

Meeting with Greysbrooke Y5 and Y6 representatives 16.12.13

<b>WHAT WE LIKE ABOUT SHENSTONE</b>	
<b>Key comments</b>	<b>Narrative / asides</b>
Community	<i>Children felt that the friendliness of everyone was an overriding feature of Shenstone. They felt everyone supported one another.</i>
A developing community	Shenstone's still growing and it's being added to, so that's good. Like they've added a village clock.
Park & facilities	<i>All of them liked the fact that the park/recreation area had been developed and that there was a focus on exercise (equipment) as well as recreation (pitches and play areas).</i> And you can play games on the pitches with a team and not just go down the park with your friends.
Countryside, Lammas Land, Little Holmes	It's lovely living where you're in a village but feel like you're in the country. I like the Lammas Land and the other place [The Little Holmes) - there's plenty of trees and streams and birds and places to play or go with the dog or make a den.
Public amenities	We're lucky because we've got pubs and shops and hairdressers and a post office. And a doctor and a dentist and a school. And there's places where they put things on, like the Village Hall and the country club. Some of the shops are really unique and special.
Train	We've got a train line ... [various comments like, "Yeah but no trains", "But the trains don't stop"].
History & memories	I like the way that Shenstone remembers people and that makes them important - like the memorial and the names round the village clock. They'd be proud.
School and nursery	Because there's a school and Nursery in the village, you can get your education here without having to move out of the village. It means you know everyone and everyone's friendly and looks out for you and cares.
Events, fun, fund-raising	There are lots of events so you can have fun with all your friends and your family without having to go far. And it doesn't cost much when it's in the village. I like the way some of the fun things raise money for the village and for charity so we're all doing something good. And the Fun Run makes you get healthy.

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<b>WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT SHENSTONE</b>	
<b>Key comments</b>	<b>Narrative / asides</b>
Dog poo & litter	<p>We hate the dog poo.</p> <p>It's everywhere and you step in it when you go for a walk or play in the park, then you smell and it's got germs.</p>
Skate Park	<p>It needs changing.</p> <p>It's not good.</p> <p>It's a bad design.</p> <p>You can only do one movement on it, just a down and an up, once.</p> <p>They should have asked us how we wanted it to be because grown ups don't use it so they don't know. We'd have told them how to make it good.</p>
Community Involvement	<p>We should get the community to help look after things in the village.</p> <p>We could get pensioners to keep the Lammas Land neat and well-looked after. Then it would give them something to do, too, and help them keep healthy [there followed a lengthy conversation about ecosystems and guarding against over-management by humans].</p> <p>We need to get everyone together to help stop the HS2 because it's going to affect people near here.</p>
Public amenities	<p>You can't go to the park and play all day because there are no toilets. Children have to go to the toilet when they're playing and it's too far to go home.</p>
Transport & parking	<p>Can't buy tickets for the train.</p> <p>There aren't enough buses for when the train's cancelled again.</p> <p>You have to walk in the road sometimes because there are cars parked on the pavement.</p>

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<b>WHEN WE'RE 17 (2020)</b>	
<b>Key comments</b>	<b>Narrative / asides</b>
Community	When we're 17 we want everyone to still care, respect each other and the land
Park & amenities for young people	We'd like to keep what we've got and have a bit more of it that's suitable for teenagers. A club for teenagers - my sister moans about that.
Environmental issues	Shenstone should be an eco-friendly village. Yes, because it's our future and needs looking after. Everybody should be made to have solar panels to heat their own water and house. It's easy to forget about animals and how we need them. There should be a farm we can go to so children and teenagers can see animals like in nature. Every family in the village should be given a tree to plant and you could have a competition to see whose is the best. We'd have more trees in the villages.
Public amenities	We should have faster broadband so you don't have to wait for ages.
Transport	We'd like all trains to be on time and to stop in Shenstone. We'd like different ways to travel so cars aren't used as much. More people in one cars. Or borrowing village cars so you only use one when you want it [car pool].
Community	A Community Christmas Tree by the shops and everybody should be given a bauble to put on it. There should be family days out with a coach to take families with children and teenagers somewhere. Different festivals through the year then it would give everyone something to do in the village.
Housing & parking	There would be more parking spaces All new houses should be built with parking spaces. Or there could be a shared parking area for the houses.

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<b>WHEN WE'RE 30 (2033)</b>	
<b>Key comments</b>	<b>Narrative / asides</b>
Community & amenities	<p>We'd want a parent and toddler area in the village and in the park. You don't see many young children in Shenstone so we want it to be friendlier for them.</p> <p>I'd want there to be places where I could take my children and for it to be child-friendly village. And to have stories at the library again 'cos they've stopped them.</p> <p>And the library should have more opening hours and more books [then amended that to take account of the library meeting 'the needs of future reading patterns' based on advanced technology].</p> <p>I'd want us still to maintain respect for our neighbours and for people not to have noisy oarties if children are trying to get to sleep.</p> <p>It would be nice to have day trips for the elderly.</p> <p>It would be nice to have a Village Sports Day and raise money, then all the money could go to the shops to help them not have to close.</p>
School & Nursery	<p>There should still be a nice school in Shenstone where everyone grows up knowing each other so we have a friendly community.</p> <p>There should be a flexible because I might only want to work 1 or 2 days a week, or I might have to go somewhere just once and not have anywhere I could leave the baby.</p>
Employment	<p>There should be more employment opportunities.</p> <p>Yes, and better ones because you might not want to work in a shop.</p> <p>And if the train never comes you might not be able to work in another place unless you had a car.</p>
Dog poo	<p>There should be CCTV cameras to catch the dog pooers.</p> <p>And they should be given community service so everyone knows what they've been doing.</p> <p>They could go and clean up the Lammas Land and get rid of everybody else's dog poo from there.</p>