



## Better Barrow Community Project

### Consultation Survey: Summary

#### BACKGROUND

In order to fully engage the village community to elicit views on the planned development of the Market Place in Barrow-upon-Humber, a consultation exercise was undertaken. Leaflets describing the consultation process were posted through every house in the village and posted on the project's website. A consultation day was held in the village hall (14/12/2013) following a viewing of the plans by representatives of the Parish Council and North Lincolnshire Council the night before. All the options described here may be found on the project's website. If you require further information do look on the Better Barrow website or contact us, details are given at the end of this document.

#### RESPONDENTS

We had over 100 visitors to the open evening and day and 69 feedback forms were completed and returned, including online returns. The majority of respondees were in the over 40 age-range with a fairly even male/female spread. Ten percent lived in the Market Place and almost all the others elsewhere in the village. Although we would have liked more responses to the survey, we felt satisfied that we had given everyone in the community equal access to the information and opportunity to air their views.

Most of the respondents, 88%, are regular visitors to the Market Place who walk (and would prefer to walk) there, mainly visiting the shops. Visiting times are spread across the day, with more in the morning and evening.

#### PARKING

Of the two main parking options presented there was a clearly defined preference for option B over option A, with option B3 clearly the preferred preference of the respondents – as shown by the scores present in the table below. As can be seen, B3 has a high median score or, to put it another way, B3 is the only option where the positives outweigh the negatives.

	A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4
<b>Strong Dislike</b>	15	16	15	17	11	13	12	14
<b>Dislike</b>	17	16	11	17	10	12	10	13
<b>Neither</b>	6	8	7	8	9	10	3	5
<b>Like</b>	10	6	14	6	8	8	11	12
<b>Strong Like</b>	6	5	5	1	12	7	20	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	54	51	52	49	50	50	56	52
<b>Mode</b>	2	1	1	2	5	1	5	1
<b>Median</b>	2	2	2.5	2	3	2.5	4	2

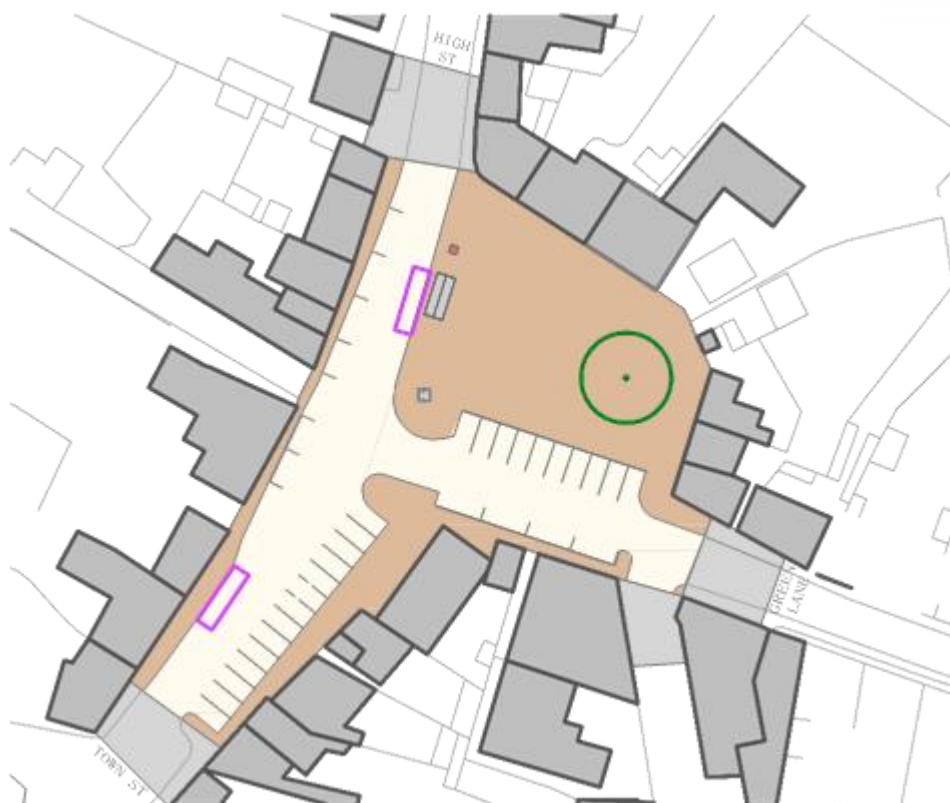
#### **B3 therefore provides a reasonable starting point for the design process.**

North-bound bus stop moves to be opposite newsagent:

- allows raised kerb at stop
- wider pavement for additional bus shelter
- 5 parking bays outside Golden Dragon
- 90° parking outside newsagent
- pavement extension, shorter road crossing points

90° parking on south edge of Market Place, parallel spaces by Costcutter

- parking near the centre of Market Place
- some parking directly outside Costcutter
- lime tree removed
- creates plenty of space around cross



### **B3 Parking Option**

In stated comments, most objections to the B option were on the grounds of losing the lime tree. Although there was support (through Option B) for moving the bus stop, two respondents thought it would be better outside non-residential property; it should be possible to take this into consideration. A number of comments were made concerning yellow lines, some responses thought yellow lines could help, others were against more lines on the road. There were also requests for a pedestrian crossing.

There were a number of interesting specific suggestions regarding parking and layout which have been passed on to the architects to bear in mind.

### **LAYOUT OPTIONS**

Responses here were not as clear cut as for the parking options but given that Parking Option B has been preferred, layout options 1 can be discounted. Of layout options 2, options 2i and 2iii are the statistical favourites.

	<b>1i</b>	<b>1ii</b>	<b>1iii</b>	<b>2i</b>	<b>2ii</b>	<b>2iii</b>
<b>Strong Dislike</b>	6	10	6	6	10	2
<b>Dislike</b>	7	8	10	7	8	12
<b>Neither</b>	9	13	7	6	12	6
<b>Like</b>	13	9	11	16	12	17
<b>Strong Like</b>	8	6	14	13	5	14
<b>Total</b>	43	46	48	48	47	51
<b>Mode</b>	4	3	5	4	3	4
<b>Median</b>	3	3	4	4	3	4

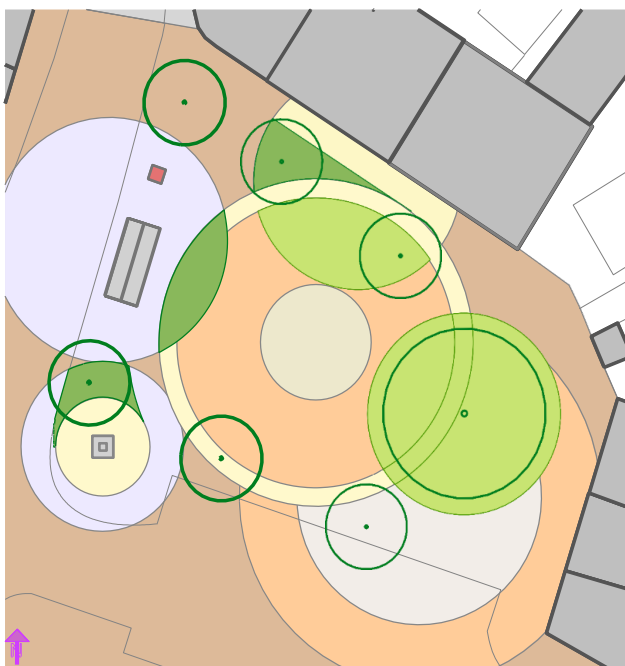


In reviewing these results, it was felt by the committee that the disadvantages of vehicular access around the edge of the area (as proposed in option 2iii) made this the less favourable option; it was also thought that many people would not have been aware of the access implications when choosing 2iii.

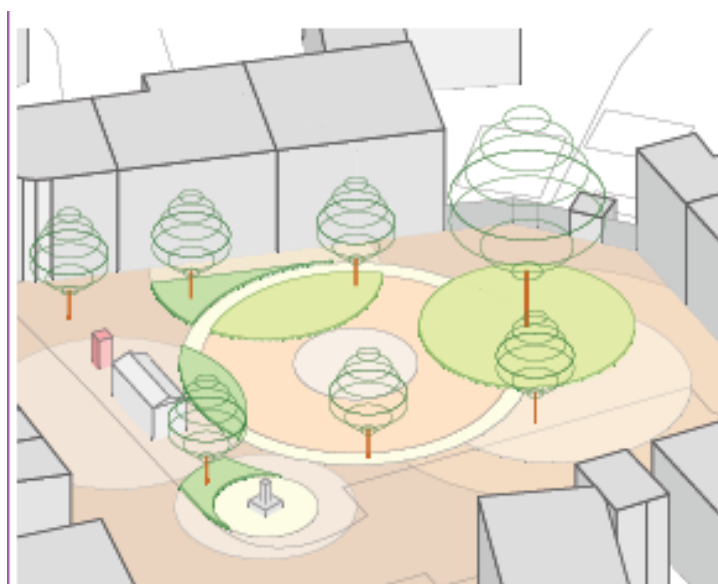
**A layout along the lines of 2i is therefore our preference.**

Large circular 'cogs' arrangement:

- i. sweeping arcs, paving pattern extends into road, enhances shared space/traffic calming;
- ii. large paved surface provides flexible walking routes;
- iii. backdrop planting near cross makes it more visible, and defines bus shelter area;
- iv. majority paved surface and lawn, planting beds concentrated on one side.



**Layout Option 2i**





## STREET FURNITURE, LIGHTING, PLANTING AND PAVING

**Planting:** Overall, there was not a lot of support for planting – the overwhelming preference was for grass, trees and paving. Many comments were made along the lines of: ‘needs to be easily maintained’; ‘planting should be in planters, wheelbarrows, baskets’; ‘shrubs and trees need tending’; ‘don't overdo it!’

**Option 14 was the clear favourite.**



ground cover plants for surface texture



seating around tree trunks

**Seating:** there was common consensus that seating should be practical, strong and able to dry off quickly in wet weather.

**Option 18 was the most popular.**

**Paving** should be unfussy without too many variations in textures and colours.

**Option 33 was the most popular:**



metal inlay, compass

When it came to street furniture and lighting, there was no clear preference. A number of respondents commented along the lines of ‘Uplighters provide maintenance problems and contribute to visual clutter’ with which the committee agree.



## DESIGN THEMES

The compass and clockwork themes were popular and were part of a consistent. ‘keep it simple, e.g. circular motif’ theme.

There was general approval for a “multi-use” hole but ambivalence towards boards and signs. The feeling seemed to be to limit the number of information boards and/or put them into or on the bus shelter. A finger sign was generally liked.

Comments such as ‘good durable design capable of replacement when damaged’; ‘need to encompass village not just JH’; ‘timelines waste space: summarise and then use a map for other points’; ‘include directions to JH landmarks worldwide’ give an indication as to the general feelings expressed by the respondents.

## STATUE

Although there was a majority (51 / 39%) in favour of a statue on or by the cross, the feeling of the committee was that situating a statue by the monument created potential hazards to the historic monument and that a statue in the line of vision from Town Street and Lords Lane was preferable. However, the statue must be sited and designed so that it does ‘not to take up space for activities’. If a sanding statue is selected, there was a preference for it to be placed on a plinth.

## ‘STORIES’

With the exception of the Better Barrow option, all the story themes received support.

Timeline	History	Chrono	Long Act	JH	BB
70%	57%	55%	48%	52%	20%

## PAVING DESIGNS

As we have noted, there was strong support for the suggested compass and clockwork and some for latitude/longitude lines.

In general it was felt that the area should be capable of multiple use. Other comments were ‘market places tend to comprise hard surfaces’; ‘durable’; ‘low maintenance’; ‘avoid fussy variations in textures or materials – hence, simple designs / subtle variations in paving colours’; ‘make use of local materials / local providers’.

## MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS

Of the miscellaneous observations and comments received, the most common was concerning ease of maintenance, the ability of any object in the market place to be ‘vandal proof’ and who would accept ongoing responsibility for maintaining the area.

A few comments were also directly related to the facilities to be placed in the market place, such as: ‘Bike stands are not often used’; request for dog lead attachment.

There was a lot of support for the use of the Market Place as an area for a variety of events.

## SUMMARY

The overall message received from the community was ‘keep it simple and easy to maintain’. Designs incorporating circles and soft lines were preferred over sharp linear shapes. The committee would therefore, like to see the final design *based upon* the following:

- The parking option as presented in B3;
- The layout option as presented in 2i;



- Circular seats along the lines of option 18;
- Planting along the lines of option 14 but with significant areas of grass (as in layout 2i);
- Paving designs incorporating a compass and a clockwork motif along the lines of option 33;
- Simple, non-obtrusive lighting that is easy to maintain;
- A 'multi-use' hole that will be suitable for supporting a flagpole, maypole and Christmas tree;
- Sufficient electricity outlets for a wide range of events;
- A statue of John Harrison either seated or standing on a plinth in a position such as it does not limit the use of the market place in the activities for which it is most commonly used;
- Limited number of information boards preferably incorporated into the bus shelter.

Finally, comments on the survey itself ranged from 'Consultation material well presented' to 'much too complicated'! There were a number of positive remarks on the day about the displays and about Better Barrow. The feedback questionnaires contained the following quotes: 'a remarkable achievement in so short a time'; 'you communicate with us very effectively'; 'my hope is that all your wonderful efforts will enhance and extend sense of community which should be at the heart of a village'.

**The data from the survey is with 2B Landscape Consultants who will now be working on a detailed design.**

## **SOME FAQS**

**Conservation Area** – all those involved in the project (Better Barrow, 2B, the Parish Council and North Lincs Council) are aware that we are working within a Conservation Area.

**Cost** – finance for the project will not come from the public purse; it will have to be raised from grants awarding bodies such as the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Landfill Communities Fund.

**Maintenance** – Better Barrow is working closely with the Parish Council and North Lincolnshire Council to ensure that ongoing maintenance can be managed efficiently and at low cost, as is the case currently. It is the intention that alterations to the Market Place should not involve a significantly greater degree of maintenance than is needed at present.

**Please visit our website and feel free to contact us with any comments or questions you may have:**

[www.betterbarrow.org](http://www.betterbarrow.org)

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**Better Barrow Community Project**

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