

Selby Neighbourhood Plan

Report on Consultation December 2016 and January 2017

Selby Town Council has decided to do a Neighbourhood Plan covering the Selby Parish area and have asked for some help from Selby District Council and Groundwork North Yorkshire. An initial management group has been formed of Town councillors with the support of the Town Clerk and Groundwork to support this process.

The group considered that there is a good case for more parks, improved access to natural areas, better cycle routes, paths and signage to the green infrastructure of the town. They wanted the Selby Neighbourhood Plan to be a planning document that would show strategically the appropriate way that green infrastructure in Selby should be developed. They appreciate that this should then enable monies associated with new developments or with regeneration initiatives to be spent with best possible affect. They are concerned especially with the affect green Infrastructure has on health and the way it can encourage greener and healthier lifestyles.

Following advice a consultation was carried out for the purposes of establishing general support and awareness of the Selby Neighbourhood Plan and to check that the parameters that have been set by the group seem to have enough general support in the population.

A questionnaire was prepared that focused on people's comment on the Green infrastructure of the town.

The questionnaires were carried out on Market Day on 17 December 2016 and were distributed at Selby High School, Selby College, Selby Primary Schools, Selby Community Centre, Selby Library, Selby Minster, the Town Hall and Selby District Council offices. Over 425 questionnaires were filled in.

RESULTS

The people who filled the questionnaires in had the following demographics.

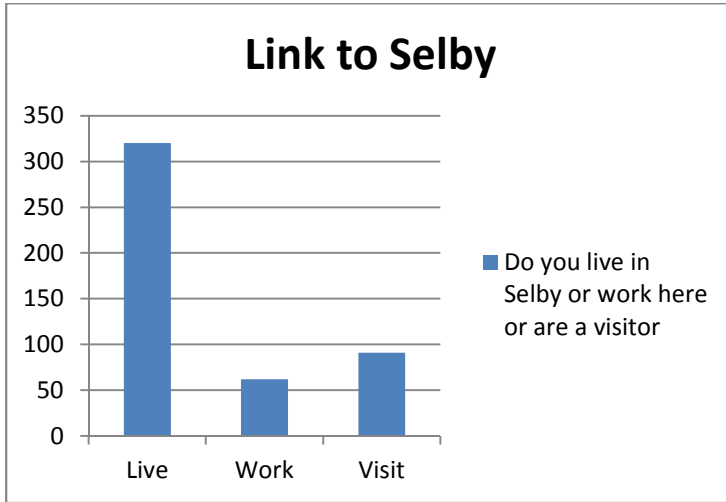


Fig1

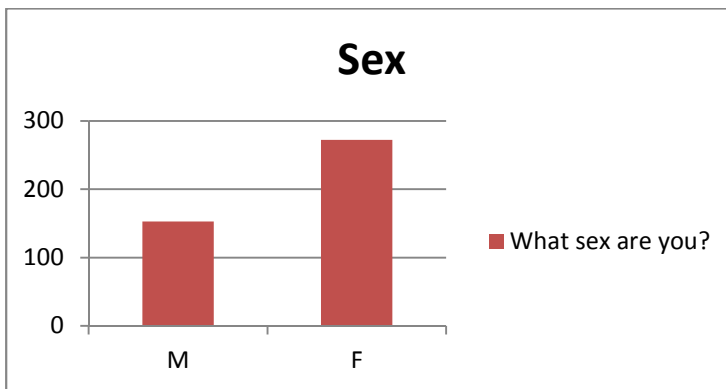


Fig2

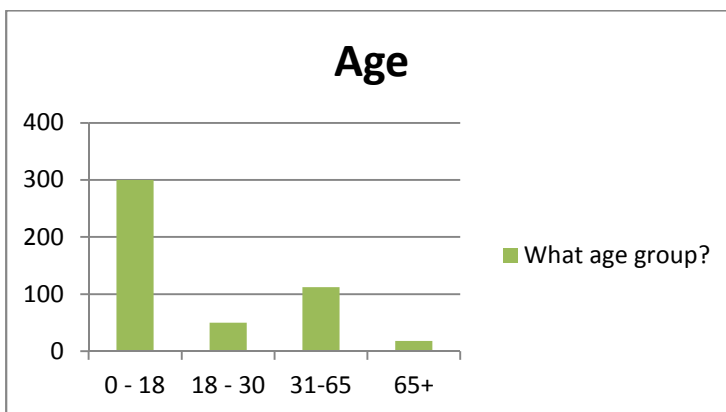


Fig 3

The consolidated results were as per (Fig 4). They show an overall support for the green infrastructure improvement of the Parish of Selby though here is some significant variation in the extent of support. Separating off the different groups that filled the questionnaire explains some of the variation.

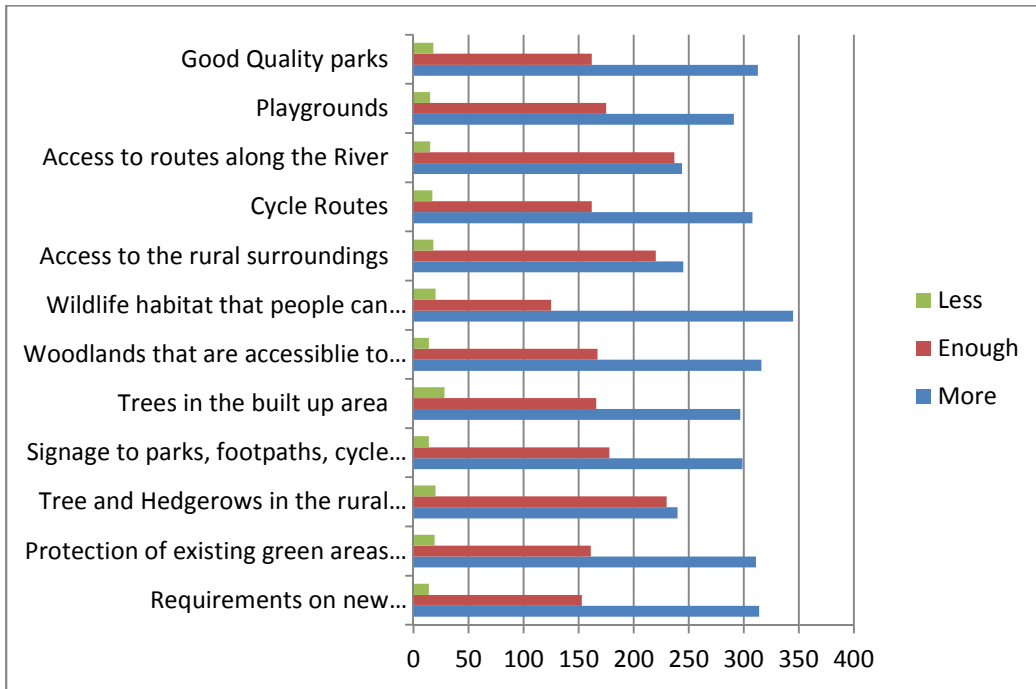


Fig 4

An older demographic filled in the questionnaire in Selby Town Centre and Town Hall and had the following results (fig 5). The protection of the existing green spaces in the town was the area that got most dramatic support but all areas raised by the questionnaire were perceived as requiring more attention or investment.

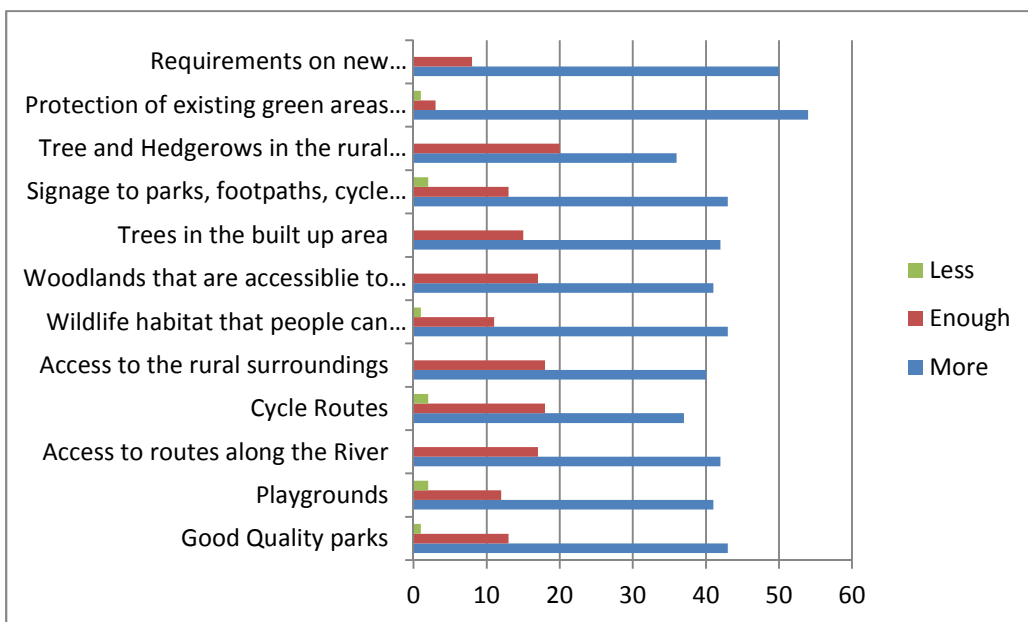


Fig 5

The results from the Selby High School (fig 6) appeared to be dominated by 14 year olds and showed the following results. It is notable that this group especially wanted to see improvements to wildlife habitat that could be visited. Cycle route improvements are also strongly supported.

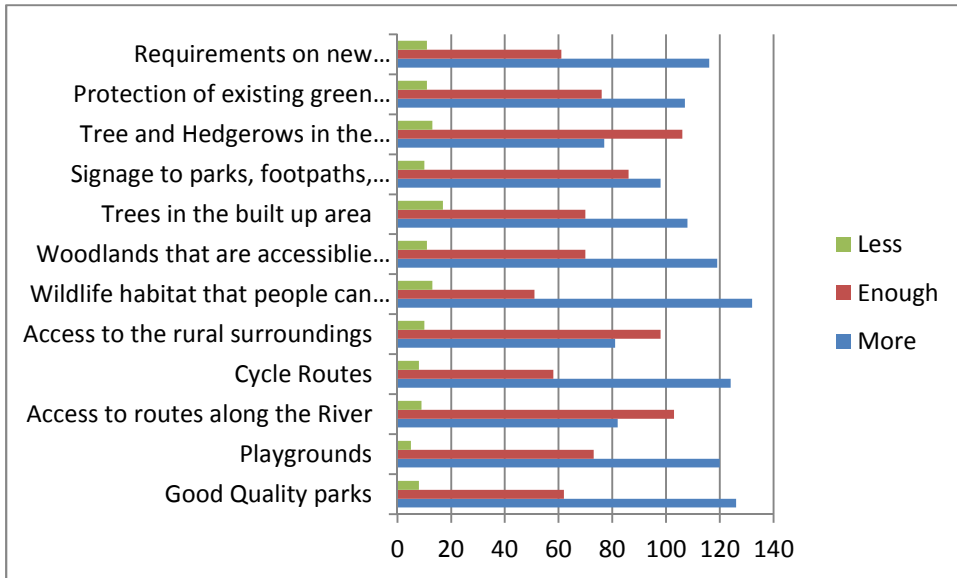


Fig 6

The results from Selby College are almost entirely from 16, 17 and 18 year olds – see fig 7. This group was the least concerned with the green infrastructure of Selby. This was a large response in terms of questionnaires returned and this affects the consolidated figures possibly disproportionately. Similar to the High School, this group felt most supportive of improvement to the amount of areas for the wildlife habitat that people can visit as well as improvements to woodland and trees in the built up area.

Selby College

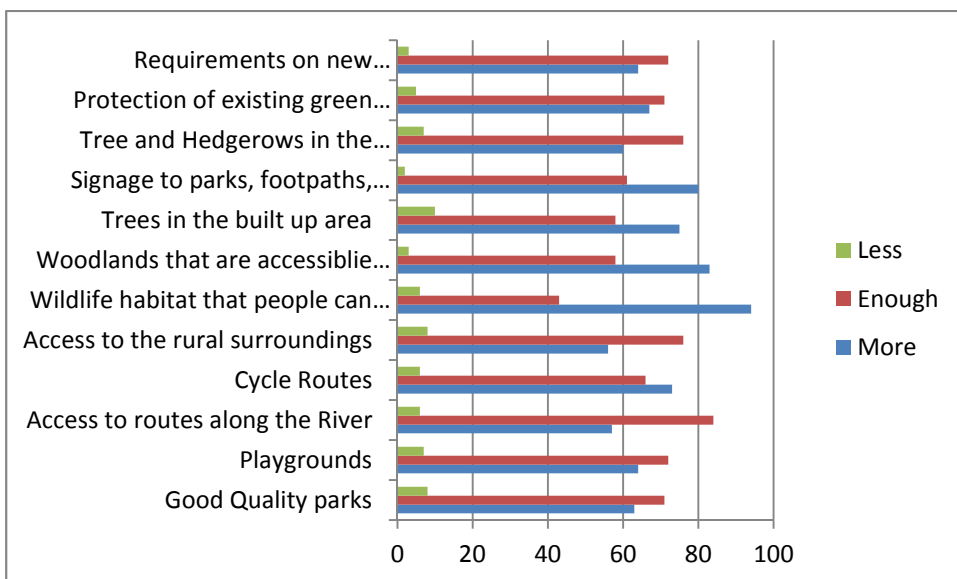


Fig 7

The response from primary schools (fig 8) was very largely from parents in the 31 – 65 age group and more women than men. This age group strongly wanted improvements to all areas raised and were especially concerned that there was a requirement on developers to contribute to the green infrastructure and to ensure that good quality parks were invested in. They were also strongly advocating protection of existing green areas.

Selby Primary Schools

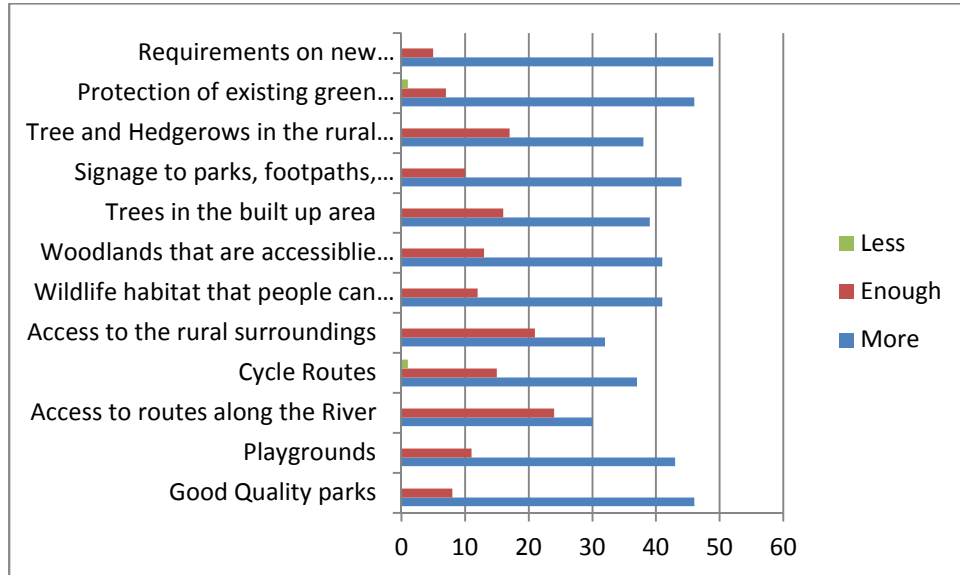
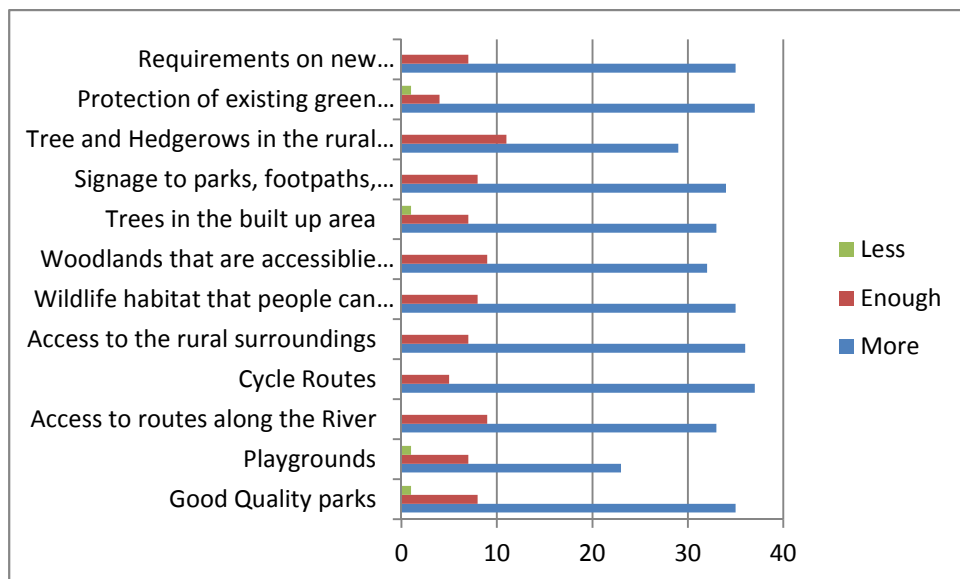


Fig 8

The questionnaires returned from Selby’s community facilities - community Centre, Minster, Library and Selby District Council seemed most concerned with protection of existing green areas and the development of cycle routes. This demographic was similar to the town centre sample and was strongly supportive of improvement to all green infrastructure in Selby.



SUMMARY

The consultation shows that there is indeed support for an initiative through planning and capital works to improve the green infrastructure of the area. There is some variation between ages especially in terms of what is seen to be the most and least important and this information may be useful in trying to prioritise resources.

This report is to go to the next meeting of the Town Council for consideration of the next steps in developing Selby Neighbourhood Plan.