



Standish Infrastructure consultation

Consultation Report

June 2021

Introduction

We undertook public consultation in Standish from 8-21 March 2021 to seek the views of the local community on how funding secured from recent housebuilding in the area could be best used to effectively mitigate any impacts on local infrastructure capacity.

Around £6.6m has been secured which needs to be spent on specific projects. So far, it has been agreed that £2.1m of the funds will be used for education, £130,000 for community provision and a further £1.3m for other agreed projects. The remaining £3.1m is for other infrastructure schemes which is what the public consultation was focused on.

This consultation report sets out how we engaged with the local community and key stakeholders, who we engaged with, and provides a summary of all the responses that were received.

How we consulted

The consultation consisted of a four page survey comprising 15 questions, designed to gauge initial opinion. The questions were focused on the following key themes:

- Improving traffic flow and reducing congestion
- Parking provision
- Cycling and walking
- Open space and play

The survey also included a list of viable schemes that could be taken forward informed by local research, traffic modelling and regular discussions and engagement with Ward Councillors and representatives from local community groups, including Standish Voice.

The survey was widely publicised and distributed by the Council, as follows:

- A paper survey was posted to all addresses in Standish Ward, including a Freepost return envelope.
- Paper surveys could also be returned to the SDF Hub at Shevington Library
- The survey could be completed online at www.wigan.gov.uk/consultations
- The consultation was publicised regularly on social media, including on the Council's Twitter and Facebook feeds.
- Supporting information on the schemes identified in the survey, were also made available on the Council's website.

The Council also held a virtual engagement event on 15 March 2021, via Microsoft Teams. This was an open invitation and allowed members of the local community to ask council officers questions about the preferred options and proposals.

The consultation was also publicised extensively by Standish Voice on Facebook and Twitter, and by Ward Councillors.

Comments received

In total we received 2,724 comments to the survey. This included 2,548 from Standish residents, 128 from people who visited Standish regularly, 23 from local business owners, 5 from people who work in Standish and 20 who did not specify.

In addition, one petition was submitted including 349 signatures. This was organised by Standish Voice and was specifically in opposition to the option of widening School Lane.

Summary of comments received

The survey results can be found in Appendix A and Appendix B.

Appendix A sets out the overall results from the questions which asked respondents to rate how much they supported specific options on a scale of 1-10 or rank priorities on a scale of 1-5.

Appendix B provides summaries of all the issues raised by respondents when providing supplementary information to support their scores. The issues raised in the petition are incorporated into these summaries.

The survey results demonstrate that there are a wide range of opinions, with some options attracting strong support from some and strong opposition from others. Some key headlines from the results are summarised as follows:

Improving traffic flow and reducing congestion

- Of the four key themes covered in the survey, improvements to traffic flow and congestion was rated the most important issue overall, followed by improved parking, better open space and play facilities, and latterly cycling and walking facilities.
- Despite this, the Council's preferred option to ease congestion by widening School Lane was opposed by the majority of respondents, with one in three people scoring it 1 out of 10 (completely unhappy) and 3 in 5 people scoring it a 5 or below. It did however receive support from some respondents with over 25% scoring it an 8 or above.
- The pedestrianisation improvements on Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street suggested by Standish Voice as an alternative to School Lane widening received a mixed response, with just over half of the respondents scoring it 5 or below, with around one in three scoring it 8 or above.
- Of the 5 schemes considered in Q8, School Lane widening received the most polarised scores with around half scoring it a 1 or 2, and 40% scoring it a 4 or 5. The scheme deemed the least important was the upgrading of the traffic lights at Red Rock canal bridge.

Parking:

- The proposals to extend the car parks at Quakers Place and Pole Street were widely supported with one third of respondents scoring it a 10 (completely happy) and around two-thirds of people scoring it 7 or more.

Cycling and walking:

- The options to extend the Mineral Line improvements, create off-road cycle routes linking Standish with Wigan town centre, Gidlow Lane and the Whelley Loop Line were broadly supported, with nearly half of respondents (45%) being completely happy with the proposals and nearly 3 in 4 people scoring a 7 or more.

Open space and play:

- Of the four open space and play options presented, all received overall support from respondents, particularly at Ashfield Park with half of respondents completely happy and nearly 3 in 4 scoring it an 8 or above. Despite receiving support overall, with around two thirds of respondents scoring 7 or more, the proposals at Southlands Recreation Ground received strong opposition from around 8% of respondents.

Appendix A: Standish Infrastructure Assessment Engagement

Please rate the below in order of importance to you with 1 being least important and 5 being most important:

	1	2	3	4	5	Didn't answer	Average score
Improvements to traffic flow and congestion	182 (6.7%)	205 (7.5%)	313 (11.5%)	409 (15%)	1242 (45.6%)	373 (14%)	4.0
Better open space and play facilities	72 (2.6%)	442 (16.2%)	715 (26.2%)	598 (22%)	412 (15.1%)	485 (18%)	3.4
More cycling and walking facilities	113 (4.1%)	677 (24.9%)	648 (23.8%)	520 (19.1%)	305 (11.2%)	461 (17%)	3.1
Improved parking	133 (4.9%)	684 (25.1%)	456 (16.7%)	707 (26%)	369 (13.5%)	375 (14%)	3.2
None of the above are important to me	1202 (44.1%)	30 (1.1%)	18 (0.7%)	9 (0.3%)	143 (5.2%)	1322 (49%)	1.5

Please provide extra information

870 people provided extra information (please see spreadsheet for details)

Improving traffic flow and reducing congestion

Residents and commuters told us that traffic flow and congestion in Standish is in need of improvement.

We know that local people have previously asked for a bypass and rail access to and from Standish. Unfortunately, a bypass cannot be funded at this time and in the short term there is not an opportunity to deliver a railway station. However, we will pursue looking into the viability of these options.

We have conducted some research into the area and the evidence shows that we could successfully widen School Lane to create an extra lane northbound, meaning that more cars passing to and from the centre of Standish can be accommodated.

On a scale of 1 – 10 (with 1 being completely unhappy and 10 being completely happy):

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Didn't answer	Average score
How would you rate this option?	903 (33.1%)	157 (5.8%)	168 (6.2%)	97 (3.6%)	327 (12%)	128 (4.7%)	185 (6.8%)	216 (7.9%)	91 (3.3%)	393 (14.4%)	59 (2.2%)	4.6

Please provide extra information

1184 people provided details (please see spreadsheet for details)

Standish Voice has suggested an alternative scheme to the widening of School Lane, which would see pedestrianised improvements including 20mph speed limits, new crossing points and newly laid footways on Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street. Please note that the impacts of this work on the road network has not been tested.

On a scale of 1 – 10 (with 1 being completely unhappy and 10 being completely happy):

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Didn't answer	Average score
How would you rate this option?	447 (16.4%)	130 (4.8%)	175 (6.4%)	141 (5.2%)	463 (17%)	188 (6.9%)	230 (8.4%)	279 (10.2%)	143 (5.2%)	457 (16.8%)	71 (2.6%)	5.6

Please provide extra information

903 people provided extra information (please see spreadsheet for details)

Additional schemes we could explore include:

- Upgrade the Market Street zebra crossing to a puffin crossing
- Install traffic lights at Bradley Lane Bridge
- Upgrade traffic lights on Red Rock Lane canal bridge

Please rate these schemes in order of importance with 1 being least important and 5 being most important:

	1	2	3	4	5	Didn't answer	Average score
Widening School Lane	862 (31.6%)	227 (8.3%)	239 (8.8%)	248 (9.1%)	661 (24.3%)	487 (18%)	2.8
Upgrade the Market Street zebra crossing to a puffin crossing	206 (7.6%)	496 (18.2%)	593 (21.8%)	599 (22%)	256 (9.4%)	574 (21%)	3.1
Install traffic lights at Bradley Lane Bridge	227 (8.3%)	456 (16.7%)	567 (20.8%)	482 (17.7%)	473 (17.4%)	519 (19%)	3.2
Upgrade traffic lights on Red Rock Lane canal bridge	582 (21.4%)	648 (23.8%)	415 (15.2%)	379 (13.9%)	151 (5.5%)	549 (20%)	2.5
Pedestrianised improvements such as 20mph speed limits, crossing points and newly laid footways on Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street	401 (14.7%)	303 (11.1%)	373 (13.7%)	477 (17.5%)	797 (29.3%)	373 (14%)	3.4

Please provide extra information

598 people provided extra information (please see spreadsheet for details)

Parking

Residents have told us that parking continues to be an issue in Standish. We have reviewed the options and are exploring proposals to extend Quakers Place car park using the land to the rear of the site, which would need to be acquired.

Allocated spaces will be marked out and existing landscaping will be altered. This proposal will increase capacity by approximately 40 spaces.

There is also scope to increase the capacity of the Pole Street car park by two spaces by removing the embankment.

On a scale of 1 – 10 (with 1 being completely unhappy and 10 being completely happy):

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Didn't answer	Average score
How would you rate this option?	211 (7.7%)	66 (2.4%)	80 (2.9%)	76 (2.8%)	316 (11.6%)	165 (6.1%)	237 (8.7%)	379 (13.9%)	195 (7.2%)	927 (34%)	72 (2.6%)	7.2

Please provide extra information

790 people provided extra information (please see spreadsheet for details)

Cycling and walking

Encouraging people to cycle or walk more has been one of the council's ambitions for a very long time. Sustainable modes of transport have many health and wellbeing benefits, improve the environment and reduce congestion.

We are proud to support the Greater Manchester Bee Network, which aims to connect all ten local authorities in the city-region by bike and to create the UK's largest walking and cycling network.

You may also remember the work to Standish Mineral Line, which included resurfacing, installation of lights and upgrades to a bridleway and walking path.

We propose to extend the Mineral Line improvements, create off-road cycle routes linking Standish to the town centre and Gidlow Lane and also create off-road cycle routes linking Standish to the existing Whelley Loop Line, Haigh and Aspull.

On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being completely unhappy and 10 being completely happy), how would you rate this option?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Didn't answer	Average score
How would you rate this option?	123 (4.5%)	44 (1.6%)	60 (2.2%)	55 (2%)	242 (8.9%)	131 (4.8%)	184 (6.8%)	348 (12.8%)	244 (9%)	1227 (45%)	66 (2.4%)	

Please provide extra information

781 people provided details (please see spreadsheet for details)

Open space and play

Ensuring local play and open space facilities are adequate for children and families is a key priority.

We have looked at the options in Standish and have found the below schemes to be viable.

On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being completely unhappy and 10 being completely happy), how would you rate these options?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Didn't answer	Average score
Ashfield Park: installing outdoor gym equipment, improving drainage on playing fields, footpath improvements, replacing the sand in the play area with soft surfaces	83 (3%)	27 (1%)	45 (1.7%)	46 (1.7%)	204 (7.5%)	109 (4%)	195 (7.2%)	364 (13.4%)	256 (9.4%)	1297 (47.6%)	98 (3.6%)	8.3
Southlands recreation area: Scope out how this can be turned into a community park. Sport England have strict rules around this, which require that playing pitches must remain, so we would need to have further discussions if this was brought forward	200 (7.3%)	60 (2.2%)	82 (3%)	76 (2.8%)	338 (12.4%)	193 (7.1%)	275 (10.1%)	338 (12.4%)	204 (7.5%)	817 (30%)	141 (5.2%)	7.1
Almond Brook: improve biodiversity such as tree planting, wild-flower meadows, bird feeding/watering stations, pond creation and more	82 (3%)	32 (1.2%)	44 (1.6%)	70 (2.6%)	219 (8%)	130 (4.8%)	182 (6.7%)	339 (12.4%)	262 (9.6%)	1240 (45.5%)	124 (4.6%)	8.2
Robin Hill playing fields: improve biodiversity such as tree planting, wild flower meadows, bird feeding/watering stations, pond creation and more whilst retaining the sports pitches in accordance with Sport England guidelines	77 (2.8%)	41 (1.5%)	48 (1.8%)	68 (2.5%)	231 (8.5%)	165 (6.1%)	217 (8%)	337 (12.4%)	238 (8.7%)	1166 (42.8%)	136 (5%)	8.0

Please provide extra information

608 people provided details (please see spreadsheet for details)

Appendix A: Level of support for identified options

	1	2	3	4	5	Average score
Improvements to traffic flow and congestion	182	205	313	409	1242	4.0
Better open space and play facilities	72	442	715	598	412	3.4
More cycling and walking facilities	113	677	648	520	305	3.1
Improved parking	133	684	456	707	369	3.2
None of the above are important to me	1202	30	18	9	143	1.5

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total responses	Average score
Improving traffic flow and reducing congestion												
School Lane widening	903	157	168	97	327	128	185	216	91	393	2665	4.61
Alternative schemes on Pole St, Market St and Cross St	447	130	175	141	463	188	230	279	143	457	2653	5.63
Parking												
Car parking: Quakers Place and Pole Street	211	66	80	76	316	165	237	379	195	927	2652	7.23
Cycling and walking												
Cycling and walking	123	44	60	55	242	131	184	348	244	1227	2658	7.96
Open space and play												
Ashfield Park	83	27	45	46	204	109	195	364	256	1297	2626	8.26
Southlands Recreation Ground	200	60	82	76	338	193	275	338	204	817	2583	7.11
Almond Brook	82	32	44	70	219	130	182	339	262	1240	2600	8.15
Robin Hill playing fields	77	41	48	68	231	165	217	337	238	1166	2588	8.01

	1	2	3	4	5	Average score
Widening School Lane	862 (38%)	227 (10%)	239 (11%)	248 (11%)	661 (30%)	2.8
Pedestrianised improvements on Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street	401 (17%)	303 (13%)	373 (16%)	477 (20%)	797 (34%)	3.4
Upgrade the Market Street zebra crossing to a puffin crossing	206 (10%)	496 (23%)	593 (28%)	599 (28%)	256 (12%)	3.1
Install traffic lights at Bradley Lane Bridge	227 (10%)	456 (21%)	567 (26%)	482 (22%)	473 (21%)	3.2
Upgrade traffic lights on Red Rock Lane canal bridge	582 (27%)	648 (30%)	415 (19%)	379 (17%)	151 (7%)	2.5

Appendix B: Summary of issues raised by respondents by theme

Improving traffic flow and reducing congestion

1. School Lane widening:

Support:

- Clearly not the ideal solution, but if it is the only one available then okay
- It will ease congestion in the centre
- Good idea assuming the intention is to create a filter lane from School Lane
- Support, but not a long term solution

Impact on character:

- It will have a significant and detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the area, and the entrance into the village, in particular the widening of the road and the loss of grass verges.
- It will perpetuate the image of Standish as a congested village centre, which will damage trade and its reputation as a good place to live.

It will attract more housing:

- Increased highway capacity will give the green light for more housing in Standish

The proposal won't ease congestion effectively or elsewhere:

- Additional highway capacity will attract more cars and increase the number of vehicles using this already congested junction.
- It will increase the amount of traffic using Standish as a cut through to other areas, including Wigan and the M61
- Road widening on School Lane is needed in both directions. One extra lane in one direction is not enough.
- Traffic congestion is worse on other routes into and out of Standish, including Preston Road, Wigan Road/High Street and Rectory Lane. The widening of School Lane will not address this.
- Congestion needs mitigating on Pole Street, Collingwood Street and at Aldi car park entrance
- It will not reduce congestion further down Almond Brook Road which can queue all the back to the motorway.
- It will displace the problem further down Almond Brook Road where three lanes merge back into two lanes.

The proposal is not needed:

- School Lane is rarely congested and only busy at rush hour or when the motorway is closed. Otherwise, the traffic generally moves freely.
- There will always be a bottleneck at the junction regardless of any scale of improvements.

- Need to stop the through traffic rather than widen School Lane.
- It will benefit people passing through rather than local residents.
- It will only have a minimal impact on congestion for a large amount of money, which could be better spent on other projects.

Highway safety:

- It will create more accidents due to increased confusion over lane selection
- It will be dangerous for pedestrians having to cross three lanes, including school children travelling to and from Woodfield Primary School.
- It will be more dangerous for cyclists
- An additional lane will encourage people to drive faster.
- Three lanes will make it difficult for emergency vehicles to pass.
- HGVs cause highway safety issues.

Air quality:

- It will worsen air quality in the centre of Standish where nitrogen dioxide levels are already over the legal limit.
- The grass verges should be retained and planted with trees to improve air quality.

Green Lane junction improvements:

- The traffic lights at Green Lane need to be modified to improve traffic flow.
- A camera needs to be installed at the School Lane/Green Lane junction to stop drivers parking in the yellow box which restricts drivers from exiting Green Lane.

Discourage walking and cycling:

- Narrowing the pavements on School Lane will discourage people from walking and cycling into Standish centre.

Impact on School Lane residents and businesses:

- The benefits to traffic are outweighed by the disadvantages to residents and pedestrians.
- It will be noisier due to an increase in vehicles, which will affect sleep and studies.
- Reduction in property values.
- Loss of parking at the Dog and Cartridge gun shop will affect trade.
- Loss of bus layby.
- An extra lane will make it harder to access the road from driveways.

Consultation:

- More information is needed about the proposals.
- All the evidence supporting your claims should be publicised including on Standish based social media.
- Need to show images with these options.
- The evidence is based on 1,000 homes in Standish, not the number that have been approved.
- Why were council officers slow and reluctant to release information about this scheme?

- No evidence provided to prove that widening School Lane will resolve congestion.

Other:

- It will cause major disruption during the construction stage.
- The opening of Almond Green Road will increase congestion along Almond Brook Road.

2. Pedestrianised improvements on Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street

Not an alternative scheme:

- This is not an alternative scheme. Both this and highway improvements are needed.
- This is a different solution for a different problem.
- Would help but would not solve traffic congestion.

Pedestrianisation:

- Support but fully pedestrianised would be better.
- Cross St and Market St should be pedestrianised.

Resurfacing:

- Most pavements need resurfacing in Standish.

Benefits for businesses:

- Will benefit local shops and businesses.
- Would attract better businesses rather than takeaways.
- Will improve shopping experience.
- Opportunity for café culture.
- Will increase footfall.

Safer environment:

- Safer for pedestrians.
- Will support children walking to school.
- Improved footpaths should encourage people to walk.
- Should reduce the speed of traffic in the centre.
- Will improve quality of life in centre of Standish.

Parking:

- Will need to be supported by improved parking.
- Needs to be supplemented with cycle parking etc.

Feasibility:

- This could benefit Pole Street and Cross Street as they are both one way. Unsure how this would work on Market Street.

Evidence:

- Where are the plans?
- Need to be assessed alongside the detailed plans for widening School Lane not independently.
- An impact assessment needs to be undertaken. The questionnaire should not have been published before this option was tested

The proposals will increase congestion:

- Pedestrian prioritisation, including more crossing points, will slow the traffic and worsen congestion.
- Pole Street and Cross Street are integral to the traffic flow in Standish.
- It will look better but to the detriment of congestion.

Not needed:

- The proposals will not alleviate congestion, which is the main priority.
- There are already sufficient crossing points and footpaths. Adding more will slow traffic flow.
- Traffic not bad on Pole Street and will reduce access to the small car park.
- Not needed on Cross Street or Market Street.
- Save money and spend on bypass.
- It will not reduce traffic as most is through traffic.

The 20mph speed limit:

- Speed limits are generally ignored and therefore need enforcing (cameras / NPR)
- 20mph should not be imposed on a main route.
- A lower speed limit will encourage lower gears and increase air pollution.
- A speed camera is needed on Rectory Lane.
- Speed limit should be lower than 20mph on Pole Street as it is very dangerous.
- 20mph is not often exceeded at peak times due to congestion.

Other:

- This accords with projects in the Standish Neighbourhood Plan.
- Standish Voice do not represent the residents of Standish.
- Council should contact utility companies prior to major works to see if they have any repair work planned that would coincide with any redevelopment so they could share the excavation costs and complete any drain/pipeline/cable services while pavements and access ways are disrupted.
- Improved disabled parking is needed.
- Footpaths are poor in Standish overall, especially on estates.
- Drainage needs to be improved near to St Wilfrid's School on Rectory Lane as it often floods.
- Make the bridleways DDA compliant where it should join School Lane.
- New footpaths should be funded by Council Tax not through Section 106.
- Secondary school capacity is also a priority.

- Lights would be better than the zebra on Market Street.
- Additional parking needed on Pole Street needed especially if tapas bar opens.
- Upgrading traffic lights at Red Rock bridge is a waste of money.
- People are still turning right despite the no right turn sign at the lights.
- Direct access to Bradley Hall estate for HGVs should have been a priority before new homes were built.

3. Upgrade the Market Street zebra crossing to a puffin crossing

- Upgrading the Market St crossing to a Puffin crossing would create chaos with stopped traffic backing up across the main North -south route.
- If the Market Street puffin crossing was synchronised with the junction lights, it would also help improve traffic flow.
- The zebra crossing on Market St is an accident waiting to happen!
- Existing zebra works fine.

4. Install traffic lights at Bradley Lane Bridge

- Need pedestrian facilities for Bradley Lane traffic light proposal
- Traffic lights for Bradley Lane Bridge is essential
- Scheme would help prevent accidents

5. Upgrade traffic lights on Red Rock Lane canal bridge

- I think bottom of Rectory Lane traffic system and narrow footway is far more relevant than traffic light improvements at Red Rock Lane
- The lights work fine already and don't need improving
- The developer contributions should not be used at Red Rock as it is in Aspall Ward, not in Standish.
- The bridge should be widened instead, removing the need for traffic lights.
- The traffic lights act as a valve. If these allowed greater traffic flow (towards Standish) then the town will become more congested.

Alternative highway related schemes identified:

(a) Bypass:

- The money should be saved to deliver a bypass when funds are available.
- A bypass would need to come with assurances that land either side of it would be protected from housing.
- A bypass was promised by the Council.
- A bypass should have been funded by the housebuilders and been a requirement of the planning permissions.

(b) New rail station in Standish

- A new rail station would provide an attractive alternative to the car.
- The platforms are already in place so should be an easy solution.
- There is a lack of evidence for no railway station

(c) Park and ride scheme

- A park and ride option on the edge of Standish.

(d) Improve access to rail stations:

- Improve the ability to get to Gathurst, Appley Bridge, Orrell and Wigan rail stations.

(e) Amendments to School Lane widening proposals:

- Run the extra lane all the way to the M6 junction.
- Buy land from Alberts and extend the lane further.
- Widen the other side of the road instead as this attracts more traffic.
- A Pegasus crossing on School Lane would allow safe crossing for horse riders using the bridleway.

(f) Amendments at Standish crossroads:

- Remove properties at the crossroads and create a better junction with more capacity, possibly a roundabout or straighter crossroads.
- On School Lane, switch the lane for traffic travelling straight ahead to the right filter lane as this will reduce vehicles turning left blocking vehicles turning right onto High Street.
- Improvements to traffic light layout at crossroads maybe a better option.
- The traffic lights should allow two way traffic flow on School Lane and Market Street at the same time, which would reduce congestion on all approaches.
- A red light camera is needed at the crossroads to improve highway safety.
- Move traffic lights on High Street back to nearer La Mamas to allow room for emergency vehicles and lorries turning.
- The crossing near Spar and Aldi are too close to the traffic lights. Moving it back will be safer for children and easier for lorries to turn.

(g) Pepper Lane improvements:

- Roundabout at Pepper Lane / Robin Hill Drive junction.
- Pavement needed on the corner between Pepper Lane and Boundary Lane before any accidents.
- Similar measures as proposed at Pole Street, Market Street and Cross Street should be put in place on Pepper Lane.
- Increased capacity at Preston Road/Pepper Lane mini roundabout junction.

(h) Preston Road:

- Lights / mini roundabout at Avondale/Preston Road junction.
- Need to move traffic lights back on Preston Road to incorporate Aldi and Pole Street.

(i) Bradley Lane:

- Traffic calming measures to avoid rat running.
- Traffic lights at Bradley Lane railway bridge junction.
- Widen Bradley Lane railway bridge.

(j) Rectory Lane:

- Traffic calming measures on Rectory Lane, especially near St Wilfrid's Primary School.
- Improved footways needed all the way down Rectory Lane to allow safe access for residents into the centre and to schools.

(k) Public transport improvements:

- A regular circular bus service serving local housing areas would reduce car use for short trips.
- Reintroduce bus service from Standish to Appley Bridge station.
- Additional bus services are needed on Chorley Road.
- Bus services need to serve the new housing estates.

(l) Motorway

- Open Charnock Richard services as a motorway junction.
- Make Junction 25 a two-way junction.
- Create motorway entrance and exits at Heinz.
- Create an additional motorway junction between M6 J26 and J28.

(m) More sustainable options:

- More green options – parking outside centre, cycle lanes.
- More safe and secure cycle parking is needed in Standish.
- The proposed connection to the Whelley Loop Line is supported, but probably won't happen if money is wasted on this.

(n) Other:

- Widen bridge that connects to dual carriageway near BP garage.
- Apply a weight restriction in the centre of Standish and in Shevington.
- Traffic calming measures on Smalley Street to resolve speeding.
- Traffic restrictions needed on Boundary Lane, Old Pepper Lane and Pepper Lane to restrict rat running.
- Impose a congestion charge for non-residents to reduce through traffic.
- Widen Baxter Street to 36 ft.
- See what they have done at Broughton on the A6 north of Preston.
- A roundabout at Almond Brook Road / Almond Green Avenue junction to assist residents exiting the Cat l'th' Window estate.
- Digitised demand responsive signage from M6 Junction 27 to inform drivers of congestion levels.
- A link road across the former golf course sites to help bypass the crossroads.
- A toucan crossing on School Lane, particularly for children cycling to school.
- The corner of Cross Street opposite the church needs to be widened.
- Allow traffic to turn left at the top of Market Street on to High Street to reduce traffic on Church Street.
- Improve parking at Appley Bridge station and a bus service from Standish.
- Traffic calming measures on Old Pepper Lane to avoid rat running.
- Traffic calming measures on Arbour Lane to avoid rat running.
- Need to ease congestion at the exit of Grove Lane.
- Fix the potholes instead.
- HGVs should be diverted from Standish centre as a danger to pedestrians.

General

- Schemes will make situation worse
- Poor suggestions all round. High cost with low impact.
- There are on road parking issues further up Bradley Lane where cars regularly park next to a metal railing outside terraced houses (with parking to the rear) which causes traffic issues with heavy goods vehicles unable to get past.
- We need to attract less traffic and pollution not encourage more vehicles.
- Don't see how any of the above would ease congestion apart from widening School Lane

6. Parking

Support:

- Greater capacity is needed to accommodate demand.
- Benefit to local businesses and would attract new customers.
- Must be free of charge and time limited.
- Provide designated disabled parking provision.
- Must be a key priority.
- Consider pay and display.
- Need because of all additional houses built.
- Should be done in conjunction with walking and cycling measures.

Object:

- Does not provide enough additional parking spaces.
- Parking is not an issue for people living close to the centre.
- Increased parking provision will incentivise car use.
- Not a priority for funding.
- Prefer alternative locations.
- Do not build any additional houses instead.

Pole Street:

- Unviable to create only 2 additional parking spaces.
- Increased provision beyond current proposals is required to accommodate demand.
- The embankment should be used to plant trees instead.
- Logical to make better use of existing space.

Quakers Place:

- Improvements must include resurfacing the existing car park which is degraded.
- Quakers Place to Greenland Avenue must be resurfaced to accommodate additional traffic.
- Concerns regarding mature trees.
- Better signage is required to ensure it is more frequently used.
- Too far from centre to be effective.
- Existing car park is occupied early by commuters, leaving no capacity for visitors. Consider implementing time limit.
- Concerns regarding increase traffic and access arrangements onto School Lane.
- Properties overlooking extension have made enquiries about potential compensation.
- Access onto School Lane would worsen by proposed widening scheme.
- Detrimental to wildlife.

Alternative parking schemes:

(a) Preston Road:

- Vacant land suitable to accommodate greater number of parking spaces.
- Preferable location, in need of development as visually unappealing.
- Potential for this to be used as a temporary car park until the site is developed.
- Adequate space to develop a multi-storey car park in this location.

(b) Standish Social Club:

- Preferable location.
- Compulsory purchase the site and combine with the existing Pole Street car park to make more efficient use of space.

(c) Standish Rec:

- 50% of the existing playing fields could be used for parking.
- Reinstate previous car parking proposals in this location.
- Do not build a car park in this location.

(d) Other:

- Demolish No. 10 Cross Street as there is space for about 20 car parking spaces.
- Utilise derelict land to the rear of La Mama for additional parking.
- Additional parking required at Ashfield Park.
- Upgrade existing car park adjacent to Golden Dragon.
- Extend car park on Glebe Road.
- Utilise previous TSB car park for additional parking provision.
- Land is available to the rear of the Spar car park.
- Land adjacent to Walsh's Undertakers could be used for additional parking.
- Explore possibility of utilising St Marie's Church to accommodate overspill parking.

Environmental Issues:

- Abundance of greenery and trees will be lost if the proposals are implemented. This will be detrimental to the appearance of Standish and the health of the environment and wildlife.
- Imperative electric vehicle charging spaces are installed to reduce carbon emissions.

Alternative Modes of Transport

- Walking and cycling infrastructure should be prioritised instead of car parking.
- Upgrade to public transport is required. A park and ride service should be considered alongside emission free bus services.
- Additional cycle parking is required.
- A new rail station in Standish should be the priority.

Consultation:

- More information needed, e.g. costs.

Other:

- Additional parking is required to accommodate demand for school parking.
- Enlarged car parking spaces required.
- Residential parking scheme needs to be considered as many residents are unable to park outside their properties.
- Time limit restrictions would alleviate pressure on car parks caused by commuters.
- Parking must remain free of charge.
- Pay and display car parking must be considered.

- Aldi car park allows 2 hour stay and is therefore suitable for most visitors to Standish.
- On-street parking issues, such as pavement parking, are prevalent across the centre.
- Must be designed to be safe, especially at night.
- Spaces should be allocated to the GP Surgery.
- Disabled parking provision should be the priority.
- Prioritise parking issues on James Square, Preston Road and Avondale Street.
- The lack of parking restricts new visitors from out of town.
- Pavement parking needs to be addressed in the centre as it blocks pedestrians.
- Should not allow parking on Preston Road within 100m of the lights.

7. Cycling and Walking

Maintenance:

- Maintenance including lighting needs to be considered.
- The Line needs maintenance, especially up to Robin Hill, due to removal of trees.
- New housing developments should be required to maintain condition during construction.
- Existing public footpaths need improving first but supportive of proposed enhancements.

Green spaces:

- Support but some countryside for wildlife needs to be kept.
- Support as long as plans aren't destroying fields, greenery or causing disruption to roads.
- New and improved green spaces, footpaths and cycle routes would increase physical activity rates.

Walking routes:

- More walking routes would be appreciated.
- The Line is overcrowded so alternative options would allow more space.
- The priority is walking not cycling. Mixing cycling with walking is both dangerous and unpleasant for walkers. Many cyclists don't use cycleways and choose to use pavements instead.
- It makes more sense to improve the footpath links between Standish and West Lancashire.

Off-road cycle routes:

- Creating off road cycle routes is a far better option than painting cycle paths on roads that people park their cars on.
- Off road cycle routes would be very beneficial. The roads are simply not wide enough to accommodate cycle lanes. A far safer option for all.
- Off road cycle routes are safer for both cyclist and car drivers.
- The use of disused railway lines is welcomed and will provide pleasant traffic safe routes.

Behaviour change / facilities required to encourage use:

- Any improvements to cycling and walking would be beneficial to Standish.
- Congestion peaks at school drop off and pick up so cycle to school initiatives could have a major impact. The Council should work with schools and consider a voucher scheme to entice more children to cycle to school, improving both congestion and health.
- Support but unsure of how it would be implemented. Increased housing and traffic may force residents to find alternative modes of transport.
- Need to take a more sustainable set of decisions for the future and nudge communities towards these options.
- Increasing physical activity is commendable however cyclists do not always use a bell to alert when passing; cycle safety needs to be taught in schools.

Bridleways:

- All routes should include suitable access for horse riders who are more at risk on the road than other users. There are limited facilities and road conditions are frightening for riders and horses.
- There are plenty of places to walk and cycle but no bridleways.

The Line and adjacent development:

- The line is now getting very congested and busy especially at weekends.
- Cyclists go too fast near families and prams.
- More people walking than cycling so that should take priority, give cyclists separate lanes.
- The Line improvements provide a welcomed dry route for school children but will become a walkway through houses due to development.
- Great improvements on the Line have been made but now walkers are about to be totally overshadowed by houses.
- Lighting is needed in the alley at the of The Line near School Lane, as this is intimidating in the dark.

Existing routes:

- The following footpaths have been identified as needing improvements as they are often impassable on foot in wet weather, very muddy, and/or dangerously slippery:
 - The path from Sedgely to Pilgrims Way
 - Paths on the former Victoria Colliery
 - Paths around Ashfield Park
 - The path from Pilgrims Way to Cranleigh
 - Standish Wood Lane and surrounding paths
- There has been considerably more foot fall during lockdown. Please consider drainage improvements and surfaces suitable for walkers and cyclists.

Traffic:

- This will not help with traffic. Most of the traffic is people commuting, shopping, school runs etc.
- The Line has received considerable investment and looks nice but it is not a feasible solution to reducing congestion.
- Great idea but it fails to address the traffic congestion issue and traffic pollution when walking to village centre.

Other:

- Over development has wrecked the parochial atmosphere, made the roads a constant danger and reduced the quality of life for residents.

8. Open Space and Play

Support:

- A significant proportion of comments made were in full support of preserving the environment and improving biodiversity
- More and better areas of play and open space needed to offset housing.
- Green areas are good for mental health and physical and social wellbeing.
- Improvement to play facilities vital for young families in light of new housing.
- Support for biodiversity, tree planting and local nature reserves.
- Support any improvement to green areas and sport oriented areas as long as they include all age ranges.
- Wildflower meadow, bird feeding and pond creatures all encourage more wildlife.
- Local schools could get involved with bird feeding and plant sowing.
- There is no money for these projects but support ideas.
- Support all proposals, I wouldn't have to travel out of area with young children to Wigan Park, Haigh Hall, Yarrow Valley, etc.
- Measures to address lost ponds, meadows and wildlife are welcome.
- Support all except wildflower meadows which will be weed patches.
- Biodiversity agenda is very important especially given loss of habitat due to house building, need to protect deer, newts, etc.

Object:

- A few comments however objected and felt that the money would be better spent on other priorities:
 - There are enough open spaces for children in Standish and nearby including Haigh Hall.
 - The money should be spent on addressing traffic congestion instead.
 - It would be better to prioritise street cleaning, bench installation and proper walking surfaces.

1. Ashfield Park:

Installing outdoor gym equipment:

- General lack of support for gym equipment:
 - Not necessary due to the new Leisure Centre
 - It may encourage vandalism.
 - Not at the expense of the playing fields or the basketball court.
 - Gym equipment is rarely used at other sites in the borough e.g. Mesnes Park
- Outdoor gym equipment would be good for encouraging teenagers and adults to exercise and be outdoors.

Drainage of football pitches:

- General support for the drainage improvements
- Drainage is needed to improve poorly maintained pitches which are uneven and boggy.

Footpaths:

- Improved paths would be welcome.

Replacing sand in the play area with soft surfaces:

- The replacement of the sand to a play carpet was mainly supported, with comments stating that it was unhygienic, dirty, contained glass and dogs were often on it.
- A few comments however said it should remain as the children liked to play in it.

Children's play areas:

- Play park is poor with only a small amount for children; other play parks in Wigan have better facilities.
- The baby park needs redesigning as the climbing frame is unsuitable for young children.
- The play areas need investment. They are very popular but too small for the demand at weekends.

New facilities needed:

- 15 respondents requested public toilets, even if they are a paying facility.
- Provision of a skate park
- Provision of changing facilities for local teams
- Astro-turf for local teams,
- Provision of a bowling green
- A permanent cafe would be a good addition.
- More parking, benches, lighting and bins are needed.
- Better lighting would reduce antisocial behaviour.
- More bins are needed, as the bins are regularly overflowing with litter collecting in the shrubbery.
- Replace the unused children's play area and playing fields at the back of the park with an art trail.

Maintenance:

- An ongoing maintenance programme is needed. Rotten fencing near the car park needs replacing.
- Improve the southern pedestrian entrance to match new signage at northern vehicular entrance.
- Money could be spent on management (for example a park ranger) to ensure play areas are safe from broken glass, and to control antisocial behaviour.
- The bridleway which linked up with Victoria Colliery has almost disappeared through lack of maintenance.
- Tarmac at Ashfield House car park has caused water to be diverted into woods and worsened drainage issue, pathways difficult to navigate as a result.

Not a priority:

- Ashfield Park has already had lots of money spent on it, investment should be closer to new developments.
- Improvement is welcome but is too far from some areas of Standish.

2. Southlands Rec:

Community park:

- Standish needs a community park, and this is the best option.
- A formal park with benches would benefit the most people, especially older people. It is currently only used by dog walkers.

- Should be turned into a park as it is accessible from the centre, would encourage people to shop and eat locally too.
- No to community park, benches would encourage antisocial behaviour.
- The existing pitch is barely used and should be turned into a formal park with car parking.

Retain and improve the football pitch:

- Southlands should be the home pitch for Standish Panthers football club and not Wigan Cricket Ground.
- Several local teams use the site for informal practice, consider including changing facilities.
- Maintaining pitches for teenagers to let off steam and play formal and informal sports is important for their mental and physical health.
- It has already been improved and should be left as a pitch.

Play area:

- A play park is desperately needed.
- A small play area could work safely but there are others in the vicinity.

Need for new sport facility:

- Sports facilities are needed to serve the increased population due to house building.
- Build a MUGA and link it to Wood Fold School for proper sports use and use by local teams at weekends
- This should be upgraded for sports use, it is ideal for a 4G pitch.

Car parking:

- Should be turned into a car park.
- Could create a lay-by on Southland Avenue for 12-15 parking spaces.

Other:

- It is one of the last green spaces in the village so its improvement should be a priority.
- Its location means the impact would only be small, as many don't know where it is.
- Development of the site will increase local traffic and parking problems.
- More benches are needed.
- Drainage improvements are needed as well as regular mowing.
- Local groups including Don't Wreck The Rec, Friends of Southlands Rec and Standish Voice have all made clear their intentions, no need for further consultation on the site.

3. Robin Hill and Almond Brook:

- Many people don't know where Robin Hill is.
- The area just needs a general low cost improvement e.g. picnic benches
- Need green walking spaces not ponds, already ponds there.
- Footpath improvements needed due to muddy fields, suggest stone surface
- It should remain dog friendly
- Ponds are a safety risk for children, especially when unsupervised.
- There are no sports pitches at Robin Hill, only one playing field.

- Almond Brook might be better served as a car park given the increase in traffic, increased air pollution means less attractive for nature.
- Provision of a perimeter pathway to the Robin Hill site.

Dog walking:

- 20 respondents requested open spaces for exercising dogs
- A dog park would be welcomed.
- Robin Hill should be kept as a field for dogs.
- Extensive house building has severely reduced places where dogs can exercise.
- All the options need to provide space to exercise dogs to avoid using pavements and reduce dog fouling in pedestrian areas.
- The Convent / The Rook is a dog toilet and needs attention.
- More dog poo bins are needed, as poo bags are left everywhere.

Play areas:

- An additional central small play area would be welcomed, suggest unused land on Preston Road.
- Need for new play area on housing estates off Rectory Lane.
- Need for new play areas in Almond Brook/Robin Hill/Pepper Lane area.
- Woodhurst Drive park needs improvement.
- A new park behind the gym was promised 2 years ago but not delivered.
- Developers should provide play areas in multiple locations.
- Very few facilities for teenagers, would like more facilities including skate park or BMX track.
- Need more play areas for younger children, toddlers and babies.
- The Shevington Moor play area needs improving to replace the sand with soft surfaces.
- Play area and field on Copeland estate is dangerous.

Sports provision:

- Funding should be provided to existing facilities such as Standish Cricket Club.
- Football and sports club facilities would be good so that players don't have to travel out of area.
- No football pitches at leisure centre, need more for children's sports.
- The new leisure centre should have included a swimming pool and outdoor tennis courts.
- Lack of communal playing spaces, pitches and parks despite many new young families.
- Improvements shouldn't be sports related given the new leisure centre.

Consultation:

- Lack of detail and maps

Other:

- Parks and extra outdoor activities will encourage antisocial behaviour, including drug taking, littering and broken glass, especially at night time.
- More bins needed throughout, better facilities mean increased footfall.
- No more ponds as travelling newts will cause costs for surrounding residents.
- How will maintenance be funded?
- Elnup Wood footpaths and bridges were built then left to fall into ruin.
- Wildflower meadows are an excuse to not have to mow and maintain.

- Shevington Moor isn't included.
- No more tarmac car parking.

Alternative open space and play schemes:

New facilities:

- Many felt that new play areas should be created across Standish, with the Leisure Centre site, Pepper Lane, Robin Hill, and Greenwood Road areas most popular – other areas were mentioned including Langton Avenue, Broomfield Road, Rectory Lane, Bradley Lane, Woodhurst Drive and Almond Brook.
 - The land bordering Pepper Lane and Robin Hill Drive could be an open green space and play area. This already has wildlife, including deer.
 - The back of Broomfield Road to Ormsby Close, grass opposite The Last Orders, and land alongside The Line all suitable for wildflowers which is inexpensive.
 - Land enclosed by Langton Avenue, Langton Place, Broomfield Road and Greenwood Road could be play area, outdoor gym or allotments.
 - Remaining fields along The Line could be community park with a running track.
 - Pond at end of Brookfield Road would benefit from landscaping, benches and proper footpath, fishing stages for anglers.

Planting and maintenance:

- Bunny Woods on Green Lane is suitable for snowdrops or bluebells, inexpensive.
- Community orchards in residential areas.
- More greenery on High Street.
- More trees on Rectory Lane near sports facility.
- Wildflowers on grass verges rather than mowing e.g. Arbour Lane, Almond Brook.
- Upgrade planting and painting by Standish Bowling Green.
- Victoria Pits
- Improvement on wasted land near the Owls (old golf course).
- Elnup Woods needs improvement.
- Fairhurst Lane reclamation land could benefit from surface work, benches and bin.
- The Rook on Bradley Lane could be more user friendly.
- Keep Standish Tidy scheme.