

Pyrford Forum Consultation

The following is a summary of the various ways in which Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum has consulted the residents this area and of feedback received consultation to date.

Public Meetings

27 September 2013

The agreement to set up a Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum was taken at a public meeting on 27 September 2013 attended by some 50 residents notified by an article in the Resident magazine. A draft constitution was agreed at this meeting and there were volunteers for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Publicity Officer plus others willing to stand on the committee.

25 October 2013

A further public meeting attended by some 70 residents was held on 25 October 2013. The constitution and key aims were agreed at this meeting as well as the Pyrford view on the boundaries of the Forum area. The meeting then split into 3 working groups to raise issues of concern which were then reported to the meeting. The following points were raised.

Recreational Facilities in the Village

1. What is happening with the land behind the Arbor Youth Club?
2. How do we keep the youth in the village?
3. Youth Officer – there used to be one. It was pointed out there is a Church Youth Officer in the village.
4. Could organise BMX cycling and some form of keep fit.
5. Thriving cricket club, church etc.

We need to make sure these associations are maintained as we go forward. It was noted that there is a very active youth club in the Church of the Good Shepherd and they have a very effective Youth Officer.

Transport/traffic/parking/speeding

1. Concerned about possible development along Upshott Lane.
2. Burhill Estates would like to sell some of their land.
3. Concerns about speeding in Pyrford Road.
4. Entrance to the village shops needs sorting out, maybe have to sacrifice a tree to widen / straighten the road and create safer parking.
5. Greater emphasis on double yellow lines in certain places, for businesses and residential roads. Council need to ease the situation.
6. Woodlands Avenue car park is often half full, because people don't know about it and it needs to be better advertised. Business people could get reduced fees.
7. Need to enlarge the parking Zone area.
8. Poor lighting in some parts of the Old Woking Road
9. Floyds Lane needs parking restrictions.
10. An area for commercial parking on the Rowley Bristow site would be useful.
11. Recreation: Supplying of exercise stations, to be made available at the rear of the playground, Pyrford Common

Cycleways and Pathways

1. Cycleways and pathways should be linked together.
2. Traditions Golf Course – need a path alongside the west bank of the Wey Navigation
3. The Anchor - would be lovely to be able to cycle through to RHS Wisley in safety.
4. Teggs Lane – surface is not too good. At Abbey Close, the surface is poor; tree roots coming up to the surface.
5. Talked about biodiversity – and the need for allotments in Pyrford. Council may have some land they could release.

4 December 2013

A joint meeting with West Byfleet attended by some 200 residents was held on 4 December to discuss the boundary between the two fora. A boundary based around the Pyrford parish boundary was proposed but residents in the contentious area near the boundary would be polled on their wishes.

3 April 2014

A public meeting attended by some 90 residents was held on 3 April 2014. The Chairman thanked the The Residents' Association street representatives who had Distributed our questionnaire.

There was then feedback from the 4 separate groups (Built Environment, Infrastructure, Open Spaces, and Social & Community) that had been established earlier to develop the Plan.

18 June 2014

A further public meeting, attended by some 90 residents was held on 18 June 2014. The results of the initial questionnaire plus a follow up questionnaire on Open Spaces were summarised. The most significant likes and concerns with percentages of those responding were:-

what they liked most about Pyrford:

- 50% - Countryside, open spaces, etc.
- 33% - Community feel
- 25% - Accessibility to London, Woking, Guildford
- 20% - Local amenities
- 11% - Quiet and not overdeveloped
- 11% - Participation of the church.

There were also a number of negative issues cited by respondents:

- 29% - Traffic congestion
- 24% - State of the roads
- 22% - Speeding traffic
- 13% - Poor parking at the school and shops
- 9% - Lack of good bus service
- 5% - Lack of a decent children's playground

The 4 separate groups described their aims and progress to date.

The meeting finished with a number of questions from the floor (given below with responses).

<p>1. How long is the life of the initial Neighbourhood Plan ?</p> <p>2. How great would the impact of Wisley housing development be on Pyrford?</p> <p>3. Can we have a Post Office ?</p> <p>4. Do we present a high level focussed plan, or a long wish list?</p> <p>5. Can we define all the Green Belt land in Pyrford?</p> <p>6. Can we find land for starter homes, as originally proposed by Lord Iveagh?</p> <p>7. Quick win – Refurbish the tennis court in Pyrford Common and develop other facilities - Skate Board park, public toilets.....</p>	<p>Between 5 & 10 years</p> <p>Secondary impact on traffic flows to & from Woking & West Byfleet)</p> <p>No. Royal Mail won't be swayed</p> <p>High level focussed plan, based on Teggs Lane and Pyrford Common (30 to 5)</p> <p>Yes with more volunteers</p> <p>Possibly, by releasing Green Belt land.</p>
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27 November 2014

A public meeting was held on 27 November attended by around 130 residents. The first part of the meeting formed the first annual AGM of the Forum. The annual accounts were approved and the principal officers elected. After some discussion it was agreed unanimously to apply to register the PNF as a community benefit company, limited by guarantee, with the key PNF Officers as directors.

After an update from the 4 working groups there was a question and answer session.

<p>1. Have we been in contact with other forums re their experience in producing Neighbourhood Plans ?</p> <p>2. What about suggesting acreage which could be released to Burhill and look to get a quid pro quo for the community?</p> <p>3. Should we look to form a joint committee with Horsell Common Preservation Society to improve Pyrford common ?</p> <p>4. Have thought about using software such as Survey monkey to improve gathering of member responses ?</p> <p>5. Is there any realistic expectation of getting sufficient funding for Day Centres, given the high cost of capital &</p>	<p>We've met with Hook Heath chairman, and have been looking at published output of a number of other forums and found useful ideas.</p> <p>? Burhill have been seeking that – not sure it's what we want.</p> <p>Yes – and, longer term, we should try to bring Pyrford Common back to Pyrford ownership rather than Horsell Common. It was agreed that this will require representation from Pyrford to meet the Horsell Common committee.</p> <p>Not in the short term.</p>
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running costs?	
6. Can we find land for starter homes, as originally proposed by Lord Iveagh?	Possibly, by releasing Green Belt land.
7. Pigeon House Bridge is falling down and has not been mentioned	complaints should be made through WBC and SCC web sites.
8. How can we get more young people involved in PNF?	It's our biggest challenge

Committee Meetings

In addition to the public meetings there have been 13 committee meetings. Although most of these dealt with updates on the progress of the Plan and next steps, there were also questions and concerns raised and information given about forthcoming consultations (see below).

4 October 2013

This meeting included a discussion of the constitution with several amendments agreed, election of officers, a description of the process for developing and getting approval of the Plan, and a description of publicity to date.

Local papers had been contacted and an article together with 2 photographs had been printed in the Surrey Advertiser reporting on the Inaugural meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum.

A web site name had been registered pyrfordforum.org and included a half built web site. The aim was to link Facebook and Twitter to the web site. The web-site will have an area for Minutes and other.

11 October 2013

I do not have minutes from this meeting and they are not on the dropbox.

26 February 2014

The need for a questionnaire to every household in the Forum Area was identified.

The subject of the greenbelt was discussed. Rumours of development threats to the fields either side of Upshott lane have surfaced again and are a cause for concern.

It was recognised that Woking's listed building data was out-of-date and we need to create our own list.

We should start thinking about wish lists

4 March 2014

We were at the stage where we needed to develop a comprehensive description of Pyrford which would require much data gathering.

The following wording was agreed for a questionnaire to be distributed to all residents.

- What do you like about Pyrford?

- What are the issues that concern you?
- What could be improved?
- Are you willing to help?

(The actual questions issued were slightly different)

The fact that there is a deficit of 20-40 year olds in the Forum area was noted. This might influence the plan to have policies to attract them to Pyrford.

It was mentioned that the old school becoming vacant presented an opportunity for the community to provide new services, perhaps a day centre for old people.

11 March 2014

A dropbox had been set up so that members could read latest information.
We needed more help to extend our membership database.

18 March 2014

The management of agricultural land in Pyrford was discussed and the general feeling was that this is what lets Pyrford down.

17 April 2014

There have been about 50 responses to the survey.

One of the issues emerging is the lack of mains sewerage for quite a few homes.

The committee discussed how the meeting could have been improved. IG suggested that a question and answer session would have been useful.

There was a wish to see improvements in access to West Byfleet Health Centre and to halt the practice of rejected plans being resubmitted on a regular basis.

It was mentioned that there was an issue emerging concerning the size of the Primary school. There is a plan to build a new school, even though the existing school appears perfectly good. It is believed that an expansion is planned which will bring more children into the village and consequently an increase in parking problems.

The following public sessions were agreed:

Friday 9th May at Church coffee morning

Friday 23rd May second session at Church coffee morning

Saturday June 7th Gazebo on green in front of Marshall Parade shops

1 May 2014

The Open Spaces group have begun to explore the possibility of doing a landscape character assessment and a questionnaire has been prepared.

The website should move on from information regarding the setting up of the Forum to placing more emphasis on 'what you have told us' and a request that more views are received.

15 May 2014

There will be a display and questionnaires at the Judo Club On 17th May.

12 June 2014

Several meet and greet events have taken place, including two church coffee mornings, a stand at the judo club and a stall and gazebo outside the shops. All were considered successful in gathering opinions and new members. A stall is also planned for the school fair on 21st June when childrens' views will be sought.

The social and community group plan to hire a hall for a focus group meeting, inviting 200 to attend and hoping for around 50 people to attend. Ideas for social and community will then be put to people in three categories:

1. Improved leisure facilities
2. Improve public transport
3. Improve shops and amenities

(Did this take place?)

Bus services, or lack thereof, appear to be an issue. It was mentioned that there is a Bustler service available for Woking residents with mobility difficulties.

Problem with footpaths were mentioned as and it was suggested that it might be useful to list the problems.

The worries regarding the primary school expansion have subsided, as numbers are only being expanded to take two bulge year classes, not to have full three form entry in every year.

Two of the six landscape character studies have been completed. Open spaces questionnaire is completed.

27 October 2014

Several events have taken place since early June, with PNF having: a Gazebo at the Pyrford Cricket Club social event Saturday 13th June; a stand at Pyrford & Wisley Flower Show, Saturday 12th July; and a stand at Celebrate Pyrford Event Saturday 10th August. In total, over 50 new members were signed up.

Demographics highlight the big issue of Pyrford having a significantly higher proportion of older adults than either the national average or the borough average. Policy recommendations for social and community fall into three categories:

1. Improved leisure facilities
2. Improve public transport
3. Improve shops and amenities

11 November 2014

Posters will be displayed around the village to advertise the AGM.

Over the period between this meeting and the next committee meeting in March 2015 there were a number of editorial meetings to agree changes to the latest version of the Plan.

20 March 2015

The following points were agreed.

The Plan was close to the point where it could be submitted to our consultant for a preliminary check.

The summary analysis of questionnaires to date was in a form suitable for our consultation statement.

The questionnaire for the 6 week public consultation should be similar to that already posted on the web with update policies. A paper copy of this would be distributed to all households in Pyrford.

Other Consultation and Dissemination of Information

In addition to initiatives described in the above meetings the Forum was publicised via a number of other outlets.

A Residents' Association stand at the Pyrford & Wisley Flower Show on 13 July 2013 handed out leaflets about the proposal to form a Forum.

A feature article on the proposal to form Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum was included in the Resident Magazine issue of 7 September 2013. (distributed to over 1,000 households in Pyrford).

There was a letter dated 20 October 2013 about the Neighbourhood boundaries distributed to over 2,000 households.

A progress report on the Forum was included in the Resident Magazine of 25 January 2015.

An article on the challenges of setting up a Neighbourhood Plan was included in the Parish Magazine of 1 February 2014.

A newsletter about the public meeting on 3 April 2014 was distributed to over 2,000 households from 8 March. This included progress reports from Committee meetings and the approach of having 4 working groups. (Or did this say that these items would be covered in the meeting?)

A progress report on the Forum was included in the Resident Magazine of 10 May 2014.

Representatives met with over 50 residents at the Cricket Club on 13 June.

Representatives to children at Pyrford Primary school on 18 June 2014 about their favourite things about Pyrford and what they would like added to local facilities.

Leaflets were handed out to over 100 people at the Flower Show on 12 July 2014.

Leaflets were handed out to over 100 people at the Celebrate Pyrford event on 8 August 2014.

A further newsletter was issued on 8 August 2014.

Further progress report on the Forum were included in the Resident Magazines of 10 September 2014 and 7 February 2015.

A drop-in Event was held on 11 April 2015 to update residents on the progress to date and to encourage them to take part in the forthcoming 6 week consultation. This was attended by some 60 residents.

The following tables summarise meetings and other interfaces with residents.

Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum
Public Meetings & Consultation Events

Date	Event	Key community Involvement Items	Extent of reach
13/07/13	Pyrford Flower Show	Residents' Association stand – handed out leaflets re proposal to form a Neighbourhood Forum	Over 100 people
07/09/13	“The Resident” magazine	Feature article on proposal to form Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum	Over 1,000 households
27/09/13	Inaugural Members Meeting	Unanimous agreement to form PNF – key officers elected, Constitution set up, and agreed key aims	50 attendees
20/10/13	Letter to households on the boundary	Provided information about the options over the boundary with West Byfleet	Over 2,000 households
25/10/13	Public Meeting	PNF Members Meeting – agreed Constitution and discussion of key aims	70 attendees
04/12/13	Public Meeting	Pyrford & West Byfleet residents' joint discussion on boundary	200 attendees
25/01/14	“The Resident” magazine	Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum progress report	Over 1000 households
01/02/14	Parish Magazine	Article to Church parishioners re challenges in getting a Neighbourhood Plan together	
04/03/14	Public Meeting	Progress reports by 4 Workgroups, followed by open discussion.	90 attendees
08/03/14	Newsletter No.1	PNF Members Meeting – progress reports from Committee meetings – explained approach of having 4 Workgroups to work towards Plan	Over 2,000 households
03/04/14	Public Meeting	Progress reports by 4 Workgroups, followed by open discussion.	90 attendees
10/05/14	“The Resident” magazine	Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum progress report	Over 1,000 households
17/05/14	Arbour Centre	Spoke to around 20 or so parents of the kids attending the Judo club, explained our aims and got around 10 new members	Over 20 adults + their children
13/06/14	Cricket Club	Again explained our aims (~10 new members (many were already members))	Over 50 people
18/06/14	Public Meeting	Progress reports by 4 Workgroups	90 attendees
18/06/14	Pyrford Primary School Fayre	Engaged the kids in identifying their favourite places and things about Pyrford and drawing their ideas of what they want (roller coaster, swimming pool and ice cream stall!). (Again ~10 new members)	
12/07/14	Pyrford Flower Show	PNF stand – handed out leaflets explained our aims and got around 20 new members	Over 100 people
	Celebrate Pyrford	PNF stand – handed out leaflets explained our aims and got around 10 new members	Over 100 people
08/08/14	Newsletter No.2		Over 400 members
10/09/14	“The Resident” magazine	Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum progress report	Over 1000 households
27/10/14	Public Meeting	Set out initial policy proposals by 4 Workgroups, followed by open discussion.	130 attendees
07/02/15	“The Resident” magazine	Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum progress report	Over 1000 households
11/04/15	Drop-in at Church of the Good Shepherd	PNF stand to update residents on progress and process for the 6 week consultation	61 attendees

Other Meetings

04/10/2013	Committee Meeting
11/10/2013	Committee Meeting
20/10/2013	Draft Application to Register
26/02/2014	Committee Meeting
18/03/2014	Committee Meeting
17/04/2014	Committee Meeting
01/05/2014	Committee Meeting
15/05/2014	Committee Meeting
12/06/2014	Committee Meeting
27/10/2014	Committee Meeting
11/11/2014	Committee Meeting
20/03/2015	Committee Meeting

Questionnaires and Other Feedback

The following summarises all questionnaire and other responses received up to the end of March 2105. These have been used as a basis for setting the policies to include in the version of the Pyrford Neighbourhood Plan that will go out to public consultation.

Applications to Join Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum

Approximately 450 residents have joined the Pyrford Neighbourhood forum. Of these around 180 took the opportunity to comment on their concerns together with the application.

(I still have to complete the analysis of these responses).

Like/Dislike/Change Questionnaire

In order to get a preliminary view of the concerns of Pyrford residents, a questionnaire was distributed to all households. Residents were asked to say what they liked and disliked about Pyrford and what changes they would like to see. In addition the responses from 4 people to versions of the policies posted on the Forum website have been included.

The responses are detailed in the attached spreadsheet split into the following broad categories.

	Total	Like	Dislike	Change	Wish List	Ex Web
Traffic (calming)	38		22	12	4	
Road Maintenance	21		9	11		1
Road Improvements	10			8	2	1
Parking	18		7	11	2	
Bus Services	15		7	8	1	
Cycling/Pedestrians	27	1	4	14	8	
Housing Standards	24	5	4	8	7	
Footpaths/Open Spaces	41	15	2	14	9	1
Recreational Areas	17		4	9	3	1
Social	18	10	3	4		1
Local Facilities	40	11	10	14	4	1
Multiple Categories	84	78	6			
Other Responses	14					
Ex Web	11					11
Total	379	120	78	110	40	17

In addition two multichoice questionnaires were made available at various public meetings and open days. Each one asked residents the extent to which they agreed with certain statements. The options were:-

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Questionnaire 1

Responders were asked whether the Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum should include the following objectives. There were 121 responders with answers as in the following table.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Protect the Green Belt in the Forum area	86 71.1%	29 24.0%	3 2.5%	0 0.0%	1 0.8%
Protect and improve existing footpaths	77 63.6%	40 33.1%	2 1.7%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Seek opportunities to create new footpaths	36 29.8%	53 43.8%	30 24.8%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Create and promote a footpath loop connecting Pyrford common to the canal to enhance recreational opportunities	47 38.8%	52 43.0%	18 14.9%	1 0.8%	0 0.0%
Protect open spaces such as vergers, greens and recreational space	83 68.6%	35 28.9%	1 0.8%	0 0.0%	1 0.8%
Protect and improve wildlife habitats in the area	71 58.7%	42 34.7%	6 5.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Protect existing trees and include trees in any future developments	63 52.1%	46 38.0	9 7.4%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Protect the Wey navigation and Wey and Bourne river valley wildlife corridors	70 57.9%	39 32.2%	10 8.3%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%

There were respectively 2,2,2,3,1,2,3,and 2 blank entries to the 8 questions.

Although this questionnaire did not ask for further comments, 20 responders chose to make them split into a number of broad categories. These will be added to the analysis from the earlier questionnaire distributed to all residents and are included in the attached spreadsheet. The responses could be split into the following categories.

Specific footpaths and addition of bridlepaths	2
Pub/coffee shop/café (WIFI)	7
Tennis courts	2
Miscellaneous	5
General comments not relevant to Plan	4
Total	20

Questionnaire 2

Responders were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the following statements. There were 56 responders with the answers as in the following table.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
We should oppose all attempts to reclassify even the smallest plot of green belt land as suitable for development	30 53.6%	12.5 22.3%	3.5 6.3%	6 10.7%	2 3.6%
We should maximise amenity value (flora & fauna) of and access to our green belt land	38 67.9	14 25.0%	1 1.8%	0 0.0%	1 1.8%
We should negotiate hard with developers to extract the largest possible community levy	34 60.7%	10 17.9%	7 12.5%	0 0.0%	2 3.6%
4 ought to sacrifice a modest amount of green belt land as suitable for development	2 3.6%	8.5 15.2%	10.5 18.8%	18 32.1%	14 25.0%
We should expect to give up a similar pro-rate share of Pyrford green belt to other Woking Borough Neighbourhoods	2 3.6%	9 16.1%	14 25.0%	17 30.4%	12 21.4%
I feel erosion of Pyrford's green belt is inevitable	4 7.1%	14 25.0%	2 3.6%	22 39.3%	12 21.4%

There were respectively 2,2,3,3,1, and 2 blank entries to the 6 questions. For the first and fourth questions one responder entered 2/3 and this has been allocated 50% each to answer "Agree" and "Neutral".

In addition to the multichoice questions, responders were asked two further questions.
Where would suggest that new house building within Pyrford would be acceptable?
Have you any other comments to make on Pyrford's green belt?

There were 30 responses to the first question which could be split into the following broad categories:-

No new build	8
Prefer none but accept need	6
Infill only	3
General specification for suitable/unsuitable areas	5
Specific sites	8
Total	30

There were 20 responses to the second question which could be split into the following broad categories. These will be added to the analysis from the earlier questionnaire distributed to all residents.

Protect green belt absolutely	8
Pity to lose parts but may be necessary	4
Protect specific areas	5
Not relevant to green belt retention	3
Total	20

Online Questionnaire

Four people responded to a questionnaire on our website which asked if they agreed with our policies as posted at that time and also asked for any comments. Although the policies have been consolidated significantly since the time of these responses the broad contents are similar.

One responder on 29 November 2014 agreed with all 8 Built Environment policies, all 19 Open Spaces policies, and all 5 Social & Community Policies. This responder did not submit any comments.

Another responder on 29 November 2014 agreed with 2 out of 7 for Built Environment, 13 out of 17 for Open Spaces, and 5 out of 6 for Social and Community.

The only 2 policies agreed with in Built Environment related to “keeping with the original character of the surrounding area” and requirement for offstreet parking.

The 4 policies disagreed with in Open spaces related to protecting gardens from over development, retaining character and enhancing and formalising footpaths, and footpath loops.

The Social & Community policy disagreed with was “Representation will be made to designate the land behind the Arbor Youth Club for recreational use by children.”

He also submitted comments for Open Spaces and Social and Community. These and other responses are included in the table of total comments.

A responder on 2 December 2014 submitted comments but did not complete the agree/disagree section.

A responder on 5 March 2015 agree with all the policies and submitted comments.