

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

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Sir/Madam

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU to attend the Full Council Meeting of the Godalming Town Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Waverley Borough Council, The Burys, Godalming on THURSDAY, 4 JUNE 2026 at 6.30pm.

Andy Jeffery

DATED this 27th day of May 2026.

Andy Jeffery
CEO to the Town Council

If you wish to speak at this meeting please contact Godalming Town Council on 01483 523575 or email office@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Where possible recording of the proceedings will be posted to the Town Council's Facebook page.

The meeting will be preceded by a reflection on why local democracy is important for the lives of young people, led by Clark Langridge, Godalming College.

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

THE TOWN MAYOR to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 20 May 2026.

2. APOLOGIES

TO RECEIVE apologies for absence.

3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTERABLE INTERESTS

To receive from Members any declarations of interests in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting required to be disclosed by the Localism Act 2011 and the Godalming Members' Code of Conduct.

4. PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

THE TOWN MAYOR to invite members of the public to make representations, ask or answer questions and give evidence in respect of the business on the agenda or other matters not on the agenda. This forum to be conducted in accordance with Standing Order 5:

- The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting for a maximum of three minutes per person or 15 minutes overall, unless otherwise directed by the Chair of the meeting,
- A question shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The Chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given. If a matter raised is one for principal councils or other authorities, the person making representations will be informed of the appropriate contact details.

Members of the Public have the right to attend all meetings of the Town Council and its Committees and are welcome.

5. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

To consider any questions from councillors in accordance with Standing Order 6.

6. RECEIPT OF OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive official announcements, letters, etc.

7. RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORTS

To receive Chair's reports of the Committees as under:

Audit & Governance Committee – Cllr Thomson
Planning Committee – Cllr Crowe

8. RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Since the date of the last council meeting, there are no approved Committee minutes to be received

9. REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR

Recommendation: Full Council to consider a report from the Audit Committee regarding the Final Internal Audit Report dated 8 May 2026 and are requested to Note the auditors' recommendations.

Members to consider the report of an internal audit conducted on 8 May 2026 by the Council's Internal Auditor, Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd (the report is attached for the information of Members), and to note the comments of the Audit Committee thereon.

Audit Point	Audit Findings	Council Response
O. DIGITAL AND DATA COMPLIANCE	The Website Accessibility Statement correctly references partial compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA and should be updated to the current WCAG 2.2 AA standard. I recommend the council ensures that a data audit is completed during 2026/27 to comply with GDPR regulations, as this may be an audit test for next year. The Clerk confirmed this, along with updating the Website Accessibility Statement, is due to be conducted by the council as part of their compliance audit during 2026/27.	At the meeting of the Policy & Management Committee of 8 January 2026, Members resolved to approve that an updated accessibility compliance assessment of the Town Council's website be commissioned, subject to costs being met within the approved 2026/27 IT and Website budget, with any costs outside the approved budget to be referred back to the Policy & Management Committee (now the Management Committee). Members further approved that the Accessibility Statement be reviewed and updated following receipt of the reassessment report, as appropriate.

10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Members are required to consider the Annual Governance Statement and the answers to the questions posed by the Statement (attached for the information of Members).

Members are advised to consider the Audit Committee's recommended answers to those questions alongside the Annual Governance Statement. The Audit Committee's recommended answers are attached for the information of Members.

11. ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2025/26

Members to consider and agree the Town Council's Accounting Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2026 (copy of Section 2 of the Annual Return is attached for the information of Members).

Explanations for key variances are also attached for the information of Members.

12. MOTION ON NOTICE

Proposer: Councillor Williams Second: Councillor Weightman

Recommendation:

Members to consider the Motion and if minded are requested to resolve to approve the implementation of the motion as set out at points a-g in the motion.

THE MOTION:

Requests for the Audit & Governance Committee to develop and recommend to Full Council a Sustainable and Ethical Investment Policy

Council is asked to note that the Audit Committee, when considering the Treasury & Investment Policy on 16 April 2026, discussed the statement that preference should be given to banking institutions with "strong ethical and sustainable practices", but acknowledged that the Policy does not currently define those terms or establish objective criteria for assessing financial institutions and investments.

Council is asked to further note:

- the growing expectation that public bodies should align financial decision-making with recognised Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles;
- the significant financial and climate-related risks associated with continued investment in and financing of fossil fuel expansion;
- the increasing availability of banking and investment providers able to demonstrate credible ethical, sustainable and net zero-aligned practices; and
- the importance of ensuring that the Council's treasury management arrangements are consistent with its wider environmental responsibilities and community values.

Members are asked to **RESOLVE** to agree to request for the Audit & Governance Committee to develop and recommend to Full Council a Sustainable and Ethical Investment Policy which:

- a. establishes clear, transparent and measurable ESG criteria for all banking, treasury management and investment decisions;
- b. prioritises financial institutions and investment vehicles able to demonstrate credible net zero commitments, robust climate transition plans and responsible stewardship practices;
- c. includes a presumption against the use of institutions or funds with significant direct involvement in fossil fuel extraction, expansion or financing, unless no practical and proportionate alternative exists;
- d. incorporates appropriate ethical screening principles relating to environmental harm, human rights abuses, arms manufacturing, tobacco and other activities considered inconsistent with the Council's values;
- e. ensures that ethical and sustainability considerations are balanced with the Council's statutory duties regarding security, liquidity and prudent financial management;

- f. provides arrangements for transparency, regular review and periodic reporting to Council on compliance with the Policy and the ESG performance of the Council's banking and investment arrangements; and
- g. considers relevant guidance and best practice from CIPFA, the Local Government Association and recognised responsible investment frameworks.

Draft proposals to be presented to Full Council within the current civic year.

13. MOTION ON NOTICE

Proposer: Paul Follows

Seconder: Penny Rivers.

Recommendation:

Members to consider the Motion and if minded are requested to resolve to approve the implementation of the motion.

THE MOTION:

Members are asked to **RESOLVE** to agree to cancel the extant temporary moratorium on the awarding of Neighbourhood CIL.

Background

At its meeting on 13 November 2025, Full Council agreed to place a temporary moratorium on the award of Neighbourhood CIL funding until after the anticipated receipt of further CIL contributions in October 2026 (Minute 355-25 refers). At that time, Members noted that anticipated funding requests were likely to exceed the level of funds then available. However, circumstances relating to a number of anticipated applications have since changed.

One anticipated applicant has now secured alternative funding, and the project is expected to be completed during the summer period. A second anticipated project has also secured match funding, reducing the potential Neighbourhood CIL request by approximately 50%. In addition, expenditure on a previously approved scheme was approximately 12% lower than originally anticipated.

During the same period, additional CIL contributions totalling £45,851.79 have been received, bringing the current available Neighbourhood CIL balance to £179,947.73.

Members are asked to note that, as the Council's original decision was made more than seven months ago, this does not constitute a motion to rescind a previous Council decision.

14. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER - RESIDENTS CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Recommendation: Members to consider the report and survey data setting out the outcome of the recent resident consultation regarding potential Community Asset Transfers and to determine the next steps for the Council.

The item will be introduced by the Chair of the Local Government Reorganisation Working Group, Cllr Heagin.

Members are advised that the consultation provided a qualitative and indicative quantitative public engagement evidence base with clear themes emerging around:

- protection of community assets,
- local accountability and stewardship,
- safeguarding green spaces, and
- the future role of the Borough Hall as a cultural and community venue.

The report provides:

- a summary of the consultation findings,
- analysis of key resident themes and concerns,
- an initial assessment of financial, operational and governance implications, and
- options for how the Council may wish to proceed in relation to feasibility work and future investigations.

Supporting documents:

- Community Asset Transfers – Resident Survey Outcomes
- Community Asset Transfers – Resident Consultation Data (Clean Copy)
- GTC response to narrative questions to be posted on website

15. REVIEW OF POLICY DOCUMENTS

Recommendation: Members to consider the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy, Guidance & Application Form and RESOLVE its adoption by Full Council.

Members to review the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy, Guidance & Application Form, attached for the information of Members. Members to note that deletions are shown in red and additions in Blue.

Primary changes to the document are to align the procedure for consideration of a neighbourhood CIL award to the governance structure agreed at Full Council on 20 May 2026 (minute 16.200526 refers).

16. AUTHORISATION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TO AUTHORISE the Chief Executive Officer to sign or, where appropriate to have sealed on behalf of the Town Council any orders, deeds, or documents necessary to give effect to any of the matters contained in the Reports received at this meeting or in any Resolution passed by the Council.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Full Council meeting is scheduled to be held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 17 September 2026 at 6.30pm.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brought forward by permission of the Chair. Requests to be submitted prior to commencement of the meeting.

In pursuance of the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960 s.1(2), the committee may wish to resolve to exclude the public and press from the meeting at this point prior to consideration of agenda item(s) 19 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted i.e commercial-in confidence

19. THE SQUARE

Members to receive a confidential report from the CEO relating to the Council's Freehold interest in The Square (attached for information of Members). Members are requested to consider the report and determine which, if any, course of action they wish the CEO to take.



Mr A Jeffery
Godalming Town Council
107-109 High Street
Godalming
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GU7 1AQ

8 May 2026

Dear Andy

Re: Godalming Town Council
Internal Audit Report for Financial Year Ended 31 March 2026

Executive summary

Following completion of our final internal audit on 8 May 2026, we are pleased to enclose our report for your review and presentation to the council. The audit was conducted in accordance with current professional standards and guidelines, employing a risk-based approach to our testing. While not all transactions were examined, our sample testing, where appropriate, covered the financial year to date.

Some assertions, as noted in this report, were tested at the interim internal audit completed during the financial year and the council should review all internal audit reports for the year before completing the Annual Governance Statement.

The structure of this report aligns with the assertions set out in the Annual Internal Auditor Report section of the published Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). Each section begins with a summary of the assertion being assessed, followed by details of the testing undertaken, which was guided by the audit plan previously shared with the council. A copy of the audit plan is available upon request. The report concludes with our opinion on whether each assertion has been met as of the date of the audit. **Any recommendations for action are highlighted in bold and summarised in the table at the end of the report.**

Our testing did not identify any procedural errors requiring reporting to the external auditor at this time, nor did we observe any material weaknesses in internal controls that would pose a risk to public funds. In fact, the processes and procedures together with own built in compensating controls are robust, strictly followed and in many respects a model of good practice.

We are pleased to report that overall, the systems and procedures currently in place are appropriate and effective. While this report may include recommendations for improvement, these should not be viewed as indicators of significant deficiencies. Rather, they are intended to support the continued development of what is, in our view, a well-managed and robust governance framework.

I have completed the Annual Internal Audit Report page of the AGAR and provided this to the council for onward submission to the External Auditor.

Regulation

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require smaller authorities, each financial year, to conduct a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and prepare an annual governance statement in accordance with proper practices in relation to accounts. In addition to this, a smaller authority is required by Regulation 5(1) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to “undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards or guidance.”

Internal auditing is an independent, objective assurance activity designed to improve an organisation’s operations. It helps an organisation accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes.

The primary purpose of internal audit is to assess and report to the authority on the effectiveness of its financial systems and other internal controls, including the operational procedures that support its activities.

The internal audit function involves testing and evaluating whether the authority’s internal control framework is both adequate and functioning effectively. Internal audit reports should be made available to all Members, providing a basis for informed decision making when considering the authority’s approval of the Annual Governance Statement.

Independence and competence

Your audit was conducted by Andy Beams of Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd, who has over 36 years’ experience in the financial sector with the last 16 years specialising in local government.

Your auditor is independent from the management of the financial controls and procedures of the council and has no conflicts of interest with the audit client, nor do they provide any management or financial assistance to the client.

Engagement Letter and inherent risk assessment

An engagement letter was previously issued to the council covering the 2025/26 internal audit assignment, which includes the scope and plan of works and fee structure. Copies of this document are available on request from anna@mulberrylas.co.uk

In summary, our work will address each of the internal control objectives as stated on the Annual Internal Audit Report of the AGAR.

It is our opinion that the inherent risk of error or misstatement within the council’s financial systems is low. The internal control environment is considered reliable, and as such, substantive testing of individual transactions is not deemed necessary at this stage.

Audit testing will therefore consist of walk-through testing on a selection of sample data, covering the period under review within the current council year. This approach is designed to confirm that key controls are operating effectively throughout the financial period.

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INTRODUCTION

The audit was conducted on site. The information advised in advance of the visit had been prepared and was available for review, and overall, I have the impression that accounting records are neatly maintained and easily accessible.

Other information was reviewed through discussion with the officers and a review of the council website www.godalming-tc.gov.uk

UPDATES ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERIM AUDIT

Internal Audit – Summary of recommendations

Audit Point	Interim Audit Findings	Council comments
None		

A. BOOKS OF ACCOUNT

Internal audit requirement

Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly during the year.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

B. FINANCE REGULATIONS, GOVERNANCE AND PAYMENTS

Internal audit requirement

This authority complied with its Finance Regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved, and VAT was appropriately accounted for.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

C. RISK MANAGEMENT AND INSURANCE

Internal audit requirement

This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

We discussed assertion 8 on the Annual Governance Statement and whether this had any impact on the council.

“We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.”

The Clerk confirmed that they were not aware of any event having a financial impact that was not included in the accounting statements.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

D. BUDGET, PRECEPT AND RESERVES

Internal audit requirement

The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

Budget

Regular detailed budget reports are produced from the accounting software. The year-end budget report shows income reported as 110% of budget and expenditure at 129%, prior to any reserve movements. After allowing for these, the expenditure percentage spend is 98%, demonstrating that the budget was accurately set and closely monitored throughout the year.

There is further evidence within the minutes of meetings that councillors regularly receive budget reports for review, providing them with sufficient financial information to make informed decisions.

Precept

The council set a precept of £1,236,391 for 2025/26. With a tax base of 10,122.3, this equates to a band D equivalent of £122.15 (compared to the average in England of £92.92).

I was able to confirm that the precept amount recorded in the accounts is correct, and equals the amount recorded in box 2 of the Accounting Statements.

A review of the minutes of the council meeting held on 11 December 2025, shows that the council resolved to approve the budget and precept for 2026/27, and reviewed and approved a 3 year forward projection covering the period to 2029/30.

Reserves

The Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel (SAPPP) Practitioner's guide provides updated guidance on the appropriate level of general reserves that councils should retain as below:

5.33 The general reserve of an authority comprises its cash flow and contingency funds to cover unexpected inflation, unforeseen events and unusual circumstances.

5.34 The generally accepted recommendation with regard to the appropriate minimum level of a smaller authority's general reserve is that this should be maintained at between three and twelve months of net revenue expenditure.

5.35 The reason for the wide range is to cater for the large variation in activity level between individual authorities. The smaller the authority, the closer the figure may be to 12 months expenditure, the larger the authority, the nearer to 3 months. In practice, any authority with income and expenditure in excess of £200,000 should plan towards 3 months equivalent general reserve.

5.36 In all of this it is important that each authority adopt, as a general reserve policy, the level appropriate to their size, situation, risks and plan their budget so as to ensure that the adopted level is maintained. Consideration of the minimum level of reserves requires not only consideration of level of income and expenditure but also the risks to that income.

5.37 Authorities with significant self-generated income (other than the precept or levy) should take into account situations that may lead to a loss in revenue as well as increased costs and adapt their general reserve accordingly.

At the year-end, the council held circa £1,267,870 in reserves, split between categories as below:

- CIL EMR £211,571
- Other earmarked EMR £379,558
- General Reserves £676,741

I checked the purpose of these earmarked reserves and am satisfied they are all for legitimate future planned projects of the council.

The general reserve balance is which is within the recommended range as detailed in the Practitioner's Guide.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

E. INCOME

Internal audit requirement

Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

F. PETTY CASH

Internal audit requirement

Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts; all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.

CONCLUSION

The council has no petty cash and the testing for this internal control objective is not applicable.

G. PAYROLL

Internal audit requirement

Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with the authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

I reviewed the figure included in box 4 (staff costs) on the Accounting Statements and was able to confirm from the accounting software that in accordance with the guidance contained in the Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel (SAPPP) Practitioner's guide this includes only salary payments, HMRC payments and pension contributions.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

H. ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS

Internal audit requirement

Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

I confirmed the asset register total matches that included in box 9 (total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets) on the Accounting Statements and was able to trace the changes to the previous year's total against the asset register.

The council has borrowing through the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and I was able to confirm the figures for in year payments (box 5) and year-end balance (box 10) on the Accounting Statements against the PWLB remittance advices and year-end statement.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

I. BANK AND CASH

Internal audit requirement

Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

I reviewed the year-end bank reconciliation for all accounts and was able to confirm the balances on 31 March 2026 to the bank statements and found no errors. I was able to confirm the total bank balances to the figure included in the Accountings Statements on the AGAR.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

J. YEAR END ACCOUNTS

Internal audit requirement

Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and, where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.

Audit findings

The council is reminded that at its meeting to sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), it should complete the steps in the following order:

- **Review and consider the Annual Internal Audit Report**
- **Complete Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement**
- **Complete Section 2 – Accounting Statements**

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement

Based on the internal audit findings, I recommend using the table below as the basis for that discussion.

	Annual Governance Statement	<i>'Yes', means that this authority</i>	Suggested response based on evidence
1	We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>	YES – accounts follow latest Accounts and Audit Regulations and practitioners guide recommendations.
2	We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>	YES – there is regular reporting of financial transactions and accounting summaries, offering the opportunity for scrutiny.
3	We have assured ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>	YES – the Clerk advises the council in respect of its legal powers.
4	We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.</i>	YES – the requirements and timescales for 202/25 year-end were followed.
5	We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the	<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>	YES – the council has a risk management scheme and

	introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.		appropriate external insurance.
6	We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>	YES – the council has appointed an independent and competent internal auditor.
7	We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>	YES – matters raised in internal and external audit reports have been addressed.
8	We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and. Where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>	YES – no matters were raised during the internal audit visits.
9	Trust funds including charitable – In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/asset(s), including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	<i>has met all its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.</i>	N/A – the council has no trusts
10	We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.	<i>has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so</i>	YES – the council has met the requirements of Governance Assertion 10

Section 2 – Accounting Statements

AGAR box number		2024/25	2025/26	Internal Auditor notes
1	Balances brought forward	1,282,810	1,805,845	Agrees to 2024/25 carry forward (box 7)
2	Precept or rates and levies	1,147,744	1,236,391	Figure confirmed to central precept record
3	Total other receipts	1,235,284	499,433	Agrees to underlying accounting records
4	Staff costs	703,206	855,617	Agrees to underlying accounting records. Includes only expenditure allowed as staff costs (see section G)
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	77,703	77,703	Agrees to PWLB remittance advices
6	All other payments	1,079,084	1,340,479	Agrees to underlying accounting records
7	Balances carried forward	1,805,845	1,267,870	Casts correctly and agrees to balance sheet
Total				
8	Total value of cash and short- term investments	1,783,175	1,264,820	Agrees to bank reconciliation for all accounts
9	Total fixed assets plus long- term investments and assets	3,031,153	3,248,960	Matches asset register total and changes from previous year have been traced
10	Total borrowings	1,314,761	1,279,153	Agrees to PWLB statement
Total				
11	Do the figures in the accounting statements above exclude any trust transactions	Yes	Yes	Yes – trust transactions are excluded from the stated figures

Audit findings

The year-end accounts have been correctly prepared on an income and expenditure basis with the box 7 and 8 reconciliation completed. This shows total year-end debtors of £84,220 and total year-end creditors of £81,170, with a full breakdown of the debtors and creditors recorded within the accounting software.

The AGAR correctly casts and cross casts and last year's comparatives match the figures submitted for 2024/25 and published on the council website.

The variance analysis has been completed and, in my opinion, provides sufficient financial and narrative information to explain the variances to the External Auditor.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

K. LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW

Internal audit requirement

IF the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in the previous year, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt.

CONCLUSION

The council did not certify itself exempt from a limited assurance review in the previous year and the testing for this internal control objective is not applicable.

L: PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION

Internal audit requirement

The authority publishes information on a free to access website/webpage, up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with relevant legislation

Audit findings

All councils are required to follow The Accounts and Audit Regulations which include the following requirements:

- 13(1)** An authority must publish (which must include publication on that authority’s website)
 - (a) the Statement of Accounts together with any certificate or opinion entered by the local auditor in accordance with section 20(2) of the Act; and
 - (b) the Annual Governance Statement approved in accordance with regulation 6(3)

- 13(2)** Where documents are published under paragraph (1), the authority must
 - (a) keep copies of those documents for purchase by any person on payment of a reasonable sum; and
 - (b) ensure that those documents remain available for public access for a period of not less than five years beginning with the date on which those documents were first published in accordance with that paragraph.

I was able to confirm that pages 4 (Annual Governance Statement), 5 (Accounting Statements) and 6 (External Auditor’s Report and Certificate) of the AGARs are available for review on the council website for the previous five financial years.

Confirm that the council is compliant with the relevant transparency code

For councils with a turnover over £25,000, it is recommended best practice to follow the Local Government Transparency Code 2015, but not a statutory requirement and therefore not subject to verification during the internal audit.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

M: EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS - INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS

Internal audit requirement

The authority, during the previous year, correctly provided for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

Audit findings

Inspection – key dates	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Proposed
Date AGAR signed by council	9 May 2025	4 June 2026
Date inspection notice issued	30 May 2025	5 June 2026
Inspection period begins	3 June 2025	8 June 2026
Inspection period ends	14 July 2025	17 July 2026
Correct length (30 working days)	Yes	Yes
Common period included (first 10 working days of July)	Yes	Yes

I am satisfied the requirements of this control objective were met for 2024/25, and assertion 4 on the Annual Governance Statement can therefore be signed yes by the council.

I reviewed the proposed dates for the Exercise of Public Rights for the 2025/26 AGAR and confirm that these are in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

N: PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Internal audit requirement

The authority complied with the publication requirements for the prior year AGAR.

Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, authorities must publish the following information on the authority website / webpage.

Before 1 July 2025 authorities must publish:

- *Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and a declaration that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited*
- *Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2024/25, approved and signed, page 4*
- *Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2024/25, approved and signed, page 5*

Not later than 30 September 2025 authorities must publish:

- *Notice of conclusion of audit*
- *Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate*
- *Sections 1 and 2 of AGAR including any amendments as a result of the limited assurance review.*

It is recommended as best practice, to avoid any potential confusion by local electors and interested parties, that you also publish the Annual Internal Audit Report, page 3.

Audit findings

Testing conducted at the interim audit and findings included in the interim audit report.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

O. DIGITAL AND DATA COMPLIANCE

Internal audit requirement

The authority has complied with laws, regulations and proper practices relating to digital and data compliance.

Audit findings

The Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel (SAPPP) Practitioner's Guide (March 2025) contains guidance on the new Governance Assertion included on the 2025/26 AGAR which relates to this internal control objective.

Website

I was able to confirm that the council website contains a Privacy Notice and a Website Accessibility Statement. **The Website Accessibility Statement correctly references partial compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA and should be updated to the current WCAG 2.2 AA standard.**

The council has an IT Policy in place which was last reviewed and approved by the council at the meeting held on 19 February 2026 (minute ref 529).

Email management and GDPR

It was noted the council has a generic email address on a domain owned by the council and has established common email addresses for all councillors. This is recommended because it gives a natural segregation between work and personal lives, making it clear beyond doubt in what capacity a councillor is acting. In addition to this it gives control to the council, adds a degree of professionalism and in the event of a FOI request limits access to personal computers.

I recommend the council ensures that a data audit is completed during 2026/27 to comply with GDPR regulations, as this may be an audit test for next year. The Clerk confirmed this, along with updating the Website Accessibility Statement, is due to be conducted by the council as part of their compliance audit during 2026/27.

CONCLUSION

I am satisfied this control objective has been met.

P. TRUSTEESHIP

Internal audit requirement

Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.

CONCLUSION

The council has no trusts and the testing for this internal control objective is not applicable.

Achievement of control assertions at final internal audit date

Based on the tests conducted during the interim audit, our conclusions on the achievement of the internal control objectives to date are summarised in the table below.

	INTERNAL CONTROL OBJECTIVE	YES	NO	NOT COVERED
A	Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year	✓		
B	This authority complied with its Finance Regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved, and VAT was appropriately accounted for	✓		
C	This authority assesses the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these	✓		
D	The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E	Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for	✓		
F	Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved, and VAT appropriately accounted for			✓
G	Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with the authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H	Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I	Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
J	Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and, where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K	If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in the previous year, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt.			✓
L	The authority publishes information on a free to access website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	✓		
M	The authority, during the previous year correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		
N	The authority complied with the publication requirements for prior year AGAR.	✓		
O	The authority has complied with laws, regulations and proper practices relating to digital and data compliance	✓		
P	Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

Should you have any queries please contact me directly on andy@mulberrylas.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Andy Beams

Director, Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd

Internal Audit – Summary of recommendations

Audit Point	Internal Audit Findings	Council comments
<p>O. DIGITAL AND DATA COMPLIANCE</p>	<p>The Website Accessibility Statement correctly references partial compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA and should be updated to the current WCAG 2.2 AA standard.</p> <p>I recommend the council ensures that a data audit is completed during 2026/27 to comply with GDPR regulations, as this may be an audit test for next year. The Clerk confirmed this, along with updating the Website Accessibility Statement, is due to be conducted by the council as part of their compliance audit during 2026/27.</p>	

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

We acknowledge as the members of:

El Godalming Town Council

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, that:

	Agreed		
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We have assured ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓
10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.	✓		<i>has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.</i>

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

04/06/2026

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chair

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

www.godalming-tc.gov.uk PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Audit Committee considered the Town Council's Annual Governance Statement for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2026 specifically considering the answers to the questions posed by the Annual Governance Statement. The proposed answers are shown below and are recommended to Full Council.

	Statement <i>Godalming Town Council</i>	Recommended Answer	Evidence
1	We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	YES	<p>Use RBS accounting software – Officers have received training on the use of it. The budget is monitored at each ordinary meeting of the Policy & Management Committee.</p> <p>Budgeting: FY 2025/26 Min Nos (P&M) 359-24 (draft budget proposal) & FC 378-24 (budget approved) FY 2026/27 Min No (P&M) 399-25 (revised estimate & draft Budget), (FC) 421-25 (budget approved)</p> <p>Budget Monitoring: Mon Nos (P&M) 36-25, 151,25, 230-25, 294-25, 333-25, 457-25, 571-25,608-25.</p> <p>Bank Reconciliations: Min Nos (Audit) 576-24, 107-25,271-25, 513-25</p>
2	We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	YES	<p>Standing Orders: Min No 22-25 Financial Regulations: Min Nos (Audit) 577-24 & (FC) 22-25. Treasury & investment Policy (Audit) 578-24, (FC) 22-25 Management of Debt (Audit) 579-24.</p> <p>Payment Authority: Min No (FC) 25-23 Corporate Credit Card: Credit Limit set to £10,000 and payment made by direct debit each month. Min No 178-23, with the Youth Service card having a limit of £2,000 Min No 334-24</p> <p>Financial Risk Assessment: Min No (Audit) 515-25</p> <p>Bank Mandate: Min No (FC) 177-23</p> <p>Salaries: Set as part of budgeting (refer Assertion 1).</p> <p>Pay award agreement refer Min Nos (P&M) 202-25.</p> <p>Internal Controls: Min Nos (Audit) 108-25, 109-25,110 -25, 111-25, 112-25, 272-25</p> <p>We maintain a fixed asset register of GTC owned assets.</p>

3	We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this smaller authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	YES	General Power of Competence: Min No (FC) 16-23 Compliance with Laws, Regulations & Proper Practice: GTC has membership with multiple organisations who advise of changes in law, regulations & proper practice eg SALC, SLCC, NALC, Citation, Worknest
4	We provided a proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	YES	Relevant notices displayed outside the Town Council offices as per the Accounts & Audit Regulations. The notices are also displayed on our website. In addition, ad hoc queries during the year are addressed fully.
5	We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	YES	Risk Assessments: Min Nos (Audit) 515-25, 516-25, 517-25, 518-25 Insurance: Min No (Audit) 575-24 and
6	We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	YES	Internal Audit: Min Nos (Audit) 578-24, 274-25, 514-25. External Audit: Min Nos (FC) 250-25.
7	We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	YES	Internal Audit: Min Nos (Audit) 578-24, 274-25, & 514-25 External Audit: Min Nos (FC) 250-25
8	We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this smaller authority and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	YES	Annual provision made in reserves for election expenses; ear-marked reserves are used to provide for other potential commitments. There is no litigation in progress and no known potential litigation. There is nothing the Council is aware of that could have a financial impact that is not already included in the accounts.
9	(For local council only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee, we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	N/A	This Council manages no trust funds.
10	We have taken the necessary steps to meet the requirements of Assertion 10 – Digital and Data Compliance	YES	Minute (Audit) 517-25 GTC has taken steps for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of authority-domain email accounts; • completion of WCAG accessibility compliance checks;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scheduled re-assessment of accessibility; • review and re-adoption of GDPR policies; and • adoption of an updated IT Policy <p><u>IT Governance</u> - The Council has produced an updated IT, Cyber Security & Acceptable Use Policy, aligned with the SAPPP Practitioners' Guide template and reflecting modern working arrangements including Microsoft 365, SharePoint, remote working, and external IT support.</p> <p><u>Email Management</u> - every officer and councillor has a @godalming-tc.gov.uk email.</p> <p><u>Website Accessibility Compliance</u> - Godalming Town Council has reviewed and adopted appropriate GDPR governance arrangements, policies and procedures: Min No (P&M) 459-25, & (FC) 531-25.</p> <p><u>Publication and Transparency Requirements</u> – The Council continues to meet its publication duties under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Freedom of Information Act 2000; • the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities; and • Website Accessibility regulations
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Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26 for

Godalming Town Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2026 £	
1. Balances brought forward	1,282,810	1,805,845	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	1,147,744	1,236,391	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	1,235,284	499,433	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	703,206	855,617	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	77,703	77,703	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	1,079,084	1,340,479	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	1,805,845	1,267,870	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	1,783,175	1,264,820	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	3,031,153	3,248,960	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	1,314,761	1,279,153	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	
11 Do the figures in the accounting statements above exclude any trust transactions?	✓		For guidance refer to the Practitioners' Guide sections 2.31 to 2.33.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2026 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval.

 SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

15/04/2026.

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

04/06/2026

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Godalming Town Council**
 County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all Blue highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- **New from 2025/26 onwards:** variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	1,282,810	1,805,845					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	1,147,744	1,236,391	88,647	7.72%	NO		£1,236,391 for the financial year 2025/26, which represents a band D increase of £5.80 per
3 Total Other Receipts	1,235,284	499,433	-735,851	59.57%	YES		The Overall variance of £735,851 reflects a range of variances between 2024/25 and 2025/26 and detailed spreadsheet is attached showing and explaining these BOX 3 variances. The seven most significant variances totalling £735,212 are as follows: £286,934 less Community Infrastructure receipts in 2025/26 than in 2024/25 Less £168,182 in UK Shared Prosperity Funding for youth work projects than in 2024/25 (end of 3-year funded intervention project) Less £13,525 in donations received for Broadwater Youth Centre than in 2024/25 (end of construction of Well-being garden and pavillion) Less £194,486 in UK Government funding from the Community Ownership Fund (one-off renovation project of public conveniences completed in 2024/25) Less £23,643 in cemetery interment fees (23 fewer interments in 2025/26 than in 2025/26) Less £35,045 in purchase of Exclusive Rights of Burial (14 fewer Exclusive Rights of Burial purchased in 2025/26 than in 2024/25) Less £13,397 in grave digger charges due to fewer interments
4 Staff Costs	703,206	855,617	152,411	21.67%	YES		In addition to nationally agreed pay awards and incremental pay awards within pay columns, April 2025 also saw an increase of 8.89% in employment costs due to changes in the Employer Rate of National Insurance Contributions (ERNIC). 2025/26 also saw the Council's staffing establishment increase by three new positions (Youth Service Manager, Maintenance Assistant and Deputy Chief Officer).
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	77,703	77,703	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	1,079,084	1,340,479	261,395	24.22%	YES		In 2025-26 additional expenditure of £113,597.00 of Community Infrastructure Levy payments were made in comparison to 2024-25 and also April 2025 saw the start of a significant project of renovation and structural repair to the Pepperpot (Old Town Hall) with £369,576 of expenditure. Whilst some areas of expenditure increased, there were also projects that completed in 2024/25 meaning there was not repeat expenditure in 2025/26, these projects included the Crown Court Public Toilets refurbishment (£241,943) Broadwater Youth Centre Extension (£73,521) and installation of two bus shelters (£27,666) 2024/2025 also saw other areas of one-off expenditure not repeated in 2025/26, including provision of an electric van, ride on mower and supporting trailer for the Grounds Maintenance team (£45860) and the fit out of a new community centre in 2024/25 (£15,832) which opened in March 2025. However, together with increased costs for utilities, waste management and contractor charges, the overall expenditure in 2025/26 was greater than in 2024/25
7 Balances Carried Forward	1,805,845	1,267,870					VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	1,783,175	1,264,820					VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	3,031,153	3,248,960	217,807	7.19%	YES		Increase of £217,807 relates to increased asset value of Crown Court Public Toilets following full refurbishments of facilities
10 Total Borrowings	1,314,761	1,279,153	-35,608	2.71%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)

Box NO	2024/25	2025/26	Variance £	Variance %	Code	Centre	Code Description	Centre Description	Explanation of significant variances (greater than 15% and also greater than £200)
3	194486	0	-194486	-100.00%	1101	209	Government Grants	Crown Court Conveniences (build)	Government Grants from the Community Ownership Fund for the refurbishment of public conveniences at Crown Court - one-off project entirely completed in 2024/25
3	337864	50930	-286934		1102	101	Community Infrastructure Levy	Head Office	CIL is based on levels of development activity, which was lower in 2025/26 the previous year
3	0	4628	4628	4628%	1201	101	Grants - SCC	Head Office	Grant received for one off re-wilding project to be carried out over next 12 months
3	14719	14310	-409		1201	201	Grants - SCC	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	
3	168382	200	-168182	-99.88%	1202	201	Grants - WBC	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	In 2024/25 UK Shared Prosperity Fund Grant for Youth Work, NIL grant 2025/26
3	4461	0	-4461	-100.00%	1202	208	Grants - WBC	Public Conveniences	In 2024/25 a one-off grant of £4,460.63 was received from Waverley Borough Council using S106 funding to support the installation of a new bus shelter AND Nil in 2025-26
3	120	0	-120	-100.00%	1202	301	Grants - WBC	Cemeteries	In 2024/25 a one-off grant of £120 was received from Waverley Borough Council using S106 funding to support the installation of a new bus shelter AND Nil in 2025-26
3	1000	0	-1000	-100.00%	1204	201	Grants - Other	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	2024/25 one-off grant received towards the employment of an apprentice youth worker NIL in 2025/26
3	0	5316	5316		1301	109	Premises Hire Charges	Ockford Hub	2025/26 first year of operation of the Hub
3	8782	12267	3485	39.68%	1301	201	Premises Hire Charges	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	Building work in 2024/25 complete allowing increased external hirer availability in 2025/26
3	9343	6639	-2704		1301	202	Premises Hire Charges	Pepperpot	Pepperpot Upper Rooms not available for use during 2025/26 due to building refurbishment works
3	53385	47446	-5939	-11.12%	1301	205	Premises Hire Charges	WNC	Loss of significant day time hirer in Oct 2025
3	44	11	-33	-75.00%	1301	206	Premises Hire Charges	Bandstand	Equates to 3 fewer hirings for use of the Bandstand in 2025/26 than in 2024/25
3	12780	10260	-2520	-19.72%	1302	203	Rents	The Square	change retail market , lower rent rcvd from previous year
3	2764	2738	-26	-0.94%	1302	204	Rents	Allotments	
3	7815	8804	989	12.66%	1302	207	Rents	Godalming Musuem	
3	30680	30252	-428	-1.40%	1302	301	Rents	Cemeteries	
3	0	1	1		1303	101	Other customer/client receipts	Head Office	
3	1825	6982	5157	282.58%	1303	104	Other customer/client receipts	Street Scene	Increase sponsorship received for Floral Godalming.
3	22977	30768	7791	33.91%	1303	106	Other customer/client receipts	Festivals & Markets	Increased income 2025/26 due to timing of Spring Festival
3	2020	1998	-22	-1.09%	1303	203	Other customer/client receipts	The Square	
3	170	431	261	153.53%	1303	205	Other customer/client receipts	WNC	Increased use of ancillary equipment
3	3320	2024	-1296	-39.04%	1303	207	Other customer/client receipts	Godalming Musuem	Reflects lower insurance premium recharge
3	30341	16943	-13398	-44.16%	1303	301	Other customer/client receipts	Cemeteries	Grave Digger recharge, lower 2025/26 than 2024/25 due to fewer interments. Cross ref 1700/301 below
3	15	0	-15	-100.00%	1304	102	Donations	Civic Expenses	There was NIL donation to the Civic Expenses in 2025/26
3	2017	0	-2017	-100.00%	1304	104	Donations	Town Promotion	There was NIL donation to theTown Promotion in 2025/26
3	2870	3454	584	20.35%	1304	106	Donations	Festivals & Markets	Increased donations in support of town events
3	14671	1146	-13525	-92.19%	1304	201	Donations	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	2024/25 project donations for Wellbeing Garden. Project completed
									Each Mayor hold office for one year (and the mayoral year spans two financial years) two codes are alternated for Mayors' fundraising activities and year on year comparisons are meaningless because a) activity is small scale and b) different Mayors approach the issue of fundraising differently.
3	0	1435	1435		1304	414	Donations	Mayors Charity 1	
3	2012	38	-1974	-98.11%	1304	415	Donations	Mayors Charity 2	Ditto
3	5400	4460	-940	-17.41%	1304	416	Donations	Community Store	In 2025/26 fewer donations to the Community Store are passing through the Town Council's accounts because the store now has its own bank account and donors are encouraged to donate direct.
3	2490	0	-2490	-100%	1305	101	Sale of Assets	Head Office	There was NIL sale of assets in 2025/26
3	61644	57832	-3812	-6.18%	1401	101	Interest Received	Head Office	
3	78548	55530	-23018	-29.30%	1700	301	Interment	Cemeteries	23 fewer interments in 2025/26 than in 2024/25
3	10	0	-10	-100.00%	1701	203	Monument	The Square	Miscoding for 1701/301
3	8986	7820	-1166		1701	301	Monument	Cemeteries	Equates to approx 6 fewer permr requests for installation of Headstones in 2025/26 than in 2024/25
3	147915	112870	-35045	-23.69%	1702	301	Purchase of Grave Space	Cemeteries	14 fewer Exclusive Rights of Burial purchased in 2025/26 than in 2024/25
3	1428	1900	472	33.05%	1703	301	Other Cemetery Fees	Cemeteries	Increase use of Chapel, tree planting and deed transfer in 2025/26 compared with 2024/25
3 (+) Total of receipts	1235284	499433	-735851	-59.57%			any grants received. rates/levies received (line 2). Include the cashbook less the precept or Total income or receipts as recorded in		

Box NO	2024/25	2025/26	Variance £	Variance %	Code	Centre	Code Description	Centre Description	Explanation of significant variances (greater than 15% and also greater than £200)	
4	232447	263942	31495	13.55	4001	101	Salaries	Head Office	Regrade salary scales for Town Clerk/RFO and Finance Assistant, deletion of separate RFO role, addition of Deputy Chief Officer position.	
4	90	0	-90	-100	4001	106	Salaries	Festivals & Markets		
4	180522	225858	45336	25.11	4001	201	Salaries	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	Regrade salary scale for Administrative Officer and addition of Youth Centre Manager position	
4	19	0	-19	-100	4001	205	Salaries			
4	56236	62598	6362	11.31	4001	207	Salaries			
4	96962	0	-96962	-100	4001	208	Salaries	Land & Property Other/Public Conveniences	Cost centre no longer used for employment costs (moved to 301)	
4	0	124838	124838		4001	301	Salaries	Cemeteries		Employment costs of grounds and maintenance staff moved from cost centre 208
4	24175	34985	10810	44.72	4002	101	Employer's NIC	Head Office	Increase of Employers National Insurance Contributions from 13.8% to 15% and reduction of paymet threshold from £9,100 to £5,000 per annum	
4	703	0	-703	-100	4002	102	Employer's NIC	Civic		Cost centre no longer used for employment costs
4	14188	26658	12470	87.89	4002	201	Employer's NIC	Broadwater Park - Youth Services	Increase of Employers National Insurance Contributions from 13.8% to 15% and reduction of paymet threshold from £9,100 to £5,000 per annum, which brought somepreviously excluded part-time staff into scope	
4	4335	-5521	-9856	-227.36	4002	207	Employer's NIC			Museum
4	9745	0	-9745	-100	4002	208	Employer's NIC	Land & Property Other/Public Conveniences	Cost centre no longer used for employment costs (moved to 301)	
4	0	15898	15898		4002	301	Employer's NIC	Cemeteries		Employment costs of grounds and maintenance staff moved from cost centre 208
4	39863	46547	6684	16.77	4003	101	Employer's Superannuation	Head Office	Regrade salary scales for Town Clerk/RFO and Finance Assistant, deletion of separate RFO role, addition of Deputy Chief Officer position.	
4	21619	31590	9971	46.12	4003	201	Employer's Superannuation	Broadwater Park - Youth Services		Regrade salary scales for Town Clerk/RFO and Finance Assistant, deletion of separate RFO role, addition of Deputy Chief Officer position. Previously opt-out staff joining pension scheme
4	6370	6536	166	2.61	4003	207	Employer's Superannuation	Museum		
4	15932	0	-15932	-100	4003	208	Employer's Superannuation	Land & Property Other/Public Conveniences	Cost centre no longer used for employment costs (moved to 301)	
4	0	21689	21689		4003	301	Employer's Superannuation	Cemeteries		Employment costs of grounds and maintenance staff moved from cost centre 208
4 (-) Staff cos	703206	855617	152411	21.67	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.					

Box NO	2024/25	2025/26	Variance £	Variance %	Code	Centre	Code Description	Centre Description	Explanation of significant variances (greater than 15% and also greater than £200)
6	4992	3114	-1878	-37.62	4011	101	Staff Training	Head Office	Only one bespoke Rialtas Omega training course in 2025/26 as opposed to two conducted in 2024/25
6	1619	1349	-270	-16.68	4012	101	Recruitment Advertising	Head Office	
6	1290	490	-800	-62.02	4013	101	Other Staff Expenses	Head Office	Change of recruitment website
6	0	335	335		4101	101	Repair/Alteration of Buildings	Head Office	Employers Wellbeing Support recoded in 2025/26 to 4342/101
6	1670	529	-1141	-68.32	4102	101	Property Maintenance	Head Office	Update to smart lighting switches in 2025/26
6	2533	2346	-187	-7.38	4103	101	Maintenance Contracts	Head Office	Improvements to fire doors, WC repairs and lighting in 2024/25 which didn't recur in 2025/26
6	7209	3457	-3752	-52.05	4111	101	Energy Costs	Head Office	Improvements in heating control system reduced energy consumption
6	1232	2698	1466	118.99	4121	101	Rents	Head Office	Increase in parking permit provision
6	6968	8625	1657	23.78	4131	101	Rates	Head Office	Revaluation of Business Rate
6	668	382	-286	-42.81	4141	101	Water Services	Head Office	2024/25 water invoice covered a 2 year period.
6	16	17	1	6.25	4151	101	Fixtures & Fittings	Head Office	
6	4922	3838	-1084	-22.02	4161	101	Cleaning	Head Office	Window Cleaning brought in-house
6	409	1191	782	191.2	4162	101	Waste Removal	Head Office	Changes to sustainable waste regulations increased cost of waste management
6	329	559	230	69.91	4163	101	Domestic Supplies	Head Office	Increase in cost of domestic supplies and consumables and recoding in 2025/26 from 4304/101
6	86	9	-77	-89.53	4164	101	Workshop Consumables	Head Office	
6	0	6	6		4201	101	Public Transport	Head Office	
6	1343	1201	-142	-10.57	4202	101	Car Allowances	Head Office	
6	0	176	176		4203	101	Other Transport Costs	Head Office	
6	0	59	59		4204	101	Vehicle Fuel Costs	Head Office	
6	1713	2024	311	18.16	4301	101	Equipment	Head Office	2025/26 Purchase of Fire-proof document cabinet for safe storage of historic paper burial records
6	35	0	-35	-100	4303	101	Materials	Head Office	
6	487	48	-439	-90.14	4304	101	Catering & Hospitality	Head Office	recoding of in 2025/26 to nominal 4163/101
6	57	0	-57	-100	4305	101	Clothes, Uniform & Laundry	Head Office	
6	3408	1080	-2328	-68.31	4306	101	Printing	Head Office	2024/25 Ink Cartridges incorrectly coded to 4306/101, correctly coded in 2025/26 to 4307/101,- 2024/25, One-off LGR - all Change Flyer leaflets at £875, and road closure calanders £470, which were coded to 4306/106
6	4297	4687	390	9.08	4307	101	Stationery	Head Office	
6	15	0	-15	-100	4308	101	General Office Expense	Head Office	
6	0	956	956		4311	101	Professional Fees - Legal	Head Office	2025/26 costs associated with renewal of leases for GMT
6	7500	0	-7500	-100	4312	101	Professional Fees - Surveyors	Head Office	2024/25 saw seven yearly cost of building insurance re-valuations and initial valuation of new community building
6	53911	31583	-22328	-41.42	4313	101	Professional Fees - Other	Head Office	Reduction in Consultant/Agency support costs following recruitment of Finance Manager
6	3025	3291	266	8.79	4314	101	Audit Fees	Head Office	
6	17465	19180	1715	9.82	4315	101	Insurance	Head Office	Addition of new community building plus inflationary increases increased insurance premium
6	462	225	-237	-51.3	4321	101	Bank Charges	Head Office	move from cheque and cash to online, coupled with lower transaction feed reduced 2025/26 bank charges
6	619	647	28	4.52	4322	101	Postage	Head Office	
6	2544	3167	623	24.49	4323	101	Telephones & Broadband	Head Office	2025/26 £210 miscoded which should have been at 4325/101, plus mobile phone replacement
6	0	40	40		4324	101	Do Not Use (Prev	Head Office	
6	14754	25792	11038	74.81	4325	101	Computing	Head Office	2025/26 saw project costs for upgrades to Windows 11 / Microsoft 365 and cloud based system, plus cyber essentials
6	2012	1201	-811	-40.31	4326	101	Website	Head Office	2024/25 saw one-off purchase of Wordfence Response Licence
6	0	195	195		4327	101	Publicity Advertising	Head Office	
6	56659	61654	4995	8.82	4341	101	Grants	Head Office	
6	6772	6171	-601	-8.87	4342	101	Subscriptions	Head Office	
6	60113	1287	-58826	-97.86	4900	101	Miscellaneous Expenses	Head Office	£25,000 one-off cost in 2024/25 associated with dissolution of the Joint Burial committee, £33,000 of CIL awards coded against the nominal.
6	0	306053	306053		4901	101	Misc Exps funded frm Reserves	Head Office	New nominal code for 2025/26 used to manage payment of neighbourhood CIL awards
6	5	0	-5	-100	7100	101	Youth Programmes	Head Office	
6	30	0	-30	-100	4011	102	Staff Training	Civic Expenses	
6	0	400	400		4102	102	Property Maintenance	Civic Expenses	Incorrect coding of grounds work in 2025/26 which should be set against 4171/301
6	0	94	94		4203	102	Other Transport Costs	Civic Expenses	
6	306	412	106	34.64	4304	102	Catering & Hospitality	Civic Expenses	Claimed Mayoral expenses in 2025/26
6	450	0	-450	-100	4305	102	Clothes, Uniform & Laundry	Civic Expenses	Mayoral chains regilded in 2024/25 cost not repeated 2025/26

6	254	564	310	122.05	4306	102 Printing	Civic Expenses	Cost of Remembrance Day order of service printing, not incurred in previous years
6	-4631	938	5569		4313	102 Professional Fees - Other	Civic Expenses	2024/25 credit for cost of June 2022/Oct 21 by-election
6	1761	0	-1761	-100	4321	102 Bank Charges	Civic Expenses	2024/25 miscoding of grant which should have ben against 4341/101
6	2461	2692	231	9.39	4325	102 Computing	Civic Expenses	
6	2168	1463	-705	-32.52	4327	102 Publicity Advertising	Civic Expenses	reusable Annual Town Meeting promotional banner purchased in 2024/25 not repeated in 2025/26
6	179	0	-179	-100	4332	102 Mayor's Expenses	Civic Expenses	
6	265	0	-265	-100	4333	102 Members' Expenses	Civic Expenses	2024/25 Cost of venue for Mayors Civic Service not incurred in 2025/26
6	60	40	-20	-33.33	4334	102 Members' Training	Civic Expenses	
6	647	16691	16044	2479.75	4900	102 Miscellaneous Expenses	Civic Expenses	2025/26 saw £14,134 for Nov 25 by-election which should have been coded to 4313/102, plus cost of 40th anniversary of twinning comemmorations
6	0	6091	6091		4102	104 Property Maintenance	Town Promotion	Repair of St Johns Street Bus shelter following road traffic accident - costs recovered
6	108	0	-108	-100	4151	104 Fixtures & Fittings	Town Promotion	2024/25 saw refurbishment of public benches - cost of vanish
6	321	0	-321	-100	4162	104 Waste Removal	Town Promotion	2024/25 Cost of town show bins incorrectly coded, should have been 4162/106
6	0	38	38		4164	104 Workshop Consumables	Town Promotion	
6	3608	0	-3608	-100	4171	104 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Town Promotion	2024/25 costs associated with expansion of Floral Godalming display areas, new planters etc
6	0	88	88		4190	104 Street Furniture	Town Promotion	
6	728	0	-728	-100	4203	104 Other Transport Costs	Town Promotion	Transport cost incurred in 2024/25 for town events.
6	894	0	-894	-100	4301	104 Equipment	Town Promotion	2024/25 costs associated with VE and VJ 80th anniversay comemorations, not repeated 2025/26
6	295	0	-295	-100	4304	104 Catering & Hospitality	Town Promotion	2024/25 Hospitality costs for South & South East in Bloom judging, moved to 4900/106 for 2025/26
6	615	0	-615	-100	4306	104 Printing	Town Promotion	
6	1436	0	-1436	-100	4313	104 Professional Fees - Other	Town Promotion	2024/25 Floral Godalming signage not repeated 2025/26
6	1629	0	-1629	-100	4327	104 Publicity Advertising	Town Promotion	2024/25 VE & VJ 80th Commemoration road side banners
6	110	0	-110	-100	4900	104 Miscellaneous Expenses	Town Promotion	
6	32	0	-32	-100	7204	104 UKSPF - Decorations &	Town Promotion	
6	75	0	-75	-100	4161	105 Cleaning	Staycation	
6	642	1500	858	133.64	4162	105 Waste Removal	Staycation	Increased Staycation events in 2025/26 created a greater waste management requirement
6	2198	2045	-153	-6.96	4313	105 Professional Fees - Other	Staycation	
6	262	375	113	43.13	4327	105 Publicity Advertising	Staycation	
6	130	0	-130	-100	4343	105 Licensing/PRS	Staycation	
6	833	0	-833	-100	4900	105 Miscellaneous Expenses	Staycation	An Escape Room Trail was provided in 2024/25 not funded 2025/26
6	0	9	9		4013	106 Other Staff Expenses	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	588	845	257	43.71	4162	106 Waste Removal	Festivale, Markets & Events	Changes to sustainable waste regulations increased cost of waste management
6	0	116	116		4163	106 Domestic Supplies	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	0	19	19		4164	106 Workshop Consumables	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	0	25	25		4171	106 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	116	11	-105	-90.52	4203	106 Other Transport Costs	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	2414	3026	612	25.35	4301	106 Equipment	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	0	60	60		4303	106 Materials	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	573	228	-345	-60.21	4304	106 Catering & Hospitality	Festivale, Markets & Events	2025/26 included costs for an additional Christmas event
6	0	555	555		4306	106 Printing	Festivale, Markets & Events	2025/26 Road Close calander printing coded to 4306/106, previously coded to 4306/101
6	20	0	-20	-100	4307	106 Stationery	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	3845	3710	-135	-3.51	4313	106 Professional Fees - Other	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	7	0	-7	-100	4321	106 Bank Charges	Festivale, Markets & Events	
6	3415	5372	1957	57.31	4327	106 Publicity Advertising	Festivale, Markets & Events	2025/26 required purchase of replacement of 4 x Road Closure signs, Bollard covers and hire of Lighting Tower to support Town event
6	1068	1589	521	48.78	4343	106 Licensing/PRS	Festivale, Markets & Events	Increase number of events resulting in increase Event licences, Road Closure fees and PRS/PPL fees
6	4525	4021	-504	-11.14	4900	106 Miscellaneous Expenses	Festivale, Markets & Events	2024/25 included the one-off cost of Christmas In Godalming branding & logo (£475)
6	1158	0	-1158	-100	4303	108 Materials	Christmas Lights	2024/25 costs for christmas lights infrastructure repairs and upgrade
6	45471	46876	1405	3.09	4313	108 Professional Fees - Other	Christmas Lights	Infrastructure repairs and upgrades coded to 4303/108 in 2024/25 coded to 4313/108 in 2025/26
6	320	0	-320	-100	4101	109 Repair/Alteration of Buildings	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	One off cost in 2024/25 for adaption of WC to meet DDA compliance
6	3331	710	-2621	-78.69	4102	109 Property Maintenance	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	Costs in 2024/25 associated with compliance work to open as community centre not repeated in 2025/26
6	340	584	244	71.76	4103	109 Maintenance Contracts	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	2025/26 first year of activity at the HUB, increase in 4103/109 reflect activity level requirements
6	0	2009	2009		4111	109 Energy Costs	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	2025/26 first year of operation at Hub and transfer of utilities to GTC
6	3279	-2492	-5771	-176	4131	109 Rates	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	Re-evaluation of business rates from commercial to community hall use resulted in rebate received in 2025/26
6	20	22	2	10	4151	109 Fixtures & Fittings	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	11	0	-11	-100	4161	109 Cleaning	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	

6	155	315	160	103.23	4162	109 Waste Removal	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	17	63	46	270.59	4163	109 Domestic Supplies	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	0	35	35		4164	109 Workshop Consumables	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	3969	1436	-2533	-63.82	4301	109 Equipment	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	4907	0	-4907	-100	4302	109 Furniture	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	One-off fit out of furniture for opening of new community centre, not repeated 2025/26
6	0	499	499		4313	109 Professional Fees - Other	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	On transfer of ownership a professional fire risk assessment was undertaken
6	0	837	837		4323	109 Telephones & Broadband	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	
6	0	304	304		4343	109 Licensing/PRS	Ockford & Aaron Hill Hub	2025/26 first year of operation at Hub
6	0	1535	1535		4306	110 Printing	Local Govt Reorganisation	
6	0	17725	17725		4311	110 Professional Fees - Legal	Local Govt Reorganisation	
6	0	44	44		4312	110 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Local Govt Reorganisation	New cost centre for 2025/26 to capture costs associated with Local Government Reorganisation in Surrey,
6	0	3110	3110		4313	110 Professional Fees - Other	Local Govt Reorganisation	including legal fee for Community Asset Transfers from WBC to GTC.
6	0	1658	1658		4322	110 Postage	Local Govt Reorganisation	
6	0	1925	1925		4900	110 Miscellaneous Expenses	Local Govt Reorganisation	
6	0	858	858		4311	111 Professional Fees - Legal	Available for use	Input error placed legal fees for transfer of a Community Asset Transfer in cost centre 111 instead of cost centre 110
6	2697	3391	694	25.73	4011	201 Staff Training	Broadwater Youth Centre	Management training courses in support of TM & HR
6	1610	0	-1610	-100	4012	201 Recruitment Advertising	Broadwater Youth Centre	No recruitment requirements in 2025/26
6	5167	3463	-1704	-32.98	4102	201 Property Maintenance	Broadwater Youth Centre	New car park and centre signage installed in 2024/25 cost not repeated in 2025/26
6	3154	2391	-763	-24.19	4103	201 Maintenance Contracts	Broadwater Youth Centre	2024/25 saw costs associated with upgrade to intruder alarm system not repeated in 2025/26, 2024/25 PAT testing was conducted by contractor, 2025/26 saw PAT testing brought in-house.
6	8882	4487	-4395	-49.48	4111	201 Energy Costs	Broadwater Youth Centre	2025/26 saw full year benefit of the solar PV system and improved heating control management
6	0	-335	-335		4121	201 Rents	Broadwater Youth Centre	Fee to National Trust for the Canoe Club storage huts at the Wharf
6	1556	2784	1228	78.92	4131	201 Rates	Broadwater Youth Centre	Revaluation of Business Rate
6	541	432	-109	-20.15	4141	201 Water Services	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	0	245	245		4151	201 Fixtures & Fittings	Broadwater Youth Centre	Fire door closures and office blinds installed in 2025/26
6	9916	13306	3390	34.19	4161	201 Cleaning	Broadwater Youth Centre	Increase due to passed on employment costs from cleaning contractor and increase in both use and cost of consumable products
6	738	1428	690	93.5	4162	201 Waste Removal	Broadwater Youth Centre	Changes to sustainable waste regulations increased cost of waste management plus additional cost for hire of skip in 2025/26
6	52	158	106	203.85	4163	201 Domestic Supplies	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	332	496	164	49.4	4171	201 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	3254	0	-3254	-100	4190	201 Street Furniture	Broadwater Youth Centre	New outside furniture procured in 2024/25 for the well-being garden area. Cost not repeated 2025/26
6	62	0	-62	-100	4201	201 Public Transport	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	0	18	18		4202	201 Car Allowances	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	241	360	119	49.38	4204	201 Vehicle Fuel Costs	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	4078	1668	-2410	-59.1	4205	201 Vehicle Costs (exc Fuel)	Broadwater Youth Centre	Repair of side door, servicing and MOT failure repairs to SG16ZTN incurred in 2024/25 not repeated in 2025/26
6	6549	2027	-4522	-69.05	4301	201 Equipment	Broadwater Youth Centre	Purchase of SE12 CFD electric van in 2024/25 not repeated in 2025/26
6	46	0	-46	-100	4302	201 Furniture	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	5	0	-5	-100	4304	201 Catering & Hospitality	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	0	506	506		4305	201 Clothes, Uniform & Laundry	Broadwater Youth Centre	GTC Youth Service branded staff fleeces (x11)
6	1005	0	-1005	-100	4306	201 Printing	Broadwater Youth Centre	Printing & Stationery costs moved to cost centre 101 in 2025/26 centrally managed procurement
6	519	0	-519	-100	4307	201 Stationery	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	1500	0	-1500	-100	4312	201 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Broadwater Youth Centre	Initial survey for centre extension planning application not repeated in 2025/26
6	2472	849	-1623	-65.66	4313	201 Professional Fees - Other	Broadwater Youth Centre	2024/25 DBS and designated safeguarding lead supervision support and training, not repeated in 2025/26.
6	1559	2252	693	44.45	4323	201 Telephones & Broadband	Broadwater Youth Centre	2025/26 BT outstanding balance correction from previous years (£466.75)
6	1992	2463	471	23.64	4325	201 Computing	Broadwater Youth Centre	2025/26 Increase in number of users and licences supported by IT contract
6	100	0	-100	-100	4327	201 Publicity Advertising	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	323	0	-323	-100	4343	201 Licensing/PRS	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	621	375	-246	-39.61	4900	201 Miscellaneous Expenses	Broadwater Youth Centre	2025/26 PRS/PPL licence fees incorrectly coded to 4900/201 instead of 4343/201
6	678	9889	9211	1358.55	7100	201 Youth Programmes	Broadwater Youth Centre	See below ref consolidation of nominal codes 7101-7205 for Youth Service activities to single code 7100
6	5	0	-5	-100	7101	201 BWP - Music	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	567	0	-567	-100	7102	201 BWP - Sports & Activities	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	90	0	-90	-100	7103	201 BWP - Gaming	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	27	0	-27	-100	7104	201 BWP - Decorations &	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	485	0	-485	-100	7105	201 BWP - Food & Cooking	Broadwater Youth Centre	These codes were discontinued for use in 2025/26 with costs previously allocated being set against 7100/701

6	356	0	-356	-100	7200	201 UKSPF - Creativity & Arts	Broadwater Youth Centre	7100/201
6	6013	0	-6013	-100	7202	201 UKSPF - Sports & Activities	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	166	0	-166	-100	7203	201 UKSPF - Gaming	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	1152	0	-1152	-100	7205	201 UKSPF - Food & Cooking	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	579	5947	5368	927.12	7300	201 HAF	Broadwater Youth Centre	See below ref consolidation of nominal codes 7302-7304 for Youth Service activities to single code 7300
6	2704	0	-2704	-100	7302	201 HAF - Sports & Activities	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	349	0	-349	-100	7303	201 HAF - Gaming	Broadwater Youth Centre	These codes were discontinued for use in 2025/26 with costs previously allocated being set against 7300/201
6	138	0	-138	-100	7304	201 HAF - Decorations & Lighting	Broadwater Youth Centre	
6	1055	1453	398	37.73	7305	201 HAF - Food & Cooking	Broadwater Youth Centre	2025/26 saw an increase in the number of days of HAF supported activities
6	4342	2546	-1796	-41.36	4102	202 Property Maintenance	Pepperpot	
6	871	269	-602	-69.12	4103	202 Maintenance Contracts	Pepperpot	Pepperpot not in use for majority of 2025/26 due to external renovation and structural repair works resulting in lower in-year operating costs.
6	3364	2461	-903	-26.84	4111	202 Energy Costs	Pepperpot	
6	175	419	244	139.43	4131	202 Rates	Pepperpot	Revaluation of Business Rate
6	2510	2835	325	12.95	4161	202 Cleaning	Pepperpot	
6	113	0	-113	-100	4301	202 Equipment	Pepperpot	
6	3750	0	-3750	-100	4312	202 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Pepperpot	Listed building and planning fees for pre-contract services (preps for 2025/26 redecoration)
6	594	1015	421	70.88	4323	202 Telephones & Broadband	Pepperpot	2025/26 BT outstanding balance correction from previous years (£466.75)
6	70	0	-70	-100	4343	202 Licensing/PRS	Pepperpot	
6	1998	1998	0	0	4315	203 Insurance	Pepperpot	
6	871	358	-513	-58.9	4102	204 Property Maintenance	Allotments	2024/25 additional maintenance costs at Cateshall & Meadow Allotments-fence and gate repairs
6	315	384	69	21.9	4141	204 Water Services	Allotments	
6	5007	2263	-2744	-54.8	4171	204 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Allotments	2024/25 significant aricultural surveys and associated safety work across all allotment sites
6	4735	5173	438	9.25	4102	205 Property Maintenance	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	Teired seating maintenance and servicing in 2025/26
6	4669	5247	578	12.38	4103	205 Maintenance Contracts	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	8184	9757	1573	19.22	4111	205 Energy Costs	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	Increase in energy supply costs and colder winter 2025/26
6	90	0	-90	-100	4121	205 Rents	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	1160	1945	785	67.67	4131	205 Rates	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	Revaluation of Business Rate
6	1681	1071	-610	-36.29	4141	205 Water Services	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	Reduction in water consumption in 2025/26 possibly due to upgrade of urinal flush management
6	17018	22711	5693	33.45	4161	205 Cleaning	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	Increase due to passed on employment costs from cleaning contractor and increase in both use and cost of consumable products
6	1961	1283	-678	-34.57	4162	205 Waste Removal	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	2024/25 saw the installation of Hygiene bins and airfreseners at a cost of £825 which was not repeated in 2025/26.
6	136	171	35	25.74	4163	205 Domestic Supplies	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	0	4	4		4164	205 Workshop Consumables	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	101	0	-101	-100	4301	205 Equipment	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	661	1254	593	89.71	4323	205 Telephones & Broadband	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	2025/26 BT outstanding balance correction from previous years (£743.60)
6	368	429	61	16.58	4343	205 Licensing/PRS	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	
6	23	372	349	1517.39	4900	205 Miscellaneous Expenses	Wilfrid Noyce Centre	2025/26 Cost of bins required for town show coded to WNC 4900/205) instead of Festivals, Markets and Events (4162/106)
6	300	0	-300	-100	4102	206 Property Maintenance	Bandstand	2024/25 required repairs to edging brinks around the bandstand, not required in 2025/26
6	200	200	0	0	4111	206 Energy Costs	Bandstand	
6	0	20	20		4163	206 Domestic Supplies	Bandstand	
6	44	0	-44	-100	4205	206 Vehicle Costs (exc Fuel)	Bandstand	
6	914	70	-844	-92.34	4343	206 Licensing/PRS	Bandstand	PRS/PPL for Bandstand reduced in 2025/26 due to Staycation Live event not being held.
6	97	0	-97	-100	4013	207 Other Staff Expenses	Godalming Museum	
6	3656	3897	241	6.59	4102	207 Property Maintenance	Godalming Museum	
6	1130	2341	1211	107.17	4103	207 Maintenance Contracts	Godalming Museum	£1,150 of building repair cost in 2025/25 incorrectly coded to Maintenance contracts instead of Property Maintenance (4102/207)
6	1064	2564	1500	140.98	4121	207 Rents	Godalming Museum	Additional parking permit requirement in 2025/26
6	0	46	46		4164	207 Workshop Consumables	Godalming Museum	
6	0	33	33		4204	207 Vehicle Fuel Costs	Godalming Museum	
6	1300	0	-1300	-100	4311	207 Professional Fees - Legal	Godalming Museum	Costs incurred for 2024/25 renewal of GMT lease (EPC and Legal fees)
6	345	86	-259	-75.07	4312	207 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Godalming Museum	
6	0	60	60		4313	207 Professional Fees - Other	Godalming Museum	
6	1926	2087	161	8.36	4315	207 Insurance	Godalming Museum	
6	2962	3992	1030	34.77	4325	207 Computing	Godalming Museum	2025/26 inflationary increase in IT support plus replacement of NAS Drive (£399), and introduction of Cyber security arrangements (£496)
6	200	0	-200	-100	4011	208 Staff Training	Public Convenience	In 2024/25 Cost centre 108 included the public conveniences and other areas of land and property expenditure, which was reallocated to Cost centre 301 for 2025/26. Cost centre 108 is now stand-a-lone for
6	3139	964	-2175	-69.29	4102	208 Property Maintenance	Public Convenience	

6	2372	634	-1738	-73.27	4103	208 Maintenance Contracts	Public Convenience	the public convenience
6	1860	3118	1258	67.63	4111	208 Energy Costs	Public Convenience	Energy costs increase in 2025/26 is associated with the upgrading of the heating and ventilation systems required by building regulations part P for the refurbished Crown Court facilities which re-opened in Sept 2025
6	168	0	-168	-100	4121	208 Rents	Public Convenience	
6	1731	3124	1393	80.47	4141	208 Water Services	Public Convenience	2025/26 not only saw an increase provision of public toilet provision in Godalming, but also significant price increase from the water company
6	1434	0	-1434	-100	4151	208 Fixtures & Fittings	Public Convenience	2024/25 included £597 expenditure on Public toilets, not repeated in 2025/26 and £837 on other property areas, which from 2025/26 are associated with cost centre 301
6	23836	29190	5354	22.46	4161	208 Cleaning	Public Convenience	2025/26 increase due to combination of both contractors hourly rate and the number of contracted hour per week for the new Crown Court facilities
6	234	2036	1802	770.09	4162	208 Waste Removal	Public Convenience	2025/26 increase due to opening of new Crown Court facilities which include improved feminine hygiene product disposal arrangements and baby change facilities both requiring specialist waste removal contracts
6	1005	3036	2031	202.09	4163	208 Domestic Supplies	Public Convenience	2025/26 increase in public toilet provision at Crown Court uses a greater amount of consumable products, (toilet paper and soap) than previous facilities
6	2237	30	-2207	-98.66	4164	208 Workshop Consumables	Public Convenience	2024/25 related to expenditure, which is now are associated with cost centre 301, the £30 in 2025/26 was for the WC flushing system back up batteries
6	1225	0	-1225	-100	4171	208 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Public Convenience	2024/25 expenditure related to other land and property expenditure for the installation of 2 x bus shelter, costs in those areas are now set against cost centre 301
6	27660	0	-27660	-100	4190	208 Street Furniture	Public Convenience	
6	543	0	-543	-100	4204	208 Vehicle Fuel Costs	Public Convenience	
6	522	0	-522	-100	4205	208 Vehicle Costs (exc Fuel)	Public Convenience	2024/25 related to expenditure, which is now are associated with cost centre 301.
6	5908	114	-5794	-98.07	4301	208 Equipment	Public Convenience	2024/25 related to expenditure, which is now are associated with cost centre 301. predominately grounds maintenance equipments, the 2025/26 expenditure relates to provision of fire door closures and extinguishers for the Crown Court facilities plant room.
6	29	0	-29	-100	4304	208 Catering & Hospitality	Public Convenience	
6	3375	0	-3375	-100	4305	208 Clothes, Uniform & Laundry	Public Convenience	
6	5	0	-5	-100	4307	208 Stationery	Public Convenience	
6	0	714	714		4313	208 Professional Fees - Other	Public Convenience	2025/26 expenditure relates to fire risk assessments for both Crown Court and farncombe public conveniences
6	173	0	-173	-100	4315	208 Insurance	Public Convenience	
6	10	0	-10	-100	4323	208 Telephones & Broadband	Public Convenience	
6	445	0	-445	-100	4325	208 Computing	Public Convenience	
6	33	183	150	454.55	4900	208 Miscellaneous Expenses	Public Convenience	2024/25 related to expenditure, which is now are associated with cost centre 301.
6	217805	0	-217805	-100	4101	209 Repair/Alteration of	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	50	0	-50	-100	4102	209 Property Maintenance	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	115	0	-115	-100	4151	209 Fixtures & Fittings	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	198	0	-198	-100	4161	209 Cleaning	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	180	0	-180	-100	4162	209 Waste Removal	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	2068	0	-2068	-100	4301	209 Equipment	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	16268	0	-16268	-100	4312	209 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	3798	0	-3798	-100	4313	209 Professional Fees - Other	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	781	0	-781	-100	4315	209 Insurance	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	680	0	-680	-100	4327	209 Publicity Advertising	Public Conveniences Refurbishment	
6	75299	1778	-73521	-97.64	4101	210 Repair/Alteration of Buildings	BWP Extension	Broadwater Park Extension largely complete in 2024/25 therefore reduced expenditure in 2025/26
6	55	0	-55	-100	4103	210 Maintenance Contracts	BWP Extension	
6	1493	0	-1493	-100	4151	210 Fixtures & Fittings	BWP Extension	
6	70	0	-70	-100	4162	210 Waste Removal	BWP Extension	
6	90	0	-90	-100	4171	210 Grounds Maintenance Costs	BWP Extension	
6	666	0	-666	-100	4302	210 Furniture	BWP Extension	expenditure incurred in 2024/25 was for the project costs of the broadwater extension, not repeated in 2025/26
6	632	0	-632	-100	4303	210 Materials	BWP Extension	
6	2700	0	-2700	-100	4312	210 Professional Fees - Surveyors	BWP Extension	
6	301	0	-301	-100	4325	210 Computing	BWP Extension	
6	0	-6	-6		7100	210 Youth Programmes	BWP Extension	miscoded credit should have been set against 7100/201
6	0	243999	243999		4101	211 Repair/Alteration of	Pepperpot External Renovation	April 2025 saw the start of a significant project of renovation and structural repair to the Pepperpot (Old Town Hall)
6	607	92184	91577	15086.82	4102	211 Property Maintenance	Pepperpot External Renovation	April 2025 saw the start of a significant project of renovation and structural repair to the Pepperpot (Old Town Hall)
6	0	269	269		4162	211 Waste Removal	Pepperpot External Renovation	

6	550	34750	34200	6218.18	4312	211 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Pepperpot External Renovation	April 2025 saw the start of a significant project of renovation and structural repair to the Pepperpot (Old Town Hall)
6	0	267	267		4900	211 Miscellaneous Expenses	Pepperpot External Renovation	Notice board and wall brackets for Crown Court Facilities
6	2073	395	-1678	-80.95	4011	301 Staff Training	Cemeteries	Lantra and fire marshall training for staff conducted in 2024/25 with 3-year validity
6	1800	750	-1050	-58.33	4014	301 Sexton Duties	Cemeteries	Sexton duties expenditure incurred for Saturday interments difference between 2024/25 reflects number of interments conducted on a Saturday
6	25575	13200	-12375	-48.39	4015	301 Grave Digging	Cemeteries	2025/26 had 23 less interments than the previous year.
6	325	0	-325	-100	4101	301 Repair/Alteration of buildings	Cemeteries	2024/25, repair to cemetery lodge front garden wall, no cost incurred in 2025/26
6	2062	4886	2824	136.95	4102	301 Property Maintenance	Cemeteries	2025/26 one off significant costs included replacement of Cemetery lodge front door at £1,817, EV Charger at £575 repairs to Eashing cemetery driveway at £360 repairs to cemetery railings at £375,
6	1754	2974	1220	69.56	4103	301 Maintenance Contracts	Cemeteries	2025/26 increased expenditure; Fire Risk assessment (£599), Gas safety Certification (£160) Intruder Alarm (248 and EC Charger service (£113
6	5398	4551	-847	-15.69	4111	301 Energy Costs	Cemeteries	Improved heating control reduced energy costs for 2025/26
6	2310	2910	600	25.97	4131	301 Rates	Cemeteries	Revaluation of Business Rate
6	493	692	199	40.37	4141	301 Water Services	Cemeteries	
6	960	50	-910	-94.79	4151	301 Fixtures & Fittings	Cemeteries	2024/25 expenditure higher than 2025/26 due to provision of Hazardous substand cabinet (£630), new mortuary sink £139 and fridge (£190).
6	512	71	-441	-86.13	4161	301 Cleaning	Cemeteries	£249 miscoded in 2024/25 for domestic supplies, should have been against (4163/301) plus provision in 2024/25 of Sanitary disposal bin at £136 and extra Lodge house window clean at £85
6	3809	4883	1074	28.2	4162	301 Waste Removal	Cemeteries	2025/26 additional £450 ingren waste disposal, plus additional 9 mixed waste collections
6	246	642	396	160.98	4163	301 Domestic Supplies	Cemeteries	Domestic supplies correctly coded in 2025/26 against 4163/301 (see 4161/301 above) plus increased demand due to increase staff located at Eashing
6	1437	2514	1077	74.95	4164	301 Workshop Consumables	Cemeteries	Consumables previously coded against 4164/208 now coded against 4164/301 overall expenditure on workshop consumables £1130 less in 2025/26
6	35142	43720	8578	24.41	4171	301 Grounds Maintenance Costs	Cemeteries	2025/26 additional expenditure relates to expansion for Floral Godalming at a cost of £5172 for planters and Tree surveys at £3146
6	0	23508	23508		4203	301 Other Transport Costs	Cemeteries	New use of nominal code for 2025/26 record cost of vehicle lease and hire costs
6	228	808	580	254.39	4204	301 Vehicle Fuel Costs	Cemeteries	Increased costs for 2025/26 reflect increased cost of deisel fuel and greater useage of the grounds team tractor
6	420	6069	5649	1345	4205	301 Vehicle Costs (exc Fuel)	Cemeteries	2025/26 increase on nominal 4205 due to costs previously included in nominal 4301/301 being coded to this line, which now includes vehicle maintenance, servicing, inspection/testing and repair costs
6	63357	17497	-45860	-72.38	4301	301 Equipment	Cemeteries	2024/25 saw purchase of an electric van, a shipping container office and associated furniture and new ride on mower and trailer totalling £39,779 which was not repeated in 2025/26 and reallocation of vehicle costs to 4205/301
6	18	0	-18	-100	4303	301 Materials	Cemeteries	
6	0	49	49		4304	301 Catering & Hospitality	Cemeteries	
6	52	995	943	1813.46	4305	301 Clothes, Uniform & Laundry	Cemeteries	PPE previously coded to 4301/301 now coded to 4305/301 from 2025/26 which included £423 for PPE provision for new staff member, and replacement items for existing staff
6	186	0	-186	-100	4307	301 Stationery	Cemeteries	
6	0	1240	1240		4311	301 Professional Fees - Legal	Cemeteries	Legal fees associated with renewal of Nightingal Chapel and buildings lease
6	0	565	565		4312	301 Professional Fees - Surveyors	Cemeteries	Fees for required EPC and floorplan in suport of lease renewal for Nightingal Chapel buildings
6	0	1232	1232		4313	301 Professional Fees - Other	Cemeteries	Lodge houses EPC reports plus burial record digitisation support.
6	35	881	846	2417.14	4323	301 Telephones & Broadband	Cemeteries	
6	70	0	-70	-100	4324	301 Do Not Use (Prev	Cemeteries	
6	0	568	568		4325	301 Computing	Cemeteries	New costs associated with opening of new office and relocation of staff to at Eashing cemetery
6	794	0	-794	-100	4327	301 Publicity Advertising	Cemeteries	2024/25 Information and awareness publication and banners for cemetery services, not repeated 2025/26
6	247	90	-157	-63.56	4342	301 Subscriptions	Cemeteries	
6	182	2250	2068	1136.26	4900	301 Miscellaneous Expenses	Cemeteries	Repair of railings at Nightingale cemetery
6	0	10473	10473		4901	301 Misc Exps funded frm Reserves	Cemeteries	
6	0	22	22		7300	301 HAF	Cemeteries	coding error should be associated with 7300/201
6	1060	0	-1060	-100	4900	414 Miscellaneous Expenses	Mayors Charity 1	Funds raised by 2024/25 mayor for chosen charity
6	0	1007	1007		4900	415 Miscellaneous Expenses	Mayors Charity 2	Funds raised by 2025/26 mayor for chosen charity
6	5400	4460	-940	-17.41	4900	416 Miscellaneous Expenses	Community Store	Donations received to support Godalming Community Store
6 (-) All other payments	1079083	1340479	261396	24.22		Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).		

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS – RESIDENT SURVEY OUTCOMES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the outcomes of the resident survey on potential Community Asset Transfers and to seek direction from Members on next steps, particularly in relation to:

- The Borough Hall
- Holloway Hill Recreation Ground
- Other Waverley Borough Council-owned assets

2. BACKGROUND

As part of its engagement around Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), the Town Council undertook a resident survey to understand public views on the potential transfer of key community assets.

The survey received 185 responses and provides a qualitative and indicative quantitative evidence base to help inform Council decision-making .

3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

3.1 Borough Hall (Q1 & Q2)

- A **clear and overwhelming majority** support the Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall, including use of reserves for feasibility work.
- Residents consistently identify the Borough Hall as:
 - A **key heritage asset**
 - A **central community facility**
 - Essential to the **town's cultural identity**

There is strong support for:

- Retention in community/public ownership
- Expansion of use as a cultural and performance venue

3.2 Holloway Hill Recreation Ground (Q3)

- Again, **strong majority support** for the Town Council investigating transfer.
- The site is viewed as:
 - A **vital green space**
 - Important for **health, wellbeing, and sport**
 - A facility that should be **protected from development**

3.3 Other Assets (Q4)

- Support for investigating transfer of:
 - Phillips Memorial Park (notably high support)
 - Crown Pits Recreation Ground
 - Broadwater Park
 - Combe Road Recreation Ground
- Additional suggestions include:
 - Green spaces and woodlands
 - Car parks
 - Community buildings

4. KEY THEMES ARISING

The following consistent themes emerge across responses:

4.1 Strong Support for Local Control

Residents favour:

- Decision-making at Town Council level
- Greater local accountability
- Retention of assets within the town

4.2 Protection of Community Assets

There is clear concern regarding:

- Potential disposal for housing
- Loss of community use
- Reduced maintenance under a larger authority

4.3 Borough Hall – Clear Vision

Residents broadly agree the Borough Hall should:

- Remain a **multi-purpose community venue**
- Develop as an **arts, culture, and performance hub**
- Increase utilisation rather than fundamentally change use

4.4 Financial Awareness (and Caution)

While there is willingness to support investment:

- Residents expect **prudence and transparency**
- There is concern regarding:
 - Use of reserves
 - Ongoing revenue costs
 - Affordability of hire charges

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is the critical issue and must be stated plainly.

- The survey demonstrates **support in principle**, not approval of a defined financial commitment.
- No detailed financial modelling has yet been undertaken.

Key considerations:

- Capital costs (acquisition, refurbishment, compliance)
- Ongoing revenue costs (staffing, maintenance, utilities)
- Income assumptions (hire, events, partnerships)
- Impact on reserves
- Potential requirement for:
 - Precept increases
 - External funding (e.g. grants, Lottery)

Members should note:

The financial risk sits entirely with the Town Council if assets are transferred.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- Any transfer would require:
 - Formal agreement with the principal authority
 - Clarity on liabilities (including condition, leases, staff, contracts)
- Potential TUPE implications (if staff are attached to assets)
- Governance arrangements (direct management vs alternative delivery models)

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Positive potential:

- Protection of green spaces (e.g. Holloway Hill, parks)
- Opportunity to improve environmental management locally

Risks:

- Increased operational footprint (energy use, maintenance obligations)
- Requirement for investment in sustainable infrastructure

8. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

Positive opportunities:

- Improved local access to:
 - Cultural activities
 - Recreational facilities
- Potential to:
 - Support inclusive programming
 - Maintain affordable access

Risks:

- Need to ensure pricing and programming remain equitable

9. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- The survey demonstrates positive public engagement and interest
- There is clear expectation that:
 - Residents will be kept informed
 - Further consultation will take place before final decisions

Failure to communicate clearly on costs and risks may undermine current support.

10. RISK ASSESSMENT

Key risks include:

- **Financial risk:**
Unsustainable revenue model or unforeseen capital costs
- **Operational risk:**
Capacity of the Town Council to manage additional assets
- **Reputational risk:**
Public expectation raised without deliverable outcomes
- **Strategic risk:**
Taking on too many assets without prioritisation

11. OPTIONS FOR MEMBERS

Members may wish to consider:

Option A – Proceed cautiously (recommended)

Undertake detailed feasibility work on priority assets only (e.g. Borough Hall and Holloway Hill)

Option B – Broader investigation

Explore transfer of a wider range of assets simultaneously

Option C – Do not proceed

Take no further action at this stage

12. CONCLUSIONS

The survey provides an in-principle indication for the Town Council to explore Community Asset Transfers. However, this support is:

- Based on **values (local control, protection, community benefit)**
- Not on **tested financial or operational realities**

The Council must now move from:

Public aspiration → Evidence-based decision-making

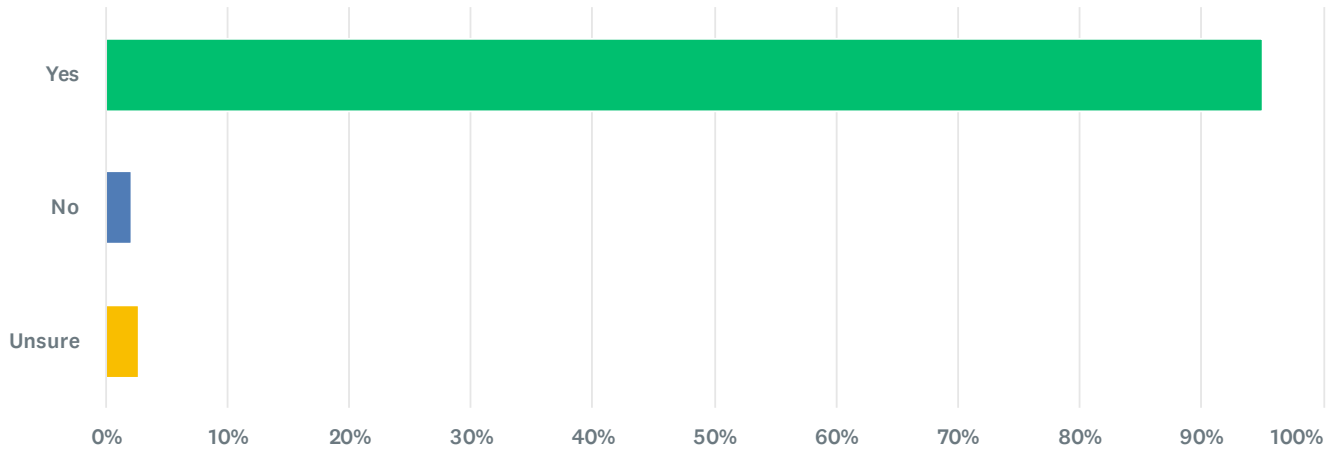
13. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are recommended to:

1. **Note** the results of the resident survey.
2. **Agree** that the Town Council should continue to investigate the transfer of:
 - Borough Hall
 - Holloway Hill Recreation Ground
3. **Approve** the commissioning of detailed feasibility studies, to include:
 - Full financial modelling
 - Condition surveys
 - Governance and delivery options
4. **Request** a further report to Committee setting out:
 - Costs
 - Risks
 - Funding options
 - Recommended delivery model
5. **Agree** that no commitment to acquisition or transfer is made until:
 - Full financial implications are understood
 - A sustainable business case is demonstrated
 - Further public engagement is undertaken

Q1 185 responses

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves?



#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	I consider it very important to maintain the Borough Hall for the use of the local community.	4/17/2026 7:38 PM
2	The Borough Hall is an important historical building in Godalming and has potential to be used more frequently	4/14/2026 5:37 PM
3	A valuable resource for cinema, concert and other events.	4/13/2026 4:58 PM
4	This is a fundamental character building to godalming and can be a hub to strengthen community activities that bring godalming its appeal and culture.	4/12/2026 4:06 PM
5	It's important to retain and develop the BH as a community resource. Having this central venue for arts and community events is a key factor in Godalming's character.	4/8/2026 8:55 AM
6	The Hall is a vital local resource for film, dance, and class events for the local community.	4/5/2026 3:19 PM
7	I think it is really important that we have a performance space and hall available for hire for Goslings nursery and Repair Café and various groups who use it. There are relatively spaces in Godalming which are available of this capacity and with the facilities. It is really important to have this space as part of our social and cultural life in the town. What can we do for our local young people? With cuts in youth work there is a distinct shortage of social opportunities for teenagers in our town.	4/3/2026 9:39 AM
8	The Borough Hall must remain as a community venue for the performing arts. I'd happily pay to see quality performers	4/1/2026 8:26 PM
9	Makes sense to explore the options at this stage to see what is possible, how much it would cost, and potential external funding contributors.	3/31/2026 8:17 PM
10	I agree that the probability of this being neglected by the Unitary Authority seems likely.	3/31/2026 10:49 AM
11	Options could quickly be generated by third parties interested in making use of the facilities and limited by clear scope provided by GTC.	3/28/2026 6:40 PM
12	Please ensure the hall remains cheap to hire by not spending too too much on renovation	3/28/2026 1:24 PM
13	This is a key facility in the town and we should do all we can to keep it open	3/27/2026 8:09 PM
14	It is an important asset for the community.	3/27/2026 2:40 PM
15	Apart from its historical status it is an integral part of the town. It could have a lot to offer local people but needs investment and modernisation.	3/27/2026 12:21 PM
16	It's an important facility for a lot of artist performances and must remain as it currently is	3/26/2026 10:27 PM

Community Asset Transfers

17	The borough Hall and Holloway Hill recreation ground are each in their own way integral to the vitality and longevity of a community spirit within Godalming. Community cohesion is created by the ability for casual meetings between residents arising from use of local amenities and by the support of shared interests through local venues. I fully recommend that GTC pursue full ownership of these vital facilities.	3/26/2026 5:27 PM
18	I fully support GTC in regard to taking responsibility for both the Borough Hall and Holloway Hill rec. The organisation has proven to have the towns interest at the heart of what they do.	3/26/2026 11:52 AM
19	Look at the example of the st Agnes mechanics institute (Cornwall) - a wonderful multipurpose community space.	3/26/2026 7:00 AM
20	It is a much needed building, has a lot of use. Would be awful to loose such a building	3/25/2026 7:15 PM
21	The more we have local input to local services the better	3/25/2026 12:21 PM
22	The Borough Hall is a wonderful Godalming asset and I would be very sorry to see it lost to our community. Nor do I wish to see it turned over to the private sector like G Live, with associated high prices.	3/25/2026 12:06 PM
23	We strongly support the Town Council taking over responsibility for the Borough Hall.	3/24/2026 5:43 PM
24	What ever happens to the Borough hall I feel total control should be with the Town council for the benefit of Godalming residents.	3/24/2026 5:07 PM
25	A town of Godalming's size needs to have a well-maintained hall.	3/24/2026 2:56 PM
26	This is a major facility to the town and surrounding villages and should be kept.	3/24/2026 11:03 AM
27	Safeguard our local community space is a great positive idea. Investigate heritage protection status.	3/24/2026 10:29 AM
28	Just please do not turn into flats!	3/24/2026 6:51 AM
29	The Borough Hall is a key facility in Godalming and securing its future is a high priority. I support the Town Council's approach to investigating possibilities using reserves where necessary.	3/23/2026 5:55 PM
30	I think it is vital to retain the Borough Hall and I wholeheartedly support the Town Council exploring options.	3/23/2026 1:17 PM
31	I would like the exterior appearance of the Borough Hall to be preserved.	3/23/2026 11:20 AM
32	This would be a fabulous idea and we could set up a CIC to run it.	3/23/2026 11:19 AM
33	As long as it doesn't use too much money	3/23/2026 8:31 AM
34	I think it is very important for Godalming to be in charge of its surroundings. Godalming Town Council has already proved they are excellent at looking after the town. It is a pleasure to live in. I don't think any of us wanted this transfer, to a larger unitary authority, I think the more that we can put into Godalming Town Council out of Waverly the better. Many thanks.	3/23/2026 7:47 AM
35	I would certainly be likely to support any reasonable initiatives which you might wish to take, and accept the consequence that this would quite possibly lead to an increase in my council tax bill.	3/22/2026 6:23 PM
36	Despite not being listed it is an attractive building with useful spaces.	3/22/2026 1:34 PM
37	The Borough Hall is a vital resource as a community centre, a focus fir all important artistic activities, health and well being classed, and the Repair Shop	3/22/2026 12:21 PM
38	a vital part of our town	3/21/2026 5:41 PM
39	I would be very much in favour of retaining this building and for the town council to use their reserve funds to pay for a feasibility study.	3/21/2026 4:22 PM
40	Visitor centre - Cultural and Performance Centre - Open for keep fit classes and art classes - Use for Private events & Catering	3/21/2026 1:52 PM
41	It's not clear what would be the impact of having reduced reserves	3/21/2026 1:38 PM
42	Could do more with this value asset than currently happens	3/21/2026 12:14 PM
43	If this does not become part of the town council's responsibility, it will be sold off for housing and we will lose this valuable asset and a lovely building	3/21/2026 11:49 AM

Community Asset Transfers

44	The Borough Hall is a vital asset for Godalming.	3/20/2026 5:08 PM
45	I have long thought that Godalming deserves a vibrant Arts Centre and the Borough Hall would be the perfect location.	3/20/2026 1:38 PM
46	Unless you fund it by selling the "vanity" project that is the MS site in the high street and which seems to be going nowhere	3/20/2026 1:13 PM
47	The Godalming Music Festival is just one of many great things that take place in the Borough Hall	3/20/2026 9:00 AM
48	I fully support the idea of keeping as many local assets under local stakeholder control and significant influence. The principle of subsidiaries applies and the more local people can control the local interests the better. The borough hall should be listed and is of critical value to the character of that area of Godalming, and by association the whole of Godalming.	3/20/2026 7:56 AM
49	I agree with Godalming Town Council's assertion that the Borough Hall is an important feature of the town and it's heritage. It must be maintained for the benefit of the local community.	3/19/2026 7:58 PM
50	Please make sure we save this piece of Godalming's history	3/19/2026 7:09 PM
51	We totally agree with Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall to remain in local hands. For this we would be happy to pay an extra £0.60 per month to Godalming Town Council by way of Council Tax, in order to make this happen.	3/19/2026 5:02 PM
52	Performance and cultural use makes sense, also ability for residents to rent the hall for receptions, exhibitions and other private functions possibly	3/19/2026 4:14 PM
53	As this was previously our asset and transferred to Waverley we have a right to have it back in the borough. Otherwise you will decimate the beauty of Godalming as a rural town.	3/19/2026 10:04 AM
54	I find the borough Hall a splendid asset fro the Godalming Film Society and other events. It would be most unfortunate if it were allowed to deteriorate.	3/19/2026 8:48 AM
55	Praise the council for using a municipal functioning office for community events	3/19/2026 7:34 AM
56	It would be a shame to potentially lose this valuable community asset	3/18/2026 10:58 PM
57	The Borough Hall is an important landmark in Godalming and should be protected. It is very important that the community see this building as a focal point in their town.	3/18/2026 5:20 PM
58	We need a good arts venue in Godalming.	3/18/2026 2:38 PM
59	I am President of Godalming Operatic Society who use the hall for their annual Gilbert & Sullivan performances and have done since 1925. This site is central in Godalming making it easy for people to get to it, especially if they don't have their own transport. We need this in the town for many activities which bring pleasure to the residents and those from further away. This benefits other amenities in the town, catering for visitors needs.	3/18/2026 11:23 AM
60	The Borough Hall is a vital town asset for all manner of activities and not least the annual Godalming Operatic shows since 1925. The WBC council offices were essentially "a bolt on addition" If the council office complex is sold off the surely a proportion of the sale money should be devoted to the Borough Hall. Activities at the Hall bring much other benefit to the town economically. I am a member of Godalming Operatic and have written two books about the Society and I recognise the value of the Borough Hall. The Hall belongs to Godalming 60p per month per £1M borrowed is a small price to pay and as said if the council complex is sold then a proportion of the sale is due to Godalming.	3/18/2026 10:20 AM
61	It is really important that Godalming has a cultural space. It needs investment, so National Lottery funding may be an option. otherwise, expensive for local residents who are already seeing steep Council Tax increases under this government with funding also being diverted away to Labour constituencies further north in yet another stealth tax. Appalling!	3/18/2026 10:12 AM
62	The Hall has been really valuable for cultural and performance use, and is right in the heart of the town. Losing this would be a major dulling of Godalming's ambience	3/18/2026 8:59 AM
63	I have been performing and attending many Godalming Operatic Society's (GOC) performances at the Borough Hall for 30 years. GOC celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.	3/17/2026 6:45 PM
64	Yes, it must be saved for the community.	3/17/2026 6:25 PM
65	Needs better marketing of events	3/17/2026 1:59 PM
66	Its imperative to godalming and people in the area that this building is protected for the	3/17/2026 1:52 PM

Community Asset Transfers

	future	
67	I don't trust West Surrey to protect Godalming community assets. I am sure its priority will be to asset strip all boroughs in order to pay back the £4 Ben debt dumped on it.	3/17/2026 11:07 AM
68	A very good idea	3/17/2026 6:43 AM
69	We fully support GTC defence of Godalming special assets and amenities, including Holloway Hill recreation ground, Lammas Lands, Borough Hall, and special car parks.	3/16/2026 6:24 PM
70	The Borough Hall is a valuable venue that must be preserved.	3/16/2026 6:20 PM
71	People voted on to the council must not declare any political affiliation and should be elected on their merits as persons with knowledge of community affairs with a track record of community involvement at any level including schools, youth/church organisations, youth/adult sports clubs or groups and the like.	3/16/2026 11:28 AM
72	This is an important community asset and it is imperative it is retained as us, safe from any asset realisation plans of the new unitary authority.	3/16/2026 10:54 AM
73	Godalming deserves a facility like the Cranleigh Arts Centre. A well run appeal for funding from local residents could be considered. I don't know the technicalities but if it had charitable status donations could attract tax relief.	3/16/2026 10:51 AM
74	Other similar-sized towns in the area (Farnham, Haslemere & Cranleigh) all have a theatre or arts space so I think it is important that there is one for Godalming too.	3/15/2026 4:41 PM
75	Godalming & its villages is certainly big enough to support an arts/entertainment centre. The Film Society has 100 plus members, GTG play to full houses & other , newer Am Dram groups, music groups etc. are all looking for spaces..plus the music gigs that used to happen at St John's Church had to relocate to Haslemere... that is before other creative arts and entertainment shows & events.. so think it could pay its way...	3/14/2026 12:33 PM
76	Fully agree with the TC's position on this	3/13/2026 4:26 PM
77	It is important for Godalming to retain this venue for events and performances.	3/13/2026 1:37 PM
78	Ed H - test	3/11/2026 8:13 PM

Q2 Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Answered: 114 Skipped: 71

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I liked the idea of using it as a performance space (which is already is, but developing that idea). Could it also be hired out for conferences? Would that generate some extra funding?	4/30/2026 8:38 AM
2	Concerts, theatre, afternoon disco, wedding reception/ functions, cinema, quiz or hobby events, fundraising events, town meetings, social and sporting events, parent and child activities are a few suggestions as to the use of the Borough Hall.	4/17/2026 7:38 PM
3	Continuing to use it as community hall for local events	4/17/2026 10:28 AM
4	Continue with live music, fitness groups, children activities, cinema, local meetings, and theatre	4/14/2026 5:37 PM
5	Arts centre in the style of Aldershot's excellent west end centre.	4/14/2026 7:58 AM
6	Could have some cultural festival activities in conjunction with other GTC venues	4/13/2026 4:58 PM
7	Youth Club, arts and crafts centre, performance space	4/13/2026 1:09 PM
8	Flea markets, craft fares, community groups!	4/12/2026 4:06 PM
9	As above, plus exercise classes, msybr mums and toddlers groups, retirement tgroups	4/11/2026 3:55 PM
10	Yes..! A venue for performances, including concerts and gigs	4/8/2026 1:12 PM
11	Godalming film club, Tai Chi and Yoga classes, Ceroc and other dance events.	4/5/2026 3:19 PM
12	Local theatre groups, film society, exhibitions, NCT fairs, space for exercise and dance clubs, children's nursery, Repair Café, other community and civic events throughout the year. It would be great if we could have films on general release like Chiddingfold, Haslemere and Elstead, plus live links to shows/ballet in London (like Haslemere offer). We don't have many spaces of this size available for hire and I think it would be a distinct loss to our town if it was no longer around.	4/3/2026 9:39 AM
13	Theatre, clubs., danceS.	4/1/2026 10:22 PM
14	No but think it would be better served buy the town council than the unitary authority	4/1/2026 8:54 PM
15	As it is currently used - film, pop acts with maybe some theatre performances thrown in.	4/1/2026 8:26 PM
16	Much the same as its current use, but with the reintroduction of a regular cinema showing	4/1/2026 11:55 AM
17	I like the idea of a central performance, culture and arts space for the town, in the same way as they have The Maltings in Farnham.	3/31/2026 8:17 PM
18	Cinema nights, talks from experts, regular youth group meet ups	3/31/2026 11:56 AM
19	Arts centre. Incorporating cinema and theatre.	3/30/2026 10:35 AM
20	I think it's current uses are exactly right.	3/30/2026 9:30 AM
21	Entertainment, music, film, performance and arts.	3/29/2026 4:19 PM
22	Access point for local police. Concert hall, community centre for fitness groups, youth activities, talks, etc. Offices upstairs let out businesses, social sevicees, police, etc.	3/29/2026 9:00 AM
23	A versatile cultural space with a broad range of activities would be great. cinema theatre, cultural festival	3/28/2026 2:09 PM
24	Music and performance for local groups Yoga, t'ai chi etc	3/28/2026 1:24 PM
25	The current uses are great and I support keeping it available for community uses such as cinema, tai chi, craft sales, meeting spaces, dance/drama lessons etc.	3/27/2026 8:09 PM
26	Theatre/cinema/ educational classes	3/27/2026 5:45 PM
27	MUSIC, BANDS, THEATRE, PANTOMIME, COMEDY, EXHIBITIONS, LOCAL RESIDENT	3/27/2026 4:36 PM

Community Asset Transfers

MEETINGS		
28	Cinema, theatre, warm hub, community space, evening classes, exhibitions, communications space.	3/27/2026 2:40 PM
29	Needs to be used for more community events but would need greater flexibility of the internal workings. Again needs investment and modernisation but could be the jewel in the crown although competing with the Wilfrid Noyce Centre for the same markets and users.	3/27/2026 12:21 PM
30	Bring back the cinema!	3/26/2026 10:27 PM
31	Day time use as a drop in medical centre. Maintain current use for exercise classes, cinema, shows. Provide table tennis tables for use by private clubs / U3A.	3/26/2026 5:27 PM
32	I would love to see the borough hall become a cultural hub for Godalming. Farnham Maltings offer so much to the community it would be great to see the hall being used like that. Although obviously on a smaller scale.	3/26/2026 11:52 AM
33	A theatre and arts venue would be good. Community led cafe and spaces for groups.	3/26/2026 7:00 AM
34	Could we have films and relays from ROH back again?	3/25/2026 7:22 PM
35	I have been to the hall to see the show. Sorry I can't come up with a wonderful idea	3/25/2026 7:15 PM
36	A youth club or expansion of current offers.	3/25/2026 12:59 PM
37	If it is feasible to operate it separately by the town council fine but costs might be prohibitive	3/25/2026 12:21 PM
38	Concerts, theatre, cinema, folk dancing, craft fairs. In other words, all the events that we used to be able to enjoy here.	3/25/2026 12:06 PM
39	It is an important performance venue for Godalming - Godalming Opera, pantomime, film society etc. and must be preserved as such.	3/24/2026 5:43 PM
40	Continue to provide a venue for the Music Festival and theatre/music performances. Also to be available to anyone who wishes to hire it for a private party	3/24/2026 2:56 PM
41	Public meetings, entertainment (theatre, film, comedy, music), public lectures, political meetings, clubs & society meetings, adult education classes e.g. arts & crafts, badminton, table tennis?, retail fairs e.g. vintage/antiques (as in Farnham Maltings)?	3/24/2026 2:45 PM
42	Community events	3/24/2026 1:27 PM
43	An arts centre	3/24/2026 1:17 PM
44	Theatre, cinema, seasonal events, cafe, local services, adult education etc	3/24/2026 10:29 AM
45	Cultural, performing and arts centre	3/24/2026 10:15 AM
46	A tasteful everyman cinema with affordable snacks would be lovely	3/24/2026 6:51 AM
47	Entertainment equivalent to Cranleigh Arts	3/23/2026 6:46 PM
48	The Borough Hall already has a wide range of uses. Promoting its availability and facilities might bring forward new hirers with new ideas. When I made enquiries about hiring the hall I was put off by the high charges which might be correct for commercial hire but not for local or charity use. Perhaps a survey of the hire costs of halls within say 20 miles might be a start.	3/23/2026 5:55 PM
49	Musical concerts.	3/23/2026 2:12 PM
50	Expand current activities - perhaps a regular music venue.	3/23/2026 1:20 PM
51	It would be fantastic if the Borough Hall could have a more permanent use as an 'Everyman' style cinema, or gig venue.	3/23/2026 1:17 PM
52	Performance/ theatre space	3/23/2026 1:17 PM
53	Community space to be preserved fr rang of uses and hire as present. There is an opportunity to rationalise the Borough Hall, Waverley Borough Council Building and Library sites. Keep the Borough Hall main room as is, with a new more modern theatre/ performance space auditorium and library in a redeveloped council building. There could also be places to meet with the police, West Surrey Council officers, library and a "banking area" manned by the main banks on rotation providing a counter service a police to meet bank staff in person	3/23/2026 11:20 AM
54	Arts, participation and performance, more cinema, better utilisation and central point for the	3/23/2026 11:19 AM

Community Asset Transfers

	town.	
55	Music events, community cinema, concerts, dancing, keep fit, yoga, repair cafe, public talks, etc.	3/23/2026 11:03 AM
56	a lot, but it already does, film club, dance classes et cetera, maybe a lot more live music, something similar to Aldershots West End, or the Farnham Maltings	3/23/2026 7:47 AM
57	Nothing specific to add to what has been suggested already. But the wider the range of potential uses to which it could be put, the wider the communal support you are likely to have for your welcome and sensible initiative.	3/22/2026 6:23 PM
58	Providing a local venue for theatre, music, film and other arts functions as well as other community services	3/22/2026 5:32 PM
59	Certainly more use for theatre and performance generally, but it could also be used for much more...a simple cafe, some sort of support/advice centre, craft or other stalls...but with more advertising. It is an ideal community 'hub'.	3/22/2026 1:34 PM
60	As above, but please keep the Cellar Camino Cafe open. It is a wonderful resource for everyone but in particular the marginalised	3/22/2026 12:21 PM
61	A community theatre	3/22/2026 11:23 AM
62	entertainment hub; indoor markets; children events	3/21/2026 5:41 PM
63	I would like to see it used as a community theatre/cinema at a reasonable hire fee. In recent years suitable venues for community theatre groups have been decreasing and I'm sure there would be quite a lot of interest.	3/21/2026 4:22 PM
64	See above	3/21/2026 1:52 PM
65	The Borough Hall should have a rolling schedule of events that draw an income, some of the fairs that are put on are tired and dull and certainly don't interest me. More paid for shows, exercise classes exp in the evening and weekend, bring the cinema back for example	3/21/2026 1:38 PM
66	Definitely for local events/entertainment	3/21/2026 1:00 PM
67	Live streaming of shows and films - currently go to Elstead Village Hall for a monthly film night, which is good but limited	3/21/2026 12:14 PM
68	It should continue as a meeting place and provide space for theatre, entertainment, classes such as dancing et cetera. More or less what it does now.	3/21/2026 11:49 AM
69	Exhibitions, community events, arts, performance space. Continue current uses. Theatre, cinema etc.	3/20/2026 9:54 PM
70	Rentable offices. Keep the theatre as is for shows and events	3/20/2026 1:13 PM
71	I think the borough hall is already used for good community purposes - so 'more of the same'	3/20/2026 11:54 AM
72	Anything of a tranquil nature which draws the community in.	3/20/2026 7:56 AM
73	Would love a local ceilidh group	3/20/2026 7:30 AM
74	A community space open to all	3/20/2026 5:15 AM
75	Food bank or baby bank, community groups, toddler groups or other support groups.	3/19/2026 9:03 PM
76	Continue to use it for cinema and theatre productions but hold these more regularly. Also for private event hire. Market it as a destination in Godalming in its own right, if that is possible! Relocate the existing Town Council's "shop" or tourist information centre to it so that visitors are drawn to it.	3/19/2026 7:58 PM
77	Its been utilised well presently as far as I'm aware	3/19/2026 7:09 PM
78	Updating and expanding its current use as a arts/music/community venue	3/19/2026 6:58 PM
79	I'd like to see more films, performances and music. Craft fairs and community events	3/19/2026 5:22 PM
80	We have enjoyed many performance at the Borough Hall over the 36 years we have lived in the community. The annual Gilbert & Sullival operas and occasional top quality films are among the times we have enjoyed using the Hall.	3/19/2026 5:02 PM
81	As above	3/19/2026 4:14 PM

Community Asset Transfers

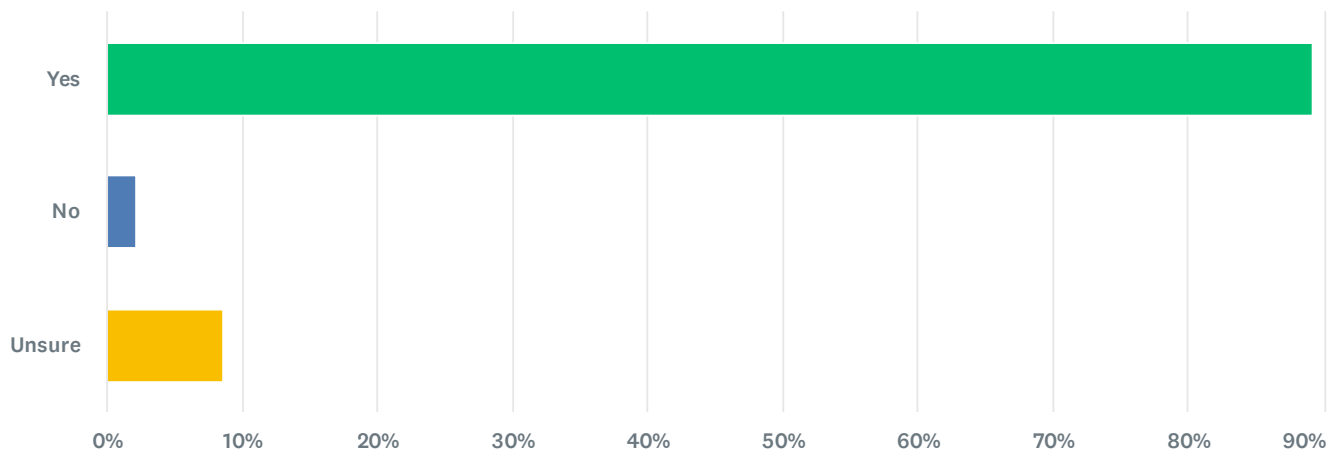
82	Ceilidh Council / charity fundraiser eg quiz / meal	3/19/2026 10:44 AM
83	As no asa a pergormance space and facility for the local populous.	3/19/2026 10:04 AM
84	The idea of a 'performance hub' clearly depends on affordability	3/19/2026 8:48 AM
85	Carry on with musical events, community issues, and projects like the repairing of second hand household equipment on occasional Saturdays	3/19/2026 7:34 AM
86	Theatre groups, comedy nights, films, private hire	3/18/2026 10:58 PM
87	I think it should be a multi purpose system as it is currently for community events, concerts, films etc.	3/18/2026 8:21 PM
88	Public hub for the town, enabling events such as arts, theatre, pop up. A facility for the whole community.	3/18/2026 7:54 PM
89	Shows, talks, meeting, rehearsal space, cinema, rock choir shows,	3/18/2026 7:21 PM
90	Clubs..toddler groups, clubs for the elderly, clubs for teenagers in the evening. Activities that bring the community together. Theatre, cinema, jumble sales, Christmas events, art shows, antique sales etc	3/18/2026 5:20 PM
91	A flexible central space can't be lost to short term needs just because a business case doesn't immediately present itself. Once gone it's never coming back. The potential uses, commercial, and possible revenue generating, and any other cultural uses will present themselves in due course.	3/18/2026 5:07 PM
92	A music and arts venue.	3/18/2026 2:38 PM
93	It's actually quite worrying that a Town Council doesn't KNOW what the Borough Hall can do and should be used for, and is having to get "ideas" from residents.	3/18/2026 2:37 PM
94	With an upgrade it would continue to be the perfect setting for theatrical shows, musical events and cinema, and a facility for private hire for functions, clubs and playgroups. Parking and pubs/restaurants all close by make it a great venue.	3/18/2026 11:23 AM
95	Apart from it existing varied use. If structural improvements are incorporated they could include conference/lecture/rehearsal room (s) and perhaps larger displays which museum could not accommodate	3/18/2026 10:20 AM
96	Venue for art exhibitions? Develop into something more akin to Cranleigh Arts Centre which is amazingly successful with many volunteers supporting.. eg National Theatre Live shows. Concerts? Theatre performances?	3/18/2026 10:12 AM
97	As above	3/18/2026 8:59 AM
98	I have recently performed my first show at the Borough Hall for an amateur theatre company and it is clearly a much loved venue for the local community as we came close to selling out, every performance. It would be a shame if the Hall weren't available for such cultural events in the future.	3/17/2026 7:30 PM
99	The Borough hall could expand its uses possibly to include the following 1. Operatic, theatrical, concert performances 2. Cultural workshops for local schools and colleges 3. Workshops, seminars and lectures similar to those which occur in Guildford at the Guildhall. 4. Weddings, parties and other celebration events 5. Community meetings for the local communities	3/17/2026 6:45 PM
100	It should remain as a valuable cultural and performance space for Godalming and the surrounding areas. The nearest similar spaces are quite a way from Godalming e.g Guildford and Haslemere	3/17/2026 6:25 PM
101	Should continue as a theatre and community building. Godalming Operatic Society have performed there since 1925. They are now one of the leading Gilbert & Sullivan performance groups in the country and bring hundreds of people to the town each February. Godalming needs a big community building. Its a big town and it needs a dedicated space for large meetings, cultural events and performances. It also drives footfall to the town.	3/17/2026 2:11 PM
102	The present use of the hall for different 'activities' is good however i think ot could be wider publicised and marketed	3/17/2026 1:52 PM
103	Anything that makes it a live space. Anything.	3/17/2026 12:32 PM
104	Arts and events venue	3/17/2026 11:08 AM
105	Entertainment community venue	3/17/2026 11:07 AM

Community Asset Transfers

106	I agree with the performance venue idea. Also a quality cinema plus love bands	3/17/2026 6:43 AM
107	Ideas mentioned are good, including cultural centre	3/16/2026 6:24 PM
108	Arts and Community Hub	3/16/2026 11:28 AM
109	Cranleigh Arts Centre may be a good model. A facility for the arts, entertainment, shows, concerts, exhibitions and public hire for events such as wedding receptions.	3/16/2026 10:51 AM
110	As above, I think it could be used as an arts space for concerts, exhibitions and shows, both from professional and community organisations, much as it is at present.	3/15/2026 4:41 PM
111	Youth club for 12-16 year olds Regular cinema More music events Older people afternoon tea and or dance Exercise classes	3/15/2026 11:55 AM
112	See above plus maybe a decent Youth Club?	3/14/2026 12:33 PM
113	Entertainment / arts space. Aavailable for hire at reasonable cost, perhaps reductions for *local* charities	3/13/2026 4:26 PM
114	Get rid of current town council building opposite pepperpot, make borough hall town council again, use funds from sale of building opposite pepperpot to fund renovation.	3/12/2026 9:39 PM

Q3 185 responses

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?



#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	It's important to maintain green spaces in their current location for the use of the local community.	4/17/2026 7:38 PM
2	Godalming needs to retain recreational areas	4/14/2026 5:37 PM
3	I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS TRANSFER. The recreation ground is a vital green space for this community, rich in physical activity space and equipment, and fostering community which is lost in today's society. It is frequently used and should be a priority to be retained, the transfer to the town council will ensure this.	4/12/2026 4:06 PM
4	Holloway Hill rec is an important and integral part of Godalming and should be protected	4/9/2026 10:40 AM
5	It is a valuable local resource that needs managing locally	4/8/2026 1:12 PM
6	Godalming is fortunate to have a well off community. It also has a many families. I am sure there are would be donors who would support community projects - eg enhancement of playground facilities - that may be very difficult for a cash starved council to fund properly. People are more likely to fund assets or initiatives they can see on their doorstep and as a wealthy area we should have more scope to do this.	4/6/2026 6:04 PM
7	This is a very popular recreation ground in the middle of a residential area. It offers various facilities including the bowls club, tennis courts and children's playground, football pitches and cricket pitch as well as cricket nets. The tennis courts with flood lights were distinctly improved as a result of lottery funding and it is very popular for tennis lessons and the tennis club. The rebuilt pavilion and Howling Owl are very popular and are very busy throughout the year as are the hut used by the guides and brownies.	4/3/2026 9:39 AM
8	This is a valuable local resource used by, many children and adultsfor sport and recreation	4/1/2026 10:22 PM
9	I am unclear why a transfer is necessary, when the town council seemingly already owns the Recreation Ground. The latter was purchased in 1921 by the town council from the Godalming Recreation Club Company, which had owned it since 1896. Since June 2015, the 5.87 ha (14.5-acre) ground has been protected by the charity Fields in Trust under their Queen Elizabeth II Fields scheme.	4/1/2026 11:55 AM
10	I don't live on that side of town so am unfamiliar with this space but support the general principle of transferring town assets if the costs are not prohibitive.	3/31/2026 8:17 PM
11	It all depends on budget, but the more control local authorities have over local amenities the better.	3/31/2026 10:49 AM
12	Definitely. It's a great park with many facilities and uses.	3/30/2026 9:30 AM

Community Asset Transfers

13	Sports, sports, sports please. Cricket, tennis, football, scouts, amazing playground. This green space is so important for local residents, especially juniors and younger children.	3/29/2026 4:19 PM
14	Important to retain another green space in the town, + a useful location for social activities in the building housing the cafe.	3/29/2026 9:00 AM
15	Has always made more sense for this local area to be under GTC.	3/28/2026 6:40 PM
16	It's a valuable resource as it is- and open space not overly organised. it needs protecting but not developing.	3/28/2026 2:09 PM
17	I don't fully understand the implications - but it would be a real shame for these wonderful spaces to be neglected.	3/27/2026 8:09 PM
18	Key recreational asset for residents supporting tennis, cricket and football and a thriving community bar in the Howling Owl. Would benefit from local control and upkeep.	3/27/2026 5:45 PM
19	The recreation ground should be run and supported by Godalming Residents.	3/27/2026 4:36 PM
20	Another important local asset.	3/27/2026 2:40 PM
21	It is an important sporting venue in the town plus being a leisure area for local residents. Has a long history of contributing to the town's sporting landscape and major celebrations. The only flat leisure area available to the public on The Hill. Much needed for young families and people of all ages to enjoy the environment.	3/27/2026 12:21 PM
22	A very important sporting asset	3/26/2026 10:27 PM
23	See comments above I fully support and would advocate transfer to the town council	3/26/2026 5:27 PM
24	Very valuable green space for the community. Tennis courts which are generally available also make such a difference.	3/25/2026 7:22 PM
25	We need to keep our parks, they are well used and keep children occupied	3/25/2026 7:15 PM
26	I walk around Holloway Hill Recreation Ground daily and see it as important for both the physical and mental wellbeing of individuals but also the life of the local community. Its closure would be a great loss.	3/25/2026 4:55 PM
27	Responsibility and accountability is kept locally.	3/25/2026 12:59 PM
28	As above	3/25/2026 12:21 PM
29	Absolutely! This is a key facility for local families where school children meet to play with their friends. This should be protected.	3/25/2026 12:13 PM
30	This is a wonderful resource for the residents of Busbridge and the wider community. I fear that, if transferred to the unitary, it would become susceptible to housing development, leading to the loss of this lovely open space and its much used sporting facilities.	3/25/2026 12:06 PM
31	It is a very important community venue for the Busbridge area, actually the ONLY venue. It is important to maintain it to a high standard.	3/24/2026 5:43 PM
32	Holloway Hill is immensely important to the people of Godalming and particularly living at the top of the hill. It can be seen by large number of people who use it daily for health and recreation.	3/24/2026 5:07 PM
33	This Recreation Ground is very well used, especially since the Howling Owl has opened in the Pavilion. We need to be able to be sure it will be Maintained in the future	3/24/2026 2:56 PM
34	It is an invaluable community resource	3/24/2026 1:17 PM
35	For its future protection Local landmarks deserve local community involvement	3/24/2026 10:29 AM
36	It is a Field in Trust but needs local 'eyes' to make sure it is maintained for the wide variety of uses it enjoys at present	3/24/2026 10:15 AM
37	To do what? To keep as is yes, To transfer into flats definitely not. We need to think about the traffic into the town and the facilities we have.	3/24/2026 6:51 AM
38	Wonderful facility that needs ongoing support and maintenance	3/23/2026 6:46 PM
39	I assume that this transfer would be a no or nominal cost.	3/23/2026 5:55 PM
40	This valuable and much-used community facility must be preserved, maintained and not sold off for development.	3/23/2026 11:20 AM
41	Many local people enjoy this facility. There are also group events, e.g. football and cricket	3/23/2026 11:03 AM

Community Asset Transfers

matches, physical exercise groups, etc. It is also a great place to meet socially in the cafe (but should be better advertised).

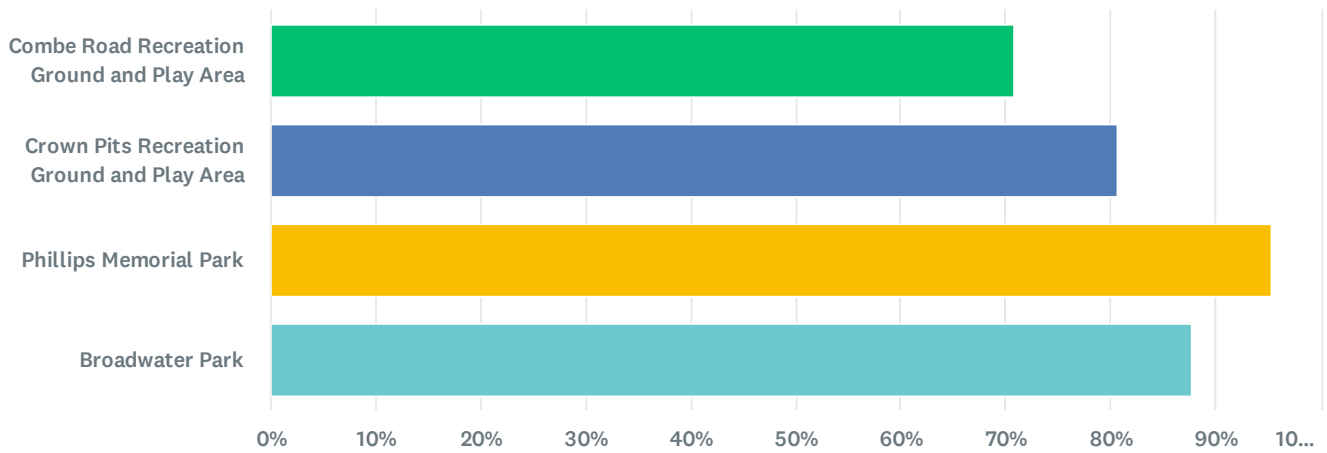
42	This is a fantastic community asset that provides so much for the local community such as, local fitness Bootcamp's, football, cricket, play area and a buzzing local cafe we need to make sure this remains a community asset.	3/23/2026 9:18 AM
43	It should have a covenant not to be used for housing added.	3/23/2026 8:31 AM
44	The rec. is a wonderful green space with a good adventure/play area. It is much appreciated by many and should be maintained and supported as an area where anyone can get some fresh air and exercise (and light snacks!)	3/22/2026 1:34 PM
45	Again, a great resource for local people and with the Busbridge Tennis Association and the Godalming Cricket Club and the Pavilion. It must be kept as a public space to be used by all.	3/22/2026 12:21 PM
46	I strongly believe that any green/recreational areas need to be "safeguarded" by the town council.	3/21/2026 4:22 PM
47	To be kept for the sporting events and developed. The Howling Owl to be encouraged. Investments to be made to improve the Ground maintenance. Dogs to be discouraged and fouling to be tackled.	3/21/2026 1:52 PM
48	What would be the impact of this? I am a 10 year + resident of High Ridge and we have no other recreational facilities up the hill, we didn't have a cafe until after covid and then had the Howling Owl and Yew tree cafe.	3/21/2026 1:38 PM
49	Absolutely critical that this heavily used and important green space is under town control! A huge YES!	3/21/2026 12:14 PM
50	This is an absolute must. This multipurpose recreation ground is a huge asset to the people of Godalming. The local opportunities for exercise and outdoor play are essential if we are going to keep our population healthy. If a town council does not take over running this area, it will have very little investment and will end up being tatty and unusable. The transfer of the Holloway Hill recreation ground should be an absolute priority. Transferring all the recreation areas to local control as listed below should be a must as well.	3/21/2026 11:49 AM
51	Although I no longer live on the Busbridge side of town I often visit the recreation ground with my grandchildren. It's a great facility that is used and appreciated by many residents	3/20/2026 1:38 PM
52	It's a valuable community space with the tennis courts, football and cricket pitches, the playground and paths for walking plus the facilities for youth activities such as the cubs and brownies. The addition of the Howling Owl has also enhanced the community aspects.	3/20/2026 11:04 AM
53	All the below even more important	3/20/2026 7:56 AM
54	Don't want to lose this wonderful outdoor space	3/20/2026 5:15 AM
55	Would like the Scout Hut to remain and for the recreation ground not to be overly dominated by cricket.	3/19/2026 8:56 PM
56	Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a thriving local facility. The cricket and football clubs that use it regularly and the playground, tennis and bowls clubs are all vital community assets. It needs to be maintained and I fear the larger unitary authority will be too thinly spread to be able to do this as well as the town council could.	3/19/2026 7:58 PM
57	Yes please. Protect this space. It's got an historical connection too. Julius Caesar	3/19/2026 7:09 PM
58	Although very senior citizens, we can still manage to walk to Holloway Hill recreation ground. Therefore we think it absolutely vital and imparative that this precious facility is preserved locally and who better to be in charge than Godalming Town Council? We thoroughly endorse this proposal.	3/19/2026 5:02 PM
59	I don't use the space, but I believe local amenities are better served if managed locally	3/19/2026 4:14 PM
60	Of course, the less West Surrey have control the less we are likely that it will be maintained. Unitary authorities are really not interested in local issues	3/19/2026 10:04 AM
61	I have never used this asset, so am unaware what the implications of transfer would be. There is nothing in the literature to indicate hoe users might be affected.	3/19/2026 8:48 AM
62	Not sure what this means , have not seen any detailed information on this	3/19/2026 7:34 AM
63	I'd rather not see it sold off for housing. Open places and sports pitches are important	3/18/2026 10:58 PM

Community Asset Transfers

64	Subject to suitable budget provisions and sufficient resources and expertise to successfully manage.	3/18/2026 7:54 PM
65	I often go here and it's a lovely spot and very well used. There are beautiful trees there tennis courts cricket clubs etc. A lovely cafe. It 100% needs to be transferred to the local authority or it will just end up covered in houses.	3/18/2026 5:20 PM
66	Never been there but assume locals need it.	3/18/2026 2:38 PM
67	As more people are moving to live in Godalming and the surrounding villages then there is a need for Godalming Town Council to provide good recreational facilities for all its residents	3/17/2026 6:45 PM
68	Other Town Councils have done this and made a great success of it. More volunteers come forward and more local donors when they know it is being managed locally.	3/17/2026 2:11 PM
69	Concern that moving it may involved changing it away from being a local park	3/17/2026 1:59 PM
70	An excellent park for the local community providing a multitude of of sports, recreation and activities throughout the year	3/17/2026 1:52 PM
71	Essential amenity	3/16/2026 6:24 PM
72	Decisions to be made by the Town Council but funded by annual grant from the West Surrey CC so that upkeep is paid for by Council Tax. This comment also applies to the four facilities listed below.	3/16/2026 11:28 AM
73	Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a very important local space and needs to be safeguarded.	3/16/2026 10:51 AM
74	I don't know about the Holloway Hill recreation ground and what facilities it offers.	3/15/2026 4:41 PM
75	Support the TC's position on this..	3/13/2026 4:26 PM
76	Needs to be protected against possible sale for housing development.	3/13/2026 1:37 PM

Q4 171 responses

Should Godalming Town Council investigate options for the transfer of the following community facilities to the Town Council (tick all that apply):



#	ARE THERE ANY OTHER WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL-OWNED FACILITIES YOU FEEL GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL SHOULD CONSIDER?	DATE
1	The park situated at Aaron's hill should also be included as it provides green space for local residents as well as valuable outdoor play areas for children. The Philips Memorial I am assuming already has protected status?	4/17/2026 7:38 PM
2	Binscombe Meadows, as it is an important natural landscape that supports biodiversity and provides a recreational area for walkers/dog walkers	4/17/2026 10:28 AM
3	Binscombe woods open area - opposite Costcutter	4/16/2026 4:06 PM
4	Car parks, enabling the TC to change parking rules, eg giving a free 30 minutes-1 hour initial period to boost the High Street (Petworth does this). Broadwater Leisure Centre.	4/8/2026 8:55 AM
5	The Old broadwater golf site	4/1/2026 10:22 PM
6	The Bury's. Charterhouse Green.	4/1/2026 8:26 PM
7	Without a checklist of facilities currently owned by WBC, it is not possible to identify and say what others might be considered for acquisition by GTC.	4/1/2026 11:55 AM
8	Phillips Memorial Park seems especially important given that's where most of the town festivals are held.	3/31/2026 8:17 PM
9	Unfortunately I don't know who / what else WBC owns. I appreciate the efforts to protect Godalming's assets and hope they're successful.	3/30/2026 9:30 AM
10	Any green areas of Farncombe that are not privately managed	3/28/2026 1:24 PM
11	Anything else it considers it could it could manage and that's important for the community.	3/27/2026 2:40 PM
12	Not at the moment.	3/27/2026 12:21 PM
13	Is the Library under any threat? If so then that is a candidate.	3/26/2026 5:27 PM
14	What else is there? Not sure who owns what. Vital to protect our parks and recreation spaces from being built on.	3/25/2026 7:22 PM
15	These places are much needed , and it would be marvellous if you are able to look after them	3/25/2026 7:15 PM
16	I consider the above are used by many in godalming but others are not so I am unsure if all ratepayers should pay for a local facility	3/25/2026 12:21 PM
17	The Phillips Memorial Park is particularly important to the town. It is integral to the town and is best controlled locally, i.e. Town Council. Similarly, Broadwater Park is an important local	3/24/2026 5:43 PM

Community Asset Transfers

	asset, best run by the Town Council.	
18	What is gping to happen to the Pepperpot Surely that belongs to Godalming and the Town Council should maintain it.	3/24/2026 2:56 PM
19	Car parks in Godalming	3/24/2026 2:45 PM
20	All Scout and Guide used halls Other community groups like WI use these	3/24/2026 10:29 AM
21	I dont know what the benefits of doing this is...	3/24/2026 6:51 AM
22	All should be investigated but without any mention of the process and whether the Town Council has to BUY the facility or received it at nominal cost it is impossible to respond sensibly. Please provide residents with information of costs and process. As I don't live near either of the two recreation grounds mentioned and don't know how much they are used I cannot comment. Broadwater Park must be at high risk of sale by West Surrey as it is an obvious housing estate in waiting and therefore should be protected. I would hope the Binscombe Lane open space, opposite Binscombe Crescent can be transferred for future protection.	3/23/2026 5:55 PM
23	Canon Bowring's Recreation Ground - a haven for people in Farncombe	3/23/2026 1:17 PM
24	I support the Town Council to explore all Waverley Borough Council owned facilities	3/23/2026 1:17 PM
25	Waverley Council Building site	3/23/2026 11:20 AM
26	All of them in this area should be run by godalming.	3/23/2026 11:19 AM
27	I have ticked the Phillips memorial park as it needs to be kept clean, safe and well supported by Godalming as it is one of our citizens we are remembering . I am not very familiar with the other places, but in an ideal world the Town Council would be responsible for them all.	3/22/2026 1:34 PM
28	Install a Bike area and reinstate the golf driving range at Broadwater Park. Improve the ground maintenance around the Lake.	3/21/2026 1:52 PM
29	Llamas lands	3/21/2026 1:00 PM
30	Unsure, but I support as much transfer as possible and definitely Holloway Hill recreation ground and any other area instrumental to the character of the town.	3/21/2026 12:14 PM
31	Lammas land	3/20/2026 7:55 PM
32	Please see my comment on subsidiarity, and if it ain't broke don't fix it as a general rule. Many promises will be given, they are cheap to give. Many decisions should be taken locally as per devolution.	3/20/2026 7:56 AM
33	The former golf course site and lake at Broadwater Park (if not included above already). Also 69 High Street if finances allowed. It has sat empty for far too long but looks like it is finally moving ahead, in which case it would be far better owned and directed by the town council than the unitary behemoth.	3/19/2026 7:58 PM
34	Canon Bowring? Combe Rd?	3/19/2026 7:09 PM
35	It is vitally important that each and every one of the Waverley Borough Council owned facilities in Godalming ought to be transferred to Godalming Town Council as a matter of extreme urgency. These little refuge areas must not be allowed to fall into the hands of speculative developers. Despite being a hard-up pensioner, we would support any small monthly increase to our Council Tax bill for these express purposes. Time is of the essence. What about the local town school playing fields? Are they protected by another long-term future plan?	3/19/2026 5:02 PM
36	Get as much as you can to protect our community!	3/19/2026 10:04 AM
37	All available parts of the Lammas Lands. And 'Binscombe Meadow' and Glebe Wood'.	3/19/2026 9:57 AM
38	Need to know who owns what Surrey county council, Waverley council, Church council , Godalming town council	3/19/2026 7:34 AM
39	Any other scout & guide buildings or community centres, etc	3/18/2026 10:58 PM
40	All of them, let's keep Godalmjng Godalmjng	3/18/2026 7:21 PM
41	None.	3/18/2026 2:38 PM
42	Who owns the Pepperpot? Are the Lammas Lands and The Burys fully protected? The bandstand in the Memorial Park? The Boy Scouts Hut on Charterhouse Road? Maybe divert	3/18/2026 10:12 AM

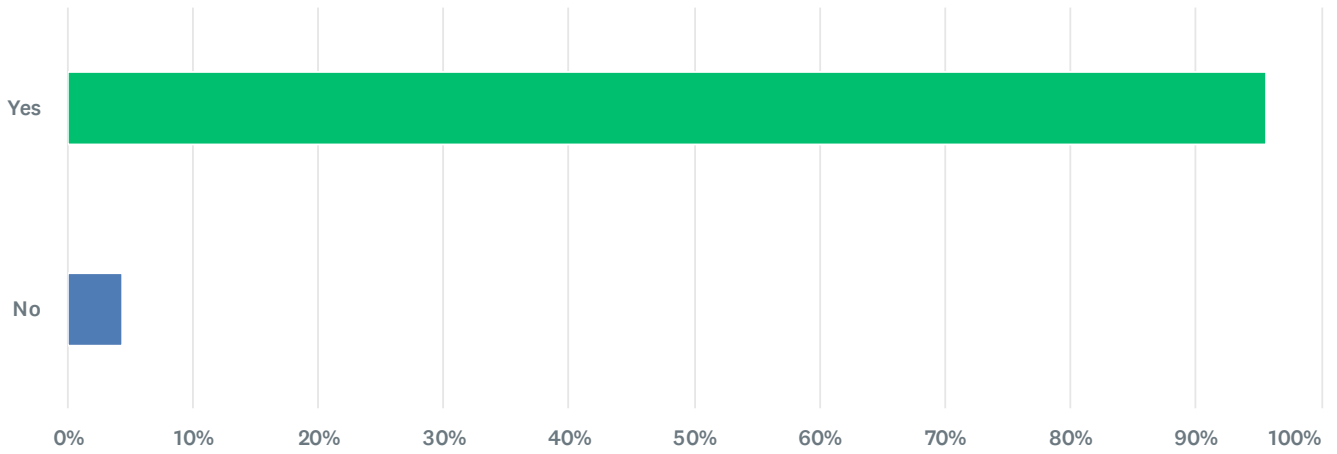
Community Asset Transfers

spend from proposed 20MPH speed bumps in Farncombe which is a waste of money. no one can drive fast around there!

43	Yes to all, but not to the detriment of higher-priority goals. It is better to have a robust solution to some issues than attempt a fragile and unsustainable solution to all	3/18/2026 8:59 AM
44	Bandstand and bowling green area	3/17/2026 8:41 PM
45	I don't know about the others although it would be good going forward to consider walkways beside the river as is being done In Guildford	3/17/2026 6:45 PM
46	Municipal flowerbeds throughout Godalming which have not been maintained for years and are just full of unsightly weeds	3/17/2026 5:30 PM
47	Some Parish Councils have taken on management of their playgrounds with great success. Wonersh Parish council is a local example. They set up a charity which fund raises for new equipment while the parish council managed the ongoing maintenance and weekly safety checks.	3/17/2026 2:11 PM
48	All the Godalming green spaces, woods etc.	3/16/2026 6:24 PM
49	I'm not sure of the current status of the Pepperpot but that's clearly one, as is the Godalming Museum.	3/16/2026 10:51 AM
50	(for Broadwater Park, as per the article on your website, it may best to limit the scope of the investigation to parts of the site which are "easier" to handle; organisations such as Guildford Rugby Club may be better placed to take-on their section of the site) (I apologise that I don't know which local areas WBC owns so this list may not be relevant) * Binscombe Fields * Longbourne Green, Binscombe * Wood next to Northbourne * The Glade, Farncombe * Churchyard at St John's Church, Farncombe (WBC maintain fence, cut grass and collect bins & garden waste)	3/15/2026 4:41 PM
51	Any green or other current community space that is a potential building/ development plot ought to be protected!	3/14/2026 12:33 PM
52	Almost certainly. GTC should assess which can either provide community benefit or an income stream at reasonable cost, subject to level headed assessment of the costs/benefits.	3/13/2026 4:26 PM
53	As a resident of Witley and Milford parish we still enjoy Broadwater Park. I would favour a merger of the parish and town council to give a local council with greater financial resources and resilience	3/12/2026 5:47 PM

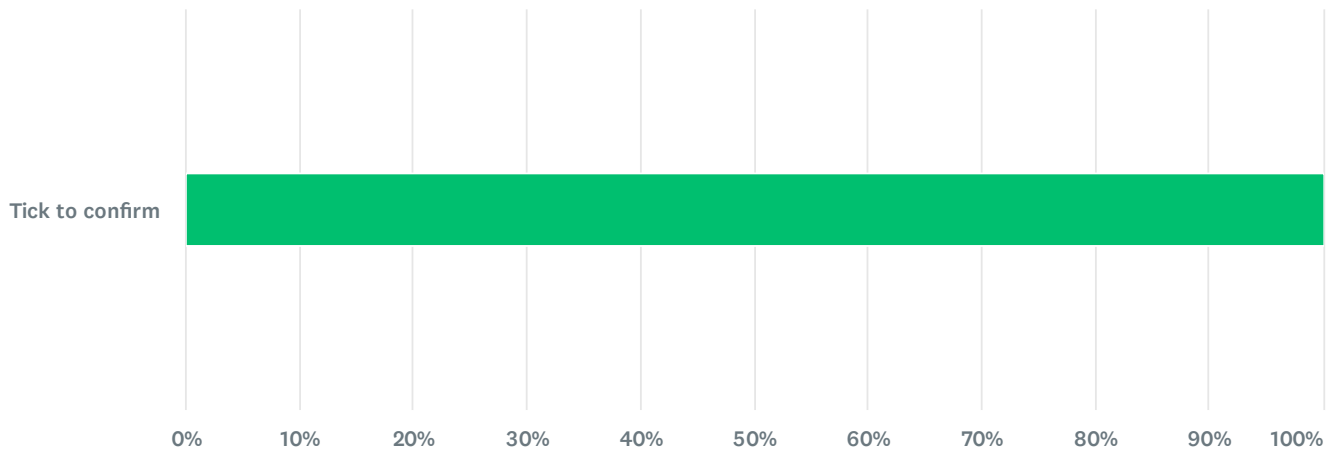
Q5 185 responses

I am a resident of Godalming & Farncombe



Q8 185 responses

I confirm that I have read the Data Protection Notice and consent to Godalming Town Council using the information I provide for the purposes of this survey.



Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
I consider it very important to maintain the Borough Hall for the use of the local community.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the importance placed on maintaining the Borough Hall for the use and benefit of the local community. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Hall can continue to serve residents, community groups and local organisations in a sustainable and accessible way. The Council's aim is to ensure that any future arrangements protect the community value of the Borough Hall and support its long-term use by the people of Godalming.
The Borough Hall is an important historical building in Godalming and has potential to be used more frequently	GTC notes this comment and recognises the Borough Hall's importance as a historic building within Godalming, and also notes the view that the Hall has potential to be used more frequently and to provide greater benefit to the local community. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the building's heritage, condition, accessibility, future programming and operational arrangements could support increased community use in a sustainable way.
A valuable resource for cinema, concert and other events.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the Borough Hall's value as a venue for cinema, concerts and a wide range of other events. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Hall's role as an accessible cultural, entertainment and community venue could be protected and supported. The aim would be to ensure that any future arrangements continue to provide a flexible and sustainable facility for residents, local groups, performers and audiences in Godalming.
This is a fundamental character building to Godalming and can be a hub to strengthen community activities that bring Godalming its appeal and culture.	GTC acknowledges the view that the Hall has the potential to act as a stronger community hub, supporting activities that bring people together and add to the town's appeal. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Borough Hall could be retained, developed and managed in a way that strengthens community activity, supports local culture, and delivers long-term benefit for Godalming residents.
It's important to retain and develop the BH as a community resource. Having this central venue for arts and community events is a key factor in Godalming's character.	GTC agrees that a central venue for arts, cultural activity and community events contributes significantly to Godalming's character and sense of place. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Borough Hall's community, cultural and civic role could be protected, enhanced and made sustainable for the long-term benefit of residents, local groups and the wider town.
The Hall is a vital local resource for film, dance, and class events for the local community.	As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Hall's existing cultural, recreational and community uses could be protected and supported. The aim would be to ensure that any future arrangements continue to provide an accessible, flexible and sustainable venue for local residents, groups and organisations.
I think it is really important that we have a performance space and hall available for hire for Goslings nursery and Repair Café and various groups who use it. There are relatively spaces in Godalming which are available of this capacity and with the facilities. It is really important to have this space as part of our social and cultural life in the town. What can we do for our local young people? With cuts in youth work there is a distinct shortage of social opportunities for teenagers in our town.	As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Borough Hall could continue to support existing users, cultural activity, community hire and future programming, including opportunities that benefit young people and strengthen community life in Godalming.
The Borough Hall must remain as a community venue for the performing arts. I'd happily pay to see quality performers	GTC notes the support for attracting quality performers and providing cultural opportunities for residents. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Hall's role as an accessible arts, performance and community space could be protected and developed in a financially sustainable way, while continuing to serve the needs and interests of Godalming residents.
Makes sense to explore the options at this stage to see what is possible, how much it would cost, and potential external funding contributors.	GTC notes this comment and agrees that it is sensible to explore the available options at this stage before any decisions are made. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess what may be possible, the likely capital and ongoing revenue costs, operational responsibilities, and any opportunities for external funding or partnership contributions. This work would help ensure that any future proposal is evidence-based, financially sustainable, and in the best interests of Godalming residents.
I agree that the probability of this being neglected by the Unitary Authority seems likely.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the concern that, under future local government arrangements, valued local facilities may not receive the level of attention or investment residents would wish to see. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, GTC would assess whether local ownership or management could provide greater focus, accountability and long-term protection for facilities such as the Borough Hall. Any decision would need to be based on clear evidence, financial sustainability, and the best interests of Godalming residents.
Options could quickly be generated by third parties interested in making use of the facilities and limited by clear scope provided by GTC.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the value of exploring a range of options for the future use of the facilities. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council could seek input from interested third parties, community organisations and potential users where this can help identify practical and sustainable opportunities. Any such engagement would need to be guided by a clear scope set by GTC, ensuring that proposals remain aligned with community benefit, financial responsibility, and the long-term interests of Godalming residents.
Please ensure the hall remains cheap to hire by not spending too much on renovation	GTC notes the concern that any renovation or improvement works should be proportionate and financially responsible. As part of assessing any potential community asset transfer, the Council would carefully consider the balance between necessary investment, long-term maintenance, hire charges, and the need to keep the facility sustainable and available for community use.
This is a key facility in the town and we should do all we can to keep it open	GTC understands the importance residents place on keeping the facility open and available for community use. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would continue to assess the options, responsibilities and financial implications carefully, with the aim of securing a sustainable future for the Borough Hall in the best interests of Godalming residents and local organisations.
It is an important asset for the community.	GTC notes this comment.

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
Apart from its historical status it is an integral part of the town. It could have a lot to offer local people but needs investment and modernisation.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the Borough Hall's importance as both a historic feature and an integral part of Godalming's civic and community life. The Council also notes the view that the building has significant potential to offer more for local people, provided that appropriate investment and modernisation can be secured. These matters would form an important part of any community asset transfer assessment, including consideration of the building's condition, heritage value, accessibility, running costs, future use, and long-term financial sustainability.
It's an important facility for a lot of artist performances and must remain as it currently is	The Council understands the desire for the facility to remain available for these uses. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would assess how the Borough Hall's current community and performance functions could be protected, supported and developed in a financially sustainable way for the benefit of residents, performers, community groups and local audiences.
The borough Hall and Holloway Hill recreation ground are each in their own way integral to the vitality and longevity of a community spirit within Godalming. Community cohesion is created by the ability for casual meetings between residents arising from use of local amenities and by the support of shared interests through local venues. I fully recommend that GTC pursue full ownership of these vital facilities.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the important role that both the Borough Hall and Holloway Hill Recreation Ground play in supporting community life, wellbeing and cohesion in Godalming. The Council agrees that accessible local amenities and venues can help residents meet, take part in shared activities, and strengthen community spirit. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would continue to assess the benefits, responsibilities and long-term implications of any future ownership or management arrangements for these facilities. The Council's aim is to ensure that any decisions are made in the best interests of Godalming residents and support the continued provision of valued community spaces for current and future generations
I fully support GTC in regard to taking responsibility for both the Borough Hall and Holloway Hill rec. The organisation has proven to have the towns interest at the heart of what they do.	GTC recognises the importance of both facilities to the town and will continue to approach any potential community asset transfer carefully and responsibly. The Council's assessment would focus on long-term community benefit, financial sustainability, operational responsibilities, and ensuring that any future arrangements serve the interests of Godalming residents.
Look at the example of the St. Agnes mechanics institute (Cornwall) - a wonderful multipurpose community space.	GTC notes this comment and the reference to St Agnes Miners and Mechanics' Institute in Cornwall as an example of a successful multi-purpose community space. As part of exploring any potential community asset transfer, the Council could consider relevant examples of community-managed venues elsewhere, including how they are governed, funded, maintained and used by local groups. The aim would be to assess whether lessons from similar facilities could help secure a sustainable and accessible future for the Borough Hall for the benefit of Godalming residents and the wider community.
It is a much needed building, has a lot of use. Would be awful to loose such a building	GTC notes this comment and recognises the Borough Hall's importance as a much-needed and well-used facility in Godalming. The Council understands the concern about the potential loss of such an important building to the community. As part of considering any potential community asset transfer, the Council would continue to assess how the Borough Hall could be protected, maintained and used sustainably for the benefit of residents, community groups and local organisations.
The more we have local input to local services the better	GTC notes this comment and recognises the importance of local input in shaping local services and facilities. Community involvement is an important part of considering any potential community asset transfer. The Council will continue to take residents' views into account as it explores options for the Borough Hall, with the aim of ensuring that any future arrangements reflect local priorities and deliver clear benefits for Godalming residents.
The Borough Hall is a wonderful Godalming asset and I would be very sorry to see it lost to our community. Nor do I wish to see it turned over to the private sector like G Live, with associated high prices.	GTC notes this comment and recognises the importance residents place on the Borough Hall as a valued community asset for Godalming, and also acknowledges the concern that the Hall should not be lost to the community or operated in a way that makes it inaccessible through unaffordable charges. A key part of assessing any potential community asset transfer would be to consider how the building could remain available, sustainable and of genuine benefit to local residents, community groups and organisations. The Council will continue to explore options carefully, including governance, management, financial viability and community access, before any decisions are made.
We strongly support the Town Council taking over responsibility for the Borough Hall.	GTC notes this comment.
What ever happens to the Borough hall I feel total control should be with the Town council for the benefit of Godalming residents.	As part of the community asset transfer assessment, GTC would consider the most appropriate governance, management and ownership arrangements to ensure that the building's future use remains accountable, sustainable and focused on community benefit. Any decisions would need to take account of the legal, financial and operational implications of a transfer, as well as the long-term interests of the town.
A town of Godalming's size needs to have a well-maintained hall.	GTC recognises the importance of Godalming having a well-maintained hall that can serve the needs of residents, community groups, organisations and visitors. The condition, maintenance requirements and long-term running costs of the Borough Hall will be important factors in assessing any potential community asset transfer. The Council will continue to consider these matters carefully to ensure that any future arrangements are financially sustainable and support the continued provision of a valued community facility.
This is a major facility to the town and surrounding villages and should be kept.	GTC agrees that its community value is a key consideration in any potential community asset transfer. The Council will continue to explore options for securing the building's future, with the aim of retaining a valued local facility for the benefit of residents, community groups and the wider area.
Safeguard our local community space is a great positive idea. Investigate heritage protection status.	GTC notes this supportive comment and agrees that safeguarding valued local community space is central to the consideration of any potential community asset transfer. GTC also notes the suggestion to investigate heritage protection status for the Borough Hall. This will be considered as part of the wider due diligence process.
Just please do not turn into flats!	The purpose of exploring a potential community asset transfer is to consider whether the Borough Hall can be retained for community use and secured for the long-term benefit of Godalming residents, community groups and local organisations. The Council will continue to assess the options carefully, including the financial, operational and legal implications, before any decisions are made.

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>The Borough Hall is a key facility in Godalming and securing its future is a high priority. I support the Town Council's approach to investigating possibilities using reserves where necessary.</p>	<p>GTC notes the response and welcomes the clear recognition of the Borough Hall as a key community facility for Godalming. Securing its long-term future remains a high priority, and the Council is committed to exploring all realistic options for community asset transfer. The Council also notes the support for its current approach, including the careful consideration of using reserves where appropriate. Any use of reserves would need to be proportionate, financially responsible, and aligned with the Council's wider priorities and long-term sustainability.</p> <p>GTC will continue to investigate the opportunities, risks and costs associated with any potential transfer, with the aim of protecting this important local facility for the benefit of residents, community groups and future generations</p>
<p>I think it is vital to retain the Borough Hall and I wholeheartedly support the Town Council exploring options.</p>	<p>GTC welcomes the support for the Town Council exploring options for its future.</p> <p>The Council recognises the Borough Hall as an important community asset and will continue to explore potential options constructively. Any preferred approach would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and business case.</p>
<p>I would like the exterior appearance of the Borough Hall to be preserved.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's wish for the exterior appearance of the Borough Hall to be preserved. The Council recognises that the character of Godalming town centre is closely linked to its historic built environment and the setting of key civic buildings within the Conservation Area .</p> <p>If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would expect any repair, refurbishment or upgrade proposals to respect and, where possible, enhance the building's external character. Any external alterations would need to be developed in line with the relevant planning framework.</p>
<p>This would be a fabulous idea and we could set up a CIC to run it.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for the proposal and the suggestion that a Community Interest Company (CIC) could be established to run the facility.</p> <p>The Council recognises that, in some circumstances, an arms-length operating model (such as a CIC, charitable trust, or other not-for-profit body) can help to attract volunteers, access certain grants/funding streams, and focus specialist management and programming. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC could explore a range of governance and operating options, provided they demonstrably protect community benefit and are sustainable long-term.</p>
<p>As long as it doesn't use too much money</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's clear concern about affordability and that any proposal must not require an excessive call on public funds.</p> <p>The Council agrees that any Community Asset Transfer (or other long-term arrangement) should only be progressed where there is a robust business case demonstrating value for money, clarity on all ongoing costs and liabilities, and a realistic plan to keep the venue financially sustainable. Any decision would need to set out clearly the likely impact on the Town Council's budget and precept, with options and risks presented openly before commitments are made.</p>
<p>I think it is very important for Godalming to be in charge of its surroundings. Godalming Town Council has already proved they are excellent at looking after the town. It is a pleasure to live in. I don't think any of us wanted this transfer, to a larger unitary authority, I think the more that we can put into Godalming Town Council out of Waverly the better. Many thanks.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's strong preference for local decision-making and stewardship of Godalming's surroundings and community assets, and welcomes the positive feedback about the town and GTC's contribution to maintaining a pleasant environment for residents.</p> <p>GTC recognises the concern that, as local government structures change over time, decisions can feel more remote. Where there are opportunities for more local accountability, through devolution of services or community asset transfer. GTC is willing to explore options constructively with partner authorities, where this can be shown to deliver clear community benefit and improved responsiveness.</p>
<p>I would certainly be likely to support any reasonable initiatives which you might wish to take, and accept the consequence that this would quite possibly lead to an increase in my council tax bill.</p>	<p>GTC notes and appreciates the respondent's willingness to support reasonable, evidence-based initiatives and the acknowledgement that, depending on the option pursued, there could be financial implications for GTC's budget and precept.</p> <p>GTC recognises that affordability and value for money are central considerations. If transfer proposals are developed further, GTC would ensure decisions are taken transparently and are supported by a robust business case.</p>
<p>Despite not being listed it is an attractive building with useful spaces.</p>	<p>GTC recognises the importance of maintaining the quality and character of prominent buildings within Godalming town centre. If future arrangements for the transfer of the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want any plans for repair, upgrade or adaptation to respect the building's character while ensuring the spaces remain safe, accessible and fit for community use.</p>
<p>The Borough Hall is a vital resource as a community centre, a focus fir all important artistic activities, health and well being classed, and the Repair Shop</p>	<p>GTC recognises the value of having a flexible, accessible town-centre venue that can host both creative and wellbeing activity. This aligns with GTC's corporate priorities to encourage and promote access to leisure facilities and the arts for all.</p>
<p>a vital part of our town</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>I would be very much in favour of retaining this building and for the town council to use their reserve funds to pay for a feasibility study.</p>	<p>GTC recognises that a properly scoped feasibility study can be a sensible first step in testing options, costs, risks and deliverability before any long-term decisions are taken. The use of any Council reserves would need to be considered carefully and transparently, with a clear purpose and value for money rationale. Any proposal to commission a feasibility study would therefore need to be brought forward through the appropriate Council decision making and procurement processes.</p>
<p>Visitor centre - Cultural and Performance Centre - Open for keep fit classes and art classes - Use for Private events & Catering</p>	<p>GTC notes and welcomes the respondent's suggestions for the Borough Hall to operate as a more flexible multi-use venue, and recognises that a broader mix of uses can help increase footfall, improve year-round occupancy, and strengthen the Hall's long-term sustainability, provided community access and affordability are protected.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
It's not clear what would be the impact of having reduced reserves	<p>GTC agrees that this is an important consideration. Reserves play a key role in maintaining financial resilience and stability, including the ability to manage unexpected costs, fund essential repairs, smooth cashflow, and meet future liabilities. A material reduction in reserves can reduce the Council's capacity to respond to emergencies and can increase reliance on future income (including the precept) if unplanned costs arise.</p> <p>If proposals are developed further GTC would ensure that members and residents are provided with clear, transparent information on reserves, proposed expenditure and associated risks.</p>
Could do more with this value asset than currently happens	GTC recognises the importance of ensuring that key community facilities are well used, well promoted and financially sustainable, and that they maximise community benefit. If future arrangements for the transfer of the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want to explore how the venue's use could be strengthened through a clear programme and operating plan.
If this does not become part of the town council's responsibility, it will be sold off for housing and we will lose this valuable asset and a lovely building	GTC notes the respondent's concern that if the Borough Hall does not become GTC's responsibility there is a risk it could be disposed of and redeveloped, potentially resulting in the loss of a valued community asset and an attractive civic building. GTC recognises the strength of local feeling that the Borough Hall should be retained for community benefit and the importance of decisions being based on clear evidence and confirmed proposals.
The Borough Hall is a vital asset for Godalming.	GTC notes this comment.
I have long thought that Godalming deserves a vibrant Arts Centre and the Borough Hall would be the perfect location.	<p>GTC recognises the importance of cultural facilities in supporting community life and participation and that a well-programmed town-centre venue can contribute to the wider vitality of the town by supporting events and activity within the central area .</p> <p>If future arrangements for the transfer of the Borough Hall are progressed, the Town Council would want any Arts Centre ambition to be underpinned by a robust options appraisal and business case.</p>
Unless you fund it by selling the "vanity" project that is the MS site in the high street and which seems to be going nowhere	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern about how any proposal would be funded, and the suggestion that funding should come from disposal of the (assumed) M&Co site on the High Street, which is owned and managed by Waverley Borough Council.</p> <p>It is important to be clear that decisions on the redevelopment of the M&Co site sit with Waverley Borough Council and are separate from this Community Asset Transfer survey, which is focused on the future arrangements for specific community assets such as the Borough Hall.</p>
The Godalming Music Festival is just one of many great things that take place in the Borough Hall	GTC notes the respondent's point that the Godalming Music Festival is one of many valued activities that take place at the Borough Hall. The Council recognises that having a central, accessible venue capable of hosting concerts and cultural events supports participation in the arts and strengthens community life.
I fully support the idea of keeping as many local assets under local stakeholder control and significant influence. The principle of subsidiaries applies and the more local people can control the local interests the better. The borough hall should be listed and is of critical value to the character of that area of Godalming, and by association the whole of Godalming.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's strong support for keeping local assets under local stakeholder influence and control, reflecting the principle of decision-making being taken as close to the community as practicable. The Council also notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall is of critical value to the character and distinctiveness of this part of Godalming, and by association the wider town.</p> <p>In relation to the suggestion that the Borough Hall should be listed, the Council notes that formal statutory listing is a separate process. However, as part of any future proposals for the Borough Hall (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would expect the building's heritage and townscape value to be properly assessed and for any refurbishment or upgrade proposals to be designed to preserve and respect the building's external character.</p>
I agree with Godalming Town Council's assertion that the Borough Hall is an important feature of the town and it's heritage. It must be maintained for the benefit of the local community.	GTC recognises that the Borough Hall sits adjacent to a conservation area, where the character of the area relies on the historic built environment and its heritage features . The Town Council also recognises that town-centre buildings and spaces provide a focal point for organised activities and community life.
Please make sure we save this piece of Godalming's history	GTC notes this comment.
We totally agree with Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall to remain in local hands. For this we would be happy to pay an extra £0.60 per month to Godalming Town Council by way of Council Tax, in order to make this happen.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for exploring options for the Borough Hall to remain in local stewardship, and the willingness expressed to pay a modest additional amount through council tax to help secure a sustainable future for the building.</p> <p>The Council recognises the strength of local feeling that the Borough Hall should be retained for community benefit. Any proposal that could affect the precept will be considered carefully and transparently. If transfer options are progressed further , GTC would ensure decisions are based on a robust business case.</p>
Performance and cultural use makes sense, also ability for residents to rent the hall for receptions, exhibitions and other private functions possibly	GTC recognises the value of a flexible, town-centre venue that can host a broad programme of cultural activity alongside community and private hires. This aligns with GTC's adopted priority to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to keep the town's events and cultural offer under review . The Borough Hall's role as an accessible setting for organised activity also supports wider town-centre vitality and community life.
As this was previously our asset and transferred to Waverley we have a right to have it back in the borough. Otherwise you will decimate the beauty of Godalming as a rural town.	It is important to clarify that any right to have an asset transferred back would depend on the current legal ownership and any historic transfer documentation (e.g., title, covenants, trust provisions and any agreements at the time of transfer). As part of any Community Asset Transfer discussion, GTC would expect these matters to be checked carefully alongside the financial and practical implications, so that any proposals are evidence-based and deliverable.
I find the borough Hall a splendid asset for the Godalming Film Society and other events. It would be most unfortunate if it were allowed to deteriorate.	GTC recognises the concern that it would be most unfortunate if the building were allowed to deteriorate, as this would risk the loss of an important town-centre facility used by residents and local groups. If future arrangements for the transfer of the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC's priority would be to secure a sustainable long-term solution that safeguards community access and is supported by an appropriate maintenance and investment plan, so the Hall remains safe, welcoming and fit for purpose.
Praise the council for using a municipal functioning office for community events	GTC notes this comment.
It would be a shame to potentially lose this valuable community asset	GTC notes this comment.

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>The Borough Hall is an important landmark in Godalming and should be protected. It is very important that the community see this building as a focal point in their town.</p>	<p>GTC recognises that the character and identity of Godalming town centre is closely linked to its historic built environment and heritage features, and that town-centre buildings and spaces provide a focal point for organised community activity and civic life . Respondents' comments such as this reinforce the importance of safeguarding the Borough Hall's role and presence within the heart of Godalming.</p>
<p>We need a good arts venue in Godalming.</p>	<p>GTC recognises the importance of accessible arts and cultural provision for residents of all ages, and this aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to support initiatives that widen participation .</p> <p>In the context of this Community Asset Transfer survey, GTC would want any proposals for an arts venue (including any future arrangements for the Borough Hall) to be underpinned by a sustainable operating and investment plan, so that community benefit is protected and the venue remains viable long-term.</p>
<p>I am President of Godalming Operatic Society who use the hall for their annual Gilbert & Sullivan performances and have done since 1925. This site is central in Godalming making it easy for people to get to it, especially if they don't have their own transport. We need this in the town for many activities which bring pleasure to the residents and those from further away. This benefits other amenities in the town, catering for visitors needs.</p>	<p>GTC recognises the Borough Hall as a valued, central venue that is easier for many people to reach, particularly those without access to private transport, and which supports a wide range of activities for residents and visitors.</p> <p>GTC notes the respondent's point that cultural events at the Borough Hall bring wider benefits to the town, including supporting local businesses and other amenities by generating visitor footfall, particularly in the town centre. Protecting and sustaining this type of community provision will be an important consideration in any future decisions about the Borough Hall's long-term management, including any potential community asset transfer, and would need to be supported by a viable operating and investment plan to secure ongoing community benefit.</p>
<p>The Borough Hall is a vital town asset for all manner of activities and not least the annual Godalming Operatic shows since 1925. The WBC council offices were essentially "a bolt on addition" If the council office complex is sold off the surely a proportion of the sale money should be devoted to the Borough Hall. Activities at the Hall bring much other benefit to the town economically. I am a member of Godalming Operatic and have written two books about the Society and I recognise the value of the Borough Hall. The Hall belongs to Godalming 60p per month per £1M borrowed is a small price to pay and as said if the council complex is sold then a proportion of the sale is due to Godalming.</p>	<p>GTC recognises the Borough Hall as a valued and longstanding community asset, with a well-evidenced cultural and economic contribution to the town. GTC notes the strength of local feeling that the Borough Hall should be treated as a Godalming asset and protected for ongoing community use. If the wider Waverley Borough Council office complex were to be sold or redeveloped, GTC would support an approach that ensures the Borough Hall benefits directly, particularly through appropriate reinvestment in the Hall's fabric, facilities, and long-term financial sustainability, so that community use can continue and grow.</p> <p>GTC is willing to engage constructively with Waverley Borough Council on viable options for the Borough Hall's future. The priority should be a sustainable outcome that safeguards the Hall for residents and community organisations, recognising both its heritage value and its ongoing role in the town's economic and social life.</p>
<p>It is really important that Godalming has a cultural space. It needs investment, so National Lottery funding may be an option. otherwise, expensive for local residents who are already seeing steep Council Tax increases under this government with funding also being diverted away to Labour constituencies further north in yet another stealth tax. Appalling!</p>	<p>GTC agrees that it is important for the town to retain accessible cultural and community spaces and notes the respondent's view that such facilities require ongoing investment to remain viable and fit for purpose.</p> <p>GTC also recognise residents' concerns about the overall cost-of-living and the cumulative impact of council tax and other household pressures. Any proposal that could result in additional local cost would need to be considered transparently.</p> <p>If a community asset transfer (or related arrangement) is progressed, GTC could support early exploration of external funding opportunities, alongside other grants and partnership funding, to reduce the burden on local residents and improve long-term sustainability.</p> <p>Any future decision would be subject to a robust business case, appropriate consultation, and due diligence.</p>
<p>The Hall has been really valuable for cultural and performance use, and is right in the heart of the town. Losing this would be a major dulling of Godalming's ambience</p>	<p>GTC agrees with the respondent's view that the Hall is a highly valued cultural and performance venue and that its central location makes it particularly accessible and integral to town-centre life.</p> <p>The Council recognises the concern that losing this facility would have a significant negative impact on Godalming's character, ambience and vibrancy, as well as reducing opportunities for residents and community groups to participate in and enjoy local arts and cultural activity.</p> <p>If a community asset transfer (or other future management arrangement) is progressed, GTC's priority would be to support an outcome that safeguards the Hall for continued community use, with a sustainable plan for investment, operation and long-term viability, informed by a robust business case and appropriate consultation.</p>
<p>I have been performing and attending many Godalming Operatic Society's (GOC) performances at the Borough Hall for 30 years. GOC celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.</p>	<p>GTC recognises that the Borough Hall supports long-running local organisations and events that contribute significantly to community life. Any future arrangements considered through a community asset transfer (or other model) should prioritise a sustainable outcome that enables the Hall to continue hosting cultural and community activities, supported by appropriate investment, clear governance arrangements, and ongoing accessibility for local groups.</p>
<p>Yes, it must be saved for the community. Needs better marketing of events</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC acknowledges that the Borough Hall's events programme would benefit from stronger, more consistent marketing. GTC recognises that increasing awareness of what's on (and how to book) can materially improve attendance, income, and the overall vibrancy of the venue, supporting both community access and long-term sustainability.</p> <p>If GTC were to take over responsibility for the Borough Hall, the Council would expect an early priority to be a clear marketing and communications plan, developed with current users and hirers. GTC would also want to ensure that marketing activity is proportionate, cost-effective, and supports a balanced programme of commercial hires and community use.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>Its imperative to Godalming and people in the area that this building is protected for the future</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>I don't trust West Surrey to protect Godalming community assets. I am sure its priority will be to asset strip all boroughs in order to pay back the £4 Ben debt dumped on it.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern about whether the future unitary authority would prioritise the long-term protection of Godalming's community assets, particularly in the context of its wider financial pressures.</p> <p>The Council recognises that public confidence depends on clear, enforceable safeguards.</p> <p>GTC has previously indicated it is open to taking on and stewarding local assets where this delivers a clear benefit for residents and can be supported by a viable, long-term plan. The Council's current priorities focus on assessing opportunities for managing assets currently held by Waverley Borough Council. Any decision on the Borough Hall would therefore need to be based on a robust business case, due diligence, and appropriate consultation.</p>
<p>A very good idea</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>We fully support GTC defence of Godalming special assets and amenities, including Holloway Hill recreation ground, Lammas Lands, Borough Hall, and special car parks.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>The Borough Hall is a valuable venue that must be preserved.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>People voted on to the council must not declare any political affiliation and should be elected on their merits as persons with knowledge of community affairs with a track record of community involvement at any level including schools, youth/church organisations, youth/adult sports clubs or groups and the like.</p>	<p>GTC welcomes the respondent's strong support for the protection and long-term stewardship of Godalming's special community assets and amenities. The Council recognises that these assets contribute materially to Godalming's character, community life, and accessibility, and that residents place a high value on them being managed in the town's interests. GTC remains committed to working constructively with partner authorities to secure sustainable, transparent arrangements for the future management of important local assets, where this is deliverable and supported by a robust case.</p> <p>As reflected in the Council's established approach to place-shaping and asset stewardship, GTC continues to assess opportunities for local management of assets currently held by the principal authority, where that would benefit residents and strengthen long-term accountability. Any proposals would be considered through proper governance, due diligence, and consultation.</p>
<p>This is an important community asset and it is imperative it is retained as us, safe from any asset realisation plans of the new unitary authority.</p>	<p>GTC acknowledges that the Borough Hall is an important community asset and that its future should be secured against any proposals that could lead to disposal or loss of community use as part of wider local government reorganisation or estate rationalisation.</p> <p>The Council recognises that residents want long-term certainty. If a community asset transfer (or any alternative governance/management arrangement) is progressed, GTC's priority would be to ensure that the Borough Hall is retained for community benefit through clear, transparent and enforceable protections.</p> <p>Any decision by GTC would be subject to a robust business case, due diligence, and appropriate consultation.</p>
<p>Godalming deserves a facility like the Cranleigh Arts Centre. A well run appeal for funding from local residents could be considered. I don't know the technicalities but if it had charitable status donations could attract tax relief.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's aspiration for Godalming to have a high-quality cultural facility comparable to venues such as the Cranleigh Arts Centre, and agrees that well-used arts and performance space can bring significant social, cultural and economic benefit.</p> <p>GTC also notes the suggestion that an appeal to local residents and supporters could form part of a future funding package, alongside external grants. The Council recognises that, depending on the governance model, charitable status (or delivery through a charitable body) may help unlock additional funding streams and may enable eligible donations to attract tax relief through established mechanisms such as Gift Aid. However, the technicalities are important. Any proposal for the Borough Hall, whether a Community Asset Transfer to GTC or an alternative arrangement, would need a robust business case.</p>
<p>Other similar-sized towns in the area (Farnham, Haslemere & Cranleigh) all have a theatre or arts space so I think it is important that there is one for Godalming too.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's comparison with other similar-sized local towns and villages (including Farnham, Haslemere and Cranleigh) and agrees that accessible arts, theatre and performance space is an important part of a thriving town.</p> <p>The Council recognises that cultural venues support community life, provide opportunities for local groups and residents to participate in the arts, and contribute to the wider vitality of the town centre through footfall linked to events and activities.</p> <p>In considering the future of the Borough Hall, GTC's priority would be a sustainable, long-term outcome that protects community benefit. This would need to be underpinned by a robust business case.</p>
<p>Godalming & its villages is certainly big enough to support an arts/entertainment centre. The Film Society has 100 plus members, GTG play to full houses & other , newer Am Dram groups, music groups etc. are all looking for spaces..plus the music gigs that used to happen at St John's Church had to relocate to Haslemere... that is before other creative arts and entertainment shows & events.. so think it could pay its way...</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that Godalming (including the surrounding villages) is of a scale that can support an arts and entertainment centre, and welcomes the specific examples provided of existing and growing demand for venues.</p> <p>GTC also notes the concern that when appropriate local venues are unavailable, events can be displaced to neighbouring towns, which can reduce local participation and divert associated footfall away from Godalming. Cultural events and town-centre activity are recognised as part of what supports the vitality and wider benefits of the town centre.</p> <p>In considering the future of the Borough Hall (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), the Town Council would want the level of demand described by respondents to be captured and tested through a clear programme plan and robust business case so that decisions are based on evidence and long-term sustainability.</p>
<p>Fully agree with the TC's position on this</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council exploring options for the Borough Hall (including potential cultural and performance uses), with early feasibility funded from Town Council reserves? Additional Comments

Public Comment	GTC Response
It is important for Godalming to retain this venue for events and performances.	GTC notes this comment.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
I liked the idea of using it as a performance space (which is already is, but developing that idea). Could it also be hired out for conferences? Would that generate some extra funding?	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for retaining and developing Borough Hall as a performance space, reflecting its existing role as an arts, cultural and community venue. The Council also recognises the suggestion that Borough Hall could be made available for conferences or similar hires. This type of use could help diversify income and support the long-term sustainability of the building, provided it remains compatible with community access, affordability, and the Hall's core function as a local performance and community space.</p> <p>As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect potential uses to be considered against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, heritage considerations, running costs, investment requirements, and opportunities to generate income that can be reinvested into the facility for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
Concerts, theatre, afternoon disco, wedding reception/ functions, cinema, quiz or hobby events, fundraising events, town meetings, social and sporting events, parent and child activities are a few suggestions as to the use of the Borough Hall.	<p>Godalming Town Council welcomes the wide range of suggested uses for Borough Hall. These suggestions reflect the Hall's potential to operate as a flexible, multi-use venue serving different age groups and interests across the town. They also support the Council's view that any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should prioritise continued community access, cultural use, affordability, and opportunities for local groups and residents to use the building.</p> <p>The Council would expect any future operating model to consider how a varied programme of events could be delivered sustainably.</p>
Continuing to use it as community hall for local events	GTC notes the respondent's support for Borough Hall continuing to be used as a community hall for local events. This aligns with the Council's view that Borough Hall should remain an accessible and flexible venue for the benefit of Godalming residents, local organisations, and community groups. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how the building can continue to support local events while remaining affordable, well-managed, and financially sustainable.
Continue with live music, fitness groups, children activities, cinema, local meetings, and theatre	These uses reflect the Hall's established role as a flexible arts, cultural, wellbeing, and community venue. GTC considers that any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should prioritise maintaining this breadth of community use, ensuring the building remains accessible, affordable, and capable of supporting a varied programme of activities for residents and local organisations. Any future operating model should also consider the facilities, management arrangements, and investment needed to sustain these uses over the long term.
Arts centre in the style of Aldershot's excellent west end centre.	<p>Godalming Town Council notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could be developed as an arts centre, drawing inspiration from successful multi-use arts venues such as Aldershot's West End Centre. This supports the view that Borough Hall has potential to remain and develop as a central cultural and community facility for Godalming, providing space for performances, workshops, classes, events, and wider community activity.</p> <p>As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect this type of option to be considered alongside practical issues such as investment requirements, operating costs, accessibility, affordability, heritage considerations, and the need to ensure that the venue continues to serve Godalming residents and local organisations.</p>
Could have some cultural festival activities in conjunction with other GTC venues	<p>GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could be used for cultural festival activities in conjunction with other Town Council venues. This would support the Hall's role as part of a wider network of community and cultural spaces across Godalming, helping to host performances, exhibitions, workshops, talks, and other festival-related activities. It could also encourage greater collaboration between local organisations, artists, community groups, and the Town Council.</p> <p>As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect opportunities for linked programming across Borough Hall and other Council venues to be explored.</p>
I think it is really important that we have a performance space and hall available for hire for Goslings nursery and Repair Café and various groups who use it. There are relatively spaces in Godalming which are available of this capacity and with the facilities. It is really important to have this space as part of our social and cultural life in the town. What can we do for our local young people? With cuts in youth work there is a distinct shortage of social opportunities for teenagers in our town.	<p>GTC recognises the Borough Hall as an important performance, arts and community venue, and as one of the few spaces in Godalming with the capacity and facilities to support a wide range of local activities. Future use should protect its role as an accessible hall for hire by local groups and should remain a flexible, multi-use space that supports the social and cultural life of the town.</p> <p>The Council also notes the importance of considering how Borough Hall could better serve young people in Godalming. With reductions in youth work and limited social opportunities for teenagers locally, any future asset transfer assessment should explore how the Hall could support youth-focused activities, events and safe social provision.</p> <p>Overall, the Town Council considers that Borough Hall should continue to operate as a community-focused venue, with future plans prioritising accessibility, affordability, cultural use and clear benefit to Godalming residents.</p>
Flea markets, craft fairs, community groups!	The response highlights support for Borough Hall continuing to operate as a flexible, multi-purpose community venue. Suggested uses such as flea markets, craft fairs and community group activities demonstrate the value of retaining accessible hall space for local residents, small traders, voluntary organisations and community-led events.
As above, plus exercise classes, msybr mums and toddlers groups, retirement tgroups	The response supports Borough Hall being retained as an accessible community venue for activities across different age groups. Suggested uses such as exercise classes, mums and toddlers groups, and retirement groups show the importance of flexible hall space that can support health, wellbeing, social connection and intergenerational community use.
Yes..! A venue for performances, including concerts and gigs	This would support Godalming's cultural life, provide opportunities for local performers and audiences, and help ensure the building remains an active, well-used community asset. Any community asset transfer should therefore consider how Borough Hall can continue to provide affordable and accessible performance space, while also allowing a wider programme of community, cultural and income-generating events to support its long-term sustainability.
Godalming film club, Tai Chi and Yoga classes, Ceroc and other dance events.	The response highlights support for Borough Hall continuing to operate as a flexible, multi-purpose community venue. Suggested uses such as film club, Tai Chi and Yoga classes, Ceroc and other dance events demonstrate the value of retaining accessible hall space for local residents, voluntary organisations and community-led events.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
Local theatre groups, film society, exhibitions, NCT fairs, space for exercise and dance clubs, children's nursery, Repair Café, other community and civic events throughout the year. It would be great if we could have films on general release like Chiddingfold, Haslemere and Elstead, plus live links to shows/ballet in London (like Haslemere offer). We don't have many spaces of this size available for hire and I think it would be a distinct loss to our town if it was no longer around.	GTC notes the strong support for retaining a venue of this size in the town and recognises the concern that its loss would be significant for Godalming. The suggestion of expanding film provision, including general-release screenings and live links to theatre, ballet, and other performances, demonstrates the potential for Borough Hall to develop further as a cultural and community hub. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect these opportunities to be considered alongside the practical requirements. Any future model should seek to safeguard Borough Hall as a flexible, accessible venue serving residents, local groups, and civic life throughout the year.
Theatre, clubs., danceS.	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall should continue to be used for theatre, clubs, and dances. These uses are consistent with the Hall's role as a flexible community and cultural venue, supporting performance, social activity, and local group use. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how Borough Hall can remain accessible, affordable, and suitable for a varied programme of community events and activities.
No but think it would be better served buy the town council than the unitary authority	GTC notes the respondent's view that Borough Hall would be better served by the Town Council than by the future unitary authority. While the response does not identify specific future uses, it supports the principle that local management and decision-making could help ensure Borough Hall continues to meet the needs of Godalming residents.
As it is currently used - film, pop acts with maybe some theatre performances thrown in.	This response reinforces the importance of Borough Hall as an established cultural and entertainment venue within the town. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how its existing uses can be protected and enhanced, while exploring opportunities to broaden the programme where this is practical, affordable, and sustainable.
Much the same as its current use, but with the reintroduction of a regular cinema showing	GTC notes the respondent's support for Borough Hall continuing to be used broadly in line with its current role, with the specific suggestion that regular cinema screenings could be reintroduced. This supports the view that Borough Hall should remain a flexible cultural and community venue, while also exploring opportunities to strengthen its programme and increase regular use by residents.
I like the idea of a central performance, culture and arts space for the town, in the same way as they have The Maltings in Farnham.	This suggestion reflects the potential for Borough Hall to act as a cultural hub for Godalming, supporting performances, arts activity, exhibitions, workshops, community events, and wider civic use. The Council recognises the importance of retaining a central venue that can contribute to the town's cultural life and provide accessible opportunities for residents, local groups, and visitors.
Cinema nights, talks from experts, regular youth group meet ups	GTC notes these ideas which support the Hall's potential as a flexible community and cultural venue, offering activities that appeal to different age groups and interests. The Council particularly notes the value of providing opportunities for young people, alongside cultural and educational programming for the wider community. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect these options to be considered alongside practical matters such as safeguarding arrangements, staffing, programming, affordability, accessibility, equipment, licensing, and long-term financial sustainability.
Arts centre. Incorporating cinema and theatre.	This suggestion supports the view that the Hall has potential to operate as a central cultural venue for Godalming, providing space for performance, film, creative activity, and community events. Any Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how arts, cinema, and theatre uses could be supported in a way that remains accessible, affordable, and sustainable for residents and local organisations.
I think it's current uses are exactly right.	GTC notes this comment.
Entertainment, music, film, performance and arts.	GTC notes these uses which align with the Hall's established role as a cultural and community venue and reinforce its potential to provide a central space for creative activity in Godalming. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how these uses can be protected and developed, while ensuring the venue remains accessible, affordable, well-managed, and financially sustainable for the benefit of residents and local organisations.
Access point for local police. Concert hall, community centre for fitness groups, youth activities, talks, etc. Offices upstairs let out businesses, social sevicees, police, etc.	These ideas highlight the potential for Borough Hall to operate as a flexible multi-use facility, combining cultural, community, civic, and income-generating uses. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect these options to be considered against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, affordability, safeguarding, security, operational management, compatibility between different uses, investment requirements, and long-term financial sustainability. Any future model should prioritise benefits for Godalming residents while protecting the Hall's role as a central community and cultural asset.
A versatile cultural space with a broad range of activities would be great. cinema theatre, cultural festival	GTC welcomes the respondent's support for Borough Hall being used as a versatile cultural space offering a broad range of activities, including cinema, theatre, and cultural festival events. This reflects the Hall's potential to operate as a central cultural and community venue for Godalming, supporting performances, film screenings, festivals, exhibitions, workshops, and wider local activity.
Music and performance for local groups Yoga, t'ai chi etc	GTC notes the respondent's support for Borough Hall being used for music and performance by local groups, alongside activities such as yoga, t'ai chi, and other wellbeing classes. These suggestions reflect the Hall's potential to continue as a flexible community and cultural venue, supporting both creative activity and health and wellbeing uses for residents.
The current uses are great and I support keeping it available for community uses such as cinema, tai chi, craft sales, meeting spaces, dance/drama lessons etc.	These examples demonstrate the Hall's value as a flexible and accessible venue supporting cultural, social, educational, and wellbeing activities for residents and local groups. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how these existing uses can be protected and sustained, while also exploring opportunities to improve the building and broaden its community offer where practical.
Theatre/cinema/ educational classes	These uses are consistent with the Hall's role as a flexible cultural, community, and learning venue, supporting entertainment, arts, and opportunities for residents to take part in classes or informal education.
MUSIC, BANDS, THEATRE, PANTOMIME, COMEDY, EXHIBITIONS, LOCAL RESIDENT MEETINGS	These suggested uses reflect the Hall's value as a flexible cultural, entertainment, civic, and community venue. They also reinforce the importance of retaining a central space in Godalming that can support performances, creative activity, exhibitions, public meetings, and opportunities for residents to come together.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
Cinema, theatre, warm hub, community space, evening classes, exhibitions, communications space.	These ideas reflect the Hall's potential to serve a broad community role, supporting cultural activity, learning, social connection, public information, and practical support for residents. The inclusion of a warm hub also highlights the importance of accessible community facilities that can respond to local needs. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how Borough Hall could accommodate a varied programme of cultural, civic, educational, and community uses, while remaining affordable, accessible, well-managed, and financially sustainable for the benefit of Godalming residents.
Needs to be used for more community events but would need greater flexibility of the internal workings. Again needs investment and modernisation but could be the jewel in the crown although competing with the Wilfrid Noyce Centre for the same markets and users.	The Council also recognises the comments about the need for investment and modernisation, and the potential for Borough Hall to become a significant community and cultural asset for the town. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider the improvements required to make the building more adaptable, accessible, and attractive to a wider range of users. The Council would also expect the assessment to consider how Borough Hall's future role would complement, rather than duplicate, the offer at other local venues such as the Wilfrid Noyce Centre. This would help ensure that any investment delivers clear community benefit, supports sustainable use, and strengthens Godalming's overall provision of community spaces.
Bring back the cinema!	This suggestion reflects the Hall's potential to continue as a cultural and community venue, offering accessible entertainment for residents in the town centre.
Day time use as a drop in medical centre. Maintain current use for exercise classes, cinema, shows. Provide table tennis tables for use by private clubs / U3A.	The Council notes the suggestion of daytime use as a drop-in medical or wellbeing facility. This highlights the potential for Borough Hall to support wider community needs, provided any such use is practical, appropriately managed, and compatible with the building's main community and cultural functions.
I would love to see the borough hall become a cultural hub for Godalming. Farnham Maltings offer so much to the community it would be great to see the hall being used like that. Although obviously on a smaller scale.	Godalming Town Council welcomes the respondent's aspiration for Borough Hall to become a cultural hub for Godalming, drawing inspiration from the broad community and cultural offer provided by Farnham Maltings, while recognising that any model for Godalming would need to be proportionate to the scale and capacity of Borough Hall. This suggestion reinforces the potential for the Hall to support a varied programme of arts, performance, film, workshops, markets, community events, and social activities, helping to strengthen Godalming's cultural life and town centre offer.
A theatre and arts venue would be good. Community led cafe and spaces for groups.	As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect this type of cultural hub model to be explored alongside practical considerations. Any future approach should prioritise benefits for Godalming residents and local organisations while protecting Borough Hall's role as a central community asset.
A theatre and arts venue would be good. Community led cafe and spaces for groups.	These suggestions reflect the potential for Borough Hall to operate as a welcoming cultural and community hub, supporting performance, creative activity, social connection, and regular use by local organisations. A community-led café could also help increase daytime activity and provide an accessible meeting point for residents, subject to practical considerations.
Could we have films and relays from ROH back again?	Godalming Town Council notes the respondent's support for reintroducing film screenings and live relays from venues such as the Royal Opera House at Borough Hall. This suggestion reflects the Hall's potential to provide accessible cultural programming in the town centre, offering residents opportunities to enjoy cinema, theatre, opera, ballet, and other performances locally. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect options for reinstating this type of provision to be considered alongside practical requirements such as technical equipment, licensing, programming, audience demand, staffing, affordability, and long-term financial sustainability.
I have been to the hall to see the show. Sorry I can't come up with a wonderful idea	GTC notes this comment.
A youth club or expansion of current offers.	Godalming Town Council notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could support a youth club or an expansion of current offers for young people. The Council recognises the importance of youth provision in the town and would expect any future use of Borough Hall to be considered alongside existing services, including the Godalming Youth Service. Rather than duplicating established provision, the Community Asset Transfer assessment should explore whether Borough Hall could complement current youth activities, provide additional capacity, or support partnership working with existing providers. Any youth-focused use would need to be considered alongside safeguarding, staffing, affordability, accessibility, supervision, programming, and compatibility with Borough Hall's wider community and cultural uses. The Council would welcome further exploration of how the Hall could contribute positively to opportunities for young people in Godalming.
If it is feasible to operate it separately by the town council fine but costs might be prohibitive	GTC notes the respondent's view that Town Council operation of Borough Hall could be supported if it is feasible, while recognising the concern that the associated costs may be prohibitive. This reflects the importance of carrying out a full and transparent assessment before any Community Asset Transfer decision is made. The Council would expect future consideration to include acquisition terms, running costs, staffing, maintenance liabilities, investment requirements, income opportunities, external funding, use of reserves where appropriate, and long-term financial sustainability. Any proposal would need to demonstrate that Borough Hall can be managed in a way that protects community benefit, maintains accessibility and affordability, and represents a responsible use of public funds for Godalming residents.
Concerts, theatre, cinema, folk dancing, craft fairs. In other words, all the events that we used to be able to enjoy here.	GTC notes the respondent's support for Borough Hall being used for concerts, theatre, cinema, folk dancing, craft fairs, and similar events previously enjoyed by the community. These comments reinforce the value of Borough Hall as a long-standing cultural and community venue for Godalming, and highlight the importance of protecting and, where possible, restoring a varied programme of local events. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how the Hall can continue to support arts, entertainment, social activities, markets, and community gatherings in a way that remains accessible, affordable, well-managed, and financially sustainable for residents and local organisations.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
It is an important performance venue for Godalming - Godalming Opera, pantomime, film society etc. and must be preserved as such.	GTC notes the respondent's strong support for preserving Borough Hall as an important performance venue for Godalming, including use by groups and activities such as Godalming Opera, pantomime, film society, and similar cultural events. These comments reinforce the Hall's established role in supporting local arts, performance, film, and community entertainment. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how Borough Hall's performance function can be protected and sustained, while ensuring the venue remains accessible, affordable, well-managed, and financially viable for the benefit of Godalming residents, local organisations, and cultural groups.
Continue to provide a venue for the Music Festival and theatre/music performances. Also to be available to anyone who wishes to hire it for a private party	GTC notes the respondent's support for Borough Hall continuing to provide a venue for the Music Festival, theatre, music performances, and private hire. These comments reinforce the Hall's role as an important cultural, community, and social venue for Godalming. The Council recognises the value of retaining a flexible space that can support established local events, performances, and private functions, while remaining accessible to residents, groups, and organisations.
Public meetings, entertainment (theatre, film, comedy, music), public lectures, political meetings, clubs & society meetings, adult education classes e.g. arts & crafts, badminton, table tennis?, retail fairs e.g. vintage/antiques (as in Farnham Maltings)?	GTC welcomes the respondent's wide-ranging suggestions for Borough Hall. These suggestions demonstrate the potential for Borough Hall to operate as a flexible, multi-use venue supporting civic life, culture, learning, leisure, and community activity throughout the year. They also highlight opportunities to broaden the Hall's programme and generate income through appropriate hires, while maintaining its core community purpose. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should consider how these uses could be accommodated safely and sustainably.
Community events	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall should be used for community events. This supports the Council's view that Borough Hall should remain an accessible and flexible venue for the benefit of Godalming residents, local organisations, and community groups.
An arts centre	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could be used as an arts centre. This reflects the Hall's potential to serve as a central cultural venue for Godalming, supporting performance, exhibitions, workshops, creative classes, film, and wider community activity. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how an arts centre model could be delivered in a way that remains accessible, affordable, inclusive, and financially sustainable for residents, local groups, and cultural organisations.
Theatre, cinema, seasonal events, cafe, local services, adult education etc	GTC notes the respondent's suggestions that Borough Hall could be used for theatre, cinema, seasonal events, a café, local services, adult education, and other community activities. These ideas reflect the potential for Borough Hall to operate as a flexible cultural and community hub, supporting arts and entertainment, learning opportunities, social connection, public-facing services, and year-round activity for residents. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should consider how these uses could be accommodated in a way that is accessible, affordable, inclusive, and financially sustainable.
Cultural, performing and arts centre	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could be used as a cultural, performing, and arts centre. This supports the view that Borough Hall has the potential to remain and develop as a central cultural venue for Godalming, providing space for performance, creative activity, exhibitions, workshops, film, and wider community events. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should therefore consider how this type of use could be delivered in a way that is accessible, affordable, inclusive, well-managed, and financially sustainable for the benefit of Godalming residents, local groups, and cultural organisations.
A tasteful everyman cinema with affordable snacks would be lovely	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could provide a cinema-style offer, with an attractive setting and affordable refreshments. This reflects the wider interest in reinstating or expanding film provision at Borough Hall as part of a broader cultural and community programme. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should consider whether regular or occasional cinema use could be delivered sustainably.
Entertainment equivalent to Cranleigh Arts	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall could provide an entertainment offer comparable to Cranleigh Arts Centre. This supports the view that Borough Hall has potential to operate as a central cultural and community venue for Godalming, offering a varied programme of film, live performance, music, comedy, talks, workshops, exhibitions, and other accessible activities. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect this type of model to be considered in a way that is proportionate to Godalming's needs and Borough Hall's capacity, alongside practical issues and long-term financial sustainability.
The Borough Hall already has a wide range of uses. Promoting its availability and facilities might bring forward new hirers with new ideas. When I made enquiries about hiring the hall I was put off by the high charges which might be correct for commercial hire but not for local or charity use. Perhaps a survey of the hire costs of halls within say 20 miles might be a start.	GTC notes the respondent's view that Borough Hall already supports a wide range of uses, and that improved promotion of its availability and facilities could help attract new hirers and activities. The Council also recognises the concern raised about hire charges, particularly where local groups, charities, or community users may find costs prohibitive. As part of any Community Asset Transfer assessment, the Council would expect the future hire model to consider affordability, accessibility, and appropriate differentiation between commercial, private, charitable, and community use. The suggestion of benchmarking hire charges against comparable halls within the surrounding area is welcomed. This could help inform a fair and transparent pricing structure that supports community access while also contributing to the Hall's running costs and long-term financial sustainability.
Musical concerts.	GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Borough Hall should be used for musical concerts. This supports the Hall's established role as a cultural and performance venue within the town. Any future Community Asset Transfer assessment should consider how Borough Hall can continue to accommodate musical performances in a way that is accessible, affordable, well-managed, and financially sustainable for the benefit of Godalming residents, performers, and local organisations.
Expand current activities - perhaps a regular music venue.	GTC recognises that a consistent, well-promoted schedule of music events could help broaden the Hall's appeal, increase year-round use, and strengthen its contribution to community life. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all and the wider role of town-centre venues in supporting organised activity in the heart of Godalming.
It would be fantastic if the Borough Hall could have a more permanent use as an 'Everyman' style cinema, or gig venue.	GTC recognises the potential community benefit of a regular, well-programmed cinema and live music offer, which could broaden the Hall's appeal, increase year-round use, and strengthen the town's cultural provision. This aligns with GTC's corporate priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and to keep the town's events offer under review. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want these ideas to be tested through a robust options appraisal and business case.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
Performance/ theatre space	The Council recognises the importance of maintaining accessible local venues for cultural and community activity, which aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all .
Community space to be preserved fr rang of uses and hire as present. There is an opportunity to rationalise the Borough Hall, Waverley Borough Council Building and Library sites. Keep the Borough Hall main room as is, with a new more modern theatre/ performance space auditorium and library in a redeveloped council building. There could also be places to meet with the police, West Surrey Council officers, library and a "banking area" manned by the main banks on rotation providing a counter service a police to meet bank staff in person	GTC recognises the potential benefits of this kind of rationalisation, including improved accessibility, modern facilities, better co-location of services, and a stronger town-centre civic and cultural hub. However, proposals of this scale would be complex and would depend on many variables. If options are developed further, GTC would expect a robust options appraisal/business case and appropriate consultation.
Arts, participation and performance, more cinema, better utilisation and central point for the town.	GTC recognises the value of accessible cultural provision and events in supporting community life and participation, which aligns with the Town Council's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and to keep the town's events offer under review . GTC also notes that town-centre buildings and spaces can provide a focal point for organised activities and community life. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want these aspirations to be tested through a robust options appraisal and business case.
Music events, community cinema, concerts, dancing, keep fit, yoga, repair cafe, public talks, etc.	GTC recognises the value of a lively, flexible town-centre venue that can support cultural activity alongside health and wellbeing and practical community initiatives. This aligns with GTC's corporate priorities to encourage and promote access to leisure facilities and the arts for all , and its wider objectives around sustainability, including encouraging repair and re-use activity in the community . If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want a mixed programme such as this to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan so the Hall remains well-used and viable year-round for community benefit.
a lot, but it already does, film club, dance classes et cetera, maybe a lot more live music, something similar to Aldershots West End, or the Farnham Maltings	GTC recognises the importance of accessible arts, culture and events in supporting community life, and this aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and to keep the town's events offer under review . GTC also recognises the role that town-centre venues play as a focal point for organised community activity. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any expansion of live music and performance use to be supported by a robust, deliverable plan and business case so that community benefit is protected and the venue remains sustainable long-term.
Nothing specific to add to what has been suggested already. But the wider the range of potential uses to which it could be put, the wider the communal support you are likely to have for your welcome and sensible initiative.	The Council agrees that flexibility is important. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want the venue to remain capable of supporting a broad mix of activity, so that it remains well-used, inclusive and relevant to different age groups and interests.
Providing a local venue for theatre, music, film and other arts functions as well as other community services	GTC recognises the value of a flexible, town-centre building that can host a broad programme of cultural and community use, helping ensure residents can access performances, screenings, classes and community activity locally. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all.
Certainly more use for theatre and performance generally, but it could also be used for much more...a simple cafe, some sort of support/advice centre, craft or other stalls...but with more advertising. It is an ideal community 'hub'.	GTC recognises the value of a flexible town-centre venue that can support a wide range of cultural and community activity. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to keep the town's events and cultural offer under review . GTC also notes the point about improving advertising/marketing. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would expect a clear communications and marketing approach reflecting the Council's wider commitment to strengthen communications and engagement with residents.
As above, but please keep the Cellar Camino Cafe open. It is a wonderful resource for everyone but in particular the marginalised	GTC recognises the importance of inclusive community spaces and this aligns with GTC's commitment to support and promote Equality, Diversity and Inclusion . GTC also recognises that café/refreshment provision can complement community and cultural use by making the building more welcoming and accessible for a wider range of residents and visitors. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would expect the business case to consider any current occupancy/tenancy arrangements.
A community theatre	GTC recognises the value of an accessible local performance venue that can support amateur and community productions, school/community showcases, and wider participation in the arts, which aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all.
entertainment hub; indoor markets; children events	GTC recognises the value of a flexible town-centre venue that can host a mix of cultural activity and community events, and this aligns with GTC's priorities to support access to the arts and events and to support children and young people through local provision . GTC also notes the wider role that town-centre venues and spaces play as focal points for organised community activity.
I would like to see it used as a community theatre/cinema at a reasonable hire fee. In recent years suitable venues for community theatre groups have been decreasing and I'm sure there would be quite a lot of interest.	The Council recognises the value of affordable and accessible cultural provision in the town which aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to support a strong local events and cultural offer . If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any theatre/cinema model to be supported by a robust business case.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
The Borough Hall should have a rolling schedule of events that draw an income, some of the fairs that are put on are tired and dull and certainly don't interest me. More paid for shows, exercise classes exp in the evening and weekend, bring the cinema back for example	GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall would benefit from a refreshed, rolling programme of events that both increases participation and helps generate a sustainable income stream. GTC recognises the importance of keeping the town's events and cultural offer under review and supporting access to arts, leisure and events for all. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would expect any expanded programme to be underpinned by a robust operating plan and business case.
Definitely for local events/entertainment	GTC recognises the importance of accessible arts, culture and community events for residents, which aligns with GTC's priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and to keep the town's events offer under review . GTC also recognises the role of town-centre venues in providing a focal point for organised community activity . If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC's priority would be a sustainable long-term model that safeguards community benefit and supports a strong, well-promoted programme of events.
Live streaming of shows and films - currently go to Elstead Village Hall for a monthly film night, which is good but limited	The Council recognises that a regular programme of screenings (including streamed/live cultural content where feasible) could broaden the Borough Hall's offer and make arts and culture more accessible locally. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to keep the town's events and cultural offer under review. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want this option to be tested through an options appraisal and business case.
It should continue as a meeting place and provide space for theatre, entertainment, classes such as dancing et cetera. More or less what it does now.	GTC recognises the value of maintaining a well-used, accessible town-centre building that can support a broad mix of community and cultural activity. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all , and with the wider role of town-centre venues and spaces as focal points for organised community activity. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any continuation or enhancement of this mixed-use role to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan.
Exhibitions, community events, arts, performance space. Continue current uses. Theatre, cinema etc.	The Council recognises the value of a flexible, accessible town-centre venue that can accommodate both cultural and community activity. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all and supports the wider role of town-centre spaces as focal points for organised community life. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any continuation or enhancement of this mixed-use role to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan.
Rentable offices. Keep the theatre as is for shows and events	GTC recognises that a mixed-use approach could help balance community benefit with potential income generation, provided this does not compromise the Hall's primary cultural and civic function. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any such option to be tested through a robust options appraisal and business case.
I think the borough hall is already used for good community purposes - so 'more of the same'	GTC recognises the value of maintaining a well-used, accessible town-centre building that can support a broad mix of community and cultural activity. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all , and with the wider role of town-centre venues and spaces as focal points for organised community activity. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any continuation or enhancement of this mixed-use role to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan.
Anything of a tranquil nature which draws the community in.	GTC recognises the value of tranquil, inclusive uses that can broaden the Hall's appeal and complement its cultural and community role. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want the venue's programme to remain flexible and balanced, so that quieter community-focused activity can sit alongside other cultural and performance uses.
Would love a local ceilidh group	GTC recognises that social dance and music-based activity can be a valuable way of bringing people together, broadening the Hall's appeal, and supporting regular community use. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want the venue to be capable of supporting a range of participatory cultural activity, including dance, music and social events, where this is practical and sustainable.
A community space open to all	GTC agrees that inclusivity, accessibility and broad community benefit should be central to any future role for the Borough Hall. This aligns with GTC's commitment to support and promote Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and to encourage access to cultural and community activity for all residents.
Food bank or baby bank, community groups, toddler groups or other support groups.	GTC recognises the value of an accessible town-centre building that can host not only cultural events, but also services and groups that provide direct support to residents and families. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any such uses to be considered as part of a balanced and sustainable programme. The priority would be to ensure that the Hall remains a flexible community asset that is welcoming, inclusive and well used.
Continue to use it for cinema and theatre productions but hold these more regularly. Also for private event hire. Market it as a destination in Godalming in its own right, if that is possible! Relocate the existing Town Council's "shop" or tourist information centre to it so that visitors are drawn to it.	GTC notes these comments which align with GTC's wider priorities to encourage access to the arts and events, review the town's events offer, and improve communication with residents about Council activity and local opportunities . GTC also notes the suggestion of relocating the Town Council's existing "shop"/tourist information function to the Borough Hall. While this is a separate operational question that would need to be considered on its own merits, it could be explored as part of any wider options appraisal if there is a clear benefit in increasing footfall and strengthening the Hall's role as a community and visitor focal point.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
Its been utilised well presently as far as I'm aware	GTC notes this comment.
Updating and expanding its current use as a arts/music/community venue	GTC recognises the value of building on an established use rather than starting from scratch. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all and to support wider participation in cultural activity in Godalming . It also reflects the wider role that town-centre buildings and spaces play as focal points for organised community activity and civic life.
I'd like to see more films, performances and music. Craft fairs and community events	GTC recognises the value of a varied, well-programmed venue that can appeal to different audiences and support both cultural activity and wider community use. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all and to keep the town's events offer under review. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want any expanded programme of screenings, performances, music, fairs and community events to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan covering programming, marketing, booking and operational arrangements, accessibility, and long-term financial sustainability, so that the Hall remains well used and viable year-round.
We have enjoyed many performance at the Borough Hall over the 36 years we have lived in the community. The annual Gilbert & Sullivan operas and occasional top quality films are among the times we have enjoyed using the Hall.	GTC notes this comment.
Ceilidh Council / charity fundraiser eg quiz / meal	GTC recognises the value of participatory social events that bring people together, support community life, and can also help generate funds for local causes. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want the venue to be capable of supporting a wide range of community-led and fundraising activity, where practical and sustainable, alongside its wider cultural and community use.
As no asa a performance space and facility for the local populous.	GTC recognises the value of maintaining an accessible, town-centre venue that supports cultural activity and wider community use.
The idea of a 'performance hub' clearly depends on affordability	GTC agrees that this is a key consideration. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), any "performance hub" model would need to be supported by a robust business case. The priority would be to ensure that any proposal is financially sustainable, proportionate and transparent, so that community benefit is protected without creating an undue burden on local taxpayers.
Carry on with musical events, community issues, and projects like the repairing of second hand household equipment on occasional Saturdays	GTC recognises the value of a flexible venue that can accommodate cultural activity alongside community-led practical initiatives. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all, and with the Council's wider sustainability objectives around encouraging repair, reuse and refashioning within the community. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any such mixed programme to be supported by a clear and deliverable plan, so that the Hall remains well used and viable while continuing to deliver broad community benefit.
Theatre groups, comedy nights, films, private hire	GTC recognises the value of a flexible, town-centre venue that can host a broad range of cultural and community activity while also generating income through appropriate private hire. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want any such mixed-use approach to be supported by a clear and sustainable plan.
I think it should be a multi purpose system as it is currently for community events, concerts, films etc.	GTC recognises the value of maintaining a flexible, accessible town-centre building that can support a broad range of cultural and community use.
Public hub for the town, enabling events such as arts, theatre, pop up. A facility for the whole community.	GTC recognises the value of a flexible, welcoming town-centre venue that can act as a focal point for community life and be accessible to a broad range of residents and groups. This aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts and events for all, and to support inclusive community participation.
Shows, talks, meeting, rehearsal space, cinema, rock choir shows,	GTC recognises the value of a flexible, town-centre venue that can accommodate both performance activity and wider community use. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any such mixed programme to be supported by a clear and sustainable plan.
Clubs..toddler groups, clubs for the elderly, clubs for teenagers in the evening. Activities that bring the community together. Theatre, cinema, jumble sales, Christmas events, art shows, antique sales etc	The Council recognises the value of a flexible, inclusive town-centre venue that can accommodate both cultural events and practical community use. This aligns with GTC's wider priorities to support children and young people, encourage access to the arts and events, and promote inclusive community participation . Any future youth-related use would also need to be considered alongside existing GTC youth provision, so that it complements rather than duplicates current services. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed (including any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want any such mixed-use model to be supported by a clear and sustainable plan covering: programming for different age groups, safeguarding and supervision requirements, accessibility, booking and marketing, and long-term financial viability—so that the Hall remains a welcoming facility for the whole community.
A flexible central space can't be lost to short term needs just because a business case doesn't immediately present itself. Once gone it's never coming back. The potential uses, commercial, and possible revenue generating, and any other cultural uses will present themselves in due course.	GTC recognises this concern. Valued community buildings can deliver benefits that are not always captured fully by a narrow short-term financial assessment and the ability to respond to future community needs as they evolve. This is consistent with the wider objective of retaining and enhancing community infrastructure in Godalming and Farncombe and with national policy to guard against the unnecessary loss of valued community facilities and services. At the same time, any proposal for the Borough Hall would still need a robust and proportionate appraisal.
A music and arts venue.	GTC recognises the importance of accessible cultural provision in the town and this aligns with GTC's adopted priorities to encourage and promote access to the arts for all and to support wider participation in arts activity in Godalming. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want any "music and arts venue" model to be supported by a robust and deliverable plan covering programming, accessibility, technical requirements, safeguarding and licensing where applicable, and long-term financial sustainability, so that community benefit is protected and the venue remains viable.

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>It's actually quite worrying that a Town Council doesn't KNOW what the Borough Hall can do and should be used for, and is having to get "ideas" from residents.</p>	<p>The Council wishes to reassure respondents that inviting public suggestions is a deliberate and important part of this consultation process. A Community Asset Transfer (or any alternative future arrangement) must be informed by evidence of local need and demand, and it is good practice to test options with residents, current users and stakeholders before developing (or confirming) a preferred model. This sits alongside the Council's wider commitment to improve and formalise engagement with residents on the provision and funding of initiatives .</p> <p>Any future proposals for the Borough Hall would still require a robust options appraisal and business case (including feasibility, costs, liabilities, accessibility, and financial sustainability) and would be brought forward through the appropriate governance and decision-making processes.</p>
<p>With an upgrade it would continue to be the perfect setting for theatrical shows, musical events and cinema, and a facility for private hire for functions, clubs and playgroups. Parking and pubs/restaurants all close by make it a great venue.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that, with appropriate investment and upgrade, the Borough Hall could continue to provide an excellent, flexible setting for theatrical shows, musical events and film/cinema screenings, alongside continued private and community hire (e.g., functions, clubs and playgroups). GTC also notes the value of the Hall's central location, with nearby parking and a strong surrounding offer of pubs and restaurants. This type of town-centre venue can help sustain a lively programme of activity and support wider footfall and spend in the town centre associated with events and community activity .</p> <p>If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would want any "upgrade and expanded programme" ambition to be underpinned by a robust, deliverable plan covering: building condition and compliance; accessibility; technical capability (sound/lighting/projection); licensing and safeguarding; an affordable hire/fees framework; and long-term financial sustainability, so that the venue remains well-used and viable for the community.</p>
<p>Apart from it existing varied use. If structural improvements are incorporated they could include conference/lecture/rehearsal room (s) and perhaps larger displays which museum could not accommodate</p>	<p>GTC welcomes the constructive suggestions for how the space could be enhanced through future structural and layout improvements. In particular, the Council notes the potential for the Hall (or ancillary spaces, where feasible) to provide conference and lecture facilities, rehearsal and workshop rooms, and improved capacity for larger exhibitions/displays that may not be easily accommodated elsewhere. The suggestion of enabling occasional overflow or complementary exhibition space linked to Godalming Museum's offer is also noted as a potential community benefit.</p> <p>Any consideration of expanding the Hall's functions would need to be based on evidence of demand and a robust appraisal of feasibility, including: building constraints and heritage considerations (where applicable), accessibility and safeguarding requirements, fire safety and capacity, running costs, and funding options. If future management arrangements are progressed, GTC would expect a clear options appraisal and business case to identify the most deliverable mix of uses and the investment required to support them sustainably.</p>
<p>Venue for art exhibitions? Develop into something more akin to Cranleigh Arts Centre which is amazingly successful with many volunteers supporting.. eg National Theatre Live shows. Concerts? Theatre performances?</p>	<p>GTC welcomes the respondent's suggestions for strengthening the Borough Hall's role as a multi-purpose arts and culture venue. In particular, GTC notes the potential for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - art exhibitions (including temporary and community-led displays); - a programme of live/cinema screenings (e.g., National Theatre Live, where technically feasible); - concerts and music events; and - theatre and performance (professional and community productions). <p>GTC notes the reference to the Cranleigh Arts Centre model and the point that successful venues often benefit from a strong base of volunteer support, partnerships, and a clear programme identity.</p> <p>If the Borough Hall is to develop in this direction, GTC would want proposals to be underpinned by a robust and deliverable plan covering: building suitability and any required upgrades (including technical capacity and accessibility), governance and staffing/volunteering arrangements, programming and marketing, safeguarding and licensing requirements, and long-term financial sustainability, so that community benefit is protected and costs/risks are properly managed.</p>
<p>I have recently performed my first show at the Borough Hall for an amateur theatre company and it is clearly a much loved venue for the local community as we came close to selling out, every performance. It would be a shame if the Hall weren't available for such cultural events in the future.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's recent experience of performing at the Borough Hall and the clear evidence of local demand for amateur theatre, with performances reported as close to sold out. GTC recognises that this reflects the Borough Hall's role as a much-loved and well-used community venue, supporting local cultural activity and participation.</p> <p>GTC also notes the respondent's concern that it would be a loss to the town if the Hall were not available for cultural events in the future. In considering the Hall's long-term future, GTCs priority would be to secure a sustainable arrangement that protects community access and enables performances and events to continue, supported by appropriate investment, clear governance, and a viable operating plan.</p>

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>The Borough hall could expand its uses possibly to include the following 1. Operatic, theatrical, concert performances 2. Cultural workshops for local schools and colleges 3. Workshops, seminars and lectures similar to those which occur in Guildford at the Guildhall. 4. Weddings, parties and other celebration events 5. Community meetings for the local communities</p>	<p>GTC welcomes the constructive suggestions for widening and strengthening the Borough Hall's role as a flexible, multi-use venue for Godalming and the surrounding area. GTC notes the potential for an expanded programme including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performances – operatic, theatrical and concert events (professional and community-led). - Education and participation – cultural workshops and outreach opportunities for local schools and colleges. - Talks and learning – workshops, seminars and lectures, including an events programme that complements what is available in nearby towns. - Celebrations and private hire – weddings, parties and other celebration events where appropriate. - Civic and community use – community meetings and local group activity. <p>GTC recognises that a well-programmed venue can support town-centre vitality and wider community benefit by bringing people into the heart of the town for events and activities .</p> <p>If the Borough Hall is to expand its offer (whether through a Community Asset Transfer to GTC or another arrangement), GTC would want proposals to be underpinned by a robust business case and options appraisal covering: building suitability and any required upgrades (e.g., accessibility, acoustics, AV/lighting, Wi-Fi, catering/backstage facilities), licensing and safeguarding requirements, operating capacity (staffing/volunteers), marketing, and long-term financial sustainability, so that community access is protected and risks/costs are properly managed.</p>
<p>It should remain as a valuable cultural and performance space for Godalming and the surrounding areas. The nearest similar spaces are quite a way from Godalming e.g Guildford and Haslemere</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall should be retained as a valuable cultural and performance space serving Godalming and the surrounding area, and recognises the importance of having an accessible local venue for arts, entertainment and community events. GTC notes the concern that comparable facilities are not close by, with residents often needing to travel to places such as Guildford or Haslemere for similar provision.</p> <p>In considering the Borough Hall's future, GTC's priority would be to secure a sustainable long-term arrangement that safeguards community benefit and continued cultural use. This would need to be supported by an evidence-based business case, clarity on building condition and liabilities, and a viable operating and investment plan to ensure the venue remains available and fit for purpose.</p>
<p>Should continue as a theatre and community building. Godalming Operatic Society have performed there since 1925. They are now one of the leading Gilbert & Sullivan performance groups in the country and bring hundreds of people to the town each February. Godalming needs a big community building. Its a big town and it needs a dedicated space for large meetings, cultural events and performances. It also drives footfall to the town.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's strong view that the Borough Hall should continue as a theatre and community building, and the importance of retaining a large, dedicated space for public meetings, cultural events and performances in a town of Godalming's size.</p> <p>GTC particularly notes the reference to Godalming Operatic Society's long-standing use of the Hall and the contribution that annual productions make to the town by attracting audiences and supporting local activity and spend. GTC recognises that town-centre events and activities can help strengthen community life and vitality by bringing people into the centre.</p> <p>In considering the Borough Hall's future, GTC's priority would be to secure a sustainable long-term arrangement that protects ongoing community access and performance use, supported by an appropriate investment and operating plan, so the venue remains fit for purpose for residents, local organisations and visitors.</p>
<p>The present use of the hall for different 'activities' is good however i think it could be wider publicised and marketed</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall's current range of activities is positive, but that it would benefit from wider publicity and stronger marketing to maximise community participation and support the venue's long-term sustainability.</p> <p>If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would see improving communications and promotion as an early priority. The aim would be to increase awareness, attendance and bookings while keeping access straightforward for local groups and residents.</p>
<p>Anything that makes it a live space. Anything.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's clear preference for the Borough Hall to remain a lively, active space with a busy programme and strong community presence.</p>
<p>Arts and events venue</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall should be used as an arts and events venue. The Council recognises the importance of maintaining an accessible town-centre space that can host a varied programme of cultural and community activity for residents and visitors.</p>
<p>Entertainment community venue</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall should continue as an entertainment and community venue. The Council recognises the importance of a flexible, town-centre space that can host a wide range of events and activities for residents, local groups and visitors.</p>
<p>I agree with the performance venue idea. Also a quality cinema plus love bands</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for the Borough Hall continuing as a performance venue, and the additional suggestion of providing a quality cinema offer (for example film screenings and special events) alongside live music/live bands. GTC recognises that a varied programme of performances, screenings and live music could strengthen the Hall's role as a lively town-centre venue and help broaden its appeal across different audiences and age groups.</p>
<p>Ideas mentioned are good, including cultural centre</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Arts and Community Hub</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall could operate as an Arts and Community Hub. The Council recognises the value of a flexible, welcoming town-centre venue that can support a wide range of cultural, creative and community activity, such as performances, exhibitions, workshops, talks, community meetings, and space for local groups.</p>
<p>Cranleigh Arts Centre may be a good model. A facility for the arts, entertainment, shows, concerts, exhibitions and public hire for events such as wedding receptions.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that Cranleigh Arts Centre could be a helpful model for the Borough Hall's future, and welcomes the proposed mix of uses. GTC recognises the potential for the Borough Hall to operate as a flexible arts, entertainment and community venue, accommodating shows, concerts and performances, exhibitions, and public hire for private functions such as wedding receptions and celebrations.</p> <p>If the Borough Hall is to develop in this direction (including through any potential Community Asset Transfer), GTC would want proposals to be supported by a robust, deliverable plan covering: building suitability and any required upgrades (including accessibility and technical capability), licensing and safeguarding requirements, governance and operating capacity (staffing/volunteers), marketing and bookings, and long-term financial sustainability, so that community benefit is protected and the venue remains well-used and viable year-round.</p>

Do you have any ideas for the future of the Borough Hall and what it could be used for?

Public Comment	GTC Response
As above, I think it could be used as an arts space for concerts, exhibitions and shows, both from professional and community organisations, much as it is at present.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall should continue to operate as an arts and performance space, hosting concerts, exhibitions and shows delivered by both professional and community organisations, building on the strengths of its current programme.</p> <p>GTC recognises the value of maintaining a flexible, town-centre venue that supports local cultural life and offers opportunities for a wide range of groups and audiences. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC's priority would be to secure a sustainable long-term model that protects community benefit, supports a varied programme, and ensures the Hall remains fit for purpose through appropriate investment, clear governance, and effective promotion.</p>
Youth club for 12-16 year olds Regular cinema More music events Older people afternoon tea and or dance Exercise classes	<p>GTC welcomes these practical suggestions for broadening the Borough Hall's role as a multi-use community venue, including provision for young people, regular film screenings, more live music, daytime social activities for older residents, and health and wellbeing sessions such as exercise classes.</p> <p>In particular, GTC notes the suggestion of a youth club for 12-16 year olds. GTC already supports youth-focused community provision through the Godalming Youth Service, operating from Broadwater Youth Centre. Any future youth offer at the Borough Hall would need to be designed to complement and strengthen existing provision, filling gaps in days/times, activities and town-centre accessibility, rather than duplicating what is already available.</p> <p>GTC also notes the potential for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a regular cinema programme (subject to technical and licensing requirements); - more live music events (with appropriate sound management and safeguarding); - older people's social sessions (e.g., afternoon teas and/or tea dances); and - exercise and wellbeing classes that are accessible and affordable. <p>If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would expect an options appraisal and business case to test demand, delivery capacity, costs (including any building upgrades), and how these uses could be scheduled to maximise community benefit and year-round occupancy.</p>
See above plus maybe a decent Youth Club?	<p>GTC notes the suggestion of a youth club . GTC already supports youth-focused community provision through the Godalming Youth Service, operating from Broadwater Youth Centre. Any future youth offer at the Borough Hall would need to be designed to complement and strengthen existing provision, filling gaps in days/times, activities and town-centre accessibility, rather than duplicating what is already available.</p>
Entertainment / arts space. Available for hire at reasonable cost, perhaps reductions for *local* charities	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that the Borough Hall should operate as an entertainment/arts space, and that it should remain available for hire at a reasonable cost so that community use is maintained and encouraged.</p> <p>The Council also notes the suggestion of reduced hire rates for local charities. If future arrangements for the Borough Hall are progressed, GTC would support a clear and transparent fees and concessions framework that balances affordability for local groups with the need for the venue to be financially sustainable. Any concessionary arrangements would need to be applied consistently, with clear eligibility criteria and proper governance.</p>
Get rid of current town council building opposite pepperpot, make borough hall town council again, use funds from sale of building opposite pepperpot to fund renovation.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that the Town Council should relocate its offices into the Borough Hall/Municipal Buildings and fund any required renovation through the disposal of the current Town Council office accommodation at 107-109 High Street.</p> <p>The Council recognises the underlying principle of making best use of town-centre civic buildings and, where appropriate, reinvesting any capital receipt to support long-term community benefit. However, the Council's current operational requirements mean that the Municipal Buildings within the Borough Hall are not considered large enough or sufficiently accessible to accommodate the Council's team and services appropriately. Any proposal to move the Council's operational base would therefore require careful assessment of space, accessibility, public-facing service needs, security, and day-to-day functionality.</p> <p>If any relocation and/or property disposal were to be considered in future, this would need to be taken forward through a formal options appraisal and robust business case, including due diligence on: feasibility and cost of works; the impact on the Borough Hall's primary community/cultural use; planning/listed building considerations (where applicable); and transparent decision-making on the use of any capital receipt, ensuring value for money and long-term sustainability.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>It's important to maintain green spaces in their current location for the use of the local community.</p>	<p>GTC notes the importance residents place on retaining accessible green spaces for community use. Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a valued local amenity, and any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise its continued use as open recreational space for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>Godalming needs to retain recreational areas</p>	<p>GTC notes the importance residents place on retaining accessible recreational areas for community use. Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a valued local amenity, and any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise its continued use as open recreational space for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS TRANSFER. The recreation ground is a vital green space for this community, rich in physical activity space and equipment, and fostering community which is lost in today's society. It is frequently used and should be a priority to be retained, the transfer to the town council will ensure this.</p>	<p>GTC notes the strong support expressed for the potential transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground and recognises its importance as a well-used local green space that supports physical activity, play and community connection.</p> <p>Any consideration of transfer should therefore prioritise the retention and protection of the Recreation Ground for public recreational use, while assessing the practical responsibilities involved, including maintenance, equipment, safety, funding and long-term stewardship by the Town Council.</p>
<p>Holloway Hill rec is an important and integral part of Godalming and should be protected</p>	<p>GTC notes the view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is an important and integral part of Godalming. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should place the long-term protection of the Recreation Ground at the centre of the assessment.</p> <p>The Council recognises the value of the site as a local green space and community amenity, and supports exploring the feasibility, costs and responsibilities of taking it on where this would help safeguard its continued public recreational use for Godalming residents.</p>
<p>It is a valuable local resource that needs managing locally</p>	<p>GTC notes the view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a valuable local resource and that local management could help ensure it continues to meet the needs of Godalming residents.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess whether Town Council stewardship would provide effective, responsive and sustainable management of the site, including maintenance, safety, accessibility, costs and long-term protection for public recreational use.</p>
<p>Godalming is fortunate to have a well off community. It also has a many families. I am sure there are would be donors who would support community projects - eg enhancement of playground facilities - that may be very difficult for a cash starved council to fund properly. People are more likely to fund assets or initiatives they can see on their doorstep and as a wealthy area we should have more scope to do this.</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that local fundraising, donations and community support could play a role in enhancing Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, particularly for visible local improvements such as playground facilities.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore include an assessment of potential funding sources beyond the Council's core budget, including grants, donations, sponsorship and community-led fundraising. This would need to be balanced with a clear and sustainable plan for ongoing maintenance, safety, accessibility and long-term protection of the Recreation Ground for public use.</p>
<p>I think it is really important that we have a performance space and hall available for hire for Goslings nursery and Repair Café and various groups who use it. There are relatively spaces in Godalming which are available of this capacity and with the facilities. It is really important to have this space as part of our social and cultural life in the town. What can we do for our local young people? With cuts in youth work there is a distinct shortage of social opportunities for teenagers in our town.</p>	<p>GTC notes the importance placed on retaining accessible community spaces for local groups, including early years, repair, cultural, social and youth activities. The response highlights the wider value of community facilities in supporting Godalming's social and cultural life, particularly where there are limited venues of suitable size and capacity.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore assess how the asset could continue to support existing users, provide affordable hire opportunities, and help meet identified gaps in local provision, including safe and inclusive social opportunities for young people. The Council recognises that long-term community benefit, accessibility, affordability and sustainable management should be central to any future decision.</p>
<p>This is a valuable local resource used by, many children and adults for sport and recreation</p>	<p>GTC notes the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a valuable local resource used by both children and adults for sport, play and informal recreation.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of the site for public recreational use, while assessing the responsibilities associated with local management, including maintenance, safety, accessibility, equipment provision and long-term funding.</p>
<p>I am unclear why a transfer is necessary, when the town council seemingly already owns the Recreation Ground. The latter was purchased in 1921 by the town council from the Godalming Recreation Club Company, which had owned it since 1896. Since June 2015, the 5.87 ha (14.5-acre) ground has been protected by the charity Fields in Trust under their Queen Elizabeth II Fields scheme.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's query regarding the ownership and protected status of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground. While the Recreation Ground may historically have been acquired by the former Godalming authority in 1921, the Council understands that responsibility for the asset is likely to have passed to Waverley Borough Council following local government reorganisation in 1974.</p> <p>This response highlights the importance of confirming the legal and practical position before any community asset transfer is considered. Any assessment should include a review of title, historic transfer arrangements, Fields in Trust protections, existing management responsibilities, and any restrictions affecting future use.</p> <p>The Council recognises that clarity on ownership and stewardship will be essential to ensuring Holloway Hill Recreation Ground remains protected and available for public recreation for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>I don't live on that side of town so am unfamiliar with this space but support the general principle of transferring town assets if the costs are not prohibitive.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for the general principle of transferring local assets to Town Council responsibility where this is practical and financially sustainable.</p> <p>In relation to Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, any consideration of a community asset transfer should include a clear assessment of costs, liabilities, maintenance requirements, funding options and long-term community benefit. The Council recognises that local stewardship may offer benefits, but only where the transfer can be shown to be affordable, sustainable and in the interests of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>It all depends on budget, but the more control local authorities have over local amenities the better.</p>	<p>GTC notes the view that greater local control over local amenities can be beneficial, provided that any transfer is financially sustainable. Any consideration of taking responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should therefore include a robust assessment of budget implications, including maintenance, staffing, insurance, equipment, compliance, future investment and potential funding sources. The Council recognises that local stewardship could support responsive management of the site, but any decision must be affordable, transparent and in the long-term interests of Godalming residents.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
Definitely. It's a great park with many facilities and uses.	<p>GTC notes the clear support expressed for taking responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground and recognises its value as a well-used local park with a range of facilities and uses.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should seek to protect and enhance the Recreation Ground's role as an accessible, multi-use green space for Godalming residents, while assessing the practical implications of local management, including maintenance, safety, funding and long-term stewardship.</p>
Sports, sports, sports please. Cricket, tennis, football, scouts, amazing playground. This green space is so important for local residents, especially juniors and younger children.	<p>GTC notes the strong emphasis placed on retaining Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an active sporting and recreational space for the community, including cricket, tennis, football, Scouts activities and children's play.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection and enhancement of the Recreation Ground as a multi-use green space, with particular regard to the needs of juniors, younger children and local families. The Council recognises the importance of maintaining facilities that support sport, play, physical activity and community participation, while ensuring that any future management arrangements are affordable, safe and sustainable.</p>
Important to retain another green space in the town, + a useful location for social activities in the building housing the cafe.	<p>GTC notes the importance placed on retaining Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a valued green space within the town, alongside its role as a location for wider community and social activity.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore assess both the protection of the Recreation Ground as accessible public open space and the potential for associated facilities, including the café building, to support community use. The Council recognises that future management arrangements should safeguard the site's recreational value while considering opportunities to enhance social, community and wellbeing benefits for Godalming residents.</p>
Has always made more sense for this local area to be under GTC.	<p>GTC notes the view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground would be more appropriately managed at local level by Godalming Town Council.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess whether Town Council responsibility would provide clearer, more responsive and locally accountable stewardship of the site. This should include consideration of maintenance, costs, legal responsibilities, community access and the long-term protection of the Recreation Ground as a valued public green space for Godalming residents.</p>
It's a valuable resource as it is- and open space not overly organised. it needs protecting but not developing.	<p>GTC notes the view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is valued not only for its facilities, but also for its open and informal character.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise the protection of the Recreation Ground as accessible public open space, avoiding unnecessary development or over-programming. The Council recognises that future stewardship should preserve the site's existing recreational and amenity value while ensuring appropriate maintenance, safety, accessibility and long-term protection for Godalming residents.</p>
I don't fully understand the implications - but it would be a real shame for these wonderful spaces to be neglected.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern that important local spaces such as Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should not be allowed to decline through lack of investment or stewardship.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore clearly explain the implications for the Council and residents, including costs, responsibilities, maintenance standards, funding options and long-term protection of the site. The Council recognises the importance of ensuring that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground remains well maintained, accessible and valued as a public green space for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
Key recreational asset for residents supporting tennis, cricket and football and a thriving community bar in the Howling Owl. Would benefit from local control and upkeep.	<p>GTC notes the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a key recreational asset for Godalming residents, supporting a range of activities including tennis, cricket and football, alongside valued community facilities such as the Howling Owl.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess whether local control would support responsive management, appropriate upkeep and long-term protection of the site. The Council recognises the Recreation Ground's role in promoting sport, recreation and community connection, and that any future arrangements should safeguard its accessibility, facilities and public benefit for residents.</p>
The recreation ground should be run and supported by Godalming Residents.	<p>GTC notes the view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should be run and supported locally by Godalming residents.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess how local stewardship, community involvement and resident input could be built into future management arrangements. The Council recognises the importance of ensuring that the Recreation Ground remains accessible, well maintained and responsive to local needs, while any model for support or management must also be financially sustainable, properly governed and in the long-term interests of Godalming residents.</p>
Another important local asset. It is an important sporting venue in the town plus being a leisure area for local residents. Has a long history of contributing to the town's sporting landscape and major celebrations. The only flat leisure area available to the public on The Hill. Much needed for young families and people of all ages to enjoy the environment.	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as both a sporting venue and a valued leisure space for residents of all ages. Its long-standing role in supporting local sport, community activity and town celebrations underlines its significance to Godalming.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the protection of the Recreation Ground as an accessible, multi-use public open space, particularly given its value to young families and its importance as a flat recreational area on The Hill. The Council recognises that future stewardship should safeguard its sporting, leisure and community functions while ensuring appropriate maintenance, funding and long-term public access.</p>
A very important sporting asset	GTC notes this comment.

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
See comments above I fully support and would advocate transfer to the town council	<p>GTC notes the respondent's clear support for the potential transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess how local stewardship could protect and enhance the Recreation Ground for residents, while ensuring that future arrangements are financially sustainable, properly governed, and able to maintain public access, recreational use and long-term community benefit.</p>
Very valuable green space for the community. Tennis courts which are generally available also make such a difference.	<p>GTC notes the value placed on Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an important green space for the community, including the contribution made by accessible facilities such as the tennis courts.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of the Recreation Ground as public open space and ensure that facilities remain available, well maintained and accessible to residents. The Council recognises that future stewardship should support both informal recreation and organised activity, while ensuring that ongoing costs, maintenance and long-term public benefit are properly assessed.</p>
We need to keep our parks, they are well used and keep children occupied	<p>GTC notes the importance placed on retaining well-used parks and open spaces for the benefit of local families and children.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an accessible public recreational space, supporting play, informal activity and community wellbeing. The Council recognises that future stewardship should ensure the site remains safe, welcoming, well maintained and available for children, families and residents of all ages.</p>
I walk around Holloway Hill Recreation Ground daily and see it as important for both the physical and mental wellbeing of individuals but also the life of the local community. Its closure would be a great loss.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's comments on the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground for daily use, physical activity, mental wellbeing and community life.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of the Recreation Ground as an accessible public open space. The Council recognises that its loss or reduction in availability would have a significant impact on local residents, and that future stewardship should safeguard public access, wellbeing benefits, maintenance standards and long-term community use.</p>
Responsibility and accountability is kept locally.	<p>GTC notes the importance placed on keeping responsibility and accountability for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground at a local level.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess whether Town Council stewardship would provide clear, responsive and locally accountable management of the site. The Council recognises that any future arrangements should maintain public access, protect the Recreation Ground's community value, and ensure that decisions about its upkeep, use and investment are transparent and in the interests of Godalming residents.</p>
Absolutely! This is a key facility for local families where school children meet to play with their friends. This should be protected.	<p>GTC notes the strong support expressed for protecting Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a key facility for local families and children.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of the Recreation Ground as a safe, accessible and welcoming public space for play, recreation and social connection. The Council recognises its importance as a place where school children, families and residents can meet and spend time together, and that future stewardship should safeguard this community value while ensuring appropriate maintenance, funding and accountability.</p>
This is a wonderful resource for the residents of Busbridge and the wider community. I fear that, if transferred to the unitary, it would become susceptible to housing development, leading to the loss of this lovely open space and its much used sporting facilities.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's strong support for protecting Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a valued open space for residents of Busbridge and the wider Godalming community.</p> <p>The concerns raised about the potential loss of open space and sporting facilities underline the importance of ensuring that any future ownership or management arrangements provide robust long-term protection for the Recreation Ground. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise continued public access, retention of sporting and recreational use, and safeguards against inappropriate development.</p> <p>The Council recognises Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an important local amenity and that future stewardship should be transparent, locally accountable and focused on preserving its community value for current and future residents.</p>
It is a very important community venue for the Busbridge area, actually the ONLY venue. It is important to maintain it to a high standard.	<p>GTC notes the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a valued community venue for the Busbridge area, particularly where local facilities are limited.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection, accessibility and high-quality maintenance of the Recreation Ground and its associated facilities. The Council recognises its role as a local meeting point and community asset, and that future stewardship should ensure it remains well managed, properly funded and available for the benefit of Busbridge residents and the wider Godalming community.</p>
Holloway Hill is immensely important to the people of Godalming and particularly living at the top of the hill. It can be seen by large number of people who use it daily for health and recreation.	<p>GTC notes the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to Godalming residents, particularly those living at the top of the hill, and recognises its regular use for health, wellbeing and recreation.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the continued protection of the Recreation Ground as an accessible and well-maintained public open space. The Council recognises its visible and valued role in the local community, and that future stewardship should safeguard daily recreational use, public access and long-term community benefit for residents.</p>
This Recreation Ground is very well used, especially since the Howling Owl has opened in the Pavilion. We need to be able to be sure it will be Maintained in the future	<p>GTC notes that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is very well used and that facilities such as the Pavilion and Howling Owl contribute to its role as a valued community space.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the long-term maintenance, management and protection of the Recreation Ground and its associated facilities. The Council recognises the importance of giving residents confidence that the site will remain accessible, well maintained and available for community, leisure and recreational use into the future.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
It is an invaluable community resource	GTC notes this comment.
For its future protection Local landmarks deserve local community involvement	<p>GTC notes the view that local landmarks and valued community assets such as Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should have strong local involvement in decisions about their future.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the long-term protection of the Recreation Ground and ensure that future management arrangements are locally accountable and shaped by community input. The Council recognises the importance of safeguarding the site as an accessible public green space and recreational asset for Godalming residents, with transparent decision-making around its maintenance, use and future investment.</p>
It is a Field in Trust but needs local 'eyes' to make sure it is maintained for the wide variety of uses it enjoys at present	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground benefits from existing protection, but that local oversight remains important to ensure it is properly maintained and continues to support the wide range of uses currently enjoyed by the community.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore assess how local stewardship could strengthen day-to-day accountability, maintenance and responsiveness to users' needs. The Council recognises the importance of safeguarding the Recreation Ground as an accessible public open space for sport, play, leisure and community activity, while ensuring that any future arrangements respect existing protections and provide long-term benefit for Godalming residents.</p>
To do what? To keep as is yes, To transfer into flats definitely not. We need to think about the traffic into the town and the facilities we have.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for retaining Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as it is, and the clear concern that any transfer should not lead to inappropriate development or loss of open space.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore be based on protecting the Recreation Ground for continued public recreational and community use. The Council recognises the need to consider wider impacts, including access, traffic, existing facilities and local infrastructure, and that any future arrangements should safeguard the site's green space character, community value and long-term benefit for Godalming residents.</p>
Wonderful facility that needs ongoing support and maintenance	<p>GTC notes the value placed on Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a wonderful local facility that requires ongoing support and maintenance.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess the long-term responsibilities associated with the site, including routine maintenance, future investment, safety, accessibility and funding. The Council recognises that continued support will be essential to ensuring the Recreation Ground remains well maintained, welcoming and available for public recreation and community use for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
I assume that this transfer would be a no or nominal cost.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's assumption that any transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground would be at no or nominal cost.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should confirm the proposed transfer terms and assess the full financial implications, including any acquisition cost, legal fees, maintenance liabilities, insurance, staffing, compliance, future investment and ongoing revenue costs. The Council recognises that the headline transfer cost is only one part of the assessment, and that any decision must be transparent, financially sustainable and in the long-term interests of Godalming residents.</p>
This valuable and much-used community facility must be preserved, maintained and not sold off for development.	GTC recognises the importance of parks and recreation grounds in supporting health, wellbeing, recreation and community cohesion, and agrees that safeguarding public access and ongoing community use should be central to any future consideration of the site.
Many local people enjoy this facility. There are also group events, e.g. football and cricket matches, physical exercise groups, etc. It is also a great place to meet socially in the cafe (but should be better advertised).	GTC recognises the importance of parks and recreation grounds in supporting health, wellbeing, physical activity and social connection. If GTC were asked to consider taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, the Council would want to ensure that any future management arrangements protect and support a range of uses (informal recreation, organised sport/exercise, and social/community activity.) Any such proposal would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and business case.
This is a fantastic community asset that provides so much for the local community such as, local fitness Bootcamp's, football, cricket, play area and a buzzing local cafe we need to make sure this remains a community asset.	GTC recognises that this mix of formal and informal recreation, family use, and social/community activity is what gives the site its particular value to local residents. If GTC were asked to consider taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, a key priority would be to protect its role as a community asset and ensure that these existing benefits are maintained and, where possible, strengthened. Any such proposal would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and business case.
It should have a covenant not to be used for housing added.	GTC recognises the importance of giving residents confidence that valued open space will remain protected for recreation and community benefit.
The rec. is a wonderful green space with a good adventure/play area. It is much appreciated by many and should be maintained and supported as an area where anyone can get some fresh air and exercise (and light snacks!)	GTC recognises the importance of maintaining and supporting spaces such as this as places where people of all ages can enjoy fresh air, exercise, play and informal social use. If GTC were asked to consider taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, a key priority would be to protect its role as an accessible community recreation space. Any such proposal would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and due diligence, and how current facilities and community use would be sustained over the long term.
Again, a great resource for local people and with the Busbridge Tennis Association and the Godalming Cricket Club and the Pavilion. It must be kept as a public space to be used by all.	<p>GTC recognises the value of the site as a shared community asset, supporting both organised sport and wider informal public use. If GTC were asked to consider taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, a key priority would be to protect its role as an accessible public recreation space, while also taking full account of the existing clubs, facilities and operational arrangements already in place on site.</p> <p>Any such proposal would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and due diligence, so that long-term community benefit and public access are properly safeguarded.</p>
I strongly believe that any green/recreational areas need to be "safeguarded" by the town council.	GTC recognises the importance of protecting open spaces for recreation, wellbeing, biodiversity and community benefit, and this is reflected in GTC's adopted priorities to protect open/green spaces for the community and to assess opportunities to manage additional local assets where this would benefit residents. In principle, GTC is open to exploring greater local stewardship where it can improve accountability and help secure the long-term protection of valued spaces. However, any proposal for GTC to take on responsibility for a specific green/recreational area, including Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, would need to be supported by a robust options appraisal and business case.

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>To be kept for the sporting events and developed. The Howling Owl to be encouraged. Investments to be made to improve the Ground maintenance. Dogs to be discouraged and fouling to be tackled.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground being retained and improved as a venue for sport, recreation and community use, including support for facilities such as the Howling Owl.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess how the Recreation Ground could be maintained and enhanced for existing and future users, including investment in grounds maintenance, sporting provision and associated facilities. The Council also recognises the importance of managing potential conflicts between users, including responsible dog ownership and tackling dog fouling, so that the site remains safe, clean and welcoming for all residents.</p>
<p>What would be the impact of this? I am a 10 year + resident of High Ridge and we have no other recreational facilities up the hill, we didn't have a cafe until after covid and then had the Howling Owl and Yew tree cafe.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's question about the potential impact of any transfer and the importance of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to residents living on the hill, where alternative recreational facilities are limited.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should clearly assess and explain the practical implications for residents, including future access, maintenance, facilities, costs and community use. The Council recognises the value of the Recreation Ground and associated facilities, including the café offer, as important local amenities, and that any future stewardship should protect and enhance their role for High Ridge, Busbridge and the wider Godalming community.</p>
<p>Absolutely critical that this heavily used and important green space is under town control! A huge YES!</p>	<p>GTC notes the very strong support expressed for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground being brought under local Town Council control.</p> <p>The response highlights the importance residents place on the Recreation Ground as a heavily used and valued green space. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise its long-term protection, continued public access, effective maintenance and local accountability.</p> <p>The Council recognises that future stewardship should safeguard Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an important recreational and community asset for Godalming residents, while ensuring that any transfer is financially sustainable and properly managed.</p>
<p>This is an absolute must. This multipurpose recreation ground is a huge asset to the people of Godalming. The local opportunities for exercise and outdoor play are essential if we are going to keep our population healthy. If a town council does not take over running this area, it will have very little investment and will end up being tatty and unusable. The transfer of the Holloway Hill recreation ground should be an absolute priority. Transferring all the recreation areas to local control as listed below should be a must as well.</p>	<p>GTC notes the strong support expressed for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground being transferred to local control and recognises the importance residents place on it as a multi-purpose recreational asset.</p> <p>The response highlights the Recreation Ground's value in supporting exercise, outdoor play, health and wellbeing for people of all ages. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise its long-term protection, continued public access, appropriate investment and effective local management.</p> <p>The Council recognises concerns that, without clear stewardship and investment, the site could deteriorate over time. Future assessment should therefore include maintenance standards, funding requirements, improvement opportunities and the wider case for local accountability across key recreational spaces in Godalming.</p>
<p>Although I no longer live on the Busbridge side of town I often visit the recreation ground with my grandchildren. It's a great facility that is used and appreciated by many residents</p>	<p>GTC notes that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is valued not only by nearby residents, but also by the wider Godalming community, including families who travel to use the site.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should recognise the Recreation Ground's wider community benefit as a well-used and appreciated facility for residents of all ages. The Council recognises the importance of protecting public access, maintaining facilities to a good standard, and ensuring future stewardship supports continued recreational use for families, children and the wider community.</p>
<p>It's a valuable community space with the tennis courts, football and cricket pitches, the playground and paths for walking plus the facilities for youth activities such as the cubs and brownies. The addition of the Howling Owl has also enhanced the community aspects.</p>	<p>GTC notes the value placed on Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a multi-use community space supporting a wide range of activities, including tennis, football, cricket, children's play, walking and youth group activities such as Cubs and Brownies.</p> <p>The response also highlights the contribution of facilities such as the Howling Owl in strengthening the site's community role. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise the continued protection, maintenance and enhancement of the Recreation Ground as an accessible space for sport, recreation, youth activity and social connection.</p> <p>The Council recognises that future stewardship should safeguard the site's broad community benefit while ensuring that facilities remain well managed, affordable, inclusive and available for residents of all ages.</p>
<p>Don't want to lose this wonderful outdoor space Would like the Scout Hut to remain and for the recreation ground not to be overly dominated by cricket.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes the respondent's support for retaining the Scout Hut and ensuring that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground continues to serve a broad range of community uses.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should recognise the importance of balancing organised sport with other recreational, youth and community activities. The Council recognises that future stewardship should protect the Recreation Ground as a multi-use space, ensuring that facilities such as the Scout Hut remain part of the wider community offer and that no single use disproportionately limits access or enjoyment by other residents.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
<p>Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a thriving local facility. The cricket and football clubs that use it regularly and the playground, tennis and bowls clubs are all vital community assets. It needs to be maintained and I fear the larger unitary authority will be too thinly spread to be able to do this as well as the town council could.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a thriving local facility, supporting cricket, football, play, tennis, bowls and wider community use.</p> <p>The response highlights the importance of maintaining the Recreation Ground to a good standard and the concern that a larger authority may be less able to provide the local focus required. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore assess whether Town Council stewardship would provide more responsive, locally accountable management, while ensuring the necessary funding, maintenance arrangements and long-term protection are in place.</p> <p>The Council recognises Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as a valuable multi-use community asset, and that future arrangements should safeguard its sporting, recreational and social value for Godalming residents.</p>
<p>Yes please. Protect this space. It's got an historical connection too. Julius Caesar</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Although very senior citizens, we can still manage to walk to Holloway Hill recreation ground. Therefore we think it absolutely vital and imparative that this precious facility is preserved locally and who better to be in charge than Godalming Town Council? We thoroughly endorse this proposal.</p>	<p>GTC notes the strong support expressed for the proposed transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to Godalming Town Council, particularly from residents who value being able to access the site on foot.</p> <p>The response highlights the importance of the Recreation Ground as a precious local facility for residents of all ages, including older residents. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise its continued protection, accessibility, local management and long-term maintenance.</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of preserving Holloway Hill Recreation Ground as an accessible public open space under locally accountable stewardship, where this can be shown to be affordable, sustainable and in the best interests of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>I don't use the space, but I believe local amenities are better served if managed locally</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Of course, the less West Surrey have control the less we are likely that it will be maintained. Unitary authorities are really not interested in local issues</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern that local facilities such as Holloway Hill Recreation Ground may not receive the same level of attention under wider authority arrangements.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should assess whether GTC stewardship would provide more responsive, locally accountable management and maintenance of the Recreation Ground. The Council recognises the importance of ensuring that this valued green space remains well maintained, accessible and protected for community use, with clear responsibilities, funding arrangements and accountability for its future care.</p>
<p>I have never used this asset, so am unaware what the implications of transfer would be. There is nothing in the literature to indicate hoe users might be affected.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Not sure what this means , have not seen any detailed information on this</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>I'd rather not see it sold off for housing. Open places and sports pitches are important</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should not be sold off or lost to housing development.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should prioritise the long-term protection of the site as public open space, including its sports pitches and wider recreational use. The Council recognises that open spaces are important to the health, wellbeing and community life of Godalming residents, and that future stewardship should safeguard Holloway Hill Recreation Ground from inappropriate development while ensuring it remains accessible, well maintained and available for sport and recreation.</p>
<p>Subject to suitable budget provisions and sufficient resources and expertise to successfully manage.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support is conditional on there being suitable budget provision, resources and expertise to manage Holloway Hill Recreation Ground effectively.</p> <p>Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore include a robust assessment of the financial, staffing, technical and governance requirements involved. This should cover maintenance, legal responsibilities, insurance, health and safety, compliance, future investment and ongoing operational capacity.</p> <p>The Council recognises that local stewardship could offer benefits, but any transfer should only proceed where it can be shown to be affordable, properly resourced, competently managed and in the long-term interests of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>I often go here and it's a lovely spot and very well used. There are beautiful trees there tennis courts cricket clubs etc. A lovely cafe. It 100% needs to be transferred to the local authority or it will just end up covered in houses.</p>	<p>GTC notes the strong support expressed for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground being retained under local control, and recognises its value as a well-used and much-loved open space with trees, sports facilities, clubs and community amenities such as the café.</p> <p>The response also highlights concern that the site could be lost to inappropriate development if not properly protected. Any consideration of a community asset transfer should therefore prioritise the Recreation Ground's continued use as public open space, support its sporting and community functions, and ensure its long-term maintenance, accessibility and protection for the benefit of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>Never been there but assume locals need it.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>

Do you support Godalming Town Council investigating a possible transfer of Holloway Hill Recreation Ground to the Town Council?

Public Comment	GTC Response
As more people are moving to live in Godalming and the surrounding villages then there is a need for Godalming Town Council to provide good recreational facilities for all its residents	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that, as the town and surrounding villages continue to grow, there is a corresponding need to ensure that recreational facilities remain high quality, well maintained and accessible for all residents. GTC recognises the important role that parks and recreation grounds play in supporting health and wellbeing, social cohesion and community pride, and the wider value that well-managed green spaces can bring to local communities .</p> <p>Any proposal for GTC to take on the Holloway Hill Recreation Ground would need to be subject to a robust options appraisal and business case, including due diligence on: the condition of the site and any required investment; ongoing maintenance standards and costs; health and safety and insurance implications; any constraints on use; and the current legal and operational arrangements already in place on the site, including any leasehold interests, licences, tenancies or third-party occupation/management agreements. These existing arrangements would need to be fully understood (including their duration, rights and obligations, and any implications for service delivery and future improvements) before any transfer could be responsibly considered.</p>
Other Town Councils have done this and made a great success of it. More volunteers come forward and more local donors when they know it is being managed locally.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that, in other towns, parish/town councils have successfully taken on recreation grounds and that local stewardship can help attract volunteers and local fundraising, because residents can see decisions being made locally and transparently. GTC recognises that there can be real benefits where management is closer to the community, including stronger engagement, opportunities for "friends of" style support, and a clearer platform for grant applications and local donations. GTC is open to exploring opportunities to take on assets where this would deliver clear community benefit and improve local accountability.</p> <p>Any proposal for GTC to assume responsibility for the Holloway Hill Recreation Ground would need to be tested through a robust options appraisal and business case. If a feasible and sustainable model can be identified, GTC would welcome conversations with residents and community groups about how volunteer involvement and local support could complement (not replace) proper funded maintenance and long-term stewardship.</p>
Concern that moving it may involved changing it away from being a local park	GTC notes the respondent's concern that any change in responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground could lead to it being altered in a way that moves away from its role as a local park. GTC recognises that well-managed parks and recreation grounds are important community assets, supporting health, wellbeing and community cohesion . If GTC were to explore taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, the starting principle would be to retain and protect its function as a public recreational green space for local residents.
An excellent park for the local community providing a multitude of of sports, recreation and activities throughout the year	GTC notes this comment.
<u>Essential amenity</u>	GTC notes this comment.
Decisions to be made by the Town Council but funded by annual grant from the West Surrey CC so that upkeep is paid for by Council Tax. This comment also applies to the four facilities listed below.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that decisions about Holloway Hill Recreation Ground (and the other facilities referenced) should be taken locally by GTC, but that day-to-day upkeep should be funded through an ongoing annual grant from the unitary authority, so that costs remain met through council tax without placing additional pressure on the Town Council's precept.</p> <p>GTC recognises the logic of aligning local accountability with secure funding, particularly where assets are being devolved from a higher tier. However, any arrangement of this type would need to be evidenced and agreed in writing as part of any transfer/management proposal, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - whether funding would be guaranteed, and for how long; - whether it would be index-linked to inflation and responsive to changing costs; - what it covers (routine maintenance vs. major repairs/capital renewals); - payment terms, reporting requirements, and any break/termination clauses; and - clarity on liabilities, standards, and who carries risk if funding reduces or ends. <p>In practice, all such expenditure is ultimately funded by taxpayers; the key issue is ensuring fair, transparent and sustainable funding that matches the responsibilities being transferred.</p>
Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a very important local space and needs to be safeguarded.	GTC notes the respondent's view that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground is a very important local space and must be safeguarded. GTC recognises that well-managed parks and recreation grounds support community health and wellbeing, reduce isolation and strengthen social cohesion, and are therefore highly valued local assets . GTC agrees that protecting public access and the site's role as a local recreational green space should be a key consideration in any future discussions about governance or management arrangements.
I don't know about the Holloway Hill recreation ground and what facilities it offers.	GTC notes this comment.
<u>Support the TC's position on this..</u>	GTC notes this comment.
Needs to be protected against possible sale for housing development.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern that Holloway Hill Recreation Ground should be protected against any potential disposal for housing development.</p> <p>GTC recognises that parks and recreation grounds are important community assets, supporting health and wellbeing, social cohesion and community pride, and that residents value certainty that such spaces will remain available for public recreation. Safeguarding public access and the site's primary function as a local recreational green space would therefore be the key priority in any future discussions about ownership, management or long-term use.</p> <p>If GTC were to consider taking on responsibility for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, it would only do so following a robust options appraisal and business case. This would include due diligence on the site's legal status and constraints, any existing third-party rights/arrangements (e.g., leases or licences), and the practical and financial implications of long-term stewardship, so the space is sustainably managed and properly protected.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>The park situated at Aaron's hill should also be included as it provides green space for local residents as well as valuable outdoor play areas for children. The Philips Memorial I am assuming already has protected status?</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the park at Aaron's Hill should also be considered as part of any future asset transfer discussions. The Council recognises the importance of local green spaces and children's play areas in supporting residents' wellbeing, recreation and community life.</p> <p>If this site is to be explored further, the Council would need to establish its ownership, current management responsibilities, maintenance liabilities, usage, condition, and any legal or planning protections that may apply. Any potential transfer would also need to be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, long-term affordability, and the Council's capacity to manage and maintain the asset sustainably.</p> <p>The Council also notes the query regarding the Philips Memorial. Its current protection or designation status should be verified as part of any wider review of assets, including checking relevant heritage, planning, land ownership and local listing records before any conclusions are drawn.</p>
<p>Binscombe Meadows, as it is an important natural landscape that supports biodiversity and provides a recreational area for walkers/dog walkers</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that Binscombe Meadows should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises that Binscombe Meadows is valued as an important natural landscape, supporting biodiversity and providing informal recreational space for walkers, dog walkers and the wider community. If this site is explored further, the Council would need to establish its ownership, current management arrangements, ecological value, maintenance requirements, public access position and any relevant environmental, planning or legal protections.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, biodiversity protection, accessibility, long-term maintenance costs, and the Council's capacity to manage the land sustainably.</p>
<p>Binscombe woods open area - opposite Costcutter</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the Binscombe Woods open area, opposite Costcutter, should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of local open spaces in supporting residents' wellbeing, access to nature and informal recreation. If this site is explored further, the Council would need to confirm the precise land parcel, ownership, current management responsibilities, maintenance liabilities, public access arrangements, ecological value, and any planning, environmental or legal protections that may apply.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, biodiversity, long-term maintenance costs, and the Council's capacity to manage the land sustainably. Local residents and relevant stakeholders should be consulted before any decision is taken.</p>
<p>Car parks, enabling the TC to change parking rules, eg giving a free 30 minutes-1 hour initial period to boost the High Street (Petworth does this). Broadwater Leisure Centre.</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that local car parks should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions, particularly where local management could support the town centre and High Street economy.</p> <p>The Council recognises the potential benefits of more locally responsive parking arrangements, including the possibility of short initial free parking periods, where feasible. However, any consideration of car park transfer would need to assess ownership, existing management arrangements, income implications, enforcement responsibilities, maintenance liabilities, traffic impacts, and the financial effect on both the Town Council and residents. Any change to parking policy would also need to be considered alongside wider transport, accessibility and town centre objectives.</p> <p>The Council also notes the suggestion that Broadwater Leisure Centre should be considered. Given the scale and specialist nature of leisure centre operation, any potential transfer would require a detailed feasibility study, including running costs, staffing, building condition, contractual arrangements, community benefit, investment requirements and long-term financial sustainability.</p> <p>Both suggestions should be assessed against clear criteria, including public benefit, affordability, operational risk, and the Council's capacity to manage the assets effectively.</p>
<p>The Old broadwater golf site</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the Old Broadwater Golf Course site should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises that former open space and leisure sites can have significant community, recreational, ecological and strategic value. If this site is explored further, the Council would need to establish the precise land parcel, ownership, current status, planning position, access arrangements, ecological value, maintenance liabilities, and any legal or environmental protections that may apply.</p> <p>Any potential transfer would need to be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, biodiversity, accessibility, long-term management costs, development constraints, and the Council's capacity to manage the land sustainably. The Council would also expect local residents, relevant stakeholders and the planning authority to be engaged before any decision is taken.</p>
<p>The Bury's. Charterhouse Green.</p>	<p>Both of these sites are already included in asset transfer bids.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>I think it is really important that we have a performance space and hall available for hire for Goslings nursery and Repair Café and various groups who use it. There are relatively spaces in Godalming which are available of this capacity and with the facilities. It is really important to have this space as part of our social and cultural life in the town. What can we do for our local young people? With cuts in youth work there is a distinct shortage of social opportunities for teenagers in our town.</p>	<p>GTC notes the strong support for retaining Borough Hall as an accessible performance space and hall for hire by local organisations, including Goslings Nursery, Repair Café and other community groups.</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of the Borough Hall as part of the town's social, cultural and community life, particularly given the limited availability of venues of comparable size and facilities in Godalming. Any assessment of a potential asset transfer should therefore consider how the Hall can continue to support existing users while also widening access for local groups, arts, performance, film, dance, classes and community events.</p> <p>The Council also notes the comments regarding young people and the shortage of social opportunities for teenagers, particularly in the context of reduced youth provision. Future options for Borough Hall should consider whether the building could support youth-focused activities, safe social spaces, partnership working with schools, youth organisations and voluntary groups, and wider programming that benefits residents of all ages.</p> <p>Any proposal should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, affordability, accessibility, running costs, safeguarding requirements, and the Council's capacity to manage and programme the facility sustainably.</p>
<p>Phillips Memorial Park seems especially important given that's where most of the town festivals are held.</p>	<p>GTC notes the comment that Phillips Memorial Park is of particular importance to the town, especially as a venue for many local festivals and community events.</p> <p>The Council recognises the park's central role in supporting Godalming's civic, cultural and community life. If Phillips Memorial Park is considered as part of any future asset transfer discussions, the Council would need to confirm its ownership, current management arrangements, legal or heritage protections, maintenance liabilities, event infrastructure, public access requirements and long-term funding needs.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, protection of the park's character, ability to support town events, affordability, and the Council's capacity to manage the asset sustainably. The Council would also expect local residents, event organisers and relevant stakeholders to be engaged before any decision is taken.</p>
<p>Unfortunately I don't know who / what else WBC owns. I appreciate the efforts to protect Godalming's assets and hope they're successful.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Any green areas of Farncombe that are not privately managed</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that green areas in Farncombe which are not privately managed should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the value of local green spaces in supporting residents' wellbeing, informal recreation, biodiversity and community identity. If such sites are explored further, the Council would need to identify the specific land parcels, confirm ownership and current management responsibilities, and assess maintenance liabilities, public access arrangements, ecological value, existing use and any legal, planning or environmental protections.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, accessibility, biodiversity, long-term maintenance costs, affordability, and the Council's capacity to manage the land sustainably. Local residents and relevant stakeholders should be consulted before any decision is taken.</p>
<p>Anything else it considers it could it could manage and that's important for the community.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Not at the moment. Is the Library under any threat? If so then that is a candidate.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC is not aware that the Library is under threat, which is a statutory service provided by Surrey County Council. It is expected that this service will transfer to, an continue to be operated by the West Surrey Unitary Authority.</p>
<p>What else is there? Not sure who owns what. Vital to protect our parks and recreation spaces from being built on. These places are much needed , and it would be marvellous if you are able to look after them</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>I consider the above are used by many in godalming but others are not so I am unsure if all ratepayers should pay for a local facility</p>	<p>GTC notes the concern that some assets may be used more by particular local communities or groups than by all residents across Godalming, and that this should be carefully considered when assessing whether Town Council resources should be used to support them.</p> <p>The Council recognises that any community asset transfer must demonstrate clear public benefit and value for local ratepayers. This does not necessarily mean that every asset must be used equally by every resident, but it should provide a genuine community benefit, be accessible where possible, and support the wider wellbeing, cultural, recreational or environmental needs of the town.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should therefore be assessed against clear criteria, including levels of use, breadth of community benefit, accessibility, affordability, maintenance and running costs, potential income, alternative provision, and the long-term financial impact on the Town Council and its residents.</p> <p>The Council would also expect decisions to be transparent, evidence-based and subject to appropriate local engagement before any commitment is made.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>The Phillips Memorial Park is particularly important to the town. It is integral to the town and is best controlled locally, i.e. Town Council. Similarly, Broadwater Park is an important local asset, best run by the Town Council.</p>	<p>GTC notes the comments highlighting the importance of Phillips Memorial Park and Broadwater Park as valued local assets.</p> <p>The Council recognises that both parks play an important role in supporting community life, public recreation, events, wellbeing and access to open space. The view that such assets may be best managed locally is noted, particularly where local control could help ensure that decisions reflect the needs and priorities of Godalming residents.</p>
<p>What is going to happen to the Pepperpot Surely that belongs to Godalming and the Town Council should maintain it.</p>	<p>The Pepperpot is already owned by GTC.</p>
<p>Car parks in Godalming</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that car parks in Godalming should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises that car parking is an important issue for residents, visitors, local businesses and the vitality of the town centre. Local management of car parks could potentially provide opportunities to align parking arrangements more closely with Godalming's needs, including access to the High Street, community facilities, events and local services.</p> <p>However, any potential transfer of car parks would require detailed assessment of ownership, current management arrangements, income, enforcement responsibilities, maintenance liabilities, traffic impacts, accessibility, safety, and the financial implications for both the Town Council and local ratepayers.</p>
<p>All Scout and Guide used halls Other community groups like WI use these</p>	<p>Godalming Town Council notes the suggestion that halls used by Scout, Guide, WI and other community groups should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the important role that such halls play in supporting local voluntary organisations, youth groups, social activities and community cohesion. These spaces can provide affordable and accessible venues for regular meetings, skills development, intergenerational activity and wider community use.</p> <p>If any specific halls are to be explored further, the Council would need to confirm ownership, existing lease or management arrangements, building condition, current users, safeguarding requirements, maintenance liabilities, running costs and the level of wider community access. It would also be important to avoid disrupting well-established community organisations or placing new burdens on volunteer-led groups.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, affordability, accessibility, long-term sustainability, youth provision, and the Council's capacity to support or manage the asset appropriately.</p>
<p>I dont know what the benefits of doing this is... All should be investigated but without any mention of the process and whether the Town Council has to BUY the facility or received it at nominal cost it is impossible to respond sensibly. Please provide residents with information of costs and process. As I don't live near either of the two recreation grounds mentioned and don't know how much they are used I cannot comment. Broadwater Park must be at high risk of sale by West Surrey as it is an obvious housing estate in waiting and therefore should be protected. I would hope the Binscombe Lane open space, opposite Binscombe Crescent can be transferred for future protection.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes the respondent's view that a broad range of potential assets should be investigated, but also recognises the concern that residents need clearer information about the asset transfer process, likely costs, and whether assets would be transferred at market value, nominal value, or under another arrangement.</p> <p>The Council agrees that any meaningful assessment must be supported by transparent information and the long-term financial impact on the Town Council and local ratepayers. Where assets are being considered, the Council should publish clear information on process, timelines, costs and funding assumptions as soon as these are known.</p> <p>The Council also notes that some residents may not feel able to comment on particular recreation grounds or open spaces where they are less familiar with usage levels. Any future assessment should therefore be evidence-based and include usage data, site condition, community value, accessibility and local consultation.</p> <p>The comments regarding Broadwater Park and Binscombe Lane open space are noted. The Council recognises the importance of protecting valued green spaces from inappropriate loss or development where they provide community, recreational, environmental or biodiversity benefits. If these sites are explored further, the Council would need to confirm ownership, planning status, current management arrangements, public access, legal or environmental protections, and long-term maintenance responsibilities.</p>
<p>Canon Bowring's Recreation Ground - a haven for people in Farncombe</p>	<p>This asset has already been requested for transfer from Waverley Borough Council.</p>
<p>I support the Town Council to explore all Waverley Borough Council owned facilities</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Waverley Council Building site</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the Waverley Council office building site should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises that significant public-sector land and buildings within Godalming may have strategic importance for the town's future. If this site were to be explored further, the Council would need to establish ownership, current and future operational requirements, site constraints, planning status, building condition, potential uses, valuation, transfer terms and any financial, legal or maintenance liabilities.</p> <p>Given the scale and nature of the site, any potential transfer would require a detailed feasibility and options appraisal, including community benefit, affordability, accessibility, redevelopment or refurbishment costs, income potential, governance arrangements and the Council's capacity to manage the asset sustainably.</p> <p>The Council would also expect any discussions about the future of the site to be transparent and informed by engagement with residents, businesses, community groups and relevant stakeholders, so that any future use supports the long-term interests of Godalming.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>All of them in this area should be run by godalming.</p> <p>I have ticked the Phillips memorial park as it needs to be kept clean, safe and well supported by Godalming as it is one of our citizens we are remembering . I am not very familiar with the other places, but in an ideal world the Town Council would be responsible for them all.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes the respondent's support for Phillips Memorial Park being considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions, and the importance placed on keeping it clean, safe, well maintained and properly supported.</p> <p>The Council recognises the civic and commemorative significance of Phillips Memorial Park, as well as its wider role as a valued public open space for residents, visitors and town events. Any consideration of its future management should therefore take account of its heritage value, community use, maintenance requirements, public safety, accessibility and long-term protection.</p> <p>The Council also notes the broader view that, in an ideal situation, the Town Council could have responsibility for a wider range of local assets. While local management can offer benefits in terms of responsiveness and accountability, any potential transfer would need to be assessed carefully against clear criteria, including community benefit, affordability, legal responsibilities, maintenance liabilities, staffing, specialist expertise and the impact on local ratepayers.</p>
<p>Install a Bike area and reinstate the golf driving range at Broadwater Park. Improve the ground maintenance around the Lake.</p>	<p>Godalming Town Council notes the suggestions to improve Broadwater Park, including installing a dedicated bike area, reinstating the former golf driving range, and improving grounds maintenance around the lake.</p> <p>The Council recognises Broadwater Park as an important local recreation and leisure space with potential to support a wider range of outdoor activities for residents. If Broadwater Park is considered as part of future asset transfer discussions, these suggestions should be reviewed as part of a wider assessment of community need, site suitability, safety, environmental impact, maintenance requirements, cost, and long-term management responsibilities.</p>
<p>Llamas lands</p>	<p>Godalming Town Council notes the suggestion that Lammas Lands should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of Lammas Lands as a valued open space. If this site is explored further, the Council would need to confirm the precise land parcels involved, ownership, current management responsibilities, public access arrangements, ecological value, any legal, environmental or heritage protections, and long-term maintenance liabilities.</p>
<p>Unsure, but I support as much transfer as possible and definitely Holloway Hill recreation ground and any other area instrumental to the character of the town.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's broad support for community asset transfer where this would protect assets that are important to the character, identity and wellbeing of the town.</p> <p>The Council also notes the specific support for Holloway Hill Recreation Ground being considered as a priority. The recreation ground is recognised as an important local open space, providing recreational, sporting and community value, and any future assessment should consider its role in supporting residents' access to green space and preserving the character of the area.</p> <p>The Council agrees that other assets which are instrumental to Godalming's character could also be identified and assessed through a clear and transparent process. Any potential transfer would need to be considered against criteria including community benefit, accessibility, long-term protection, maintenance liabilities, affordability, legal responsibilities, and the Council's capacity to manage the asset sustainably.</p>
<p>Lammas land</p>	<p>Godalming Town Council notes the suggestion that Lammas Lands should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of Lammas Lands as a valued open space. If this site is explored further, the Council would need to confirm the precise land parcels involved, ownership, current management responsibilities, public access arrangements, ecological value, any legal, environmental or heritage protections, and long-term maintenance liabilities.</p>
<p>Please see my comment on subsidiarity, and if it ain't broke don't fix it as a general rule. Many promises will be given, they are cheap to give. Many decisions should be taken locally as per devolution.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>The former golf course site and lake at Broadwater Park (if not included above already). Also 69 High Street if finances allowed. It has sat empty for far too long but looks like it is finally moving ahead, in which case it would be far better owned and directed by the town council than the unitary behemoth.</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the former golf course site and lake at Broadwater Park should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions, if not already included within the wider review of Broadwater Park. The Council recognises that these areas may have significant recreational, environmental and community value, and that any future assessment should consider public access, biodiversity, water management, maintenance responsibilities, safety, current usage, site constraints and opportunities for appropriate community use.</p> <p>The Council also notes the suggestion that 69 High Street should be considered, subject to financial viability and the current position regarding its future use. The Council recognises that prominent town centre buildings can have strategic importance for Godalming's vitality, heritage, local economy and community identity.</p>
<p>Canon Bowring? Combe Rd?</p>	<p>Both of these sites are already included in asset transfer bids, either via a formal asset transfer request, or an expression of interest.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>It is vitally important that each and every one of the Waverley Borough Council owned facilities in Godalming ought to be transferred to Godalming Town Council as a matter of extreme urgency. These little refuge areas must not be allowed to fall into the hands of speculative developers. Despite being a hard-up pensioner, we would support any small monthly increase to our Council Tax bill for these express purposes. Time is of the essence. What about the local town school playing fields? Are they protected by another long-term future plan?</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's strong support for the transfer of Waverley Borough Council-owned assets in Godalming to the Town Council, particularly where this would help protect valued local spaces from inappropriate disposal or development.</p> <p>The Council recognises the concern that small open spaces, community facilities and other local assets can make an important contribution to the character, amenity and wellbeing of the town. The urgency expressed is noted, as is the respondent's willingness to support a modest increase in Council Tax where this is clearly linked to protecting local assets for community benefit.</p> <p>However, any transfer would need to be considered carefully and transparently. The Council would need to establish which assets are available for transfer, the proposed terms, whether any purchase cost is involved, and the long-term financial implications for residents. Each asset should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, risk of loss, accessibility, maintenance liabilities, legal protections, running costs, and the Council's capacity to manage it sustainably.</p>
<p>Get as much as you can to protect our community! All available parts of the Lammas Lands. And 'Binscombe Meadow' and Glebe Wood'.</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p> <p>GTC notes the suggestion that all available parts of the Lammas Lands, together with Binscombe Meadow and Glebe Wood, should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises that these areas may have significant value as local green spaces, supporting biodiversity, access to nature, informal recreation, walking, wellbeing and the wider character of Godalming. Their potential importance to residents and to the town's natural environment should therefore be taken into account in any assessment.</p> <p>If these sites are explored further, the Council would need to confirm the precise land parcels involved, ownership, current management arrangements, public access rights, ecological value, maintenance liabilities, flood risk or land management constraints, and any legal, environmental or planning protections that may apply.</p> <p>Any potential transfer should be assessed against clear criteria, including community benefit, biodiversity protection, accessibility, long-term maintenance costs, affordability, and the Council's capacity to manage the land sustainably. Local residents, users and relevant environmental stakeholders should be engaged before any decision is taken.</p>
<p>Need to know who owns what Surrey county council, Waverley council, Church council , Godalming town council</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Any other scout & guide buildings or community centres, etc</p>	
<p>All of them, let's keep Godalming Godalming</p>	<p>GTC notes this comment.</p>
<p>Who owns the Pepperpot? Are the Lammas Lands and The Burys fully protected? The bandstand in the Memorial Park? The Boy Scouts Hut on Charterhouse Road? Maybe divert spend from proposed 20MPH speed bumps in Farncombe which is a waste of money. no one can drive fast around there!</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's questions about the ownership and long-term protection of a number of valued local assets, including the Pepperpot, Lammas Lands, The Burys, the Memorial Park bandstand, and the Scouts' hut on Charterhouse Road.</p> <p>For clarity, the Pepperpot is already owned by GTC. In addition, GTC already has agreement from Waverley Borough Council to take on the freehold of The Burys Field.</p> <p>More broadly, GTC agrees it is important that residents have confidence that key open spaces and amenities are appropriately protected for community benefit. Where assets are not in GTC ownership, this can include considering what protections are in place (for example, ownership, leases, restrictions/covenants, and any statutory or trust-based constraints) and what practical steps could strengthen long-term stewardship.</p> <p>GTC's current work programme includes assessing opportunities for managing land currently held by Waverley Borough Council and developing a fuller picture of locally important public land assets . GTC has also previously expressed an interest in exploring the transfer of other community assets where this would benefit the local area . Feedback such as this will help inform priorities for what should be reviewed next.</p> <p>The respondent's comment regarding spending priorities for highways measures is noted; however, this is separate from the community asset transfer survey and would need to be considered through the relevant highways and transport decision-making routes.</p>
<p>Yes to all, but not to the detriment of higher-priority goals. It is better to have a robust solution to some issues than attempt a fragile and unsustainable solution to all</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's support, in principle, for GTC considering additional community assets, while emphasising that this should not be to the detriment of higher-priority goals and that it is better to deliver a robust, sustainable solution for some assets than to take on too much and risk an unsustainable outcome.</p> <p>GTC agrees with this principle. Any future consideration of additional asset transfers would need to be prioritised and phased, based on clear community benefit and deliverability, and supported by a robust business case. This would include due diligence on: condition and investment needs; ongoing maintenance and operational costs; liabilities and risks; existing legal arrangements on site (including any leasehold/licence interests); and sustainable funding options, so that any assets taken on can be managed to an appropriate standard over the long term.</p> <p>This approach aligns with the Council's existing work to assess opportunities for local management of assets held by Waverley Borough Council, while ensuring decisions remain evidence-based and financially responsible.</p>

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
<p>Bandstand and bowling green area</p>	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that the Godalming Bandstand and the bowling green area should be considered as part of any wider review of community assets, and recognises that these facilities can contribute significantly to community life, supporting outdoor events, wellbeing, and opportunities for residents of different ages to take part in recreational and cultural activity.</p> <p>GTC's current priorities include assessing opportunities for managing assets presently held by Waverley Borough Council where this would benefit the community, and developing a clearer local authority-owned asset picture for the parish . Feedback such as this helps inform which assets residents would like GTC to explore.</p> <p>Any proposal to take on responsibility for the bandstand and/or bowling green area would need to be subject to a robust options appraisal and business case, including due diligence on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the condition of the assets and likely investment needs (including accessibility and safety); - ongoing maintenance and operating costs, liabilities and insurance; - any existing legal and operational arrangements (e.g., leases/licences/club arrangements and event permissions); - how community access would be protected; and - sustainable funding arrangements (including any transitional support).
<p>I don't know about the others although it would be good going forward to consider walkways beside the river as is being done In Guildford</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's suggestion that, looking ahead, it would be beneficial to consider improving and/or extending walkways alongside the river, similar to initiatives seen elsewhere. GTC recognises the potential community benefits of riverside walking routes, including improved accessibility, health and wellbeing, safer and more attractive walking connections, and added amenity for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Any proposal of this nature would need careful exploration with the relevant landowners and partner authorities, as riverside routes can involve a range of constraints and responsibilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - land ownership and rights of way (including any third-party rights, leases or licences); - flood risk and drainage considerations; - ecological and biodiversity impacts and any protected habitats/species; - design, accessibility, lighting and safety requirements; and - ongoing maintenance liabilities and sustainable funding.
<p>Municipal flowerbeds throughout Godalming which have not been maintained for years and are just full of unsightly weeds</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's concern that some municipal flowerbeds across Godalming have not been maintained for a prolonged period and are now perceived as unsightly. GTC recognises the importance of well-kept planting in supporting civic pride and wellbeing, and notes that GTC already delivers planting initiatives through its Floral Godalming approach, which the Council is seeking to expand and adapt, including a shift away from high-maintenance annual planting towards lower-cost, lower-maintenance planting that supports biodiversity and water conservation . GTC has also previously recognised that floral displays can help soften the built environment and contribute to civic pride .</p> <p>Where flowerbeds are not currently within GTC's ownership or maintenance responsibility, GTC would first need to confirm the relevant landowner/maintaining authority and any existing maintenance arrangements. Subject to that, and to affordability and prioritisation, GTC might be willing to explore options for bringing neglected beds back into a suitable maintenance regime, potentially through revised planting specifications (e.g., perennial/wildflower schemes) and/or inclusion within the Council's wider green spaces work programme .</p>
<p>Some Parish Councils have taken on management of their playgrounds with great success. Wonersh Parish council is a local example. They set up a charity which fund raises for new equipment while the parish council managed the ongoing maintenance and weekly safety checks.</p>	<p>GTC notes the respondent's point that some parish/town councils have successfully taken on the management of playgrounds, and the local example given of Wonersh Parish Council using a model where the council manages ongoing maintenance and routine safety checks, alongside a separate fundraising charity for improvements and new equipment.</p> <p>GTC recognises that local management can bring benefits, including clearer accountability, quicker responses to minor repairs, and stronger community involvement and fundraising. GTC's current priorities include protecting and improving local green/community spaces and assessing opportunities to manage assets held by the Waverley Borough Council where this would benefit residents, and GTC has previously taken on community assets where this delivers better local outcomes.</p> <p>Any proposal for GTC to take on additional playgrounds would need a robust options appraisal and business case, including due diligence on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - asset condition and compliance (including inspection regimes and remedial backlogs); - ongoing revenue costs (maintenance, weekly/regular checks, insurance) and capital renewal needs; - legal arrangements (ownership/lease/licence), any third-party rights, and responsibilities; and - whether a "friends of" group or charity model is feasible and appropriately governed, so fundraising complements (but does not replace) sustainable baseline maintenance.

Are there any other Waverley Borough Council-owned facilities you feel Godalming Town Council should consider?

Public comment	GTC Response
All the Godalming green spaces, woods etc.	<p>GTC notes the suggestion that all green spaces, woodlands and similar natural areas within Godalming should be considered as part of any future community asset transfer discussions.</p> <p>The Council recognises the collective value of these spaces in supporting biodiversity, access to nature, informal recreation, walking, wellbeing, climate resilience and the overall character of the town. Protecting and managing green spaces locally may offer opportunities to ensure that decisions reflect the needs of Godalming residents and the long-term interests of the community.</p> <p>Any potential transfer would need to begin with a clear audit of relevant sites, including ownership, current management arrangements, public access, ecological value, legal or environmental protections, maintenance liabilities and long-term funding requirements.</p>
I'm not sure of the current status of the Pepperpot but that's clearly one, as is the Godalming Museum.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's comments regarding the Pepperpot and Godalming Museum as important local assets.</p>
<p>(for Broadwater Park, as per the article on your website, it may best to limit the scope of the investigation to parts of the site which are "easier" to handle; organisations such as Guildford Rugby Club may be better placed to take-on their section of the site) (I apologise that I don't know which local areas WBC owns so this list may not be relevant) * Binscombe Fields * Longbourne Green, Binscombe * Wood next to Northbourne * The Glade, Farncombe * Churchyard at St John's Church, Farncombe (WBC maintain fence, cut grass and collect bins & garden waste)</p>	<p>For clarity, the Pepperpot is already owned by GTC and is recognised as a key landmark within the town centre. In addition, GTC has previously taken over ownership of the Godalming Museum building and, in partnership with the Godalming Museum Trust, supports the museum service for the benefit of the town.</p> <p>GTC notes the respondent's helpful and thoughtful suggestions, including the point that where a large and complex site is involved (such as Broadwater Park), it may be sensible to scope any investigation in phases and focus initially on areas that are more straightforward to manage, while recognising that established organisations/club users may be best placed to take responsibility for their own areas where appropriate. Any such approach would need to take account of existing leases, licences and operational arrangements on site, and how responsibilities and liabilities are currently structured.</p> <p>GTC also notes the respondent's proposed list of sites (including Binscombe Fields, Longbourne Green (Binscombe), the wood next to Northbourne, The Glade (Farncombe), and the St John's Church churchyard area) alongside the caveat that they are not certain which areas are owned/managed by Waverley Borough Council. This is a useful prompt: before any asset transfer discussions can be progressed, it is essential to confirm ownership, boundaries and maintenance responsibility, including any third-party rights or agreements already in place.</p> <p>GTC's current corporate priorities include the creation a working group to explore potential sites/asset transfer opportunities. Resident feedback such as this will help inform which locations should be checked, mapped, and considered as potential priorities, subject to feasibility, cost, risk, and deliverability.</p>
Any green or other current community space that is a potential building/development plot ought to be protected!	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that any green space or community space which could be perceived as a potential development plot should be protected for long-term community benefit.</p> <p>GTC recognises the strength of local feeling about safeguarding valued open spaces and the importance of maintaining public access, amenity value, biodiversity and wellbeing benefits. In considering any future community asset transfers or management arrangements, GTC would expect proposals to include clear, enforceable protections that secure the land's continued community use (for example through appropriate ownership/lease terms, restrictions on disposal or change of use, and transparent decision-making with consultation).</p> <p>Any decision for GTC to take on additional land would be subject to a robust options appraisal and business case, including due diligence on ownership, constraints, liabilities, current agreements/third-party rights, and sustainable funding, so that the space can be protected and properly maintained over the long term.</p>
Almost certainly. GTC should assess which can either provide community benefit or an income stream at reasonable cost, subject to level headed assessment of the costs/benefits.	<p>GTC notes the respondent's view that GTC should consider additional assets, but only where this is based on a level-headed assessment of costs, risks and benefits, and where the asset can deliver either clear community benefit and/or a sustainable income stream at reasonable cost.</p> <p>The Council agrees with this principle. Any potential community asset transfer (or other devolution/management arrangement) would need to be prioritised and evidence-led, supported by a robust options appraisal and business case, including due diligence on: asset condition and any backlog maintenance; ongoing operating and compliance costs; liabilities and risk; existing legal arrangements (leases/licences/third-party rights); and realistic income and funding assumptions. This aligns with the Council's current corporate direction to assess opportunities for managing assets held by Waverley Borough Council and to strengthen the recording and management of Town Council assets .</p> <p>Where an asset could generate income, the Council would also consider how that income can be balanced with affordability and access for local residents and community groups, so that community benefit remains central.</p>
As a resident of Witley and Milford parish we still enjoy Broadwater Park. I would favour a merger of the parish and town council to give a local council with greater financial resources and resilience	<p>GTC notes the respondent's comment as a resident of Witley and Milford Parish, and the point that Broadwater Park is enjoyed by people from neighbouring parishes as well as Godalming.</p> <p>GTC also notes the suggestion of a merger between parish/town councils to create a single local council with greater resources and resilience. However, this type of change falls outside the scope of the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process, which is focused on potential transfer/management of specific assets.</p> <p>Any proposal to merge, alter parish boundaries, or reorganise local councils would need to be considered through a Community Governance Review (CGR) process led by the principal authority, including statutory consultation and an evidence-based assessment of community identity, governance and service implications.</p>



Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy, Guidance & Application Form Godalming Town Council

Part A – Policy and Guidance

1. Introduction

The Waverley Borough Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule was adopted on 31 October 2018 and implemented on 1 March 2019.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allows Waverley Borough Council (WBC) to raise funds from some forms of new development to help fund the infrastructure needed to mitigate the impacts of that development.

Godalming Town Council (GTC) receives 25% of CIL funds collected by WBC from development within the Godalming parish area. These funds are available to spend on local projects that address the demands development places on the area.

In accordance with the CIL Regulations, the local proportion of CIL should be used for:

- The provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- Anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

The definition of infrastructure is broad and includes (but is not limited to):

- Roads and other transport infrastructure
- Schools and other educational facilities
- Medical facilities
- Open spaces
- Sporting and recreational facilities
- Flood defences

GTC encourages potential applicants to discuss ideas with the ~~Town Clerk~~ Chief Executive Officer before submitting a formal application.

2. CIL Policy

Godalming Town Council will work closely with the local community and infrastructure providers to identify potential improvement schemes, encouraging and, where applicable, sponsoring applications.

Funds must be spent within five years of receipt, though GTC may choose to accumulate funds to support larger or strategic projects.

The level of available CIL receipts will depend on the rate of local development and cannot be considered a continuous funding stream.

All final decisions for approval and disbursement of CIL funds ~~must be made by Full Council.~~ will be made by the Management Committee, where awards are under £50,000, or by Full Council, where awards are £50,00 or more.

3. Who Can Apply

Applications may be submitted by:

- Godalming Town Council Committees; or
- External not-for-profit organisations, including statutory infrastructure providers, community groups, schools, and registered charities.

Membership organisations must demonstrate wider community benefit. Facilities funded through CIL should be accessible to a range of people within the community.

Note: If an external organisation has been granted CIL funds for a project, it may not apply for further CIL funding (for any project) until twelve months have elapsed since the previous award.

4. What Is Not Eligible

The following will not normally be funded:

- Projects completed prior to submitting an application
- Ongoing revenue or running costs
- Routine maintenance or repair
- Projects promoting or benefiting political parties or causes
- Projects conflicting with existing Town Council policies
- Recoverable VAT

In some cases, it may be determined that alternative funding sources are more appropriate.

5. What a Project Should Demonstrate

Projects should clearly demonstrate:

- How they address the impacts created by new development
- A wider community benefit, not limited to the applicant organisation
- A clear and deliverable plan with sound governance
- The ability to attract additional resources (match funding or partnership support)

CIL should be considered **funding of last resort**, and applicants must show that other potential funding sources have been explored first.

6. Application and Assessment Process

Applications should be submitted via email to: office@godalming-tc.gov.uk

The process is as follows:

1. Officers validate applications against requirements of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 and the Council's Neighbourhood CIL policy. ~~Applications are validated by a panel consisting of three nominated councillors and the Town Clerk.~~
2. Validated applications are considered by the ~~Environment & Planning~~ Management Committee.
3. The Management Committee will make the final decision on awards up to £50,000; applications of £50,000 or more, that are approved by the Management Committee, ~~Approved applications~~ are then forwarded to Full Council for final decision and prioritisation against available funds.

Meeting dates for consideration of CIL applications by **Environment & Planning Management Committee** are published on the Council's website: www.godalming-tc.gov.uk.

Where a project is also applying for **Strategic CIL** from Waverley Borough Council, GTC will accept an initial application using WBC's CIL form to avoid duplication.

7. **Guidance on Completing the Application Form**

Below is guidance to assist applicants completing the CIL Funding Application Form:

Questions 1–3: Applicant and main contact details. Each participating organisation must sign the declaration section.

Questions 4–5: Type and legal status of organisation. If registered as a charity, provide the registration number. Confirm whether VAT can be reclaimed, failure to declare this will invalidate an application.

Question 6: Location of project (full address and postcode).

Question 7: Project summary – description, purpose, and community benefit.

Questions 8–12:

- Project cost breakdown and sources of funding.
- Indicate other contributions or match funding sought.
- Declare any previous CIL or grant awards from GTC or WBC.

Questions 13–14:

- Explain how the project meets infrastructure needs arising from development.
- Provide community support evidence (letters or endorsements).
- Projects aligning with the following local priorities are encouraged:
 - Transport improvements (roads, cycling, pedestrian safety)
 - Open space and recreational improvements
 - Youth provision
 - Biodiversity enhancement
 - Community facilities
 - Flood and drainage works

Questions 15–16:

- Demonstrate deliverability within 24 months of approval.
- Explain long-term sustainability and revenue funding arrangements.

Questions 17–19:

- Non-public sector applicants must provide the latest audited accounts (including reserves).
- State whether planning permission is required and whether it is secured.

8. **Supporting Information and Post-Approval Process**

- Applications must include or later provide competitive quotes for the works proposed.
- Following approval, written confirmation will be required agreeing to reimburse GTC if the project does not proceed.
- No funds will be released until such confirmation is received.
- Planning approval and any other pre-commencement conditions associated with an award must be met in full before any CIL funds are released.

- Applicants must provide proof of tenure (Freehold/Lease or licence to occupy), the acceptable length and type of which will be determined by Members when considering each application.
- Projects must commence within 24 months of [Management Committee](#) or Full Council approval.
- Applicants must hold a bank account in the organisation's name.

The CIL award covers capital expenditure only. GTC will not assume ongoing maintenance or operational responsibilities.

9. Publicity and Acknowledgement

Recipients must acknowledge Godalming Town Council's support in any publicity or signage relating to the project.

GTC reserves the right to use project images or descriptions for public information or promotional purposes.

The assessment process is competitive, and not all applications will be funded. There is no right of appeal.



Supporting Our Community

CIL FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

1. Applicant organisation	
2. Name and position of main contact	
3. Applicant contact details (phone no, email and address)	
4. Type of organisation If a charity, please provide registration number	
5. Is the organisation able to reclaim VAT?	
6. Location of project	
7. Summary of the project proposal	
8. Estimated project cost	

9. Please show in the table the amount of CIL funding being sought and any other contributions that may have been allocated for this scheme

	Amount	Detail
CIL funding sought		
Any other Local authority contribution eg EBC and/or SCC		
Third party contribution		
Total cost		

10. Detail of additional sources of funding available

11. Why is CIL funding being sought? Please provide details of sources of funding already considered or applications made for funding

12. Please indicate whether the organisation has previously received CIL or other funding sources from either Godalming Town Council and/or Waverley Borough Council. If yes, provide amounts and timings

13. How does the project help address the demands of development in the area. What evidence is there to support this?

<p>14. What evidence is there of support from the community</p>	
<p>15. Proposed timescales for the project</p>	
<p>16. Is there a related revenue spend (i.e. day-to-day running costs) associated with the project? How will this be addressed?</p>	
<p>17. If the organisation is not in the public sector please provide details of the organisation's finances Please include a copy of the most recently audited accounts, including details of unrestricted reserves</p>	
<p>18. Do you need planning permission to carry out the works?</p>	
<p>19. If planning permission is required is it in place to carry out the works?</p> <p>If so, please provide the application number</p>	

Section E: Declaration

When you have completed the application, please sign this declaration and submit the application form as directed.

To the best of my knowledge the information I have provided on this application form is correct.

If Godalming Town Council agrees to release funds for the specified project, these funds will be used exclusively for the purposes described. In such an event, I agree to inform Godalming Town Council via the **Chief Executive Officer** ~~Town Clerk~~ of any material changes to the proposals set out above. When requested, I agree to provide Godalming Town Council with all necessary information required for the purposes of reporting on the progress or otherwise of the identified project. I recognise Godalming Town Council's statutory rights as the designated provider of these CIL funds, which includes provisions to reclaim unspent or misappropriated funds.

Privacy Notice: By signing this form, the applicant agrees to Godalming Town Council checking all supplied information for the purposes of informing decision making. The information on this form will be stored in the Town Council's filing system and summarised in the Council's accounting system for the sole purpose of fund processing, analysis and accounting. Information about the project may be publicised on Godalming Town Council's website and in public material for publicity purposes. Personal data will not be disclosed without prior agreement of those concerned, unless required by law. For further information on the Council's privacy policy, please see: <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/data-protection/>

Signed: _____

Organisation: _____

Date: _____

All organisations involved with the application will need to sign and date the form.

Signed: _____

Organisation: _____

Date: _____