

Chorlton U Decide Evaluation 2010-11

In October 2010, Chorlton carried out a U Decide event. The purpose of the event was to increase:

- the number of people who feel that they can influence decisions in the local area
- overall satisfaction with local area
- resident empowerment and local democracy
- enable people to identify improvements to the area and support in delivering those improvements
- identify and engage with different residents and groups and evaluate whether PB can be used to engage a broader spread of people - not just the “usual suspects”.
- Improving community cohesion (% of people who feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together)
- Increasing the number of volunteers within the ward

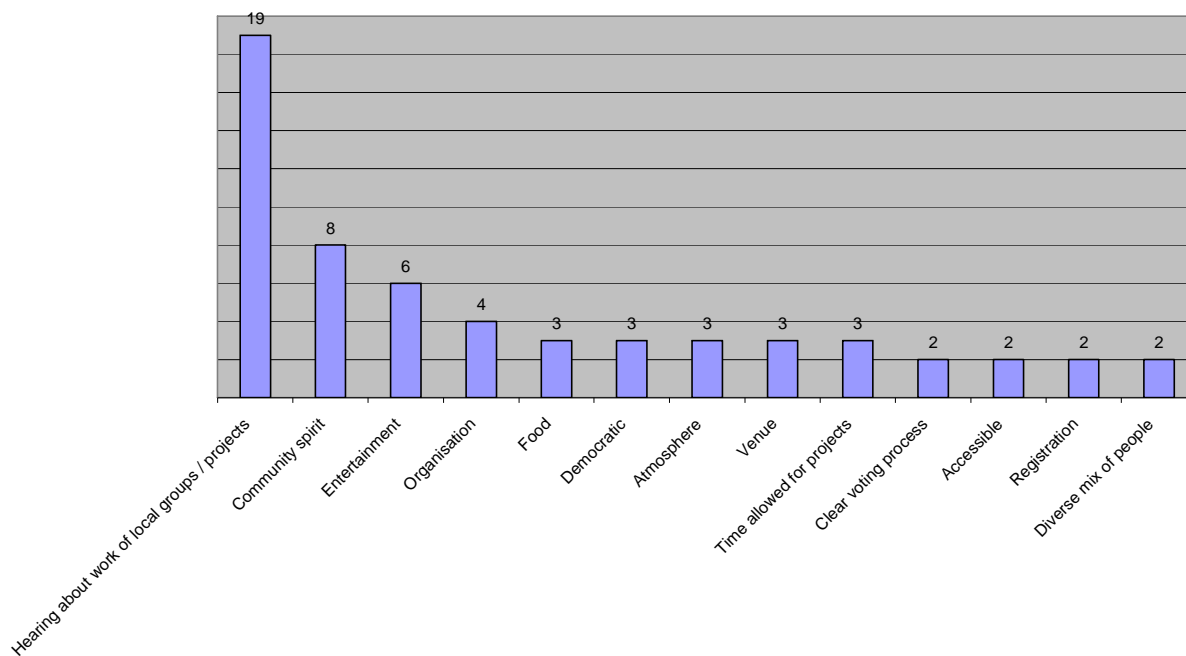
In Chorlton, £?,000 was allocated from Chorlton Wards Cash Grant budget to hold a Participatory Budgeting event for residents. The maximum amount accepted for each bid was £1,000. 15 projects were submitted to the value of £13,355.00. 142 people attended and 115 people voted on spending priorities. The following 13 projects were funded.

Project No:	Project Title:	Funding Amount:
1	KS2 Oswald Road School Gardening Project	£1,000.00
2	Happy Returns Swap Party	£1,000.00
3	Chorlton’s Big Green festival 2011	£1,000.00
4	History Extravaganza & Community Play	£1,000.00
5	Chorlton Meadows Art Trail	£1,000.00
6	Beech Road Park – Unity Youth Project	£1,000.00
7	Green Chorlton Community Centre	£1,000.00
8	IT for High Tea	£1,000.00
9	Farmers Market	£1,000.00
10	Chorlton Voices across the generations	£1,000.00
11	Insure & Ensure the Meadows	£530.00

12	Keep “Bee-ing” Friendly Project	£1,000.00
13	Chorlton Nutty Knitters	£600.00
	Totals	£12,130

Participants were asked to complete a feedback from the event. 49 people completed evaluation forms (35%)

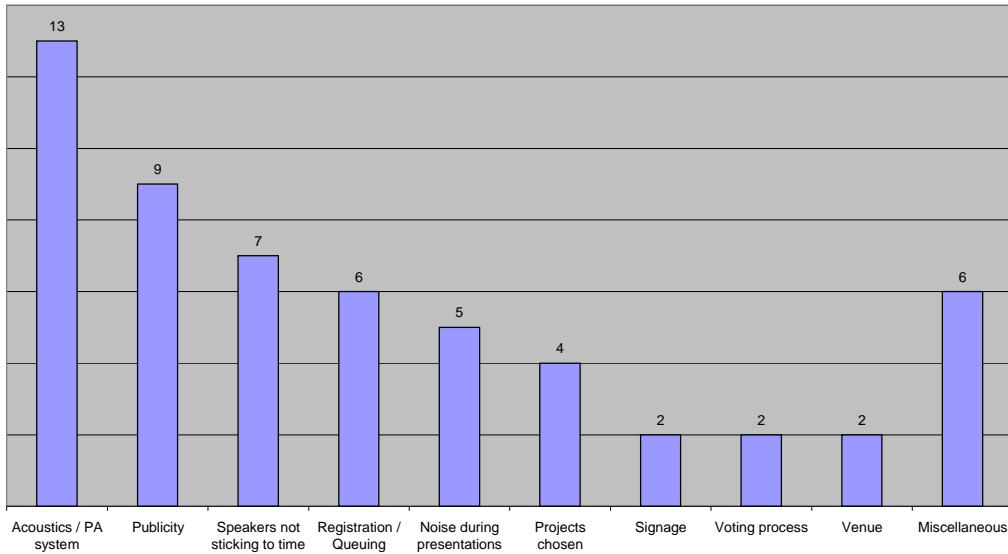
What did you like about the event?



People said that they enjoyed the following:

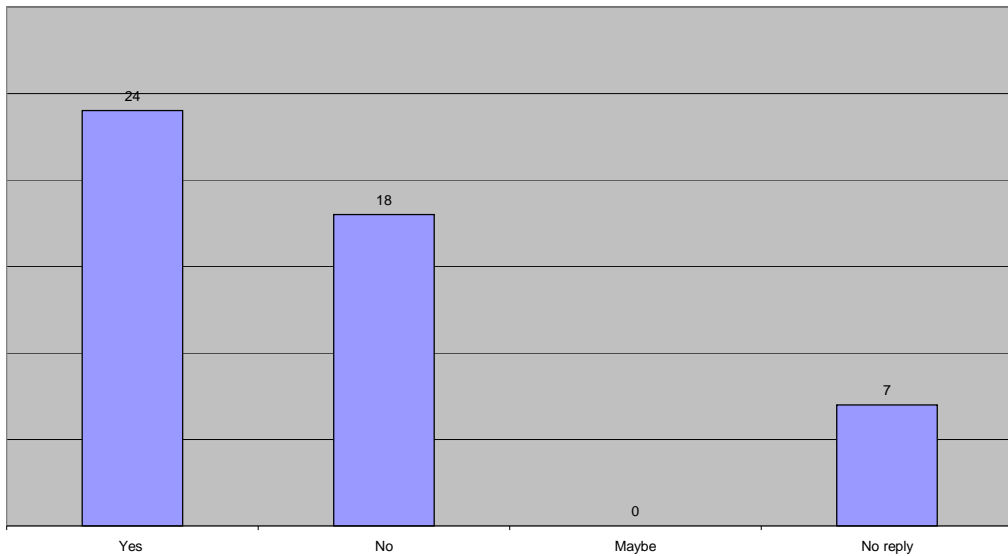
- Feeling included in community by hearing about projects, entertainment, food
- Democratic
- Involvement of local community
- Hearing about other groups, good mix of people
- Opportunity for community to have their say
- Brings the community together, open and inclusive

What could have been improved?



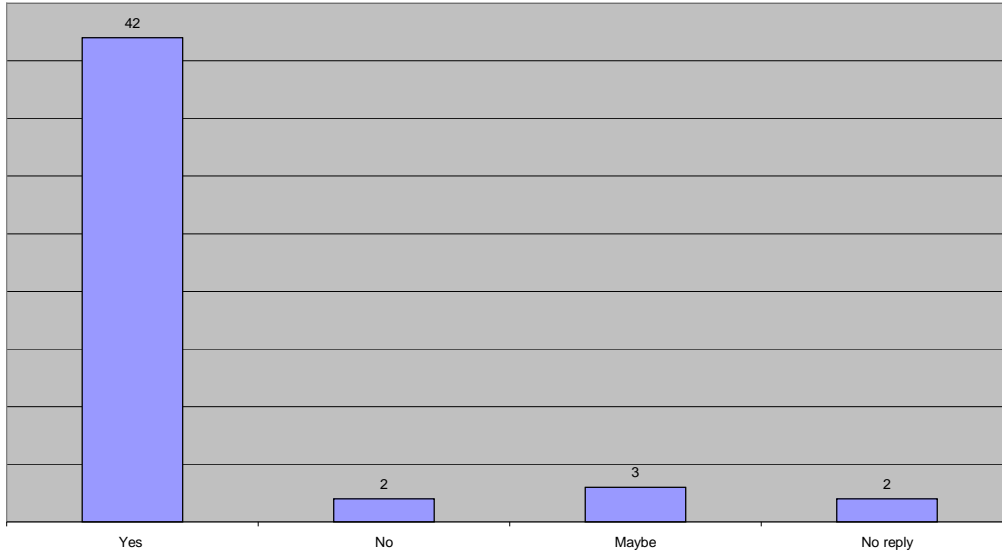
The main areas for improvement were the acoustics of the venue, better/more publicity, speakers over running and queuing for registration.

Prior to the event, did you feel you could influence local decisions?



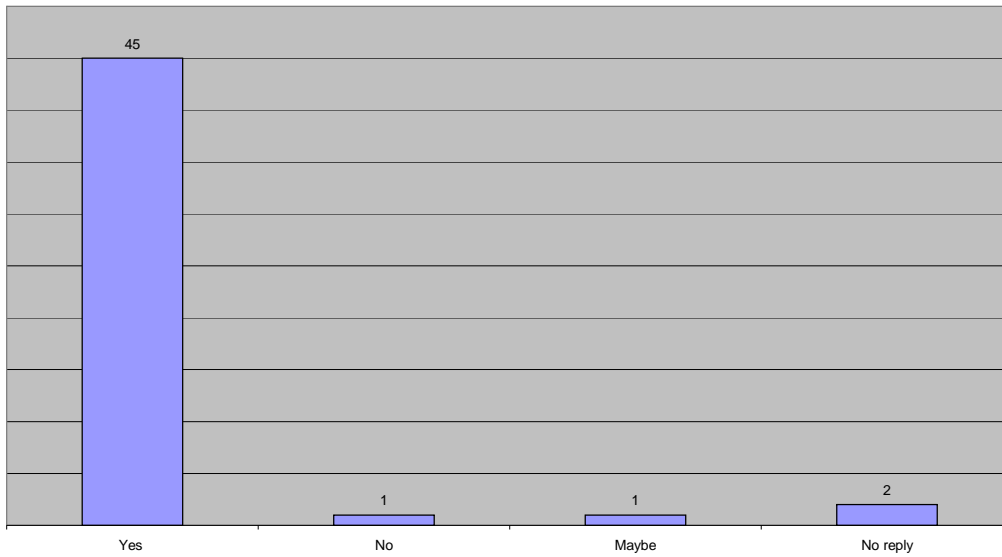
Prior to the event 49% people thought that they could influence decisions in their local area. 37% disagreed.

Do you feel you have influenced local decision making by attending this event?



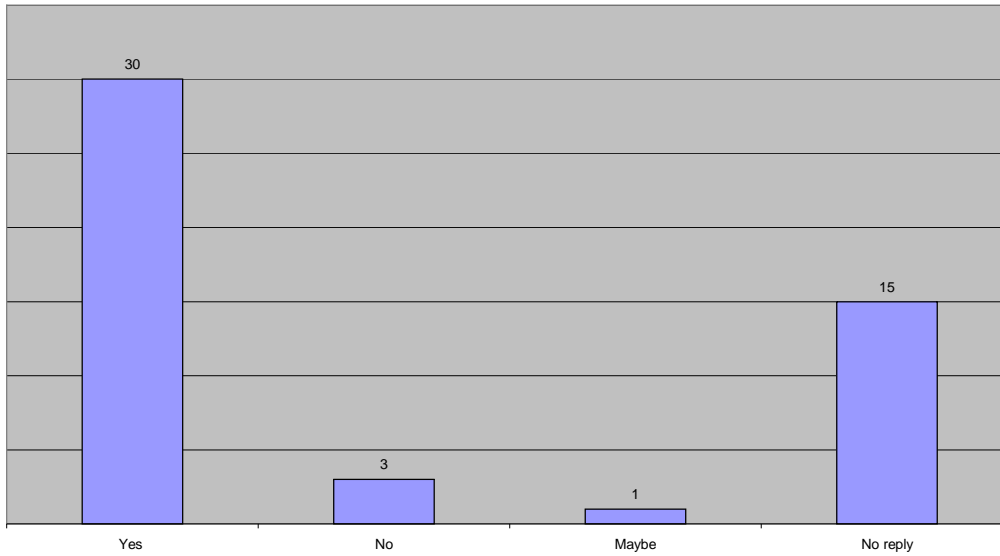
By attending the event, 86% of people felt that they had influenced decisions making in their local area. Only 4% disagreed.

Do you think the projects funded will help improve the local area?



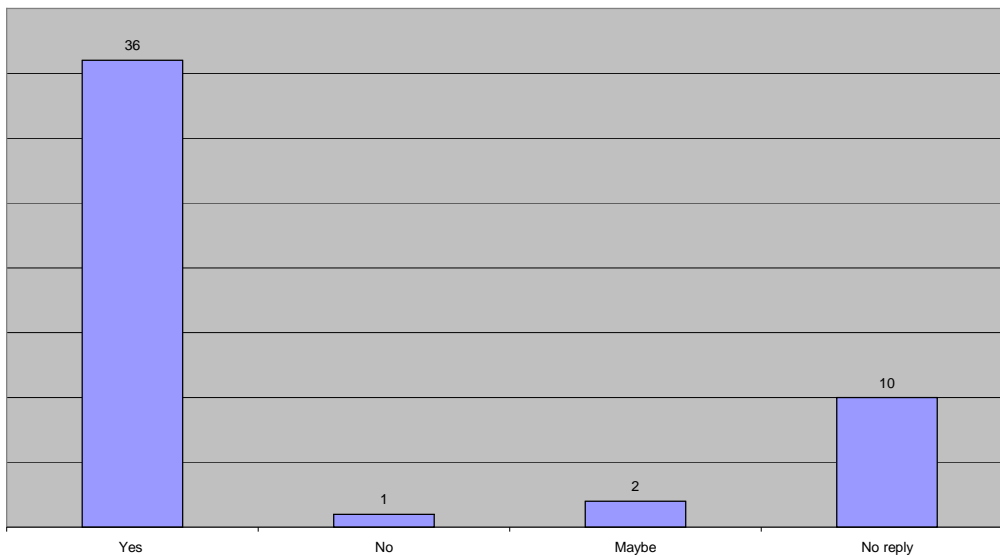
92% of people said that the projects funded would help to improve the local area. Only 2 % (1 person) disagreed.

Do you think the process was fair?



Out of the 49 respondents 61% of people said the process was fair. This increased to 88% when calculating the % of people who answered this question. Only 6% disagreed which increased to 9% when calculating the number of people who answered this question.

Would you attend a similar event in the future?



Out of the 49 respondents 73% of people said they would attend a future event. This increased to 92% when calculating the % of people who answered this question. Only 2% disagreed which increased to 3% when calculating the number of people who answered this question.