
Woodford Neighbourhood Forum Questionnaire

Planning For The Future

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Introduction

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum* (WNF) was formed to encourage responsible development in Woodford whilst protecting the Green Belt. The application for the Neighbourhood Area was largely based on the boundary of the parish of Woodford, which has existed since 1873. However, Stockport Council (SMBC) decided to exclude the BAE site from the Neighbourhood Area even though Woodford village is the only link between this development site and the borough of Stockport. This has resulted in an anomalous situation, which we hope will be resolved in the future.

This WNF Questionnaire is intended to seek Woodford residents' views on future developments in the area up to 2030. It is the first stage in the development of a Woodford Neighbourhood Plan (WNP). This plan, when completed and validated by a referendum of residents on the extended electoral role, will become the policy statement for the future development of the village.

At this point WNF only has responsibility for the current Woodford Neighbourhood Area and NOT the BAE site, despite it being a major development site and indeed the only brownfield site currently within the parish of Woodford with a current planning application. Moreover, at present, the only proposed access to the site is via the two entrances on Chester Road in the heart of the village, thus its development is inextricably linked to the future Neighbourhood Plan for Woodford. The result is that any responses or opinions on actual developments within the BAE site cannot form part of the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan unless the Neighbourhood Area is modified. However, any information gathered regarding this can usefully be used by WNF in representing residents in negotiation with Harrow, or other developers, and the SMBC officers responsible for that area.

In order to ensure a common baseline for answering the questions below, please assume that the following major developments[†] will take place and may have significant impact on Woodford.

- 1. The A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road will be completed and operational by 2018*
- 2. The BAE site will be redeveloped resulting in a minimum of 850 new dwellings over a period of 15 years*
- 3. Access to the BAE site will be solely from the centre of Woodford by modification to the existing two entrances*

* A Neighbourhood Forum has statutory and recognised powers and duties that bring some of the decision-making and liaison closer to those affected by development proposals and allow their views to carry much more weight.

Working within the National Planning Policy Framework, Local Core Strategy and Allocations Plan, Woodford Neighbourhood Forum may produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the designated Area, which would provide guidance for development within that Area and better reflect the views and concerns of local people, businesses and organisations. It cannot change anything that has already been agreed, but can influence future developments. The Plan would have to be submitted to a local referendum in which all registered voters in the Neighbourhood Plan Area would be entitled to vote and can only be accepted if a majority of those voting agree to it. If accepted, the Plan would become a Policy Document to which SMBC must give due consideration.

[†] These are assumptions for the questionnaire and planning purposes only. They do not indicate that Woodford Neighbourhood Forum approves or otherwise of these developments.

The Woodford Neighbourhood Forum Questionnaire

Your responses to this document will contribute to the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan which may be used to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in Woodford for the next ten to fifteen years. It will additionally provide an insight into local service provision requirements. You, and any other occupants in your property, are strongly encouraged to complete separate questionnaires. Your participation is important to ensure this is a community driven project.

It will not necessarily be possible to effect all the improvements or requirements researched here as a number are beyond the direct control of a Neighbourhood Plan, but the document will additionally provide a valuable resource with which to approach the Local Council and other public bodies and developers in order to influence their future plans. It has been produced with no bias intended or inferred, and is aimed solely at seeking the views of the local community.

Please also be assured that any information collected is not personally identifiable. We ask that you answer as many questions as possible to gain an accurate representation of views.

Section A - About Woodford

A1 What brought you to Woodford in the first place?

Please tick all as appropriate.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Born here or near here | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> House selection | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Density |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient Location | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Style | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Location | <input type="checkbox"/> Village Community | |

A2 What are the good things about living in Woodford?

Please tick all as appropriate.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Medical Provision | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Social Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Public Transport | <input type="checkbox"/> Shops | <input type="checkbox"/> Suitable Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Location | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of Living |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient Location | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Style | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Village Community | | |

A3 What could be done to improve living in Woodford?

Please tick all as appropriate.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Medical Provision | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Social Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Public Transport | <input type="checkbox"/> Shops | <input type="checkbox"/> Suitable Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Facilities |

If you consider that there are other advantages or disadvantages, please comment below

Section B - Improving Community Services

B1 Which of the following do you think that the Neighbourhood Plan should aim to encourage? (Tick any that you consider important)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allotments | <input type="checkbox"/> Public transport | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road safety measures | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle parking facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Public toilet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public footpaths | <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure and recreational facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Access for disabled people |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities for young people | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy Access to a Public library | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycle Paths | <input type="checkbox"/> Cycle lanes on Highways | |

Other, please specify

B2 If improved public transport is needed tell us how it should be improved. (Tick those that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct services to Wilmslow | <input type="checkbox"/> Direct to Macclesfield |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More services to Bramhall | <input type="checkbox"/> More convenient services to Hazel Grove |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More convenient services to Stockport | <input type="checkbox"/> More convenient services to Manchester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to the Manchester Airport Complex | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheaper fares |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frequency of services | |

Other destination please provide details

B3 How often would you use public transport?

- Daily 2-3 times per Week Weekly Rarely

B4 What would be your primary destination?

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wilmslow | <input type="checkbox"/> Macclesfield | <input type="checkbox"/> Bramhall | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazel Grove |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stockport | <input type="checkbox"/> Manchester | <input type="checkbox"/> Manchester Airport Complex | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bramhall Train Station | <input type="checkbox"/> Poynton Train Station | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilmslow Train Station | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | | |

B5 Do you consider that there is adequate access to healthcare from Woodford

- Yes No

B6 If you have answered NO, please suggest how it could be improved

B7 Do you consider that the local authority Social Service provision matches the needs of the local community?

- Yes No

B8 If you have answered NO, please suggest how it could be improved

B9 Are you aware of the Woodford Community Centre Facilities?

Yes No

B10 What Facilities would encourage more local use of the Woodford Community Centre?

B11 Are you aware of the Woodford Community Centre Activities?

Yes No

B12 What Activities would encourage more local use of the Woodford Community Centre?

B13 Should greater provision for Sporting Activities be made available in Woodford?

Yes No

B14 What provision would you like to see developed?

B15 Should greater provision for Social/Community activities be made available in Woodford?

Yes No

B16 Should provision of this nature be directed towards

Pre-School Parents and Children Retired Residents Working Families
 Primary School Students Secondary School Students

B17 If facilities for such activities need improving, could you suggest how and where this might be achieved.

B18 If facilities for elderly residents need improving, could you suggest how and where this might be achieved.

B19 The space below is for you to make any other comments on improving community services.

Section - C Protecting Our Environment

C1 Do you think that any future development in Woodford should be in keeping with the existing character and landscape setting?

Yes

No

C2 Should a Neighbourhood Plan aim to enhance the quality of the built environment by promoting the following? (Tick those that you consider important)

- Design that reflects the scale of the existing village and with increased provision of green spaces
- Use of traditional local building materials and property styles
- High levels of energy conservation in new buildings
- Better pedestrian and cycle access to neighbouring communities and facilities
- Signage, advertising, street furniture, and shop fronts that respects the locality
- Enhanced protection of historic and natural features
- Enhanced protection of the landscape with positive management of the varied local wildlife
- Improvements to land drainage.
- Use of renewable energy.
- Water Recycling.

Other, please specify

C3 Are there any buildings, places or views which you believe are important to protect?

Please give details in the space below.

C4 The space below is provided to allow you to make your own comments on protecting the environment.

Section – D Creating an environmentally sustainable community

D1 Which of the following ways of producing local renewable energy could the Plan encourage?

(Tick those that you would support)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic wind turbines powering a single home | <input type="checkbox"/> Using land for fuel production (eg wood, biomass) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial wind turbines powering many homes | <input type="checkbox"/> Solar panel 'farms' to generate electricity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Solar power | <input type="checkbox"/> Geothermal Energy* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of farm slurry/waste (collecting the methane produced and using it to fuel a combined heat and power generator) | |

*Extracting heat energy from below ground.

Other, please specify

D2 Do any of the following aspects of road traffic in Woodford concern you?

(Tick those that do)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive traffic volume | <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive traffic noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive traffic speed | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic danger to pedestrians |

Other, please specify

D3 In which areas of Woodford do the traffic problems you specified above need the most urgent attention?

D4 How could the Neighbourhood Plan encourage more walking or cycling?

Section – E Identifying Housing Needs

This section should only be completed if there are, or will soon be, people who require, or are in need of additional or alternative type of housing within your present household. If this is not the case, go straight to section F.

Please note that the questions in this section are not about opinion but to clarify need. It is important that this section is completed only once in each household.

Has anyone in your household already completed this section on housing needs?

- Yes (go straight to question F1) No (go to question E1)

E1 Which best describes the property you are living in (Tick one)

- Owner occupied Rented from Housing Association
 Private rented Shared equity (part rent, part purchase)
 Rented from Stockport Council

E2 What is the size of the property? (Tick one)

- One bedroom Two bedrooms Three bedrooms
 Four bedrooms Five or more bedrooms

E3 Are there any adults or couple(s) in the property who wish to stay in Woodford but consider the current property unsuitable for their longer term needs?

- Yes No (go to question E6)

E4 Would the accommodation preferred be

- Accommodation suitable for retirement living A Flat or Apartment
 A bungalow Adapted for disability living
 A smaller property A larger property

E5 Would modification to your existing property be a preferable option.

- Yes No

E6 Are there any adults or couple(s) living in the property needing their own home in Woodford which they are currently unable to obtain?

- Yes No (if 'no' please go to question E7)

If 'yes', how many people?

Are they currently registered with Stockport Homes Homechoice or discussed their requirements with Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council Housing Department?

- Yes No Don't know

What size of property would they need?

- One bedroom Two bedrooms Three bedrooms
 Four bedrooms Five or more bedrooms

What type of home are they ideally seeking? Tick one

- Owner occupied Rented from Housing Association Private rented
 Shared equity (part rent, part purchase) Rented from Stockport Council

E7 Is there anyone in the house, who is not currently in need of their own home but is likely to want one in Woodford in the next five years? (e.g. a teenager who may leave home)

Yes No (if 'no' please go to the next section)

If 'yes' how many people are in this situation?

What size of property would they ideally need? Tick one

One bedroom Two bedrooms Three bedrooms
 Four bedrooms Five or more bedrooms

What type of home are they likely to be seeking? (Tick one)

One to buy and own Rented from a Housing Association Privately rented
 Shared equity home (part rented, part purchased) Rented from the Council

Section – F Provision of Housing

F1 Should the Neighbourhood Plan make provision for the allocation of land within the Woodford Neighbourhood Area to meet local needs?

Yes No

F2 Should the Neighbourhood Plan allocate land for Self Design/Build Homes.

Yes No

F3 Should the Neighbourhood Plan direct potential developers to reserve land for Self Design/Build Homes.

Yes No

**F4 Within the current Neighbourhood Area, (which excludes the BAE Site), if new homes were to be built, then how many would be an acceptable number by 2030?
(Tick one)**

No more than 50 No more than 75
 No more than 100 More than 100

**F5 If the Neighbourhood Plan allocates land for housing, what would be an acceptable scale for individual housing development schemes between now and 2030?
(Tick all that could apply)**

with no more than 10 houses of between 26 and 50 houses
 of between 11 and 25 houses of over 50 houses

**F6 If new homes are to be built what type should be given priority?
(Tick those that you think are most important)**

To be sold at market prices For Housing Associations to let
 Sheltered homes to buy/or rent Homes with shared equity
 Key worker homes environmentally efficient or zero carbon homes
 Homes suitable for retirement living

F7 Where would you suggest would be the best location for housing developments?

F8 Should backfill (building in the “gaps” behind houses) be considered suitable for new houses

Yes No Don't know

F9 Are there any specific locations where houses should not be built?

F10 The space below is for any other comments on housing.

Section – G Jobs and the Local Economy

G1 What types of employment should the Plan encourage? (Tick any that you would support)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism, leisure and crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport, storage and distribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and drink production | <input type="checkbox"/> Community services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Offices | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Enterprises |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pubs, restaurants and cafes | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial and professional services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small local Shops- retail | <input type="checkbox"/> Light industrial and manufacturing |

Other, please give details

G2 Should the Neighbourhood Plan allocate more land to encourage employment?

- Yes No

G3 Which types of site should be allocated for employment use? (Tick any)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former business sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Brownfield land (developed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Existing buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenfield land (undeveloped) |

G4 Where should employment land be located? (Tick any)

- In or around The BAE Site Elsewhere in Woodford

G5 Should existing employment sites be protected from changes of use?

- Yes No

G6 Is anyone in your family likely to seek local employment in the next 5 years?

- Yes No

G7 What would encourage new businesses to locate in Woodford?

- More purpose-built premises Better Broadband Better Transport Links

Other, please specify

G8 The space below is for your comments on jobs and the local economy

And finally...

In order to demonstrate that public consultation is representative of our community, would you please provide some information about yourself.

H1 Are you...? (Tick one)

Female Male

H2 Do you have internet Access?

Yes No

H3 How old are you? (Tick one)

16-18 19-25 26-35 36-45 46-55
 56-65 66-75 76-85 Over 85

H4 Please use the space below if you have any further comments about anything that has not been covered in the survey.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN VOLUNTEER BY 9th May 2014 or you can drop it in or post it to the Woodford Community Centre.

THANK YOU

The results of this survey will be collated and used to represent the best interests of the community as a whole. The responses themselves are anonymous and all individual data and information collected will be treated confidentially and will not be passed to any third parties.

How to contact us

By email: woodfordnf@gmail.com

By post: Woodford Neighbourhood Forum, Woodford Community Centre, Chester Road, Woodford, Stockport. SK7 1PS

You can find more information about Woodford, current activities and news, on the Woodford Community Council Website at <http://www.woodfordcommunity.co.uk/>

This survey form has been published by the Woodford Neighbourhood Forum Management Committee.