

Report: Analysis of results of Community Consultation on the future of the Ship Inn site

From: Rachel Russell, Deputy Clerk, Stonehouse Town Council

Date: 10th December 2021

1. Consultation design and response collection

- a) On 14 June 2021 Town Council resolved to carry out a public consultation to establish what the people of Stonehouse would like to see on the former Ship Inn site as part of the next phase of Cotswold Canals Connected's work to restore the Stroudwater Navigation (TC2644). Letters from 105 residents were received in support of the proposal.
- b) The Consultation questionnaire was designed by the Town Council's Canal Rejuvenation Working Group and the final wording was agreed at Town Council on 13 September 2021 (TC2675).
- c) The consultation was open from 3 October 2021 to 31 October 2021. It could be completed on line or on paper. The paper version included a QR code link to the Survey Monkey survey, information on the location of collection boxes and instructions to complete one survey per person, photocopies permitted.
- d) A private delivery company delivered 3,400 copies around Stonehouse, one per household. Paper copies and collection boxes were available at: Town Hall, Library, Co-op/Post Office, Wynns, Woolpack, Bridge Café, Globe.
- e) Outreach sessions were held at the following times and locations:

Sunday, October 3, 10am – 2pm	Town Green, High Street (Tree Day)
Saturday, October 16, 10am – 2pm	Entrance to Oldends Recreation Ground, opposite Midland Road
Saturday, October 30, 10am-2pm	Near canal by Upper Mills Industrial Estate

- f) Town Council officers monitored the collection boxes, emptying and resealing as required. Paper responses were date stamped as received and their origin was recorded.

2. Collation of results and validity of data.

(i) Summary information on responses received:

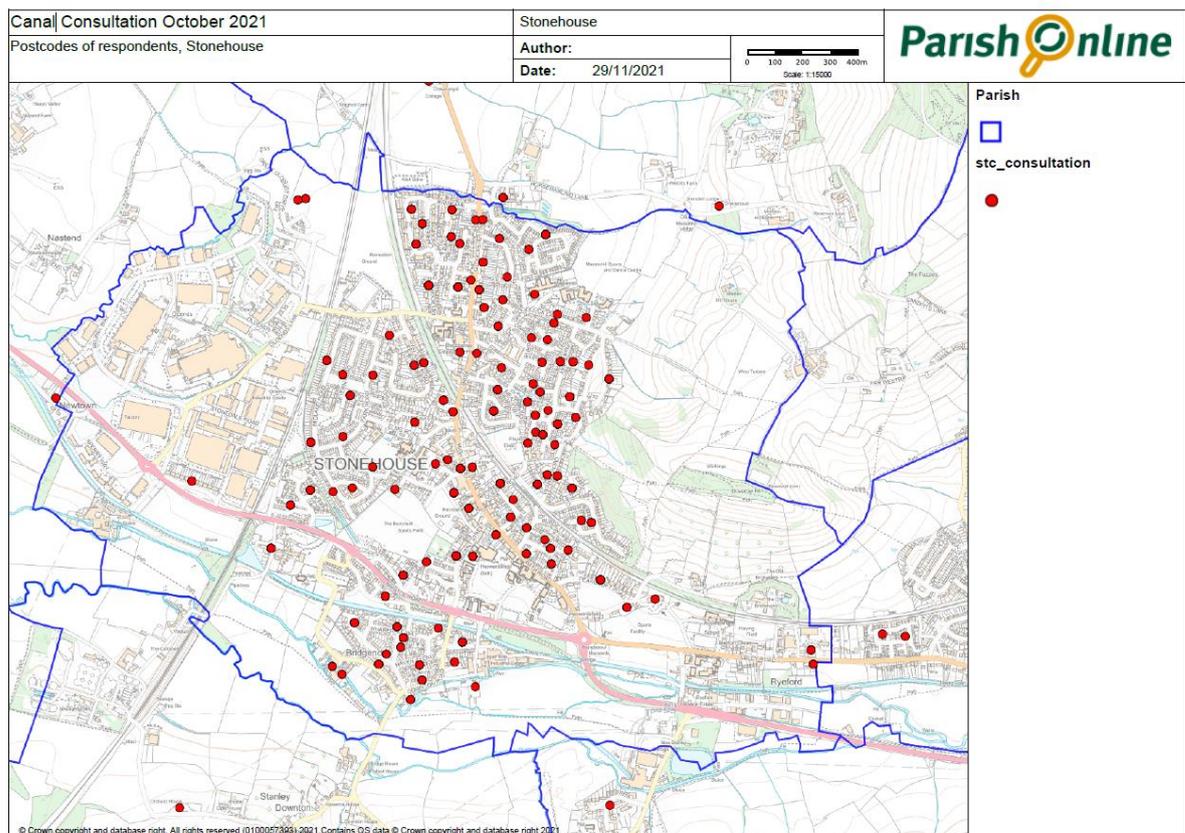
On line responses received by 31 October 2021 (less duplicates)	316	Responses on Survey Monkey	648	GL10 postcode	598
Paper responses added to Survey Monkey by Manual Data entry	332			GL5 or other postcode	50
Invalid paper responses: no name or postcode or duplicates	9				
Duplicate on line responses: identical name & postcode DELETED from Survey Monkey	3				
Total responses received	660				

- a) The Canal Rejuvenation Working Group agreed criteria for accepting a response as valid. A post code was required and only post codes starting GL10 are to be included in the result.
- b) Further information on the collation of paper results and validity checking is provided at Appendix 1.
- c) Fifty responses have been included on Survey Monkey but will not be included in the main analysis. Forty two respondents gave a post code not in GL10, mostly GL5 (35 respondents). Eight gave no post code or entered characters which did not form a post code. Canal Rejuvenation Working Group met on 16 November 2021 to look at the validity of some responses and agreed that the results where a post code outside GL10 was provided could be analysed separately as they were also of interest.
- d) The analysis is based on 598 responses where a GL10 post code was provided, or for seven cases, could be confirmed. Of these 285 were submitted directly on line, 313 were paper responses, added manually to Survey Monkey by the Deputy Clerk.
- e) The 598 responses from GL10 mean the survey had a response rate of 7% in relation to the population of Stonehouse (8,075) and 9% in relation to the working age and retired population (6,620¹).

3. Distribution of respondents' postcodes

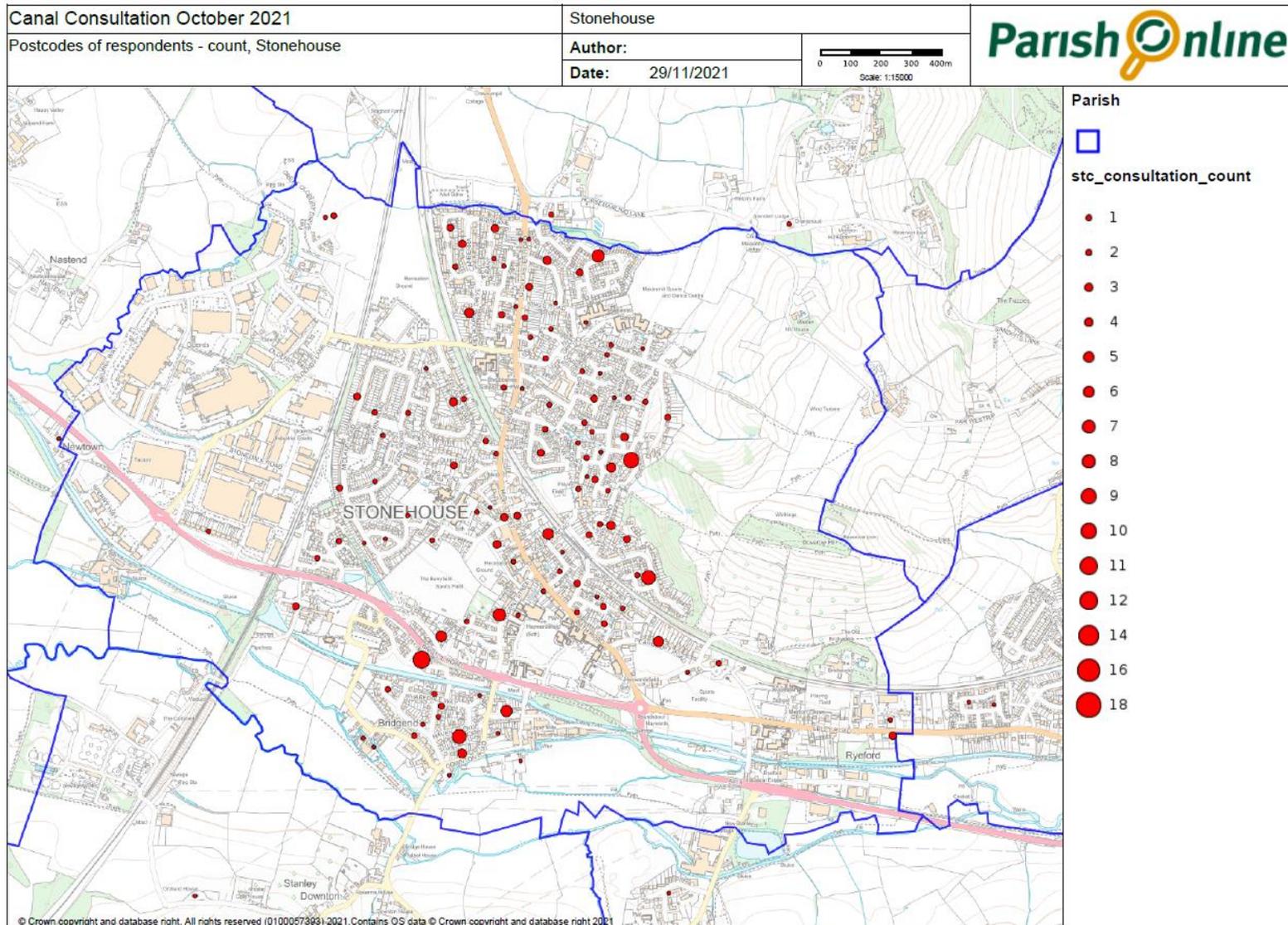
Responses were received from across the GL10 area. See Appendix 2 for maps including GL10 postcodes around Stonehouse.

(ii) Map to show respondents' postcodes, Stonehouse



¹ [Local Insight profile for 'Stonehouse CP' area](#) LI – Gloucestershire 15 January 2019, Source : Mid-Year Estimates (ONS) 2017

(iii) Map to show count of respondents' postcodes, Stonehouse



4. Summary results

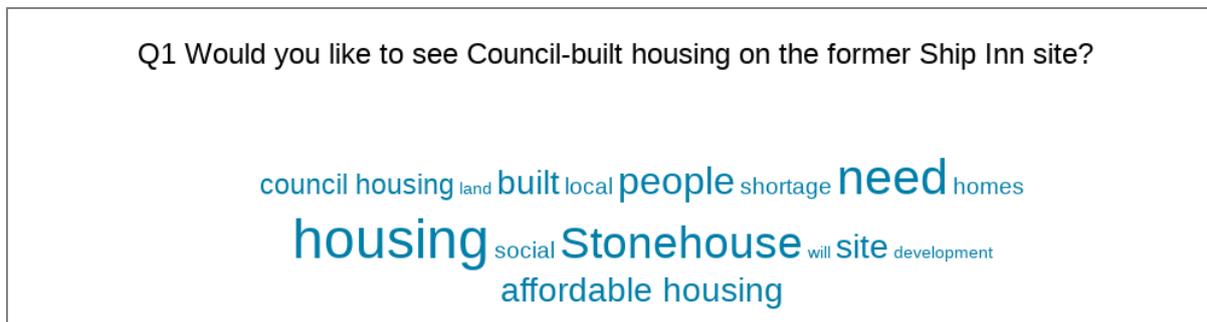
Stonehouse Town Council Community Consultation, 3 October to 31st October 2021.				
Q1. Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?				
Answer Choices	Responses			
Yes	9.41%	53		
No	90.59%	510		
Please give reasons:		442		
	Answered	563		
	Skipped	35		
Q2. Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?				
Answer Choices	Responses			
Yes	94.71%	555		
No	5.29%	31		
Please give reasons:		507		
	Answered	586		
	Skipped	12		
Q3. Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!				
Answered	278			
Skipped	320			
Q4. Please provide your name				
Answered	592			
Skipped	6			
Q5. Please enter your post code				
Answered	598			
Skipped	0			
Q6. How old are you?				
Answer Choices	Responses			
Under 18	3.06%	16		
18 or over	96.94%	507		
	Answered	523		
	Skipped	75		

5. Further analysis

5.1 Respondents who answered Yes to Q1: Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?

		Yes	No	Total	Skipped
Q1	Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?	53		N/a	N/a
Q2	Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?	29 (66%)	15 (34%)	44	9
		Responses			
Q3	Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!	19			34
Q6	Age	Under 18	Over 18		
		2 (4%)	44 (96%)	46	7

Word cloud: Reasons for answering yes to Q1: Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site? (45 responses)



Words found in multiple responses	Responses (number)	Responses (percentage)
Housing	31	69%
Need	19	42%
Stonehouse	14	31%
People	12	27%
Affordable housing	10	22%

- a) Forty five respondents gave reasons which focused on the need for affordable housing in Stonehouse.

“Need more local affordable housing built”

“There is a lack of affordable housing in Stonehouse”

“Affordable housing for young people/families who are struggling to cope is an essential”

- b) Reasons which mentioned council housing included the following:

“We have a chronic social housing shortage in the UK. Council owned housing will serve to lower local rents. Lower rents means more disposable income that can be recirculated in the economy.”

“I don't need it but there are lots of people in Stonehouse who could benefit from council housing as long as it was used to give Stonehouse residents better homes before anyone else. There must be people who have been on the housing list for years.”

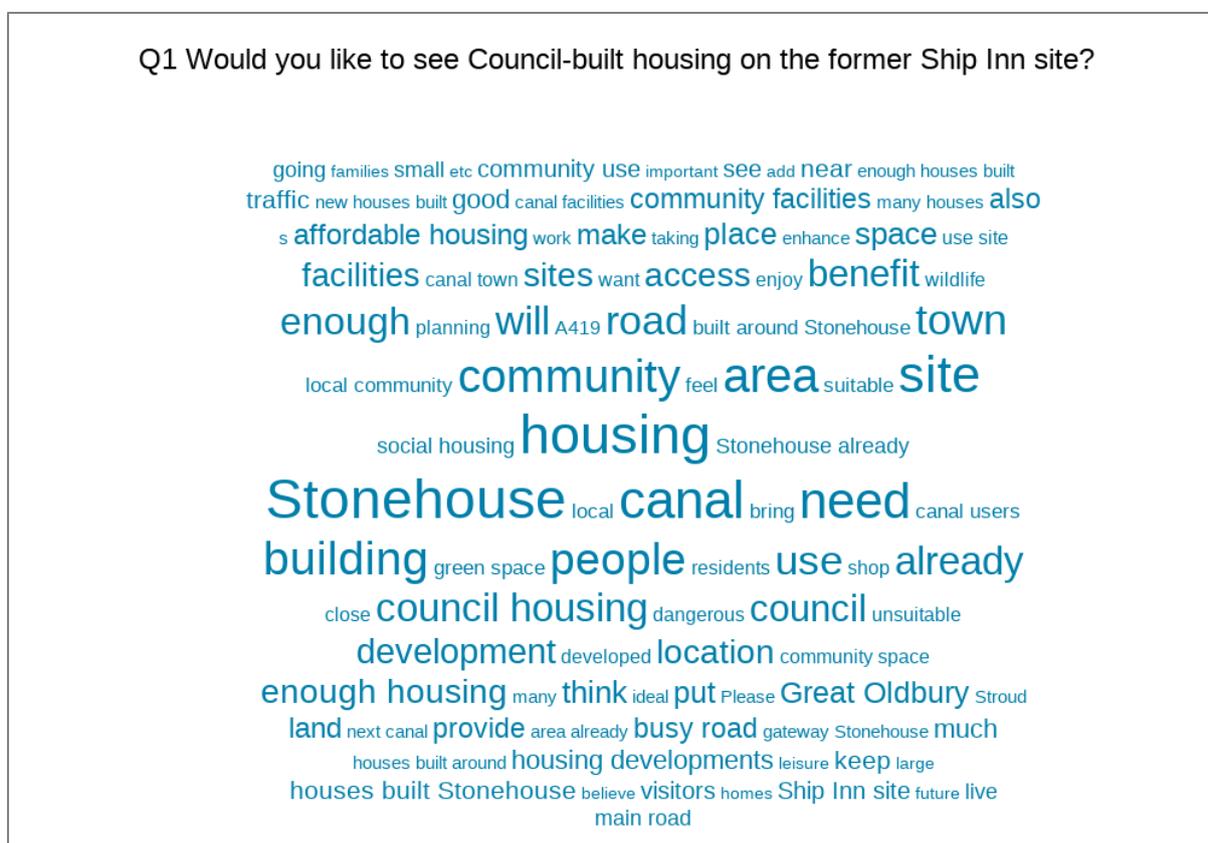
- c) Four respondents mentioned specific housing needs. Three respondents mentioned the housing needs of young people, with one of these also mentioning the needs of families and another referring to older people's housing needs. There was one other reference to the housing needs of older people:

“Desperate need locally for social housing for older/retired people to free up family homes for families. There are many elderly people in unsuitable housing but nowhere for them to move to.”

5.2 Respondents who answered No to Q1: Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?

		Yes	No	Total	Skipped
Q1	Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?		510	N/a	N/a
Q2	Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?	482 (97%)	16 (3%)	498	2
		Responses			
Q3	Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!		249		261
Q6	Age	Under 18	Over 18		
		11 (2%)	440 (98%)	451	59

Word cloud: Reasons for answering no to Q1: Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site? (396 responses)



Themes: respondents who answered no to Q1: Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?

Theme	Responses including theme (number)	Responses including theme (percentage)
Housing development -recent and current	172	43%
Canal regeneration project and canal side location.	121	31%

Wrong location	101	27%
Need for communal facilities	100	25%
Location -road	71	18%
Benefits to town	66	17%
Safety (proximity to road and canal)	30	8%
Open space and wildlife	26	7%

a) Five hundred and ten respondents answered no to Q1. Three hundred and ninety six respondents gave reasons for their answers. The following themes can be identified in the responses.

b) Housing development -recent and current

Nearly half the responses (172, 43%) referred to housing development already taking place in the area. Some respondents referred only to the amount of new development locally. Thirty respondents mentioned Great Oldbury.

“Think we have enough housing around the area.”

“Enough houses being built in area already”

“No massive need for more housing with Oldbury on going.”

“Inappropriate site -thousands of house being built down the road at Great Oldbury.”

“There is already a huge area of new housing and work is under way for many more new builds.”

“There are already hundreds of new houses being built near the motorway.”

“There are plenty of other new houses already being built around Stonehouse”

“Stonehouse has taken its fair share of housing development recently”

“This is a special location that has the added value of being waterside and would be better used for a community space. We have just had about 2000 houses built in Stonehouse so don't need more. Now we need community social spaces and this site is perfect for this purpose.”

c) Canal regeneration project and canal side location.

Eighty six responses (22%) referred to the location of the site next to the canal:

“Lots of housing already being built in Stonehouse area, and this site could be much better used as a gateway to the canal for the town and vice versa, for canal users in future. New housing would be intrusive to existing residents.”

“We have to many houses currently being built or been built recently in Stonehouse. We have a beautiful canal but nowhere to sit & enjoy it with a drink or food. A cafe/pub will encourage tourists using the canal to stop and use Stonehouse.”

“This is the only appropriate gateway site along the canal near Stonehouse. There are other sites appropriate for housing (and indeed, several large housing estates are currently being built nearby), but nowhere else a community canal facility can be situated.”

“There's so much housing being built around Stonehouse at the moment, without much community additions. The Ship Inn site is perfectly placed to offer community facilities that

would support the whole of Stonehouse, and most importantly CONNECT STONEHOUSE WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES ALONG THE CANAL.”

“There is a brand new housing development in Great Oldbury, with over 1500 houses being built less than 2 minutes away. A loss of green space will be a detriment to the area, loss of nature and the appeal of the canal waterways will be lost, the reason many people enjoy this area will be lost building more houses. It will encourage building developer to build more houses, a gateway to destructing a beautiful area.”

“1. There is plenty of planned housing for Stonehouse, as emphasised in the recent Berryfields rejection. 2. Housing would give the benefit to a few, instead of to the majority. 3. The location is on the water, on the stroudwater pathway- it has a clear and obvious connexion with such use for the community.”

“This site is the gateway from the canal to the town. Stonehouse has had more than it's fair share of new developments and I strongly feel this site should be preserved for recreation and community use.”

“There has been significant housing development within the Stonehouse area over recent years including Great Oldbury and shortly on Berryfield in the town centre. With the infill of a number of other sites within Stonehouse (Old Youth Club, bottom of Horsemarling Lane, old Lotus Garage) there cannot be the need for even more housing within Stonehouse. The remaining green spaces which can be saved for community use need greater protection. Building on the Ship Inn site reduces our green spaces further plus in addition it would miss an opportunity to create an community access point to the soon to be reopened Stroudwater Canal.”

Thirty five (9%) of those answering no to Q1 (Would you like to see council built housing on the former Ship Inn site?) referred to the Canal regeneration project in their response, with many describing potential benefits to Stonehouse arising from the project such as economic boost from additional visitors or communal facilities to benefit residents:

“We have plenty of housing in Stonehouse now. We need something to benefit the community, boost tourism and the local economy the canal opening is the perfect opportunity something to put Stonehouse on the map!”

“This is a one time only opportunity to make Stonehouse a canal town to benefit the community and encourage tourism. Thousands of houses are being built in Stonehouse, only a few could be squeezed on the Old Ship site making little difference but using the site to benefit the community and taking advantage of it being a canal side site could have a massive positive impact for all. It would benefit the local community in terms of leisure and the local economy.”

“Because there are other more suitable places for new housing in the area which should be explored. This is a one time opportunity to put something there that will benefit the whole community and those beyond with something that is in tune with the exciting development of the canal and promotes and supports the link with the town of Stonehouse.”

“The restoration of the canal is the most exciting project in our area for decades and the Ship Inn site offers the only place in Stonehouse for present residents and future generations to enjoy the full benefit of it and it would be little short of a tragedy if this opportunity were to be lost. Moreover it is hard to imagine that anyone could think that this site on major road near a major junction is a suitable place for housing.”

"The site is the only feasible opportunity for Stonehouse to make the most of the new canal project. A gateway to the town and also a place the town can benefit from direct access to the canal. If housing can be included as part of the gateway to fund the project then I have fewer objections. Something similar to Ebley would be okay as long as it is used as a gateway to Stonehouse."

"I don't think it is the best site for council housing and would be a missed opportunity to provide further access to a reopened canal and a link to/from the Stonehouse town center and community."

"I feel like this would negatively detract from the 8.9million spent on upgrading the canal, instead it should be used to enhance the canal works through an area to enable the community to come together rather than for individual users of council housing"

d) Wrong location for housing

Over a quarter of respondents (101, 27%) said the site was the wrong location for housing:

"Inappropriate use of high potential land for recreational and tourism purposes. There are many other places and ways of providing council houses."

"The site is not big enough for a terrace of council housing. Its too noisy (next to a busy road)."

"There has been lots of housing already . Site is on a busy road , poor location for housing but would be excellent for leisure"

"We believe that more social housing is needed and vital but this site between a very busy and noisy road and the canal would be a hard place to live with children. It is far from facilities and is on the margins of the town not near any community hubs. Beautiful settings are not enough when considering enjoyable housing. We need to treat the potential residents with respect when planning new homes."

"I feel bad saying no as council built housing is vital but I feel this is an unsuitable place for it and a missed opportunity for something different to attract people to Stonehouse."

"I don't think it is the best site for council housing and would be a missed opportunity to provide further access to a reopened canal and a link to/from the Stonehouse town center and community."

Eighteen respondents mentioned the potential of the site in relation to visitors and tourism.

e) Need for communal facilities

One hundred (25%) respondents identified a need for community facilities:

"We have had loads of houses built in Stonehouse and now we really need more community facilities for the large population."

"Stonehouse has had very large scale housing developments already. We believe what is needed are more facilities that make Stonehouse a more attractive place to visit and provide leisure facilities for the rapidly growing population."

"Planning for housing has been given to so many areas in this local area, and I feel that this location should be used for everyone to enjoy it if they wish."

“Stonehouse has had very large scale housing developments already. We believe what is needed are more facilities that make Stonehouse a more attractive place to visit and provide leisure facilities for the rapidly growing population.”

“This site is the gateway from the canal to the town. Stonehouse has had more than its fair share of new developments and I strongly feel this site should be preserved for recreation and community use.”

“We need a facility commensurate with the area Something for Bridgend Residents”

“Whilst housing is important, we have the choice of adding a handful of houses that benefits the few OR we could make something that benefits the whole community. I would personally vote strongly for the latter. We keep building housing in Stonehouse and surrounding areas without building the leisure facilities that helps drive the local economy and, maybe more importantly, fosters community. This is a prize piece of land next to the canal, and as the waterway is renovated it would be prudent to seize this opportunity to develop a hub for activity on our beautiful stretch of the canal. Please don't let Stonehouse slowly turn into a giant soulless estate like Quedgeley!”

“Enough building is taking place in the area without improved facilities to cope with the extra people traffic etc”

f) Benefits to town

Sixty six (17%) respondents referred to potential benefits to the town arising from the site, with twenty two references to the site being an opportunity for Stonehouse:

“Thinking about the position of the land/site, it is a one-off opportunity to provide something wonderful for visitors and local people.”

“This is a one time only opportunity to make Stonehouse a canal town to benefit the community and encourage tourism. Thousands of houses are being built in Stonehouse, only a few could be squeezed on the Old Ship site making little difference but using the site to benefit the community and taking advantage of it being a canal side site could have a massive positive impact for all. It would benefit the local community in terms of leisure and the local economy.”

“To increase revenue to the town centre-Stonehouse requires something to place it on the map - with train access from London & Bristol (in the future) this could become a touristy stop off for those wanting a break and this will help the local community.”

“I'm not sure if the intention was to offer such a lack lustre choice to stimulate a response, but you have succeeded. I have no objection to housing or community use per-se, but this is the gateway to Stonehouse from the canal and needs to be designed to stimulate interest for boaters to visit the town. Surely a mixture, affordable housing (flats) business/shop/cafe and community space could be achievable.”

“Although I fully appreciate the need for more housing, this site would be far better suited to community facilities. The location is so convenient for canal and road users that it could serve as a fantastic gateway to Stonehouse.”

“This is a prime community location that should be enjoyed by all of the people in Stonehouse and attract people from outside to grow the economy of our town.”

g) Location -road

Seventy one respondents referred to the proximity of the road as making the site unsuitable for housing. Forty three of these responses suggested there would be difficulties accessing the site or referred to existing or future road congestion:

“Poor access for housing, busy junction already on a busy road, houses all around including huge amounts near M5. Minimal green areas around area. Waste of canal improvement work. Missing an opportunity for canal side community area - would have to go to Stroud for this.”

“Not a good site for housing, difficult access and noisy”

“Too separate from other housing in Stonehouse access on to and from a busy junction very close by”

“I do not think it looks like a suitable site as the A419 has been widened since there was any housing there - and as it is a busy road access to housing would cause congestion. It is also a small site.”

“The site is next to the canal which would be a hazard for residents (especially children). The access/egress presents serious problems accessing onto a extremely busy and fast flowing main road.”

h) Safety (proximity to road and canal)

Thirty respondents suggested the proximity of the road (and/or canal) presented a risk to safety, especially for those with children (risks to children and families mentioned by seventeen respondents).

“Too near busy junction, unsafe polluted air from traffic, unsafe kids -stayed at Court View near road for 3 years, you could taste the fumes in the house most days.”

“Poor outlook -road/industrial estate houses would be very close to the road -noise/pollution No garden or play facilities for children Poor access for cars -parking access to main road”

“Housing can be built elsewhere. Not a good site for houses with children by a busy main road.”

“Poor site for housing in between a road carrying 8M vehicles a year and a canal with a water danger to young families.”

“I feel it is an unsafe location for social housing as being near a main busy road and water poses many dangers to children”

“No housing should be built on this site which is bordered by two very busy roads and a canal. This would be completely unsafe for families. Access from and to the site would be dangerous.”

“I don't believe it is a safe or child centred place for housing between a canal and road.”

Nine respondents mentioned the risk of air pollution.

“The road is extremely busy and noisy and pollution for young children would be a hazard”

“It's on a main road near traffic lights, pollution for those homes would be high and cause health issues or worsen existing condition eg asthma.”

“Why put houses next to a busy road think of the pollution people will have to ingest”

i) Open space and wildlife

Fifteen respondents referred to the value of green and open space and eleven referred to the site's role as a wildlife habitat:

“Please keep this space open. We have lost so many green spaces around Stonehouse already.”

“Housing disconnects the community from the canal. It would be great to see something that draws people to the canal and also incorporates areas for wildlife to connect too.”

“There is more-than-adequate provision for 'new-build' housing in the Stonehouse area without the need for additional Council-built housing on a site which is crying out for community facilities instead. The Great Oldbury development already under construction has a very good quota of both social and shared-ownership housing. PLEASE reserve this patch of green and pleasant land for the enjoyment of wildlife - and people!”

“There are already too many new houses going up in the area, how much more traffic can the area take! We need to keep areas of land for the wildlife and nature”

“Because they will sell at a profit later on. and I would like Stonehouse people to have somewhere nice to sit and relax. and watch the wildlife.”

5.3 Respondents who answered Yes to Q2: Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?

		Yes	No	Total	Skipped
Q1	Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?	29 (6%)	492 (94%)	521	34
Q2	Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site? (Percentage of all answers to Q3)	555		N/a	N/a
		Responses			
Q3	Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!	263		263	292
Q6	Age	Under 18	Over 18		
		15 (3%)	467 (97%)	482	73

Cont.../

Word cloud: Reasons for answering yes to Q2: Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site? (484 responses)



Themes: respondents who answered yes to Q2: Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?

Theme	Responses including theme (number)	Responses including theme (percentage)
Need for community facilities	256	53%
Canal regeneration project and canal side location.	236	49%
Benefits to town	198	40%
Café	132	28%
Boating and leisure facilities	119	25%
Visitors	100	21%
Wildlife/open space	49	10%
Learning and well being	41	9%

a) Five hundred and fifty five respondents answered yes to Q2. Of these, 492 answered no to Q1, 29 answered yes to Q1 and 34 skipped Q1. Four hundred and eighty four respondents gave reasons for their answers.

b) Need for community facilities

Two hundred and fifty six responses referred directly to a need for community facilities:

People need to be brought together and new facilities would help bring people to the area.

It would be nice to turn it into something for everyone to use.

Community facilities for use whilst enjoying the canal & wildlife.

The site is not fit for housing but the town does need more community building opportunities and facilities.

The canal attracts visitors that need facilities (toilet, picnic tables) plus the site can give Bridgend a place to gather. I propose a mix use to wild life & public facilities (including a disable toilet).

I have said YES to community facilities, where residents and visitors can come together, to enjoy and learn to look after, this beautiful natural habitat that we are so fortunate to have on our doorstep, here in Stonehouse. Please see attached sheet for more of my ideas...

This is an enormous opportunity for Stonehouse to do something for the community using the canal.

A safe place for the community -encourage those with limited mobility to enjoy the canal and some social contact.

With the rise in new builds in the immediate area, there is a great need for a significant increase in communal facilities. The "Ship Inn" site is perfect for this. Without such a facility there is a danger of Stonehouse becoming "dead" and just a dormitory

We need "somewhere to go" A pleasant walk in a park leading to a canal side walk with maybe bistro/bar/cafe facilities and a children's play area.

c) Canal side location and canal regeneration project.

A third of responses (156, 32%) included a reference to the canal side location, with a further eighty responses (17%) referring to the canal regeneration project.

As Stonehouse is now being classed as a "canal town", surely there needs to be a direct access from the town centre plus facilities.

You can only have canal related community activities next to a canal. And it is the "canal - town connection" that is needed.

There are other suitable sites for Council Housing - but only one canal and this ideal site should be used for access to the canal

To enhance the area of the canal and hopefully bring business to the town. This must be done without spoiling the area and taking care of the wildlife.

Only site still available for canal facilities (mooring, access, slipway, cafe/bar) to link canal to Stonehouse. Could include educational/exercise facilities as well.

To help bring more people to enjoy the canal and its surroundings.

Stonehouse is being forgotten in respect of facilities around the canal and Stroud is going to be getting even more with Brimscombe Port and existing areas in Ebley, Felt Cafe, Brewery and Lock Cafe, Wallbridge. Lets have a rather nice canal area and cafe for Stonehouse.

With the on going work on the canal (Ocean Bridge) the canal will see more use. It makes sense that the site becomes a stop point for traffic on the canal. Also a spot for locals to visit/view. A stopover point would also help local business in Stonehouse

With the canal restoration, having a facility for the community & tourists will bring pleasure to all a cafe -water sport activities -moorings for canal boats. There is so much housing around our town-:The canal is such a resource for the area don't spoil it!

This is a great opportunity to build a cafe/bistro/moorings with the canal been developed, for locals and tourist to enjoy in this beautiful location, and creating trade for our local shops/businesses

Stonehouse residents should be able to interact with the canal restoration, which many have worked hard to support

Developing the Ship Inn Site would bring visitors and revenue into Stonehouse, consolidate the restoration of the canal within the community. It would also bring the outlying areas together, Bridgend, Eastington etc with Stonehouse Town itself.

d) Benefits to town

One hundred and ninety eight responses suggested benefits to the town could arise from use for community facilities, such as:

providing an amenity and meeting place for residents

I think that there is an opportunity to provide facilities of lasting value to the town and community. Promoting business in the town and leisure for the community.

Stonehouse needs to benefit from all the potential opportunities that the re-opening of the Stroudwater Canal will bring.

This site needs to be used for the community in supporting the restoration project of Stroudwater canal, to benefit local businesses and local communities.

This is a unique opportunity to establish a real connection between mooring facilities on the reopened canal and the town centre! I do not favour very extensive facilities (e.g. restaurant, gift shop) which remove incentives to visit the town. I do favour simple facilities (WC, snacks, facilities for canal users to take on water/dispose of waste etc) and attractive open space to make it a desirable place to stop.

It is becoming very common for towns and villages to be losing areas of beauty and areas for the community in favor for affordable housing and the quick profits made from these sites.

Town/community attractions and facilities will help to improve the well being of the residents and provide areas for the residents to enjoys their local areas. by removing these opportunities to simply create a higher population density within the towns forces people to travel further to find facilities and attractions. ultimately causing loss on revenue for small local businesses and driving local community spirit apart.

Would be a great welcome to Stonehouse via the canal. A community area for socialisation/relaxing. There is no other facility in area near canal with easy access to the town (via Regent Street) but allowing town residents the beautiful of the canal too - for a coffee, hire a kayak etc. Would really improve Stonehouse to have such a facility. Great feature as walkable from train station easily too. Would be amazing to see boats going up/down

I would like to see residents of Stonehouse, Stroud and beyond being able to see the canal and enjoy what the canal can add to life in Stonehouse. Stonehouse needs to be a canal facing town like Stroud have done with their open space at Wallbridge. Stonehouse needs to have the same deal from the Councils and the same forward looking space to make the most of Stonehouse being alongside such a beautiful Canal. Community provision such as bike/canal hire, cafe, open space that is visible from the road, would be a huge asset to our town.

encouraging visitors (100 responses),

We need to increase facilities to encourage visitors to the town. The canal is such a lovely place so why not encourage more to use it.

Encourage more use of the beautiful canal, provide maybe a cafe, public toilets, car parking facilities etc. to encourage visitors to Stonehouse who can then make the short walk up into town to boost the local economy

This would be an ideal community space for canal users, walkers, cyclists, etc, to stop off and visit the town and use the shops. It would also link the Bridgend area to the town.

The town must benefit from the canal development. Tourists, etc need to want to stop in Stonehouse and not simply push on until they get to Stroud.

linking the canal to the town (27 occurrences of "access", 25 of "link", and 11 of "Gateway"),

Provide link to Stonehouse for canal users. Too near roads for housing

Yes!!!! Please think long term benefits of canal regeneration and its potential positive impact to Stonehouse. We resident have no access to the canal and building houses would further cut us off from it!

providing an amenity and meeting place for residents

I think that there is an opportunity to provide facilities of lasting value to the town and community. Promoting business in the town and leisure for the community.

Stonehouse needs to benefit from all the potential opportunities that the re-opening of the Stroudwater Canal will bring.

This site needs to be used for the community in supporting the restoration project of Stroudwater canal, to benefit local businesses and local communities.

It is becoming very common for towns and villages to be losing areas of beauty and areas for the community in favor for affordable housing and the quick profits made from these sites. Town/community attractions and facilities will help to improve the well being of the residents and provide areas for the residents to enjoys their local areas. by removing these opportunities to simply create a higher population density within the towns forces people to travel further to find facilities and attractions. ultimately causing loss on revenue for small local businesses and driving local community spirit apart.

Would be a great welcome to Stonehouse via the canal. A community area for socialisation/relaxing. There is no other facility in area near canal with easy access to the town (via Regent Street) but allowing town residents the beautiful of the canal too - for a coffee, hire a kayak etc. Would really improve Stonehouse to have such a facility. Great feature as walkable from train station easily too. Would be amazing to see boats going up/down

I would like to see residents of Stonehouse, Stroud and beyond being able to see the canal and enjoy what the canal can add to life in Stonehouse. Stonehouse needs to be a canal facing town like Stroud have done with their open space at Wallbridge. Stonehouse needs to have the same deal from the Councils and the same forward looking space to make the most of Stonehouse being alongside such a beautiful Canal. Community provision such as bike/canal hire, cafe, open space that is visible from the road, would be a huge asset to our town.

e) Facilities proposed

The most frequently mentioned facility was a café (132, 28%), followed closely by various boating and leisure facilities (119, 25%).

There is an opportunity to build amenities for boats, moorings and boat services, this should include cafes etc that all could use, this would bring much needed footfall to Stonehouse Town

A cafe that sells cheap tea and coffee to customers that walk, canoists etc that use the canal

I think some type of bar/cafe with a dock, as the canal is opening up and the use of paddleboards etc it would be a good stop off rest area.

I would like to see a cafe and seating/garden area for residents to enjoy the canal.

We need a facility for canal boat users. (and 7/11 type shop with groceries and such) Cafe/bar, pump out, fuel and such, like at Saul Junction or Black shed at Slimbridge. This would also be valuable to residents of Bridgend. Also talk to Wycliff Sch about extending the site toward the derelict boathouse.

Cafe and car park to encourage access to canal for recreation

Canal side cafe and car park. There is not one cafe on the canal between Saul Junction and Ebley Mill.

The Lottery grant and other sources of finance provide an excellent opportunity to improve canal facilities throughout its length in Stonehouse. The Ship Inn site is ideally placed as a staging point: picnic area, riverside cafe, canal trip stop, barge repair/maintenance.

It would be good to have a facility to provide health and well-being ie paddle boarding, kayaking and bike hire and a cafe for exercise and family time and to give young people something healthy to do and socialise

Other facilities suggested (number of responses in brackets) included boat moorings (21) pub(16), park (14), car parking (14), garden (11) canoeing/canoe hire (9 responses).

f) Wildlife/open space

Forty nine (10%) responses referred to the benefits of open recreational space.

“Despite the busy road, there is an opportunity for the site to be a place for nature and people to enjoy. A place to stop and relax and meet. A place to connect nearby places together.”

“Somewhere to sit and look at the scenery and wildlife”

“But only if it's going to be an environmentally friendly facility. I would like to suggest the creation of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Garden, to commemorate 70 years of the Queen's reign. It would be enclosed by a hedgerow and contain a combination of 70 trees, shrubs, plants and flowers.”

g) Learning and well being

Forty one (9%) responses referred to the potential of the site to improve well being and provide learning opportunities:

We need more areas to socially meet for our good mental health. Cafe -information point nature reserve, cycling, mooring etc

Would be good for a place for children and others to learn about nature and other subjects.

A community building with a relaxing outside area for Stonehouse residents and outside people coming into Stonehouse with the canal opening up would be a great place for activities for the majority to enjoy this opportunity would be fantastic for everyone's (mental health) and disability.

Allotment would be better for physical/mental health of the community.

It would be good to have a facility to provide health and well-being ie paddle boarding, kayaking and bike hire and a cafe for exercise and family time and to give young people something healthy to do and socialise

n these troubled times, Covid, increasing costs, food prices. To keep the wonderful canal going for pleasure, walks, seriously ill people. Could be at peace with slow pace

There are large strategic housing sites at Stonehouse and Whitminster already, what those communities need is sensitive development of the canalside facilities for amenity use. If this was an inland site it would be different but the fact is the canal is already gaining popularity and this key site is a major opportunity to bring more people to it, for transport, leisure and to link our communities together. Have you seen how many people now gather near the Black Sheds and Shepherds Patch? They bring revenue to that area because they can paddle, enjoy the water, walk, eat etc. Employment opportunities exist there because of the black shed hub. People exercise in ways they haven't before (paddleboarding and kayaking in particular) runners and cyclists spend their money there. It could be the same for Stonehouse. The site at Felt cafe /Ark cycles is similar. If we had some kind of community hub at the Ship we would be building enterprise, contributing to priorities around health and wellbeing, economic development and place shaping. Or we can just let a few people live there.

There are very few facilities in Stonehouse for children and families. I'd love to see this site transformed into a hub for activities on the canal and to introduce children to the joys that come with spending time on the water, surrounded by nature. I'd also like to see it as a community hub. Somewhere locals and visitors can enjoy a coffee or a meal next to the waterside. Our canal is beautiful, and I think it's time we created somewhere for the community to come together and socialise in this stunning setting.

h) Combination of housing and community facilities

Twenty nine of those who answered yes to Q 1 also answered yes to Q2 indicating they favoured a combination of housing and community facilities on the site:

"Even though people walk along the other side of the canal, this would help join the town to the canal more effectively than housing alone would."

"I would like to see a mix of Housing, community and enterprise along the stretch of Canal from the Ocean Bridge to the Former ship inn site."

"Of course, who would be against more "community facilities"? But this is rather a non-question because the term "community facilities" covers a multitude of different things that can be conjured up in people's imaginations. And doesn't address how any of it might be financed."

In keeping with the canal regeneration scheme, I feel that there should be some provision for recreational facilities.

Combination of housing and community use, housing on top of site, community use on canal edge of site.

5.4 Respondents who answered No to Q2: Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?

		Yes	No	Total	Skipped
Q1	Would you like to see Council-built housing on the former Ship Inn site?	15	16	31	0
Q2	Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site?		31	N/a	N/a
		Responses			
Q3	Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!	13		13	18
Q6	Age	Under 18	Over 18		
		0	29	29	2

Word cloud: Reasons for answering no to Q2: Would you like to see community facilities on the former Ship Inn site? (22 responses)



- a) Twenty two respondents gave reasons for answering no to Q2 so did not support the use of the site for community facilities. Fifteen of these respondents answered yes to Q1. Reasons focused on the suitability of the location:

“Wrong location”

“It is not a practical site, in my opinion for Community facilities.”

“It would be better used for council homes”

“Leave the land to wildlife and nature”

5.5 Responses to Q3: Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!

- a) Almost half of the respondents (278, 46%) gave further ideas for the site; some provided sketches and letters detailing their ideas.
- b) The responses to Q3 require further analysis but some basic information is provided below.

Cont.../

**Word cloud: Responses to Q3: Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!
(278 responses)**

Q3 Please let us know any ideas you have for the site. All ideas welcome!

coffee shop cafe water sports water wildlife area seating area environment something
 link Family looking walks enjoy picnic area well good nature provide high
 bike hire wild access tourists small cafe toilets seating Community facilities
 garden buildings town walkers pub encourage information go space
 outdoor shop stop use cafe restaurant see visitor centre park
 children Stonehouse restaurant facilities benches
 canal paddle board hire cafe toilets local education
 area canal users community Cafe Bar people canal side
 centre history site info boats groups wildlife opportunity housing
 nice visitors outdoor seating mooring boat hire also information centre
 refreshments similar etc Landing car park decking point Maybe Bike lovely
 activities think place part hire food make tourist information great picnic tables canoe
 business Welcome community cafe

Words found in multiple responses	Responses (number)	Responses (percentage)
Café	100	36%
Canal	77	28%
Local	46	17%
Facilities	44	16%
Community	35	13%
Stonehouse	35	13%
Parking	34	12%
Centre	26	9%
Shop	23	8%
Boats	21	8%
Wildlife	19	7%
Information	18	6%
Pub	17	6%
Visitors	16	6%
Garden	14	5%
Mooring	14	5%
Refreshments	13	5%
Seating	13	5%
Bike hire	12	4%
Picnic area	10	4%

Cont../

5.6 Conclusion

Many residents gave time and thought to responding to the community consultation. The Town Council's Canal Rejuvenation Working Group took care to give opportunities for people to complete and return the survey. The responses have been carefully checked and all those included in the analysis above are valid responses from individuals resident in GL10.

Stonehouse Town Council needs to decide any further action to take in relation to the results, including how to disseminate the results.

Appendix 1

Community Consultation on the future of the Ship Inn site: collation of paper results and validity checking

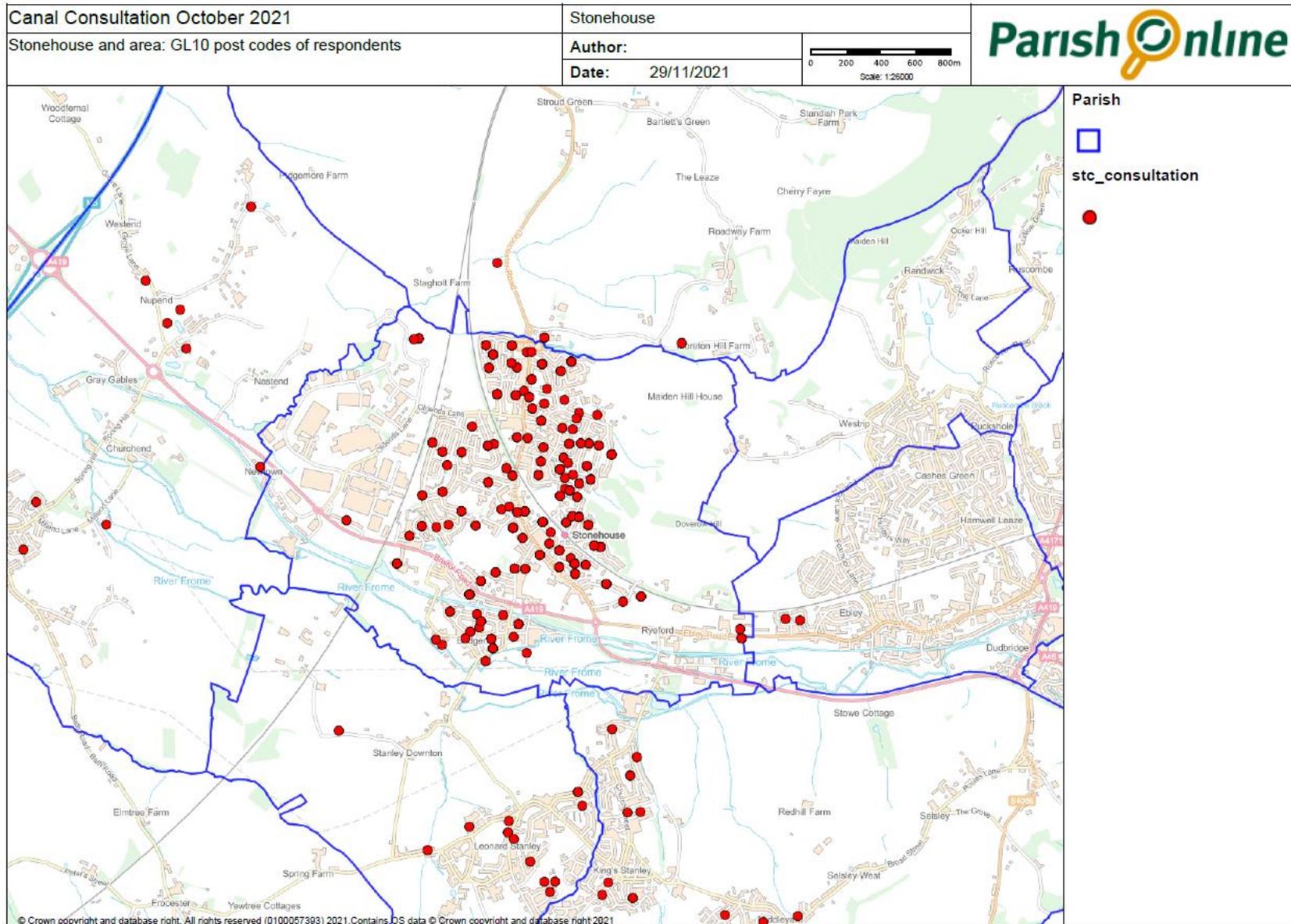
(i) Summary data on paper consultation responses

Collection point	VALID responses	INVALID response	Total
Wynns	25	2	27
Bridge Cafe	36	0	36
Canal Outreach 30 Oct	29		29
The Globe & The Woolpack	6	3	9
Library	15	0	15
Oldends Lane 16 Oct	14	0	14
Co-op	66	0	66
Town Hall	84	4	88
Tree Day	57	0	57
TOTAL	332	9	341

- a) A total of 660 responses were received, 341 on paper. Three hundred and thirty two paper surveys were in put on to Survey Monkey by the Deputy Clerk.
- b) The Canal Rejuvenation Working Group agreed criteria for accepting a response as valid. A post code was required and only post codes starting GL10 are to be included in the result.
- c) Four paper responses with names but no post codes were checked against the Electoral Register for Stonehouse; as a result three responses were confirmed to be in GL10. Two paper responses received at an outreach event were confirmed as from GL10 residents by Canal Rejuvenation Working Group members.
- d) Eight paper responses were not recorded on Survey Monkey as seven had no post code and no name included, one had a name but no match could be found on the Electoral Register for Stonehouse. One paper response was a duplicate of an on line responses so was not included.
- e) Three duplicates were deleted from the responses submitted on line as a response using the same name and post code had already been submitted either on line or on paper. The response submitted last was deleted.
- f) There is no evidence of multiple entries being made from the same device or network, except for multiple entries of paper responses by Deputy Clerk. There are instances of 2 or 3 entries being made from the same IP address. Survey Monkey was set to record the Internet Protocol (IP) address of a device used to submit a response
- g) Fifty responses have been included on Survey Monkey but will not be included in the main analysis. Forty two respondents gave a post code not in GL10, mostly GL5 (32 respondents). Eight gave no post code or entered characters which did not form a post code. Canal Rejuvenation Working Group met on 16 November 2021 to look at the validity of some responses and agreed that the results where a post code outside GL10 was provided could be analysed separately as they were also of interest.

- h) The analysis is based on 598 responses where a GL10 post code was provided, or for seven cases, could be confirmed. Of these 285 were submitted directly on line, 313 were paper responses, added manually to Survey Monkey by the Deputy Clerk.

Appendix 2: Maps to show respondents' postcodes Stonehouse and GL10 area



Appendix 2: Maps to show respondents' postcodes Stonehouse and GL10 area

