

WINCHELSEA TOWN PLAN

Completed questionnaires will be entered into a draw for

£50

This questionnaire covers a range of subjects not so far explored in Town Plan consultations. To ensure your views are taken into account, complete and return the form to Firebrand, St Thomas's Street, by **Sunday 28 February**. If there is not enough room on the form for your comments, attach additional sheets. If there is more than one adult in your household and views differ, enter the numbers who agree, disagree or are unsure in the each column, or copy the form.

Name Address.....TN36 4.....

Number of residents in each age bracket under-18 19-50 51-65 over-65

subject	background	question	yes	no	unsure	additional comments	
General	What do you value most about Winchelsea?						
	What do you value least about Winchelsea?						
	Demographics	The average age of Winchelsea is over 60 and the population is ageing. There is concern that some institutions in Winchelsea cannot survive without new blood.	Is this a serious problem for Winchelsea?				
			Do we need more young families or couples in Winchelsea? What can be done to attract them?				
			Do we need affordable housing?				
		Do we need sheltered housing?					
Public realm	Footlights	These are not "streetlights", as they do not light the highway. The cost is £3,000 a year. Their usefulness has been questioned, eg crime patterns suggest they do not deter criminals.	Should the footlights be turned off at night, eg midnight or 1am?				
			Should the footlights along the A259 be turned off permanently?				
	Roadways	The A259 is maintained by the Highways Agency, other roads by the County Council.	Are the roadways in Winchelsea well maintained?				
	Grass verges	These are an important feature of Winchelsea, but are a very low priority for the County Council, which is nominally responsible for them. The County Council can licence others to do repairs.	Should grass verges be repaired by the Parish Council?				
			Where the residents of a street have agreed a plan to deal with damage to the verge in their street, would you support their wishes?				

Public realm (cont'd)	Footways	The County Council was persuaded to repair the footways in Friars Road, German Street and Hiham Gardens. The brick pavement in the High Street, perhaps our most important footway, is in poor condition.	Should the County Council give priority to the repair of the red brick pavement in the High Street?				
			Which other footways still need urgent repairs?				
	Spring Steps	This is dangerous and has been closed. Repairs would cost £50,000+. A new footpath would have to address the problem of the exit onto the A259, which is very dangerous.	Should the County Council re-open Spring Steps? Should they be re-opened all the way or just as far as the well?				
	Waste bins	There are about 9 waste bins around the village.	Are there enough waste bins? Are they in the right places?				
	Dog bins	There are none in Winchelsea. Some residents want them; others see them as unnecessary clutter.	Do we need dog bins? Where?				
	Other	Are there any other parts of the Public Realm that need action?					
Services	Retail services	Unlike most villages, Winchelsea has a shop, post office, butcher and two pubs.	Are there any retail services which Winchelsea lacks? Can they be improved?				
	Utilities	Are you satisfied with:	local broadband				
			local digital TV reception				
	Car parking	A few Tanyard Lane residents have access to an unofficial car park in Pear Tree Marsh allotment, but most have to park in the nearby lay-by, which suffers from a high crime rate.	Should the unofficial car parking in Pear Tree Marsh allotment be upgraded by the parish council and made available to all residents of Tanyard Lane?				
	Recycling	The District Council collects non-glossy paper, some plastics and tin cans once a fortnight. Glass can be taken to recycling bins.	Are you satisfied with the current recycling arrangements?				
What (if anything) could be done to improve and increase recycling?							

Communal facilities	Meeting places	Winchelsea has a village hall and use of other spaces such as the Court Hall, church and school.	Are there enough public spaces and are they easily available to hire?				
			Could the New Hall be improved?				
Youth		About 10% of the population are 18 or under.	Does Winchelsea have enough facilities for our youth?				
			Does Winchelsea involve youngsters enough in its activities and events?				
			Should we consult with local youngsters to see what they need?				
Crime & disorder	Neighbourhood Watch	This has been operating for several years in most streets, and has caught three burglars and prevented several crimes.	Does Winchelsea NBW operate well? How could it be improved?				
	No Cold Calling Zone	The NCCZ was launched in 2009.	Has the NCCZ been helpful?				
	Crime	Fear of crime	Do you feel safe at home?				
			Are anti-social behaviour, graffiti or vandalism problems in Winchelsea?				
		Incidents at the public toilets have led to calls for them to be closed at night or even permanently.	What (if anything) should be done about the public toilets?				
		The lay-bys in Tanyard Lane have Winchelsea's highest crime rate.	Should the lay-bys should be lit at night?				
		Police	Do the police do a good job locally?				
		Other	Does anything more need to be done to deter crime?				
Tourism	Facilities for visitors	Visitors provide important support to the businesses of the village and organisations like the church and museum.	Do we do enough to welcome and provide for visitors? What more could we do?				
Heritage	Archaeology	Prior to 1999 and the creation of the Archaeological Society, surprisingly little of the physical archaeology of the medieval town had been investigated.	Is it important to improve our knowledge of the archaeology of the medieval town?				

Being kept informed	Do you feel you know what is going on in Winchelsea?						
	What could be done to improve communications within the village?						
Leisure	Footpaths	There are no safe pedestrians exits on the north side of the hill. One has to cross the road twice to walk to Winchelsea Beach. To get to Station Road, one has to walk down Ferry Hill (NB the raised kerb down the side of the road is <u>not</u> a footway).	Should there be a footpath down the side of Strand Hill, to link with the footway which leads to Sea Road and Winchelsea Beach?				
			Should there be a footpath down the side of Ferry Hill (rather than the side of the road), from Ferry Gate to the hairpin bend (the safest crossing point)?				
		There is no continuous footpath all the way around Winchelsea.	Should new footpaths be opened to link existing ones and create a circular walk around the hill?				
		The section of footpath past the sewage works is unattractive and liable to flooding.	Should the County Council improve this section of footpath, eg by installing a boardwalk?				
	Cyclepaths	Cycling to Rye means using the A259 or the circuitous route via Cadborough Cliff.	When the A259 to Rye is rebuilt, should it be widened to include a cyclepath?				
	Cultural facilities & activities	The mobile library calls once a fortnight.	Do you value the mobile library?				
			Should be more evening classes locally?				
Planning	Planning	Rother District Council is the local planning authority and makes all planning decisions (although local planning authority powers are being reduced).	Does Rother District Council do a good job as a planning authority?				
			Is it too easy to flout planning regulations in Winchelsea?				
			Is enough done to alert residents to planning applications?				
			Does the Tree Officer do a good job?				
	Conservation	Most of Winchelsea is in the Conservation Area, which is intended to "preserve and enhance the special character and appearance" of the area A Village Design Statement (VDS) would allow residents to define this special character and appearance, and would influence planning decisions.	Do you support the Conservation Area?				
			Does the District Council do a good job in maintaining the Conservation Area?				
			Should Winchelsea have a VDS?				
			Is the Conservation Officer helpful?				
			Should disused local farm buildings be converted to other uses, eg new community spaces?				