

Q3. What do you feel is the purpose of the Neighbourhood Forums? What do they achieve?

1. The purpose of the Neighbourhood Forums is to keep residents informed about the issues in the area.
2. To support local community projects and where necessary to enable councillors to hold events or meetings.
3. Use the funds to further WBC's community supporting reputation to a local audience.
4. Support local organisations. Allows them small amounts of funding they might find difficult accessing elsewhere.
5. To liaise with local residents in order to understand the key issues impacting them.
6. Funds are used to support vital community based projects and charitable and non-profitable organisations to continue to provide and undertake small projects for the benefit of members of the community. The funds provide a lifeline for some organisations to advance community engagement, cohesion and encouragement and betterment of their neighbourhoods.
7. Support for community groups and activity, for which other sources of funding are not available or not evident.
8. To provide financial support to local groups and communities (of course we wouldn't need to support so many if so many community groups hadn't had their local and national funding cut).
9. Bring together local residents to talk about improving or problems happening around them. A great opportunity for other organisations to experience and listen to hands on opinions of local residents.
10. To enable us to support residents and the local community, in projects and other things.
11. To help the small voluntary community groups in the ward to carry out their activities that benefit the local community.
12. Originally it was a fund established to enable Councillors to run one or more meetings through which they would report on local issues and what they had

done. It also provided an opportunity for local residents to raise issues with their councillors and so hold them to account. Nascot is one of the few wards that holds such a meeting which attracts about 90 residents. Now there is increasing emphasis on supporting local organisations or providing small but significant projects for the local community.

13. We have not held neighbourhood forums in the last four years; there isn't a choice of places where one can be held. We are involved with residents' associations - sadly reduced to one at the moment. I think they can be a means of residents bringing 'problems' to the attention of councillors and it is possible to gauge how people feel.
14. Supporting the community through small projects.
15. Neighbourhood Forum is a misnomer. They are really a way of paying for small projects or giving support to organisations in the ward.
16. They provide funds which can be used to put on meetings with residents (refreshments, publicity, hall hire if needs be). They also enable councillors to support local groups, projects or residents' associations with small amounts of money for specific purposes.
17. Engage with constituents; enable ward councillors to deliver direct services that residents would like; help the council improve the town by improving their wards; promote community cohesion by supporting local community groups and supporting residents groups.
18. To engage with and support the local community.
19. To provide funding for small projects which add value to the local community. It is particularly helpful to those community groups which find funding hard to come by.
20. To update local residents on issues and developments that will affect Nascot or Watford and provide an open forum where residents can question Councillors, Officers and relevant stakeholders.
21. To provide groups and residents within wards the funding to improve facilities where otherwise funding would be difficult to achieve.
22. I believe that they are there to give that additional financial support to groups who work hard in their communities but do not always have the sufficient funds.

23. To liaise closer with the residents of your ward, to act upon items that might be missed in the grand scale of things and to give more prominence to items in the specific locality.
24. Their funds help local community groups financially to purchase items they struggle to fund themselves.