

# Wivenhoe Village Voices - March 2007

## Introduction

The Wivenhoe Town Plan questionnaire of 2007 asked a wide range of questions. Most questions invited respondents to tick boxes or rate their preferences; the responses to these have been analysed and appear in graphical form in the final version of the Town Plan. However, the questionnaire also collected a wealth of data in the form of people's answers to open-ended questions – some of which were very insightful and detailed – and also in the form of comments written in the margins of the questionnaire. These responses and comments have been collected in this document, which we have called Village Voices, and which forms a companion document to the Town Plan.

The opinions expressed in Village Voices are not statistically representative of the people of Wivenhoe in the same way that the responses summarised in the Town Plan are. But they make fascinating reading, giving a rich flavour of people's feelings on a range of issues from housing and planning to NHS dentistry. Some issues generated very little interest, while others aroused volumes of passionate responses; people appeared to be more or less unanimous on some issues, and deeply divided on others. Some responses are flippant, many are intelligent, and several are extremely funny.

Enjoy!

## The Wivenhoe Town Plan Group

### Q1: What is Most Important to You About living in Wivenhoe?

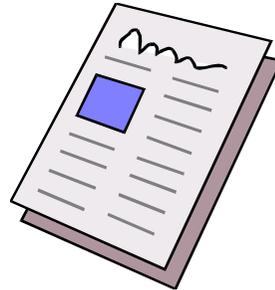
'It is (was) a village atmosphere'  
'It used to have good shopping facilities but now they are dwindling'  
'Good varied restaurants plus supermarket'  
'I was born here'  
'I have lived here for over seventy years. I've always been proud of our home town but I have never seen it looking so bad'  
'I have lived here all my life'



'Friendly place and good dog walking'  
'I like it—I have lived here for fifty plus years'  
'Non-homophobic place'  
'Found a house we love'  
'Small enough to make residents feel part of the community'  
'A quiet safe English town'  
'Teenage memories'  
'Tree-lined streets, park, woodland—it is quiet and not overly developed'  
'A safe place to live in and excellent bus service to Colchester'  
'Relatively free from crime and anti-social behaviour'

## Q2: How Do You Usually Find Out About Events in Wivenhoe?

'Gossiping'  
'Parish magazine'  
'Didn't even know that there was a Wivenhoe web site'  
'My wife'  
'Not interested'  
'The grapevine'  
'Word of mouth'  
'Neighbours'  
'Electric Fence web site'  
'Birds down river'  
'Wivenhoe Society newsletter'  
'Friends'  
'When it is too late'  
'Post in Council Office'  
'Residents' own notices'  
'Notices at library'  
'Internet/email'  
'Shop windows'  
'Church'  
'Free publications'  
'University'



## Q3: How Do You Rate the Following in Wivenhoe?

'There are no street lights in the Folly'  
'Modernise existing facilities in the car park e.g. the toilets'  
'More street-cleaning—around the Co-op is very bad'  
'The toilet at the train station is in a state'  
'There is growing road sign clutter'  
'Need "no dogs" notices'  
'Too many street lights'

'Pavements recently made worse by tarmac just poured on by cowboy firm'  
'Drains blocked, or not at lowest point for drainage'

## Q4: There Are Many Ways in Which Wivenhoe Could be Made Cleaner and Greener

### Conservation

'Removal of excessive road signs and street furniture'  
'Simplify all the road signs and hideous sign posts that litter the pavements and look so untidy'  
'Too many road signs, badly placed and too many poles'  
'No more road signs'  
'Moving house for sale signs and traffic cones left behind by road workers'  
'Stop the proliferation of signs, especially for lower Wivenhoe'  
'Reduce light pollution'  
'Like the lack of light pollution—wonderful starry skies in Wivenhoe'  
'Old fashioned street lighting in lower Wivenhoe'

### Environment

'Drain ferry marsh'  
'There should be better provision for open spaces and parks'  
'There should be active tree-planting and preservation'  
'Educate children to educate their parents on these issues'  
'Most former nature areas need to be correctly drained and made usable throughout the year'  
'Anything ecologically friendly that is not put on our tax bill'  
'Marsh Farm to be made walkable all year round'  
'By restricting access in woods and marsh for the benefit of wild life'  
'More hanging baskets at William Loveless Hall—improve the frontage'  
'Plant more trees at Grasby Close/Broome Grove open spaces'  
'Where is there any more room for more open space—housing has swallowed it up'

- 'Stop diesel spills from buses'
- 'Install rain water soakaways to every building'
- 'What is 'micro-generation' - need more information?'
- 'People burning garden waste and rubbish'
- 'Leave undeveloped land alone'

### **Housing**

- All new facilities must be built on existing sites, e.g. health centre at Cedric's—no more housing'
- 'Local Design Statement 2'
- 'Stop spoiling the riverside with excessive building of houses'

### **Litter, Dog-fouling and Graffiti**

- 'There should be more control over dog-fouling'
- Stopping graffiti—there should be zero tolerance'
- 'Litter bins at certain bus stops'
- 'Ban dogs from King George V field'



### **Maintenance of Roads and Drains**

- 'Ensure drains are cleaned'
- 'All roads to be made up and the place cleaned up'
- 'The drains are seriously inadequate and stink in warm weather'
- 'Rectory Hill has been resurfaced but pot-holes have already appeared within a few months'
- 'Lower Wivenhoe Roads and on the new Persimmon and Bovis Developments are in a very poor state. I'm surprised there hasn't been an accident claim'

### **Parking**

- 'Need parking at the top of the village for non-residents to reduce access to the village for non-residents'
- 'There should be more visitor and disabled parking'

- 'Enforce parking regulations on double yellow lines and people leaving their engine running in an unattended car'
- 'More parking at the station to stop on-street parking by commuters'
- 'Stop parking on narrow streets and pavements'
- 'Restrict cars to one per house'
- 'Stop cars parking on pavements and verges'
- 'Stop quayside parking'
- 'More parking restrictions near schools to prevent many parents taking their children to school by car'
- 'Stop people parking on the verges/pavements—it is dangerous for people with prams who have to go in the road'
- 'Stop parking on grass verges to avoid "permit parking" only in de Vere Lane'
- 'Restricting cars (on average a car is parked 96% of the time)'

### **Public Facilities**

- 'Need new public toilets—they are a disgrace'
- 'Public toilets are a number one priority with people who are willing to treat them with the greatest respect'

### **Quay**

- 'Remove the pub tables at the quay and replace with public seats'
- 'Take the flower tubs off the quay'
- Smarten up the quay areas along the riverside i.e. where the Rose and Crown is and no traffic allowed. Make a proper sea-front—done tastefully like the new developments'
- 'There should be no parking except for residential access beyond Anchor Quay'

### **Recreation Areas**

- 'Play areas which aren't being vandalised by jobs'
- 'A better skate park'

## Recycling and Refuse Collections

- 'We need boxes for plastic recycling—bags blow everywhere on a windy day'
- 'More regular/bigger recycling bank bins at the Station car park'
- 'More collection points for bottles, cans, in the vicinity of shops'
- 'There should be more types of plastic for re-cycling'
- 'I find it very frustrating to only be able to recycle plastic 1 and 2—we need others'
- 'Remove noisy bottle bank from the residential area near the station—it is too noisy to be near houses'

## Street Cleaning

- 'There should be regular cleaning of the pavements and the gutters'
- 'Better road cleaning'
- 'More litter bins, especially in playgrounds and King George V'
- 'Householders could participate in street-cleaning'
- 'Hedge trimming, especially at awkward junctions'
- 'Keep the lesser known footpaths clean and clear'
- 'Cleaner pavements and roads—mine are never swept'

## Transport Schemes

- 'A car-share pool supported by the Council would be greatly appreciated'
- 'A car share scheme. Might be able to reduce the number of cars owned if a car share scheme was introduced'
- 'Cycle routes to the university'
- 'Encourage parents to walk children to school'
- 'Introduce Home Zones throughout Wivenhoe'

## Traffic Improvements

- 'Need a cycle crossing over the railway at Lower Lodge Farm'
- 'More traffic calming below the Co-op'
- 'A one-way system needs to be introduced'

- 'No extra roads'
- 'Improve the footpath across the fields—Jack Hatch Way to university'

## Q5: Would You Consider it Acceptable for Your General Non-recyclable Household Waste to be Collected Fortnightly Instead of Weekly?

### NO!

- 'In France they collect daily'
- 'Not in hot weather'
- 'Many residents in lower Wivenhoe have no garden/yard where they can store their rubbish'
- 'Not acceptable—will lead to more fly-tipping'
- 'Have a rat problem already!'
- 'It would be a health hazard especially rats'
- 'This is a stupid cost-cutting move with obvious detriment to general health'
- 'I have nowhere to keep it'
- 'Where would we put larger bins in the very narrow street?'
- 'I live in a flat and have nowhere to store it. In the flat it would rot and smell—if in the street would cause problems to passers-by. Also rats'
- 'Would end up with smelly bins and pests on the boundaries of garden and in the street'
- 'No, for health and safety reasons'
- 'Rats and smell in hot weather'
- 'Definitely not'
- 'NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!, NO!'
- 'Totally unacceptable'
- 'Definitely not—two weeks in summer would be madness'
- 'It would stink and overflow and encourage rats'
- 'This would be a serious hygiene issue—there are already problems with rats'



on the quay'  
'Absolutely not! Totally unacceptable!'



### **YES!**

'Yes, I put mine out every three weeks'  
'I would like brown and green wheelie bins'

### **YES, IF!**

'Those who do recycle should be rewarded with a reduction in Council Tax'  
'Yes, if council tax reduced and people did not leave rubbish out for a long time'  
'Yes, if given larger bins'  
'Yes, if designated zones where people who live in flats can leave their rubbish in the interim—otherwise not viable'  
'We already pay for it in Council Tax. I would consider it if a reduction in Council Tax were offered'  
'Yes, if it cut down costs and pollution'  
'If there was a good reason for it'

### **ONLY IF!**

'Only if the collection for recycling is vastly improved'  
'Recyclables to be collected more frequently'  
'As long as recycled is collected weekly'  
'Only if recycling improved—if they didn't limit how much we can recycle—if we can have one bag for all recycled items'  
'First, need to address the problem of rubbish being placed adjacent to footpaths, days before the collection. The volume of rubbish is an eyesore and double the amount would be unacceptable'

## **Q6: Which Means of Transport Do you Use for the Following Purposes? (Going to Work/School)**

'I am housebound due to arthritis in both legs so do not use many'  
'Neither of these apply to me—you've omitted a whole category of people e.g. retired, not working'  
'To go shopping'  
'Retired, no children at home'  
'None of these apply to me—I'm retired'  
'Not applicable—I work from home'  
'Not applicable—I'm a stay at home mum with a toddler'

## **Q7: How Do You Rate the Bus and Train Services in Wivenhoe?**

### **Access**

'I can't access the bus with a pushchair and it is also difficult on the train because of the steps'  
'I am a mother with a push-chair and I cannot get over the bridge'  
'Many cannot physically manage the railway stairs because of children and push-chairs'  
'Access is especially difficult at Wivenhoe Railway Station'

### **Cost**

'I have a free bus pass'  
'Apart from peak hours the trains are almost empty because the fares are too high. 'Bring down the price until people are willing to pay'  
'Cedric's bus service is reasonably priced. 'First bus is too expensive'  
'More cheaper trains'

### **Level of Service**

'There is a poor service on Saturday night from London'

'Trains are a problem on Sunday, because of engineering works and transfer to buses'

### Route

'Bring back No 77'

'The 78 is good—the 61 poor'



## Q8: What Changes Would Encourage You to Make More Use of the Bus and Train Services?

### Access

'Would use the bus if there was space for prams'

'Train platform needs improving—wheelchair access'

'There is no disabled access'

'Buses with enough buggy access'

'There should be better access for the disabled and people with prams'

'Access is not only difficult for disabled people but for people with prams. It is impossible to use Wivenhoe railway station if you are disabled or have a pram'

'Access to the train on the down platform'

'Would use bus more if I could roll on with my pram and not have to fold it up'

'Wivenhoe Station and trains have poor access facilities for those with disabilities'

'Wivenhoe Station is not accessible on the Clacton side and London trains are barely possible without someone to help'

### Cost

'Why are the trains so expensive'

'The free bus pass is what makes me leave the car at home'

'Reduce public transport fares so cheaper to travel than by car—there are high bus fares to and from the university'

'Cedric's bus service is reasonably priced. First bus is too expensive'  
'Lower costs for commuters'

### Frequency

'The trains could be more frequent to Colchester'

'Need a better and more frequent bus service'

### Information

'Should be more information about bus services at bus stops'

### Level of Service

'The service from Brightlingsea was dreadful before Christmas'

'We need better and more modern buses, quieter and less polluting. They compare badly with European buses—ours are pre Boer War!'

'The rail services have deteriorated over the last year. Need more stops added to London service and faster service'

'Improve the time-keeping of buses, especially at Alresford Road'

'Better service late at night returning from London'

'Plus comfort, warmth, air conditioning and cleanliness'

'Inter-changeable bus/train tickets'

'Need smaller-seated coaches—40/50 are too big, rarely full, make a lot of noise and are a hazard/nuisance on the main Wivenhoe Road'

'Local trains good—commuter trains poor'

'Better Sunday bus service'

### Route

'Re-instate the bus to Colchester General Hospital'

'Especially now the 78 no longer goes to the hospital and you have to walk from the road, which my husband can't do so we have to take a taxi'

'Need buses round Chaney Road to go to the doctors or chemist'

'Route 61 is in my opinion for the convenience of university students, not Wivenhoe residents. And why are buses which go through Wivenhoe in a much worse condition than any other national routes? I now only use the

78 (Brightlingsea bus)'  
 'Need a bus route to north Colchester that doesn't go through town'  
 'It's a long walk to a bus stop from my house, plus too much inconsiderate parking'  
 'A direct route to the hospital'  
 'Train service to the university'  
 'Bring back No 77'  
 'Generally a good service, but not always where I want to go'  
 'Need to get to Colchester General Hospital; also can't get to Elmstead Market'  
 'The 61 takes 40 minutes to Colchester—not acceptable'  
 'Routes to Cambridge, Newmarket, Bury St Edmunds'  
 'Need a direct bus service to the General Hospital—this is essential for older people'  
 'Why not extend the Stansted bus route to Wivenhoe Station'  
 'There should be better transport for the bottom of the village instead of only the 61'

### **Stops**

'A bus-stop that I didn't have to risk my life to use'  
 'There should be another bus stop on Alresford Road'  
 'More stops between Alresford and Millfields School'  
 'The Bellevue Road bus shelter should be repaired at very little cost'  
 'Better enclosed bus shelters'  
 'Need more stops—nearly everyone travels to Colchester'  
 'Connecting services, and a common bus stop in Colchester for all services to Wivenhoe'

### **Q9: Which of These Traffic/Parking Measures Do You Think Could Improve Wivenhoe Most?**

#### **Adequate Parking for Shoppers**

'The entrance to Vine Drive is dangerous due to parking on the shopping parade'

'Restrict parking in shopping areas such as Vine Drive'

### **Better Public Transport**

'Less public parking; better public transport integration'  
 'Shuttle for the elderly from upper to lower Wivenhoe and vice versa'

### **Cycle Paths**

'Wivenhoe Woods need to be tidied and the Wivenhoe Trail needs to be made more accessible'  
 'Stop building on what's left of the Wivenhoe Trail'  
 'There should be a cycle path from Wivenhoe to the university—separate from the Wivenhoe Trail'  
 'More access points the Wivenhoe Trail'  
 'Easier and increased access to the Wivenhoe cycle path'  
 'Could do with extending the Wivenhoe Trail to Alresford Creek'  
 'Install solar power lights on the Wivenhoe Trail'  
 'A cycle/walking bridge to Rowhedge'  
 'Need off-road cycle path to university'



### **Congestion**

'Clingoe Hill can be blocked'

### **Control Commuter Parking**

'Extend residents' parking to two hours in the morning to prevent them waiting until 8.45am, then parking on Station Road, getting on a train and being away all day'  
 'Stop commuters from using residents' parking'  
 'Station parking is spreading further onto residential roads  
 Parking by commuters clogs up the roads near the station and makes it im-

possible to park in the car park, to the detriment of the few shops remaining in lower Wivenhoe'

'Stop commuters using Woodland Way as daily parking'

### **Discourage School Runs**

'Stop parking outside Methodist Church when dropping children off and picking them up'

'Need traffic calming near Millfields School'

'Stop parking outside schools'

### **Discourage Thoughtless Parking**

'Stamp out illegal parking on pavements'

'Stop parking on grass verges—in most cases this is completely unnecessary'

'A purge on pavement parking'

'No parking on footpaths—I am partially sighted and find this unacceptable'

'If cars park on footpath and are not prosecuted, then at least ensure they leave reasonable space for pedestrians'

### **Encourage Householders to Park their Cars Off-road**

'More residents putting their cars in their garage rather than in the street'

### **Enforce Parking Rules**

'Need to enforce parking restrictions'

'Enforcing the law to stop pavement parking, cycling on pavement, parking on double yellow lines. Remove indicator signs from pavements'

'Enforce double yellow lines, especially at corners and major junctions'

'Too many cars parked on Old Ferry Road—commuters avoiding car park'

### **Entering Wivenhoe**

'Need speed camera, entering Wivenhoe near the Fire Station'

'A roundabout is needed near Londis and the Fire Station'

### **Improvements to the Spinal Route**

'Provide parking for the residents of the Avenue and reduce traffic along the Avenue'

### **Improve Road Maintenance**

'Improve terrible roads near Londis'

'Pot-holes in Valley Road'

### **More Parking Provision by Developers**

'Make developers provide sufficient garages/drives to prevent new residents parking all over the pavements'

### **New Roads**

'The Wivenhoe Port Road Scheme 1971'

'By-pass or new road into town'

'Bigger, better roads'

### **Pedestrian Footpaths**

'There should be pedestrian priority on the Wivenhoe Trail. I'm tired of being ridden at by bicycles on a public footpath'

'Not so much wider (footpaths, cycle path) but better maintained and restricted to pedestrians'

'Improvement to footpaths—they need re-doing to make a smooth trip-free surface and be wide enough to be safe from traffic'

### **Pedestrianisation**

'Pedestrianise the waterfront'

'Close the road at the railway bridge'



'No, to pedestrianisation of lower Wivenhoe—would be the death of Wivenhoe'

'No traffic except for access in lower Wivenhoe. Restrict parking, especially opposite my house'

'Pedestrians only below the railway bridge'

'Need traffic-free zones'

'Pedestrianise, except for delivery at specified times, with a parking ban, except for residents of lower Wivenhoe. French villages can do it. Why can't we?'

'It should be car free on the quay from May to October'

'Pedestrianise lower Wivenhoe'

'Pedestrian bridge to Rowhedge'

### **Public Car Parking**

'Stop residents using the public car park to park/store their cars'

'Stop residents parking in the public car park. Clamp them'

'More car parks, so less on-street parking'

'We need more public car parking'

'Too many cars in the car park that are there all the time'

### **Re-locate Business Centre**

'Business centre to move to outskirts—lorries are too big, going to it (house has been knocked)'

### **Residential Parking Schemes**

'I pay £70 and my (residential parking) place is always full'

'Remove existing residential parking and make a FREE station users car park'

'More residents only parking schemes to enable homeowners to park in the same street as their house, including weekends'

### **Restrict Use of Cars**

'Limit the number of cars per household unless they have off-road parking'

'Restrict each householder to two cars and make them pay for two permits'

'Encourage less car use in housing developments and think about road use before approving the plans (e.g. Cook's)'

### **Speed Limits**

'Enforce the speed limit throughout Wivenhoe'

'The Avenue probably has the most abused speed limit in the country.'

'People should take action against offenders'

'There should be a 20mph speed limit in the High Street and 30mph enforced elsewhere, on estates like Dene Park and Broome Grove where children live'

'Replacement of ineffective traffic calming in lower High Street with 20mph speed limit'

'Should be a 20mph speed limit to start at the Co-op'

'There should be a 20mph speed limit below the Cross and on Dene Park'

'Use automatic speeding signs on the main road through Wivenhoe like the ones used in Elmstead'

'20mph Home Zone throughout Wivenhoe'

'More consideration for pedestrians and cyclists'

'Reduction in speed of traffic'

### **Traffic Calming**

'Traffic calming in Bobbit's Way'

'Rumble strips at the top of Wivenhoe to slow down traffic'

### **Traffic Flow Measures**

'Less distracting highway signs'

'Relocate overhead power and telephone lines. Remove useless road lines and signs'

'Move lighting and power poles out of footpaths to create more room'

### **Other**

'Re-open Queens Road'

'Make up un-made roads'  
'Need more cheaper taxis and 'travel on request' minibuses'

### **Q10: Do You Have Any Difficulty in Getting to the Following?**

'Will have problems once I can't drive'  
'It's a long way to anywhere with good shops and no late night shopping'  
'It will be difficult when I get older'  
'Not if by car'

### **Q11: Do You Think The Number of Public Parking Spaces in Wivenhoe Should be Increased?**

'Parking should be free in public car park, but there should be a time-limit'  
'Many vehicles seem to be permanently parked there'  
'Free car parking for residents but high charges for non-residents'  
'Should be free parking'  
'No, people can leave their cars at home'  
'Not at the expense of any open spaces e.g. park'  
'Only for visitors or residents—not for commuters to use. Cars should be discarded as much as possible'  
'Larger public car park'

### **Q12: Do You Think There Are Any Major 'Danger Spots' (for Drivers or Pedestrians) on the Roads in Wivenhoe?**

#### **Access Roads to New Developments**

'If safety and road traffic were an issue then the developments would not

have been approved'  
'Make the property developers pay from their high profits'  
'Someone will be killed by the large lorries accessing Cook's construction site. The road surface, drainage and pavements are also being damaged'  
'Bowes Road, Bobbits Way and Dene Park suffer from speeding and heavy construction vehicles'  
'We need a better route to Cook's Shipyard'  
'Access to the new development at Cook's Shipyard is a major problem—it can't happen again'  
'Not happy with the new road scheme to Cook's shipyard'  
'Valley Road, following the blockage of Queens Road, especially the Bellevue/Park Road junction and the Park Road/Valley Road junction'  
'Construction lorries mounting the pavement and verges to get through'  
'Too many deaths—the new development is an accident waiting to happen'  
'New developments have brought too much traffic and very bad access'

#### **Danger to Cyclists**

'We need more cycle lanes—cycling is very dangerous'  
'Need a cycle path for cyclists travelling to university on the other side of the hedge'

#### **Danger to Pedestrians**

'Fewer pubs and more pedestrian crossings required lower down'  
'We need a pedestrian crossing near the Flag'  
'Better facilities for pedestrians—lower speeds everywhere'  
'There are no zebra crossings in lower Wivenhoe'  
'One day a car or bus will mount the narrow pavement and knock down a pedestrian or child (Rectory Road/Littlefields junction). Traffic takes the bend far too fast. Speed should be reduced to 25mph'  
'Vehicles do not stop at zebra crossings'  
'Pedestrians are forced off the pavement between the Fire Station and the university by cyclists'  
'Cars parking on the pavement cause families and children with pushchairs to walk into the road to get past them. It's an accident waiting to happen'

'It is extremely difficult for pedestrians—extremely difficult crossing the main road (top half of Wivenhoe) to catch a bus to Colchester. Traffic lights are essential'  
'Stop cyclists riding on the pavement—have had several close encounters'

### **Dangerous Bends**

'Drivers take the sharp bend at Tower Road/Spring Lane too fast'  
'Buses sweep round the corner of Bellevue Road onto the High Street in spite of not being able to see round the bend'  
'The Rectory Hill turn into Littlefields. Fast traffic frequently on the wrong side of the road. Traffic calming measures are required and 'slow down' strips'  
'Stop speeding in Alresford Road to allow us to get out of our driveways without verbal abuse from drivers. Give us a pathway around the bend to Wivenhoe so we can walk—elderly and young. At the moment it is much too dangerous. The speed must come down'  
'Parked cars on the Alresford Road, facing oncoming traffic and close to the bend'

### **Dangerous Cross-roads**

'The cross-roads near the Football Club are lethal'  
'There are overgrown hedges on the cross-roads near the Football Club and there is no lighting'

### **Dangerous Junctions**

'There is a blind spot at the junction of Elmstead Road/Colchester Road, when approaching from the right—need a mirror'  
'It is very dangerous at the junction of Elmstead Road/Colchester Road since the new flats were built. The pavement is too wide. Several people have been killed here'  
'Any junction of two roads is dangerous'  
'There should be a mini-roundabout at the junction of Bowes Road/Alresford Road'

'More double yellow lines required at the Tower Road T junction—did ask two years ago'  
'There is zero visibility at the Park Road/Queens Road junction'  
'The Rectory Road/Bowes Road junction is dangerous with speeding drivers on Rectory Road'  
'Kerb too far out in front of the new flats at Flag—it is only a matter of time before cars drive into one another'  
'Where the road has narrowed, just before Londis—why was this allowed to happen'

### **Dangerous Pedestrian Crossings**

'My son was hit by a car on the Heath Road zebra crossing last year.'  
'There is no lollipop lady at school time'  
'The pedestrian crossing at the Cross Post Office—someone is going to get killed'  
'Dangerous pedestrian crossing near Heath Road—near misses for pedestrians, especially at school times'

### **Dangerous Stretches of Roads**

'Pedestrians who use Elmstead Road are fed up of throwing themselves in the hedge to avoid speeding cars'  
'Pedestrians on the road between the university and Wivenhoe and on Broad Lane'  
'Pedestrians walking down from the Football Club'  
'No pavements and the horrendous speed of cars on Alresford Road'  
'Just near the Flag. There have been several accidents—people driving too fast and overtaking cyclists'  
'Electric wheelchairs driven along the roads'  
'All roads in lower Wivenhoe'

### **Inadequate Traffic Calming**

'Traffic calming has moved speeding drivers to Station Road—one day there will be an accident'

### **Ineffective Traffic Flow Systems**

- 'There is a blind spot at the Spar roundabout'
- 'Need a mini-roundabout at the Co-op junction'
- 'Improve traffic flow i.e. one-way system in lower Wivenhoe and wider pavements'
- 'Need mini-roundabout at entrance to Vine Farm estate'



### **Lack of Driveways**

- 'Britannia Crescent residents to be allowed driveways. CBC prevents this so cars have to be parked on the road'
- 'There are many near misses on Britannia Crescent as children/adults have to cross the road in between parked cars'

### **Narrow Pavements (or Footpaths)**

- 'The footpaths are very narrow, especially when walking with children'
- 'There is no footpath on Alresford Road and it is very dangerous for us and our grandchild getting to the bus stop near Millfields School'
- 'Narrow pavements are not good for mums with pushchairs when buses fly past'

### **Narrow Roads**

- 'The roads are so narrow, it is impossible to manoeuvre with parked cars'

### **New Roads Required**

- 'We need a new road from the station to join the Boundary Road and finish at the B&Q roundabout. This would ease traffic jams'
- 'Open new route into new riverside housing area at Cook's'

### **Parked Cars**

- 'People parking on the road instead of in their own drives'
- 'People parking outside their homes instead of in their driveways'
- 'Excessive street parking'
- 'Parked cars on grass verges, pavements, corners and junctions, on side roads'
- 'There is so much parking in Woodland Way—drivers frequently have to reverse to let other cars through'
- 'Parked cars on both sides of the road'
- 'Cars parked opposite the Chinese restaurant and house called Ten Acres, due to cars parked at the restaurant'

### **Poorly Lit Areas**

- 'Proper lighting at the top entrance of King George V playing field'
- 'There is inadequate lighting on the Bellevue Road/Rectory Road corner'

### **Poorly Maintained Pavements**

- 'Uneven pavements are dangerous for pedestrians'
- 'Broome Grove pavements are in terrible condition'
- 'The pavement on the road from Wivenhoe to the university is narrow and unlit and I have felt vulnerable walking along so close to the traffic and dodging the hedgerows'
- 'Uneven and poorly maintained footpaths and youths on bicycles causing hazards, especially for elderly people'

### **Poorly Maintained Roads**

- 'There is poor quality road surface in Vanessa Drive—undulations and holes in tarmac'
- 'There is a terrible road surface on the Vine Farm Estate'
- 'The road surfaces on Vine Farm estate are in an appalling state'
- 'Improve the roads—some have not been seen to since 1983'
- 'Part of Admiral's Walk is appalling—Persimmon did not finish the job and it is crumbling away'
- 'Potholes in Tower Road'

### **Poorly Sited Street Furniture**

'The new bollards opposite the hairdressers are a nuisance. Mothers with pushchairs can't get through'

'There are bollards everywhere and we have to walk in the road with our prams'

### **Poor Visibility**

'Overhanging hedges and trees should be cut back to improve visibility'

'The exit from the library can be dangerous as you can't see up and down the High Street'

'Cars parked on Spring Lane and Tower Road at the back of the doctors can be a hazard. You have to overtake on a blind corner. Yellow lines would be good'

### **Public Car Park**

'The public car park is always full with cars and vans that stay there for days without moving. Should be a time-limit on how long they can stay'

### **Railway Bridge**

'Need wider footpaths over railway bridge'

'Do something permanent about the mess on the railway bridge and make the signage in the village more in scale with the distances involved'

### **School Runs**

'Broomgrove School is particularly dangerous for pedestrians. The speed bumps don't help—people drive just as fast or straddle their car wheels either side of them'

'School buses loading and unloading children in places that block the road'

'We need a lollipop lady for Broomgrove Schools'

'Reduce the number of private cars used to take children to school'

'Need a zebra crossing up at Broome Grove, opposite the school. It is dan-

gerous for children crossing—make drivers slow down'

'Pelican crossing required outside the Broomgrove School'

### **Shopping Areas**

'Vine Drive shopping area is very congested'

'Should ban illegal parking immediately opposite the Co-op car park'

'Parking on the double yellow lines outside the Co-op, restricting visibility when crossing the road'

'Near Henley's fish shop—the road is a nightmare—how did Henley's get parking permission?'

'Colchester Road junction near Londis is very dangerous—made worse by the location of the bus stop and bus traffic'

'Shopping congestion'

### **Speeding Black-spots'**

'There should be a 20mph limit from the Park Hotel down to the river'

'Should be speed cameras on the main road'

'People drive fast coming in and out of Wivenhoe'

'There is speeding on Bowes Road into Wivenhoe Road—people don't slow down to 30mph'

'The buses are too fast'

'Some buses travel too fast, particularly in Bellevue Road'

'Need lower speed limits on all major access roads, not just lower Wivenhoe'

'Speeding cars leaving the station and going up past the library more like forty/fifty miles per hour'

'Much too fast on West Street/East Street'

'The closure of Queens Road has made Park Road and Valley Road into a rat run'

### **Spinal Route**

'Parked cars on the High Street and the Avenue impede progress'

'There is too much traffic in the Avenue/High Street'

'Need passing bays at the William Loveless Hall and on the Avenue between

the Co-op and Rosabelle Avenue'  
 'People drive like maniacs on the High Street'  
 'The Avenue should be one-way'  
 'High Street, where idiots are too fast'  
 'Keep Avenue clear for buses'  
 'Cars driving up the Avenue being unwilling to wait for single file traffic and mounting the pavement instead'  
 'Speeding restrictions need to be enforced on the Avenue—it's a race track'  
 'The parking and amount of traffic on the Avenue at peak times, especially in the dark, is very dangerous'  
 'Cars permanently parked in the Avenue cause traffic problems for buses and lorries. Many have to drive onto the pavement to get past, causing damage to the pavement and danger to pedestrians'  
 'The entrance road to the town is far too narrow'  
 'Coaches park on double yellow lines and on the pavement'  
 'Cars parked on the Avenue because they have no garage. It becomes a lottery travelling along that part of the road—a one-way traffic system would work better'

### **Volume of Traffic**

'The traffic is horrendous'  
 'There are too many cars and too many people wandering about on the High Street'  
 'The roads are unsafe'  
 'There are danger spots everywhere'  
 'Most of lower Wivenhoe'

### **Q13: If You Have a Car, Do You Have Difficulty Parking Near Your Home?**

'I have off-road parking (shared) but sometimes blocked in, or spaces taken by (student) neighbours'  
 'Yes, until I had my garden removed and a driveway made'  
 'Yes, but get blocked in by school run'

'It is difficult to get out of my driveway because of the way other people park'  
 'Shoppers park across my drive on the pavement and double yellow lines. Any attempt to resolve this through CBC is unsuccessful. There is an unwritten rule that allows for this kind of selfish, unsocial behaviour, 'on record' at the Council Offices'

### **Q14: Which, if Any, of the Following Crimes and Anti-Social Behaviour Concern You in Wivenhoe?**

#### **Anti-social Behaviour**

'Stamp out anti-social behaviour'  
 'Neighbours from hell—unsocial behaviour'

#### **Burglary**

'There have been a few break-ins in the Broadfield estate'

#### **Drunken People on the Streets**

'There are some noisy people along the quay and outside the Co-op at night'  
 'Noise along the quayside at night, especially in the summer, Christmas, New Years, etc.'  
 'Vomit on footpaths in vicinity of pubs'

#### **Fly-tipping**

'Fly tipping in lanes e.g. Keelar's Lane'  
 'Using my garden as a rubbish tip'

#### **Graffiti**

'Graffiti is a problem, especially at bus stops'

'Should tackle graffiti early'  
'Graffiti on houses'

### **Groups of Young People Gathering After Dark**

'There is general aggression from groups of young people at night. Saw one gang of around thirty year elevens from the Colne walking round Chaney Road last May at night'  
'There are gangs of youths late at night at the station—it is rapidly becoming a no-go area'  
'There are large groups of yobs congregating everywhere'  
'Groups of youths—they may be innocent but they make me nervous'  
'Groups of young people gathering by public phones—the noise and damage to property'  
'Gangs of children, as young as thirteen, drinking alcohol and walking up the Avenue shouting and throwing items from people's fences and gardens, and damaging property'  
'Youths gathering in King George V playing field and round the Co-op in the evening'  
'Yobs, roaming around at night'  
'Gangs coming off the trains from Hythe and graffiti-ing the Wivenhoe Trail—especially the underpass into the wood—it feels very threatening'  
'Groups of youths near the Co-op can be anti-social, noisy and intimidating'  
'Teenagers outside the Co-op intimidating old people and women, with no police involvement'  
'Gangs of teenagers, intimidating the old and the vulnerable'

### **Litter/Dog Fouling**

'Need to visit schools and educate children not to drop litter and waste things'  
'Litter—especially on King George V playing field'  
'Litter rubbish left by the refuse collection'  
'Do what the dog wardens do—catch a few people (dropping litter) and fine them'  
'There is dog poo everywhere'

'Youths making a noise around the station and skate-boarding; making a noise in the station car park—should be banned'  
'Rubbish in shelter on the quay'  
'Filthy dog owners who allow dogs to foul the pavements and my lawn'  
'Dogs fouling quay'  
'Fish and chip shop rubbish'

### **Noise**

'Noise from public events i.e. Wivenhoe days in the park'  
'The noise from mini-motor-bikes'  
'Frequent late night car revving, door slamming and shouting'  
'Motor-bike riders on fields or allotments'

### **Speeding Drivers**

'Young drivers—fast cars'  
'Slow traffic down'

### **Vandalism**

'Vandalism appears to be increasing in the past twelve years'  
'Wing mirrors broken'  
'A very good job has been done in making the bus shelters vandal proof, but we would be better off without vandalism'

### **Young People Causing Trouble**

'There is little for young people to do'  
'Kids, hanging around at the Co-op'  
'Halloween!'  
'Young people congregating outside my house. Skate-boarders, trick cyclists, mini-motorbikes and unsocial behaviour in general, "insolence"  
'Older kids making a noise and being abusive on the housing verge outside my house on Britannia Crescent. Also their parents are abusive when you ask them to enforce the "no ball games" rule'



'Late night rowdiness in King George V playing field'  
 'Young people sitting at the Co-op with nothing to do'  
 'Skate-boarding in the streets'  
 'Young people loitering aimlessly—they appear a threat even if not a threat at all'  
 'Youngsters on "pop-pop" motor-bikes'  
 'Teenagers causing trouble in

the car park'

'Young people climb onto council-owned garages next to our house and look into our windows, throw things in our garden and climb onto our roof (Parkwood Avenue)

'Noisy kids at railway station and King George V playing field and playground etc.'

'Sometimes the swings in the park have been wound round so that small children cannot reach them'

'Kids can be a noisy nuisance, but not exactly criminal or anti-social'

'Skate-boarding and street football in the dry dock'

## Q15: Do You Ever Feel Unsafe in Wivenhoe?

**Yes!**

### After Dark

'After dark—due to lack of police'

'More unsafe now that I'm older'

'Walking and cycling on the main road to Wivenhoe'

'Member of Neighbourhood Watch'

'I don't go out at night'

'On the Wivenhoe Trail. I would not use from dusk onwards. It is too dangerous to cycle so I use the car'

'Walking after dark in the streets'

'I don't go out at night unless in the car'

'At night in Parkwood/Woodland Way/Rosabelle Avenue'

'Walking through King George V playing field at night'

'I would not walk through the park or wood at night and I'm forty years old'

'The flood barriers after dark'

'I don't go out after dark on my own'

### At Home, or Alone

'At home when tins thrown through the bathroom window. I have to keep my car in the garage. My aerial was stolen when left in the drive'

'Outside my home in the High Street'

'When I'm on my own'

### At the May Fair

'At the May Fair—the sickly smell of hippies and their drugs'

'At the May Fair—drugs and drinking is blatant'

### Burglary

'Recent break-in on Rectory Road'

'Recently with a spate of burglaries'

### In Traffic

'When cement mixers overtake me on my bike'

### Poor Lighting

'There is no lighting across the pathway from the station through the park/ woods to Woodland Way'

'After dark, walking past the unlit play area on Broadfields Estate'

'Improve lighting on the Wivenhoe Trail'

'Poor lighting on the Avenue'

'In the park, during winter—there is no lighting'

'Parts of Wivenhoe when the street lights are out and can't get fixed'  
'More lighting in the car park'  
'Street lighting not working on Old Ferry Road and Meredith's Close'

### **Travelling by Public Transport**

'Getting on the London-bound train—because of the high step'  
'Getting off the bus is a nightmare'  
'At night near King George V playing field and walking home from the station'  
'Walking home from the station at night'  
'Leaving the station side entrance leading to the car park/park. There is poor lighting when I work late'  
'On the train at night and walking through the park at night'  
'In the evenings, walking past the cemetery—sometimes kids hang out near the bus stop'

### **Where People are Drinking**

'Large groups of drunken youngsters'  
'When drinking youngsters go down the road from the Park Hotel in the early hours of the morning'  
'After eleven, near the pubs'  
'Drunken youths vandalising property along the Avenue'  
'Yobs from pubs in late dark evenings'  
'Youths at Lower Lodge Farm, drinking late into the night (mainly summer) - sometimes until one or two o'clock in the morning'  
'Drunks in the High Street at 11.30pm'  
'Gangs of youths, drunk or generally being thoughtless e.g. end of term party in adventure playground'

### **Where There are Young People Congregating**

'Where there are groups of rowdy youngsters, walking the street and congregating at the Co-op'  
'Passing the Co-op or De Vere Lane at night—have witnessed anti-social behaviour'

'More youth clubs are needed'  
'The Co-op at night'  
'At night—round the shops'  
'Kids at the Co-op—only if I'm on my own'  
'Large groups of kids outside the Co-op—can be intimidating and I'm a 37-year-old male'  
'Need more for youngsters to do to keep them off the streets at night'  
'Feel uneasy rather than unsafe—outside the Co-op, pubs, late at night where youths gather'  
'Around the skate park'  
'Have been accosted passing the Co-op at night by a young bully. Two sixty-year-olds and one 36-year-old son, told to walk on by without turning to look at him or he would knock us to the ground. Totally unprovoked behaviour'

### **No!**

'It's pretty safe'  
'No, but my daughters do'

## **Q16: Do You Think That Any of the Following Measures Are Needed in Wivenhoe?**

### **Active Policing**

'Need active policing of the adventure playground and the Co-op area on Friday nights'  
'We need dedicated long-term community officers and more support from Colchester and Clacton—they don't turn up for ages'  
'We need a local bobby—we all miss Sid'  
'Police community support officers'  
'We miss the "local bobby" (although the present officers are very good)'  
'Need police foot patrols'  
'I hate this, because on the one occasion I left a message for our local policeman—the call was not returned'

'Need regular after-dark patrols'  
'There should be better policing of e.g. drunken behaviour, particularly of teenagers—this must be addressed'  
'I have never met a local bobby'  
'More police action when complaints are made to them'  
'Need our own police officers'

### **A Permanent Visible Police Presence**

'A permanent visible police presence would be welcome to help keep Wivenhoe a nice friendly town'  
'We need a police presence after dark'  
'The lack of police presence is disgraceful—only two hours opening time of the police office per week'  
'We need more police, but it won't happen!'  
'I would like to see a police presence at pub closing time'  
'Wivenhoe needs a permanent police presence—not just 'hover' policing based on Colchester'  
'Never see the police along the quay at night when teenagers are around'  
'Open the police station full time'  
'Clearer information about when the police station is manned, if it is at all'  
'How about a police station where there is supposed to be one?'  
'More visible policing at night time'  
'Wivenhoe used to have two full-time police officers. Now there is a part-time one who is hardly ever here'  
'Use the police house as a gift centre'

### **Better Inter-group Understanding**

'Eradication of racial, cultural related prejudice'

### **CCTV**

'We need CCTV, especially where youngsters gather'  
'We need more CCTV outside the supermarkets in the evening'  
'Strongly against CCTV—an infringement of civil rights and does not usually cut crime or aid in arrest'

'Need CCTV on the Wivenhoe Trail and Vanessa Drive. Also, is there a drainage issue on the marsh? A sluice gate or something? A kid could drown'

'A more visible police presence to keep the crime rate low'

### **Disperse Large Groups of Youths**

'Stop large groups of youths hanging about, especially outside the Co-op'  
'Need curfew for certain age groups'  
'Stop Colne High School end of year celebrations on Lower Lodge Farm each May'

### **Enforcement of Speed and Parking Restrictions**

'Traffic wardens—I cannot remember the last time I saw one'  
'Need speed restrictions and 'rumble strips', etc'

### **Enforcement of Under-age Drinking Regulations**

'Stop selling alcohol to youth (and their older friends). Take action to prevent vandalism and repair damage when it happens'

### **Improved Colchester Borough Council Policies**

'Colchester Borough Council's policies that contribute to anti-social behaviour, parking, road safety'

### **Improved Street Lighting**

'Street lighting is OK unless you go out after midnight'  
'There is too much street lighting—you can't see the stars'  
'There is too much street lighting after midnight'

### **More Activities for Young People**

'Should be arts, music, entertainment and education for all, especially young people'

'Congratulations on the skate-board facility'  
 'We need a youth club and worker'  
 'More allotments and youth projects for allotments'  
 'Better village links with the Integrated Support Unit—joint activities programme'  
 'Very little for eleven to seventeen-year olds—they would love a basketball court to use'  
 'Have all this new building but need a youth centre for today's youths—much needed'  
 'Making more sports facilities available to young people e.g. basketball court in the Wivenhoe Centre. Youngsters could practise there, but the court is locked. CCTV could control vandalism'  
 'There are plenty of activities—it would be interesting to find out why young people do not participate in many of them. Not cool enough?'



**Q17: Wivenhoe has Lost a Number of Shops in Recent Years. Would You Like to See More Shops in Wivenhoe?**

**Anywhere!**

'Anywhere that produces FRESH local produce'  
 'Wherever planning permission would be granted'

**Like What We've Got!**

'Co-op is good'  
 'The Co-op, Spar, Londis are good assets for Wivenhoe'

**Lost Them Because of Tesco's**

'The local shops closed because of Tesco's'  
 'It wouldn't have happened if people had used ex-shops instead of Tesco's'  
 'Close down Tesco, then there might be a chance for them to succeed'  
 'Tesco's is essential to the life and commerce of the village'  
 'We are all guilty of going out of town and not supporting those we have'

**No Chance!**

'Don't stand a chance—too near to Colchester'  
 'The bottom of Wivenhoe is dead, if it was not for the railway station it would close'  
 'Having lost so many, is this not just wishful thinking? Let's try to keep what we've got left'

**We Need**

'We need more traditional shops'  
 'We need a decent delicatessen to replace the current one'  
 'We need another chemist in lower Wivenhoe'  
 'McDonalds'

**We Need Local Produce/Businesses**

'Support the farmers' market, local produce, small business'  
 'We need more local providers in the village—the fish van for example'  
 'Any that can compete with the big stores—how can the council help small businesses to succeed?'  
 'Local home-grown types'  
 'Farmers' market every week'  
 'We need more local produce'



### **What We've Got Isn't Enough**

'Unless you want your hair done or your feet manicured, you're stuck, especially below the bridge'

### **Yes—Especially for People Without Transport**

'Especially for people who live and work in Wivenhoe without a car and don't have time to keep going into Colchester'

'Need shops in lower Wivenhoe for the elderly who can't walk up the hill to the Co-op'

### **Yes, Like a Proper Village**

'A real village/town where shops are able to be grouped together (Maldon has the right idea)'

'Restore the High Street to the shopping centre that it was—everyone needs bread!'

'Something like Dovercourt—only a few shops there but nice to wander and browse'

### **Yes, Near to Existing Shops**

'Near to the Co-op'

### **Yes, Where They Used to Be**

'There is room for shops on Waite's site [but now an opticians]'

'I miss Barton's'

'Alcock and Stevens do a very good local service, but what will we do when they retire?'

'Where they used to be'

'In existing lots, when empty'

'On Cedric's site'

'I wish Waites would return. We got all our electronics there—another use-

ful shop there would be nice'

### **Yes, But!**

'More shops only if viable'

'The Co-op is adequate and near—I can't see it being realistic to try and reinstate the kind of shops we've lost'

'Yes, but no longer viable'

Yes, but unlikely to happen—market forces'

Yes, but nobody would use them'

### **Q19: Many Post Offices in Small Towns Such as Wivenhoe Have Been Closed in Recent Years. Do You Think it Important That Wivenhoe Retains its Post Offices?**

'It has been a mistake to take so many services away from the Post Office such as council tax, TV licence, etc. Sheer vandalism'

'It is urgent to keep this in the village area'

'Keep the Post Office'

'Keep the post office with improved services, especially for older people'

'Absolutely brilliant service'

'Very important part of the village—should have a pay-phone or be allowed to do anything to keep themselves open'

'We would be lost without them'

'Only one would be all right—but more central'

'Should support existing shops and services—encourage new residents to start up'

'Only if viable'

'Definitely'

'The High Street one is brilliant and essential to our existence now that there is no bank and no building society'

'Keep the post office in lower Wivenhoe which is threatened with closure'

'Very definitely, and their photo-copier is well used''

'Yes!, Yes!, Yes!! - a vital part of the community'

## **Q20: Do You Think it Important That Wivenhoe Keeps its Public Library?**

### **Great As It Is**

'Absolutely!'  
'Yes, definitely'  
'Very important'  
'Staff are most helpful and the Internet facilities useful'

### **Could Be Improved**

'There should be more library events in the evening, such as story-telling'  
'The library needs modernising—maybe a top floor added—where you can go and work in a peaceful atmosphere and have access to computers'  
'Like it but could do more—the opening hours are not convenient for working people—more late opening, book groups, sofa/coffee, etc.'  
'Should be even larger and participate in after-school events'  
'Needs to improve the number of books and the outside could be made more attractive to invite people in'  
'But only if it obtains books that are not in stock very much faster and with more web terminals'  
'Needs better funding, more association activities e.g. use for small events/ classes when not busy'  
'Run small courses at the library. Smarten it up—it is too gloomy—and provide more funding and staff hours'

## **Q21: Do You Have a Health Problem or Disability Which Significantly Affects Your Day-to-day Living?**

'Yes, but coping at present'

## **Q22: How Satisfied Are You With the Following Aspects of the Wivenhoe Health Centre'**

### **Improvements**

'Have to take a day off to see the doctor'  
'Getting an appointment with your own doctor when you need it'  
'It is very hard to get an appointment to see my GP'  
'More evening and weekend appointments'  
'Need competent administration'

### **Location**

'A surgery in lower Wivenhoe so people can walk to it'  
'Need better health centre near to the Fire Station'

### **Not on the List**

'Changed to Colchester in 1995'  
'My GP is in Colchester'  
'Full up last time I tried'  
'Can't get on the list—though I'd very much like to'  
'Never been'  
'I use the university health centre'  
'I couldn't get in and had to go to Elmstead'  
'Could not register here—have to go to Colchester'  
'Not registered here'

### **What Health Centre?**

'What health centre?'

## Q23 Which Extra Health Facilities Would You Prioritise at the New Wivenhoe Health Centre?

### Better Pharmacy

'Current chemist service is dreadful'

### Better Surgery Hours

'Late opening one evening'

### Location

'The new site should be on Cedrics'

'Please do not move up onto the Fire Station'

'Build the doctors' on the cricket ground'

'A "satellite" health centre/pharmacy in lower Wivenhoe'

### More Doctors

'Need more doctors to cope with increased population'

'Additional capacity for all the new housing'

### Open House

'Could have an 'open hour' once a week with a nurse, information and question time'

'Open house for emergencies once a week'

### Other Services

'No homeopathy—no rubbish stuff please'

### Preventative Health Care

'Health advice in general'

'Facilities for regular health checks'

'Sometimes difficult for working people, but more preventative health care needed'

'Preventative health advice'

### Services for Older People/Under-fives

'Services for older people, so don't have to travel to Colchester'

'Special fitness classes for the elderly'

'Specialist help for the elderly and for parents of under fives'

'Fitness for pensioners'

### What Health Centre?

'Have been waiting for ten years now, and still no surgery'

'Didn't know we had a health centre'

'Where it is then?'

## Q24: Do You Go To a National Health Dentist?

'My dentist has just gone private'

'My dentist of forty years has just gone private and no longer treats me on the NHS'

'Private, but not by choice'

'Not in Wivenhoe—there are no more NHS spaces'

'Dreadful! My kids could jump the NHS queue if I went private—I find this immoral'

'Private, only because an NHS dentist was unavailable'

'In Colchester—unable to get on NHS dentist list since moving to Wivenhoe last year'

'Yes, I'm a NHS patient, but my dentist is in Scotland'

'Yes, in Clacton'



'My dentist has just left the NHS because of the new NHS contract'  
'Was on NHS but my dentist changed to Denplan only'  
'I use a military dentist'  
'There should be an emergency dentist at least'  
'In future—heard dentists here are not so good'  
'Wanted to go but couldn't find a dentist that is any good'

## **Q25: What Sport of Fitness Activities Would You Most Like to Attend/Participate in, if They Were Provided in Wivenhoe?**

### **Fitness Equipment**

'You could introduce some fitness equipment on King George V playing field (like the park in New Town)  
'Why not introduce fitness trail equipment on Wivenhoe Trail (they do this in Australia)'  
'Fitness gym at a reasonable cost'

### **Go Elsewhere**

'I go into Colchester for yoga, art and appreciation, singing, etc'  
'None—I attend university'  
'Got them all at the university, but it's not very well advised to people in Wivenhoe—needs better communication'

### **Improve What We've Got**

'It's not about more, it's about helping the current ones to be successful so they can continue to serve the community. How can the council help local sports clubs? They should encourage all schools to tap into these clubs—the cricket club, football club could all be used by schools. More help promoting the clubs in the community would help them to get more members'

### **More for Disabled People**

'Dance workshops for disabled people'  
'Exercise for the disabled'  
'Fitness programme for the wheelchair bound'

### **More for Older People**

'More classes for older people'  
'Fitness classes for the older citizen'  
'Gentle dancing for the elderly'  
'Badminton for elderly people'  
'To help with fitness as we get older'  
'Keep fit for older residents'  
'Social club for retired people (as in Colchester)'

### **More for Young People'**

'Father and baby club'

### **Not Applicable—I'm too Old**

'I am too old'  
'I am too old to do any of this'  
'Sadly' aged 91, I can no longer use these'  
'I'm past it!'

### **Not applicable—Have a Disability**

'Not applicable—I am disabled'

### **Plenty Already**

'These are not needed—there is water and there are footpaths'  
'I think we are well provided'

## Other Activities

'Fox-hunting!'  
'Sky diving'  
'Ultimate frisbee'  
'Horse race track'  
'African drumming'  
'Horse-riding'  
'Flamenco dancing'  
'Proper venue for ballroom dancing—  
William Loveless is far too small'  
'Golf-course (but I admit it would be a tall  
order to build an eighteen hole course!'  
'New skate-boarding site made larger—the  
present one is a joke'



## Q26: What Social or Cultural Activities Would You Most Like to Attend/Participate in, if They Were Provided in Wivenhoe?

### Adult Education

'Bring back evening classes here again'  
'Something to replace the (closed) Life-Long Learning at Essex University'  
'Courses used to be provided by Life-Long Learning at Essex University'

### Coach Trips

'Coach trips to West End shows/pop concerts'

### Drop-in Centre

'There should be a drop-in centre/café—a place for people to meet, exchange ideas and information'  
'Drop in centre for older people'

## Engine Shed

'What happened to the Engine Shed?'  
'Engine Shed if it ever gets off the ground'  
'Pull down the Engine Shed and stop wasting time on it'  
'Not the Engine Shed'

## Go Elsewhere

'Not needed—university obtained where necessary'

## More for Families

'More family-friendly events'

## More for Older People

'A senior citizens' club'  
'An active club for older people'  
'Cultural activities suitable for OAPs'

## More Craft Classes

'Bring back craft classes as there used to be at Phillip Road'

## More Cross-Cultural Activities

'More cross-cultural activities with those from abroad'

## More Outdoor Events

'More groups playing in the park (live music)'  
'Beer festival'  
'Keep the May Fair'

### **More Suitable Venues**

'Need more space/public buildings to hold activities of various types'

### **More Support from Council**

'Unsupportive council and figures in charge who block arts, music and other events in Wivenhoe e.g. the May Fair and the Engine Shed'

### **Other Suggestions**

'A small "really awful" orchestra group'

'Ann Summers' parties'

### **Plenty Already**

'Everything is provided and excellent'

'It is good already, but there is always room for more art, theatre and poetry, writing and reading'

'Plenty is happening already'

'Can't think of what we haven't got'

'Everything I like is already here'

'Happy with what is provided already'

'Already attend British Legion/Nottage'

'Social, cultural and educational facilities excellent anyway, with the added advantage of being close to the university; which encourages membership of the U3A'

### **Some Groups Full**

'Some groups are oversubscribed (I've been waiting for three years to join the quilting group)'

## **Q27: What Educational Activities or Classes Would You Most Like to Attend/Participate in, if They Were Provided in Wivenhoe?**

### **Adult Education Classes**

'Classes were available until Phillip Road was taken over for unruly adolescents'

'Re-establish the Phillip Road Centre for local residents'

'We need a suitable venue for educational facilities, preferably off school premises'

'Bring back Essex County Council adult education'

'Adult education (as previously at Phillip Road School'

'Computer studies for the oldies'

'Adult education has almost disappeared'

'Need a replacement for the Phillip Road Centre'

'Bird-watching for the elderly'

'WEA classes'

'Further education evening classes'

'Short courses, more courses and less waiting lists'

### **Activities for Children**

'More amenities for young children'

### **Activities for Young People**

'Bring Back Phillip Road for educational activities for young people'

'Once upon a time we had Phillip Road for this which also catered for activity and craft lessons. Nothing was put in its place and Greyfriars will be going soon'

## Q28: What is Your Preferred Time of Day for These Types of Activities?

- 'Day-time WEA'
- 'Day-time adult education'
- 'Weekend'
- 'Depends on activity'

## Q29: What Additional Sports, Leisure or Recreation Facilities (e.g. Gym, Sports Halls, Swimming Pool, Running Track, etc) Would You Use if They Were Provided in Wivenhoe?

### Improve Cycle Access

- 'More cycle paths are needed'
- 'More cycle access for lads at Broad Lane and a pavilion'
- 'Extension of traffic free cycle routes e.g. the river bank, downstream'

### Improve Outdoor Facilities

- 'Activities decrease as children become older and there is poor sports provision in Wivenhoe, despite football and tennis court'
- 'Develop use of outdoor spaces. Facilitate a "Forest School" to be used by schools and pre-school settings'
- 'Improve footpaths to improve accessibility in winter and wet periods'
- 'We need an all-weather surface—flooding on football pitch'



- 'Ice-skating rink'
- 'My son says crazy golf'
- 'More open spaces to walk and cycle'

### Other Ideas

- 'There should be a drop-in place such as a café that isn't a pub, where locals and visitors could find out about the town and meet and plan activities'
- 'There should be more access to university facilities'
- 'Problems with siting these and difficult to see how it would be more convenient than using the existing university facilities'
- 'Not keen on developing Wivenhoe land in this way, when Colchester has these facilities, gym clubs could be developed in current school premises'
- 'A youth centre'
- 'Swimming pool but not economically viable'
- 'Snow dome'

## Q30: How Do You Rate the Availability of Activities in Wivenhoe for the Following Age Groups?

- 'Independent clubs provide the only activities which are all built on help from volunteers. Without them there would be nothing'
- 'If you don't drink you are stuffed'
- 'All this costs time and money and pensioners can't afford it'

## Q31: Does Wivenhoe Need Any of the Following Improvements to Educational Facilities?

- 'Montessori baby group'
- 'Baby-sitting service'
- 'Have no school-age children'
- 'Wivenhoe has an exceptionally high proportion of "bright" children. These have the potential to do the most for their country, yet their value and needs

are overlooked'

'Current school premises could be used for holiday activities schemes'

'Art and craft classes for children and teenagers—painting, wood-carving, pottery, etc.'

'A full-time youth club—previously held in Phillip Road'

'Need a youth club three nights a week'

'Should be more forthcoming events for the elderly'

### **Q32: What Do You Think of the Number and Location of Houses Which Have Been Built in Wivenhoe in Recent Years?**

#### **Abuse of Open Space/Conservation Area**

'There should be no more use of land belonging to nature'

'The riverside was a common space. People swam, sat, played, walked dogs and socialised. Very poor trade-off to turn this into private designated spaces—a big loss to the community'

'Cook's Shipyard development in the conservation area is an eyesore. Un-sightliness of parking areas'

'We don't want new houses in the lower village where it's supposed to be a conservation area'

#### **Built on Flood Plain**

'Cook's shipyard is of mediocre design, overused options and should they have been built on the floodplain?'

'Built on flood-plain'

#### **Houses Too Densely Built**

'Stack them high; sell them expensive; watch them fall apart in twenty years'

'Do not have enough green space between them'

'Too many houses squashed in between other houses e.g. on Ernest Road'

#### **Lack of Infrastructure to Support Them**

'Roads are not adequate to support new housing'

'Roads should have been built before houses'

'Spinal route inadequate'

'There is a dire need for infrastructure and roads to support the new development'

'Access routes have not been upgraded to meet the extra residents'

'Need to upgrade the roads to and from Cook's shipyard development to cater for extra traffic'

'Respond to the need for an alternative route into/out of Cook's shipyard'

'Need road across the marsh to Cook's site'

'Cook's shipyard development built without any provision for road access is already a mistake. More development without any new access road would make things worse'

#### **Other**

'Never see the residents'

#### **Too Much Housing**

'Mass building has ruined lower Wivenhoe'

'Stop building now'

'There has been excessive house building'

'There are too many flats and too many concrete gardens'

'Wivenhoe is being ruined by the vast increase in noisy traffic and related problems'

'Stop building so many new houses'

'We don't want them'

'Cook's shipyard is over-developed with too many houses—suburbanisation of a potentially splendid site'

'Nice design but too many'

'A halt needs to be called on development, once Cook's shipyard is finished'

'You are ruining this town with all these new buildings'

'No, a thousand times, especially without added infrastructure like GPs, medical facilities, and access roads'

### **Wrong Location**

- 'Building on the port and shipyard sites was a mistake'
- 'Wivenhoe has lost all authenticity, both the old shipyards gone for houses. Sort it out!'
- 'Flats at the Flag are poorly located'

### **Q33: What Do You Think of the Design of the Houses Which Have Been Built in Wivenhoe in Recent Years?**

#### **Do Not Reflect the Character of the Town**

- 'The waterfront houses do not reflect the character of the town'
- 'Not unsightly, but do not reflect the character of the town'
- 'Out of keeping with the character of the town'
- 'Persimmon OK—Bovis and Bryant—too many, too dense, not in keeping with the village'

#### **Houses are Poorly Designed**

- 'The design of the new houses has made Wivenhoe the same as every other place, sadly'
- 'Wivenhoe is starting to look like everywhere else'
- 'Poor quality reproductions of long ago. Build something that reflects the age we live in'
- 'Ubiquitous design of southern cities—Tudorbethan'
- 'The Bovis development is like Disneyland'
- 'No more Toy-town'
- 'Houses are like "Toy-town" - boxes with trimmings and inappropriate city style railings'
- 'We need truly modern architecture. Houses with large rooms and windows'
- 'Housing has been designed by an architect with no imagination'
- 'Bog standard, crappy pretentious modern buildings'
- 'No bollards near new developments'

- 'Shabby kitsch—unimaginative, destroying pedestrian access to the waterfront'
- 'Too much "fake traditional" - no twenty-first century design—but what else do you expect from estate builders?'
- 'Houses at the west end of West Quay have the loo and bathroom facing the riverside walk!'
- 'Externally attractive quayside houses—internally poorly planned'
- 'A bit theme park'
- 'Design, generally boring—tend to copy old styles—where are the newer contemporary designs?'
- 'Houses look all the same and cheap'

#### **Houses Are Too Big**

- 'Footprint builds which turn out to be ten times bigger than the original'
- 'Houses are too big with little rooms and no gardens'

#### **Houses Are Unsightly**

- 'Flats next to the Flag are an eyesore'
- 'Houses with nine-foot brick walls and car ports'
- 'Bovis Homes and Persimmon are excellent, but Taylor Woodrow homes are unsightly and lacking in character and design'
- 'Unsightly and boring'
- 'Monstrosities'
- 'Some are well-designed—others are unsightly (near the Flag and Cook's Shipyard)'
- 'Future housing plans should blend with the town rather than the effigies that greet the eye at the entrance to the town by the Flag. These are most unsympathetic and an embarrassment'
- 'There is some unsightly housing, e.g. West Street/Quay Street—some are ugly. The new houses on the Shipyard are ugly'

#### **Houses Are Well Designed**

- 'The new homes on the Dry Dock and West Quay are well designed'
- 'You must be joking!'

'Better than some'  
'Housing is generally well designed—but too homogenous—windows too small—pastiche rather than inherently good design'  
'Various styles look fine'

### **Houses Too Expensive**

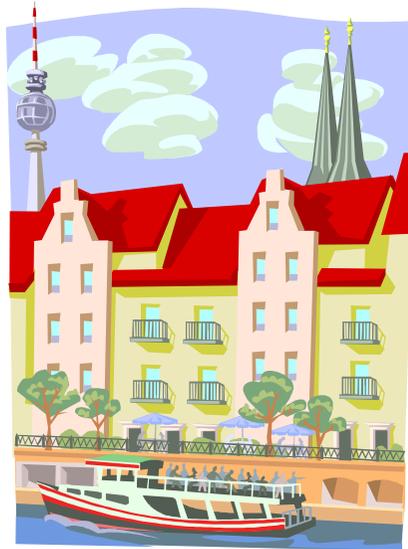
'New houses not affordable—too many bought by commuters'  
'Should be more for lower-paid workers'  
'Recent subterfuge on social housing'

### **Houses Too Small**

'Houses are too small with very limited outdoor space and tiny gardens'  
'The house building around the harbour/waterfront is too small and cramped. Commercial exploitation by the developers'  
'Typical English development—lack of space and general overcrowding'  
'They all look the same and cheap'  
'They all look the same—not enough space'

### **Houses/Flats Too Tall**

'I hate steep roofs—they are very ugly and adversely affect the skyline'  
'Why are there three-storey houses when previously they were not allowed?'  
'The waterfront houses are too high'  
'The new houses block the river views previously enjoyed by existing residents'  
'There should be no more massive blocks of flats extending into the river'  
'No more monstrous flats like those at the Flag'



'Too many apartments (Cook's Shipyard) - adds to car chaos'  
'Look at the disaster next to the Flag pub'

### **Lack of Gardens/Green Spaces**

'Non-existent gardens to satisfy the greed of developers'  
'Oblige developers to plant trees, not cover the ground with asphalt'  
'Less cars, bigger gardens, more trees'  
'Too little open space in the new areas, lack of trees, play areas'

### **Lack of Parking Space**

'There is a lack of parking on the new estate'  
'Small garages mean too much parking on the pavements'  
'Built too close to road, no driveways, insufficient garage space'  
'Houses need bigger gardens and drives to stop all car parking in the road'  
'Not enough off-road parking. Need spaces for two cars and cars are getting bigger, so parking suitable for a mini won't do'

### **Lack of Sustainability**

'What about carbon footprint, sustainability, vision'  
'Housing is poorly designed from a green point of view'  
'Too much cladding'  
'Orientation—not built to take advantage of the sun and passive solar heating'  
'Should be more adventurous—sustainable design'

### **No Consideration for Existing Residents**

'No visible consideration for existing residents, when allowing additional housing with regard to access on the port and shipyard area'

### **Poor Quality Build**

'They are poor quality—we live in one'  
'Look OK, but shoddy construction'  
'Awful build quality—unsustainable'

'Require high maintenance due to wood content'  
'Houses are attractive but very poor quality'  
'My new house will present with maintenance problems in the future—poor design'  
'Design is variable but build quality and workmanship is generally shoddy'  
'The Old Quay development is poorly built using 'floating housing' but no design. Cook's shipyard is poorly designed and poorly constructed'  
'By and large reflect the character of the town, but too much pastiche and poor build standards'

### **Q34 Do You Think That Wivenhoe Can Accommodate More New Housing?**

#### **Affordable Housing for Local People**

'More accommodation for Wivenhoe residents like myself. We struggle to live in Wivenhoe'  
'Should be limited and targeted at groups with special needs such as ties to the village'  
'Am concerned that social housing is being pushed up the hill'  
'Affordable housing only'  
'More housing for local people'  
'Should be less housing unless it is to help young people get on the housing market'  
'Affordable homes for young people as we cannot afford to live here'  
'We need more homes for locals to buy, not for outsiders to rent to students. I earn well over an average wage and I can't afford to buy property here. There are generally too many "buy-to-rents" in this village'  
'Too many luxury apartments and not enough first-time buyer homes'  
'Houses for those with a case to need them, while retaining the features that make people want to live here in the first place'  
'I would like to be able to buy an affordable 2/3 bedroom house in the village I grew up in. So I would like Wivenhoe to develop some housing to facilitate this. I am a single parent working part-time'  
'New development only to retain its young people and elderly'

'Local people should be able to afford local property instead of weekenders and "buy-to-let"  
'More homes for first-time buyers that are not rabbit hutches'

#### **More Affordable Rented Property for Local People**

'More attention should be shown to providing affordable, rented accommodation for single, locally born residents'  
'More rented accommodation/sheltered housing from existing stock and more spent on infrastructure, roads, parking and social services'

#### **NO!**

'NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!  
'We are at bursting point now!  
'The damage has already been done'  
'No, any more will be a joke—there is no more school accommodation'  
'Too many people now'  
'No more development in lower Wivenhoe. There is limited access with current roads, not enough school places for new families'  
'Not after Cook's shipyard project'  
'There should be no more housing or business units in the lower part of Wivenhoe. It's current charm is being destroyed by developers' greed'  
'Are you mad?'  
'Wivenhoe is already ruined'

#### **Only if**

'Only if the university is brought back into Wivenhoe and the debacle of Clin-goe Hill reversed'

#### **Only if Infrastructure Improved**

'The infrastructure has got to improve for existing houses, never mind any more, especially shopping facilities, medical facilities and young people action to reduce youths on the street at night-time'

### **Only On Previously Developed Land**

- 'All new facilities must be built on existing sites, e.g. health centre at Cedric's—no more housing'
- 'Only on brownfield sites'
- 'Only on previously developed land'
- 'Only on "brownfield" sites—no extension into green belt'
- 'No more green spaces to be used for building'

### **Q35: Which of the Following Kinds of New Accommodation is Acceptable in Wivenhoe?**

#### **Affordable Homes for Local People**

- 'Vulnerable groups have been marginalised in the current building boom in Wivenhoe, which has often excluded local people'
- 'There should be no "buy-to-let" when locals are struggling to get on to the housing ladder. Our kids cannot get on to the property ladder in this village'
- 'Local housing needs to be built by local builders for local people, NOT by large developers whose motivations are not in the interest of the people who live here'
- 'Some restrictions on the sale of houses to incomers, as is done in other places'
- 'Need affordable terraced housing—takes up less space'
- 'With sustainable homes and social housing for the bottom third of society that is being left behind in the current housing asset-grabbing frenzy of the wealthy middle class'
- 'More response to local residents' needs and desires. Not emphasising housing for commuters who can afford to pay more. Serving young families, the elderly and long-time residents'

#### **Affordable Rented Property**

- 'Affordable rented housing should be prioritised. There is a desperate

shortage of social housing'

#### **Conversion of Existing Stock**

- 'Conversion of existing stock'

#### **Homes for the Elderly/Disabled**

- 'There should be well-spaced housing and bungalows for the elderly'
- 'There are no retirement homes for elderly people who have always lived here and have to leave if they need care'
- 'I would like to see more emphasis on providing accommodation for the elderly and disabled community'
- 'Residential nursing home needed for older Wivenhoe residents'

#### **Mixture of Housing**

- 'More of all types of housing needed—there is too much focus on expensive properties on the Quay, which people can't afford and clogs up roads'

#### **More Riverside Apartments**

- 'More riverside apartments'

#### **Not for Renting**

- 'If we must have new houses, should not be sold for renting, not let to students—properties can become run down when rented'

#### **Only if Supporting Infrastructure**

- 'Wivenhoe is saturated with homes and NO SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE!'
- 'There should be no further, large-scale development without good access, open spaces, transport, some amenities, wc, café, marina'



'Stop building houses when there is no decent road'  
 'Estates should include shops, bus stops, leisure facilities, parking areas and parking for visitors'  
 'No more houses should be built without a supporting infrastructure, especially access roads, and without open spaces and parking'  
 'If building new accommodation—you should build roads and access to go with them'

### **Public Amenities Building Only**

'There should be building for educational and public facilities only. No more shops, no more estate agents'

### **Quality Developments Only**

'Quality developments, rather than "pack them in tight" property developer mentality that UK planning departments support, plus also ensure suitable infrastructure to support new development'

### **Q36: Do You Support the Idea of a 'Green Wedge' between Wivenhoe and the University'**

'Don't know what it is'  
 'No, unless university wants to expand'  
 'Presume this means no building on land between Wivenhoe and the University'  
 'Too late! Wivenhoe has now largely been engulfed into the urban area of Colchester'  
 'If development essential it should be eastwards, retaining the green wedge with the university'  
 'No more development on green belt/wedge'  
 'Yes, but consideration must be given to using this as a new route into Colchester'  
 'Yes, but allow new health centre and new bike route to the university'  
 'Could develop on "green wedge" with roads to support houses on the Clin-

goe Hill/University Road'  
 'Yes, if it means no more housing'

### **Q37: How Well Do You Think the Planning Process Operates for Wivenhoe?**

'Very poor indeed, e.g. the port development was unpopular even before building work started'  
 'Shipyards development a major error, because of dangerous access routes'  
 'Should be better advance planning before building so the town is not in a dangerous state, e.g. roads and traffic'  
 'Councils should listen more and take the views of residents seriously'  
 'Wivenhoe Woods partly sold off, only knew when the JCB diggers moved in'  
 'I fear that you'd build it anyway'  
 'Insufficient notice taken of local opinion and Wivenhoe Town Council Planning Committee'  
 'There are too many homes built in what should be a green conservation area'  
 'By allowing local residents' opinions to be heard and understood and taken notice of. Recent development at Cook's has trampled on local residents who must now put up with the consequences. Only the developer has a voice'



### **Q38: Wivenhoe Currently Has a Conservation Area to Preserve and Enhance Various Architectural and Historical Features in the Lower Part of the Town'**

'Should be more inclusive—there is not a division between upper and lower Wivenhoe'

'Get rid of seven new ghastly signs in conservation area'  
 'I wasn't aware of the conservation area and would like that to be better explained'  
 'More protection and enhancement of the conservation area'  
 'Stop the relentless building by the riverside, in the woods and over-development of the conservation areas'  
 'There should be less rush to give the conservation areas to property developers'  
 'Enhance the conservation area—with grants to keep the area looking in period'  
 'Should be properly looked after until all further development is banned'  
 'Should remain and be enforced'  
 'It didn't stop any of the development of the port or shipyard site'  
 'The older buildings should be preserved'  
 'Protect and enhance green areas, particularly King George V playing field.'  
 'Protect the quality of the built environment and architectural heritage'

### **Q39: How Would You Like Wivenhoe to Develop?**

#### **Arts Facilities**

'More facilities—the Engine Shed—an arts and music venue, but to reflect all musical tastes. Should consult the whole community, not just those who've moved into houses nearby'  
 'As an artistic hub'  
 'Into the Essex Whitstable! Have more contact with the new arts centre in Colchester—a smaller venue? - and publicise the place—it is heaven in the summer'  
 'The town lends itself to the artistic and cultural; it should continue to do so. People should be encouraged to enjoy this treasure without destroying its character'

#### **Business**

'We should build a purpose-built business park'

'There should be more industrial units and types of employment encouraged so that we can once again become a work community, as in the days of the woodyard and the shipyard'  
 'No more houses. Business units to increase and help local businesses'  
 'Got to have some business/light industrial units developed on brownfield sites'

#### **Café, Restaurants**

'A completely non-smoking wine/coffee bar both inside and out would be greatly appreciated'  
 'A no alcohol café opening in the evenings and in the day as an alternative to the pub'  
 'Need more shops in lower Wivenhoe and a coffee shop for families'  
 'Need more shops and cafes where local people can meet'  
 'I would like to see more places for families to go and be able to get refreshments—other than pubs'  
 'Better quality eating places and at least one pub'  
 'Fewer cars. A decent café'  
 'I would like to see more of a café culture'  
 'Develop more of a café culture by the river'

#### **Car Parking**

'Could have an extended car park for day visitors. Levy a small charge with no overnight parking'

#### **Community**

'Its important to keep a sense of community in Wivenhoe No more areas to be built up for profit and gain'  
 'More people getting involved in local associations'  
 'There should be more community based socials and opportunities for people to get to know more people who are not around in the day'  
 'As a village community in which young adults brought up in Wivenhoe can afford to secure their own home and continue to live here'  
 'Encourage more residents to join in the community spirit that we are losing'

'Involve newcomers/commuters in community activities –build a new community centre for the raised population'  
 'Remain a viable community, with local independent shops and extensive Home Zones'  
 'Not developed but helped to return to the lively self-sufficient community it once was'  
 'More community and church involvement in planning for Wivenhoe'  
 'To become a family-friendly town with regular events'  
 'Encourage community events and arts, plus local reminiscence week and integrated arts for kids and older people'

### **Community Facilities**

'We need a decent seized community hall'  
 'Build a decent public hall in addition to William Loveless. Current facilities are totally inadequate for performing arts, clubs, etc'  
 'Large community building to include hall/theatre for theatrical and musical events'  
 'Needs a decent community hall to support all the activities in the town'  
 'We need to acquire some public buildings (halls/performance spaces) to meet the needs of the expanded population for cultural/leisure/sports facilities'  
 'William Loveless Hall is not adequate enough to cater for all that is needed'

### **Commuters**

'I fear it will become a commuter town and full of holiday homes'  
 'Make more effort to encourage commuters to become part of the community'  
 'Should remain a quiet village—not a commuter paradise. These people bring nothing to the town'  
 'Need more creatives and less commuters'  
 'Most new houses are owned by commuters or rented out'  
 'In an environmentally friendly way. We are becoming a commuter town which is in danger of losing its young people who cannot afford to live here'  
 'Unhappy when hear the news that all the good is being squeezed out of Wivenhoe to turn it into a commuter town and lose its community spirit'

'Wivenhoe is a commuter town and that is its future. Do not ignore the car—it is a fact and no green policing will make it go away. Allow for it in the planning stage'

### **Countryside and Open Spaces**

'There should be no more encroachment into open spaces and wildlife areas'  
 'Continue to preserve the woodland and open countryside'  
 'Soon there won't be any green fields left'  
 'There should be more open, free and wild places'  
 'Green belt to remain and more facilities—more open space if more houses'  
 'Leave the green fields as they are for people to enjoy as they should be'  
 'More open and green spaces—make provision for wildlife areas'  
 'After so much building I would like to see a concentration on providing pleasant green areas with benches and flower-beds'  
 'I would like it to keep its surrounding countryside and not have any more houses built'  
 'As a haven of peace and quiet, with pedestrianised zones, more planting, play areas for children'  
 'I would prefer King George's field as open green space'  
 'Need more public spaces open to the public'  
 'Avoid overcrowding and road congestion. Retain plenty of space for walking and sailing'



### **Crime/Policing**

'We need a full time resident police officer to account for the significant rise in population over the last twenty years'  
 'We need the permanent re-establishment of the police station'

'Dysfunctional families should not be allowed to move to Wivenhoe'  
'Stamp out anti-social behaviour. Make it compulsory for all residents to taken an active part in Wivenhoe life'

### **Environmental Issues**

'Residents and visitors should be made more aware of environmental issues'  
'Should be greener, metaphorically and literally'  
'I would like to see Wivenhoe become innovators in "green ideas" and providing fun spaces for children/anyone to hang out and enjoy'  
'Greener, more protection of wildlife/woodland/open land and fields. To become an advocate of the natural landscape—an advocate for environmental care'  
'Be an environmental centre of excellence'  
'In a sustainable way, without increasing its carbon footprint'

### **Health Centre**

'Plans for facilities for doctors have been underway for ten years—the housing has been here only for seven to eight years'  
'Modern purpose-built medical centre'

### **Historical Features**

'Pull down the water tower—it is a waste of space'  
'Keep as much historically as possible—a waterside town/village'  
'More large green areas—enhance old Wivenhoe—promote the history of Wivenhoe (boat-building, etc) keeping sites of interest'  
'Keep the historic and maritime features of the waterfront well preserved'  
'Preserve and build on its maritime history and links with the university that makes Wivenhoe unique'  
'Retain the historical character of Wivenhoe—no more housing'

### **Housing Development**

'Claw back housing for local people and first time buyers'

'Bryant Homes should not have been built. It could have been a lovely lake and waterside park'  
'Could probably support a little more development'  
'Shabby, kitsch, unimaginative, destroying pedestrian access to the waterfront'  
'New housing completed in a tasteful, beautifying manner'

### **Improve Infrastructure**

'No more useless arrangements for traffic—the surgery and other facilities should have come first'  
'We need well planned expansion in step with service provision, especially doctors'  
'Wivenhoe requires improved facilities—a medical centre and a sports/leisure centre similar to the one provided in West Mersea'  
'Need a new health centre and a new cemetery'  
'Stop building new houses. Improve the infrastructure for existing properties and leave Wivenhoe alone to mature into the special place it once was'  
'Improve infrastructure for current town and do not develop any more. No more housing'

### **Improve Quality of Life for Existing Inhabitants**

'Improve the quality of life for existing inhabitants rather than expansion.  
'Developers make money without respect for the community at large'  
'In a dweller-friendly manner, for the good of those living here, not the short term interests of property speculators'  
'Develop quality of life rather than the size of the town. Encourage more associations to form and grow. Support for all people to participate who get left out at present'  
'Encourage people to take an active role. Wivenhoe is a great place to live in and I am lucky to be one of the happy residents'  
'Look after existing residents, not newcomers'  
'We should improve what Wivenhoe has now rather than building more houses'  
'Improve what we have rather than build new rubbish houses, and increase local shops'

'Improvement in quality of life for residents; reduction in traffic; more facilities in the town to avoid car travel; a cultural and arts centre—what happened to the Engine Shed?'

'Let's concentrate on what is here—get that right first'

'Maintain the status quo and enhance the quality of living'

### **Maintain Character of Old Riverside Town, Village Atmosphere and Sense of Community**

'Feel the character of the town has been recently ruined by unsympathetic development'

'Let the unique character of the town dictate decisions'

'Wivenhoe is a town to be proud of in its quality and heritage'

'Retain the character of the town, but at the same time become more cosmopolitan'

'As an individual town with a heart and an identity. We should preserve our heritage and culture and exploit our university town status. Every visitor should leave with a warm positive feel about it'

'Consolidate its good aspects. Retain its village character if possible'

'More of a community with local facilities and shops but not big stores'

'Maintain its character and enhance it and not become an urban sprawl'

'Maintain the village openness and not become part of the "build at any cost mentality" that seems so rife in council mentality'

'By retaining the rural quality and not just trying to turn it into a small town like others'

'Enough is enough. Retain the character by nurturing what we already enjoy—a friendly, courteous, reasonably safe environment'

'Keep its rural village status'

'To regain its "village atmosphere" and character that has been lost over time'

'It no longer has a village feel to it, hence no community spirit'

'Try to keep the village atmosphere in Wivenhoe while accepting the new development. Keeping the traffic in check and not letting the yobs take over'

'Need to retain "village atmosphere" and feeling of safety'

'Cleaned up but not gentrified'

'I am a recent inhabitant of Wivenhoe. I like the character and community

ethos. I have not integrated entirely but I enjoy its facilities, so I suggest you maintain and develop what you have already'

### **Modernise , More Development**

'Needs to be more modern—sports, shopping, entertainment'

'Some people want Wivenhoe to stand still. If it does it will die. We should encourage new people into the town and give them a clean, safe, friendly environment. Some of Wivenhoe is untidy and it needs to improve'

'As a progressive small town community'

'Not at all apart from keeping up to date electronically'

'Wivenhoe needs to attract more economically active people. It needs larger, less dense housing to attract professional young people—plus a new link road to Colchester'

'Town should develop an upmarket ethos of identity'

'The only way that shops, buses and trains will improve is if more people live here to use them'

'Urban intensification on previously developed land/underused land within the framework of the Local Design statement'

'Develop the old shipyard area with houses, businesses and another doctor's surgery'

### **More Diversity/ Integration**

'The town should provide more facilities for everyone to enhance experience and expertise across all genders, races, and ages'

'Should provide for a multi-age population with diverse needs and aspirations'

'Wivenhoe needs to become more integrated. Residents who live outside the conservation area should be more accepted'

'Needs increased diversity to prevent it becoming a white, professional, middle-class ghetto'

'As a town where the old and the young are respected and enabled to live life to the full. Where we can be proud of our attractive, clean, interesting town when visitors come to Wivenhoe'

'As a village community welcoming newcomers from diverse backgrounds but not pricing local people out of the market'

'There should be more development of community in the upper end of the

village, above the Cross, as this area is isolated and does not feel part of the village as a whole'

'A multi-cultural town with people of all ages'

'Keep the good things—mixture of population—ages, long-term and short-term residents, household affluence, international mix and increase accommodation for special needs'

### **More Facilities for Upper Wivenhoe**

'More facilities for upper Wivenhoe; upgrade play areas; make the land around upper Wivenhoe more accessible for recreation'

'There is too much emphasis on lower Wivenhoe. More attention should be paid to the whole of the town with facilities for everyone'

'Stop going on about lower Wivenhoe and give equal concern to the rest of the town'

'How about some kind of a community hall at the top end of Wivenhoe'

'More facilities for upper Wivenhoe—it's not all about lower Wivenhoe—need more play facilities'

'So it's a real community and not one of top and bottom Wivenhoe. Top Wivenhoe is treated very poorly compared to lower Wivenhoe'

'More money spent on top end of Wivenhoe—roads and playgrounds. Any new houses should be affordable to locals and less dense'

### **New Road Access**

'Make property developers pay for new road out of their huge profits'

'Could open new main access road by upgrading Ballast Quay Road/Keelar's Lane and on to join main Clacton/Harwich dual carriageway—would relieve Colchester traffic flow'

'Access to lower Wivenhoe is poor. A different route in and out is required. The road cannot support more houses'

'There needs to be another road out of Wivenhoe'

'A new road to link the A120 to the bypass at Clingoe Hill and open up Boundary Road to ease traffic congestion'

'Growth is inevitable—more thought should be given to access by road'

'Need better access to the A12 to avoid congestion on Clingoe Hill/by-pass/Avenue of Remembrance'

'Force the existing developers to build a road from Cook's shipyard to Alresford'

'Create a new road to avoid the High Street and the Avenue'

'Open the end of Castleward Close on to Ballast Quay Road to access Anglesea Road and onto Cook's development'

'Build new roads to undo bottle-necks—add pedestrian crossings, especially on the High Street'

'Someone pull a finger out and get another road up to Alresford way—NOW!'

'Need more roads for access to Wivenhoe—the port site up to Clingoe Hill'

### **No More Housing Development—Keep It As It Is**

'Put a stop to house building. For Wivenhoe to continue to be an attractive place to live in it is important that the town does not grow any physically larger'

'More emphasis on innovative housing, including new health centre in lower Wivenhoe'

'No more new houses—it is ruining Wivenhoe as a small neighbourhood community'

'I'm quite happy as it is. Otherwise we wouldn't have stayed so long'

'Looks fine—keep it as it is'

'Go back to how it was before all the new housing'

'It used to be a very nice village. With all the new housing it is more like a rat-race fighting to get out of the village to get to work'

'Stop all further development of lower Wivenhoe waterside. Don't sell these areas off'

'Wivenhoe needs to preserve its distinctive character and sense of community and therefore needs to restrict new housing development and traffic'

'There should be a moratorium on building for several decades. As the "conservation area" is preserved the rest of the town is engulfed'

'I think it's great as it is'

'I wouldn't—I love it the way it is now—no more development, too many houses, not enough space'

'Wivenhoe is an amazing place, due to the energy and openness of people'

'Keep it beautiful'

'As a safe, up-market self-contained community'

'Keep as it is. It has grown a lot in the last ten years'

'No more development. I love Wivenhoe—it's wonderful as it is—long may it last. I am a new resident, but would fight for its continued beauty'  
'I would prefer Wivenhoe to stay a small quiet village'  
'No more estate agents and no charity shops'

### **No More Housing Development—Losing Identity and in Danger of Becoming a Suburb of Colchester**

'We are in real danger of becoming a dormitory town'  
'Preserve what remains of the rural aspects of the town before it becomes a suburb of Colchester'  
'There should be no more houses before we expand into Colchester. Need more local shops, something for teenagers to do—a sports hall or a youth club'  
'Retain present character without dividing into a dormitory for car owners and a "council estate" of resentful youths'  
'Preserve and protect what it has got and not become another British dormitory'  
'Keeping independent and cultural style distinctive from Colchester'  
'To think beyond new housing alone. Where are children supposed to go to school? We're in danger of just becoming another faceless town'  
'By not forgetting its roots and bringing them into developments as much as possible so don't just become another town'  
'We are already a suburb of Colchester and the community spirit no longer exists, except maybe in the older generation who were here before all the developments'  
'Stay separate from Colchester. Lose much of the "to let" accommodation. Unfortunately most students, single families will not integrate'

### **No More Housing Development—Over-developed As It Is**

'The town is already bursting at the seams'  
'Cook's Shipyard should be the end of development in Wivenhoe'  
'Wivenhoe is saturated with building'  
'No more housing development bringing more cars and destroying open spaces'  
'The shipyard development is too much for roads to cope with and is on a

flood-plain area. Development in lower Wivenhoe should stop. If any more should be at the top'  
'I'd like the "greedy builds" that only serve the second home investors, buy-to-let, to stop now, please—because of this we are moving and no doubt our house will be bought and let. Good luck Wivenhoe!'  
'Any more development could cause the village to become grid-locked'  
'Certainly not in lower Wivenhoe—it has been spoilt for everyone'  
'If building continues we will probably move away after 25 years hence'  
'It has clearly experienced phases of enormous and really ugly development which has added little to the charm of Wivenhoe'  
'The town cannot cope with the increase in houses and problems of traffic, flooding, etc. that have been experienced in the last few years'  
'I believe Wivenhoe has already reached maximum development for the general comfort of the populace'  
'It's over-developed and ruined'  
'It cannot be developed any more. Traffic is already a nightmare—most houses have two cars. Access to lower Wivenhoe cannot be increased'

### **No More Housing Development—Without Improving Infrastructure**

'I have never seen Wivenhoe in such a state'  
'Develop existing services and infrastructure with no further pressure from housing. Quality not quantity'  
'Wivenhoe should be developed in a holistic way so money is automatically earmarked for schools, resources, health centre, etc. to serve increased population'  
'Need to design more facilities and traffic parking and no more high impact developments. Maybe needs sheltered old age areas instead and restaurant and shopping areas'  
'No more building—the infrastructure cannot support it. Roads are frequently blocked due to narrow roads which are unable to accommodate heavy traffic'  
'The access to Cook's shipyard is totally unsuitable—it is ridiculous that Queens Road has been closed'  
'The roads in old Wivenhoe can never cope with extra traffic once people have moved in. It will end in lots of accidents'  
'No more building—better policing and traffic calming'  
'In an orderly and structured fashion, with thought given to infrastructure,

facilities and services for an increased population'

'Only with significant investment in the infrastructure—another road into Colchester, the opening of the university road and more trains to use to get to Colchester'

'Far too many houses built in lower Wivenhoe, especially at Cook's. Priority is for a public car park to keep roads clear'

'Growth is inevitable – more thought should be given to access by road'

'With such a fast-growing population, need more shops and sports facilities—a large community hall as well as the one provided. Need better bus services, bigger car park in the village centre for non-commuters, youth facilities, and better more frequent bus services'

'I don't think it should be any bigger than it is now, no more housing is necessary, the roads are too small for any more traffic'

'Lower Wivenhoe near the east quay is being strangled with congestion. In any development should be open green spaces for children and adults to play'

'Access via a different route e.g. Alresford Road'

'Should be no more development until the roads are improved around the residential areas and entering and exiting the town i.e. Clingoe Hill traffic'

'An increase in road access is essential before any more redevelopment is carried out'

### **Older People**

'We should be paying more regard to the needs of the older population'

'Café clubs for older people'

'Thought should be given to the ageing population as well as the young—green spaces and parks would vastly improve the look of Wivenhoe'

'More low cost activities for OAPs'

'More facilities for older people—adult classes and sports opportunities'

### **Only Develop Slowly and Thoughtfully**

'Sympathetically! You cannot magic an ancient village into a modern metropolis. Accept this fact—the traffic is bad enough now'

'Slowly with a care and attention to infrastructure and transport issues'

'Development should be sympathetic and avoid cramped housing in the

dock area and excessive use of large "warehouse" style buildings on the frontage which are too big'

'Slowly, with less input from developers such as the ones who have put up unaffordable (to local people) housing; who ride roughshod over any planning restrictions such as Persimmon and the quay development'

'Naturally, without too much interest from planners who have little ideas of people's needs when improving their houses'

'When the interests of residents are respected by housing development companies and Colchester Borough and Essex County Councils'

'Development has been so helter-skelter that it would be appropriate to call a halt and let things settle for a decade or so'

'At a pace to enable new arrivals to integrate and become part of the community. It would be nice if it were not to become a dormitory town for London'

'Slowly, without spoiling the natural beauty of the riverside location and the surrounding countryside'

'Slowly—I do not wish to see Hythe and Wivenhoe joined up either by housing or a business park'

'Any future development should be minimal (Wivenhoe is beyond carrying capacity), sensitive to local and environmental needs (e.g. no building on green land), enhance community facilities (e.g. health centre), improve transport (especially bicycles and public transport)'

### **Pedestrianise**

'Pedestrianise lower Wivenhoe as much as possible'

'In a largely car-free town'

'The bigger a town becomes, the larger the journeys people make and then they feel that they must go by car, whereas a town where people walk and cycle is a much more pleasant place to live'

'Less traffic and more space given to pedestrians and cyclists and public transport users'

'With more consideration for people who already live here'

### **Planning**

'Establish good ongoing consultation process with local authorities explaining why they accept or reject consultative findings on a regular basis'

'Development not influenced by a central authority but by local residents'  
'Planning for Wivenhoe should be thoughtful and careful and consider the whole town—not piecemeal as at present'

### **Play Facilities**

'We need more playgroups and activity centres'  
'We need better facilities for children i.e. adventure playground—not just swings, slide and a roundabout'  
'More "safe" play areas for young children'



### **Public Footpaths**

'Keep all public footpaths, especially access to river walks and the woods'  
'Have easier access to the riverside cycle path, rather than the dangerous crossing into the adventure playground i.e. a bridge or underpass for cycles, pushchairs, wheelchairs and walkers with small children'

### **Quay and Riverside**

'The waterside should be looked at with a view to improving it and developing this very important amenity'  
'Develop the riverside in a fitting, sensitive way, i.e. not housing'  
'Development should be restricted to area above the quay to retain its unique charm'  
'We need waterfront development based on a nice array of restaurants and coffee houses'  
'Open another pub/brasserie on riverside. The Rose and Crown needs the competition'  
'No parking on the Quay'  
'Make use of natural resources e.g. marina and storage of boats would bring a lot of trade to the town'

'Make more use of the river for public transport. Run the ferry on weekdays'  
'Take advantage of the riverside and new development. There could be tea-rooms, café-bars and lovely walks'  
'Need more social areas along the waterfront, restaurants, cafes, picnic areas'  
'Remove quay eyesores and have more seats. Otherwise stay the same'  
'Keep the river as unspoilt as possible'  
'Smarten up the area by the river. A few more shops, a swimming pool. Don't try to make into a bigger place—keep the charm'  
'Keep the connection with the sea. Keep the unique ambience and wonderful mix of people. Retain the friendliness'  
'The waterfront could support a good marina with recreational facilities'  
'The fishing and boat-building history need to be reflected in developments in lower Wivenhoe'  
'We could do with a boat-launching slipway (for free use by local people)'  
'Cancel urban developments such as the riverside and convert the old shipyard land to a public garden'  
'More seating on the quay'  
'I would like to see riverside development, more for the pleasure of local residents and better moorings for local fishermen'  
'Develop use of the major natural resource—the river—better landing for small craft—visitors pontoon on West Quay. Clean up the old quay'  
'I would like to see more made of the riverside, which could be Wivenhoe's most attractive feature. At the moment the quay is a mess'  
'Should be public ownership of the quay'  
'Greater acknowledgement and use of the river; better accessibility at low tides'  
'There should be as little disturbance to the riverside and wildlife as possible'  
'Never to build on the saltings beyond the Sailing Club'  
'By remembering the way Wivenhoe was, with the river bringing work to the town'  
'Encourage return to traditional business, boat-building, sail-making, etc.'

### **Roads and Pavements**

'Better maintained pavements—Park Road is awful'  
'Tidy up existing built up area. Remove overhead wires and excessive signage'

'Remove unnecessary street furniture'  
'Improve the state of the roads which need a lot of repair all around Wivenhoe'  
'The roads on Mede Way are in a terrible state of repair—there should be more money spent on upper Wivenhoe'

### **Re-Development**

'Help could be offered to improve tatty areas e.g. some semi-derelict private houses'  
'Re-develop existing building to create affordable housing for local young persons'  
'Existing older houses should be beautified with sensitivity and widespread tree and shrub-planting'

### **Schools**

'Wivenhoe needs another primary school due to new housing'  
'No more house-building—will need an extra school'  
'New schools for primary and secondary children as well as more roads and cycle paths to newly developed parts of the town'

### **Shops**

'More local shops with local produce; sea food, restaurant'  
'More shops to draw more people'  
'More shops, less estate agents, less traffic'  
'I'd like to see the bottom part of Wivenhoe become more alive with shops and a tea-shop somewhere on the quayside to attract visitors to this lovely village'  
'Better shops and reduce business retailers. No more executive ghettos—housing that no-one can afford'  
'Need more shops—there are not enough compared to the number of houses'  
'More local shops, restaurants—more (affordable) flats'

### **Sports and Fitness Amenities**

'More sports and fitness amenities, especially for young people, to engage and motivate them constructively'  
'More facilities—sports centre, cinema and swimming pool'  
'More sports facilities; more for young people—drop-in shops and restaurants'  
'A good sized sports hall for gym and roller-skating'



### **Thank you!**

'Thank you for providing the opportunity to express our views of our village and community'

### **Tourism**

'Needs more investment in making the town attractive to visitors to bring in income for local businesses'  
'More facilities for people—more attractions for tourists, visitors. Festivals in open spaces all year'  
'Develop historical and cultural amenities to attract visitors'  
'I am proud of Wivenhoe and would like to think that visitors felt the same'

### **Traffic**

'Ban pavement parking'  
'The speed limit in lower Wivenhoe should be reduced to 20mph'  
'The Avenue is a nightmare with buses and cars constantly having to drive on the pavements to pass each other. An accident waiting to happen'  
'We need a one-way traffic system'  
'It just needs a scheme for getting cars off the road. The town is littered with them. We need more shops and car parks, not houses or cars'  
'I've only been here for seven years, but there does seem to be a great deal of traffic and a lot more teenage moodiness on the streets and at night in the

park'

'Remove the restrictions on using the Boundary Road, especially for parents of children attending the nursery at the university'

'Traffic is the main problem—destroying an otherwise pleasant area in Wivenhoe'

'Vans lorries, cars, spoil the quality of life; people are too selfish to use them in a way that will ameliorate their harmful effects. Compulsory measures are required, but not excessive street signs and road markings. Warn them, catch them, fine them, ban them!'

'Current levels of car use and ownership are unsustainable. This is of course a national problem. I despair of ever having a government brave enough to tackle it'

'Improve the traffic flow (or reduce traffic) and cater better for teens and elderly'

'Lower Wivenhoe cannot take any more cars. Parking is a huge problem. No more housing in lower Wivenhoe'

'Need serious re-thinking re road system and speed limit. Maintain what is left of the village community. Get rid of the "Motorway" that is the Avenue'

### **University/Students**

'Keep noisy students on campus and don't let them rent houses in Wivenhoe'

'Try and reduce the number of Wivenhoe students renting all the houses'

'Wivenhoe is a lovely town, but it needs more interaction between the university and the town'

### **Young People**

'Better facilities for young people'

'Needs more teenager-friendly places'

'Residential building must stop. Build more facilities for the younger generation to keep them occupied in their leisure time'

'Need more sporting activities for younger age group'

'More things for young people to do—drama and music programmes for 13-19-year olds'

'Better, more supervised activities for teenagers in the evening'

## **Q40: How Do You Rate the Performance of Local Government in Our Area?**

### **Wivenhoe Town Council**

'The Town Council try to do their best in the interest of the town, but don't have the power to stop CBC and ECC doing what they want'

'Wivenhoe Council have no teeth'

'Wivenhoe Town Council have little clout'

'Wivenhoe Town Council is poor because it has no power to reject the power of property developers'

'The co-option of councillors is despicable and undemocratic. Councillors should stand down until all can be elected'

'A growing town needs more communication between councillors and residents—a PR system needs to be installed'

'In the past a bit gutless and very short-sighted (but it looks like it may be getting better)'

'More councillor's presence in the streets to be seen and heard. Substantial welcome packs for newcomers via the council'

'Council takes too much notice of public opinion, often to the detriment of the rest of the village e.g. the Queens Road closure and the unprofessional dealings with Lexden Restorations'

### **Colchester Borough Council/Essex County Council**

'Colchester Borough Council is poor because it is subservient to developers'

'Colchester Borough Council makes decisions on Wivenhoe that are not in our interest'

'Colchester Borough Council terrible on account of the Visual Arts Facility and destruction of the bus station'

'Where the interests of residents are respected by housing development companies and Colchester Borough and Essex County Councils'

## Local Government Generally

- 'Their performance is not for the 'good of' the people'
- 'The decision-makers are too remote from the community'
- 'I am concerned that the development has not enhanced the town. Who is responsible for this?'
- 'None of these bodies have any power when developers go to appeal'
- 'Development should include planned infrastructure and full consultation with the local residents—not at the whim of developers. There should be greater accountability of planners'
- 'Daft question'
- 'More communication with councillors—never hear or see them until voting time'
- 'By councillors listening to people who already live here—not by turning up once a year for elections'

## **Q41: If the Results of This Questionnaire Suggests Improvements That Would Be Popular With Wivenhoe Residents, and That Would Require Money for Implementation, Should that Money Come From Council Tax Increases?**

### **Depends on What the Improvements Are**

- 'Depends on what the improvements are—council tax is high enough already'
- 'I'd like my money to be spent on changes that I feel are important for the countryside/wildlife environment of Wivenhoe, but I'm usually in the minority'
- 'I do not wish to pay for things that I regard as a waste of money e.g. car parks'

## More Consultation Required

- 'Not enough consultation to decide how to fund improvements'
- 'Only if residents have a bigger share in saying where the money goes to'

## No—Money Should be Better Managed

- 'Divert monies presently wasted on consultants, mayor's balls and the like'
- 'Money might be better managed by Wivenhoe Town Council, rather than Colchester Borough Council, especially for roads'
- 'No, don't waste what they've got already'
- 'No, pay less sick leave to Colchester Council employees'
- 'Better use of existing money'
- 'I think we already pay more than enough council tax. Much of this is obviously wasted'
- 'Good management should allow development without automatic talk of higher cost'
- 'Need re-allocation of resources within the borough'

## No—Too High Already

- 'Its statutory robbery already. Can't afford to pay when Council provides no services. Bins not collected, broken glass from recycling, litter, hedges, leaves!'
- 'Establish a fairer tax. It is currently grossly unfair and takes no heed of one's income or ability to pay'
- 'The council tax is indiscriminate—it does not reflect current price hikes and ability to pay'
- 'No, it is the biggest burden for retired people'
- 'Silly question! Reduce taxes and schemes should be self-financing'
- 'Council tax is too high and should be abolished and changed to a fairer income related system'
- 'Far too much already'
- 'We pay lots now—its like a second mortgage'
- 'No, council tax needs to be seriously reduced. That means you Essex County Council!'
- 'Pensioners struggle to pay council tax now—more increases are unaffordable'

'No, daft question'

'No because the tax is regressive and falls very hard, on pensioners especially'

'We get very little from current rates'

'I am paying £100 a month to have my rubbish collected, a street light outside, plus a pothole riddled road to drive on. This doesn't even include police protection'

### **No—We Already Pay More Than Others**

'No, Wivenhoe already pays more (including the local percentage) for less services than Colchester Borough Council central wards'

'Why should we pay for extra facilities that are available in Colchester at no extra cost?'

'We pay more council tax than Colchester and do not get so many amenities—at the same time the roads on the estates are full of potholes, for one thing'

'Wivenhoe should get a fairer proportion of what we actually pay'

'Increased revenue should come from new houses'

### **Other Sources of Funding**

'Fund-raising by the community'

'Use "planning gain" - money from developers'

'This question is not answerable in current form. Alternatives should be given e.g. grants, development grants, sponsorship, lottery funding'

'Apply for lottery or other sources of funding'

### **Yes, but!**

Yes, but within limits—Wivenhoe is already expensive by comparison with other towns'

'A local ring-fenced tax to provide for specific funding for agreed projects might be acceptable'

'Yes, but it should eventually be self-funded by visitors'

'Yes, unless privately funded'

'Yes, if you ring-fence the money'

### **Q42: Your Age?**

No additional comments

### **Q43: Are You Male/Female?**

No additional comments

### **Q44: How Long Have You Lived in Wivenhoe?**

No additional comments

### **Q45: What is the Highest Qualification You Hold?**

'Accountancy'

'Apprentice'

'At university at the moment'

'City & Guilds'

'Construction qualifications'

'Dutch'

'GNVQ'

'HNC'

'LRAM/ARCM'

'Marriage certificate!'

'None of your business'

'PhD/Masters'

'Teaching Certificate'

**Q46: Which of These Best Describe Your Employment Situation?**

'Parent'  
'Run own company'

**Q47: If You Have a Job, or if You Are as Student, Where is Your Main Place of Work or Study?**

'Alresford'  
'Braintree'  
'Brentwood'  
'Brightlingsea'  
'Bury St Edmunds'  
'Chelmsford'  
'Clacton'  
'Coggeshall'  
'Dovercourt'  
'East Anglia'  
'Elmstead'  
'Essex'  
'Frinton'  
'Great Horkesley'  
'Harwich'  
'Ipswich'  
'Jaywick'  
'Open University'  
'Sible Hedingham'  
'South Essex'  
'Suffolk'  
'Tendring'  
'Witham'  
'Work from home'

**Q48: Is Your Home (types listed)**

'Shared ownership'  
'Live with Parents'

**Q49: How Many People in the Following Age Groups Normally Live in Your Household (age groups listed)?**

No other or additional comments

**Q50: Prize Draw**

No comments

Compiled by Pat Marsden, November 2007