

Upton-by-Chester & District
Neighbourhood Plan
2020-2030

CONSULTATION STATEMENT
PART 2

**ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION DURING
PLAN DEVELOPMENT,
PRIOR TO STATUTORY REGULATION 14
CONSULTATION**

The Consultation Statement is in two parts, with Part 1 (a separate document) describing the Regulation 14 Consultation.

Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council
Nov 2021

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1. Headline Summary of all Engagements and Consultations

The **items in Bold below** are consultations that were carried out with local residents and businesses during the development of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The feedback from those consultations is described in detail under individual headings in Section 2.2, including the actions taken as a result of the feedback.

(1) Residents

Jan-14 Public Meeting
Mar-14 Presentation at Upton Annual Assembly
Apr-14 Information stand at Upton Community Celebration

Informal discussions with residents at all the above events informed the development of early ideas for the Neighbourhood Plan, and the topic areas of concern. These led to the materials that were then put together for an Exhibition in Upton Library, and a Consultation Questionnaire that was distributed across the Community.

Jul-15 Exhibition boards in Upton Library
Nov-15 Consultation questionnaire to all households (217 responses)

Some of the specific issues raised by residents in the early consultation were ones that cannot be included in a Neighbourhood Plan (NP), for example Fracking, which is explicitly excluded as mineral extraction under regulations for Neighbourhood Plans. However, the critical importance and concern around sustainable energy generation was fully taken on board by the NP Steering Team, and influenced the development of Policy S2, Renewable energy generation, as well as E2, Development for business purposes.

The issues of sustainable travel, including the development of electric cars, influenced the development of Policies T1-T5. All the areas of feedback raised were taken on board by the Steering Group as described in Section 2.2.1 below, and influenced policy development as the Plan progressed.

It was noted that a wide range of issues were identified as important to the Community, and therefore a Vision Statement was developed for the NP that included this range. From the Vision Statement a set of Objectives was derived, and then summarised into Theme headings for Policy development.

The findings were used to put together materials for further consultations to give more insight into areas of concern, to keep awareness of new issues that might be arising, to consult more broadly with businesses and organisations, and to inform questions that arose during ongoing Plan development.

Jun-17 Stalls at School Summer Events and questionnaire (34 responses including Upton Fun Day, Sept)

Jul-17 Visit to Mallard Court housing for elderly

From this visit it was noted that there was insufficient off-road parking for the cars of visitors, nor for the mobility vehicles of residents. This informed the development of Policy T3, Parking.

Sept-17 Information stall and questionnaire at Upton Fun Day

Dec-17 Article in Parish Newsletter

The Parish newsletter is distributed to all households and businesses twice per year, and this article (as well as ones in succeeding issues) was used to increase awareness of the NP and encourage feedback, as well as to ask for further volunteers from the community to assist in developing the Plan.

Mar-18 Consultation questionnaire to all households (35 responses)

Apr-18 Launch of NDP Facebook page

The “Your Upton 2030” Facebook page was set up to provide a continuous means of keeping the community informed of NP development and to request feedback. It was found to be particularly valuable at the Reg 14 Consultation phase, which took place during Covid-19 lockdown, and is still an active Facebook page (Nov 2021).

Apr-18 Article in Parish Newsletter

May-18 Information Stall at Upton Fest

Displays of NP themes were produced, and informal discussions were held at the stall. It was noted that there was interest in all the Themes.

Sept-18 Stall and questionnaire at Upton Fun Day (30 responses)

Oct-18 Facebook paid boost and online survey (947 viewings, 9 responses)

Nov-18 Stall and questionnaire at Upton Christmas Market (40 responses)

Dec-18 Article in Parish Newsletter

Apr-19 Article in Parish Newsletter

Sept-19 Stall and questionnaire at Upton Fun Day (20 responses)

Dec-19 Article in Parish Newsletter

Mar-20 Article in Parish Newsletter

Aug-20 & Consultation questionnaire to Dale residents (14 responses)

Nov-20

(2) Local Businesses and Organisations

Jun-14 Meeting with Chester Zoo and Countess of Chester Hospital (COCH)

These meetings were used for awareness of the NP and to learn about the concerns of the Zoo and of COCH. It was noted that travel of staff and visitors to their sites, and issues of local parking in Upton, were joint areas of concern. The theme of travel was developed further in meetings with the Zoo in Feb-16/May-17/Mar-18 and with

	COCH in Mar-18, and the feedback gained was used in the development of Policies T1-T3.
Nov-15	Upton businesses information evening
	This meeting was used to raise awareness of the NP among small businesses and to learn about their concerns, which were principally about parking at the local retail centres. This was a continuing concern for small businesses in further meetings that took place in Feb-16, Sep-17 and in the Business Survey in Feb-18, leading to the development of Policies T2-3 and E1.
Dec-15	Letter to Upton Primary Schools
Jan-16	Visit to Upton schools to hold discussions with pupils
	These interactions with the Primary Schools, and a later one in Nov-16 with Upton High School, led to the identification of concerns for the Under-18 year olds, which were found to be particularly in the areas of sustainability, local facilities and walking and cycling. Further information was gained from this age group at the Jun-17 Schools Summer Events (section 2.2.2) and the July-18 Consultation with Upton High School students (section 2.2.5)
Feb-16	Chester Zoo business plan presentation
Feb-16	Business information evening
Nov-16	Visit to Upton High School (UHS) – competition for students
Jan-17	UHS competition results
Feb-17	Community groups consultation meeting
	This meeting provided the opportunity to present the NP progress to community organisations including the local schools, sports and social groups, and organisations for young people such as Scouts. There was also a discussion session for them to give their ideas and areas of concern, and these were noted by the team in the ongoing NP development. Ideas and concerns were found to relate to all the themes of the NP, and in particular were taken into account in developing the Policies related to local facilities including green spaces and playing fields (PC3, LSF1-2). The organisations agreed that they were willing to be consulted again at later stages, and this took place in the Reg 14 consultation by including them in the list of statutory organisational consultees.
Apr-17	Presentation at Upton Annual Assembly An exhibition stall was put in place and discussions were held with members of the community and Parish Councillors. The purpose was awareness and clarification with regard to any queries arising.
May-17	Presentation of Chester Zoo draft strategic plan Information from the Zoo relating to their future visitor plans informed the development of transport Policy T1.
Jul-17	Meeting with Frack Free Upton Views informed the development of Policies S2 and E2.
Sep-17	Meeting with Weston Grove shopkeepers
Feb-18	Business survey launched (11 responses)

	Areas of concern were included in the development of Policies T3 and E1
Mar-18	Individual meetings with Chester Zoo and COCH
July-18	Consultation questionnaire with Upton High School students (81 responses)
Dec-18	Chester Cycling Campaign Information and recommendations were used in developing Policies T2 and T5
May-19	Upton Head Teachers meeting Areas of concern common to the Head Teachers and their representatives particularly included travel around Upton and the traffic congestion outside schools at peak hours. This information informed the development of Policies T1, T2 and T3
Oct-20	Defence Infrastructure Organisation – response invited on draft Policy
Oct-20	Chester Zoo – response invited on draft Policy
Oct-20	Countess of Chester Hospital (COCH) – response invited on draft Policy
Oct-20	Upton Businesses in Local Retail Centres (1 response)

The above important local organisations were all given the opportunity to comment on the Draft Plan (particularly the Policies relevant to themselves) prior to Regulation 14 Consultation, and were notified that the Regulation 14 Consultation would be taking place in early 2021.

(3) Public Bodies and Not-for-Profit Organisations

Nov-16	Cheshire Community Action Advice on early steps for an NP, and the assistance that was available
Dec-16	CWAC Principal Planning Officer - Planning Policy; Place Strategy Advice on early steps for an NP, and the assistance that was available
Jan-17	Sanctuary Housing Information on requirements for affordable housing in the Parish. Together with later meeting in May-18, taken into account in development of Policies H2 and D1
Jul-17	Cheshire Community Action Advice on how to develop policies
Apr-18	CWAC Conservation Team Advice on policies related to Heritage and conservation, taken into account in developing PC1 and PC2
May-18	Sanctuary Housing
May-18	CWAC Principal Planning Officer - Planning Policy; Place Strategy Advice on help that would be available from CWAC in reviewing the emerging NP in relation to the Local Plan.

Jun-18	Your Housing Information on requirements for affordable housing in the Parish. For the development of Policies H2 and D1.
Sept-18	CWAC Housing Manager Data on the requirement for Affordable housing in the Parish. For the development of a Housing Needs Assessment.
Feb-19	Cheshire Community Action Assistance in reviewing emerging Policies, and the requirement for a Housing Needs Assessment as evidence for the Housing policies H1, H2 and D1.
Feb&Jun-19	CWAC Principal Planning Officer - Planning Policy; Place Strategy Assistance in reviewing emerging NP Policies in relation to the Local Plan.
July-19	CWAC Conservation & Design Officer Advice on Policies related to Heritage and conservation, taken into account in developing PC1 and PC2
Sept-19	Cheshire Community Action Briefing for Housing Needs Assessment
Nov-19	CWAC Senior Manager, Transport and Infrastructure Discussions relating to Walking and Cycling in Upton, and the emerging LCWIP
Feb-Nov-20	CWAC Principal Planning Officer - Planning Policy; Place Strategy Assistance in reviewing draft NP Policies in relation to the Local Plan, and on designing the Reg 14 Consultation
Aug-20	The Land Trust Consultation regarding potential Local Green Space designation for the Countess of Chester Country Park
Aug-20-Nov-20	Centre for Sustainable Energy Advice in drafting and reviewing the Sustainability Policies S1 and S2
Nov-20	Cheshire Community Action Advice on design of Reg 14 Consultation and assistance that would be available
Dec-20-July-21	CWAC Principal Planning Officer - Planning Policy; Place Strategy Assistance in implementation of Reg 14 Consultation with regard to CWAC Communication channels and Upton Library. Review of proposed changes to NP post-Reg 14 Consultation.

It should be noted that all feedback from the community and small businesses was gained in accordance with relevant UK/EU Data Protection legislation, with secure storage of data and all responses anonymised before publication.

The Privacy Statement was as follows:

PRIVACY NOTICE

“We are the Steering Group delivering a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for Upton by Chester (the data controller). The NDP is sponsored by Upton by Chester Parish Council. The Personal Data (PD) we hold will be used only for the purpose of gathering views and information about Upton, solely in connection with the NDP. It will also be used by us to create a mailing list to keep data subjects up to date with NDP activities. None of the PD we hold will be of a sensitive nature (as defined by the Act). Ordinarily, the information we intend to hold will be restricted what you choose to give us. This will usually consist of names, postal and email addresses, phone numbers, link to your website. PD will be held until such time as the NDP is passed into law. Data subjects have many rights including, but not limited to, rectification and erasure. If you want to see what information we hold, you must email np@uptonbychester.org.uk. clearly marking it SAR and your name, so that your request will receive priority. We will not use PD for any automated decision making or profiling purpose. We will not share any PD outside the Neighbourhood Development Plan unless required to do so by law.”

Good practice for survey research was followed at all times, with data collection and analysis overseen by a member of the Steering Group who had worked in market research and been a full Member of the Market Research Society before retirement. Data analysis was carried out using Microsoft Excel and Survey Monkey.

In addition to the specific consultation events, since March 2018 there has been an ongoing Facebook page “Your Upton 2030” as noted above, for information and communication with the community.

Updates have also been posted on the Neighbourhood Plan pages of the Upton-by-Chester Parish Council website.

2.2 Community Consultation Surveys

Copies of the original questionnaires and full data from all the surveys are available on request from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Team.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, summaries of the relevant consultation responses from these surveys are presented within each of the Policy sections.

2.2.1 Nov-15 Consultation

A set of questions was put together by the NDP Steering Group to explore what was important to residents, under 16 headings that covered themes relevant to a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Each question had a number of multiple-choice tick box response options, together with an 'Any other comments' space.

A copy of the full questionnaire can be found on the Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council website www.uptonbychester.org.uk at this link:

http://www.uptonbychester.org.uk/uploads/9/3/5/8/9358403/first_consultation_questionnaire_-_oct_2015.pdf

Paper copies of the questionnaire were distributed to households across the neighbourhood, with copies also available at the Library, Local Shops and a Pub. The questionnaire could either be completed on paper and returned to boxes in the Library/Shops/Pub, or scanned and returned by email, or else completed online using a Survey Monkey link that was publicised.

A total of 217 forms were returned.

FINDINGS

Detailed data from the survey can be accessed on the Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council website www.uptonbychester.org.uk at this link:

http://www.uptonbychester.org.uk/uploads/9/3/5/8/9358403/ndp_2015_survey_summary_responses.pdf

Most of the results confirmed what had been expected by the Steering Group. The statements with the highest level of agreement "Matters to you the most" under each of the Theme areas were as follows, and the NP Policies that were eventually developed taking account of the responses are shown in the final column, with NA (not appropriate) where out of scope of a NP, or as already in the Local Plan:

	% "Matters most"	Policy
Housing		
- more housing accommodation with care facilities	44%	H2
- more affordable housing	41%	D1
Education		
- more use of educational facilities for the whole community	60%	LSF2
- address congestion and traffic	53%	T1
Countess Hospital – traffic and parking	67%	T1,T3
Health Care – more doctors and medical services	85%	LSF1,LSF2

Transport – control speed	57%	T1
Footpaths/Bridleways/Canal		
- maintenance	65%	T2
- safety and lighting	52%	T2
Local shops – good range and provision	64%	E1
Public Open Spaces & Green Belt – designate and protect Green Belt	79%	NA
Public Buildings		
- improve usefulness	79%	NA
- retain and protect	66%	LSF2
Upton Golf Course – important asset	60%	PC3
Pubs, Hotels, Guest Houses – sufficient provision	62%	LSF2, E2
Important Buildings & Monuments		
- identify and protect	75%	PC1
- preserve local boundary features	70%	PC2
- review/extend tree preservation & conservation area	60%	PC1,PC3
Street/Building Lighting & Safety – sufficient lighting	64%	T2
The Dale		
- plan for future re-use	68%	D1
- safeguard environmental and landscape assets	53%	D1
Chester Zoo		
- protect Green Belt	63%	NA
- improve access including pedestrian	59%	NA
Our Future Economy & Industry		
- no fracking, develop renewable energy	86%	S2
- employment opportunities	46%	S2
- integrate renewable energy in new developments	44%	S1,D1

There were also some surprises in the responses, particularly with people anticipating the impact of the driverless car, and mentioning its potential to resolve traffic and transport issues including congestion, safety and car parking.

NEXT STEPS

Some of the specific issues raised by residents were ones that cannot be included in a Neighbourhood Plan (NP), for example Fracking, which is explicitly excluded as mineral extraction in the regulations for Neighbourhood Plans. However, the critical importance and concern around sustainable energy generation was fully taken on board, and influenced the development of Policy S2, Renewable energy generation, as well as E2, Development for business purposes.

The issues of sustainable travel, including the development of electric cars, influenced the development of Policies T1-T5.

It was noted that a wide range of issues were important to the Community, and therefore a Vision Statement was developed for the NP that included this range. From the Vision Statement a set of

Objectives was derived, and then summarised into Theme headings for Policy development. As shown in the summary findings above, feedback on many of the issues was influential in informing Policy development. In some cases it was judged that the Local Plan already covered adequately an issue.

The findings were used to put together materials for further consultations to give more insight into areas of concern, to keep awareness of any new issues arising, to consult more broadly with businesses and organisations, and to inform ongoing Plan development.

The findings were presented to the Parish Council in March 2016, and were publicised on the Parish Council website www.uptonbychester.org.uk
Non-NP issues were noted by the Parish Council as potential areas for them to consider working on separately.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant consultation responses from this survey is presented within each of the relevant Policy sections.

A more detailed description of the findings (NDP Survey Report 23.3.16) can be found on the Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council website www.uptonbychester.org.uk at this link:

<https://www.uptonbychester.org.uk/consultation-information--plan.html>

2.2.2 Jun-17 School Summer Events and Sep-17 Upton Fun Day

Feedback was sought from residents during summer events being held at schools and at the Upton Pavilion Fun Day (Parish Council hosted event) in the period Jun-Sept 2017:

Upton High School 29th June; Acresfield School 1st July; Mill View Primary School, 1st July;
Upton Pavilion Fun Day, 16th Sept

A stall was hosted at each of the events with the aim of communicating the work on the NP and gathering feedback on the areas of most concern to residents. This feedback would update the findings from the 2015 survey, to check if any new concerns had arisen since then.

An open-ended format was used for the feedback, to gain an unbiased/unprompted response.

FORMAT

- Stalls with display boards communicating the NP
- Informal discussions with residents visiting the stall
- At the Mill View and Pavilion events, questionnaires were provided to gather written feedback. Mini-questionnaires were provided (see below), and Full questionnaires were also available, as used in the Nov-15 Consultation
- Added features at Fun Day:
 - Mini-questionnaires had a child-friendly option to draw pictures, plus a 'best picture' competition
 - Bookmarks about the NP were given away, to encourage engagement

The questions on the mini-questionnaire were open-ended, with a space for free response to be written against each one, as follows:

1. What do you LIKE about Upton?
2. What would your PERFECT Upton be like?
3. What do you NOT WANT to happen in Upton?

34 questionnaires were completed in total: 14 Child, 19 Adult Mini and 1 Adult Full

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

As the responses were free text, a simple content analysis was carried out, and they were categorised into NP Theme areas.

To understand the specific likes/desires/concerns, individual responses were also examined in more detail.

Young people (Under 18):

	LIKE	PERFECT UPTON	NOT WANT TO HAPPEN/LOSE
(1) Transport	-	-	-
(2) Local Amenities - schools, shops, leisure	9	13	-
(3) Housing	-	1	-
(4) Character & Environment - Green Spaces, Park, Community, Clean, Safe	3	4	5
(5) UGE/Fracking	-	-	-
(6) Specialist Centres: Zoo	5	-	-
(7) Other	-	-	-
TOTAL	17	18	5

Adults:

	LIKE	PERFECT UPTON	NOT WANT TO HAPPEN/LOSE
(1) Transport	4	5	-
(2) Local Amenities - schools, shops, leisure	17	24	2
(3) Housing	-	2	1
(4) Character & Environment - Green Spaces, Community, Clean, Safe	12	4	1
(5) UGE/Fracking	-	-	5
(6) Specialist Centres: Zoo	2	1	1
(7) Other	1	1	-
TOTAL	36	37	10

DETAILED RESPONSES

Young people (Under 18)

Likes:

- School (2), Playground, Tennis, Pavilion, Library, Upton JFC, Everything pretty close,
- Park (3), Cows in Duttons Lane
- Zoo (4)
- Friendly people

Perfect Upton:

- Water Park (3), Skate Park (2), Libraries, Concerts, Shops, More exercise equipment, Gym for kids, Playground/Football/Tennis, Haunted house, See-saw/roundabout/park with giraffe
- Homeless people live with people with houses
- Parks, Farm, More animals (2)

Not Want:

- Litter (2), People being mean (2), Smoking

Adults

Likes:

- Bus services, Easy parking at GP surgery, Footpaths, Convenient to get to hospital/town/motorway
- Schools (2), Shops, Pavilion cafe (2), Everything I need locally (2), Hoole nightlife, Facilities, Charity shop & Tesco, Lloyds bank, Doctors, Activities in Library
- Park (2), Green Spaces (4), Good schools, Sense of community, Clean & litter-free, Safe during day & for jogging at night, History, Everything as it is (2), Good place to live,
- Zoo, Close to Hospital
- Reaching out and asking for local views

Perfect Upton:

- Traffic calming in Plas Newton Lane, Expand 20 mph zone, Enforce 20 mph limits, Bus stop in Upton Dene, More parking by Pavilion,
- Cycle track in Wealstone Park, Youth provision eg BMX/skate park (2), Youth Club (2) or Youth Evenings in Pavilion, Putting Green, More nursery/pre-school provision, Indoor activities for young children, Clubs like dance/sports for Under-5's, Improved Cheshire Sports Club facilities eg astroturf pitches, Develop Chemistry Pits play area, Theatre/performance space, renewed playground facilities, Enlarged Pavilion, Better use of green spaces, Things for older people, Inter-generation activities, Proper chemist shop, Dentist, Full Post Office, Local shops like cake shop, DIY shop (2), Fewer fast food outlets, Updated shops in W.Grove,
- More houses people can afford - but where?, Housing instead of shops in W.Grove
- How it is, Less dog poo, No rowdiness in W.Grove,

Not want:

- Upton to change
- No more fast food outlets (2)
- Upton to become just residential (not)
- Hospital to move (not)
- Dale Camp changes could be big issue in future
- Fracking (5)

NEXT STEPS

The responses largely aligned with the findings of the 2015 survey, with a high positive emphasis on the importance of Local Amenities, Character and Environment. This was encouraging to the Steering Group in terms of providing support to the themes and policies being developed for the NP, particularly PC2, PC3, LSF1, LSF2, T2, T3, H2, H3, D1.

This was also the first time it was mentioned that some residents thought that there were becoming too many fast food outlets in Upton, to the detriment of other local retail provision. This particular area was therefore explored further in the 2018 Business survey and the 2018 Consultation with all households, and eventually led to the development of Policy E1 on Limiting the Occupancy of Fast Food Takeaways.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within the Policy sections.

2.2.3 Feb-18 – Nov-18 Business survey

A set of questions relevant to businesses and employers was developed, based around a similar survey carried out by the Frodsham Neighbourhood Plan team. This was initially piloted with two businesses, to ensure relevance and check the time taken for completion, to keep it within a 10-15 min interview.

All businesses and employers with premises in Upton were contacted individually and offered the opportunity of a one-to-one interview by a member of the NP team, or simply to return the survey questionnaire by mail or email. The most senior member of the organisation in Upton was contacted, and it was agreed that the responses would be kept confidential to the NP team, and that no individual or business would be identified/identifiable in published results.

Despite follow-up visits, only 11 businesses/employers agreed to be interviewed or else returned questionnaires, out of a total of 64 across Upton. Nevertheless, those responding included all the larger and medium-sized employers, as well as a good spread of types of business/organisation, as described below. Although an interview time of 10-15 min had been requested, in fact it was found that most of the respondents interviewed in person were pleased to talk for longer ie 20-30 min.

The questionnaire is available on request.

FINDINGS

The businesses/employers responding to the consultation survey included the following

Unique, large organisations: Countess of Chester Hospital (COCH), Chester Zoo
Retail: Morrisons supermarket,
Education: Upton High School
Leisure: Upton Golf Club
Health: Upton Village Surgery,
Café/Pub/Restaurant: Mill@Upton (pub), Fish&Chips@Upton (takeaway), Russian Crepes (café).
Personal services: Morgan Hair Studio, Raymond Francis Hairdressing

These covered a broad spread of size of organisation and sector.

Because of the relatively low number of responses, and to ensure anonymity, only broad findings can be reported here.

All the employers interviewed were generally positive about Upton, with the major issue mentioned being limited parking for shoppers and staff close to the Local Retail Centres.

It was noted that some visitors for the COCH still park on the roads near the Bache shopping centre, despite the efforts by COCH to encourage the use of public transport.

The 3 small retail business owners interviewed at Weston Grove and Bache would like to see an increase in retail outlets at those locations, to encourage daytime footfall, and no further fast-food takeaways in addition to those already there. They supported the ideas of new business relating to health, and businesses catering to the elderly and to children.

The idea of local low carbon energy generation in Upton was generally supported, with one larger employer specifically mentioning the possibility of installing solar panels on suitable land, and biomass energy generation. There was support for sustainability in general, and biodiversity was also mentioned.

Another issue noted was 'fly tipping' around the businesses' refuse bins, and they would like to see more public recycling bins around Upton.

They generally felt safe, however, as business owners in Upton.

NEXT STEPS

All the feedback was taken into account by the Steering Group in ongoing development of the NP, in particular in developing Policies related to the issues of pressure on car parking at the local shopping centres (policy T3), and the desire for retail outlets other than more fast-food takeaways (policy E1).

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within each Policy section.

2.2.4 Mar-18 Consultation with all households

Despite the number of communication events held up to this point, it was believed that a large number of residents across Upton were still unaware of the NP. A paper flyer was therefore designed with the aim of reaching all households in the neighbourhood, as well as gaining views on a number of specific topics where the Steering Group believed that knowledge was lacking in the team, and where further consultation would be beneficial in terms of developing the plan.

The design was intentionally eye-catching, and included information about the NP together with open-ended questions on Likes/Dislikes about Upton, Perfect Upton, Weaknesses, Concerns, Local Shops, Types of housing development that would be supported, Priorities for spending any future Community Infrastructure levy, Public Transport, Walking and Cycle ways. The flyer also asked for any volunteers who would like to assist with the plan.

A copy is available on request.

The flyer was distributed in March 2018, as an enclosure in the free monthly publication 'Inside Upton', which at that point in time was distributed to every household in Upton. Collection boxes for the questionnaires were provided in 2 local Post Offices and a café, as well as in Upton Pavilion. Email response was also offered, to the Neighbourhood Plan email address.

FINDINGS

A total of 35 questionnaires were returned. This was a disappointingly low number, especially as the flyers had been distributed to over 4000 households. There was no obvious reason for the low return, except perhaps the barrier to people themselves taking a questionnaire to a collection box, or sending an email. A few people sent email responses, and these have been included in the total.

HEADLINE SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

- People like the Green Spaces in Upton, and the Local Services (schools, library, doctor etc)
- They do not like aspects of the Transport systems, largely related to parking issues, traffic & speeding. They would also like to see more buses serving Upton.
- Around half would support investment in walk and cycleways.
- People are concerned about the Green Spaces, they do not want to lose them, and there were numbers of suggestions for improving them and making good use of them
- A high proportion use the local shops, but they would like to see a greater variety
- Over half of those who commented would support new Infill housing. Larger developments were not generally supported.
- Around half would support development of Affordable Homes, Starter Homes, and Retirement housing
- In terms of Affordable housing, there were similar levels of support for each of Social and Shared/Discounted homes
- There were many comments outside the scope of the NP eg the poor state of the pavements and roads, litter

A full list of comments is available on request, and a summary is given here:

1. Where respondents live

Most respondents confirmed that they live in the area covered by the NP:

Upton/Moston/Bache	26
Not given	9
TOTAL	35

2. Age Groups

Where an age has been given, all are over 30, with two-thirds being over 60:

Up to 18	0
19-29	0
30-59	8
60 or more	15
Not given	12
TOTAL	35

3. Q1: Like about Upton

There is a spread of NP themes covered in the things people say they like about Upton, with the highest number being Green Spaces, followed by Local Services. There are also a high number of generic comments eg nice place to live, community feel.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	4
Housing	2
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	9
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	0
Green Spaces	15
Economic Activity	3
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	3
Transport	6
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	25
TOTAL COMMENTS	67

4. Q1: Not Like about Upton

The highest number of Not Likes about Upton were in the NDP theme area of Transport, followed by comments relating to Economic Activity, eg shops, takeaways, pubs. There were also a number of comments that were not in the areas covered by the NP eg the poor state of repair of roads and pavements, and litter.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	2
Housing	3

Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	0
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	0
Green Spaces	0
Economic Activity	11
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0
Transport	19
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	17
TOTAL COMMENTS	52

5. Q2: Perfect Upton

There were fewer comments about what a Perfect Upton would look like. The most frequent comments relate to similar areas as in the Likes and the Dislikes.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	1
Housing	1
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	2
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	2
Green Spaces	5
Economic Activity	5
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0
Transport	7
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	9
TOTAL COMMENTS	32

6. Q2: Weaknesses

The greatest number of comments about Weaknesses relate to Transport, across a number of aspects. There were also a high number of comments in areas outside the NP, such as the poor state of repair of roads and pavements.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	0
Housing	1
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	0
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	0
Green Spaces	2
Economic Activity	3
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0

Transport	11
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	14
TOTAL COMMENTS	31

7. Q2: What DON'T want to happen

In terms of what people did NOT want to happen, the highest number of comments were in the area of Housing, followed by Economic Activity.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	1
Housing	9
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	2
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	3
Green Spaces	4
Economic Activity	7
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	1
Transport	2
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	2
TOTAL COMMENTS	31

8. Q3: Concerns

By far the highest number of concerns was in the area of Transport, largely related to parking. There were also a relatively high number of concerns about Green Spaces.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	0
Housing	1
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	7
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	4
Green Spaces	12
Economic Activity	4
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0
Transport	27
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	13
TOTAL COMMENTS	68

9. Q4: Local Shops

Almost all respondents used the local shops, but very few felt that the current shops meet their needs. Numbers of suggestions were given as to what people would like to see that's different.

Use	29
Meet needs	8
RESPONSES	34

Q5: Housing Development

Around half of the respondents would support development of Affordable homes, Starter homes and Retirement bungalows / Sheltered housing. There was far less support for the development of Family Houses (3/4 beds)

Starter	14
Affordable	16
Family	7
Retirement/ Sheltered	13
Responses	29

In terms of Affordable home development, there were similar levels of support for both Social housing (Council/Housing Association) and Shared ownership and discounted sale schemes, with a slight preference for the latter.

Housing development was more likely to be supported in terms of Infill only, rather than larger developments. The main suggested location for larger developments was The Dale Barracks site.

Social	10
Shared	14
Larger development	4
Infill	15
Responses	25

Q6: Community Infrastructure Levy

The highest number of specific suggestions for spending any money received from the Community Infrastructure Levy was in the area of Local Services, relating to leisure activities. The highest number of 'Other' comments was in terms of repairing the roads.

Theme	No.responses
Physical character	0
Housing	1
Local Services (Schools, health, library, churches, youth clubs...)	5
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	1
Green Spaces	3
Economic Activity	3
Specialist Centres - Zoo, Hospital, Dale Camp	0
Transport	4
Other (location, nice, potholes, no centre, litter...)	11
TOTAL COMMENTS	28

Q7: Transport

There were 24 comments (60%) about public transport, with the largest number of specific suggestions being for the provision of more buses. There were 18 suggestions (51%) for deploying any future investment in walk and cycleways – a relatively high level of support -- with a number pointing out the current safety issues with cyclists, pedestrians and motor vehicles sharing the same spaces.

NEXT STEPS

It should be noted that there was a strong bias towards the older age groups in those responding to this consultation survey (two thirds over 60). Nevertheless the views expressed were found to be broadly aligned with previous responses

The findings were taken into account by the Steering Group in ongoing development of the NP, particularly in developing the Policies in the areas of Housing (affordable, starter and small downsizing, infill preferred: policies H1, H2, H3)), Green Spaces (protect, policy PC3), Physical Character (Policies PC1, PC2, D1), Economy (range of local shopping, policy E1) and Transport (walking and cycling, policy T2).

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within each Policy section.

2.2.5 July-18 Consultation with Upton High School students

In order to extend knowledge about the concerns of young people who live or study in Upton, the same questionnaire as that used in the Households consultation (Section 2.2.4 above) was completed by 81 students at Upton High School in the Summer Term 2018. This was as part of relevant learning activities at the school, and was overseen by one of the Deputy Headteachers. All responses were voluntary and anonymous.

The young people who completed questionnaires were in the age group 11-18 years of age. Their responses are compared in this analysis with the responses given by the Adults (Over 18's) in the March 2018 consultation. Differences of 10% or more are highlighted below.

FINDINGS

HEADLINE SUMMARY

- The young people particularly like the green spaces in Upton, and also the local shops and takeaways.
- They do not like the heavy traffic in some roads, and in particular are concerned about safety for themselves and others when walking and cycling.
- Many of them commented that they would like to see improvements in walk and cycleways
- They would like to see more youth groups and leisure activities for their age group
- They do not want to see big changes to Upton, for example shops closing or it becoming overcrowded and busy. A number also commented that they do not wish to see Fracking.
- They would support the development of Affordable and Family homes in particular.
- There were also a large number of important 'Not Likes' about Upton that are beyond the scope of the NDP, but important for the Parish Council to note, eg litter, dog mess, vandalism and rowdy/intimidating behaviour on some occasions.

3. Q1: Like about Upton

There were a range of NP-specific themes covered in the things that the young people said they liked about Upton, with the highest number being the Green Spaces, followed by Economic Activity (ie Shops and Takeaways) and Local Services. This was similar to the responses obtained from the Adults, with the exception that the young people were more likely to say that they liked the Shops and Takeaways.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	11	9%	6%
Housing	3	3%	3%
<u>Local Services</u> (Schools, library, youth clubs...)	18	15%	13%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	0	0%	0%
<u>Green Spaces</u>	21	18%	22%
<u>Economic Activity</u> (Shops, Takeaways...)	17	14%	4%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	6	5%	4%
Transport	4	3%	9%
Other (nice, quiet, friendly...)	39	33%	37%
TOTAL COMMENTS	119	100%	100%

4. Q1: Not Like about Upton

The highest number of 'Not Likes' about Upton from the young people was in the NP theme area of Transport. This was related to the heavy traffic and issues to do with **road safety** for pedestrians and cyclists. There were also a large number of important comments that are beyond the scope of the NDP, but important for the Parish Council to note, eg litter, dog mess, vandalism and rowdy/intimidating behaviour on some occasions.

Adults also had a high number of Not Likes about Transport, but with more emphasis on parking issues. The non-NP comments for Adults were more likely to include the poor state of repair of the roads and pavements, as well as the feeling that Upton has no centre.

The Adults were more likely than the young people Not to Like aspects of the local Shops, eg that there were starting to be too many fast food outlets.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	3	5%	4%
Housing	0	0%	6%
Local Services (Schools, youth clubs...)	3	5%	0%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	2	4%	0%
Green Spaces	1	2%	0%
Economic Activity (Shops, Takeaways...)	3	5%	21%
Specialist Centres - Zoo, Hospital, Dale Camp	0	0%	0%
Transport	18	32%	37%
Other (litter, dog mess, vandalism...)	26	46%	33%
TOTAL COMMENTS	56	100%	100%

5. Q2: Perfect Upton

There were many thoughts about what a Perfect Upton would look like from the point of view of the young people. The most frequent comments related to the NDP were in the area of Local Services, and particularly that a Perfect Upton would have **more Youth Groups and entertainment** for young people. There were also a large number of comments in non-NP areas including clean, no litter and dog bins.

Adults were more likely to mention Green Spaces and Economic Activity eg a better range of shops and pubs.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	0	0%	3%
Housing	1	1%	3%
Local Services (Schools, youth clubs...)	20	28%	6%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	3	4%	6%

Green Spaces	4	6%	16%
Economic Activity (Shops, takeaways...)	3	4%	16%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	1	1%	0%
Transport	9	13%	22%
Other (Clean, no litter or dog mess...)	30	42%	28%
TOTAL COMMENTS	71	100%	100%

6. Q2: Weaknesses

The greatest number of comments on Weaknesses related to Local Services, and particularly a lack of **Youth Groups**. There were also a high number of comments related to Transport, including busy roads and pedestrians and cyclists **not feeling safe**.

Adults similarly mentioned weaknesses related to Transport, and they were more likely to comment on the poor state of the roads and pavements.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	0	0%	0%
Housing	1	2%	3%
Local Services (Schools, youth clubs...)	14	32%	0%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	0	0%	0%
Green Spaces	2	5%	6%
Economic Activity (shops, takeaways)	1	2%	10%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0	0%	0%
Transport	12	27%	35%
Other (potholes, state of pavements, litter...)	14	32%	45%
TOTAL COMMENTS	44	100%	100%

7. Q2: What DON'T want to happen

In terms of what young people did NOT want to happen, the highest number of comments was on the theme of Sustainability (mainly fracking), followed by Economic Activity (eg shops closing) and Physical Character (eg big changes, overcrowding). In non-NP areas they mentioned areas including vandalism, more aggressive people, being infested by litter.

Adults showed a different pattern of response, with the highest number of comments on the theme of Housing, followed by Economic Activity (eg no more fast food outlets).

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	8	13%	3%
Housing	5	8%	29%
Local Services (Schools, youth clubs...)	1	2%	6%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	17	27%	10%

Green Spaces	5	8%	13%
Economic Activity (shops, takeaways...)	9	14%	23%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0	0%	3%
Transport	2	3%	6%
Other (vandalism, violence, overcrowding....)	16	25%	6%
TOTAL COMMENTS	63	100%	100%

8. Q3: Concerns

By far the highest number of concerns was in the theme area of Transport, largely related to traffic and parking. There were also a relatively high number of concerns about Green Spaces (keeping them and making good use of them) and Local Services (eg wanting more leisure facilities).

This pattern of concerns was similar to that for the Adults.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	4	4%	0%
Housing	0	0%	1%
Local Services (Schools, library, youth clubs...)	18	16%	10%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	11	10%	6%
Green Spaces	19	17%	18%
Economic Activity (Shops, Takeaways...)	1	1%	6%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0	0%	0%
Transport	40	35%	40%
Other (potholes, state of pavements, litter...)	21	18%	19%
TOTAL COMMENTS	114	100%	100%

9. Q4: Local Shops

Over two-thirds of the young people said they use the local shops, and they were positive about them.

They were slightly less likely than the adults to use the shops, but a number of the young people commented that this was because they do not live in Upton. Where they used them, they were more likely to say they met their needs.

Use	50	70%
Meet needs	33	46%
RESPONSES	71	100%

Adults
85%
24%
100%

Q5: Housing Development

Around half of the young people said they would support development of Affordable homes, a similar proportion to Adults. However, the young people were more likely to support the development of Family homes (3/4 beds) compared to the Adults, and less likely to support Starter homes and Retirement bungalows / Sheltered housing.

Starter	25	33%	Adults	48%
Affordable	41	55%		55%
Family	37	49%		24%
Retirement/ Sheltered	22	29%		45%
Responses	75	100%		100%

In terms of Affordable home development, there were similar levels of support for both Social housing (Council/Housing Association) and Shared ownership and discounted sale schemes.

The young people made fewer comments than the Adults as to the size/location of future housing development.

Social	18	43%	Adults	40%
Shared	21	50%		56%
Larger	6	14%		16%
Infill	12	29%		60%
Responses	42	100%		100%

Q6: Community Infrastructure Levy

The highest number of specific suggestions for spending any money received from the Community Infrastructure Levy was on the theme of Local Services, relating to leisure activities – as was the case with Adults. Young people were, however, more likely also to suggest Housing. In their non-NP ('Other') comments they suggested some areas that were different from the Adults, such as charities and the homeless, sports and educational equipment, and the cleanliness of pavements.

The highest number of 'Other' comments amongst Adults was in terms of repairing the roads, which featured less for the young people.

Theme	No.responses	%	Adults
Physical character	0	0%	0%
Housing	13	15%	4%
Local Services (Schools, youth clubs...)	22	25%	18%
Sustainability - energy generation, fracking	3	3%	4%

Green Spaces	10	11%	11%
Economic Activity (shops, restaurants...)	8	9%	11%
Specialist Centres - Zoo. Hospital, Dale Camp	0	0%	0%
Transport	10	11%	18%
Other (repair roads and pavements, sports, charities)	23	26%	36%
TOTAL COMMENTS	89	100%	100%

Q7: Transport

Many young people used buses, and there were requests for **better bus services**, as with the Adults.

There were also a particularly high number of comments from young people saying they thought there should be future investment in **walk and cycleways**. In total, 59 out of the 81 young people (73%) commented. They said that they walk and cycle a lot around Upton, and that there should be more, wider and safer cycleways, as well as usable and clean footpaths. The specific comments are listed below.

Adults also showed a high level of support for improved walk and cycleways -- with a number pointing out the current safety issues with cyclists, pedestrians and motor vehicles sharing the same spaces.

FREE COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE RELATING TO WALK AND CYCLEWAYS

- More cycleways and safe walkways
- Need more cycleways and walk ways
- Safer walkways not too close to roads
- Walking/cycling
- Larger walkways/cycle
- Walking
- I would like to see more cycle paths connecting landmarks in the city
- Safe cycling paths on roads
- More cycle paths would be good
- Cycling
- Bridlepaths
- It's not a very safe area for pedestrians or cyclists because of Long Lane which is generally very busy
- Bigger cyclepaths and more of them. More walkways not near roads
- Bigger spaces for cyclists, more cycling routes
- More walkways away from roads
- More cycle lanes
- Walk and cycleways near schools
- Bigger paths for pedestrians and cyclists
- Cycleways should be priority to encourage exercise in the community
- Yes, cycling is good
- Bicycle lanes and paths
- Pathways being resurfaced

Make walk and cycleways clear
More footpaths and cyclepaths around Upton
Bigger cycle lanes
Better quality walk and cycleways
Alongside places where cyclists might want to go eg green spaces

Usable, clean paths, as young people walk around Upton often

Cycling, pedestrian
Cycle lanes
Clear so cars know where they are. I would want them quite big

Cycle paths
Wider paths
I like to walk, so I would like more footpaths.

They should be cleaned up
More pedestrianised places
More pedestrianised places
Paths should be cleaned up
Making them wider
Walk and cycleways
More pathways for cyclists
More cyclepaths would be good
More safety in the cycle path so that students who cycle can go there instead of going on roads

Cycleways and make it clear that these are to be used JUST by cyclists

It would be good with more cycle and walk ways to make it easier to get to more rural areas: Guilden Sutton, Mickle Trafford

I would like more cycleways and cycle lanes, providing better access to the greenway

Safe cycleways in Upton eg splitting pavement between pedestrians and cyclists

Cyclepaths everywhere

More cycleways

Safer cycleways/cycle lanes

Specific cycle lanes etc

Safe cycle routes around Upton

More recreational walking routes may be beneficial

There is a cycle path

Better pavements in Upton area

I think it is fine at the moment but a cycleway might be a good idea due to amount of people cycling now

More walkways and cycleways

I would like to see the sort of bikes that you pay for say for an hour

NEXT STEPS

All the young people's responses were noted by the Steering Group, and particularly where they differed from those of the adults.

It was clear that Under 18's walk and cycle a lot around Upton, and that they do not always feel safe. The high number of comments from young people saying they thought there should be future investment in **walk and cycleways** (73%) was notable, ie that there should be more, wider and safer cycleways, as well as usable and clean footpaths. These comments and suggestions were particularly studied in developing the Cycling and Walking policies in the NP (T2) as well as future development at the Dale Barracks (D1).

The young people were also clearly concerned about Sustainability, particularly clean energy generation and (no) fracking, as were the adults, and this was included in the future Policy development (policies S2 and E2).

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within the Policy sections.

2.2.6 Sept-18 Questionnaire at Upton Fun Day and Oct-18 Facebook boost

As more information was needed on residents' views with regard to potential Housing policies to be included in the NP, a specific consultation was carried out at a stall hosted by the NP team at the Upton Fun Day, and subsequently augmented via Facebook.

The format of the stall was to have stands with displays describing the aims, vision and work so far on the Plan, and including feedback on Housing from the consultations to date. There was also a free giveaway of bookmarks that gave contact details for the NP. The stall was hosted by members of the team, who had some useful discussions with those who visited the stall.

Mini-questionnaires were provided for written feedback, and electronic completion was also invited via a link on the NP Facebook page. The Facebook post was circulated to all Facebook users in the CH2 1 postcode area (which corresponds to the majority of addresses in Upton) via a paid Boost. According to Facebook, this area covered 7,000 adults (18+), with 55% women and 45% men, and we received 947 viewings in the week the ad appeared.

There were 6 statements on the questionnaire, to which respondents were invited to respond Agree/Disagree/Not Sure, and to give their reasons. The statements were based on residents' concerns that had been noted up to that point, and were as follows:

1. Upton should stay broadly the same as it is now
2. Any new housing should only be Infill
3. To build new housing, the loss of some green space could be considered
4. In building new housing, we should give the highest priority to Affordable housing
5. We should consider building more Starter homes and housing for the Elderly
6. Any new housing should blend in with the character of the surrounding area

There was also an additional question asking for the Age Group of the respondent, so that we could check that we had consulted a broad age profile.

The questionnaire was in Survey Monkey format, and is available on request.

FINDINGS

A total of 39 residents provided feedback, when combining both the paper (30) and the Facebook (9) approaches. Face-to-face contact at the stall was found to be the more insightful and cost-effective way to gather feedback, when compared with both Facebook Paid Boost and the previous Household Survey (35 responses from questionnaire distribution to 4000 homes via free magazine).

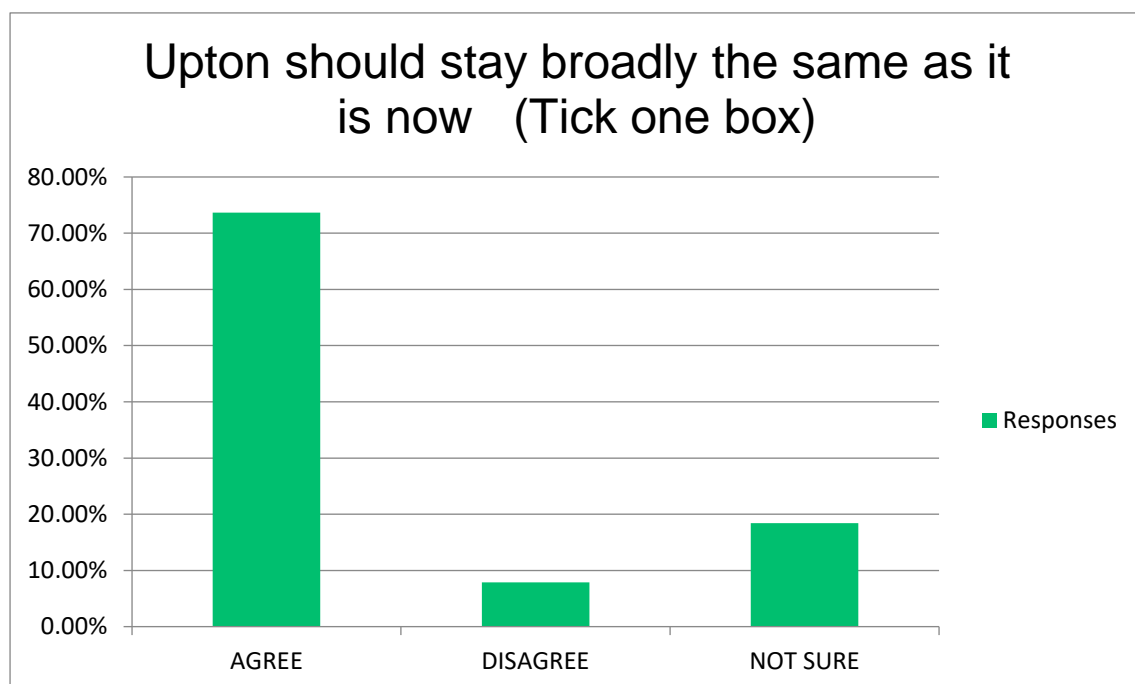
Almost two-thirds of respondents were in the 30-59 age range, with one third over 60. This age profile was younger than in the responses to the Household Survey, where two-thirds were over 60, and therefore more similar to that across Upton as a whole (2017 midyear estimate 27% over 60).

There was a high (59-80%) level of agreement with all the statements, with the big exception being the idea of losing some Green Space to housing, where there was a high level of disagreement (72%).

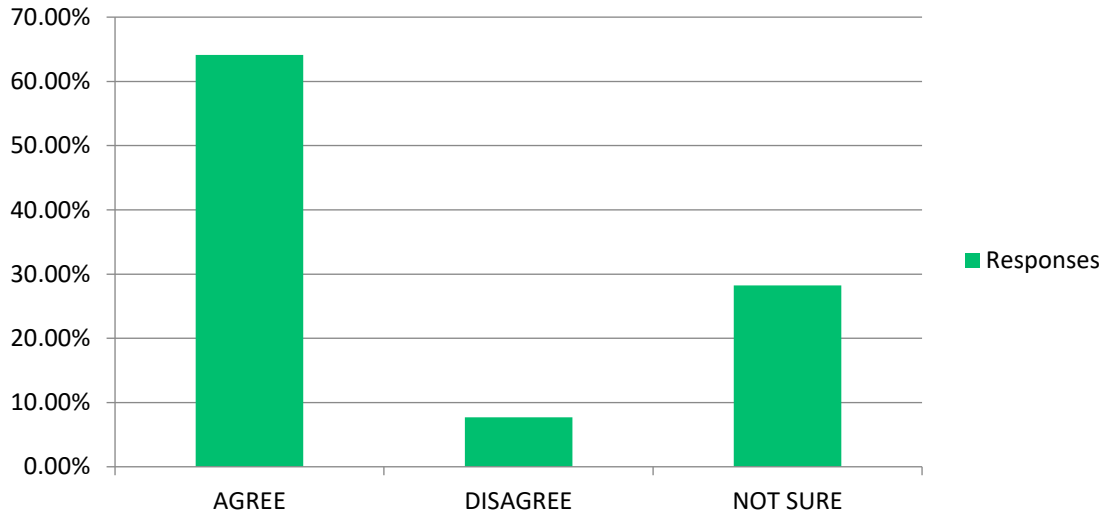
There was a moderate (26%) disagreement with the statement relating to building more Starter homes and building for the Elderly, with the reasons given being that Family housing was also needed, as well as housing for younger people with disabilities.

There was also some disagreement (18%) with the statement on building more Affordable Housing as the highest priority, with a variety of reasons quoted, and varying interpretations of the term 'affordable' eg lower prices to buy, rental, social housing.

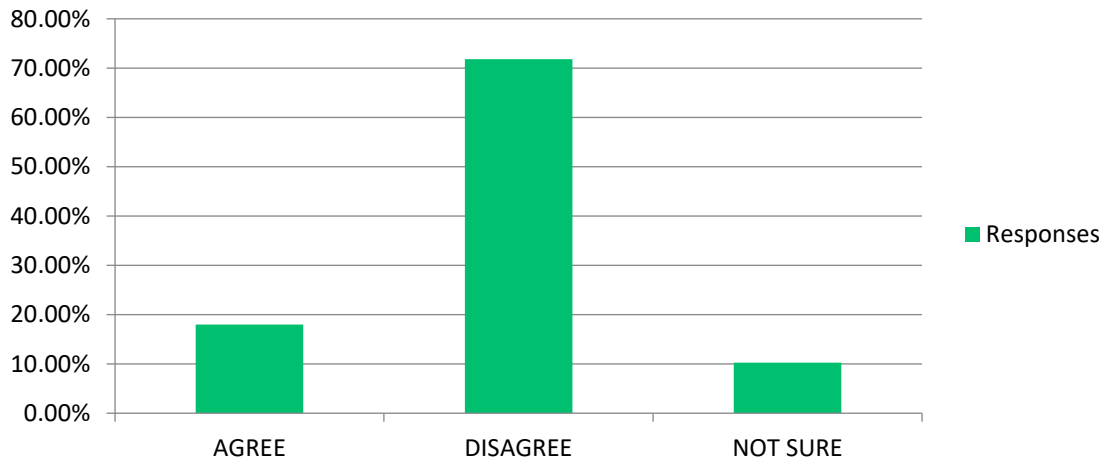
Where there was a moderate (over 10%) level of Not Sure response to Upton staying the same, and permitting only Infill new development, the reasons often given were that positive 'brown field' development might be acceptable, and also the future development of the Dale site could be possible.



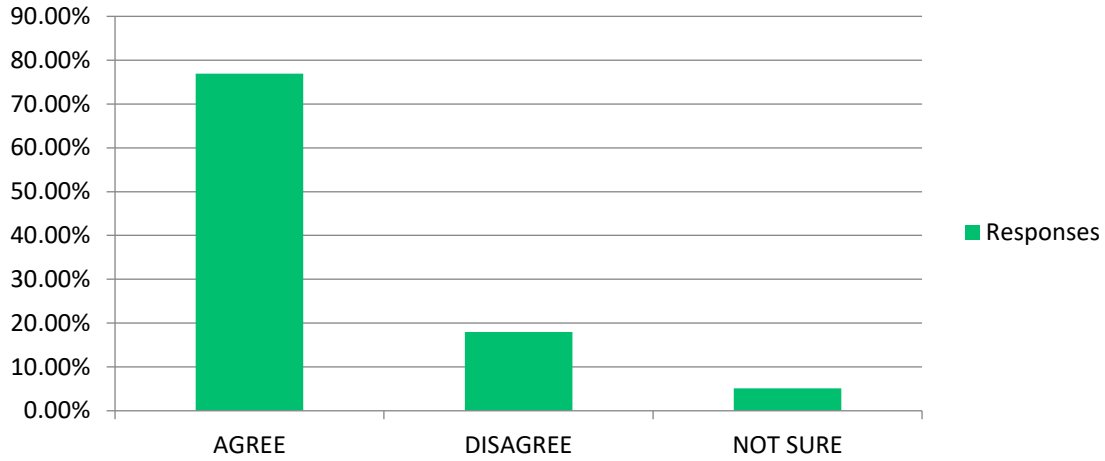
Any new housing should only be Infill (Tick one box)



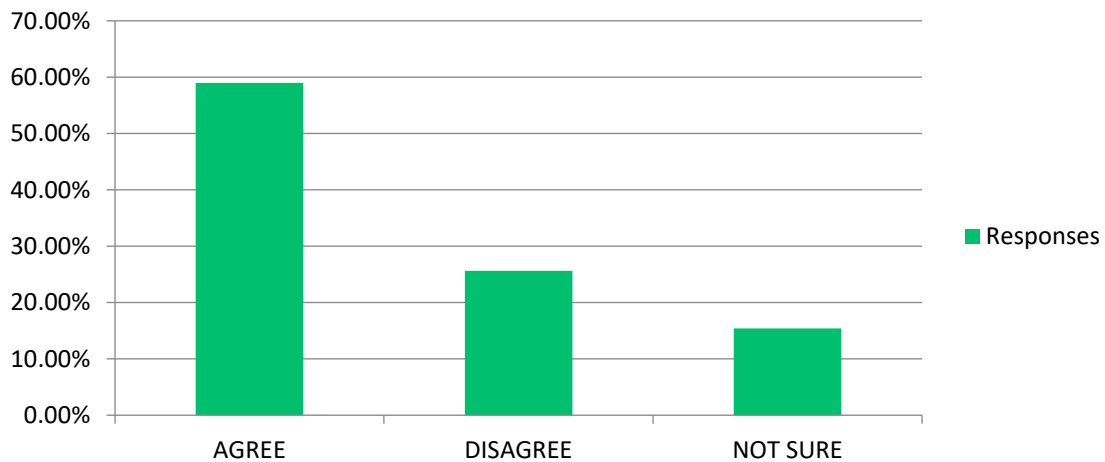
To build new housing, the loss of some green space could be considered (Tick one box)



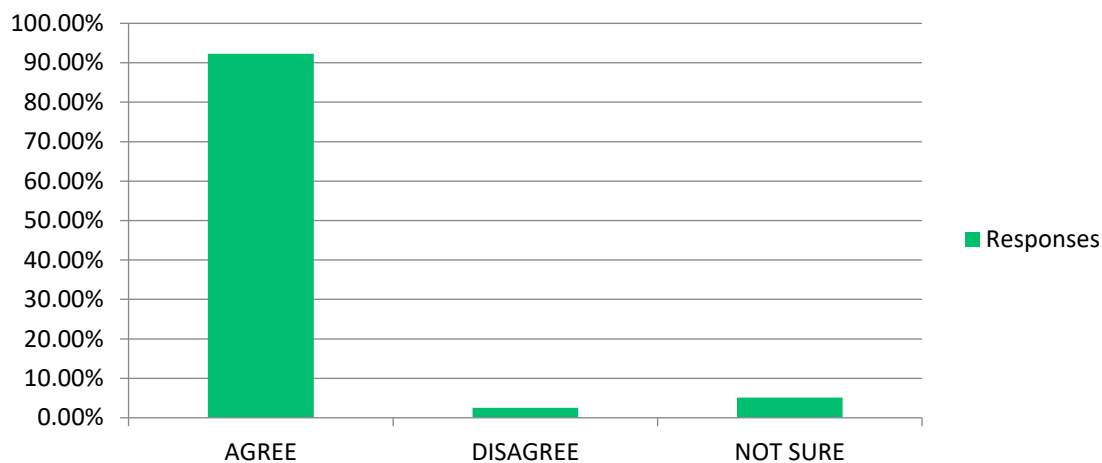
In building new housing, we should give the highest priority to Affordable housing (Tick one box)



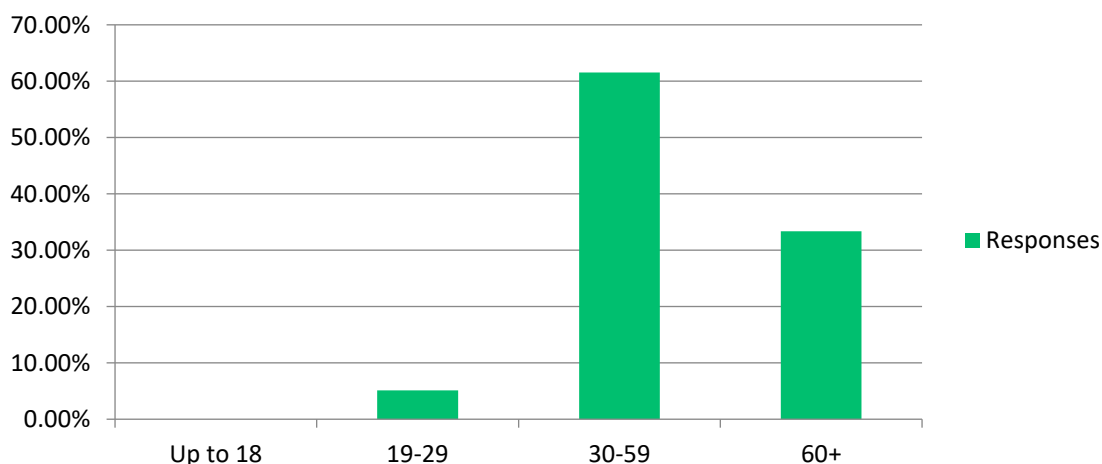
We should consider building more Starter homes and housing for the Elderly (Tick one box)



Any new housing should blend in with the character of the surrounding area (Tick one box)



Please will you let us know your Age Group, so we will know we have consulted all age groups (Tick one box)



The complete set of comments is available on request.

NEXT STEPS

These findings were taken into account in the development of the Housing (H1,H2,H3), Physical Character and Green Spaces (PC1, PC2, PC3) policies. It was useful that the age profile was younger than in previous consultations, and more in line with Upton demographics as a whole.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within the Policy sections.

2.2.7 Nov-18 Questionnaire at Upton Christmas Market

Since the September face-to-face stall at a local community event had been effective in gaining a broad and insightful consultation with residents, a similar consultation was held at the Upton Christmas Market in Nov 2018. This time the topic chosen was Shops and Businesses, where the team required some specific feedback to continue to develop draft policies.

The format of the stall was to have stands with displays describing the aims, vision and work so far on the Plan, and including feedback on Shops and Businesses from the consultations to date. The stall was hosted by members of the team, who had some useful discussions with those who visited.

Mini-questionnaires were provided for written feedback, and electronic completion was also invited via a link on the NP Facebook page. There were 4 statements on the questionnaire, to which respondents were invited to respond Agree/Disagree/Not Sure, and to give their reasons. The statements were based on residents' concerns that had been noted up to that point, and were as follows:

1. In our local shopping areas in Upton, we need to keep a variety of shops
2. Upton already has enough hot food takeaways, and we don't need any more
3. I prefer to walk or cycle to local shops, rather than use the car
4. Industrial businesses should NOT be built on land in Upton, or next to it

There was also an additional question asking for the Age Group of the respondent, so that we could check that we had consulted a broad age profile.

The questionnaire was in Survey Monkey format, and is available on request.

FINDINGS

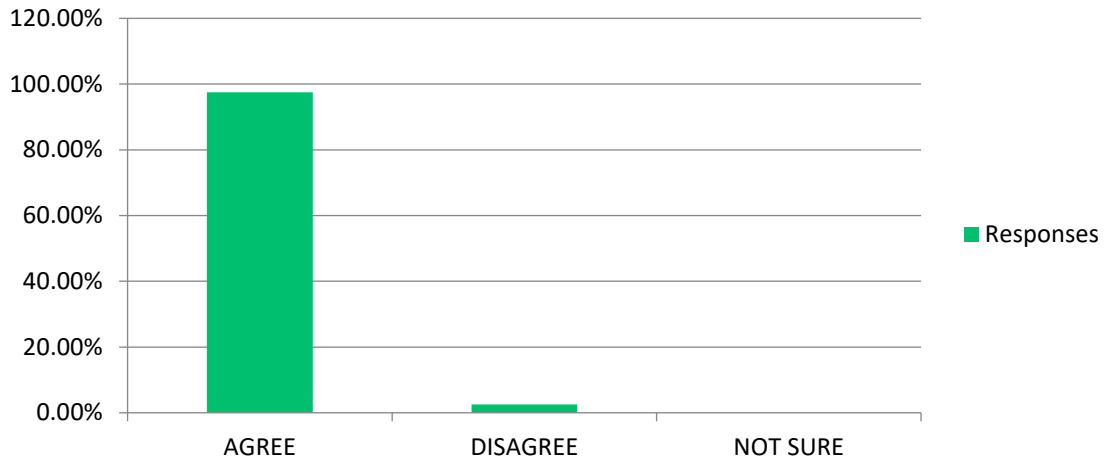
A total of 40 residents completed questionnaires.

54% of respondents were in the 30-59 age range, with 41% over 60. As noted in the previous mini-consultation, the age profile was therefore younger than in the responses to the Household Survey, where two-thirds were over 60, and closer to Upton as a whole (Midyear 2017 estimate 27% over 60).

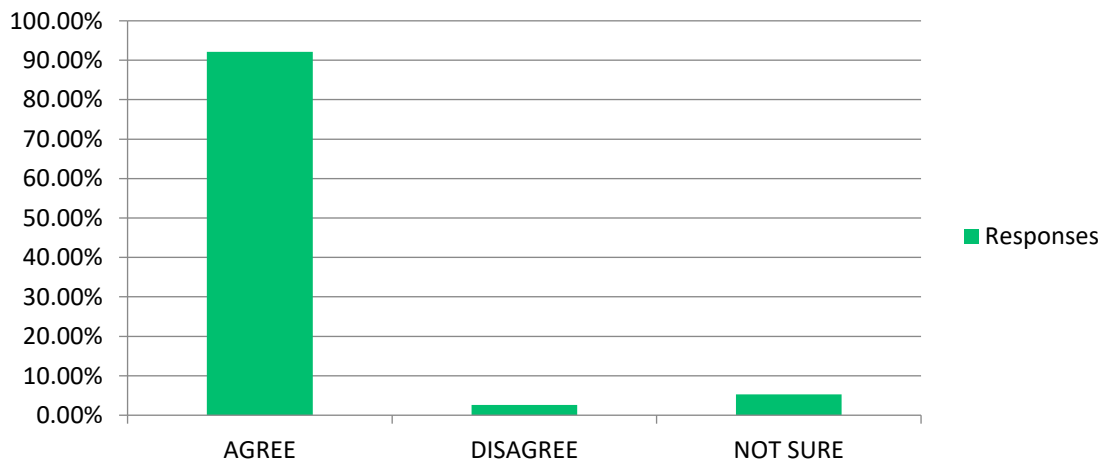
There was a high (82-98%) level of agreement with all the statements.

Where there was a moderate (15%) level of Not Sure response to the statement about Industrial businesses not being built on land in Upton or next to it, the reasons given were that it depends on the type of business. There was some support for the added employment opportunities, and in particular small-scale businesses that did not produce pollution or noise were seen as acceptable by some. One such quote was as follows: "Depends on their line of business. Dirty No! Innovative and beneficial Yes!". There were also 3 people who specifically mentioned their opposition to Fracking.

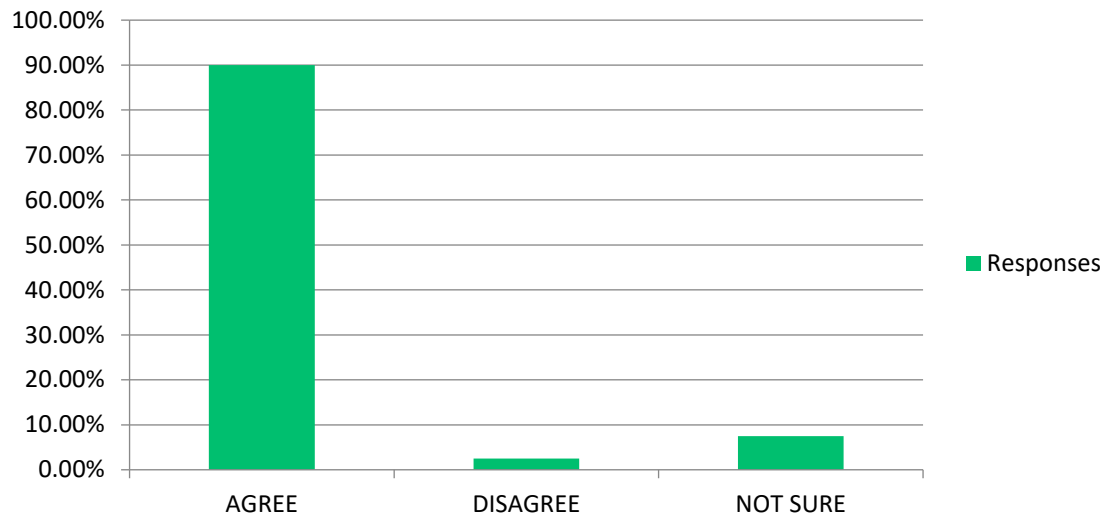
In our local shopping areas in Upton, we need to keep a variety of shops (Tick one box)



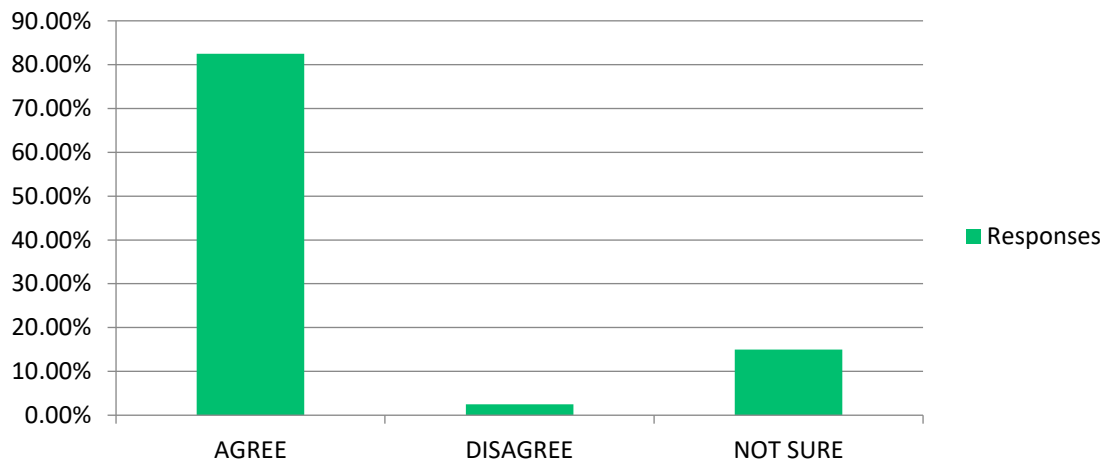
Upton already has enough hot food takeaways, and we don't need any more (Tick one box)



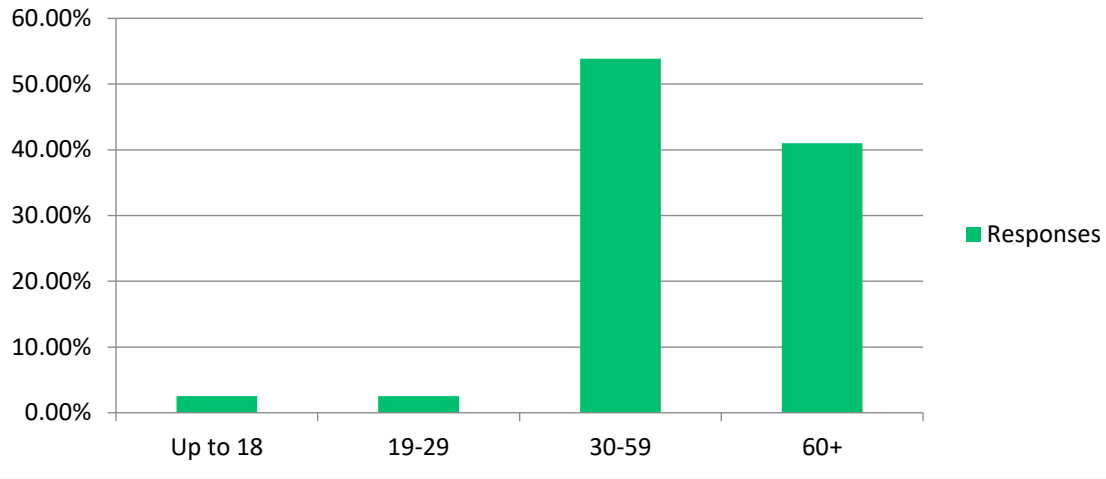
I prefer to walk or cycle to local shops, rather than use the car (Tick one box)



Industrial businesses should NOT be built on land in Upton or next to it (Tick one box)



Please will you let us know your Age Group, so we will know we have consulted all age groups (Tick one box)



The complete set of comments is available on request.

NEXT STEPS

These findings were taken into account in the development of the Economic Activity policies, particularly related to retaining a variety of local shops, and no increase in fast-food takeaways (E1).

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within the relevant Policy section.

2.2.8 Sept-19 Questionnaire at Upton Fun Day

A similar consultation to those at the two previous community events was held at the Upton Fun Day in Sept 2019. This time the topic chosen was The Dale Barracks Site, where the team required some specific feedback to continue to develop draft policies.

The format of the stall was to have stands with displays describing the aims, vision and work so far on the Plan, and including feedback on potential future development at the Dale Barracks site from the consultations to date. The stall was hosted by members of the team, who had some useful discussions with those who visited.

In order to encourage visits to the stall, there was a free gift of packets of wild flower seeds.

Mini-questionnaires were provided for written feedback. There were 4 statements on the questionnaire, to which respondents were invited to respond Agree/Disagree/Not Sure, and to give their reasons. The statements were based on residents' concerns that had been noted up to that point, and were as follows:

1. If land at the Dale Barracks site becomes available for development, I would like to see new housing being built there
2. If new housing is going to be built at the Dale, it should be a proper community, with its own facilities
3. When building any new housing, it should be a priority to make it eco-friendly, with ways to save energy and water
4. In any new housing development, I think it is important to provide good walkways and cycle paths for people to use

There was also an additional question asking for the Age Group of the respondent, so that we could check that we had consulted a broad age profile.

The questionnaire was in Survey Monkey format, and is available on request.

FINDINGS

A total of 20 residents completed questionnaires. This was a lower number than at previous events, and could have been because the stall was positioned in a position where there were fewer people passing than previously.

65% of respondents were in the 30-59 age range, with 35% over 60. The age profile was therefore close to that for Upton as a whole (Midyear 2017 estimate 27% over 60).

There was 100% agreement with the statement that a priority for new housing should be to make it eco-friendly, with ways to save energy and water.

There was a discussion with some residents attending the stall concerning potential renewable energy generation in Upton. Residents were in favour of such initiatives, providing they did not create nuisance or have a negative impact on the environment.

There was a very high level of agreement (85%) with the statement about providing safe footpaths and cycle ways at any new housing development in Upton.

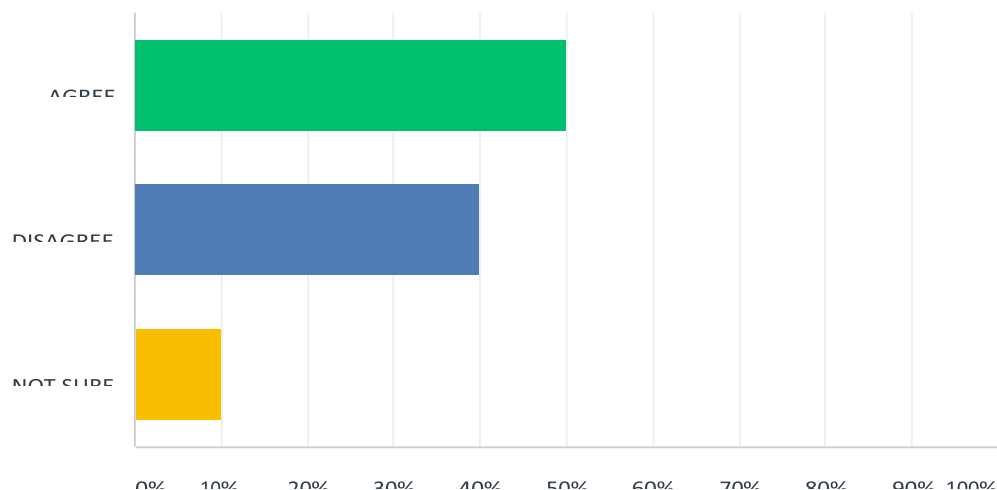
There was a moderately high (75%) level of agreement with making any new housing at the Dale a proper community with its own facilities.

There was divided opinion on whether new housing should be built in the future at the Dale site, with 50% agreeing and 40% disagreeing. Some welcomed the opportunity for new housing, with provision for the elderly specifically mentioned in some cases, whereas others thought that the existing green space should be protected.

There was a moderate (15%) level of Not Sure response to the statement about any development at the Dale being a proper community with its own facilities, with the reasons including that it should be integrated with Upton, and that if new facilities were to be built then the rest of Upton might benefit as well if they were able to use them.

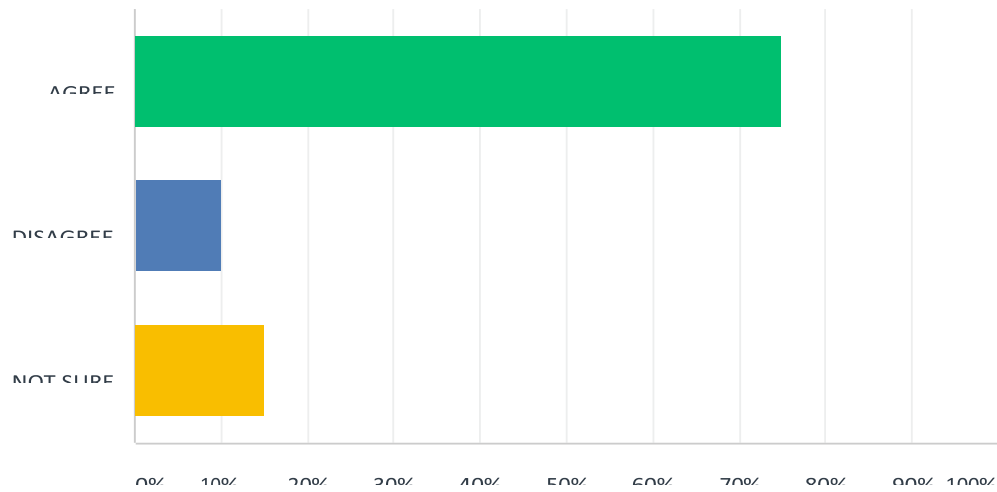
Q1 If land at The Dale Barracks site becomes available for development, I would like to see new housing being built there (Tick one box)

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



Q2 If new housing is going to be built at the Dale, it should be a proper community, with its own facilities (Tick one box)

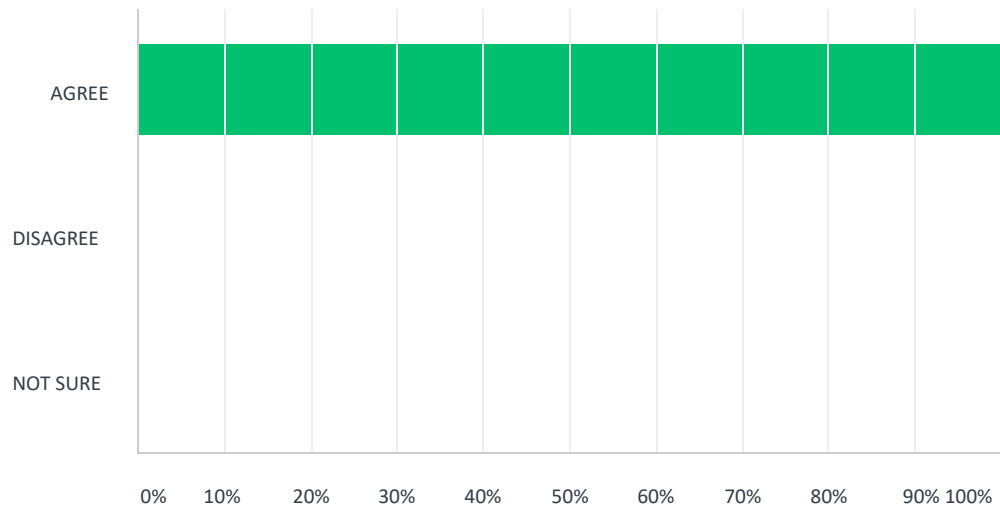
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



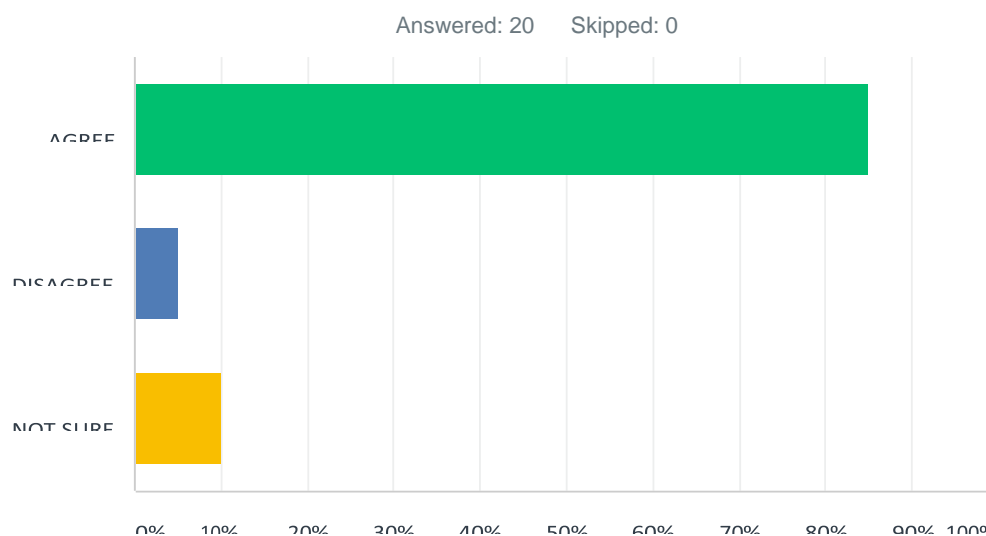
Q3 When building any new housing in Upton, it should be a priority to make it eco-friendly, with ways to save energy and water (Tick one box)

Answered: 20

Skipped: 0



Q4 In any new housing development in Upton, I think it is important to provide safe footpaths and cycle ways for people to use



The complete set of comments is available on request.

NEXT STEPS

These findings were taken into account in the development of the Dale Barracks policy (D1), particularly with regard to making new housing eco-friendly, protecting the green space, providing safe footpaths and cycleways, and making it a proper community.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within each of the relevant Policy sections.

2.2.9 Aug-20 & Nov-20 Consultation questionnaire to Dale residents

A consultation survey was carried out with the residents of 33 privately owned homes (that could be identified as such) in the area containing the Dale Barracks site. Non-private housing and land on the site is owned by the MoD and Annington Properties, and mainly provides homes for services personnel. Postal mailout and return was used, as the Covid-19 regulations did not permit face-to-face contact at those times. A stamped addressed envelope was provided for survey return.

A covering letter invited people to give their views, and included background information on the Neighbourhood Plan process, as well as the Draft Upton NP Policies concerning the Dale Barracks site.

Mini-questionnaires were provided for written feedback. There were 6 statements on the questionnaire, to which respondents were invited to respond Agree/Disagree/Not Sure, and to give their reasons. The statements were based on residents' concerns that had been noted up to that point, and were as follows:

1. If land at the Dale Barracks site becomes available for development, I would like to see new housing being built there

2. If new housing is going to be built at the Dale, the whole area including existing housing should become a proper community, with its own facilities
3. When building any new housing or renovating existing housing at the Dale, it should be a priority to make it eco-friendly, with ways to save energy and water
4. In any new housing development at the Dale, I think it is important to provide safe and comfortable footpaths and cycle ways for people to use
5. In line with the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan, any new housing development at the Dale should include 30% Affordable housing
6. If new housing is built at the Dale, there should be no segregation or barrier to movement between phases of development and existing housing

There was also an additional question asking for the Age Group of the respondent, so that we could check that we had consulted a broad age profile, and a further open question asking for anything else that people would like to tell us.

The questionnaire was in Survey Monkey format, and is available on request.

FINDINGS

A total of 14 residents completed questionnaires. This is a good (42%) return rate for a postal questionnaire, showing the level of engagement of residents with the consultation.

11 respondents were in the 30-59 age range, with 1 aged 19-29 and 2 over 60. It was also noted on one questionnaire that an Under-18 had contributed to the response.

There was a difference of opinion about **whether new housing should be built** at the Dale Barracks site, with 5 residents agreeing, and the rest either disagreeing (4) or not being sure (5). Where a reason was given for disagreeing or not being sure, this was that existing housing on the site should be renovated rather than building new housing, that more new housing is not needed, that there was a need to protect the existing green space, and that it would cause more congestion on the A5117.

There was **clear agreement** on providing **safe and comfortable footpaths and cycle ways** for people to use (93%), and for it being a **priority to make future builds or renovations eco-friendly**, with ways to save energy and water (86%).

People were split on whether or not the whole community (ie new plus existing housing) should become a **proper community with its own facilities**, with 9 residents agreeing, and 5 disagreeing or not being sure. Comments from those who either disagreed or weren't sure included comments that there were already enough facilities, and that no further retail/shops were required. One resident specifically commented that there should be no more pubs, as there are already two within walking distance. Of those who agreed, one resident suggested the need for a health surgery in the area particularly for people of retirement age, and another that there might be a new, small primary school.

There was also a split on **any new housing to include 30% Affordable housing**, with 8 residents agreeing, and 6 disagreeing or not being sure. There was only one comment relating to the reason for disagreeing or not being sure, with that resident saying that the Dale is already affordable housing, and that "any further cheap houses might create a ghetto". Amongst those who agreed, one commented that the affordable housing should be made available to ex-military personnel only,

and one that a new house might be a swap for an existing resident, who should be able to see the plans. It was commented that some local residents are retired military, and that a retirement building with 1-bedroom apartments for retired residents might be considered.

There was also a difference of opinion on there being **no segregation or barriers to movement between phases of housing and existing development**. 7 residents agreed, and 7 either disagreed or weren't sure. Reasons given for disagreement or not being sure were either that there should be a clear barrier between existing housing and new development, or else that they would need to know first how new boundaries would affect the existing residents, and that existing homeowners shouldn't be compromised. It was also asked whether the community charge for existing private residents might cease. Amongst those who agreed, it was commented that a community spirit would be better achieved if more expensive houses weren't segregated from others such as lower cost and affordable housing, and housing for the elderly.

A number of the residents raised further concerns, including (1) that new development should not affect the **rural feel** of the area, (2) that the **trees and woods, existing football playing field and children's play park, the field used for exercise, and the community centre** should all be retained, (3) that a **wildlife survey** should be carried out to ensure that no endangered species would be affected by any potential development, with the presence of natterjack toads in a local pond being cited, (4) that **residents want to be informed** of all phases of the development and see plans and road markings, as well as access routes, prior to commencement, (5) the implications for the **private road behind Percival Close** properties, and the **monthly maintenance charges** currently paid to PREIM, need to be considered so that existing residents don't have to pay more, (6) that there will be pressure on existing **Primary and High School provision in Upton**, as there would be expected to be more families, particularly as many of the army homes are currently unoccupied.

The full set of responses is available on request.

These responses were taken into account in the development of the Policy relating to the Dale Barracks site (D1), particularly noting the importance of protecting the rural feel and the existing green spaces, making new homes (and/or renovations) eco-friendly, providing safe and comfortable footpaths and cycleways, and most importantly of all, consulting with the existing residents at each stage of development.

Within the Neighbourhood Plan document itself, a summary of the relevant responses from this consultation is presented within the Policy section.

2.2.10 Nov-20 Upton businesses in Local Retail Centres

A consultation exercise was carried out with owners/managers of businesses in the 3 Local Retail Centres, namely Bache, Weston Grove and Long Lane. Letters were hand delivered or mailed to 36 businesses in those centres, as the Covid-19 regulations did not permit face-to-face contact at that time.

A covering letter invited the owner/manager of the business to give their views, and included background information on the Neighbourhood Plan process, as well as the Draft Upton NP Policy E1 relating to the percentage of Fast-Food Takeaways in those Retail Centres. A second letter was included for them to forward to their Landlord. The letter is available on request.

Response was invited by either email or postal/hand delivery to the NP team at The Pavilion. As England had a second period of national lockdown until 2nd Dec, with non-essential retail closed in

that period, the first summary of responses took place 2 weeks after that time. At that point, one response had been received.

The response stated the following: “We agree to the proposal in principle, but we feel that the 33% should be the same for all the shops in the Upton area. This would maintain fairness for all the shops in the area and guard against discrimination”.

The NP team considered this response in relation to the Draft Policy E1, which proposes a maximum percentage of Fast-Food Takeaways of 33% in Weston Grove and 10% in each of Bache and Long Lane, broadly equal to the existing proportions of such businesses at the different locations. This was in line with the feedback that had been obtained from numbers of residents in all the earlier engagements, such as the consultation in 2018 (Section 2.2.7 above) where nearly everyone (97%) wanted to keep a variety of shops in the local retail centres, and 92% said that there were enough fast-food takeaways and Upton needed no more.

As well as maintaining local amenity in terms of a variety of local shopping, a further issue with fast-food takeaways is the additional pressure on car parking and traffic congestion at the local centres as a result of customers collecting food, and paid drivers picking up to deliver to locations across Upton and beyond. The congestion around the shopping centres had also been mentioned as an issue in previous consultation both by residents (eg Section 2.2.2) and by business owners (Section 2.2.3).

Because of their location on the A41 (Long Lane) and proximity to the A5116 Liverpool Road (Bache), it is thought that existing shops in those centres could be particularly attractive to future change of use to hot food takeaways, and hence loss of retail amenity to Upton residents as well as increased traffic congestion. Therefore it was decided not to amend the draft Policy as a result of this one response.