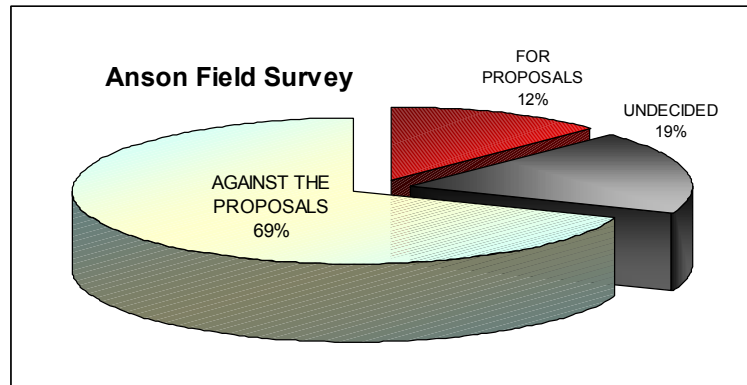


Anson Field Development Questionnaire

In April every house within the main Marcham village envelope received a copy of a simple questionnaire. This asked everyone in the household about the Anson Trust's proposals for the Anson Field. In total 590 households received the questionnaire, 66% of the households returned them, amounting to 802 individual responses. The survey responses are summarised in the figure on the right.



The Neighbours Around the Field (NAF) committee organised the questionnaire with the aid of additional concerned residents. Originally we had proposed to the Anson Trust and to the Parish Council that a survey of Marcham should be undertaken to get a fully representative viewpoint of the whole village and offered our assistance as we felt a joint survey would best guarantee an unbiased result. Neither The Anson Trust nor the Parish Council were interested in carrying out such a survey.

Eventually we took the decision to organise a survey using our own resources. As we were the only group involved in the organisation we took particular care to ensure this survey is a true and unbiased representation of the views of our village. The survey form stressed that the Trust were planning to provide new upgraded facilities to replace those on the Anson Field. A copy of the form is included overleaf; it even provides a link to the Anson Trust web site while not mentioning the NAF web site because it already contained the results of our previous survey (limited to the properties adjoining the field). Our volunteer distributors were carefully briefed. They were told that if they were asked for an opinion then they were to explain that they did not wish to give one for fear of compromising the questionnaire results.

We took the decision not to make the questionnaire anonymous; this eliminated any risk of duplication of "votes" and allowed us to check back with any household if a form had not been completed in a clear way. It also means that should any group wish to call into question the validity of the survey results then all the forms can be made available for confidential review by a suitable qualified independent inspector. In addition, as addresses are recorded on the forms we can continue to accept more from addresses that have not yet managed to return them. Few objected to the non-confidential nature of the survey although it must be remarked that (perhaps understandably) many Parish Councillors declined to give their views or those of their families.

The area we covered in the survey extends westwards to include Church Street, southwards to include Mill Road and Marcham Mill, northwards to include Kings Avenue and eastwards to include Hyde Farm and Anson Close. We did not re-survey the houses adjoining the field as these householders had already responded to our December survey and these earlier results are included in the totals presented here.

The survey carries a clear message for the Anson Trust; your "23 user groups" do not represent the wishes of the residents of Marcham. There is also a clear message from Marcham residents for the soon to be re-elected members of the Parish Council, a large majority of Marcham residents consider that building on the Anson Field is too high a price to pay for the proposed new facilities.

The Neighbours Around the Field Committee
April 2007

Neighbours Around the Field

The Committee Representing the Residents Bordering the Anson Trust Playing Fields, Marcham

April 2007

As you are no doubt aware, the Anson Trust is planning to sell part of the Anson Field (in the centre of the village, where the Sports and Social Club, Portacabins and football field are) for development and provide alternative (upgraded) playing fields and a new community hall on a site beyond Hyde Copse - for further details, please see the websites of the Anson Trust (www.ansontrust.co.uk) and MAD News (www.madnews.co.uk).

Having previously sent a questionnaire to those households bordering the field, our committee (Neighbours Around the Field, or NAF) has now decided to extend its poll to cover the whole village in order to obtain a fully representative viewpoint.

We would therefore be grateful if you would please complete the following brief questionnaire, giving the opinion of each member of your household (stating their age if under 18). We will collect the questionnaire from you in the next few days.

| Your views | #1 | #2 | #3 | #4 | #5 | #6 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| You are in favour of the Anson Trust's proposals for the Anson Field. | | | | | | |
| You are undecided about the benefits of the Anson Trust's proposals. | | | | | | |
| You are against the Anson Trust's proposals for the Anson Field. | | | | | | |

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Thanks in advance for your input.

For Neighbours Around the Field
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