



# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL WINDMILLS OWNED BY KCC CONSULTATION REPORT

PREPARED BY LAKE MARKET RESEARCH



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2,330 responses were received to the consultation - 2,245 of these responses were made via the consultation questionnaire. An additional 63 responses were received via an edited / shorter version of the consultation questionnaire used to capture Herne Mill feedback, 2 Save Our Windmills forms and an additional 20 emails / letters were received by the project team. Feedback from all sources have been combined to summarise feedback in this report.
- The most common means of finding out about the consultation is via a windmill and heritage volunteer group (39%), followed by a friend or relative (20%), social media (19%) or a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council (13%).
- 83% of consultees have visited at least one of the eight potentially impacted windmills. The windmills with the highest proportion of 'ever' visitors taking part in the consultation are Cranbrook, Union Mill (33% of consultees responding) and Meopham Mill (23% of consultees responding).
- 11% of consultees agree in principle with KCC's proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills. 87% disagree in principle with KCC's proposal to find alternative arrangements (79% strongly disagree).
- Consultees were asked to indicate their reasons for their agreement rating (with the majority citing reasons for their disagreement with the proposal). The most common theme noted is that the windmills are part of the County's heritage / culture / history / community assets and should remain so moving forward (50%). There is concern for the protection / longevity of windmills with just under a third (32%) commenting that windmills must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned they are at risk if proposals are followed. 27% commented that windmills must remain in public ownership / be the responsibility of KCC. 24% referenced concerns with regards to funding guarantees / perceived lack of funding available.
- When consultees were asked to indicate whether they would change their minds if a local interest, voluntary or community group(s) were to take on ownership of the windmills, 14% indicated they would change their mind. 75% indicated they would not change their mind and 11% indicated they are not sure. The main reasons cited by those who would change their mind are that windmills will be locally owned / funded / managed, windmills will be preserved / not developed / demolished and local groups might have more interest / have a vested interest in operating them.
- Consultees were asked to detail any comments or suggestions on the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy in relation to windmills and the consultation. The most common themes referenced are consistent with those expressed at the agreement rating question – KCC retaining ownership of windmills (25%), preservation / safeguarding of windmills / closure concerns (22%), windmills are landmarks / part of County's heritage (17%). 23% of consultees noted they do not want a change to the Kent Heritage Strategy / do not want any objectives added.
- Consultees were asked if there was anything else they would like to provide feedback on, including suggestions for alternative proposals. The most common alternative

suggestions include income raising through donations / fundraising / charging entrance fees (10%), raise awareness of the windmills (9%), offer tours / open museums / shops selling merchandise / cafes (8%). The most common themes cited in response to the consultation are consistent with those expressed at earlier free text questions – windmills are landmarks / part of County's heritage (25%), KCC retaining ownership of windmills (20%), preservation / safeguarding of windmills / closure concerns (16%).

# BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

## BACKGROUND

Kent County Council (KCC) owns and is responsible for the preservation of eight historic windmills across the county. Due to the ongoing financial challenges faced by the council, KCC is looking very closely at where savings can be made. One possibility is to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for each of the windmills. This would be a change to the current strategy for windmills as set out in the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy.

The windmills potentially impacted are:

- Chillenden Mill
- Cranbrook, Union Mill
- Herne Mill
- Margate, Drapers Mill
- Meopham Mill
- Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill
- West Kingsdown Mill
- Wittersham, Stocks Mill

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

On the 28 November 2023, a nine-week consultation was launched and ran until the 29 January 2024. The consultation invited residents, windmill and heritage volunteer groups, and other interested parties to provide views on the proposal to seek alternative arrangements for the ownership of these windmills.

Feedback was captured via a consultation questionnaire which was available on the KCC engagement website ([www.kent.gov.uk/windmillsconsultation](http://www.kent.gov.uk/windmillsconsultation)). Hard copies of the consultation material, including the questionnaire were also available on request and provided to several individuals and groups. Large print copies were available from the consultation webpage and consultation material and the webpage included details of how people could contact KCC to ask a question, request hard copies or an alternative format. A Word version of the questionnaire was provided on the webpage for people who did not wish to complete the online version.

To raise awareness of the consultation and encourage participation, the following was undertaken:

- Meeting with windmill managers ahead of the consultation launch to provide information on the proposal and ask for their support in promoting the consultation.
- Email sent to stakeholder database and those registered with Let's talk Kent who had expressed an interest in being kept informed of consultation regarding 'Arts and culture' and 'Environment and countryside' (8,559 people) and to those who participated in the 2021 Heritage Conservation Strategy consultation and asked to be kept informed (258 people).
- Voluntary groups managing the windmills asked to promote the consultation locally.
- Media release issued – <https://news.kent.gov.uk/articles/views-wanted-on-proposals-for-kents-windmills>.
- Promoted through the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC).
- Banners added to relevant pages on Kent.gov.
- Promoted via social media including, KCC's corporate channels (X, Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor and LinkedIn), the Heritage Conservation Facebook page and information shared on dedicated windmills forum on Facebook.

- Articles in KCC’s residents e-newsletter.
- Briefing email to all KCC Members and promoted on staff communication channels.

A summary of interaction and supply of consultation material can be found below:

- 9,272 visits to the consultation webpage by 8,187 visitors during the consultation period.
- Organic posts via KCC’s corporate channels had a reach of 20,294 on Facebook and Instagram. There were 77,484 impressions on X (Twitter), LinkedIn, Nextdoor and Instagram. Reach refers to the number of people who saw a post at least once and impressions are the number of times the post is displayed on someone’s screen. The posts generated 1,151 clicks through to the consultation webpage. (Not all social media platforms report the same statistics).
- Seven hard copies of the consultation document and questionnaire were requested and provided.
- The number of document downloads are show in the table below.

<b>Document name</b>	<b>Downloads / Views</b>
Consultation document	2,091
Equality Impact Assessment	129
Word version of questionnaire	125
Consultation document - large print	74
Word version of questionnaire – large print	17
Equality Impact Assessment - large print	1

A consultation stage Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was carried out to assess the impact the proposed service changes could have on those with protected characteristics. The EqIA was available as one of the consultation documents and the questionnaire invited consultees to comment on the assessment that had been carried out. An analysis of responses to this question can be found with the overall findings’ sections of this report.

## **CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

There were 2,330 responses to this consultation:

- 2,245 responses were received to the consultation questionnaire - 1,759 of the 2,245 questionnaires were submitted online and 486 questionnaires were submitted in hard copy or by email.
- An edited version of the consultation questionnaire was used by consultees to collect feedback regarding Herne Mill. 63 responses were received via this questionnaire. The responses from these questionnaires have been combined with the data collected from the official consultation questionnaire and are therefore included in this report’s analysis.
- A second edited version of the consultation questionnaire was used and submitted by 2 consultees, entitled Save our Windmills. Open feedback from these questionnaires have been considered in this report’s analysis.

- An additional 20 emails were received by the KCC project team. Their open feedback has been combined with that collected from the official consultation questionnaire and are therefore included in this report's analysis.

## **POINTS TO NOTE**

- Consultees were given the choice of which questions to answer / provide a comment for. The number of consultees providing an answer to each question is shown on each chart / data table featured in this report.
- Consultees were asked to detail the reasons for their views in their own words. For the purpose of reporting, we have reviewed the comments made at each of these questions and grouped common responses together into themes. These themes are reported where relevant in this report. Please note the percentages in these data tables will exceed the sum of 100% and comments often cover more than one theme.
- Please note the sum of individual percentages in any single choice question in this report may not sum to 100% due to rounding.
- Please note that participation in consultations is self-selecting and this needs to be considered when interpreting responses. Responses to consultations do not wholly represent the local resident population or current service users and is reliant on awareness and propensity to take part based on the topic and interest.
- Whilst this consultation was open to residents and stakeholders to participate, it should be noted that 83% of consultees responding indicated they have visited at least one of the eight potentially impacted windmills.
- KCC were responsible for the design, promotion and collection of the consultation responses. Lake Market Research were appointed to conduct an independent analysis of feedback.

# CONSULTATION PROFILE AND AWARENESS

## RESPONSE PROFILE

The majority of consultees responding are residents of Kent (89%); 4% of consultees are residents that live outside of Kent, including Medway. 44 questionnaire submissions were received on behalf of windmill and heritage volunteer groups (2%). Responses were also received from community / resident associations, professional organisations working in the heritage sector, local councils and councillors and VCS organisations.

CONSULTEE TYPE	Count	Percentage
As a resident of Kent (living in the Kent County Council authority area)	2,076	89%
As a resident from outside Kent, including Medway	93	4%
As a representative of a local community group or residents' association	10	0.4%
On behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group	44	2%
On behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector	3	0.1%
On behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council in an official capacity	9	0.4%
As a Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor	13	1%
On behalf of an educational establishment, such as a school or college	2	0.1%
On behalf of a business	6	0.3%
On behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCS)	7	0.3%
Other (the majority are current or past residents in close proximity to affected windmills)	41	2%
Prefer not to say / blank	26	1%



## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The tables below show the demographic profile of resident consultees who completed the consultation questionnaire (2,169 in total). The proportion who left these questions blank or indicated they did not want to disclose this information has been included as applicable.

Responses received by area broadly reflect the surrounding locations of the eight potentially impacted windmills discussed in the consultation.

AREA	Number of responses	Percentage
Ashford	62	3%
Canterbury	451	21%
Dartford	54	2%
Dover	36	2%
Folkestone & Hythe	35	2%
Gravesham	437	20%
Maidstone	51	2%
Outside Kent	100	5%
Sevenoaks	45	2%
Swale	21	1%
Thanet	72	3%
Tonbridge & Malling	113	5%
Tunbridge Wells	590	27%
Prefer not to say / blank	102	5%

GENDER (RESIDENT CONSULTTEES ONLY)	Number of responses	Percentage
Male	456	21%
Female	601	28%
Prefer not to say / blank	1,112	51%

AGE (RESIDENT CONSULTTEES ONLY)	Number of responses	Percentage
0-15	2	0.1%
16-24	13	1%
25-34	26	1%
35-49	170	8%
50-59	200	9%
60-64	113	5%
65-74	251	12%
75-84	199	9%

<b>AGE (RESIDENT CONSULTEES ONLY)</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
85 and over	38	2%
Prefer not to say / blank	1,157	53%

<b>DISABILITY (RESIDENT CONSULTEES ONLY)</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	77	4%
- Physical impairment	44	2%
- Sensory impairment	17	1%
- Longstanding illness or health condition	32	1%
- Mental health condition	11	1%
- Learning disability	5	0.2%
- Other	1	0.04%
No	760	35%
Prefer not to say / blank	1,222	56%

<b>CARER (RESIDENT CONSULTEES ONLY)</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	71	3%
No	666	31%
Prefer not to say / blank	1,432	66%

<b>ETHNICITY (RESIDENT CONSULTEES ONLY)</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White English	802	37%
White Scottish	13	1%
White Welsh	7	0.3%
White Northern Irish	3	0.1%
White Irish	8	0.4%
Asian or Asian British Indian	2	0.1%
Asian or Asian British Pakistani	2	0.1%
Mixed White & Black Caribbean	1	0.05%
Mixed White & Asian	3	0.1
Arab	1	0.05%
Chinese	1	0.05%
Other (including White British, White European)	47	2%
Prefer not to say / blank	1,279	59%

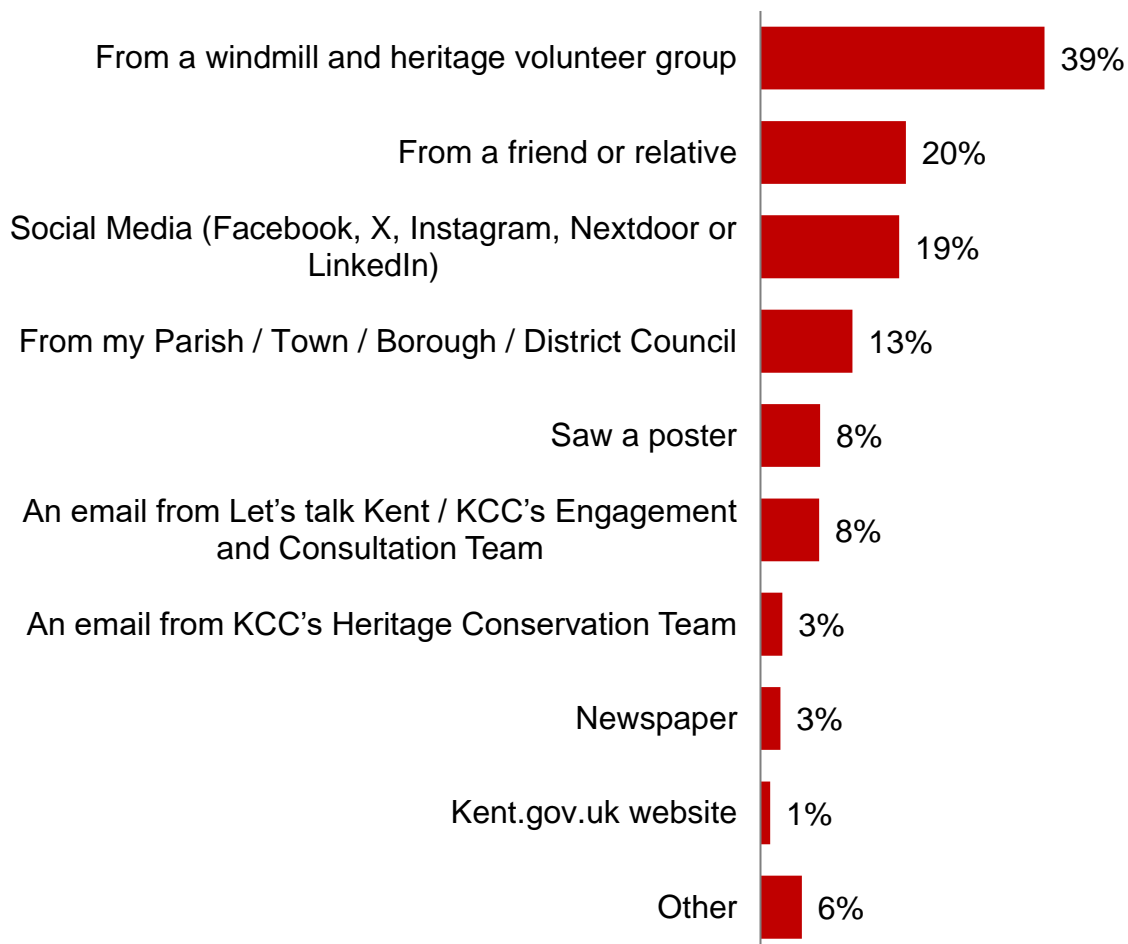
<b>RELIGION (RESIDENT CONSULTEES ONLY)</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	368	14%
- Christian	339	13%
- Buddhist	2	0.1%
- Jewish	1	0.05%
- Muslim	1	0.05%
- Sikh	2	0.1%
- Other	9	0.3%
No	454	17%
Prefer not to say / blank	993	38%

## CONSULTATION AWARENESS

The most common means of finding out about the consultation is via a windmill and heritage volunteer group (39%), from a friend or relative (20%) or social media (19%).

13% found out via their Parish / Town / Borough / District Council and 11% found out via a prompted email (8% from Let's talk Kent / KCC's Engagement and Consultation Team and 3% from KCC's Heritage Conservation Team).

**How did you find out about this consultation?** Base: all providing a response (2,287)



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
From a windmill and heritage volunteer group	887	39%
From a friend or relative	454	20%
Social Media (Facebook, X, Instagram, Nextdoor or LinkedIn)	433	19%
From my Parish / Town / Borough / District Council	287	13%
Saw a poster	186	8%
An email from Let's talk Kent / KCC's Engagement and Consultation Team	183	8%
An email from KCC's Heritage Conservation Team	68	3%
Newspaper	62	3%
Kent.gov.uk website	30	1%
Other (including word of mouth, leaflet, schools, local groups / organisations)	129	6%

## VISITING OF IMPACTED WINDMILLS

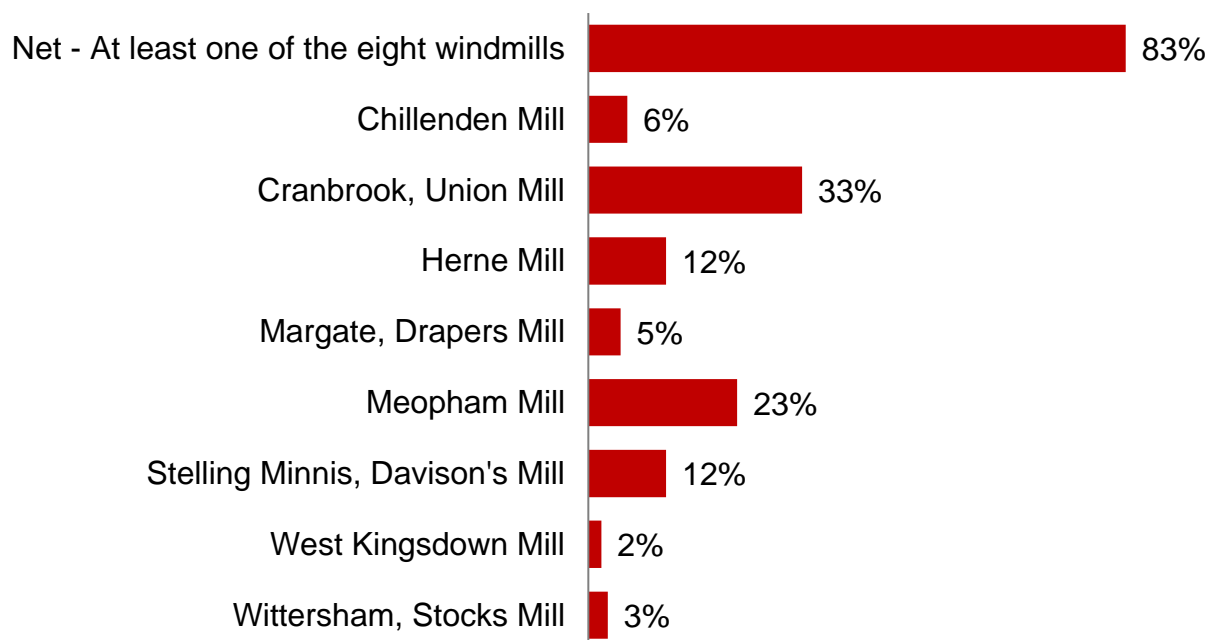
Midway through the consultation questionnaire, consultees were asked to indicate whether they have **ever visited** each of the eight potentially impacted windmills, namely:

- Chillenden Mill
- Cranbrook, Union Mill
- Herne Mill
- Margate, Drapers Mills
- Meopham Mill
- Stelling Minnis, Davidson's Mill
- West Kingsdown Mill
- Wittersham, Stocks Mill

This chart below summarises the proportion who indicated they have **ever visited** each of the windmills. Please note that percentages are calculated using the total number of consultees responding to the consultation questionnaire (not those answering these specific questions only) to provide insight into the proportion of 'consultees who have ever visited windmills'. Frequency of use and response to proposals for individual windmills are displayed further on in this report.

83% of consultees responding to the consultation have **ever visited** at least one of the eight potentially impacted windmills. The windmills with the highest proportion of ever visitors responding to the consultation are Cranbrook, Union Mill (33%) and Meopham Mill (23%).

**Have you ever visited...?** Base: all responding to consultation (2,328)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Net – At least one of the eight windmills	1,926	83%
Chillenden Mill	136	6%
Cranbrook, Union Mill	779	33%
Herne Mill	275	12%
Margate, Drapers Mill	119	5%
Meopham Mill	526	23%
Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill	275	12%
West Kingsdown Mill	48	2%
Wittersham, Stocks Mill	80	3%

The table below depicts the proportion of consultees who have visited at least one of the eight potentially impacted windmills by resident gender and age groups. The proportion indicating they have ever visited is 80% or above for both gender groups and all age groups.

<b>% ever visited at least one windmills</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male resident	375	82%
Female resident	521	87%
Resident aged 35-49	149	88%
Resident aged 50-59	165	83%
Resident aged 60-64	90	80%
Resident aged 65-74	215	86%
Resident aged 75 & over	196	83%

## RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

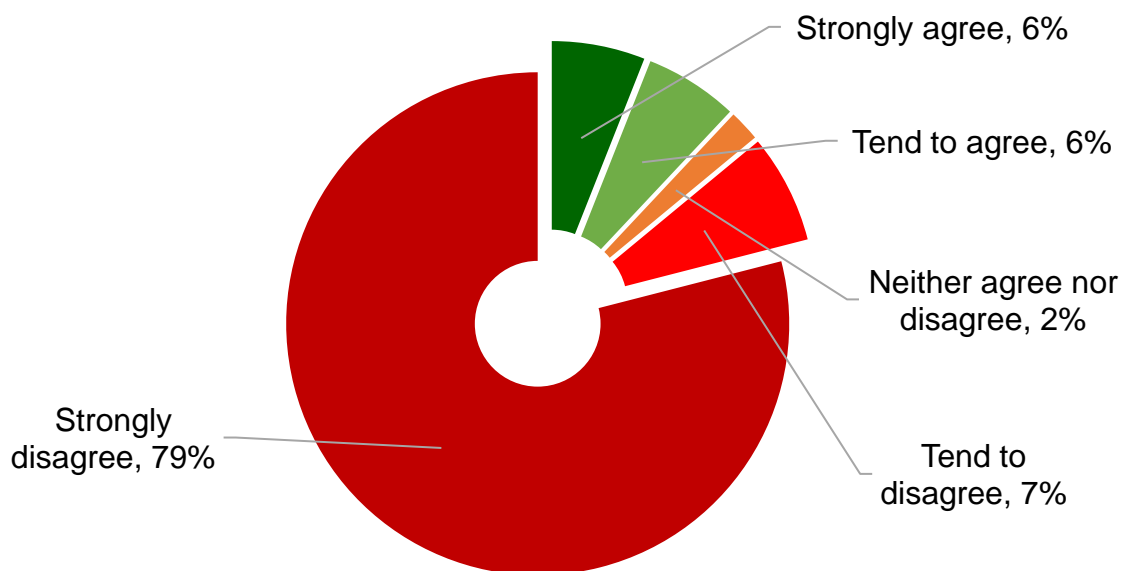
This section of the report details response to the proposals put forward in the consultation.

### AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KCC OWNED WINDMILLS

11% indicated they agree in principle with KCC's proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills (6% strongly agree, 6% tend to agree). 87% indicated they disagree in principle with KCC's proposal to find alternative arrangements (7% tend to disagree, 79% strongly disagree). There are no significant differences in agreement level by resident subgroup (i.e. gender / age).

#### To what extent do you agree or disagree in principle with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills?

Base: all providing a response (2,300), the sum of individual percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Net – Agree	261	11%
Net – Disagree	1,992	87%
Strongly agree	130	6%
Tend to agree	131	6%
Neither agree nor disagree	41	2%
Tend to disagree	165	7%
Strongly disagree	1,827	79%
Don't know	6	0%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KCC OWNED WINDMILLS)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal to find alternative arrangements for ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section. 86% of consultees provided a comment at this question.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (87% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted is that the windmills are part of the County's heritage / culture / history / community assets and should remain so moving forward (50%).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of windmills with 32% commenting that windmills must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned they could be at risk of demolition / development, 24% commented that proposals won't guarantee funding / there is a lack of funding and 17% commented they are concerned the windmills won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

27% commented that the windmills must remain in public ownership / be the responsibility of KCC and 15% commented they should not be privately owned / they are at risk if sold to private owners.

9% commented that the suggested savings made from the proposal are small in comparison to the funding required by KCC.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (2,005), themes 2% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Part of heritage / culture / history / landmark / community asset must remain so / detrimental if lost	1,005	50%
Windmills must be preserved / safeguarded for future / could be at risk of demolition / development	649	32%
Must remain in public ownership / responsibility of KCC	544	27%
Proposals won't guarantee funding / lack of funding	476	24%
Concerned they will not be maintained / fall into disrepair	343	17%
They are a tourist attraction / event space / education / bring people and money to the area	291	15%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	215	11%
Windmills must be open to the public / accessible	197	10%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	189	9%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	112	6%
Disagree with proposals (unspecified)	79	4%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / part of the Heritage Conservation Strategy	76	4%



<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
KCC has invaluable expertise with managing and operating windmills for so many years / a long time	57	3%
Volunteers already contribute a lot of time assisting in the running of windmills	56	3%
Depends if an organisation can be found that will comply / adhere / commit to the windmills	50	2%
Possibility of community / local interest groups being drafted in to help / private benefactors	48	2%
Make savings elsewhere	46	2%
More important services to spend money on than windmills	45	2%
Could be more commercially viable / generate income	42	2%
Other groups would not have sufficient expertise / lack of experience / knowledge if taking on windmills	40	2%
Raise money elsewhere / seek funding	39	2%
Agree with proposals / could work under different ownership	37	2%
Could be taken on by charitable organisations / English Heritage / National Trust	34	2%
Finding a suitable organisation to take them on will be difficult	32	2%

Example verbatim comments supporting the main themes of the windmills being part of the County's heritage / culture / history / community assets and remaining under KCC ownership can be found below:

**“Historic windmills are cultural and heritage assets to be preserved for current and future generations, this should always be through a regulatory body or government organisation such as KCC, if the funding is currently short then this needs to be raised with Historic England. This continuing downward spiral of cuts can't be allowed to continue.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmills need protection from a public body and are a crucial heritage asset that must be guaranteed safely within the custodianship of the local authority.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmills are an important part of our heritage, and transferring responsibility into private or local community hands significantly increases the risk that, over time, they will be lost forever. The windmills benefit from expert maintenance under KCC, and the cost is negligible as a % of total KCC budget.”** (Kent resident)

**“All of the windmills around the County make a beautiful addition to all of the villages / towns that they occupy and have been a part of people's lives for many, many years. The history behind them is something we must hold onto and people I'm sure would be prepared to pay a contribution towards the upkeep of such historical buildings in their Council Tax. Selling off something as precious as a windmill should not be allowed.”** (Kent resident)

**“Joint efforts by councils and community groups have often worked well, but these effective partnerships often depend on the council offering long term freehold ownership and support for care and maintenance. Voluntary input provides a valuable supplement to public ownership, often allowing local community engagement, educational activities, conservation work and public access but the role of the local authority remains vital. Kent County Council Heritage Conservation Service department has an excellent record of mill care and most of the mills have had major work carried out to bring them back to a good working state, though some still have work to be completed. These mills should only need minor work and maintenance rather than major council expenditure in the coming period. We urge that these important heritage assets are retained under the care of the KCC.”**  
(Behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCS))

Example verbatim comments underpinning the theme of windmill preservation / safeguarding for future generations can be found below:

**“These mills are a significant and important part of our social/cultural history and identity. Community groups have worked hard to preserve these historical features as living and working buildings for the benefit of all present and future.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmills are being put in jeopardy due to the current economic crisis but as a direct result of that same crisis, there is little potential to find the quality ownership needed to ensure a future of these buildings. As you report many are in now in very good order, paid for out of our KCC funding. Surely a better solution must be to reduce spending on the buildings for the time being & tread water until an ideal solution is found. Selling the KCC silver to balance the short-term books with no proper plan in place, is a desperate & damaging action. These historic buildings are an important Kent legacy which must be protected.”** (Kent resident)

**“These windmills are historic assets that deserve a secure and protected future. Short term funding difficulties cannot outweigh our responsibilities to future generations.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmills need protection from a public body and are a crucial heritage asset that must be guaranteed safely within the custodianship of the local authority.”** (Kent resident)

Organisations express concern about KCC making alternative arrangements for ownership and/or financial responsibilities for the windmills and private involvement:

**“The windmills, collectively and individually, provide great public benefit. They are able to do so through the partnership between KCC and each volunteer group. KCC has the human and financial resources to care for, maintain and support the operation of the mills. It has built up the skills and experience to do over several decades. This is demonstrated by the successful programme of repairs to the windmills which KCC has undertaken in recent years. The volunteer groups provide the people on the ground to enable the windmills to open to the public, to engage with the local community and to deal with day-to-day administration of the windmills. All these secure public benefits are put at risk by potential disposal of the windmills as contemplated in the Consultation Document, as is the structural condition and integrity of the windmills. Having each windmill owned and operated by a separate, small charitable or other voluntary organisation would require**

**replicating eight times over the cost of establishing such charities and the governance costs associated with them. Such charities would not have access to the economies of scale in obtaining the services needed to support the windmill operations, such as engineering, insurance, fire protection and regulatory compliance, which are available to KCC as the owner of a large estate of heritage assets, including the windmills.”** (Behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCS))

**“We would be concerned of the implications of private sale in terms of the impact this may have on the significance of individual windmills, especially if proposals were then forthcoming to remove key interiors and workings of a mill (some of which are operational) that would significantly and adversely affect the significance of a site. Conversion to a private residential use is also likely to lead to a loss of public access and would be very harmful to the significance of the windmills. Conversion of any mill to a residential use could also have a negative impact on volunteers, who for many of the mills carry out regular maintenance and open the mills to the public. Conversion to residential uses could also negatively impact on local residents and communities who may use the mills and their local landscapes for amenity, wellbeing and educational purposes.”** (Professional organisation working in the heritage sector)

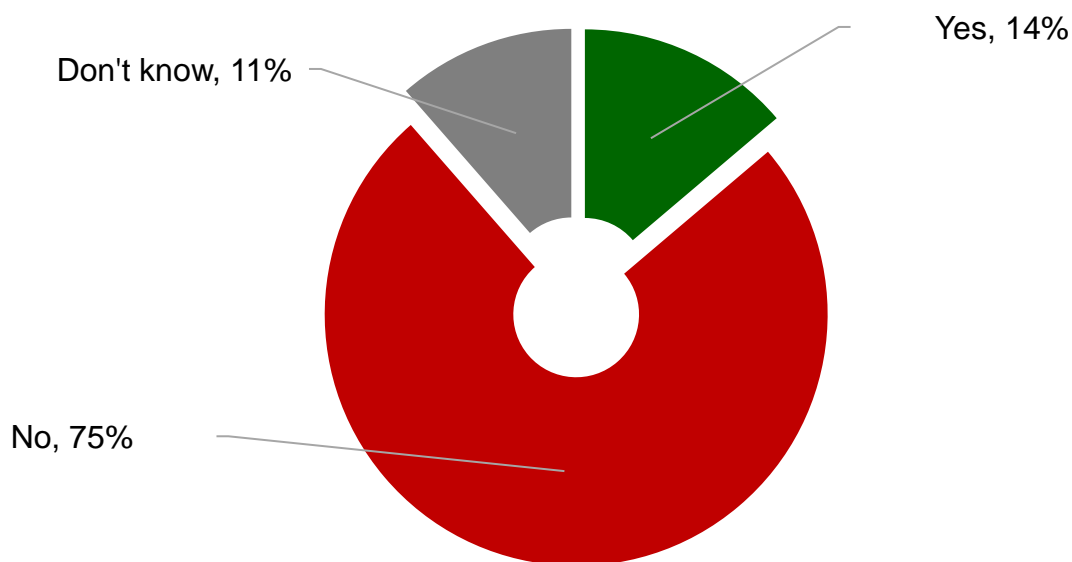
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**PROPORTION OF CONSULTEES WHO WOULD CHANGE THEIR MIND IF LOCAL INTEREST, VOLUNTARY OR COMMUNITY GROUP(S) TOOK ON OWNERSHIP OF WINDMILLS**

Consultees were asked to indicate if they would change their agreement with finding alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills, if a local interest, voluntary or community group(s) were to take on ownership of the windmills.

14% indicated they would change their agreement rating; 75% indicated they would not change their agreement rating and 11% indicated they are unsure.

**If, after this consultation, a decision is taken to seek alternative arrangements for our windmills, we would explore whether existing local voluntary or community groups would be able to take on responsibility for ownership of the windmills. If a local interest, voluntary or community group(s) were to take on the ownership of the windmills, would it change how you responded to the previous question? Base: all providing a response (2,267)**



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	313	14%
No	1,695	75%
Don't know	259	11%

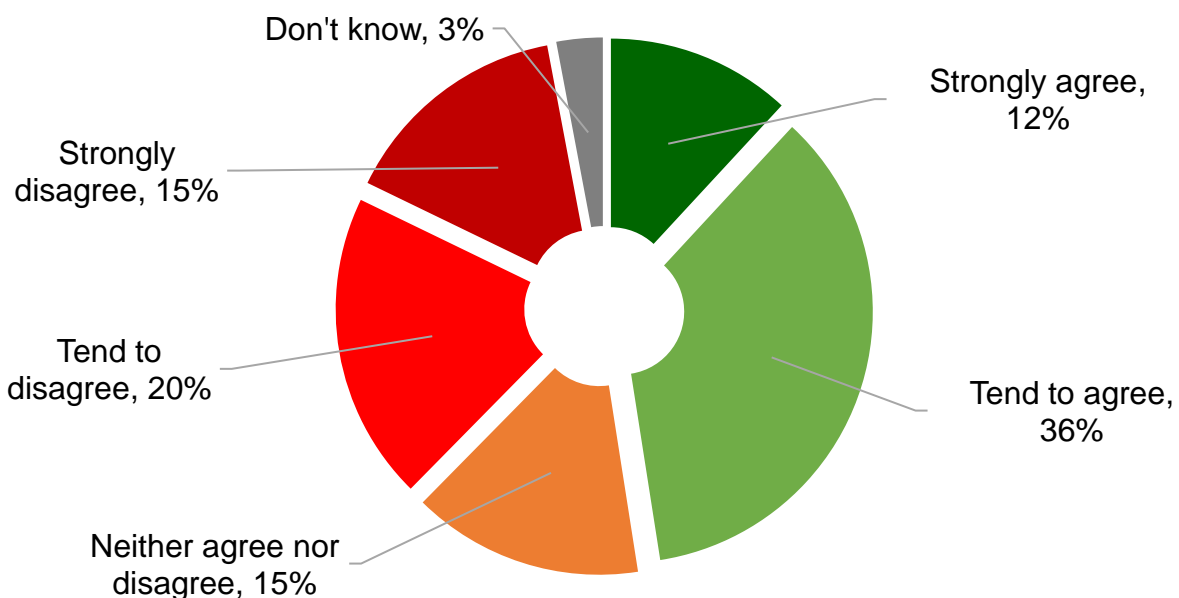
The consultees who indicated they would change their agreement rating were then asked to indicate their level of agreement with the proposal to seek alternative arrangements for KCC owned windmills for the second time. The chart below displays the rating these consultees gave when asked for the second time. The table below displays the ratings given by these consultees when asked for the first time and second time.

48% indicated they agree in principle with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills (12% strongly agree, 36% tend to agree). 35% indicated they disagree in principle with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements (20% tend to disagree, 15% strongly disagree).

**Second response of consultees who indicated they would change their mind only**

**Please tell us to what extent you would now agree or disagree with our proposal to seek alternative arrangements for KCC owned windmills? (second time asking)**

Base: all providing a response and indicated they would change their mind (311), the sum of individual percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



**Supporting data table – Comparing first and second response of consultees who indicated they would change their mind**

	Initial response (Percentage)	Second response (Percentage)
Net – Agree	15%	48%
Net – Disagree	77%	35%
Strongly agree	7%	12%
Tend to agree	8%	36%
Neither agree nor disagree	7%	15%
Tend to disagree	17%	20%
Strongly disagree	60%	15%
Don't know	1%	3%

This group of consultees were also asked to detail their reasons for changing their mind in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The main reasons put forward amongst those who had changed their mind are:

- The windmills would be locally owned / funded / managed - 29%
- Preservation of the windmills / not developed / demolished - 19%
- Local groups may have more interest / have a vested interest in operating them – 15%
- Local groups could be involved in operating processes with regards to windmills / not necessarily funding them – 12%

**Please tell us the reason for your change of mind in the box below.** Base: all consultees providing a response (249), themes 3% and above reported below

% THEME	Number of responses	Percentage
Locally owned / locally funded / managed / remain publicly owned	71	29%
Must be preserved / not developed / demolished	47	19%
Local groups may have more interest / have a vested interest in operating them	38	15%
Local groups could be involved in operating windmills / not necessarily funding them	31	12%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	31	12%
Part of history / heritage / culture / community / must remain as such	29	12%
Windmills must be open to the public / accessible	25	10%
No funding available to make this work / difficult to find funding	24	10%
Strict guidelines on how they are run / guarantees for future use	23	9%
Status quo / KCC to own / be responsible for them solely	21	8%
Depends on which organisations take it/them on / financial viability / sustainability / longevity	16	6%
KCC should still fund / offer financial support if run by other groups	11	4%
Local groups are not experienced enough to operate windmills	10	4%
Acceptable for English Heritage / National Trust to take them on / they have expertise	8	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting the core themes of local involvement can be found below:

**“Because it keeps it in a form of public and community ownership that will place the protection and maintenance of these cultural assets for future generations.”** (Kent resident)

**“Local group would have good understanding of the context of the windmill and its needs.”** (Kent resident)

**“It would be better if the mills remained in public owner, but they may stand a chance of being preserved by trusts who value them.”** (Kent resident)

**“It would be brilliant if a local heritage group could manage these windmills, but they would need funding support from KCC or another to survive.”** (Kent resident)

Organisations express some concerns as to whether potential alternative approaches have been appropriately evaluated to determine their feasibility / likelihood of success:

**“Community / voluntary ownership of the windmills would, we hope, enable them to stay in local control and be used for wider community benefit. These sites have a high heritage significance and are valued by their communities. There are many potential benefits (social, economic and environmental) of community ownership for heritage assets alongside a number of positive heritage outcomes associated with the physical improvement of a heritage asset and its effective management. These should be considered and weighed up against other options, including a ‘do nothing’ option. We would be interested to know if KCC have looked at models elsewhere of windmills being taken into community, voluntary, charitable or other ownership? And if the benefits and risks of these have been considered and can be used as lessons learned for KCC to build into their own potential models / options?”** (Behalf of professional organisation working on behalf of heritage sector)

**“We do not consider that such local groups have the resources to care for, maintain and safely operate the windmills and to open them to the public, nor have we seen any evidence that they could acquire such resources. The risks of disposal to a poorly funded and resourced local group are very great. It would take a very well thought out and funded proposal to convince us a mill would continue to be in safe hands. It is highly unlikely such would be forthcoming and certainly for no more than one or two sites.”** (Behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCS))

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## COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE KENT HERITAGE CONSERVATION STRATEGY IN RELATION TO WINDMILLS AND THIS CONSULTATION

Consultees were asked to detail any comments or suggestions on the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy in relation to windmills and the consultation in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section. 37% of consultees provided a comment to this question.

The most common themes echo those expressed at earlier free text questions with regards to proposal agreement. 25% of consultees answering commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmills / they should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 22% commented that the windmills must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / they are concerned they could be at risk of closure / development. 17% referenced that the windmills are landmarks / part of the county's heritage / community assets and should remain so moving forward.

23% noted that they do not want to a change to the Kent Heritage Strategy / no objectives to be added (as a result of them disagreeing with proposals).

Other mentions predominantly concern funding or sustainability suggestions:

- Could generate own income / sponsorship / apply for grants to contribute to upkeep / fundraising (7%)
- Strict guidelines in place for upkeep / maintenance / future use / must be adhered to – 6%
- Engage with communities / volunteer groups / interested parties (4%)
- English Heritage or National Trust might be appropriate to take them on / similar type of organisation (3%)

### Please tell us if you have any comments or suggestions on the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy in relation to windmills and this consultation.

Base: all consultees providing a response (873), themes 2% and above reported below

% THEME	Number of responses	Percentage
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmills / they should not be sold off	215	25%
Do not want a change to the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy / no objectives added	198	23%
Preservation of windmills is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	189	22%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	146	17%
Could generate own income / sponsorship / apply for grants to contribute to upkeep / fundraising	61	7%
Strict guidelines in place for upkeep / maintenance / future use / must be adhered to	49	6%
Windmills must be open to the public / accessible	41	5%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	38	4%
How will they be funded / not having sufficient funding / fall into disrepair	34	4%



<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	31	4%
Engage with communities / volunteer groups / interested parties	31	4%
English Heritage or National Trust might be appropriate to take them on / similar type of organisation	30	3%
Ownership, management and funding could move in its entirety to other groups	29	3%
KCC should not absolve itself of its responsibilities	28	3%
Criticism of consultation / more information required / questions asked	25	3%
Make savings elsewhere	24	3%
Wouldn't work / too complicated / expensive / too much responsibility	24	3%
KCC could remain owners but hand over responsibility of operations to other groups	21	2%
KCC should continue to fund / even for a limited time	21	2%
KCC should offer expertise / continue to maintain	17	2%
KCC should be willing to step in if things go awry	17	2%
Agree that strategy should be amended / amendments required	16	2%
Disagree with proposals	14	2%

Example verbatim comments supporting the theme of KCC retaining ownership and management of windmills can be found below:

**“You should not pass the responsibility for the windmills to others you should keep things as they are.”** (Kent resident)

**“Responsibility cannot be shifted from where it is, they must be maintained as part of our heritage and history and that responsibility is of the county, all who visit the areas benefit not just those who live in the areas and thus payment should not shift from county level.”** (Kent resident)

**“I believe that KCC should be responsible for all of the mills. The Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy should reflect this.”** (Kent resident)

**“I don't think ownership should change, it raises the issue that the windmill could be taken out of the local area or shut off to local residents.”** (Kent resident)

Example verbatim comments supporting the theme of not wanting to change the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy / not add objectives can be found below:

**“The current strategy should be maintained as is. There should be no changes, to ensure future preservation of these assets.”** (Kent resident)

**“The Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy should not be changed. Windmills should not be allowed to be sold or transferred.”** (Kent resident)

**“KCC should accept its responsibility and maintain these mills all of which are listed buildings, three of them Grade 1 (including Cranbrook) three Grade 2\* and two Grade 2. No one is building any more early 19th or late 18th Century mills and it is right that KCC continues to accept the responsibility of looking after this irreplaceable heritage under its conservation strategy.”** (Kent resident)

**“The KCC made a commitment to maintain and look after these buildings. And should continue to do so. It’s not acceptable that the strategy is changed because the economics of running them is hard. There could be other ways to raise money and support running these buildings without changing the ownership of running these buildings.”** (Kent resident)

Example verbatim comments supporting the theme of preserving windmills / safeguarding their future / closure / development concerns can be found below:

**“These windmills are part of the heritage of Kent and therefore should be maintained by KCC to ensure preservation of these landmarks which are enjoyed by residents and admired by tourists.”** (Kent resident)

**“I think the strategy should stay as is and the heritage of the windmills continue to be protected by being in public ownership.”** (Kent resident)

**“The Strategy was only approved in 2022 and it should not be changed. It would allow for the mills to be disposed of and that will not protect them in the future.”** (Kent resident)

There are concerns with regards to alternative funding strategies not being fully explored prior to consultation and changes to strategy are therefore difficult to determine:

**“Given the significance of the sites that form the basis of this consultation, researching and evidencing alternative models for ownership and/or financial responsibility is key and without that evidence, this consultation feels premature. The Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy (Objective 8) makes a commitment to ‘explore alternative funding mechanisms for the windmills, including setting up a Charitable Trust to oversee management, and develop a funding strategy’. This consultation highlights that progress towards setting up a Trust to manage the windmills and develop a funding strategy was suspended at the start of the current windmills review. We feel strongly that this is a task that should have been completed before this consultation and is something that needs to be carried out before any final decision is taken.”** (Professional organisation working in the heritage sector)

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## ANY OTHER FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

Consultees were asked in their own words if there was anything else they would like to tell KCC on the consultation, including suggestions for alternative proposals. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section. 33% of consultees provided a response to this question.

The most common alternative suggestions put forward include income raising through donations / fundraising / charging entrance fees (10%), raise awareness of the windmills (9%), offer tours / open museums / shops selling merchandise / cafes (8%). The majority of remaining suggestions involve collaboration / working with others such as lottery funding (5%), English Heritage / National Trust (5%), communities / volunteer groups (4%), local businesses (4%).

***Anything else? Is there is anything else you would like to tell us regarding this consultation, including anything you think we should consider or suggestions for how we could retain the windmills by making them more financially viable, please tell us?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (773)

<b>% ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS PUT FORWARD</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Seek donations / fundraise / charge an entrance fee	79	10%
Advertise more / more publicity / raise awareness	69	9%
Offer tours / open museum / shops selling merchandise / cafes	62	8%
Make savings elsewhere	58	8%
Host and organise community events / venue hire / rent out space	57	7%
Generate income through flour production / generate wind energy	42	5%
KCC should raise funds from other means / happy to pay more tax to fund them	40	5%
Apply for grants / lottery funding	39	5%
English Heritage or National Trust might be appropriate to take them on	37	5%
Engage with / enlist communities / volunteer groups / interested parties	34	4%
Sponsorship / work with local businesses	33	4%

Example verbatim comments from consultees behind the most common themes can be found below:

**“Currently very few windmills charge an admission fee/charge. A small charge would possibly be able to fill the funding gap.”** (Kent resident)

**“I believe that more could be made of the whole collection of these unique structures, with windmill trails, attractive offers when visiting more than one mill, or season tickets, friends of the windmills, etc.”** (Kent resident)

**“Is there a possibility of promoting windmills as active museums? Introduce reasonable visitor entry fees. Liaise with local schools to arrange paying school visits as part of their history curriculum &/or climate science lessons. Could windmills be models for environmentally friendly working flour mills? Would local grain farms be interested in linking up with these windmills to re-incarnate these to be working flour mills?”** (Kent resident)

**“Raise funds by offering people the opportunity to sponsor a piece of the mill, say a plank or chain link, like people have done for the Sutton Hoo replica ship. This implies some organisation capable of receiving & administering the funds raised & publicising the sponsorships.”** (Kent resident)

**“KCC should, in the short term, do a much better job of publicising the existence of and possibilities to visit these fantastic Kent assets. Who knows, a PR campaign which carefully manages and communicates an ordered, smooth and acceptable handover of ownership might awaken more residents to the possibility to visit and enjoy these windmills? This project could be turned into something positive if it is communicated correctly.”** (Kent resident)

The table below summarises the wider consultees feedback in response to this question. The most common themes echo those expressed at earlier free text questions with regards to proposal agreement.

25% of consultees answering commented the windmills are a landmark / part of the area’s heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward. 20% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / they should not be sold / remain in public ownership. 16% commented that the windmills must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned they could be at risk of closure / development.

11% commented that the windmills are an education resource and tourist attraction, and windmills could be enhanced to be more inviting to these groups.

***Anything else? Is there is anything else you would like to tell us regarding this consultation, including anything you think we should consider or suggestions for how we could retain the windmills by making them more financially viable, please tell us?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (773)

<b>% FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	190	25%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmills / should not be sold off	156	20%
Preservation of windmills is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	126	16%
Education resource / tourist attraction / windmills could be enhanced to be more inviting to these groups	83	11%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	53	7%

<b>% FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Windmills must be open to the public / accessible / open longer hours	51	7%
Criticism of consultation / further questions posed / more information needed	36	5%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	25	3%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	22	3%
Windmills owned / managed / maintained together as group / charitable trust	16	2%
KCC should continue to fund / even for a limited time / others would struggle to fund	15	2%
Better maintenance / keep up with repairs	15	2%
Strict guidelines in place for upkeep / maintenance / future use / must be adhered to	15	2%

Example verbatim comments from consultees behind the most common themes can be found below:

**“The windmills should be kept in public ownership, maintained properly. They should be utilised as a local attraction and perhaps used to generate electricity, either for local use or to be fed into the national grid. This is a heritage resource that once put into private ownership will be out of the control of the council.”** (Kent resident)

**“Please think very hard on your decision on this matter as once this windmill is gone it will not return, History should be preserved not sold off to the highest bidder.”** (Kent resident)

**“I believe that the windmills are too important as historic features and part of the visual scene to be outside of statutory control. KCC has already achieved so much in the restoration and harnessing support of volunteer groups that it would be a tragedy for those achievements to be put at risk. I would like to see continued statutory support and believe the financial stress that KCC is experiencing will not last forever and KCC should face up to preserving their achievements even it means just preserving what has already been achieved and putting on hold any major preservation/ restoration works.”** (Kent resident)

## RESPONSE TO EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Consultees were asked to provide the views on KCC's equality analysis on in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Only 8% of consultees provided a response to this question.

Amongst those commenting, 40% of consultees cited that equality is irrelevant to the consultation / proposals put forward. 10% of consultees expressed that windmills are for everyone / everyone should be treated equally.

8% of consultees commented that those with a disability will be disadvantaged due to access and 7% commented they believe older / retired visitors are key for windmills.

***We welcome your views on our equality analysis and if you think there is anything else we should consider relating to equality and diversity?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (196)

% THEME	Number of responses	Percentage
Equality is irrelevant to this	79	40%
Windmills are for everyone / everyone should be treated equally	20	10%
Disabled disadvantaged due to access	15	8%
Elderly disadvantaged / elderly / retirees key for windmills	13	7%
Equality analysis seems adequate	13	7%
Criticism of consultation / is this available to everyone	13	7%
Children disadvantaged	9	5%
Those who live rurally disadvantaged	4	2%
Comments unrelated to equality analysis	36	18%

Example verbatim comments from consultees for each of the key themes can be found below:

**“This is the kind of unnecessary bureaucracy that should be stopped. The only element to consider is for those that have physical disabilities to get to the sites. The rest of it is divisive labelling and box ticking and costs money to consider. Push to get this sort of stuff removed.”** (Kent resident)

**“The EqIA states don't know for impact on disability - this is an incomplete analysis and needs further work. Please supply information regarding impact on disabled groups e.g. mental health impacts of loss of these assets to the community, e.g. loss of access to volunteering resource positive impact of places enabling socialisation in isolated rural communities Please supply information on how loss of access will be mitigated. Please consider the rural location of these sites especially Cranbrook where poor public access to council funded transport severely limits other opportunities for alternatives.”** (Kent resident)

**“By closing the windmills you will deprive children of the area of ever stepping foot inside.”**  
(Kent resident)

**“The equality analysis supports my opinion of the likely negative effect on the local community, especially the volunteers, most of whom are retired, of the possible loss of the windmills.”** (Kent resident)

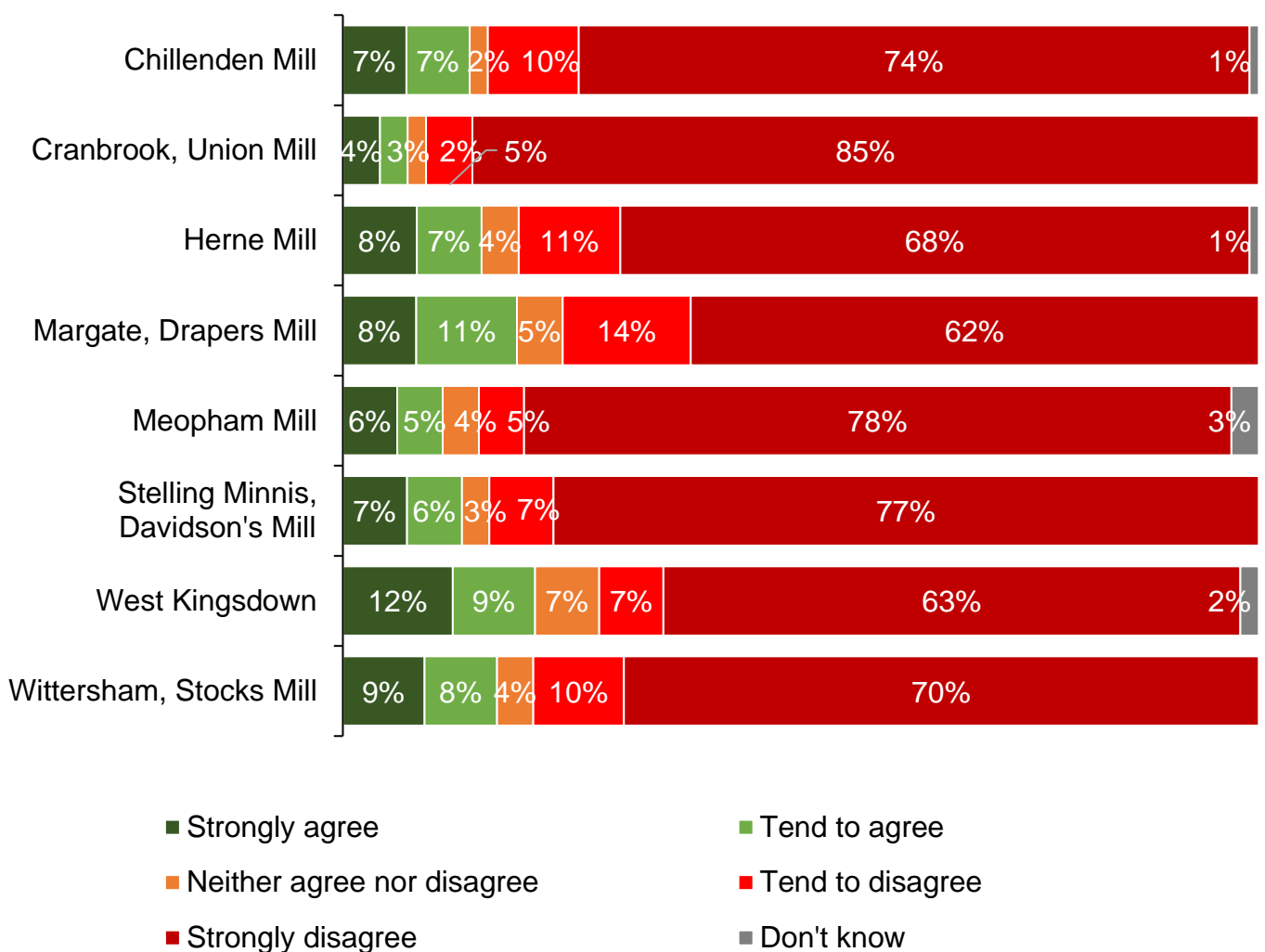
**“This is for the WHOLE community regardless of any of the protected characteristics listed above. However, as a listed building some arrangements may have to be allowed to cater for this e.g. access for physically disabled.”** (Kent resident)

# INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL RESPONSE

The chart below displays response to KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for each of the eight windmills individually.

The majority of consultees disagree with the proposal in the context of each individual windmill. The windmills with the highest agreement levels are West Kingsdown (22%) and Margate, Drapers Mill (19%). The windmill with the lowest agreement level is Cranbrook, Union’s Mill (7%).

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for...?** Base: all answering (varies for each windmill)





# INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – CHILLENDEN MILL

6% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Chillenden Mill.

**Have you ever visited Chillenden Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	136	6%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

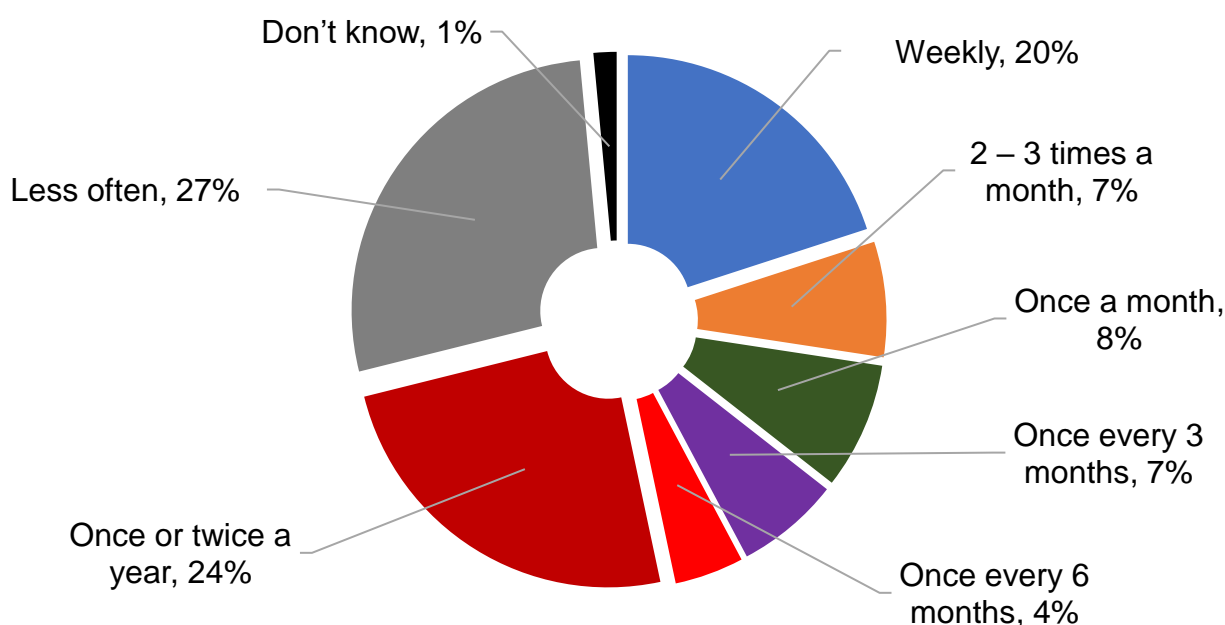
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	43	32%
Female	26	19%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	0	0%
Aged 25-34	3	2%
Aged 35-49	4	3%
Aged 50-59	13	10%
Aged 60-64	9	7%
Aged 65-74	21	15%
Aged 75-84	16	12%
Aged 85 and over	0	0%
Live in Ashford	2	1%
Live in Canterbury	69	51%
Live in Dartford	1	1%
Live in Dover	17	13%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	5	4%
Live in Gravesham	2	1%
Live in Maidstone	2	1%
Live in Sevenoaks	1	1%
Live in Swale	3	2%
Live in Thanet	4	3%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	2	1%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	9	7%
Live outside Kent	9	7%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING CHILLENDEEN MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

Just over a third (36%) of consultees who have ever visited Chillenden Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (20% weekly, 7% two to three times a month, 8% once a month). 36% indicated they visit at least once a year (7% once every three months, 4% once every six months, 24% once or twice a year). 27% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Chillenden Mill?** Base: all providing a response (135)

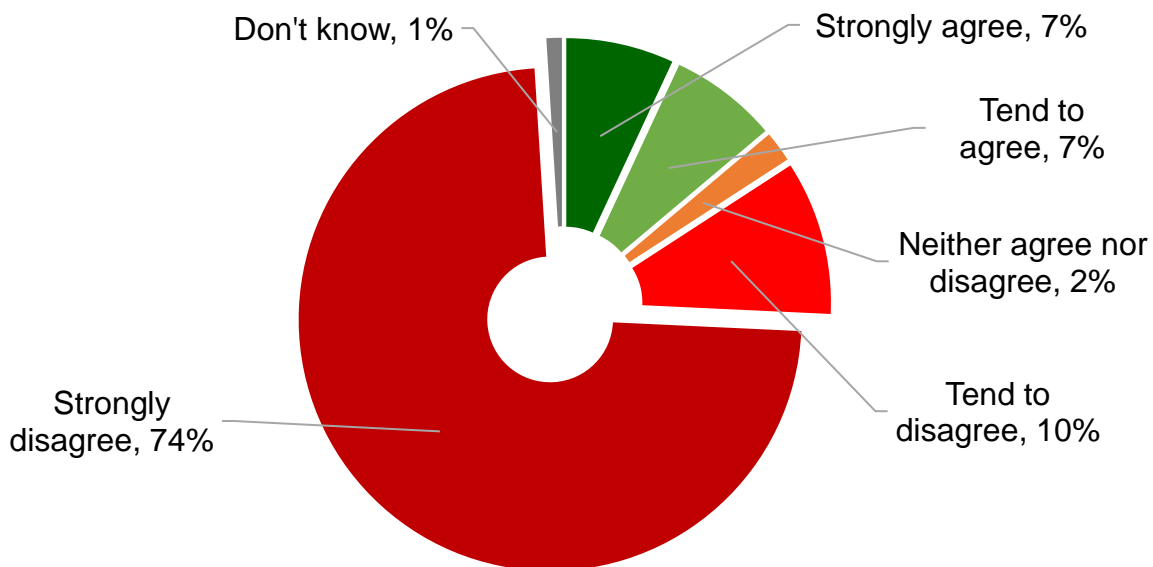


SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	27	20%
2 – 3 times a month	10	7%
Once a month	11	8%
Once every 3 months	9	7%
Once every 6 months	6	4%
Once or twice a year	33	24%
Less often	37	27%
Don't know	2	1%

## AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

14% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Chillenden Mill (7% strongly agree, 7% tend to agree). 84% indicated they disagree (10% tend to disagree, 74% strongly disagree).

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Chillenden Mill?** Base: all providing a response (183), the sum of individual percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Strongly agree	12	7%
Tend to agree	13	7%
Neither agree nor disagree	4	2%
Tend to disagree	18	10%
Strongly disagree	135	74%
Don't know	1	1%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILLENDEEN MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal for Chillenden Mill (84% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a

landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (37% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 26% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / could be at risk of closure / development and 15% commenting they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

32% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 10% commented it should not be privately owned / it will be at risk if sold to private owners.

**Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

Base: all consultees providing a response (155), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	57	37%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	49	32%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	41	26%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	24	15%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	16	10%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	14	9%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is responsibility of KCC	12	8%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	12	8%
Lack of amenities / facilities / functionality inability to generate funds / requires updating	12	8%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund	10	6%
Ownership by other organisations (local / community groups / volunteers) wouldn't work	10	6%
Tourist attraction / brings people & money to area / detrimental to area if lost	9	6%
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	8	5%
Changes in ownership are not part of the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy	6	4%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	5	3%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	5	3%
Agree with selling off windmill / KCC has other more important things to spend money on	5	3%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	4	3%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	4	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“They are an important part of our heritage and it is imperative that the council looks after them & retains ownership . Community / voluntary groups may fold - what happens then?”**  
(Kent resident)

**“Chillenden Windmill is an important landmark in the landscape around this area of Kent. A footpath leads past the site which is used regularly by walkers. The windmill has a unique history and is linked to other sites which are no longer in existence. Without the windmill, a period of history will be lost forever to local people and more distant visitors, some of which will have never before seen a windmill in active order.”** (Kent resident)

**“Chillenden Mill is a significant landmark in the area I live. It dates back to 1868 and this historic site and building needs to be kept by the council in order to protect it from disrepair and neglect.”** (Kent resident)

**“This fragile post mill needs extra care that the public sector can offer and it is an importance visual structure within the landscape.”** (Kent resident)

Example concerns raised by volunteer groups and organisations can be found below:

**“KCC has a moral duty of care to protect its cultural and historic heritage and preserve its estate of windmills. The current Heritage Conservation Policy was approved less than 18 months ago and, in that consultation, there was a very strong public desire to maintain ownership responsibilities for the windmills. The annual financial burden for the ongoing maintenance of all the windmills is not significant in the overall budget.”** (Behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group)

**“We feel that insufficient information has been provided with the consultation to enable us to comment fully. In terms of the figures provided, it appears that the majority of the repair works have been carried out. Specifically, with Chillenden, due to its nature and context, it is difficult to imagine that there would be a private individual or company that would consider taking on the ownership and responsibility of the mill. In our opinion it would be more logical to take a site-by-site approach to the reduction of the mills portfolio, focusing on specific mills as advised by your specialists, to resolve any tenancy and legal issues with the intent to arrive at a scheme where each individual mill could be conveyed by agreement to a suitable local group or wider trust. This would be in line with Objective 8 in the Heritage Strategy. It must be done through full engagement with the relevant district/borough council, parish council and existing Friends group. The latter is particularly important as volunteers are often the life blood of a heritage site and ensuring good working relationships with them is paramount to success.”** (Behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council)

**“This mill was subject to repairs in 2021 and is in partial working order. However, the mill has no facilities (e.g. WC or kitchen), power or car parking, with the exception of a short access track. If this site were taken forward by a charitable organisation, the lack of ancillary facilities could negatively impact their work on the site and would also incur quite a considerable cost if introduced.”** (Behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector)

## HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE CHILLENDEEN WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (40% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (29%)
- The windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (27%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (24%)
- KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill (13%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Chillenden Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (126), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	50	40%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	36	29%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	34	27%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	30	24%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	16	13%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund / funding needed	12	10%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes it on	8	6%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	7	6%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	7	6%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	6	5%
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	6	5%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	5	4%
Difficult to find an alternative arrangement / alternative owner	5	4%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	4	3%
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	4	3%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	4	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“I fear that, if Chillenden Mill was to be another entity’s responsibility, it wouldn’t be looked after - either by lack of funds or lack of interest or both. Therefore, in order to protect our heritage, and for many to enjoy for now and the years to come, it is paramount that the council keeps ownership of the mills, including Chillenden Mill.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmill would gradually deteriorate and eventually be closed to the public. That would remove any incentive for its ongoing maintenance and for safety or other reasons it would be demolished.”** (Kent resident)

**“It will fall into disrepair and would be a huge impact on the area as there is no charity that could afford the upkeep.”** (Kent resident)

**“This could put the windmill in jeopardy as those who funded the ownership could fail to finance the project or they could decide not to open the windmill to public view. Also, it would not be realistic for a voluntary group to run the windmills and have to raise large sums of money for maintenance.”** (Kent resident)

## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – CRANBROOK, UNION MILL

33% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Cranbrook, Union Mill.

**Have you ever visited Cranbrook, Union Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	779	33%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	174	22%
Female	269	35%
Aged 0-15	2	0%
Aged 16-24	5	1%
Aged 25-34	18	2%
Aged 35-49	63	8%
Aged 50-59	79	10%
Aged 60-64	42	5%
Aged 65-74	97	12%
Aged 75-84	93	12%
Aged 85 and over	23	3%
Live in Ashford	25	3%
Live in Canterbury	11	1%
Live in Dartford	2	0%
Live in Dover	1	0%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	5	1%
Live in Gravesham	2	0%
Live in Maidstone	22	3%
Live in Sevenoaks	10	1%
Live in Swale	6	1%
Live in Thanet	5	1%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	57	7%

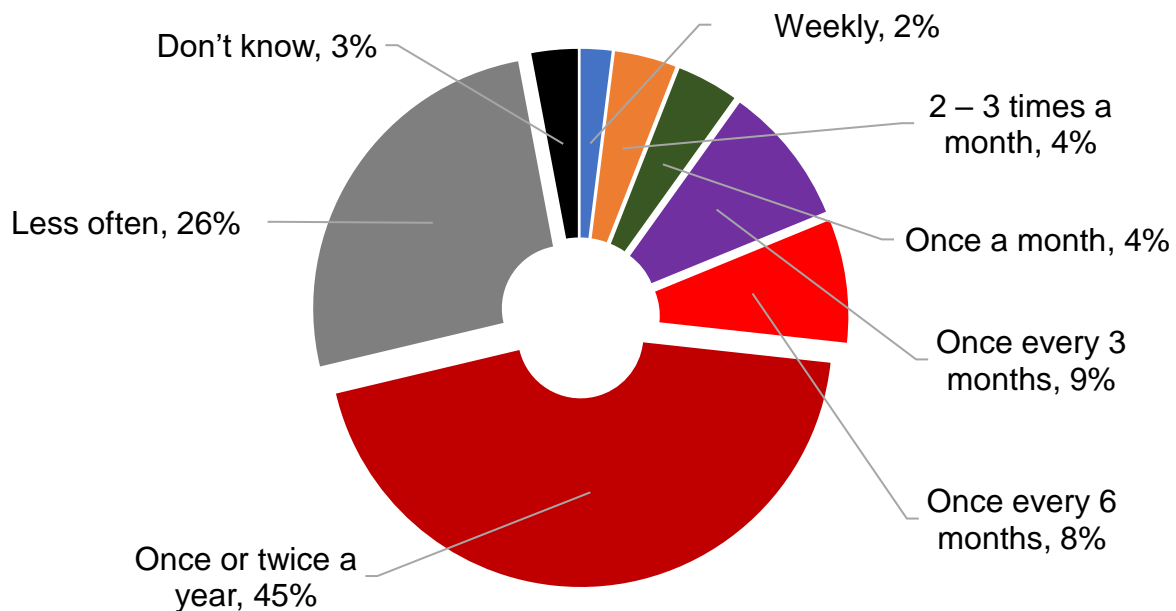


DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	542	70%
Live outside Kent	53	7%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING CRANBROOK, UNION MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

10% of consultees who have ever visited Cranbrook, Union Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (2% weekly, 4% two to three times a month, 4% once a month). 61% indicated they visit at least once a year (9% once every three months, 8% once every six months, 45% once or twice a year). 26% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Cranbrook, Union Mill?** Base: all providing a response (759)



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	17	2%
2 – 3 times a month	27	4%
Once a month	32	4%
Once every 3 months	67	9%
Once every 6 months	60	8%
Once or twice a year	338	45%
Less often	198	26%
Don't know	20	3%

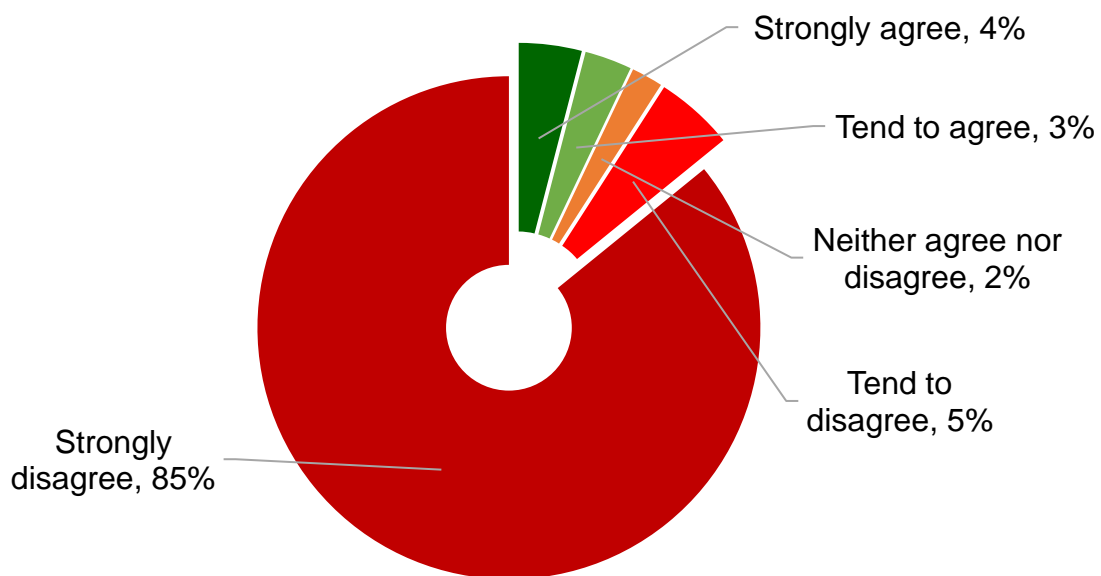
## AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

7% indicated they agree with KCC's proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Cranbrook, Union Mill (4% strongly agree, 3% tend to agree). 91% indicated they disagree (5% tend to disagree, 85% strongly disagree).

Whilst agreement levels are low across all consultees answering, agreement is comparably higher amongst consultees who visit less often (11%) compared to those who visit from weekly to at least once or twice a year (4%).

### To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Cranbrook, Union Mill?

Base: all providing a response (866), the sum of individual percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Strongly agree	34	4%
Tend to agree	26	3%
Neither agree nor disagree	20	2%
Tend to disagree	46	5%
Strongly disagree	738	85%
Don't know	2	0%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRANBROOK, UNION MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal for Cranbrook, Union Mill (91% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (53% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 28% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / could be at risk of closure / development and 18% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

31% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 15% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

18% commented that the windmill is a local tourist attraction and brings people / money to the area.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (594), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	313	53%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	185	31%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	169	28%
Tourist attraction / brings people & money to area / detrimental to area if lost	107	18%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	104	18%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	90	15%
Educational resource / used by schools	54	9%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	54	9%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund	48	8%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is responsibility of KCC	43	7%
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	36	6%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	35	6%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	19	3%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Ownership by other organisations (local / community groups / volunteers) wouldn't work	18	3%
Concerns about oversight / guarantees / compliance	18	3%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	16	3%
Detrimental to communities if lost / lack of meeting place / impact on volunteers/others / mental health/wellbeing	16	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“The mill is an iconic part of the landscape of Cranbrook and should be maintained in its current state of repair. KCC is in a position to do this. There is no guarantee that an alternative will be able to do it.”** (Kent resident)

**“This is a key piece of local heritage and we should not be disposing of the historical assets held in common for future generations.”** (Kent resident)

**“These windmills are integral to our communities and identities. These are vital draws for tourism and local commerce. They must be maintained.”** (Kent resident)

**“Windmills, especially Cranbrook, is the focal point of the town - it is currently very well maintained by the brilliant group of volunteers and residents (and those outside the town) enjoy the opportunity to understand the workings of a windmill - needs to be kept by KCC and run by the volunteers.”** (Kent resident)

**“This is an historic and local asset, to even consider private or alternative ownership that potentially allows no regard for our heritage by an elected government is not acceptable. So many of Cranbrook assets have been stripped with total and no regard for the people that live here, yet we have to constantly accept new housing. What has all the money gone towards that was received for the sale of previous local areas i.e. council office site etc... be good if that money had actually benefited Cranbrook and now especially the windmill?”** (Kent resident)

**“If it was to fall into private ownership, the new owner could decide to not open it to the public. Many smaller windmills in Kent have been made into private accommodation, therefore losing the history and heritage of the town mill.”** (Kent resident)

**“The mills vary considerably in size with Cranbrook the largest. I estimate it would need to raise around £35,000 per annum on average to cover the additional capital and revenue costs. This is ten times the current income from voluntary donations by visitors. Like many voluntary organisations we already struggle to recruit enough volunteers to act as the stewards needed to inform visitors and also maintain safety on each floor of the windmill. It is completely unrealistic to expect our volunteers in addition to raise £35,000 every year to preserve the mill for posterity.”** (Behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group)

## HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (32% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (29%)
- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (30%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (26%)
- Windmill should not be privately owned / it will be at risk if sold to private owners (14%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Cranbrook, Union Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (472), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	153	32%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	152	32%
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	141	30%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	125	26%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	67	14%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	55	12%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	50	11%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund / funding needed	39	8%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	29	6%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	27	6%
Depends on what the alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	27	6%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	22	5%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	21	4%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	16	3%
Angry / sad / disappointed / badly affected (no further detail noted)	15	3%
Likelihood of Introducing fee to visit / increasing costs to visitors	15	3%
English Heritage or National Trust might be appropriate to take them on	14	3%
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	13	3%
Public ownership unspecified (could be local / community group or local council)	13	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“There is no guarantee that any future owner would retain the Windmill to the standard. It is currently maintained. There is only one mill here, dedicated in good faith to the town by the last owner of the union mill. cc to give it up, is betrayal of that trust.”** (Kent resident)

**“It would create uncertainty as to preservation of the mill and its access for future generations. It is a defining landscape feature and emblematic of the local built environment and so should be a key (rather than an optional) area for preservation and relevant expenditure.”** (Kent resident)

**“The long-term future of the windmill needs to be protected. Any alternative arrangements MUST be future proof, not a ‘quick fix’ to offload responsibility for the windmill onto someone else.”** (Kent resident)

**“I think it would fall into disrepair or even worse be sold off and demolished to make way for yet more unaffordable housing. A private owner may purchase it and make it into a dwelling and would no longer be able to be open to the public to view the working interior of this amazing building.”** (Kent resident)

## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – HERNE MILL

12% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Herne Mill.

**Have you ever visited Herne Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	275	12%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

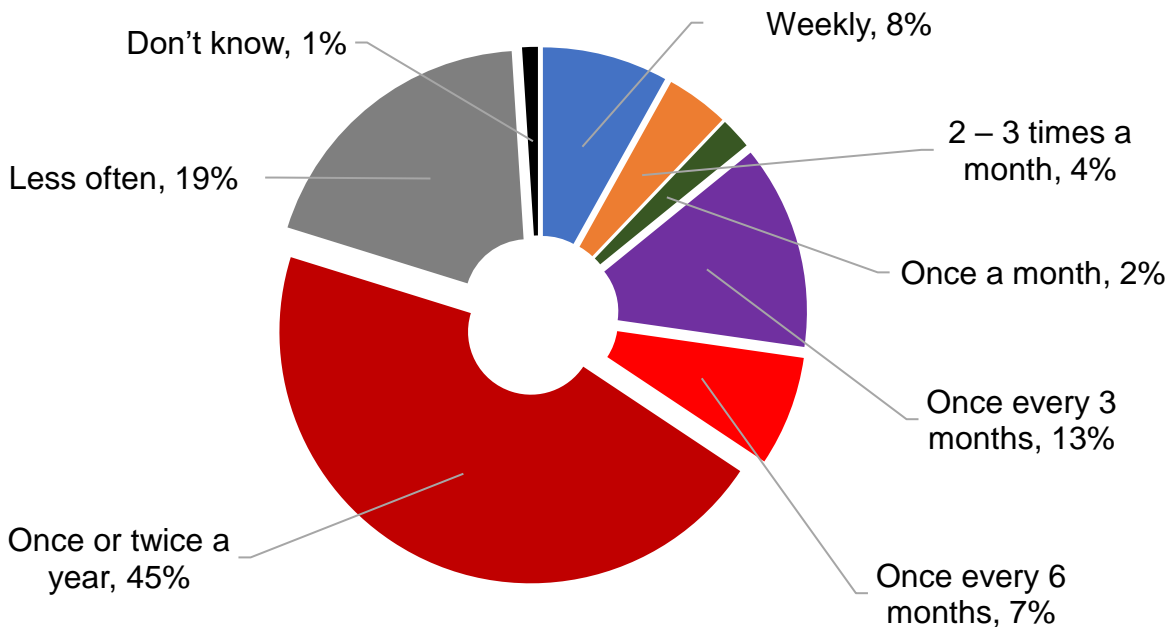
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	58	21%
Female	59	21%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	1	0%
Aged 25-34	3	1%
Aged 35-49	26	9%
Aged 50-59	16	6%
Aged 60-64	23	8%
Aged 65-74	25	9%
Aged 75-84	21	8%
Aged 85 and over	0	0%
Live in Ashford	1	0%
Live in Canterbury	211	77%
Live in Dartford	2	1%
Live in Dover	3	1%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	3	1%
Live in Gravesham	1	0%
Live in Maidstone	3	4%
Live in Sevenoaks	1	0%
Live in Swale	3	1%
Live in Thanet	8	3%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	3	1%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	9	3%
Live outside Kent	12	4%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING HERNE MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

15% of consultees who have ever visited Herne Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (8% weekly, 4% two to three times a month, 3% once a month). 65% indicated they visit at least once a year (13% once every three months, 7% once every six months, 45% once or twice a year). 19% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Herne Mill?** Base: all providing a response (275)



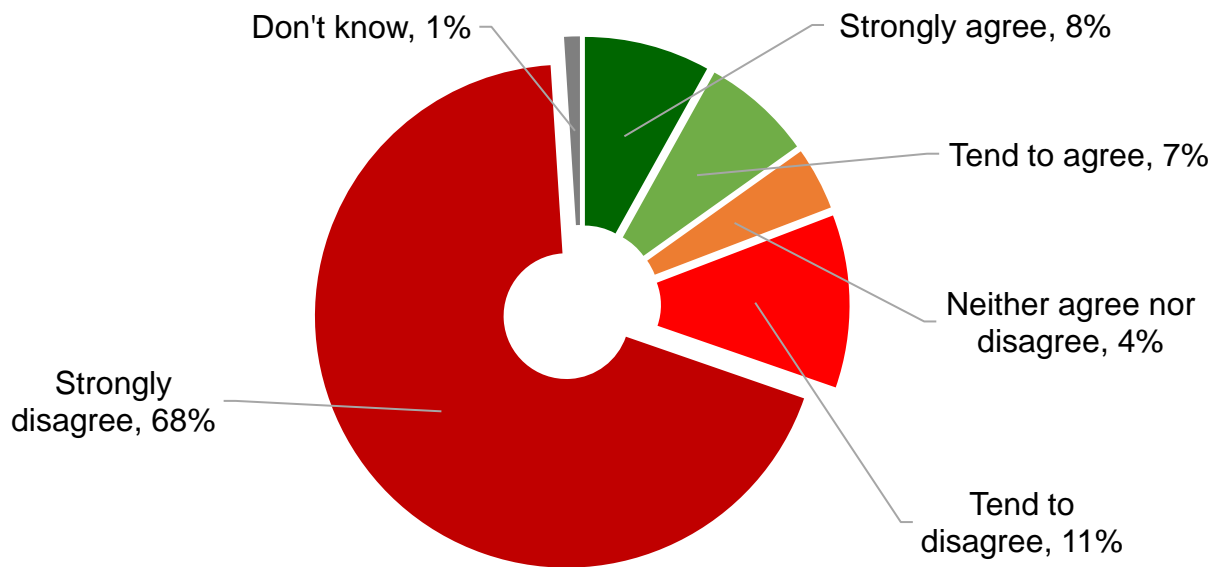
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	22	8%
2 – 3 times a month	11	4%
Once a month	9	3%
Once every 3 months	36	13%
Once every 6 months	19	7%
Once or twice a year	123	45%
Less often	53	19%
Don't know	2	1%



**AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

16% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Herne Mill (8% strongly agree, 7% tend to agree). 80% indicated they disagree (11% tend to disagree, 68% strongly disagree).

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Herne Mill?** Base: all providing a response (338)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	28	8%
Tend to agree	25	7%
Neither agree nor disagree	14	4%
Tend to disagree	38	11%
Strongly disagree	231	68%
Don't know	2	1%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HERNE MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (80% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (51% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 31% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / could be at risk of closure / development and 9% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

23% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 14% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

12% commented that the windmill is a local educational resource / used by schools and 8% commented it is used as a community space for events / meetings.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (283), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	143	51%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	87	31%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	66	23%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	44	16%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	39	14%
Educational resource / used by schools	33	12%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	26	9%
Community space / events / meeting place / don't want to lose this	23	8%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund	19	7%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	13	5%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is the responsibility of KCC	12	4%
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	12	4%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	11	4%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Agree with selling off windmill / KCC has other more important things to spend money on	10	4%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	8	3%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	8	3%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	8	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“The windmill should remain under the umbrella of KCC. It is too much to ask volunteer groups or others to maintain and be responsible for such an important structure. The windmill is also used as a community hub for meetings, coffees, etc and there would be a huge responsibility to maintain the structure, so it is safe for the public.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmills are our heritage it is extremely important that they remain accessible to the public as an historical and educational structure.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmill defines the area and whilst growing up in the area this windmill has always been part of the local life. It has been utilised as an educational space from projects on its history to its engineering use. The space is also used as a tourism space and meeting space. The building is part of the character of the area if sold off what’s to say the land it sits will not be utilised for housing to make a swift profit. This building and space should remain in the hands of the public.”** (Kent resident)

**“The proposal gives no guarantee that the windmill will remain in non-private hands and open to the public.”** (Kent resident)

**“It is a heritage building that I believe should be kept accessible to the general public. It has been a great way to educate children on the production of flour and gives them an insight into the town that they live in. I think it would be a shame to take that experience away from the local children and the rest of the general public.”** (Kent resident)

Organisations reference concerns with regards to the repairs required at this mill:

**“The mill requires significant investment to bring it back into a functional condition including repairs to the cap and fantail to allow the sails to be put back onto the mill. The repair needs of the mill put it at greater risk because it is not in a functional condition. Community spaces within the mill would also benefit from investment to maximise their usability. The long-term sustainability of the mill is reduced by the removal of the sails because it is less attractive as a visitor attraction, which also impacts on revenue, affecting the ability to undertake maintenance of the site.”** (Behalf of professional organisation working in the heritage sector)

**“The primary consideration here as we see it is that alternative arrangements for its ownership and / or financial responsibility are being considered before the site has even been brought up to a good state of repair. Though not the only option, and others need to**

**be considered, this would fundamentally undermine the ability of the local community for example to take ownership of the site.** (On behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council)

## **HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET**

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (35% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (32%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (22%)
- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (20%)
- Windmill should not be privately owned / it will be at risk if sold to private owners (15%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Herne Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (186), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	65	35%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	59	32%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	41	22%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	37	20%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	28	15%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	19	10%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	16	9%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	14	8%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	12	6%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	11	6%
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	10	5%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	9	5%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	8	4%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	7	4%
Angry / sad / disappointed / badly affected (no further detail noted)	6	3%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	5	3%
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	5	3%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	5	3%
Public ownership unspecified (could be local / community group or local council)	5	3%
Likelihood of Introducing fee to visit / increasing costs to visitors	5	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“The mill to me is a landmark that represents home. It is easily recognisable from a distance and brings such feelings of comfort. It has been there for centuries, strong and present. It holds such memories, a landmark that welcomes you home. A building that is a comfort due to its constant presence in an ever-changing world. Learning the history of the mill at primary school and then expanding on that knowledge as I grew older. It deserves to be protected at all costs which seeking alternative arrangements could potentially risk. It is historic and special because of the way it is at present. It is not a home or had extensions or change of use etc it is historic and special because it is looked after and protected as it is in its current state.”** (Kent resident)

**“I believe the windmill would be lost as a heritage asset if it were not in public ownership. I would personally be devastated if I could no longer visit the mill with my grandchildren and attend the various events there. History should be preserved.”** (Kent resident)

**“It may cease to be accessible to the public. It may suffer neglect. It is our moral responsibility to maintain these historic and unique sites as public property. I do not trust KCC to manage this in the best interests of the community, and the sites themselves. This proposal is driven purely by cost and not the best interests of the community or the mills.”** (Kent resident)

**“As an individual it would mean the Loss of social, educationally and historical access to the mill, it currently acts as a hub for certain activities for children at points in the year.**

**That loss would be felt significantly. Were it sold off it would likely be lost to the public and so the community would lose a valued asset.” (Kent resident)**

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## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – MARGATE, DRAPERS MILL

5% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Margate, Drapers Mill.

**Have you ever visited Margate, Drapers Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	119	5%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

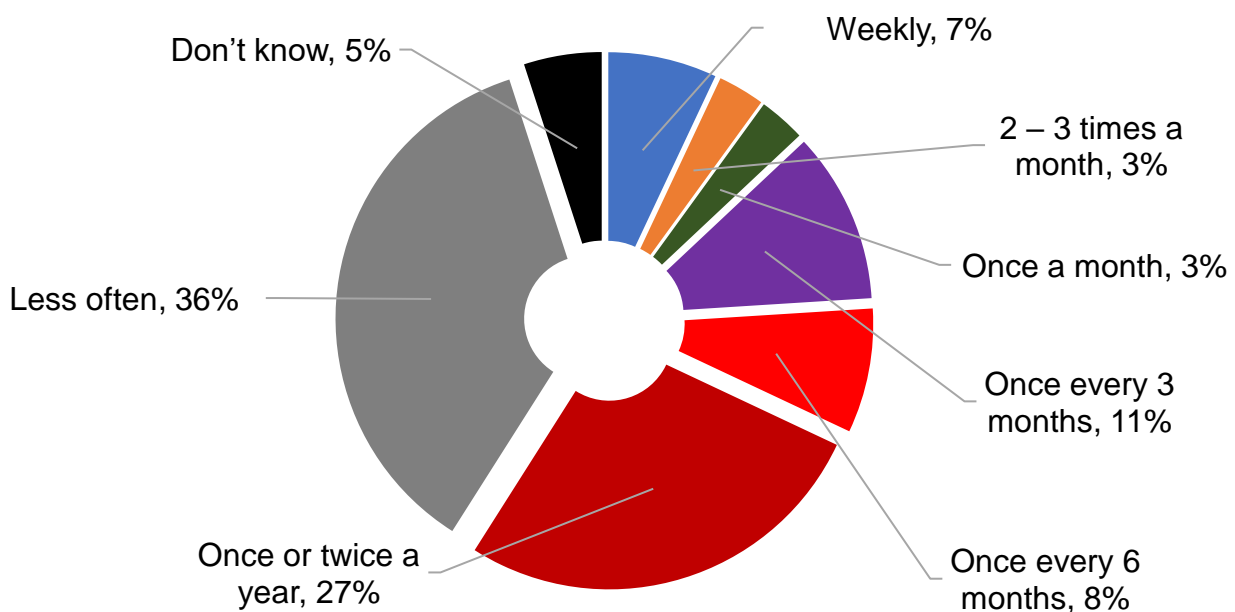
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	40	34%
Female	23	19%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	0	0%
Aged 25-34	3	3%
Aged 35-49	10	8%
Aged 50-59	9	8%
Aged 60-64	7	6%
Aged 65-74	20	17%
Aged 75-84	13	11%
Aged 85 and over	0	0%
Live in Ashford	1	1%
Live in Canterbury	20	17%
Live in Dartford	2	2%
Live in Dover	3	3%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	2	2%
Live in Gravesham	0	0%
Live in Maidstone	5	4%
Live in Sevenoaks	2	2%
Live in Swale	2	2%
Live in Thanet	56	47%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	4	3%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	9	8%
Live outside Kent	9	8%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING MARGATE, DRAPERS MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

13% of consultees who have ever visited Margate, Drapers Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (7% weekly, 3% two to three times a month, 3% once a month). 46% indicated they visit at least once a year (11% once every three months, 8% once every six months, 27% once or twice a year). 36% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Margate, Drapers Mill?** Base: all providing a response (184)



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	8	7%
2 – 3 times a month	3	3%
Once a month	4	3%
Once every 3 months	13	11%
Once every 6 months	9	8%
Once or twice a year	32	27%
Less often	43	36%
Don't know	6	5%

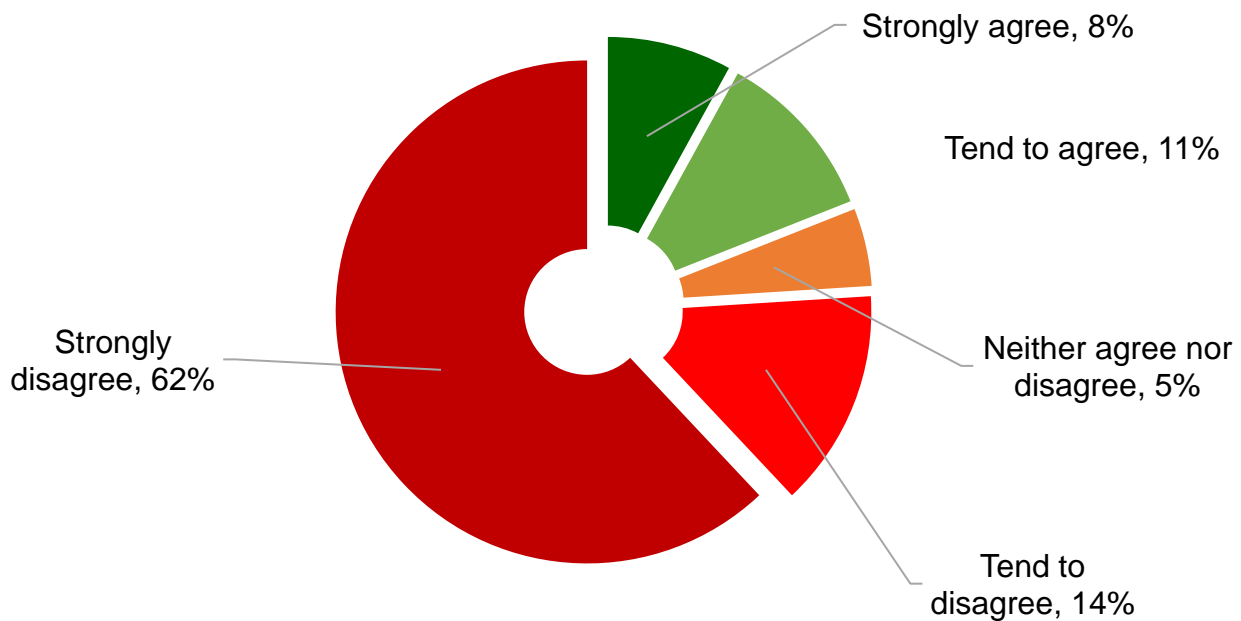


## AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

19% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Margate, Drapers Mill (8% strongly agree, 11% tend to agree). 76% indicated they disagree (14% tend to disagree, 62% strongly disagree).

### To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Margate, Drapers Mill?

Base: all providing a response (338)



SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Strongly agree	14	8%
Tend to agree	20	11%
Neither agree nor disagree	10	5%
Tend to disagree	25	14%
Strongly disagree	114	62%
Don't know	0	0%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MARGATE, DRAPERS MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (76% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a landmark / part of the

area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (39% of those commenting). 17% commented that the windmill must remain open to the public / accessible to the public.

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 29% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development and 12% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

24% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 13% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

11% commented that the windmill is a local educational resource / used by schools and 9% commented it is a local tourist attraction / brings people and money to the area.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (142), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	56	39%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	41	29%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	34	24%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	24	17%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	19	13%
Concerned they will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	17	12%
Educational resource / used by schools	16	11%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	13	9%
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	13	9%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	8	6%
KCC should own / retain ownership / run / managed by local groups / community groups	7	5%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund	7	5%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	6	4%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	6	4%
Changes in ownership are not part of the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy	6	4%
Agree with selling off windmill / KCC has other more important things to spend money on	6	4%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is responsibility of KCC	4	3%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	4	3%
Concerns about oversight / guarantees / compliance	4	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“I live close to this Mill & it serves as a reminder to our history. It is seen (close up) on a daily basis by pupils at Drapers School. In addition, it is on the designated Turner/Dickens Walk between Margate & Broadstairs. As such numerous visitors stop off to view the Mill.”**  
(Kent resident)

**“There is a serious risk that the windmill will fall into disrepair if it is in private ownership. I have seen listed buildings fall into disrepair and one had its inside stripped out when it was converted into flats.”** (Kent resident)

**“Draper’s mill is a wonderful landmark, represents old Kent, is irreplaceable and provides wonderful experience for the volunteers who look after it. It is a great educational value and should be better exploited, not lost.”** (Kent resident)

**“In order to preserve the heritage and the integrity of these windmills we need to keep them under KCC ownership. Surely if they cost money to keep, we could have them be working mills producing flour that is sold nationwide to recoup the day to day running costs?”** (Kent resident)

**“The suggestion that there could be a disposal of some of all of the windmills to private owners undermines all that has been achieved. There is no guarantee that a private owner would maintain a mill to the same standard or that public access would continue. It is generally accepted that there is little commercial gain from operating windmills and there is a risk that new private owners might try to develop other uses of the sites that are incompatible with the preservation of heritage. There are statutory powers available to use against an owner who neglect listed buildings and continuing public access could be a condition of sale. But these matters are difficult and expensive to enforce and continuing the current arrangements avoid taking risks with the heritage of our communities.”** (Behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group)

**“We believe this mill would benefit from enhanced visitor facilities, including continued access to an adjacent field which provides a useful space for events to support the long-term running of the site. Ensuring that the adjacent field remains available to the mill is therefore essential as any long-term plans for the mill are developed.”** (Behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector)

## HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (34% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (32%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (24%)
- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (16%)
- Windmill should not be privately owned / it will be at risk if sold to private owners (9%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Margate, Drapers Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (119), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	40	34%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	38	32%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	29	24%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	19	16%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	11	9%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	11	9%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	10	8%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	10	8%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	10	8%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	7	6%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	6	5%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	6	5%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	4	3%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	4	3%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	4	3%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	4	3%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	4	3%
Make savings elsewhere	3	3%
Angry / sad / disappointed / badly affected (no further detail noted)	3	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“I would be concerned that the upkeep of the windmill might not continue under a new owner and would want to be reassured that it will be funded and retained as a heritage asset.”** (Kent resident)

**“The heritage asset is still protected under listed building and planning legislation. However, lack of funds could lead to its deterioration over time putting this building at risk of eventually conversion for private use or demolition.”** (Kent resident)

**“It would have the effect of producing a slowly decaying heritage asset. Which would bring shame on KCC and deprive myself and others of the opportunity of visiting this historic building.”** (Kent resident)

**“The financial responsibilities for maintaining the mill will remain with or without the current arrangement. Repair works will need to be done and these cannot be easily funded by volunteer organisations. There is a strong possibility that without large-scale public support such as fundraising the new owners of the windmill would not be able to keep it in working order. This would be a great loss to the local community which the mill supports.”** (Kent resident)

**“I fail to see how this can be sustainable for a small community organisation to take on the costs of the heritage site without the relevant support.”** (Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor)

## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – MEOPHAM MILL

23% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Meopham Mill.

**Have you ever visited Meopham Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	526	23%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

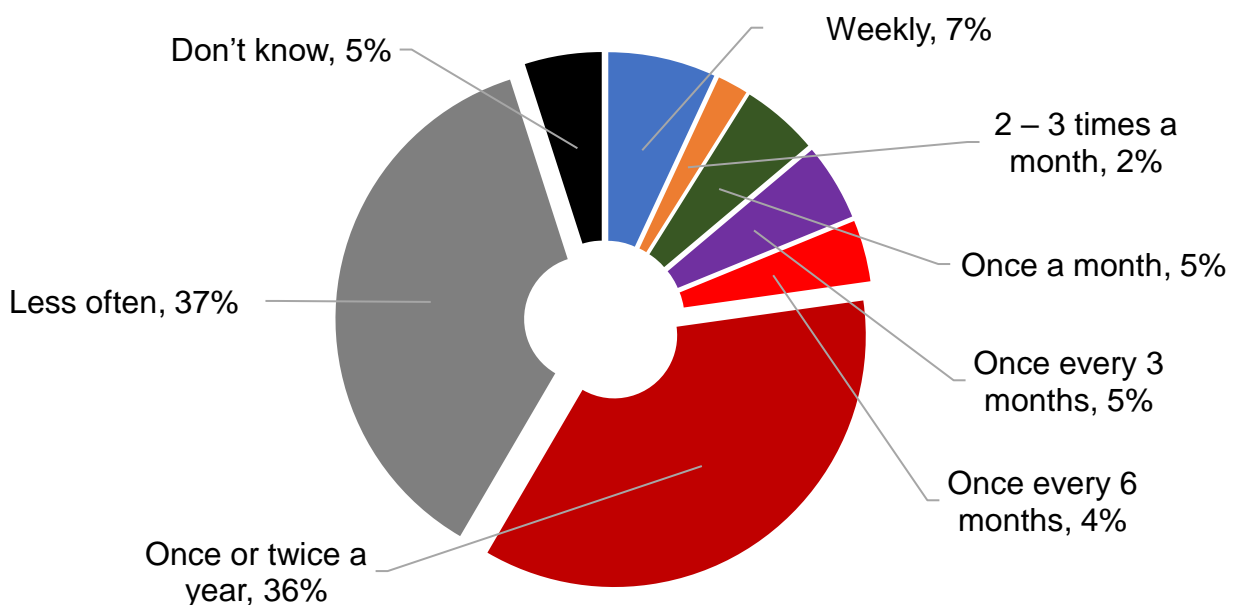
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	81	15%
Female	115	22%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	1	0%
Aged 25-34	4	1%
Aged 35-49	43	8%
Aged 50-59	36	7%
Aged 60-64	18	3%
Aged 65-74	56	11%
Aged 75-84	28	5%
Aged 85 and over	1	0%
Live in Ashford	1	0%
Live in Canterbury	6	1%
Live in Dartford	38	7%
Live in Dover	0	0%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	2	0%
Live in Gravesham	400	76%
Live in Maidstone	4	1%
Live in Sevenoaks	12	2%
Live in Swale	1	0%
Live in Thanet	3	1%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	8	2%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	10	2%
Live outside Kent	21	4%

## FREQUENCY OF VISITING MEOPHAM MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

14% of consultees who have ever visited Meopham Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (7% weekly, 2% two to three times a month, 5% once a month). 45% indicated they visit at least once a year (5% once every three months, 4% once every six months, 36% once or twice a year). 37% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Meopham Mill?** Base: all providing a response (525)

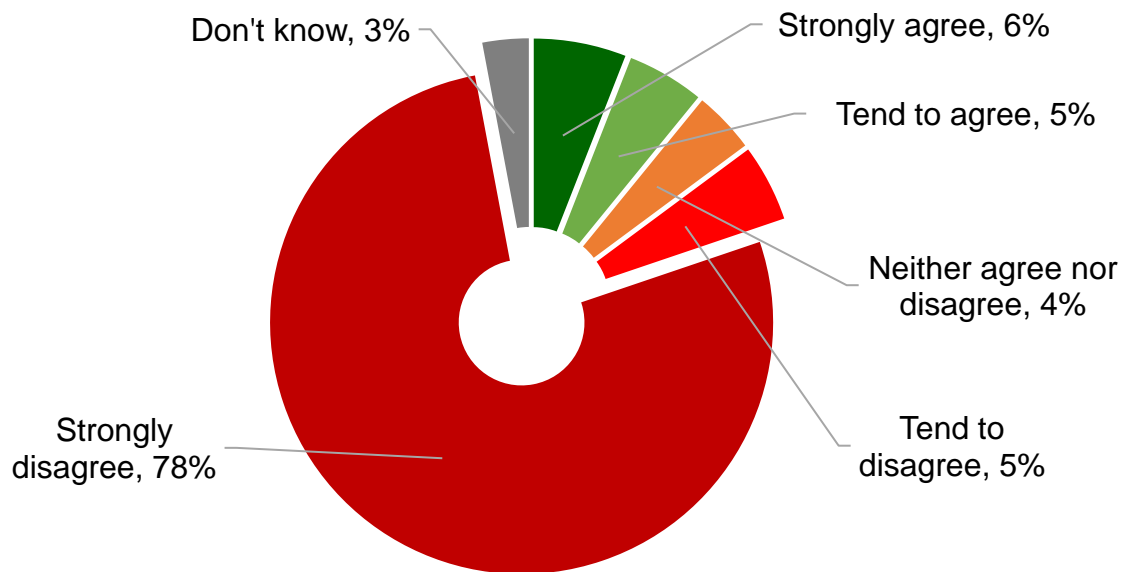


SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	35	7%
2 – 3 times a month	12	2%
Once a month	27	5%
Once every 3 months	27	5%
Once every 6 months	20	4%
Once or twice a year	188	36%
Less often	192	37%
Don't know	24	5%

**AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO OFFER TO TRANSFER / SELL MEOPHAM MILL TO THE CURRENT TENANTS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE**

10% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to offer to transfer / sell Meopham Mill to the current tenants in the first instance (6% strongly agree, 5% tend to agree). 83% indicated they disagree (5% tend to disagree, 78% strongly disagree).

**For Meopham Mill, which is on a long-term lease, we are proposing to offer to transfer/sell it to the current tenant in the first instance. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Meopham Mill?** Base: all providing a response (617)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	36	6%
Tend to agree	28	5%
Neither agree nor disagree	22	4%
Tend to disagree	33	5%
Strongly disagree	482	78%
Don't know	16	3%

**REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER / SELL MEOPHAM MILL TO CURRENT TENANTS)**

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the Meopham Mill proposal (83% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a



landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (36% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 34% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development and 19% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair. 23% commented there believe there is a lack of funding available / organisations / groups will not be able to fund the windmill.

25% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 11% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (426), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	155	36%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	145	34%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	105	25%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund	96	23%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	80	19%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	47	11%
Unsure of who current tenant is / financial situation	41	10%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	31	7%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is responsibility of KCC	23	5%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	14	3%
KCC should own / retain ownership / run / managed by local groups / community groups	12	3%
Ownership by other organisations (local / community groups / volunteers) wouldn't work	11	3%
Concerns about oversight / guarantees / compliance	11	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“As a place of historic interest, I believe that the local authority has a duty to preserve our history in a sustainable way. Any other solution is open to risk and may not be in the best interests of the local community.”** (Kent resident)

**“I feel the windmill at Meopham is both historically & currently the landmark & character of the village. As soon as people mention Meopham they think of our lovely windmill. I believe this should continue to be owned & maintained by KCC with help from grants to preserve & maintain the character of the village.”** (Kent resident)

**“The future of the windmill would be uncertain. There is no guarantee that it would not be allowed to deteriorate and eventually wind up in the hands of developers. It is on a good-sized piece of land which would be very attractive for development once the windmill becomes beyond repair.”** (Kent resident)

**“The windmill is an important part of our heritage. It is on the primary school badge and Meopham's iconic landmark. How do we know what will become of the windmill? In KCC hands, we know it will be looked after and maintained and not left to fall into disrepair.”** (Kent resident)

**“The mill is presently undergoing serious maintenance. With ancient and fragile structures subject to weather damage and more gradual deterioration, the cost could prove unsustainable to a local voluntary/charitable body.”** (Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor)

## **HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET**

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (43% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area’s heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (40%)
- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (25%)
- KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill (16%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (15%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Meopham Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (322), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	137	43%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	129	40%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	82	25%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	51	16%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	48	15%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	36	11%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	29	9%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	20	6%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	19	6%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	14	4%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	13	4%
Angry / sad / disappointed / badly affected (no further detail noted)	11	3%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	10	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“The mill features in all communications about Meopham and is at the heart of our village’s identity. It is visible from the village green and an important attraction for visitors as well as being a unique and attractive feature in the countryside. Whilst it remains in KCC hands it will remain open to visitors and will be unspoiled. This cannot be guaranteed if it were to pass into private or corporate ownership and would be in danger of becoming a solely commercial enterprise. I have lived here in Meopham for over 50 years and the mill is vital to the community.”** (Kent resident)

**“Kent’s history should be maintained by Kent’s local authorities...the community already pays the local authority to do this? I would be much happier for the upkeep of the windmill to remain in the hands of the local authority...it is a safer pair of hands.”** (Kent resident)

**“Likely that in the medium to long term it would deteriorate. Without obvious income generation potential, the next large refurbishment/ repair may not happen and the asset could well end up "at risk" with a voluntary organisation then responsible.”** (Kent resident)

**“It will not guarantee any financial implications for the upkeep of the windmill. It will become privately owned therefore there will be no guarantee that the windmill will not fall into disrepair. This is a part of our village and a very good example of English heritage and should be preserved and maintained as a matter of respect to those who have gone before us. To transfer ownership would just be another failure and passing of responsibilities.”**  
(Kent resident)

## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – STELLING MINNIS, DAVISON’S MILL

12% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Stelling Minnis, Davison’s Mill.

**Have you ever visited Stelling Minnis, Davison’s Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	275	12%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	82	30%
Female	85	31%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	5	2%
Aged 25-34	4	1%
Aged 35-49	19	7%
Aged 50-59	35	13%
Aged 60-64	11	4%
Aged 65-74	43	16%
Aged 75-84	43	16%
Aged 85 and over	8	3%
Live in Ashford	21	8%
Live in Canterbury	183	67%
Live in Dartford	1	0%
Live in Dover	15	5%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	17	6%
Live in Gravesham	0	0%
Live in Maidstone	3	1%
Live in Sevenoaks	1	0%
Live in Swale	1	0%
Live in Thanet	3	1%

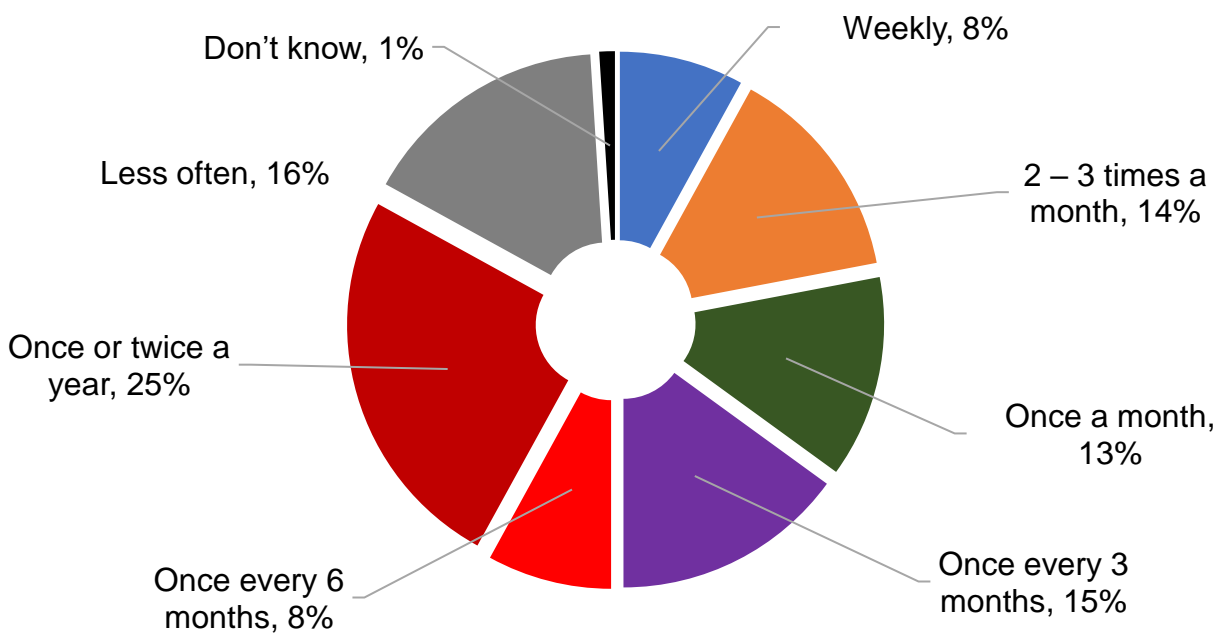
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	2	1%
Live in Tunbridge Wells	9	3%
Live outside Kent	9	3%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING STELLING MINNIS, DAVISON'S MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

Just over a third (36%) of consultees who have ever visited Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill indicated they visit at least once a month (8% weekly, 14% two to three times a month, 13% once a month). 48% indicated they visit at least once a year (15% once every three months, 8% once every six months, 25% once or twice a year). 16% indicated they visit less often. 16% indicated they visit less often.

#### *How often have you visited Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill?*

Base: all providing a response (273)



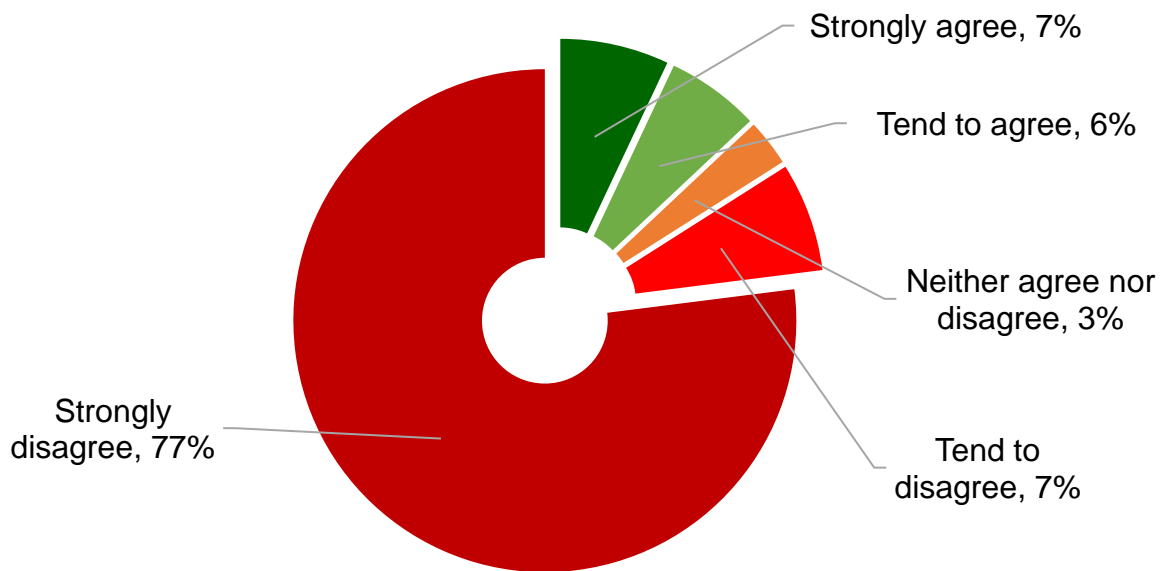
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	22	8%
2 – 3 times a month	39	14%
Once a month	36	13%
Once every 3 months	40	15%
Once every 6 months	22	8%
Once or twice a year	69	25%
Less often	43	16%
Don't know	2	1%

**AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

13% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Stelling Minnis, Davison’s Mill (7% strongly agree, 6% tend to agree). 84% indicated they disagree (7% tend to disagree, 77% strongly disagree).

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Stelling Minnis, Davison’s Mill?**

Base: all providing a response (325)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	23	7%
Tend to agree	18	6%
Neither agree nor disagree	10	3%
Tend to disagree	22	7%
Strongly disagree	251	77%
Don't know	1	0%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR STELLING MINNIS, DAVISON'S MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (84% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (44% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 26% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development and 13% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair.

26% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 10% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

13% commented that the windmill is a local educational resource / used by schools and 14% commented it is a local tourist attraction / brings people and money to the area.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (271), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	119	44%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	71	26%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	71	26%
Tourist attraction / brings people & money to area / detrimental to area if lost	38	14%
Educational resource / used by schools	34	13%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	34	13%
Community space / events / meeting place / don't want to lose this	34	13%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	30	11%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	26	10%
Ownership by other organisations (local / community groups / volunteers) wouldn't work	26	10%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	25	9%
Lack of funding available / organisations / groups not able to fund	25	9%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	19	7%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	18	7%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is responsibility of KCC	9	3%
Make savings elsewhere	9	3%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	9	3%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	8	3%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	8	3%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	7	3%
Detrimental to communities if lost / lack of meeting place / impact on volunteers/others / mental health/wellbeing	7	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“KCC was given/acquired these Windmills, in some cases as last resort, so has been entrusted with looking after/maintaining them, I feel that KCC should honour this, and still be the custodian of these mills. If the mills were sold off, in the future they could be converted into homes, like the last unrestored complete windmill in Sussex, Barnham tower windmill, this still had its machinery, and was granted planning permission, despite objections from the SPAB, and is now a house!”** (Kent resident)

**“This is a very good example of public and VS co-operation in caring for an important heritage asset. The trustees and volunteers work hard to raise funds to carry out works not covered by the KCC's structural works. There is excellent interpretation throughout and enthusiasm that involves all visitors in one way or another. It would be a disaster to lose this ideal partnership structure.”** (Kent resident)

**“It is crucial for young people to have access to our local windmill for educational, historical and social purposes. KCC is a natural organisation able to oversee the management and ownership of windmills. Selling the windmill or transferring responsibility for ownership will lead to increased costs in relation to the employment of expensive consultants with specialisms in repairs and maintenance. The current proposals just won't work in practice and will increase the risk of neglect or poor management.”** (Kent resident)

**“It requires a further programme of repair work, including mechanical and structural repairs in order to bring it back into functional use. Without a further programme of repairs, the mill would be vulnerable for two reasons. Firstly, it would not be functional (essential if the significance is to be sustained) and secondly, while it is not functional, it is more difficult for the local friends' group to generate revenue from events and open days, which supports its on-going maintenance.”** (Behalf of professional organisation in the heritage sector)

**“It is disappointing that the option to set up a charitable trust was abandoned. We believe that local interest groups should be given the opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process, to allow them to contribute to and shape the process. Given that a new owner may seek to profit from a purchase, which could have a detrimental impact on the current offer provided by the mills, it is considered preferable that local groups are given**



sufficient time to prepare to take on the ownership and management of the mills. This would allow for the establishment of a charitable trust and build up the essential capacity among the members in areas such as applying for grants, undertaking procurement and managing specialist heritage building contractors. This transition period is likely to take several years, as local groups will need time to fundraise in readiness for the transition, submit grant applications, establish relationships with partners and potential donors and recruit trustees with suitable project management and construction skills. KCC is therefore urged to allow for a longer and more sustainable transition. Given that some of these buildings have been in the KCC’s stewardship for around sixty years, it will take time to successfully transfer their ownership and management.” (Behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council)

## HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (38% of those commenting)
- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area’s heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (37%)
- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (22%)
- KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill (17%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / accessible to public / concern this would not continue under alternative arrangements (15%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Stelling Minnis, Davison’s Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (241), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	92	38%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	88	37%
Concerned they will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	52	22%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	42	17%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	36	15%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	34	14%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	28	12%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	27	11%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	22	9%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	21	9%
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	16	7%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	16	7%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	15	6%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	10	4%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	10	4%
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	9	4%
Public ownership unspecified (could be local / community group or local council)	8	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“Davison’s Mill is the focal point of Stelling Minnis village where one can take friends and relations from far and wide to show them our lovely old windmill. It is an asset to the village. Generations have seen learnt all about the workings of the mill, with interest and take home many memories . It must not be left to deteriorate.”** (Kent resident)

**“We have strong doubts that any volunteer/ charitable group would be able to achieve the required standards in maintaining the windmill and if the mill falls into private hands there is no guarantee that the new owner will maintain the mill to the required standard. Any enforcement would be financially limiting to the responsible statutory body.”** (Kent resident)

**“The disposal of the land associated with the windmill could have a significant detrimental effect on the offer of the windmill as an historic asset and recreational resource. The field is used as a car park for people visiting the windmill and tea rooms and has been used for fetes and fundraising activities for many decades. Given this, the field, windmill and museum building need to be kept together under a single community ownership as the loss of any land would impact negatively on the viability of the windmill as a going concern and a community asset. Any potential organisation taking over the ownership and management of the windmill should have to produce a business plan / long term proposal for the successful preservation and management of the mill; where applicable an organisation should receive assistance from KCC.”** (Kent resident)

**“Over the decades there has been strong commitment from the local community to support the windmill, both through the volunteers who assist in guiding visitors around the mill, and in developing the site for visitors. We now find ourselves in the situation where KCC could effectively dispose of the land where the museum is, with no guarantee on who will be able to purchase that land, or their continuing engagement to provide such an attractive setting for the public to visit. If the windmill passes into private ownership, then the land may become unavailable to the windmill/ museum, and this will directly impact the opportunities provided to maintain the unique role they have in the village. If the mill and land pass into private ownership, then there is no guarantee that the new owner will look to maintain the mill to the required Grade 1 listing standard.”** (Behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group)

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## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – WEST KINGSDOWN

2% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited West Kingsdown Mill.

**Have you ever visited West Kingsdown Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	48	2%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

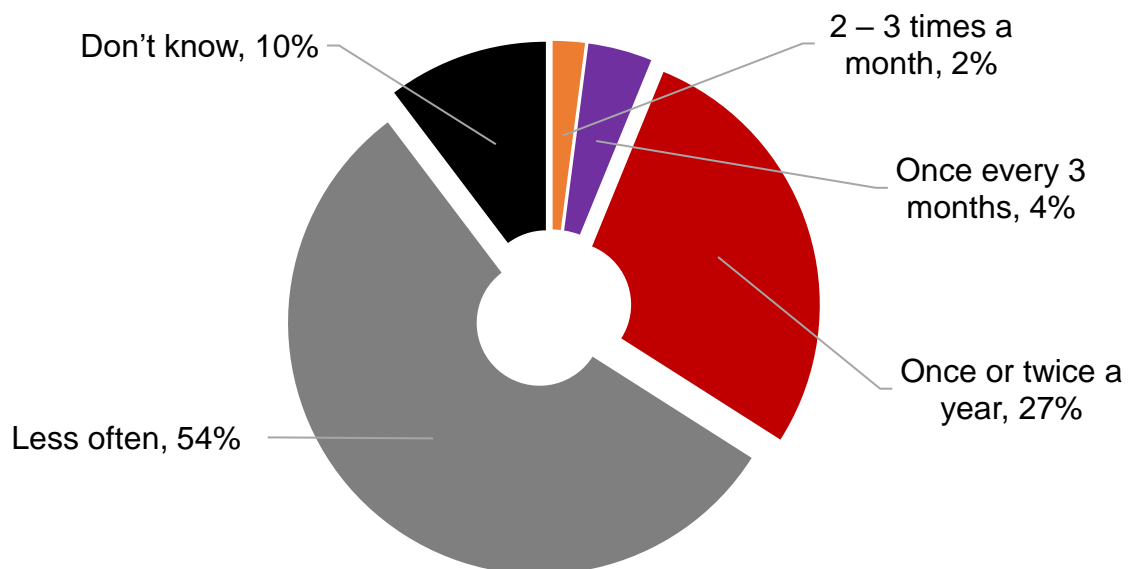
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	20	42%
Female	8	17%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	0	0%
Aged 25-34	1	2%
Aged 35-49	3	6%
Aged 50-59	4	8%
Aged 60-64	4	8%
Aged 65-74	10	21%
Aged 75-84	6	13%
Aged 85 and over	0	0%
Live in Ashford	2	4%
Live in Canterbury	6	13%
Live in Dartford	3	6%
Live in Dover	3	6%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	3	6%
Live in Gravesham	4	8%
Live in Maidstone	2	4%
Live in Sevenoaks	6	13%
Live in Swale	2	4%
Live in Thanet	2	4%
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	3	6%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tunbridge Wells	8	17%
Live outside Kent	4	8%

## FREQUENCY OF VISITING WEST KINGSDOWN MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

2% of consultees who have ever visited West Kingsdown Mill indicated they visit two to three times a month. 33% indicated they visit at least once a year (4% once every three months, 2% once every six months, 27% once or twice a year). 54% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited West Kingsdown Mill?** Base: all providing a response (48)

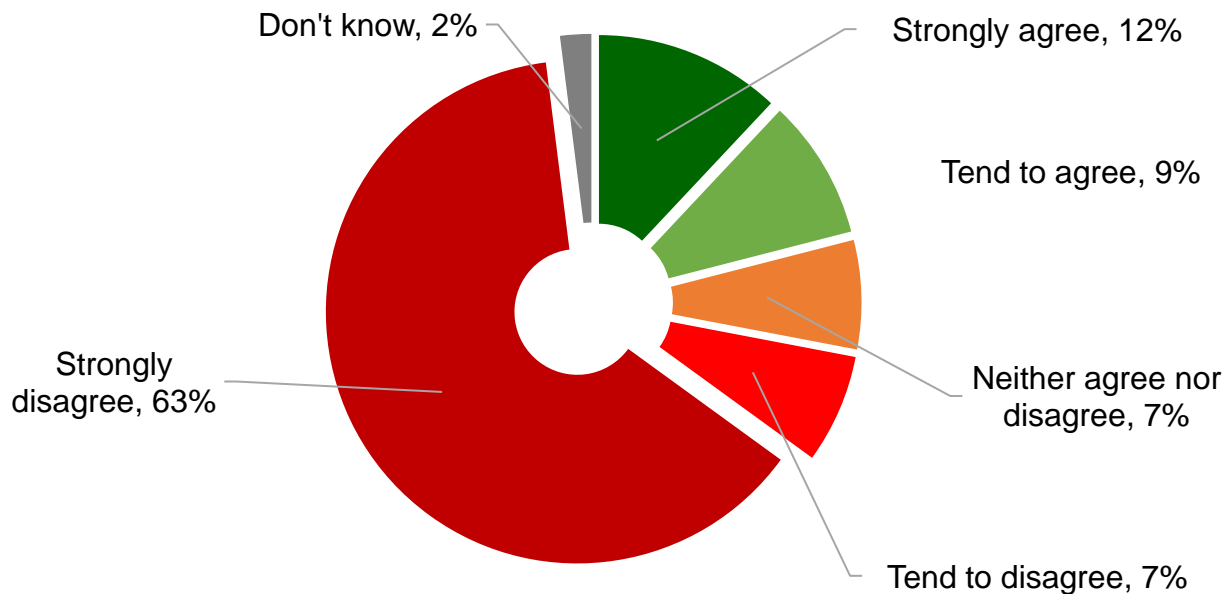


SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	0	0%
2 – 3 times a month	1	2%
Once a month	0	0%
Once every 3 months	2	4%
Once every 6 months	0	0%
Once or twice a year	13	27%
Less often	26	54%
Don't know	5	10%

**AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

22% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to offer to transfer / sell West Kingsdown Mill to the current tenant in the first instance (12% strongly agree, 9% tend to agree). 70% indicated they disagree (7% tend to disagree, 63% strongly disagree).

**For West Kingsdown Mill, which is on a long-term lease, we are proposing to offer to transfer/sell it to the current tenant in the first instance. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to offer to transfer/sell West Kingsdown Mill to the current tenant in the first instance?** Base: all providing a response (106)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	13	12%
Tend to agree	10	9%
Neither agree nor disagree	7	7%
Tend to disagree	7	7%
Strongly disagree	67	63%
Don't know	2	2%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER / SELL WEST KINGSDOWN MILL TO CURRENT TENANT)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the proposal in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (70% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. 26% of consultees commented that the windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward.

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 26% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development and 17% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair. 10% commented there believe there is a lack of funding available / organisations / groups will not be able to fund the windmill.

29% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 12% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (78), themes 3% and above reported below

% THEME	Number of responses	Percentage
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	23	29%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	20	26%
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	20	26%
Concerned they will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	13	17%
Comments / questions relating to current tenant	11	14%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	9	12%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	8	10%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund	8	10%
Agree with selling off windmill / KCC has other more important things to spend money on	7	9%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is the responsibility of KCC	4	5%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	4	5%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	3	4%
Make savings elsewhere	3	4%
Generate income / fundraising / donations / grants	3	4%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	3	4%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	2	3%
KCC should own / retain ownership / run / managed by local groups / community groups	2	3%
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	2	3%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	2	3%
Changes in ownership are not part of the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy	2	3%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	2	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“It has been an important feature throughout my life having strong connections with the area. Again, in the absence of any information as to the ability of the current tenant to secure appropriate funding for future maintenance or improvement, it has to be assumed that the asset will decline, leading to its loss.”** (Kent resident)

**“Part of Kent's unique historical heritage. Present arrangements must be maintained.”** (Kent resident)

**“This windmill can be seen from the M20 and does not appear in particularly good condition. If this is what happens when tenants are involved then it clearly does not work.”** (Kent resident)

**“It depends who the tenant is. If it is the farmer on whose land the mill stands, the mill will be in danger of neglect. It is one of the very few heritage assets in West Kingsdown, an otherwise featureless village”** (Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor)

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## **HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET**

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the ‘Points to Note’ section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area’s heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (29% of those commenting)
- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (26%)
- KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill (18%)



- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (13%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for West Kingsdown Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (62), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	18	29%
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	16	26%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	11	18%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	8	13%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	6	10%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	4	6%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	4	6%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	4	6%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	3	5%
Make savings elsewhere	3	5%
Depends on what alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	3	5%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	2	3%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	2	3%
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	2	3%
Comments relating to the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy	2	3%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	2	3%
Angry / sad / disappointed / badly affected (no further detail noted)	2	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“There is a danger that at some point in the future the Mill may deteriorate due to the circumstances of the person/body that then controls it.”** (Kent resident)

**“These will come under private ownership and will be lost from the communities forever. They are Kent’s history and need protection!”** (Kent resident)

**“The risk with alternative arrangements and/or financial responsibility is that mill volunteers and visitors could be excluded, the structure degraded or in the worst-case scenario, lost in the course of time to inappropriate development.” (Kent resident)**

**“Any change of ownership will put the future of the mills in jeopardy.” (Kent resident)**

## INDIVIDUAL WINDMILL FEEDBACK – WITTERSHAM, STOCKS MILL

3% of consultees taking part in the consultation indicated they have visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill.

**Have you ever visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill?** Base: all providing a response (2,328)

<b>% SELECTING</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	80	3%

The demographic profile of visitors can be found in the table below. Please note that a proportion of consultees chose not to answer the demographic questions so the sum of percentages for each demographic breakdown will be lower than 100%:

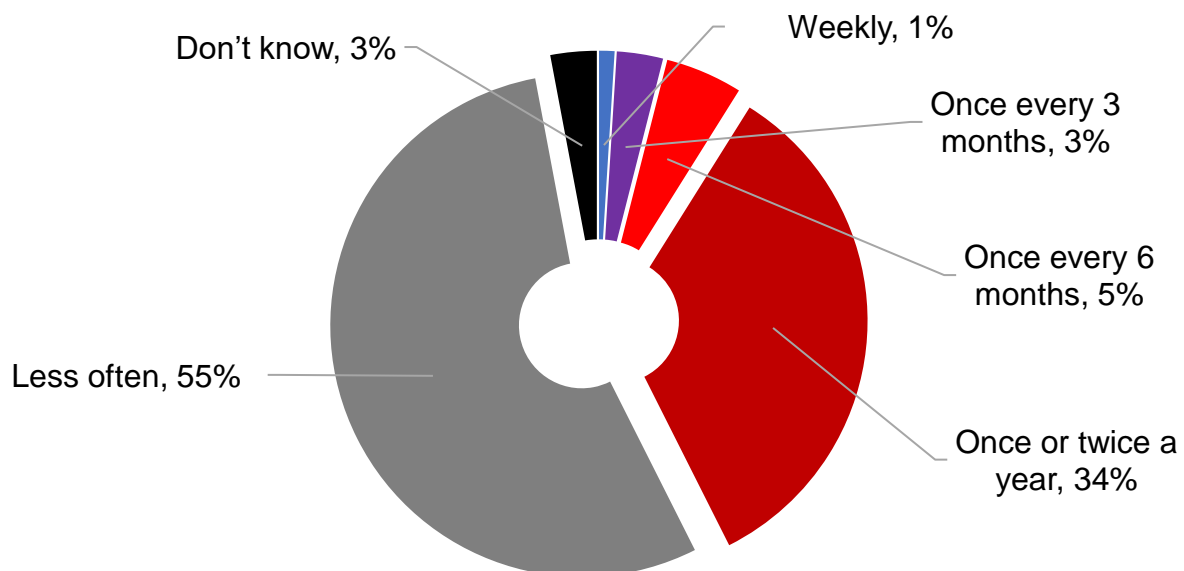
<b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	28	35%
Female	25	31%
Aged 0-15	0	0%
Aged 16-24	2	0%
Aged 25-34	3	1%
Aged 35-49	21	5%
Aged 50-59	35	9%
Aged 60-64	26	6%
Aged 65-74	37	9%
Aged 75-84	38	9%
Aged 85 and over	7	2%
Live in Ashford	3	4%
Live in Canterbury	5	6%
Live in Dartford	2	3%
Live in Dover	1	1%
Live in Folkestone & Hythe	2	3%
Live in Gravesham	0	0%
Live in Maidstone	1	1%
Live in Sevenoaks	1	1%
Live in Swale	0	0%
Live in Thanet	2	3%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	Count	Percentage
Live in Tonbridge & Malling	40	50%
Live in Tunbridge Wells	14	18%
Live outside Kent	8	10%

### FREQUENCY OF VISITING WITTERSHAM, STOCKS MILL (AMONGST VISITORS)

1% of consultees who have ever visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill indicated they visit weekly. 41% indicated they visit at least once a year (3% once every three months, 5% once every six months, 34% once or twice a year). 55% indicated they visit less often.

**How often have you visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill?** Base: all providing a response (80)



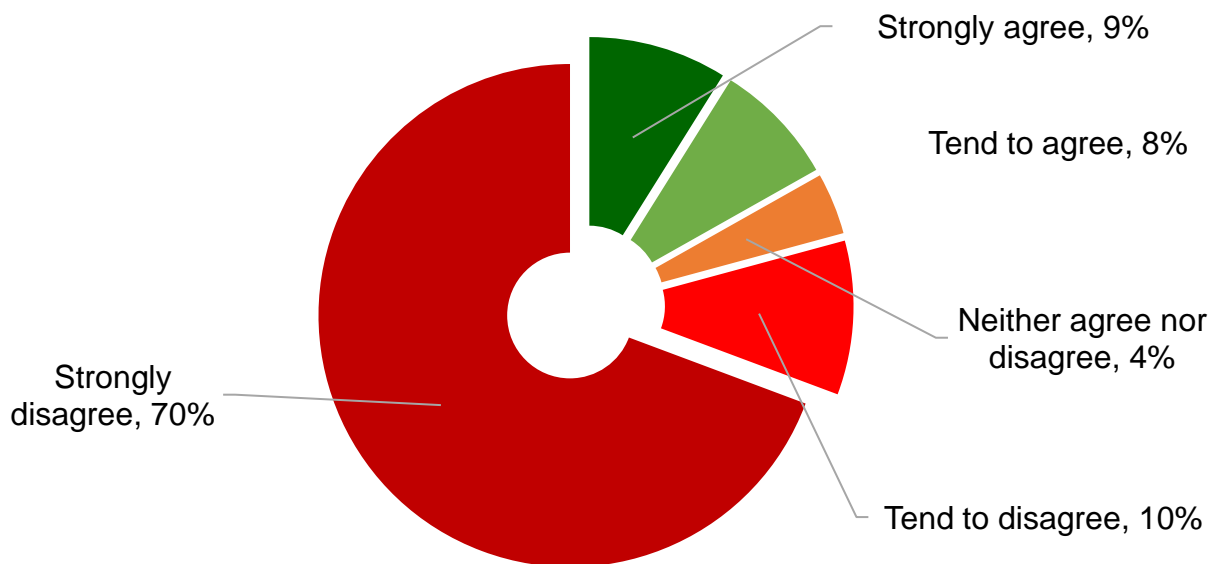
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Number of responses	Percentage
Weekly	1	1%
2 – 3 times a month	0	0%
Once a month	0	0%
Once every 3 months	2	3%
Once every 6 months	4	5%
Once or twice a year	27	34%
Less often	44	55%
Don't know	2	3%

**AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

16% indicated they agree with KCC’s proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Wittersham, Stocks Mill (9% strongly agree, 8% tend to agree). 80% indicated they disagree (10% tend to disagree, 70% strongly disagree).

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Wittersham, Stocks Mill?**

Base: all providing a response (141)



<b>SUPPORTING DATA TABLE</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	12	9%
Tend to agree	11	8%
Neither agree nor disagree	5	4%
Tend to disagree	14	10%
Strongly disagree	99	70%
Don't know	0	0%

## REASON FOR AGREEMENT RATING (PROPOSAL TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OWNERSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WITTERSHAM, STOCKS MILL)

Consultees were asked to detail their reasons for their level of agreement with the in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

Further to the stated levels of disagreement with the proposal (70% disagree in principle), the majority of comments made reference to reasons why consultees disagree with the proposal. The most common theme noted in consultees comments is that the windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (40% of those commenting).

There is concern for the protection / longevity of the windmill with 26% commenting that the windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development and 10% commented they are concerned the windmill won't be maintained / fall into disrepair. 13% commented that the windmill must be open to the public / accessible to the public.

26% commented that KCC should retain ownership and management of the windmill / it should not be sold / remain in public ownership and 10% commented it should not be privately owned / it is at risk if sold to private owners.

13% commented that the windmill is a local educational resource / used by schools and 14% commented it is a local tourist attraction / brings people and money to the area.

***Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.***

Base: all consultees providing a response (107), themes 3% and above reported below

% THEME	Number of responses	Percentage
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so	43	40%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / public ownership	28	26%
Preservation of windmill is the priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development	28	26%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible	14	13%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	13	12%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen	11	10%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	8	7%
Ownership by other organisations (local / community groups / volunteers) wouldn't work	8	7%
Educational resource / used by schools	6	6%
Generates income / fundraising / donations / grants	6	6%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	6	6%
Understand need for KCC to save money / budgetary constraints	5	5%
KCC absolving itself of responsibility / windmill is the responsibility of KCC	5	5%

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Local groups / community groups could own, run and manage	5	5%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	5	5%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund	5	5%
Agree with selling off windmill / KCC has other more important things to spend money on	5	5%
Make savings elsewhere	4	4%
Depends on who new owner is / difficult to find new owner / sustainable / financially viable	4	4%
English Heritage or National Trust might be appropriate to take them on	4	4%
Volunteers have a lot to offer / make large contribution to running windmill / could dwindle in future	4	4%
Detrimental to communities if lost / lack of meeting place / impact on volunteers/others / mental health/wellbeing	3	3%
Concerns about oversight / guarantees / compliance	3	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“It’s part of the village history and needs someone to continue to keep it in good condition without affecting the public purse.”** (Kent resident)

**“KCC has done an excellent job over the last 45 years restoring and maintaining the windmill. The Council has the expertise to undertake the task in a professional way and acting always in the public interest. The preservation of our local windmill is immensely important to me. If it were sold on, how could we be assured that it would not fall into disrepair.”** (Kent resident)

**“As a small village Wittersham is unlikely to be able to find enough volunteers to be able to take over looking after and maintaining this windmill.”** (Behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council)

**“The Mill is important national heritage (Listed Grade 2\*) and very important local heritage, so safeguarding the structure and integrity of the mill comes first. Ignoring that puts the whole listing system and its impositions on private owners in doubt as demonstrating hypocrisy within government (local in this case).”** (Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor)

## HOW ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT IMPACT THE WINDMILL AS A HERITAGE ASSET

Consultees were asked to detail how they think alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility may impact the windmill as a heritage asset in their own words. The comments have been reviewed and grouped into themes consistent with the process reported in the 'Points to Note' section.

The most common themes noted in consultees comments echo the previous question:

- Windmill is a landmark / part of the area's heritage / a community asset and should remain so moving forward (27% of those commenting)
- The windmill must be preserved / safeguarded for the future / concerned it could be at risk of closure / development (26%)
- Windmill must be open to the public / publicly accessible / unlikely this would happen with alternative arrangements (26%)
- Concern windmill will fall into disrepair / concern about upkeep (20%)

***If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Wittersham, Stocks Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual, or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?***

Base: all consultees providing a response (91), themes 3% and above reported below

<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Landmark / part of heritage / community asset - must remain so / could be lost	25	27%
Preservation is priority / safeguarding future / otherwise at risk of closure / development / future must be guaranteed	24	26%
Windmill must be open to the public / accessible / unlikely this would continue under alternative arrangements	24	26%
Concerned it will fall into disrepair / concerned about upkeep - this cannot happen / be the likely outcome of alternative	18	20%
KCC should retain ownership and management of windmill / should not be sold off / disagree with any alternative arrangements	12	13%
Should not be privately owned / at risk if sold to private owners	9	10%
Tourist attraction / brings people and money to area / detrimental to area if lost	8	9%
Volunteers play large part in windmill / could dwindle in future / loss of windmill would have impact on their wellbeing	6	7%
Depends on what the alternative arrangements are / who takes them on	6	7%
Savings made from this proposal are so small in comparison the KCC budget / funding required is a modest amount	5	5%
Educational resource / used by schools / children / could miss out	5	5%
Lack of funding available / organisations/groups not able to fund / funding needed	4	4%



<b>% THEME</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Detrimental to communities / areas if lost / used as a hub / meeting place so could be lost	4	4%
Ownership by other organisations (local/community groups/volunteers) wouldn't work	4	4%
KCC has extensive expertise / knowledge / others would lack this	4	4%
Public ownership unspecified (could be local / community group or local council)	4	4%
Make savings elsewhere	3	3%
Any alternative must be sustainable / has longevity / financially viable / committed / complies with stipulations / guarantees	3	3%
Comments relating to the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy	3	3%

Example verbatim comments supporting these themes can be found below:

**“The Windmill is currently open to all. Individuals volunteering are aging and will not be available for many more years to help keep the mills open. An organisation would find it too expensive to open in a similar way. We need to keep alive the awareness of the importance of these buildings which were once central to rural life.”** (Kent resident)

**“The mill would deteriorate badly, and it may not be opened to the public. It is a valuable asset as a tourist attraction to the area, foreign visitors bring in money for the local hotels, B&Bs, pubs, shops etc. Also, all the mills are good educational resources.”** (Kent resident)

**“It is highly unlikely that any alternative owner could be found that would have any serious interest in maintaining the mill.”** (Kent resident)

**“I would have concerns that private interests might override the public interest. Would the windmill still be open to the public?”** (Kent resident)

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## NEXT STEPS

This report will be presented, along with an updated EqIA, to Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee in July or September 2024 for their consideration.

Following this meeting a decision is expected to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment. We will publish details of the decision on the consultation webpage.

## Section 1 – About You

### Q1. Are you responding ...?

Please select the option from the list below that most closely represents how you will be responding to this consultation. *Select **one** option.*

- As a resident of Kent ((living in the Kent County Council authority area)
- As a resident from outside Kent, including Medway
- As a representative of a local community group or residents' association
- On behalf of a windmill and heritage volunteer group
- On behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector
- On behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council in an official capacity
- As a Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor
- On behalf of an educational establishment, such as a school or college
- On behalf of a business
- On behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCSE)
- Other, please specify:

**Q1a. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation (business, community group, residents' association, council or any other organisation), please tell us the name of your organisation. Please write in *below*.**

**Q2. How did you find out about this consultation? Select *all* that apply**

- An email from KCC's Heritage Conservation team
- An email from Let's talk Kent / KCC's Engagement and Consultation Team
- From a windmill and heritage volunteer group
- From my Parish / Town / Borough / District Council
- From a friend or relative
- Social Media (Facebook, X, Instagram, Nextdoor or LinkedIn)
- Kent.gov.uk website
- Saw a poster
- Newspaper
- Other, please specify:

**Q3. Please tell us the first 5 characters of your postcode:**

*Please do not reveal your whole postcode. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please tell us your organisations postcode. We use this to help us to analyse our data. It will not be used to identify who you are.*

## Section 2 – Our Proposal

We are proposing to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for each of the eight windmills owned by KCC, which would be a change to our current strategy for windmills as set out in the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy. By seeking alternative ownership arrangements for all of the windmills, we would make an estimated saving of about £800,000 up until 2029. These changes are not expected to generate a large amount of income; the saving would be from the reduction of day-to-day running costs and maintenance of windmills.

**Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree in principle with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for KCC owned windmills? Select *one* option.**

You will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on individual windmills later in the questionnaire.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q4a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.

If, after this consultation, a decision is taken to seek alternative arrangements for our windmills, we would explore whether existing local voluntary or community groups would be able to take on responsibility for ownership of the windmills.

**Q5. If a local interest, voluntary or community group(s) were to take on the ownership of the windmills, would it change how you responded to the previous question (Q4)?** *Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**Q5a. If you answered 'Yes', please tell us to what extent you would now agree or disagree with our proposal to seek alternative arrangements for KCC owned windmills?** *Select one option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q5b. Please tell us the reason for your change of mind in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

Finding alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for our windmills would require a change to the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy. Currently the strategy makes no mention of selling or transferring ownership of the windmills (see page 4 of the consultation document for what is currently included in the strategy).

If after this consultation a decision was taken to find alternative arrangements for our windmills, then a new objective would need to be added. The strategy would continue to set out how we would approach the management of the windmills we still own.

**Q6. Please tell us if you have any comments or suggestions on the Kent Heritage Conservation Strategy in relation to windmills and this consultation. *Please write in below.***

### **Individual windmills**

You now can provide feedback on each of the windmills potentially impacted by this proposal. You can answer all or as many of the questions as you like. **If you would rather not provide feedback on a windmill, just move on to the next one.**

We welcome your feedback on the following windmills:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <b>Chillenden Mill - page 7</b>        | 5. <b>Meopham Mill - page 15</b>                    |
| 2. <b>Cranbrook, Union Mill - page 9</b>  | 6. <b>Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill - page 17</b> |
| 3. <b>Herne Mill - page 11</b>            | 7. <b>West Kingsdown Mill - page 19</b>             |
| 4. <b>Margate, Drapers Mill - page 13</b> | 8. <b>Wittersham, Stocks Mill - page 21</b>         |

## **1. Chillenden Mill**

**Q7. Have you ever visited Chillenden Mill? Select *one* option.**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q7a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Chillenden Mill. Select *one* option.**

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Chillenden Mill? Select *one* option.**

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know



**Q8a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q9. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Chillenden Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## **2. Cranbrook, Union Mill**

**Q10. Have you ever visited Cranbrook, Union Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q10a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Cranbrook, Union Mill.** *Select **one** option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Cranbrook, Union Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q11a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q12. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Cranbrook, Union Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

### **3. Herne Mill**

**Q13. Have you ever visited Herne Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q13a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Herne Mill.** *Select **one** option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Herne Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q14a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q15. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Herne Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

#### **4. Margate, Drapers Mill**

**Q16. Have you ever visited Margate, Drapers Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q16a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Margate, Drapers Mill.** *Select **one** option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Margate, Drapers Mill?** *Select **one** option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q17a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q18. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Margate, Drapers Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? *Please tell us in the box below.***

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## 5. MEOPHAM MILL

**Q19. Have you ever visited Meopham Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q19a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Meopham Mill.** *Select one option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

For Meopham Mill, which is on a long-term lease, we are proposing to offer to transfer/sell it to the current tenant in the first instance.

**Q20. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to offer to transfer/sell Meopham Mill to the current tenants in the first instance?** *Select one option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know



**Q20a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q21. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Meopham Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**6. Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill,**

**Q22. Have you ever visited Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q22a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill.** *Select one option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q23. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q23a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q24. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Stelling Minnis, Davison's Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?**

*Please tell us in the box below.*

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## **7. West Kingsdown Mill**

**Q25. Have you ever visited West Kingsdown Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q25a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited West Kingsdown Mill.** *Select one option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

For West Kingsdown Mill, which is on a long-term lease, we are proposing to offer to transfer/sell it to the current tenant in the first instance.

**Q26. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to offer to transfer/sell West Kingsdown Mill to the current tenant in the first instance?** *Select one option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q26a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q27. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for West Kingsdown Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## 8. WITTERSHAM, STOCKS MILL

**Q28. Have you ever visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable as responding on behalf of an organisation

**Q28a. If you have answered 'Yes', please tell us how often you have visited Wittersham, Stocks Mill.** *Select one option.*

- Weekly
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- Once every 3 months
- Once every 6 months
- Once or twice a year
- Less often
- Don't know

**Q29. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Wittersham, Stocks Mill?** *Select one option.*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Q29a. Please tell us the reason for your answer in the box below.**

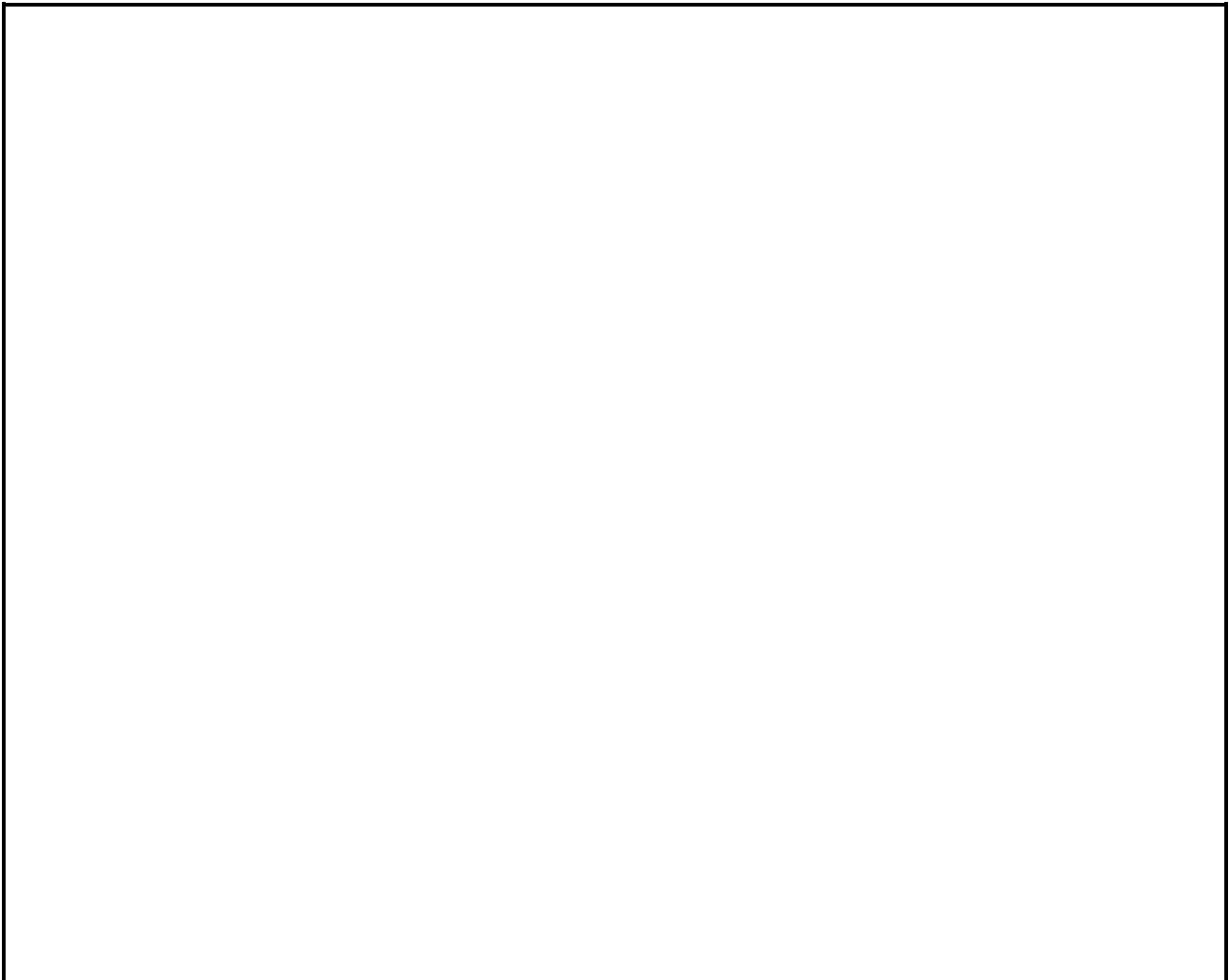
*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

**Q30. If we were to find alternative arrangements for the ownership and/or financial responsibility for Wittersham, Stocks Mill, how might this impact the windmill as a heritage asset, you as an individual or the organisation you are responding on behalf of? Please tell us in the box below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## Anything else?

**Q31. If there is anything else you would like to tell us regarding this consultation, including anything you think we should consider or suggestions for how we could retain the windmills by making them more financially viable, please tell us in the box below.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the respondent to provide their answer to the question above. The box is currently blank.



## Section 3 – Equality Analysis

To help ensure that we are meeting our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 we have prepared an initial Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the proposal to find alternative arrangements for the ownership of and/or financial responsibility for each of the eight windmills currently owned by KCC.

An EqIA is a tool to assess the impact any service change, policy or strategy would have on age, sex, gender identity, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity, marriage and civil partnership and carer's responsibilities. The EqIA is available online at [www.kent.gov.uk/windmillsconsultation](http://www.kent.gov.uk/windmillsconsultation) or on request.

**Q32. We welcome your views on our equality analysis and if you think there is anything else we should consider relating to equality and diversity, please add any comments below.**

*Please do not include any personal information that could identify you or anyone else within your response.*

## Section 4 – More About You

We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally, and that no one gets left out. That's why we are asking you these questions. We'll use it only to help us make decisions and improve our services.

**If you would rather not answer any of these questions, you don't have to.**

**It is not necessary to answer these questions if you are responding on behalf of an organisation.**

**Q33. Are you...? Select *one* option.**

- Male
- Female
- I prefer not to say

**Q34. Is your gender the same as at your birth? Select *one* option.**

- Yes
- No
- I prefer not to say

**Q35. Are you ...? Select *one* option.**

- Heterosexual / Straight
- Bi / Bisexual
- Gay man
- Gay woman / Lesbian
- Other
- I prefer not to say

If you selected Other, please specify:

**Q36. Which of these age groups applies to you? Select *one* option.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	0-15	<input type="checkbox"/>	16-24	<input type="checkbox"/>	25-34	<input type="checkbox"/>	35-49	<input type="checkbox"/>	50-59
<input type="checkbox"/>	60-64	<input type="checkbox"/>	65-74	<input type="checkbox"/>	75-84	<input type="checkbox"/>	85+ over	<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a long standing physical or mental condition that has lasted, or is likely to last, at least 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS, for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

**Q37. Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010? Select *one* option.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say

**Q37a. If you answered 'Yes' to Q37, please tell us the type of impairment that applies to you.**

*You may have more than one type of impairment, so please select **all** that apply. If none of these applies to you, please select 'Other' and give brief details of the impairment you have.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical impairment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sensory impairment (hearing, sight or both)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Longstanding illness or health condition, such as cancer, HIV/AIDS, heart disease, diabetes or epilepsy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental health condition
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning disability
<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other, please specify:

A Carer is anyone who provides unpaid care for a friend or family member who, due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support. Both children and adults can be carers.

**Q38. Are you a Carer?** Select **one** option.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say

**Q39. To which of these ethnic groups do you feel you belong?** Select **one** option. (Source 2011 Census)

<input type="checkbox"/>	White English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Black Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Black African
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Asian
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Northern Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Other*
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Gypsy/Roma	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British African
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British Other*
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>	Arab
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian or Asian British Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian or Asian British Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian or Asian British Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>	

\*Other - If your ethnic group is not specified on the list, please describe it here:

**Q40. Do you regard yourself as belonging to a particular religion or holding a belief? Select one option.**

- Yes
- No
- I prefer not to say

**Q40a. If you answered 'Yes' to Q40, which of the following applies to you? Select one option.**

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian | <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sikh                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish    | <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer not to say |

If you selected Other, please specify:

