

**Q17. What would make you more likely to attend a folk club? (please provide as many suggestions as you can) - Open-Ended Response**

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To be viewed with reference to Q16 of FestivalSurveySummary\_11032011.pdf

Good music Good Beer Good venue

Opportunities to socialise with others - to be able to discuss the music as well as to listen Learning opportunities

Less cliquey More professional Better time keeping (from goblinsintheginnel.co.uk)

A vast improvement on all those points ticked on question 16 would make me want to attend more regularly

Good venue Good sound system Real ale Quality guests Good supports Less predictability

Good MC Good floor singers Good acoustics

Good friendly atmosphere Mainly traditional material Nearby to where we live Good beer I don't/won't go to clubs that don't have floor singers!

Nearer location/venue starting and keeping to time

Friendlier clubs - less cliques/closed music sessions

Good variety of guest artists including young and old Good sound and lighting Well ventilated room Get the right balance on the finances for club to survive

Welcoming feeling on arrival , pleasant atmosphere and good organisation

Room at venues if traveling a distance

A warm welcome, being introduced to regulars Opportunity to learn singing/playing from others eg: workshops like those run by Lewes Folk Club Singarounds organised by club to gain experience separately from main club night A notice board - electronic or actual at club for people to exchange offers of tuition/practice Approaching local schools offering "folk demo" concerts by local young folk talent

Websites working/up to date with whats on and what's coming

Good atmosphere, vital, vibrant, welcoming and friendly

A good up to date website listing future events and the facility to book tickets online to avoid being turned away when you get there. Plus of course very good booked artists

Better ideas More international folk acts - particularly Greece eg: Haris Alexiou

Childcare arrangements

A good guest Good chorus singing Relaxed atmosphere - no "prima donnas"!

A non-cliquey atmosphere which makes all visitors feel welcome not just regulars.  
An early and prompt start with resident singers or musicians willing to give a good start

A venue club nearby with in walking distance or with public transport links

If the floor singers were good quality Reasonable prices Good ale Unusual guests, not the usual dozen or so!

A vibrant atmosphere, very few in jokes, socially enlightened ie: not the slightest chance of encountering racism, homophobia,, or any other patronising or hostile superior attitudes. Good sharp, deep, fresh, thoughtful, joyous, generous, exciting, loving grounded singing!

The re introduction of a sense of humour into folk clubs

Need to get more young people involved; new audiences tend to still be 55+ Folk clubs need to get together to raise awareness. Happenings/events need to be at weekends rather than in the week

Easy to get in to

I play semi professionally and there still exists a snobbery in the folk clubs which I can see is off putting to newcomers. I can't afford to go professional full time and no one owes me a living! some artists and some of the established names who have been doing the circuit a long time need to realise that they can sometimes be part of the problem in attracting newcomers or those who will happily go and watch folk music at arts centres etc...rather than enter some folk clubs. I say all this as someone who is genuinely concerned for the future of clubs and as someone who does make/has made some money from performing in them.

I go to folk gigs but not at clubs - places like The Hive mainly because they seem more welcoming and I don't think there is a regular club in Shrewsbury?

I attend folk gigs regularly in Shrewsbury but not at folk clubs - more really at the theatre or The Hive

I attend folk clubs and I am willing to travel to see good quality acts. Unfortunately, some of those who are local to me have poor guest acts. I'm also willing to pay more to see better guests/artists rather than those that some clubs can get cheaper

No decent local club!

Better advertising of whats on where would be good - if you go online it can all be a bit chaotic and some club websites aren't very clear

Although I attend folk clubs regularly it would be good to have a more local one. I don't mind traveling to a club that I know has good quality acts on and one where you are made to feel welcome!!!

More friendly and better quality acts/performers A good local club for all

Compared to folk festivals and other venues where you can now go and see top quality acts/performers folk clubs are not really good value. They are also unfriendly some of them

If folk clubs were more welcoming and friendly and if there was a good range of ages attending. Good quality acts on as well - I don't mind paying to see a virtual unknown if they're a good quality "unknown" not a budget version of the better artists that some clubs expect you to pay for and be grateful that they're sharing their music or experience with them. Some artists are and remain "unknown" for a reason and it isn't always because they have been unlucky with regards promotion etc...it has more to do with huge ego not backed up by equally huge talent. Sorry!!!

A local one that was welcoming to newcomers

Good comfortable space for sitting and listening and playing and somewhere to put instrument cases!

If there was a club local to me I would attend, but this would still depend if the club was welcoming to newcomers and folk music in general

Sometimes there is not enough advertising. When we were out of our own area we weren't aware of events in that area, difficult to access this information. We accidentally discovered a gig by an artist mentioning it on Facebook not via the club!

Better advertising of who's on when Having more interest from other young people

Would like to attend a local club provided the standard of performers was good - not too "finger -in-yer-ear!"

If I could play!

Less rubbish 70's folk rock Less Blues inspired music played by guest artists If it didn't take 45mins to get to your turn to do a floor spot of going around the room!!

a good mix of quality unknown acts as well as known representing the breadth of traditional and contemporary folk.