

CHILHAM PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 7TH JUNE 2018

AGENDA ITEM 8.1A: TO CONSIDER REPORT ON 2018 PARISH QUESTION TIME

BACKGROUND

At its May meeting, a report had been publicised with the agenda providing a summary of responses from the questionnaires. (These responses have been forwarded to Clague Architects to inform the production of the Conservation Area Management Plan (CAMP) and parish contacts have been reminded of the exhibition on Thursday 10th May in Chilham Village Hall at which Clague would be exhibiting the results of the work to produce the CAMP.)

Following consideration, Council approved the report and asked Cllr Lester-Davis to provide an analysis by settlement so that council could agree its response to the results at the June meeting. This analysis can be found by clicking [here](#).

RECOMMENDATION

That the analysis should form the basis of a consultation report and that this would include the following conclusions drawn for this analysis :-

1. There are distinct differences between the different communities within the parish, though the number of responses from Shottenden are probably too small to be statistically significant.
2. As a generality, assuming the responses are broadly representative of the communities, Old Wives Lees has a younger and more family-oriented outlook than Chilham. Because the local facilities are almost all in Chilham as opposed to the other communities, not surprisingly Chilham residents have a higher opinion and value them more.
3. There is generally a great deal of pride in the parish, though marginally less in Old Wives Lees than in Chilham, probably because of the lack of facilities and the lack of the same character of 'place' in Old Wives Lees.
4. Not surprisingly Old Wives Lees was less happy with local public transport (2 buses a day) than Chilham (buses almost every hour and a shorter walk to the station).
5. Again, Chilham residents use local shops more than Old Wives Lees, undoubtedly because there are no shops in Old Wives Lees. Indeed, it is perhaps surprising and gratifying that Old Wives Lees and Shottenden residents have such a high percentage that use local shops 'often'.
6. A surprising percentage of residents from all communities 'never' use the local surgery, yet, fairly uniformly, every community think the surgery has adequate facilities - perhaps we just have a very healthy population.
7. Old Wives Lees and Shottenden residents are more likely to work in the village, perhaps reflecting a greater percentage of agricultural workers. Surprisingly few people thought that more local employment opportunities was a priority.
8. None of the communities are particularly inclined to participate in sports, at least to the extent of using local facilities and not that many people want more. Perhaps reflecting an older population, almost half of Chilham residents positively thought that no more sports facilities are needed.
9. Reflecting current attitudes more generally, positive support for the church comes from only a small minority. Perhaps surprisingly, given its location, the church is more supported by the other communities than by Chilham.
10. Use of the school is also more widely supported by the other communities than by Chilham, reflecting a more family demographic, especially in Old Wives Lees.
11. Both village halls are widely seen as accessible and reasonably widely used. This demonstrates the importance of both village halls.
12. For local planning the three communities are fairly uniform in their priorities. All give greatest priority to creating and maintaining green spaces within the communities, maintaining the local character and supporting good design. Creating more affordable housing comes next, with restricting new development the lowest priority.