

Streets of Axbridge Phase 1

Results from the public feedback and consultation event on the 9th November 2015 (NB 85 people attended)

ZONE 1			
High Street and West Street. Townsend, Hillside and route ways leading west and north out of Axbridge.			
MOST POPULAR IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS*	LIKES	DISLIKES	FEEDBACK
1. A371 below Hillside to change to a 40mph zone.	25	4	<p>40mph speed limit on by-pass should be FIRST priority – other development can then stem from this.</p> <p>If the speed limit is dropped to 40mph there will be more overtaking (e.g. between Star Inn & Rowberrow garage) Deadly!</p> <p>Would this simply increase potential for risky overtaking, making crossing more difficult?</p> <p>Consider 30mph continuous from hillside all the way into Cheddar.</p> <p>Great suggestion. Slow traffic on A371 and better access to the hills.</p>
2. Provide pedestrian refuges for crossing the A371 at Fennel Lane (Hillside steps) and for the footpath opposite the Sea Cadet buildings – not to be dependent on 40mph speed limit.	29		<p>This is the only way to make pedestrian crossing of this road safe, other than a bridge!</p> <p>The only way to make pedestrian crossing of this road safe, other than a bridge!</p>

3. Develop a parking area in the scrub-land by Sea Cadets.	16		The town need additional parking and the sea cadets need rent.
4. High St – West St - make one way west bound.		21	<p>This will encourage speeding.</p> <p>It will make it a race-track. (Agree)</p> <p>Would add to the burden on the square.</p> <p>West & High St to be priority pedestrian area. Cars at 5-10 mph.</p> <p>Should still be 2 way!</p> <p>Don't think this will make a difference to people's speed.</p> <p>This will encourage speeding by boy racers.</p> <p>Dislike this idea. One way will encourage speeding by racers.</p>

<p>5. A detailed study to be carried out on pavements and roads on High/West Street with a goal of making the streets more pedestrian friendly. This should include measuring width, camber and state of repair. Review to include, if it would be feasible to move some of the kerbs to create pinch-points/calming measures, remove double yellow lines, have more car parking spaces, create speed humps and widening foot paths.</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Stop people parking on the pavements, then they would be wide enough.</p> <p>Pinch points & wide pavement is good, but more parking and humps is horrible urban mistake.</p> <p>Not speed humps – nightmare for ambulances!</p> <p>Not speed humps!</p> <p>Like this idea with exception of having more car park spaces.</p> <p>Removing some of the double yellow lines in West Str and allowing staggered parking would slow down the traffic.</p> <p>Like this idea, but with the exception of having more car park spaces.</p> <p>West St & High St to be a priority pedestrian area. Cars at 5-10mph.</p> <p>Stop people parking on the pavements then they would be wide enough.</p> <p>Make High St / West St more user friendly for cycling families – scores of children come along this cycle route in good weather.</p> <p>Pinch points on St Mary St up to Cheddar road & A371</p> <p>Cars coming off bypass at West st end often do not give way, or pause to look right. Needs urgent review. There should be parking spaces for 30/32 High Street. The landlord should make sure these are provided.</p>
<p>6. Create gateway/pinch point at entrance into top of West Street.</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Good idea but must be a look that is in keeping.</p>

<p>7. Test out use of rumble strips on High/West Street as traffic calming measure;</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>Removing some of the double yellow lines in West street to allow staggered parking would slow down the traffic.</p> <p>Use planters for traffic calming (chicaning) on West St, as they do in Hutton</p> <p>Rumble strips would be extremely noisy and not good with old houses with original single glazing. No thank you.</p> <p>No thanks, noisy and ugly.</p> <p>Let's be honest it's locals who speed and they know te</p>
<p>8. Support for the 'Coffin Lane' proposal - pathway going up/down Cross Lane – combine with refuge crossing on A38;</p>	<p>30</p>		<p>Highways Agency will never allow crossing of A38 at Cross junction. A more realistic option that would have wider benefits for the area would be bridge over A38 on Strawberry line. Walkers / cyclists could be provided with wide access down west side of A38 from that bridge down to the New Inn.</p> <p>County Council has already agreed to this!!!!</p> <p>Need a bridge over A38 where the cycle path is. Also across A371 at back of woodland to the track going up the mendips.</p> <p>I don't understand the need public footpath in field or use cycle path.</p> <p>Modify system at Compton House. All westbound traffic on A38 to go to shute shelf and then turn right or left, current turn off into roundabout to be closed off so only Axbridge traffic.</p>
<p>9. Reduce speed limit for traffic using Cross Lane.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Agree.</p> <p>Yes. Reduce speed to 20mph on Cross Lane.</p> <p>URGENT A371 westbound junction / Cross Lane DEATH TRAP Give way signs not adhered to.</p>

ZONE 2

Houlgate Way, Meadow Street and all streets leading into these streets.
Route ways leading south out of Axbridge.

MOST POPULAR IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS*	LIKES	DISLIKES	FEEDBACK
1. Houlgate Way to be the main entrance into Axbridge from the west.	4	15	Are we talking about pedestrians, cyclists or vehicles? Traffic, cycles people need to use Houlgate Way and West St / High St

<p>2. Undertake a process of reviewing all car parking options throughout Houlgate Way - including on-street parking, widening Houlgate Way for parking and opportunities for off road parking by surgery and/or below Compton House.</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Off road parking by the surgery is the only sensible suggestion on this list!</p> <p>Houlgate Way is already wide enough for parking, if you widen the road there will be more room for cars to speed.</p> <p>Why must Houlgate way be widened? Allow staggered parking along West Str. This would remove 50% of parked cars on Houlgate Way and slow traffic on West St.</p> <p>If you widen Houlgate Way you will encourage more people to park there. We already have cars, a red van etc which parks regularly outside my back garden so turning a road into a long term car park. They don't think about people who live in Houlgate Way who need to get in and out of their drives without people parking at the bottom of the drive. Also cars quite often temporarily leave their engines running and stay there for a while with engine fumes getting into my back garden which faces onto Houlgate Way.</p> <p>What about the proposals for Houlgate Way development?</p> <p>Widening?</p> <p>Houlgate Way already has the buses, lorries and a considerable amount of speeding traffic. Why should the residents have to have all the traffic?!</p> <p>What about Sedgemoor's proposals for parking?</p>
<p>3. Undertake a process for considering different road surfaces at key junction points – with particular focus on top part of Houlgate Way/West Street, top of Moorland Street/entering Square and bottom of Old Church Road.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>No Humps. Parking along Houlgate Way is itself a way of limiting speed.</p>

4. Undertake a process of considering options for speed limiting road design for Houlgate Way – e.g humps, rumble strips, pinch-points.	17	4	
5. Plants at seating area to be maintained and cut as they interfere with visibility for pedestrians and drivers.	11		
6. Entrance to the Furlong from Moorland St to be improved and upkeep maintained. Lighting to be installed along path;	3	1	
7. Traffic calming measures around Axbridge First School. Could include murals on the walls or road surface. Parents to be encouraged to use walking bus rather than dropping off pupils in cars.	21		Like this but NO murals it would destroy a lovely old wall. No murals on walls though. No murals thank you. This is not urban Bristol! Yes to walking bus. No murals!
8. Review location options for additional seating – e.g. by bus stop near doctors and/or by The Town Car Park.	2		Good suggestion. Helps many people and is sociable.

ZONE 3

The Square and route ways leading in and out of it.

MOST POPULAR IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS*	LIKES	DISLIKES	FEEDBACK
10. Improve bus access by removing the car parking space outside the Co-op.	41	2	<p>Need extra disabled bay in Square.</p> <p>Protect the buses! Now we have free parking in car parks – some could use those to mitigate loss of free parking in square.</p> <p>Just remove 1 parking slot to facilitate access by busses. We cannot afford to lose too much parking from the square.</p> <p>It's not the parking space, it's people parking illegally in square.</p> <p>Outside Co-op and opposite remove end parking space and opposite "squeeze" line or remove completely outside Almshouse seated area.</p>

<p>11. Remove the car parking spaces outside of the florist.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Dislike 2. We need more parking not less. Put the four spaces back as they were because;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. easier, safe access 2. more parking spaces 3. no encroachment on Oak House seating 4. encourage pedestrians to walk close to shop windows <p>Consider making the square a “shared space”</p> <p>Already too few parking spaces.</p> <p>Yes, but you need resident parking on edge of town.</p>
<p>12. Review number, availability and type of bike racks and their positioning – including during farmers markets.</p>	<p>3</p>		<p>Like 3. Cyclists tend to ignore present cycle racks and use walls around the square. My shop is not a cycle rack.</p> <p>Stainless steel bike racks are an eyesore and do not match the existing street furniture. If they were black, it would be an improvement. Reinstate the old bike racks without delay.</p> <p>More cycle racks but they must look in keeping with the square.</p> <p>Get rid of the bike racks during markets.</p>

<p>13. Complete a feasibility study surrounding parking and re-locating the bus stop to make entry onto and exit from bus more accessible. See 'options for the Square' for details on ideas.</p>	<p>6</p>		<p>Please provide space to park motorbikes.</p> <p>Motorbikes; There is no provision for motorbike parking in any of the car parks or square, so bikes quite rightly are using car spaces which is causing more problems.</p> <p>Need some designated spaces for motorcyclists.</p> <p>Loading Bay in Square; To stop nightmare of deliveries with dangerous driving by larger vehicles going up on pavements at the beginning of St Mary's str. It's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt.</p> <p>Keep parking space marking but get rid of the rest of the white lines.</p> <p>Stop large vans parking in the square as spaces are too small width and length-wise. Also height of vans blocks view of buildings.</p>
<p>14. Extend hours of usage of Moorland Street car park to 3 hours.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Yes. Allows people to visit tea room and pub.</p> <p>Like 5. This would encourage shoppers and the few businesses in the town need this sort of help – or they will close.</p> <p>Moorland st car park should be unlimited time at weekends and bank holidays as people who live here (and paid for it) need the spaces as they are not at work and end up driving around (like the old days) looking for spaces.</p> <p>We need to maintain a short stay car park. Longer stay car parking is available.</p>
<p>15. Better traffic management – enforcement in the Square of parking and speeding.</p>	<p>14</p>		<p>Absolutely great idea.</p>

16. Have less parking in the square.	18	8	<p>Plenty of parking spaces in the car parks if time restrictions are enforced. Return the square to pedestrians!</p> <p>Town needs more parking. Create some resident only parking.</p> <p>Dislike 7. Businesses in the square need more parking for customers not less.</p>
17. Reduce the parking limit time in the Square to 30 minutes.	6	3	<p>Yes, this will ensure it is just used for shops, post office and drop off or pick up.</p> <p>Good idea.</p>
18. Review the type of plants in the big new planters in the Square.	2	1	<p>Keep the new planters – traditional plants fit well and it's nice to have some greenery that's got height. (Much nicer than the Lambs Yucca plants!)</p> <p>The wooden planters look great and will age beautifully in keeping with the square. Planters look great!</p> <p>New planters are not in keeping with the surrounding architecture; they have sharp edges and corners and present a hazard.</p> <p>Remove new planters.</p> <p>Remove new planters.</p> <p>Get rid of the new planters.</p> <p>If they have to stay (which they shouldn't) get better planters and better plants.</p>

<p>19. Keep the changes already made in the Square as carried out in the trial.</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Changes in the square are fantastic!</p> <p>Planters look great. Keep all the changes – much more people friendly.</p> <p>Yes please! It has been a real enhancement, a place for people who do not normally use square to meet and talk.</p> <p>Great with more planters, benches, tables and cycle racks.</p> <p>Yes, make the square more sociable, safer and less parking but we need parking else where in the town.</p> <p>I really like the way the tables outside the Almshouse are being used by younger members of our community, especially. Very civilised! ☺</p> <p>Totally would be good to have square free of parking but any changes would be dependant on increasing the available car parking elsewhere in the town.</p> <p>Make the Square greener with more planters in the square and surrounding areas and less parking spaces in the square to encourage parking in car parks.</p> <p>Planters, tables & bike stands could, with different positioning, co-exist with more parking than the trial has allowed.</p> <p>There should be no acceptance of the “temporary” changes until there has been a proper democratic survey of ALL Axbridge residents. Heritage is like integrity- it can only be lost once!</p> <p>The seating in the square and outside the Almshouse is a great addition to the life of the square.</p> <p>Seats please as opposed to picnic tables. I like the ones at the bus stop now</p>
---	-----------	----------	---

<p>20. Have better signage in the Square to where car parking can be found.</p>	<p>5</p>		<p>No road marking in the square is a hazard. No-one knows who has right of way. I have narrowly avoided having an accident there recently.</p>
			<p>At the moment seating in the square is Mainly for the Oak House with the rest of us having a corner near the Almshouse or watching the traffic at the bus stop. More room for us please.</p> <p>Need a seat outside the Town Hall for those waiting for bus to W-S-M</p>

ZONE 4

St Mary Street, Cheddar Road and all streets leading into these roads and route ways leading east out of Axbridge.

MOST POPULAR IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS*	LIKES	DISLIKES	FEEDBACK / RESPONSE
1. Improve lines of sight for pedestrians and cars pulling out on Cheddar Rd at Parkway & Orchard roads and consider road markings to designate where it is safe to cross.	13		<p>Very poor visibility when coming out of Parkfield, due to too many cars now in Jubilee Rd.</p> <p>Something must be done about double parking where you enter Cheddar Rd from St Mary's St. No proper line of sight and must potentially be the most dangerous spot in Axbridge.</p> <p>Consideration needs giving to sight-lines with parking on both sides (Jubilee Rd) Because of the bend in the road, it is impossible to see if something is coming through! However, I think on street parking is good and is traffic calming.</p>
2. Undertake a process of considering options for speed limiting road design for Jubilee Road/ Cheddar Road – e.g humps, rumble strips, pinch points.	7	3	<p>Parking on one side of Jubilee Rd only please.</p> <p>Cheddar junction – traffic lights – safer / slower</p>

<p>3. Review options for making the road between The Square and The Pennings to be a pedestrian friendly zone - including pinch points, speed humps, different road colouring and gateway/pinch-point by Pennings and/or at top of St Mary Street by the Old Rectory.</p>	<p>18</p>		<p>If it was harder to negotiate the square, perhaps fewer people would use it as a through route, and instead exit the town via Houlgate, West St and Cheddar Rd. So more restrictions, enforcement and pinch points in and around the square seem sensible.</p> <p>Extend this to get pinch points on all entries to the square.</p> <p>There is a pinch point – it lacks a good foot path.</p> <p>St Mary's Street at the square end is a disaster waiting to happen. People do not abide by the law. They park up for the P.O (even when spaces are clearly available in the square) Add a delivery to the Oak House in the mix and it's a miracle no none has been hurt. Both John Baileys House and the Weirs are regularly being hit by vehicles (twice in the last month). The pavement outside Homelea is cracked and the kerb disintegrating due to vehicles driving on pavement.</p>
<p>4. Furlong carpark - increase parking spaces and make available 24/7.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>2</p>	
<p>5. Develop a walking bus – or school drop off zone – at Furlong car park.</p>	<p>12</p>		<p>There is already a walking bus operated from Axbridge Town carpark with a shelter!</p>
<p>6. Have pinch-point and better welcome signage entrance to town at top of Cheddar Rd.</p>	<p>12</p>		<p>Please ensure pinch point looks good. Rural not an urban concrete with bollards.</p>

FURTHER IDEAS THAT WERE GENERATED BY THE DIFFERENT GROUPS THAT AFFECT THE WHOLE OF AXBRIDGE:

MOST POPULAR IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS*	LIKES	DISLIKES	FEEDBACK / RESPONSES
1. Enforce speed limits and parking restrictions throughout the town.	27		<p>Need better enforcement of parking restrictions on High St.</p> <p>West St has most problem parking.</p> <p>Speed enforcement is very important. Local social pressure required.</p> <p>Cyclist on High and West St act as a traffic calming measure anyway.</p>
2. Better signage for entering the town (Consider implications of sat nav. directions through town)	2		<p>AND leaving / passing through improve signage at Compton House / Townend area.</p>
3. 20mph speed limit throughout all of Axbridge.	24	1	<p>Agree.</p> <p>Existing limits are not enforced, so that would seem to be the priority rather than adding new limits.</p> <p>I can't believe people want the whole of Cheddar road 20mph from the bypass!!!</p> <p>20mph for town, 10mph for West St, High St and the square.</p>
4. Establish a group to help maintain access via footpaths.	3		

5. Co-ordinate existing resources for community transport and a car share scheme.	3		
6. Develop an integrated transport plan - including strategy to promote alternative transport -e.g. To include increased bus service evenings and weekends, community transport and a car share scheme.	11		Absolutely great idea. Bring back the train. ☺
7. Considered areas for additional public/resident car parks – Chestnut Ave, off of by pass beside Station/Youth club, next to Doctors Surgery and Furlong Car Park;	32	4	Town needs more parking. Create residents only parking. Church parking is a good idea as long as it is policed and kept for church. Extra parking on green would create heavy traffic use in a narrow road. Children play in safety on the green and should continue to do so.
8. Have a publicity campaign about anti-social parking and anti-social speeding including cycling. Use the children's paintings that we have already got as part of community engagement and/or a 'scarecrow policemen' competition.	11		Great idea. Easy to do and has strong community focus.
9. Review options to instigate a campaign to promote walking.	2		Town is biased towards traffic and making traffic flow easy. We need more pedestrian friendly approach – more people friendly, which means dealing with footpaths etc as part of an integrated approach. Good idea. Slow traffic, parking on outside of town, better pavements.
10. More market days, events and entertainment.	12		The square and town hall usage should be encouraged.

11. Re-direction of National Cycle Route around Houlgate Way rather than High/West Street.	1	18	<p>Keep cycle route through West St but some way to stop speeding cyclists down High Str</p> <p>Let cyclists enjoy West St High St arrival to the square.</p> <p>Some cyclists down High & West St are a menace.</p> <p>I don't think Houlgate Way is very safe for cycles as we get so much traffic at times and the road is hardly wide enough for 2 busses to pass. I wouldn't want to cycle down Houlgate Way or up either. I think West St and High St is a bit safer.</p>
12. Review the state of footpaths throughout Axbridge and plan a repair and improvement programme.	7		

	SUMMARY - MOST LIKED IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS (from the scores on the ideas presented)	LIKES
1.	<p>ZONE 3 (1)</p> <p>Improve bus access by removing the car parking space outside the Co-op.</p>	41
2.	<p>WHOLE OF AXBRIDGE</p> <p>Considered areas for additional public/resident car parks – Chestnut Ave, off of by pass beside Station/Youth club, next to Doctors Surgery and Furlong Car Park.</p>	32
3.	<p>ZONE 1 (5)</p> <p>A detailed study to be carried out on pavements and roads on High/West Street with a goal of making the streets more pedestrian friendly. This should include measuring width, camber and state of repair. Review to include, if it would be feasible to move some of the kerbs to create pinch-points/calming measures, remove double yellow lines, have more car parking spaces, create speed humps and widening foot-paths.</p>	31

3b.	ZONE 3 (10) Keep the changes already made in the Square as carried out in the Trial.	31
4.	ZONE 1 (8) Support for the 'Coffin Lane' proposal - pathway going up/down Cross Lane – combine with refuge crossing on A38;	30
5.	ZONE 1 (2) Provide pedestrian refuges for crossing the A371 at Fennel Lane (Hillside steps) and for the footpath opposite the Sea Cadet buildings – not to be dependent on 40mph speed limit.	29
6.	WHOLE OF AXBRIDGE Enforce speed limits and parking restrictions throughout the town.	27
7.	ZONE 1 (1) A371 below Hillside to change to a 40mph zone.	25
8.	WHOLE OF AXBRIDGE 20mph speed limit throughout all of Axbridge.	24
9.	ZONE 3 (5) Extend hours of usage of Moorland Street car park to 3 hours.	22
10.	ZONE 2 (7) Traffic calming measures around Axbridge First School. Could include murals on the walls or road surface.	21
11.	ZONE 4 (4) Furlong carpark - increase parking spaces and make available 24/7.	20

	SUMMARY - MOST DISLIKED IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS (from the scores on the ideas presented)	DISLIKE
	ZONE 1 (4) High St – West St - make one way west bound.	21
	ZONE 5 (11) Re-direction of National Cycle Route around Houlgate Way rather than High/West Street.	18
	ZONE 2 (1) Houlgate Way to be the main entrance into Axbridge from the west.	15