



**WOTTON-UNDER- EDGE**  
**COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE 2016**  
**FULL REPORT**

13 March 2016

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Wotton's first Community Plan, which set out a long term (10 to 20 year) vision for the town, was published in 2005. This Community Plan updates this first plan, summarises the progress made in the intervening **period** and sets some fresh targets for the next decade. Appendix 1 shows the Parish area covered by the plan, although Wotton itself serves a wider hinterland. The document is not intended to be frozen in time but to be regularly checked for relevance and then used in formulating policy and making decisions. Although the plan has no statutory authority it is seen as an important document in providing a framework for Council decisions at Town, District and County level. It is a joint publication arrived at by a group of Councillors, officials and community representatives, following a public consultation in **early 2015**.

## **WOTTON IN 2016**

The world looks very different since the 2005 plan was put together. The global financial crash of 2007, the resultant recession and the subsequent pressure on public purses and private budgets have squeezed resources dramatically. Some big economic and social changes have impacted on our town.

We have permanently lost manufacturing jobs in the heart of the town with those brownfield sites now given over to new housing. Our internationally renowned local manufacturing success story, Renishaw plc, has weathered difficult times and come through them with a very strong profit and jobs growth record and tremendous prospects. As a community we need to **help establish** the quality employee pool and support service infrastructure that Renishaw and other local employers need for their own success.

Our ability to create spaces for affordable and private housing is severely constrained by the limited area of building land due to topography, planning **considerations** and public opinion. Many of our older properties face growing maintenance costs, including our many listed buildings. Our private and public housing stock has deteriorated **somewhat** in the last ten years as budgets were squeezed. Real incomes have been eroded and local traditional manufacturing jobs lost, resulting in pockets of deprivation in the town, exemplified by the growing demand at our Wotton Food Bank and Wotton Debt Centre.

Wotton is generally highly valued as a place to live but we do have to face continuing challenges.

- Our road infrastructure has been struggling. Road surfaces are regularly degraded by more frequent bad weather and HGV usage. Footways are likewise under maintained and subject to overriding by vehicles;
- The local road system has several acute pinch points, especially at rush hours and car ownership has grown continuously with no matching growth (arguably a reduction) in parking spaces. Bus services are often little used and are not convenient for travel to work, making life difficult for residents who have no other travel options;
- In some areas our foul and surface water drainage systems are inadequate in capacity, especially in heavy rain. Power cuts are still too common. Broadband has improved but some mobile phone networks are weak;
- Our library has been hit by budget cuts;
- Our two high-performing surgeries and related health services are pressured by nearby significant housing developments, an ageing population, higher expectations and budget constraints;
- Our high street businesses have been hit by the recession, by structural changes in banking, by the growth in online shopping and home deliveries, by the acute lack of parking for cars

and tourist coaches, by the lack of a supermarket with a trolley to car service and by the building of rival stores in Chipping Sodbury, Yate, Dursley, Thornbury, Tetbury and Nailsworth, as well as the growth of Cribbs Causeway;

- The national and global drive for sustainability has also escalated since the 2005 plan and the challenges for Wotton in terms of recycling, green space preservation and car/cycle/bus/walking options have also grown. On the positive side 'right to roam' areas have been established and the Cotswold Wardens, along with the Town Council's footpaths committee have assisted with the upkeep of local footpaths.

These pressures are common throughout Britain. Many of the issues are beyond the control of the Town Council but by working with all parts of the Community we can help mitigate some of the effects.

Yet the strengths of Wotton remain with our:

- wonderful network of volunteer-run bodies and charities.
- active and forward-looking Chamber of Trade.
- unique and entrepreneurial cinema.
- very successful, award winning Silver Band.
- good schools and talented young people.
- churches all working together.
- relatively low crime level.
- artistic and craft traditions.
- beautiful and accessible countryside.
- strong agricultural industry.
- pool of skilled and experienced residents and volunteer ethos.

It is unlikely in the course of the next Community Plan period that significant increases in income will be available to the people of Wotton or the three tiers of local councils that jointly provide public services. Only by working together can the people of Wotton deliver improvements.

We hope this Community Plan can help reset the agenda for the Town and encourage feedback.

## **TOWN REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP**

The Town Regeneration Partnership exists to represent those who have an interest in Wotton-under-Edge and its future. It is a partnership between the Town Council and members of community organisations in the town. The Partnership was instrumental in producing the first Community Plan and, taking account of public desire expressed at the 2013 Annual Parish Assembly for the plan to be refreshed, has been heavily involved in the update activity. The update process commenced in late 2014, with the issue of a Community Questionnaire sponsored by the Regeneration Partnership.

## **PROGRESS TO DATE**

Despite the country having been impacted by the global financial crisis for almost a decade, good progress has been made in a number of areas against the five action plans set out in the 2005 Community Plan. This is to the credit of the efforts of local people and the Town Council.

## **Parking Action Plan**

*The parking action plan recognised that inadequate parking provision was a constraint to achieving many of the vision themes. Three strands were proposed:*

- *maximise appropriate use of existing car parks, possibly through effective policing or charging;*
- *modify those policies which exacerbate the problem*
- *Assess the need and feasibility of additional off street parking*

### **Progress:**

Parking provision remains a problem throughout the town. Previous Stroud District Council (SDC) planning policies, which permitted housing developments with insufficient off-street parking, have exacerbated the situation leading to an increase of on-street parking on all main highways. The Town Council has continued to press the Local Planning Authority (SDC) to observe the current policy requiring two parking spaces per property for new developments but Wotton remains a difficult place to pass through by car and to visit. Wotton's parking problems were confirmed in a car parking survey carried out for SDC in 2011<sup>1</sup>. Clear passage for the emergency services is a growing problem.

Discussions on parking times and charging have been held with SDC who manage the Chipping Car park but, to date - in the absence of any local consensus - no changes have been made.

More recently, discussions have taken place between the Town Council, Chamber of Trade & Commerce and a local developer on a proposal which would create additional public parking facilities in the town. Formal plans have not yet been received and public consultation has yet to take place.

## **Economic Action Plan**

*The economic action plan focused primarily on the need to encourage new business to improve economic vitality and make Wotton a more attractive place to shop.*

### **Progress:**

One of the most significant early outcomes was the re-formation of a Chamber of Trade & Commerce for Wotton. Since its re-establishment in 2005 the Chamber of Trade has been organising events and communicating with shops, businesses and the Town Council, and now has over eighty members, including local entrepreneurs.

The Town Council has opposed use of the town's industrial areas for housing development but, despite these efforts, it has not been possible to preserve these sites for employment use. As a result, both the Potters Pond and Water Lane industrial sites have been lost to housing development, although the continued expansion of nearby Renishaw plc continues to provide significant local employment opportunities.

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<sup>1</sup> Car Parking Survey Report for Stroud District Council, Future Focus Research, September 2011

Like many market towns Wotton has seen a reduction in local banks with the closure of NatWest and Barclays. A second 24 hour ATM is still needed in the town.

The Stroud District Local Plan<sup>2</sup> produced by the District Council has identified Wotton as a local service centre for its surrounding communities and supports many Community Plan aspirations:

*“Wotton-under-Edge itself will continue to be a town with commercial activity and local employment, meeting the everyday needs of its surrounding rural communities. High street vitality will be maintained, with a varied and well-used range of shops and services in its pretty town centre. This will be supported by strong community input into cultural and leisure facilities, such as the Picture House<sup>3</sup>”*

Wotton has lost two pubs since 2005 but continues to benefit from a good range of cafes and other eating places, as evidenced by the Falcon Steakhouse becoming the Gazette “Pub of the Year” in 2015 but little progress has been made in providing more overnight accommodation for tourists and walkers.

### **Environmental Action Plan**

*The environmental action plan had three strands aimed at tackling untidy places, creating more small public gardens and enhancing the townscape:*

- *improvement in street cleaning*
- *creation of open spaces*
- *enhancing the appearance of the town*

### **Progress:**

Efforts have continued to keep the town attractive. The Town Council has developed and maintains flowerbeds at the town’s main gateway points. The Town Council has maintained its vigilance to ensure that town centre developments and applications for Listed Building Consent do not harm the heritage of the town centre. Supported by a team of volunteers and the Town Council, the Wotton in Bloom initiative has done much to make the town sparkle during summer months and Christmas Tree grants, provided by the Town Council to local traders, encourage colourful displays during the festive season. Despite efforts to work with County and District authorities it is recognised that more work is needed to keep the town, its verges, pavements and other footways clean and tidy and the Town Council has made additional resources available to undertake this. Likewise, the town’s two public toilet facilities remain in need of improvement and the Council has actions in hand to address this.

In response to the recommendations of the 2005 Community Plan - that the town had insufficient community open space - the Town acquired a small piece of land at Holywell Leaze for community use. This land has picnic facilities and further improvements are being undertaken by the Cotswold Wardens with support from the Town Council.

### **Transport Action Plan**

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<sup>2</sup> Stroud District Local Plan – adopted November 2015

<sup>3</sup> Stroud District Local Plan Vision 1.7: Vision for Parishes around Wotton-under-Edge

*Surveys carried out for the 2005 plan identified public transport provision as being poor but recognised that it was unlikely that all local needs could ever be satisfied. The action plan targeted specific areas of need.*

**Progress:**

The Wotton Hopper service, started by the Town Council in 2002, continues to provide an important service bringing people into the main shopping area from the further reaches of the town, and also from Kingswood. However, wider Public Transport provision remains uncoordinated and inconvenient for travel to work. Re-opening Charfield railway station remains a strong aspiration on which considerable work has taken place but, to date, only limited progress has been made.

**Social Action Plan**

*The social plan had four strands:*

- *improving the very low level of affordable [social] housing in Wotton*
- *reducing (the perception of) crime through community policing and improved provision for youth*
- *community activities to improve facilities available to residents*
- *enhancing communications between the people of the Wotton area and the various local authorities serving the community*

**Progress:**

Some housing development has continued in Wotton with Potters Pond (46 houses), Water Lane/Mitre Pitch (24 houses) and the former Stokes Bakery site in Haw Street (20 units) being the most recent significant developments, the latter being exclusively for use by Renishaw - owners of the site.

Of these developments, only four affordable housing units have been provided. Other smaller sites have, collectively, provided a similar number.

Wotton remains a low crime area. Wotton was one of the first small towns in the area to install a CCTV system and its use has been helpful to the Police in their investigation of crimes and anti-social behaviour incidents in the town. The town's CCTV system was improved and expanded in 2014 and 2015 with financial assistance from the Police and Crime Commissioner and now covers most areas of the town centre.

Wotton continues to benefit from a high level of community support and engagement and this has resulted in a substantial improvement in facilities available to residents.

Through the good efforts of the Wotton Community Sports Foundation (WCSF) the generosity of Sir David McMurtry, other organisations and local people, two all weather sports pitches have been installed on the New Road site, as has a skatepark for the young people. WCSF is continuing its fundraising activities to finance a safe access path to the site and to provide on-site parking. Future plans for what is to become Wotton Community PARC include adding BMX tracks, a fitness and walking trail, a children's play area, a sensory garden with memory walk, a further all weather pitch, club house and changing rooms. Wotton also has a high quality bowling green.

The town now has a commercially run cinema, building on the efforts of the volunteers who re-opened the cinema as a community operated facility in 2005.

Following the withdrawal of most youth services provided by the County Council, the Town Council converted the former police station into a youth centre and is now funding two youth club sessions a week with additional support from Wotton Youth Liaison Group. More recently, the Town Trust has taken over the ownership of the Chipping Club Room and this is now available for youth work as well continuing its use to other community groups.

The Town continues to benefit from having its own swimming pool, operated by a Charitable Company and volunteers since 2010, with substantial financial support from the Town Council, without which the pool would have closed.

Wotton-under-Edge Arts Association has organised an annual Spring Arts Festival and New Year's concert for the last forty years. For the last eleven years Under-the-Edge Arts has run a thriving programme from the Chipping Hall. This initiative is run by Wotton Arts Project which became a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee in the autumn of 2005.

Wotton Heritage Centre and Museum is an Arts Council England Accredited Museum and is entirely volunteer run and managed. As well as advancing public interest in the history and archaeology of Wotton and its surroundings, the Centre also undertakes the preservation of records and artefacts pertaining to the area. The Town Council has agreed to provide a grant to the Heritage Centre to assist with its running costs and also to enable it to become a Visitor Information Centre for the town.

The town has a very successful Silver Band and a high quality bowling green with, an active Bowls Club.

The Town Council continues to provide financial support to the library. This, together with the efforts of volunteer helpers, has enabled the library to remain open and provide a 4 day service to the community.

More recently, in order to improve communications between the Town Council and the community, the Council has renewed its web-site and now has Facebook and Twitter accounts.

## **REFRESHING THE COMMUNITY PLAN**

### **Community Involvement Questionnaire**

The Town Regeneration Partnership decided at its September 2014 meeting that a good way of starting the process to refresh the 2005 Community Plan would be to canvass community opinion by re-issuing an updated questionnaire (based on that used for the 2005 plan) to households across the town. Accordingly some 3000 questionnaires were distributed in December 2014 with a requested return date of mid-January 2015. The questionnaire contained 58 questions on which residents were asked to indicate their opinion. Comments were also invited. In the event, some 270 questionnaires were returned, of which around 170 contained additional comments.

### **Results from the Questionnaire**

A full analysis of the questionnaire returns is attached at Annex A.



Determining a priority order from the results obtained was not straightforward and several methods were tried, including weighted scores, totals by priority and percentage scores.

Using weighted scoring, the highest priorities included the swimming pool, library, shops, local employment opportunities, condition of footpaths/pavements/footways & verges, traffic management and roads, the bus service and Charfield railway station. At the bottom, the lowest priorities included introduction of parking charges and the need for more private housing development. Appendix 2 lists the bodies responsible for dealing with issues arising from the questionnaire.

Around 170 of the questionnaires received contained additional comments, many of which were about the poor state of the Town's roads. A significant number of people also commented on the need for more parking, footway maintenance, traffic problems in the town, dog fouling, Charfield railway station and support for the swimming pool.

After putting the results of the questionnaire scores and comments together the following seemed to be the issues of most concern to the community:

- the need for proper road maintenance to deal with potholes, road condition and road marking (This is the responsibility of Gloucestershire County Council);
- the poor condition of verges, pavements and other footways;
- traffic problems in the town and problems caused by parked cars restricting traffic – although, based on the questionnaire returns, the enforcement of parking restrictions would not be welcome!
- the need for more parking in the town - although there was no appetite to pay for such a facility either through increasing the precept or introducing parking charges;
- initiatives to encourage tourism – although there were several comments about the need to obtain good value for money. There was a negative response to the suggestion that a coach park should be provided;
- a desire for the Town Council to continue its support for the library, swimming pool, Synwell playing field, Citizens Advice Bureau and youth services;
- re-opening Charfield railway station, the need for better bus services, a good selection of shops, local employment opportunities, improved police presence, littering, dog fouling, improved public toilets, and affordable housing;
- the need for a new supermarket was identified as a low priority in the questionnaire response but the comments received showed an equal number for and against.

### **Redefinition of Themes for the 2016 Community Plan**

A Community Plan Working Group (formed from members of the Town Regeneration Partnership, the Town Council and members of the public) was established in November 2015 to review and update the previous Community Plan taking into account the results from the questionnaire exercise. In considering the way forward, the Working Group agreed that the themes articulated in the 2005 Plan remained generally valid but proposed the following amendments which are underlined:

### Theme 1 - Image and Heritage

*Wotton-under-Edge will make full use of its high quality historic centre and its outstanding surrounding countryside. The town will be clean and green, an attractive place to live, work and visit. It will continue to be a lively, working, changing town. Change will be managed to maximise the environmental potential. The appearance of the town, its gateways and green spaces will be enhanced and protected.*

This amendment reflects the fact that since the original plan was published, additional public amenity land has been acquired at Holywell, satisfying, at least in part, the need to provide more such space in the town, but the green spaces that exist (such as Synwell playing field) need to be enhanced and protected (It is now a field in trust).

### Theme 2 - Commerce and Employment

*Wotton-under-Edge will continue to be a Fairtrade town with significant commercial activity and access to local employment opportunities. The town will be a service centre for the surrounding area and will also provide specialist services for a wider region. Constraints to economic activity, such as the lack of parking and traffic flow problems will be resolved. The control of Wotton-under-Edge's built environment will be constrained by the existing boundaries. Wotton-under-Edge will provide food retailing, including Fairtrade products, professional, commercial and community services which meet the needs of the community and the wider area. In addition, the specialist goods and services will bring in work and customers from a wide area.*

For Theme 2, it was felt that there was little prospect of increasing, or even maintaining local employment actually in the town with the loss of the Potters Pond and Water Lane employment sites during the intervening years. In that respect, the WG felt that Theme 2 should be re-cast to reflect this.

### Theme 3 - Visitors and Tourism

*More facilities will be provided for visitors, including a range of good quality accommodation, and places to eat. It will be easy for visitors to travel to Wotton-under-Edge. Tourism growth will, however, be balanced against local needs.*

This amendment reflected the desire for Wotton to have good quality accommodation suitable for a range of visitors, including more B&Bs, a walkers hostel and camping facilities.

### Theme 4 - Housing

*Wotton-under-Edge will have a range of housing to meet the needs of the community, including affordable housing.*

Theme 4 remains an aspiration for the town but decisions being taken by the District Council seem likely to deprive the town of the opportunity of much needed affordable housing at Fountain Crescent, where the SDC plan to build some 16 affordable housing units appears to

have been abandoned. The lack of affordable rented housing is a threat to community cohesion.

#### Theme 5 - Security

*The low crime levels in Wotton-under-Edge and surrounding areas will be maintained and improved. People will feel safe in the community.*

No change was proposed. Wotton remains a place where people feel safe and the Town Council's enhanced CCTV coverage should help preserve the comfort felt by local people.

#### Theme 6 - Sport and Recreation

*Wotton-under-Edge will continue to benefit from a high level of activity in all sections of the community. This will be enhanced by the provision of improved outdoor sports and play facilities.*

The CPWG felt that Wotton benefitted from a great deal of volunteer support which has provided, for example, new sports and skatepark facilities at New Road through the efforts of the Wotton Community Sports Foundation. It was felt, however, that more effort was needed to enhance communications between groups to help make the community more inclusive and this should become a new Theme 8. The communications element of theme 6 was therefore deleted, in favour of Theme 8.

#### Theme 7 - Transport

*Public and community transport will meet the needs of those not owning a car including people with impairments; people from surrounding villages using services in Wotton-under-Edge; those attending hospital; students attending out-of-town colleges; and cyclists. There will be public transport options for commuters. Adequate provision will be made for car users, both those living in the town and those visiting. Traffic and parking will be managed to minimise congestion, particularly on through routes.*

The Working Group recognised that the town centre was difficult to access for people with physical and visual impairments and felt that more needed to be done. Improved provision for cyclists – such as cycle racks – is also needed. The bus routes serving Wotton are vital to many people and it is important that bus usage is encouraged and services protected. As part of an integrated transport future a re-opened rail station at Charfield would be a very welcome addition. Considerable work has been undertaken but this still remains a long-term aspiration, held back by rail network and funding constraints.

#### Theme 8 - Working Together

Wotton-under-Edge will be an inclusive society with people working together across the generations for the benefit of the town. All contributions will be valued and there will be excellent communications between local interest groups and volunteers. Facilities and activities will be accessible and welcoming to all, including those with disabilities and impairments.

This new theme recognised the very significant volunteering ethos in the town which needs to be encouraged and expanded across the generations with improved communications between community groups. Also that facilities and events should be accessible to all.

### **PRIORITIES FOR ACTION**

The Town Council sought advice from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) on how best to update the previous Community Plan. The advice received recommended focusing on key issues within the ambit of the local community and Town Council to resolve. Based on this advice and its consideration of the available information, the Community Plan Working Group agreed the following collective priorities for action, with an action plan for each one:

- need for a diverse selection of shops and reduction in number of vacant premises;
- improve condition of verges, pavements and other footways;
- promote tourism;
- provide more parking in the town at no extra cost to residents;
- improve public toilets;
- improve footpaths and open spaces, including Holywell, churchyard, cemetery and allotments;
- promote arts, entertainments and festivals;
- expand youth facilities;
- promote and encourage a more inclusive society.

### **ACTION PLANS**

Table 1 below is a summary of the Action Plan agreed by the Working Group. The full Action Plan is attached at Annex B. These Action Plans will be used as a guide for future community and Town Council action and decision making.

**TABLE 1 – ACTION PLAN**

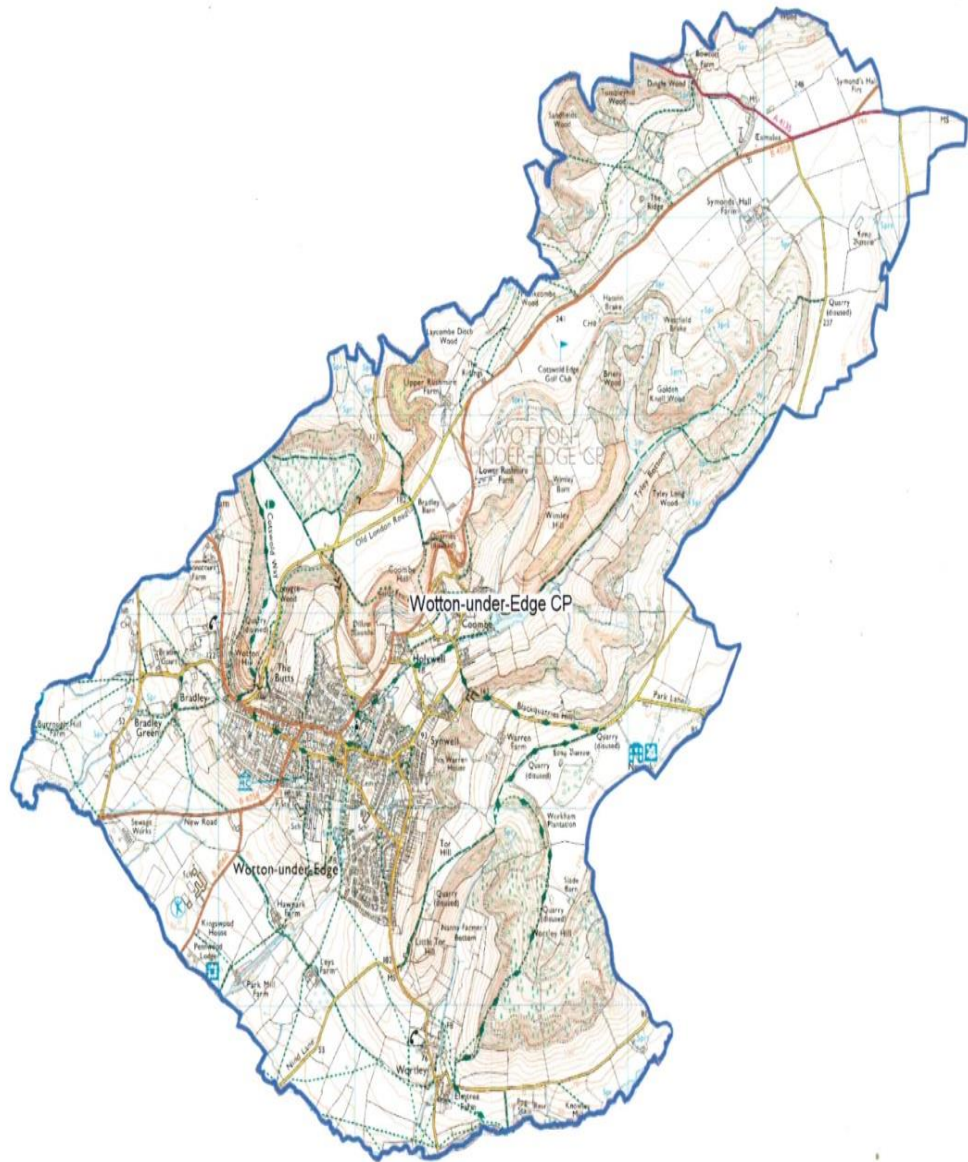
<b>Action plan</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Desired Outcome</b>	<b>Actions Required</b>
1	Need for a diverse selection of shops and reduction in number of vacant premises.	Better selection of quality shops to encourage shoppers into town. Increased prosperity of town centre.	1. Discuss with landlords the possibility of reducing rents to help fill empty shops and improve appearance of shops. 2. Explore with SDC the possibility of reducing business rates. Recent changes in law which will enable District Councils to retain business rates may facilitate this. 3. Identify additional types of retailers needed and encourage their establishment in town. 4. Expand and rejuvenate Farmers Market. 5. Discuss with the Co-op the possibility of creating a rear entrance giving direct access to the car park.
2	Improve condition of verges, pavements and footways.	Improved appearance of town making it more	1. Identify problem areas. 2. Action Town Council staff, including overtime.

Action plan	Description	Desired Outcome	Actions Required
		attractive and welcoming.	3. Encourage shop owners to clean frontage pavement. 4. Action higher authorities where appropriate. 5. Make it easier for those with physical and visual impairments to travel around the town.

Action plan	Description	Desired Outcome	Actions Required
3	Promote tourism.	Increased number of tourist visiting and using town facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that any new parking provided includes provision for coaches.</li> <li>2. Encourage more residents to provide bed and breakfast.</li> <li>3. Explore opportunities for more hotel/inn accommodation, a walkers hostel and camping facilities.</li> <li>4. WTC and the Heritage Centre to work together to provide a Visitor Information Centre.</li> <li>5. Explore ways of exploiting location on Cotswold Way.</li> <li>6. Get Wotton walks into more guidebooks.</li> <li>7. Encourage festivals (See Action Plan 7 below).</li> <li>8. Encourage visitors to other local attractions (eg Newark Park, Berkeley Castle, Westonbirt, Tortworth, Slimbridge) to visit Wotton (brochures, signage etc).</li> <li>9. Ensure that Wotton's amenities (pool, cinema, Heritage Centre, specialist shops, Arts Centre) are fully exploited and advertised.</li> <li>10. Provide improved facilities for cyclists.</li> </ol>
4	Provide more parking in the town at no extra cost to residents.	Extra parking available, thereby encouraging more shoppers into town.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to explore and support initiatives which would provide additional parking in the town.</li> <li>2. Work with community to seek support for additional parking.</li> </ol>
5	Improve public toilets.	Improved facilities making town more attractive to visitors.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Take immediate action to refurbish Old Town toilets.</li> <li>2. Establish longer term plan to replace Old Town toilets with a modern multi-use facility.</li> <li>3. Explore use of other facilities (such as Parish Room).</li> <li>4. Ensure that SDC takes action to improve Rope Walk toilets.</li> </ol>
6	Improve footpaths and open spaces including Holywell, churchyard, cemetery and allotments.	Improved management, use and range of facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish strategy and identify problem areas.</li> <li>2. Seek ways of exploiting Synwell playing field.</li> <li>3. Consider action to protect areas by designating land as Local Green Space in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.</li> </ol>
7	Promote arts, entertainments and festivals.	Improved range of entertainments etc and increased audiences.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish strategy.</li> <li>2. Establish regular Blues Festival.</li> <li>3. Establish Walking Festival.</li> </ol>
8	Expand youth facilities and activities.	Identify and provide additional facilities and activities needed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider additional facilities needed such as a meeting shelter for young people.</li> <li>2. Encourage young people to express views on local issues and influence local decision making.</li> <li>3. Promote a comprehensive programme of summer events for young people.</li> </ol>

Action plan	Description	Desired Outcome	Actions Required
9	Promote and encourage a welcoming and “inclusive” community.	Active, accessible, inclusive and welcoming community and facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to support and encourage the many volunteer and membership organisations serving the Wotton area (See Appendix 3 – full list available from One-Stop-Shop).</li> <li>2. Hold a Clubs’ and Groups’ Fair to encourage volunteers and support community groups in the area.</li> <li>3. Support and encourage intergenerational activities in the town.</li> <li>4. Facilitate regular consultation with people across all sections of the community to ensure that all views are taken into account in local decision making.</li> <li>5. Work towards becoming a “Dementia Friendly Town”.</li> </ol>

## Appendix 1 - Map of Wotton-under-Edge Town Council administrative area





## Appendix 2

### Lead Responsibilities for Questionnaire Issues

	Issue	Lead Agency
1	Need for proper road maintenance to deal with potholes, road condition and road marking. Particular concerns are potholes in Old Town and Gloucester Street.	County Council. Recent work has addressed some of the problem areas
2	Continue Town Council support for the Library, Swimming Pool, Synwell Playing Field, Citizens Advice Bureau and Youth Services.	Town Council
3	Resolve traffic problems in the town. Particular concerns are about traffic flow in Bear St, Haw St, Gloucester Street and Old Town and problems caused by parked cars restricting traffic – but the enforcement of parking restrictions is not supported.	County Council
4	Need for a diverse selection of shops.	Chamber of Trade
5	Improve condition of footpaths, pavements and verges. Mitre Pitch and Synwell Lane are particular problem areas.	County, District and Town Council, depending on location.
6	Provide more parking in the town – but not paid for either through increasing the precept or introducing parking charges.	Town Council
7	Re-open Charfield railway station.	Several
8	Improve bus services.	Several
9	Promote tourism - although some have commented negatively about wasting money on such initiatives and the need to provide a coach park is not supported.	Town Council
10	Provide more local employment opportunities.	Town Council
11	Improve Police Presence.	County Council
12	Reduce littering and dog fouling.	District and Town Council
13	Provide some affordable housing.	District Council
14	Improve public toilets.	District and Town Council

## **Appendix 3**

### **Clubs and Organisations in Wotton-under-Edge**

#### **Arts & Crafts**

Wotton Arts Association  
Wotton Art Group  
Baptist Church Art Group  
Under the Edge Arts  
Cam and Dursley Camera Club  
Wotton Electric Picture House  
Wotton Handicraft Group  
Marquetry Group  
Wotton Writers' Group

#### **Music**

Bellringers (St Mary's Church)  
Blow Away Band  
Wotton and District Silver Band  
Wotton Chamber Music Group

#### **Recreation and sport**

Wotton-under-Edge and District Community Recreational Trust  
Wotton Community Sports Foundation  
Rugby Club  
Wotton Sports Centre  
Wotton Pool  
Bowls Club  
Boxing Club (Synwell and District Amateur Boxing Club)  
Wotton Bridge Club  
Ruth Osborne School of Dance  
Nia Dance  
New Generation Dance  
Wotton Fitness League  
Wotton Rovers Football Club  
Wotton Gardening Club  
Coombe Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Society  
Phoenix Ladies Netball Club  
Pilates  
Wotton Hockey Club  
Synwell Playing Fields Committee  
Iyengar Yoga Gloucestershire  
Zumba  
Cotswold Edge Internal Arts Tai Chi  
Wotton Tennis Club  
Wotton Handicraft Group

## **Worship**

Churches Together in Wotton  
Baptist Church  
Holy Cross Church  
Oliver Memorial Chapel  
Wotton Quaker Meeting (Religious Society of Friends)  
St Mary's Parish Church  
Wotton United Church

## **Social and charitable**

Army Cadets  
Bournstream Trust  
Beaumont-le-Roger Society  
Citizen's Advice Bureau  
Wotton Debt Advice Centre  
Mothers' Union  
Royal British Legion (Men's Section)  
Royal British Legion (Women's Section)  
Wotton Food Bank  
Wotton in Bloom  
1st Wotton-under-Edge Scout Group  
Girl Guiding Wotton-under-Edge  
Synwell Senior Citizens Club  
Wotton Save the Children  
Masonic Hall – Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire  
Wotton General Charities  
Wotton Combined Charities  
Police – Stroud Cluster Group  
Wotton Day Centre  
Families Are Near Special Needs Group  
Rotary Club  
Ladies Circle  
Round Table  
41 Club  
Lions Club  
Wotton under Edge and District Probus Club  
Wotton under Edge Women's Probus  
Wotton Youth Liaison Group  
Reverend Rowland Hill Almshouse Charity  
Town Hall Teas

## **Heritage**

Wotton-under-Edge Civic Society  
Wotton-under-Edge Historical Society and Heritage Centre

**Business**

Chamber of Trade and Commerce  
Wotton Shopkeepers  
Fair Trade

**Education**

Kumon  
Bluecoat Pre-School and Busy Bees  
British School Kindergarten  
Kindie-Tots  
Rhythm and Rhyme  
St Mary's Little Church Baby and Toddler Group  
WOT TOTS Baby and Toddler Group

This listing is provided in good faith. Organisations and groups missing from the list can add details to the list held at the One Stop Shop in the Civic Centre.

## **2015 COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE – RESULTS**

### **Summary**

This report presents initial results from analysis of the Community Questionnaires returned to the Town Council in January 2015. The results take into consideration both the priority scores for each of the 58 questions and also the detailed comments made by some of those responding.

### **Background**

Wotton-under-Edge Town Council has been considering for some time the need to update the Town's Community Plan which was published in 2005. The Town Regeneration Partnership (a partnership between the Town Council and the Community) decided at its September meeting that a good way of starting the process would be to re-issue an updated questionnaire, based on that used for the earlier Plan, to households across the Parish. It was agreed that an appropriate method of doing this would be to insert the questionnaire into the Wotton Directory. The Town Council approved the questionnaire and the proposed distribution method at its meeting in November 2014.

Some 3000 questionnaires were distributed at a cost of £150, which included a small notice in the Directory. A return date of 15 January 2015 was requested and collection points were organised at the Civic Centre, One Stop Shop, British School, Bluecoat School and the Wortley Road Newmarket store. Some 270 questionnaires were returned, although not all of those responding answered all of the questions. Around 170 of the questionnaires contained additional comments. The Town Council is very grateful for those who responded.

### **Initial Results**

There are two elements to the results: an analysis of the priorities identified in the completed questionnaires and a separate assessment of the comments received.

### **Questionnaire Scores**

In the questionnaire, residents were asked to indicate their opinion on 58 questions by ticking a priority box with "1" being the highest priority and "5" being the lowest. The questions were grouped into 10 categories. The scores for each question (number of "ticks" against each priority) are shown in **Table 1**. These results can be analysed in a number of ways to give a priority order. The following methods for determining priority were considered:

- a. Weighted score. Ranking by composite score. With this approach each "priority" is assigned a score. A simple scheme was used with Priority 1 assigned 5 points, Priority 2, 4 points, Priority 3, 3 points, Priority 4, 2 points and Priority 5, 1 point. The total score for each question is then established by adding the individual scores for each priority.
- b. Priority 1. Ranking by total score for Priority 1, with other scores being ignored.
- c. Priority 1 + 2. Ranking by total scores for Priority 1 and 2, with all other scores being ignored.
- d. Priority 5. Reverse ranking by total score for Priority 5, with other scores being ignored.
- e. Priority 4 + 5. Reverse ranking by total scores for Priority 4 and 5, with other scores being ignored.
- f. Percentage of Priority 1. Ranking by total percentage score for Priority 1 and 2, with all other scores being ignored.
- g. Percentage Priority 1 and 2. Ranking by total percentage scores for Priority 1 and 2, with all other scores being ignored.

h. Percentage Priority 5. Reverse ranking by total percentage scores for Priority 5, with all other scores being ignored.

i. Percentage Priority 4 and 5. Reverse ranking by total percentage scores for Priority 4 and 5, with all other scores being ignored.

The results for each scoring method are shown in **Table 2**, which shows the ranking by question number. From this analysis it is clear that each method gives a slightly different rank order. Analysing this table to determine which questions occurred most frequently in the top 15 and bottom 15 positions gave the results shown in **Tables 3 and 4**.

**Table 5** gives the scores, ranked using weighted scoring ((a) above). The results between **Tables 3 and 5** are similar: only question 16 (Need for a greater Police Presence) appears in the top 15 of **Table 5** but not in **Table 3**. It is concluded that the Weighted Score (**Table 5**) provides an acceptable method for determining overall ranking of the questions. Different weights were also tested but did not drastically change the outcome.

### **Questionnaire Comments**

Comments received on the questionnaires have been summarised and where appropriate, grouped into related topics. **Tables 6 and 7** give the number of comments received in priority order for each of the 10 questionnaire categories and overall.

The “Top Twenty” issues from **Table 7** are:

Priority	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments – Rank by Number of Comments	Number of Comments
1	T1	Need for proper/sensible road maintenance to deal with potholes/roads/road marking	45
2	EC1	Need for more parking in town (eg to encourage visitors and shoppers) eg behind fire station or Renishaw Old Town	24
3	E1	Footways/Gullies need maintenance/regular cleaning /weed removal (by Town Council?)	14
4	T2	Concerns about parked cars blocking roads/junctions in town/traffic problems (Old Town/Glos St/Haw St/Bear St/Culverhay)	13
5	E2	Dog Fouling Problems/Need for more dog bins	11
6	T3	Re-open Charfield railway station/would enhance “green credentials	10
7	TS1	Support for Swimming Pool (Pool volunteers save the council a great deal of money/keep funding as per referendum)	9
Priority	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments – Rank by Number of Comments	Number of Comments
8	EC2	Support for new supermarket in Old Town (eg Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose) to encourage visitors/trade in town/avoid need to shop out of town/greater variety (but need to improve traffic flow as well). Tesco Express and Co-op are too expensive	9
9	EC3	Opposition to/viability of major new supermarket ( esp. Tesco, ASDA, Morrisons, Sainsbury, Waitrose)	9
10	T4	Restrict lorries through town. Also in Bradley St (prohibition sign in wrong place)	8
11	E3	Littering problems/need to empty litter bins/need more “don’t litter” signs/fines	7
12	T5	Speeding/Traffic calming measures are needed (eg Glos St, Bear St, Old Town, Culverhay, New Road)	7
13	T6	“No” to car parking charges	6
14	H1	Need to reduce the amount of new housing development (in AONB)(eg Full Moonsite)(unless on brownfield sites)	5
15	C1	Delay in chemist for prescriptions/Need another Chemist	5
16	H2	Need for Affordable Housing	4
17	E4	Need to Clean/Refurbish Old Town/Public Toilets	4
18	C2	Need for better disabled access (eg automatic Civic Centre main door/shops/public buildings)	4
19	T7	Need to trim roadside/footway hedges and trees	4
20	T8	Roadside parking restrictions need to be enforced (eg esp outside schools/Long St)	4

As might be expected, given the poor state of the Town’s roads, road maintenance was the issue on which most respondents commented. A significant number of people also comments on the need for more parking (free and not paid for by Council Tax!), the need for footway maintenance, traffic problems in the town, dog fouling, Charfield railway station and support for the Swimming Pool. Interestingly support for and against a new supermarket was evenly split.

### **Conclusions**

Putting the results of the questionnaire scores and comments together suggests the following as priority issues of concern to the community:

- a. The Need for proper road maintenance to deal with potholes, road condition and road marking received by far the greatest number of comments and the associated question (45) on road improvements also scored highly. Particular concerns were expressed about potholes in Old Town and Gloucester Street. Some road repair work has now been undertaken but problems remain. These will need to be taken up with the County Council.
- b. The poor condition of footpaths, footways and verges was a high priority and also attracted a large number of comments. Mitre Pitch and Synwell Lane were mentioned as being particular problem areas.
- c. Traffic Problems were another high priority issue which attracted many comments. Particular concerns were expressed about traffic flow in Bear St, Haw St, Gloucester Street and Old Town and problems caused by parked cars restricting traffic – although, based on the questionnaire returns, the enforcement of parking restrictions would not be welcome! Some suggestions were made by respondents about new road layouts.
- d. The need for more parking in the town also attracted a large number of comments and was a fairly high questionnaire priority. Interestingly, although many saw the need for more parking, there was no appetite to pay for such a facility either through increasing the precept or introducing parking charges.
- e. Tourism related issues were a fairly high priority but there were several negative comments suggesting that money should not be wasted on tourism initiatives. There was a negative response to the suggestion that a coach park should be provided.
- f. Continued Town Council support for the Library, Swimming Pool, Synwell Playing Field, Citizens Advice Bureau and Youth services was identified as being important.
- g. Other high priority items which also attracted significant comments included: re-opening Charfield railway station, the need for better bus services, shops, local employment opportunities, police presence, littering and dog fouling.
- h. Other items which attracted significant comments included the need to improve public toilets, and provision of affordable housing.
- i. In the questionnaire response, the need for a new supermarket was identified as a low priority but the comments received showed an equal number for and against.
- j. There were also mixed comments about the need for speed reduction measures.
- k. The lowest scoring issues included (as mentioned above) charging for car parking, new private housing developments, and provision of a coach park in Wotton.
- l. The need to involve local people in decision making was identified as a fairly high priority but improving the Town Council's web site (a means of facilitating local involvement) had a low score.

### **Way Ahead**

It is intended that the results from this consultation exercise will be used as the basis for updating the 2005 Wotton Community Plan. This work will be undertaken by the Town Council, the Town Regeneration Partnership and the Community. The next step will be to arrange a public consultation at which these results will be presented. . The Town Council will be seeking volunteers from the community and will make contact with those who indicated on the questionnaire their willingness to be involved.

ROGER CLAYDON  
TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN  
WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL



22 APRIL 2015

TABLE 1 - BASIC SCORES						
	Question			Priorities		
	HOUSING	1	2	3	4	5
1	Provision of affordable housing	96	47	51	29	26
2	Need for housing for young people	74	48	66	28	28
3	Need for more private housing development	15	13	59	38	109
	ENVIRONMENT	1	2	3	4	5
4	Managing and reducing dog fouling	104	53	43	30	23
5	Managing and reducing litter problems	99	58	55	20	20
6	Need to improve cleanliness/appearance of town/civic buildings	66	58	64	32	28
7	Need to improve condition of footpaths, pavements and verges	114	61	48	18	15
8	Need to improve public toilet facilities	72	65	58	27	24
9	Need for more open space/play areas	57	49	61	42	36
	LEISURE	1	2	3	4	5
10	Need for better sports facilities	35	58	66	43	39
11	Need for better access to school facilities for the community	31	59	70	41	41
12	Provision of a Skatepark	58	52	32	30	71
	COMMUNITIES	1	2	3	4	5
13	Need for better disabled access to buildings in town centre	35	58	81	39	30
14	Need to have a wide variety of events through the year	31	64	89	36	22
15	Need for more action to reduce anti-social behavior & vandalism	71	66	60	35	15
16	Need for improved police presence	99	56	63	27	14
17	Need for more CCTV as a crime prevention measure	46	45	55	44	55
18	Need to involve local people in projects and decision making	71	95	57	17	13
19	Need for better local healthcare facilities	41	52	80	37	29
20	Need to reduce waiting times for local GPs	44	50	72	44	32
21	Need to reduce waiting times for local Chemists	105	38	47	27	32
22	Need to improve support for local carers groups	41	56	95	28	18
23	Need to improve communications with isolated/elderly people	80	72	54	20	16
	TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORT	1	2	3	4	5
24	Continue Council's financial support for Swimming Pool	146	44	32	15	24
25	Continue Council's financial support for Citizens Advice Bureau	100	61	57	21	18
26	Continue Council's financial support for Library	136	65	39	12	13
27	Continue Council's financial support for Synwell Playing Field	100	66	55	22	12
28	Continue Council's financial support for Neighbourhood Wardens	55	70	70	31	24
29	Continue Council's financial support for Youth Services	92	67	62	18	14
30	Continue Council's financial support for Wotton in Bloom	84	52	61	28	28
31	Continue Council's financial support for Skatepark/facilities	76	44	41	27	66
	ECONOMY	1	2	3	4	5
32	Diverse selection of shops	145	45	38	7	15
33	Need for a major retail outlet in the town (eg. Supermarket)	44	25	37	38	114
34	Need for co-operation between shop owners for late openings	25	55	74	41	50
35	Need for more short-term car parking in the town centre	117	50	40	20	25
36	Need for more local employment opportunities	109	60	66	9	11
37	Need for better broadband provision	93	42	51	25	36
	TRANSPORT	1	2	3	4	5
38	Need for a better bus service	111	71	40	9	23
39	Need for more long-term car parking	96	49	46	29	31
40	Provision of a park and ride facility with long term parking	46	21	43	27	100
41	Need for extra car parking paid for by an additional precept	29	35	40	34	96
42	Introduction of charges to improve turnover in car parks	23	17	21	25	159
43	Need for better enforcement of car parking times	41	41	48	38	73
44	Need to reduce volume of traffic, especially lorries	114	41	47	23	25
45	Need for better town traffic management/road improvements	127	46	46	15	20
46	Speeding: need for traffic speed reduction measures	65	40	54	33	58
47	Re-opening of Charfield Railway Station	132	46	24	23	34
48	Need for more pedestrian crossings	47	40	55	42	65
	TOURISM	1	2	3	4	5
49	Importance of tourism to town	114	65	40	18	14
50	Need to make town more attractive to tourists	88	73	54	19	15
51	Need for improved pedestrian signage	25	46	72	51	51
52	Need to improve the standard and range of accommodation	36	65	69	40	31
53	Need to capitalise on position on Cotswold Way	102	66	47	14	22
54	Provision of a coach park in Wotton	28	23	50	46	98
	TOWN COUNCIL	1	2	3	4	5
55	Need to improve Town Council website	18	46	92	29	46
56	Need for better information about what the Town Council does	55	77	67	27	21
57	Need for a "drop-in session" with Town Councillors	44	49	84	32	36
	OTHER QUESTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
58	Reliability of electricity supply: need to reduce No. of power cuts	77	62	52	26	34

TABLE 2 - Ranking by different scoring methods (question numbers by rank for each method)

R	Weighted Score	Score 1	Score 1+2	Score 5	Score 4+5	% Score 1	% Score 1+2	% Score 5	% Score 4+5
1	26	24	26	36	36	32	32	36	36
2	24	32	24	27	32	24	26	27	32
3	32	26	32	26	26	26	24	26	26
4	36	47	38	18	18	47	38	18	18
5	7	45	49	49	38	45	49	16	38
6	45	35	47	16	49	35	47	29	29
7	38	7	7	29	29	44	7	49	49
8	49	49	45	32	7	49	45	7	7
9	47	44	36	7	27	7	53	32	27
10	27	38	53	50	50	38	36	50	50
11	16	36	35	15	45	36	35	15	45
12	25	21	27	23	53	21	18	23	53
13	35	4	18	25	23	4	27	25	23
14	53	53	25	22	24	53	50	22	24
15	29	27	50	45	25	5	29	45	25
16	18	25	29	5	5	27	23	5	16
17	5	16	5	56	16	25	25	56	5
18	50	5	4	53	35	1	5	53	35
19	44	1	16	14	22	39	4	38	44
20	4	39	44	38	44	16	44	4	22
21	23	37	23	4	56	37	16	14	56
22	1	29	39	24	15	29	39	24	15
23	21	50	1	8	8	50	1	28	8
24	39	30	21	28	4	30	21	8	4
25	30	23	58	35	1	23	8	35	28
26	15	58	15	44	28	58	15	44	47
27	58	31	8	1	30	2	58	1	1
28	8	2	30	30	2	31	37	30	30
29	37	8	37	6	47	8	30	6	2
30	56	18	56	2	14	15	56	2	21
31	28	15	28	19	21	18	28	19	39
32	6	6	6	13	39	6	6	13	58
33	2	46	2	39	58	46	2	39	14
34	31	12	31	52	6	12	31	21	6
35	22	9	12	21	37	9	12	52	37
36	9	56	9	20	19	56	9	47	19
37	14	28	46	47	57	28	46	20	57
38	46	48	52	58	13	40	52	58	13
39	57	17	22	37	52	48	22	37	52
40	13	40	14	9	55	17	14	9	20
41	52	57	20	57	20	20	19	57	9
42	19	20	57	10	9	57	20	10	55
43	20	33	13	11	10	22	10	11	11
44	10	22	19	55	11	19	13	55	10
45	12	19	10	34	46	33	57	34	46
46	11	43	17	51	34	43	11	51	31
47	17	52	11	17	31	52	17	17	34
48	48	13	48	46	17	10	48	46	17
49	34	10	43	48	12	13	43	31	12
50	51	14	34	31	51	14	34	48	51
51	43	11	51	12	48	11	51	12	48
52	55	41	33	43	43	41	40	43	43
53	33	54	40	41	40	54	55	54	40
54	40	34	55	54	41	34	41	41	41
55	54	51	41	40	54	51	33	40	54
56	41	42	54	3	3	42	54	33	33
57	3	55	42	33	33	55	42	3	3
58	42	3	3	42	42	3	3	42	42

# TABLES 3 & 4 - Analysis of results for all 9 scoring methods

## TABLE 3 - Questions appearing most often in top 15

26	Continue Council's financial support for Library	9
32	Diverse selection of shops	9
36	Need for more local employment opportunities	9
7	Need to improve condition of footpaths, pavements and verges	9
45	Need for better town traffic management/road improvements	9
49	Importance of tourism to town	9
27	Continue Council's financial support for Synwell Playing Field	8
24	Continue Council's financial support for Swimming Pool	7
38	Need for a better bus service	7
53	Need to capitalise on position on Cotswold Way	7
25	Continue Council's financial support for Citizens Advice Bureau	6
29	Continue Council's financial support for Youth Services	6
18	Need to involve local people in projects and decision making	6
50	Need to make town more attractive to tourists	6
47	Re-opening of Charfield Railway Station	5
35	Need for more short-term car parking in the town centre	5

## TABLE 4 - Questions appearing most often in bottom 15

10	Need for better sports facilities	5
12	Provision of a Skatepark	5
11	Need for better access to school facilities for the community	6
55	Need to improve Town Council website	7
17	Need for more CCTV as a crime prevention measure	7
48	Need for more pedestrian crossings	7
40	Provision of a park and ride facility with long term parking	7
33	Need for a major retail outlet in the town (eg. Supermarket)	8
34	Need for co-operation between shop owners for late openings	9
51	Need for improved pedestrian signage	9
43	Need for better enforcement of car parking times	9
41	Need for extra car parking paid for by an additional precept	9
54	Provision of a coach park in Wotton	9
3	Need for more private housing development	9
42	Introduction of charges to improve turnover in car parks	9

TABLE 5 - QUESTIONS AND SCORES RANKED IN PRIORITY ORDER BASED ON 5,4,3,2,1 WEIGHTING

Rank	No	Question	Percentage Scores					Grouped Percentage Scores		Total Scores					Grouped Total Scores		Weighted Score
			1	2	3	4	5	1 + 2	4 + 5	1	2	3	4	5	1 + 2	4 + 5	
1	26	Continue Council's financial support for Library	51.3%	24.5%	14.7%	4.5%	4.9%	75.8%	9.4%	136	65	39	12	13	201	25	1094
2	24	Continue Council's financial support for Swimming Pool	55.9%	16.9%	12.3%	5.7%	9.2%	72.8%	14.9%	146	44	32	15	24	190	39	1056
3	32	Diverse selection of shops	58.0%	18.0%	15.2%	2.8%	6.0%	76.0%	8.8%	145	45	38	7	15	190	22	1048
4	36	Need for more local employment opportunities	42.7%	23.5%	25.9%	3.5%	4.3%	66.3%	7.8%	109	60	66	9	11	169	20	1012
5	7	Need to improve condition of footpaths, pavements and verges	44.5%	23.8%	18.8%	7.0%	5.9%	68.4%	12.9%	114	61	48	18	15	175	33	1009
6	45	Need for better town traffic management/road improvements	50.0%	18.1%	18.1%	5.9%	7.9%	68.1%	13.8%	127	46	46	15	20	173	35	1007
7	38	Need for a better bus service	43.7%	28.0%	15.7%	3.5%	9.1%	71.7%	12.6%	111	71	40	9	23	182	32	1000
8	49	Importance of tourism to town	45.4%	25.9%	15.9%	7.2%	5.6%	71.3%	12.7%	114	65	40	18	14	179	32	1000
9	47	Re-opening of Charfield Railway Station	51.0%	17.8%	9.3%	8.9%	13.1%	68.7%	22.0%	132	46	24	23	34	178	57	996
10	27	Continue Council's financial support for Synwell Playing Field	39.2%	25.9%	21.6%	8.6%	4.7%	65.1%	13.3%	100	66	55	22	12	166	34	985
11	16	Need for improved police presence	38.2%	21.6%	24.3%	10.4%	5.4%	59.8%	15.8%	99	56	63	27	14	155	41	976
12	25	Continue Council's financial support for Citizens Advice Bureau	38.9%	23.7%	22.2%	8.2%	7.0%	62.6%	15.2%	100	61	57	21	18	161	39	975
13	35	Need for more short-term car parking in the town centre	46.4%	19.8%	15.9%	7.9%	9.9%	66.3%	17.9%	117	50	40	20	25	167	45	970
14	53	Need to capitalise on position on Cotswold Way	40.6%	26.3%	18.7%	5.6%	8.8%	66.9%	14.3%	102	66	47	14	22	168	36	965
15	29	Continue Council's financial support for Youth Services	36.4%	26.5%	24.5%	7.1%	5.5%	62.8%	12.6%	92	67	62	18	14	159	32	964
16	18	Need to involve local people in projects and decision making	28.1%	37.5%	22.5%	6.7%	5.1%	65.6%	11.9%	71	95	57	17	13	166	30	953
17	5	Managing and reducing litter problems	39.3%	23.0%	21.8%	7.9%	7.9%	62.3%	15.9%	99	58	55	20	20	157	40	952
18	50	Need to make town more attractive to tourists	35.3%	29.3%	21.7%	7.6%	6.0%	64.7%	13.7%	88	73	54	19	15	161	34	947
19	44	Need to reduce volume of traffic, especially lorries	45.6%	16.4%	18.8%	9.2%	10.0%	62.0%	19.2%	114	41	47	23	25	155	48	946
20	4	Managing and reducing dog fouling	41.1%	20.9%	17.0%	11.9%	9.1%	62.1%	20.9%	104	53	43	30	23	157	53	944
21	23	Need to improve communications with isolated/elderly people	33.1%	29.8%	22.3%	8.3%	6.6%	62.8%	14.9%	80	72	54	20	16	152	36	906
22	1	Provision of affordable housing	38.6%	18.9%	20.5%	11.6%	10.4%	57.4%	22.1%	96	47	51	29	26	143	55	905
23	21	Need to reduce waiting times for local Chemists	42.2%	15.3%	18.9%	10.8%	12.9%	57.4%	23.7%	105	38	47	27	32	143	59	904
24	39	Need for more long-term car parking	38.2%	19.5%	18.3%	11.6%	12.4%	57.8%	23.9%	96	49	46	29	31	145	60	903
25	30	Continue Council's financial support for Wotton in Bloom	33.2%	20.6%	24.1%	11.1%	11.1%	53.8%	22.1%	84	52	61	28	28	136	56	895
26	15	Need for more action to reduce anti-social behavior & vandalism	28.7%	26.7%	24.3%	14.2%	6.1%	55.5%	20.2%	71	66	60	35	15	137	50	884
27	58	Reliability of electricity supply: need to reduce No. of power cuts	30.7%	24.7%	20.7%	10.4%	13.5%	55.4%	23.9%	77	62	52	26	34	139	60	875
28	8	Need to improve public toilet facilities	29.3%	26.4%	23.6%	11.0%	9.8%	55.7%	20.7%	72	65	58	27	24	137	51	872
29	37	Need for better broadband provision	37.7%	17.0%	20.6%	10.1%	14.6%	54.7%	24.7%	93	42	51	25	36	135	61	872
30	56	Need for better information about what the Town Council does	22.3%	31.2%	27.1%	10.9%	8.5%	53.4%	19.4%	55	77	67	27	21	132	48	859
31	28	Continue Council's financial support for Neighbourhood Wardens	22.0%	28.0%	28.0%	12.4%	9.6%	50.0%	22.0%	55	70	70	31	24	125	55	851
32	6	Need to improve cleanliness/appearance of town/civic buildings	26.6%	23.4%	25.8%	12.9%	11.3%	50.0%	24.2%	66	58	64	32	28	124	60	846
33	2	Need for housing for young people	30.3%	19.7%	27.0%	11.5%	11.5%	50.0%	23.0%	74	48	66	28	28	122	56	844
34	31	Continue Council's financial support for Skatepark/facilities	29.9%	17.3%	16.1%	10.6%	26.0%	47.2%	36.6%	76	44	41	27	66	120	93	799
35	22	Need to improve support for local carers groups	17.2%	23.5%	39.9%	11.8%	7.6%	40.8%	19.3%	41	56	95	28	18	97	46	788
36	9	Need for more open space/play areas	23.3%	20.0%	24.9%	17.1%	14.7%	43.3%	31.8%	57	49	61	42	36	106	78	784
37	14	Need to have a wide variety of events through the year	12.8%	26.4%	36.8%	14.9%	9.1%	39.3%	24.0%	31	64	89	36	22	95	58	772
38	46	Speeding: need for traffic speed reduction measures	26.0%	16.0%	21.6%	13.2%	23.2%	42.0%	36.4%	65	40	54	33	58	105	91	771
39	57	Need for a "drop-in session" with Town Councillors	18.0%	20.0%	34.3%	13.1%	14.7%	38.0%	27.8%	44	49	84	32	36	93	68	768
40	13	Need for better disabled access to buildings in town centre	14.4%	23.9%	33.3%	16.0%	12.3%	38.3%	28.4%	35	58	81	39	30	93	69	758
41	52	Need to improve the standard and range of accommodation	14.9%	27.0%	28.6%	16.6%	12.9%	41.9%	29.5%	36	65	69	40	31	101	71	758
42	19	Need for better local healthcare facilities	17.2%	21.8%	33.5%	15.5%	12.1%	38.9%	27.6%	41	55	80	37	29	93	66	756
43	20	Need to reduce waiting times for local GPs	18.2%	20.7%	29.8%	18.2%	13.2%	38.8%	31.4%	44	50	72	44	32	94	76	756
44	10	Need for better sports facilities	14.5%	24.1%	27.4%	17.8%	16.2%	38.6%	34.0%	35	58	66	43	39	93	82	730
45	12	Provision of a Skatepark	23.9%	21.4%	13.2%	12.3%	29.2%	45.3%	41.6%	58	52	32	30	71	110	101	725
46	11	Need for better access to school facilities for the community	12.8%	24.4%	28.9%	16.9%	16.9%	37.2%	33.9%	31	59	70	41	41	90	82	724
47	17	Need for more CCTV as a crime prevention measure	18.8%	18.4%	22.4%	18.0%	22.4%	37.1%	40.4%	46	45	55	44	55	91	99	718
48	48	Need for more pedestrian crossings	18.9%	16.1%	22.1%	16.9%	26.1%	34.9%	43.0%	47	40	55	42	65	87	107	709
49	34	Need for co-operation between shop owners for late openings	10.2%	22.4%	30.2%	16.7%	20.4%	32.7%	37.1%	25	55	74	41	50	80	91	699
50	51	Need for improved pedestrian signage	10.2%	18.8%	29.4%	20.8%	20.8%	29.0%	41.6%	25	46	72	51	51	71	102	678
51	43	Need for better enforcement of car parking times	17.0%	17.0%	19.9%	15.8%	30.3%	34.0%	46.1%	41	41	48	38	73	82	111	662
52	55	Need to improve Town Council website	7.8%	19.9%	39.8%	12.6%	19.9%	27.7%	32.5%	18	46	92	29	46	64	75	654
53	33	Need for a major retail outlet in the town (eg. Supermarket)	17.1%	9.7%	14.3%	14.7%	44.2%	26.7%	58.9%	44	25	37	38	114	69	152	621
54	40	Provision of a park and ride facility with long term parking	19.4%	8.9%	18.1%	11.4%	42.2%	28.3%	53.6%	46	21	43	27	100	67	127	597
55	54	Provision of a coach park in Wotton	11.4%	9.4%	20.4%	18.8%	40.0%	20.8%	58.8%	28	23	50	46	98	51	144	572
56	41	Need for extra car parking paid for by an additional precept	12.4%	15.0%	17.1%	14.5%	41.0%	27.4%	55.6%	29	35	40	34	96	64	130	569
57	3	Need for more private housing development	6.4%	5.6%	25.2%	16.2%	46.6%	12.0%	62.8%	15	13	59	38	109	28	147	489
58	42	Introduction of charges to improve turnover in car parks	9.4%	6.9%	8.6%	10.2%	64.9%	16.3%	75.1%	23	17	21	25	159	40	184	455

TABLE 6 - COMMENTS RECEIVED

Group	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments	Number of Comments
HOUSING	H1	Need to reduce the amount of new housing development (in AONB)(eg Full Moon site)(unless on brownfield sites)	5
	H2	Need for Affordable Housing	4
	H3	Planning - why develop green field sites in rural towns - use brown field sites	2
	H4	New houses need adequate parking facilities	2
	H5	New housing development at Chipping Surgery "Shocking"	1
	H6	Need for a Neighbourhood plan to exert local control over planning matters	1
	H7	More housing should mean more money needs to be spent on town	1
	H8	Should run a "Planning for Real" project with community involvement	1
	H9	New houses should be infill only	1
	H10	New houses on diused sites only (eg Stokes Bakery/Nat West)	1
ENVIRONMENT	E1	Pavements/Gullies need maintenance/regular cleaning /weed removal (by Town Council?)	14
	E2	Dog Fouling Problems/Need for more dog bins	11
	E3	Littering problems/need to empty litter bins/need more "don't litter" signs/fines	7
	E4	Need to Clean/Refurbish Old Town/Public Toilets	4
	E5	Need to clean/tidy up watercourses	3
	E6	More litter bins needed (eg outside food stores)	3
	E7	Need to reduce hockey pitch/sports facility light pollution	3
	E8	All of Wotton needs tidying up to improve appearance	3
	E9	Pavement at Mitre Pitch/Synwell Green/Synwell Lane overgrown	3
	E10	Need to reduce light pollution eg at Civic Centre/car park/street lights	2
	E11	Traders should keep frontages clear of weeds/tidy/clean	2
	E12	Get Renishaw's to tidy up stokes shop frontage	2
	E13	Better use of churchyard for quiet reflection/seating/move gravestones to edge	2
	E14	Reduce number of poor quality trees in churchyard	2
	E15	Need for churchyard makeover	1
	E16	Maintain public spaces/tidy	1
	E17	Need to light "OK" path	1
	E18	Footpath between Shepherds Leaze and Brown's Piece overgrown and dangerous	1
	E19	Dangerous meter covers in pavement at White Lion	1
	E20	Footpaths need to be kept clear of fallen branches etc. (eg Brdley Green)	1
	E21	Entrance to Wotton via Rushmire Hill is intidy	1
	E22	Footpath from Bearlands/Shepherds Leaze to Browns Piece in poor condition	1
	E23	Footpath at Holywell overgrown and slipping into stream	1
	E24	Encourage community to keep footpaths clear	1
	E25	Seat area outside British School needs to be maintained	1
	E26	Wortey road needs cleaning of weeds and litter	1
	E27	Play park for small children needed (Bluecoat is for older children/Synwell has insufficient facilities)	1
	E28	Road sweeper never seen in Symn Lane and Clarence Road - problems with weeds/litter/brambles/drains	1
	E29	Asking about need for more open space/play area is pointless as two playing fields have been built on and there are no open spaces left in Wotton	1
	E30	Town Council "workman" should be put to use clearing weeds. What does he do, all day, every day?	1
	E31	When verge in Synwell lane is cut, cuttings block drains and present a danger to pedestrians	1
LEISURE	L1	Need for Skatepark	2
	L2	Need for more sporting facilities in the town (Synwell Playing field should be for the benefit of all the whole community, not just local residents/New Road should be developed for community sport)	2
	L3	KLB Sports Centre should be open to public on Saturday afternoons/evenings/more readily available to public	2
	L4	Need for improved tennis facilities at New Road.	1
	L5	Sports facilities/safety are important but are already good	1
	L6	Hockey Pitch is brilliant	1
	L7	Don't see the point of a skatepark	1
	L8	Work of WCSF is fantastic	1
ECONOMY	EC1	Need for more parking in town (eg to encourage visitors and shoppers) eg behind fire station or Renishaw Old Town	24
	EC2	Support for new supermarket in Old Town (eg Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose) to encourage visitors/trade in town/avoid need to shop out of town/greater variety (but need to improve traffic flow as well). Tesco Express and Co-op are too expensive	9
	EC3	Opposition to/viability of major new supermarket ( esp. Tesco, ASDA, Morrisons, Sainsbury, Waitrose)	9
	EC4	Need for more industry/local employment opportunities	2
	EC5	Make parking near pubs/in town 2 hours	2
	EC6	Need for shops to open at 9:00	1
	EC7	Incentives to occupy empty shops	1
	EC8	Encourage small shops and businesses	1
	EC9	Too many "fancy goods" shops	1
	EC10	Need more advertising to increase footfall	1
	EC11	Too many Estate Agents and Hairdressers	1
	EC12	What is happening to Renishaw Old Town? Need to inform residents	1
	EC13	Shop keepers need to be more friendly as it's not always pleasant to shop in Wotton!	1
	EC14	Make the two Town Council parking spaces in Civic Centre restricted for office hours only	1
	EC15	Need better retail services for residents and tourists to stop town dying	1

Group	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments	Number of Comments
TRANSPORT	T1	Need for proper/sensible road maintenance to deal with potholes/roads/road marking	45
	T2	Concerns about parked cars blocking roads/junctions in town/traffic problems (Old Town/Glos St/Haw St/Bear St/Culverhay)	13
	T3	Re-open Charfield Railway Station/would enhance "green credentials"	10
	T4	Restrict lorries through town. Also in Bradley St (prohibition sign in wrong place)	8
	T5	Speeding/Traffic calming measures are needed (eg Glos St, Bear St, Old Town, Culverhay, New Road)	7
	T6	"No" to car parking charges	6
	T7	Need to trim roadside/pavement hedges and trees	4
	T8	Roadside parking restrictions need to be enforced (eg esp outside schools/Long St)	4
	T9	Use land behind Stokes for Car Parking	3
	T10	Need for a fast bus service to Bristol	3
	T11	Rush hour traffic in Haw St/Bear St/Old Town getting worse	3
	T12	Gritting/cleaning needed on minor roads (eg Synwell, Parklands)	3
	T13	Need to discourage/stop parking on footpaths	2
	T14	Need for a coach park	2
	T15	Need to ease traffic flow down Old Town/Glos St by alternate parking/restrictions and allow off road parking spaces	2
	T16	Make Haw St/ Bear St/Old Town Parking no parking from 6am to 6 pm to improve traffic flow	2
	T17	When will Old London Road be repaired	2
	T18	Need smaller buses/at more frequent times/especially for older people/reduce congestion	2
	T19	Need more long stay parking	1
	T20	Need for a hopper bus around town	1
	T21	Taxi parking spaces should be available to public between 1600 to 0900	1
	T22	Issue time cards for parking which show departure time	1
	T23	Too many disabled and taxi spaces in Long St	1
	T24	No time limits for car parking to allow people to socialise while shopping	1
	T25	Stop car parking opposite Chipping Doctors and Swimming Pool. Double yellow lines	1
	T26	Coordinate a "park on my drive" scheme to free up street parking	1
	T27	Box junction needed at junction of High St/Bear St/Bradley St	1
	T28	Better enforcement of speed limits needed	1
	T29	Traffic calming measures are not needed	1
	T30	One-way system should be introduced in Clarence Rd/Orchard St	1
	T31	Top of High St should be made 3 lanes (Lt/Str/Rt)	1
	T32	Traffic lights in Kingwood thro pinch point	1
	T33	Reduce hassle from traffic wardens	1
	T34	Traffic lights in Kingwood thro pinch point	1
	T35	Pedestrian Crossing beacons in wrong place and wrong level	1
	T36	Stop Store Owners parking in streets for long periods	1
	T37	Wotton precept is high – funding should be used to remedy traffic/parking problems	1
	T38	No further schemes such as Long Street crossing point	1
	T39	New road system needed before allowing more new housing	1
	T40	Parking problems at entrance to Parklands	1
	T41	Need for bus route serving elderly in Dryleaze	1
	T42	Parked cars are inhibiting street cleaning	1
	T43	Move "Bus Station" from Old Town to a more reasonable location.	1
	T44	New access to Chipping Surgery is dangerous	1
	T45	Make war memorial junction a "Stop"	1
	T46	Parked car blocking bus stops (eg on Mount Pleasant)	1
	T47	Improve Public Transport	1
	T48	Move bus stop to front of Paklands to slow traffic flow	1
	T49	Traffic in Potters Pond will be more dangerous when development is occupied: need speed bumps, 20mph, yellow lines	1
	T50	One-way traffic system needed because of on-street parking	1
	T51	Need improved access for cyclists up and down High St	1
	T52	Need a Saturday bus service around Wickwar, Charfield, Kingswood to bring elderly into Wotton	1
	T53	Renishaw Old Town should be available for public parking when site is shut in evenings and weekend	1
	T54	Disabled parking bays should be enforced: blue badge holders only	1
	T55	Need direct bus service to Cam& Dursley train station	1
	T56	Pedestrian/cycleway connecting Wotton/Charfield/Kingswood should be an aspiration	1
	T57	Yellow lines needed in Culverhay, Old Town, Gloucester Street to improve traffic flow	1
	T58	Paying for extra parking is fine but new houses need adequate parking provision	1
	T59	Need a grit bin at the bottom of Oatground	1



Group	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments	Number of Comments
COMMUNITIES	C1	Delay in chemist for prescriptions/Need another Chemist	5
	C2	Need for better disabled access (eg automatic Civic Centre main door/shops/public buildings)	4
	C3	Need for faster broadband	3
	C4	Need for greater Police Presence	2
	C5	Does CCTV reduce crime or is it just intrusive?	2
	C6	Footways/crossing need improvement to accommodate scooters/buggies	2
	C7	Need safe walking routes/ eg continuation of footway from Glos street to Bradley Road	2
	C8	Need for Youth Facilities	2
	C9	Need to remove drug dealers from town	1
	C10	Move "Vintage Christmas" back to Saturday evening	1
	C11	Need large venue - Town Hall not big enough	1
	C12	More opportunities for young people	1
	C13	Too many fast food shops	1
	C14	Hanging baskets too low/too large/dangerous	1
	C15	Too many people raising money for personal gain (book sellers/buskers/fundraisers)	1
	C16	Need to promote community cohesion	1
	C17	What do Neighbourhood Wardens do? Can they visit the elderly on a regular basis	1
	C18	Need to ensure footpaths are not blocked eg by electric fences and grazing cattle	1
	C19	Consideration required to needs of older people in eg Dryleaze Court. SDC should ensure their future needs are met	1
	C20	Concern about unwarranted criticism of Culverhay Surgery	1
	C21	More integration of elderly into the community	1
	C22	Encourage community events by reducing costs of hiring public facilities	1
	C23	Need facilities to allow clubs etc to advertise their activities	1
	C24	Heritage Centre poorly located	1
	C25	Need good value local shops	1
	C26	Need bus stop with level access by Full Moon for wheelchair/restricted mobility users	1
	C27	Need more benches	1
	C28	Less under-age drinking	1
	C29	Support for Cinema	1
	C29	Funds should target elderly and the young	1
	C30	Police should be more efficient in observing/acting on offenders eg parking on pavements/yellow lines	1
TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORT	TS1	Support for Swimming Pool (Pool volunteers save the council a great deal of money/keep funding as per referendum)	9
	TS2	Keep "Wotton in Bloom"	1
	TS3	Swimming pool should be self-supporting	1
	TS4	Need to remove hanging baskets before last week in November	1
	TS5	Support for indoor swimming pool at New Rd/KLB. Should be supported by SDC as at Dursley/Stroud	1
	TS6	Support for sports facilities should be continued	1
	TS7	Support for library should be continued	1
	TS8	Make swimming pool pay its own way - not on Council Tax	1
TOURISM	TM1	Don't spoil Wotton with tourism by coach – keep it for walkers	3
		Don't waste money on tourism initiatives	2
	TM2		
	TM3	Establish a town trail (history/children)	1
	TM4	Encourage craft/music shops into the town to promote tourism	1
	TM5	More publicity needed to encourage visitors/walker to stay overnight	1
	TM6	B&Bs not viable in town with business just from walkers	1
	TM7	Town will not survive on tourism	1
TOWN COUNCIL	TC1	Many issues are outside of local control/impractical eg due to lack of land availability	3
		Will the results of the survey be made public/should publish results/publish when Regen Committee will consider results/public meetings needed	3
	TC2		
	TC3	Town Councillors need to walk around Wotton to see problems!	3
	TC4	Questionnaire and opportunity to comment welcomed	2
	TC5	Need to indicate which items will not be taken forward and why/expectations have been set too high/ no confidence that big issues (parking will ever be resolved/clear pathway for advancing issues together with funding needed	2
	TC6	Increase opening hours of One Stop /Electronic notice boards	1
	TC7	More communication needed via website and newsletter	1
	TC8	More convenient Questionnaire postbox needed in High St	1
	TC9	Action Plan with priorities needed	1
	TC10	Need to involve residents/create volunteer teams	1
	TC11	Questionnaire format not user friendly	1
	TC12	What happened to last Regeneration form?	1
	TC13	Town Council should have helped more with Christmas lights	1
	TC14	Town Council meetings should be more welcoming to public	1
	TC15	Work on churchyard/wall/weed/brambles a good start	1
	TC16	Town Councillors thanked for helping make Wotton a great place to live	1
	TC17	Town Council should support Heritage Centre as part of a tourism package. Running costs are a major issue. In Yate a full-time staff member is supported by the Council	1



**TABLE 7 - RANKING BY NUMBERT OF COMMENTS**

Priority	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments - Rank by Number of Comments	Number of Comments
1	T1	Need for proper/sensible road maintenance to deal with potholes/roads/road marking	45
2	EC1	Need for more parking in town (eg to encourage visitors and shoppers) eg behind fire station or Renishaw Old Town	24
3	E1	Pavements/Gullies need maintenance/regular cleaning /weed removal (by Town Council?)	14
4	T2	Concerns about parked cars blocking roads/junctions in town/traffic problems (Old Town/Glos St/Haw St/Bear St/Culverhay)	13
5	E2	Dog Fouling Problems/Need for more dog bins	11
6	T3	Re-open Charfield Railway Station/would enhance "green credentials"	10
7	TS1	Support for Swimming Pool (Pool volunteers save the council a great deal of money/keep funding as per referendum)	9
8	EC2	Support for new supermarket in Old Town (eg Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose) to encourage visitors/trade in town/avoid need to shop out of town/greater variety (but need to improve traffic flow as well). Tesco Express and Co-op are too expensive	9
9	EC3	Opposition to/viability of major new supermarket ( esp. Tesco, ASDA, Morrisons, Sainsbury, Waitrose)	9
10	T4	Restrict lorries through town. Also in Bradley St (prohibition sign in wrong place)	8
11	E3	Littering problems/need to empty litter bins/need more "don't litter" signs/fines	7
12	T5	Speeding/Traffic calming measures are needed (eg Glos St, Bear St, Old Town, Culverhay, New Road)	7
13	T6	"No" to car parking charges	6
14	H1	Need to reduce the amount of new housing development (in AONB)(eg Full Moon site)(unless on brownfield sites)	5
15	C1	Delay in chemist for prescriptions/Need another Chemist	5
16	H2	Need for Affordable Housing	4
17	E4	Need to Clean/Refurbish Old Town/Public Toilets	4
18	C2	Need for better disabled access (eg automatic Civic Centre main door/shops/public buildings)	4
19	T7	Need to trim roadside/pavement hedges and trees	4
20	T8	Roadside parking restrictions need to be enforced (eg esp outside schools/Long St)	4
21	E5	Need to clean/tidy up watercourses	3
22	E6	More litter bins needed (eg outside food stores)	3
23	E7	Need to reduce hockey pitch/sports facility light pollution	3
24	E8	All of Wotton needs tidying up to improve appearance	3
25	E9	Pavement at Mitre Pitch/Synwell Green/Synwell Lane overgrown	3
26	C3	Need for faster broadband	3
27	T9	Use land behind Stokes for Car Parking	3
28	T10	Need for a fast bus service to Bristol	3
29	T11	Rush hour traffic in Haw St/Bear St/Old Town getting worse	3
30	T12	Gritting/cleaning needed on minor roads (eg Synwell, Parklands)	3
31	TM1	Don't spoil Wotton with tourism by coach – keep it for walkers	3
32	TC1	Many issues are outside of local control/impractical eg due to lack of land availability	3
33	TC2	Will the results of the survey be made public/should publish results/publish when Regen Committee will consider results/public meetings needed	3
34	TC3	Town Councillors need to walk around Wotton to see problems!	3
35	H3	Planning - why develop green field sites in rural towns - use brown field sites	2
36	H4	New houses need adequate parking facilities	2
37	E10	Need to reduce light pollution eg at Civic Centre/car park/street lights	2
38	E11	Traders should keep frontages clear of weeds/tidy/clean	2
39	E12	Get Renishaw's to tidy up Stokes shop frontage	2
40	E13	Better use of churchyard for quiet reflection/seating/move gravestones to edge	2
41	E14	Reduce number of poor quality trees in churchyard	2
42	L1	Need for Skatepark	2
43	L2	Need for more sporting facilities in the town (Synwell Playing field should be for the benefit of all the whole community, not just local residents/New Road should be developed for community sport)	2
44	L3	KLB Sports Centre should be open to public on Saturday afternoons/evenings/more readily available to public	2
45	C4	Need for greater Police Presence	2
46	C5	Does CCTV reduce crime or is it just intrusive?	2
47	C6	Footways/crossing need improvement to accommodate scooters/buggies	2
48	C7	Need safe walking routes/ eg continuation of footway from Glos street to Bradley Road	2
49	C8	Need for Youth Facilities	2
50	EC4	Need for more industry/local employment opportunities	2
51	EC5	Make parking near pubs/in town 2 hours	2
52	T13	Need to discourage/stop parking on footpaths	2
53	T14	Need for a coach park	2
54	T15	Need to ease traffic flow down Old Town/Glos St by alternate parking/restrictions and allow off road parking spaces for residences	2
55	T16	Make Haw St/ Bear St/Old Town Parking no parking from 6am to 6 pm to improve traffic flow	2
56	T17	When will Old London Road be repaired	2
57	T18	Need smaller buses/at more frequent times/especially for older people/reduce congestion	2
58	TM2	Don't waste money on tourism initiatives	2
59	TC4	Questionnaire and opportunity to comment welcomed	2
60	TC5	Need to indicate which items will not be taken forward and why/expectations have been set too high/ no confidence that big issues (parking will ever be resolved/clear pathway for advancing issues together with funding needed	2

Priority	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments - Rank by Number of Comments	Number of Comments
61	H5	New housing development at Chipping Surgery "Shocking"	1
62	H6	Need for a Neighbourhood plan to exert local control over planning matters	1
63	H7	More housing should mean more money needs to be spent on town	1
64	H8	Should run a "Planning for Real" project with community involvement	1
65	H9	New houses should be infill only	1
66	H10	New houses on diused sites only (eg Stokes Bakery/Nat West)	1
67	E15	Need for churchyard makeover	1
68	E16	Maintain public spaces/tidy	1
69	E17	Need to light "OK" path	1
70	E18	Footpath between Shepherds Leaze and Brown's Piece overgrown and dangerous	1
71	E19	Dangerous meter covers in pavement at White Lion	1
72	E20	Footpaths need to be kept clear of fallen branches etc. (eg Brdley Green)	1
73	E21	Entrance to Wotton via Rushmire Hill is intidy	1
74	E22	Footpath from Bearlands/Shepherds Leaze to Browns Piece in poor condition	1
75	E23	Footpath at Holywell overgrown and slipping into stream	1
76	E24	Encourage community to keep footpaths clear	1
77	E25	Seat area outside British School needs to be maintained	1
78	E26	Wortey road needs cleaning of weeds and litter	1
79	E27	Play park for small children needed (Bluecoat is for older children/Synwell has insufficient facilities)	1
80	E28	Road sweeper never seen in Symn Lane and Clarence Road - problems with weeds/litter/brambles/drains	1
81	E29	Asking about need for more open space/play area is pointless as two playing fields have been built on and there are no open spaces left in Wotton	1
82	E30	Town Council "workman" should be put to use clearing weeds. What does he do, all day, every day?	1
83	E31	When verge in Synwell lane is cut, cuttings block drains and present a danger to pedestrians	1
84	L4	Need for improved tennis facilities at New Road.	1
85	L5	Sports facilities/safety are important but are already good	1
86	L6	Hockey Pitch is brilliant	1
87	L7	Don't see the point of a skatepark	1
88	L8	Work of WCSF is fantastic	1
89	C9	Need to remove drug dealers from town	1
90	C10	Move "Vintage Christmas" back to Saturday evening	1
91	C11	Need large venue - Town Hall not big enough	1
92	C12	More opportunities for young people	1
93	C13	Too many fast food shops	1
94	C14	Hanging baskets too low/too large/dangerous	1
95	C15	Too many people raising money for personal gain (book sellers/buskers/fundraisers)	1
96	C16	Need to promote community cohesion	1
97	C17	What do Neighbourhood Wardens do? Can they visit the elderly on a regular basis	1
98	C18	Need to ensure footpaths are not blocked eg by electric fences and grazing cattle	1
99	C19	Consideration required to needs of older people in eg Dryleaze Court. SDC should ensure their future needs are met	1
100	C20	Concern about unwarranted criticism of Culverhay Surgery	1
101	C21	More integration of elderly into the community	1
102	C22	Encourage community events by reducing costs of hiring public facilities	1
103	C23	Need facilities to allow clubs etc to advertise their activities	1
104	C24	Heritage Centre poorly located	1
105	C25	Need good value local shops	1
106	C26	Need bus stop with level access by Full Moon for wheelchair/restricted mobility users	1
107	C27	Need more benches	1
108	C28	Less under-age drinking	1
109	C29	Support for Cinema	1
110	C29	Funds should target elderly and the young	1
111	C30	Police should be more efficient in observing/acting on offenders eg parking on pavements/yellow lines	1
112	TS2	Keep "Wotton in Bloom"	1
113	TS3	Swimming pool should be self-supporting	1
114	TS4	Need to remove hanging baskets before last week in November	1
115	TS5	Support for indoor swimming pool at at New Rd/KLB. Should be supported by SDC as at Dursley/Stroud	1
116	TS6	Support for sports facilities should be continued	1
117	TS7	Support for library should be continued	1
118	TS8	Make swimming pool pay its own way - not on Council Tax	1
119	EC6	Need for shops to open at 9:00	1
120	EC7	Incentives to occupy empty shops	1
121	EC8	Encourage small shops and businesses	1
122	EC9	Too many "fancy goods" shops	1
123	EC10	Need more advertising to increase footfall	1
124	EC11	Too many Estate Agents and Hairdressers	1
125	EC12	What is happening to Renishaw Old Town? Need to inform residents	1
126	EC13	Shop keepers need to be more friendly as it's not always pleasant to shop in Wotton!	1
127	EC14	Make the two Town Council parking spaces in Civic Centre restricted for office hours only	1
128	EC15	Need better retail services for residents and tourists to stop town dying	1
129	T19	Need more long stay parking	1

Priority	Srl	Wotton Questionnaire Written Comments - Rank by Number of Comments	Number of Comments
130	T20	Need for a hopper bus around town	1
131	T21	Taxi parking spaces should be available to public between 1600 to 0900	1
132	T22	Issue time cards for parking which show departure time	1
133	T23	Too many disabled and taxi spaces in Long St	1
134	T24	No time limits for car parking to allow people to socialise while shopping	1
135	T25	Stop car parking opposite Chipping Doctors and Swimming Pool. Double yellow lines	1
136	T26	Coordinate a "park on my drive" scheme to free up street parking	1
137	T27	Box junction needed at junction of High St/Bear St/Bradley St	1
138	T28	Better enforcement of speed limits needed	1
139	T29	Traffic calming measures are not needed	1
140	T30	One-way system should be introduced in Clarence Rd/Orchard St	1
141	T31	Top of High St should be made 3 lanes (Lt/Str/Rt)	1
142	T32	Traffic lights in Kingwood thro pinch point	1
143	T33	Reduce hassle from traffic wardens	1
144	T34	Traffic lights in Kingwood thro pinch point	1
145	T35	Pedestrian Crossing beacons in wrong place and wrong level	1
146	T36	Stop Store Owners parking in streets for long periods	1
147	T37	Wotton precept is high – funding should be used to remedy traffic/parking problems	1
148	T38	No further schemes such as Long Street crossing point	1
149	T39	New road system needed before allowing more new housing	1
150	T40	Parking problems at entrance to Parklands	1
151	T41	Need for bus route serving elderly in Dryleaze	1
152	T42	Parked cars are inhibiting street cleaning	1
153	T43	Move "Bus Station" from Old Town to a more reasonable location.	1
154	T44	New access to Chipping Surgery is dangerous	1
155	T45	Make war memorial junction a "Stop"	1
156	T46	Parked card blocking bus stops (eg on Mount Pleasant)	1
157	T47	Improve Public Transport	1
158	T48	Move bus stop to front of Paklands to slow traffic flow	1
159	T49	Traffic in Potters Pond will be more dangerous when development is occupied: need speed bumps, 20mph, yellow lines	1
160	T50	One-way traffic system needed because of on-street parking	1
161	T51	Need improved access for cyclists up and down High St	1
162	T52	Need a Saturday bus service around Wickwar, Charfield, Kingswood to bring elderly into Wotton	1
163	T53	Renishaw Old Town should be available for public parking when site is shut in evenings and weekend	1
164	T54	Disabled parking bays should be enforced: blue badge holders only	1
165	T55	Need direct bus service to Cam& Dursley train station	1
166	T56	Pedestrian/cycleway connecting Wotton/Charfield/Kingswood should be an aspiration	1
167	T57	Yellow lines needed in Culverhay, Old Town, Gloucester Street to improve traffic flow	1
168	T58	Paying for extra parking is fine but new houses need adequate parking provision	1
169	T59	Need a grit bin at the bottom of Oatground	1
170	TM3	Establish a town trail (history/children)	1
171	TM4	Encourage craft/music shops into the town to promote tourism	1
172	TM5	More publicity needed to encourage visitors/walker to stay overnight	1
173	TM6	B&Bs not viable in town with business just from walkers	1
174	TM7	Town will not survive on tourism	1
175	TC6	Increase opening hours of One Stop /Electronic notice boards	1
176	TC7	More communication needed via website and newsletter	1
177	TC8	More convenient Questionnaire postbox needed in High St	1
178	TC9	Action Plan with priorities needed	1
179	TC10	Need to involve residents/create volunteer teams	1
180	TC11	Questionnaire format not user friendly	1
181	TC12	What heppenend to last Regeneration form?	1
182	TC13	Town Council should have helped more with Christmas lights	1
183	TC14	Town Council meetings should be more welcoming to public	1
184	TC15	Work on churchyard/wall/weed/brambles a good start	1
185	TC16	Town Councillors thanked for helping make Wotton a great place to live	1
186	TC17	Town Council should support Heritage Centre as part of a tourism package. Running costs are a major issue. In Yate a full-time staff member is supported by the Council	1

## WOTTON UNDER EDGE COMMUNITY PLAN 2015 – ACTION PLAN

No	Description	Lead	Partners	Desired Outcome	Actions Required	Progress	Cost/Resource	Timeline
1	Need for a diverse selection of shops and reduction in number of vacant premises.	A Wilkinson Jill Tebb	COT	Better selection of quality shops to encourage shoppers into town. Increased prosperity of town centre.	1. Discuss with landlords the possibility of reducing rents to help fill empty shops and improve appearance of shops. 2. Explore with SDC the possibility of reducing business rates. Recent changes in law which will enable District Councils to retain business rates may facilitate this. 3. Identify additional types of retailers needed and encourage their establishment in town. 4. Expand and rejuvenate Farmers Market. 5. Discuss with the Co-op the possibility of creating a rear entrance giving direct access to the car park.	1. Discussions have been held with local landlords to help improve situation. 4. Meeting held by WTC with organiser of Farmers Market. Opportunities for attracting more appropriate stall holders will be explored.		
2	Improve condition of verges, footpaths and footways.	R Claydon P Smith	WTC COT	Improved appearance of town making it more attractive and welcoming.	1. Identify problem areas. 2. Action Town Council staff to tidy problem areas, including overtime, if needed. 3. Encourage shop owners to clean frontage pavement. 4. Action higher authorities where appropriate. 5. Make it easier for those with physical and visual impairments to travel around the town.	1. Councillors and public to ensure that problem areas are reported to Town Clerk for action. 2. Town tidying duties included in Council staff role. Additional funding for Summer overtime included in WTC budget for 2016/17.	2.£1000	2. Jul 2016

No	Description	Lead	Partners	Desired Outcome	Actions Required	Progress	Cost/Resource	Timeline
3	Promote tourism.	M Smylie	WTC COT	Increased number of tourists visiting and using town facilities.	1. Ensure that any new parking provided includes provision for coaches. 2. Encourage more residents to provide bed and breakfast. 3. Explore opportunities for more hotel/inn accommodation, a walkers hostel and camping facilities. 4. WTC and Heritage Centre to work together to provide a Visitor Information Centre. 5. Explore ways of exploiting location on Cotswold Way. 6. Get Wotton walks into more guidebooks. 7. Encourage festivals (See Action Plan 7). 8. Encourage visitors to other local attractions (eg Newark Park, Berkeley Castle, Westonbirt, Tortworth, Slimbridge) to visit Wotton (brochures, signage etc). 9. Ensure that Wotton's amenities (pool, cinema, Heritage Centre, specialist shops, Arts Centre) are fully exploited and advertised. 10. Provide better facilities for cyclists.	3. It is understood that the Swan Hotel is establishing more accommodation. 4. WTC has agreed to grant funding to the Heritage Centre to assist with operating costs and provide a Visitor Information Centre. 8. New signage being discussed with GCC. 10. Provision of cycle racks outside Rope Walk toilets under consideration by WTC.	4. £3400	4. Mid 2016
4	Provide more parking in the town at no extra cost to residents.	A Wilkinson Jill Tebb	WTC	Extra parking available, thereby encouraging more shoppers into town.	1. Continue to explore and support initiatives which would provide additional parking in the town. 2. Work with community to seek support for additional parking.	1. WTC/COT in discussion with developer to provide additional parking for town. 2. Public consultation on proposals is planned.		

No	Description	Lead	Partners	Desired Outcome	Actions Required	Progress	Cost/Resource	Timeline
5	Improve public toilets.	R Claydon P Smith	WTC SDC	Improved facilities making town more attractive to visitors.	1. Take immediate action to refurbish Old Town toilets. 2. Establish longer term plan to replace Old Town toilets with a modern multi-use facility. 3. Explore use of other facilities (such as Parish Room). 4. Ensure that SDC takes action to improve Rope Walk toilets.	1. Funding for refurbishment of Old Town Toilets has been earmarked by WTC in 2016/17 budget.. 4. Discussions to take place between WTC and STC. WTC considering plans to improve area outside Rope Walk toilets if external funding can be found.	1. £5000	
6	Improve footpaths and open spaces including Holywell, churchyard, cemetery and allotments.	M Clarke	WTC CALGS	Improved management, use and range of facilities.	1. Establish strategy and identify problem areas. 2. Seek ways of exploiting Synwell playing field. 3. Consider action to protect areas by designating land as Local Green Space in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.			
7	Promote arts, entertainments and festivals.	M Clarke	WUEA	Improved range of entertainments etc and increased audiences.	1. Establish strategy. 2. Establish regular Blues Festival. 3. Establish Walking Festival	3. Grant provided by WTC to support Blues and Open Gardens festivals. 4. Walking Festival WG formed to establish event in Spring 2017.	3. £300	

No	Description	Lead	Partners	Desired Outcome	Actions Required	Progress	Cost/Resource	Timeline
8	Expand youth facilities and activities.	K Elliott	WTC WYLG	Identify and provide additional facilities and activities needed.	1. Consider additional facilities needed such as a meeting shelter for young people. 2. Encourage young people to express views on local issues and influence local decision making. 3. Promote a comprehensive programme of summer events for young people.			
9	Promote and encourage a welcoming and “inclusive” community.	K Elliott		Active, accessible, inclusive and welcoming community and facilities.	1. Continue to support and encourage the many volunteer and membership organisations serving the Wotton area as listed in Appendix 3. 2. Hold a Clubs’ and Groups’ Fair to encourage volunteers and support community groups in the area. 3. Support and encourage intergenerational activities in the town. 4. Facilitate regular consultation with people across all sections of the community to ensure that all views are taken into account in local decision making. 5. Work towards becoming a “Dementia Friendly Town”.	2. Clubs’ and Groups’ fair planned in Town Hall in April 2016.		