

2018 Withington Parish plan Questionnaire

Summary of additional notes made by parishioners in their responses

Services and assets over which the PC have direct control or influence.

1. Planning (Housing & Commercial)

- Open countryside is too restricting. A small amount of development is needed to keep the Village alive.
- The planning policy is outdated, Withington needs to accept that the population is growing at an alarming rate. I do not support large developments,
- But I do support one off and infill applications.
- No building in Withington
- Some infill should be allowed for first time buyers
- No major development
- I would have an interest in the Council's plans for the field adjacent to Penates, Caernarvon Lane
- Would not want any substantial development
- Only consider small single developments & building conversions
- The PC has done an outstanding job regarding OTT planning application rejection. Keep up the good work!
- "Single-house" developments by private individuals could enhance the village.
- Beware of large developers. They are only after profit. The village is not suitable for large developments
- A few small (2/1) bed properties could bring some younger people. A village needs a mix of housing & people
- The planning authorities seem to have little regard for the wishes of the Parish Council
- As long it is suitable for everyone in the village
- I didn't think Uffington had a school
- Would like to see some small scale i.e. small plot housing development
- We should fight to remain in our existing category. If we accept more development the charms of Withington will be lost. Furthermore, traffic will become a major problem on our narrow lanes
- No more "holiday" developments
- For nearly 20 years, we have had a horrible eye sore in the village - the static caravan in the Old Barns. Visible most of the year to all village green users - and it should have only legally been present for 5 years following start of the property renovation 2001. The Parish needs to formally demand its removal

- Village events

2. Village Green

a. What activities do you use the village green for?

- Walking
- Attending events
- Dog walking
- Walking
- Playing football with children,
- playing with grandchildren
- Attending village events such as the fete, bonfire night
- Shortcut to pub
- Have used it once as a carpark for an event at home
- Picking fruit!
- Football, dog training, walking, relaxation

b. What additional facilities would you like to see on the Village Green

- Children's play area.
- More Parish events throughout the year.
- Beer Festival
- Solid footpath, better for children riding bikes
- Swings/climbing frames
- Several more benches/seats - - by way of requests for memorial gifts by local persons
- Dog poo bins
- None. Keep all available space for village events
- Its fine as it is
- Community vegetable garden?
- None in particular. Happy with current usage
- Don't forget the village green was purchased by Withington PC with very generous donations from parishioners

3. Roads & Traffic

- Speed limit needed on road from Walcot to Rodington Heath, traffic will get worse with development at Allscott & Rodington.
- Walcot lane floods due to drains being blocked & dip in road requiring repair
- I've always pushed for speed bumps along the straight section at front of H&H. This has been a constant problem with speeding vehicles.
- Large vehicles churning up the road edges
- Keep asking for improvement work on Caernarvon Lane
- Lack of road markings at crossroads
- This is an area of working farmland so one should expect mud on the road/verges and not complain about it!

4. Footpaths & Bridleways

- Withington approach roads need more cautionary traffic signage eg warnings of bends in road which might show speeding vehicles down and make for safer driving
 - Drain clearing by pumping station not ideal - often flooded
 - Occasional application of weed killer on footpath in Woodlands Close as weeds fracture the tarmac leading to potential future problems
 - No, carry on as you are
 - Pursue the road names for those without!
 - Tractors driving too fast
 - Very concerned with speed. Cyclists. Big increase in traffic with U.M. development and Cycle route.
 - Large vehicles inappropriate usage.
 - Unnecessarily heavy weight traffic seems not to concern the Local Authority and perhaps the local M.P. could be asked to address what is perhaps a national problem
 - Road surfaces need attention in lots of places due to poor tarmac condition
 - The HGV's and large agricultural vehicles need to be restricted
 - 30mph speed limit through village too high - needs reduction. Large agricultural vehicles far too many travelling too quickly - accident waiting to happen
 - I think the 30mph should be extended to include all our parishioners to protect them
 - Continued dialogue with agricultural contractors not to use the village as a "through route"
 - The only problem we have is that too many large vehicles do considerable damage to our roads and verges.
 - We suffer for the road (Walcot Lane) flooding everytime we have rain due to non-clearance of drains. Also directly outside of our property the road has a dip which fills with water and vehicles splash through this at speed causing water damage to the fences as well as soaking us if we are in the garden 5m from road.
 - Speed signs as you come into village - by Brian Smiths, not just right in village but all entrance roads
 - We need a 20mph speed limit through the bends in the village
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- Would be good if sign posted showing stiles got large dog. No routes on SC map for Withington
 - Meeting dogs off leads which then jump up. Dogs must be on leads to be under proper control.
 - Not clearly marked & not maintained correctly
 - They are an asset that should continue to be maintained
 - No - happy to help on maintenance

- Sometimes paths are blocked with barbed wire and on some it is impossible to get through with a dog
- Keep them maintained & encourage neighbouring parishes to do likewise
- They seem to be less used now than 10 years ago
- Is it possible to encourage "dog friendly" styles to be used? Some styles are good - others are difficult for dogs to cross safely
- Feel the footpaths are well maintained & used
- Many local walking paths (bridleways) have stiles that are broken/unsafe no useable
- Styles could be maintained better
- No keep up the good work

Assets that the PC do not have direct control or influence over but are considered important to the Parish and have therefore been listed as Community Assets as defined under the Localism Act.

1. The Hare & Hounds public house
 - a. Reasons for not using the H&H

- I don't drink
- Not welcoming, small clique
- Used to be much more frequently
- It is a wonderful facility and I would use it more if I were younger

- b. What additional services improvements would you like the H&H to offer

- Snack meals on nights other than Fridays
- Cleaner bench seating
- Take payments by card,
- A fire in cold weather,
- Tidy up the parking area,
- wider advertising of events,
- sky/BT sports
- Longer opening hours (eg Friday & Saturday).
- Better range of snacks/light meals, sandwiches/toastie s/pies would encourage me to visit more
- More choice of real ales
- Better publicity prior to live music events.

2. Parish Room

a. Which events do you attend at the Parish Room

- Create a more welcoming atmosphere with real fire lit regularly in Winter and convivial background music.
 - Small improvements over time, eg kitchen, redecorate, refurb seats, complete the improvements that have been started
 - Other food on more evenings
 - More varied Sunday menu, Saturday lunch,
 - How about for winter evenings board games sessions?
 - Needs refurb re furniture & carpets
 - Open on a Saturday afternoon in the summer?
 - Meals on a Saturday in the summer?
 - More attractive outside space - that doesn't overlook a scruffy carpark, container etc.
 - Improved advertisement of events
 - They already do a first class job.
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- Yoga, flicks in sticks
 - Coffee mornings, monthly sewing group, flicks in sticks, xmas fete, tai chi
 - Council meetings, elections (voting)
 - Flix in the stix, Christmas bazaar, and other various events.
 - Occasional meetings
 - Coffee Morning, flicks in the stix, WI, pc meetings etc
 - Occasional council meetings, flicks in the sticks
 - Flicks in sticks
 - Tai Chi, xmas bazaar, flicks in the sticks, coffee morning
 - Flicks in sticks
 - Flicks in sticks
 - PC meetings, flicks in the sticks
 - Flicks in sticks
 - Coffee mornings, PC meetings
 - Coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks
 - Coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks, Withington Parish Council meetings, Christmas bazaar, wine tasting and other church social events
 - Coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks, parish meetings (occasionally)
 - Most of them
 - Flicks in sticks, bazaar @ xmas, PC meetings, WI, coffee mornings
 - Yoga, coffee, flicks in the sticks
 - Yoga, coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks
 - Tai Chi classes

b. What additional event/services would you like to see at the Parish Room

- Coffee mornings, WI, flick, Parish Council, village events - Christmas etc & I have booked private event
- Coffee mornings, Parish C mtgs, WI, flicks
- Council forum meetings, festive functions
- Coffee mornings
- Coffee mornings
- Coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks and parish
- Coffee mornings, flicks in the sticks, Withington Parish Council meetings, Christmas bazaar
- Flicks in the sticks, Parish Council meetings, xmas fete
- Coffee mornings, WI, flicks, PCC meetings
- Usually celebratory events such as Christmas or similar
- Yoga

- Children's activities
- Better range of films
- Pilates classes

- No, but glad evening services are included on the rota of services
- I think that the church could be better at reaching out to new residents in the village
- Member of PCC
- We would prefer 3 morning services per month and only 1 in the evening
- I believe they are quite adequate

3. John the Baptist Church
Do you have any comments regarding the Church and the services they offer

Assets and services that the PC do not have any direct control or influence over but impact Parishioners and therefore need to work with the providers to ensure the services are maintained and developed.

1. Oil, Gas & Electricity
a. Do you have any concerns or issues with these utilities you wish the PC to try and address?

- NO COMMENTS RECORDED

2. Water & Sewerage

- a. Do you have any concerns or issues with these utilities you wish the PC to try and address?

- Drains in Walcot Rd to be cleared and maintained.
- Very, very expensive
- Flooding is frequent (parish room area) Rodington Rd - coming into W'ton - Why? Do drains require clearing or ditching neglected for run off?
- Flooding in various roads following heavy rainfall

3. Bus Service

- Wouldn't use daily
- Only if the service allowed a sensible amount of time (2-3 hrs) at destination - Longer in Shrewsbury, shorter in Wellington
- Not often enough. Restricts time spent in towns. Need a more frequent service.
- May use it on a Monday - to and from Shrewsbury, & Friday
- Too irregular
- What service! There would be no need for a daily service but say Wed & Sat with 2 buses into town and 2 return per day (Sat & Wed)
- Timings do not suit older population
- No timetables seen
- I would as I become older

4. Internet/Broadband

- a. Issues with internet access and speed

- It gets slow early evenings and weekend mornings
- Very low service, dipping to zero occasionally
- Should explore with BT getting fibre to house's over existing poles to improve speed.
- Explore alternative technologies to improve service/speed
- Very low
- Very "hit and miss". Not particularly reliable
- Internet speed is still quite slow. When watching tv programmes through BT, eg BBC I player. We sometimes get the service frozen and have to exit and re-enter the programme
- Faster would be better
- As ever greater speeds are required to access many services, why not exploit an ultra-speed free to air mast to us?
- An ad hoc training programme could be very helpful for people who have limited mobility. Just need a list of volunteers prepared to help
- Can be slow at times but generally acceptable
- I am IT illiterate
- Speed generally ok But could always be better

5. Mobile Library
a. What improvements would you like to see to the service?

- Greater range available over time
- None it's great
- May use it in the future
- If you could review/order books on line and pick up from mobile library may find a use for it.
- A diary of when it is available. Saying once a fortnight does not help if there is no start date!
- We use the Shrewsbury Library and do not use the mobile, which we see as unsustainable in the current financial climate
- The time/day doesn't suit me/us Thursday was so much better
- Difficult to use on Fridays - since change from Thursdays
- I think they provide an adequate service

6. GP services

- GP Surgery Acceptance: I have not given my current address, as if I do, I was told I can't stay as a patient there beyond next year. I don't want to be forced to leave this surgery
- GP + NHS. The NHS is struggling nationally. Locally we cannot book GP appointments on line. I was advised that I couldn't book a routine appointment in the surgery either. Presumably, this is so that the waiting list doesn't exceed targets. You simply can't join the list! Now Telford A+E is closing at night. The problem is complex and national, but we must continue to highlight the impact at local level

Facilities and services specifically for under 18's as in recent years there has been an increase in the number of families with children moving into the Parish.

1. Comments on not being able to register with your primary or secondary schools of choice
2. What facilities do your children use in the Parish?

- NO COMMENTS RECORDED

- Messy church, parish hall
- Youth club on village green
- Parish room for functions and flix in the stix
- Village green, Hare & Hounds, parish room
- Village green. Occasional visits (with parents) to pub

- Play area on village green (swings slides)

3. What additional facilities do you believe the PC should provide for under 18's

- Tennis nets/courts

Facilities, services, projects that are available in or would have an impact upon the Parish if implemented.

1. Restoration of Shrewsbury to Newport Canal (SNC)

a. Do you have any comments/concerns/issues regarding the restoration of the canal through Withington?

- Waste of money
- Would create an easy access route for undesirables and unlikely to bring much additional income to village/pc. To the Village also crate Litter
- I think to restore the canal would be costly & impractical causing disruption to gardens and property
- Only support restoration if it is for the full reopening of the canal not just sections through Withington
- Don't expect to see anything soon though
- The scheme is unrealistic, cannot happen and is a waste of time
- Has a feasibility study been carried out to confirm if the canal can be restored along the original route through Withington?
- The sooner the better!
- A restored canal will bring economic boost to the village, provide a safe cycle/walking route into Shrewsbury and a flood alleviation mechanism in times of high rainfall
- The canal would enhance the village. However, I cannot see a viable economic case for it. I support voluntary charitable or private development, not the use of public money
- Not until we know the proposed route
- Wish it would happen - soon
- I think it would be brilliant to restore the canal

2. Bowbrook Archery Club

a. Do you have any comments/concerns/issues with the Club and its location in Withington?

- A very good addition to Withington
- If they are good neighbours, not problem. Glad to see they do not use their overbright lighting anymore.
- No concerns and does not affect village - good for village
- They are a real benefit to the village & we should support them
- No concerns. They are an asset to the village
- They are a friendly bunch and join in with the fete. This sort of development should be encouraged
- The club has been no problem in view of misgivings & upset at initial stage!

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The club/members support the village when possible. • An asset to the village • Yes, the traffic is a pain • None, good to see them in the pub.
<p>Additional Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More defibrillators for the wider parish • Ron Lucas should be recognised in some way for all he has done for Withington • A more equal gender balance on the Parish Council • The Parish Plan 2013 included an index of parish properties together with a very useful aerial photograph of the village. This would be very useful if placed alongside the village noticeboard (to direct delivery drivers to the correct property) • There are many large gardens in Withington and only a fortnightly green bin collection. A large skip for green waste would benefit many residents and reduce bonfires and individual trips to the Harlescott incinerator • As an aging pop in village & lack of public transport would there be an overall benefit for the community to provide "car share days" or a mini bus for use in general? For those not driving • H&H - 6 times a week • Parish room owned by the village • Why, in 2018, is this a paper-based survey? Think of the environment WPC!!! • Is this survey household or electoral roll based? It should be available to each voter not per household • For 9 months in 2018 there has been a "rubbish heap" on the village green. Rats regularly seen. Completely unacceptable! • Thank you for making the effort to keep us informed