

- 4.3 Over the three day period the following actions were taken:
- Packs were delivered to approximately 1270 addresses
 - 20 posters were erected in the Ends
 - 28 posters were delivered to shops.
 - 2 posters were delivered to Beaconsfield library
 - Approximately 300 packs were handed to drivers parking in the Ends
- A total of nearly 1600 packs were distributed.

Key stakeholders were sent information packs by post:

- Beaconsfield Town Council
- The Beaconsfield Society
- Hall Barn Estates Ltd.
- Beaconsfield Chamber of Commerce
- BOTRA
- Town Council Office
- Beaconsfield United Reform Church
- Beaconsfield Free Methodist Church

A drop in session was arranged on 19th February at The Fitzwilliams Centre.

- 4.4 The questions asked were:
- Are you are resident, a business or a shop?
 - Do you support the proposals to swap part of the common land for another piece of publically accessible land?
 - Do you support the proposal to create some limited waiting areas in the Old Town?
 - Do you agree with the proposed locations of the new regulated parking areas?
 - Do you support the introduction of parking charges to assist the management of the parking spaces?
 - Consideration is being given to the provision of dedicated parking places for residents without off street parking facilities who live close to the proposed parking areas? Do you support this idea?
 - Consideration is also being given to the provision of dedicated parking places for disabled (blue) badge holders. Do you support this idea?
 - The proposed open space will be managed for informal use - dog walking, etc. not at this stage as a formal park with a playground, etc. Do you support this proposal?
 - Please tell us if you consider any essential items need to be considered for this open space.
 - Please use this space to make any comments you may have about these proposals.
 - Overall are you in favour of the land swap and parking proposals?

4.5. THE ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNED QUESTIONNAIRES

The Consultant's report about the consultation results is enclosed at Appendix C and Paper copies of the Consultant's report (which include tables and graphics) are available in the Members' Room.

Key points are summarised below:

1. The response (57.6%) to the consultation questionnaire is a much higher than average response and could be considered to be an indication of the interest in

the proposals. However, 295 of the returned questionnaires are clearly the work of one individual (a business) and, therefore, these duplicates have been deleted from the assessment of the answers to the questionnaires - this reduces the percentage return to 38.9%; still an above average result.

2. We asked for details of the responses:

Responses			
Resident	Shop	Business	not stated
421	15	164	10

3. The overall results can be summarised:

- The proposals have generated considerable interest within the local community.
 - The views of the different categories of consultee are different with residents being more positive than businesses.
- The views of residents are generally very balanced:
- Slightly more are in favour of the proposed land swap than are opposed to it;
 - 61.5% support the introduction of some limited waiting;
 - Nearly half agree with the proposed locations of the new regulated parking areas;
 - 52% are opposed to the introduction of parking charges.
- The views of the businesses that responded are more definite:
- 82% are opposed to the proposed land swap;
 - 84.7% are opposed to the introduction of some limited waiting;
 - 88.4% disagree with the proposed locations of the new regulated parking areas;
 - 85% are opposed to the introduction of parking charges.
- Only a small number of shops responded and together with those whose did not state a category the views are:
- 67% of those who expressed a view are in favour of the land swap;
 - 61% of those who expressed a view are in favour of the introduction of some limited waiting;
 - 63% of those who expressed a view agree with the proposed locations of the new regulated parking areas;
 - 58% of those who expressed a view support the introduction of parking charges.

4. The views expressed in answer to Q11 - Overall are you in favour of the land swap and parking proposals? - vary by category of responder:

- The views of residents are nearly balanced - for and against;
- The views of the businesses are much clearer - 87.8% are against the proposals;
- 80% of the shops that responded supported the proposals;
- Overall there was a majority (59%) against the proposals.

5. It would seem likely that the level of support for the proposals by residents would be higher if there was not a linked proposal to introduce charges but this would be unlikely to change the views of the businesses.

Further details of the consultation responses will be presented to Members at the meeting.

- 4.6 Members are asked to consider the findings and advise whether work on the proposals should be continued.
- 4.7 This would include making the application to the Planning Inspectorate for the common land swap (change of common land status and to create new common land at the alternative site) according to Common land procedure, agreeing the details of the land swap with Hall Barn Estates and implement the parking layouts and associated charges.
- 4.8 Officers would then need to spend considerable time to progress the scheme, with assistance from legal colleagues.
- 4.9 Further legal advice about the proposed land swap would be required to determine issues such as:
- The possible deregistration of highway land.
Part of the exchange land is subject to 3rd party interests (a restriction on the registered title of the land, financial charges, and an apparent lease of part of the land.)
- 4.10 In addition to the above, Members are asked to consider the poor state of the existing car park surfacing on the common land on the northern side of London End and to agree capital funding to address the issue.**
- 4.11 Works were recently undertaken to resurface parts of the common land on the south side of the road. Further works are required to meet the Council's obligations under the Management Plan of the common land, to improve the condition of the north side.
- 4.12 Complaints have been received about large potholes and the general state of the tarmac. A plan of the area and photos are attached in Appendix D to illustrate the issue.
- 4.13 In addition it is proposed that some bollards are installed on the corner of London End and Shepherds Lane/ Aylesbury End to limit the parking on the pavements. These bollards would be similar to those already installed on the other corners of the roundabout.
- 4.14 Approximate costs have been obtained for the bollards and the resurfacing of the parking areas along the whole of London End North. Approx. £45,000 will be required. This would include the repair and replacement as necessary of tree guards, grilles and white line painting to demarcate vehicular entrances.
- 4.15 The works would be undertaken in two or three stages to minimise disruption to the car parking. It is requested that the works can be undertaken as soon as possible, regardless of the decision about the common land swap and parking charges, as the surfacing is becoming dangerous in places.

5. Resource and Wider Policy Implications.

- 5.1 The work required to progress the matters above will require officer time during a period of increasingly limited officer resource.
- 5.2 Additional Capital funding of £45,000 would be added to the capital programme for urgent tarmac repairs on the common land.
- 5.3 There is a risk that claims of personal or vehicle damage would be received if the tarmac surfacing works are not carried out.

6. Recommendations.

- 6.1 The advice of the PAG is sought on whether the Portfolio Holder should be asked to recommend to Cabinet the following:
 - 1 - In view of the comments received from the Public Consultation whether this matter is progressed further.
 - 2 - Whether further action is required to take forward the Common land swap to facilitate the parking changes.
 - 3 - That following the outcome of the consultation suitable agreements be entered into with HBE & BCC for the operation of the parking / land management.
 - 4 - That following the outcome of the consultation whether the scheme should be implemented.
 - 4 - Delegated authority to the Director of Services in consultation with the Environment Portfolio Holder to agree minor details.

This matter requires Cabinet and Council agreement.

- 6.2 The advice of the PAG is also sought on whether the Portfolio Holder should recommend to Cabinet that funding of £45,000 should be added to the capital programme for urgent tarmac repairs on the common land.

Officer Contact:	Chris Marchant 01895 837360 chris.marchant@southbucks.gov.uk
Background Papers:	Previous reports on this matter.