Vision King's Lynn Consultation - St George's Guildhall themes

Vision King's Lynn – town centre vision consultation: February 2019

752 respondents

What would you like to see more of in King's Lynn town centre?

- There was feedback about a better night time entertainment and leisure offer and a desire for an after shops closing economy.
- There was some feedback about a better arts offer.

Describing King's Lynn

- 'Historic' was the most common word used to describe King's Lynn. The heritage is clearly the most significant aspect of King's Lynn that people perceive as being what makes the town centre special. The history and the architecture is clearly a great source of pride for people. However, even though the heritage is clearly the town's biggest strength, this does not always correlate to usage, particularly amongst and as a selling point for local people.

What would make you use King's Lynn town centre in future?

- People want more entertainment and more use of the town centre after hours.
- There was some feedback around an enhanced arts and culture offer.

Vision King's Lynn Consultation Report - Feb 2019 (visionkingslynn.co.uk)

Town Centre Ideas consultation: December 2019

119 responses

Themes

What is missing from people's experience is the night-time economy. Respondents also feel that this is a barrier to town centre living.

There was a desire for better entertainment, and there were suggestions around the theme of **entertainment:**

Entertainment centre • Live music venues • Entertainment venues • Theatre that puts on plays • Extra seating at Corn Exchange

There was an appetite for an enhanced **arts and culture** offer with ideas such as:

Identified cultural quarter • Art installations • More theatre • Art establishments • Arts centre • Gallery • Cultural centre • Arts for younger adults • Events that support integration • Outdoor events at Christmas and New Year

What could add value to your town centre experience?

- Arts and culture could improve people's experience, and making it more accessible for all.
- People appreciate the history of the town and feel that this could be maximised.

- Some respondents would like to see a community space with a recognition that there is a need for a gathering point.
- Entertainment, and the music offer especially, would improve some people's experience.
- Opportunities for eating and drinking, particularly as part of the night-time economy, are also quoted.

Ideas to add value to the town centre experience

Arts and culture:

More accessible • Art – including art projects with schools • More theatre • Public exhibition space – space for musical jam • Street performers • Projections onto buildings.

History:

Events –more, increase use of historic areas, Hanse activities • Maximise Shakespeare connection • Promote King's Lynn history • Pop-up museum • Historic tours.

Entertainment:

Space – better cinema (and showings), performance space, open air cinema • Live music • More music - attracting names / bands, festival in High St • More festive entertainment.

Eating and drinking:

Night time economy – more after 6pm, not just drinking establishments • Floating restaurant • Upmarket bar.

Ideas to bring the town centre heritage to life:

- The key theme emerging was around events – increased and varied, and creative suggestions for providing more, better, frequent events for all. This builds on the existing events programme which appears to be perceived as a strength.
- Complementing this is the recurring theme of tours, recognising that one way to bring the heritage to life is by getting out and seeing it through walks for all.
- There are a number of suggestions around the theme of arts and culture, which in many ideas builds on what has been done previously.

Specific suggestions:

Tours

Free walking tours • Guided walks/ghost walks/maritime walks • Tours of places of interest • Town walks at all times • Trail to historic place • Guides in dress of the time • Treasure hunt for children.

Arts and Culture

Decorated statue tour (like Norwich) • Art installations/local art works/modern artwork • Interactive displays • Lighting up of buildings/illuminate at night • Make use of post office as a

cultural/performance space 11 • Music bands/concerts/recitals/music for all at low cost • Street theatre/outdoors performance.

Buildings and spaces

Preserve and maintain buildings • Improve Guildhall frontage/refurbishment • New buildings in keeping with the old style • Make the most of buildings with Hanseatic roots • Encourage owners to open up their buildings • More museums • Low cost spaces for wellbeing events/areas for relaxation • Open up Custom House.

town_centre_ideas_report.pdf (visionkingslynn.co.uk)