

Pride Survey Summer 2007

The Barnsley Civic Trust champions pride in our town, is open to all, and seeks to involve anyone who cares about the town and its future.

First PRIDE in Barnsley Town Centre survey of 2007 conducted by the Barnsley Civic Trust on behalf of the Town Community.



The BCT Pride in Barnsley Survey takes place twice a year; the Summer Survey takes place in July in conjunction with the Mayor's parade and Carnival. The Winter Survey takes place in December in the run-up to Christmas, when the Christmas market is running. The 'Pride in Barnsley Summer Survey 2007' took place on Saturday 14th July at the Town Centre Summer Carnival, 10am – 4pm outside the Alhambra Centre. The Winter Survey 2007 will take place on Saturday 15th December 10-4pm.

The bi-annual survey is designed to target persons using the town centre on a busy shopping day (not targeted at night-time pub/club users) to ascertain their views of the town centre, what attracts them to the town and where there is room for improvement. The views of up to 100 respondents on average will be captured from the event, covering all ages, sex, ethnicity and whether local resident or outside users. A team of four to six BCT members carry out the survey.

A cross-representation of the Town Community has spoken about their town.

LOVING OUR TOWN CENTRE

We the public users of the town centre love the town for its **SHOPPING** and the **VARIETY ON OFFER AT THE MARKETS**. We love the **NEW BUS STATION**. The **PEOPLE** of Barnsley are really **FRIENDLY** and make the place. The town centre offers a comfortable atmosphere, **PLEASANT** in many ways. We especially like the **COMPACT PEDESTRIANISED** features of the precinct and the centre as a whole.

So the town centre '**OFFER**' is

1. **Shopping**
2. **Markets**
3. **Bus Station**
4. **People**
5. **Friendly**
6. **Pleasant**
7. **Pedestrianised Precinct**



URNS ME OFF

When I come into the town there are many features which are off-putting. The excess LITTER at the weekends and EMPTY SHOPS having closed down due to local and national factors. Parking is a problem in peak times. The dark, dull 1960s' CONCRETE BUILDINGS are not attractive or inspiring. CHARITY SHOPS are in abundance. The town centre streets can from time to time appear DIRTY, PAVEMENTS un-kept, CHEWING GUM-marks in high traffic areas, and PIGEONS feed on the remains of night time food sundries. The VARIETY OF SHOPPING is also limited, with no national department store, few children's shops, no toy shops, few shops for older persons and an ever-increasing presence of licensed bars.

Features in the town which are 'OFF PUTTING', include:

1. Litter
2. Empty shops
3. 1960s concrete buildings (Metropolitan Centre)
4. Charity shops
5. Dirty un-kept pavements
6. Chewing gum
7. Pigeons
8. Poor Variety of shops



ICONIC BARNSELEY

Many iconic buildings and places can be found around the town centre. Overwhelmingly we are in big support of the TOWN HALL and the ALHAMBRA CENTRE. Other iconic 'lanes' of the town include CHEAPSIDE, PRECINCT and the ARCADE.

'ICONS' of the town include:

1. Town Hall
2. Alhambra Centre
3. Bus Station
4. Cheapside
5. Precinct
6. Arcade



NEW BARNSELEY BUS STATION

The new BUS STATION is a recent addition which has received a warm welcome. The survey showed that 19 people loved the new bus station and five persons disliked it. This can be viewed that four in every five residents are in favour of the New Bus Station.



BARNSELEY TOWN CENTRE'S FUTURE

For the future a number of challenges need addressing in the town centre, as identified by the local community. For a prosperous, vibrant future the town centre needs:

1. New exciting restaurants
2. A new cinema (Parkway Cinema is now opened)
3. A new market
4. Improved bus service
5. Cleaner public areas
6. Cheaper/easier car parking
7. Reducing pigeon population
8. Increasing the variety of shops

A number of the 'turn offs' and 'challenges' are currently being addressed, by the town's regeneration programmes, funded by Barnsley Council and Yorkshire Forward (The Regional Development Agency) and other private redevelopments (Gateway Plaza, New College development). Increases in town centre maintenance and management play an integral part to meet these challenges, along side business plans to assist business and retail growth in the centre.



Theatre redevelopment and inward investment



New restaurants and cafes



New Cinema



Much needed litter bins



Retail opportunities

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

This report was prepared by Ben Johnson on behalf of Barnsley Civic Trust, September 2007.

For general enquiries, The Barnsley Civic Trust (BCT) can be contacted on the following details:

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BCT Steering Committee Chair - Garreth Bruff
BCT Steering Committee Press and Publicity - Jayne Dowle

Individual project leads can be contacted by the following appropriate email addresses;

Pride	barnsleycivictrustsurvey@yahoo.co.uk
Photography	barnsleycivictrustpictures@yahoo.co.uk
Best shop awards	barnsleycivictrustbestshops@yahoo.co.uk
Big debate	barnsleycivictrustdebate@yahoo.co.uk
Planning	barnsleycivictrustplanning@yahoo.co.uk

If you wish to join the Civic Trust MEMBERSHIP FORMS are available online or by email from any committee member.

Thank you to everyone who contributed on the day.

Supported by the Town Centre Environment Group, the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies and Barnsley Community and Voluntary Network.

Appendix A Result Tables

A total of 95 persons responded to the Summer 2007 survey.

Age Bands

Age Band	no	%
Under 30	26	27.4
31-60	52	54.7
60+	17	17.9
Total	95	100.0

Locations

Location	no	%
Town Centre	43	45.3
Barnsley Borough	49	51.6
Outside Borough	3	3.2
Total	95	100.0

Love about the Town

Love My Town	No	%
shopping	46	18.3
market	28	11.1
bus station	19	7.5
people	17	6.7
pubs	15	6.0
friendly	13	5.2
pleasant	7	2.8
precinct	6	2.4
friendly people	5	2.0
pedestrianised	5	2.0
town hall	5	2.0
atmosphere	4	1.6
clean	4	1.6
compact	4	1.6
library	4	1.6
local	4	1.6
new buildings	4	1.6
Alhambra	3	1.2
flower beds	3	1.2
food	3	1.2
variety	3	1.2
cafes	2	0.8
charity shops	2	0.8
Cheapside	2	0.8
football club	2	0.8
ice skating	2	0.8
meeting people	2	0.8
nightlife	2	0.8

(252 valid responses)

Dislike about the town

Dislike about the Town	No	%
litter	18	9.3
empty shops	11	5.7
parking	8	4.1
60s buildings	7	3.6
charity shops	6	3.1
bus station	5	2.6
dirty	5	2.6
pavements	5	2.6
poor shops	5	2.6
variety shops	5	2.6
chewing gum	4	2.1
cinema	4	2.1
market	4	2.1
no cinema	4	2.1
pigeons	4	2.1
pubs	4	2.1
youths	4	2.1
no toy shops	3	1.5
poor parking	3	1.5
too many pubs	3	1.5
traffic	3	1.5
bus service	2	1.0
busy	2	1.0
car parking	2	1.0
no big shops	2	1.0
no large retailers	2	1.0
poor clothes shops	2	1.0
public loos	2	1.0
rubbish	2	1.0
subway	2	1.0
un safe	2	1.0

(194 valid responses)

Icons of Barnsley Town Centre

Iconic Places	No	%
town hall	19	22.6
Alhambra	15	17.9
bus station	6	7.1
Cheapside	6	7.1
precinct	4	4.8
arcade	3	3.6
compass house	2	2.4
market hill	2	2.4
market street	2	2.4
Royal Hotel	1	1.2
Queens Hotel	1	1.2
civic hall	1	1.2
in front of town hall	1	1.2

New changes

New changes	No	%
more new restaurants	7	8.8
new cinema	6	7.5
new market	4	5.0
bus service	2	2.5
cleaner	2	2.5
free parking	2	2.5
remove pigeons	2	2.5
variety of shops	2	2.5
Plus many more single reasons		