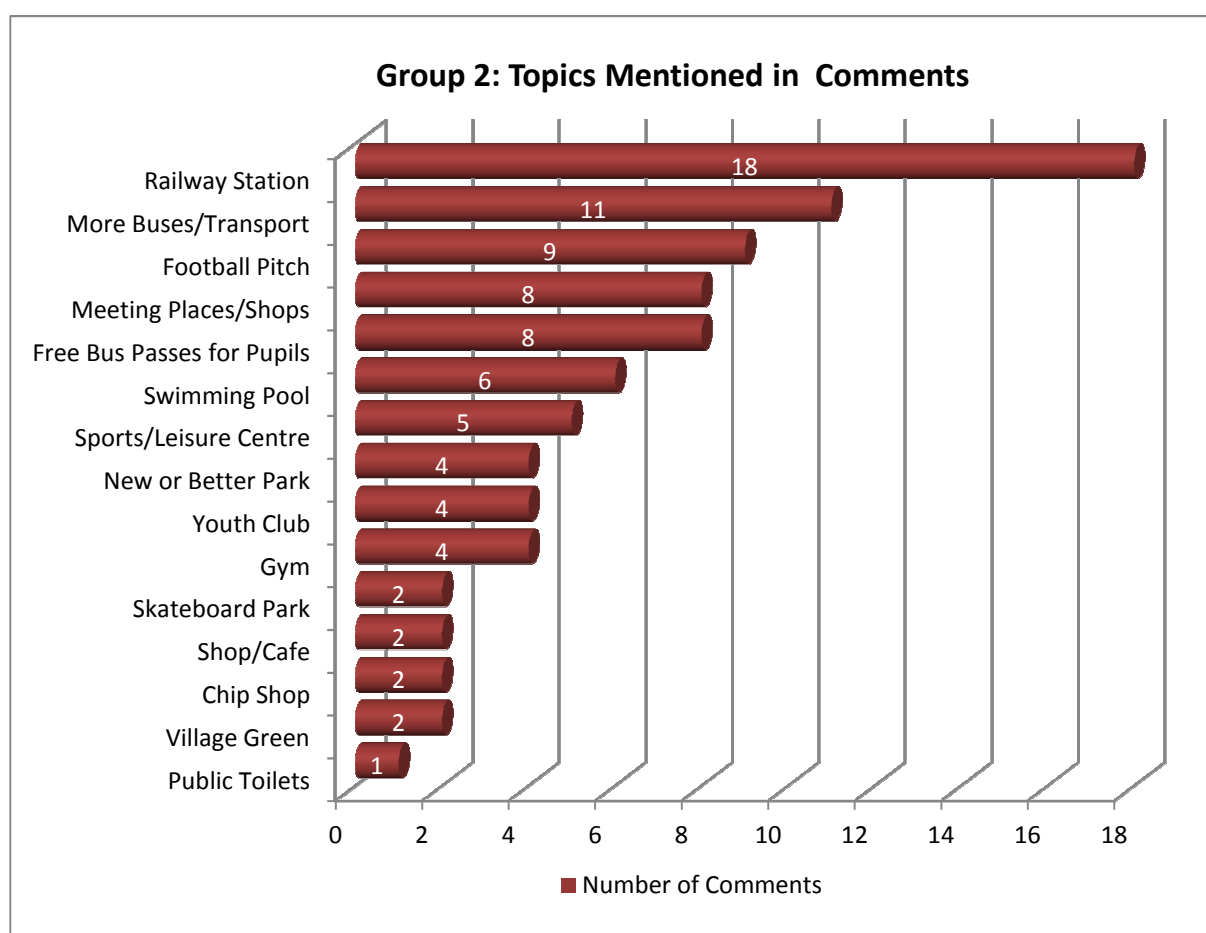
### 4.3 Topics Highlighted in Group 2 Comments

4.3.1 The respondents were invited to add any written comments, expanding on their selected priority areas or adding any additional suggestions. Sixty of the 86 responded, which represents appx.70% of the total respondents.

4.3.2 The following topics were highlighted or mentioned within the comments received and the following graph shows the number of references for each topic.

- **Railway Stop** 18 mentions (30% of total comments)
- **Free Bus passes/Better Transport/Community Transport:** 19 mentions (31%)
- **Sports Centre/Gym/Football facilities/Skateboarding/Swimming etc.:** 26 mentions (43%)
- **Meeting Places/Youth Club/Cafe etc.:** 14 mentions (23%)

4.3.3 The following topics were highlighted or mentioned within the written comments and the following graph shows the number of times to a particular topic was mentioned in comments.





#### **4.4 Extract of Group 2 Comments**

The following are some examples of the comments submitted by the Group 2 respondents:

*" New floodlights at Blackrocks Pitch so we can play during winter at night ."*

*" I would like it if there was more for us to do in the summer"*

*" Black Rock football up and running and better facilities on the pitch and changing rooms"*

*" A chippie or Chinese would be good for locals and tourists at the caravan park so they don't have to go out of the village"*

*" More shops and a cafe so there is somewhere for people to meet"*

*" more places to eat like the Balconie"*

*" Definitely a rail stop. The train goes through Evanton anyway and the buses are infrequent."*

*" Train stop ! Would be very helpful"*

*" Bus passes for kids going to Dingwall from Evanton. More buses."*

*" Gym facilities"*

*" If there was transport from Evanton to Dingwall I would use it"*

*" More on for youth at the sports centre"*

*" Do something with the green behind the bus stop"*

*" I would like a new park, more shops, a train station and a youth club"*

*" to get a bus to Alness for free. I would use it. ( youth club)*

*" leisure centre "*

## **4.5 Group 2 Conclusions**

Unlike the responses from the Group 1 respondents which were entirely voluntary, the questionnaires in Group 2 were completed during school time by the Evanton pupils attending the three local academy schools. Whilst this meant it was perhaps a more enforced exercise, this should not detract from its worth or usefulness.

Not surprisingly, the 86 young people who completed the survey listed Action Areas and made comments which were much more limited and reflected perhaps more subjective concerns, than those in Group 1 where the choices and comments were more directed towards the wider community needs.

However, there are two main themes that have emerged from the Group 2 Survey.

**Better Transport Services** Like Group 1, a high percentage of the young people (30%) mentioned the need for a Railway Stop in Evanton.

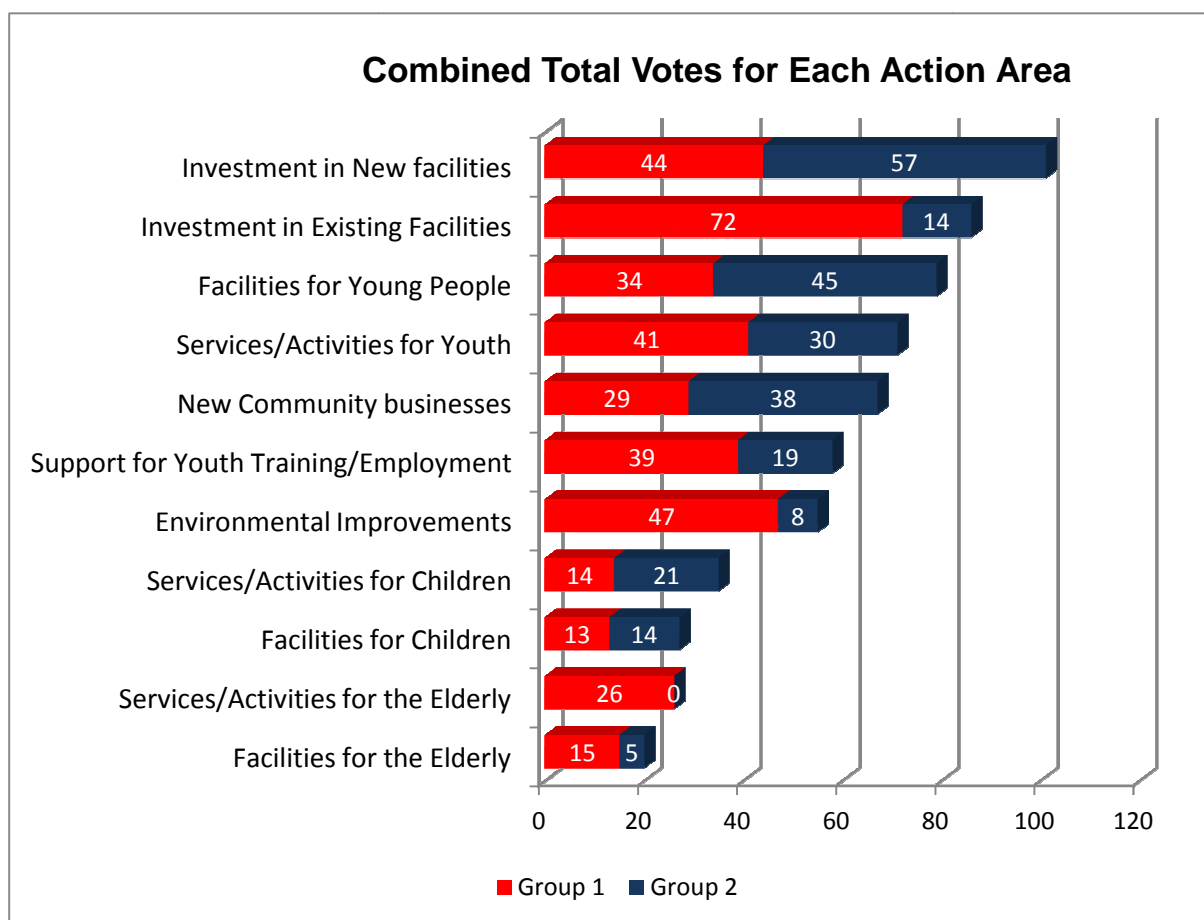
22% of the respondents mentioned the need for more buses and free bus passes for pupils. Although some of the comments about the need for a Railway Stop may have been prompted by the reference to this as an example in the Survey document it is unlikely that this was the sole trigger for young people referring to this. When one combines all the comments on transport-related issues (railway stop, more buses etc.) 43% of the young people raised the issue of transport. This is a significant percentage.

**More Facilities and Meeting Places for Young People** There is a clear message in this Survey that young Evanton people want/need somewhere to meet in the village. 16% referred directly to the need for meeting places, a youth club or cafe. A further 30% referred directly to sports & leisure activities (sports/leisure centre, gym, swimming, skateboard park, football pitch etc.). Together this represents over 46% of the young people making comments about the need for a meeting place and more facilities.

This lack of a meeting and facilities coupled with concerns about transport services to enable them to travel to the adjoining towns of Alness, Dingwall or Inverness highlights a general sense of young people's isolation in the village. What is not known is whether the provision of a meeting place/cafe type facility in Evanton would reduce the level of concern about transport services. One might conclude that whilst a youth cafe/meeting place would go a long way to alleviate the sense of boredom, the need for better transport services or a community bus to take young people to the bigger towns and attractions is likely to remain undiminished.

## 5 Overall Survey Conclusions

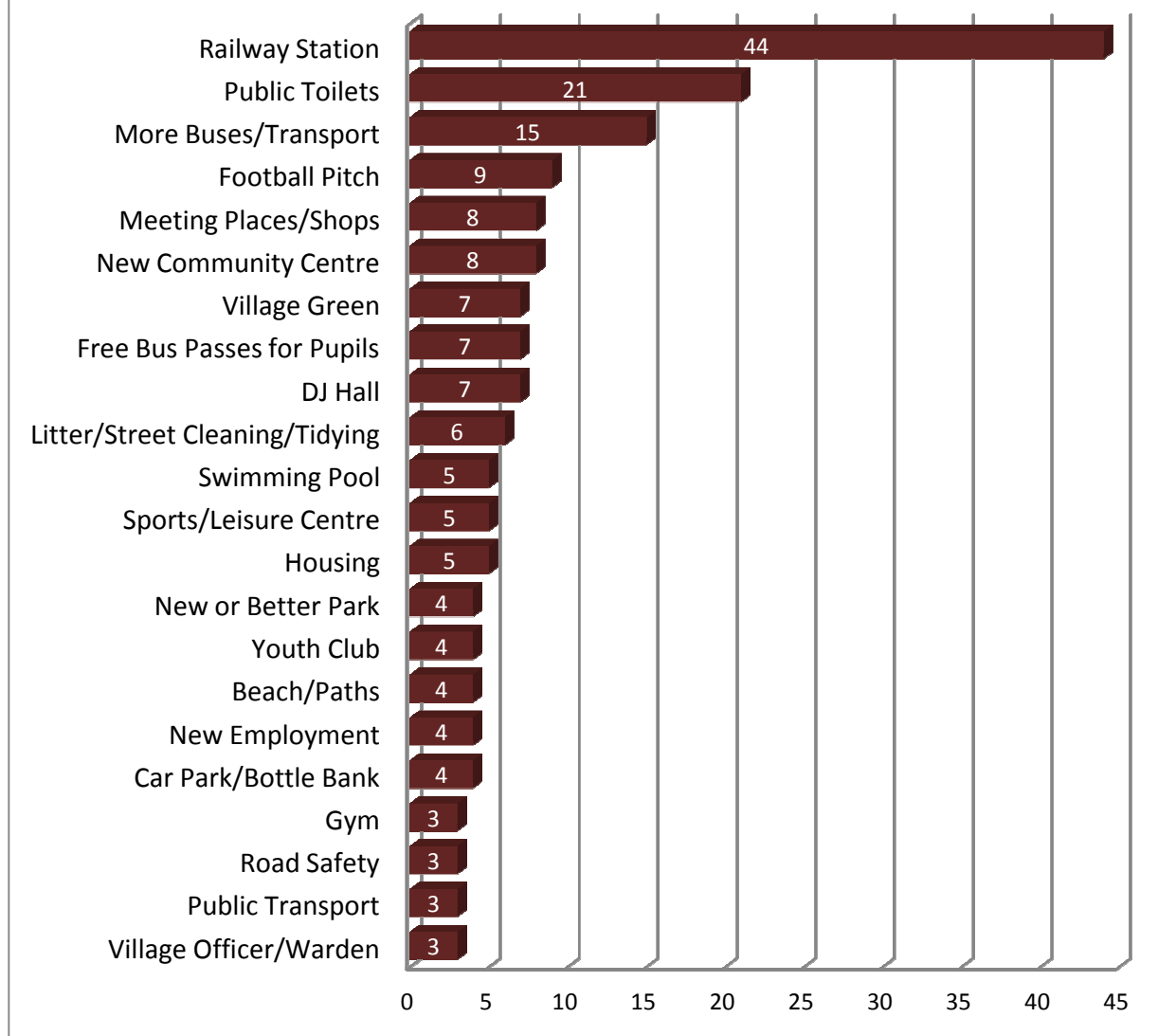
- Clearly further analysis and cross-referencing of the data may reveal other useful correlations.
- However, the high rate of returns from the predominantly over 50s in Phase 1 coupled with returns from a high percentage of all the Evanton young people between 13 and 18 yrs means that this Survey is probably the most comprehensive collection of the views of a significant proportion of the village residents in many years, if not ever.



- It would have been even more useful if the views of the 19 – 50 yrs age groups were better represented, but the exiting data has nevertheless highlighted some key findings:
  - 1) There is undoubtedly a widely held view that **Investment in New Facilities** is the highest priority for spending in the Village. Young people and older people alike scored this Action Area with the highest number of votes (108). As to the nature of these new facilities, this was not explored in the Survey, although the comments left by the respondents certainly gave some clues.

- 2) **Investment in Existing Facilities** closely followed as the second highest priority Action Area with 86 votes, albeit with the highest percentage coming from the older age groups in Group 1.
- 3) The third highest priority Action Area was **Facilities for Young People**. Whilst this came as no surprise from the young people in Group 2, it received a surprisingly number of high votes from the older respondents in Group 1. This probably reflected older people's awareness and possible concern at the number of young people who congregate in the centre of the village in the evenings.
- 4) In the light of 3) above, it was no surprise that **Services and Activities for Young People** was also a high priority, but what was more interesting was the high priority given to **New Community Businesses**. More research into why this was listed so highly, amongst young people in particular would be useful. One interpretation is that it may simply reflect the view among many young people that their employment prospects are far from certain in the current economic climate and that new community businesses might be one way of addressing this.
- 5) As for the specific topics listed amongst the respondents' comments, the extremely high references to the need for a **Railway Stop** in Evanton was a clear reflection of the general level of dissatisfaction with public transport services. This was particularly true amongst young people in Group 2 who made a number of references to the need for Free Bus passes/Better Transport/Community Transport etc.
- 6) The lack of places to meet and things to do in the village, particularly in the evenings was a strong theme amongst young people (and older people too). When coupled with the need for better transport services to the neighbouring towns of Alness and Dingwall, where many of their school friends and classmates will live, and which by contrast have youth clubs and cafes etc. simply highlights the sense of isolation amongst young people in the village.
- 7) The high number of references to the need for Public Toilets may well have had something to do with the fact that like the Railway Stop, both these were examples of topics that were mentioned in the accompanying background notes in the Questionnaire.

### Topics Raised Most in all Group 1 & 2 Comments



- Notwithstanding the previous comments, it is clear the Survey was well received with a much higher than expected response rate indicating that the Survey and its objectives were of genuine interest, particularly amongst the over 50s in Group 1.
- Clearly further analysis and cross-referencing of the data may reveal other correlations and useful results, and should definitely be undertaken. The different age groups not only have different needs but different hopes and aspirations. It is perhaps important to look at the priorities of the young people (13-18yrs) separate from those of the elder members of the community (over 50ys).
- Obtaining more views of the 19 – 50 yrs age groups should also be an important exercise in the future, as well as obtaining more clarification from some of this Survey's respondents on what underlined their selection of certain Action Areas.

- It is essential the Final report on the Survey, incorporating any additional comments from the KCC, should be made available to the wider community.
- Copies should also be made available to other organisations, project partners etc. and a summary of the final Survey results included in the next issue of the Community Newsletter.

Iain Clark  
Kiltearn Community Council  
November 2014

## Appendix I. Group 1 Data Tables

Age Ranges of Respondents (by %)	Total	Male	Female
Under 12Yrs	1%	0%	100%
13 - 18yrs	2%	75%	25%
19 - 30yrs	2%	75%	25%
31 - 50yrs	17%	30%	60%
51 - 65yrs	37%	47%	53%
Over 65 yrs	37%	49%	51%
Not Given	4%		
Total	100.0%		

Age Ranges of Respondents (Numbers)	Total	Male	Female
Under 12Yrs	1	0	1
13 - 18yrs	2	2	0
19 - 30yrs	4	3	1
31 - 50yrs	20	6	12
51 - 65yrs	43	20	23
Over 65 yrs	43	21	22
Not Given	4		2
Total	117	52	61

Ranking of Listed Areas	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	No Priority	Total
Investment in Existing Facilities	40	11	11	10	72
Environmental Improvements	14	15	13	6	48
Investment in New facilities	18	11	10	4	43
Services/Activities for Youth	5	15	14	8	42
Support for Youth Training/Employment	6	12	14	7	39
Facilities for Young People	10	11	4	8	33
New Community businesses	5	8	9	6	28
Services/Activities for the Elderly	2	6	9	9	26
Facilities for the Elderly	2	6	3	4	15
Services/Activities for Children		3	7	4	14
Facilities for Children		3	3	7	13

No. Of Respondents who left comments	78	66.7%
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## Appendix II. Group 2 Data Tables

<b>Age Ranges of Respondents (by %)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Under 12Yrs	10%	33%	67%
13 - 18yrs	87%	52%	48%
19 - 30yrs			
31 - 50yrs			
51 - 65yrs			
Over 65 yrs			
Not Given	2%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>		

<b>Age Ranges of Respondents (Numbers)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Under 12Yrs	9	3	6
13 - 18yrs	75	39	36
19 - 30yrs			
31 - 50yrs			
51 - 65yrs			
Over 65 yrs			
Not Given	2		2
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44</b>

<b>Ranking of Listed Areas</b>	<b>Priority 1</b>	<b>Priority 2</b>	<b>Priority 3</b>	<b>No Priority</b>	<b>Total</b>
Facilities for the Elderly	2		3		5
Facilities for Children	2	6	4	2	14
Investment in Existing Facilities	3	4	5	2	14
Services/Activities for Youth	5	12	5	8	30
Services/Activities for Children	6	5	6	4	21
Support for Youth Training/Employment	6	4	7	2	19
Facilities for Young People	9	14	16	6	45
New Community businesses	17	4	12	5	38
Investment in New facilities	24	19	7	7	57
Environmental Improvements		3	5		8
Services/Activities for the Elderly					0



### **Appendix III. Digest of All Topics Covered in Comments**

The following is a digest of all the topics covered in the comments given by the respondents. Each returned Survey Form was numbered. The figures in brackets alongside the topic identifies the individual numbered survey forms which made reference to the points detailed so that they can be referred back to if necessary.

- Existing facilities
- Make better use of existing facilities - craft fair, boot sale, sport, dance, entertainments (1) (112) (115)
- More equipment and clubs (80)
- DJH needs improvement, poor parking, purpose built facility better (5)
- More comfortable seating in DJH (armchairs) (19)
- Solar panels on DJH (21) Cinema screen (77) (98) Staging, use back room (84)
- Plaques on village green finished with info. panels (21) Fenced off quiet area (103) Bandstand/staging with low level lighting and power supply (114)
- Improve Christmas lights (63)
- Funding for Cornerstone (82)
- Better marketing/booking (115)
- Litter
- Main problem, clean-up parties, more bins (1) (61)
- Street cleaning/village officer re-introduced (5) (92)
- Dog bins at Evanton Wood (74)
- Toilets
- High priority, use Balconie Inn 9 - 5 with good signage (2) (72)
- Upgrade toilets in DJH with seprate door for access by public (24)
- Toilets not reqd. ( 71) (72)
- Multi-purpose Centre
- Accessibility, range of provision, staging, exhibition space, youth café, nursery alternatively purchase shed at Rosslyn and extend DJH (6) (91)
- Village halls outdated and a drain (27) (48) (81)
- Drummond Arms - café + library ((85)
- Communication
- Village strategic plan - 50 years (102) (113)
- Open meeting with professional facilitator (6)
- Lack of info on turbine development (53)
- Environmental
- Signposted walks need maintenance (Village Officer) (10) (66)
- Share knowledge in planting with Alness, encourage youth involvement (10)
- Flower bed and space opposite Co-op needs improvement (27) Tidy wooded area (73)
- Better access at bottle bank, decking (32) (34) (68) Lights (73) (74)
- Coastal erosion (41) (75)
- Riverside walks (41)
- River clean-up (41)

- Benches on walks (61)
- Improve area round old station (93)
- Campsite is eyesore (100/1)
- Transport
- Community minibus (11) (29) (113)
- Improved public transport timetables (34) (38) (66)
- Car parking expanded/improved (27) At school, Station Rd., Novar and Fyrish Cresc., DJH (93)
- Car sharing (41)
- Extend parking bay at PO (57)
- Traffic management (100/1)
- Cycle routes (61)
- Children/young people
- Re-introduce swimming club, after-school club, child-minding (21) (40) activities development officer (87)
- Play equipment at village green (29)
- Cycling safety (61)
- Youth club (62)
- Schoolhouse (69)
- Cricket pitch (98)
- Housing
- More required for elderly and single people; residential/wardened accommodation (30) (33)
- Assessment of insulation needs - employment opportunity (36) (52)
- Buy and renovate run down houses (47)
- Business/Employment/Training
- Provision for start-ups and for those not in formal training (35) (81) (90)
- Progress on broadband - employment opportunity (36)
- Community veggie business (41)
- Community workshop (tool share) (41) (87)
- New distillery (41)
- Fyrish Trust renewed (53)
- Gardening help for elderly (56)
- Voluntary work experience for unemployed (62)
- Renewable energy projects (81)
- Tourist information, walks brochure (103)
- Community orchard/allotments (103) (41)
- Cornerstone building developed for community use (110)

## Appendix IV. Number of References to Topics Mentioned in Comments

### Number of References to Topics Highlighted in Group 1 Respondents' Comments

Railway Station	26	20.6%
Public Toilets	20	15.9%
N/A or Uncategorised	11	7.1%
New Community Centre	8	6.3%
DJ Hall	7	5.6%
Litter/Street Cleaning/Tidying	6	4.8%
Village Green	5	4.0%
Housing	5	4.0%
Community Bus/Transport	4	3.2%
Car Park/Bottle Bank	4	3.2%
New Employment	4	3.2%
Beach/Paths	4	3.2%
Village Officer/Warden	3	2.4%
Public Transport	3	2.4%
Road Safety	3	2.4%
Swimming Club	2	1.6%
Parking	2	1.6%
Youth Training	2	1.6%
Recycling Facilities	1	0.8%
Broadband	1	0.8%
Home Insulation	1	0.8%
Community Communications	1	0.8%
Help for the Elderly	1	0.8%
Renewable Energy	1	0.8%
Tourist Information	1	0.8%
Community Allotments	1	0.8%
Multiple Categories	1	0.8%

### Number of References to Topics Highlighted in Group 2 Respondents' Comments

Railway Station	18	30.0%
More Buses/Transport	11	18.3%
Football Pitch	9	15.0%
Free Bus Passes for Pupils	8	13.3%
Meeting Places/Shops	8	13.3%
N/A or Uncategorised	8	13.3%
Swimming Pool	6	10.0%
Multiple Categories	6	10.0%
Sports/Leisure Centre	5	8.3%
Gym	4	6.7%
Youth Club	4	6.7%
New or Better Park	4	6.7%
Village Green	2	3.3%
Chip Shop	2	3.3%

Shop/Cafe	2	3.3%
Skateboard Park	2	3.3%
Public Toilets	1	1.7%

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