



Feedback from Higham Ferrers Drop in Sessions 28th Jan 2012

ENVIRONMENT

Better designated dog walk areas

Dog mess on Bridge between Kingsmeadow and Stanwick Lakes

Concern regarding increased volume of dog mess on footpaths in Queensway since opening of Greenway – exacerbated during evening/night time with reduction of street lights

Bring back street lighting especially in Kings Meadow Estate – it is so dark people feel unsafe and it is so dark in cul-de-sacs

Windmill Banks – Cars parking on grass and leaving awful mess on pavements when they drive off

Street lighting – turn them all off, turn some back on in alphabetical order? – Come on stop wasting money. Could LED street lighting be used – dark areas cause insecurity

Chowns Mills roundabout made safer and slower for A45 traffic as they approach and leave too speedily

Chowns Mill needs to be made more safe

It would be good to restore the availability of allotments in the town (2)

Not enough parking (5)

No more flats - Local people's views to be taken into consideration – stop overdeveloping the character of Higham could be lost for good

Two sets of traffic lights within 50 yards – ridiculous

Surely not a second set of traffic lights – that is going to cause chaos unless the amount of traffic is reduced – try going through Olney at 8.30 a.m. and you will see what I mean

New traffic lights – why? Money not well spent

New traffic lights would have been better placed nearer Green Dragon or Northampton Road

Footpath linking Queensway near school to Wood Street / Midland Road

Cycles keep to the roads not on the path

Promote heritage of town to young people

How about a swimming pool on the Garden Fields –something for the youth of the town

Higham has done well establishing community events throughout the year – keep it up

Greenway was opened last year but nothing seems to have been followed up re litter, weed growth, dog mess – could more litter bins be installed on the route

Castlefields has one slide and nothing else. It would be nice if it had some more play equipment and maybe some benches too

Keep toilets open

Need more poo bins (2)

Build new sports club and new car park (2)

What is happening with Castlefields – vital open space appears to be half finished.

Midland Road gets very congested during the working day and weekend events. Traffic speeds in excess of 30 mph – motorists use it as a cut through so consider traffic calming measures

Stop locking things up / enclosing them in the parks. Keep them open, accessible to all and refrain from placing one interest group (i.e. cricketers) above others

Clean up Castle Fields water – make it family friendly

Seating area with trees and flowers – not in Chichele College

Great to have a beautiful pocket park to use – please keep it in the plans

Finish footpaths started on Kings Meadow Lane Development

Cycle way was this really necessary – what about resurfacing roads

Dog mess and litter, such as broken bottles, beer cans etc along the 10 footway between Lancaster Street and Grove Street, dog mess in Lancaster Street

District, County and Town Councils to talk to each other BEFORE work starts and plans set in stone

Treat A6 bypass like River Nene – a boundary that must not be crossed – easy access to countryside vital.

What happened to the Rushden and Higham Town Plan published 2-3 years ago

Vine Hill Drive – traffic speeding

North End needs a make over

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

To have 2 traffic lighted crossings in High Street is ridiculous / ludicrous etc. Obviously will lead to long delays for drivers. Also will be difficult to turn right out of Wharf Road (8)

Wharf Road / Gardenfield junction too dangerous. Need priority changing back and double yellow lines round junction

Traffic too fast down School Lane – traffic calming required Chown's Mill roundabout is in desperate need of improvements to reduce traffic at peak times. Slip road at Chowns Mill to the A45. Flow road at Chowns Mill from Higham turning left onto A45 – similar to Wilby Way roundabout (9)

Traffic lights at Chowns Mill Roundabout (3)

Bus shelters – my 12 year old gets a bus to Rushden School – no shelter in bad weather (3)

Car Parking shortage is chronic. . (7)

Support plans to demolish derelict Methodist Church and use it for car parking until new community facility and Church is ready

Illegal parking outside cash machine means traffic going down Wood Street meets traffic from High Street head on – very dangerous (3)

Parking in Wood Street is awful especially Farmers Market Day when cars park nose forward up to my front door (No. 25) so it is impossible to get a pram/wheelchair out. (2)

Path along Midland Road very uneven and overhanging bushes can be dangerous especially the thorny brambles

A one way traffic system for Lancaster / Grove / Chichele Streets

More policing of yellow lines illegal parking

Stop cars parking in bus bays outside co-op

Accessibility of Town Council Building for people with disabilities

Exits from Higham are getting more difficult to cope with

Use school car park during weekends

Ensure all existing car parking both on and off street is retained

Future course (route) of Greenway through Higham Ferrers needs better consultation and advertising

Westfield Terrace and Saffron Road used as a rat run – the new traffic lights will make this worse

Exit from Nene Road is dangerous due to no yellow lines on bend and irresponsible parking by parents visiting nursery

More policing of yellow line parking – Grove Street, Chichele and Lancaster (2)

Bus stop at Co op get anti parking cameras installed (2)

Pot holes in road Midland Road / Grove Street ill lit areas – I have damaged my ankles several times
– Fix the roads

Junction of Nene Road and Westfield Terrace – we need an angle mirror to show traffic to both vehicles and pedestrians

Dogs people allow their dogs to foul properties and when confronted they think it is perfectly alright for their dogs to do it

Please do not have barriers on bridges as disabled people cannot use. A45 bridge from Ullswater
Close to get to Stanwick Lakes

Is there any advancement in the plans to open a 'rear' access to the Arts College – this would help to alleviate traffic problems in Queensway and the damage to grass verges caused by parking cars

Town Centre Parking – 2hour limit on car parks is not observed or controlled – visitors and potential tourists need short stay parking

Skew Bridge planning permission now submitted – if approved increased traffic will affect Chowns Mill Roundabout

Extend train line all the way to Higham – great tourist attraction and will boost visitors and economy

Remove bollards in Kings Avenue – make Lancaster Street and Grove Street one ways

Houses with too many cars which are parked either on paths or obstruct people from getting their cars from their drives

Slow cars down through Midland Road. Much too fast even worse now lack of street lights.

Lights on where nobody lives

Free car parking to continue

Fill in bus bay only cars use it

For safety of pedestrians especially young children on narrow pavement outside bakery/newsagent.
Parking on pavement / double yellow lines at this junction

Why have you switched off most of the lights in Northampton Road. I cannot find my driveway at night anymore. You want to save money, how much is the new crossing costing in the High Street

Community Facilities

Heritage Centre Museum – promote heritage and heritage protection (3)

Street maps needed for new estates

More parking spaces ! (10)

Heritage Centre Museum

Litter and path repairs in Kimbolton Road area

Allotments please and put me down for one!? Good for the community (5)

Re-open Wharf Road allotment site – as allotments

More activities for the elderly during the day time hours – gentle line dancing?

Youth Club

Desperately need a skate park for the youngsters of Higham so that they do not get into trouble using Doctors Surgery – they have nowhere to go in Higham (2)

Plus Scooter Ramp

Skateboard park not in keeping with the area of Castle Fields / The Skateboard park should be on the recreation ground along with other play areas – not on Castle Fields which is a place of historic interest in the town. (5)

There must be lots of local talent. Let's enthuse people to volunteer both time and talent, both to develop the town plan and improve Higham

Desperately need new Church/Community Centre in place of existing Methodist Church (4)

The growing population of Higham increases the demand on community facilities. It is good to see that the Ferrers School is used more for community, but it would be good to have more facilities, especially ones that can be used during the school day. Plans for re-development of Methodist Church are very welcome (7)

Community Cinema – use Ferrers School

Is there any provision for another cemetery – ours is filling up quickly

This town should not be one big garage/car park. Enable people to leave their cars at home more – encourage it!

Open space opposite Henry Chichele Primary School is wasted space, not kept tidy

Local parking for Farmers Market and other Town Events – use of school and business car parks – a charge to go to local charities (2)

Clear moat or bulldoze mound and fill in!

Community sports centre on pavilion to encompass cricket/football similar to Wellingborough. No support given to local sports which should be encouraged / linked up with schools – child obesity!

Encourage Farmers Market to continue in strength – weekly so the supermarkets are not used so much (5)

After building new Primary School on Gardenfields, create community facility on current school site

Higham in Bloom – I will organise it? I will co-ordinate it? (2)

Higham is lacking in community facilities and the current facilities (with exception of new tennis courts) are in very poor condition – investment needed to improve. Why are tennis courts always locked, every other town has ones that can be used. There are no facilities in this town for the older children /teenagers

Plans for Chichele College Gardens are good. They should be used as a smaller version of Rushden's walled garden

Traffic control / calming measures on High Street at the Wood Street junction. Cars mount pavements by Bakery / Newsagent. People park facing wrong way on double yellow lines to use cash machine

Support Higham Colts – not only football could be a community centre at Lancaster Park

Expand library facilities

Too much parking on the paths in Nene Road. This leads to having to walk in the road and the road is always busy

Something for teenagers to do – cinema, pizza hut, somewhere to socialise

Change lorry access from Kimbolton Road into Newton Road (as opposed to Bury Road)

What is happening to the Methodist Church

More long term parking for workers (2)

What is the point of two crossings how much did that cost! (2)

Encouragement to attract more visitors – maybe guided walks on a Sunday, maybe once a month

The Garage (Slocoms) has been closed far too long – surely it could be redeveloped for the benefit of the town

Another cash machine – the one in Wood Street is always broken

Lack of street lighting on Midland Road – danger spots not lit + Grove Street

Better use of community areas cricket / football. Tennis courts 'waste of money'. More money into sports pavilion and area

Streets need cleaning up – too much dog mess

Improve pedestrian crossing

Use school car parks at weekends

More footpaths – Rushden train station line – extend to Higham to boost heritage and tourism

Midland Road – how many units are occupied – if not many then why?

Skew Bridge shopping not welcome – extend Stanwick Lakes – it is too busy and crowded in summer

Replace High Street trees

Permit parking for High Street residents

Shelter needed in Wharf Road for young teenagers to meet

Allow dogs off the lead in the College garden

More restaurants to boost town economy

A need for more public space around these new housing estates – Higham is under subscribed with public open space

Need more industry – too many houses being built – traffic is a problem

Actively promote garage in High Street as retail, possible conversion to small arcade

It is great to see good quality business, 2 butchers and increase in economic activity in the town

Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and Rushden have been given funds to improve towns, Higham seems to be left behind

Switch lighting back on

Need for better cricket pitch for spinners!

More leisure and entertainment facilities in the area

CRIME

Anti social behaviour in surgery car park

Anti social behaviour on Kingsmeadow Estate (car break ins, property damage)

More Police presence required (3)

No reduction in policing

Anti social behaviour to the rear of Market Square in Hind Stile

EDUCATION

Could Ferrers School facilities be made more use of: sports, tennis courts etc

More sports and play opportunities for children especially as they get older

High interest in scooters amongst children and it would be good to have a safe place for them to do this rather than in car parks and on roads

Public football goals and rugby teams

Not enough school places. Building has exploded without any infrastructure enhancements. Higham has been too timid for too long

Many cars parked along Queensway and adjoining streets – when will we have 2nd access to Ferrers School

More school placings (4)

NCC to compulsory purchase Gardenfield to build new primary school

More schools before more houses – common sense

Strategic plan needs to ensure sufficient school places to cope with increased house building

Expansion / new primary school for new/extra housing

PLANNING

Take a more holistic view of planning – make Peter Bone do more – not just hot air.

No more houses – ruining the town (16)

More affordable housing including bungalows (2)

A45 roundabout needs urgent improvements

Housing OK provided it is supported by other infrastructure, school places etc

More facilities

More industry needed

Less car parking!

Be more active in support of plans to redevelop Methodist site for community use

Buy the Nene Park site and relocate the swimming pool and sports facilities there and AFC Diamonds (Youth)

Keep greenspaces open and accessible to all and integrate them fully with an outdoor walking / cycling plan

Henry Chichele School should be enlarged to take pressure off Wharf Road schools

Less dog mess on the pavements in Handcross Way.

Bring back street lighting.

What we have is a beautiful and Historic Ancient town – any planning for more development should consider this and any approaches to our town should reflect this and not be a slum as being proposed at Chowns Mill

A plan for greenspaces, footpaths, bicycle lanes etc needs to be part of any overall plan for the town. While parking clearly is an issue for many, if safe and pleasant walking and cycling (+links to Stanwick Lakes etc) is prioritised, people can choose to leave cars at home when they can and be healthy/happy walkers/cyclists