

Residents Vote on Village Green Now in the Balance

Results of the Survey for a Village Green in Fifield

The survey was commissioned in September 2014 by the Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BPNP SG) to test whether there was strong community support for a proposal to have a playground and open space, together with some houses, on a field in the green belt close to Fifield Village Centre.

This was previously surveyed in 2008/9 by the Oakley Green and Fifield Community Association (OGAFCA) who included two similar questions in a survey of all 430 households in the area and found that 64.3% of respondents wanted more open space and 67.2% wanted a children's playground.

The BPNP SG survey was conducted across the 235 homes in Fifield that would be most affected by the scheme. The SG was supported by OGAFCA, whose volunteers delivered and collected most of the survey forms.

Out of 235 survey forms delivered 172 responses were returned giving a response rate of 73.2%.

Our analysis of the responses showed that only 50% of the respondents supported the proposal to have a playground and open space together with some houses and it is likely that the SG will take the view that this does not seem to provide the level of support required to include this specific proposal in the Bray Parish Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

However irrespective of whether this scheme is specifically included in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan or not, the opportunity in the coming months for the landowner and Fifield residents to discuss and agree an acceptable alternative still remains. Any scheme would be the subject of a Planning Application in the normal way.

Details of the survey results will be made available on our website www.brayplan.com in due course.

Many thanks go to Grenville Annetts and his team of deliverers/collectors from OGAFCA without whose support and help this survey would not have been possible.

Chris Graham, Chairman of the BPNP SG and a Parish Councillor said, "The role of the SG is to take the views expressed by the residents in Fifield, and across the Parish, and reflect those views in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan."

Note:

- 1) The Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is the properly constituted body, under the auspices of the Bray Parish Council, to draft and propose for adoption the Bray Parish neighbourhood Plan.