

## Farnworth Town Centre Masterplan Consultation

### Background

A draft masterplan for Farnworth town centre has been developed and we would like to get your views on the initial proposals. It is important that residents, visitors and other stakeholders express their views to help guide and shape decisions. Please read the information in the summary document and the full report which went to the Executive Cabinet Member meeting on 19th December 2018 and then complete the questions below.

Please be aware that the answers you give in this questionnaire will be passed on to a team of town centre development experts (BDP and BE Group) who have been commissioned by Bolton Council to prepare a masterplan.

### Proposal One: Redevelopment of the Market Precinct

The proposal would involve the redevelopment of the market precinct for a mixture of uses including retail, leisure and residential. The site includes the existing market precinct, the former market and Saddle Pub site. The residential-led development would have active ground floor town-centre uses which could include retail (Brackley Street frontage), leisure, health and fitness and restaurant uses.

#### What are your views on this proposal?

*Would you welcome the redevelopment of the area for better shop units, new leisure and food and drink? Do you think building flats or apartments on the upper floors so that more people can live in the town centre would be a good idea?*

### Proposal Two: New Community and Civic Hub

A new community and civic hub could be delivered in a number of locations in the town centre. A possible location for it could be using some or all of the Home Bargains site (which is not currently in council ownership). The hub could include some or all of the following; library, council services / offices, improved health facilities, community forum and a cafe.

#### What are your views on this proposal?

*Do you think it is a good idea to create a new hub for council services, health services and to provide a community venue in the heart of the town centre? Should this include a new 'state of the art' library?*

### **Proposal Three: New Housing Development**

This proposal would involve new housing development around the town centre on council and privately owned land. Sites for consideration include those already allocated in the local plan; the north side of Park View, the Market Street car park, land to the back of Market Street properties and the conversion of the town hall to apartments.

#### **What are your views on this proposal?**

*Do you think it is a good idea to build more housing within and around the town centre? What type of new homes do you think are needed in Farnworth town centre to meet local demand as well as attracting new residents to the area?*

### **Proposal Four: Extending the Leisure Centre**

This proposal would involve extending the leisure centre so it can offer more health and fitness activities. There are also privately-owned sites on the corner of Albert Road / Brackley Street which could be redeveloped for complementary town centre uses

#### **What are your views on this proposal?**

*Do you think an extension of the leisure centre is a good idea? What other new uses should be proposed at the Albert Road end of Brackley Street to make it an attractive gateway to the town centre?*

### **Proposal Five: The Library Building**

One of the ideas for bringing more people into town and making it easier for people to access library services, is to consider relocating the library to the town centre. Housing the library in a 'state of the art' community hub building could generate more activity and 'footfall' in the main shopping area

#### **What are your views on this proposal?**

*Do you think moving the library to a modern facility in the town centre would encourage more people to use the library and spend more time in the town centre? If this happened, can you think of any alternative ideas for the use of the existing building that would ensure it remains accessible to the public?*

## Proposal Six: Public Realm Upgrades

Improving the public spaces on Cross Street and Gas Street could help link the town centre to the park and the university campus. It is not proposed to remove cars from these street but to make the routes more pedestrian friendly using good quality materials to match the recent improvements to Brackley Street and Market Street

### What are your views on this proposal?

*Do you agree that Cross Street and Gas Street should be the priorities for public realm treatment? Would improvements encourage more people from the university to use the town centre and more people to use the park? Or do you think other parts of the town centre would benefit more from this work - for example the route to the railway station?*

## About you

**So we can understand how our proposals affect different people, we would be grateful if you could answer the following questions. Any questions you prefer not to answer - please leave them blank.**

**Please tick the box that most closely describes your interest in this issue [tick one box]**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> A resident in Farnworth                                 | <input type="radio"/> From a community or voluntary group (please state below) |
| <input type="radio"/> A resident in Kearsley                                  | <input type="radio"/> A business in the borough of Bolton (please state below) |
| <input type="radio"/> A resident in Harper Green                              | <input type="radio"/> Other (please state below)                               |
| <input type="radio"/> A resident in another part of Bolton                    |  |
| <input type="radio"/> An interested partner organisation (please state below) |  |

**If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, group or business you do not need to complete the rest of this section**

What is your postcode?

What is your age?

Are you ...  Male  Female  Other (specify)

**What is your ethnic origin?**

- White British
- Other white
- Mixed / multiple ethnic groups
- Asian / Asian British
- Black / African / Caribbean / Black British
- Other ethnic group
- Prefer not to say

**Are your day to day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted or expected to last, at least 12 months?**

- Yes, limited a lot
- Yes, limited a little
- No

**Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either a long term physical or mental ill health / disability or problems due to old age? (do not count anything you do as part of your paid employment)**

- No
- Yes, 1-19 hours a week
- Yes, 20-49 hours a week
- Yes, 50 hours or more a week

**If you would like to be kept involved in the Farnworth Town Centre Masterplan development proposals, please leave your contact details below.**

Name

Email address

Postal address (if no email)

**Thank you for completing these questions. Please now either:**

**- hand your completed form to a member of staff**

**- scan it and email it to [farnworthtowncc@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:farnworthtowncc@bolton.gov.uk)**

**- post it to: Freepost RTTT-YTEL-YSXS, Consultation & Research Team**

**Second Floor, Town Hall, Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1RU**

**(you do not need a stamp)**