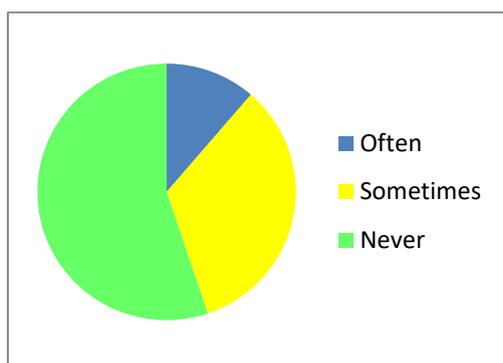


## Section 7 – Traffic and Accessibility

Note : this section of the survey was for households rather than individuals so the maximum possible score is 363.

### 7.1 Do you or your family use public transport to get from Clare to other towns or villages ?

97% of families answered this question.



### 7.2 Are there any locations in Clare where it is difficult to cross the road?

252 families that answered this question.

Bell Corner/Co-Op/Market Hill	100	40%
Pharmacist/Well Lane	85	34%
Stour Valley School/Cavendish Rd.	25	10%
Bridewell St/Snow Hill/bottom Sheepgate Lane	11	4%
Near Cock Inn	10	4%
Ashen Road junction	7	3%
Nethergate Street	6	2%
Other	8	3%

*“The poor pathways and lack of safe crossings near the Bell Corner leading up to Stour Valley put the pupils at risk.”*

### 7.3 Do you think HGVs cause problems in Clare?

339 families answered this question:

311 (89%) of respondents said yes.

40 (11%) said no.

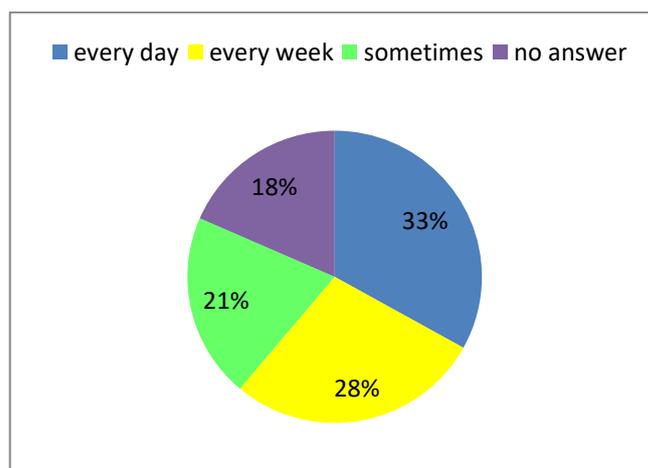
### 7.4 If YES, what is the MAIN problem that affects you?

291 (80%) of families responded to this question.

Many respondents listed several problems, but only the first answer was taken as the MAIN problem.

Too large for the roads/tall vehicles driving in middle of road	85	29%
Traffic jams	80	27%
Pedestrian safety	59	20%
Noise	34	12%
Damage to properties	19	7%
Difficulties due to street parking/ parked lorries	6	2%
Vehicle emissions	4	1%
General disruption	4	1%

### 7.5 How often does the problem affect you ?



### 7.6 Do you think this and other problems with HGVs have increased in the last two years ?

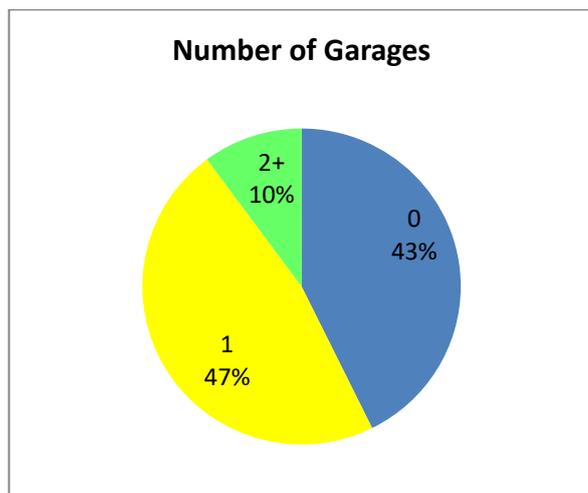
71.4% of families answered “yes”, they had.

13.2% of families answered “no”.

15.4% did not answer.

## 7.7 How many garages does your property have ?

97.5% of responding families answered this question. Of those :-



## 7.8 Where do the car drivers in your home normally park their cars ?

	day	night
In the garage	55	61
On our property	247	248
Outside work in Clare	8	2
Outside Clare	29	1
In the Country Park	22	4
At the Pavilion	2	2
At the Social Club	1	1
On Market Hill in bays	27	12
On the street elsewhere in Clare	58	44

## 7.9 if you think that a new car park is needed, where should it be ?

124 families responded to this question.

Behind the Swan	33
Yes, but I don't know where	27
Part of or land by the Playing Field	17
Extend in Country Park	15
Fire Station	12
Social Club	7
Old Police Station	4
Use existing parking better	4
Near the Cemetery	3
The Common	1
The Priory	1

The issue of managing parking has increased in recent years since the parking warden stopped visiting Clare. Currently, it is the responsibility of the police but they plan to hand it over to Bury St Edmunds which is planning to pilot various schemes across the borough from 2018. Hopefully, Clare will be involved with this.

Road markings are the responsibility of Suffolk Highways. These need to be renewed to support parking enforcement.

Finding a place for a central car park would certainly help the town. In 2013 the Town Council lobbied the Chief Inspector of Planning to have a development of some housing, cycleways and a car park behind the Swan included in Vision 2031. However, English Heritage objected and our application was turned down.

Other sites have restrictions placed on them.

There are covenants on the Playing Field and the Common, which would prevent them being used as car parks. The Fire Station belongs to SCC, the Old Police Station and land near the cemetery are privately owned.

### Since the last survey the Town Council has :

- ✓ Used surveys to lobby SCC Highways to change their mindset on Clare's problems.
- ✓ Petitioned SCC for marked bays.
- ✓ Carried out surveys on safety regarding HGVs and discussed issue with parishioners.
- ✓ Lobbied to reduce HGVs.
- ✓ Visited Culina and discussed the situation with the Road Haulage Association.
- ✓ Bought hi-vis jackets for the primary school.
- ✓ Removed hatching on Stoke Road.
- ✓ Lobbied for pedestrian crossings in Well Lane and Callis Street.
- ✓ Secured funding for and set up an Activated Vehicle Sign.
- ✓ Secured traffic calming measures on the A1092 and improved cycle and walking routes to the town as part of the agreement for the new development next to Stour Valley School.

Section 1.12 highlighted the following on what could be improved in Clare.

### Traffic and Transport

Issue	% respondents
Parking	34.5%
Reduce/ban HGVs	15.1%
More buses	13.5%
Better management	9.9%
Speed /road safety	9.9%

2% wanted pedestrian crossings, road resurfacing, better pavements, free residents' parking; 1% wanted a one-way system down Church Road and cycle paths.



### Action Point 7A – Parking

- To establish a clear evidence base of parking issues to include a map showing where parking can be enforced, inadequate road markings, unrestricted areas, and private parking areas available/not available to residents.
- To lobby SCC to have lines properly marked.
- To look into the feasibility and costing of a dedicated parking enforcement officer.
- To consider future options for parking development as part of a neighbourhood/town plan.

### Action Point 7B – HGVs

- To collate all evidence relating to HGVs and ensure that it is current and comprehensive.
- To work with other parishes, the County Councillor, the Borough Councillor other relevant agencies to lobby for the reduction/removal of HGVs from the A1092 and the B1063.

### Action Point 7C – Safety

- To establish Speed Watch groups for the main routes in Clare, to increase the points where the VAS sign can be used and to share speed reports with the police for enforcement.
- To consider methods for improving road safety as part of the new town/neighbourhood plan.

*“Parking near the primary school in the morning and afternoon is a fatal accident waiting to happen.”*

### 7.10 In Clare, is your mobility affected by any of the following ?

Vehicles parked on pavements caused the greatest problems (132 respondents), closely followed by wheelie bins left on pavements (113 respondents).

Uneven pavements (74), cycling on pavements (49) and a lack of dropped kerbs (36) created the next level of difficulties.

These were followed by steps to the entrance of premises (23), advertising boards (17) and plant containers (7) on pavements.

### 7.11 Do you think that the level of street lighting in Clare needs to be improved ?

Yes	111 (30.6%)
No	156 (43.0%)
No opinion	84 (23.1%)
Did not answer	12( 3.3%)

The essential problem of accessing shops is related to the historic nature of the majority of buildings in the town centre. This means that most entrances are stepped or have high thresholds. In rare cases ramps have been added e.g. to the post office and pharmacy. Some shops are accessible with the use of portable ramps.

Parking on pavements has become an increasing problem, which is the responsibility of SCC. The Town Council therefore has no control over it. However, it should be reduced if and when SEBC take over parking management in the future.

Street lighting is the responsibility of SCC. The Town Council regularly challenges the county to repair or improve lighting. Parishioners can help by raising their concerns on [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk) and clicking on 'Report'.

Since the last survey the Town Council has :

- ✓ Surveyed mobility access to shops and public buildings (see above).
- ✓ Persuaded SCC to alter the Market Hill bus stop to improve disabled access.
- ✓ Lobbied for dropped kerbs.



#### Action Point 1

To encourage business owners to examine the possibility of providing better wheelchair access e.g. through portable ramps if the building structure allows.

#### Action Point 2

To encourage people to stop parking on pavements through posters and articles in Chevron.

#### Action Point 3

To encourage people to reduce amount of time that they leave bins on pavements.