



High Street – Parking and Design

Options to be considered:

1 – Council does nothing. HCC is written to say that the Council does not want to take a High Street Design and any parking controls forward.

2 – Council commits to a feasibility study. The Council will need to raise approx. £35,000 for the feasibility study. The resulting study will include a new design of the High Street. The aim of the re-designed High Street will be to make it more community focused and a pleasanter place for the residents as well as improving parking for visitors. The items being considered are; wider pavements where possible down the length of the High Street, extended pavements outside the Town Hall to create a “Town Square” and speed reduction measures. Part of the feasibility study will include a consultation period with residents. The consultation will be made up of an exhibition and possibly a public meeting. The result will be a design that hopefully all residents can get behind. However, there is a high probability that the design would include some form of parking controls. The Council should also be aware that having paid out the £35,000 the residents may not wish to take the re-design forward. It is worth bearing in mind that any re-design would cost in the region of £1 million (or much more). The actual implementation of the re-design will be dependent on this money being found and successfully applied for.

3- The Council holds a Public meeting to ask the residents whether they wish the option of the feasibility study to be taken forward. The Public will need to be made aware of the financial implications for the Council and that the newly designed High Street is likely to include some form of parking controls, but that this is the best chance of making substantial improvements to the High Street. The result of the Public meeting will determine if the Council then opts for Point 1 or Point 2.

4- The Council decides to focus on small HS improvements. The Council decides not to take the feasibility study forward either before or after a Public meeting and instead focuses on small improvements that can be taken forward via a feasibility study with Hampshire Consultancy and paid for via CIL applications in much the same way as the Old London Rd project has been taken forward. Examples of these small improvements would be installing a crossing between the Co-Op and Beccys (where the planters are) and making New Street one way.