

Results of Town Consultation held in July 2024



In July 2024, a public consultation was held to gather your views on a range of topics to help us renew our long-term aims, including community wellbeing, engagement, heritage, and environmental issues. The consultation was conducted through an online survey as well as a printed version, which was distributed as a special edition of Crosstalk, the Town Council's newsletter.

200 of you filled it in, and many additional comments helped provide a clearer picture. Some were beyond the control or remit of the Town Council, but are useful when approaching the relevant authority. Understanding the feelings of the community helps set the future agenda and direction of the council, so thank you to all that replied. I will try and highlight the more popular issues raised and responses where appropriate and a summary of results can be found as part of this report.

The appearance of the town garnered the most responses. In particular the play equipment, but also dogs in the park, the latter was covered in the previous edition of Crosstalk. Currently, it is a financial struggle just to maintain the equipment, and like many respondents we would like to do more, if alternative sources of finance can be found or the financial climate improves. Managing the fauna and flora solicited contradictory views, some wanting more natural growth, others wanting the grass verges to be kept under control and neat. To reconcile both is difficult but possible if managed and in the right place.

Crosstalk is the most popular connection between the council and residents, but being the source of the questionnaire it did have a natural advantage. A common comment was wanting more use of social and internet networks to communicate, something as a council we have and will continue to do, but as a compliment to Crosstalk. Many people asked for a greater use of the noticeboards as sources of information and even a map, something as a council we are working on.

Both the Summer Festival and Christmas Lights Switch On are popular, as are the new events like the Farmers Markets, and more similar activities would be welcomed. The High Street is the most popular venue, with the Farmers market preferred to be there, this would require the closure of the High Street which would make it financially unsustainable. There were many suggested improvements made for the festivals, we do try new initiatives, whilst keeping them familiar.

Environmental issues drew fewer replies, a majority saying the current council is about right in its current approach, but a significant number wanting more action. There was an even split between those wanting access to more information on environmental issues, in particular more information about the natural assets of the area.

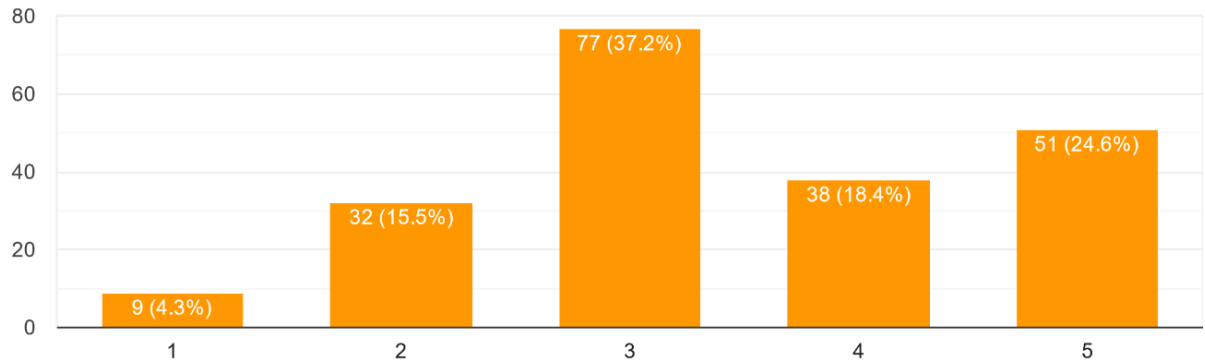
The level of Town Council tax was a fairly even split between no increase, 50p and £1 a week. This does not set the charge; it is the cost of providing the current services and facilities that does that. But it does give us an indication of the value placed on these services, and if they should be cut. Over the years many initiatives have been taken to reduce the cost of these services, like solar panels and lower maintenance flower beds to keep them affordable.

Prepared by Cllr Ian Parkinson

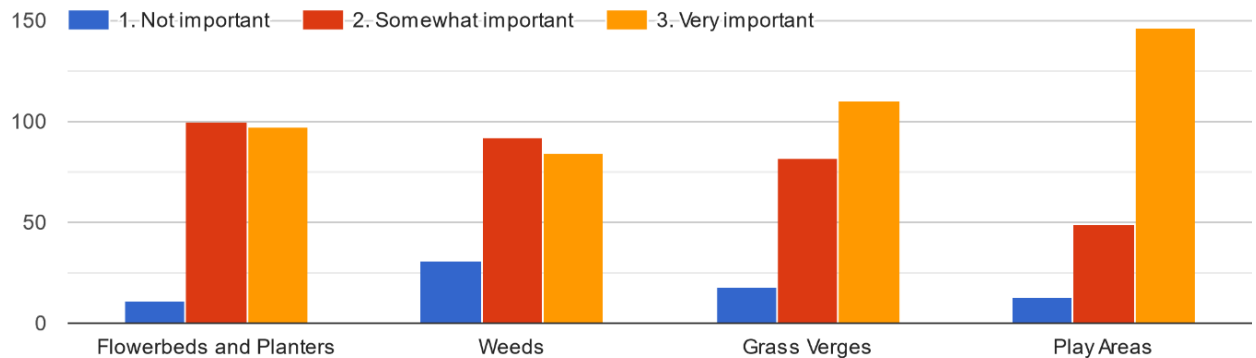
Quality of Life: Foster & improve the wellbeing of our Community

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Never' and 5 means 'Very frequently', how often do you utilise the facilities owned by the Town Council in our community?

207 responses



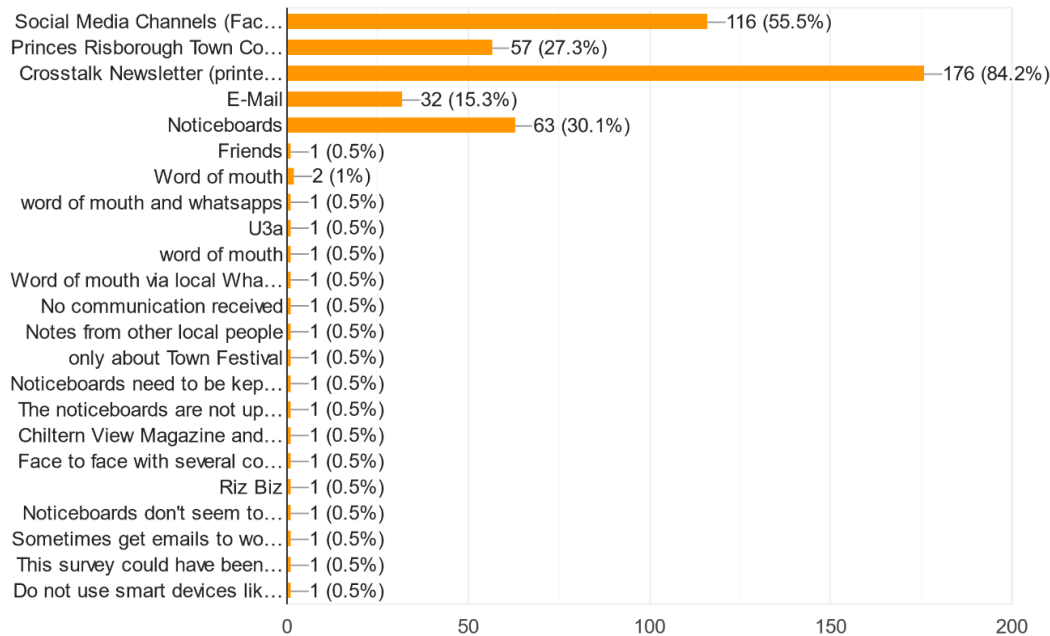
On a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 means 'Not important' and 3 means 'Very important', how important is the appearance of each of the following aspects of our town to your wellbeing?



Civic participation: Foster active community engagement through direct consultation and events

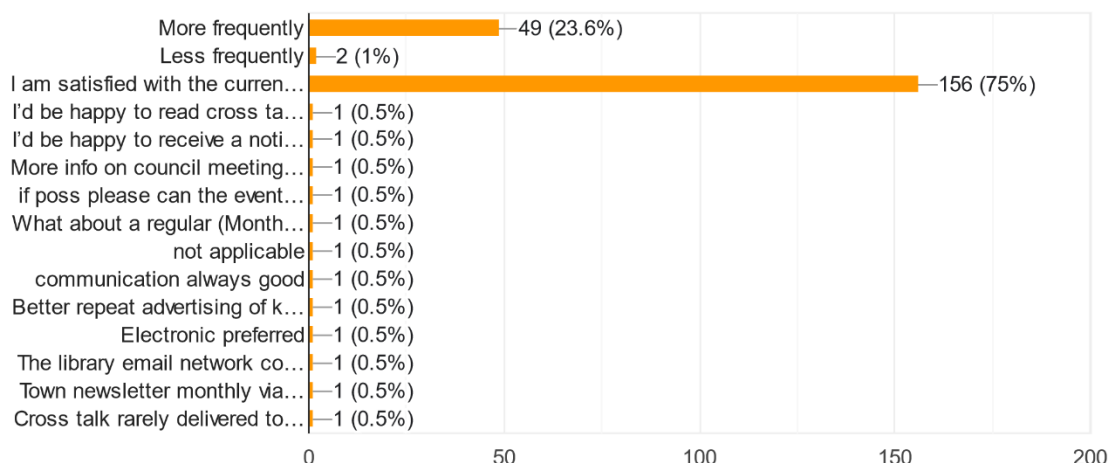
We are keen to ensure that our communications with you are as effective as possible. Could you please share how you are currently receiving comm...mail, social media updates, or any other method.

209 responses



Would you prefer to receive communications from us more frequently or less frequently? You can choose multiple options for your answer, including "other" if you'd like to provide a longer response.

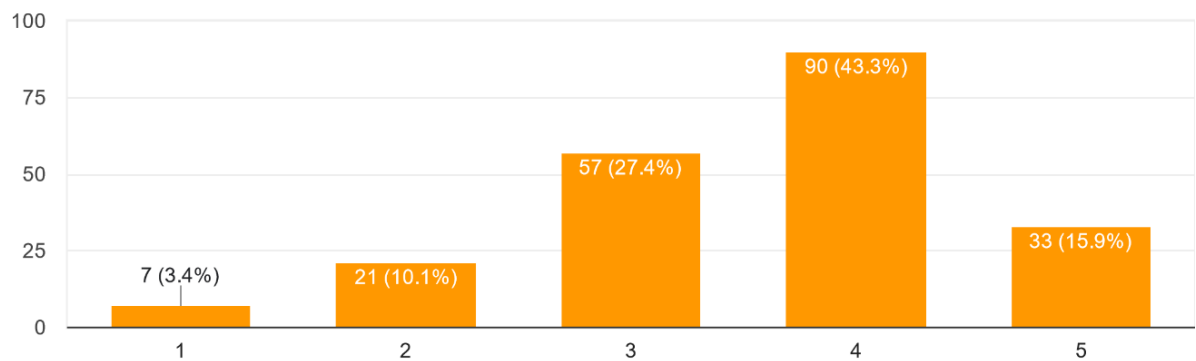
208 responses



Civic participation: Foster active community engagement through direct consultation and events continued....

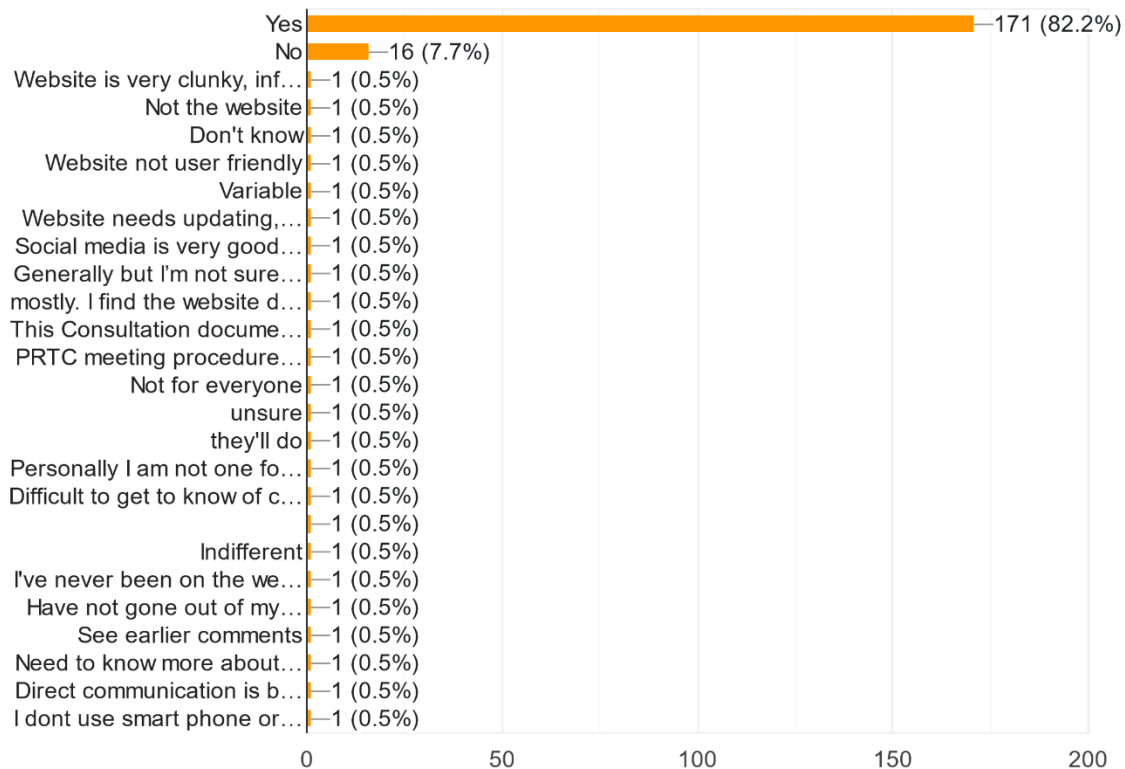
On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not satisfied' and 5 means 'Very satisfied', how satisfied are you with the clarity of communication from the council?

208 responses



Do you find the communication channels (e.g., newsletters, website, social media) accessible and user-friendly?

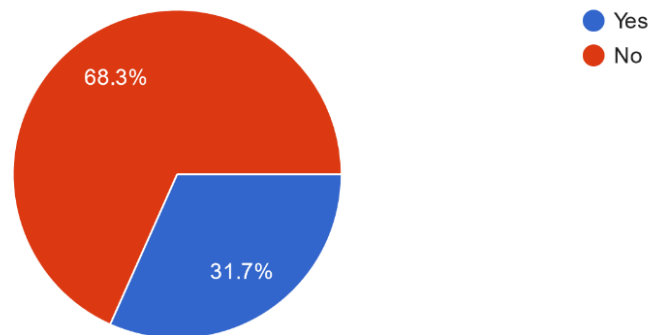
208 responses



Civic participation: Foster active community engagement through direct consultation and events continued....

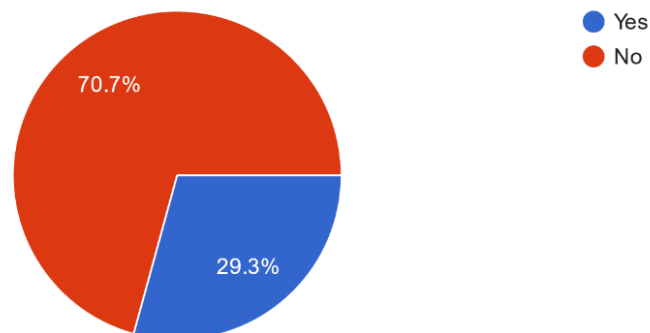
Would you be interested in Volunteering or Focus Groups with Princes Risborough Town Council to support events and projects? (e.g., Summer Festival, Weeding Flowerbeds, Weeding the High Street)

202 responses



Would you be interested in joining Princes Risborough Town Council Working Groups* to support with the shaping and delivery of projects? (e.g. B...to the Council or Committee with recommendations.

205 responses

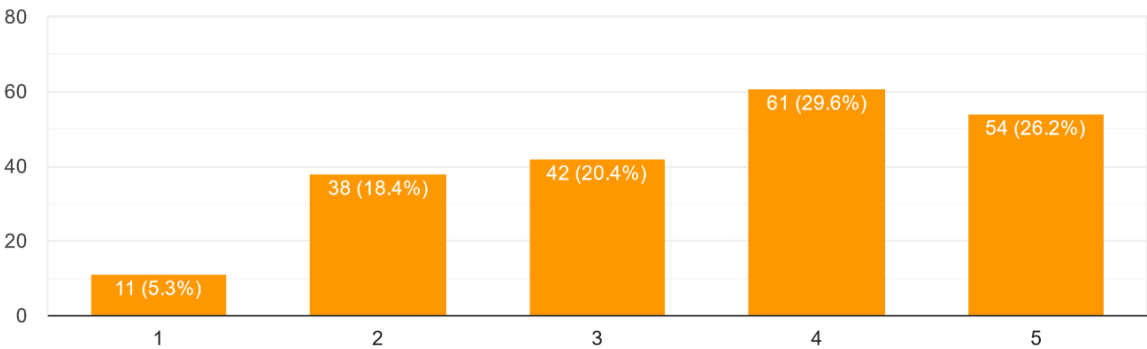




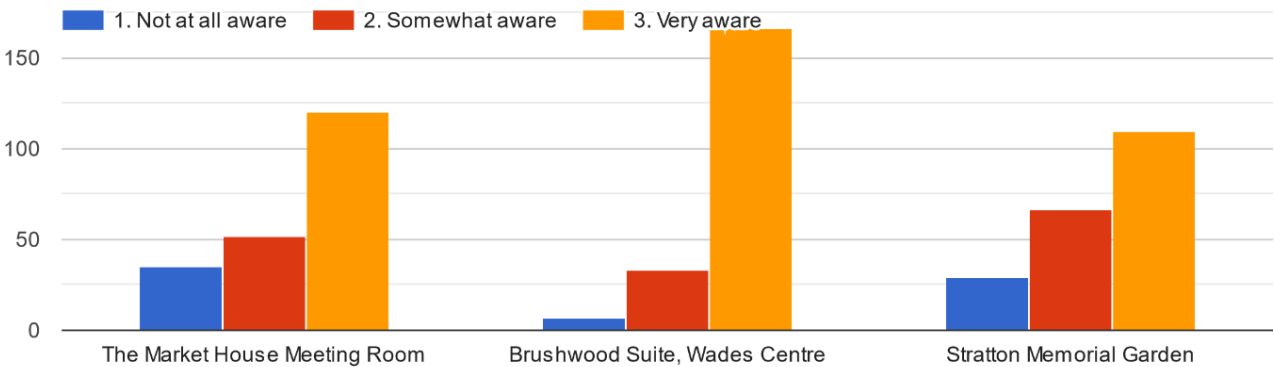
Place: Protect, celebrate and enhance our heritage and evolving character

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not at all aware' and 5 means 'Very aware', how aware are you of the historical buildings and memorials owned b...inces Risborough Town Council in our community?

206 responses

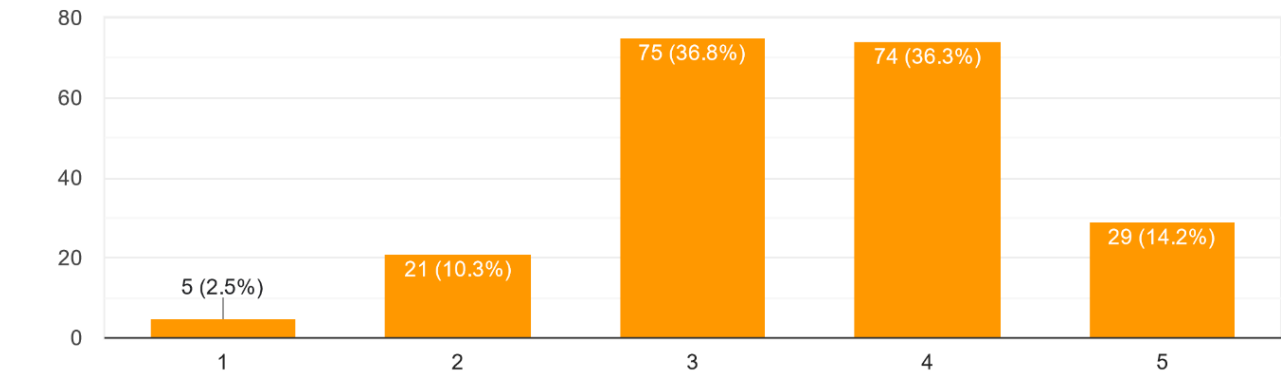


On a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 means 'Not at all aware' and 3 means 'Very aware', how aware are you of the following facilities owned and managed by Princes Risborough Town Council in our community?

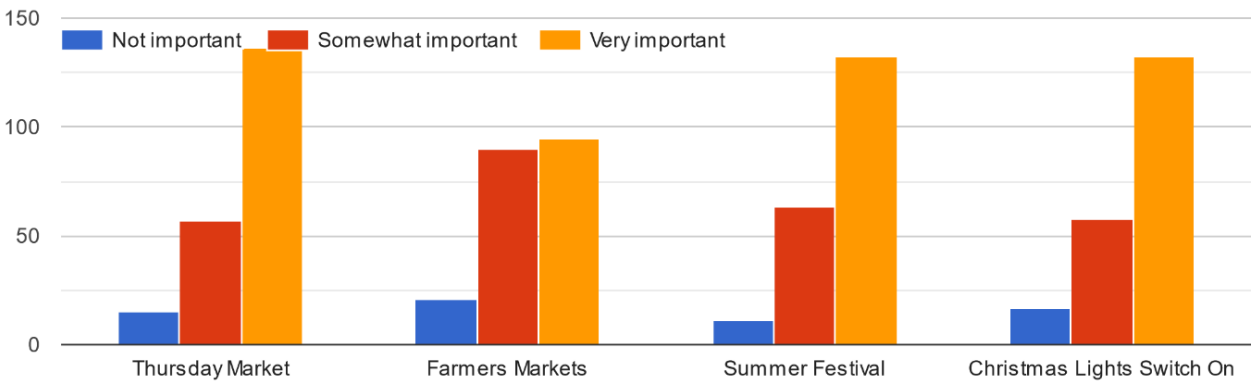


Place: Protect, celebrate and enhance our heritage and evolving character continued....

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not satisfied' and 5 means 'Very satisfied', how satisfied are you with Princes Risborough Town Councils efforts...nd enhance our heritage and evolving character?
204 responses



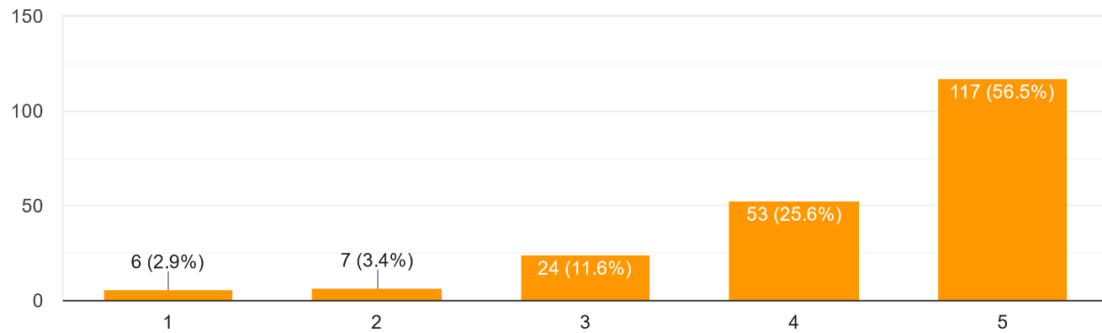
On a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 means 'Not important' and 3 means 'Very important', how important is it to you that we maintain the following activities that contribute to our towns evolving character?



Environmental Sustainability: Deliver and encourage the adoption of the highest achievable environmental standards for our community

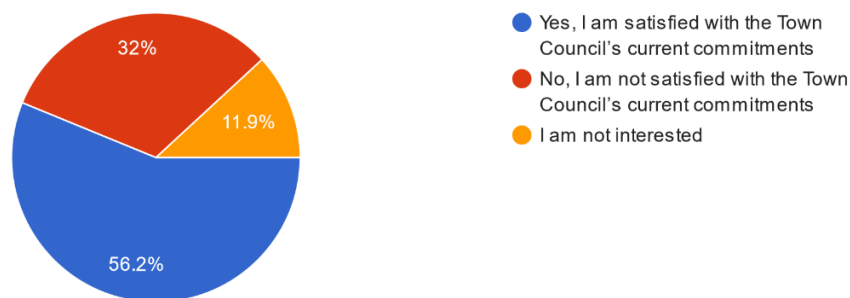
On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not important' and 5 means 'Very important', how important is environmental sustainability to you?

207 responses



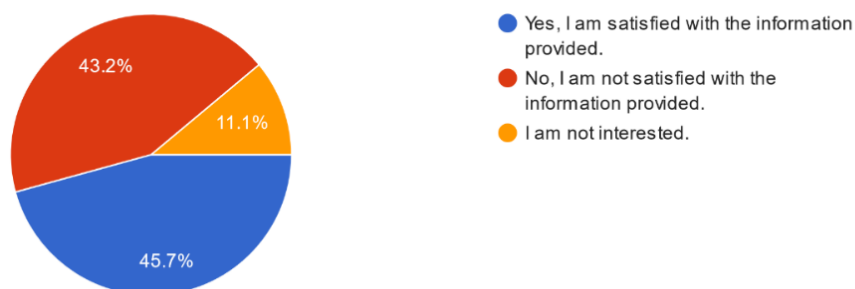
Are you satisfied with the Town Council's current commitments to biodiversity and environmental sustainability? (Some of which are mandatory)

194 responses



Are you satisfied with the information currently available on our environmental efforts and initiatives?

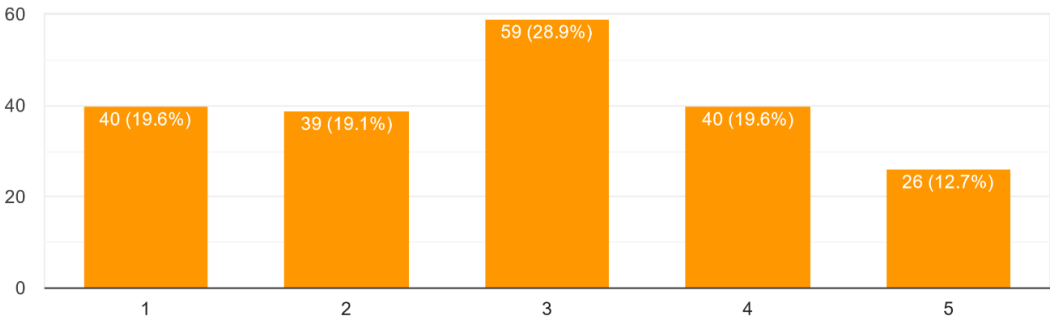
199 responses



Environmental Sustainability: Deliver and encourage the adoption of the highest achievable environmental standards for our community continue....

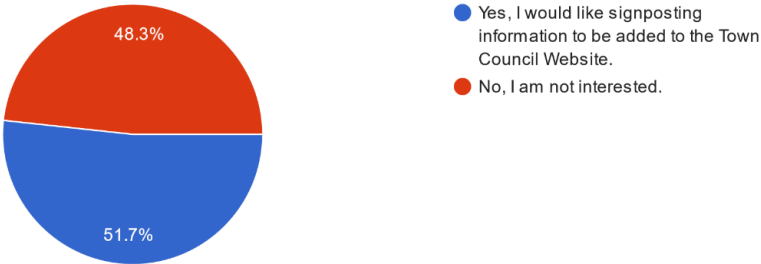
On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not at all aware' and 5 means 'Very aware', how aware are you of wider community groups that are established to ...ur community with environmental sustainability?

204 responses



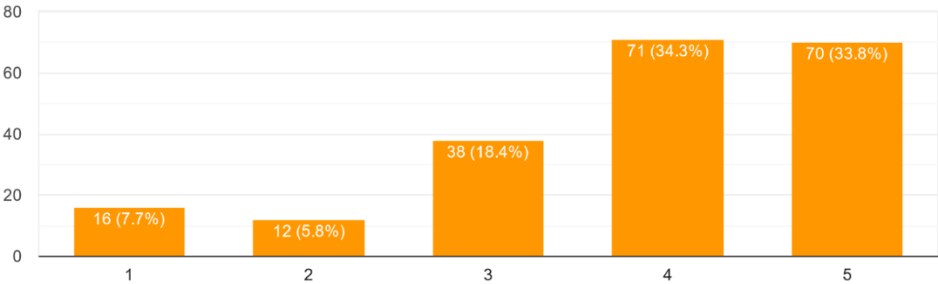
Would you be interested in the Town Council signposting you to local organisations and charities who can provide information on low-emission living?

205 responses



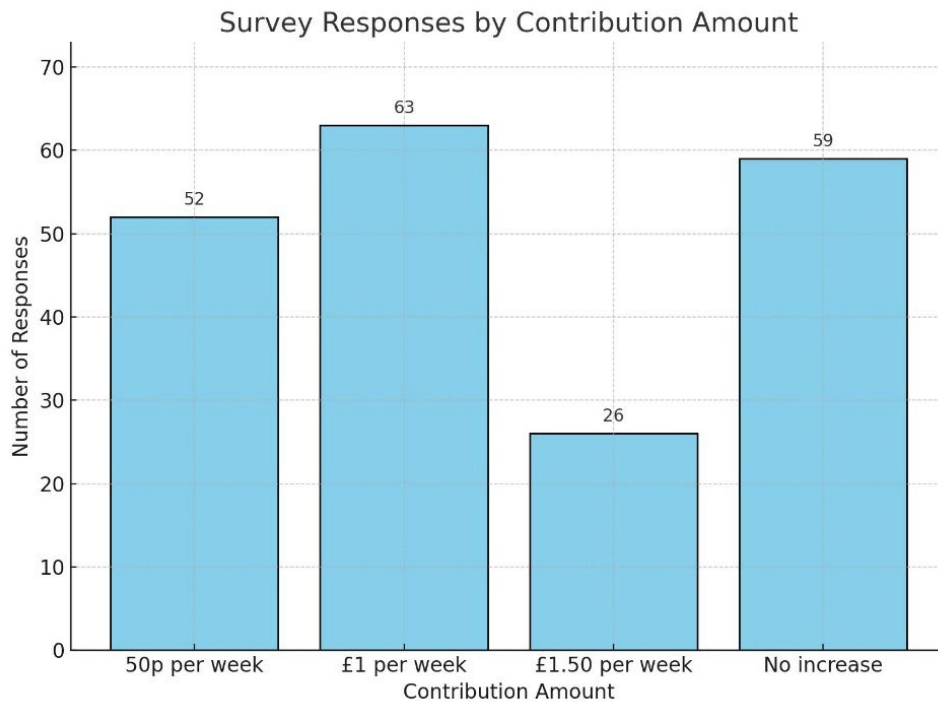
On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'Not at all aware' and 5 means 'Very aware', how confident are you in your understanding of the appropriate actions ...h as intense heat, severe cold, flooding, or fires?

207 responses



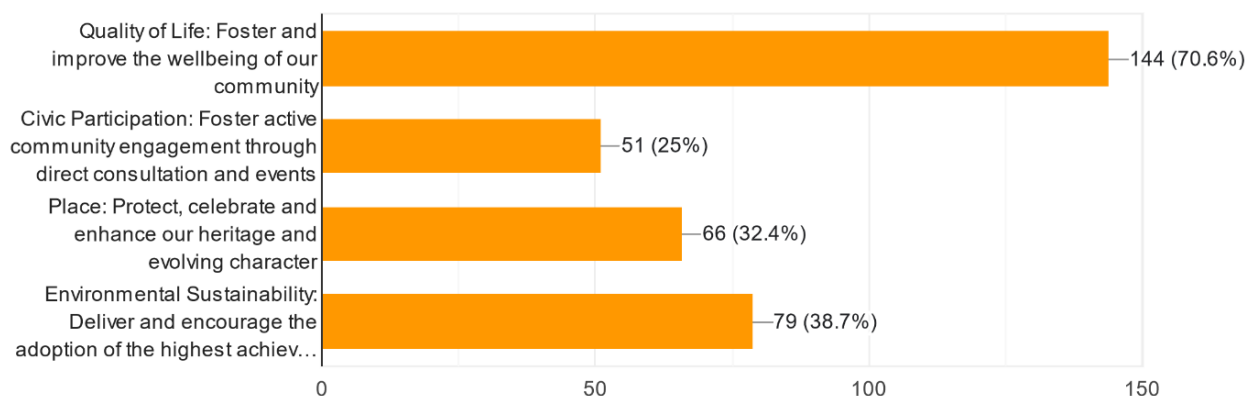
Precept:

Considering the details shared of anticipated additional costs and the possibility of additional community projects and services, would you be willing to contribute more to the council tax?



Thank you for completing the above questionnaire. Out of the four focus areas discussed in this consultation, which is most important to you as a resident?

204 responses



Considering the responsibilities outlined earlier, how satisfied are you with Princes Risborough Town Council's efforts to fulfil their duties?

207 responses

