

HORSHAM TOWN CENTRE RESPONSES

Consultee Ref	Comment Number	Type of response	Nature of Response	Comment	Officer View and Recommendations
1	1	Email	Observation	Writer suggests that the term burbage is defined within the glossary.	Noted – term added to glossary.
1	2	Email	Observation	Writer surprised to see no mention of street lighting in the Central area. Consideration could be given to less energy-hungry lamps for the Causeway standards than the current lights.	Noted – The appraisal should be read in conjunction with the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide which refers to street lighting.
2	3	Email	Observation	The writer is in favour of preserving the historic town centre and enhancing its ambience both for its residents and its many visitors. With the ever-growing population of the Horsham area it becomes essential that the town centre facilities for shopping entertainment and social gatherings grows with it but in a controlled manner in keeping with its historic links.	Noted – no action.
2	4	Email	Observation	The writer endorses a policy of seeking to provide storage for waste bins on Blackhorse Way and the alley way to the rear of The Crown. But just as unsightly are the waste bins parked in the pedestrian way to the side of and to the rear of Bill's restaurant.	Noted – text will be added to refer to other areas such as Bill's restaurant.
2	5	Email	Observation	The writer notes that work could be done to enhance the street furniture in the town centre. Much improvement would be achieved with a programme of routine maintenance and repainting.	Noted – The appraisal should be read in conjunction with the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide which refers to street furniture.
3	6	Email	Support	Writer strongly supports the proposal to extend the boundary of the Conservation Area to include St Mary's Cemetery which both forms an important contribution to the streetscape and character, and is of significant local historical importance, containing the graves of many prominent citizens from Horsham's past.	Noted – no action.
3	7	Email	Observation	The writer is pleased to see the specific reference to Hadman's Green and hope its recognition as an important contributor to the overall street scene will lead to some sympathetic restoration.	Noted – no action.
3	8	Email	Observation	The writer is disappointed by the wording of the paragraph headed 'Painting' on Page 19 which is too defeatist in relation the inappropriate use of corporate colours. It is very important that inappropriate use of corporate colours - or indeed any colour - is strongly discouraged and resisted, and it is suggested the text of the document should reflect this.	Noted – text reviewed and the following text added. It is recognised that the choice of colour can be subjective, but, without paying due regard to the architectural design and details it is possible to destroy the value of the underlying design with an insensitive colour scheme. Corporate colours should not therefore take precedence over the character of the area.
3	9	Email	Observation	Further editing needs to be undertaken with clarification that it is Denne Neighbourhood Council with all references to Parish Council deleted.	Noted – editing of document undertaken.

4	10	Email	Observation	The writer suggests that the conservation of Denne Road Cemetery should be a judicious blend of modest path and plant management with permitted wildness of the hinder regions. The writer notes that the Cemetery forms a major part of the unofficial wild corridor made up of the railway embankment, the Cemetery and the link to Denne Hill. A Management Plan should concentrate on reasonable access, with improvement to the Peace Garden, now neglected, and some appropriate but unintrusive signage to explain the Cemetery's significance. The lychgate is in need of repair and this should be the initial priority.	Noted – further investigation is required into the management of the Cemetery.
4	11	Email	Observation	On page 19 it is recommended and welcomed that shopfronts in West Street which have been modernised could be enhanced to a more conforming standard. The template required could be specified. Equally, a considered programme to improve the upper floors of several premises in West Street would be strongly supported.	Noted – Further information relating to shopfronts is included within the Management Plan. No action.
4	12	Email	Observation	On page 29 it is stated that the lower end of Blackhorse Way “would benefit from enhancement”. This is one of the least attractive street scenes in the town and more vigorous action is heartily recommended.	Noted – further investigation could be considered including through the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide.
4	13	Email	Observation	The writer notes that the row of shops in East Street, numbers 2 to 12, lack decorative uniformity though the building themselves were constructed as a unit. A change in décor would restore their appearance as a single parade. (Some still have the brown tiled entrance and cast-iron window frames; all have the cartouches above, several painted over, some painted in half.)	Noted – The Management Plan suggests that shopfronts should not be designed in isolation but be considered as part of the composition of the building as a whole. No action.
4	14	Email	Observation	The writer supports the extension of the Conservation area along Blackhorse Way to include the Bus Station and the northern part of Worthing Road down to the roundabout at Albion Way. The section includes the Unitarian Chapel and the Quaker Meeting Hall, both historic buildings, number 20 is the remains of a medieval hall house, and numbers 22 -28 are dated by Buildings of England to 1789. The whole has been well planned and planted with lawn and trees. It would easily fit into the Conservation ethos and the constituent buildings justify their inclusion.	Noted – Consideration was given to extending the conservation area further. However due to the location of the buildings and the way they are experienced through the intervening modern development it was considered that the conservation area would not be extended further at this time.
5	15	Email	Observation	The writer has read parts of the appraisal and notes that the conservation area appraisal does not refer to or recognise the way in which the areas are used by different members of the public. The ways in which the public use an area has an effect on the design and layout of the hard landscaping, the buildings, the roads and pavements, the lighting and so on.	Noted – however the Conservation area Appraisal seeks to help residents, developers and the council to understand the history of an area and why it is special. They help shape future developments and planning policies, as well as giving residents an idea of what enhancements could be made. The Appraisal makes reference to routeways but connectivity is more fully considered within the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide. No action.

5	16	Email	Observation	The writer indicates that problems have arisen when drinkers at the several pubs and bars get out of control and there is a long history of the public benches in Causeway being commandeered by street drinkers. The Town Centre Area is, in a large part, subject to a PSPO, (Public Space Protection Order) which, among other things, prohibits the consumption of alcohol in open public areas. The writer suggests that the existence of the PSPO should be reflected in the Appraisal as it bears on the overall assessment.	Noted – Strategies relating to the use of space within Causeway are considered within the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide.
6	17	Email	Observation	Editorial changes required.	Noted - editorial changes undertaken.
6	18	Email	Observation	The writer considers that A boards and flag banners should be included within the section relating to shop fronts.	Noted – additional text to be added as follows - The ability of local businesses to highlight their wares or services plays a role in maintaining and encouraging the vitality of the conservation area. The methods used for advertising however should be sympathetic to the character of the area, and not result in for example a proliferation of A boards, or flags which distract from the historic character of the area or impede foot traffic. Prior to placing A boards outside premises on highways (including footways) where vehicular traffic is prohibited owners should check that they have the appropriate consents in place. It may be that advertisement consent is required, and also the consent of the relevant council under section 115E of the Highways Act 1980. Part of the conservation area is also within an Area of Special Control of Adverts. When required the consent regime controls the display of advertisements in the interests of amenity and public safety. It would be suggested that A boards are located in close proximity to the business advertised and limited to a single board, which is sensitively positioned, and removed when not required.
6	19	Email	Observation	Reference should be made to bin storage for Burtons Court.	Noted - Burtons Court is located outside of the conservation area, however opportunities for the sensitive storage of bins would be supported.
6	20	Email	Observation	Reference should be made to bikes and cycle storage.	Noted – further investigation could be considered including through the Horsham Town Centre Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide.
6	21	Email	Observation	Building Audit Map is missing, and images needed for gazetteer of listed buildings.	Noted – Building Audit map and gazetteer of listed buildings added.