

Comments received from the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation (Community and Infrastructure Group) Green Oak School Summer Fete held on 12 July 2014

- Medical and Dentist Centre at Ockford Ridge
 - Bakers and Post Office up on Aaron's/Ockford
 - A Theatre
 - Godalming is a town with a real community feel about it. The turnout at bonfire night was amazing, as are the concerts at the bandstand!
 - Like: Godalming Town Council, Bandstand concerts, The Sun, The Leathern Bottle and Scratchers, the rowing boats and the punts on the river, the Lammas Lands, The Unitarian Chapel and its people, Godalming Gospel Choir
 - I like: a strong community, facilities for those who cannot afford as much as others
 - Would like to see more activities for teenagers
 - Dislikes: Waverley Borough Council (with some exceptions,) Surrey County Council, the traffic problems, the supermarket expansion (all to the north,) the flooding, the litter from take-aways, the price of housing and the lack of affordable housing.
 - Q - do you like living here? Well, I've lived here and Witley for 60 years, so it must be alright!
 - Good people, clean parks, tidy public areas and lots to do with young children
 - I like Godalming (Aaron, 7)
 - I think Godalming is a very pretty little town and it has plenty of what I need here
 - With all the building in Godalming where are the additional facilities i.e. schools, roads, transport, GPs?
 - Why aren't developers forced, as a condition of planning permission, to contribute to building more schools, maintain roads for a number of years? Put pressure on them before granting planning permission as leverage.
 - Dislike: little provision for cyclists - High St etc is one way
 - Lack of dropped kerbs for provision for wheel chairs
 - Like: the Museum
 - There could be an improvement of public transport (and please get rid of the hills - I am a cyclist :)
 - For the town - particular needs: Medical Centre (Ockford Ridge, Aaron's Hill) as this is vitally important and particularly needed if you check increase in birth rate
 - Shops in centre of town require mixed economy - some gift/specialist and designer with more standard mix (e.g. phone shop.)
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- **About this information:**

Where has it come from?

Parents of the school and other local residents, predominantly from the Ockford area of Godalming.

How was it gathered?

The Neighbourhood Plan team manned an information stand on the school field. People were invited to first locate and mark where they live and place a sticker on the

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town map. They were then invited to write what they felt about living in Godalming and Farncombe, with particular reference to its community and infrastructure. NP volunteers explained the reason for the Neighbourhood Plan and the need to plan for future housing development. People were asked if they had already participated in previous consultation events to help in avoiding duplication.

Did people understand what is meant by 'community and infrastructure'?

The stand had a display to illustrate the various facets (education, health, sports, green spaces, arts and culture, venues, community groups etc) and a 'Please tell us what you think' list of prompts to get people thinking, for example:

What is the best thing about living here?

What do you really value?

What do you miss?

What is frustrating?

What would you like to see more of?

How many responses were gathered and where are they?

15 people posted their comments in the sealed box. There was no printed form of questions at all - people were free to write what they wished to say on a blank sheet. In all, 20 separate comments were made and they are typed out as written, above. All hand written slips submitted are on file for the group to check and refer back to as necessary.

How will this information be used?

The information is a 'snapshot' and gathered as part of a public awareness exercise. The sample is a random one of residents at that day's event. This information is therefore of use to the group(s) in 'giving a steer' towards areas worthy of further investigation.

Was it a representative cross-section of the community?

This was the annual school fete and attracted mainly families with children at the school and local residents living on Ockford Ridge and Aaron's Hill.

Are there any significant areas that were not commented upon?

There is a regeneration programme for Ockford Ridge involving demolition of some council owned housing and the building and refurbishment of further council homes. This did not get mentioned in any of the responses.

Are there particular concerns that emerged?

Community facilities such as surgeries and shops in the Ockford area were the subject of several comments but the sample is small and comments generally varied.

Next Steps:

This information will be made available to all working groups to study.

Jane Thomson 02.08.2014

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