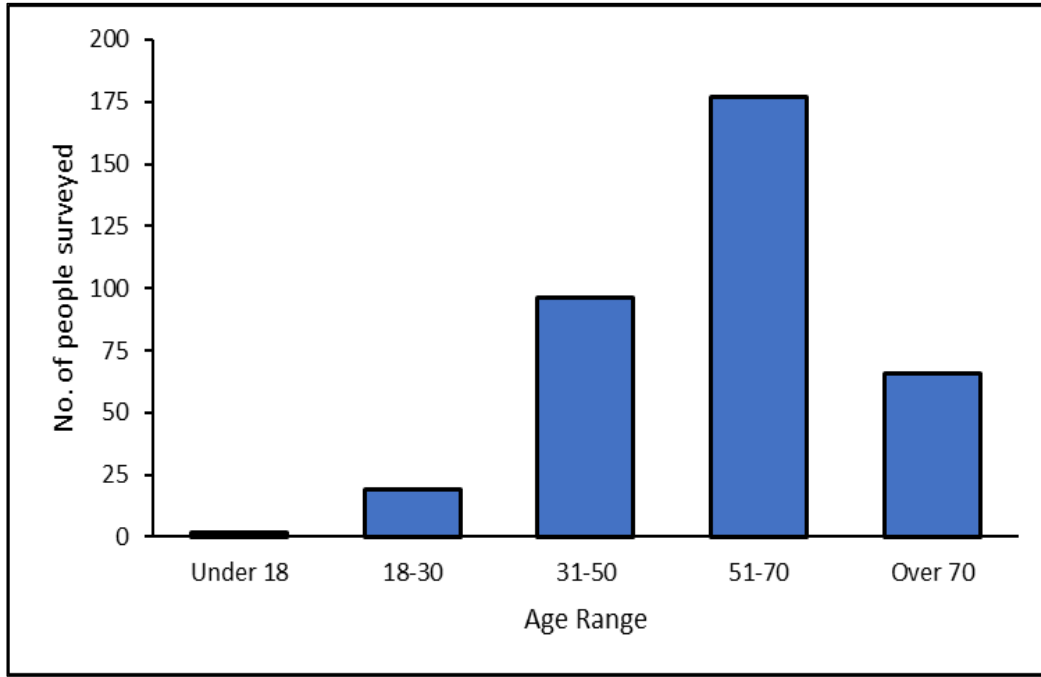


## Results of the Gillingham Neighbourhood Plan Survey 2021

Overall, there were 364 responses to the Gillingham Neighbourhood Plan survey carried out in 2021. The overwhelming majority of participants live in Gillingham, with 353 (97%) registering SP8 postcodes, and only 11 (3%) from further afield.

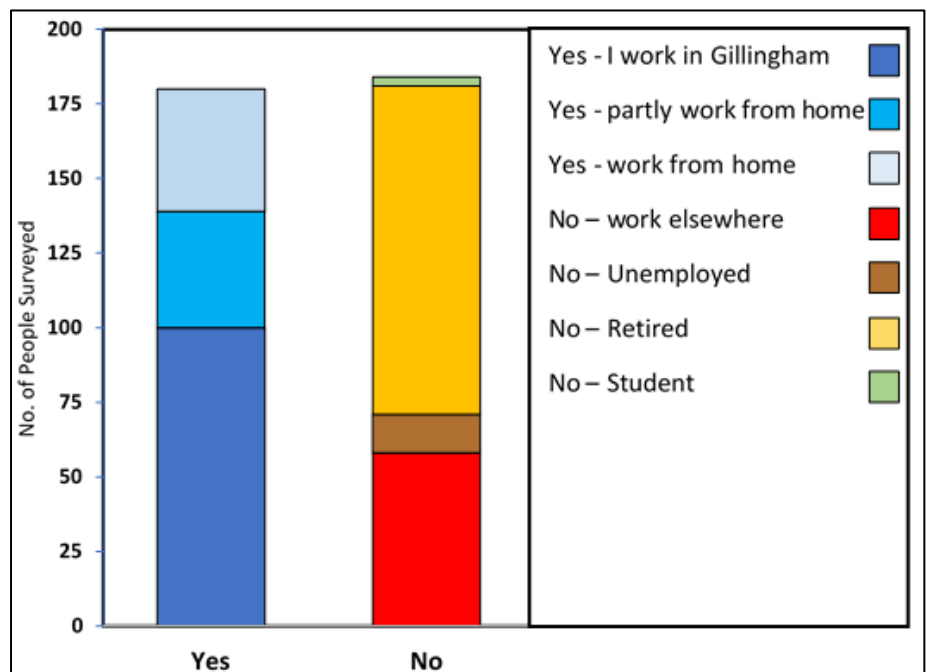
**Figure 1. Age of survey participants.**



A diverse range of ages answered the survey, from people under 18 to over 70 years old. The most common age group responding to the survey was 51-70 year olds. The ages of participants represent the population of Gillingham well, with only younger age people underrepresented in the survey sample.

**Figure 2. Do you work in Gillingham?**

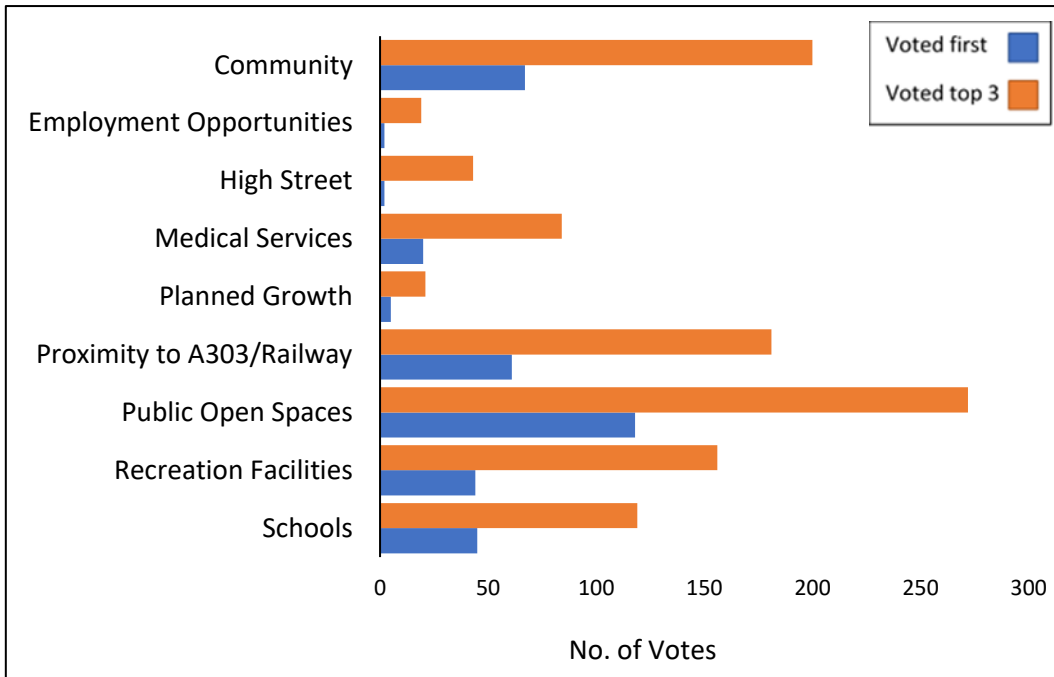
Of those taking part, nearly half (49%) work in Gillingham, either at home or on a Gillingham based employers' premises. Whilst the other 51% that do not work in Gillingham are a combination of retired, unemployed, students, or work elsewhere.



## Opinions on Gillingham

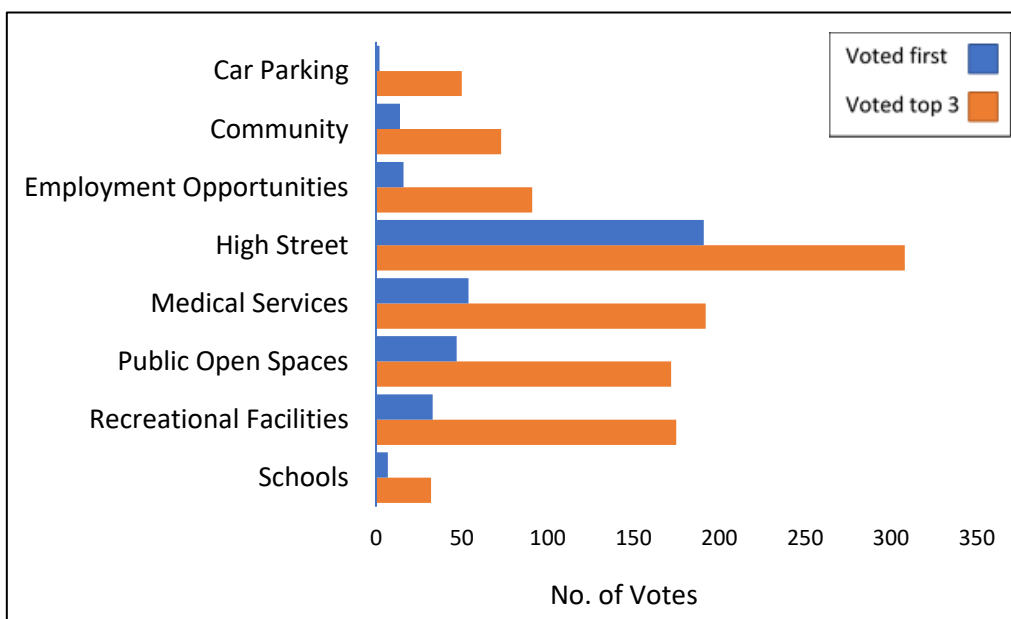
When asked to vote for the 3 things they like most about Gillingham, the most frequent response was 'Public Open Spaces' which featured 272 times in voters top 3 and was voted favourite 118 times. This is followed by the Community and the proximity to the A303 and Railway services as the most popular answers.

**Figure 3. What are your favourite things about Gillingham?**



When asked on the top 3 elements they would like to see greatest improvement over the next 5-year period, voters highlighted the need for improvements to the High Street, followed by Medical Services, Public Open Spaces and Recreational Facilities. The High Street was stated as the single most important area for improvement, garnering 53% of votes, significantly more than any other option.

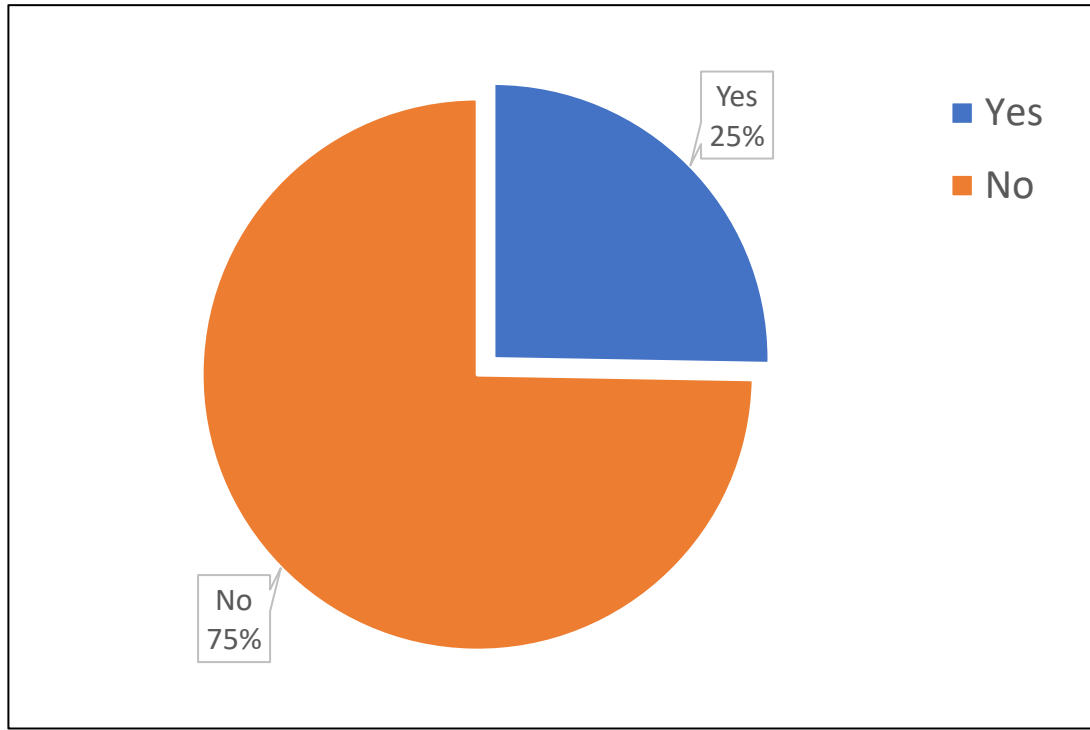
**Figure 4. What needs the most improvement over the next 5 years?**



## Housing

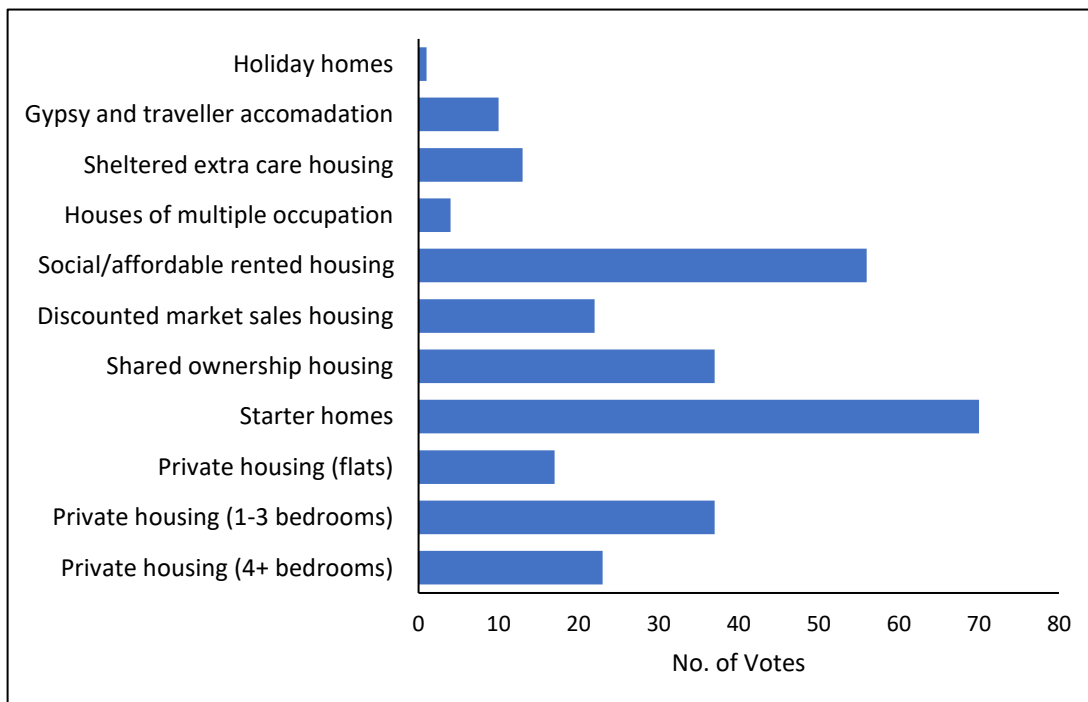
With regards to housing and accommodation, 75% of participants voted that Gillingham does not need more housing beyond those already allocated in the Southern Extension.

**Figure 5. Does Gillingham need more housing?**



When questioned on the types of housing that Gillingham needed more of, participants voted in favour of Starter Homes, and Social/affordable housing.

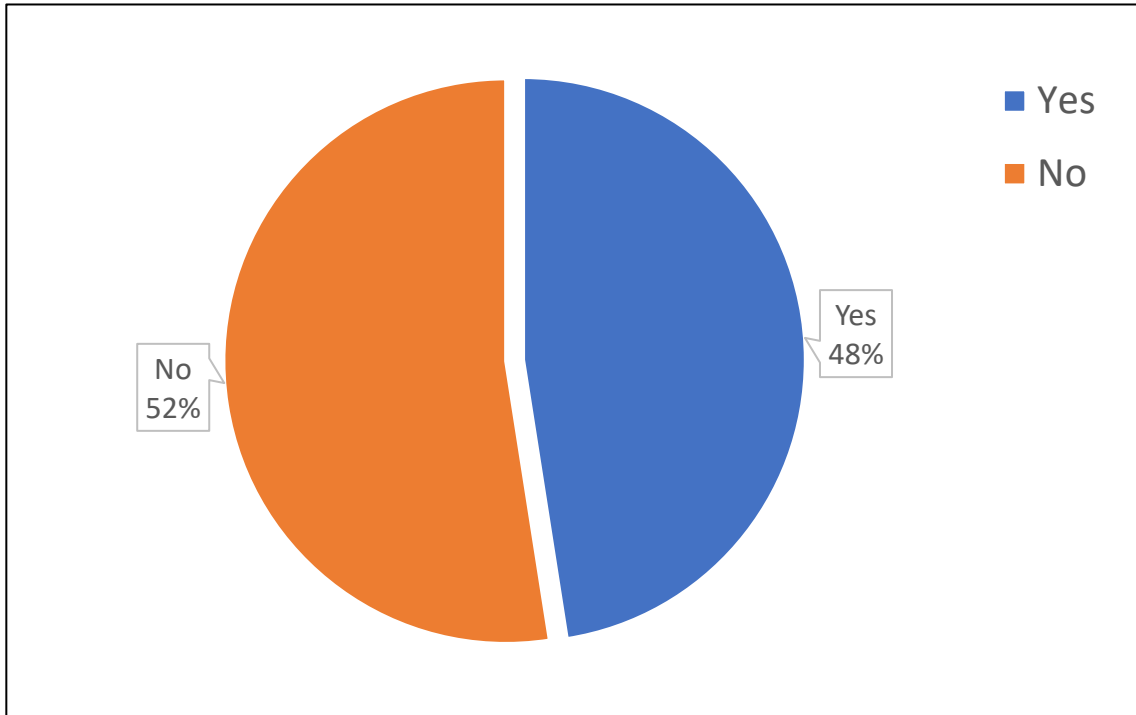
**Figure 6. Which types of houses are needed in Gillingham?**



## Public Open Spaces

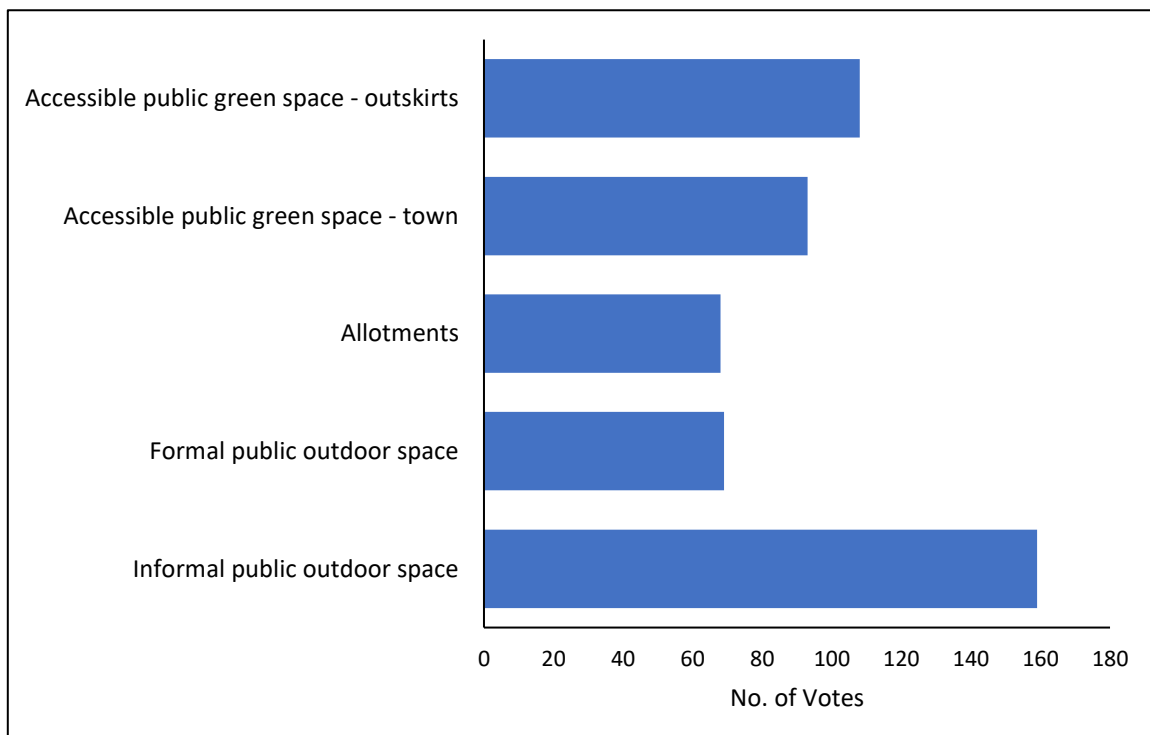
Participants showed a fairly balanced response when questioned on Public Open Spaces (POS). With 48% saying the town has sufficient POS, whilst 52% believe there is a need for more.

**Figure 7. Does Gillingham have enough Public Open Spaces?**



Although all categories received at least 68 votes, the type of POS most desired is greater informal public outdoor space, receiving 159 votes.

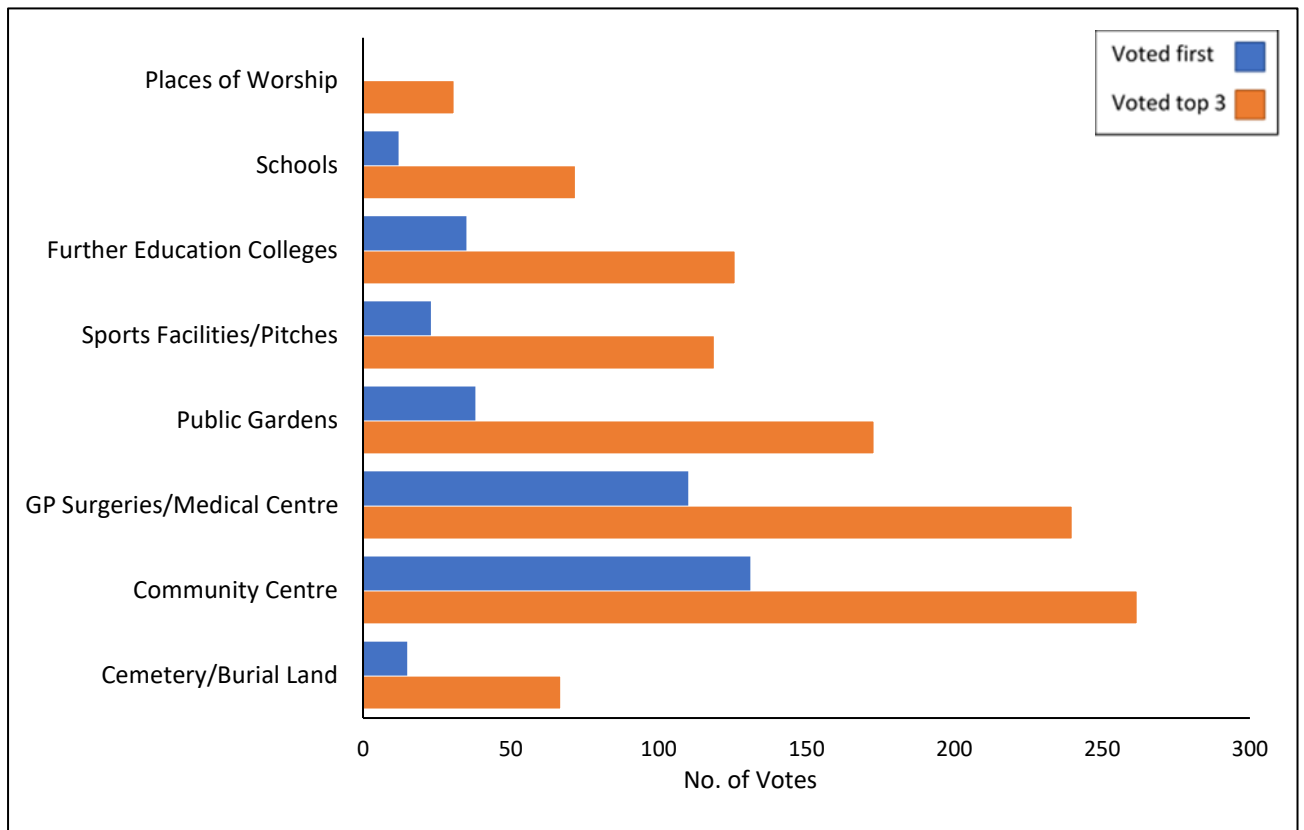
**Figure 8. Which types of Public Open Spaces would you like more of in Gillingham?**



## Community Projects

Participants were asked to vote for their top three most desired community projects. The most requested project was a Community Centre, closely followed by new GP Surgeries or Medical Centre. There was moderate support for further education colleges, sports facilities and public gardens.

**Figure 9. Which of these Community Projects are needed most?**



## Future Land Use

Participants were asked to indicate their preferred use for different areas of land around the town. Although for all areas the preference was to retain them as open countryside, the areas with the most support for development were Park Farm and Newhouse, whilst Windy Ridge was the most favoured area for allocating sports pitches.

Figure 10. What is your preferred land use for each area?

