

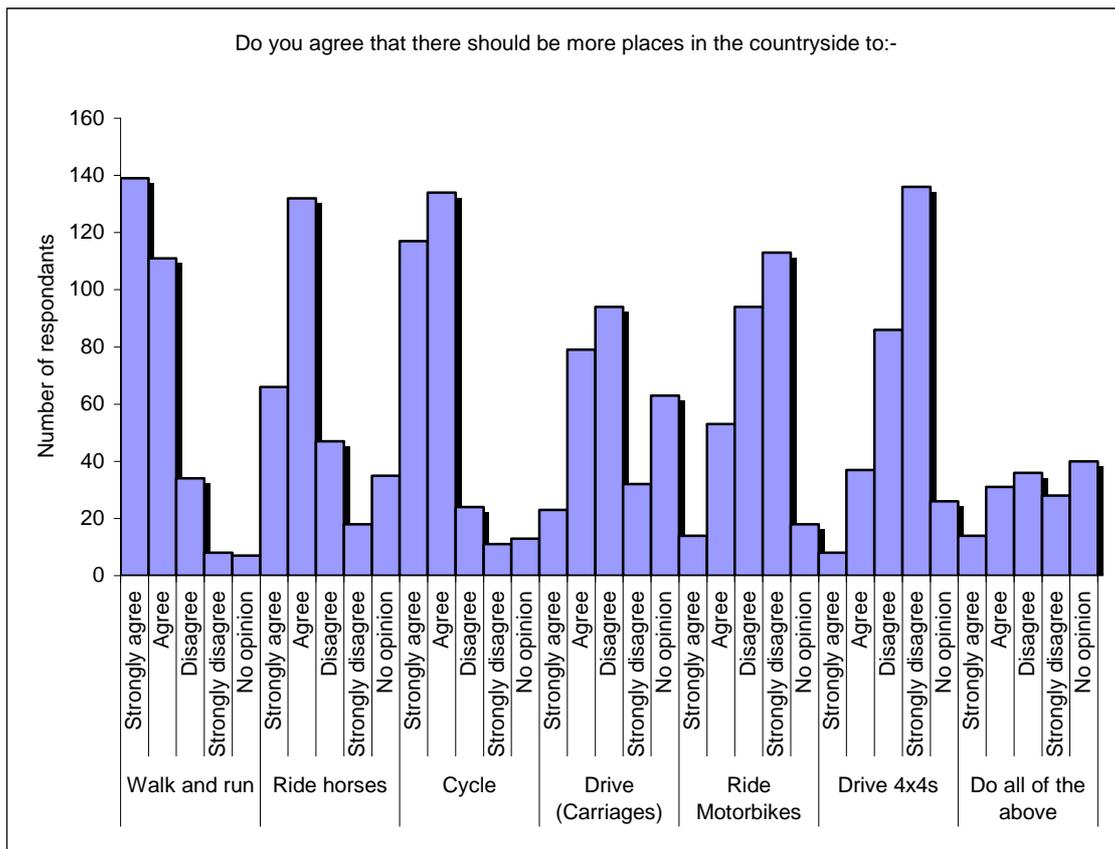
RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

BUSINESS QUESTIONNAIRE

January 2006

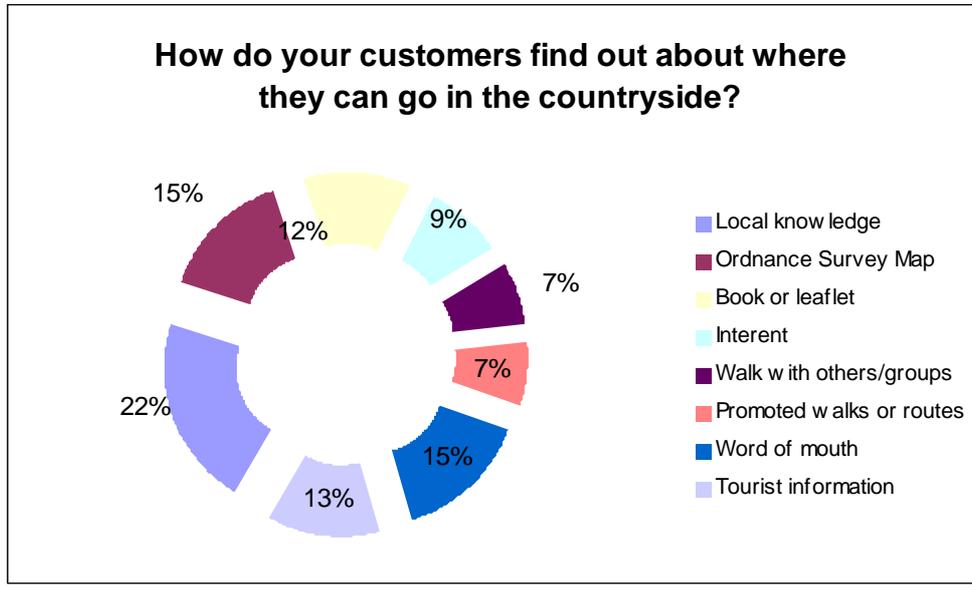
Sally Lewis

1. Do you agree that there should be more places in the countryside to:-



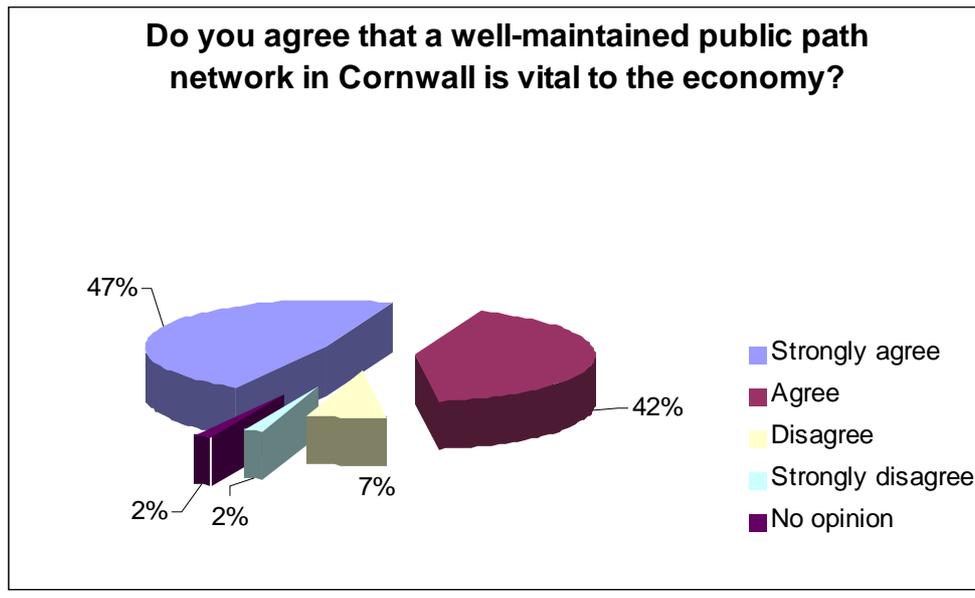
Walking and running are the two activities these respondents would like to see more places in the countryside for (42.76% strongly agreed.) 41.2% agreed cycling needs more places, and 40.6% agreed that horse riding does. The category with the fewest responses was that which 'strongly agreed' that cars or 4x4s needed more places (2.46%, eight people.) The respondents also strongly disagreed that more places were needed for all of the above categories (4.3%). 34.76% strongly disagreed that more places were needed for motorbike riding, and 41.84% strongly disagreed that more places were needed for cars or 4x4s.

2. How do your customers find out about where they can go in the countryside?



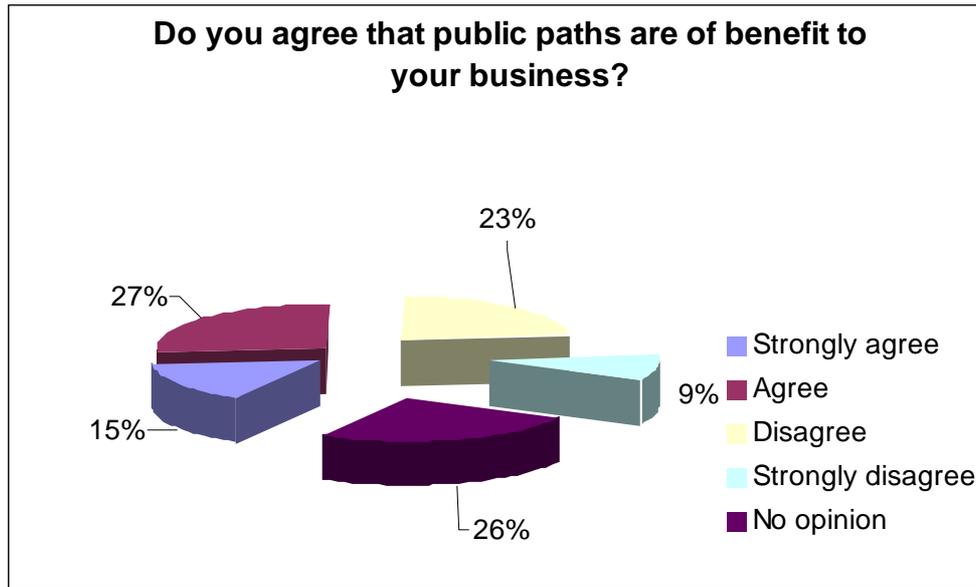
This question provided a good range of responses, with a majority of business respondents saying that their customers used local knowledge to find out where to go in the countryside (22%) followed by using the ordnance survey map (15%) and word of mouth (15% also.) The least number responded that walking with others/groups or using promoted walks/groups was the source (7% each.)

3. Do you agree that a well-maintained public path network in Cornwall is vital for the economy?



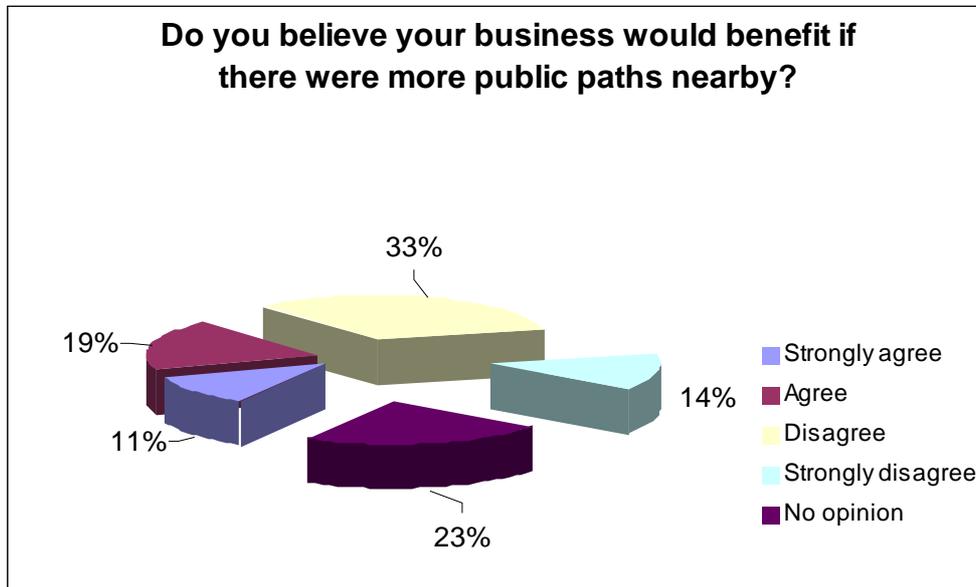
Just under half of the respondents strongly agreed that a well-maintained public path network is vital to the economy (47%) and 42% agreed, giving the majority to those who were in agreement with the suggestion. Just 2% gave no opinion and 9% disagreed overall.

4. **Do you agree that public paths are of benefit to your business?**



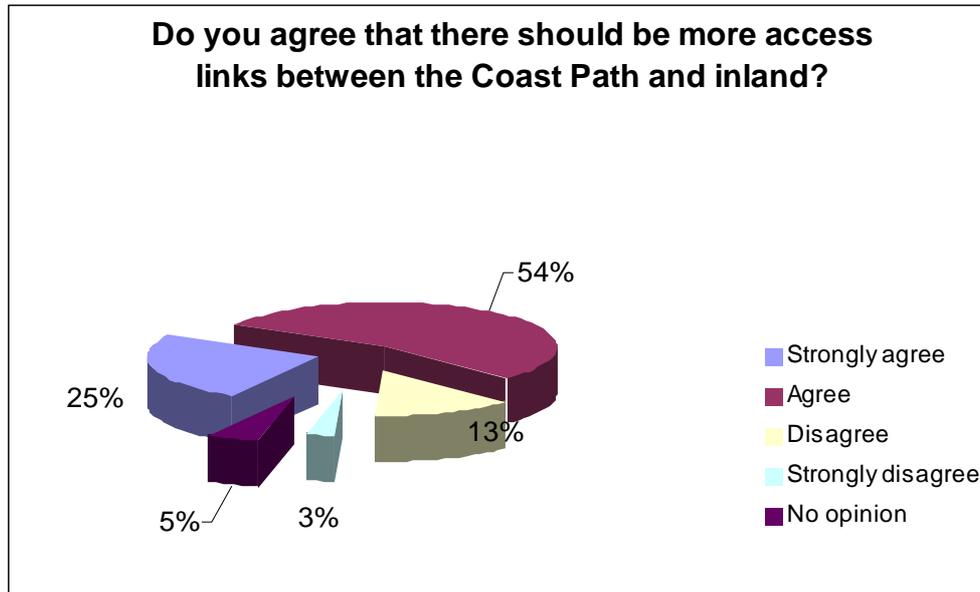
The business respondents gave a broad range of answers to this question and just over one quarter (26%) said that they had no opinion on this. Those that agreed to a greater or lesser extent were in the majority of those who gave an opinion, however, at 42% as opposed to 32% who either disagreed or strongly disagreed.

5. **Do you believe your business would benefit if there were more public paths nearby?**



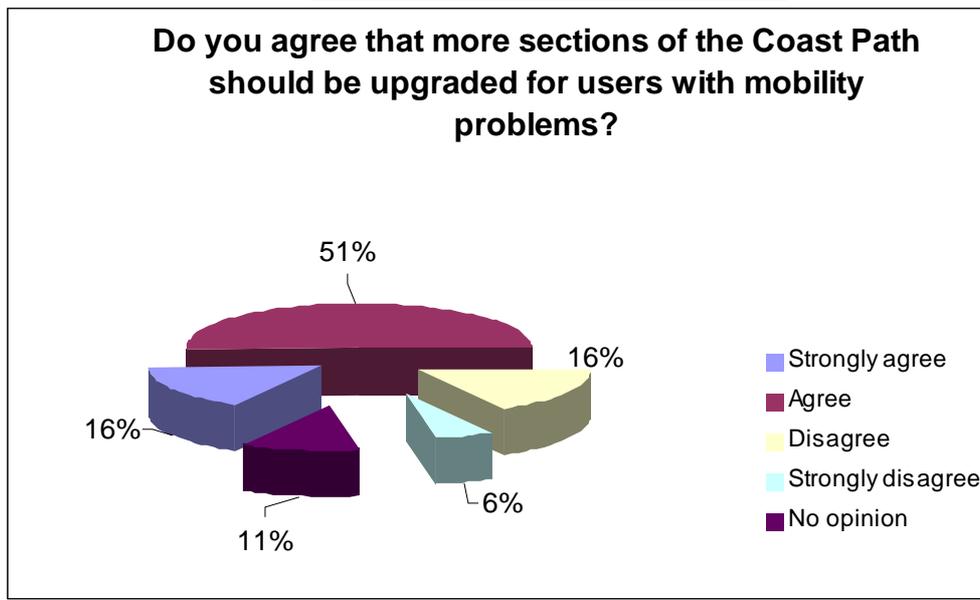
Just under one third of respondents (33%) disagreed that their business would benefit if there were more public paths nearby, with a further 14% strongly disagreeing. A significant proportion of respondents (23%) gave no opinion on this matter, leaving under a third (30%) the minority of those giving an opinion, either agreeing or strongly agreeing.

6. Do you agree that there should be more access links between the Coast path and inland?



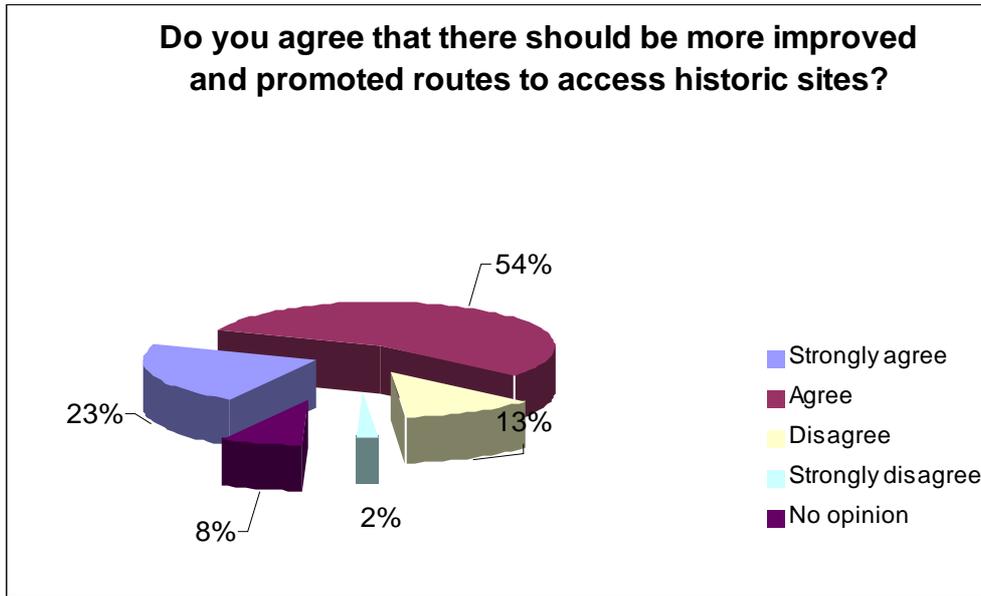
The majority of business respondents (54%) agree that there should be more access links, and a further quarter of the sample (25%) strongly agree, giving a clear majority over those who disagreed (13%) and the small number (3%) who strongly disagreed.

7. Do you agree that more sections of the Coast Path should be upgraded for users with mobility problems?



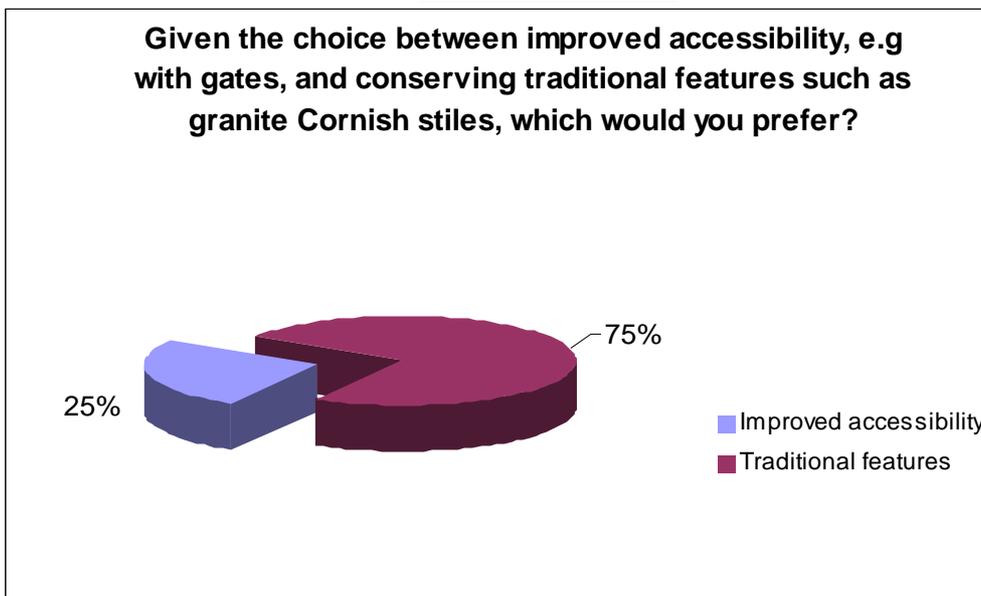
A combined 66% of the respondents either strongly agreed (16%) or agreed (51%) about upgrading sections of the Coast Path for users with mobility problems. Of the remaining third of the sample, 16% disagreed and 6% strongly disagreed, and 11% gave no opinion.

8. **Do you agree that there should be more improved and promoted routes to access historic sites?**



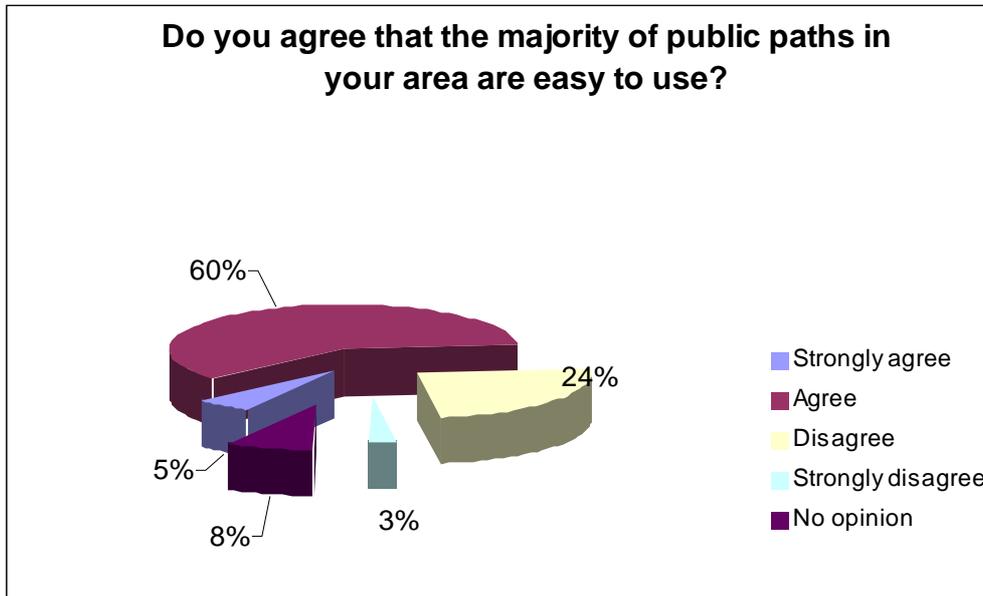
Over three quarters of the sample (77%) agreed (23% strongly agreed, within this) that there should be more improved and promoted routes to access historical sites. Just 2% strongly disagreed.

9. **Given the choice between improving accessibility, e.g with gates, and conserving traditional features such as granite Cornish stiles, which would you prefer?**



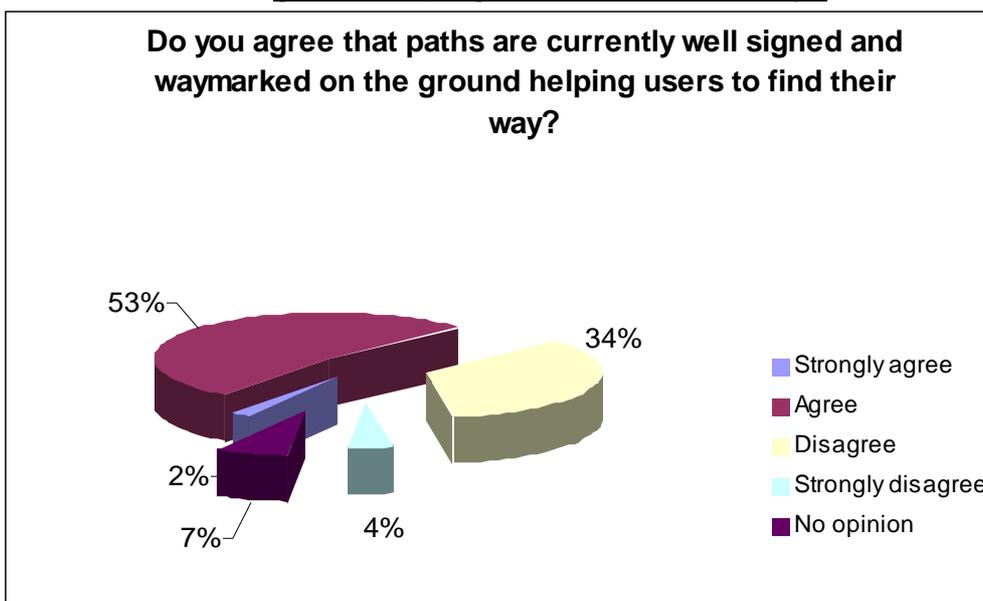
Three quarters of the business respondents would prefer to conserve traditional features rather than improve accessibility. This response is interesting in view of the responses to the last two questions, perhaps suggesting a conflict of interests.

10. Do you agree that the majority of public paths in your area are easy to use?



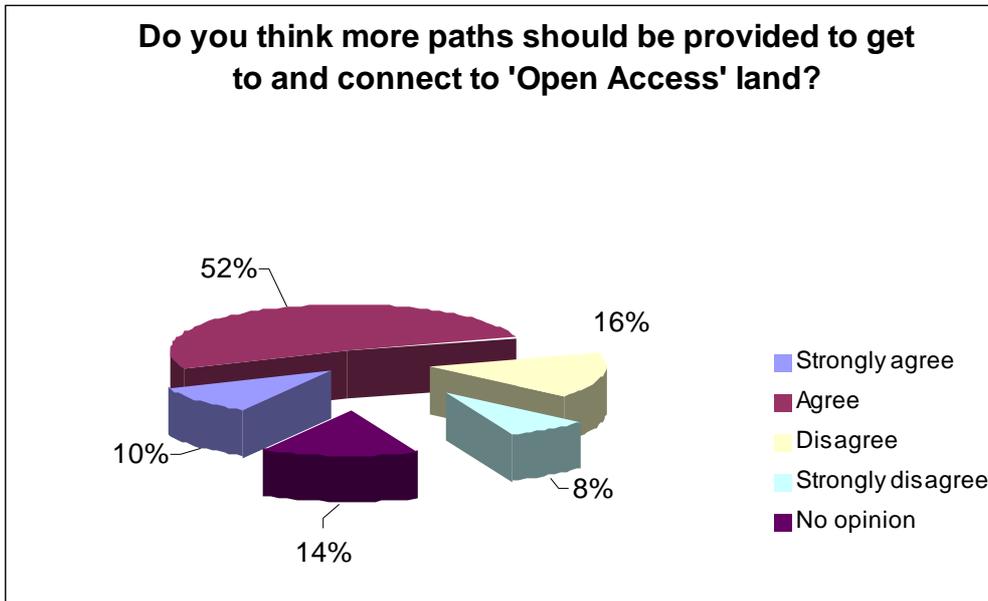
Almost two thirds of the sample were positive about the public paths in their areas, with the majority of 60% agreeing that they are easy to use and 5% strongly agreeing. This is encouraging in view of maintenance and planning programmes. It would also be useful to cross reference where the respondents live in Cornwall, in order to establish which public paths are easiest to us.

11. Do you agree that paths are currently well signed and waymarked on the ground helping users to find their way?



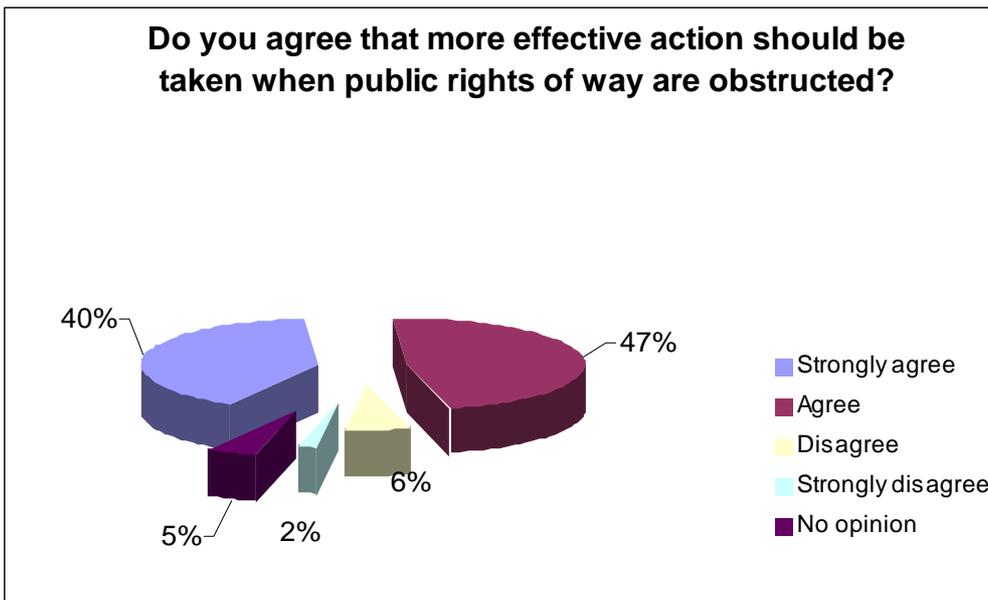
57% of respondents are in positive agreement about signage of paths, but a large minority of 24% disagree that the paths are well signed and waymarked. A further 4% strongly disagree, which indicates quite a high level of dissatisfaction and this was found in other consultation

12. Do you think more paths should be provided to get to and connect to 'Open Access' land?



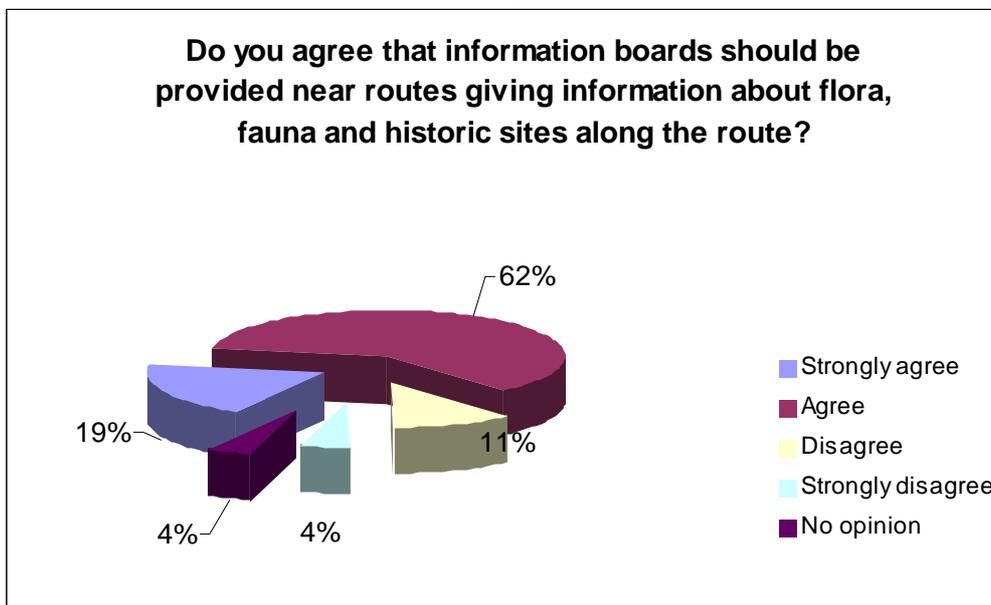
Over half the respondents responding favourably to the suggestion that more paths should be provided to 'Open Access' land, 10% strongly agreeing and 52% agreeing. A significant number of people (15%) gave no opinion however.

13. Do you agree that more effective action should be taken when public rights of way are obstructed?



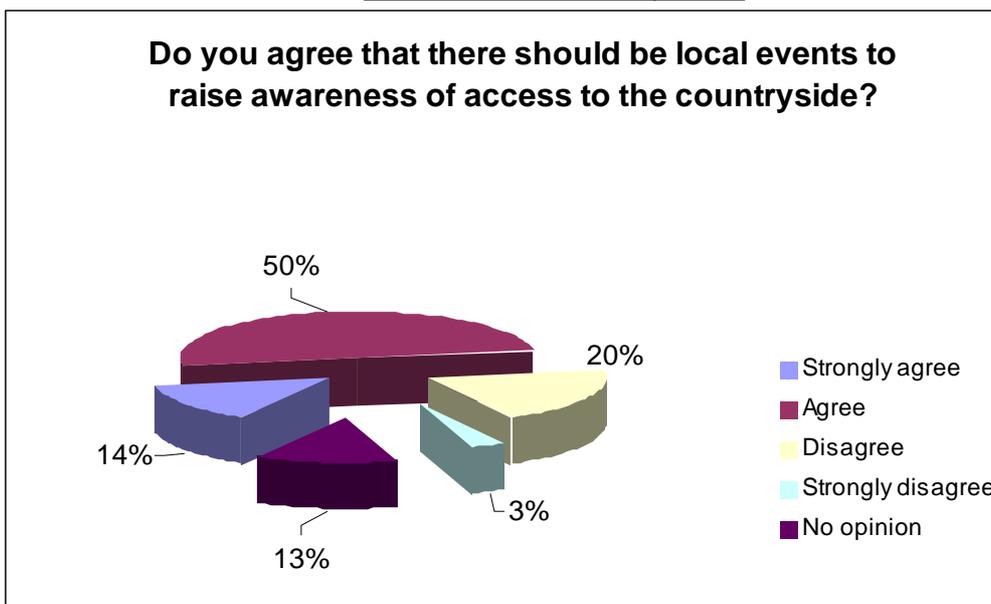
Just 8% of respondents disagreed (2% of these strongly disagreed,) that more effective action should be taken. Nearly half the group (47%) agreed, and a further 40% were in strong agreement.

14. Do you agree that information boards should be provided near routes giving information about flora, fauna and historic features along the route?



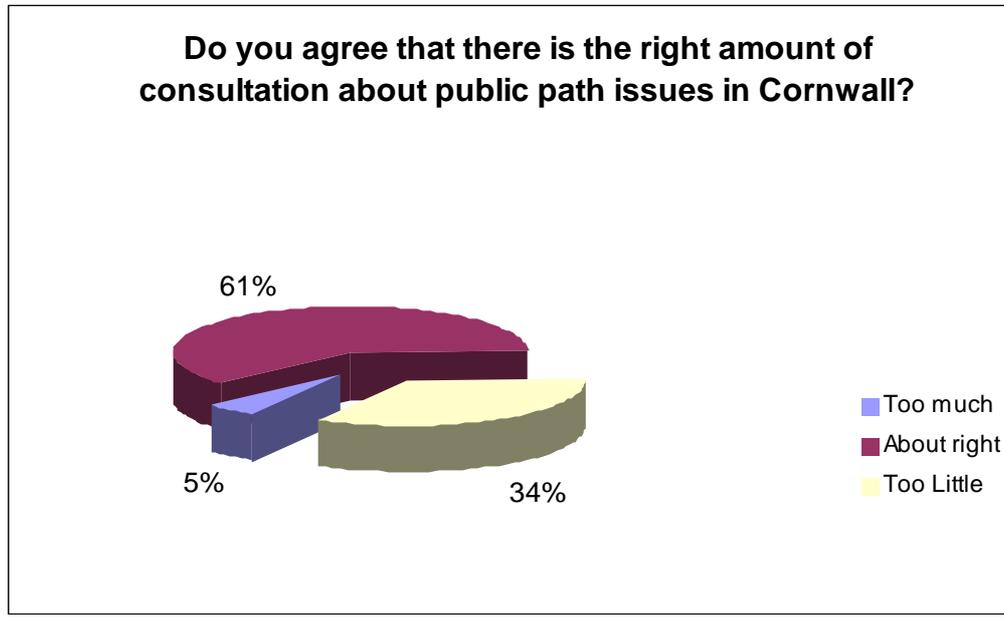
Over three quarters of the group were in agreement about providing information boards, with 19% strongly agreeing. Just 4% strongly disagreed and a further 11% disagreed. Fewer than 5% gave no opinion on this subject. The results are similar in ratio to responses from the other three survey groups.

15. Do you agree that there should be local events to raise awareness of access to the countryside?



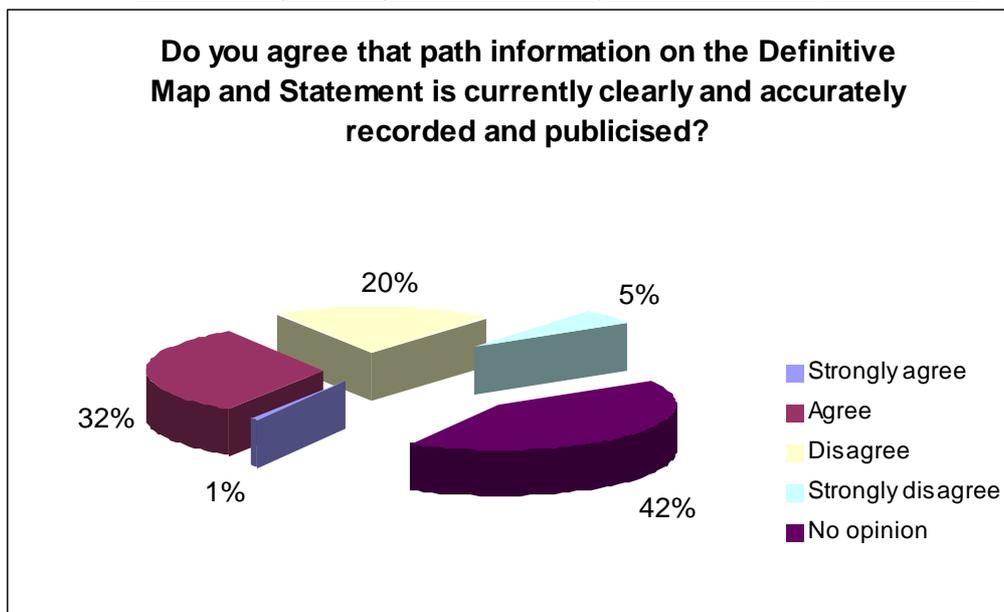
There was considerable support for the idea of local awareness-raising events, with almost three quarters of the respondents either agreeing (50%) or strongly agreeing (14%) with the idea. 3% strongly disagreed.

16. Do you agree that there is the right amount of public consultation about public path issues in Cornwall?



Over one third of the business respondents considered that there is too little consultation about public path issues, whereas 61% feel the level of consultation is about right. Just 5% consider there is too much consultation.

17. Do you agree that path information on the Definitive Map and Statement is currently clearly and accurately recorded and publicised?



The majority of respondents from the business sector gave no opinion on this subject, perhaps because of less direct knowledge of or use for the Definitive Map and Statement, compared with other respondents in the survey. However, just under one third of respondents (32%) agreed that it is clear and accurate, and fewer (25%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed.

