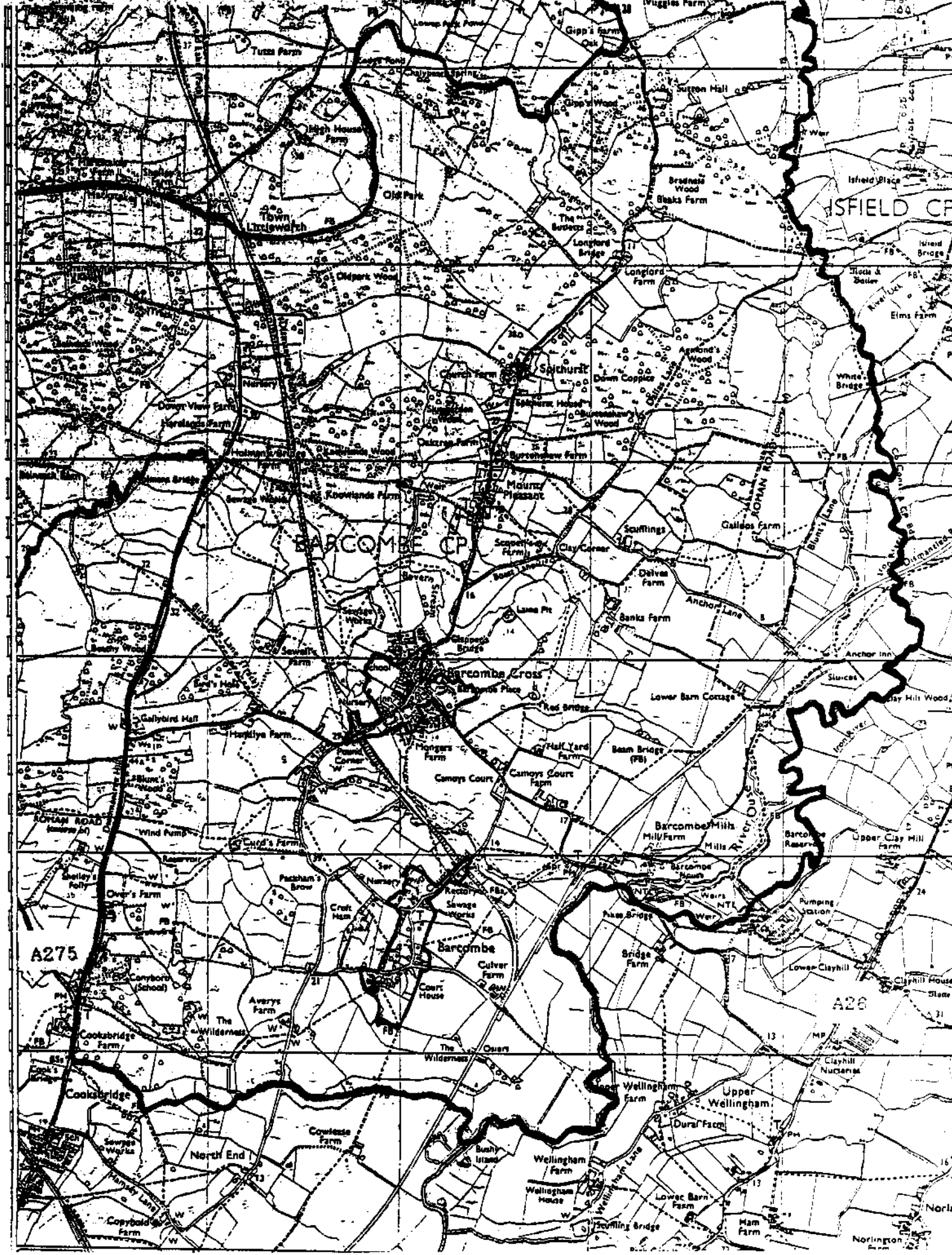




**THE  
BARCOMBE  
APPRAISAL  
1987**

Parish Boundary  
Conservation Area  
Church/Chapel

Reproduced from OS Sheet TQ41/51  
by permission of the  
Ordnance Survey



-FOREWORD-

On behalf of Barcombe Parish Council we have pleasure in presenting the Report of "The Barcombe Appraisal, 1987".

The main aims of the Report are three-fold, viz.

- a) to summarise the present situation regarding facilities and services in the Parish as they existed during late 1986 and early 1987,
- b) to summarise the data and opinions obtained on facilities and services from questionnaires distributed to each household in September 1986, and so
- c) identify for the purpose of immediate or future action areas of significant concern, improvement and need of introduction in or to the Parish.

CONTENTS.

1. Summary of Findings	Page	2
2. The Parish of Barcombe		4
3. The Appraisal; Background, Organisation and Outcome		4
4. The Report		5
5. Population and Transport		6
6. Housing		7
7. Employment		8
8. Education		9
9. Sport and Leisure		11
10. Services		13
11. Local Government		20
12. Improvements, Features, Conservation Areas		22
13. Future Development		23
14. Further Comments/Suggestions		24
15. Appendix 1		25
16. Appendix 2		30
17. Appendix 3		30

Appraisal Group Members: Mr. E. Alce, Miss S. Alce, Mr. N. Beck, Mr. K. Brown, Mr. A. Cannings, Mr. D. Cleaver, Mr. M. Cooper, Dr. V. Elliot, Mrs. P. Hill, Dr. A.J. MacGillivray (Chairman), Mr. W. Porter, Miss K. Porter, Mrs. I. Rock, Mr. J. Simpson, Mrs. J. Tompsett.

-April, 1987-

## 1. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The information obtained from the returned questionnaires produced the following major points.

1. Life in the country formed the major reason for residence in Barcombe.
2. Over 70% of the families responding have lived in the Parish for over 10 years, with almost 50% having been resident for more than 20 years.
3. For most purposes of travel parishioners use a motor car.
4. There was a very clear majority in favour of controlled housing development in the Parish, the major type of housing advocated being starter homes, sheltered housing and council housing (to rent).
5. There was a clear majority in favour of further employment opportunities being provided both within and outside the Parish; a similar number agreed with light industrial units being provided in a dispersed manner in the Parish.
6. There was clear approval of educational facilities, but lower majorities in favour of adult classes and school transport arrangements. A very significant majority considered the presence of a Primary School in the Parish to be essential. The role of the Churches in the community was also considered to be important.
7. Although a clear majority felt the need for improvement to the social sports and leisure facilities in the Parish, there was no clear conclusion on
  - a) the adequacy of either the present Sports Pavilion or clubs/organisations, or
  - b) in favour of a new Sports/Leisure Complex, clubs (other than a Youth Club) or facilities in the Parish.

A clear majority found the play area on the Recreation Ground to be adequate, but a substantial number were very critical of the play facilities provided for children. A small majority favoured improved facilities for ramblers and walkers.
8. There was almost complete approval for the retention of numerous existing services/facilities in the Parish such as shops and police. A significant number wished to see facilities such as a "Chemist" and a Bank to be available. Considerable concern was shown over the state of roads, car parking and road safety in the Parish. Seven other services which did not receive majority approval were additional public telephones, dental/chiropractic/pharmacy services, buses, street lights and cable/satellite TV.

9. There were clear majorities showing satisfaction with services provided by the local authorities, but a need was indicated for improvements to footpaths and children's play area (Parish Council), planning and property maintenance (District Council) and maintenance of roads/highways (County Council).
10. Major suggestions for improvements in the Parish concerned parking problems in Barcombe Cross and the state of the roads. The major features of the character of the Parish were considered to be the Churches and the Recreation Ground. There was almost complete approval for the retention of the two Conservation Areas in the Parish.
11. Major preferences were shown for Barcombe to remain as a mixed working/residential community and for no major developments to take place in the Parish. At the same time, there was a significant view that some degree of controlled expansion was necessary for the future of the community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. The Appraisal Group wish to acknowledge the kind assistance of the following in carrying out the Appraisal exercise: Lewes District Council; East Sussex County Council; CoSIRA; Sussex Rural Community Council; Headmistress, Barcombe C.of E. School; Church House, Hove; Editors of "Barcombe News" and Dr. C. Lukehurst, Brighton Polytechnic. We are also indebted to Revd. John Staples, Old Windsor for permission to use on the front cover the picture drawn by Mr. Gavin Rowe and to Mrs. M. Simpson for the layout.

## 2. THE PARISH OF BARCOMBE.

The Parish covers some 5000 acres of land in the area lying to the north of Lewes between the A26 and A275 roads. Its boundaries are with the Parishes of Ringmer (at the River Ouse at Barcombe Mills) in the east and Newick in the north, and with South Chailey and Cooksbridge/Hamsey in the west and south respectively.

The Parish is referred to in the Domesday Book as "Bercham - "hath three and a half mills and a Church" and in Norman times the Hundred of Barcombe was in the Ripe of Lewes which William the Conqueror leased to his son-in-law, de Warrenne. It is thought that de Warrenne built a house near what is now the southern boundary of the parish and that the influence of his family was responsible for the construction of the original 11th. century church on the site of the present Parish Church, "St. Mary the Virgin". It is also believed that people moved away from this part of Barcombe during the Plague to settle one mile to the north at what is now the village of Barcombe Cross. The parish also contains the hamlets of Barcombe Mills, Hamsey Road, Longford, Mount Pleasant and Spithurst, and Town Littleworth (see map on inside front cover). The population has doubled during the past 170 years - from 700 in 1811 to 1420 in 1981.

## 3. THE APPRAISAL: BACKGROUND, ORGANISATION AND OUTCOME.

In the autumn of 1985 Barcombe Parish Council approved the proposal that an appraisal of the activities, facilities and services in the Parish should be carried out with particular reference to identifying requirements for the period up to the year 2000. Three councillors were asked to form an "Appraisal Group" whose composition would allow a wide representation from within the Parish including youth, youth leaders, senior citizens and employers. Of the initial fourteen who agreed to join the Group five were Parish Councillors; later one parishioner who is also the local press representative volunteered his services. The Group felt that it should follow the established procedure of seeking opinions and information by means of a questionnaire distributed to households in the Parish, but first decided to identify topics of interest and/or concern through having discussions with local "interest groups". As a result, the activities of the Group during the winter months of 1985/86 were largely occupied in holding such meetings with the following groups - youth, employers, sport and leisure interests and local council planners; representatives of the Group met or spoke to the "Good Companions" (Senior Citizens group) and the "Mother and Toddler" Group.

A Questionnaire document was subsequently prepared based on information obtained from the discussions outlined above together with advice and examples of questionnaires from other Village Appraisals which were kindly supplied by Sussex Rural Community Council. An important feature of the Barcombe Appraisal was the decision to offer copies of the Questionnaire to all parishioners named in the current Register of Electors. This necessitated 1300 copies of the document

being photocopied professionally, but collated and stapled by members of the Appraisal Group and voluntary helpers. Following publicity locally, e.g. in the parish magazine "Barcombe News", in September 1986 members of the Group distributed copies to all households in the Parish and returned two weeks later to collect the completed documents; for those that were not immediately available, a note was left with advice to return the questionnaires to the address of a Group member who lived in the village High Street.

By mid-December 1986 530 completed questionnaires had been returned to the Group giving a return of 48% from an original distribution of some 1100 copies. In accepting this figure as a representative sample of opinion in the community, the Appraisal Group took the following factors into account.

- 1) Inherent failure to return. As judged by the results of other Appraisals carried out in Sussex, of the order of 15% of questionnaires fail to be completed or returned.
- 2) Population distribution. The Barcombe Parish boundary extends into other communities that appear to have little relationship with or dependence on activities and facilities in Barcombe.
- 3) Distribution of Questionnaires to all electors in a household. Here, we have evidence that a significant number of families completed and returned only one document. For example, the number of children from the Parish known to attend the pre-school groups and the local Primary School were recorded in almost the same number of questionnaires returned. In addition, it should be noted that the final number of questionnaires returned (530) was very similar to the number of households in the Parish (521).

#### 4. THE REPORT

The numerical data from those Sections of the Questionnaire that required direct answers are given in Appendix 1. These are set out to include the following information for each answer: percentage of questionnaires containing an answer, "YES's" and "NO's" both as total numbers and as percentages of those answering, and, where applicable, the number of questionnaires containing comments on the subject. With the exception of the Section on Education, the majority of questions were answered in at least 75% of the questionnaires. In view of the possibility that the data represents a mixture of individual and combined opinions (see Section 3 above), reference is made largely to percentage rather than absolute figures. The levels of significance of percentage majorities and minorities are described in the text according to the criteria set out in Appendix 2.

On the basis of the information obtained from both the numerical data and the comments supplied, the results from each section of the Questionnaire are described in the text of the Report. Here it must be stressed that the comments reported are NOT those of the Appraisal

Group, but represent the views on particular issues as expressed by a significant number of parishioners completing the questionnaires; the level of significance required for individual points raised under "Comments" to be recorded has been set to be reference made in at least five questionnaires. To the best of its ability the Appraisal Group has attempted to avoid over-interpretation of the information gathered, but has taken the opportunity to comment on specific important issues.

## 5. POPULATION AND TRANSPORT

The 1981 Census showed the population of the Parish of Barcombe to be 1420 and the increase in the number of houses described in Section 6 is likely to have at least maintained that figure in 1986. The answers to Question 1 indicate that the major reason for people residing in the parish is to live in the country. Village life was a significant reason, whilst nearness to work, family reasons and place of birth were also important. Local schooling was not a major feature behind the choice to live in Barcombe.

As shown by the answers to Question 2, over 70% of the families involved had lived in the parish for over 10 years with almost one half having been here for more than 20 years.

In 1981 the Census showed that there were 635 cars in the Parish, a number that has in all probability increased in the intervening period along with the number of households and in many existing households. That we are a car-based community is confirmed by the finding that over 60% of parishioners involved in the answers to Questions 3a,b clearly prefer this form of transport for most purposes. The 11% using buses regularly (Question 3a) would appear to reflect children being transported to school (Question 3b). Although there are no longer railway stations in Barcombe, the proximity of those at Cooksbridge, Haywards Heath and Lewes allows a significant number of people to travel to work, particularly in London, by this method (Questions 3a,b). Interestingly, the major use of both pedal and motor cycles is also to travel to work (Question 3b).



## 6. HOUSING

In 1986 the total number of houses in the Parish was 521, representing an increase of 31 over the figure quoted in the 1981 Census. Approximately one half of these houses are located in the village of Barcombe Cross making it the largest settlement; other significant areas of housing are found at Barcombe Mills, Mount Pleasant, Spithurst and Hamsey Road. The majority of housing in the Parish is privately owned with the remainder being council housing. The number of council houses in Barcombe was originally about 150, but after tenants were granted the right in 1980 to purchase their homes the number had fallen to 115 in 1987. The council housing at Barcombe Cross was built before and after the Second World War, with an additional small estate being constructed at Mount Pleasant in 1976. The last development of this nature carried out by Lewes District Council was "Munster Green" in 1979. In the private sector the last major development was also at Barcombe Cross, viz. the 37 houses built in "Grantham Bank" in 1969. In recent years the County Structure Plan has allowed housing to be built only in Barcombe Cross village which is designated for "in-filling and small developments". As a result, permission has been granted for private housing in four such sites, although to date building has not yet taken place on three. At the time of writing, permission has been granted for a private development of 17 houses on the 1.5 acre site at "The Grange" in the High Street of the village. There are now very few sites available for building in the village; those that are available are in private ownership and have had planning permission refused. Elsewhere in the Parish the County Structure Plan allows housing to be built only in connection with forestry and agriculture and hence no new housing has occurred outside Barcombe Cross in recent years. On the other hand, permission has been frequently granted for extensions to all categories of housing in the Parish.

Question 4a sought the opinion of parishioners on the need for housing development. There was a very clear majority in favour of development and a large proportion of those responding in this manner detailed their preferences in answering Question 4b. Thus, the single most significant type of housing advocated was starter homes (30% of total preferences), followed by sheltered housing (23%), council housing to rent (17%) and private housing up to £50000 (12%). Choices of other categories of housing were of little significance.

Question 4c asked if members of families had been forced to leave the Parish due to lack of suitable housing during the past 5 years. A significant number of the respondents (11%) indicated that such an effect had occurred and a very large number of such questionnaires (43) also contained comments on this topic. The points raised in these comments centred on two issues: the need for lower cost housing to provide accommodation for the young or for first time buyers, and sheltered housing for the elderly. (It should be noted here that these same points are also raised in Sections 13 and 14 under needs to maintain a balanced community and for controlled expansion.) A third significant view stated that existing properties are excessively

priced.

There was no clear majority over the question of allowing extensions to existing houses (Question 4d).

Housing and development were highlighted throughout many of the questionnaires and views on the present situation in these are commented upon in Section 14 (Future Development).

Houses in Barcombe Cross, Mount Pleasant and parts of Town Littleworth are connected to main drainage which is supplied by the Southern Water Authority. Answers to Question 4e showed that over 60% of those completing questionnaires were supplied with this service. A good response was obtained from those without main drainage, but there was no overall majority in favour of being connected.

## 7. EMPLOYMENT

The major sources of employment in the Parish are farming, the building and construction trades, garage, shops, public houses, forestry or horticulture-related activities and several other services (details of businesses in the Parish are given in Appendix 3). In addition to these traditional and long-standing industries, two small manufacturing businesses were recently established in redundant farm buildings. A number of parishioners are employed as homeworkers for clothing manufacturers in Lewes.

Question 5a dealt with the number of parishioners actually employed in the Parish; here 35% of questionnaires gave a positive answer. There were clear majorities in favour of the provision of further employment opportunities both in and outside the Parish (Question 5b). A very clear majority agreed with the suggestion for the provision in the Parish of premises such as small workshops, storage units and for rural crafts, with a significant number of these respondents wishing to see such units dispersed throughout the community (Question 5c).

20% of questionnaires contained comments on Employment. A clear majority of the points raised favoured small scale development provided that it was carefully planned, controlled and sited so that it would neither detract from the character of the Parish nor cause nuisance. A significant number also advocated the encouragement of country and craft skills as opposed to industrial development on commercial lines; "light industry" was favoured only by a very small minority. The conversion of redundant farm buildings to workshops was suggested by many, but the view was also expressed that if workshops were built in the Parish then they should benefit the local community and not outsiders. Conversely, a significant number of comments were against any industry-related development in the Parish, whilst a very small number showed misgivings about planners being unaware of local needs and requirements.

## 8. EDUCATION

The educational facilities in the Parish are of two main categories, viz. pre-school groups and the Primary School. None of the former are provided by the state and they consist of 1) a "Mother and Toddler" Group run by mothers in the Church Youth Centre for some 30 children, 2) one playgroup run in the Village Hall with a roll of 12-15 children, and 3) two independent nursery groups which cater for about 10-15 and 5 children and are situated in Spithurst and Dallas Lane respectively. Whereas the playgroup draws its participants largely from Barcombe itself, most of the children attending the nursery groups come from outside the Parish.

Barcombe Church of England Primary School is situated in Barcombe Cross village adjacent to the Recreation Ground and in September, 1986 had a roll of 85. The decrease in numbers observed during the preceding academic year may now have halted since at the time of writing the numbers have increased to 90. Nevertheless, the short-fall in pupils led in 1986 to the staff being reduced from 5 full-time teachers to the equivalent of 4.6; this was accomplished satisfactorily only through two of the staff offering to work part-time. During 1986/87 a small amount of temporary extra teaching assistance, e.g in music, was also available. The School benefits from an active Parent Teacher Association which organises educational and fund-raising events.

Following primary school, Barcombe children have to travel outside the Parish for their secondary education. Formerly Barcombe was in the catchment area of Chailey School, but the granting of the right of choice of school means that a proportion of Barcombe pupils can now attend either Ringmer or Lewes Priory Schools. Currently, the majority attend Chailey School and many qualify for the free transport to that school arranged by the Education Authority. Irrespective of their secondary school, those who wish sixth form studies choose in the main to do so either at Lewes Priory School or Lewes Technical College.

In addition, numerous Barcombe children receive not only their nursery school, but also their primary and secondary education in the independent sector. This feature is demonstrated in the significant percentages using the independent schools given in the answers to Question 6a. Many of these children attend schools in parts of Sussex as day-pupils.

The section on Education (Question 6a,b) had the lowest returns in the Questionnaire and, as many respondents explained, would appear to be due either to there being no children of school age in a family or to little contact with educational matters. The answers to Question 6a show the distribution of children between the state and independent systems with, apart from preschool groups, the majority being in the former. For a rural area perhaps an interesting aspect of the data is the significant number following further and higher education.

The answers to Question 6b clearly indicate approval of pre-school,

primary and secondary educational facilities. However, somewhat lower majorities found favour with adult classes and transport arrangements.

Of the 300-plus questionnaires in which some part of Question 6b was answered, 86 (i.e. some 25%) contained comments relating to educational facilities. The largest number of the points raised dealt with difficulties in transport particularly to schools and college in Lewes and to Ringmer School. Here it should be pointed out that those families who choose secondary-type education in Lewes and Ringmer have to make their own transport arrangements, whereas the Education Authority provides a bus from Barcombe to Chailey School. In these respects, it was noted in a significant number of questionnaires that the timetable of the Barcombe-Lewes bus as at September, 1986 was inadequate, e.g. for students attending Lewes Technical College.

Barcombe Primary School was the second most prominent source of comment with the majority of the points being critical of the facilities. In the main these dealt with physical deficiencies particularly the lack of a hall/gymnasium, but there was a very small body of opinion that educational standards could be improved. Adult classes followed by secondary and pre-school education shared the remaining points that were raised. For example, it was felt that there were insufficient adult classes on offer and here it should be pointed out that at the time of writing an Art Class is about to start in the Village Hall. The majority of the comments on secondary education indicated dissatisfaction with educational standards, whilst those on pre-school facilities stressed the lack of a state-aided nursery school in the village. (Dissatisfaction with provision for education was also noted in Section 11 (Local Government).)

Finally, Question 6c dealt with the importance of a primary school in the Parish. The very high response showed that a large majority considered the presence of the school to be essential.

Churches. Both the Church of England and the Baptist Union are represented in the Parish. The C. of E. uses three churches for worship, viz. "St. Mary The Virgin", the 11th. century Parish Church in Church Road in the south of the parish, "St. Bartholomew" in Spithurst and "St. Francis of Assisi" in the village High Street. Barcombe Baptist Chapel is in Mill Lane, off Hamsey Road (see map on inside front cover). Both Churches provide a range of religious activities particularly for young people, whilst the Rector is the editor of the monthly parish magazine, "Barcombe News". Members of the Roman Catholic Church travel to St Pancras Church in Lewes, whilst in addition the Russian Orthodox Church uses "St. Bartholomews" one Sunday in each month.

Question 6d in the Questionnaire asked if the Churches played an important role in the life of the community with the answers showing a very clear majority of opinion that they did. At the same time a very small number of questionnaires (5% of the total) contained comments given voluntarily. In general, these comments indicated doubts about the effectiveness and extent of the role of the Churches in the Parish.

## 9. SPORT AND LEISURE

The existing facilities for sport and leisure within the Parish consist of the following.

### The Recreation Ground.

This is situated in Barcombe Cross village and covers an area of approximately 4.5 acres containing the following sports facilities: Bowling Green, Cricket Square, Soccer and Stoolball pitches, and Tennis Courts. There is also a children's play area with the usual equipment of swings, slide, see-saw and climbing frame.

The buildings on the Recreation Ground consist of the following: a main Pavilion of wooden construction, built some 15 years ago. Alongside this Pavilion is a rather dilapidated brick building, part of which is used as a tractor and machine shed and the remainder is the Bowling Club Pavilion. The Tennis Club have a small wooden hut adjacent to the courts which is used as a changing/tea room and club house.--

Away from the Recreation Ground other forms of outdoor recreation in the Parish are country walks, fishing, boating and horse riding. For the indoor sports enthusiasts there is the Barcombe Mens Club (premises above the Village Hall) which provides opportunities to play snooker, darts and crib at a competitive level if required. "The Royal Oak" also has darts, crib and pool teams competing in local leagues. "The Oak" also has an indoor skittles alley which is used purely on a social level.

For the young people in the Parish there are the Brownies, Beavers and Cubs, Scouts, Guides, Venture Scouts, St. John Ambulance and various Church Youth Groups. All of these groups provide a great service to the Parish and in the main are very well supported by both the members and their parents. These groups use either the Village hall or the Church Youth Centre for their activities. For adults there are the "Good Companions", "The Mothers Union", "Womens Institute" and "The British Legion". The Thespians in the Parish are provided with a stage by "The Barcombe Players", who usually manage twice a year to stage entertaining and enjoyable productions. And finally, to finish with a bang, there is the "Barcombe Bonfire Society" which year after year, despite often appalling November weather, provide an evening of fun and entertainment for the whole Parish and many visitors.

The major aim of Questions 7a-i of the Questionnaire was to discover:-

1) If the present facilities, including the Recreation Ground, children's play area, pavilions and existing sports and leisure clubs were adequate for the needs of the Parish.

2) If they were inadequate, then what improvements were necessary? Was there a need for bigger and more modern premises, for a larger Recreation Ground, for new clubs and activities?

The answers and comments to these Questions were varied and interesting, ranging from the very positive for or against to the "not interested", and the downright contradictory.

A clear majority felt that there was a need for improvements to the social sports and leisure facilities within the Parish (Question 7a). Of the comments and suggestions made in 103 questionnaires (41% of YES's) the favourites were in order of preference:-

Sports and Social Club, Swimming Pool, Squash and Badminton Courts

A clear majority felt that the present Pavilion/changing rooms were adequate and that there were adequate clubs and organisations within the Parish (Question 7b,d). To some extent this result seems to contradict the verdict regarding improvements reported above for Question 7a. However, it should be stressed that a substantial minority of answers to Question 7a thought that the sports and leisure facilities were inadequate. A small majority felt that there were adequate indoor and outdoor leisure activities in the Parish (Question 7c).

There was no clear majority for new facilities within the Parish as the voting was almost 50/50 (Question 7e). However, a large majority of those wishing to see new facilities in this area made comments and the suggestions were in order of preference:-

Sports and Social Club, Swimming Pool, Indoor Sports Hall, Badminton, Squash and Table Tennis.

Similarly, the verdict concerning approval for a new Sports/Leisure Complex (Question 7f) was again 50/50 and most of the 112 comments received, particularly those against the suggestion, dwelt on the cost and whether such a project was desirable in a parish with a population the size of Barcombe. On the other hand, those in favour felt that such a project would unify the sports clubs and bring more family and parish participation in the facilities offered.

The Question concerning the play area (7g) was taken by many people to mean the whole Recreation Ground, whereas in fact it referred to the children's play area only. Therefore, the significance of the answers to this question is somewhat diminished. However, a very substantial minority certainly interpreted the question correctly and it would appear that about 99% of this group gave their comments to the effect that the play area was :-

Dangerous; the equipment was insufficient and that the playground should be relocated; the use of the Recreation Ground by children was very restricted whenever organised team games were in progress.

(Criticism of the children's play area was also given under Sections 11 and 12.)

A very clear majority felt that there should be a Youth Club in the Parish, with 35% of this group proposing management by the youth themselves, or by Youth Leaders appointed by the members (Question 7h).

There was a small majority in favour of improving facilities for nature trails, walkers, ramblers etc. (Question 7i). Comments were obtained from 57% of this group and a large majority of these felt that there should be better Footpath Signposting (i.e. arrows along the length of a footpath, and not just at the beginning and end); Footpath Maps and a greater effort to preserve and ensure the continuation of existing Footpaths and Rights of Way. (See also under Sections 10 and 11 for comments on footpaths)

Comment. After considering the answers and comments in this Section, the results at face value appear rather inconclusive. However, it should be stressed that this is not a referendum and that, where a significant minority voted "Yes" or "No" to a particular question, this could well be a better indicator of the true state of affairs as this minority are in all probability those who need and use the service/facility in question.

## 10. SERVICES

Question 8a of the Questionnaire dealt with the services available in the Parish; respondents were asked if they wished to see these services retained, comments were invited on the services already available, and respondents were asked what additional services they would like to see provided.

The existing services were listed, and are as follows.

- 1) The Post Office, which is a sub-branch, and is part of "Ballards Stores", the grocery store in the village High Street.
- 2) The Fire Service provided by volunteers who live and work in the Parish, and who man the appliance based in the Fire Station in Weald View.
- 3) The Police. Policing at a local level is provided by a police officer resident in the Parish at the Police House on the High Street.
- 4) The Mobile Library, which visits the Parish weekly at Weald View and Mount Pleasant.
- 5) The Shops, which comprise a large grocers, an electricians, a butchers, a smaller grocers and confectioners and a craft shop.
- 6) The Mobile Shops, of which several visit the Parish and

include a Fishmonger.

- 7) The Mobile Fish & Chip Shop, which visits the village every Thursday evening at Weald View.
- 8) The Garage ("Brook & Churches"), which is a family business, holds a retailing franchise and in addition to car sales provides petrol and a maintenance and repair service.
- 9) The Pubs, of which there are three in the Parish, viz. "The Royal Oak" in Barcombe Cross village, "The Anglers Rest" in Barcombe Mills and "The Anchor" on the Ouse at the end of Anchor Lane.

The vast majority of respondents wished to see all these services retained. Top of the list came the Police, the Shops and the Post Office, with 100% wishing to see them retained. Then came the Garage with 99% in favour of retention followed by the Fire Service and the Mobile Library with 98%. Next came the Pubs with 97%, the Mobile Fish & Chip Shop with 95%, and finally the Mobile Shops with 78% in favour of retention. The respondents unfortunately provided no explanation as to why this latter service should be the least popular.

Comments were then invited on these services and, although this section seems to be predominantly critical, it should be seen in the context that the majority of respondents entered no comments since only 92 questionnaires (17%) contained contributions. Combined with the very high percentages of respondents in favour of retention of the current services, the relative absence of comments in this section must be seen as implying satisfaction with the way things are at present. These comments are now classified under the heading of the service to which they relate.

The Garage. The majority of comments relating to the Garage were addressed towards the problem of parking on the road outside and the danger that this represented; double yellow lines were suggested as one solution (see below under "Road Safety" and "Car Parking" for further comments and current situation). There were suggestions that there should be less involvement with car sales, less obtrusive signs and that the Garage was too big for its present site.

The Police. A number of respondents praised the police and thought that they did a good job. However, there were calls for a higher police profile with more officers, more police on foot, and no redeployment of the village policeman elsewhere. Some respondents felt that the traffic regulations should be more strictly enforced, whilst others wanted an increased police presence outside the School. (Comments regarding the police are also given below under "Road Safety/Car Parking" and "Neighbourhood Watch".)

The Shops. Comments regarding the shops were mainly general, with few being directed at any one in particular. It was felt, however, that the Post Office could be improved if it was open longer hours (see also under "Postal Services" below). It was, however, generally



thought that a good service was provided by the village shops and that their use by local people should be encouraged.

The Pubs. Those that commented about the pubs wished to see them more peaceful, more cheerful, more local, with more families and less music. Several respondents wished to see the "Oak Room" altered, and one suggestion was to replace it with a restaurant. There were also suggestions that the "The Royal Oak" forecourt should be improved with better parking (see also under "Car Parking" below).

The Mobiles. Under this heading come comments regarding the mobile shops, library and fish & chip shop. It was felt that the mobile shops should advertise and go to Spithurst. Similarly, the mobile library should publicise its movements, stay longer and visit the more outlying parts of the Parish.

The remaining comments were general and not related to any specific service. It was felt that the Parish was well provided with services, that we are fortunate in this respect and ought to give them more local support. Their value as local employers was noted.

The final part of Question 8a asked people what additional services they would like to see provided. An enormous variety of suggestions were made in the 149 questionnaires containing comments on this section and the following is a list (in descending order) of those for which there was most demand.

- Chemist
- Bank
- Hairdresser
- Better Bus Service
- Bakery
- Another Store
- Greengrocers
- Fishmongers
- Cafe

It should be noted that the request for a "Chemist" was also made under "Pharmacy Services" (see below) and that in February 1987 a Hairdresser started business in the village High Street.

There were 41 other suggestions, but pressure of space prevents them all being recorded. However, they included a Dentist (see also under "Dental Services" below), a Launderette, a Cycle Path, a Mobile Video Library, Nuclear Shelters and a Hotel.

Question 8b dealt with a) improvements to other existing services through asking if they were adequate or inadequate and b) the provision of a number of suggested new services. The lowest response in this section was 63% (chiroprody) and the results are summarised below.

1) - 4). Roads, Road Safety, Car Parking and Road Sweeping. The roads in the Parish are of either a minor or unclassified nature (see map on inside front cover). The minor roads comprise of those connecting the A275 and Newick via either a) Town Littleworth or b) Barcombe Cross village/Spithurst/Longford, and c) Barcombe Cross village and the A26 via Barcombe Mills. Unclassified roads include those running south from b) to Hamsey with a connection to c) via Barcombe and the Parish Church, and from b) beyond Barcombe Cross village to the Anchor Inn on the River Ouse. Roads and road sweeping are the responsibility of East Sussex County Council, although a number of streets in Barcombe Cross Village are under the control of Lewes District Council. Major car parking areas are at Barcombe Cross High Street (County Council) and the Recreation Ground (Parish Council). Parking on both sides of the village High Street is controlled by single "yellow lines" and during the completion of the Appraisal Report further restrictions on parking were applied (double yellow lines) to the west side of the street outside the Garage. The District Council has provided lay-byes in Barcombe Cross village on the Barcombe Mills Road and at Mount Pleasant. In 1986 Barcombe Parish Council purchased land (in Ringmer Parish) to provide a car park at Barcombe Mills.

Although a clear majority stated that the roads were adequate to serve the needs of the Parish, a substantial minority disagreed and the latter view was confirmed by the large number of comments obtained. A small majority stated that provision of car parking in the Parish was inadequate and there was no clear opinion on road safety.

A total of 352 sets of comments were obtained on "Roads", "Car Parking" and "Road Safety" and, as numerous points were common to these sections, their details are taken together. The great majority of the points raised under "Roads" stated that the roads in the Parish were in urgent need of repair and resurfacing, that minor repairs had been badly carried out and that verges needed attention so as to provide space for pedestrians, particularly (as was quoted under 8b3) on approach roads. Other points raised under "Roads" were as follows (in descending order of frequency).

- School Path dangerous through cars parked on its approach and lack of repair (also reported under 8b2)
- Sign posts required at dangerous bends
- Improvement to road drainage by clearing drains
- Hedges to be trimmed at road junctions to improve visibility (also reported under 8b3)
- Parish roads unsuitable for heavy traffic
- Early gritting of roads for snow and ice advisable

The single most significant point raised under "Road Safety" was the

speed of traffic passing through the village, and on School Hill and Barcombe Mills Road in particular.

Otherwise, the majority of points raised under "Car Parking" and "Road Safety" (8b2,3) concerned conditions in Barcombe Cross village High Street. In general, it was felt that parking in this area was bad during both day and night, that much of it was probably illegal and that it caused a potential obstruction for emergency vehicles. Particular concern was shown that parking outside the Garage caused a significant problem for through-traffic; parking outside the "The Royal Oak" was also mentioned as being bad. It was also felt that too much parking was allowed to occur on yellow lines (and at road bends), but that double yellow lines should be provided only on one side of the street.

The village car park also received a high number of comments. Much of these pointed to the use of this area for long term parking by residents (presumably with no garage accommodation), with the suggestion that overnight parking be controlled by a permit scheme. It was also pointed out that cars parked on the High Street on either side of the entrance obstructed the view of drivers leaving the car park.

Other minor but significant points raised under Questions 8b2,3 were as follows (in descending order of frequency).

- Increased heavy traffic using Barcombe roads to travel between the A275 and A26
- Heavy lorries damaging verges in narrow lanes
- Parking without lights on pavements and on wrong side of the roadway
- Need for lay-by on School Hill
- No parking on Recreation Ground
- Exit of footpath from Grantham Bank to School Hill requires clearing and signposting

In addition, the situations described in the comments to questions 8b1-3 led a number of respondents to make specific recommendations, e.g. for a pedestrian crossing in the High Street, for additional car park(s), for enforcement of parking regulations by the police and speed caution signs at the entrances to the village.

Road Sweeping (Question 8b4) received a clear majority showing that this service was considered adequate. The small number of comments contained the following points in approximately equal proportions.

- 1) the village High Street was untidy
- 2) additional litter bins and signs encouraging village tidiness needed
- 3) car parking in village High Street prevented road sweeping
- 4) little evidence of road sweeping
- 5) agricultural waste on roads should be removed by those responsible

5) Electricity. Mains electricity is supplied to the Parish by the South Eastern Electricity Board. Almost all replies found the electricity supply to be adequate and the very small number of comments that resulted complained about the periodic lowering of the voltage.

6) Mains gas. Mains gas is not available in the Parish, the nearest supplies being in Lewes and Ringmer. Here there was a clear majority in favour of mains gas being provided and the points raised in the 37 questionnaires containing comments on this topic said that mains gas was preferable for cooking and central heating and was an alternative to Calor Gas.

7) Water. Mains water is supplied to the Parish by the Mid-Sussex Water Company. Although there was a clear majority that found the water supply to be adequate, the substantial minority that disagreed also produced a high number of comments (112) on the subject. In the main the points raised were as follows (in descending order of frequency).

- Bad taste of mains water; need for frequent analysis
- Frequent discolouration of mains water
- New mains supply required for Parish and in particular for Spithurst
- Inadequate water pressure especially in Spithurst

8) Additional Public Telephones. There are at present four public telephone boxes in the Parish, viz. at Barcombe Cross village ("The Royal Oak"), Mount Pleasant, Barcombe Mills ("The Anglers Rest") and at Barcombe (junction of Church Road and Mill Lane). 45% wished additional public telephones and the small number of comments obtained suggested that additional boxes be provided at "The "Royal Oak", Deans Meadow and at Barcombe Mills.

9) - 11) Medical, Dental, Chiropody and Pharmacy Services. The Surgery in the High Street of Barcombe Cross village is part of the Group Practice at the Newick Health Centre with two G.Ps. being based at Barcombe. A large majority found the medical services to be adequate, the small number of comments advocating a Health Centre for the Parish.

There are no dental services available in the Parish and hence parishioners have to travel to centres such as Lewes for dental treatment. Perhaps as a result of this, a clear majority found the dental services to be inadequate. The small number of comments consisted of requests for a part-time dentist to be provided in the Parish.

Chiropody services are provided at the Newick Health Centre, the only provision in the Parish being that of a visiting private chiropodist. A small majority found chiropody services to be inadequate and the few comments made pointed to the need of such a service locally for the elderly.

Pharmacy services, i.e. the dispensing of drugs etc., are not available in the Parish, but there is a delivery (on a voluntary basis) to "Ballard's Stores" of prescriptions taken to the pharmacy in Newick. In addition, basic toiletries etc. can be obtained from the local shops. A clear majority described pharmacy services as inadequate and the 41 comments obtained dealt largely with the need for a "Chemist" in the Parish and for late-opening pharmacy services in Lewes to be displayed in the Surgery.

13) Postal services. The Barcombe Sub-Post Office is located in "Ballards Stores" in the village High Street. In addition, there are nine Post Boxes distributed throughout the Parish. The daily (Monday - Saturday) postal delivery service to all houses in the Parish and collection of mail (a.m. and p.m. from the Sub-Post Office) is organised from the Head Post Office in Lewes. Virtually all questionnaires contained approval of the postal services, the small number of comments claiming a need for a better local postal service (but without specific recommendations) and a larger postal box in the village High Street. (See also under "Post Office" above)

14) Footpaths. An extensive network of footpaths covers the Parish; some paths are monitored by a Committee of the Parish Council. A clear majority found the footpaths to be adequate, but 68 questionnaires contained comments on the subject. The major points raised were of equal significance and were as follows - 1) a lack of signposts, 2) many footpaths are either badly maintained or obliterated by farmers or horses. Minor points included the suggestion for the formation of a Group to maintain footpaths, the bad state of the path outside Barcombe Place and the need for a footpath along School Hill/Spithurst Road. (See also under Section 9 for comments on facilities for walkers etc.)

15) Buses. Following De-regulation of Bus Services nationally in October 1986, such facilities are provided by both the Southdown Bus Company and a local company, R.D.H. Services. As a result, there are several morning and afternoon services to and from Lewes with some operating to Newick and via Ringmer. However, there was a small majority stating that the services in September 1986 were inadequate. The few points of any significance that arose from the questionnaires containing comments on "Buses" dealt with suggestions for a late evening bus from Lewes, a late afternoon bus to Lewes (for returning visitors), a Sunday bus in summer and the retiming of early morning buses to allow appointments at 9 - 9.30 a.m. in Lewes.

16) Refuse collection. A weekly household refuse collection is provided by Lewes District Council. Virtually all questionnaires returned contained approval of this service and the few comments pointed to the need for a site for a rubbish skip in the Parish.

17) Street lights. There are no street lights in the Parish and a clear majority wished the situation to continue. The few comments from this section stressed the need for street lights in the village High Street (in order to reduce traffic speed) and on housing estates (for safety reasons).

18) Cable/satellite TV. There was a very clear majority against the installation of such services in the Parish.

19) Neighbourhood Watch. In conjunction with the County Police Force this scheme was introduced into the Parish in 1984. A large majority found that the scheme was adequate and the small number of comments contained suggestions for improvement of the local scheme, e.g. through the distribution of more publicity and information from those responsible, and a plea for a greater police presence in the Parish. (See also under "Police" above)

20) Village Hall facilities. A number of premises in the Parish can be hired for use for meetings, social activities and occasions. Of these, the Village Hall in the village High Street is the largest and is run by a Management Committee on behalf of its Trustees; an independent organisation, the Barcombe Mens Club, occupies the top floor of the building. Other venues that are used in these respects are the Church Youth Centre and the "Oak Room" of "The Royal Oak" pub.

A clear majority of questionnaires returned found the facilities offered by Village Hall as being adequate. Nevertheless, 54 questionnaires contained comments of a critical nature and the points raised were in order of decreasing significance -

- Hall needs updating and enlarging
- Poor heating for charge made and for elderly
- Hire of hall too expensive
- Poor kitchen facilities
- Parties using hall should not have to clear hall after use
- Site should be sold for maisonnettes/funds for new complex
- Partitioning needed to provide area for small meetings.

## 11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Question 9 asked "Are you satisfied with the services provided by your Local Authorities", i.e. Parish Council, District Council and County Council. The major responsibilities of each Authority were then stated.

35% of the respondents who answered the questions also made comments on this section. By far the largest majority of the comments were on the specific services offered by each Authority, such as planning matters, footpaths, roads etc. However, a significant minority did comment on the services in general and many of these thought that they were not getting value for money in terms of the rates they paid to Local Government. Other comments of a general nature were confined to such statements as "the Parish Council is not taken seriously enough by the other two Authorities" or "the District Council disregards anything the Parish Council suggests". This last statement was particularly related to planning matters.

However, the greatest number of comments related to the specific services offered by the three Authorities and these comments are now shown under the Authority to which they relate.

Parish Council. A very clear majority of people were satisfied with the services provided by the Parish Council and comments such as "they do a very good job, but need more power" reinforces this statistic. However, there was a significant minority who were not satisfied and their main cause of concern was the state of the footpaths in the Parish; these were felt to be overgrown and non-existent in some instances, also there was a lack of signposts (see also under Sections 9 and 10). The next most frequent comment was the children's play area; although already commented upon in Sections 9 and 12 (Sport and Leisure), it again featured in this section of the Questionnaire with people stressing the need for improvement to the children's playground in the Recreation Ground and special reference was made to the improvement of safety features. Planning decisions by the Parish Council was the other aspect commented upon, but this was mostly in the context that more power should be given to the Parish Council on planning matters.

District Council. A clear majority were satisfied with the services provided by the District Council, although a substantial minority were not satisfied. Of the three Authorities this was the one with which people were the most dissatisfied. The main concern was over planning matters and the way in which planning decisions were made with comments such as "the District Council have no idea of the village needs" and "planning decisions should be consistent". The poor state of the roads, verges and fences on District Council land also caused comment. It was felt that there is a need for more Council houses to replace those now in private ownership.

County Council. A very clear majority were satisfied with the services provided by the County Council and slightly less comments were made on these services than on those provided by the other two Authorities. However, although the comments were fewer there was nonetheless a very significant minority who were dissatisfied with the services provided. Two of these featured in the comments, viz. the maintenance of roads and highways and to a lesser extent the provision of education. (Attention was also drawn to these points in Sections 10 (Services) and 8 (Education).) Comments on the state of the roads related to the need for more immediate repair work and better drainage which should lead to less water and ice on the roads. Under education it was stated that more money should be spent on this service, better standards of education were needed and more science should be taught.

Comment. Although approximately 75% of respondents were satisfied with Local Government there does appear to be need for improvement of some of the services provided particularly in the following areas:

- Parish Council - Footpaths, children's play area;
- District Council - Planning matters, maintenance of their property;
- County Council - Maintenance of roads/highways.

## 12. IMPROVEMENTS, FEATURES AND CONSERVATION AREAS IN THE PARISH

Question 10a requested opinions on areas in the Parish that could be improved. 21% of returned questionnaires gave a comment in this section, with responses covering a range of subjects in the Parish. Of these, the most concerned parking problems in the village High Street and especially outside the Garage - a problem that has since been alleviated by double yellow lines in this area. The next most frequent comment was about the tidiness and upkeep of roadside verges. Several areas were mentioned repeatedly including:-

- dumping on verges,
- infrequency of mowing,
- cleaning of ditches.

A subject occurring almost as often was Roads, including such aspects as:-

- potholes and general condition,
- farmers and horseriders leaving debris and waste on roads,
- excessive speeds,
- weight limits to reduce through-traffic.

A number of people complained about the children's play area in the Recreation Ground, whilst other minor subjects mentioned for improvement included in descending order of frequency:-

- School Path,
- footpath on School Hill,
- footpath to Barcombe Mills,
- High Street.

Question 10b asked for opinions on features that were particularly important to the character of the Parish or to parts of it (e.g. Recreation Ground, Churches). This question also yielded a huge variety of responses from the 40% who commented. The largest number of comments concerned the Recreation Ground and Churches. The variety of responses are listed below in descending order of frequency:-

- Churches,
- Recreation Ground,
- shops/ pubs,
- village atmosphere,
- architecture/ the environment,
- High Street/ River,
- Barcombe Primary School,
- Clubs/ limited development to retain character,
- footpaths/ the Village Hall,
- upkeep of older buildings/trees and their planting,
- sports teams/ no development or industry on farmland,
- less traffic/ more industry and services/ preference for local families/population.



There are two Conservation Areas in the Parish. These were designated in 1976 in Barcombe Cross village and around the Parish Church and are indicated in the map on the inside front cover. In addition, there are some 36 Grade II Listed Buildings in the Parish. Question 10c asked about the retention of the Conservation Areas, and of the 82% of questionnaires returned almost all wished to see them retained.

### 13. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

In Question 11 parishioners were asked to indicate how they wished Barcombe to develop in the future. This question aimed to give a choice of response between development as a (a) working, (b) residential or (c) mixed community. However, 630 "YES's" were gained from 530 questionnaires. This discrepancy was found to be due mainly to some of the large number of those answering (c) also giving a response to (a) and (b).

The results were:-

a significant minority wished Barcombe to develop as a working community,

a similar proportion wished it to develop as a residential community, but

a clear majority wished the Parish to develop as a mixed/residential community.

63% of respondents answered question (d). Whilst a substantial minority wished the village to expand, a very small minority wished to see it contract but a clear majority stated that it should remain the same.

Comment. As stated previously (see Section 6), housing and development were common themes in answers to many of the questions. It is felt that it is also reasonable to conclude that these responses reflect the type of housing and social problems that are typical of rural communities situated within commuting distance of successful centres of commercial importance such as London and Gatwick. If the inevitable drift of rural populations to urban areas is to be curtailed and the character of villages maintained then it is clear that any future development in the Parish should take account of the major views and preferences indicated in the returned Appraisal questionnaires.

One conclusion that can be drawn from Question 11 is that a large proportion of the respondents wished the Parish to stay the same with respect to both size and population mix. This conclusion must, however, be reconciled with the responses gained from Question 4a where a very clear majority said that there was need for some housing development and from Question 5b where there was also a very clear

majority in favour of further industry and employment opportunities in the Parish (see Sections 6 and 7). Here it should be noted that a significant number from amongst both the 35% wishing expansion and those answering Question 12 (see Section 14 below) expressed the view that development was necessary but should be of a limited and/or controlled type. Given the nature of our Questionnaire, perhaps in these respects a reasonable conclusion is that many people wish the best of all worlds, but the clear message has emerged that Barcombe residents do not wish to see dramatic changes occurring in the community in which they live.

#### 14. FURTHER COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

The final part of the Questionnaire gave the opportunity for anyone in a household to make further comments or suggestions. Including those that contained the voluntary comments in Question 11d, further information was given in some 200 questionnaires. The points so raised fell under three main headings as outlined below.

Barcombe, present and future. There were very few negative comments as many stressed their preference for Barcombe, describing it as an attractive country parish and village with evidence of it being also a caring community. A small number felt that Barcombe had to think seriously about its future particularly through diversification to create more local employment. A substantial number sought the retention of the parish's character, charm and present balance, but the largest number of all points raised under Questions 11 and 12 wished to see development through small scale controlled expansion with starter/sheltered housing being specifically named by a significant number.

Environment. Views were expressed that the environment in Barcombe was not perfect with noise (e.g. from motor cycles, aircraft), bonfires, agricultural waste on roads, crop spraying and litter being quoted. Concern was also felt for plant and tree life with a plea by a small but significant number advocating the planting of more trees in the parish.

Village Appraisal. A number of questionnaires commented on the Barcombe Village Appraisal exercise. Although a small number contained criticisms or were sceptical, e.g. of the composition of the Appraisal Group, the questions asked and their implications, the majority of points made were complimentary and indicating that the Appraisal was a good exercise for Barcombe to have undertaken.

APPENDIX 1

**The Questionnaire and Results.** The Questionnaire contained a statement on behalf of the Appraisal Group describing the purpose of the exercise, giving details of distribution/collection of questionnaires and confirming the anonymity of the information gathered. The questions are given below in the same form and order as those used in the original questionnaires and for each the data obtained are recorded as described in Section 4.

1. Why has your family chosen to live in the parish? Please tick ANY of the following which apply.

	No.	%
a) To live in the country	205	34
b) To live in a village	159	19
c) To be near to work	126	15
d) For the local schooling	36	4
e) For family reasons	116	14
f) Born here	122	14

% answering = 97%

2. How many years has your family lived in the parish? (Please tick)

	No.	%
a) 0-5 years	95	18
b) 5-10 years	58	11
c) 10-20 years	112	22
d) over 20 years	225	49

% answering = 98%

3a. How many in your household regularly use :- (Please give number)

	No.	%
a) a local bus	190	11
b) a car	1116	66
c) a train	112	7
d) a motor cycle	58	3
e) a bicycle	220	13

% answering = 98%

3b. Why do members of your household use these forms of transport? (Please tick)

% answering = 97%

	No. (%)	bus	car	train	m/cycle	bicycle	total	No.
a) to get to work	45(9)	333(66)	50(10)	38(7)	40(8)	506		
b) to get to school	51(42)	60(49)	4(3)	2(2)	5(4)	122		
c) to go shopping	64(12)	408(78)	25(5)	8(1)	20(4)	525		
d) for social visits /entertainment	32(6)	403(75)	32(6)	20(4)	52(9)	539		
e) other purposes	22(8)	197(69)	18(6)	13(5)	36(12)	286		

4. HOUSING

a) Consultation by the Village Appraisal Group with interest groups in the parish suggested that there was a need for housing for young people (e.g. starter homes) and elderly people (e.g. sheltered housing).

Do you agree that there is need for any type of development?

% answering = 89%

	No.	%
YES	378	79
NO	98	21

If YES, please answer question b) below.

b) Is there any other type of housing that you would wish to see in the parish? (Please tick those you think appropriate)

% answering = 81%

	No.	%
1) starter homes	321	30
2) sheltered housing	241	23
3) private housing up to £50000	122	12
4) private housing £50000-80000	45	4
5) private housing over £80000	26	2
6) council housing to rent	181	17
7) private housing to rent	90	9
8) other, e.g. Housing Assoc., Self Build (please specify)	35	3

c) Has anyone in your family had to leave the parish due to a lack of suitable housing in the last 5 years?

% answering = 92%

	No.	%
YES	52	11
NO	475	89

If YES, please give brief comment. (Comments in 43 questionnaires)

d) Do you feel that there should be restrictions on extensions to existing houses ?  
 % answering = 89%

YES	No.	%
NO	217	46
	255	54

e) Are you on main drainage ?  
 % answering = 97%

YES	No.	%
NO	325	63
	190	37

If NO, would you wish to be ?  
 % NO's answering = 86%

YES	No.	%
NO	66	53
	77	47

**5. Employment.**

a) How many in your household have their employment based within the parish (including self employed and part-time) ?  
 (293 in 185 questionnaires)

b) Do you wish to see further employment opportunities provided

1) in the parish		and 2) outside the parish ?	
% answering = 86%	% answering = 78%		
YES	No.	YES	No.
325	71	324	78
NO	62	NO	35
DON'T KNOW	51	DON'T KNOW	56
			14

c) Consultation by the Village Appraisal Group with interest groups in the parish suggested that there was a need for Light Industrial Units (e.g. small workshops, storage units, rural crafts) in the parish.

Do you agree ?  
 % answering = 89%

YES	No.	%
NO	366	77
	108	23

If YES, would you like to see these Units

1) in one area	No.	%
OR 2) dispersed throughout the parish ?	131	36
(% YES'S answering = 100%)	234	64

Please add below any further comments that you may have on this subject. (Comments in 104 questionnaires)

**6. Education**

a) What is the number of children in your household attending the following ?  
 % answering = 36%

	State No. (%)	Independent No. (%)
1) Preschool Group	11 (28)	28 (72)
2) Primary School	85 (83)	18 (17)
3) Secondary School	94 (76)	30 (24)
4) Further Education (Tech., Agric.) College	64 (93)	5 (7)
5) Higher Education Estab. (University, Polytech)	28 (85)	5 (15)
6) Other	8 (57)	6 (43)

b) Do you feel that the following educational facilities are adequate ? If so, please indicate accordingly:

i) Play/nursery schools	% answering = 62%	YES	NO	No.	%
ii) Primary schools	% answering = 66%	YES	NO	338	86
iii) Secondary schools	% answering = 60%	YES	NO	275	87
iv) Adult classes	% answering = 60%	YES	NO	199	64
v) Transport arrangements for children	% answering = 54%	YES	NO	206	72
				81	28

Please give below brief comments that you might have on questions i)-v) of this section. (Comments in 86 questionnaires)

c) How important do you consider it is to have a primary school in the parish ? (please tick)  
 % answering = 92%

1) essential	No.	%
2) important	421	86
3) not important	60	12
	6	2

d) Do you think that the churches in the parish play an important role in the life of the community ?  
 % answering = 86%

	No.	%
YES	345	75
NO	112	25

(Comments given voluntarily in 29 questionnaires (5%))

### 7. Sport and Leisure

a) Consultation by the Village Appraisal Group with interest groups in the parish suggested that there was a need for an improvement to social, sports and leisure facilities within the parish.  
 Do you agree ?  
 % answering = 77%

	No.	%
YES	252	62
NO	157	38

If YES, please give brief details below. (Comments in 103 questionnaires = 41% of YES's)

b) Do you think that the present Pavilion/changing rooms on the Recreation Ground are ADEQUATE/INADEQUATE ?  
 % answering = 60%

	No.	%
ADEQUATE	203	64
INADEQUATE	116	36

c) Do you consider that there are adequate indoor and outdoor leisure activities in the parish ?  
 % answering = 75%

	No.	%
YES	223	56
NO	175	44

d) Do you consider that there are adequate clubs and organisations in the parish ?  
 % answering = 73%

	No.	%
YES	280	74
NO	101	26

e) Do you wish to see a new facility or club provided in the parish ?  
 % answering = 68%

	No.	%
YES	179	49
NO	183	51

If YES, please state. (Comments in 147 questionnaires = 82% of YES's)

f) Given that it would be a MAJOR undertaking, would you approve of the provision of a new Sports/Leisure Complex in the parish ?  
 % answering = 80%

	No.	%
YES	200	48
NO	220	52

If YES, please give brief comments below. (Comments in 117 comments = 56% of YES's)

g) Do you consider the present play area in the Recreation Ground to be adequate ?  
 % answering = 76%

	No.	%
YES	265	66
NO	133	33

If NO, please give brief comments below. (Comments in 121 questionnaires = 91% of NO's)

h) In particular, do you think that there is a need for a Youth Club in the parish ?  
 % answering = 80%

	No.	%
YES	295	70
NO	127	30

If YES, we invite you to comment below on its possible organisation and management. (Comments in 103 questionnaires = 35% of YES's)

i) Would you like to see improved facilities (e.g. nature trails) for ramblers and walkers in the parish ?  
 % answering = 83%

	No.	%
YES	249	57
NO	169	43

If YES, please give brief details below. (Comments in 143 questionnaires = 57% of YES's)

### 8. Services.

a) Do you wish to see the following facilities FULFILLED in the parish ?

	% answering =	YES	NO	No.	%
1) Post Office	89%	YES	NO	523	100
				1	

	% answering =	YES	NO	No.	%
2) Fire Service	99%	YES	NO	513	98
				11	2

3) Police % answering = 99%	YES NO	No. 521 2	% 100			No. 320 156	% 67 33
4) Mobile Library % answering = 99%	YES NO	No. 509 12	% 98 2			No. 456 28	% 94 6
5) Shops % answering = 99%	YES NO	No. 522 1	% 100			No. 261 157	% 62 38
6) Mobile Shops % answering = 89%	YES NO	No. 370 104	% 78 22			No. 338 140	% 71 29
7) Mobile Fish/Chip Shop % answering = 97%	YES NO	No. 488 26	% 95 5			No. 199 243	% 45 55
8) Garage % answering = 100%	YES NO	No. 522 7	% 99 1			No. 419 52	% 69 11
9) Pubs % answering = 98%	YES NO	No. 506 14	% 97 3			No. 157 251	% 38 62
We invite any comments that you might have to improve these services. (Comments in 92 questionnaires)							
Is there any other service/facility that you would wish to see provided? (Comments in 149 questionnaires)							
b) Do you consider that any of the following services need to be improved OR provided? Please answer accordingly and give brief details and any suggested solutions in the space provided.							
1) Roads % answering = 61%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE	No. 279 161	% 61 39			No. 142 194	% 42 58
2) Car parking % answering = 92%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE	No. 215 272	% 44 56			No. 167 292	% 36 64
3) Road safety % answering = 86%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE	No. 219 237	% 48 52			No. 469 23	% 95 5
4) Road sweeping % answering = 90%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
5) Electricity % answering = 90%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
6) Mains Gas % answering = 78%	YES NO						
7) Water % answering = 90%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
8) Additional Public Telephones % answering = 83%	YES NO						
9) Medical services % answering = 89%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
10) Dental services % answering = 77%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
11) Chiropody services % answering = 63%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
12) Pharmacy services % answering = 87%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
13) Postal services % answering = 93%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						
14) Footpaths % answering = 87%	ADEQUATE INADEQUATE						

15) Buses  
 % answering = 82% ADEQUATE 42  
 INADEQUATE 58  
 Comments in 61 questionnaires

16) Refuse collection  
 % answering = 93% ADEQUATE 98  
 INADEQUATE 2  
 Comments in 14 questionnaires

17) Street lights  
 % answering = 93% YES 37  
 NO 63  
 Comments in 26 questionnaires

18) Cable/satellite TV  
 % answering = 76% YES 24  
 NO 76  
 Comments in 8 questionnaires

19) Neighbourhood Watch  
 % answering = 67% ADEQUATE 85  
 INADEQUATE 15  
 Comments in 23 questionnaires

20) Village Hall facilities  
 % answering = 85% ADEQUATE 66  
 INADEQUATE 34  
 Comments in 54 questionnaires

9. Local Government  
 Are you satisfied with the services provided by your local authorities (e.g. value for money, meeting the community's needs, public involvement on decisions etc.)? The major responsibilities of each authority are given in brackets.

1) Parish Council (Rec. Ground/Play Area, planning consultation, footpaths, bus shelter)  
 % answering = 79%

YES	No.	%
NO	330	79
	88	21

2) District Council (Planning decisions, refuse collection, council housing, roads)  
 % answering = 79%

YES	No.	%
NO	254	61
	162	39

3) County Council (Education, Social & Fire Services, Highways)  
 % answering = 76%

YES	No.	%
NO	296	74
	104	26

If NO to any of these, what improvements would you like to see? (Comments in 185 questionnaires)

10a. Are there any areas in the parish which could be improved?  
 (Comments in 112 questionnaires (21%))

10b. What features are particularly important to the character of the parish or to parts of it (e.g. Recreation Ground, churches etc.)?  
 (Comments in 235 questionnaires (44%))

10c. Do you wish to see the retention of the two Conservation Areas in Barcombe (Barcombe Cross Village and area around Parish Church)?  
 % answering = 82%

YES	No.	%
NO	411	95
	21	5

11. Finally, after answering all of the questions above, do you wish to see Barcombe develop as

a) a working community  
 % answering = 52%

YES	No.	%
NO	109	40
	164	60

b) a residential community  
 % answering = 48%

YES	No.	%
NO	116	45
	142	55

c) a mixed working/residential community (as in 1986)  
 % answering = 81%

YES	No.	%
NO	405	94
	26	6

d) expand/contract/remain same (delete as appropriate)  
 % answering = 63%

expand	No.	%
contract	118	35
same	5	2
	210	63

12. The Village Appraisal Group would welcome any further comments or suggestions which you or any other member of your household of any age may wish to make

(Including comments given voluntarily under 11d (expand), points were raised in 200 questionnaires)

APPENDIX 2

Criteria used to describe the level of significance of percentage answers as majorities or minorities.

	YES/ADEQUATE	NO/INADEQUATE
Virtually/Almost All	91 - 100 %	0 - 4 % Very Small Minority
Large/Highly Significant Majority	81 - 90 %	5 - 10 % Small Minority
Very Clear Majority	71 - 80 %	11 - 20 % Significant Minority
Clear Majority	61 - 70 %	21 - 30 % Very Significant Minority
Small Majority	55 - 60 %	31 - 40 % Substantial Minority
No Clear Majority	50 - 54 %	

APPENDIX 3

In 1987 the businesses in the Parish included the following.

Artist M. Cruickshank	LeatherGoods P. J. Hopkinson
Building, Building Repairs, Farm Building etc. Contractors A. Cunnings D. J. Brooks J. D. Burfield Custom Roofing & Building Red Alice Steelworks W. R. Tickner G. A. Trower	Manufacturers Aurex Playday Ltd Status Spooner Nursery Schools P. Gastier J. Turner
Caravan Site J. Wells	Etits The Anchor Inn The Angler's Rest The Royal Oak
Cold Store J. Rolfe & Son, Fishmonger	Shops Ballards Stores G. Thomas & Son (Butcher & Poulterer) Toppers (Hairdresser) Top Shop V. A. Turner & Son (T. V. & Electrical)
Electrical Contractor D. R. Pratt	Tea Shop The Old Granary
Farming F. J. Cornwell & Sons Ltd. D. Hole N. & H. Lear P. Lundin J. R. Selater H. B. Stroud M. R. Warren	Transport B. M. Patching (Taxi) RDH Transport (Bus) D. Wells (Trucking)
Flowers P. Heathcote, White House Flowers	Underlaker G. A. Trower
Forestry Maintenance, Fencing B. Hunt	Other Services Boating Horseshiding Joinery/Carpentry Logging/Tree-felling Painting/Decorating
Garage, Gen. Engineers Brook & Churches Bros. Ltd.	
Health Care Herbalife (J. Lundin)	
Horticulture etc. Chubbs Garden Centre Barcombe Landscapes (B. Cooper & Co.) E. W. Bunney & Son Ltd., Nurserymen	



