

Town Centre consultation

Date: Saturday 25th September 2010

Venue: Brunel Centre, Town Centre, Swindon

Time: 10am-2.30pm

Attendee's: The general public.

Council's town planning representative: None

Participation method: An A1 map was displayed on a table next to two A1 sheets of paper with the following headings, "What do you value in your community" and "What would you like to improve"? The people who attend the event were asked to write their comments onto a coloured post it note and then place it onto the relevant A1 sheet.

Question 1: What do you value in your community? (Every response as written on the post it notes)

North Central Cluster Residents:

- Pinehurst is lovely!
- Very friendly (Penhill)
- The shops
- The parks
- Council gardeners do a great job and open space is excellent
- Play facilities
- Neighbours (Penhill)

North Cluster Residents:

- Great cycling facilities

Central Cluster Residents:

- I like the feel of the area, nice neighbours
- Living in a close community, near to town and the traffic routes
- More town wide events in the town centre, love Mela, Pride etc.
- Like the new Swindon developments, it makes the place look nicer.
- I like the green spaces
- Really nice place to live
- Where I live in Eastcott is quiet and feels safe
- I like my area because of the diversity.
- More parking spaces on Guilford Avenue.
- Great neighbours
- The green spaces, the wildlife, and the ponds
- Lawns green space
- The charity shop that has moved into the library it is now open longer and is well used, you can even get internet access.

South Cluster Residents:

- It is safe to walk to school. (Aged 10 years)

North East Cluster Residents:

- I value the spaces in Coleview/Stratton St Margaret and would like to see it preserved.

East Cluster Residents

- Area is lovely and enjoy living here
-

Question 2: What would you like to improve in your community? (Every response as written on the post it notes)

North Central Cluster Residents:

- Paddling pool wanted
- Good place to live
- Like surestart centre runs really excellent classes for the kids
- New shops at Braydon Court are brilliant
- Need improved parking in Heywood close, large vehicles cannot get pass
- Beech Avenue, Pinehurst – improve parking
- Improved play facilities for the young people
- Turning at Cheney End, can't see left, have written to MP 3 years ago no action!
- More community groups to keep kids off the streets. More things for them to do.
- Needs improvement. Would like the Kembrey grass to be something for the community.
- Removal of litter bins has resulted in lots of litter accumulating in Cheney Manor Road.
-
- In Gorse Hill they need more activities for the kids especially the younger children (1years to 7 years)
- Teenagers need something to do.
- Change some parks

North Cluster Residents

- Avehurst – needs places for kids to go
- Streets really messy and needs cleaning
- More school places in north Swindon.
- Car speeding down the roads.
- More play facilities for small children in Woodhall Park

Central Cluster Residents

- Residents Parking!!
- Plastic glasses for all pubs and clubs to prevent violence
- Need a university in the town centre
- Feels like a warzone on Thursday and Friday evenings
- Paving in the town centre need finishing off

- Residents for 70 years, town standards have declined, concerned about drugs, lack of shops, paving good, fountain not so good.
- Need a University in the town, more young adults and help improve the culture on offer in the town.
- Empty shops should be given over to the community in the interim to use and grow social enterprises
- More town wide events like Mela
- During night time we have had a bit of problems with youngsters drinking, breaking car mirrors and also troubling people who come in the evening or go late shopping.
- People urinating
- Drugs at Cambria bridge – we can't stop it!
- Area seems to be messy
- Need to create jobs for local people
- Encourage families to live in the town centre rather than single people
- Cambria Bridge play area needs tidying up
- Drug dealing and ASB at Cambria bridge
- Curtis street traffic goes the wrong way up the one way system
- Drug dealing at Cambria Bridge
- ASB at Cambria Bridge
- Can the park be refurbished
- Could do with a university.
- Speeding traffic on the residential roads.
- PARKING!
- Play facilities for children.
- More parks for children to play in.
- The crime associated with prostitution and drugs.
- More facilities for children. More things for them to do.
- A carnival
- More cheaper events that teenagers can go to
- . Need a cash point in Broad green
- Broad green needs a facelift, especially the streets
- More bins
- Fountain is great, paving vast improvement, but have seen a decline in the last 20 years
- Cycling on pavements
- Too many fences in town centre – dangerous for older people
- Cycling on pavements
- Area is looking tired and needs investment
- Limited shops, can we attract higher quality into the town centre like Bath?
- Greater range of shops in the town centre
- Need a greengrocer
- Got better for people 40+
- Where's the Swindon carnival gone?
- Market could do with a few more stalls.
- A better range and quality of shops for the Town Centre
- Should have X factor or Britain's got talent for Swindon
- Love the paving in the town centre
- Clean Broad Green and fix the infrastructure and get the community to maintain it!

- Will things really change? Heard it all before for the Town Centre
- No parking on pavements
- Issues around double yellow lines
- Carers should have a badge to park in residents parking areas
- The county ground keeps you up late when the football is on. (Aged 11 years)
- Residents parking
- The 40 mph speed limit outside St Joseph's school. It is only 30 mph at Kingsdown. Why so high?

East Cluster Residents:

- Needs investment in the east for local amenities i.e. Swimming pool
- New business park for bowling and other amenities
- Nythe – sort out the ASB around the shops
- Day centre for disabled people
- Do not cut the budget for the disabled
-
- Park North – had problems with youths riding mopeds
- More visible policing
- Vandalism by youths in the area – Park South
- Sussex Square. You can not go there at night because of anti social behaviour.
- Sussex square is not safe in the day or evening. Ladies have been mugged there
- I like where I live, parking around local school is a problem at drop off and collection times.
- Would like the open space improved
- Better play / park facilities
- I was let down by the council/police as I had a lot of bad trouble from kids in Walcot. My son was beaten up and my window was put through. The kids need somewhere to hang out so this won't happen again.
- Community Centre in Old Walcot.
- Dogs (pit bull terriers) running free
- Anti-social behaviour and children with ASBO's
- Too many staffies-not on leads
- Too many drug addicts
- Too many alcoholics
- Older people are scared to use Cavendish Square.

South Cluster Residents:

- Parking in old town is a vacuum
- A sports centre in Old Town. (Aged 10 years)
- Car parking is too far from the shops if you area older person.
- The visitors of the residents of the care home in Old Town have to walk to far to the car parks.
- I want to feel safe going out at night.

West Cluster Residents

- I think there should be more festivals, live music events, community events etc, etc, be more like Bristol.
- Improve the viability at roundabouts and off the roundabouts

- We need to have combined walkway and cycleways.
- I want to feel safe going out at night.
- The traffic lights need to be in a position where they can be viewed especially after coming of a roundabout.

North East Cluster Residents:

- Gable Cross, should only have a few vehicles out at a time, cause huge tail backs
- Play/gym equipment in parks
- The bus service used to be more regular
- Parking issues