

2. Fair, accountable stewardship of resources for the development and benefit of local people

Summary: People in Lancing are keen to see the fair and accountable stewardship of natural resources for the development and benefit of local people. This includes development of land and infrastructure for the growing population (housing, transport, health and education) and the visible and accountable management of green spaces, water and wind-power for local people’s benefit.

Lancing’s story	Quotations
<p>Participants in five out seven community conversations and in survey responses commented on the New Monks Farm development. Many observed that the house prices on this new development were out of reach for local residents and wondered at the numbers of Lancing families who were benefiting from the social housing that had been made available. Housing was an emotive issue for many, particularly participants in the volunteers coffee morning who had direct experience of younger family members who could not afford to rent or buy within Lancing.</p>	<p><i>“We couldn’t use the beach this summer” - Parent speaking about sewage and West Beach at ‘Eat, Meet and Learn’ for Parents and Carers.</i></p> <p><i>“Most of the parks in Lancing have been under going works for long periods of time and once 3 key parks were shut at once, the coordination of local parks closing could be better arranged to ensure others are open, as we need to keep children playing outside and not stuck to ipads/tvs etc” - Resident Parent / carer, aged 20-29, survey respondent.</i></p>
<p>Alongside questions of affordability, community conversations and survey responses highlighted concerns about the impact of new housing and a growing population on existing education and health services and on transport links which residents understood were already under pressure. And some raised concerns about building on a floodplain.</p>	<p><i>“Rampion, although great to see... does not supply the local area with electricity...ours come from the gas fired power station surely this needs to change if they wish to expand the wind farm!” - Retired resident, aged 60-69, survey respondent.</i></p>
<p>In a follow up conversation with a planning officer it became clear that additional funds for health and education infrastructure have been ring-fenced but that the process for delivery isn’t yet understood by local residents or professionals.</p>	<p><i>“Due to nothing being done to the current infrastructure of the roads (the new roundabout on the A27 being planned before the houses) we’re just going to have queues of cars not moving, releasing emissions. This also has a massive impact on local residents & local business owners trying to get to employment. Sitting in queueing traffic for up to an hour some mornings.” - Resident born in and working in the area, local professional, aged 40-49, survey respondent.</i></p>
<p>The role of the planning system in delivering development that works for local people was also highlighted in our health and community professionals meeting where one professional described how the newly built school sports hall in South Lancing was not being used to its full potential as a community asset because of a planning condition that restricts access during certain times of the day.</p>	<p><i>“Stronger travel links to Brighton and London, new roads, more reliable rail and bus services. Larger infrastructure to support the growing population- schools, gp surgeries etc” - Resident parer/carer, aged 30-39, survey respondent.</i></p>
<p>The management of green spaces, wind power and water for the benefit of local people was also a recurring issue in community conversations and was raised by some survey respondents. The open spaces data resonated strongly with participants with parents and carers and young people asking for better scheduling and communication around planned park improvements. Older residents living near Brooklands commented on the smell and noise of the Southern Water sewage works and parents and carers described their frustration about sewage in the sea. And questions were raised about the contribution Rampion makes to the supply of local renewable energy to householders and to investment in local sustainability projects.</p>	<p><i>“I hope they’ve learnt to swim, they’re living on marshland” - Age Uk social club member commenting on New Monks Farm at ‘Afternoon Tea’ for Older Residents.</i></p>

Unanswered questions

- Are Lancing Families moving into the social housing on New Monks Farm? (‘Lunch and Learn’ for Health and Community Professional)
- Where is Section 106 money going if it’s not going to health or education? (‘Lunch and Learn’ for Health and Community Professional)
- What is the government doing about raw sewage? (‘Eat Meet and Learn’ for Parents and carer)
- Is the country park at New Monks Farm going ahead? (‘Coffee Morning’ for Volunteers)
- What’s the progress on Monks Rec? Let the community know.” (‘Eat, Meet and Learn’ for Parents and Carers)
- What is the council’s relationship with Rampion for funding infrastructure? (‘Coffee Morning’ for Volunteers)
- Who gave permission for the Post Office to become a Ladbrooks? (‘Coffee Morning’ for Volunteers)