

To The Clerk Shere Parish Council

### **Peaslake Farm Fields**

At the Annual Council meeting May 2023, I reported a discussion at Peaslake Community Council about putting forward a community bid to lease Peaslake Farm Fields (PFF). It was agreed that the Council would review a proposal in July. This allowed time for the community to put a proposal together and I was tasked with researching possible uses.

At June's Peaslake Community Council, it was agreed to go ahead with a community bid and research residents' views.

A survey was conducted. 108 responses were received. Residents had just over a week to complete the survey so it was a tight turnaround. The survey was distributed via the Community Council email list, at Peaslake Open Gardens, by letterbox in main residential roads, via village whatsapp groups and by word of mouth.

The volume of response was very high in such a short space of time highlighting the local significance of the issue. The numbers responding and the strength of views means that statistically it can be extrapolated across the community with a high degree of confidence.

### **Key Findings**

The survey included a number of statements that reflected SPC's specification to FoTH and SWT. The responses in Table 1 show the responses and provide evidence that they continue to attract significant support in the local community.

The survey also asked about possible uses for the fields reflecting ideas under consideration for a community proposal. Table 2 shows the results. Enhancing wildlife and bio-diversity attracted the strongest support. Followed by grazing.

A community orchard used to be on the site many years ago and 69% of respondents supported its use. Food growing (a community veg patch) attracted a significant 65% approval. Older residents recalled that the fields were initially used to grow food for the workhouse.

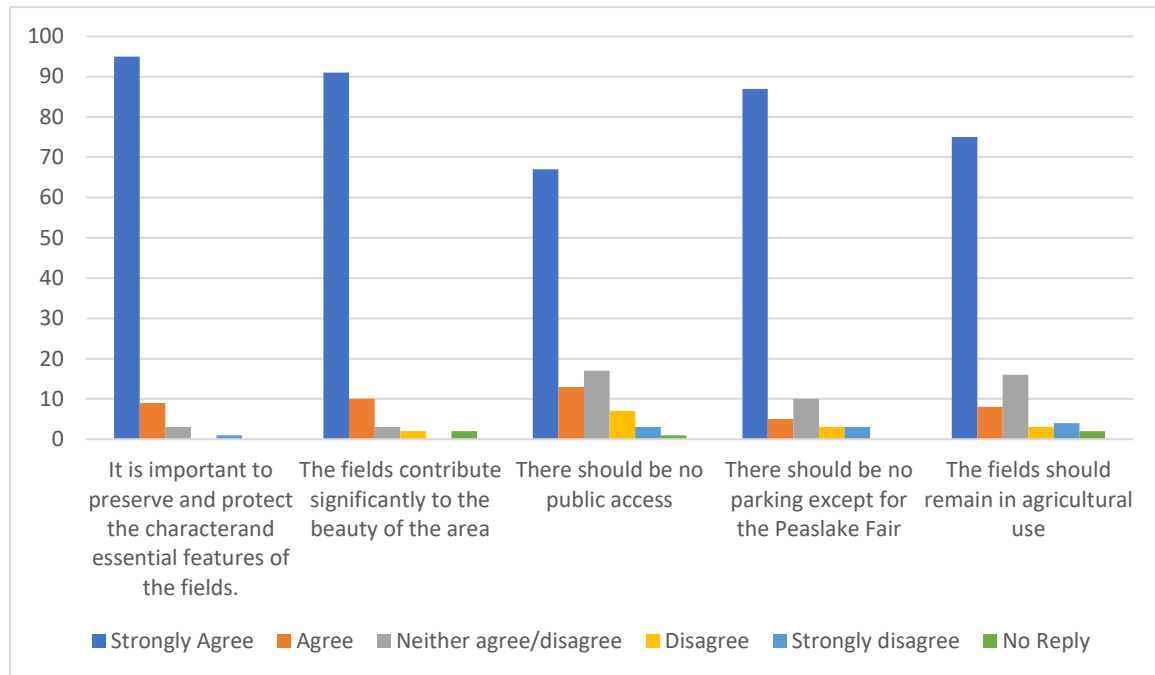
Gerry Reffo

**28 June 2023**

## Peaslake Farm Fields – Residents Survey 2023

The following bar charts analyse the responses from 108 residents.

**Table 1** shows the degree to which residents agreed with the following statements about the fields.



**Table 2** shows residents views on potential uses for the fields.

