

# WINCHELSEA TOWN PLAN

## **CONSULTATION ON CONSERVING THE GRASS VERGE IN YOUR STREET**

Grass verges, particularly those without kerbs, are a special feature of Winchelsea. When turning off the main road, with its paved footways, into a side street, lined only with a grass verge, one moves from the town to the village. The verges allow us to enjoy the best of both worlds.

Unfortunately, the verges in many streets are being eroded by an increasing volume of vehicles driving over or parking on them. Once verges are damaged, they tend to attract more vehicles. In due course, all that is left is an unattractive and neglected no man's land along the side of the road, muddy in winter, dusty in summer. And as a verge is eroded, the edge of the roadway starts to break up as well. The result is no credit to Winchelsea.

In response to complaints from residents, we are investigating what could be done to save the verges in Winchelsea, and are seeking the views of each resident of the streets that have grass verges under threat.

In your section of North Street, a long stretch of grass verge has been badly eroded by parking. Given that parking on this verge reflects the narrowness of the road and the lack of off-street parking for some residents, there would seem to be no point in restoring the existing verge, as parking on the verge would continue. Instead, it has been suggested that the damaged verge be cut out and replaced by a long parking bay. Nothing would be lost but bare earth, and provision of proper parking would allow the remaining verge to be protected. The parking bay would be kerbed to prevent the remaining grass being eroded, and an oak post would be installed at the western end of the bay to prevent cars spilling over onto the rest of the verge.

It has also been suggested that the plastic bollards on the verge facing School Hill should be removed, as they are out of keeping with the Conservation Area and are unnecessary.

The current problem and the suggested solution are illustrated overleaf.

Please let us have your views on these ideas by filling out and returning the questionnaire overleaf.

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the suggestions made above, by marking the appropriate reply. You can support more than one suggestion. Comments can be added in the box or attached.

- |   |     |    |            |
|---|-----|----|------------|
| 1. Cut a parking bay into the damaged verge   | YES | NO | DON'T KNOW |
| 2. Kerb the parking bay                       | YES | NO | DON'T KNOW |
| 3. Oak post at west end of parking bay        | YES | NO | DON'T KNOW |
| 4. Remove plastic bollards facing School Hill | YES | NO | DON'T KNOW |

**Comments**

Name(s).....

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO RICHARD COMOTTO AT FIREBRAND, HIGH STREET,  
BY 19 JUNE 2009.