

Public Consultation – Borrowing for Doric Park

Trowbridge Town Council

Trowbridge Town Council recently carried out a public consultation via SurveyMonkey. The survey went live online on the 1st October 2020, and closed on the 31st October at midnight. A total of 390 people completed the survey.

Sample size – Based on 28000 people with a 95% confidence level and a margin of error, sample size needs to be at least 379 people.

The survey was shared through the following: Trowbridge Town Council social media pages (Discover Trowbridge Twitter and Facebook, (this was scheduled and posted weekly) and Active Trowbridge), the Trowbridge Town Council website and also sent via the e-newsletter. The link was also sent to Trowbridge Wanderers, Trowbridge Rangers, Trowbridge Rugby Club, ClubSpark (a booking system data base), Wiltshire and Swindon Sports Partnership, Wiltshire Council Sports Development Team, Lambrook Ward Facebook Group, Trowbridge Central Ward Facebook page, Spotted in Trowbridge Facebook page, Trowbridge Nub News, Trowbridge Sports Forum.

Participants were asked one question and given four options to choose from.

The question and options are listed below:

We have received over £500,000 in planning gain funding towards the project and a grant of around £450,000 from the Football Foundation. The Town Council will have to find an additional £2.2million to fund the facility and we can do this in a number of ways, please select the option you prefer from the following: NOTES: Both option 1 and option 2 would mean that the majority of residents in Ashton Park and other areas of new development would make little, if any, contribution to the facility but would benefit from reduced Council Tax Charges in future years when the facility was making a positive financial contribution, whereas existing residents of the town would be making a significant contribution immediately. The income from users is estimated to be greater than the costs including loan repayments for all options from year four onwards and the facility could deliver significant additional income in the future to invest in more sports and recreation facilities.

Option 1 - Funded in full over one year, with all of the cost to the Council applied to the Council Tax. £2.2million less the net income gives £2,098,498 With 11740 Band D equivalent households would result in an increase of £178.74 on the current Council Tax Charge of £164.98 Which would equate to a 108.34% increase. (More than double). It would generate a positive cumulative contribution from year twenty-one.

Option 2 -Funded over 4-years. £550,000 per annum plus interest (1.92%) is £574,025 (total repayments £2,296,100) less the net income gives £472,523 With 11740 Band D equivalent households would result in an increase of £40.25 on the current Council Tax Charge of £164.98 Which would equate to a 24.40% increase. It would generate a positive cumulative contribution from year twenty-two.

Option 3 -Funded over 30-years. £104,400 per annum including interest (2.48%) (total repayments £3,132,000) less the net income gives £2,898 With 11740 Band D equivalent households would result in an increase of 25p on the current Council Tax Charge of £164.98 Which would equate to a nil increase (as this can be covered by the budget). It would generate a positive contribution from year three.

None of the above

Results

Option 1 – 15 people (3.86% of total number of participants)

Option 2 – 36 people (9.25% of total number of participants)

Option 3 – 207 people (53.21% of total number of participants)

Option 4 (none of the above) – 132 people (33.93% of total number of participants)

