

Question and comment number	Specific Comments	DBC response	Suggested changes	Notes
<p>Do you agree or disagree that the following areas in the Hemel Hempstead Old Town Conservation Area have their own particular character? These areas were shown in <i>Map 1 - Designations and Character Appraisal</i>. (Please tick one circle on each line)</p> <p>If you disagree or strongly disagree with any or all of the character areas in Q2, please tell us why.</p>				
<p>1</p>	<p>The lower level of the High Street (including Piggy's restaurant)</p>	<p>This comment correlates with the proposed sub-area which defines the lower section of the High Street as a distinctive sub-area</p>	<p>No change</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p>Each of these areas has an individual character, which is important to the Borough. The lower level is used for filming which can only be good for the local economy. The church, Bury and Park are important for the community. Refurbishment</p>	<p>Noted, will add reference to Walled Garden and Charter Tower in Section 10 C</p>	<p>Amendments to text to include specific reference to Walled Gardens and Charter Tower in section 10 C</p>	<p>This issue is also considered in the Heritage Improvement Strategy in relation to proposed work to The Bury</p>

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	of the Walled Garden and protection of Charter Tower should be a priority			
3	The style and character of the High Street shows its history with Henry VIII, a heritage legend and history that is passed onto the younger generation that is too easily lost in modern towns.	Noted, this is reflected in the spirit of the conservation area appraisal	No change	
4	I do not think the High Street (Marlowes) has any Conservation Areas other than the Water Gardens	Unsure of the context of the response but suspect that the question has been misunderstood. The character areas within the Old Town Conservation Area were clearly marked on exhibition material and draft of the document on-line	No change	
5	The church spire was the original landmark of Hemel Hempstead and should be retained	Noted – the conservation area appraisal supports this approach	No change, but check to ensure the spirit of this comment is supported by the document	
<p>We have identified a number of individual and groups of buildings which we consider make a positive contribution to the Hemel Hempstead Old Town Conservation Area. These were shown in Map 1 - Designations</p>				

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<p><i>and Character Areas and include buildings such as the Bury Lodge, 85 High Street (Albertos) and a number of residential buildings.</i></p> <p>If you do not agree with this analysis please tell us why</p>				
	No responses	-	-	
<p>Do you have any other comments regarding the Hemel Hempstead Old Town Conservation Area?</p>				
<p>6</p>	<p>I think the most important change to make is the proposed one way traffic system which will reduce through traffic and make the area more pedestrian friendly</p>	<p>Noted, this work is being undertaken as part of the Town Centre Masterplan Project. The conservation area appraisal has not commented in this work as it has not been implemented. Careful use of materials and public realm detailing could provide a better environment for the pedestrian in the Old Town. This is reflected in section 10a of the conservation area</p>	<p>No change</p>	

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		appraisal		
7	We like the idea of granite pavements	Noted	No change	
8	Make it pedestrianised to retain the full character of the whole Old Town	There is strong opinion that the full pedestrianisation of town centres can have a detrimental effect on the viability and vitality of commercial cores particularly to historic areas. DBC are currently considering a one-way system for the High Street. It is unlikely to pursue the full pedestrianisation of the street and this is likely to be strongly opposed by commercial occupiers and users of the street.	No change	
9	Keep the existing boundary. The flint wall along High St/Piccotts End Road outlining Gadebridge Park should be protected	Noted, on further consideration it is considered appropriate to retain this section of the park in the conservation area despite some inconsistencies to the boundary in order to safeguard the northern entrance of the town from inappropriate development	Suggested change to the northern boundary removed and draft document amended	
10	Important to also improve the space when walking from New Town to Old	Noted, but this is outside the immediate remit of the conservation area	No change	The area to the immediate south of the Old Town has buildings of some

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	Town - too many shabby buildings and take-away which ruin the character before entering the old town	appraisal however is an important point which is dealt with in the emerging Heritage Improvement Strategy		architectural and historic merit. This has been noted in the Heritage Improvement Strategy (part of the Town Centre Masterplan)
11	The placing of cobble stones etc are very in keeping with the 'ambience' of the Old High street. But they are terrible to keep free of debris. Cigarette ends are the worse, they get stuck inbetween the blocks. I am a tenant of one of the offices in this area and my alleyway is regularly used by smokers from other buildings. I know this is a problem for other tenants with alleyways. Also I can understand the use of double yellow lines are not in keeping with the old town, but we have several signs up saying, private area no parking etc even with the threat of clamping. Still people park in our work area. People only respect yellow lines. I agree with 99% of the proposals, but as long as you do not make the Old	Comments noted. The Old High Street is mechanically swept by Clean, Safe and Green on a daily basis (Monday – Friday). Any problems should be reported to 01442 228000.	No change	Issues raised are important management issues beyond the scope of the planning system and the conservation area appraisal.

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	town look 'new'. Old buildings are meant to have a distressed look, not newly painted etc			
12	The need for a designated Museum is very high. There are masses of items in the museum store, that are important to the heritage of Hemel Hempstead, that the general public do not know exist	Comments noted. Potential to add the possibility of a museum taking up space in The Bury (section 10C).	No change	This issue will be dealt with in some detail in the Heritage Improvement Strategy
13	More visitor parking is needed - often full in the evenings with people who aren't visiting or residents of just the High Street	Comments noted. Parking is a major issue in any town and getting the balance right is often a difficult one. The proposed one-way system will add some short stay parking spaces and marginally increase the number of parking spaces on the High Street	No change	
14	There have been so many discussions - when is there going to be action	The 'life' of a conservation area appraisal and management proposals is approximately 5 years after which progress, particularly on enhancement proposals is reviewed. It is envisaged that some of the proposals identified in section 10 will	No change	

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		come to fruition within the five year time frame		
15	We strongly disagree with the possibility of the empty shops 21/21A, 28, 33-39 being used for 'social' housing. Hemel Hempstead is awash with social housing. Let's preserve the uniqueness of the old town and avoid any further possibilities of anti social behaviour	To clarify, the proposal is not to use the shops for 'social' housing but the areas above the shops which are currently under-used. The provision of housing including a proportion of affordable housing is a key priority of the Council as demonstrated in the emerging Core Strategy.	No change	
16	I may have agreed with the first question if I knew what would be happening for the land beyond the East side of 111 The High Street	This land is included within the Pre-Submission Core Strategy as a local site allocation of approximately 80 new homes. As a result of the consultation, this area is no longer proposed for removal from the conservation area.	Draft document amended	
17	Questions as to why land beyond No 111 High Street is proposed to be removed from the Conservation Area needs answering	As comment 16	As comment 16	

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18	I dont know if closing in the cloistered area on ground floor or Town Hall would spoil the character to an extent. It would have to be done sympathetically	Noted	No change	Note that this formed a key element of the Heritage Improvement Study and the need for a high quality design solution was outlined in this document
19	Re removal of conservation area. Will this area be used for development	<p>This area is not identified for development. It does about the Local Allocation LA2 on the eastern boundary. The layout, design, density and landscaping design of this site must be in keeping with the Old Town.</p> <p>As a result of the consultation, this area is no longer proposed for removal from the conservation area.</p>	Draft document amended	
20	More car parking and less prescribed (fewer regulations - car drivers are not idiots)	Comment noted – see comment 13	See comment 13	