



MORETONHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL 2018 Local Plan Response Survey *Report, December 2018*

Executive summary:

447 responses were received, of which 398 are from Moreton residents (Table A1). Over-60s are over-represented among the respondents; there are relatively few responses from under-30s (Table A2; also see Note 1, below).

The first part of the report presents the results of the multiple choice parts of the questionnaire.

The main findings are:

Moreton residents give high importance to a wide range of aspects of the town, (Table B: Column headed **Importance**, darker green shading), especially:

- the traditional/historic feel of the town, and the attractiveness of its open spaces and surroundings
- health and welfare provision
- primary schooling, and facilities/activities available for pre-school children
- the range of services, hotels, restaurants, pubs and cafes), and shops
- sports and leisure facilities
- the availability of halls etc. for events , and of information about what's going on.

They give relatively lower importance (Table B: Column headed **Importance**, no shading) to:

- range, availability and affordability of social housing, private rented housing and housing to buy
- being able to live and work in the town
- the flow of traffic
- places of worship.

Moreton residents are generally reasonably happy with how the town is doing (Table B, Column headed **Satisfaction**, green shading) in relation to most of the aspects about which they were asked; but they are much less satisfied (Table B, Column headed **Satisfaction**: red shading) with:

- housing issues (see Note 2 below):
 - range, availability and affordability of social housing to rent
 - range, availability and affordability of housing to buy
 - range, availability and affordability of private rented housing.
- local employment opportunities:
 - employment opportunities in the town and parish
 - being able to live and work in the town.
- traffic and parking:
 - availability of car parking for local residents
 - flow of traffic (see note 2 below)
 - availability of car parking for visitors.
- condition of public spaces such as roads, pavements and toilets.

Half the Moreton residents feel that the rate of development since 1945 is about right; only 15% are in favour of faster development (Table C1).

About two-thirds of the Moreton residents either want to keep the settlement boundary where it is, or with very limited expansion; only 20% are in favour of more than very limited expansion (Table C2).

The second part of the report summarises the comments made by respondents. These are left at this point mainly to speak for themselves, to reflect different views and perspectives. However, in relation to development, which received many comments, three main areas of broad consensus emerge:

- General concern to protect Moreton – the town, its surroundings, and its community, which most people feel are at risk from too rapid development, and need careful protection.
- Concern about the town’s infrastructure – in particular car parking and traffic – which most people feel needs to be improved before/if further development is contemplated.
- Concern that any future development should deliver clear benefits to the town – especially affordable and social housing, and employment opportunities, rather than (just) profit to landowners and developers.

The Parish Council views this report not as a finished product, but as a starting point for discussions about many of the issues raised, within the community and with relevant outside bodies, especially Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA), Devon County Council (DCC) and Teignbridge District Council (TDC).

Note 1: The fact that over-60s are over-represented and under-30s very much under-represented among the respondents raises questions about the representativeness of the results. However comparison of the responses of different age groups shows that differences between them are relatively small, as is shown, for example, in Tables C1 and C2.

Note 2: There is no contradiction here: the value of finding that Moretonians feel that we aren’t doing well on housing issues and traffic flow, but at the same time feel that these are relatively less important than other aspects of the town, is that it tells us that Moretonians are likely to be opposed to proposals to improve housing issues and traffic flow if this is at the expense of aspects of the town that are felt to be more important.

Part I: Results of multiple choice answers:

Table A1: Information about respondents – relationship with parish:

Relationship with the parish	Resident	Work in the parish	Regular visitor	Visitor	Other / no reply	Total responses
<i>(Note percentages total more than 100 because respondents could tick more than one box)</i>	398 89%	68 15%	24 5%	4 1%	14 3%	447 100%

Table A2: Information about respondents – age (Moreton residents only):

Age	under 18	18-29	30-59	60+	Prefer not to say / no reply	Total
	15 4%	20 5%	139 35%	212 53%	12 3%	398 100%

Table B: Importance and satisfaction with aspects of the town - Moreton residents only

		1 IMPORTANCE		2 SATISFACTION	
		How important is this for the town? Respondents were asked to score this from 5 (high) to (1) low .		How well is Moreton doing at the moment? Respondents were asked to score this from 5 (high) to (1) low .	
		number of replies (total number of questionnaires returned by residents = 398)	average score	number of replies (total number of questionnaires returned by residents = 398)	average score
			Very high		High
GENERAL					
1	The traditional/historic feel of the town, including church, almshouses and other listed buildings.	391	4.7	372	4.1
2	Attractiveness of the town as seen when approaching it, and views from the town to the woods, hills and natural environment.	390	4.7	371	3.9
HOUSING					
3	Range, availability and affordability of housing to buy.	338	4.2	309	2.7

4	Range, availability and affordability of private rented housing.	305	4.0	240	2.6
5	Range, availability and affordability of social housing to rent.	307	4.2	242	2.4
6	Being able to live and work in the town.	343	4.2	276	2.7
INFRASTRUCTURE					
7	Flow of traffic.	377	4.2	363	3.0
8	Availability of car parking for local residents.	385	4.5	371	2.6
9	Availability of car parking for visitors.	383	4.4	370	3.2
FACILITIES					
10	The range of services in the town <i>such as mechanics, hairdressers, solicitors, post office and fire service.</i>	386	4.8	377	4.3
11	Health and welfare provision <i>such as GP surgery, dentist, osteopath, acupuncture and care home.</i>	388	4.9	374	4.4
12	The range of local shops.	388	4.7	375	3.7
13	Open spaces within the town <i>such as the Sentry and the Square.</i>	386	4.7	368	4.2
14	Condition of public spaces and facilities <i>such as pavements, roads, toilets etc.</i>	382	4.6	371	3.3
15	Sports and leisure facilities <i>such as Sports Centre, swimming pool, skateboard park and cycle track.</i>	383	4.7	368	4.3
16	Availability/suitability of halls for events and social gatherings <i>such as Parish Hall, Community Club and Sports Centre.</i>	381	4.7	357	4.4
17	Cultural facilities <i>such as Green Hill and Bowring Library.</i>	378	4.6	363	4.3
18	Hotels, pubs, restaurants and cafes.	384	4.8	377	4.6
19	Clubs & societies, community activities and volunteering opportunities.	361	4.6	327	4.5
20	Places of worship.	327	4.2	285	4.4
21	Allotments.	328	4.5	280	4.3
22	Facilities/activities for pre-school children.	265	4.7	180	4.1
23	Primary schooling.	314	4.8	253	4.5
24	Out-of-school clubs/activities.	270	4.6	198	3.9
25	Availability of information about the town and what's going on in the town <i>such as News in Moreton, Information Centre and website.</i>	382	4.7	369	4.4
26	Employment opportunities in the town and parish.	331	4.4	275	2.9

Table C1: Rate of growth / development.

Respondents were asked how fast they thought Moreton should grow in the next 50 years, in relation to the rate of growth since 1945. Replies are tabulated below:

	Not at all	Slower than since 1945	At about the same rate	Faster (e.g. 50-60 new homes / 10 years)	Much faster (e.g. 100+ new homes every 10 years)	Don't know/no reply	Total
<i>All Moreton residents</i>	48 12%	74 19%	205 52%	51 13%	7 2%	13 3%	398 100%
<i>Moreton residents – female</i>	23 11%	36 17%	115 54%	28 13%	2 1%	9 4%	213 100%
<i>Moreton residents aged 30-59</i>	20 14%	37 27%	56 40%	19 14%	1 1%	6 4%	139 100%
<i>Moreton residents aged under 30</i>	1 (3%)	5 (14%)	16 (46%)	10 (29%)	0	3 (9%)	35 (100%)
<i>Moreton residents aged under 18</i>	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	8 (53%)	5 (33%)	0	0	15 (100%)
<i>Moreton residents – outside the town</i>	7 (11%)	6 (9%)	33 (52%)	13 (20%)	0	5 (8%)	64 (100%)
<i>People who work in Moreton</i>	2.5 (4%)	17.5 (26%)	34 (50%)	11 (16%)	0	3 (4%)	68 (100%)

Table C2: Expansion of settlement boundary.

Respondents were asked whether the current settlement boundary should be expanded. Replies are tabulated below:

	No expansion: infill only	Very limited expansion	Limited expansion	Broader expansion	Don't know / no reply	Total
<i>All Moreton residents</i>	117 29%	143 36%	63 16%	17 4%	58 15%	398 100%
<i>Moreton residents – female</i>	55 26%	78 37%	34 16%	9 4%	37 17%	213 100%
<i>Moreton residents aged 30-59</i>	49 35%	47 34%	16 12%	7 5%	20 14%	139 100%
<i>Moreton residents aged under 30</i>	5 (14%)	8 (23%)	11 (31%)	3 (9%)	8 (23%)	35 (100%)
<i>Moreton residents aged under 18</i>	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	5 (33%)	3 (20%)	5 (33%)	15 (100%)
<i>Moreton residents – outside the town</i>	14 (22%)	26 (41%)	11 (17%)	2 (3%)	11 (17%)	64 (100%)
<i>People who work in Moreton</i>	18 (27%)	27 (40%)	14 (21%)	1 (1%)	8 (12%)	68 (100%)

Part 2: Respondents' comments:

Respondents were invited to add comments and suggestions in response to each question. These are summarised below. Summarising comments is never simple, and a summary of this kind can never do them full justice.

When at least 10 people made similar comments, this is shown in bold type; however respondents who gave low satisfaction scores are more likely to comment. Their comments are particularly useful in understanding the reasons for dissatisfaction; but the numbers of particular comments should not be taken as necessarily representative of the views of the community as a whole. Comments may be inaccurate, or reflect a misunderstanding, or something that has already changed: we have however thought it better to try to reflect the full range of comments received rather than omit points of view. In including them, the PC doesn't necessarily endorse or agree with them.

The comments are available in full on the parish council website at: <http://visitmoretonhampstead.co.uk/living-here/parish-council/>. Responses were numbered as received, and this number is given so that comments on different subjects can be linked, but the identity of the respondent is not given, to protect individual privacy. Unless otherwise indicated, responses are given in full; where we were uncertain about reading a comment, the uncertainty is indicated by angle brackets, e.g. < >. Very long comments have sometimes been summarised, in which case this is indicated either by a line of dots, or by square brackets [].

Some questions generated far more comments than others, as the following table shows. As one might expect, aspects that people thought important attracted more comments, as also aspects where people felt that there is room for improvement:

Numbers of comments received (nnn = over 100; nnnn = over 150):

		No of comments	Importance	Satisfaction
Q1	Traditional / historic feel of the town	98	4.7	4.1
Q2	Attractiveness of approached to the town and views from the town	145	4.7	3.9
Q3	Range, availability and affordability of houses to buy.	165	4.2	2.7
Q4	Range, availability and affordability of private rented housing	118	4.0	2.6
Q5	Range, availability and affordability of social housing to rent	134	4.2	2.4
Q6	Being able to live and work in the town	110	4.2	2.7
Q7	Flow of traffic	164	4.2	3.0
Q8	Availability of car parking for local residents	148	4.5	2.6
Q9	Availability of car parking for visitors	104	4.4	3.2
Q10	Range of services in the town	96	4.8	4.3
Q11	Health & welfare provision	104	4.9	4.4
Q12	The range of local shops	127	4.7	3.7
Q13	Open spaces within the town	76	4.7	4.2
Q14	Condition of public spaces and facilities.	139	4.6	3.3
Q15	Sports and leisure facilities	116	4.7	4.3

Q16	Availability/suitability of halls for events and social gatherings	69	4.7	4.4
Q17	Cultural facilities	84	4.6	4.3
Q18	Hotels, pubs, restaurants and cafes.	59	4.8	4.6
Q19	Clubs & societies, community activities and volunteering opportunities.	45	4.6	4.5
Q20	Places of Worship	36	4.2	4.4
Q21	Allotments	53	4.5	4.3
Q22	Facilities/activities for pre-school children.	30	4.7	4.1
Q23	Primary schooling	43	4.8	4.5
Q24	Out-of-school clubs/activities	42	4.6	3.9
Q25	Availability of information about the town and what's going on in the town	68	4.7	4.4
Q26	Employment opportunities in the town and Parish.	93	4.4	2.9
QB1	How fast should Moreton grow?	221		
BB2	Expansion of settlement boundary	134		

Questions 1-2: The traditional/historic feel of the town and the attractiveness of the approaches to the town, and the views from the town:

All respondents	Number of comments	Importance (5=high > 1=low)							Satisfaction (5=high > 1=low)						
		5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply	5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply
Q1: Traditional / historic feel of the town	98	346	63	22	3	0	4.7	13	154	179	57	13	7	4.1	37
		80%	15%	5%	1%	0%			38%	44%	14%	3%	2%		
Q2: Attractiveness of approach to town and views from it	145	339	67	20	3	3	4.7	15	141	155	77	23	12	4.0	39
		78%	16%	5%	1%	1%			35%	38%	19%	6%	3%		

As the table shows, most respondents felt that these are very important, and gave lower scores for satisfaction.

Comments:

Traditional / historic feel of the town:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Impact of new development damaging character of the town: important to respect character and scale. Poor planning decisions.	Greater care needed in future development: avoid large developments of similar box-like houses; improve quality of planning decisions. Consider improved "welcome" boards at entries, information boards, building plaques.	Avoid making same mistakes as Bovey and Chagford! National Park should be better protected. Importance of special qualities of historic working moorland town. Important for visitors and local economy; important for well-being.
Some buildings in centre of town need attention, e.g. library; empty shops also detract.		
		Keep green spaces, e.g. The Sentry.
Untidy town centre, litter problem.		

Approaches to the town; views from the town

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
<p>Thompsons Yard and surrounding area damage approach from south.</p> <p>Ugly new commercial buildings at entry to Sawyer's Close damage approach from west.</p> <p>Parking along Exeter Road damages approach from east.</p>	Persuade Thompsons to relocate, and redevelop area.	Importance of setting in natural and farmland environment for visitors and local economy, and for well-being of residents.
Recent housing development has damaged approaches to the town.	Greater care needed in future development: avoid large developments of similar crowded box-like houses; improve quality of planning decisions.	
		Views from town appreciated.

Maintenance of verges and green spaces (The Sentry, churchyard etc.):

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Conflicting views expressed.	<p>Some want verges and green spaces cut more frequently and tidied up.</p> <p>Build a tor on the Chagford Cross roundabout.</p>	Others want them managed more for wildlife.

Questions 3-5: Range, availability and affordability of housing, and being able to live and work in the town.

All respondents	Number of comments	Importance (5=high > 1=low)							Satisfaction (5=high > 1=low)						
		5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply	5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply
Q3: Range, availability and affordability of houses to buy.	165	217	75	54	16	11	4.3	74	13	71	109	77	64	2.7	113
		58%	20%	14%	4%	3%			4%	21%	33%	23%	19%		
Q4: Range, availability and affordability of private rented housing	118	166	73	57	24	17	4.0	110	15	33	75	72	48	2.6	184
		49%	22%	17%	7%	5%			6%	14%	31%	30%	20%		
Q5: Range, availability and affordability of social housing to rent.	134	195	74	33	16	17	4.2	111	15	27	69	81	65	2.4	190
		58%	22%	10%	5%	5%			6%	11%	27%	32%	25%		

As the table shows, most respondents felt that these are important, but gave much lower scores for satisfaction. However these figures may need to be treated with some caution because of the relatively large number of people who gave no score, particularly for satisfaction: 25-43% of respondents gave no

score for housing satisfaction as compared with 8-11% of residents who gave no score for the feel of the town and its surroundings, and for traffic and parking.

Comments:

Housing to buy:

	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
<p>Too many large expensive new houses.</p> <p>New houses of low quality, overcrowded, not sustainable.</p> <p>Too few large new houses of good quality.</p>	<p>We need tougher planning controls: higher quality and sustainability, and much smaller developments.</p> <p>But these would encourage commuters and incomers.</p>	
<p>Lack of starter homes at reasonable prices, especially for young locals on local wages / salaries.</p> <p>Unrealistic expectations.</p>	<p>We need more.</p> <p>Local priority/preference.</p> <p>Make use of empty buildings and sites.</p>	<p>Targeted help to buy?; self-build groups?</p>
<p>Lack of smaller homes for down-sizers, especially bungalows.</p>	<p>Building more would release larger houses when people down-size.</p> <p>Change DNPA policy against bungalows.</p>	
<p>Prices generally too high.</p> <p>Prices being pushed up because houses bought as investments / to rent.</p> <p>Unrealistic expectations.</p>	<p>Build more cheaper houses.</p> <p>But these would damage Moreton.</p>	<p>Prices reflect wider market forces and are high because people want to live in Moreton.</p> <p>This is a wider problem.</p>
<p>Approach to “affordability” flawed; doesn’t deliver enough, and it’s not truly affordable for locals.</p>		<p>This is a wider problem.</p>
<p>Too many second homes and holiday homes.</p> <p>Tax second homes as luxury asset if not available for rent when empty.</p>	<p>Change DNPA policy which currently favours holiday houses over smaller homes.</p> <p>Actions to reduce number of second homes.</p>	<p>This is a wider problem.</p>

Privately-rented housing:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
<p>Range and availability: few comments, varying opinions.</p>		

Rents unaffordable especially for young locals on local wages/salaries.	Regulate /control rents. Priority / preference for locals / local workers. Make use of empty buildings and sites. Should not allow renting to commuters.	
More low-cost rental properties needed. Unrealistic expectations.		
Rented properties not cared for, especially multi-occupancy.		
Prices driven up by outsiders buying to rent.		

Council / social housing:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment/Contra
Too few council houses. Too few 1-2 bedroom house; too few bungalows.	Should only go to locals / those who work locally. Build more council houses. Make use of housing associations / community land trusts	We should not have sold council houses. Building many “market” houses to produce a small number of social houses not an acceptable answer.
Rents too high for local workers on local wages / salaries	Cheaper rents for those with low wages.	

Question 6: Being able to live and work in the town

All respondents	Number of comments	Importance (5=high > 1=low)							Satisfaction (5=high > 1=low)						
		5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply	5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply
Q6: Being able to live and working the town.	110	220	78	47	22	15	4.2	65	20	46	108	68	58	2.7	147
		58%	20%	12%	6%	4%			7%	15%	36%	23%	19%		

As with housing issues, most respondents felt that this is important, but gave much lower scores for satisfaction; the satisfaction scores need to be treated with caution because of the high proportion (33%) who gave no score.

Comments:

Living and working in the town:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Lack of local jobs, especially for the young.	Will improve if Moreton develops.	Some feel that reasonable job opportunities are available.

Available jobs not well-enough paid to be able to afford local houses. Young therefore leave.	Local small businesses and self-employed need help. We need better internet access; and a software complex. We should try to attract a science company / small manufacturers.	Some feel that people should expect to have to commute. Moreton is good for artists and craft workers.
Working space in Moreton is expensive.	We need more affordable office space and small business units.	More small industrial units will destroy Moreton's character.

Questions 7-9: Traffic flow and parking:

All respondents	Number of comments	Importance (5=high > 1=low)							Satisfaction (5=high > 1=low)						
		5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply	5	4	3	2	1	Av.	no reply
Q7: Traffic flow	164	220	113	58	15	14	4.2	27	30	111	131	72	57	3.0	46
		52%	27%	14%	4%	3%			7%	28%	33%	18%	14%		
Q8: Availability of parking for residents	148	291	80	32	11	11	4.6	22	29	61	136	85	93	2.6	43
		68%	19%	8%	3%	3%			7%	15%	34%	21%	23%		
Q9: Availability of parking for visitors	96	251	108	45	8	13	4.4	22	54	129	122	53	49	3.2	40
		59%	25%	11%	2%	3%			13%	32%	30%	13%	12%		

As the table shows, most respondents felt that traffic flow and parking are important, but gave much lower scores for satisfaction. This was especially the case for the availability of parking for residents, with an average score of 4.6 for importance and only 2.6 for satisfaction.

Comments:

Traffic flow - congestion:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Congestion caused by inconsiderate / illegal parking , particularly in the area of Larry's, The Co-op, and The Horse	Some feel this should be reduced by increased enforcement; others comment that enforcement is already excessive. Should be reduced by more space in car parks and lower charges.	
Congestion caused by coaches and HGVs , especially in Court Street sometimes ignoring signs, unloading at Co-op; jams when lorries meet at the crossroads by the War Memorial.	Should be reduced by limiting or banning coaches and HGVs , especially in Cross Street and Court Street, by improving signage directing them onto Betton Way, and by encouraging Thompsons to relocate.	
	Traffic flow could be improved by one-way system round Court Street, Betton Way and Ford Street (12 comments) , or a full bypass.	Some feel that Betton Way has improved traffic flow; others that it has had little effect, and/or express concern that it has reduced the numbers of tourists stopping in the town.

Increasing congestion caused by increases in traffic and in vehicle size; and will get worse if development increases.	Important to make sure new development has enough parking spaces.	
Congestion on A382	Some want to improve the A382	Others suggest making the A382 into a B road in order to keep it as it is.

Traffic flow – safety and amenity:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment
Concern about speeding , especially in Station Road, and danger to pedestrians.	Traffic-calming measures , including 20 mph limit, speed bumps; give greater priority to pedestrians including pedestrianising one side of The Square and a zebra crossing across Station Road at Lloyds Bank.	

On-street parking:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment
Shortage or lack of on-street parking in the older parts of the town , leads to pressure on parking in areas where there is more on-street parking – especially Forder Meadow.	Provide free or subsidised parking for residents in car parks. Introduce resident-only parking permits.	
Restrictions on on-street parking make problems worse.		
	Provide disabled parking near the Co-op and near Green Hill.	

Car-parks:

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Insufficient space in the car parks for residents as well as for visitors; and especially when there are events in the town . Shortage and cost of parking deters visitors and impacts on local businesses.	Build a third car park , possibly on Thompson’s site, or on Forder Farm site; <u>not</u> on allotments. Build an underground car-park. Improve public transport and encourage its use.	Others comment that we have enough parking. Lack of suitable space for new car parks near centre. Council missed opportunity to use old school site for car park.
In summer, when parking charges apply, charges are felt by many to be too high. In winter, when the car parks are free, there is often no space in the car parks even though there are fewer visitors.	Provide a free or subsidised residents-only car park , especially for those without on-street parking. First 30 minutes in car parks should be free.	Others comment that everyone should expect to pay for parking in car parks all year round.

Both increase pressure on on-street parking.		
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Q10: RANGE OF SERVICES IN THE TOWN *such as mechanics, hairdressers, solicitors, post office and fire service.*

96 comments.

Problems.	Suggestions	Comment/contra
Loss of Bank		Post Office - excellent team, essential to the town now we have no bank.
		Fire Service and First Responders - invaluable.
		Motor Museum - great asset to town.
		Chemist- does a great deal for the community.

Q11: HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISION *such as GP surgery, dentist, osteopath, acupuncture and care home.*

104 comments. Excellent services overall, very lucky here. Mention was made of the Health Centre, dentist, Coppelia and NEDcare all providing excellent services.

Problem.	Suggestions	Comments/contra
Loss of Cottage Hospital beds and A&E service.		Would like to see a local A&E but understand that funding is limited.
Failure to utilise the hospital building to its full potential.		Hospital (which belongs to the town) should be better utilised.
Difficulty in getting NHS dental appointment. Dentist list full.		We are very fortunate to have such an excellent NHS dentist.
Waiting time to see a GP	Address size of Health Centre	Health centre and GP's excellent. Number /availability of GP's not kept up with increase in population.
Another Care Home needed.	Another care home would bring employment opportunities	
Shortage of carers for the elderly/infirm	We need to support NEDcare as the care agencies will be needed much more in the future as we live longer.	Good to see NEDcare developing.
		The acupuncture service is an excellent addition to the services.
		All services will need to be increased if there are more homes built in the town.

Q12 THE RANGE OF LOCAL SHOPS

127 comments.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/contra
Loss of Arnolds.		
Need a bakery		We need a really good full time bakery, Central Cafe is doing its best.
Empty shops.		
High business rates.	Keep rates low to encourage more business.	
	Hardware store/garden store	
	Have 'pop-up' shops in empty buildings.	
	Fish & Chip Shop.	
	No more charity shops.	
	A bike shop	
	Farmer's Market	

Q13 : OPEN SPACES WITHIN THE TOWN *such as the Sentry and the Square*

76 comments.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/contra
	Provision of seating in shade, perhaps a surround seat around tree. More planting of trees on boundary of churchyard and Sentry. Play equipment for very young children. Provision of toilets on or close to the Sentry. Provision to safely dispose of used BBQ's to prevent accidents with children and animals.	Improvements to the Sentry much appreciated. More play or exercise equipment would have been a better use of funds.
	Pedestrianisation and traffic one-way system to make it more user-friendly and less hazardous. More benches and cafe style seating, possibly ban alcohol. Improve lighting. Encourage cyclists to use the spaces provided for their bikes. Water fountain in the Square.	
Dog mess	More poo bins, heavier fines. May-Sept dog free in Sentry, other dog-free zones.	

	Better signage for visitors.	
	More open spaces needed at the other end of town.	
	Build more open spaces into new developments	

Q14 : CONDITION OF PUBLIC SPACES AND FACILITIES *such as pavements, roads, toilets etc.*

139 comments.

Problems	Suggestion	Comments/contra
Potholes and road repairs.		Potholes in Queens Road especially bad. Appreciate recent resurfacing, so improvements are already being made.
Inadequate provision of public toilets. Closure of toilets in Station Road car park.	Open public toilets in Station Road. Station Road toilets need to either go or open up. People still walk to them and get frustrated that they are closed.	No toilet facilities for visitors is a poor 'welcome'. Actual facilities and cleanliness of bathrooms in town excellent.
Poor state of pavements.	Any future works should consider those with mobility problems (pavements).	Road to Sports Centre hazardous where no footpath. Narrow, uneven, camber makes it difficult for elderly and wheelchair access.
Dog mess	More dog poo bins, higher fines.	
Litter	More bins.	Litter (of all sorts) a constant problem. The road sweeper does an excellent job.

Q15: SPORTS AND LEISURE FACILITIES *such as Sports Centre, swimming pool, skateboard park and cycle track*

116 comments. Comments reflected how lucky we are as a small town to have the Sports Centre, swimming pool, skate park and Cycle track. Also that it is a testament to the community spirit that we have volunteers who play such a part in keeping them running.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/contra
Completion of Cycle Track and access points. Waiting for cycle track to be extended.	Footpath extensions/new ones so they can be joined up for circular walks. Link track to Animal Crackers please. It's crazy not to.	Complete Wray Valley trail and maintain it and for goodness sake improve the signage to the access points.
Upkeep of cycle track Cycle track needs clearance of vegetation.	Undergrowth should be cut regularly.	
Dog poo a persistent problem.	Need dog poo bins at end of cycle track.	

Sports Centre management Sports Centre doesn't have a community ethos.	Ensure Sports Centre made more available and run by Trustees. Needs better management.	Sports Centre doesn't seem connected to town - needs to integrate more and be more welcoming. It is wasted at the moment.
Lack of team games at Sports Centre. Sports Centre OK but not used by football, rugby, cricket etc. Sad lack of cricket, otherwise good.	Team games to be reinstated at Sports Centre. Rugby, football, cricket.	Excellent facilities, shame the football and cricket teams no longer play at the SC. Moreton Cricket Club no longer play here, 5-side teams go to Okehampton. Why?
Condition of Skate Park	Needs maintenance.	

Q16: SUITABILITY/ AVAILABILITY OF HALLS FOR EVENTS AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS *such as Parish Hall, Community Club and Sports Centre.*

69 comments. Well served with the Parish Hall, Community Club and Sports Centre. Many of the facilities looked after and supported by volunteers, reflects strong and stable community here.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/ Contra
Parish Hall in need of restoration.		I would very much like to see improvements made in the Parish Hall, in fact would like to raise money.
Parking not good for Parish Hall.		
Too many halls	It might be better to see the number of venues reduce and their comfort and sustainability improve. No increase in hiring charges	How many halls does a town need?
Sports Centre could improve.	Charges could be reduced. Needs to be easier to book and use for events	
		The school hall was promised as a community resource!
		The Union and White Hart also have spaces available for hire

Q17: CULTURAL FACILITIES *such as Green Hill and Bowring Library*

84 comments.

Problems	Suggestion	Comments/contra
Opening hours of library too restrictive.	Would be great to have the library open more but appreciate needs volunteers. Library needs to be used more - Internet cafe, info centre.	Recent extension of library hours was very welcome. Bowring library not used and probably little need for a lending library - maybe use for another social need.

	Extend opening hours, more events e.g. homework club, book club, coffee mornings etc. So much history - would be good to have easily to hand - fact sheet perhaps?	
Library building needs repair	The poor old building needs taking in hand- but kept as a community building. Library building need renovating/updating.	The library smells very damp! Great that we've kept the library -it's vital.
Greenhill Arts Centre	Cheaper workshops and more community events <u>free</u> .	What an excellent asset. Some of the exhibitions are somewhat esoteric and of limited relevance to many in the town.
	Museum of local history.	

Q18: HOTELS, PUBS, RESTAURANTS AND CAFES.

59 comments. 75% of comments were very positive and expressed how fortunate we are to have the diverse range of pubs and eateries for both locals and tourists to enjoy.

Problem	Suggestion	Comments/contra
Too many cafes for size of place.	Create a new hotel with restaurant and good parking.	Good, plenty of variety.
		No more cafe's - we'll be like Chagford. All great, but we don't need any more.
	Takeaway - Chinese or Indian.	
	Child-friendly pub garden needed.	
	Improve disability access.	
	Top notch restaurant needed.	
	Put cafe seating in Square - but keep alcohol free.	
		Berto's indispensable.

Q19: CLUBS & SOCIETIES, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

45 comments, all of which were very positive about the choice and opportunity to get involved in the community.

Problem	Suggestions	Comments/ contra
Not enough for young people.	More youth activities.	Lots going on for all interests and ages. Largely cater for older/ religious people.
More effort should be made to make new families/residents aware and involved.	An information booklet could be useful? Perhaps arrange an all group meeting advert? Need to encourage participation.	More information needed – but it's all probably on the Internet.
	Pub quiz.	
	Monthly film night/ cinema.	
	Bring back cricket and football to the town.	
	Horticultural show.	

Q20: PLACES OF WORSHIP

36 comments.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/ contra
Parking		Difficult for weddings and funerals.
We only have a church - any place of worship for other faiths?	Multi faith spaces for increasing diversity of people in town. Monthly mass for RCs?	Good choice. Have just added Quakers to the list.
		Can't wait to hear the bells ringing again.
		Messy Church and Little Bees great. It is important that there is a working professional vicar that lives within Moreton.

Q21: ALLOTMENTS

53 comments.

Problems	Suggestions	Comments/contra
Many allotments poorly maintained. Some derelict and untidy.	Enforce maintenance of non-worked plots (use it or lose it!)	
More allotments needed and in other locations.	Reduce plot size. Add more in other locations.	Reduce plot size- so available to more people. Vacant allotments should be advertised.
They turn the water off when you need it. Big downside- otherwise great.		

More car parking spaces.	Half-size plots would satisfy present allotment requirements and create land for a terrace of affordable housing. Relocation would free up an area for parking and housing.	I love my allotment- please don't build on them! Don't please contemplate building on this heart of the community.
Misuse - Burning of rubbish such as plastic and foam needs to be addressed as does use of herbicides.		
	Allotment shop, Community veg box scheme.	

Q22 FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

30 comments

Problem	Suggestions	Comments/contra
More needed to reflect town growth.	Continue/develop existing resources in line with demand/ growth in population.	There are currently few activities/sessions locally for families of babies and pre-school toddlers unless they travel. Recent move of pre-school to school has been a success.
		Little bees, Walk and Talk greatly appreciated. Library storytelling, Messy Church, Bumps and Beyond all good to get young parents mixing.
	Financial support for Bumps and Beyond is at all possible.	
	Some pre-school safe play equipment in the Sentry would be good.	
		I have no idea what's available for pre-school children but hope there is a Forest School.

Q23 PRIMARY SCHOOLING

43 comments.

Problem	Suggestions	Comment/ contra
Need more classrooms- at maximum capacity, cannot accommodate more children. Not enough rooms for school years.	Expand if possible, to give each class a proper classroom.	Bigger school needed if housing increases.
Lack of parking.	Teachers to park in Court Street Car Park, leave school car park for parents/children drop off/pick up.	More parking needed to stop mayhem on Betton Way and estate twice a day in term time.

Overlap between school and community could be greater.	Further develop links between school and community.	Lucky to have such a super site and dedicated staff. Links with community are good.
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Q24 OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

42 comments.

Problem	Suggestions	Comments/contra
Sports Centre could be doing more.	Provision of sports clubs could be improved.	Nothing going on at the Sports Centre for primary kids except dance.
Teenagers need lots more activities. Non-existent out of school activities.	For older kids- improve. Ensure support for Scouts and Youth Club whenever/however possible.	Scouts and Youth Club brilliant as are the people who run them. Very active Scouts and Youth club, choirs and drama.
	Subsidised evening bus to Exeter that returns at 10:45 to enable teenagers to go to cinema, etc.	
	Breakfast Club.	

Q25 AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOWN AND WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE TOWN such as News in Moreton, Information Centre and website.

68 comments.

Problem	Suggestion	Comments/contra
Website Not detailed enough Needs updating	Research other websites Keep pages up to date.	Website well run by Parish Clerk.
Everything seems disjointed	Work needed to pull it all together.	
Noticeboards too small and messy	Improve noticeboards, size and keep them updated and tidy. Development Trust noticeboard badly faded Have a new noticeboard in the Square with a weekly 'what's on in Moreton'. Monitor screen by info centre or Coop with all local flyers uploaded like a screensaver.	Plenty of info on noticeboards but people need to read them.
News in Moreton - outdated and with overly religious views. Is it time to redesign the News in Moreton?		NiM used to good effect by local organisations News in Moreton and Information Centre both excellent I miss Gary Cox's diary input in the NiM.

	Return to the 'Town Diary'.	
	Have a Small Business Golden Pages.	
	Small noticeboards/plaques around the town with local history e.g. big fires, previous use of buildings etc. for tourists and locals.	
	Keep aware that not all use computers so not everything online.	
	More information on future developments and cuts.	
		People who complain they don't know about something generally have only themselves to blame.

Q26: Employment opportunities in the town and parish.

93 comments.

Problem	Suggestions	Comment / Contra
Very few jobs available; especially for the young; especially for over-30s.	Create more jobs. More shops would create more jobs. Make use of apprenticeships and internships.	Inevitable unless we encourage undesirable change. People should expect to commute to jobs elsewhere.
Limited range of jobs available. Lack of skilled jobs. Difficult for professionals.	Need more office jobs for women. Create more skilled jobs.	
No help for local businesses.	Council and community should do more to support/help new businesses and self-employed. Need more workshops and affordable business units. Improve broadband.	

Question B1: How fast should Moreton grow in the next 50 years? and Question B2: How far should the settlement boundary be extended?

QB1: How fast should Moreton grow?	Not at all	Slower	About the same	Faster	Much faster	Total	Don't know
221 comments	51.5 12%	82 20%	220.5 53%	57 14%	6 1%	417	30

QB2: Expansion of settlement boundary	No expansion	Very limited	Limited	Broader	Total	Don't know
134 comments	123.5 33%	161.5 43%	70 19%	18 5%	373	74

As the table shows, 53% of respondents feel that Moreton should continue to grow at about the same rate; only 15% feel that it should grow faster, and 32% that it should grow more slowly or not at all. 43% felt that expansion of the settlement boundary should be very limited, and 33% that it should not expand at all; only 5% felt that broader expansion is desirable.

Comments:

The number and variety of comments made them harder to summarise than most of the other questions. There was a great deal of overlap and duplication between the comments made in response to Question B1 (about the rate of development) and Question B2 (about expansion of the settlement boundary); comments made in response to B2 have been dealt with under B1 unless they were specifically about the settlement boundary.

Rate of development:

Against	For	Comment / Contra
<p>We need to protect Moreton's special qualities; respect small rural Dartmoor town character.</p> <p>We need to protect approaches and setting, in National Park, so don't develop Courtenay Park.</p> <p>There is no need for growth.</p> <p>We should avoid becoming like Bovey / Chagford.</p> <p>We should protect nature / woodland.</p> <p>Protect green spaces inside the settlement boundary.</p>	<p>We need more <u>genuinely</u> affordable homes for locals and young families.</p> <p>We need flats for young singles / couples.</p> <p>We need more bungalows / homes suitable for down-sizers.</p>	<p>Development must provide <u>enough</u> genuinely affordable homes for young families.</p> <p>We need to balance need for affordable housing against protection of the National Park.</p> <p>Development only if to provide <u>genuinely</u> affordable homes.</p> <p>We should encourage housing associations.</p>
<p>Concern about infrastructure – especially roads, parking, schools, medical services approaching capacity / already under stress.</p> <p>Build no more houses without first improving infrastructure.</p>	<p>Bring back the railway.</p>	
<p>Tourism is important for local economy and depends on protecting special character</p> <p>Overdevelopment will attract supermarkets.</p> <p>Development doesn't create jobs; create employment first.</p>	<p>We need more emphasis on business.</p> <p>Don't set in aspic / fossilise: we need development to revitalise, support shops, and encourage businesses.</p> <p>Development will create jobs.</p> <p>Development will create a labour pool to attract businesses.</p>	

New developments too large, hideous boxes, low quality, built only for profit. Development should deliver benefit to the town, not just profit to landowners and developers.	Development acceptable <u>if</u> carefully controlled: small scale, and infill / brown field; well-designed, good quality; more sustainable / low impact. (Sad loss of Steward Wood community) it fits in with local character and materials encourage self-build.	
New houses over-expensive, aimed at buy-to-let and second homers. Ban holiday homes in National Park.	No restriction needed on second homes.	
	Develop on Thompson's site – houses instead of lorries! Build houses near school	
Minimise social housing – undesirable tenants.	We need more social housing.	Social housing should only be for locals.
Our sense of community is important and at risk from too rapid development.	People need affordable homes. The community needs more younger people, vibrancy.	New housing should only be for locals.

Expansion of settlement boundary:

Against	For	Comment /Contra
<p>Expansion would damage the character of the town / the rural feel / the village feel.</p> <p>Expansion should not be allowed as it is a National Park.</p> <p>There is no clear benefit to the town from rapid expansion.</p> <p>There is still plenty of available space within the present settlement boundary: limit development to infill.</p> <p>We should not be building on green sites, and should be concentrating on brownfield sites; especially Thompson's Yard.</p> <p>No boundary "creep".</p>	<p>More houses are needed, and space for them.</p> <p>Expansion is acceptable as long as it is controlled/sensitive and we protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the look of the town - the approaches, entry points and views. <p>Expansion may be needed if there is no other way to provide affordable / social housing.</p> <p>Expansion would be acceptable on the other side of Forder Meadow <i.e. west of Betton Way>.</p> <p>Expansion would be acceptable for a well-planned car-park.</p>	

Missing question: public transport:

There were frequent comments in response to various questions that the survey should have had a question about public transport – an omission for which we apologise. The frequently-expressed view was that public transport needs to be improved to make it easier for people to work, access services, shop and spend evenings in Exeter, Newton Abbot and Bovey Tracey; and that this would make it less necessary for families to own more than one car, reducing traffic and parking problems in Moretonhampstead.