

**Braco Primary School
&
Greenloaning Primary School**

**Community Drop-In Session
12 September 2017**

**Overview of comments received at Community
drop-in session and Online Questionnaires**

Online Questionnaire Feedback

- 69 questionnaires submitted online – 51 completed, 18 partially completed
- 34% (23) of responses from parents, 40% (27) were from the wider community, 9% (6) of responses were from 'other' and 6% (4) were from neighbours.
- 2 people gave no indication of their relationship to the school
- 27 questionnaires were submitted without any comments
- 17% (8) of responses preferred option 1, 26% (12) of responses preferred option 2, 7% (3) of responses preferred option 3, 35% (16) of responses preferred option 4, 9% (4) of responses preferred option 5 and 7% (3) preferred option 6
- 23 questionnaires submitted gave no indication to their preferred option
- Questionnaire closed on 6 October 2017

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 1 - Continue with mothballing of Greenloaning Primary School – all pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- Braco Primary needs to be improved but if Greenloaning is kept mothballed and can be used if more kids move to the area.
- Recently moved to Braco. Both kids at the primary school a short distance away. Braco remaining open a day otherwise kids going there only is the best option for my family.
- Recently moved and bought in village for son starting school this year, the school brings the community together, welcoming another child soon to the world who will be attending the nursery and primary.
- Braco school is a key part of the community and removing that will also cut back access to school activities and ties to the church, Forest Schools, village hall events etc. The bulk of the population attending lies in Braco and the trends and projections show this is unlikely to change.
- There's more children and houses in Braco so it seems more sensible. Also there is a huge park for sporting activities and the hall for indoor sports and lunch. Braco School is through of the village.
- I think to continue to mothball Greenloaning all you would achieve would be to kick the problem down the road.
- It does not make sense to continue to mothballs Greenloaning. The site could be sold to get money to put towards the upgrade of Braco.
- The benefit of mothballing Greenloaning isn't clear. There would be maintenance costs which couldn't be justified.
- How on earth was this put on list as an option as Council Officials told as at the meeting that GOVT. only allows this for 3 yrs. & one year already gone!!! Total RED HERRING!

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 2 - Consider closing Greenloaning Primary School – pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- Having looked at the projected numbers of pupils possible at Greenloaning to me the school does not seem to me to be viable in the long term. Braco has the population and Pupil volume to sustain it going forward. Therefore my preference would be to upgrade the facility at Braco to bring it up to standard.
- It seems the most logical option given that numbers of children of primary school age are unlikely to rise.
- Understand Greenloaning had only 4 pupils latterly. Very hard to justify and children do benefit from a wider environment.
- To pull resources into one site and improve facilities. Braco has more pupils and therefore potentially more children walking to school.
- The land at Greenloaning could be sold for housing development and the money channelled into a fund to re-develop Braco Primary.
- There are more pupils at Braco and it would not make sense to ship more children further than fewer children further.
- Braco Primary school is close to my house. I think as we have the hall it makes sense for the school to be near it. However the hall also needs to be upgraded along with the school.
- Very important that Braco retains its school as it is the lifeblood of the village.
- Braco School is an important part of the community and is in the right place geographically and in terms of the numbers attending now and expected in the future. The Greenloaning school building lies geographically on the margins of the community. The building could be used for other community needs.
- I think it would be a huge loss to the Greenloaning community to lose the primary school completely as it was the hub of the village.
- My son is now at another school in a different catchment area and will not be moving again either way. Therefore I have no strong feelings on the other options, other than to say that the closure of GPS would be a shameful reflection of careless inaction and poor planning on the part of PKC.
- Creates a tighter knit community.
- Closing Greenloaning?! Braco is already bursting at the seams with no scope for expansion.
- The debate over Greenloaning has been going on for a very long time. It causes unrest and concern and caused parents to move children away earlier than it closed. Braco primary is the heart of the village and should remain. Keeping both would be the best option if the uncertain future was resolved.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 3 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and suitability rating at Braco Primary School improved

Comments

- I feel keeping both schools open will be good for the two communities.
- Both Communities need a HEART. Greenloaning School can only be mothballed for 3 yrs. so first option a red herring!!! Braco Primary MUST stay to retain part of Community Spirit. Local Hotel been closed for years & Shop about to close!
- Move Braco School to Greenloaning so that Braco can either be rebuilt or totally modernised.
- Re-opening of Greenloaning seems pointless/unachievable with current and projected Greenloaning pupil numbers.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 4 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and split the stages of education between both schools. Suitability rating improved at Braco Primary School.

Comments

- To utilise the great school grounds for the nursery and early years school children.
- This would make better use of the schools and their grounds. Greenloaning has lost children to Braco PS because they attended Nursery in Braco - made sense for parents to choose to send their kids to Braco in P1 with their friends rather than GPS by themselves. Staging the school across the 2 sites would make sense - The Braco site would be ideal for the older kids and Greenloaning with its lovely grounds would be ideal for the younger kids (with security measures put in at the top gate) We put this suggestion to P&K council 4 years ago. Most of the GPS kids are now in schools in Dunblane - a decision that wasn't taken lightly by the parents (me included). Had the schools been integrated earlier I believe most of the children would not have moved. The education received at GPS was amazing but the kids needed more emotionally and socially - combining Braco and Greenloaning would have solved this. Despite Mrs Dawson's encouragement for the kids to do things together GPS was still very much separate from Braco.
- Greenloaning Primary was the hub of the village and the only thing that brought the community together. It's a beautiful school in a fabulous setting and a completely wasted resource at present. Braco School seems over crowded with an unattractive building layout and hideous concrete grounds for children to play. It would be much more sensible to reopen Greenloaning Primary and give our village back a vital community resource and lifeline, and at the same time maximise the use of the better grounds/facilities, in particular this would benefit the younger children, nursery to P3/4 who can be unsteady on their feet and fall over a lot. The beautiful grassy areas at Greenloaning would be much better and safer environment for younger children. Then the older children could maximise the use of the Braco School, for P5-7. It is crucial to village life in Greenloaning that the school can once again be the hub of the village and pull the community together.
- This would keep both schools open; alleviate overcrowding at Braco School and keep the centre of each village open. The school is a large part of each village that unites all members of the community.
- Greenloaning School has a fabulous asset in its grounds which would be excellent for all children in the area. Braco has very small and hard outdoor space. There are plenty children who wish to attend the school now and in the

future who come to either village because there is a school. This keeps rural communities alive now and into the future.

- A split of age groups between the two schools is important to make the best use of existing facilities.
- If you had yrs. 1-4 @ Braco then yrs. 5-7 @ Greenloaning.....or make Greenloaning secondary school.
- Best outcome for local children now and in the future & small classes for each level of education. Braco School closing would be disastrous for the future of our village.
- Spilt site might work but difficult for parents to manage.
- Retains usage of buildings and ensures community continues at Greenloaning and doesn't put people off living here.
- Population is ever increasing. No point in closing either school in the long term.
- It makes sense as Braco is too small and it will kill the village.
- Splitting the school for the sake of utilising both building when there is sufficient accommodation at Braco seems pointless and potentially disruptive to daily operations. Re-entering primary education at Greenloaning would mean more travelling for the majority of the students.
- The Greenloaning site is a much nicer environment for play for younger children.
- It would be better.
- I think it is a pity to close both schools as this forms part of a functional community. There are too many small villages having amenities closed. I think many families like the idea of their child going to a smaller school.
- I do think the Braco School could do with some improvement. The Greenloaning school is a lovely school with lovely grounds encouraging healthy outside play. Keeping both schools would need close look at transport between the 2 sites.
- Would be happy also if Greenloaning were reopened and the stages split as long as there were a cycle path between the 2 villages to make it safe for transfer between the two schools.
- We requested the splitting of the schools many times - upper and lower - if this had happened we would not have removed our children.
- This is the only sensible option which will retain the lifespan of both schools and provide a hub for the Greenloaning community. However it should have been offered a year ago, when parents were forced to remove their children due to poor management and inadequate resourcing. Shameful feet dragging on the part of P&K council caused a great deal of upheaval for several families, not to mention staff at GPS.
- Split of stages of education does not seem viable to me based on numbers.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 5 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll at Greenloaning Primary School and ensure the future sustainability of the schools

Comments

- Braco school capacity. Also like the idea of looking and extending catchment areas if both schools were open. Braco hall not fit for purpose.
- Whatever way you do it the viability of both schools should be paramount to keep both communities alive now and into the future. Expanding the catchment area should be closely considered.
- I think re-evaluating the catchment areas is also a good idea. It would be regretful to lose either school.
- 5 also a good option.
- Extending catchment areas is a good idea.
- Catchment area change would mean more kids coming to the area when there is no out of school care and less resources for the other kids. It would also mean only a small increase in numbers.
- It's important to retain as many rural schools as possible, to increase the viability of incoming families and to reduce the traveling time for children. It's also socially important for kids to develop within a more localised peer group.
- To make it possibly to attract more families to the area.
- Changing the catchment area WOULD NOT be a solution - people would still put in placement requests for their kids to go to Braco PS following nursery.
- Catchment areas reviewed was the WORST decision ever made in our B&G Community in the 80's. It totally DIVIDED the Community. Should NEVER be repeated. Ended up US & THEM Mentality.
- Larger catchment area. One school is all that's required.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 6 - Consider closing Braco Primary School and pupils moved to an extended Greenloaning Primary School

Comments

- The school is much nicer and it has an enclosed garden area for pupils to have access to fitness all year round.
- I think the Greenloaning site is much more suitable for the kids. The green space, larger grounds. My preferred option would be for a new building at Braco followed by the option I have chosen but I don't think updating the present building would be good enough.
- If the Greenloaning site (with extension) became the main school then it would require a cycle path to be added to ensure safe passage of the kids before and after school from Braco. If Braco was improved I feel that a different site for the school would need to be explored.
- As a parent of a child at a different school I think Greenloaning primary has more space in the grounds and more potential for green houses, veg gardens and a greener ethos. Braco primary attracts youths within the grounds each evening and at weekends and is becoming a 'street corner' for youths to hang out.
- I think the closure of Braco primary could free up the building to be utilised as a community hub, with the potential of a little drop in cafe, a shop and a place for all to visit, it could help to reduce social isolation in the vulnerable and elderly.
- Closing Braco and moving kids to Greenloaning - I believe this would be met with major resistance despite Greenloaning having more scope for expansion.
- Closing Braco School would be a very bad move.
- Would not like Braco Primary/ Nursery School to be closed. To me it does not make sense wasting money on another new school when there are two existing sites.
- Closure of Braco School would be madness based on the current occupancy & projected numbers.
- Option 6 shouldn't be an option.
- Closing Braco and extending Greenloaning is nonsense. Leaving Greenloaning mothballed is equally silly. Make a decision. Splitting the site and trailing children up and down for nothing is equally silly and prevents children from walking to school.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- Having been in both schools regularly, Greenloaning is by FAR the nicest environment to facilitate learning and growth amongst future generations of primary children, both with the internal buildings and the external grounds. Do not waste such a lovely resource that's a badly needed community asset in Greenloaning and surrounding area. Using the Greenloaning School as a community centre, but the best way to achieve a 'community centre' is to reopen the school. Absolutely the best way to bring families and the community together.
- If GPS is not to be re-opened as a school then the local community require an alternative hub. A youth centre for teenagers/young people (many former pupils of GPS) would be a positive addition to what is now a lifeless community.
- Braco hall that the school use every day needs major modernisation. Toilet facility's not great. Kitchen old. Floor not great for the kids to do PE on.
- Use Greenloaning School like a community centre for the community similar to White Church in Comrie. If the fabric of the building isn't altered too much, it could be returned to a school if the need arose.
- Greenloaning School could be used as another meeting space for clubs/organisations in the area, as well as a school. Closer community ties would result and the area would have another option for gatherings.
- Make Greenloaning into community centre, full day nursery or adult education
- Build new purpose built school in Braco.
- All of the proposals are of the 'sticking plaster' variety and do not really address the problems associated with both schools.
- In my view, it would be better in the long run to close both primary schools and, using the money from the sale of the land on which they stand, buy a suitable plot on Front Street, Braco or on the 'Military Road' between the villages. A new purpose built school could then be built.
- Go back to the owner of Braco castle estate and ask for the land at the back of the hall and build a new community school.
- Building a bigger school in the village to suit the needs for the growing young families buying in the village.
- New site and building for Braco.
- Demolish the current Braco School and flatten the village hall to build a more fit for purpose building on the one site which could be used for the school but also for the community. It would be a better building and location if it was across the road.

- The hall has not been considered and needs upgrading of the toilets, interior decoration and disabled ramp.
- Building a new school fit for purpose and to include school hall, playing fields etc.
- There should be options to build a new school or extension as both buildings have their limitations. Also Braco village hall appears to be mainly used by school during term time/ school hours so perhaps arrangements could favour the school in first instance, become an ECS property or be part of the school suitability improvement.
- If retaining Greenloaning as a school is not a viable proposition, it would be vital to find a purpose for the building to avoid yet another vacant property in the area.
- It doesn't seem feasible to have two primary schools with so few pupils. Best to commit resources to one school and focus on developing it into an excellent model.
- None of these is my preferred option but I had to tick one to be able to proceed with the questionnaire. It was an entirely random choice and should not be counted in any questionnaire summary. My preferred option would be to build a new school serving both communities as part of a mini community campus which would provide much-needed facilities for the whole community. If this was a genuine effort at consultation it would have provided an 'Other' option which did not force people to choose between six unsatisfactory ones.
- A new school serving both communities sitting within a mini community campus which provides facilities for the whole community. It could incorporate the existing village hall, community library, possibly academic, shop, sports hall etc.
- I believe Braco primary should be transformed into a community hub.
- Serious consideration be given to rebuilding a much more up to date school for the village.
- The only other remaining option is the construction of a new modern school building. This would attract new young families into the area and also rejuvenate local commerce which is an issue at the moment.
- Sell both. Build new "Fit for Purpose" School COMBINED with upgrade of Village Hall which is owned by Council already used for Braco Primary School Meals & Activities. P.S. Toilets in Hall at present in a pretty desperate condition.
- Appreciate that we continue to live in an economic climate of austerity which is unlikely to change any time soon. I don't believe this is helpful to communities. In an ideal world a new school for Braco and Greenloaning with an improved and integrated village hall would be a great asset for the community.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 1 - Continue with mothballing of Greenloaning Primary School – all pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- Braco for P1-P7 education, Greenloaning for Nursery and after school care. Preferred option is number 1 though.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 2 - Consider closing Greenloaning Primary School – pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- Putting all available resources into one school. Would also have to provide transport for children, unfair to expect parents to do this.
- Closing Greenloaning can have a bad effect for future as two new families have moved in since mothballing and more could follow.
- I feel mothballing is costly. Re-opening could be an option if school is used as a village hall/alternative venue. Braco must remain open. It is the centre of our community and children feel community here.
- I would be very much opposed to closing Braco Primary as I think it would damage the village. I also think closing Greenloaning would be bad for that village. But it could maybe be reduced in size.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 3 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and suitability rating at Braco Primary School improved

Comments

- Keeping all ages within Braco School a good idea Greenloaning school a good building. Both villages need a school to ensure dynamic of each village.
- I think it is important for the health of both communities to have a school.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 4 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and split the stages of education between both schools. Suitability rating improved at Braco Primary School.

Comments

- I think it makes the best use of the facilities available. More space for everyone. It would be great if the transport could be provided – eg. Braco family but kids of age group to go to Greenloaning School.
- I think option 4 could be a suitable alternative, providing the issue of transport to the problem of having two children in different schools is addressed.
- Option 4 would be good for both villages, but you would need to work around transport issues, finishing times and childcare – all of these are important to consider when making the final decision.
- From talking to people this evening there seems to be a good opportunity to develop/strengthen links between the villages – looking at options to create safe transport/travelling between the 2 schools appears at the forefront of many people’s minds.
- Thinking more creativity than simply splitting the stages.
- Both schools provide the opportunity to create a fantastic curricular experience. Braco’s community and environmental link are wonderful yet the issue of space and ‘suitability’ will remain, with the potential to cause real problems long term should the school role increase significantly. Having both schools under the use of Braco would give the potential to offer the space whilst retaining Braco’s strong place within the community.
- School was heart of community – much missed at Greenloaning.
- More classrooms to keep each primary class together. Grass grounds at Greenloaning could be well used.
- there is a lot of space unused at Greenloaning and I like the idea of upper and lower schools.
- To make use of resources already in place at Greenloaning ie. Green spaces
- Because it would be better for both communities.
- Greenloaning School is a far superior site and has great potential for extension. Braco schools classrooms on the upper floor are a bit of a nightmare, corridors very narrow – could we get them out in the event of a fire?
- Braco for P1-P7 education, Greenloaning for Nursery and after school care. Preferred option is number 1 though.
- Option 4 is the only other possibility. Have nursery and infants at Greenloaning, P4-P7 at Braco.

- Best use of both schools, which incorporates the best features of both and gives a wider and richer experience for all pupils over their time at primary school. I consider all other options to be less good than option 4 above.
- This provides an opportunity to create a truly inclusive/accessible curricular experience I would hope this too is being explored.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 5 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll at Greenloaning Primary School and ensure the future sustainability of the schools

Comments

- Very sad if Greenloaning School (or Braco School) would be lost. I think changing catchment areas could be problematic. However, if I had to choose – I would choose Braco, as it is our closest village (we live rurally but closer to Braco).

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 6 - Consider closing Braco Primary School and pupils moved to an extended Greenloaning Primary School

Comments

- Greenloaning is a better school with lovely grounds. It would not cost much to extend this (1 portacabin?). This way you could sell off Braco School and use the proceeds to rebuild the village hall as a community centre for both villages. It would also mean there would be a community focus in each village.
- Greenloaning has the best facilities and offers plenty of space to extend the school. It also has an abundance of space for children to play.
- Greenloaning School is a far superior site and has great potential for extension. Braco schools classrooms on the upper floor are a bit of a nightmare, corridors very narrow – could we get them out in the event of a fire?
- Greenloaning is the more superior building. Better playground.
- Ideally, I would like option 6 as it is a far better school than Braco. If cost was no object it would be good to build a new school between the communities!
- Braco School is no longer fit for purpose and any possible improvements would be extremely limited.
- I would be very much opposed to closing Braco Primary as I think it would damage the village. I also think closing Greenloaning would be bad for that village. But it could maybe be reduced in size.
- It would be a shame to close BPS completely.
- Please do not close Braco.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- 1 temporarily move all kids to Greenloaning. 2 rebuild Braco primary and the village hall. 3 move Braco kids back to Braco School
- Build a new school between the 2 villages with a cycle path away from the road from both villages (including a footbridge alongside the river in Greenloaning). Maybe this would be possible if you could negotiate the land and sell off the Braco school site.
- Build new 20-30% larger school at Braco for GL/B community. Sustain this community. The school is the heart of our community.

Community Drop-In Session

Drop-in session ran from 3pm – 8pm on 12 September 2017

- 74 attendees at the session
- 3% (2) of attendees were neighbours/wider community
- 58% (43) of attendees were parents
- 6% (5) of attendees were other family members
- 26% (19) attendees were from the community
- 3% (2) attendees were Councillors
- 4% (3) attendees were classed as 'others'

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 1 - Continue with mothballing of Greenloaning Primary School – all pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- This would be ok if you made the school on the village hall site and the village hall on the school site! I think Greenloaning should continue to be mothballed until a decision is made on how it can be used by the community and continue to be maintained by PKC.
- The reason Greenloaning was mothballed was due to low numbers – there is no point re-opening it unless you can guarantee pupil numbers.
- Better to either re purpose the building or sell it and re-invest funds into improving Braco School.
- Mothballing should continue and a community decision should be made on how best to utilise the Greenloaning building (i.e. some form of community centre).
- This appears to be delaying a decision that needs to be made. I don't think this makes much sense in the long run and just subjects both villages to uncertainty.
- Is it expensive in terms of low level maintenance to continue with mothballing Greenloaning Primary School?
- How to you propose to improve suitability rating for Braco School? Both schools would need their ratings improved. Putting all pupils at Greenloaning would mean it is overcrowded.
- Braco is a Victorian school. Is upgrading it feasible/possible?
- Braco School is the heart of the community. It would be disastrous for the village to lose this resource.
- It would be great if facilities in Braco could be updated and extended. There has been suggestion about hall area. Many families would feel quite sad for there to be no school in Braco.
- Could kids be moved to Greenloaning while Braco P.S pulled down and started again making full use of the space?
- What needs doing to Braco Primary school to improve its suitability rating?
- Think the suitability of Braco should be improved whatever happens to Greenloaning.
- After school provision is a key consideration whichever option is chosen.
- Why mothball the more suitable site whilst providing inadequate facilities in Braco?
- The fact that Greenloaning was mothballed is an absolute disgrace. (2 x Agreed)

- This school is the perfect ground for the children. The school is perfect and the grounds are amazing. If residents wanted a concrete school they would have moved into a city.
- What a waste it is mothballing Greenloaning with its huge play area and other facilities. It offers so much potential. Braco on the other hand is essentially not fit for purpose and even with improvements would still not provide space for everything in one area (PE, lunches). Also the children have to change IN CLASS for PE.
- Decision needs to be made as very unsettling as it stands.
- Don't see the point of mothballing any longer as this just seems to be delaying making a decision.
- A decision needs to be made to stop all the uncertainty in both villages.
- A decision needs to be made. Mothballing just delays inevitable.
- Continuing to mothball just delays making a decision. Greenloaning seems like a nice school but the numbers do not stack up for keeping it open. Improving Braco seems like the logical decision.
- This doesn't appear particularly viable as long term having an empty building is both costly and a waste of a resource.
- If no growth in children numbers at Braco/Greenloaning – ok. BUT – I believe the vision for the villages should be sustainability and better growth so this option would NOT encourage this.
- Mothballing expensive – sell or re-use as another community facility or re-open.
- Additional cost. Waste of money.
- Could the children be moved to Greenloaning while the work is carried out in Braco?
- Cannot see how this can be affected without additional buildings – where will these go? Is the money available?
- This is not a long term option. I understand Government only allows mothballing for 3 years. It would have to be kept for all pupils to use it. Braco Primary being renovated! This doesn't happen quickly.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 2 - Consider closing Greenloaning Primary School – pupils remain at Braco Primary School and suitability rating improved

Comments

- If Greenloaning got sold off money could be used to improve Braco Primary. + [Selfish! What about the Greenloaning community?](#)
- The Ardoch Development Trust has already put in a note of interest on behalf of the community for the school building. This might help to provide a community focus in Greenloaning and address to some extent, the general lack of infrastructure in our community.
- Better option but seems such a waste of the site at Greenloaning.
- Preferred option but only if Education release Greenloaning primary and the building is put to good use for the community (i.e. after school provision).
- It seems obvious that both schools cannot exist given future numbers of children. Braco has more occupancy therefore it should be improved and the other closed.
- Improve Braco and make it fit for purpose – sell Greenloaning (it is lovely site though).
- Use it as a multifunctional facility and if this isn't viable, close/sell and improve Braco School. + [Agree](#)
- Why is Braco School's use of the village hall a bad thing? Further integrates the school with the community.
- What will be done to improve sustainability rating?
 - How will Braco School's suitability rating be improved? What would have to be done to achieve this? - Council owns village hall. - Can extra suitable educational environment be built onto ends of this hall? - Ironic to sell Greenloaning – it'll then probably end up with more houses and more potential pupils for Greenloaning.
 - This seems like a good option. Would like to see school improved rather than re-built – perhaps a GP room nearby instead.
 - As it stands houses aren't selling. Kids moving into houses in Greenloaning are opting to go to schools in Dunblane. Not sure how the school roll can be improved. + [No choice as the schools closed.](#)
 - What would happen to the school building if it closed? Could it be used to provide full time childcare?
- Braco. How can you improve the suitability when it is the physical confines of the site that make it too small to provide outside facilities?
- Unless expand Braco School – think this does not encourage long-term sustainability of the community. Think should be looking for growth.
- If Greenloaning School was closed then the site could be sold off. + [Clearly you live in Braco. Selfish! + Agreed!](#)

- Disagree – Greenloaning needs some type of community ‘hub’ to bring families together. The school was that hub and is sorely missed.
- Greenloaning School is a major asset to the community as a whole. It could be used as school by day and village hall out with School. To not capitalise on this is detrimental to our joint community.
- This would be an incredible waste of valuable resources. + AGREED!!
- A shame to close such a nice school. This should never have happened in the first place. Parents in Greenloaning argued the case for years and were ignored.
- What would these adaptations look like? There is restricted space within Braco site therefore would making use of Greenloaning as well not be more sustainable long term?
- What would happen to the land of Greenloaning? More houses? More families? Increased school roll.
- Houses aren’t selling! Not simple to sell site off. + Agreed
- Wouldn’t recommend closure. Either partial use (older children for example) or move school from Braco to expanded premises.
- Why close Greenloaning when it is so much more suitable than the Braco site. + Agreed + 1
- To consider closing Greenloaning school is an absolute disgrace! Why would the more superior building be the one to close? Makes absolutely no sense!
- It would be so unwise to close Greenloaning School which has the grounds and facilities to educate children in an ideal environment, why not use it to educate P6 & P7? This would then give more room to P1 – P 5 because space is very limited at Braco.
- Do not close Greenloaning School. If given the option, I would move my child to Greenloaning. Even improving suitability rating at Braco, nothing would change as you cannot extend either play area or building and it would remain concrete and tar. + Agreed
- This option would see Greenloaning residents lose the only part of the community they have left. + Agreed + 1
- It is very clear reading these comments that Braco parents are not in receipt of the full facts as to why parents were forced to remove their kids from Greenloaning.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 3 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and suitability rating at Braco Primary School improved

Comments

- If Greenloaning can be used to house all pupils during Braco improvements, why bother with Braco at all? Adapt Greenloaning first and then transfer the pupils from Braco permanently.
- Re-open Greenloaning and close Braco. Why spend money?
- Greenloaning is a far superior school to Braco. Offering extensive grounds for outdoor projects as well as play facilities. There is ample space to extend the building to accommodate all pupils and provide decent rooms for P.E. and lunches. Although Braco can be upgraded, the P.E. and lunch facilities still remain a problem as you cannot extend.
- Option 3. Greenloaning Primary was a flourishing school which was very much part of the community. It was devastating when the school closed!
- The school is the heart of the community. To close it would be devastating. It is already having a profound effect on my child who flourished there.
- Option 3. Much better grounds at Greenloaning, however really cannot see how both schools being open is a viable option. Thinking about appropriate peer groups and a healthy environment to learn amongst for the children.
- If numbers were to go up – yes!
- Would be good to use Greenloaning School building again.
- The Braco School does need to be improved and if this means moving the children to Greenloaning on a temporary basis while Braco is improved then I think this is the better idea.
- Can Greenloaning accommodate all pupils whilst improvements at Braco made. Cannot have pupils on a building site! I.e. Braco Improvements.
- Not clear how would work – would need some significant change or would be back to a very small number at Greenloaning. Majority of parents thinking very small = not good.
- Based on the numbers as presented, I can't see this being sustainable.
- There would have to be a significant change in demand. It is a great shame that Greenloaning had to close but is the demand there? Braco PS does need to be upgraded to make it fit for purpose. And what about the hall which can't be used for other things when –quite rightly- the school needs it.
- And because many Greenloaning parents send their kids to Braco, when they should attend Greenloaning! This caused the low roll at GPS in the first place!
- Doesn't solve the problem. It would be good to know why there.
- Same situation would happen unless catchment changes. Why are parents moving pupils in the first place?

- We're moving our kids because there are no morning/after school clubs at either of the schools. Greenloaning is a commuter village that has lots of working parents.
- Not sustainable based on forecast numbers. Benefits to children by having schools combined (i.e. more pupils for social interaction).
- Without increased roll, can't see how this would work.
- Not sure this solves anything as it will not increase the roll at Greenloaning.
+ Agree!
- Catchment would need to change. Keeping Braco Primary open is paramount.
- What would the improvements to Braco look like? This seems very similar to option 4.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 4 - Re-open Greenloaning Primary School and split the stages of education between both schools. Suitability rating improved at Braco Primary School.

Comments

- Older pupils would manage the walk from one village to the other to attend school – given suitable pavement.
- 1. I am surprised we are being offered this as an option with current budget cuts! 2. I'm having déjà vu! 3. Each school hours might need to be slightly different to allow any parent that worked to pick up both age groups if that occurs. 4. Only if total transport provision.
- This option was suggested by GPS parent council 6 years ago!! Drop off and pick up – stagger start times. School transport – Ardoch Trust.
- A possibility – would there be a school bus to take pupils to and fro at relevant times?
- This is the only option fair to both communities. All objections easily overcome by a small bus, then people with kids at both schools – problem solved!
- Greenloaning – Nursery/P1/P2 and after school club. Braco – P3-P7. Need to consider transport issues if this option was considered.
- Logical but would need to take into consideration 1. Whether families had children in both age groups, 2. Transport, 3. Timing of the school day. Also there are considerable advantages to have the full age range in one school.
- This is a good idea and enables both buildings being utilised with more space. Transport/start times/ finishing times would need arranged to help parents.
- This sounds a good idea. Transport practicalities and having to get different school aged children in on time could be an issue for parents?
- Could Ardoch Development Trust help fund a bus to transport children between 2 schools?
- Could be a great idea. ?Transport?
- Our school on two sites would give benefits of both sites. Youngsters in Braco, older in Greenloaning. Transport provided by Council.
- A possibility??? Would transport be provided? What about lunch/gym in Greenloaning P.S?
- We argued for this for months, if not years!! Too late for Greenloaning parents forced to remove their children!
- This was proposed before and seems a sensible option if Braco School cannot be made more adaptable. But whether that is a long-term solution is more doubtful. But certainly not against it.
- Funny how it suddenly an option now??? Or is it just a box ticking exercise so the council can say they 'consulted' the community!?!

- Eh hellooo.... Didn't Greenloaning Primary fight for this option on several occasions and we were completely ignored by the council!!!
- Re-open Greenloaning School and use it for older pupils. It has great space and extensive grounds.
- Braco Primary School is not flexible enough in its accommodation so clearly needs to be structurally altered. But unless numbers are projected to rise significantly so that option 4 could be activated (and also understanding of why Greenloaning kids were sometimes sent elsewhere). Building could be used for better purpose.
- There is potential for a creative use of both spaces within this option. It does not have to be as cut & dry as splitting stages. Surely there are facilities in both buildings (or lack of) that could complement each other?
- This is the most logical solution. Greenloaning Primary was one of the main reasons that we bought our home there. We'd move our child here if there was morning/after support and if there were larger class sizes.
- This would make best use of both schools.
- Lower stages at GPS. Upper stages at BPS could work. Younger children would benefit from outside green area.
- Schools are public resources for community. Option should be explored to be inclusive for all ages & stages eg. Greenloaning could be used for culture hub/after school club and resource for older people at Braco could be developed.
- Would be intrigued to find out how this would work.
- Yes – unless can expand Braco, this is a good way of helping facilitate growth and therefore community sustainability.
- Re-open Greenloaning School. Either use it for the younger children as they can have gardens etc outside and offers plenty scope for playing. You could also give parents the opportunity to choose which school they wish to send their child/children too.
- Reasonable idea if affordable.
- Need to look at staggering school start/finish times to allow parents to do drop off/pick up. The absence of any before/after school childcare options in this area make split schools ever more of a challenge. But... Possible. But – can/will Greenloaning be able to offer an outdoor element? Agree with point – unable to chat with teachers at beginning/end of school day – it is required
- Good idea. Great space at both.
- Split stages: means some pupils eg nursery provision + P1 + P2 (+3?) at 1 and 4,5,6,7 at the other. Good idea!
- I think it would be an excellent option to re-open Greenloaning School and use it for P6's and P7's, and perhaps nursery. This would then give the remaining pupils at Braco more space because at the moment the space at Braco is very limited – some of the corridors and upstairs are very narrow and

if a fire were to occur would all the present pupils be able to evacuate the building in time?

- Greenloaning School would be an ideal setting for Nursery/Infants. Large bright classrooms and a fantastic outdoor space for activities.
- Greenloaning primary school is an excellent facility for younger children with the green grounds. Braco is a concrete playground.
- Option4: would be the best solution. Greenloaning would work great for younger children due to the outside area. Braco seems cramped and chaotic. But has good staff.
- This would make best use of resources already in place ie. Greenspace which we lack at Braco school.
- Greenloaning Primary is too small to accommodate all pupils at present – it would have to be extended. Whereas SPLIT SITE would provide enough purpose to keep both functioning.
- Makes sense to use both schools. Greenloaning has more space for children. Braco not an ideal situation.
- Makes sense to have the two schools working together or merged into one for the benefit of the pupils. Believe benefits have already been evident.
- This would be difficult logistically – how to drop off & pick up kids @ 2 schools. Pick up is important time to catch up with teachers and would miss this if kids ‘bussed’ from Greenloaning.
- Don’t understand how the logistics of this would work. Parents would have 2 pick-up/drop offs.
- Who would provide transport for this if you had a child at both sites? Interaction of all ages in the one site is far more suitable for learning. Very much against this option.
- No safe route between the two schools. Pick up & drop offs would be dangerous.
- The opportunity for young children to look up to their older peers would be lost. Transportation difficulties, use of hall for gym facilities would require children being brought back to Braco unless new facilities were provided at Greenloaning.
- Transportation would need to be considered. And if you have children in both schools collection/drop off?
- How could you get children to both sites for the start of the school day?
- This would be really hard for parents with children in both schools – especially if they have no transport. If this is to be considered then the road/path between the villages would have to be upgraded and improved considerably to ensure parents and children are safe travelling between both villages.
- Whilst this seems a really good idea on paper I worry this would not be a good option in practice. – What about families without cars? – What if children are late and have no transport? – Families who have ages of children at both stages for pick up/drop off?

- Also concerned for staff morale as could be very lonely & isolated on split site
- Not an option in my view, children need to mix with all ages to learn to socialise properly, also, with 2 children at different stages it would be a logistical nightmare!
- Least favourite option. – Inconvenient for families with kids at different ages. – lack of continuity for kids as they progress.
- To put older pupils to Greenloaning would be a loss to the younger ones who are looked after by them. Braco needs a school suitable for all pupils and enough space & facilities. A new building?
- One of the many fantastic things about Braco School is that everybody knows everybody and looks out for each other. All the year groups play nicely together in the park. If the school is split, it would be a loss for all. I think all ages benefit from the school approach. The fact nursery is very much part of the school makes the transition to P1 so easy here. Children in nursery know all the staff, pupils and routines by the time they start. If they were moved to Greenloaning, the transition would be a lot harder.
- I'd love to see Greenloaning School enjoyed by school children. I think splitting the children in the community by stage but keeping them included as a larger group works better than having 2 solo schools. The small role in G'loaning pre-closure was a huge negative.
- Greenloaning: - nursery and after school care? Splitting P1-P7 would have no continuity of education.
- Although this might make the most of the facilities available it should be tricky for parents when you have children in both schools.
- Not sure this is as ideal as operating on the one site and for the school to have a cohesive fell. Would need careful management.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 5 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll at Greenloaning Primary School and ensure the future sustainability of the schools

Comments

- Catchment area could be changed – has been the case before. Children from Greenhaugh end of Braco attended Greenloaning, receiving an excellent education as well as having a huge playground for physical activity.
- There is a precedent for this. In the 70's Greenhaugh was re-zoned to Greenloaning.
- Good idea if it keeps both schools functioning. But splitting stages still seems the best option.
- Give the parents the opportunity to choose the school they wish children to attend. Providing transport for those in village to opt to send children to Greenloaning. I live in Braco and my 2 children were educated at Greenloaning. Would be a great opportunity for my granddaughter.
- If catchment areas change to increase pupils will parents still be able to move to other schools?
- Pretty neutral about this option.
- Not good – suspect many parents would appeal/push hard to back any such revisions, therefore, if forced might result in children/families going elsewhere
- You would need to establish why parents chose to send their kids elsewhere than Greenloaning rather than just widening catchment + hoping this would bring in sufficient numbers.
- With parental choice nowadays can you guarantee that children will be sent to Greenloaning? Yes it was done before but has not sustained pupil numbers.
- Unlikely to attract neighbouring communities given the lack of before/after school support.
- I can't see how changing catchment areas will increase school roll at Greenloaning. Additionally, no before/after school car options (at either school) make it difficult for working families to travel to school out of their home area.
- Can't see how it would generate enough pupils to make it sustainable.
- I can't see this solving any issues as people will still put in placement requests.
- Not really an option parents would put placement requests in for their chosen school.
- If catchment areas were changed, it could make no difference if people just then put in transfer requests to go back to Braco.
- Very much against changing catchment areas of the schools as this totally divides the community spirit.

- Was done years ago and caused a huge divide in the community.
- Changing the catchment and splitting Braco would, in my mind be a really bad thing to do. Friends in the same village have to be split to go to different schools. Not ideal. If a change of catchment area is done all Braco children should be in the same area.
- Don't think this would be a sustainable option unfortunately.
- Would be an eternal muddle!

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 6 - Consider closing Braco Primary School and pupils moved to an extended Greenloaning Primary School

Comments

- In my opinion, option 6 is the one which makes sense. Greenloaning school is a far superior building to Braco School. Surely a large grassy playground is better than a small concrete area. Safety of the children should also be considered. No need to cross a road to eat your lunch at Greenloaning. A large dining room within the school is provided. Same applies to PE lessons – can be undertaken within the school, not in a run-down village hall.
- The outside space of Greenloaning is a huge pro. Would an extension eat away that green space?
- I think this is the best option as the school and grounds offer so much potential (not a lot at Braco). If people think the dual carriageway is a problem then perhaps higher fencing could be provided. OR speak to Nick Muir and ask for ground to build school. Close and sell off both existing schools to fund.
- This is a good option. Greenloaning has huge potential and has bandwidth to adapt and the grounds to do so. Braco is very limited on space.
- Option 6 would seem the right option. Greenloaning School has extensive grounds that would be suitable for extending the school. It is an ideal solution. Braco School requires a lot of modernisation and work whereas Greenloaning is in much better condition.
- Viable option if road along to Greenloaning from Braco was made safe for kids to cycle to school and back (ie safe, barriered cycle path).
- This is a good option if cost is an issue as Braco Primary is presently not fit for purpose and Greenloaning has more space to expand. However transport from Braco to Greenloaning would need to be considered.
- Greenloaning has a more suitable building as more money has been spent on it over the years. More space at Greenloaning but no community.
- It should be remembered, in 1980's village was split with an area of Braco being accommodated at Greenloaning. Enthusiasm among parents was remarkable and school community at both schools did not support with transport provided. Am confident, a thriving school community would exist at Greenloaning as only school – many schools thrive which are far from adjacent to homes of those children.
- Not bad – in long term, probably more economical and Greenloaning site could be expanded further in the future. But, a better solution would be a better larger facility at Braco. Keen on community sustainability
- Seems like a good option as it's a much nicer building however how would the extension impact on the outside space? Transport from Braco? Safe walking/cycling route?

- Definitely an attractive option though for parents a transport problem for more pupils.
- Being relatively new to the area (and as a Braco parent) it would be useful to be given the opportunity to see Greenloaning Primary and what it has to offer (building and grounds wise).
- While the Greenloaning building might be more suitable as a parent living in Braco it is important to me that the children can walk to from school as they get older can do so on their own.
- We recently moved to Braco specifically for the school, which may now close, and the shop, which is going to close. I do not want the children of Braco to have to go to Greenloaning
- Would this also mean the closure of the village hall? That would be disastrous. – [Who mentioned the village hall?? Stick to the subject!](#)
- Braco Primary School is an essential part of the Braco community and for children developing in their own environment. Extending the size of Greenloaning has not seen an increase in number of pupils attending. Choice of schools out with catchment area was more attractive to commuting parents.
- This would be a disaster – Braco is the bigger village and the focus of most activity across the community. What would happen to the hall and the activities/events associated with the school? There is also scope for Greenloaning School building to fulfil other needs.
- Definitely not! The school is a major part to the community. Do not close Braco PS!
- Greenloaning School is much better condition as P&K Council have always maintained it to a high standard. Braco needs a modern school within the village so pupils can walk to school and socialise. The school is vital to keep the village together.
- How would children be transported? I moved to Braco to be able to walk my children to school.
- I understand the attractiveness of Greenloaning School is safety and space BUT we are already suffering from a hotel start up half refurbished and not functioning and possibility of local shop closing. We do not need any more heard to the village closed.
- I hope this doesn't happen. Would be a shame to lose Braco Primary. Would be a huge loss to the community (as was Greenloaning). – [So was Greenloaning \(+4\)](#)
- Please, please don't: Braco School is the heart of the community.
- Braco Primary should be improved – not closed. The number of pupils testifies to Braco's case. Greenloaning has a green space but Braco is in the middle of the community – has the resources of an historic community – use of the village hall – tennis courts and open areas.
- Don't think this would work in practise as school in Braco is a valued part of the community.

- I think this would be a loss to Braco and the village. Braco seems fairly central in terms of catchment. So not ideal moving to Greenloaning.
- We moved to Braco because there's a school in walking distance – if we had known about this we wouldn't have moved. We may consider moving away if Braco changes in any way – taking a further 2 children out!!
- I would be very much against closing Braco Primary. It is at the heart of the community and with a school roll of 50 it seems a poor option.
- As a Braco parent this is the least attractive option in terms of the following: transport/travel to and from school. The road is not suitable for a child to walk/cycle. The primary school is one of the few remaining key community buildings and should remain if possible. - I appreciate the above also applies to Greenloaning but I believe that the number of people impacted would be less.
- I do not want my child to go to Greenloaning. If I had we would have moved there in the first place!
- DO NOT CLOSE BRACO. We moved to Braco to send our children to the village primary school, within walking distance of their home, not along a very fast dangerous road.
- Why close Braco which has more children on roll just because Greenloaning has a more sustainable building?
- This is a bad idea. Braco and Greenloaning are one community. We need to work together not divided to get the best for both.
- It's great to have a school in walking distance to everyone in Braco – it's the heart of the community. Personally think it's great that the hall is used by the school.
- This is decidedly a bad idea given that the majority of children attending the school are from Braco area.
- A shame to close Braco Primary School
- Would be a shame to not be able to walk to school, play after school etc
- Braco school must not close – would be a huge loss to the community. But could run together with Greenloaning – split age groups.
- I would be devastated if this happened. I recognise the limitations of the site as it stands but Braco School has such strong links to the community and the use of the local environment. The school has maintained its role, reflecting the quality and value parents place on it. This is before you go into issues such as safety, transportation etc. etc.
- This shouldn't be an option – 'closing Braco Primary'. What the school may 'lack' it more than makes up for in location and what it can offer children. School and learning shouldn't be contained to 4 walls.
- We deliberately bought a house in Braco rather than Greenloaning because of the school.
- I hope this doesn't happen the school is a vital part of Braco.
- Would not want Braco to close.

- Braco School is an integral part of the community. The numbers speak for themselves. There is plenty of parkland and use of the village hall kitchen should be considered.
- Greenloaning is a nicer site. BUT to remove the school from Braco where most of the kids are from would be terrible for the community.
- I'd be concerned about what would happen to the closed school (either way round). Both villages (the community as a whole) are screaming for community hub/facilities of some kind and not just more houses.
- The road between Braco and Greenloaning too busy and unsuitable for children walking between the two villages.
- Transport issue – would transport be provided for all children from Braco and what about nursery children?
- No safe route between the two villages. Children would have to walk/cycle with cars whizzing past at 60+mph. there is no continuous footpath – need to cross busy road to get over bridge. If transport was provided there would be no guarantee there would be continued provision for this in a stretched budget in years to come.
- Will transport be provided for Braco children? GPS a lovely school, very close to A9. Braco is the school that is open now. Is this fair to Braco pupils moving to Greenloaning?

Comments received at the drop-in session

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- Demolish Braco school and village hall. Put new hall on school site and build new school over hall and play park site.
- Move all children to an extended Greenloaning school. Offers much more potential and far superior facilities than Braco. Braco not fit for purpose and not a lot can be done. Speak to Nicky Muir who owns Braco Castle estate and ask to purchase land. Build new school fit for purpose and sell off Braco and Greenloaning School to help raise funding for new project.
- Have the council considered that Braco & Greenloaning may/do use the Dunblane health centre and so projected future numbers would not fall within the P&K figures. This needs to be highlighted.
- Improve Braco School – could extra land be bought for an additional building? Make it a better building with more space and keep the community together.
- Create accommodation to improve suitability rating connected to village hall.
- Build a new school to replace both existing schools on a greenfield site. Neither schools are ideal as is.
- Extend Greenloaning Primary better grounds for learning and other community activity.
- Move some of the activities from Braco to Greenloaning.
- Greenloaning – release from Education dept. Use a gym/fitness space, pre-school nursery, after school care, soft play, nature conservation, internet café, sports club, additional education space.
- 1. Council already owns village hall + is needing renovated anyway. 2. Both could be done + used as a solution to both.
- Extend Braco – buy village hall + replace with 2 storey building to be used by school + communities.
- Re-do the playground in Braco and put CCTV in both schools.
- Make Braco Primary School a bit bigger.
- Childcare in this area is important to sort out before deciding on what school format we have.
- Is there no site where a school could be built to serve both communities?
- Projected numbers for roll given by NHS! I hope figures come from both Health Centre in Dunblane as well as Health Centre in Crieff.
- It is important to have a community focus in both villages. Eg. School in one and community hall in the other.
- 1. School/hall for Braco/Greenloaning 20-30% larger than current Braco School in Braco (behind hall?) ie, go for improving the community/sustainability in long-term.

Comments received at the drop-in session

How would you describe the community within Braco and what are your thoughts on Braco Primary School as part of the community?

Comments

- Braco Primary School is an integral part of the community as is any school in a small village.
- The school is fantastic and creates a sense of community. With the other local amenities closing/closed down it really is the last thing left to bring people together.
- Braco is an integral part of the community. Who would want to live here with no school? It's perfect for families and has been for a number of years.
- Braco school is such an important hub for the village
- School is v. imp't part of community and losing it would make a difficult housing market even worse as no families would consider moving without school facilities. Must keep school in village!
- It's a fabulous wee community and the school has always been at the heart of it – must keep the school!
- Braco Ps is a big part of the community and a main reason people might move to Braco, it brings to whole community together.
- Braco is a great place to live and there is plenty of community spirit if you want it. We don't have much in the way of communal facilities so I think we do really well. My son is no longer at Braco PS but loved his time there. School events are community events and there is a great relationship not least thanks to attitude of head teacher + staff.
- School central to the community.
- 1. More community feeling than Greenloaning. 2. School a great part of the community. 3. Would love to see the Braco/Greenloaning community grow & thrive.
- Community in Braco is growing. Huge increase in families since moved here 4 years ago. Those families are growing.
- The school is the heart of Braco to lose it would be disastrous.
- Braco School enormous compared to Greenloaning (playing field). There is a tennis court, safe children's play park & football area available.
- Braco School has been an important part of village life for many decades. Shutting the school would destroy the village. The school gives much to the community + the community gives much support to the school.
- Braco School is so important to the community. To close it would mean that we would lose families from the village.
- With the shop closing the school is the only place where there's a communal gathering ground for social interaction between all children and parents – without it this community will suffer badly!

- Hugely important to the community! Do not close Braco!
- 1. Very active community in Braco + many links through the generations. 2. Braco Primary School a major heart to the village/school events excellent. 3. So sad that out of school care club closed all these years ago. 4. Please councillors don't close us down. 5. Revitalise the community/school + hall.
- Major to the community! Do not close Braco P.S! All staff are brilliant!!!

Comments received at the drop-in session

How would you describe the community within Greenloaning and what are your thoughts on Greenloaning Primary School as part of the community?

Comments

- Greenloaning Primary was the hub of the village and the only thing that brought the community together. It is vital that this valuable resource is not lost and Braco parents are not in receipt of full facts as to why numbers fell at GPS in the first place!
- The school was the only shared community space in Greenloaning. Since the closure we rarely even see kids playing at the park – all too busy commuting from neighbouring villages.
- Not close knit, but could be and this would be part of a good vision. 2. Lovely school (Greenloaning) 3. Don't mind children going to Braco. 4. Would rather see 1 excellent slightly larger school – built at Braco. 5. Would love to see the Greenloaning/Braco community grow & thrive.
- Community in Greenloaning is much diminished – thanks to the lack of interest in keeping the school open. Shameful.
- Apart from school grounds Greenloaning has very little play area and zero areas for kicking a ball! Not very good for kids!
- I don't live in Greenloaning but have heard people who do live there say that there is, among some sections, less interest in getting involved.
- The Greenloaning School seems 'nice' but way too close to the A9 for my liking. Improve Braco School please.
- 1. Good idea to use both buildings if transport arranged. Greenloaning requires this. 2. New families have moved in since mothball. Grounds at Greenloaning have better facilities than Braco and could be well used.
- Greenloaning Primary is the only community place the area has. The school is fantastic and the main reason I moved to the area. My child excelled and since forced to move has not done so well.
- Greenloaning Primary was the heart of the community! Greenloaning has fantastic grounds to allow children to play and expand their outdoor learning.
- Greenloaning school has green space which Braco doesn't have.
- Opening Greenloaning School again would be good for the community.

Other Responses Received:

- Having attended the drop in session I was very disappointed by the lack of any information about the possible options. Amongst the lack of information there were two glaring deficiencies in my opinion.

First, I asked whether the journey between Greenloaning and Braco had been assessed as a safe walking route. No one had an answer to this. Whether it is safe for children to walk between the villages will clearly have a significant impact on which option is most suitable. I would hope that the council will assess this route and consider the impact this will have on the different options.

Second, I was told that predicted rolls are calculated solely on the basis of NHS figures. This would seem a very inaccurate method as it makes the assumption that there is either no migration OR migration is balanced. Yet, is it not possible that migration is unbalanced? Is there a trend for young families to be moving in or out of these villages? Rather tellingly, there is an inaccuracy in the options that states "...to consider projected decrease in occupancy at Braco..." - which is untrue as projected rolls predict stable occupancy at Braco. When I questioned this at the drop in session, it was intimated that the predicted figures must have changed since those options were first drafted. Is this an indicator of net immigration of young families into the catchment?

I think estimating pupils rolls more accurately is important because the capacity at Braco alone may not be sufficient if young families tend to be attracted into the catchment. Capacity at Braco is currently 68. The combined predicted roll for 2018/19 is 60 - so if both schools merge there will be just 8 places surplus. Net immigration of young families could easily tip the balance. If the suitability of Braco School is improved and if parent council can help to improve childcare provision, there may be even more of a draw for young families. Back in 2007 the combined roll of the two schools was 94. How possible is it that these kinds of figures could be reached again over the next 10-20 years. There is certainly the housing stock to support such numbers.

In terms of the other information I tried to gain from the drop in session....

I asked how the suitability of the school at Braco could be improved. As there was no information provided about this I am unable to provide an informed opinion on whether this option might be better than any other.

I asked how the capacity at Greenloaning might be increased to accommodate both schools. As there was no information provided about this I am unable to provide an informed opinion on whether this option might be better than any other.

I asked for any detail of how a split school site might operate. As there was no information provided about this I am unable to provide an informed opinion on whether this option might be better than any other.

I asked how catchment areas might be reviewed. As there was no information provided about this I am unable to provide an informed opinion on whether this option might be better than any other. – Questionnaire completed online

- What would the adaptations look like in either school? – completed questionnaire at the drop-in session