



***The Barrington Hills Observer  
October 2012 Resident Survey  
Results Report***

**November 2, 2012**

## Introduction

On October 22, 2012, [The Barrington Hills Observer](#) released the “Barrington Hills 2012 Resident Survey.” Subscribers to The Observer were notified of the opportunity to participate, and over eight hundred invitations were sent via email to Barrington Hills residents as well. The recipients of these initiations represented a broad cross section of residents in our Village and every email address available to us was utilized.

The twenty-three item survey included:

- ✓ Four general questions to gain an understanding of who was participating
- ✓ Eighteen statement and opinion items related to Village
- ✓ One general comment area for participants to share their personal opinions and experiences

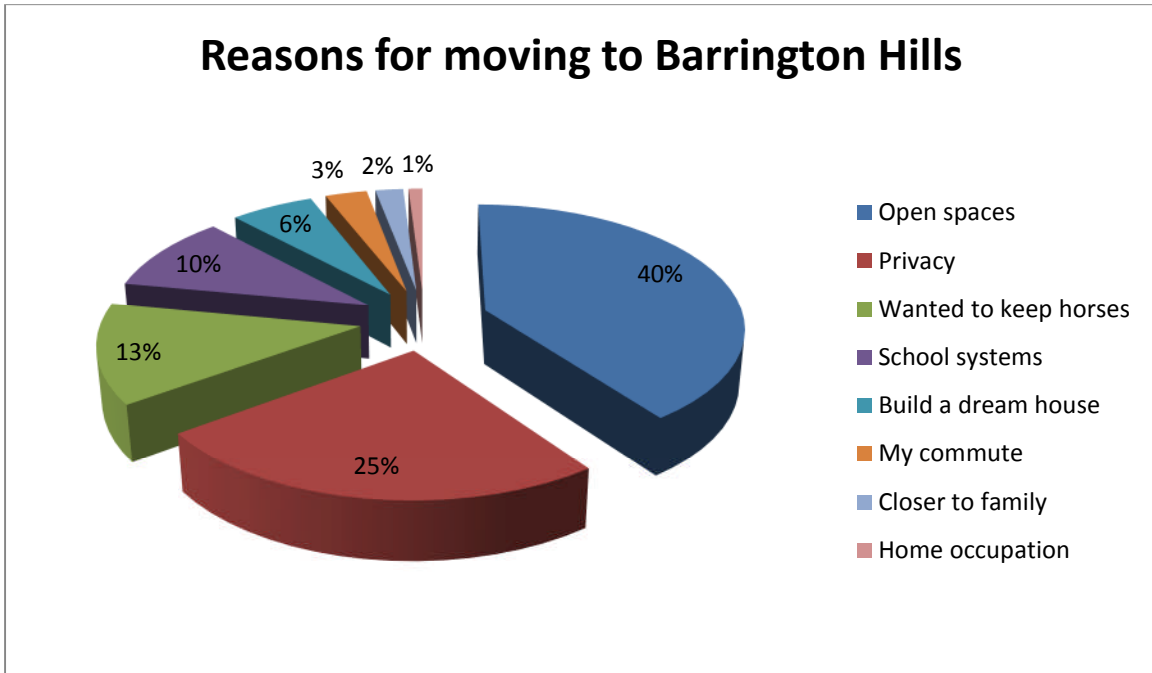
The survey was available for completion from October 22, through October 28, 2012. Nearly one hundred fifty participated on the first day of release, and at the conclusion of the survey period, a total of two hundred twenty-six residents had taken the survey. Eighty-four of them shared their personal experiences and opinions in the comment section.

A compilation of survey answers by item follows. Any questions or comments related to this report can be directed to [BHObserver@gmail.com](mailto:BHObserver@gmail.com). Comments can also be posted directly to The Observer.

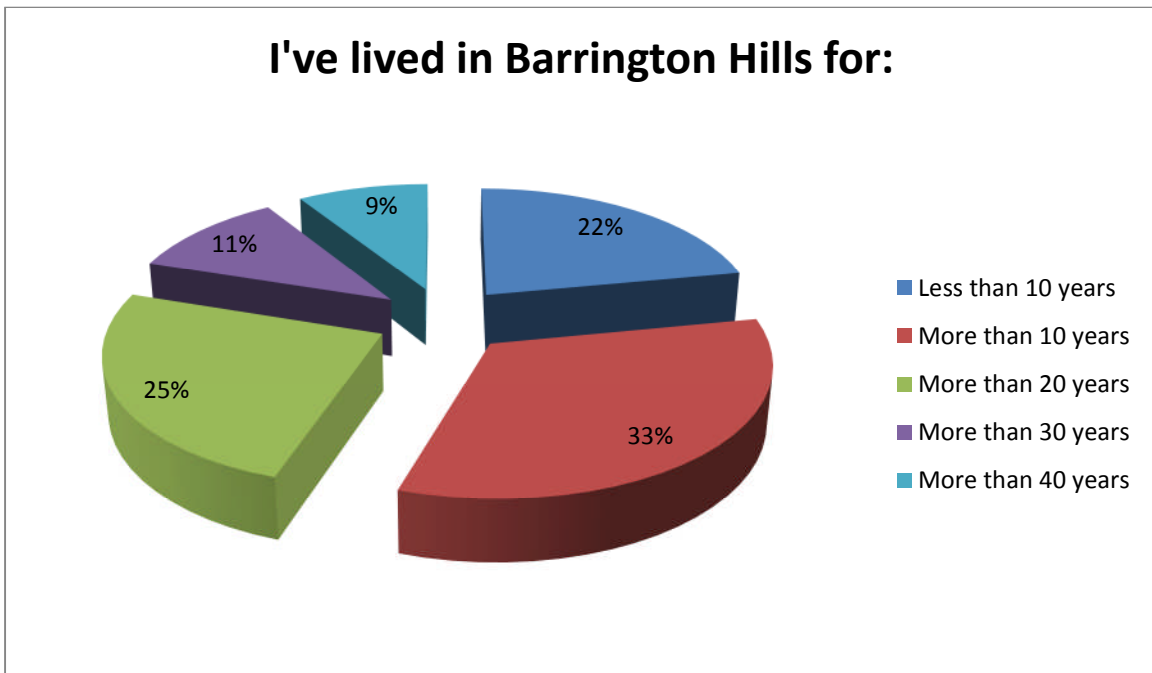
We thank all those who took part in this enlightening study of our Village.

- The Observer

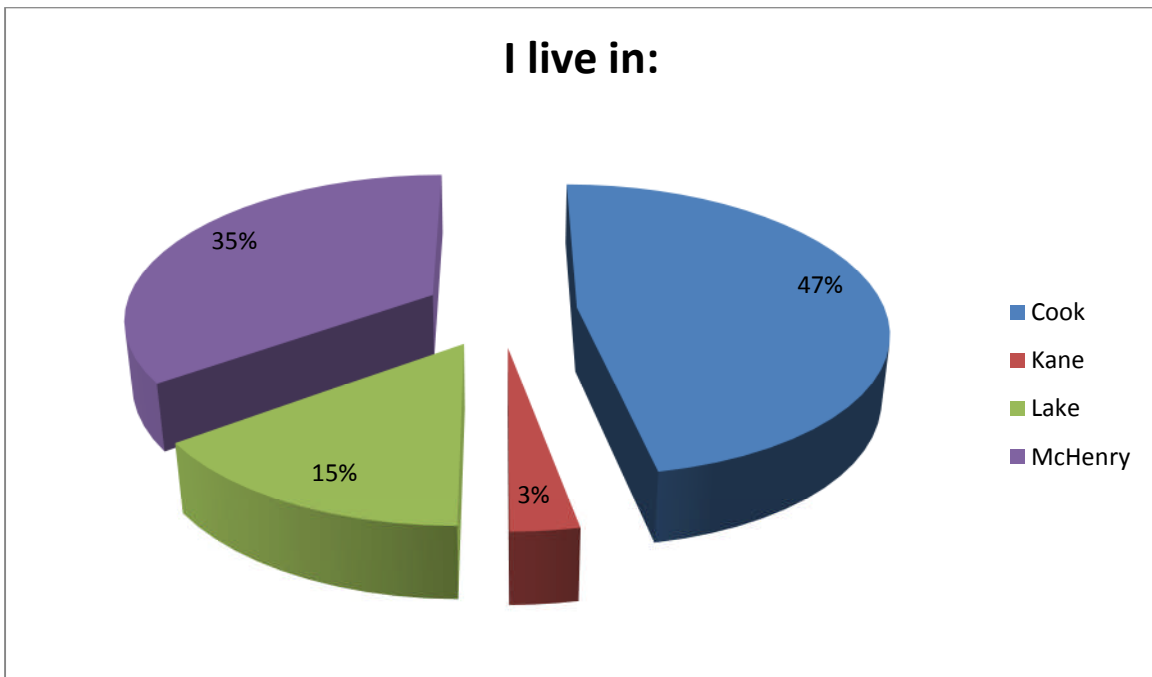
1) Please choose two of the following attractions that best describe your reasons for moving to Barrington Hills.



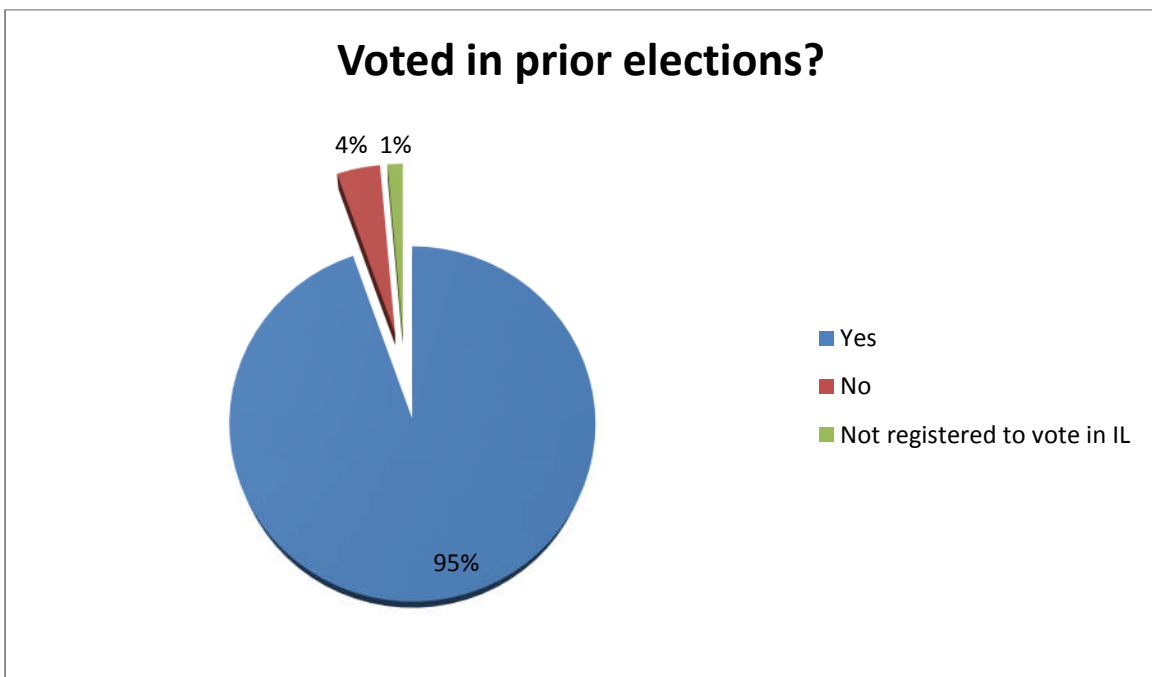
2) How long have you lived in Barrington Hills?



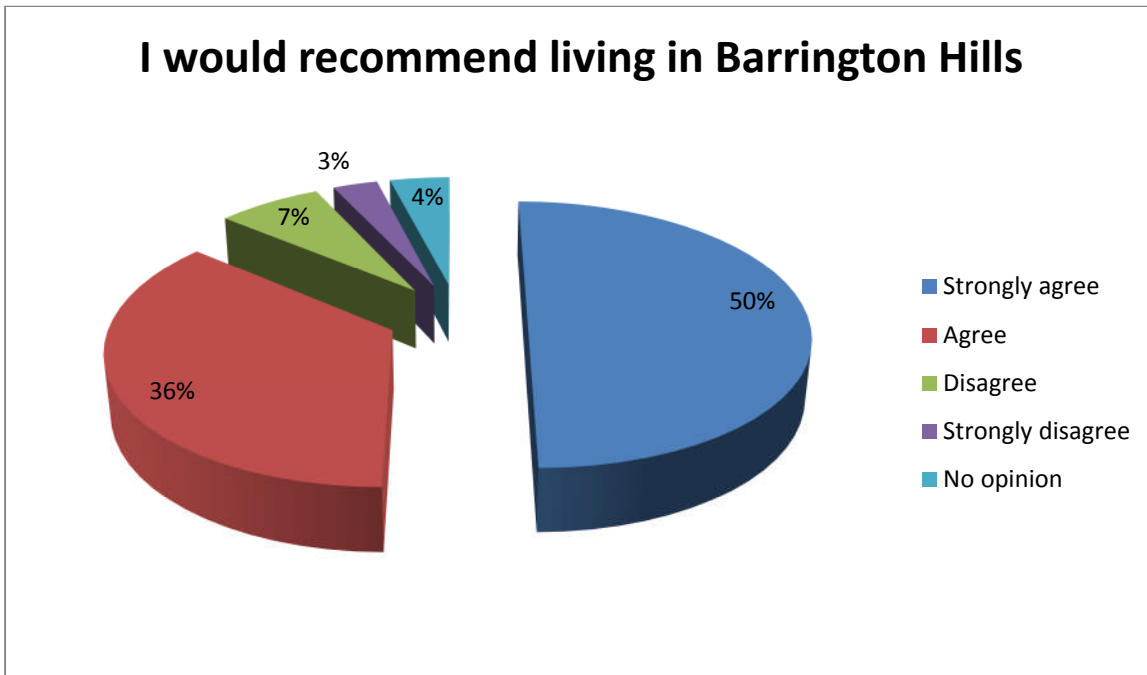
**3) Which County do you live in?**



**4) Have you voted in past Barrington Hills elections?**

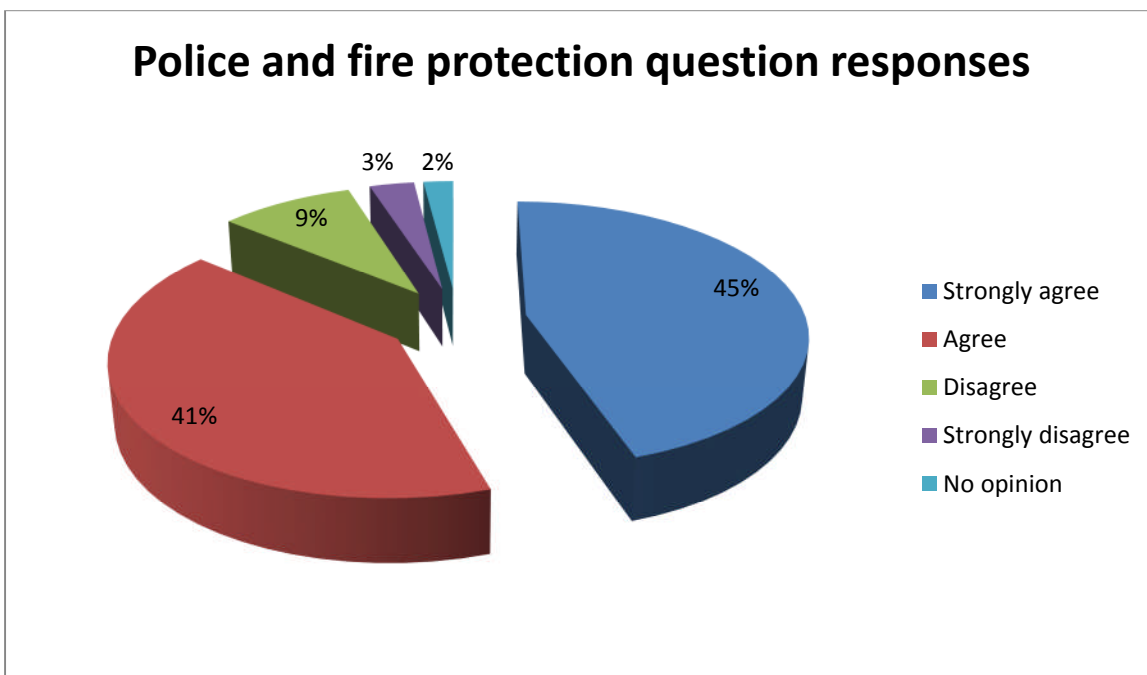


5) I would recommend moving to Barrington Hills to anyone considering moving here.



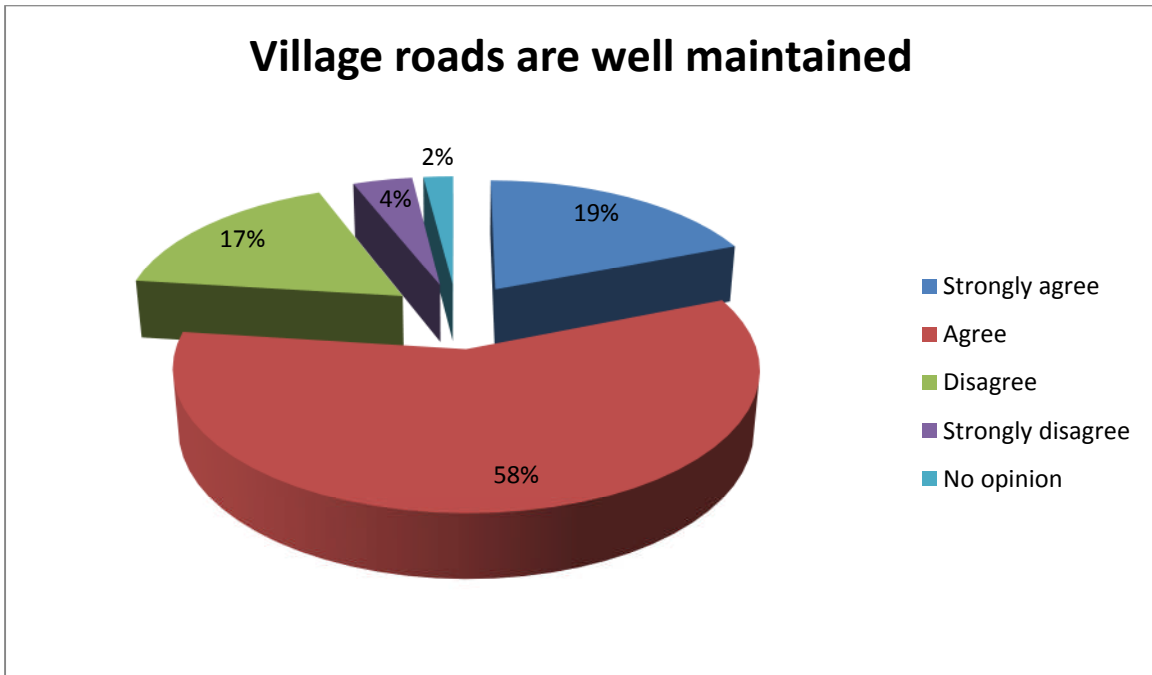
*Overall 86% of residents expressed agreement while 10% expressed disagreement and 4% had no opinion.*

6) Our police and fire protection makes me feel safe whether I'm home or away.



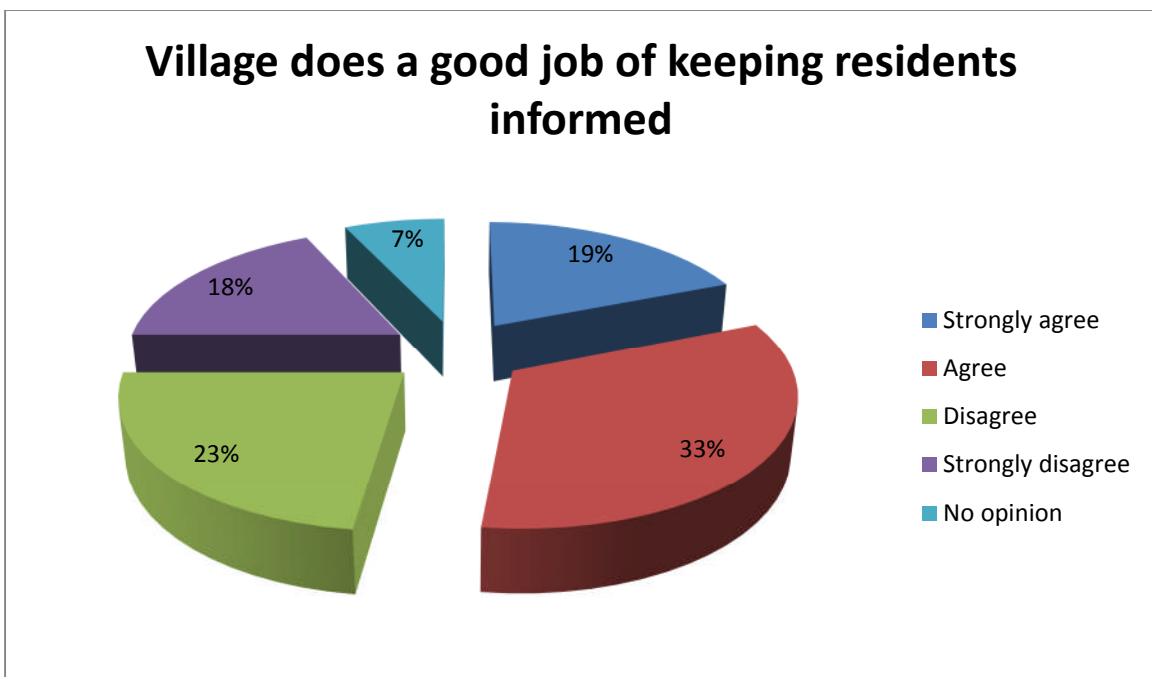
*Overall 86% of residents expressed agreement while 12% expressed disagreement and 2% had no opinion.*

7) Our Village roads are well maintained all year round. Roads are well paved and plowed.



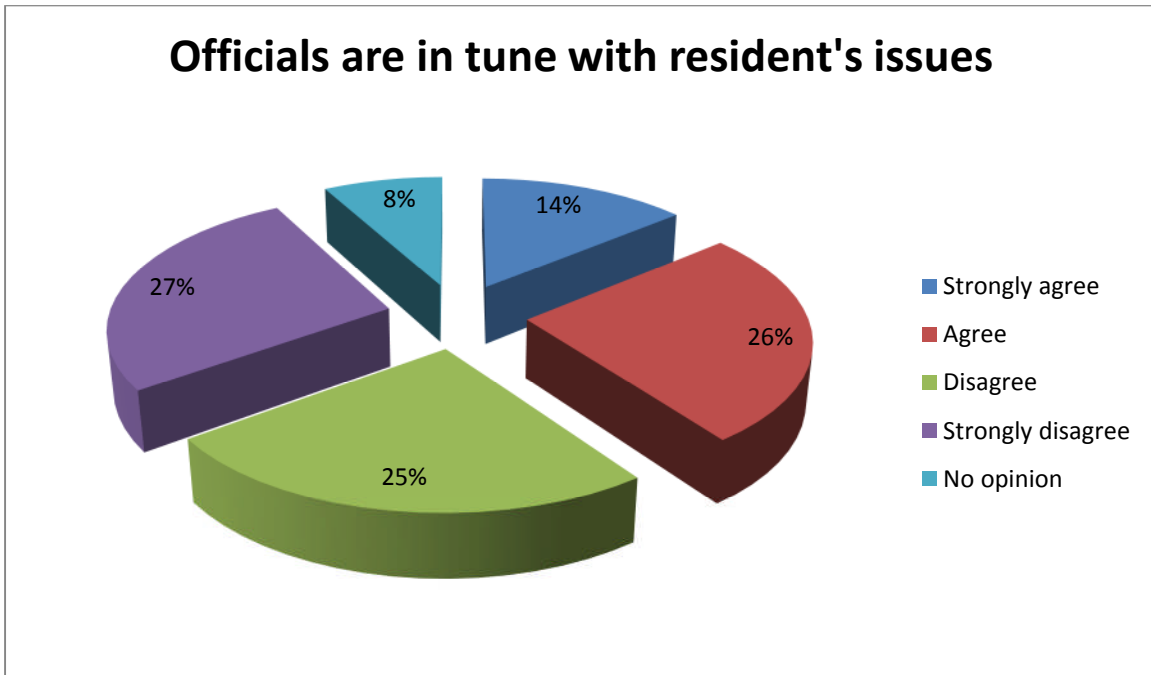
*Overall 77% of residents expressed agreement while 21% expressed disagreement and 2% had no opinion.*

8) Our Village government does a good job of keeping residents informed of what's really happening in our Village government through newsletters and the Village website.



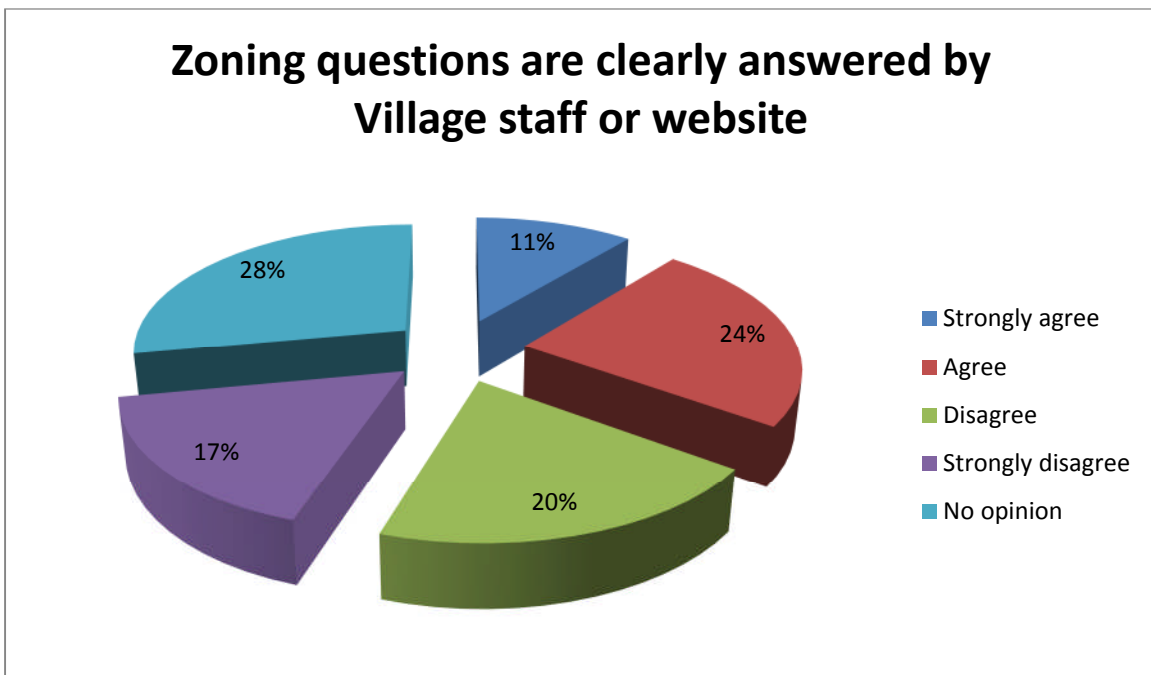
*Overall 52% of residents expressed agreement while 41% expressed disagreement and 7% had no opinion.*

9) Our elected officials are considerate and in touch with issues that matter to residents.



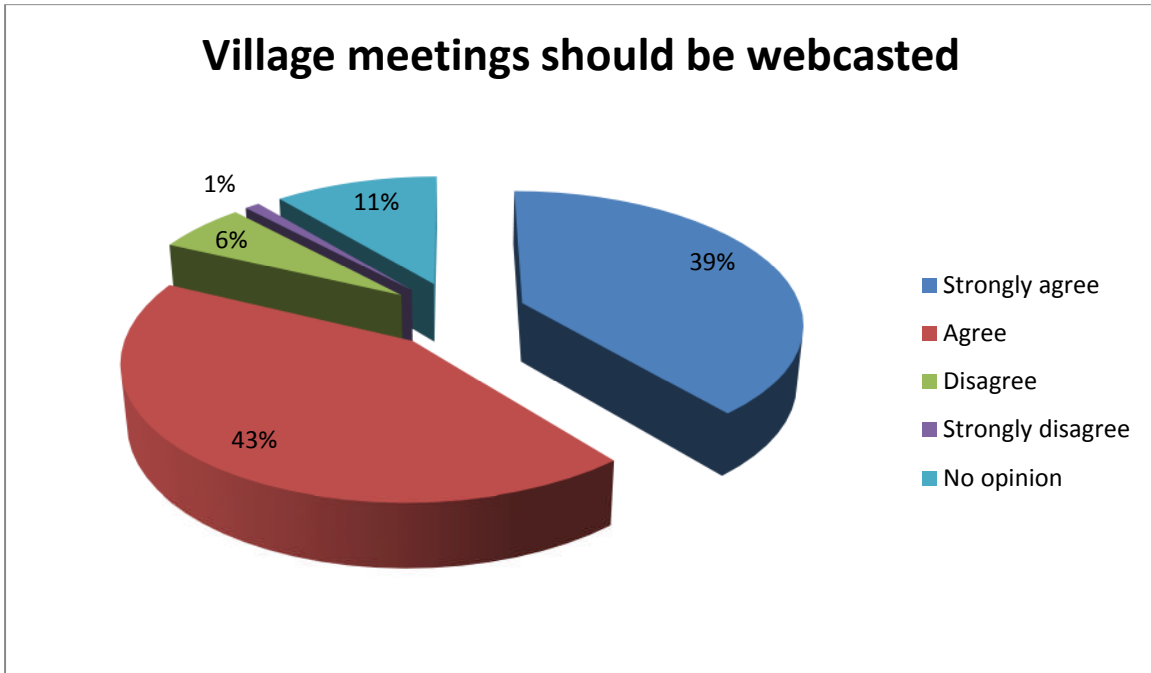
*Overall 40% of residents expressed agreement while 52% expressed disagreement and 8% had no opinion.*

10) Whenever I have a question regarding zoning regulations or other ordinances, I can always get a clear answer from the Village website or a phone call to our village hall staff.



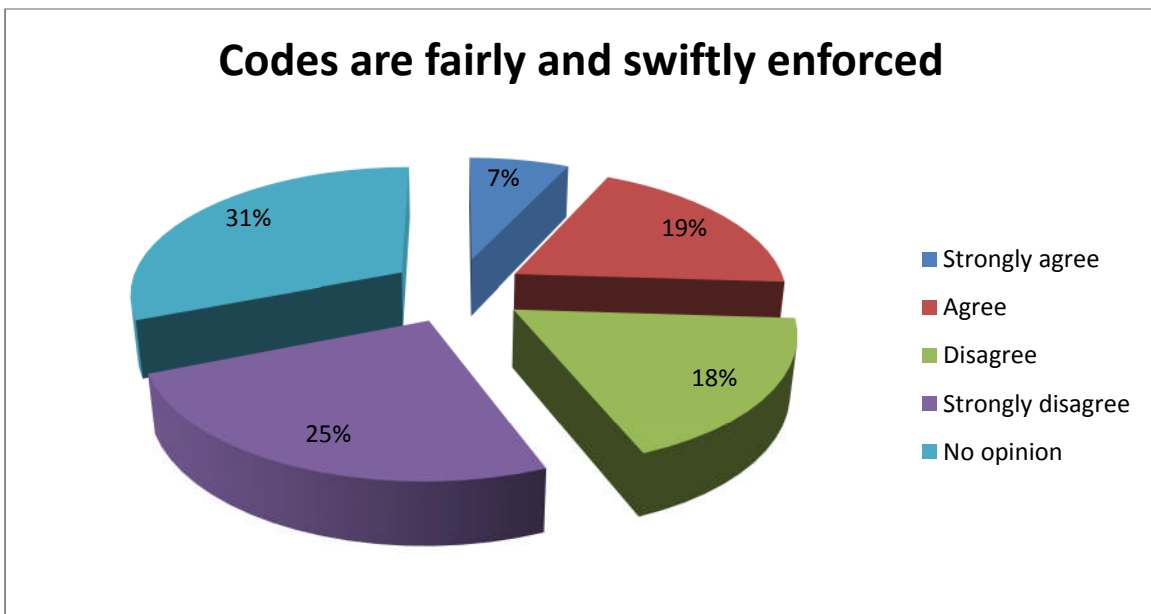
*Overall 35% of residents expressed agreement while 37% expressed disagreement and 28% had no opinion.*

11) Barrington Hills should webcast and archive government meetings so residents who wish to view them can do so at their convenience.



*Overall 82% of residents expressed agreement while 7% expressed disagreement and 11% had no opinion.*

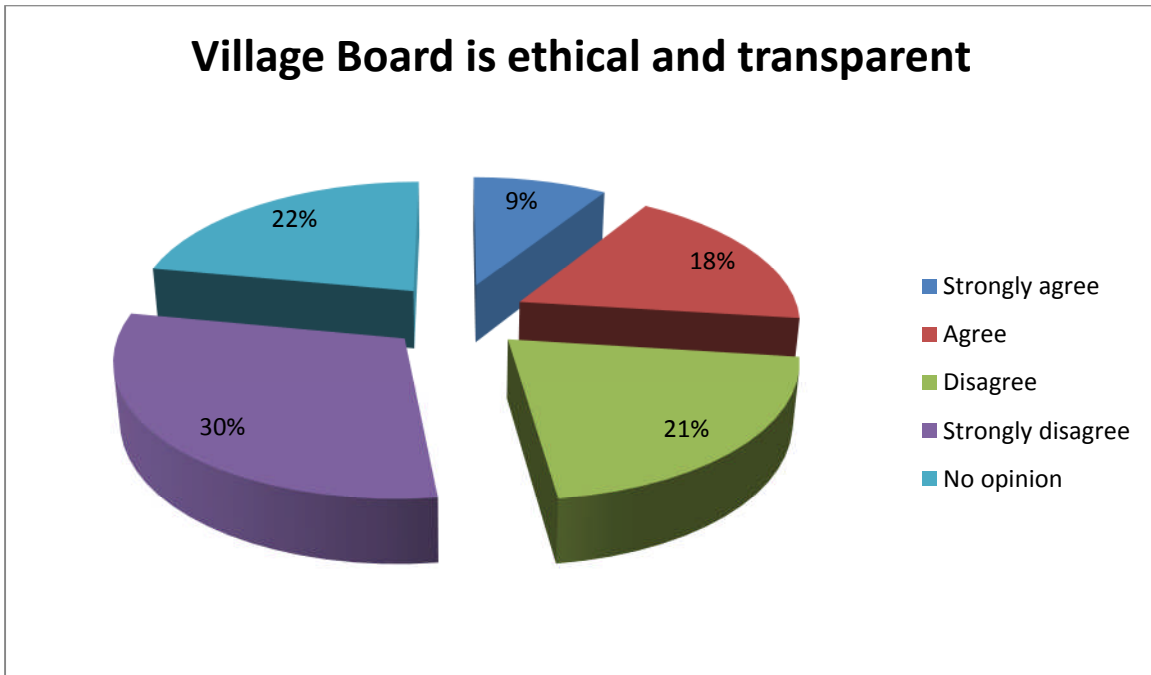
12) Our Village officials enforce village codes fairly and swiftly when they are made aware of any violations.



*Overall 26% of residents expressed agreement while 43% expressed disagreement and 31% had no opinion.*

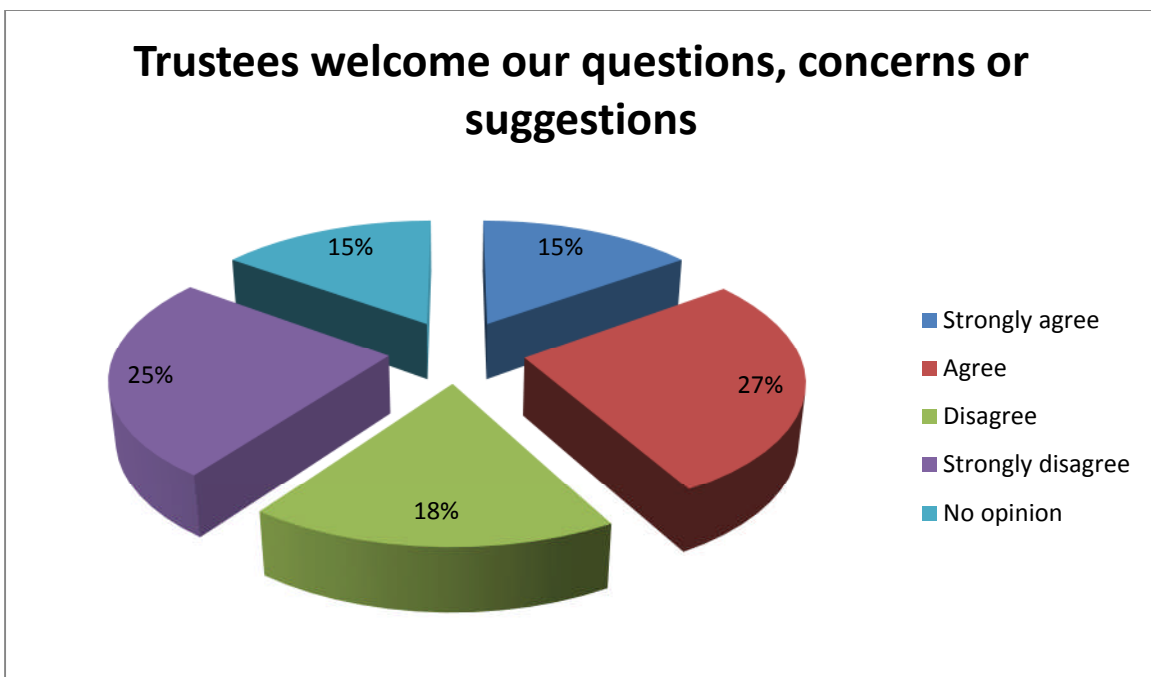


13) Our Village Board is ethical and conducts Village affairs with open transparency.



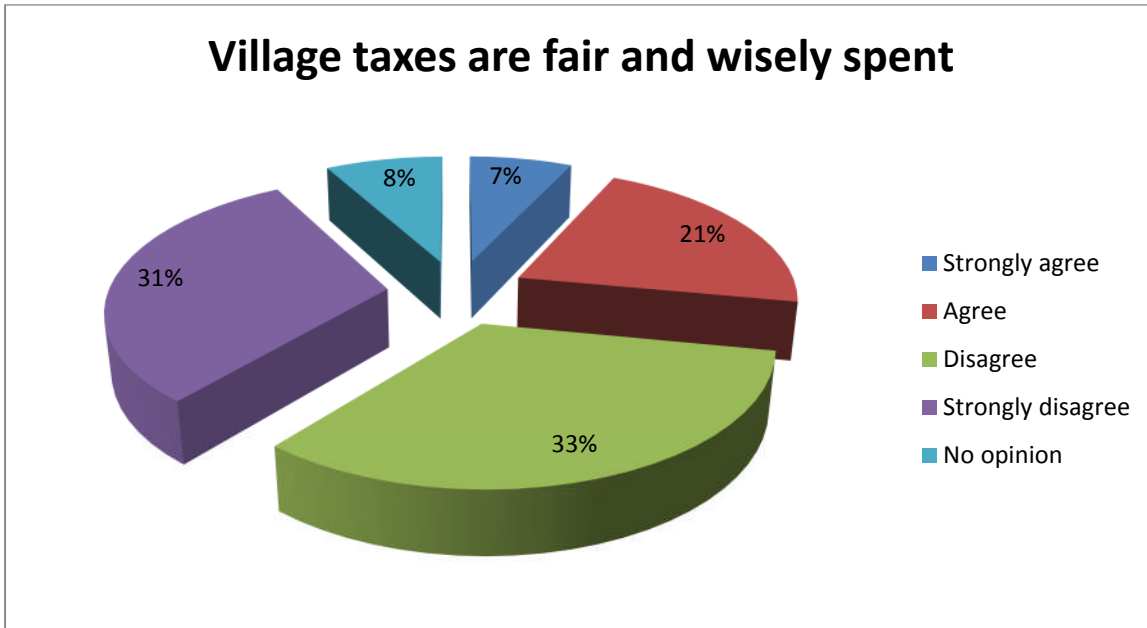
*Overall 27% of residents expressed agreement while 51% expressed disagreement and 22% had no opinion.*

14) I feel comfortable contacting the village president or any trustee with questions, concerns or suggestions I have any time.



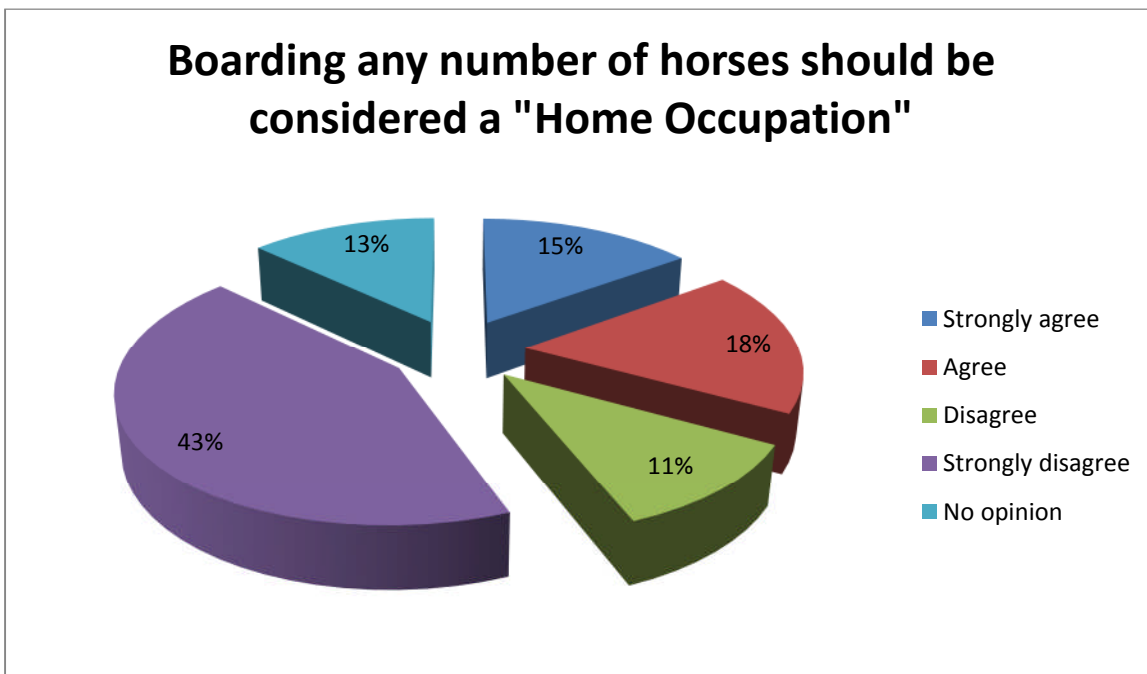
*Overall 42% of residents expressed agreement while 43% expressed disagreement and 15% had no opinion.*

15) The property taxes I pay to our Barrington Hills municipal government are fair even though they've substantially increased in the last ten years, however I trust our elected officials spend our tax dollars wisely with little or no waste. Pie chart is missing percentages.



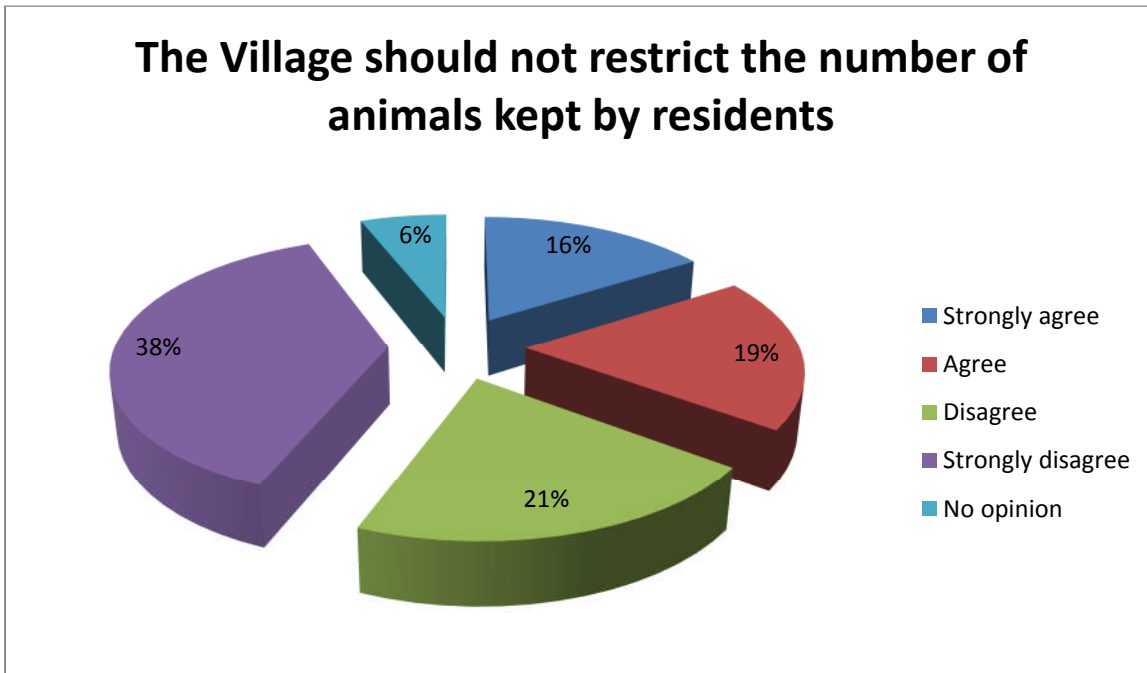
*Overall 28% of residents expressed agreement while 64% expressed disagreement and 8% had no opinion.*

16) Residents who wish to board any number of horses not belonging to them for a fee should be considered a "Home Occupation" just the same as any other resident who has a private business office inside their home.



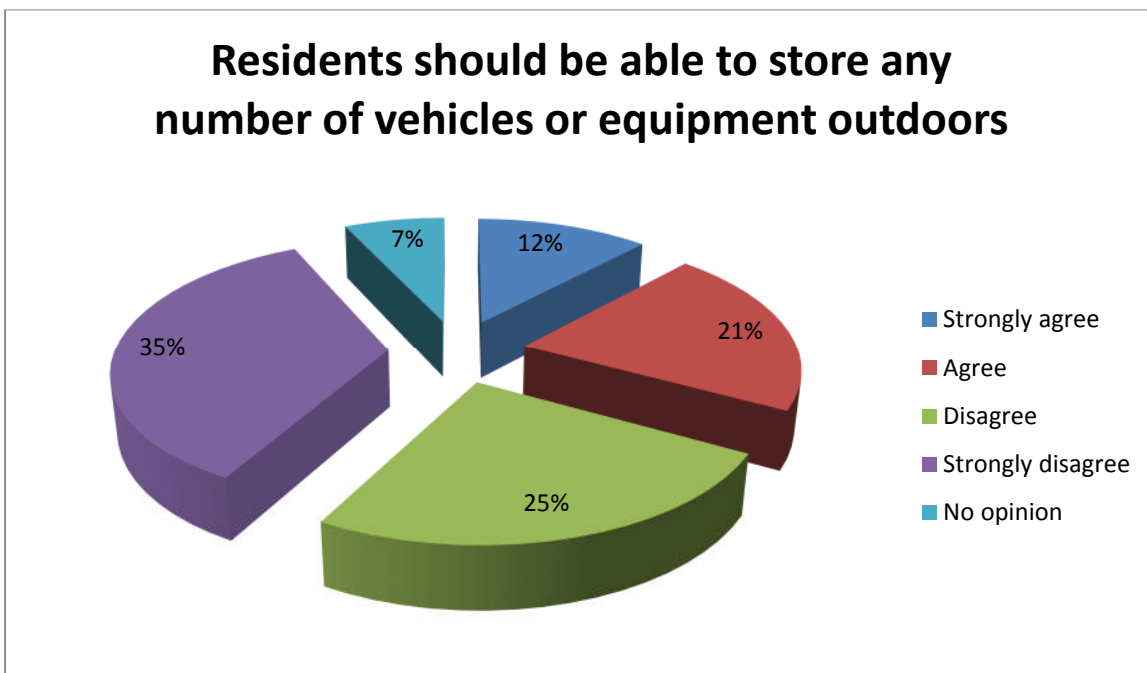
*Overall 33% of residents expressed agreement while 54% expressed disagreement and 13% had no opinion.*

17) Barrington Hills has no restrictions on the number of horses or any other animals residents can keep on their property, and I believe it should remain that way.



Overall 35% of residents expressed agreement while 59% expressed disagreement and 6% had no opinion.

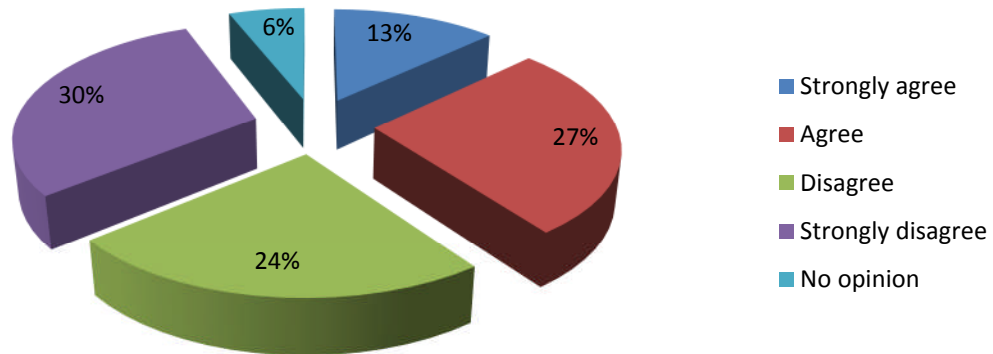
18) The Village has no restrictions on the number of vehicles, trailers or machinery kept outdoors on residential properties regardless of condition, and it should stay that way in my opinion.



Overall 33% of residents expressed agreement while 60% expressed disagreement and 7% had no opinion.

19) In recent years, Barrington Hills has placed restrictions on which trees may be removed by residents, outdoor lighting maximums for new construction, requirements for easements for horse trails in new subdivisions and restrictions on bicycle riding, among others. I feel these new codes have been effective and are important to keeping the character of Barrington Hills.

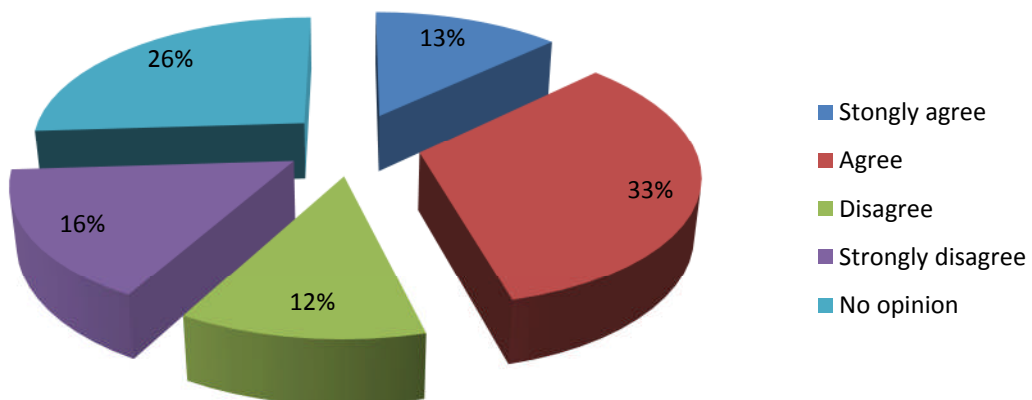
### Recently added ordinances and codes maintain Village character



*Overall 40% of residents expressed agreement while 54% expressed disagreement and 6% had no opinion.*

20) Earlier this year, the village president offered office space free of charge to the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) within our Village Hall. I feel this was a good decision since BACOG has provided a valuable resource in managing our well water testing and protecting our five-acre zoning.

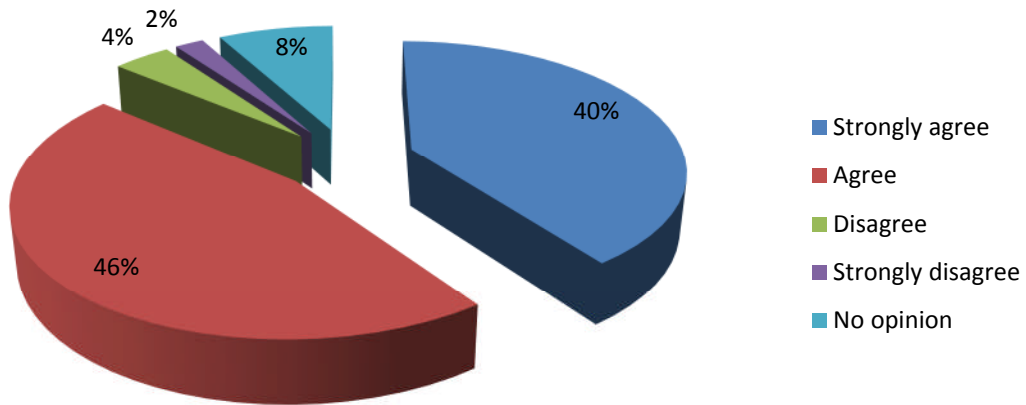
### Providing free office space for BACOG at village hall was a good decision



*Overall 46% of residents expressed agreement while 28% expressed disagreement and 26% had no opinion.*

21) Whenever BACOG facilitates periodic well water quality testing, they provide general reports that include the number fouled well water test results. However, BACOG does not reveal where in our Village these well tests were taken. I feel the general locations of these substandard water tests should be shared with residents so they can be better informed, especially when they might be close by to their property.

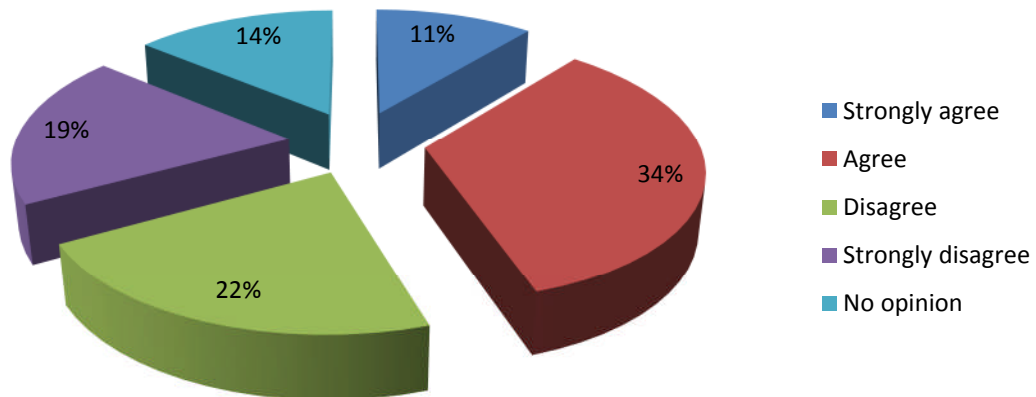
### Residents should be informed generally where poor water samples have been taken



Overall 86% of residents expressed agreement while 6% expressed disagreement and 8% had no opinion.

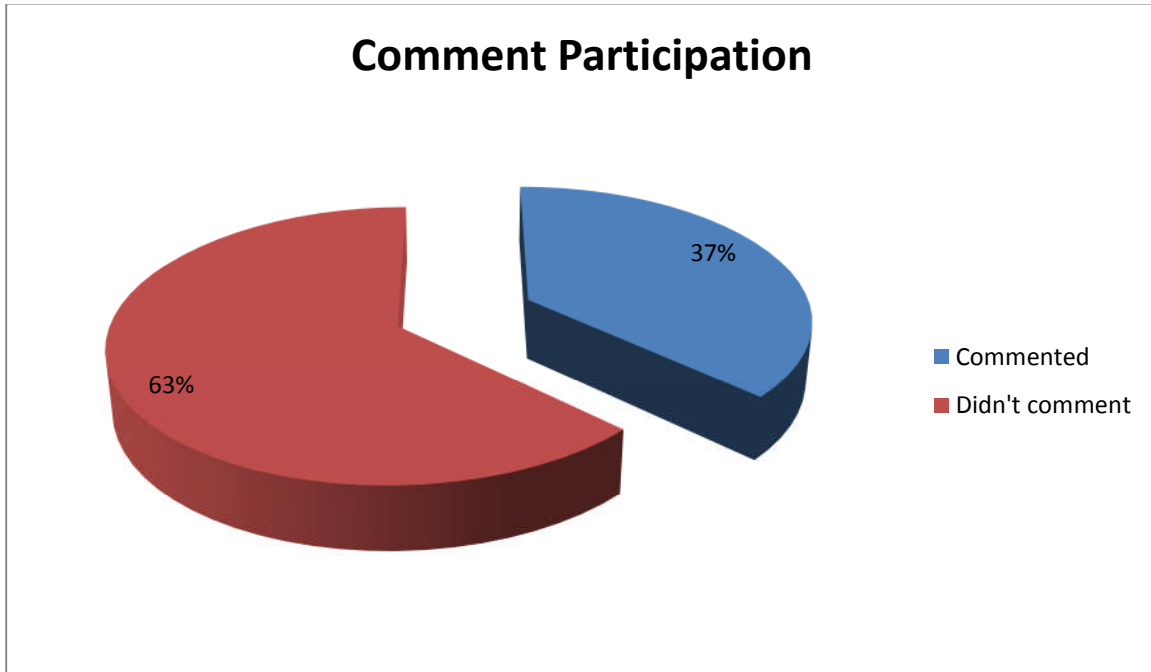
22) The Village Comprehensive Plan is said to be the blueprint of the character and goals of the Village. When contemplating new ordinances, our Village officials should first adhere to the Comprehensive Plan before considering residents' opinion.

### Comprehensive Plan should supercede residents' opinions



Overall 45% of residents expressed agreement while 41% expressed disagreement and 14% had no opinion.

23) Thank you for your responses! Now, if you care to, please share any thoughts, opinions or questions you might offer that were not covered in this survey as they relate to your experiences living in Barrington Hills. Your feedback will better inform us as to what The Observer might ask in our future surveys.



*84 participants confidentially shared their experiences, opinions and future survey question suggestions.*