

RIBA 0 – 2 Public Engagement Report

1.0 Dates

The Old Town Warehouse was open to the public on the following dates:

Friday 24th July – 65 visitors

Saturday 2nd August – 149 visitors

Sunday 12th September – 75 visitors

The RIBA 0 – 2 exhibition was displayed in the Town Hall Monday 10th August – Friday 4th September.

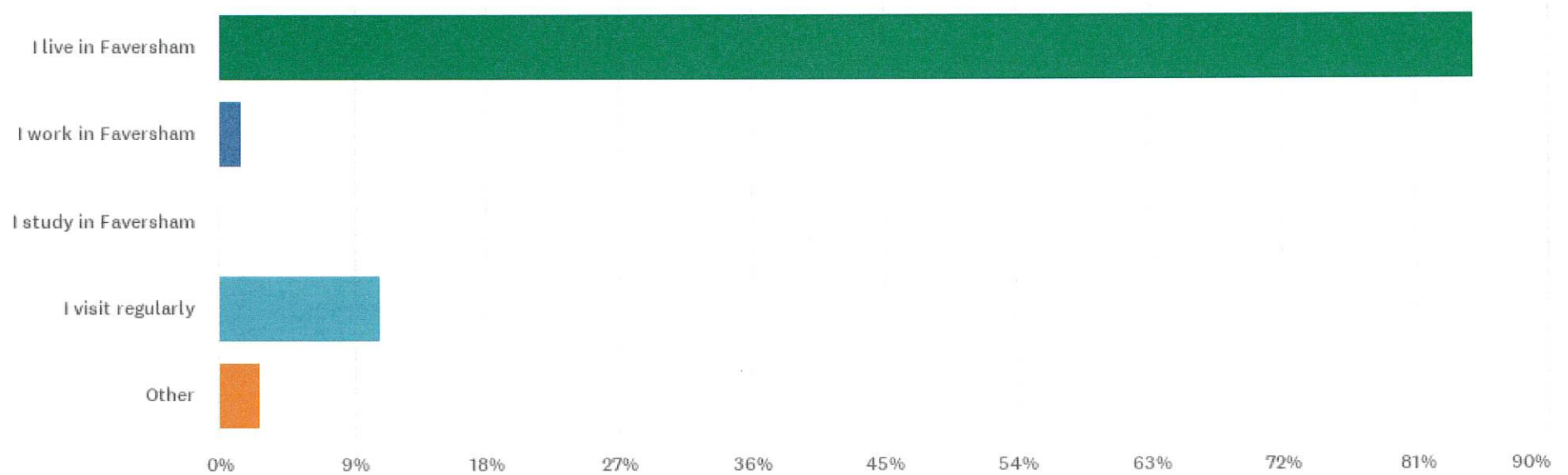
The RIBA 0 -2 exhibition was included in Open Faversham at St Mary of Chairty Church Wednesday 16th September – Saturday 19th September

2.0 Questioners

253 questioners were completed across all venues

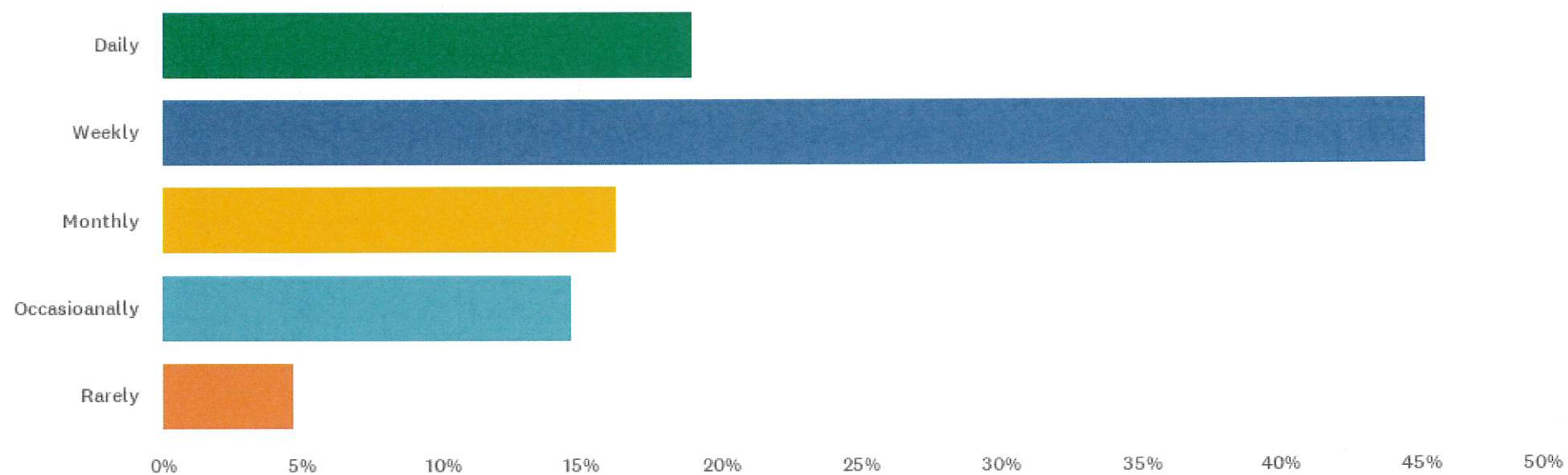
Q1 252 responses

What is your connection to Faversham?



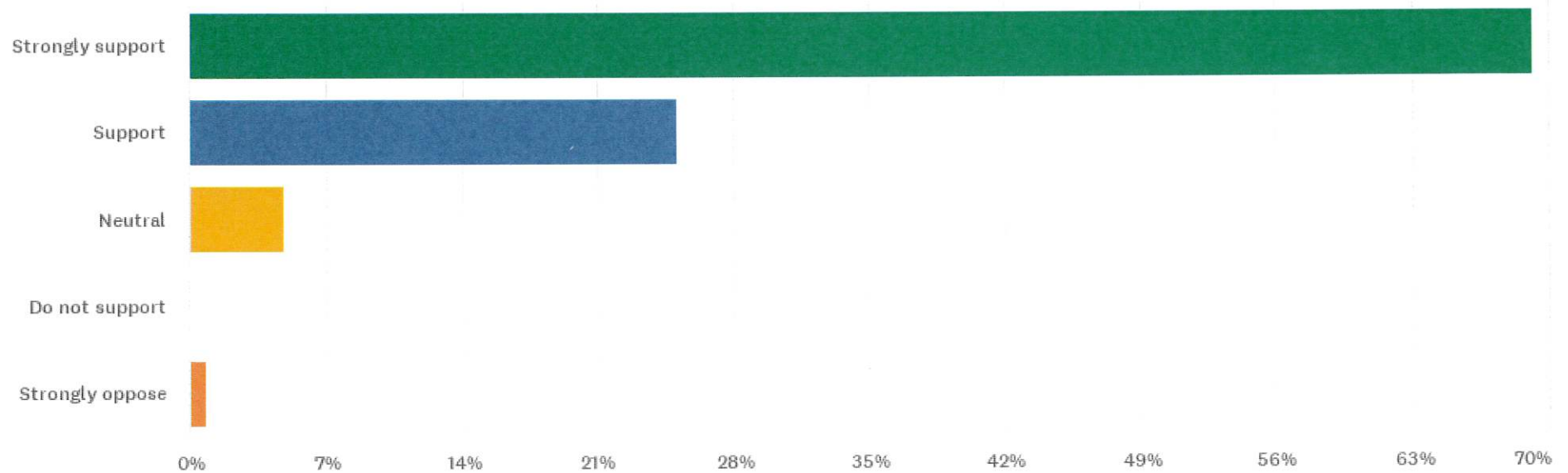
Q2 252 responses

How often do you visit the Town Quay Area



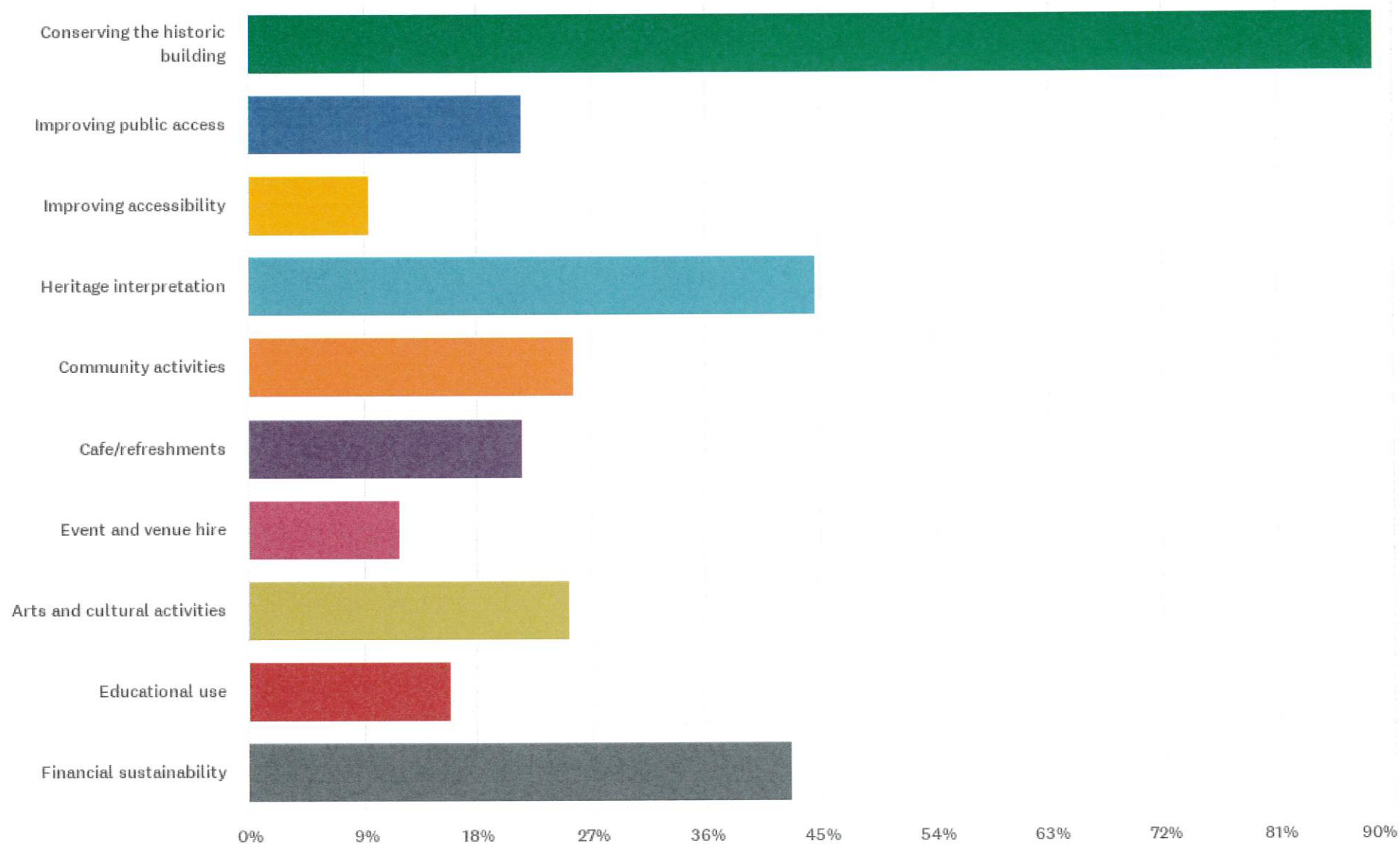
Q3 247 responses

Overall, how supportive are you of the emerging proposals



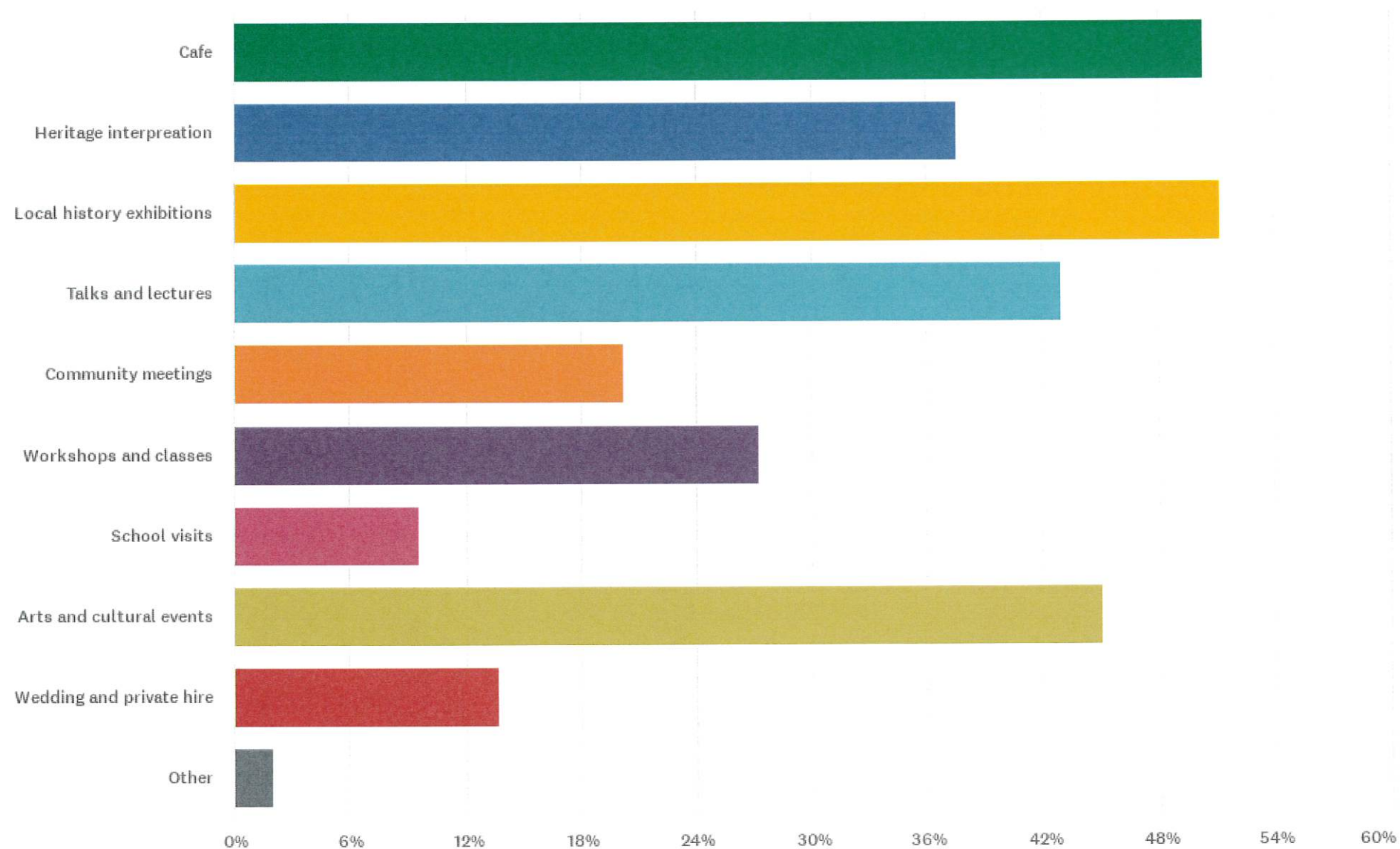
Q4 246 responses

Which of the following do you think should be the highest priorities for the project



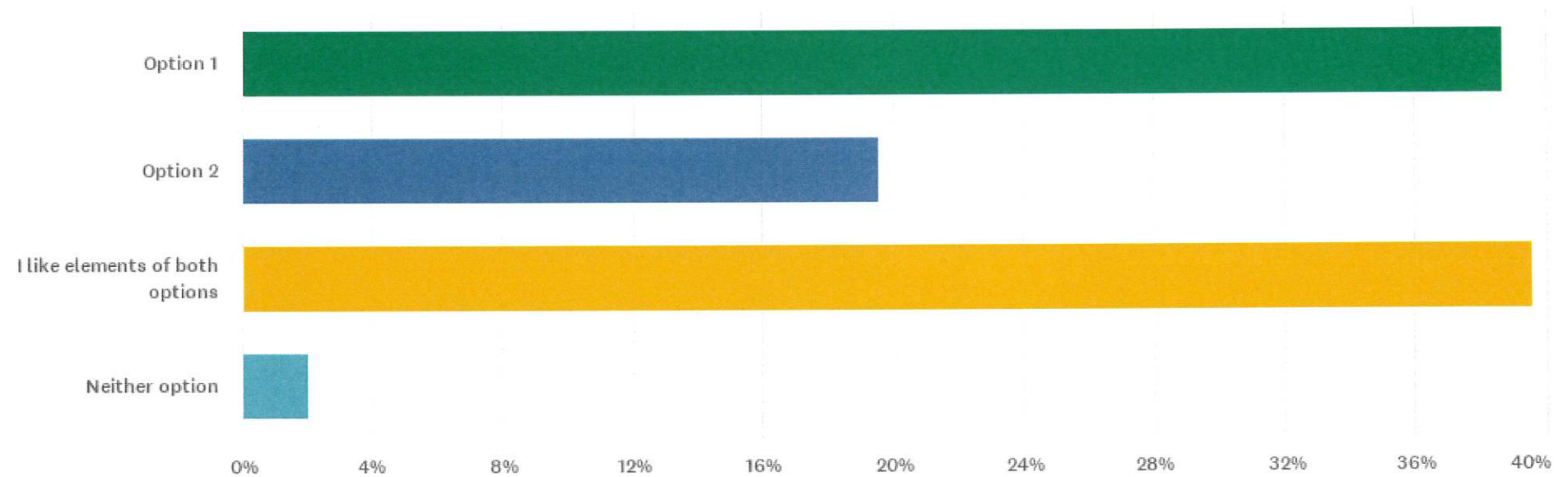
Q5 242 responses

Which activities would you be most likely to sue



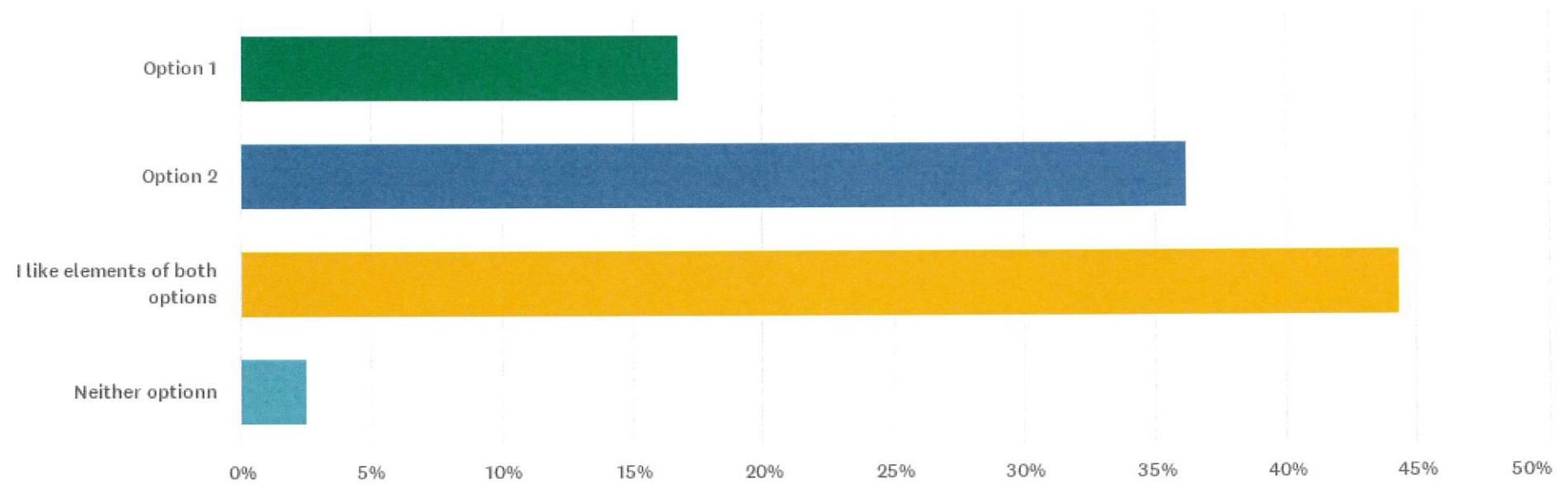
Q6 240 responses

Which ground floor approach do you prefer



Q7 232 responses

Which first floor approach do you prefer



Q8: Is there anything missing from the proposals that you would like us to consider?

Responses

I think the proposal for outdoor lift is not in keeping and will get vandalised. I suggest having it to the right of the entrance door. This is a huge 'dead space'. If a fire escape necessary for fire regs could this be at the rear of the building. Cheaper to build and not visible.

No reference to creek and its users

A natural looking landscaped area with seats overlooking the creek

What are the plans to make the building resilient to coastal flooding?

be launched. Hilary Whelan has such a slip way and it is to the Northern edge of the town quay. Could this narrow strip of land be provided by the Council for the town's use?

Add a shower facility for boat owners and others without access to these facilities. Reduce toilets to 2 - both unisex and accessible. Introduce soil disposal site for boats

Flexibility and income should be prioritised and high quality restoration and maintenance

Conservation workshops run by conservation professionals to find and undertake maintenance and repair of the historic fabric.

Use of the external space.

You've probably thought of everything

No

No

Wall panels used for advertising - restoration co's heritage buildings

Nothing missing

Who is going to run a cafe? Volunteers? What about food hygiene regs/food waste/or huge staff costs.

We have loads of cafes in town - we don't need another

None

Option 1 for ground floor

Option 2 for first floor

Town needs a "youth club"/meeting place for young people - why not use downstairs for this purpose.

Licensed bar

proposals?

Development of the outdoor area - seating, planting etc

Sensitive use of the outdoor area - eg an appropriate garden

Integrate its use as part of a whole basin regeneration

Lift using the existing fire exit

highlighting will be important

Art, comedy shows, exhibitions, cultural events, music etc

Hire out to film crews and photographers for shoots etc

It's great to see something happening and moving forward

Mending Creek Sluice/loch gates

Why not allow creek projects to benefit from the building eg Cinque Ports Rowing, Creek Trust, rowers etc

Parking in area

I would like to see the Graveney boat returned to Faversham. A permanent exhibition maybe?

None

On site parking

Suitable furniture in keeping with the building - not too modern!

Raise the building by at least 1 metre and strengthen the outside. Re-wire install a sprinkler system and alarm system plus cameras.

Parking is there room for a disabled parking bay outside?

A proper costed estimate of restoration with timescale

Financial viability of the options

No

Proposals for advertising it as a place to visit

Relationships between the building and the green space outside - this is a valuable asset which increases potential of the site

Up Creek boat trips/punts

None

The outside area could be developed for cafe/entertainment by the water

No just wedding

What would be the ongoing financial cost?

Rochester Castle

I would encourage a maritime/sea fairing historical emphasis and use. I hope it is insured against fire! Danger of arsonists!

A maritime museum of Faversham ask Greenwich to suggest/help with display jaldmeh@hotmail.com

Proposals for grounds and quayside too?

Suitable climate conditions - cold/damp for people and artefacts

If used for arts/exhibitions climate control exhibitors wouldn't sign up to use a cold building in winter

No

Probably need to consider parking

If cafe could you have outdoor seating

Flood management strategy

Restore historic features

Access from the creekside. Is it possible to gain access along the Creek walk way.

Would it be financially impossible to restore the building using medieval methods - lath and plaster, wood nails etc with regular paying guided tours during the process.

No

Connected outdoor space (waterfront)

leveraging sea proximity and access

No

No

This is a timber framed building. Rather than lowering the floor raise the building above the flood level - 2 usable floors.

Need to bear in mind the risk of regular tidal flooding in this area.

No

Make it into Faversham museum.

Use of outdoor space in front of lower floor with tables etc for cafe. This would also help to encourage additional income particularly in Summer.

Would there be access to the outside space by the Creek if the cafe was downstairs?

Cafe open towards the Creek outdoor space

impossible.

I would like to see conservation work used as an opportunity to develop heritage/conservation building skills through apprenticeships and recording activities with the public.

The OTW has close links to the Creek and the sea. It would be nice to see this continue.

Retaining/creating of hireable storage space for local organisations. (as Alexander Centre had prior to fire)

No but flexibility is key.

Do not distract from the beauty of the building with too many additions.

More provision for performances and social events linked to creek access.

A place to display the Graveney Boat.

Links to the creek, swing bridge, use of the basin.

has.

Very comprehensive. Nothing Missing.

The impact on other cafe, facilities parking, vehicle access for suppliers and services access from town.

Flexibility is key, I can't see why a community focus would exclude either a cafe or wedding venue. /Given the proximity of the busy road it would be important to landscape in a way that prioritise the creek facing aspect.

I see no reason why the cafe and first floorspace couldn't combine elements - flexible space. Consideration of how small creek side space will be planted sustainably, (trees, wild flowers). 2 moorings alongside path could be set up and restricted.

Relocation within Faversham.

Use of the outdoor space.

Raising the money to get it done. Presumably the town council would have to raise 10-20% of the estimated costs before applying for grants.

Greater emphasis on heritage and conservation, education of historical building skills.

Storage Space. In option 2 upstairs only.

No I think what is proposed is good.

No but include good use of the outside also. Out door theatre in summer is popular. Use loos and cafe at night events.

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Q9: Do you have any concerns about the proposals?

Responses

Retain its natural architecture. Explanation of its use and history.

Keeping the building within its natural history.

Ensuring it is accessible as possible which may be difficult in a heritage building.

Unsightly external building additions. Pricing locals out.

Yes, what adaptations will be made for ground floor flooding? Will both floors have independent electrical supplies in case of flooding? In the surrounding area (grass etc) will a tree be planted for future shade at an early stage in the works.

Very important that it is made in keeping with the building not a cheap rendition

I don't like the idea of a crude looking lift. How about having a modern pulley hoist system which would be fitting for a warehouse.

Flooding issue not addressed even under site analysis section

Cafe a good idea to encourage people to visit but should not become focus of space

Faversham sits on is lowering. Money being a problem, the Council is under pressure to make full use of the building for the community, but future generations must be thought of as a priority.

The cost for the town in building and maintaining. It needs a good cafe to pay rent and paying groups to help maintain it.

Going for any 1 option may limit income and then maintenance. I don't imagine any council will be able to fund it on an ongoing basis so ongoing funding would have to be sought if income didn't cover maintenance.

Just that they may be postponed - keen for action as soon as possible

That appropriate materials and ventilation is used to ensure the long term health and preservation of the structure in priority over cheaper construction for quick revenue gain.

Costs

No

Yes

Would be a shame if it just ends up being another cafe

Wheel chair accessibility in keeping with oak staircase

We don't need more cafes and wedding venues

Is there a danger about duplicating what Creek Creative offer?

No concerns

No concerns, it will be lovely to have a new area for the community

Concerns about large events eg weddings

Parking and Traffic for private hire events and weddings. Where would people park?

Proposals have emphasised cafe. This town does not need another cafe.

No

The lift option is ugly.

Needs to be wood clad to blend in with building

The building is a bit too noisy from the traffic for weddings

I think events (eg weddings) would not be appropriate in this building

The use of the building for events, eg weddings, needs careful consideration and management such as invigilation, cleaning up after the event, an emergency plan etc

Faversham already has community spaces? Alexander Centre, St Judes, Assembly Rooms

The lift looks ugly and not in keeping - can't it be clad

Should be done to a high spec, rather than cheap and quick. Will be cheaper in the long term.

Only that whatever is done includes the community

Sustaining and maintenance - all your usability

I dislike the wedding venue idea - why do we need another venue -what's wrong with Guildhall. Why do we need another cafe? Who will man it - volunteers? Are there not h&s/food hygiene regs etc to consider?

Parking could be an issue

None

no

No

I would hope it would be more of a community space for everyone and not limited to just a few.

Long term funding plan is essential and without the flakeiness of political interference.

Yes, it is better to think about the long term for the building before short term

Retaining the history and getting people to know about it all is key.

That people with accessibility issues are consulted regarding the design of both options for toilets. As each option appears very different in size. Is the smaller one suitable for wheelchair users?

They are commonplace ideas that detract from the national historic significance of the building

Yes. Where are the staff/volunteers going to come from? Bearing in mind we already have Faversham Fleur de Lis Museum? Exhibitions are great but in practice take a great deal of time and expertise to put on.

To be self funding in the future

Continue to engage local people to ensure future plans are sustainable and that there is local investment

Lift options do not compliment or enhance structure in historical context - better solutions should be examined

Fire risk compliance/maintaining original grade 2 appearance

None

The proposals should be as flexible as possible to allow it to be as multi-functional as possible.

To allow for financial stability without sacrificing the ability to provide affordable space for community and artist access to event space.

No

Getting the funding

No

Who is paying for it

Who would run it

Would change of council change/put back plans

Overall costings?

Are they likely to increase? Would a change in Council affect the proposals?

I don't want another cafe

Would like to see fascia as unchanged as possible

Too many cafes already not really suitable for large weddings/events

Flooding

Finance - both short and long term

no

No

The accessible lift is important but looks horrible

The extend platform lifts really spoil the character of the building

No

None

No

No reference to historical/archaeological studies - this is a grade 2 building ie top 2% of listed buildings in England

Concerned that the Faversham Town Council have sufficient funds.

Not only venue hire but public access.

Keep the cafe option practical. Not too big. Lots of competition in Faversham.

Insurance implications of large scale public access.

The structure is great but I'm not sure it will work as a wedding venue, because of the lack of windows. No chance of adding more between the wooden uprights? If it was a warehouse maybe it had no windows originally. Think people might choose other cafes once they've seen this one.

No

None

No

No

Not ambitious enough.

Is there a real need to demolish the ground floor partition wall. Preservation of this for maybe just having a door in the wall should be a priority.

The preservation of the building

None

Cost?

As a resident living opposite am very concerned about events such as weddings due to potential noise.

Venue rivals Shepherd Neame.

Stick to cafe (and workshops upstairs) eg craft classes/pottery studio

How to combine preservation of important town building with (1) modern accessibility requirements and (2) ability to provide activities to finance continuing viability.

I would like to see evidence that the details of any proposals are founded on a solid baseline understanding of the historic fabric of the building - change must be informed by understanding of significance.

It is important that the building is brought back into regular use and not just opened 3 or 4 times a year.

Flood protection/mitigation not included in plans.

Sustainability.

I feel some of the proposals conflict with other heritage buildings in the district. Eg. Assembly Rooms, Guildhall and Alexander Centre.

No.

Financial sustainability is important.

I don't think they are financially self sufficient perhaps.

No.

My concern would be for the ground floor and the real possibility of flooding.

A lot of people will have concerns about parking at the venue.

Making ground floor development flood resilient.

None. Busy road nearby, not suitable for children.

My only concern would be that the commitments to access for all would be secondary. Accessibility is everything for the community.

Do not increase car parking plenty of spaces by the brewery.

Whether the project is an economic proportion. Are there enough weddings taking place? The neighbouring water plant? What can the project afford the spend?

Flood Risk

The likelihood of flooding increasing as time goes on. Are there plans to future proof the site?

Ensuring enough income to meet running costs of an old building.

Huge congratulations to Faversham Town Council proactive community engagement in developing this historic beautiful space. How will the build/refurb work be funded, who will make the decisions.

Does not address risk of damage by flooding.

Changing the fabric composition too much.

Finance, but with the town behind you maybe grants, hope so.

How is it being paid for.

Parking impact. Not too commercial then spoils the area.

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How is it being paid for.

Parking impact. Not too commercial, spoils the area.

Q10: Any other comments or suggestions?

Responses

Has a detailed survey been down?

Its wonderful this great building will be preserved and used.

Definitely needs to be restored. (Should never have been left to deterate

For boat owners I suggest a shower /toilet room/wet room instead of one of the toilets. Any toilets should be multiple use. Male/female/easy access, this gives 3 toilets plus shower. Shower could be used for homeless people or people made homeless by floods in future.

Great Work

They are great, what's not to like.

Better moorings to attract nautical visitors.

I would suggest that before the building is converted for any options the building should be jacked up by at least 1 metre. This is to stop flooding by rising tides. It is widely known the building has been flooded in the past and several times in my life time.

I am concerned that no flood protection seems to be in place or thought of. Flooring for floods, electrics high up etc. Kitchen design for cafe

I would like it to eventually be used every day and night and be well known and loved hence flexible use and good quality restoration

Trying to maintain a unique venue and not compete with existing businesses

Make it community or cultural amenity

Like the idea of it being restored and used, would like to see a space where people can meet to make friends in the town.

Fire precautions badly needed

This is a national asset and the financial upkeep shouldn't be put onto the Faversham tax payers alone.

This amazing building needs/must be used and cared for

None

I am concerned that it might be hard to generate the income required as the building could be in competition with other venues like the Alex and Community Centre.

Jacking the building up to increase headroom on ground floor and protect against future flooding

yoga and wellness

Well done for getting this far!

Keep pushing to reach conclusion

Pirate Museum

We probably enough cafes

Community arts space

I feel strongly this should be an exhibition space - telling the history of the building. Also space for community groups to hire free of charge or for nominal fee. I like the idea of talks but not weddings.

Space for local artists/craftsmen to exhibit - temporary exhibits

Establish regular activities from start of project

Accent on Faversham's Maritime History

Cinque Ports etc

Port of Kings

The right furniture would be needed to fulfil all options, otherwise the proposals will not work properly.

I am glad to see it finally being done up - and hope it will be well maintained and used for years to come.

Before large amounts are put/invested in the interior, first secure the outside then raise it off the ground by at least one metre (the technology is available. It is known that the building gets flooded and the sea levels are rising.

It will become another part of Faversham's rich heritage, it is worth doing well. Good luck! :-)

I like that the first floor option 2 has acknowledged that there needs to be a storage area.

No mention of annual flooding and general maintenance

I think 2 offers more flexibility

How big is the upstairs - is it big enough for the classes proposed? I notice you have photos of a yoga class - they occupy a lot of space.

A great asset for Faversham not to be lost

I just want this magnificent building preserved for future generations

Town Council's approach to local heritage is fantastic - we are so fortunate to have all these heritage assets which are actively being preserved/invested in.

Energy self sufficiency

It is a wonderful building, that definitely needs to have a function

Keeping history of building and sharing with visitors

Would be really good to keep the ceiling visible

I haven't reflected deeply enough to have formed opinions on these

No

Already many cafes in Faversham, this cafe would need to have something different to make it appeal

Only so many cafe's you can have. Would one here survive financially? Who would run it?

Needs to be able to generate income so its self sustaining

Start sooner rather than later it has been so neglected - which is very disappointing of Swale.

I wonder if weddings would be too narrow in terms of income? I suspect a range of hire usage would generate better income streams.

We need something/somewhere that speaks about the maritime history

I haven't ticked the cafe box on questions 4 & 5, but I think generally cafes seem popular. So that might be a good option.

To be continued to be used

Create demand for continual use

Not enough clarity about how revenue can be generated

None

If improve the stairs would be better for all

Unclear whether emerging properly founded on a detailed understanding historic development and use of building, and heritage significance.

One family member would prefer the original function of the building to be maintained - conditional sale to a local business to use as storage.

Wood generally seems in good order.

No

On market days when the high street is packed this can be a great space for use as cafe, live music etc

Use space for historic representation but also community education. Colab with university.

No

No

Part of the building to use daily ie cafe etc

I love the idea of this being used for weddings and events - perfect locations and a lovely display of Faversham's history!

Happy to help voluntarily with the work.

Glad somethings are being considered

Please get the preservation work started as soon as possible, whatever plans for the interior are approved.

Scrap wedding venue idea. (too much better local competition). But offer hires space to local clubs for talks/exhibitions.

Important that history spaces such as this are restored. It is too easy to lose them. Standard Quay fire as an example.

Get on with it.

The proposals must not take away income from other venues but must support and enhance the wonderful buildings/services in town.

Don't surround it with parking, get the bike rails in.

Ask Faversham Creek Trust about museum ideas etc.

Wouldn't it be great if it was possible to walk all of the creek side?

My very best wishes, historic properties like this need to be used and loved.

Small craft/retail units alongside the cafe. Charging a small fee would bring in an income.

The best option in view of financial constraints and need to continue funding would be great.

Not sure we need another cafe in Faversham.

Put a zebra crossing on the road.

Getting people to walk down to the site from town parking. The flood risk. Not convinced a venue is the solution.

Southern Water pumping stations is an eyesore and an obstacle within the site. Is some vegetation possible with Southern Water and/or a contribution from them for funding given that they treat the creek as a sewer.

A building with lots of History, worth preserving.

Faversham lacks affordable rehearsal space for local script writers. Please include thinking about how practice space can support local creativity and local writers. The only rehearsal space in town is top floor at the Umbrella Centre plus very restricted and expensive space at the Arden.

Should be part of the general Creek improvements, but you will have thought of that I'm sure.

Weddings just Friday and Saturdays, then it is still free for public events. Good examples, Gorton Monastery and Ordsall Hall. Take a trip to them for all ideas.

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