

HOYLAKE AND WEST KIRBY PUBLIC WORKSHOPS – SEPT/OCT 04

ANALYSIS OF FEEDBACK FORMS

In total it is estimated that around 300 people attended the four workshops.

Clearly this 'snapshot' analysis, based on workshop attendees and feedback forms returned (48), has to be taken in context with the total population of both Hoylake and West Kirby Townships of approximately 13,300. However the views expressed by those who attended and returned forms should be taken into consideration and represent an on-going and identifiable trend.

The summary of the feedback forms as of 25th October 2004 is accurate in terms of 'ticks in boxes', however a number of respondents put comments alongside their preferences and these have been covered in the overview of each element of the Master Plan below.

Projects of Regional Significance

The Sail

1. General approval of this project and the inclusion of a Visitor/Information Centre for the beach area and Hilbre Island complex which may include commercial facilities. Most comments were around the scale/size of any development. Concerns expressed about a 'Budget Hotel' around this specific site, however support was expressed for a new hotel facility but on perhaps an alternative site.
2. Most respondents and comments raised at the workshops in West Kirby didn't want car-parking spaces used for development purposes unless the spaces were replaced.

The Necklace – Lighting around the Marine Lake

1. Overall opinion by the majority of respondents and workshop attendees is to drop this project.

A Golf Resort

1. A range of views, with nearly a 50/50 split, some in support and some against. A number of written comments were asking whether this was sustainable and if Hoylake could really attract a 4* or 5* hotel? A number of respondents had concerns over the likely increased traffic flow and the need for this to be considered.
2. This project was directly linked to the proposed relief road and phased improvements to Carr Lane Industrial Estate. Both these projects received positive and general agreement.

Short-term Projects

Market Street

1. A large majority was very positive about this proposal. More plants and trees, public toilets reinstated and general approval of the arcades (covered walkways) but concern expressed about the possibility of further cafés, restaurants and bars.
2. A number of views were expressed about the need to use high quality materials that blended in with the current streetscape and the long term upkeep and maintenance.

Station Gateway

1. General support for this project but concerns about the loss of car parking spaces in front of the station area.

Wirral Waterside Way

1. Overall support for improvements along the Wirral Way.
2. Total support for improvements within Ashton Park and the close working relationship with the Friends' Group.

Hoylake and West Kirby Trail

1. Mixed reaction to the various components – upgrading of cycle routes agreed but indifferent reaction to the walkways, particularly around sensitive habitat areas along the coastline. Concerns expressed as to the type of material available and the upkeep of new walkways. Significant concerns voiced to a boardwalk in the vicinity of the Red Rocks area at Hoylake.

Ancient History

1. General support and public interest for this project idea, with more detailed information requested.

Coronation Gardens

1. Very strong agreement for the improvements to Coronation Gardens.

Meols Parade

1. Positive support for all aspects of improvements to the Promenade, shrubs, trees, lighting and the upgrading of green spaces, so long as the materials used were in keeping and maintained.
2. Written comments were strongly in favour of improved toilet facilities.

3. Some support for a café/information centre on the 'Old Baths' site.

Mid-term Projects

The Beach

1. Very strong support for "the beach" concept.

Relief Road

1. Both strong written and verbal support for the building of a new relief road servicing the Carr Lane Industrial Estate to the Three Lane Ends area.
2. Written comments included - concerns connected with the possible increase in traffic congestion at the level crossing adjacent to Hoylake Station when opening a through road.

Beacon for the Coast

1. Nearly a 50/50 split for this project, greater detail needed for a more informed decision to be able to be made.

Phased Improvements – Carr Lane

1. Strong support for the screening of the units by planting trees/shrubs and other ways to environmentally improve the estate.

Heart of Hoose

1. Very mixed response depending on the mix of proposals, virtually a 50/50 split in feedback form terms.
2. Again mixed views on both the possible loss of St. Luke's Tennis Club and the demolition of existing buildings.
3. Concerns raised about another Supermarket and the sustainability of surrounding businesses.

North Parade and South Parade

1. Strong support for improvements, including designated cycleways.

The Crescent

1. General support for improvements but a mixed response to the possibilities of pedestrianising The Crescent, depending if you are a trader or a shopper/visitor.
2. Public opinion divided about the concept of roofing over the entire Crescent as an "arcade".

The Concourse Area

1. Strong support for general improvements to the overall appearance of the area and in particular the exterior of the Concourse building.
2. Re-locating and upgrading the Health Centre strongly supported.
3. Similar view for the Fire Station but strong views that a 24-hour Fire Service should remain available in West Kirby.
4. Full support for improving the external appearance by landscaping etc. and to look at making the area suitable for public events such as occasional markets. However concern expressed again about the nature of potential new businesses.

West Kirby Town Centre

1. Overwhelming support for the restoration of covered walkways/arcades in the Banks Road area and possibly in the Crescent.
2. Strong positive views for the upgrading of the Station area and to work with the shop owners to maintain the external appearance of frontages and use of hanging baskets.
3. Strong concerns expressed in regard to the suggested ideas in the future for providing a relief route for skirting the Town Centre, although the public remain supportive of achievable ways to improve pedestrian safety in central West Kirby.
4. Car parking in general was discussed and many concerns and comments made; broad consensus of supportive opinion was reached regarding the possible provision of a multi-storey car park facility to the general area of the current Concourse Car Park. However concerns were expressed to seek better access for disabled people in the town centre. A number of additional written comments also requested the possibility of Residents Parking Permits.

Numerous written comments from feedback respondents expressed a strong desire for the local residents who live, work and play in the two towns to be considered as a matter of priority. The Council should ensure that the basic amenities and facilities are properly maintained for locals and our visitors. Two main issues were raised at all four workshops and related to issues of car parking and public toilets.

HOYLAKE & WEST KIRBY – SUMMARY (25th Oct. 2004)

As of 25th Oct. 2004 48 feedback forms have been received, not everyone completed all boxes, find below a summary count of the returns where people have expressed an opinion.

The higher **BOLD** figure indicates the respondents project preference purely based on the higher number.

2. What are your views on the projects of Regional Significance?

(please tick)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Sail:	6	19 (25)	8	10 (18)
The Necklace:	1	2 (3)	1	39 (40)
A golf resort:	3	16 (19)	13	8 (21)

3. What are your views regarding the short-term projects?

(please tick)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Market Street:	9	18 (27)	2	1 (3)
Station Gateway:	6	21 (27)	4	2 (6)
Wirral Waterside Way:	7	24 (31)	4	3 (7)
Hoylake & West Kirby trail:	6	23 (29)	6	3 (9)
Ancient history:	5	19 (24)	6	1 (7)
Coronation Gardens:	9	28 (37)	2	1 (3)
Meols Parade:	12	20 (32)	3	3 (6)

4. What are your views regarding the mid-term projects?

(please tick)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Beach	9	22 (31)	1	1 (2)
Relief Road	16	13 (29)	5	5 (10)
Beacon for the coast	3	15 (18)	13	7 (20)
Phased Improvements	5	22 (27)	3	2 (5)
Heart of Hoose	3	11 (14)	8	5 (13)
North Parade	6	20 (26)	1	4 (5)
The Crescent	8	19 (27)	7	6 (13)
The Concourse Area	13	18 (31)	6	2 (8)
West Kirby Town Centre	8	26 (34)	2	2 (4)