

## Two Waters Open Space Study

The consultation on the Two Waters Open Space study is now closed. Thank you to everyone who took part, 160 people responded via the on line survey, with further paper copies submitted and 70 people attended the consultation event in the town centre.

The consultation will help inform the feasibility study due to be completed in September 2010. A summary of responses received is collated below. The online questionnaire included seventeen suggestions and respondents were invited to tick those that they felt were appropriate.

71.7%	River and other habitat improvements
63.8%	Grazing and cattle
58.6%	Signs (for example, historical information boards, suggested walks, wildlife information)
55.3%	Improved footpaths
48.0%	Improved cycle path
35.5%	Picnic facilities
35.5%	Orchards
31.6%	Allotments/Community gardens
27.0%	Visitor Centre (for conservation, heritage and/or nature information)
25.5%	Children's play facilities
24.3%	Outdoor events and performance space
21.7%	Mooring provision for recreational boating
19.7%	Green energy creation
14.5%	Town farm (education/leisure facility)
11.8%	Outdoor sports facilities
11.8%	Places to eat and drink
2.6%	New housing

A large proportion of the feedback received related to the Moor, with respondents feeling very strongly that the Moors are a significant asset to the town and as such, their heritage and habitats should be protected and retained. This will be reinforced through the feasibility study where a 'light touch' will be proposed, focussing on areas such as wayfinding, access for pedestrians and cyclists and improving habitats for wildlife.

The study area also includes land at the Apsley triangle, west of Durrants Hill Road. A limited number of comments were received about this area, which has more potential for change. Any proposals will take into consideration respondents values from the consultation that change should be focussed on providing for the community, have environmental benefits and be eco friendly.