



## First Focus Group Meeting



### Oundle 2020 Project Manager **Paul King**



Oundle 2020 is now really beginning to formulate a sense of direction for the town. The fog is literally beginning to clear in our minds and we are very much encouraged that a positive and strong relationship with East Northamptonshire Council will enable an exciting future for the town.

We again need your help in December so please come along and help us develop our plan together.

**The Queen Victoria Hall**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 7:30**



We are here to keep you up to date with all of Oundle 2020's progress in creating a plan for the town

Firstly we would like to say a big thank you for the great turn out at Septembers Focus Group Meeting. You provided us with some great feedback that has helped the project advance and develop.

We would like to invite you to our next Focus Group Meeting on the **14<sup>th</sup> December** at the Queen Victoria Hall where we will present our progress and again ask you to contribute your thoughts and comments on our work.

### Oundle 2020 Steering Group Chair **Philip Rose**



News about the plan has now been widely disseminated around the town. This is provoking a healthy debate on how Oundle should respond to the pressures placed upon it.

How can future housing growth best be accommodated? What attendant benefits and opportunities can be exploited? What pitfalls need to be avoided?

Such issues will all need to be addressed as we formulate the Town Plan. The principle under which we are operating is that those with the strongest vested interest should have the greatest say. The onus is on all of us, as Oundle residents, to express our thoughts and ideas.

The process is designed to be as democratic and consultative as possible. I therefore urge you to help us to jointly develop a shared vision of how we can improve the town and its facilities.



## Feedback from the previous Focus Group Meeting

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Septembers Focus Group Meeting gave us a deeper insight into the areas of the town that are concerning you. Here is some of the feedback that we received through our Focus Group Booklets.

### Hard Infrastructure

73% said yes to the concept of paying for parking

### Tourism Employment & Trade

The most popular reasons for shopping in Oundle is to support local shops, to get good quality and specialist produce and because it's convenient.

### Leisure & Recreation

60% said yes to a new Recreational Centre

### Housing, Services & Amenities

46% believe that the current services and amenities are poor and in need of much improvement

## Oundle 2020 Questionnaire

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Thank you to those who have taken part in the **Oundle 2020 Town Survey** by completing your Oundle 2020 questionnaire that was delivered to each household at the beginning of November.

If you haven't completed your questionnaire there is still an opportunity for you to fill it out online until the end of November. Simply log onto [www.oundle.gov.uk](http://www.oundle.gov.uk) and follow the links.

We will be sharing the results with you at the Focus Group Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Fill it in and have your say.**



## Working with East Northamptonshire Council

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Oundle 2020 is now working closely with East Northamptonshire Council to produce a Town Plan and a Design Statement that will become an adopted Supplementary Planning Document.

This Document will inform planning decisions at East Northamptonshire Council which will influence the future of the town.

The **Oundle Town Plan** will determine the future of Oundle and how it can change for the better by setting out a vision for the town and outlining how this can be achieved through an Action Plan.

The **Oundle Design Statement** is aimed at ensuring that our local distinctiveness and character is taken into consideration when local planning decisions are being taken.

## Funding for Consultancy Work

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Following discussions with East Northamptonshire Council we have requested funding for professional consultancy work in order to add validity to previous work and to ensure our work has a technical input, is more evidence based and developed using planning terminology.

We have identified four key areas where consultancy assistant and funding is required in order to assess the current infrastructure gaps and what the impact of future developments may be on the town's infrastructure.

These four areas are:

- Transport
- Trade & Tourism
- Vernacular of the Town
- Oundle as a Rural Service Centre