

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PROGRESS REPORT



Community & Facilities

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q6 - Asked how well their needs were catered for, 43% said very well and 49% satisfactory	For a small town this is a pretty good result	It was noted that some facilities and services are inadequately advertised. This will be addressed by the events calendar on the new Watlington website	Achieved
Q7 - Asked what was considered unsatisfactory	Issues of safety, traffic, parking, public transport & congestion are dealt with by later questions Public Toilets could be better signed & cleaner Requests for café/tearoom	Passed to WPC Enlarging The Bread Bin (a commercial decision) may have addressed this need	Ongoing No further action
Q8 - Most popular activity not available in Watlington was adult education	In the past, courses have had to be discontinued due to lack of interest. Could these be re-introduced? Survey extent of interest. Other activities suggested would need those interested to activate them	There is active U3A Not yet undertaken	Unresolved Unresolved
Q9 – Only 9% would help organize a suggested activity, 31% would only help and 62% not interested	Reluctance to take a lead to organize activities is apparent throughout responses to the questionnaire.		No further action

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q11 – 262 respondents said they would like to receive local information by email	List of those who requested, and gave their email address, sent to WPC A ‘welcome pack’ and also a diary of events was suggested. This need will be answered by new website. Investigate whether hard copies should be available from Parish Office, Library and Estate Agents.	WPC news is now sent to all those who requested it. The Watlington Website has been integrated with those of WPC and WBA and this includes information for tourists, calendar of events, local and WPC news and directory of local organizations, services and businesses.	Achieved Achieved In progress
Q12 – Watlington Blog	All those interested were contacted	Volunteer undertook to develop.	In progress
Q’s 22 to 26 - 45% of respondents wished to retain the Church Hall for the community	Following a meeting at the Town Hall on January 20 th 2009 ‘Church Hall Concern’ group was formed to make representations to the church authorities	No progress to date	Unresolved
Q27 - 74% of respondents would like the Watlington Festival to continue	List of volunteers and all suggestions passed to organizers.	A meeting was called but there was insufficient interest to form a viable committee. It has been decided to re-consider in 2012	Under review
Q28 - 83% of respondents wanted the WBA Christmas Fair to continue	All volunteers were contacted and a new committee formed, with both WBA members and non-members	Now successful annual event in its second year (2009/2010) If you would like to get involved or for more information contact: caroline.lye@btinternet.com , 01491 612710	Achieved
Q29 & 30 - A number of extra events were suggested. 53% said they would help with the event they suggested.	The most popular was revival of Music on the Hill. This would require those interested in this, or any other event, to come forward and revive the event		Unresolved
Q’s 31 to 33 - Between 25% and 32% of respondents expressed an interest in either a theatre group, cinema group or film club	All those who volunteered to help were contacted, but no-one came forward to lead or organize the groups.	Icknield Community College has facilities and a probable leader to organise a film club, but would need volunteers to run one.	Ongoing
Q’s 34 to 36 - Only 22% expressed an interest in poetry events, 62% in exhibitions and 41% art events	All those who volunteered to help were contacted, but no-one came forward to lead or organize the groups.	Although one person suggested a poetry reading group, no-one who was contacted followed this up.	Unresolved

Traffic & Transport

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q37 & 38 - 85% of residents have off-road parking. 58% without had a problem.	No extra space available at present to resolve this problem.	The possibility of residents' parking permits to enable them to park long-term in Hill Road car park has been suggested to WPC.	Unresolved
		Some extra parking spaces have been made available in Shirburn Street, but this is causing a traffic flow problem. OCC has been asked to review.	Ongoing
Q40 & 41 - 47% thought parking in Watlington adequate. However Hill Road Car Park is often full	Extra 'shoppers only' spaces to be introduced at Hill Road Car Park	There are now 27 shoppers only spaces, some more may be added	Achieved
	Parking at Recreation Ground & Church Car Park to be publicized.	New 'P' signs have been erected and notices displayed in retail outlets	Achieved
	Lack of lighting is a problem in winter.	WPC asked to see if this can be remedied	Ongoing
	New parking restrictions to be introduced	1 hour only waiting now introduced at top of High Street	Achieved
Q 42 & 43 - Parking at Junction 6 of M40 motorway	There needs to be better provision of parking for those using the Oxford Tube.	WPC have had discussions with OCC and Thames Valley Police, but this is outside the parish, so limited influence.	Unresolved
	To date OCC have rejected any development here.	Letter in Jan Watlington Times indicates Lewknor residents are in favour of better parking. It is also understood that land has been offered. WPC asked to raise the matter again with OCC	Unresolved
Q44 - 49% were in favour of a Relief Road	Pursue update on OCC view and planning		Ongoing
Q 45 - Community Bus	Extra services asked for were passed to CIC	Have contacted CIC for update of services available and planned	Ongoing
Q46 - Public Transport	Only 101 to Oxford is commercially viable – all others are subsidized by OCC, reviewed every 4 years.	WPC has actively lobbied OCC to retain services.	Ongoing
		Bus companies have been notified of WS requests and a survey of bus users has been carried out. WPC asked for outcome	
Q47 to 50 - 26% said they would use a scheme with voluntary drivers for hospital appointments.	All volunteers were contacted	Committee formed and scheme set up Well advertised and running successfully.	Achieved

Environment

Project	Action	Progress	Status
<p>Q51 - 23% said they would like to get involved with the existing environmental group</p>	<p>All those interested were contacted and list sent to environmental group.</p> <p>Many were more interested in sustainability.</p> <p>There should be possibility of forming a group to look into sustainable and green issues in Watlington.</p>	<p>WPC will raise this issue at Council meeting.</p> <p>Independently, a group invited Tom McCulloch of ORCC to speak at a meeting on 10.03.11.</p> <p>A good turnout and response led to further meeting to discuss forming a 'Sustainable Watlington' group. Oxfordshire Chilterns Community Action (OCCA) has now been launched.</p> <p>To learn more contact: OCCA.2011@yahoo.co.uk</p>	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p>
<p>Q52 - asked what actions could be taken to reduce our environmental impact</p>	<p>There were many suggestions, but the most cited were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing or banning HGV's and through traffic. • Need for a relief road. • Reduction of speed <p>Ask WPC for update on survey of HGV's and pollution in Watlington</p>	<p>WPC had two meetings with OCC who have 20mph on 2-year trial in Henley and will not consider any more until this is complete.</p> <p>WPC have been asked to pursue putting up independent 20mph signs, even though these could not be enforced – decision will be made when budget 2011 agreed</p>	<p>Unresolved</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Q53 to 56 - 95% felt safe in daylight and 75% safe after dark. 49% said they would like more police presence</p>	<p>Other safety issues cited were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed of passing traffic. • Uneven and poorly maintained pavements. • Inadequate lighting. • Groups of youngsters who appeared threatening. • Footpath from Windmill Piece. Crossing on Cuxham Road. • Corner of High Street and Shirburn Street <p>It was suggested that better bollards could be used.</p>	<p>These concerns were passed to WPC</p> <p>These are ongoing issues for WPC, who are in discussions with OCC. OCC has carried out speed checks and report of these was given in WPC March 2011 newsletter.</p> <p>This has been investigated, but there is insufficient depth for foundations due to drains</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Unresolved</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Unresolved</p>

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q57 & 58 - 69% said they would join and support Neighbourhood Watch in their street	All those interested were informed of contact details for joining their local group. Since then the way Neighbourhood Watch is run has now changed.	Since changes all those involved were contacted again to give them new details. People can still be involved in neighbourhood policing by getting community messaging from Thames Valley Police. Contact: https://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx?selectedtab=home&tabstate=portal	Achieved
Q59 & 60 - asked whether lighting was adequate, 28% wanted more and 39% no change	Many respondents found pathways and alleys inadequately lit. Lights are sometimes out of order - could Street Watch monitor these and report when necessary? Some stimulus-sensitive lights might be suitable for some darker areas.	Concerns passed to WPC Asked WPC Suggestion passed to WPC	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
Q61 & 62 - asked what could be done to reduce littering and problem areas were named	Re-launch of 'Keep Britain Tidy' could be used to encourage local involvement. An article in Watlington Times to remind people that this problem can only be resolved by a general change of attitude and people taking responsibility themselves and keeping own pavements clean and hedges cut back. Kingfisher used to regularly pick up discarded fish & chip litter – new letter to ask them to do so. Litter flies around from open bins behind Co-op The routes to and from school were named as a problem	Since appointment of full-time caretaker litter problem has improved markedly. Suggestion made to WPC to run campaign. Independent group now has litter picks on 15 th of every month and asks people to keep their own areas clean and tidy. To get involved contact tjacks@waitrose.com WPC asked to contact Kingfisher and Co-op. Icknield Community College was congratulated for improvement to litter in its grounds and playing fields. We asked whether students would also take responsibility for not dropping litter on way to and from school.	Ongoing Ongoing In progress Achieved Ongoing
Q63 & 64 - asked where dog fouling was a problem and suggest solutions	More bins may be needed, but these can only be put where contractors have vehicular access.	WPC will investigate	Ongoing

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q65 - 14% would help and 12% would sponsor Watlington in Bloom 74% were not interested	Although the response was small, all volunteers were contacted Ask WPC whether all sponsors have been contacted	Committee was formed and competition entered. Silver Gilt award was won for newcomers in Large Village category and category winner Thames & Chilterns 2010. Judges particularly remarked on evidence of community participation. Entry for 2011 is under discussion To learn more contact: tjacks@waitrose.com	Achieved Ongoing
Q66 & 67 - asked about having extra benches in Watlington. 36% wanted more benches, 13% no more 50% had no opinion.	Many areas were suggested, but Hill Road came top of requests followed by Recreation Ground, High Street & War Memorial Suggestion made that benches could be given by well wishers or donated 'In Memoriam'	WPC will look into feasibility Scheduled for discussion at WPC meeting	Ongoing Ongoing

Sport, Recreation & Leisure

Q68 - asked if respondents would use a gym 21% said yes, 28% sometimes and 51% no	With such low interest, an indoor gym is unlikely to be viable	The outdoor gym at the Recreation Ground is now complete	Achieved as far as possible at this time
Q69 to 71 - suggestion to run and/or join a swimming group	All those interested were contacted but no one came forward to lead a group. There is ongoing interest in pool for Watlington. Investigate costs/grants available and companies who build and maintain pools, if viable in grounds of Icknield Community College. Any project would need to be launched jointly by WPC and Icknield Community College with community fund raising.	Insufficient interest A meeting was held with Head Teacher of Icknield Community College. In the present economic climate funds are very tight and grants difficult to obtain but a pool would greatly benefit both College and community. There may possibly be covenants which would prevent this on College grounds (report pending).	Unresolved Ongoing
Q72 & 73 - asked if respondents would use sports facilities at Icknield Community College only 14% said yes	Although low interest, a meeting arranged with Head Teacher to discuss this and other ways the Icknield Community College can interact with community. Head Teacher raised possibility of a joint bid with WPC for Astroturf	Head Teacher is very positive about sharing Icknield facilities. Some clubs already exist: Badminton, Cricket, Netball and Football 5-a-side. These will benefit from being advertised on new website.	Achieved Ongoing

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q74 & 75 - asked about cycling	Many did not cycle as often as they wished. Reasons were traffic on B4009 and lack of connecting cycle tracks from Watlington Possibility of track to Lewknor should be kept open.	Have asked WPC to do this	Unresolved

Commerce

Q76 to 78 - asked what influences decision to shop in Watlington.	Support of local traders (86%). Opening hours satisfactory (72%). Shops in walking distance (71%). Good service/pleasant to mix with familiar people (59%/58%). Range of shops (52%) This reflects good support from community	Suggestions for extra services that could be offered were passed to all retailers. Some suggestions for improvements in general and the Co-op in particular were passed on.	Achieved Achieved
Q79 to 81 - 62% would use a Charity Shop, 52% a Swap Shop and 29% a Skills Bank.	All volunteers were contacted. Most interest was shown in a Charity Shop and.	A committee was formed to investigate the feasibility. Interest was shown by a charity, but no suitable premises available. New sustainability group (OCCA) hope to run a Swap Shop. Insufficient interest in Skills Bank.	Unresolved Ongoing No further action

Housing & Planning

Q82, 83 & 85 - asked about housing development in Watlington. 44% would only support sympathetic infill. 39% wanted no development. 66% said future building should reflect local styles and materials.	A wide variety of housing was favoured, with emphasis on affordable housing to buy. WPC to be asked to respect these views when looking at planning applications	Passed to WPC Passed to WPC	Ongoing Ongoing
Q84 - asked what sort of housing respondents would look for if moving within next five years	The response was low (276 replies) but at odds with the answers to Q83, with 55% saying 3 bedrooms or more. The inference may be that many young first time buyers would like to move to, or stay in, Watlington, but need to upsize as families grow.	WPC asked to bear this in mind in future planning WPC asked to bear this in mind in future planning	Ongoing Ongoing

Project	Action	Progress	Status
Q86 - asked whether shop premises should be refused change of use to residential, 57% supported this	There are some premises in Watlington for which change of use might be requested WPC asked to continue opposing any applications		Ongoing

Other Matters Raised

Befriending and Bereavement groups were suggested	Without existing local groups, details of Oxfordshire Befriending Network for terminal or life-threatening illnesses and Cruse Bereavement Care to be made available on new Watlington website	Contact details will be posted on site: Befriending: East Oxford Community Centre Princes Street Oxford OX4 1DD tel: 01865 791 781 enquiries@oxon.befriending.net www.oxonbefriending.net Bereavement: Cruse Bereavement Care Oxford tel: 01865 245 398 info@cruse.org.uk	Achieved
Young people insufficiently catered for	This is probably a perception rather than a fact. Better facilities are being actively organized.	Details of all available youth activities now included on new Watlington website	Achieved
Groups of youths seen as a threat	It was considered that these groups are usually non-aggressive, but some cause a nuisance. Pass concerns to WPC.	WPC asked to check if PCSO's monitor, on a regular basis, places where youths congregate in the evenings	Ongoing
Extra notice boards	Already planned for Town Hall and Library	WPC will be installing these.	Achieved

If you would like to get involved in any of the above initiatives, please contact watlingtonpc@tiscali.co.uk or speak to the Parish Clerk, Kristina Tynan, on 01491 613867, who will pass on your interest.