**Know your Place: Harworth & Bircotes**

Response data from community events, held at Harworth & Bircotes Town Hall, 23 August and 2 September 2023

**Please let us know…how is it living here?**

* Really good on the whole. We have a strong community – we are welcoming, we help each other. There is a sense of belonging.
* To say that we are an ex-mining village the memorial is pathetic. We should celebrate the fact that we had the deepest mines in the UK. We should have a museum celebrating what’s great about our town.
* Make more of our heritage – we could have a cycling museum and be a cycling town. Links to T. Simpson.

**What matters to you**

* Have a town meeting on an evening in the Town Hall for residents to voice opinions on neighbourhood plans so more can attend.
* Involvement of young people in decision making.
* That our community thrives and we have a future. That our children and grandchildren can, if they want, continue to call this home.
* More things to do – for young and old – need more entertainment.
* Summer play schemes for children.
* That we protect our green spaces and allow our community to have good physical and emotional health.
* Leisure centre not fit for purpose. Not affordable and very few available community slots for hire.
* Hold events on Town Square i.e. young people dancing or music. Hold through summer month – encouragement activities.
* Services and an offer for the youth that are modern, relevant, and informed by youth and community voice. Current offer not good enough.
* Use Ariel Flights Pit Top as a nature reserve and create walks. Plant it with trees and put a memorial in there for all our miners of past.
* Roads and paths repairs - not safe for wheelchairs / prams
* Ensure we have enough parking (free) for shoppers for increased numbers coming into Harworth.
* Better / more public transport.

**Anything else**

* Street on Wimpy estate needs litter picking done and weeds on paths removed.
* Anti-social behaviour and rubbish on streets surrounding Avondale.
* No activities for teenagers leading to anti-social behaviour.
* Younger views on Town Council.
* Use North Border for community – like hosting groups such as art and knitting.
* Seems to work – good neighbours and everything close by.
* Better communication between organisation – school, police, council, Youth Centre (x2).
* Bus station would be good – it’s hard to get to Tickhill at the moment.
* More reliable bus service.
* Parked cars outside Red School.
* All the additional housing – will the services be able to support them all – water, sewerage etc?
* A gym, rather than having to go to Doncaster.

**Local education**

* We need more school places. Some children have to leave our community to receive an education.
* More school places.
* More primary places.
* Greater support to allow young people to stay in Notts. P16 education currently focusses on Doncaster.
* Community college (3 – 19 years)
* No Post 16 education – closed by the Academy Trust! No consultation with families.
* Post-16 provision (needs improving).
* Workshops run by volunteers teaching youths and children mechanical engineering, building etc. We have a lot of experienced older people.
* Workshops for young adults.
* Not enough Special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) workers in schools.
* Learn our children sign language as a lesson in schools.
* Encourage more children with disabilities to attend local schools.
* Sign language for all ages.
* Transport for alternative secondary provision. Expansion of one school may not be for everyone – plans for new schools abandoned.

**Medical facilities**

* More doctors and dentists a must.
* We need more doctors and dentists.
* Access to a dentist.
* Been 4 years on a waiting list for NHS dentist!
* Better infrastructure (dentists, doctors, etc.)
* NHS dentists in the town – they are impossible to find.
* NHS dentist please.
* We need a dentist (NHS).
* Better access to GP provision.
* Doctors have reduced when housing is increasing, and there is no NHS dentist.
* Closure of services when town expanding at a rapid rate.
* GP closure was undertaken without any consultation. We need community involvement in changes.
* Any ideas for more GP services? Oakleaf just shut down and there are more houses being built.
* GP and dental services need improving.
* Overview of Integrated Care Board (ICB)’s (South Yorkshire ICB - SYICB / Nottingham and Nottinghamshire - NNICB). How do people perceive access to care?
* Speed track – Grange View – are E-scooters allowed on road? Danger on Grange View.

**Environment**

* Ensure the builders respect those already living in the town (noise / traffic / dust).
* More trees planted.
* Protect wildlife areas and natural wetland.
* Improve greenspaces and allotments.
* Better use of our green spaces.
* Improved safety for walking along wood side.
* Clear Snipe Park Wood.
* Connecting the green wheel plans to whole town – including protecting the wheel from nuisance vehicles. Include benches, toilets, accessibility for cycling – all to consider for active travel.
* Access onto Tommy Simpson Play park for disabled very bad.
* Better wheelchair access for all (playgrounds and green spaces).
* Not fully accessible for disabled people.
* Updated / better drainage.
* Drainage on Snipe Park Wood
* Sort out drainage on Main Street – can only get worse. All water from new homes comes this way.
* Need better parking and speed control.
* Cars speed up Grosvenor Road to the mini roundabout, turn right into High Street then put their foot down. The zebra crossing is too close to the mini roundabout and cars don’t always stop. Pedestrianise the whole road and put a bypass behind the GP Centre / Town Hall.
* Rats infestation in and around kids playground.
* Better facilities for young people. Survey young people to ask what they would like.
* Improve Tommy Simpson Field – make it accessible to wheelchairs, pushchairs and elderly scooters.
* I would like to say it would be good to have some benches to sit down on at the road side, proper cycle paths, and some waste bins in the public area.

**Housing**

* Stop building private housing and build more social housing.
* Investment into social housing area.
* How can we deal with bad tenants that affect their neighbours and environment? Some form of register?
* Sort out pensioners bungalows – damp and outdated.
* Bungalows for disabled families and elderly.
* All housing to have new fences and garden gates – also the streets to be weeded and litter collected.

**Retail**

* Too many takeaways.
* Less takeaways.
* More shops – a clothes shop would be good.
* With so many new people coming to the town we need more variety of retail.
* More variety of shops.
* Bring a bank back.
* We need a family pub.
* The High Street area (shops) needs to become a destination for social activity at night and weekends. Similar to Bawtry – courtyard with restaurant and good quality shops / small units. Where B&M is? Area behind incorporated?
* Encourage new businesses to the area.
* Shipping containers / cabins made into self-contained little businesses situated around the Town Square or car park. Many small craft businesses here already. Market rarely used as too cold and open in winter and too hot in summer. Could even have a canopy in the centre.
* We need a wider retail offer but this should be led by what people want. Can we survey people about need?
* Host a best of local suppliers event – food, services, farmers market – could call it “Best of Harworth”.
* Close all shops before Amazon does – turn them into homes.
* Keep the village alive. Don’t let it become dead like Mexborough.

**Location-specific (from map)**

* A1: Soundproofing of the A1? It can be noisy.
* Main Street: potential wine bar – where is the parking?
* STW Sewerage Works, Tickhill Road: Update sewerage – smell!
* Holderness Close: Is the path behind Holderness Close going to be closed? It is overgrown / not very pleasant.
* Well Hill Drive (top end): Potential drug dealing witnessed.
* Scrooby Road (outside shops): make parking bays into disabled only.
* Open space west of Grosvenor Road: Potential space for allotments.
* Open space west of Grosvenor Road: No to allotments – it’s the only bit of green space.
* Snipe Park Wood: Improve the wood and protect it.
* Milne Drive: Drug dealer.
* Harworth & Bircotes Footpath Number 4 (between Gibbet Hill Lane and Plumtree Road): Public right of way overgrown.

**Neighbourhood Planning**

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