## THE THREE VILLAGES

**COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2035** 

BAWLEY POINT | KIOLOA | TERMEIL TOGETHER BRINGS STRENGTH



RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS – AT A GLANCE

## **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND FEEDBACK**

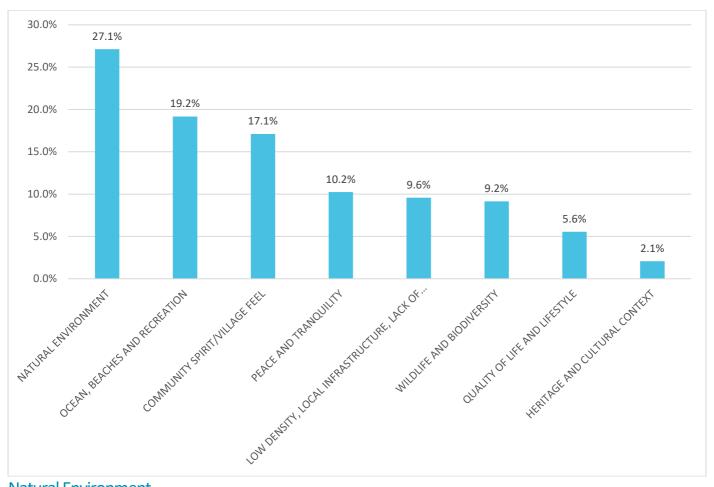
 Interviews, meetings and briefings were conducted with community members & groups across Nov 24 – Mar 25.

- Written communications about the strategic planning process were distributed via flyers, email, Mailchimp, noticeboards, letterbox drops, WhatsApp groups, social media, local cafes and businesses, Community Hall meetings, local markets and the BPKTCA website
- Invitations to participate in "Have Your Say" included all who live, work or holiday in Bawley Point, Kioloa & Termeil
- A very healthy 30.7% of residents/ ratepayers/ community members across the three villages participated in the consultations. (n=391 participants; 2021 Census count)
- A total of 132 people contributed directly at the two "Have Your Say Days". Many more people attended these events to read the story boards and be informed, to then go on to complete the survey.
- A total of 259 surveys were completed across a 3-week period
- Thanks to the many people who contributed by providing responses to the surveys and Have Your Say Days; donating services; supporting the process via funding (Sport & Rec); contributing to the storyboards and our history, helping move furniture and clean up.

NB - The planning process has always sought to be an open and transparent process. Importantly, all contributions remain confidential and will not be attributed to any individual.

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS – AT A GLANCE

## QUESTION 1: WHAT DO YOU LOVE?



#### **Natural Environment**

The natural environment is the most cherished aspect of the villages. Residents appreciate the unspoiled lands, clean beaches, and biodiversity that surround them.

#### Ocean Beaches and Recreation

Access to stunning beaches is frequently mentioned as a primary reason residents love living in the area. The recreational opportunities -eg swimming/surfing/walking are highly valued.

#### Community Spirit/Village Feel

The strong sense of community stands out as a key factor in resident satisfaction. Many say they have built lives where they are familiar with one another, creating a sense of belonging

## **Peace and Tranquility**

Residents express a collective appreciation for the peace and quiet of the villages. The tranquil atmosphere allows for relaxation and a slower-paced lifestyle, appealing to families and retirees.

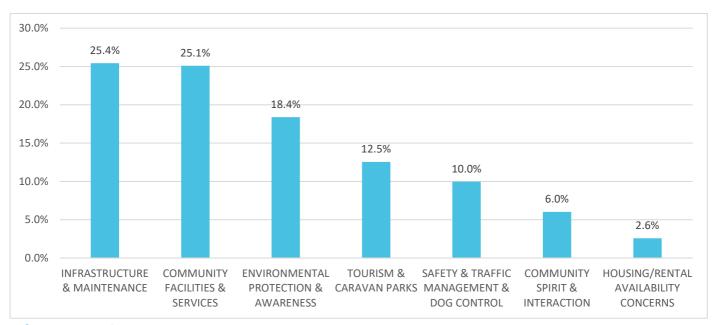
#### Low Density, Local Infrastructure, Lack of Development

Residents value the low-density living and the absence of large developments and town water. This contributes to maintaining the "coastal village" identity and the surrounding natural beauty. The preservation of landscapes and absence of overdevelopment are vital to the community.

#### Wildlife and Biodiversity

The presence of diverse wildlife and rich biodiversity is a beloved aspect of life in the villages. Residents often express their enjoyment of the native flora and fauna, noting the importance of these species/ habitats to their quality of life and the chance to interact.

## **QUESTION 2: WHAT DO YOU WISH WAS DIFFERENT?**



## Infrastructure & Maintenance

Many responses highlight a need for improved infrastructure and maintenance, especially concerning roads, pathways and public facilities. Residents feel that better attention to these areas would enhance overall community livability and safety.

## **Community Facilities & Services**

Residents wish for the development of more community facilities and services that cater to families, children and social interactions. This includes recreational facilities, social gathering spaces and health services.

#### **Environmental Protection & Awareness**

There is a strong desire for greater environmental protection and awareness in the community and with tourists. Responses indicate that residents wish to preserve natural habitats, enforce environmental regulations and raise awareness about local ecological issues.

## **Tourism & Caravan Parks**

Respondents wished for stronger regulation of caravan/resort parks and compliance with existing regulations. Preventing the overdevelopment of resort parks was noted as an aspiration. Some residents suggest tourism be aligned with our local character i.e. more eco-friendly

## Safety, Traffic and Dog Control.

Residents expressed concerns regarding safety, particularly related to traffic speed and road conditions and the impact of unmanaged dogs on resident safety and comfort They wish for measures that enhance safety for pedestrians, cyclists and wildlife.

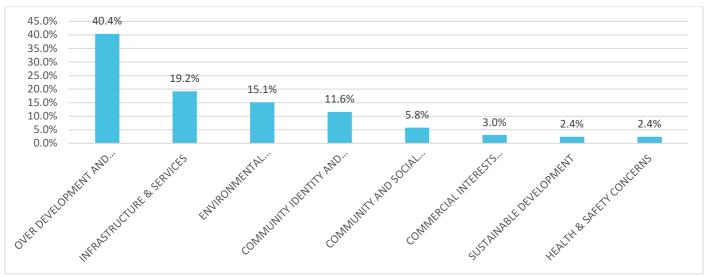
#### Community Spirit & Interaction

Residents wish for improved communication and engagement between themselves and local government. Respondents express a desire for more community involvement in decision-making and transparency from council and community associations.

## Housing Rental and Availability Concerns

Many responses reflect concerns about the balance between tourism and the availability of housing. Residents wish for a focus on housing for young families, more rental properties and fewer short-term vacation rentals.

## QUESTION 3: WHAT CONCERNS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT THE AREA OR IT'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT?



#### Over development and Urbanisation

A prevalent concern among residents is the potential for overdevelopment in the area. They fear that extensive housing projects and the expansion of caravan parks will change the village character and stretch local resources and infrastructure. Many expressed concerns about the further clearing of trees for development.

#### Infrastructure and Services

There is significant concern about the adequacy of current infrastructure to support future growth and development. Residents feel that roads, services, and facilities must be improved to enhance safety and accessibility. Conversely most residents do not want town water and sewerage connections.

#### **Environmental Preservation**

The community is concerned about protecting the natural environment from the impacts of future development. They value the ecological integrity of the area and fear that unchecked development will compromise it.

## Community Identity and Character Preservation

Residents are concerned about maintaining the unique character and identity of their villages amidst pressures for development/commercialisation. They wish to see the villages retain their rural-coastal character and community-centric qualities.

#### Community and Social Cohesion

Residents express concern over maintaining social cohesion and the unique community spirit that defines the villages. They worry that new developments may disrupt local character.

#### **Commercial Interests and Economical Concerns**

Residents voice concerns about the influence of commercial interests in future developments. They fear that profit-driven agendas may compromise the local character and environment.

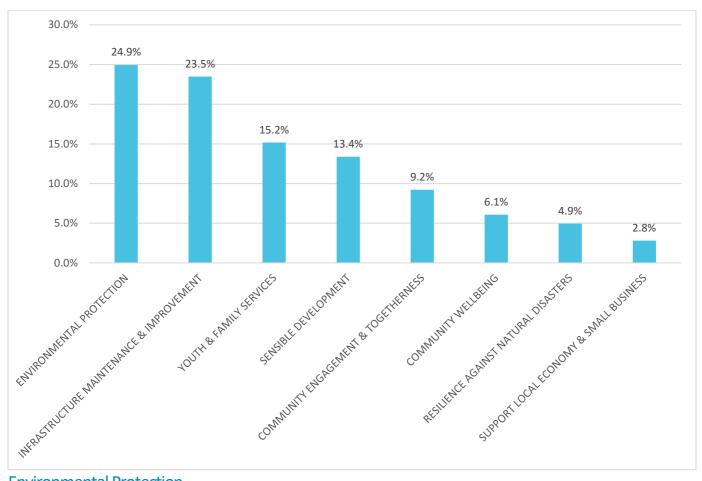
#### Sustainable Development

Residents are concerned that future development should prioritise sustainability. They want developments that respect the local ecology and are built with long-term community benefits. Suggestions include capping tourism, requiring holiday parks to be self-sustaining, protecting foreshores.

#### **Health and Safety Concerns**

Residents expressed concerns about health and safety, especially regarding emergency services, public safety, and infrastructure that supports the community's needs. They worry about the adequacy of health services, road safety, and preparation for emergencies.

## QUESTION 4: WHAT ARE THE 3 TO 5 PRIORITIES WE SHOULD FOCUS ON AS A COMMUNITY?



#### **Environmental Protection**

This theme emphasises the community's strong desire to protect the natural environment, its unique ecosystems, wildlife and landscapes. The responses highlight a deep appreciation for the area's natural beauty and the importance of maintaining ecological integrity.

## Infrastructure Maintenance & Improvement

This theme reflects the community's commitment to maintaining and enhancing infrastructure to ensure it meets the needs of residents while preserving the area's character. The emphasis is on road safety, amenities and support for the community.

#### Youth & Family Services

This theme emphasizes the community's commitment to supporting families and providing recreational opportunities for children and youth. The responses reflect a desire for accessible activities/ spaces that promote social interaction, skill development and wellbeing for youth.

## Sensible Development

This theme addresses the community's concerns regarding development and its potential impact on the environment and community character. Responses reflect a desire for controlled development that respects the area's natural beauty, coastal character and community needs.

## **Community Engagement & Togetherness**

This theme illustrates the importance of community cohesion and connectedness, emphasizing involvement in local events and mutual support among residents. Responses emphasise fostering a sense of belonging and collaborative efforts and addressing generational differences.

#### **Community Wellbeing**

This theme emphasises the importance of ensuring safety, health and overall wellbeing for all residents, particularly vulnerable populations. The responses suggest a strong desire for community connections, support systems, and healthy activities for all ages.

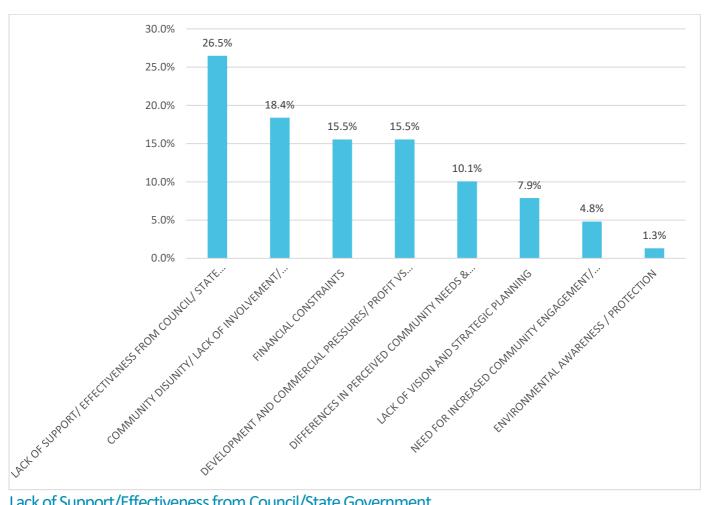
## **Resilience Against Natural Disasters**

This theme highlights the community's focus on preparing for and adapting to natural disasters, ensuring safety and security in emergency situations. Responses show a strong commitment to proactive measures and planning.

## **Support Local Economy and Small Business**

This theme highlights the importance of fostering a vibrant local economy through support for small businesses and ensuring that community needs are met. The responses illustrate a desire to enhance local employment opportunities, attract more businesses, and promote sustainable economic growth while preserving the area's character.

## QUESTION 5: WHAT DO YOU THINK IS KEEPING US FROM ACHIEVING WHAT WE WANT?



## Lack of Support/Effectiveness from Council/State Government

Many responses point to dissatisfaction with local government, indicating that Council's failure to act, lack of funds and ineffective strategies pose barriers to achieving the community's goals.

## Community Disunity/Lack of Involvement, Resistance to Change & New Ideas

Some responses express division within the community, where differing views are seen as significant barriers to progress. Some residents feel that a lack of engagement and understanding among community members hinders collective decision-making.

#### **Financial Constraints**

Financial limitations are cited repeatedly as a barrier to progress in the community, affecting services, infrastructure and new developments. Many believe a lack of funding restricts the community's growth and maintenance capabilities.

#### Development & Commercial Profit versus the Environment

There are strong feelings regarding the push for development driven by commercial interests which many believe threatens the unique character of the villages. Residents express the belief that development should not come at the expense of the community character and environment.

## **Differences in Community Needs and Priorities**

Responses reflect concerns about changing demographics and how they affect community dynamics. Different age groups have divergent priorities, which can hinder the ability to move forward as a cohesive community. Some younger participants feel that their needs are overlooked in favor of a more established older generation. Lack of Vision and Strategic Planning

A common concern expressed is the absence of a coherent and unified vision for the community's future. Responses highlight the importance of strategic planning to guide development while respecting the natural environment.

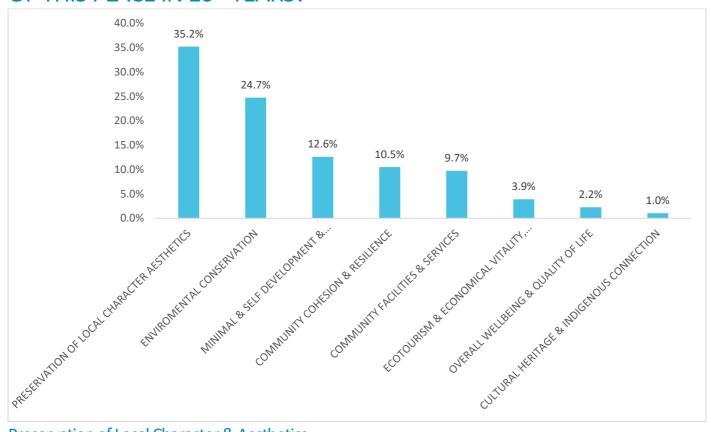
## Need for Increased Community Engagement / Capacity

A theme that has emerged is the need for more community engagement and participation in local governance and community decision-making processes.

#### **Environmental Awareness and Protection**

Many feel that commercial/ for-profit development has priority over environmental stewardship. Preserving the unspoilt coastal environments for future generations is seen as important and needs attention.

# QUESTION 6: WHAT ARE THE HOPES/ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF THIS PLACE IN 10+ YEARS?



#### Preservation of Local Character & Aesthetics

This theme reflects the community's desire to maintain the unique character and coastal simplicity and charm of the villages. Residents also wish to preserve the historical and cultural essence of the area. The focus is on minimising significant changes that disrupt local identity.

#### **Environmental Conservation**

This theme highlights the community's commitment to preserving the natural environment, including its biodiversity, landscapes and ecosystems. Residents express a strong desire for policies that protect the natural resources while promoting eco-tourism and sustainable practices. The collective hope is to maintain the beauty of the area for future generations.

#### Minimal & Self Sustainable Development

This theme emphasises the aspiration for balanced and mindful development that meets community needs without compromising ecological or cultural integrity. It reflects a desire for strong infrastructure to support local residents in their way of life. It seeks sustainable solutions that allow for necessary improvements and advancements while preserving the environment. Strong views that holiday and caravan parks should be self-sustaining and collect their own water and be compliant with water and sewerage management.

#### Community Cohesion & Resilience

This theme underscores the importance of fostering a strong, connected community that supports one another. Residents express aspirations for unity, resilience and an inclusive atmosphere where individuals of all ages thrive. There is a shared desire for people in the community to work together to address challenges.

#### **Community Facilities & Services**

This theme reflects the community's desire for enhanced amenities and services that cater to residents of the three villages, including youth, families and the elderly. The community seeks spaces that promote social interaction, recreation, and connectivity. Improved facilities are seen as essential for fostering a vibrant and inclusive community.

## Ecotourism & Economic Vitality, Commercial Restraint.

This theme highlights the community's aspirations for a thriving local economy that supports local businesses and responsible, sustainable tourism while protecting the area's character, waterways, biodiversity and natural beauty. There is recognition that an attractive environment can boost tourism, if development is managed carefully.

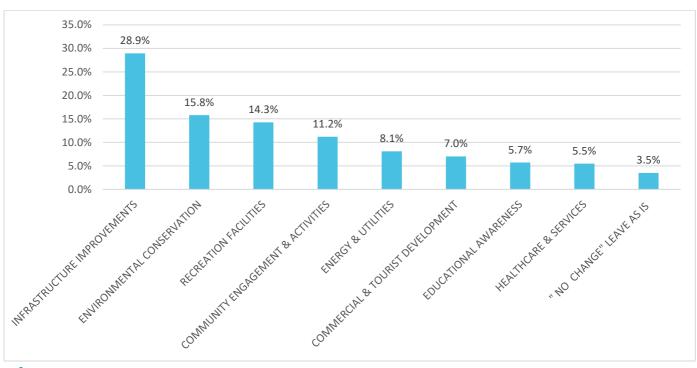
## Overall Wellbeing & Quality of Life

This theme highlights the community's aspirations for a high quality of life emphasising mental and physical health, safety and wellbeing for all residents. The community seeks a supportive environment that prioritises healthy living, community engagement and easy accessibility,

## **Cultural Heritage & Indigenous Connection**

This theme emphasises the importance of recognising and celebrating the community's cultural heritage, including connections to Indigenous history. Residents wish to foster a greater understanding of the area's history and traditions and to integrate those elements into modern community life. This cultural awareness is seen to enrich community identity and connection to the land.

# Q7: PLEASE SHARE YOUR IDEAS ABOUT PROJECTS, INVESTMENTS OR OPPORTUNITIES- KEY THEMES



## Infrastructure Improvements

Improving infrastructure is essential for enhancing safety, accessibility and quality of life within the community. Well-maintained public facilities support daily activities and ensure that residents and visitors can access essential services and recreational areas. Road maintenance ensures safety for vehicles and pedestrians, as well as increased accessibility for emergency services. Town water and sewerage is not sought after by most respondents, while suggestions of composting toilets in parks and improvements to the shopping facilities were raised.

#### **Environmental Conservation**

Proritising environmental conservation ensures the protection of local ecosystems and wildlife, maintaining the area's natural beauty for future generations. It contributes to more broad community health and ecological balance. Investing in local bushfire management is vital for maintaining ecosystem health and community safety. Establishing wildlife corridors allows wildlife to navigate the area safely, preserving biodiversity. Some residents feel that caravan and holiday resorts should be managed by National Parks.

#### **Recreation Facilities**

Recreational facilities provide essential spaces for physical activity, relaxation, and socialising. These spaces encourage a healthy lifestyle and foster community connections. Investments in playgrounds and sports fields can help engage younger community members. Creating designated areas for gatherings and leisure will encourage families to enjoy outdoor spaces. Designated play and recreation areas for young people was a prevailing theme, including skate and bike parks, BMX and bush tracks.

## Community Engagements & Activities

Active participation in community events promotes social cohesion, protects local culture, and encourages resident involvement in decision-making processes. Community engagement enhances residents' sense of belonging and pride in their area. Organising events like seasonal fairs or markets can unify residents and celebrate local culture.

## **Energy & Utilities**

Sustainable management of energy and utilities is crucial for reducing environmental impact and ensuring long-term viability. Developing local energy solutions can enhance community resilience against climate change. Investing in local renewable energy solutions reduces reliance on external resources and enhances energy independence. Sustainable water management solutions can help maintain cleanliness and resource efficiency.

## Commercial & Tourist Development

Strategic commercial and tourist development can support the local economy while preserving community character. Sustainable tourism can provide financial benefits without compromising the environment or quality of life. Establishing local dining options enhances community involvement and attracts visitors. Innovative tourist attractions can highlight local natural beauty and provide unique experiences for visitors. Responsible tourism that is consistent with the character of the villages and is not damaging to the foreshores and environment was a prevailing theme.

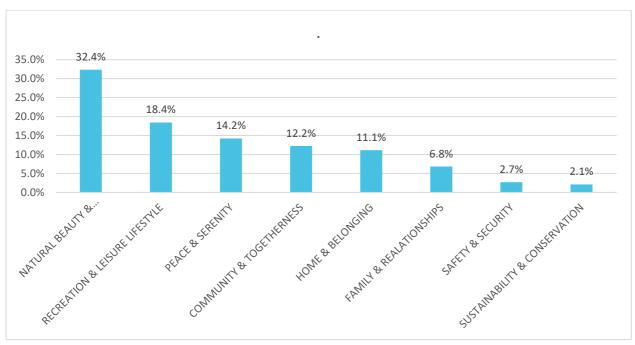
## **Education Awareness**

Education and awareness initiatives are paramount for fostering a well-informed community that can engage effectively with local issues and contribute to sustainable practices. By enhancing knowledge about local ecology, culture, and community values, residents can better appreciate their unique environment and take active roles in preserving it. Engaging educational programs can empower individuals to make informed decisions that positively impact the community and its future. Cultural events such as art showcases can educate residents and visitors about local heritage and biodiversity, fostering a deeper connection to the community.

#### **Healthcare & Service**

Access to healthcare services is fundamental for community wellbeing. Ensuring adequate healthcare infrastructure supports residents' needs, particularly for vulnerable populations, including the elderly. Establishing local health services can prevent residents from having to relocate due to lack of care access. Consistent healthcare can improve residents' health and well-being. Integrating health services that address both human and environmental health demonstrates a holistic approach to community wellness.

## Q8: THREE (3) WORDS THAT BEST DECRIBES WHAT THIS PLACE MEANS TO YOU.



## **Natural Beauty and Environment**

Words: Nature, Beautiful, Wildlife, Scenic, Clean, Pristine, Natural Beauty

**Reasons**: Residents emphasize their appreciation for the surrounding landscapes and wildlife, indicating that the natural environment is not only a backdrop but also integral to their quality of life. Terms like "pristine", "clean" and "fragile" highlight their concern for environmental protection and the desire to preserve the beauty that characterises their home, reflecting an intrinsic connection to the land.

## **Recreation & Leisure Lifestyle**

Words: Relaxing, Beaches, Fun, Leisure, Play, Retreat, Enjoyable

**Responses** regarding •relaxing" and "beaches" underscore the villages as destinations for leisure and recreation. These terms reflect the community's emphasis on outdoor activities, whether at the beach or in natural spaces, which provide opportunities for enjoyment and relaxation, enhancing the quality of life.

#### **Peace & Serenity**

Words: Peace, Serenity, Tranquility, Quiet, Relaxing, Calm, Bliss

**Reasons:** The prevalence of words like "peace" and "serenity" suggests that the community values a peaceful lifestyle, distancing themselves from urban chaos. Descriptors such as "tranquil" and "quiet" denote a desire for a slower, more relaxed pace of life, as well as an emotional refuge from stress, contributing to a harmonious living experience.

#### Community & Togetherness

Words: Community, Friends, Family, Together, Belonging, Connection, Supportive

**Reasons:** The repeated mention of "community" and variations such as "friends" and "family" indicates a strong sense of social cohesion among residents. The desire for

togetherness and belonging show that community dynamics are central to the identity of the villages. Descriptors like "supportive" express the mutual assistance and care that neighbors extend to one another, reinforcing social ties.

## **Home & Belonging**

Words: Home, Safe, Haven, Sanctuary, Forever, Heart, Belonging

**Reasons:** Terms such as "home" and "sanctuary" reflect a deep emotional connection to their residences, indicating that this is not merely a place to live but a source of personal identity. "Safe" suggests a strong desire for security, while " forever" denotes a commitment to this place as a lasting home, creating a profound sense of belonging.

#### Family & Relationships

**Words:** Family, Friends, Togetherness, Joy, Happiness, Connection, Love Reasons: The frequent mention of "family" reflects the role of familial bonds in enhancing community life. Words like "joy" and "happiness" suggest that relationships are a key source of personal fulfilment, with family gatherings and shared experiences being integral to community celebrations and support systems.

#### Safety & Security

Words: Safe, Security, Safe Haven, Trust, Protection, Peacefulness

Reasons: words like "safe" and "security" show that residents prioritise a sense of safety in their community. The idea of "safe haven" underscores the need for environments where people feel protected from external threats. This theme reveals how essential security is to the community's overall satisfaction and quality of life.

#### Sustainability & Conservation

Words: Environment, Sustainable, Pristine, Biodiversity, Preservation, Natural

**Reasons**: The emphasis on "environment" and "sustainability" indicates residents' commitment to preserving their natural surroundings. Words like "biodiversity" and "pristine" reflect an awareness of ecological balance and the importance of conservation efforts to maintain the beauty and health of their community, aligning with modern values of environmental stewardship.