



The Residents' Panel Survey 4 – newsletter, BoA Snippets, Town Council meetings & agendas, the Highway Code and King's Coronation

The Residents' Panel is a panel of 100 people aged 16 and over who live in Bradford on Avon.

Each year, we ask the panel to complete surveys about the things we do in the town. We sometimes ask questions about projects that might happen in the future, as well.

We do this to gauge community opinion, helping us to improve:

- What we do
- How we work
- How we support and engage the town

In this edition of the survey we asked panellists about the following:

- Our quarterly (printed) newsletter and BoA Snippets.
- Town Council meetings & agendas.
- The Highway Code.
- Our priorities.
- The King's Coronation.

Of the 100 panellists 70 responded to the survey.

Section 1: Our quarterly newsletter and BoA Snippets

Do you read the quarterly (printed) newsletter when it arrives in the post? (70 responses)

I always read it – 61

I only read it when there's something interesting on the front – 6

I never read it – 3

If you read the newsletter, what do you like about it? (60 responses)

Panellists said they liked updates on what we are doing, the informative articles and the layout of the newsletter. However, 1 panellist said they believed the



newsletter to be party political. Another said they did not receive the newsletter.

Is there anything you don't like about the newsletter? (50 responses)

12 panellists said that they did not dislike any aspect of the newsletter. While 5 comments were made about publishing more varied or generally more, and there was a desire from 4 panellists for more information on events. Additionally, 3 panellists said that the newsletter was too political, and others said that the newsletter was “boastful” in tone.

Do you find the newsletter easy to read? (67 responses)

Yes – 65

No – 2

Do you think there is a good balance of words and pictures? (66 responses)

Yes – 64

No – 2

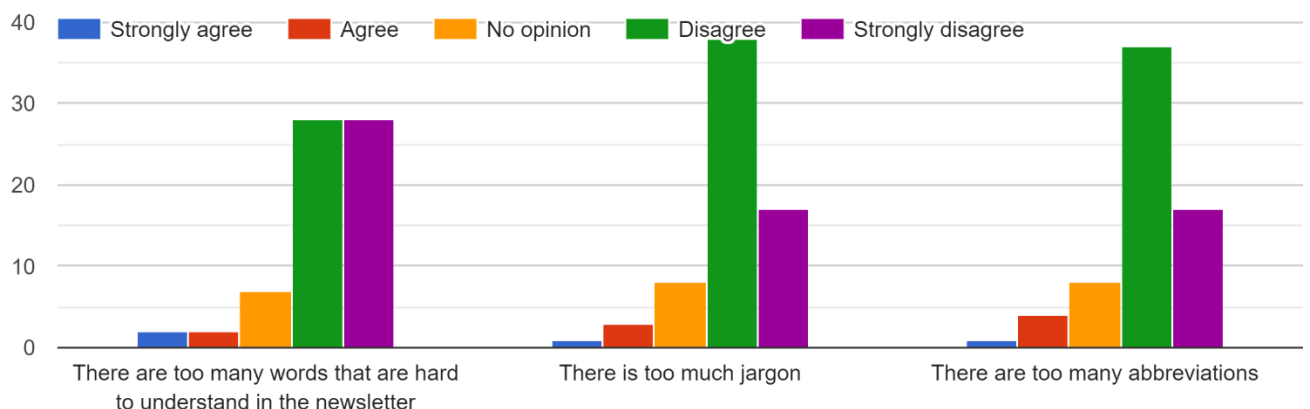
Would you prefer it if the font was bigger? (66 responses)

No – 62

Yes – 4

Do you agree or disagree with any of the following statements? (67 responses)

Do you agree or disagree with any of the following statements:





Is there anything we could do differently that might make the newsletter easier to understand? (45 responses)

25 panellists said there was nothing different we should be doing with the newsletter, while individual responses said we should be writing in plain English, highlighting local groups and avoiding the use of black text over coloured backgrounds.

Are there any topics you would like to see more of in the newsletter? (51 responses)

In total, 51 panellists responded to this question with a variety of answers given. These included traffic management, nature, planning, business, events, more variety in articles, litter, sport, news for families, help on the cost of living crisis and the climate emergency.

Are there any topics you would like to see less of in the newsletter? (41 responses)

Answers given to this question include staffing news, climate change, business, promotion of the Town Council, active travel and traffic.

Have you subscribed to BoA Snippets – our email newsletter? (70 responses)

No – 43

Yes – 27

If you have, what do you like about BoA Snippets? (29 responses)

Panellists said they appreciated the up to date and concise news articles while individual answers gave positive feedback on the layout and What's On section. Though 1 response said that event start times should be added – which we have since implemented.

Is there anything you don't like about BoA Snippets? (23 responses)

Panellist said the design could be improved, they were not sure how often BoA Snippets was sent out, that the What's On section did not include event start times, that it ends up in their junk and repetition with the newsletter.

Do you find BoA Snippets easy to read? (28 responses)

Yes – 28



Do you find BoA Snippets easy to understand? (28 responses)

Yes – 28

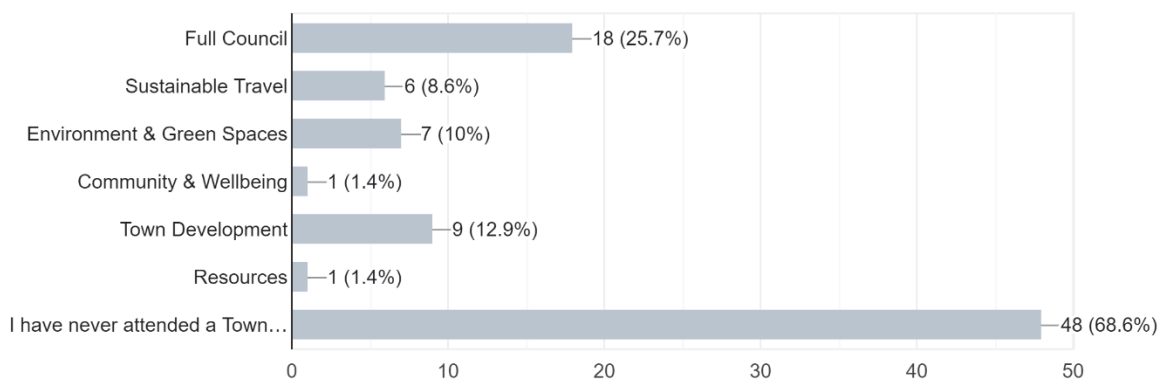
Do you have any suggestions for changes we could make to BoA Snippets? (23 responses)

While many suggested that no changes to the format of BoA Snippets was needed individual panellists suggested adding competitions, making BoA Snippets weekly, shorten the articles slightly and adding in links to community groups in the town.

Section 2: Town Council meetings

Have you been to any of the following meetings before? (70 responses)

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70 responses



Have you ever watched a Full Council meeting on live stream or the recording on our YouTube channel? (70 responses)

No – 54

Yes – 16

If you haven't been to a Town Council meeting before, are there any barriers or challenges that stop you from coming? (49 responses)

The main barriers identified by the panellists were the time of meetings (7pm Tuesday) and a lack of childcare.



Looking at the 2 agenda documents: do you have any comments on the different styles and formats? (70 responses)

Most panellists preferred the newer agenda style – they did comment that what is being decided should be clear in the agenda. Others said that they had no comments to give. 5 of the panellists preferred the older agenda style.

Section 3: The Highway Code

Did you know that there is now a recognised hierarchy of road users in the Highway Code? (70 responses)

Yes – 55

No – 15

Would you be interested in finding out more about the changes to the Highway Code at a presentation at St Margaret's Hall? (70 responses)

No – 44

Yes – 26

Section 4: Our priorities

How do you think we are doing with these priorities? (70 responses)

More than half the panellists said that they believed that the Town Council was doing okay or better on its priorities.

However, priorities panellists said needed greater work included traffic, litter, car parking and fly tipping.

1 panellist highlighted the daily work undertaken by our Town Warden team. 10 panellists said they did not believe we were delivering on our priorities.

What other priorities would you like to see us tackle? (70 responses)

Panellists gave a wide range of priorities they would like to see us tackle – the following priorities were the most frequent:

- Traffic, roads and parking (12)
- Continue with current priorities (8)
- Crime and antisocial behaviour (5)
- Play areas and other youth & community spaces (5)
- Local business (6)



It is important to note that some of the individual priorities fall outside of the Town Council's responsibilities, such as the health centre, flooding, business, pavements and crime.

Would you be interested in more user friendly information on our income and spending? (70 responses)

Yes – 55

No – 15

Section 5: the King's Coronation

Which of the following films would be your first choice to be shown on the screen? (70 responses)

Panellists were given a list of films to choose from including, Paddington, Bohemian Rhapsody, Forrest Gump, The Lion King (1994), Elvis, Shrek, ET, Mamma Mia!, Mr Bean's Holiday and Grease.

The top 3 priority picks were (in order):

- Paddington
- Mamma Mia!
- Elvis.

Which of the following films would be your second choice to be shown? (70 responses)

Panellists were given a list of films to choose from including, Paddington, Bohemian Rhapsody, Forrest Gump, The Lion King (1994), Elvis, Shrek, ET, Mamma Mia!, Mr Bean's Holiday and Grease.

The top 3 priority picks were (in order):

- The Lion King (1994)
- Grease
- Bohemian Rhapsody and Mamma Mia!