

Activities at Village Fête: 19th June 2010

The Group conducted several activities at the 2010 Beckingham Great Summer Fête. At the main site, in the gardens of “The Old Rectory”, we handed out survey forms asking people to prioritise various aspects of village life. We also invited people to add to the lists of ideas developed from the original village meeting in November 2009. In the Village Hall, we invited people to write ideas on a giant map of the village and offered a list of ideas for activities in the Hall.

The Group thanks all our members who helped organize the activities and everyone who responded.

Survey Results

22 survey forms were returned. Table 1 gives the number of respondents who expressed a preference for each topic (columns 1 to 4). For clarity, two columns have been added. Column 5 is a total those marking each topic either “very important” or “important”. Column 6 is, in effect, a check column explaining why the totals of expressed preferences do not always come to 22.

Of the 22 forms, 9 included names and contact details. We only asked for these where the respondent wanted us to talk to them more. Of the 9, 2 (with different responses) came from different people in the same household and 1 was expressed to come from two people in the same household. Each form is counted as 1 in the results tables. We know that many people from outside the village came to the Fête and visited our stand but nobody who completed a survey form marked the box for people who do not live in the village.

This survey is not and was not intended to be a rigorous sample. It was intended to inform the Group in developing the subjects for questions in a more thorough questionnaire. The idea is that the questionnaire should go into more detail on those topics that are most important. Table 2 ranks the topics in order of popularity, counting only those who marked that topic “very important”. Table 3 does the same thing for those who marked each topic either “very important” or “important”. Based on these results, the Group suggests the following priorities:-

High Priority

Tidy and litter free

(including grass cutting and dog fouling)

	Village Hall
	Policing
	Newsletter *
	Pub *
Medium Priority	Low Costs/Taxes
	Playing Field
	Housing
	Traffic
	Church *
	Our Own Parish Council **
Low Priority	Local Businesses/Jobs
	Leisure Activities

We realize that some items (marked *) are run by private organizations or individuals. We propose to discuss any questions about these items with the organizations or individuals concerned.

The item “our own Parish Council” (marked **) provides a context for other discussions. We do not currently propose to ask any questions relating to this item.

The Group invites comments from any villager or village organization on these suggested priorities.

Additional Suggestions

We also gave visitors to the Fête the opportunity to add to the list of ideas that has been developed since the original meeting in November 2009. The following were received:-

- Sort out the long grass around the village: worst it’s been in 30 years.

It seems likely that the same individual completed a survey form and contributed a similar view.

Table 1

	1. Very Important	2. Important	3. Not Bothered	4. Totally Irrelevant	5 1 + 2	6 No Reply Given
Village Hall	8	13	1	0	21	0
Policing	12	8	0	2	20	0
Church	6	9	5	0	15	2
Playing Field	5	11	5	1	16	0
Our Own Parish Council	7	10	1	3	17	1
Pub (Pack Horse)	9	9	4	0	18	0
Traffic	1	15	5	1	16	0
Housing	4	11	7	0	15	0
Leisure activities	0	12	10	0	12	0
Newsletter	6	15	1	0	21	0
Local businesses/jobs	4	10	5	1	14	2
Low costs/taxes	7	11	3	0	18	1
Tidy and litter-free	15	7	0	0	22	0

Additional Ideas or Priorities (written onto the form)

1. Raise money and build a proper sports pavilion where the existing ruined one is, giving youngsters and moms and dads somewhere to engage in a variety of sporting activities.
2. Pack Horse is very important: very friendly social point; lovely food.
3. A17 exit/entrance to village needs to be made clearer: better directions/rights of way.
4. I feel the poor fields ought to be more user friendly for the village
5. Having our own Parish Council is a complete irrelevance unless they improve our current committee.
6. Move the play equipment to the Poor Gardens
7. Grass cutting of verges is poor: looks very untidy.
8. Black Swan is a real asset.
9. Getting mains gas should be a priority.
10. Improved broadband
11. Uncut grass - surprisingly bad and unsightly.
12. Conservation of wildlife and the riverbank is very important.
13. Getting more villagers involved in running village activities

Table 2

Order of subjects - "Very Important" only

1	Tidy and Litter Free	15
2	Policing	12
3	Pub ("The Pack Horse")	9
4	Village Hall	8
5=	Our Own Parish Council Low Costs/Taxes	7
7=	Church Newsletter	6
9	Playing Field	5
10=	Housing Local Businesses and Jobs	4
12	Traffic	1
13	Leisure Activities	0

Table 3

Order of Subjects - "Very Important" or "Important"

1	Tidy and Litter Free	22
2=	Village Hall Newsletter	21
4	Policing	20
5=	Pub ("The Pack Horse") Low costs/taxes	18
7	Our Own Parish Council	17
8=	Playing Field Traffic	16
10=	The Church Housing	15
12	Local Business and Jobs	14
13	Leisure Activities	12

Big Map

The large map was laid out in the Village Hall with comments invited. This activity was directed towards younger people. We did not try to prevent adults from commenting but believe most or all comments in fact came from children.

The following comments were put onto the map at the Fête. The table includes a note of where each comment was placed on the map but this is just for information and does not affect the value of the comment.

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Place on the Map</u>
Cycle path to Newark	Top of map: by A17 towards Newark
I like the fields and the river because me and my friend go on walks	Top of map
More things for children to play on at the playing field	“
I'd like the church to be more funny	“
Grass verges a disgrace!	Left side, to west of main village
Very true!!	Below previous comment
I'd like the garage back as it was	Left side opposite Sutton Road
I'd like more cycle routes	“
I don't like the muddy ditch at the play park	“
I like the bike routes because they are off road	“
I'd change the village by building more houses on Sutton-cum-Beckingham	Left side alongside Sutton-cum-Beckingham

As with other Fête activities, we were not looking for a numerical or statistically sound response. People were free to make as many comments as they liked. Our aim was to find a different way to encourage involvement and generate ideas.

Activities in the Village Hall

The following suggestions were received.

- Dance Class
- Youth Club - For Teenagers
- Gym Equipment
- Skate Park or similar

It is not for the Community Planning Group to judge any of these suggestions, but we anticipate considerations of space will rule out a skate park or extensive gym equipment at the present Village Hall.

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Please make any comments on this report to:-

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*Beckingham Community Planning Group
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