

Community consultation report

Weston Otmoor – proposed eco-town



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1 Introduction

Following the publication of the Government's Eco-town Prospectus in July 2007, which invited developers and local authorities to come forward with expressions of interests on suitable locations and proposals for eco-towns, Parkridge put together a submission proposing a potential site near Weston on the Green in Oxfordshire.

Parkridge wanted to gain feedback from the community on its draft proposal so engaged the services of Mistral – a locally-based communications consultancy with a track record of award-winning community engagement projects – as specialists in such activity to undertake consultation for Weston Otmoor. The report that follows is a report on the consultation activities.

In addition to public consultation activities, Parkridge is committed to working closely with local authorities and stakeholders and employed the services of Connect Public Affairs – an award-winning, strategic public affairs company – to undertake these tasks.

This report summarises the activities that took place between Monday June 23, 2008 and Friday August 29, 2008 and feedback received. This first phase of consultation forms the precursor to further stakeholder and community involvement in the development of the proposal in the event Weston Otmoor is selected by Government in its shortlist, expected early in 2009.

Summary data tables from all consultation activities are included within the document.

2 Consultation plan overview

In order to comprehensively engage the public in Parkridge's plans for Weston Otmoor, Mistral researched and wrote a communications strategy document. This document was submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Cherwell District Council (CDC) and Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) for their comments and input, all of which were incorporated into the final strategy.

The strategy included key recommendations for community engagement and related activities, as well as supporting media activity.

The following objectives were identified:

- Stakeholders are identified and attitudes are tracked
- Communities understand the process, get the facts they need to evaluate the proposals first-hand and are able to feed back their comments and suggestions
- Support and opposition are captured and put into context
- Issues are identified which can be tackled at the design stage
- Misinformation in the media is corrected.

Activities undertaken to reach these objectives included:

- **Mapping existing community and faith organisations**
Mistral undertook research to identify existing local groups, governance structures and communications matrices that exist in communities within the proposed settlement's sphere of influence. By utilising these existing communications routes, Mistral was able to successfully engage key players and residents within local communities. Identified groups included: youth, business, historical and preservation, social, voluntary, schools, and church groups. Where possible, Mistral also worked with parish councils to utilise existing channels such as village notice boards.
- **Community newsletter**
See Section 5 for further information
- **Consultation website**
See Section 6 for further information

- **Community roadshows**

See Section 8 for further information

- **Consulting with commuters**

As transport is a key element of the Weston Otmoor proposal, both to support residents and ease pressure on already burdened commuter routes in the local area, it was considered important to ascertain the views of the commuter community on how the proposals will affect them. The community newsletter was used for a leaflet drop at the Peartree 'Park & Ride' to the north-east of Oxford and distributed at Oxford train station. This introduced the proposals to the commuter community as well as local residents who travel in and out of these busy centres, and invited them to share their views.

3 Pre-consultation communications

Following the publication of the Eco-town Prospectus in July 2007, Parkridge has been keen to establish productive relationships and open dialogue with the two local authorities – Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

Contact with members and officers from both local authorities has been wide-ranging over the past year, and would be difficult to detail in full. However, the following provides an overview of the key meetings and the working relationship which has been established between the two local authorities and the Parkridge project team.

- Early exploratory meetings and briefings took place in advance of the expression of interest being made by Parkridge to the Department of Communities and Local Government in October 2007
- Following the release of the eco-town short-list in April 2008, a technical working group including representatives of the local authorities and Parkridge was established to allow the local authorities to assess the proposals and to request further information and seek clarification from Parkridge
- Advice and recommendation was sought from both local authorities as Parkridge's community consultation strategy was devised. This included sending a draft of the strategy to both local authorities for their comments and approval
- Information regarding the eco-town proposals and forthcoming consultation activity was sent to all local stakeholders and a consultative forum, bringing together representatives from the local authorities, parishes and other stakeholder groups, was formed
- Parkridge has attended workshops and provided information to facilitate and assist the South East of England Development Agency's study which is being undertaken on behalf of the local authorities into the potential impact of the eco-town proposals on Bicester.

Parkridge has offered to meet with all representative bodies of local Government in the region including ten parish councils and Bicester Town Council, as well as the relevant district and county councils, to provide their members with a detailed understanding of the proposals and the opportunity to ask questions and for clarification. Parkridge has been keen to ensure that elected representatives have the necessary and correct information to answer any questions that may have been asked of them by their constituents. The following bodies have accepted the invitation to meet and meetings have subsequently taken place:

- Bicester Town Council
- Middleton Stoney Parish Council
- Wendlebury Parish Council
- Weston on the Green Parish Council
- Oxford City Council.

Briefing meetings have also taken place with numerous stakeholder organisations with an interest in the area, the proposals or key elements of them. Meetings or discussions have taken place with the following:

- Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT)
- Bicester Chamber of Commerce
- Bicester Vision
- The East West Rail Consortium, representing all local authorities along the proposed rail extension
- The Milton Keynes Partnership
- Shelter
- The South East of England Development Agency (SEEDA)
- Chiltern Railways
- First Great Western
- The Highways Agency
- Network Rail
- RSPB
- The Oxford Bus Company
- Existing universities and colleges in the wider area.

4 Publicity

The confidential and indeed very conceptual nature of the proposed eco-town prior to the short-list being announced made meaningful proactive communication by Parkridge extremely difficult. As a result, the communications 'void' had, prior to the consultation, been filled by vocal opponents and conjecture based on out-of-date information leaked to the local press.

The following activities were used to announce the launch of, and timetable for, the consultation, using a range of channels to ensure maximum awareness and encourage participation. All publicity included the consultation timetable, the roadshow schedule, website and email address, and community hotline telephone number.

- **Media relations** (press releases issued and copies of resultant coverage can be found in appendices 1 and 2 respectively)
Mistral worked with its established contacts in the local media to publicise and communicate the launch of the consultation and its timetable, and the various ways in which people could respond. This resulted in several pieces of print, broadcast and online media coverage, with the following titles publicising details of the consultation: Bicester Advertiser, Bicester Review, Oxford Mail, Oxford Times, BBC Radio Oxford and Fox FM
- **Advertisement** (a copy of the advertisement/poster can be found in appendix 3)
Full colour quarter page advertisements were placed in the most-read titles for the area surrounding the proposed development site: Banbury Cake, Banbury Guardian, Bicester Advertiser, Bicester Review, Brackley and Towcester Advertiser, Bucks Herald, Buckingham Advertiser, Oxford Mail and Oxford Times
- **Poster** (a copy of the advertisement/poster can be found in appendix 3)
A4 colour posters were displayed in each village or town hosting a roadshow. Parish and post office notice boards were identified as the hub of community communications and were therefore utilised where possible
- **Letters of invitation** (a copy of the letter can be found in appendix 4)
Using the mapping of local communities research, letters were sent to identified local groups, organisations and Governmental structures not already contacted by Parkridge / Connect Public Affairs, inviting them to attend one of the 17 consultation roadshows

- **Newsletter**

40,000 newsletters were distributed, presenting basic facts about the proposals, and encouraging people to give their feedback. This also included a reply pre-paid questionnaire. See Section 5 for more details.

5 Community newsletter

The newsletter served as both a publicity and consultation channel, containing details of the proposal and a feedback route in the form of a reply pre-paid questionnaire.

In order to reach as many stakeholders as possible and to ensure they received accurate information about the consultation and proposals first-hand, 40,000 six page colour newsletters were produced and distributed. The newsletter was titled 'A Sustainable Future' and provided information on the background to eco-towns and the Weston Otmoor proposals; the current masterplan with annotations; a quantitative reply-paid questionnaire; details of the channels through which people could submit their feedback; information on the eco-town process; and a calendar of the 17 roadshows taking place across the surrounding area. A copy of the newsletter can be found in appendix 5.

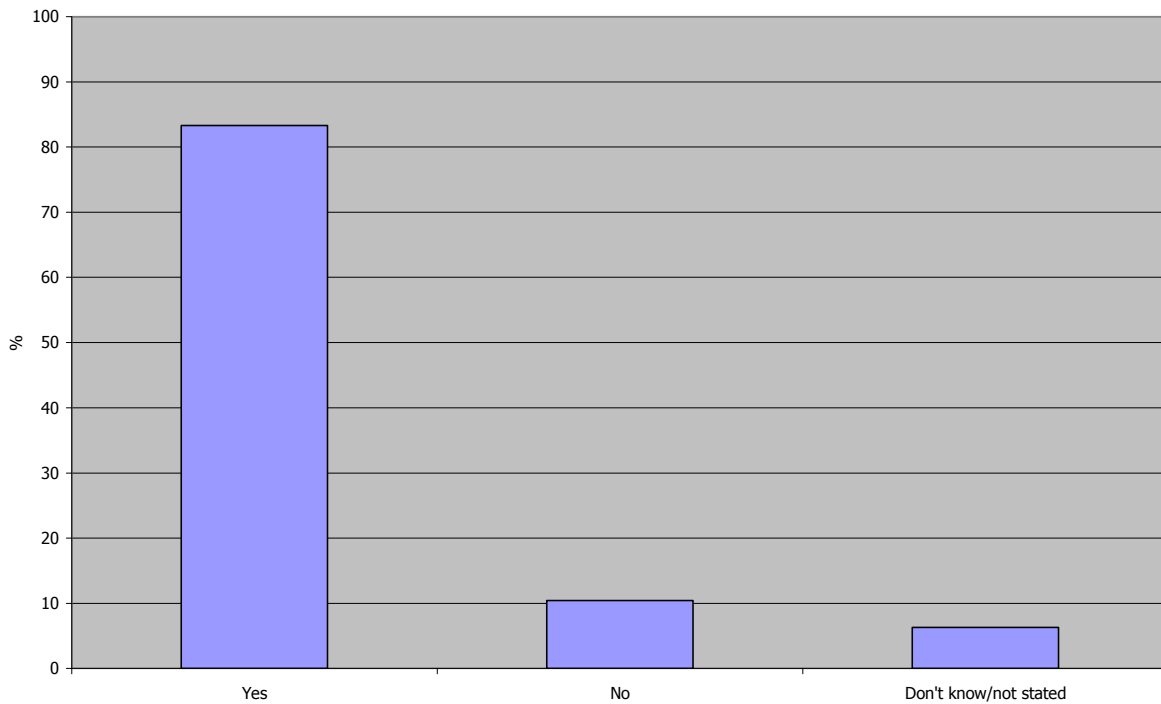
Unfortunately Cherwell District Council would not permit the use of its full electoral role for the purposes of consultation for Weston Otmoor; therefore a commercially-available edited version was used to distribute the newsletters. As well as distribution by post, newsletters were handed out to commuters at Peartree Park & Ride, Oxford Railway Station and to commuters travelling from Bicester North to London Marylebone. This provided the opportunity for those currently using rail and bus links, and therefore potentially affected by transport links provided by Weston Otmoor, to view the proposals and give their feedback on Weston Otmoor.

2927 completed questionnaires were received. The results are listed below to show the overall figures. In order to show how opinions change in the area surrounding the proposed site, the answers to question three – asking respondents to identify which statement most closely resembled their own opinion – have also been presented by postcode areas.

5.1 Newsletter questionnaire results (overall)

Question 1 of the newsletter asked respondents to supply their postcodes. See pages 14 and 15 for a breakdown of postcode areas against answers submitted to question 3.

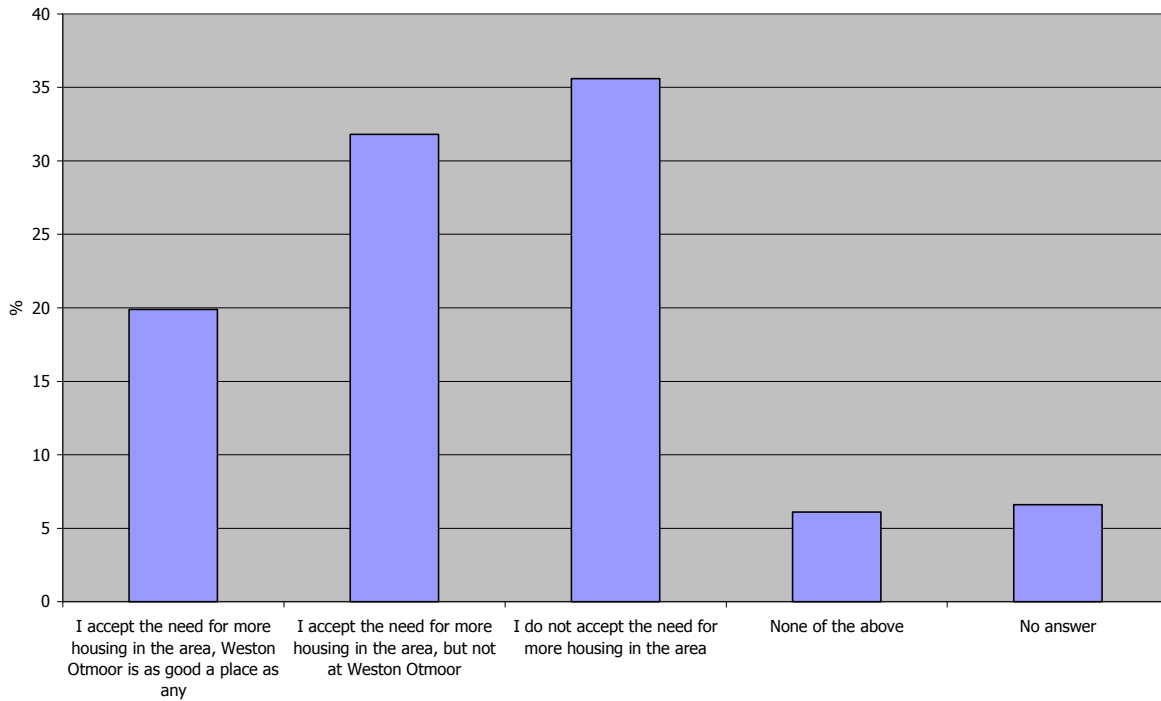
Question 2: Before receiving this publication were you aware of the proposal to build a new eco-town called Weston Otmoor?



Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes	2438	83.3
No	305	10.4
Don't know/not stated	184	6.3
	2927	100

NB. The most common answer(s) is highlighted in bold in all tabulated data

Question 3: Which of the following statements most closely resembles your own opinion?



Answer	Count	Percentage
I accept the need for more housing in the area, Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any	583	19.9
I accept the need for more housing in the area, but not at Weston Otmoor	930	31.8
I do not accept the need for more housing in the area	1042	35.6
None of the above	180	6.1
No answer	192	6.6
	2927	100

Question 4: Please indicate whether you agree strongly, agree slightly, neither agree nor disagree, disagree slightly, disagree strongly to the statements

	Agree strongly		Agree slightly		Neither agree nor disagree		Disagree slightly		Disagree strongly		No answer	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
I have a fairly good grasp of the concept of eco-towns	1329	45.4	975	33.3	268	9.2	107	3.7	152	5.2	96	3.3
Oxfordshire needs more affordable housing	1078	36.8	803	27.4	419	14.3	232	7.9	303	10.4	92	3.1
I think the surrounding towns and villages could benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor	259	8.8	213	7.3	238	8.1	206	7	1950	66.6	61	2.1
Public transport links around Bicester and the local area need to be improved	1157	39.5	652	22.3	562	19.2	212	7.2	272	9.3	72	2.5
An enhanced A34/M40 junction is already necessary to cope with existing traffic	1556	53.2	543	18.6	324	11.1	168	5.7	257	8.8	79	2.7
An extra Park & Ride at Weston Otmoor will help existing A34/M40 traffic congestion	439	15	346	11.8	492	16.8	359	12.3	1206	41.2	85	2.9
I would be likely to use the new Park & Ride	177	6	150	5.1	422	14.4	273	9.3	1788	61.1	117	4
The eco-town should have one access/exit road directly connecting onto a new A34/M40 junction to limit car use from Weston Otmoor	459	15.7	273	9.3	779	26.6	183	6.3	1023	35	210	7.2
The eco-town access/exit road should be a toll	227	7.8	129	4.4	636	21.7	198	6.8	1552	53	185	6.3
The toll should vary depending on how busy the A34/M40 junction is	154	5.3	121	4.1	730	24.9	177	6	1503	51.3	242	8.3
An East West Rail Link would benefit Bicester and the local area	1052	35.9	714	24.4	472	16.1	133	4.5	453	15.5	103	3.5
I would be likely to use the East West Rail Link	511	17.5	410	14	568	19.4	232	7.9	1090	37.2	116	4

(most common answers in bold)

Question 5a: How many miles do you travel daily?

	Count	Percentage
Under 10	835	28.5
11-20	469	16.0
21-30	278	9.5
31-40	231	7.9
41-50	137	4.7
Over 50	457	15.6
No answer	520	17.8
	2927	100

Question 5b: What is your regular means of transport?

	Count	Percentage
Train	194	5.4
Bus	298	8.2
Coach	141	3.9
Car	1605	44.3
Taxi	476	13.1
M/cycle	33	0.9
Bicycle	285	7.9
Walk	308	8.5
No answer	282	7.8
	3622	100

Question 6: What, if any, is your biggest concern with regard to building an eco-town at Weston Otmoor and why?

This was an open question, and comments received have been summarised into key concerns as indicated below:

	Count	Percentage
Traffic/congestion/transport	1086	18.5
Damage to greenfield, green belt, wildlife, SSSI	1616	27.5
Damage to surrounding area (communities and towns and villages)	501	8.5
Flooding	201	3.4
Size and location	468	8.0
Eco credentials	141	2.4
Social issues (crime, immigration, over-population)	263	4.5
Dormitory/commuterville/prison	108	1.8
Pressure on services	306	5.2
One access/toll road	93	1.6
More affordable housing	30	0.5
Job provision	69	1.2
Eco-town not needed/bad idea	66	1.1
No concerns	344	5.9
Other	204	3.5
Concerns not stated	373	6.4
	5869	100.0

Question 3 (broken down into postcode areas): **Which one of the following statements most resembles your own opinion?**

Postcode	Including:	I accept the need for more housing in the area and think Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any		I accept the need for more housing in the area but not at Weston Otmoor		I do not accept the need for more housing in the area		None of the above		Don't know/not stated	
		Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
OX1	Oxford	5	41.7	2	16.7	3	25.0	1	8.3	1	8.3
OX2	Oxford	87	24.3	115	32	120	33.4	19	5.3	18	5
OX3	Headington, Marston, Beckley	78	26.2	103	34.6	84	28.2	14	4.7	19	6.4
OX4	Oxford	2	33.3	3	50	1	16.7	0	0	0	0
OX5	Kidlington, Hampton Poyle, Oddington, Fencott, Murcott, Islip, Charlton on Otmoor, Tackley, Bletchingdon, Kirtlington,	91	16.3	213	38	197	35.2	31	5.5	28	5
OX14	Milton, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon	1	20	2	40	2	40	0	0	0	0
OX20	Woodstock, Wootton	13	18.8	31	44.9	15	21.7	6	8.7	4	5.8
OX25	Blackthorn, Launton, Ambrosden, Piddington, Merton, Middleton Stoney, Caulcott, Steeple Aston, Upper Heyford, Weston on the Green, Wendlebury, Chesterton	20	8.8	81	35.8	99	43.8	17	7.5	9	4
OX26	Bicester	110	19.7	168	30.1	229	41.0	27	4.8	24	4.3
OX27	Marsh Gibbon, Charndon, Souldern, Bucknell, Ardley, Fewcott, Fritwell, Fringford, Hethe, Caversfield, Bainton, Stratton Audley,	19	12.5	51	33.6	68	44.7	6	3.9	8	5.3
OX29	Witney	2	22.2	3	33.3	2	22.2	2	22.2	0	0
OX33	Stanton St John, Horton-Cum-Studley, Waterperry, Holton, Horspath,	24	22.2	44	40.7	32	29.6	4	3.7	4	3.7
HP18	Kingswood, Grendon Underwood, Edgcott, Oakley, Brill	38	21.2	52	29.1	64	35.8	16	8.9	9	5

NN13	Brackley, Croughton	18	22.8	17	21.5	30	38	8	10.1	6	7.6
MK13	Milton Keynes	23	46.9	4	8.2	11	22.4	7	14.3	4	8.2
MK14	Milton Keynes	4	44.4	0	0	4	44.4	1	11.1	0	0
MK18	Buckingham, Padbury	26	24.1	25	23.1	41	38	12	11.1	4	3.7
Other (<5 responses)		14	37.8	4	10.5	12	31.6	6	15.8	1	2.6

104 questionnaires were returned without postcodes. These have been excluded from the above results tables, but are included in the overall figures.

6 Consultation website

A dedicated consultation website was established and will be maintained for the lifetime of the project. During the consultation period, the website provided details of the proposals. In addition, visitors to the website were able to complete two online questionnaires to give their feedback on the proposals.

The website had a wide geographic reach, with people registering and submitting their comments from areas including Wiltshire, Maidenhead and Hereford.

The content for the website was designed to educate people first-hand about the proposals for Weston Otmoor as they stood at that time. The pages reflected the information provided at the roadshows, and was the basis for the consultation and feedback. The questionnaire included in the newsletter was uploaded onto the website, allowing people to register their views online, and thus opening up the consultation to the wider public and providing choice on how to submit comments.

In addition to the newsletter questionnaire, which was quantitative, the more qualitative roadshow questionnaire was also uploaded onto the website. This then provided people with the opportunity to register more detailed comments if they were unable to attend a roadshow or hadn't already submitted comments via email or telephone.

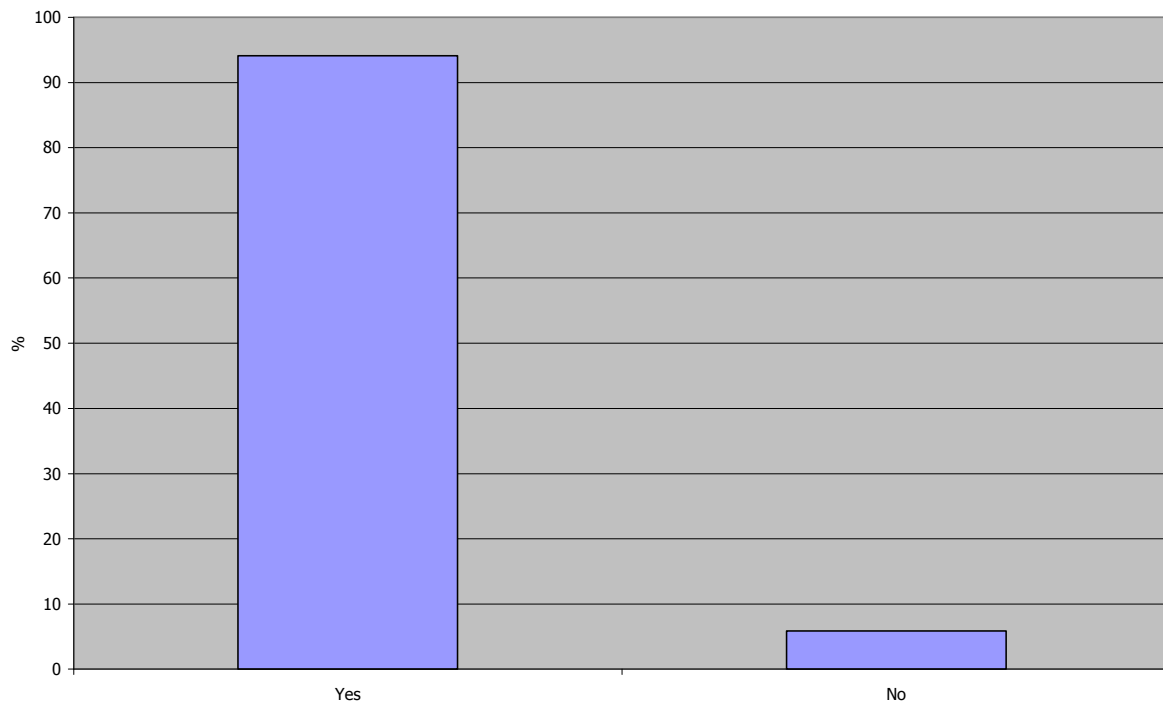
In total, 172 people registered to use the site. Of those registered users, 68 people (39.5 per cent) completed the online version of the newsletter questionnaire, and nine users (5 per cent) completed the roadshow questionnaire.

The results of both online questionnaires are presented on the following pages:

6.1 Questionnaire results (online version of newsletter)

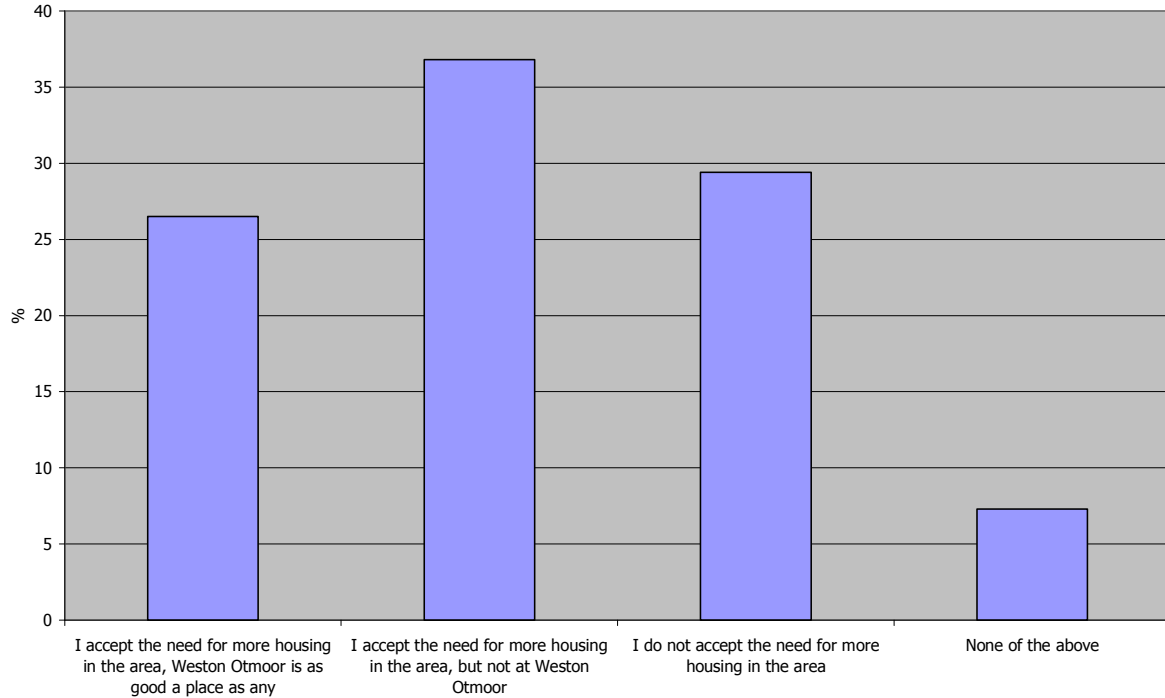
Question 1 of the questionnaire asked respondents to provide their postcodes. A majority of respondents to this questionnaire are based in Oxfordshire.

Question 2: Before receiving this publication were you aware of the proposal to build a new eco-town called Weston Otmoor?



Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes	64	94.1
No	4	5.9

Question 3: Which of the following statements most closely resembles your own opinion?



Answer	Count	Percentage
I accept the need for more housing in the area, Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any	18	26.5
I accept the need for more housing in the area, but not at Weston Otmoor	25	36.8
I do not accept the need for more housing in the area	20	29.4
None of the above	5	7.3
	68	100

Question 4: Please state how you feel towards each of the following statements

	Agree strongly		Agree slightly		Neither agree nor disagree		Disagree slightly		Disagree strongly	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
I have a fairly good grasp of the concept of eco-towns	46	64	21	29	3	4	0	0	1	1
Oxfordshire needs more affordable housing	39	54	13	18	11	15	5	7	3	4
I think the surrounding towns and villages could benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor	7	10	7	10	7	10	4	5	45	64
Public transport links around Bicester and the local area need to be improved	26	37	21	30	12	17	5	7	6	8
An enhanced A34/M40 junction is already necessary to cope with existing traffic	45	59	11	15	8	11	5	7	5	7
An extra Park & Ride at Weston Otmoor will help existing A34/M40 traffic congestion	11	15	8	11	9	12	12	17	30	42
I would be likely to use the new Park & Ride	5	7	9	13	6	8	7	10	41	60
The eco-town should have one access/exit road directly connecting onto a new A34/M40 junction to limit car use from Weston Otmoor	22	32	5	7	15	22	8	11	18	25
The eco-town access/exit road should be a toll	12	17	7	10	18	25	7	10	26	37
The toll should vary depending on how busy the A34/M40 junction is	6	9	6	9	16	24	8	12	30	45
An East West Rail Link would benefit Bicester and the local area	27	38	17	24	12	17	8	11	6	8
I would be likely to use the East West Rail Link	16	23	14	20	14	20	8	11	17	24

(most common answers in bold)

Question 5a: How many miles do you travel daily?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Under 10	25	36.8
11-20	10	14.7
21-30	7	10.3
31-40	6	8.8
41-50	5	7.4
Over 50	12	17.6
No answer	3	4.4
	68	100

Question 5b: What is your regular means of transport?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Train	3	4.4
Bus	8	11.8
Coach	0	0.0
Car	46	67.6
Taxi	0	0.0
M/cycle	2	2.9
Bicycle	7	10.3
Walk	2	2.9
	68	100

Question 6: What, if any, is your biggest concern with regard to building an eco-town at Weston Otmoor and why?

This was an open question, and comments received have been summarised into key concerns as indicated below:

Answer	Count	Percentage
Traffic/congestion/transport	26	17.6
Damage to/loss of greenfield, green belt, wildlife, SSSI, airfield	22	14.9
Damage to surrounding area (communities and towns and villages)	9	6.1
Flooding	8	5.4
Size and location	10	6.8
Eco credentials	19	12.8
Social issues (crime, immigration, over-population)	1	0.7
Dormitory/commuterville/prison	5	3.4
Pressure on services	2	1.4
One access/toll road	3	2.0
More affordable housing	3	2.0
Job provision	3	2.0
Eco-town not needed/bad idea	5	3.4
Focus on Bicester and Kidlington for redevelopment	10	6.8
Funding	3	2.0
Pollution	2	1.4
Cycle routes	2	1.4
No concerns	7	4.7
Other	7	4.7
Concerns not stated	1	0.7
	148	100

6.2 Questionnaire (online version of roadshow questionnaire)

Nine people responded to the online version of the roadshow questionnaire, and all respondents were from the Oxfordshire area.

The considerably small number of respondents to this questionnaire means the resulting statistics do not provide a true representation of the views of the general population. However, in the interests of an inclusive consultation, the results are detailed below for reference.

How do you feel about the proposals for Weston Otmoor?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	1	11
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	8	89
	9	100

Due to the small number of people answering this questionnaire online (nine), all answers to the five qualitative questions have been included below. Where only one respondent has put forward a particular comment, these comments are marked with *. Answers that are not marked, have been put forward by two or more respondents.

What aspects, if any, of the WO proposals do you feel positively about?

Most frequent answers, in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

1. None
2. Affordable housing provision/will prevent development in other villages/towns in the area
3. Location*
4. Much-needed affordable housing*
5. The restriction of car travel*
6. Efforts being made to address environmental issues*
7. Putting Oxford in the top-league of world-level 'knowledge clusters'*

What aspects, if any, do you feel negatively towards?

Most frequent answers, in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

1. Traffic/congestion
2. Eco-credentials flawed
3. Destruction of greenfield land
4. Location
5. Pressure on local infrastructure*
6. All*
7. Loss of local train service due to high-speed trains*
8. Effect of construction process on environment*
9. ProLogis is using the site for distribution purposes*
10. Impact on Bicester redevelopment*
11. Flooding*
12. Proposals don't stack up*

What facilities would you like to see in an eco-town?

Most frequent answers, in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. True and extensively-researched environmental credentials (prioritising environmental credentials above economic) | 5. Green spaces/formal and informal public parks* |
| 2. Community facilities* | 6. Central building for all voluntary and charitable organisations* |
| 3. Waitrose (not Tesco)* | 7. Public parks – formal and informal* |
| 4. Business/innovation park designed for start-up businesses in particular* | 8. Efficient public transport* |

What benefits, if any, do you think WO would bring to the local area?

Most frequent answers, in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. None/very little | 5. Design-for-purpose schools offering diplomas in vocationally-based subjects* |
| 2. Affordable housing | 6. A high standard of shopping experience* |
| 3. Jobs* | 7. Premises for businesses* |
| 4. High standards of accommodation* | |

What, if any, is your biggest concern about WO?

Most frequent answers, in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Increased traffic/congestion | 4. Not truly eco* |
| 2. Building on SSSI/green belt/countryside | 5. Pollution* |
| 3. Location* | 6. Lower class ghetto/slum* |

7 Telephone and email hotline

During the course of the consultation, a dedicated telephone number was set up to provide an alternative route for people to submit their comments. Calls to this number were received by members of the Weston Otmoor community team at Mistral.

For many callers, this was the first opportunity they had had to speak to someone directly involved in the Weston Otmoor project. The majority of calls were received in the first two weeks following the distribution of the newsletter, with the call rate decreasing gradually as the roadshows began.

In addition to the telephone line, a dedicated email address was set up. People submitting their comments received an automated response thanking them for their input (see appendix 7). In total 44 telephone enquiries were received and 41 emails.

A very small number of people (four) opted to send letters to voice their concerns and objections, which included: pressure on existing infrastructure and also on that proposed in the town; concerns about the revised junction nine plans; fears the eco-credentials are not true; the negative effects on Bicester; and worries that Weston Otmoor will be a gated town.

A summary of all the feedback logged via the telephone and email channels is on the following page.

7.1 Summary of the issues and concerns logged, grouped into subject areas:

The eco-towns process

- Questioning planning process/legality of the eco-town process

The consultation process

- Would have preferred more space to write comments on newsletter questionnaire rather than tick box
- Who put together the newsletter/consultation – Parkridge, CLG?
- Why have certain aspects of the masterplan changed for the consultation (compared to Parkridge’s original plan to Government)?
- Please ensure the consultation results are reported accurately and in an unbiased way, as has been promised at the roadshows
- Why didn’t the consultation happen sooner?
- Why wasn’t the developer at the roadshows?
- More detailed information wanted

General concerns and comments

- What surveys are being done?
- The funding in place for the eco-town would be better spent in Bicester and Kidlington rather than the creation of a new town
- Expressed annoyance that local campaign group is claiming support from everyone in the local area – this is not the case
- Excellent transport links, affordable housing and perfect location – good for the local area

Infrastructure

- Impact on existing services
- Water stress
- Wrong location/eco-town too big for area

Housing

- Would like more affordable housing
- Will there be a fall in house prices in the surrounding area?
- Eco-town will become a ghetto
- Area already overpopulated

Facilities at the eco-town

- What about provision for religion?
- Questioning the school and train figures
- How will this benefit the surrounding area? E.g. will local children be able to attend the schools in Weston Otmoor?
- Worries that green spaces in the eco-town will later be built on to gain more money

Environmental impact

- Development on the Green Belt, near SSSI, wildlife reserves; and effect this will have on surrounding area
- The area of Green Belt land being developed on is larger than Parkridge’s figures
- Noise and pollution
- Querying validity of eco-credentials

Traffic impacts

- Concerns about increases in congestion and the effect this would have in the surrounding area
- The toll road will put people off living there
- Will there be cycle routes linking the eco-town with the surrounding area?
- Trams need to be fast enough to make a difference (i.e. quicker than walking or cycling)

8 Community roadshows

A series of 17 community roadshows was organised within the sphere of influence of the proposed development site. The roadshows took place during a three-week period to ensure stakeholders were engaged within a short timeframe and therefore received information in a timely and unbiased manner.

Destinations for the roadshows were chosen due to their proximity to the proposed development site as well as their well-formed and active communities, with input from both local authorities. Well-known venues central to community life (such as village halls and schools) were chosen to ensure accessibility, and the events were held prior to the school holidays to ensure maximum availability of community members.

The roadshows presented ten A1 exhibition boards, detailing the proposals as they were at that time, as well as background information to the eco-town process (copies of the boards can be found in appendix 8, and appendix 9 shows the boards in situ). In addition, literature provided by CLG gave more detailed information on the eco-town process. A qualitative roadshow questionnaire was distributed to visitors to provide a channel through which to provide comments on the proposals and note any additional questions. The roadshows were manned by members of the Mistral community relations team. As the roadshow questionnaires were left intentionally anonymous, people were able to fill in a further form to supply either postal or electronic contact details to receive further information on the proposal when it became available.

Note: A previously confirmed and advertised presence of the Weston Otmoor consultation roadshow was at Bicester Carnival. This presence was suggested and confirmed by Bicester Town Council as an event that would be attended by a range of age groups from miles around. However, following a meeting of the full town council, the decision was made to retract the offer of space for the Weston Otmoor consultation as it felt that the carnival was not an appropriate venue.

8.1 Roadshow calendar, destinations and population figures

Date	Destination
Sunday June 29 (12-5pm)	Weston on the Green
Monday June 30 (3-8pm)	Wendlebury
Tuesday July 1 (3-8pm)	Middleton Stoney
Wednesday July 2 (3-8pm)	Bletchingdon
Thursday July 3 (3-8pm)	Kirtlington
Friday July 4 (3-8pm)	Charlton on Otmoor
Monday July 7 (3-8pm)	Bucknell
Tuesday July 8 (3-8pm)	Chesterton
Wednesday July 9 (3-8pm)	Islip
Thursday July 10 (9am-6pm)	Oxford
Friday July 11 (3-8pm)	Ambrosden
Saturday July 12 (10-5pm)	Bicester
Monday July 14 (3-8pm)	Steeple Aston
Tuesday July 15 (3-8pm)	Kidlington
Wednesday July 16 (3-8pm)	Marsh Gibbon
Thursday July 17 (3-8pm)	Ardley
Friday July 18 (3-8pm)	Blackthorn

8.2 Roadshow attendance figures

The table below shows population of each roadshow venue together with the attendance at each roadshow and the number of questionnaires completed and returned to Mistral:

Roadshow	Population	Attendance	Questionnaires returned	% questionnaires returned
Ambrosden	1060	18	6	33.3
Ardley	666	26	16	61.5
Bicester	28,705	135	37	27.4
Blackthorn	267	23	12	52.2
Bletchington	872	73	52	71.2
Bucknell	249	20	10	50.0
Charlton on Otmoor	412	52	35	67.3
Chesterton	727	72	28	38.9
Islip	617	89	38	42.7
Kidlington	14,945	75	28	37.3
Kirtlington	872	99	80	80.8
Marsh Gibbon*	991	29	14	48.3
Middleton Stoney	312	67	38	56.7
Oxford*	135,509	394	83	21.1
Steeple Aston	920	41	24	58.5
Wendlebury	434	89	33	37.1
Weston on the Green	520	179	100	55.9
	188,078	1481	634	42.8

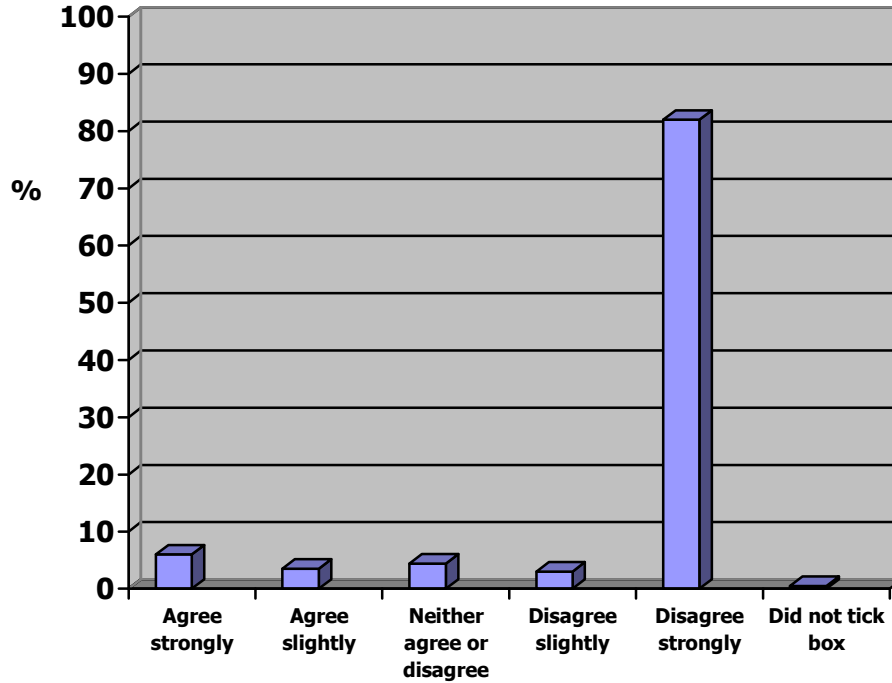
The consultation team is aware that a number people attended roadshows in neighbouring villages as a result of personal commitments clashing with the event in their own village.

Population data source: Census 2001, key area statistics and Oxfordshire Consultants for Social Exclusion, Settlement Profiles

**Please note that the best fit boundaries have been used, these are not necessarily completely coincident with the boundary of the village.*

8.3 Overall roadshow questionnaire results

How do you feel about the proposals for Weston Otmoor?



Answer	Count	Count
Agree strongly	38	60 (9.5%)
Agree slightly	22	
Neither agree nor disagree	28	28 (4.4%)
Disagree slightly	21	543 (85.6%)
Disagree strongly	522	
Did not tick box	3	3 (0.5%)
	634	100

What aspects, if any, of the Weston Otmoor proposals do you feel positively about?

15 most frequent answers, shown in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. None | 9. Travel infrastructure |
| 2. Improved transport links | 10. Employment |
| 3. Rail link | 11. Free public transport |
| 4. Eco-credentials | 12. Public transport provision for the area |
| 5. More housing | 13. Shops |
| 6. Affordable housing | 14. Bringing together communities in their
opposition of Weston Otmoor |
| 7. Trams | =15. Protecting wildlife/SSSI |
| 8. Like the concept | =15. Reducing car use |

What aspects, if any, do you feel negatively towards?

15 most frequent answers, shown in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. All | 9. Pollution (noise and light) |
| 2. Increased traffic/congestion | 10. Effect on local towns, villages and communities |
| 3. Destruction of countryside and farmland (including SSSI, wildlife, green belt) | 11. Negative impact on Bicester |
| 4. Location | 12. None |
| 5. Building on flood plain/increased flooding risks | 13. Effect on environment |
| 6. Too large | 14. One entrance/exit (also combining it with M40 junction) |
| 7. Eco-credentials flawed | =15. Housing |
| 8. Over population/over development | =15. Tolls |

What facilities would you like to see in an eco-town?

15 most frequent answers, shown in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. None | 7. Hospitals and healthcare facilities |
| 2. Leisure facilities (suggestions include cinema, theatre, music venue, bowling alley, craft centre and aquarium) | 8. Sports facilities |
| 3. Renewable energy | 9. Genuine eco-credentials |
| 4. Schools | 10. Transport links |
| 5. Shops | 11. Cycle-friendly roads and cycle routes |
| 6. Self-sufficiency (including recycling facilities) | 12. Employment |
| | 13. Built on brownfield not greenfield |
| | 14. Greenfield land and farmland |
| | 15. That existing towns take eco seriously |

What benefits, if any, do you think WO would bring to the local area?

15 most frequent answers, shown in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. None | 9. Very little** |
| 2. Employment/businesses | 10. New way of living** |
| 3. Improved transport links | 11. Profit for Parkridge and landowners** |
| 4. More housing | 12. Improved local facilities** |
| 5. Affordable housing | 13. Public house* |
| 6. Schools | 14. Local transport* |
| 7. Community spirit | 15. Economic growth* |
| 8. Shops | |

** 2 respondents

* 1 respondent

What, if any, is your biggest concern about WO?

15 most frequent answers, shown in order of frequency (highest to lowest)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Increased traffic/congestion (including making nearby villages into rat-runs) | 8. Will become a commuter town |
| 2. Building on green belt/SSSI/green fields | 9. Not truly eco |
| 3. Impact on neighbouring towns and communities | 10. Pollution |
| 4. Size | 11. Entire proposals |
| 5. Impact on Bicester and Kidlington | 12. Over-population of area |
| 6. Location | 13. That it will achieve planning |
| 7. Flooding | 14. Lower class ghetto/slum |
| | =15. Disruption |
| | =15. Increased pressure on existing services |

8.4 Roadshow questionnaires broken down into roadshows

How do you feel about the proposals for Weston Otmoor

Ambrosden

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	1	17
Agree slightly	1	17
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	1	17
Disagree strongly	3	50
No answer	0	0

Ardley

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	1	6
Agree slightly	1	6
Neither agree or disagree	5	31
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	9	56
No answer	0	0

Bicester

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	4	11
Agree slightly	1	3
Neither agree or disagree	3	8
Disagree slightly	4	11
Disagree strongly	25	68
No answer	0	0

Blackthorn

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	2	17
Neither agree or disagree	1	8
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	9	75
No answer	0	0

Bletchington

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	6	11.5
Agree slightly	1	2
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	1	2
Disagree strongly	44	84.5
No answer	0	0

Bucknell

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	1	10
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	9	90
No answer	0	0

Charlton on Otmoor

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	1	3
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	33	94
No answer	1	3

Chesterton

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	1	4
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	27	96
No answer	0	0

Islip

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	1	3
Disagree strongly	37	97
No answer	0	0

Kidlington

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	2	7
Agree slightly	2	7
Neither agree or disagree	6	21
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	18	64
No answer	0	0

Kirtlington

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	2	3
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	1	1
Disagree strongly	77	96
No answer	0	0

Marsh Gibbon

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	1	7
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	1	7
Disagree slightly	2	14
Disagree strongly	10	71
No answer	0	0

Middleton Stoney

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	0	0
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	0	0
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	37	100
No answer	0	0

Oxford

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	14	17
Agree slightly	7	8
Neither agree or disagree	4	5
Disagree slightly	6	7
Disagree strongly	52	63
No answer	0	0

Steeple Aston

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	2	8
Agree slightly	6	25
Neither agree or disagree	1	4
Disagree slightly	0	0
Disagree strongly	15	63
No answer	0	0

Wendlebury

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	2	6
Agree slightly	0	0
Neither agree or disagree	2	6
Disagree slightly	3	9
Disagree strongly	26	79
No answer	0	0

Weston on the Green

	Count	Percentage
Agree strongly	3	3
Agree slightly	1	1
Neither agree or disagree	1	1
Disagree slightly	2	2
Disagree strongly	90	90
No answer	3	3

9 Conclusions and considerations

Consultation response

There was a good response to the consultation overall, with respondents using all the feedback channels available:

- The community newsletter received the highest level of response, with 2927 questionnaires returned
- 1481 attended the roadshows of whom 634 returned completed questionnaires, and a further nine were completed online
- The consultation website has 172 registered users of whom 68 completed questionnaires.

Responses to the community newsletter were not particularly high – the eco-town initiative has attracted much national publicity so a very high response rate was anticipated. The maximum response rate that can usually be expected for a newsletter is around 5%; the actual response rate of 7.3%, which while on the face of it is quite high, actually shows a high degree of disinterest from the majority of the community given the large scale and potential impact of the proposals.

Similarly, visitor numbers to some of the exhibition roadshows were very small with only an overall average of 9.8% of the combined population of the 14 surrounding villages attending. Again, this is higher than the average turn-out rate for other consultations but is much lower than anticipated given the controversial nature of the proposals.

Overall, in an area where the opposition to the proposed Weston Otmoor eco-town is purported to be universal, an even higher level of participation – and opposition – might have been expected. This suggests that there is an as yet untapped body of local respondents who have no strong views on the proposal.

Feedback channels

Almost double the number of respondents through all three channels found their chosen feedback route more useful than those who did not find it useful, with the website rating highest and the roadshow lowest in terms of usefulness:

- **Newsletter:** 61.2% found it useful (23.8% very and 37.4 % quite) compared with 31.3% who found it not very or not at all useful. 7.5% did not answer
- **Website:** 66% of respondents found it useful (32% very and 34% quite) compared with 33% who found it not very or not at all useful
- **Roadshow:** 50.6% of respondents found it useful compared with 27.4% who did not find it useful. 8% did not know and 13% did not answer.

As responses from all routes were deliberately kept anonymous, it is impossible to say how many responses were from distinct individuals or individuals using multiple routes. The data has therefore been analysed according to response channel and not amalgamated.

Newsletter questionnaire analysis

There was a high level of awareness of the proposals among respondents, 83.3%, before the consultation started.

- 35.6% of respondents did not accept the need for more housing in the area
- 31.8% accepted the need for more housing in the area, but not at Weston Otmoor
- 19.9% accepted the need for more housing in the area and agreed that Weston Otmoor was as good a place as any.

Breaking this down further, it is interesting to see the changing attitude towards the need for more housing in the area, and how it varies between geographical areas. Bicester and many of its surrounding villages, for example, show the largest portion of respondents stating there is no need for more housing in the area. Oxford and a number of neighbouring settlements, on the other hand, agree more housing is needed but not at Weston Otmoor.

The majority of respondents to the newsletters travel regularly by car, 44.3%, with the majority of journeys, 28.5%, being under 10 miles and 16% between 11 and 20 miles.

There was strong agreement that the area needs improved infrastructure:

- 71.8% agreed that 'an enhanced A34/M40 junction is already necessary to cope with existing traffic'
- 61.8% agreed that 'public transport links around Bicester and the local area need to be improved'
- 60.3% agreed that 'an East West Rail Link would benefit Bicester and the local area'.

There was disagreement with infrastructure aspects associated with the Weston Otmoor proposals:

- 53.5% of respondents disagreed that 'an extra Park & Ride at Weston Otmoor will help existing A34/M40 traffic congestion'
- 70.4% disagreed with the statement that they 'would be likely to use the new Park & Ride'
- 45.1% disagreed that they 'would be likely to use the East West Rail Link'
- 41.3% disagreed with the concept that there should be only one access/exit route directly connecting onto a new A34/M40 junction to limit car use
- 59.8% disagreed that this access/exit road should be a toll
- 57.3% disagreed that this toll should vary depending on how busy the A34/M40 junction is.

Overall, 73.6% of respondents believed that the surrounding towns and villages would not benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor, compared with 16.11% who did. 8.1% neither agreed nor disagreed and 2.1% did not respond.

The biggest concerns with regard to building an eco-town at Weston Otmoor were:

- 27.5% of respondents cite damage to greenfield, green belt, wildlife, SSSI
- 18.5% cited traffic/congestion/transport
- 8.5% cited damage to the surrounding area (communities and towns and villages)
- 8% were concerned by the size and location of the proposals
- 5.9% said they had no concerns
- 6.4% did not state their concerns.

Looking at the breakdown of results by postcode, a pattern can be seen whereby those living closest to the proposed site of Weston Otmoor are least likely to accept either the need for more housing in the area, and that Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any:

- More than 40% of respondents in postcodes OX14, OX25, OX26, OX27 and MK14 do not accept the need for more housing in the area
- Over 40% of respondents from postcodes OX20 and OX33 accepted the need for more housing in the area, but not at Weston Otmoor.

Those living in the postcode immediately closest to the site, OX25, are the least likely to support the proposal with only 8.8% accepting the need for more housing in the area and thinking that Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any.

Similarly, the further afield from the site the more likely it is that that Weston Otmoor is identified as a good a place as any for new housing, with over 40% of respondents in OX1, MK13 and MK14 registering support, although the response rate from these postcodes is typically lower than from postcodes in the immediate vicinity.

Website questionnaire analysis

94.1% of online respondents were aware of the proposals before the consultation started, reflecting that this was a self-selecting audience who specifically visited the website to find out more about the proposals and complete questionnaires.

- 36.8% of respondents accepted the need for more housing in the area, but not at Weston Otmoor
- 29.4% of respondents did not accept the need for more housing in the area
- 26.5% accepted the need for more housing in the area and agreed that Weston Otmoor was as good a place as any.

The majority of respondents to the online questionnaire, 68%, travel regularly by car, with the majority of journeys, 38%, being under 10 miles and 18%, the next largest response category, being over 50 miles.

Online respondents agreed strongly that the area needs improved infrastructure:

- 74% agreed that 'an enhanced A34/M40 junction is already necessary to cope with existing traffic'
- 67% agreed that 'public transport links around Bicester and the local area need to be improved'
- 62% agreed that 'an East West Rail Link would benefit Bicester and the local area'.

There was disagreement with infrastructure aspects associated with the Weston Otmoor proposals:

- 70% disagreed with the statement that they 'would be likely to use the new Park & Ride'
- 59% of respondents did not agree that 'an extra Park & Ride at Weston Otmoor will help existing A34/M40 traffic congestion'
- 35% disagreed that they 'would be likely to use the East West Rail Link'.

There was slightly higher agreement than disagreement, 39% compared to 36%, that the eco-town should have one access/exit route, although there was 47% disagreement that this should be a toll, and stronger disagreement at 57% that the toll should vary according to congestion.

Overall, 69% of online respondents believed that the surrounding towns and villages would not benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor, compared with 20% who did, while 10% neither agreed nor disagreed.

The biggest concerns among online respondents with regard to building an eco-town at Weston Otmoor were similar to those expressed by those completing the pre-paid reply questionnaires: destruction of greenfield sites and effect on wildlife; traffic and congestion; and location. Concerns were also expressed over the quality of housing, and that this would be a commuter town.

Online respondents felt the biggest benefits Weston Otmoor would bring to the local area were jobs, schools and high standards of housing (including a provision of affordable).

Overall, there were some differences between responses received to the online versus the pre-paid questionnaires: there were higher levels of those regularly travelling longer distances by car and overall support for a single access point for the eco-town, suggesting that longer-distance commuters believe that this would be a useful measure to limit congestion. Online respondents were more likely to accept the need for new housing in the area and agree that Weston Otmoor was as good a place as any, 26.5% compared with 19.9%, and were more likely to believe that the surrounding towns and villages would benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor, 20% compared with 16.11%.

Exhibition questionnaire analysis

Overall, 86% of respondents disagreed with the proposals for Weston Otmoor, 82% strongly, with 10% agreeing with the proposals and 4% neither agreeing nor disagreeing. Looking at this pattern of support by village or town visited, although this is indicative only as this is a mobile community with residents of some villages attending roadshows in neighbouring villages and very low attendance figures at some roadshows, as might be expected, the negative response was highest in those closest to the proposal:

- Middleton Stoney and Islip at 100% disagreement
- Kirtlington at 97% disagreement and 3% agreement
- Chesterton at 96% disagreement and 4% undecided
- Charlton Otmoor at 94% disagreement and 3% undecided with 3% not responding
- Weston on the Green at 92% disagreement, 4% agreement with 1% undecided and 3% not responding
- Bucknell at 90% disagreement and 10% undecided
- Wendlebury at 88% disagreement, 6% agreement and 6% undecided
- Bletchington at 86.5% disagreement and 13.5% agreement
- Marsh Gibbon at 85% disagreement, 7% agreement and 7% undecided.

The results from Ardley are notable, showing the lowest level of disagreement at 56% (although not the highest level of support) and the highest level, 31%, of respondents undecided.

The highest level of support, 34%, was recorded at the Ambrosden roadshow, followed by 33% at Steeple Aston.

Responses from roadshows held in the larger conurbations – Kidlington, Bicester and Oxford – although overall in disagreement with the proposals, respectively 64%, 79% and 70%, did show higher levels of support than typically seen in individual villages. Bicester and Kidlington both showed 14% agreement with the proposals, rising to 25% in Oxford. This higher level of support is not unexpected, as all three are more distant from the immediate sphere of influence of the proposals.

Concerns highlighted among respondents to the roadshow questionnaires are similar to those cited by respondents to both the online and pre-paid questionnaires, with traffic and congestion, and destruction of the countryside and/or the SSSI. Concern was also expressed over flooding, a decrease in local property prices and an increase in the local population and that Weston Otmoor would destroy the rural character of the area.

Benefits of the proposals cited by visitors to the roadshows included affordable and much-needed housing, jobs, improved infrastructure including a rail link and an improved Junction 9 of the M40,

and the opportunity for a mixed age range in the population, rather than the older profile which is currently the case.

A range of facilities that could be included in the Weston Otmoor eco-town were suggested by some respondents to the roadshow questionnaire, such as provision for the elderly and healthcare, sports and entertainment facilities including a library and a cinema, with these facilities being open to the surrounding population. This suggests that some members of the local community are aware that they can have a role in shaping benefits for their local community arising from Weston Otmoor.

Some people visiting the roadshow expressed frustration that Parkridge was not in attendance. Mistral explained that the roadshows were an impartial activity focused on gathering feedback, rather than detailed discussion of information that was not currently available, and encouraged everyone to fill in a questionnaire.

Overall conclusions

As already noted, the response rate for this consultation, although higher than average for similar exercises, does not exceed 10% of the possible respondents, whether to the pre-paid questionnaire or the roadshows, and is therefore an indicative rather than absolute reflection of the views of the local community.

Overall the results of the community consultation for the Weston Otmoor eco-town show that while support does exist for the scheme, the majority of respondents do not support the draft proposals shared during the consultation.

The highest percentage of support for the proposals was registered through the website with 26.5% of respondents accepting the need for more housing in the area, and thinking that Weston Otmoor is as good a place as any. Those responding online may be using this more anonymous route to express their support. Roughly one-third of those responding by pre-paid questionnaire or through the consultation website did not accept the need for new housing in the area, irrespective of its location. The highest percentage of opposition was registered at the roadshows with 90% of respondents disagreeing with the proposals. Those making the effort to attend roadshows were most likely those with the strongest views, and the strongest views are usually negative, rather than positive.

Those living closer to the proposed site are more likely to disagree with the proposals, while those living further afield are more likely to support the proposals or do not have a strong view.

Certain aspects of the eco-town are perceived by respondents as being beneficial: particularly the improved infrastructure such as the East West Rail Link and the improved junction with the M40, and the new jobs and (affordable) housing that the proposals will bring.

Common concerns cited over the proposals focus around increased traffic and congestion, and damage to the countryside, including the SSSI.

Considerations

In addition to considering the results above, and following detailed contact with statutory bodies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency; with officials from across Government including the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Department for Transport and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; local representatives at all levels of local Government; local community organisations and other stakeholder groups, Parkridge has received a range of feedback including suggestions on how to improve the proposals and concerns regarding them.

As the proposals have been further developed by the project team since the initial concept for the eco-town was discussed with stakeholders and local bodies a year ago, the key issues and concerns that have been raised have been addressed as follows:

- The Site of Special Scientific Interest – further protection has been afforded to the SSSI to the south of the site
- The Green Belt – housing development is no longer proposed in the Green Belt fringe
- Impact on Bicester and its regeneration plans – to address the potential impact on Bicester, Parkridge has met with key organisations working on the ground to understand these concerns in more detail and has begun to develop ideas on how to mitigate the potential impact, and to articulate and explore where the proposals will support the economic development of Bicester.

Other concerns that have been raised can and will be addressed, assuming the project proceeds to the next stage. Outline responses are provided below.

- Transport infrastructure – Parkridge believes that the early delivery of the rail link from Oxford to Milton Keynes, at a time when there is no certainty in terms of securing Government funding, can only support the long-term regeneration of Bicester. Furthermore, the rebuilding of Junction 9 of M40 will release capacity to enable Bicester's employment offer to grow, which is currently constrained by a lack of capacity on the junction
- Retail and employment considerations – Parkridge is committed to exploring how the retail space at Weston Otmoor can be limited in overall amount, to ensure that day-to-day requirements are met, but that the higher order centres, including Bicester, are not threatened. For example, the size of any one retail unit at Weston Otmoor can be limited, so that the prospect of undermining provision at Bicester with the introduction of a superstore can be avoided. Similarly, the timing of the delivery of land for employment at Weston

Otmoor can be aligned to requirements and land release in Bicester, so that, if appropriate, Bicester can take first advantage of Weston Otmoor infrastructure

- The feasibility of the transport proposals – the transport elements of the proposals have been further developed and discussed with Oxfordshire County Council, Network Rail, the Highways Agency, and the Department for Transport to ensure the transport proposals will deliver the desired level of modal shift – and therefore to encourage people to use public transport rather than the private car – and to ensure there is no negative impact on the existing road network. In addition, the proposals are being independently tested by transport consultants commissioned by Oxford County Council. Consultation responses expressing concern regarding traffic impacts means that work also needs to be done in communicating the nature of the proposals to the community at large; focusing particularly on how it will not have a negative impact on the existing local infrastructure
- Commercial viability of the scheme – concerns have been raised that Parkridge is unable to deliver the infrastructure proposed within the eco-town. An independent financial assessment of the proposals is being undertaken by PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) which has been engaged by the Government to assess all of the short-listed eco-town proposals
- Request for further detailed information – as the proposals are developed further information on all elements – including affordable housing provision, types and numbers of schools and colleges, the provision of health and community facilities – will be made available. Furthermore as the proposals are developed in more detail, Parkridge will take into account feedback received from local residents on the use of local roads such as access from Wendlebury to the A34 southbound.

10 Next steps

The consultation website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk has been updated to include Parkridge's Final Bid Presentation (non-technical summary) in full and available for visitors to the site to download in PDF format. This community consultation report will also be made available online, and a follow up newsletter, in both hard copy and electronic format, will be produced and distributed. This will include an overview of the community consultation report and the answers to questions commonly asked during the consultation period.

If the Weston Otmoor proposal meets the challenges set, and is selected by the government in early 2009, the communication strategy will be further developed to support the ongoing development of the proposals in particular during the planning phase.

Many of the Phase 1 activities will be repeated to maintain community engagement, such as the community newsletter and feedback, and foster strong community partnerships as the plans develop. A range of additional activities will be used to gather a cross section of community views from within the sphere of influence of the proposed development.

These activities and their outcomes will be summarised in later consultation reports.

Appendix 1 – Press releases

Press release

Weston Otmoor eco-town

Parkridge launches Weston Otmoor eco-town consultation

Parkridge has today launched a community consultation programme to gather feedback from local people regarding its Weston Otmoor eco-town proposal.

The consultation programme includes a variety of community-based activities and has been developed in conjunction with Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) and local authorities Cherwell District Council and Oxford County Council.

Consultation activities include: the appointment of a dedicated community relations manager; a specific project website and discussion forum¹; a touring roadshow visiting 17 local villages and towns² in the neighbouring area – Weston on the Green, Wendlebury, Middleton Stoney, Bletchington, Kirtlington, Charlton on Otmoor, Bicester, Chesterton, Islip, Oxford, Ambrosden, Steeple Aston, Kidlington, Marsh Gibbon, Ardley, Bucknall and Blackthorn – and project update newsletters, which will be mailed to approximately 32,000 local households and will also be handed out at various locations in the area.

In addition to feedback being invited via the website, the newsletter and subsequent e-newsletters will include a questionnaire to capture the views of people living in and visiting the area.

Roger Sporle, director at Parkridge, says: "We want to develop a truly sustainable community, with outstanding transport links, which will bring benefits to the wider area. We will use local knowledge and experience wherever possible to make Weston Otmoor a place that everyone can be proud of – consultation with local people will play a big part in this."

Parkridge has appointed Oxfordshire-based community consultation specialist Mistral Group to manage the consultation process.

Mistral director Victoria Cross says: "Our award-winning community consultation team works nationwide to help communities understand the planning process and have their say about the future of their local area. As a local business, employing local people, we're very aware of the views that have been expressed since the announcement of the eco-town shortlist in April. We're committed to ensuring that all comments, both positive and negative, are considered as the plans move forward."

ENDS

June 25, 2008

¹The project website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk is scheduled to go live shortly. Content will be added as the consultation evolves. Interested parties will be able to register their email addresses to receive updates throughout the consultation.

²The roadshows will be taking place between June 29 and July 18, 2008, at the following venues and times:

- Sunday 29th June, **Weston on the Green** Memorial Village Hall, Mill Lane, 12 – 5pm
- Monday 30th June, **Wendlebury** Village Hall, Main Street, 3 - 8pm
- Tuesday 1st July, **Middleton Stoney** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 2nd July, The Blacks Head Inn, The Green, **Bletchington**, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 3rd July, **Kirtlington** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Friday 4th July, The Crown, High Street, **Charlton on Otmoor**, 3 – 8pm
- Sunday 6th July, **Bicester Carnival**, Oxford Road Sports Ground, 11 – 4pm
- Tuesday 8th July, **Chesterton** C of E Primary School, Alchester Road, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 9th July, **Islip** Village Hall, Kidlington Road, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 10th July, Clarendon Centre, Cornmarket Street, **Oxford**, 9 – 6pm
- Friday 11th July, Garrison Community Centre, Ploughley Road, **Ambrosden**, 3 – 8pm
- Monday 14th July, **Steeple Aston** Sports and Recreation Ground, Robinson’s Close, 3 – 8pm
- Tuesday 15th July, **Kidlington**, The Red Lion, Oxford Road, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 16th July, **Marsh Gibbon** Village Hall, Clements Lane, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 17th July, **Ardley** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Friday 18th July, **Blackthorn** Village Hall, Thame Road, Blackthorn, 3 – 8pm

About Parkridge:

Parkridge is an award-winning private development and investment company working across all sectors of the property development and investment market. With 170 staff operating from offices in the UK, Poland, France, Italy, Russia, Spain and Luxembourg, Parkridge currently has around 2.5bn Euros of developments underway.

About Mistral:

Mistral is a corporate and marketing communications consultancy operating in the built and natural environment, food chain, science and rural affairs sectors. The built environment team has been involved in community engagement projects for clients ranging from David Wilson and Linden Homes to Oxford Brookes University and Oxford & Cherwell Valley College.

About eco-towns:

For more information about eco-towns, visit the Department of Communities and Local Government www.communities.gov.uk.

For more information, contact:

Alison Hill Weston Otmoor Community Relations Manager Mistral Group	01869 352 738 alison.hill@mistral-pr.co.uk
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Press release

Roadshows completed but consultation continues

Local residents registering their views at a series of community consultation roadshows for the Weston Otmoor eco-town proposal are being thanked by the developer Parkridge. A total of 1481 people attended the roadshows, which were held at 17 villages and towns in the local area.

Parkridge director Roger Sporle commented: "We are pleased that so many people made the effort to attend the roadshows and give feedback on the proposals. We have said that we will use local knowledge and experience wherever possible to make Weston Otmoor a place that everyone can be proud of – consultation with local people plays a big part in this."

The roadshows were just one strand of the community consultation being conducted by Oxfordshire-based consultation specialist Mistral Group. Many responses have already been received to the 40,000 community newsletters and questionnaires distributed in June, with more arriving every day. Meanwhile people also continue to register their views at the dedicated consultation website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk, which gives all the information from the roadshows, together with the exhibition questionnaire and a further opportunity for people to give their feedback.

Mistral director Victoria Cross said: "It's important that everyone realises that although the roadshows are over, the consultation is still going on, and people have until August 29 to give us their views. If you did miss your local roadshow, then we urge you to read the information on the website and fill in the forms there. We want as many people as possible to be involved in the consultation on Weston Otmoor."

ENDS

July 31, 2008

Interested parties can give their feedback through the consultation website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk until the closing date of August 29, 2008.

The roadshows took place between June 29 and July 18, 2008 at Ambrosden, Ardley, Bicester, Blackthorn, Bletchington, Bucknell, Charlton on Otmoor, Chesterton, Islip, Kidlington, Kirtlington, Marsh Gibbon, Middleton Stoney, Oxford, Steeple Aston, Wendlebury and Weston on the Green.

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About eco-towns:

For more information about eco-towns, visit the Department of Communities and Local Government www.communities.gov.uk.

For more information, contact:

Alison Hill Weston Otmoor Community Relations Manager Mistral Group	01869 352 738 alison.hill@mistral-pr.co.uk
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Appendix 2 – Consultation coverage

**Bicester Advertiser, Page 2
Friday, June 27, 2008**

2 BICESTER ADVERTISER, Friday, June 27, 2008

bicesteradvertiser.net

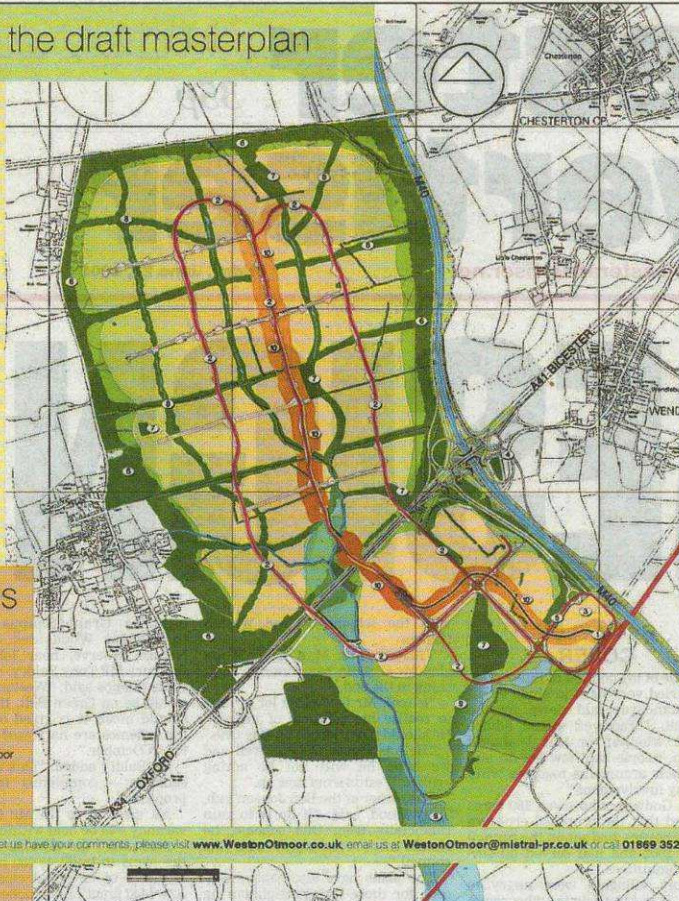
Weston Otmoor – the draft masterplan

This masterplan is the latest draft of the evolving Weston Otmoor proposal. The masterplan is conceptual and is intended to indicate the main features of the proposed development. If Weston Otmoor is shortlisted by the government, the precise details will be developed in consultation with the local community. Below are the key areas that correspond to the numbers on the plan.

1. New rail station linking Weston Otmoor to Oxford, Milton Keynes and London
2. Fast, free and frequent trams for travel within the eco-town
3. 6,000 space rail-based Park & Ride to Oxford, Bicester, Milton Keynes or London
4. Replacement of the A34/M40 junction will ease pressure on these routes and surrounding villages
5. Single point of access into and out of Weston Otmoor linking directly onto the rebuilt A34/M40 junction.

Facts and Figures

- Up to 15,000 homes
- Affordable housing of between 30% and 60%, including homes for key workers and families
- Up to 35,000 people
- Up to 12,000 jobs
- Potential for two secondary schools
- Potential for eight primary schools
- 20% of the eco-town will be green open space
- 20 trams each way per hour within Weston Otmoor
- A target maximum of 300m from each house to a tram stop
- 10 trains per hour to Oxford, 6 to Bicester



6. Woodland buffer around the perimeter of the site
7. Retained woodland
8. Parks, woodlands and allotments
9. New marsh habitat
10. High street with shops, schools, healthcare, leisure and business facilities

Other features

- Cycleways and footpaths will prioritise the needs of pedestrians and cyclists
- Mixture of affordable homes and open market housing, helping ease the area's housing shortage
- Real-time screens in every home, workplace and community building indicating on-site toll charges, and information about when the next tram is due
- All houses will be built to the highest possible eco-homes standard
- Offices, research & development, and other industrial premises

Your views are important. For more information, or to let us have your comments, please visit www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk, email us at WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk or call 01869 352 739 between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Mon-Fri.

Weston Otmoor: Have your say

RESIDENTS are being urged to have their say on plans to build the planned 15,000-home eco-town near Bicester in series of a consultation meetings.

Parkridge, the developer behind the plans, released a

sketch of how the new town could look.

In a bid to win over the public, the consultation is set to include a community relations manager, a project website, a touring road show and newsletters sent to 32,000

households. But protesters said they were suspicious the consultation would not make any difference.

Villager Anthony Henman, who has become the face of campaign group Weston Front, said he wanted to

encourage as many people as possible to express their opinions.

But he said: "It is something I am deeply suspicious of."

"It is quite amazing, I am sure they have got the message already they are not wanted. I think it is a boxing exercise they are going through."

"Goodness knows what sort of reaction the community relations manager is going to get. I would have thought it would be a thankless task."

"It is not an eco-town – it is either a housing estate, or a new town."

Parkridge director Roger Spurlie said: "We will use local knowledge and experience wherever possible to make Weston Otmoor a place that everyone can be proud of. Consultation with local people will play a big part in this."

See: westonotmoor.co.uk

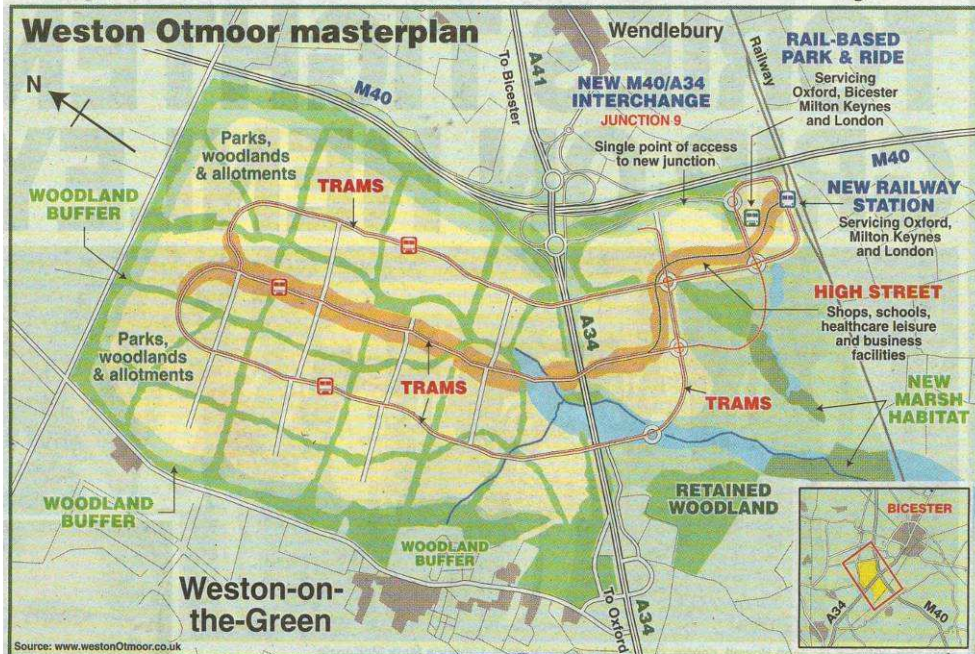
The roadshows diary:

The roadshows will take place between this Sunday and July 18 at the following places and times:

- Sunday, Weston-on-the-Green Memorial Village Hall, Mill Lane, 12pm to 5pm
- Monday, Wendlebury Village Hall, Main Street, 3pm to 8pm
- Tuesday, Middleton Stoney Village Hall, 3pm to 8pm
- Wednesday, The Blacks Head Inn, The Green, Bletchingdon, 3pm to 8pm
- Thursday, Kirtlington Village Hall, 3pm to 8pm
- Friday, July 4, The Crown, High Street, Charlton on Otmoor, 3pm to 8pm
- Sunday, July 6, Bicester Carnival, Oxford Road Sports Ground, 11am to 4pm
- Tuesday, July 8, Chesterton C of E Primary

- School, Alchester Road, 3pm to 8pm
- Wednesday, July 9, Islip Village Hall, Kidlington Road, 3pm to 8pm
- Thursday, July 10, Clarendon Centre, Cornmarket Street, Oxford, 9am to 6pm
- Friday, July 11, Garrison Community Centre, Ploughley Road, Ambrosden, 3pm to 8pm
- Monday, July 14, Steeple Aston Sports and Recreation Ground, Robinson's Close, 3pm to 8pm
- Tuesday, July 15, Kidlington, The Red Lion, Oxford Road, 3pm to 8pm
- Wednesday, July 16, Marsh Gibbon Village Hall, Clements Lane, 3pm to 8pm
- Thursday, July 17, Ardley Village Hall, 3pm to 8pm
- Friday, July 18, Blackthorn Village Hall, Thame Road, Blackthorn, 3pm to 8pm

'Pay to leave 35,000-resident town by car'



LARGE SCALE: The town would have two secondary schools as well as eight primaries; up to half the housing would be classed as affordable

ECO-TOWN MAP INCLUDES TOLL

DEVELOPERS have revealed what the proposed eco-town near Weston-on-the-Green would look like.

And ideas for the new community include a toll for people leaving the development by car.

After months of speculation and protest about the environmental impact of the new 15,000-home settlement, the company behind the scheme unveiled a draft masterplan of Weston Otmoor.

Developers Parkridge said there would be only a single point of access into and out of the eco-town,

By Reg Little

with a toll gate. The fee would fluctuate over the day, rising at times when surrounding roads were heavily congested.

The publication of the plan was quickly followed by the resignation of local councillor Neil Godwin, on whose farmland part of the eco-town would be built.

Mr Godwin faced calls to stand down as the village representative on Cherwell District Council because of a conflict of interest.

Mr Godwin, of Manor Farm, Weston-on-the-Green, said: "Quite a lot of



CONTROVERSY: Councillor and landowner Neil Godwin has quit

local people were looking for me to resign a few weeks ago — and I said if I could not do my job then I would.

"Most parish councils wanted questions answering about the eco-town, but I couldn't answer them because of my conflict of interest."

Residents of Weston Otmoor are promised a fast and free tram service to carry people around the 800-acre site, with every home expected to be within 300m of a tram stop.

According to the blueprint, a new railway station, serving Oxford, Milton Keynes and London, would be built the south side of the site, with 10 trains per hour an hour to Oxford and six to Bicester. A 6,000-space park-

and-ride would be built next to it.

The developers say the town would require the current A34/M40 junction, one of the worst traffic bottlenecks in the county, to be entirely rebuilt.

The plan proposes that up to half the 15,000 homes would be affordable. Weston Otmoor would have a population of about 35,000, with 12,000 people working there.

The scale of the project is reflected in the fact that the plan includes eight primary schools and two secondary schools. The town would be dominated by a high street running through its centre with shops, schools and leisure facilities.

People now have until July 31 to have their say on the draft masterplan, with the Government set to produce a shortlist of up to 10 eco-town sites in October.

Seventeen roadshows, beginning on Sunday at Weston-on-the-Green Village Hall, are scheduled.

reg.little@oxfordmail.co.uk

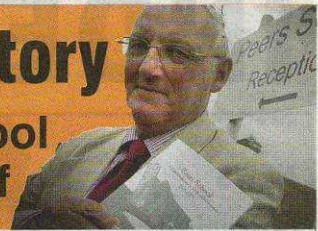
HAVE YOUR SAY
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The Oxford Times

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**Education,
education**



Peers into history
A look back at school
set to reinvent itself



oxfordtimes.co.uk

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2006/07

Friday, June 27, 2008 80p

Colourful costumes will help band stand out at carnival



■ SPLASH OF COLOUR: Organisers of the Cowley Road Carnival have been working with fashion students at Oxford & Cherwell Valley College to create costumes for carnival band Sol Samba. Pictured are students Amanda Spence, Jordan South and Alex Payne. Picture: Ed Nix

Road toll and free trams in eco-town

By **REG LITTLE**
rlittle@nqo.com

ROAD tolls and a free tram service were among the proposals as a developer today revealed its draft masterplan for the proposed eco-town near Weston-on-the-Green.

After months of speculation and protest about the environmental impact of the 15,000-home settlement, the company behind the scheme has unveiled its masterplan for Weston Otmoor.

Parkridge, the developer, reveals there would be a single point of access into and out of the eco-town — and residents would be charged for leaving by car. The cost of this 'eco-town toll' would vary — rising at times when surrounding roads were congested.

Residents of Weston Otmoor are promised a free tram service around the 800-acre site, with every home within 300m of a tram stop. One proposal is to install real-time screens in every home and office, which would display the times of both the next tram and the current car toll charge.

A new rail station, servicing Oxford, Milton Keynes and London, would be built on the south side of the site, with ten trains per hour to Oxford and six to Bicester. A 6,000 space park-and-ride would be built next to it.

The developer says the eco-town would require the current A34/M40 junction to be entirely rebuilt.

The masterplan proposes that between 30 and 50 per cent of the 15,000 homes would be affordable.

Weston Otmoor would have a population of about 35,000, with 12,000 people working in the eco-town.

The scale of the project is reflected in the fact that the masterplan includes eight primary schools and two secondary schools. A report on the masterplan by a Government-appointed panel of experts was published this week.

It calls on the developer to assess the implications for Bicester and the risk of Weston Otmoor becoming a commuter town. The panel also calls on the developer to address concerns about the tram system being downgraded to buses and to provide details on how road charging would be enforced.

Continued on Page 3

THIS WEEK

Flood victims told 'do more'

Families and businesses have been told to do more to save their homes and buildings from flooding.
Page 5

Co-ed convent

A Catholic school will end its near 150-year tradition of admitting only girls when it welcomes boys in 2009.
Page 6

Sale on hold

Plans to sell lock-keepers' cottages on the River Thames have been put on hold.
Page 7

Blanc returns

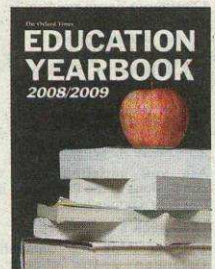
The owners of an Oxford restaurant have said they hope its appearance in a reality TV show will help put it on the map.
Page 16

Magdalen star

Actress Anna Popplewell, who is studying at Magdalen College, is one of the young stars of *Prince Caspian*.
Page 18

Hospital texts

Managers at hospitals are to send patients text messages to remind them not to miss upcoming appointments.
Page 25



**FREE
MAGAZINE**

Developer reveals in-depth plans for eco-town

From front page
The publication of the masterplan was quickly followed by the resignation of local councillor Neil Godwin, on whose farmland part of the eco-town would be built.

Mr Godwin has faced calls to stand down as the village representative on Cherwell District

Council because of a conflict of interest.

It is understood Parkridge has an option to buy about 200 acres of his farmland on the south-western section of the site.

The new eco-town would be dominated by a high street running through its centre with

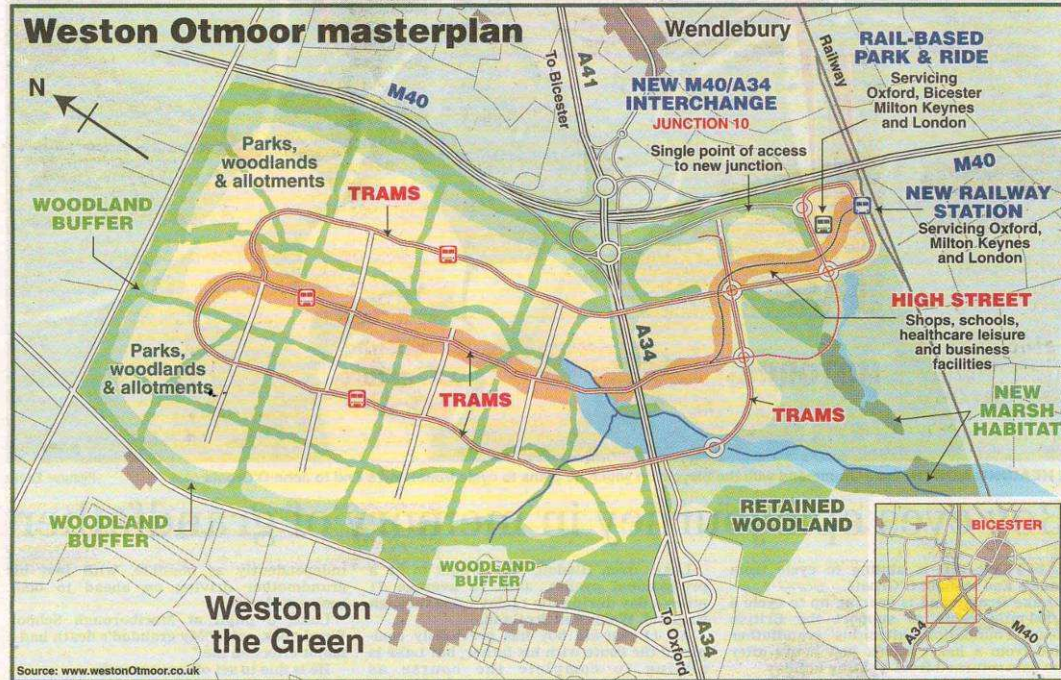
shops, schools and leisure facilities.

A section of it would be built over the A34, as previously revealed in *The Oxford Times*.

In the face of bitter criticism from the wildlife trust BBOWT about the threat to the Wood-sides Meadow Nature Reserve, the developer says that green

spaces would make up about a fifth of the eco-town. A new marsh habitat is promised on the edge of the site.

People now have until July 31 to have their say on the draft masterplan, with the Government set to produce a list of up to ten preferred eco-town sites in October.



Report says that thousands could end up driving to London

Eco-town panel commuting fear

By **REG LITTLE**
rlittle@oxfordtimes.co.uk

AN OFFICIAL report has warned that the proposed eco-town near Weston-on-the-Green could quickly become "commuter-ville".

The report by a panel of experts in town planning says Weston Otmoor could end up being home to thousands of commuters who drive each day to London and Birmingham.

And the developer behind the plan to build up to 15,000 homes near the A34/M40 junction is told to address the implications of the new settlement on Bicester.

The report was commissioned by the Government, with the panel's 15 members including the design guru

Wayne Hemingway, the founder of the *Red or Dead* fashion label.

Parkridge, the developer, is urged to refine its scheme to ensure the eco-town is a place where people will want to live and work, with the need to show how "the quality of life in Weston Otmoor will be different from a resident of Bicester".

But the report's main focus is on potential transport problems.

It says: "The transport strategy uses tram-train, free travel and demand management for car use. However, residents may simply take the tram to the park-and-ride and drive to London or Birmingham."

The developer must explain how it would prevent "the town becoming commuter-ville", says the study, which calls for public

The developer must explain how it would prevent 'the town from becoming commuter-ville', says the study

transport links to central Oxford, the John Radcliffe Hospital, BMW at Cowley and A34 employment sites.

It also warns the homes could be made unaffordable if the costs of free transportation were ever passed on to residents.

The developer is also told to demonstrate that the proposed high street running across the A34 is viable, and why residents would not travel to Oxford to shop.

With a large part of the 800-acre site used as farmland, there is a recommendation to explain how the plans can maximise food production on the site and strengthen biodiversity.

Residents living close to the proposed site near Bicester questioned the panel's local knowledge.

Tony Henman, a spokesman for campaign group Weston Front, said the panel's report was "fatally flawed" because members had not talked to locals or councillors. He added: "The report touches slightly on the sustainability of Bicester, but there is no mention of Kidlington, the Green Belt issue or the special sites of scientific interest."

John Walker, chairman of the eco-towns panel, said: "Clearly there is still a lot of work to do."

Oxford Mail
Monday, June 30, 2008

Protesters target eco-town open day

QUESTIONS surrounding the proposed eco-town at Weston Otmoor went unanswered at the first of a series of open days to win over residents yesterday.

Developers Parkridge held a display at Weston-on-the-Green Village Hall for local residents to study the plans and comment on them.

Plans for the eco-town including 15,000 homes, a new train station and a

tram network have created a storm of controversy.

Parkridge managing director Roger Spore met residents while some opponents put up signs and posters criticising the plans.

Local resident and campaigner John Mair said: "I asked Mr Spore about the cost of the new railway, improvements to junction nine on the M40 and the trams. But he said it has not been

worked out yet. It was very brave of him to turn up, but it was a shame he was not better briefed. It beggars belief if he does not know."

Yesterday's event was the first in a series of open days across Oxfordshire running until July 18.

Campaigners were due to travel to London today to hand over a petition at 10 Downing Street against the planned eco-town.

Oxford Mail, Page 9
Tuesday, August 5, 2008

Eco-town consultation gets big response

THE developer behind the proposed Weston Otmoor eco-town, at Weston-on-the-Green, has thanked residents for giving their views at a series of community consultation roadshows.

A total of 1,481 people attended the roadshows, which were held in 17 communities in the surrounding area, including Bicester and Kidlington. Parkridge director Roger Spore

said: "We're pleased that so many people made the effort to attend the roadshows and give feedback on the proposals.

"We have said that we will use local knowledge and experience wherever possible, to make Weston Otmoor a place that everyone can be proud of. Consultation with local people plays a big part in this."

People attending the roadshows

held last month were encouraged to voice their opinions about the plans to build 15,000 homes on 800 acres of farmland, close to junction 9 of the M40, where it meets the A34 from Oxford, and alongside the Oxford-Bicester railway line.

Parkridge said the roadshows were just one strand of the community consultation being conducted by Oxfordshire-based consultation

specialist Mistral Group, which has also sent 32,000 letters to households in nearby communities.

People can still give their views online at www.westonotmoor.co.uk

Mistral director Victoria Cross said: "It's important that everyone realises that although the roadshows are over, the consultation is still going on, and people have until August 29 to give us their views."

Bicester Advertiser, Page 6
Friday, August 8, 2008

Eco town needed - homes minister

IN a defiant message to opponents of a controversial housing development, Government's housing minister Caroline Flint said that new housing estates are

By TOM SHEPHERD

desperately needed to solve a chronic homes shortage.

Speaking during a visit to the county last week, she compared Oxford's housing market to "a pressure cooker".

She reiterated the Government's support for eco-towns — citing the planned 15,000-home development at Weston Otmoor, near Bicester.

She said: "There's only so much housing you can build within Oxford and, given its historical architecture, it can be pretty limiting. Oxford is a city that is bursting at the seams — it's like a pressure cooker. There are between 3,000 and 4,000 people on the city's social housing list and the same in Cherwell."

Mrs Flint met with city, district and parish councillors, as well as opponents of the proposed eco-town at Weston Otmoor.

Alan Cotton, a spokesman for protest group Weston Front, said flooding and transport worries made the proposal unsustainable.

He said: "The plans don't meet the objectives the housing minister has put forward for eco-towns."

But Oxford City Council leader Bob Price said: "We support the eco-town as we need for more housing in the city both for rent and to buy. The Weston Otmoor scheme would be on low-grade agricultural land and it has a huge advantage in terms of access to current transport links and urban facilities."

● Parkridge, the Weston Otmoor developer, has thanked residents for giving their views at a series of community consultation roadshows. A total of 1,481 people attended the roadshows. People can continue to register their views at WestonOtmoor.co.uk



Housing minister Caroline Flint

Appendix 3 – Consultation poster/advert

Visit one of our roadshows:

The Weston Otmoor team invites you to give your views on its eco-town proposal. The draft proposals will be on display at the roadshow, **we hope to see you there.**



Weston Otmoor

eco-town

your views are important



- **Weston on the Green** Memorial Village Hall, 29th June, 12 – 5pm
- **Wendlebury** Village Hall, Main St, 30th June, 3 – 8pm
- **Middleton Stoney** Village Hall, 1st July, 3 – 8pm
- **Bletchington**, The Blacks Head Inn, The Green, 2nd July, 3 – 8pm
- **Kirtlington** Village Hall, 3rd July, 3 – 8pm
- **Charlton on Otmoor** The Crown, High St, 4th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Bucknell** Village Hall, 7th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Chesterton** C of E Primary School, 8th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Islip** Village Hall, 9th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Oxford** Clarendon Centre, Cornmarket St, 10th July, 9 – 6pm
- **Ambrosden** Garrison Community Centre, 11th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Bicester** town centre, Crown Car Park, 12th July, 10 – 5pm
- **Steeple Aston** Sports and Recreation Ground, Robinson's Close, 14th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Kidlington** The Red Lion, Oxford Road, 15th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Marsh Gibbon** Village Hall, 16th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Ardley** Village Hall, 17th July, 3 – 8pm
- **Blackthorn** Village Hall, Thame Rd, 18th July, 3 – 8pm

www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk

Appendix 4 – Invitation letter



23 June 2008

Dear

Weston Otmoor Eco-Town Proposal Consultation Roadshow

Parkridge is seeking the views of the local community on its proposal to develop an eco-town at Weston Otmoor.

Prior to the masterplan being finalised and submitted to government, Parkridge has asked community consultation specialist Mistral to explain the current draft of the plans to the public and to invite people to give their feedback.

The draft masterplan for Weston Otmoor will be on display for public viewing and comments at a touring roadshow visiting 17 local villages and towns. The venues are as follows:

- Sunday 29th June, **Weston on the Green** Memorial Village Hall, Mill Lane, 12 – 5pm
- Monday 30th June, **Wendlebury** Village Hall, Main Street, 3 – 8pm
- Tuesday 1st July, **Middleton Stoney** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 2nd July, The Blacks Head Inn, The Green, **Bletchington**, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 3rd July, **Kirtlington** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Friday 4th July, The Crown, High Street, **Charlton on Otmoor**, 3 – 8pm
- Sunday 6th July, **Bicester** Carnival, Oxford Road Sports Ground, 11 – 4pm
- Tuesday 8th July **Chesterton** C of E Primary School, Alchester Road, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 9th July, **Islip** Village Hall, Kidlington Road, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 10th July, Clarendon Centre, Cornmarket Street, **Oxford**, 9 – 6pm
- Friday 11th July, Garrison Community Centre, Ploughley Road, **Ambrosden**, 3 – 8pm
- Monday 14th July, **Steeple Aston** Sports and Recreation Ground, Robinsons Close, 3 – 8pm
- Tuesday 15th July, **Kidlington**, The Red Lion, Oxford Road, 3 – 8pm
- Wednesday 16th July, **Marsh Gibbon** Village Hall, Clements Lane, 3 – 8pm
- Thursday 17th July, **Ardley** Village Hall, 3 – 8pm
- Friday 18th July, **Blackthorn** Village Hall, Thame Road, 3 – 8pm

In addition, we will also be visiting Bucknell and Bicester town centre please see the website for more details. The Mistral team will be on hand to take any questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you are unable to come to the roadshow in person you can find out more about the plans and tell us your views online at www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk . Alternatively, contact me on 01869 325 738 or email WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



Alison Hill
Mistral consultant to Parkridge

June 2008

Weston Otmoor
eco-town

a sustainable future

The official newsletter of the Weston Otmoor eco-town consultation



Your views are important

Welcome to the first edition of A Sustainable Future, the official newsletter of the Weston Otmoor eco-town consultation. We are currently in the early stages of developing our proposals for Weston Otmoor. This newsletter is intended to give you the latest facts and, through the questionnaire attached, provide you with the opportunity to share your views with us.

In addition to the questionnaire you can provide your comments or ask questions online, over the phone between the hours of 9am and 5pm, or face-to-face at one of 15 roadshows taking place around the local area. For more information, including the roadshow dates and times please see the back page.



Connecting Oxfordshire

Weston Otmoor is designed around a highly sustainable public transport scheme, and will minimise the use of private cars.

Through a combination of high-quality, fast, free and frequent public transport, and a variable charging rate for the use of private cars in and out of Weston Otmoor, the scheme will set new standards for sustainable transport.

In this context the development of Weston Otmoor will provide the funding for the long-awaited Oxford to Milton Keynes section of the East West Rail Link as well as a direct line to London. There are also plans for a connecting bus

service around the Oxford ring road to serve major employment centres such as the hospitals and Oxford Science Park.

A replacement of the M40/A34 junction, combined with a new rail-based Park & Ride, designed to intercept traffic, situated in the Weston Otmoor development itself, will considerably ease the pressure on these routes and on the associated country lanes, which frequently become a 'rat-run' when the A34 and M40 are congested.

What is an eco-town?

Every eco-town should be:

- Designed with good facilities, including a secondary school, shops, office space and opportunities for sport and leisure
- Eco-friendly built from sustainable materials, with zero carbon emissions
- Affordable – up to half of the new homes will be priced to that first-time buyers and families can afford to buy them.

The aim is to create a place where people really want to live – which can evolve naturally as it gets bigger. Eco-towns should be good for both the local community and the environment. The government has announced plans for five eco-towns by 2016 and up to 10 by 2020.

For more information visit: www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk.

Why here?

An eco-town in this location would provide much-needed housing, improve road and rail links, and create employment opportunities for the local area.

- Weston Otmoor occupies a strategically important position within Oxfordshire
- It can connect easily into existing transport proposals and routes
- It is within an area identified as having a high level of housing shortage, particularly affordable homes
- It lies within the Oxford and Cambridge arc – a nationally-recognised area for the growth of knowledge-based industries and the Oxford and Central Oxfordshire Diamond of Investment and Growth

Your views are important. For more information, or to let us have your comments, please visit www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk, email us at WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk or call 01869 352 738 between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Mon – Fri.

How you can get involved

Your views are important and will be considered by the Weston Otmoor team. Wherever possible the proposal will be amended to take on board your questions, suggestions or alleviate concerns.

You can provide feedback in one, or more, of the following ways:

- By completing the questionnaire attached
- Submitting additional comments by email to WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk
- By visiting www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk
- Attending one of our roadshows
- Phoning the Weston Otmoor community relations team between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Mon – Fri on 01869 352 738.



Visit our roadshow at a venue near you:

- Sunday 29th June, Weston on the Green Memorial Village Hall, 12 – 5pm
- Monday 30th June, Woodlebury Village Hall, Main street, Woodlebury, 3 – 4pm
- Tuesday 1st July, Abdlabon Steony Village Hall, 3 – 4pm
- Wednesday 2nd July, The Bucks Mad Inn, The Green, Blotchingdon, 3 – 4pm
- Thursday 3rd July, Kirtlington Village Hall, 3 – 4pm
- Friday 4th July, The Crown, High Street, Charlton on Otmoor, 3 – 4pm
- Sunday 6th July, Blunston Cornhill, Oxford Road Sports Ground, 11 – 4pm
- Sunday 20th July, Charlton-on-C of E Primary School, 3 – 4pm
- Wednesday 26th July, Edlip Village Hall, 3 – 4pm
- Thursday 10th July, Clarendon Centre, Cromwell Street, Oxford, 9 – 4pm
- Friday 11th July, Garrison Community Centre, Amblesden, 3 – 4pm
- Saturday 12th July, Blunston Cornhill, Blunston Cornhill, 10 – 4pm
- Monday 14th July, Staple Aston Sports and Recreation Ground, Kirtlington Lane, 3 – 4pm
- Tuesday 15th July, Kirtlington, The Red Lion Pub, Oxford Road, 3 – 4pm
- Wednesday 16th July, North Gibbon Village Hall, 3 – 4pm
- Thursday 17th July, Ardley Village Hall, 3 – 4pm
- Friday 18th July, Blackthorn Village Hall, Thame Road, Blackthorn, 3 – 4pm

Watch the website for further roadshow dates



Next steps

You have until **August 20, 2008** to respond to our consultation. The government has said that a shortlist of up to 10 sites will be announced in October 2008. If Weston Otmoor is successful in reaching this stage then the local community will be consulted again as our plans evolve.

The consultation website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk will be kept updated with progress on the proposals and a follow-up newsletter will be sent out to those people who indicate that they would like to receive one.

This consultation is just the first opportunity for the local community to give their views on the early ideas for Weston Otmoor and to influence the future development of the proposals. The feedback provided over the next few months will be collated and a report provided to the Department for Communities and Local Government, Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council to help them further assess the proposals.

In addition, you may be aware that the government has been consulting on the shortlisted locations and the eco-town concept and will be undertaking further consultation on the development of planning policy on eco-towns and the sustainability appraisals they have commissioned throughout 2008. Further information is available at www.communities.gov.uk and will be available at the roadshows.

Your views are important. For more information, or to let us have your comments, please visit www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk, email us at WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk or call 01869 352 738 between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Mon – Fri.

Weston Otmoor – the draft masterplan

This masterplan is the latest draft of the evolving Weston Otmoor proposal. The masterplan is conceptual and is intended to indicate the main features of the proposed development. If Weston Otmoor is shortlisted by the government, the precise details will be developed in consultation with the local community. Below are the key areas that correspond to the numbers on the plan.

1. New rail station linking Weston Otmoor to Oxford, Milton Keynes and London
2. Fast, free and frequent trams for travel within the eco-town
3. 6,000 space rail-based Park & Ride to Oxford, Bicester, Milton Keynes or London
4. Replacement of the A34/M40 junction will ease pressure on these routes and surrounding villages
5. Single point of access into and out of Weston Otmoor linking directly onto the rebuilt A34/M40 junction

Facts and Figures

- Up to 15,000 homes
- Affordable housing of between 30% and 50%, including homes for key workers and families
- Up to 35,000 people
- Up to 12,000 jobs
- Potential for two secondary schools
- Potential for eight primary schools
- 20% of the eco-town will be green open space
- 20 trams each way per hour within Weston Otmoor
- A target maximum of 300m from each house to a tram stop
- 10 trains per hour to Oxford, 6 to Bicester

Your views are important. For more information, or to let us have your comments, please visit www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk.



6. Woodland buffer around the perimeter of the site
7. Retained woodland
8. Parks, woodlands and allotments
9. New marsh habitat
10. High street with shops, schools, healthcare, leisure and business facilities

Other features

Cycleways and footpaths will prioritise the needs of pedestrians and cyclists

Mixture of affordable homes and open market housing, helping ease the area's housing shortage

Real-time screens in every home, workplace and community building indicating on-site toll charges, and information about when the next tram is due

All houses will be built to the highest possible eco-homes standard

Offices, research & development, and other industrial premises

uk, email us at WestonOtmoor@mistral-pr.co.uk or call 01869 352 738 between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Mon – Fri.

PLEASE MOISTEN TO GLUE

Your views are important Weston Otmoor consultation questionnaire June 2008

Please give us your views on the issues covered in this newsletter by completing and returning the questionnaire below by **July 31, 2008**.

This research is being conducted by an independent market research company under Market Research Society guidelines. Your responses will remain anonymous and will be aggregated into summary results.

The completed questionnaire should be torn along the perforated edge, folded according to the instructions, and posted. Postage is reply-paid so there is no need for a stamp.

To enable the consultation to give a true representation of views we will only accept original copies of this questionnaire. Please mark your answers by clearly writing a cross in the appropriate boxes with a black ballpoint pen.

- Q1 Please supply your postcode: _____
- Q2 Before receiving this publication were you aware of the proposal to build a new eco-town called Weston Otmoor? Yes No
- Q3 Which **one** of the following statements most closely resembles your own opinion?
 a. I accept the need for more housing in the area and think Weston Otmoor is as good as anywhere
 b. I accept the need for more housing in the area but not at Weston Otmoor
 c. I do not accept the need for more housing in the area
 d. None of the above
- Q4 Below are a number of statements. For each one please indicate whether you agree strongly, agree slightly, neither agree nor disagree, disagree slightly or disagree strongly. Please just give **one** answer per statement by putting a **cross** in the appropriate box.

	agree strongly	agree slightly	neither agree nor disagree	disagree slightly	disagree strongly
a. I have a fairly good grasp of the concept of eco-towns					
b. Oxfordshire needs more affordable housing for families and key workers					
c. I think the surrounding towns and villages could benefit from an eco-town at Weston Otmoor					
d. Public transport links around Bicester and the local area need to be improved					
e. An enhanced A34/M40 junction is already necessary to cope with existing traffic					
f. An extra Park & Ride at Weston Otmoor will help existing A34/M40 traffic congestion					
g. I would be likely to use the new Park & Ride					
h. The eco-town should have one access/exit road directly connecting onto a new A34/M40 junction to limit car use from Weston Otmoor					
i. The eco-town access/exit road should be a toll road					
j. The toll should vary depending on how busy the A34/M40 junction is					
k. An East West Rail Link would benefit Bicester and the local area					
l. I would be likely to use the East West Rail Link					

- Q5 If you currently travel to work or make other essential journeys, approximately how many **miles** do you travel daily?
 a. Under 10 11-20 21-30 31-40 41-50 over 50
- b. What is your regular means of transport?
 Train Bus Coach Car Taxi M/cycle Bicycle Walk
- Q6 What, if any, is your biggest concern with regard to building an eco-town at Weston Otmoor, and why? (Please write in block capitals)
- _____
- _____
- Q8 How useful have you found this newsletter?
 Very useful Quite useful Not very useful Not at all useful

Finally, please may we have a little more information about you (these answers are optional):

Sex: Male Female **Marital status:** single co-habiting married divorced widowed

Age: under 25 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+

Number of people living in household: _____ Number of people living in household below the age of 18: _____

I would like to receive Weston Otmoor proposal updates by post email no thank you

Contact details for further information: Title _____ Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Email address _____

DATA PROTECTION: The personal details of people who provide feedback on the Weston Otmoor proposals will not be released to third parties outside of Parklife or the companies working for it, or mailing or marketing purposes.

If you require a larger version of the questionnaire please let us know.

BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE
Licence No. NG 299

2

jra research
Victoria Court
Kent Street
NOTTINGHAM
NG1 1BR

Thank you for completing the questionnaire


Appendix 6 – Website

a sustainable future

- [Return to Consultation Home](#)
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- [Why here?](#)
- [What will Weston Otmoor deliver?](#)
- [The draft master plan](#)
- [The SSSI buffer zone](#)
- [Some myths explained](#)
- [How you can get involved](#)
- [News](#)
- [About the developer](#)
- [Consultation Calendar](#)

Weston Otmoor

eco-town



News

This page will keep you up-to-date with all the latest news from Weston Otmoor, from our community newsletters to roadshows.

[Roadshows completed but consultation continues - 31 July](#)

Local residents registering their views at the community consultation roadshows for the Weston Otmoor eco-town proposal are being thanked by the developer Parkridge. A total of 1481 people attended the roadshows, which were held at 17 villages and towns in the local area.


The roadshows were just one strand of the community consultation being conducted by Oxfordshire-based consultation specialist Mistral Group. Many responses have already been received to the 40,000 community newsletters and questionnaires distributed in June, with more arriving every day. Meanwhile people also continue to register their views on the dedicated consultation website www.WestonOtmoor.co.uk, which gives all the information from the roadshows, together with the exhibition questionnaire and a further opportunity for people to give their feedback. [Read the full press release.](#)

[Weston Otmoor community roadshows announced - 25 June](#)

The first of the Weston Otmoor community roadshows will be held this Sunday, 29 June, at the Memorial Village Hall in Weston on the Green. Running from 12 noon to 5pm, the roadshow will introduce the proposals to the local community and invite feedback. This is the first of our roadshows which will tour the local area. [Check out your local roadshow in our consultation calendar.](#)

[First community newsletter published - 23 June](#)

Our first community newsletter has now been distributed to 32,000 homes in the area around Weston Otmoor. This includes our community roadshow timetable and a tear-off pre-paid reply questionnaire. [Click here to read the newsletter online.](#)




- [Register](#)
- [Login](#)

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Weston Otmoor

eco-town



Register

Please fill in the details below to register.

For more information on how your information is stored and used, please see our [Privacy Policy](#)

Please note that the email address you enter will be verified before you can gain full access to the system.

Basic User Details

Your Email Address *

Repeat your Email Address *

Choose a Password *

Your password should be between 1 and 16 characters, and will be case sensitive.

Repeat the Password *

Your Name *

This is your name that is displayed to other users. It can include letters, numbers, spaces and punctuation.

Private Profile

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What is an eco-town?

The Government has embarked upon a programme to provide up to two million houses in the next ten years or so. As part of this task, it has promoted the idea of building "Eco-towns" in various parts of the country.

Government invited expressions of interest from landowners and developers last year; 57 bids were received of which 15 have been selected as potential eco-town locations. Weston Otmoor is one of those "short-listed" locations.

Government has said that every eco-town should be:

- designed with good facilities, including a secondary school, shops, office space and opportunities for sport and leisure.
- located with good access to public transport
- eco-friendly, built from sustainable materials, with zero carbon emissions
- able to link well to nearby towns and cities
- able to provide between 30% and 50% "affordable" housing, aimed at first-time buyers, key workers and so on.

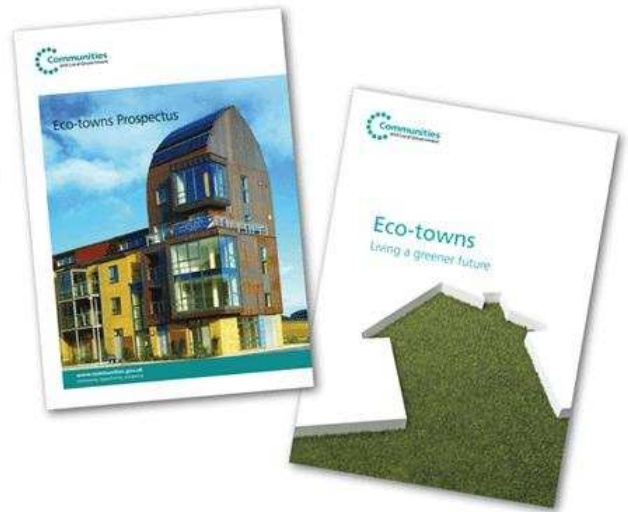


The aim is to create a place where people really want to live which can evolve naturally as it gets bigger. Eco-towns should be good for both the local community and the environment.

The Government has said it will announce plans for up to 10 eco-town locations early in 2009.

Find out more at www.communities.gov.uk/ecotowns

Weston Otmoor eco-town



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What will Weston Otmoor deliver?

Key Facts:

- up to 15,000 dwellings
- up to 12,000 jobs
- up to a quarter of the site will be Green Infrastructure including woodlands, formal and informal open space, allotments and new wetland habitat
- an appropriate level of retail space; leisure facilities; probably two secondary schools and up to eight primary schools; healthcare provision and other community facilities
- all parts of the development will be interlinked by the **fast, free and frequent** tram service and a network of cycle and pedestrian routes
- average walking distance to a tram will be no more than 200m

One of the most important buildings in Weston Otmoor will be the Railway Station where during the day a train movement will occur every 2½ minutes.

Train journeys to Oxford or Bicester for Weston Otmoor residents will be **free**, allowing them to take advantage of the 'higher order' facilities available there.



To complement the **fast, free and frequent**



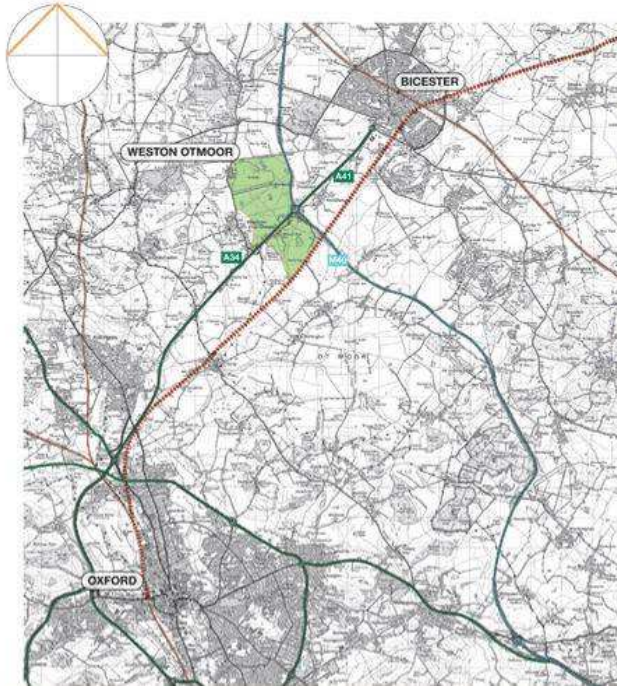
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Why here?



Weston Otmoor eco-town

The site is within the Oxford to Cambridge Arc which promotes a nationally-recognised policy for the development of knowledge-based industries

Connectivity within the Arc is to be provided primarily by the "East-West Rail Link" which adjoins the site

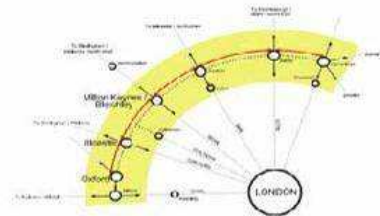
Weston Otmoor is within the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) Central Oxfordshire Diamond for Investment and Growth

The area suffers significant housing stress

The M40 provides immediate access to the national motorway network

Oxford-Cambridge Arc

(Click on the image below to enlarge)



Appendix 7 – Email response to website and email enquiries

This is an auto response email.

Thank you for submitting your comments about Weston Otmoor.

This initial consultation period will run until 29th August, 2008 after which all responses will be collated and sent to Parkridge for consideration in developing its proposals.

We will keep the consultation website updated with progress on the proposals and will email you when updates go live.

Weston Otmoor community relations team

Appendix 8 – Exhibition boards

What is an Eco-town?

The Government has embarked upon a programme to provide up to 2 million houses in the next ten years or so. As part of this task, it has promoted the idea of building 'Eco-towns' in various parts of the Country.

Government invited expressions of interest from landowners and developers last year; 57 bids were received of which 15 have been selected as potential Eco-town locations. Weston Otmoor is one of those "short listed" locations.

Government has said that every eco-town should be:

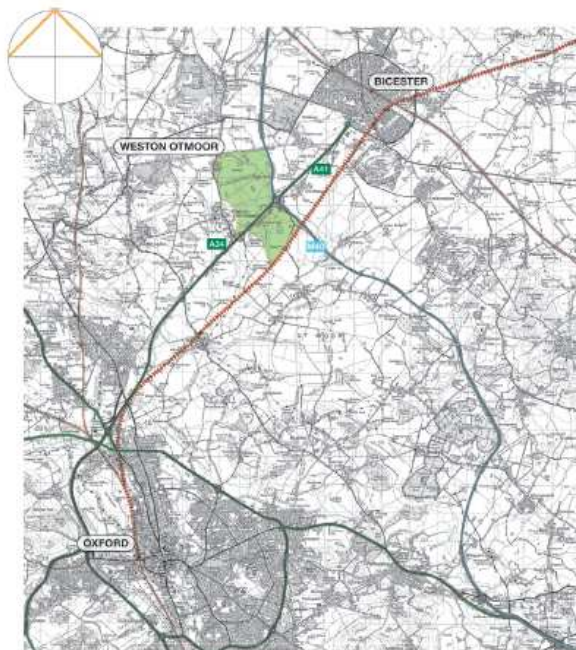
- designed with good facilities, including a secondary school, shops, office space and opportunities for sport and leisure
- located with good access to public transport
- eco-friendly, built from sustainable materials, with zero carbon emissions
- able to link well to nearby towns and cities
- able to provide between 30% and 50% "affordable" housing, aimed at first-time buyers, key workers and so on.



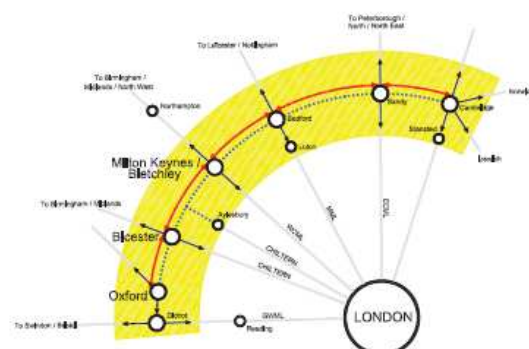
The aim is to create a place where people really want to live – which can evolve naturally as it gets bigger. Eco-towns should be good for both the local community and the environment.

The Government will announce plans for up to ten Eco-town locations in October 2008.

Weston Otmoor: Why here?



- The site is within the Oxford to Cambridge Arc which promotes a nationally-recognised policy for the development of knowledge-based industries
- Connectivity within the Arc is to be provided primarily by the "East-West Rail Link" which adjoins the site
- Weston Otmoor is within the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) Central Oxfordshire Diamond for Investment and Growth
- The area suffers significant housing stress
- The M40 provides immediate access to the national motorway network.



Weston Otmoor: highly sustainable location

Weston Otmoor: **a great place to live**



View 1



Weston Otmoor: **a great place to live**



View 2



Weston Otmoor: **a great place to live**



View 3



Weston Otmoor: **a great place to live**



View 4



Appendix 9 – Exhibition photographs







Appendix 10 – Roadshow questionnaire

«Numbers»

Weston Otmoor

eco-town

Weston Otmoor Community Consultation Roadshow

Questionnaire

1. Please supply your postcode: _____

2. How do you feel about the proposals for Weston Otmoor?
(please tick one)

Agree strongly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree slightly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agree slightly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree strongly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Please give your reasons why:

3. What aspects, if any, of the Weston Otmoor proposals do you feel positively towards?

4. What aspects, if any, of the Weston Otmoor proposals do you feel negatively towards?

5. What facilities would you like to see in an eco-town?

Blackthorn – July 18, 2008

Please fill in and hand back to a member of the team at the roadshow. Alternatively post it back to: Mistral, Staplehurst Office Centre, Weston on the Green, Oxon OX25 3QU

«Numbers»

Weston Otmoor
eco-town

6. What benefits, if any, do you think Weston Otmoor would bring to the local area?

7. What, if any, is your biggest concern about Weston Otmoor?

8. How did you hear about this roadshow?

(you may tick more than one)

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Advertisement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| News story | <input type="checkbox"/> | Word of mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Poster | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please state | _____ |
| Website | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

9. Did you find this roadshow useful?

(please tick one)

- Yes
No
Don't know

10. Do you have any other questions? NB: We will endeavour to answer frequently asked questions on the website or in a future edition of the newsletter

Blackthorn – July 18, 2008

Please fill in and hand back to a member of the team at the roadshow. Alternatively post it back to: Mistral, Staplehurst Office Centre, Weston on the Green, Oxon OX25 3QU