



# Ask Brockholes



## Ask Brockholes action plan

February 2024



# Ask Brockholes - turning our conversations into action

## What we did in Brockholes

147 people took part in the Ask Brockholes conversations in February and March 2022, sharing their experiences of what life is like in Brockholes. The conversations were led by Holme Valley North ward councillors, using the Place Standard tool. This is a way of having conversations about any place – it could be your street, neighbourhood or town.

The Ask Brockholes conversations were either one to one, in groups or took place online. 118 Place Standard assessments were completed in total by the participants. There will be many more opportunities to continue the conversation about how we can make our local place better, and ways for you to get involved in the actions and to share ideas and comments.



The overall aim of Ask Brockholes was to provide an evidence base for future partnership work and funding opportunities that can be used by ward councillors, the school and the local community in Brockholes, and services. Ward councillors were keen to gather views on traffic and parking and to explore Active Travel in particular with Brockholes School.

## Ask Brockholes overview and Results summary with full data

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/ask-brockholes/>

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/2022/10/31/ask-brockholes-results/>

## About Brockholes

Brockholes is a village in the Holme Valley in a semi-rural setting.

### Population

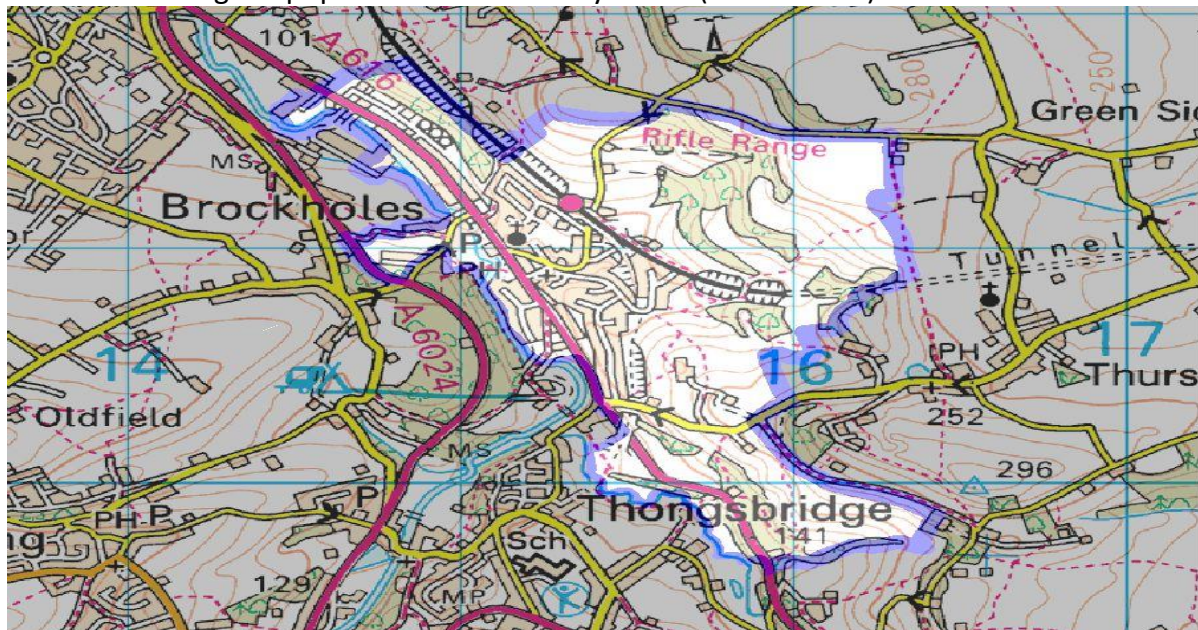
1,556	Total population (2022 ONS estimate)
756	Male
800	Female
264	Age under 16
197	Age 16 to 29
261	Age 30 to 44
460	Age 45 to 64
379	Age 65 plus
1,457	White British

### Number and type of households

688	Total households (Kirklees Council Tax 2022)
2.4	Average household size

### Economy

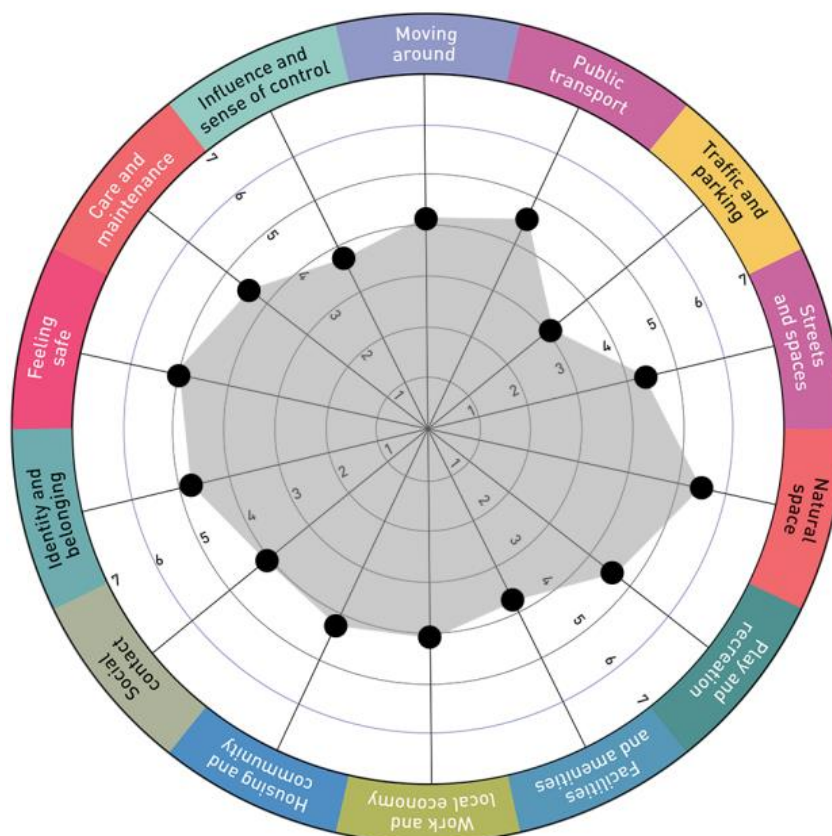
69%	Percentage of population economically active (census 2011)
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This information is from the Kirklees Observatory: <https://observatory.kirklees.gov.uk/>



## Ask Brockholes results



How people in Brockholes scored their place, on a scale of 1 to 7, whilst talking about 14 different themes, and how many comments we received about each of these themes.

Theme	Average score overall	Range of scores received	Number of comments made
Moving around	4.1	1-7	95
Public transport	4.6	1-7	96
Traffic and parking	3.1	1-7	104
Streets and spaces	4.3	1-7	78
Natural space	5.4	1-7	83
Play and recreation	4.6	1-7	78
Facilities and amenities	3.8	1-7	96
Work and local economy	4.1	1-7	71
Housing and community	4.2	1-7	82
Social contact	4.1	1-7	75
Identity and belonging	4.8	1-7	66
Feeling safe	5.0	1-7	76
Care and maintenance	4.4	1-7	75
Influence and sense of control	3.8	1-7	68

Full results, including information about how different people responded, are available at: [Ask Brockholes results – How good is our place?](#)

## **Strengths in Brockholes**

### **Natural space**

Overall, people said that Brockholes is a beautiful village with good access to fields, woods, parks and the river (46 people commented). There are good views and wildlife, such as Hagg Wood by the river, by the railway, and the wood from Riding Field to Neily playing field, used to get to school in summer.

Some people said the park and play area are not maintained to a very high standard. The Recreation Ground could be improved for the whole community to use, for example by adding outdoor exercise equipment and a putting green. The park isn't pram or wheelchair friendly. It opens onto the road so people can't let dogs off the lead or allow young children to run safely.

Some footpaths are very overgrown. Poor conditions on the riverside footpath since flooding and the railway path is boggy for nine months of the year. Some popular routes are used by cyclists. The walk from Riding Fields over the railway is slippery in places and the path along the river from Smithy Place to the industrial units needs improving. Most paths through fields and woods are inaccessible for people with physical disabilities, the elderly, and pushchairs. Footpath signs are not always clear. There is limited seating on most walking routes. Plastic bags, glass in the woods, dog poo, and rubbish in the river are all issues. Garden waste is thrown over fences onto the railway line.

26 people said they have concerns about the impact of new development on natural spaces. Local flora and fauna are at risk and flooding has increased in cellars and gardens on the main road.

### **Suggestions**

The path through the wood needs immediate attention. Open up a riverside walk to Holmfirth. A footpath along the river at Smithy Place will be great (work by River Holme Connections ranger is welcome). Footpath from Brockholes Lane alongside railway line towards Thurstonland needs work. Improve path at the top of Oakes Lane to the fields and woods (very muddy). Signpost footpaths and information about circular routes.

Maintain the graveyard. More allotments (our allotments were taken away in Brockholes). Shabby garages on Oakes Avenue need attention. Bring back TRA and estate walkabouts (things have gone downhill since this ceased).

Apply and closely monitor the Biodiversity Net Gain policy adopted by the council.

### **Feeling safe**

43 participants said that Brockholes is a safe environment to live in. There is occasional crime from outside the village (break-ins, car theft) and anti-social behaviour issues. Roads and paths are well-lit.

25 participants said they do not feel safe, or feel less safe than they used to do at night, due to burglary, car theft and vandalism. Street lighting in some areas of the village such as on side roads is not sufficient. The path on to the Ridings is poorly lit and maintained. The 'duck hole' light has been out of action for over two years despite repeated requests. There is some anti-social behaviour near the pub and Brockholes Lane.

A few people said there are too many cold callers and they can be abusive, which is a big problem for the elderly. There were a few comments about people seen checking properties. There can be issues at the train station. Some participants mentioned a lack of Police presence.

There is a lot of littering and dog mess. On the paths near the main road there are cans, rubbish and broken bottles thrown from passing vehicles. The main road is busy and cars drive close to the pavement. A lot of streets do not have pavements - for example, Smithy Place. Brockholes school children said sometimes there is broken glass in the park and litter at the top park.

### **Suggestions**

Lots of vehicle and opportunistic crime in the area – so CCTV would be beneficial. A 20mph speed limit. Gates and fences to prevent drug users and drinkers accessing the village hall car park. The path along the wood needs patrolling at night (cyclists and pedestrians in the dark with torches?). More lighting. PCSO presence to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Kirklees Council need to blitz the garage site off Oakes Avenue and the path on Oakes Avenue needs cutting, along with regular estate inspections. A CCTV system to record cars entering and leaving Brockholes and Oaks Avenue.

### **Identity and belonging**

39 participants said that Brockholes has its own distinct identity and sense of community. The village is viewed positively. It is a quiet village in the main. People are friendly and welcoming. People accept different members of the community. Older people feel connected to neighbours and friends, with good relationships between young and old residents.

Local people bring community spirit and create a nice environment to live in. The small Facebook groups bring people together to share information on crime, lost belongings and other things. People regularly share stories and photos on social media. The village trust organises regular events that celebrate local history. The school does a lot to help with identity and belonging.

There is a lot of heritage at Smithy Place - Toll Bar and industrial archaeology, the old mill site at the entrance to Hagg Wood and the war memorial. The school links with Holmfirth Harriers based at Neiley playing fields.

27 people said that Brockholes does not have a positive identity or sense of belonging. It has always struggled with identity as it is between Honley and Holmfirth - neither of which completely include Brockholes in events. Some people said its more of a through road.

Few people use the local shop. The Methodist church has closed and the church congregation is depleting. Covid has had an impact. The village hall is under used.

### **Suggestions**

A history board would be a great community project. More sharing of local history. The Village Trust should be supported by Kirklees Council and the parish council. Recovery plans, events at school, church, park, village hall. Do we have a steering group?

## **Challenges and issues in Brockholes**

### **Traffic and parking**

87 participants commented about on-street parking. Issues include not having enough space and streets being full of parked cars, plus too much parking on pavements blocking pedestrian access. On Holmebank Mews and New Mill Road, households with more than one car and large vehicles cause issues. Outside local shops and takeaways it is difficult to get out of Brockholes (via both exits). Yellow lines and zig zags are ignored. Parking on Brockholes Lane by people using businesses, the school club and village hall affects residents.

There were 52 comments about parking around Brockholes School at school times. It can be very busy, congested and not always safe. People park on double yellow lines. Only one place is safe to cross with children - the island by Oakes Lane and Brockholes Lane. Parking overflows into residential areas such as Oakes Lane. There is double parking on Brockholes Lane bend.

27 people commented about traffic and speeding. The speed limit on Brockholes Lane outside the school is too fast – it is the national speed limit and does not change to 30mph until after the junction for Ridings Fields.

Heavy traffic on New Mill Road, and speeding towards Huddersfield after the speed cameras, is noisy and polluting. Woodhead Road speed limit is too fast, with insufficient calming measures in place.

Traffic through the village between the speed cameras at either end is often too high. It's a rat run down Smithy Place and dangerous by the blind bend. Drivers do not observe the zebra crossing at the end of River Holme View. The recent addition of the pedestrian crossing by Alexander's has helped pedestrians to cross New Mill Road safely.

Parking often obstructs junctions and causes problems for traffic trying to pull out. The War Memorial junction and the junctions leading from there onto the main road are dangerous.

On Brockholes Lane, under the bridge, trees and bushes grow into the road and above the railway bridge. The side drains are blocked. This causes flooding when it rains heavily, with stones and mud being washed into the village and eroding the gullies.

### **Suggestions**

20mph speed limit at the school and throughout the village. Waiting restrictions and traffic calming outside the school and down the hill, double yellow lines on school side of Brockholes Lane and enforcement, rumble strips. Drop off point for children who are walked to school by a paid member of staff. Additional parking for school staff. One way system up Brockholes Lane and round the green.

Permit parking on Brockholes Lane with one car per household. More parking areas around the station. Shuttle drop off and collection service to station using playing field or Harriers car park. Parking lay-bys on Oakes Avenue, traffic calming and signage.

Regular enforcement of parking restrictions on the main road. Extra parking for Alexander's sandwich shop. Rock Terrace to have designated parking to free up the main road. Re-paint white line of the road centre to one side, to indicate where cars should be positioned. 'Do not Enter' hatch box at top of Luke Lane for cars turning in from New Mill Road. Controls on large wagons and lorries using the village as a short cut to the motorway.

### **Facilities and amenities**

The majority of participants commented about limited amenities in Brockholes, in particular, shops. For most facilities people travel to Honley, Holmfirth or Huddersfield. The local shop and garage have good opening hours, but are quite expensive. Loss of the Co-op, green grocers, post office and glass collection is an issue. The mobile post office on Thursday mornings at the bowling club is not convenient for residents who can't walk. Brockholes school children said there are not many shops to get healthy food from in the village. They can get pizzas and burgers at the village takeaways. No cafe to meet friends.

18 people commented about facilities for community and social activities. The village hall is a good facility and is well used. It hosts regular events and is used by the after-school club. Classes and groups run in the hall for health and learning. It has recently acquired a small boules court. It could be used more - not everyone uses it.

The Methodist chapel has closed so there is no meeting place for older people. It catered for luncheons, community events, meetings, baby and toddler group, youth and cinema club, as well as band practises.

There is lots to do in the wider area if people can travel. There are easily accessible sports clubs, tennis and athletics. Football is available nearby, also gyms and soft play areas. The mobile library service is no longer provided. Older people travel by public transport to Holmfirth or Honley to access library and GP services. There are no NHS dentists locally. A few people commented about the impact of developments on local amenities, school places, GPs and the increase in traffic in the wider area.

### **Suggestions**

A shelter with perspex roof where people can sit on rainy days and enjoy the outdoors, with outdoor chess area. Better public transport to the GPs in Holmfirth. A coffee shop, green



grocers and local produce store. Mobile post office at the village hall. The shop at bottom of Brockholes Lane needs updating. At Neily sports could there be bottle banks beside the other facilities for charities?

Village hall ping-pong tables for open use, end room for groups, knit and natter, art classes. A community cafe and organisation meeting communal needs. A baby group at the village hall. Access funding to reimagine the Methodist Hall space - rehearsal space, theatre, coffee bar, post office, village shop, art gallery, a space for playgroups, youth club or yoga classes.

### **Influence and sense of control**

33 participants said that they do not feel listened to. The planning process allows for comments, but they are not listened to. Developments have gone ahead on appeal even though the council may have declined it initially, for example on Lancaster Lane. New housing estates are built without thought for the community, infrastructure and wildlife. Kirklees Council does not act on emails and residents are not listened to or supported.

18 people said that they feel able to access information and contribute to local decision making. They mentioned positive dialogue with local parish and ward councillors and feedback - for example, posts on the local Facebook group.

A few people said they would like to get more involved, but weren't sure how to. Some participants were not sure that they would want to get more involved.

### **Suggestions**

More community engagement would be helpful. Use social media to engage people and encourage them to get involved. A local group to consider local issues and to make suggestions to the council. A monthly surgery with local councillors. More activities for the older people in the village. A Mother and toddler group.

Summaries of all the themes, and the full responses from participants, are available at:  
[Ask Brockholes results – How good is our place?](#)

## Ideas and actions

The following actions were identified by a short-term working group of Brockholes residents, representation from Brockholes Village Trust, River Holme Connections and Holme Valley North ward councillors. The 'Ask Brockholes' working group met after the engagement results were shared locally and at the ward forum in Brockholes in September 2022.

### Action plan

Action	Place Standard theme	Suggestions and priorities	Actions being progressed	Funding	Lead / partners
<b>Reduce traffic speeds, traffic calming, road safety and safer parking in the village</b>					
1.	Traffic and parking  Moving around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*20 mph speed limit on Smithy Place Lane with speed sensing flashing sign</li> <li>*Safe access out of Brockholes onto the main road and Brockholes Lane</li> <li>*Traffic calming on Brockholes Lane, widen area where there are zig zags</li> <li>*A pavement on Brockholes Lane or lower the speed limit on the bend</li> <li>*One way traffic system around the recreation green</li> <li>*Traffic calming on Woodhead Road by Hagg Wood and camp site entrance</li> <li>*Trim the foliage at the corner of Woodhead Road more often</li> <li>*Road markings on the main road to segregate parked and moving cars</li> <li>*More parking in the village to free up roads so traffic can move better</li> <li>*Restriction of bikes on local paths</li> </ul>	<p>1.To explore with Kirklees Highways improvements to the Brockholes Lane exit onto New Mill Road and centre of Brockholes in particular safe access to the Rec and school. To include potential one-way system, double yellow lines and speed reduction.</p> <p>Autumn 2023 a study of speed and traffic counts was undertaken by Kirklees Highways. The study was completed Feb 2024 and costs for works were provided:</p> <p>'For a 20mph limit covering the 4 roads around the school (Brockholes Lane (both sides of the park and up past the school) and Oakes Ave. This will include all of the spur roads off these roads as well and a 30mph limit on Brockholes Lane from Riding Fields for a distance of 400m towards Hall Ing Road would be £28,000 which includes all the relevant surveys, signing and lining and TRO costs. A 20 mph zone covering all the above streets would cost in the region of £155,000.'</p>	<p>£1,600 ward councillors funding allocated Autumn 2023 to the study</p> <p>Funding to be identified for this action</p>	Ward councillors liaising with Kirklees Highways

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*No parking outside school at drop-off and pick-up times</li> <li>*More yellow lines on bend below school</li> <li>*Yellow lines by the hairdressers</li> <li>*Mirrors to get on main road or less parking</li> <li>*Zebra crossing into the park</li> <li>*Patrols at school times</li> <li>*Double yellow lines at junction on A616 for 20 metres</li> <li>*Street works survey that works</li> <li>Permit parking on Brockholes Lane</li> <li>Invest in on-street charging</li> <li>*More considerate parking and permits</li> <li>*Remove the grass verge on Oakes Avenue</li> <li>*Add more parking</li> <li>*Penalties for parked cars on pavements</li> <li>*Create more parking by the train station</li> <li>*A speed limit outside the school and parking restrictions on the corner</li> <li>*Acquisition or allocation of land for parking</li> <li>*A drop off zone for driving parents arranged voluntarily by the school</li> <li>*No pavement parking at all</li> <li>*Improve crossing on New Mill Road</li> </ul>	<p>'On the 'no waiting at any time around the school' there are adequate yellow lines (school zigzags on both sides of the road). If more were introduced, they would impact heavily on the residents here and when they were informally consulted on previously, they strongly objected. It was also advised that if any further restrictions were added here, it was likely that the speeds would increase as the parking outside the school and the playground helps to reduce the speeds of traffic coming up and down Brockholes Lane. As there haven't been any further traffic collisions recorded here in the last 5 years involving school parking, we wouldn't be able to justify installing any further double yellow lines in this area.'</p> <p>2. To work with Brockholes School active travel plan and Neighbourhood Police Team to encourage considerate parking at school drop off and pick up times.</p> <p>3.To flag concerns about and monitor future traffic issues around the new development at Smithy Place.</p> <p>4.To ask Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods Service to look into the removal of the grass verges on Oakes Avenue.</p> <p>Feedback from the service is 'whilst sympathetic to the parking issues residents experience, this location has not been selected for highway improvement works and is not on the planned maintenance programme.</p>		<p>December 2023 school feedback session</p> <p>'Ask Brockholes' group to monitor</p>
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			<p>The Parks and Open Spaces Team will continue to undertake a planned programme of verge maintenance and will soil and seed locations they deem appropriate.</p> <p>In most cases it is not illegal to park a vehicle on a grass verge. The authority has no powers to stop vehicles from parking on a grass verge. The issue of vehicles parking on a grass verge would be a matter for the local neighbourhood policing team to consider under the Road Traffic Act 1988.'</p> <p>5.To look into alternative off-road spaces in and around the village that could be used for parking.</p> <p>6. Ward councillors contacted Highways to request enforcement action on pavement parking on Woodhead Road and a one-off trim of vegetation to improve visibility at the corner of Woodhead Road. Vegetation has been cut back.</p> <p>Kirklees Highways response, 'officers are fully aware of the problems in this area and will schedule some extra visits when the mobile unit is available.'</p> <p>7. Noted mirrors cannot be installed at junctions due to safety and maintenance issues, as advised by Kirklees Highways.</p>		Potential action for a future Brockholes group
<b>Better maintenance of roads and footpaths</b>					
2.	Street and spaces	<p>*Regular maintenance of public footpaths</p> <p>*Riverside path is in need of upkeep</p>	1.River Holme Connections regularly carries out maintenance work on the riverside path. Work includes:		River Holme Connections

	<p>Natural spaces</p> <p>Care and maintenance</p> <p>Influence and sense of control</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Enhance footpaths and signage to give better access to outdoor spaces</li> <li>*Increase road and pavement cleaning</li> <li>*Move the bins on Rock Terrace</li> <li>*Tackle dog poo – dog warden questionnaire, identify problem owners, education</li> <li>*Lighting and safer streets</li> <li>*Fill pot-holes</li> <li>*Restore listed boundary marker</li> <li>*Better litter control</li> <li>*More checks by council on litter discarded in area</li> <li>*Repaint the bridge</li> <li>*Resurface Brockholes Lane higher up and Ridings Fields</li> <li>*Signage for residential roads</li> <li>*Kirklees to act promptly to road maintenance issues</li> <li>*Shore up riverside path to prevent further erosion and collapse</li> <li>*Local groups to organise an event to prune bushes overgrowing on footpaths</li> <li>*Return of hanging baskets</li> <li>*Flood defences, improve drainage on the top side of Brockholes Lane</li> </ul>	<p>*Japanese knotweed control (Autumn 2022) - Japanese knotweed along River Holme treated. Control work carried out again in Autumn 2023.</p> <p>*Riverside Way footpath improvements (throughout 2022 and Winter 2023) - Improved signage (waymarking disks and fingerposts installed).</p> <p>*Yellow fish drain marking (Only rain down the drain). August 2022.</p> <p>*River clean-up and Himalayan balsam control work. August 2022.</p> <p>*Annual Water Quality Monitoring as part of the River Health Project. This involves measuring the health of the river, by recording the number of specific river flies that are sensitive to pollution at regular sites. Any variation in results can provide vital information about any trends in water quality.</p> <p>2. Kirklees Public Rights of Way (PROW) Team has undertaken work to address the collapsing riverbank, making the path safe, open and accessible. Two sections are badly eroded and the fallen tree is laid across the river. To explore with River Holme Connections whether the eroded section in Crown ownership could be taken on as a managed scheme.</p> <p>3. Dog bag dispensers, funded by the parish council are sited on Smithy Place, Oakes Avenue and on Oakes Lane. To contact the parish council for additional and replacement dog bag dispensers.</p>		<p>'Ask Brockholes', River Holme Connections to promote</p>
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		<p>4.To ask residents if they would get involved in a community group or association to help maintain footpaths, signage, do urban gardening. In Spring 2024 the Brockholes Green Spaces Group (BGs) formed.</p> <p>The Brockholes Business Group has set up as a community interest company with a view to organising community socials to raise funding for community activity. It funded Brockfest Carnival held at Brockholes Rec on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2023. A regular programme of socials is planned.</p> <p>5.To provide information to people on how to report maintenance issues, fly tipping, pot-holes to Kirklees Council via Report it:  <a href="https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/report-a-problem.aspx">https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/report-a-problem.aspx</a></p> <p>6.Brockholes Lane is on the list for Highways resurfacing as part of the unclassified works in 2024/25.</p> <p>7.To request that Kirklees Highways regularly clean road drains and encourage residents to report the exact locations of blocked drains.</p> <p>Response from Highways July 2023. 'Having checked our systems it appears that the gullies on Brockholes Lane have yet to be cleared. Your chase up has been forwarded to the Drainage Team and we will return with their response as soon as possible.'</p>	<p>£2,500 Brockholes business sponsorship</p>	<p>Ward councillors, 'Ask Brockholes' group to promote locally including Brockholes Facebook pages</p>
Infrastructure improvements as a result of housing developments and stop house building on green land				

3.	Housing and community  Influence and sense of control	<p>*Increased healthcare, school provision and youth services</p> <p>*Ensure residents are informed, involved and have their opinions listened to</p> <p>*Change the planning process away from its bias towards developers and towards the needs of local residents</p>	<p>1.The engagement results have been shared with local GP practices and The Valleys Primary Care Network (PCN). They were asked how they respond to population changes when planning services.</p> <p>Feedback from the PCN is there is no arrangement in place to prepare for additional population due to housing development at the stage a Planning application is approved. When new patients have registered with a GP funding is made available based on the numbers registered.</p> <p>2.Future community youth provision in the village is a potential action that a residents' group and local young people may wish to take forward. Kirklees Youth Alliance is delivering a Holme Valley wide Youth Plan with 2 year's funding from Holme Valley Parish Council and ward councillors.</p>	£25,000 Holme Valley wide – Holme Valley and £5k ward councillors	<p>Ward councillors</p> <p>Holme Valley Parish Council, Kirklees Youth Alliance, ward councillors</p>
<b>More involvement of residents, better sense of community, listen to and keep residents informed</b>					
4.	Influence and sense of control  Identity and belonging Social contact	<p>*Methodist Church, a village fete, social opportunities, history board / school project, better facilities for youth and social interaction of young and old, peer support, community café, publicise local groups, networks</p> <p>*Create a sense of place on New Mill Road</p>	<p>1.Potentially put together an information booklet or leaflet about what's on, key services and how to report issues. Purpose to encourage people to get involved, welcome new people to the village, sign-post and communicate the role of the village trust (which is to look after the village hall building only).</p> <p>2. Potentially to ask residents if they would be interested in participating in a residents or community association to bring people together and take local action, and ask what activities would be of interest. It</p>	Funding to be identified	Future action for a 'residents group'

		<p>*Access to services is really difficult, maybe a monthly drop-in at the village hall such as citizens advice</p> <p>*A Brockholes carnival</p> <p>* Appoint project manager to implement imaginative ideas from the community re the Methodist church</p> <p>*Publicise residents association</p>	<p>could be a light touch umbrella organisation with links to existing local activity and organisations. The Village Trust also needs new volunteers.</p> <p>In Spring 2024 the Brockholes Green Spaces Group (BGs) was established.</p>		
<b>Protect green spaces and wildlife, improve wildlife habitats</b>					
5.	Natural space	*More emphasis on local opinion and wildlife in planning protected natural areas	<p>1.To use the biodiversity off-set funding of around £471,500 from the developers of Smithy Place to increase biodiversity on impaired local sites. A Planning officer and field ecologist to be appointed by Kirklees Council. At this stage it is not clear what the geographical area will be.</p> <p>2.To work with local partners to explore locations and ideas e.g. community orchard, woodland, garden scheme, match funding and encouraging local volunteers. A village group could potentially take it on.</p> <p>Update August 2023 River Holme Connections. There are Highway works planned along one side of Brockholes Rec. To explore adding to the tree planting schedule a wildlife friendly native hedge and planting along the highway and wall alongside Brockholes Recreation Ground.</p> <p>In Spring 2024 the Brockholes Green Spaces Group of local volunteers was formed and registered with Natural Kirklees. The group will look after green spaces in</p>	This funding could be available in 2024-25	<p>Ward councillors to ask for an update from Planning Enforcement Team</p> <p>River Holme Connections to monitor and update</p> <p>Brockholes Green Spaces Group (BG's)</p>

			<p>Brockholes and work with local partners on projects and to explore any available funding and materials.</p> <p>The group has also agreed to formally adopt Brockholes Station. Volunteers will do small tidying and planting to improve the look and feel of the station and involve the local community in projects.</p>		BGs working with Penistone Line Partnership, Community Rail Officer
<b>Improvements to the parks</b>					
6.	<p>Play and recreation</p> <p>Social contact</p>	<p>*Upgrade leisure sport provision</p> <p>* More facilities in the rec for children of all ages. A hand ball court, more swings and regular upkeep of the bark</p> <p>*Install adult exercise equipment</p> <p>*Access to and from Brockholes Lane is not safe as steps go directly on to the road, and limited visibility</p> <p>*Small fence around the play equipment to deter animals fouling where people play</p> <p>* Raised bed planters at the Rec - link with the school</p> <p>*Spruce up and develop the top playground on Oakes Avenue</p> <p>*Close off streets at certain times so children can play. Reclaim the Streets campaign</p> <p>*More events - gala on the Rec</p> <p>*Youth clubs and fitness activities for all abilities in the village hall</p>	<p>1.To explore new seating at the Rec with Kirklees Parks. Ward councillors to raise parks improvements including cleanliness of Top Park with the Parks Team. Noted the play equipment was improved around 8 years ago.</p> <p>Capital funding (amount to be confirmed) for open spaces is due to be invested in Brockholes Rec. Info. from Kirklees Playable Spaces Summer 2023: Brockholes Rec – Playable Spaces and S106 funding Oakes Avenue – Playable Spaces funding only</p> <p>2.To explore safe access into and out of the Rec with Kirklees Highways as part of exploration of traffic and parking improvements to the village centre above (action 1). Any actions would be dependent on Highways/ Parks future works.</p>		Kirklees Parks, Kirklees Highways, ward councillors

		*Keep the parks clean and tidy and Top Rec glass free			
<b>Better public transport links, cheaper fares, local bus service to the station</b>					
7.	Public transport	<p>*Commission better public transport to the GPs</p> <p>*Increase trains – reinstate track on whole of Penistone line</p> <p>*Incentives to travel such as reduced charges at week-ends, reduced rates for young people on low incomes</p>	<p>1. In November 2023 the Government announced £48m Levelling Up Funding to support major improvements to the Penistone Rail Line for infrastructure and access. Spring 2024, the scheme is at the validation stage and waiting for Ministerial approval.</p> <p>Penistone Line Partnership (PLP) request a half-hourly service regularly at timetabling meetings, but the single track and no passing places along the line in some areas do not allow for more frequent services.</p> <p>Further noticeboards have been requested from Northern Rail so that information about the station and PLP activities can be shared. In Spring 2023 PLP volunteers painted the fence on the pathway to Brockholes Platform. S2R in Huddersfield grew some plants and made an upcycled pallet planter for the platform.</p> <p>In Spring 2024 the Brockholes Green Spaces Group (BGs) of local volunteers formally adopted the station. Local volunteers will do small tidying and planting to improve the look and feel of the station and involve the local community in projects.</p>		<p>Kirklees Major Projects Team working with West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Rail partners, Penistone Line Partnership</p> <p>BGs working with Penistone Line Partnership, Community Rail Officer</p>
<b>Recycling bins in the village and collections</b>					



8.	Streets and spaces	<p>*Show what the council is doing on refuse and recycling to achieve better results (publish recycling rates, landfill quantities)</p> <p>*Build an anaerobic digester to produce biomethane</p> <p>*Devise energy efficiency improvement plan</p>	<p>Kirklees Environment Service response July 2023.</p> <p>‘Glass recycling trials were run locally in Honley and Meltham.</p> <p>We looked at some sites that the Council own for the digester and had detailed site surveys undertaken. These did not show that we could build. We are working with Wakefield to see if their existing plant could be updated and used by us. DEFRA have further delayed the legislation, for food and recycling, and funding streams to 2025.</p> <p>External funding was secured for the heat network. ‘</p>		Kirklees Environment Service
<b>CCTV and tackle anti-social behaviour</b>					
9.	Feeling safe	<p>*Practical help from Kirklees Council, parish council and police to prevent crime to property and vehicles</p>	<p>To encourage a Police Community Safety Officer (PCSO) presence in the village potentially at the school and as part of a community contact point or regular service drop-ins.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Policing Team is invited to drop-in regularly to the Thursday coffee mornings at Brockholes village hall.</p>		Neighbourhood Policing Team, Kirklees Community Safety

## Get involved

To get involved or find out more, please contact:

The Kirklees Councillors for the Holme Valley North Ward: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/councillors)

Julie McDowell, Democracy and Place Based Working, Kirklees Council: Email: [julie.mcdowell@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:julie.mcdowell@kirklees.gov.uk)

**This document and more information is available online at:**

[www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk](http://www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk)