

## **Report on the BNDP Consultation Day held on 25<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary's Church, Bungay**

68 people attended the Open Day, some of whom also filled in questionnaires for the various sub-areas. Visitors were also encouraged to add comments on post-it notes. The following are the general trends of concern from each of the different areas.

### Community matters

Current provision was considered inadequate or fairly inadequate in respect of:

Community centre [33]  
Youth club [28]  
Disability facilities [25]  
Specialist housing [23]  
Public spaces [22]  
Play areas [22]  
Day care [21]  
Burial spaces [18]  
Residential care [17]  
Sports facilities [14]

[Number of respondents = 41]

Relative importance of each of these areas in future planning was indicated as important/most important:

Community centre [33]  
Public spaces [28]  
Day care [27]  
Disability facilities [27]  
Play areas [25]  
Residential care [25]  
Specialist housing [24]  
Sports facilities [22]  
Youth club [22]  
Burial spaces [15]

[Number of respondents = 41]

### Traffic & transport

Some questions/suggestions fall outside the remit of planning, though concern for adequate transport and vehicle infrastructure have to be taken into account by planners (see National Planning Policy Framework, section 4, paragraph 29: "Transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health

objectives. Smarter use of technologies can reduce the need to travel. The transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice about how they travel. However, the Government recognises that different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas.”)

Issues relating to enforcement of speed limits and lorry bans need to be passed on to other groups, but it is clear that these are very important issues for residents and should not be ignored. 86% of respondents felt that HGVs were a problem in the town and 48% had an issue with traffic pollution. (The number of respondents was 29.) 76% felt that Bungay should have a North-South bypass, but many were doubtful that it would ever be afforded, or be environmentally sensible.

Parking for residents (62%) and for visitors (52%) was considered inadequate. Safety crossing the road, especially in St Mary’s Street, was an important issue for many, especially the elderly.

### Environment

There were no significant differences as to whether or not there are sufficient green spaces in the town, but 87% agreed that developers should be required to produce a green infrastructure strategy for all new-build developments. (The number of respondents was 26.) The same number agreed that the Waveney marshes should have full protected status to prohibit any development. Permissive access to the common, marshes and river should be increased (80%) by footpaths and cycle paths (83%) and giving access to non-motorized vessels on the river (60%).

90% of respondents agreed that all new-build development should meet more stringent energy efficiency requirements and 60% thought sites should be identified for the generation of renewable energy.

67% felt that the footpath and cycle network in the town should be expanded.

When asked to rank their environmental priorities the respondents saw traffic volume as the main priority issue followed by the related issues of air quality and noise. In fourth place was Green space followed by Flood risk and Waste disposal.

### Town centre, retail and employment

When asked what should be encouraged in the town centre in particular, the greatest number (35) said having a bank; 32 wanted more leisure activities; 30 wanted small manufacturing or craft workshops; and 28 small home-based business development. In relation to tourism the most responses (32) were for a visitor centre; 31 wanted to see monthly tourist events; 27 wanted more guest

houses and an equal number wanted more holiday lets; 26 wanted more bed and breakfast facilities; and 25 wanted to see at least one hotel.

Respondents were asked what type of shops they would like to see in Bungay: 8 respondents wanted a shoe shop, 7 clothes shops, 4 a sports shop and 3 each a book shop and a known supermarket. A larger weekly market appealed to 11 respondents.

Housing was not investigated in any detail and will be the focus of our next consultation phase.