

Should Whitstable have a town council?	Why? Please write in below - please do not include any personal information as these responses will be published
Yes	We need a local body to serve the interests of the local community. We are all too remote for a centralised body based in Canterbury
Yes	Local governance for local area. Autonomy
Yes	Because decisions taken by CCC are impacted upon Whitstable's residents that are not always in their best interests. Local decisions are best dealt with by local people
Yes	It's blindingly obvious that Whitstable should have a town council because most Kent towns, and all coastal Kent towns except Margate, have their own town councils. Whitstable has a unique set of sociological, economical and geographical needs that require local democratic representation. The most obvious being it's coastal location and issues to do with its coast, foreshore and other maritime concerns. It's clear that Whitstable is under-represented by CCC, even though it has a population of 32K+.
Yes	It is appropriate that the Town has representation on matters relating to the Town itself and not just be dependant on CCC to fight our corner as members of CCC can't be expected to have the same appetite for resolving issues regarding Whitstable as residents of the Town, the Town Council being composed of some of those residents.
Yes	A Town the size of Whitstable should have better representation that will enable local issues to be better addressed and advocated for. Whitstable should have access to all the resources available to a Town Council that will enable initiatives important to the Town to be enacted. For too long Canterbury has dominated and the specific needs of Whitstable as a coastal Town have been largely ignored. Whitstable has a vibrant community who are well placed to run a dynamic Town Council, I can think of no reason against.
Yes	Whitstable has a distinct identity and community. It exists separately to Canterbury not just by its physical location but in its character and functions. It is time for Whitstable to be able to manage its affairs without the dominance of Canterbury focussing on the City's needs rather than Whitstable's.
Yes	The approx cost of £80 pa appears to be very good value for money. This will bring in about £900, 000 pa to the Whitstable area to be spent just in Whitstable. This is each year. Additional funds could be brought in by grants and charges. Canterbury can only dream of doing this. The use of these funds is a matter for the Town Council and therefore it is not possible to say for certain how the money will be spent at this stage. There are many good possibilities. Examples include: Community bus service linking the main stores and medical centres in the CT5 area, this could access some minor roads not served by current bus services. Funding from KCC and Dept of Transport could be sought. Investment in Youth Services as requested by young people themselves. A Visitor Centre run by volunteers and partly funded by the sale of goods, located in the Harbour. Work to prompt whole Town/area. There are many examples of the good work that can be done. Another example maybe to take over the running of the Oyster festival to the benefit of the whole area. We have a lovely town, lets work to keep it. More TLC can be provided by a Town Council- elected from local people, directly accountable to local people. A look at the accounts of other Town Councils show that very little needs to be spent on admin costs and staffing. Don't forget it will be the staff that will actually get things done with our support. Lots of community groups already do so much . Co-ordination will improve the output and help promote and enhance their work. Rome was not built in a day-it will take time to see the full benefits but lets start on that road sooner rather than later. Canterbury and KCC have no spare cash, by their own admission. If we want improvements we shall have to accept that this is by far and away the best way forward. The Town Council will be run by locals for locals. The sooner the better I say!
Yes	I think it is important that local people have more of a say in decisions affecting Whitstable and the local people. I also believe that the council does not give issues affecting the local population the time or focus needed, Canterbury is always the priority. Whitstable is a special place to the locals but suffers from vandalism, petty crime, rubbish and parking issues. It is very popular with day visitors and we need special focus on how we can all benefit from the tourism trade.
Yes	More autonomy Greater awareness of the towns need. The advantages are considerable and well evidenced by looking at how other towns, such as Faversham, have very effective Town Councils. I have never had the feeling that Whitstable featured high on CCC lists for planning improvements etc. so would welcome a more accessible and pertinent group of representatives for our town. Since I moved here 30 years ago , there has been a considerable increase in tourists visiting Whitstable and I think we could make it much more attractive for them if local people, on a Town Council, were to be involved in planning for our town ,with an awareness of the benefits such visitors can bring.
Yes	Because the town needs an independent council to oversee the relevant things that need to enacted upon. It is so important.
Yes	Whitstable has become popular and busier than ever with many visitors from all over the world. However the local residents seem to have become a secondary rather than the most important people in the opinion of many as to how their town should maintain itself and what is important to them . A town council made up of only concerned residents should be allowed and able to address this balance .

	Whitstable is losing out by not having a town council. Town councils can access funding that CCC and Kent County Council cannot. Currently there is no Whitstable community organisation with which CCC is legally obliged to consult on planning matters, including new developments. However, a town council for Whitstable would have to be consulted. A town council for Whitstable we can add value to the work of CCC councillors by making Whitstable a better place to live, work and enjoy. So many great things already happen in this town through the amazing efforts of local groups and individuals – a town council can bring these efforts together and bid for more funding.
Yes	
Yes	For the reasons set out by ct5 People’s Forum on their website.
	Not 'a' town council but several councils; one covering the centre and one or more parish councils covering extremities such as Seasalter if people wanted them. Chestfield has a successful PC and there are larger communities in Whitstable but not in the centre; eg Swalecliffe. There is a risk that one town council would focus the precept on the centre alone. There is a risk that one town council for a larger town would be dominated by national parties. This questionnaire is wrong in precluding the above or not including it as an option. Many respondents will not know it can be considered and vote 'no' simply because they don't want one council for the whole area.
Yes	The town needs to be able to have more autonomy and control over the things that matter to residents, businesses and visitors. Canterbury City Council is too far removed from the day to day stuff that makes a town work - or not.
Yes	provide additional services for whitstable-over those by kcc and ccc. good vfm. £900k pa just for CT5
Yes	For all the reasons described on the CT5 website
Yes	For the reasons described on the CT5 website
Yes	To hear our voices heard
	I think it would be good to have a body that is purely focussed on the needs of Whitstable. Most towns in East Kent have a town council (and therefore must see a benefit to that), and I think that Whitstable risks being disadvantaged if we rely solely on Canterbury Council making decisions in our best interest.
Yes	Although Whitstable is a much visited town for those of who live here there has been a visible deterioration in the general condition of the town. Nothing gets done about the appalling state of the pavements and condition of the roads, litter is everywhere. The small open spaces in the town are neglected. There used to be floral displays in the centre in the summer making the town a pretty and inviting place. Now it seems the town is full of coffee shops/ facilities for visitors and I feel that residents are totally neglected. I see no evidence of work done by local councillors to improve life for residents. Compare the town centre in Faversham where there is a very active Town Council. The Xmas lights in Whitstable are pathetic. I hope that a Town Council will be more "hands on" with an eye on matters for residents than just visitors.
Yes	The individual character of the town is best understood by people who live and work in it, and its best interests are likely to be served by people with local knowledge and concerns. There are many committed and experienced people who are dedicated to creating a town council, and they would be very well placed to serve on it. Most similar towns have town councils and express and demonstrate positive reactions to the extra layer of local government.
Yes	We do not need an additional level of bureaucracy. We already have a local City Council with Councillors representing Wards in the Town. I would sooner spend my money on things or causes of my own choice.
Yes	To address any issues or matters requiring attention from insider perspective; as the CT council seem to have been ignoring or neglecting a lot from what needs attention.
Yes	Because, in creating an additional layer of local governance, Whitstable Town Council will be best placed to advocate the specific social, economic and environmental needs of Whitstable.
	Whitstable as any large town has its own specific needs. Policing issues during the summer evenings on the beach. Better provision of refuse bins paying particular attention to separate recycling bins again in the beach area. The potential for cultural events particularly a reinvigorated oyster festival to rival Herne Bays festival. Parking issues, preservation of green areas such as church street playing fields. The recognition of the importance for wildlife of Duncan Downs and pilgrims way. Whitstable is large enough and with its own individual economic and social demands that it would greatly benefit from a town council focused on it.
Yes	
Yes	Because Whitstable is so different and unique to its surrounding towns and city, it deserves to have its own voice. It will involve more the local population on the governance of Whitstable and will make decision making process quicker. The fact to have a Town Council will make enhancement plans of the town a bigger priority. It is to be noted that in the last few years, no investment has been allocated in the maintenance and refurbishment of several important public installations.
Yes	Would like to feel have access to someone who cares. Have been try to talk to Council about West Beach tennis courts (I am a coach) and no joy.

	<p>We are one of the few areas without a local town/parish council. We need local representation by people who live here -as the 27 or so other canterbury areas have. Feel that CCC is Canterburycentric and doesn't have the knowledge of a tourist seaside town's needs They are very specific and unique and have become more so as the tourist numbers have increased. I believe a TC could help with planning plans and would be a statutory consultee / could apply for grants for the town / handle the neighbourhood plan / support the innumerable volunteer community groups who work hard for the benefit of the town: Beach cleaning, tree wardens, biodiversity issues, CT 5 People's Forum, whistsparkle, wild about Whitstable week, Stream Walk community gardens, open gardens, community meeting points, manage traffic and parking issues, public toilets issues...water fountains, help support carnival and local festivals and art trails ... , tennis courts...beach issues...connect us formally with the scores of other local town/parish councils so we can benefit from others knowledge and experience / help the town with sustainability and becoming plastic free. Most importantly apply pressure to ensure council taxes paid by local residents benefits residents. The list of positive possibilities is endless. This town needs a locally led coordinating body which will encourage ALL residents to contribute their skills and knowledge. The model of sitting back and waiting for your needs to be met by others without civic involvement doesn't work. The beauty of a TC is that everyone and anyone can get involved. I have met with many other people who live under a TC and never heard anything negative. For me it's a no brainer and I hope that the majority of residents will agree</p>
Yes	A more locally focussed council could decide more accurately and with more accurate contextual information on local issues. More local choices for local people
Yes	Whitstable is an individual, unique town and as such has specific needs and qualities it wants to maintain.
Yes	It provides an extra voice to represent the community on cultural, business and local issues.
Yes	We need to be in control of our own destiny.
Yes	It is much better for people living in Whitstable to be responsible for what happens in their town. The people of Whitstable will have more control over what happens in Whitstable.
Yes	Local answers to local problems. Not just Canterbury
Yes	Whitstable is a significant size of population and the local people needs to be able to make local decisions. Many parish councils are significantly smaller than whitstable
Yes	Whitstable is a place that has its own identity and atmosphere. It would be best served by local involvement in developing local issues. Ive had very little contact with Cant CC in my 40 years here. I travel widely and am often struck by how poorly Canterbury looks and feels compared to other historic cities. The council seem to be oblivious to the potential of Whitstable to develop into a really exciting destination. A local focus may change this neglect.
Yes	I believe there should be a town council to represent the issues encountered by local residents, including increasing crime and anti-social behaviour, repeated pollution in the sea, and seemingly uncontrolled building on open spaces.
Yes	Whitstable Residents & Businesses need a more powerful voice and the ability to make key decisions on a local basis.
Yes	For far too long CCC have largely ignored and de-prioritised local concerns in my opinion.
Yes	Whitstable should have its own Town council like years ago. Whitstable is ever increasing in population and wants to have it own voice be heard.
Yes	Might give us a bit more redress on the amount of second homes and short term lets. Which unfortunately in my view are making the centre of town into a weekend venue.Which has a major impact on both businesses and permanent residents.
Yes	Other towns if similar size in the area have one
Yes	To give the residents more control over their locality.
Yes	Whitstable quite often gets ignored and this is a way to help rebalance the system.
Yes	Would be good to have a representative for local issues and champion local business.
Yes	It could provide greater community contribution into locally specific issues in this unique area. I hope it would offer a diverse range of views and prioritise engagement and education about local governance.
Yes	More autonomy easier to access and better proportional representation
Yes	There are issues specific to whitstable as a seaside community which are different to canterbury as a whole
Yes	A Whitstable Council will deal with our issues and not a blanket response for all.
Yes	Whitstable is a unique town with very different needs and priorities than Canterbury City, and currently has a limited voice in decisions that affect access to funding and policies impacting on the quality of life in our town. We are one of very few towns without a town council in East Kent, and would greatly benefit from the opportunity to look after our own concerns.
Yes	would benefit local residents

	Because Whitstable does not have a community voice. No money is spent on our amenities. Plenty of revenue is generated in Whitstable but it is always spent in Canterbury and elsewhere in the District. Having a Town Council will enable Whitstable to have specific funding to spend locally. WTC as an entity will be able to apply for loans which would be spent only in Whitstable and not spent in the District as CCC sees fit. WTC would have a greater influence in Planning as a compulsory consultative body. Lobby for regulation and licensing of second home owners and air&b. Increase CTax for second home owners. Make sure they pay for their rubbish collection. Stop Brett's from using our high street as their works entrance to their works in the harbour. Put a weight limit on vehicles in the centre of Whitstable. Make sure that Brett's stop the pollution they creat in the heart of Whitstable. Whitstable has been purposely under represented at Canterbury Council. A Gorrel Ward councillor has to get over 2000 votes to be elected while a councillor from Hernebay 300 votes has just as much say in what happens in Whitstable. A WTC would give us louder Polictical voice which would be heard by CCC.
Yes	To give us more of a say on what goes on. We are the only town of this size in Kent which has not got one. Whitstable residents need to have more of a say in what goes on. Whitstable and Hernebay are the only towns in Kent which do not have a TC.
Yes	The town is willing and ready to take charge of its community safety, environmental improvement, environmental development, arts and events. With strong local businesses, community groups and artists, we have the ability to enable the town to thrive whilst creating a better environment for residents. Calmer traffic (20mph limits) cleaner streets and beaches, safe neighbourhoods, youth engagement, and support for healthy living.
Yes	We are a thriving town with not obly a fantastic local communitcy but also a popular tourist destination. I feel that we get lost within Canterbury City Council, especially when they do things like take away the funding for the Oyster Festival - which was such an important event to the town. The residents of whitstable should be able to have more say and involvement over how their town grows.
Yes	It would be good to have more local focused representation, plans and action. It would help support local events such as the oyster festival, Christmas parade etc.
Yes	We need to have a say about our town.
Yes	Canterbury city council does not represent the residents of whitstable
	I have lived in Whitstable since 1981. Then it was a small sleepy town, with frankly not much going for it. It has grown immensely since then, not in size but in terms of facilities. It now attracts an enormous amount of visitors , winter and summer. It would be an advantage if the residents of Whitstable could have a greater say in how their town is run.
Yes	It can only be a positive option to have councillors dealing directly with local issues and people - specifically engaged on residents interests.
Yes	It is long overdue, Whitstable needs proper local representation, most Towns in Kent and far smaller villages have Town Councils or Parish Councils. Whitstable has a population of over 35k and growing, we need to have proper local representation. We have issues as a coastal Town that are ignored by Canterbury and are loosing out on all manner of opportunities for funding for projects local people identify that the Town needs.
Yes	To provide a voice for local residents who are invested in the community. To ensure any decisions support the needs of the residents in Whitstable. To further build a sense of community.
Yes	Whitstable has a distinctive character with a distinctive economy, and its size means its community is an active agent in shaping and envisioning the very appeal and economic activity that brings people to it. Stewardship is key, which is why a Town Council for Whitstable is essential.
Yes	To much money going to Canterbury
Yes	Local people know what happens locally, it will give the locals more say over things which concern them.
	1. Whitstable is very different to Canterbury, and its needs haven't been met and maybe they are not even properly understood unless you live here. 2. It was the corrupt Canterbury City Council that sold the community land to the Greens for a meagre amount. The court found that the council did wrong and us residents have to live with it. That is unforgivable. A local council will hopefully stop the spread of their empire that is contributing to point 3, below. 3. A local council may be able to stop the spread of air b n b and the likes, that like in other seaside or popular places are ruining the town. Which together with insanely high rents for shops with barely legal contracts are turning it into a holiday resort, stripping it of the community for people who live here. 4. A whitstable council will be able to plan new buildings with knowledge of the local geology, on where there is strain on infrastructure, and where essential green spaces are.
Yes	For local residents views as town is now a very popular destination around the world also the streets Have very few people actually living here as mostly now Airbnb with the issues these cause Also been to object to the mass building around Whitstable which causes issues with the water quality in the sea, as being a civil engineer I know the knock on affect. More visible policemen on the street to deter the daily issues in the street mainly the surge of drug taking in summer.
Yes	We are a fast growing town with concerns that need addressing on a local level. I feel for too long we have shared with Canterbury Council which has left us overlooked and underfunded.
Yes	A town council could focus more on day to day issues that only affect Whitstable, and should generally be more approachable for residents.

Yes	Because we are neglected by CCC. We need a stronger voice and more funding.
Yes	To prioritise and address Whitstable relevant issues.
Yes	Canterbury council is rubbish.
Yes	Because Canterbury city council are inept. I have absolute faith that almost anyone could deliver a better and more focussed approach and impact to local issues and governance than the current Canterbury based shambles.
Yes	I think it would be beneficial for the town
Yes	Whitstable is a town with a strong sense of its own identity. A town council would build on this well by adding an extra layer of democracy so that Whitstable can develop and grow stronger as a community.
Yes	So that residents have a voice that is not ignored. Local businesses in the town are supported. Canterbury City Council do not seem to support the town and look at it only to income from. The town has a voice
Yes	To give the town, its residents and local businesses a voice which is heard in local government decision making so the interests of the town and its community can be safe guarded and maintained as much as possible. To give the town (its residents and businesses) a voice when there is so much drain on local provision of services and how to support tourism and protecting if possible the local community.
Yes	To have more ownership over what happens in our community
Yes	There are many volunteer groups and small businesses in this area who work with very few resources on projects that help to make Whitstable a vibrant town . The possibility of maintaining these activities and developing others could be facilitated with the backing of a local council. There are times when a spate of vandalism crops up , and other anti social behaviour is noted . These activities can be recorded far more effectively by local residents and dealt with appropriately. The beaches are still suffering from dogs being allowed to chase birds across the mud, dog poo in evidence at all times of the year. This needs to be handled at a local level to have any influence.
Yes	I think it's important that Whitstable had its own voice & town council to look after the town at a more local level. Whitstable is a busy seaside town with independent shops, local amenities & community groups, a working harbour, huge amounts of visitors & think to protect all that the town councillors could focus more on our town with access to more funding & investment.
Yes	Whitstable is one of only a few towns in Kent not to have a Town Council. Representation at this level of local government would facilitate the focus of elected town councillors on their immediate locality. Though elected to wards or divisions of their council Councillors at the higher levels of local government are required to consider the needs and services of the whole area covered by their authority. Town councillors live in their town, know the people and their concerns. They are able to draw funding into their council for projects that district councils cannot. There is evidence from existing town councils to support this fact. With cash strapped district councils struggling to deliver services town councils can fill a gap in provision. This can be done for a precept of between (for band D properties - not per person) of £60 to £80 that is £5.00 to £6.67 per month or £1.15 to £1.53 per week and the usual discounts (e.g. single person households) will apply. That is less than the price of a cup of coffee. In addition town councils can support local community organisations and local events. Again, district councils have been needing to withdraw such funding. Receiving such help can make a difference between survival or closure. Town councils can provide local hopper buses - a great boon to people when bus routes have been withdrawn - as in Estuary View Health Centre. Chestfield Parish Council has introduced crime prevention measures e.g. lighting. With a Town Council this could be widened to the existing unparished areas of Whitstable including those on the periphery of CT5. In short, having a Town Council can make for creating a greater sense of comfort for local people at reasonable cost. It would be an extension of democracy facilitating a closer relationship between council and resident in their own area with an office and meeting place in their own area easier to visit and raise issues. A Town Council would not replace the City Council but work alongside.
Yes	We residents of Whitstable need a more effective way to express our views to Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council, and also to mobilise efforts for local initiatives. Having lived here for 40 years, we still hear older neighbours recalling the time when Whitstable had its own council, and the feeling of local control - or at least that views would be heard. To take a current example, here in the centre of town residents are currently concerned about problems with a nearby pub, that conservation status is not enforced, and that Sea Street is in dire need of repair and traffic calming: if we had a Town Council to focus residents' views and press these issues it would increase the likelihood of positive action.
Yes	So that Whitstable can have more say, especially for water pollution, litter, policing & building infrastructure.
Yes	Whitstable has too much that is independent, different and distinct from Canterbury, and needs a dedicated system of governance that has the area's specific needs at the centre. Decision-making should, surely, as far as possible, always take place as close as possible to the areas and people affected by those decisions. Canterbury is a city with its own needs and requirements. It is wrong to expect the needs of a town the size of Whitstable to be fairly represented in its shadow. Important planning decisions that take into account the area's unique and characteristic heritage and culture also need to be made by people properly familiar with the community, not removed from it. Too many Canterbury councillors have little or no stake in our town, and yet take hugely important decisions about its future and general governance. These councillors are not properly accountable to the local people whose lives they impact upon. That can't be right. It is well past time that this change came about, and I am very glad to see CCC taking residents' views seriously. Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the consultation.
Yes	Whitstable has many unique issues that Canterbury does not.

Yes	Local governance & involvement is crucial. I've been by the absence of response to local issues by CCC
Yes	It would be good for the people of the town to have more say in how things are run. There is a strong sense of community in Whitstable and I believe that locally elected people would be much better placed to understand the real needs of the community.
Yes	We need to have issues responded to by people who live in Whitstable, understand our community and concerns. A local council that would be approachable for its residents, we need to feel cared for again.
Yes	Whitstable has specific issues - for example, the lack of residential parking near the town centre, sewage being dumped in the sea, AirBNBs pushing rents up, and the management of tourist events like the Oyster Festival - that don't apply to Canterbury and seem to be ignored by Canterbury council. A local council could focus on these specific issues, it might be very helpful to people who live here.
Yes	Decisions can be made by people closer to the town, who understand local concerns.
Yes	It's a diverse town with a distinct identity. Local residents will have a better understanding of needs, problems and solutions.
Yes	Whitstable residents have a very good understanding of their own town, better managed by a local town council rather than a regional council.
Yes	For community safety such as greater safety for cyclists on the narrow town roads and improvements in parking restrictions on pavements because wheelchair users babies in buggies etc) and into the roads. Reduce waste generated by shops and takeaway vendors to improve the environment. Support community transport initiatives.
Yes	With a more local body overseeing local issues, it will be more focussed on the needs of the people of Whitstable.
Yes	Whitstable is unique and a town council would enable local issues and projects to be prioritised
Yes	A council to speak just for the people of Whitstable has been needed for a long time.
Yes	To have more control over local issues, anti-social behaviour etc
Yes	Whitstable is a large and ever growing town and therefore needs autonomy from Canterbury. As a town, the people who live here should have more of a say in how the town is run and more say on how the money it receives is spent. So the interests and concerns of the people of Whitstable are heard, considered and acted upon. Whitstable should have a Town Council to enable funding - which is at present not accessible to us - to be spent to benefit of the Residents.
Yes	It would give residents more say and control over much needed services which could have immediate impact on the quality of life in Whitstable.
Yes	With a population of 35,000 and many varying issues, the area would be better served by a more agile organisation capable of making quick decisions
Yes	I think it will be good to spend money raised for local Whitstable projects in Whitstable. People work really hard on these projects, and I think it would give people a sense of community.
Yes	A town council will be beneficial to Whitstable as it would be able to respond to the priorities for our community and make decisions based on our specific requirements.
Yes	The divergence and needs in comparison to Canterbury and Whitstable of vast thusly. Having its own parish council, would enable a more dedicated view at the needs of Whitstable, trade and individuals.
Yes	A Town Council will give people in Whitstable more say over their own affairs, be closer to the community, support us to deliver local priorities and especially environmental improvements, and give us the potential to bring more resources into the town.
Yes	To allow residents more say on how the council tax is spent and engender a feeling of involvement in the local community
Yes	We need a local organisation focused on the needs of Whitstable residents.
Yes	We have a number of local issues that I believe get missed in the greater borough of Canterbury such as roads, local traffic issues, sea side issues and I think a local council would be more mindful of these local problems and be able to address them more efficiently.
Yes	I am convinced of the benefit of having a Town Council, after listened to the research carried out by that the CT5 forum into the working of other Town Councils.
Yes	Whitstable is a very popular destination for visitors and for families resettling from London. It needs a strategic plan to ensure that the needs of local families are considered in decisions, especially in new property developments.
Yes	It's its own little town that is key to the area for tourism and work for this area - anything makes Whitstable have its own views and thoughts is great for the environment to continue the reputation it has and to not let it become a rundown sea side resort
Yes	I believe a town council would be able to focus speeding on the areas residents feel have the greatest value (subject to the services in scope). Particularly as Whitstable is one of the few areas where this does not already exist.
Yes	I think it would give a more visible look at Whitstable as long as the representatives were local people. There are issues over things such as litter etc that could have a better local monitoring.
Yes	As a resident I would like to have a Town Council for Whitstable so that residents can have a proper input concerning community infrastructure, services, crime reduction and safety measures to a local elected council that is accountable to the community.

	CCC feels remote from Whitstable and having a town council would enable us to exercise more influence and some control over issues and services in a limited remit that would enable the improvement of everyday life. There is scope for better engagement of the local community in shaping and supporting business, community and social activities. A town council could be particularly helpful in providing a focus on the many small businesses in Whitstable, which drive the local economy. The strong art, craft, music and cultural scene in Whitstable could also benefit from, for example, an impetus to seek external sources of funding and provide support in making bids to further develop activities and create new opportunities and events which is something other town councils have successfully done. The thriving tourism here has its downsides and this too might be better addressed by more local focus and control eg through small practical changes to the water and beach front that might not be conceived of at the higher tiers of local government. Overall, 'small is beautiful' might sum up both Whitstable and the need for a better local focus on developing our community.
Yes	Whitstable is a unique and thriving town and community, known all over the UK via the media, attracting visitors and keeping the town vibrant as well as the property market. With its quirky line of independent shopping, few chains, own Whitstable Choral Society and a working Harbour with its own needs, it is paramount that it has its own dedicated team and budget to maintain the town developing in its unique way and continue to thrive, together with its sister neighborhood Tankerton - with so much promise to make it a wonderfully attractive coastal town by the sea (free is sewage!).
Yes	I want more say in how our taxes are used to support public amenities such as roads, pavements and tree planting that are in obvious neglect in comparison to Canterbury for example. Whitstable raises huge revenue for Canterbury Council and I don't see a fair proportion being reinvested in its services for residents in Whitstable who near the brunt of tourism, such as ... increased car parking fees and lack of residents parking. Roads, alleyways and pavements are in such poor repair it's a public liability in some parts of town. May elderly people are afraid to walk the pavements as they once have done. My mother in Law died as a consequence of tripping over neglected surfaces in a local alleyway. I want a say in how the town is used as a cash cow for Canterbury City Council and I want steps taken to protect our town from being overwhelmed by rather than in a healthy balance with tourism. I want to see more spending on social housing and a crack down on air b&b and holiday property investment.
Yes	Whitstable has a unique character and set of circumstances, as a seaside town that attracts high numbers of visitors. This can give challenges with additional litter, parking and so on, and I know there are concerns in regard to the increase in Airbnb properties. As a recent resident and incomer to the town, I think an additional layer in the form of a town council would be a positive benefit to the town
Yes	The town warrants a specific decision making body to keep the community thriving. I am concerned about keeping the high street thriving and also general issues related to sustainability and the environment
Yes	This is a unique community with unique needs. Only governance at grassroots level can only truly know, understand and make decisions regarding these needs.
Yes	Provide a focus for representing local issues and the areas identity.
	I have also felt that we needed greater representation and involvement in governance on a local level. There used to be a local Whitstable council as I have taken funerals for people who served on it and I think repeating it would be a good idea. Chestfield council seems to be very busy and I am sure they have enhanced the community of Chestfield a great deal. Having local governance does make a big difference. There has been a lot of cynical comments written online but I do hope the community will get behind it.
Yes	It would improve local accountability and enable decisions to be made which better reflect the need of needs of whitstable
Yes	Whitstable has a population that is both diverse and opinionated, we want to have a say in governing our town! Many of us feel that Canterbury City Council has made many errors of judgement that have impacted Whitstable badly, plus we feel marginalised and placed in second, or maybe third place to the needs of Canterbury residents.
Yes	Give us the right represent our residents needs and concerns. It's worked well for Faversham, now it's our turn.
Yes	Having local people decide on local events and issues is a very good idea. Who knows what an area wants or needs best, than local people.
Yes	Because I could get in touch with the council for anything that I was concerned about and I believe I would get I hope a response and if not I believe the local council would in their interest want to resolve the issue.
	Local knowledge is essential to optimising local government. A Town Council will provide the coherent Whitstable voice on planning and other such issues which Canterbury needs to take into account in its decisions. Currently only the Whitstable Society does this, and a Council will provide a voice that cannot be ignored. A town council would also provide locally-informed leadership and well designed interventions in areas such as: events and visitor management (avoiding the debacles of past Oyster Festivals for instance); open space strategy, foreshore management and responsible SSSI interventions; public safety; traffic and parking management; playground redesign; youth activities; public transport issues; environment management. Whitstable has a vibrant and strong volunteer culture (from beach cleans to foodbank) which a responsible Town Council can promote and foster. A Town Council can also make applications to national charities and other public funds for Whitstable initiatives.
Yes	There is currently no organisation or body that can do this for the town as a whole.
Yes	It would give us more control over local decisions and amenities. We, as residents, know what is needed and important to the community.

Yes	A specific focused council for Whitstable will allow resources to be targeted more effectively. Community development and services will be enhanced by a dedicated council. Members who sit on the council will have local understanding and expertise and should be in a position to put forward strategic plans for specifically improving Whitstable and the infrastructure that supports the community
Yes	Increase civic pride in Whitstable. Ability to better represent local issues. Ability to make external funding bids for capital improvements and local projects. Represent Whitstable's interests & champion local groups/businesses/social enterprises/individuals.
Yes	Hello, The town has grown and requires representation on a local level to handle issues. Regards, Daniel.
Yes	As a unique community with high numbers of visitors, Whitstable's needs are different from some other parts of Kent and a more devolved & locally accountable decision making body can better address this
Yes	Local control of & knowledge of local problems. The ability to process & act on local complaints quickly. Promote & development better communication to lower crime & increase resident's ability to feel safe . Keep our town greener and cleaner .
Yes	Whitstable is quite a special seaside town and community and needs a council that will be knowledgeable and sympathetic to local needs .
Yes	I think that Whitstable should have a town council in order to have a voice in very local issues and decisions. I do not feel the Canterbury Council is particularly concerned with local issues.
Yes	Because we used to and with an ever expanding town, should have proper representation. Canterbury City Council only wants to make money out of Whitstable tourism
Yes	Local community safety. Support local artists. We definitely need to look at environmental improvements the sea needs to be cleaned up.
Yes	Having attended a meeting to discuss this issue I was impressed with the reasoning as to exactly why it would be beneficial, and therefore give it my full support. Being able to acquire community assets and putting the interest of Whitstable as an individual area forward for the people of the town, by people who know immediate locality and problems and benefits thereof.
Yes	To represent the specific needs of the local community such as having influence on the harbour and its management, and the high street, beach, developments etc, informed by local knowledge.
Yes	It would allow Whitstable to have a greater say in how funding is spent locally.
Yes	I feel that Whitstable is overlooked by the city council. Whenever there are works being done in the town, Canterbury has to have better. The city council sees the town as a cash cow and puts up parking charges at will. They pander to certain businesses and allow so rather dodgy planning schemes. We as residents need a larger voice for our town, and a town council is one way this can happen
Yes	Simply to give local people much more ownership and responsibility for important decisions affecting our community. As a Whitstable resident of over 25 years I believe the town has suffered from decisions being taken by those who don't really connect with local people or fully align with what is really in the best interests of the town
Yes	Whitstable is a unique town, with needs and requirements not needed elsewhere. Especially Canterbury. There is a very loyal nucleus of permanent residents who care deeply about the town, and the problems, needs and improvements this town has, and will experience. To deal with these issues, there is a need for an opinion and ideas from people who are directly affected. Listening to their observations, and maybe benefit from their solutions is a far healthier route to take, than having those decisions dealt with 'off site', in Canterbury.
Yes	To provide a more town-oriented set of opinions and to further the ambitions of the community and business here. To manage amenities locally. To provide alternatives in relation to public transport. To better understand the local pressures in crime prevention. To promote local events. To better represent the needs of local people, companies and organisations where they interact outside the local community. To add to the ability of locals in the effort of fundraising and funding bids. To better manage matters such as tourist centred refuse collections. To promote ecological agendas.
Yes	Greater control for local residents
Yes	To distance ourselves from Canterbury who have sold their soul to the university.
Yes	I feel that Canterbury City Council doesn't always act or have the best interests of the town whereas a local Whitstable Town Council would.
Yes	We should be able to have a better say about what happens in our town.

	<p>As a Town Council the residents of Whitstable would have a stronger voice in the policies and decisions made by the City Council that would directly affect the town and its residents. The Town Council would be a statutory consultee. As Canterbury City Council is a CIL Charging authority the Town Council would also receive the Neighbourhood Portion of any CIL charge received by the City Council from development within Whitstable. The Town Council would then be able to spend this funding on local projects that would improve the area and benefit the local community. Residents of Whitstable have felt poorly served by the City Council over a number of years. The City Council has consistently used both Whitstable and Herne Bay as locations to allow large scale developments for housing to meet its housing needs requirements. Yet there does not appear to be any comparable improvements to service provision to support the growth in population that has occurred as a result and little in the way of development that would create jobs ensuring that such growth in housing is sustainable. This imbalanced approach to growth has seen house prices increase beyond the reach on many young people and low income families. Schools and health care facilities are over stretched despite having been expanded as demand has outstripped capacity. The lack of planning for a further Secondary School to serve the growing population of Whitstable and Herne Bay means that pupils have little choice than to travel outside the area for their continued education. The City Council cannot argue that there is neither the demand nor space for a new Secondary School when it seems it can easily allocate sites for new housing. The formation of a Town Council for Whitstable would enable the residents to have a voice on such matters and hold the City Council to account.</p>
Yes	<p>Being a seaside town, we think it is important to be in charge of our own affairs and what goes on in Whitstable. In particular, we can control things like street cleaning, parking and hopefully other important issues.</p>
Yes	<p>Apologies I ticked the incorrect box earlier this is a duplicate n.b. previous response meant to ticked box YES to have a town council. I feel Whitstable needs a voice in the form of a town council, as priority in decision making and expenditure for this area is often overridden in favour of Canterbury and consequently Whitstable town is often forgotten or placed down the pecking order. From personal experience the majority of Whitstable residents are passionate about their town and consequently need a voice to represent them and act upon along with residents of nearby areas and to have a real say on how money is spent and used for local people and local projects.</p>
Yes	<p>To protect and enhance the heritage and history of Whitstable, and to give residents an active voice as to how funds are utilised.</p>
Yes	<p>Because this town has been neglected by Canterbury City Council by being treated like a village i.e. Herne Bay has a Police Station (as does Faversham albeit small). We have no police nor a town hall but are a similar size to Herne Bay. CCC should fund our Town council as compensation and not ask us to pay more!</p>
Yes	<p>the town council will will qualify for access to extra grants, etc. It should also create more interest by residents in local activities etc.</p>
Yes	<p>Whitstable is the jewel of the Kent coast, or should I say the pearl. It needs careful curating to stop it from becoming an identikit, bland and generic town. It thrives on its diversity of shops, arts, interests and hospitality, and all of which brings in tourists and those who want a better life. I am a 'DFL' of just under three years. Whitstable is a wonderful place to live, with such a great community spirit. However, with a town council, it could be even better, with the possibility of further transport links for those of limited mobility, would have a say on unscrupulous planners and be able to apply for specific funding for town centric initiatives. For the popularity of town councils in neighbouring towns, it seems crazy we don't have one ourselves.</p>
Yes	<p>As local government is more effective than central government</p>
Yes	<p>It is essential that Whitstable has more clout when it comes to Council Decision making. Residents should be able to contact the equivalent of a Parish Office manned by a Clerk and Secretary whenever they have issues of concern e.g planning applications, litter, graffiti, dog mess, antisocial behaviour etc. Although their powers and remit would be limited nevertheless they would be able to represent the voice of the people of the town. I have recently attended some Planning/ review meetings at the Guildhall and have been appalled by the lack of knowledge, interest and concern shown by the councillors who do make decisions which have implications for our lives in Whitstable. Our ward councillors do a valiant job but frankly are outnumbered by the rest of the councillors. I am not sure that some of these decision makers have ever even visited Whitstable!! A Town council rep would be able to present a united front-hopefully free from party politics, which at local level is largely irrelevant. Residents would have one point of call and not have to negotiate the tangled web of bureaucracy in order to move things on in a timely manner. I recognise that there will be arguments against but frankly almost anything is worth a try and must be better than our present arrangements</p>
Yes	<p>Whitstable needs town council so it can have say in operation of local matters</p>
Yes	<p>For such a small cost, much can be done to improve life for Whitstable's residents. A more focussed and Whitstable centered group may bring extra funds to improve the town...</p>
Yes	<p>I believe there are a lot of active and interested people in Whitstable whose voluntary work could be harnessed and co-ordinated more effectively through such a new structure. I believe Whitstable deserves its own council to give it more status in dealings with other local authorities and national government.</p>

Yes	I think we should have some sort of say in the way our town is run. It seems to me that it is always Canterbury first Herne Bay second and whitstable last Canterbury is just a city for students very lucrative I am sure and Herne Bay was built as a 'seaside town' just concrete we have many many visitors loads more than Herne Bay surely we are 'quaint' It isn't fair. No one bothers with us except for parking tickets and they get plenty of those so we're useful for something if only filling Canterbury's coffers.
Yes	Whitstable is a special place and local governance will maintain that character
Yes	I believe that Whitstable should have its own town council because generally they are more responsive than higher tier authorities to community needs and interests, and to the diversity of interests and needs within a community. A town council is a vehicle for the representation of local interests to external bodies. As Whitstable becomes more popular year by year in relation to tourism, having a town council will provide the infrastructure and services that local people need as well as tourists visiting the town, whilst also ensuring that community resources are managed responsibly.
Yes	To have a voice in the planning of our town To support the promotion of local services for local people To access funding that currently they cannot
Yes	This collection of wards should be recognised officially as a 'town'. Until that is realised the area will remain an afterthought of Canterbury officials - 'The Canterbury coast' - 'A dormitory town for Canterbury etc. - or just not in mind at all. Historically, changes to road networks via access - especially Warwick Rd, (to stop the non-existent problem of 'Rat running') and the issue of residents parking have taken place without reference to those who live or work in the town; until we react with anger. Right now CCC have omitted to include those with resident parking permits in a consultation about these permits and again this has had to be pointed out to the Canterbury centric officials; I think that less likely to occur if Whitstable had 'home rule'.
Yes	I think there will be more chances for community projects and funding and also the town will have more of a say to get things done around the town
Yes	To get funding and for the community
Yes	It would be so beneficial to enable the community to access funding and assistance to unlock the further potential the town has to offer for residents and visitors. It would mean less competition in accessing funding which at present is shared with Canterbury and Herne Bay. People in Whitstable deserve to have more of a say regarding Civic and public amenity issues, which will in turn promote pride within the community.
Yes	Local residents should have more say about Whitstable. At the moment the town is used as a cash cow by Canterbury City Council who do not have the residents concerns at heart. Unwanted and un-needed planning goes through without robust consultation and the views of residents are dismissed. Developed is allowed with no regard whatsoever to safety, the environment and infrastructure. Local traffic management is appalling and the harbour needs development. A town council would open up opportunities for funding streams that, at present, go purely to Canterbury. Local residents should have the opportunity to have their say on local matters, to be involved in local democracy and have pride in their town.
Yes	Local matters in local hands
Yes	The benefits of having a Town council seem to easily outweigh any negatives or cost as a resident. I think this could be particularly important in obtaining additional funds for projects relating to local infrastructure which will even more important as the town grows and new housing is established.
Yes	Promoting services for local people. Civic pride.
Yes	It appears that whitstable is always overlooked in favour of other towns, Herne bay, Canterbury etc. it would be good to have a local voice that residents can speak to and believe that they are listened to. there are many decisions that are taken by the city council which affect whitstable but we seem to be overlooked as residents.
Yes	Having lived in this beautiful town for over 50 years it seems always to have been that we residents have no voice. By having our own town council it would go a long way to changing this. We are in a unique town but ruled by Canterbury councillors who don't take our views into account.
Yes	Gives us more say over how resources are used to benefit our immediate community. More say over local planning issues as CCC will need to consult us. More opportunities to enhance civic pride, which in turn benefits both residents and visitors. Gives us a collective voice to lobby on matters beyond our direct control.
Yes	Have more of a say in Whitstable issues and can also flag up local problems.
Yes	Important for the town to be able to raise revenue and qualify for grants which can help improve the lives of residents. Canterbury seems to get the lion's share of funding so if we had a town council it could truly reflect the needs of the people who actually live here.
Yes	Whitstable is large enough to warrant a town council. Neighbouring towns in the area have seen recent uplifts and improvements that Whitstable should also consider but in the last 10 years it feels as if the town has rested on its laurels. A town council should be instigated to reinvigorate the area.
Yes	Só residents are empowered to speak and vote for things that matter to them That they empowered to champion the towns own choices for improvement development and support required local charities.
Yes	To have a say on infrastructure needs and to try and mitigate the damage caused by excessive housing developments

	Different needs to Canterbury. Specific tourism issues that would be better handled by a town council that had greater oversight and understanding of both the opportunities and the challenges that arise from coastal tourism. Would also give access to funds only available to parish and town councils. Could operate as a valuable hub in bringing local groups together to access and bid for funding. Would also be consulted on planning matters and have a say in proposed developments which we currently do not have. An effective council could improve infrastructure (working with Kent CC) and add to the work of CCC councillors, working together to improve the town for local people. Local people love our town but often feel our voice (and needs) are not prioritised by CCC. A town council will make sure our voices are heard. And count.
Yes	To enable some input into the issues in the area. Although the scope of influence is currently very limited, over time more areas of concern could be added to the new town councils remit.
Yes	Those who are living in town have a much greater understanding of its needs, the problems that occur with it being a popular coastal town and what is required to benefit the area. The town needs its own voice.
Yes	The needs of small towns and communities are best served by a locally elected council whose sole purpose is to serve that community. It will encourage much greater participation of people living in those areas, it will promote innovative solutions to local problems and opportunities, it brings decision making closer to the people. It's an exciting opportunity for everyone to get involved. Please agree to it.
Yes	I feel Whitstable would be better served with it's own town council problems would be dealt with quicker.
Yes	We are one of the only towns in Kent not to have one and we need a local council that can be more responsive than higher tier authorities to community needs and interests, and to the diversity of interests and needs within our community. a vehicle for the representation of local interests to external bodies.
Yes	Local decisions made by local people who have a vested interest in the exact area
Yes	Because Whitstable's concerns are not adequately addressed by the current set up. For instance, the proposed increases to car parking charges in Whitstable will help to fund Canterbury's Park and Ride service and to refurbish Canterbury's car parks.
Yes	because maybe we can have a say in how many houses are being built in the town and possible put a cap on the number of AirBNB or put up their rates. On a flippan side maybe more money to spend on the town that has probably more visitors that most in Canterbury City Council area
Yes	A better local council with the interests of local people at its heart.
Yes	A Whitstable Town Council would enable people of Whitstable to feed their local needs and preferences back up the council structure. It would also provide an extra source of fund raising for local projects.
Yes	Ability to strengthen local community groups and support community engagement.
Yes	As city council decisions are so frequently made with a high preference for Canterbury over Whitstable - whitstable needs its own representation of and by the town by the people who know it.
Yes	Because CCC look in Whitstable as a cash cow, only good for drawing in tourists & second home owners. A Town Council will put the needs & wants of the people living & working in Whitstable first. A TC will importantly be able to access funds which are not available to CCC from Charities, Lotteries Local Businesses etc. Will be a voice for Whitstable if city councils are abolished. A %C will be made of of people who actually live & care about Whitstable and are not accountng to any othe governing body.
Yes	Because someone living in Whitstable should have a say regarding decisions that affect us
Yes	Each town inherently have their own needs, challenges and opportunities. Having a local response to each specific area makes sense. Forming a council that understands and is of the specific area seems to be good idea.
Yes	Factors that make Whitstable needs / priorities / issues distinct from Canterbury.
Yes	For all of the reasons as given in the Canterbury City Council Consultation Pamphlet and the Voice for Whitstable campaign flyer. Many people feel the town was better represented during the days of the Old Whitstable Urban district council and miss its passing. Providing a new town council was effectively run and didn't become just another layer of bureaucracy, this should definitely be to the towns advantage.
Yes	For too long Whitstable has been considered a second rate citizen by CCC, getting the scraps from Canterbury's plate.
Yes	A local town council will put Whitstable first with voluntary staff working to make Whitstable a better place.
Yes	I believe that local concerns are best understood by a council made up of people who live and work in Whitstable.
Yes	Also that any revenue collected in Whitstable is awarded to Whitstable should be spent on projects only for the benefit of towns people.
Yes	I feel that important decisions regarding the future of Whitstable should be made by Whitstable people.

	I fully support there being a CT5 town council (with or without the parished part of Chestfield). A town council would give us access to more sources of finance. It could provide a catalyst and support for voluntary organisations and individuals to contribute to the local area. Overall, it would provide a focus for locals concerned about the area and help to improve the town for the benefit of residents. CT5/Whitstable is geographically and culturally distinct from the other towns in the CCC area. CT5 residents very much identify with Whitstable and see Herne Bay and Canterbury as different. This is not surprising in relation to Canterbury, which differs substantially in terms of demography and economy (Canterbury having major education and public sector employment, a large student population, a far smaller older population and so on). The three towns each have their own town centre, which forms the focus for residents. There is a long-standing feeling that Canterbury City dominates the focus of local government action and that Whitstable is overlooked – and when it is not overlooked, Whitstable residents’ needs are not taken sufficiently into account. Whether or not this is correct, it is a common perception. A CT5 Town Council would act solely in the interests of the town. It would provide a much-needed voice to represent the town’s interests to CCC, KCC and elsewhere. I see it as essential that the town council covers the CT5 area (with or without the parished part of Chestfield). The area consists of its town centre and hinterland: separating these into individual parished areas makes no economic sense, nor cultural sense as people identify with Whitstable as a whole. I recognise that there would be an additional precept, but see this and providing additional necessary funds for public expenditure in the town. I cannot see why we should not have the same rights of representation as the parished parts of Canterbury and much of the rest of Kent (and England)
Yes	i miss events like the regatta and different events on the slopes such as the oyster festival. i miss the old oyster festival
Yes	I would like Whitstable to have its own voice and more influence than it currently has. Whitstable has its own unique character and needs which are different to the other parts of Canterbury.
Yes	It would give a voice to Whitstable to tackle problems that are important to Whitstable. Local knowledge would be beneficial. Able to apply for grants for Whitstable that may not be available from Canterbury CC
Yes	It would make Whitstable more independent of Canterbury, free to make our own local decisions to benefit the town. It could then receive local funds from local developments. Planning could be monitored for the benefit of Whitstable residents. Local groups could bid for funding. CCC would be legally obliged to consult Whitstable on planning matters.
Yes	It's a bit silly to need a reason but maybe not being governed by a council that has to deal with a city full of students and doesn't know the intricacies of what happens here in town. Plus, you know...corruption and such. We need to take this for ourselves
Yes	Local community is best placed to make decisions that affect local people. The added capacity to apply for additional funds will be helpful.
Yes	Promote cultural events, represent local issues and encourage residents and local businesses in Whitstable's interests.
Yes	The issues facing Whitstable are different to those facing Canterbury.
Yes	The people of Whitstable need a voice. We are not just 'Canterbury's beach'. We are a town that needs direct representation. There are issues concerning the town which Canterbury is not wholly aware of.
Yes	The town has unique challenges - flood risks, anti-social summer drinkers and tourism related litter, a need for green spaces that survive salt laden winds - that could be better contained locally. Our older residents would be best served locally as they face barriers to physically or virtually accessing CCC with any issues.
Yes	The town needs a group focused on Whitstable needs only.
Yes	To access government funding and grants to support developments in whitstable. To encourage civic pride and make improvements into the town for this who live, work and visit. Support the development of facilities. Support local planning including improvements to walking and cycling routes. To have a council representing the issues people living here value and care about. To have a local 'voice' and an opportunity to feed back on planning issues affecting whitstable.
Yes	To be there for residents. Be aware of our needs and represent Whitstable's concerns in Canterbury. We are only town without one in Kent and have growing population of varied demographic. Old, young, working, retired as well as the unemployed.
Yes	To give the local people of Whitstable a better voice in matters concerning them
Yes	To improve independent decision making in Whitstable
Yes	To meet the particular needs of Whitstable residents.
Yes	To provide a focus on Whitstable.
Yes	To represent the will of the local population.

Yes	Whitstable has a thriving community. The town has an eclectic mix of small owner businesses which offer an interesting and diverse range of produce, services and hospitality to both locals and visitors. Whitstable is overlooked and under rated by CCC who do not acknowledge the charm and character of our town. CCC has made decisions detrimental to the community and local businesses also effecting visitors to the town. A Parish Council will benefit Whitstable by focussing and prioritising the needs of the community and the town. As Whitstable is a seaside town, the problems and issues are not comparable to Canterbury city centre and can only be understood by the local community. Whitstable's popularity and economy can only be sustained by an independent Parish Council concentrating on our town
Yes	Whitstable has suffered from underfunding by CCC over many years and we should have a say on how our money is spent on improving Whitstable.
Yes	Whitstable is a coastal town and has very different needs from Canterbury. Our town is really struggling - we regularly see local businesses closing down and our infrastructure is poor. We need better public transport and community resources. I believe we need to be able to manage some of our own resources and know we could apply for funding from various bodies e.g. Central Government, planning levies etc. I believe we are suffering as a town by being tacked on as some kind of afterthought to Canterbury and its needs. We would have a stronger sense of community if we had a Town Council that could address the specific needs of this seaside holiday destination town, including the problem of poverty juxtaposed with expensive second homes/Air BnB's. Traffic, antisocial behaviour and litter are getting much worse. We need help which we are not going to get from Central Government or from Canterbury. A Town Council would help us tackle issues ourselves - the people who live here who know what the town needs - we could address all these issues constructively and restore a sense of civic pride.
Yes	Whitstable is very distinct from the rest of the Canterbury District and a town council will hopefully work to nurture and further improve the town. I also hope the town council would be able to control some of the indiscriminate house building plans including the loss of Brooklands farm which is an area of outstanding natural beauty for the town and also making sure that planned developments such as the school in Church Street cannot happen with the loss of widely used green space in the town
Yes	Whitstable needs a local voice for local people. Far too often in the past Whitstable's needs have been overlooked in favour of schemes in other areas under CCC control. Improved access to funding will better allow the needs and wishes of Whitstable residents to be met Major housing development has been promoted. in Whitstable damaging the character of the town, overloading roads and other facilities especially healthcare and education. Local control of planning would ensure that residents needs and wishes receive priority.
Yes	Yes but not this sham though. We would like a proper independent town council separate from Canterbury city council
Yes	A Town Council would benefit residents by providing a specific forum for planning consultation, attract funds to help boost finances for local initiatives and facilities, develop further the positive impact of community involvement and promote Whitstable as a thriving town.
Yes	A Whitstable Town Council will give a more effective voice for Whitstable residents to express their feelings and priorities. A Town Council would ensure a more equitable distribution of CCC funds.
Yes	As a trader in Whitstable , it would be helpful with planning our shop openings when road works are taking place and if any planning applications have been presented . Currently as traders we have no warning about road works , closures or applications for planning ?
Yes	Because Whitstable deserves its own voice and funding for local issues We have missed out on opportunities because we come under the Canterbury umbrella
Yes	I believe a town council will improve local governance and provide a vehicle for improvements locally. While the funding will pay for staffing it will also enable the locality to apply for funding for particular priorities long the line seen in Faversham.
Yes	I believe that Whitstable as a thriving seaside town has its own unique wants and needs that aren't always considered by Canterbury City Council. It can easily be overlooked due to the demands of Canterbury itself and the residents often feel that we come a poor second. This includes planning, law enforcement, waste and recycling, road and pavement condition and route management. For a town that generates such a high level of income and wealth I believe that the residents of Whitstable need to have a say in how that money is spent and to be able to help focus that revenue into areas that will help to develop and improve the environment for those residents.
Yes	I don't think Canterbury City Council is providing an adequate service to the town of Whitstable. I think the town should have a say in how and where the spending is allocated
Yes	I have never lived anywhere where the people of the town understood and cared so deeply for their habitat. Residents of Whitstable are specialists of Whitstable. It is an utterly unique place that can only be nurtured by making the right decisions for the benefit of the People, Businesses and Environment that make up Whitstable and those decisions therefore need expert input. I grew up and went to school in Canterbury - it is an entirely different playing field and requires different skill sets to govern it to those required to govern Whitstable. I have lived abroad and in London. Never, have I felt the case for local governance so required or appropriate.
Yes	I think a town council will identify and respond to local issues and might enhance the sense of community. I am aware there are a lot of issues that residents feel are not getting the attention they deserve from Canterbury council

	I think Whitstable would benefit a great deal by having a town council. Canterbury City Council has a very wide area to cover. A Whitstable Town Council would have the direct views and opinions of local people especially in the promotion and support of local cultural events and the support of our high street with its small independent shops.
Yes	Only a local town council can support the views of local people.
Yes	I would like Whitstable to be independent, such as granting planning applications for new developments
Yes	Independent funding and local planning decisions made on a local level,
Yes	Issues concerning local matters will, I hope, have a louder voice. Also ,if I read correctly gives us the opportunity to take what's on offer.
Yes	It is important for Whitstable to decide on local issues, not to have everything determined by Canterbury City Council.
Yes	It provides the opportunity of local people taking local matters into their own hands if they so wish. It also seems strange that Whitstable town is the only area where that is not the case, with surrounding villages all having their Parish Council.
Yes	Local autonomy, and decision making
Yes	Much smaller areas have more localised and specific representation in the form of town or parish councils and Whitstable has a range of features, issues and , hence, needs that would be better addressed by a smaller governance body. I understand that the areas that would fall under the remit of a town council are fairly limited, in comparison to the city council's scope, but a town council would still make a positive difference to Whitstable.
Yes	Potentially, it 'could' be more responsive to local grass-roots needs and wishes.
Yes	Since moving to Whitstable more than a decade ago, I have felt that Whitstable issues are being badly addressed by the Canterbury Council. We need a more local representation which is more thoughtfully integrated into Whitstable life.
Yes	So we would have more opportunities to have the council money allocated to Whitstable and improvements rather than the majority being spent in Canterbury and Herne Bay
Yes	The needs of Whitstable are not fully met by Canterbury City Council because Whitstable is a community with very different priorities to the broader area covered by the city council
Yes	To better represent the views and needs of Whitstable residents and to promote local services for local people.
Yes	To go back to what it was Whitstable making its own decisions not relying on Canterbury to make it for them
Yes	To make sure planning works with local needs and additional funds can be secured for local projects.
Yes	To take on and co ordinate practical issues closer to home in Whitstable. An arena where groups and new groups can get support and advice re funding and how to apply for this. Smaller initiatives can benefit local people much more easily when co ordination is geographically closer. Local people may have more incentive to get involved in specific projects. Some good examples of the positive benefits of Town Councils in Faversham and other coastal areas near Whitstable.
Yes	Whitstable has unique characteristics and therefore unique needs, different to Canterbury. Canterbury has consistently overlooked or misunderstood Whitstable in decision making. Also,I remember Canterbury referring to Whitstable as "The Canterbury Coast", highlighting the attitude of the current Council to the very existence of Whitstable as a separate entity. When resources are limited it is even more important to use them wisely and the current situation proves this has not been done.
Yes	Whitstable is faced with a number of issues which are both negative and positive to the town depending on your point of view. A local representation of views at a local level would, I believe be good.
Yes	Whitstable needs to be able to make its own decisions to accelerate positive outcomes - in my community's experience, going 'back and forth' with Canterbury City Council's planning department regarding a dispute with a local building firm was extremely frustrating - we faced a myriad of hurdles: countless different points of contact, lengthy response timeframes and conflicting information. We are now, thankfully, close to dispute resolution; however, much time, energy and sanity could have been preserved if we had had local town councillors available to advise, assist and support us 'on the ground' from the beginning. PLEASE consider this consultation seriously and allow Whitstable its rightful position in being an autonomously governed town, so that it can develop, thrive and flourish independently and successfully, as it truly deserves.
Yes	Whitstable should have some autonomy and be the conduit for responding to issues that are unique to this town (ie sea pollution and flooding).

Should Whitstable have a town council?	Why? Please write in below - please do not include any personal information as these responses will be published
Yes	The needs of Whitstable and Tankerton are very different from other parts of Canterbury and surrounding areas, so it should be the local people who make decisions based on what we feel is in our best interests.
Yes	The needs of Whitstable are best understood by those who live or work in the town.
Yes	It needs better local decision making
Yes	Whitstable has a distinct and different identity from Canterbury, with specific local issues; sewage, beach front development etc. Having a town council would better represent the weight of local opinion.
Yes	More control of the outrageous amount of air BnB properties and second homes . No extra should be paid by residents for a town council
Yes	I believe we would be better represented by a town council should any future merger of councils in Kent or creation of a larger unitary authority take place in the future. Therefore I would support the creation of a town council now.
Yes	So we can be represented when KCC is allocating funds for projects
Yes	1 Local autonomy. Whitstable and Canterbury are very different communities with different agendas. 2 Equity with other parts of CCC ie Herne Bay.
Yes	we have particular needs and requirements, different from Canterbury and the rest of the area, and these should be considered locally
Yes	We have a strong identity in Whitstable. Visitors power much of the economy but this has to be balanced with needs of residents. We need the community to move forward with optimism. Representation can help with this. Expressions of despair/lack of civic pride such as huge volume of litter needs to be addressed.
Yes	It has never been treated fairly or equitably compared to Canterbury and it is an equitable partner.
Yes	I would like a local voice to represent the town.
Yes	Because we need local representation. CCC focuses on Canterbury and give little help to Whitstable
Yes	A local council for local people to champion whitstable in the right way To make better decisions for whitstable by people of whitstable
Yes	It will help Whitstable be in control of what is most important to the town.
Yes	We need to be in control.Sick and tired of Canterbury City Council.The worst Council I have come across.Be it bins parking or the environment. People's voices needed to be heard at a more local level.Not very impressed with Canterbury Councils performance. Bin strikes ,car parking charges. Long rock site of special scientific interest,the lack of interest shown by the County Council in letting Southern Water dump raw sewage straight into the sea is deplorable and they should be ashamed of themselves,but they are not.
Yes	Whitstable is unique. It is facing particular issues with water quality and reputation damage from southern water.
Yes	We need our own representation and agency to manage our future
Yes	From the information I have been given I believe this could only be an added advantage to Whitstable residents
Yes	We need to say and control over what happens in our town and surrounding area.
Yes	It will help promote a sense of community and address specific Whitstable needs and ambitions. It should help promote cultural and artistic events.
Yes	Provided town councillors are elected, are local residents and want the best for the town i think this would be a good idea.
Yes	More input from local residents and businesses on housing development (including increased flood risk and pressure on schools and health care), traffic schemes and parking.
Yes	A more concentrated approach with councillors closer to Whitstable and it's needs would be welcome.
Yes	I believe a town council would enable whitstable to focus on the unique needs a coastal town presents and enable the community's voice to be heard clearly.
Yes	Gives the community more say
Yes	Better control by local residents rather than bureaucrats in City Council
Yes	Whitstable is a unique area and a Town Council would ensure that services meet the needs of local residents.
Yes	More local representation recognising specific needs of residents.
Yes	our town has changed considerably over the last few decades some for the good and some for the not so good e.g high rents and house prices in the town local families have no chance of living in their home town A town council could be representative of those who live in our town come to work in our town and new residents who come because they love what they see so hopefully a town council can preserve what we have
Yes	Whitstable needs its own town council as it is a seaside community that is different in many ways to that of Canterbury. The town needs to make its own decisions about its future as its residents know best what is best for Whitstable.
Yes	To ensure Whitstable is appropriately represented by Whitstable people, and they can be held to account by the people of Whitstable.
Yes	To have more localised input and support.

Yes	Whitstable has it's own unique community and this should be reflected locally not by a monolithic area council such as Canterbury.
Yes	To hopefully promote better facilities and community projects to support the local community.
Yes	The town isn't properly represented or looked after by Canterbury council. With the rise in population we need our own council so maybe we can actually get some police in the town.
Yes	Because CCC cares more about Canterbury, whereas, a Whitstable council would care more about Whitstable. It did this perfectly well in the past when it was based at Whitstable castle.
Yes	To support the council and reflect the community. There are a lot of things going on in Whitstable that don't feel like they are representing the wider community. An elected group who could engage with the local authorities and help focus on local issues could only be an improvement
Yes	Whitstable should be able to make its own descions, not have the views of CCC thrust upon us. A town council will be able to join up all parts of the society, raise funds for local projects and people. Provide all the amenities we had that CCC has removed. Be in the town, so we don't have go into Canterbury. We would have local people looking after local people, who would know what the town needs. Local organisation would have some where to go for support. Better promote the town.
Yes	I often feel that Whitstable is taken for granted as a key tourist destination in Kent and some decisions that are made are not in its best interests. Traffic and car parking spring to mind.
Yes	Whitstable has a sizeable population and I believe would welcome as much delegated powers as possible.
Yes	Having come from a town which had a town council I believe that they do good for the environment, people and community.
Yes	Local representatives for local people
Yes	I'd like to see more local representation.
Yes	I think it would be good for the area as we need local people on the council making decisions for residents and not someone in Canterbury council. It would give residents more say in public spending and changes.
Yes	I believe it would give residents a stronger voice when determining matters that impact the local community whether that be services or festivals. I also believe it would be beneficial to have strong local representation in the context of planning decisions which affect us.
Yes	Beacause its important that residents in Whitstable has influence in the decision-making in their local area.
Yes	To better represent the interests of Whitstable, I believe Whitstable often comes a poor third after Canterbury and Herne Bay in the decisions taken by the city council. Hopefully it will improve street cleaning and litter collection, better crime reduction and maintenance of public facilities.
Yes	It's important that people who live in Whitstable can be involved in decisions that affect the town.
Yes	It should help improve local services in particular festivals and tourist attractions which would support the growth of local businesses, jobs and the economy. It would represent residents priorities and give us more of a voice.
Yes	I believe that a town council would be of benefit to Whitstable so there would better direction of services and community facilities tailored to those who live within the town and surrounding area. I think local businesses would benefit from a town council and residents would also feel that their voice and concerns in regards to facilities would be greatly improved by a localised approach.
Yes	I think it makes sense for every town to have a council - so for Whitstable, as one with over 30,000 people, and who knows how many visitors a year, it seems a no brainer! I think it would be a real help with having somewhere to go about local issues, particularly currently the water situation and the slow trickle into the town of higher shop rents and therefore chain shops on our high street, as well as a more local place for people in need to go to about things like benefits and safety.
Yes	Population is growing, a very popular holiday/visited town, therefore there is a need for better representation for the area's requirements to grow in the right way.
Yes	We do not seem to be connected to Canterbury City Council at all. They are using Whitstable as a money maker by putting the price of car parking. We were always the poor relation and I haveived in Whitstable a long time.
Yes	Whitstable is constantly overlooked by Canterbury council, this may address that issue
Yes	would be better for Whitstable residents to submit their ideas without feeling like they are only submitting them for Canterbury.
Yes	To promote the unique potential of the town. To lobby effectively for new investment. To provide a focus on local issues. Potential for less political grandstanding. To ensure the town as a greater say in local decision making.
Yes	However as a caveat it is critical the town council does not become a vehicle for nimbyism.
Yes	Whitstable has specific needs, concerns and issues that can only be addressed by a council at the town level.
Yes	I do not believe that we have sufficient representation or understanding of our local needs by Canterbury City Council. We need local leaders and community involvement to develop a coherent development plan to improve Whitstable for its residents and manage visitors.

	Whitstable has its individual identity as a town. Currently it does not live up to what is expected with the Whitstable residents and the town itself. It needs careful attention in a different alternative manner to cater what the town true identity. Till this day Whitstable have not explore its potential for what it is, it is ashame that the infrastructure does not meet the town requirements. As a resident, there are things should have grown but directed to things that it does not serve the town justice, as short sighted vision. Canterbury city council do not have a clue they have put things in place where they can make money, not the best intention, put hideous ideas like the South Quay and change the harbour into what used to be good to something which is meaningless, design and layout has killed the vibe of what it was once upon a time been. The decision made was not the best interest for residence, shop keepers and the town itself. So we should have a Whitstable councillor.
Yes	Whitstable is a unique place that needs it's own council to ensure the challenges we face as a community are met with the best results for everyone
Yes	Canterbury too large to deal with all the issues. Our own council would be more knowledgable and aware of the problems that arise in the area. Residents who have lived here will have grown to know in more detail the issues that are of concern. The fact that there is a core of people willing to initiate this proposal is an indication of how they could make a difference in improving Whitstable, Swalecliffe and Seasalter.
Yes	Local control, promote more cultural activity and support residents on local issues
Yes	Localised knowledge and data for local decision making. I would be happy to be considered for involvement.
Yes	Whitstable has particular problems which aren't always recognised by KCC or CC.
Yes	Greater local decision-making.
Yes	To help improve Whitstable & Tankerton facilities, policing, refuse collection, bus timetables, bus shelters with digital displays, Cleaner sea., Improve the harbour surrounding area & buildings. Planting of more trees, improving park & green areas, Tankerton slopes etc.
Yes	Decisions made by local people on issues that affect them directly makes sense. The downside is that very often these councils get bogged down by pettiness and in-fighting. Whitstable used to have a town council. We need to know the reason for disbanding it.
Yes	I think it would be better for Whitstable to be treated as separate from Canterbury city council as local councillors will have more understanding of local issues, I was previously a resident of another area where we had a town council & found they worked as an advantage to the town
Yes	I do not approve of decisions made by Canterbury City Council in regard to the Whitstable area.
Yes	I think the specific needs of Whitstable are sometimes overlooked as part of the larger council area. It would be good to have a local council where the needs of local residents can be aired and taken forward to Canterbury council in a coordinated way.
Yes	More automomy
Yes	Mote accountability. Resources geared at local need.
Yes	To take decisions faster and more effectively on issues that benefit the town and its residents
Yes	Decisions can be made that affect every day life by the people that live there. Concentrating on placing funding in the right places to positively impact residents and not just consider tourism.
Yes	I don't believe that Whitstable is well represented by Canterbury City Council and do not seem to have any idea of what is needed in Whitstable. All that Canterbury to be interested in is the status of having a lot of foriegn visitors and the university students, also holding the local motorist to ransom by having to pay excess parking fees, by management of a third party, paying £3-50p for a quick five minute trip to the bank is extortion. Whitstable on the other hand , is proud of the fact that it can do without the Canterbury City status and has many clubs and institutions that do not appear to have any assistance from the Canterbury, I also believe that although Chestfield has it's own parish council, should not be excluded from the proposed Whitstable catchment area. Kind Regards
Yes	I believe that a local town council will be the voice of the local community representing what is important to our area.
Yes	I think that Whitstable needs an independent and democratically elected body to represent its separate and distinct identity within the Canterbury district. I have experience of parish councils for very small areas, where the cost of elections and lack of community engagement result in self-selecting groups of unelected individuals (often, including district councillors) spending all the income they can raise on their own administrative arrangements. I am cautious about the proposal for Whitstable because I would oppose anything that reproduced that model. However, I am prepared to assume that Whitstable is a large enough area with a sufficiently large and politically diverse population to make it possible for a town council to raise enough money, and to do enough with it, to produce genuine public engagement and contested elections. I believe the success of any such proposal is highly dependent on a willingness by the district council to exercise such powers of devolution and delegation to the town council as it has in a generous manner, and with fair arrangements around the funding of any devolved or transferred functions.
Yes	I'm in favour of decisions such as planning being taken with a clear obligation to consult locally which is missing at present.
Yes	

Yes	Support community schemes including traditional festivals Ensure museum Castle and other local charitable trusts and societies are fairly funded and given adequate leases to attract grants etc Maintain open spaces and ensure they are kept for sport and recreation and not sold for development
Yes	A local council should be able to provide support for the museum, green spaces,litter collection also monitoring the beaches and promenade.It should also be able to ensure that the roads are maintained and speed limits installed in the appropriate areas.
Yes	More devolved government, even at a local level, brings more people into direct involvement in local decisions.
Yes	Parking on Marine Parade is terrible now. The car park is empty around the corner. I would like it raised and dealt with locally.
Yes	So that local issues can be addressed promptly and residents have an input into likely decisions.
Yes	A greater degree of democratic representation on local issues.
Yes	It would be good to have a specific voice for whitstable that can bring up issues like the lack of policing and bins on the beaches with the main county council. We live in an area that is popular with tourists. If it's not deemed to be safe and clean they will stop coming and the towns economy will suffer as a result of that. More needs to be done in both these areas and the town council should be used to champion these matters with the main council that more often than not pay no attention outside of the larger city area.
Yes	An area the size of Whitstable has it's own identity and civic needs and these are best represented by its own elected councillors. A sense of community is fostered by engagement of local residents so the more means there are to do so the better.
Yes	An area the size of Whitstable has it's own identity and civic needs and these are best represented by its own elected councillors. A sense of community is fostered by engagement of local residents so the more means there are to do so the better.
Yes	A town council could focus on local issues relevant to Whitstable. A town council could more easily engage with Whitstable residents and work together to address issues that concern residents.
Yes	I feel that the character of Whitstable is so different from that of Canterbury, it has very different and specific needs that are not wholly understood and therefore are not prioritised for funding. Having independence to make our own decisions about spending and events could really improve and enliven the town. Having more power to lobby on certain planning applications would also be advantageous.
Yes	To have more control in our area by councillors who live and know the area. Whitstable is ignored by Canterbury council.
Yes	Whitstable has an active community, and should have its own governance, so that it can represent the priorities of residents.
Yes	we need a stronger local voice for environmental issues, planning, active travel, community services and support for local people in need. Kent County Council does not represent Whitstable well in any of these matters. We need a strong local council to offer networking and support for the many positive local voluntary group and initiatives
Yes	a local council, with local representatives and with the interests of the local people.
Yes	It's important that the local community has a voice about issues that affect us including littering, policing, open spaces, etc.
Yes	We should have a council representative of the local area so that the best interests of the area are served
Yes	I think Whitstable issues should be decided upon by Whitstable folk.
Yes	Decisions need to be made by people who live and work in the town. However, I worry that the extra cost will be an issue for those who are already struggling.
Yes	Local issues are best solved by locally based decisions. Whitstable has an identity distinct from the city of Canterbury. A town council would provide very localised representation which could focus better outcomes for the town. A town council could also better inform the decisions of City and County councils.
Yes	To enable the decisions taken for the Whitstable area to be aired,debated and enacted by the people living in the area
Yes	To help promote the town and local events. Monitor and comment on planning applications that effect the town's identity. Support local businesses and residents.
Yes	I think it would encourage greater participation in democracy and local politics. The town is full of learned and dedicated people who if empowered could benefit the community greatly.
Yes	Whitstable is a distinct area within the overall Canterbury district and there are matters in which a more local consultation would be appropriate.

Yes	<p>A town council for Whitstable would be accountable to local residents. An authority we could appeal to and put pressure on to deal with specific local issues. East Kent is Canterbury centric even the Whitstable Gazette is dominated by Canterbury news and issues. As an ever growing town the problems we confront increase year on year. Not that we agree with the 'ever growing' nature of our existence. That is part of the current problem. Too many people and too few amenities. Infrastructure breakdown and lack of services across the age range. The continued building and development is not enhancing the town to say the least. Localism was for a short time the watch word, but that soon disappeared. We need more input from the town for the town. Democracy needs to start from the base and work up. Too often decisions which effect the town seem to have empty 'consultations' from Canterbury City Council. The decisions have already been taken and it is just an empty gesture. The planning department in particular seems to be the 'build it anywhere' department. The town seems disenfranchised.</p> <p>Whitstable has been turning more into a tourist destination and there are multiple second homes, which are left empty for long periods or are let as Airbnb properties. My daughter, her partner and baby have moved to Whitstable and are currently renting. We desperately need to hang on to our community hubs and public areas. I believe a town council will ensure the local community will have the opportunity to access funding and have a say in future developments and local planning.</p>
Yes	To help all the residents to be well informed & stop being sucked into Canterbury
Yes	To better reflect local needs especially with regards to the coast natural history and tourism
Yes	Because the needs of the local people need to directly influence the policies that affect our town.
Yes	It is important that democracy is as local to the people as possible. Our voice is certainly not heard in Canterbury.
Yes	We need local decision making to tackle local issues. Whitstable should be in control of its own budget.
Yes	Be good for the area/local residents
	I feel we need to have a say on the future planning of our town and the infrastructure. The water companies cannot cope at the moment and further development will be to the detriment of our beaches and coastline. We welcome thousands of tourists every year but the residents needs are not being addressed, for example extortionate parking charges means I cannot support our local shops in the summer. I would also like to see tighter rules on dogs along the seafront, they must be on a lead along all of the seafront and not to have access to the beach at anytime of the year. Cycling along the coast also needs to be moderated.
Yes	Simply, it is our town, we have to live with the changes and decisions made and we need to have a voice. The town has an identity and a character which is known best of those who live and work here.
Yes	Whitstable is a popular destination but local people need more say about development in the area. I'd like to see all bus shelters lit by solar power so that it's obvious people are there. This would help prevent anti social behaviour and be safer. More litter bins would be fantastic and control over policing of the many beach huts along the sea front
Yes	A lot of well intentioned local people feel very strongly we should have a town council as we used to. I fully support the democratic process and think more power should be devolved to those elected. I am willing to put my money where my mouth is.
Yes	Can control local issues
	We must have more control over planning and the infrastructure needs to support the extra pressure on our groaning services, e.g. sewage treatment is below third world standards. Medical, dental and other necessary structures cannot keep pace with the expanding population without local oversight to make sure funding is in place to protect the quality of life of all our residents.
Yes	Ensure services and local projects can be established and maintained. It would be nice to have a voice in Canterbury council for matters that affect us as residents.
Yes	Consultation on planning and new developments. Better/self managed funding.
	The population of Whitstable is sufficiently large and its character is sufficiently distinct from the inland region to make the local needs special and in need of local representation. Despite recent popularity as a visitor destination it will have to manage itself very carefully as times and circumstance change in the foreseeable future. A responsible and involved local voice is essential in the aim to maintain and develop its vibrant character.
Yes	To enable whitstable to have a voice over planning developments, access additional funding and fund /support local initiatives
Yes	So we can have more say and control on what happens in the Whitstable area
	A Town Council would benefit Whitstable by giving it a bigger voice and would enable more funding to make positive changes for the town and its local community.
Yes	So our needs are looked out for by those who live here rather than Canterbury
	I believe that it is important that Whitstable residents should have more say in matters that affect them and their town. Local input to decisions, especially regarding planning and services, and the ability to identify and implement small improvements can only be a good thing. Money is tight across the UK and available funding for local projects is limited. It is only right that local residents are able to put their arguments forward for consideration in order to be awarded on merit a small part of this funding.
Yes	

Yes	Local issues will be top of the agenda. That's my No.1 Promote Whitstable in a more cohesive manner. Extern Funding bids would be high on the agenda if we get the chance to highlight the importance to support various initiatives which help local needs. Providing an extra voice, which we've been lacking for years and years. This opportunity shouldn't be missed, it can make a real difference for the future health and wellbeing of all Whitstable residents by having our own dedicated Town Council. I (even in my dotage) will help in any way to support this amazing opportunity.
Yes	It provides more opportunity for: 1) input into building development applications. 2) applying for funding to support projects within the town 3) providing support for the community
Yes	Coordinated consultation on planning for new building developments Ability to apply for funding not currently available to it May be better able to promote the town both for tourism and new businesses
Yes	Whitstable and Tankerton are popular places for tourists and yet Canterbury Council do little to support the area, it is us residents who work hard to make the town and area popular not Canterbury Council who sell off land to build more houses that we do not want, so they can make money one way or another!!!!
Yes	To deal with matters relating to the specific area re beach front, harbour, town
Yes	Because Whitstable should govern itself instead of being tagged onto Canterbury. Whitstable has never got the attention it deserves from Canterbury City Council and is treated as an afterthought.
Yes	I understand Whitstable may benefit from access to different funding streams that CCC and the county council cannot access. I believe that the residents of Whitstable will be able to see that their town council has more influence over planning issues and there will be a greater sense of civic ownership and pride .
Yes	\-to give people of whitstable more say in decisions which affect us, we can also decide on local community projects which are separate to decisions made in and for Canterbury, Restore a sense of pride in our town encouraging our identity as a separate community not an add on to Canterbury. Many other Kent towns have their own council, why not Whitstable.A town council could access fundingfrom cental government in it's own right.We could also benefit from payments from developers for our town if we can have a Whitstable neighbourhood plan. A town council will restore confidence in local democracy. Canterbury City Council feels remote and lacks accountability to Whitstable residents. We feel a secondary thought for Canterbury Council members. We want stronger Whitstable representation in decision affecting our town.
Yes	A Town Council will allow more decision making by residents to help achieve local objectives and priorities whilst also improving the democratic process. Residents currently feel disenfranchised with minimal expenditure or any improvement schemes funded through the current arrangements. A Town Council should see this situation improved.
Yes	Because a council made up from people living in Whitstable have a better understanding of it's needs and issues.
Yes	I have been a Parish Councillor in the past and I feel that we did a very good job in bringing ideas to the County Council. This was in Staffordshire. I feel that a Town Council is very similar.
Yes	Decide many town matters locally.
Yes	A local town council would have good knowledge of local issues and a better idea of solutions to those problems that would benefit the local community. It would also give the town a sense of pride.
Yes	Although I am not in favour of any council tax increase and it could be considered an unnecessary overhead, I believe Whitstable should have a Town Council. It will allow the people of CT5 more autonomy over local issues and a direct influence and say in where and what our tax money is spent on. Additionally and more importantly, the Town Council will have the role of statutory planning consultee, which enables local people to have a candid involvement on planning applications affecting the local area, ensuring that the proposed development will improve and blend with the surrounding area rather than just giving approval to meet Government targets. I want a Whitstable Town Council to apply for the additional government funds available each year to fund valuable projects, which hopefully will be used wisely for important schemes to improve the daily lives of local people and enhance the CT5 area. We need a Town Council to improve the area and attract visitors to maintain the local economy and not waste valuable funding on not voted for 'green', 'climate emergency' net zero nonsense or continually penalising the motorist to fund council services. Whilst Canterbury City Council does a reasonably good job of keeping the tourist areas clean and tidy especially the seafront, generally the rest of the central streets are dirty and full of litter or every available space covered in graffiti. I would like a Town Council to help keep the whole area clean and tidy all year round.
Yes	Better able to focus on, promote and protect the interests of the local community.
Yes	Canterbury City Council spend money on Canterbury, not Whitstable. A town council will increase the representation and the voice of Whitstable.

	Having previously lived in a village with a parish council I was surprised when moving here that there was no local voice. An elected town council would provide the residents with the opportunity to have a say on issues pertinent to them, working with other agencies and groups on issues that impact on the day to day living of the residents , roads, parking, planning, unsociable behaviour , improving the 'look ' of the town , litter , dog poo , also the social side , the Christmas lights etc that reinforce the community spirit of the town. It will also enable the town to bid for funds that will support our local community , with councils struggling with funding it is important that
Yes	Whitstable has a say in how the Town is managed and supported .
Yes	I am in agreement with accessing funding to support local 'assets' and initiatives
	I feel a town council will have a better understanding of what the people of Whitstable need and will be able to work closer with the local community and community groups. Whitstable needs a town council to develop a neighbourhood plan, the large developments that are being carried out don't feel as if they are taking into account the local people and the constraints of the current infrastructure we are in danger of losing what makes whitstable
Yes	such a great place to live
	It will give the residents of Whitstable a more granular say over issues pertaining to the town. It also offers scope for the town to use the precept to match fund grants which will enrich facilities in Whitstable and to access funding not open to either Canterbury council or KCC. I have been very interested in the ways other towns have used their town council in very imaginative, thoughtful, locally-focussed ways. Most importantly for me is the fact that having a town council will ensure that Whitstable is consulted on planning matters, including new
Yes	developments. With the best will in the world, the City Council does not fill this gap for us.
Yes	It's important that Whitstable has a voice, a town council is the best way forward for the future of the town.
Yes	Needs for town being addressed by local residents.
Yes	So that instead of being the poor relation to Canterbury we would have a voice and be in control of local issues.
	So that local residents can have more say upon planning and infrastructure provisions. So that improvements to local facilities can be carried out and grants can be put in place for such works. A Town Council will provide better opportunities for involving the local community in all projects and proposals that affect the town.
Yes	Such an unique town with countless visitors
Yes	The ability to focus on issues of local concern rather than government targets.
Yes	The Town needs community focus
	The town needs to have 20mph in all streets and crucially the turn into Church Lane from the Thanet Way. The recreation ground adjacent to All Saints Cemetery should not be built on. No further encroachment of new housing developments either side of the Thanet Way reducing the land on Duncan Downs even more.
Yes	To access more funding and to have more say about our town
Yes	To allow the people who live and work here a say in what happens in the area. Hopefully allowing this unique area with substantial history not to be turned into a 'new town' Also to facilitate more of the funds that go to ccc to be allocated to the area that generates them.
Yes	We are a large, vibrant, seaside town with particular needs regarding tourism and how the town is managed.
	We are one of the few towns in East Kent without our own town council. We lose out on funding. We lack power: eg; to block some of the terrible new build housing estates that the county council (steered by Tory government) has ruined our local countryside with, handing vast profits to a tiny monopoly of dodgy 'developers'; Bellway, Redrow etc. Local people have huge resources of local knowledge with which to apply to forms of self-governance and autonomy; comparatively Canterbury council lacks knowledge of Whitstable.
Yes	Whitstable has different interests than Canterbury, it has an independent, thriving, economy. We are more 'green' than Canterbury.
Yes	Whitstable is a town with a growing population which needs to be able to have more say about issues that matter to us. I strongly support all efforts to encourage more local democracy and especially here in my home town. I understand that, as a rate payer I will have to pay more but I am willing to do so because I believe Whitstable Town Council will be of benefit to all local residents.
Yes	Whitstable is growing fast. The new build area is enormous. I don't believe the current infrastructure can cope so I think a town council might be able to help implement necessary changes to manage the growing number of occupants and their local needs.
Yes	Whitstable is one of the few towns in East Kent without a Town Council and I feel that this wrong, and that it should have a formal body as a focus for the community.
Yes	Whitstable is very low on CCC priority list. A strong, local voice is required.
Yes	Would help give focus to issues relevant to the 30k + residents in the Whitstable area
Yes	Additional funding opportunities would help to develop the assets and services of Whitstable for local people, and there should be a strong voice locally on planning matters.
Yes	Because the needs of Canterbury and Whitstable are very different and it would allow more emphasis to be focused on Whitstable's particular requirements.
Yes	Better for the town and one of the few towns in kent without a town council. Definitely in favour. We will have more of a voice and resources to support community projects.

Yes	Focus needed on Whitstable's needs- too often they are ignored in favour of what Canterbury needs
Yes	For the reasons given in the leaflet the council distributed to all households and after reading the information and case made by the CT5 People's Forum on their website.
Yes	Good to have a focus for representing local issues but I am concerned it will cause another level of bureaucracy at a time when all councils are short of funding and also that party and local politics may cause problems.
Yes	have access to funding for local needs, by joining would safeguard any proposed closures of library etc, more local consultation on planning, Park& Ride in Whitstable, fund for pedestrianised streets
Yes	have been told there will be opportunities for town council to apply for additional funding only available to town council. Hope it will provide a voice for local people when it comes to housing needs/development & community facilities.
Yes	I feel it is important that we have more control over what residents in the area need, how our community functions more efficiently. We the residents value our area and its community and collectively the more we have a say the better for Whitstable.
Yes	I feel that the interests of Whitstable would be better served locally.
Yes	I feel Whitstable would be better served by having a local town council where the town's needs and issues can be given more weight and due consideration.
Yes	I have always felt that Whitstable and Tankerton have always had a real social coherence and a town council would contribute to this.
Yes	I strongly believe all of the CT5 area should be parished. We already have a very successful and effective parish council in Chestfield and other East Kent coastal towns already benefit from their own town councils providing effective community governance for their towns. Whitstable is missing out and needs the same. What I find lacking in Whitstable is a sense of place. There is: - nowhere locally for residents to be signposted to public services; - no local organisation to take the lead on setting the agenda for the important things that matter to local people including on the economy, tourism, or sustainability; - no community hub for people to come together and to work to bring together community organisations. A town council for Whitstable could deliver all these things. It would also provide an effective means of representing the interests of the town on planning matters and draw in additional investment and funding. None of this comes for free. The Council say a precept for a Whitstable town council would be in the range of £60-£80 for a Band D property and uncapped. 63% of properties in the unparished CT5 area are Council Tax Bands A-C and there are discounts that apply to single occupancy and those on low incomes. There has been a lot of commentary opposing the idea of a town council on social media, most of it inconsequential and some of it posted anonymously. The main objection is to paying an additional precept. What I haven't seen in literally hundreds of such posts are any alternative suggestions on how to ensure community governance in the absence of parishing. I am sure the Council will exercise due diligence in considering all the responses received and weigh up the evidence carefully before reaching a decision. The worst possible scenario is if the decision becomes some sort of political football between the different groups on the Council which will serve no one.
Yes	I strongly support the idea that Whitstable should have a town council. It's strange that a town of Whitstable's size doesn't already have one. Having a council will allow more democratic representation for residents. It will allow us to have another body to help provide, support and maintain services that we need. It will enable greater community involvement in matters that affect us all, and it will improve our area.
Yes	I think Whitstable should have it's own Town Council. Due to over development, Whitstable has expanded considerably, both in area and population, over the past few years. It is now of a size which warrants it's own Town Council to provide a strong voice to protect local interests. I would hope that local Town Councillors would be more accessible and interested in local issues which should mean more accountability. If Whitstable had it's own Town Council it seems we may benefit from the ability to decide how certain funds are spent in our local area which would be a good thing.
Yes	I think Whitstable should have it's own Town Council. It has expanded considerably over the last few years and is big enough to warrant it. I would hope it would provide a much needed strong local voice to protect local interests i.e. dealing with sewage discharge into the sea at Swalecliffe and how some funds are distributed and spent locally.
Yes	I would hope local Town Councillors would be more accessible and accountable to local people.
Yes	It will give us residents more say regarding our community and how it is run, and give us access to funding we might not otherwise be able to receive.
Yes	More can be done around antisocial behaviour and community safety.
Yes	More control regarding plans and improvements relating to local needs
Yes	More targeted services and closer to home
Yes	Open opportunities for more local funding. The current Council seems very centred around Canterbury, having a town council should help add more of local voice, but help more with local issues. Town/Parish councils in other areas really add to the local community and it would be great to see that here. We had a town council years ago and it was great

Yes	<p>Parish Councils in Kent have levered in, and help lever in, major amounts of funding for local initiatives. This included governmental funds (Leveling Up, Arts Council etc) and non governmental from charities etc. Without a town council Whitstable is not able to do this (and possible Canterbury Council) in a successful and informed way. The Town Council is able to look at planning issues affecting the town in a detailed manner, helping the council make better decisions about the town and the locality. This is especially important in the tiered decision making processes and help Kent County Council and Canterbury Council better meet Whitstables needs. Enable local people and community and voluntary groups have a better input into supporting Whitstable residents and the locality to be a vibrant, healthy place for the long term future of the residents and the area. Enable local people to have a greater say in how their town and the area is managed - it is well documented that communities that have greater community involvement also enable individuals have better health and more fulfilled lives.</p>
Yes	<p>The ability to focus on the priorities of the CT5 area which impacts the people living and working in the area is important as going forward government spending and the ability to make informed decisions will be less effective. The dynamics of the CT5 area are different to the surrounding area and will be altered quite considerable with the current focus on building new homes without the supporting infrastructure of utilities, schools and medical services. Also movement around the town by foot, bicycle, car and public transport will need to have a joined up strategy and investment. The quality of the environment in terms of sewage released into the sea, litter, dog fowling and anti social behaviour need to be addressed as left unaddressed will spoil it for those of us who call the CT5 area our home. A town council will allow for local voices to be heard and focus on priorities of the CT5 area.</p>
Yes	<p>To make our own decisions that are best for our town, a council led by Whitstable residents that know what Whitstable needs.</p>
Yes	<p>To provide a forum for the expression of views within the town, particularly on planning matters; to have the ability to access further funding for Whitstable; and to provide a body which CCC would have to consult on matters specific to the town.</p>
Yes	<p>We need a Town Council again so decisions affecting all aspects of Whitstable life can be made by Whitstable residents. The town is too often lumped in with Cantetbury - Whitstable residents need their own separate voice - To access different funding sources. To be involved in / make planning decisions To promote local services for the town's residents To promote civic pride</p>
Yes	<p>When local government was re-organised in 1974 Whitstable, unlike many other small towns such as Faversham or Dover, did not create a town council. The reason for this is not clear, but may have been because of the then size of Whitstable (including Seasalter and Chestfield) did not seem of significance. Since then Whitstable has grown considerably and continues to do so. Whitstable justifies a clearer identity. A Town Council now should include all parts of the larger Whitstable, so Chestfield Parish Council would ideally opt to be incorporated into the new council. Action by CCC is dominated by considerations of Canterbury. The recent change of political control may change something of this but the probability remains. Whitstable Councillors have gone along with the party caucus or are ignored. Two recent examples are the opportunity for levelling up money. I understand that schemes were put in for Canterbury and Herne Bay: nothing for Whitstable (Canterbury was successful). The second major example is on planning. Local organisations and individuals make a considerable effort to comment on plans. They appear to be regularly ignored. Consultation rights have been withdrawn and even if re-instated there needs to be an obligation that local views are properly taken into account. The recent District Plan said that Section 106 money from Whitstable developments would be used in Canterbury. Such money should be to the benefit of the area with the developments. Local consultation on general matters has gone with the cancellation of WAMP. The creation of a Town Council should put consultation on a statutory basis. Much of the concern about a Town Council appears to centre on how effective it might be. These are secondary considerations and should not affect the decision of principle. Costs will always be an issue, but the opportunity to improve local democracy should not be dragged down by cost concerns. Improving democracy with a Town Council will be worth the money.</p>
Yes	<p>Whitstable has become the poor relation of the CCC area, with facilities in decline and no money spent on the arts. Road conditions are appalling, there is little or no parking enforcement and sustaonable transport options in the town are pitiful. I am fed up of the main emphasis in the district being on Canterbury.</p>
Yes	<p>Whitstable has needed its own Town Council since 1974 when it was absorbed into the CCC district. Local representation and control is desperately needed, even more so since the demise of the area panel, particularly in topics like planning and development, which have a high level of impact on residents. A locally elected Town Council would have a better understanding of contentious issues like the oyster racks invading the foreshore and be able to convey this understanding to CCC. There are some vocal objectors to a Town Council on the basis of cost, particularly that it is uncapped. Although cost is a valid consideration, my view is that they are failing to consider value and that a spendthrift Town Council can be voted out.</p>
Yes	<p>Whitstable Town Council would be able to access additional funding to promote more local services for the local people and visitors. The elected Town Councillors would also be able to establish a neighbourhood plan that would reflect the residents opinions, re new building developments etc. Generally it would be more beneficial to have a Whitstable Town Council than currently not having one. The possibility of bringing in £1.4 million to support the town would be fantastic!</p>

Whitstable used to have a town council which incorporated with CCC - not sure if I have seen any difference - before/after. However it would be good if local events ie Oyster Festival could be ran without CCC advising that they can't provide enough stewards to police it! Reinstate the fireworks which were so popular and help the Lions! Perhaps after writing this my answer should be yes as I have personally seen the wonderful events run by Faversham Town Council.

Yes

Should Whitstable have a town council?	Why? Please write in below - please do not include any personal information as these responses will be published
Yes	Whitstable is a growing town that needs it's own voice. A Town Council will mean they can add value to what CCC do by brining in money that CCC can't. It also means it can cordinate community events, help communities who need it most and help with planning issues. A Town Council is a no brainer.
Yes	I strongly believe that more localism is good for democracy in general. A town council would give local residents more of a voice about issues that may affect Whitstable, but perhaps are not such a concern for other parts of the District.
Yes	We need one place, one official group, with local people, and a local base covering the whole town as it now is, having expanded from numerous villages.
Yes	greater control over matters that affect Whitstable
Yes	We need to talk about issues that affect us. We have no neighbourhood watch in Chestfield. We need to discuss infrastructure issues, local flooding, crime and the lack of local schools, doctors & dentists. Sewage being dumped in the sea - there is so much that needs to be addressed & local voices need to be heard.
Yes	Firstly to give an Extra view on planning applications. To represent Whitstable's best interests. To improve Whitstable and to do things in our best interests.
Yes	I think the cultural event such as oyster Festival, carnival etc would be much better served if they were organised locally
Yes	A representative council would be extremely helpful in lobbying for positive changes in Whitstable. In particular the creation of a healthy environment, and an appropriate redevelopment of Whitstable harbour and environs.
Yes	Devolution is always great and Whitstable is a lovely place and I think will benefit from a council
Yes	They could potentially help keep the price of parking for residents down and keep the beach clean
Yes	So local people have a say in how the local area is run.
Yes	Whitstable is a large town with a different demographic to Canterbury and Herne Bay. It can enable issues to be resolved and focus on specific areas more easily.
Yes	I like the idea of the unique demographic, tourist profile, events and heritage that Whitstable has compared to the surrounding area also having its own matching unique council.
Yes	To give a clear voice to the towns needs, support local businesses and charities. To give appropriate support to keep the town special.
Yes	Whitstable deserves its own representation as a town council as it is a unqiue town, arguably with different priorities to Canterbury and Herne Bay. Having specific representatives to make these decisions I would hope would make them more relevant to local people and aligned with their wishes. I feel the cost of the town council is worth it for its benefits of a specific Whitstable voice.
Yes	So the views of local people are better represented
Yes	Whitstable has different needs to Canterbury and its local residents should have more say in how it evolves. The coast and tourist industry is different to Canterbury and needs to be nurtured in a different way paying heed to the need for more actual residents as opposed to airbnb visitors and making the most of its unique character. No two towns are the same or have the same communities to represent.
Yes	The people within the whitstable area should be able to have a say in what happens to the town. It would give residents more pride in were they live.
Yes	I have read all the attached information and looked at what likely cost benefit is to residents including myself: It is my view that the cost of a town council is very likely not to achieve adequate desired benefit for all the residents it 'serves'. However it will certainly create another cost to all bill paying residents it serves. This is likely to simply represent fund raising / cost saving / responsibility devolving initiatives within the wider council area that helps hide the inadequacies and shortfalls of local government funding. It further presents the opportunity for councils, committees and sub committees to fend off responsibilities for inadequacies perceived by residents using 'not our fault and we would if we were allowed / could / doesn't come under our jurisdiction tennis' It may also create another layer of fund raising for services perceived to be appropriate by local councillors (which themselves of course have a cost) and may well have different agendas of what is important within the council run area when compared to 'non council active' residents because they are busy 'surviving'. One thing is very likely to be certain. Costings for this 'service' will only go up and up and this will include rising costs of administration of a local council. Benefits to a local town area may be very subjective according to those persons assessing them. A bad and negative idea. Much better to improve representation and accountability systems within the city council to effectively cover all areas appropriate needs according to actual funding supplied by government. Central funding should directly provide the ability for any council changes funding if wanted. (Not via local fund raising powers).Then the electorate is clear of what there is or is not in 'their piggy bank', or of any inferred additional tax costs and when appropriate can vote accordingly being better informed.
Yes	I believe we need a council dedicated to the interests of Whitstable town itslef,

Should Whitstable have a town council?	Why? Please write in below - please do not include any personal information as these responses will be published I would very much like to be on the town council as I was born in Whitstable, had a business in town for over 100 years,m. When the town had its own council years ago, we could sort issue's quickly. Also fed up with CCC making decisions when don't live in the area, so no idea about parking problems etc
Yes	Whitstable should have its own town council to increase the voice of the local people. The town council should replace the parish councils to avoid a 3 tier system. To be cost effective, CCC should devolve some of its powers to the town council.
Yes	So local issues can be debated, decided and actioned by local people who have a vested interested in supporting local issues and solving problems that are relevant for residents, which differ from those in the broader CCC area
Yes	Canterbury Council is currently doing a terrible job and meeting local needs and expectations.
Yes	The more local a level a decision is taken, the more beneficial the outcome is likely to be for local people. For example: There are some issues such as matters pertaining to the Harbour which are of no interest to residents of the wider Canterbury district, but are of concern to Whitstable residents. Likewise, CCC has taken the decision to hike parking charges in the town to some of the highest in the country. This will have no effect on visitors to Canterbury, but may have a detrimental effect on traders in Whitstable town centre. The excessive numbers of AirBnB's in the town is also a matter of concern for Whitstable residents, but again, of little interest to the wider Canterbury district as a whole. A local council for the town would be able to address these and other matters that are important to Whitstable residents.
Yes	It is overlooked by Canterbury too much. It is a successful town and needs its own voice
Yes	I think it will encourage an even greater sense of community in the town. I also think that having people from whitstable looking out for it's best interests can only be a good thing
Yes	The Town Council can compliment public services not adequately provided by Canterbury City Council or Kent County Council at present. I.e a funded calendar of public events with annual public liability insurance paid. And grant funding applied for. Currently the Towns carnival requires huge voluntary effort and fund raising. Most of the costs being the prohibitive insurance costs not the event itself. Would also make smaller events i.e Whitstable LGBT Pride possible. Example Faversham has a full public events calendar because it has a Town Council. This would increase tourism throughout the year not just summer. Public Landscaping and litter provision would be improved with a Town Council looking at these matters locally with powers. Improved beach cleaning could become a Town Council responsibility. At present The City Council waste services provision does not include the beach between high and low water mark. A community mobility minibus would provide not for profit transport for residents not provided by private bus services. A community cafe run by town council and volunteers could fund local projects and provide outreach services for the vulnerable. Grant funding could be applied for Whitstable projects Canterbury city council cannot do this. A Town council could ensure lighting , and rights of way are maintained and adequately provided. A Town Council would be better placed to 'green up' Whitstable and localise the City Councils declaration of a climate emergency. Green projects such as a community solar farm could become a reality. With a community power company in partnership with others. Powers for campaigning would have a Town voice. Such as a demand for double council tax for second homing in the town. Including a double precept for a future town council.
Yes	As Whitstable people know what's best for the town not a city council that has not a cue.
Yes	More autonomy for the town.
Yes	I hope it will give residents more say and control over local issues.
Yes	Whitstable is a very individual town and has very different needs to other towns. The people that live here and the people who run businesses need a council that knows the area it's positives and negatives and where improvements are needed for this very special community
Yes	We need a definite voice because of significant local issues relating to the fact that Whitstable is very well known tourist venue and increasing population into the area.
Yes	It would enable the residents of Whitstable to have a greater collective voice regarding Whitstable events, local issues and local interests.
Yes	Because the issues that a town council could affect seem to be ones that need to be dealt with by people who understand the town, and its particular characteristics. Currently it seems to be treated by Canterbury council as a cash cow re things like parking, because it attracts large numbers of visitor's , whereas there is little awareness of the other needs of the town to enable it to deal with the effect of having that many visitors - things like having no where near enough rubbish bins. That's only one example - but its indicative of the sorts of things that could potentially be resolved by a good town council.
Yes	The town has enormous untapped potential which would benefit from real focus. It also hosts festivals and events which a town council could support. I like the idea of a place-specific focus which brings an understanding of local need and potential.
Yes	Local control and easier planning. To be accountable locally.
Yes	It will help to secure a direct link to the council for local people it was much more efficient when we the urban distruct council of old.
Yes	I think a Whitstable town council would give the residents a stronger voice within CCC.

Yes	There is a delicate balance between Whitstable as a tourist resort and a place to live. Having its own council will give Whitstable residents more day on issues impacting them
Yes	We need a council to hear our views as residents and take action on our behalf when necessary. Having just had to fight an illegal build behind our house, we as residents have been appalled that no action was taken at the outset when it would have been clear that the developers were ignoring the agreed plans in blatant disregard for the law. We need greater representation.
Yes	Autonomy will help residents and serve the local economy more effectively and efficiently. There are lots of issues such as air BnB and second home ownership as well as bus routes and building and development that need to be explored allowing locals a voice on matters. Too many decisions that impact on locals are made by people who do not live here or have no personal investment in the area.
Yes	I feel that a town council could represent whitstable interests better than canterbury council.
Yes	To promote the town for tourism and business. To take a wider view on planning issues rather than a few residents being consulted. To provide Christmas lights and other services for the benefit of residents and visitors.
Yes	Whitstable needs an independent council, that has Whitstable's interests at heart, and not take second place to Canterbury. Decisions have been made in the past by Canterbury Council that seem to have gone against the best interests of the town. I think if we had our own Council, the residents would have a better chance of being heard during discussions at meetings on subjects that are going to have an effect on the town as a whole.
Yes	more local influence for key issues
Yes	To improve communication with residents.
Yes	I believe that Whitstable would benefit immensely from its own Town Council and a statutory body at the most local level of government. A town council would have a vitally important role in promoting the town, representing its interests and supporting the community, businesses and the work of different organisations within our town. I would like to think that a town council can be more responsive than City and County authorities to our specific community needs and to the diversity of interests and needs of our community. At town council is the vehicle to regain an active role in decision making that directly affects our town whereas the City Council currently has to make balanced decisions within the council's constituency.
Yes	Whitstable needs better representation for its specific needs and requirements, in particular for its unique coastal tourism, transport and infrastructure, local services, outdoor spaces and community events. Local people's views and opinions need to be better represented, especially in regard to planning and building, to ensure future development delivers necessary infrastructure for the local community. A town council will support making this happen
Yes	There are some issues specific to Whitstable that the residents should debate amongst themselves and come to a consensus on. Having a council will also give Whitstable a louder voice in the wider Kent community.
Yes	It is often overlooked and also the residents should have their say.
Yes	Local people who are permanent residents must be able to make decisions about the town. There is too much power given to councillors who are motivated by tourism £££. While this is very important, permanent residents' needs must take priority and I'm sad to say we have been overlooked for too long. We all want Whitstable to thrive and having local people making local decisions is the way forward. Thanks
Yes	We used to have W.U.D.C. comprised of local residents who were easier to communicate with and fully aware of the town's issues and concerns. Whitstable has never been C.C.C.'s main priority and it has allowed detrimental developments to take place. We need a council with our beautiful, unique town at its heart ready to listen to its residents and sensitive to its issues, developments and needs.
Yes	Whitstable has become very popular in recent years and I feel the city council has not recognised this.
Yes	A Whitstable Town Council would be beneficial in that it would represent the interests of the locals in Whitstable. It may perhaps give a "voice" to those who otherwise wouldn't. It would be assumed that Whitstable having its own town council could help alleviate some of the pressures imposed upon Canterbury council. As long as the councillors that would make up the Whitstable Town Council are actually invested in supporting the locals and local community, I can't see any reason as to why it wouldn't be beneficial?
Yes	As a Whitstable resident from birth I believe that the creation of a Whitstable town council would be a positive step in preserving Whitstable's heritage and also would give the local people more opportunity and power to provide more strategic, financial and administrative services to the community.
Yes	Whitstable is a unique place with unique people. I feel that it should have a more local voice in local concerns & be able to address the town's issues. Local councillors would have a better understanding of the way Whitstable works
Yes	Whitstable is a special place which needs local people who understand it to help it work for its residents & traders
Yes	Whitstable has grown in size considerably and needs to be fully represented by someone who has first hand knowledge of the arising issues. Whitstable needs to be represented in order to ensure it maintains its uniqueness in an environment of change.
Yes	I feel that Whitstable could promote itself much better. There are numerous events that would benefit from better exposure.
Yes	We should have a council because we should be able to have a say and opinion on decisions about Whitstable made by Canterbury City Council. People stand to be elected will they be locals and not second house buyers from London?
Yes	Local works better

Yes	So that we can be control of how our money is spent and on what projects as at the moment Canterbury Council are in control and it's not in the best interest of Whitstable.
Yes	A council would have an overview of the needs and facilities specific to Whitstable. It would be a voice for the community and able to raise funds for local projects.
Yes	Whitstable needs to take back some control of what happens in Whitstable, having its own town council will be the voice of Whitstable
Yes	Whitstable is broken! Too many cars coming into the town, parking is horrendous, the visitors use and abuse the town. I've been in touch with CCC and councillor previously (re cars parked on high street and pavements) and they gave a poor, uninterested and unacceptable response. Having a more local council will bring a better focus and responsibility which hopefully will result in a nicer place to live.
Yes	So as money can be spent on what is important to Whitstable and just Whitstable. It would be fantastic to have a say in important decisions which may affect the town.
Yes	To allow Whitstable it's fair share of the annual budget
Yes	Canterbury seem too remote from whitstables issues.
Yes	I believe Whitstable needs some independence from Canterbury City council have always felt we have been treated as a poor relation by Canterbury CC , Whitstable is a unique town it's rich seaside/ fishing / harbour facilities makes it a tourist / desirable place to visit and reside in , let the people of Whitstable decide on our governance and our future .
Yes	Whitstable residents, particularly the younger ones, need to be closely involved in future plans for development in the town. A town council will have a stronger voice in any decision making.
Yes	Local people making decisions for the improvement of all.
Yes	Gives greater control and responsibility for assessing need in the area by those who live and experience living in Whitstable. Hopefully will give more cohesiveness to the town by working together to draw up plans for development and improvement for all residents. Whitstable is already thriving but it could be so much more for residents as well as visitors to the town.
Yes	To promote Whitstable's cultural life, represent and champion local interests, give its view n planning applications and make external funding bids.
Yes	To enable local issues to be addressed by people who understand the town and its occupants more. To have more joined up plan for transport and other local issues.
Yes	Greater control over local issues/faster response time to them, and the Canterbury City Council has suffered from financial mismanagement for a while (The Riverside is over budget and behind schedule and there are FAR more vital things to pump money into)
Yes	More say in how money is spent in Whitstable for the residents of Whistable. More say about the local plan, and whether there can be more publicised meetings when planning applications are submitted. More co-ordination to keep Whitstable clean, i.e funds for litter pickers. A residents card that is recognised by all establishments, maybe to enable 30 mins- 1hr free parking which would help footfall and turnaround times. Christmas lights this year were amazing - more publicity for Whitstable as being a place to visit and spend in the local economy.
Yes	It is a level of local government the town lacks and would be able to promote interest specific to Whitstable
Yes	Whitstable is a unique town and it would be nice for the community to represent itself. Plus, maybe it could do something about the dog poo...
Yes	Whitstable has a unique character which would be better developed by a group concentrating specifically on the town. At the moment it is linked to Canterbury - a larger and vastly different place.
Yes	Bring a sense of community to the area. Be more visible as feel Whitstable is often overlooked by canterbury council
Yes	I do not think Canterbury City Council is doing a very good job.
Yes	So that the residents of my home town of Whitstable can have more voice in the running of their town
Yes	I think whitstable's needs would be best represented by a town council
Yes	There are issues that arise locally that are very particular to the area and therefore these need to be managed as such. Plus, a local town council might also bring a sense of ownership to the local community giving local residents a sense of agency about how their neighbourhood is run.
Yes	Whitstable's population is growing rapidly with the new housing developments underway and I believe that the best interests of the town in the future will be served by having its own Town Council.
Yes	Because there seems to be some bad decisions being made e.g proposed increase in parking charges and a definite need to reduce anti social behaviour.
Yes	To manage the town itself by the people who live here
Yes	It would be great to have the opportunity to have more of a say on local decisions and local events which could benefit my area

Yes	Theres evidence that town councils have positive impacts for local communities. There's a strong sense of community in the town - this is an energy that would be very positively focused by a town council. The town is affected by issues deriving from tourism, which benefits yet affects local residents. There is a strong awareness of this and already, where feasible, pro active community groups tackle issues. However there is a sense of a losing battle being fought..eg litter, anti social behaviour, and a town council would potentially empower the local community to address these more strongly. I feel that the town is eager for a forum through which civic pride could flourish.
Yes	Hopefully being on our own we can get things attended to better repairs to our very busy congested roads refusal of these many houses being built causing traffic choas. The many stupid extensions to bungalows in our area I could write a book on the plans passed for building congested local roads.
Yes	Currently the Canterbury CC appears to prioritise Canterbury City and seems to take less notice of the effects some of its decisions may have on the surrounding communities, i.e., Whitstable, Herne Bay Etc.
Yes	Hopefully the town council will work to represent the best interests of the town.
Yes	Because a local council would look after projects that would benefit the townspeople.
Yes	Brings decisions closer to the local community
Yes	Better representation for Whitstable for local policy making and decisions which impact the town
Yes	why could we have all our decisions taken by Canterbury, we're big enough to really look after ourselves and i don't think Canterbury look to us...
Yes	A town council would allow for a more personal view on what areas need improving or fixing that a more general council would have trouble providing.
Yes	I feel a council would protect the interests of Whitstable residents, especially as we are seeing some significant change in green space being taken up by housing and more demand on the local resources like doctors and dentists.
Yes	money to be spent on Whitstable chosen by those who live there.
Yes	I like the idea of a more local and accesible council. On local issues I think that a local town council will have a better feel for the issues. This of course depends upon the cost of a local council.
Yes	I think it is important that there is a local body empowered to make decisions in respect of issues specifically affecting Whitstable rather than the wider Canterbury area. There are numerous issues which have arisen in the past from subjects varied from traffic control to Christmas lights which have clearly been too parochial to be of concern to the larger Canterbury administration, but which have been very important to many people who live here. Clearly there is a very important discussion to be had about how much autonomy a Whitstable Town Council would have, and whether it would be responsible for its own budget, but in principle I think a body representing local interests is at the very least desirable and probably necessary.
Yes	I think a town council for Whitstable would be beneficial to the local community in terms of our specific community needs and provide greater influence at the county council level.
Yes	I believe Canterbury DC do not have the best Interests of the people of neighbouring towns A local council would have the best interests of its own Constituincy
Yes	I feel that Whitstable needs a bigger voice on matters concerning the town. We always seem to be the poor relation to Canterbury. After attending one of the public information sessions I feel that a town council would be able to secure funds from different sources that would directly benefit the town without any interference from Canterbury. I believe if managed properly these funds would go a long way to offset the annual extra Council tax to cover the town council and provide funding for "home grown" projects.
Yes	The town would be the priority for any decisions and would be the focus of efforts.
Yes	It would give greater say to the area, that is more specific and targeted.
Yes	A locally elected town council of representative members of all of Whitstable's socio-economically diverse population will be better placed to allocate funds where they are needed. Hopefully a local town council would be more aware of their surroundings and be able to nip dodgy planning applications/builds in the bud, like the block of flats which has gone up on Canterbury Road recently.
Yes	I think a Town Council can help create a vision for Whitstable over the next 10 years, helping address specific issues relating to local residents. This body would help fund local projects that can contribute to this vision and bring funding into the area which the town is unable to access at present. In this way Whitstable could protect itself from cuts to services from Canterbury Council (e.g. by not funding projects which don't share the Town Council's vision) or simply to compete with established local charities.
Yes	Local control
Yes	It would be good to have our own town council to help our neglected area but at what cost. I think we pay more than enough for very little and do not think most people can afford the extra cost as everything we pay for is costing more and more.
Yes	Extra voices to represent the community. Better overview on planning.
Yes	The needs of Whitstable require more individual representation than they get just being part of Canterbury City Council. I feel Whitstable's views and needs are not addressed sufficiently.
Yes	Needs input into policing, parking, tourism, advertising the town to increase economic activity, Canterbury CC appear to hate Whitstable. Common sense needed on traffic management.

Yes	So we have reps to fight our corner and try to raise grants etc for this area. The roads are fully apart. KCC and CCC don't do enough to help. All funding spent in Canterbury and crazy projects like the sea front disaster in Herne Bay. Whitstable deserves representation of its own. The small additional increase will be worth it.
Yes	Council tax will go up even more, won't see any benefits to help us living in whitstable
Yes	(a) A town council could keep residents better informed of potential implications of upcoming decisions by developers or by the city or county council which might not be obvious at the time. For example, the widening of Borstal Hill prevented a planned pedestrian/cycle crossing from being installed, which was not obvious until a planning appeal made it clear. (b) It could tackle eyesores, unemptied litter bins, overgrown paths and other issues too small for the bigger authorities. (c) It could make representations about issues like policing, bus route changes, bank and post office relocations, disability access and local facilities in general. (d) It could reward businesses and voluntary organisations which contributed positively to the local environment, by publicity if nothing else. (e) Being less remote, a town council could give people more confidence in local government.
Yes	To provide more local focus when it comes to decision making relevant to the town.
Yes	To benefit the people of Whitstable who Canterbury seem to have forgotten. Many local events are just not supported by Canterbury council and left to the local community to fund and organise. for example Xmas lights Carnival Oyster festival Regatta The anti social behavior as well needs addressing especially along the seafronts Canterbury council distance themselves and it needs more local support and knowledge. Whitstable is a valuable asset to to Kent and England bringing much needed revenue and jobs.
Yes	Whitstable needs a town council because it needs to look after itself not compete with other towns for attention. Whitstable is a growing town with an increasing resident population who are keen to develop, improve, promote and protect it .
Yes	Funding that has not been available until now. Improved planning processes.Improved public toilet situation.
Yes	Improved support of voluntary groups.And many others.
Yes	Whitstable needs a town council so that it has a voice in lots of important issues
Yes	To enable the towns community assets to be managed at the most local level possible. With a Town Council, decisions over what should happen to Whitstable's assets would be taken in Whitstable and in the best interests of the people of Whitstable. There would be proper democratic oversight of those decisions and a proper degree of local accountability for those making the decisions on our behalf.
Yes	To make more local decisions and have more control on budget
Yes	Whitstable is a significant town in East Kent and should have a stronger identity rather than be subsumed in the Canterbury City district. Whitstable is one of the only coastal towns in Kent not to have a Town council. A Town Council can lead the process of developing a local neighbourhood plan and would become the designated body to be consulted over planning applications thus filling the current void for such a local organisation. A Town Council can be the vehicle to apply for external funds only available to local councils, to improve the town and local infrastructure, and to coordinate issues such as traffic management.
Yes	We always had one in the past. I was born in this town as was my husband at the moment it feels as most of our rates go to Canterbury and Whitstable is just a poor relation.
Yes	Lived in Whits since 1948, always had a town council who looked after all problems in the town. Since swallowed up by Canterbury we have become the poor relation which needs to stop.
Yes	I care what happens to our town for future planning
Yes	To be able to access more funding to support local projects To be able to more directly address local concerns
Yes	To be able to make our own decisions . Not allow Canterbury to use our town as a cash cow
Yes	We need proper representation so that district wide decisions take local views into account. Party political district council voting means Canterbury dominates. Also, so that roads issues are properly considered with KCC Whitstable can directly bid for funding to make the town centre better Decisions regarding town centre management can be taken and pushed forward with relevant authorities. eg Deal pedestrianises part of its high street during the busiest times at weekends. Given the number of visitors and narrow pavements, it is quite dangerous walking through the town when very busy. Canterbury district has a host of budget management and statutory responsibilities that it has to focus on and the resident and visitor experience is not high up the agenda as a result. It will provide a focal point for local discussions and representation eg water pollution issues where having an official body with some resources to liaise with eg southern water would add to the pressure on them. Also in terms of the timing of road works etc which have been gridlocking the town over recent days. The town has grown enormously, and is still growing, since the disestablishment of the town council a long time ago. There are many people who would like to get involved more and the new body could assist in this by having volunteer groups and discussion groups to really galvanise civic engagement. It will give the business community a way to interact with both residents and other official bodies as their views and needs can be transmitted to other groups/organisations and discussions with residents themselves.

	Local decision making for many local issues albeit small in the context of the greater area. I would hope there is an opportunity, locally, to move away from party politics and hopefully vested interest groups. Inevitably the number of desirable issues to be looked at will exceed the capacity of the Council as constrained by available finance. I would hope the number of councillors is an odd number and contain a mixture of councillors of differing ages and of both male and female. I also feel that local representation on planning issues is important. It is also an opportunity for increased investment in the quality of local facilities (eg library, parks, litter, parking), public transport (eg buses, bus routes including access to medical facilities, train station ticket office staying open). Clearly the issues associated with climate change could be affected by local decision making. I do hope that the Council, if established will endeavour to keep their overheads to a minimum. For instance, there may be a room that can be hired at minimal charge for their meetings or readily available places like a library or school.
Yes	
	Whitstable has always needed it's own voice as being the poor relation of Canterbury. Many years ago we had a 'Whitstable District Urban Council which was led by local councillors. I would want the new council to be 'non-political party' if possible. I do not think that a precept is too much to pay for an independent voice.
Yes	
	To organise and manage more localised issues, the focus being of benefit to local residents.
Yes	
	For reasons given in 'A voice for Whitstable' campaign leaflet
	* To bring together Whitstable as a community. Something lost since the demise of the Urban district council * To boost fundraising for better facilities in Whitstable, such as a purpose built community centre, with multiple rooms for meetings and sports activities. I helped achieve this in Crowborough, which now has a modern stage, a dance studio, multiple meeting rooms and a cafe. * Other neighbouring towns such as Faversham have demonstrated how a dynamic town council can lever in funding. + Local democracy. It is not good enough to have district councillors representing all community needs in Whitstable. Town Councillors would represent residents over every day issues, such as parks, public toilets and some sports facilities.
Yes	
	A town council will give Whitstable a greater say in decisions which affect the town such as planning, new developments & traffic management. A town council will also be able to promote local services, projects & events to enhance the quality of life in Whitstable.
Yes	
	Because it is the best plan for local people
Yes	
	Canterbury Council is too remote from local issues.
	For the funding opportunities that having a Town Council will open up for Whitstable, consultation rights around planning in the area, and engendering civic pride. Also I'd like to think that improvements to infrastructure and traffic flowthroughs would be expedited more quickly and better if a Town Council was in governance. Traffic speed issues on Borstal Hill and Joy Lane are a constant bug-bear for residents, who openly display '20 is Plenty' notices on their properties, but it's clear that nothing is being done about (or at least until a tragic accident occurs). The quality of pavements is also appalling and need to be addressed - I'm certain a Town Council would prioritise that.
Yes	
	Hopefully give us more say on issues that are relevant to Whitstable eg parking enforcement and available car parks, speed restrictions enforced, shop opening times.
Yes	
	I am in favour of local decisions being made at local level, and I speak from personal experience as I was a Parish Councillor in my former area before moving to Whitstable. Having said that, I am apprehensive about adding an extra precept to my council tax commitment that could prove a financial burden in years to come.
Yes	
	I believe that people who live in an area should be able to participate democratically in that area. To be part of discussions on how to improve your town from transport, parking, roads and alternatives such as cycle paths, housing so local people can find accommodation in their own town , playgrounds and leisure facilities so people can be fit and healthy, community centre provision so your town has events, films, bands, and space local groups can use so the town has a living heart of things to do, well maintained schools, advice centre provision, a sorting office so you can collect posted items locally, a police station with visible policing, council offices where you can get help and advice, a library, a park, etc. Many of these things have never happened in Whitstable or have been lost eg. police station, sorting office, cinemas, Christmas lights. These decisions were not made because the people of Whitstable wanted them but because of lack of money and little opportunity to influence a council making decisions from a distance. A town council can have access to money no one else can, for a few pence extra from me and others Whitstable town council could gain this money and we could become a better town, like Faversham has rather than the poorly resourced place we are. We do not need more expensive housing with no improved amenities, no public transport to reach places like GP surgeries or hospitals, a water company dumping effluent into the sea and rivers which damages our environment and of course high parking charges with no reduction for local residents so we don't discriminate against visitors. At least with a town council we could have our say about these things and maybe make things better for us.
Yes	
	I do not feel that Canterbury city council represents Whitstable well. The Oyster festival has all but gone, the crumbling roads are literally a joke and we've had a lot of crime 'trouble' (although I did see some response to this to be fair). A town council, I hope, would represent us better and I'm willing to pay for that.
Yes	
	I now live in Seasalter but live never lived in a village before with no parish council, let alone no town council for the nearest town. I want better local representation and sharing of local news matters, and someone to go to with local problems.
Yes	
	Increased influence over local decision making and overall strategy for the good of the town and community.
Yes	
	More freedom and able to receive more funding for local people and projects.

	On the council - I am in favour of a council but would argue that the cost should be negligible. Either A) run it with elected volunteers in the best interests of the town. Or B) whatever cost should be allocated to whitstable residents BUT I assume decisions affecting whitstable are already made by some form of body, so the cost of that should obviously be removed. With a cost of say £60,000 per year to run, that would still only be an extra £2 each (based on 30,000 population estimate.... MINUS the cost we currently allocate to canterbury council... so probably about 50p each per year in total. A small price to pay for more autonomy on decision making. And then we have the right to can the extortionate price rises.... but in exchange we have the obligation to find other ways to fund local projects ourselves.
Yes	
Yes	So as to provide more local services and events more relevant to the town and local groups
	This would be a positive step towards real governance of our area. FUNDING FPR COUNCIL TAX ...A say in planning which is a real necessity Roads...promoting local services and needs
Yes	We deserve to have a voice on CCC and KCC. Our traffic management is appalling and we also need to fight for better sewage management as we have so much new housing. If we had a voice maybe these things would be dealt with before instead of after things start to go dreadfully wrong.
Yes	We need local people to look after our interests
	Whitstable and the people living in and visiting Whitstable will benefit from decisions that are taken by local people. They will bring to the discussions local and important knowledge that can not be know by non residents. They will understand and be able to implement needed and important changes and improvement to the town and it's people.
Yes	
Yes	Whitstable consists of a large and growing community and has its own specialised , local needs.
	Whitstable needs it's own voice and have more control over social and planning matters. For too long Whitstable has often suffered with decisions made by CCC
Yes	
Yes	Whitstable residents have very little in the governance of the town, and its needs and requirements tend to be ignored or subjugated to those of Canterbury of Canterbury. Whitstable is or should not be a lucrative amenity for Canterbury.
	Whitstable should have a voice independent from Canterbury... Whitstable should be able to input on decision making that affects local planning; infrastructure; services; grants to support services for local people and independence to look after its own special seafront. It's outrageous that so many developments have been approved by a council that doesn't directly represent the local people who are drastically affected by the impact these developments have on the local infrastructure. Without a legal requirement in place meaning the CCC has to consult a community organisation before planning matters are approved, Whitstable residents will continue to be impacted. Whitstable should not be run remotely; it is its own place with very local need. And it is important that our town has a voice that should have to be legally heard. Whitstable is important! And its success should be local and not there just to feed into a separate, and remote, 'big Daddy' council.
Yes	
Yes	A Town Council can make Whitstable a better place to live work & enjoy by looking at local issues. It would support local people in saving, developing, or restoring local community assets.
Yes	As a local resident and trader of Whitstable I think it would be valuable with a town council.
	As residents we need more involvement in our locality especially in connection with coastal issues. , I am aware we will have more opportunity to negotiate funding for various projects for the locality .
Yes	Be good for the local community
Yes	Deciding our our funding and spending will be beneficial to the town and local community.
Yes	Decisions concerning Whitstable will be more bespoke and appropriate taking advantage of local knowledge.
Yes	Good for the future of our local town
	Having previously lived in Faversham with a town council for 20 yrs and in a local village with a Parish council for the same length of time I found the benefits of these local councils far outweighed the drawbacks. Whitstable is a discrete unit with a different outlook from Canterbury. Over the years since the 1973 local government legislation was enacted there seemed to me a have a democratic deficit (especially in the lates 1970s, early 1980s and again more recently) with CCC decisions seemingly being Canterbury centric. Ironically some of the villages bordering Whitstable have more influence in their local patch than Whitstable does. Gaining the ability to at least have some input into planning decisions and gaining the ability to apply for various grants etc for the improvement of the town will be a major benefit. Although not currently seen on the horizon, with the volatility of the political parties policy decisions at central government level and the precarious financial position of many County, District and Unitary authorities, who knows what reforms will be in the pipeline to the higher tiers of local English government. 'Better to establish a Whitstable Town council as soon as possible. I was concerned when the creation of possible east Kent unit was mooted a few years ago. Decision making would have been even more remote than now and who'd have wanted decisions for our town from Planet Thanet who seem to have been a rather dysfunctional over the years, no matter which party was in power there! I appreciate that the extra precept may not be popular in the current cost of living crisis, especially for those on low incomes but when one considers the weekly cost against the price of a lottery ticket, a coffee or a pint of beer it could be good value.
Yes	
Yes	I believe that it is important for the people who live in the area and know of the needs of the area to help to make decisions with other like-minded people.

	I believe Whitstable needs to be in control of its own affairs. We pay rates to Canterbury but hardly anything is done in Whitstable, but when you go into the City you can see where all OUR MONEY IS BEING SPENT. The roads are pretty good in the City here in Whitsable they are a disgrace, potholes everywhere, kerbs broken never repaired correctly, flooding as the drains are never cleaned especially at the top of Whitstable, full of leaves and mud. This happens as stupid signs saying do not park on verge Vans park all the time breaking up the soil hence mud down the drains. The verge is a waste of everyone's money as they are not grass anymore just weeds grown over mud and they are cut only about every 8-10 weeks at times outside our house they are a metre high. When the guys come most cannot speak English you tell to use the big mower slowly to cut down then trim. The big mower goes at 40 miles ph and cuts nothing next guy strimmed in the air and then some blows it all over our garden. All the gardens are full of weeds from your verges. Replace once and for all with paving which needs less attention. School traffic is a nightmare for the children. Shops closing due to high rates High Street not as good as it was.. Then the Parking charges going up no one will want to shop there as makes you purchased item expensive with high parking fees. There should be wider walkways on the beach area so many dogs and prams you cannot walk safely any more. Police the dog offenders who do not pick up the dog poo as they have let their dogs run onto beach and foul too far away from where they are.
Yes	More funding for the Festival and Harbour Day shame to lose them.
Yes	I feel local control and determination are important. Whitstable is a thriving, sizable town, and I would want local accountability for decisions made about the town.
Yes	I presume the town council will be made up of people who live in Whitstable and therefore would be best suited to know where funds need to be used to improve the whole area .
Yes	I think it is important for Whitstable to have people speaking up on its behalf, rather than being grouped in (and being subservient) to Canterbury.
	I wish to see the town of Whitstable regain its independence from the control of Canterbury City Council. Our beautiful seaside town should be able to plan and control its own individual activities and not be under the thumb of Canterbury bureaucrats, as it is now. By having our own town council we will be able to source funding from external bodies and use this money specifically for Whitstable projects which would benefit local interestss. Let Whitstable manage its own future!
Yes	To have a say on spending
Yes	To have greater input into development plans, and control of in town parking.
Yes	To represent and promote services and facilities specific to Whitstable and have access to and better control over finances and spending locally.
Yes	To improve town quality and facilities make it cleaner and improve its general attractiveness.
Yes	We can choose our priorities which feel very different to those of Canterbury
	When I first moved to Whitstable I was very surprised to find it didn't have a Town Council given it's size and attraction for tourism. It needs this extra layer of local governance to ensure the interests of local residents, the high street and harbour are heard. It's needed to protect the unique characteristics which make Whitstable's high street, harbour and beach front so special. It could help to make improvements around community and leisure facilities, parking, traffic, Christmas lights and sea pollution by providing a unified and amplified voice on these issues. Also, having that focal point to be able to grow and promote community festivals and celebrations, to make them even better, would be a great addition to the town.
Yes	Whitstable has become very popular and I feel that Canterbury City Council are unable to consider our seaside towns best needs. However I question the need for extra charge on our Council Tax. We will after all be proportioning less work and planning to Canterbury Council and the funding should come from our present housing tax which already rises annually . Canterbury (a shadow of its former self) has become a ghost city with all the attractions being built on the periphery perhaps we can finally have a say against huge decision making destroying Whitstable as well.
Yes	Whitstable is a rapidly expanding town and needs to be able to make decisions that best serve its community. A town council would have access to additional funding from central government. It would be central to decisions regarding any planning matters. It would have the best interests of the community in all aspects of life in Whitstable.
Yes	Whitstable is a very different community to Canterbury. Having or own town council would be beneficial as we can have more autonomy over what happens in our town, where the money should be spent and what are our priorities. Whitstable needs a strong independent voice representing the town in line with our neighbours. I understand that parking is not something that a new Town Council will directly have a say in. However the recent decision of Canterbury City Council to raise car parking charges to an unreasonable level, whilst at the same time removing car park free times, is to the financial detriment of residents throughout our town and could be fatal to businesses in the high street. This callous treatment of Whitstable as a cash cow to Canterbury must be exposed for what it is and we need a strong town voice in future to demonstrate against and oppose where Whitstable's interest is disregarded.
Yes	We need to promote Whitstable for the benefit of its residents and a Town Council will be a positive step forwards.
Yes	Whitstable should have a town council so that it can access funding that it would otherwise not be able to. The council could also specifically promote the town which is of a size that it should really have a town council.

Should Whitstable have a town council?	Why? Please write in below - please do not include any personal information as these responses will be published
Yes	Whitstable has some unique challenges and opportunities, particularly seasonality, which are best deal with by a locally-focused council
Yes	To monitor and manage the growing stream of tourists and the community destroying presence of AirBnB.. To establish resident only parking zones I in each street as residents cannot park due to the influx of large vehicles of tourists leading in in some cases to residents vehicles being damaged. The council could also manage the litter in the interconnecting alleyways , where tourists leave black sacks full of rubbish just anywhere upon their departure, or stuff it into residents wheelie bins. And to keep the streets free of dog mess. A local Town Council could see this first hand. Also to make the footpaths more even and accessible to mothers with pushchairs and older more infirm resident. Above all a Town Council would be seen to be giving Whitstable residents a voice hope and value for their Council Tax.
Yes	CCC really do not have an understanding of the needs of Whitstable. Whilst understanding that this is not a formal full council it is right that Whitstable should be able to retain it's own identity.
Yes	It would be better to be independent and feel that most of the funds that Canterbury/Whitstable/Herne bay have are mainly spent on the Canterbury area
Yes	The priorities of the town are likely to be different from those of Canterbury, and Whitstable will benefit from having more localised governance. I'd argue similar is true for Herne Bay. At the very least, residents will feel they have greater control and influence on government at a genuinely local level. This will also take the heat off Canterbury's council on issues unrelated to the city.
Yes	It gives local people more say in the running of their own locality. It also provides a small but important additional source of funding for local community projects.
Yes	More democratic than the current system.
Yes	As I believe Ccc treat Whitstable as the a town that they can profit from. The good of Whitstable is second on the agenda.
Yes	Whitstable should be able to make its own decisions rather than being governed by Canterbury City Council. Whitstable, historically had its own Council, the Whitstable Urban District Council, I believe. It was meaningful, effective and successful. The offices were based, at least in part, at Whitstable "Castle". A WTC would preserve and protect the confines of Whitstable, Tankerton and surrounding towns, that have developed and existed over the decades and centuries. The area has a different interest to the inland towns and certainly very different from Canterbury. Residents and visitors come to Whitstable, which offers a traditional seaside experience that may not be appreciated by Canterbury Council. Better that local management, local residents and local business people, and local residents are managing a place they know and understand. Whitstable is one of Kent's most valued assets and will be all the better for local council management.
Yes	
Yes	Would help with some of the protocol for events. Not keen on extra council bills.

Organisation (if relevant) Written rep

I have not completed the questionnaire but having carefully read your consultation document I would wish to record my support for the proposed Whitstable Town Council.

In regards to establishing the Whitstable Town Council, I believe it should indeed be set up. The funds would then be allocated to the Whitstable Town Council, allowing it to prioritize its own interests such as road maintenance, community activities, and welfare initiatives. For quite some time, it's been unclear what actions the Canterbury City Council has taken for the Whitstable area. I suspect their focus is primarily on Canterbury itself rather than Whitstable.

As a long standing resident of Marine Parade in Whitstable, which once had an active residents association, I think Whitstable either having its own council or residents having a logical route to have their say is essential. One case in point, several years ago Canterbury Council proposed to make Marine Parade paid for parking. The residents association didn't agree at the time and the council took that on board. Fast forward a number of years and the parking spaces are not always being used as intended. Currently there is at least one person already known to you, who parks a camper van every single day for the whole permitted hours, and alarmingly the same person seems to have now bought an additional much larger camper van that he's doing the same thing with. He's done this for 2 years so far, for almost the whole year, and presumably will continue with 2 large vans for as long as he's permitted.

This stops residents or visitors who want to use the beach, or shop locally, bringing money to the high street. It is a blatant disregard of what the residents imagined when agreeing to long-term free parking and a lot of us are upset about it. Putting a four hour limit would seem reasonable, or some measure, so that people don't take advantage in this way.

It would be important that the council is representative however, for instance it wouldn't be right for either there to be either a one-sided negative or pro-holiday let view. If there is to be a council however, it is important that it is able to make rules for the area that are enforceable. Additional campaigning and the ability to raise funds to promote Whitstable as the unique area it is would be a wonderful benefit of the council.

Please add my name to any votes. Whitstable is a specific and valuable location and should be regarded and represented by local people who live in the area.

I see your letter to Whitstable residents regarding the matter of the creation of a town council was dated Monday 8th January. This has reached us (and I suspect many other local residents) today Monday 12th February. This is long after your "information sessions" have apparently been carried out. If there was a low turnout and limited interest I suspect this delay in receiving notice would be why.

This is clearly why Whitstable needs its own council, as clearly the Canterbury council don't see our town as something that requires attention.

If you decide to run these information sessions again, I would like to attend so please let me know the new date.

I am very much in favour of a Town Council for Whitstable and fully support the aims and objectives. With our own council we could improve our local community from crime reduction to cleaning the beaches, improving the surfaces of the roads which are not good and providing benefits for the whole of Whitstable community. I think it is a very good idea for Whitstable to have a Town Council.