

Oxspring Questionnaires - Additional Comments

Q. 1. We agree with the basics of the plan, but better use of the space available could have been made. It is a required and essential plan to ensure the future of the village within the policies proposed.

Q.5. The policy of a new school at the heart of the community is excellent as it will provide 21st century educational facilities joined up with expanded sporting, leisure and tourism facilities. It is neat and visionary without disturbing the village's environment.

Q.5. Tennis courts are overrated and only half a mile away we have examples of this underused facility. They would also block an existing public path near the houses. There is space near the road for a better community facility not tennis.

As for the Bowling Green, how many people actually play this sport? There are already 2 in Penistone and 1 in Thurgoland.

The football fields are fine where they are.

The current placement of the school on the plans is too near the housing and will cause a noise problem. The school should be placed either on the far field or the one that has the sporting equipment now.

Q.10. The current access to the TPT is actually very good so why bother with a new access point?

Q.13. School finances: The school has had half a million spent on it recently so where is the value in demolishing this when there is no reference where the new funding would be coming from?

School numbers: It was stated that the new school would offer 220 places, this is 80 more, however, using your calculations that every 100 new homes requires 20 places then we need to build 400 houses. The recent BMBC states that developments of this scale would be built in larger towns so this would not happen in Oxspring. The argument that these 80 places would be used by people from Penistone is not good as that would increase traffic and goes against the policy on reducing car travel (NRE/CC).

Using the tables published in the media, Oxspring school forecast has been amended to show no significant increase in house building. Surely it makes better sense to make St. Johns in Penistone bigger as they have the building space already.

There is emotive wording "fighting for a new modern school", given 8 years as a school Governor this has never happened, the only reason now is because it fits into a Neighbourhood plan.

School land: The proposed site is notorious for flooding, so would a new school be moving be in danger of moving to an inferior site?

Q.14. The Parish has 2 attractive elements one man made and the other natural. There has long been a view that the existing riverside walk should be extended to incorporate the Don's banks between Willow and Bower Hill bridges and link these with ramped easy access to the Trans Pennine Trail.

Q.15. The new housing would be on the school grounds and the entrance to the car park would be on Roughbirchworth Lane which is already very busy, so the parking should be off the main road.

There now follows 14 questions that I feel are better answered as a block as they are all from one lady, Freya Pearson, and should be answered to her.

1. Where is the funding coming from?
2. Why do we need a bandstand?
3. What do you class as Affordable housing?
4. How are you going to resolve the flooding problem on the field?
5. Why 4 tennis courts?
6. Why not keep the football fields where they are?
7. Why not build the school further away from the housing to reduce noise issues?
8. How are you "nurturing the local environment" when you are proposing to build on Green Belt?
9. In the last 4 years how much has Oxspring School had spent on it?
10. When in contact with Ruth she stated it was for new families into the village: when in fact it was for the rural lifestyle and the village as it is currently!
11. What is the current capacity of Oxspring primary school and how many of those children live within the boundary?
12. On the latest Ofsted report, why is there still capacity at the school?
13. Is there going to be flood lighting? If so how will it be unnoticeable from nearby housing, if not could this be classed as light pollution?
14. "Oxspring Parish has a quiet, simple and hidden loveliness" How?