

## Appendix 4

### Summary of Hythe Stakeholder Consultation

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1. **Please list any special qualities, distinctive features or areas, which you consider make a positive contribution to the Conservation Area.**
  - *GREEN-ness/Green Hills as a setting for the town and open to the sea-front is very distinctive feature of Hythe*
  - *No ghastly amusement arcades (Folkestone and Dymchurch have plenty nearby) so Hythe retains unspoilt character of the seafront and should remain so.*
  - *Princes Parade. Although not within the conservation area it is the only open aspect left between the Royal Military Canal and the sea. Shepway DC wanted to develop this site but when going to enquiry for the Local Plan the inspector found in our favour (the residents of Seabrook) and ruled it should only be used for low key recreation but is still not fully protected from development. Unfortunately SDC chose to deposit all the silt from the dredging of the canal on the site so the public cannot even walk on it. SDC say they have no funding to make it usable. This is the only public open space between Sandgate and Hythe Central and is much needed open space. There is an abundance of wildlife including sky larks and sparrow hawks and we even have a Badger set (which is very secret).*
  
2. **Can you identify any key features that you feel have been eroded over time?**
  - *Green-ness disappearing, e.g. on A259 through the town which used to have an avenue of trees; Douglas Avenue and most essentially the hill to the West of the town.*
  - *The green hill of Seabrook looked lovely from Hythe for years. Housing developments gradually covering the hill ( Hospital Hill area). There is a development which I understand has exceeded the height for which planning permission was granted and the developers have not been asked to take it down. Princes Parade – much needed open space*
  
3. **Can you identify any development that has taken place since designation, which you feel has had a negative effect on the Conservation Area?**
  - *Yes! Lovely old houses with nothing wrong with them are being knocked down to build flats this means more traffic on the A259 and generally. Case in point is a house in Seabrook Rd. at the bottom of my road Cannongate Road under construction right now.*
  - *Awful Oaklands surgery development, an ugly construction, and beautiful aged oak trees were cut down on the site.*

- Surely the huge development planned at on the Palmarsh quarry site to the west of Hythe will fulfil John Prescott's dreadful quota of new homes in this town (SEERA) ?
- To show that I am not against all new developments, all the new houses by Keith Barker (wonderful architect) who lives in Hythe are superb
- The old Police Station in Hythe built around 1908 has had planning permission to be demolished and replaced by a very modern building.
- The doctors surgery being built in Oaklands to me is too big and overbearing and will cause a lot of traffic problems.
- Developments in Hillside which damaged an old rock wall and one in Dental Street, over development and not in keeping.

**4. Can you identify any areas on the attached map that you consider should be included or excluded from the Conservation Area? Please give your reasons.**

- The whole hill behind Hythe which stretches from the Romney Marsh through Sandgate (not forgetting Seabrook)
- Long before I came to live in Hythe it was the green hill surrounding it, dotted with fine buildings, that made me want to live here. I think that the whole hill should be a conservation area as it is unique in my experience to have such a green hill in a seaside town.
- I should like to conserve as many trees as possible and a designation as conservation area must surely help to make more TPO's. Not only developers but residents are getting rather chain-saw happy. I can see a spate developing as one resident gets away with it others follow.
- The open space on the seafront, is very unusual and protected from development along Princes Parade. From the beach there is open, green space giving a lovely view of the green hillside where some lovely character houses nestle – large Edwardian or Victorian which in my view should be protected too.
- The Royal Military Canal from Twiss Road to Battery Point, Seabrook including Princes Parade because of historical value and the need to protect an open space.

**5. In your opinion, how effective do you consider the present controls over development to be? Please explain.**

- The present controls are almost non-existent I would say, Shepway Council hijack Hythe Town Council at every turn and seem hell-bent on destroying Hythe in the way Folkestone has gone. Why is only one Hythe town councillor on the panel who make development decisions?
- Very ineffective ie permission was granted to demolish a house (92 Seabrook Road) and replace with a block of flats. There were no flats on the south side of this road and I was assured it would not set a precedent, but on a planning day workshop arranged by KAPC I asked this question and was assured it would.

6. Are there any buildings or structures that you consider are of note for their architectural or historical importance? Please list.
- *Old Police Station*
  - *Seabrook School*
7. Can you identify any open spaces, significant trees or hedges that you feel make a contribution to the special character of the Conservation Area? Please list.
- *See above and yesterday's email and to include Hythe Green and South Road Green, the canal of course and all the playing fields, Imperial Hotel grounds and golf course. The canal is lovely by the way and conserving wildlife.*
8. What would you say were the most significant views, vistas or panoramas, either within, into or from the Conservation Area? Please specify.
- *Looking up to St Leonards Church*
  - *Views to the Channel*
9. In your opinion, what impact does road traffic have upon the Conservation Area?
- *Traffic is on the increase and getting worse due to the amount of development in the area*
10. Do you think that there are any areas that would benefit from being 'car-free'? If so, please describe.
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11. How well designed and accessible do you find the car parking areas? Please comment.
- *Very accessible*
12. Are the streets and public areas generally appealing and easy to use? Please comment.
- *Yes*

**13. Do you consider that street furniture complements the Conservation Area or if not, what improvements would you suggest?**

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**14. Do you feel that sufficient Conservation Area guidance exists to guide development proposals (however small or large)? If not, what would you like to see?**

*Definitely not. All planning departments of councils seem to be interested in is reaching government targets on development and getting the money from the government. On their side, they never seem to get the back up on highways issues from KCC. They nearly always say there will be no highway problem when sometimes there already is a highways problem before the development.*