

The Working Party on the Community Centre project identified the need to further the conversation within Paddock Wood, regarding the proposed building. During the summer months, several community events take place and it was considered a good opportunity to engage with members of the public at these events.

Site plans and artists' impressions of the building had been created by the existing architects' firm, so these were used as a talking point. Comment cards were offered, but no structured questions were asked at this point in the process.

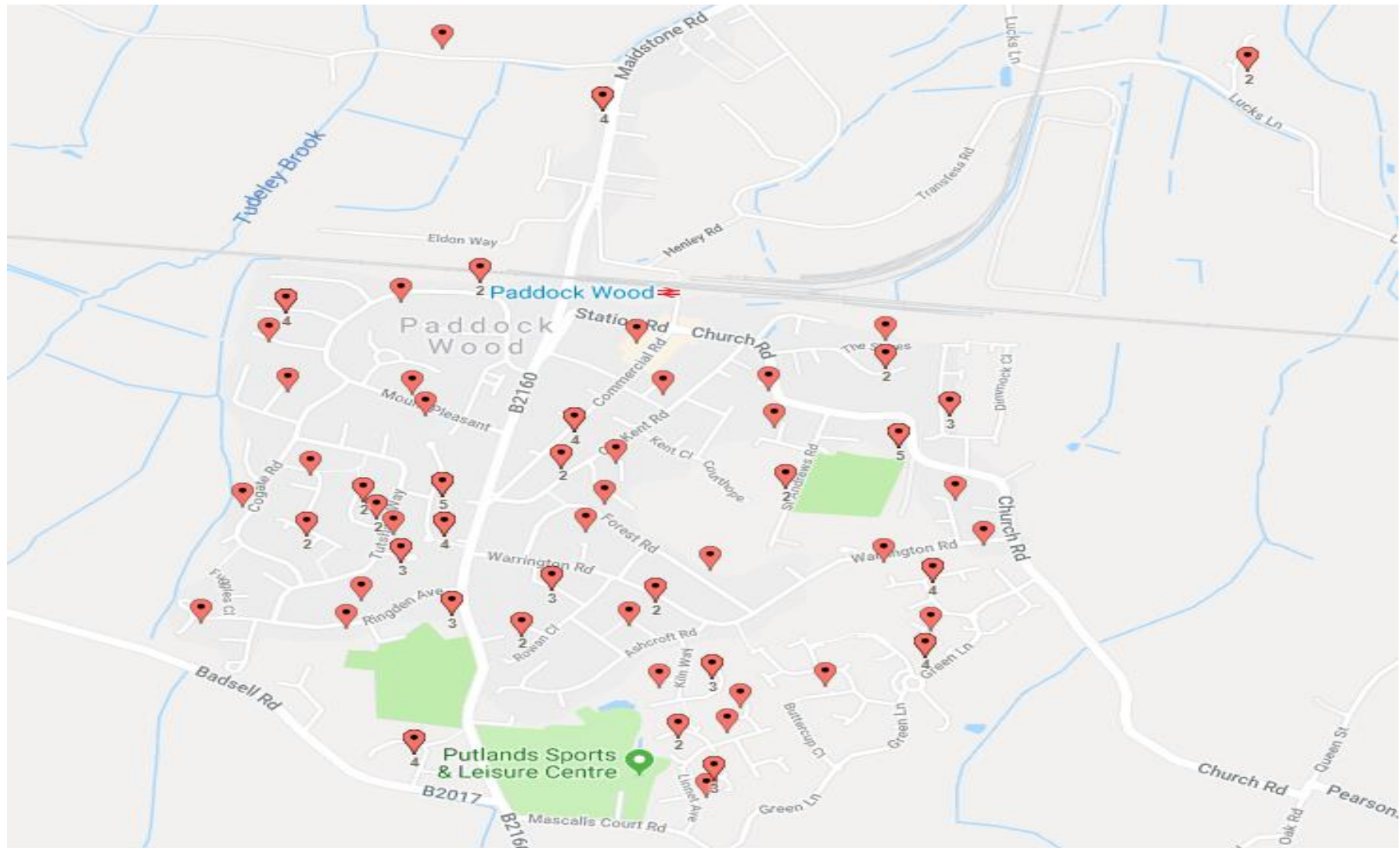
A number of people were interested to view the proposals, but had no clear opinion on the matter. Comment cards were completed by a total of 98 people. Postcodes were requested to determine community interest. Age ranges were requested to include comments from those eligible for inclusion on the electoral roll.

Further consultation boards were taken to Pathfinders Youth group at St Andrews Church, and have previously been discussed with Paddock Wood Youth Council. St Andrews Church Fun Day was moved from Memorial Park due to inclement weather and the display boards were not used as planned at this event.

#### **Summary of attended events**

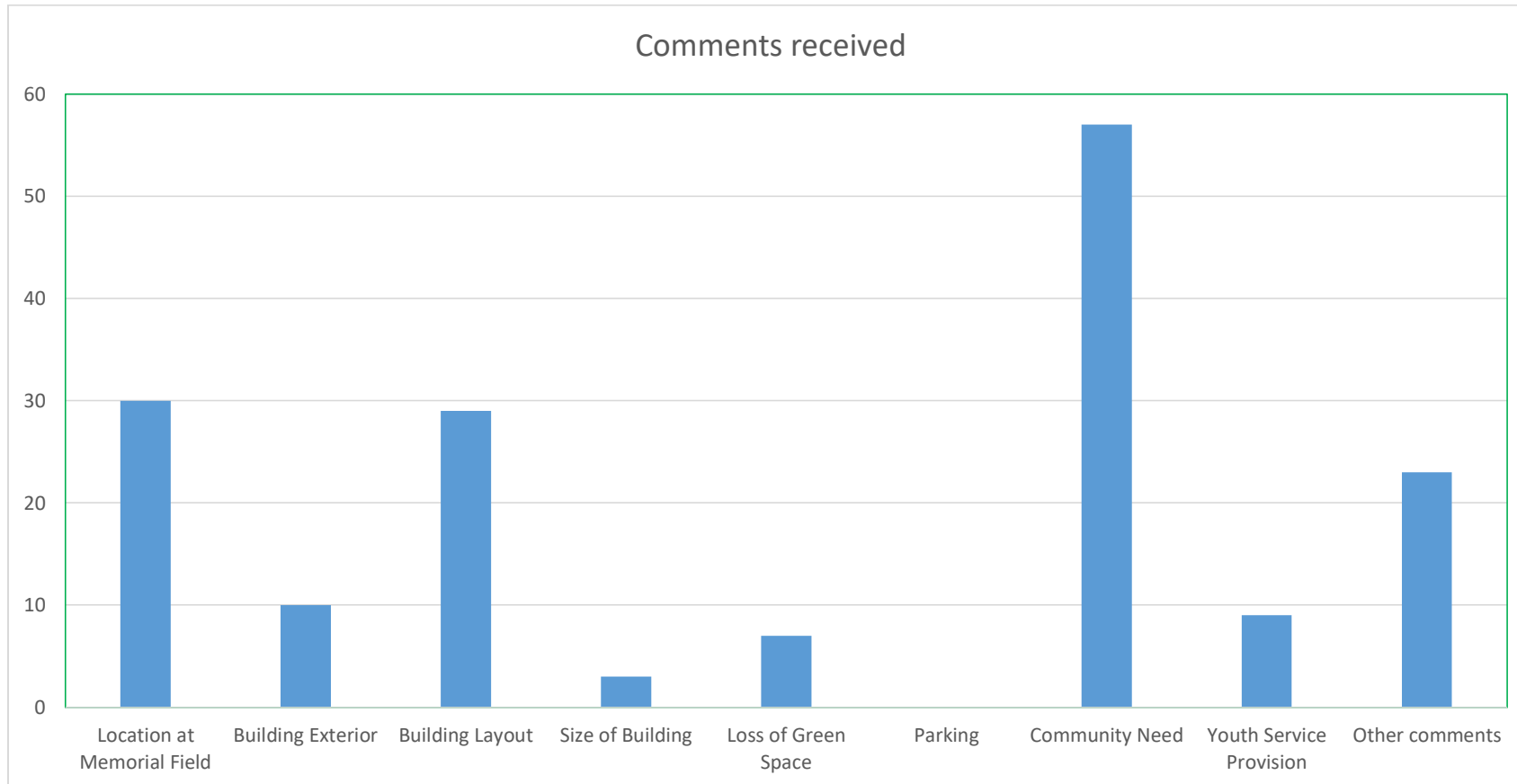
<b>Event</b>	<b>Completed comments cards</b>
Paddock Wood Primary School Fair 24 <sup>th</sup> June	29
POTS charity football match 30 <sup>th</sup> June	25
Paddock Wood Carnival 14 <sup>th</sup> July	35
The Pavilion Community Café Display boards (August)	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>98</b>

Postcode map of participants



**Topics of discussion**

The most noted comments related to whether there was a need for a Community Centre in Paddock Wood. These have been added below and comments in red indicate an objection to the proposed site.



### **1. Comments relating to Community Need**

- Think this is a good idea. Hope café has healthy options and fresh drinking water freely available.
- "Needs to be flexible re use.
- Much needed for community."
- Think with the expansion of Paddock Wood, it's much needed community area.
- A good idea
- Much needed
- I think this is a great idea and something good for Paddock Wood.
- To enable residents to enjoy special events locally
- An opportunity to secure a positive future for our wonderful community
- Be nice to have a community facility.
- Exciting new plans, will be good for the town
- Exciting plans.
- Forward looking
- Would be a great addition to the town as not enough halls for hire for guides etc
- Great idea, happy to see plans for this
- Good idea. Paddock Wood has needed this type of centre for many years.
- Excellent idea. What Paddock Wood needs with the extended estates being built.
- PW needs this.
- Yes it's needed.
- It would be really good to have the building to meet in
- Good halls in area already. You are taking business away from smaller venues
- A great asset to the community
- There are times of the week when there are no community halls available (all booked up)
- Important to bring the community together
- My son is 7 and would be good for him to have more social things to enjoy with friends and family
- Paddock Wood desperately needs this facility. Bring it on!
- Meets local needs in an inclusive way
- Definitely needed within a growing community

- This is needed in Paddock Wood
- PW needs this for now and future. Support the idea of Community Centre
- Community Centre is desperately needed in PW
- This will be a valuable addition to the Paddock Wood Community. It will provide a central focus point for various community events.
- I hope local people make use of it and it becomes a focal point
- Just build it!
- Lionesses would welcome new community centre
- Wonderful opportunity for community. Addresses current facilities shortfall in Paddock Wood
- Does Paddock Wood really need such a large new building. The Masonic Hall is not used to much extent
- Great idea, would benefit the local community. Business opportunity too.
- Need for community centre
- Basically great - needs some adjustments. Just get it built ASAP - we need it.
- Will serve a wide range of needs in the community
- Great to have new pre-school facilities.
- I think we have enough halls in PW - Church, Primary and Mascalls that can be hired for community use. Mascalls has a stage that can be hired for community use
- We function with the church, Day Centre, Wesley Centre and Masonic Hall. Has anyone asked them how they will manage if their hall hire goes to the community centre?

The second most discussed topic was the proposed location at Memorial Park. Comments have been listed below, again with comments in red indicating this was not supported.

## **2. Comments on the proposed location of Memorial Park**

- Better to build the complex on the edge of the field, next to other building (Pavilion/Estates) to keep green space and tennis courts and maximise overall green space
- Consider moving tennis courts to sports hub and move building to right

- Build it and build it now.
- Perfect!
- Supportive of centre.
- Good idea
- **Still not sure if it something that needs to be built in the Memorial Park.**
- Development site brilliant. Facility ideas wide reaching.
- World War 1 and 2 memorial should be somewhere on site. Stone with a suitable inscription prominent at front of the building
- Happy with the site, not happy with location of centre. Resite to cricket pavilion or tennis courts
- Good location
- Is there a covenant on Memorial Ground?
- **Loss of cricket pitch**
- **Important green space that needs to remain for recreational use. An application to site a mobile for use by the Guides was refused for this reason**
- I like the concept of a central focal point and the potential to promote 'community'
- **Wrong site - since the Memorial site was chosen many other sites have become available. If the project goes ahead on the memorial ground why not knock down the Pavilion and set the new building facing Maidstone Road?**
- **Wrong location completely - needs larger site on edge of town**
- **Memorial field means Memorial - not developing a disgusting building. There are other areas in PW that could have been used, Old Hop Pocket Ground, Land by Nursery Road, St Andrews and Dowding House. All could be the place to have a community centre.**
- **Not needed not wanted**
- I think this a wonderful idea
- Great for the children to be close to the field and play area
- Good thinking.
- More facilities to enjoy
- I would like to see more facilities for younger children. Would be nice to go somewhere to gather rather than on a road or on the ipad.
- Tennis courts/sports facilities great idea and maybe café to extend
- Keep tree line so not changing look of park, extend café area and pleased to see tennis courts remain
- Would be nice to join the community to watch big sporting events at the community centre
- Looks like it will fit the space well
- using the space in PW for something for the community.
- Utilising it to the max, including all aspects and ages critical.

- I think we should add a football or basketball court
- Nice view across park
- Great idea
- Ideal
- Looks okay. Tie in with Putlands?
- Site is best of limited options

### **Conclusion**

Following on from the open discussions which took place across summer events in Paddock Wood between June and August 2018, a Frequently Asked Questions document has been compiled and shared across press and social media by Paddock Wood Town Council. Residents wished to be kept informed of developments on the Community Centre project and this should be addressed as the project progresses. No other members of the public came forward from these events to be further involved in the Working Party group.