

Notes of Public Consultation Meeting

Primary School Expansion 2011 – Public Consultation Meeting Burlington Infant and Nursery School & Burlington Junior School

Monday 26 April 2010, 19:00 – 21.00

Officers Present:

Tina Herring - Head of Learning & School Effectiveness

Rosemary Hafeez – Lead Inspector - Primary

Katharine Thorn - Information Officer, Learning and Children's Services

Mary Cowland - Head Teacher, Burlington Infant and Nursery School

Chair of Governors for both Burlington Infant School and Burlington Junior School were also at the meeting.

There were 18 people present at the meeting.

Presentation

Tina Herring welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a presentation on expansion of Primary Schools 2011. The presentation outlined our statutory responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places for all children who need one and Kingston's proposal to meet this demand through school expansion in the Maldens and Coombe area. The presentation is attached as Annex A.

Comments and Questions

The table below outlines the main comments made and questions asked together with the response given by officers.

Comment/Question	Response
<p>Question around the land considered when looking at building a school in Maldens and Coombe.</p> <p>Was the old B&Q site considered as a possible site? It was available before the first bulge class was built.</p> <p>Would it have been feasible to have had the Infants opposite Burlington (old B&Q site) and the Juniors on the Infant/Junior site?</p>	<p>TH was not able to specify whether the particular site in question (old B&Q site) was considered. Land was looked at in detail. We employed an independent land agent and only 1 useful site was found and this is in Surbiton (the Surbiton Hospital site). Therefore we are pursuing a proposal for school expansion in Maldens and Coombe rather than the building of a new school.</p> <p>TH also referred to a school in North London which was a popular school, similar to Burlington, and it did not want to have a new school opposite reducing their intake of pupils. They took their case to expand to 4 FE to the School Adjudicator and the School Adjudicator ruled in favour of expansion rather than a new school. All of these issues need to be considered when looking at sites.</p> <p>MC also felt that as a school that they would not have liked to have moved across the road.</p> <p>Also we have to be cautious about considering land very close to the boundary between Kingston and other neighbouring local authorities, as it is our responsibility to provide places for all children living in Kingston and it is this need that we are seeking to meet.</p>

<p>Does that mean that building a school in Maldens and Coombe is definitely not going to happen now?</p> <p>Parent living in Grove area has 2 faith schools close by with their own admissions criteria and too low down on waiting list for Burlington as nearest Community School.</p>	<p>We have looked everywhere and there is not the land available to build a new school in Maldens and Coombe.</p> <p>TH reiterated that there are spaces at Corpus Christi and that the school takes a large number (approx 50%) of children from non-faith backgrounds. Also in the last 2 years of bulge classes the distance between the schools and pupils attending the school went much further out.</p> <p>We have inherited different schools across the borough and the location of nearest community school varies from area to area. We now have to maintain this balance of provision.</p>
<p>Query on the physical capacity of the school – the school doesn't want to lose the land it currently has.</p> <p>Also if the results of the consultation indicate that parents/residents do not want the school to expand what will happen?</p> <p>When will access, road capacity etc be looked at?</p>	<p>Burlington is a very popular school and has the physical capacity to expand. Although this is the Local Authority's consultation, we would not expand without the full support of the governing bodies. No school will be forced to expand if they didn't want to. What we do know at Burlington is that there is real demand for places. The bulge classes have been full and we have a waiting list. The Governing body have supported this proposal to be put forward for consultation. Also last summer's consultation indicated that people would want expansion here.</p> <p>We will not go ahead if people are not happy. However we would not have put forward this option without support. Proposals have risk factors, the highest risk factors have not been chosen. We have got surplus in Maldens and Coombe so we may have enough places, but would need to ask for a temporary classroom whilst we look at other options. There is not a 'plan B', as there are not many options, other temporary measures would have to be put into place, which is not ideal but would be necessary in the short term. We are confident we can come to a good solution for creating school places through our experience in working with schools, parents and local residents.</p> <p>Access, road capacity etc will be considered at the planning stage. This will be part of a separate consultation.</p>
<p>One parent was concerned for a friend who had not received a place at Corpus Christi and had very few other options (Christ Church and Burlington both being full).</p>	<p>TH had checked with the School Admissions team on the day of the meeting and can state that there are spaces available at Corpus Christi. TH encouraged the parent to contact the School Admissions team. KT gave parent her contact details if parent wanted help following this up.</p>
<p>Query on forecasting – how has this been improved?</p>	<p>TH – 2 years ago our projections were wrong, along with most of London and other areas across England. Before this our figure had been accurate for 10 years and we were not prepared</p>

	<p>for the huge increase in demand for places. The projections are now much stronger and much tighter to birth rate data. Last year we were only 10 pupils out in our projections and this year we are currently 10 pupils under our projection, but there is still time for this to change, especially as take up and parental choice has a huge impact.</p>
<p>At the moment we can see that there is a need for expansion but what happens when it gets to 2013/14 is this process going to start again?</p>	<p>A key aspect of the expansion programme is the Primary Capital Programme (PCP) funding for ensuring that schools are fit for the 21st Century. If we expand and then the numbers do not continue we would have space that school's would relish and if it rises we do have capacity that has been built into our plans for expansion (i.e. surplus places).</p>
<p>Query around building permissions – why is there not a stronger relationship between housing and education in terms of not allowing new housing developments in areas where there is not capacity for school places?</p>	<p>There is a Government requirement to build more housing, which has to be built into our estimates. Therefore there are real pressures from these two areas (housing and school places) and we agree this needs to be joined up as much as possible. The Planning Committee is a separate body with clear statutory guidance it adheres to. We can inform our places planning with information and data on housing about when buildings have been given permission, we cannot stop building taking place – this committee has to work independently. However the key is that we have a much stronger relationship with planning and that conversations are happening between planning (housing) and school places planning.</p> <p>We have also learnt lessons in terms of previous assumptions about the size of a property and the number of children that are likely to live there, e.g. children living in one bedroom flats.</p>
<p>One parent was concerned with the reference to parental 'preference' when it is often necessity. The parent cannot work and get their child to any other school (other than Burlington – through a relative at the school).</p>	<p>TH knows that this is a common problem, but it is not something that the admissions process can take into account, particularly because it is such a common issue amongst parents.</p>
<p>Question around how children attending the school will be affected by the building work.</p>	<p>TH explained that there was not a work plan yet but that building work will happen as pragmatically as possible, using the modular buildings which are already on site to minimise the impact on children. However it has to be acknowledged that there will be an impact on children, but as much as possible we will make this a positive learning experience. TH used the example of St Mary's Primary which has had huge building works, doubling in size, but it has made it a really positive learning experience with look and see holes, a media team etc. The noisiest building work will happen at a time convenient for schools, often in school holidays.</p> <p>HT – from working with the planning teams for the</p>

	<p>expansion it seems likely that the building for both schools will happen at the same time. However the impact can be minimised with the 2 schools working together. Mary has seen lots of building work happen whilst she has been at the school, largely because it is a 100 year old building, so they are used to building work and feels that things have really improved in terms of the relationship between planners, builders and schools at lessening the impact on children.</p>
<p>In 2011 if we are not full to capacity is mixed year classes a possibility?</p>	<p>This is unlikely given the demand for places at Burlington. There is no guarantee but it is unlikely at this school. HT also felt that this would not be an issue at Burlington.</p>
<p>Will classes increase more than 30 per class?</p>	<p>There are no plans to increase class size above 30. That has been the solution in other local authorities, but not a solution we have adopted in our school expansion proposals.</p>
<p>One local resident asked why consultation documents had not been sent to local residents? Are Kingston not obligated to keep local residents, as well as parents, informed of their proposals?</p> <p>Also concern was raised about people commenting on schools they are not familiar with.</p> <p>Concern re: not getting local paper delivered to their flats so missing the consultation being advertised.</p>	<p>The consultation has been advertised in local papers, on the Royal Borough of Kingston Website, in Libraries as well as children's centres, schools and early years providers. This is a consultation on the principle of expansion and therefore not distributed door to door.</p> <p>One resident was concerned that there were no consultation forms in their local library, but another resident had picked one up at New Malden Library on the day of the meeting. KT has sent additional consultation documents to New Malden and Old Malden library in case these libraries need additional documents.</p> <p>We are aware that people could tactically respond to the consultation. However we cannot stop people doing this, people are free to respond as they wish. We will acknowledge in our reporting if we think this has happened.</p> <p>Noted that local papers are not delivered in some areas. This is not as important for consultations at the planning stage, when local residents will be sent documents directly through the post.</p>

Tina Herring, Head of Learning & School Effectiveness, thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged parents to complete the expansion consultation.

Notes of Public Consultation Meeting

Primary School Expansion 2011 – Public Consultation Meeting Malden Manor Primary School

Tuesday 27 April 2010, 19:00 – 20.25

Officers Present:

Anne Redparth – Head of Resources and Commissioning

Rosemary Hafeez – Lead Inspector - Primary

Bjorn Simpole – Policy Officer, Learning and Children's Services

Headteacher – Malden Manor Primary School

Chair of Governors - Malden Manor Primary School

There were approximately 10 people present at the meeting

Presentation

Anne Redparth welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a presentation on expansion of Primary Schools 2011. The presentation outlined our statutory responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places for all children who need one and Kingston's proposal to meet this demand through school expansion in the Maldens and Coombe area. The presentation is attached as Annex A.

Comments and Questions

The table below outlines the main comments made and questions asked together with the response given by officers.

Comment/Question	Response
Why was the shortfall of places since 2008 not predicted?	Kingston had a very steady demand for school places for many years and there were a number of factors which culminated in a need to provide additional places. The major challenge has been a large increase in the birth rate combined with a much larger take up of places amongst the resident population.
There will be a bulge class at Malden Manor this year. What implications does this have for permanent expansion at the school?	Bulge classes have been required because the LA did not know whether the rise in demand would be a temporary phenomenon or a sustained need for additional places. We have been providing 'bulge' classes where these are required and the location of these are not a reflection on whether a school is expanding.
What were the circumstances of the expansion of Green Lane Primary School?	This expansion was funded by Sutton via Section 106 monies received following the Hamptons Housing Development and sits outside of this expansion strategy.
How do you know how many people will apply for state and independent school places?	We don't until they apply, but use recent trends to calculate likely demand for places.
Has demand for independent school places reduced?	Independent schools have not increased their number of places in line with the way the state

	school sector has grown. However we not think this is a hugely significant factor in the rise in demand in Kingston.
Could Independent Schools be asked to expand	Under current legislation this is not possible. The LA's statutory responsibilities apply to providing sufficient places in the maintained state sector only.
Do expansion plans include faith schools?	Yes and our strategy is designed to retain the current balance of places in Community and Faith schools.
The hall here would be very cramped with 30 extra children.	Where bulge classes have been added, only minimal if any improvements are made to the existing infrastructure. However, permanent expansion will provide for a range of infrastructure improvements including to the hall and other communal areas, as well as providing additional classrooms.
Do schools have a choice to take a 'bulge' class	We have not had to direct any school to add a 'bulge' class. Schools have worked with us to provide sufficient places since 2008. This school's Governing Body has agreed to provide a bulge class for 2010 but this consultation is in part with the Governing Body of the school who have expressed a desire to be considered for permanent expansion but there is no final view at this stage on whether it will go ahead.
If the school expands how will this affect funding? What are the implications for the way the school operates?	<p>Every child on roll brings additional revenue. Larger schools generally have more flexibility with their funding and are able to take advantage of economies of scale.</p> <p>HT – Governors feel positive about expansion and believe that it will enable staff to develop more expertise such as in specialist subjects.</p> <p>CofG – We feel the school will receive a lot of benefits through permanent expansion particularly through the enlargement of the hall. We also feel strongly that if there are local children needing a place then the school should expand to accommodate them.</p>
What are the funding advantages to hosting a bulge class and moving into permanent expansion?	<p>Schools hosting bulge classes are receiving some additional preferential funding to ensure they are not disadvantaged financially.</p> <p>A year R pupil typically brings in £2400 in core funding to a school.</p>
If a child has English as an Additional Language, how is support provided?	There is a set amount of funding provided to each school, it is not provided on a per pupil basis. The funding arrangements are under review to ensure that they are fair.
What is the current capacity of the school?	The school has a current capacity of 420, which

	would be increased to 630. A 50% increase overall from 60 per year to 90.
Where are the additional children coming from?	There are a growing number of families living in the Borough and 80 are signed up for September 2010 at the school. If restricted to 60 places the school would have only have been able to offer places up to 2km away. The expansion is designed to provide places to children living in this locality.
Will class sizes remain the same?	Some LA's have responded to the increase in pupils by increasing the size of classes. Kingston's policy is to not do this even at Key Stage 2.
How easy will it be for schools to recruit extra teaching staff?	Teacher recruitment has not been a problem in the past in Kingston. We engage effective strategies and are adept at succession planning for senior leadership staff
Will expansion result in the loss of outside space?	Expansion of Malden Manor still brings the school within the guidelines for site size of a three form entry primary school. The school is well used to dealing with building projects and will ensure that expansion of the school does not diminish the educational experience for its pupils.
What might happen if the Government changes?	We would expect some examination of the way capital spending is being distributed between the primary and secondary sectors given the pressure on meeting rising demand for school places for primary aged children. The need for investment in primary education is we believe well understood across the political spectrum.
What does it mean that a new school would have a provider?	In the past a LA could open a new school if it felt the demand existed. Now it is subject to a competition process with a range of organisations other than the LA who could bid to run a school, ie Diocese, University, another school, voluntary organisation
Parking and traffic problems are on-going issues outside of the school. Expansion will exacerbate these in a highly residential area. The staff car park is full now with TA's having to park on the road.	The planning application will test out how the impact of the increase in the number of pupils.
What would happen to the After School and breakfast club facilities?	We are consulting here on extending the number of children on roll, no changes are proposed to extended facilities. If more children are on roll and demand exists such facilities could be improved. Currently the school opens up its extended facilities to other local schools.
How have future parents of pupils been notified of this consultation?	Information has been widely publicised via Children's Centres, GP surgeries, Early Years providers, RBK website and media articles.

<p>Only part of the £70 million budget for expansion has been identified. What happens if you don't receive the rest?</p>	<p>There would be a need to re-prioritise spending as the need for capital investment in primary schools will not disappear. This funding may not all be received over the next seven years but there are unlikely to be no implications for Council Tax</p>
<p>What if enough people oppose the expansion?</p>	<p>The LA cannot go ahead without securing a decision following the issuing of a public notice and obtaining planning permission. If this school cannot be expanded alternative options will need to be explored.</p>

Anne Redparth, Head of Resources and Commissioning, thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged everyone to complete the expansion consultation.

Notes of Public Consultation Meeting

Primary School Expansion 2011 – Public Consultation Meeting Corpus Christi Primary School

Wednesday 28 April 2010, 19:00 – 20.52

Officers Present:

Anne Redparth – Head of Resources and Commissioning
Tina Herring – Service Director, Learning and School Effectiveness
Bjorn Simpole – Policy Officer, Learning and Children's Services
Headteacher – Corpus Christi Primary School
Chair of Governors – Corpus Christi Primary School

There were approximately 65 people present at the meeting

Presentation

Tina Herring and Anne Redparth welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a presentation on expansion of Primary Schools 2011. The presentation outlined our statutory responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places for all children who need one and Kingston's proposal to meet this demand through school expansion in the Maldens and Coombe area. The presentation is attached as Annex A.

Comments and Questions

The table below outlines the main comments made and questions asked together with the response given by officers and school representatives.

Comment/Question	Response
Personally I do not see the need for additional places. Residents have not been informed of these meetings or sent copies of the consultation document. The Local Authority has a duty to keep residents informed of proposals – publicity for this process has not been adequate.	There are number of processes to go through in order to expand existing schools. This relates to the statutory process to increase the capacity of the school and the principle audience for this are the parents/carers of pupils already on roll and prospective parents. When we move to consulting on a planning application residents will receive details through the post as to how to make views known.
Why should people be asked to provide a view on expanding schools which they have no relationship with/knowledge of?	This is the statutory democratic process we are required to follow. There will be many people have a view but no direct link to any school, especially prospective parents. We have set out our proposals and this process is about hearing the range of views stakeholders have.
Only since residents have applied pressure have the Local Authority agreed to meetings with residents as part of the planning application.	It has always been our intention to have opportunities for residents to provide views on the planning application prior to it being submitted. We recognise that this is a major proposal for the area and the range of those consulted will be much wider than for temporary accommodation installed in 2009. We will closely involve local

	residents associations in our distribution.
Residents were unaware of the Summer 2009 informal consultation. Residents should be key stakeholders in any plans to expand schools.	There were over 1200 responses received including 500 from the Maldens and Coombe area and was publicised in the same way as for this consultation.
The impact in terms of traffic in this area will be huge. There is already very bad congestion through parents dropping off and picking up and expanding both these local schools will exacerbate the situation.	We absolutely understand the concerns around traffic and recognise the particular challenges in this area. A separate consultation process will seek to address such concerns and provide a full opportunity for residents to submit their views on the impact of the plans. Pre-planning application consultation will open on 17 May and a working group to explore traffic and access issues will be established for those school where it is deemed necessary. There will certainly be one established for this school and Christ Church New Malden.
These schools have a wide catchment area. A School Travel Plan does not change that.	We recognise that all borough residents must change their habits as we live in an area with a growing population. There are solutions which collectively can make a difference but it won't be easy.
Why is the Council allowing more houses/flats to be built?	Kingston has housing targets to meet which are set by government. It must also recognise the demand to live in the area particularly from young people and increase its housing supply.
Residents are not supported well by the Police to enforce parking regulations. Parents park on double yellow lines and on crossings.	
The funding available will not go very far given the total budget available and the amount of infrastructure improvements that will be required on this site.	Governors have been probing with similar questions. Options around access arrangements are being considered. HT – we have been in lengthy discussions about this and safety of pupils is first and foremost in our minds.
I am a resident for 70 years and access to the site was originally planned from Mount Road. Housing that has been built has restricted access. Widening the entrance and providing a rear entrance should be required. Houses on Mount Road have a right of way which must be taken out of plans.	As the land is owned by the Diocese the LA is less familiar with this site than for our community schools. The expansion programme is being undertaken in partnership.
This is a very well regarded school. What are the benefits of expansion for existing pupils?	We understand existing parents questioning the need for change but if we do not expand local children may not be able to obtain a school place. The school will minimise the impact of the building work on pupils and the project will form part of the curriculum which will aid learning.
What could be the impact of expansion on standards?	There are examples in Kingston where building projects had led to a rise in standards. The LA will

	work very closely with all schools expanding to monitor the impact on standards.
Is everyone aware that green fields could be built on to provide new buildings for Christ Church Primary?	Both schools on this site are being treated as one project and pre-planning application sessions will be joint. We will take away all issues raised tonight and ensure they are taken account of.
Permanent expansion will give future parents piece of mind as you cannot continue temporarily expanded schools in substandard temporary accommodation.	
What is the breakdown of Roman Catholic children at this school?	Approximately 75% school of pupils are of RC faith but the schools ethos is the meet the needs of all pupils regardless of faith. School inspections focus on provision for non-catholics as well as catholics.
Will the governing body be required to find 10% of capital costs for the expansion?	No, although there are some complications around the VAT rules for VA schools.
Why will the Public Notice be issued over part of the summer holiday?	To meet the need for places in September 2011 there is a need to issue Public Notices on 12 July. However this is permitted as this is the final stage of the process with the consultation period having been held during term time. The Governing Body or Diocese have the power to refer the decision to the Independent Schools Adjudicator if they disagree with expansion.
Will schools receive leadership support to take pressure off the headteacher during building works?	No but a range of support is provided through LA officers, architects and consultants to deliver the project. The HT and/or senior staff will be involved but the project will not be managed by them.
Are there sufficient numbers of RC's in the area to support the expansion of faith places?	The population is growing and this will impact on schools of all designations. We are seeking the retain the same proportion of places across Community and Faith schools to retain the right balance.
Traffic was a problem here 20 years ago, how will residents cope with more pupils being driven to school?	
How will the public feeling at this meeting and during the consultation be considered?	The report to the executive will outline the views expressed in the consultation and elected members will have access to notes of meetings and written comments that have been received. They will make decisions based on advice from officers and the results of consultation.
Is it correct that the Neighbourhood Committee will not make the decision on the planning application?	As it is a major development the Neighbourhood Committee will provide comments only and the Development Control Committee will make the final decision.

Tina and Anne thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged everyone to complete the expansion consultation.

Notes of Public Consultation Meeting

Primary School Expansion 2011 – Public Consultation Meeting Christ Church New Malden CofE Primary School

Thursday 29 April 2010, 19:00 – 21.00

Officers Present:

Tina Herring – Service Director, Learning and School Effectiveness
Barbara Chevis – Strategic Manager / Inspector
Jenny Haynes – Lead Strategic Manager Partnerships and Workforce Development

School representation included:

Brenda Mitchell, Headteacher
Colin Powell, Diocesan representative
Governors and staff

Presentation

The Service Director, Learning and School Effectiveness gave a presentation on the need for additional permanent primary places across the borough, in the Maldens and Coombe planning area and the proposals for providing these including the proposal to expand Christ Church New Malden C of E Primary School from 2 forms of entry to 3 forms of entry. An overview of the statutory processes that need to be followed in order to provide the permanent expansion were also covered. These include the school organisation statutory process, planning requirements and admissions consultation requirements. The presentation is attached at Annex A.

Comments and Questions

The table below outlines the main comments made and questions asked together with the response given by officers and Christ Church New Malden Primary School representatives

Comments/Questions	Responses
Concerned about an additional 30 children on the infant site e.g. dining/play facilities	We expect the architects to optimise use of space and any expansion will comply with minimum space requirements. The head added that initial plans indicate there will be a bigger dining room, the corridors will be removed to provide more space and that they are looking at some organisational changes such as staggered playtimes which happens in some schools currently.
Do the proposals for Key Stage 2 pupils to possibly move to the school playing fields impact on strategies for keeping open spaces?	We would not pursue an option that wouldn't comply with planning requirements
If the majority are against the proposals what will you do?	Consultation outcomes will inform the decision which will be taken by the Council's Executive in June. The governing Body agreement is also paramount

Comments/Questions	Responses
As a local resident I know that no amount of telling people not to drive their children to school will change their habits. Also the road is used as a 'rat run'. How can you control the traffic?	The planning consultation will address traffic issues. Currently about 22% of children at the school travel to school by car and as a community we need to change our behaviour. We will set up a traffic committee to explore these issues and it will involve local residents, the school, traffic officers. A traffic impact assessment will also be carried out. The head expressed sympathy with the local community regarding the traffic issue.
Are there any proposed changes to the admission arrangements for those who live locally but are not church members?	The head responded that admission arrangements had changed in the last 2 years as they wished to be a school for the local community and now at least 50% places are for local children.
What happens after the election if funding is cut?	The Council has currently committed £70m for this proposal. All parties are signed up to the primary expansion strategy.
Are there any plans to increase nursery provision?	There are no plans as part of this consultation but an expansion for this September has already been agreed. Early years provision has to be planned across all sectors – maintained schools and the private, voluntary and independent providers.
Is there any indication at this stage if the expansion will be on this site or on the playing fields site?	Current indications are that the Junior site will be new build on the playing fields and there will be expansion on the infant site.
Not convinced by the argument that there are no other sites. The environmental issues with increased traffic on top of what we currently have need to be understood. The Council should reconsider.	Information on other sites considered is available on the website. Can't get away from the fact that the population is increasing and more new places are needed in the area. Understand concerns about increased traffic.
Pavements also get congested with buggies, scooters etc.	
What is being done to improve undersubscribed schools as an alternative to expanding schools?	The Council is actively supporting all schools to improve standards. Need to understand that quality of a school is not always related to standards – also need to look at context.
Church Schools make the situation worse as not every one has equal access. Also this impacts on travel – especially for the catholic schools	As previously stated this school has recently changed its admission policy and admits 50% local children.
Is provision being made for staff parking?	Green travel plans will be agreed and this will include staff travel. We all need to consider how to deal with the rise in population.
How can I get access to the rules and regulations about minimum site requirements?	We will put a link to the relevant Building Bulletin (BB99) on the website.
Local Ward Councillor Having lived in the area for 40 years I do question if it is the right location for expansion. Traffic has increased and can't change access, widen roads, remove the level crossings etc.	
Last 4 years we have been working with council traffic officers to improve traffic flow but parents will not stop bringing children in cars and some	

Comments/Questions	Responses
go the wrong way down the one way streets – there is an accident waiting to happen. Local residents have to plan their day around school times. Police don't seem able to enforce the one way system.	
Traffic has reached saturation point in the area and you are also proposing to increase Corpus Christi in this area too. Why expand 2 schools so close together?	
Residents Association: Lived here over 30 years and a governor at both schools. The Residents Association was set up in 1987 because the traffic is so bad. There have been some improvements e.g. chicanes but more recently it has got worse. With more pupils coming from further by car traffic management is an urgent issue and the Residents Association must be involved so the past can guide the future.	
Why are the pre planning consultations drop in sessions? They should be formal meetings so everyone can listen to answers and questions.	The 4 hour drop in sessions allow more people to drop in over a longer time frame
The first question on the consultation paper is irrelevant. Comments on other schools could skew the results	
Can you confirm where the consultation paper has been distributed? As a resident I haven't had it. All the 'Groves' should be included	This consultation is about the principle of expanding the school and the paper has gone to relevant parties including all those identified in the guidance. There will also be planning consultations and for the pre-planning consultation residents will receive information. Over the 2 consultations we should cover a wide range of stakeholders including parents, staff and residents.
Why not use the King Charles Centre site for a primary school?	It was one of the options we looked at but the site is too small for a 2 form entry school.
If everyone said no to the expansion is there a Plan B or has a decision already been made?	<p>Our current strategy including this option is as a result of previous consultation and a number of other considerations including site size, need for places in an area, capacity of the management at a school, planning restrictions etc. The Council's Executive made the decision last December to progress and consult more formally on expanding a number of schools. Following this consultation they will decide in June whether to move to the next stage of issuing a Public Notice. The alternative to not expanding is another year of bulge classes across the borough.</p> <p>Cllr Ryder-Mills, Member of Development Control Committee and Governor at the school. As a member of the Development Control Committee I</p>

Comments/Questions	Responses
	can assure you that decisions have not already been made in advance. As an example we recently turned down an application for a Children's Centre in an area of the borough and then plan B did emerge which was then passed. It is all part of the democratic process.