

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning drop in session 26 October 2013

Purpose of the event

The event was held from 9:30-12:00 but discussions with the public went on until 1pm. The event was well attended by around 50 people with 36 signing up to be involved in a future forum and plan.

Material was used to get people thinking about the issues of interest and concern in Garforth

General Comments

- Where are the primary schools! + high schools, all these houses + kids and no schools
- Schools should only be for local kids the same with doctors clinics
- Clinics and GP's medical centre oversubscribed, no space for new patents
- No medical centres mentioned [in site allocations]
- Park and ride needed to bus people to the train station from the motorway. This will stop people parking on other peoples streets
- Garforth has grown exponentially prior to 1970 (since 1950) and continues to grow exponentially, why can't some other communities take their share E.G. Barwick, Aberford and Mickletown ect
- Boundaries – we don't want to include Aberford + Barwick as they have Parish boundaries and are not part of Garforth otherwise we end up with their developments as well
- Only one senior school and people come from all around. Should be for local people. All those new houses. No schools

Picture 1 - Would you like to see improvements to Garforth Town Centre?

- NO we have just had some
- OCTOBER 26th 2013 Main Street has ALREADY been modified. No more room for development and NOT required.
- There are 17 hair and beauty establishments on Main Street, Does Garforth NEED these?
- Problems with litter despite all the litter bins

Picture 2 - What are the local housing needs? E.G. is there enough elderly accommodation?

- I am not familiar with elderly accommodation but from what I can see there seems adequate no more needed
- Think moving out of Main Street can cause isolation to elderly people
- Garforth elderly and old people's bungalows do not have any shops or services
- Probably not as when I was looking there was a very long waiting list
- Old people's home behind Church Parade was closed causing 1- This was a tranquil site by the allotments. 2 – Provided work for local people so less cars. 3 – Easy for relatives to visit. 4 – If houses are put on this site it will add more cars on Church Parade – more + more congestion.
- The old peoples home behind the allotments has just been closed

Picture 3 - Are you happy with the design of new homes?

- No, there should be bigger gardens, green roofs, water barrels, less concrete and tarmac and more permeable paving
- Lack of garden space increases the need for play facilities within each development
- Why are the gardens so small with communal greenspace? Cheaper?

Picture 4 - Newhold Industrial Estate – provision of light industrial uses.

- Can they be told to employ local people?
- This light industrial unit is enough for Garforth

Picture 5 - Successful industrial units at Newhol.

- Need to be encouraged to employ local people

Picture 6 - Skate Park, off Ninelands Lane – is there enough provision for teenagers?

- No that's why there is graffiti
- Not many youth clubs or space for them to use on an evening

Picture 7 - Wakefield Road and surrounding agricultural fields.

- If we build on every green field how do we feed ourselves?
- This scheme would wreck the green belt between Garforth and Micklefield and is so big it would completely change the town's environment.
- Need greenspaces to absorb rainfall NOT more hard surfaces to increase the flooding problem. No to building on Wakefield Road
- We need greenspace as the country needs to grow more food not less. ½ of our food is imported and is so expensive due to the price of transport. We need to retain our agricultural land
- Helps prevent flooding and we need greenspace
- Wakefield Road is agricultural land. We need to treasure agricultural land because 1- food security 2 – peace and tranquillity for peace of mind 3 – quality of life for Garforth residents
- The most important and contentious CONTNETIOUS area in Garforth. The most scenic. Give us a park on this site.
- Good agricultural land should not be built on when there is plenty of other potential. Food security is vital to the security of the country

Picture 8- Do you think there are enough children's play facilities? Are they in the right places?

- Need more parks and play areas
- Garforth is green and this is a good look
- Garforth needs a park
- Always full of glass, poor play area, bad atmosphere. Nine lands good but not enough for smaller kids.
- We require better playground facilities for Garforth.

Picture 9 -Town End junction – does this need improving?

- Traffic is horrendous – queues up Main Street top and all times of day
- With development on Wakefield Road this will cause grid lock on this junction
- Land at top of Main Street would have been a good site for a car park for the railway station
- More development means more traffic
- Increased traffic Wakefield Road & Main Street Flood area no alterations it's a no no.
- Just a nightmare at peak times traffic there all day is barely controlled
- Just a nightmare at peak times

Picture 10 - Garforth Village in Bloom: Successfully improving the local environment?

- Looks good – a pity as you come off the motorway doesn't look as good
- Garforth in Bloom have done a wonderful job in making our community a lovely place. If only we could improve the litter + dogs mess issues on the streets
- Well done Garforth in bloom. Keep it up
- Looks great we need more of this
- Excellent. Congratulations to Garforth in bloom but there are many more areas.
- This is Garforth – looks good

Picture 11 -Station Access – Does the station need improving?

- Terrible parking, local people can't get to the station unless they walk
- Cars parked inconsiderately
- Please build a park and ride for the station
- Good station – needs more car parking
- No spaces for local people/local people need priority mon-fri to collect people/friends and family
- Road leading up to the station dangerous to traffic as coming up to the station cars turning left on opposite direction are on the wrong side of the road due to cars and the bend
- We get overflow in our street from station parking
- Station could be used more if office was left open longer during the day. Underused resource + could provide jobs locally
- Parking issues as people drive from York and then get the train into Leeds
- Great facility terrible parking

Picture 12 Would you like to see improvements to Garforth Town Centre?

- Need more appropriate shops
- Take-away shops escalate problem with litter – I include sandwich shops in this as well
- Need more appropriate shops too many take-away shops
- Need a better range of appropriate shops
- Too many take-away shops more useful shops needed
- Local paths very untidy, litter not kept clear e.g. path from Church Lane to Lowthers – e.g. paper boxes ect

Picture 13 - Garforth AFC – important to involve organisations in Neighbourhood Planning?

- Good football ground – correct size – important in neighbourhood planning process
- Very important all local organisations should be involved
- Is this an amenity for local children to play on? One new football field already proposed on green fields no more

Picture 14 - What are the local road/access issues in Garforth?

- Can't get out of our street sometimes and the new houses on Barrowby Lane make this worse
- Another road which will cause grid lock at the top of Garforth Main Street
- All roads in and out of Garforth have grid lock at rush hour
- No more development in this area
- If the fields the other side of this bridge are built on there would be a bottle neck of traffic and it is already congested
- Bridge is not right as it holds up development and can't be changed criticism

Picture 15 - Are you happy with the accessibility of local services?

- Garforth Library has been well built, great staff, really useful. However my one complaint is young people use it as an amusement arcade just for playing computer games and as for their language. Better discipline should be used to control young people
- There have been several attempts to close the fire station & police station over the years. They are needed as well as GP access, dental and we need to keep opposing
- Access to library good – But flooding problems which flow down Church Lane. The raised road area is good for pushchairs and wheelchairs but directly all over the road. Why is the road now the same level as the pavement, are pedestrians to paddle?
- This is an asset I use it every week
- Yes
- Excellent- asset. If another 5,000 house are built we should get another one

Picture 16 - Do local services satisfy local needs?

- If it stays open – another constant fight
- A town the size of Garforth needs a fully functional fire & police service
- Fire/police/railway all need to stay open but they are constantly threatened with closure

Picture 17 - Localised flooding at St. George's Roundabout – is there a local flooding problem?

- Definitely
- Yes
- Puddles caused and people being splashed

Picture 18 - Where do you do your shopping?

- Main street NOT TESCO
- Hove & Main Street
- I support local shops on Main Street for groceries, fruit, veg and meat

- I support local shops – very obliging friendly staff
- More support on Main Street, people can't get to supermarkets
- More local shops for local workers

Picture 19 - Are there enough jobs in Garforth?

- There are enough jobs already in Garforth and if not people travel to Leeds
- Could employers be encouraged to employ local people where possible?
- No – my husband has to travel to Hull everyday

Picture 20 - Is there a need for more local shops?

- Local shops are struggling more retail development would exacerbate the problem
- Too many supermarkets damage smaller retail outlets and local people
- Shopping is very easy. Enough shops in Main Street and a good super store

Picture 21 - Do you use Garforth Leisure Centre? If not why not?

- Need longer opening hours with staff who take an interest in their work
- Can't use it due to restricted opening times
- Not at the moment. Have approached them for use by Archery Club, but the rent is WAY too high!
- I don't use the squash club
- No because of limited opening hours and there is no pool
- We don't use this facility but it should be maintained or improved
- We need this facility